



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

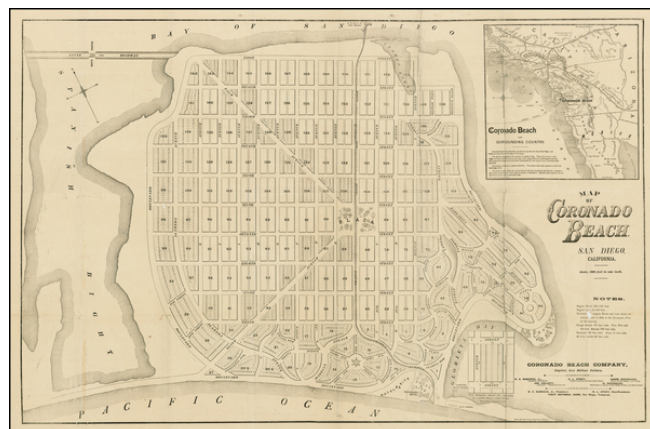
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Map of Coronado Beach San Diego, California.

Stock#: 24194
Map Maker: Rand McNally & Company
Date: 1886
Place: Chicago
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 40.5 x 26.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine example of this rare promotional map of Coronado Island, produced for the Coronado Beach Company.

The map shows the proposed subdivision and development of the island, the proposed site of the Coronado Hotel (future Hotel Del Coronado), etc., with inset of Southern California. The map shows streets, parks, street car lines, bridges, wharfs, a floating bath house and many other details. Unlike many Southern California communities, virtually all of the streets from the original plan were built almost exactly as shown and most of the street names remain unchanged to this date.

The idea for the development of the island began in 1884, when Elisha S. Babcock conceived of the idea of the Hotel Del Coronado. Babcock and his colleague H.L. Story developed an idea to purchase the island, subdivide it, sell lots and use the profits to build the hotel. In November 1885, Babcock and Story purchased the land for \$110,000. After working a year to prepare the island, the first land sale auction proceeded on November 13, 1886. The first lot sold for \$1,600 to Major Levi Chase. Land sales proceeded well over the next several months, allowing the Coronado Beach Company to break ground on the hotel in March 1887. Construction was completed and the hotel opened in February 1888.

Unfortunately, by 1888 Babcock had fallen on hard time. He borrowed money from John D. Spreckels to attempt to save the venture, but was later forced to sell out to Spreckels.

Detailed Condition:

Tiny hole below the title in the notes section, else a remarkable example.