



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.**

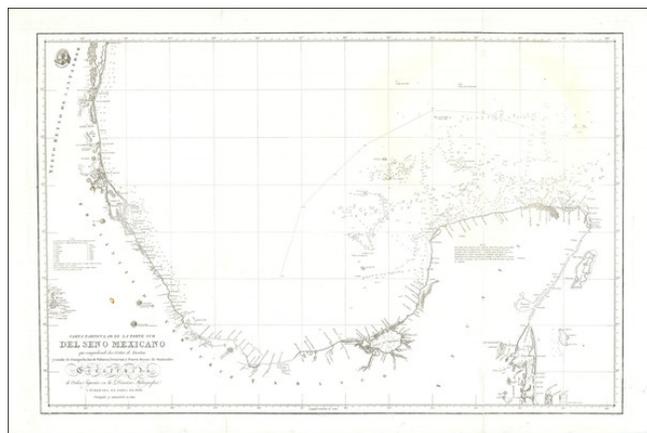
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(Yucatan) Carta Particular de la Parte Sur Del Seno Mexicano que comprehende las Costas de Yucatan y sonda de Campeche; las de Tabasco, Veracruz y Nuevo Santander. Construida de orden Superior en el Depósito Hidrográfico de Marina y Publicada en Abril de 1808. Corregida y aumentada en 1821

Stock#: 87160
Map Maker: Direccion Hidrografica de Madrid
Date: 1821
Place: Madrid
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 35 x 23 inches
Price: \$ 2,200.00



Description:

The Final Major Spanish Expedition To Chart The Coast of Yucatan and Environs.

Clearly Showing the Phantom Isla Bermeja.

Rare 1821 edition of this important Spanish sea chart of the Gulf Coast of Mexico and the Yucatan.

Fantastic large-scale printed chart of the Coast of Mexico based upon actual soundings and explorations, which would later be re-issued in 1825 in the rare 14 chart *Atlas y Portolano de la America Septentrional*, published in Mexico in 1825, to commemorate Mexican independence from Spain.

Isla Bermeja

This chart shows many soundings and other hydrographic details off the north coast of the Yucatan Peninsula. Importantly, the chart shows "Ia. Bermeja" the infamous disappearing island of the Gulf of Mexico, which showed up on numerous charts until being declared missing by a 1997 survey. This was subsequently confirmed by additional surveys of the area.

The issue of the disappearing island came to the fore when, in 2008 and 2009, the United States and Mexico negotiated offshore drilling rights in the Gulf of Mexico. Had the island still existed, Mexico would have had a larger claim to undersea drilling rights in the Gulf.



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Bermeja was first discovered in 1539 and featured on many maps after that time. This map is noteworthy because of the detailed and definite bathymetric mapping of area immediately around the island, which lends credence to the claim that the island actually did exist at that time. Indeed, there is a note on the map that it is updated according to the situation of the Isla de Arenas (Cayos Arcas) just to the south of Bermeja.

Rarity

First issued in 1808, the map would be revised in 1814, 1821, and 1846 and also issued as noted above in 1825 in Mexico City.

We locate only a single example of the map in the National Library of Spain.

Detailed Condition:

Engraving on wove paper. Small rust hole in the left side, not affecting printed image. Archivaly backed. Cleaned but with some remaining hint of a large stain on the right side.