

19th Century portrait miniature of Lt. Charles Howard, wearing black uniform with gold epaulettes, painted in watercolour on ivory

SOLD

REF: 5137



Short Description

gilt-metal frame with rope twist border containing two visitor's cards of Mr. Edward Robertson and a card inscribed Top/ Mr Howard.

A portrait of Lieutenant Howard attributed to Andrew Geddes was sold at Christie's 26 July 1985.

Edward Robertson, son of Andrew Robertson, was living at 34 Gerrard St, Soho in 1830, but had moved to Dublin by the following year. As one of the visitor's card contained within the frame of the present lot has this Soho address crossed out and replaced with the handwritten address '5 Sauchiehall' we can assume that the present lot dates to after 1830. Sauchiehall Street is in Glasgow. From an inscribed miniature of his brother, it is known that Robertson was in Glasgow in 1837, but it is not known whether he had actually settled there or was just visiting his family. The second visitor's card contained within the frame of the present lot has a partial handwritten inscription of which the first line reads '..., visitor in G...', assuming that the G is for Glasgow, this inscription suggests that he was indeed simply 'passing through' rather than living in the city. With so little known about the life and work of this rare artist, the present lot is an important addition to his small known body of work.

More Information

Year	After 1830.
Medium	Watercolour on ivory,
Provenance	Christie's 11 July 1985, lot 492
Condition	Recently cleaned and layer of microcrystalline wax applied.