

The Petworth House Tureen. An important George II Rococo Soup Tureen & Cover, of unusual size, made in London in 1755 by Thomas Gilpin.

Sold



Description

The Tureen is of an unusual smaller size and of shaped oval form standing on four lion mask legs, with Rococo shell mouldings and paw feet. The sides rise to an everted rim decorated with a pretty florette border. The unusual scroll side handles have very detailed bird head grips and rocaille mouldings. The slightly domed, shaped, pull off cover terminates in an open leaf capped scroll handle, with raying shells where it is attached to the cover. The front and reverse of the main body is engraved with a contemporary Armorial flanked by supporters and with an Earl's Coronet above and the motto "Au Bon Droit" engraved on a banner below. The cover is engraved each side with a contemporary Crest, below the coronet of an Earl. The Tureen is of exceptional quality in both design and production and is fully marked on the base and the cover. THE ARMORIAL, CREST & MOTTO. The crest is that of Wyndham, beneath an Earl's coronet. The arms are Wyndham quartering Hopton impaling Carpenter. They are specifically those of Charles Wyndham, 2nd Earl of Egremont (1710-1763) of Orchard Wyndham in Somerset, the magnificent Petworth House in Sussex and Egremont House in Mayfair. He served as MP for Bridgewater (1734-1741), Appleby (1741-1747) and Taunton (1747-1750). He inherited the family titles in 1750 (from his maternal uncle the 7th Duke of Somerset) and also inherited several estates including Petworth Park. He married Alicia Carpenter (c. 1726-1794), daughter of the second Baron Carpenter in 1750. From 1761 to 1763 Egremont was Secretary of State for the Southern Department in succession to William Pitt, 1st Earl of Chatham. He was involved with the war between Britain and France and Spain. He was also involved in the prosecution of John Wilkes. Egremont was also Lord Lieutenant of Cumberland 1751 to 1763 and Sussex 1762 to 1763. The Earl and Countess had four sons and three daughters. He died on 21st August 1763. An image of Petworth Park is shown, together with a portrait of the 2nd Earl by William Hoare. THOMAS GILPIN Gilpin was an extremely accomplished exponent of the Rococo style. He is well represented with Candlesticks and Tureens in the Collection of Earl Spencer at Althorp. They are illustrated in "Silver at Althorp", Part II, p4, Connoisseur Magazine 1963 by Arthur Grimwade. He was apprentice to John Well in 1720 and his first mark was entered on 24th September, 1730. He had workshops in Searle Street, Lincoln's Inn when this exceptional Tureen was made. PROVENANCE Christie's New York, 18th April, 1991 - Realised \$ 35,200 Length, including the handle: 15.5 inches, 38.75 cm Width: 7 inches, 17.5 cm. Height: 8 inches, 20 cm Weight: 73 oz