

Looking towards Manchester and the River Irwell seen from Kersal Moor

Paul Sandby Munn



Description

Paul Sandby Munn (1773-1845)

Looking towards Manchester and the River Irwell seen from Kersal Moor

Inscribed lower left: Manchester/from Kersall Moor

Watercolour over pencil

26.4 by 21.9 cm., 10 ³/₄ by 8 ¹/₂ in.

Provenance:

With Spink and Son, London, autumn 1979, where bought by the present owner

The present watercolour is looking south from Kersal Moor towards the rapidly expanding city of Manchester. Kersal Moor is a large area of moorland to the north-west of the city and is now a nature reserve. Over the centuries, it has been used for public gatherings, military manoeuvres as well as a racecourse and an early golf course, Munn was fascinated by the growth of industry, both the drama inherent in the new industrial processes, with their factories, furnaces, fire and smoke and also in the stark contrast between the rapidly changing industrial landscape and the natural world which was so familiar to the artist and his contemporaries.