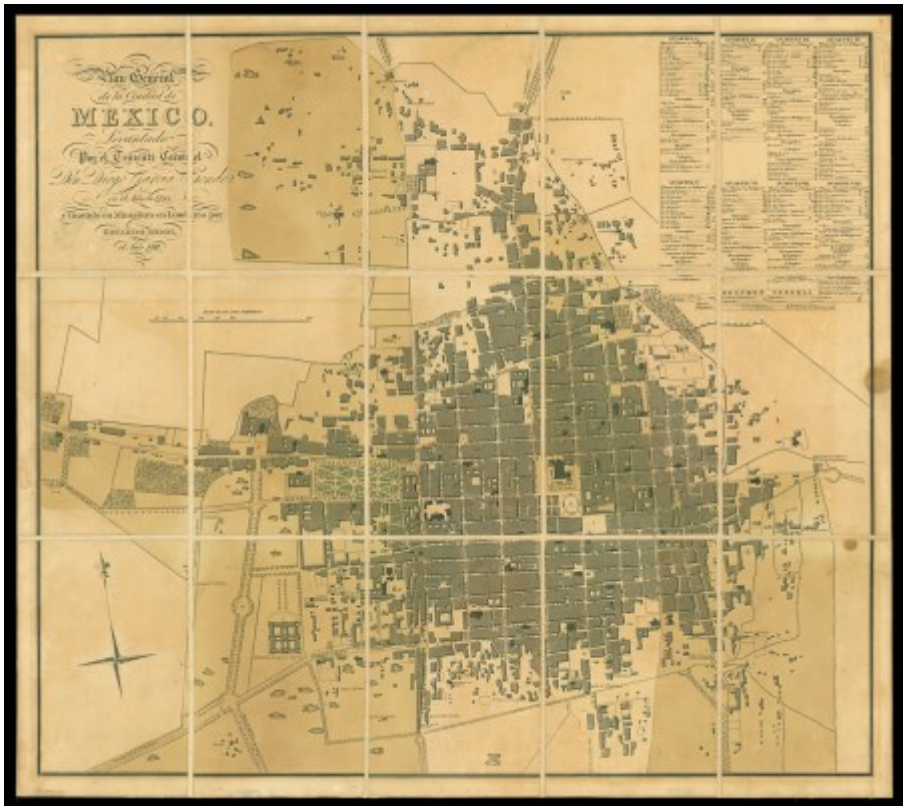

Engraved hand coloured map, dissected and backed on linen, a few wormholes skilfully repaired.

MOGG’S RARE PLAN OF MEXICO CITY

Plan General de la Ciudad de Mexico levantado por el Teniente Coronel Don Diego Garcia Conde, en al Ano de 1793, y Gravado en Miniatura en Londres por Eduardo Mogg, el Ano 1811.

Author
MOGG, Edward

Publication date
1811

Publisher
Eduardo Mogg,

Publication place
London,

Physical description
Engraved hand coloured map, dissected and backed on linen, a few wormholes skilfully repaired.

Dimensions
540 by 600mm (21.25 by 23.5 inches).

Notes
A reduction of Diego García Conde’s map of Mexico City, published by Edward Mogg. The original, published in 1807, was “probably the most important plan that had been drawn up of Mexico City in the nineteenth century…This plan became the source to many others because it was copied and

updated by several authors and editors" (Mayer). It was drawn on an unusually large scale from an accurate survey carried out by Viceroy Conde de Revillagigedo in 1793. The Viceroy had initiated a raft of social and urban reforms in the city, including the foundation of the Academy of Saint Carlos, where the map was produced. The mapmaker, Diego García Conde (1760-1822) was a military engineer who fought in the War of Independence; the engraver José Joaquín Fabregat (1748-1807), was director of engraving at the Academy.

The original plates for Conde's map were destroyed: this reduction was published in 1811, probably because of British interest in the Mexican War of Independence, which had begun in 1810. Although it is a reduction, Mogg's map still shows Mexico City in some detail, capturing both the wealth of the centre of the Spanish Empire, and also the developments made under Conde de Revillagigedo's viceregency. The city is divided into eight wards, with the public, religious and government buildings in each marked by a key. Also visible is "La Garita de Belén", which would play a crucial part during the Mexican-American War: after it fell to American troops, Mexico City itself was captured.

Edward Mogg (fl1803-1860) was a cartographer, engraver, and publisher, active in London at the beginning of the nineteenth century. Rather unusually for the time he not only drew his own maps, but also engraved them. The business was mainly based upon the production of pocket travel guides and maps.

There are only two copies remaining of the 1807 original, in the British Library, London and University of California, Berkeley. We have only been able to trace one institutional example of this edition: that held by Yale University Library.

Bibliography

For the 1807 original, see Sonia Lombardo da Ruiz, 'Atlas histórico de la ciudad de México' (Mexico City, 1996), plate 144; W. Michael Mathes, Illustration in Colonial Mexico: Woodcuts and Copper Engravings in New Spain, 1539-1821 (Zapopan: Colegio de Jalisco, 2003), Register 9989; Roberto L. Mayer, Poblaciones Mexicanos: Planos y panoramos siglos XVI al XIX (Mexico City: Smurfit Carto ón y Papel, 1998), pp. 76-77 (illustrated); Palau 98695 (incorrectly attributed).

Provenance

Price:

Inventory reference: 11890

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