

June 27, 2002



Dear :

Thank you for your letter of May 20, 2002, and for the previous correspondence. I apologize for not being able to get back to you sooner.

The information and the photograph you sent me seem to match my catalogue raisonné entry and my file photograph for the portrait of John C. Chandler. According to my records such a picture is signed at the lower right, "E. Johnson 1860." Is it also signed verso at the bottom: "John C. Chandler. E. J. pinxt 1860"? Could you check the locations of the signatures? If the work was relined, the verso information may have been covered over. [My email is pathills@bu.edu.]

The portrait is No. 162 in the Checklist of Johnson's work published by John I.H. Baur, who did the first large retrospective of Johnson's work, Eastman Johnson, 1824-1906: An American Genre Painter (Brooklyn: Brooklyn Museum, 1940).

I examined this portrait on October 30, 1970; my notes also match what I see in the transparency. Kennedy Gallery must have had it at some point, and perhaps also Vose Galleries of Boston, since I have some of my information from Vose. In the 1940s the painting belonged to Philip J. Wilson, Jr., son of Philip J. Wilson, himself nephew of Eastman Johnson.

John C. Chandler, a resident of Maine and married to Mehitable Hazelton, was the brother of Mary K. Chandler. Mary married Philip C. Johnson, and they had eight children. Eastman was the third. I searched my files but do not seem to have the birth and death dates of John C. Chandler.

I will be including the portrait in my catalogue raisonné.

Sincerely yours,

Patricia Hills
Professor