S.J. PHILLIPS



**19th century chased rectangular gold box mounted with a micromosaic of the Temple of Vesta at Tivoli, the box by Jean-Baptiste Fossin, Paris 1819-1838, the mosaic Italian. c.1810,**

with rounded corners and slightly waisted sides, the cover applied with the rectangular panel depicting a landscape scene of the ruined Temple, two figures seen lower right looking out at the view over the waterfalls that lie below, the mosaic is framed by engraved dentil and egg bands, the box allover decorated with foliate scrolls, berries and buds in bold relief, the base further decorated with a central rosette bordered by four Egyptianesque fan motifs and a lionhead to each corner, four snakes entwined around the foliate scrolls.

The Temple of Vesta is a Roman temple in Tivoli, Italy, dating to the early 1st century BC. Its ruins sit on the acropolis of the city, overlooking the falls of the Aniene that are now included in the Villa Gregoriana

Length 9cm / 3"
Width 7.5cm / 3"
Depth 3.2cm / 1"
Weight: 269g