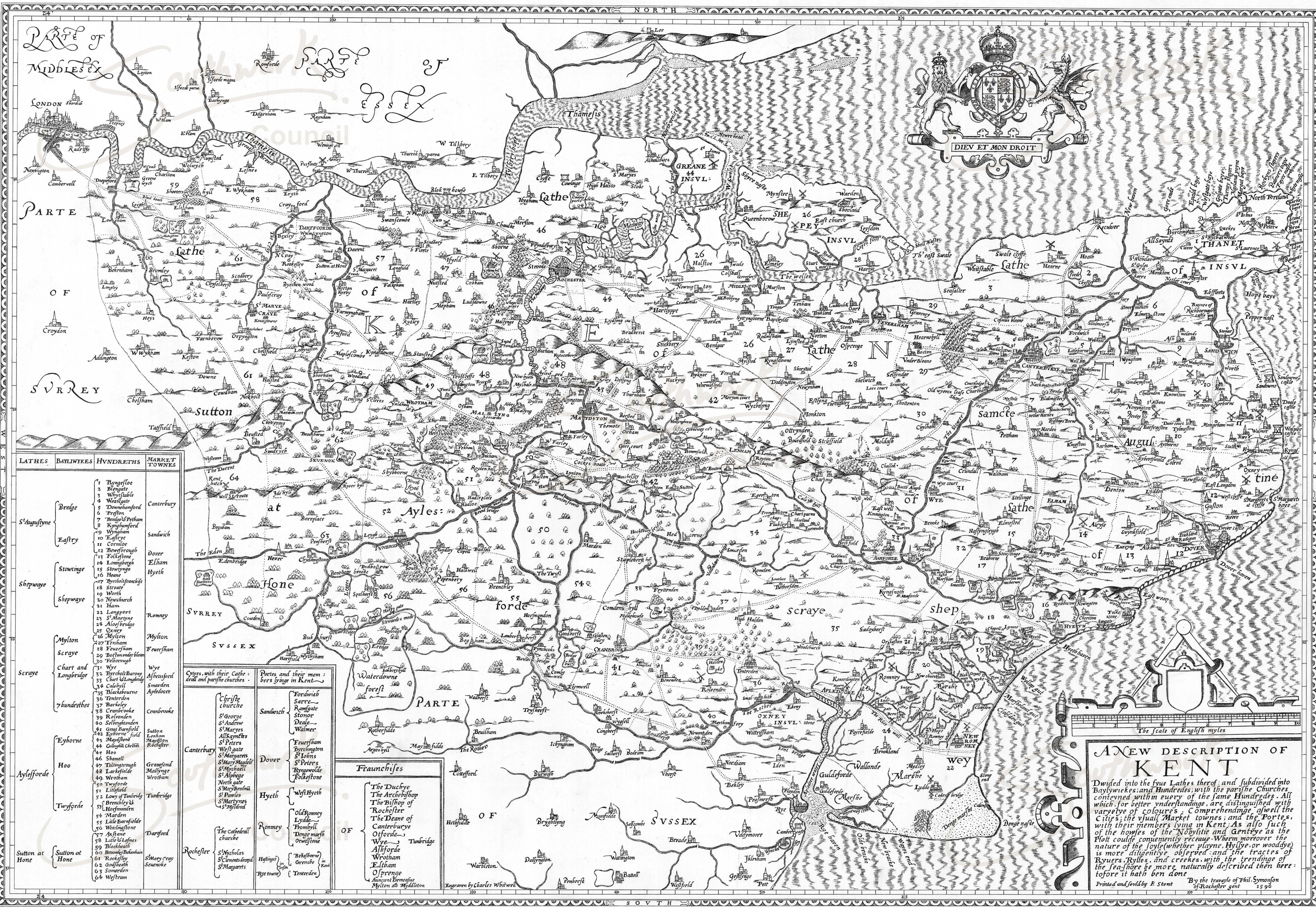


SYMONSON'S MAP of KENT, 1596

(AS PUBLISHED BY STENT ABOUT 1650)



LATHES	BAYLIWIKES	HUNDRETHS	MARKET TOWNES
S'augustyne	1 Byngesloe	1 Blythe	Canterbury
	2 Westgate	2 Blythe	
	3 Downhamford	3 Blythe	
	4 Blythe	4 Blythe	
	5 Blythe	5 Blythe	
Eastry	6 Blythe	6 Blythe	Sandwich
	7 Blythe	7 Blythe	
	8 Blythe	8 Blythe	
	9 Blythe	9 Blythe	
	10 Blythe	10 Blythe	
Stowtinge	11 Blythe	11 Blythe	Dover
	12 Blythe	12 Blythe	
	13 Blythe	13 Blythe	
	14 Blythe	14 Blythe	
	15 Blythe	15 Blythe	
Shepwaye	16 Blythe	16 Blythe	Elham
	17 Blythe	17 Blythe	
	18 Blythe	18 Blythe	
	19 Blythe	19 Blythe	
	20 Blythe	20 Blythe	
Mylton	21 Blythe	21 Blythe	Hyeth
	22 Blythe	22 Blythe	
	23 Blythe	23 Blythe	
	24 Blythe	24 Blythe	
	25 Blythe	25 Blythe	
Scraye	26 Blythe	26 Blythe	Romney
	27 Blythe	27 Blythe	
	28 Blythe	28 Blythe	
	29 Blythe	29 Blythe	
	30 Blythe	30 Blythe	
Chart and Longbridge	31 Blythe	31 Blythe	Mylton
	32 Blythe	32 Blythe	
	33 Blythe	33 Blythe	
	34 Blythe	34 Blythe	
	35 Blythe	35 Blythe	
7 hundredes	36 Blythe	36 Blythe	Fraunchises
	37 Blythe	37 Blythe	
	38 Blythe	38 Blythe	
	39 Blythe	39 Blythe	
	40 Blythe	40 Blythe	
Eythorne	41 Blythe	41 Blythe	Canterbury
	42 Blythe	42 Blythe	
	43 Blythe	43 Blythe	
	44 Blythe	44 Blythe	
	45 Blythe	45 Blythe	
Hoo	46 Blythe	46 Blythe	Dover
	47 Blythe	47 Blythe	
	48 Blythe	48 Blythe	
	49 Blythe	49 Blythe	
	50 Blythe	50 Blythe	
Twyfyrde	51 Blythe	51 Blythe	Hyeth
	52 Blythe	52 Blythe	
	53 Blythe	53 Blythe	
	54 Blythe	54 Blythe	
	55 Blythe	55 Blythe	
Sutton at Hone	56 Blythe	56 Blythe	Romney
	57 Blythe	57 Blythe	
	58 Blythe	58 Blythe	
	59 Blythe	59 Blythe	
	60 Blythe	60 Blythe	

Portes and their men :
 Forde
 Hone
 Scraye
 Wey

Franchises
 The Duchye
 The Archebishop
 The Bishop of Rochester
 The Deane of Canterbury
 Ofordale
 Wye
 Aylesford
 Wrotham
 Eltham
 Oprenge
 Aunton
 Boreham
 Mylton at Maidstone

A NEW DESCRIPTION OF KENT
 Divided into the five Lathes thereof and subdivided into Bayliwikes and Hundredes; with the parts of the Churches conteyned within every of the same Hundredes. All which for better understandinge, are distinguished with varietie of colours. Comprehendinge also the Cities; the vjual Market townes; and the Portes, with their members lying in Kent. As also such of the houses of the Nobylite and Gentrye as the Plot could conveniently receive. Wheremore the nature of the Soyle (whether plaine, Hillye or wooddye) is more distinctly observed, and the tractes of Ryvers, Rylles, and creekes, with the trendinge of the sea; here be more naturally described then here tofore it hath ben done.
 By the traject of Phil Symonson of Rochester gent 1596
 Printed and sold by P. Stent

A Note on this Facsimile Reproduction

Philip Symonson held the post of Expeditior, Superintendent and Surveyor of the Bridge and the Bridge estates at Rochester from 1592 until his death in 1598. He was also Mayor of Rochester in 1597/8. We know that as Surveyor he made maps of four estates belonging to the Bridge Wardens of Rochester. They are:—
 Manors of Nashenden and Little Delce, n.d., n.s.
 Lands in the Parish of Dartford, n.d., n.s.
 The Manor of Langdon, 1596, n.s.
 Estate at Tilbury, n.s.
 The first three of these are preserved in the archives of the Bridge Chamber at Rochester; the fourth has disappeared. All were manuscript maps. Symonson also drew a map of the "Decayed Harbrough of Rye," 1594.

The work by which he is best known is his great map of Kent, bearing the date 1596. No complete copy of the first issue of this is known, but the eastern sheet, in the possession of Canon G. M. Livett, was reproduced by the Royal Geographical Society in *English County Maps in the collection of the Royal Geographical Society*, by Edward Heawood, 1932. This sheet is in every respect the same as the eastern sheet of P. Stent's re-issue reproduced by the Ordnance Survey, except that no publisher or place is given. There are traces of erasure around the date, 1596, which have led some writers to think that the original date was 1576, but the latter date is for many reasons unlikely and the erasures do not seem to have any real significance.
 The next issue (illustrated above) was reproduced by the Ordnance Survey in 1914. From the dates of Stent's activity as a publisher and from the watermark of the map this

issue can be dated at about 1650. From this, the earliest known copy of the whole map, we learn that Charles Whitwell was the engraver of the original plate. Whitwell was one of the best of the early English copper engravers, and did maps of Surrey (1594, by Norden), France (c. 1590, for Plancius), Asia (1595, for a book) and Jerusalem (about the same time).
 The next issue appears in *Villare Cantianum*, by Thomas Philpott, published by W. Godbid in London in 1639. The original date has been erased, and two views added at the top. These are of Rye, by Sir Anthony van Dyck, and of Dover Castle and Town, by Hollar. "Printed and sold by P. Stent" is repeated.
 The next issue was also by Stent, but has his address added ("at ye White Horse in giltspur Street") and the date 1639 substituted for 1596.

John Overton, who succeeded to most of Stent's plates, re-issued this map in 1666 (date on map), with his own name and address in the place of Stent's.
 Finally in 1770 the plate was again used by John Sayer, Symonson's name being at last removed.
 The map was copied, with reduction and alterations, in Harris's *History of Kent*, 1720. For size and detail the map was superior to any English county map of its time. Like Norden, but unlike Saxton, Symonson showed the roads. His village churches are not shown conventionally, as was the case on most maps of the time, but as they actually appeared.