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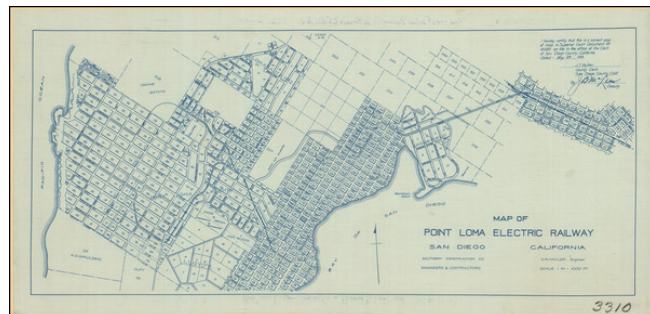
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[Ocean Beach / Point Loma] Map of Point Loma Electric Railway

Stock#: 96377
Map Maker: Hayler
Date: 1915
Place: San Diego
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 24 x 10.5 inches
Price: \$ 750.00



Description:

Rare blue line map of the Point Loma Electric Railway, issued shortly after the railway's creation in the early 20th Century.

Extending here from Old Town to Point Loma Heights and and Ocean Beach, the line herald's the growth of the new beach community.

In the early 20th century, the burgeoning coastal communities of Point Loma and Ocean Beach underwent a transformational shift. The Point Loma Electric Railway, which would later evolve into the Point Loma Railroad Co. (PLRR), stood at the heart of this change, reshaping the transportation and socio-economic landscape of the region.

In 1909, under the visionary leadership of Col. D.C. Collier, the Point Loma Electric Railway started a revolution in regional connectivity. On May 1, 1909, a seminal moment in San Diego's transportation history, the railway commenced operations, heralding a new era for Ocean Beach (OB). For the first time, people could comfortably work in downtown San Diego and live alongside the pristine waters of the Pacific Ocean, a proposition that was previously untenable. This transformative railway made the dream of an oceanside lifestyle accessible to many, turning OB into a thriving community.

Ocean Beach had first been laid out in 1887, but following the boom times of the late 1880s, the area was largely abandoned. During the real estate bust of the 1890s, many buyers lost their lots and development stagnated except for a few houses used for vacation getaways. One of those who stayed with the community Collier who began promoting Ocean Beach and Point Loma. In the first decade of the 1900s, he brought in electricity, some paved streets, and a street car line.

The franchise for the Point Loma Electric Railway sketched out an ambitious route. It was set to extend



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from the terminus of the San Diego Electric Railway's State Street Line, charting a path between Kurtz and Hancock streets. It would cross the Santa Fe tracks at Witherby Street and venture out via Tide Street (now known as Barnett Avenue), heading towards Lytton and Rosecrans streets. This comprehensive network was designed to knit together the urban core with the coastal fringes, fostering greater mobility and economic growth.

The blueprint for the Point Loma Electric Railway soon expanded beyond its original scope. Within its inaugural year, the scale and vision for the railway grew exponentially. This evolution led to the rebranding and restructuring of the railway into the Point Loma Railroad Co., a more robust and better-capitalized entity. It's worth noting that PLRR was fiercely independent. Its goals, plans, and the substantial financial commitments it made in materials and labor were autonomous, reflecting a bold and singular vision for the future of Point Loma and Ocean Beach.

Detailed Condition: