

LANGFORDS

Antique & Contemporary Silver

8" Victorian silver salver

Howard & Hawksworth

Sold



REF: 5884

Diameter: 210 mm (8.27")

Weight: 365 g

Description

Early Victorian silver salver with moulded rim decorated with foliate sections and a nicely hand-chased and engraved surface. The salver is mounted on three scroll shell supports.

The serving tray as we know it today is an evolution of the salver, which was a term used in England from the mid-seventeenth century to denote a flat tray without handles, usually made of silver. Some salver designs feature supporting feet - usually three or four.

The word derives from the Latin *salvare* meaning to save. Originally, food or drink intended for royalty would be initially tasted by a servant for signs of poison before it reached the royal top table. Being served on the salver indicated that this process had taken place and the food and drink was now fit for a king.

Salvers later became commonplace in aristocratic and wealthy homes and Samuel Pepys is recorded as an owner of a salver, signifying his high social standing.