Neil Jeffares, Dictionary of pastellists before 1800

Online edition

BARBER, Joseph Newcastle upon Tyne 1757 – Birmingham 16.VII.1811

English landscape painter. The son of a printer and printseller, Barber went to Birmingham in the late 1770s where he painted papier-mâché and japanned wares. He is recorded at 7 Great Charles Street, Birmingham from 1785; by 1791 he had established a drawing school there. From 1800 he was listed at Edmund Street. A design for an earlier advertisement indicated that he taught "painting in oil, water, crayons and grey wash", but there is no evidence of any of his own work in crayons.

Bibliography

Universal British directory, 1795; Oxford DNB; Pye's Birmingham directory; Sloan 2000, p. 164; Stephen Wildman, The Birmingham school, 1990, pp. 37ff