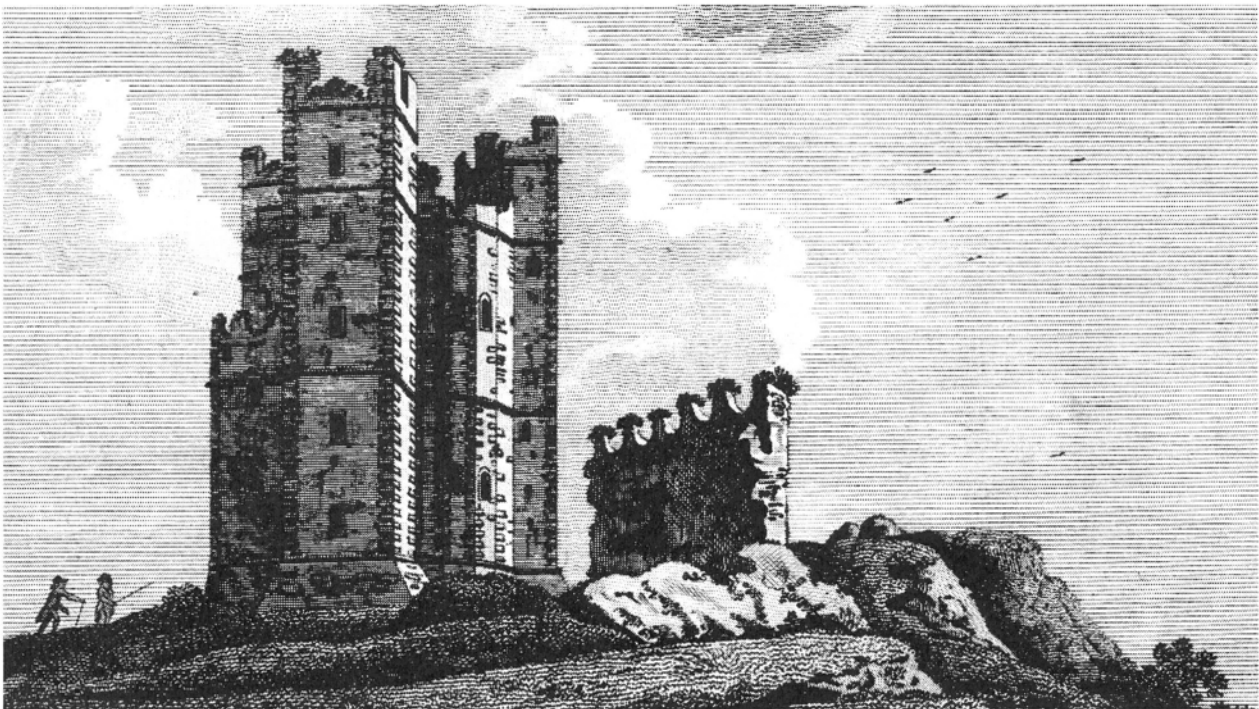


Orford Church still had its *'noble Tower'* intact (part of it was to fall in 1830), although the chancel was, of course, a ruin (see the picture on page 6). The botanists identified the standing pillars as more ancient than the building now in use, and noted a modern altar tomb between the eastern pillars. Inside, an inscription in gold lettering revealed that the organ had been provided by Lord Hertford. They remarked upon the large number of memorial brasses and the inscription on the font. The truth of the inscription added to the monument (on the south wall) to Francis Mason, said to have been rector for 80 years, was very much doubted by the two men, and rightly so.

Orford Castle did not deserve to be called a ruin in their opinion, and part of the perimeter wall still stood to the height of 40 feet to the northeast. They entered the keep *'by way of a small window about 8 feet from the ground'* and inspected the circular keep with its turrets, noting the chapel, bedchambers, kitchen and scullery, *'not to mention places appropriated to other necessary uses'* (these must have been the castle's garderobes, which still fascinate visitors today). Reference was made to the story, told by Camden, of the *'Sea-Man'* and his long black beard, held prisoner in the castle. He was *'not a Porpus'*, wrote Charles. Did William Kirby have a black beard?



Orford Castle in Suffolk by Noble. Published by Alex' Hogg, No 16 Paternoster Row, late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Two sightseers scramble up to the base of the keep. The remaining section of the curtain wall is shown. *Orford Museum*

At Orfordness they saw the two lighthouses, 200 yards apart, which were the property of Lord Howard de Walden. He received an annual income of £2000 since every ship that passed had to make a payment at the Port of London for their support. The western lighthouse (the High Light) was of red brick and contained a light produced from coal, whilst the other (the Low Light) was of wood, newly built on the edge of the waves. Here there was a new invention consisting of several lamps which reflected the light from *'Speculums'* placed behind them.

### **Further excursions**

Another day they set off in a curricle past Sudbourne Hall, noting that Lord Hertford *'takes no care to have good roads'*, and alighted at Wantisden Bogs, presumably Padley Water near Chillesford, where they found numerous plants. Their favourite meadow was at Chillesford, which they must have first entered on their way to Orford. At Butley they admired the Priory Gatehouse re-