



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## A New Map of Carolina By Iohn Thornton at the Platt in the Minories, Robert Morden at ye Atlas in Cornhill, And by Phillip Lea at the Atlas & Hercules in the Poultry, London.

**Stock#:** 60168  
**Map Maker:** Morden & Lea & Thornton  
**Date:** 1685 circa  
**Place:** Amsterdam  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 18.5 x 22.5 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



### Description:

#### ***First State of One of the Most Important Early Maps of the Carolinas***

First state of the Thornton, Morden & Lea of the Carolinas, one of the most important maps of the period.

The map is a foundational maps of the Carolinas, influencing the mapping of the region for the final decades of the 17th Century and well into the 18th Century. As noted by Jay Lester, the map is

*one of the rarest and most important seventeenth century printed maps of Carolina. The map was published in 1685 by the short-lived partnership between three leading map sellers of the period: John Thornton, Robert Morden, and Phillip Lea. Their base map was the now unobtainable second Lords Proprietors' map of Carolina by Gascoyne, published in 1682. The Thornton-Morden-Lea map derives from both the first and second states of the Gascoyne map. However, it is not simply a modified Gascoyne map; Thornton et al also incorporated data from*



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*other sources. Though not copied verbatim, the soundings along the Outer Banks were unequivocally derived from an untitled manuscript map in the Blathwayt Atlas (John Carter Brown Library). For the interior, Thornton et al chose to improve upon the Gascoyne map rather than revert to the Lederer-inspired geography of the Ogilby-Moxon and so-called Speed maps of Carolina from the previous decade. As such, the depiction of the river system is, without question, the most accurate to date.*

*The interior is decorated with two well-antlered deer or elk, two panthers, turkey, boar, raccoon, and... an ostrich?! Cumming described the 1682 Gascoyne map as "the most accurate representation of the Carolina region yet to appear." Yet, in just a few short years, it was surpassed by Thornton, Morden, & Lea's A New Map of Carolina. Decades would pass before Carolina cartography would see further noticeable improvement.*

The map is also the first map of the Carolinas to provide meaningful details on early settlements. The map was also the first map of the Carolinas to influence other European mapmakers. Within a decade, Pierre Mortier would create a French copy, which he included in his Neptune Francois.

#### **States**

State 1: c1685, with imprint of Thornton, Morden, and Lea in the title cartouche.

State 2: c1695, imprint altered to By/ Philip Lea at the Atlas and Hercules/ in Cheap Side/LONDON. The inset of Charleston Harbor has been enlarged and now has title at top: ASHLEY & COOPER RIVER.

State 3: c1715, imprint altered to Sold by Geo: Willdey at the Great Toy,/ Spectacle, Chinaware and Print Shop,/ ye Corner of Ludgate Street near St Pauls/ LONDON.

#### **Rarity**

The map is of the utmost rarity. The last example of the map to appear at auction was in the Streeter Sale in 1967, acquired by Streeter from the Huntington Library (Lot 1112, sold for \$600). The last example offered in a dealer catalog was in 2009 (Arkway Catalog 69, Item 9 -- \$48,000, acquired from Ashley Baynton Williams in 2008), which now resides in a private collection in North Carolina.

#### **Detailed Condition:**

Old color, cleaned and retouched.