

A steep wooded bank, by the Orwell, Suffolk

George Frost

Sold



Description

George Frost (1754-1821)

A steep wooded bank, by the Orwell, Suffolk

With William Esdaile collector's mark lower left (Lugt. no.2617)

Black chalk and stump with fixative on laid paper

27.2 by 36.3 cm., 10 ³/₄ by 14 ¹/₄ in.

Provenance:

William Esdaile (1758-1837)

George Frost started working in his father's business as a builder, before obtaining a position as clerk, in the office of the Blue Coach Company, Ipswich, a post he retained until his retirement in 1813. A gifted draughtsman, his first recorded watercolour is dated 1780. Like many of his contemporaries, Frost found inspiration in the landscape around him; his friend the Rev. James Ford described him, sketching the 'the pleasing scenery around the town of Ipswich; its hollow and tortuous lanes with broken sand-banks; its copse-grown dells; above all the richly-wooded and picturesque acclivities of its winding river, were his perpetual haunts'. (J. Hayes, *The Drawings of Thomas Gainsborough*, London, vol. the text, 1970, p. 71). Frost also established himself as a drawing master and was certainly teaching by 1797. He especially admired and collected the work of Thomas Gainsborough and befriended John Constable. The two men not only corresponded for a number of years, but Constable records that the two men sketched together on the banks of the River Orwell in 1800.