View of the City Walls, York

John White Abbott



REF: 1216

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Description

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John White Abbott ((1763-1851)
View of the City Walls, York

Pen and grey ink and grey washes on laid paper
22.8 by 30.9 cm., 9 by 12 in.

This shows a view of the site of the Dominican Friary at Toft Green to the south of the city of York. The drawing is presumably an on-the-spot drawing executed on his visit to the city in July 1791. It would appear to be unfinished however as White Abbott has omitted the Minster which stands on the horizon behind the tower. A finished version of this view by White Abbott is one of four York views in York City Art Gallery (see York through the Eyes of the Artist, exhibition catalogue, 1990, p.33, no. 20, illustrated).

The site of the Dominican Friary which was dissolved in the 1530s became a nursery in the possession of the Telford family until 1816 when the land was sold to a Quaker family.

We are grateful to Richard Stephens for his help in cataloguing this watercolour.

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