



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

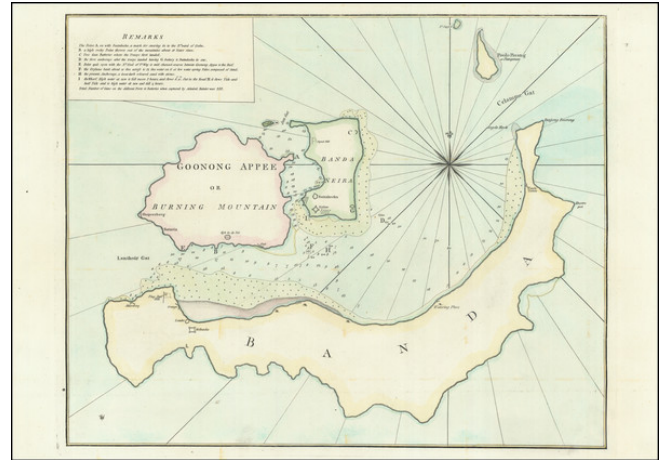
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(Spice Islands) [Banda, Goonog Appee or Burning Mountain, and Banda Neira]

Stock#: 94740
Map Maker: Laurie & Whittle
Date: 1798 circa
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 19.5 x 15.5 inches
Price: \$ 495.00



Description:

This untitled chart of Banda, Goonog Appee or Burning Mountain, and Banda Neira, published by Laurie & Whittle in London around 1798, provides an intricate representation of the Banda Islands and their naval significance during the late 18th century. Specifically delineating notable locations and topographical details, the map underlines the strategic importance of the Spice Islands, including mentions of anchorage points, gun batteries, and noteworthy geographical landmarks.

The Banda Islands, located in present-day Indonesia, were historically prized for their rich yields of nutmeg, mace, and cloves, making them a hotspot of colonial interest. By the end of the 18th century, European powers vied for control, keen on monopolizing the lucrative spice trade. This map encapsulates the heightened geopolitical tensions of the time, particularly between the British and the Dutch, marking the precise locations of military installations and gun batteries.

The mention of "Battakecka" as a marker for navigation and the reference to "Goonong Appee or Burning Mountain" highlights the volcanic nature of the region, while the details regarding the anchorage points demonstrate the naval accessibility and challenges the islands presented. The note on the rocky point "thrown out of the mountains about 18 years since" hints at the dynamic topography and the role of volcanic activity in reshaping the islands' landscapes.

The significance of the map is further accentuated by its mention of Admiral Rainier, indicating the British naval endeavors in the region. Admiral Peter Rainier's capturing of the Banda Islands from the Dutch in 1796 was a strategic victory, as the map documents the "Total Number of Guns on the different Forts & Batteries when captured" as 252. This detailing not only offers insight into the armed strength of the islands but also into the British naval might and strategy.



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Detailed Condition: