



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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The North part of America Conteyning Newfoundland, new England, Virginia, Florida, new Spaine, and Noua Francia...and upon ye West the large and goodly Iland of California...

Stock#: 21639
Map Maker: Briggs
Date: 1625
Place: London
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 14 x 11 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Nice example of Henry Briggs map of North America, one of the most important and influential printed maps of the 17th Century.

While noteworthy as the first English map to show California as an island, the map has many other important features and firsts. Briggs map is the first to name Hudson Bay, Hudson's Strait, Hudson River, Cape Cod and Delaware Bay.

While the map post dates Goos 1624 map showing California as an island, most authorities believe that the Briggs map was the source map for the Goos. Similar errors appear on both, and the East Coast and English nomenclature are similar, particularly in New England, where only the English had explored to that date. Briggs wrote of California's insularity as early as 1622. Burden surmises that the Briggs map may have either been issued first or that the maps have a common English source. The map gives credit to Spanish sources for the insular California theory. Vizcaino's 1602 expedition to the west coast is also noted, including the first appearances of San Diego and San Clemente. The map is the first to name Santa Fe, founded in 1608, and also shows Plymouth and James Citti on the East Coast.

Briggs wrote a treatise of the North-West Passage, which was reprinted by Haklyut in volume 3 of Purchas' *Pilgrimes*. The map does not clearly delineate a Northwest Passage, but certainly leaves the question open. It is one of the most important maps of North America published in the first part of the



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Detailed Condition: