



CHATELAINE IN GOLD, BLACK ENAMEL, AND PEARLS MID-19TH CENTURY WORK

Era: Mid-19th century.

Materials: gold, enamel, pearl.

Weight: 1.4 oz

Dim: H 5.5 in/ L 1,6 in.

Punch: Owls.

Intricately sculpted gold chatelaine with black enamel overlay. A medallion attached to a belt hook is embellished with two concentric rings of pearls and a monogram in the center. A crown is placed above the medallion and is also decorated with pearls. Three short chain links connect an oblong medallion to three longer chains that end in functional pendants: a watch key and a jasper seal. This kind of chatelaine is called "équipage," referring to its functional qualities of carrying keys, seals, clocks or cases holding sewing or writing tools. Consequently, several chatelaines might be worn at the same time: one with a watch and others equipped with more functional tools.

Bibliography: Cummins, Genevieve. How the watch was worn. A fashion for 500 years. Antique collectors' club. 1988.

