



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

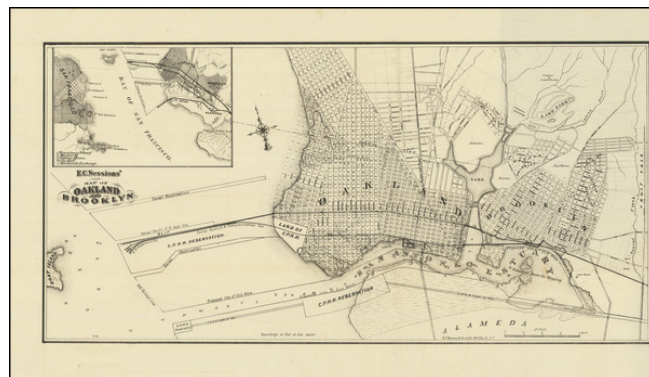
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Information Concerning the Terminus of the Railroad System of the Pacific Coast [with maps:] Map of California, Showing the Railroad System [and:] E.C. Sessions' Map of Oakland and Brooklyn

Stock#: 83969
Map Maker: Brown & Co.
Date: 1871
Place: Oakland
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 12.25 x 14.5 inches (19.5 x 9.5)
Price: \$ 1,800.00



Description:

With Maps of California and Oakland by Grafton Tyler Brown, the first African-American lithographer in California

A rare promotional work, with excellent maps of Oakland and California's early railroad systems, providing descriptions of the various railroad lines and all manner of information concerning the city of Oakland.

The text describes the advantages of the city, water and infrastructure, general agricultural and industrial prospects and the like. It is interesting to note that the University of California is also described since it had not yet relocated from Oakland to Berkeley.

The two railroad maps of California and the Oakland were published by Grafton Tyler Brown, California's first African-American lithographer and a noted artist. Brown came to California in 1858, initially working as a hotel porter. Having learned lithography as a teenager while working for a Philadelphia lithographer, he eventually worked for the firm of Kuchel & Dressel from 1861 to 1864. Upon the death of Charles Kuchel, he bought out his erstwhile employer, renaming the firm G. T. Brown & Company. Brown printed advertisements, maps, and other printed items for clients throughout the 1870s. In 1878 he issued *The Illustrated History of San Francisco*, which contained topographical views of the city. Brown maintained his business on Clay Street in San Francisco, but lived in Oakland after 1874. He later became a painter, specializing in landscape scenes of the Pacific Northwest and California.

The California map, *Map of California Showing the Railroad System*, shows some topographical detail, but its main feature is the various railroads, actual and proposed, in California. Includes the Memphis & El



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Paso (terminating in San Diego), Southern Pacific, Humboldt & Colorado, Central Pacific, Western Pacific, Napa Valley and California Pacific. Several proposed routes were never actually established. There are a number of early forts listed, several ghost towns and other ephemeral boom towns (Copperopolis, San Carlos, Knight's Ferry, Virginia City) and other interesting features. Ft. Crook, Ft. Reading, Ft. Mojave, Ft. Yuma are shown. Anaheim is named--one of the first references we have seen on a map. Engraved by F.C. Hafenrichter.

The Oakland map focuses on the towns of Oakland, Brooklyn and Alameda, along with railroad lines and areas reserved for the Central Pacific Rail Road, with a larger inset of a section of San Francisco Bay.

Rarity:

Though fairly well represented in institutional confines (WorldCat records more than twenty copies), this pamphlet and its maps are quite rare in the market.

An important item for the history of the development of California's railroad system, as well as for Oakland, and for the two very attractive maps by Grafton Tyler Brown.

Detailed Condition:

Octavo. Original printed wrappers. Small neat unobtrusive contemporary ink stamp on front wrapper. Some moderate soiling to wrappers. Internally very clean. The two folding maps are clean and very nice. [2],46 pages. Text on page 46 is a printed cancel pasted over original text. Complete.