

Lot 958 Portrait of Jane Whitchurch, married Thomas Smyth. 30 in x 24 in.



The current whereabouts of this portrait is unknown.

In the 1947 sale the portrait was sold for £2-10s.

Esme Smyth insured this portrait with the Royal Insurance Company in Bristol in June 1935 for £20.



Anton Bantock, a local historian and author, reported that this portrait was at Bristol Reference Library.

They have no knowledge of it.

Anton's book includes a portrait, allegedly of Jane Whitchurch, but this has not been confirmed.

Image: possible portrait of Jane Whitchurch.

Who was Jane Whitchurch?

Jane Whitchurch was the only child and heiress of Joseph Whitchurch and his wife, Mary Walter, of Stapleton, Gloucestershire. Jane was born on the 6th of May 1739 at Stapleton.

On the 11th of August 1767 at Stapleton Jane married Thomas Smyth (1740-1800) of Heath House.

Although Thomas was a younger son his elder brother John Hugh 2nd Bt. died childless in 1802. The baronetcy and the estate passed to the children of Thomas and Jane. Firstly, to Hugh the 3rd Bt. and then John the 4th Bt.

Jane and Thomas's other children were Florence who married John Upton, and Mary who married Benjamin Way.

Jane Whitchurch Smyth died on the 3rd of December 1818 aged 79 and was buried at Long Ashton.