Shinnecock Hills

Date
c. 1892

Medium
Oil on canvas

Description
This painting shows the landscape surrounding William Merritt Chase’s summer school near Southampton, Long Island. Artists’ colonies were key to bringing French impressionism to American shores. Like Daniel Garber at New Hope and John Henry Twachtman at Cos Cob, Chase taught students to combine the spontaneity and bright tones of impressionism with truth to nature. Aspiring impressionists re-created rural scenes with a nationalistic undercurrent. Landscape painting became a way to represent American identity itself.

Dimensions
Sight: 20 × 46 1/2 in. (50.8 × 118.1 cm) Frame: 27 1/2 × 53 1/4 in. (69.9 × 135.3 cm)