

South View of Dunstanburgh Castle, Northumberland

John Varley

Sold



Description

John Varley (1778-1842)

South View of Dunstanburgh Castle, Northumberland

Signed lower centre: J. Varley. and signed lower left: J Varley 1808

Coloured washes over pencil

30.9 by 52.1 cm., 12 by 20 ½ in.

This dates from Varley's trip to Northumberland in September 1808. The Northumberland Sketchbook in the V. & A. has a number of Dunstanburgh views drawn on 20th September 1808 (see C.M. Kaufmann, John Varley, 1984, no. 25, pp. 118-121). This shows the main entrance to the castle as one now approaches it from the south.

Dunstanburgh (or Dunstanborough) Castle is a dramatically positioned 14th century ruined castle perched on the edge of the North Sea between the villages of Craster and Embleton. It belonged to the Dukes of Lancaster and exchanged hands several times during the Wars of the Roses. It never recovered from the associated sieges however and has been a ruin since the 16th century. It is now run by English Heritage.