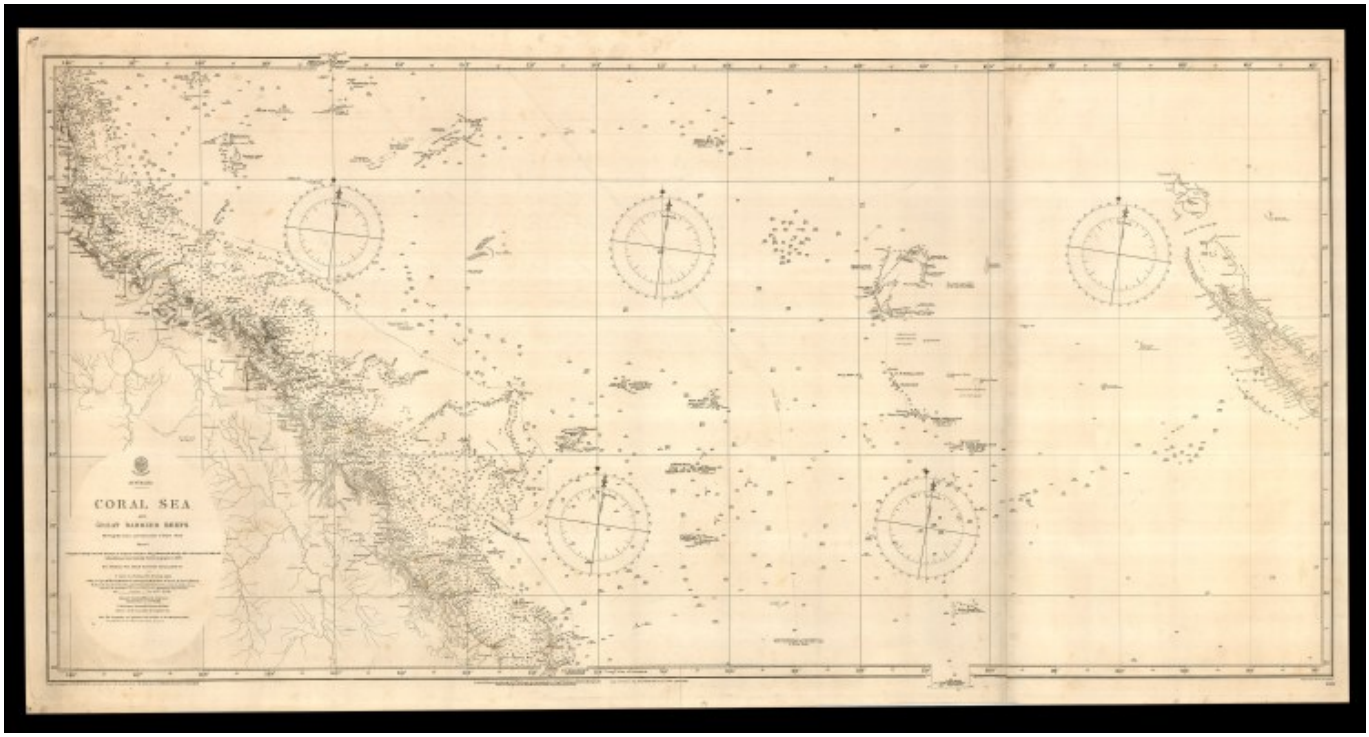


Engraved chart, on two sheets, joined, manuscript annotations, lighthouses and beacons picked out in yellow and red.

THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

Coral Sea and Great Barrier Reefs Shewing the Inner and Outer routes to Torres Strait.

Author
HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE; BLACKWOOD, Captain F[rancis] P[rice] et al

Publication date
Decr. 19th 1860. Large corrections Aug 1880. March 1887. August 1889. April 1890.

Publisher
Admiralty,

Publication place
London,

Physical description
Engraved chart, on two sheets, joined, manuscript annotations, lighthouses and beacons picked out in yellow and red.

Dimensions
660 by 1325mm (26 by 52.25 inches).

Notes
Detailed British Admiralty chart the Great Barrier Reef.

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

The chart names the numerous hydrographers who completed surveys of the Great Barrier Reef throughout the first half of the nineteenth century, including: Flinders, King, Blackwood, Stanley, Yule, and Denham.

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: £950

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