

Charles Whitworth  
(Invitation to contribute to a new edition of Philipott's  
Villare Cantianum)  
n.p.  
n.d. (c.1760)

For the Parish of <blank>

I should be obliged to you if you would favour me with such Information  
as Yourself or Your Friends can procure relating to the following Places,  
specifying the several Possessors, from the Year <blank> down to this present  
Time, in order to perfecting a New Edition of Philpot's History of Kent.

Your Most Obedient Humble Servant,

Leybourne,

CHARLES WHITWORTH.

The Price of the above Work is at present Two Guineas, and very scarce;  
whereas this New Edition is proposed to be sold for Twelve Shillings; and if  
You will favour me with Your own Name, or any others who may be glad to  
encourage it, it will be a Means of ascertaining the Number to be printed off.

<the rest of the page blank>

<'Sir Charles Whitworth <not 'Sir' till 1768> had some thoughts of  
republishing Philipott's survey, with continuations of the estates  
to the present time; but the progress he made was so small,  
as hardly to be called an attempt; and his other avocations, to-  
gether with his soon after quitting this county, occasioned it to be  
laid aside' (Gough 1780, p. 446). For a time it seemed possi-  
ble that Edward Hasted might be drawn into a collaboration with  
Whitworth (Black 2001, pp. 110–11, 134, 177–9); but Whitworth  
backed out in 1764, after four years' work, and we are all the  
better off for that. This circular was presumably printed and dis-  
tributed in about 1760. (The only surviving copy on record is in  
Canterbury Cathedral Library: I am grateful to Karen Brayshaw  
and Laura Jenkins for arranging to let me have a photograph  
of it.) Like John Harris, Whitworth seems to have been under  
the delusion that Kent was full of people who would be happy to  
write his book for him; like Harris, no doubt, he discovered that  
he was mistaken. (By the way, there is no connection between  
this circular of Whitworth's and the new edition of Philipott's book  
published at King's Lynn in 1776.) – C.F. September 2011.>