



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## L'Amerique Septentrionale ou se remarquent Les Etats Unis . . . 1779 (First Map to Name The United States)

**Stock#:** 53994  
**Map Maker:** Brion de la Tour / Esnauts & Rapilly  
**Date:** 1779  
**Place:** Paris  
**Color:** Outline Color  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 28 x 20 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



### Description:

#### ***The First Printed Map to Name the United States (Etats-Unis)***

Nice example of Esnauts & Rapilly's landmark American map, generally regarded as the first map to name the United States.

This map and Lattre's map are considered the two earliest maps to use the name Etats-Unis (United States) in the title of the map.

The map delineates United States in the midst of the American Revolution, but shows a very unusual "Floride Occidente, which extends north to the mountains of North Carolina, claiming all of the future Mississippi and Alabama as part of West Florida. The region between the Mississippi and Appalachians, south of the Great Lakes, remains filled with French Forts.

A note along the Mississippi River, just south of the mouth of the Missouri River, a note reads:

*Missi-sipi F qui sert de bornes aux Dominations Espagnoles et Anglo-Américaine*

*(Mississippi River which serves as the limits to the Spanish and Anglo-American Dominations).*

West of the Great Lakes and Lac Ouinipigon (Winnipeg), the River of the West is still shown, extending toward Drake's Nouvelle Albion, with Quivia and the R. Colorado de las Martyrs shown further south. The



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west coast is a mix of mythical discoveries (De Font/Fuente, Juan de Fuca and Martin d'Aguilar) and the Russian discoveries.

Highly detailed allegorical cartouche shows America nurturing two Putti, with allegorical scenes referencing commerce and the fur trade.

There are several later more common editions of the map, including one dated 1783 and one dated 1796 (An VII, in the year of the French Republic).

**Rarity**

The map is rare on the market. AMPR / oldmaps.com locates 2 examples in dealer catalogs in the past 30 years (1999 and 2001, quite possibly the same example) and 1 copy at auction (2001).

**Detailed Condition:**

Minor repairs, primarily at the fold intersection. Minor soiling. Repaired tear at lower right part of bottom of the map, extending to between the U and E in Pacifique and a second shorter tear just to the right of the first.