

LANGFORDS

Antique & Contemporary Silver

Pair Victorian bright-cut silver fish servers

Barnard Brothers

Sold



Description

Pair of antique Victorian silver fish servers engraved with attractive bright-cut decoration on both sides and hand-pierced blade and fork.

The silver fish slice dates from about the 1750s and was popular until the end of the 1800s. As the name suggests, it was designed for serving fish at the table and usually had a wide, scimitar-shaped blade and, like this example, was often pierced and engraved with a flat or decorative cast handle. Some fish slices had a marine decoration to the blade or handle representing fish, eels or shrimps. During the Victorian period, they were popular as a gift presented in a boxed set with the addition of a wide-bladed matching fork, and were then called fish servers.

Bright-cut decoration was most popular from the 1790s to the early 1800s. Each piece is decorated with facets cut into the surface of the silver at different angles so that light is reflected at various angles and the decoration appears to be sparkling - hence the name "bright cut".