

Merian's view provides some insight into life on the river. The "gally fuste" (41) is the galley foist, the official barge of the city of London, used for ceremonial occasions by the Mayor. The "eell schipes" (40) nearby were Dutch merchant vessels, transporting live eels from Scandinavia in hold tanks full of muddy water. They would then anchor in the Thames and customers would row out to buy fresh eels. "Lion Kay" (27) was a busy water station, and ten years after this print was made James II, then Duke of York, would escape from there during the Civil War.

Bibliography

BM 1948,0315.1.3; RCIN 702202 (but ascribed to Merian the Younger); Scouloudi pp.42-44; V&A S.1113-1982.

Provenance**Price:**

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