

LANGFORDS

Antique & Contemporary Silver

Set of three antique silver owl pepper casters

George John Richards & Edward Charles Brown

£3,500



REF: 8524

Height: 83 mm (3.27")

Width: 40 mm (1.57")

Depth: 53 mm (2.09")

Weight: 135 g

Description

A charming suite of three Victorian era antique silver novelty pepper casters in the form of owls, fitted with glass eyes and with hand pierced heads for shaking the pepper.

The interiors are gilded, and therefore could be used as salt shakers, but it is strongly recommended that they be washed out thoroughly and dried after each use to avoid corrosion. If used for pepper, this is not necessary.

The dimension given is for the large owl pepper. The two smaller ones are 76mm (3") tall.

Known as the king of spices, pepper is one of the oldest and most popular spices in the world as well as the most widely traded. Pepper was so valuable that in ancient Greece and Rome it was used as currency, and during the Middle Ages peppercorns were accepted in lieu of money for dowries, rent and taxes.

In past centuries, noble and wealthy families able to afford pepper would present it in silver pepper pots or pepperettes, in a host of novelty designs, to beautify their table and impress their guests.