

HEREFORDSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWS



HAN 59 January 1993

**WOOLHOPE CLUB
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH SECTION**

CONTENTS

ARS OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE FOR 1992.....	3
PROGRAMME JANUARY-OCTOBER 1993.....	4
EDITORIAL.....	5
MISCELLANY.....	6
ADDENDA.....	6
SOME THOUGHTS ON POSSIBLE ROMAN ROADS TOWARDS WORCESTER/TEWKESBURY.....	9
THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND DINNER.....	9
WOOLHOPE CLUB ANNUAL WINTER MEETING.....	10
THE USE OF THE CAMCORDER IN FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY – ILLUSTRATED LECTURE ON LOCAL CASTLES.....	11
FIELD MEETING AT UPPER SAPEY.....	12
CLUN CASTLE.....	19
MEETING OF COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGY GROUPS.....	20
THE CITY OF HEREFORD ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT.....	21
NOTES FOR A HISTORY OF TERRITORIAL WOLPHY.....	21
ROMAN SEVERN CROSSINGS.....	22
MARLEY HALL, LEDBURY (SO 684 407).....	23
FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS IN THE DULAS VALLEY.....	24
CASTLE FROME CASTLE – DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE.....	26
CASTLE FROME CASTLE – A LOST DE LACY CAPUT.....	28
A CURRENT ATTEMPT TO INTEREST THE ‘ESTABLISHMENT’ IN A CONSTRUCTIVE USE OF AERIAL ARCHAEOLOGY.....	30
PARISH CORRESPONDENTS DAY.....	32
FIELD MEETING ON GARWAY HILL.....	33
NEWS FROM THE COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE.....	35
BOOK REVIEW.....	37
FOURTH ANNUAL SHOVELLERS’ SHINDIG.....	38
SOME MIDDLE MARCH CASTLES.....	40

MORE WELSH KINGS IN HEREFORDSHIRE, AND THE ORIGINS OF RHWNG GWY A HAFREN	45
BRAMPTON BRYAN CASTLE.....	50

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No. 59 January 1993

ARS OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE FOR 1993

<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr P Halliwell
<u>Hon Vice Chairman</u>	Mr R E Kay
<u>Secretary:</u>	Mr M Hemming
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Mr J Harding
<u>Field Secretary:</u>	Mr M Hemming
<u>Editor:</u>	Mr P Halliwell
<u>Assistant Editor:</u>	Mr J Kirkwood
<u>Committee Members:</u>	Mrs R Richardson
	Mrs R Skelton
	Mrs M Pullen
	Mr H Pullen
	Mrs B Harding
	Mrs E M Taylor
	Mr R E Kay
	Mr G Sprackling
	Mr R F Stirling-Brown
	Mr W T Jones
	Mrs M U Jones

Sectional Recorders

The following are sectional recorders for the Woolhope Club:

Mrs B Harding	Ornithology
Mrs R Skelton	Deserted Medieval Villages
Mr G Sprackling	Parish Field Name Survey

Disclaimer

The views expressed in articles represent the opinions of the writers, and not necessarily those of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club or the Archaeological Research Section. The accounts of field meetings are as faithful a record as possible of events and discoveries.

History Local Day School – Latest Information

The morning lecture will be by John van Laun, 'Exploring Herefordshire's Industrial Past'. After a break, the rest of the morning will be taken up with the workshop of your booked choice, with a related field visit in the afternoon. The subjects are:

- Discovering your local highways and byways – Heather Hurley
- Field names and industrial archaeology – Ruth Richardson
- Industrial Dean and the Wye Valley – David Bick
- The industrial history of a market town, Kington – Ken Reeves
- The town of Ross-on-Wye: History and Development – Rosamund Skelton
- Roman Industrial Archaeology in South Herefordshire and Dean – Brian Walters

One of these to be chosen at time of booking. Cost of whole day £5, plus tea £1. Booking forms to be returned by 25.5.92, though early booking is advised to ensure your choice of workshop. Day opens at 9.30 am.

PROGRAMME JANUARY-OCTOBER 1993

Monday 18 th January	Illustrated lecture on local castles by Paul Remfry	Hereford School for the Blind, Queens Building, Rm 2 at 7.30 pm. Refreshments will be provided, small admission charge, ample parking
Sunday 28 th February	Investigations in the Stretford area	Meet at Stretford Court/Church off A4110. Leader Roger Stirling-Brown
Sunday 21 st March	Investigation in the Wolphy Hundred area	Meet at Middleton-on-the-Hill Church Leaders Rosamund Skelton and Peter Halliwell
Saturday 24 th April	Visit to Abbey Cwmhir and neighbouring sites	Meet at Abbey Cwmhir Parish Church at 11.00 am Leader Rev Dr D H Williams
Sunday 16 th May	Investigation in Weston-under-Penyard area	Meet at Weston-under-Penyard Church Leaders Elizabeth Taylor and Roger Stirling-Brown
Sunday 20 th June	Investigation in Leintwardine area	Meet at the bridge, Leintwardine Leader Roger Stirling-Brown
Sunday 4 th July	Investigation in the Much Marcle area	Meet at the Walwyn Arms, Much Marcle Leader Elizabeth Taylor
Sunday 26 th September	Investigations in the Ewyas Harold and neighbouring areas	Meet at Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall Leader Graham Sprackling
Sunday 17 th October	Investigation in the Bosbury area	Meet at Bosbury Church Leaders Leslie and John King, and Peter Halliwell
<u>Provisional</u> Saturday 6 th November	Provisional date for 5 th Annual Shindig, tentative venue Riverside Hotel, Monmouth (same venue as last year). The ARS are hosts this year.	
Tuesday, 7 th December	AGM and Dinner (provisional). Golden River Restaurant, Commercial Street, Hereford. 7.30 for 8.00 pm	

It is intended that at each field meeting any archaeologically suggestive field names in the area should be checked.

This programme has been distributed to all members of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club in an abbreviated form.

Programme Notes

1. All Sunday field meetings start at 10.30 am.
2. Please note the meetings which are not on Sunday, i.e. Saturday 24th April at 11.00 am.

3. In case of bad weather please contact the leader or the Chairman.
4. Guests are very welcome.
5. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear, and bring food and drinks. It is not always possible to arrive at a hostelry at lunch time.
6. Members requiring transport should contact the leader or the Chairman who will endeavour to arrange it, but no guarantee can be given.

History Local Day School

On Saturday, 5th July, 1993 the WEA and local history societies will hold their 16th annual Local Day School at the Larruperz Centre, Ross-on-Wye. It is anticipated that the themes will be Industrial Archaeology, John van Laun, and also Roman. Application forms can be obtained from your local library or local society. In cases of extreme difficulty, Mrs Harding (sae please).

EDITORIAL

The editor is pleased to publish an article from a member, Alan Derriscott, who though now living in Merseyside still keeps a keen interest in the northern part of Herefordshire. The March field meeting will investigate some of the places and themes of the article. There must be a great deal more information which members are encouraged to share with the ARS and the wider archaeological world.

We must thank our Hon Vice-Chairman Richard Kay for his most generous gift of his caravan to the ARS last September. The gift was made too late for his generosity to be recorded in HAN 58. Richard hoped that we would be able to use it as a site office for any possible future excavations.

Once again we are indebted to Shirley Preece for duplicating HAN 58, and to Beryl and John Harding who assisted her and collated the pages. We could no longer continue to impose on Shirley Preece, and this issue has been produced by a new process at the Hereford Resource Centre.

We must thank Mike Hemming for the address labels, and for all those who delivered the newsletter by hand, especially Prank Pexton, thus saving on postal charges.

The editor is very grateful to Beryl Harding for proof reading this issue, the editor tends to see what should be there, rather than what is there.

At the lecture given by Paul Remfry in January at the School for the Blind attended by 55 members of the Woolhope Club and the ARS, a charge of £1 was made to cover our expenses. Unfortunately only £46 was collected at the door, a shortfall of £9. Perhaps those members who did not contribute will let John Harding have their entrance charge.

At the suggestion of Margaret Jones an 'indicator' map to show places mentioned in the text has been included in this issue.

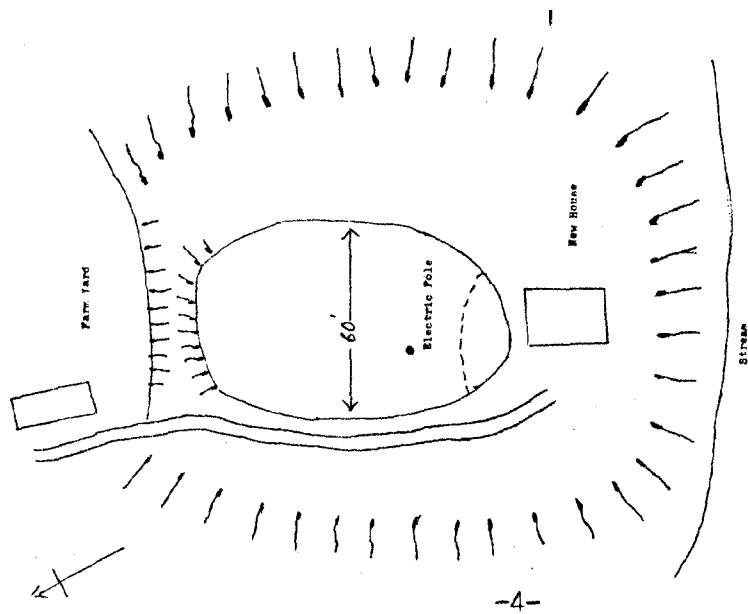
Editor

Notes for Contributors

The editor would be grateful for typed copy if at all possible. If typed please leave a $\frac{3}{4}$ " margin on the left hand side, typing can continue close to the right hand margin as the page will be photographically reduced. Please make the print and any diagrams etc as dark as possible. Articles should be kept as short as possible, and it may be necessary to edit or withhold the contribution for a later issue. The Newsletter is an archaeological record and its content should be relevant to archaeology

Week-end Course on Hill Forts

Ruth Richardson will hold a course on Herefordshire Hill Forts on 25th, 26th and 27th June as part of the Birmingham University School of Continuing Studies programme. The initial lecture will be on Friday evening 25th at the College for the Blind, Hereford. The Saturday and Sunday will be taken up with visits to hill forts. No further details available at this stage.



4085 7455

Possible Castle Site at Leintwardine (SO 3485 7455)
(Kinton Township)

MISCELLANY

Possible castle site at Leintwardine

Dr Stanford drew our attention to a possible motte at Kinton township, Leintwardine (SO 4085 7455). A new house has been built on the site of an old dwelling which had been allowed to fall into ruin.

The 'mound' is about 60' in diameter and about 8' in height, and has an electric power cable pole on the top. The slope is gentle and the top fairly flat. A piece has been cut out of the south west side to enable the previous house to be built. To the NE the vestiges of a ditch are discernible between the mound and the farmyard. To the south is a stream, and a 'bank' can be made out which could be a possible bailey.

HAN 58 St Owen Gatehouse, Hereford, p 6

Mr Basil Butcher writes - The fact is that the City Wall at this point runs through the yard at the back of the Lamb Hotel where it lines up with the outer wall of the Lamb Hotel. It is possible that the wall uncovered was part of the Porters Lodge attached to the City Wall itself. The owners of the "Taste of Raj" are to be congratulated on having this wall uncovered, it looks interesting.

Welsh Kings and Their Lands in Herefordshire, p 8

Mr Butcher also adds - Mr Coplestone-Crow tells of the writing of an agreement in a Gospel book at Hereford Chained Library. This book belonged to the last Bishop of our Saxon Cathedral, the new Dean took his oath on this book in November 1992.

Tedstone Wafre - Confusion over Spelling

Tedstone Wafre is the name of the village, but the name of the parish is Tedstone Wafer.

ADDENDA

HAN 57 Field Meeting at Lingen - Castle Investigation (14/4/91) p 22-28
Brampton Bryan Castle, p 25

Although the Harleys destroyed the defences of Wigmore Castle during the Civil War, both sides established minor outposts at Wigmore at various stages of the war probably based on the parish church of St James. The actual castle might have been used for surveillance or artillery observation.

HAN 58 Old Radnor Moat (SO 2503 5901) p 12

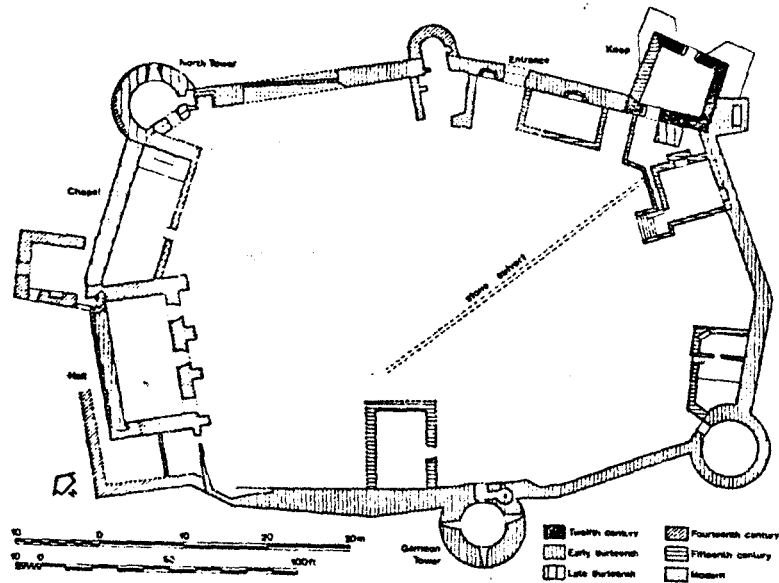
Welsh Kings and Their Lands in Herefordshire p 8-12

Mr C J Spurgeon of the RCAHM (Wales) feels that Old Radnor Moat is a probable moated parsonage similar to Court-y-Person (SJ 1536 1353) and Llandrinio (SJ 2960 1710), both in Montgomeryshire, and is very tentatively dated to late 13th-14th C. It is understood that previously the site was called (Old) 'Parsonage Moat'.

HAN 58 Field Meeting at Usk (5/7/92) p 53-55

A plan of the Inner Bailey of Usk Castle has now been received and is included as an addendum to page 53.

Richard Kay made a sketch plan of the Trostre site and a copy is appended for interest.



Usk Castle. Plan of inner ward.

HAN 58 Donnington Field Meeting (13/6/92) p 49

Court-y-Park

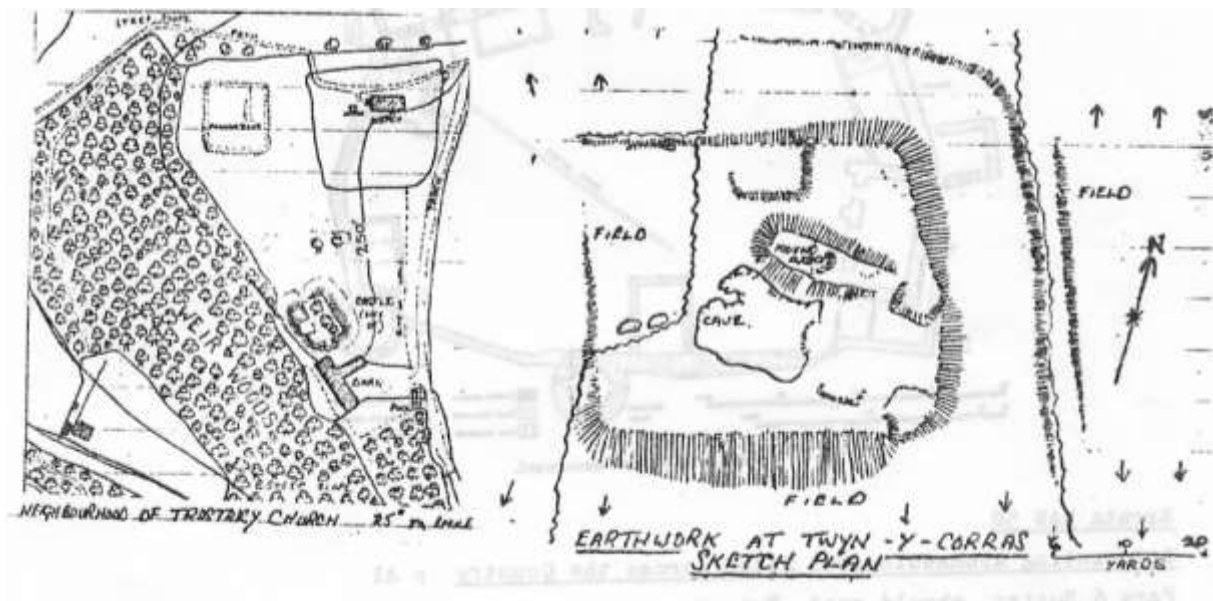
A T Bannister 'Place Names of Herefordshire' 1916 p 51, calls it Court-o'-Park – 1243 "*In villa de Parco*", T de Neville, p 147, an entry under *Parkhold* (Pixley Parish), "This would seem to have been an independent parish or chapelry; it is entered both in Tax Eccles. and Non. Inq. as "*Ecclesia de Park*".

(Parkhold is not listed on the 1/50,000 map – is it another rendering of Court-y-Park?)

John King would like to add the following remark to Bannister's note: Park was a chapelry but not independent; documents in Ledbury church archives of temp Elizabeth show that it was still considered to be in Ledbury parish and early Registers show people from Park being buried at Ledbury.

HAN 58 Twyn-y-Corras Motte

4th para, p 20, a sketch plan of the false Grosmont "castle" (SO 4162 2473) by Richard Kay is appended.



Craswall Priory p 22

Miss C Hutchison has asked, that the following be published:-

The Order of Grandmont was definitely not a reformed sect of the Benedictines, nor did its members play any part in the monastic reform movement of the 12th century. The Grandmontines constituted a totally independent religious order which was eremitic in character albeit the hermits elected to live in small communities rather than individual cells in the Carthusian manner. This choice conformed with their notion of poverty, an ideal which they rated even more highly than solitude. Their Rule, which was confirmed by Pope Adrian IV in 1156, has nothing whatsoever in common with the Rule of St Benedict.

The Grandmontines were not founded in 1124, that was the year of the death of the Founder, St Etienne de Muret. The following year the disciples of St Etienne moved from Muret to Grandmont but they had been living in accordance with their Founder's propositum since the 1080's.

The apsidal south chapel at Craswall is not 'unusual' for a Grandmontine priory, it is unique to Craswall. In 1989, I published my hypothesis that this 'chapel' may well represent the first church (*The Hermit Monks of Grandmont*, Kalamazoo) and reiterated it in my article (*Current Archaeology*, Sept/Oct 1991).

Editors Note

Leland (ed L T Smith (1910)), v. 190 gives Diddlebury (Shropshire) as a house. But Tanner, p 453 points out that the church here was in the patronage of the Benedictines of Seez. (*Medieval Religious Houses of England*, D Knowle and R D Hadcock p 103).

**Field Meeting at Presteigne 3/4/92 pp 31-33
Stapleton Castle Farm p 32**

10th Para, Stapleton Farm (SO 324 656) is not a separate farm but the actual farm buildings for Stapleton Castle Farm. The building marked on the map as Stapleton Castle Farm is the actual farmhouse.

**SOME THOUGHTS ON POSSIBLE ROMAN ROADS TOWARDS
WORCESTER/TEWKESBURY**

It has been thought that there were two possible roads running eastwards from Watling Street West (Margary 6c): 1) The road (Margary 63a) as far east as Stretton Grandison/ Castle Frome; and 2) The road presumably from Watling Street West somewhere near the junction of Margary 6c and 630 linking the newly discovered Roman site at Wellington to Marden, Ullingswick, Acton Beauchamp and even as far as Suckley.

It has always been considered that Margary 63a continued as far as Worcester, and that the Marden, Acton Beauchamp road also continued to Worcester, or joined 63a at some point further east, or even continued east to join Margary 180.

Further south clustered along A438 (Ledbury-Tewkesbury road) are a number of street names east of Eastnor: Wayend Street SO 742 369, Chase End Street SO 766 352, Birts Street SO 784 364, Rye Street SO 785 355, Lime Street SO 813 305, Town Street SO 843 291. There is also a 'Portway' SO 780 335.

There are two more 'street' names at Oridge Street SO 790 279 and Wickridge Street SO 809 274. This might indicate a possible road from Ariconium to Dymock/Newent. The OS Roman 4th (revised) has a road SE from Dymock branching off Margary 610, it could meet up with Margary 180 south of Tewksbury via Staunton. In fact Lime Street and Town Street could be linked with this possible road.

The extreme danger of this sort of speculation from 1/50,000 maps is appreciated, field names and older place names might reveal more information.

Frank Attwell has postulated another NS road northwards from Ledbury through Wellington Heath, Bosbury and even more tentatively through Acton Beauchamp towards the more certain Roman road NS section at Tedstone Wafre. There is even the possibility of the Roman road SE from Upper Sapey fortlet continuing via Martley towards Worcester, Wichford SO 788 601 and Greenstreet Farm, SO 798 591, might be indicative. Charles Mundy considers that there is a road westwards from Worcester. The temptation to draw a map has been resisted because the information available is too imprecise, and the mere fact of drawing lines on a map gives them some validity. This is offered as a possible starting point for ARS investigations.

See Report of the Upper Sapey field meeting on page 13 of this issue.

PRH

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND DINNER

The AGM and Annual Dinner was held at 8.00 pm at the Golden River Restaurant, Hereford on Tuesday 8th December 1992, some 21 members attending. We were glad to see the former chairman Clarence Attfield at the evening.

Reports were given by the chairman, secretary, treasurer, editor and field name survey rep. It was reluctantly decided to drop Tom Jones from the committee, and that Graham Sprackling should be assistant editor. Except for these changes the existing committee and officers were unanimously re-elected for the forthcoming year.

The main points of the reports are summarized below :

The chairman reported that membership was at 110, but this should not give rise to complacency about recruiting new members. All the field meetings were held, though the trip to Abbey Cwmhir had to be cancelled because of the weather, so an additional meeting to Wilton castle was organised.

Beryl Harding is to be thanked for arranging the venue and refreshments for Ruth Richardson's lecture in January. This had been arranged for ARS members who do not regularly attend field meetings and to attract additional members from the rest of Woolhope. As it turned out only one new person attended, which was a great pity as it was an excellent lecture enhanced by an exhibition arranged by Elizabeth Taylor.

We are again indebted to Beryl and John for allowing us to hold our garden party at their home. We are very grateful to Beryl and John for all their efforts and to all others who contributed food and drink.

A very strong ARS contingent attended the fourth Annual Shindig at Monmouth and were treated to an excellent series of talks on many stimulating topics. The hosts were the Monmouth Archaeology Society.

Two further meetings of the county local archaeological societies were held at Leominster and Worcester. It is a great pity that these forums are not better attended. We were astonished but very pleased to be presented with a caravan by our Hon Vice-Chairman Richard Kay who hopes that it can be used as a site office for archaeological investigations. A most generous gift.

In spite of rising costs it has been possible to keep the annual subscription at £3.50 for the forthcoming year. The chairman made his usual appeal for prompt payment of subscriptions, we work on a very tight budget and need the subscriptions promptly. It also costs money to issue reminders.

We are most grateful to Shirley Preece for photocopying Nos 57 and 58, but it was felt that we could no longer impose on her time and generosity, and it was proposed to print HAN 59 at the Hereford Resource Centre by a new process.

The Field Name Survey is coming to a close after 11 printings of some 6,000 copies, a truly magnificent achievement. There is still the continuing publishing in the Transactions of alternative and older field names. A start has been made to extract archaeological information from the reports.

This year the ARS programme was issued together with that of the Natural History Section to all Woolhope Club members with the winter lecture programme. Another innovation was that the two sections presented their reports in person at the Woolhope Club annual winter meeting in early December. This is a much better arrangement than at the tail end of the Section Recorders meeting.

The hoary question of binding past copies of HAN was again raised and with some embarrassment it had to be admitted that little progress had been made, 1993!

The chairman thanked all office holders and committee members for their help and support during the past year and also Estelle Davies for allowing us to hold committee meetings in her house and for her excellent refreshments, we are most grateful. Lastly, the proprietors of the Golden River Restaurant were thanked for allowing us to hold our AGM in their restaurant. The meeting closed at 8.45 pm to be followed by the usual enjoyable Chinese meal.

PRH

WOOLHOPE CLUB ANNUAL WINTER MEETING

The annual winter meeting on 5/12/92 at the Shire Hall Committee Room No 1 Hereford at 2.15 pm was devoted after the usual business to reports from the Natural History Section and the ARS. Some 18 ARS members attended this meeting.

The chairman talked about the aims and objectives and their achievements, he gave a brief account of the foundation and development of the ARS, and how the original function of recording archaeological sites had once again become the main aim of the ARS. The County, though having a statutory duty in this respect because of financial restraint and the sheer size of the problem, welcomed assistance from amateur groups. He also stressed the

importance of the Newsletter as giving a rapid method of publishing the results of our work, mainly the results of the monthly field meetings.

Tribute was paid to the work of the Field Name Survey and how this had led to the discovery of several new archaeological sites. The chairman outlined the field meetings of 1992, but as these have been adequately covered in HAN 58 & 59 they will not be repeated here.

Roger Stirling-Brown gave a commentary on some slides provided by Ruth Richardson and Rosamund Skelton on some of the meetings. These included shots of Wilton castle, Edvin Loach churches, Lower Sapey (old) church, Usk castle, Trostrey excavation site and the Ermine Street Guard on parade at Caerleon Amphitheatre. The report concluded with some of his own slides of a new castle site at Hyde (SO 456 553) in Leominster Out parish as an example of the attempt being made to compile an up to date list and description of Herefordshire castles.

We had been allocated half an hour, but in the event we ran over time a little. One of our leading members gave the Natural History report.

PRH

THE USE OF THE CAMCORDER IN FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY – ILLUSTRATED LECTURE ON LOCAL CASTLES

On Monday 18/1/93 at the Hereford School for the Blind, Queens Building Room 2 at 7.30 pm Paul Remfry showed us how the camcorder can be a useful tool in archaeology, taking castles as his topic. We were honoured by the presence of the Woolhope Club President Mr G Rees. Some 55 members of the ARS and the Woolhope Club attended. Muriel and Jim Tonkin were unfortunately unable to attend.

The films taken by Paul were shown on two TV monitors provided by the Blind School, the reproduction of both the sound and the pictures was very good, except that Paul had not realised just how much background noise the wind can make.

In many ways the camcorder is better than a camera because it allows a commentary to be made at the same time. While it can never take the place of an actual visit it does provide a most realistic aide memoire and having zoom facilities it can emphasise distance shots, and vertically reach parts not otherwise available without field glasses.

Paul first showed some well known castles, Corfe and Dover where very substantial structures still remain as compared to most of our local castles, where often only the earthworks remain and some imagination is required to visualise the former buildings.

Paul is, as he freely admits still very much a beginner in the art of using the camcorder, but did demonstrate very well its value in archaeology. The programme he gave is as follows: with each site, in addition to the film and sound, Paul assisted by Roger Stirling-Brown gave further information. Roger had also arranged a small exhibition of photographs and pamphlets on castle studies.

The local castle sites included the Herefordshire Beacon (SO 760 401), a motte within an Iron Age fort. Womaston (SO 268 606) and Burfa (SO 276 611) both Norman sites with buried foundations and lost baileys. Castell-y-Blaidd (SO 125 798) a description of which appears in Paul Remfry's article on 'Some Middle March Castles' page 39 in this issue. Bronllys (SO 149 346) an early 12th C tower on a low motte with later additions. Hopton Castle (SO 367 779) where there are considerable usually unseen earthworks as well as the keep together with Warfield Bank (SO 371 774) a possible early predecessor of Hopton or a Civil War artillery emplacement. Lastly Clun Castle (SO 298 809) a description of which appears on page 17 'Clun Castle' in this issue.

The programme lasted till 9.30 pm with little time for questions because the room had to be vacated by 10.00 pm, and the janitor was hovering about. The chairman in thanking Paul Remfry emphasised that this had been the sharp end of archaeology and not a programme designed for entertainment. It showed some aspects of the work of the ARS,

possibly the more glamorous side. Paul had put together a most comprehensive programme which was delivered with great skill and competence.

Beryl Harding was thanked for organising the venue and arranging the refreshments, we must also thank the members who because of the shortage of time served the refreshments in the lecture room itself. Finally John Harding must be mentioned sitting at the Seat of Customs.

PRH

FIELD MEETING AT UPPER SAPEY

12 members met at Upper Sapey church at 10.30 am on Sunday 20/9/92, the weather forecast had not been favourable and while we were examining Upper Sapey church there was a very heavy shower. Fortunately the rest of the day was fine. The meeting was to have been led by Rosamund Skelton and Roger Stirling-Brown, but Roger was not able to attend and the writer stood in for the castle portion of the programme. Where appropriate the RCHM Herefordshire references have been listed.

Upper Sapey Church (SO 683 635) RCHM II E p 167

Built of local sandstone with a tiled roof, the chancel and nave were probably built in the third quarter of the 12th C. The church was restored in 1859-60 when the chancel arch was re-erected as the tower arch, and the west tower, south porch and a new chancel arch were added. The east window is modern, the tower was partly reconstructed in 1948.

In the north wall of the chancel is a 12th C window, and in the south wall the eastern window is 14th C, the western one is set very low and has a re-used head. In the nave the 12th C north doorway, now blocked, has a rounded arch of two orders enclosing a plain tympanum. In the north wall the eastern window is modern and the western 17th C lancet light. In the south wall the eastern window is c 1300 and the western modern. The south doorway is 12th C similar to the blocked north doorway.

A board in the south porch lists the divisions with dates of the Christian church, and with reference to Congregationalists, Baptists, Quakers, Unitarians and Wesleyans it adds "Most of the distinctive Opinions held by the above were of Foreign Origin"! There is also an interesting brass tablet on the south nave wall above the tomb recess with a portion of the commemorative tablet cut away, possibly because it contained a word that later generations considered unsuitable.

We next went to The Lea (Lea Farm) and examined the Queen Anne house from the outside. We speculated with Mrs Nicholson about the possibility that the house had been built in two periods. Some time was spent in examining the farm buildings and considering the possibility that there had been a hop pickers barracks.

The Lea (SO 675 643)

This is a charming brick built house of about 1700. The south facade is symmetrical, with windows on the west of the front door of late 17th C mullion and transom design while those to the east are Georgian sash windows. There is a fine staircase with turned balusters in the northeast corner of the house lit by a two storey height window. Mrs Nicholson said that when the wall adjoining the front of the staircase was stripped for repairs - it was found to be a timber framed wall of wattle and daub, resting on the cross beams within each panel were lines of walnuts sealed in by the plaster. Mrs Nicholson would like to know of any similar find or any possible explanation. This timber framed wall was thought to be an exterior wall. The roof timbers are not well finished - as is often the case in brick houses where they are not exposed. There was a "secret" room inserted over the top of the stairwell approached via the roof space adjacent to the attics.

A long wing at the rear of the house has a 19th C brick exterior and roof timbers. It is possible that there was an earlier building in this position, as the end of this wing contains exposed timber beams. A possible explanation for the exterior timber framed wall adjacent to

the staircase is that the two Queen Anne front rooms were added at right angles to an earlier timber framed house. In the roof two ends of a rafter are held together by an iron strap which also links the rafter to two purlins on either side. This rafter and purlin may have been supported originally by the apex of an earlier lower timber framed roof, later replaced by a higher roof in the 19th C. It seems most unlikely that a rotted original rafter would be repaired in that manner - a more usual method would be to scarfe in a new piece of wood.

There was at one end of a low byre building a single room added at the back which had a fireplace now blocked with a piece of hardboard and a tap and very small metal basin below it. It is possible that this was a room used by hop pickers for cooking food/and or/sleeping in.

We also examined some enigmatic earthworks to the south of The Lea and considered the possibility that this could have been a moated site, but decided that the probability was against it, and that they were mainly natural or recent development.

Field Systems

The tithe map of Upper Sapey dated 1845 with an apportionment dated 1838 shows surviving remnants of an open field lingering in the parish. The clearest evidence lies to the west of Lea Green around a field called Olinger Field where there are small strips in different ownerships unenclosed. West of this again is Kinthall Farm which superficially looks like a farmhouse surrounded by its own fields, however the tithe apportionment shows that the land related to Kinthall lies scattered about partly in the open field and partly in other scattered small fields. Elsewhere in the parish, fields in various ownerships are intermingled and scattered over the parish. Buncombe records that in 1591 Humphrey Packington of Chaddesley Corbett who owned the manor of Upper Sapey "sold it to the several freeholders, copyholders and lessees (5 freeholders only excepted) the inheritance and all the rents and services etc. of the several lands they held of him". This dispersal of the property to individual small owners may well account for their survival in separate ownership into the 19th C. However by the time of the 1:2,500 Ordnance Survey in the late 19th C the evidence for open fields had vanished and many of the small fields had been amalgamated. On the tithe map 4 farms are shown at Lea Green, The Lea, Normans, Bald House and Lea Green Farm, by the end of the century only 2 are left; The Lea, and Lea Green Farm and these remain today.

We then repaired to the Red Lion Hotel at Clifton upon Teme for refreshment passing the Roman fortlet of Upper Sapey (Sapey Common) (SO 703 634) on the way. The site excavated by Stanford in 1959 is now backfilled but a brief stop was made to examine the site and the possible Roman road to the south east.

After lunch we went to Lower Sapey to be received by the owner of Old Church House who with her husband was largely instrumental in having the value of the ruined church recognised by Philip Barker, and hopefully by English Heritage in the future. Her fortitude and resourcefulness are to be applauded.

Lower Sapey Church (SO 699 602)

Sapey is first mentioned in a deed of 781, and is called Sapie in Domesday. The church is a simple two-cell building of sandstone with tufa quoins. This account is largely based on some Notes produced by Philip Barker.

The Norman east window was blocked and replaced in the ?13th C with a larger window at a lower level. There is a late 14th C window in the south wall of the chancel and a large window inserted in the north wall of the nave in the late 18th or 19th C, partly cutting through a Royal coat of arms. There are traces of wall paintings.

The north door and the priests door have been blocked up, and a western gallery inserted in the 19th C together with a small square window in the west end. The gallery staircase has disappeared. The base of the font survives, the font itself was removed to the new church at Harpley (SO 687 612). There is a fine 14th C timber south porch. The chancel arch was removed in the 19th C perhaps because it was unsafe. The church is still standing without it. The timber roof had a ceiling inserted in the 18th C. It is now tiled. The new church at Harpley was built in 1876.

Afterwards Mrs Prosser very kindly showed us her 16th C house which she and her husband are restoring. We saw the donkey-driven cider mill in a barn. (Lower Sapey is in Worcestershire, at times the two Sapeys were united into a single manor and at other times were separate.)

Old Church House

The house was supposedly 17th C but investigation dates the frame of the house as being pre-1540. The large 17th C inglenook (from which the house had been dated) being a 'modern' addition as it were! The house itself is toppling over a precipice some 30 feet deep at its northern end and extensive piling work will have to be undertaken before restoration of the house can be undertaken. Within there is probably one of the few, if not the only, cellar in the treetops with a view from the window (which you reach by going down stairs) out through the tree canopy. There is an early Victorian bread oven and a fine staircase with balustrading circa 1650 at the south west end of the house. The outbuildings consist of a cidermill, a granary and the cowshed - now returned to a house (since initially it almost certainly was a house which degenerated over time to more earthy uses). Within there are finely chamfered timbers and a beautiful, original, mullioned window - much too fine for a cowshed. The date of this building is probably 17th C. It was never used for cows in living memory rather horses on one side and sickly sheep and lambs on the other. The main house also has a flitch house on the west side for the hanging of cured bacon.

The pool appears always to have been here and local tradition has it that monks lived off trout and eels from out of it. More, that there was a small monastic order here, possibly pre-Norman and certainly the VCH has the area 'licensed with the bretheren', some time during 800-900AD, What that phrase means in reality is open to debate and we may never know unless there is an archaeological dig. (We are indebted to Mrs Pat Prosser for this description of Church House)

Additional information - The original timber framed house was of three bays with a gable on the northern bay and a cellar under the south bay. This was extended in two or three stages adding a kitchen with a large fireplace and a gabled staircase turret with splat balusters of the mid 17th C initially, and then later adding another fireplace with a large bread oven and additional extensions westwards into the yard providing another cellar with other rooms above. Another later staircase was added on the west side of the original house in a lean-to extension.

Leaving Lower Sapey we passed the Roman fort of Tedstone Wafre (SO 676 602) and the reasonably certain stretch of Roman road northwards through High Lane to Lea Green on our way to Edvin Loach.

Edvin Loach 11th C Church RCHM II E p 75

We examined the many intriguing features of this ruined church and considered the possibility that the modern church nearby had been built into the cut away south side of a ringwork or motte. There is some evidence that this church could have been built on the foundations of an earlier house.

The walls stand to a height of 6'-10'. The chancel and nave are without structural division, though a 'thickening' of the wall suggests the possibility of a chancel arch. Parts of the east, north and south walls date from the latter part of the 11th C. The west tower and the

upper part of the west wall and possibly the north wall of the chancel were rebuilt in the 16th C. The former south porch had disappeared and a large triangular buttress (of little apparent use) has been inserted in modern times to the left of the south door.

In the east wall is a late 11th C window, the eastern part of the north wall is a later rebuild, the original part of this wall is faced to the west on both sides with herring-bone work in the lower layers with remains of a late 11th C window.

The south wall has some internal and external herring-bone facing and the remains of three windows. The west tower some 6' square, had no longer an east wall, and has two stages, the upper part of the tower has fallen. In the south wall at the junction of the chancel and the nave is, on the outside, a line of apparent discontinuity possibly representing an addition of the chancel to the original Saxon nave. Edvin Loach was formerly in Worcestershire.

The two churches could be in a possible south bailey of the "castle" with the additional possibility of a dividing ditch/bank or palisade between the two churches. Habbinton, the Worcestershire antiquarian, describes Edvin Loach as a castle, and to the west of the churchyard (south bailey) is Upper Camp Field which could contain house platforms or even be an outer bailey/enclosure. There is also a Lower Camp Field to the south west of the church. We also speculated on the possibility of there having been a hill fort on the site.

Apparently, in the second half of the 12th C the church of St Giles in Yedenon (Edvin/Edwyn) was given to the Priory of St Guthlac. Yedenon (Gedeven, Edevent, Jedefeb and Zedefen in DB) was in the hands of two families, the Ralfs and the de Loges which eventually became Edwyn Ralf and Edvin Loach. The church in Edvin Loach is now dedicated to St Mary. (Trans. XXXIV (1954) p 293).

The connection with St Guthlac might have some bearing on the monastic tradition of Lower Sapey only a short distance away.

Edvin Loach Castle (SO 663 584) RCHM II E p 75

Low mound and bailey, a possible second bailey under the farm. There is buried stone on the mound and in the ditch with some pieces of diagonal tooled stone lying on the surface pointing to a stone castle.

A possible shell keep on the mound. The modern church built on the outer edge of the mound ditch. The bailey ditch now being filled with rubbish (1989) along with, a general tidying up of the site which is removing important evidence on this very early site. The ditches now virtually filled in and levelled (1992). Signs of a further bailey/enclosure on the west.

Because we had spent longer than anticipated at Lower Sapey the field day did not end till 6.15pm and then we had to omit the planned visit to Edwyn Ralph and the quite extensive moated site/castle to the west of the church. A long, exhausting but enjoyable day.

Our thanks are due to Cmdr & Mrs Nicholson of The Lea, Mrs Prosser of Church House Lower Sapey and Churchwarden Eric Gibbs of Steeples, Edvin Loach, We must also thank Mr Alan Wyatt of The Coach House Edvin Loach for the photograph of the two Edvin Loach churches, which unfortunately will not duplicate.

Edwyn Ralph castle, Yearston Court and Wolferlow earthworks were not visited, so the recce material of 14/9/92 has been made into a separate short appendix. A second recce was carried out by Rosamund Skelton and Phyllis Williams of the Bromyard Local History Society on 12/9/92. We are very grateful to Mrs Williams for her help in preparing this field day.

RS, RS-B, PRH

Appendix - Roman Background

Roman activity in the area presents some difficulty, there are only two fixed points with some degree of certainty, Tedstone Wafre fort (SO 676 602) and Upper Sapey (Sapey Common, Clifton upon Teme) fortlet (SO 703 634).

There is some evidence for a Roman road north from Tedstone Wafre for about 4 km through High Lane, Lea Green and Broadheath (Kintal Farm) possibly crossing the Teme towards Walltown (Cleobury Mortimer) fort. On rather less evidence a short stretch of road has been postulated south or south east from Sapey fortlet.

Frank Attwell has suggested a possible road westwards from Tedstone Wafre via Field House Farm, Hubbage, Streetfield (SO 621 588), Fencote Abbey to Docklow, along the A44 for a short stretch and then through Humber Court to Blackwardine on the northern continuation of Margary 613. There could also perhaps have been an eastern extension from Tedstone Wafre. He also has a continuation northwards from Stretton Grandison of Margary 610 to enter our area at Grendon Court, Grendon Bishop, Grendon Green, Bilfield, Hampton Charles, Kyre Green, Haws Hill towards a possible Roman ford across the Teme at Rochford.

He also postulates a possible NE/SW road from Broadheath, Bank Street (SO 636 626), Bockleton Farm, Crofton, Brockmorton, Brock Hall, Stretford (SE of Leominster), crossing the continuation of Margary 613. Then to Easton, Ivington, Stretford (on A4110) crossing Watling Street West to Dilwyn.

The possibility of a Roman road along the Teme valley from Bromfield towards Bewdley/Droitwich/Worcester must be considered, this is supported by Graham Webster. Julie Crickmore has identified the beginnings of roads running westwards from Bewdley and Droitwich (Romano-British Urban Settlements in the West Midlands BAR 127).

The Tedstone Wafre fort was sectioned in 1954 & 55 by the Hereford Archaeological Research Group under the direction of Mary Pullen (nee Thomas). Three sides are visible west, south and east double ditched, the fort is estimated to be 250' across. There is a known gate in the east rampart and a postulated gate in the north rampart. This has been deduced from the bend in High Lane.

PRH

Appendix - Earthworks in North East Herefordshire

Yearston Court, Upper Sapey (SO 694 638) RCHM II E p 168

Oval moat with possible outer enclosure, a possible castle site. This site listed in RCHM as a moated site with possible outer enclosure. The sides of the ditch around the mound seem to have been scarped into a V shaped ditch and the outer enclosure does have a silted up branch at the rear of the farm. However the whole site slopes downhill to the mound and the high ground under the farm buildings is a bit close for comfort. This site could be natural drainage gulleys or flash streams carrying storm water off the higher ground. This is not to say they were not used as a fortified site, and if they were this would be a large castle site. High walls would be needed to dominate the high ground. There are two slabs of stone bedded on top of each other on the edge of the mound, but not enough evidence is visible to prove former buildings.

If the proposed development goes ahead the opportunity should be taken for investigation, proposed holiday cottages. English Heritage does not think there is anything archaeological. The SMR has suggested the possibility that this could be a small hillfort site with similarities to Tyberton, Shrawley and Little Witley.

Edwyn Ralf (SO 644 474) RGHM II E p 77

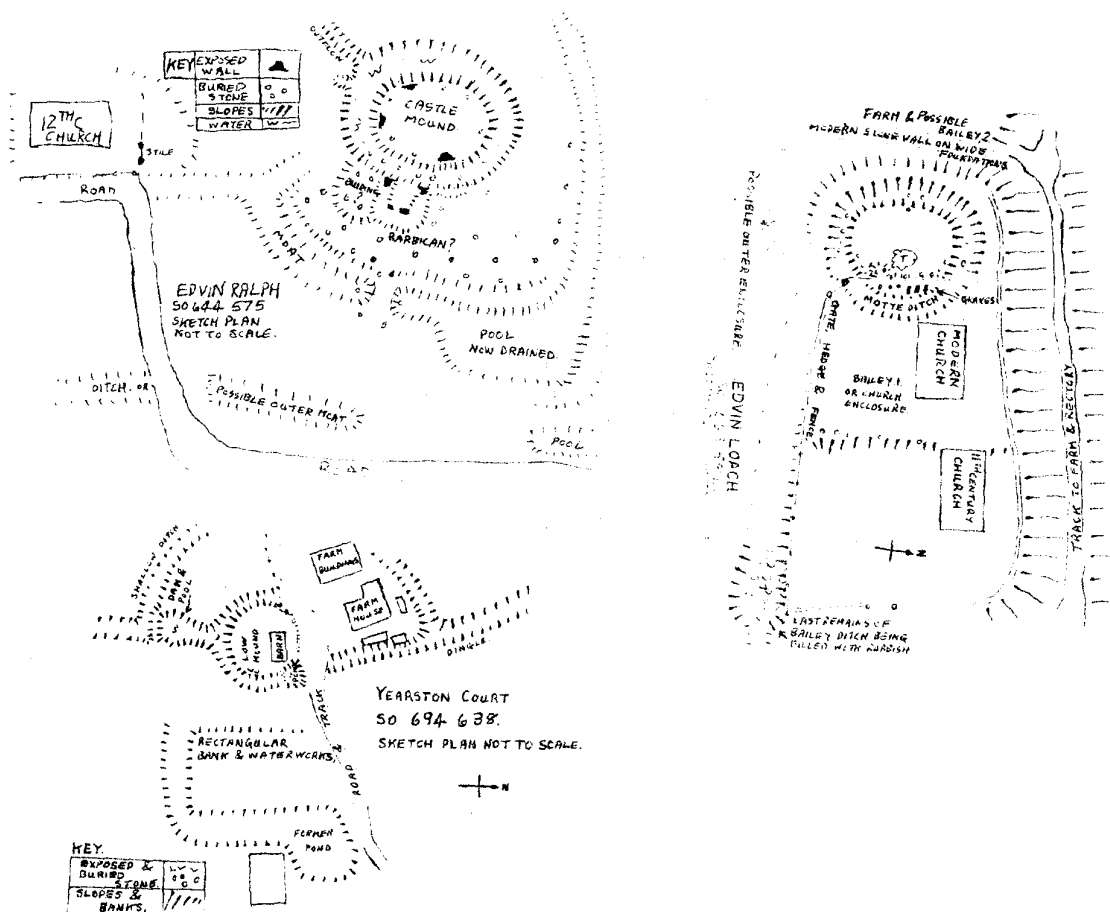
Low mound and three baileys. Some foundations remain of what was probably a large shell keep (probably partly revetting the mound) with walls approx. 5'-6' thick on the mound. There

is water in the moat and buried and partly exposed foundations of a substantial barbican to the keep, with signs of a building associated with the barbican, lots of buried stone on site. Stone, on and behind the bailey rampart may point to stone defences in that position (1989). The bailey rampart appears to have been levelled somewhat since then (1992). The 12th C church in a formerly moated? outer enclosure, and a possible DMV nearby.

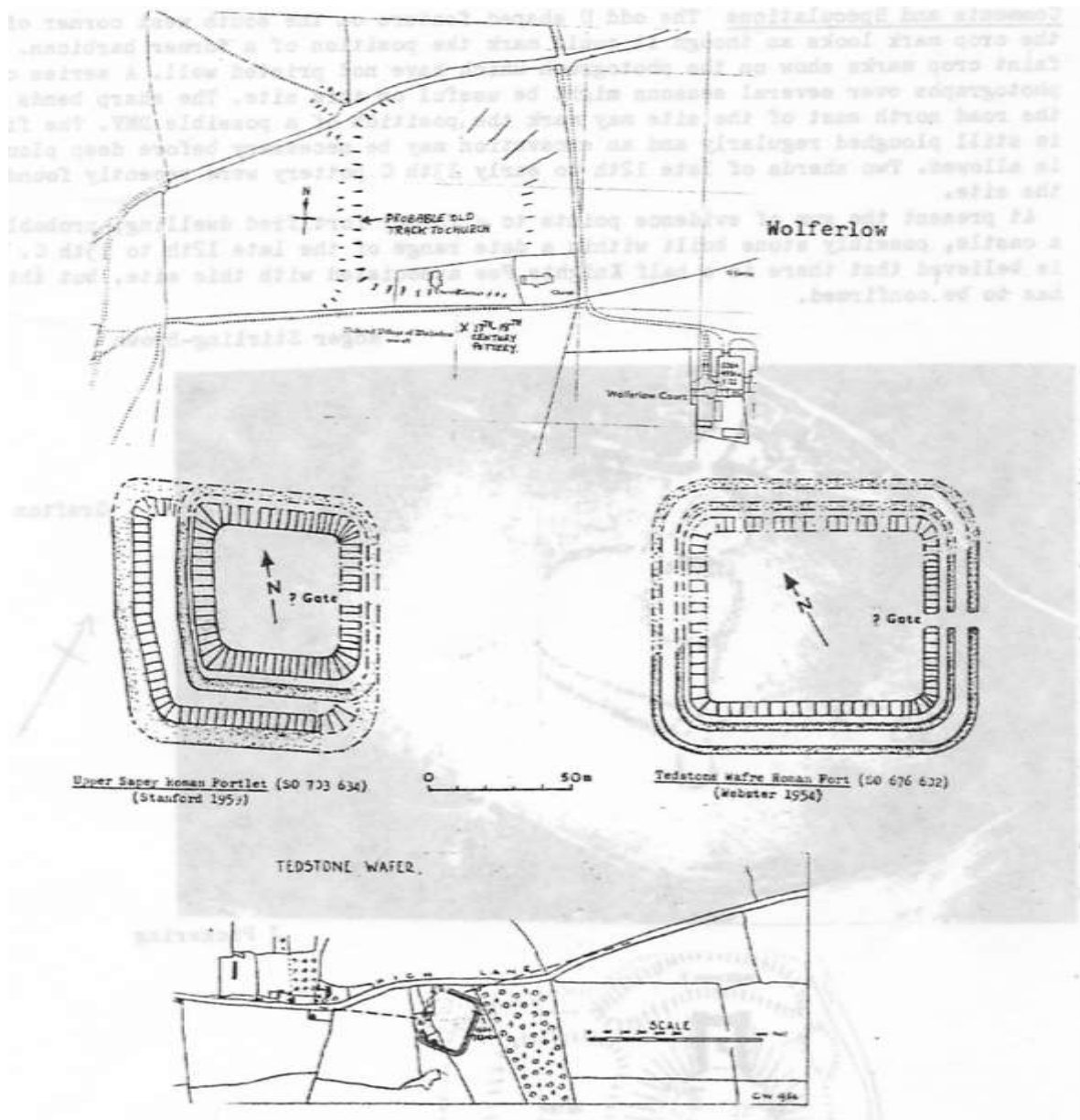
Wolferlow (SO 645 618)

It was difficult to distinguish the features of a possible DMV as described in RCHM II E p 220 to the west of the church. Though the bank by the previous Church Cottages (now one house) was still evident, as was the 'hollow' at right angles across the site to the north of the church. In the field to the south was a considerable pottery scatter, mainly 17th and 18th C.

Roger Stirling-Brown



-14-



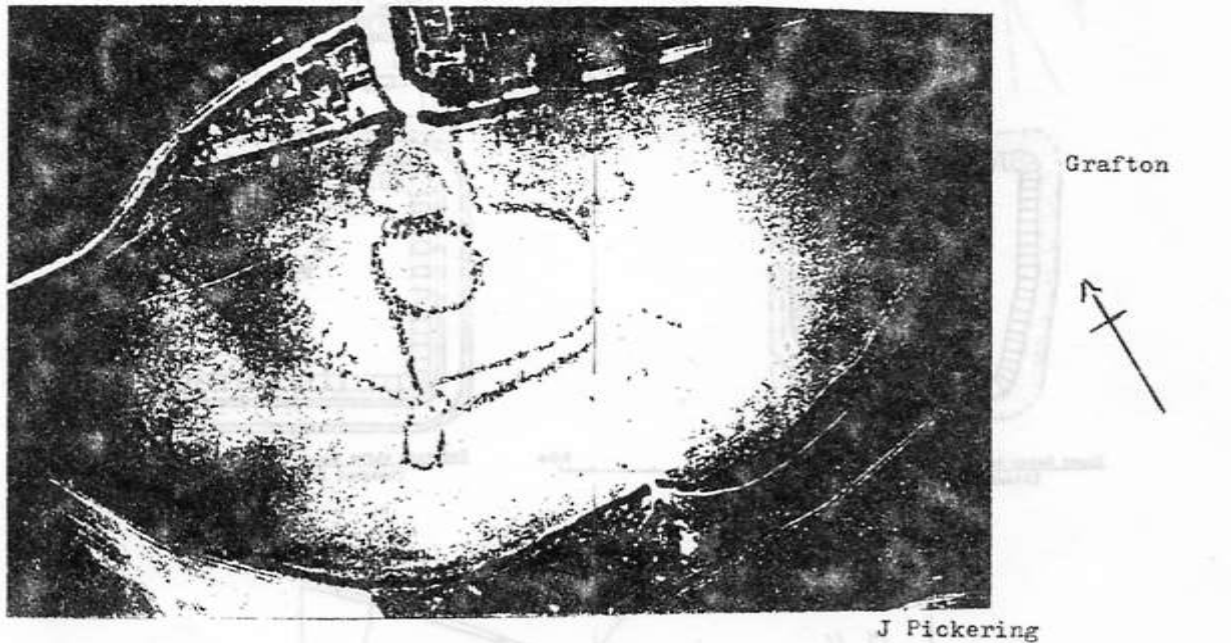
Grafton (SO 496 368)

An air photograph shows the site of a probably low Motte and Bailey castle site. The evidence surviving on the ground seems to confirm this. An eroded mound has the very shallow remains of a ditch on three quarters of its circuit. The northwest quarter of the circuit has a slight wet hollow with darker soil and is obviously the remains of a silted pool forming a wide wet defence on the weaker uphill side. The mound summit still stands between 4' and 6' above the present ground level. On the edge of the mound and in the former ditch area, there is buried stone and stone shows through the turf. There is much stone scatter, some with mortar attached, around the site after ploughing, even though a large amount has been cleared off the field over the years. Two pieces of stone lying under a hedge showed evidence of diagonal tooling marks. Although any bailey earthworks have been ploughed out, some faint depressions are still discernable on the former ditch positions, with long lush green grass and short pale grass over the possible former rampart positions or wall foundations. There appears to be a double ditch on the southwest side of the bailey which may have continued round to the east side.

Comments and Speculations: The odd U-shaped feature on the southwest corner of the crop mark looks as though it could mark the position of a former barbican. Other faint crop marks show on the photograph which have not printed well. A series of photographs over several seasons might be useful on this site. The sharp bends in the road northeast of the site may mark the position of a possible DMV. The field is still ploughed regularly and an excavations may be necessary before deep ploughing is allowed. Two sherds of late 12th to early 13th C pottery were recently found on the site.

At present the sum of evidence points to a former fortified dwelling, probably a castle, possibly stone-built within a date range of the late 12th to 15th C. It is believed that there is a half knight's fee associated with this site, but this has to be confirmed.

Roger Stirling-Brown

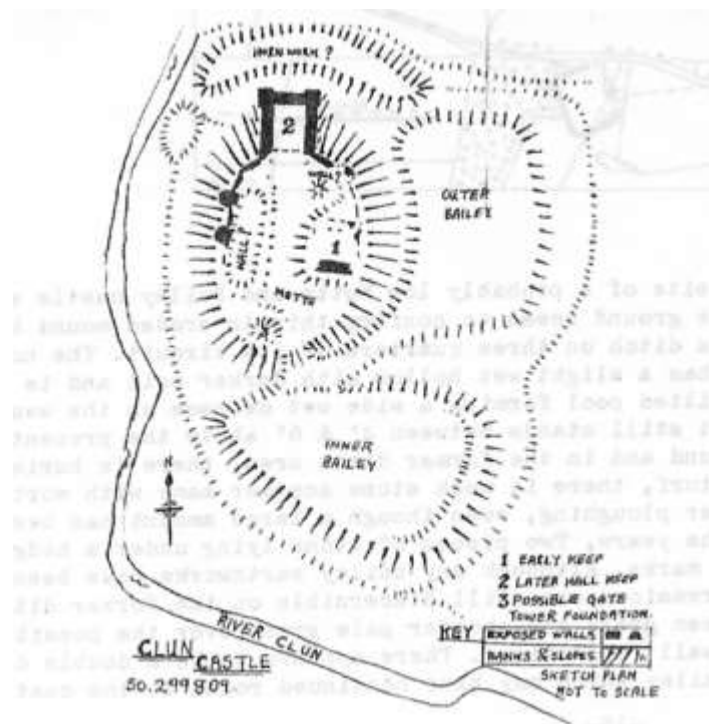


CLUN CASTLE

The castle has recently been leased to English Heritage and has been consolidated. Apart from neglect after the late Victorian restoration, the recent earthquake further damaged the ruins. Mr Morriss of the HCAU was responsible for recording the stonework before the consolidation; this account is based on his lecture on 28/10/92. As a result of his work he has made new proposals about the dating of the castle. His theory is that the original castle was probably a wooden tower on top of the artificially heightened motte with a wooden palisade around the top. At some later date the tower and palisade were replaced by stone, and then in the late 13th or early 14th C a new block was built into the northern face of the motte, and was deliberately designed to appear as a Norman keep possibly for reasons of prestige or to emphasise ancestry. False windows and pilasters were designed to give an old appearance, while in all probability the new 'keep' was mainly a residential block for hunting parties in the Forest of Clun.

This proposal is further strengthened by the fact that the two remaining towers at the south end of the mound (inner bailey) are not really defensive and are actually buttresses for the curtain wall around the top of the motte. Militarily they were fairly useless, having no loops in them and presumably only having a fighting platform at the top. They are not gate-towers as had previously been thought, but are the surviving remains of several such towers built on the curtain wall for strength and prestige.

This is not a history of Clun castle, for this readers are referred to 'Castles of Shropshire' - Michael Jackson, 'The Castles and Moated Mansions of Shropshire' - Mike Salter, 'Clun Castle' - Clun Town Trust Leaflet.



MEETING OF COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGY GROUPS

The fifth of these meetings took place on Saturday 31/10/92 at the Archaeological Section offices at Warndon. Roger Stirling-Brown and the writer represented the main Woolhope Club and the ARS. It was very unfortunate that only 10 representatives from 6 groups attended this forum, two of which, Bromyard and District Local History Society and the ARS came from Herefordshire.

We were welcomed with coffee at 10.30am and the proceedings opened with a report by the SMR officer Hilary White who gave an account of recent archaeological happenings. She talked about the Monuments Protection Programme and the new guidelines issued for DMV classification.

Among other things, those of interest to Herefordshire members were: Welsh Water is laying a pipeline at Ariconium and has paid for an archaeological presence; a survey of Downton-on-the-Rock old (ruined) church is to be carried out; the information that the section of Rowe Ditch north of Pembridge is to be preserved, agricultural activity permission having been refused. There is also the possibility that Westington Camp could be used for gravel extraction. We visited this site on 11/9/88 (HAN 51 pp 6-8).

This was followed by reports of the activities of some of the attending groups. Rachel Edwards then gave a resume of the activities of the Uplands Survey, but did not provide any additional information about the project.

Next Hal Dalwood talked about the very recently instituted Urban Survey. This has been funded by English Heritage to provide an analysis of small towns in Hereford & Worcester and Shropshire by the county archaeological service. This will cover the period between Roman and 1800AD and will consist of some 80 projects which will include amongst others: Ludlow, Longtown, Richards Castle, Ross-on-Wye and Tenbury Wells. The purpose is to provide a basis for future urban development and a measured response to planning development applications.

A buffet lunch was provided with the opportunity for informal conversation and questions,

After lunch there was a trip to Pershore modelled on the Leominster trip at the fourth group forum. The two ARS representatives remained behind with the SMR officer to look at air photographs.

PRH

THE CITY OF HEREFORD ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT

When the City of Hereford Archaeology Committee was set up in 1974 the main concern was the wholesale destruction of nationally important archaeological sites particularly in urban situations where large scale developments were planned. Within a few months the Committee had published 'The City of Hereford - Archaeology and Development', had appointed staff to the Unit and had made a start on a large-scale excavation behind Bewell House, the Unit's headquarters.

A substantial post-excavation programme, occasionally interrupted by emergency excavations, led to the publication of a three-volume report by the Council for British Archaeology. This continues to be the definitive publication on Hereford's archaeological past.

With the completion of this large-scale project, the Archaeological Unit was in some danger of closure but two factors then came into play. The first was the creation of the Hereford Area of Archaeological Importance as a result of the 1979 Ancient Monuments Act. This gave the Committee a statutory duty as Investigating Authority but immediately threatened by lack of funds.

The problem was resolved with the formation of a co-operative scheme between the Committee, the City Council and the Manpower Services Commission. The result was a successful digging team that dealt with a variety of sites in the city including Bewell Square, Palace Yard, the Sack Warehouse, and finally Deen's Court.

It was during this period that the Unit first became interested in the survey and analysis of historic buildings. The reports on 26/27 High Town, 41a Bridge Street, 20 Church Street and the Cathedral Barn demonstrated the need for detailed survey work using archaeological recording techniques which lead to analyses of the historic development. The MSC scheme came to an end, but the Unit took on a new lease of life carrying out building surveys over a gradually increasing area, and for a variety of organisations and developers.

The Unit now has a permanent staff of eight and several important monographs are planned including Goodrich Castle, Hereford Buildings, and Excavations in Hereford since 1977. Survey work is planned at Craswall Priory, Broughton Castle (Warwickshire), Kinver Rock Houses (for the National Trust), Soho House, Birmingham, and at Witley Court.

1993 will also see the major excavation for the basement of the new building to house the Chained Library and Mappa Mundi as well as smaller excavations at All Saints Church and the site of St Guthlac's Monastery.

The Unit, from its inception as a city-based excavation team, has now become a nationally-recognised body capable of carrying out a wide variety of archaeologically related projects with a high standard of expertise,

Ron Shoemith

The annual reports of the Unit can be seen in the Section Reports section of the Transactions.

NOTES FOR A HISTORY OF TERRITORIAL WOLPHY

The Domesday Hundred of Wolphy consisted of Croft, Richards Castle, Ludford, Little Hereford and Upton (in Little Hereford Parish). All these were in the county of Hereford at DB. Today Ludford is in Shropshire, and Richards Castle has been divided into two parishes,

one in Hereford and one in Shropshire. There were also two detached portions of Wolphy: a) Rochford, previously in Hereford but now in Worcester; and b) Laysters, Great & Little Heath (in Laysters), Puddlestone, Brockmanton (in Puddlestone), Whyle and Woonton (both in Laysters). All these were and are still in Hereford.

My argument, based on a suggestion in the 1983 Phillimore edition of DB Hereford is that the (Great) Manor (Hundred) of Leominster was a recent intrusion into the original Saxon Hundred of Wolphy. Brimfield, Ashton and Middleton of Leominster Manor were originally part of Wolphy. Hamnish, Stockton, Eyton and Luston were also part of the original Wolphy hundred, so that the DB two separate portions of Wolphy could be considered as one composite block of manors. This would leave Rochford (Rochford & Upper Rochford, two manors at DB) as a detached portion.

Middleton on the Hill and Stockton (modern Kimbolton) formed the larger portion of this Territorial Wolphy. Field No 27 in the 1841 Tithe map of Kimbolton is named as Crimnal Bank (SO 526 637), leading me to suppose that this is the site of the moot court of Leet & Peacepledge as set up by Penda c 640 and confirmed by Edgar c 960 as the hundred mote. Today, The Hundred Farm (SO 525 639) sits on the site of the Saxon farmstead that gave its name to Middleton on the Hill.

At DB Territorial Wolphy numbered about 45 hides under cultivation - a half-hundred under Edgar's rules.

Luston commemorates its past Saxon connection with tithe field No 169 (SO 487 638), named as The Meeting Field.

Orleton was a Saxon royal manor before DB, and maintained its Manor Court into the 19th C, meeting at the Maidenhead Inn, Orleton. St George is celebrated as the patron saint of Orleton. Traces of the Romano-British St George can be found at Pool Cottage, Comberton (SO 497 677). The carving of a standing man holding an axe with his male member erect celebrates the earlier belief in St George as the protector of the people, and the fertile moving force that after death resurrects time and time again to bring forth prosperity. Within Pool Cottage, on a fireplace lintel, there is an engraving representing St George in the form of a sprite plunging a blade into the skull of a ram. This too, I believe represents aggression and recurring fertility.

Within the grounds of Pool Cottage/Comberton Farm is a barn. It is aligned east west, measuring 24' x 64', so positioned that it is likely to be the site of the early Saxon church to St George.

**Alan J Derriscott
17 Brookway, Wallasey, L45 4SD**

The chairman would like to record a very generous donation from Alan Derriscott towards the cost of printing this synopsis and the eventual report of the field meeting at Wolphy on 21/3/93, which will incorporate additional evidence in support of his argument, Alan hopes these notes will stimulate a history of Wolphy Hundred.

Editor

ROMAN SEVERN CROSSINGS

The talk by Gordon McDonald at the Shindig and the map of Roman roads on page 10 of Heather Hurley's 'The Old Roads of South Herefordshire' book review set the writer thinking about the various Roman Severn crossings.

Heather Hurley's map, now greatly out of date, was taken from an article by J G Wood in the Transactions of 1903 pages 185-190. Another article by the same author in the 1903 Transactions on pages 191-195 suggested that the Sudbrook Sea Mills crossing had both St Pierre Pill and Caldecot Pill on the "Welsh" side rather than Sudbrook itself. Margary has a spur road 60aa from 60a leading to the coast. From Caldecot Pill the River Troggy/Nedern Brook leads to Caerwent, possibly navigable in Roman times.

On the "English" side he proposes Elbury Pill (now part of Avonmouth Dock) and Cold Harbour (Cold Harbour Pill or Mitchell's Gout), Margary 54 giving the necessary road connection. Mr Wood proposed two landing sites on either side to allow for the vagaries of the tidal current in the estuary. He does not favour Sea Mills (ABONE), the river Avon would magnify the tidal range and in early times the Avon had a small delta with east and west distributaries. It is not proposed here to detail his Dark Ages and Medieval evidence, readers are referred to his actual articles.

Other crossings are from Newnham to Arlington, Margary 60a and 543 giving the necessary road connections. Gordon McDonald postulates a possible road inland from Newnham to Mitcheldean, this, if proved, would certainly have helped communications. Mr McDonald also postulates a possible crossing at Framilode, connecting a possible but later abandoned Roman road from Newnham to Gloucester with Margary 543.

A crossing from Lydney itself to Berkley Pill, this would be strengthened if the Dean road to Mitcheldean, Margary 614 were to be finally confirmed. There are numerous 'Pills' on both sides of the estuary and many of these could have been utilised for crossings, even Chepstow to Aust. The absence of the necessary 'spur' connecting roads may only be due to lack of investigation.

PRH

MARLEY HALL, LEDBURY (SO 684 407)

Marley Hall is a known site of Roman date but uncertain nature, reported passim in Trans WNFC 1931, 1932, 1933 and 1936. Large quantities of Roman sherds were found in draining the orchard adjoining and northeast of the house; there are now many broken bits of drainage-tile in the present ploughed field north east of the farm.

There was no stratification, but the finds were thought by A Watkins and G Marshall to be a heap of discards from a kiln, and the British Museum found wasters present among the pottery. G H Jack, however thought it more likely that a villa or farmstead was in the vicinity, and many animal-bones and horses' teeth were found. Jack compared the pottery to some excavated by him in Sandlin Farm kiln, Leigh Sinton, known to have produced hand-made Malvernian ware (Trans Worcs A S 1963, 1964 and 1965-7, 27).

Field-walking in autumn 1990 is reported below. The 1930s finds had included a very little Samian, amphorae, mortaria, a Roman roof-tile, a stone culvert, a coin of Constantine I. No Roman kiln- or building-materials were found in 1990. Mr Foster who works on the farm has seen a buried culvert still crossing the drive but is uncertain exactly where.

To the northeast of the farm there is now a large Dutch barn with hard floor, and a small area of recent tree plantation east of this. Sections A and E (below) adjoin these new features and contained the greatest number of sherds found, while Sections A and G cross most of the 'Little Orchard' of the 1841 Tithe Map.

In 1990 the area searched was not closely gridded as this was not practicable for a single fieldworker in the time available. Soil conditions were excellent for retrieval, and in about 5-10 hours over several days 85 R B sherds were collected from about 1 hectare (2½ acres). Soon afterwards the field was cultivated again and conditions changed so that fieldwork was discontinued.

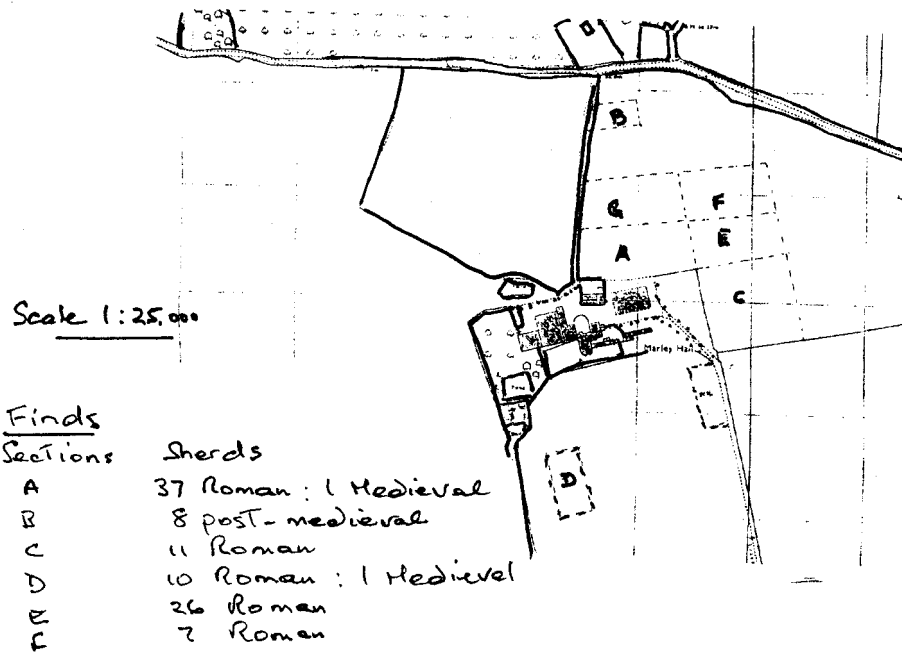
The sherds found were mostly abraded body-sherds. Only one was recognised as probably Samian; most were of orange or orange/buff fabric, smooth and friable, often with grey core: many probably Severn Valley Ware. Of the 16 identified rim-sherds, 6 were of black ware; two were Severn Valley Ware tankards, as were two bases (one in grey fabric); there was one bifurcated Severn Valley Ware rim of 4th C; the rest were everted rims of jars etc, and there were a few base-sherds.

Of the body-sherds, only one was of black coarse ware and another grey. There were also 3 sherds of medieval pottery and a few of 17th C slip-ware, from a presumed cottage-site in the vicinity of SO 685 409.

On the whole, the R B pottery seems to be a manuring-scatter from a domestic site, and there seems to be no evidence for (or against) a kiln. It seems probable that the R B site is under the present farm.

I am grateful to Mrs Sandford of Hereford City Museum for identifying the pottery.

L E King



FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS IN THE DULAS VALLEY

On Sunday 4/10/92 at 10.30am 19 members and guests led by Graham Sprackling met at the Memorial Hall, Ewyas Harold, to continue last year's exploration of the Dulas valley. (HAN No 57, Jan 1992, p 36-40). The following places were visited:

Dulas Court (SO 371 295)

This house is not included in RCHM mainly because of a thorough rebuild and enlargement in the early 1860's.

The house belonged for some time to a branch of the Parrys of Newcourt in Bacton parish. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, John Parry (brother of Stephen Parry of Moorehampton) held Dulas. It continued in Parry ownership until 1767. It then passed to the Hopton family whose youngest son James Michael Hopton inherited it. In 1858 it was purchased by Rev Robert Mosley Fielden, Rector of Bebbington in Cheshire. It then passed to his son Lt Colonel Robert Fielden who pulled down the old house (described in sales particulars as a small square house built of rubble stone). He also pulled down the old church (the site of the former Benedictine priory), which occupied the area now covered by the present front lawn. In 1865 he built the present new church on the other side of the road.

Members then entered the house, now used as a residential home for retired musicians. There is a wealth of oak paneling, profusely carved and decorated, in the main hall. Some members detected Germanic features in the ecclesiastical themes depicted. There were also carved wooden shiela-na-gig figures and some carved wooden heads springing from foliage, and displaying drooping mustaches and bulging eyes, giving a pagan-celtic impression. Some though obviously not all of these carvings are reputed to have come from the old church. Much was no doubt from other sources. They should be examined and recorded by a specialist in religious art and architecture.

It was noticed that the wooden beams in the great hall were not of a quality one would have expected in a house of this type.

Some time was spent exploring the grounds. The front lawn is large enough to have covered the site of both old church and burial-ground. The base and stem of a churchyard cross (without niche) and with pyramidal stops at the corners of the base, can still be seen. Two gravestones remain, one inscribed "Joseph Humphries 1860", the other "Michael Thomas Hopton".

Members then walked to the walled garden 150 yards north of the house, to examine a re-constructed stone arch from the old church, forming a garden entrance, secured on top of the arch with iron ties. The north capital has a faintly discernable carved face thought to be a death's-head. The arch is badly weathered and eroded, it is dated by RCHM as early 12th C.

We then went to the large lawn to the west of the house (said to have been the front before restoration), marked on the tithe map as 'Piece adjoining the garden* (TM no 93), and on the Estate Map of 1857 at CRO Gwent as 'Pleasure Grounds, Old Road & part of Rye Grass Meadow'.

An area of ground beyond the lawn and near a point where a tributary stream to the Dulas brook enters the Court grounds was then examined. A raised mound surrounded by associated hollow ways was judged to have been the site of a former mill. On the other side of the road is a field called Millpond Orchard (TM no 59).

A map of 1817 prepared for Lord Somers, Chief Steward of the City of Hereford, and now in private hands, shows that the road between Dulas Court and Cwm Dulas did not exist at that time. Directly opposite the suggested mill site was the start of the old road leading to Great Bilbo Farm and thus connecting farm with mill.

Dulas Church (SO 373 294)

A visit was then made to the present church, described fully in our previous expedition (HAN No 57). The writer pointed out to members the grave of John Jones, self styled 'Priest', d. 1928. Covering his grave (to the right of the main path) is a flat, stone coffin lid with incised cross with inscription around the edge (possibly Cyrillic) as yet undeciphered. Dated c 14th C, it was discovered in Ewyas Harold, in a wall between Castle Inn (now the Dog) and the shop, during building work. Jones whose family owned the shop, claimed it and had it put over his own grave. It was recorded and photographed for the Woolhope Club transactions by Alfred Watkins. It was pointed out that the botanical richness of the churchyard is due to the fact that the new church site was enclosed out of an old meadow.

Castle Bach (SO 362 301)

Re-visited for those who missed it last time, and to examine the mysterious ditch which encircled the hill. Our lunch was eaten here and Margaret Preece very kindly provided tea.

Great Bilbo Farm (SO 359 293)

Also re-visited as only two people reached it last time, due to the 'entangled sheep incident'. We walked $\frac{3}{4}$ mile across the fields to see this ancient farmhouse fully described in HAN 57. The chairman, Roger Stirling-Brown and others then went to look at Hunthouse Farm (SO 342 261) in Walterstone, a possible castle site, while the rest of the party went home at 4.14 pm.

References

RCHM Herefordshire Vol I SW
Robinson - History of the Mansions and Manors of Herefordshire

New Map of County of Herefordshire, from a survey by Henry Price 1817 (examined by kind permission of Mr E Whittle-Williams)
 Dulas Court Estate Plan 1857 (CRO Cwmbran, Gwent)

We are indebted to the owners of Castle Bach and Dulas Court for their hospitality, help and co-operation.

Graham Sprackling

Castle Bach Site - additional note from Roger Stirling-Brown

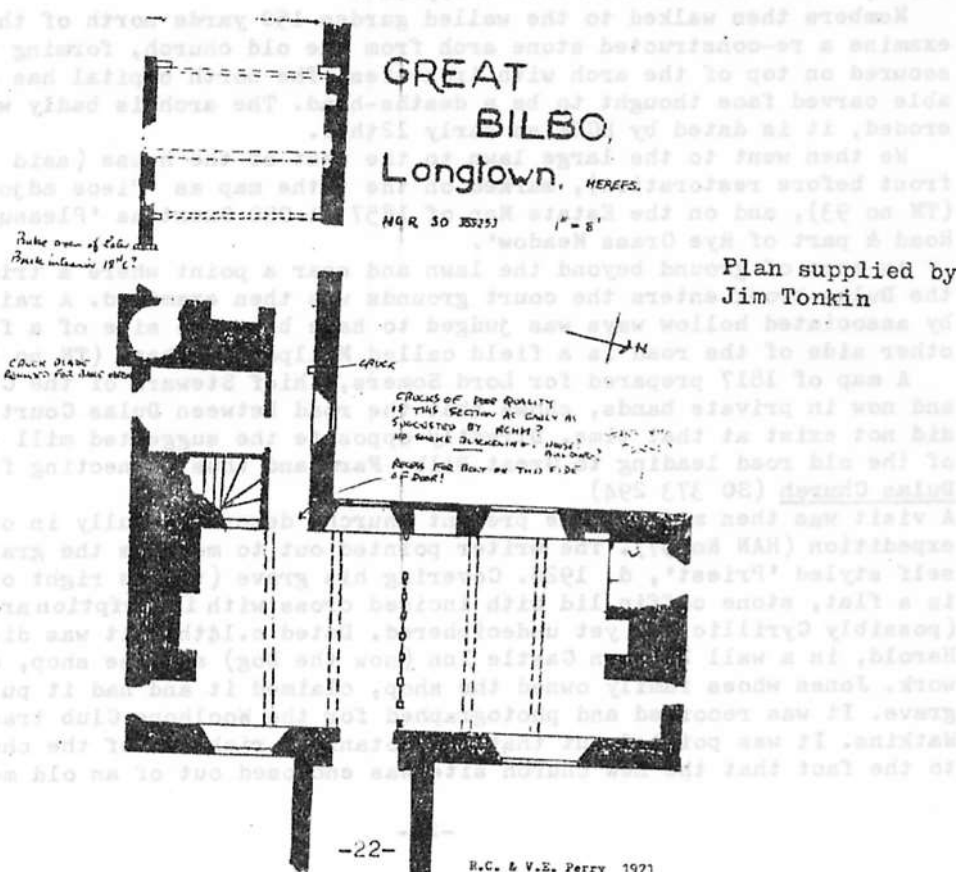
A triangular group of buildings on a stone platform, a very strong ridge end site. There is a barn on a low mound at the apex and surrounding paddocks are called Castle Field, Castle Orchard and Castle Wood. The present buildings are probably 17th C in origin, the whole is surrounded by what appears to be a form of low ditch. After two visits we are still not able to determine its purpose. It is very shallow and obviously not defensive as it is not militarily well sited and has a very long perimeter. On the other hand it may be two leats for collecting water for a mill lower down the valley, but it has little gradient. It is possible that it is just a boundary ditch, or robbed out wall foundations. As the name implies it was the probable site of a small castle, utilising the strength of the site as its main defence.

CASTLE FROME CASTLE – DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

Despite being a Lacy manor Castle Frome was in the hands of the king from 1155 until sometime after 1216. The Lacys very much resented this royal encroachment on their barony, the more so since the king still expected them to pay taxes on it!

I am convinced that the Castelli written against the manor in HDB refers to Herbert de Castello rather than the castle, although I am certain there was a castle there from earliest times after the Conquest. Herbert held the manor after 1155 direct from the king and it was he, I am sure, who commissioned the magnificent font there from the so-called Hereford School of Norman Sculpture. The Lacy estates in Herefordshire lay in two main areas, around Weobley and in the Frome valley. Weobley Castle provided some security for their lands in that area and the castle at Castle Frome must have performed a similar function in the Frome valley.

The RCHM Herefordshire (Vol 2, p 49) describes the castle lying 350 yards east of the church (GR SO 670 458) in Jim Tonkin's list of castles in the Woolhope Club Trans 1982, p 33) as a motte and bailey. The motte is about 60 yards in diameter at the base and rises c 14' above the bailey, which lies on the east and south. There is a slight sinking in the



top of the motte apparently.

Mr J Cohen (Reports of Sectional Editors: Archaeology; Woolhope Club Trans (1956) p 127) says the castle is a motte with two baileys, one to the north and one to the south. The motte is a broad oval c 12' high with a central depression which may have carried the main building, of stone, on the motte, with possible stone walls and rubble "erectment". I have quoted him virtually verbatim here, the entry is garbled and I don't know what he means by "erectment" ? revettment?

Herbert of Castle Holdgate died in 1189 but by 1185/6 it had come into the hands of Amaury de Lacy. Amaury died during that accounting year and as he was the king's tenant in chief for the manor it escheated to the crown, and the sheriff accounted for its issues (Pipe Roll 32 Henry II, 32). In the following year the issues of Frome amounted to 100/- but during the next year it was put out to farm by John of Warden (ib. 33 Henry II, 133 & 6 Richard I, 5).

When Hugh II de Lacy was killed in Ireland in 1186 all his lands escheated to the king until his heir paid relief. In the accounting year 1186/7 the sheriff of Herefordshire was therefore responsible for the issues of the Lacy demesne manors in the shire as well as those from the manor of Castle Frome, both of them escheats. A year later the Castle Frome account ceased (because it was put to farm) but the sheriff continued to be responsible for the Lacy lands until June 1189, when Walter de Lacy paid relief. The actual form of words used in the render of Michaelmas 1187 is as follows (Pipe Roll 33 Henry II, 134):

"The sheriff accounts for £47 from the lands of Hugh de Lacy in Herefordshire. He pays nothing. And in the cost & keeping of the castle of Ewyas and Novi Castelli (et in custamento et custodia castelli de Ewias at Novi Castelli) from the Feast of St Peter ad Vincula last year to the Feast of St Michael this year £37 by the king's writ. And in the keeping of the castle of Weobley (castelli de Wibelay) for the same term, £13 by the same writ. And he is quit."

At Michaelmas 1188 the form of words is virtually the same (Pipe Roll 34 Henry II 214):

"The sheriff accounts for £47 from the farm of the lands of Hugh de Lacy in Herefordshire. He pays nothing. And in the keeping of the castle of Ewyas & Novi Castelli & the castle of Weobley (et in custodia castelli de Ewias and Novi Castelli et castelli de Wibelay), £47 by the king's writ. And he is quit."

In both entries the reference is to a castle (singular) of Ewyas and Novum Castellum and a castle of Weobley. No mention is made of the other Lacy demesne castle at Castle Frome because it was not then in their hands. This suggests to me that the sums allowed for in 1186/7 & 1187/8 were for the keeping of a castle in Ewyas that happened at the time to be on two sites. Construction of Novum Castellum was evidently sufficiently advanced when Hugh de Lacy died to be capable of defence but not so far advanced as to warrant the abandonment of the "old castle" in Ewyas (Pont Hendre?). In note 9 of page 267 of his work ("A list of Castles", EHR, 74 (1959) R Allen Brown says "On the accounts of the Lacy Lands on the Pipe Rolls for 33 & 34 Henry II a Novum Castrum (recte Castellum) is mentioned as well as the known Lacy castles of Ewyas and Weobley. It seems very likely that this is an early reference to the new stone castle of Ewyas". I can only concur with his conclusion. It cannot be the castle at Castle Frome as it was not then a Lacy manor.

King John gave Frome Herberti (affix from Herbert de Castello) to Stephen de Longchamps 1201 and Stephen passed it on to his nephew Stephen Devereux of Lyonshall in 1205 (Pipe Roll 3 John, 266; Rotuli Chartarum, 90, 156). Stephen Devereux married Isabella, daughter of William de Cantilupe, and when he died in 1228 she retained Fromehereberti as dower by the king's gift (Rotuli Selecti, 259).

By this date, however, Walter de Lacy had regained some control over the manor; the long minority of Henry III may have helped in this regard. Between 1216 and 1228

(the date Stephen Devereux, one of the witnesses succeeded his father at Lyonshall and the date of his death), therefore, Walter gave a charter to St Guthlac's Priory confirming them in possession of tithes of the demesnes at Castle Frome which had originally been given by Hugh I de Lacy (d c 1115) (St Guthlac Cartulary, f 94v no 417; f 95v no 421). It was probably due to Walter's patronage that sometime after 1228 Gilbert, grandson of Amaury de Lacy, obtained the subtenancy of Castle Frome. Walter died in 1241 and in 1243 Gilbert de Lacy held one knight's fee at Frome Castri from his heirs (Book of Fees, 808).

I would hazard a guess that the massive loan of 600m that Gilbert took out was for building work at Castle Frome, work that would benefit Walter de Lacy of Weobley almost as much as himself. The remains of this may be what Cohen thought he saw in 1958. I believe that there was Civil War activity at Castle Frome.

Bruce Coplestone-Crow

A new site has been identified by the SMR from aerial photographs at (SO 656 454) just north of Millend Farm, which could possibly have some Civil War significance.

Jean and Charles Hopkinson have recently (December 1992) investigated this site and report as follows - The site is on a very gently sloping ploughland close to the river, over the years a considerable amount of soil has been deposited over the site. The site is close to three footpaths and not far from Blackway, perhaps it was an important ford or way across the valley. They felt that it was unlikely to have been a Roman fort, Medieval or Civil War construction, suggesting that it could have been a Marching Camp or a Work Camp for Canon Frome fort. The site is large and rectangular in shape, and appears to be of a temporary nature.

Editor

CASTLE FROME CASTLE – A LOST DE LACY CAPUT

The suggestion by Bruce that the word Castelli written in the margin of the Balliol Domesday refers to Herbert de Castello of Castle Holdgate in Shropshire is most interesting but not without its problems. Herbert's occupation of Brismerfrum (Castle Frome, DB f 184b) is not in doubt in the late 12th C but it would have been more natural for the Balliol annotator to have used the form Herberti by which the place is known in 1201 and 1205, i.e. Frome Herberti (B Coplestone-Crow, Herefordshire Place-Names 1989, p 89). Secondly, elsewhere in the, Balliol Domesday the annotator clarifies the Domesday place-name e.g. Puttelee for Poteslepa (Putley) p 40 and the identification of Upcote as an unnamed Domesday vill in Almley p 32, and thus Castelli helps to identify one of the three Fromes in the same way. Thirdly, if Castelli refers to Herbert, so logically should the later appellations of Castri (1243) and Castelli (1291), just as Acton Beauchamp takes its name from a noble family and does not indicate the presence of "fine pastures" at Acton. Thus, if Herbert provided Frome with its distinctive name of Castelli, all later references may simply follow this and the castle at Castle Frome disappears. The earthwork usually regarded as a castle, which covers an area something like 204 yards by 98 yards, may well be a small Iron Age earthwork. After all, it sits in Camp Wood and on the north, south and west the ditch follows the contours of the hill in a manner very reminiscent of local hillforts. But there is still the intrusive mound, occupying the north end of the enclosure, to be explained.

Following Joe Hillaby ("Hereford Gold" in TWNFC XLV (1985), p 232) the mound could be the remains of a new castle founded in c 1240. It was perhaps built by Gilbert de Lacy II of Cressage, Salop, who borrowed £600 from his kinsman Walter de Lacy of Weobley in 1244 which he used, both Joe and Bruce suggest, to complete the castle at Frome. There certainly seems to have been a stone castle here, for masonry was discovered in the roots of a tree blown down in a gale in 1894 (TWNFC (1896), p 184) whilst Watkins in the Continuation of Duncumb's History (1902), p 47 refers to "pitched stones said to have been found in its supposed area". Today there are still small fragments of stone to be found, some of which appear to have mortar attached. The declivity - approximately 12

yards in diameter - at the centre of the "motte" has all the qualities of a robbed out undercroft for a stone tower. The £600 borrowed by Gilbert would certainly have been sufficient to erect a small tower - perhaps round like those at the de Lacy castles of Longtown and Lyonshall. The keep at Bridgnorth, constructed in the late 12th C cost less than £400 (T McNeill, Castles (1992), p 41). But why would Gilbert want to put himself heavily in debt and build a castle on his knight's fee at Frome, remote from his other property in Shropshire? As Bruce points out this would benefit Walter de Lacy rather than Gilbert.

The earthworks at Castle Frome are extensive but not very distinct, and because of afforestation in the 1950's, extremely difficult to survey. The average motte in Herefordshire is something like 40-60' in diameter at its base. The RCHM makes Castle Frome 180' in diameter, approaching, therefore, the scale of Ewyas Harold which is 220-230' at the base. But, apart from its scale, what distinguishes Castle Frome from the general run of local castles is its striking position, dominating the central lowlands of the county on the 500 feet contour, 260' above the River Frome. This is no mere manorial motte and bailey but a veritable citadel. It is fashionable today in castle studies to play down the military character of castles, and draw attention to their domestic and economic qualities. In the Welsh border their role as engines of colonisation in an alien setting is emphasised. For a recent example see J Kenyon, Medieval Fortifications (1990) where despite its title, 50% of the book is devoted to domestic features. Certainly castles, however, often detached from the community which today gives them their name, cry out for strategic and political evaluation. The castles of Fitz Osbern fall into this category as do several other primary castles of the conquest period, e.g. Snodhill, Richard's Castle and Ludlow.

Castle Frome is the Ludlow of East Herefordshire, as a glance at Wightman's plan of the Lacy estates in the Midlands displays (WE Wightman, The Lacy Family in England and Normandy (1966), pp 118-119). The stronghold only makes sense in the context of the compact group holdings acquired by Walter de Lacy which surround the castle in the Frome valley and the hill country to the east, e.g. Evesbatch, Leadon etc. As a recent study shows, Walter de Lacy was not the protégé of Fitz Osbern, enriched with comital lands after the revolt of the Earl's son Roger in 1075, but his equal, installed in the southern marches with property directly granted by King William. Indeed, his strength was probably deliberately framed to check the power of the great Earl and his son (C Lewis, "The Norman Settlement of Herefordshire under William I" in R A Brown (ed), Anglo-Norman Studies VII (1985), pp 203-205).

Castle Frome was Walter de Lacy's eastern caput; it was held in demesne and surrounded by satellite estates which probably accounted there as it had a reeve in 1086. Topographically, Brismerfrum, Nerefrum (Halmonds Frome), Evesbatch, Leadon and the one hide holding in Bishop's Frome appear to be an intrusive element in a landscape of ancient demesne belonging to the Bishop of Hereford. Bishop's Frome, Cradley and Bosbury enclose the Lacy holdings to the north, east and, to a lesser degree, the south. The pre-Conquest ownership of Castle Frome, Halmonds Frome and Evesbatch by the Godwins - Harold, Tostig and Queen Edith - is worth noticing. Their predations upon ancient ecclesiastical institutions in the Midlands is well recorded elsewhere, e.g. Leominster and Berkeley, and it is possible that the Frome properties were also recent acquisitions from the church at Hereford (J Hillaby, "Early Christian and Pre-Conquest Leominster in TWNFC XLV (1987), pp 657-8). Moreover, it has recently been pointed out that family's possessions may have served a strategic purpose. They were sited close to convenient communications and on the south coast several estates included pre-historic earthworks (R Fleming, "Domesday Estates of the King and the Godwins; A Study of Late Saxon Politics" in Speculum 58 (1983), pp 998-1006). Did Brismerfrum, therefore, held from Earl Harold by Brictrmer, fall into this category? Was the earthwork on the hill used like Credenhill or the Roman enclosure at Leintwardine, as a convenient place for assembling the fyrd from the three hundreds which converge above Bishop's Frome? It is also important to remember that the Roman road from Kenchester - discovered close to Castle Frome church - wound its way up the

steep hill beneath the earthwork on its way via Cradley to the Roman bridge -apparently still standing in 1088 - at Worcester (K A Lindsay, Castle Frome Church Guide (1977) p 2). When the present road over Locks Hill was established is difficult to ascertain, but it is illustrated following its modern route in Olgilby's Britannia (1675).

Much of the above is speculation but continuity is an important factor in castle founding in Wales and the border. Frequently, baronial castles were built on or close to earlier centres of authority and administration. The parallel of Ludlow comes to mind again. Here the castle, at least until the reign of King John, was referred to as Dynan (Dinham), a name which presumably contains the element din - "fort" and refers to an earlier earthwork on the rocky outcrop above the Teme (D Renn, "Chastel de Dynan" in Castles in Wales and the Marches (1987), J Kenyon & R Avent (eds), pp 55-58). In ecclesiastical terms, until the 19th C, Ludlow was part of the parish of Stanton Lacy and it is possible that the relatively small parish of Castle Frome (1,511 acres) had a similar relationship with Bishop's Frome (3,948 acres). We find in the Valor Ecclesiasticus III (1534) p 45 that Castle Frome was a chapelry of Bishop's Frome. This ecclesiastical dependency helps to support the assumption that Brismerfrum started life as part of the Bishop's great manor of Frome and was detached for political reasons - the Welsh wars? - by Earl Harold or one of his predecessors. The secularisation of church land for military purposes is a constant theme of early medieval history (R Fleming, "Monastic Lands and England's Defence in the Viking Age" in Eng. Hist. Review CCCXCV (1985), pp 247-265).

Alternatively, this may reflect an ancient arrangement, visible throughout Britain, of a lay estate - the Lacy holding - rubbing shoulders with an ecclesiastical estate -Bishop's Frome (G R Jones, "Settlement Patterns in Anglo-Saxon England" in Antiquity XXXV (1961), pp 222-231). This idea is given substance by the description of Castle Frome in the early 12th C as Majoris Frome (Coplestone-Crow, p 89). Thus, the great estate of Frome referred to in the mid 9th C (W Capes, Charters and Records (1908), p 1) in a charter favouring the minster at Bromyard may always have been split between the church and some secular authority but the former retained control of any chapels founded on the latter's territory. It is perhaps significant that in the Valor Canon Frome also pays a pension to the vicar of Bishop's Frome. However, before reaching any firm conclusions based upon this evidence, it must be pointed out that on other occasions in the Middle Ages, e.g. 1349 Trilleck Reg. p 515 Castle Frome is regarded as a rectory in its own right.

If, as these notes suggest, Castle Frome is a stunted Ludlow, it seems reasonable to suggest that the castle came into existence before Roger de Lacy's revolt in 1095. Roger is generally credited with the building of the great tower at Ludlow (Renn, 1987 loc. cit.) although presumably he was largely following the directions established by his father Walter. A similar time scale could be postulated for Castle Frome, i.e. the earthwork castle belongs to Walter's period with additional stonework, perhaps a keep, added by Roger Renn raises the possibility that Ludlow was established by William fitz Osbern before 1072. The similar dominant position and large motte at Castle Frome would support this but it fits uneasily with the idea that Walter had independent authority in the Southern Marches. After 1095 the Lacy estates lost their integrity; they were frequently in the hands of the crown, taken out of demesne and tenanted and, especially in the Frome valley, large chunks were alienated to religious houses, namely St Guthlac at Hereford, and Llanthony. Thus the need for a major caput in eastern Herefordshire diminished.

David Whitehead

A CURRENT ATTEMPT TO INTEREST THE 'ESTABLISHMENT' IN A CONSTRUCTIVE USE OF AERIAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Regardless of its origins and purpose, an air photograph has remained, for most archaeologists, mainly a source of information that can be converted into conventional evidence by a 'ritual' excavation. Little of the cumulative record from the air is known to archaeologists, and when studies of photographs have been carried out they have been of

limited areas and often by those without meaningful training in the interpretation of air photographs, which for other disciplines is preceded by extensive and lengthy training.

Much the same situation exists in other countries. It arises from the process by which proficiency in archaeology is obtained. The practical skills are learnt rather than taught. Photography is one of the normal methods of recording the progress of an excavation, and it has seemed to be an extension of this to take the camera into the air. In the past 60 years, hundreds of archaeologists have done so, but the number of them who obtained any significant information is negligible. Lack of success at this elementary level of operations has given rise to quite incorrect opinions on the potential information available from properly trained and motivated surveillance. The incidence of discovery has been equated with the incidence of site distribution, and a paucity of easy results has been equated with an absence of archaeological materials instead of inadequate observation techniques.

Without being trained to operate in the air and without the experience that has to be built on to the training, archaeologists cannot understand the advantages and limitations of aerial surveillance or the objectives in making it available. There has been no attempt to analyse the factors that provide either success or failure and little has been learnt from them. Without detracting at all from the honour due to C G S Crawford as the pioneer of air photography for archaeology in Britain, it can be stated that not every opinion expressed in the early days of any new development is an eternal truth. Crawford later, in a generous tribute to Major Allen, acknowledges the limitations of his own prospecting techniques, but this later statement seems almost unknown to archaeologists. Allen's prospecting techniques opened up a vast new field that Crawford had not envisaged, and it is equally true to say that later experiences and techniques have opened up a vaster field than Allen envisaged. Unless, it is thought that the prototype of anything is likely to be the ultimate, this is surely the normal process. The context in which Crawford assessed his discoveries was that of a landscape in which archaeological material was scarce and dispersed. We must now consider the entire landscape as one single archaeological site.

Although only a small amount of the evidence from the air that has been accumulating in the past 60 years has been absorbed into the archaeological ethos, it has been obvious for more than 30 years that the archaeological techniques of investigation, mainly based on careful excavation, that were developed when it was thought that the amount of surviving evidence was small, dispersed, and finite, will never serve for more than a fraction of the evidence that is being discovered at a still accelerating pace. Even 30 years ago, one could suggest not only that the surviving evidence was vastly greater in volume than had been believed, but also that there was a vastly greater variety of it. Much of it is of a kind that is unlikely to provide conventional archaeological material through conventional excavations. Nevertheless, mainstream archaeology has continued to use most of its resources on techniques that are no longer relevant to the larger body of evidence now available from aerial archaeology and has not tried to incorporate this new and still rapidly increasing volume into its deliberations.

When it was thought that the pattern of earlier land-use in Britain was confined to a few soils that by a fortunate coincidence were cropmark sensitive (this belief still persists amongst some archaeologists), long-ranging reconnaissances could be selective and concentrate on limited areas. Latterly, however, it has become increasingly clear that whenever the appropriate intensive study is undertaken by experienced practitioners in the air, it can provide evidence of earlier land-use, though this evidence is not necessarily of the kind sought by conventional excavations or identified by easily seen cropmarks. Each area, be it considered in geological or administrative terms, is a specific subject that requires the use of specific techniques at exactly the right times. In Britain as a whole, there are hundreds of different areas where long-term study will provide narrow 'windows' into their earlier land-use; but this will only occur once it is assumed that from earliest prehistoric times man lived everywhere, and that archaeological field survey consists of looking for evidence

of this both on the ground and from the air, instead of merely seeking sites suitable for excavation.

The objectives of aerial archaeology are not attainable by providing archaeologists devoid of significant training and experience in the air with a few hours flying in whatever will get them airborne. These objectives do not become more attainable by attending a few lectures on cameras, aerial archaeology, or photographic interpretation. In dealing with the interpretation of air photographs from any source, John Bradford laid down the dictum that the amount of significant data derived from air photographs is in direct proportion to the interpreters' experience. The same limitation applies to an archaeologist's experience in the air. It is equally disappointing that archaeologists still do not realise that unless there is a commitment to the pursuit and development of an uninterrupted study from the air for decades, there is no point in starting it at all, either at one's own expense or with the assistance of public funds.

In retrospect, it is easy to see that it has been a mistake to try to closely ally evidence of the vertical stratigraphy obtained from the excavation of deserted sites with the spatial information available from the air. It is not a matter of one being right and the other wrong, but of the fact that the microscope and telescope provide different evidence from the same subject. The spatial evidence suggests much more permanence in the landscape than the stratified evidence of the less permanent and deserted domestic sites, which in a later and more arable period are more likely to survive anomalously under pasture than in cultivated fields.

Where there has been continuous land-use anywhere, what conventional archaeological evidence remains to show it? Is a deserted site (with the possible exception of those of the post-Romano-British period) typical or untypical of land-use around it? Does desertion of sites on a flood-plain coincide with desertions on peripheral land? What is the wider landscape context of the wetland sites? Were large Neolithic monuments sited on flood-plains because the land was marginal rather than desirable? The excavator can seek the answers to such questions, but cannot ask them without incorporating the air evidence into a new framework with a new philosophy.

There is a priority for aerial archaeology to record as much as possible because of the loss of information and evidence in the course of normal agriculture. This loss is greater than that from the changes in land-use. A far greater need, however, is to convince archaeologists of the implications of the new and unexamined evidence, because it is only through this that there can be a meaningful review of interests and priorities. Without this, a review would be carried out in spite of archaeological indifference instead of because of archaeologists' interest.

Jim Pickering

The above copy of an attempt to interest the Archaeological 'Establishment' in a constructive use of aerial archaeology was sent to me by Jim Pickering. Herefordshire is not in the area of his survey but in his occasional 'sight seeing trips west of the Severn' he has seen and photographed crop marks of some of the previously unknown and most exciting sites in our county. I had written to him with a report of the finds made on a few of the sites located from his photographs, including the E type Roman villa in Kings Caple and the large ring ditch in Felton which he would expect to be a late Neolithic monument. He said that he receives far too little feed-back from the ground. His letter concluded: "The days of the amateurs in archaeology, whether in field work or in the air, have never been more needed".

It is up to us!

Elizabeth Taylor

PARISH CORRESPONDENTS DAY

A combined Parish Correspondents Day in the morning, and an Archaeology Service Open Day in the afternoon was held on Saturday 5/9/92 at the county headquarters at Warndon.

The Open Day held in the afternoon was part of the CBA (Group 8) West Midlands Archaeology Week.

In the morning a series of talks by various archaeology staff members were given to the Parish Correspondents to be followed in the afternoon by field work to illustrate various aspects. It was unfortunate that Beryl and John Harding and Frank Pexton could not attend as they were away at the Woolhope Club out of county field week.

The Open Day showed the work of the county archaeology service to members of the general public with short talks by staff members on: The Sites and Monuments Record; Archaeology Finds; Illustrations for Archaeology; Recent Small Projects in the County and The Marches Upland Survey. The SMR and aerial photographic collections and the reference library were all available for inspection.

PRH

FIELD MEETING ON GARWAY HILL

On Sunday 1st November at 10.30am, 16 members met at the Memorial Hall, Ewyas Harold. On a day which started overcast but turned into a glorious day, Graham Sprackling led the way to Garway Hill to meet local members Doreen Ruck and Susan Rice.

Earthwork on Garway Hill (SO 440 250)

Some time was spent examining this interesting but almost forgotten site, its contours hidden by dead bracken. Enigmatic and of unknown origin, it needs to be visited in winter to see its outline properly. Its rounded corners gave a hint of possible Roman origin. With a known Roman fort at Castlefield (SO 429 238) a mile away in the Monnow valley, some thought must be given to the possibility of a Romano-British farmstead. A small scale exploratory excavation might shed some light on the matter. The long parallel shapes which show up to the south of the site on recent aerial photographs could be old field boundaries pointing to a pastoral activity.

Richard Kay described this site in the WNFC transaction 1967 p 43, in a way that cannot be bettered, as follows;

"Sited on the southern slopes of Garway Hill not a great distance from its summit, this earthwork is tolerably well preserved although in summer rather obscured by a luxuriant growth of fern, it is rather surprising that a site of this importance has remained unnoticed and unrecorded. The earthwork is situated on the lower end of Garway Hill Common above the farm of Lower Castle and immediately to the north east of the track leading to the hill top. A second track leading to Bell Vue traverses the earthwork which occupies a site on the southern slope of the hill where it is a little less steep than either to the north or the south but without any true natural defensive capabilities.

It is of rectilinear plan, 178' x 183', 167' x 207' measured along the top of the ramparts. These are continuous and in reasonable preservation except on the south side where it has mostly collapsed into the external ditch. The corners are more or less right angled and are sharply rounded. The rampart has been much reduced for the greater part of the western side and the northern half of the eastern side of the enclosure. Gaps in the north rampart, near the northwest angle and opposite in the south rampart may indicate original entrances. The rampart now has a maximum height of 10' above the bottom of the surrounding ditch and 4' 6" above the level of the interior of the enclosure. These measurements occur at the southwest angle. Where the gaps in the ramparts appear to be original there are traces of wide causeways across the ditches, on the north this causeway is continued as a terrace and a slightly sunken way until it is obscured by a modern track. On the south the causeway crosses the here mutilated ditch and is continued down hill for a considerable distance as a wide grassy way between low banks which seem to have been bygone field boundaries. There are faint indications that the western portion of the reasonably level enclosure is raised above the remainder of the area, but this may be a

natural feature. The site commands a very wide view to the south and over the Monnow valley.

This interesting earthwork, without proper excavation, offers considerable problems regarding dating and purpose. Similar small rectangular earthworks are of a type fairly well scattered throughout the Marches and further westwards. They are generally found on or near the summit of a hill. There are examples at Little Mountain, Newchurch, Radnor, Caer Din Ring, Newcastle on Clun, Salop; Gibbet Hill, Llanfair Caereinion, New Pieces, Breidden Hill, Mont. and elsewhere. The earthworks at New Pieces, on excavation, proved to have contained a farm of Roman date, whilst that on Gibbet Hill, long thought to have been a Roman fortlet, on excavation proved to be negative. Perhaps the dating of this type of earthwork must therefore for the time being remain inconclusive.

There must be many more sites such as those listed above still existing in Herefordshire, which have so far escaped detection. In conclusion it can be stated that the importance of making some kind of record cannot be over estimated when the vanishing example of Poston is considered".

Some members then continued up the main track towards the summit. Halfway up, just beyond a large low banked enclosure and to the right of the track is a large shallow pool, known locally as the "Black Pool", obviously fed by a spring. It has never been known to dry up. On the northern edge of the pool a number of flint scrapers, plus other cores and flakes of flint of Neolithic origin have been found by Susan Rice. Those who continued to the brick World War II observation post at the summit (altitude 1,202') were rewarded with fine panoramic views of the Monnow valley, The Skyrriid, Sugar Loaf and a vast expanse of territory leading up to the Black Mountains.

Little Garway Farm (SO 448 251)

By kind permission of the owner we took refreshments sitting in her garden. There is documentary evidence that many properties in this area, excluding the common-land of Garway Hill itself were in the Possession of the Knights Templars. A stone arched doorway in a wall adjoining the farmhouse was examined and thought not to have been medieval. Attention was drawn to a number of interesting field-names in the valley below the farm.

<u>Field name</u>	<u>Tithe No</u>
The Saints Meadow	182
Penny How Meadow	187
Lower Windhills	232
Cae Camp	174
Cae Camp House	177

We were introduced to Mrs V Coleman, some members bought copies of her recently published book, 'Orcop - The Story of a Herefordshire Village'. The site of the now vanished Cae Camp House was revealed by a patch of nettles and the remains of a stone wall by the road to White Rocks. The field called Cae Camp was then examined and although there were suspicions of the outline of a rampart nothing conclusive could be decided on this visit. We then walked to White Rocks. Up a track to the right of the entrance is a stone built house called Chantry Cottage; a former chapel, it still retains a narrow lancet type window in one gable end. There was formerly a large arched doorway, with long iron hinges in the front door of the house. This was removed by a previous occupant. A few yards away is a more recent stone built house called The Chantry. A former owner (Parson Jacky Jones), installed his own private chapel in the end of this house. We could just see an ecclesiastical-looking window through the bushes.

We ended our visit at a small stone built house now called 'Adawent', it is shown on the Garway tithe map (1840) as having three fields named 'Adawint', the most likely

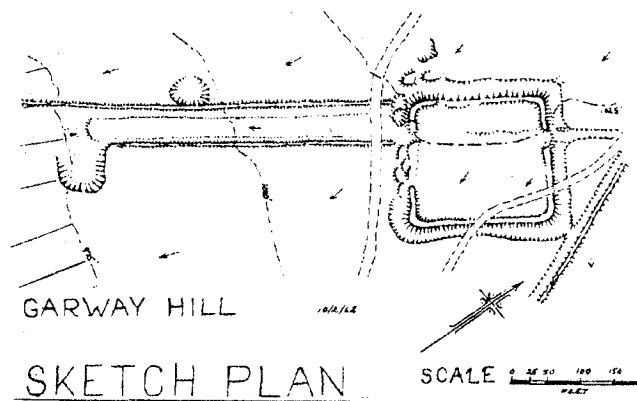
derivation is Welsh adwy=gap, gwynt=wind, literally wind-gap. Lower Windhills field is nearby.

At 4.00 pm after a day made perfect by the autumn colours of Garway Hill, we made our way back to the cars at Little Garway Farm.

Thanks are due to Richard Kay for his description and plan of the earthwork on Garway Hill, to Elizabeth Taylor for information supplied, and to Susan Rice and Doreen Ruck for local knowledge and help with visits.

Graham Sprackling

We visited Poston on 23/6/91, see HAN 56 p 47.



NEWS FROM THE COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE

As the recession starts to bite and development slows we are seeing a reduction in the amount of archaeological fieldwork being generated in the county. The "information" side of the work of the Service, however, is still under increasing demand, with systematic increase in use of the Sites and Monuments Record and demand for information on all aspects of archaeology.

The SMR is still growing and has now passed 16,000 records. The new information is too various to allow mention of specific sites, being drawn from a wide variety of published, unpublished, photographic and fieldwork sources. The backlog of oblique photographs has now been cleared and the larger verticals have all been indexed by parish (preparatory to being systematically checked for sites). It is hoped that 1993 will see the systematic remapping of the SMR to fixed standards, coupled with a comprehensive check of the records to iron out any anomalies.

The Parish Correspondent system continues to grow with 70 parishes covered already and another 8 volunteers due to start shortly. This improvement is particularly marked in the southwestern part of the county and should lead to a much improved record for this area in due course. If you are interested in volunteering please contact me.

The fortnightly winter series of free lectures by staff of the Service at our offices is now underway. Topics cover a variety of fieldwork skills and reports on both the Uplands and Historic Town Surveys (see below). If you require further details, or would like to book a place please contact me.

On 12th February the Service, in conjunction with the regional branch of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, will be hosting a seminar on "Current Approaches to Urban Archaeology" at County Hall, further details from Hal Dalwood. On the 25th March we will be hosting the Spring Conference of the Association of Environmental Archaeologists again at County Hall, further details from Clare de Rouffignac.

The Service has recently launched a quarterly newsletter. This should be available through local libraries, local groups and parish councils. It is available to individuals on receipt of a SAE (A4 size preferable). Copies of number 2 (December) are still available.

Two other things need to be mentioned. A public inquiry has recently been held following appeal against refusal of scheduled monument consent to plough part of Rowe Ditch near Pembridge. English Heritage, supported by the County Archaeological Service put the case against the appeal. Rowe Ditch is a boundary bank of the Saxon period and so is a rare surviving monument of that period. The owner argued that because the part of the monument in his ownership had been largely eroded away in the past, he should be allowed to plough it and plant an arable crop. The inspector disagreed on the grounds that this part of the monument was a link between other, better surviving parts, it had not significantly deteriorated since it was scheduled as of national importance and most particularly because ploughing would destroy below ground archaeological deposits. The appeal was therefore turned down.

Many of you may be aware that English Heritage are producing an increasing number of videos on archaeological sites and skills. They have recently released a new video on excavation, much of which was filmed at the Service's excavations at Deansway, Worcester. Filming has now been completed and editing is underway on a complementary video on archaeological survey. Much of this has been filmed during work by the Service on the Upland project. It is expected that these two videos will be released as a set. They stand as a salutary recognition of the important archaeological work being undertaken in the county.

Other fieldwork has included a series of watching briefs at Bromyard and Ledbury; a major recording project at the ruined medieval church at Downton; and, on two Welsh Water projects - a pipeline at Whitbourne and the (ongoing) Lea to Ross Sewage Pumping Main.

At Bromyard several watching briefs have been undertaken during development work to test the survival of archaeological deposits in sensitive areas. One at the Grammar School was designed to ascertain whether any deposits relating to the Saxon period survive in the area. It appears however that in the area examined all earlier deposits were removed during garden landscaping in the 19th century. At Ledbury rapid recording was undertaken at 9 High St a late medieval building, when it was being renovated.

At Downton, the ruined (and scheduled) parish church is being considered for renovation as an estate chapel. This monument has substantially deteriorated since the survey by the RCHM in the 1930's. Works at the site have involved photogrammetric recording of the walls, a contour survey of the site and a gravestone survey. Evaluation trenches are now being excavated to ascertain the state of the foundations of the church, prior to discussions on the feasibility of restoration. These are likely to throw further light on the development of the church.

At Whitbourne, following newly established practice elsewhere, Welsh Water has for the first time funded archaeological works on a pipeline in the county. A watching brief has been maintained on a new small pipeline through the village. The effect on known sites has been monitored. No new sites were identified during this work. Work has recently started on another Welsh Water funded piece of fieldwork, on the line of the Lea to Ross sewage pumping main. This route travels cross country and skirts the edge of the scheduled area of

Ariconium Roman settlement. A permanent watching brief is being maintained on the works and a contingency team will be brought in to record anything of particular significance. Due to insurance regulations etc, no visitors will be allowed on the route during works, but a fuller report will be prepared on the results on completion.

Fieldwork on the Uplands Survey is now complete in all areas, after a season of fieldwalking of all available arable areas and the remaining pasture areas. The data is now being synthesised into the computerised database. Completion of the final report is likely, however, to be postponed for a year while aerial photographic data for the survey area is catalogued and assimilated by the Royal Commission for Historic Monuments (England).

In October a new major survey started. This is to be a pilot study for a national initiative funded by English Heritage to look at historic towns. The management of archaeological remains can only be effective when the quantity and potential of evidence is known. In recent times an enormous amount of development has taken place in larger towns, with the result that archaeological resources have been largely concentrated on them. Smaller settlements are threatened by often piecemeal development in spite of them having a high potential for yielding significant archaeological evidence. The aim of the survey is to identify and map significant archaeological and historical features, the information being derived from a wide range of sources. This will then be used as the basis for archaeological management plans for settlements in a region. "Towns" for the purpose of this study are settlements that achieved urban status between 50AD and 1750AD. The survey area covers the counties of Hereford and Worcester and Shropshire. A fuller article will be offered to the next HAN, if you have further queries Hal Dalwood is leading the project.

If you wish to know more about any of the above sites or projects, please contact me at the Service offices. 0905 58608.

Hilary White
SMR Officer

BOOK REVIEW

The Castles and Moated Mansions of Warwickshire, Mike Salter, Folly Publications, 56 pp, location map together with the usual plans, sketches and photographs. Price £3.00. Another volume from the Salter stable; because it covers the whole of the old county of Warwickshire, it does contain some material already published under the title 'The Castles and Moated Mansions of Staffordshire and the West Midlands County'. It is the thirteenth volume published and it is understood that the Old Parish Churches of Warwickshire will appear in the near future. For the future the following castle volumes are planned: Ireland, Clydeside, Dumfries & Galloway and Yorkshire. This will still leave outstanding the castles and churches of North Wales (Clwyd & Gwynedd) and South West Wales (Dyfed) to complete the Welsh series.

Place Names of the Welsh Borderlands, Anthony Lias, Palmers Press, 100 pp, 5 maps. Price £6.95. In many ways an admirable book for the non specialist, though sometimes the omission of names is a little capricious. The writer's own village is omitted, and one is not quite sure of the criteria for the chosen boundaries of the area. Map 1 page 3 needs to be used with care as far as the Roman roads are concerned. Some villages are listed under the wrong county, possibly because of the vagaries of the official postal addresses, I feel it would have been better to have listed places alphabetically. In spite of these minor blemishes, well worth the money for a reference to place names in the area.

Castles of Northumbria, M J Jackson, Barmkin Books, 176 pp, 2 location maps and numerous photographs and plans. Price £9.95. It covers Northumberland and Tyne & Wear, already published in the same series Shropshire and Cumbria. The term castle has been restricted in the main to those fortifications which had a "licence to crenellate" and does not

include towers (peles) or bastles. The plans are an improvement on the previous two volumes due to more subdued shading. Well worth while for the castle enthusiast on holiday.

The Old Roads of South Herefordshire, Heather Hurley, published by The Pound House Newent, 88 pp, 8 maps together with numerous photographs and drawings. Price £8.95. Basically the story of the development of the Turnpike system in Herefordshire between Hereford, Monmouth and Ross on Wye. A well researched, well constructed account of this period of road development, instructive as well as being very readable. Heather Hurley is not on such safe grounds with regard to the Roman roads, she used a map of 1903 on page 10, it is now out of date. A minor blemish though as the book is really concerned with the development of Turnpike roads. A good interesting account for the non specialist.

Heather Hurley previously wrote an article in HAN 52 'The Brookend Tanary at Ross'.

PRH

The Archaeology and History of Ancient Dean and the Wye Valley, Bryan Walters published by Thornhill Press, 160 pages, and copiously illustrated. Price £11.95. This is a beautifully presented book that attempts to be a comprehensive survey of all information concerning the Forest of Dean and the Wye Valley. The excavations in the area are considered, and many of the 'finds' drawn; however, some of the interpretations placed on the evidence are very controversial.

Readers will find that this book provides an interesting source of information and is an expanded popular version of Bryan's researches for his academic thesis. Bryan is the Director of Excavations of the Dean Archaeology Group.

Ruth Richardson

FOURTH ANNUAL SHOVELLERS' SHINDIG

This was held on Saturday 14/11/92, at the Riverside Hotel, Monmouth with delegates from Monmouth Archaeology Society, Dean Archaeology Group and the Gloucester and District Archaeological Research Group, as well as the ARS. There were about 65 present of whom some 21 were from the ARS, a very good attendance considering the weather, cold and quite foggy, and the fact that the main Woolhope Club had a meeting the same afternoon. Muriel and Jim Tonkin sent their apologies. In the afternoon was a Workshop conducted by Peter Crew on "Iron Ore and Bloomery Slag" for the dedicated few, the main meeting assembled at 4.00 pm for tea and introductions.

Steven Clarke, as the host, opened the Shindig at 4.30 pm with a short introduction about Over Monnow famous for Monmouth Caps and Iron Working from Roman to Medieval times, the hotel itself was in Cinderford Street. This slag, which still contained a very high degree of iron, was re-worked in post medieval times.

The first speaker was Peter Crew who talked about pre-historic iron working in North Wales, not only of Iron Age but in re-used Bronze Age sites. Evidence was found that the work was carried out inside square timber buildings from the stake holes. Alder gave the best charcoal and the sites may have moved in rotation using timber from coppiced trees. There were both bowl and shaft furnaces, attempts were made to calculate the iron output from the slag deposits. Magnetic variations were used to calculate the amount of slag.

Bog iron ore was the main ore used, and pollen analysis would suggest a reduction in the quantity of Alder in relation to the iron working. The shaft furnaces were more efficient than the bowl furnaces. Shaft furnaces were made from stakes and wattle surround, with clay pounded in the inside to make the actual furnace. It was easier to check the heat if inside a hut by the colour of the flame, there were also many problems with the bellows as revealed by many experiments to reproduce the system,

Shaft furnaces had to be emptied from the top resulting in damage to the furnace. The adhering slag was broken off and then the resulting bloom had to be converted into usable iron by repeated smithying as much as 30 times. The smithying resulted in a loss of

about 50% of the iron and this, together with the wastage from the non-slag tapping furnace, gave a total loss of some 90%. Only ½ ton of iron from 5 tons of slag. There must have been many more iron working sites to produce the quantity of iron known to have existed in the Iron Age. The North Wales sites declined with the Roman period possibly because of the exhaustion of the Alder trees, but more likely because the Romans used slag-tapping furnaces in the Forest of Dean and the Weald, which were more efficient.

The next speaker was Geoff Mein of Trostrey fame. The recent aerial photo surveys by John Sorrel followed by field work revealed a Roman marching camp east of Trostrey and a probable prehistoric field system to the north. A promontory fort on the new golf course by Chain Bridge, a Roman marching camp alongside the moated site in Coed Cwnwr, and a DMV between Llandenny and Raglan were 'new' sites. East of Raglan a complex medieval manor was recorded east of Coed y Fedw motte, while the Roman temporary camp overlooking the Usk Fortress from Craig Olway was seen to be enclosed by a double palisade but no ditch. The supposedly Roman temple at Llancayo, just west of Trostrey, was shown to be identical to that on Hayling Island below which an Iron Age temple of the same layout had been excavated. At White Castle Farm and at Llanhennock, upstream of Caerleon six or eight sided prehistoric farmsteads had been found with ditches dug in short straight sections, the gateways being marked by massive postholes and adjoining fields enclosed with ditches. Finally he sought help from over the border to identify the monastic cell at Llangua.

After a short break for refreshments Reg Jackson of the Monmouth Arch Soc talked about the excavations at 22-24, & 20 Monnow Street. It started as a 6 week rescue job but because of the recession has lasted for 3 years. He reported that there had been some 35,000 visitors to the site. Roman levels were revealed below the Medieval levels to reveal a Roman cemetery of 50AD, south of the Vexelation fortress on higher ground further north up Monnow Street. A military V-shaped ditch revealed at 20 Monnow Street suggested that the fortress was further south. The stone work on the inside of the ditch suggested a rampart similar to Castlefields, pre-Flavian material was found in the ditch. Roman buildings were later built over the cemetery. The Norman ditch (bailey ditch) some 12' deep was much further north, this had been back filled and a late 13th C cess pit was found on the line. Another ditch was found on the line of Nails Lane with two timber gate-towers on either side of Monnow Street, this appeared to be pre-Norman and the one gate-tower could have been rebuilt more than once. The pre-Norman dating is supported by an 8th C chapel.

This was followed by Carry Collier of Dean Archaeology Group who talked about excavations at Little Dean Hall. The first excavation was on the line of the carriage drive, previously a road. A possible agger was found below the macadamised carriage-way, levels were found right down to the Roman road and below. Severn Valley ware was found. The second excavation about 20m east was of an early iron working site and like Peter Crew stone was found with small holes, which were probably used for turning sticks to produce fire.

Gordon McDonald of the Severn Tidal Research Group (Severnside) then talked about his site excavated at Chaxhill (Westbury on Severn) which suggested another forge, a well and part of a corridor building in an area 15m x 5m. He discussed the Roman roads through the Forest of Dean and put forward the hypothesis that there had originally been a coastal road from Gloucester to Newnham but that this had become unusable due to rising sea levels to be replaced by the more familiar Roman road via Mitcheldean when Walmore Marsh (Walmore Common today) became impassable after c 60AD. He also postulated a Roman road from Newnham to Mitcheldean as well as the Lydney Mitcheldean road.

Mr McDonald put forward the idea of 1,000 year climatic cycles, these being indicated by changes in sea level and the Polar ice caps. Goldcliff shoal was probably land in 300BC, today it is in the tidal zone of the Severn Estuary; on the cliff behind was the priory. The sea level began to rise and climate improved during the time of Julius Caesar, Gloucester Legionary fortress (Kingsholm) quickly became untenable. He also suggested a

second Roman Severn crossing at Framilode access along the line of Crowgate Lane through Huntley. Presumably this crossing also went out of use when the postulated coastal road from Newnham to Gloucester was abandoned. During the early Roman period Caerwent may have been accessible from the sea.

After 300AD sea level fell and the climate deteriorated till about 700AD when the process went into reverse with sea level rising again at the beginning of the 11th C. There was the possible King Canute connection about "stemming the tides". Henry II with Strongbow, Earl of Pembroke used Newnham as their base for the invasion of Ireland when sea level was 1½m above the present level. 1305 saw the first severe winter for 300 years. In the 1340's the climate continued to deteriorate and it was not until after the Spanish Armada that sea level stopped falling.

Mr McDonald then spoke about the effects of the Wessex Saxon attack on the Forest and the British counter attack across the Severn after the Battle of Tintern Ford in 584AD. He concluded with some speculation about the crossing of the Red Sea by the Israelites and the Phaeronic "Suez" Canal which may also have been related to changes in sea level. Even the Biblical Flood which is believed to have occurred around 4,000BC may be related.

A buffet supper was taken at this point, good value for £5. After the second interval Roger Stirling-Brown talked about the work of the ARS. A small exhibition was organised to illustrate the castle parts of his talk. It was a great pity that Paul Remfry, with the visual aids, was not able to come because of a last minute breakdown of his car.

Bob Trett of Newport Museum then talked about the Severn Estuary Goldcliffe project and the Iron Age huts, also brushwood trackways discovered together with two planks from a boat. Work had been undertaken by University College, Lampeter under the direction of Dr Martin Bell.

He then showed some slides of the Museum, recent accessions from the Severn Estuary and a 7th-9th C penannular brooch believed to have come from the north Gwent - South Herefordshire border.

The meeting closed on a light hearted note with a talk by Steven on the problems, bitter and sweet, of their recent venture into Professional Assessments for archaeology they having won tenders often against professional bodies and in one case the ironical position of an amateur group employing professionals as sub-contractors.

The Shindig closed at 9.15, one of the most successful so far, due to the hard work of Felicity Taylor and the excellence of the contributors. This is a longer Shindig report than usual because there were so many new and interesting facts and ideas. The editor would like to thank Messrs McDonald, Trett and Mein who have very kindly checked this account of their talks.

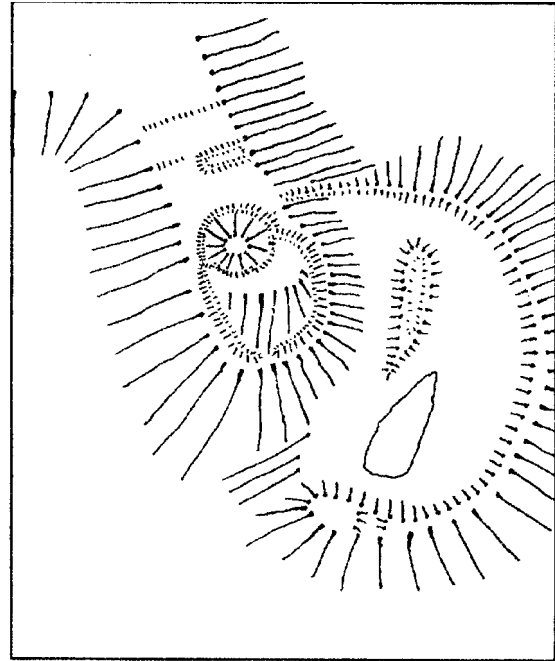
PRH

SOME MIDDLE MARCH CASTLES

On a rather windy, overcast, day on the 2nd of August 1992 Peter Halliwell, Richard Kay, Bob Fletcher, Roman Drezawski and myself set out to visit various sites in the Middle March, in the area sometimes known as Rhwng Gwy a Hafren. Rhwng Gwy a Hafren was a composite area the literal meaning of which is between Wye and Severn, and is a term only mentioned contemporaneously by Giraldus Cambrensis in the 1170's when he was an ecclesiastic in this region. It appears that he was trying to name a political entity rather than a historic principality, hence the vagueness of the description. The extent of the area itself is also questionable, the rulers of this district being found asserting their power beyond this narrow geographical region in Herefordshire, Shropshire, Powys, Dyfed and Ceredigion. Regardless of this lack of knowledge concerning this region we visited the sites in the order Cwrt Evan Gwynne (erroneously known as Castle Kinsey), Llandeilo, Buddugre, Castell-y-Blaid, Ceri. However for the purpose of this narrative I will group them in a different order.

At Buddugre (SO.101696), high above the Eithon valley, lies the eroded remains of a motte and bailey castle. This castle, the chief, indeed, the only fortress of the commote of Swydd Buddugre¹, was possibly the head of the early Medieval Princelings of Maelienydd, and the indistinct Rhwng Gwy a Hafren². Certainly its position and scale are indicative of this. It lay roughly in the centre of Maelienydd, protected from Norman incursions by the River Eithon, and some four miles from the new Cistercian abbey of Cwmhir founded by Cadwallon ab Madog (ob.1179). The plan appears to have been very near to that of a typical late eleventh century Norman castle.

The large, low motte occupies a strong position towards the end of a long spur, high above the Eithon valley. It is surrounded by a shallow ditch, which is broken to east, west and south by causeways. To the north is a barely perceptible semi-circular counter-scarp bank, whilst to the south, on ground which rapidly falls off into a quite steep scarp is a small rectangular bailey with rounded corners, which was once ramparted, but apparently never, or extremely lightly, ditched³. Entrance was gained by a simple break in the rampart, virtually opposite the motte, and facing the approach up from the valley. Opposite this gate is a long spur which curves away to the east, eventually forming a semi-circle, joining up in much reduced form virtually with the castle motte to the north. In total this makes what



Buddugre, Figure 1

appears to be a village enclosure, somewhat similar to that at Knucklas Castle (SO.250745), though it is just possible that both were single vallum hill forts⁴. In the centre of this large enclosure are two distinct features, a small lake to the south, and a largely quarried out rock ridge (known as the Giant's Grave) to the north of that. What these two features imply is hard to suggest, although it is possible that the lake is the resulting of quarrying. The final and most interesting aspect of the site is on the spur to the north of the motte. Here can be traced two apparent ramparts, similar in some respects to those found at the low lying Cymaron, except that there are also the remains of the foundations of a rectangular structure, possibly with ancillary buildings at its west end. The motte and surrounding hills here make this into a sheltered micro climate, and although it is possible that this is no more

¹One of the four or five Medieval commotes of the cantref of Maelienydd. The others appear to have been Ceri, Dinieithon, Rhiwlallt, and possibly Wynogion.

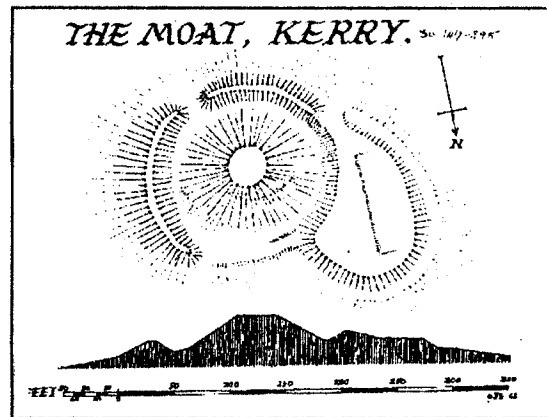
²The hill is the traditional site of the defeat and death of Maredudd ap Madog in 1146, Williams, J., *History of Radnorshire*, [Tenby, 1859], 187; Also *Archaeologia Cambrensis* 3rd ser., IV [1858], 495. Certainly traditions of a military nature still exist with the occupants at Buddugre Farm in a hollow below the castle.

³The ditch has apparently been filled, or partially filled, at the turn of the twentieth century, *Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments, Radnorshire* [1913], 73, no. 293. There is absolutely no trace of it now.

⁴Cefnlllys, Castell Dinas Bran above Llangollen in Powys, Garn Fadryn in Llyn, Dinefwr in Deheubarth, etc. are also set in 'single vallum hill forts'. Perhaps all of these are Dark Age or earlier/later settlements.

than a barn it may also have been the Llys of the native Welsh dynasties of the twelfth century. Certainly this is a major and extensive site.

In the northernmost commote of Maelienydd lies Ceri castle (SO.147895, known as Kerry Moat), another possible Welsh work. It rests on a steep rise above the village, and therefore fits directly into the highland fortress category, even if it does not occupy such high ground as similar sites. It is the only motte and bailey castle - the two independent mottes at Mochdre (SO.079878, Neuadd Goch) and Dolforgan (SO.146908, Tomen Madog) fall into a different category - in the commote of Ceri, which was apparently



Ceri after J. Spurgeon, Figure 2

held by Cadwallon ab Madog throughout his life⁵. It has a still impressive motte, some forty feet high from the present ditch bottom and thirty-three feet in diameter on the motte-top, surrounded by a ditch, and to its southern half a great counter-scarp bank. There is no trace of masonry, but a great mass of rubble in the motte ditch may point to a former structure on top. The bailey is to the north, and consists of a small un-ditched elliptical scarp, which contains the apparent platform of a building, but which was apparently a small, fifteen foot by thirty-five, tennis court. Further mutilation to the site also appears to include the spiral path up the motte, the apparent tower platform at the foot of this and the destruction of a quarter of the motte counter-scarp bank⁶. This site taken as a whole is most peculiar. The motte is as impressive as the early ones below in the Severn Valley attributed to the Earl of Shrewsbury in the late eleventh century. However the apparent lack of a reasonably sized and defensible bailey points to a Welsh origin, unless this has been utterly destroyed. Perhaps the Norman motte was reused by Cadwallon, the invaders early hold on this district proving short.

At the opposite end of Rhwng Gwy a Hafren stands the castle of Cwrt Evan Gwynne (SO.215448). This may also be the work of the Welsh; certainly its plan and position seem to suggest this. It is set in a hollow, some way below the summit of the high hills above the Wye, between a small stream and a probable roman road which ran from Clyro to [?] Painscastle. The motte is comparable to those at Crug Eryr and Buddugre, and may have only had a ditch between it and the now built over bailey. The bailey was apparently rectangular⁷, and may have led on to another much larger one to the south, though this is now difficult to judge. The bailey only appears to have been ditched towards the motte, where a possible causeway may have connected it to the keep, as appears likely at Buddugre. Apparently the castle was strongly fortified in stone, although there is now little trace of this⁸. Probing suggests that a three foot thick wall surrounded the motte on the north side (the site has been heavily disturbed here and to the north west). On the east side

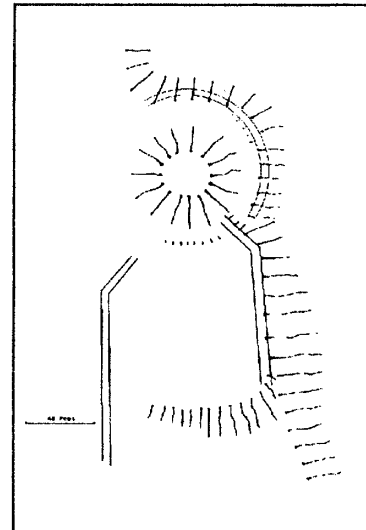
⁵Giraldus Cambrensis, *Opera*, eds. J.S. Brewer, J.F. Dimock and G.F. Warner [8 vols., 1861-91] VI, 31-2; The lament to Cadwallon ap Madog, *Llawysgrif Hendregadredd*, eds. J. Morris-Jones and T.H. Parry-Williams [Cardiff, 1933], 127, line 7, called him 'helmsman of kerri'.

⁶Spurgeon, C.J., 'The Castles of Montgomeryshire', *Montgomery Collections*, LIX [1965], 29; XXIII [1889], 92.

⁷It was sub oval according to the O.S. National Monument Records in R.C.A.M., Queens Street, Aberystwyth.

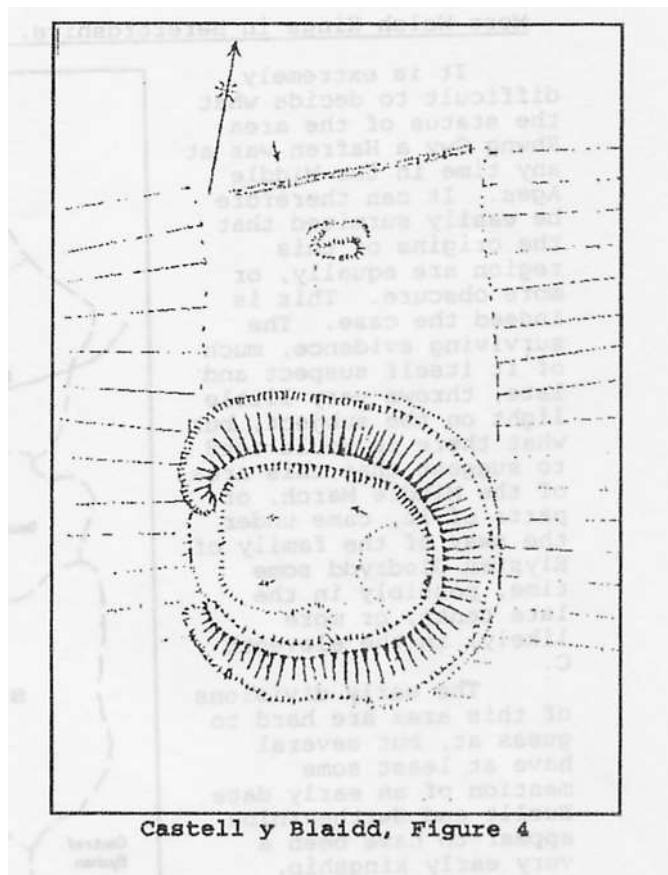
⁸Williams, J., 'History of Radnorshire', *Arch. Camb.* 3rd ser., IV [1858], 523.

the curtain (the remaining foundations appear a full ten feet thick, probably due to spread) seems to have run down the motte from a polygonal tower [?] and continued along the top of the dingle for about two hundred yards. A probable bailey bank and ditch exists just south of the present house, which also shows up as a crop mark. Running alongside the roman road on the west side of the site are the possible remnants of the other curtain, standing at between five and six feet thick in the bank (on top of this is relatively recent farm wall). If this is really the curtain (it makes a definite angular turn at the present entrance to the field and heads directly for the motte before it disappears into modern buildings), it would mean that the suggested roman road would have been in the castle ditch, certainly it appears to fulfil this purpose.



Cwrt Evan Gwynne, Figure 3

The similarities between these sites, and the absence of any comparable castles elsewhere in Wales⁹, especially when it comes to lack of, or poor ditching, would tend to suggest that they were built roughly contemporaneously, and possibly for the same person. If all these castles were the work of Cadwallon ap Madog, towards which the evidence, what there is of it, seems to point, then it shows a veritable frontier policy, established by a capable tactician, already well-versed in the Norman methods of castle-building. However, it is to be noted that all of these castles were of simple design. The position appears to have been similar to this in native-held lands in Ulster in the late-twelfth, early-thirteenth century. This view is accepted by both historians and archaeologists in Ireland¹⁰.



Castell y Blaidd, Figure 4

Situated on a spur above the Bach Howey in the parish of Llandeilo Graben in Elfael-Is-Mynydd lies what appears to be a solitary motte (SO.125449). It

⁹There are no other known high lying motte and baileys that are likely to have been built by the Normans. The only possible exception is likely to have been Betws Cedewain, which again is likely to be of Welsh construction. It was similar in setting and construction to that of Buddugre, *R.C.A.M., Montgomeryshire*, no. 33; Spurgeon, C.J., 'The Castles of Montgomery', 33.

¹⁰McNeill, T.E., *Anglo-Norman Ulster; The History and Archaeology of an Irish Barony 1177-1400*, [Edinburgh, 1980] especially chapters 3 to 5. Cf. Nicholls, K., 'Anglo-French Ireland and After', *Peritia* I [1982], 370-403, especially 389-91.

appears to be totally man-made, and has a surface diameter of some 25' on the motte top. It is also only some twenty-five feet high from the bottom of the ditch. This motte/mound was undoubtedly built to support a palisade (or curtain shell keep, of which some foundations remain buried in the motte top) around a tower or hall. There is a trace of a buried curtain wall running down the motte on the south and east sides, perhaps indicating that a bailey lay on the flat pasture here above the Bach Howey, although little trace remains of this now. It is not possible to state anything of this castles history at present, but the stonework may suggest a twelfth C date, the site undoubtedly being an outlier for the nearby Painscastle.

However the most debateable site we visited turned out to be Castell y Blaidd¹¹. After much discussion we were still unable to determine the origin of the site. My own opinion is that this is a thirteenth century castle site that was possibly abandoned, incomplete, for the better site at Tinboeth, another high-lying ringwork, commanding the upper reaches of the Eithon. Tinboeth was in operation as Roger Mortimer's castle of 'Dynbaud' in 1282, but was not mentioned amongst the many Mortimer castles which fell in 1262, or those that were held by Ralph Mortimer on his death in 1246¹². Roger Mortimer may well have been the founder of Tinboeth, for later his son appears as William Mortimer 'de chastel Tunbard'¹³. As there is therefore no evidence for the foundation of Tinboeth (a late Marcher castle) it may be possible that there was another equally obscure predecessor. Tinboeth is clearly visible just over a mile away to the south west. Other views on the site were that it was early Norman, native Welsh, or Pre-historic - all of which are possible, and indeed likely. The site itself consisted of a roughly horseshoe shaped single rampart and ditch crowning a low hill at the end of a large high-lying meadow. It appears that either the ringwork was never completed or had been convincingly destroyed to the west. The ditch was irregular to the north, while it is not even apparent to the west, which may support the view that the site was never finished. The irregular nature of the interior may also support this view, or that of a pre-historic origin. To the north lies a possible Pillow mound some 54 feet by 15, beyond which was a field bank. Continuing further beyond the bank, on the side of a rise opposite a deep gully were two roughly circular low banks which may have formed a sheep or cattle corral. Certainly the evidence seems to point to intense agricultural and other activity in this highland area over the millennia.

P Remfry

Historical Query

In ARS No.58 it is stated that Stapleton Castle withstood a siege by Simon de Montfort in 1263. I can find no mention of this siege in any historical source and wondered where this statement comes from?

P Remfry

Stapleton Castle

The statement about Simon de Montfort was taken from the Presteigne Town Guide written by Keith Payne and appears on page 15 of the guide.

A plan and description of Llandeilo Graban (SO 125 449) is not yet available. This castle was omitted from the list of castles visited in para one of this article.

Editor

¹¹Castell y Blaidd was locally known as Castle Tump, *R.C.A.M., Radnorshire*, 62.

¹²*Calendar Patent Rolls 1232-47*, 171. Tinboeth is sometimes reckoned to be the successor of Cymarôn. There is no authority for this and indeed it is most unlikely, both castles being utilized until at least the 1340's.

¹³British Library Harleian Ms. 1240, fo. 8, no. XVI.

MORE WELSH KINGS IN HEREFORDSHIRE, AND THE ORIGINS OF RHWNG GWY A HAFREN

It is extremely difficult to decide what the status of the area Rhwng Gwy a Hafren was at any time in the Middle Ages. It can therefore be easily surmised that the origins of this region are equally, or more obscure. This is indeed the case. The surviving evidence, much of it itself suspect and late, throws very little light on the subject, but what there is would tend to suggest that this area of the Middle March, or parts of it, came under the sway of the family of Elystan Glodrydd some time, possibly in the late tenth, or more likely, in the eleventh C.

The early divisions of this area are hard to guess at, but several have at least some mention of an early date. Buellt and Gwrtheyrnion appear to have been a very early kingship, being mentioned perhaps in the early ninth C when Ffernfael (Fernmail) ap Teudubir ap Pascant was king of the two regions of 'Buellt et Guorthigirniaun', which were allegedly part of Gwrthegwrn's (Vortigern) original kingdom in the fifth C¹. This kingship may still have existed as late as 896 when the Norsemen ravaged England, Brycheiniog, Morgannwg, Gwent, Buellt, and Gwynllwg. A kingship may also have existed around Radnor at an early date if the Rheinwg and/or Reinmuc in the Vita Cadoci indeed refers to this². A possible king for this region in the late seventh C could have been one Morgan ab Athrwys, who granted lands here probably between 670 and 710³, and was succeeded by a son Ithel who appears to have held sway over the lower Wye, Gwent and Ewias⁴. However, any such kingship would appear to have been extinct by 991 when Maredudd ab Owain of Deheubarth ravaged Radnor (Maeshyfaidd), and thereby appears to have brought retribution upon himself and his territories of Ceredigion, Dyfed, Gower and Cedweli, by the Saxons in the following year⁵. The whole plain of Radnor had been hidated in Saxon times, and was therefore probably intensively colonised around this era, even if it was west of Offa's Dyke⁶. That this area of the border had been already conquered is further strengthened by the pre-Norman foundations of Presteigne Church, which are therefore likely to be Saxon⁷.

¹Nenius, Abbot of Bangor, 'Historia Brittonum', ch. 49-50, in *Six Old English Chronicles...*, ed. S.A. Giles, [1848]. Bartrum, P.C., *Early Welsh Genealogical tracts* [Cardiff, 1978], 7-8. Davies, W., *The Llandaff Charters* [Aberystwyth, 1979], 117-8.

²*Brut y Tywysogyon or The Chronicle of the Princes. Peniarth Ms. 20 version*, ed. and trans. T. Jones [Cardiff, 1952], 5 & 139; Davies, W., *Wales in the early Middle Ages*, [Leicester, 1982], 98; It is also to be noted that Hywel ap Goronwy's panegyric claims that he is of the race of Morgannwg and 'Rieinwc', Vendryes, J., 'Le Poeme du Livre Noir sur Hywel ap Gronw', *Etudes Celtiques* IV [Paris, 1948], 275-300; line 45.

³In c.680 Morgan gave 'podum Liuhesi' to bishop Euddogwy, which is now said to be Llowes in Elfael Is Mynydd, *LI.*, no. 149.

⁴Davies, W., *An Early Welsh Microcosm; Studies in the Llandaff Charters* [Royal Historical Society, 1978], 98.

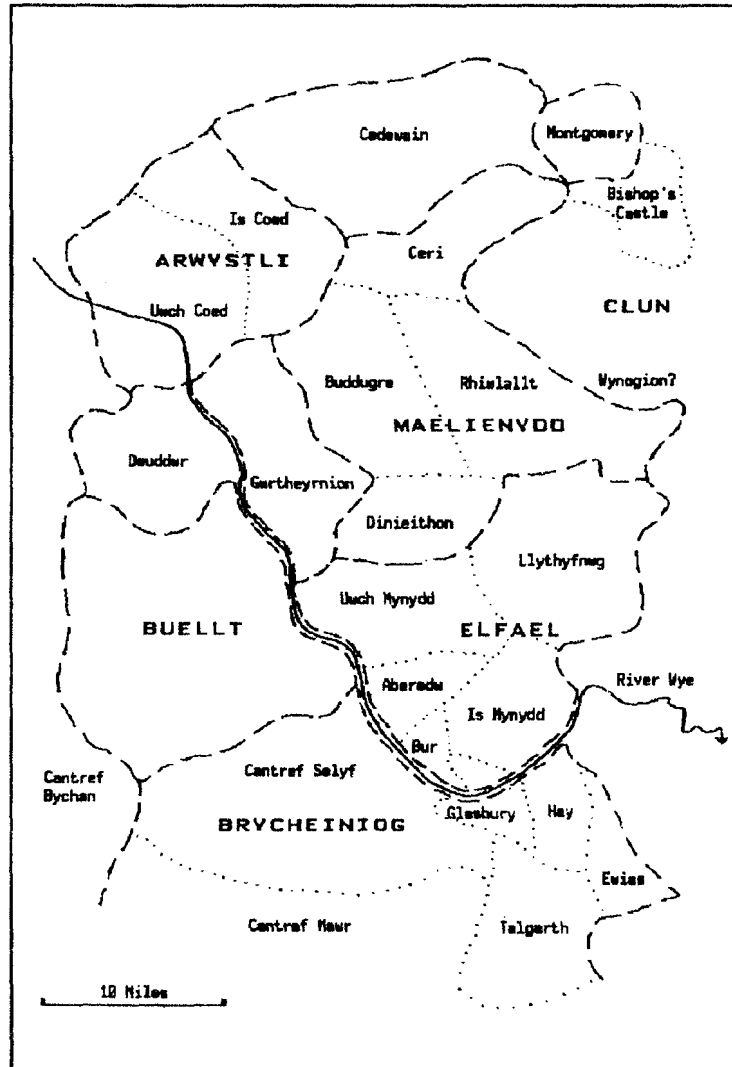
⁵*Brut y Tywysogyon or The Chronicle of the Princes. Red Book of Hergest version*, ed. and trans. T. Jones [Cardiff, 1955], 10; *Pen.*, 146; *Annales Cambriae*, ed. J. Williams ab Ithel [1860], 21, s.a. 987.

⁶*Domesday Book*, ed. A. Farley [2 vols., 1783] I, fo. 181. Stanford, S.C., *The Archaeology of the Welsh Marches* [1980], 167-203.

⁷Taylor, H.M. & Taylor, J., *Anglo-Saxon Architecture* [1965], 487-9.

Brycheiniog also appears to have had its own kings down to at least 934, when the last known ruler of this region witnessed a document at the English court, as his forbears had also done⁸. By 983 the kingdom would appear to have been recently occupied by Einion ab Owain, judging by the text of the Welsh chronicle⁹. It would therefore appear that Elystan Glodrydd, or other members of this family, did not enter this region until after this date. Elystan himself is a problematical figure, existing nowhere in any sound historical source. The first sound mention of his supposed grandchildren occurs in the late 1070's, when they are merely referred to as the sons of Cadwgan. Much later, under 1116, comes a statement that this Cadwgan's father was one Elystan¹⁰. Here ends all reliable evidence of this man. Such evidence as does appear in the later genealogies appears totally without foundation, and warrants little further comment other than its existence¹¹.

The question of when the ruling dynasty of the twelfth C arrived in the region of the Middle March is therefore problematical, although the seventeenth C genealogies do offer some plausible, if unconfirmable, explanations¹². It is probably fair to assume that Cadwgan ab Elystan was active around the 1040's, and dead by 1075, when his sons were disputing various lands in the Middle March. This suggested dating is supported by the death of Goronwy ap Cadwgan, possibly his last surviving son, of apparently natural causes, in



RHWNG GWY A HAFREN, Figure 1

⁸*Cartularium Saxonicum*, ed. W. de Gray Birch [1885-93], no. 702.

⁹'Brycheiniog and all the lands of Einion...', *R.B.H.*, 17; *Pen.*, 9, 145; *A.C.*, 20, s.a.975.

¹⁰*R.B.H.*, 29 & 101; *Pen.*, 16, 45, 153; *A.C.*, 27.

¹¹B.L. Harleian Ms. 1973; Lewys Dwnn, *Heraldic Visitations of Wales and part of the Marches between 1586 and 1613*, ed. S.R.Meyrick, [2 vols., Llandovery, 1864]; I, 271, 318; II, 63, 109, 139; Raleigh Radford, C.A., 'The Cross-slab at Llanrhaidr-yn-Mochnant', *Arch. Camb.*, CVI [1957], 109-15.

¹²Most of the tracts supply the various descendants with titles, the descendants of Elystan generally being called lords of Maelienydd, Ceri, Cedewain, Arwystli, Radnor and Buellt, several of which are obviously poor guesses.

1101¹³. However it is not possible to suggest when, or if, they actually held any lands in the March. Indeed the overwhelming strength of Gruffydd ap Llywelyn appears strongly entrenched in the region of the Middle March from at least the 1050's¹⁴. It is therefore possible that Cadwgan and his sons held no power at all in this period. The charters preserved in the Black Book of Llandaff suggest that the only power in Brycheiniog in the years immediately before the Norman Conquest of England was that of the contending forces of Deheubarth and Gwynedd¹⁵. Rhydderch ab Iestyn (died 1076), who was claimed to be king of Morgannwg and all Wales except Mon, supposedly confirmed Cantref Mawr, Brycheiniog and Elfael, now (ie. early twelfth C) in the bishopric of St David's, to Llandaff¹⁶. Before 1063 Gruffydd ap Llywelyn is alleged to have confirmed these claims of Llandaff, and amongst the list of churches after this are included Llangoed in Cantref Selyf, Llangors, Llanfihangel Tal-y-Llyn and 'Llanidoudec Seith' (probably near Llangors) in Cantref Talgarth, with Llowes and Llandeilo Graben in Elfael Is Mynydd¹⁷. If these copies carry any historical weight, and there is considerable room for doubt¹⁸, they would again suggest that the power of Cadwgan and his sons was considerably limited. That said, there are other border areas where Cadwgan, or his sons, may have held sway. Hywel ap Goronwy is credited, in a copy of what may have been an original panegyric, with having reclaimed the family possessions of Ewias, and Ergyng and being the just holder of Brycheiniog¹⁹. As such this poem does not offer much information about the district two generations earlier, but the previous holder of Kilpeck (Chipeete) was one 'Cadiand'²⁰. It is tempting to equate this name with Cadwgan ab Elystan, but such an identification can be no more than circumstantial.

In 1075, Llywelyn and Goronwy ap Cadwgan along with Caradog ap Gruffydd²¹, fought and lost the battle of Camddwr against the kings of the south, Rhys ab Owain and Rhydderch ap Caradog²². Lloyd long ago placed this battle at the Camddwr between Buellt

¹³*R.B.H.*, 41; *Pen.*, 18; *A.C.*, 33.

¹⁴*Anglo Saxon Chronicle: A Revised Translation*, eds. D. Whitelock, D.C. Douglas and S.I. Tucker [1961]; s.a.1052, E, 119; C/D, 122; s.a.1056, C/D, 132.

¹⁵*Liber Landavensis. The Text of the Book of Llan Dav*, ed. J.G. Evans and J. Rhys [Oxford, 1893; reissued Aberystwyth, 1979], nos. 253, 269.

¹⁶*LI.*, 269-70. *Riderch* is also said to have ruled over Ewias and Gwent Is Coed, whilst 'serving King William', 278.

¹⁷*LI.*, 254-5.

¹⁸However, it must be noted that the above two charters fit well into the known extent of the power of the above two kings.

¹⁹Vendryes, J., lines 7-9. This may therefore suggest that these areas had been under the control of Hywel's forbears. The panegyric is quite long and offers much interesting information on Hywel. A further poem to this man is printed in *Llawysgrif Hendregadredd* ed. J. Morris-Jones & T.H. Parry-Williams [Cardiff, 1933], 76-7.

²⁰*D.B.* I, fo. 181; which itself is next to Garway, which appears in the poem to Hywel, Vendryes, J., line 3. There is an interesting unfinished castle ringwork at SO.442250. It is set on roughly level ground on the slope of a hill on Garway Hill Common. The shape of the site is roughly circular, and consists of a bank and ditch. Entrance may have been gained to the south, and much rubble to the west may indicate a curtain wall. There are good views to the west, and to a lesser degree the south, but the site is clearly overlooked from the north, and offers no view to the east. That the site is such a curious unfinished mix of ringwork and possible masonry would make any tentative dating hazardous in the extreme.

²¹*LI.*, 272, who had been in alliance with the French, probably Roger, lord of Gwent, *LI.*, 274, where Roger the son of William Fitz Osbern guaranteed a grant of his, as early as 1072; Caradog may well have been a client of King William, certainly he used Norman help in his wars, Crouch, D., 'The slow death of Kingship in Glamorgan, 1067-1155', *Morgannwg XXIX* [1985], 20-41.

²²*R.B.H.*, 29; *Pen.*, 16, 153; *A.C.*, 27.

and Ceredigion²³. However, such a location would strongly suggest that much of Rhwng Gwy a Hafren was already penetrated by the sons of Cadwgan. As has already been suggested this does not appear to have been the case. Instead the Camddwr in eastern Maelienydd, which flows into the Eithon just below Llanbister, would offer a better location and would fit more easily into the suggested limitations of the apparent power of the sons of Cadwgan. Further evidence supporting this claim is found in local folk-lore which claims that a great battle was fought at this spot between contending Welsh armies²⁴. Two years later Llywelyn and Goronwy were defeated, again by Rhys ab Owain, at the unidentified battle of Gweunytwl. From what has been suggested above, once more a border venue seems likely for this battle, and once more folk-lore offers a plausible site at 'bloody field' beneath Crug y Buddais, just north of Felindre²⁵.

In 1078 the fortune of the sons of Cadwgan may well have changed for the better, as Rhys ab Owain was killed by their neighbours, Trahaearn ap Caradog of Arwystli and Gwynedd, and Caradog ap Gruffydd of Morgannwg, which left Deheubarth in a state of civil strife until the total victory of Rhys ap Tewdwr in 1081²⁶. In this climate it was probably possible for Goronwy and Llywelyn to extend their influence into Buellt, Brycheiniog and beyond. Certainly this seems the most likely reason for their appearance in these areas after Domesday. The year 1081 also saw the Conqueror's first and only Welsh expedition which took him as far as St David's, and appears to have seen the foundation of Cardiff and its great motte²⁷. King William seems to have come to an agreement with Rhys ap Tewdwr on this expedition, and as a result of this at Domesday Rhys (Riset) paid £40, probably for South Wales in the same manner as Robert of Rhuddlan owed the same amount for the North. A further sum of 10 shillings was paid to the king from the land of 'Calcebuef' over and above the farm²⁸. This land may have been either Cantref Buellt, or Cantref Bychan, although the former appears more likely on etymological and geographical grounds, but no identification is certain. Unfortunately the ambiguous nature of this text could imply that either Rhys paid the sum, or someone else.

Domesday does, however, offer some interesting information on two hitherto unrecognized Welshmen who appear in the survey under Herefordshire. It has long been

²³Lloyd, J.E., 'Wales and the Coming of the Normans', *Transactions of the Cymmrodorian Society* VIII [1899-1900], 174, note 1.

²⁴*R.C.A.M., Radnorshire*, 68-9, nos. 268-9.

²⁵Gweunottyl, Gweun y Nygyl, Guinntul, *R.B.H.*, 29; *Pen.*, 16; *B.y.S.*, 81; *A.C.*, 27, s.a.1075. Williams, J., 'The History of Radnorshire', *Arch. Camb.* 3rd ser., I [1855], 200.

²⁶*R.B.H.*, 27-31; *Pen.*, 16-7. Before the battle of Mynydd Carn Rhys had been dispossessed by Caradog ap Gruffydd of Gwent and Glamorgan with his Norman 'arbalisters', Meilir ap Rhiwallon of Powys and King Trahaearn of Arwystli, according to Gruffydd, 127.

²⁷*R.B.H.*, 31; *Pen.*, 17; *A.S.C.*, E, 160; 'Annales monasterii de Wintonia', *Annales Monastici*, ed. H.R. Luard [5 vols., 1864-9]; II, 32; 'The Chronicle of Bermondeseia' *Annales Monastici*, ed. H.R. Luard [5 vols., 1864-9]; IV, 425. *Pen.*, 156n, s.a.1082; *Ex.D.B.*, 273; Margan, 4; Brown, G.C., *Welsh Coin Hoards*, 1979-81 [Cardiff, National Museum of Wales, 1986], 40, 46; *British Numismatic Journal* II (1905), 47-54, which contains descriptions of William I's coins minted at 'Caer Taf' and Saint David's or Dewi's tun 'Devitun'. More appear in Brook, G.C., *Catalogue of the Norman Coins in the British Museum* [1916] II, 109, no. 582; 110, nos. 583-4; 156, nos. 883-7. There is also what appears to be an early earthwork castle, consisting of a ringwork and possibly two baileys, on the hill above St. David's [SN.745252] which may also relate to this period, *Cas. Angl.* II, 397. This subject has also received much attention recently by Spurgeon C.J., 'Mottes and castle-ringworks in Wales', 28, 38-41; Spurgeon, C.J., 'The Castles of Glamorgan: Some Sites and Theories of General Interest', *Chateau Gaillard. Etudes de Castellologie Médiévale* XIII [1986], 2-3 and Dolly, M. & Knight, J.K., 'Some single finds of Tenth and Eleventh Century Coins from Wales', *Arch. Camb.* CXIX [1970], 75-82.

²⁸*D.B.* I, ff. 179b, 253b; Lloyd I, 394.

recognized that Gruffydd ap Maredudd ab Owain held lands in Herefordshire before his ill-fated expedition against Rhys ap Tewdwr in 1091²⁹. He always appears in the Survey, as Gruffydd, the son of King Maredudd. Yet, holding in a different part of the county to his namesake of Deheubarth, there is also one 'Grifin puer', who is obviously different to the son of King Maredudd. This Gruffydd the boy, held two hides of the land of 'Alac' of the large royal manor of Leominster³⁰. One Elward had held this land in the time of the Confessor, and Godwin now held it of Gruffydd. This same Gruffydd also held a half hide of Leominster which Elward now held of him. Immediately underneath this entry is another stating that 'Lewinus/Leuewinus Latinarius' holds 1 virgate in Yarpole (Iarpole) of Leominster. Soon after this the two are placed together in a brief summary of the customs both owed for the land that they held. Sometime earlier a 'Lewin' had also held Heath (Hed) in Laysters (between Leominster and Tenbury Wells), but this was now held by Roger Lacy³¹. A tentative identification of this Gruffydd the boy is perhaps possible considering the way the Domesday surveyors appear to have linked him to Llywelyn Latimarius³². It is likely that these two were of the dynasty of Rhwng Gwy a Hafren, Llywelyn Latimarius possibly being the son of Cadwgan (first mentioned 1075, killed in Brycheiniog 1099) and Gruffydd the boy possibly being the son of Idnerth ap Cadwgan (mentioned in 1096 in Brycheiniog as a war leader). It is also interesting to see that certain men are rendering money to the king for the waste borderlands they have settled at Hopely's Green in 'Elsedune'; others were settled at Lyonshall, for 'as long as they themselves wished', and Letton³³. Could these also be some of the dispossessed Welsh of Rhwng Gwy a Hafren, waiting for more favourable times in their homelands?

²⁹*Pen.*, 18; Round, J.H., 'Domesday Herefordshire' *Victoria County History, Herefordshire*, ed. W. Page [1908], 263-307.

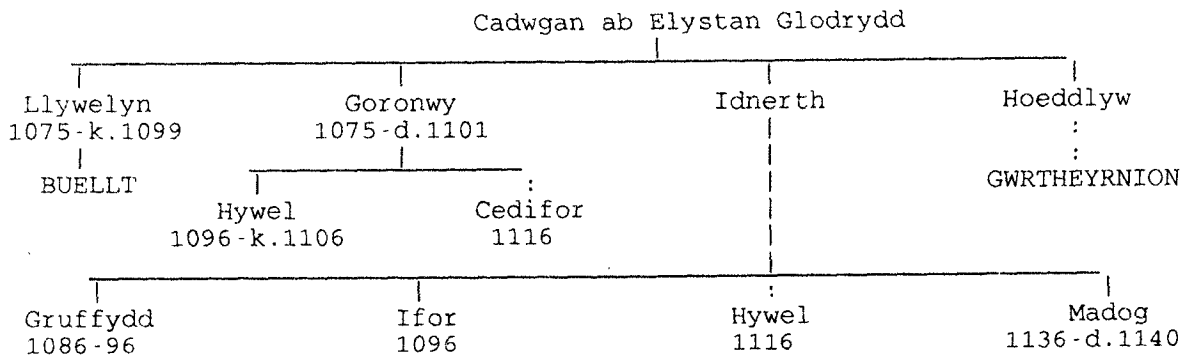
³⁰*D.B. I*, fo. 180b. Ilbert fitz Thorold also held a half virgate at 'Alac', *H.D.B.*, 7. 'Alac' was later held by William Blez, *idem*, 14. A certain Robert held a hay of one Griffin in 'Mateurdin' (probably ap Maredudd), *D.B. I*, 187b. One possible identification of 'Alac' is near Pembridge or Kingsland, *Domesday Book, Herefordshire*, ed. Morris, J., [Chichester, 1983], ch 1,5 & notes.

³¹*D.B. I*, fo. 184. So too was Yarsop [Ardeshope/Edreshope] which was held by Edwi, Lewin and Semar as three manors; *D.B. I*, fo. 184b; Edwi being the king Edwin alluded to in Vendryes, J., line 23?. By the time of Henry II's Herefordshire Domesday Gruffydd the boy had disappeared from the county, but what happened to Llywelyn Latimarius is not mentioned, or who now held his lands, although it is suggested that they were in the king's hands, *Herefordshire Domesday*, ed. V.H. Galbraith & J. Tait, New Series, XXV [1950], 11, 14, 77, 78. Llywelyn may also have held 1 hide at Mawfield of Roger Lacy, which was later held by R. Rous, if this is the same Leuewinus mentioned, *H.D.B.*, 43.

³²Such interpreters appeared throughout the Norman period and were always found in territories contiguous to Norman influence, Bullock-Davies, C., *Professional Interpreters and the Matter of Britain* [Cardiff, 1966].

³³*D.B. I*, 184b.

GENEALOGY OF THE PRINCES OF MAELIENYDD



BRAMPTON BRYAN CASTLE

Addenda to 14/4/91 field Meeting Report HAN 57 p 25-26

A tentative attempt to reconstruct the pre-Civil War castle based on certain ideas:

1. Brian de Brampton's Tower of 1295 was on the motte which was later levelled to form a platform for the quadrilateral castle. The platform is about 15' higher than the land to the north, while the motte is another 10'-15' above this.
2. The motte was cut away on the west side when Brampton Bryan Hall was built. The motte bulges westwards in the NW corner, possible site of a corner tower? There is no hard evidence for corner towers. Size of motte - existing hall mound about 75' x 45', possibly another 40' to the south curtain, to give about 75' x 85'.
3. The roof of the existing church is the old roof of the Banqueting Hall.
4. The north curtain of the castle was the north wall of the hall. There is just room for a free standing hall with an independent north curtain.
5. The west curtain may have been the outside wall of a range of buildings, though if it reached as far as the north curtain is uncertain. The evidence for the Western Range is largely based on the piece of window splay marked A, and evidence of the building windows, doors & floors) at B. Nothing is certain about the East Range.
6. Did the external gatehouse have any additional defences, or did it project across the original ditch in front of the older Gatehouse? There is no apparent evidence of a moat. The outer gatehouse may be a barbican on the counter scarp of an earlier ditch (moat). To the north was probably a (fish) pond, water defences were used during the Civil War sieges.
7. Is the tennis court on a modern platform, or is it a possible outer bailey or enclosure. The two trees marked X & Y are reputedly at least 300 years old, and appear from their roots to have been planted on an existing platform or bank. The path to the court cut through the original motte from east to west in the 19th C.

Nothing is known of Civil War earthworks, though there were reports in the second siege of the outer defences being destroyed. Did this refer to any possible earth-works or the castle curtain wall? In the diary of the first siege on 1/7/1643 it is reported that the Royalists began to raise breast-works.

The actual castle, except for the gatehouse, was razed immediately after the surrender on 17/4/1644. In the 1650's the stone was used to rebuild the church which had been occupied as a Parliamentary outpost (observation point/shooting platform) during the first siege of 1642-43, and wrecked by Royalist bombardment during the second siege of 1643-44.

