

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Hongkong Waters West . . . From Surveys by Captain W.U. Moore, R.N., and the Officers of H.M. Surveying Ships Rambler & Penguin 1886 & 1893. Additions by Captain Morris H. Smyth, R.N. Y the Officer of H.M.S. Rambler 1902, Lieut. R. L. Hancock, R.N., H.M.S. Waterwitch & Lieut F.A. Reyne, R.N., H.M.S. Merlin, 1911 . . .

Stock#: 59283

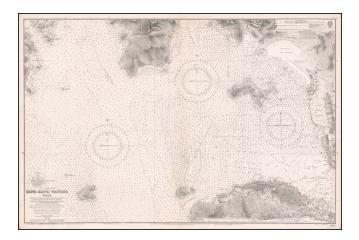
Map Maker: British Admiralty

Date: 1903 (1930)
Place: London
Color: Uncolored

Condition: VG+

Size: 39×26 inches

Price: \$ 1,500.00



Description:

Western Approaches To Hong Kong Harbor

A large-scale and detailed sea chart of the western approaches to Hong Kong Harbor, issued by the British Admiralty, including all of Victoria (Central), western Kowloon and extending westwards to Lantau Island.

The chart is extensively annotated near the Royal Naval Depot and Anchorage and extending out into the harbor to the north of the City of Victoria, likely reflecting planning for upcoming projects.

The chart bears the stamp of The Hong Kong & Howloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ltd., which operated wharf and warehouse space in Hong Kong beginning in 1886 and operates since 1986 as The Wharf Holdings.

The Chart provides a fine early depiction of Victoria (Central), Hong Kong's capital and major urban area, delineating all major street and quays and noting important locations, including those familiar today, such as the Cricket Ground, Government House (the governor's residence), City Hall and the route of the Peak Tram (completed in 1888). In the inner harbor is labelled the 'Man of War Anchorage' where ships of the Royal Navy would ride.

Across the harbor in Kowloon is the massive Royal Naval Depot, the Typhoon Refuge for vessels (then under construction), the Cosmopolitan Dock and the immense Standard Oil Depot, vital for refueling ships during this early period of petroleum-powered shipping. To the west, past Chung Hue, is Kap Sing Mun (The Throat Gates), a passage of dangerous tidal currents, and further beyond is the eastern side of



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Lantau Island.

The chart was highly important during its time as the authoritative maritime pilot for the western approaches into Hong Kong Harbor, already one of Asia's busiest commercial ports. It includes extensive bathymetric soundings, sailing information, and notes on compass variation critical to mariners.

Rarity

Owing to extensive use at sea the survival rate of such charts is extremely low.

Detailed Condition: