

H. H. RUMBLER



REMBRANDT HARMENSZOOM VAN RIJN (Leiden 1606 - 1669)

Cottages and Farm Buildings with a Man sketching

circa 1641

Etching

13.1 x 20.9 cm (5 1/8 x 8 1/4 inches)

Provenance

H. Danby Seymour (Lugt 176)

Christie, Manson & Woods, auction April 4. 1878, no. 144

Gutekunst & Klipstein, Bern catalogue XXIV, 1927, no. 157, Tafel XII

Felix Somary (Lugt 4384)

August Laube, Zürich, catalogue >Rembrandt Harmenz van Rijn Radierungen<,

January 1975, no. 20

German private collection

Bartsch , Rovinski, Seidlitz and White-Boon 219; Hind 213; Biörklund-Barnard 45-2; New Hollstein 201

Exquisite early impression of rare beauty.

Powerful, with partially quite burr-like effects in the fine lineament. Still with delicate vertical traces of wiping in the sky, conferring a wonderful dense atmosphere to the composition in conjunction with the light platetone, that becomes intensified almost imperceptible along the edges, With 3 mm margins, edging the composition frame-like. In pristine preservation.

The undated etching... gives us a vivid sense of Rembrandt's sketching expeditions in the countryside around Amsterdam. An artist with a tall hat is seated on the ground at the right drawing the farmhouse, which has a low living quarters wing and taller attached stable or barn block. He is observed by some rather whimsically drawn goats or sheep. At mid-century, many artists were actively making drawings of similar subjects in the farmlands around Amsterdam, including artists in Rembrandt's circle working in his style such as Philips Koninck. Executed in a fine wiry etched line, the farmhouses might well have been drawn directly on the plate in front of the subject. (C. S. Ackley)