MORRIS, Benjamin
Bath 17.IX.1721–bdl 17.III.1807
Probably an amateur artist, evidently the son of John Morris, the first apothecary of the Bath General Hospital, of which Nash was the first treasurer. He is recorded at 9 Northgate Street in Bath from 1784 to 1790. An obituary notice appeared in the Bath chronicle, 19.III.1807 (see also 16.IV.1807): “In the early part of his life he pursued the profession of a drawing master and was esteemed an artist of some eminence.” He made various charitable bequests, including £50 to the Mineral Water Hospital. A miniature self-portrait and two oil portraits by him are in the same collection, of John Morris and of his mother; they are rather more finished than the pastels. John Morris’s son Daniel (1720–1784) partnered his father as apothecary, and left his pastel of Beau Nash to the Hospital.

Bibliography

Pastels
15476.101 Mrs MORRIS, mother of John Morris, the first apothecary, pstl, 1742 (Bath, Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Disease) [new attr., ?] ϕ