

John White Abbott



Trees

£ 3,750.00

Reference: 10793

Dimensions:

Height: 25.80 cm / 10¹/₈ in
Width: 36.70 cm / 14¹/₂ in

Pen and brown and grey ink and watercolour on two sheets of laid paper, joined
25.8 x 36.7 cm.; 10 x 14 ½ inches

Provenance

By descent from the artist until 2015;
Guy Peppiatt Ltd.;
Hugo Burge (1979-2023)

Abbott was one of the best amateur watercolourists of the late Eighteenth Century. A surgeon and apothecary, he lived in Exeter until 1825. He exhibited paintings at the Royal Academy from 1793, receiving contemporary acclaim for the

KAREN TAYLOR

FINE ART

style of his work. The artist John Downman said that 'he prefers his drawings before his paintings, as they are done with more spirit' (J. Farington, Diary 26 June 1804; vol. VI, p. 2362).

In 1825 Abbott inherited Fordland, a Devon estate, from his uncle James White, an Exeter barrister, Nonconformist and close friend of Francis Towne. Abbott became a patron and pupil of Towne's, and his linear style shows the artist's influence. After moving to Fordland he devoted himself to drawing where this work is most likely to have been drawn.