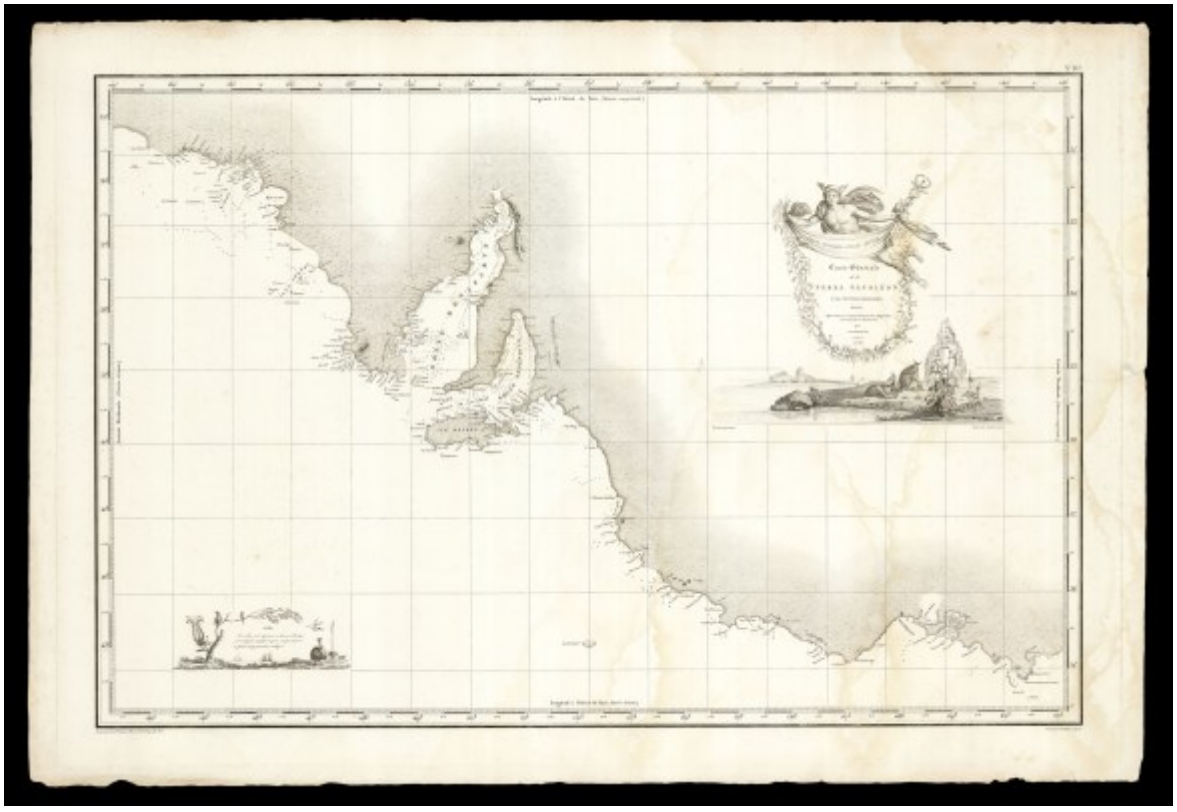


Double-page engraved chart, pale waterstains.

NEAR ADELAIDE

Carte Generale de la Terre Napoleon (a la Nouvelle Hollande). redigee d’apres les travaux executes bord de la corvette le Geographe et de la Goelette le Casuarina par M. L. Freycinet, an 1808.

Author
BAUDIN, Nicolas Thomas; Louis Claude de Saulces de FREYCINET; and Charles-Alexandre LESUEUR

Publication date
1812].

Publisher
Publie par Decret Imperial sous le Ministere de son excellence le vice-amiral comte Decres,

Publication place
[Paris,

Physical description
Double-page engraved chart, pale waterstains.

Dimensions
555 by 810mm (21.75 by 32 inches).

Notes
A chart of the south Australian coastline from Cape Adieu to Wilsons Promontory, showing Baudin’s discoveries in ‘Le Geographe’ and ‘Le Casuarina’. Plate no. 10 from ‘Voyage de decouvertes aux

terres australes… : partie navigation et geographie. Atlas par Louis Freycinet' (1812). Decorated with two lovely cartouches designed by Charles-Alexandre Lesueur, depicting kangaroos, emus, parrots, and local flora.

The chart is one of the earliest of the coastline around Adelaide, "B. Dugueselin", "C. Sully" and "C. Mondovi", and includes the complete coastline of Kangaroo Island, "Ile Decres", which had only charted partially by Flinders a bit before. It extends eastwards to Portland, "Sealers Cove", and Cape Nelson State Park, "Promontorie de Wilson", and westward to the area of Nullarbor National Park.

The Baudin Expedition
In 1800, Napoleon Bonaparte commissioned captain Nicolas Thomas Baudin (1754–1803) to complete the discovery of "Terra Australis". He duly set fort with two ships, 'Le Geographie' and 'Le Naturaliste' in order to find a strait which supposedly divided the Australian island in two halves. The French zoologist François Auguste Péron (1775–1810), who had studied under the anatomist George Cuvier in Paris, was the naturalist of the expedition, and Louis Claude de Saulses de Freycinet (1779–1842) served as cartographer.

Meanwhile, Matthew Flinders was also attempting a circumnavigation of the Australian Continent, and the explorers met each other in the consequently named "Encounter Bay". Although Flinders completed the task before Baudin's expedition, he had the misfortune to be captured and imprisoned for six years at Mauritius on his voyage home, and his charts and manuscripts also held hostage. This allowed the French explorers to print their account of the new discoveries before Flinders, and to produce the first complete chart of the Australian continent in 1807.

When Baudin died during the voyage in 1803, Freycinet took over command, much to the relief of all, and brought the expedition back to France. On the return of the expedition, Péron was charged with producing the narrative for publication. However, he died in 1810 before the second volume had been finished, with the result that the work had to be completed by Freycinet.

Bibliography
Hill, 'Pacific', 80; Tooley, 'Australia', 633 (separate issue).

Provenance
Provenance
1. Pencilled annotations;
2. Freycinet family archives

Price:

Inventory reference: 22849

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