

Folio (530 by 330mm), title, dedication, 16pp. text, world map, and 41 double-page engraved charts (one folding), title and all charts in outline hand-colour, maps on double paper, some light damp-spotting throughout, publisher’s vellum gilt.

FIRST EDITION OF GOOS’S STRIKING ‘ZEE-ATLAS’

De Zee-Atlas Ofte Water-World Water in vertoont werden alle de Zee-Kusten Van het bekende des Aerd-Bodems. Seer dienstigh voor alle Heeren en Kooplieden Is vock book alle Schippers en Stuurlieden. Gesneden, gedruckt en uytgegeven t’Amsterdam.

Author
GOOS, Pieter

Publication date
1666.

Publisher
Pieter Goos,

Publication place
Amsterdam,

Physical description
Folio (530 by 330mm), title, dedication, 16pp. text, world map, and 41 double-page engraved charts (one folding), title and all charts in outline hand-colour, maps on double paper, some light damp-spotting throughout, publisher’s vellum gilt.

Dimensions

Notes

Although Goos was one of the best-known maritime booksellers of Amsterdam, responsible for publishing a number of different sea atlases, much of his work was derivative. In the case of the ‘Zee-Atlas’, Goos copied nearly all the charts from Hendrick Doncker’s atlas of 1659.

Goos’s background was more as an engraver (following on from his father Abraham) and bookseller, rather than chartmaker. As a bookseller Pieter Goos wished to appeal as much to the library as to the galley, as can be seen by his explicit statement on the title page: that the work will be as beneficial to “Heerenen Kooplieden” (gentlemen and merchants) as to “Schippers en Stuurllieden” (pilots and seamen). This bias towards the gentleman’s library is also evident in the minimal revision that the atlas and charts undergo throughout their publication history. Similarly, the number of charts is not increased from the 40 or 41 called for in the contents page.

The present example contains 41 charts, the extra chart being the ‘Paskaerte van de Zuydten Noordt Revier in Nieu Nederlant’ (no. 34). Larger than the other charts in the atlases, Burden states that it was “probably published separately, and included as a supplement upon request”. The finely engraved chart details the East Coast of America from New Amsterdam (New York) to the Delaware River.

Goos’s atlas is arguably the most aesthetically pleasing of the early Dutch sea atlases, as Koeman notes, “The… beautiful sea-atlas reflect[s] a high professional standard. The many editions published over twenty-five years are an indication of the customers’ appreciation”.

Bibliography
Burden 388; Koeman Goos 1B; NMM 3:92.

Provenance

Price:

Inventory reference: 11501

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