

Engraved chart with contemporary hand-colour in outline.

SANSON’S MOLUCCAS

Les Isles Molucques; Celebes, Gilolo, &c. Par le S.r Sanson dAbbeville, Geog.e du Roy Avec privilege pour 20 ans. 1652.

Author
SANSON, Nicolas

Publication date
1652].

Publisher
chez l’autheur,

Publication place
[Paris,

Physical description
Engraved chart with contemporary hand-colour in outline.

Dimensions
265 by 370mm. (10.5 by 14.5 inches).

Notes
Detailed map of the island east of Borneo in Southeast Asia, with an inset of Banda and the Moluccas.

Published in Sanson’s ‘L’Asie en Plusieurs Cartes…’ (1652).

Nicolas Sanson (1600-1667) began to make maps to supplement his study of history, and a map of Ancient Gaul, made early in his career brought him to the attention of Cardinal Richelieu. This foothold in the French court allowed him to rise to the position of geographe du roi, teaching both Louis XIII and Louis XIV. Louis XIII even made him a counsellor of state.

Sanson produced an atlas, 'Cartes Generales de Toutes les Parties du Monde', which contained important maps of the post roads and waterways of France. He also produced two major maps of North America: 'Amerique Septentrionale' (1650) was the first map to show the Great Lakes in a recognisable form, aided by Sanson's access to The Jesuit Relations, a collection of accounts by French missionaries to the area. The map was drawn on a sinusoidal projection, which Sanson was the first to use. In 1656 he made 'Le Canada ou Nouvelle France', which showed the Great Lakes in greater detail, and included accurate representations of the Hudson Bay area, the Delaware and the Gulf of Saint Lawrence.

Bibliography

Provenance

Price: £300

Inventory reference: 17601

© Daniel Crouch Rare Books Ltd | 2025