



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

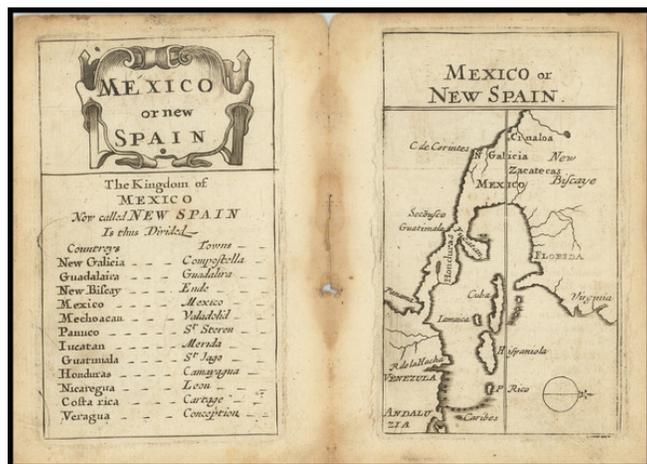
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## Mexico or New Spain

**Stock#:** 92184  
**Map Maker:** Seller  
**Date:** 1679  
**Place:** London  
**Color:** Uncolored  
**Condition:** Good  
**Size:** 2.25 x 3.75 inches each  
**Price:** \$ 495.00



### Description:

"Mexico or New Spain," a map created by John Seller and first issued in London around 1676, presents an overview of the expansive Spanish Empire in America. The map's intriguing westward orientation and inclusion of regions ranging from the Caribbean to South America to Virginia reflect a characteristic broad perspective of geographical representation from the late 17th century.

The map forms part of Seller's innovative series of playing cards, a medium that merged entertainment with geographical education. Notably, the depiction of the Spanish Empire does not appear to be derived directly from any existing map of the time but rather offers a generalized representation customary to the era. Its scope stretches northwards along the eastern coast to include the English colony of Virginia, while also highlighting various features of the south and southwest.

The historical context in which this map was created saw England increasingly invested in overseas exploration and colonization. Seller's cartographic work, therefore, can be appreciated as a reflection of these expanding global interests and the consequent need for accessible geographical information. The map's reach into the Spanish Empire, including the newly designated "New Spain," signifies the geopolitical undercurrents of the period.

"Mexico or New Spain" is known to exist in two states, with the second appearing in the *Book of Geography*. An intriguing detail of the map is an engraved list of divisions of "The Kingdom of Mexico Now called New Spain," offering a structured interpretation of Spanish colonial territories.

### Detailed Condition:



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Double-page engraving with toning and wear at the centerfold.