

Oscar Anderson (1873 - 1953)

Gloucester Sunset, circa 1920

signed lower right

oil on canvas

24" x 20"

Oscar Anderson was born in Gotland, Sweden in 1873 and immigrated to the United States about 1900. He began his career away from the coast in Hartford, Connecticut, where he studied with the well-known painter, Charles Noel Flagg (1848 - 1916). In 1908, he moved to Gloucester, Massachusetts, and joined the company of Cape Ann Colony artists. Consequently, he began a career as a coastal painter in earnest. Anderson worked out of his home studio at Highlands Court and ran a gallery on Rocky Neck Avenue in Gloucester. He was active in arts organizations throughout his life as a founder of the Connecticut Academy of Fine Arts and the first vice president of the Gloucester Society of Artists the year it formed in 1922. He subsequently served for many years as the organization's president. Anderson died at the age of 80 and is remembered as a talented painter and leader in the Cape Ann Art Colony.

Anderson is best known for his depictions of the Massachusetts coastline capturing the moods and relationships of land and sea. The heavy impasto and rich use of sunset color to create the glowing effect of *Gloucester Sunset* is a proud example of Anderson's mastery. The broad spectrum of colors and gestural strokes capture the energy of an active New England harbor on a summer day.

Provenance: From a private Connecticut collection to the gallery.

Bibliography: Cooley Gallery archives.