

Richard Whitford: animal painter to the Queen

Catalogue of paintings

by [Andrew J A Sheldon](#)

www.whitfords.org.uk

This catalogue is the result of research conducted over a third of a century. It includes paintings known to be by Richard Whitford, those attributed to him, or listed as part of his "circle" in sales catalogues or other works. It also includes those said to be by him by some auction houses and sale rooms. I have indicated my doubts in the body of the catalogue.

The catalogue numbers each consist of four characters. The first part, the first two characters, is either the last two digits of the year attributed to the painting, or "ud" for uncertain dates. The last two digits are simply the number given by me to the paintings in the order I learnt of them; one set of numbering for each first part. For example, the third painting I met attributed to 1865 would be 6503; the twenty-third of uncertain date is ud23.

For paintings by Harry Sheldon Whitford, a slightly different system is employed. The first character is a 9: a first character that is as good as impossible for a painting catalogued amongst those of his father. The next three characters are either the last two digits of the year followed by a serial number, or, if the date is uncertain a "U" followed by a two-digit serial number.

Any size given for a painting must be regarded as an indication only. Different people seem to have used different criteria at different times. Some measurements are canvas size; some are the size of the visible painted area of the framed painting; a few people seem to have included the frame. I hope to be more specific in updates to my catalogue.

Where possible, I have included a hyperlink to appropriate websites: if possible to a page related to the painting in question.

This catalogue would not be possible without the help and encouragement of numerous private owners and salerooms. Particular thanks must go to Iona Joseph and her late husband, Stephen, who were exceptional in the help they gave over many years.

I would be grateful to learn of any information about Richard Whitford, Harry Sheldon [Whitford], and their work. Any information, including (sometimes especially) the apparently trivial can be of great importance. I would far rather be told something a hundred times than not at all.

All suggestions as to ways I might improve this catalogue will be welcomed. Please let me know if you find any "deliberate mistakes"!

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