

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

BIRCH, William Russell

Warwick 1755 – Philadelphia 1834

Miniaturist and engraver, settled in Philadelphia in 1794. He is known for his numerous portraits of Washington. A reproduction of a Bone miniature after one of these suggests that the source was in crayon, but this is unconfirmed. He is probably to be identified with the “B. Birch, from London” who advertised in *London's New-York packet* (25.XI.1784) from Mr Stites's, no. 178 Queen Street, “Likenesses (simply imitative of the originals)...painted in crayons, at one Guinea each, with elegant oval frames included”, as well as engraved seals, copperplates, crests etc.

Bibliography

Bénézit