

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Map of Red Mountain and the Mining Region of San Juan, Ouray, San Miguel and Dolores Counties, Colorado. By Emil Fischer. 1886.

Stock#: 28015 **Map Maker:** Fischer

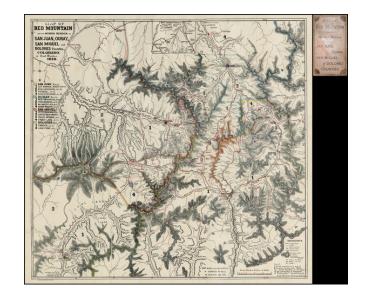
Date: 1886

Place: Durango, Colorado

Color: Color **Condition:** VG

Size: 32.5 x 30.5 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Rare large format map of Southwestern Colorado, centered on Silverton and covering San Juan, Ouray, San Miguel and Dolores Counties with exceptional detail.

This is the first of two maps by Emil Fischer to cover this region, the second published in 1891, after the arrival of the railroad. The map shows the topography and hydrography of the region in excellent detail, along withthe Wagon Roads, Trails, Mines, Mills and Concentrators. Small inset / Plat showing the system of wagon roads connecting Telluride and Ouray with Montrose at top center of the map.

The details of the map is extraordinary for the period, on scale of 1 inch to 1 mile. Its detailed would be unsurpassed for many years and no other map of the region during this period provides as much information.

This map clearly reflects Fischer's artistic talents and individualism, being carefully hand-drawn, including all text elements, and faithfully lithographed by A. Gast & Co., thus giving the map a wonderful, almost folk art appearance. During the 1880?s and early 1890?s, the Red Mountain Mining District was one of the richest and most productive in the world, yielding millions of dollars of silver, gold, lead, and other minerals. The famous Million Dollar Highway from Ouray and Silverton Railroad from Silverton were built to service the mines. County boundaries are colored with mining district boundaries both colored and numbered. Large numbers of named mine sites, mills, towns, and other cultural features are set within a finely drawn hachure network illustrating mountain ranges and stream valleys. Of the several San Juan



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regional maps produced by Fischer, this was the first to emphasize and capitalize on the frenzy of activity generated by the discovery of rich ore deposits at Red Mountain.

Fischer was a Silverton-based artist and mapmaker active from 1880 to his death in 1898. During the 1880s and early 1890s, the Red Mountain Mining District was one of the richest and most productive in the world, yielding millions of dollars of silver, gold, lead, and other minerals. The famous Million Dollar Highway from Ouray and Silverton Railroad from Silverton were built to service the mines. County boundaries are colored with mining district boundaries both colored and numbered. Large numbers of named mine sites, mills, towns, and other features illustrated with remarkable detail. Fischer produced several San Juan regional maps which during the frenzy of activity generated by the discovery of rich ore deposits at Red Mountain.

The map is exceptionally rare, with OCLC locating only the copies at the Denver Public Library, Colorado School of Mines, SMU (Degolyer) and Yale.

Detailed Condition:

Folding pocket map in original peach-colored printed paper wrappers measuring 4 x 7 inches.