

# The Frick Collection: Detail Report

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## Mortlake Terrace: Early Summer Morning

Joseph Mallord William Turner (British, 1775–1851)

**Date** 1826

**Medium** Oil on canvas

**Dimensions** 36 5/8 x 48 1/2 in. (93 x 123.2 cm)

**Credit Line** Henry Clay Frick Bequest

**Accession Number** 1909.1.121

Currently On View

First Floor, Room 11, Library

**Commentary** This canvas painted for William Moffatt depicts his estate at Mortlake, on the Thames just west of London. Like so many of Turner's works, it is based on numerous preparatory drawings, in which the artist recorded the topography and studied various ways of balancing the mass of the house and land against the open river and sky. A companion view of the terrace and river on a summer evening as seen from a ground-floor window of the house is in the National Gallery, Washington. Shown in the same Royal Academy exhibition of 1826 as the more ambitious painting of Cologne, Mortlake Terrace was praised for its "lightness and simplicity." Turner's penchant for a luminous shade of yellow is again a dominant feature of the painting. Source: *Art in The Frick Collection: Paintings, Sculpture, Decorative Arts*, New York: Harry N. Abrams, 1996.

**Collection History** William Moffatt. Hamatt sale, June 25, 1838, Christie's, Lot 112, sold for £84 to Allnutt. Said to have belonged to Fripp and to have been bought in at Christie's, 1864, for £1,102 10s. Sam Mendel, sold to Agnew, who in turn sold it for £2,200 in 1874 to James Price. His sale, June 15, 1895, Christie's, Lot 64, sold for £5,460 to Agnew for Stephen Holland. His sale, June 25, 1908, Christie's, Lot 111, sold for £13,230 to Knoedler. Andrew W. Mellon (?). Frick, 1909. Source: *Paintings in The Frick Collection: American, British, Dutch, Flemish and German. Volume I*. New York: The Frick Collection, 1968.