

Etching, trimmed to platemark, some losses to top corners.

ST. GEORGE’S CHAPEL

St. George’s Chapel

Author
HOLLAR, W[enceslaus]

Publication date
1663 [but 1673].

Publisher
Printed by J. Macock, for Nathaniel Brooke],

Publication place
[London,

Physical description
Etching, trimmed to platemark, some losses to top corners.

Dimensions
293 by 325mm. (11.5 by 12.75 inches).

Notes
Originally founded by King Edward III in the fourteenth century and greatly extended during the following century, St. George’s Chapel at Windsor Castle served as the stage for numerous royal services, weddings and burials throughout history. As well as the bodies of kings, the chapel was also home to a fragment of the True Cross which attracted pilgrims during the late medieval period. Two decades before Hollar made the present print, the chapel had been plundered by

Parliamentarian forces during the Civil War; in 1643 the lead was stripped from the roof and parts of Henry VIII's funeral monument were stolen. Following his execution in 1649, Charles I was buried in a small vault in the centre of the choir. Following the restoration, St. George's Chapel underwent a programme of repairs and reconstruction.

Hollar's print shows the chapel from the west, facing the choir. All the walls have tall windows, and the north and south sides have flags hanging above the seats. The vaulted ceiling is just as detailed as the walls and seating. Executed in 1663, the print was later included in Elias Ashmole's "The Order of the Garter" (1672), a detailed history of the order which has its spiritual headquarters at the chapel.

Bibliography
NHG Hollar 2175 I; Met 23.89.1; Pennington 1078.

Provenance

Price: £600

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