

SA373833

Portrait of William Helyar c.
1745: English School.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA373833

Date of manufacture: 1700

Description

Oil on canvas in a carved and giltwood frame. The sitter, William Helyar (1723 - 1784) was a member of the family that owned Coker Court and had lordship over East Coker, Somerset from 1616 to 1914. They also had an estate at Canonteign in Devon, and Sedghill in Wiltshire. The family came originally from Devon, where they seem to have been of importance as the William Helyar of that time represented Melcomb-Regis in Parliament in the reigns of Richard II and Henry IV. William Cary sold the manor of East Coker in 1620 to William Helyar, archdeacon of Barnstaple, to be settled on the marriage of Christian or Christine, William Cary's eldest daughter, to Henry, son of William Helyar. Henry (d. 1634) was followed by his son William (d. 1697), his grandson William (d. 1742), and his great grandson William Helyar (d. 1784) who married Betty Weston. They had four daughters and six sons..William, his heir; Robert of Newton Park, Cornwall, who died in the army aged 23; Weston, who succeeded his brother at Newton Park and was a magistrate for Somerset; Edward, born 1743; Charles born 1750, an officer in the army, killed in the American War; John, in holy orders, rector of Harding...

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