The Wrekin, Shropshire

Moses Griffith

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REF: 3255

Description

Moses Griffith (1747-1819)
The Wrekin, Shropshire

Signed on border lower left: Moses Griffith delin/t and numbered 67 in pencil
Pen and brown ink and watercolour heightened with touches of bodycolour on laid paper with original pen and ink border
20.9 by 32.1cm., 8 ¼ by 12 ½ in.

Provenance:
Thomas Pennant (1726-1798);
By descent to his granddaughter who married the 17th Earl of Denbigh;
Viscount Feilding, his sale, Christie's, 5th June 1938;
With Walker Galleries, London, 1939;
Iolo Williams;
With Andrew Clayton-Payne;
Private Collection until 2008;
With Guy Peppiatt Fine Art, 2011;
Private Collection, UK

Exhibited:
London, Walker Galleries, Exhibition of Watercolour Drawings by Moses Griffith, February 1939, no.69

The Wrekin is a hill with an iron age fort five miles west of Telford, 1335 feet above sea level.

Moses Griffith was born at Trygain House in Lleyn, Caernarvonshire of poor parents. In 1769 he was employed by the naturalist, writer and antiquarian Thomas Pennant (1726-1798) of Downing Hall near Whitford, Flintshire, and encouraged to study drawing and engraving. Griffith became Pennant's constant companion on his tours of the country recording what he saw. After Pennant's death, he continued to work for his son until 1813 and settled at Wibnant near Holyhead, Anglesey and worked as an engraver.

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