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Novus Orbis potius Altera Continens sive Atlantis Insula . . . 1699

Stock#: 66373
Map Maker: Sanson
Date: 1699 (1720 circa)
Place: Paris
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 22 x 16 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

America as Atlantis

Unrecorded state of Sanson's Map of the Island of Atlantis -- the modern continents of North and South America.

Fascinating map of America, published by Mortier Nicolas Sanson, purporting to show the Western Hemisphere about 200,000 years ago before the earliest human civilizations.

The map reflects the populating of the lost continent of Atlantis in the 17th Century. The map shows the divisions of the land masses, as divided by the god Neptune, among his ten sons.

Thule island is shown, which at the time was believed to be the source of Nordic races, based upon the work of Heinrich Schliemann. Schliemann had taken Homer's Iliad and Odyssey and their accounts of the Trojan Wars to be literal truth. He then discovered ancient Troy in Asia Minor.

Atlantis was first described by Plato about 400 B.C. Over the next 2300 years, many other scholars and pseudo intellects championed various elements of the legend. Among the more fantastic modern theories include those who believe that Atlantis is an island in a lake in Bolivia, a part of the Hollow Earth Theory, the site of a visit by Astronauts prior to the birth of Christ and other fantastic theories.

The map shows the cartographic knowledge of the Western World as of the middle of the 17th Century, with California shown as an island, the Dutch discoveries in Australia and New Zealand and the style mythical / conjectural configurations of Alaska, Japan and the lands between.



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The present edition is re-engraved, eliminating the Mariette credit, with the addition of the words "Apud Auctorem in Aedibus Regis 1699." In addition, an extra title is added at the top.

Detailed Condition: