View of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Andrew Nicholl

REF: 3214

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Description

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Andrew Nicholl R.H.A. (1804-1886)
View of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Signed lower right
Watercolour over touches of pencil with stopping out
46.5 by 67 cm, 18 ¼ by 26 ¼ in.

Provenance:
Anonymous sale, Sotheby's, 19th November 1992, lot 141;
With The Albany Gallery, London;
Private Collection

Colombo lies on the Sri Lankan coast, about 75 miles to the south-west of Kandy. Nicholl was based in the city whilst he was teaching landscape painting and scientific drawing at Colombo Academy between 1846 and 1849/50. The present watercolour, with its emphasis on the local flora and fauna and with the city relegated to the distance, is characteristic of the artist's work. The Royal Collection has a watercolour of a distant view of the fort of Colombo, with a foreground filled with flowers. Queen Victoria acquired three views of Sri Lanka in 1850, following the artist's return to Britain.

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