

Lot 623 Old Sevres Dessert service, Empire period, comprising:

- White and gold centrepiece representing palm leaves and fruit, with 4 white cupids seated on leaves at base, 14 in high



- Pair white and gold openwork stands with scroll handles and leaf ornamentation, 11 in high
- Openwork fruit bowl of leaf design
- Pair gros blue and gold wine coolers with hand painted views, ormolu mounted, with mask heads and ormolu double bail handles, 13 in high
- Two gros blue and gold bowls on pillar stands with hand painted views
- 2 oval sauce tureens with covers and stands
- 72 plates, the centre of each having a hand painted view with description of scene, all differing

– 86 pieces.

This dessert service was sold for £600 in the 1947 sale. In today's values this would be more than £19,500.

Current location unknown.

In the 1901 inventory it was recorded as being in the Storeroom:

"An elegant and unique Sevres dessert service ...".

The description also includes:

"Pair of white and gold openwork centre stands on swan supports 15" high".

This description corresponds to lot 624 Pair old Sevres white and gold openwork fruit stands (sold for £80).

The service was purchased by Greville Smyth from the sale of the effects of Henry the 4th and last Marquis of Hastings, and was known as the Hastings China. The Marquis of Hastings had died in 1868 aged 26 and as he had no children the title became extinct, and his effects were sold off.