

Paul Sandby, R.A.



The River Wye at New Weir, Herefordshire

Reference: 11238

Dimensions:

Height: 30.50 cm / 12 in

Width: 46 cm / 18 $\frac{1}{8}$ in

ABP

Paul Sandby, R.A. (1731- 1809)

The River Wye at New Weir, Herefordshire

Signed in brushpoint I.I.: P Sandby RA, watercolour and bodycolour, with old labels attached to backboard (illegible)

Provenance

The Fine Art Society, London;

Private collection, U.K.

The Longstone can be seen prominently on the left of the composition above the Wye where fishermen and rowers are enjoying the river. Sandby includes the busy iron manufactory on the opposite bank. Many of the tourists who flocked to the river Wye to enjoy its picturesque scenery and to climb Yat Rock also included a visit to the forge, and images of this

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stretch of the river often include depictions of the lime kilns, stone quarries, and iron and tin works that dotted its banks.

Paul Sandby and his brother Thomas (1717-1798) began their careers making maps and military drawings in Scotland. Founder members of the Royal Academy in 1768, they both taught in military establishments and Paul was recognised as the leading topographical artist of his time.

The artist toured South Wales with Sir Joseph Banks and others in 1773 which resulted in his series of aquatints of published in 1775-1776. His detailed watercolours of the picturesque landscape and the popular prints fuelled the nascent tourism attracting visitors to the Wye Valley.