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Captain Cook's first edition map of New Guinea

COOK, Captain James.
A Chart of Capt.n Carteret's Discoveries at New Britain, with Part of Capt.n. Cooke's Passage thro Endeavour Streights, & of Capt.n Dampier's Tract & Discoveries in 1699, & 1700, at New Guinea and New Britain.

London: Strahan & Cadell, 1773. Coloured. 245 x 645mm.

£220

Another one of Cook's achievements on his First Voyage was the confirmation that Torres Strait separated New Guinea and Australia, although Cook had expresssed doubt that it existed himself. This chart marks the southern coastline he verified, with the rest of the outline taken from earlier explorers. To the north of the island are the tracks of Dampier and Carteret around New Britain and New Ireland. Engraved by W.Whitchurch for Hawkesworth's important work 'An Account of the Voyages... for making Discoveries in the Southern Hemisphere', the official account of Cook's First Voyage.

Stock ID :16716