



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

Le Nouveau Mexique et La Floride: Tirees de diverses Cartes, et Relations . . . 1679 [with manuscript annotation noting late Sanson address!]

Stock#: 22772
Map Maker: Sanson
Date: 1679
Place: Paris
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG
Size: 21.5 x 16.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Final state of Sanson's seminal regional map of North America, being the first large scale map to depict California and the Southwest. The present example is noteworthy for including a contemporary annotation "Aux Galleries du Louvre," and is noteworthy, as the R.V. Tooley's dictionary of mapmakers (1999 ed.) notes that "Guillaume Sanson is noted to have occupied the " Galleries du Louvre."

Sanson's map of the southern part of North America has the distinction of being first large format regional map of North America prepared by this highly influential French mapmaker, whose revolutionary approach to the presentation of geographical knowledge on a printed map was responsible not only for the advancing French cartographic knowledge to the forefront of Europe's mapping of the New World, but perhaps even more importantly was responsible for profoundly altered the style and discipline associated with the graphic depiction of cartographic imagery, the essence of the map maker's art for the next 100 years. Before Sanson, the era begun by the Italian perspective artists of the 15th and 16th Centuries and refined in the Low Countries by the skills of the fine master engravers of the Golden Age of Dutch Cartography objectivized maps not only for their content, but also as works of art. In Sanson's work, the embellishment of geographical imagery begins to give way to the science of geographical and spatial depiction. While it would be another 100 years before the mapmaker's art would truly be eclipsed by science, Sanson's work is without question and important point of inflection in this history, adding importance to this his first large format regional map of North America.

Sanson's map is the earliest to concentrate on Spanish territories from Florida to California and provided a prototype for other mapmakers over the next 50 years. Engraved by Jean Somer, it improves upon Sanson's *Amerique Septentrionale* in many ways. Amongst them is the first application of ERIE LAC to a



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recognizable lake. The depiction of California as an island was one of two most influential models (the other being the Briggs model), and was used as a model by many later cartographers.

First published separately, the map appeared in Sanson's atlases and later in composite atlases for the next 70 years. The Pierre Mariette in the title is the son of Nicolas Sanson's business partner of the same name, who provided the original investment for Sanson's business, but died in 1657. The Northwest Coastline is substantially revised from Sanson's map of North America. The Rio Grande, still mistakenly flowing southwest, includes many new Indian Names not present in the map of North America. The curious peninsula at the top of the Northwest Coast of the mainland (Agubela De Cato) is of unknown origin.

The annotation under the date may be of significant import. As noted above, Guillaume Sanson is noted to have occupied the "Galleries du Louvre." It is noteworthy that the 4th state of Sanson's *La Floride* (Burden 326) from Sanson's *L'Amerique en Plusieres Cartes* includes "Galleries du Louvre" address in the title, suggesting that this annotation may be in Guillaume Sanson's own hand and that he may have been contemplating renewing the privilege or reengraving the plate to include this information. Curiously, there seem to be no other maps of America which bear this revised address, either in manuscript or as a re-engraving. Mere speculation, but an interesting contemporary annotation, at minimum.

Detailed Condition:

Minor soiling in margins. Includes the annotations "Aux Galleries du Louvre"