



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
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Tallis's London Street Views, Exhibiting Upwards of One Hundred Buildings in Each Number, Elegantly Engraved on Steel; The Whole Forming a Complete Stranger's Guide Through London, to all the Public Buildings, Places of Amusement, Tradesman's Shops, Name and Trade of Select Occupiers, &c. &c. (Parts 1-47, of 88)

Stock#: 70874
Map Maker: Tallis

Date: 1838 - 1840
Place: London
Color: Uncolored
Condition: See Description
Size: 16.5 x 5.25 inches map size

Price: SOLD



Description:

A Nice Set of Tallis's London Views That We Can Find Having Come to the Market.

An impressive run of 47 parts (of 88) of John Tallis's fantastic project to provide a view of every major street in London during the late 1830s.

This set includes views 1-47. View 8 (Holborn, Division II) is later state than in the set we previously sold, with the view of Furnivall's Inn substantially updated.

Tallis's project was essentially unparalleled in urban mapmaking and invites comparison to an early Google Street View. His views of London form an invaluable historical and social record, providing an immensely detailed snapshot of a city in flux. This sense of change is hinted at by its notation of demolitions ("two houses being pulled down", pt. 74), as well as its incorporation of planned but yet to be completed sites such as Trafalgar Square. It also captures the everyday life and commerce of London, providing a view of the city from the perspective of the average person in the street and conjuring an evocative sense of the sights, sounds, and smells that would have been encountered through its description of each building and storefront.

The wonderfully illustrated advertisements and historical notes add to this, giving a fuller understanding of each area as well as offering extra advice about local businesses, a typical tip being, for example, that Morton's restaurant at 104 Bishopsgate Street was the "cheapest house in London for turtle and venison".

The elevated street views themselves are beautifully engraved, depicting the minute detail of shop fronts



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and the delicate twists and turns of adjoining streets and alleys.

Rarity

Because of the mode of publication (with each part individually sold in separate wrappers) even semi-long runs of parts are very rare on the market. The largest set to come to market in recent years of which we know of was a set of 77, which we offered for sale in February 2020.

Detailed Condition:

Oblong quarto. Contemporary ½ calf over marbled boards (covers separated from book block and one another, backstrip wanting). Contents Very Good to Very Good +.