

LANGFORDS

Antique & Contemporary Silver

Victorian oval sterling silver tray

Harrison Brothers & Howson

£1,600



REF: 2057

Width: 460 mm (18.11")

Depth: 270 mm (10.63")

Weight: 884 g

Description

Graceful antique oval tray in sterling silver with a flared rim that is embossed and engraved with slanted fluting and wave-like scrolls. This tray would particularly suit a three-piece tea set.

The serving tray as we know it today is an evolution of the salver, which was a term used in England from the mid-seventeenth century to denote a flat tray without handles, usually made of silver. Some salver designs feature supporting feet - usually three or four.

The word salver derives from the Latin *salvare* meaning to save. Originally, food or drink intended for royalty would be initially tasted by a servant for signs of poison before it reached the royal top table. Being served on the salver indicated that this process had taken place and the food and drink was now fit for a king.