



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.**

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**A New Map of Mexico and Adjacent Provinces Compiled from Original Documents. By A
Arrowsmith. 1810.**

Stock#: 67188
Map Maker: Arrowsmith
Date: 1810
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 64 x 52 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

***The Best Map of Texas and the American Southwest From Before 1820. Combining Pike,
Humboldt, and Vancouver.***

Flawless example of the first edition of Arrowsmith's landmark map of Texas, Upper California and the Southwest.

This map is perhaps the single most important 19th-century mapping of the Southwestern part of North America prior to its independence. The map is a landmark in the cartographic history of Texas and the Southwest, and a cornerstone map in American Cartographic History.

Arrowsmith's map was the first to report the discoveries of Pike and Humboldt, having been issued prior to the official accounts of these two explorers. While the map draws from the work of Humboldt extensively (and Humboldt accused Arrowsmith of plagiarism), the map shows substantial improvements over the Humboldt map in several areas.

Arrowsmith drew on several sources for the treatment of this map including:

- Vancouver's charts for his treatment of the California Coastline (including the tracks of Vancouver's voyage on the California Coast)
- Pike's accounts for the mapping of Texas, the Brazos and Guadalupe River regions and other rivers



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explored by Pike

- Humboldt's treatment of the Rocky Mountain regions and the Gulf Coast

Arrowsmith also shows Father Escalante's route in detail and is the first to confirm that the "Nepestle River" first reached by the Juan de Archuleta Expedition between 1664 and 1680, was in fact the Arkansas River.

The map provides an interesting snapshot of the Lower Missouri River, Kansas River and Arkansas River valleys, prior to the reports of Stephen Long and other American explorer's in the region. There are a number of annotations throughout the map providing further information on the exploration and mapping of the region. In describing the map, Martin & Martin note:

"Relying on information provided to him by the Hudson's Bay Company, [Arrowsmith] added significant details in the Northwest, and his depiction of the California coast was probably taken from the British explorer Vancouver's own charts. In the Texas area [Arrowsmith] undoubtedly used Pike's rendition of the rivers . . . while he followed Humboldt in tracing the coast from the Spanish Hydrographic Office chart By combining the best parts of Humboldt's and Pike's maps and avoiding their errors, and by adding his own new information, Arrowsmith contributed a significantly improved depiction of the region".

States of The Map

- 1810: Dated 1810. Arrowsmith identified as "Hydrographer to the Prince of Wales." Boundary of Mexico and the United States at the Mermento River in Louisiana, following the river, then running northwest to 32 degrees and more or less due westward. 1815: "Corrected to 1815." Arrowsmith identified as "Hydrographer to the Prince of Wales."
- 1816: "Corrected to 1816." Arrowsmith identified as "Hydrographer to the Prince of Wales."
- 1817: "Corrected to 1817." Arrowsmith identified as "Hydrographer to the Prince of Wales."
- 1820: Dated 1810, but Adams Onis Treaty Boundary of 1819 shown. Arrowsmith identified as "Hydrographer to his Majesty". Appears in the *Atlas to Thompson's Alcedo*, first published in 1825. Streeter erroneously calls this the first state, but Rumsey corrects this error.

Rarity

The map is scarce on the market.



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Detailed Condition:

Original color, refreshed. Four sheets, unjoined. Each dissected in 12 parts. New linen and selvage.