



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.**

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

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(858) 551-8500
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A Chart of the Mexican Sea, or Gulf of Mexico; Constructed by John Purdy, From the latest Surveys of the Deposito Hydrographico of Madrid. Combined with those of British & American Surveyors: and, In acknowledgement of his liberary communications, Respectfully dedicated to John Mackellar Esqr. Real Admiral of the Blue . . . 1828. Additions &c. 1831.

Stock#: 57385
Map Maker: Laurie

Date: 1831
Place: London
Color: Uncolored
Condition: Good
Size: 37 x 24 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

With a large inset map of Grand Cayman Island!

Extremely rare English Sea Chart by Richard Holmes Laurie, annotated in pencil during early usage.

A fine large format sea chart, with inset maps of:

- Grand Cayman Island
- Mouth of the Mississippi
- Mobile Bay
- Pensacola
- Bemini Isles
- Port of Vera Cruz etc. (2)
- Tampico
- Alachan Bank

Two profile views show the approaches to Matanzas Bay, Cuba and Vera Cruz.

The map shows use at sea, with a voyage extending to the area near Vera Cruz and along the coast of the Yucatan. There are also annotations near the Dry Tortugas and along the southeastern part of the Florida



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Keys, South Florida and the Bahamas and on the north coast of Cuba. An early user seems to have added the lighthouses in these regions as well. We note annotations near the following:

- Dry Tortugas
- Cayo de Boca
- Cayo Hueso
- The Vacas
- North of Carysfort Reef
- Cayo Biscayo
- Fowey Rocks
- North of Greenville Inlet
- Cape Canaveral
- Great Isaac and Brothers (North of Bimini)
- Barnetts Harbor
- Elbow K

John Purdy

John Purdy (1773-1843) was an important English hydrographer. His work and influence extended beyond hydrography with the coinage of the term pharology, the study of modern lighthouses and their designs. Purdy's work *Memoir, descriptive and explanatory, to accompany the New Chart of the Atlantic Ocean* was adapted and improved; continuing to be released in its fifteenth edition fifty years after his death.

The son of a bookseller at Norwich, Purdy took up the study of naval charts and similar subjects. Before 1812 he succeeded De la Rochette as hydrographer to Messrs. Laurie & Whittle, of 53 Fleet Street, London.

Admiral John MacKellar

The map is dedicated to Admiral John MacKellar. MacKellar was the son of the late General Patrick Mackellar, a Colonel of the Royal Engineers, who served as Chief Engineer under General Wolfe at Quebec, assisted, in a similar capacity, at the reduction of Martinique, Guadeloupe, and the Havana, and finished his career as Chief Engineer, at Minorca, in 1779. MacKellar enjoyed a long and prosperous



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career in the British Navy, almost entirely in the West Indies, beginning during the American Revolution and continuing to the 1830s.

Rarity

The chart is very rare. It appears to have been first advertised by Laming and issued in 1823 (copy in the British Library) and the title suggests an 1828 edition, but we cannot locate any extant examples of the chart. OCLC locates only the one example in the British Library.

Detailed Condition:

Blue backed chart. Soiled and dampstained, with several abrasions and a small hole in the left margin. Two minor tears at the bottom. Extensive annotations.