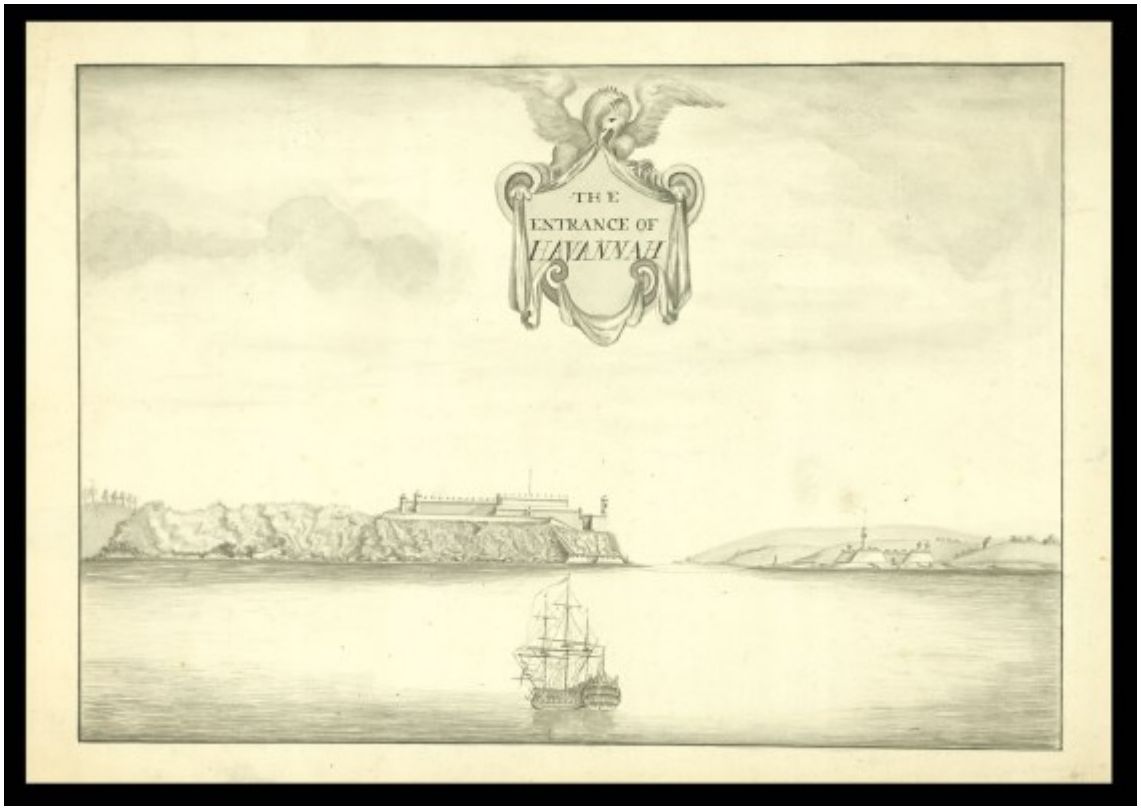


Manuscript map, in pen and ink en grisaille on paper.

HAVANA HARBOUR

The Entrance of Havannah.

Author
[Anonymous]

Publication date
c1760.

Publisher

Publication place

Physical description
Manuscript map, in pen and ink en grisaille on paper.

Dimensions
280 by 390mm. (11 by 15.25 inches).

Notes
View of the mouth of Havana Harbour taken from a shipboard vantage point, emphasising the two forts that guarded the mouth: on the left the ‘Castillo de los Tres Reyes Magos del Morro’ (Morro Castle) and on the right ‘Castillo de San Salvador de la Punta, and marking the boom chain barrier stretched between the two.

Havana was attacked by the British towards the end of the Seven Years’ War, and this would seem an appropriate date for this image.

Seeing that Morro Castle presented a formidable challenge should it be attacked from the seaward, the British simply landed troops on Cuba who approached from the landward side, and commenced siege operations on 11th June, gradually battering the walls into ruin. A breach was made on 30th July and the castle taken by storm. With the key to its defences lost, Havana was quickly compelled to surrender.

Bibliography

Provenance

Price: £3000

Inventory reference: 11350

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