

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

TOWNE, T.

fl. London 1781–91

The portraitist exhibited portraits at the Royal Academy between 1787 and 1791 (from Waltham Abbey, 1787; Hampstead, 1788; and Albion Street, Blackfriars 1789–91), including some pastels in 1787. It has been suggested that he was the Rev. Thomas Towne (1753 – Royston 1830), a dissenting minister at Royston for many years and an accomplished artist. He published *The automated camera-obscura* in 1821. A portrait (engraved by Ridley) appears in the *Evangelical magazine*, x, .vi.1802, p. 202. His third son Joseph Towne (1808–1879) was an anatomical sculptor.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Oxford DNB, *s.v.* Joseph Towne; Alfred Rubens, “Francis Town of Bond Street and his family”, *The Jewish Society of England – transactions*, XVIII, 1958, p. 100; Sée 1911; Waterhouse 1981

Pastels

Lady, crayons, Royal Academy 1787, no. 118