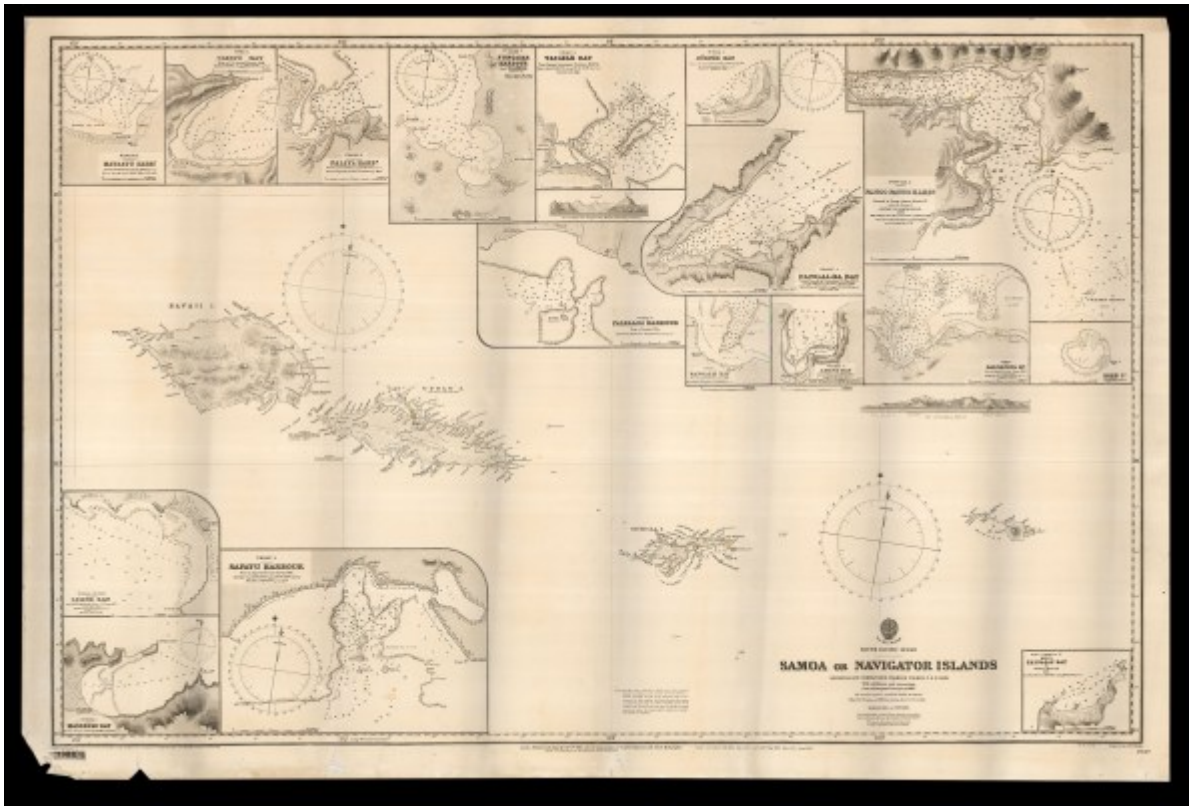

Engraved chart, lighthouses and beacons picked out in yellow and red, some loss to margins, skilfully repaired, not affecting image.

SAMOA BASED ON CHARLES WILKES SURVEY

Samoa or Navigator Islands

Author
HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE; WILKES, Commander Charles

Publication date
Octr. 3rd 1866. Large corrections Feb. 1881, May 1885, Jany. 1889, May 1889, May 1894, Aug. 1898.

Publisher
Admiralty,

Publication place
London,

Physical description
Engraved chart, lighthouses and beacons picked out in yellow and red, some loss to margins, skilfully repaired, not affecting image.

Dimensions
690 by 1020mm (27.25 by 40.25 inches).

Notes
Detailed British Admiralty chart of the islands of Samoa.

The chart marks soundings, hazards of the sea, magnetic variation, and coastal profiles, with principal ports and rivers marked.

The survey is based on the work of the American naval officer and explorer Charles Wilkes (1798-1877), who led the first United State Exploring Expedition, a scientifuc voyage – commonly known as the Wilkes Expedition – between 1838-1842. During the circumnavigation Wilkes visited numerous islands the Pacific including Samoa.

The British Hydrographic Office was founded in 1795 by George III, who appointed Alexander Dalrymple as the first Hydrographer to the Admiralty. The first charts were produced in 1800. Unlike the U. S. Coast Survey the Hydrographic Office was given permission to sell charts to the public and they produced a great number of sea charts covering every corner of the globe. Most of the Admiralty charts produced by the Hydrographic Office delineated coastline as well as high and low water marks and record depth of water as established by soundings. In addition these charts included information on shoals, reefs, and other navigational hazards that plagued mariners across the world. Thanks to the innovations of Sir Francis Beaufort, who developed the Beaufort Scale of wind strength, the British Hydrographic Office became one of the leading producers of sea charts. In fact, such was their accuracy that the phrase ‘Safe as an Admiralty Chart’ was coined.

Bibliography

Provenance

Price:

Inventory reference: 24141

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