

# Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

## MORRIS, Benjamin

Bath 17.IX.1721–brd 17.III.1807

Probably an amateur artist, evidently the son of John Morris, the first apothecary of the Bath General Hospital, of which Nash was the first treasurer. He is recorded at 9 Northgate Street in Bath from 1784 to 1790. An obituary notice appeared in the *Bath chronicle*, 19.III.1807 (see also 16.IV.1807): “In the early part of his life he pursued the profession of a drawing master and was esteemed an artist of some eminence.” He made various charitable bequests, including £50 to the Mineral Water Hospital. A miniature self-portrait and two oil portraits by him are in the same collection, of John Morris and of his mother; they are rather more finished than the pastels. John Morris’s son Daniel (1720–1784) partnered his father as apothecary, and left his pastel of Beau Nash to the Hospital (but was the inference that the pastel was by his father correct, or could it be the lost pastel by Heins [J.3838.051?](#)).

### Bibliography

Bath 2002, pp. 19, 48; Sloman 2002, p. 202; Waterhouse 1981; Index of Bath artists

### Pastels

[J.5476.101](#) Mrs MORRIS, mother of John Morris, the first apothecary, pstl, 1742 (Bath, Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Disease) [new attr., ?]  $\phi$

[J.5476.103](#) Richard NASH (1674–1762), “Beau Nash”, pstl, 57x44, c.1742 (Bath, Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases. Legs Daniel Morris). Exh.: Bath 2002, no. 18 n.r. Lit.: Kerslake 1977, II, fig. 559 [cf. [J.3838.051](#)]  $\Phi\sigma$



Photo courtesy Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases NHS FT