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Friday, 22 April



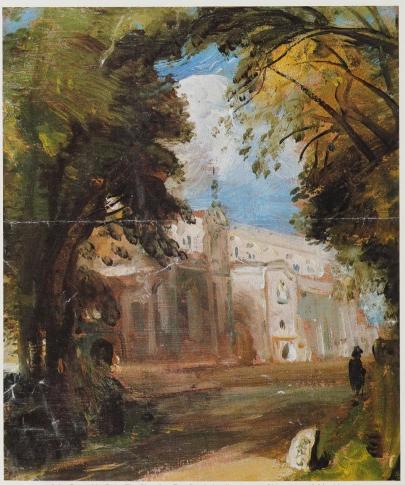
Thomas Gainsborough, R.A.: Portrait of General Sir John Sebright, Bt., (1725-1794), oil on canvas, 30 by 25 in. (76·2 by 63·5 cm.) Enquiries: Simon Dickinson

Christie's



London

Friday, 22 April



John Constable, R.A.: The Church at East Bergholt, oil on canvas, 7¼ by 6¼ in. (18·8 by 16 cm.)

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

LONDON WC2H OHE 01-930 1552

4 December 1981

Dear Mr Devillar,

I am writing to you in reply to your letter of 13 November concerning the painting of Sir John Sebright, of which you enclose a colour snapshot. From the photograph, I would suspect that the portrait is indeed by Gainsborough and, furthermore, that it is identical with the portrait which is reproduced in Ellis Waterhouse's Gainsborough, 1958, plate 79; from the catalogue entry, which is No. 605, you will see that at that time the portrait was still in the possession of the family. I daresay that it may have been sold in the intervening years, and that this is the work which you now possess.

Yours sincerely,

on the

John Hayes Director

A M DeVillar Esq 18400 Overlook Road 46 Los Gatos California 95030 USA

