The West Coast of Anglesey from the road between Caernarfon and Clynnog-fawr, North Wales

John `Warwick' Smith

Sold

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Description

John `Warwick' Smith (1749-1831)
The West Coast of Anglesey from the road between Caernarfon and Clynnog-fawr, North Wales

Inscribed on part of old mount: August 6.th 1797/General View of the West Coast of Anglesea looking to it/from the Road between Carnarvon and Clynnog Vawr.
Watercolour over pencil heightened with touches of bodycolour
13 by 22.2 cm., 5 by 8 ¾ in.

'Warwick' Smith, was in the vanguard of artists travelling to Wales in the 18th and early 19th centuries. He knew Rev. William Gilpin and was friends with the Welsh artist, Thomas Jones (1742- 1803), who had been in Italy at the same time in the mid-1770s. Smith undertook his first visit to Wales in 1784, probably encouraged by his friendship with brothers Sawrey (1733-1807) and Rev. William Gilpin and with Thomas Jones (1742-1803). The inspiration he found in the constantly changing and dramatic landscape of the country is clear and Smith made a total thirteen trips between 1784 and 1806. It is possible to work out the artist's approximate routes on his tours from the detailed inscriptions and dates on his watercolours.

We know that during this, probably his 9th, trip he was at Dolwyddelan Castle on 27th July; had reached Llanberis on the same day as present view, continued onto Anglesey, 8th August and then returned to Beddgelert, Cader Idris and Barmouth on the 11th and reaching near Bala by 17th.

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