

Abstract

J. M. W. Turner (1775–1851) began his career studying architecture. At the suggestion of Thomas Hardwick (1752–1829), he left his pursuit of architecture and concentrated instead on painting. This remained Turner's primary subject until the end of his life, though his interest in architecture remained a prevalent theme throughout his professional career, present in both his artwork and his lectures given under the title Professor of Perspective at the Royal Academy in London between the years of 1811 and 1828. This Bachelor's thesis describes the artwork and lectures of William Turner with a focus on his depiction of architecture and atmospheric perspective, examining his usage of lights and colours based on the sketches, diagrams, and notes gathered in sketchbooks at the collection of the Tate Britain Gallery in London. Among these sketches are designs and plans for Turner's own home, Sandycombe Lodge, built in the Italian style not far from city of London. This thesis also notes the differences in Turner's usage of atmospheric perspective and painting principles in comparison with other painters of his day.