

MARY COOKE ANTIQUES LTD  
Fine Antique Silver

A very rare George III Saffron Pot made in London in 1785 by John Wakelin & William Taylor.

£2,750



## Description

The Saffron Pot stands on a flared ring foot and displays a circular baluster main body. This piece has a tapering straight spout and plain, pull-off, cover which terminates in a silver mounted, turned, fruitwood finial. The fruitwood scroll handle is attached to the main body with plain tubular sockets. This piece is in excellent condition and is very well marked in the foot and on the cover, including the incuse duty mark, where the King's Head is contained within a cut cornered punch. This mark is only seen in 1784 and 1785. Wakelin & Taylor were exceptional silversmiths in terms of both design and production, gaining the custom of George III and the Prince of Wales, later George IV. During the whole course of the Eighteenth Century a number of small, (but otherwise identical to their full sized brethren), Teapots were produced, particularly from 1725 to 1775. These were used as Saffron Pots and very few examples from this period survive today. Only a small number were made at this date and this is a particularly rare example. Saffron tea would have been taken in this pot and the infusion taken to cleanse the body and mind. Saffron was exceptionally expensive at this date, the height of luxury, only afforded by the wealthiest, and most noble, individuals in society. Length, handle to spout: 7.5 inches, 18.75 cm. Width: 4 inches, 10cm. Height, to the top of the finial: 3.45 inches, 8.63 cm. Weight: 6oz.