



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Africa

Stock#: 95658
Map Maker: Jefferys
Date: 1750
Place: London
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG
Size: 9.25 x 7 inches
Price: \$ 195.00



Description:

Africa, a map engraved by Thomas Jefferys and released in London in 1750, captures a riveting perspective on the African continent during the mid-18th century. Detailed with both conjectural and factual geographical annotations, the map sheds light on the prevailing European understanding of Africa's vast expanse during this epoch. With its multitude of place names—both real and imagined—it provides a panoramic glimpse into the evolving cartographic knowledge of the time.

The mid-18th century was a period of exploration, colonial expansion, and burgeoning scientific curiosity. European expeditions were increasingly venturing into the heart of Africa, driven by a thirst for knowledge, commerce, and territorial acquisition. This map encapsulates these endeavors, with its blend of known territories and speculative regions, emblematic of the mysteries the continent still held for European explorers.

Thomas Jefferys's mapping technique is a testament to the cartographic methodologies of the period. The delineation of contemporary geo-political borders reflects the European understanding and claims on the continent, while the conjectural details underline the challenges faced by cartographers. The inclusion of Jefferys's signature alligator—an image often found on his engravings—adds an artistic flourish to the map, anchoring it firmly in the Jefferys tradition.

This representation of Africa, marked with its blend of certainty and speculation, stands as an intriguing artifact from an era of discovery and imperial ambition. Its combination of artistry and cartographic detail, underscored by Jefferys's emblematic alligator, offers a unique window into the European perception of Africa during the mid-18th century.



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Detailed Condition:

Minor wear to the top edge.