

MACKINNON FINE FURNITURE



HORLICK COLLECTION: CHINESE MIRROR PAINTING

China, circa 1760

Sir James Horlick, Bt.

This wonderful mirror painting formerly belonged to Sir James Horlick, 4th Bt. (d. 1958), who assembled a celebrated collection of 18th century English furniture with an eye to buying only the best. Sir James' collecting was driven by a passion for Chinese design, and this focus is evident in the exceptional group of Chinese mirror paintings and 18th century japanned and lacquer furniture that he managed to acquire. The collection furnished Achamore House, his home on the tiny island of Gigha in the Scottish Western Isles. Achamore was built in 1884 for Lt. Col. William James Scarlett and remained in the family until 1944 when it was purchased with the island by the Horlicks. The collection was featured in an article: L.G.G. Ramsay, 'Chinoiserie in the Western Isles, The Collection of Sir James and Lady Horlick', *The Connoisseur*, June 1958.

An extremely charming and very rare mid 18th century Chinese reverse glass painting - of unusual proportions quite possibly intended for use as an overmantel or overdoor. Beautifully painted throughout with wonderfully dressed figures in a chinoiserie landscape with trees, pagodas and houses. Held in carved gilt gesso frame.

Literature:

Thierry Audric, *Chinese Reverse Glass Painting 1720 - 1820*

Height: 16.00 in (40.64 cm)

Width: 41.00 in (104.14 cm)

Depth: 0' 1³/₁₆" in (4.45 cm)

Stock Number

T10.136

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