

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard La Jolla, CA 92037

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Americae Nova Tabula

Stock#: 23800 Map Maker: Blaeu

Date: 1621

Place: Amsterdam Colored Hand Colored

Condition: VG

Size: 22 x 16 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Rare early example of Blaeu's map of America, with no text on the verso.

Blaeu's map of America is one of the most sought after maps of America from the Golden Age of Dutch Cartography, blending contemporary georgaphical knowledge and a rich decorative image. Blaeu's maps set the standard for the quality of the engraving, paper and color, as well as a fine depiction of contemporary geographical knowledge.

This map illustrates excellent detail throughout, including a classical rendition of the West Coast of America (which did not follow the California as an Island myth) and dozens of place names along the East Coast. Nine decorative views of important American Cities and Harbors across the top and 10 fine miniatures of Native Americans of various regions along the side panels. The map is also embellished with eight sailing ships, four sea monsters and vignettes in the interior of the continent showing Indian life. Goss states "this magnificent map sums up the general European view of the western hemisphere in the early seventeenth century..."

As noted by Burden, State 3 of the map, first published in 1621, appears both with and without text on the verso. The examples without text are typically pre-1630, according to Burden. The present example was folded into a small folio volume and was quite likely separately issued and used by an owner or early bookseller to illustrate a book which would otherwise have not included this map. The print impression is dark and strong, reflecting an early use of the plate, which more commonly appears in the fourth state, first issued in 1642 and can be distinguished by the much more elaborate markings in the sea.



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These early examples of Blaeu's map of America are quite rare on the market. Early examples without text panels periodically appear on the market, such as the one which illustrated Van Meteren's *Warhafftige Beschreibung Aller Denckwurdigsten Geschichten* However, the early versions with the panels and without text on the verso are very rare on the market.

Detailed Condition:

Narrow margins (left margin extended) and a bit of foxing and discoloration near lower centerfold. Minor reinforced fold splits.