

HEREFORDSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWS



HAN 62 September 1994

**WOOLHOPE CLUB
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH SECTION**

Contents

Programme	2
Editorial	3
Notes	4
Miscellany	6
News from the Past	7
Local Groups and Parish Corespondents' Day	8
Local History societies and WEA 17th Annual Day School by James Edmondston	8
Castle Studies Group Annual Conference	9
News from the County Archaeological Service by Duncan Brown	10
Some Additional Notes on Aberllyfni Castle by Paul Remfry	11
The Martyrdom of St Edmund, Additional Information	12
Addenda Field Meeting on 21 March 1993, The Rock, Templecourt, Five Castles in Clun Lordship, Hopton	12
Field Meeting at Eardisland, 6 March 1994 by Roger Stirling-Brown	14
The Pembridges of Pembridge, c.1090-1267, by Paul Remfry	22
The Chapels at Craswall Priory, by Carole Hutchinson	23
Chapels in Garway, Additional Information	26
Continuing Investigations at Garway, 10 April 1994 by Graham Sprackling	26
Pembridge Castle (formerly called Newland Castle) by Bruce Coplestone-Crow	28
Investigations of some castle sites on the Herefordshire border suggested by the late Frank Noble, 1 May 1994 by Paul Remfry	32
The Last Campaign of Rhys ap Gruffydd, Prince of Deheubarth by Paul Remfry	35
Investigations at Brinsop, 5 June 1994 by Roger Stirling-Brown	38
Field Meeting at Harewood End by Graham Sprackling and Elizabeth Taylor	43
Ballon and Caldicot Castles, Gwent, by Peter Halliwell	45
A Grange of the Cistercian Abbey of Dore at Gwenddwr, Breconshire by Richard Kay and Nigel Jones	48
Railways by David Spoons	50
Roman Roads in Southern Scotland by Peter Halliwell	51
Book Review	52

Change of Telephone Number

All the telephone numbers in Ross-on-Wye have had a 5 added in front of the numbers.

Subscriptions 1994

These are now due and should be paid to the Treasurer Mr J V Harding. Cheques should be made payable to Woolhope Club/ARS. The current subscription is still £3.50 per year, payable at the beginning of the year. Some members have still not paid for 1993, if you have, please accept our apologies for this second reminder. The newsletter is sent out in the expectation that subscriptions will be paid.

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.

Newsletter Back Numbers

Several members have requested, and been supplied with, back numbers of HAN. While no stock of previous issues is kept, these can be reproduced by photocopying at cost for any interested member.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH SECTION

Programme September 1994 - January 1995

SUNDAY 11 September	St Briavels and area	Meet at St Briavels Church Leader Peter Halliwell (Tour devised by Richard Kay)
SUNDAY 9 October	Lime Kilns in the Woolhope area	Meet at Woolhope Church Leader Elizabeth Taylor
SATURDAY 5 November	6 th Annual Shindig (organised by GADARG)	Farmers club, Agriculture House, Tewkesbury Road, Gloucester. 3pm to 9pm. Cost approx £5.50, includes Buffet Supper
SUNDAY 13 November	Investigations in the Pencombe area	Meet at Pencombe Church Leader Roger Stirling-Brown
SATURDAY 3 December	Woolhope Club Annual Winter Meeting - ARS Report	Shire Hall, Hereford, Committee Room 1 2.15pm
THURSDAY 8 December	AGM & Dinner	Golden River Restaurant, Commercial Street, Hereford, 7.30 for 8pm
1995 TUESDAY 10 January	Medieval Armour, talk by Roger Stirling-Brown with examples of armour	Teachers Centre, Blackfriars Street, Hereford, 7.30pm. Refreshments, small admission charge, ample parking
WEDNESDAY 8 February	Archaeological Survey in Herefordshire Uplands Talk by James Dinn	Teachers Centre, Blackfriars Street, Hereford, 7.30pm. Refreshments, small admission charge, ample parking
SUNDAY 5 March	Investigations in the Weobley area	Meet at Weobley Church Leader Rosamund Skelton
SUNDAY 2 April	Investigations in the Foy area	Meet at the 'Travellers Rest' PH at the Ross end of M50 Leader Elizabeth Taylor

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

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

Programme Notes

1. All Sunday Meetings start at 10.30am sharp
2. January & February meetings are evening lectures not Sunday field meetings
3. In the case of bad weather please contact the Leader or the Chairman
4. Guests are very welcome
5. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear for field meetings, and bring food and drink. It is not always possible to arrive at a hostelry at lunch time
6. Members requiring transport should contact the Leader or Chairman who will endeavour to arrange, but no guarantee can be given
7. Members and guests are reminded that field meetings are undertaken at their own risk
8. November Field Meeting, please note change of venue but not date from Programme issued with HAN 61

ARS Subscriptions

By mid August 1994 only half the subscriptions for 1994 had been paid. Members are reminded that subscriptions are payable in advance for the year and newsletters are sent on the strict understanding that subscriptions will be paid. Apologies to those who have paid.

It may be necessary in future to change the system to one where only those who have paid for the current year receive the newsletter.

Editorial

This issue of HAN is being produced by Paul Remfry, who made such a good job of HAN 56 in 1991. This has several advantages if only that it is being duplicated by an archaeologist who understands the subject matter, which makes the editor's job that much easier.

Paul was responsible for the layout of this issue, and all credit is due to him for the excellent production.

Our thanks are also due to all those who delivered copies of HAN 61 by hand, thus saving on the postage charges, especially to Frank Pexton.

It is gratifying to see another ARS member as President of the Woolhope Club, and we wish David all success during his term of office.

We are very glad that GADARG has officially joined the Shindig and will host the sixth Annual Shindig on 5/11/94 at The Farmers Club, Gloucester from 3-9 pm. There will be a buffet at approx £5.50 per head.

Paul Remfry has started to produce some booklets on local castles. These give a detailed up to date account of the history of the sites, as far as they are known, together with the latest interpretation of the actual remains. So far Hopton and Clun castles have been produced, along with a political history of Abbey Cwmhir. Radnor and Clifford are expected to follow in the near future.

In the second issue of HAN each year the list of Officers and Committee will be omitted unless changes have taken place. These will now only appear in the January issue.

Archaeology Nos 7 & 8, the newsletter of the County Archaeological Service, have been received and are of the usual high standard that we have come to expect.

The Boundaries Commission has finally recommended that Herefordshire should be reestablished. This does not necessarily mean that it will be accepted by the Government. Let us hope that, for the sake of archaeology, sanity prevails.

Editor

STOP PRESS:

The British Archaeological Awards 1994

The Herefordshire Field-Name Survey has been entered for the Pitt-Rivers Award / Graham Webster Laurels by a group of members from the Archaeological Research Section of the Woolhope Naturalists Field Club. The three parts of the entry are:

- (a) The transcribing and publishing, as cheaply as possible, of field-names for all the 260 parishes/townships so that they can be used by anyone.
- (b) The inauguration of a forum [in the Woolhope transactions] for continuing the collection of older and additional field-names in Part 2 of the Survey and, by making it easy to locate them, to facilitate any archaeological site investigation.
- (c) The samples of the current work in progress to analyze field-names and to demonstrate their potential archaeological use.

The entry is accompanied by a parish and six plans, drawn by Geoff Gwatkin, which illustrate six of the sample topics - from castle and moats, to Roman and Saxon sites, and kilns.

We wish them every success in this endeavour.

Ruth Richardson

Industrial Archaeology of Hereford and Worcester

The County Archaeological Service held a meeting on 30 July 1994 at Warndon to discuss the future of Industrial Archaeology in the County and how the IRIS system can be used to help the recording of industrial monuments. Duncan Brown has agreed to be the IRIS coordinator for Hereford and Worcester, and will distribute IRIS recording forms. The information can then be added to the SMR.

Note If a site is on the SMR it does have some sort of protection in that the archaeological interest must be considered in any planning decision. This applies to all sites, not just industrial ones.

Hereford and Worcester Archaeology Day School, 1994

This will be held at the Bishop Perowne High School, Worcester, on Saturday 19 October 1994. The programme for the day has not yet been finalised.

Notes

Brycheiniog Vol XXVI (1992-1993)

A very interesting article by Bruce Coplestone-Crow on 'Trewalkin and its Anglo-Norman Lords', appeared in *Brycheiniog*. Humfrey Visdelou, a follower of Bernard Neufmarché, received a fee based on Trewalkin and the castle of Garn y Castell (SO.158298) for his services in the conquest of Brycheiniog. His son Walkelin lost the fee to his overlord the Earl of Hereford for being on the wrong side in the Anarchy of Stephen's reign (1135-54). It then passed to Brecon Priory.

Naming of Castles

This is a perennial problem, Cathcart-King, the doyen of Castle Studies, used Parishes, though not always sure whether Ecclesiastical or Civil. When there was more than one castle he used numerals to differentiate; what he considered to be the main castle was number one. He also included all other local or historical names in his opus *Castellarium Anglicanum* for England & Wales. It is unfortunate that no comparable system has been produced for Scotland. The only certain method is to use the GR as did Cathcart-King.

It is most unfortunate that the OS has deleted parish boundaries from the 1/50,000 maps - also in Wales parishes as a unit have ceased to exist. Most archaeological sites are still classified according to parishes.

SALINAE (Middlewich), Cheshire

The former county Archaeology officer Adrian Tindall, now Principal Archaeologist in Cheshire, has located a Roman fort of 3.75 acres at Middlewich dated to the late first or early second century AD.

Llanthomas Motte, Llanigon, Breconshire (SO.209406)

The bungalow near Hay on Wye built very close to this listed monument is for sale. At the time of its construction in 1988 a small exploratory excavation by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust was carried out to try and determine its age and whether or not it had a bailey. Topographically because of the Dgedi Brook, the only site for a possible bailey would be under the present bungalow, but no definite conclusion could be drawn. The motte is listed as Hay No 3 by Cathcart-King.

ARICONIUM (Penyard, extracted from DAG Newsletter No 24)

Some very important finds by the DAG have been made at Ariconium, not on the scheduled area. They include a bronze spear head/ballista bolt, 10.5 cm long, a phallic pendant, a small bronze stud and a piece of embossed bronze. Since then, a shard of pottery with a face moulded upon it, with a beautiful 'Roman' nose, and a stone ball average diameter 4.5 cm have been recovered.

Field Meeting at Stretford 28/2/93 See HAN 60 p 56

Roger Stirling-Brown reports a possible third castle site at Dilwyn, SO.418524.

Bronllys Castle Visit to Some Castles in the Wye Valley HAN 63 p 48

The owner informed the writer on 17/5/94 that he understood that there had been a dam across the Afon Llynfi. This could explain the "wall" found by Paul Remfry on 9/5/93 during our visit. There is a record of the pond freezing.

Dunder Camp SO.485495

Mrs Duthy-James is asking for information about this earthwork which was apparently marked on the 1" maps in the middle of the last century, but has now disappeared from recent editions of the OS. The County SMR suggests the possibility of a motte and bailey. The site was visited by Margaret Jones and Elizabeth Taylor on 14/5/94. Mrs Duthy-James further reports that there is an area of 'sunken lanes' and the area is all "humpty bumpy". A DMV?

She says that Thornfield is built on the "ramparts" and that a nearby farmhouse is being converted into two dwellings and a further six houses are contemplated in the farmyard. This part of Ullingswick is called Old Town. The unproven Roman road from Watling Street West through Wellington, Marden, Ullingswick, Acton Beauchamp and Suckley towards Worcester must have passed close to the site and it must also lie between the north south Margary 610 and the northern extension of Margary 613 from Stretton Grandison.

Stonewall Hill

The owner of Millhouse Farm Annex, Sunset, Kington reports a possible archaeological site at The Warren (SO.318686). The site was visited on 9/5/94. The actual name may be indicative. A cursory examination reveals that two roughly rectangular fields appear to be surrounded by an intermittent bank and ditch, and inside are rectangular areas of darker soil. A denuded hill fort? Though the slopes are very gentle!

On the nearby Reeves Hill (SO.319694) it is proposed to erect 14 wind turbines, the tallest in Europe. Stonewall Hill itself (SO.315685) and The Warren would also appear to be under threat from an extension of the Wind Farm.

The minor road northwards from Stoken Farm (SO.315663) is the county boundary, Stonewall Hill is in Powys, The Warren in Herefordshire and Reeves Hill is 1/4 in Powys and 3/4 in Herefordshire. For convenience of road maintenance the first half of the road is counted as Hereford and Worcester and the second half as Powys, the Powys County Boundary side therefore appears half way along the road which gives the impression that all these sites are in old Radnorshire.

Early 17th Century Chapel (SO.670477)

A possible derelict chapel at Cheney Court, Bishops Frome, may become a holiday cottage. The original mansion was destroyed by fire at the turn of the century. A modern 19th C turret was added on the western gable of the 16th or early 17th C building which has the original mullioned windows and is of two stories with attics. Cheney Court Farm, just to the north of the Court is still in existence. There is a photograph of the chapel in RCHM II E, Plate 34.

Penyard Castle (SO.618226)

A survey is under way of the structural remains of Penyard castle by the County Archaeological Service on behalf of English Heritage and the landowners. This will hopefully lead to a better interpretation and preservation of the remains. We visited Penyard castle on 16/5/93, see HAN 60 pp 21-22.

Mynydd Brydd Castle (SO.280415)

A recent survey was made of the earthworks by the County Archaeological Service. Roger Stirling-Brown gave assistance during the survey. It was not possible to definitely determine whether or not there had been a stone shell keep on the motte, but this is a distinct possibility.

Chateau Gaillard Conference

This was held at Abergavenny from August 28th to September 3rd, three castle sites in the county were visited, Goodrich, Kilpeck and Ewias Harold. Three members of the ARS helped the County Archaeological Service to prepare the Presentation on Ewias Harold castle for the Conference.

The Cell, Redbrook Road, Monmouth

This house, offered for sale by Russell, Baldwin and Bright, is reputed to date back to 1090, being referred to in a Papal Bull of 1180. It was built as a chapel to St Thomas the Martyr, and later became the King's Chapel.

It was still being used as a place of worship in 1675, but by about 1700 became the vicarage. It then became the Poor House, and was further extended and became a private house at the turn of the century. The advowson of this church was held by Parc Grace Dieu Abbey. The Rev. Porter thought that it could have been the chapel to the grange lands of the Abbey in that area.

PRH

Miscellany

Fortress Magazine

It is noted with regret that the journal "Fortress" which dealt with medieval castles and later fortifications in Britain, Europe and the Near East has ceased publication. Some 18 issues have been published quarterly starting with May 1989 and after 4½ years the publishers Beaufort Publishing Ltd. of Liphook, Hants. have gone into voluntary liquidation. A great pity as it was a most interesting and informative magazine.

Castle Studies Group

Elizabeth Taylor's article 'An early motte and enclosure at Upton Bishop' in the Woolhope Transactions 1991 p 24-7 has appeared in the bibliography of published castle works in the CSG newsletter No 7 of November 1993.

The CSG is devoted to forwarding the interests of castle enthusiasts and was formed in 1988 and produces an annual newsletter which records members activities in castle studies.

Fortress Study Group

This group previously devoted to the study of fortifications since the introduction of gunpowder is to enlarge its scope to included earlier castles. It was founded in 1975 and has so far produced 21 issues of its annual publication 'Fort'. With the demise of 'Fortress Magazine' Fort should take its proper place as the magazine for castle studies.

Heath House

This Queen Anne mansion has been sold for £300,000 after having been on the market since June 1992. Members will remember that we were to visit Heath House very shortly before the murder of Simon Dale. HAN 49, pp 50-58.

Professor J K S St Joseph

The death of Professor St Joseph was reported on 11th March 1994 at the age of 81. Not only was he personally responsible for locating thousands of archaeological sites, but by his enduring enthusiasm he was responsible for setting up the University of Cambridge aerial photography department and infusing countless others in many countries to continue the work. His great personal enthusiasm was Roman military features in Scotland. Affectionately known as 'Holy Joe' he will be greatly missed.

David Spoons

The death of David Spoons on 25th March 1994 is recorded with much regret, not only a personal friend of the editor, but a faithful attender at field meetings until prevented by illness to which he eventually succumbed.

Proposed Ashton by-pass A49

This proposed project, noted in HAN 61, has now been withdrawn from the Government road programme. It was feared that if it had gone ahead it might have affected the Roman road at 'Stockton Ride', part of the northern extension of Margary 613.

Council for British Archaeology

The 50th anniversary is this year, and a number of events and publications are planned to celebrate the occasion. These include the issue of the first British Archaeological Yearbook.

CBA 8 West Midlands

Following the success of the Archaeology Week West Midlands 1992, it is proposed to hold a similar event in 1994 from 3rd - 11th September.

County Archaeological Service

The new telephone number of the CAS at Warndon is 0905 458608. "Archaeology" No 7 the newsletter of the CAS has been received. It contains a series of interesting walks and lectures by both the service staff and the Extra Mural Department of Birmingham University, it is unfortunate that they will take place before HAN No 62 is distributed.

Clun Castle - Interpretation Panels HAN 61 P 32

A visit to Clun castle in March 1994 revealed that the Display Boards at the car park entrance by the public toilets had not been removed and still showed the 14th C keep (hall block) as being in existence in 1100, as well as a palisade surrounding the Norman 'planted town'. This has again been taken up with English Heritage.

Guardianship - English Heritage

On 24/3/94 English Heritage handed over management of some 17 sites to the National Trust, though the guardianship and overall responsibility will be retained by English Heritage. An uncharitable thought in the mind of the editor is that these are all sites that are not revenue earning, having no paid admission. The report further intimates that a further 40 sites are under consideration and that double this figure could be achieved within the next few months. Let us hope that their trust is not misplaced.

Dean Archaeological Group

Bryan Walters is now at the West Bank Residential Home, Walford Road, Ross-on-Wye and would welcome visitors, but please telephone first 0989-562741.

The Parishes of Gloucestershire

Geoff Gwatkin, who drew the tithe maps for the Field Name Survey, has also produced similar maps on the same 6" scale for part of Gloucestershire. The parishes of Alvington, Blaisdon, Bromsberrow, Churcham, Corse, Dymock, English Bicknor, Hartbury, Hewelsfield, Huntley, Kempsey, Littledean, Longhope, Mitcheldean, Newent (East & West), Newnham, Oxenhall, Pauntley, Ruradean, Rudford & Highleadon, St Briavels, Staunton, Tayton, Tibberton, Upleadon, Westbury on Severn and Woolaston. They are priced at £7.00 including post and packing.

Crop Mark North of Clifford Castle (SO.236457)

An irregular light green shaped area but with squarish edges, has appeared in a field of barley (dark green) on Upper Court farm, Clifford. There is a circular whitish area in the centre, Mrs Bailey, the wife of the farmer, says that this is an old well. Noted by Paul Remfry and Peter Halliwell on 7/7/94. A second Roman fort has been reported from air photographs south of the one at SO.248467, but no GR has been given. It is of interest that the fort at SO.248467 is on land belonging to Lower Court farm Clifford.

News From The Past - West Midlands Archaeology 1993

The annual one day CBA Group 8 conference was held on Saturday 26/2/94 at the University of Birmingham, with reports on last years archaeological happenings in the West Midlands Region. There were 19 short talks, all illustrated with slides and transparencies. This year the majority of the reports were from the north of the region, although all were most interesting only a few of the reports refer to our area.

A report on Shrewsbury Abbey infirmary evaluation excavation in advance of the construction of the "Brother Cadfael" centre was mentioned. Further work had been carried out at Bromfield on the earthworks and barrows to update the work of Stan Stamford,

At Worcester Cathedral work on a house in the close to the north of the Cathedral revealed some 55 skeletons in the basement which was only 30 sq meters. It also revealed the foundations of the medieval precinct wall between the Cathedral close and the Bishops Palace. The precinct 14th C water gate was also investigated. This had a portcullis and mooring rings in the river side wall. There had been considerable raising of the ground level by filling.

James Pickering spoke again about the importance of studying what was actually there, rather than to go to search for, or seek confirmation of, individual sites by air photography. He showed many examples to illustrate the similarities between earthworks in Britain and the rest of Europe, especially Germany.

The Marches Historic Towns survey was mentioned, but nothing new emerged except that it is hoped to produce a preliminary report by the end of this year. There were several small exhibitions. PRH

Local Groups and Parish Correspondents' Day

This was held on Saturday 23/4/94 at the County Archaeological Services offices at Warndon, Worcester.

The programme started at 10.30am after coffee and biscuits with a welcome from Duncan Brown, the SMR officer, who introduced the new County Archaeology Officer Malcolm Atkin, who in his introduction outlined the problems and achievements of the service and touched upon the possible difficulties which could result from the proposed re-organisation of local government.

Duncan Brown then talked about the work of the SMR, illustrated with slides, and the problems of the Parish Correspondents, to date there are some 21,000 sites on the SMR register.

Robin Jackson spoke about the knowledge gained from pipe line trenches, a truly remarkable number of sites had been discovered by watching Welsh Water and Seven Trent pipe line excavations, again illustrated by slides. An exciting discovery had been made at *Ariconium* outside the existing scheduled area. These were the only "large scale" excavations currently being undertaken in the county.

Luke Fagan talked about "Holes", small scale openings made by utility companies, often unknown to the county archaeological service because they already had blanket permission to excavate.

He appealed for information about these holes or trenches, but stressed the dangers of climbing down into the openings, and recommended observation from the side. A photograph with a scale and accurate location would be most useful if it were suspected that there was any archaeology present in the hole. An annotated drawn sketch would be most useful if possible, and spoil heaps should not be neglected in case any artifacts were present. The SMR would be most grateful for this information, and members are urged to help in this work.

There followed a period of questions mainly concerning problems of the parish correspondents. After lunch, most kindly provided by the service, there was the alternative of a field visit to Grafton Flyford near Evesham, or the opportunity to consult the Library, SMR record, or aerial photographs.

P R H

LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETIES AND WEA 17th ANNUAL DAY SCHOOL

The 1994 School, arranged by the Kington History Society on the theme of 19th Century Herefordshire, took place at Kington Primary School on Saturday 11th June; it was attended by about 100 people. The Chairwoman, Mrs Margaret Price, welcomed the audience and introduced the main speaker, Dr Roy Fenn, who, ably assisted on the projector by Mr Jim Sinclair, spoke on "Some Aspects of Religious Architecture in 19th Century Herefordshire". He restricted himself to Anglican churches.

Some Herefordshire churches, said Dr Fenn, virtually escaped Victorian restoration, such as Clodock, Abbey Dore, and Monnington-on-Wye, while other rural churches were comparatively unaltered. But Huntington, re-opened by the Bishop in 1892, was one of the last of the numerous 19th C restorations. These reflected changes in the relationship between church and state and developments in religion and in ecclesiology during the century. The Catholic Reform Act of 1829, the Great Reform Act of 1832, and the Tithe Act (1836) all weakened the power of the Anglican church, just as Darwinism struck blows at traditional faith; meanwhile Keble and the Oxford Movement and the Cambridge Camden Society were reshaping everything from belief to church architecture and furnishings; for instance, Staunton-on-Arrow and Stoke Lacey were built with towers (the former 1856 by Nicholson, the latter 1863 by Kempson); Kington acquired an organ in 1848. The arrival of the railway in Hereford in 1853 opened the county up to members of the new profession of 'architect' travelling from London, such as GG Scott and CF Bodley; it also brought in building materials, and building firms, from other areas. Two active architects, however, were local men: Thomas Nicholson, who became diocesan architect and is credited with the construction of about 50 new churches and the restoration of almost as many; and FR Kempson, who did Kington Market Hall (though the tower is not his) and restored Huntington. Having thus come full circle, Dr Fenn concluded an exceptionally interesting and well-illustrated talk by referring to the two restorations of St Mary Kington in 1862 and 1872 and the subsequent changes made in the church by WH Banks.

After coffee the participants broke into workshop groups to prepare for the afternoon field visits on such diverse subjects as The Victorian Garden, Sources of Information on Local Religion (sic), Tracing Turnpike Trusts, Rare Farm Breeds in 19th C Herefordshire, The Age of Confusion, and Social Life of the 19th C Working Classes. I joined the group with no archaeological pretensions, and heard an illuminating talk by Dr Philip Cleland on 19th C farming, on how breeds changed in response to economic needs and dietary taste, on the consequences of employing enormous numbers of horses, and on the physical strains of farm life before mechanisation; after lunch we visited his School Green Farm, and met his horned English cattle, his badger-faced sheep, and his traditional turkeys, geese and hens - an introduction to ecologically aware farming practice.

Of the other groups, I can report that Jim Tonkin stood in for the local historian Ken Reeves (who was unwell) and at short notice spoke slideless on the architecture of Kington and led his flock round the town. Mrs Jean Oldfield concentrated on the conditions of the working class, and in her afternoon tour took in industrial and commercial sites and artisan housing.

After tea Mrs Price announced that the prize for the best exhibition display had been won by the Bromyard Society; and Mr Turton representing the Leominster Society, which is to host the 1995 meeting, thanked the chairwoman and her Kington colleagues for arranging such a fascinating and successful occasion.

It was an enjoyable and instructive day. As so often before, one felt sorry that so many of us are advanced in years; but perhaps an interest in local history, like moss, grows on people as they age.

James Edmondston

Editorial Note

This was another in the series of successful day-schools arranged under the aegis of Jean O'Donnell

Castle Studies Group Annual Conference

The editor attended the 8th Annual Conference of the Castle Studies Group from 7th to 10th April 1994 at the Northumberland County Council Field Centre at Ford castle.

We met in Newcastle at 1pm and spent the afternoon looking at the castle at Newcastle upon Tyne and then proceeded to Ford castle with a lecture in the evening on English Heritage Castles in Northumberland. The 8th saw us at Etal, Norham and Bamburgh castles, the tower at Preston and the bastle at Hepburn with an evening lecture on Tower Houses and Bastles.

On the 9th we visited Edlingham, Alnwick, Warkworth and Dunstanburgh castles, the evening lecture being on Castles in the Historical Context of Northumberland.

The last day, the 10th we saw Mitford, Belsay, Aydon and Prudhoe castles, but because of lack of time it was not possible to visit the defended village of Wall, near Hadrian's Wall, with its collection of bastle houses.

We were able to experience the whole range of castles, Royal, Baronial, Knightly, Lesser Gentry and the Richer Landholder. We were also able to examine the older parts of Ford castle, many times pillaged by the Scots, which was gothicised in the 18th C, together with the ruin of the adjacent Vicar's Peel (tower house).

The tower house and bastle are not found on the Welsh border, though there is a "tower house" at Talgarth. The bastle or fortified farm house, not yet clearly identified in the Marches, was a late 15th and 16th C response to the increasing lawlessness on the Scottish border.

PRH

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE

Since the last issue of HAN, there has been quite a lot of fieldwork carried out in Herefordshire by the Service. This appears to reflect the rapidly increasing amount of data registered with the Sites and Monuments Record concerning the historic towns of Herefordshire. Four such sites have been investigated, all in Leominster District. These were in Wigmore, Weobley, Ford Street Presteigne (Stapleton parish) and Westbury Street, Leominster. Of greatest interest is the last of these observations, which identified the line of the town ditch of Leominster. Analysis and interpretation are as yet incomplete, but we hope to have more details on this and the other sites soon....

Four castles have also been investigated in Herefordshire at Eardisley, Mynydd Brydd (Dorstone), Pembridge Castle (Welsh Newton) and Penyard Castle. Photographic and drawn records were made of the remains of Penyard and Mynydd Brydd. Observations in the bailey of Eardisley Castle produced a number of layers containing daub and medieval pottery.

A number of other sites have also been investigated, including our annual fieldwork at Wellington Quarry, where this year, surprisingly, no particularly significant or extensive remains were found. A section of the Rowe Ditch in Pembridge was surveyed to establish the location and extent of this part of the scheduled monument, and a plan produced of the slight earthworks that remain. At Buckfield Farm, Leominster, twelve trenches were excavated in an attempt to find evidence of suspected buried prehistoric remains. Some evidence of former ridge and furrow earthworks was all that was identified, however. At Withington, pipeline monitoring turned up a large stone-founded medieval building with waterlogged deposits and quantities of finds. Observations at Chapel Farm, Lingen produced evidence of re-used Norman masonry in the 14th century hall and its outbuildings.

The Sites and Monuments Record is now in the process of being transferred to a new database system, which should make it more flexible and useable. There is still a considerable amount of work to do catching up with backlogs. However, it is expected that a considerable amount of additional material will be forthcoming on industrial sites in the county following the proposed IRIS Initiative, begun by the Association for Industrial Archaeology and the Royal Commission on Historic Monuments, and recently adopted in Hereford and Worcester.

The Marches Uplands Survey has recently received aerial photographic plots for the uplands area from the AP unit of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments. They Uplands Survey team are now in the process of sorting through and scheduling this information in relation to what we already know.

The Service held a joint 'Hands on Heritage' day at the Community Centre in Leintwardine with the County Museums Service, who have produced a display covering the excavations in Leintwardine. The day went very successfully, especially the child sized Roman armour, which was very much in demand. This year's Walkpast series was again very successful, and has been supplemented by an additional series for the autumn. The Parish Archaeology Initiative has resulted in a talk to Eardisley parish council, about Eardisley's archaeology. I also accompanied Ivington School's annual summer walk to Ivington Camp in July, and gave talks to the children about Medieval Ivington and the hillfort itself.

The date of the County Archaeology Dayschool for 1994 has now been set. It will be held on Saturday 29th October 1994 at the Bishop Perowne High School in Worcester. This venue is bigger than County Hall and significantly has a better blackout, so slides should be more clearly seen! A number of archaeological topics will be covered, including some specific to Herefordshire. I hope to see many of you there.

The preferred option for Local Government Reorganisation has just been published. This will have an impact on the way archaeology in the County is organised. We hope that whatever solution is reached, both Herefordshire and Worcestershire are at least as well served with archaeological services (including a commitment to education) as they are at present.

Further details on any of the above can be obtained from:

Duncan Brown, SMR Officer, County Archaeological Service

Tel: 0905 458608

Some Additional notes on Aberllyfni Castle

Peter Halliwell, Richard Willmott and myself had visited several sites in the Wye valley last May (see Han 60, 48). One of the sites visited was Aberllyfni castle (SO.171380), and since then Richard Kay has published an excellent account of the castle and church site (Han 61, 26-7). In the last year my researches have turned up a few references to this site during the war of 1233, and these suggest both the family that built the castle and something of the condition of the Herefordshire border during this period.

At the end of July 1233 a revolt appears to have broken out amongst the Herefordshire Marchers, led primarily by Walter Clifford of Clifford (c.1215-c.1256) and at the instance of Richard, Earl of Pembroke. Walter's grandson, Roger Clifford, was to be one of the initial leaders of the barons' revolt of 1263. On 31st July Henry III ordered William Fitz Warin, the sheriff of Herefordshire, to arrest any armed bands¹ and appeared himself at Hereford on 19th August. Henry moved rapidly, capturing from the Cliffords in rapid succession the castles of Clifford, Aberllyfni, Hay?, Glasbury and Bronllys, probably by 23rd August 1233 when it was noted that Walter Clifford's lands were in the king's hands². On the 29th August one Baldwin Gisnes was ordered to relinquish the custody of Glasbury (*Glasbiry*) castle to William Fitz Warin and on the 1st September Bronllys (*Brenles*)³ and probably the other Clifford castles which he is soon found holding. On the same day the king ordered the constable of Hay to hand over to one Inges the Crossbowman (*balistario*) the land of Aberllyfni (*Abberlewin*) that was Hugh Kinardsley's, a knight of Walter Clifford, who had munitioned the castle and held it against the king until it was captured when it came into the king's hands⁴.

The strength of the king had proved too much for Walter Clifford and on the 17th September he made his peace at Shrewsbury⁵, probably simultaneously with Earl Richard. However, Walter's return to the king's peace did not regain him and his followers their castles back until the Welsh emergency was over next year. In the meantime the experienced soldier Henry Trumbleville had been appointed to guard the castles of Usk, Clifford, Aberllyfni, Hay and Corfham for the king, and it was in this office that he was mandated by the king to go to the relief of Pipton (*Periton*) castle on the 23rd September 1233⁶. Pipton castle had been entrusted to William Gamage (probably the dispossessed lord of Boughrood) and it was now being besieged by the irrepressible Roger Boghan (c.1228-c.1248), grandson of Einion Clud of Elfael (killed 1177) and one of the several native claimants to the lordship of the Welsh in the cantref of Elfael. Unfortunately we know nothing of the outcome of the siege or the fate of Pipton castle. However Roger's son Rhys, after many tribulations, was still holding the lordships of Boughrood and Trewern as late as 1279, when he was forced to relinquish them to Henry Pembroke and his wife, the Gamage heiress⁷. In the meantime Henry Trumbleville proved reluctant to allow Inges the Crossbowman access to Aberllyfni castle, perhaps because he was using it for a base to relieve Pipton, which is nearly in arrow shot of it. As a consequence he was ordered to accept Inges to the castle (*Abreleniuth*) on the 26th September when we have our last mention of the site⁸.

The above narrative raises some interesting points for castle studies in the Wye valley. The first is the sheer number of operational castles in such a confined area at this time. The Wye, like the Rhine, must have been a river literally studded with castles and fortified dwellings. It also shows that what now look like insignificant sites were then capable of serious defence, ie. Aberllyfni and Pipton, and makes one wonder at the strength of the greater castles. How many of those barely recorded sieges of the Middle Ages ended with the collapse of the garrison's morale, and how many by *force majeure*? Having recently visited Restormal castle, Cornwall, it is easy to draw a comparison with this castle that never saw siege and Aberllyfni. The shell keep is still almost intact, but the entire bailey, which was known to be of stone and contained many stone buildings, is now virtually impossible to trace. How many of our castles have also been so degraded?

Paul M Remfry

¹*Royal Letters of Henry III* I, 418.

²*Calendar Close Rolls, 1231-34*, 251. The Clifford's Shropshire castle of Corfham was also taken around this time.

³*CPR 1232-47*, 25.

⁴*CCR 1231-34*, 257, 273.

⁵*CCR 1231-34*, 267.

⁶*CCR 1231-4*, 267, 272, 273, 274.

⁷Welsh Assize Roll, 252, 258, 263, 267-8, 271.

⁸*CCR 1231-34*, 273.

The Martyrdom of King Edmund (HAN 61 p 8) Additional information

St Benet of Hulme abbey, annexed to the see of Norwich in 1536, was the only one not suppressed at the Dissolution, the Abbot of Hulme had in the meantime become the Bishop of Norwich. Today the Bishop of Norwich is still the Abbot of Hulme. The abbey had been separated from the see by Bishop Aelfwine.

Tradition has it that King Edmund was first buried at his royal residence at Rendlesham, Suffolk, before being moved to Bury. Rendlesham probably became the Christian royal residence when Christianity was adopted, the older pagan royal residence at Sutton Hoo then being abandoned. A further tradition is that the body of the saint, after being moved from Hoxne to Bury, was again moved in 1014 to St Pauls in London, when Bury was menaced by King Sweyn and his son Canute. St Pauls itself was probably subject to molestation by the Danes. The body appears to have disappeared well before the Dissolution, and there are reports in 1631 of a French antiquarian listing *le corps de saint Aymond Confesseur du Roi Angleterre* which had been in Toulouse for centuries relentlessly working miracles. Could it have been taken during the French intervention at the time of King John? In 1901 the body was supposed to have been returned from Toulouse to the new Roman Catholic cathedral of Westminster, but last minute thoughts about its authenticity led to its being buried without trace in the new Roman Catholic cathedral of Arundel by the 15th Duke of Norfolk. Its site is now not known.
[Extracted from the Daily Telegraph]

The description *saint Aymond Confesseur du Roi Angleterre* causes difficulties. *Du Roi Angleterre* itself is an odd description, though it is understandable that a Frenchman writing centuries later might not have known that Edmund was only King of East Anglia. *Confesseur* (Confessor), one definition of Confessor is 'one who avows his religion in face of danger, but does not suffer martyrdom'. This would not apply to Edmund or even in confusion to "Edward the Confessor" where 'Religious' might be a better description.

PRH

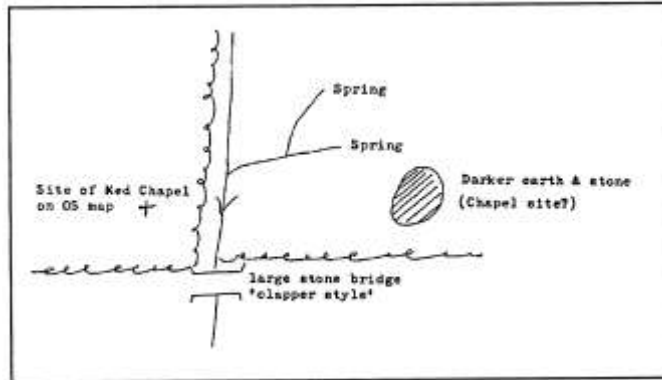
Addenda

Historical Note on Templecourt at Upleadon Between 5 September 1148 and 1154 a convention was drawn up between William Braose (c.1126-79) and his (step?) uncle Roger, Earl of Hereford (1143-1155), Walter his brother and all his barons and men. This granted to William the castle of Dymock (*Dimoc*) and the land of Ralph Muchegros and 15 librates of land on the River Severn, as his lord of *Chingedene*. Also granted was the land of Upleadon (*Upledene*) which by right belongs to William Fitz Alan to hold and defend for him. It was witnessed by Gilbert, Bishop of Hereford (5 September 1148 and the end of 1162), Walter brother of Earl Roger, Baderon Monmouth (*Munemue*), Walter Clifford, Hugh le Fiz William, Ralph Baskerville, Walter Beauchamp, Richard Cormeilles, William le Bret, William Dol, William Bernehus, Gervase le fils Orson, Ralph Seinte, *Cambridge Historical Journal* VIII, 185. Walter Marshal was an heir of the Earls of Hereford when their line became extinct in 1166. William Braose was another heir. This suggests that Upleadon came into the hands of the Earls of Hereford by default when William Fitz Alan fled to Scotland in 1138. See HAN 61, 38.

PMR

Field Meeting on 21/3/93 (HAN 60 pp 40 & 41)

The attached sketch map drawn by Rosamund Skelton shows the site of the Medieval Chapel and the possible settlement site at The Rock (SO.542636). The field in which the chapel is situated is called Chapel Field. The possible settlement site was indicated by an area of darker soil and stones.



Templecourt (HAN 61 p 40)

The tithe map evidence was not available when the sketch map was drawn of the possible Templecourt defences. On the below sketch map the plan of HAN 61 has been super-imposed on the tithe map.

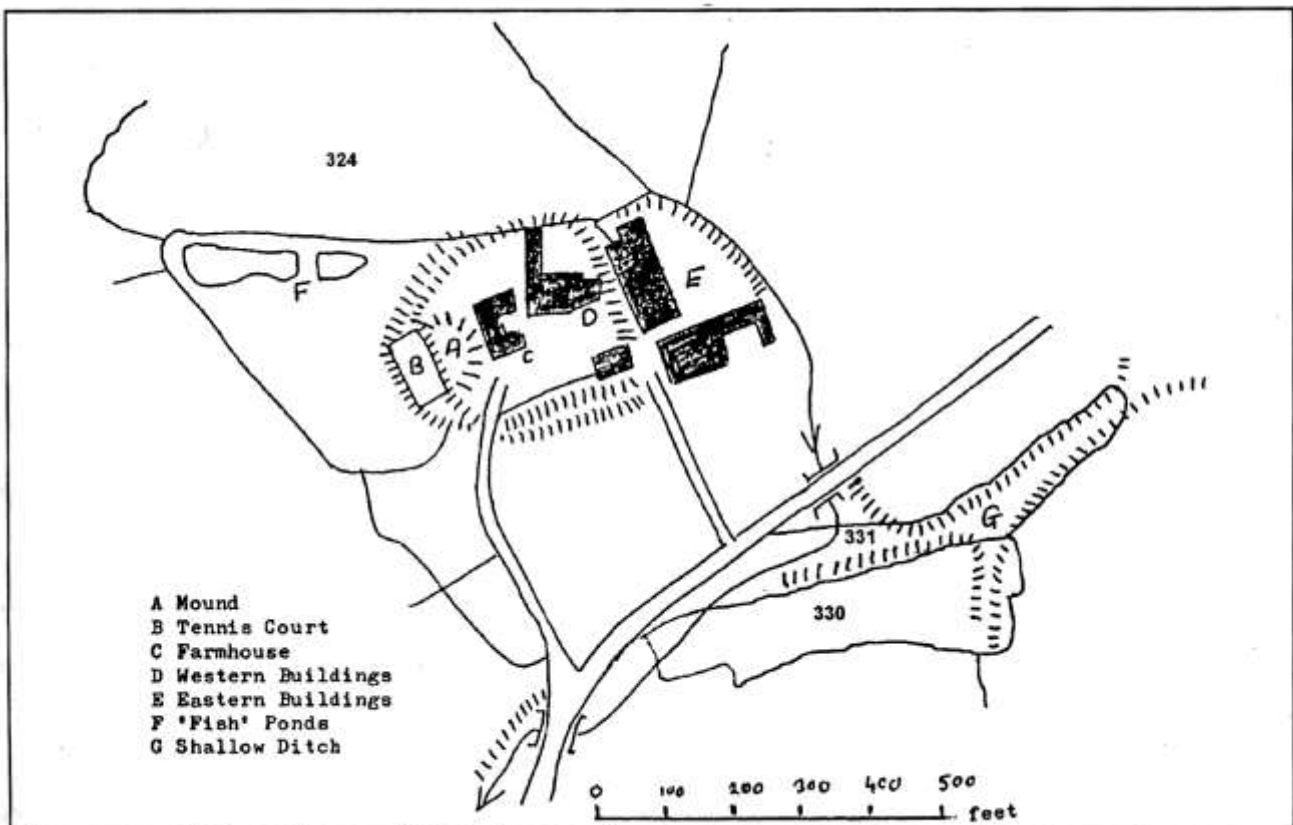


Figure 2, Tithe Plan of Templecourt

It is difficult to see how the ditch to the south of the B4220 could be part of the defences, especially as this "ditch" has an apparent south branch, part of which may now be represented by a strip of woodland. Though on the tithe map it is named "Moat" No 331, and field No 330 "Moat Sling". The deep ditch to the east of Templecourt may have some bearing on the matter.

Field No 324 "Moat Meadow" might strengthen the view that the two "fish" ponds were part of an outer defence, though from a current ground inspection this appears to be doubtful. Although this could provide an outer defence on the north and south sides, and the deep partly stone lined ditch on the east side, there are no possible defences on the west side which is higher. I consider the deep ditches being partly stone lined to be a drainage feature.

PRH

Hopton (HAN 61 pp 20-22)

A recent letter from John R. Kenyon of the National Museum of Wales has thrown more light on the history of Hopton castle. Recently published is an article by Peter E. Curnow, 'The Tower House at Hopton Castle and its Affinities', *Studies in Medieval History presented to R. Allen Brown* [The Boydell Press, 1989], 81-102, which was not previously seen by the author. This has an in-depth architectural study of the Tower House (showing that it is not a keep). It also contains a reproduction of Buck's print of 1731, showing the ruined tower much as it is now, except for pronounced gables to north and south. It also has evidence that the keep was defended in 1643 and that a wooden forebuilding to the tower was burnt in the ensuing action, also that brick from recent building work at the site was used in hastily improvised defences. As the writer also had access to the interior of the tower it was possible for him to see that the larger S turret was built to house a garderobe, the lintel over the shoot of which was spotted on page 22 of HAN 61. An interesting aerial photograph emphasises the site of the round tower at the SE corner of the ward and shows further undefined earthworks to the N as was postulated on page 21.

PMR

Field Meeting at Eardisland on 6 March 1994

Eardisland No. 1 (SO.421586) 17 members met at Eardisland church at 10.30am on Sunday 6/3/94 on a cold but dry day. In spite of threatening clouds and an adverse weather forecast we did not have any rain. The day was led by Roger Stirling-Brown. We looked at 5 sites associated with the Braose, Pembridge, St Owen, and Mortimer families. These sites and holdings either had, or may have had, castles or fortified houses as their principal dwelling place.

First we visited Eardisland motte (SO.421586), but we were unable to visit the site, and had to be content to view it from the churchyard.

History It was land of the King in DB. Earl Morcar held it TRE 15 hides. In lordship 3 ploughs, 19 villagers, 9 smallholders and 2 riding men with 16 ploughs, 6 male 2 female slaves and 6 freedmen, 2 mills at 25s. Woodland which pays 40 d. The villagers give 13s 4d as a customary due. The freedman paid 3 sesters of wheat, 8 of barley 2½ sheep with lambs and 2½d. Of these manors of Kingsland and Eardisland St Mary of Corneilles held in alms from the King the churches, priests and tithes as well as 2 villagers. Value before 1066 £6 now £12 of blanched pence. Before 1066 the reeve of this manor had the custom that when his lady came to the manor he presented to her 18 ora of pence so that she might be happy. The steward and other officers had 10s from him.

The site was held by the Braose family till 1230, later in the 14th C by the Pembridge and Twyford families under the Mortimers of Wigmore. The castle was probably abandoned as a fortress by the end of the 14th C, if not earlier. The Twyfords may have resided at Twyford rather than here and the Pembridges main residence was at Pembridge until 1265, though a cadet branch of the family may have resided here.

Comment and Speculation The fine moat was probably constructed by the Braoses as they were known for building strong ditches and moats. As the owner of the site has removed the causeway allowing access to the motte we were unable to examine this, though the writer was able to examine most of the motte area with binoculars some years ago before the present growth of evergreens had covered it. At that time a substantial scatter of loose stone around the motte sides could be seen and one section that seemed to be laid *in situ* on the east side. The stone is similar to the stone in the churchyard wall and some of the neighbouring properties, fairly thin flat slabs of sandstone. In the churchyard wall there are a few re-used angle quoins (some diagonally tooled) of the shape one would expect to find on the angles of a polygonal shell keep. If this were the case the area of the motte top could have contained a building, with a diameter of 70' to 75' (21m to 22m) putting it into the middle range of shell keeps, but one of the larger ones in this county. Incidentally, although we often wonder at the logistics and organisation involved in the construction of stone castles, one also wonders where all the stone went from the demolition of these same structures which is possibly one of the reasons past antiquarians thought that most of these sites never got beyond the timber

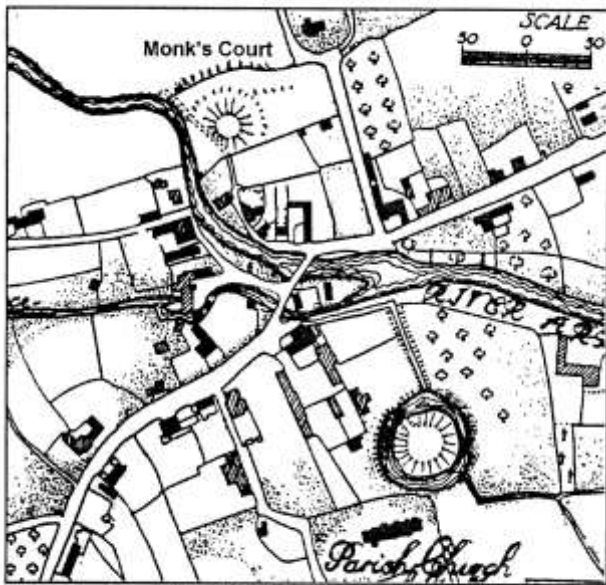


Figure 3, Eardisland motte and Monk's Court

construction phase. In Eardisland there is in the area around the motte much reused stone in the boundary walls and in the group of 16th, 17th C and later cottages and houses at this end of the village, while the rest of the village is predominately half timbered, with some medieval houses still surviving. When examining the area around a castle site it is often profitable to look for vanished stonework in the vicinity. Early carved stonework in the later house walls can often be picked out, even though most of the castles in this area were built of rubble with little early ashlar or other dressed stonework. These can be useful for rough general dating of a site, especially if compared with surviving -dateable features in the nearby church. Though it must be emphasised this is only a rough guide as stone was often carted quite long distances and there is no guarantee that it came from the former castle.

The castle bailey is probably delineated by the sunken track to the north east (the track is probably in the former bailey ditch) and the road to the church on the west and south west probably continued round the church utilizing a small stream on the south east which has been diverted to feed the moat. It is possible that there were further enclosures, to the east, one possibly enclosing the castle mill. There were probably several mills around Eardisland. Afterwards we walked to Monk's Court.

Eardisland No 2, Monk's Court SO.419588 Across the river from site No 1 is another of the low mounds found near early castle sites. The mound appears to be built of river gravel and small boulders with a deep soft filling to the moat. It is approximately 93' (28m) in diameter at the base and 65' (20m) in diameter across the top and approximately 4½' (1.4m) high from the present bottom of the moat (now dry). A small fragment of possibly medieval pottery was found by Mrs Leslie King, and is now being subjected to analysis. (It looks to be 12th or 13th C.)

Comment and Speculation As has been mentioned in previous reports many of the early motte and bailey castles have low mound sites near them, often only a few hundred yards away. At present very little is known about these sites, though research has increased the knowledge of a small number in this county. Where such low level mounds (usually round or oval in shape) are some distance from the motte and bailey castle, in an isolated position, they often contain exposed and/or buried foundations of small stone castles or fortified houses. These are often strongly moated or otherwise protected by wet defences, such as a marsh, lake, or a stream and they usually have one or more outer enclosures or baileys. A good surviving example is Tretower castle (SH.186214). Those very near to larger motte and bailey or ringwork castles do not usually have outer enclosures, though there does appear to be some evidence of an enclosure at Eardisland No 2 and at a similar site at Aston (SO.462721). Most have no recorded history and show no remains of former stone structures.

There do not seem to be any buried foundations at Eardisland No 2 but the stony construction of the mound makes interpretation difficult without excavation. Various theories have been suggested to explain this site and others. They are listed below. Further investigation is needed of these interesting ideas.

1) Dr Derek Renn, doyen of castle studies, suggests that Eardisland No 2 and possibly many of the other similar sites may be siege castles. This would mean many more unrecorded sieges than was previously thought and why were they not destroyed later?

- 2) The name "Monks Court" suggests a small moated religious house, perhaps monks working a fishery on the nearby River Arrow.
- 3) A fortified strong point forming an outwork to the castle commanding a river crossing or bridge, protecting a vulnerable approach to the village, and perhaps used as a toll collecting point. A similar situation of a motte and bailey with a low moated mound on the other side of the River Dore exists at Vowchurch (M&B at SO.366359 and mound at SO.367358). These two sites both recorded as castles at an early date with recorded tenancies seem to have guarded a ford on an important feudal period road system in the Golden Valley. There are several more similar sites, in Herefordshire, Breconshire and elsewhere.
- 4) A later lightly fortified manor house replacing the abandoned castle and probably of 14th C date.

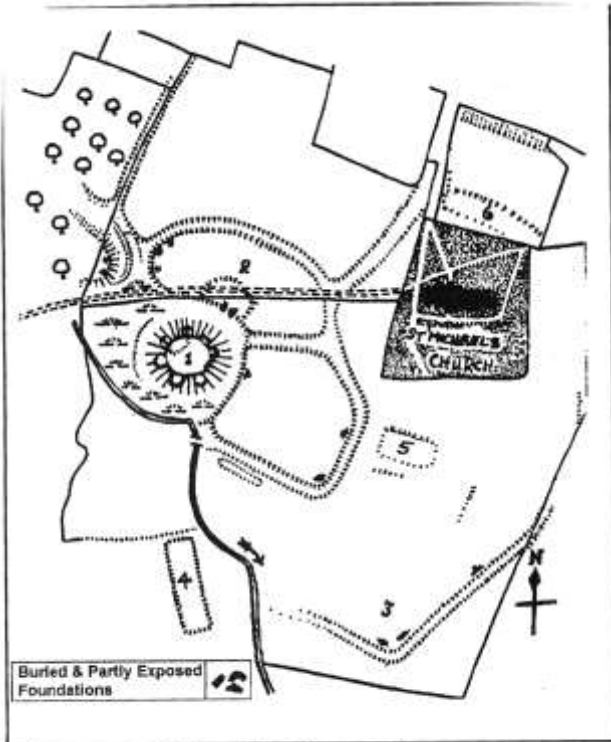


Figure 4, Kingsland castle

- 5) An immediate post conquest temporary fortification, built prior to the construction of the larger castle, to protect the military and building workers during, the construction period. An argument in favour of this theory is that most of these sites are found in the border area, or in what was disputed territory in the early period. This is also an argument for theory No 1 of course.
- 6) The fortified residence of an important under-tenant, or relative of the lord of the main castle, situated close to the main castle for mutual protection. There are many noticeable close groupings of two or more castles or fortified houses on both sides of the border and elsewhere. One or more of these suggested solutions may solve the problem. Please contact the writer with suggestions on this subject. (RCHM Herefordshire III NW Eardisland No 1 p 47 & Plate XXIX, Eardisland No 2 p 50).

The opportunity was taken to have a quick look at Eardisland church and we also noted the large square shaped dovecote, now sadly in need of repair. It is gabled on each face with a square central lantern, probably late 17th C or early 18th C. Leaving Eardisland we next proceeded to Kingsland to examine the large motte and bailey.

Kingsland Castle (SO.445612)

At Kingsland is a very important site covering the whole village and surrounding area, with a history going back into the Dark Ages. Somewhere here was supposed to be the site of the Palace of the Petty King Mereuwhald. I am indebted, to Bruce Coplestone-Crow for the following history:-

"After the Conquest it was part of the King's landholding in the county and was still in the hands of the King in 1086 (DB f. 179) before 1125/35 this land and neighbouring Eardisland were given to Philip de Braose of Radnor. His son William had them both in 1137-9 (*HDB* 78) and were held of the King in Chief.

In 1243 Kingsland and Eardisland with Hinton and Twyford (in Kingsland) and Burton in Eardisland were held of the King, by the Lord of Radnor for the service of 2 3/4 fees (Fees 805). One of these fees seems to have been for Kingsland and one for Eardisland, 1/2 for Burton and 1/4 for Hinton. It is interesting that when the King wanted to summon the Braose Lords of Radnor to war he did not send his serjeant there, but to Kingsland, though the Mortimers were summoned at Wigmore and the Lacys at Weobley -(Fees 1187). This may be because the Braoses kept some sort of presence at Kingsland".

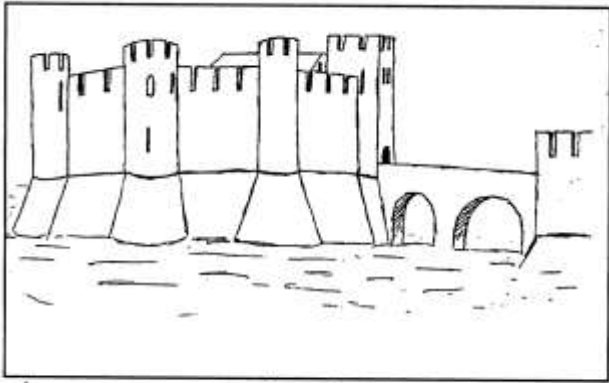


Figure 5, An Imaginative reconstruction of Kingsland keep

The Chronicler Leland describing this site in the 16th C says, - "that here was a fair and strong castle the ditches whereof and part of ye Keepe be yet seen by the west part of Kingsland church".

The writer's opinion is that because the king's summons was sent here this was the principal residence of the Braose family. Set in a warm spot, in a good agricultural and hunting country away from their Welsh holdings, where they were not too popular (William de Braose having lured the Welsh Chieftains to his castle at Abergavenny for a banquet, then killing them at the table).

At Kingsland they were still in easy riding distance of their chief castle of Radnor, while Abergavenny was less than a day's ride away as were other holdings such as Builth. Therefore, knowing the great wealth and favour bestowed on the family by king John, and a judicious marriage, and the quality of their other castles, a substantial stone castle at Kingsland would be expected, and that appears to be exactly what was here. From the little evidence left it appears that there was a large octagonal shell keep on the motte (No 1 on plan) with possibly seven to eight round or D shaped towers on the angles. (The excavation on the north west side of the motte may mark the position of a basement to a hall block, probably dug out by treasure hunters many years ago.) There are partly exposed remains of an abutment for a stone bridge to the motte and a barbican in a stone walled small bailey separated by a ditch from the main bailey also walled in stone (No 2 on plan). There is some evidence in the form of buried stone of an at least partly stone walled village enclosure (No. 3 on plan). In the neighbouring garden on the south west evidence in the form of foundations of a substantial rectangular building, possibly a hall or large barn, have been uncovered from time to time (could it be Merewald's hall?). There are remains of fishponds (No. 4 on plan) and other unclassified features around the site.

Also during our visit we noted a sizable rectangular platform in the outer, possible village enclosure (No. 5 on plan) together with other possible platforms. North of the churchyard in a field of disturbed grass and scrub is what appears to have been a long pool or continuation of the defensive ditches around the site (No. 6 on plan). Much white plaster and charcoal appears in mole tumps on the site along with pottery shards of the 12th to 14th C. Some arrowheads were said to have been found in the motte side. There is a second possible castle site at Kingsland. The opportunity was also taken to look at the church at Kingsland. (There is an entry in RCHM III NW for Kingsland on p 80). Lunch was taken at the New Inn, Pembridge.

Roger Stirling-Brown.

Longford

This is still the local name of a portion of the B4360, main street, through Kingsland. The place names Longford and Langford have been put forward as being connected with Roman roads. This is not claimed for Kingsland, though Watling Street West is not far away, but it does indicate at least the antiquity of the village. Perhaps Longford was the original Angle settlement, and Kingsland the later royal manor?

HAN 61, 5 Longford and Langford place names

The Leon Valley, NC Reeves, 73

Britannia XXIII 1992, KE Jermy, 228-9.

[Personal communication from a Kingsland resident]

PRH

Additional Notes on Kingsland and Eardisland

The Domesday and later spellings of these places *Lene* has been mis-interpreted as land. Originally it appears to have stood for Leon, the early name of the district between the rivers Arrow and Lugg, and the first element in Lyonshall and Leominster⁹.

On 28 May 1213 King John ordered William Cantilupe to munition the castles of Hereford and *Hordiand*. It is possible that the site referred to is now Eardisland (*Rot Lit Cl*, 134). It had probably been seized from William Braose, almost certainly in 1208.

King John himself stayed at Kingsland between 2 and 3 August 1216 in his campaign against the Braoses (Lloyd II, 650).

⁹*Herefordshire Domesday Book*, 84.

Reginald Braose received his hereditary lands in Herefordshire back in 1217. On 25 April 1230 the King granted the lands and castles of Reginald's son and heir William (ex.1230) to William Marshall. These consisted of Totnes (*Toteneis*), Huntington, Ystradfellte (*Stratmelthin*), Hay on Wye, Brecon, Radnor, St Clears and the bails (*ballivo de*) of Kingsland (*Kingeslen*) and Eardisland (*Erleslen*) (*CPR 1225-32*, 339). This strongly suggests that the last two were held on different terms to the Braose's other lands, probably in bail direct by royal grant.

In early 1263 the Bishop of Hereford complained that 'the Welsh for the most part burned and plundered the lands of the March nearly to Webyl., Eardesl. and the vale of Wigmore' (*CACW*, 15). It is not certain whether Eardesl. stands for Eardisley or Eardisland, both of which had castles.

Probing of the site may indicate a mantlet wall in the ditch west of the motte.

Paul Remfry

After lunch we looked at the Market Hall. This building of the 16th C, probably originally had an upper story, and stands on eight massive widely spaced posts on post-pads. We then looked at the D shaped moat at Court House called Pembridge 'Moat' (not to be confused with Pembridge Castle at Welsh Newton).

Pembridge Moat (SO.391579)

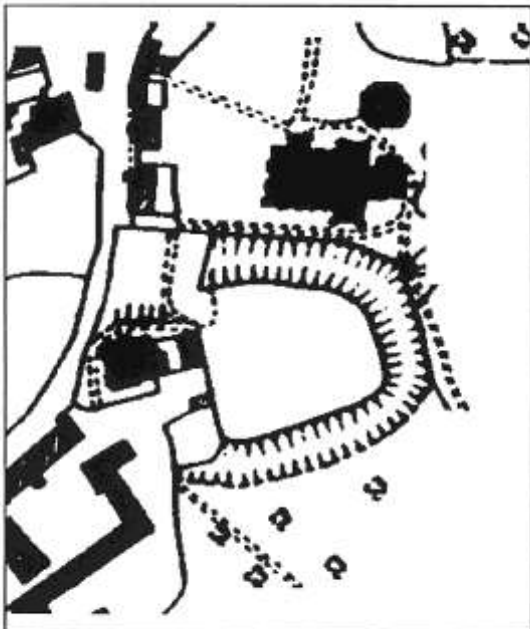


Figure 6, Pembridge Moat, church and Belfry

The Pembridge family seems to have used as their main residence, the fine moated site adjacent to the church. The most famous member of the family was Sir Richard Pembridge. He was one of the first Knights of the Garter, one time Captain of Calais, was probably at Crecy, and certainly fought at Poitiers and Sluys. He subsequently filled many public offices including Governor of Bamburgh Castle and Warden of the Cinque Ports. His fine tomb survives in Hereford Cathedral. The Helm from his funeral achievements, one of only three surviving from the Hundred Years War, can still be seen in the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh. This was purchased by Sir Samuel Rush Mayrick [Meyrick], the first modern armour collector, who lived in a mock Gothick castle at Goodrich Court. See *WNFC Trans* 1989.

The Pembridges were here at an early date, being tenants of the Braoses and the Mortimers of Wigmore until 1265. As the Pembridges had a fine hunting lodge at Pembridge Castle, Welsh Newton, built in the form of a small Edwardian style castle, a fortified manor house at least could be expected here. In the 17th C Silas Taylor mentions a fortified house at Pembridge.

The moated mound at Court House is roughly quadrilateral, approximately 127' by 95' (39m by 29m) and has on most of its circuit very steep sides, the average height from the present water level being about 16' (5m). There is loose stone around the site, on the mound sides, and below water level on the mound side of the moat. This usually points to a former stone structure. There appears to be two sections of buried wall on the corner near the church to the north east.

The revetment on the north side appears to be a fairly modern dry laid wall, though there seems to be buried masonry behind it. The writer was told many years ago of a mass of buried masonry under tree roots on the south side of the mound, though we found no evidence of it on our visit. The west side of the moat has been filled in and partly built over with outbuildings of the Court House. The step in the ground and garden terrace probably follow the line of the inner bank of the mound platform. The owners of Court House, Mr & Mrs Jenkins, showed us a recently discovered well which seems to have been dug into the filled in section of the moat.

A problem raised during our visit was where all the soil excavated from the moat had gone, as there seems to have been no attempt to raise the level of the mound/platform above the surrounding ground and there remains no vestige of a counterscarp bank. The Court House garden has a step in the ground on the slope to the north. This continues on the other side of the road to the west and could mark the position of a bank to a possible outer enclosure or bailey. To the south and east of the site are the remains of several former ponds and artificial fishponds in a marshy area, which possibly delineates another enclosure and possible parterre or landscaped garden area.

Comment and Speculation The amount of stone found here would suggest that once the mound was probably wholly or partly revetted, as at Pembridge, Welsh Newton, which has a moated platform mound very similar to this one. There is a considerable quantity of apparently re-used ashlar stonework in the Court House and other neighbouring 17th C properties which one would not expect in this area, but which matches 14th C stonework in the church and which could point to a 14th C structure of some quality on the mound.

The possibility of a lightly fortified house, or small castle, can be concluded. This would have had at least one tower on the north-east corner where there are two parallel lines of moss-covered buried masonry, partly jutting out of the side of the mound. One entrance was on the north side and there was possibly another to the west. This would certainly match Silas Taylor's 17th C description of a fortified house. If a defence of any kind was attempted on this site it would have to be of stone, built high enough to dominate what was a substantial church. As the church is so close to the moat this could explain the separate bell tower and lack of a tower on the church which could be used as a siege tower in any attack on the defended site.

Speculation on Early Pembridge There is a legend of the old town of Pembridge which sank into the marsh. To the west and north west of Pembridge, near the Byletts, is a rampart and ditch known as 'Rowe Ditch'. This is thought to be either part of a defensive or boundary system, possibly associated with the period of Offa's Dyke, or an estate enclosure around Pembridge. Examining this earthwork there seems to be a turn on the south near the Byletts partly utilizing the brook on one side. The ground around was marshy and is much disturbed. The section of Rowe Ditch nearest the Byletts seems to be in a better condition than most of the rest, as if it had been repaired. There is also much loose stone in and around this section of rampart compared to the rest. There is another ditch or sunken track at right angles to Rowe Ditch south of the brook. The area around the Byletts is on a rise of ground in a triangular area enclosed by the ramparts, the brook, and the River Arrow. There is a cutting or entrance through the Rowe Ditch with a slight sunken way or ditch following the contour of the hill north of the Byletts. The soil, when exposed, shows some signs of occupation with dark patches, charcoal, etc.. So was there a Dark Age or early Saxon Pembridge here at SO.383584, utilizing part of an earlier earthwork in its enclosure or defence? Perhaps a small Burgh or even dating back to early Post Roman times, remembered in legend, when after the Conquest, the Normans probably built a new castle on the highest point nearby, under or near the belfry, the new village growing up around it away from the unhealthy marsh.

The Belfry [Bell Tower] An even more interesting speculation is if the Belfry is on a lowered motte. If this is the case a rather interesting scenario presents itself. A small motte and bailey castle with timber defences, a timber tower on the motte, a small 11th to 12th C stone chapel in the bailey (the bailey partly delineated by a deep ditch or sunken track to the east of the church), and a small outer bailey outlined by a bank and the present moat.

The village at the foot of the castle hillock, has grown and prospered from the growing wool trade and the good surrounding farmland. The Pembridge family has money to spend and decides to build a new larger church in the bailey as well as a strong moated manor house for themselves behind the new church in the former outer bailey of the castle. But how does one summon the faithful to prayer? One cannot build a bell tower on the church without weakening the defences of the nearby manor house, but one has the remains of a timber tower still left on the old eroded motte; so what better place to hang the bells while the church is being built, and afterwards to reassemble and strengthen the timber tower into a proper belfry with a roof using some of the old timbers, especially the large corner posts.

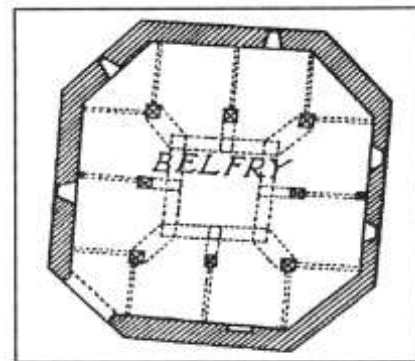


Figure 7, Pembridge Belfry

These posts have been dated to around the 12th C, well within the period of timber castles. They do have the angled slots for notched lap joints on diagonal timber framing, or scissor bracing, known to have been used in siege and belfry towers (the names are inter-changeable siege towers being known as belfries). These slots are at present unused, being replaced by horizontal timber framing of a later date. So we have the intriguing possibility of these corner posts being perhaps the only known surviving remains of a timber castle keep. If not their massive strength certainly gives us a picture of what a timber keep would have looked like. Thickly boarded and possibly plastered or lime washed all over, it would be an impressive sight, probably between 30' and 60' (9m to 18m) high, looking not unlike a stone tower with its timber hoarding on top. Built such it would certainly be a hard nut to crack. Good mature timber was always valuable and reused wherever possible. This is another thing for members to look for, there must be reused early timber work in some quantity in this county and elsewhere yet to be found.

I must emphasise that the above is pure speculation even though it does fit the visible evidence on the ground and from evidence elsewhere is a logical history. Though some Academics frown on such speculation the writer feels that it is useful to stimulate argument and investigation.

Note

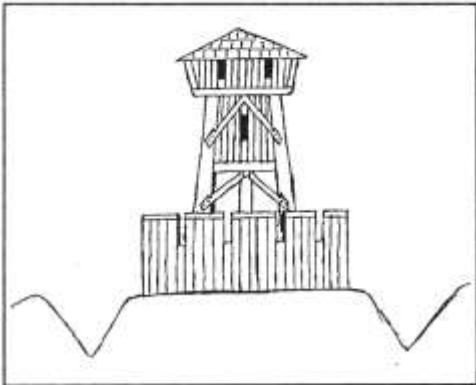


Figure 8, Hypothetical reconstruction of Pembridge wooden tower-keep.

If it is possible that the bell tower corner posts are the remains of a timber motte tower it would probably have been of the open base type with only an upper floor and hoarded fighting top probably enclosed in an encircling palisade perhaps partly revetting the motte (see sketch).

The sketch alongside is very basic, but shows the timber frame construction which would be very strong, and with 3"+ planking would be arrow proof, and once plastered and/or lime washed, or draped with wet hides, would be reasonably fire proof. The open base construction of the tower enabled free movement within the cramped space of the palisade and gave some shelter from arrows and sling shot. They would probably not have been as plain as this, probably having some carved decoration, such as dragon heads on the gables and beam ends, similar perhaps to the carvings in stone on Kilpeck church (SO.444305), which has many affinities to a timber building reproduced in stone.

The walls would probably be painted and hung with banners and shields, the whole thing being an almost garish statement of power and dominance. The Bayeux Tapestry gives a good idea of how flamboyant these castles could be, even allowing for artistic licence¹⁰.

Editorial Note

The timber belfry is enclosed by a 14th C octagonal stone ambulatory. Pevsner suggests the possibility that the wooden tower is structurally related to the stave-churches of Norway and the bell-houses of Sweden.

Several members took the opportunity to visit Pembridge church before proceeding to Burton Court. Burton Court (SO.423573). This was another Braose holding, later held by the St Owen family from the Mortimers. There are several clues which point to the possibility of a castle or fortified house here. Firstly the strong position with good views all round. Secondly the mound at the west of the house. Thirdly there were long pools or moats on the lower weaker side to the east, where a bailey would have been, also buried foundations show up as parch marks in dry summers in that area. Fourthly the tradition of an ancient camp here. Camps and castles were often confused by early topographers and antiquarians. Finally the fine 14th C hall encased in the present house. Another pointer is the house built up against the mound possibly to utilize existing walls and/or water supplies. There are many houses built in similar situations on old castle sites in the Marches.

The mound seems to have been part of a natural hillock or moraine tailing away to the west. Though well dug over and altered by landscaping, it is still fairly steep sided with what looks like the remains of a ditch on the north side and a platform or possible bailey bank on the south east side, joining into the present raised and revetted terrace, which is walled in brick and stone. There is a step in the ground on the north side of the drive also.

The owners, kindly led us round the basement, under the 14th C hall, where there is considerable stonework, some obviously reused. We also examined the deep stone lined well under the hall which could be earlier than the present court.

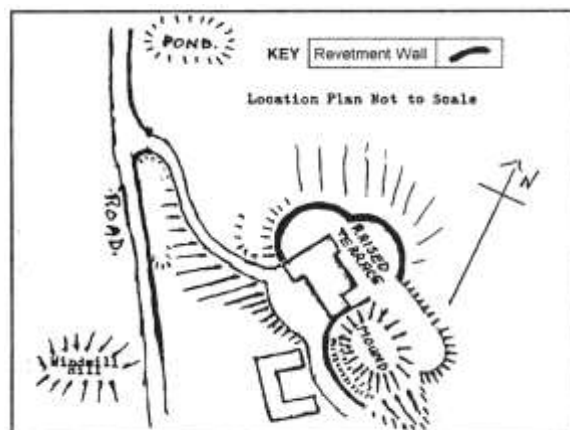


Figure 9, Burton Court

¹⁰References Timber Castles by Robert Higham & Philip Barker, Batsford RCHM III NW pp 159-69.

We also examined the fine porch designed by Sir Clough Williams Ellis, the architect of Portmeirion fame. The 17th C timber framed dovecote was also pointed out to us. It had been blown down in the spring gales this year. There are photographs of this, and the dovecote at Eardisland, in the RCHM NW III Plate 41. We also noted Windmill Hill (SO.425572) at the entrance to Burton Court drive, which might possibly have also been defensive. The meeting broke up at 5pm.

Roger Stirling-Brown

Editorial Note In strict order of visiting the Pembridge church belfry was visited before Pembridge Court House, but it made better sense to reverse the order for the report.

Rowe Ditch Before 1250 this feature marked the limit of the special rights in the valley of the Lugg belonging to the land of Richard's Castle which ran from Bleddfa to the *Rogedich subtus Penebruge*¹¹

The Pembridge's of Pembridge c.1094 to 1269

It is not certain when the vill of Pembridge came into the hands of the family that was to bear its name. In Domesday the vill (*Penebruge*) was held by Alfred of Marlborough, the lord of Ewias Harold¹². Here it was noted that the land had been held by Earl Harold before Domesday at a value of £16, and according to the canons of St Guthlac's he and his father, Earl Godwin, had seized it illegally from them. The land had been waste and was now worth £10 10s. Interestingly the land is measured as being of 11 hides minus 1 virgate. The question is why is 1 virgate missing from the productive land that the Domesday surveyors were looking for. It has been suggested elsewhere that castles were ignored in the survey simply because they were drains on local resources, rather than sources of revenue. If this is the case at Pembridge it may well suggest that the castle was already in existence in this border area. It would therefore seem likely that Ralph Pembridge was the first member of that family name to be granted the town by William Braose of Bramber (1073-c.1094). William became lord of Radnor, some time soon after Domesday. Some time in the period 1119 to 1139 it was noted that all the estates of Alfred of Marlborough were in the hands of Miles the Constable (c.1119-43) except Pembridge. This was elsewhere noted as being held by William Braose¹³.

Ralph Pembridge was one the leading men of the district who witnessed a grant of Philip Braose at Radnor, probably in the period 1094 to 1120, soon after the death of William Braose¹⁴. Ralph was subsequently succeeded by one Henry Pembridge who in the period 1166-79 witnessed a charter on behalf of William Braose of Radnor and Brecon, the nephew of Earl Roger of Hereford¹⁵. This Henry Pembridge was certainly one of many such men of this name who held Pembridge in the early Middle Ages. In 1203 another Henry held 5 knights' fees in Herefordshire¹⁶, which almost certainly included Pembridge. This last Henry died in 1211 and Ralph Pembridge fined with king John for 100 marks and one good horse to enjoy possession of his father's lands. Of this amount he immediately paid 25 marks into the Treasury¹⁷. Ralph may well have been dead by 22 November 1221 when first mention is made of another Henry Pembridge who had certainly inherited Pembridge by 1230 when his overlord, William Braose, was executed by Llywelyn ab Iorwerth¹⁸. The lordship of Radnor was subsequently passed into the custody of Ralph Mortimer of Wigmore (1211-1246) who married one of the Braose heiress's to his own eldest son Roger Mortimer of Wigmore (1232-82). In 1242 Henry Pembridge was noted as holding Pembridge and the adjacent vill for 1 knight's fee of the honour of Radnor, then in the custody of Ralph Mortimer¹⁹.

By 1249 it was noted that Henry Pembridge held Burton of Roger Mortimer's land of Radnor²⁰ and soon after he was made escheator of Worcestershire, an office in which he was replaced on 4 May 1251 by Simon Ribbesford, another Mortimer tenant²¹. Around this time Henry appears to have married Elizabeth Gamages, and

¹¹ *Cal Inq, Misc I, 1219-1307 I, 146-7, NO. 444.*

¹² *Domesday Book, fo.186a.*

¹³ *Herefordshire Domesday Book, 79, 78.*

¹⁴ *Calendar of Documents Preserved in France, ed. Round, 401, No. 1120.*

¹⁵ Public Record Office, DL 27/1.

¹⁶ *Pipe Roll 5 John, 56*

¹⁷ *PR 13 John, 233.*

¹⁸ *Calendar Patent Rolls 1216-25, 342; Calendar Close Rolls 1232-34, 389; CCR 1227-31, no. 389-90.*

¹⁹ *Book of Fees, 814.*

²⁰ *Book of Fees, 1481.*

²¹ *CCR 1247-52, 437.*

through her inherited the lordships and castles of Boughrood and Trewern²². In 1255 Henry was made sheriff of Hereford, and pursued his new office with great diligence, and consequently tripling the paperwork being kept at the Exchequer²³. At the start of the first Welsh War of Llywelyn ap Gruffydd in 1256 Henry Pembridge and his overlord Roger Mortimer of Wigmore, appear to have acted in unison for on 28 June 1258 a commission of oyer and terminer was given to Gilbert Talbot and Robert Turbervill touching trespasses and excesses committed against Roger Mortimer and Henry Pembridge in the parts of Wales, by Roger Tony, Richard Thunderle and Alan the constable of Painscastle²⁴. No doubt this concerned the manors of Boughrood and Trewern, which Henry therefore appears to have been holding as a member of the lordship of Radnor. On 23 February 1259 Henry was ordered to send 100 marks, from where he was serving with the army of Monmouth, to Roger Mortimer as part payment of his debt to the Crown, in order that Roger could continue **his** war against the Welsh²⁵. Roger's war took a decided turn for the worse in November 1262 when he, with Humphry Bohun, was defeated at Cefnlllys by Llywelyn ap Gruffydd. As a consequence on 24 December the king ordered Henry Pembridge and others to defend the Marches, and soon afterwards Henry in particular was ordered to defend 'his castle in the Marches'²⁶. Whether this castle was one at Pembridge, Pembridge Castle at Welsh Newton, Boughrood or Trewern is unknown, but one would suspect that Boughrood is meant, although all these regions were then directly threatened by Llywelyn.

That Henry Pembridge was ordered to defend one of his castles suggests that he had already taken the baronial side in the brewing conflict that was to be called the Baron's War. This impression is strengthened on 6 March 1264 when Henry Pembridge and other Marchers were ordered to stop Llywelyn, who was attacking the king's men in the Marches²⁷. Those actually being attacked at the time were none other than Roger Mortimer and his supporters and it would appear that Henry was not supporting his overlord, if not directly moving against him at this time. Whatever the case, Henry Pembridge survived the battle of Evesham on 4 August 1265 and was at the Council of Westminster in September²⁸. Here he insulted Prince Edmund and, enraged, set fire to Warwick before being captured by the royalists. Henry was then given into the charge of Roger Mortimer, who had his own grudges to settle. Henry and his family were incarcerated at Wigmore castle and his estates forfeited to his overlord of Radnor. Roger then forced him to make a formal conveyance of Pembridge to him and ratify this before the court of the county at Hereford. Then, holding his sons hostage, Roger took him to Clarendon where he acknowledged his quit-claim before the king. Four instruments recording this are still preserved in the Mortimer Cartulary, and well show Roger's determination to gain the rich land of Pembridge²⁹. On 16 November 1265 the king ordered the restoration to Henry of all the lands he had lost to the king's enemies³⁰. As Roger Mortimer had never been the king's enemy this did not include Pembridge and Henry Pembridge junior failed in his 1267 attempt to regain the vill, and with this the Pembridge family appear to have accepted the loss, with Pembridge from now on being a demesne land of the lordship of Radnor³¹.

Paul Remfry

THE CHAPELS AT CRASWALL PRIORY

Sir Alfred W. Glapham studied Craswall, Alberbury and Grosmont, the three English houses of the Order of Grandmont and concluded that the prototype for all Grandmontine churches was that of the mother house at Grandmont near Limoges³². This notion is not valid because we have no reliable plan or description of the church at Grandmont which could substantiate it. Three separate churches were erected on the site of Grandmont, the first, a simple oratory, was built immediately following the transferral of the

²²CPR 1247-58, 374; *Welsh Assize Roll*, 25, quoting *Curia Regis*, Roll no. 159, 40 Henry III, m. 7d.

²³CCR 1254-56, 170. John le Brun was sheriff for first part of 1257, but the office reverted to Henry Pembridge for the second part, he being appointed on 23 April, CPR 1247-58, 551. The Exchequer roll for this year covers 1½ membrane sides; those of the 1230's were only ½ membrane, PR Henry III, 1256-7, PRO E372/101

²⁴CPR 1247-58, 664.

²⁵CCR 1256-59, 363.

²⁶CCR 1261-64, 272, 275.

²⁷CCR 1261-4, 377-9.

²⁸Eyton, R.W., *Antiquities of Shropshire* II, 227-9 carries a full account of the events here related.

²⁹Black Book of Wigmore, BM, Harleian MS.1240, fo. 75, No's. XXII; XXIII; XXVIII; XXVI.

³⁰CCR 1264-68, 221.

³¹*Quo Warranto*, 273; Harleian 1240, fo. 42b.

³²Clapham, A.W., 'Architecture of the Order of Grandmont', *Archaeologia* 75 [1926], 192-3.

brethren from Muret to Grandmont in 1125, one year after the death of their Founder, Stephen of Muret. Known as Grandmont I, it soon proved insufficient for the needs of a rapidly growing community and was replaced by Grandmont II. We can only assume that Grandmont II was built to the North of Grandmont I which was retained as a chapel dedicated to Sts John the Baptist and Bartholomew. Because it contained the body of St Stephen, until its translation to the main church in 1189, it was commonly referred to as St Stephen's chapel. Both church and adjoining chapel were demolished early in the eighteenth century and replaced with Grandmont III. Our only knowledge of the twelfth century buildings is gleaned from a description written by a 16th century monk, Pardoux de la Garde, and contained in the manuscript *Compilation des Antiquites de Grandmont*. Levesque and Nadaud, two annalists of the Order found this description to be erroneous on several counts and their findings were confirmed by Gaborit (1962). Becquet (1952) said of *Les Antiquites* that: "they cast more confusion than light on the origins of the Order of Grandmont".

Of Grandmont II then, we can be certain only that it was consecrated in 1166 by Pierre, Archbishop of Bourges, that it was probably attached, or at least close to the original oratory in which reposed the body of Stephen of Muret, and that it did not conform to the strict architectural plan which was imposed on all the daughter houses of the Order. The failure of the mother house church to conform in this respect is attributable to the fact that Henry II (Plantagenet) intended it as his final resting place and consequently contributed very generously towards the building costs. The result was a much larger and far grander edifice than the unassuming little churches of the daughter houses which were renowned for their lack of ornament, and which on average do not exceed 30 metres in length.

Clapham's view that the north chapels, apparent in all three English houses corresponded to the chapel of St Stephen at the mother church was influenced by the plans and descriptions of the Comte De Dion³³. Some of these plans reveal the *porticus* which covered the lay entry of the church which was invariably positioned in a side wall at the base of the nave. Material evidence for the former existence of these structures can be found wherever the church or this particular section of the church has survived, either in buried foundation walls, or corbels set into the church wall and intended to support the main beam of a pentice roof. There is documentary evidence for the existence of these *porticum* in both the *Rule of Grandmont* and the *Vita Hugonis Lacerta*. The latter makes it quite dear that it was intended as a parlour where the monks received their guests. Only one intact *porticus* has survived at Breuil Bellay [14km S of Saumur, half way between Tours and Angers] although a further example has been reconstructed on the original foundations excavated at La Haye d'Angers.

In the 14th century, several of the French houses extended the *porticus* eastward to provide a chapel annex but only two examples survive at St Michael de Lodeve [54km NW of Montpellier] and La Haye d'Angers [Angers]. Others, such as Notre Dame du Parc les Rouen and Bois Rahiers les Tours, are known to us from extant plans. The purpose of these chapels is not altogether certain, they may well have been needed by a growing number of ordained monks requiring to celebrate daily masses. It is more likely that the French examples were intended for the use of the laity especially women, who were never permitted to enter the main church. Both at La Haye and St Michael, the chapel can only be entered from the *porticus* and in neither is there an interior doorway connecting with the church alongside. The north chapels at both Craswall and Alberbury on the other hand, can only be entered from the chancel itself which rules out the possibility of their having been provided for the laity.

In the case of Rouen, we do have documentary evidence which explains the purpose of the north chapel. It was built in 1365 for the confraternity of St Catherine and was refurbished just over a century later by Cardinal d'Estouteville. We do not know whether the chapel at Bois Rahiers was intended for similar use but we do know that it too was dedicated to St Catherine. The chapel at St Michael de Lodeve is contemporary with that of Rouen but we know neither its purpose nor its dedication. From which we may conclude that north chapels where they exist were not of one build with the main church, and we have no evidence that any of them were dedicated to St Stephen.

The south chapel at Craswall is an extremely enigmatic feature which contributes manifestly to the uniqueness of this particular monastic site. It is of paramount interest inasmuch as it is the only one of its kind. Nowhere else did the Grandmontine builders provide a chapel which intervenes between the church and the east range. Furthermore, it defies the custom which dictated that the cemetery passage be sited alongside the church. Why did the Grandmontines build at Craswall and only at Craswall, such an unusually large chapel with an apsidal east end alongside the main church which it reproduces in miniature? Why also does the chancel furnishing within the south chapel; the round headed twin piscina and matching aumbry, conform to the standard Grandmontine fashion while the furnishings in the main church; the elaborately carved and canopied piscina and stepped sedilia do not? The hypothesis that the south chapel in fact represents Craswall I; the first little oratory built by the pioneer community³⁴, cannot be proved without physical evidence. This might be obtained from an investigation of the juncture of the small and large apses as well as the joins of the west wall to the nave and adjoining passage to the

³³De Dion, Comte, 'L'Architecture de l'Ordre de Grandmont', *Bulletin Monumentale* (1874,'76,'77)

³⁴Hutchison, C., *The Hermit Monks of Grandmont* [Cistercian Publications, 1989].

south. Such a procedure would involve clearing the spoil pile which conceals the outer face of the apse and which dates from the 1903-6 excavation. It would also involve removing the backfill which blocks the west end of the chapel.

Richard Kay feels that excavations have already shown that both the north and south chapels are of one build with the main body of the church³⁵. But the Lilwall excavation (1903-6) included only the eastern part of the church, the chapter house and the eastern section of the cloister. The Wright Field Study³⁶ (1962) did include excavation of the north chapel interior but the Report concludes:

The north chapel has features alien to the remainder of the site and may be a rebuilding but this could only be proved by complete excavation of the foundations of the eastern side.

With regard to the south chapel, the Wright investigation was also confined to the interior where trenches were cut along the faces of the north and south walls to reveal the apsidal east end. The attempt to follow the inner face of the apsidal wall with a trench was foiled by the fact that it had almost completely collapsed and was buried in rubble.

Given that English Heritage have ruled out any programme of archaeological research at Craswall Priory, the investigation of the exterior faces of the chapel walls outlined above cannot be realised in the foreseeable future. In the absence of any documentary or reliable archaeological evidence we cannot say whether the north and south chapels are contemporary with the main church or not.

Becquet, Dom Jean, 'Les Institutions de l'Ordre de Grandmont aux Moyenne Age', *Revue Mabillon* 42 [1952], 33.

Gaborit, J.R. *L'Architecture de l'Ordre de Grandmont*, thesis Ecole des Chartres [1963].
Carole Hutchison

Note

The main club visited Craswall in June 1955. Craswall Priory was first visited by the ARS on 19/3/78, Richard Kay wrote a report on the field day and an article on Craswall which touched on the history and architecture of the Grandmontine order together with his description of the Priory ruins and a sketch plan HAN 35 pp 3-7. Richard first visited the site in 1947, and in 1948 with the Rev. O.H. Porter and again in 1960.

Ms Carole Hutchison gave a talk to the main club on Craswall Priory and the Grandmontines on 5/10/85 (Trans 1985 p 8), and this was followed up by a visit by the main club on 26/4/86 (Trans 1986 p 336).

The City of Hereford Archaeological Committee Interim Report on the site clearance works, appeared in August 1985 [Transactions 1985]. In HAN 58 pp 20-21 was a report on Craswall based on an article in Current Archaeology Sept/Oct 1991 by Carole Hutchison. See also HAN 59 p 7 and HAN 61 p 4.

The crux of the matter is that Carole Hutchison suggests that the South Chapel was the original Priory Church to which was added the later Nave and North Chapel, while Richard Kay suggests that the two chapels and nave were all of the same build. Richard worked with Cecil Wright in 1962, for part of the time. C.W. Wright's report appeared in the Transactions of 1964.

Editor

CHAPELS IN GARWAY, ADDITIONAL INFORMATION HAN 60 p 3

Bruce Coplestone-Crow did not make it clear that his assertion that there was a church of St. Cadog at Coed Lank in Garway was only based on his interpretation of the name 'Coed Lank'. In support of his statement he cites two authorities but on checking these I find that neither of them have any connection with Coed Lank or even with Garway. The first (Argoid Lank) deals only with places in Orcop and St. Weonards. The second cites the 1334 Lay Subsidy but does not quote the entry correctly - it should read 'Lanhadock with hamlets' and as Coed Lank is merely a hamlet of Garway (which is listed in the Subsidy) it cannot be the 'Lanhadock with hamlets' of the Subsidy³⁷.

Bruce's idea that a name ending with the element Lank is a shortened form of Llangattock would have important implications about the local influence of St. Cadog if it were a fact. If 'Lank' equates with 'church of St. Cadog', I can think of five others in the area, one of these also being in Garway. Following his line of reasoning, why should Lank derive from St. Cadog rather than St. Cinauc, St. Cein, St. Cynidr or any other saint whose name

³⁵HAN 91

³⁶Wright, C.F., 'Report on the field study in medieval architecture held in July 1962 on the site of Craswall Priory, Herefordshire'.

³⁷Lanhadock or Lanhardwick was probably Kentchurch. A combination of 'Llankeyne' as it was called by its Welsh inhabitants, and 'Hatdwick' which was the English name at that time. This is merely my guess, but if it was not Kentchurch, then Kentchurch was omitted from the Subsidy, which seems unlikely.

begins with a C? Bruce's 'church of St. Cadog' at Coed Lank seems to have no foundation, and to have been built on pure supposition.

Some confusion has also been created over the location of 'Maudlin's Chapel'. 'A field of the Chapel of St. Magdalen', was part of the Tennessfield lands in a grant made 'for ever' by the Prior of St. John of Jerusalem. An 18th century copy of the grant forms part of the Tennessfield deeds now held in Monmouth Museum. Chapel Field was still part of Tennessfield when the Tithe Apportionment was made, with Chapel Grounds next to it, but not part of Tennessfield. This links St. Magdalen's chapel with Chapel Grounds. If this was the site of the chapel it would be around SO.449226 and on the right side of the road going WEST from Garway Church; not east as stated by Bruce's information from the 1857 'Wanderings of An Antiquary'.

Elizabeth Taylor

Bruce Coplestone-Crow stands by his original interpretation of the evidence, and is glad that Elizabeth has been able to locate the Chapel of St Mary Magdalene more accurately.

Editor

Continuing investigations at Garway HAN No 59, Jan 1993

On Sunday 10/4/94 at 10.30 am. we departed from the Memorial Hall, Ewias Harold on a visit to the Garway area. Fifteen members plus several children re-visited Little Garway Farm near White Rocks (SO.448251).

The object of the visit was to examine the area on the other side of the lane from Cae Camp (TM 174) to look for a continuation of the rampart visible in that field. The road to White Rocks has obviously gone through this rampart. After examining the high ground opposite the farm and studying some aerial photographs of the earthworks on Garway Hill, belonging to Susan Rice and Doreen Ruck, it was decided that more aerial photographs of the area nearer the farm might be helpful in interpreting this landscape.

We then went down to Church Farm, Garway (SO.456225). There we examined the early 14th C circular stone dovecote, by kind permission of the owner, who provided us with a torch to see the interior. Fully described in RCHM the dovecote was rebuilt by the Knights Hospitallers after they took over from the Knights Templars. Built of local sandstone and with an inside wall sixteen feet high, it has 666 dove-holes in 19 rows. The doorway has chamfered jambs. Above it is a triangular shaped tympanum, with a partly defaced inscription in Latin which states that in the year 1326 Brother Richard built this Columbarium. On the wall opposite the door are some scratched crosses and the name T. Gilbert in 14th C capitals.

Dave Jennett then took us on a guided tour around the site of his ongoing excavations near Church House. As he promised to send us an interim report of his work it is not proposed to go into great detail here. Basically he is confident that he has found a hitherto unsuspected castle site. He has also uncovered interesting foundations, including a medieval lime-kiln in immaculate condition. Remains of a round building which could have been a tower or a dovecote have also been revealed.

A lively discussion then took place in and around the church. There is still much to be discovered on this site. Work on the excavations will resume in May and continue through the summer. Dave was thanked for his fascinating description of the dig and for showing us his plans and drawings of the site. He then joined us for lunch at the Garway Moon.

We then went to Pembridge Castle (SO.488192) in Welsh Newton, where we were met by the owner. Much interesting information has been supplied by Elizabeth Taylor and Bruce Coplestone-Crow which deserves fuller treatment than can be given here.

Although not allowed to go inside, we spent an interesting afternoon thoroughly inspecting the exterior. From its origins as Newlands Castle, built on land enclosed out of the waste of the manor of Garway, by Maude de Braose, wife of William de Braose, it seemed to serve as a retreat away from the turmoil of Welsh border strife. Occupying a rectangular site, built round a courtyard and surrounded by a moat, it dates from the late 12th or early 13th C. An interesting feature is the chapel block, with a flight of steps leading to a 13th C undercroft.

Held by the Royalists during the Civil War it was besieged by the Parliamentarians in 1644. Earthworks to the north of the castle date from this period. After examining some depressions in the field near the castle it was decided that they were likely to have been for defensive purposes, being literally fox-holes for sniping at besieging forces manning heavy cannons on the higher ground beyond. This incident and the betrayal and capture of the Roman Catholic priest Father John Kemble while holding one of his forbidden masses in his little chapel in the castle, followed by his martyrdom in 1679, seem to have been the most traumatic events in the long history of this castle which is still lived in as a farmhouse.

After an interesting and beautifully sunny day members spent some time in discussion and enjoying the superb views towards the Skyrrid, Campstone, and Garway Hills, before returning to the cars at 5pm.

References

RCHM Vol 1 SW

Documentary references relating to Pembridge Castle, Welsh Newton (HRO. A/63 Box 104), supplied by Elizabeth Taylor. This includes the revealing new evidence that the castle was in fact built for Matilda de Braose (killed 1210) and not the Pembridges.

Information on Pembridge Castle, Welsh Newton sent by Bruce Coplestone-Crow.

Thanks are due to the respective owners of Church Farm and the dovecote at Garway for allowing us on their premises. Thanks also to George Wells and Doreen Ruck for help with the visits, and to Elizabeth Taylor for liaising with Dave Jennett, who kindly came up specially for our visit. We are also grateful to Miss Cooke of Pembridge Castle for allowing us to visit out of season.

Graham Sprackling

Pembridge Castle (formerly known as Newland Castle)

Pembridge castle was probably commenced between 1205 and 1208 by Henry of Pembridge who held the manor of Pembridge near Leominster from William de Braose, lord of Radnor. In 1205 Braose acquired the three castles of Grosmont, Skenfrith and White Castle whose territory lay just across the Monnow from Garway. Garway, with the right to assart two thousand acres of the king's forest in its vicinity, had been given by Henry II to the Templars between 1154 and 1159. Between 1205 and 1208, when he fell from favour and lost all his lands, Braose negotiated with the Templars for a lease on two carucates of land at 'Newland' in Garway. Having successfully concluded these negotiations he gave the land to Henry (I) of Pembridge to hold from the honour or barony of Radnor for the service of half a knight's fee, and it was probably he who started building the present castle.

Henry (I) of Pembridge died in 1210 or 1211 leaving a son, Ralph (III) of Pembridge (there were two other Ralphs who preceded Henry (I) in the family pedigree), who died in 1216. In 1210 Ralph had campaigned in Ireland with king John under the name of Ralph de la Newland and this may indicate that the new castle was then habitable. Ralph's heir was his young son, Ralph (II), who in 1228 married Isabel daughter of William de Cantilupe, steward of the royal households and widow of Stephen Devereux of Lyonshall. He died within a couple of years of his marriage leaving an infant son, Henry (II), as heir. In 1230 Henry was sued by Gwladys widow of Reginald de Braose, son of the William de Braose mentioned above, for her dower in two carucates of land and twenty marks rent in Garway.

Henry (II) of Pembridge married, firstly, Joan daughter of Fulk fitz Warin and, secondly, Elizabeth daughter and heiress of Godfrey de Gamage of Boughrood and Mansell Gamage. By his first wife he had two sons, Henry (III) and William, and by his second wife at least four more sons. Henry was apparently working on his castle at 'Newland' in 1245 when the warden of the Forest of Dean was ordered to let him have ten oaks of the king's gift. It may have been this work that led him to become by 1255 indebted to certain Jews in the sum of £120 and to the crown in the sum of £47. (To give some idea of how large these sums were to Henry, it is estimated that when he forfeited all his lands in 1265 his eighteen manors in Herefordshire, Wales (Boughrood), Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire and Somerset gave him an annual income of about £160.) Henry was sheriff of Herefs. for two years from April 1257. In 1264 he joined the rebel forces of Simon de Montfort at Northampton and when the town, fell to the king he was led off into captivity to be exchanged later in the year for a royalist prisoner. He was not present at the battle of Evesham in August 1265 but in the following month was one of those who sort out prince Edmund at Warwick, insulted him and despoiled the town. He was captured during the affray and his lands forfeited to the crown. Henry was handed over to Roger de Mortimer, now lord of Radnor and so his overlord at 'Newland', for imprisonment at Wigmore. In 1267 he made his peace with the king and received back all his lands apart from Pembridge, near Leominster, which was kept by Mortimer and which was never again in the hands of his family.

Henry (II) of Pembridge died in 1271 leaving Henry (III), his eldest son by Joan fitz Warin, as heir. Henry (III) married, firstly, Orabell daughter of William de Harcourt of Aylstone, Leicestershire, and Tong, Shropshire, and, secondly, Alice one of the daughters and heiresses of Ruald Mauband of Monnington Straddle in the Golden Valley. By Orabell he had a son, Fulk, who was heir to most of his lands (including Tong), but his heir for the castle at 'Newland' was Henry (IV), one of his sons by Alice Maubanc. Henry took part in king Edward's first Welsh War in 1276-7 and died shortly before 18 February 1279.

Henry (IV) of Pembridge, lord of 'Newland' in Garway, was aged five or six when his father died. In 1286 he was with the king in Gascony and in 1294-5 was involved in the suppression of the revolt of the Welsh in Glamorgan. He became sheriff of that county in 1295, giving up the post in 1297 to campaign in Scotland with prince Edward. He campaigned in Scotland under king Edward in 1300 and 1301. In 1304 he held *The Nywelonde* from the lord of Radnor for half a knight's fee. On 30 May 1316 he received a grant of the hundred of Wormelow or Archenfield, the local administrative district in which 'Newland' lay. He died some time between 4 December 1317 and 20 April 1318, leaving two sons, Henry (V) and Richard. The name of his wife is not known. Henry (V) of Pembridge had a grant of the hundred of Archenfield for four years from May 1318. He accompanied

king Edward II to France in 1320, but in the following year his brother Richard was among the followers of Roger de Mortimer, overlord of 'Newland', who forced the king to dismiss his Despenser favourites. After the king's victory at Boroughbridge in March 1322, however, the Despensers were restored to favour and both Richard and his brother Henry were among those forced to sue for their lives and lands. Henry took part in the Scottish campaign of 1322 and in September 1327 married Sybil widow of Alan de Plugenet of Kilpeck. He died without leaving issue some time between 8 August 1337 and 6 July 1338.

Henry's heir was his brother Richard. Richard served in France in 1338 and, as a knight of the chamber, was with the king in 1340 at the naval battle of Sluys. He died in 1346 leaving by his wife Petronilla a son, Richard, and two daughters, Amice and Hawise. On 2 October 1346 Petronilla had licence to celebrate mass in her oratories at Clehonger, Monnington Straddle and *Newelonde* (ie. the castle at 'Newland'). Her husband had established a chantry chapel in Clehonger church in 1342 and there he was buried, his superbly articulated effigy, one of the wonders of 14th C sculpture in England, still remaining to be seen today.

There is some evidence that by this time the Pembridges regarded Clehonger as their principal residence in Herefs. Richard's father had been described as 'of Clehonger' as early as 1280, and the significance of this may be that with the conquest of Wales by Edward I they had less need for the fortified residence at 'Newland'. After Richard's death the castle there was assigned to his widow as dower, a sure sign that a particular facility had outlived its usefulness to the male members of a family. Petronilla had half a knight's fee at 'Newland' from the earl of March in 1361.

Richard, son of Richard and Petronilla, was one of the foremost knights of his age. He was elected 52nd Knight of the Garter in 1368. Froissart describes him as a man of 'grant vaillance'. He was constantly at the king's side and campaigned regularly in France between 1346 and 1361, though apparently without becoming extremely rich in the process as did many of his peers. He was present at the battle of Poitiers in 1356 and commanded his own company in France in 1361. His wife Elizabeth died in 1362. In the following year he was one of the courtiers appointed to conduct the king of Cyprus from Dover to London and in 1364 he performed a similar duty for the king of France. Four years later he became governor of Bamburgh Castle and in 1370 was made constable of Dover Castle and warden of the Cinque Ports for life. After a brief period out of favour with the king, his Garter robes were formally issued to him under a privy seal of 14 April 1375. He died on 26 July following and his tomb-chest and effigy lie in the nave of Hereford Cathedral. His son and heir, Henry (VI) of Pembroke, survived him by only two months, dying - on 24 September - holding the castle of *Nywelond* of the countess of March - whilst still a minor in the king's wardship.

Henry's heirs were his cousins, Richard Birley (or Burley) and Thomas de la Barre, sons of his father's sisters Amice and Hawise. On 13 November 1375 a partition of Henry's lands in Herefs., Cambs., Herts., Hants., Wilts., Berks. and London was agreed between the two parties. By this agreement 'Newland' and other lands went to Richard Birley. He married Beatrice daughter of Ralph, earl of Stafford, Richard being her third husband. He and his family enjoyed the favour of John of Gaunt. Richard was elected a Knight of the Garter in 1382 and in 1386 accompanied John of Gaunt to Gascony and Spain in his campaign to establish himself on the throne of Castile. He died of exhaustion and disease at Valhalpando in Leon on 23 May 1387 and at his death held *Neweland* castle and manor from the honour of Radnor. There was no living issue of his marriage to Beatrice, who had 'Newland' assigned to her as part of her dower, to be held from her husband's heirs, his brothers William, died 1388, and Roger, died 1398.

Exactly what happened to 'Newland' in the next forty years is a bit hard to decipher but it seems that although Beatrice should have had it in dower until her death in 1414 it was actually occupied by John of Gaunt and his family, perhaps in response to the growing unrest in Wales. In 1391 Roger Birley gave *Newelandes* castle to John of Gaunt and others after the death of Beatrice with reversion to himself as the right heir of her husband Richard. Roger died in 1398 while Beatrice was still alive, but it seems that Gaunt, who was already lord of Monmouth, occupied the castle at this point. He may have been responsible for the refurbishment of the gatehouse of the castle that saw the insertion of a fireplace of c.1400 on the upper floor. He died early in 1399 and 'the keeping of the castles and lordships of *Newelond*, Monmouth, Grosmont, Skenfrith and White Castle' was then given by Richard II to John Holland, duke of Exeter. Holland shared the king's downfall later that year. The title of duke of Exeter was revived by Henry V in 1416 for Thomas Beaufort, son of John of Gaunt by Katherine Swinford, whose sister had been the wife of John Holland, duke of Exeter. Thomas died in possession of *Newland* castle and manor in 1426.

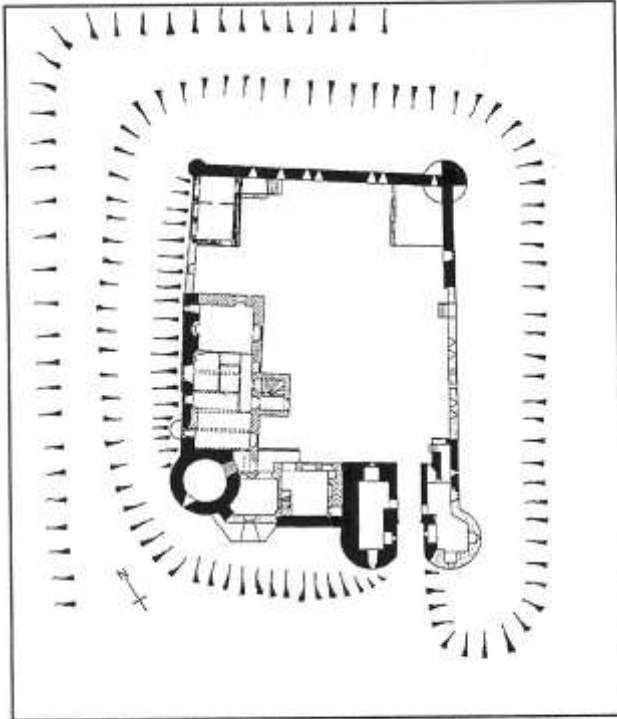


Figure 10, Pembridge castle, Welsh Newton

The castle and manor now seems to have reverted to the Birleys once more. Roger Birley had a son John who died in 1428 and it seems possible that he had 'Newland' after the death of Thomas Beaufort. John's son, William, died in 1445 without living issue and in possession of the castle of *Newland in Irchynfeld*.

What happened next is again a bit of a mystery. William's heir was Thomas Hopton, great-grandson of John Hopton by Isabel sister of Richard, William and Roger Birley, but it seems possible that it was either given or sold to Edmund Tudor, half brother of Henry VI at this point. Edmund married John of Gaunt's great-granddaughter Margaret, daughter of John son of John Beaufort, duke of Somerset, brother of Thomas Beaufort, duke of Exeter. He died in 1456 and 'Newland' seems to have come at this time into the hands of his widow Margaret, probably as dower in her former husband's lands. She held the castle, now called Pembridge Castle (for the first time as far as I can see), and all the demesnes of Welsh Newton, with their appurtenances, worth £5 annually, by suit of court at Garway and a double rent in lieu of relief after the death of any tenant, and died in 1509.

The circular, four-storey keep in the west angle of the castle is quite curious. This and the adjacent hall-block were presumably the parts commenced by Henry (I) of Pembridge soon after 1205. Its form is familiar to anyone who knows the castles at Bronllys, Longtown or Skenfrith (there was also a round keep, now demolished, at Monmouth), but this one differs considerably from the other examples of the genre. Not only, at only 26' in external diameter, is it the smallest example, but it has no wall-stairs, the walls, at less than 5' in thickness, being too thin to accommodate this facility. At ground level, certainly, and at first floor level, probably, there was access from the adjacent hall-block. Communication above this level, however, must have been via ladder or internal timber stair. The upper rooms are only some 16' in internal diameter, so any timber stair intruding on this space must have made them quite cramped. The third or top floor, with its fireplace and access to a corbelled-out latrine, is fitted up for permanent habitation. It seems, therefore, that we must envisage Henry of Pembridge and his successors and their wives climbing ladders to get to this room! If this reconstruction is correct, then it must reflect the family's comparative lack of financial and other resources when it came to building castles.

Bruce Coplestone-Crow

Appendix II

References to Pembridge Castle, Welsh Newton. Compiled by Elizabeth Taylor

Undated, late 12th/early 13th century. Know all by these presents that I Matilda de St. Valery, wife of William de Braose, have received from the Knights of the Temple 500 acres by measure of the land of *Coichlang*, of the land they were given by the lord king, extending between their lands and the lands of Robert le Brethe on the other side, to have and to hold for me and my heirs freely and quietly. Paying 100 shillings a year at two times, half at Michaelmas half at Easter. If I build a mansion house on the same land to stay in for my own proper use, shall I be allowed to build a chapel in my courtyard for the use of myself and my family, saving to their chapel [of Welsh Newton) all the rights pertaining to that chapel and all the tithes and obventions etc. pertaining to their church of Garway.

In order to make this agreement of proper strength my lord has put his seal to it. Witnesses: Brother Thomas Ward, Brother Roger..... Brother..... Robert le Brette, Robert Garsend, Nicholas Garsend, Aylmund..... Walter clerk. (HRO. A63/3 Box 104)

The above was copied into a Rental Book of the Precentory of Dynmore and Garway dated 1505. If Matilda/Maude de Braose had not carried out her plan, it is difficult to see why this record was preserved in the Rental. The latest possible date is 1206/7 because William de Braose fled to Ireland with his family in 1207 after his quarrel with King John. Maude and their eldest son were captured and held in prison by the king where they were starved to death. William de Braose was granted lordship of the Three Castles in 1205. He obtained from the Templars at Garway a grant of land called Newland which he gave to Henry de Pembridge to hold for 1/2 a knights fee. (B.Coplestone-Crow, WNFC Trans.1986, 404). Henry Pembridge died in 1210.

1211. Ralph de Penebrugge owes 100 marks and 1 good horse for having his father's land. Paid 25 marks. (Pipe Roll 13 John p.172.)

1230. Gladusa wife [widow] of Reginald de Braos' attornavit against various people for her third part of lands in Radnor, Kingsland, Eardisland; and against Henry Penebrig' of a third part of 2 carucates of land and rents of 20 marks in Garwy. (Cal.Close Rolls 1227-31, no.389-90).

1279/80. Inq.p.m. Henry de Penebrugge had Ullingswick and Kilho. ['Kilho' is Gillow in Hentland which belonged to the Pembridges until 1418.]

Henry de Pembridge, whose family had held Pembridge for generations under the de Braose Honour of Radnor, was evicted after the defeat of Simon de Montfort in 1265 by Roger and Maud de Mortimer and the manor was never regained. (WCTrans. 1965, p.115).1279-80. Inq.pm.

1505 Knights of St.John. Rental. Castel de Pembrouge with Walshe Newton. Tenant: The illustrious Lady Margaret, mother of King Henry VII holds the castel of Pembruge and all lands of Wealshnewton with appurtenances by suit of court and two rents after the decease of the free tenant. Rent 100 shillings. She also holds lands and tenements called Dulleslands 3s 6½d which were formerly held by William Herbert armiger, otherwise known as William of Normandy. [Lady Margaret Beaufort]. (HRO A63/3 Box 104).

Appendix III

While at Pembridge Castle Welsh Newton, we examined the supposed Civil War siege-works, which in the writers opinion, if they were dug during the period of the siege, were more likely, because they are only a few yards from the castle ditch, to have been defensive pits for musketeers and/or mortars as a first line of defence on a weak uphill perimeter. This view was agreed by other members with military knowledge.

These pits along with covering fire from the castle walls would have devastated any attempted rush on the castle by foot soldiers. Looking at the position of most damage to the castle on the south side and siege artillery would preferably have to be out of musket range, but just in view of the castle. Sure enough just on the other side of the road about 300+ yards away to the south in line of sight of the formerly damaged part of the walls is a flattened platform, now partly covered by a hedge. This position seems most likely to have been the site of the siege cannon.

Roger Stirling-Brown

[On the 1686 map of Pembridge Castle and its demesne by W. Hill the field east of the castle is named warren, and that over the ridge as Warren Close. Editor]

Investigations of some castle sites on the Herefordshire border suggested by the late Frank Noble

On a fine spring morning 1/5/94 eight members of the ARS met outside Presteigne church. As we were at the church the opportunity was taken to view and photograph the alleged Saxon herringbone masonry in the north wall of the nave. The primary function of the meeting was to examine the possible castle site at Lower Rowley suggested by Frank Noble. Peter Halliwell and I had visited the site during the recce on 25.4.94 and decided that it was not feasible to visit with the main party due to the difficulty of access and the uncertainty of the exact site. On our visit we found a hill-top (SO.289639) that could have been adapted to suit a castle ringwork, although there was now no definitive evidence of this, and it appeared unlikely that the site had been altered by farming in the last 50 years. Unfortunately our only reference to a site here was from a mark put on an old 1" map, and it is possible that we were examining the wrong site. What we found on the hill-top was a largish quantity of stone lying on the surface and peculiar field boundaries. They did not appear to me to mark the site of a castle. Although Frank Noble was not a castle expert his considerable experience with earthworks in general makes it difficult to accept that we had found the right site, yet we could see no better position for a castle site in the vicinity. Consequently instead of visiting Lower Rowley the group proceeded to Evenjobb by a circuitous route that took best advantage of the beauty of the Lugg valley. At Whitton (SO.272672) we stopped to look down the valley towards Pilleth (SO.259681) and Bryn Glas Hill behind it. This substantial hill has a long history. In 1211 Madog ap Maelgwn, the native Welsh leader of Maelienydd (executed 1212), granted this hill and other lands he had exchanged with Roger Mortimer of Wigmore (1174-1214), to Cwmhir abbey and in 1402 Edmund Mortimer lost a hard fought battle here to Owain Glyndwr's forces. Tumuli that supposedly contain the remains of the fallen of this battle still exist in the valley floor.

At Evenjobb we first visited a heavily damaged motte and bailey at SO.263626. The remains of the motte are at the apex of a road junction and the bailey probably lay to the north and is now under a relatively modern bungalow. The motte is made of a rich loam and some three-quarters of it has now been removed, probably for road repairs. Certainly in 1984/5 when I first visited the site the remains of the motte showed signs of recent removals. The remnants of the mound have now been converted into a pleasing rockery, but probing indicates that there is still probably the remains of part of a shell keep in its northern face. Roughly central in the site of the motte is a capped well, which could have supplied the keep. From here it is possible to see the other castle site at

SO.266625 and it was speculated as to whether a low mound under a hedge represented a town defence between the two sites. To the W could be seen an earthen dam that was probably part of a mill complex of unknown date.

Examination was then made of a fine half timbered building opposite the first castle site and then the Non-conformist chapel with its interesting tall, narrow doorway. We then walked up to the main castle site. This is a most enigmatic site set in the confluence of two streams, which obviously added to the castle's defensibility. The 'motte' is a low six foot mound some thirty feet in diameter set in its own now heavily silted moat. Probing indicates that this mound is full of stone and in my opinion it is best to interpret it as the collapsed remains of a round tower rather than a motte. The rest of the site consists of a roughly rectangular platform surrounded by streams on three sides. The defences to the N have now gone and much speculation was made as to where they may have lain. Despite the attentions of a cow and her offspring some members then proceeded to the dam beneath the castle and probable mill site. The site of the two stone sluices were noted as well as the modern waterworks operations. On 20.8.1304 the inquest post mortem on Edmund Mortimer of Wigmore found that he held the lordship of Radnor which included rents from Old Radnor, *Kynardton, Saltforde, Badelonde, Gliditon and Emynghop*³⁸. This is apparently the earliest reference to the area, though the castles here were probably obsolete by this time.

From Evenjobb we proceeded to New Radnor where we were met by Roger Pye at the Eagle Hotel. Over lunch Roger put forward the novel view, that the 'motte' at Knap Farm (SO.246600) was in fact a windmill knap. In my opinion this is far more likely than the supposition that this peculiar mound was once a castle. Also discussed was the sad fate of the excavation of nearby Crug Eryr castle immediately before WWII. Apparently until recently there were photographs of this excavation which showed a fine 'Norman' door in the now buried masonry remains. Does anyone know of the whereabouts of these photos and notes now?

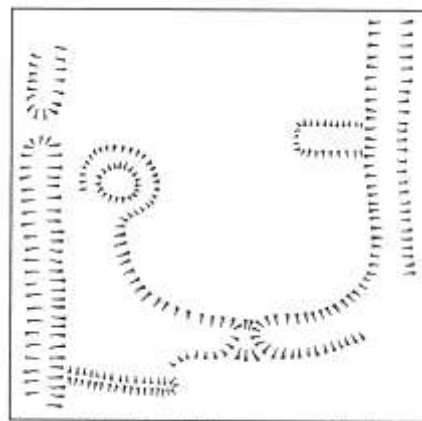


Figure 11, Evenjobb motte and bailey

After a leisurely lunch we proceeded by car up Mutton Dingle to the supposed entrance to New Radnor castle. Here we examined what appeared to be a natural outcrop of rock (Q) that lay where a curtain wall may have been expected and the course of a newly laid drainage ditch which had in fact uncovered what appeared to be the foundations of a seven foot thick curtain wall (C). Beneath the site of the alleged gate were the foundations of a rectangular stone structure of uncertain date and purpose. From here a good view was available of the town bank/wall on the opposite side of Mutton Dingle. We then proceeded into the Green Bailey or *Beili Glas* (O) to the north of the castle outer ward. Here the curious outer castle defences were noted. Between the Green Bailey and the ward was a set of triple ramparts and double ditch (N). The ramparts (apart from the actual outer ward one) were some three feet high and very narrow. Sheep tracks cut into them strongly suggest that they cover stone walls, possibly of late medieval date. At the N extreme of the Green Bailey was a ditch and probable rampart (now much denuded) which is now extinct to the E, but joins the main castle defences at their W apex just S of Cwm Bailey (W). We then entered the bailey (B) and walked along the site of the curtain wall to the supposed entrance. It was noted how the outer ward was only obviously walled on its N front, and it was discussed whether stone defences were felt unnecessary to the east and west as this would have been enclosed by the town. If this was the case then the stone curtain to the N, with one large rectangular building (H) and an apparent internal square tower (normally seen as an early feature, cf. Launceston, Cornwall), would suggest that this wall was contemporary or later than the town defences, which are therefore probably 11th C.

We then passed over the double ditch and rampart into the much mutilated inner ward (R). Here we compared the earthwork remains to the sketch of the masonry defences drawn by Speed in 1610. Where masonry has survived at other sites Speed's plans have been shown to be very accurate, and at Radnor it is easy to see how the two match. Assuming that the Speed plan is correct, and certainly the inner ward site seems to favour that, the bailey consisted of a stone curtain of a rough parallelogram shape. Towards the outer ward at the apexes stood square towers (the shape of the one to the NE is not very distinct and may have been round), that to the N being a tall square gatetower (G) of the kind found at Hay on Wye and possibly Clifford castle to the S. These gatetowers also tend to be early features, ie Exeter, Devon. On the more defensible town side the towers were round (or possibly they are all D-shaped as only the rear of the N towers can be seen), that to the SW being the largest of them all. This large tower also appears to overlook the castle gate (E) which was a simple opening in the

³⁸*Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem* IV, No. 235.

curtain, facing towards the church. There is also a steep pathway leading up to the castle here now. It is unlikely that this was the original entrance and probably marks a more easy route of access to the site made in late medieval days. Speed shows no baileys to the N of the inner ward, and it must therefore be presumed that these were deserted by this date. The interior of the ward is currently much disturbed due to the attempt to erect a monument in honour of Wellington in the early 19th C, and it seems likely that the lowering of the rampart at the gatehouse site (D) and the path up through the ditch relate to this operation. It may also have been a result of the disturbances concerned with the rebuilding of the original plain church on a slightly different alignment in 1843-5.

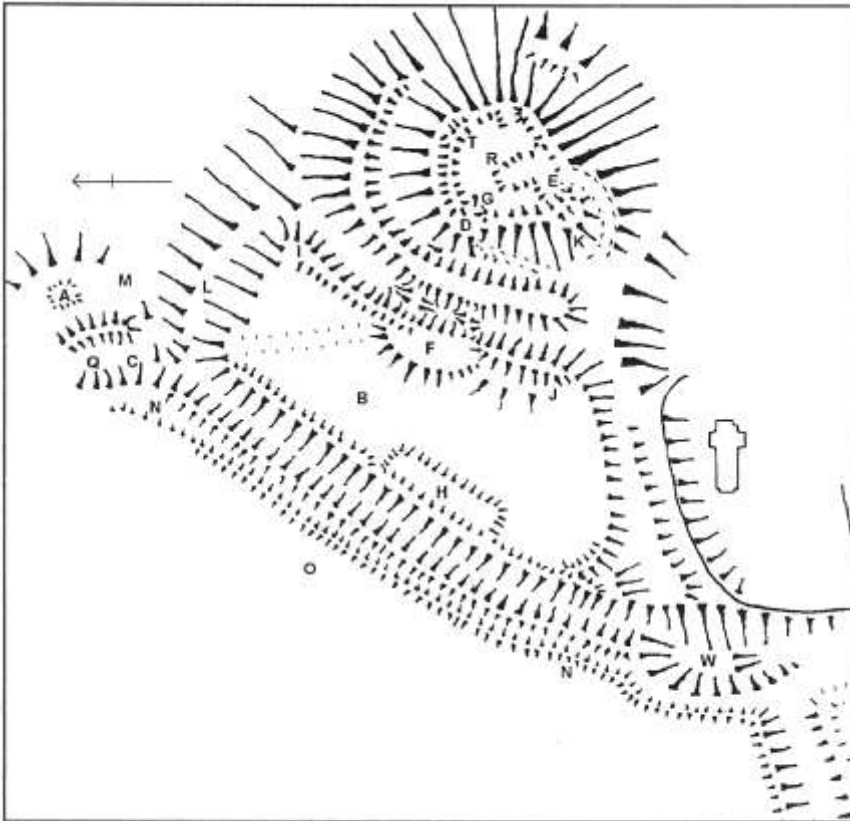


Figure 12, Ground Plan of Radnor Castle

It has often been said that the fine ditching seen here is the hall-mark of the Braose family and can be likewise seen at their castles of Buellt, Bramber, Colwyn and Painscastle. However, it should be noted that this fine ditching is far more likely to be the work of royal engineers. Radnor was ordered to be re-fortified by Richard, King of the Romans, in March 1233 (as quite likely was also Colwyn), 2 years after Henry III had massively rebuilt (and re-ditched?) Painscastle. Buellt was 'constructed' by King John's captains in 1210 and Henry III ordered his ditch-cutters to go there to fortify the site in December 1219. Similarly Bramber was taken over by King John from 1207 and he spent a small fortune on what was to become one of his favourite homes. It seems likely that this may have included its re-ditching. Consequently it appears unlikely that the Braoses were diggers of great expensive ditches. Certainly none are apparent at Abergavenny and Dingestow, other Braose castles in the vicinity.

We then walked to the SW end of the bailey (B) where we speculated whether the building of the Victorian church had disturbed the defences of the castle here, and possibly obscured the original entrance. The day finished with a trip up the Hindwell Valley to the enigmatic Red Ditch (see The Last Campaign of Rhys ap Gruffydd below) and the Water-break-its-neck Falls, which only two members managed to reach.

Paul Remfry

Clun Castle - Interpretation Panels

One of the questionable, but widely stated 'facts' found on the new Clun Interpretation Panels was that Prince 'Rees' attacked Clun in 1195/6. This alleged attack is almost certainly due to an erroneous translation of *Colonywy*, which was often used for both Clun and Colwyn (in Radnorshire) castles in Welsh texts. I consequently offer the following article in an attempt to remedy this misconception.

[The question of the very inaccurate Interpretation Panels has been taken up with English Heritage on 17/11/93 and 28/2/94. On both occasions action was promised. Editor]

The Last Campaign of Rhys ap Gruffydd, Prince of Deheubarth

Of all the campaigns carried out by the Welsh in the 12th C, that by Rhys ap Gruffydd in 1196 must rate as the most important in relation to castle studies. For it is in this campaign we get one of our earliest references to a Welsh prince using a siege train to force the surrender of a castle. However, there are two points to be borne in mind about this. The first is that the mention of the catapults and engines used against Painscastle in 1196 (and therefore also against Colwyn and Radnor?) is done in a way that suggests that this was NOT unusual. The second is the question when did it become usual for the Welsh princes to batter castles into submission rather than take them by stealth or starvation? Certainly in 1198 the Welsh Chronicler was astounded that Gwenwynwyn was lax enough to besiege Painscastle 'without catapults or mangonels'³⁹. Yet Giraldus notes no surprise at the Welsh of Ceredigion and Rhwng Gwy a Hafren besieging Pembroke by starvation in 1096⁴⁰. Obviously between these dates Welsh siege tactics had undergone a revolution. In my opinion these new methods arose as a consequence of the strong rule of Henry I. Between 1100 and 1135 Henry obtained a close control over Wales, outside of Snowdonia, ruling the country through his own baronage, rather than the native princely stock. During this period of close contact and assimilation it is likely that the Welsh nobility, and largely dispossessed princes, learned the fundamentals of siege warfare both at home and in the king's Continental campaigns. This could well explain some of their successes against castles in the wars of Stephen's reign and beyond.

The reign of Good King Richard the Lionhearted (1189-99) must have been a curious time for the inhabitants of England, for effectively they were ruled without a king. Richard, after his coronation in 1189, soon left England to go on Crusade. When he finally returned on 13th March 1194, he decided it prudent to be crowned again at Winchester to remind the people who he was. He left England again on the 12th May, never to return. No doubt it was his absence, as well as his heroic deeds, that made him one of the most popular kings of the English. Meanwhile in his absence the country was run (or often divided) between successive justiciars and the adherents of Richard's recalcitrant brother John Lackland, Count of Mortain.

Rhys ap Gruffydd had slowly and determinedly built for himself a strong and vigorous principality in Deheubarth (South Wales) during the long and relatively stable reign of Henry II. At first he had fought the young Henry, but after the royal campaigns of the 1160's the two men had come to terms and Rhys had been promoted by Henry to paramountcy among the petty princes of the South. In the Great Rebellion of 1174 Rhys had besieged Tutbury castle in Staffordshire for the king and the next year had led the entire remaining native princely stock of South Wales to meet Henry at Gloucester to sort out ongoing border disputes. Although he was by no means totally subservient to the king, he was always well aware of the royal power and continually tried to keep the troubled peace with the English and Normans. However all this was to change with the coming of Richard I. On his father's death, Richard immediately snubbed Rhys and through his indifference brought war and rebellion to South Wales. The English government left by Richard found itself incapable of dealing with Wales due to its own internal instabilities. As a consequence Deheubarth expanded at a remarkable rate to both the south and east, despite fitful government attempts to staunch the flow.

After Richard's return to his kingdom in 1194 a more robust government was left in place under Hubert Walter, the Archbishop of Canterbury. It was under his auspices that the Marcher barons were urged (if they needed much urging) to undertake concerted action against the South Welsh and Powys in 1195. This led to royally sponsored building work at several castles along the frontier with Rhwng Gwy a Hafren, viz Cymaron, Bleddfa and possibly Mathrafal (?*Matrefelun*)⁴¹. The Marcher attack seems to have been organized under the auspices of the effective warrior-sheriff of Hereford, William Braose III (died 1211). William appears to have also been responsible for simultaneously overrunning Elfael and refortifying the castles of Colwyn (*Colwent*) and Painscastle although he was probably not present in person, for this year he retook the castle of Saint Clears in Dyfed⁴².

³⁹*Brut y Tywysogyon or The Chronicle of the Princes. Red Book of Hergest version*, ed. and trans T. Jones [Cardiff, 1955], 181; *Peniarth*, 79.

⁴⁰*Red Book of Hergest*, 35-7; *Peniarth*, 20; *Florentii Wigornensis Monachi Chronicon ex Chronicis*, ed. B. Thorpe [2 vols., English Historical Society, 1848-9] II, 35, where it is also noted that the castle of Anglesey, probably Aber Lleiniog, and other castles in West Wales, were taken by storm. Giraldus supplies the well known stories of why the siege of Pembroke failed due to the resourcefulness of Gerald of Windsor, Giraldus Cambrensis, *Opera*, eds. J.S. Brewer, J.F. Dimock and G.F. Warner [8 vols., 1861-91] VI, 90. His resourcefulness, however, did not stop Hywel and Uchdryd taking much plunder and devastating the area. It is also to be noted that Cadwgan ap Bleddyn was not involved in the siege, merely some of his war band were there.

⁴¹*Pipe Roll 7 Richard I*, 9, 13, 108.

⁴²*Annales Cambriae*, 60.

It therefore seems likely that it was his amazonian wife Maud St Valery who was responsible for this invasion, and slaughtering the Welsh at Painscastle.

43

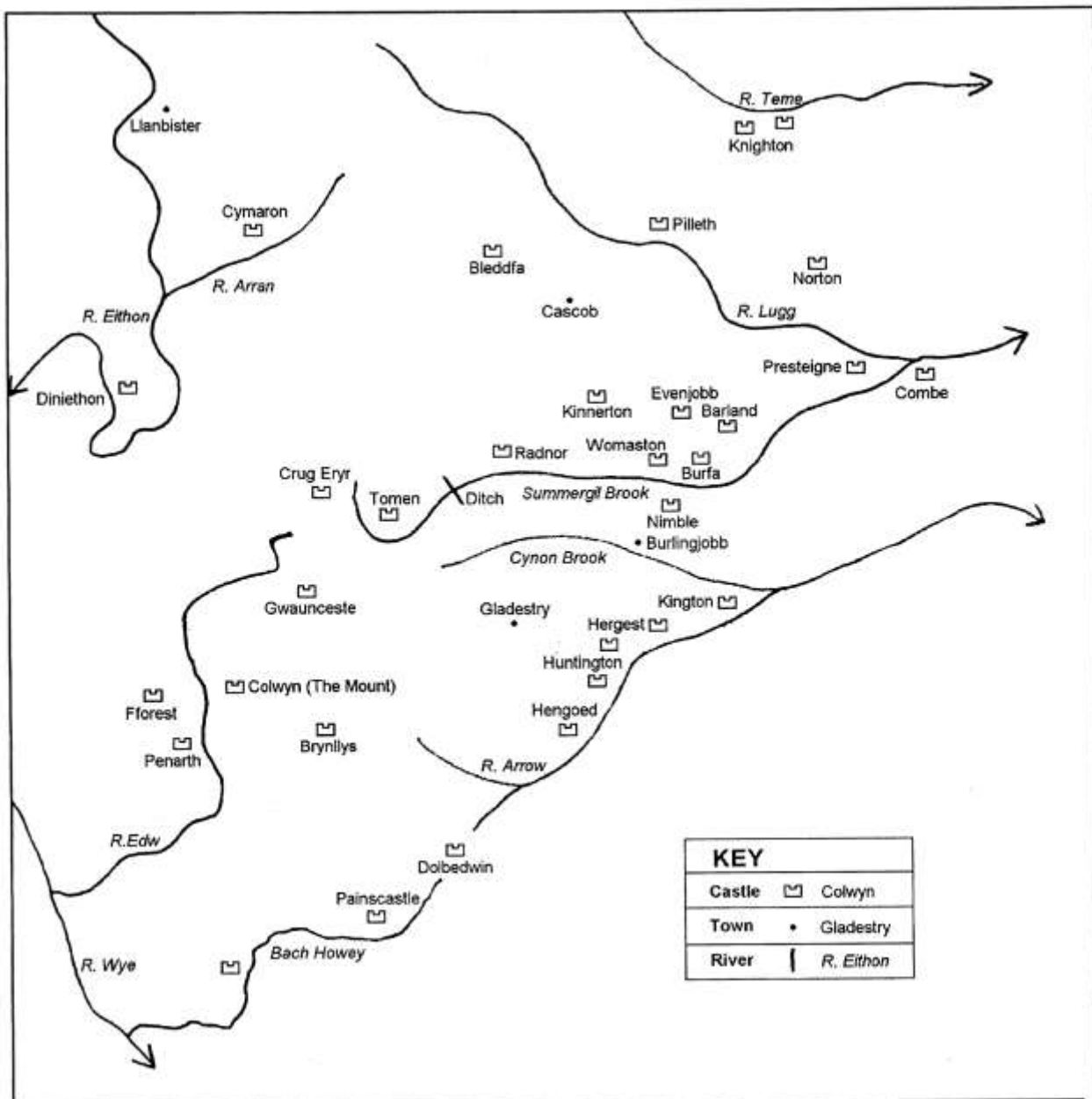


Figure 13, The castles around Radnor in circa 1196

This may have given the castle its second name of Maud's castle. It is also possible that the sieges of 1196, or 1198 may refer to this name when Maud may have still been the castellan. Regardless of this the concerted Marcher attack of 1195 probably persuaded Rhys that it was necessary to undertake another campaign in the east to support his 'nephews' of Rhwng Gwy a Hafren.

⁴³Annales Prioratus de Wigornia', *Annales Monastici*, ed. H.R. Luard [5 vols., 1864-9] IV, 388. That the note of the Braose's skirmish in Elfael in 1195 is correct, is indicated by the correctness of the surrounding entries. It is most certainly not a mistake for the battle of Painscastle four years later.

Early in 1196 he attacked Carmarthen and burnt the town⁴⁴, probably in an attempt to disable William Braose's forces, before his main attack to the east. Then, gathering his allies around him, he marched on Colwyn castle, forced it to surrender and then burnt it. The same fate rapidly befell New Radnor castle⁴⁵. No sooner was this castle destroyed than Roger Mortimer of Wigmore (died 1214) and Hugh Say of Richard's Castle drew up their forces 'in the valley near by', 'in the valley near that town'⁴⁶. A great battle ensued and the Marchers were utterly defeated, with the alleged loss of some forty knights and an innumerable number of foot. However a study of the royal records at this time shows no losses at all amongst the known knightly followers of Mortimer, and the only death recorded in the Say lordship at this time appears to be that of Hugh Say himself! Regardless of the alleged losses the key factors in this battle were that the engagement took place in the valley, the surprise suffered by Rhys, and the heavy casualties inflicted on the Marchers.

In the summer of 1196 the two Marcher lords involved in the battle, may well have been in eastern Maelienydd, consolidating their gains and perhaps also continuing the refortification of their castles there. Hugh Say had received £5 in 1195 to repair his castle of Bleddfa (*Bledewach*), and Roger Mortimer £20 for Cymaron (*Camarun*)⁴⁷. The king also told the Marchers that it was unnecessary for them to return to Normandy for his campaigns there⁴⁸. Therefore, when Rhys attacked Colwyn in 1196 Mortimer and Say would probably have already been in eastern Maelienydd. The news that the castle was being attacked would have brought the Marchers into the field and made them march south to its relief. The natural route for them to take would have been through the Arran valley to the hill-fortress of Crug Eryr, and then down the main north-south route into Elfael Uwch Mynydd and Colwyn. If, however, when they reached Crug Eryr, they found that Colwyn had already been sacked and that Rhys was besieging Radnor they would have turned east, and therefore found themselves to Rhys' rear, 'without warning' and in the valley above Radnor. Thus may the prince of Deheubarth's surprise be explained. The heavy casualties too, are easily explainable. Each army was facing its base, so to the loser went annihilation. If this argument is correct it may be that the present remains of a formidable rampart blocking the valley, with its ditch facing Radnor⁴⁹ (SO.198600) may mark the site of the battle.

The chronicles state that it was Rhys who attacked the Marchers. If the Marchers were to Rhys' rear then it might be expected that they would attack and count on surprise to win them the day. However, if the Welsh host was as massive as the chronicles boasted, then the more prudent commander might well have decided to entrench an easily held position in a narrow valley. If reinforcements arrived from England then Rhys would find himself trapped between the hammer and the anvil. Conversely, for the same reasons, Rhys had to break the Marcher army to survive. He therefore took the only option open to him and attacked the Marcher force with all his strength - the chronicles all dwell on this. Thus Rhys would have pursued the broken Marcher army into enemy territory where even greater slaughter could be done to them, perhaps all the way to Painscastle, which he then proceeded to besiege with catapults and engines until it surrendered⁵⁰. In the meantime William Braose had invaded Ceredigion and burnt part of Cardigan, which was one of Rhys' main seats⁵¹. It was probably because of this that a concord was made between the two protagonists, which resulted in Rhys leaving Painscastle in William's control, but in Rhys' peace, ie. Rhys had achieved part of his objective by returning Elfael to his theoretical control. Maelienydd, however, remained beyond his reach, for on 18th April 1197 he died⁵², leaving his principality and his siege-train to the unlucky hands of his son Gruffydd and the squabbling siblings of Deheubarth.

Paul Remfry

⁴⁴*Red Book of Hergest.*, 177; *Peniarth.*, 76; *Annales Cambriae*, 60 as well as the castle of *Maysheueyt*; 'Cronica de Wallia and other Documents from Exeter Cathedral Library Ms. 3514', ed. T. Jones, *Bulletin of Board of Celtic Studies* XII [1946-8], 30.

⁴⁵Both of them appear to have been in Rhys' seisin in 1188 when Giraldus Cambrensis and Archbishop Baldwin toured Wales preaching the Crusade. It would therefore appear that their capture by Braose would have been in the general movement against Deheubarth and its allies in 1195.

⁴⁶*Red Book of Hergest*, 177; *Peniarth*, 77.

⁴⁷*P.R. 7 Richard I*, 108.

⁴⁸*P.R. 8 Richard I*, xvii.

⁴⁹In the reign of Henry III this ditch may have marked the border of Herefordshire. That it was called 'Rugeditch', may well imply red ditch and therefore a battle, Banks, R.W., 'The Boundary of Herefordshire temp. Henry III', *Archaeologia Cambrensis*. 4th ser., X [1879], 302-4. This identification is rejected in *R.C.A.M., Radnorshire*, 93, no. 358, in my opinion wrongly.

⁵⁰*R.B.H.*, 177.

⁵¹*A.C.*, 60.

⁵²*Lloyd II*, 582.

Field Meeting at Brinsop

13 members met at 10.30am on Sunday 5/6/94 at the entrance to the private road leading to Brinsop church for a field meeting led by Roger Stirling-Brown. We were fortunate that the weather was bright and sunny after the previous day's rain. It had originally been intended to commence the day at Brinsop church itself and the surrounding earthworks, but domestic arrangements at Brinsop Court made it necessary to visit there first. Just as we have evidence of ordinary house sites being converted and upgraded over some years into formidable castle sites (see Castle Acre excavation report for example (Chateau Gaillard VIII (1976) p 79-86)), so we also have evidence of the reverse and though it would have been exciting for castleologists to discover an unrecorded round tower-keep at Brinsop, it would not be a surprise as many castles were down graded or rebuilt over the years. We have many examples of castles being demolished and replaced by later fortified manor houses, unfortified manor houses and simple farmhouses either on or near the original castle site. Castles were always expensive to maintain, were often built in haste, sometimes on unsuitable ground and lacking good foundations which often led to movement and collapse. We have records of several stone keeps collapsing only a few years after their initial construction. A change in political and financial status of the owner could lead to the abandonment or demolition of a castle.

The castle was no longer needed in the peace following the final conquest of Wales and/or the scrapping of the Council of The Marches because of the increasing power of the King and central government in the reign of Henry VII. Changing fashion and movement to a new site on an estate etc. All these could be reasons for the disappearance of castles from the landscape. Therefore there must be many more to be discovered.

The ARS has at present 62 possible castle sites to visit and this is probably not a final total, though some may prove negative. The increasing use of air photography, the field name survey and recent documentary research, have led to the discovery of several definite and possible castle sites in the last 12 months in Herefordshire alone.

Brinsop Court [SO.445458] We decided to look at the Brinsop area after a member of the SMR staff informed us of a mention in records of a tower, or towers, at Brinsop Court, or possibly one of the other three medieval sites at Brinsop. We examined the fine 14th C Court by kind permission of the owners. We were shown round by Mr F Aggas, who has compiled a history of the Court and the Wordsworth family and their connection with Brinsop.

The Court has been sympathetically restored in several stages over many years. The RCHM II E p 29-31 gives an adequate description.

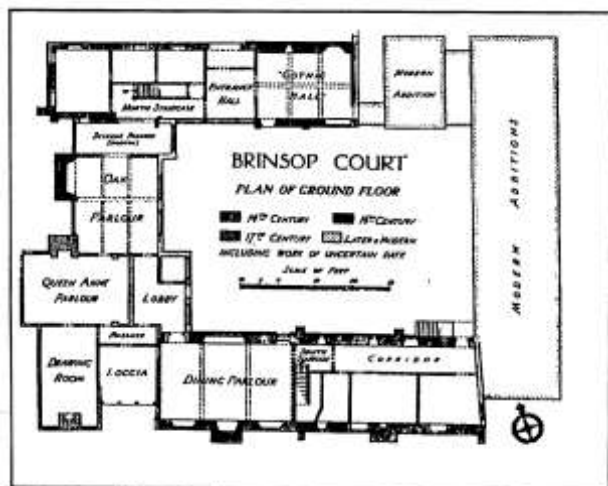


Figure 14, Brinsop Court

Only three sides of the existing building are old, the fourth side being built during the restoration of this century. It is not known whether there had been an original range here. It was thought that a well uncovered in the courtyard some years ago, had been within the surviving foundations of a round tower, but there seems to have been some confusion with the size and thickness of the stone well surround. So without uncovering the well again we shall never know if there was an earlier tower in the courtyard. However we did find some evidence of some towers which now no longer exist. Mr Aggas showed us a sketch made in 1800 showing a fine twin towered gatehouse, and there was apparently another tower or turret on the north west angle (see sketch made from the original).

We also examined a stone figure on the bridge parapet in the south west corner of the moat which is a carving of a person, probably male, playing a vial, an early form of violin. This figure supposed to have been set in one of the former gatehouse towers, seems to be of an earlier date than the towers would have been, and possibly earlier than the 14th C. It shows some affinity with the work of the 12th C Hereford School. We then had the opportunity to examine the Great Hall and noted that the external stone staircase to the first floor had been repositioned (during the 1914 restoration. The court is fully described with plans in RCHM II E together with Brinsop church. Mr Aggas showed us some photographs and drawings of the Court during its restoration.

Comment and Speculation

The sketch of 1800, if an accurate reproduction of the towers, shows a pair of towers distinctly Tudor in appearance, with their hexagonal or octagonal shape and banded appearance, formed by a series of string

Both meanings well describe the place. Later, post Conquest, the manor was held by a family named Brun or Brown giving it its present name Brunshope or Brinshope. Its later history was probably the same as the Court. The earthworks around the church consist of a quadrangular partial ringwork with a substantial rampart to the west and north - the weaker approach. To the east is a weak rampart, mostly levelled by modern agricultural activity, while the southern rampart is mostly a bank along the edge of the graveyard. The east side backs onto a marshy lake (now cleaned out and refilled as a fishpond). The west side was additionally protected by what was once thought to be a flattened motte, but which on examination was more likely to be a former bailey platform. It looks as though it continued in the form of a second platform, at a lower level, along most of the south side of the ringwork, the former stream (now re-routed) filling its moat. The whole formed an L shaped bailey in two parts, with a ditch in between and possibly a double ditch or exceptionally wide single ditch between the inner ringwork and baileys. The north side was protected by the former settlement site, marked by banks, a pool (recently cleaned out) and former marshy ground. One of the fields is called "old town".

Further to the east is a moated site which we were unable to visit as the dam retaining the moat and lake has been restored and the lake refilled. Access to the moated mound can only be made by boat. Mr David Williams accompanied us on our investigations. His bungalow backs onto the rampart.

Comment and Speculation This intriguing and probably very early earthwork raises more questions than answers. The quadrangular ringwork was once thought to be Roman, though the writer thinks this unlikely on present evidence. There is the possibility of some Roman activity around the hill fort at Credenhill. A fort or fortlet would not be unexpected, especially as there is a possible Roman road from Kenchester (MAGNIS) going north across Brinsop Common through the valley past Brinsop and turning north west through Weobley and connecting to the present A4112, which is thought to be on or near a suggested east-west Roman road.

The earthworks around the church look medieval, and are probably immediately post Conquest, though this is on the list of possible pre-Conquest sites. The earth-work could have been thrown up when Osbern Pentecost took over the manor when Godwin and Harold were exiled, or it could even be a small Saxon settlement fortified by Harold during the turbulence on the border in the 1050's. The well near the church could point to a holy, or healing, well of even earlier date, perhaps Roman or Celtic. Sites like this near a good water source have a long history.

There is a widening of the north west corner of the rampart around the church which could mark the position of a former tower. Though our probing found a considerable amount of buried stone on the inside of the ramparts the ground here is naturally stony so only excavation could confirm any stone building phase here. A good site for survey by the new ground radar device perhaps. Though, if the site continued in use for any length of time, and the evidence is not against that opinion, then with a 12th C stone chapel on the site one would expect some stone defences. At least a simple stone enclosure wall and possibly a keep of some sort.

There is of course the possibility of an early move, perhaps in the early 13th C to the north east moated site, and any stone castle phase could be there, the fortification round the church being relegated to an outer bailey. There would need to be stone defences on the north east moated site as it is at a lower level than the church rampart, and well within the range of bow and siege engine.

All in all a very interesting site worthy of further investigation before any possible future development changes things.

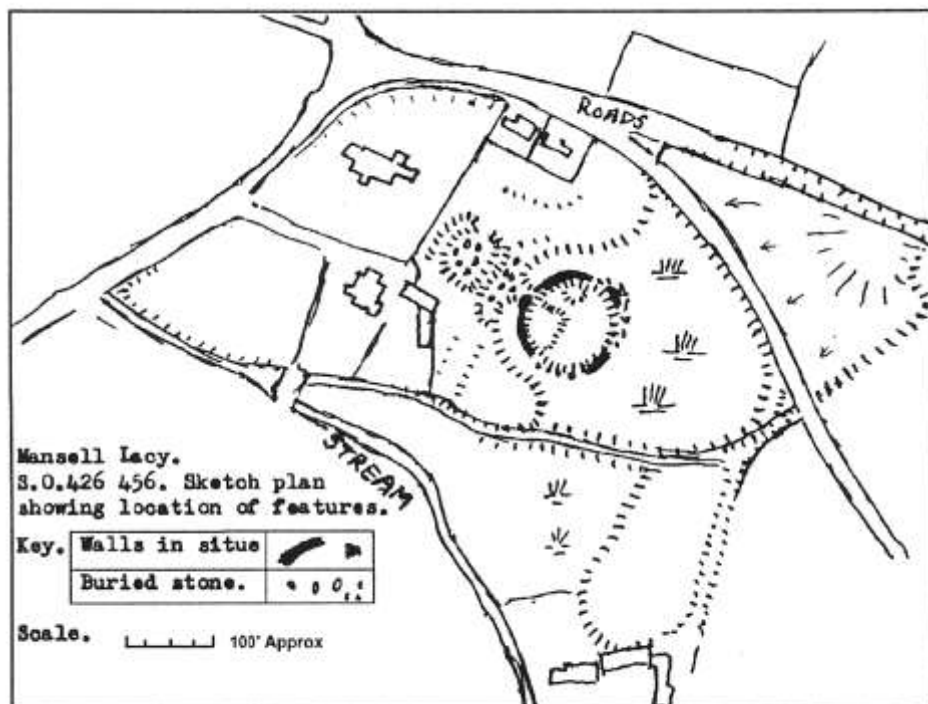
Notes See RCHM II E, 31-2 for a plan and description of the earthworks. The sinking or well mentioned in RCHM has now been filled and levelled, as has the probable roadway through the DMV, though it is just discernable as a low bank.

Mansell Lacy (SO.426456) Virtually nothing was known about this site. The RCHM III NW p 147 describes a moat 100 yards SE of the church, partly wet and enclosing an island rising 4' above the surrounding ground. DB mentions that Gruffydd ap Maredudd, the son of a Welsh King in alliance with the Normans, held 2 manors at Mansell under the Lacy family of Longtown, Weobley etc. Hence the name Mansell Lacy. The name Mansell is apparently a corruption of Malveselle which means gravel hill.

On examination, this site certainly seems to be more than a simple moated site. The oval mound approximately 90' x 110' (27m x 33m) has the appearance of a low motte in a former lake which is still marshy. Around the base of the mound is a buried and partly exposed wall foundation. Where the outer face was exposed this wall appears to have a battered face. It appears to be at least 7' (2m) thick, in several places thicker, which may mark the position of possible towers or areas of collapsed walls. On top of the mound is a very low, roughly rectangular, stone filled platform. This is the highest point on the mound. It could mark the position of a former hall, or possibly of a later house.

The narrowest portion of the moat is crossed by a stone filled hump which connects to a stone filled platform, which has a shallow hollow in front of it. In front of that, another low roughly D-shaped platform with

buried stone, is partly surrounded by a slight hollow. The whole looks like the remains of a barbican or forebuilding to a bridge to the mound with the associated, now silted up, ditches. These low, unrecorded, earthworks are in a banked enclosure, delineated by a stream and the present roads around the site which includes the church. This has the appearance of a large former bailey to the mound. The east side of the lake is bounded by a bank or dam and has a curious ditch cut along its top. We could not work out its use as it seemed to slope in both directions. It is probably a later addition to the site, possibly used to feed overflow from the lake to other parts of the site.



Further to the south east is another platform associated with a wet area, possibly another former pool, all associated with a probable former mill. On the north side of the road, the writer thought he had found another enclosure, associated with the site in the form of a bank crossing an old orchard. This bank, on investigation, appears to border an unused section of old trackway leading across the modern road and continuing as a sunken lane to the former mill. However, the bank does partly enclose, with another sunken lane to the north, a section of higher ground which does overlook the moated site and was probably palisaded to secure it as part of the outer defences, or as a stock enclosure. Maj. Davenport must be thanked for permission to look at the site.

Comment and Speculation The writer feels that the evidence points to the mound and its stonework being the remains of a small castle or fortified house. If the other low stone filled platforms associated with the mound are the remains of some sort of barbican or gatehouse, then a castle is more likely. The thickness of the wall around the mound certainly points to the possibility of a castle. This seems to be another example of a wall built up from the bottom of the moat and revetting the mound. One could envisage a shell keep like that at Tretower castle (SO.184212), near Crickhowell, probably built sometime between 1150-1225, probably with the possible barbican/gate-house being a later addition. This would fit in with surviving evidence elsewhere. If the above conclusions are correct, and only excavation can confirm some details, then we have another addition to the list of castles on these low level earthworks, relying on wet defences that are common in the Marches.

The opportunity was taken to visit Mansell Lacy church. The meeting closed at about 5.15pm when a few drops of rain began to fall from a now overcast sky.

Roger Stirling-Brown

Brinsop (*Brunyssop*) had two parts of its tithes specified, granted to Brecon Priory at an early date, and half the tithes of hay in the parish. Henry Brinsop had also granted them 2 tenths of *pomorum de novo pomerio* from all the lordship. Two tenths and 12 acres of land had also been granted in Mansell (*Malmeshull*) by lord William Torel from the vicarage of Brinsop, and two parts of 3 acres from when Ralph Torel held the vicarage. Also land at *Hadenegge* that Restoldus held during the interdict (1208-15). Taken from a charter of 16 May 1223 printed in *Archaeologia Cambrensis* 1883, 233-5.

PMR

Field meeting at Harewood End

Eighteen members met at Harewood End Inn, on Sunday 3rd July 1994, 10.30pm. on a clear very hot day.

We proceeded to the parish of Pencoyd where a short visit was made to the church. As there was a service in progress it was not possible to go inside. It has an unusual dedication to St. Dennis. In the churchyard the badly decayed base of a churchyard cross was examined. Some members looked from a distance at Pencoyd Manor on the other side of the road and speculated on the possibility that it may have been moated, as there appears to be a dip in the ground surrounding the house. RCHM I SW, 209.

We then went to Netherton Farm (SO.523266) half a mile east of the church. We were met by the owner John Honey who explained various features of the house. Mentioned in RCHM I SW, 209, but with no plan given, this large timber framed house is of two stories with basements and attics. It has an 'E' shaped plan. The main block and east wing are 16th century, with a medieval cruck truss in the east wall. There were additions in the 17th century, and early in the same century the fine two story porch was built. The side walls of the porch have examples of pargeting, depicting vases of flowers and geometrical designs at the corners. The barn just south east of the house dates from about 1600 and has a queen-post type roof.

We were then taken on a walk through the fields behind the farm. The farmhouse and buildings are situated at the end of a long ridge. The ground falls away steeply at the north, south, and west of the house, into a moat like feature, still partly containing water behind the house, which may have been fish ponds. Further up the valley traces of two blocking dams could be seen, which must have served the dual purpose of holding back the water and providing access to the fields on the other side of this marshy channel. After much discussion about the possible geology of the area, it was thought that probably natural features had been utilized and modified to provide a ready supply of wildfowl and fish while also providing a defensive capacity. Interest was shown in a field where large flat stones had been ploughed up some years ago. It was agreed that here also aerial photography might produce rewarding results.

We then walked back to the farm, where the chairman thanked John Honey for showing the group around his property and providing such an interesting and thought provoking visit. By the entrance to the farm was a revetted bank which might be of archaeological interest.

The group then returned to the Harewood End Inn for an enjoyable lunch. The morning programme was led by Graham Sprackling.

1251-2 Hereford: It is noted that from the time King John held Harewood End (*Harewod'*, on the defeat of William Braose in 1208?) 2 carucates of land were given to Godescalco, who gave them to the lord of Garway (*Carewy*), *Book of Fees*, 1273.

GILLOW MANOR, Hentland SO.530253

After lunch, with the kind permission of the owners, we went to Gillow in the parish of Hentland to see a moated house which had formerly been occupied by the Pembridge family. In March we had seen the early and later castle sites in Pembridge which had been held from the de Braose honour of Radnor, and in April we had visited Pembridge castle in Welsh Newton which, despite its name, seems merely to have been in the custody of the Pembridges. It belonged to, and was built by, the de Braose family on land they held from the Knights of the Temple.

Gillow can be thought of as the purely private residence of the Pembridges. Held by them independently of the de Braoses or of any other lord. The Inquisitions held in 1279 and 1280 after the death of Henry de Penebrigg tell us that he had 120 acres of land and meadow in the vill of Kilho/Gilloch which were held by the service of doing suit at [the court of] the king's hundred of Wormelow every fortnight and providing a man for 15 days at his own cost to go with the king's army. And when he died an ox had to be given for heriot 'or 2 shillings if he have none according to the custom of the Welsh in that hundred'. This is the earliest reference I have found to the Pembridge connection with 'Gilloch'. In the Inquisition on his son Fulk de Penebrigg in 1296, Fulk was said to have a messuage and a carucate [about 120 acres of land] at Gyllouch, showing that a house had been built there.

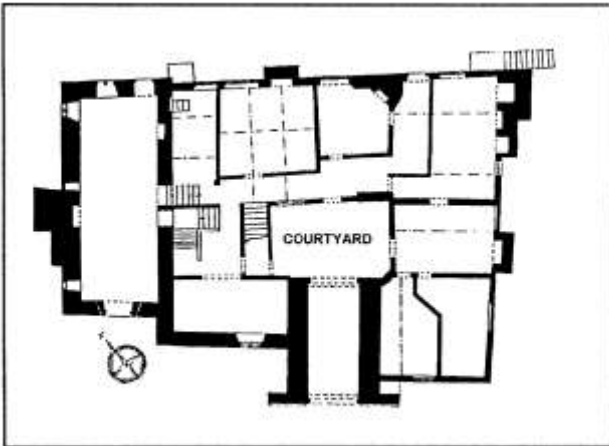


Figure 18, Ground plan of Gillow

According to the RCHM report, the earliest surviving part of Gillow was built in the latter part of the 14th century. The earliest part being the gatehouse on the SW front, the block adjoining it on the NW, some of the courtyard walls and possibly some of the internal walls. The present building also includes 16th and 17th century blocks on the other sides of the small courtyard and a NW wing partly rebuilt in the 17th century. The existing moat formerly surrounded the house and an old drawing shows a bridge leading to the gatehouse.

Unfortunately, the owners were unable to be at home to show us the very interesting interior of the house which possesses one feature probably unique for Herefordshire. This is the life-sized stone figure of a man of the early to mid-15th century which was said to have formerly stood on the battlements of the gatehouse. The weather worn figure stands with feet apart and, though his arms are now broken, he appears to have had one hand on his hip and the other outstretched, perhaps carrying a banner.

In 1417-18, Gillow was bought from the Pembridge heir by John Abrahall of Abrahall whose lands lay adjacent to Gillow. It must have been he who commissioned the sculpting of the figure and installed it on his battlements; it may even have been a representation of himself. He had been receiver-general for the widow of Sir Gilbert Talbot, lord of Archenfield, Goodrich Castle, Eccleswall, Penyard castle and a great deal more, and as such John Abrahall had been the most powerful figure in the Archenfield/Hundred of Wormelow area. He was also the MP for Hereford city in 1419 following a very dodgy election⁵³. On the inheritance of Sir John Talbot - Shakespeare's hero of many battles against the French, the scourge of Joan of Arc and the Irish, and later to be the first earl of Shrewsbury - John Abrahall was dismissed from office and a bitter feud began with each man at the head of a small army. The feud was part personal and part political, but the activities of both of these 'companies' made the lives of the inhabitants of the Hundred of Wormelow intolerable⁵⁴, and in 1423 they were driven to petition the King's Parliament for help. The petition told Parliament about:

'the many extortions, oppressions, murders, homicides, abductions, the forcible ousting from their lands and tenements of men with their wives and children, the taking of fines and the taking of all their goods and chattles'

and about

'the castle of Goderiche which is in the March of Wales and where the said persons are held in strong prison until they have paid fines and ransoms to Sir John Talbot and other gentlemen... '.

The petition lists the names of 50 other men in Sir John Talbot's company and 27 men and a woman in John Abrahall's. In other documents John Abrahall was recorded as acting

'along with other Welsh evildoers to the number of sixty all in warlike array'

on one foray, and with 80 in another⁵⁵. Stolen cattle and horses were driven to Gillow and prisoners were kept there until they paid ransom. It may be of interest for us today to note that Parliament did absolutely nothing beyond expressing the pious hope:

'And may the act [of telling everyone to keep the peace] and the enrolment of this petition accomplish what is desired.'

⁵³He was elected by the gentry of the county instead of by the burgesses of the city. [PRO Chancery. Writs and Returns of MPs 12/3].

⁵⁴Rolls of Parliament, IV. p.254a. [This one is transcribed in HRO AL2/22 P.7]. I am indebted to Sue Hubbard for her translation from the medieval French which was still the language of Parliament at that time.

⁵⁵Many of these exploits are discussed in 'Public Order and Private Violence in Herefordshire 1413-1461' by Ailsa Herbert (Unpublished thesis, Swansea, 1978). A microfilmed copy is now available in Hereford City Library.

In 1350 Sir Robert de Penebrugge presented a priest to the free chapel of Gilhou, later called the chapel of St. David of Gilloche⁵⁶. The whereabouts of the chapel is not known although one is marked on the 6 inch OS map near or at the house. This may allude to the room with the traceried 14th century window in the original part of the house. If the room had been used as a chapel it must have been a private one for the use of the family. Would such a chapel have been described as a free chapel? The remaining walls of a small building in the garden were looked at but they seem unlikely to have belonged to a chapel. The walls are thin, the shape is nearly square and the alignment is improbable.

John King points out that the Anglo-Norman de Pembridges would be extremely unlikely to have given a Welsh dedication to their chapel. This suggests that the chapel of St. David of Gillow may have already been in existence before the Pembridges arrived. Their right to present the chaplain was not exercised after 1397 and no further record of the chapel has been found. However, perhaps the strongest proof for a former chapel is recorded in the Glebe Terrier of Hentland in 1607 [HRO 5/25] where the vicar of Hentland received the 'alterage (offerings made on the altar for the maintenance of the priest) out of and from certaine lands belonginge unto Gillough' and a third part of all the great tithes from 'eight score akers or thereabouts' in Gillough. This must be reflecting the presence, or former presence, of the chapel. The same arrangement was recorded in the 1841 Tithe Apportionment.

Gillow formerly included the hamlet now known as St. Owens Cross. This is a modern name for what was earlier called Cross Owen and in the medieval documents was called Over Gillow while the present day Gillow Manor was Nether Gillow. The 14th century chapel of St. David may have served quite a large area.

Elizabeth Taylor

Editorial Note

At the end of the Gillow visit some members climbed the hillock north of the manor in search of possible earthworks. What may have been a small quarry was discovered slightly below the top of the hill at SO.532254. After Gillow we went to Caradoc Court, which burnt down some 20 years ago, but now appears to be under repair. It was not possible to gain access. Between Gillow and Caradoc we passed through the earthwork Gaer Cop, though little was visible. We also looked at another possible castle site at SO.556274, very close to Caradoc, but no conclusion could be reached.

The main meeting broke up at 4.15pm, but several members proceeded to Chapel Tump at St Owen's Cross (SO.538243). Richard Kay, who accompanied us, considered that this was a ringwork of some ¼ acre in extent. Today the only portion visible is a mound in the garden of Meeks Cottage. Col. J.R. Robinson, the owner, reports that on his deeds copied from old 6" maps, a motte and bailey is marked in the field immediately SW of his cottage. There is now no trace of this, suggesting that it is ploughed out. There was also a ditch between this feature and his property. It is now partly filled and contains an ornamental pond. We were told that we would be welcome to visit. The day finally concluded at 5.15 after a welcome cup of tea provided by Mrs Debbie Jones of Chapel Tump. Both parts of the name are suggestive.

⁵⁶Register Bishop John de Trillek, 383. Also by later members of the family in 1370, 1394, 1396 and 1397.

Ballon and Caldicot Castles

These were visited by the writer on 8/7/94

Physical Setting

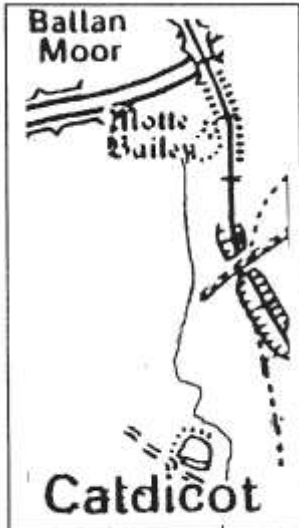


Figure 19. The River Nedern in relation to the two sites

These are in the flat floored valley of the Nedern Brook (sometimes called the River Troggy). The Nedern Brook is a small stream, which originally entered the sea just east of Caldicot town in a Pill. South west Caldicot is called Deepwier, which is suggestive. The valley has a flat floor with a "shelf" on either side, representing, probably the channel at Low Water, with the shelf being covered at High Water, especially Flood Tides. The valley section appears to be a former drowned inlet, now dry land. In Roman times the Nedern Brook may have been navigable, at least at flood tide to Caerwent, where on the old OS maps a "Sea Wall" was indicated (the south wall of the Roman town?) See HAN 61 p 12 Gordon McDonald of the Severn Tidal Research Group. Today the Nedern Brook is sealed by a sea wall, though according to the custodian of Caldicot Castle, there are 'sink holes' in the valley floor allowing water to rise and fall rapidly. The Nedern Brook floods its almost flat floor right up to the castle at Caldicot. See HAN 59 p 19 Roman Severn Crossings.

Pills The pills, on both sides of the Severn Estuary appear to have been caused by the large tidal range which allows the drainage and other small streams to cut quite deep channels in the soft sediments. These were used as small harbours.

Ballon (Mount Ballon, Ballon Mount, Ballon Moor, The Berries)
ST.487895

Described by Cathcart-King as a motte and bailey site projecting into marshy ground, the site appeared quite dry at the time of the visit. There was no evidence of marsh, possibly because it was a very dry period. Salter gives the Ballon family as the possible builders between 1086-1136. Later held by the Denfords. Hamelin de Ballon built an earth and timber castle at Abergavenny c.1090.

There is a motte about 12' in height, with a top diameter of about 20'. It was not possible to estimate the base diameter because of the scrub. There is still the remains of a very shallow ditch surrounding the motte. The bailey is pear shaped about 70 yards north to south, and about 50 yards east to west. It is on the "shelf".

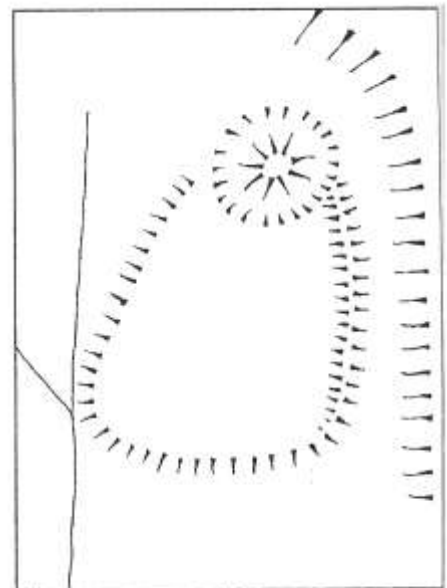


Figure 20. Ballon motte and bailey

On the east side of the bailey there is still a considerable bank and ditch, the railway embankment has removed any trace of a possible counter scarp bank. To the south there is a shallow ditch, but virtually no bank. There is a 'confused' area -here which could be the entrance. On the south west side a small tributary of the Nedern Brook flows south in a deep 'ditch', and this could possibly have been used to feed the moat. This 'ditch' appears to have been artificially deepened in modern times, possibly for drainage. On the north west side there is again a shallow ditch and a rather confused area, and a modern field entrance. The bailey is quite flat, the M4 extension runs quite close to the northern side of the motte. The site has been slightly confused by the construction of a military railway spur to RAF Caerleon, and by the M4 motorway. A few small pieces of stone were found near the motte?

Caldicot Castle ST.487885

Only the outer earthwork defences of Caldicot castle were examined. Caldicot castle also appears to have been on the "shelf" which could account for its position. The writer noticed two, previously unseen areas of stone work, due to recent vegetation clearance. To the left of the gateway (postern) on the east side, some stonework at right angles to the curtain wall was visible, the remains of an earlier tower? In the former motte ditch some stonework parallel to the curtain, on the motte side of the ditch was also visible, an earlier curtain?

The writer again speculated about the possible use of the very massive corbels in the curtain wall over the former motte ditch. Machicolations to protect this deeper, and so more vulnerable part of the curtain? The keep and several of the towers have holes for wooden hoardings to be erected.

To the east of the castle is a deep ditch, and high counter scarp bank which drops down quite steeply to the Nedern Brook. These have largely been removed on the south side where the original defences have been destroyed. The ditch re-appears on the west side though the counterscarp bank is very low. To the north the ditch and counterscarp bank are very pronounced. On all sides the ditch is very close to the curtain walls.

On the west side there appears to be a second ditch and low counterscarp bank in a half moon shape, possibly an additional protection for the main later gatehouse, as the ground here is flat. In fact even further west, at the western edge of the modern car park is another bank, but no visible ditch.

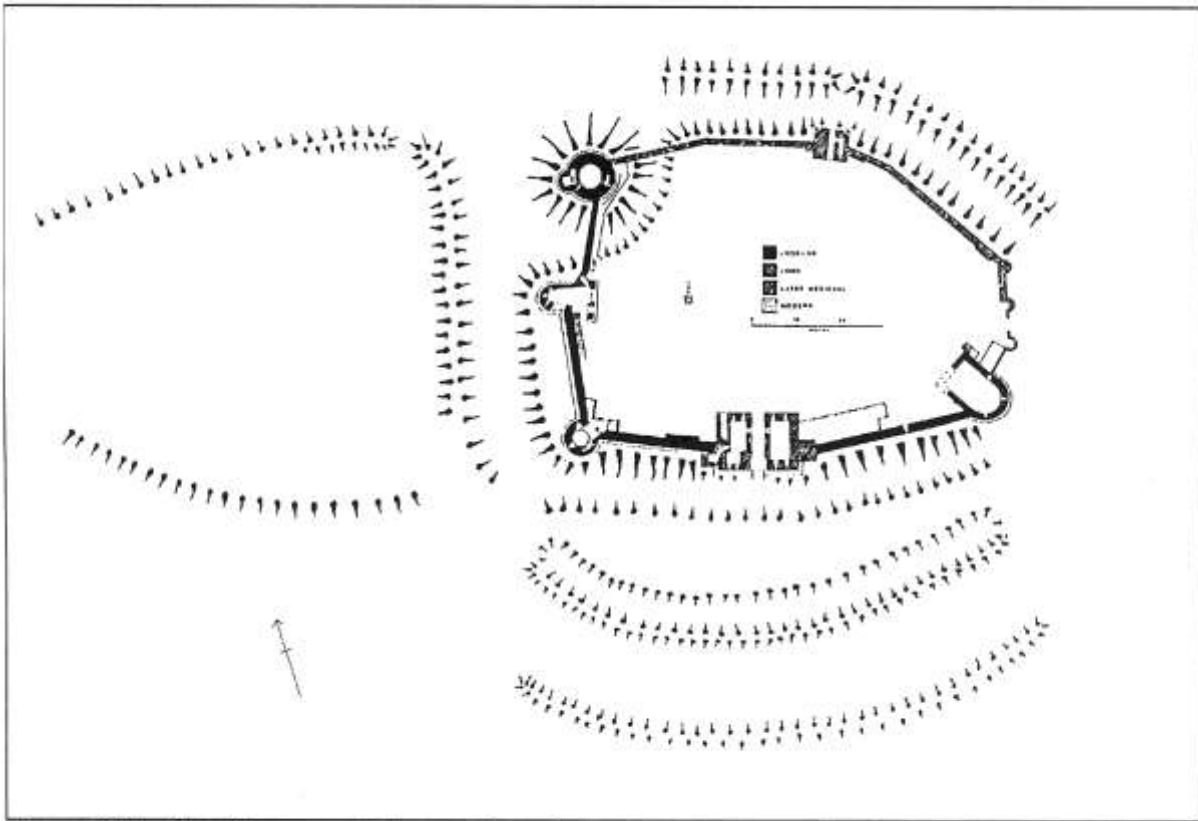


Figure 21, Caldicot castle earthworks

To the north of the castle is a large area of flat land, a bowling green with a bank on its eastern side, dropping down to the Nedern Brook. There is a drop in level on the western side with the vestige of a possible ditch. At the northern end of this area is a children's playground and a barbecue area, and it is difficult to trace former features. It is possible that the Keep of the original castle had a bailey which extended over the bowling green.

Between the bowling green and the road is another confused area of banks and hollows. The outer gatehouse to the outer bailey? There is no other visible bailey except the courtyard within the curtain walls. Caldicot castle may have been first mentioned in c.1150 as *Castell Conscuit*. In Domesday the vill was recorded under Gloucestershire where it was mentioned as one land in Caerwent called *Caldecote*, held by Durand the sheriff. The castle was certainly mentioned in 1197 and 1216⁵⁷.

⁵⁷ *Liber Land*, 496; *Camden Miscellany* XXII, 67 repeated in *Monmouthshire and Caerleon Antiquarian Association* vol 3; *Rot Lit Pat*, 169b.

There is also a small motte and bailey in the south east corner of Caerwent [*Venta Silurum*], the Roman town walls forming part of the defences. The actual motte is built over the wall and the roughly 50 yard square bailey lies between the Roman walls roughly north west of it. Again the site lies on the "shelf" at ST.470903. The castle may have been mentioned in c.1150.

PR Halliwell

A Grange of the Cistercian Abbey of Dore at Gwenddwr, Breconshire

During a visit by members of the ARS on 11/6/89, examining 'Further South Radnorshire Churches' and those of a small adjoining area of Breconshire (HAN 52 pp 16-17) attention was paid to a small parish church in the hamlet of Gwenddwr which was thought to have structurally originated as the chapelry of the monastic grange which became the centre of one of the extensive holdings of land granted to Abbey Dore in the 12th and 13th C. These lands included large tracts of sheepwalks in the Eppynt Uplands bordering the west side of the Wye. The well-defined earthworks marking the site of the secular buildings of the postulated grange were observed by members, showing in high relief on the steep further slopes above the Afon Gwenddwr, north of the churchyard and east of the church.

R E Kay 14/7/94

A survey (CBA (Wales) Arch. in Wales Vol 33 (1993) pp 66-68) has recently been made of these interesting remains, details of which are given below:

Gwenddwr (SO.065432)

Gwenddwr was, by tradition, founded in the early medieval period by followers of St Dubricius, the 6th century saint to whom the church is dedicated. There are also documentary references to a Cistercian Grange at Gwenddwr during the 14th century, belonging to Abbey D'Or in Herefordshire (Williams 1990,43), although its site remains unknown. CPAT has recently conducted a survey of earthworks on two separate sites, one of which was also the subject of trial excavations.

The Survey

CPAT conducted a survey of the historic settlements within Brecknock Borough during 1992 (Martin and Walters 1993), and following this measured surveys of earthworks in the area including Gwenddwr during the latter part of 1993 (Jones 1993).

On the opposite side of the valley from the village are a series of substantial earthworks (Powys Archaeological Record [PAR] 3913; Scheduled Ancient Monument B168) belonging to a deserted part of the medieval settlement (fig 1). The earthworks consist of at least 10 building platforms (1-10) with associated tracks and at least one leat and possible mill site (PAR 17215) to the E of a hollow-way which remained as an extant thoroughfare until relatively recent times.

A main thoroughfare may have led into the settlement from the hollow-way to the W along trackway 12, and possibly also 17, continuing between platforms 5 and 9. Some of the platforms, notably 1, 7 and 8, are terraced fairly deeply into the slope, on the northern side, with a levelled platform extending out against the slope to the S.

A slight terrace (11) runs along the northern boundary of the field, and appears on recent maps as a watercourse. The feature can be traced for at least 500m to the W as a well-preserved leat, where it must have originally led off the Nant Gwenddwr. In the field to the E of the leat it can be traced for a further 140m, and although it vanishes at this point, further downslope it reappears leading to a stony platform above the river with a channel to one side. This would therefore seem to be the site of a mill, possibly one of those attributed to the Cistercian Grange.

The well-defined lynchet (14) currently used as a trackway appears to lead from the leat to the SE. While it is possible that this is also a leat feeding a mill located within the deserted settlement, it is perhaps more convincing simply as a lynchet forming a boundary along the northern side of the settlement.

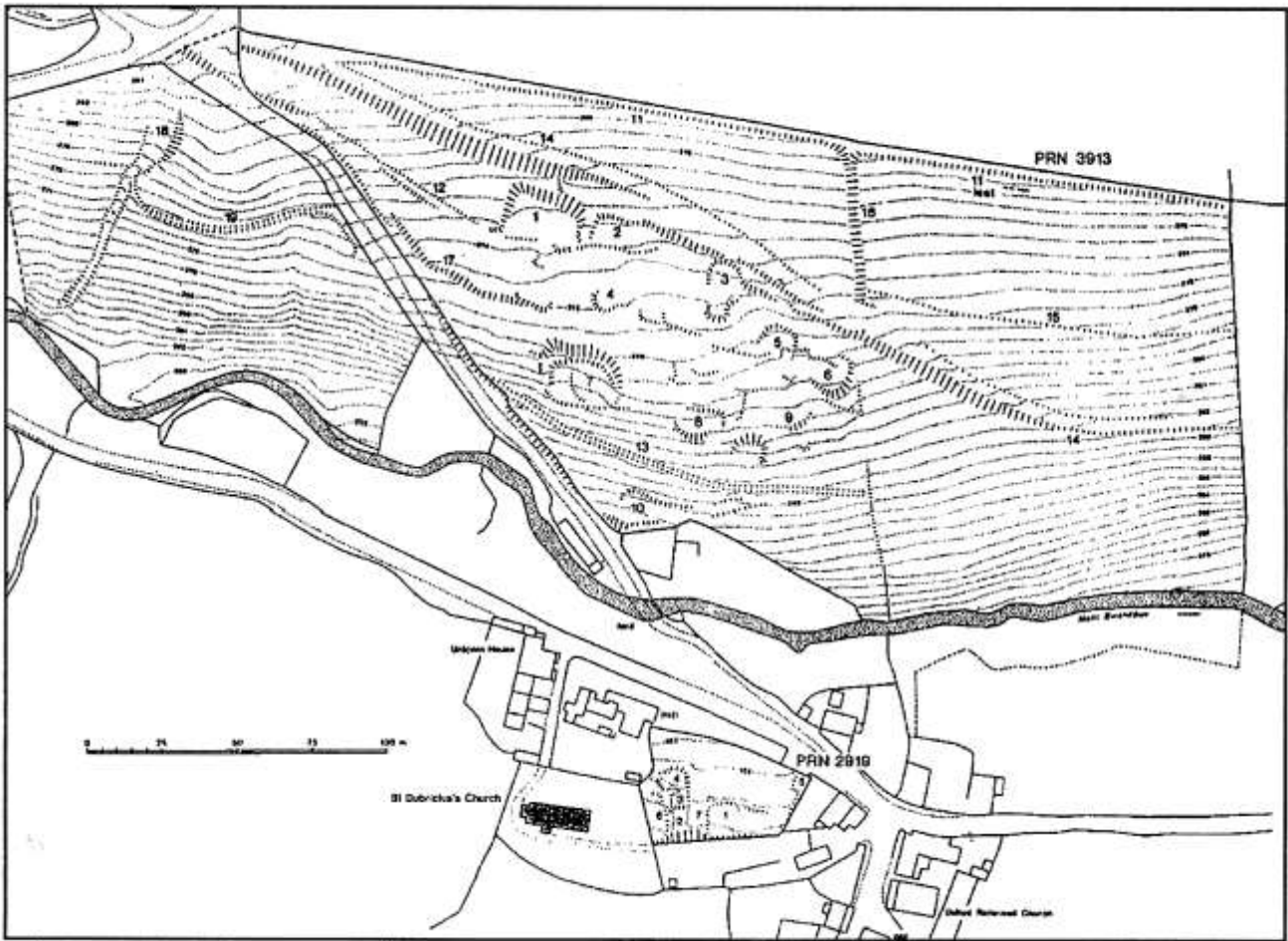


Figure 22, Gwenddwr Grange earthworks

On the southern side of the valley, immediately to the E of the church, lie a second series of well-preserved earthworks (PAR 2919), consisting of a hollow-way (7) with a large platform (1) to the E, and up to three platforms (2-4) to the W. Backing against these platforms in the SW corner of the field a lynchet (6) may indicate the former churchyard boundary. The hollow-way is likely to have been the original course of entry to the church since the existing track appears to be entirely modern.

It was discovered at the time of the survey that the field had been earmarked as the new extension to the burial ground, which would result in the levelling of the site, destroying the archaeological remains. As a result, an evaluation was proposed to assess the nature and likely dating of the site. Funding was provided by Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments.

The Excavation

Two trenches were positioned to examine a representative sample of the features identified in the earthwork survey. Trench A was excavated entirely by hand, while the topsoil in Trench B was removed by machine, with subsequent excavation by hand. The excavation was conducted over a 7 day period during December 1993. Severe weather conditions prevented investigation below post-medieval deposits in both trenches due to excessive ground water.

Trench A investigated a section of the supposed churchyard bank, together with a platform between it and the hollow-way. A partial section through the bank revealed that it was of post-medieval date, and had been constructed on the edge of an earlier terrace. Stone layers at the base of the bank appeared to be filling a ditch, but it was not possible to excavate further. To the W of the bank, beneath post-medieval deposits, two layers were investigated which contained only medieval pottery. Conditions prevented the excavation of the platform, although a single posthole was identified.

Trench B was located across the platform to the E of the hollow-way. Beneath the topsoil and a presumed cultivation layer containing post-medieval finds, a layer of stony clay was revealed that yielded a single shard of medieval pottery. The upper 0.5m of the platform profile consisted of the layers removed by machine and suggested a build up of soil against a field boundary. There was no evidence for any stone revetment along the

face of the platform associated either with these layers or the underlying clay layer. It was not possible to investigate the platform further for evidence of structures.

The evaluation produced a reasonably large assemblage of post-medieval pottery (278 shards), the majority of which belonged to the period 1650-1750. Included in the assemblage was an interesting collection of North Devon gravel-tempered ware. It is unusual to find this ware so far N, and its presence here must be attributed to the close proximity of the Wye which acted as an important trade route. Evidence from the pottery would suggest that the site was abandoned by 1750. However, there is no indication as to the origins of the occupation which may well be medieval, particularly considering the existence of the Cistercian Grange.

Nigel Jones, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust

References

Jones, NW, 1993 *Brecknock Borough Historic Settlements: Earthwork Survey*, CPAT Report No 83

Martin, CHR & Walters, MJ, 1993 *Brecknock Borough Historic Settlements*, CPAT Report No 60

Williams, DH, 1990 *Cistercian Lands in Wales*. Cardiff

Mineral Railway Lines David Spoons, who had a lifetime interest in railways, was invited by the editor to write about mineral lines, their development and operation. In recent years we have visited several industrial sites where the remains of old mineral lines were in evidence. Unfortunately his untimely death occurred when he had only drafted out the introduction to the article. This is reproduced below for interest.

Railways

A 'Railway' is a means of improving the efficiency of the wheel, while at the same time giving automatic guidance to a wheeled vehicle.

These have been three basic methods of providing these requirements:-

1. The Rut-way 2. The Guide-pin or Guide-wheel-way and 3. The Edge-Rail-Way with variations.

1. The Rutway. Obviously, the first wheeled vehicles produced ruts and it being found easier to follow prepared paths (rather than form new routes) a standard axle length soon developed. The Stone Age Standard Gauge! It also being advantageous (especially as it is believed that four wheeled wagons had fixed axles) to keep rigidly to track, the deliberate forming of ruts in living rock or paving slabs, may date to around 2,000 BC on Malta, and is positively dated to the Diolkos ship transport system across the Isthmus of Corinth around 600 BC. The Romans also laid pre-cut paving as has been shown in excavations at Herculaneum. There has been romantic speculation about the relationship between the "Stephenson" gauge of 4'8½" and the ancient gauge of 4'8" - 4'9". The prosaic reason is that this is the optimum axle length for horse haulage and later users, including Stephenson, "Built to fit" that which already existed. The Rutway made a spectacular reappearance in Britain in the 18th C. We call them 'Tramroads' or 'Plateways' being iron plates with integral flanges to carry the flangeless wheels of road vehicles. These proved much superior to the appalling public roads of the day. Being incapable of development they were superseded by steam traction on (Edge) Railways, as was the local example, from Hay to Burlingjob. They did however give us the concept of the 'common carrier' by rail.

2. Guide Pin and Guide Wheel Railways. The 'German' Railways. These were the next to appear and were developed in connection with metalliferous mining in the Black Forest and eastwards. The miners for copper and other ores were generally held to be Saxons, hence the 'German' connection. The mining system used was to follow the vein of metallic ore into the mountain leaving a tortuous route through which the ore had to be extracted. The answer was to lay the parallel footways of planks to the working face. These carried small barrows which were guided by a vertical pin which located in a slot between the two footways. In this way a full load of ore could be propelled at speed through unlit workings. The system was imported to Britain in Tudor times and worked for some time at Tal-y-bont silver mines and also near Keswick. Dating from (perhaps) the 13th C the system is still with us today. We call it 'Scalectrix', or 'slot car racing'.

The larger version, employing guide-wheels, appeared in Hungary around 1660. The track was similar to English edge-rail in construction having two parallel timber beams as a carrying surface. The vehicles, however, had four vertical wheels on which they were carried and four (small) horizontal wheels which located to retain the vehicle within the track. Again, the system exists today. It is the principle employed by the pneumatic tyred metro trains of Paris and Montreal, which have horizontal guide wheels on separate guide tracks. There is also the unique Pilatus railway in Switzerland which employs horizontal pinion wheels clasping a vertically toothed rack rail.

3. The Edge-Rail-Way or the English Railway

The unique innovation in this country was the introduction of the flanged wheel as a means of retaining the vehicle on the track. As this appeared more or less simultaneously at several sites this must have been an extension of existing technology which we cannot identify.

The basic structure is unchanged from the inception. Two bearing surfaces are kept parallel by cross-ties, or sleepers, the whole embedded in a layer of sharply draining material. The vehicles are retained by flanges on the inner edges of the wheels. Materials have changed with technology, but the principles are unchanged since railways first appeared around 1600.

David Spoons

Roman Roads in Southern Scotland

Some thoughts occasioned by a recent visit to Scotland on a possible road between Newstead and Berwick. The writer has always had strong feelings on this subject, though it must be confessed that Scottish feeling is not always favourable.

Margary road 87 to Berwick upon Tweed appears to be pointless, especially if a supply fleet was operating along the east coast. Berwick could be considered as a possible Roman port, but together with the road to what purpose? They would only be meaningful if there was a connection to Newstead (*Trimontium*). From personal observation, though Newstead is on the River Tweed, navigation would present serious problems because of the shallow nature of the river.

It is tempting to postulate a road from Berwick to Newstead to join up with Margary 79a from Carstairs (Castledykes fort), this would at least have the advantage of making sense of Margary road 87, and the east west road Margary 79. Road 79 has been traced from Castledykes eastwards at least to the Roman forts at Lyne/Easter Haprew and possibly to Peebles where there is a Marching Camp. Another Marching Camp at Innerlethan would suggest a continuation of 79a down the Tweed valley to *Trimontium*. Westwards, more tentatively, is a road Margary 79b to the Marching Camp at Cauldcoats and to the Roman fort at Loudoun Hill and even across to Irving Bay (*Vindogara Sinus*) where a Roman fleet/supply base has been postulated.

In support of the Berwick Newstead road the following "Chester" names can be quoted, taken from the 1/50,000 maps- Chesterfield NT.940539; Belchester NT.793435; Darnchester NT.815425; Darnchester West Mains NT.806427; Ketchesters NT.773355; Chesterhill NT.555318. There is also the village of Ecoles (NT.765414). There are no "Chester" names outside this narrow 'corridor'. Another 'corridor' of "Chester" names occurs between Lockerbie and Newstead on Margary 89 at the Newstead end. Chester names are:- Chesterknowles NT.527263; High Chesters NT.458140; Whitchesters NT.470110; Benchester Bridge NT.590120; Chesters NT.624105; Chesters NT.609225; Chesters Orange NT.602226; Blackchesters NT.553271. On Dere Street, a known Roman road, is Streethouse NT.776129 and Rochester & High Rochester. There is a Chester Hill south of Lauder at NT.525465 and a Blackchester NT.508505 again on a known Roman road. Margary 8g. Blackchester although a 'Native' fort is on the line of road 8g and thus cannot be used as evidence that the Angles confused the site. The same argument applies to Bonchester, where there is a Native, fort on Bonchester Hill.

The standard answer from Scottish Archaeologists and Historians is that the Angles, who settled in this area, confused 'Native' works for Roman. I would put forward the view that - why was it in these narrow 'corridors' the Angles were confused whereas elsewhere in Britain they were not! I appreciate the danger of this exercise, but I feel the coincidence is too great, larger scale maps might reveal more examples. It is not claimed that all "Chester" names are genuine, but they cannot all be 'mistakes'. There are plenty of 'Law' names in the area so the Angles must have known the difference. The word 'Native' has been used because in Scotland there is no clear end to the Iron Age as in England.

There are some "Chesters" associated with the Devils Causeway Margery 87:- Ferney Chesters NT.054814; Cheaterhill NT.162040; Chester House NT.236025. These might indicate a possible route to the sea at Warkworth: Chesters NT.107350; Chesterhill NT.138345 another possible route to the sea at Budle Bay. (Margary postulated a possible route to sea as a continuation of his road 88. NT.162040 & NT.236025 could be on this possible route. North of Berwick is Chester Hill NT.953602 & Chesterbank NT.949509. There is also The Chesters, a fort at NT.660740 (could be a genuine mistake). There is a Whitchester at NT.720590 (rather far north of a possible Berwick Newstead road).

These thoughts are offered in the hope that it might stimulate interest. Although no trace of the Berwick Newstead road has yet been found, it is possible that such a road was contemplated but never built because of the Roman withdrawal from Scotland. In any case, even in the very unlikely event of the Angles being confused, there is still the problem of the 'corridors' of "Chester" names being on known Roman roads, except for the Berwick Newstead "road".

"The Piercebridge Formula", R Selkirk, Patrick Stephens and its partial rebuttal in "Roman Military Supply in NE England" J Anderson, BAR 224 go a long way to resolving the problem of whether river transport took the place of roads. This still leaves the Devils Causeway in the "wrong" place as a NS road instead of an EW one, and

Berwick "isolated". It has been suggested that the Devils Causeway (Margary 87) was built with a two-fold aim, to pacify the Votadini and to allow contact with the fleet operating along the east coast. The Devils Causeway has noagger which might imply a non military construction, or military construction of great haste.

The writer was encouraged to include this after remarks at a committee meeting when he mentioned his holiday in Scotland.

PR Halliwell

Book Review

Four more books by Mike Salter, not of local interest, but well worth while for the traveller.

The Old Parish Churches of Scotland, Folly Publications, 124 PP, 12 location maps, sketches, photographs and plans. Price £7.50. It deals with churches established before 1707, the Act of Union as distinct from 1760s of his other Old Church series. Some of the medieval churches are still in use by the Church of Scotland, but the majority were abandoned at the Reformation to be replaced by new churches more suitable for the Presbyterian form of worship. A most useful guide for the visitor to Scotland. A monumental work compressed into a small format, it does not deal with Cathedrals and Abbeys except for one or two long used as parish churches. A welcome addition to the Salter books is the provision of an index.

Castles of The Heartland of Scotland, Folly Publications, 143 pp, 4 location maps and the usual sketches, photographs and plans. Price £7.50. This is the second of Salter's five volume castle coverage of Scotland, and does include an index, essential when covering such a wide area as Fife, Kinross, Clackmannon, Perthshire, Stirling and Dumbarton. The old counties still thankfully have much more credence in Scotland. This series of gazetteers is invaluable, as apart from The Castellated and Domestic Architecture of Scotland in 5 volumes by McGibbob, Ross & Douglas, (still in print in facsimile form) there is no complete coverage of Scottish castles. The Salter volumes are affordable and convenient in size for the traveller and do include castles which today are only represented by earthworks. This is Salter's 11th castle book.

Midland Castles, Quercus, 96 pp concerning the history, fortifications and remains of 76 castles in the western Midlands. Price £7.50. It covers a selection of castles from Staffordshire, Warwickshire and Worcestershire, with a few each from Shropshire, Derbyshire and Leicestershire illustrated with plans, photographs and engravings.

Mike Salter has just produced another Old Parish Churches book, this is Vol 4 of the Welsh Series - S W Wales or Dyfed at £4.95. Well up to his usual standard of Parish Church books, and it includes an index for all 4 Welsh Church books, this is most useful as the earlier Welsh Church books had no index. It is gratifying to note that the gazetteer still follows the old counties of Cardiganshire, Carmarth-enshire and Pembrokeshire. Some or all of these may reappear if the current Boundaries Commission Recommendations are accepted.

Of more local interest, Paul Remfry has produced the first three of a series of booklets on local historical sites. *Hopton Castle 1066-1305*, *Clun Castle 1066-1282* and *A Political History of Abbey Cwmhir and its Patrons, 1176-1282*. They are an attempt to record all that is known of the early history of the sites and their owners together with the latest interpretation of the castle remains complete with interpretive plans, maps and photographs. Further booklets are in the pipeline on Clifford and Radnor castles. In Postern 3 the following reviews were made:-

of Hopton "If this is to be Paul's working format, it is hard to see where it can be improved."

and of Clun "I found the depth of history regarding the Lords of Clun fascinating. And certainly not ignored is the Welsh involvement in such an important castle. Each page has full references as to where these histories are taken from. An excellent product, and certainly well worth writing to Paul to be placed on his mailing list."

Cwmhir has a foreword by the Revd Dr. WH Williams who gave a speech to our field meeting at the Abbey, HAN 60, 24. Part of this reads:

"It is a pleasure to be asked to contribute to this timely work on Abbey Cwmhir, especially as renewed interest in its buildings and history is now forthcoming from both official sources and people of good-will concerned for the preservation of its remains. The origins of several Welsh Cistercian monasteries lie shrouded in obscurity; how fortunate we are, therefore, to have this finely researched and detailed thesis from a scholar who has already proved his worth in studies of the castles of the Middle March.

This fine booklet is a very significant contribution not only to Welsh monastic history, but also to our understanding of the Middle March in those years. It deserves to be widely read."

A very bold venture which deserves to succeed and Paul is to be congratulated on his zeal and industry. A must for the serious castle student and for anyone else with a desire for local history. The booklets, in single sided A4 format, are printed and bound by Paul to a high standard and are obtainable direct from. Prices, Hopton £4.95, Clun £9.95, Abbey Cwmhir £6.95 + £1 P&P if posted.

PRH

Annual Garden Party

This was held on the evening of Saturday 6th August. We met for the 5th successive year at the home of Beryl and John Harding. Some 22 members and friends enjoyed the beautiful gardens and delicious supply of food which are now a hallmark of these occasions.

We all spent a very pleasant evening, eating, drinking and talking, sometimes archaeology was mentioned. Once again we are indebted to Beryl and John for allowing us into their home. The weather was fine throughout the evening. It was only when we went to our cars at the end of the party that we found that the rain had returned.

Graham Sprackling

Knapp Farm (SO.246600) Cathcart-King Old Radnor No 2, this issue p 33

It was suggested that this could possibly be a mound for a windmill. The site was visited by the writer on 21/8/94 (the OS spells it Knapp not Knap). Knap is defined as "Crest of hill, ring ground". The stream was dry at the time of the visit. The writer thought that it was a possible motte about 15' in height with a top diameter of about 25'. It has the characteristic "inverted pudding basin" shape of a motte - it was until recently covered with large trees. The mound had slumped or otherwise been interfered with on the west side. To the west again of the mound is a shallow ditch and across the A44 in the former wood, now largely cleared, are more ditches. Could this be the remains of a bailey partly destroyed by the road works?

In such a position the additional height would have made little difference to the effectiveness of a windmill, and would have made any turning mechanism to keep the sails into the wind difficult or almost impossible to install. That is, unless it was of a type before turning mechanism was invented.

I have spoken to an expert on mills and I understand that windmills were first reported in England in 1180. They were uncommon in this area until much later, water mills being the principle source of power. The first windmills were Post-Mills, where the whole tower revolved about a central post. They required a horizontal beam to turn the tower to face the wind. Almost impossible on the top of a mound. Caps, where only the top of the tower moved for the wind did not come into use till the 15th C.

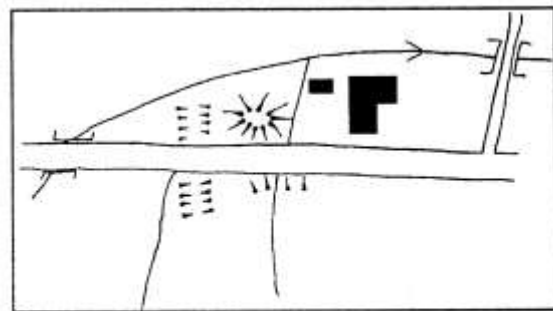


Figure 23, Sketch plan of the Knapp Farm mound

In the area are a number of tumuli and standing stones. About a kilometre to the north-east is the Roman Auxiliary Fort and Marching Camps at Hindwell. There are also a considerable number of castles in the area.
PRH

It was hoped to print various comments received concerning the impact on Archaeology of the proposed split that appears to be coming between Hereford and Worcester. Unfortunately due to limitations of time and space this was not possible, and these comments will be carried over to the next issue.

Produced by S.C.S. Publishing