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[Original Artwork - 37 Hand Drawn Maps By Norton Allen For Desert Magazine]

Stock#: 99899
Map Maker: Allen
Date: 1937 -
Place: n.p.
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: (approximate size for each map)
Price: \$ 9,500.00



Description:

Archive of 37 Original Norton Allen Maps Drawn for Desert Magazine Allen Norton

A remarkable collection of 37 original Norton Allen manuscript maps of various Arizona locations with the accompanying *Desert Magazine* issue for which the map was published.

As these are working manuscript maps we find blue pencil lines for drafting, white out for editing and publisher notes on recto and verso. Maps vary in size but certainly all were reduced for final magazine copy.

Comparing final magazine layout to the original map gives me a great appreciation for the fine detail included in these maps, which is often lost in the magazine.

Mapmaker Norton Allen (1909-1997) was an amateur archaeologist who worked primarily in California, Arizona and southern Utah during the winter seasons alongside his partner Ethel and father Ernest. The Allen team became experts on the Hohokam culture and the archaeology of the Gila Bend area in Arizona. Several of their discoveries led to large scale professional digs gaining the Allen's much respect within the archaeological community.

Norton Allen also was a stellar draftsman and mapmaker creating hundreds of custom maps spanning 40 years, primarily for *Desert Magazine* published in El Centro, California. *Desert Magazine* was the brainchild of Randall Henderson and ran from 1937 to 1985. Allen's first map for *Desert Magazine* was published in Vol. 1 No. 2 in 1937 but he submitted artwork which was used in Vol. 1 No. 1.

Allen's distinctive maps became a popular feature of *Desert Magazine* readers. Norton Allen often created



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unique compass rose symbols to match the theme of the article for which the map was created. His clean use of hachure lines gave his maps a look which became synonymous with the maps in *Desert Magazine*.

The Journal of the Southwest Volume 52 Numbers 2 and 3, 2010 was devoted entirely to Norton Allen and his career, especially within the archaeological world but gives a good introduction to his artistic career.

Provenance: Bookseller Mike Reilly purchased the archives of *Desert Magazine* and has sold individual Allen maps to private customers and dealers over the years, splitting up the collection. This set of 37 maps, exclusively of Arizona, may be one of the largest intact collections of Norton Allen maps existing.

Detailed Condition:

Maps are in fine condition. Maps are corner mounted on archival board, sleeved with original magazine, plus a xerox of the page with map as used in the magazine is mounted on the verso.