



## Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

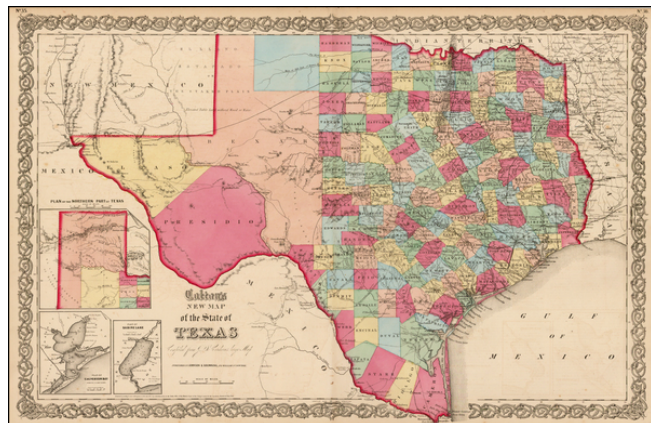
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### Colton's New Map of the State of Texas Compiled From De Cordova's Large Map

**Stock#:** 39287  
**Map Maker:** Colton  
**Date:** 1859  
**Place:** New York  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 25 x 16.5 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



#### Description:

Detailed map of Texas, colored by counties and showing the primitive county configurations in the west.

Based upon De Cordova's seminal map. Illustrates many early roads, towns, forts, and other important places. An excellent pre-Civil War map. From the scarce 1859 edition of Colton's atlas, which is the first to include the imprint of Johnson & Browning, one year before these two publishers created their own New Illustrated Family Atlas of the World.

Jacob De Cordova (1808 - 1868) was one of the first major land speculators in Texas. He hired Robert Creuzbaur, of the Texas General Land Office, to compile this map for promotional purposes. It was the first map of the state to be constructed through the use of the files of the Land Office. The Land Office was responsible for keeping a record of all land transactions in the state, though De Cordova is said to have spent a great deal of time in the saddle, personally studying Texas real estate. The land office was especially important, as Texas had been allowed to keep its public lands when it entered the Union, the only state allowed to do so, and the Land Office records were the only reasonably accurate source for the topography of some 250 million acres in the public domain. Creuzbaur gave equal attention to the more settled eastern parts of the state, and the map is the best, most detailed record of settlement in Texas during the period. Measuring nearly three feet square, it was the first large-scale map of Texas.

De Cordova's map was originally published in Houston in 1849, with subsequent Houston editions issued in 1851, 1853, and 1854. Publication rights were subsequently sold to J. H. Colton, who published editions in New York from 1856 onwards. This 1861 edition is the best cartographic record of Texas at the beginning of the Civil War. It incorporates extensive revisions, with new counties, towns, railroads, roads, and topographical detail, particularly in the little-known western parts of the state.



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R. S. Martin noted that without question, "the map published by Jacob De Cordova in 1849 best summarizes the geographical information available about Texas immediately after the Mexican War...the map presents a remarkably accurate and detailed rendering of the area south and east of San Antonio." But north and west of that point, however, "the data are scarce and the features sparse." However, the later editions were carefully revised to account for new information, particularly in West Texas, and it is this fact which makes them so valuable.

**Detailed Condition:**

Minor discoloration at lower part of fold