

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

TOWNSEND, John

fl. London 1773–82

Exhibited portraits at the Society of Artists (1776–78) from Fenchurch Street and Moorgate. This notice appeared in the *Public advertiser*, 10.XI.1775:

PORTRAITS

Mr TOWNSEND, Portrait Painter, begs Leave to acquaint his Friends, and the Public, that he now exhibits several Pieces in Crayons at the Rainbow Coffee-house, opposite the Royal Exchange....

The 1773 and 1780 pastels seem more likely to be by him than by George, Marquess Townshend (*q.v.*); they share a somewhat pedestrian execution with characteristic pale flesh tones and impassive, compressed mouths.

Bibliography

Waterhouse 1981

Pastels

J.7244.101 Levi AMES (1726–1799), of Carlton, pstl/ppr, 60x48, sd “Townsend 1780” (Beverly, Massachusetts, Kaminski, 31.V.2008, Lot 1065 repr., est. \$1000–1500, \$650) [new attr., ?] φαv



J.7244.103 Gentleman in a brown coat, pstl, sd ✓ “Townsend/1773” (Dorchester, Duke’s, 29.IV.2008, Lot 594 repr., est. £100–200) [new attr., ?] φαv



J.7244.105 Gentleman, crayons, Society of Artists 1777, nos. 147–49; 1778, 240

J.7244.106 Lady, crayons, Society of Artists 1777, no. 146

J.7244.107 A grey mare and chestnut foal in a wooded landscape, sd “Townsend 1782”, pstl, 46x57.5 (Bath, Bonhams, 15.I.2007, Lot 105 n.r., attr., est. £300–500)