



A SCARCE ISSUE OF JOHN SPEED'S MAP OF CUMBERLAND

Cumberland and the Ancient Citie of Carlile Described with Many Memorable Antiquities Therein Found Observed.

Cartographer	SPEED, John.
Date	1665
Stock #:	24024
Publication:	London: Roger Rea & Son, 1665. Coloured.
	390 x 510mm.
Condition:	A good example.

DESCRIPTION:

An important map of Cumberland, engraved by Jodocus Hondius for John Speed's county atlas, 'The Theatre of the Empire of Great Britain', first published 1611-12. It is one of the most decorative maps of the county, with an inset plan of Carlisle, the arms of the monarch and local nobility, Roman antiquities and a vignette battle scene. Off the coast are a galleon and seamonster. An English text on the reverse gives a history of the county and an extensive list of towns and villages.

This example comes from the Roger Rea issue of the atlas, which was beset with disaster: according to an advert for the 1676 Bassett & Chiswell edition, "the greatest part of an Impression, then newly Printed, [was] destroyed by the late dreadful Fire, 1666". Surviving examples of any Rea map are thus rare.