



An early issue of Speed's map of the Invasions of England

SPEED, John.

The Invasions of England & Ireland with al their Ciuill Wars Since the Conquest.

London: George Humble, 1627. 385 x 510mm.

£2,400

A very fine and dark impression of this fascinating map of England, Wales and Ireland, showing the sites of battles 1066 - 1588, each with a little vignette scene. Of particular interest is the route of the Spanish Armada of 1588, from their entrance into the Channel, their crescent formation, their dispersal by the fireships and the trail of wrecks around the northern coasts. On the reverse is a companion text. First issued in 1627, this map was engraved by Cornelius Danckerts from a prototype published by Speed c.1601 (of which Shirley notes only three known copies). It retains an obsolete form of the Isle of Man discarded by Speed in his map of 1611. It also holds a unique position in Speed's atlases, only appearing in volumes with the 'Theatre' and 'Prospect' combined: bound between the two were this map and four pages of accompanying text.

SHIRLEY: 397 (see 239 for the prototype).

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