



America Settentrionale divisa ne' suoi principali Stati . . .

Cartographer: Antonio Zatta

Date: 1776

Description: Striking 18th century map of North America, illustrating some of the great cartographic myths and legends of the northwest coast of America and the region. The map includes a notation of a Chinese colony *Fou Sang*, based upon Hui Shen's supposed voyage of 499 AD, in the area which would roughly be Puget Sound. This is one of the few maps which notes the supposed Chinese contact with the west coast of North America, which is reported upon in a number of generally discredited sources (most recently Menzies' book 1421). The map shows several unusual projections of the Northwest Passage, based upon reports from the Russian explorations recently published in the Royal Academy of Sciences in Paris, although not consistent with the reports of J.N. De L'Isle. North America is projected far too wide, with a number of long rivers extending from the Oregon and Washington coasts to nearly the Mississippi, with the *Bella Riviera* reaching what would appear to be the Missouri and thereby creating a watercourse from the Mississippi to C. Bianco di San Sebastian (Cabo Blanco). *Quivera*, *Anian*, *Nuova Albiona* and a number of other early place names still appear, although many are moved inland from their traditional locations. *Teguayo* and the *Pays de Moozemlek* are also shown. Salt Lake (*Lago Salado*) appears in the central continent, due to the mis-projection of the western coast. Lots of Indian tribes are noted. Issued as part of Zatta's monumental four-volume *Atlante Novissimo*, one of the last great decorative

