

## Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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# A Plan & View of the Buildings & Garden at Rest the Seat of his Grace The Duke of Kent in Bedfordshire. To the most Noble Prince Henry Duke of Kent &c. &c. This Plan is most humbly inscribed.

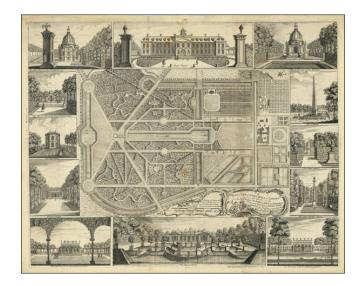
**Stock#:** 105092 **Map Maker:** Rocque

Date: 1737
Place: London
Color: Uncolored

**Condition:** VG

**Size:** 29.25 x 23 inches

**Price:** \$ 2,400.00



#### **Description:**

This engraving of the gardens and buildings of Wrest Park, the seat of the Duke of Kent, in Bedfordshire, England was executed by John Rocque in 1737.

Wrest Park is known for its extensive formal gardens and magnificent architecture, reflecting the grandeur and landscaping principles of the 18th century. The estate has been a significant site in British history, renowned for its elaborate gardens designed to complement the stately mansion at its center

Rocque's work provides a detailed depiction of the estate's layout and architectural features. Dedicated to the Duke of Kent, Rocque's engraving of the intricate design and grandeur of the garden and its accompanying structures.

During the 18th century, the English landscape garden emerged as a significant cultural and aesthetic development, influenced by a combination of Enlightenment ideals and a desire for naturalistic beauty. John Rocque, a prominent cartographer and surveyor, is renowned for his detailed engravings and maps that reflect the era's emphasis on meticulous planning and artistic representation of landscapes. This particular plan of the Duke of Kent's estate exemplifies the fusion of geometric precision and aesthetic sophistication that characterized the period.

The central feature of the plan is the expansive garden, meticulously laid out with intersecting paths,



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ornamental trees, and various formal elements that underscore the period's landscaping principles. The garden's design includes a series of symmetrical parterres, serpentine walkways, and strategically placed statuary, illustrating a balance between natural beauty and human artistry.

The plan is adorned with multiple insets showcasing the estate's prominent buildings and structures:

- 1. **The Mansion House** Positioned centrally, it serves as the focal point of the estate, symbolizing the Duke's status and the architectural grandeur of the period.
- 2. **The Dome and Obelisk** These classical elements add an air of antiquity and grandeur, aligning with the Enlightenment's fascination with classical antiquity.
- 3. **The Garden Pavilions** Strategically placed throughout the garden, these structures provide focal points and enhance the aesthetic symmetry of the landscape.
- 4. **The Statues and Columns** Scattered throughout the estate, they contribute to the garden's decorative appeal and underscore the influence of classical motifs.

#### **Detailed Condition:**

Minor foxing.