



## Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

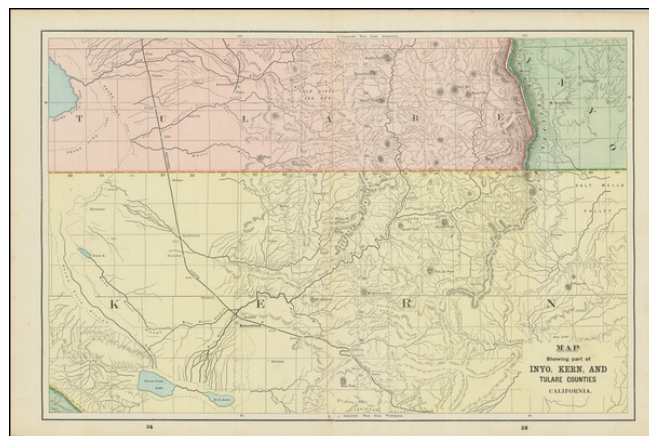
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### Map Showing part of Inyo, Kern, and Tulare Counties

**Stock#:** 96540  
**Map Maker:** Cram  
**Date:** 1892  
**Place:** Chicago  
**Color:** Color  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 20 x 13 inches  
**Price:** \$ 125.00



#### Description:

*Map Showing part of Inyo, Kern, and Tulare Counties*, produced by George Cram in Chicago in 1892, offers a comprehensive cartographic depiction of a vital section of California's Central Valley during a period of notable transition. This piece notably traces the route of the Southern Pacific through Bakersfield, underscoring the significance of rail transport in the region's development. In addition, the evolving shorelines of Buena Vista Lake, Kern Lake, and the southern portion of Lake Tulare, as recorded in the years 1854, 1880, and 1884, are meticulously delineated, capturing the environmental shifts of the era.

The late 19th century was a time of intense change for California, both ecologically and infrastructurally. The construction of the Southern Pacific railway heralded an era of greater connectivity and economic growth, turning towns such as Bakersfield into burgeoning hubs. The accessibility offered by such railroads accelerated the movement of goods, people, and ideas, fundamentally reshaping the demographic and economic landscape of the region.

Cram's choice to depict the changing shorelines of the region's most famous phantom lake provides a fascinating glimpse into the environmental history of California. The varying shoreline, captured over a 30-year span, highlights the hydrological changes, likely driven by both natural fluctuations and human interventions. Such modifications would have had direct implications for agriculture, settlement, and trade, attesting to the interplay between humans and their environment.

George Cram's map is not merely a geographical representation, but a document of the period's socio-economic and environmental dynamism. The intertwining narratives of infrastructural development and environmental shifts offer scholars a rich tapestry of the late 19th-century Californian milieu, reflecting the broader challenges and opportunities faced by the American West during this epoch.



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**Detailed Condition:**