Curtains, Set of 3, Silk Velvet, Charles II-Style, Burgundy Damask Cowdray Park

LENGYON & CO

£15,000

Howgego Historic & Modern
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REF: 11294

Height: 315 cm (124")

Width: 42 cm (16.5")

Depth: 0.1 cm (0")

Description

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Each with a damask pattern of scrolling foliage, peonies, tulips and fruit. Massive pattern repeat, see image. Original braid. Cleaned and conserved.

Measures: Two height 315 cm., 124 in., width 107 cm., 42 in.,

One height 295 cm, 116 in., width 109.5 cm., 43 in.,

From the collection of the 1st Viscount Cowdray, Cowdray Park, Sussex, supplied by Lengyon & Co, circa 1910.

Francis Lenyon, Lenyon & Co, Lenyon & Morant Born in England in 1877, Lenyon 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, Lenyon became well-known as cabinetmaker to England's aristocracy. Heopened his own firm, Lenyon & Co., in 1904, and in 1912 merged with Morant & Co., to become Lenyon &Morant, holding royal warrants under four successive British kings.

In 1910, Lenyon 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, Lenyon 's American clients were wealthy and sophisticated and relied on Lenyon to furnish authentic and reproduction interiors in period styles. Inthe 1930s, Lenyon 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.

Lenyon 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 Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and the North British Academy. Lenyon died in New York City in 1943. He was survived by his second wife, Jeanette Becker Lennygon, whom he married in 1926. Jeannette was also a well-respected interior designer, best known for her redecoration of several rooms in the White House during John F. Kennedy's presidency and for the interior redesign of Gracie Mansion for New York mayor John Lindsay. She was also a founding member of the American Institute of Interior Designers. Jeannette died in Evanston, Illinois, in 1977.

The well-known firm of Morant and Company was established in 1790 by George Morant (d. 1846) at 88and later at 91 New Bond Street, London. It continued to flourish and expand throughout the 19th century. Exhibitors at the Great Exhibition at the Crystal Palace in 1851, as well as New York in 1853 (as Morantand Boyd) By 1858 the firm was known as Morant, Boyd and Morant and they had moved to 81 New Bond Street. Exhibitors at the 1862 Great Exhibition of London. In that same year they supplied furniture to William Duckworth at Orchard Leigh Park, Frome, which was later sold at Christie's House sale, 21 & 22 September 1987. The company merged with Lenyon & Co in 1909, becoming, in their last incarnation, Lenyon & Morant.

Cowdray Park 'Cowdray. I settled the terms of purchase yesterday. Price £340,000. It is a big venture, but even if the oil does not prosper and we do not become more heavily...

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