

Georgian Old Sheffield Plate Vegetable Dishes, Circa 1800

£185



REF: 7282

Height: 15 cm (5.9")

Width: 24 cm (9.4")

Depth: 32 cm (12.6")

Description

A handsome pair of Georgian Old Sheffield Plate covered vegetable dishes, dating from circa 1800. Elegantly proportioned and richly detailed, they are fine examples of the refined tablewares produced for formal dining at the turn of the 19th century.

Each dish is fitted with a domed cover and enlivened by an ornate cast border, giving the pair a strong decorative presence while retaining the restrained balance characteristic of the Georgian period. The bright plated surface contrasts beautifully with the crisp relief decoration, and the covers create an impressive, composed silhouette when displayed on a dining table or sideboard.

Old Sheffield Plate was made by fusing a layer of silver to a copper base, a technique developed in Sheffield during the 18th century. It offered the appearance and elegance of solid silver while allowing finely made service pieces to be produced for affluent households. Today, surviving examples are valued for their craftsmanship, historical importance, and the soft, warm character that distinguishes early plate from later electroplated wares.

Designed for the presentation and service of vegetables, these covered dishes would have formed part of a substantial Georgian dining service. Their practical function is matched by their decorative appeal: the covers helped retain warmth at table, while the ornate borders supplied an appropriate note of ceremony for entertaining.

A particularly appealing matched pair for a collector of Georgian silver and Old Sheffield Plate, or for use as decorative serving pieces in a traditional dining room, country house interior, or elegant contemporary setting. Displayed together, they offer both visual symmetry and a tangible connection to the rituals of Georgian dining.