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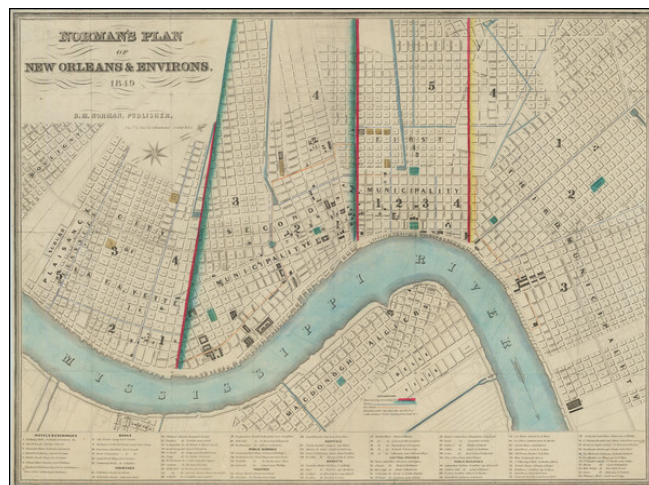
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Norman's Plan of New Orleans & Environs, 1849

Stock#: 92475
Map Maker: Norman
Date: 1849
Place: New Orleans
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 24.5 x 18 inches
Price: \$ 6,500.00



Description:

An Early New Orleans Map Published in New Orleans

Highly detailed map of New Orleans and vicinity, published by B.M. Norman and engraved by Shields & Hammond of New Orleans. The plan was based on surveys carried out by the architect, surveyor, and civil engineer, Henry Moellhausen. However, his name has been removed from this, the 1849 edition.

Belle Ville, along with an iron foundry in that neighborhood, have been added to this edition of the map.

Oriented with northwest at the top, the map is colored by municipalities, wards, and Fire Districts limits. Significant buildings are also named and identified with color. Lafayette is shown in the west, with Macdonogh and Algiers shown south of the River.

New Orleans is shown in fine detail, with a street plan and block numbers, canals, railways, public squares, cemeteries, and highlighting of key buildings. The key below the plan lists hotels, exchanges, banks, churches, public schools, theatres, hospitals, markets, public buildings, and cotton presses. Eleven cotton presses are shown, including several of the largest buildings, illustrating the importance of King Cotton.

New Orleans is divided into three "municipalities", in 1836 in response to tension between the Anglo and French-Creole communities. Though the city had a single mayor, each municipality had its own council, police force, and right to raise taxes. In 1852 a new charter reunited the city, at the same time annexing the upriver City of Lafayette.



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The Prussian Henry Moellhausen worked in New Orleans from 1841-49 conducting surveys and producing architectural renderings. His topographical maps accompanied an 1840 report in which George Dunbar, engineer of the state of Louisiana recommended an underground drainage system for the New Orleans area. Two brick cottages in downtown Treme Faubourg and two brick stores in the St. Mary Faubourg are the only extant buildings that have been attributed to Moellhausen but his renderings show his remarkable skills as a draftsman . . .

Hilary S.Irvin, "The Impact of German Immigration on New Orleans Architecture," Louisiana History: The Journal of the Louisiana Historical Association, Vol. 27. No. 4, Autumn, 1986, pp. 375-406.)

In 1854, Norman issued a second edition of the map, which made significant updates to the plan and has removed the credit to Henry Moellhausen. The 1854 edition shows the city divided into four districts and nine wards.

Norman' is perhaps best known for his "Chart of the Lower Mississippi River", designed by Marie-Adrien Persac.

Rarity

OCLC lists seven institutional holdings of the map, however, it is rare in commerce; we find no listings on OldMaps.com. One example sold at auction in 2022 for \$4,500.

Detailed Condition:

Original hand-color. Foldline separations expertly mended.