



**Yarmouth Castle, from the harbour.**

1791

Samuel Howitt

IWCMS.2002.94

Yarmouth's twelve-gun castle was the last and most sophisticated addition to *Henry VIII's* coastal defences.

Completed after his death in 1547, this stone artillery fortress was built with no central tower. The main rectangular block has a square battery to the front and the first new-style 'arrowhead' artillery bastion built in *England* on the exposed angle.



**Yarmouth from the harbour, looking up Quay Street.**

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This view looks up *Quay Street* showing the *George Inn* on the left, with its high-pitched roof, and, on the right, the *King's Head* which still exists today. Part of *Yarmouth Castle* is visible to the left and some interesting activity is seen associated with the small boats landing at the beach.



**Yarmouth from the harbour, looking up Quay Street.**

Circa. 1790s

Thomas Rowlandson

IWCMS.2002.93

A view down *Quay Street* in *Yarmouth* looking towards the Quay.

On the right is the *George Inn* and its stables, formerly the town house of *Lord Holmes*, Governor of the Isle of Wight.

To the left is a building with the sign "*Webster*", who ran a *Lymington-Yarmouth* passage boat from the mid 18th to the mid 19th century.



**Captain Urry's House at Yarmouth.**  
Samuel Howitt

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This view of *Captain John Urry's* house at *Yarmouth* is looking north from *South Street* with the Solent beyond. The *Urrys* were one of the oldest families on the Island and were recorded as far back as the 13th Century.

Documentation shows that *Urry* owned the cliffs around *Freshwater* in the 1780s and sent the pure white sand mined there to *London*, *Bristol* and *Worcester* for glass and porcelain manufacture.



**Alum Bay, near Needle Rocks.**

Samuel Howitt

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*Alum Bay* is famous for its coloured sands, which were formed during the *Eocene* period. The sands were lifted into their near vertical position and the thin layers were stained by the different minerals that were present.

In the 18th century the locality became a subject of curiosity worthy of visitors' attention. In 1781 *Sir Richard Worsley* wrote "*The edges of the cliffs are beautifully variegated with the diversity of colours, arising from the different strata of earth.*"



**The Needles.**  
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The *Needles* is the name for a series of chalk stacks off the western point of the Isle of Wight. The sea around the *Needles* was notorious for shipwrecks. The first lighthouse was built in 1785 on top of the downs, while the current lighthouse on the outermost rock was not built until the 1850s.

The boat is a *cutter-rigged sloop*, most likely what would be called a *hoy*. The vessel may have been named *Pegasus*; the flying horse can be seen emblazoned on the flag.