



A scarce issue of Speed's map of Derbyshire

SPEED, John.

Derbieshire described. Anno 1610.

London: Roger Rea, 1665. Coloured. 385 x 515mm.

£950

One of the most famous maps of the county, engraved by Jodocus Hondius in 1610 for John Speed's county atlas, 'The Theatre of the Empire of Great Britain', 1611-1612. The decorations include an inset plan of Derby and a view of Buxton Wells, a compass rose, the Royal Arms and armorials of six local nobles. On the reverse is a letterpress description of the county and a gazetteer. This example comes from the Roger Rea issue, which was beset with disaster: according to an advert for the 1676 Bassett & Chiswell edition, "the greatest part of an Impression, then newly Printed, [was] destroyed by the late dreadful Fire, 1666". Surviving examples of any Rea map are thus rare.

Stock ID :23821