HOWGEGO
HISTORIC + MODERN

A green velvet & crewelwork, tester, double bed, in the manner of the 17th century, from the Collection of the 1st Viscount Cowdray, Cowdray Park, Sussex, supplied by Lengyon & Co circa 1910

Sold

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REF: 10939

Description

The tester has a green velvet cornice and is upholstered with a beige twill on the underside. The full length back panel is upholstered in crewelwork. The shaped headboard is upholstered in green velvet and faced with braid. The pelmet, side curtains and bedspread are upholstered in crewelwork. The turned posts are upholstered in green velvet. The box spring has a velvet valance faced in braid attached. The crewelwork has been cleaned and conserved.

Height 246 cm., 97 in., Width 170 cm., 67 in. Length 224 cm, 88 in.
Box Spring Length 193 cm., 76 in. (7cm gap) Width 142 cm., 56 in,

BED COMPONENTS

• Velvet tester frame
• Twill canopy with fixed crewelwork curtain
• 2 brass curtain rails detached
• Crewelwork back board marked 'Lady Pearson'
• Velvet headboard
• Velvet tester footboard with velvet upholstered uprights
• 4 crewelwork curtains lined in twill
o each Length 224 cm,. 88 in., Width 117 cm., 46 in (one faded) which completely enclose the bed when both hanging
• Crewelwork bedspread, lined in herringbone cotton
• Box spring & mattress with applied velvet valance
o not original 142 cm wide x 193 cm long - 7 cm gap
• 2 beech side rails
• Iron bedbolts x 8 / one package

In total 16 pieces - all original except box spring/mattress

The bed is easy to assemble. The beech side rails have mortices which slot into tennons and are bolted. The cotton canopy with pelmets has a hole in each corner which locates into metal rods on top of the turned sections. The velvet tester frame locates into the same metal rods. The curtains hook onto the brass rails fixed into the pelmet. The box spring /mattress rests on the rails. The bedspread fits over the top.

FRANCIS LENYON, LENYON & CO, LENYON & MORANT
Born in England in 1877, Lenygon was trained as a cabinetmaker and studied at the South Kensington Museum in London. By 1900, he found work with Art Workshops, Ltd., and soon after with Charles Duveen, son of Sir Joseph Duveen. Employed by C.J. Charles for several years, Lenygon became well-known as cabinetmaker to England's aristocracy. He opened his own firm, Lenygon & Co., in 1904, and in 1912 merged with Morant & Co., to become Lenygon & Morant, holding royal warrants under four successive British kings.

In 1910, Lenygon made his first visit to the United States to supervise the interior decoration of Whitlaw Reid, and soon opened a New York branch of his firm. As in England, Lenygon's American clients were wealthy and sophisticated and relied on Lenygon to furnish authentic and reproduction interiors in period styles. In the 1930s, Lenygon was hired by Nelson Rockfeller to serve as a major consultant to the reconstruction of Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia, and selected all the furnishings for the Governor's Palace there.

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Lenygon was widely known for his expertise in 17th- and 18th-century British furniture and interiors and lectured widely on the subjects. He served as president of the American Institute of Decorators and the Art and Antiques Dealers League of America. He was also a Fel...

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