



PAIR OF 19TH CENTURY ROUEN OIL PAINTINGS ATTRIBUTED TO TORELLO ANCILLOTTI

\$1,975

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Capture the architectural beauty and everyday life of Normandy with this complementary pair of antique genre paintings attributed to Italian artist Torello Ancillotti (1843–1899). Painted in France circa 1880, each oil on canvas presents a finely observed view of provincial life in and around Rouen, animated by figures, animals, vernacular architecture, and engaging narrative detail.

The first composition depicts a rustic Norman farmyard enclosed by weathered stone and timber buildings. A farmer stands among chickens and roosters, while a blue agricultural cart, scattered straw, barrels, and metal milk churns lend the scene an authentic rural character. The companion painting portrays a lively cobblestone street lined with half-timbered houses and local businesses. Townspeople gather near market stalls as a mule-drawn cart passes beneath flower-filled windows, creating a vivid glimpse of late 19th-century urban life.

Both canvases bear signatures appearing to read “T. Ancillotti,” and the farmyard scene is dated 1880. The attribution is supported by the signatures, date, Norman subject matter, and close stylistic relationship to Ancillotti’s documented views of Rouen; however, the works have not been formally authenticated.

Born in Montepulciano, Tuscany, Torello Giovanni Battista Ancillotti trained at the fine arts academies of Florence and Siena and developed within the artistic climate associated with the Macchiaioli. After serving as a volunteer during the Italian Wars of Independence, he established a varied career as a painter, watercolorist, and sculptor. Ancillotti settled in Rouen in 1877, beginning an especially productive French period, and exhibited regularly at the Paris Salon from 1879. His oeuvre includes landscapes, architectural views, historical subjects, and scenes of daily life characterized by careful observation, luminous color, and strong narrative appeal.

The paintings are presented in complementary molded wood frames with later silver-gray painted finishes. Both retain their original canvases and stretchers and are in excellent condition commensurate with age and use. Rich in architectural detail and atmospheric charm, this distinctive pair would make an elegant addition to a library, dining room, kitchen, study, or Country French interior.

Dimensions: 16” W x 22” H