

SA424229

Portrait of R. Parsons, officer of the Derbyshire Light Cavalry, 1800. Studio or Circle of Sir Thomas Lawrence.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA424229

Date of manufacture: 1800

Dimensions

Height = 84 cm (33.1")

Width = 72 cm (28.3")

Depth = 3 cm (1.2")

Description

Oil on canvas in a reproduction gilt frame. The sitter wears a cavalry officer's uniform, and with the initials on the the shoulder belt rather than a number, it indicates that this is an irregular cavalry unit that is yeoman or possibly fencible cavalry. The 'D' stands for a county and 'LC' for Light Cavalry. The only yeomanry cavalry regiment with dark blue uniform, red facings and gold lace which was also from a county beginning with 'D' was the Derbyshire Cavalry. This unit was first formed in 1794 for home defence, as the threat of a French invasion was very real. The sitter looks out at us in a calm manner, confident in his uniform; in the background are stormy skies and thunderous clouds, surely a reference to the troubled and dangerous times as Bonaparte's armies swept across Europe. ADDENDUM, Courtesy of Richard Warren:- "In theory, this image could be from any one of a number of small and relatively obscure local cavalry units in towns or cities beginning with 'D' - many county regimental amalgamations came a bit later. And the blue and scarlet colour scheme is not unusual. Though the "LC" (for Loyal Cavalry) form of initials on the belt plate is much less com...

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