Pair Victorian sterling silver chambersticks

Robert Garrard II

£4,600



REF: 6739

Langfords
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Height: 110 cm (43.3")

Width: 255 cm (100.4")

Diameter: 140 cm (55.1")

Weight: 518 g

Description

A pair of beautifully made Victorian silver chamber sticks with cone snuffers in the late 17th century style. The extended cannon end handles feature stylised four-leaf mounts and the simple raised borders are surmounted by thread mounts, indicative of a style that would have been recognisable in the 1600s. Each chamber candlestick and snuffer is engraved with a family crest of a demi-rampant griffin rising from a castle turret.

As the name suggests, a silver chamberstick was designed to be carried and was used for to light the way when moving around chambers or rooms at night. Chambersticks were typically kept near the entrance so they could be used by family or guests looking to retire for the night. In the morning, chambermaids collected the chambersticks, cleaned them, and returned them for use again.

Specific features of a silver chamber stick include a central candle socket that was shorter than a regular candlestick, fitted to a flat, circular base to collect any dripping wax, plus a side handle with thumbpiece. Many, like this example had a removable sconce - also for collecting wax - and a cone-shaped snuffer or extinguisher.