



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

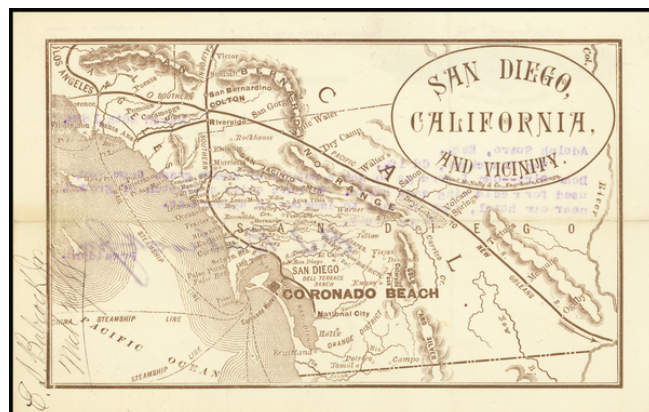
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San Diego, California, and Vicinity [Letter from E. S. Babcock to Adolph Sutro]

Stock#: 63542
Map Maker: Rand McNally & Company
Date: 1888
Place: Coronado, CA
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 7 x 4.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Building The Hotel Del Coronado -- E.S. Babcock Constructing Coronado's Sand Dunes in March 1888

Rare (unrecorded?) letter sheet map of San Diego County, promoting the newly opened Coronado Beach and Coronado Hotel, which had opened in February 1888, and was, at the time, the largest resort in the world.

On the verso, the president of the newly built Hotel Del Coronado asks Adolph Sutro for "a supply of bunch grass . . . for reclaiming san hills." It is indeed curious to see Babcock reaching out to Sutro, then one of the wealthiest men in California, however by 1888, the planting of "bunch grass" had become popular in San Francisco and other towns as means of reducing the movement of "shifting sand dunes" in coastal California.

Prepared specifically for the Coronado Beach Company by Rand McNally, the map provides a comprehensive overview of San Diego County, identifying Orange Districts, Grape Districts, Vineyards and other details which are almost never seen on early maps of the region. Several early railroad stops are shown on the coastal route which would later disappear from the map, including:

- Frazier's (Station): Named for ranchers in the 1860s. Renamed Carlsbad in 1883
- Stewarts (Station): Built in 1884 near Palomar Airport Road to store and ship grain products of W.W. Stewart and Company Shippers and Commission Merchants,
- Cordero Station: Located east of Del Mar in Carmel Valley by 1884. Named for the Cordero Brothers, who participated in the Portola Expedition of 1769 (Joaquin Ignacio Cordero and Juan Mariano Cordero).



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- Selwyn Station (Rose Canyon)

Other long lost towns in the County include:

- Nellie
- Osgood
- Agua Tibia
- Ballena
- Vineyard
- Emery

Rarity

We have never seen the stationary map and we find no record of it in any institutional collection. The Babcock letter to Sutro is unrecorded.

Detailed Condition:

Type written letter on verso, signed by E.S. Babcock.