

Harvesters returning home, near Barden Tower, Yorkshire

David Cox



Description

David Cox (1783-1859)

Harvesters returning home, near Barden Tower, Yorkshire

Watercolour on oatmeal paper

26 by 35 cm., 10 ¼ by 13 ¾ in.

Provenance:

Anonymous Sotheby's 5 March 1984, lot 163;

By descent until 2023

Barden Tower was one of six hunting lodges and the principal administrative seat for the hunting forest of Barden. It was completely rebuilt by Henry Clifford, 10th Baron Clifford (1454-1523) in the late 15th Century and became his main home in preference to Skipton Castle. He also built the priest house next to the chapel in 1515. On his death the Tower reverted to being used only occasionally and by the early 17th century it was in a state of disrepair. His descendant Lady Anne Clifford (1590-1676) restored the building, but by the 18th century it had fallen into ruin. Its elevated position near the River Wharfe, surrounded by woodland made it a popular spot for tourists and artists during the late 18th and early 19th Century, seeking romantic and picturesque views.