

• **William Stukeley** (1687-1765), Antiquary, was born at Holbeach in Lincolnshire, and studied medicine at Cambridge University. While still a student he began making topographical and architectural drawings as well as sketches of historical artefacts. From 1710 -25 he embarked on a horseback expedition through the countryside at least once a year taking notes and sketching the things he observed. In 1712 Stukeley embarked on an extensive tour of western Britain, taking in Wales. This account was later published as *Iter Cimbricum*. He continued with this antiquarian activity alongside his career as a doctor, and published the results of his travels around Britain in *'Itinerarium Curiosum'* in 1724. By 1718 he became the first Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of London and became acquainted with the Buck brothers. It may have been his medical training that gave him his acute eye for detailed observation - a characteristic that makes the *'Itinerarium'* a valuable record of monuments, buildings and towns before they were subjected to the ravages of the agricultural and industrial revolutions. He deplored the destruction of monuments and realised the importance of recording accurately and scientifically what he saw as a way of preserving information about the past. His activities in the field included excavations at Stonehenge and Avebury, the results of which were published in two books in 1740 (*Stonehenge*) and 1743 (*Abury: A Temple of the British Druids*). Stukeley mistakenly attributed them to the Druids. In 1730, he changed career and was ordained as vicar of All Saints Church in Stamford in Lincolnshire. Whilst always interested in pre-history, castles did not escape his notice, but he left these monuments to Samuel Buck to record, with whom he had an amicable working relationship.



William Stukeley, after Sir Godfrey Kneller, Bt mezzotint, 1721 NPG D11570

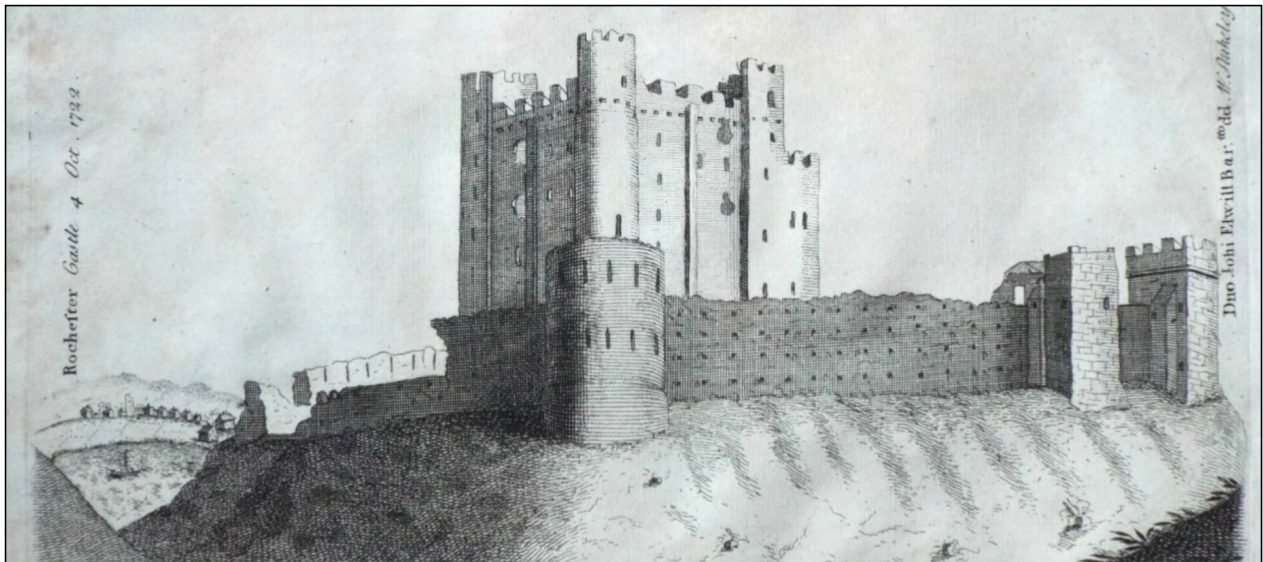
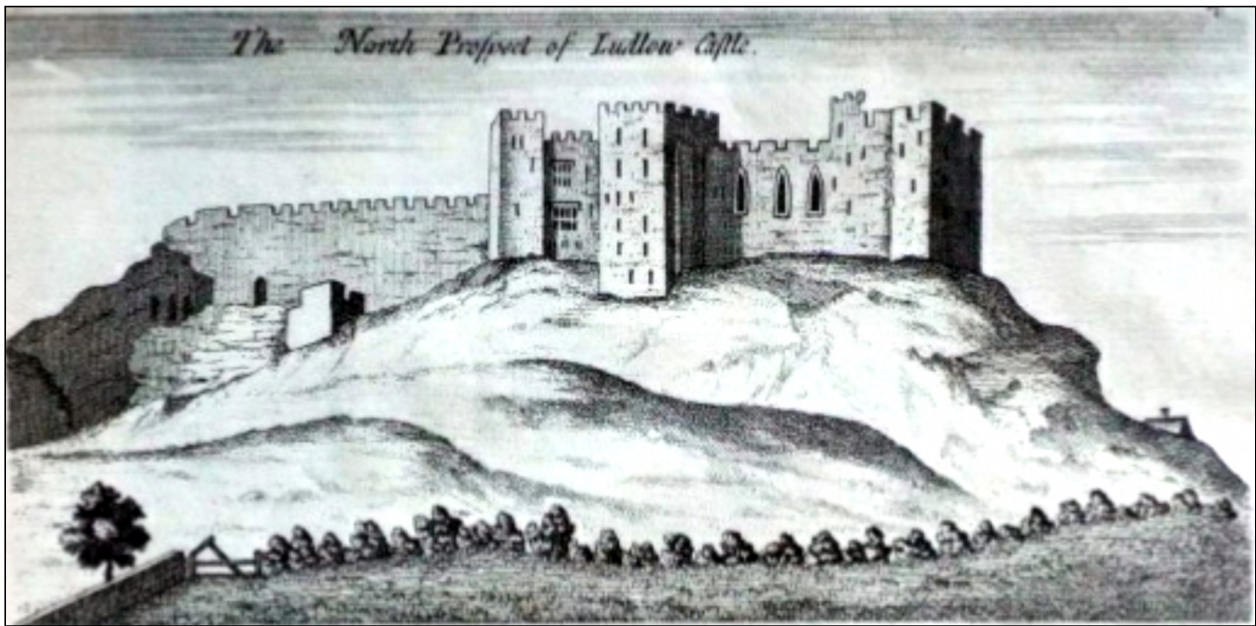


Fig. 110. Engraving of Rochester Castle from the south by William Stukeley (1722). © Historic England/Society of Antiquaries. Central to the engraving is the corner or angle drum tower, built c. 1226-7, when the keep corner tower behind it was repaired. To the right (north) along the curtain are the two rectangular towers added by Edward III c. 1360. Beyond is the gatehouse.



Fig. 111. Clarendon Palace. William Stukeley. Built substantially by King John, Henry II and Henry III. Copper engraving from *Itinerarium curiosum*: 1723. Three miles east of Salisbury, and of similar ruined appearance today.





Two views of Ludlow castle and its ground plan from William Stukeley (1721-2).

Fig. 112. Top: The castle from the north, across the River Teme. (compare Lens III of 1731). Central tower is the latrine block 1320s.  
 Fig. 113. Middle: the view from the west, from Whitcliff across the Teme, which became the classic artist's view.  
 Fig. 114. Below left: the groundplan or 'Ichonography', with west at the top (cf. the plan shown in Francis Grose, which is based on this).  
 All three drawings / plans appear in William Stukeley's, 'Itinerarium Curiosum: Or, an Account of the Antiquities, and Remarkable Curiosities in Nature or Art, Observed in Travels Through Great Britain. Illustrated with Copper Plates'. (2nd edition, which was not published until 1776, after p. 74). Orientation has east at the bottom.

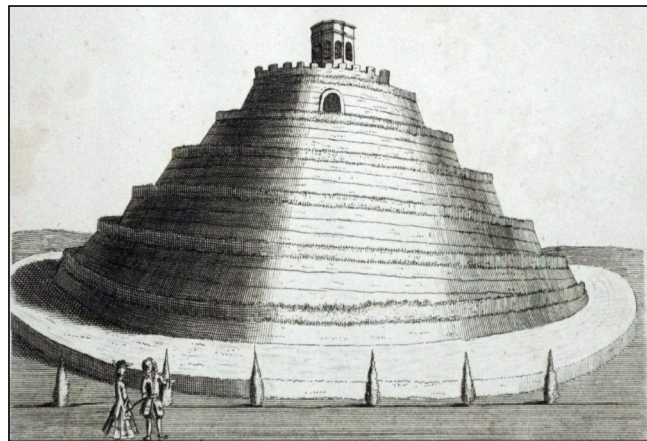
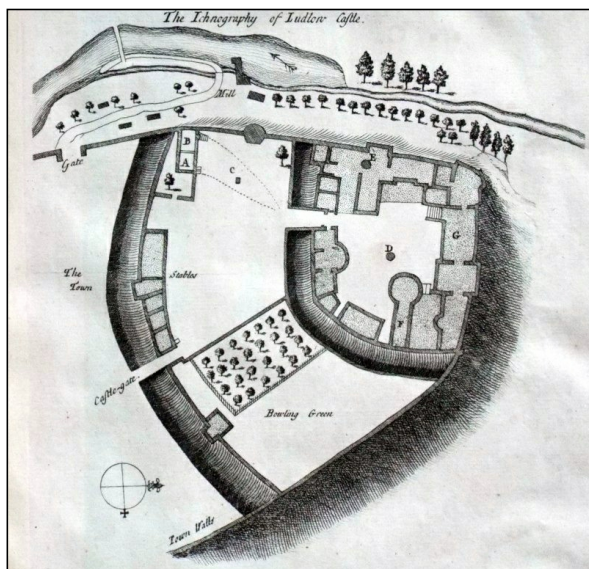
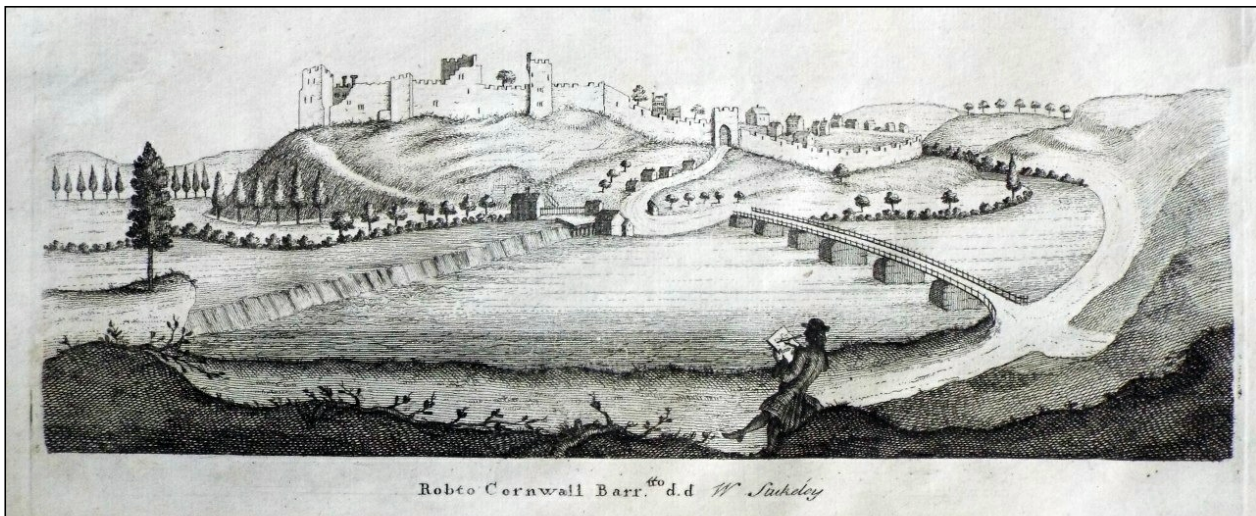


Fig. 115. W. Stukeley. The Marlborough Mound. A Neolithic monument in Marlborough, Wiltshire. Standing 19 metres tall, it is second only to the nearby Silbury Hill in terms of height for such a monument. Modern study situates the construction date around 2400BC.