



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Texas, By David Burr . . . 1833

Stock#: 14149
Map Maker: Colton / Burr
Date: 1833
Place: New York
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 21 x 17.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

First state of Burr's map of Texas, one of the two most important maps of Texas on the eve of its independence.

The map is of the utmost importance in the history of Texas, both as an early milestone in its development and as one of the earliest useful guide maps to the region. Of the 5 recorded states of the map (1833, 1834, 1835, 1845 and 1846), the 1833 is the rarest, with only a handful of copies known in American institutional collections. For example, the Library of Congress and most major Texas collections do not include this first state.

Of the 5 recorded states of the map, the 1833 is by far the rarest, with only a handful of copies known in American institutional collections. For example, the Library of Congress and most major Texas collections do not include this first state. This example of the map is signed twice on the verso by Abner Brush and A. Brush (likely the same person). Genealogical records suggest that this Abner Brush may have been a relative of Elkanah Brush. Elkanah Brush, was born in New York and moved to the Power and Hewetson colony at Refugio, Texas, in 1834, shortly after the completion of the Bray survey of Refugio in August 1834, and received a municipal land grant in Refugio on October 31, 1834. Two of Brush's sons also received grants.

On November 28, 1835, Brush was appointed by the General Council at San Felipe de Austin as a commissioner to organize the Refugio militia. He was a member of Ira J. Westover's party that joined



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George M. Collinsworth's command in the capture of Goliad in October 1835, and periodically between October 10, 1835, and January 16, 1836, he served under Capt. Philip Dimmitt in the Goliad garrison and on the Lipantitlán Expedition. On December 20, 1835, Brush was among 91 signers of the Goliad Declaration of Independence, which was the first such document to proclaim Texas' independence from Mexico. On July 1, 1836, he enlisted in Capt. Louis P. Cooke's company of Col. Edwin Morehouse's First Regiment, First Brigade, Army of the Republic of Texas. For his military service Brush received a bounty warrant for 1,280 acres, which he sold to Robert Peebles. Brush was elected to the House of Representatives of the First Congress of the Republic of Texas and fought a closely contested election for the Second. He was the apparent victor and was present at Houston at its first session, on September 25, 1837. But on October 2 William E. Walker of Victoria claimed the seat. Brush protested on the following day, and a recount showed that Walker had won by two votes. Walker was disqualified on October 7, however, as he was neither a citizen nor a resident. A special election was then called, and James Power was chosen to fill the vacant seat. Records also reflect that he owned One Labor of land in Travis County, Texas in 1840. He resided in Fort Bend County until at least 1850.

Genealogical records show that Brush had a daughter, Catherine, while still living in New York in 1832, strongly suggesting that Elkanah Brush traveled to Texas sometime in 1833 or 1834, possibly bearing this copy of Burr's map of Texas, furnished to him by Abner Brush. Given the timing of Elkanah's departure from New York and arrival in Texas, the prospect that only this first edition of Burr's map of Texas was available to Elkanah lends additional plausibility to this theory. Records reflect at least 2 Abner Brushes appear to have been in Suffolk County, New York during this time period, although we have not definitively made the connection to Elkanah.

Detailed Condition: