

# Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

## **DYSART, Countess of, née Lady Louisa Tollemache**

London 2.VII.1745 – Ham House 22.IX.1840  
Daughter of Lionel, 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Dysart, and of the pastellist Grace, Countess of Dysart, she married John Manners, an illegitimate member of that family, in 1765. As eldest sister she succeeded her brother in 1821 and took the title of Countess of Dysart *s.j.* Her husband was MP for Newark 1754–74, and died in 1792. She “[retained] her faculties to the last”. She was portrayed in oils by Reynolds and Hoppner, and in pastel by one of the Misses Berry. A pastel of her at Grimsthorpe was tentatively attributed to Katherine Read in Jeffares 2006 with reservations; these can be explained if the pastel is that described by John Constable in a letter to Rev. William Digby, 12.IX.1822 in which he mentions Read’s pastel of Lady Lucy Digby, adding: “Lady Dysart’s portrait in crayons, of herself when a very young woman (then Lady Louisa Manners) is so entirely in that style that it made [me] ask the question.” Yet another pastel of her at Bowood was fully attributed to Read in Manners 1932, an attribution retained in the absence of an image.

### **Bibliography**

Cockayne 1959; Lettice Digby, *My ancestors*, London, 1928, p. 85f n.r.

GENEALOGIES Tollemache

### **Pastels**

J.2966.101 ?SELF-PORTRAIT, pstl, 59x46  
(Grimsthorpe Castle). Lit.: Jeffares 2006, p. 431 n.r., attr. Read **q**



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