



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## Partie Occidentale De La Nouvelle France ou Canada Par Mr. Bellin Ingenieur de la Marine 1755

**Stock#:** 30140  
**Map Maker:** Bellin  
**Date:** 1755  
**Place:** Paris  
**Color:** Outline Color  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 24 x 19 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



### Description:

Seminal map of the Great Lakes, by Jacques Nicolas Bellin, which completely re-wrote the cartographic treatment of the region.

Bellin's map of the Great Lakes is one of the cartographic landmarks of the region. Among other things, the map is noteworthy for the introduction of the islands in Lake Superior, which would remain on maps for nearly 100 years. The map summarizes the knowledge of the region as the French knew it toward the end of their occupation. It shows the river systems known to the French explorers, locates French forts and settlements, and identifies Indian Villages. The map also incorporates some of the work of Sieur de La Verendrye, the last of the great French explorers in America.

Bellin's first map of the Great Lakes was issued in 1744 and copied by the Homann Heirs. In 1755, Bellin issued this substantially enlarged and revised map, which can be distinguished from the earlier 1744 Bellin and Homann Heirs edition in a number of ways, besides the imprint. The Bellins shows the Ohio River extending below the neat line and includes significantly more detail on the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers, a very different shape for Lake Erie and Lake Ontario and in general, significantly different topographical features. Other than the cartouche and the general regional coverage, there is very little similarity between the two maps.

The Bellin edition of this map is exceedingly rare on the market, this being only the 2nd example we have offered for sale in 20 years.



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**Detailed Condition:**

Exceptionally wide margins