



Fifth edition, folio atlas (522 by 345mm), engraved frontispiece, title in red and black, 50 plates (of which 42 double-page, three folding, three full-page and one in the text) engraved by J. Collins, J. Harris, F. Lamb, H. Moll, James Moxon, F. W. Oetjes, and N. Yeates, manuscript inscription to dedication, brief manuscript log to verso of Downes chart, contemporary calf, rebacked.

THE FIRST SYSTEMATIC SURVEY OF BRITISH COASTAL WATERS

Great Britain's Coasting Pilot Being A New Survey of the Sea Coast By Capt. Greenville Collins Hydrographer to their Majestys 1693.

Author

COLLINS, Captain Greenville

Publication date

1744

Publisher

Printed by Freeman Collins and are to be Sold by Richard Mount Bookseller, at the Postern on Tower-Hill,

Publication place

London,

Physical description

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Dimensions

Notes

Greenville Collins' work was not only the first systematic survey of British coastal waters, but also the first marine atlas of these waters engraved and printed in London from original surveys. Prior to its appearance English sailors relied on often out-dated Dutch materials. The survey was carried out between 1681 and 1688, beginning with the south coast, and covering all of the British coasts except western Ireland and western Scotland. Although the complete atlas appeared in 1693, some charts had been available for sale as separate sheets sometime between 1689 and 1693.

Whilst the atlas proved popular, a subsequent edition was not published until 1723, by which time the plates and text had been acquired by the firm of Mount and Page. The firm would go on to publish some 20 editions between 1723 and 1793, with little or no revision to the charts, or text.

Bibliography

Admiralty Library Va 39; Tyacke 236; Coolie Verner, "Captain Collins's Coasting Pilot", Map Collectors Series no. 58 (1969).

Provenance

Bookplate of Captain John Wood Royal Navy.

Price:

Inventory reference: 11551