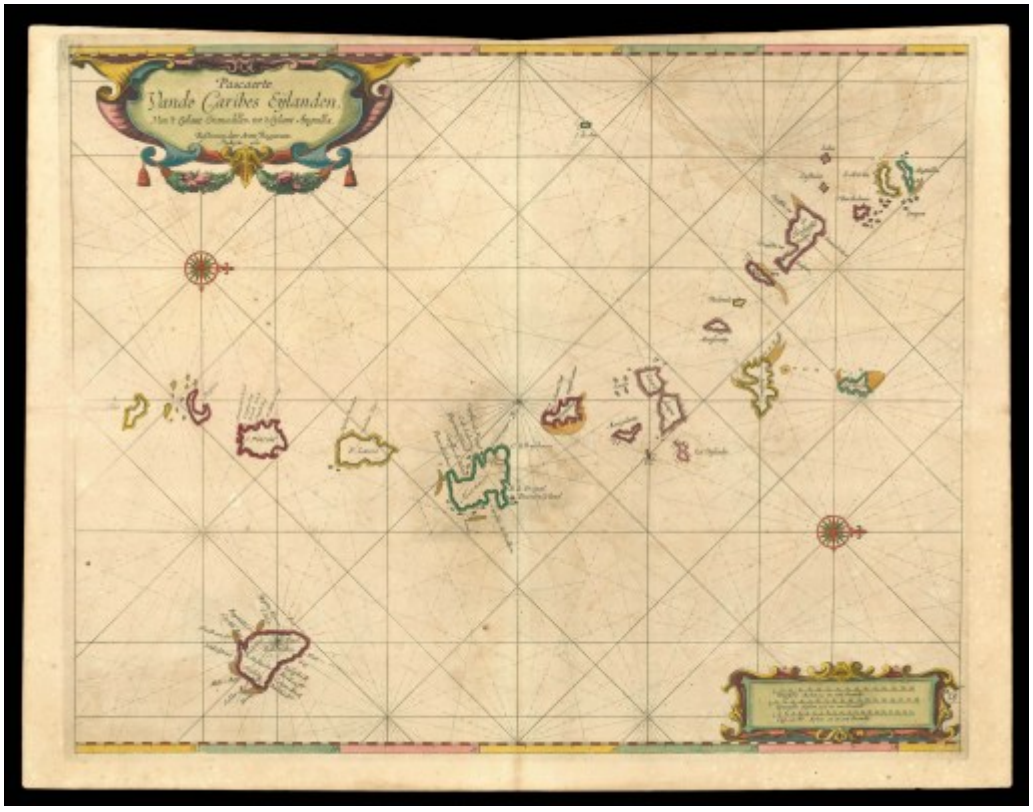

Double-page engraved chart with fine hand-colour in part and in outline.

LESSER ANTILLES

Pascaerte vande Caribes Eylanden van ‘t Eylant Granadillos, tot ‘t Eylant Anguilla.

Author
ROGGEVEEN, Arent

Publication date
[c1680]

Publisher

Publication place
Amsterdam,

Physical description
Double-page engraved chart with fine hand-colour in part and in outline.

Dimensions
430 by 535mm (17 by 21 inches).

Notes
First large-scale Dutch sea chart of the Lesser Antilles – published in Roggeveen’s exceedingly rare sea pilot ‘Het Brandende Veen’.

Roggeveen, born in Delshaven, came to Middleburg, the seat of both the Dutch East and West India Companies, in 1658. He worked for both companies teaching the art of navigation and helped to maintain their collections of hydrographic manuscripts and charts, including Spanish portolans of

the West Indies. In the mid-1660s, assisted by his access to these collections, Roggeveen embarked upon compiling a series of large-scale charts of the North American coastline, West Indies, and, later, West Africa. Many of his charts are based upon the earlier large-scale work of Hessel Gerritsz and Joan Vingboons, both cartographers for the Dutch East and West India Companies, but Roggeveen's work was the first to show the whole coastline of North America and the Caribbean. He called this pilot 'Het Brandende Veen' or 'The Burning Fen'; a pun on his name, as 'veen' means 'fen', and a heap of burning fen represents a fire on the coast to guide or warn ships.

The first edition of the atlas was published in 1675 by Pieter Goos, however, due to the death of Goos in the same year, and that of Roggeveen four years later, a second edition would not be published until 1680, by which time the plates had been acquired by the chart dealer Jacobus Robijn. Robijn went on to republish the second edition in 1689, with a third edition appearing in 1698.

Bibliography

Provenance

Price: £4000

Inventory reference: 2953

© Daniel Crouch Rare Books Ltd | 2025