



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Map of America By A. Arrowsmith. 1804

Stock#: 64045
Map Maker: Arrowsmith
Date: 1804 (1808)
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 59 x 48 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine example of Aaron Arrowsmith's wall map of America, in four sheets, first published in 1804.

An excellent map of America on the eve of the great era of American exploration by Lewis & Clark, Humbolt, Pike, Long and others.

The map reflects the updates in the Northwest Coast of America to account for the voyages of Cook, Vancouver, Mears, La Perouse and others. Arrowsmith drew from several sources while composing the map, most notably from Mackenzie's 1789 exploration of the Rocky Mountains and the Canadian Northwest, an account of which was subsequently produced in 1798. Mackenzie had been commissioned by the North-West Fur Company and, remarkably, traversed almost 3,000 miles in just 120 days.

The Missions in Upper California are named. The Missouri R. extends far north of its true source and references Tall & Manders Indian Villages. Columbia R is similarly mis-located. Extensive forts in the Mississippi Valley. A fine depiction of the Americas shortly after the Louisiana Purchase and on the eve of the discovery of the Western parts of North America, Mexico's independence and the century of Revolution in South America.

Lewis & Clark

Above and west of the Mandan Villages, the map incorporates for the first time the reports of Peter Fidler for the Hudson's Bay Company, by including a series of possible river courses to the west, leading to (and



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prospectively through) the Rocky Mountains. This was the information which showed the prospect of a water route or portage through the Rocky Mountains and to the Pacific. It was this information, along with reports from local Indians encountered on the expedition, which Lewis & Clark relied in choosing their path to the Rocky Mountains.

On the far side of the Rocky Mountains, a section of river called the Great Lake River includes a speculative water course which flows to the Columbia River. This was the route taken by Lewis & Clark which led to their locating a navigable route by water to the Pacific Ocean.

The additions coming from Peter Fidler and the Hudson Bay Company were the result of Fidler's extensive contacts with the indigenous tribes on the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains and contributed greatly to the geographical knowledge of the region prior to the return of Lewis & Clark.

The present example is the 1808 edition, with the Rathbone Place address replaced with a Soho Square address.

Detailed Condition:

Dissected and laid on linen, as issued.