

Engraved map, fine original hand colour, dissected and mounted on linen, folding into blue tartan endpapers.

RARE REDUCTION OF WILLIAM SMITH’S SEMINAL GEOLOGICAL MAP

A New Geological Map of England and Wales, with the inland navigations; exhibiting the Districts of Coal and other Sites of Mineral Tonnage by W. Smith, Engineer.

Author
SMITH, William

Publication date
[1844]

Publisher
Published by G.F. Cruchley, Map-Seller & Globe Maker, 81 Fleet Street,

Publication place
London,

Physical description
Engraved map, fine original hand colour, dissected and mounted on linen, folding into blue tartan endpapers.

Dimensions
780 by 645mm. (30.75 by 25.5 inches).

Notes
Rare reduction of William Smith’s seminal geological map; the first large scale, detailed scientific geological map of any country.

The present example, not recorded by Eyles in her census, bears the imprint of George Frederick Cruchley, who acquired much of Cary's stock in 1844. Although the title has been re-engraved, the text remains the same. The title in the box below the title now reads 'Tramways or Mineral Lines', rather than 'Railways'. The colouring of the geological features have changed, though the placement and naming remains the same.

We are unable to trace any institutional examples, of the present state.

Bibliography

J. Challinor, "The Beginnings of Scientific Palaeontology in Britain" Annals of Science 6 (1948): 46-53; Joan M. Eyles, "William Smith", in Dictionary of Scientific Biography (vol.12), ed. Charles Coulston Gillispie (New York: Scribner, 1970-80) 486-492; Eyles, "William Smith: A Bibliography of his Published Writings, Maps and Geological Sections" Journal of the Society for the Bibliography of Natural History V (1969); H.D. Horblit, One hundred books famous in science: based on an exhibition held at the Grolier Club (New York: Grolier Club, 1964), 94; Ruth A. Sparrow, Milestones of Science: Epochal books in the history of science as represented in the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, (Buffalo: Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, 1972), 180; Simon Winchester, The Map that Changed the World (London: Harper Collins, 2001).

Provenance

Price: £13000

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