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A map symbolising London's growing independence

DE RAM, Johannes.

Londini Angliae Regni Metropolis Delineatio Accuratissima per Petrum Vander Aa.

Leiden: Pieter van der Aa, 1729. Coloured. 495 x 585mm.

£3,250

A highly decorative map of London, with a 148-point key top right, the arms of the City of London on a plinth and an elevated view of Westwood Park, near Droitwich, Worcestershire. This is a fourth state of an important map of London, first published c.1690, but this a reissue from van der Aa's 'La Galerie agréable du monde'. It originally celebrated the accession of Dutchman William III & Mary II to the English throne. By 1729 George II was on the throne, but instead of replacing the symbols of the previous dynasty with those of the Hanoverians, all references to the monarchy have been removed as well as the prospect of London underneath the map. Despite this extensive re-engraving the plan itself has not been updated, nor the 148-point key top right. The key of places in Southwark has been moved to replace the Royal Arms top left.

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