

Lithograph plan printed in colours, a few marginal tears, some loss to left margin, but no loss to map.

CLEAN UP YOUR ACT

The Sanitary Acts. Local Government Board. Specimen Plan For Town Sewerage. Part of Bermondsey. In The County Of Surrey.

Author
[LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD]

Publication date
[1878].

Publisher
Frederick Dangerfield,

Publication place
[London],

Physical description
Lithograph plan printed in colours, a few marginal tears, some loss to left margin, but no loss to map.

Dimensions
690 by 500mm. (27.25 by 19.75 inches).

Notes
This plan, which probably accompanied a report by the local government board, shows the sewage system under Bermondsey. The network of pipes, sewers, and manholes is laid out in red, with

details such as “sewer grates”, “cess pools”, and “privys” marked using abbreviations that are explained by the key in the left margin. The various colours on the plan reflect the varied composition of the area, so pink shows brick, while green shows “garden ground”.

The late-nineteenth century had seen significant improvement in public health, with the Public Health Act of 1875 making it compulsory for local councils to provide clean water, proper drainage, and – as illustrated here – sewage systems.

Frederick Dangerfield was a printing company perhaps best-known for the stylish posters that they produced for London Transport, with whom they had a contract, in the early-twentieth century. We have been unable to trace any other plans that Dangerfield printed in relation to the Sanitary Acts in London, but the company did publish ‘Mr. Chadwick’s Reports on the Sanitary Conditions of Hong Kong; with Appendices and Plans’, in 1882.

Bibliography

Provenance

Price: £350

Inventory reference: 22023

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