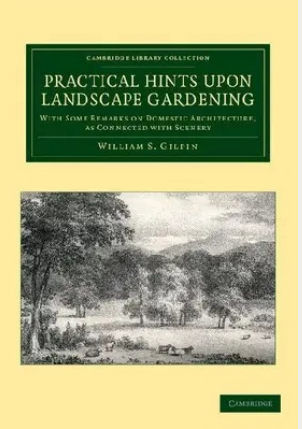
Gilpin

Practical Hints Upon Landscape Gardening

With Some Remarks on Domestic Architecture, as Connected with Scenery

William Sawrey Gilpin (1761/2–1843), landscape painter and illustrator, later became a landscape gardener and writer. He set himself up as a drawing master in Paddington Green and also illustrated picturesque travel-writing. Between 1804 and 1806 he was the first president of the Society of Painters in Water Colours, and then the third drawing master at the Royal Military College in Marlow. After being discharged from this post, Gilpin became a successful landscape gardener and advisor to the nobility. His approach to landscape gardening was influenced by painting and Sir Uvedale Price's Essay on the Picturesque (1794). Gilpin's Hints, published in 1832, advocates that landscapes should be improved by the 'taste' of a painter's eye, and artificial buildings united with their surroundings. Like his landscape practice, this book was highly regarded by Gilpin's contemporaries for its emphasis on the picturesque, especially when landscape gardening centred upon the introduction of exotic plants.

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