

Burnham Beeches, Buckinghamshire

Frederick Richard Lee



Description

Frederick Richard Lee, R.A. (1798-1879)
Burnham Beeches, Buckinghamshire

Inscribed on label attached to the backboard: Burnham Beeches/F.R. Lee R.A. 1851
Watercolour over pencil heightened with bodycolour
32.2 by 49.5 cm., 12 ½ by 19 ½ in.

Lee was highly regarded in his lifetime, establishing a hugely successful career as a landscape painter. He enrolled as a student at the Royal Academy schools in 1818, was elected A.R.A. in 1834 and R.A. four years later. He worked mainly in oil - this is a rare finished watercolour. Lee exhibited regularly at the Royal Academy and the British Institution, until he retired from the Royal Academy in 1871, preferring to spend his last few years indulging his great passion, sailing. His success as an artist, enabled him to buy a yacht, which he sailed as far as the West Indies, South Africa, and Mauritius and even to Australia and Tasmania at the age of 74.