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Canada's Britannia 1695

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Willelmus CAMDEN Clarencieux  
Obijt. A.D. 1623. Etatis suæ LXXIII.

# CAMDEN'S BRITANNIA,

Newly Translated into English :

WITH LARGE

ADDITIONS

AND

IMPROVEMENTS.

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Publiſh'd by EDMUND GIBSON, of  
QUEENS-COLLEGE in OXFORD.

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Cic. de Divinat. Lib. 1.

*Quem non moveat clariffimis Monumentis teſtata  
conſignataque Antiquitas ?*

---

L O N D O N,

Printed by F. Collins, for A. Swalle, at the Unicorn at the Weſt-end  
of St. Paul's Church-yard ; and A. & J. Churchil, at the Black  
Swan in Pater-noster-Row. 1695.

Parishes, three in *Surrey*, and two in *Suffex*, built by one *Edward de la Hale*, as appears by a monument of the pious Donor, who dy'd 1431. and lies here buried. The revenues that right belong to it are above 200 l. per An. out of which there is not allowed above 20 Nobles to a man who now and then reads Prayers for them. It is so much the more deplorable, because the alienation long since appears to have been made through a mistake; for 'twas done in Q. Elizabeth's time by virtue of an Inquisition unjustly taken, upon pretence of its being a Chantry for the maintenance of a Mass priest to pray for the soul of the Founder. Whereas, really, it was built and endow'd for no other use but a Chapel of Ease only, to instruct the people of the adjoining Parishes, at too great a distance from their own Parish-Churches. Near this place are certain Pits, out of which Jet has been sometimes digg'd.

But to return towards the north; at the head of a river which runs into the *Wye* near *Guildford*, is *Abinger* near the Church yard whereof is a heap or mount call'd up, which some imagine to have been a small fortress rais'd by the Danes or Saxons. But to cure that mistake, it's plain enough 'twas done by neither; but by the neighbouring people, whom the high grounds on which they live put under a necessity of contriving a pond to water their cattle; and this rubbish was thrown out of that place.

The forementioned river rising out of a hill hereabouts, runs to *Albury*, which (when but a mean structure) was yet the delight of that excellent person *Thomas Earl of Arundel*, a great lover of Antiquities; who purchasing this place of the *Randells*, made it his darling. Henry his grandson, Duke of Norfolk, had no less affection for it: he began there a magnificent Pile, cut a Canal, planted spacious Gardens and Vineyards, adorn'd with Fountains, Groves, &c. But what is above all singular and remarkable, is, an *Hypocaust* or *Perforation* made through a mighty hill, and large enough at one end for a coach to pass, being about a furlong or more in length, and so leads o'er into an agreeable and pleasant valley. It was at first intended for a way up to the house, but a rock at the fourth end hinder'd that design. This noble feat is enclosed with a park, and much improv'd by the honourable *Heneage Finch* Esq; late Solicitor-General, who having purchas'd it of the father of the present Duke of Norfolk, is daily adding to its beauty.

Nor is this place less celebrated for that famous Mathematician *William Oughtred*, who liv'd and dy'd Rector of this Parish.

At a little distance from hence is *St. Martha's Chapel*, seated conspicuously on a copp'd mountain. This seems to have been thrown up by some fiery Eruption or *Vulcano*, as several other such Elevations towards the edge of *Suffex* confirm.

Beneath this hill is *Chilworth*, the seat of *Morgan Randal* Esq; owner of the most considerable Powderworks (brought first into England by *George Evelyn* Esq;) and best Hop gardens in England.

Nor far off is *Tower-hill*, the seat of *Edward Bray* Esq; of a very ancient and honourable family.

Going along *Holme-dale* (which extends its self to the foot of that ledge of Mountains which stretch and link themselves from the utmost promontory of *Kent* to the Lands end,) we have on the right hand *Whitdown*, where is a vast *Delf* of chalk, which in summer time they carry with great labour as far as the middle of *Suffex*; as they bring of the same material from the opposite hills by the sea-coast of that County: and these two being mingl'd together, are burnt into lime for the enriching of their grounds. Here are likewise dug up cockle-shells, and other *Lusus nature*, with *pyrites*, bedded an incredible depth within the bowels of the mountains, upon which many Yew-trees grow spontaneously, tho' of late they are much diminish'd, and their places taken up with corn.

Nor far from the bottom of this hill, stands an ancient seat of the *Earls of Wotton*, among several streams gliding thro' the meadows adorn'd with gentle rills, and woods which as it were encompass it. And the, together with the gardens, fountains, and other *hortulane* ornaments, have given it a place and name amongst the most agreeable seats. It is at present (with many fair Lordships about it) the possession of that worthy and hospitable Gentleman, *George Evelyn* Esq; who having serv'd in many Parliaments from 1541. is perhaps the most ancient member thereof now living.

In opening the ground of the Church yard of *Wotton*, to enlarge a Vault belonging to Mr. *Evelyn*'s family, they met with a skele on which was 9 foot and 3 inches long, as the worthy Mr. *John Evelyn* had testified by an ancient and understanding man then present and still living, (who accurately measur'd it, and mark'd the length on a pole,) with other workmen, who affirm the same. They found it lying in full length between two boards of the coffin; and so measur'd it before they had dispos'd of the bones. But trying to take it out, it fell all to pieces; for which reason they flung it amongst the rest of the rubbish, after they had separately measur'd several of the more solid bones.

Hereabouts is a thing remarkable, tho' but little taken notice of; I mean, that goodly prospect from the top of *Lib-bill*, which from *Wotton* rises almost insensibly for 2 or 3 miles south; but then has a declivity almost as far as *Horsham* in *Suffex*, 8 miles distant. From hence it is, one may see, in a clear day, the goodly Vale and consequently the whole County of *Suffex*, as far as the *South-downs*, and even beyond them to the sea; the entire County of *Surrey*, part of *Hants*, *Barks*, *Oxfordshire*, *Buckinghamshire*, and *Hartfordshire*; as also of *Middlesex*, *Kent*, and *Essex*; and farther yet (as is believ'd) into *Wiltshire*, &c. could one well distinguish 'em without the aid of a Telescope. The whole circumference cannot be less than 200 miles, far exceeding that of the *Keep at Windsor*, over which (as also over the City of *London* 25 miles distant) one sees as far as the eye, unarm'd with the glass, is able to distinguish land from sky. The like, I think, is not to be found in any part of England, or perhaps *Europe* besides: and the reason why it is not more observ'd, is, partly its lying quite out of any road, and partly its rising so gently, and making so little show till one is got to the very top of it: from the side thereof a great part of the brow is hidden down into the grounds below, caus'd by a delf of stones dug out of the sides of the mountain; and the bare places (from whence the earth is parted) being of a reddish colour, plainly appear above 40 miles off.

But here we must not forget *Darling*, memorable *Darling* for a very large Camp in that Parish, near *Holmebury-hill*, and not far from the road between *Darling* and *Arundel*. It is double trench'd and deep, containing by estimation about 10 acres at least.

[f] Where the *Male* comes from under ground, *Male river* it spreads it self so very wide, as to require a bridge of a great many arches and a stately fabrick, partly of stone, and tyles laid flat upon one another.

[g] Not far from the place where this river enters the *Thames*, is *Kingston*, \* east from which, upon a gravelly hill near the road, was a burying place of the Romans. Here are often found Urns and pieces of Urns, which lye about two foot deep. One particularly was discover'd about 1670. of a kind of amber-colour, fill'd up half way with black ashes, and at the bottom something like coarse



Baron  
E. King-  
ham.  
• Senate  
Chall.

Robert-  
bridge on  
Rother-  
bridge.  
Bedlam.Parom  
Blackburn

Earls of  
Suffox.  
See the  
Earls of  
Arundel.

The king-  
dom of the  
South-  
Saxons.

\* Lamhard  
*Perambol-*  
*lat.* p. 274.  
Somner's  
*Art.* and  
*Et. Et.* p.  
107.

from whom many noble persons still remain. Echingham next adjoining had also a Baron in the time of K. Edward 2. William de Echingham, whose ancestors were \* Stewards of this Rape. But the Inheritance by heirs females came to the Barons of Windsor, and by the Turbiths. Then the Rother dividing his waters into 3 channels, passes under Rebechridge, where the town of Hen 2. Alured de St. Martin founded in the reign of Hen 2. a Monastery; & so running by Rodiam, a Castle belonging to it; and ancient and famous family of the Lewknors, built by the Delagrays, here falls into the sea-side along the sea-coast of Saffes. As

Now I have paid along the sea-coast  
for the Mediterranean parts, there is nothing worth  
taking notice of, unless I should reckon up in length  
Woods and Forests, (of great extent both in length  
and breadth) the remains of the vast and famous  
wood *Anderida*. Among which, the Forest of *Arundel*, *S. Leonard's*  
the most noted are these; the Forest of *Arundel*, (under  
which lies *Buckhurst*, the seat of the ancient family of  
the *Sackvilles*, of which *Q. Elizabeth* in our memory  
advanced *Thomas Sackville*, a Gentleman of great  
wisdom, to be Baron of *Buckhurst*, took him into her  
Privy Council, elected him into the most honorable  
Order of the Garter, and made him Lord Treasurer  
of England; whom also, of late, *K. James* created  
Earl of *Derby*: *Waterdown Forest*, and that of *Dal-*  
*ington*, the least of all.

Suffex has had 5 Earls of the family of *D'Aubeny*, who were likewise called Earls of Arundel<sup>14</sup>; the first of them was William *D'Aubeny*, the son of William, Butler to King Hen. 1. and Lord of *Buckenham*.

in Norfolk, who gave for his Arms *Gules, a Lion rampant Or*, and was call'd sometimes Earl of Arundel, and sometimes Earl of Chester, because in those places he kept his chief residence. He had by *Adelice* (daughter of *Godfrey Barham* Duke of Lothrain and Brabant, Queen Dowager to King Hen. 1.) *William* the 2d. Earl of *Suffex* and *Arundel*, Father of *William* the 3d. Earl; unto whom *Mabel*, sister and one of the heirs of the last *Ranulph* Earl of Chester, bore *William* the 4th Earl, and *Hugh* the 5th Earl, who both died issueless; and also 4 Daughters, married to Robert Lord of *Tutshill*, John *Fitz-Alan*, Roger de *Somery*, and Robert de *Mont-baile*. Afterwards the title of Arundel sprouted forth again, as I said before, in the *Fitz-Alans*. But that of *Suffex* lay, as it were, forgotten and lost till our age, which hath seen *5 Ratissiff* descended of the most noble house of the *Fitz-Walters* (that fetch'd their original from the *Clares*) bearing that honour; viz. Robert created Earl of *Suffex* by K. Hen. 8. who married *Elizabeth* daughter of Henry Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, by whom he had Henry, the 2d Earl; to whom *Eliz.* the daughter of Tho. Howard Duke of Norfolk bore Thomas: who was Lord Chamberlain o Queen Elizabeth, and dy'd without issue; a Heroe of very great worth and honour, in whose mind were joyntly feated both the wisdom of a Statesman, and the courage of a Soldier, as England and Ireland had reason to acknowledge. Henry his brother succeeded him; after Henry, Robert his only son, an honourable young Gentleman, who now enjoys the Earldom.

<sup>a</sup> Called St. Mary's of *Rokerbridge*, and of the Cistercian Order. That part of it which is now standing, is a farm-house belonging to my Lord of Leicester.

*This County contains 32 Parishes.*

*This County contains 312 Parishes.*

So much for Suffex, which together with Surrey, was the seat of the Regni; afterwards the Kingdom of the South-Saxons, called in Saxon *†* Suð-reaxan-ric, which 31 years after the coming in of the Saxons, was begun by Ella, who, according to Bede, "First amongst the Kings of the English Nation, ruled all their southern Provinces, which are sever'd by the River Humber, and the adjacent limits." The first Christian King was Edilwalch, baptiz'd in the presence of Wulpher, King of Mercia, his Godfather, who gave him in token of adoption two Provinces, the Isle of Wight, and the Province of the Meanyvari. But in the 306<sup>th</sup> year from the beginning of this Kingdom, upon Aldelmus the last King's being slain by Ina, it came wholly under the Dominion of the West-Saxons.

† The true reading is *Sath-saxna vic.*

ADDITIONS to *S U S S E X.*

[A] THE County of *Suffes*, as in the north part it still abounds with wood, fo (as our Author observes) the greatest part of it seems to have been formerly in the same condition. For I can never believe but that vast *Wald*, being 30 miles in breadth, and beginning in the south part of Kent, mult in it's way to *Hampshire*, take up a considerable tract of this Shire. And if so, we may infer from hence this account of it; that the inhabitants could be but very few and thin-plac'd for a long time. Which is plain from the two<sup>d</sup> Kentish Antiquaries, affirming that for a great while the whole *Wald* was scarce any thing else besides a desert and wast wilderness; not planted towres, or peopl'd with men, but stuff'd with deer, and droves of hogs only. Which ac may be very rationally grounded upon this bo that no part of the *Wald* appears by the several C to have been let out by the King (the only and Proprietor of it) in *Mansurs*, but in fo 1 *Dens*, which imply'd only a woody place yie covert and feeding for catel; and that there other use of them expres'd, but only *Pannage* for From which hint is gather'd the primitive sta the greatest part of this County.

[b] In after times, our Author observes an other thing, that they dea't in the Glaſs-trade. that laſt'd not long : for whether it was that it u

to little account, or that they found themselves out-  
v'y'd by other places, there are now no Glas-houfes  
in the whole County.

At present (as in our Author's time) they are most famous for the Iron-works, which are in several places of this County; some whereof have both a Furnace and Forge, others a Forge only, and others only a Furnace. Near Hastings also are two powder-mills, where is made as good Gun-powder as any in England. And in that end of the County where the Iron-works are, namely the East, *Char-coal* is made in great abundance.

form, must be made by some other people. The figure of it is an oblong square, which comes nearest to the Roman way of encamping.

Hard by *Chichester*, towards the west, there has been also another large Roman Camp call'd the *Brae*, of an oblong form; 4 furlongs and 2 perches in length, and 2 furlongs in breadth. It lies in a flat low ground, with a great rampire and single grass; and in such a place, as renders it probable enough to have been that of Vespasian's after his landing.

[d] Eastward from hence is *Arundel*, which our Author observes to be of more fame than real note; tho' it is now a market-town, and a borough sending 2 Burgesses to Parliament. The famous high-way *Stamets-ree-causeway*, which is in some places to yards broad, but in most 7, comes to this town out of Surrey by *Beltingburit*. It is a yard and a half deep in stones (which they discover by cutting passages to let in water,) and runs in a freight line. It is made of flints and pebbles, tho' no flints are found within 7 miles of it.

As the story of *Bevis's* horse call'd *Arundel*, ought not to be altogether rejected; so neither ought our Author's name of the river *Arum*, and derivation of the town from thence, be too securely clos'd with. For, that *Bevis* was founder of the Castle, is a current opinion handed down by tradition; and there is a tower in it still known by the name of *Bevis's tower*, which they say was his own apartment. Besides, 'tis natural enough to imagine that the name of a horse might be *Arundel*, from his swiftness; since that word in French signifies a *Swallow*, and the present Arms of the town (which is corporate by Prescription) are a *Swallow*. Now why might not *Bevis's Arundel* as well have the honour of naming a town wherein his master had a particular interest; as Alexander's *Bucephalus* had, of a city? But whatever approbation this conjecture may meet with, 'tis certain that Mr. Camden's fetching it from *Arum* will not hold. For that river is call'd *High-stream*, to distinguish it from the other small rivulets or streams; and seems to have bore the same name (as to the sense at least) all along. The Norman English call'd it *Hault-ree*; and answerably, the middle-aged Latin writers, *Alta ripa*, (so Mr. Camden tells us that *Rhe* in this County is call'd in Latin *Ripa*; and several branches breaking out of the *High-stream* are at this day call'd *Ripes* or *Rifers*.) There was also an ancient family of Knights, owners of much land in these parts (even in the bosom of this great river in the parish of *Hardham* otherwise *Foringham*) call'd from it *de Hault Rey*; and their posterity remains in these parts to this day, under the name of *D'Austrey*, in Latin *De Alta Ripa*.

But our Author's interpretation, *Arantina vallis*, will not by any means suit either the name of the place, or the circumstances of it. For tho' it be writ several ways, yet no one makes it end in *dale*; nor is a low tract of ground ever express'd by that word in this County (as it is in other parts of England,) but by a *Level*; as *Pevensey-Level*, *Lewes-Level*, *Bramber-Level*, *Arundel-Level*, with many others. And the Commissioners of *Sewers* call the Imposition laid upon Land for repair of publick banks and sluices, a *Level-tax*.

The Earls  
westward.

Thomas Howard, being restor'd in blood 1 Jac. 1. and dying An. 1646. was succeeded in his honours by his son *Henry*, who in the life-time of his father was summoned to Parliament by the titles of Lord *Montbray* and *Maltravers*. By whose death An. 1652. this title came to *Thomas* his eldest son, restor'd also, 13 Car. 2. to the title of *Duke of Norfolk*, which had been forfeited by the Attainder of *Thomas* the last Duke. By which means, the title of *Duke of Norfolk* came to *Henry* his brother, along with the Earldoms of *Arundel* and *Surrey*; who now among other honours enjoys them.

The Earls  
eastward.

[e] Towards the north-east lies *Findon*; within a mile of which is an ancient Camp, at about 2 miles distance from the sea. 'Tis call'd *Cæsar's-hill*, because the people imagine it was *Cæsar's* Camp; and they pretend to shew the place where *Cæsar's* tent was.

Notwithstanding which, the form of it shews that opinion to be an error; for being roundly, it seems rather to have been a British work.

[f] And farther eastward, near *Lewes*, there is *Lewes* another Camp. From whence going forwards, we meet with *Pensly*, which \* Mr. Somner (dissolving *Pensley* into *Camden's*, *Landward's*, and *Selden's* conjecture of *Pen-sel* and *Neuenden*) thought to be the ancient *Andrida*, where *Rome* was the band of the *Albia*; grounding partly upon *Gildas's* words expressing the situation of these garriſons, *In litore Oceani ad meridionem*, on the sea-shore to the south; and the design of them, to ken and spy out the invading enemy: and partly upon the antiquity of the place, which Archbishop *Usher* makes the old *Cæsar Penſelœca* of the Britains; by the *coar*, i. e. wood, the former condition of this County being hinted to. But tho' he seems most inclin'd to this place, yet he is not altogether so positive, but either *Hastings*, or even *Neuenden*, may lay claim to this piece of Antiquity.

[g] Not far from hence is *Ashburnham*, of which *Ashburn* place and family *John Ashburnham* Esquire, Grandfather to the present Lord *Ashburnham*, built there a handsome Church with 3 Chancels. There is also a noble house of the present Lord *Ashburnham's*, which for stately buildings and convenient garden-room, is one of the best in this County.

North-east from hence lies *Brede*, the Court where *Brede* of is a branch of that at *Battle*, and hath the same privilege and process. The Lands in the manour of *Brede*, tho' in Suffex, descend according to the custom of *Gavel-kind*. Here is a kind of Court kept every 3 weeks, where Actions between man and man are try'd; and the Officers are exempt from attending the Assizes or Sessions.

[h] To the east, upon the sea-shore, is *Winchelsea* *Winchelsea* *Winchelsea*, which *Twine* falsely imagines to have been writ originally *Winchelsea*, from it's being expos'd to the winds; for so he adds, *Olim ventis, frigori, et ponto obnoxium, unde ei nomen obvenit*. But it is by Mr. Somner interpreted, a *waterish place* seated in a corner, which exactly answers the nature and situation of the place, lying at the corner of *Kent* and *Suffex*. The new town was endow'd with the same privileges which the old one had, namely, those of the Cinque-ports to which it belongs as one of the ancient *towns*. It still retains that of sending 2 Burgesses to Parliament, tho' the Electors are but very few; the town being most miserably decay'd by the loss of it's market, trade, and all inhabitants of any note. An argument whereof is, that the grass grows in the very streets (tho' they are all pav'd) to that degree, as makes the herbage sometimes yield 4 l. per An.

It seems at first to have been built with admirable regularity, the streets standing all at right angles, and divided into 32 squares; or *quarters*, as they are now call'd. There were anciently in it 12 Parish-Churches, tho' there is now only the chancel of the largest of them remaining, which is the present Parish-Church. The stone work of the three gates is yet standing.

This place has afforded the title of Countess to *Elizabeth* wife to Sir *Myke Finch*, and daughter and heir to Sir *Thomas Hovage* Knight; having been before created Viscountess of *Maulden* by *J. James* 1. which titles descended to Sir *Tim. Finch*, her son, whose eldest son *Hemage* is now Earl of *Winchelsea*.

At some distance from *Winchelsea* is *Selscombe*, *Selscombe*, where (as also in several places of this County) are mineral waters of the same nature with those at *Timbridge*, and altogether as strongly impregnated.

More to the east, in the parish of *East-Gosford* *East-Gosford* *East-Gosford* (which is the utmost bounds of Suffex eastward) is a peculiar way of *Tithing* their marsh-lands, whereby they pay only 3 d. *pro Acre* to the Rector, whilst in pasture; but if plough'd, 5 s.

#### Continuation of the EARLS.

Robert, the last Earl mention'd by our Author, dying 5 Car. 1. left the title of Earl of *Suffex* to his son *Edward*; but he having no issue, the family of the *Clarcliffs* Earls of *Suffex* ended in him, and that



OF HERTFORD



PART OF ESSEX

Latitude

30

35

35



PART OF  
MIDDLESEX  
LONDON



PART OF  
BARK  
SHIRE

PART  
OF  
KENT



PART OF  
SUSSEX