425 Peachtree Hills NE, No. 18 | Atlanta, GA 30305 | 404.351.9433 | info@englishaccentantiques.com

19TH CENTURY ENGLISH COPPER UTILITY VESSEL OR PLANTER WITH RIVETED CONSTRUCTION



$5,500

This substantial 19th-century English copper vessel exemplifies the robust construction and utilitarian design associated with industrial and institutional metalwork of the period. Crafted in heavy-gauge copper, the piece features a square form with softly rounded corners, reinforced by riveted seams and a pronounced riveted band along the lower edge. The vessel stands on short integrated feet, lifting it slightly off the ground and lending both stability and presence.

Two iron side handles are affixed through riveted mounts, allowing the piece to be moved when necessary and reinforcing its functional origins. The interior reveals honest wear and oxidation consistent with prolonged use, and a circular drainage opening is present at the base—an element that suggests its original purpose as a working water or wash vessel rather than a decorative container. This construction would have allowed for controlled drainage in an industrial, agricultural, or institutional setting.

The copper surface has developed a richly varied patina, with tonal shifts, surface marks, and oxidation that speak to age and use rather than restoration. Today, the vessel lends itself beautifully to reinterpretation as a planter, garden feature, or architectural accent, where its scale, material, and sculptural form can be fully appreciated.

A compelling example of English 19th-century utility design, this piece balances raw functionality with understated visual impact, making it suitable for both interior and exterior decorative use.

Height: 28.5 in (72.39 cm)
Width: 20.5 in (52.07 cm)
Depth: 20.5 in (52.07 cm)

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