

Baker, Samuel

(1711-1778)



Picture thanks to Douglas Saville

Biographical and Other Notes

A bookseller and publisher, established by 1739, held his first book auction in 1744. Auctions were held at various addresses around Covent Garden. In 1754 he had a permanent address in York St. and George Leigh became a partner in 1767. On Baker's death, the business was divided between Leigh and Baker's nephew John Sotheby, whose nephew Samuel Sotheby (1771-1842) joined the firm in 1800. The first coin sale was Dr. Richard Mead's collection on 11 February 1755. The foundation of a coin and book auction business that would last till 2001.

Sources and References

HEM Encyclopædia 4 – Biographical.
J. Spring. Ancient Coin Auction Catalogues 1880-1980. Spink, 2009.