



Vintage Golf Painting, 17th Green North Berwick

Sold



REF: 29958

Height: 49 cm (19.3")

Width: 75 cm (29.5")

Framed Height: 76 cm (29.9")

Framed Width: 100 cm (39.4")

Framed Depth: 100 cm (39.4")

Description

William Grant Stevenson Golf Painting.

An oil on canvas painting of North Berwick Golf Club signed by the artist William Grant Stevenson. A charming picture of a golf match in progress at North Berwick Golf Club, a gentleman is putting whilst watched by his playing partners and their caddies. In the background, just left, can be seen the Bass Rock. A great colourful golfing scene. The oil on canvas has been relined, may be 10 - 20 years or so ago, and appears to be in its original gilt gesso frame which has some old cracking and a few small losses. There are remnants of an Alexander Harper of Edinburgh paper label on the back of the frame.

William Grant Stevenson Golf Painting, North Berwick 17th Green.

A most important and fine oil painting of a group of golfers and their caddies on the 17th green at North Berwick Golf Club, signed by the artist William Grant Stevenson. The artist, William Grant Stevenson, was a highly regarded portraitist, landscape painter and sculptor. He is famous for fine large-scale bronzes of Robbie Burns and William Wallace and was commissioned by the R & A to produce a bronze of the former prime minister Arthur Balfour when he was Captain of the Club. For much of his life he lived in Edinburgh and this impressive oil has an Edinburgh framer's label on the verso, he was elected to the Royal Scottish Academy. His large scale etched scene of "Golf at St Andrews" was issued by the Fine Art Society in 1892 and is one of the most important golf prints of the nineteenth century and features, inter alia, Willie Fernie (the 1883 Open Champion) about to tee off.

In this charming oil on canvas a foursome can be seen on the 17th green at North Berwick. Willie Fernie is preparing to hole out, being watched by the other three players, all four caddies and also spectating is John Whitecross, a North Berwick worthy. Among the remaining golfers are Hugh Kirkcaldy (Open Champion 1891), Peter Brodie (of North Berwick) and an unidentified player. Of the caddies, again one caddie is unidentified, the others are George Thomas, Jimmy Glass and Peter Brodie Jnr. The Bass Rock is clearly seen in the distance.

Some time ago the oil was relined and appears to be in its original gilt gesso frame with the remnants of an old paper trade label 'Alexander Harper, 8A Shandwick Place, Edinburgh'.

The last two images are of photographs of golfers at North Berwick that we have used to help us identify the golfers and their caddies.

The Bass Rock, or simply the Bass is an island in the outer part of the Firth of Forth in the east of Scotland. Approximately 2 km (1 mi) offshore, and 5 km (3 mi) north-east of North Berwick, it is a steep-sided volcanic plug. It is uninhabited by humans but is home to a large colony of gannets.

History of The Club

North Berwick Golf Club was founded in 1832. There were ten founding members, only one of whom (Captain Brown, a Waterloo veteran) was resident in North Berwick. The others for the most part were drawn from what might have been described in those far-off days as "gentry and nobility" living in the surrounding area.

In 1879 the question of acquiring a clubhouse was raised - not for the first time, but this time it was...