



CRAIG R. HAMILTON

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LETTER OF OPINION:

ITEM: Joe Louis Fight Worn Trunks

I, Craig Hamilton of JO Sports, Inc., certify that the boxing trunks referred to herein are, in my opinion, fight worn trunks used by former world heavyweight champion Joe Louis.

DESCRIPTION:

These trunks are black satin with red trim at the waistband and piping on each leg. On the lower left leg are sewn the letters JL in red. There is a spot at the center waistband where a manufacturing label has been removed. The trunks show signs of wear.

HISTORY:

These trunks are part of the collection of Joel Platt. Mr. Platt obtained the trunks from a noted collector named Ed Rowlands. Mr. Rowlands believed the trunks were from the fight between Joe Louis and Jimmy Braddock on June 22, 1937.

ANALYSIS:

A review of the fight film and still photographs from the Louis-Braddock fight revealed that Joe Louis did wear trunks in the fight similar to these. There was a manufacturing label in the position where it is missing on these trunks and the trunks he wore did have a JL on the lower left leg similar to these trunks. Joe Louis did wear trunks similar to these in other fights including Tommy Farr and his first fight with Arturo Godoy.



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CONCLUSION:

As the trunks under review do not have the manufacturing label at the center waistband I cannot confirm these were actually the trunks used by Joe Louis in his fight with Jimmy Braddock, although as the position where the label is missing matches the place it is located on his fight worn trunks it is possible these are the trunks from that fight. These trunks are vintage to that period of Joe Louis career. It is also possible, however these trunks may have been from another fight such as Tommy Farr or Arturo Godoy I.

It is my opinion these trunks did belong to Joe Louis and were used in one of his fights in the late 1930's or early 1940's.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Craig Hamilton", is written over a horizontal line.

Craig Hamilton
President-JO Sports, Inc.

August 15, 2020

Date