

PYRKE, JOHN (1755 - 1834), the third of the Usk japanners

Name: John Pyrke
Date of birth: 1755
Date of death: 1834
Gender: Male
Occupation: japanners
Area of activity: Art and Architecture; Business and Industry
Author: Robert Stephen

He came from London (where he sold japan-ware, principally tea-urns) to Usk in 1799, and in 1814 became owner of the japannery of Thomas Hughes (1740 - 1828). Pyrke popularized the chocolate-brown lacquer for which Usk japan became noted; and also used papier-maché as a base. His decoration was artistic, but the quality of his lacquer deteriorated. Pyrke (a burgher of Usk in 1815, and portreeve in 1817 and 1824) was an active public man, a Liberal in politics, and a great supporter of the Lancastrian schools. He sold his factory, in 1826, to [Evan Jones](#) (1790 - 1860). He died 1 November 1834, and was buried at Twyn.

Author

Robert Stephen, (1878 - 1966)

Sources

Sources noted under Allgood

Additional Links

Wikidata: [Q20733621](#)

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