



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## Mexico or New Spaine By John Seller

**Stock#:** 37721  
**Map Maker:** Seller  
**Date:** 1685  
**Place:** London  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 6 x 4.5 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



### Description:

Rare miniature map of Mexico or New Spain, hand colored by regions, from one of John Seller's miniature atlases.

This example is the first state of the map, published in 1685. The map is most probably from Seller's *New Systeme of Geography* first issued in 1685, although it could also be from a re-issue of the *Atlas Terrestris*.

John Seller, Sr. was not only an instrument maker, surveyor, cartographer, artist and Hydrographer to the King and Queen, but moreover he was responsible for the first *English Pilots*, which were continually reprinted and still in use centuries after his death in 1697. He produced charts and atlases, navigational aids, almanacs, celestial maps, as well as *Pilots*, and should perhaps be remembered first and foremost for his major contribution to the maritime world of sailing and navigation.

Seller was appointed Hydrographer by Charles II in 1671, and also served under James II and William III. As the King's Hydrographer, Seller was granted a 30-year privilege giving him a monopoly on publishing nautical atlases in England. Over his long career, Seller published a variety of titles, often in numerous editions, such as *Praxis Nautica*, or *Practical Navigation* (1669); *Atlas Maritimus* (1669); *An epitome of the art of navigation* (1681); and *Atlas Terrestris* (1676). While his maps often lack beauty and finesse, Seller contributed significantly to English cartography by helping to establish the market for English-language maps and charts and encouraging the growth of the cartographic industry in 17th Century England.



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**Detailed Condition:**