A rough-legged Buzzard

Archibald Thorburn

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Description

Archibald Thorburn (1860-1855)
A rough-legged Buzzard

Signed lower left: Archibald Thorburn
Pencil and watercolour heightened with bodycolour on blue-green paper
27.6 by 21.3 cm., 10 ¾ by 8 ½ in.

Provenance:
With Spink and Son, London;
Private Collection until 2024

Thorburn was born in Scotland, the son of Robert Thorburn (1818-1885), portrait miniaturist to Queen Victoria. He moved to London to study art and in 1887 was commissioned by the artist Joseph Wolf to illustrate lord Lilford's Coloured Figures of the Birds of the British Isles, for which he painted 268 watercolours. He soon became the most sought after wildlife artist of the period exhibiting extensively at the Royal Academy and producing illustrations for many books.

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