



**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)

---

**Reconnaissance of the Colorado River made by order of Maj. Gen. P.F. Smith . . . 1850  
(with Derby's Report)**

**Stock#:** 61432  
**Map Maker:** Derby  
**Date:** 1850 (1852)  
**Place:** Washington  
**Color:** Uncolored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 11 x 22.5 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



**Description:**

Fine example of one of the earliest detailed mapping of the Colorado River, after the Mexican War, with Darby's original report.

Important early survey map of the region from Fort Defiance and the Gila River, to the Gulf of California, identifying nearly 20 different landings, Indian villages, points, etc. The Treaty of Guadeloupe Hidalgo that



**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)

---

**Reconnaissance of the Colorado River made by order of Maj. Gen. P.F. Smith . . . 1850  
(with Derby's Report)**

ended the war with Mexico gave the United States navigation rights in the Gulf of California and up the Colorado River. Lt. George H. Derby was assigned the task to explore the mouth of the river and determine the navigability as far north as Camp Yuma.

Located at the confluence of the Colorado and Gila Rivers, Yuma was a crossroads of the Southwest and Derby's map served to focus attention on the area just as the Gold Rush made this one of the prime routes to California. The map locates Indian villages, landings, and conditions along the winding course of the river.

A historically significant map that delineates the Colorado River from its confluence with the Gila River to its mouth in the Gulf of California. Wheat describes this map as interesting and useful and notes that it was the basis for cartography of that area until the Ives maps appeared a decade later in 1860.

The map is accompanied by George Derby's original report, entitled: *Report of The Secretary of War...a reconnaissance of the Gulf of California and the Colorado river by Lieutenant Derby.*, 32d Congress, 1st Session, Senate Ex. Doc. 81; 8vo, 28 pp., which was not issued until 1852.

**Detailed Condition:**