



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## **Atlas Minimus or a Book of Geography Shewing all the Empires, Monarchies, Kingdomes, Regions, Dominions Principalities and Countries of the World [Mapp of all the World]**

**Stock#:** 81776  
**Map Maker:** Seller  
**Date:** 1679  
**Place:** London  
**Color:** Uncolored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 3 x 4.5 inches  
**Price:** Not Available



### **Description:**

#### ***Early Pocket Atlas of the World.***

A wonderful pocket-sized atlas issued by John Seller (1632-1697), a versatile English publisher and seller of maps who put out the *English Pilot* in 1671, the same year he was made Hydrographer to the King. All of the maps and tables in the *Atlas Minimus* are neatly engraved (as are the frontispiece and titlepage), with ornamental cartouches.

The present copy has all fourteen maps relating to America: A Mapp of All the World; America; Mexico or New Spain; the English Empire in America; Brazil; Terra Firma; New Mexico [showing the Baja California peninsula as an island]; Paraguay; The Chief Islands of ye Antilles and Lucayes; Canada or New France; Florida; Mexico or New Spain [different than the first map of that title]; the West Coast of South America; and the Artick Pole.

Notably, the Pacific Northwest Coast of North America is left undelineated on both the world map and the New Mexico map; both of these maps show Baja California as an island. According to Henry Wagner, the world map is based on Goos. And while Wagner says that this map is "too small for names," this is not strictly true, as California is prominently labeled, as are most of the major countries and continents, including "Hollandia nova" and "Zeladia Nova."

One of the African maps, which depicts the eastern part of the continent, is styled "the Country of the



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Negro's or Blacks"; the engraved table for this map has a striking illustration of two Black men.

While a complete copy should have a total of 53 maps, it appears not all copies were issued with the full complement of maps. The present example lacks four of the single-page maps: Biledulgerid, Congo (note: the engraved table for this map is present); Asiatick Islands in the Oriental Ocean, and the Peninsula of India Within ye Ganges. The atlas was issued with or without the text; the present copy is without the text. As a practical pocket atlas from an early date, given the considerable wear one would expect to see on such a volume, the present example is in notably nice condition withal.

**Detailed Condition:**

32mo (sometimes called 12mo or 16mo). Contemporary sheep, rebacked, preserving most of the original backstrip (spine cords partially exposed). Engraved frontispiece (with vignette hemispheric world map), engraved title, and 49 engraved maps, including the double-page world map (of 53?), with 49 engraved tables on facing pages to the maps (of 52?). This copy lacks 4 maps: Biledulgerid, Congo, Asiatick Islands and the Peninsula of India Within ye Ganges. Three of the maps with verso soiled. Mogul Empire map with small paper loss affecting lower gutter margin (no image loss), two maps with early ink ownership inscription to margins. Occasional light scattered spotting, some light tanning and early crossed-out ink inscription to front free endpaper. Manuscript ownership inscription dated 1852 on front pastedown endpaper.