



Hackney from Booth's Poverty Map of London

BOOTH, Charles.
 Map C. - Hackney (1900).

London, 1903. Lithographic map with original hand colour. Sheet 330 x 365mm.

£400

One section (of twenty) of an extended version of the incredibly influential Poverty Map, originally published in Charles Booth's 'Life and Labour of the People in London', a founding text of British sociology. Showing Clapton, Dalston, Homerton, Stoke Newington and Haggerston. Booth (1840-1916), owner of the Booth Shipping Line, acted in response to an 1886 Pall Mall Gazette article that claimed that 25% of Londoners lived in poverty. Booth regarded this figure as wildly exaggerated, so recruited a team of volunteer researchers to compile an analysis of social conditions based on field visits and interviews with local police, clergy and employers. The first volume of 'Life and Labour' (1889), covering the East End, showed that 35% lived in poverty. The second series, covering the rest of the city (1891) showed that no less than 30 per cent of the city's total population could be classed as poor.

See HYDE: Victorian Maps of London, 252.

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