Jean-Baptiste-Camille Corot  
La basilique de Vézelay (Vézelay Abbey), 1841 [?]

Pencil on paper, 443 x 335 mm  
on recto, lower left, red stamp: “Vente Corot” [Lugt 460a ?]; lower right, inscribed in pencil: “Vezelay, Juillet 1841[?]”  
on verso, in pencil: drawing of a landscape; lower left, inscribed: “[illegible] en reflet et en vigueur”; lower right: “Le Moulineau, Morvan, Juin 1841”, “Corot 139[?]”

Provenance:  
Estate of the artist  
Sale: Vente Corot, Hôtel Drouot, Paris, 26 May 1875 (per stamp)  
(...)  
By latest December 1947: Hildebrand Gurlitt, Aschbach (per Gurlitt Papers)  
By descent to Cornelius Gurlitt, Munich/Salzburg  
From 6 May 2014: Estate of Cornelius Gurlitt

Bibliographical references:  
www.marquesdecollections.fr/detail.cfm/marque/6056/total/1 (11 June 2015)
Primary sources:

Hildebrand Gurlitt and Cornelius Gurlitt Papers:
Correspondence: BArch, N 1826/177, fol. 275 f. [=vol. 6, fol. 216 f.] Gitta Gurlitt to Hildebrand Gurlitt, 3 January 1948
Ibid., fol. 277 [=vol. 6, fol. 218]. List Gitta Gurlitt, 9 December 1947
Photographs: BArch, N 1826 Bild-0938 [=9.1_F925], [n.d.]
Seizure Inventory [Sicherstellungsverzeichnis], 2012, no. SV 31/094

Further sources consulted (selected):


Archives de Paris
Archives Nationales, Paris
Bundesarchiv, Berlin; Koblenz
Cultural Plunder by the Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg: Database of Art Objects at the Jeu de Paume
Database “Central Collecting Point München”
Database “Entartete Kunst”
Database “Kunstsammlung Hermann Göring”
Getty Provenance Index, German Sales Catalogs
Herkomst Gezocht
Institut national d’histoire de l’art (French sale catalogues)
Landesarchiv Berlin (Records of the Amt für Wiedergutmachung)
Lootedart.com
Lost Art
Musée d’Orsay, Paris (Documentation de la conservation)
Musée du Louvre, Paris (Département des Peintures)
Nationaal Archief, The Hague
National Archives, College Park, Maryland
Répertoire des Biens Spoliés
Rijksbureau voor Kunsthistorische Documentatie, The Hague
Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (Archive)
Verzeichnis national wertvoller Kunstwerke (“Reichsliste von 1938”)
Witt Library, London
Zentralarchiv der Staatlichen Museen zu Berlin – Preußischer Kulturbesitz

Note:

After the artist’s death the unsigned paper works found at his studio were stamped with “Vente Corot” and sold at the sale of his estate at Hôtel Drouot in Paris. On account of said stamp on verso, this drawing is considered an original work by Corot.

A reference to one Corot drawing titled Kirchenfassade can be found in the correspondence of Hildebrand Gurlitt. It was sent to a restorer in December 1947.

The personal papers found in Cornelius Gurlitt’s Salzburg home include a collection of about 2,400 photographs of artworks. Photograph no. 9.1_F925 is a reproduction of this work.”

The original report on the provenance of this work, as submitted to the Task Force Schwabing Art Trove, was made accessible online at www.taskforce-kunstfund.de as of 14 January 2016. That report was updated by the Gurlitt Provenance Research Project on 5 October 2017.

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