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**Map illustrating the plan of the defences of the Western Frontier, as proposed by Maj. Gen. Gaines, in his plan of Feby. 28th 1838.**

**Stock#:** 34469gm  
**Map Maker:** Burr  
**Date:** 1838  
**Place:** Washington  
**Color:** Uncolored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 23.5 x 14.5 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



**Description:**

Rare 1838 map showing the plan for the defences proposed by General Gaines in February 1838.

The map shows the Indian Lands, west of the Mississippi River, setting forth the location of the major western forts on the American Frontier. The map is based upon surveys conducted by Washington Hood, shortly before his death. Shows area to the west of the Mississippi, from Fort Snelling to the Gulf of Mexico.



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**Map illustrating the plan of the defences of the Western Frontier, as proposed by Maj. Gen. Gaines, in his plan of Feby. 28th 1838.**

This map was issued as part of the continuing debate over the nature of the Frontier Defenses between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains. General Edmund P. Gaines, one of the most visionary military men of the 19th Century, submitted a plan calling for a system of military railroads that would permit the rapid movement of troops, not only between St. Louis and the frontier, but between Atlantic coastal forts and western frontier forts. In the 1830's this was a revolutionary idea, as railroads were in their infancy with only a few local lines connecting eastern cities.

The map depicts the United States territory west of the Mississippi River, including lands making up present-day Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, and the Indian nations bordering them to the west. Lands claimed and ceded by various Native American tribes, and lands assigned to tribes are indicated, as well as proposed forts and railroads. This map is part of a series, together with those illustrating the proposals of J.R. Poinsett and Charles Gratiot, which provide a fascinating comparison of the region, locating many military forts and outposts from Ft. Jessup to Ft. Snelling. The map is uncolored except for red marking the locations of the forts.

The map is considerably rarer than the earlier maps of Poinset and Gratiot.

**Detailed Condition:**

Forts marked in red