

# **Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.**

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### Amer. Sep. No. 71. Partie Du Mexique et de Guatemala [Oaxaca, Tabasco, Chiapa, Verapaz]

**Stock#:** 96583

Map Maker: Vandermaelen

Date: 1825
Place: Brussels
Color: Hand Colored

**Condition:** VG+

**Size:** 22 x 18.5 inches

**Price:** \$ 225.00



#### **Description:**

Philippe Vandermaelen, a Belgian cartographer, is well known for his revolutionary six-volume atlas that presented the world on a uniform scale for the first time. One of these exceptional maps, circa 1825, provides an intricately detailed regional representation of parts of Southern Mexico and Guatemala. It extends south to the Volcan de Sonsonale and Pta. De Acazutlo, both located in El Salvador, and reaches west to Oaxaca, northward to include the southern parts of Tabasco. The level of detail and emphasis on the mountainous topographical features of the region are particularly noteworthy.

The map depicts the region's mountainous terrain with extraordinary precision. Major mountain ranges, such as the Sierra Madre de Chiapas and the Cuchumatanes in Guatemala, are vividly displayed, underlining the significant role they play in influencing the region's climate, biodiversity, and human settlements. Individual volcanic peaks like the Volcan de Sonsonale are marked, a testament to the region's geological dynamism.

Complementing the topographical details are the clearly marked rivers that weave through the region. Notable rivers such as the Grijalva in Mexico, and the Motagua in Guatemala are depicted. These rivers, fundamental to the region's ecology and human livelihood, highlight the importance of waterways for transportation, agriculture, and the development of settlements.

Moreover, the roads and towns scattered across the region are meticulously rendered. This level of detail gives an indication of the human presence and the infrastructural development in these parts of Southern

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(Misc. 10)

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Mexico and Guatemala during the early 19th century.

Major regions including Oaxaca, Tabasco, Chiapas, Verapaz, and Guatemala are highlighted on the map. Each of these regions carries its own historical and cultural significance. For instance, Oaxaca, known for its indigenous cultures and archaeological sites, and Chiapas, with its rich biodiversity and Mayan heritage, are both distinctive regions of Mexico. In Guatemala, Verapaz stands out for its unique natural beauty and bird species, while the region named after the country itself hosts the vibrant capital city, Guatemala City.

The achievement of Vandermaelen's map extends beyond its detail and accuracy. It is part of his monumental six-volume atlas, which when combined as globe gores, forms an immense globe. This atlas marked a groundbreaking development in cartography – the first atlas mapping of the world on a uniform scale. This uniformity offered a new perspective of the world, enabling easier comparison of different regions' geographical features.

#### **Detailed Condition:**

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