

SA1104971

Late 18th-Century English School, Portrait Of Henry Haynes - Antique Oil Painting

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1104971****Date of manufacture: 18th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 93 cm (36.6")

Width = 77 cm (30.3")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

This charming late 18th-century English school oil painting depicts Henry Haynes (1745-1801) attired in a rather fetching navy blue coat, yellow waistcoat, and white cravat. He's holding a missive. Born and raised at the historic Isle of Ely in Cambridgeshire, Haynes was a landowner and man of means. Little is known of his heritage, but various press reports refer to auction sales comprising considerable parcels of land in his name. According to his ancestry records, he also worked as a 'waterman', a vital role for an area so reliant on its rivers and various waterways. The task of a waterman was to transport passengers and their luggage via the river - essentially the equivalent of a river taxi. They usually worked alongside 'lightermen' who carried goods instead of live cargo. Aside from their rowing ability, watermen were also skilled in the art of verbal sparring - often pitching their services to passers-by on the riverbank and noisily arguing with competitors. It's likely that Haynes employed staff to undertake the ferrying aspects, while he ran the business itself. Intriguingly, a report from 1776 refers to an apprentice, William Liam Jotsham, who'd run away a...

Seller Details

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