

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Florida.

Stock#: 95406

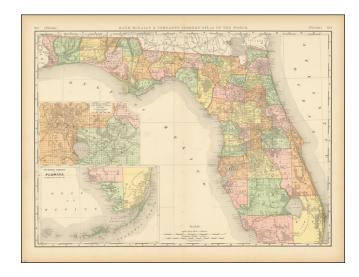
Map Maker: Rand McNally & Company

Date: 1892 Place: Chicago Color: Color

Condition:

Size: 26 x 19.5 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

The late 19th-century Rand McNally map of Florida, published in 1892, presents a rich tapestry of the state's geographical and historical landscape during a period of growth and transformation. The map stands as a meticulous chronicle of the pre-boom era, prior to the significant economic expansions of the 20th century.

The final 2 decades of the 19th Century in Florida were marked by rapid development and population growth. The economy, previously dependent on agriculture, primarily cotton and citrus, began to diversify. Lumber and naval stores became significant industries, and the sponge trade, centered around the town of Tarpon Springs, started to thrive. The railroad industry also saw an uptick in development, playing a pivotal role in the state's growth. The arrival of the railroad heralded enhanced connections between Florida's towns and cities and improved accessibility to the state's bounty of natural resources.

The Rand McNally map is a testament to this transformative period. The map showcases an extensive network of early railroad lines, etching a metallic spiderweb across the state's diverse terrain. These lines serve as an emblem of progress, demonstrating the burgeoning industry's role in linking Florida's communities and facilitating the transportation of goods and passengers.

Two detailed insets augment the richness of the map, focusing on particular regions of Florida. The first is an enlarged depiction of parts of Lake, Orange, and Volusia Counties, offering a closer examination of the Orlando region. This particular area was known for its abundant citrus groves and had begun to flourish due to the new railroad connections. The map's detailing of this region reveals a glimpse into the area's agricultural landscape before the tourist boom of the 20th century.



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The second inset concentrates on southern Florida, a region undergoing its own unique transformations. While still largely undeveloped at this time, the area was beginning to feel the influence of the railroad, and plans were underway for the extension of the Florida East Coast Railway to Miami by industry tycoon Henry Flagler.

Detailed Condition: