



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## Dana Point A New Sea-Coast City in the Building on California's Beautiful South Shore

**Stock#:** 28426  
**Map Maker:** Woodruff  
**Date:** 1928 circa  
**Place:** Los Angeles  
**Color:** Color  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 16 x 9 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



### Description:

Fine early promotional pamphlet for Dana Point, perhaps the earliest printed promotional item for the town.

As the promotional tract makes no reference to the breaking ground on the hotel site, we presume it pre-dates the first construction. OCLC locates 1 copy of the promotional pamphlet (UC Irvine) and shows a date of 1940, but this would not be consistent with Dana points development history (see below), as Woodruff had abandoned the project by 1939.

Dana Point was named for Richard Henry Dana, Jr., author of "Two Years Before The Mast". Dana referred to Stillwater Bay as the most Romantic spot on the Coast. Dana was traveling aboard the brig *Pilgrim*, which at the time had to travel to California via Cape Horn and the Straits of Magellan.

In 1923, Los Angeles Times publisher Harry Chandler and General M.H. Sherman, Director of the Pacific Electric Railway Company, created a major real estate group to develop what is known today as the Hollywood Hills, Sidney H. Woodruff, already a prominent Los Angeles homebuilder, was hired to lead the project. In 1926, Woodruff, Chandler, and Sherman created the Dana Point Syndicate. They invited other



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### **Dana Point A New Sea-Coast City in the Building on California's Beautiful South Shore**

heavy hitters, company presidents, movie producers, and real estate investors, to join them in purchasing 1,388 acres (5.6 km<sup>2</sup>) of land, some of which includes the "Headlands" of today. Promising tree-lined, paved streets, electricity, telephones, sidewalks, water mains, storm drains, sewers, and other amenities, Woodruff built 35 homes and a number of commercial buildings.

Most of these "Woodruff" houses are concentrated in a Dana Point's historic core, also called Lantern Village (currently about 12,000 residents). The streets are named after the different colored lanterns, street of the Violet Lantern, Blue Lantern, etc. (colored lanterns were used by ships 200 years ago to advertise their fares when pulled into the Dana Point natural harbor). His crowning structure was to be the Dana Point Inn, a Mediterranean-like resort hotel. After a celebratory groundbreaking in 1930, a three-story foundation was poured and a 135-foot (41 m) elevator shaft was dug. Unfortunately, the Depression caused construction to halt. Although Woodruff continuously sought financial support through the years, this project was abandoned in 1939. Subsequently, he sold the remaining holdings of the Dana Point Syndicate. Thirty-four of the original Woodruff residences are still occupied.

No other example of the map located. This example is from the papers of S.H. Woodruff.

#### **Detailed Condition:**