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Gulfs of St. Vincent and Spencer, Surveyed in 1802, by Captn. Flinders, R.N. . . 1855

Stock#: 77712
Map Maker: British Admiralty
Date: 1871
Place: London
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG
Size: 24.5 x 36 inches
Price: \$ 1,400.00



Description:

Rare Early Map of Adelaide and Coastal South Australia.

Very rare British Admiralty chart first published only seventeen years after Adelaide's founding, and here presented with corrections to 1871. The map is fantastically detailed in the simple yet highly informative manner of British Admiralty charts.

While coastal detail is astounding, inland detail is equally interesting and impressive. Copper mines are shown near Wallaroo, various hills are named, and railways are shown near Adelaide. Mountain ranges and plateaus are shown. Some parts of the coastline are still only guessed at, particularly on the south coast of Kangaroo Island.



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The map was published shortly after the founding of Adelaide in 1836, when a colonial government was proclaimed for the territory of South Australia. Unlike the eastern states, Adelaide was founded as a free colony and did not have a ready supply of convicted labor. This was thought up by Edward Wakefield (himself having been imprisoned for kidnapping), and was remarkably successful, although the idea of not having a jail in the colony only persisted for less than a year.

Early British Admiralty charts are very rare today because of their process of continuously being updated as new information became available, and they were often discarded. Shortly after the publication of this edition of the map, the British Admiralty would introduce a [new map of the region](#) that appears to have become significantly more common than the one here presented.

Detailed Condition:

Original hand-color in lighthouses. Backed on paper. Some damage and soiling to margins, with the top right corner missing.