



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

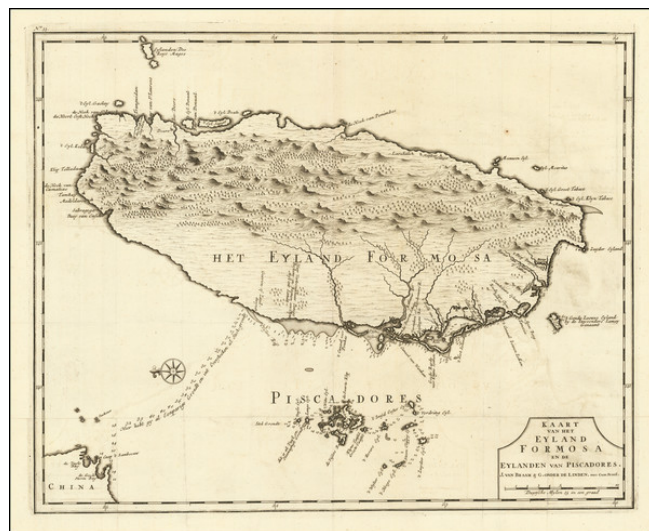
7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

[Taiwan] Kaart van het Eyland Formosa en de Eylanden van Pescadores . . .

Stock#: 74640
Map Maker: Valentijn
Date: 1725 circa
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 22 x 17.5 inches
Price: \$ 3,400.00



Description:

The Earliest Printed Map of Taiwan

Nice example of Francois Valentijn's map of "Formosa, the earliest printed map of the Island of Taiwan.

The map is oriented to the east, covering the entire island and the nearby Pescadores, now known as the Penghu Islands, and the nautical route to Chinese coastal province of Fujian. Soundings appear around the Pescadores, along the west coast of Taiwan, and extend to the Chinese coast. The map appeared in Valentijn's *Oud en Nieuw Oost-Indien, vervattende Een Naaukeurige en Uitvoerige Verhandeling van Nederlands Mogendheyd In die Geweesten*, published in Amsterdam, between 1724 and 1726.

The map is drawn from a manuscript map of Formosa, drawn in 1640 by Johannes Vingboons, a Dutch cartographer working with Joan Blaeu, who was then the official mapmaker for the Dutch East India Company. Vingboons drew his information from the Dutch occupation of Taiwan, between 1624 and 1662.

Valentijn's map was drawn to illustrate his work on the history the Dutch history of the East Indies.

Oud en Nieuw Oost-Indien

François Valentijn (1666-1727) was a missionary and a scholar. After spending sixteen years in the East Indies over the course of several voyages, Valentijn returned to his native Dordrecht. There, he finished his history of the East Indies, *Oud en Nieuw Oost-Indien*. The book is divided in five parts spread over



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eight volumes. It has over a thousand illustrations, including some of the most accurate maps of the region published to that date.

For the text, Valentijn borrowed heavily from contemporary works and conducted original research. To create such detailed maps and descriptions, Valentijn most likely also had access to the VOC's archives. These archives were closely watched and very few scholars or officials gained entry, particularly if they were likely to publish the contents of the repository. Indeed, Valentijn was lucky to see his work published at all.

Today, Valentijn's work is regarded as a veritable encyclopedia on maritime Asia. It is considered a useful collection of sources, from the eighteenth century and earlier, drawn from the VOC and personal papers. Some of his maps, particularly those of Australia, are drawn from manuscript sources now lost, making his history the lone surviving record of endangered knowledge.

Detailed Condition:

Evidence of old folds. Minor offsetting.