



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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A New and Correct Chart of all the Known World Laid down according to Mercator's Projection

Stock#: 60154
Map Maker: Bowen
Date: 1744
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 17 x 14 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Detailed map of the world on Mercator's projection, published in London by Emanuel Bowen.

Shows an unknown eastern coast of Australia, incomplete New Zealand and incomplete Northwest Coast of America.

One of the most interesting features is the appearance of De Gama Land to the east of Japan. Includes a mythical De Gama's Land, east of Yeso and Japan, with a note that the land was reportedly discovered by Juan de Gama in a voyage from China to New Spain. De Gama land seems to be a part of the pre-history of the Northeast Coast of America, which would soon be laid to rest by the voyages of Bering, Cook and others in the region. In the early 17th century rumors began to circulate that a Spanish ship, traveling east from the Philippines to Mexico, had been blown off course and discovered a land in the north rich in gold and silver as all unreachable lands were. In later versions, the ship became Portuguese with a captain named Juan de Gama. In some geographer's minds, de Gama's land and Ezo were one and the same. In others, Ezo was a part of the Asian mainland and de Gama's land was a separate land in the North Pacific.

In the 1730s and 1740s, De Gama Land was a source of intellectual debate, not as to its existence, but its exact location, with such important explorers as De L'Isle, de la Croyere and Chiricow, each opining as to its location.

Decorative cartouche and compass roses. Numerous rhumb lines.



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Detailed Condition: