

Grey Friars History • LATEST DISCOVERY

We've known about this print, preserved in the Essex Record Office, for some time. It was thought that perhaps Stephen Brown (Grey Friars owner from 1849) had commissioned an artist/engraver to record his magnificent garden because no suitable photography was available at the time. However, only recently – after Colchester Museum opened up its collection to online searches – the photograph has come to light. Even considering its age and possible deterioration over time, it is of poor quality. Was Stephen Brown perhaps disappointed, prompting him to ask an engraver to prepare a better-quality depiction? There are very few differences in the composition.

