

Sutton Church, Norfolk from the South East

John Sell Cotman



Description

John Sell Cotman (1782-1842)
Sutton Church, Norfolk from the South-East

Grey washes over pencil
18 by 29.6 cm, 7 by 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ in.

Provenance:
Revd James Bulwer (1794-1879);
Bought from Spink & Son Ltd, London;
By descent to the present owner

The present drawing depicts the church of St Michael, Sutton with its overly tall and dominant south porch, which was added to the early 14th century church shortly before the Reformation. Sutton is a small village in the Norfolk Broads, 17 miles north-east of Norwich. Most of Cotman's drawings of East Anglian churches dates from 1815 to 1820.

This drawing belonged to the Reverend James Bulwer who took drawing lessons from Cotman when a student at Jesus College, Cambridge. He then renewed his relationship with the artist, when his sons attended Kings College School, London where Cotman was drawing master. On his return to Norfolk in 1839, Bulwer began to form a notable collection of Cotman's work, many depicting Norfolk subjects. The two men also travelled together around Norfolk, studying and sketching the architecture of the region. Much of Bulwer's collection of Cotman drawings is recorded in a Walker's Quarterly exhibition in 1926.