

British and Continental Ceramics / Thursday, 13th August 2020 / Lot 1550



LOT 1550

A rare Martin Brothers stoneware model of a grotesque tortoise, dated March 1904, modelled with its head and two front legs poking out from beneath its naturalistic shell, with mirthful facial expression, incised marks to base, length 25cm (faults and repairs).

Estimate: £1,500 - £2,500

Condition Report

1550. The tortoise was a garden ornament for many years.

Fundamentally all the pieces are present apart from a few losses and chips along break lines. The base underside has been broken away in one large piece around the outer edge of the shell (not through the mark) and is visibly glued - with a hole at the tail end through which the tortoise seems to have been filled with sand which is escaping from this hole. The shell has been broken into 5 large pieces and is visibly glued with some associated haircracks. There is a chip to the front left foot and a minor glaze chip to the lower lip. There are a couple of haircracks to the face.

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