Public access description
The factory at Saint-Cloud was France's first commercially viable producer of porcelain. Initially it made only pottery, but in the early 1690s the factory perfected its recipe for soft-paste porcelain. The enterprise was supported by the king's brother, the Duc d'Orléans, who had a château nearby and visited regularly. Its earliest productions are characterised by a creamy-white body with delicate underglaze blue decoration, derived from cobalt. Shapes were often copied from silverware but Saint-Cloud was also pioneering in the development of overglaze enamel colours, of which this tureen, with its fanciful chinoiserie decoration is an excellent example.

Descriptive line
Tureen and cover, porcelain with enamelled decoration, Saint-Cloud porcelain factory, France, about 1720-1730

Physical description
Tureen and cover, porcelain with enamelled decoration.

Museum number
C.445&A-1909

Object history note
Paper label inscribed 'Appartenant à Mr Fitzhenry'

URL
http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O99480/pot-a-oille-tureen-and-cover-saint-cloud-porcelain/