Barry Lawrence Ruderman
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A Map of Texas, compiled from Surveys recorded in the Land Office of Texas, and other Official Surveys. . . .

Stock#: 80748
Map Maker: Arrowsmith

Date: 1841
Place: London
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 19.5 x 24 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

A Republic of Texas Icon -- One Of The Most Sought After Maps of the Republic of Texas

A nice example of Arrowsmith's landmark map of Texas.

John Arrowsmith first issued his *Map of Texas,* in 1841, with several subsequent issued during the Republic of Texas period. The map immediately became the model for maps of the new republic and was copied extensively by other publishers. The present example is the first state of the map, drawn from Kennedy's book.

Arrowsmith's map contains the most up-to-date depiction of the latest political divisions. In addition, four years of study by the General Land Office of Texas provided Arrowsmith with the latest information on geographical features, roadways, and the location of Indian tribes. The seals of the Republic of Texas and the General Land Office of Texas appear beneath the title. Below, a statement indicates that Texas was "Recognized as an Independent State by Great Britain, 16th Novr., 1840."

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The map was issued at a time when Great Britain was actively trying to establish a source for cotton in an independent Texas, and so opposed its annexation to the United States. British diplomats attempted to draw a treaty with Texas, France, and Mexico, while the United States debated the issue of Texas's admission to the union. Arrowsmith's map stands as an endorsement of the most extensive territorial claims made by the Republic of Texas.

Martin & Martin note:

> *Arrowsmith's map was probably the first to show the full extent of Texas's claim to the region of the upper Rio Grande, an area included within Texas's boundaries until the Compromise of 1850.. The popularity and general acceptance of the map has been documented by the fact that many map makers copied liberally from Arrowsmith's map, including some of its errors. For example, a number of later maps continued Arrowsmith's statement printed on the western, arid region of Texas that "this tract of Country explored by LeGrande in 1833 is naturally fertile well wooded & with a fair proportion of water.*

Editorial comments throughout the map reveal its intention to encourage development with phrases such as "good land," "rich land well timbered," "beautiful prairie," and "valuable land." A forest shown below the Red River is Lower Cross Timbers, which was considered in 1834, by the U.S. Government, to be the "western boundary of habitable land."

The map appeared in 3 forms:

- Separately published map
- Arrowsmith's *London Atlas*
- William Kennedy's *The Rise, Progress, and Prospects of the Republic of Texas,* published in London in 1841.

The map is scarce on the market.

A cornerstone map for Texas collectors.

Detailed Condition: