A very fine early George II sugar Bowl and Cover which doubles as a Spoon Tray. Made in London in 1731 by Ralph Maidman.

Sold

Mary Cooke Antiques Ltd
12 The Old Power Station, 121 Mortlake High Street, London, SW14 8SN
+44 (0)20 8876 5777

REF: 153697

Height: 4 cm (1.6")

Diameter: 4 cm (1.6")

Description

The Bowl stands on a circular spreading foot which is decorated with reeded bands. The main body is baluster shaped and is plain in design with a slightly everted rim. The stepped pull off cover is decorated with reeding and also has an unusual ring applied to the cover, which when the tray is in use, doubles as its foot. The front of the main body is beautifully engraved with a contemporary Armorial surrounded by a pluming scroll work cartouche, which is typical of the 1730s. The cover is also engraved with a contemporary Crest. The bowl and cover are very well made and display original interior hammer marks and centre points on both sections. These are good original features of production, which are always desirable to see. The bowl is in excellent condition, has a very good colour and is fully marked in the foot and on the interior of the cover. This piece would have been an important part of the Tea Equipage, upstairs in the drawing room. Taking Tea was an important social tradition at this date, as tea was very expensive and confirmed social position and status. The cover has a dual purpose as when turned upside down, can be used as a rest for tea and mote spoons or possibly sugar nips. The Armorial & Crest are those of the Clerk family of Penicuick and Comrie Castle, County Perth and they impale Morris. The Clerks were an eminent family and were Baronets. Ralph Maidman was a quality maker, whose work is scarce. His mark was first entered on 31st May, 1731, therefore this represents an early example of his work.

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