Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

Caughley Fisherman and Cormorant Leaf-Moulded Pickle Dish, Circa 1770

£220

Thomas Caughley

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REF: 1064

Diameter: 19 cm (7.5")

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Description

A charming and highly collectable Caughley porcelain pickle dish, dating to circa 1770 and beautifully moulded in the form of a leaf. Delicate, practical, and full of early English porcelain character, it is the perfect piece for serving pickles, olives, or other small accompaniments at the table.

The dish is decorated with Caughley's much-loved Fisherman and Cormorant pattern, depicting a tranquil waterside scene in underglaze blue. The fisherman, his boat, and the distinctive cormorant create a wonderfully atmospheric composition, framed by the softly irregular outline and naturalistic veining of the leaf-shaped body.

Of particular interest is the clearly visible imprint left by the original lead mould. This appealing and unusual feature offers a direct insight into the manufacturing process, preserving the evidence of how the dish was formed at the factory more than two centuries ago. Rather than detracting from the piece, it adds exceptional charm, texture, and authenticity.

Caughley was one of the pioneering English porcelain factories of the 18th century, admired for the quality of its soft-paste porcelain and its finely painted blue-and-white wares. Leaf-moulded dishes such as this were made for the elegant Georgian table, where small specialist vessels allowed pickles, olives, relishes, and other delicacies to be served with refinement.

A delightful example of early English porcelain, this dish would make a lovely addition to a Caughley collection, a blue-and-white ceramic display, or a carefully laid table. It is equally appealing as a decorative object, combining the elegance of Georgian porcelain with the freshness of its naturalistic leaf form.

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