

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500 blr@raremaps.com

[Idaho Letter Sheet with Letter A Geographically Correct Map of Southwestern Idaho, Showing the relations of the new railroad town of Caldwell with the Vast Agricultural, Mining, Forest and Grazing Regions of Snake, Boise, Owyhee, Payette and Weiser Rivers . . . 1883

Stock#: 40645

Map Maker: Idaho & Oregon Land

Improvement Company

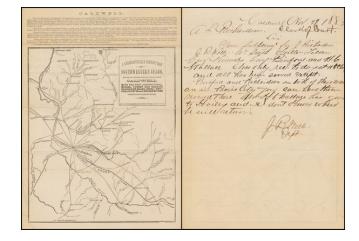
Date: 1883

Place: Caldwell, Idaho
Color: Uncolored

Condition: VG+

Size: 11.5 x 8.5 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Fascinating early Idaho letter sheet, promoting the newly formed town of Caldwell, Idaho, published by its promoter, the Idaho & Oregon Land Improvement Company.

The lettersheet provides a brief description of the location and advantages of Caldwell, with the map showing its strategic location as a center of commerce.

During the Civil War, the discovery of gold in Idaho's mountains brought a variety of new settlers into the area. Caldwell's inception occurred largely as a result of the construction of the Oregon Short Line Railroad, which connected Wyoming to Oregon through Idaho. Robert E. Strahorn came to the Boise River Valley in 1883 to select a route for the railroad. He rejected the grade into Boise City as too steep and chose a site thirty miles to the west. Caldwell was named after one of Strahorn's business partners, Alexander Caldwell, a former Senator from the State of Kansas.

When Caldwell was platted in August of 1883, its founder, the Idaho and Oregon Land Improvement Company, started persuading settlers and businessmen to move to the area. Within four months, Caldwell had 600 residents living in 150 dwellings, 40 businesses in operation, a school, a telephone exchange and two newspapers. On January 15, 1890, the City of Caldwell was incorporated. The College of Idaho was founded in Caldwell in 1891 and still is in existence today.



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