

The Church of St. Mary & St. David, Kilpeck

James S. Jaffe Rare Books / [ARTIST'S BOOK] NUTTALL, Jeff.

The original manuscript of Nuttall's 1954 Master's Thesis on the history of the medieval church in Kilpeck. "The one and only copy of this work is owned by Jonathan Williams..." – note in The Kilpeck Anthology (Five Seasons Press, 1981). A history of the church in Nuttall's neat cursive hand illustrated and embellished with his artwork in three chapters: "The History", "The Sculpture & Architecture", and "The Impact". In the coda to the book Nuttall writes: "**My intended detachment was completely destroyed. The building refused to be seen as an arrangement in stone, as the key to a time and a tradition, or as a piece in the jigsaw puzzle of art history. It stood unavoidably as a work of art, the timeless expression of a vision experienced under that same sun which now winked at me through the deep yew tree.**" Nuttall, poet, publisher, actor, artist, musician, and figure of the 60s' counter-culture in Britain, was the brother of literary critic and teacher A. D. Nuttall. Spine and covers rubbed, particularly at the extremities, otherwise this unique artist's book is in fine condition. Folio, 26 leaves of heavy gray stock, illustrated frontispiece, calligraphic title-page and section-titles in red with historiated initials, illustrated throughout with watercolors of views and interiors (a few onlaid), architectural elements and carvings, pen & ink drawings, most heightened with colored chalk or wash, plans, and floral borders, original calf, spine lettered in gilt, gilt device on front cover.

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