

The approach to Bray Church from Maidenhead, Berkshire

George Frederick Prosser



Description

George Frederick Prosser (1805-1882)

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Signed lower left: Bray/G.F. Prosser 1871 and inscribed with title and dated on part of old mount

Watercolour over pencil

17.6 by 26.4 cm., 7 by 10 1/4 in.

Maidenhead, originally dates to 1293. It was built by Queen Margaret, wife of Edward 1 and being a royal foundation and near Windsor, the church was expensively and elaborately constructed, especially given the size of the population at the time.

Chantry House, the red brick house to the right of the church, was originally built in 1754, during its long history it has been both private residence and hotel. The cricket pitch, just seen over the fence, beyond the road, is reputedly one of the oldest in the country and has been in continuous use since at least 1774. The first recorded cricketer from Bray was in 1744, when he was selected to play at the Artillery Ground in London, when cricket was first being formulated and six years before the foundation of Hambledon Cricket Club, widely regarded as the cradle of cricket.