

Globes in the Collection

Terrestrial Globe, by C. Smith & Son, London, Late 19th Century Inventory No. 80288

This terrestrial globe made by C. Smith & Son is mounted in a library or floor stand, with lacquered brass mechanical apparatus mounted through the poles and base, all mounted on a fine three-legged, mahogany stand. The globe is very heavy probably indicating that it is constructed on a wooden surface with metal supports and possibly a papier mache interior. It is scratched, worn and extensively pitted in parts, with small sections of paper covering missing and a split in centre of globe which may have been repaired after manufacture using screws.

'Charles Smith was a stationer, map and globeseller based in the Strand, London from about 1800. Between 1827 and 1852 the business was carried on by Charles Smith & Son, and from 1853, by William Smith. Charles Smith's maps are very distinctive, characterised by their lucid, fine engraving and vibrant colour washes.' [Ref: http://www.mostlymaps.com/mapmakers/charles -smith]

C. Smith & Son began producing these larger globes in 1845. While this globe is undated it can be dated to post-1870, as it shows the city of Phoenix, Arizona (founded 1870) and also shows Alaska rather than "Russian America" (1867). See Dekker & van der Krogt, Globes from the Western World, p. 116.



It is inscribed, "SMITH'S / TERRESTRIAL GLOBE / shewing all the / MOST RECENT DISCOVERIES. / London / C. SMITH & SON / 63, CHARING CROSS, S.W." printed on external surface of globe.