

SURVEY OF ORFORD CASTLE, 1600.

The thanks of the members of the Institute are due to A. H. E. Wood, Esq., of Sudbourne Hall, for granting permission to illustrate this number of the Proceedings, with a view of Orford Castle as it stood in 1600. The Survey of the Castle* from which the print is taken was made for Sir Michael Stanhope, by the well-known cartographer, J. Norden (1548—1625).

This fact speaks for the accuracy of the details of the picture, which gives the appearance of the Castle when the encompassing walls were standing. It is the earliest survey of the Castle known to be in existence. The beacon is represented burning, as a signal for mariners passing or entering the port.

Norden was engaged by Sir Michael Stanhope to make the survey of all his lands† in Suffolk, recently granted to him by Queen Elizabeth, and which extended over nearly the whole district lying between the Deben at Wilford Bridge and the sea at Orford Ness. The survey is comprised in two large folio volumes of vellum (21" x 15"), containing twenty-eight maps and plans of villages, fields, heaths, and sea coast. The whole series of coloured illustrations is valuable to historians and topographers of the present day, for from them may be gathered many facts, which bring to light the early division of the fields, and mark the use made of certain hills and landmarks long since obliterated.

The production is equal to the surveys of Cornwall, Surrey, Middlesex, and Hertfordshire, made by the same author. Several county-maps, upon a large scale, appear with his name in the sixth edition of Camden's *Britannia*, London, 1607, folio; also in Speed, 1611. The Dictionary of National Biography does not mention any survey made by Norden in Suffolk.

* Privy Council Order dated Hampton Court, 27 Jan., 1593, declaring "To all Lieutenants, etc., of Counties" that "the bearer, John Norden, gent., was authorised and appointed by her Majesty to travail through England and Wales to make more perfect descriptions, charts, and maps." (His. mss. Comm. 7th Rep., p. 540 b.)

† An ample and trew descriptiō and Survey of the Mannors, Lordships, Townes, and Parishes of Staverton, Eyke, Bromswall, Wantesden, Chelsforde, Sudburn, Oreford, and Duningworth, wt. parcell of Tunstall in the Countie of Suffolk, parcell of the Lands of the right worshipful Sir Michael Stanhope, Knight, 1600."