

## 34-Star United States Flag

**Date:** Official 1861 – 1863

**Medium:** Printed silk flag

**Comment:** The 34-star flag became official on July 4th, 1861 when a star was added for the admission of Kansas (January 29th, 1861). The only President to serve under this flag was Abraham Lincoln (1861-1865).

The stars are arranged in the pattern of a "Grand Luminary" or Great Star pattern. These were popular versions of the national flag used from 1820 until the 1880s. These flags were a reflection of the national motto "e pluribus unum," Latin meaning "from many, one." This variant is quite rare in that it is unusual to see a small parade stick flag with large stars in each corner of the canton.

Small flags like this became popular in the North for parades, recruitment, patriotic displays and electioneering.

We do not know the name of the family, but the flag came from an estate in Frederick, Maryland. Frederick is same town in which the famous confrontation took place between Confederate General "Stonewall" Jackson and Barbra Fritchie.

**Provenance:** This flag was given to Mr. Ben Zaricor (ZFC0005) by the Henry Berger family of St. Louis, MO in January 2003. Mr. Berger's father acquired the flag from an estate in Frederick, Maryland in the 1940s.