Finch & Co



A LARGE OVAL TURNED AMETHYST BOWL

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FINE COLOUR, RICH STRIATIONS AND 'MARKINGS' AND OVERALL GLOSSY PATINA THROUGH OLD POLISHING AND USE

NOTICEABLE FISSURES WITHIN THE DEEP STRUCTURE OF THE CRYSTALS

ENGLISH OR GERMAN

EARLY 19TH CENTURY OR EARLIER

SIZE: 9CM DIA. - 3½ INS DIA.

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LITERATURE

AMETHYST OCCURS IN PRIMARY HUES FROM A LIGHT LAVENDER OR PALE VIOLET TO A DEEP PURPLE. THE EGYPTIANS ENGRAVED INTAGLIO GEMS. ANGLO-SAXONS GRAVES HAVE PRODUCED AMETHYST BEADS. THE ANCIENT GREEK WORD 'AMETHYSTOS' TRANSLATES AS 'NOT DRUNKEN'; AMETHYST WAS CONSIDERED TO BE A STRONG ANTIDOTE AGAINST DRUNKENNESS, HENCE WINE 'GOBLETS' WERE CARVED FROM IT.

PROVENANCE

PURCHASED AT KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY AUCTION ROOMS, BOND STREET, LONDON, 1966, FOR £8

EX PRIVATE COLLECTION SINCE PURCHASE