



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

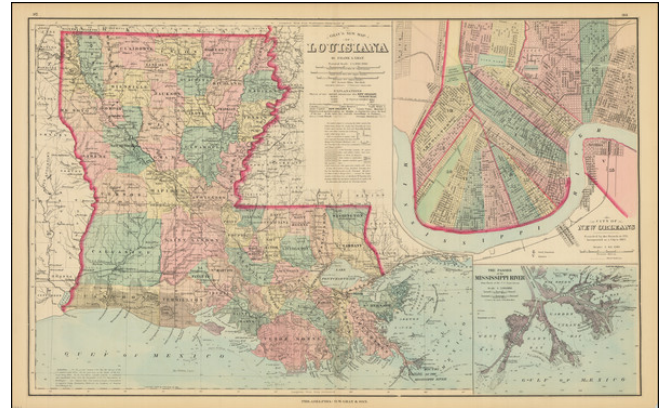
7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

Gray's New Map of Louisiana (Plan of New Orleans)

Stock#: 97218
Map Maker: Gray
Date: 1881
Place: Philadelphia
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 26 x 19 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Gray's New Map of Louisiana by Frank A. Gray, published in Philadelphia in 1881, offers a comprehensive representation of Louisiana during a pivotal period of its history. This map, colored distinctively by parishes, meticulously illustrates a myriad of details, ranging from established towns to the emerging railroad networks, swamps, Post Offices, islands, and sand bars. Large insets, providing detailed renderings of the City of New Orleans and the Passes of the Mississippi River, accentuate the map's depth and breadth.

The latter half of the 19th century was a transformative time for Louisiana. Following the tumult of the Civil War and Reconstruction, Louisiana was undergoing significant changes in its socio-economic and political landscapes. The state was striving to rebuild and redefine its identity amidst the wider currents of American expansion, industrialization, and urbanization. This map offers a snapshot of Louisiana in this transformative epoch, serving as a testament to the resilience and adaptability of its people.

Transportation emerges as a central theme of *Gray's New Map*. The railroads, often heralded as the arteries of the 19th-century American economy, are prominently displayed, interweaving between towns and parishes. These lines not only signified trade and commerce but also represented a rapidly changing socio-cultural landscape, uniting disparate regions and ushering in an age of unparalleled connectivity.

The insets, especially that of the City of New Orleans, provide focused insights into the urban hubs of Louisiana. As one of the premier ports and cultural melting pots in the United States, New Orleans, at this time, was a confluence of diverse traditions, commerce, and music. The detailed rendering of the city captures its essence, signifying its importance in the broader Louisiana and Mississippi River narratives.

Furthermore, the inset detailing the Passes of the Mississippi River underscores the strategic and



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.**

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

Gray's New Map of Louisiana (Plan of New Orleans)

commercial significance of this mighty river. The Mississippi, a vital conduit for trade, was the lifeblood for numerous cities and towns, with its passes serving as gateways to the Gulf of Mexico and beyond. This feature, crucial for navigation and commerce, further amplifies the map's value as a document of Louisiana's intricate relationship with its natural geography.

In totality, *Gray's New Map of Louisiana* stands as a monument to the complexity and dynamism of Louisiana in the 1880s. It not only offers geographical details but also provides a layered narrative of a state in transition, capturing the intersections of nature, culture, and commerce.

Detailed Condition:

Original hand-color.