



JANE PETERSON (1876-1965)

The Road to the Harbor, Gloucester, MA

Signed lower left, "Jane Peterson"

oil on canvas

24 x 30 1/4 in. (34 1/2 x 40 3/8 x 2 in.)

60.96 x 76.84 cm (87.63 x 102.55 x 5.08 cm)

48066

PROVENANCE:

Peterson Estate until 1969

Private Collection, Connecticut

Private Collection, 2001, acquired from above

The Road to the Harbor, Gloucester, Massachusetts is a vibrant and characteristically bold example of Jane Peterson's celebrated views of the Massachusetts coast, a subject that remains among the most sought after in her work. Previously held in the collection of the artist and her estate, the painting reflects the period when Peterson was producing her finest New England scenes, distilling the atmosphere and color of Gloucester with a confident and expressive hand. Gloucester was one of her most beloved subjects, and comparable paintings of the area have exceeded expectations at auction, often more than doubling their high estimates, underscoring both the desirability of the theme and the competitive value of the present work.

This large canvas captures a quiet coastal afternoon, with a dirt road leading toward Gloucester Harbor as suggested by the title. Peterson uses saturated colors and broad, lively brushstrokes to animate the scene, from the touches of blue on the rooftops to the shifting interplay of blue and grey in the retreating sky that suggests a moment just after rainfall. The painting relates closely to other Gloucester works in major museum collections, including *Old Road, Gloucester* at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

Peterson was known for choosing subjects beyond the conventional expectations for women artists of her time, favoring street scenes, travel, public life, and even wartime experience. *The Road to the Harbor, Gloucester, Massachusetts* embodies this outward looking spirit, revealing her ability to transform everyday coastal paths into scenes of vivid immediacy and enduring charm.

Jane Peterson was an American painter celebrated for her vibrant, modernist interpretations of landscapes, still lifes, and scenes of everyday life. Born in Elgin, Illinois, she studied at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn and later in Paris, where she was influenced by Impressionism and Post-Impressionism. Peterson traveled widely across Europe and North Africa, absorbing color and light that became hallmarks of her style. Her bold brushwork and luminous palette aligned her with early American modernism while maintaining a strong sense of realism. Over her long career, she exhibited extensively in the United States and abroad, earning recognition as one of the foremost female artists of her generation.



1845 - J.M.W. TURNER - 1851
A STREET IN LONDON





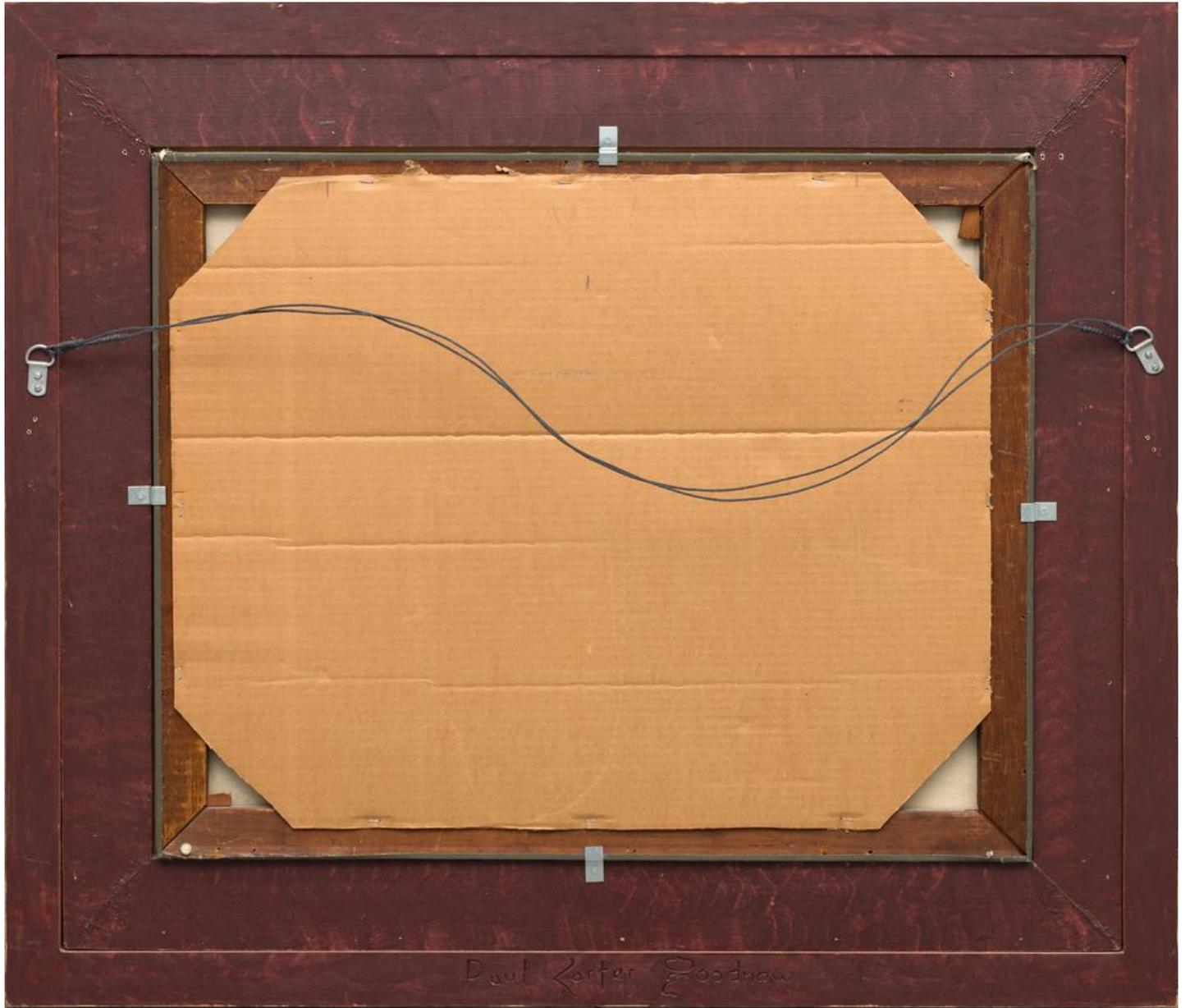












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