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### Mr Seldens Map Of China

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The "Selden Map," as it is known, was a puzzle that needing solving. Brook, a historian of China, set out to explore the riddle. His investigation will lead readers around this elegant, enigmatic work of art, and from the heart of China, via the Southern Ocean, to the court of King James II.

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The Selden Map of China (Bodleian Library, MS Selden Supra 105) is an early seventeenth-century map of East Asia formerly owned by the legal scholar and maritime theorist John Selden.

### Selden Map - Wikipedia

The "Selden Map," as it is known, was a puzzle that needing solving. Brook, a historian of China, set out to explore the riddle. His investigation will lead readers around this elegant, enigmatic work of art, and from the heart of China, via the Southern Ocean, to the court of King James II.

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China occupies less than one half of the area of the Selden Map, which is centred on the South China Sea, with an equal area depicting the Philippines, Borneo, Java, Sumatra, Southeast Asia, and notionally at least, India. The depiction of China itself is not the purpose of the map, and is copied from a standard printed map of the period.

### The Selden Map of China

Description In 1659, a vast and unusual map of China arrived in the Bodleian Library, Oxford. It was bequeathed by John Selden, a London business lawyer, political activist, former convict, MP and the city's first Orientalist scholar. Largely ignored, it remained in the bowels of the library, until called up by an inquisitive reader.

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A work of exuberant scholarship radiates from a map of China bequeathed to Oxford's Bodleian Library in 1659. Brook's (History/Univ. of British Columbia; The Troubled Empire: China in the Yuan and Ming Dynasties, 2010, etc.) mentor was the legendary "English historian of Chinese science" Joseph Needham, and Brook creates an intriguing intellectual detective story around a map that the ...

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