

The River Wey with Guildford Castle Keep from the foot of St Catherine's, Surrey

George Frederick Prosser



Description

George Frederick Prosser (1805-1882)

The River Wey with Guildford Castle Keep from the foot of St Catherine's, Surrey

Bears signature lower left and signed and dated 1868 and inscribed with title on reverse of original mount

Watercolour over pencil

14 by 22 cm., 5 1/2 by 8 1/2 in.

The river Wey which passes through Guildford, is one of the main tributaries of the Thames. Its two branches, rising in Alton, Hampshire and south of Haslemere, merge and flow north through Godalming and Guildford until it joins the Thames at Weybridge. Guildford Castle was one of the early castles, build shortly after the Norman Conquest. The stone keep, which stands today, was built around 1130 to replace the initial timber construction. The castle has served as a royal palace, prison and private residence, before being sold to the corporation of Guildford and a public park and garden created around the keep. The ruined chapel on St Catherine's hill, is a small 14th Century chapel, built by the rector of nearby St Nicholas Church, Richard de Wauncey.