

# HEREFORDSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWS



HAN 63      Spring 1995

WOOLHOPE CLUB  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH SECTION

## Contents

Programme .....	2	
Editorial .....	3	
The British Archaeological Awards 1994 .....	3	
Annual General Meeting and Dinner .....	4	
Notes .....	4	
Miscellany .....	8	
News from the County Archaeological Service .....	11	
Errata HAN 62 .....	12	
Addenda, Cwmhir, Gamage Farm, Burton Court, Pembridge, Clifford, White Castle, Radnor and Wigmore .....	12	
Archaeology in Herefordshire - The Future .....	15	
Castles and Knight's Fees in the Castlery of Clun by Bruce Coplestone-Crow .....	20	
Ludlow Castle - The Outer Defences, by Peter Halliwell and Paul Remfry		33
Finds from Bromsash by Martin Sterry and Terry James .....	34	
An Attempt to Locate the Lost Turfords Chapel, Richards Castle (Salop) by Patricia Cross .....	36	
Excavation of a Rock Shelter Near the Seven Sisters Rocks, 18 July 1994 by Rosamund Skelton .....	37	
Extra Meeting at Old Radnor, 4 September 1994 by Peter Halliwell .....	38	
Field Meeting at St Briavels, 11 September 1994, by Richard Kay and Paul Remfry .....	41	
Lime Kilns in the Woolhope area, 9 October 1994, by Elizabeth Taylor .....	49	
Investigations in the Pencombe area, 13 November 1994, by Rosamund Skelton and Roger Stirling-Brown .....	52	
6th Annual Shindig .....	59	
Book Review .....	61	
List of Officers		

### Subscriptions 1995

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 1994, if you have, please accept our apologies for this third 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. Copyright *HAN* and individual authors.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH SECTION**

Programme February 1995 - August 1995

SUNDAY 2 April	Investigations in the Foy area	Meet at the 'Travellers Rest' PH at the Ross end of M50 Leader Elizabeth Taylor
SUNDAY 7 May	Castles and Churches in the Erwood area	Meet at the cafe at the old railway station at Erwood. Tour devised by Richard Kay. Leader Paul Remfry
SUNDAY 4 June	Investigations in the Walterstone area	Meet at Walterstone Common (SO352252) Leader Graham Sprackling
SUNDAY 2 July	Roman town of Caerwent and Caldicot Castle	Meet at Caerwent Church Leader Peter Halliwell
SATURDAY 5 August	Garden Party	At the home of Beryl & John Harding Aldermead, Llanwarne, Herefs. 6.30pm
SUNDAY 10 September	Investigations in the Byford area	Meet at Byford Church Leader Roger Stirling-Brown
SUNDAY 8 October	Investigations in the Marden area	Meet at Marden Church Leader Jean O'Donnell
SATURDAY 21 October	7 <sup>th</sup> Annual Shindig Hosted by DAG	Dean Centre, Foxes Bridge Road, Cinderford, Gloucs. 3 - 8pm. Buffet supper.
SUNDAY 12 November	Investigations in the Wellington area	Meet at Wellington Church Leader Andrew Stirling-Brown
FRIDAY 8 December	AGM & Diner (Provisional)	Golden River Restaurant, Commercial Street, Hereford. 7.30 for 8pm

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

### WEA & Local History Societies 18th Annual DAY School - Advance Information

This will be held on Saturday 10th June 1995 at the Minster High School Leominster. The theme will be "History of the Arts in Herefordshire", It will be hosted by the Leominster Historical Society. Application forms can be obtained, nearer the date, from your local library or society.

### 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 to only issue newsletters to those who have already paid.

## No. 63 Spring 1995

### Editorial

The latest issue, No 9 of Archaeology, the newsletter of the county archaeological service has been received and it has some interesting items about Herefordshire which have been extracted and appear in Notes.

Paul Remfry, the printer, is to be congratulated on the excellent job he did on printing HAN 62, all credit is due to him. It does make the editors work so much easier to have an archaeologist as the printer. He also did the art work for the issue. Thanks are also due to Ron and Elizabeth Remfry who helped with the proof reading of HAN 62 and 63.

In HAN 62 page 33, there is a reference to lost, immediate pre-WWII photographs of a "Norman" door found at Crug Eryr (SO.158593) taken during an excavation. The call for help in locating these Photographs and any other excavation records is repeated.

This year 1995 is coming up to 30 years of life for the ARS, a most creditable achievement and reflects greatly on all members, both past and present of the section. HAN 64 in Autumn will more nearly celebrate the actual formation of the ARS, but with this issue we are in the 30<sup>th</sup> year. The ARS has been fortunate in having a dedicated group of committee members over the years.

Our thanks are due to all those who delivered copies of HAN 62 by hand, thus saving on the postage charges. Special mention must be made of Frank Pexton in this respect, who this time delivered a record number of copies, we are most grateful for all his efforts.

Although the art work and processing of this issue is being done by Paul Remfry again, the actual duplication will be by the Resource Centre.

Two letters are printed which give the pros and cons, of how archaeology in Herefordshire might be affected by the proposed local government boundary changes. The editor felt that it was his duty to bring these to the attention of members.

The editor would like to add his personal tribute to all those who worked so hard for the Field Name entry to the Pitt-Rivers Award and its successful result.

Editor

### **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Shindig 1995**

This will be hosted by the Dean Archaeological Group and provisionally will be held at the Dean Centre, Foxes Bridge Road, Cinderford, Gloucestershire on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October 1995.

### **Woolhope Club Winter Annual Meeting**

This was held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December in Committee Room No 1 at the Shire Hall, Hereford at 2.15pm when a report to the club on the work of the Archaeological Research Section during 1994 was presented by Ruth Richardson and illustrated with slides provided by section members.

### **The British Archaeological Awards 1994**

These awards are biennial and are designed to encourage and support the work of archaeologists both professional and amateur.

The ARS won a well deserved award - the "Graham Webster Laurels", the part of the Pitt-Rivers Award given to the best project which best served education in archaeology for the public.

The ARS were also one of the six finalists for the Pitt-Rivers Award for the best project by a voluntary body, and have qualified for a British Archaeological Awards Certificate.

The entry consisted of the Herefordshire Parish Field Name Survey and its archaeological implications.

The awards were presented at the Yorkshire Museum at York in a presentation ceremony held on Wednesday afternoon 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1994 by The Lord Montagu of Beaulieu the president of the British Archaeological Awards. All concerned are to be congratulated on this magnificent achievement.

### **Local Man Honoured by Pitt-Rivers Award Judges**

Mr Ivan Turner, of Bishops Frome, who worked as a ploughman for 40 years at Netherwood Farm on the Worcestershire border, set up a museum in an out-building at his home to display the small finds such as flints and pottery that he had found during his work. The judges were most impressed by the way that it can be seen at a glance which field and position in the field the finds were found at. Most of his finds have gone to the Bromyard Local History society. Mr Turner received official commendation from the judges.

### **The Annual General Meeting and Dinner**

The Annual General Meeting and Dinner was held at 8pm at the Golden River Restaurant, Commercial Street, Hereford on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 1994. Some sixteen members were present.

We were very pleased to see Clarence Atfield, the former chairman at the meeting, and also Richard Kay the Hon Vice-Chairman.

Reports were given by the chairman, treasurer, editor and the field name survey group on the work of the year. The existing committee and officers were unanimously re-elected for the forthcoming year, with the exception of Margaret Jones and John Kirkwood. George Wells was elected to the committee. In spite of the dire forecast last year, it has still been possible to keep the ARS subscription at £3.50, though it is doubtful if it can remain at this very low figure for much longer. The chairman reiterated the necessity of paying at the beginning of the year.

The field meeting programme was carried out as per the schedule, and there were two extra meetings in July and September. All these meetings are written up in either HAN 61 or 62. We are grateful to Beryl Harding for arranging the lecture venue and refreshments at the Teachers Centre. As in 1993 the January and February meetings were lectures,

We are again heavily in the debt of Beryl and John Harding for allowing us to hold our Annual Garden Party at their home. We are very grateful for all their hard work in preparation, and also to all those who brought food and drink.

The ARS attended the sixth Annual Shindig at Gloucester in early November, this year hosted by GADARG, who have now formally joined the Shindig group. The ARS contribution was given by Ruth Richardson assisted by Graham Sprackling on the Field Name Survey and its Archaeological Implications. Ruth gave a most interesting and well thought out description of the work of the Field Name Survey.

Ruth Richardson also delivered the report of the work of the ARS in 1994 to the Winter Meeting of the Woolhope Club, very well presented with excellent slides. The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the winning of the Graham Webster Laurels by the Field Name Survey, a magnificent achievement and heartiest congratulations to all concerned.

HAN 61 had difficulties in its duplication which led to the loss of the binding margin for about two thirds of the pages. HAN 62, probably the best newsletter to date, was computer produced by Paul Remfry.

The question of binding the back numbers of the newsletter might appear, at last, to be solved with the assistance of a member who promised help with the binders.

The section caravan was again, as last year, lent to Nick Barton for use in his excavations at King Arthur's Cave near Symonds Yat,

The chairman thanked all office bearers and committee members for their unfailing help and support during the year and also Elizabeth Taylor for allowing the committee meetings in her house and for her refreshments. Lastly the proprietors of the Golden River Restaurant were thanked for allowing us to hold our AGM in their restaurant. The meeting closed at 9.30pm to be followed by the usual enjoyable Chinese meal.

PRH

### **Notes**

#### **Last Stand of Caradoc, (Caratacus)**

There are at least three Iron Age hill forts called Caer Caradoc in Shropshire, one near Clun (SO.310758), one near Church Stretton (SO.477973) & Caer Caradog (SH.968479).

The difficulty has always been to reconcile the account of the battle given in Tacitus with the ground conditions today. Although the description appears to be very detailed, it was probably written to make the Roman victory more impressive.

The latest, and most convincing, candidate is the hill fort at Llanymynech (SJ.265220) south of Oswestry. There are possible Temporary Marching Camps nearby.

The same problem is found in trying to identify the site of the battle of Mons Grapius in Scotland.

### **Extracted from 'Archaeology' No 9**

The following are taken from the Newsletter of the County Archaeological Service:

-Chapel Farm, Wigmore Masonry of possible 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> C was recovered from post medieval deposits. They appear to be of similar date to medieval floor tiles and masonry, including a Norman window arch from the site. This further supports the argument for the location of the medieval church of the Blessed Mary and St Leonard near Chapel Farm. This church is documented as a property of the nearby Limebrook nunnery.

Eau Withington Construction of a new gas pipe line has revealed the possible site of the Eau Withington manor house to the west of Withington Court. The medieval structures were buried under a layer of alluvium and the manor abandoned as a result of flooding. The remains of stone buildings, pottery, metal and fragments of architectural stonework have been recovered and are provisionally dated to 1200-1400AD.

Tenbury Wells (Leominster District) A range of medieval deposits including post and stake holes with slots for timber have been revealed in an archaeological evaluation in advance of proposed development in the old pre-Norman core of the town. They probably represent the remains of buildings or stock enclosures. The wide straight Teme Street running down to the river probably represents a Norman planned extension from the Saxon settlement to the river crossing and Burford castle.

### **Leigh Castle** (Worcestershire) SO.781519

Members might be interested to note, after all the recent reports on the Pembridge family, that the castle at Castle Green, Leigh Sinton, consisting of a motte and round southern bailey, was taken by Henry III from Hugh (a mistake for Henry?) Pembridge and given to Matthew Gamage. It was recovered by Henry's son?, another Henry, in 1272. We have also come across the Gamage at Mansell Gamage and Boughrood.

### **WW II Defences**

A survey of 20<sup>th</sup> C military sites in Britain will be launched next year. This will include pillboxes, tank traps, airfields, command bunkers, POW camps, AA batteries, radar sites, underground hospitals etc.

Much of the documentation has been lost, so archaeological investigation as well as personal memories may be necessary. A team of coordinators is now being assembled by the Fortress Study Group and the Council for British Archaeology. The Department of Natural Heritage is providing some financial support. A booklet will be published early in 1995 giving details of the exercise.

### **Goodrich Castle**

A self explanatory letter from the Dean Archaeological Group is reproduced. In HAN 60 P 49 James Pickering postulated a possible Iron Age hillfort on the site. A great pity that a chance to learn more about this interesting site has been denied.

Dear Peter,

Some time ago I contacted you with reference to full survey - field walking - metal detecting - surveying, we were planning to do around Goodrich Castle with the permission of the landowner.

I regret to inform you that permission of the landowner has been withdrawn following unauthorised metal detecting on his land. The culprit appears to have been American, probably driving a white four wheel drive vehicle. Any knowledge of this person would be greatly appreciated.

Sorry this means the promised copy of our findings will not now be forthcoming.

Yours sincerely,

Alf WEBB, Director of Archaeology, DAG

### **A second castle site at Clifford?** (SO.245.464, approx.)

A possible second castle site east of the main castle, a motte? has been identified from SMR air photographs by Roger Stirling-Brown, possibly guarding the ford across the Wye.

## Harewood

This was visited on 3/7/94 (HAN 62 p.43). In Robinson "A History of the Mansions and Manors of Herefordshire" page 132 there is a reference to a possible defensive mound by the entrance to Elverstone, still called *Petite Haute*. (SO.524280).

## Recently Discovered Roman Forts

Although distant from Herefordshire all newly discovered Roman forts deserve mentions:-

Falkirk (NS.887797), the missing fort in sequence on the Antonine Wall, Roecliffe (SE.387665) North Yorkshire.

Nearer home a possible fort at Clehonger (SO.470377); Grimley, Worcs (SO.835606). Possible Marching Camps at Great Comberton (SO.95104323); Ivington (SO.474563); Ridgeway Cross, Cradley (SO.714479) and a suggestion of one near Bacton.

A second, perhaps earlier, Roman fort at Whitehouse Farm, Clifford (SO.24904583) one kilometre south of the previously known fort by the railway viaduct is also suggested, see HAN 62 p 7.

## Acton Bank (SO.315857)

Lydbury North, Shropshire

This was originally considered to be a round barrow, but recent air photography has indicated that it is probably a ploughed out motte and bailey with another small enclosure attached to the bailey. It is situated towards the southern end of the geographical feature Acton Bank and has natural defences on two sides, but militarily it would be better sited at the tip of the promontory.

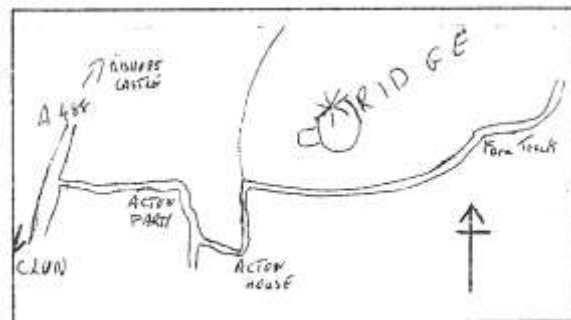


Figure 1. Sketch plan of Acton Bank

Ref: *Timber Castles*, Higham & Webster p 208

## Far Hall House

In the Sunday Telegraph of 13/11/94 was a report of a house called Far Hall House said to have been originally built for the Bishop of Hereford in the 16<sup>th</sup> C. No identification of the house was given in the article.

Jim Tonkin confirmed that he had never heard of the Bishops having any property of that name, and suggested that there was a Far House at GR SO.14456862 on the River Aran in Radnorshire near Dolau,

Apparently the house had been bought through the good offices of an agency "SAVE Britain's Heritage" of 68 Battersea High Street, London SW 11. They were contacted and promised to forward a request for information about the Hereford connection to the new owners but unfortunately the reply was received too late for the information to be printed in this issue.

## Butt House Knapp

This was visited by the ARS on 19/1/86. See HAN 48 p 11.

Paul Remfry reports that the site positioning and with some research material received from Bruce Coplestone-Crow, there is evidence to suggest the existence of a castle. At the time of our visit we were uncertain. It is shown on the OS 1/50,000 map as a Tumulus.

## Newchurch otherwise Eywood in Kinnersley (SO.353506)

Newchurch in Kinnersley presents an historical problem for there is no obvious evidence of a church having existed at or by the site of Newchurch farm. Nor is there extant documentary evidence referring to a church there.

However it is worth noting the view taken in recent studies on early parochial organisation that 'Newchurch' may well be a name used to denote a newly founded church in Saxon times<sup>1</sup>. On this hypothesis we are looking for a church established to serve a community which was flourishing in preNorman times within an already established

<sup>1</sup>For example G.E. Morris in 'The Church in the Countryside' (*Medieval Villages. A Review of Current Work*, ed. Della Hooke, Oxford University Committee for Archaeology, 1985, 58). "With the foregoing cases in mind [of churches moved in order to adjust to changes in pattern of settle-ment] it is interesting to ponder the possibility that some 'Newchurch' place-names which occur in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries could have arisen as a result of comparable processes towards the end of the Old English period".

parish, but which had decayed, certainly by the 14<sup>th</sup> C, and with it its church, so that only the place-name survives to record its former existence.

The earliest reference to Newchurch so far discovered is in 1316 when it is named as a vill in Leominster Foreign in the *Nomina Villarum*<sup>2</sup>. Thereafter in taxation documents Newchurch is linked with Hurstley (in Letton parish) as a unit in Wolphy Hundred, separate from Kinnersley in Stretford Hundred. In Bryant's Map of Herefordshire (1835) Newchurch and Hurstley are shown as detached portions of Wolphy in Stretford Hundred, and that portion in Kinnersley parish occupies the eastern part where the Sallies and Newchurch lie east of the upper reaches of Letton Lake, with Sarnesfield to the east and Logaston in Almeley to the north included. Wolphy Hundred took in much of the Domesday hundredal Manor of Leominster, which belonged to Leominster Priory. Thus it is likely that the missing chapel we are looking for was at one time subject to Leominster. Kinnersley itself is listed as one of the churches subject to Leominster in 1123 and in c.1288 as owing an annual rent<sup>3</sup>. In the Taxation of Pope Nicholas of 1291 the portion of the Prior of Leominster in Kinnersley was 6s.8d<sup>4</sup>.

Now one of the chapels dependent on Leominster in 1148x63 was Ewda or Eiwde. This was subject of a dispute between Leominster Priory and Serlo, priest of Kinnersley, heard before Gilbert Foliot, bishop of Hereford. Serlo admitted that the chapel of Ewda and the tithes pertaining to it were not attached of right to his church, and in exchange was given care of it for life for an annual payment to the Priory of 5s<sup>5</sup>. Ewda has been identified with the place-name Eywood which appears in Titley parish. While Titley had been in Leominster's sphere of influence, it does seem extraordinary that the priest of Kinnersley should have had an interest in a parish some eleven miles distant. New light has been shed on this by the discovery of an Eywood in Kinnersley.

In a rental of Kinnersley for the year 1359-606, as a final entry appears "Memorandum de Redditis qui solvitur apud Eywode Priori Leominstr". Under this heading there are seven entries totalling 7s. 4d. Newchurch does not appear by name in the rental. It thus seems a reason-able assumption that the chapel of Ewda or Eywood for which the priest Serlo rendered 5s. in 1148x63, was the reason for the payment of 6s.8d. to Leominster Priory in 1291 and for the rents totalling 7s.4d. due in 13597. Topographically Newchurch would be a suitable site for 'Eywood'. It is set on top of a low ridge rising from Letton Lake, not different from the Eywood in Titley, and answers to the description of 'island wood' implied by the placename, even if the wood is no longer evident. On this reading Eywood and Newchurch are alternative ways of naming the place.

Are there any grounds for postulating a community living there at an early period big enough to have a church<sup>8</sup>? In 1086 Richard (de Birley) had one hide at Eldeburglega (now Kinnersley) which he held of the lord of Wigmore<sup>9</sup>, and in 1243 his descendant, Richard de Kinnersley, had the same hide for 1/2 knight's fee owing to the lord of Wigmore<sup>10</sup>. Now, a manor of one DB hide is a very small one to have the service of a half fee laid on it; normally one would expect a half fee to represent 2 or 3 DB hides. It is possible therefore that the DB hidage assessment is low for some reason, perhaps because at some time before 1066 the king remitted the geld on other lands lying adjacent to it. If this was the case, then local knowledge of these unassessed lands at Kinnersley in post-DB times may have been the lord of Wigmore's excuse for levying so much knight-service on an apparently small manor. The *Nomina Villarum* of 1316 names John de Kinnersley as lord of both Kinnersley and Newchurch, so we may conjecture that the lands missing from DB because they were not liable to geld lay there.

As a further consideration Newchurch appears in the *Nomina Villarum* which is often regarded as an indicator of past and existing settlement. And when listing possible sites of deserted villages, R.E. Hickling notes at

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<sup>2</sup>Bruce Coplestone-Crow, *Herefordshire Place-names* [1989], 117, sub Kinnersley. I owe the argument and the evidence to Mr. Coplestone--Crow, with whom the subject has been discussed, and I am grateful for his characteristically unselfish help. *Feudal Aids* ii, 383.

<sup>3</sup>For the extent of Leominster parochia see Brian Kemp, 'Some Aspects of the Parochia of Leominster in the 12<sup>th</sup> Century' in *Minsters and Parishes Churches, the Local Church in Transition 950-1200*, ed. John Blair, Oxford Committee for Archaeology, 1988, also usefully referred to by Joe Hillaby in 'Early Christian and Pre-Conquest Leominster: An Exploration of Sources', *TWNFC* XLV, esp. 617-621. The deed referred to are to be found in B.Kemp, ed., *Reading Abbey Cartularies*, Camden Soc. 1986-7, 2 vols.

<sup>4</sup>*Taxatio Ecclesiastica Angliae et Walliae Auctoritate Papae Nicholai*, 1802, 160.

<sup>5</sup>*The Letters and Charters of Gilbert Foliot*, eds. A. Morey and C.N.L. Brooke, 1967, no.341.

<sup>6</sup>Public Record Office, Rentals and Surveys, SC 11 roll 556, misfiled under the Shropshire Kinnerley. I owe the reference to Mr. Coplestone-Crow.

<sup>7</sup>Coplestone-Crow, *op. cit.*, 190, sub Titley. In view of the evidence given here Mr. Coplestone-Crow agrees that the references there quoted should now be shown sub Kinnersley. See also P.E.H. Hair 'Chaplains, Chantries and Chapels of North-West Herefordshire c.1400', *TWNFC* XLV, 298.

<sup>8</sup>The rest of this paragraph is taken verbatim from Mr. Coplestone--Crow's letter to me of 2 Oct. 1990.

<sup>9</sup>*Domesday Book, Herefordshire*, Phillimore Edn., ref. 9.15.

<sup>10</sup>*Book of Fees*, 803.



Newchurch a sunken way south of the farm and vague earthworks in the field west of the farm. One can certainly imagine house platforms (and one existing double cottage) along a sunken way. The large field west of the farm is suggestively called 'Church Yard' and could well be long-standing arable.

Thus the hypothesis stands that a pre-Conquest settlement was established at Eywood in Kinnersley, sufficiently populous to merit providing a church under the influence of Leominster Priory. It became known as the New Church, under which name the area it served was deemed a manor. The settlement had decayed sufficiently by the 14<sup>th</sup> C to have lost both the old place-name (except for a survival in 1359) and the church. By the 16<sup>th</sup> C the payment of dues to Leominster Priory had long ceased and was not known.

Brian Redwood

Editorial Note Letton Lake is now the name of a small tributary stream which joins the River Wye just north of Bredwardine, and must be the remains of an earlier lake or very marshy area. Judging from the contours only it is possible that the water (Glacial?) was backed up behind the ridge at Bredwardine/Brobury. There is a very large area of almost flat land delineated by the 65m contour.

The word Lake was taken from French through Middle English. Margaret Gelling suggests a wet district, where 'at the drainage Channels' would be an appropriate meaning, and elsewhere as 'very small Stream'. There is a similar 'Wigmore Lake' stream in the Vale of Wigmore, also very wet.

### Miscellany

#### **Council for British Archaeology**

It has been decided that CBA 8 (West Midlands) is to be renamed "CBA - West Midlands" in the same way that CBA 2 (Wales) was renamed "CBA - Wales".

#### **CBA - West Midlands. Archaeology Week; West Midlands**

This was held from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> September 1994. There was only one item in Herefordshire organised by the Hereford & Worcester County Archaeological Service - "Hands on Archaeology" at Orcop Village Hall on 17/9/94.

The county also organised two events at Tenbury Wells, originally in Worcestershire, but now in Leominster District. As well as events organised by county councils and museums in the West Midlands area, several archaeology and historical societies put on events.

The CBA - West Midlands comprises Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, The West Midlands County and Hereford & Worcester.

#### **Dunder Camp** (SO.485495) HAN 62 Notes p4.

Bruce Coplestone-Crow draws our attention to the entry in the Woolhope Transactions 1936 p XIX - "a tump surrounded by a moat in a meadow near the (Ullingswick) church" SO.59654995. This is about a kilometre north west of Dunder Camp. He further suggests could it be a ploughed out Iron Age fort?

Salter lists a moated site at SO.590495, Homestead Moat, 700m west south west of Ullingswick church. This would appear to be an additional site to that at SO.5065-4995, and Dunder Camp SO.585495. Dunder Camp was incorrectly given in HAN 62 p 4 as SO.485495, which would of course have put it in Wellington parish. See Pencombe Field Meeting Report below, 56.

#### **Flying over Herefordshire**

The county archaeological services with the aid of a grant from the RCHM(E) hope to fly over parts of Herefordshire to photograph and record sites.

#### **Archaeology Day School**

At the day school on Saturday 29/10/94 organised by the county archaeological service at Bishop Perowne School, Worcester. Ruth Richardson gave a very successful talk on the "Herefordshire Field Names as Archaeological Indicators", illustrated with, diagrams and maps.

#### **The Dangers Which Beset Castle Seekers**

Elizabeth Taylor recently visited Little Moreton Hall on the A34 between Kidsgrove and Congleton in Cheshire. There is a mound which looks like a castle motte, but is actually a mound for a Folly which no longer exists. Similarly in Shobdon Court there is a mound which seems to be a "viewing platform" for the Victorian Gardens.

**Ewyas Harold Castle**

The SMR officer, Duncan Brown, has very kindly allowed us to reproduce the plan drawn by Steve Rigby, one of the County Archaeological Service Archaeological Illustrators of Ewyas Harold Castle.

This was the centre of the Service display at the Chateau Gaillard Conference at Abergavenny at the end of August 1994 (HAN 62 P 5). This is the first time that an attempt has been made to show the possible masonry of the castle, of which virtually nothing remains today.

Graham Sprackling, Roger Stirling-Brown and the writer assisted in the production of the plan.

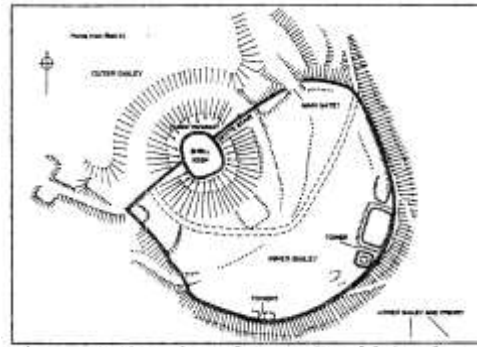


Figure 2, Site plan of Ewyas Harold Castle

**Clun Castle**

This was visited by the writer on 25/8/94 to check whether English Heritage had changed the misleading Interpretation Panels at Clun Castle. See HAN 61 p 32 and HAN 62 p 7 & 34. This appears to have been done, though they were still misleading in that they gave the impression that the later keep inserted into the north face of the original motte/scarped hill was a FitzAlan rebuild in stone on the site of the de Say wooden tower. In fact the original tower had been on top of the motte and had been replaced in stone before the 14<sup>th</sup> C keep was built. The dates while being better, were still a little on the early side.

The opportunity was also taken to examine further Villa Farm, wrongly named in HAN 61 p 33 as Priory Farm (SO.299813). A closer examination would suggest that it could have been a motte and small bailey not a ringwork. Possibly an Adulterine or Siege Castle.

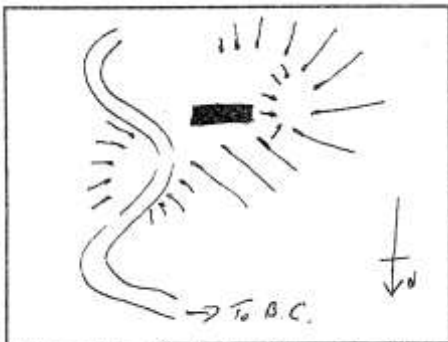


Figure 3, Sketch plan of Villa Farm earthwork

There is a considerable mound at the rear of the farm house which is set into the NE face of the mound. The curve and hump in the Bishop's Castle road could have been influenced by the possible castle ditch.

The farm house was timber framed with posts still in the kitchen. It later received a stone 'skin'. In the north wall is a blocked 3-light window reputed to be Norman. The wall is 14" thick here and there is a cellar beneath. The building is reputed to have had monastic connections.

Two statements on the Interpretation Panels are misleading :-

- 1) "Ancient seat of the FitzAlans (Duke of Norfolk) with 13<sup>th</sup> C 'Great Tower'".
- 2) "Picot de Say's wooden castle rebuilt by FitzAlan in the later half of the 13th C".

The bailey is shown as stone-walled, and the Bowling Green with a palisade. The Interpretation Panel by the public toilets in the car park by the new access bridge still shows the Town as palisaded, but the date has been changed from 1100 to 1300.

**Aston (Pipe Aston) Castle No.2 (SO.462721)**

This was visited by the writer on 30/9/94, and an attempt was made to draw what is still visible today. The remnant of a pond in the moat on the NW side has now disappeared, and the stream now flows round the northern side of the motte, and not the southern as formerly. The possibility of a bailey must be considered between the motte and the right angle bend in the road WSW, possibly accounting for the bend in the road and marking the position of the bailey on the NW side.

PRH

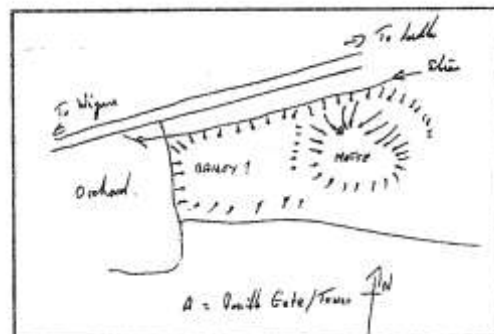


Figure 4, Sketch plan of Aston No. 2

## **Redcastle**

There are at least two Redcastle names in Herefordshire:-

- 1) Canon Pyon (SO.463486) in the lea of the ridge Badnage Wood.
- 2) At the junction of Canon Frome, Castle Frome and Bosbury parishes (SO.669436) situated between Gain's Hill and Gold Hill/Stanley Hill.

The two most obvious reasons for Redcastles are the colour of the stone, or the colour of the earth.

Do members know of any other Redcastles in Herefordshire? Are they in fact castles? The one at Canon Pyon does not appear to have anything of a defensive nature. Are they memories of vanished hillforts as they are near hills?

## **Castles Studies Group**

HAN has two mentions in the latest Newsletter No. 8 of the Castle Studies Group, under Castle Studies:- Recent Publications and under News Items. Several articles written by various members of the ARS in *HAN* are also listed under the Castle Bibliography.

## **Mound at Steens Bridge (SO.546.573)**

This mound on the north side of the A44 is modern, though it could possibly be mistaken for a motte. Roger Stirling-Brown made enquiries from the landowner.

## **English Heritage Battlefields Register**

The proposed English Heritage Register of Historic Battlefields identifies over 40 areas of historic significance in England where important battles took place. The Battle of Mortimers Cross (1461) will be included, though there is some controversy as to the actual site and battle lines.

Sieges are not included in the register.

## **Medieval Life**

A new magazine about the Middle Ages has been produced, it is a quarterly publication, annual price £8.50. It covers the period 500-1500AD. The Middle Ages is a unifying theme which brings together history, archaeology, literature, art etc. It is produced by C R J Pickles from whom copies can be obtained. The first issue was Winter 1995, and had a most interesting selection of articles, well worth the money.

## **Local History Fair 1995 - Advanced information**

The Record Office intends to organise a Local History Fair at County Hall on Saturday 21/10/95. The previous Fairs organised by the county record office have been greatly enjoyable and very successful events.

## **NEWS FROM THE COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE**

The Service has undertaken over a dozen field projects in Herefordshire since the last issue of *HAN*. This report simply picks up some highlights. Observation of the British Gas pipeline from Lugg Bridge to Withington revealed evidence of a medieval occupation site that had been buried by flood deposits. This has spurred on our Environmentalist, Liz Pearson, into a follow-up study of alluviation that began with the Herefordshire Valleys Project. It is hoped to extend this work into the Lugg Meadows in the Spring (subject to funding).

A considerable amount of work has been undertaken in Leominster recently. Further evidence of the medieval town ditch has been found on Bargates. The same site produced well-preserved evidence of the medieval suburbs in the form of back yard rubbish pits. A watching brief on 'The Hop Pole, revealed a nice assemblage of medieval shoes. Post-medieval archaeology was recorded at Kingdom Hall, where evidence of the 17th century Quaker cemetery, almost entirely intact, was uncovered during an evaluation. A great deal of effort was then needed to secure the long term protection of the site - not against the developer (who was very sympathetic throughout the proceedings) but in order to convince the Home Office of the archaeological importance of the site. Leominster has a fascinating history and the Service is also working closely with the Tourism Department of the District Council to seek ways of improving the appreciation of its heritage.

One of the most important consequences of the Central Marches Historic Towns Survey has been to establish a framework that allows us to extend archaeological planning conditions into areas where there has been little involvement in the past. This has recently borne fruit in Bromyard where evidence of a hitherto unsuspected post-medieval pottery industry has been found within the town. The information from the evaluation on Ballhurst has allowed a design solution to be found for the proposed building in order to protect the remains of two phases of kiln activity.

Work on computerising the County Sites and Monuments Record continues to make steady progress, thanks to a number of volunteers over the Summer. New software is now in place to improve our ability to sort and

extract data and the service is currently investigating extending the system to include a computer mapping facility (GIS).

The educational role of the Service also continues to flourish. one of the most pleasant events of the year was our 'Hands On Archaeology' day at Orcop where residents of the surrounding villages were entertained and educated by Service staff and Woolhope Club members. Children excavated finds, peered at medieval cess, studied air photographs, made pots and dressed up in medieval armour (courtesy of Roger Stirling-Brown). One family even visited the event as part of their birthday party celebration (a cultured lot in Orcop!). Orcop also featured in the second series of 'Hidden Heritage' programmes organised by the service for BBC Radio Hereford and Worcester. Sue Rice described the exciting finds she has made in the parish whilst fieldwalking. Another programme featured Ariconium. The final event of the year was the 2nd Annual Dayschool, held in October at Bishop Perowne School, Worcester. Local talks included Ruth Richardson on the Field Names Survey, Robin Jackson on the results of pipe-line surveys (including Withington and Ariconium) and Bob Bewley on the Royal Commission Aerial Photograph mapping programme.

All parishes in the county were circulated last Christmas with an offer to talk about the archaeology of parishes, setting local archaeology within its strategic context. If you are interested in this, or any other aspect of the Service's work, please contact the Service at the address below

Malcolm Atkin, County Archaeology officer

County Archaeological Service, Tetbury Drive, Warndon, Worcester WR4 9LS. (01905 458608).

### **Errata HAN 62**

P.27 Dave Jennett should read Dave Jemmett.

P.45 Last sentence of Editorial Note should read "Both parts of the name Chapel Tump are suggestive". The penultimate sentence was a later insertion.

The cup of tea was provided by Mrs Debbie Stock of 2, St James Cottages, Chapel Tump. The incorrect name is regretted. Was the now disappeared chapel dedicated to St James?

PP.33&54 Knapp Farm, some doubt has been cast on the earliest date for windmills, the writer took the word of his expert. It does not invalidate the argument about a turning mechanism mounted on top of a mound.

### **Addenda**

#### **Field Meeting at Donnington 13/6/92 (HAN 58 P 48)**

Court y park St James Chapel, Park near Ledbury

'Although in 1644 the advowson of 'the free chapel of Parke' was still being conveyed<sup>11</sup>, it is clear that the chapel was long disused before then, since in 1603 two women, when paying the Vicar their Easter offering of 2d each, are recorded as "dwelling in the chapel there"<sup>12</sup>. Since, in 1588, the Vicar brought proceedings before the Archdeacon against the inhabitants of Park for attending divine service at Ashperton and not Ledbury, it is likely that the chapel had continued closed from before 1550; the inhabitants were told that they could attend services at Pixley or Aylton, chapels of Ledbury, but must go to Ledbury Church twice yearly between Easter and Michaelmas<sup>13</sup>.

John & Leslie King

#### **Cwmhir Garrison**

In December 1645 the parliamentary commanders Middleton and Mytton attacked the royalist garrison at Cwmhir under Colonel Barnold. Barnold refused a summons to surrender, as he was to do again fatally at Canon Frome the next year. The Parliamentarians attacked vigorously on 26 December and the defence collapsed, the Sheriff, Hugh Floyd, 3 captains of foot and horse, several officers and 60 soldiers were taken with 40 horses, 200 muskets, other arms and proportionate ammunition.

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<sup>11</sup>The Ledbury Tithe and Easter Book 1595-1607. HCRO A61/1. (also on microfilm).

<sup>12</sup>Ledbury Parish Registers 29 Oct 1588.

<sup>13</sup>HCRO G87/32/7 and Patent Roll 15 May 1550 (P.376)

Ref: Webb, J., *Memorials of the Civil War in Herefordshire II*, 134, although the garrison is probably wrongly said to have been in the indefensible Abbey rather than the better positioned nearby House. The Abbey was visited on 24/4/93, HAN 60, 24-7.

**Burton Court (SO.423573)**

Field Meeting at Eardisland 6/3/94, HAN 62 p.21.

The original plan of Burton Court, fig 9, was slightly misleading and a new plan is appended. Unfortunately the minor road between Windmill Hill and The Brouch was confused with the main road A44. In other words the orientation should be turned through almost 180', and the N arrow on the original sketch plan actually points south. Windmill Hill is of course on the A44 and not the minor road, and is near the other entrance to Burton Court and not the one we used.

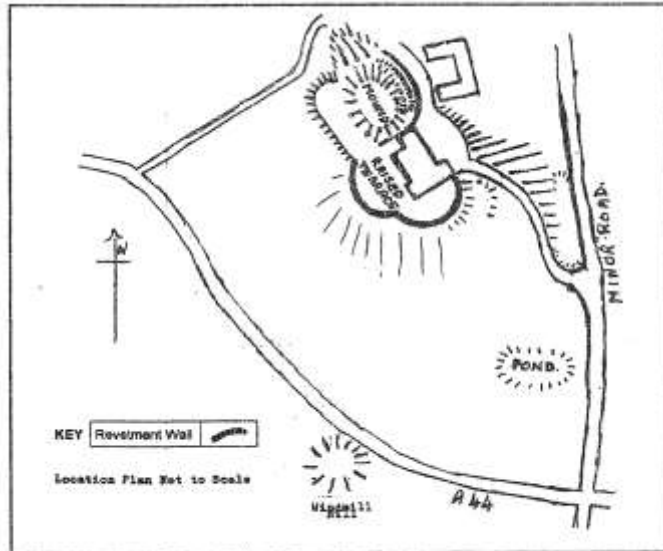


Figure 5, Burton Court earthworks

**Visit to Gamage Farm, Much Marcle**

The ARS visited Gamage Farm during a field meeting on 4/7/93 (HAN 60 p 33).

An evening return visit was made in June 1994 to see the progress made by the Bournemouth University training excavation working under the direction of Professor Tim Darvill.

This year the excavations were in the next field from the Neolithic and Bronze Age settlement area seen last year. Disappointingly few artifacts had been found, but valuable information about soil deposits and lynchets had been accumulated.

Once again Tim Darvill very kindly examined and identified collections of flints. One set from Minster Farm at Much Birch which included 12 beautiful barbed and tanged arrowheads, and the other from Woodland Farm at Harewood where part of a Neolithic axe from the Langdale axe factory in the Lake District was identified.

**Field Meeting**

**March 1994, Pembridge Castle, Welsh Newton, HAN 62, 27-31.**

Elizabeth Taylor has obtained a copy of a 1686 map of the demesne of Pembridge Castle, Welsh Newton surveyed by W. Hill. This shows the castle with the farm buildings and pool to the north and east. It is to be noted that the present vegetable garden is where the garden? is shown between the castle and the road. The plan of the castle, if inspected closely, shows that the moat is still water filled (the speckled area) and that both turrets to the east are still standing, that by the chapel apparently still having battlements; also that both gate-towers appear to be standing. An L-shaped block occupies the south and west curtains as at present. There is no real sign of the chapel, although a garden can be seen in the ward.

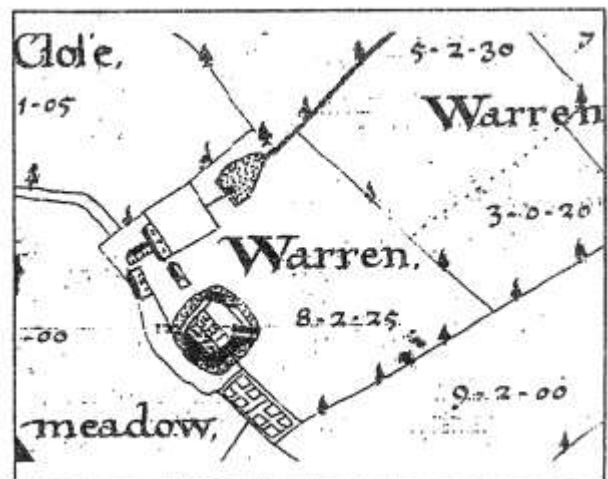


Figure 6, 1686 map of Pembridge

### Siege of Pembridge Castle

It seems unlikely that there ever was a 'shooting' siege at Pembridge. When the castle was besieged by the royalists who had just re-taken Monmouth in 1644 the castle agreed to surrender on terms if it was not relieved in a fortnight. Massey, the Parliamentary commander, got as far as Wilton Bridge at Ross in his attempt to relieve the garrison. On his failure to cross the Wye the Pembridge garrison, made up of royalist troops who had gone over to the Parliament on being captured, revolted back to their previous cause, to the chagrin of the Parliamentary castle commander, Colonel Kyle. With the Parliamentary victory at Monmouth next year the castle changed hands for the last time. It was garrisoned again for the Parliament in November 1645 after the fall of Hereford and a final order to slight and abandon the castle was passed on 15 April 1646<sup>14</sup>, which suggests that the castle was defensible up to this point.

PMR

### Pembridge Detached Church Belfry HAN 62 p 20-21

Roger Stirling-Brown speculated about the possibility that this was the remains of a timber motte tower. Although he does give as a reference *Timber Castles* by Robert Higham & Philip Barker, perhaps it might have been better to actually quote from the reference, page 245 - "The tower at Pembridge is c27m (90') high, and if placed on a similarly high mound would dominate the surrounding countryside. In this respect, earlier reconstruction drawings such as that of Abinger (Surrey) have done the timber castle a disservice, giving the impression that motte towers were often small and temporary".

There is a similar detached church belfry at Yarpole and at Mamble, just inside Worcestershire. Mamble formerly had a detached belfry, now incorporated into the church. Pirton, also in Worcestershire may also be similar. There are also wooden bell towers at Navestock (Essex) and Brooklands (Kent). Whether Pembridge was originally constructed as a castle timber tower, or a bell tower, the construction was probably similar. It is possible to visualise Pembridge, if a castle, as being of similar appearance to Goltho (Lincs) in the early phases 1080-1150, or South Mimms (Herts).

Although the construction would appear to be rather robust for a bell tower, when did large multiple bells come into use in British Churches? It could be argued that wooden church towers, like stone church towers, were robust in construction because the builders were more accustomed to military work, and this was what they understood, not appreciating that a slighter construction would have sufficed. This probably accounts for many church towers having been thought of as being defensive.

PRH

In support of Roger's hypothesis of a castle tower at Pembridge I have extracted the following from a forthcoming paper I am preparing.

On 9 November 1221 the bail of the lands of Ralph Pembridge and the custody of his heir were re-granted to William Cantilupe, as they had been given by King John<sup>15</sup>. It appears likely that there was some friction between Cantilupe and Braose over this matter, for on 15 November 1222 the grant of the manor of Pembridge was confirmed to William Cantilupe Senior again, but only until St Hilary following<sup>16</sup>. There also appears to have been some trouble restoring the castle of Pembridge to Cantilupe, for on 6 December, Thomas Hereford, the sheriff of Hereford, was mandated to liberate to William Cantilupe, Pembridge Castle (*castrum de Peneburg*) with its appurtenances, that the king had committed to your custody<sup>17</sup>. It has been suggested that this reference refers to the site at Welsh Newton<sup>18</sup>. However, the context of the command would suggest that the site referred to is in fact that of Pembridge near Leominster, rather than the castle that until the fifteenth century appears to have been referred to as Newland<sup>19</sup>.

PMR

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<sup>14</sup>Thompson, *The decline of the castle*, 184.

<sup>15</sup>*RLCI* I, 479b.

<sup>16</sup>*RLCI* I, 521b.

<sup>17</sup>*CPR 1216-25*, 358.

<sup>18</sup>*Castellarium Anglicanum* I, 210.

<sup>19</sup>Coplestone-Crow, B., *Herefordshire Archaeological News*, 28-30; *Herefordshire Place-Names*, 151.

## White Castle

Mackenzie's plan has also been included because it does show the outer earthwork enclosure, which is not normally shown on modern plans of the castle.

Mackenzie worked at the end of the last century. Mr J K Knight of the Cadw Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments confirms that in his opinion there was a bank, and ditch surrounding the Outer Earthwork.

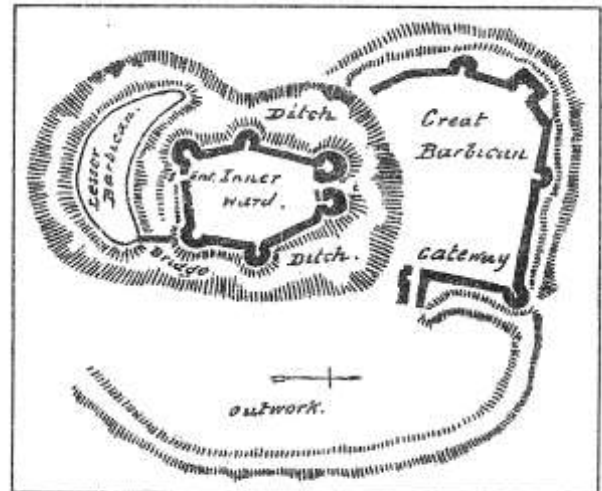


Figure 7, White Castle showing the outer earthworks

## Wigmore Castle HAN 61, p.30

Wigmore. 8 May 26 Eliz. Survey of castle and park of Wigmore. 'Two bridges there leading from the town of Wigmore into the Park and Castle being very much decayed no carriage can pass with any burden on them into the castle or park.

The first bridge, as well as the foundation as in the timber above wholly to be pulled down ... the other bridge partly decayed in the one end as well as in the foundations as above ... the houses, buildings, walls and other edifices in the said castle being very much ruinous and decayed will not without great charges be repaired. Signed Robert Berye, Supervisor.

Lansdowne Ms II, 82 quoted in Robinson's *History of the Castles of Herefordshire*, 141

It may be possible to identify the site of the "Park of Wigmore". It would appear that the outer enclosure, marked on the plan 'Enclosure Purpose Unknown' is one and the same as the park as an elderly resident of Wigmore has an old photograph showing an elderly lady (c.1900?) standing in what appears to be the rectangular enclosed area east of the castle. The resident maintains that she was told that this was Wigmore Park.

## Field Meeting at Garway 10/4/94 (HAN 62 p 27)

The report on the excavations by David Jemmett promised in the field meeting report will now appear in a future issue of the Woolhope Transactions, and not in HAN.

## Archaeology in Herefordshire - The Future

Herefordshire appears to have won its 'freedom' and if, as seems likely, this is confirmed by the Local Government Commission, most services will be provided for by the separate counties though some aspects will continue, at least in the short-term, as joint operations. So what is the future for archaeology in Herefordshire?

The Woolhope Club main committee meeting on 11/3/94 made a submission to the L.G. Commission that the needs of archaeology would be better served by an independent service in Herefordshire.

As individual members have expressed so much interest in this, the ARS felt it would be appropriate to record the points on both sides of the issue. The first article below is an excerpt from a letter received from Malcolm Atkin, thy County Archaeological Officer, and the second article is from Ron Shoesmith, the Woolhope Club's Recorder for Archaeology and Director of the City of Hereford Archaeology Unit. The ARS is most grateful to both for their informed contributions.

Editor

## Local Government Reorganisation and the County Archaeological Service

I would be grateful for the opportunity to make my views on this subject known.

It now looks almost certain that Herefordshire will win its independence in any Local Government Reorganisation. We have to recognise that although our own interests give archaeology a pretty important status in life, politicians do not always see the subject in the same way. The provision of an archaeological service is not a statutory requirement and there is therefore a real danger that future provision may be only made at a very minimal level (with only one or two officers to satisfy the planning function).

The expressed view of all of the national bodies, and of the County Archaeological Service, is that we need to press for a retention of the existing range of services being offered to the county as the minimum level of service that should be provided by a new unitary authority, or to which they have access. Who provides that service is a different matter. Considerable doubt has been raised as to whether Herefordshire or a South and North Worcestershire acting alone could afford the comprehensive range of services presently supplied by the County Archaeological Service.

If an independent Herefordshire is accepted as the final option, then the present County Archaeological Service will be working in full cooperation with those responsible for the new shadow authority to advise on levels of service and suitable mechanics to ensure a smooth transition of whatever functions the new authority chooses to inherit. But it will be for the shadow authorities to determine on budget priorities and how they want elements of that service delivered.

Let us consider the range of functions that I believe appropriate for a unitary authority *to have access to* in terms of SMR, planning advice, fieldwork and educational services. As a benchmark, I have expressed these in terms of what the present County Service has actually managed to achieve over the past 20 years, together with some ideas for the future.

In the enthusiasm to greet a new Herefordshire I must first remind readers that there was no local authority archaeological provision in the county prior to the establishment of the present County Archaeological Service after the reorganisation of 1974. Neither was there an adequate centralised **Sites and Monuments Record**. Since 1974 a considerable effort has been made by the successive County Archaeology Officers to shape the development of planning policies to benefit archaeology in the **Local Plans** of the Herefordshire Districts - and a determination to see them implemented (a determination not always appreciated by local planning departments!).

These policies have been extended by **strategic archaeology projects**. The Central Marches Historic Towns Survey, Marches Uplands Survey, Offa's Dyke Survey and Herefordshire Valleys Survey have added enormously to the methodologies of managing the archaeological landscape as well as the record. They provide an overview of the archaeology in which to properly assess the more day-to-day fieldwork that arises out of the planning process or changes to the agricultural scene.

A significant part of our **fieldwork** has always been in Herefordshire - indeed a deliberate attempt was made to accentuate this in order to bring levels up to those already enjoyed in Worcestershire before 1974. This has meant that fieldwork in Herefordshire has commonly been funded on the back of 'more profitable' projects undertaken in Worcestershire.

The County Archaeological Service is currently based at Warndon on the outskirts of Worcester. The essence of a centralised service, able to enjoy the cost-savings and **efficiency of scale** is that it has to be based somewhere! But this inevitably has raised the charge in some quarters that we are a rather distant body. I am pleased to note that the level of enquiries to the Service office from Herefordshire to the SMR remain comparable to those from Worcestershire. An exciting new project is to develop a system whereby the SMR will be accessible (with safeguards) from local libraries. We have been able to increase our Planning Advisory Section to begin the process of creating 'area' officers - responsible for a particular area, but able to draw on the wider support of the 'planning support team' of the service (drawn from specialist members of the Field Archaeology Section). These will be spending more time actually out in District offices. Other efforts have been taken recently to improve **local delivery of information**. In an effort to provide easier access to meetings, some Local Group Forum meetings have been held within Herefordshire (Ross and Leominster). Every parish in Herefordshire has been circulated with an offer to come out to talk about the archaeology of their parish; the WalkPasts remain extremely popular in the county; we continue to try to put on extra-mural courses in the county (that at Leintwardine unfortunately failing on a lack of takers); the weekly BBC Radio Hereford and Worcester has had 50% coverage of Herefordshire. A deliberate attempt was made at the October 1993 Dayschool to ensure a good geographical coverage across Herefordshire and Worcestershire and that was well-attended from right across the present county. The County Service has always had a reputation for its **educational initiatives**. The 'Hands On Archaeology' roadshow has now been to Leominster and Leintwardine and will be at Ross and Orcop later in the year. Negotiations are currently in hand with English Heritage to provide an Education Officer. These types of initiative do, of course, depend on a large enough body of staff within the Service. I would ask you to compare this range of activities with



those currently offered in neighbouring Gloucestershire - whose Archaeology Service does not enjoy the resources of our own joint county.

There is a desire in some quarters to use Reorganisation to try to get an archaeological service with a better perceived local control. I can appreciate that desire, but a unitary authority does not give a guarantee of local control of archaeological provision. One of my great worries is that the division of Herefordshire and Worcestershire into smaller units will bring into question the viability of the services provided by the present Field Archaeology Section of the County Service. I doubt whether there is the base of development activity to support the existence of two local authority field units - one in Herefordshire and one in Worcestershire. It may well be, therefore, that fieldwork is increasingly carried out by commercial units based outside the county. Some small-scale fieldwork, although very valuable archaeologically, may simply not be 'profitable' for such bodies to undertake. It is for that reason that we are seeking a substantial field budget from the County Council to undertake minor fieldwork and other exploratory work.

I believe there was a suggestion during the 1980s when the present County service was threatened with closure that the whole operation could be privatised to an outside, commercial, body. Today, we see the Oxford Unit excavating in York and London, whilst the York Archaeological Trust - whilst not responsible for providing planning advice in York - does so in Chichester. Planning advice for Berkshire is now in the hands of a private company. So, independence for Herefordshire is no automatic guarantee that control of archaeological services will return to the county.

I am convinced that the best way to ensure public control of the operation of archaeology is if the interested parties can produce a common approach that makes the best use of existing provision and seeks to develop that further. I have already made an offer to give a talk on the issues surrounding reorganisation and hope that this may be taken up. I also hope to organise a special forum for all groups this winter in order to discuss future tactics when we have a clearer idea of what the final recommendations for reorganisation will be.

**Malcolm Atkin, County Archaeology Officer**

### **Local Government Reorganisation and the County Archaeological Service**

The task of the Local Government Commission is to consider whether 'a new structure of unitary councils, each delivering the broad range of local government services to your area would better reflect the identities and interests of local communities and secure effective and convenient local government.' The Commission accepts that 'unitary councils can improve the coordination of services, reduce bureaucracy and cost, and be more accountable to the public.'

Herefordshire and Worcestershire were joined together in 1974 against the wishes of a large majority of the population of the County of Hereford. Throughout the twenty years of its life the amalgamated county of Hereford and Worcester has struggled on but has never really been accepted by the people of Herefordshire. This was recognised by the Commission in its proposals for the joint county when it put forward several possible structures for public consultation. The common theme throughout was that a unitary authority should be established for Herefordshire on its pre-1974 boundaries. It would have a population of 162,000 and be represented by 57 Councillors.

When the Commission asked for the views of the public, it indicated its preference to be three new unitary councils - Herefordshire, North Worcestershire and South Worcestershire. In the event the Commission has recommended that Herefordshire should become a unitary authority, but that Worcestershire should remain as a two-tier authority. Throughout their proposals the Commission has considered that the new councils would have sufficient resources for most services although some aspects would need 'joint working' between authorities. The Commission considered that an example of such joint working would be the Fire Authority; but suggestions were also made that 'specialised services that require only a relatively small expert staff, such as archaeological advice *and* archives' may also be appropriate.

Major functions which will become the responsibility of the new unitary council for Herefordshire will probably include education, social services, housing, transport, planning, and the provision of recreation and leisure services. These broad functions will include the provision of museums, record offices and libraries. The planning function will include the responsibility for strategic planning local plans, historic buildings, as well as the normal run of planning applications. Most of the secondary functions mentioned above require, from time to time, an archaeological input. The growing potential of archaeology within the educational field goes without saying.

The whole subject of archaeology is a relatively new local Government function. For many years it had been the preserve of local voluntary groups such as the Woolhope Club, with 143 years of involvement and support to local archaeological objectives. In the 1960s the Club instituted regular monitoring of archaeological sites and, through their Archaeological Research Section, compiled lists of scheduled and unscheduled sites - the beginnings of a sites and monuments register. It was also

during the 1960s, as the general pace of development increased, that it was appreciated that the local authority system could play a vital part in the management and conservation of the archaeological resource as a whole. From 1969, the government encouraged the appointment of county archaeological officers and helped with the establishment of Sites and Monuments Records. Since those small beginnings, the provision of professional archaeological services has grown throughout the county and all counties now have specialist archaeological staff available, usually based within planning departments.

What is the archaeological provision in Hereford and Worcester at present? There is a County Archaeological Service based at Warndon, Worcester, which although it has a relatively small permanent staff, has provided a wide variety of archaeological services in addition to curating the Sites and Monuments Record for the whole county. It has also, in cooperation with English Heritage, established itself in the forefront of producing large scale strategic projects such as the Marches Uplands Survey and the Central Marches Historic Towns Survey. In addition to its curatorial and custodial role, the County Archaeological Service had a Field Archaeology Section which carries out excavations throughout the county.

In 1974 when the county of Hereford and Worcester was being set up, the rapidly increasing amount of damage to the limited archaeological resource in historic towns was becoming a very serious problem. In Hereford, with assistance from the City Council, the Woolhope Club, the Department of the Environment and the new County archaeologist, this led to the formation of the City of Hereford Archaeology Committee which eventually became a registered charity. Within a very short time, the Committee had set up an Archaeological Unit which over the years has carried out a comprehensive programme of excavation and publication work which has ensured that Hereford has remained in the forefront of archaeological research into the origin and development of Saxon and early medieval towns.

In recent years, the City Unit has expanded into several different archaeological fields. It continues to provide the field archaeological service within the city for which it was set up but in addition now carries out fieldwork in surrounding areas. It has also developed considerable expertise in the recording and analysis of historic buildings and accepts commissions within this field over a wide and growing area. The Unit has always appreciated the importance of a consistent publication policy. In addition to the many articles which have been published in the Transactions of the Woolhope Club, the series of volumes on archaeological research in both Hereford and Chepstow are important examples of the Unit's work. Current publication projects include volumes on the Vernacular Buildings of Hereford and 'Goodrich Castle - Recent Research'.

An important function of the Committee and the Unit has been the provision of archaeological advice to the City Council, a function which increased with the creation of the Hereford Area of Archaeological Importance in 1982 and the more recent introduction of Planning Policy Guidelines on Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16). With a permanent staff of eleven, the Unit is now well able to offer most of the standard archaeological service.

Accepting that Herefordshire is going to become a new unitary authority, is 'archaeology' a service that this new authority would have sufficient resources to provide, or should it be subject to a 'joint working' between authorities? In this context it was refreshing to see a positive attitude to the provision of a fully 'local' service from the Record Office, possibly "buying in" specialised requirements when needed. This is not too dissimilar to most archaeological units which have, for many years, 'bought in' specialised services such as environmental analyses, ceramic studies, dendrochronological dating, ground radar, and many more; none of which can be provided economically within a local service.

The Woolhope Club, in its submission to the Local Government Commission recommended that the needs of archaeology in the new unitary authority, would be better served by an independent service in Herefordshire. What would be needed from such an archaeological service? The Institute of Field Archaeologists resolved in 1993 that 'in general the very minimum level of service within a local authority should include the curatorial monitoring and recording (SMR) roles'. Herefordshire should expect this and much more.

It has always been accepted that there will be costs involved in setting up the new unitary authorities. Should there be a *new* archaeological service in the 'independent Herefordshire' one part of this cost would inevitably involve the division of the current Sites and Monuments Record - a relatively small cost compared with the improved convenience to the 162,000 people of Herefordshire who will find it much easier to deal with a service based centrally to the new county. But this is not just the convenience of Joe Public (who currently has to make a journey of some 60 miles from Hereford to Warndon to consult the Sites and Monuments Record), it concerns the efficiency of the new Herefordshire Council. A joint service would mean that all planning matters with an archaeological content would have to be referred to a distant authority for 'vetting' - an authority over which the local officers would have little control. The Institute of Field Archaeologists recognise that 'Planning policy and development control advice is the primary function of many local authority archaeological services' - this must be more efficiently dealt with if the archaeological service is based locally than if such advice has to be obtained from a distance.

There is considerable concern that a local government archaeological service based in Herefordshire would not be able to provide the full range of services that the present dual-county service provides. However, this does not take into account the existence of the City of Hereford Archaeology Committee which is presently considering a change of name to 'The Herefordshire Archaeological Trust'. The Committee membership represents a wide variety of local interests, and it has, as its subsidiary, the well established Hereford Archaeology Unit, with its specialised archaeological staff. As part of the proposed reorganisation the Archaeological Unit would be confirmed as the trading arm of the Trust with all its profits going back to the parent body for the benefit of archaeology in Herefordshire. It is hoped that this will mean that close links can be forged with the archaeological service of any future unitary authority which will allow the new Trust to continue with its advisory and statutory role (as it does at present in the city of Hereford) and to ensure that a local field archaeological service is provided by the Archaeological Unit

Such a system would have great advantages over the present service. This is not simply because of the local base; it is primarily to ensure that the curatorial and contractual services in the new County are properly separated. At present in the dual county and, to a limited extent in the city, when archaeological projects are required (usually for developers or other clients) the separation is by a system of 'paper walls' - where one part of the archaeological organisation is responsible for deciding if archaeological work is necessary, preparing the brief, monitoring the responses (the project proposals) from other organisations as well as its own, and monitoring the work itself, whilst in many cases another part of the same organisation actually carries out the work on behalf of the developer. Such a system is basically flawed and the opportunity which now exists with the present local government reorganisation should be taken to create an improved service where curatorial, monitorial and advisory services are properly split from any contracting services.

Whatever the outcome, it is essential that a proper and well-organised sites and monuments record, which is properly curated and regularly enhanced, is available to the citizens of Herefordshire and their new local authority, and that the level of archaeological input to that Authority is sufficient to ensure that it can carry out its work efficiently and properly. It is also essential that the limited archaeological resource that survives within the county is properly conserved and managed.

**Ron Shoemith**

Other comments would be most welcome by the editor, who had anticipated a greater response to his editorial. What is important is to ensure the successful future for archaeology in Herefordshire.

### **Castles and Knight's Fees in the Castlery of Clun**

In view of Paul Remfry's recent survey of the castles of the lordship of Clun<sup>20</sup>, it seems appropriate to discuss here the knight's fees that may or may not have been associated with them and the services those fees owed to the lord of Clun<sup>21</sup>.

A good starting point, since we need to know first just how many knights the lord of Clun had enfeoffed on his lands, is the *carta* Geoffrey de Vere returned to the king in 1166. Geoffrey was lord of Clun by right of his wife and the return he made was in response to the king's request for information concerning the number of knight's fees within all the baronies and honours in England. This gives a total of 'old' fees, that is, knight's fees enfeoffed before the death of Henry I in 1135, and also of 'new' fees, that is, fees enfeoffed between 1135 and the date of the return. In translation it reads as follows:-

"My dear lord the king of England, Geoffrey de Vere (sends) greetings and all faithful service. Know by dear lord that of the old enfeoffment, that is from the time of the king your grandfather, I have nine knights.

- (1) Walter of Hopton (holds) by service of 2 knights.
- (2) Elias of Jay (*Chay*) (holds) by service of 1 knight.
- (3) William Picot (holds) by service of 1 knight.
- (4) Henry son of Hamelin and Nicholas of St Laurence (hold) by service of 1 knight.
- (5) Henry of Sibdon (holds) by service of 1 knight.
- (6) Baldwin of Stapleton (holds) by service of 1½ (*recte* 1) knights.
- (7) Roger son of Eustace of Longville (holds) by service of 1 knight.
- (8) Hugh of Bucknell, Adam his brother, Osbert of Myndtown (*Munedde*) and Tudweil of Broome (hold) by service of 1 knight.

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<sup>20</sup>Herefordshire Archaeological News, 61(1994),15-23.

<sup>21</sup>The subject has been discussed previously by Frederick Suppe, 'Castle-Guard and the Castlery of Clun', *Haskins Society Journal* 1(1989),123-134.

Of the new enfeoffment I have three knights.

- (9) Simon de Haburdino (holds) by service of 1 knight.
- (10) Hingan Burnel (holds) by service of 1 knight.
- (11) Roger English (*Anglicus*) (holds) by service of knight"<sup>22</sup>.

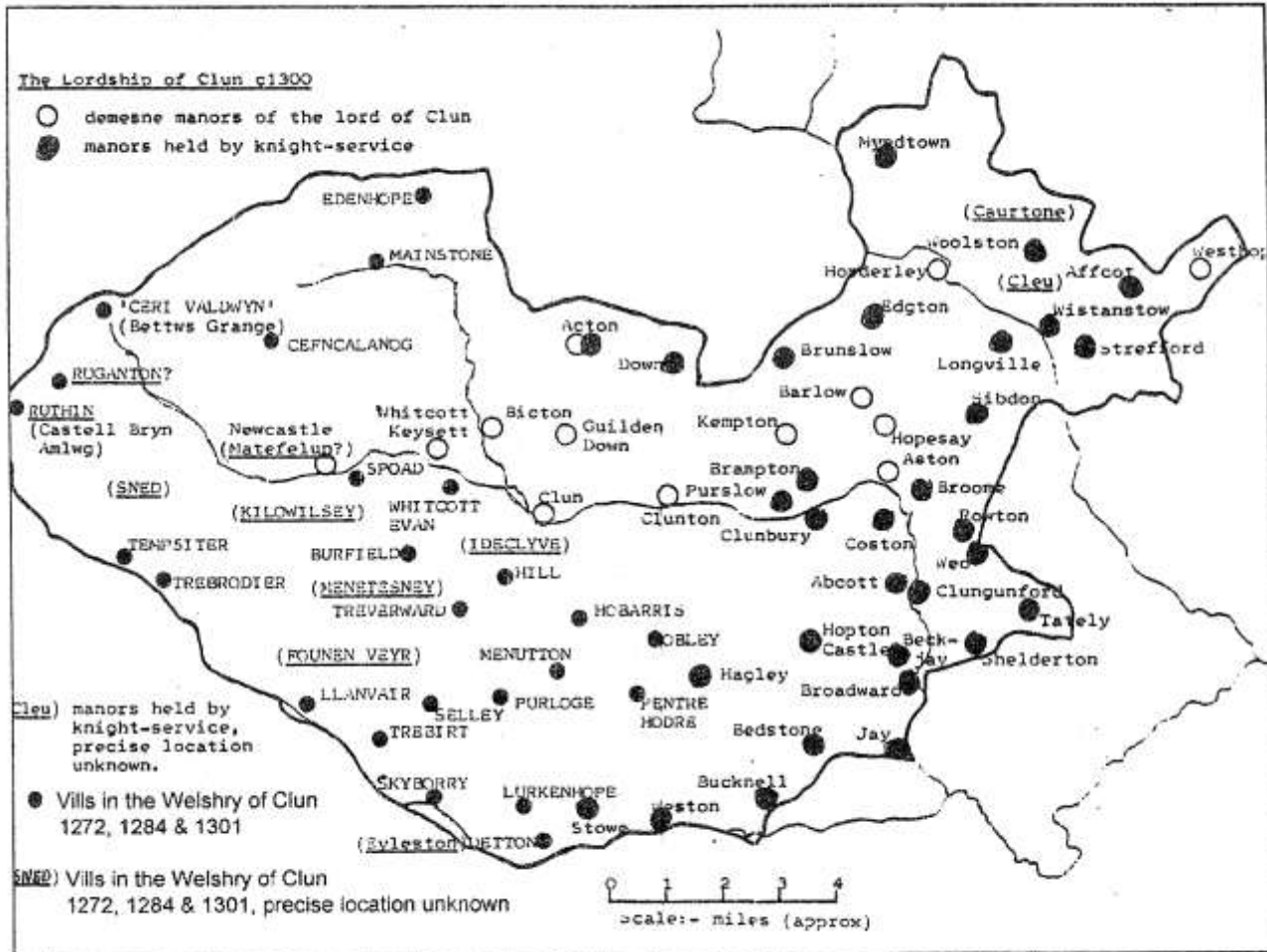


Figure 8, Map of the Lordship of Clun, c.1300

In 1166, therefore, there were 9 knight's fees enfeoffed before 1135 and 23/4 since that date, making a total of 113/4 knight's fees in the whole of the honour of Clun. However, a note is required concerning the fief of Baldwin of Stapleton (no.6 above), which the *carta* actually says was held for the service of 1 1/2 knights but which there are cogent reasons for believing is a mistake for 1. Firstly, if it had really been 1 1/2 knights Geoffrey's total of knights' fees would have been 9 1/2 and not 9 as he states. Secondly, sometime between 1166 and the death of Geoffrey's wife in 1199, Baldwin's fief is said in another source to be held for the service of 1 knight and not 1 1/2<sup>23</sup>. It therefore seems that we are justified in altering the text of Geoffrey's *carta* to read 1 knight and not 1 1/2.

Concerning the knight's fees in existence in 1135, we can take each in turn and see how they originated in the period between the grant of Clun and its lands to Picot de Say by the earl of Shrewsbury and the death of Henry I.

**(1) Walter of Hopton (holds) by service of 2 knights.**

In 1086 Hopton (Castle) was a demesne manor of two hides belonging to Picot de Say. However, a knight called Walter was his tenant on a manor of two hides within the main manor of Clun which is not named but which was probably divided between Broadward (earlier *Bradeford*) and Hagley (see the attached map for the location of

<sup>22</sup>Red Book of the Exchequer, 274-5. The numerals on the left are not original and have been added by me for ease of reference.

<sup>23</sup>R.E. Eyton, *Antiquities of Shropshire*, xi, 358-9.

these and other places named in the text)<sup>24</sup>. This Walter is probably the progenitor of the Hopton family, many of whom were named Walter. In 1272 a Walter of Hopton held 2 knight's fees from the lord of Clun and these fees were owing on lands at Hopton, Broadward, Coston, Hagley, Shelderton (with Weo) and Tately<sup>25</sup>. Shelderton, Weo and Tately did not belong to Picot de Say in 1086 but were then represented by a 2-hide manor, called *Clune*, in the hands of Reginald the sheriff<sup>26</sup>. Reginald died in about 1102 and, after a short interval, most of his lands went to the family of fitzalan of Oswestry, but this manor, with one other (see no.11 below), evidently went to the lord of Clun. In 1255 a Walter of Hopton had 1½ hides at Shelderton and Weo and ½ hide at Tately, which he held from the lord of Clun and which, later in the century, were held for 1/4 knight's fee within the overall 2 fees of the Hopton family<sup>27</sup>.

The origins of the 2 'old' knight's fees Walter of Hopton held in 1166 seem, therefore, to have lain with the knight called Walter who had lands at Broadward and Hagley from Picot de Say in 1086. To these lands was added, after 1086, from the lord of Clun's demesnes, the manors of Hopton and Coston, and it was probably at this time that the family became domiciled at Hopton. The amount of knight-service due from the family at this point is difficult to determine, but it was probably not until after Reginald the sheriff's lands at Shelderton, Weo and Tately were added that it was assessed at 2 knight's fees.

In 1255 the actual knight-service due from these 2 fees was said to be for one knight for service at Clun for 40 days in time of war and one knight to reside at Clun all the year round<sup>28</sup>. In all cases the knight-service due was at the cost of the tenant.

#### **(2) Elias of Jay (holds) by service of 1 knight.**

In 1272 Walter of Jay held manors at Jay, Bedstone and Beckjay from the lord of Clun for the service of 1 knight's fee<sup>29</sup>. These three manors were represented in 1086 by three land-units a knight called Fulk held from Picot de Say. These were 3/4 hide (at Jay) in Leintwardine, 2 hides at Bedstone and 1/4 hide (at Beckjay) in *Selle*<sup>30</sup>.

Unlike the previous fief, therefore, the lands within the Jay fief do not seem to have altered between 1086 and 1135. In 1255 John of Jay held lands at Jay, Bedstone and Beckjay from the lord of Clun for the service of 1 knight at Clun for 40 days in time of war<sup>31</sup>.

#### **(3) William Picot (holds) by service of 1 knight.**

The lands on which this service was owed seem to have lain at two locations, (Lower) Down in Clun and Woolston (*Wolurestone, Westone*) in Wistanstow. In 1086 a knight called Picot (William's ancestor?) had 3 hides of land within Picot de Say's demesne manor of 15 hides at Clun, and these may have lain at Down. At the same time the lord of Clun had a 2-hide manor at Woolston held from him by two unnamed knights, one of whom may have been Picot of Down<sup>32</sup>. In 1242 Down was held by Giles of Berkeley for the service of ½ fee and Woolston (*Westone*; part only) by John of Shelfacre for ½ fee<sup>33</sup>. These two men probably represent a division of Picot's lands between heiresses sometime between 1166 and 1242. It seems, therefore, that this knight's fee originated in the lands Picot held at Down in 1086 and in a share (1 hide?) of Woolston.

#### **(4) Henry son of Hamelin and Nicholas of St Laurence (hold) by service of 1 knight.**

Eyton says the fief of these two men lay at Edgton, which was a demesne manor of 2 hides in 1086<sup>34</sup>. In 1255 Edgton, Brunslow and Woolston (part only) were held by Peter de Bosco and Roger and Nicholas of Edgton for the service of 1 knight or 2 serjeants at Clun for 40 days in time of war<sup>35</sup>. As with Edgton Brunslow was a demesne manor of Picot de Say's in 1086, and Woolston, as we have seen, was held from him by two nameless knights, one of whom may have been Picot of Down. The other knight may be the progenitor of Henry and Nicholas, who held

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<sup>24</sup>*(D)omesday (B)ook*, f.258.

<sup>25</sup>*(I)nquisition (p)ost (m)ortem* i, no.812.

<sup>26</sup>*DB*, ff.255, 258; *Eyton* xi 300.

<sup>27</sup>*(R)otuli (H)undredorum* ii,70b; *Feudal Aids* iv,223; The manor of *Clune* may have been exchanged by the lord of Clun with the fitzalans, for his manors of Mytton and Fitz, both of which were held of the fitzalan honour of Oswestry in the 13<sup>th</sup> C: see note 56 below.

<sup>28</sup>*RH* ii,77.

<sup>29</sup>*Ipm* i, no.812.

<sup>30</sup>*DB*, ff.258,258b.

<sup>31</sup>*RH*, ii,76b.

<sup>32</sup>*DB*, f.258.

<sup>33</sup>*Book of Fees*,963; *Ipm*,i, no.812.

<sup>34</sup>xi,260; *DB*, f.258.

<sup>35</sup>*RH*, ii,77.

the knight's fee in 1166 and who, as in no.3 above, may represent a division of the original fief among heiresses. The origins of this fief may, therefore, lie in the lands the unnamed knight had at Woolston in 1086. To his lands were added, between 1086 and 1135, demesne lands of the lord of Clun at Edgton and Brunslow.

**(5) Henry of Sibdon (holds) by service of 1 knight.**

Sibdon was a demesne manor of 2 hides belonging to Picot de Say in 1086<sup>36</sup>. In 1272 Roger of Sibdon held Sibdon (Carwood) and moieties of Broome and Wistanstow from the lord of Clun for 1 knight's fee<sup>37</sup>. Broome may be the site of a 2-hide manor, within the main manor of Clun, a knight called Gislold held from Picot de Say in 1086<sup>38</sup>. Broome is later found held in two moieties (of 1 hide each?), one attached to the Sibdon fief and one to the Bucknell fief (no.8 below). The part of Wistanstow attached to this knight's fee may be the hide at *Caurtone*, which St Alkmund's church at Shrewsbury said in 1086 belonged to them but which Picot de Say occupied illegally. The site of *Caurtone* has not been identified, but it may have lain in St Alkmund's manor or prebend of Wistanstow. The origins of this knight's fee seem, therefore, to have lain in the lands Gislold held from Picot de Say in 1086. These were probably at Broome, and to them was added, from the demesnes of the lord of Clun, both Sibdon and *Caurtone*.

In 1255 Sibdon was held for the service of 1 knight at Clun for 40 days in time of war<sup>39</sup>.

**(6) Baldwin of Stapleton (holds) by service of 1 knight.**

In 1255 John of Stapleton held two carucates of land in Wistanstow from the lord of Clun<sup>40</sup>. Baldwin of Stapleton, John's ancestor, is connected with Wistanstow in the late 12th century 'Narrative of the Prebend of Wistanstow'<sup>41</sup>. Wistanstow was a manor (or prebend) of St Alkmund's church in 1066, but by 1086 it had passed into the hands of Nigel, doctor to the earl of Shrewsbury, who also had the adjacent manor of *Cleu*. After Nigel's death, according to the 'Narrative', Earl Hugh of Shrewsbury, who was earl from 1094 until his death in 1098, persuaded the canons of St Alkmund's to demise it to Gilbert of Condover, his man, it was probably intended that Gilbert should hold the manor under the lord of Clun, although there is no certainty in this. Gilbert held the manor until a date between 1126 and 1137 when he exchanged it with Payn fitzjohn, the sheriff, for Waters Upton. After Payn's death, however, St Alkmund's regained Wistanstow, only to have it seized, sometime between 1143 and 1150, by Earl Roger of Hereford, husband of Payn's heiress. Shortly after this Elias de Say of Clun approached earl Roger, with whom he had previously been at war, at the behest of Baldwin of Stapleton and with a view to purchasing it from him. Earl Roger agreed to the sale and Elias then gave Wistanstow to Baldwin in return for knight-service at Clun.

Eyton notes, further, that Baldwin's son, Philip, held four hides of land at 'Wilfredscote', an alternative name for the land-unit called Wistanstow, from Isabel de Say, heiress to Elias, for the service of one knight. Isabel died in 1199 having been married to William fitzAlan of Oswestry (died 1160), Geoffrey de Vere (died 1170) and William Boterel. However, the 'Narrative' specifies that it was under Isabel that Philip held Wistanstow and not one of her husbands, which implies that she was at the time a widow. This seems to have been the case between 1171 and 1175, when she accounts at the Exchequer herself for her share (Clun and its lands) of the whole fief of William fitzAlan, her first husband<sup>42</sup>.

The knight's fee at Wistanstow originated, therefore, in the period 1094 to 1098, when Earl Hugh of Shrewsbury obtained it from St Alkmund's and gave it to Gilbert of Condover. Between 1126/37 and 1143/50, however, it was in the demesnes of Payn fitzjohn and of St Alkmund's before earl Roger seized it and sold it to Elias de Say. Geoffrey de Vere, Elias's successor by right of his wife, claimed in 1166 that it was an 'old' fee of his barony dating from before 1135, however, so it seems likely that Gilbert of Condover held the manor and fee under the lord of Clun until he exchanged it for Waters Upton, at which point it passed to Payn fitzjohn. If this was the case, then it would explain Elias de Say's desire to obtain the manor from the earl of Hereford in 1143-50.

**(7) Roger son of Eustace of Longville (holds) by service of 1 knight.**

In 1086 1½ hides at (Cheney) Longville were held by Seward *grossus* from Earl Roger of Shrewsbury. He gave it to Shrewsbury Abbey but early in 1130 the abbey exchanged it with Henry de Say of Clun for the manor of

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<sup>36</sup>*DB*,f.258.

<sup>37</sup>*Jpm*,i,no.812. The inclusion of Clunbury, Strefford, Marsh and Little Brampton (*Branston*) in this fee is a mistake: see no.11 below and Eyton,xi,270 note 4.

<sup>38</sup>*DB*,f.258.

<sup>39</sup>*RH*,ii,77.

<sup>40</sup>*Ib.*,71.

<sup>41</sup>Eyton,xi,356-9.

<sup>42</sup>*PR* 17 *Henry II*,33; 18 *Henry II*,46; 19 *Henry II*,109; 20 *Henry II*,110; 21 *Henry II*,39. In the last of these she accounts for only year, which suggests she married William Boterel about the beginning of June 1175.

Brompton (in Berrington)<sup>43</sup>. In this way Henry disposed of a manor remote from his main holding around Clun and gained a manor which complimented it very nicely. The 'old' fee of 1166 must, therefore, have been created between 1130 and 1135. The knight-service due from the manor - a very heavy one for a manor assessed at only 15 hides in 1086 - was reduced to ½ knight's fee by 1242, when Roger Walding had it<sup>44</sup>. In 1255 Cecilia of Wolferlow had ½ hide at Longville for service of one serjeant with a horse at Clun for 20 days in time of war, the equivalent of only 1/4 knight's fee but in 1272 it was again held for 1 knight's fee<sup>45</sup>.

**(8) Hugh of Bucknell, Adam his brother, Osbert of Myndtown and Tudweil of Broome (*Tudilius de Broma*) (hold) by service of 1 knight.**

The vill of Bucknell does not appear by name in DB but is probably represented by the 33/4 hides at Adley (*Edelactune*) a knight called Bernard held from Picot de Say<sup>46</sup>. Myndtown was a manor of 1½ hides held from Picot by a knight called Leofric, while Broome, as we have seen, was held in two parts (each of 1 hide) by Gislold, one part becoming part of the Sibdon fief (no.5 above) and the other part of this fief. In 1272 Walter of Bucknell and parceners held Bucknell, Purslow, Broome, Acton and Myndtown from the lord of Clun for one knight's fee<sup>47</sup>. Purslow and Acton were both in Picot de Say's demesne manor of Clun in 1086.

In 1255 the fee was still held in four parts; - Gilbert of Bucknell had one hide at Bucknell by service of a mounted serjeant for 8 days ward at Clun in time of war at his own cost; Margery of Purslow had hide at Purslow by service of a foot-soldier at Clun for 5 days in time of war; William of Acton had ½ hide at Acton by service of a foot-soldier at Clun for 4 days in time of war; and William of Myndtown had ½ hide at Myndtown by service of a mounted serjeant at Clun for 8 days in time of war<sup>48</sup>.

The origins of this knight's fee seem to lie in the lands Bernard held from Picot de Say in 1086. To this was added, over time, demesne lands at Purslow and Acton, land at Broome held by Gislold and lands at Myndtown held by Leofric. In 1242 Myndtown (with Risbache) was held for ½ fee within the 1 fee at Bucknell, etc.<sup>49</sup>. This may be the service Leofric and his family owed the lord of Clun before their fee was joined with the one at Bucknell. The 'new' fees created between 1135 and 1166 can also be taken in turn like the 'old' fees.

**(9) Simon *de Haburdino* (holds) by service of 1 knight.**

In 1242 another Simon *de Haburdino* held 1 knight's fee at Clungunford from the lord of Clun<sup>50</sup>. In 1086 Picot de Say had 6 hides at Clungunford, all of them in demesne except for 1½ hides in the hands of a man called Fulk *pincerna*, 'steward'. These 1½ hides probably lay at Abcott and Rowton in Clungunford<sup>51</sup>. In 1255 Katherine de Lacy, guardian of an under-age heir, held Clungunford, Abcott and Rowton by service of a mounted serjeant at Clun for 20 days in time of war<sup>52</sup>. This service was the equivalent of only 1/4 knight's fee (see p13 below), Katherine having perhaps obtained a reduction in the knight-service owing for the duration of her wardship<sup>53</sup>. In 1272 Clungunford, Abcott and Rowton were again held for 1 knight's fee, this time by Roger *de Habardyn*<sup>54</sup>.

Though he was presumably a knight, the Fulk of DB seems to have held his lands by service of being steward to the lord of Clun, since knight-service was not charged on the lands he held until after 1135. When knight-service was established Clungunford was added to the holding.

**(10) Hingan Burnel (holds) by service of 1 knight.**

This fief is probably represented in 1255 by the two ½ fees at Stowe and Weston held by Great Malvern Priory and Brian of Brampton (Brampton Bryan)<sup>55</sup>. Both ½ fees owed the service of a mounted serjeant at Clun for 20 days in time of war at their own cost. Both Stowe and Weston were in Picot de Say's demesnes in 1086 and a knight (Hingan?) was not enfeoffed on them until 1135-66. It seems subsequently to have passed to the family of Brampton Bryan, who were great patrons of Great Malvern.

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<sup>43</sup>DB.f.259b; U.Rees, *Cartulary of Shrewsbury Abbey*,no.47d.

<sup>44</sup>*Book of Fees*,963.

<sup>45</sup>RH,ii,77; *Ipm*,i,no.812.

<sup>46</sup>DB ,ff.258-258b.

<sup>47</sup>*Ipm*,i,no.812.

<sup>48</sup>RH,ii,76b-77.

<sup>49</sup>*Book of Fees*,963; *Feudal Aids*,iv,238.

<sup>50</sup>*Fees*,963.

<sup>51</sup>DB,f.258.

<sup>52</sup>RH,ii,77.

<sup>53</sup>Clunbury, etc., was held for only ½ fee in 1346: *Feudal Aids*,iv,238.

<sup>54</sup>*Ipm*,i,no.812; *Calendar of Close Rolls 1268-72*,513.

<sup>55</sup>Eyton,xi,314.

**(11) Roger English (holds) by service of 3/4 fee<sup>56</sup> .**

In 1242 Hugh English (*Anglicus*) had 1 knight's fee (not 3/4) at Clunbury from the lord of Clun<sup>57</sup> . Clunbury was in Picot de Say's demesnes in 1086. In 1272 lands at Strefford (with Affcot) and Little Brampton (*Bromstan*) were included in this fee<sup>58</sup> . Little Brampton was in Picot de Say's manor of Clun in 1086 but Strefford and Affcot were a 2-hide manor in the hands of Reginald the sheriff with an Englishman called Azor as his tenant<sup>59</sup> . It was probably from this man that the later lords of Clunbury took their surname of 'English'. Although the overlordship of Azor's lands came to the lord of Clun after the death of Reginald c1102, it was not until after 1135 that a 'new' knight's fee which included his lands was created. Included in that fee were Clunbury and Little Brampton from among the overlord's demesne lands.

In 1255 the heir of Hugh English had 3½ hides at Strefford and Marsh (both now in Wistanstow)<sup>60</sup> . As there were only 2 hides at Strefford, which included Marsh, in 1086, the extra 1½ hides must have been at Marsh. In 1284-5 another Hugh English had Strefford and Marsh for ¼ fee within the knight's fee his family had at Clunbury, etc.<sup>61</sup> . However, the knight-service for Strefford was already included in the 3/4 knight's fee the family had in 1166, so the ¼ fee of 1284-5 must have been for Marsh alone. The addition of this ¼ fee at Marsh to the total knight-service from 3/4 fee then to 1 fee in 1242.

All the evidence given above for the establishment of knights on lands around Clun before 1135 (nos.1 to 8 above) can be summarized following Suppe's model, in tabular form:-

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<sup>56</sup>If the amount of free knight-service owed by the holder of a full knight's fee was 40 days then the holder of 3/4 knight's fee owed only 30 days free service.

<sup>57</sup>*Book of Fees*,963.

<sup>58</sup>*Jpm*,i,no.812 as emended by *Feudal Aids*,iv,238.

<sup>59</sup>*DB*,f.255.

<sup>60</sup>*RH*,ii,70.

<sup>61</sup>*Feudal Aids*,iv,229.



Group	Name of Manor	DB hides	Name of DB knight	Date of enfeoffment		No. of fees in 1135
(1)	Hopton Castle	2			After 1086	2
	Coston	1				
	Broadward	2?	Walter?	Before 1086		
	Hagley					
	Shelderton	2			Added after death of Reginald c.1102	
	Tately					
	Weo					
(2)	Jay	3/4	Fulk	Before 1086		1
	Bedstone	2				
	Beckjay	3/4				
(3)	Lower Down	3	Picot	Before 1086		1
	Woolston (part)	1?	unnamed (Picot?)			
(4)	Edgton	2			After 1086	1
	Brunslow	n/k				
	Woolston (part)	1?	unnamed	Before 1086		
(5)	Sibdon Carwood	2			After 1086	1
	<i>Caurtone</i> (in Wistanstow)	½				
	Broome (part)	1?	Gislold?	Before 1086		
(6)	Wistanstow	4			62	1
	<i>Cleu</i> (in Wistanstow)	1				
(7)	Cheney Longville	1½			63	1
(8)	Bucknell (Adley)	33/4	Bernard	Before 1086		1
	Myndtown	1½	Leogric			
	Broome (part)	1?	Gislold?			
	Purslow	½				
	Acton	½				

<sup>62</sup>Not gained officially until 1143-c50 but fee originally enfeoffed 1094-8 and probably held under Clun from then.

<sup>63</sup>Not gained until 1130; fee enfeoffed between then and 1135.

The information on the establishment of 'new' fees (nos.9 to 11) can also be summarized in the same way:-

Group	Name of Manor	DB hides	Name of DB knight	Name of knight in 1086	No. of fees in 1166	
(9)	Clungunford	4½		Simon <i>de Haburdino</i>	1	
	Abcott	1½	Fulk <i>pincerna</i>			
	Rowton					
(10)	Stowe	n/k		Hingan Burnel	1	
	Weston	n/k				
(11)	Clunbury	n/k		gained after death of Reginald c1102	3/4	
	Little Brampton	n/k				
	Strefford	2	Azor			Roger English
	Abcott					
	(Marsh)	(1½)				(added 1166-1242)

Taking the 'old' fees first it can be seen that the enfeoffing of knights by the lord of Clun was well under way by the time DB was written. By then there were six named knights - Walter, Fulk, Picot, Gislold, Bernard and Leofric - and one unnamed knight settled on lands at Lower Down, Myndtown, Woolston, Broome, Beckjay, Hagley, Bedstone, Broadward, Jay and Bucknell. Whether or not the lands these knights held could be assessed at *feudum unius militis*, or the fief of one knight, is, I think, immaterial at this early date. The essential thing is that they were all knights and were ready for service at Clun, or with the earl of Shrewsbury its overlord, whenever called upon<sup>64</sup>. These seven knights held lands that made up all or part of six out of eight knight's fiefs (nos.1 to 5 and 8 above) known to have existed in 1135. Of the remaining two fiefs, one was not created until 1094-8 and the other until 1130-5.

The way the knight's fiefs in the lands around Clun developed in the period 1086 to 1135 is interesting, since it suggests that this was the time when the concept of an estate charged with the service of a single knight became established. Such estates were not necessarily geographically discrete or in any way equal in extent or value: what mattered was that by 1135 an estate's holder had agreed with the lord of Clun that he would hold it for the service of one knight<sup>65</sup>. The evidence for the extent of those estates, however, is almost entirely 13th century in date and it could be argued from this, in respect of the above assessment of the lands on which knight's fees were owed in 1135, that where a knight had been enfeoffed on part of them by 1086, there was no increase in the extent of his or his family's estates between then and 1135, any increase coming after that date or even after 1166. However, it is generally recognized that few lords granted lands out of their demesnes in return for knight-service after 1166. Also, the period between 1086 and 1135 seems to have seen a steady rise in the status of the knight and this rise probably saw the estates on which knight-service was charged in 1166 and in the 13th century reach virtually their full extent. All in all, therefore, it seems likely that the period in question saw in Clun the rise of the concept of *feudum unius militis*.

<sup>64</sup>In point of fact only Walter, Picot, Gislold and the unnamed knight are called milites, but it is unlikely that a man holding lands in 1086 would be named unless he were a knight.

It became fashionable a few years ago to deny the status of knight to the Domesday *miles*; e.g. S.Harvey, 'The Knight and the Knight's Fee in England', *Past and Present*, 49(1970), 3-43. This line of thought was effectively rebutted by R.Allen Brown in *Origins of English Feudalism* (1973), *passim* and especially in 'The status of the Norman Knight' in J.Gillingham and J.C.Holt (eds.), *War and Government in the Middle Ages* (1984),18-32.

<sup>65</sup>On this point see F.M.Stenton, *The First Century of English Feudalism*,158-9.

The reasons for the rise in status of the knight in the Anglo-Norman period are not entirely clear<sup>66</sup>. One factor may be that in 1066 knighthood was largely a matter of function rather than rank. The office included men not far removed from peasant status as well as men of noble extraction, and in the subsequent two or three generations there was probably a general levelling up among all ranks<sup>67</sup>. Another may be that certain observable social and literary trends led to a more elevated view of the knight in society<sup>68</sup>. But whatever the reasons were, the rise in status for most knights led to a demand for an income to match their new importance and also, probably, to cover the cost of providing themselves with the full range of equipment required by a knight, on which point there seems to have been a new insistence<sup>69</sup>. The result was that, in many cases, the ability of land, enfeoffed by 1086 to support the knight enfeoffed on them, with his family and with the retainers that went with his new status, was increasingly compromised. The solution at Clun, as elsewhere in England, probably, was to offer the knights more land and also, because the same pressures were at work on the stipendiary knight, to enfeoff those the lord could no longer to pay adequately.

We can see the effect of all this, I think, in the development of knightly fiefs in Clun as shown in the above table. In no.1 Walter of Broadward and Hagley was given first Hopton Castle and Coston from his lord's demesnes, evidently, and then, sometime after about 1102, Reginald the sheriff's former lands at Shelderton, Tately and Weo. The end result was a larger fief than the others, one charged with the service of two knights and not one. In no.4 the unnamed knight on a manor at Woolston gained Edgton and Brunslow from his lord's demesnes and in no.5 Gislold of Broome acquired Sibdon Carwood and *Caurtone* from the same source. In no.8 either Bernard or Leofric, or their descendants, replaced the other at Bucknell and Myndtown, gained Purslow and Acton from the lord's demesnes and then part of Broome from Gislold or his descendant. The precise timing of these adjustments between 1086 and 1135 is open to question, and neither can it be assumed that the process was as straightforward as stated above, since we know from the cases of the Wistanstow (no.6) and Longville (no.7) fiefs that this was not necessarily so. At other places, such as nos.2 & 39 the lands on which the knights lived in 1086 seem to have been sufficient to bear the additional costs identified above; either that or they and their descendants were able to derive income from elsewhere. Little can be said about the further enfeoffment on knights between 1135 and 1166 beyond what has been said already and to say that their creation was probably the result of the pressure on costs identified above. What can be said for certain about the knight's fees in existence in 1135 and 1166, however, is that the fiefs or estates on which they were charged were in no way uniform in extent of value; it was up to each knight to negotiate with his lord for the best deal possible in return for his services as a knight.

In the 12<sup>th</sup> C knights owed their lords three free services *exercitus* or *expeditio*, *custodia* and *chivalchia* or *equitatio*. The first of these was service in his field-army or war-band (his *comitatus*), the second castle-guard and the third general mounted service to his lord, including escort duties<sup>70</sup>. This latter service was expanded to include, and was eventually replaced by, attendance at the lord's curia or feudal court at certain times in the year. By the end of the 12th century, moreover, it is likely that castle-guard (*custodia*) had become an alternative to service in the war-band (*exercitus*) and not additional to it<sup>71</sup>. Thus, in the 13th century, we find that castle-guard plus suit of court (the old *chivalchia*) are normally spoken of as the only services due from a knight's fee.

By 1135, probably, if not by 1086, the lands of the lord of Clun about the castle of Clun had become a castlery<sup>72</sup>, that is, a well-defined district within which the arrangement of the knights' fees was designed for the maintenance of the castle at its centre and on which the castle was dependant for its economic support. In fact so

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<sup>66</sup>For the general view that there was an increase in the status of knights between 1066 and 1135 see Stenton, *op. cit.*, 142-5, 155; D.M. Stenton, *English Society in the Early Middle Ages* (1951), 79; P. Coss, *The Knight in Medieval England 1000-1400* (1993), 6, 10; R. Allen Brown, 'Status of the Norman Knight', 30-1.

<sup>67</sup>Coss, *op. cit.*, 9-12.

<sup>68</sup>Allen Brown, *op. cit.*, 31-2.

<sup>69</sup>Coss, 24. Despite Allen Brown's apparent insistence (p24) that we should believe that every knight at Hastings was as well-equipped and horsed as those portrayed in the Bayeux Tapestry (where, because of its tendentious origins, we should suspect some artistic licence), reason should tell us that in an army drawn from the whole of northern France and beyond there was room for knights of varying financial resources and varying levels of armament.

<sup>70</sup>S. Painter, *Studies in the History of the English Feudal Barony* (1943), 124-5; Stenton, *First Century of English Feudalism*, 176-8; C. Warren Hollister, *The Military Organization of Norman England* (1965), 84.

<sup>71</sup>This premise was accepted (reluctantly) by the crown by the beginning of the 13<sup>th</sup> C: I.J. Sanders, *Feudal Military Service in England* (1956), 48; so it had presumably become established within honours and baronies some time before that: see S. Painter, 'Castle-Guard', *American History Review*, 40 no.3(1935), 450-9.

<sup>72</sup>Reference is made to a 'castellany' of Clun in 1233: *Calendar of Patent Rolls 1232-47*, 32, which is the same thing.

uniquely compact were Picot's lands around Clun in 1086<sup>73</sup> that it would be naive to suppose that this was not the outcome the earl of Shrewsbury expected when he gave them to Picot. Once the lord of a castle in the march of Wales had defined the boundaries of his lordship or liberty, and brought that area within the competence of his own chancery and honorial court, it was only a short step thence to the exclusion of all other fiscal and judicial officers, including the king's. In certain areas of the march, at least, this final step towards the establishment on lands within the kingdom of England of a 'marcher lordship' had been taken by the close of the 12th c<sup>74</sup>.

In return for his lands at Clun and elsewhere Picot de Say owed the earl of Shrewsbury his overlord the service of a certain number of knights. The probably number of knights he owed was 10, and this was known as the *servicium debitum* or 'service quota' of his honour. When earl Roger of Shrewsbury granted out fiefs to his leading barons he seems to have demanded in return either the service of 5 knights or of 10<sup>75</sup>, and Clun seems to have fallen into the latter category<sup>76</sup>. Certainly, if it was only 5, Picot's descendant, with 9 knights enfeoffed in 1135, had an excessive number of knights for a service quota (and does not, in any case, include his own service as a knight), and Geoffrey de Vere in 1166, with 11<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> knight's fees, even more so. A figure of 11<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> fees in 1166 has sufficient leeway for sickness or absence (on pilgrimage or Crusade) among the knights of Clun for the fulfilling of a service quota of 10, so this was probably the service demanded of Picot by the earl of Shrewsbury<sup>77</sup>. At no time, however, does this account for any household or stipendiary knights the lord of Clun may have had in his castle. As was incumbent on a lord of a frontier outpost Picot de Say will at first have expected his knights to be on hand to guard his castle or form his *comitatus* at any time of the year. As the internal state of both Wales and England became more stable, however, there was a trend towards limiting a knight's free service to a certain length of time each year - 40 days in the case of Clun and many other honours. Still further down the time-scale was the limitation of his free service to time of war only, as is commonly found in records of 13th century date. In every case the lord would, of course, pay his knights at the going daily rate<sup>78</sup> for any days they were required in excess of the 40 days.

The permanent garrison of Clun castle in the 12th century was probably quite small. Only one knight from among those owed by the feudal tenants was present all the year round, and he was one of the two supplied by the Hopton fief (see p3 above). All the other fiefs provided a knight free of charge for only 40 days in the year or, as the 12th century progressed, only in time of war. This single knight, in whom it is tempting to see the person of the constable<sup>79</sup>. was probably supplemented by a porter, one or two serjeants (men-at-arms) and a body of foot-soldiers. Either at intervals during the year or only in time of war this small permanent garrison was joined by the other feudal tenants of the honour doing their own castle-guard service<sup>80</sup>.

A permanent garrison of only one or two knights may seem small, but it was sufficient to maintain order among and lead a garrison that increasingly was made up of non-feudal elements<sup>81</sup>. These non-feudal elements

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<sup>73</sup>Of Picot's 29 DB manors only 5 - Mytton, a manor in Worthen, Brompton, Fitz and Merrington - were outside the area later known as the lordship of Clun.

<sup>74</sup>E.g. William de Braose's statement in 1199 that "neither king, sheriff nor justice have any right to enter into his liberty" (Sir Frances Palgrave (ed.), *Rotuli Curiae Regis*, i, 426), which was restated in more detail and with only slightly less force in a survey of the boundaries of the county of Hereford undertaken in 1219: *Calendar of Inquisitions Miscellaneous*, i, no. 444.

<sup>75</sup>J.C.Holt, 'The introduction of Knight Service in England' in *Anglo-Norman Studies*, 6(1983), 89-106 reprinted in M.Strickland (ed.), *Anglo-Norman Warfare* (1992), 41-58, p.45.

<sup>76</sup>The honours of Wem, Cause and Castle Holdgate were each held for 5 fees, as were the lands in Shrops. attached to Wigmore and to Richard's Castle: *Book of Fees*, 144. Ludlow and, probably, Clun were held for 10: *Ibid.* For Ludlow see also my 'Payn fitzjohn and Ludlow Castle' in *Trans. of the Shropshire Archaeological Society* forthcoming. In 1166 Oswestry was said to be held for 10 knight's fees-in exercitu et chivalchia in Shropshire only and outside that county for 5 fees: *Red Book of the Exchequer*, 274. The difference had been compromised at 7 fees by 1212: *Book of Fees*, 144. For the decimalization of *servicia debita* in general see J.H.Round, 'The Introduction of Knight Service into England' in *Feudal England* (1895) 259-62; Holt, 'Introduction of Knight Service', 41-58 and R.Allen Brown, *The Normans and the Norman Conquest* (2nd ed.1985), 190.

<sup>77</sup>Scutage was normally demanded on 9 fees (*PR 6 Richard 1*, 143-4, etc.) that is, the number of 'old' fees in 1166. No lands lying outside the lordship of Clun owed knight-service there. Of the five manors Picot de Say had outside that lordship two (Brompton and Merrington) went to religious houses while two more (Mytton and Fitz) became part of the honour of Oswestry (see note 8 above). It is not known what happened to his 3-hide manor in Roger fitzCorbet's manor of Worthen (*DB*, f.255b).

<sup>78</sup>For a hired or mercenary knight the going daily rate of pay was 6d in 1135, rising to 8d in 1160, 1/- in 1189 and 2/- in 1216: Painter, 'Castle-Guard', 450-9 and *History of the English Feudal Barony*, 172; C.Warren Hollister, 'The Significance of Scutage Rates in Eleventh- and Twelfth-Century England', *English Historical Review*, 75(1960)9 577-88.

<sup>79</sup>No member of the Hopton family is known to have been constable of Clun, although they were connected with the family of Constantine of Eaton Constantine (with whom they shared the manor of Fitz: *RH*, 75b) at least one of whose members was a constable: P.M.Remfry, *Clun Castle 1066-1282* (1994), 8 and *Hopton Castle 1066-1305* (1994), 2.

<sup>80</sup>On the smallness of peacetime garrisons in general see Painter, 'Castle-Guard', 451.

<sup>81</sup>On this point see Stenton, *First Century of English Feudalism*, 205-7 and Hollister, *Military organization of Norman England*, 141.

were the mounted serjeant and the common foot-soldier<sup>82</sup>. Stenton has noted that "in a castle garrison of the 12th century the knights must usually have been outnumbered by the men whom Pipe Rolls of that age describe as serjeants" and Hollister has added to them other non-knightly people<sup>83</sup>. These latter - the common soldier were probably always present, but mounted serjeants gradually replaced knights as the main element in a castle's garrison as the 12th century unfolded. Resistance to the personal performance of castle-guard and other services among knights had grown in proportion to their rise in status: as his status in society rose, so a knight's reluctance to risk his life in a dangerous situation like defending a castle also rose. There was, moreover, the inconvenience of being hauled from the pursuit of one's own interests annually in order to pursue those of one's lord. Add to that the fact that the knight's lord may have been, in real or potential terms, no more than his own equal in the eyes of feudal society, and you have sufficient reason for lords to begin to prefer the service of serjeants to those of knights. More appropriate to the garrisoning of a castle by the latter part of the 12th century, therefore, was the serjeant, whose relatively cheap<sup>84</sup>, whose horse could provide the limited amount of mobility required, who would not stand on his dignity when ordered about by the lord or his constable and who expected to be paid at only half the rate, or less, of a knight<sup>85</sup>.

The money to pay these serjeants came from the lord's feudal tenants, through the commutation of their knight-service for an agreed sum of money. Commutation, which overcame the problems knights had identified in the last paragraph, had become common by 1166 and was almost universal by the end of the century. Through this system the knights need no longer serve in person and with the money raised their lord could employ a replacement garrison of professional soldiers more appropriate to his needs. In the end the monetary payment, which became known as ward-penny or ward-silver, came to dictate the nature of the service by which knights held their lands. We can see this in several of the knight's fees owing service at Clun. At no.4, for instance, in 1255 payment of sufficient money for the employment of two non-feudal mounted serjeants is taken as the equivalent of the feudal service of one knight. At Longville (no.7) at the same date Cecilia of Wolferlow owed the monetary equivalent of only 1/4 knight's fee that is, a mounted serjeant for 20 days at Clun in time of war. In no.8 a complicated situation was brought about by the differing rates at which knights were allowed to commute their service. Here, only two of the four parceners owed the service of mounted serjeants, and then only for a total of 16 days, while the other two paid between them for foot-soldiers or archers at Clun for only 9 days. As in the earlier process of feudal infeudation on the Clun lands between 1066 and 1136, therefore, there was no uniformity in the results of negotiations between the lord and his knights: the rate of commutation was the result of a bargain, with the lord seeking to have knight-service commuted at the highest rate he could persuade his knights to pay<sup>86</sup>.

The total ward-penny owing to the castle of Clun was said in 1272 to be £6. 15s.0d, payable in time of war, and that the service of each serjeant ('esquire') was worth 4½ d daily<sup>87</sup>. At a rate of 4½d per day £6. 15s. 0d would pay for 9 serjeants for 40 days in time of war. However, there were at that date said to be 10½ knight's fees appurtenant to Clun, so if each fee paid for two serjeants (as at Edgton in 1255) the services of 21 serjeants should have been bought with the ward-penny. The fact that only 9 could be bought suggests the total of ward-penny had been arrived at long before 1272, in an era where mounted serjeants were paid at less than half the current rate. This accords well with Stenton's view that although information derived from the inquisitions *post mortem* of the 13<sup>th</sup> C is relatively late in date, that information has a "decidedly anachronistic appearance"<sup>88</sup>.

Whatever arrangements a lord had made with his feudal tenants for the performance of their knight-service, however, these could be overturned by the king in times of emergency. We see this happening at Clun in 1233. In that year Llywelyn of Gwynedd overran the Welshry of Clun and destroyed the castle of Castell Bryn Amlwg (*Ruthin; Castelhychoet*). The king promptly commandeered the castle at Clun and put his own constable, Baldwin de Vere, in charge. In September Baldwin, and Roger the Glazier (*le Werrur*) his deputy, had 13 serjeants (*servientem*) in Clun castle and these were reinforced by a further 17 serjeants sent by the king. The king then wrote to the sheriff of Shropshire saying that the constable and his deputy were to be paid 12d daily and the serjeants 7½d daily from the revenues of the shire while they were at Clun. In November, the threat to the security

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<sup>82</sup>By serjeant I mean here the professional soldier of that name not those numerous royal serjeants who held lands by serjeantry tenure. There were 30 of these in Shrops. in 1212 owing services as diverse keeping the king's forests, guarding his treasure on its way from Shrewsbury to London and providing foot-soldiers in his wars in Wales: *Book of Fees*,144-6.

<sup>83</sup>Stenton, *op. cit.*,206; Hollister, *op. cit.*,141,

<sup>84</sup>See below pl5 for the kind of equipment a serjeant was expected to have.

<sup>85</sup>In about 1135 serjeants were paid 3d daily and later in the century 4d: Hollister, *op. cit.* p208.

<sup>86</sup>Painter, 'Castle-Guard',457-9.

<sup>87</sup>*lpm*,i,no.812.

<sup>88</sup>Stenton, *op. cit.*,205.

of the kingdom still being present, the king told all the knights who were tenants of the castellany of Clun to answer for their castle-guard due there to Baldwin de Vere and to do their guard at his summons whenever necessary. (At the same time John (1) Fitzalan of Clun was told to have the knights who owed him service elsewhere in England, that is, in his honours of Oswestry and Arundel, at Shrewsbury whenever necessary<sup>89</sup>. So, in a time of crisis, the king had first seen to the security of Clun Castle himself and only later called on the castle's feudal tenants to perform their castle-guard service. That castle-guard service, however, was to be done "whenever necessary" and not in accordance with any prior agreements between the lord of Clun and his knights.

The Inquisition *post mortem* noted above in respect of the ward-penny due to Clun also provides basic information about the kind of equipment the lord of Clun expected his knights to have, and this can be supplemented from other sources. Every holder of a whole knight's fee, it says, shall owe at Clun in time of war for 40 days one man with a corselet (mail shirt) and horse. All the men so provided were, of course, armed. Anselm, archbishop of Canterbury from 1093 until his death in 1109, said that every knight should have a horse, with bridle and saddle, a hauberk (lorica, full-length mail coat), helmet and shield to protect him, and a lance and sword for attack. "He cannot properly be a knight" Anselm said, "if he lacks any one of these"<sup>90</sup>. Things had not changed much, it seems, by 1181 when the Assize of Arms said that the holder of a knight's fee should have a lorica, helmet, shield and lance. The Assize also specifies what can be recognized as the equipment (though not the person) of the serjeant. Each freeman with income of more than 10 marks per annum, it says, should have an *aubergel* (less elaborate and costly version of the hauberk), iron cap (not necessarily as protective as a helmet) and lance<sup>91</sup>. In neither of these passages from the Assize is a horse or sword mentioned, although both must be assumed. Early in the 13th century King John (1199-1216) reissued some of the laws of William the Conqueror (*Willelmi Articuli Retractati*) with an added clause to the effect that "all earls, barons, knights, serjeants and freemen shall keep themselves well supplied with arms and horses"<sup>92</sup>. Foot-soldiers could carry bow and arrows or a lance<sup>93</sup> and are likely to have been protected by a gambeson (quilted jacket) and to have carried a sword<sup>94</sup>.

Turning, now, to the castles in the district around Clun, when one compares the location of these with the location of the knight's fees described above, there is only a limited correlation between the two. Indeed, there is no particular reason why the correlation should be complete, since possession of a castle was not a condition of knighthood. Pounds has noted<sup>95</sup> that of the 200 or so honours and baronies known to have been in existence in the 14th century only 35% had a castle as their caput or central-place. Among ordinary knights the proportion was even lower, as one would expect. It has been calculated from the *cartae baronum* of 1166 that there were then some 4,300 knights in England, compared with only some 900 castles which can be attributed to the period before 1154 on documentary and archaeological grounds<sup>96</sup>. This means that at the maximum only about 20% of knights could have had a castle, and the proportion falls even lower if baronial or temporary sites are removed from the equation.

On this basis the district around Clun fares reasonably well, and this is probably no more than we should expect in a frontier region. The caput of the fief of the Hopton family (no.1 above) was presumably the motte or ringwork at Broadward before it was moved to Hopton Castle. At this point the Broadward site was probably abandoned. In 1086 the manor of Hopton was waste and this probably means that the motte and bailey castle dates from after that year, although whether it was built before or after it was given to the Hoptons is open to question. The fee of the Jay family at Bedstone, etc., (no.2) never seems to have had a castle, the Castle Ditches site one mile west of Bedstone, which has been claimed as a castle, being a rectangular multivalate settlement site according to the Ordnance Survey and to Jackson<sup>97</sup>. The motte at Lower Down may have been associated with the lands Picot the knight had there in 1086 (no.3). As at no.2, the Edgton fief does not seem to have had a castle. The ringwork or settlement site on Ridgeway Hill (Old Castle, Castle Ring) one mile north-east of

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<sup>89</sup>Calendar of Close Rolls 1231-4,272; Calendar of Fine Rolls.1226-40, 232; Calendar of Patent Rolls 1232-47,32.

<sup>90</sup>M.Chibnall, *The World of Orderic Vitalis* (1984),142-3.

<sup>91</sup>*English Historical Documents*,ii,449.

<sup>92</sup>Hollister, *Military Organization of Norman England*,220.

<sup>93</sup>*Jpm*,i,no.197 where Richard Dansey holds Turnastone, in the Golden Valley, from Roger de Chandos of Snodhill for the service of two footmen, one with lance and the other with bow and arrows, for 40 days at Snodhill Castle at his own cost when there is war with Wales.

<sup>94</sup>i.e., as in the Assize of Arms of 1181, where the lowest order of military man was expected to have a quilted doublet, iron cap and lance.

<sup>95</sup>N.J.G.Pounds, *The Medieval Castle in England and Wales* (1990),66.

<sup>96</sup>*Ibid.*,66-8.

<sup>97</sup>M.Jackson, *Castles of Shropshire* (1988),69.

Edgton probably has similar origins to the site at Castle Ditches<sup>98</sup>. If it was a castle, it may in any case have been on the demesne manor of Horderley (*Adredeleye*) rather than Edgton<sup>99</sup>. The only fortified site in Wistanstow lies at Upper Barn. This could have been associated with the Stapleton fee (no.6) or with one of the moieties of Woolston (nos.3 & 4). The present Sibdon Carwood Castle, a mansion of c1600, (no.5) may stand on the site of an earlier castle (form unknown) seen by Leland c1535<sup>100</sup>. The earliest castle at Cheney Longville (no.7) was presumably the ringwork lying a short distance north-east of the present, 14th century castle. There is a motte at Bucknell which may have been associated with the fee Bernard had there in 1086 (no.8)<sup>101</sup>. Clungunford was the site of a 'new' fee (no.9), but the motte there may date from before 1135. Neither the Stow/Weston fief (no.10) nor the one at Clunbury (no.11) seem to have had castles.

The sites at Bicton (motte), Newcastle (motte), Castell Bryn Amlwg (ringwork), Churchbank (or Wall; rejected by Jackson as the site of an old quarry<sup>102</sup>) and Rockhill (either a ringwork or an Iron Age settlement) were not associated with any knights' fees as far as we can tell. They were probably built by the lord of Clun to protect the approaches to Clun from the north, west and south, the directions the Welsh were mostly likely to come from. Newcastle is probably the site of *domus de Matefelun* of Geoffrey Boterel, Lord of Clun, for the fortification (*firmandam*) of which the king, in 1194/5, allowed him 10 marks from the revenues of Shropshire<sup>103</sup>. When the fortification was finished *Matefelun*, which was probably the Welsh name for the vill in which the castle was situated<sup>104</sup>, became known as New-castle. The motte and bailey at The Moat in Bettws-y-crwyn was possibly the administrative centre of the Welshry of Clun, or Tempsiter.

The two most difficult sites are Warfield Bank and Rabbit Berries (the latter rejected by Jackson as a tumulus<sup>105</sup>) since they do not seem to have any strategic significance or relate to any known settlement. They may be temporary sites built in answer to some passing emergency. The civil war of Stephen's reign provides a likely context.

On the basis of the above survey of castles in relation to knight's fees, 6 out of the 11 fiefs in existence in 1166 (nos.1,3,5,7,8 & 9) were centred on castles, or 55% of them, while a seventh (no.6) may have been. Four fiefs (nos.2,4,10 & 11) do not seem to have had a castle. The lords of these fiefs must have settled for something less than a castle as their dwelling place. In this they were no different from something like 80% of the knighthood of England. Indeed, they were the rule (if rule there was) and their colleagues elsewhere within the lordship of Clun were the exception, an exception brought about by their exceptional location on the border between England and Wales.

Bruce Coplestone-Crow

### **Ludlow Castle - The Outer Defences**

Due to limitations of space this has been held over to the next issue, HAN 64, the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Issue of the ARS.

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<sup>98</sup>This earthwork is called "the Old Castle" or "the little Old Castle" in two charters of the mid 13<sup>th</sup> C :Eyton,xi,261-2.

<sup>99</sup>For Horderley/*Adredeleye* as a demesne manor see *Close Rolls 1279-88*, 261 and N.Clough, *Two Estate Surveys of the Fitzalan Earls of Arundel* (Sussex Record Society,67(1969)),59.

<sup>100</sup>L.Toulmin Smith (ed.), *The Itinerary of John Leland*,v,15 and Jackson *op. cit.*,55-6.

<sup>101</sup>The proposed motte at Acton in this fief is rejected as a tumulus by both the Ordnance Survey and Jackson,69.

<sup>102</sup>p73. Jackson also notes (pll) the former existence of a mound, destroyed in 1966-73, at Colstey, between Acton and Clun, which may have been a motte.

<sup>103</sup>PR 7 Richard I,244.

<sup>104</sup>The place-name *Matefelun* seems to have the same first element as *Mateham*, the name of pasture land in the Welshry of Clun (Clough, *Estate Surveys*,60) which may have lain near Newcastle. The element seems to be Welsh *mad/mat* 'good, lucky, profitable'(see Sir Ifor Williams 'Dwy Gan Lyfr Coch Talgarth', *Bulletin of the Board of Celtic Studies* 2(1925),121-3 and *Canu Llywarch Hen* (1935),85) derived from a Celtic name element *mati-* 'good': D.Ellis Evans, *Gaulish Personal Names* (1967),229.

<sup>105</sup>p73.

### Finds from Bromsash

This article, extracted from Dean Archaeology No 7 1994, has been reproduced by kind permission of the editor of Dean Archaeology and the two authors. It is an amplification of the brief report in HAN 62 p 4 under the heading Notes - Ariconium.

Since the publication of Dean Archaeology No 7 additional finds have been recovered from the Bromsash area. A rare Gallic coin from the *Atrebat*es of north west Gaul and only the second find of such a coin in Britain. A base probably of an amphora which had had its edges carefully smoothed down and appears to have been used at some time as a cresset or oil light. There was also a Roman weight in good condition.

The editor is most grateful to Alf Webb of the Dean Archaeology Group for this additional information.

### FINDS FROM BROMSASH

This report demonstrates the great difficulties in identifying "unusual" finds when they are recovered on the surface and thus unprovenanced. A number of very experienced archaeologists have been contacted and have given their views. Graham Webster, OBE, our President, is a recognised Roman period specialist and has been so since 1960 at least. Nick Griffiths, our Drawing Day Schools tutor, is a free-lance archaeological illustrator and has contributed to reports of the Finds Research Group 700-1700. Steve Clarke of Monmouth Archaeological Society, and a life Vice-President of the Group, has a wide experience of pottery from the region, and Bryan Walters, our Director of Archaeology, has a knowledge of the Romans in our area which is well recognised. Two particular publications have also been used: "Roman Military Equipment", Bishop and Coulston, 1993, and the London Museum Medieval Catalogue, 1940, the 1993 reprint.

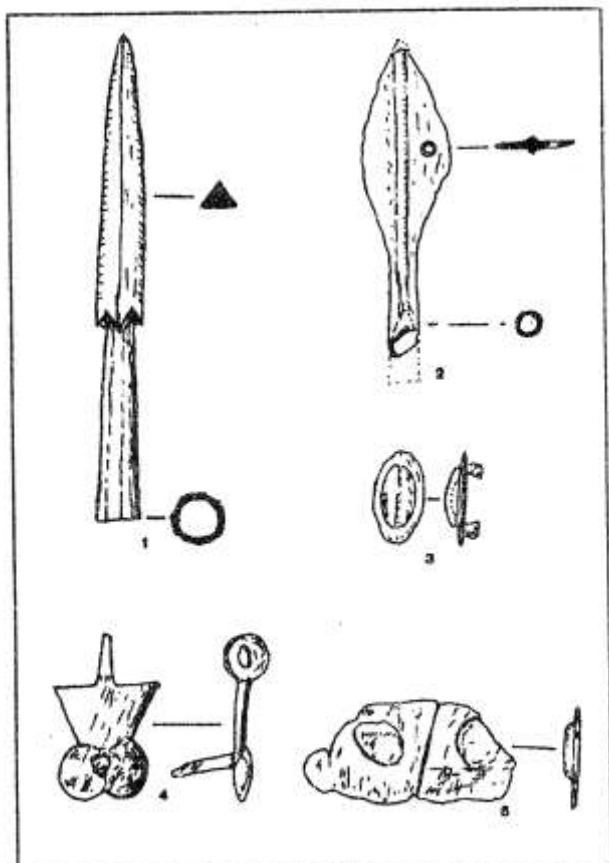


Figure 9, Bromsash finds

1. A finely made, socketed spear-head or ballista bolt, triangular in section, in bronze, found by Martin Sterry. This was initially identified by Bryan Walters as Roman, possibly votive. Sent to Graham Webster, he considered it medieval and linked with the development of plate-armour, and refers to the *London Museum Medieval Catalogue*, p.74 and Plate XVI, Nos.3-4. Nothing from Wroxeter shows anything similar in a Roman context. The *London Museum Medieval Catalogue* does not quote the metal used although the shape is certainly right.

Considering Nick Griffith's interests - medieval harness pendants and Roman metalwork - we sent all five metal objects to him. He showed them to several people whose opinions he respected and quoted the general consensus of opinion on each find. "If this is a ballista bolt, then it really has to be votive. No bronze weapons for use in warfare are known of after the Bronze Age". Nothing like this is illustrated in "Roman Military Equipment", or in any of a considerable number of photocopies acquired before writing "Roman Use of the Bow and Crossbow", (Alf Webb, DA3). Contact with several members of the Society of Archer-Antiquaries, also could find no trace of bronze ballista heads.

2. A small spear-head with a prominent rib and its point missing. Full



original length c.80mm. Found by Terry James, it was first published in DA4, p.44, drawn on that occasion by Andy Stait, and also appears in "The Archaeology and History of Ancient Dean and the Wye Valley", Bryan Walters, 1992, p.65. It was then identified as Roman and was taken by the finder to Caerleon Roman Fortress Museum. The curator, J.David Zienkiewicz, was unable to immediately identify it. He promised he would contact us if he was able to trace a similar find, but as nothing was heard, we presume nothing was found. Nothing similar has been found in "Roman Military Equipment". The opportunity was taken to send it to Graham Webster with other metal finds. He considered it Late Medieval. Nick Griffiths on the other hand gave as a consensus "If it is not Late Bronze Age, then possibly Late Iron Age/Roman and again votive".

3. A small, oval stud, 23 x 13mm., with two, small projecting attachment studs at the back. The projection has a thin line cut. Found by Martin Sterry, Bryan Walters suggested it was Roman, and it was sent to Graham Webster. He has found parallels in J.Oldenstein's, "Zur Ausrüstung römischer Auxiliareinheiten", in *Bericht de Romisch-Germanischen Kommission*, 57, (1976) Taf.34, Nos.267-272, placing them in the second century and later. Nick Griffiths said, "German sites date them 2nd-mid 3rd century and there are at least a dozen from Roman sites in this country". He has since sent a photocopied page of illustrations of these.

4. A phallic pendant with a projecting phallus, found by Martin Sterry. Bryan Walters suggested Roman. Graham Webster suggested probably from a harness. Nick Griffiths said not a harness pendant but probably the suspension loop for a bucket or small canister, and Roman.

5. Found by Martin Sterry, a short thin bronze strip, 24mm wide, with two crude circular studs attached to a thin plate 38mm long, with rounded ends connected at a break. The strip is too thin for armour and may have been from a box decoration. This description is from Graham Webster, Nick Griffiths queries a fragment of a bronze vessel, possibly Late Iron Age, but Dark Age is a possibility.

6. A shard of pottery with eyes and nose of a face was also found by Martin Sterry. Bryan Walters identified it as Severn Valley ware 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> century. Steve Clarke agrees with this identification. Graham Webster has not seen this piece but says: "The face pot is of interest and, as Bryan has said, it is Severn Valley ware. I have sorted a large quantity of shards of these wares at Wroxeter, but never had a face pot, so it could be quite unusual". No illustrations of similar pottery appear in any of the photocopies of Severn Valley ware reports held by the Group.

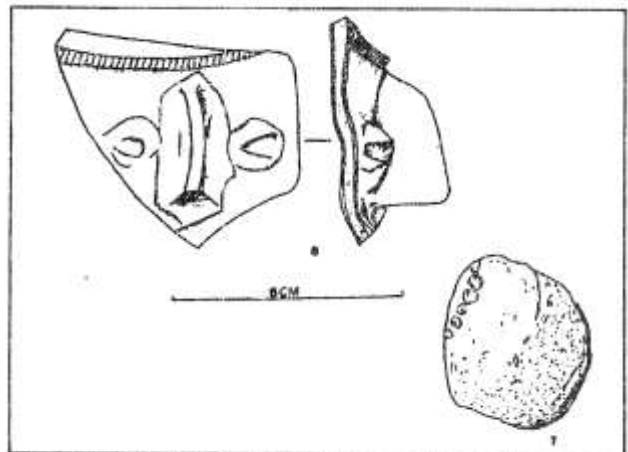


Figure 10, Facial pottery shard

7. A roughly spherical ball of sandstone was found by Terry James. It weighed 140 grams and has an average diameter of 44mm. Alf Webb discussed this find with a number of members of the Society of Archer-Antiquaries, bearing in mind similar illustrations in "Roman Military Equipment". It was considered to be too light and too small to be a ballista/catapulta ball and is most likely to be a stone sling shot. One member suggested it was a pierrier ball c. 1400 AD.

We thank most sincerely Graham Webster, Nick Griffiths and Steve Clarke, and all others who have helped identify these finds. All the finds are drawn by the same members as listed on the "Flint Finds -Field Walking around Newent".

Martin Sterry and Terry James

**An Attempt to Locate the Lost Turfords Chapel**  
**Richards Castle (Salop)**

The following references may give some indication of the location of the chapel.

**Hospitallers References**

The current Dinmore Manor hand book lists under "Possessions at Reformation, 1540 or earlier:- At R.C., two and a half virgates and a chapel known as Turfords Chapel".

1227 David and John de Turford, tenants of the knts. Hospitallers were amerced half a mark for failing to produce someone for whom they were sureties, Rot. Pip. 12 Hen 3 Salop.

1255 Hamlet of Turford & 2 1/2 virgates, held by the Hospitallers "by grant of the ancient lords of Richards Castle".

Inquest Rot Hundred 2, 70, 72.

1504 Rental Roll of the Dinmore Knights' Hospitallers (see below) "Turford, Wyston and Brymfeld". HRO A63/3.

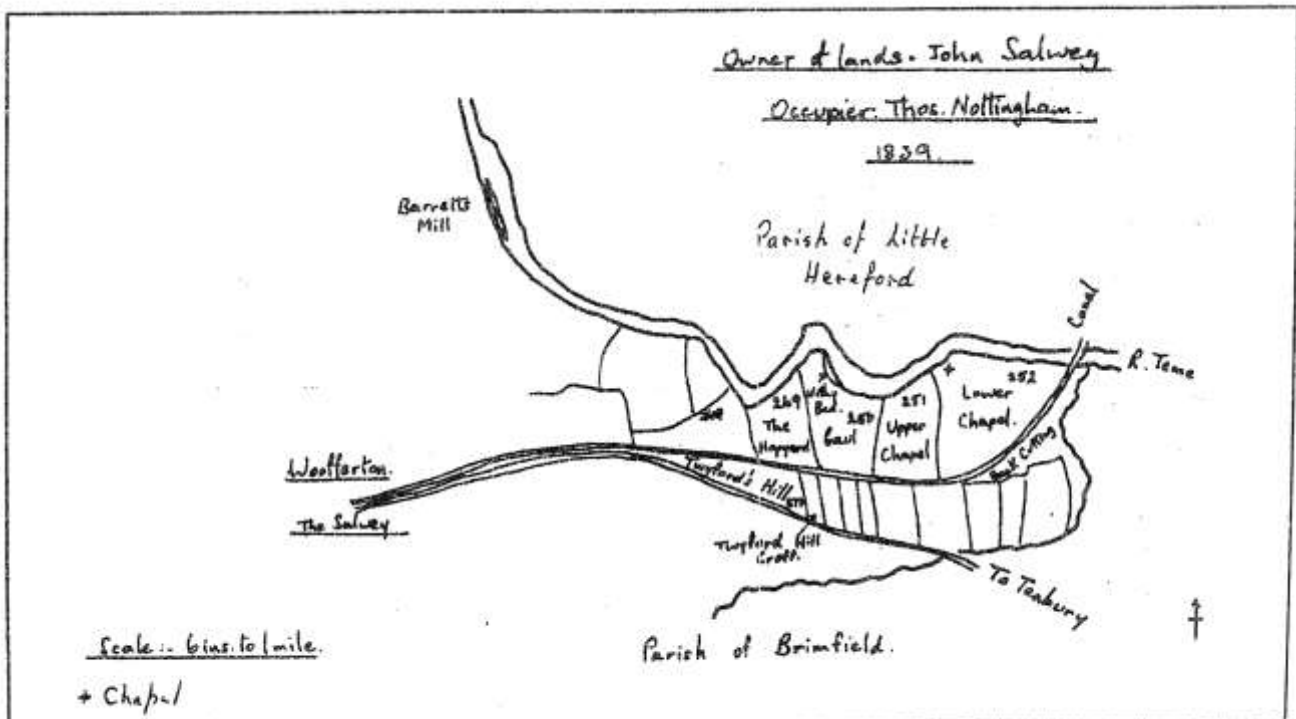


Figure 11, Possible site of Chapel Tithe

**Post Dissolution References**

1551/2 12 May 5 Ed 6 Grant to William Bothwey of lands in Turford Co Salop & Wyson Co Heref., late of Dynmore Preceptory.

Cal Pat Rolls 1564. By patent of Court of Augmentations.

1677 Thomas Blount MSS HRO 56/12 "Wulferton... there was an oratorium sine capella, called Turfords Chapel, which belonged to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem at Dynmore. Ed.6 granted it to Ed. Butler and Thos. and Jn. Greene. The chapel was converted to a barn and is now in possession of John Bytheway."

1662 Marriage Settlement. 1. Jn. Bytheway of Woolforton Salop gent Thos. Bytheway (son & heir) & Alice his wife. 2. Trustees. £210 marriage portion of Alice paid to Jn. B. for settling manor or reputed manor of Turford in Salop AND all that fold house or building known as Turford's Chappell AND 8ac arable or past. AND 20ac arable in the Common Fields called Woolforton Fields AND other fields adjoining called Turfords grounds AND 3 little meadows in Woolforton and/or Orleton called Turfords meadows AND mess. in Woolforton now in poss. Jn. B. known by the name of Tyled Hall AND mess. in Wison in Brimfield. now in poss. Jn. B. or undertenants.

1711 - 1723 Eight indentures, all referring to "that old house or building called Turfords Chappell". Final deed:- 1723 6 Feb

Assignment 1. Rich. Bytheway, Leintwardine (default of payment) 2. Rich. Knight Elder, Bringwood. Endorsed "No Consequence, now sold to Mr. Salwey." All Indrs. HRO T/74/13

1840 Tithe map of R.C.:-

Upper and Lower Chapel are the names of two fields 251 & 252 by Gosford Bridge. See also Twyford Hill Croft and Twyford Hill (277). Present day Twyford Villa is nearby.

NB Salwey lands included all Woofferton in 1840. Tenant of Upper and Lower Chapel was Thos. Nottingham. Today the owners are the Ayers at Woofferton Court. Using the higher Teme terrace is the channel of the Leominster Canal. This swings round the edge of Lower Chapel field to cross the Teme by an aqueduct which was partially demolished during the second world war.

Orleton Tithe:- 730 is called St. John of Jerusalem (meadow). It is a small strip, unfenced and totally enclosed by the field 729. It stretches N.-S. and lies S. of the Brimfield brook.

#### **Evidence for location of Turfords Chapel:-**

Entry in Rental Roll of the K.H. of Dinmore Taken before Thos. Leyland 20 Hen VII 1504-1505 Lands in "Turford, Wyston and Brymfeld....."

John Wenlake and Wm. Wenlake his son jointly held successively the aforementioned oratorium or chapel called Turfords Chapel with pertinances one half acre of land customary adjacent on the north-west of the sd. chapel between the chapel And the Teme".

(translation by British Museum) HRO A63/3 Box 104  
So, grid ref. = SO.534687

Here stood a barn which was blown down in 1993.....

The field in which it stands has presumably lost some ground by the swing of the Teme meander belt. I inspected the undercut bank close to the barn when the river level was low but saw nothing that I could interpret. The field is permanent pasture on account of the irregularities of the surface. Many of these humps and bumps relate to the construction of the canal. Basins and channels lie between it and the barn. A public right of way follows the canal to the aqueduct. The farmer may well by now have removed all evidence of the barn, which had been roofed with corrugated iron. Reference:- TWNFC 1989 Part 2. 'Chaplains, Chantries and Chapels of North-West Herefordshire c.1400', P.E.H. Hair, 285. TURFORD in Woofferton (Shropshire): no traces known.

Pat Cross

#### Editorial Note

Patricia Cross has collected together all the references to Turfords Chapel, and makes a convincing case for its location, She also lists the lands of the Knights Hospitallers at Richards Castle (Salop).

Turford is at the end of an extended limb or 'toe' of Richards Castle reaching to the River Teme made even more apparent when the ecclesiastical parish straddling the county boundary was created into two separate civil parishes.

On the 1/25,000 map Gosford Brook is shown as Brimfield Brook. Upper Chapel and Lower Chapel are now combined into one field.

Turford according to Ekwall is either a river with two branches, or two fords side by side. The 6" map would appear to indicate a small ditch immediately south of the Brimfield/Gosford Brook at the weir at Gosford Bridge, possibly an old mill race. There is a hard bank of rock crossing the Teme below the ruined barn. A search of the Little Hereford Tithe Map by Graham Sprackling does not reveal a 'Chapel Field' in the locality north of the River Teme in Little Hereford parish.

#### Excavation of a Rock Shelter Near the Seven Sisters Rocks

At 7pm on Monday 18th July 1994 members of the Woolhope Archaeological Research Section, accompanied by the Monmouth Archaeological Society, met Nick Barton of the Department of Archaeology, University of Wales, Lampeter to visit the excavation of a prehistoric occupation site near the Seven Sisters Rock (SO 546 153). On the way a stop was made at King Arthur's Cave and Mr Barton gave a summary as follows of the findings of the previous excavations on this site.

### **King Arthur's Cave (SO.546156)**

The earliest material were two Woolly Mammoth teeth dating to between 34 and 38,000 years ago, while other remains of fauna associated with early human material were dated by the Oxford Accelerator to 31,000 years ago. The earliest excavations were by Symonds in the late 19th century, but in 1935-9 Hewer excavated the mouth of the cave. Here two hearths were found with artifacts, one a cut marked red deer bone gave a radio-carbon date of 12,000 years, this was the late glacial period. Neolithic flints, Romano-British skeletons and pottery have been found on the spoil heaps outside the cave, so the site has a long chronology.

The temperature rose quickly 13,000 years ago in this area, as indicated by the species of beetles found, although the vegetation took longer to indicate a temperature change. At about 12,000 years the temperature began to decline, and by 11,000 years the area was wooded, but by 10,000 years it was very cold and people moved out. During the early farming period 4,000 years ago the caves appear to be used as burial places. Mr Barton has plans in future years to excavate the spoil heaps outside King Arthur's Cave for further dating evidence.

### **Rock Shelter near the Seven Sisters**

We then proceeded by narrow precipitous paths to the rock shelter where the excavation is taking place. This is one of the biggest such shelters in Southern Britain. Near the front of the shelter, a hearth with associated Mesolithic tools has been found approximately 12 inches below current ground surface. The tools include flint points, arrow tips 6,000 years old and some hazel nuts, from which it is intended to obtain dating evidence. Ten small perforated cowrie shells have been found together with a periwinkle, these may represent a necklace lost on the site, as it does not appear to be associated with a burial. These are a rare find in Mesolithic period in this country. It was hoped that it would be possible to extend the excavations down to Upper Palaeolithic levels on the site, but no Palaeolithic evidence had yet been found.

The hearth was situated in front of a rift at the back of the cave which in wet weather runs with water, so Mr Barton extended the excavations northwards close to the rock face. At about 2 or more feet down, in this trench, a small cave was discovered receding beneath the rock face and early Bronze Age pottery shards were found. The head of a sheep in Bronze Age slag and part of a human vertebrae represent a probable burial site - although it has not yet been fully excavated. At the bottom of the excavation near bed rock the bones of an arctic hare were found.

We were then invited to view the finds at the base camp at Christchurch, ie. the vertebrae, the sheep's head, which one member of the Monmouth Archaeological Society suggested was more likely to be a goat as it had short straight horns. The pottery shards and several flint tools of Palaeolithic age from a cave beneath the Symonds Yat Rock, which is also being excavated, were also passed round. This cave has produced evidence of Palaeolithic occupation but could not be visited as the access was too difficult, requiring rock climbing abilities.

The Woolhope Archaeological Research Section thanked Mr Barton for giving a guided tour of the site, and the displays of the finds of this exciting site. The ARS looks forward with anticipation to Mr Barton's excavations next season in this area.

R E Skelton

### Editorial Note

This is the second year that Mr Barton has made use of the ARS Caravan as a site office. We are glad to have been able to make a contributions however small, to this important work.

### **Extra Field Meeting at Old Radnor 4/9/94**

Roger Pye of the Radnorshire Society Field Research Section invited the ARS to attend an afternoon meeting of the Radnorshire group at Hindwell Farm.

Very kindly Roger agreed, in the morning, to show us some archaeological sites in the area, and to explain his recent activities. Members may remember that Roger was formerly very active in the ARS when he lived in Herefordshire. Six members of the ARS met at Old Radnor church at 10-30am. The weather was good though the forecast was not so favourable. First we looked at Old Radnor church dedicated to St Stephen (St Ystyffan) which is reputed to contain the oldest font in Wales. It has been carved from a large doleritic erratic boulder, roughly rounded and flat topped, with four stumpy legs, reputedly 8<sup>th</sup> C, though Roger suggests an earlier 7<sup>th</sup> C date. We also looked at the "Funeral Hatchments" on the west wall by travelling artists. These were edged in black later as appropriate on bereavement.

The church is reputed to have the earliest organ case in Britain, early 16<sup>th</sup> C. It was restored in 1872. Roger feels it is the second oldest in Europe, and came from Coventry cathedral. There is a modern (Victorian) Green Man on the left of the organ. We looked at the Rood Screen, thought to be the work of the Gloucester

School of Carvers, which is of the English type - The posts, with shafts attached, run through the rails to the floor. Welsh screens do the opposite. The writer doubts whether this is the original rood screen, but a "Mary re-erection" (Like the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, farsighted church wardens dismantled rood screens under Edward VI and stored them in isolated barns, just in case). In any case the screen and stalls were subject to some restoration in 1872. There is no evidence of a rood loft ladder or staircase today, possibly because of the 1882 restoration. We also looked at the foliated cross in the nave floor.

Outside the church we noted the round churchyard and the 'Celtic' head inserted in the outer east wall of the north aisle. Leaving the church Roger indicated the various archaeological features in the landscape. Next we looked at the partially destroyed moat behind the church. This is considered by Jack Spurgeon (HAN 58 p 10-11 & HAN 59 p 5) to be a 14th C fortified vicarage, Roger told us that Charles I was supposed to have tried to recruit reinforcements in the area. At nearby Evenjobb, an ornate 17<sup>th</sup> C sword was found during pond clearing, which is now in Presteigne Museum. He is reputed to have supped at Bush Farm, and due to the paucity of the fare, christened it "Beggars Bush". We theorised whether the missing part of the moat ditch was beneath the school, or was represented by the road. We also noted the tree covered mound at the T junction near the church, which Richard Kay feels could be a barrow.

We then went to SO.255582 in Burlingjobb where there is an enigmatic site, described by the OS as an 'Earthwork'. Roger felt that this squarish low mound 3' high within a squarish ditch of 12 paces by 12 paces was possibly a 7<sup>th</sup> C AD burial (There is a report in CBA Wales of a similar site excavated in the early 1970s in Clwyd). This squarish site may overlie an earlier round barrow, the site is between the junction of two small streams, the Gilwern Brook and Hales Brook<sup>106</sup>. Burlingjobb is shown in DB as having 4 hides.

Next we visited the tumulus at SO.242590, which again could have contained Neolithic beneath the Bronze Age. A perforated axe hammer of Corndon Hill (Salop) picrite was discovered in the tree roots which apparently go down the full depth of the surviving barrow. An erratic boulder was noted between this site and the A44 road. We also saw another barrow in the distance, at SO.239261.

A short visit was made to Knapp Farm<sup>107</sup>. Some considerable discussion took place about this mound, a characteristic inverted pudding bowl shape. Both Cathcart-King and the OS describe it as a motte. Roger felt it was a mound for a sunk windmill or a landscape feature of the 18<sup>th</sup> C to hide Knapp Farm from Hampton Court. The mound does present considerable difficulties, if a tumulus why so large, and why has it survived for 4,000 years to such a height. If a windmill mound serious construction problems are involved. The writer feels that the balance of probability lies with Cathcart-King. Beyond the stream in the field are a series of enigmatic ridges and ditches.

Last we went to the 'Four Stones' (SO.246608) the only Welsh example of a "Four Poster", the others are found in Scotland, and akin to the more common Stone Circles of the period. The south east stone has 'cup marks'. They are of the same stone as the font of Old Radnor.

Lunch was taken at the 17<sup>th</sup> C Harp Inn restored by the Landmark Trust in 1971. After lunch we went to the site being excavated by the Clwyd/Powys Archaeological Trust at SO.251613. Here we were given an excellent exposition by Dr A M Gibson of the Trust who has been working recently in the Radnor Basin. The site had been first completely stripped of topsoil mechanically, and was now being hand stripped by quadrant.

In 1966 Chris Dunn had taken off the topsoil and excavated a small area one metre square down to the subsoil to ascertain the height of the mound. He found over 750 flints from the site and the topsoil. It could have been a Neolithic site as little Bronze Age material has been found. Dunn had surveyed many barrows, the valley ones of which appear to have lost height in the meantime due to agriculture. The mound was a mixture of prehistoric topsoil and turf, with an incomplete earlier ditch. Late Neolithic (3,000-200) pottery, flint waste and artifacts, arrow heads, scrapers, borers had been recovered from beneath the barrow levels. Some Grooved Ware and Peterborough Ware had been recovered. Rabbit burrows were proving to be quite a problem in distinguishing soil marks. There was a house plan defined by stake holes and a central hearth, this had been cut by the later ditch, which had then been cut out by a later pit. As this was a complete destruction of the barrow all possible methods were being used to analyze the material. Extensive soil samples were taken for future flotation to extract plant remains from the Neolithic levels. Samples for soil micromorphology assessment, pollen analysis and phosphate analysis were also being taken. Samples of pottery were to be thin sectioned to try and determine the origin of the clay sources from which the pots were made and, if suitable, some shards may be sent for residue analyses to try and establish what the pots were used for. The extensive flint artefacts would similarly be assessed

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<sup>106</sup>Arch Wales CBA II p 56 No 82.

<sup>107</sup>See HAN 62 p 33 -54

for microwear analysis to determine the uses of the various artefacts and what materials they were being used to treat. It was hoped that radiocarbon dates would be available in about a years time.

After many questions the vote of thanks was given by the chairman of the ARS who also thanked Roger Pye for inviting the ARS. Afterwards most members availed themselves of refreshments at Hindwell Farm very kindly provided by the owner, who is also the Chairman of the Radnorshire Society.

Our thanks are also due to Mr & Mrs Goodwin of Hindwell Farm the owners of the site, and to Roger and Dr Gibson for checking this report.

Paul Remfry and the writer went to Kinnerton to look at the motte (SO.245630) and speculated as to the entrance and a possible bailey to the south. The 17<sup>th</sup> C Kinnerton Court may be cut into the bailey bank. To the north there was no apparent ditch and the defences appeared to have been a mere.

We lastly went to Burfa (SO.276612) and again speculated as to the bailey and entrance. There appeared to be some evidence for a bailey to the south, the ditch appeared to die out to the north. To the north and north east were a series of humps and ditches, which did not appear to be in line with any possible defences. By this time the weather had broken and the rain had begun to fall.

PRH

Editorial Note \_\_ Coventry Cathedral, there are several candidates. St Mary's Priory church (destroyed at the Reformation) was the cathedral of a separate Coventry diocese in the 12<sup>th</sup> C. Coventry was linked with Litchfield and sometimes with Chester as a joint see. In the last C it was transferred to Worcester see, but became a separate diocese in 1918 with St Michael's parish church as the cathedral. This was the building destroyed by unwarranted German attack in the last war. The priory was situated in the angle between the west wall of the New Cathedral and the north wall of the destroyed cathedral, and Priory Row. The remains of the polygonal chapels of the east end of the priory almost touch the west wall of the new cathedral, which is orientated north - south. Chris Dunn's report appeared in the *Transactions of the Radnorshire Society* XXXVI 1966 C J Dunn 'Surface Finds From a Barrow & Immediate Vicinity near Walton, Rads.' pp 9-14.

The mound at Knapp Farm is very similar in size and shape to the acknowledged motte at Burford (Tenbury Wells) SO.594687. The mound is also similar to a series of barrows.

### **Field Meeting at St Briavels**

Ten members and guests assembled at St Briavels on Sunday 11/9/94 at 10.30am for an out of county field meeting led by the writer, the tour having been devised by Richard Kay who was able to accompany us. A disappointingly small number for a most interesting day. We were pleased to welcome Sheila and Bill Williams from the DAG. In spite of the weather forecast, the weather remained obstinately sunny. We were continually coming across Slades, an Anglo Saxon name for a steep sided valley in the Forest of Dean. A recce for the field day was held on 23/8/94 by Richard Kay, Paul Remfry and the writer. In this report the usual method of reporting where the results are embodied in the report has been abandoned, and these will be included separately.

First we examined St Briavels Castle under the direction of Paul Remfry. We were able to examine the inside of the gatehouse, now a Youth Hostel, by kind permission of the Warden. The many problems of the castle and the various interpretations offered were fully discussed.

Next we visited St Briavels Church, and were able to thank the Rev Patricia Pinkerton in person for her valuable help in arranging the day's programme. We saw the blocked doorway in the nave and the entrance to the rood loft in the south wall. We are even more indebted to her for retrieving some lost property. Lunch was taken at the George Inn, where we noted the stone coffin lid with a 'Celtic' cross set in the wall. This is reputed to have come from nearby Tintern Abbey.

After an exuberant lunch we went to the DAG excavation at Rodmore Farm (SO.575042) where Terry James very kindly showed us the excavation of a probable late 2<sup>nd</sup> to early 3<sup>rd</sup> C Roman site. The exact nature of which is still undetermined, though it is possibly connected with the smelting of iron ore from nearby Bream. In the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Shindig (HAN 61, p.14) there was a report on the 1993 work on this site. This year an area of 5m x 7.5m had been opened immediately south of the 1993 opening showing stone just below the surface, probably the corner of a building. The field in which the site is situated is full of iron slag, many pieces of Roman pottery have been picked up in the vicinity.

We then proceeded to Hewelsfield and with the kind permission of Mr James Simmons, of Hewelsfield Court Farm, examined the motte and possible bailey at SO.568021. Mr Vaughan of Church Cottage was of great help to us during our investigations. He said that there was a Roman road from Hewelsfield to St Briavels. The opportunity was taken to make a quick visit to the church in the company of the church warden.

Lastly we went to Stowe and looked at the 'ringwork' (SO.565065) by kind permission of Mr Robinson of Longlee Farm. This has been suggested as the predecessor of St Briavels Castle, and could also have served to guard the crossing of the Wye at Bigsweir. The 'work' presented several problems, not the least being the large amount of stone in the rampart, and the closeness of the solid rock to the ground surface. Though there is a vestige of a ditch and the vague possibility of a bailey, where did all the material of the rampart come from? The site is even more confused by recent quarrying, and waste appears to have been dumped on part of the site where the rampart has been removed. There is an active quarry immediately adjacent to the site.

We also took the opportunity to look at the nearby grange of Parc Grace Dieu and the surviving walls of St Margaret's Chapel. The meeting closed at 5.45pm with the merest hint of rain.

Editorial Note C.E. Hart in 'Archaeology in Dean' 1967 p.56 lists a possible castle at 'Castle-a-buff' (SO.549016). This, which appears to be a rock outcrop possibly additionally scarped, could have guarded the Wye crossing at Brockweir. Time precluded a visit.

During the recce we looked at "The Cell" (See HAN 6s, p.5-6), just south of Monmouth on the A466 (SO.549122) and speculated whether the old stone barns across the road were part of the former grange. We also looked at Dixon motte (SO.518137) which shows considerable similarity with that of Mansell Lacy (See HAN 62 p.41-42). We also noted, between Tintern and Trelleck, a house called Tump Pitch Cottage (SO.496016), a castle?

PRH

### St Briavels Castle

Two occasions were taken to visit the important castle of St Briavels, one on 23.8.94 and the other, the main ARS meeting, on 11.9.94. Much has been written about this castle over the last 20 years<sup>108</sup> and this will be discussed here as a useful precursory exercise to the re-appraisal of the early castle remains.

#### **The Early Castle**

The castle site at St Briavels occupies a low polygonal platform set high on a spur overlooking the river Wye. There is no evidence for the date of the first fortification of the site. However the town does have a long history. In the Post-Roman period this area appears to have been associated with the Celto-Irish saint, Brioc<sup>109</sup>, and from this we can presume occupation from this point onwards. By 1067 the site had been transferred to William Fitz Osbern, the powerful Earl of Hereford. There is no indication of an early castle at St Briavels, and indeed the site here is quite dissimilar to Fitz Osbern's known border castles, Chepstow, Monmouth, Clifford and Wigmore. At Domesday it was apparently known as Little Lydney, and it was under this name that Fitz Osbern granted it to the abbey of Lire in France. The castle was in existence by 1129-30 when Miles of Gloucester held it, spending money on a knight, porter and watch in St Briavels (*Castelli de Sancta Bridvella*)<sup>110</sup>. Consequently it can be presumed that the castle was founded in the period 1075 (when Roger Earl of Hereford was disinherited) and 1130. Obviously there is no evidence as to what form this early castle took, however several points may be made. Firstly there is no known change of site here. The supposed early site transfer from Stowe, 1½ miles to the north, is a modern and highly unlikely allegory; as too is the story of 'the old castle of Dean' mentioned in the 1153 confirmation to Flaxley Abbey (founded c.1144). This *veteri castello de Dena* has often in the past hundred years been said to have been the predecessor of St Briavels. However it has been convincingly argued that such 'old castles' were in fact Iron Age forts. This one being convincingly identified with Welshbury, a powerful fort overlooking Flaxley Abbey itself<sup>111</sup>.

Whatever form the castle took at this time, it ceased to be a royal possession on 25 July 1141 when the Empress Matilda granted it to Miles of Gloucester when she made him Earl of Hereford<sup>112</sup>. The castle remained alienated until 1155 when Henry II (1154-89) took the forest back into his own hands after a short confrontation with Miles' son and heir Roger (1143-55). Odd mentions of the castle in royal hands continued throughout the twelfth C, but none can be used to ascribe any building work to the site. The story is different in the thirteenth century. Between 1209 and 1211 £291 12s 3d was spent by Hugh Neville, the chief forester, on building works. During the rest of the century much re-building was done at the castle - obviously suggesting that by this period the masonry fortress was largely complete (bar the Edwardian gatehouse). In 1224-5 the tower and other buildings were repaired and between 1235 and 1239 much work was carried out on the castle. The ditch was worked upon, a breach in the Tower was repaired, a timber chapel erected before the doorway to the king's chamber and a new drawbridge made. Then in 1249-50 £186 11s 7d was spent on repairing the tower and drawbridge and in 1255 part of the curtain collapsed and was repaired together with unspecified palisades. In 1260 the Sheriff of Gloucester spent £76 1s 3d on repairing the farm buildings outside the castle, plastering the middle stage of the tower, and rebuilding the barricades and barbican with timber from the forest. The last great building work at the castle occurred in 1292-3. Between 25 May 1292 and 30 Nov 1293 £415 8s 9½d was spent by the keeper, John Botetourt, 'on the construction of a new gateway in the castle' made with local stone, plus £62 11s 3¼d on the purchase of lead for the roof. After this, only rebuilding work and repairs were carried out at the castle.

The accounts of the later Medieval repairs give a valuable insight into the earlier buildings of the castle. In these documents there is found mention of the walls, towers, bridges and accommodation of the castle, and around 1311 a 'peel' was constructed for the greater security of the castle. This peel stood near the keep on the south side of the site, apparently filling a breach (the original entrance?) in the curtain wall. However as early as 1323 the peel by the great tower was in ruins and it had to be replaced by a wall at a cost of £40. It is possible that the short wall excavated in front of the keep was the earlier 1311 work protecting the keep before the more extensive later work built after 1323. Alternatively this may have been part of the 'barbican' mentioned in 1260. At the same time in 1323 the roof of the tower, the new gatehouse, the round tower, hall, pantry, buttery, kitchen, king's chamber,

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<sup>108</sup>History of the King's Works, 821-3; Curnow, PE., & Johnson EA., 'St Briavels Castle', *Chateau Gaillard* [1984] XII, 91-114; King, DJC., *Castellarium Anglicanum* II, 558; Remfry, P.M., *St Briavels Castle, 1066 to 1331* [Malvern, 1995].

<sup>109</sup>Coplestone-Crow, B., 'The Dual Nature of the Irish Colonization of Dyfed in the Dark Ages', *Studia Celtica*, 16/17 (1981-2), 19-22.

<sup>110</sup>PR 31 Henry I, 1130-1, 76.

<sup>111</sup>King, DJC., *Castellarium Anglicanum* II, 558.

<sup>112</sup>Foedera I, 14.



chapel, wardrobe, knight's chamber, stable and bakehouse were all recorded as defective. Further the wall above the king's chapel needed rebuilding, and the masonry of the 'chapel next to the great tower' was defective. In 1331-35 over £200 was spent on repairs to the hall, gatehouse, drawbridge and 'a tower on the east side of the castle'. Finally certain repairs to the 'little tower' are recorded. All in all this gives a succinct idea of the plan of the castle. It also helps in an attempt to date the surviving structures.

The evidence related above strongly suggests that the castle, bar the gatehouse and 'peel', was complete by 1211. It has been argued that the square keep is the oldest masonry at the site on the grounds that the curtain, when it was excavated in the early 1970's, abutted onto the tower. However it should also be noted that a butt joint merely indicates that both walls are liable to be of different ages. Like the Edwardian gatehouse to the north it is possible that the keep also pierced an earlier curtain wall. Dating of any masonry structure is difficult without corroborative written records, but certain clues are available at St Briavels. With the help of the excavations at least thirteen different building/repair phases can be traced at this castle. As seen by the history above, many builds are to be expected. However placing these phases in their correct order is a totally different kettle of fish, and at present this is not possible with certainty without further excavation. What can be done, however, is to list these different phases and suggest a possible chronology.

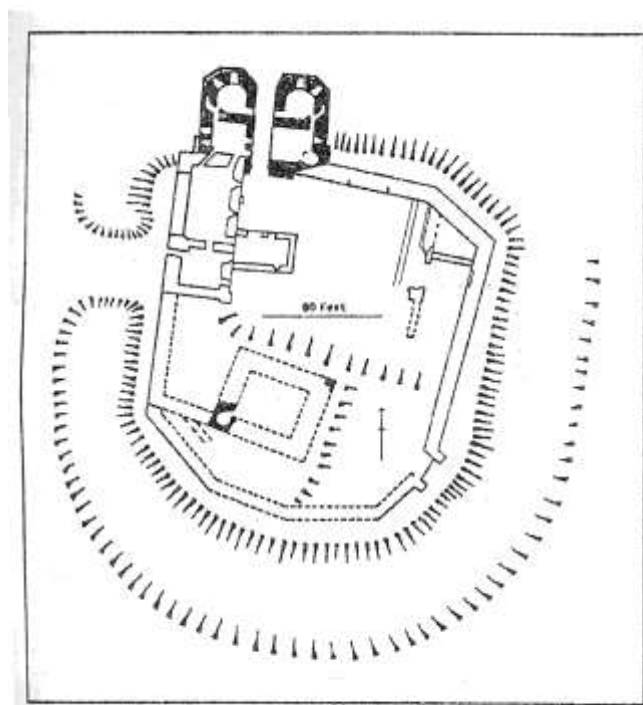


Figure 12. Ground plan of Saint Briavels Castle

It has been argued that the curtain and Hall Block are the remnants of the work ordered by King John in 1209-11, on the grounds that the south-western curtain and its corner is the same build as the king's chamber. This is unlikely, considering it can be shown that this curtain is a complete rebuild on a different line to the original curtain and also when the parallel site at nearby Lydney is taken into consideration. The original circuit of the curtain is still traceable, even though its western, and most of the southern walls, are now gone. The plan is still traceable mainly due to the peculiar 'thickening' at the northern junction between the king's chamber and gatehouse. This was noticed in the excavations, but not recognised as the northern apex of the original curtain, although it was recognised as different to its eastern counterpart. This ten foot high fragment vividly pin-points the north-western apex of the original site, the corner ashlar being similar to those found at both the north east as well as the south west corners. The west curtain has been virtually totally removed by the insertion of the king's chamber and subsequent alterations.

Fortunately the south-western apex, like its northern counterpart, is still preserved - being set in the angle of the suggested 'peel'. North of this apex the wall has been heavily rebuilt, and, above ground level, appears one and the same as the rebuilt wall of the king's chamber. The south wall, like much of its western counterpart, is destroyed. However the excavations found the foundations which abutted onto the keep. Unfortunately the excavation did not follow this wall to its south-eastern extreme and consequently this corner of the enceinte is therefore the only one not traceable. All that can be said is that it probably joined the current enceinte at the site of the east tower, though this cannot presently be proved. From here the curtain, although towards its south end heavily ruined, can be seen running up to the north-east corner. This does not form an apex like the other two surviving corners, but has a strong, and irregular chamfer. The reason for this is now inexplicable, although it does appear that this was an original feature. That this corner was later used for the non right-angled corner of three phases of building makes this choice for an angle peculiar and demands further archaeological investigation. It should be noted that at the un-rebuilt Lydney, a small square turret occupied part of a similar chamfer.

Therefore at both St Briavels and Lydney we are left with a roughly rectangular curtain with no true right angles. Other such enclosures are rare and it poses the question again as to which came first, the tower keep, or

the enclosure<sup>113</sup> ? Certainly at Lydney they seem to be contemporaneous with the keep covering the simple break in the curtain gateway. It would appear likely that the gateway at St Briavels, like that at Lydney, was near to the keep, probably in the unexplored south east corner<sup>114</sup> . The final point to be made about this enceinte is the truly peculiar sloping plinth that once supported it. This appears to have been at an angle of 45 degrees to the vertical and encased the side of the mound in a most peculiar revetment. The only remains of this now is on the northern front of the curtain, where a few fragments remain, and far more convincingly in a crease down the eastern front of the gate tower. It is known that the ditch at St Briavels was water-filled, but it is to be wondered at what date such a plinth was added to the curtain, and also when it was removed - probably by stone thieves? No information is available for any plinth at Lydney. All this goes to suggest that St Briavels castle still has many secrets to be revealed.

Paul Remfry

### St Briavels Parish Church

The cruciform church consecrated in 1166 consists of a chancel, nave, north and south aisles and a south pinnacled tower. The nave has a narrow south aisle with a lean-to roof. The arcade is of four round piers with scalloped capitals and one with a battlemented motif, square base and unmoulded arches. The windows of the clerestory are set above the spandrels and not the aisles. The equally narrow north aisle has an EE (Dec?) arcade of four bays and another lean-to roof. The octagonal piers have curiously retracted capitals and double chamfered arches. The original central tower was taken down, but the fine Transitional-Norman arches of the crossing remain. Four of the capitals are elementary moulded, the other four have leaf motifs. One is odd with broad rounded diagonally placed leaves (Cf Abbey Dore). The arches have continuous roll-mouldings. In many ways the church is similar to those at nearby Staunton and English Bicknor and like them has a long and beautiful chancel. EE but rebuilt during the restoration of 1861 and retaining the trefoiled piscina recess. The Transitional -Norman arches into the transepts include rolls with fillets, brackets with broad simple moulded capitals and hood moulds with snake headed stops. Rood stairs are on the south. A new tower was built over the porch on the south circa 1830 to the design of John Briggs a 'builder'. The bell-stage is approached by a circular 19th C cast -iron staircase. The font is Norman on a 'shelf' of sixteen lobes projecting horizont-ally which may be unique. It is made of the same stone as the nave arcade on the south. There is a stained glass window of 1899 by Powell. The exceptionally good organ of 1922 is by Nicholson of Worcester. Royal Arms of Elizabeth II. Monuments in the south transept, one is an early 14th C carved slab with a sculptured head above a cross in foliage and a form of ball-flower on the rim. Remains of a late 16th C tomb with complete semi-reclining effigies of William Warren and his wife, also a tablet to Charles Court, about 1819 by Woolcroft of Bristol.

### **St Briavels Village**

The village of St Briavels which never seems to have remotely achieved borough status, does retain some elegant early 19th C facades including a cottage with charming Gothic glazed windows. Opposite a cottage with a date stone of 1829. Another old stone cottage is said to retain the remains of a Chantry Chapel of St Mary, though there is little to show: Church Farm, north west of the church is certainly old and probably of 16<sup>th</sup> C date, built of stone with a stone roof and a blocked doorway with a four-centred arch.

### Hewelsfield

The manor of *Hewoldstone* had 3 hides at DB. It was later taken into the Forest of Dean. The manor is in the Hundred of St Briavels, formerly *Ledenei*, later Little Lydney. The parish was in the diocese of Hereford until the Dissolution. The parish church was a chapelry of Lydney till 1854 when it became independent. The 'Hermits' cell has a blocked narrow doorway into the church. The churchyard is circular.

### Hewelsfield Castle

Hewelsfield Castle (SO.567.021) occupies a slight ridge-end site overlooking the village church. The site is itself overlooked by the higher ground to the west. The castle is said to have been a masonry structure,

but there is currently little evidence of any such remains. The main feature is now a slight circular mound, raised some four feet to the west and about twenty feet above the road to the east. On top of the

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<sup>113</sup>There may be a similarity with Newcastle Bridgend, Glamorgan, convincingly said to have been built by Henry II between 1183 and 1189, Spurgeon, C.J., 'The Castles of Glamorgan', *Chateau Gaillard* [Caen, 1986] XIII, 211-12. Barland castle in Radnorshire offers many similarities too, Remfry, P.M., *Ten Castles in Radnor Lordship* [1995], 9-11.

<sup>114</sup>As postulated by Thompson and Curnow, 94.

mound were two circular crop marks, said to have been the wells, or towers of the castle. Circular towers in such a position would be quite unusual and it is probably best to assume that they were wells, one no doubt succeeding the other. There are vague traces of a ditch surrounding the mound. A castle bailey may have lain to the west and south, although traces of it are now negligible. To the south rectangular foundations could be discerned, but it is more likely that these were constructed after the military occupation, their walls appearing to be only some 3 or so feet thick. To the west could be traced a ditch and possible rampart before some ruined farm buildings overlooking the whole village. A disused Victorian? chapel was to the north of the site on the other side of the road.

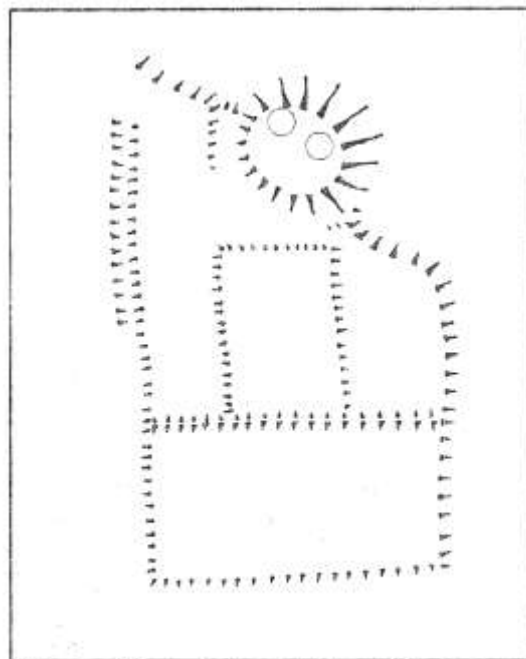


Figure 13, Ground plan of Hewelsfield Castle

It can therefore be seen that the castle at Hewelsfield was a rather flimsy affair with apparently poor ditching and weak earthworks. Such minor castles are more often seen in the Welsh hinterlands, perhaps because their flimsy buildings were less likely to be eroded by more modern agricultural methods. It is difficult to date such a structure with any certainty and it may be best to assign its construction to the days of the Anarchy when the Forest of Dean was one of the royal prerogatives usurped by the Earls of Hereford. If this were the case then Hewelsfield may well have been one of the many illusive illegitimate castles destroyed by Henry II on his accession.

#### Stowe 'Ringwork'

The site at Stowe is most peculiar. It has the appearance of what is generally categorized as a ringwork castle, and indeed this is what it has been classified as<sup>115</sup>. The current remains as recently planned by Richard Kay at first glance does show the recognised design of a ringwork castle with a slightly raised interior, even if the western portion does appear to have been destroyed by quarrying. However close inspection of the roughly 10-15 foot high rampart indicates that it is built of a mass of rubble. There is no trace of any laid masonry and no trace of mortar could be ascertained, although one piece lying on the northern rampart did look as if it may have been cut ashlar. Entrance to the 'ring' was apparently gained from the east, although this looks as if it was possibly a late mutilation. The ditch in front of the rampart being obviously filled and raised here. This slight ditch can be made out around most of the site, and where the northern rampart has been cut by the later quarrying this incredibly weak rock-cut ditch can be seen in profile. However at the north-eastern end of this rampart a rock spur can be seen filling this ditch indicating that it was not finished at this point. This would suggest that either the site was never completed, or the slight ditch was just used for the rubble of the rampart. To the east of the 'ringwork' is what may be a platform (bailey?) in a wheat field.

<sup>115</sup>King, D.J.C., *Castellarium Anglicanum* I, 183.

It is possible that this site is another adulterine castle, however a more interesting and irregular possibility does offer itself. That is that this site is related to the monastic holding at the nearby Stowe Grange. Stowe was certainly granted to Parc-Grace-Dieu Abbey by its founder, John Monmouth Senior (d.1228), probably in the early 1220's. If this structure is related to granges then it would be expected that similar 'ringworks' should exist at other nearby granges. Another one appears to be at Waun Gunllwch (SO.059413) above Gwenddwr, held by the Cistercian monastery of Dore. This too is rated as a 3/4 or 1/2 ringwork. It would be interesting to see if other sites are to be found in the vicinity of granges. However only excavation is likely to tell if this site was military, religious or agricultural.

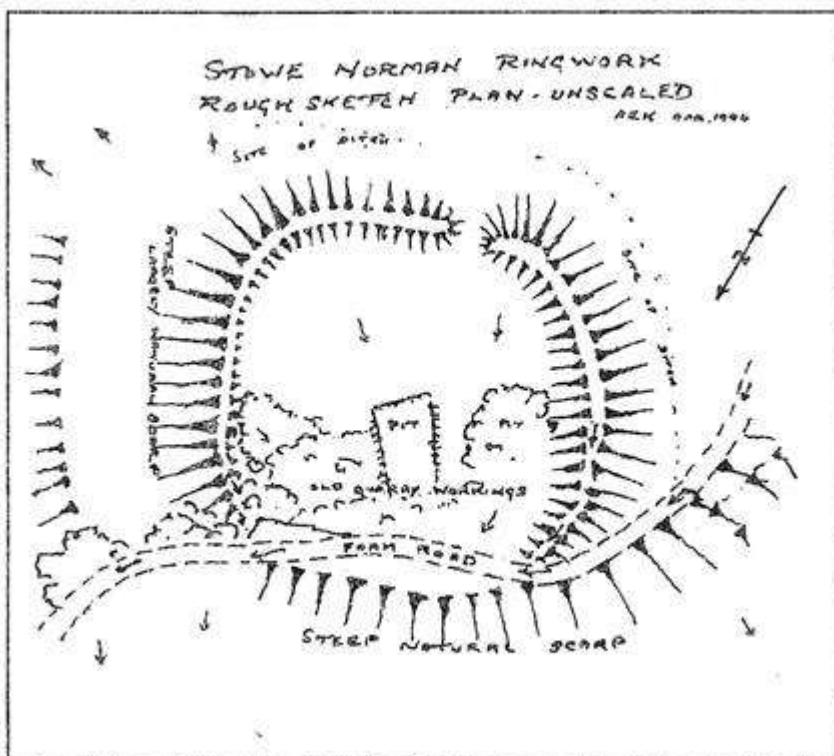


Figure 14, Ground plan of Stowe Ringwork

#### Hewelsfield Church

One of the ancient churches of the Forest of Dean sited like that of St Briavels nearly 600' above the River Wye; Norman nave, narrow north aisle, central tower, EE chancel and north transept enlarged in the 16<sup>th</sup> C. The early EE porch on the south has an outer chamfered arch on moulded corbels. Over the inner doorway is a Norman image niche. An EE doorway leads into a small chamber on the south side of the nave. The low central tower retains a Norman corbel table, the tower appears to be a rebuild.

On the north the nave roof continues as one slope over the north aisle to within a few feet of the ground. In the chancel a priests doorway is on the south and a two light early Dec window; the East window has plate tracery. Late Norman or Transitional four bay arcades in nave with cylindrical piers with round moulded capitals and round arches of two plain chamfered orders. Small lancet windows in the aisle most of which are restorations. The tower arches, east and west are plain EE, with two chamfers which die off into the responds. The north arch has a single continuous chamfered order with a trefoiled piscina in the east jamb, which may have belonged to a former altar in the north transept.

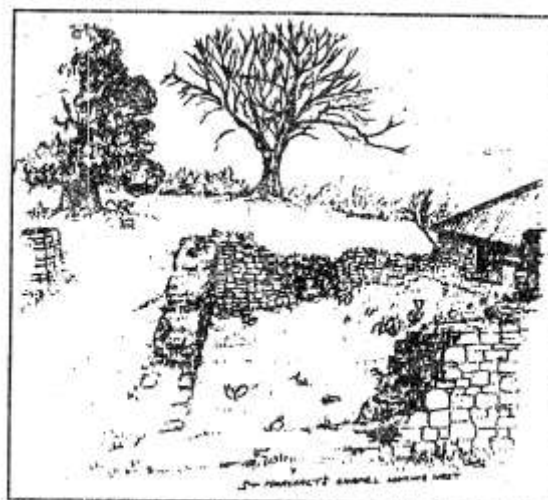


Figure 15, Stowe Chapel looking west

The transept or Gouch chapel was enlarged to the north in 1538. Arched entrance from the north aisle wider than the aisle. The rood-loft steps open out of the transept. The font has an early 13<sup>th</sup> C octagonal scalloped bowl on a circular pedestal. The East window is stained glass by Horace Wilkinson. There is a stone tablet with heraldry to Edmund Bond, obit 1748, another of stone and marble also with heraldry to Anne Eddy, obit 1768.

The church and its surrounding churchyard are of considerable charm and well maintained. The building presents its most ideal aspect from the west or south west. It was appropriated to Tintern Abbey.

### Stowe Grange

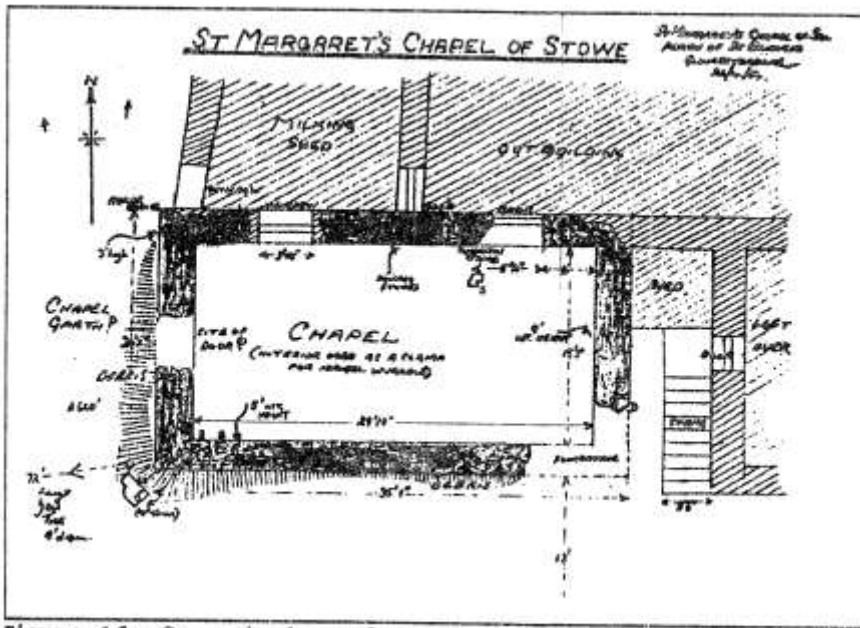


Figure 16, Ground plan of Stowe Chapel

Sited in the parish of St Briavels it was an important grange holding of the Cistercian Abbey of Parc-Grace-Dieu founded in 1226, not very far from Monmouth. Parc-Grace-Dieu was a daughter house of Abbey Dore. Stowe Grange possessed within the boundary of its enclosure lands a 'cell' and chantry chapel, possibly on the site of an earlier hermitage. A number of burials were discovered in 1912.

There was also a water-mill in addition to the usual grange buildings. The grange lands were held together with other lands Wyegate and Langford. Crossing the rocky and precipitous slope behind the house and approached by crude steps cut into the outcropping limestone are a number of farm buildings and a yard. Adjoining the wall of a milking shed are the lower portions of walls of a rectangular building, orientated east west. This represents the existing remains of a medieval chapel dedicated to St Margaret. A few portions of window tracery, apparently of Perp character and other worked stones pertaining to a doorway or window jambs lie on top of, or integral with this ancient walling. At 'E' on the plan of the remains a large jamb stone has become embedded in the surface of the present ground level and at 'D' is a stone of a more unusual character which appears to be part of a trefoiled head, perhaps of a stoup or piscina recess. At 'F' there is a large stone, probably a fallen angle quoin. The interior of the former chapel has for some time in the past been utilized as a store for mangle-worzels and a still existing pile of this cattle feed (1954) probably obscures other interesting details. The east wall stands to a height of 9' but shows no trace of having had a window opening. The south east angle of the chapel is ruined down to foundation level. The south wall has, in places, an internal height of 5' but at that height shows no trace of window openings. Nowhere does the west wall exceed a height of 3' but a ragged gap shows no doubt where the original doorway was placed. The former north wall of the chancel now forms the south wall of the adjoining milking shed. The north west angle of the chapel exhibits worked ashlar quoins. A recent window has been broken through the west end of the north wall and a doorway in the same wall is also of recent date but incorporates a portion of the rear splay of an original window opening. Externally on the west side of the chapel is a small enclosed grass paddock which contains a decayed yew tree of considerable girth and age.

The chapel and perhaps the more ancient portions of the adjacent farm buildings probably formed or incorporated stones of the former grange buildings. Close to the aforementioned rock cut steps and half way up the steep slope from the farmhouse is a small rectangular building lit by narrow slits and although much altered and re-roofed it still bears the appearance of being of considerable age.

The actual farmhouse (interior not visited) retains three ancient external door ways, one with a plain chamfer and eccentric head and another with weathered moulding and a four centred head. Both are at ground level. A third with a triangular head formed of two stones leads into a cellar. According to a farmer (1954) it is (unlikely) surmised as being of Saxon date and is said to have been removed from the chapel.

It would appear, however, that a hermitage and oratory dedicated to St Margaret was founded in late Saxon times<sup>116</sup> and that the site or existing building was incorporated in the grange built by the Cistercians on their acquirement of the land thereabouts.

A more authenticated chapel site is in Lower Mork further down the valley from Stowe, and less than a mile distant here in a field above a small brook there once stood a second chapel also dedicated to St Margaret.

The field in question is of an hour glass shape and the reputed chapel site is indicated by a few rough and half buried boulders at the narrowest portion of the field. Close to the marshy banks of the brook below, a few mossy stones cover the remains of St Margaret's Well, a clear spring, held in repute until quite recently. (R.E. Kay 26/4/1954)

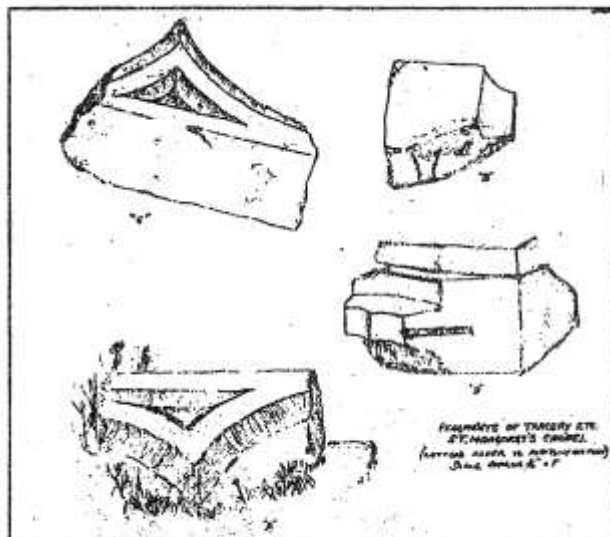


Figure 17, Fragments of tracery from Stowe Chapel

Editorial Note Stowe in the 1350's was called the 'Free Chapel of St Briavel's'. By 1398 the chantry here maintained by two monks had been withdrawn from *St Briavelstowe*<sup>117</sup>.

During the recce the following additional places were visited but time did not allow for visits on the actual day. The notes prepared by Richard Kay for these sites are appended below for interest.

### Stowe Grange Farmhouse

The Grange farmhouse is probably mainly of the 16th C and possibly of post Suppression date, but seemingly containing a few earlier details as seen above.

In this 1994 sketch the farm buildings (including the remains of the Grange chapel, and yew tree and large barn and other later constructions) are seen cresting the hill -slope behind and above the farmhouse from which they were reached by a flight of crude steps, some partly destroyed.



Figure 18, Stowe Grange Farm House by Richard Kay

The Grange farmhouse, now alienated from farm buildings and lands, is in private hands. The farm buildings including the remains (14th-15th C) of the chapel and grange lands have now been absorbed by a neighbouring farm (Longlee Farm). A new concrete track having been constructed to give access from the vicinity of the Norman ring-work which also is on the former grange lands and less than a third of a mile from the grange chapel.

Richard Kay

Editorial Note The three castle reports were written by Paul Remfry and the rest is based on notes compiled by Richard Kay, 4/6/94.

<sup>116</sup>Stowe is apparently early English for a holy place as well as more commonly used to signify a market.

<sup>117</sup>Williams, D.H., *White Monks in Gwent and the Border* [Pontypool, 1976], 70.

### LIMEKILNS IN THE WOOLHOPE AREA. 9 October 1994.

In the dense mist of the morning 22 members and friends met in Woolhope for a day spent examining some of the limekilns which formerly made this one of the most successful lime-producing areas in the country. This mist was soon replaced by brilliant sunshine which added to the pleasure of looking at former industrial structures in such unspoiled and beautiful countryside. We were fortunate to be led by Valerie Goodbury who has visited almost 200 sites in Herefordshire and whose knowledge of the local lime burning industry is unrivalled. The information in these notes has been drawn freely from her dissertation.

The Fownhope/Woolhope area was unquestionably the most important for the quarrying and burning of limestone for many years. Lime must always have been needed for tanning, building and other purposes and the geology of the Woolhope dome with its Woolhope, Wenlock and Aymestrey limestones probably means that lime burning has had a long history in the area. But it was the agricultural improvements which began in the later 18<sup>th</sup> C which brought a tremendous increase in the demand for lime to improve the fertility of arable land.

The earlier lime kilns were known as intermittent or field kilns. As the lime could only be removed after the whole charge had ceased to burn and had cooled down, it was an inefficient method and was very extravagant with fuel. Using home grown wood for fuel, this method may have sufficed for the needs of a farmer on his own land but the commercial needs of the late 18th century called for the more efficient continuous method. All the limekilns which still have standing remains are of the continuous type where the lime could be drawn off when ready without interrupting the burning process. The poor quality of Forest of Dean coal made it the ideal fuel for this purpose and a good supply was readily available as it could be brought up the River Wye by barge to Fownhope and Mordiford.

Although no two kilns are identical and there are many variations, a 'typical' Herefordshire limekiln has two adjoining tunnels below the single chargehole where the limestone and fuel are loaded and where the burning takes place. The chargehole with its circular top is usually lined with stone (occasionally with brick) and shaped so that the lime can fall and be raked out into the tunnels through the 'eye' or draw-hole after it has been calcined by the burning process. Wherever possible, the kilns were built into the side of a hill or bank but occasionally a mound had to be constructed for the purpose with a ramp built up for loading the chargehole. The tunnels with their vaulted roofs are usually built with undressed stone as are the front walls of the kilns. These are roughly coursed, without quoins. The tunnels of the Herefordshire kilns are usually longer than those in many other parts of the country. Their purpose was to provide a dry area where the quicklime could cool until ready for transporting, without the danger of the violent chemical reaction which would have taken place if the quicklime had got wet.

The first kiln we visited was on the edge of Lea Wood in Fownhope (SO.59583450). This was in such a ruinous state that it is probably unnoticed by walkers passing by on the adjacent Wye Valley Walk. The remains of the tunnels are nearly buried and are obscured by brambles. We were taken to see these remains because there are fewer and fewer easily recognisable limekilns still standing in good condition. In years to come there will be far more kilns which look like this one. For a Group such as ours it is valuable to be able to recognise a limekiln when we find one.

This kiln and the others we visited are all on well defined old tracks but we were told that some are in such steep and inaccessible places that mules or donkeys must have provided the transport. Donkeys were certainly used on the Foley's Stoke Edith estate to carry lime in panniers and it is very probable that trains of pack animals carried the lump lime, down to more accessible loading places including the riverside wharves at Fownhope and Mordiford. They presumably also carried the coal needed for fuelling the kilns on their return journey.

The next kiln was at Buckenhill Wood in Woolhope (SO.60343398). It was owned by Ann Connop who was the publican of the Green Dragon Inn in Fownhope, according to the Census return for 1851. Charles Brion the limeburner kept an account book for the work that was done at Buckenhill which provides a small insight into the way the business side of the industry was managed<sup>118</sup>. This kiln has most of its features reasonably intact and we were able to walk up to the chargehole and see where the broken up limestone would have been loaded into the kiln. The quarry is just a short distance away.

Valerie's drawing of the section of a kiln shows how the chargehole was loaded. The size of the limestone was important; fist size was about right. If the stones were too small they compacted and the draught was stopped; if too big, the outside could overheat while the inside failed to reach the necessary heat. Unburnt stone could be returned to the kiln but if the heat was too intense and the stone became vitrified it was useless and a waste of fuel. Vitrified waste pieces can sometimes be found near the kilns. The limeburner's skill lay in judging the proportion of fuel to stone, its distribution in the kiln and the management of the draught. It took two days to get a kiln burning correctly which explains why it was necessary for the process to be continuous.

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<sup>118</sup>HRO L99/38

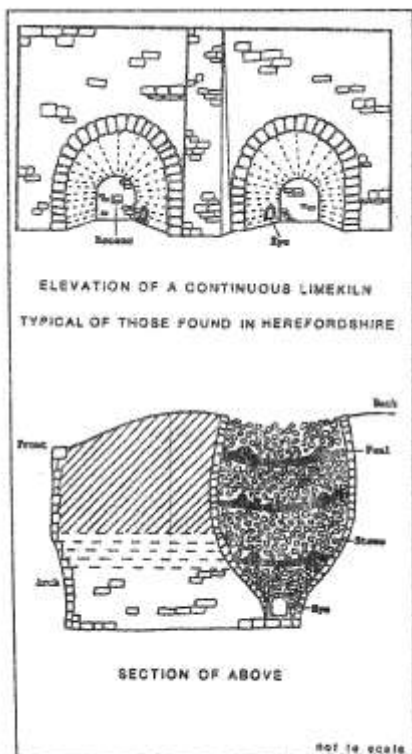


Figure 19. A typical limekiln as found in Herefordshire

The tunnels in the Buckenhill Kiln are 1.9m high; 2.9m wide and 6.10m long. The eyes are positioned at the rear of the centre wall and there is a poke-hole above. Poke-holes are not commonly found in Herefordshire kilns. They were made so that a long iron bar could be pushed through to create airways, and to free any obstruction preventing the free fall of the lime to where it could be raked or shovelled out through the eyes when it was ready. Its readiness was judged by testing the resistance with the long iron bar. Although the limestone came out looking the same as it went into the kiln, it weighed only about half as much and its resistance was very different. Lime burning was not an environmentally friendly procedure. The limestone gave off carbon dioxide and the coal produced carbon monoxide and sulphur. It was not unknown for a tired tramp, attracted by the prospect of a warm night's shelter, to be found dead in the morning. We made a leisurely break for lunch at the Crown Inn where the sun was hot enough to make eating outside a pleasure. Then we moved on to a kiln at Holling Hill, also in Woolhope (SO.62463552). The chargehole here is 2.80m in diameter at the top and cone shaped. We were told that this was an early type of continuous kiln. The arches are built in an unusual way, and the suggestion was made that this was probably in order to accommodate the cone shape of the chargehole. This is another kiln where access must have been too steep for horses and waggons and where pack animals were probably used.

One of our members, Mr Sparry, whose family for centuries lived nearby at the now demolished Fulmers farm, told us that accounts still exist of payments made in 1698 to one of his ancestors for nine days work carrying stones and filling a kiln; for three days and nights tending the kiln and for four more days for emptying it. The 1698 kiln must have been somewhere nearby and was clearly being used only intermittently.

The last kiln we visited was on the edge of Lyndalls Wood in Sollers Hope (SO.62393301). This one was nearly complete and in reasonably good condition but unless something is done very soon to clear away the ivy and the saplings starting to grow out of the chargehole, the masonry will be split apart and the kiln destroyed.

Lime production in the Woolhope/Fownhope area and the Howle Hill area near Ross was eventually superseded by the very large scale limeworks in Radnorshire. The tramway from Abergavenny and the coalfields had already reached Kington and the limestone quarries at Burlingjobb in 1820. Between the 1914 and 1939 wars, machinery was introduced with the capability of grinding limestone fine enough for direct use and there was no further need for limekilns.

No limekilns in Herefordshire have been scheduled but Valerie thinks that a small number of kilns should undergo a minimum amount of restoration and should be given the protection afforded by scheduling. She is consulting the County Archaeology Unit to see if this can be done. The last kiln we visited would be a good candidate, particularly as there is local interest in its preservation and it is situated beside a trackway where it can be seen by the public.

Our thanks are due to our member John Edwards and to Mr Pudge for their kind cooperation. And we are very grateful to Valerie Goodbury for sharing her knowledge and enthusiasm with us. She has deposited copies of her dissertation Herefordshire Limekilns in the City Library and in the Hereford Record Office [Dip. Industrial Archaeol., Univ. of Birmingham, (Ironbridge Institute) 1992.].

[N.B. The Mordiford Trolley. A Carrier's Account Book 1825-8 (Mss. Hereford Library) which lists goods carried by barge and waggon also has entries detailing goods carried by 'Trolley' from Mordiford to Hereford 1826-8. I have never found any other record of this ? tramway and if any reader knows anything about it, please get in touch. One of the reasons for its existence may have been for the carriage of lime from Mordiford.]

Elizabeth Taylor



### Editorial Note

After the meeting broke up at 4pm Roger Stirling-Brown, Paul Remfry and Peter Halliwell took the opportunity to again visit Sollers Hope Church and motte. The site had been previously visited on 3/11/91, HAN 57, p 32.

Mr Peter Francis Hope and his wife, a local historian, think there are Saxon remains in the church. There is no mention of this in either RCHM II E or Pevsner.

The motte is 33 yards north of the church with a base diameter of 36 yards and rises to a height of 5' - 7' with a slightly concave top. The ditch and counter scarp were apparently, according to the description, more in evidence in 1932 (RCHM) than today.

The owner of Sollers Hope Court informed us that there had been asbestos? pig buildings on the top, which had now been removed. There was evidence of a drain possibly connected with the farming. The south east corner of the mound had been destroyed by a garden and also the ditch in this portion.

We are grateful to Dr Allen for permission to visit the mound. The day was fine and cold, except for a short period in the afternoon.

In Sollers Hope Church, between the Perp. window in the north wall of the nave and the modern north vestry, low down, are two quoins, possibly the remains of an external entrance to the pre-Reformation rood loft. They would be in the correct position with regard to the Dec. chancel arch. The church was restored in the 19<sup>th</sup> C. The fine 12/13<sup>th</sup> century decorated coffin slabs were examined.

According to Robinson, the heiress of the de Sollers married Whittington of Pauntley, "ancestor of Richard Whittington, Lord Mayor of London, who was knighted by Richard II. It was he who repaired the church where he was born" (Harl. M.S. 6868). Robinson advises caution over this statement. (Dick Whittington and the Cat are probably folklore).

PRH

### Investigations in the Pencombe Area

14 members assembled at Pencombe Church at 10.30am on Sunday 13/11/94, a remarkable turnout in view of the atrocious weather forecast. Unfortunately, by mischance, Remembrance Sunday had been chosen. Dates of field meetings are fixed many months in advance, and while Armistice Day has great meaning, the second Sunday in November has not, till the day, when it is realized that the Remembrance is no longer on Armistice Day.

A recce for the field day was held on Monday 7/11/94 by Paul Remfry, Roger Stirling-Brown and the writer. It had been originally proposed to visit Dunder Camp at Ullingswick and the mound approx. 700 yards south west of the church (SO.592.495) approx., and castles/moats at Stoke Cross, Stoke Lacey and Lower Hopton. It became obvious that with the exception of Stoke Cross all the other sites were quite unsuitable for a field day.

Rosamund Skelton had earlier suggested some possible sites from field names which were going to be incorporated into the programme, and these now became the principle features to be visited. We are most grateful to Rosamund for taking over as leader at the last moment, as Roger was unable to lead the meeting at the last moment.

Although there had been rain before 10am we were most fortunate that during the day, though threatening, the rain kept off. The day started with a short visit to Pencombe Church where the problems of the recce were explained, and Rosamund explained the land holding patters in Pencombe Parish, indicated by correlating the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> C Manor Court Rolls with the holding recorded on the Tithe Map. Naps of the holdings and explanations were issued together with plans of Risbury

The church, rebuilt in 1865 to the same basic plan as the previous church, is in a circular churchyard which is raised and could even have had defensive connotations. It is adjacent to The Court Farm which was a holding of 92 acres on the Tithe Map. The Court Farm probably represents the demesne holding of the Lord of the manor -but it is probable that the Manor Court was held at the moated site or "castle" at Nash Farm - this would help to account for the three jurors from Maidenhyde at one court - as Maidenhyde was one of the closest places to the Moated site - and if there was a shortage of jurors it would be easy to make up the numbers from such a nearby member.

We first went to Stoke Cross (SO.625.504) by way of Tuthill (SO.627.514), we briefly paused on the way to look at Steward's Hyde (SO.614.528), the earlier home of the Bishop's Steward who looked after the Bishop's interests in Bromyard. The name Tuthill is interesting and may have defensive connotations, which could be supported by field name evidence. Tut bears a close resemblance to the Welsh form twt meaning a mound, often used to refer to a castle motte, although it may equally be applied to a burial mound. The top of Tuthill has been removed in quarrying also removing any evidence of a mound connected with the name Tuthill.

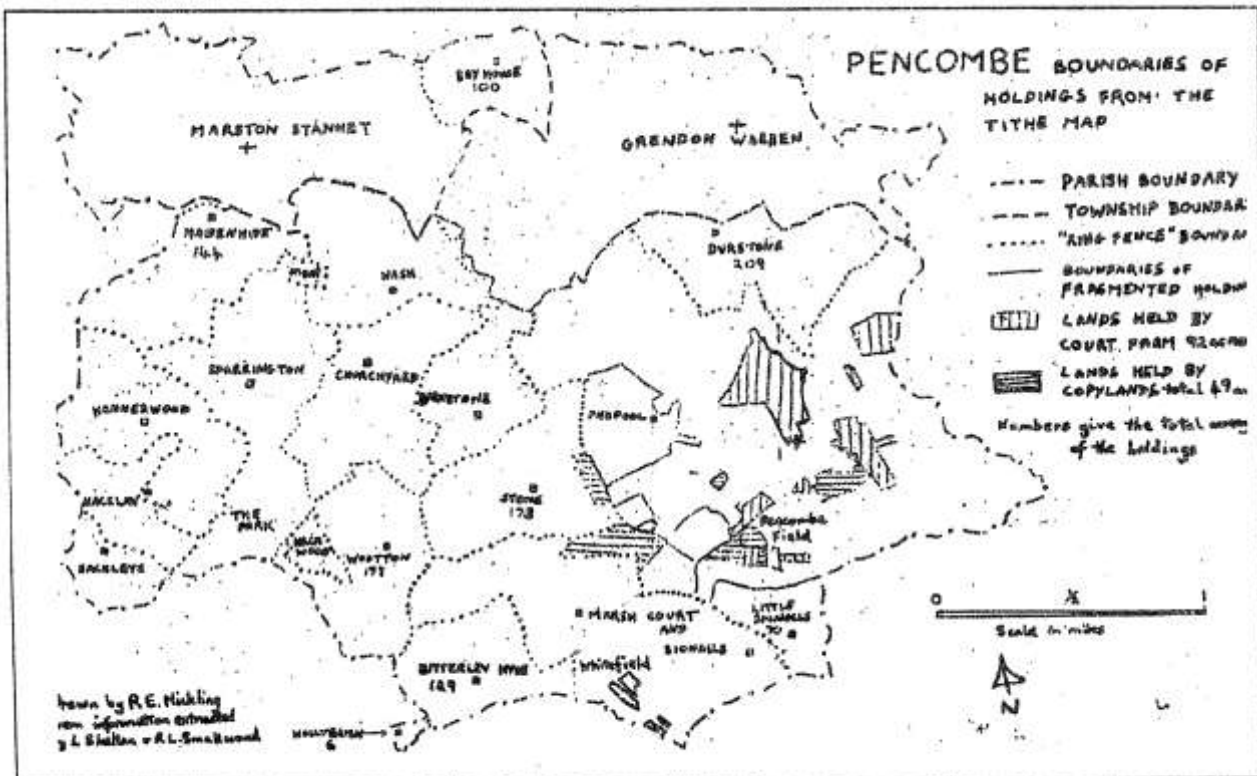


Figure 20, Pencombe boundaries from the tithe map

We noted the Stoke Cross site from a distance from SO.625.510, where we also saw the remains of a road marked on the Provisional Edition of the 1/259000 map, but now ploughed out. Before reaching Stoke Cross we noted the mounds at the rear of Hall Place (SO.624.506) which could be the remains of mill ponds and leats. We did not actually stop at the Stoke Cross site because of parking problems and deep mud.

The possibility of a Roman fort was drawn to our attention by Mr & Mrs Charles Hopkinson, who noted an air photograph by St Joseph in Bromyard library. The site is about a kilometre east of Stoke Cross, but is difficult of access and nothing is really visible, so no attempt was made to visit it. The possible Roman fort could have some connection with the proposed Wellington, Marden, Ullingswick, Acton Beauchamp, Buckley Roman road.

We then went to Marsh Court to Windmill Pit field (SO.587.522), which we found but could see no evidence of a windmill site. We also speculated about the name Marsh - did it signify a marsh or a boundary? Marsh Court is on top of a hill, not an obvious site for a marsh but is near the parish boundary.

Next we visited Great Hegdon Farm (SO.581.538) to look at the site of Pencombe Park where there is an area of contiguous fields with 'Park' names. These occupy a very steeply sloping hill side now under pasture. The park area extended to a field boundary still marked by a line of trees on the west near Darstone Farm and also southwards towards the village, the outer boundary of the fields with park names was marked by a line of trees. Time did not allow these boundaries to be closely inspected as it was near lunch time, but it would be useful if these boundaries could be looked at more closely.

While proceeding to The Three Horseshoe Inn for lunch we noted a possible 'mound' at SO.601.537. After lunch we went to Nash Farm and viewed the remains of the Moat (SO.573.545), in a field with the name Castle Meadow. The island had been bulldozed into the surrounding moat since the last visit by Mrs Skelton in the 1960's. Mrs Davies said that a local inhabitant could remember there being a cottage on the moat but there were only a few stones on the site when it was bulldozed and the remains of a brick lined well. The site of the cottage is recorded on the Tithe map. The outer scarped bank of the moat was quite visible where it was cut into the hillside, but less easily distinguished on the stream side.

We also speculated about a possible castle on the opposite side of the valley. Rosamund reports that a Mr Thomas told her that a circular mound about 50 to 60 in height was bulldozed into little round quarries. This castle mound was at SO.572.546 in a field called Tump Hopyard. Richard Kay also feels that there should be one in this area. There is a small cottage called "Copy Castle" at SO.583.544. Before 1928 Marston Stannett was a chapelry of Pencombe, which might indicate the previous importance of this area. The church was unroofed in 1957, the walls were still standing to roof height in the 1960's.

Lastly we went to Risbury Camp (SO.542.553), and entered the inner portion by a modern entrance on the west side south of the original west entrance. There appeared to be some stone at this modern entrance as there was at the original west entrance. A stone laced rampart and possible stone work were noticed at the entrance. We walked across the interior of the camp, now an orchard, to the east entrance which appeared to be almost devoid of stone. The intermediate rampart between the outer and inner ramparts on the north side appeared to be slighted ie the bank pushed into the ditch which suggested that the outer bank represented an annex or extension to the fort so that the intermediate bank was the original outer bank. Another interesting feature was the lowering of the inner bank on the east side of the on the south side. On this side the bank was about 1 1/2-to 2m lower than the bank on the west side of the entrance. Outside the inner southern rampart there was evidence of two banks extending diagonally from the inner rampart out towards the outer rampart. Do these represent the remains of an earlier enclosure on the site, predating the Iron Age fort?

As darkness was falling rapidly the meeting broke up at 4.30pm, just as heavy rain began to fall. We had really been most fortunate with the weather.

We are most grateful to the following for permission to enter their property: -Mr Humber, Mrs Townsend, Mr & Mrs Davies and Mrs Thomas.

Rosamund Skelton & Peter Halliwell

### **Pencombe Parish**

From the Tithe Map may be identified the pattern of landholding in the parish in the 19<sup>th</sup> C. The attached map shows these ring fenced farms lying mainly in the western side of the parish while Pencombe village and its fields containing unfenced strips of land of fragmented holdings scattered through the field - remnants of an open field system, in the eastern part of the parish. Similar unfenced strips of fragmented holdings are identifiable in the Marsh Court and Sidnall area as well.

June Sheppard in a note to her study of The Origins and Evolution of Field and Settlement Patterns in the Herefordshire manor of Marden suggests that the Domesday Hundred of Thornlaw was made UP Of 4 multiple estates - the royal estate of Marden comprising 14 vills; Bodenham with 12 vills; Withington with 12 vills and Pencombe, composition unknown - A model commote of South Wales consisted of 50 vills divided among four multiple estates in the ratio of 14:12:12:12-, Glanville Jones in Medieval Settlement ed. by P H Sawyer.

Further light may be thrown on the settlement structure of Pencombe by dues derived from the Pencombe Manor Court Rolls of 1303-1452. At Domesday, "A lord holds one manor (Pencombe) of 15 hides geldable". The court rolls refer to the following settlements as hides - Ash Hyde, Bitterley Hyde, Maidenhide, Wootton hide and also it is evident from the references that many of these hides were composed of several messuages, on one occasion 3 jurors with different surnames were chosen from Maidenhyde - a settlement which lies close to the site of the moat.

Ivor Slocombe looked at the Court Roll for information on the settlement pattern and concluded that there were eighteen important settlements. However one of these, "Fishpool", was a fragmented holding in the 19<sup>th</sup> C. This would leave the following forming 12 'vills':- Maidenhyde, Hennerwood, Hackley, Sparrington, Nash, Churchyard, Barnstone, Stone, Bitterley Hyde, Marsh Court, Sidnall, Durston as these are "ring fence" farms or holdings on the Tithe Map.

Rosamund Skelton

## Risbury Camp

The following description is based on the RCHM and VCH accounts, which though a little dated, are still adequate. The camp is situated on the border of Humber and Stoke Prior parishes. It comprises some 25 acres, the inner defended area is 8 acres. It is unusual for a hill fort in being in a valley with the Humber Brook on its west side together with a millrace. On the north side is the Holly Brook, so the fort is in the angle of the Humber Brook and its tributary the Holly Brook. It is possible that the millrace incorporates an original outer ditch.

It is a very strong fortification, depending almost entirely on the strength of its ramparts and ditches. There appear to be three sets of ramparts and ditches, the middle one being of a much slighter construction than the outer or inner ones.

The inner defences would appear to have been partly lowered in places, but are still 6' to 15' on the inner side and 16' to 27' on the ditch side. When the western portion of the inner rampart was opened by the Woolhope Club (Transactions 1885) a dry-built stone wall was discovered, which has unfortunately been used later as a quarry. The Roman road (Margary 610 extension) northwards from Stretton Grandison through Blackwardine passes just to the west of Risbury Camp.

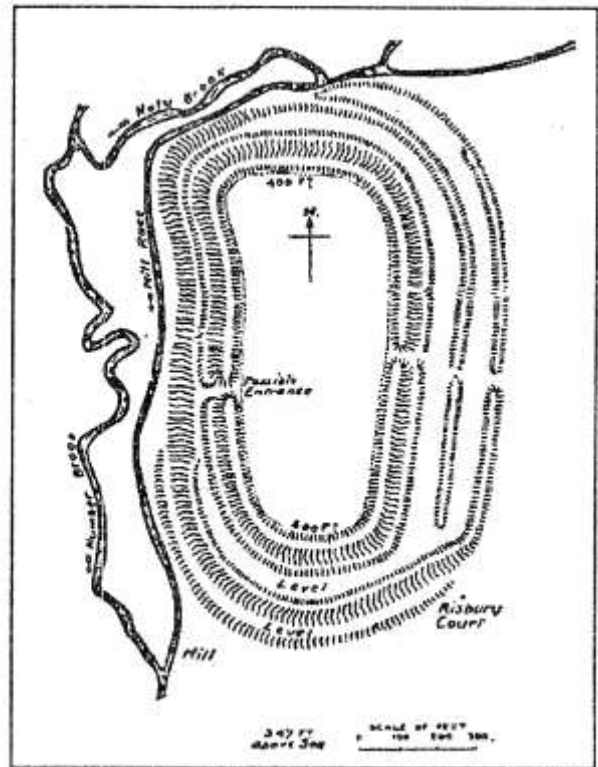


Figure 21, Risbury Camp

PRH

## Dunder Camp

During the recce we went to see the owner of Thornfield, on a new small bungalow development at Upper Town, Ullingswick. She had earlier drawn our attention to the name Dunder Camp which appeared on older OS maps. Margaret Jones and Elizabeth Taylor had earlier in 1994 visited the area without being able to reach definite conclusions. It is difficult to decide from the style of printing on the map whether the name applied to a house or to a feature, geographical or man-made. Upper Town, as its name implies, is a "township", or decayed earlier settlement on a small hillock, older residents still refer to the hillock as Dunder Camp by which they mean the SW quadrant of the hillock. Which is dissected by the staggered cross roads roughly NS and EW, the EW road especially is deeply incised. The name has now disappeared from the new editions of the OS maps. At the time of the original survey, the surveyors were instructed to enquire from clergymen and other persons of quality the names used in the locality.

The rear of her garden drops away in what could be the remains of an older defensive feature, as does the now derelict, corrugated iron village hall. She admits that the rear garden was built up slightly with earth from the foundations and was told that when the housing development was made on the original orchard there was a bank at what is now the front of her property.

It was very difficult to come to a definite conclusion. The writer felt that it was rather large to be a motte and it could possibly have Iron Age connotations. There are several old lanes and houses in the area, and in the fields adjacent to the Ullingswick access road and the A417 (SO.587.488) are Street names, possibly connected with the postulated EW Roman road from Marden to Acton Beauchamp.

We were unable to locate the mound SW of Ullingswick Church.

PRH

### Additional Material from Roger Stirling-Brown

On 13/11/94 Peter Halliwell, Paul Remfry and the writer went on a recce trip for our investigative day out in the area of Pencombe, Stoke Lacy and Ullingswick. Unfortunately due to recent development, agricultural activity and owners not wanting us to visit sites on their land, we almost had to cancel our visit. On top of this I had unexpected visitors from abroad which meant I was unable to lead the visit.

We have learned a valuable lesson from this which is that as we are now more frequently investigating newly discovered and lesser known sites, sometimes in areas of the county rarely visited in the past, it is becoming

essential to make a preliminary recce prior to drawing up our half yearly programme to avoid cancellation or a fruit-less visit.

Included in the reports below are those on sites visited during the recce but which for the reasons mentioned above we could not visit on the day.

**A Motte and Possible Bailey Site at Stoke Cross (SO.625.505)**

The motte on this site is positioned roughly half way down a gentle slope north of the A465 road. It is of oval form approx. 75' x 55' (22.m x 16.8m). (A partial covering of brush and bramble made accurate measuring difficult) and about 7' (2.1m) high at its highest point from present ground level on the north side. There is no evidence of a ditch on the north side as the field is ploughed right up to the base of the motte, and on the west the road and hedge have obliterated it. On the south and south east sides the ditch forms a sunken entrance track to the field, the south east end of this appears to have been filled and levelled with brick and builders rubble modern glazed pottery waste (a thin cream coloured fabric) and general rubbish. The top of the motte is flat with a few pieces of stone jutting through the top soil or lying on top, a shallow trench about 18" wide had been dug roughly a quarter of the width of the motte top. This showed what appeared to be the natural clay.

We wondered who had dug this as the only reason for such a trench would be archaeological investigation (unless done by children). We were unable to contact the owner for a possible explanation.

**Comments and Speculation**

This site appears to have been first noted some years ago by Richard Kay, having been obscured by a field boundary hedge, now removed, three former fields being made into one and planted with cereals. We could not walk the recently planted field as following heavy rain it was extremely muddy we could not find any medieval or earlier pottery shards, though the muddy surface would have made them difficult to recognise. The line of the old hedge bank could be seen crossing the field to the north east. There is a lot of stone in this bank. Though this bank continues to the boundary hedge at Cookhorn Inn, a third of it is at a lower level, the main bank curving round to the east and south east.

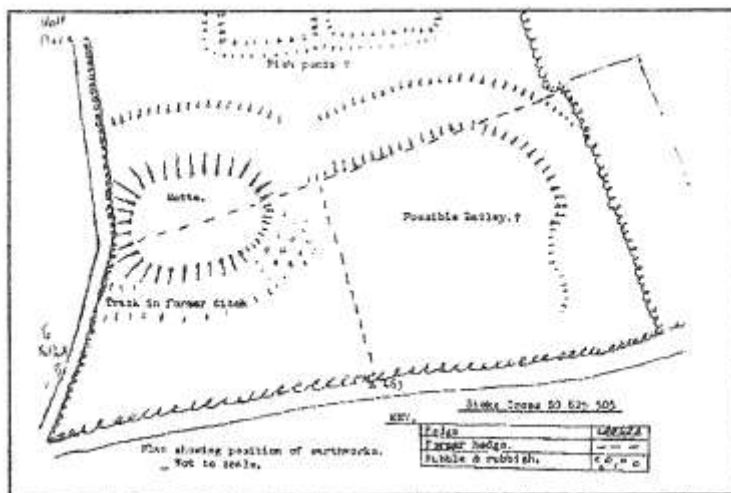


Figure 23, Ground plan of Stoke Cross

This alignment may be the remains of a former bailey bank. If this is so it would have formed a very large bailey area, though other ditches may have been filled and levelled. There is another ploughed down bank following the above alignment further to the north east at a distance that may point to it being the counterscarp bank to a bailey and motte ditch. Other low banks forming elongated rectangular enclosures lower down the slope nearer the stream, may mark the position of former fish ponds. All these earthworks are rapidly disappearing under regular ploughing. If permission can be obtained the writer is hoping to compile as accurate a plan of these earthworks as possible in their present state.

The right angle bend in Stoke Lane (SO.629.504) with green lanes and bridleways going south and west of it, may mark the area of an extended settlement associated with the former castle site. If so, there ought to be a church or chapel site in this area, does anything show on the field name survey? (Perhaps John King could look into the chapel question). There is also the possibility of a former mill site at or near Cookhorn Farm.

When I first saw this site I was doubtful that it had been a motte, as the supposed ditch on the south side could have been just the sunken entrance to the field isolating a section of the natural bank, so giving the impression of a motte. Finding that the north and east section of the motte ditch had been recently filled and levelled with rubbish and soil, plus finding the other associated earthworks have convinced me that we probably have a virtually unknown castle site here which may have been important in the early period following the

Conquest. It is believed that certain castles with very large baileys were kept as major muster points for gathering an army in times of trouble.

This site on a main road out of Bromyard connecting to Hereford and the old Roman road to the west and Wales may have been one of these and along with sites at Edwin Loach (SO.663.584). Edwyn Ralph (SO.644.575), Wacton (SO.614.575), Lower Hopton (SO.631.493), a lost site at Bredenbury, a destroyed motte near Marston Stannett and lost sites at or near Grendon Court, Pencombe etc. seem to have formed a line of defence around church lands at Bromyard, Bishops Frome etc., but this may be coincidental. Perhaps Bruce Coplestone-Crow, the field name survey, and more field walking could throw more light on the archaeology of the feudal period in this area.

## Two Moated Sites at Stoke Lacy SO.631.493 & SO.620.494

### Site 1 SO.631.493 Lower Hopton

We were looking forward to examining this site, as this was a substantial Lacy holding and with a circular moat one would expect an early fortified site, possibly a castle. However on arrival at the site some problems arose. The owner met us in his driveway and made it fairly obvious that he would not welcome any intrusion into his privacy let alone a party of archaeologists. With some persuasion the writer was allowed to view the accessible part of the moat and two probable reasons for the owners reticence became obvious. What was probably an outer court to the moat covered in farm building had been converted into a mews type development, with landscaping which has almost certainly removed or seriously damaged any archaeology in the area adjacent to the moat. Enquiries have not found any report of excavation or even of a watching brief during the course of this development. The moated site had been converted into a very pretty Japanese garden with painted wooden bridges and many rare plants (which was why we were not allowed access to the mound). Unfortunately this conversion had involved the clearing of the moat by machine, the silt being spread on the mound and surrounding garden. In the short time we were able to spend on the site we could only estimate the area of the moated mounds which appeared to be between 100' to 120' in diameter, rising only about 3' above present water level and almost level with the surrounding ground in the garden area. Shaly pieces with a few larger pieces of sand-stone were exposed in the silt spread, some with creamy coloured mortar attached and the writer also noticed what looked like the base of a green glazed jug or pot with typical finger pressings in the base sticking out of the silt on the side of the mound.

Apparently the excavation had come into contact with substantial stone foundations against the side of the mound when clearing the moat. The moat where we viewed it was quite narrow about 17' to 20' though there was some slope on the garden side so perhaps the full width was not cleaned out, but, moats can be narrower than the more usual 25' to 30' near the access to the mound. This one does seem wider on the sides we could not get too. To the east of the moat is another roughly rectangular tree clad platform delineated by a bank and slopes. It is bordered on the east by the present C class road. The overflow from the moat, partly piped and ditched runs along one side which looks as if it may have formed an extension to the moat possibly surrounding the rectangular platform forming an outer enclosure or bailey. There was good quality stone in the buildings, and garden walls on the development area, some obviously reuse. There was also thought to have been ponds and possibly a mill associated with the site.

### Comments and Speculation

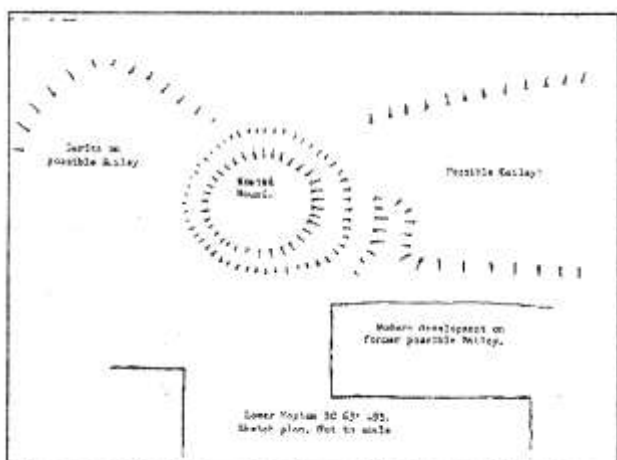


Figure 24, Ground plan of Lower Hopton

From our brief visit it was impossible to properly classify this site as we could not ascertain the thickness of the revetment wall to the moated mound, which if more than 4' thick would point to a strongly fortified site, possibly a castle rather than a simple house moat.

If the fragment of pottery was part of a 13<sup>th</sup> C green glazed jug or pot, which the writer is pretty sure it was, this could put the site into the period of stone castles. Most of these sites date from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> C, also this site with its low mound has many similarities to the moated site at Edwyn Ralph (SO.644.575) which was almost certainly the site of a substantial stone castle, but alas we can only speculate until a future opportunity allows further investigation, hopefully before further damage is done.

The writers own view for what it is worth, is that this site probably fits in with the group of low level water defended mounds with stone structures revetting the mounds built up from the bottom of the moat. According to wall thickness and building design these structures can range from lightly fortified manor houses to substantial stone castles (see Lomore HAN 55, 28-30)

### **Site 2 approx S0.620.494 Stoke Lacy**

This former probable rectangular moated site, now only seems to remain as a revetted bank on the west, the moats filled in. The former moated platform now seems to contain a tennis court. This could only be observed at a distance. As so little remained visible we put off a detailed examination to a future date.

Roger Stirling-Brown

Editorial Note This report was based on the recce on 17/11/94 and not on the actual field meeting on 13/11/94 . It was thought better to keep the two accounts separate, rather than to try and integrate into one report. Only the castle site at Stoke Cross was actually seen during the field meeting.

### **6th Annual Shindig**

60 members of the Gloucester and District Archaeological Research Group, the Monmouth Archaeological Society, the Dean Archaeology Group and the Woolhope Archaeological Research Section assembled at the Gloucestershire Farmers Club in Gloucester at 3pm on Saturday 5/11/94 for the Annual Shindig. 17 members of the ARS attended, a good turnout considering the distance involved.

We were all very pleased to see Brian Walters at the Shindig. The writer can well remember the time in a pub in Monmouth when with Stephen Clarke, and Brian Walters the idea of the Shindig was formulated. We are very pleased to have been joined by Gadarg, who were this years hosts.

The Shindig was opened by Eddie Price, Chairman of GADARG, with a short speech of welcome. The first speaker was Richard Serma, recently appointed Gloucester Archaeology Project Manager. He concentrated on the "corridor" alongside the A38 in the once rural parish of Quedeley, now almost entirely covered with new industrial buildings. He gave a list of recent finds and the attempt to accurately locate the Roman road (Margary 541) to ABONA (Sea Mills). He also mentioned three possible moated sites alongside the A38, one Alstrop Manor was a moated site west of the church, and Manor Court, again moated, The new Tesco Super Store gave an opportunity to look for the road, which apparently passed beneath the new store, When the by-pass was built traces of Roman buildings and a burial were found.

Geoff Mein then spoke about the early Norman Castles at Trostrey, near Usk. Three roughly circular earthworks proceeded the late 13<sup>th</sup> C stone castle. The evidence consisted of rows of post holes and the remains of timber work and wattle. He showed several reconstruction drawings, the work of John Sorrell, the cousin of the archaeological illustrator Alan Sorrell, and of Anne Leaver. It is hoped to be able to reproduce updated ones in a future issue of HAN after discussions with Roger Stirling-Brown.

Bob Trett, the curator of Newport Museum, spoke about recent discoveries in the Severn Estuary, concentrating on the discovery of the remains of a Roman boat on the Severn Levels at Euro Park on Barlands Farm, Magor, another Tesco development. The boat was discovered on the day after the last Shindig. It was alongside a possible Roman stone warf or jetty. Tesco produced ,Lese rescue funds and delayed building work by five weeks to allow the boat to be recorded and excavated. It is a discovery only paralleled by the London Blackfriars and the Guernsey St Peter Port boats (HAN 61 p 12).

The stern of the boat had apparently been out away at some time, the remaining portion was 9.7m long, and 2.6m in width of oak. The planks were held onto the 16 ribs by iron clenched nails (bent over at 90@). Central planks formed the keel and five planks on one side and three on the other remained. The date of the boat is likely to be late 3<sup>rd</sup> C. The boat was extracted from the mud, cut into sections, dismantled, and sent to York for conservation. It will be rebuilt and returned to Newport for display. Six Roman shoes and two coins, a follis of Diocletian dated 296/7Ad, and an antoninias of Carausius dated between 287 and 293AD were found. Although there are no Roman remains in the area, the quay could have served the nearby Roman town of Caerwent.

It was then the turn of Stephen Clarke who talked about recent developments in Monmouth. Because of the backlog of excavation reports to be written up, the major emphasis had been on this aspect. They also felt that the MAS was being discriminated against in their attempts to obtain evaluation and rescue archaeological contracts, and this was forcing a radical review of their policy vis a vis the Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust. He also dealt with the problems concerning Gloucester House in Monmouth. A discussion then ensued with Bob Trett and Geoff Mein, respectively the Chairman and a Trustee of GGAT, as to how best to repair the strained relations between MAS and the professional staff of GGAT.

On a lighter note MAS had discovered the site and foundations of Treowen Manor House, Woonaston, about 60 yards in front of the present house. Work was also continuing on the site in Monnow Street where further discoveries had been made on the defences of several periods.

Terry Moore-Scott of Gadarg then spoke about the expediencies of GADARG when under-taking a PPG16 Assessment in connection with the extension of the graveyard at Maismore. After all the trials and tribulations of the bureaucratic world three trenches were dug which revealed nothing of real interest. So in one way the whole exercise was a disappointment, but valuable lessons were learnt, and he felt that if GADARG were given future opportunity they would not be too discouraged to try again.

The delicious buffet supper was taken at this point, and the fairly lengthy period of time allowed, gave the opportunity for much discussion and viewing of the exhibits. Ruth Richardson reopened the proceedings after supper with an account of the Herefordshire Field Name Survey and its archaeological implications, her title was Field-Names as Archaeological Indicators. She dealt with the methodology of the survey itself and how the material gained was being used for archaeological work. This was highlighted by the entry of the work for the Pitt-Rivers Award and the knowledge that they were among the finalists to be decided at York on 23<sup>rd</sup> November. She stressed that field names were indicators suggesting further research would be worthwhile. For instance 50% of Iron Age hill forts have the field name Camp either on or in the vicinity. Many new sites have been discovered as a result of field names.

Graham Sprackling also spoke as part of the ARS presentation on the statistical analysis of names connected with defensive sites, Castle, Moat, Camp and Ring. He said that the name Tump was a bad indicator, as often it was applied to natural features as well as man made. All names must be checked against the county SMR list of known sites.

Ruth concluded by mentioning discoveries made at *Ariconium*, Blackwardine, Marden and Upton Bishop as a result of field names. She mentioned the current work in progress by Elizabeth Taylor, Rosamund Skelton, Beryl Harding, Muriel Tonkin, Sue Rice, Ivor Lesser, Jean O'Donnell, John Eisel and Frank Pexton, and paid tribute to Geoff Gwatkin. Full details will be published in the Transactions in due course. The county archaeological service had reported that from the first 90 parish, reports examined a thousand possible new archaeological sites had been identified. In answer to a question from the audience. Ruth said that if finance became available the work would be put on computer disk.

Julia Wilson spoke about the attempt to find a medieval pottery kiln at Trefalddie, north of Monmouth. Stephen Clark had been looking for this for the last 30 years. Although the kiln was not found, kiln bricks and the remains of wooden store buildings had been discovered. Considerable pottery artifacts were recovered, and the kiln may in fact have been bulldozed away.

Dave Hancocks also spoke about a pottery kiln at Llanerthil, Llandenny. This medieval kiln was discovered in a field called Chapel Meadow; this field is reputed not to have been ploughed in the last 700 years. The kiln is roughly dated to the 1240's and was found beneath 18" of top soil. No inside lining to the kiln was found, though many pottery artifacts were recovered. There is a possible second kiln, not far away, which may have been used for glazing. Two pieces of Monnow Valley Ware, and some shards with glazed runs on the edges were also discovered.

In the Book of Llan Dav is recorded a large grant of land to a monastery, and an attempt was made to find this from the grant boundary descriptions. Although foundation walls were discovered their alignment was too far out of EW to be considered as a church. The site is the meeting place of several tracks near an Iron Age fort. During the Civil War the Royalist landowners were in Raglan Castle and their land and houses suffered accordingly. Chapel Meadow is a very uneven field with many humps and bumps. Clay is available a few fields away and Roman 'fire brick' was discovered as was a Roman flue tile embedded in the foundations of the building.

Eddie Price closed the proceedings with an update report on the work at Frocester Roman Villa (see previous Shindig reports in HAN). Recent work has concentrated on the courtyard north of the main building and its northern boundary wall. Three quite distinct phases of ploughing have largely destroyed the Romano British remains in this area, though Eddie put forward the possibility that perhaps it was the private preserve of the villa owner and so did not accumulate rubbish.

Under the bath house were a large number of holes about 3' in depth and 4" in diameter. How they were made, and for what purpose is uncertain, and so far no really satisfactory explanation has been proposed. He also thought that a possible villa farm building south west of the villa had been refurbished and continued in use well into the 5<sup>th</sup> C. He suggested that because of the immense strength of the villa building it could well have remained standing till at least 500AD, and could have been re-roofed and continued in use in Saxon times. Eddie Price showed a fascinating series of reconstructions of the mosaic of the long entrance corridor or verandah to the villa. These and other reconstructions of different phases of the villa will be included in the report now being prepared.



The meeting finished at 9pm after a very enjoyable and instructive afternoon and evening, and I feel Eddie Price and GADARG can be very pleased with their first Shindig. We were very pleased to see Malcolm Atkin, the county archaeology officer at the Shindig.

After six Shindigs I think we can feel that it has been very firmly established in the archaeological calendar. Martin Ecclestone, the GADARG secretary, is to be congratulated on the very good organisation of the Shindig.

There were several displays organised by the separate groups including the county and Geoff Gwatkin had a display of his excellent maps. Members will remember that Geoff drew the maps for our own field name survey, and is now working on Gloucestershire parishes.

An idea which has been suggested to the writer is to move the date of the Shindig to summer, as by the time we departed although the Guy Faulks fireworks had subsided a little, the fog had descended at least on the road to North Herefordshire

The writer would like to thank the following for checking the whole or parts of this report - Ruth Richardson, Martin Ecclestone, Geoff Mein, Stephen Clarke, Bob Trett and Rosamund Skelton.

PRH

Editorial Note In Britannia XXV 1994 p 253 is a report on the excavation of the Roman boat and the jetty and landing stage. It also reported that 75m upstream was another possible small landing stage or fish weir at ST.406.864 Barlands Farm, Wilcrick.

Geoff Mein reports in a letter, that he had to leave the Shindig early, and had he still been there he would have made the following comment about the monastery at Llanerthil on which he had done some work:- An early (like the Celtic) monastery consisted of several buildings irregularly arranged, not all of which pointed east. In any case most if not all of them were probably of timber as not much stone is readily available. Llanerthil is on the edge of the flood plain of the Olway Brook, 3 km east of Llandenny, where was another equally early pre-Norman monastic settlement called Mathenny, founded about 850AD.

### Book Review

*The Eardisley Diamond* by David Gorvett, 33 pp, with several drawings and sketches. Price £1.00 available from the Post Office, Eardisley. It is a sampling of the life of the villagers throughout the ages, with reference to the famous font of Eardisley Church. To the reviewer, a little short on fact and history, perhaps, but a charming little booklet and well worth the price. David Gorvett has also produced a new leaflet on the actual font, which though much smaller in size, only two pages, is packed with interesting information about the iconography of the font with a very good drawing on the front cover at only 20p.

Further works by Paul Remfry have appeared. *Radnor Castle, 1066-1282* and *Clifford Castle, 1066 to 1299* both at £9.95 + P&P, deal with the history of these important sites from their founding soon after the conquest to the end of the Welsh Wars. There are detailed descriptions of the castle remains and a suggested chronology for both sites. The text is interspersed with numerous photographs, plans and maps. In Clifford the family trees of the Tosny and Clifford families are included with a reproduction of an early twelfth century charter concerning the fee. The Braose family is examined in Radnor. Early this year came *St Briavels Castle, 1066 to 1331* at £3.95 + P&P concerned with the early evolution of the castle, based largely on our field trip described above. Finally *Ten Castles of Radnor Lordship, 1066 to 1304* at £6.95 + P&P is the first work to attempt to define the myriad of small castles that apparently pertained to the major castles in the Marches. There is a discussion of the development of Radnor Borough and several suggestions as to its early origin followed by the descriptions of the castles. As ever, the text is buttressed with plans, photographs and maps. This booklet will be followed by similar works on the castles of the Lordships of Clifford, Clun and Hay. In the pipeline are works on Hay on Wye, Castell Dinas Emrys, Berkhamstead and the Mortimer castles.

*Castles of Lothian and the Borders*, Folly Publications, 168 pp 3 location maps, 180 photographs and 130 plans. Price £9.00. The third of Salter's five projected castle books covering Scotland. It covers the old counties of East Lothian, Midlothian, West Lothian, Berwick, Peebles, Selkirk and Roxburgh. There is also information on another hundred buildings now destroyed. If the five volumes are completed it will form an invaluable record of Scottish Castles. Scotland does present serious problems with regard to its castles because they continued to be built and occupied long after they had been abandoned in England and Wales. As a result many more modifications were made to the fabric and it is often difficult to find the original medieval features. Secondly the proliferation of tower houses, often called peels (peles) incorrectly, at a very late stage under the mistaken idea that they would prevent brigandage. This was encouraged by the Scottish Parliament making it compulsory for landowners worth more

than £100 Scots to build one, their main purpose was internal security not defence against England. Most of these had no bailey or only a very lightly defended Barmkin, usually only for the protection of stock,

There is virtually no documentation for Scottish Tower houses, similar towers were erected in Northern England and were recorded in the two main surveys of border defences in 1415 & 1541. The volume also lists Bastles or fortified farms.

*James Wathen's Herefordshire 1770 - 1820.* The reviewer feels that this collection of his Herefordshire sketches and paintings arranged by David Whitehead and Ron Shoesmith deserves mention, though largely outside the usual scope of his reviews.

David Whitehead, the historian, is a member of the ARS and current President of the Woolhope Club, while Ron Shoesmith of the City of Hereford Archaeology Unit is very well known in archaeological circles.

The reviewer found the watercolours of the Old Chapter House, the first substantive bridge at Witney, the view of Ludford Bridge before the symmetry of the arches was spoilt by road widening, and of course of particular interest, Wigmore Castle are of considerable historical value.

After many years in the East the reviewer detected definite Chinese influences in the View of Moccas, View of Symonds, and Near New Weir.

The co-authors are to be congratulated on their initiative in bringing the work of a local artist to the attention of the public; an excellent production. Published by Logaston Press as a limited edition available by subscription only.

Typesetting and artwork by SCS Publishing  
31 Richmond Road, Malvern Link, Worcester, WR14 1NE

## Archaeological Research Section

### Officers 1995

#### **ARS OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE FOR 1995**

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	Mr G Sprackling
	Mr R F Stirling-Brown
	Mr G S Wells

### Sectional Recorders

The following are Sectional Recorders for the Woolhope Club

Mrs B Harding Ornithology

Mrs R Skelton Deserted Medieval Villages

Mr G Sprackling Parish Field Name Survey

### Telephone Numbers

Members are reminded that on 16/4/95 most National Codes, including Wigmore, will change by the insertion of an extra digit "1" after the initial "0".

At some date in May 1995 the National Code for Wigmore will change from 056886 (0156886) to 01568 and all Wigmore exchange numbers will be prefixed by 770. Eg 056886 434 in May will become 01568 770434. Because of the bewildering frequency with which telephone numbers are being changed please check any of the numbers given above.

### Subscriptions 1995

These are now due and should be paid to the Treasurer, Mr J V Harding, Aldermead, Llanwarne, Herefordshire HR2 8JE. 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 or 1994 if you have please accept our apologies for this second reminder.

### 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.

### Field Name Surveys

There are still copies of many parishes available, if interested please contact Mrs B Harding.