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Aaron Bohrod's America Its History

Stock#: 63135
Map Maker: Bohrod
Date: 1946
Place: n.p.
Color: Color
Condition: VG
Size: 33 x 22 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Striking pictorial map of the United States, by W.P.A. artist Aaron Bohrod.

The map provides a fine look at America's regional history, paying tribute to the historical events that opened up America, from coast to coast.

The map was one of three lithographic maps of the America published by Associated American Artists (AAA) as part of a lithograph series that also included Paul Sample's *America: Its Soil* and William Gropper's *America Its Folklore*. As noted by Kyle Carsten Wyatt in *Cartographers as Critics: Staking Claims in the Mapping of American Literature* (p. 104-105)

Since 1937, AAA had sold affordable lithographs and etchings by social realist and regionalist artists, including Gropper, Thomas Hart Benton, John S. Curry, and Grant Wood. These signed limited editions, most of which sold by mail order for \$5, were marketed toward middle-class Americans in newspapers and magazines such as the New York Times and Life. In 1942, AAA began selling unsigned prints of pictorial maps, which were quite large compared to the lithographs and etchings that were already available. These "breath-taking panoramas" of American geography, history, and culture were marketed as "stunning addition[s] to any home, office, library or school.

In "Picturing America"; Stephen Hornsby writes of it "Bohrod's sweeping and popular depiction of American history owes much to the murals he and other artists designed for the Treasury Department's Section of Fine Arts during the 1930s. John Brown's Slave Raids in Kansas set against a glowing sun create



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a powerful central image for the map."

Detailed Condition: