

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

HINCKS, William

Waterford 1752 – London p.1797

Also Hinks. Irish portraitist in crayons, oil and miniature; printmaker. He exhibited in Dublin 1773–80 (from York Street 1771; 67 Exchequer Street 1775; 65 George's Street 1777; 117 Capel Street 1780). In 1774 he married Elizabeth Buckley (Figgis 2014) or Burke (as printed in the index of Dublin marriage licences) in Dublin. He, or an exact homonym, married an Ann Timpson in Ossory in 1777 (perhaps it was a third homonym, "Mr William Hincks, of Dublin, merchant" who married a Susan Swanwick in Wem, Shropshire on 12.vi.1789). He was still in Dublin when "William Hincks, Portrait and Miniature Painter" advertised in the *Dublin evening news*, 1.II.1780, a set of 12 engravings illustrating the process of linen manufacture linen in the North of Ireland. Later that year he moved to London, where he entered the Royal Academy Schools on 11.XI.1780 (aged 28) and exhibited there until 1797 (16 Old Compton Street, Soho 1781; 98 Carey Street, Chancery Lane 1782; 49 Mortimer Street, Cavendish Square 1783-87; at Mr Brydon's, Charing Cross 1790; 22 Rathbone Place 1797). According to Warburton this "ingenious and indefatigable artist" was the self-taught son of a blacksmith, and painted principally in crayons. He provided illustrations for *Tristram Shandy* and of the last days of Louis XVI. He was a member of the Society of Arts from 1784. He may be the William Hincks of Bear Street who was buried at St Anne's, Soho, on 29.V.1808, but this may have been a child.

Bibliography

Alexander 2021; Breeze 1985; Crookshank & Glin 1994; Figgis 2014; McGuire 1939, p. 15; Myrone 2022; John Warburton & al., *History of the City of Dublin*, London, 1818, II, p. 1184; Waterhouse 1981; Wright 2006

Pastels

- J.393.101 Gentleman in the dress of Achmet in John Brown's *Barbarossa*, crayons, Dublin 1773, no. 58
- J.393.102 Gentleman, crayons, Dublin 1773, no. 61
- J.393.103 An East Indian black, in the possession of the Earl of Ely, crayons, Dublin 1773, no. 62
- J.393.104 Gentleman, crayons, Royal Academy 1781, no. 90
- J.393.105 Lady, crayons, Dublin 1773, no. 59
- J.393.106 Child, crayons, Dublin 1773, no. 60