Mexican independence from Spain in 1821 required the United States government to negotiate and sign new treaties with the new neighboring republic. On April 28, 1828, the U.S. Senate ratified an agreement with the Mexican government, basically recognizing the boundary that had existed between the United States and New Spain. Already by 1828, U.S. citizens had conducted multiple incursions into the borderlands involving both legal and illicit trade and military posturing. As early as 1822, hundreds of Anglo-American colonists had moved into Mexican Texas, some invited by the Mexican government, others not.

On May 21, 1828, less than a month after the new agreement between the U.S. and Mexico, the New York publishing firm of White, Gallaher and White issued this Spanish-language map of Mexico printed by the engraving firm of Vistus Balch and Samuel Stiles. The map simply copied and translated into Spanish Henry S. Tanner’s *Map of the United States of Mexico*, which in turn was based on the southwest portion of Tanner’s *Map of North America* of 1822. In addition to the 1828 edition, White, Gallaher and White’s map was issued again sixteen years later, in 1844, to coincide with the growing interest in Texas annexation. The next year, 1845, New York publisher John Disturnell acquired the copper plates and began issuing his own version of the map (without credit to White, Gallaher and White). Disturnell’s 1847 edition of this map was later used by both sides in negotiating the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo that ended the U.S. War with Mexico.