

Lot 959 Portrait of Charlotte de Tremoule, Countess of Derby, 1651. 28 in x 22 in.



The current whereabouts of this portrait is unknown.

In the 1947 sale the portrait was sold for £17.

Esme Smyth insured this portrait with the Royal Insurance Company in Bristol in June 1935 for £30.

Who was Charlotte of Tremoule, Countess of Derby and how was she connected to Ashton Court?

Charlotte was born in France in 1599 and was the daughter of the French nobleman, Claude de la Tremoille. Charlotte's mother came to England in 1625 with Henrietta Maria, Queen Consort of Charles I. In 1626, at the Hague, Charlotte married James Stanley, 7th Earl of Derby and was naturalised as an English citizen by an act of Parliament in 1629.

James and Charlotte had 9 children. Charlotte also organised the defence of Lathom House when it was besieged by the Parliamentarians in 1644. She later played the same role in the Isle of Man in 1651, after her husband's execution in 1651.

Charlotte died in 1654.

As far as we know there is no direct connection to Ashton Court other than that James and Charlotte were contemporaries of Florence and Thomas Smyth who were also Royalists.