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A fine example of the First Edition of Camden's 'Britannia' with maps

CAMDEN, William.

Britannia, sive Florentissimorum Regnorum Angliæ, Scotiæ, Hiberniæ, et Insularem adiacentium ex intima antiquate, Chorographica descriptio: Nunc postremò recognita, plurimis locis magna accessione adaucta, & Chartis Chorographicis illustrata.

London: George Bishop & John Norton, 1607. First Folio Edition. 18th century full calf gilt, maroon morocco title label, all edges gilt, marbled endpapers; pp. (xiv) + 860 + (230) (corrigenda and indexes); engraved title page and 57 maps (all but two double-page), nine plates and numerous woodcut illustrations in text

£6,500

The 'Britannia', a topographical and historical survey written by William Camden (1551-1623), was the first chorographical survey of Great Britain and Ireland. First published in 1586, this sixth edition was the first folio edition and the first to contain maps, reduced versions of those by Christopher Saxton and John Norden, engraved by William Kip and William Hole. The seventh edition, 1610, was the first to be translated into English. Camden's text was extremely influential: both Blaeu and Jansson used it in the county atlases. A robust example, with strong, clean paper.

SKELTON: County Atlases, 5.



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