

A SET OF EIGHT NEO-CLASSICAL CANDLESTICKS

Dimensions: H (max): 18.5 in / 46.5 cm | W: 5.5 in / 14 cm | D: 5.5 in / 14 cm

10348



A Set of Eight <u>Neo-Classical</u> Candlesticks With Convertible Components

A large set of eight gilt metal candlesticks with a pair of removable <u>candelabra</u> attachments comprising of five candleholders each, designed in the neo-classical style pioneered by designers such as Robert Adam, having square bases adorned with relief-cast urns below garlands, the stems with ram's heads to the corners and fruit festoons below the candle nozzles adorned with leaf ornaments and knotted ribbons below the drip pans; each candelabra attachment having curved arms and conforming candle cups. Unmarked.

English, circa 1900

## Literature:

The design of these candlesticks is steeped in history, showcasing some quintessential English neoclassical motifs such as the Ram's head and twin-handled urn. Of course, these ornaments, popularised by architects such as Robert Adam during the George III era, hark back to Antiquity

which informed the most fashionable interiors of Georgian England. The ram's head as corner ornament was used by the Greeks on the cornices of altars and tripod, heralding from their original purpose as sacrificial animals. The urns depicted on the base of each candlestick are based on the Greco-Roman krater, vessels used for mixing water and wine ahead of a feast, an appropriate symbol signalling the candlesticks use on a dining table.