The Gateway of Nottingham Castle

Joshua Gosselin

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Description

Colonel Joshua Gosselin (1739-1813)
The Gateway of Nottingham Castle

Pen and grey ink and watercolour over traces of pencil on laid paper
10.6 by 17.5 cm., 4 by 6 ¾ in.

Provenance:
By descent from the artist until sold 'Joshua Gosselin Collection of Topographical Watercolours', Phillip's, 5th November 1999, lot 57, one of three

Gosselin came from an old Channel Islands family and joined the Guernsey Militia in 1758, rising to the rank of Colonel in 1789. Apart from his military career, he was an accomplished artist, naturalist and antiquarian. A large collection of his work was sold at Phillip's in 1999.
Nottingham Castle was founded by William the Conqueror in 1068. It has played a key role in many of the leading events of the country. It was one of King John's last strongholds when he rebelled against his brother King Richard and was where Charles I raised his standard, thus declaring war in England. It was a royal palace by 1330, until James I sold it to the Earl of Rutland. In 1831, the castle was torched by rioters angry with the way the Duke of Newcastle had voted against wider emancipation. It stood as a ruin for nearly half a century, until work began restoring it and turning it into the first municipal art gallery outside London.

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