



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

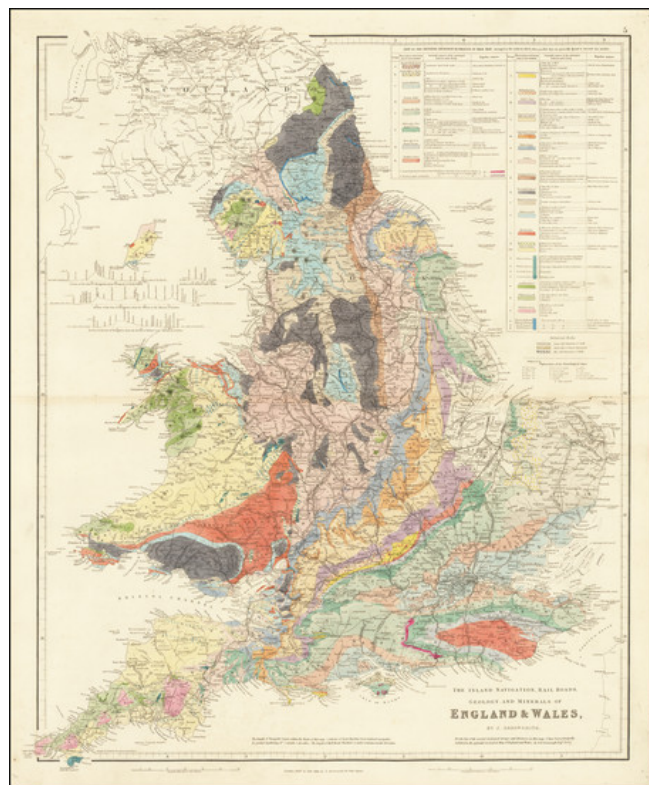
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The Inland Navigation, Rail Roads, Geology and Minerals of England & Wales . . .

Stock#: 68219
Map Maker: Arrowsmith
Date: 1840
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 19 x 24 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Arrowsmith's Geological Map of England

A striking example of Arrowsmith's geological map of England and Wales, based on George Bellas Greenough's map of the United Kingdom, completed in 1820. The map focuses not only on geology, but also shows extensive detail so typical of Arrowsmith's maps. Many rivers, railroads, cities, peaks, mail-coach roads, and more are all shown and labeled. Rivers and canals have extensive symbols attached, showing the extent of the tides, navigation, and more. The map appeared in Arrowsmith's *London Atlas*, one of the most popular English atlases of the mid-19th century.

Four interesting cross-sections on the map show some of the most important watercourses through the island, along with their topography. This includes the Clyde Canal, the route from the Mersey to the Thames, and the route from the Severn to the Thames. These rivers and canals were vital to the economy and industry of 19th century Britain. A note states that navigable canals stretch 2,511 through England and Wales, while railroads only cover 800 miles.



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George Bellas Greenough's geological map of Great Britain was published just five years after William Smith's seminal map. Greenough copies the use of fossil strata from William Smith, but had a great deal more information available, thus allowing for a significantly more accurate map. Several myths surround Greenough's relation with Smith, suggesting that they feuded and that Greenough deliberately undercut Smith's price to land him in debtor's jail. None of these appear substantiated.

The geology on the map is highly detailed. Twenty-nine principle units are mapped, alongside three quaternary features. Each unit has a specific color or pattern, any local names are mentioned, and type localities are given. Arrowsmith also categorizes the principle beds in each unit, giving a brief lithological description. A legend also shows mines and deposits of copper, gold, gypsum, tin, lead, and twelve other rocks and minerals found throughout the region.

The units shown on the map are described in the "order in which, when parallel, they are generally found to succeed one another." This means that the oldest rocks are labeled with letters at the end of the alphabet and that relative ages can be guessed at from the map. For the most part, these relative ages appear to be correct, with the youngest rocks in the southeast and the oldest in the north and west.

Detailed Condition: