

The Passing Storm

David Cox

Sold



Description

David Cox (1783-1859)
The Passing Storm

Watercolour and pencil
With a pencil drawing of Conway Castle and bridge verso
27.6 by 37.6 cm., 10 ³/₄ by 14 ³/₄ in.

Provenance:
By descent to the artist's granddaughter until 1904;
With Walker Galleries, London, 1960

Exhibited:
London, Walker Galleries, Drawings by David Cox, 21 April to 11 May 1960, probably no. 36, 'Harbour and Hillside', sold for 12 guineas

This wonderfully loose but controlled drawing is typical of Cox's work of the early 1850s when he is at his most confident and impressionistic. He concentrates on his depiction of the sky and especially the passing storm. It may be drawn on the same sketchbook sheet as a group of drawings of Rhyll Sands which date from 1854. Cox often used a rough Scotch paper at this period but these are ordinary wove paper which measures the same size as this sheet. One in the University of Liverpool Art Gallery is signed and dated 1854 (see Andrew Wilton and Annie Lyles, *The Great Age of British Watercolours 1750-1850*, 1993, no.77, pl.233), another is in the Victoria and Albert Museum and a third was sold at Christie's on 21st November 2001, lot 47.

Cox was a regular visitor to North Wales from the mid 1840s and the drawing of Conway Castle on the reverse suggests this could be a view on the North Welsh coast or possibly on the estuary of the river Conway.