



## Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard  
La Jolla, CA 92037

[www.raremaps.com](http://www.raremaps.com)

(858) 551-8500  
[blr@raremaps.com](mailto:blr@raremaps.com)

### Novae Insulae XXVI Nova Tabula

**Stock#:** 55045  
**Map Maker:** Munster  
**Date:** 1545  
**Place:** Basle  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 13.5 x 10 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



#### Description:

Rare second state of Munster's map of America, the earliest map to show all of North and South America in a true continental form.

Munster's map of America is the earliest map to show all of North and South America in a true continental form. The first edition of the map appeared in Munster's *Geographia*, first published in 1540. However, it was the map's inclusion in the 1544 edition of Munster's *Cosmographia* that forever caused America to be the name of the New World, perpetuating Waldseemuller's choice of names in a popular and widely disseminated work.

Munster's map is the earliest map to show all of the continents of America and the first to name the Pacific Ocean (Mare Pacificum). The depiction of North America is dominated by one of the most dramatic geographic misconceptions to be found on early maps—the so-called Sea of Verrazzano. The Pacific cuts deeply into North America so that the part of the coastline at this point is a narrow isthmus between two oceans. This was the result of Verrazzano mistaking the waters to the west of the Outer Banks, the long barrier islands along North Carolina as the Pacific. The division of the New World between Spain and Portugal is recognized on the map by the Castille and Leon flag planted in Puerto Rico, here called Sciana.

The map includes a host of firsts, too many to include in this description. Includes a very early appearance of the Straits of Magellan, along with his ship *Victoria* in the Pacific. The earliest appearance of Japan on a map, predating European contact and based solely legends, such as Marco Polo. The Yucatan Peninsula is shown as an Island. Lake Temistan empties into the Caribbean. The map depicts cannibals in South



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America and names Florida. The misinformation provided by Verazanno is perpetuated. The map depicts cannibals in South America and names Florida.

The first state of the map was issued in the 1540 and 1542 editions of Munster's *Geographia*. In 1545, the title was changed to from *Novae Insulae XVII* . . . to *Novae Insulae XXVI* . . . Because the map appeared in only 1 edition, it is perhaps the rarest of all editions of the map on the market.

A seminal map for American Collectors.

**Detailed Condition:**

Expertly repaired long, clean tear proceeding up from the bottom edge to almost the top edge, located roughly 1 inch right of the centerfold. Lower left corner replaced with old paper, not affecting image.