



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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A New Survey of the Harbour of Boston in New England

Stock#: 89997
Map Maker: Grierson
Date: 1749
Place: Dublin
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 21 x 16.25 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Irish Edition of the Best Chart of Boston Harbor During the First Half of the 18th Century.

Extremely rare "pirated" George Grierson edition of the 1707 Mount and Page chart of the same title, this example printed in Dublin in 1749.

The chart depicts Boston Harbor from present-day Winthrop in the north to Hull and Hingham in the south. The many islands of the harbor are depicted, with soundings covering the routes in between. A ship channel is labeled running a careful route between obstacles. In Boston proper Beacon Hill is rendered pictorially, with the shoreline of that city and nearby "Charles Town" lined with buildings, bringing to mind the "Long Wharf" View of Paul Revere.

The Leventhal Map Center at Boston Public Library notes of the map:

This chart of Boston Harbor is a rare Irish printing that was pirated from the anonymous English chart that first appeared in Mount and Page's 1707 edition of The English Pilot, The Fourth Book, as well as their 1708 edition of Atlas Maritimus Novus. However, this chart was re-engraved and printed from a separate copper plate. Although at the time, this survey was over forty years old, it continued to function as the most accurate printed chart of Boston Harbor.

Though a careful copy of the Mount & Page chart, Grierson's effort has a looser and more folky engraving style than its London-produced predecessor.



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This map is very rare in commerce; OldMaps.com notes the last copy for sale was in 1986.

Detailed Condition:

Cleaned. Scant remnants of hand-color.