



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## Amerique Septentrionale (early Jedediah Smith information)

**Stock#:** 53896  
**Map Maker:** Tardieu  
**Date:** 1835 circa  
**Place:** Paris  
**Color:** Outline Color  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 17 x 14.5 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



### Description:

#### *An Early Jedediah Smith Map*

Fine map of North America, with several early important notes in the American West and Texas, published by Tardieu, who is listed as a member of the Central Commission of the French Royal Geographical Society.

In Texas, the location of St. Felipe de Austin and Nashville are shown. Nashville, on the Brazos River, was the primary settlement in Sterling Robertson's Empresario Land Grant in Texas and was surveyed in the Fall of 1835, suggesting that this map was likely published in 1836, but prior to Texas declaring its Independence.

In Oregon Territory and the area just to the north in British Columbia then claimed by the Americans, a number of early Forts are shown, including:

- Ft. Astoria or Clatsop
- Ft. Vancouver
- Ft. Nez Perces
- Ft. Lengley
- Ft. Alexandre
- Ft. Thomson



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### Amerique Septentrionale (early Jedediah Smith information)

In California and the Southwest, a number of mythical rivers are shown, including two rivers feeding the Rio Colorado entitled R. Amarillo ou Seeds Keeder and R. Piramidas Sulfureas. A number of early Indian Tribes appear in the region, as do some of the remnant of the apocryphal rivers from the earlier part of the century., flowing from Utah to San Francisco Bay.

"Seeds Keeder" was the name used by Jedediah Smith to identify the Green River. The following passage from Smith's expedition in 1826 describes the Seeds Keeder River:

*I followed Adams River two days travel further, where it empties into the **Seeds Keeder**," which I crossed and went a south course down it, through a barren, rocky and mountainous country. In this river are many shoals and rapids. Further down, a valley opens, from five to fifteen miles in width. The land on the river bank is fertile and timbered. I here found another tribe of Indians, who call themselves 'Ammuchiebes.'" They cultivate the soil and raise corn, beans, pumpkins and mellons in abundance, and also a little Wheat and cotton. I was now nearly destitute of horses, and had learned what it was to do without food. I therefore concluded to remain here fifteen days, to recruit my men; and in the meantime, succeeded in changing my few remaining horses, and was enabled to purchase others, from a party of runaway Indians, who had stolen from the Spainards. I here obtained some information regarding the Spanish country-obtained two guides-recrossed the **Seeds Keeder**, and traveled a west course fifteen days over a country of complete barrens, and frequently travelling from morning until night without water. Crossed a salt plain eight miles wide and twenty long. On the surface of the ground is a crust of white salt, underneath is a layer of yellow sand, and beneath the sand a few inches, the salt again appears. The river Seeds Keeder, I have since learned, empties itself in to the Gulf of California, about 80 miles from the Ammuchiebes and is there called the Colerado.*

The Smith appearance suggests that the map was issued shortly after A.H. Brue's map of Mexico, published in 1834, which is credited as the first map to report this information. The Nashville appearance and the failure to show the Republic of Texas suggests that the map was issued in late 1835 or early 1836.

#### Rarity

The map is very rare. This is the first example we have ever seen.

#### Detailed Condition:



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**Amerique Septentrionale (early Jedediah Smith information)**

Shows signs of wear at the centerfold.