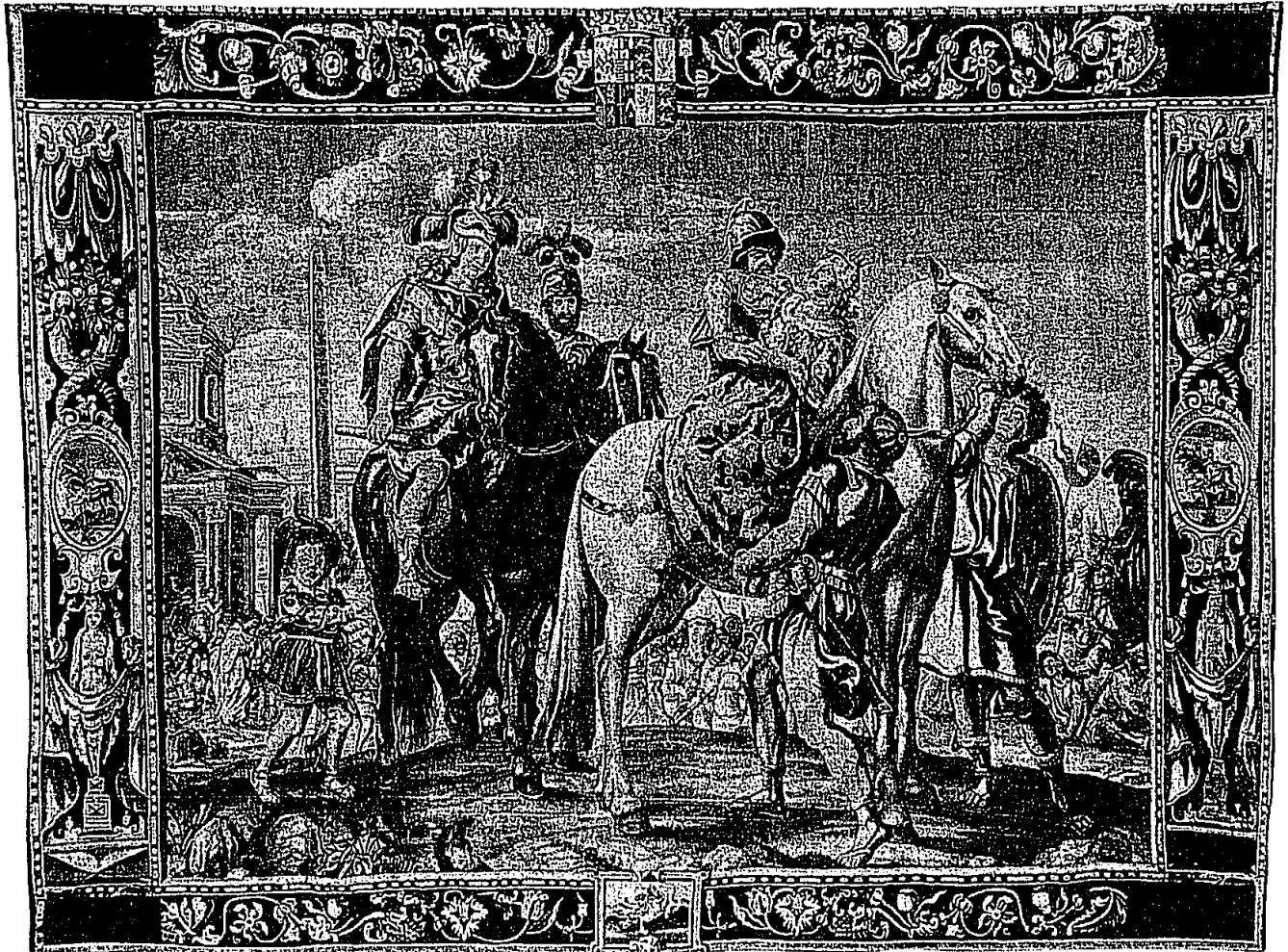


Tapestry production in England, 17th c. Mortlake Tapestry, *The Seizure of Cassandra by Ajax*, 16453-60.



British tapestry production began in Ireland in the 1530s with Flemish artisans. Religious persecution brought Flemish, French and Dutch Protestant tapestry artisans to England during the late 16th century. In 1607, King James II encouraged the creation of the Mortlake tapestry works, which brought skilled Low Country tapestry designers and designs to England and trained English apprentices. This Mortlake tapestry was based upon a design by Raphael. Charles I encouraged the purchase of Raphael's cartoon for this purpose. The Mortlake tapestry works successfully established luxury tapestry production in England during the 17th century. See Linda Levy Peck, *Consuming Splendor: Society and Culture in Seventeenth Century London*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005, pp. 80-85.