

Francis Grose
The antiquities of England and Wales
London
1772–6

The first edition of this book is (as far as I know) not yet available online, but I have now had a chance to look at a real copy (three real copies, in fact) in the National Library of Wales. (My thanks to Jayne Day and her colleagues for their help.) I cannot provide a transcription of the text; but at least I can say something more definite about the book and give an accurate list of the contents, as far as they relate to Kent.

The book was published in parts, over a period of four years, in portfolio form. Each plate was printed on a sheet by itself, and the accompanying description was printed on the same sheet (on the lower half of the recto and on the verso), in type which varies in size from plate to plate – large type where Grose had little to say, small type where he had a lot. The plates are not numbered, but most of them are dated.

From the start, the book was intended to consist of four volumes, and engraved titlepages were issued from time to time. (They are dated 1773, 1774, 1775 and 1776 respectively.) But the order in which the plates were to be bound did not become finally fixed until the publication of the "County index" (which itself was to be put at the back of volume 4).

Kent is one of the counties included in volume 2. I attach a list of the views of places here, in the order in which they appear in the "County index". (The "Preface" referred to comes at the front of volume 1.) The original drawings were all made by Grose himself (worth saying because it is not true for every county); a large number of different engravers were employed. All the same views are included in the "new edition" of 1783–7. (I say "views", not "plates", because it is possible that Grose may have had some of the drawings reengraved. I do not know whether that is the case or not.)

"KENT."

"Allington Castle" – drawn 1760 – engr Sparrow – publ 8 Jul 1772

"Archbishop's Palace Great Hall, Canterbury" – drawn 1769 – engr Canot – publ 17 May 1773

"Arches in the City Wall, Canterbury" – drawn 1765 – engr Morris – publ 20 Jan 1774

"Augustine's (St.) Monast. Canterbury, pl. 1." – drawn 1758 – engr Godfrey – publ 20 Feb 1772

"Ditto, plate 2." – drawn 1759 – engr Godfrey – publ 2 May 1773

"Barfreton Church, Preface, p. 66." – engr Dent & Innes – publ 2 Mar 1773

"Grand Door ditto, ditto" – engr Jukes – publ 21 Jul 1773

"Bradsole, or St. Radigund's Abbey" – drawn 1761 – engr Mason – publ 8 July 1772

"Canterbury Castle" – drawn 1761 – engr Ellis – publ 1 Sep 1772

"Canterbury Cathedral, Frontisp. to Vol. 2." – drawn 1772 (new ed 3:19) – engr Sparrow – publ 17 Feb 1774

"Chiding Stone" – drawn 1768 – engr Sparrow – publ 2 Jun 1772

"Chilham Castle" – drawn 1773 – engr Sparrow – publ 30 Oct 1773

"Cowling Castle, plate 1." – drawn 1759 – engr Sparrow – publ 1 Jun 1773

"—— Castle Gate, plate 2." – drawn 1759 – engr Sparrow – publ 1 Jun 1773

"Dartford Priory" – drawn 1759 – engr Godfrey – publ 20 Jan 1773

"Davyngton Priory, near Faversham" – drawn 1758 – engr Godfrey – publ 17 May 1773

"Dover Castle plate 1." – drawn 1762 – engr Godfrey – publ 1 Oct 1772

"Ditto plate 2" – drawn 1762 – engr Godfrey – publ 18 Dec 1772

"Faversham Abbey, plate 1." – drawn 1756 – engr Sparrow – publ 9 Jun 1773

"Ditto North Gate, plate 2." – drawn 1758 – engr Pouncey – publ 20 Dec 1772

"Halling House" – drawn 1759 – engr Godfrey – publ 1 Sep 1772

"Ket's Coity House" – drawn 1760 – engr Godfrey – not dated

"Leeds Castle" – drawn 1762 – engr Godfrey – publ 11 Apr 1773

"Leibourn Castle plate 1." – drawn 1750 – engr Godfrey – publ 16 May 1772

"Ditto plate 2." – drawn 1759 – engr Ellis – publ 1 Jul 1772

"Lyme Castle" – drawn 1772 – engr Morris – not dated

"Martin's (St.) Priory, or the Newarke, pl. 1." – drawn 1760 – engr Morris – publ 22 May 1775

"Ditto, plate 2." – drawn 1760 – engr Pouncey – not dated

"Minster Monastery, Isle of Shepey" – drawn 1759 – engr Morris – publ 25 Nov 1773

"Mote's Bulwark, Dover" – drawn 1762 – engr Sparrow – publ 2 Jun 1772

"Old Church, Dover Castle" – drawn 1758 – engr Godfrey – publ 11 Jan 1774

"Ostenhanger, or Westenhanger House, pl. 1." – drawn 1773 – engr Godfrey – publ 8 Dec 1773

"Ditto plate 2." – drawn 1773 – engr Morris – publ 11 Jan 1774

"Pancrace's (St.) Chapel in St. Augustine's Monastery, Canterbury" – drawn 1775 – engr Sparrow – publ 20 Jan 1775

"Rochester Castle plate 1." – drawn 1759 – engr Lerpiniere – not dated

"Ditto, plate 2." – drawn 1759 – engr Godfrey – publ 16 Jul 1773

"Saltwood Castle" – drawn 1773 – engr Lerpiniere – publ 1 Mar 1774

"Stranger's Hall, Entrance into Christ's Church Monastery, Canterbury, Preface, p. 67." – engr Sparrow – not dated

"St. Mary's and All Saints College, Maidstone" – drawn 1760 – engr Godfrey – publ 18 Dec 1772

"West Gate, Canterbury" – drawn 1749 – engr Peake – publ 20 Feb 1772

"West Malling Abbey" – drawn 1762 – engr Sparrow – publ
20 Apr 1773

"Wincheap Gate, Canterbury" – drawn 1755 – engr Drawaza –
not dated

C.F. August 2012