Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.

America

Stock#: 67503
Map Maker: Arrowsmith

Date: 1840
Place: London
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG+
Size: 19 x 24 inches

Price: SOLD

Description:

A detailed map of America, by John Arrowsmith. The map shows the lands from "Russian America" to an unclaimed Patagonia, at a time when many parts of the continent were truly wild. Major cities, rivers, islands, lakes, and much more are all shown.

Boundaries have changed much since the making of this map. The Canadian-American border west of the Rocky Mountains is not drawn, though Canada does extend to the Columbia River along the coast. Texas is massive and part of Mexico, though it should have been independent at the time. Guatemala occupies much of Central America. The Gran Columbian dream is on its last legs, with three different republics all faintly demarcated. In reality, they were already independent states. Bolivia reaches the ocean, and the War of the Pacific has yet to be fought to lengthen Chile.

Geopolitical changes are not the only curiosities on this map. Greenland connects to Canadian islands, and Baffin Bay is completely closed. Long rivers flow into the San Francisco bay, including one which crosses the Sierra Nevada and drains from the "Buenaventura Swamp." Many other rivers are conjectured in some

America

of the more remote parts of the map, though most of the Transmississippi West and Canada are shown in great accuracy.

This map is well designed and contains extensive information and detail, typical of Arrowsmith's maps. In all, it is a clear map of the Americas, showing the geopolitical boundaries at the time, but serving as a reminder that even in the 19th century large parts of the continent were still unknown.

The map appeared in John Arrowsmith's *London Atlas*

Detailed Condition: