



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## Colton's Railroad Map Intermediate Size of the United States Reduced from "Colton's Railroad & Commercial Map of the United States."

**Stock#:** 97659  
**Map Maker:** Colton  
**Date:** 1881  
**Place:** New York  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** See Description  
**Size:** 66 x 44.3 inches  
**Price:** \$ 750.00



### Description:

*Colton's Railroad Map Intermediate Size of the United States*, reduced from the six-sheet "Colton's Railroad & Commercial Map of the United States," was produced by G.W. & C.B. Colton in New York in 1881. This map offers a detailed depiction of the United States' railroad network during the late 19th century, extending from the East Coast to the regions just before the Rocky Mountains. It illustrates numerous early railroads, their respective stations, and the comprehensive network that extended from the Midwest into the Plains, highlighting the pattern and density of rail lines.

The 19th century was a time of significant growth and transformation for the United States, with railroads playing a central role. The railroad system linked previously isolated communities, facilitated the movement of goods and people, and played a pivotal role in the nation's economic and territorial expansion. By 1881, the Midwest had emerged as a hub of industry and commerce, and the rail lines extending from it to the Plains underscored the westward momentum of settlement and development.

The map also features insets, notably one detailing "Plan of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia," and another "The Southern Portion of Texas." The inclusion of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia indicates the interconnectedness of transportation and trade routes between the United States and Canada.

### Rarity and Editions

The Colton firm experimented a lot with this map, reconfiguring the title and insets in practically every edition.

OCLC locates the 1870, 1872, and 1881 editions of the map. We have previously sold an 1876 edition.



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OCCLC's record for the 1881 lists a single example, at the Newberry Library.

**Detailed Condition:**

Original hand-color in outline. Some wear and separations at fold intersections. A large portion of the lower right corner excised, as illustrated.