

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

JACKSON

fl. England ?c.1660

The attribution of the V&A pastel, traditionally regarded as Samuel Cooper's self-portrait, causes confusion arising from a 1727 passage in Vertue's notebooks suggesting that it was made by one Jackson, now possibly read as a reference to "Jack's son", John Hoskins Jr (*q.v.* for a full discussion and references).

Jackson continues to elude us, despite the tantalisingly specific information Vertue provides. Edmond is incorrect in stating that Cooper had no relative called Jackson: a "Thomas Jackson, cousin", was mentioned in the will of Edward Turner of York, Mrs Cooper's great-grandfather. A "Gilbert Jackson, limner" of Brightwell died in or before 1672, just in time to have left his drawings to Cooper. According to the *Visitation of Oxfordshire*, he was the son of Anthony Jackson of Yorkshire, and married Anne, daughter of Richard Eldridge of Brightwell, who survived him. A descendant established his birth between 1600 and 1614 (*York herald*, 8.XII.1883). A homonymous son, Gilbert Jackson of Cuddesdon, died in 1703. But no link between Thomas and Anthony of York has yet been established, and the administration document for the limner's estate (probate records of the court to the Archdeacon of Berkshire, Berkshire Records Office) makes no reference to Samuel Cooper. It is unclear if this limner is the portraitist known from oil paintings c.1621–43.