

Octavo. Sammelband of 3 engraved panoramas, one with aquatint, and letterpress key-sheet, contemporary marbled paper boards with engraved label on the front cover

BANK’S VIEW OF LONDON

A Panoramic View of London.

Author
BANKS, J[ohn]. H[enry], by and after

Publication date
1845

Publisher
Entered at Stationer’s Hall & Published as the Act Directs by Edward Wallis, No.42, Skinner St, Snow Hill,

Publication place
London,

Physical description
Octavo. Sammelband of 3 engraved panoramas, one with aquatint, and letterpress key-sheet, contemporary marbled paper boards with engraved label on the front cover

Dimensions
Image: 398 by 995mm (15.75 by 39.25 inches). Sheet: 490 by 1060mm (19.25 by 41.75 inches).

Notes
The third state Banks’s panorama, with title changed to: ‘A Panoramic View of London’, here uncoloured. First published as ‘A Cosmoramic View of London’ in 1843. An aerial view from a point just south of the Elephant & Castle and valuable therefore in depicting the topography of South London. On the left edge are Vauxhall Bridge, Hyde Park Corner and Regents Park; on the right the Tower and West India Docks; in the foreground Lambeth Palace and the Elephant & Castle; and on the far horizon Highgate Archway. Street names appear on the image as they would on a map. About 300 buildings carry reference numbers. The panorama shows Hungerford Suspension Bridge though

it was not completed until 1845, and the Houses of Parliament though they were not completed until 1860. A compass features in the centre of the title beneath the image.

The panorama is accompanied by a single folding key-sheet, ‘Key of Reference to Wallis’s Panoramic View of London, 1845’, published by ‘E. Wallis, Skinner Street, Snow Hill’.

Also bound with two historic panoramas of London: ‘Wallis’s The City of London in the time of the Saxons (about the year 1000.) Compiled from the most authentic Documents’, published by J. and E. Wallis, April 15th, 1817; and ‘London and Westminster in the Reign of Queen Elizabeth. Anno Dom. 1563’, published by J. Wallis, October 30th, 1780.

John Henry Banks (1816-1879) was a printer, engraver, and publisher active in London during the middle of the nineteenth century. He is most noted for his birdseye views of London taken from both the north and the south. The present view shows London as seen from the north. In the foreground is Regents Park with Camberwell and the North Downes in the distance; with the view stretching from Greenwich Reach in the east to Kensington Palace in the west.

Bibliography
BL Maps 162.n.2.

Provenance

Price: £3000

Inventory reference: 18112

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