Neil Jeffares, Dictionary of pastellists before 1800

Online edition

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MURPHY, James Cavanah

Blackrock, near Cork 1760 – London 12.IX.1814 Architect and antiquary. He was a pupil in the Dublin Society drawing school c.1775, working in miniature, chalk and crayons, before becoming an architect. In 1788 William Burton Conyngham sent him to Portugal where he spent two years studying the monastery at Batalha. Later he lived in Cadiz. No pastel is known.

Bibliography

JC, "James Cavanah Murphy", Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society, X/61, 1904, pp. 56ff; Michael McCarthy, "Unpublished drawings by James Cavanah Murphy", Irish arts review, XIX/1, 2002, pp. 114–17; Oxford DNB; James Plunkett, The Irish builder, 15.v.1909