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A New Map of the North Parts of America claimed by France under ye Names of Louisiana, Mississipi, Canada and New France with ye Adjoyning Territories of England and Spain . . . 1720

Stock#: 94224
Map Maker: Moll
Date: 1720 (1733 circa)
Place: London
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG
Size: 40 x 24 inches
Price: Not Available



Description:

Herman Moll's influential 1720 map titled *A New MAP of the North Parts of AMERICA claimed by FRANCE under y Names of LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPI, CANADA and NEW FRANCE with y Adjoyning Territories of ENGLAND and SPAIN* provides a detailed perspective of North America during a time of territorial disputes and shifting power dynamics. It is an exceptional cartographic artifact that notably includes California as an island, a common misconception during the period.

The map is sourced from the original manuscripts of various geographers and explorers like Mr. Blackmore, M. Berisford, and Capt. Nairn. Moll also incorporates information from Guillaume Delisle's map published in Paris in 1718 to depict the southwest part of Louisiana. This map is significant as it demonstrates the French's territorial claims, which Moll invites English stakeholders to scrutinize for potential infringements on their own land holdings and alliances.

A unique feature of Moll's map is the clear delineation of the territories claimed by France, England, and Spain. The mapmaker uses different colors to represent each power's claimed territories. This color-coding of the geopolitical landscape was intended to provoke an examination of the French's incursions into lands that the English perceived as rightfully theirs.

In the top left corner, the map includes an engraved view of an Indian fort named Sasquesahanok. A detailed explanation of an expedition led by Captain T. Nairn is provided, showcasing the journey through Florida Neck with a party of thirty-three Famesee Indians. This expedition narrative includes geographical features, paths taken, locations where slaves were captured, and encounters with other Indian groups.



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Moll's map is set in the Mercator projection, a common cartographic technique of the period. It is an attempt to provide the most accurate depiction of North America based on the latest observations and data. As such, it includes not only land territories but also maritime routes, such as the passage of the Spanish Flota from Vera Cruz to Havana, and then onwards to Spain.

The map also features two inset maps in the lower right corner, providing close-up views of the mouth of the Mississippi and Mobile Rivers, as well as the harbor of Annapolis Royal. These insets offer more detailed information about key geographical areas and add to the overall comprehensiveness of Moll's map.

In a broader context, Moll's map is an important cartographic document of the early 18th century. It reflects the territorial disputes and geopolitical tensions between the French, English, and Spanish in North America. It also offers detailed insight into the landscape, settlements, trading paths, and indigenous tribes of the region.

Finally, Moll's map is not just a geographical depiction but a political statement. Moll overtly critiques the French's territorial claims, and in doing so, defends the English's interests in North America. This map is a vivid testament to the intertwined nature of geography and politics in the colonial era.

State

Fifth of Six states, with the imprint amended to include Thomas (II) and John Bowles.

Detailed Condition:

Original hand-color in outline, with the forests probably in later color. Minor toning and mat stain. A few professional repairs around the edges, largely confined to the blank margins.