

SA12623

SOLD.....Portrait of Sir Richard Weston, c. 1630; Attributed to Cornelius de Neve

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA12623

Date of manufacture:

Description

Oil on canvas in fine 18th c. carved and giltwood frame. A very sensitive and perceptive portrait beautifully executed in every way. SIR RICHARD WESTON (1591-1652), eldest son of Sir Richard Weston of Sutton Place, Surrey, succeeded to the family estates on the death of his father and was knighted at Guildford in 1622. He was a Royalist and a Catholic and his estates were sequestered by Parliament during the Civil War. During his exile abroad, when he stayed at Ghent, Bruges and Antwerp, he studied agricultural practices of the Low Countries and wrote a discourse on husbandry. Subsequently he introduced to Surrey a scheme whereby rivers and canals became navigable by means of locks and he attempted to make the Wey navigable from Guildford to its junction with the Thames at Weybridge. The scheme was finally completed in 1653 after his death. He also introduced agricultural improvements, notably the cultivation of rich crops of hay from irrigated meadows and a new scheme of rotation founded on the cultivation of clover, flax and turnips. He married Grace, daughter of John Harper of Cheshunt, who died in February 1669. They had seven sons and two daughters. His ance...

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