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Plan of Georgian London

THOMPSON, George.

A New Map of London and its environs From an Original Survey Extending 8 Miles, East and West, 6Œ Miles, North & South, in which All new and intended Buildings, Improvements &c, Are carefully Inserted.

London: Reeves & Hoare, 1823. Original colour. Dissected and laid on linen, as issued, total 660 x 820mm.

£1,800

A detailed plan of London extending to Brompton in the west, clockwise to Kentish Town, Clapton, the River Lea and the East India Docks, Greenwich, Camberwell & Battersea. Of interest is the demarcation of the Liberty of the Clink on the south side of the Thames. This parcel of land belonged to the Bishop of Winchester, thus was outside the jurisdiction of the High Sheriff of Surrey. The bishop's traditional laissez-faire attitude (he had the power to licence prostitutes and brothels from 1161) made the Clink the entertainment centre of the region. The earliest maps and views of London show the bull and bear baiting rings, followed by the Globe and Rose Theatres used by Shakespeare. The liberty was finally abolished in 1889.

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