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CHELSEA FROM AN IMPORTANT LARGE-SCALE SURVEY OF LONDON

£1,500.00

[Chelsea.] A. 4.

Cartographer	HORWOOD, Richard.
Date	1799
Stock #:	24403
Publication:	London: 1794-99. 570 x 520mm.
Condition:	A good example.

DESCRIPTION:

The bottom left sheet from a map Howgego describes as the 'largest and most important London map of the eighteenth century', on a scale of 26 inches to a mile. It covers Chelsea from the beginning of Cheyne Walk, with the Chelsea Physic Garden, Wren's Royal Hospital and Ranelagh Gardens. Further north the King's Road passes through Sloane Square into open fields. Draycott Avenue is marked as part of 'Blacklands Lane', with a cricket ground and 'Marlborough Tavern'.

Horwood's intention was to mark each house's number (a practice started in 1735), but this was abandoned as impractical. He started his scheme in 1790, expecting to be finished by 1792: by 1794 he was apologising to his subscribers (including George III); in 1798 he received a loan of £500 from the Phoenix Fire-Office, for whom Horwood worked as a surveyor, to finish the map. However this assistance was not enough to stop Horwood dying in poverty in 1803.