

# MACKINNON

## FINE FURNITURE

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### A LOUIS XVI MAHOGANY AND GILT BRONZE SECRÉTAIRE À ABATTANT

**France, *circa* 1770-1780**

Stockel was of German extraction and established himself in the rue de Charenton, Paris until the Revolution, then after at 59 rue des Fossés-du-Temple. His work is almost always neo-classical in style and in mahogany. Examples of his work can be seen in the Musée des Arts Decoratifs and the Assemblée Nationale.

Coombe Abbey, in Warwickshire, dates back to the 12th century when it served as the largest monastery in the county. It became a private residence in the 16th century, and after the Craven family took ownership they made a number of renovations to expand the residence, and built up an impressive collection of Stuart Family paintings, including works by Rubens, Van Dyck, and Honthorst, which decorated the walls of the Abbey.

In 1769 William Craven, 6th Baron Craven commissioned the renowned landscape architect Lancelot Capability Brown to redesign the gardens around the Abbey. Brown worked alongside his son-in-law, the architect Henry Holland, to create seven buildings throughout the gardens, including a boathouse and menagerie. The Craven collections also included exceptional furniture and works of art including

commodes by Pierre Langlois, ormolu-mounted candelabra by Matthew Boulton and the exemplary pair of Adam period dining-room urns and pedestals now in the Gerstenfeld Collection.

**By Joseph Stockel**

A Louis XVI mahogany, bois satiné and gilt bronze mounted secrétaire à abattant. The rectangular white veined marble top with rounded corner mounted with a pierced three-quarter gallery, above a frieze drawer and fall-front enclosing a shelf and four open compartments and six short drawers with red and gilt-tooled leather writing surface above a pair of panelled doors enclosing a shelf and two compartments flanked by stop-fluted angles with gilt bronze 'chandelles' on turned tapering feet, with brass cappings. Stamped twice on the backboard J.STOCKEL and 'JME'.

Height: 4' 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" in (140 cm)  
Width: 2' 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" in (79 cm)  
Depth: 1' 3" in (38 cm)

**Stock Number**

AD.377

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