

The Church of Montserrat, Elba

John 'Warwick' Smith

Sold



Description

John 'Warwick' Smith (1749-1831)
The Church of Montserrat, Elba

Watercolour over traces of pencil
14.7 by 23 cm., 5 ¾ by 9 in.

This is one of a group of drawings executed by Smith in 1814 based on original drawings by the antiquarian and artist Sir Richard Colt Hoare (1758-1838) of Stourhead. Hoare visited Elba in 1789 and when Napoleon was exiled to the island, he asked his former teacher 'Warwick' Smith to produce finished watercolours which were subsequently engraved for 'A Tour through the Island of Elba' published in June 1814.

Two watercolours from this group, 'Elba from the coast of Tuscany' and 'The Village of Poggio' were sold at Christie's on 14th July 1998, lot 32 for £8,625. Many of Hoare's original Italian drawings are in the Yale Center for British Art.