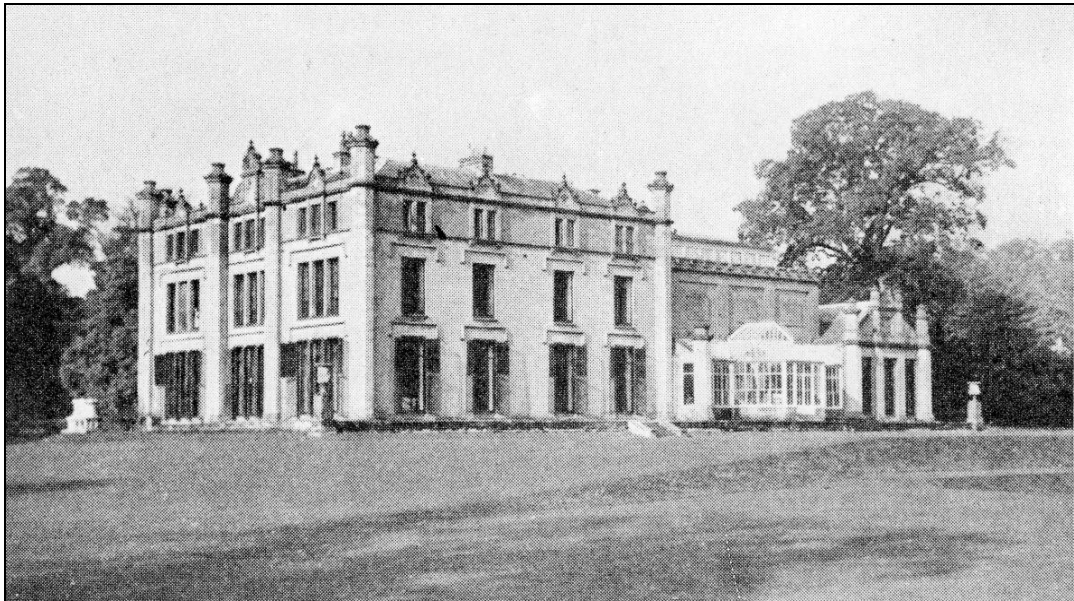


RUBENS PAINTING DISCOVERED AT COLEORTON HALL



BY SAMUEL T STEWART - DEC 2025

Due to financial problems being experienced by the Beaumonts', their seat at Coleorton Hall was being leased by the Abel-Smiths' over the period c.1904-1925. See the publication entitled ['The leasing of Coleorton Hall over the period 1891 to 1925 by the Donisthorpes' and Abel-Smiths'](#) which can be found on the author's website samuelstewart.com under subsection ["Houses and Gardens"](#).

3 months prior to Mrs Abel-Smith's departing Coleorton Hall (her husband Mr. Francis Abel-Smith' had pre-deceased her in March 1908) to live at the Manor House at Ashby de la Zouch, the following newspaper article appeared in the Leicester Mercury.

THAT WAS THE WEEK THAT WAS - 12th
December 1925... See more

RUBENS 'FIND' IN LE'STERSHIRE

Among Faded Pictures at Sporting Baronet's Home: Canvas Insured for £10000.

("Mercury" Special Correspondent.)
Ashby, This Afternoon.

A PAINTING of a man's head, stated by an expert to be by Rubens and worth £10,000, has been found among a collection of faded canvasses at



SIR GEO. BEAUMONT

Coleorton Hall, the home of Sir George Beaumont, the Leicestershire sporting baronet.

Mr. Trevelyan Turner, one of the best-known restorers and cleaners of pictures in England, who does work at Windsor, is busy restoring the great collection of pictures at the Hall. I found him at work, or rather coming from his picture, because Mr. Turner locks his door and allows no one admittance during his process of restoration, which is secret.

He is one of those men who simply lives for old pictures, and like Sir Joshua Reynolds, is rather deaf.

"Yes," said he modestly, "come and have a look."

"Here is the Rubens. I came across it quite accidentally."

"No one knew what it was until I cleaned the picture." The painting is a magnificent piece of work, revealing the masterly gift of colouring for which Peter Paul Rubens was famous.

Mr. Trevelyan Turner had not the slightest doubt as to the genuineness of the picture.

"The picture was absolutely black with dirt and you could not possibly tell what it was until I cleaned it," said Mr. Turner.

Insured for £10,000.

"No one else dreamt it was a Rubens?" I asked. "Oh, dear, no," he replied.

I understand the picture has been insured for £10,000.

Was the picture a gift from Charles I.? The unlucky monarch was a patron of the great Flemish painter and it is well-known that he bestowed signal tokens of favour on the Beaumont family.

The magic touch of Mr. Trevelyan Turner had revealed a great secret unknown even to Sir George Beaumont and he has also "unearthed" a picture of the Caravaggio School. But that is another story.