



79

**Paul Henry RHA (1876-1958)**

MAAM VALLEY, CONNEMARA

oil on canvas laid on board  
signed lower left; with faint inscription ["Lady Mrs Power Conn? Glen?"  
and framing instructions] in pencil on reverse; with label of C.D. Soar &  
Son [Kensington] also on reverse  
11.25 by 13in. (28.58 by 33.02cm)

*Provenance:*

Artist's studio till 1956;

Where acquired by P.R. Jennings, Esq.;

Adam's & Bonhams, Dublin, 8 December 2004, lot 162;

Whence purchased by the present owner

*Exhibited:*

'Paintings by Paul Henry, R.H.A.', Combridge's Gallery, Dublin, 23  
October- 6 November 1945, catalogue no. 5; 'Pictures by Paul Henry,  
RHA', Heal & Son, Tottenham Court Road, London, from 14 January  
1946, no. 3; 'Paintings and Charcoals: Paul Henry RHA', Waddington  
Galleries, Dublin, 21 February - 3 March 1952 (no. 3, as *The Maam  
Valley*); RHA, Annual Exhibition, Dublin, Spring 1953, no. 28; 'Paintings  
and Drawings by Paul Henry', The Studio, Sidmonton Square, Bray, until  
8 November 1956, no. 12 (probably acquired by P.R. Jennings); 'Paul  
Henry: Retrospective Exhibition', Ritchie Hendriks Gallery, St. Stephen's

Green, Dublin, and Belfast Museum & Art Gallery, Belfast, May-July 1957,  
no. 58 (Lent by P. R. Jennings).

*Literature:*

Stewart, Anne M. (ed.), *Royal Hibernian Academy of Arts: Index of  
Exhibitors and their Works 1826-1979*, Dublin, Manton Publishing, 1985,  
vol. 2, p.82; Kennedy, S. B., *Paul Henry*, New Haven and London, Yale  
University Press, 2000, p.135; *Paul Henry: with a catalogue of the  
Paintings, Drawings, Illustrations*, Yale, 2007, catalogue no. 1035, p.303  
(illustrated)

Painted in June or July 1942 when Henry visited Maam. The light palette  
and the bravura of the brushwork throughout, and notably in the  
foreground, are characteristic of his work at this time. As often with Henry,  
little artistic license has been taken with his interpretation of the  
landscape, which represents the view westwards on the road north from  
Maam Cross in County Galway, near the junction with the Leenane to  
Cong road at Feernakill Bridge. The river in the foreground is the Failmore  
River and the mountains beyond, which arrest the eye's recession, are the  
Maamturks and the hills of Joyce's Country.

Dr. S.B. Kennedy

April 2012

€20,000-€25,000 (£16,393-£20,491 approx).