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**Chart of the West Indies And Spanish Dominions in North America. By A. Arrowsmith.
1803 . . . Additions to 1810**

Stock#: 68459
Map Maker: Arrowsmith
Date: 1810
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: Good
Size: 49 x 37.5 inches
Price: \$ 4,500.00



Description:

The Best Early 19th-Century Map of Central America and the Caribbean.

Large hand-colored engraved antique map of Florida, the Gulf Coast, West Indies, and Central America, published by Aaron Arrowsmith in London in 1810.

The map contains a detailed treatment of the Gulf Coast and East & West Florida, based in part on the surveys conducted by De Brahm and Romans just prior to the American Revolution. Streeter notes that the coastline follows generally the *Carta Esferica* of 1799, but with the longitude of Sabine Pass nearly correct, unlike the *Carta Esferica*. The map presents a highly detailed look at the region on the eve of the War of 1812, at a time when England still had significant colonial interests in the region.

In Central America, the following regions are named: Tabasco, Chiapa, and Yucatan, Mexico; British Honduras (i.e., Belize, unnamed but with original hand-coloring separating the region from Yucatan); "Guatimala" and Vera Paz, parts of the Captaincy General of Guatemala; Honduras; Moskito Shorte; Nicaragua; Costa Rica; Veragua; and Panama.

Interestingly, the map includes a key indicating possible transcontinental canals linking the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans:

Canals proposed to be cut by the Spaniards in 1528.



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1. *From the Lake of Nicaragua to the South Sea*
2. *From the River Chagre to Panama*
3. *Across the Isthmus of Tehoantepec*
4. *From Nombre de Dios to Panama*
And in 1800 from Rio Grande near Panama to Rio Chagres and from Rio Caymito to the
Embarcadero of Rio Trinidad.

In the Caribbean, Arrowsmith frequently names "Rochfort" as a source for his information on the islands. This refers to Charles de Rochefort's 1658 book *Histoire naturelle et morale des iles Antilles de l'Amerique*.

This is the third state of the map, representing the first state of the second edition, in which the copper plate has been cut down, removing the image at the west side. The map now goes as far west as Matagorda Bay, Texas, and the Gulf of Tehuantepec.

Detailed Condition:

Dissected in 24 sections and laid on original linen. Original hand-color. Foxed.