



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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A New Map of the Whole Continent of America. Divided Into North and South and West Indies, wherein are exactly Described The United States of North America as well as The Several European Possessions according to the Preliminaries of Peace signed at Versailles Jan 20, 1783 . . .

Stock#: 56904
Map Maker: Sayer & Bennett

Date: 1786
Place: London
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG
Size: 46.5 x 41 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

One of the First English Maps to show the United States

Nice example of this fine 4-sheet map of America, based upon the most recent information and with extensive annotations.

The present state of the map is revised according to "Preliminaries of Peace" signed in Versailles on January 20, 1783, England's first formal recognition of the independence of the United States. Peace negotiations between British and American diplomats began in earnest in the fall of 1782. The preliminary articles of peace were signed by British and American representatives in late January 1783, but news of the event did not reach American shores until March, 1783.

The Treaty of Paris was signed on September 3, 1783. The present map was therefore only issued for about 8 months and is relatively rare on the market. It is also likely one of the earliest maps printed in England to acknowledge America's independence.

Sayer & Bennett's map is one of the earliest obtainable English language wall maps of all of America. It was periodically updated during the latter part of the 18th Century, first to include the information and



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boundaries established at the conclusion of the French and Indian War, and later, after the American Revolution and establishment of the United States.

The map provides a stark contrast between the known and unknown regions, with the eastern parts of North America quite well understood, whereas the mythical River of the West is still shown, seeking a continuous water course from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

The map also includes an excellent treatment of South America at the end of the Spanish Colonial empire, based in part on the recently published Cruz Cano y Olmedilla map of South America (*Mapa Geográfico De America Meridional . . .*).

The present example bears the imprint of Robert Sayer, Map, Chart & Printseller, No. 53, Fleet Street, as the Act directs, 15th August, 1786.

Detailed Condition:

4 sheets, joined as two. Minor toning to upper left sheet.