



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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[Sierra Leone to Côte d'Ivoire] Pas-caert vande GRYEN-CUST en ADAOWS QUA QUAS Tuhessen de Serraliones en C. de Tres Puntas

Stock#: 99332

Map Maker: Van Keulen

Date: 1684 circa

Place: Amsterdam

Color: Color

Condition: VG

Size: 22.5 x 19.5 inches

Price: \$ 395.00



Description:

Finely embellished Dutch Sea chart of the coast from Sierra Leone to Cote d'Ivoire, decorated with Elephants and indigenous peoples, including Ivory hunters.

Published by the leading family of Dutch sea chartmakers of the period, the chart is perhaps the most detailed representation 17th Century charting of this part of the West African coast, stretching from Sierra Leone to the Ivory Coast (Côte d'Ivoire), a region of significant strategic importance in the burgeoning trade networks of that era.

Meticulously charting from Sierra Leone in the northwest, known for its rich natural harbors and as a trading nucleus for commodities like gold and ivory, the map extends to the southeast, capturing the expanse of the Ivory Coast. This region, synonymous with its namesake trade in ivory, was a critical component of the Dutch's expanding trading network in West Africa. The detailed coastal outlines and annotations in the chart are a testament to the Dutch's mastery in blending navigational precision with commercial acumen.

In the 17th century, Dutch maritime interests were heavily focused on these parts of West Africa. The era saw the Dutch, initially lured by the lucrative trade in gold and ivory, establish a network of trading posts and forts along the coast. Notable among these was Fort Nassau, built in 1612 in what is now Ghana, serving as a critical outpost for Dutch operations in the region. This period also marked the expansion of



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Dutch trading activities, extending beyond gold and ivory to encompass other commodities, reflecting the rich trade dynamics of West Africa. With the growing success of commerce in the region, the Dutch faced rivalry from other European powers, especially the Portuguese, British, and French. These conflicts often led to shifting controls over strategic trading posts and territories along the coast. The Dutch West India Company, established in 1621, played a pivotal role in orchestrating these trade ventures. Under its auspices, Dutch influence in the region grew, marked by both economic gains and the complex interplays of European expansionism.

Detailed Condition:

Minor soiling.