

View near Framlingham, Suffolk

John Alexander Gresse



Description

John Alexander Gresse (1741-1794)
View near Framlingham, Suffolk

Signed lower right: JA Gresse 1781 and inscribed verso in a later hand: View near Framlingham
Pen and ink and watercolour over traces of pencil on laid paper
25.4 by 35.7 cm., 10 by 14 in.

Provenance:
With W/S Fine Art, 2005;
Private Collection

Literature:
Huon Mallalieu, Dictionary of British Watercolour Artists up to 1920, 2002, vol. I, p.283, ill.;
Andrew Wyld, W/S Fine Art, Watercolours and Drawings - The Annual Exhibition, 2005, no.16, ill.

Having trained as an engraver, Gresse took drawing lessons under Zuccarelli and was assistant to Cipriani. He was a drawing master at Harrow School in 1773 and taught Robert Hills among others. The writer and artist William Henry Pyne (1769-1843) recorded that Gresse 'was appointed teacher to the princesses (the children of George III), which distinguished office he held from the year 1777 to the time of his death in 1794. Gresse taught landscape and figure: the style of his landscapes was in the early manner of Paul Sandby, correctly outlined in pen, and tinted with colours; his figures were in the style of his master [Cipriani], drawn in chalks, and tinted with powder colours. He was much esteemed by her Majesty and the princesses, and known to the King...' (Royal Residences, 1819, I, p.12).

Sandycombe Lodge was the home of J.M.W. Turner between 1813 and 1826. Now a registered charity, it is open to the public but receives no public funding. For more information or to support their fundraising campaign see www.turnerhouse.org.