



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## Arctic Sea Sheet III 1853. Additions to 1855.

**Stock#:** 34079mb  
**Map Maker:** British Admiralty  
**Date:** 1853 (1872)  
**Place:** London  
**Color:** Uncolored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 25 x 19 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



### Description:

Important early charting of Alaska and the Northwest Coast of Canada, illustrating the most up to date discoveries along the coastlines and following the the discovery of the Northwest Passage.

First issued by the British Admiralty in 1853, this is without question one of the most important charts for tracking the discoveries and evolution of knowledge regarding Alaska. The present example includes significant revisions from the 1853 edition, most notably along the entire course of the Yukon River and its tributaries and neighboring topography, which has been added to and improved upon dramatically. The details along the Alaskan Range are also present in this edition of the map.

The chart is filled with details identifying the discoveries and surveys along the Alaskan Coastline, Behring Straits and the Arctic Sea, along with some detail along the Yukon River, tracking the river to its various sources and showing Fort Yukon and other early primitive details in the Alaskan interior. The details around Kodiak Island and the whole of the Gulf of Alaska are changed dramatically, as are the contiguous rivers and coastal mountain ranges. An example of the University of Alaska's copy of the 1859 edition (as annotated in manuscript by George Davidson in 1867) can be seen here:

[vilda.alaska.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/cdmg11/id/13492/rec/8](http://vilda.alaska.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/cdmg11/id/13492/rec/8)



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The map is one of three sheets published by the British Admiralty, showing the entire northwest passage. Examples of the other two charts can be seen here: [{{ inventory\\_detail\\_link\('30460'\) }}](#).

The map is very rare, with only 1 example appearing in a dealer catalog in the past 30 years and no copies appearing at auction. OCLC locates no examples of this edition of the map. OCLC locates only 1 example of the 1853 edition (British Library) and 2 examples of the 1859 edition (University of Alaska and Connecticut State Library). OCLC locates no other examples prior to 1898. We also located examples at the Royal Geographical Society and Canadian National Archives (1853 edition). The University of Alaska copy is signed and annotated by George Davidson.

**Detailed Condition:**