



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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[Unrecorded First State] Columbia Prima or South America, in which has been Attempted to Delineate the Extent of our Knowledge ... Extracted Chiefly from ... Manuscript Maps of ... Pinto ... Rocha ... Ferreira ... Sobreviela ... by ... Louis Stanislas D'Arcy De La Rochette . . . 1807

Stock#: 52063
Map Maker: Faden
Date: 1807
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 96 x 66 inches
Price: \$6,800.00



Description:

Unrecorded First State of The Best English Map of South America of The Early 19th Century -- Prince Augustus Frederick, Duke of Sussex Copy

Exceptional map of South America, at the outset of its Century of Independence, without question the finest large format commercially published map of South America published in the early 19th Century.

The present example is from the collection of Prince August Frederick, the Duke of Sussex, and includes both his bookplate and coat of arms. It is also apparently the only surviving example of the proof state of the map, as discussed below.

The map is based upon original manuscript maps to His Excellency the late Chevalier Pinto and João Joaquim da Rocha, João da Costa Ferreira, El Padre Francisco Manuel Sobrevida &c. and from the most authentic edited accounts of those countries. The geopolitical divisions would drastically be altered in the



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years to come as a consequence of the Independence and creation of Republics of most of South America from Spain's colonies. It is also, due to its scale, extremely detailed and includes as much up-to-date information as was by then available. The map is embellished with an enormous title cartouche on the lower right sheet.

The 1775 Cruz Cano and Faden's 1807 Colombia Prima

Coming only 8 years after Faden's publication of the Cruz Cano y Olmedilla map of South America, it is remarkable to see the dramatic improvements. The Cruz Cano had originally been published by the Spanish Government in 1775, but had been suppressed shortly after its publication. Cruz Cano's map was based on cartographic material of Consejo de Indias, Jose de Ayala and the reports of the Jesuits and other missionaries in South America. Cruz Cano had spent ten years collecting measurements made by explorers and colonists and incorporated in the map valuable geographical and historical news, with some references to the sources used. Measuring approximately 6 x 8 feet, the Cruz Cano map is probably the most important map of South America made in the 18th century.

Link to 1799 Faden/Cruz Cano: **{ { inventory_detail_link('51845') } }**

Faden had originally been tasked with publishing an English edition of the Cruz Cano by Thomas Jefferson. As noted by Smith:

In spite of the fact that it was an official project, initiated and paid for by the Spanish Government, it appears to have been withheld from public distribution for a quarter-century following the first printing in 1775. Consequently, it was seldom on the market. . . .

In correspondence where Jefferson sought to have Faden copy the map, Jefferson described the map and its importance:

The government of Spain at first permitted the map, but the moment they saw one come out, they destroyed the plates, seized all of the few copies which had got out and on which they could lay their hands, and issued the severest injunctions to call in the rest and to prevent their going abroad. Some few copies escaped their search. A friend has by good management procured me one, and it is arrived safe through all the searches that travelers are submitted to.

In comparing the two maps (1799 and 1807), it is quite remarkable to see the advancements from the



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1799 Faden/Cruz Cano to the 1807 Faden/Colombia Prima. These changes can be seen both stylistically and in terms of the significant improvements in both the topographical information in depicted in the 1807 map and the tremendous advancements in the coastal features.

Notably, the southern coast of Chile is radically different and the 1807 goes so much further in illustrating the topography and highlighting the topographical features (ie mountains) which defines Chile's geography.

The Coastal advances are unquestionably the result of the Spanish Hydrographical surveys of the late 18th Century, which resulted in the first comprehensive scientific observations along the entire coast of South America. Taken as a whole, both the stylistic and geographical differences between the two maps is quite remarkable:

Unrecorded First State

The present example is apparently an unrecorded first state, with the spelling in the title "Columbia Prima," rather than "Colombia Prima." We locate no other confirmed examples. The spelling was quickly corrected thereafter.

Prince Augustus Frederick, Duke of Sussex, Duke of Sussex

Prince Augustus Frederick, Duke of Sussex (1773 - 1843) was the 6th son and 9th child of King George III and his consort Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. He was the only surviving son of George III who did not pursue an army or navy career. Augustus Frederick was invested as a Knight of the Garter June 2, 1786, and installed by dispensation on May 28, 1801. The King created him Duke of Sussex, Earl of Inverness, and Baron Arklow in the Peerage of the United Kingdom on November 24, 1801. Since Augustus Frederick had no legitimate children, the title became extinct on his death in 1843.

In 1815 The Duke became a Patron of the Jews' Hospital and Orphan Asylum, later to become the charity known today as Norwood. Royal patronage continued, with Queen Elizabeth II eventually becoming Norwood's patron.

William IV appointed his younger brother Frederick Augustus as Chief Ranger and Keeper of St. James's



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and Hyde Parks on January 29, 1831, and Queen Victoria appointed him Governor of Windsor Castle in 1842. He was elected president of the Society of Arts in 1816 and held that post for the rest of his life. He also held the honorary posts of Colonel of the Hon. Artillery Company from 1817, and of Captain-General (at which point the posts were united) from 1837 onward.

Augustus Frederick was president of the Royal Society between 1830 and 1838, and had a keen interest in biblical studies and Hebrew. His personal library contained over 50,000 theological manuscripts, some in Hebrew. He was also an avid book collector, with a library of over 50,000 volumes.

Rarity

The Faden map is scarce on the market. We note only 1 example of the 1807 edition at auction in the past 20 years.

OCLC locates copies in the British Library, Clements Library (Michigan), Syracuse University, Harvard, State Library of New South Wales and the Rumsey Collection (Stanford). The JCB and National Maritime Museum hold a 4th edition, dated 1828. The Newberry Library holds a copy bound into a Wyld *General Atlas*. The British Library also lists an 1872 edition.

Detailed Condition:

Minor offsetting. Dissected and laid on 8 sheets of linen, with original slip case.