

MARY COOKE ANTIQUES LTD
Fine Antique Silver

A very rare George III Saffron Pot of very unusual design. Made in London in 1769 by Charles Aldridge & Henry Green.

Sold



Description

Aldridge & Green were fine silversmiths who used innovative designs in their workshops, which were located at 62. St. Martin's Le Grand, when this piece was made. This Saffron Pot is modelled in an unusual argyle form with a slender swan neck spout. This piece stands on a spreading circular foot, decorated with reeding. The plain main body has a baluster form. The stepped, slightly domed, hinged cover is also decorated with reeding and terminates in a cast bell shaped finial. The very slender, "Swan neck" spout, is identical to those as seen on argyles of the period and this piece has a fruitwood handle.

The Pot is in excellent condition, is fully marked on the base and with the maker's mark and sterling mark on the cover. During the whole course of the Eighteenth Century a number of small, (but otherwise identical to their full sized brethren), Teapots were produced, particularly from 1725 to 1775. These were used as Saffron Pots and very few examples from this period survive today. Only a small number were made at this date and this is a particularly rare example. Saffron tea would have been made in this pot and the infusion taken to cleanse the body and mind. Saffron was exceptionally expensive at this date, the height of luxury, only afforded by the wealthiest, and noble, individuals in society. Height: 4.4 inches, 11 cm. Length: 5.75 inches, 14.38 cm. Width: 2.5 inches, 6.25 cm. Weight: 5oz.