A very unusual pair of George III Octagonal Covered Vegetable Dishes made in London in 1788 by Wakelin & Taylor

£6,250



REF: 375232

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Description

The bases of the dishes are of a circular form with a gadrooned rim. The bowls of the bases have a very unusual octagonal shape which is also engraved with a shield shaped Armorial, with Crest above. The domed covers are also octagonal in form and rise to a circular platform, with gadrooned edge, which then rises to a reeded ring carrying handle. The covers are also engraved with the same Armorial and Crest which is seen in the base. The Dishes are in excellent condition and are marked on both pieces. They are also engraved with their original scratch weight and number within the dinner service. Wakelin & Taylor were very fine silversmiths, with a reputation for quality in design and production. This is the first time we have seen this design. The arms and crest are those of Taylor of London. Michael Angelo Taylor (1757-1834) appears on the Wakelin and Taylor list of clients. Michael Angelo Taylor was son of Sir Robert Taylor, architect. He represented 11 Parliamentary seats from 1784 to 1834. Michael Angelo’s father died in 1788 and these were most probably commissioned once he had ascended to his estate. In 1789 he married Frances Anne, daughter and heir of the Rev. Sir Henry Vane, 1st Bt., of Long Newton, co. Durham. He is best known for the Metropolitan paving act of 1817 (often known as Michael Angelo Taylor's Act).Michael Angelo challenged a codicil to his father's will, left unsigned when Sir Robert died in 1788, by means of which Sir Robert intended to gift £65,000 to the University of Oxford. The university did not receive the money, with which it built the Taylor Institution, until 1835, a year after Michael Angelo's own death.Height: 5.75 inches, 14.38 cm.Diameter of the base: 10.5 inches, 26.25 cmWeight: 77oz, the pair.

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