

CURTAIN PANELS FROM HM KING GEORGE VI'S 1937 CORONATION AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Our two brocatelle fabric curtains were used to line the processional way in Westminster Abbey at the coronation of George VI on 12th May 1937.



These exceptional curtains use silk and gilt thread, where the design incorporates the royal crown, oak leaves, fleur-de-lis, and Tudor roses.



Photographs of the procession and curtains from the coronation at Westminster Abbey, 12th May 1937

The oak leaves represent the Royal Oak, a symbol of the monarchy, first used on 29th May 1660 at the restoration of the King to Government on "Royal Oak Day". Shortly after the coronation, King George VI created the Coronation Plantation in Windsor Great Park, a group of 60 oak trees, one planted by the King himself and the rest by 59 representatives of the Commonwealth. The Tudor Rose is the plant badge of England, it is a combination of the roses from the civil war adversaries of the houses of York and Lancaster and represents peace. The fleur-de-lis is a symbol of the divine right of the monarch to rule.

Following the coronation, the curtain panels were cut and distributed to some fortunate churches and organisations, with some also sold privately. We are blessed with two of these panels!