

TRANSACTIONS  
OF THE  
WOOLHOPE  
NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB  
HEREFORDSHIRE

"HOPE ON"



"HOPE EVER"

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PART I



1965

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## Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club

(HEREFORDSHIRE)

### PROCEEDINGS, 1964

#### SPRING MEETINGS

FIRST MEETING: 23rd January: The President, Mr. V. H. Coleman in the chair.

Mr. S. L. Beaumont in a letter communicated to the Club,, said that he would meet the Managing Director of the Company now owning No. 3 High Street, Hereford, and that in the meantime no steps would be taken to destroy the house.

Mr. S. C. Stanford gave a talk, illustrated with colour slides, on "Croft Ambrey and the Iron Age in Herefordshire," describing the recent excavations at the Croft Ambrey site and outlining its significance in the pattern of Iron Age settlement.

SECOND MEETING: 22nd February: The President, Mr. V. H. Coleman in the chair.

Mr. F. Noble gave a talk on medieval boroughs of West Herefordshire. A paper based on this talk is printed on pp. 62-70.

THIRD MEETING: 14th March: The President, Mr. V. H. Coleman in the chair.

Mr. P. W. Carter lectured on "Herefordshire Trees," describing the varieties to be found in the county, and illustrating with slides the county's wealth of trees of record growth, though some of the most famous specimens have been lost to us within fairly recent times.

SPRING ANNUAL MEETING: 16th April, 1964: The President, Mr. V. H. Coleman in the chair.

The President gave his address, speaking on the Kington railway. The paper was illustrated with slides made by the late Captain Ellison and lent by Mrs. Ansell. The President expressed his thanks for this loan, and also thanked Mr. Noble who had prepared the transparencies he used. The address is printed on pp. 16-26.

Mr. F. Noble was installed as President of the Club for the year 1964-1965.

#### FIELD MEETINGS

FIRST FIELD MEETING: 16th May. CLUN DISTRICT.

A fairly long stay was made in Clun, where talks by the curator of the Museum, by the President, and by the vicar of Clun, Mr. R. H.

Benson, greatly assisted members to enjoy their visits to the Museum, Castle, Trinity Hospital and Church. Afterwards, the fine stretch of Offa's Dyke above Clun was visited. The journey homeward was through Kington, where members stopped to visit the Church where the Rector kindly welcomed them.

**SECOND FIELD MEETING (half-day): 13th June. ROSS DISTRICT.**

Mr. J. H. Trafford kindly welcomed members to Hill Court and shewed them over his house—a beautiful example of domestic architecture of the turn of the 17th–18th centuries—and gave them the freedom of his gardens which were described by Mr. Miles Hadfield. A visit was then made to Goodrich Castle where Mrs. W. Leeds, quoting from medieval account rolls, drew a graphic picture of the life of the castle in middle ages, and to Goodrich Church where the Vicar, the Rev. R. G. Williams, brought out for members to see the seventeenth century plate, the gift to the church of Dean Swift whose grandfather had been vicar there.

On the way back to Hereford the party stopped at the house of Mr. N. P. Bridgewater, at Llangarron, where the collections of material from excavations carried out by the Archenfield Archaeological Society were on view.

**THIRD FIELD MEETING: 2nd July. ABERGAVENNY DISTRICT.**

On the Abergavenny road the party stopped near Wormbridge to see the relics of a stretch of the old Hereford tramway of which Mr. Coleman gave a brief history. The President told members that he had written to the Hereford City authorities concerning the preservation of the old terminus of this railway near the Wye Bridge, in danger of destruction for the new bridge works. Members then travelled to White Castle where the President gave a brief outline of its history. After making a brief stay to see the moated side of Hen Cwrt, reputed home of Sir David Gam, the party visited St. Teilo's church at Llantilio Crossenny where the Rev. Preb. A. L. Moir described the building, and then moved on to Cefntilla Court, where Lord and Lady Raglan kindly welcomed the members and shewed them round this beautiful seventeenth century house.

**FOURTH FIELD MEETING (half-day): 30th July. BOSBURY.**

The visits of this excursion were concentrated within Bosbury—to the oak room at the Crown Inn, once the family mansion of the Harfords, to the Church, which the Rev. Preb. A. L. Moir described and where the vicar kindly shewed members the fine series of parish registers, to the gateway of the old Bishop's Palace, to the aqueduct of the Ledbury-Hereford Canal where Mr. Coleman described its history, to Upleadon Farm, where Mr. Inett Homes guided the party

over his house and shewed its members the recently discovered fireplace, a remarkable feature of this most interesting building.

**FIFTH FIELD MEETING: 27th August. LUDLOW DISTRICT.**

The first visit of the day was to the ruins of Limebrook Priory, where the Rev. Preb. A. L. Moir gave a brief history of the nunnery. From this site the members walked to Upper Limebrook Farm, a cruck building which is being fully restored, and where the President spoke about its structure. The President also gave a brief description of the Grove Head pottery site which members visited while in this area.

The next move was to Wigmore where the President gave a lecture on the history of the Castle and Mr. Kendrick spoke on the geology of the valley of elevation. The latter part of the day was spent in Ludlow where the Preacher guided the party round the Church of St. Lawrence and where, after tea, Mr. John Norton, curator of Ludlow Museum, opened the Museum specially that members might see it.

**SIXTH FIELD MEETING: 12th September. LOWER WYE VALLEY.**

Members visited the Huntsham site of which the first report has been recently published in the *Transactions* and where Mr. N. P. Bridgewater was directing further excavations. The road through Whitchurch to Monmouth was then followed, and then on to Trellech past the standing stones, and to Chepstow where at a business meeting held in the Castle precincts, the Rev. Preb. A. L. Moir brought to the notice of the Club for discussion, and possibly for some action to be taken, the matter of the ruins of Craswall priory. It was suggested that a working party be formed to clear the site of some of the rubbish and that advice from appropriate organizations be asked on what steps could be taken to prevent further rapid deterioration. The President outlined the history of Chepstow castle and described its main features, and the party moved on to Lidbury where the southern end of Offa's Dyke could be seen, and then to Wintour's Leap for the view of the Wye. The last visit of the day was to Tintern where Mr. Coleman guided members round the ruins of the Abbey.

**AUTUMN MEETINGS**

**FIRST MEETING: 14th November.** The President, Mr. F. Noble in the chair.

Mr. F. Kendrick gave a talk on the geology of Woolhope Dome. He drew attention to the earlier work with which the founder members of the Club had been closely associated, and to the advantages they enjoyed in making collections of representative fossils in a period when many of the quarries were in full working order,

In more recent work, the Ludlow classification has been replaced by more detailed divisions based on representative sections in the area. A correlation between these divisions and those of other Silurian areas in the neighbourhood is set out in the paper, "The Silurian Rocks of the Ludlow Area," by Dr. J. D. Lawson and others. The cutting of roads through the woods by the Forestry Commission has exposed many fossiliferous sections, providing a good opportunity for the collector to find type fossils. Many interesting points were discussed. At the end of the lecture it was noted that numerous faults were shown on the recent map, some of which members had been unable to locate. A question was also raised about the Wenlock limestone to the north of the Pound/Clouds fault, which, though shown as missing in recent work, was indicated on the map given in the Transactions of 1890. Here, one member said, characteristic fossils could be found, though these may, of course, be erratics from the Dormington quarries.

SECOND MEETING: 26th November: Mr. V. H. Coleman in the chair.

Mr. Basil Butcher gave a talk on gardens and landscapes. This was lavishly illustrated from photographs he had taken of landscape gardens in many parts of the country and in the course of it Mr. Butcher gave much helpful advice on photographic techniques.

THIRD MEETING: 5th December: The President, Mr. F. Noble in the chair.

Miss M. Jancey gave a talk outlining the lives and careers of the Brydges family of Tyberton during the later seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. The sources used were the collections of letters deposited at the City Library and at the County Record Office, letters which give a particularly rich and complete picture of country life of that period.

WINTER ANNUAL MEETING: 12th December: The President, Mr. F. Noble in the chair.

Mr. M. Hadfield, Dr. B. Miles, Prebendary A. L. Moir and Mr. J. W. Tonkin, were elected to the Central Committee, and officers were appointed as given in the list of officers. The sectional secretaries read their reports which are printed on pp. 83-96 and the Treasurer presented the Statement of Accounts.

## OBITUARY

*By the death of Mr. Alfred Duggan in the early spring of 1964, the Club lost one of its most distinguished members. In February, 1961, he delighted his audience at a meeting with a talk on the approach to history taken by himself as an historical novelist. Mrs. Duggan has kindly made the text of this talk available for publication and it seemed fitting that it should be printed here as a memorial in the Club's "Transactions" to the wisdom and learning he so delicately and wittily poured out.*

## AN HISTORICAL NOVELIST'S APPROACH TO HISTORY

By ALFRED DUGGAN

An historical novelist is a rather lowly type of artist, and art is not really a very important form of activity. It's not fashionable to say that nowadays, when we are all mad on allowing every kind of talent to express itself, but it's true all the same. In the first place all art is a frill, a superfluity. A man can live a good life on earth, and get into Heaven after death, without ever experiencing the slightest aesthetic sensation. In the second place, those of us who do experience aesthetic sensations cannot justify them. Some things please us and others don't, and we cannot explain why. You can analyse and refine your aesthetic sensation, and those who feel as you do will applaud your skill. But you cannot *prove* that A is more beautiful than B.

Perhaps about the very highest peaks of art there is general agreement. Since it was first recited, the *Iliad* has been considered a pretty good poem; since it was first built, the Parthenon has been considered a pretty good building.

In that connexion it is interesting to recall that in the 13th century the builders of the Sainte Chapelle in Paris, or their cousins, found themselves ruling in Attica. Some Frank in Greece wrote home to report with pride that the Duke of Athens was lord of the fairest cathedral in the world, Our Lady of Satines, which was, of course, the Parthenon that has been a Christian church for longer than it has been anything else. Nobody contradicted his boast. But his cousins at home went on to construct the rose window at Rheims; they did not attempt to copy the Doric column and entablature.

So art, except perhaps the very highest, is not frightfully important. And among the arts the novel is one of the latest and lowliest. The audience who first listened to the *Iliad*, the worshippers who first walked in procession to the unscarred Parthenon, were not interested

in the craft of fiction. The ancients had a few novels, and a few of those few have come down to us. But I imagine that if you could talk to an educated Roman of the first century you would find that he thought of *Daphnis and Chloe* and *The Golden Ass* as unusually elaborate and well-constructed after-dinner stories, a little bit bawdy and not to be taken seriously.

You can pick out a few rare ancestors, but prose fiction as a popular and influential art-form is not really more than 300 years old. The architect, as his name implies, must be the chief of the artists. The sculptor comes next, because his work endures. Seen in the light of history, the painter of pictures works in a medium as ephemeral as the producer of films or wireless-talks. His paintings begin to change tone and colour before they leave his studio. We can none of us see a Gainsborough or a Reynolds as its maker saw it. The novelist is the least of the artists, a newcomer, dependent on curious and unexpected facilities such as cheap paper and rate-supported public libraries. It is really very odd that anyone should make a living by telling lies on paper; though not more odd than that someone else should make a living by kicking a football.

So the views of an historical novelist on any subject are not desperately important. Except perhaps his views on history. For *history* is desperately important, the most important subject in the world after theology. The views of *anyone* on history are important enough to matter.

Again after theology, history tells us how to behave. Luckily the greater part of the human race does what is expected of it, what has been done in the historic past. I won't say that is the reason why most clergymen are virtuous, they have a more compelling sanction; but most soldiers are brave, most judges are upright, largely because history has shown that these virtues are expected in their calling.

We all have our share of Chinese ancestor-worship. Is there any man who has never said to himself: "It would be fun to do that, but the son of my father can't do it". For luckily we can all be proud of our ancestors, or of some of them, if we have long enough historical memories.

But it is not at all easy to look back on history, and see it as it really was at the time. The trouble about even the best history books is that they were written by men who knew how the problem had worked out. No-one sits down to write academic history until he knows the end of his subject. He will also have made up his mind about the rights and wrongs of his theme, and, however impartially he tries to set down what actually happened, his judgement will be plain to the careful reader.

In *The King's War*, Dr. C. V. Wedgwood relates what actually happened, and she relates it from the point of view of King Charles's

headquarters at Oxford. But though she says everything that can be said for King Charles it very soon becomes apparent that she thinks he was in the wrong. It is even more apparent that King Charles had no chance of winning the war, and ought to have accepted the first parliamentary approaches for peace.

In the same way Sir Steven Runciman's *History of the Crusades* is a miracle of cosmopolitan learning; everything is in it, including quotations from every contemporary document written in any language in Latin, Greek or Arabic characters. But Sir Steven lets it be seen that he has no sympathy with war for religious motives. He regards the Franks as tiresome intruders on the civilized empires of the Levant, who would have come to some sensible arrangement among themselves if they had not been interrupted by thick-headed chivalrous knights bashing about with great two-handed swords. What form of arrangement he leaves vague; I imagine he would have been satisfied with a compromise by which the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem and Sancta Sophia in Constantinople were used for Moslem worship on Fridays and for Christian worship on Sundays. I myself don't think that would have worked.

Hindsight can be a great hindrance to the conscientious scholar. Some struggles may last a very long time, so that contemporaries who saw the beginning will not live to see the end. But it is almost impossible to write about such a struggle without knowledge of the final outcome shining through the elegant prose of the introduction. Who has ever seen a history of the Hundred Years War with France which suggests that the English ever had a chance of complete victory? Of recent years some patriotic school-books have been published in Ireland which seem to suggest that from the time of King Henry II until the recent settlement in the reign of King George V, the native Irish were always just on the point of driving out the alien invader. As to histories of Scotland, of Germany or of Italy, they cannot be written except with contemporary problems in view. The first question you have to ask about the writer is, which side is he on?

That is where the historical novelist comes in. He can show men living with a still undecided conflict, ignorant whether they are on the winning or the losing side. He can show the Crusaders certain that they must be on the winning side, because it is God's side. He can show the Cavaliers sure of victory, with the backing of the church and the laws as well as the crown. He can show the Irish quite hopeless and resigned to defeat, as they were between the crushing of the Jacobites and the rise of the Jacobins. He can show the struggle, as well as the victory.

Another point about the academic historian is that he is inclined to think in periods. Do you remember the delightful explanation in

1066 *And All That*, that James I cut off Raleigh's head because he was left over from the last reign? If we are not careful we all begin to think and talk in that fashion, discussing Elizabethans and Jacobean and Georgians as though they had lived in different countries and spoken different languages. We are shocked when we find Wycliffe discussing Dominion Founded on Grace in purely feudal terms, since feudalism is supposed to have gone out in the reign of Edward I.

As a matter of fact, if we want to see these periods accurately, to cut up history in this way by talking about periods at all, we must remember that the mental climate of a period is fixed far more by the childhood memories of its leading men than by anything that happens to them after they have achieved eminence. The Elizabethan Settlement was made by men who hankered after the firm personal rule of Henry VIII, Oliver Cromwell is most easily understood as an Elizabethan born out of due time, and the one thing that Walpole really feared was a Stuart restoration; though we, looking back from a later time, see the Jacobites of the 18th century as pathetic survivors of the past.

Real people, people of flesh and blood, don't live in tidy periods. Babies are born every day, and every day men die. The span of an ordinary life is longer than many conventional historical periods, and a man born towards the end of some static period will see great changes. I can still walk without crutches, and ride a bicycle if I have to; but I can remember the *douceur de vivre* of the world before 1914, a way of life that had changed very little socially since 1832, though its economic affairs were differently arranged. I have lived through the tremendous optimism of the 1920s, when war had been abolished and Utopia seemed just around the corner; and come out into the bleak gloom of the present, when no one can plant trees for his grandchildren or indeed lead a life of freedom and independence.

Here is one way of expressing the tempo of change in the modern world, the change which has placed such a great gulf between us and the past. One of my grandfathers was an American, born less than 120 years ago. He fought through five bloody campaigns to free the slaves; but he answered Lincoln's first call for volunteers partly from a sense of adventure, partly from patriotism. It never occurred to him that he, a white American citizen, could be in any danger of enslavement. Yet one of the imperatives that I try to drive into the head of my young son is that a point can be reached when rebellion is a duty. I suppose other responsible parents are doing the same. For one of the great dangers that has reappeared after being forgotten for centuries is that governments everywhere, all over the world, are trying to enslave their citizens.

Sooner or later, I must begin to discuss my own books. I'm sorry, but there is no avoiding it. One of the things that set me to writing historical novels, rather late in life, for my first book was published in 1950, was the eclipse of European civilisation in Asia.

In 1938, there was a certain amount of unrest in India, but the British were still the ruling race. The Dutch in Indonesia and the French in Indo-China were even more secure, unvexed even by demagogic speechmakers. By 1948, British rule had vanished from India, Dutch rule from Java, and the French in Indo-China were fighting a losing and hopeless battle. I suppose the efficient cause, the event that made these things happen how they did and when they did, was the Japanese capture of Singapore; and that came about as a result of a remarkable and unforeseeable chain of contingencies.

Singapore was a great naval base, heavily fortified against seaborne attack. The enemy to be kept out was the Japanese navy. Singapore was not fortified on the landward side, against an invasion from the north by the Japanese army; because no one could imagine circumstances in which that could come about. Consider. Immediately across the frontier was the Kingdom of Siam, and I hope I shall not hurt the patriotic feelings of any Siamese present this afternoon if I say that the Imperial General Staff have never feared the armed forces of Siam. Not far away were the French possessions, with a considerable garrison. It was possible to imagine circumstances in which we should have to defend ourselves from French attack; but a war between England and France would not be decided by land-fighting in Malaya.

Yet, as we all know, the Japanese army was able to set out from secure bases north of Malaya, and capture Singapore by driving south overland. That was one of the decisive campaigns of history, which has brought about a permanent change in the condition of the world.

Now compare this with the condition of the Roman Empire about the year 400. The Roman Empire depended on the might of the Roman army, and for the last two hundred years there had been dangerous barbarian attacks. But things seemed to be fairly safe for the moment, at least in the west. The Balkans were exposed to barbarian attack southward across the Danube, and that was the chief peril which every competent ruler must guard against. Beyond the Euphrates was the civilized empire of Persia, with a trained standing army; that was the second most important menace, but just because Persia was a civilised realm there were ways of coping with it. Raids into Syria could be met by counter-raids into Mesopotamia, where there was plunder worth taking; whereas it was a waste of time to raid the flimsy poverty-stricken villages of Goths and Huns beyond the Danube.

Yes, any Roman would have said in the year 400, the Emperor in Constantinople has to pay attention to military affairs. His half of the civilized world is under constant pressure. But the other Emperor, who defends the west from his headquarters in Milan, can devote his mind to theology and the management of the nationalised industries. The only weak spot on his frontier is the Brenner Pass, by which savages from beyond the Danube can pour into Italy. But that entry is blocked. In northern Italy we have Stilicho, the greatest general in the world; and he commands the finest army in the world, an army that has beaten barbarians time and again. West of the Brenner lie the almost impassable Alps, and from the Alps to the North Sea we have the great military barrier of the Rhine. We in the west are lucky, as indeed we deserve to be.

The Roman who said that was being sensible. The Rhine frontier at that time was an almost impregnable barrier. Great fortresses disposed in depth on both sides of the river, outworks and palisades far to the east, a numerous garrison of good troops; most important of all, no important military power on the far side. The Germans were individually good fighting men, but they were cut up into many tribes, normally at war with one another; and the best warriors of Germany were glad to take well paid posts in the Roman army.

But the Rhine frontier was very long, too long to be held in force by the troops of the small, expensive, highly-trained Roman army. Every bridge was blocked by a strong fortress, and as far as I know there were no fords. But between the bridges the river itself was obstacle enough, reinforced by patrols of armed river-galleys. Small gangs of barbarians might slip across in rowing boats; but these were brigands rather than soldiers, and would be dealt with by the reserve garrisons in Gaul.

Then suddenly, about Christmas-time in the year 406, something happened that has never happened since, and probably had never happened before. The Rhine froze hard, from bank to bank; froze hard enough for an army to walk over it. There happened to be an army of sorts wandering about on the right bank, a mixed horde of unsuccessful bandits from many German tribes, without even a famous German king to lead them. These men got clean through the defences without being brought to action, and began to pillage in peaceful Gaul. Their descendants are in France to this day, for they were never expelled.

Gaul was lost to the Empire, and that meant that Britain was cut off from Rome. The British garrison did what every Roman army did when it felt itself neglected by imperial headquarters, it set up a rival Emperor. After one or two palace revolutions the third of these British Emperors, a man named Constantine, led the garrison

of Britain overseas to fight the legitimate Emperor who ruled in Italy; and undefended Britain lay open to the Saxon invaders.

I hope I haven't been telling you what you all know already. But popular story books will go on telling young children that the Roman garrison was withdrawn to defend Italy from invading Goths. Kipling lent his genius to this falsification of history, and nearly everyone has it lurking in the back of his mind. It was not so.

The great Professor Bury gave his deliberate opinion, more than fifty years ago, that the Roman Empire in the west was destroyed by a contingency, an accident that happened and might not have happened. It was not because the Romans had become Christian, or because they spent too much time in the bathroom; it was because the Rhine was frozen, in the first place; and in the second because the Emperor Honorius, a young man of some force of character and no judgement, thought he would be safer if he got rid of the great Stilicho. Things might have gone the other way, we might still be part of a great international Empire centred on the Mediterranean. Remember, the Chinese Empire, only about 200 years older than the Roman, survived into the 20th century.

You see what I am driving at. The province of the historical novelist is to investigate the might-have-beens, to show a past where the future is still in the balance.

To do that properly he must always remember the normal span of human life, the conditions in which his characters passed their childhood, the changes they saw before they reached old age. For example, the whole episode of the French Revolution, from 1789 to 1815, has a shape of its own, and heaven knows enough happened in those years to provide plots for Baroness Orczy and dozens of her followers. But we must never forget that Louis XVIII and his courtiers had been reared under the *ancien régime*, and that plenty of Jacobins of the genuine vintage were alive to guide the revolts of 1848.

It is easier for us to bear these things in mind than it was for our ancestors, for we have lived through changes equally great. A man of my generation has been exceptionally lucky. In my youth I had the leisure to travel, when frontiers were open and a British passport respected all over the world. I have crossed the Atlantic in a big sailing ship, in South America and in Greece I have journeyed by horse or mule, in the Galapagos Islands I have been stuck in a lava-field where a mile in four hours was good going, I have cut my way through scrub with a machete, I have had birds perch on my shoulder to share my lunch because they had never seen man before and did not fear him. None of this was difficult, or dangerous, or even very remarkable. But it did put me in touch with the ways of the ancestors. Nowadays there are plenty of intelligent young men

who have no idea of how far a horse should go in a day, and suppose that a sailing ship can travel equally easily in any direction.

The fall of the Roman Empire in the west is never very far from my mind. It was so sudden, so catastrophic, so unexpected. And something very like it could easily happen tomorrow. Imagine a man born in Britain about 380. For the first thirty years of his life he is a citizen in an ordered society. Taxation is very high, but he gets something for his taxes; good roads, an intelligent code of law accurately administered, education, and a sense of being part of the civilized world that stretches from Britain to the Caucasus. There are frequent changes of government, accompanied by the normal executions of unsuccessful rebels; but if he chooses to keep out of politics they will not concern him. Above all, he will not be called on to bear arms. That is done for him, by expensive trained professionals.

When he is about 30 all this suddenly vanishes. Britain is cut off from Rome by the barbarian invasion of Gaul. The British army crosses the Channel, never to return. The leading men of the towns form some sort of emergency administration, which soon runs into opposition from the hereditary chiefs of the hill tribes. They appeal to the Emperor, who tells them to carry on by themselves.

The roads fall into disrepair. There is no more wheeled traffic so that at Corinium they wall up the town gates, leaving only a narrow postern for packmules. If someone squats on your land it is very difficult to find a policeman who will turn him out. At last in despair the townsmen accept the protection of the savage hill-chieftains, whose followers do not even speak Latin; and Vortigern, by what seems a measure of mere commonsense, hires a band of wandering pirates to strengthen the military power of the emergency government. When our hero is in his 70s he suddenly has to hide in a ditch to watch his villa being burned by these mutinous pirates. When he was born the great Theodosius was slaying barbarians by the myriad; but Hengist cuts his throat before his 80th birthday.

I suppose the Roman west in the fifth century must have been very like Laos or the Congo at the present day. Everyone remembers how things used to be, and is confident that presently the good old days will return. But just for the present motor cars can't run because there is no petrol, and trains can't run because no one knows how to drive the engines. Soon the emergency government will get things into order. But if that state of affairs continues for a full generation the men who knew civilisation at first hand have died of old age, and you have to begin again from the beginning.

Times of catastrophe have a natural fascination for the novelist, because his characters still hope to weather the storm but the novelist and his readers know that they won't. And, of course,

there is the added attraction that tomorrow it might happen to us. In my opinion it is very likely to happen, that my son will die a savage if he doesn't die a slave. But don't let that depress you unduly. In the ordinary affairs of life I very seldom guess right.

The other period that I like to write about, the period in fact that I wish I could have lived in, is the earlier part of the Middle Ages, the whole long stretch of time from the revival of civilisation under Charlemagne to the catastrophe of the Black Death in the middle of the 14th century.

At school it is never properly brought home to us that the Middle Ages was a time of great material and spiritual progress, that western Europe was visibly getting better every year from the defeat of the Vikings until the Black Death brought progress to a halt. But in material things that is certainly so. The men of the Middle Ages invented the horse collar, and improved the ox-yoke so that they could move heavier weights than the ancients. During the Dark Ages the stirrup had appeared, so that for the first time riding was a comfortable means of getting about. The great Roman roads had fallen into decay, but King Henry II could travel more easily than could the Emperor Augustus. Ships could sail closer into the wind. Ploughshares were much more efficient, and agriculture in general far more productive. Windmills, unknown to the ancients, and watermills, which in antiquity had been rare curiosities, saved the endless labour at the quern which had been one of the chief reasons why numerous slaves were needed in the classical world. A Gothic cathedral may not be more beautiful than a Doric temple, but as an engineering project it is technically far more advanced. Materially, Europe in the 13th century was wealthier and more productive than it had ever been before.

In the sphere of the mind there was also continuous improvement. The ancients had Plato, of course, and if you possessed the toughness to be a good Stoic I suppose you could lead a full and satisfactory life. But Greek philosophy touched only a small class. The philosophers never did in fact become the kings.

During the Middle Ages society was agreed on what ought to be done. There might be sinners, of course, and sinners in high places; but they knew they were sinners, and could recognise the good when they saw it; as William Rufus, perhaps the most wicked man who has ever been king of England, though perhaps not the most wicked king, could recognise that St. Anselm was the best choice to be Archbishop of Canterbury. King Henry II muddled himself into a position where he was responsible for the murder of an Archbishop; but though the king and his archbishop disagreed on the question of criminal clerks there was a great degree of agreement between them on fundamentals.



Above all, the men of the Middle Ages had confidence in human intelligence, in the validity of the conclusions they could reach with their own brains. Just government, righteous laws, a fair division of wealth and property, might not yet prevail over the whole of Christendom. But that was only because there was more thinking to be done. Justice was *there*, somewhere in Heaven; when the scholars had brought it down to earth it would be so obviously right that all men would pursue it. Nobody whispered a suspicion that the truth, when it had been found, would be so complicated that only a minority could understand it.

Then came the terrible casualties of the Black Death. But life must go on. We must have a chancellor, and judges, and bishops, even though the candidates available are not of the intellectual and moral calibre of their predecessors. We must make do somehow, said the men of the 1350s. It seems to me, and I am speaking quite seriously, that we have been making do ever since; with none of that confidence in the eventual triumph of right that filled the minds of our ancestors, miserable sinners though they knew themselves to be.

What was done in the past is important to us now, for it shows us what we may do honourably and what we ought to be ashamed of. We cannot take the past as our guide unless we know it accurately, so we must study the records. But we must never forget that all the deeds recorded were done by men very like us, men who had a code which they knew they ought to keep, though they did not always keep it perfectly.

That is perhaps the most difficult part of understanding the past. The rules are there on record, and we can look them up in the text-books if we cannot find them in our own catechisms. But the weight of social censure you incurred by breaking one of these rules—there is the real problem. At the present day cheating at cards is regarded as a greater offence than cheating a foreign customs officer. Gambling debts must be settled before we pay the rent. If the government calls on us for personal military service we must obey with alacrity; if the government tells us, with the same weight of authority, to drive at not more than thirty miles an hour most of us use our own discretion. Could you explain, to a visitor from Mars, why some of these offences are disgraceful, and not others? In the same way, St. Thomas of Hereford forgave his enemies but he excommunicated certain poachers who took his rabbits. And he thought it advisable to retain five advocates to look after his interests in the Court of King's Bench, besides a professional champion for trials by battle.

Really to understand the past you must read yourself back into the past until you begin to think like an ancient Roman or a

mediaeval knight. For some periods, and especially for some social classes, this is impossible for sheer lack of material. I have sometimes wondered about the labour-service of 13th century villeins. Did they see it as a tiresome fatigue, as a modern soldier regards peeling potatoes? Or were they so anxious to produce more food for the village that they came out gladly and worked hard all day, even on the demesne of the lord? If one man was a cunning malingerer, who swung the lead and got out of doing his share, was he regarded with admiration as a wide boy, or did his neighbours grumble that they had to do his work for him? We don't know, and we shall never know. For mediaeval villeins have left no record of their feelings.

But even if there is no record we may be able to think ourselves back into the minds of our ancestors, by seeing them as men very like ourselves. In terms of human lives, the remote past is very near. Try to count your fathers and their fathers, in the direct male line. Unless you are the head of an ancient family, the eldest son of a long line of eldest sons, there are not very many of them. Three generations to a century is a fair allowance. But that is only 45 men since the coming of the Saxons, or, in my case, since St. Patrick converted the Irish. They could all stand in a line round the walls of this room. My grandfather I can remember, and I know something of my great grandfather; the others were very ordinary Irish peasants. Over there is the one who hid in a ditch when Cromwell rode by, in the corner is the one who climbed a tree to get away from Strongbow. By the door is the one who was baptized by St. Patrick. They were all men very like me, and I can think their thoughts. But out there in the corridor is the father of the first of my Christian ancestors. He was afraid of the dark, and of Druids, and of magic, and of the god-descended kings who ruled him. He cowered in a remote corner of a hostile world, where the only way to persuade the unseen powers to let him live in peace was to burn someone else in a wicker cage and so put heaven in a good temper. His was a clouded, sad, miserable mind; it is very hard to think the amorphous, disjointed thoughts that darkened it.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

By V. H. COLEMAN

THE KINGTON RAILWAY

In 1935 the then President of the Club, Capt. F. B. Ellison, who also lived in Eardisley, read a paper entitled "The Old Tramway from Brecon to Hay, Whitney, Eardisley and Kington".<sup>1</sup> Since that time additional material has come to hand relating to the Eardisley, Kington and Burlingjobb system known as "The Kington Railway", including the Minute Book of the Company,<sup>2</sup> covering almost the whole of the working life of the Tramway. It is just 100 years since it was sold and there has been renewed interest in it due to the finding of a tram body by Mr. C. W. Meredith at Dolyhir last year.

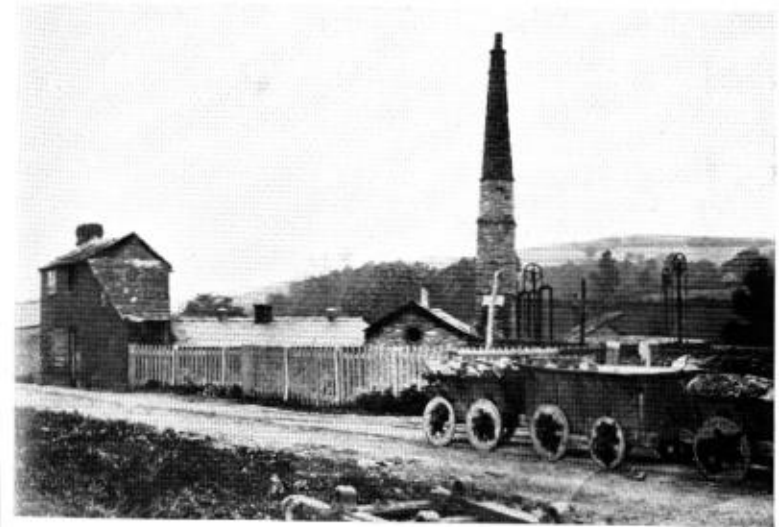
In 1800 the canal from Newport and Pontypool reached its terminus at Brecon. Connecting with it were various tramways from the mining districts of Monmouthshire and Breconshire and consequently coal was able to reach Brecon more easily and cheaply than previously. Before this, in 1793, there had been a proposal to construct a canal from Brecon to Hay. The route was surveyed, but it was not proceeded with. Then after several surveys for a tramway had been made, an Act was obtained in 1811 to construct a tramway from Brecon to Hay and on to Parton Cross, just south of Eardisley, perhaps with a view to its continuation towards Leominster. In 1818, in spite of various difficulties, including that of crossing the Wye at Whitney, the tramway was approaching Eardisley. By this time the terminus had been altered from Parton Cross to Eardisley.

Before the history of the railway is entered upon, the difference between plateways and edge rails should perhaps be explained, the Hay and Kington tramways being examples of the former.

Plateways were formed of cast-iron "plates", usually 3 ft. long and in section shaped like a letter L. They were fixed at their ends to large stone blocks. The horizontal flanges provided the track for the flangeless wheels. The wheels were guided by the vertical flanges, which also provided the requisite strength. The plates were fixed with their horizontal flanges outwards.

Edge railways, on the other hand, were designed to be used, with vehicles having flanged wheels. Rails of various sections have been tried, but all modern railways are examples of this type.

In order to continue the tramway to Kington and beyond, an Act<sup>3</sup> was promoted in the same year by a separate body of subscribers among whom was no less a person than James Watt,



KINGTON OLD GAS WORKS AND TRAMWAY.



Photographs by courtesy of Mr. C. W. Meredith

TRAM BODY FOUND AT DOLYHIR, 1963.

The preamble to the Act reads "Whereas the making and maintaining a railway or tramroad for the passage of waggons and other carriages from the Hay Railway at or near the Village of Eardisley, in the Parish of Eardisley, in the County of Hereford to or near the Town of Kington in the said County, and from thence to or near a certain Lime Works at or near the Village of Burlin job in the County of Radnor, will be of great public Utility by facilitating and cheapening the conveyance of Coal, Iron and other commodities from the County of Brecon to the said Town of Kington and the said Lime Works; and the conveyance of Lime, Corn and other Commodities from the said Town and Lime Works respectively towards and into the said County of Brecon; and by greatly relieving the Turnpike and other roads in the neighbourhood, which are at present in a very ruinous state and cannot be kept in Repair, by reason of the increased and increasing carriage of heavy Goods thereon; and will materially assist the Agricultural Interest, as well as the general Traffic of the Country, and lead to the Improvement of the Estates in the vicinity of the said Railway or Tramroad."

The Act received Royal Assent on 23rd May, 1818. It authorised powers of compulsory purchase except in the case of houses built prior to 1st January in that year, gardens, orchards, yards, paddocks, planted walks or avenues to a house, unless the owner agreed.

Nothing was to be constructed on the Hon. Andrew Foley's estate of Newport. Deviations from the line, as shown on the plans deposited with Clerks of the Peace, were not to be more than 100 yards, and the width of land for the track was not to be more than 15 yards except for passing places, cuttings, embankments, or wharves and, in any case, not more than 70 yards. The capital to be subscribed must not exceed £18,000 and to be in shares of £100 each.

Rates of toll (tonnage) per ton per mile were laid down as follows:

For road repairing and agricultural materials except lime, 3d.

For coal, coke, culm, stone, cinders, marl, sand, lime, clay, pier, ironstone and other minerals, building and paving stone, bricks, tiles slates, timber, lead, bar iron and raw materials, 5d.

Other goods and merchandise, 6d.

The circuitous route between Eardisley and Kington—through Almeley and Lyonshall (8 miles instead of  $5\frac{1}{2}$  direct)—was to avoid the Brilley ridge, which on the direct route is 811 feet above sea level, and would have meant an average gradient of 1 in 28. By the route chosen the highest point reached is 550 feet and the maximum gradient 1 in 59. A point of interest is that Offa's Dyke is crossed near Lyonshall.

The first meeting recorded in the minutes was held on 2nd June, 1818, at the Kings Head at Kington, where all the meetings took place. Profiting by the experience of the Hay Tramway, which had employed a number of contractors, some of whom had failed, the Kington Company advertised for one contractor to complete the whole length of the tramway—just over 12 miles—and to maintain it for 10 years after completion. A management committee was appointed, as also was a deputation to meet the Hay Company to discover if there was any doubt about Hay Tramways reaching Eardisley, whether the Wye crossing had been arranged, and what would be the date of completion.

Of the three tenders submitted that of Hazeldine & Sayce for £14,000 was accepted on 25th July. Hazeldine, one of Telford's associates, was from Shrewsbury, but Morris Sayce, who was the active partner, lived in Kington and was a shareholder. On 5th September the deputation to the Hay Company reported that all was satisfactory. A call of £10 per share was made.

By the 18th September the contractors required to know where the Hay Company's terminal was to be and its exact height. A deviation from the parliamentary line at Lyonshall was eventually agreed to.

At a meeting on 17th October, which James Watt attended, it was agreed at his suggestion that the "ledge" of the plates be altered. It was also agreed that there should be a projection on the shoe on one side 1 inch broad by  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch thick. This would increase the bearing area on the blockstone and make the shoe steadier.

The original stipulation that the gradient be uniform from Eardisley to Elsdon was found to be impracticable, so it was agreed that it be uniform from Eardisley to Upcott Pool, then to letter B on the section, and then to Elsdon Gate. There were to be cuttings 3 feet deep at Mr. Cheese's house at Lyonshall and 10 feet in Lyons-hall Park.

By 26th October, 1819, £1,000 was authorised to be paid to the contractors and in April bye-laws, regulations and orders (not recorded) were adopted. A common seal was to be obtained and a "screw engine", but if possible, the seal to be applied without this. The Eardisley weighing machine had arrived.

James Watt owned land near Burlingjobb, for £33 8s. was paid to him for that taken for the Tramway. In July, 1821, he asked for it to be fenced. At the same meeting it was claimed that parts of the Tramway were out of order and that permanent bridges over the Arrow and Back Brook had not been erected. It was resolved that the contractors should complete the Tramway in two months.

In October of the previous year, although calls on shareholders after the original one are not recorded, money was wanted to complete the undertaking and shareholders were invited to increase their holdings, but mortgages had to be arranged. The amount of these is not recorded, though there is mention of repayment of £2,650 and when interest came to be paid in 1834 a capital of £14,700 is stated.

According to Press reports the portion from Eardisley to Kington was opened on 1st May, 1820, with the celebrations usual at the time; in October the following year it would appear that the whole line was finished as a minute reads, "The committee be requested to perambulate the whole line of road particularly with a view to the subject of having the blocks covered with gravel."

It should be noted that the tramway was, in fact, a specialised highway in that the Company provided the track only, on which, by payment of tolls, local traders conveyed their merchandise in their own trams drawn by their own teams of horses.

The following extracts from the rules give some idea as to how the tramway was worked.

The weight of a tram complete with load was not to exceed 2 tons unless the load was in one piece (this compared with  $2\frac{1}{2}$  tons on the Hay Tramway and may have led to some exchange difficulties) and trains of trams were not to travel at more than walking pace. Passing regulations were that when loaded and empty trains met, the empty had to give way; when both were loaded the one first reaching the passing post between the passing loops had preference. There was no travelling at night. Opening hours were: from November to February, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.; March, April, September and October 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., and from May to August, 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. The Tramway was closed on Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday and other days of public feast or thanksgiving. No driver was to impede the passage of the tramway for more than 15 minutes; if he could not repair the defective tram in that time he was to remove it from the track, though he was not otherwise permitted to do this. No tram was to remain on the main track or passing loop except by permission of the Agent. It was an offence to have a tramway nail on any part of the tram (evidently drivers were not averse to removing nails from the track to replace missing linch pins in the tram axles). On curves of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet in a chain not more than three trams coupled together, or two horses linked together and to the trams, were allowed. This would appear to limit the number of trams in a train unless there was provision for dividing trains.

Apparently the construction of the tramway had affected the supply of water to the foundry at Kington owned by Mr. Thos.

Meredith for in October, 1822, he claimed for loss of it and for something else which I have been unable to decipher, but he refused the six sovereigns offered in compensation. At the same meeting the tonnage on flour and grain was reduced by  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. per ton mile.

A year later the bye-laws, orders and regulations were minuted. In general they are similar to those of the Hay Company with local modifications.

The salary of the clerk to the Company, Mr. John Cheese, was £50 per annum, and it remained at this figure both for him and his successor throughout the life of the tramway. In 1825 the Eardisley toll clerk was called upon to explain his times and manner of attending to his duties and recommended to make an improvement in his department. His wages were 2s. 6d. a week. This sum was later, for the clerkship at Kington, increased to 4s. In 1827 a person was to be appointed at Stanner at not more than £1 1s. a year, to check that trams do not avoid paying tonnage.

The tonnages were altered in June, 1829 to:

Lime 5d., Limestone 3d., Coal 5d., but drawbacks were to be allowed as follows: "provided that the said articles are not hauled on any part of the turnpike roads leading from Eardisley and from Lyonshall to Burlingjobb";

Lime  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d., Limestone 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., Coal for burning lime  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., all other coal 2d.

The minute of November of that year "That the tonnage on lime and limestone be reduced one farthing, i.e. to  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d., per ton mile" is difficult to reconcile with the general statement of June. That there was need for the matter to be cleared up is shown by a minute of November, 1831, which states that the  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. rate was to apply to limestone to be burnt. In this year, too, ten years after the tramway had been opened, some of the shares were still not fully paid up, and it was "ordered proper steps be immediately taken to cause the forfeiture of the part paid shares."

The ten year maintenance contract had now expired and a new one was arranged, but this time with Morris Sayce and his brother John; Rd. Banks, the solicitor, was paid £37 8s. 5d. for arranging this. The conditions of the contract are not stated, but from a later account the amount to be paid was £186 per annum, i.e. £15 per mile, and is the same as the original one. However, things did not go smoothly for in only two years time—in May, 1833—a special meeting was convened to consider "the finishing and completion of the railway . . . and works". At the meeting four committee members, John Mitchell and John Meredith for the company, and James Davies and E. W. Cheese for Morris Sayce, were

appointed to ascertain the condition of the tramway. They reported:

The width of Castle Hill and Waterloo bridges were less than contract but deemed sufficient, but that the floors and appurtenments should be of iron and be completed.

Considerable amount of backing of blocks is necessary to support road and make a reasonable pathway.

Many gates and parts wholly missing, some require repairing and others not made of proper materials.

Additional piling required at Waterloo bridge to preserve the weir.

Road is crooked or zig-zag opposite Mr. Haywood's premises at Floodgates and there are some "undulations" between the Weaver's Cottage and Stanner Turnpike, all of which should be corrected.

It is thought that there is a hollow between Point A on the section and the Newport and Almeley road. If it is so a general meeting should decide what should be done.

The "gage" of the road in many parts exceeds 3 ft.  $5\frac{1}{2}$  in. This should be corrected, but the parts less than this are deemed satisfactory.

There are claims against the Company for want of fences through the Moor grounds, Lyonshall Park, Piers Grove, Mill Meadow and the lands of Mr. Mynors, Mr. Sherbourne and Mr. Watt near Burlingjobb, also for quarries.

That Mr. Sayce should remain liable in his covenants applicable thereto so as to indemnify the Company in case of such claims being pressed against them.

The report was adopted and Mr. Sayce agreed to pay the sum of £110 for non-fulfilment of his covenants. There is no mention of termination of the contract, but it is clear that it was terminated as Daniel Daniel was appointed foreman, and the Company took over maintenance itself.

In the previous year, 1832, the Company offered to reduce tonnage rates on coal if the traders would sell it in Kington at 25s. per ton, but the offer was refused.

In 1837 the tramway at Upcott Pool was damaged by water. A dispute arose about this; presumably as to who was to pay for the repairs, as the Company obtained counsel's opinion at a cost of some £10 16s. 6d. Even so, in 1838 the Company paid out £10 as part of the cost of repairs to the culvert there. The case is of some interest as the dam which forms the pool carries over the small valley not only the tramway but the turnpike road, which

appears to have been constructed at the same time as the tramway.

In 1838, too, the Clerk, John C. Cheese, resigned for health reasons. Thomas Price of the Mill was appointed to succeed him, and he received the following directions:

To assist Mr. I. Cheese in making up the Annual Accounts—then making out Bills due from the Traders—sending them out with a printed form of letter requesting payment to the Treasurer's Account at the Bank.

To make out quarterly and deliver all Bills to Traders with a letter as above.

To make out a general Account half yearly to the first of April and first of October.

To inspect the Road weekly or oftener if necessary—see that the workmen do their duty; pay them once a fortnight by cheque on the Treasurer; take up and book Accounts of Tonnages; keep watch on machine clerks and generally take care the Company is not wronged. Carefully study the Act, to learn the several duties of Clerk, Committee, Proprietor, etc. and the Liability of Persons trespassing or defrauding or injuring the Road.

He is also to conform to such further directions as shall from time to time be given him by the Committee.

A busy man indeed !

In February, 1840, a dispute began with Charles Wm. Allen of "the Moor", Lyonshall, now known as Lynhales about fences along the tramway through his estate. The Company had made a cash settlement in lieu of fences with a previous owner. There were open letters to the press, and finally in 1844 an action against the Company was brought by Mr. Allen. The Company thought that it was on solid ground, but at the assizes Chief Justice Lindel awarded Mr. Allen the sum of £37 11s. 4d., the cost of fences made by him. The law bill presented by the Company's solicitor was £57 1s.

A feature of track maintenance in the forties, when the tramway was at its busiest, was the very heavy expenditure on tram plates. The cost was almost £350. Nearly all were cast at Merediths' foundry at Kington, though later on plates were obtained from Baileys of Nantyglo. During this period, too, large numbers of blockstones were used, which I find surprising as the original specification laid down that they were to be 18 in. by 12 in. by 6 in. thick, and weigh not less than 168 lbs.

On the general subject of the track, it should be noted that, unlike the Hay tramway on which the plates were spiked directly to the

stone blocks, on the Kington a shoe or bearing plate was spiked to the stone block and the ends of the plates were wedged into this. This system was patented by Stephenson and Losh in 1816. Of what material these wedges were made is not certain. Mr. C. W. Meredith considers that they were of hardwood and has reconstructed a joint in this manner. Also in the Company's accounts there is mention of the purchase of wedgewood on several occasions. On the other hand, Mr. C. R. Clinker states that there is no known example of this at this time. Iron wedges were used for similar track on the Forest of Dean tramway.

In 1844 Mr. Sayce was asked when next in Brecon to endeavour to get the price of coal reduced as new channels of supply were undercutting Brecon prices.

Ten years later an Act was promoted to build a railway from Leominster, on the Shrewsbury and Hereford line, to Kington and by 68 votes to 27 the Kington proprietors decided to oppose it. However, they would be prepared to receive proposals to purchase the tramway.

Some negotiations were held but proved abortive. Dividends on the tramway had been declining since 1846, so the proposed railway from Leominster can hardly have been a welcome competitor. The first interest paid—2 per cent—was in 1834. By 1841 it had risen to 3½ per cent and continued at this figure until 1846. After that it declined, and in the fifties averaged about 1 per cent, the last recorded being that figure in 1861. In an effort to attract more traffic to the tramway the Company made an offer to Mr. Bridgewater of Glasbury Wharf, one of the main traders on it, to reduce his tonnage cost by ½d./ton/mile if he would send all his coal by the tramway.

In spite of the opposition Leominster and Kington got its Act and the railway was opened in 1857. The tramway company allowed it to lay a water main from the foundry reservoir at Kington alongside its track to the L. & K. "works" on the opposite side of the turnpike road, and later in the same year agreed to a "junction" between the two systems. This could only have meant having adjacent tracks for transferring goods—a physical connection would not have been possible as the two gauges were different: 4 ft. 8½ in. for the railway and 3 ft. 6 in. for the tramway.

Although the coming of the railway adversely affected traffic from Kington to Eardisley, there are indications that beyond Kington it increased as a new "Hinds Patent Framed Weighing Machine" was ordered for Kington and in the following year 1858 a toll clerk's cottage was built, while in 1859 it was resolved to provide an additional passing place at Stanner.



In September, 1857 tonnage on all materials had been reduced to 1½d./ton/mile. Materials listed are:

Lime, limestone, guano and minerals.

All building stone and stone for the repair of roads or highways, marl, sand, clay, ironstone and other minerals, draining pipes, bricks, tiles and slates.

Malt, meal, flour and grain.

Coal, coke, culm, stone, coal and cinders.

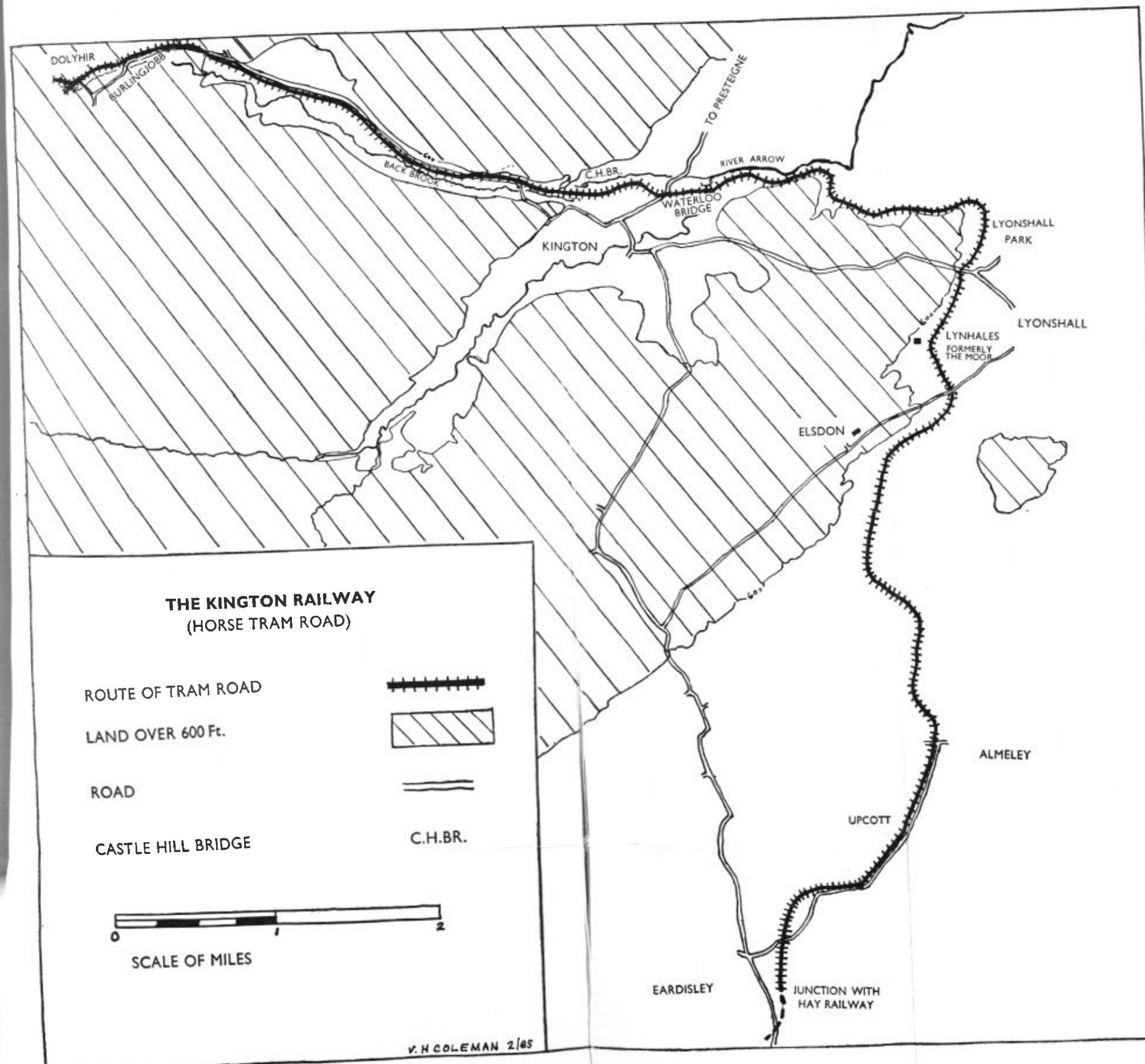
Lead in pigs and sheets, bar iron, waggon tire scantlings, railway sleepers not exceeding 9 ft. long and other building materials and all unmanufactured articles, goods, commodities, wares and merchandize.

The purchase of the Hay Tramway in 1859 by the newly formed Hereford, Hay and Brecon Railway Company must have been another blow to the Kington Company for as soon as the Hay Tramway was replaced by the railway, the Kington Tramway would be cut off from its main source of supply at Brecon, unless it was prepared to transport all materials by road from the new station at Eardisley to the wharf there. In 1860 a letter from the Kington Company was sent to Mr. David Thomas of the H. H. & B. Railway Company asking permission for trains of the Kington Tramroad to pass from their terminus at Eardisley to the Hay Company's wharf there—a distance of some 400 yards—as this portion of track belonged to the Hay Company. Presumably the handling facilities were better there.

In November, 1861, a Mr. W. L. Banks connected with the H. H. & B. offered to purchase the shares of the Company at £40 per £100 share, or £60 in shares of a new company, or £6,000 cash, or £9,000 worth shares in the new company. However, a better offer was received, as at the special general meeting in the following month it was resolved to accept the offer from Thomas Savin for £45 cash, or £60 in shares, in the new company to be promoted to build a railway between Kington and Eardisley. The purchase money was to be paid on 30th September in 1862 after the passing of an Act authorising this. Thomas Savin was a railway contractor who had built a number of railways in Central Wales. He went bankrupt in 1866 so one wonders if the Kington shareholders did in fact receive their money.

At a special meeting in March, 1862, it was resolved to petition Parliament in favour of the bill, and in the following month to petition the House of Lords also. In July the seal of the company was to be affixed to a list of shareholders to be forwarded to the new company.

The last meeting recorded in the minute book is that of 20th October, 1862, and authorised the payment of Messrs. I. C. Bailey's



bill of £33 16s. 8d. for tram plates. These were presumably for use on the Kington to Burlingjobb section which remained a tramway until replaced by a railway in 1875.

As with all minute books, there are some things that the Kington minute book does not tell us. It would have been very interesting to know the tonnages of the various commodities carried. At one meeting these were requested to be supplied at the next, but were not. There must have been a considerable amount of coal, as in addition to household use, there was Kington gasworks to be supplied and that required for lime burning. Limestone and lime would provide the next heaviest tonnage and a clue to the amount of this comes from the balance sheet of the Hay Railway for the half-year ending 29th September 1839, which shows that 1,124½ tons of lime and limestone were carried in that period.<sup>5</sup> If all this came from Burlingjobb it must also have passed over the Kington Tramway. Parry, in his *History of Kington*, written in 1845 states that there was a considerable trade in flour, ground in Kington and carried on the tramway to the mining districts of South Wales.

On the other hand one does get an insight into 19th century life.

Credit must have played a large part as it was not uncommon for the Clerk's salary to be approved at a meeting six months after the end of the year in which it had been earned. The Company had the greatest difficulty in getting the traders who owned the trams and horse teams to pay up. Its solicitor must have been kept very busy writing letters to them and threatening proceedings.

As mentioned previously, a tram body was found, almost entirely buried, last year at Dolyhir. It has been brought to Hereford and will be placed in the extension to the City Museum. Owing to the generosity of Mr. C. W. Meredith, who has donated £100 for this purpose, new wheels similar to that in the City Museum, a new timber frame, pedestals and axles have been provided. Mr. Meredith, one of our members, is a descendant of the Merediths who owned the foundry at Kington. I would like to thank him for his suggestion that I should write this paper and for the help he has given me. My thanks are also due to Mr. F. Noble who drew my attention to the Company's minute book.

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<sup>1</sup> *Woolhope N.F.C. Transactions*, 1933-35, pp. 127-31. See also 1936-38, pp. 76-87, Ellison, F. B., "The Hay Railway 1810-1864" and 1955-57, pp. 286-93, Clinker, C. R., "The Railways of West Herefordshire".

<sup>2</sup> Hereford County Record Office, deposited by the Manager of the Midland Bank, Kington.

<sup>3</sup> 58 Geo. III, cap. lxiii.

<sup>4</sup> 17 & 18 Vic., cap. cxliv.

<sup>5</sup> Phillips, T. R. (ed.), *The Breconshire Border* (1926), p. 96.

<sup>6</sup> Hatfield, C. A., *The Canals of South Wales and the Border* (1960).



## APPENDIX

LIST OF PROPRIETORS<sup>1</sup>

<i>Name and Address</i>	<i>Holding £</i>	<i>Name and Address</i>	<i>Holding £</i>
Banks, Rd., Kington ..	100	Mason, M. (none given) ..	100
Bebb, Joseph, Kington ..	100	Mitchell, John, Kington ..	300
Crummer, James, Kington ..	1000	Morgan, Sir Charles, Tredegar ..	200
Cheese, John, Lyonshall ..	500	Oxford, Earl of (none given) ..	100
Cheese, E. W., Ridgbourne ..	600	Price, Richd., Knighton ..	500
Clarke, J. A. G., Kinnersley ..	200	Perry, C. Eliz. (none given) ..	100
Coke, Rev. F., Low Moor ..	100	Perry, Thos., Wolverhampton ..	300
Davies, James, Kington ..	1000	Price, Robert, Foxley ..	300
Davies, H. P., Kington ..	100	Peel, Robert (none given) ..	200
Foley, Thomas, Newport ..	2000	Rogers, T. S., Kington ..	300
Foley, Grace Mary, Newport ..	200	Rogers, Henry, Kington ..	100
Fletcher, John, Stansbatch ..	100	Rogers, Rev. Jno Bedson (?) ..	200
Fencott, Eliz., Kington ..	300	Romily, Sir Saml., London ..	500
Greenly, Mrs., Tittley Court ..	100	Sayce, Morris, Kington ..	200
Hayward, Sarah, Kington ..	100	Symonds, W. (Jnr.), Hereford ..	200
Hutchinson, Thomas, Hindwell ..	100	Symonds, W. D., Hereford ..	200
Harris, John, Hereford ..	300	Sherburne, John, Hereford ..	100
Harley, Miss, Evanjobb ..	200	Stephens, Jas., Presteigne ..	200
Harley, Miss F., Evanjobb ..	200	Watt, James, Birmingham ..	500
Harris, Jas., Lloyd Moor ..	200	Watt, James (Jnr.), Birmingham ..	500
Jones, Rev. Thos., Stanton ..	100	Woolfe, Thos., Kington ..	100
Lloyd, Thos. Lewis, Kington ..	100	Whittaker, Mrs. Jno., Grove ..	100
Lewis, Percival, Downton ..	500	Wilkins, Walter, Maeslough (?) ..	300
Morris, John, Kington ..	1500		
Meredith, John, Kington ..	300		
Meredith, John (Jr.), Kington ..	100		
Meredith, Jas. W., Kington ..	100		
			1,700

<sup>1</sup> This is taken as it stands from the Minute Book of the Company.

## THE SOILS OF HEREFORDSHIRE

By C. P. BURNHAM

The County of Herefordshire has long been noted for the fertility of its soils, but modern descriptions have been few and limited. An account of the fruit growing soils on the Old Red Sandstone (Wallace, Spinks and Ball, 1931), describes the soils now known as Bromyard, Eardiston and Ross series and the performance of orchards planted on them, but includes no map. A study of land quality in Herefordshire, based on evaluation of soil and site, was made during the last war by a West Midland Group (1946); and another by Evans (1951) used oat yields as a starting point. The work of the Experimental Husbandry Farm at Rosemaund has yielded much information about crop yields on the Bromyard series, and responses to fertiliser and other treatments. Descriptions of the agriculture of the county have been given by Broughton (1941), and by Kinsey (1961).

Herefordshire falls within the scope of a recent bulletin on the soils of the West Midlands (Mackney and Burnham, 1964), which includes a map at the scale of ten miles to one inch, based on reconnaissance, from which the map annexed to this paper has been developed. The Soil Survey of England and Wales is at present making a detailed map of parts of North Herefordshire.

## FACTORS INFLUENCING SOIL FORMATION

## CLIMATE AND ELEVATION

Herefordshire is predominantly a lowland county, entirely below 800 ft. in elevation except for very small areas in the west, which are also the only part of the county where the rainfall exceeds 35 in. per annum. Only on the fringes of the Black Mountains does climate have an appreciable effect on soil development, and here peaty gley soils and peaty gley podzols testify to the effect of higher rainfall and lower temperatures in retarding the decomposition of organic matter. Above 400 ft. the growing season becomes significantly shorter, and it is seldom advisable to plant fruit or hops, or attempt horticultural production, above this altitude.

## GEOLOGY

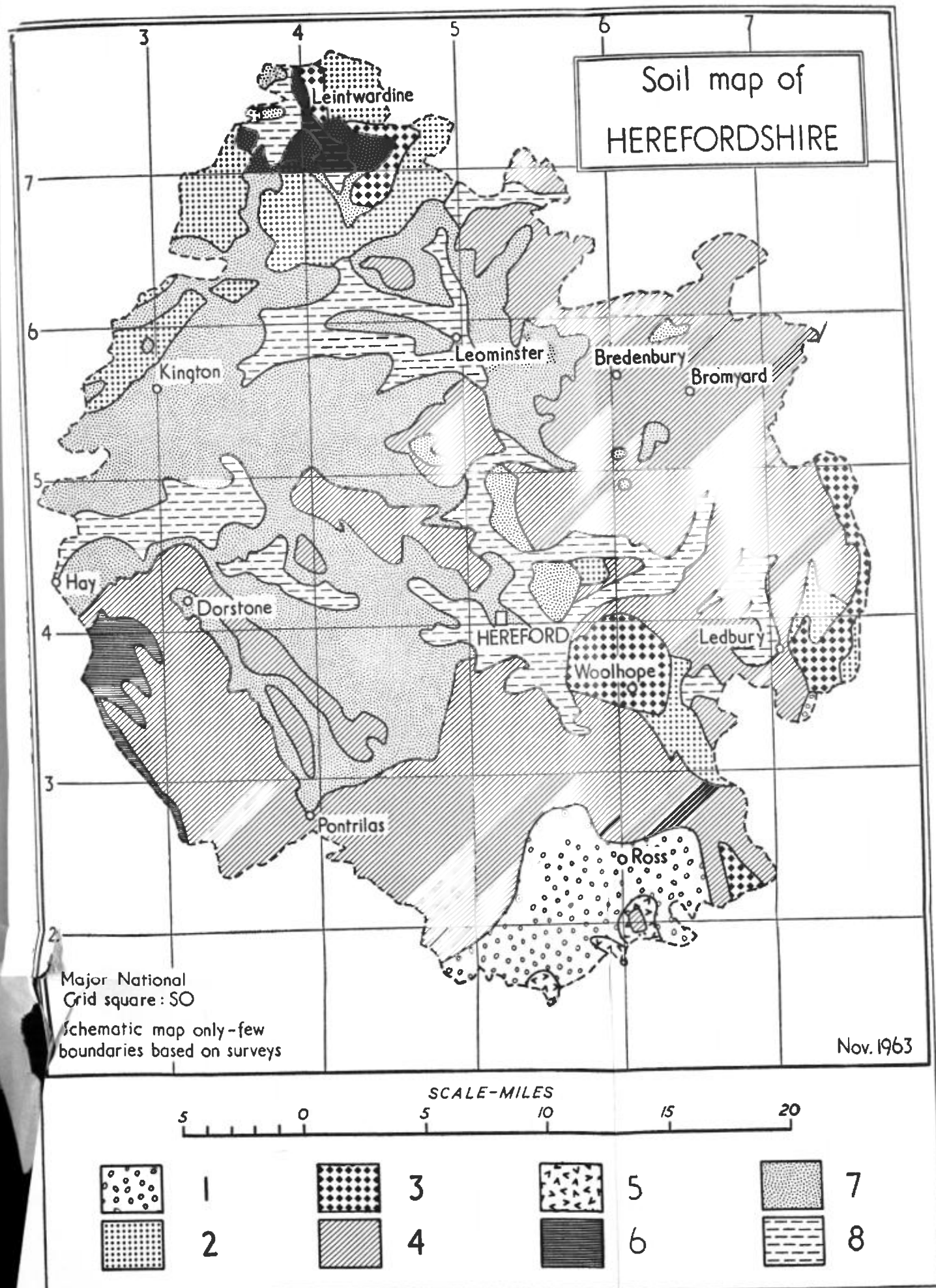
Geological variation has a very great influence on soil formation. With the exception of minor areas of Cambrian and Pre-Cambrian rocks in the Malverns and of Carboniferous beds on the fringes of the Forest of Dean, the formations outcropping in Herefordshire belong to the Silurian and Devonian systems. The Silurian rocks are of two types: impure limestones and shales occupy most of the

outcrops around Woolhope and Ledbury, and give rise to subsoils of clay loam texture which sometimes cause drainage impedence, but the greater part of north western Herefordshire is occupied by moderately hard siltstones, with freely drained soils uniformly high in the silt fraction.

Beds of Devonian age cover the greater part of the county, and are of the type known as Old Red Sandstone. The Upper Devonian very coarse sandstones and quartz conglomerates occur in a very small area south of Ross. Moderately coarse sandstones of the Brownstones or Breconian stage of the Lower Devonian occupy a much larger area around Ross. The lowermost, Downtonian and Dittonian, stages consists largely of 'marl', soft, slightly calcareous siltstones dominantly red or red-brown with characteristic patches and layers of greenish grey. The clay content is 25-30 per cent and coarse sand is absent, but although water penetration is rather slow marked impedence is rare.

Beds of fine grained sandstone occur sporadically almost everywhere, and in east Herefordshire around Bromyard make up about 20 per cent of the total outcrop; in south Herefordshire this proportion is probably greater. Rather less commonly beds of nodular limestone ("Cornstone") or hard strongly calcareous marl occur. These represent less than 5 per cent of the outcrop, except at the junction of the Downtonian and Dittonian where the so-called "Psammosteus Limestone" occurs, which often forms a marked escarpment. This can be appreciated by comparing the stage boundary shown on the 10 miles to 1 in. geological map with a topographical map on a larger scale. (Details—Pocock and Whitehead, 1948, p. 64).

Over a large part of western and central Herefordshire the solid formations are obscured by glacial drift which is often of considerable thickness. A sizeable glacier occupied the Wye Valley as far as Hereford while smaller ones followed the Dore, the Lugg and the upper course of the Teme (Dwerryhouse and Miller, 1930). During the retreat of the ice morainic ridges were formed across the Wye valley in three places, and temporary lakes were impounded in the Vale of Wigmore and north of Letton. The old courses of the Teme and Lugg were blocked by drift and were abandoned; the Teme was diverted to run eastwards to the Severn instead of southwards by Leominster and Wellington, and the Lugg runs by Leominster and Bodenham and not more directly to the Wye by way of Weobley. The natural drainage of these abandoned valleys and of the old lake sites is still poor. The rivers have since cut down by stages to their present level leaving widespread terraces, which usually have freely drained soils (Mackney and Burnham, 1954, pp. 55-6).



Apart from the alluvium and river terraces most of the drift was laid down directly by the ice as ground moraine or till. This is usually a reddish brown silt loam, loam or silty clay loam, and the fine material, though non-calcareous, is mainly derived from Old Red Sandstone rocks. The abundant pebbles are partly of Devonian sandstone and cornstone, but largely rounded-tabular siltstone and fine sandstone fragments from Central Wales. Near the margins of the drift-affected area, especially in the north solifluxion deposits of the glacial period (Head) are wide spread, and often contain a large proportion of soft fragments of yellowish brown or olive brown Silurian siltstone.

#### RELIEF

The principal effect of relief on soils is through natural soil drainage. The north-west and south-west of the county are scamed with steep-sided valleys, and here natural drainage is free; but in the flatter topography of central Herefordshire imperfectly drained soils are common, and poor drainage sometimes occurs. Soil drainage classes are defined in the Soil Survey Field Handbook (1960).

#### THE CLASSIFICATION OF HEREFORDSHIRE SOILS

Soils are classified into major groups by studying the layers (or horizons) revealed in a section (soil profile), which often give an understanding of the processes active in soil formation. Smaller units (soil series) are distinguished by differences in the parent material from which the soil has been formed, or by differences in the soil profile.

#### BROWN EARTHS

Most Herefordshire soils fall into the major group of brown earths, which comprise soils from which any calcium carbonate present and a proportion of the exchangeable bases have been removed by percolating water, and which either appear to be freely drained or have no more than slight signs of drainage impedence. Four subdivisions are of importance: *acid brown soils*, *leached brown soils*, *leached brown soils with gleying* and *brown warp soils*.

##### *Acid brown soils*

The name derives from the Belgian term "*sol brun acide*", and relates to a soil having no clearly defined layers other than an A horizon darkened by organic matter and the C horizon (of unchanged parent material). Such soils are acid when not limed, and have a moderate to low clay content. Varieties high in sand (e.g. Ross series) and high in silt (e.g. Munslow series) can be distinguished.

## KEY TO SOIL MAP OF HEREFORDSHIRE

	<i>Soil characters</i>	<i>Major Soil Group</i>	<i>Series</i>	<i>Natural Soil Drainage</i>	<i>Parent Material</i>	<i>Land Use</i>
1	Reddish brown friable sandy loam	Sandy Acid Brown Soil	Ross	Free	Soft coarse sandstone of Upper Dittonian, Breconian and Upper O.R.S.	Arable
2	Grey brown silt loam, friable but liable to 'cap' over pale yellow brown friable silt loam	Silty Acid Brown Soil	Munslow	Free	Soft siltstone—mostly Upper Ludlow	Mixed farming, rearing, much woodland
3	Grey brown moderately friable silt loam over yellow brown compact silty clay loam (mottled in Stanway series)	Leached Brown Soil	Wilderhope	Free to moderate	Silurian limestone	Mixed farming, rearing, much woodland
		Leached Brown Soil with gleying	Yeld	Imperfect	Silurian silty shales	
			Stanway			
4	Reddish brown moderately friable silt loam over compact silty clay loam	Leached Brown Soil	Bromyard	Moderate	Marls of the Downtonian and Dittonian stages of the O.R.S.	Mixed farming. Fruit and hops on deeper soils at lower elevations
		Leached Brown Soil with gleying	Middleton	Imperfect		
		Acid Brown Soil	Eardiston	Free	Fine sandstone	
5	Brown clay loam over clay, occasionally calcareous	Leached Brown Soil	Unnamed	Moderate	Carboniferous limestone and derived head	Mixed farming, much woodland
		Calcareous Soil	Unnamed	Free		

	<i>Podzolized Soil</i>	<i>Seathrog</i>	<i>Free or moderate</i>	<i>Sandstones and marls of the Breconian stage of O.R.S.</i>	<i>Rough grazing</i>
6	Mat or very thin peat over very pale reddish brown over brighter reddish brown friable silty or fine sandy loam				
	Thin peat over mottled grey over reddish brown compact silt loam or silty clay loam	Beacon	Very poor		
7	Reddish brown, varying stony, friable silt loam or fine sandy loam over moderately friable reddish brown silt loam or silty clay loam; greyer colours and mottling in imperfectly and poorly drained soils	Wootton	Free or moderate	Head (O.R.S. and Silurian material)	Arable, mixed farming, some fruit and hops on well drained soils
		Castleton	Imperfect or poor	Glacial Drift (mainly O.R.S. material)	
		Frog Moor			
8	Reddish brown silt loam or silty clay loam	Lugwardine	Moderate or Imperfect	Flood Plain Alluvium	Pasture
	Mottled silty clay loam	Unnamed	Poor		
	Reddish brown or brown, varying stony, fine sandy loam	Unnamed	Free	River terraces	Arable, mixed farming, some fruit and hops

Acid brown soils predominate in Groups 1 and 2 and occur also in 4 and 8.

The sandy acid brown soils of the Ross series are excellent arable soils, well adapted to root crops such as sugar beet and potatoes, for they are easily workable and usually of good depth. The Ross series is also suited to market gardening, and to certain types of fruit (dessert and cider apples, strawberries, raspberries). A high level of manuring, especially of potash, is required.

In the area of Group 4 between Peterchurch and Aconbury acid brown soils of the Eardiston (and sometimes also the Ross series) appear to be more extensive than elsewhere in the group, and these, and the acid brown soils on river terraces, are also regarded as good arable soils. The soils on river terraces may also be suitable for fruit and hops if free from subsoil waterlogging.

Silty acid brown soils of the Munslow series are typically only about 18 in. deep (range from 6—36 in.), and are therefore only locally suitable for fruit growing or for roots. Barley, oats and crops for sheep feed are widely grown, and are reasonably productive. Much of the area is in long leys, with woodland on steeper slopes. Owing to the silty texture, loss of structure near the surface with resulting "capping" frequently occurs.

#### *Leached brown soils*

The name is a translation of the French "*sol brun lessive*". "Eluviated brown soil" would be a better name because the distinctive process is eluviation, or downwashing, of clay. This leaves an upper layer relatively low in clay, usually a loam or silt loam in texture and about 12 in. in depth, followed by a clay loam or clay subsoil layer 12—24 in. in thickness, which may be well fissured with vertical cracks so that drainage is moderately good. The Bromyard series is a good example, and also included are the Wilderhope and Yeld (3), and the Wootton and Castleton (7) series.

These soils are of medium to fine texture, and while reasonably free draining are also retentive of moisture. They are excellent for the corn crops (especially winter wheat), for long leys and permanent pasture. Poaching can be a problem in wet seasons, especially on new leys and when kale is grazed. Owing mainly to harvesting difficulties roots are not extensively grown, although yields can be excellent. Suitability for fruit and hop growing depends on depth of soil (as well as altitude and liability to frost). The Wilderhope series on limestone is seldom deep enough, while the Yeld series often occurs on inconveniently steep slopes. The suitability of the Bromyard series depends on the depth to compact, little weathered marl. The shallow phase (less than 18 in.), which often occurs on the upper part of slopes, is not suitable for fruit growing, but moderately

deep (18—30 in.) and deep (30 in. or more) soils are well suited, especially for blackcurrants, plums and culinary or cider apples. The deep soils are best for hops, and generally occur at the foot of slopes where hillwash has added to the depth of soil. Such soils have no impedance of drainage or root penetration, yet do not dry out completely even in droughts. Many soils on drift (Wootton and Castleton series) are equally suitable, provided there is no impedance of drainage.

Soils of the Bromyard series are often low in available phosphate, and usually respond to additions; this probably arises in part from fixation. The weathering of fine particles of mica gives a moderately good natural supply of potassium. Responses to potash from non-exacting crops, such as cereals, are low, but can be substantial in other crops, such as potatoes. There have been isolated cases on the series of cobalt deficiency in sheep. (Osborne *et al.*, 1954).

Because the parent material is usually of high base content and the soil rather fine in texture, leaching of added lime from these soils is slow, and they need liming less often than the acid brown soils.

#### *Leached brown soils with gleying*

Where the clay-rich subsoil layer is unusually compact or where slopes are very gentle, seasonal waterlogging may occur in leached brown soils, giving rise to a paler horizon mottled with brown colours immediately beneath the ploughed layer. This results from changes in the form of iron oxides present: brown ferric oxide being reduced to grey ferrous oxide while waterlogging continues and locally reoxidised to ferric, e.g., along root channels, in the drier season. Such soils usually require artificial drainage. The Middleton (4), Stanway (3) and some Frog Moor (7) soils are examples.

Problems associated with surface waterlogging, such as poaching by stock and difficulty in performing early cultivations, are not always removed by under-drainage, as the water is held very near the surface, especially in soils of the Middleton series. It is believed however that the disadvantages of these imperfectly drained soils as compared with similar moderately well drained soils relate to loss in convenience of working rather than yield.

#### *Brown warp soils*

These are weakly developed soils on relatively recent alluvium. Some of them have slight mottling in the subsoil, as a result of winter waterlogging. Otherwise, apart from a darker surface layer, horizons are difficult to distinguish, or relate purely to variations in the nature of the deposited material. The Lugwardine series (Group 8) is an example.

Though otherwise of excellent quality these soils are often not in arable use owing to liability to flood. As drainage is free at other times, good fattening pastures are found and good hay crops obtained.

#### CALCAREOUS SOILS

Soils which contain free calcium carbonate when unlimed are uncommon in Herefordshire, but include occasional shallow variants of the Wilderhope series (Group 3), the Hayton series, which occurs as a minor constituent of Group 4 on cornstones, and on unnamed soil on carboniferous limestone (Group 8).

Because limestone occurs at shallow depth these soils are not suitable for roots, fruit or hops; though corn crops yield well, and liming is not required.

#### PODZOLIZED SOILS

Well developed podzols showing strong eluviation and redeposition of iron, aluminium and dispersed organic matter are rare in Herefordshire. Weakly podzolized soils, in which only part of the reddish iron oxide has been removed from the upper layer, are found on the slopes of the Black Mountains (Scethrog series) in Group 6.

Podzolized soils are always strongly acid in their natural state, and require adequate liming before they can be profitably used for agriculture. Podzols of sandy texture often show potash and trace element deficiencies.

#### GLEYSOILS

These soils, which show strongly developed features indicative of the reduction and selective reoxidation of iron due to waterlogging, are not common in Herefordshire. They have a layer quite near the surface which is dominantly grey in colour, usually with strong rusty brown mottlings. Three subdivisions can be recognised: *ground-water gley soils*, *surface-water gley soils* and *surface-water peaty gley soils*.

##### *Ground-water gley soils*

These soils occur frequently on flood plain alluvium where a water table rises close to the surface in winter, and here reduction becomes more intense with depth (Group 8). Normally pasture is the only use, unless regional drainage can be greatly improved, which is often impracticable.

##### *Surface-water gley soils*

In hollow or very flat sites in the drift covered areas, gley soils occur in which the reduction is strongest near the surface, due to

poor penetration of water through the soil and slow run-off. (Some Frog Moor soils—group 7.)

Some form of artificial drainage is essential. This is usually possible with surface-water gley soils, and thereafter normal farming is possible, although with notable disadvantages including a rather later start to growth in the spring. Even with artificial drainage such soils would not be chosen for fruit growing or hops.

##### *Surface-water peaty gley soils*

Under high rainfall conditions peat accumulates as a surface layer on poorly drained soils. The Beacon series (Group 6), which occurs on the summit platform of the Black Mountains is a good example.

The upland peaty gley soils are very difficult to reclaim, as drainage operations are unlikely to be economic. Something might be done with open furrows and ditches. As they are always very acid and nutrient deficient, lime and fertilizers would also be required. Deep ploughing is undertaken with success on similar soils for establishment of trees, but not for agriculture as burying the accumulated organic matter is of no avail unless drainage is improved and lime and fertiliser added so that biological activity is increased.

N.B.—Further particulars of the soils mentioned can be found in the key.

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## HEREFORD CATTLE AND RYELAND SHEEP: ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF BREED CHANGES, 1780-1870

By E. L. JONES

Herefordshire may justly claim pre-eminence for the establishment of county breeds of both sheep and cattle. The chief competitor would be Sussex, but whereas Sussex cattle, for all their qualities, have disappeared, the Hereford breed has never ceased to be of the first importance. And if Hereford's Ryeland sheep have never challenged the Southdown except as regards quality of fleece, they have at least survived as a local breed. A study of Herefordshire agriculture therefore provides an unparalleled opportunity to disentangle the evidence scattered through a highly technical (and highly partisan) literature as to the economic considerations which prompted sweeping and ineradicable changes in livestock types and distribution about 1800.

### I

In examining the place of cattle in the farming economy of Herefordshire it is not necessary to repeat the familiar and sometimes speculative accounts of breed history as such. The ancestry of individual cattle is of rather recondite interest. The work of the great breeders of the past, in fixing breed type and popularising the Hereford breed, has been dealt with at length by earlier writers, and indeed their extreme concern with the contribution of a few individuals (which had its merely fashionable side and concerned a relatively small part of commercial meat production) has tended to divert attention from the history of the breed and the cattle industry as a whole. Instead, the spread of the Hereford and the underlying causes of its competition with the Shorthorn will be considered here.

Herefordshire was for centuries a rearing county from which cattle were sent along the tracks followed by drovers of Welsh cattle en route to the fattening pastures of the Midlands and south-eastern England, which served the London market. In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries cattle of the Hereford breed from farms in Herefordshire and some adjoining counties were sold at various fairs—the biggest being Hereford October fair—to graziers from more easterly parts of England. The biggest stream of animals passed via Evesham and Stratford, some into the hands of Gloucestershire and Worcestershire graziers, but most moving on to Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire. A second stream crossed the Cotswolds farther south, following the Welsh Way. At Buscot, high up the Thames, some were met by London

dealers, although other Londoners were penetrating as far west as Kington to buy stock to fatten on the waste at the London distilleries. Most animals on this second route were fattened in north Wiltshire and the upper Thames valley. The Goddard family of Swindon, for example, bought oxen at Ross, Hereford and Ledbury during the 1780s and after fattening them, drove them on to London, while early in the nineteenth century the Turners of Kelmscot, Oxfordshire, a dozen miles from Swindon, fetched Herefords from Hereford fair to feed by the Thames, choosing them for their ability to travel.<sup>1</sup>

Within Herefordshire the traffic in stock was intricate. The county was not solely occupied by its nominal breed. Cattle were fetched from South Wales for feeding and resale. Occasionally one of the larger estates would feed bullocks of more distant origin, often from Scotland, while in 1813 the Hoptons of Canon Frome experimented by buying "2 small Irish cows to feed." At the end of the eighteenth century there were still long-horned cattle in the north-west of the county, although they were fast retreating before the Hereford.<sup>2</sup> A further complication arose because of the relatively poor milking propensities of most pure-bred Hereford cows, which meant that the larger estates preferred to stock their dairies with Alderneys (that is, Channel Islanders of some sort) and Yorkshire cows. The Hoptons even had "a little Scotch cow" in the dairy in 1787 and in 1815 bought an in-calf Alderney direct from Bridport, Dorset.<sup>3</sup>

Despite these interlopers the Hereford breed and within the breed the "Hereford type"—red and white—predominated, supposedly following the introduction of Dutch blood into the red strain of south-west Midland and Welsh border stock in the seventeenth century. Many colour combinations were to be found, but whereas in 1750 a bullock could be distinguished simply by its white face this was no longer a sufficient description by 1800, when red cattle with "bald" white faces had come to be the most usual type. The suggestion is that many breeders would select the white-faced animal if this and one of some other colour were approximately equal in other respects. Without concerted planning, at least at this early period, the white face gradually expanded within the breed at large.<sup>4</sup> Complete uniformity of colour was not achieved until well into the nineteenth century, for the earlier breeders had not been fastidious over colour if an animal were satisfactory on more important counts. During the first half of the nineteenth century colour and pattern came to be regarded more seriously and the first herd book, in 1845, portrayed four main types—white-faced, mottle-faced, light grey and dark grey. The contest between these types, although a fanciful affair, turned out for the best when (by the late 1850s)

it was resolved in favour of a red body colour and a white face, stamping the breed with an unmistakeable trade mark.<sup>5</sup>

The more immediately useful breed points—good beefing qualities, ability to thrive on poor pasture, and docility in the yoke—were fixed by the late eighteenth century. Published weights of the breed show little improvement between 1786 and 1815. The usual Hereford was large and heavy, worked at the plough until its fifth or sixth year when it was sold to the Midland graziers for fattening on grass. Early in the eighteenth century oxen had often not been fattened until about their tenth year. At the end of that century Hereford fatstock fetched very high prices at the London markets, since it formed an important part of the meat supply for the better paid urban workers. Much of the breed's popularity was due to John Westcar of Creslow, Buckinghamshire, who bought cattle at Hereford October fair every year from 1779 to 1810 and induced several influential, hobby-farming noblemen to buy there. Besides fetching top prices Westcar's fatstock consistently won prizes at the fashionable Smithfield Club.<sup>6</sup>

The first quarter of the nineteenth century was the heyday of the breed and of the great breeders, Benjamin Tomkins, John Price of Ryall, Smythies and Weyman. Although there was no single, nationally-famous improver, these men and others contrived a fervour about the breed, issuing challenges to show stock for high stakes against the cattle of all comers within or without the Hereford breed. Great attention began to be paid to pedigree and a fetish was quickly made of descent from Tomkins' stock. In consequence of this public relations work extravagant prices could be charged for the hire of a good stock bull. An eminent breeder like Price, who had cultivated customers among the nobility, could realise enormous prices at his sales.<sup>7</sup>

## II

The spread of the Hereford from the bounds of its native county which was taking place in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries continued without much change for a few decades.<sup>8</sup> By heavy crossing or actually by ousting local breeds the Hereford became more and more firmly entrenched in the adjacent Welsh counties and in Glamorganshire. Similarly, the Longhorn was being replaced in the west Midland counties. Hereford crosses had become important elements in the dairy stock of several south-western counties, for the heavier stocking per acre which could be reached with them compensated for their poorish milk yields. The rearing herds contained few good milkers, and a really excellent dual purpose herd could hardly have been found. Elsewhere in

England, although rarely north of Cheshire, an occasional gentleman farmer kept a Hereford herd.

The established pattern of the traffic in store cattle persisted with little alteration. Grass-fattened Herefords continued to form the bulk of the supply which the Midland graziers sent to the London markets. Leicestershire and some Bedfordshire graziers were fattening more Herefords, though they were never important east of the Welland. The main change in the trade was the decline of the great autumn fairs as a result of anticipatory, private buying by the graziers. Such buying was taking place in the 1820s and by the 1850s the sale at the October fair effectively began on the day of the Herefordshire Agricultural Society Show—the day before the fair—indeed, by then, the dealers had been travelling round the farms for some weeks, buying up the best beasts and despatching them to London by rail. In 1863 1,000 or 2,000 head fewer were offered at the fair than ten years previously, and the fair was a shadow of its former self as regards the quality of stock offered.<sup>9</sup>

In their home county Hereford oxen had ceased to be used for ploughing before sale for fattening, but Wiltshiremen bought them at the October fair, yoked them in plough teams for a year or two, and resold them to the Buckinghamshire graziers. From the 1820s farmers on the Cotswolds had begun to rear Herefords, working them in the yoke and subsequently selling them at Banbury market to the Buckinghamshire graziers. Herefords had continued their colonisation west into Wales. A sizeable export to Australia, Ireland (where there were old-established herds) and some other countries grew up from the 1850s, but although Herefords were first exported to the U.S.A. in 1817, it was not until the pedigree cattle boom of the 70s that they were sent in any numbers to the Middle West. In the 1860s they were the almost exclusive breed of Hereford, Shropshire, Monmouth, Brecon, Glamorgan and Radnor, and an important breed in the remainder of Wales, Worcester, Gloucester, Warwick and Wiltshire. Yet clearly in England (though not in Wales) this distribution was merely a consolidation of the territory held in the first decades of the century. The territorial expansion of the breed had at some point met with a check.

## III

The main force in arresting the expansion of the Hereford's province was collision with the dynamic southward spread of the Durham, or, as it came to be known, the Shorthorn. In the first decades of the nineteenth century prominent livestock breeders repeatedly made partisan assertions as to the relative merits of the Hereford and the Shorthorn in the national farming press and in



local newspapers, and issued challenges—seldom accepted—to show stock in competition.<sup>10</sup> Attempts were made to test the comparative performance of the two breeds but the conditions of the trials usually rendered the results inconclusive and in any case the decision had commonly been arrived at in advance.

The Hereford and the Shorthorn flourished under rather different management régimes. The Shorthorn thrived under the milder range of conditions, the Hereford under the harsher. "Shorthorn" could in fact mean very diverse types of animal kept for almost any purpose. In Midland and western England Shorthorns were dairy cows of a capacity never attained by pure Herefords; elsewhere they were "improved" beef animals reared by specialist breeders and fattened, more speedily and economically than Herefords would fatten, on green fodder in the stalls and yards of arable farms. The versatility of the Shorthorn enabled it to become in the nineteenth century more numerous and more widespread than any other breed in England before or since; in 1908 Shorthorns constituted two-thirds of all British cattle.<sup>11</sup> The only potential rival for versatility among English breeds, the smaller Devon, probably the better milker, occupied much the same niche among beef breeds as the Hereford and was unable to oust the Hereford from the Midland pastures. The Devon in practice hardly entered the lists against the Shorthorn. At the end of the 1830s it was observed, "there cannot be a question but that . . . the competition is between two breeds only—the Hereford and the Durham."<sup>12</sup> Crosses between these two breeds seemed an excellent idea, but although not unsuccessful for the dairy they were never wholly satisfactory as beef animals.

The real clash between the two breeds as commercial stock came only after the leading breeders on both sides had been wrangling *in vacuo* for some years. In the 1830s Shorthorn herds began to appear in Worcestershire, at that date Hereford country. By the middle years of the century it had become apparent that the position of the Hereford even in its traditional haunts would be endangered if colonisation by the Shorthorn continued. Shorthorns and Shorthorn crosses (especially with the smaller beef breeds of Scotland, now pouring south to the London markets) made up the largest component in the nation's meat supply. Over two-thirds of the beasts entering London in 1863-64 were Shorthorns or their crosses.<sup>13</sup> Were the Shorthorn to engross the market for store cattle any further the Hereford breeders might be forced to turn over to fattening their own stock. By the early 1850s Herefords were starting to go out of fashion as national prize stock.<sup>14</sup>

The popularity of the Shorthorn was undoubtedly linked to the prevailing enthusiasm and demand for stock to fatten in the stall on arable farms. For this purpose, feeding high on grain and oilcake

to produce both beef and manure for the wheat fields, the essentially pastoral Hereford could not compete. The Shorthorn put on fat more quickly. Nevertheless, over-feeding was threatening to damage the breeding and milking qualities of Shorthorn cows and heifers, and there were complaints that its meat was too fatty and ill-tasting from overmuch oilcake. The Hereford possessed countervailing advantages—the ability to thrive on poor keep and in exposed situations, and as the Midland graziers were well aware, to feed on grass (instead of costly oilcake) outdoors all winter. Under those rigours the highly-bred Shorthorn would "go back" in condition. These properties preserved the Hereford from eclipse. Its rearing and fattening territories remained more or less intact, although the breed was unable to extend its range. Within a very few years, by 1860, the Hereford had staged a come-back.

The new policy was to fatten Herefords at two- or two-and-a-half years instead of three years.<sup>15</sup> The Shorthorns were still ahead, being fattened at less than two years old in the early 1860s, but the reduction in the age of fattening Herefords gave producers of that breed a very necessary boost from the faster turnover of stock and hence of capital. The trend towards earlier maturity for all breeds was a long-term movement, brought about by rising consumer purchasing power and increasing preference for younger and leaner meat. However, the need for farmers to realise capital during the difficult years of the 1820s and 30s, and the need to compete with the earlier maturing Shorthorn in the 1850s, meant that these were two periods of sharp fall in the age of fattening Herefords. The second of these enabled the breed to hold its ground. As Herefords were summed up in 1868, "if their ramifications are not nearly so wide, and if they have not shown the same peculiar aptitude for crossing as the Shorthorn, it must also be remembered that, as a breed, they have been maintained principally by struggling tenant-farmers, and have not had one twentieth portion of the money expended on them."<sup>16</sup>

#### IV

The broad lines of the changes in the nature and distribution of sheep types at the end of the eighteenth century are well known. The events for thirty or so years after 1780, especially the conflict between the interests of mutton and wool production, are crucial to an understanding of subsequent nineteenth century developments. The price index for mutton was rising almost continuously, from 109·5 in 1780 to 121·6 in 1790 and 246·4 in 1800; by contrast wool prices remained nearly stationary, except when imported supplies of short-stapled clothing wools were endangered during the Napoleonic wars. There was a significant differential between the prices

of short-stapled, fine wools and long-stapled, coarse wools: "Of English breeds the wool of the Ryeland was highest in value at 30d. lb., followed by the related Morfe of Shropshire at 18d. In both these . . . the clip was a matter of 1 to 3d. lb. a head. The long wooled Romney and the Lincoln gave clips of 10 lb. or more of wool worth 6d. and 5d. lb. The profit from wool therefore probably lay in favour of the longwools; and the profit from the carcase certainly did."<sup>17</sup> These were the prices in 1779, but the differential increased and induced flock-masters to turn to larger, longwooled breeds, or at least to cross a ram of one of these—notably of Robert Bakewell's New or Dishley Leicester breed—on ewes of whatever their own local, small, fine wooled heath breed happened to be.

## V

The native Herefordshire breed was the Ryeland. In the eighteenth century this was a small, white-faced, hornless, heath sheep noted for the finest, short-stapled wool of any English breed and almost rivalling in quality imported Spanish Merino wool. Ryeland mutton was lean and "sweet" and the breed was further notable for its ability to thrive on scanty feed; according to Sir Joseph Bank's aphorism it deserved "a niche in the temple of famine."<sup>18</sup> The Ryeland occupied the lower, more cultivated parts of Monmouthshire, Herefordshire, western Worcestershire, the western uplands of Gloucestershire round Newent and the low-lying commons of the Vale of Severn above and below Gloucester. Locally, it was claimed that the Gloucestershire "Ryelanders" of the Newent district were the true breed, as they had escaped crosses from other breeds since the landowners of the district were absentees. But the true centre of the Ryeland country, where it gave the best-selling wool, was still the Ryelands proper about Ross, where the sheep were kept on the weeds of the fallows and the mown or already-grazed clover of the stubble fields. From here the breed took its name.

The Leominster district, probably the poorer sandstone upland north-east of the town, had traditionally been the source of England's finest clothing wool, "Lemster Ore," but by 1793 John Lodge considered that "the finest wool about Leominster is now much inferior to the Ryeland fleece."<sup>19</sup> Similarly, Leominster had conceded to Ross the first place among the county's wool marts. The deterioration in the quality of wool from round Leominster during the second half of the eighteenth century may have been one of the casualties of agricultural "improvements"—the extinction of some common arable fields where sheep had been depastured on fallows, the introduction of "brush" or catch crops on fallows and turnips for sheep in the hopyards, and perhaps also—under the stimulus of

rising mutton prices—an extension of the practice of feeding sheep in the rich meadows of the Lugg. The relationship between a richer diet for sheep and a lengthened and coarsened fleece was well-known to early writers.<sup>20</sup>

In the usual management of a Ryeland flock wool was the chief object, and usually the only sheep sold were ewes culled at four or five years. The flocks were not folded, "a striking peculiarity" of Herefordshire farming,<sup>21</sup> since it was thought that this would develop protective and hence coarse fleeces. Instead, by a practice unfamiliar elsewhere in England and just conceivably introduced from the Netherlands, the sheep were "cotted", that is confined at night in wooden shelters each holding up to 200 head. In the cot they were fed only pea haulm and a little barley straw. This dry foddering was supposed to reduce the risk of rot, while in the absence of folding coting was "the only means of collecting their dung; and rendering them most useful in an arable country."<sup>22</sup> The Ryeland in its type habitat was therefore cheap to feed, but by comparison with long-wooled sheep fattened on turnips it was light both in fleece and carcase. If the breed were not to be replaced by heavier and potentially more profitable sheep these deficiencies had to be remedied. As John Clark observed in 1794, "the superior quality of the wool, not making a full recompense for the inferiority of the quantity, and the smallness of the carcass, the time seems fast approaching when this breed will be wholly extinct, in order to make way for a more profitable one."<sup>23</sup>

During the French wars the Ryeland was consequently being transformed, rather than extinguished, by crossing with rams of other breeds. Returns favoured the mutton producer, for example the Hoptons of Canon Frome switched markedly over the winter of 1804-05 from consuming sheep in the house and selling mainly the wool to buying in ewes and selling off the lambs these reared. Gross receipts from the sheep enterprise rose noticeably both on the Hoptons' farm and on Sir George Cornwall's farm at Moccas Court between 1800-1815.<sup>24</sup> Successful infusions into the Ryeland of Dorset, Southdown and above all New Leicester blood came to be made widely and all raised the Ryeland's carcase weight. Crosses with Shropshires, Radnors, Cotswolds, Lincolns, were all tried for various purposes. A writer had in 1791 "found that Herefordshire sheep in general were denominated Ryeland, but the only traces of the original sort were to be found upon small obscure farms, in the neighbourhood of Ross", and of one hundred ewes bought from over twenty farms during the following ten years he obtained no more than a score which agreed in form and wool.<sup>25</sup>

The deterioration of Ryeland wool which resulted from crossing with long-wools and from the growing practice of feeding on turnips

was lamented because it harmed the only likely English alternative to the Spanish Merino as a source of short-stapled wool sufficiently fine for the clothing industry. The extent of the damage may be gauged from the experience of a Gloucestershire clothier who in 1801 sought the finest-wooled sheep from the best flocks in Herefordshire and found only "an assemblage of all sorts under the name of Ryelands, and not above one in twenty that I could choose for my use."<sup>26</sup> Crosses with Leicesters were mainly to blame. Although the Leicester  $\times$  Ryeland was expected to suit the mutton market, for which many butchers found pure Leicester meat too fat, the cross also spoilt the flavour of Ryeland mutton, the fineness of its fleece, the quickness of the breed in foraging, and its celebrated freedom from abortion and disease. This became apparent only gradually, but by 1801 "farmers . . . who six years ago were always boasting how few sheep or lambs they lost, are now . . . wondering they lose so many of both."<sup>27</sup>

Another heath breed, the Morfe, extended from Morfe Common in Staffordshire through Shropshire and Worcestershire into the northern and eastern hills of Herefordshire. The Morfe was horned, black or speckle-faced, sweet-fleshed and fine-wooled (although on none of these counts was it up to the original Ryeland standards) and it was hardly enough to be run on high ground. Morfe ewes were put to fatten only when aged, for the breed was kept for its wool which was second in value only to that of the Ryeland and about 1800 advancing relatively. The Morfe fleece was, however, even lighter and its quality succeeded correspondingly less in balancing the small quantity and the inferior weight of the carcase. The small Herefordshire hill farmers who kept Morfes lacked fodder crops and the breed escaped the attention of "improvers", so that it retained the characteristics of heath sheep more than did the Ryeland.

The course of alterations in sheep type in Herefordshire is reasonably clear. First landowners, next their more alert tenants and lastly the ordinary run of farmers brought in heavier rams to cross with the Ryeland. There was a great and unprecedentedly swift mingling of breeds "as the rams have been forwarded and recommended from one neighbour to another, from their respective districts, to every part of the kingdom."<sup>28</sup> Fine-wooled, small sheep were "driven, by the introduction of heavier [breeds], into the hands of small farmers," and because these men had few resources and only small lots of wool to sell the dealers were able to offer them very little above the price of coarse wool.<sup>29</sup> Thus the Plain of Hereford was given over to an assortment of cross-breds, Leicester  $\times$  Ryeland or so-called Ryelands with some long-wool blood. "There is," it was asserted, "a fashionable rage in farming as in most other things"<sup>30</sup> but fashion was less easily reversed than

started on its course. The constitutions of the Leicester crosses were not strong and sheep mortality rose, while stocking rates and possibly even the total sheep population of Herefordshire fell.<sup>31</sup>

The damage done to the fineness of Ryeland wool became a matter for alarm when imports of short-stapled Merino wool from Spain were threatened by the Napoleonic blockade. Interest in English wools for a time revived, especially among the West of England clothiers. The solution seemed to be to produce Merino wool in this country. A Merino flock had been procured for George III in 1787 and rams from this and other importations (the Hoptons of Canon Frome bought ten Merinos including a ram from Bromsberrow, Gloucestershire, as early as 1785) were distributed among would-be experimenters by the king's circle of aristocratic hobby farmers. The Merino experiment was not a success, for pure Merinos neither thrived nor retained their fine wool in English conditions. The Ryeland, despite its adulteration and the loss of hope that it could by itself meet English fine wool requirements, was still the natural choice among possible crosses with the Merino. Several flocks of Ryelands were taken from Herefordshire with this end in view. Within Herefordshire T. A. Knight, who had been given a Merino ram by George III in 1799, Col. Scudamore of Kentchurch, two tenant farmers (Mr. Ridgway, who was supplied with Merinos by his landlord, and Mr. Weyman), Sir George Cornwall and the Hoptons all crossed Merinos and Ryelands. But English keep and weather led to poor results: the wool relentlessly coarsened while the carcase improved little.<sup>32</sup>

## VI

When the military threat to fine wool imports subsided the breeders of Merino  $\times$  Ryeland sheep found that what they had gained so briefly and so dearly in the fleece they had more than lost in the flesh. In addition, long combing wools (rather than short-stapled carding wools) became most profitable in the years after the Napoleonic wars. Mutton continued to be more profitable than wool. Consequently those farmers who had introduced the thin-carcased, short-wooled Merino, faced a slump in fine wool prices and were obliged to make a painful readjustment. By 1817 in Herefordshire "many farmers have therefore been under the necessity of changing (at a considerable loss) their whole flock of sheep."<sup>33</sup> Merinos lingered on a few farms, but by 1835 only one sample of their wool from a Herefordshire flock was shown at Hereford July fair and that did not sell.<sup>34</sup>

Three main, though overlapping, phases of change in Herefordshire sheep husbandry are therefore distinguishable. The first,

in the last two decades of the eighteenth century and to some extent thereafter, was the introduction of long-wools, notably the infusion of so much new Leicester blood. Second, over the turn of the century, was the Merino experiment. Third, from the late 1790s, there was an important introduction of the Southdown. This was a heavier short-wool than the Ryeland, and was an excellent folding sheep while producing a fleece which of all the "improved" breeds most closely approached the Ryeland in quality while surpassing it in quantity. The Southdown was considered to be in competition with the Leicester, but direct competition was minimised because their habitats were different, the Leicester being best suited to rich pasture and the Southdown to the fold on the ploughland. Ultimately the Southdown, and other down breeds derived from it, greatly influenced the form of the Ryeland.

When the advertisement columns of the *Hereford Journal* specify a breed of sheep which was offered for sale it can be seen that Southdown flocks, although widespread in Herefordshire by 1815, were often kept pure, whereas there were many flocks of Leicester  $\times$  Ryelands, some pure Leicester flocks, but only a small and decreasing number of allegedly pure Ryeland flocks. As long combing wools continued to hold the best price, crossing Ryelands with more and more long-wools proceeded, and "Ryeland" wool was thereby increasingly lengthened and coarsened. By 1831 it was Southdown wool, from a Dinedor flock, and not Ryeland wool, which realised the best price at the July fair, the Hereford wool fair.<sup>35</sup> Cotting was discontinued, perhaps because "Ryelands" now did wear a long, protective, coarse fleece; it was usual round Ross to fold sheep and to fatten sheep on turnips wherever possible. The triumph of the long-wools in the first quarter of the nineteenth century is evident from the figures of wool production in Herefordshire:<sup>36</sup>

		1800	1828
Short wool	.. ..	4,200 packs	2,800 packs
Long wool	.. ..	nil	5,550 packs

## VII

The clash of interest between breeders principally concerned with mutton production and those who wished to revive English fine wools gave rise to a considerable literature on the properties and distribution of sheep breeds during the Napoleonic wars. Thereafter information on these matters becomes much scarcer. In addition the distinctions between breeds became increasingly blurred. By the middle of the century it became "extremely difficult to distinguish the various improved breeds, and far more than even

the breeders themselves can do, to determine where one tribe ends and another begins."<sup>37</sup> The predominant type remained the mongrel Leicester  $\times$  Ryeland. This type was often called Ryeland, although sale advertisements for important flocks, like specialist writers on sheep, distinguished it from the purer Ryeland flocks (really pure Ryelands survived only in a couple of flocks near Ross) of the Ross district and the poorer hill pastures. There, high-price mutton was produced for the epicures at Malvern. Separate Southdown flocks and some pure Leicester flocks were still kept, but more and more Leicester blood (and in the 1850s and 1860s that of other long-wools, Lincolns and Cotswolds) was introduced into the mongrel Ryelands because prices continued to favour the production of the longer combing wools. Nevertheless, in the middle of the century, Shropshire Downs invaded much of the northern side of Herefordshire; these produced moderately heavy fleeces of a close texture and a fine quality of mutton. They were well suited to the third quarter of the nineteenth century when both wool and mutton prices were good. By way of contrast the so-called Ryeland was undistinguished, and Herefordshire was no longer of special note as a sheep-breeding county, for "nearly every farmstead shows a different variety of sheep, and size is aimed at instead of quality."<sup>38</sup> It was only the attention some breeders began to pay to the purer strains of Ryeland at this period which saved the breed's individuality.<sup>39</sup>

There was a good deal which was merely fashionable in livestock breeding. But attempts (such as the Merino experiment) to run counter to what proved to be the long term demands—for more meat and long-stapled wools—turned out to be short-lived. The cases of both Hereford cattle and Ryeland sheep show convincingly that farmers were predominantly in business for business reasons. They were willing and able to refashion their breeds of livestock to suit the marketplace with impressive speed.

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<sup>4</sup> See e.g. *Hereford Journal*, 18/11/1847.

<sup>5</sup> See e.g. *Journ. Roy. Agric. Soc. Eng.*, 2 ser. IV, 1868, p. 279.

<sup>6</sup> See e.g. *J.R.A.S.E.* 14, 1853, p. 450.

<sup>7</sup> See e.g. *Farmer's Magazine*, XXIII, 1845, pp. 287-9.

<sup>8</sup> The following section on the nineteenth-century distribution of the Hereford is based on various sources, notably the prize essays on the agriculture of the English counties appearing in the *J.R.A.S.E.*

<sup>9</sup> Based on the annual fair reports in the *Hereford Journal*.

<sup>10</sup> See e.g. *Farmer's Magazine*, 3rd ser. 21, 1862, p. 38.

<sup>11</sup> E. S. Simpson, *Geog. Studies*, V, 1958, pp. 45, 58.

<sup>12</sup> C. Hillyard, *Practical Farming and Grazing*, 1840, p. 94.

<sup>13</sup> "The Market Demand and Supply of the different kinds of beasts . . .", *Farmer's Magazine*, 3rd series 19, 1861, p. 312.

<sup>14</sup> *Farmer's Magazine*, 3rd series 14, 1858, p. 372.

<sup>15</sup> Besides many statements in the literature, figures of the ages of stock are given in the Herefordshire Tithe Files, Tithe Redemption Commission, 1838-42, and in the agricultural statistics collected nationally from 1866.

<sup>16</sup> *J.R.A.S.E.*, 2nd series IV, 1868, p. 290.

<sup>17</sup> R. Trow-Smith, *A History of British Livestock Husbandry 1700-1900*, 1959, p. 209; R. M. Hartwell, *The Yorkshire Woollen and Worsted Industries, 1800-1850*, unpublished D. Phil. thesis, University of Oxford, n.d. p. 21.

<sup>18</sup> Quoted by William Youatt, *Sheep*, n.d., p. 258.

<sup>19</sup> John Lodge, *Introductory Sketches . . . Hereford*, 1793, p. 14.

<sup>20</sup> See e.g., Isaak Walton, *The Compleat Angler*, n.d. (first edition 1653), p. 119.

<sup>21</sup> William, Marshall, *The Rural Economy of Gloucestershire*, II, 1789, p. 234.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 236.

<sup>23</sup> John Clark, *General View . . . Hereford*, 1794, p. 79.

<sup>24</sup> Hereford City L.C. Deeds 8547 and 5871.

<sup>25</sup> J. Powell, "Ryeland Sheep", *Annals of Agriculture*, XLV, 1808, p. 9.

<sup>26</sup> Edward Sheppard of Uley in *Communications to the Board of Agriculture*, VI, pt. 1, 1808, p. 66.

<sup>27</sup> Powell, *loc. cit.*, p. 7. This was written in 1801.

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 7-8.

<sup>29</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 8.

<sup>30</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 8.

<sup>31</sup> Knight, *loc. cit.*, p. 175.

<sup>32</sup> For a comparable account of the experience of another short-wooled breed at this period see E. L. Jones, "The Entry of Southdown Sheep into the Wessex Chalklands", *The Laden Wain* (University of Reading Agricultural Club), 1961, pp. 38-40.

<sup>33</sup> T. G. Price, *A Treatise on the Difficulties and Distresses of Agriculture . . . dedicated to the Gentlemen and Farmers of the County of Hereford*, 1817, p. 30.

<sup>34</sup> *Hereford Journal*, 8/7/1835.

<sup>35</sup> *Hereford Journal*, 3/7/1833.

<sup>36</sup> Youatt, *op. cit. passim*.

<sup>37</sup> *J.R.A.S.E.*, 2nd series, 2, 1866, p. 549.

<sup>38</sup> H. G. Bull, "The Ryeland Sheep", *Trans. Woolhope N.F.C.*, 1867, p. 127.

<sup>39</sup> *Journal of the Bath and West Society*, XIII, 1865, p. 6.

## NO. 3, HIGH STREET, HEREFORD

By J. W. TONKIN

Most people who know Hereford at all well had some regard for the half-timbered shop front usually known as Marchant's, but few knew what lay behind it. To-day the greater part of the building of which this façade formed part has been destroyed to make way for a modern store, but part of it is being saved and will be restored to its former position when the present work is completed. Before demolition began a complete record of this old city house and shop was made in an attempt to unravel its history and to preserve some account of it for posterity. Acknowledgment is gratefully made to Littlewoods Mail Order Stores Ltd., for the courtesy with which access was allowed for a full examination of the premises.

Little is known of its past except that it was a grocer's shop for at least the last hundred and twenty years or so of its existence. As far as can be traced no documents exist telling us about its early history. There may be inventories listing its rooms, but these cannot be traced without knowing who lived in the house in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. If this evidence ever comes to light I shall follow it up, but so far there is no clue as to who lived at Number 3, High Street before the early part of the nineteenth century.

The site has quite a wide street frontage for a seventeenth century town building, e.g., No. 4 is much narrower, as are also the houses along the north side of High Town, and from this evidence alone the site would seem to be an early one and no doubt the house and shop destroyed in 1965 replaced an important medieval building.

### THE CELLARS

The common practice of a shop in front with house behind and above seems to have been followed here and the cellars do not appear to have been part of a semi-basement shop such as occurs in some towns, e.g., Fowey in Cornwall.

The south-eastern part of the cellars was about a foot lower than the remainder and had a four-centred barrel vaulted ceiling of well cut sandstone blocks. In the northern wall of this part a wide opening had been blocked, presumably when the chimney foundation behind it was built. In the east wall was a small cupboard about two feet square. This part of the cellar was entered through a four-centred stone doorway with a sunk hollow chamfer on the arch and jambs. The stone floor was constructed from similar blocks to those in the vaulting.

The remaining part of the cellars was of a rougher construction and instead of vaulting the ground floor was carried on heavy beams with a plain chamfer.

The cellars were entered by a sloping passage from the courtyard behind the house, but this appeared to be of recent construction, though probably marking the site of earlier steps, and also by stairs from the south-west corner of the ground floor. The windows away from the street still existed sloping up steeply from about 2 feet 6 inches below ground level. Those on the street side had been blocked in brick presumably as the pavement outside had risen.

Both the existing chimneys had foundations of early brick construction to support the hearths above, though the central ground floor fireplace had disappeared. The southern foundation was an insertion in the vaulted part of the cellar. In the western portion was a more recent brick foundation on an older stone base.

#### GROUND FLOOR

At this level the building had been very much altered, presumably for use as a shop with offices behind and easy access to stores in the cellars. Nevertheless the ceiling beams remained untouched in the front part. Those in the western room were only seven inches thick while those in the eastern were 11 inches, the former having a simple run-off stop, the latter none at all. In the south-western part was a reused, well-moulded, medieval beam while the north-eastern room had been divided and the ceiling raised.

Almost all the timber framing had been removed, only the main posts remaining except in part of the eastern wall, and the whole of the three floors above was propped up on metal posts. Even the stairs and the central fireplace were gone, the modern approach to the upper floors being from a stairway in the eighteenth century wing at the back. The panelling of the screen between the back and front parts and the offices to the south of it seemed to be mid-nineteenth century and this was presumably the time at which the ceiling of the south-eastern rooms was raised. As the panelling was stripped evidence was found of an earlier doorway in the western end of this screen.

If the newel stairs from the floors above came down to the ground, and this seems the logical thing to assume, this doorway would have been the only access to this room. It should be added that no direct evidence was found of the newel stairway ever having come below the first floor, but it seems certain that there were no other stairs up to it, so it must be assumed that the stairway was cut off during one of the periods of alteration, probably in the nineteenth century. In the south-west corner of the offices was a fireplace of brick with panelled overmantel which seemed to be early eighteenth

century. This is probably the date of the insertion of this chimney and its foundation in the older cellar below, for the panelling round it on higher floors seems to be of this same period and the brick used was not of the bigger size common later in the century.

This was the only fireplace remaining on this floor, but as there were foundations for it in the cellars there must once have been one in the north-eastern room. As there was nineteenth century work behind the place where the fireplace had been it seems likely that it was removed at the same time as the offices were constructed and the south-eastern ceiling raised.

#### FIRST FLOOR

At this level rather more of the character of the house as it was in the late seventeenth century could be seen.

The north-west room remained almost intact looking as it must have done when the house was built. Its timber framing was complete and the screen between it and the room to the east still carried its carpenters' marks in Roman numerals. Its beams were chamfered and stopped with a very simple scroll stop. It was a well proportioned room eighteen feet by twelve, but unfortunately its original window had gone. However, the modern window gave access to the balcony from which the fine façade of that part could be studied.

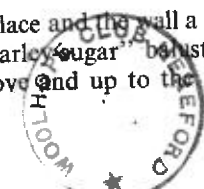
The room behind it to the south was completely panelled in the seventeenth century and was obviously of some importance. Unfortunately the proportions of the room had been spoiled by a modern screen built across it from east to west to provide a passage-way to the stairs in the eighteenth century wing. One stop chamfered beam remained. The fireplace had later panelling around it and was in the inserted stack already mentioned.

The well of the central newel staircase was taken out of this room, the panelling on that part running round the staircase. This provided access to the second floor and attics and at one time must have been the only staircase from the ground floor upwards.

The south-eastern room had been spoiled by having its floor level raised by the heightening of the offices below and had also lost its beams. The corner fireplace had an eighteenth century surround similar to that in the room below.

The north-western room was 20 feet by 14 and had two windows onto High Street. Unfortunately this wall had been renewed, probably in the 1930s, and the beams had been cased. This was presumably the hall or great chamber of the original house, the chief room in the building.

From between the fireplace and the wall a late seventeenth century stairway with twisted "barley-sugar" balusters built around a tiny well led to the room above and up to the attics beyond. This had





been boarded up perhaps at the same time as the other alterations had been made in the room. It was a good example of its type and is being saved. This room had direct access to the newel stair, and the rooms immediately west and south of it.

#### SECOND FLOOR

The rooms on this floor were identical in size to those on the floor below except for the extra floor space provided by the jettying on the street front.

The western rooms still retained their original wide floor boards of widths varying from about 10½ inches to a foot and their stop-chamfered beams.

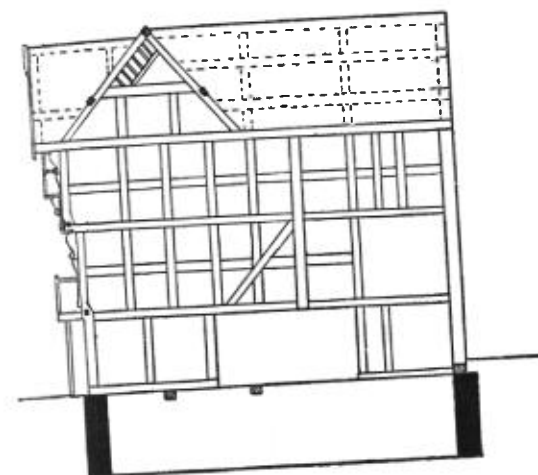
The south-east room was very awkwardly approached from the newel stairway which continued from this floor up into the attics. In it was a reused, moulded, medieval beam like that on the ground floor. It seems quite probable that this room once had an open roof, but more will be said of this later. The only approach to this part of the roof was by ladder, and there never seems to have been any other way.

The big north-eastern room was originally two, the central beam still showing the mortices of the dividing screen. The staircase from the room below came up through this room, but from this floor up to the attics the balustrade was of the panel type instead of the twisted balusters in the lower flights. The fireplace, in the western division, had a surround of nineteenth century Dutch tiles similar to those to be seen in the Victorian bedroom at Kinnersley Castle. The original posts with ovolo mouldings in the front corners of this room gave some idea of what the façade must have looked like before the modern concrete and steelwork were erected, probably in the 1930s. A good piece of medieval linen-fold panelling had been reused under the western window.

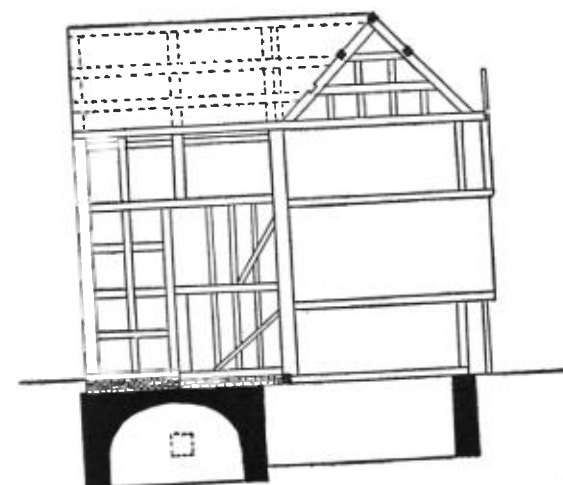
Part of the eastern wall of this room had been completely removed and the wall paper was on the framing of No. 2 which formed the only division between the two houses at this point.

#### THE ATTICS

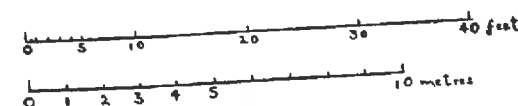
The newel stairway led up into the western section of the attics which was about two feet wider in its southern part than in its northern (see Fig.). The well worked gable window and ornamented barge boards on the High Street façade were on this part. Across this narrower front portion ran a roof at right angles to it, forming a dormer on the west against No. 4 High Street. This dormer had a window in it of unusual design, running along the roof line and with diamond section mullions.



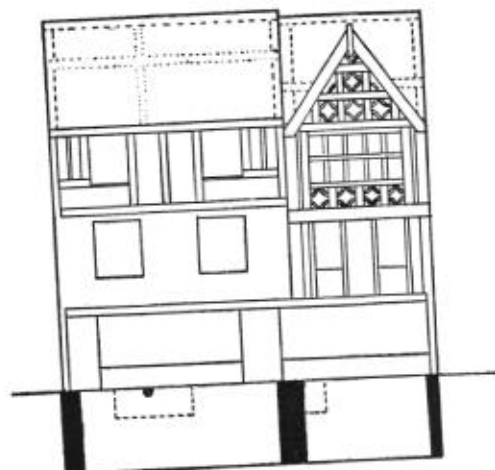
WEST



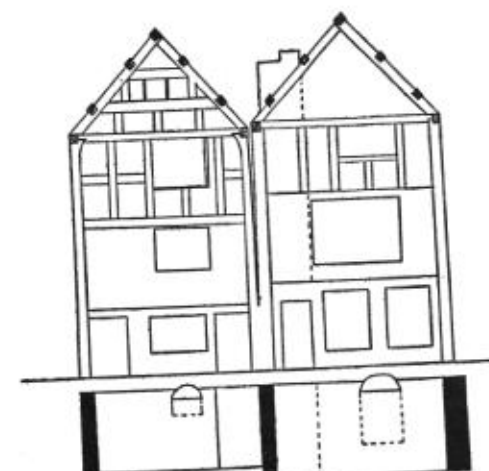
EAST



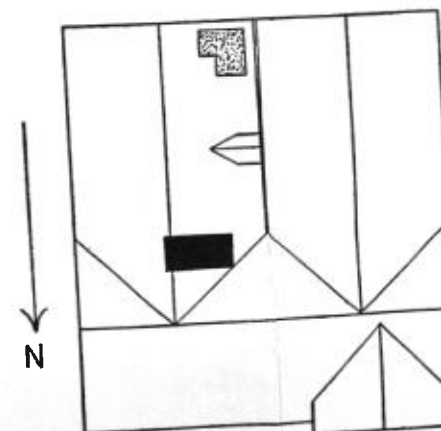
NO. 3 HIGH STREET  
HEREFORD



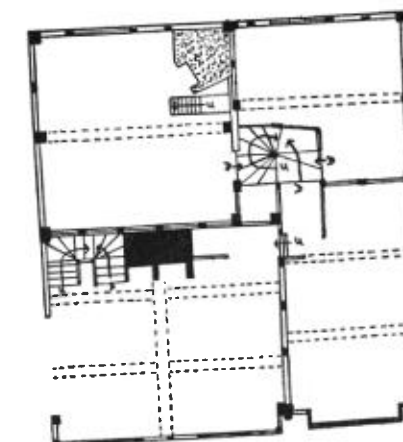
NORTH



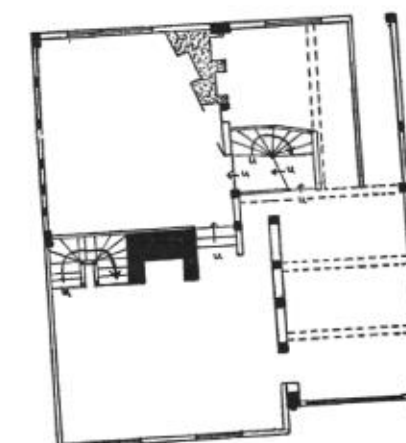
SOUTH



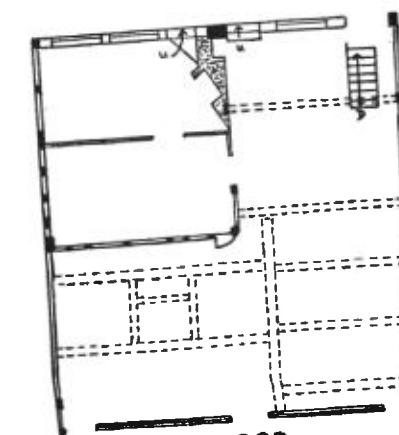
ROOF LAYOUT



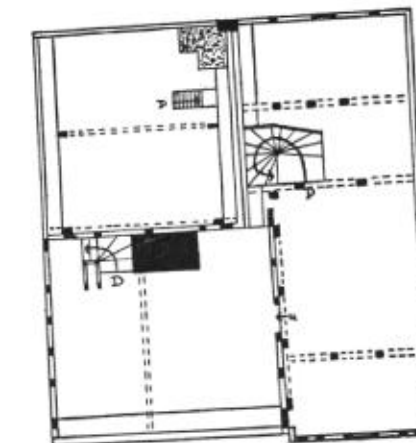
SECOND FLOOR



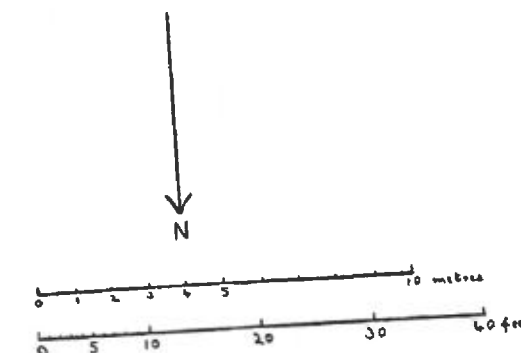
FIRST FLOOR



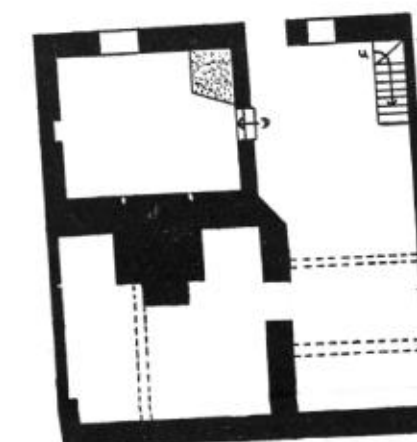
GROUND FLOOR



ATTICS



JWT  
18 JUL 1942



CELLARS

This was obviously inserted before No. 4 had reached its present height. This cross piece was higher than the front part of the roof, but the same height as the back.

On the other side of the house the roof over the north-eastern room was slightly higher than the cross roof mentioned above and the rather awkward join of the roofs could be seen from the street. This north-eastern attic was approached by the seventeenth century stairway and had had no communication with the western part until a doorway had been cut through, perhaps in the nineteenth century, perhaps more recently. When the Royal Commission on Historic Monuments made its report in the early 1930s, there were two dormers facing the street from this piece of roof with enriched barge boards and shaped pendants. These had gone, and the roof timbers on that side were new giving no trace of how the dormers had fitted.

The south-eastern attic could be approached only by a ladder. The roof was of a simpler construction than the others and one truss showed signs of having once had wind braces. This was the northern truss jammed between the central chimney and a later truss incorporating some reused timbers. The central truss of this piece of roof had no tie beam only a collar placed quite high on the blades. This and the mortices for wind braces on the end truss could point to this having been an open roof over the room below with no attic originally. This attic floor was higher than the others, being set above wall plate level, and certainly seemed a later insertion, probably of the eighteenth century. The only light in this room was from an awkwardly placed dormer looking across at the western part of the roof.

#### CONSTRUCTION

##### EXTERIOR

With the exception of the cellars which have already been dealt with the basic construction of the house was fairly simple timber framing with certain ornamentation and alterations. The stonework of the cellars acted as the footing for the wooden sills of the framing.

The front was the most complicated, and detailed consideration of it is perhaps best left until the other faces have been dealt with.

The back appeared to have been originally of regular, rectangular, timber-framed panels of split oak staves plastered over, the normal Herefordshire "black and white" construction. At each corner was a big post running the full height of the house and about half way along the back, slightly nearer the western side than the eastern was an even bigger post almost 2 feet by 1 foot (plans and elevations, see Fig.). This was split from first floor level upwards but still supported the wall plates of both parts of the roof.



The back wall up to the level of the second floor was of fairly modern brick, almost certainly a late eighteenth or nineteenth century insertion between the main posts of the house. At either side of the central post was a doorway, and another by the western post. At second floor level the original panels still remained, but above this although the western gable retained its timber framing the eastern had been bricked, again in fairly recent times. The whole of the back, i.e., south, wall, had been plastered over and these details had to be found inside the building.

The western side of the house against No. 4 High Street, was almost intact from the first floor upwards. There was again a big post about half way along and the northern end, on High Street, was jettied, each storey projecting a little farther than the one below it (elevations, see Fig.) The split oak stave wattling was intact and as it had apparently never been plastered on the outside there was presumably a house on the site of No. 4 before No. 3 was built. More will be said about this later.

At ground floor level some of the studs and the central post had been removed, and modern brick had been inserted between those remaining. This was built against the framing of No. 4.

The eastern side, against No. 2, had undergone much more alteration and in one part had been removed completely. Again there was a big central post. At the northern end the only timber framing between this and the corner post was in the gable above the wall plate. On the ground floor, first floor and part of the second it had been replaced by brick, mainly modern, though some earlier brick had been reused haphazardly in the lower courses.

About half the timber framing from the central post towards the north-east corner was more or less intact, but the remainder at ground floor level was made up from reused timber and was of very poor workmanship. For some reason a brick footing had been inserted under the sill of this latter part. There was no wattle and plaster remaining at ground floor level the timbers having been covered with nineteenth century boarding.

Both east and west side walls had diagonal bracing at ground and first floor levels.

The front was the most interesting part of the exterior. The ground floor was a nineteenth century shop front built out under the storey above and in this way forming a balcony at the western end. The second floor and the attics projected, being carried on moulded bressumers with carved brackets terminating in masks with long tassels below them. On the second floor the original ten light oriel window with ovolo moulded mullions and elaborate transoms remained supported on two smaller brackets. The transoms had an ogee moulding associated with the ovolo, a feature

repeated in the bressumers. In the gable with its enriched barge boards hiding the ends of the purlins was a small diamond shaped window, its sides being each 1 foot 10 inches. At the apex of the gable was a decorated pendant between the barge boards. The panelling on this western part of the front is made up of a series of quarter circles formed by curved braces in the square panels.

The eastern part of the front had undergone a severe restoration within fairly recent times, the front rising in one concrete face from the first floor to above attic level. On this had been fastened some imitation timber framing. However, the moulded bressumer of the second floor still remained, and also the posts above it as already mentioned. From these it would appear that this part of the front was never so ornate as the western part. As already mentioned, early in the 1930s the Royal Commission on Historic Monuments was still able to record two gabled dormers with enriched barge boards and shaped pendants on this part, but these must have been removed soon afterwards. Before the alterations this front taken as a whole must have been most impressive, and comparable with that of the hall of the Butchers' Guild in High Town.

#### INTERIOR

The screen between the two rooms in the front of the building was intact on the first and second floors, but the other screens had been much altered on the first floor. Even on the second floor, although the others were complete, that which had once divided the big north-eastern room had gone.

The roof construction was comparatively simple, the wall plates along the eastern and western walls taking the main thrust of the roof except for the north-eastern section where the wall plate ran along the front of the house. The wall plates in the centre of the house rested on the big divided post already mentioned and on a series of posts running back from this to a little second floor cupboard wedged between the newel stairway and the north-eastern room. As each post supported both wall plates some were a little precariously placed, and one wondered just how the roof had managed to stay there for three hundred and fifty years.

The trusses at the gables of the roof over the western part of the house, at the ends of the roof over the north-eastern section, i.e., against No. 2 and against the cross roof of the western part, were all of the type with two collar beams and more or less square panels continuing the pattern of the building below (elevations, see Fig.). The central truss of the north-eastern roof was modern.

Two of the intermediate trusses in the western roof simply had angle braces from tie beam to the blades, but the third, that nearest

the back, had a collar beam and an old blade had been reused as a type of strut, inserted after the original roof had been built. The trusses of the cross roof of this section had single collars and queen struts (elevations, see Fig.).

In the south-eastern roof the truss at the back of the house had no collar, but as mentioned already it had been filled with brick and thus the detail had been obliterated. The central truss in this part was of a plain collar beam type, while that at the end by the central chimney had a collar beam with lower king and queen struts and upper "vee" struts. Behind this, jammed between it and the chimney, was another truss with queen struts and mortices for wind braces.

All the side purlins were of the through type and all sections of the roof had a ridge purlin. This is what one normally expects to find in Herefordshire.

A variety of carpenters' marks was found. There were Roman series on the first and second floors of the screen dividing the eastern and western rooms in the front of the house. On the western wall there was a similar series at first floor level and on the second floor a series  $\leq$ ,  $1\leq$ , etc., on the screen dividing the two western rooms on this floor was the series  $\phi$ ,  $1\phi$ , etc., while at the same level in the south-eastern room the western and northern walls both had a Roman series. The western truss of the north-eastern roof had crescent shaped marks, but the eastern one had another Roman set.

The bressumers of the western part had an ovolo moulding associated with an earlier ogee, while the one remaining bressumer on the eastern part was simpler with a single roll moulding. On the barge boards was a continuous leaf and flower ornament with a fish at the bottom on each side. I have called them bressumers, but in fact a careful examination showed that in the western part of the house the mouldings were purely a facing pegged on to the framing, the actual weight-carrying timbers being hidden.

#### Nos. 2 AND 4

No. 2, to the east, was not examined, but the timbers of its western wall were exposed by the demolition of part of No. 3. These are heavier and the panels rather more irregular than in its neighbour, the wattle is of hazel and the structure has heavy diagonal braces. The bressumer has a very elaborate moulding and the building as a whole looks earlier than No. 3. Built into this wall is a fine fifteenth century wooden window taking the form of two Gothic arches with cusping in them. It seems to be of the same period as some panelling recently found in the cellars of Nos. 4 and 5 High Town, and has probably been reused from an earlier building.

No. 4 was a smaller house, one room wide to the street, and only a very quick examination of it was possible. Its square, regular panelling of split oak staves was like that of No. 3, but of its beams some were plainly chamfered with straight cut stops and some with scroll stops as next door, but others were ovolo moulded. It would appear that it was the latest building of the three, though built over what were possibly earlier cellars and on the site of an earlier building. It seems never to have been linked in any way with No. 3. There was a gap of about 2 inches between their frames.

#### CONCLUSIONS

As far as can be traced no documents exist telling us about the building of this house, nor would one expect them to. Thus the only way of dating is by using the clues which came to light during the examination of the house and its demolition.

The almost square, regular panel of the timber framing of the greater part of the house, the plainly chamfered beams and posts with simple scroll stops, the broad floor boards still remaining in the western part of the house on the second floor, and the ornate front of this same part all appear to be of one build.

This type of timber framing appears to have had a long run in Herefordshire, though the size of the timbers used became smaller as time went on. Most of the posts and studs used in this building were 9 inches wide, the studs being about 4 inches thick and the posts square or nearly so. The big corner posts and those in the centres of the walls were still heavier. The posts of seventeenth century houses are often only 7 inches wide and in those at the end of the century sometimes even less. Thus on the evidence of size of timber a date of about 1600 or even a little earlier would seem appropriate, but this evidence alone cannot be conclusive.

The simple scroll stop is found over quite a long period but is most common at the end of the sixteenth and the early seventeenth centuries.

The best dating evidence is perhaps the moulding of the window mullions and transoms of the western part of the front and of the posts and bressumers. The mullions are ovolo moulded, a form which is rarely found before about 1600. In Monmouthshire, Fox and Raglan<sup>1</sup> date it to 1625-1670, in the Cotswolds it seems to date from about ten years earlier than this, and Wood-Jones<sup>2</sup> finds it in the Banbury region at about the same time. In Devon it is dated as early as 1588<sup>3</sup> and in Essex<sup>4</sup> even earlier. It seems unlikely that it would be used in the West Midlands much before 1600, if at all. The bressumer mouldings and those of the window transoms combine an ovolo with the earlier ogee, possibly a transitional phase, though this combination reappears at the very end of the ovolo

period as a sort of archaism. The posts of the eastern part of the front were closely related to the ovolo moulding. The barge boards with their continuous ornament are quite early in the character but continue into the seventeenth century, while the brackets terminating in masks are a Renaissance feature appearing in Herefordshire and Shropshire early in the seventeenth century.

Taking all these factors together it would seem that it is fair to put a date early in the seventeenth century on the main features of the house, perhaps about 1610-1620.

The cellars presented a problem. The vaulted part at first sight looked early and the Royal Commission on Historic Monuments suggested it was probably medieval. However, its four-centred doorway with an unusual sunk or reserved chamfer could easily date from the same period as the main structure above. In Monmouthshire this chamfer is found from about 1590 to about 1630.<sup>5</sup> Thus there seemed no certain evidence to assign any earlier date to the cellar than to the main building.

On the other hand if they are the same age there is no explanation as to why the two parts of the cellar should be so different in construction.

However, there were some medieval beams and a piece of linen-fold panelling reused, probably from an earlier building on this site.

There had been much alteration and change in the use of rooms. The first major alteration seems to have been late in the seventeenth century when the staircase with twisted balusters was inserted to join up the upper two floors and attics in the eastern front part of the house. About the same time the south-western room was completely panelled.

In the early eighteenth century the chimney stack at the back was inserted with a fireplace at each level. These fireplaces had contemporary surrounds and panelled cupboards alongside them. In the south-western panelled room an eighteenth century overmantel was inserted over a fireplace into this same stack. At some time, almost certainly in this same century, the south-eastern room on the second floor was ceiled and the space between wall and ceiling coved, making quite a pleasant room.

Later in the same century the warehouses and other buildings at the back of the house were built. These were of brick with the common Herefordshire type of roof of the period with a king-post tie-beam truss with twin angle braces. Time did not permit a record of these to be made, but they appeared to be of quite late eighteenth century construction and no doubt replaced an earlier range of buildings.

About the middle of the nineteenth century came the major reconstruction which resulted in the raising of the ceiling levels of

the ground and first floor rooms in the south-eastern corner, the construction of the offices there, and the taking away of the central stack and the newel stair at ground floor level. In the offices and the shop in front of them nineteenth century panelling was inserted. The shop itself was built out to become flush with the projecting storey above. A passage was built at the south-western corner of the first floor, spoiling the proportions of the panelled room and leading into the warehouses and from there back to a conservatory outside the back door and so to the ground floor rooms. For the last hundred years or so this was the only access to the first floor and those above.

Probably at this time, though it may have been earlier, the back was bricked up and some of the timbers removed.

The next alterations seem to have been in the 1930s when the northern part of the front from the first floor upwards was removed and brought out to one level and given a false half-timbered appearance. The dormers above this part were removed and the roof over it largely rebuilt. It was no doubt at this time that the stairs in this part of the house were boarded up and a doorway cut through to the attics from the western part of the roof.

One puzzling feature is the bricking up of the walls to the east and along the eastern part of the back to a greater extent than elsewhere. Prevailing winds and weather could explain the back wall as a whole, but not the fact that the eastern part of it was almost completely rebuilt and certainly not the great amount of reconstruction in the eastern wall itself.

This part of the house had what appeared to have been an open roof in which a moulded medieval beam had been inserted on posts to help carry a later coved ceiling. The front and the western rooms of the house were undoubtedly all of one build, probably early in the seventeenth century, but it seems just possible that in the new house was incorporated a wing of a medieval house. If so the nineteenth century virtual reconstruction of this part may have been a necessity. Not enough remained to be sure, but this explanation seems possible. If it was part of a medieval house it seems likely to have been a ground floor room with perhaps a solar above and an open roofed chamber above that. If this is so a medieval date must be put on that part of the cellars. However, it must be stressed that there was no proof of any of this, rather simply a hint.

The use of the rooms is very difficult to decide. The ground floor front rooms have almost certainly always been shops. They seem too big to have been one seventeenth century shop and on the model of those in Oxford,<sup>6</sup> Coventry<sup>7</sup> and Norwich<sup>7</sup> were perhaps one with the house and one let off. The rooms behind the shops may have been stores or perhaps service rooms for the house above.

The big first floor north-eastern room with its fireplace was presumably the hall, the main room in the house, and seems to have always remained so. The other front room on this floor was no doubt the parlour. As the room above the hall was originally divided into two chambers, the master's chamber was perhaps the room behind the hall or perhaps the room above the parlour. There did not appear to be any service rooms on these upper floors and these were probably on the ground floor. The kitchen was no doubt outside at the back of the building.

The servants almost certainly slept in the attics and perhaps in the big south-eastern room upstairs. On the other hand some of these rooms were probably used as stores.

The late seventeenth century change seems significant. As the new stairway led directly to the room above the hall it seems probable that this became the master's chamber, the screen dividing it quite probably being removed at this time. As the stairway leads on into the attics these were presumably used either by personal servants or members of the family. Before this the only access to them must have been by ladder.

The little south-western room panelled at about this time probably became a sort of private parlour though still at that time apparently unheated.

The eighteenth century changes were probably due to expanding business. The new stack and fireplaces meant more comfort, and the panelling meant that they were in rooms which were not just work-rooms. The ground floor room so treated perhaps became a "counting-house", an office. The kitchen seemed to have been in the new, late eighteenth century block and probably replaced an earlier one.

The nineteenth century alterations spoiled the rooms in the south-eastern part and that on the second floor was of little use for anything but a store after this. On the other hand the main room was again modernised receiving its Dutch tile fireplace and the shop and offices were improved.

For almost all its history the house was apparently the home and business premises of a wealthy merchant, a man of some standing in the city and able to afford a standard of building and comfort in advance of most of his contemporaries. The series of alterations and improvements is closely paralleled by those at Nos. 4 and 5 High Town where further alterations are going on in 1965. These houses are L-shaped and though never as big as No. 3 High Street, were still quite important and they show again some medieval timbers and work from each century from the seventeenth onwards.

Finally during the winter of 1964-65 No. 3 High Street was demolished, one small part of it being preserved largely for the sake

of its fine façade, and the three hundred and fifty year history of the house came to an end.

Thanks are due to Mr. Noble for all his help and to those other members of the Old Houses Recording Group, viz., Mrs. D. O'Donnell, Mrs. J. W. Tonkin, Miss M. Crompton, and the late Mr. W. E. Hadland, who spent a long Sunday in the dust and grime of the old house helping to record it.

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## MEDIEVAL BOROUGHES OF WEST HEREFORDSHIRE

By F. NOBLE

"The topographical history of our old towns is one of the many fascinating subjects still waiting for systematic investigation at the hands of antiquaries." W. St. John Hope's comment in 1909<sup>1</sup> is still true of Herefordshire and adjacent counties, and of its settlement pattern as a whole. The study has probably suffered more than it has benefited from generalisations which have not been based on detailed study. Only in recent years has there come any general realisation of the need for a systematic study of topography, as this generation sets about re-organizing boundaries, re-aligning routeways and building "new towns"; planning a new landscape without any real understanding of the origins and development of the present urban and rural patterns of settlement and communications, or of their landscape and townscape features.

The medieval boroughs of West Herefordshire are a limited group of settlements whose origins and development can be traced or inferred more readily both from documents and field studies than those of other centres of population in the county. In their present form they cover the whole range from hamlet to small market town so they can provide a valuable introduction to the general study of Herefordshire settlement. The present paper can only serve as an introduction to these "boroughs" and the problems they present: much more documentation and fieldwork will be needed before the suggested explanations can be regarded as facts, or rejected in favour of better ones.

The current associations of the word "borough" are with Mayor and Corporation, or historically with Nineteenth Century Parliamentary and Municipal Reform, but its origin is the Old English "burh" meaning "a fortified place" (Ekwall) generally implying earthworks large enough to enclose a village and often applied to more ancient fortifications (as at Aconbury). In the struggle against the Danes "burh" came to have the more definite meaning of a fortified settlement set up for the control, defence and administration of surrounding areas. There was a natural tendency for "burhs" to become centres of trade and industry, while at the same time other centres of trade and industry which had grown up, often in association with religious establishments, were feeling the need of defences. Such trading centres were known as "ports", whether accessible from the sea or not. Academic disputes have been waged over how far the "burhs" were still military at the time of the Conquest, but it appears that it was already difficult to distinguish between a "port" which had been fortified and made into an

administrative centre and a "burh" whose inhabitants had taken up trading.<sup>2</sup> After the Norman Conquest "borough" became the general term for both types, and they were set up by barons, bishops and religious houses as well as by the king. Some were still military in their main purpose and established as appendages to castles, but an increasing number were established in hopes of profits from rents, tolls and court fees and fines.

The establishment of military boroughs in hostile territory probably first gave rise to concessions of personal freedom in order to attract settlers, but these concessions proved equally necessary to the success and profitability of centres of local trade. It became increasingly common for even the lords of small proprietary boroughs to grant "burgage tenure" or "free burgage"; i.e., the holding of freely transferable property at fixed annual money rents and generally free from labour services, and for these and other concessions to take the form of a "borough Charter". Royal assent does not seem to have been essential, though some creations are registered in the royal Patent or Charter which had to be obtained before new markets or fairs could be held. Few of the smaller proprietary boroughs were able to purchase the privileges of self-government as "corporations". They continued to be administered by the lord's courts, though their reeves and other elected officials in some cases attained substantial responsibility. Some of these proprietary boroughs were called on to elect Members of Parliament at the end of the thirteenth century, but many were affected by economic decline and the higher rate of borough taxation imposed by Edward I, and pleaded inability to pay their members their 2/- per day. The boroughs which had failed to thrive tended to revert to rural manors and the movement to establish new centres came to an end before the middle of the fourteenth century.

### THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE WEST HEREFORDSHIRE BOROUGHES

The Romans are accepted as the first builders of towns in Britain, but they do not seem to have established any to the west of Kenchester and Caerwent on the Welsh border. Their decline and fall, and the rise of Hereford in the Dark Ages are equally obscure. In 1066 Hereford was the only recognised urban centre between the Malverns and the Irish Sea. The whole period of borough foundation in Herefordshire and adjacent parts of Wales otherwise falls within the two centuries which it took the Normans to complete the conquest of the Welsh.

The first phase began under William fitz Osbern, a close associate of the Conqueror who had granted him the Earldom of Hereford with princely powers. The chronicler, Orderic Vitalis tells

how by lavish pay and grants of land he attracted Norman knights and burgesses to his service, and how he established castles and boroughs all along the borders of Wales, and granted the boroughs the customs of his Normandy town of Breteuil, which were among the most liberal then known. Fitz Osbern's death in 1072 and his son's rebellion and forfeiture two years later, brought the end of this phase. The Earldom was suppressed and an embargo apparently placed on further conquests in South Wales. This lasted until the Conqueror's death in the year after the compilation of Domesday Book. This cannot be relied upon to mention all the existing castles and boroughs. It contains a reference to 23 men in Osbern fitz Richard's castle of "Auretune", which may imply a borough foundation at the pre-Conquest Norman stronghold better known as Richard's Castle, but all the other castles and boroughs were the creations of the great Earl. In those six brief years he had founded castles and boroughs at Wigmore and Clifford, rebuilt the castle at Ewyas Harold and established great castles at Monmouth and Chepstow, probably with boroughs which escaped mention in Domesday. Some were apparently intended as bases for a planned conquest of South Wales which had already crossed the Usk at Caerleon before 1075.

Domesday makes no mention of his castle at Hereford and only a single sentence telling that the French burgesses there were exempt from all customs and forfeitures on payment of 12d. per year confirms that he had granted them those "Customs of Breteuil" whose importance in English civic history was demonstrated by Miss Mary Bateson sixty years ago.<sup>3</sup> The part that Hereford played in disseminating them can hardly be described as common knowledge, but at least twenty boroughs in Britain were granted them and probably many more were entitled to seek exemplifications from Hereford in cases of dispute. The boroughs which certainly enjoyed them included Shrewsbury, Bideford, Lichfield, Ludlow and Preston as well as a number in Wales and Ireland whose subsequent importance has been no greater than that of the west Herefordshire boroughs. No record survives of the original customs of the Herefordshire border boroughs and only Pembridge, probably the last to be founded, can be proved to have possessed these "Laws of Breteuil".

Wigmore can be taken as an example of the boroughs of the "first phase". Domesday merely states that Ralph de Mortimer had a borough there which returned seven pounds per year. It had most probably been founded when William fitz Osbern established the castle "on waste ground called Merestune". If the burgesses were paying the 12d. rents of "the customs of Breteuil" the unexpectedly large total of 140 burgages is indicated, and this

comes remarkably near the number recorded in 1304.<sup>4</sup> The settlement seems to have been laid out on a grid plan along the southern slope of the ridge on which the church stands. The site of the castle, with its remains of a "shell keep" belonging at the latest to the end of the twelfth century, seems too remote from the grid, and it is possible that the irregular earthworks nearer the church may mark the site of the original castle.

Wigmore appears to have remained stagnant when medieval traffic switched from "Watling Street" to the more easterly route through the rival "new town" of Ludlow. Richard's Castle and Clifford have declined to hamlets and there is little evidence of borough development at Ewyas Harold. By comparison with Earl William's foundations at Monmouth and Chepstow, the Herefordshire boroughs of this phase have been conspicuously unsuccessful.

After 1087 came a second phase of castle building and borough foundation by lesser barons, soon to be known as "Lords Marchers". It is much more obscure and poorly documented than the first phase. The de Lacies established castles and boroughs at Ludlow and Weobley, and possibly a centre at Grosmont or in the Longtown area for their Welsh conquests. The de Braos family established themselves with a castle and borough at Radnor, from which they extended their conquests to Builth, and early in Henry I's reign a great "Honour" was created for Adam de Port, centring on Kington.

The irregular street plan of Weobley provides an interesting contrast to the grid plan of Ludlow. Both were de Lacy centres, but at Weobley the castle was built as an addition to a village which was well established long before the Domesday survey, while at Ludlow both castle and borough seem to have been established shortly after Domesday on waste ground. No early Charters are known for either borough, but Ludlow has been shown to have had "the customs of Breteuil" and Weobley was probably similarly privileged. Weobley sent a separate jury to the Assize of 1255 and was represented in Parliament from 1295 to 1304. It remained prosperous throughout the medieval period, but the remains of its "Town Ditch" suggest no stronger town defences than those needed to keep out night prowlers. It must have been extremely fortunate to have escaped with only one record of hostile military occupation in the medieval period: by Stephen's forces in 1139. It has a poor defensive position and a much less military appearance than the majority of baronial boroughs on the Welsh border.

"Old Kington" occupying the area around Castle Hill and the church is probably a more typical site for a borough of a Marcher Lord, but here again there are few recognisable remains of defensive

works on the glacial irregularities of its surface. Even the castle site is unconvincing and it is difficult to distinguish any trace of a street and burgrave pattern. It is possible that this was a nominal, rather than an actual centre of the great "Honour of Kington" between 1108 and 1174.

Dorstone is a puzzling case. The plan of the village and castle-site suggest a borough plantation, but there is a dearth of documentary evidence. The only likely context for such a foundation would be as a centre for the ancestors of the Clifford family, before they had gained full possession of the castle and borough of Clifford from their overlords, the Tonies.

In this phase the conquest and subjugation of South Wales by the Marcher Lords and adventurers such as Bernard de Newmarch seemed assured and the need to defend border boroughs against organised Welsh attack could not have become apparent until 1135. In the first years of the Anarchy Hereford, Weobley and Ludlow suffered in the contentions between the supporters of Stephen and of Matilda while the borders were ravaged by the attacks of the Welsh, who had thrown off Norman domination throughout the greater part of South Wales. The Marcher Lords succeeded in repelling the attacks and seem to have tried to set up their dominions as independent territories, with their main castles and boroughs as little capitals. As a result several of them, and particularly Hugh de Mortimer, fell foul of Henry II at the beginning of his reign, and had to be forcibly suppressed.

This may have prompted Henry's later policy of relying increasingly on the support of the leading prince of South Wales, Rhys ap Gruffydd whom he created "Justiciar of South Wales", and his apparent policy of creating a clearly defined frontier marked by a line of castles from Lydbury North (Bishop's Castle) through Knighton, Eardisley, Ewyas Lacy (Longtown) and the "Three Castles", which were strengthened or guarded at his expense.<sup>5</sup> Several of these appear later as small boroughs. Henry seems even to have been prepared to recognise the Welsh occupation of the de Braos borough and castle of Radnor and also of Painscastle, and it may be at this time that a de Braos castle and borough at Hay was established. This occupies a strong site to the east of the castle mound and church of William Revel, a knight who had held Hay earlier in the century under Bernard de Newmarch.

In 1173, Roger de Port joined a rebellion which Henry put down with Welsh assistance, and the "Honour of Kington" was forfeited. Part of it, including Kington and Huntington, were granted to William de Braos, probably as compensation for Radnor, and before 1230 the site of Kington Castle had been abandoned and a new castle had been set up at Huntington, which became the head

of this Lordship. Kington, however, remained the main centre of population and the new borough failed to replace it.

The removal of the centre of Kington Lordship to Huntington would seem most logical between 1174 and 1190, after the forfeiture of the "Honour" and while the Welsh still held Radnor and Painscastle, but the earliest certain reference to Huntington Castle comes in 1230.<sup>6</sup> Huntington Castle is not exceptionally strong in its situation and the ghost of a borough plan which extends southwards to the chapel of St. Thomas of Canterbury has poor natural defences compared with others which seem to have been established at this time.

A much better example of these "military" boroughs is provided by Hay, where the whole layout of the town seems to be dominated by defensive considerations and the Castle and the borough seem to have been planned as a unit. Hay can be claimed as a true "bastide".

Longtown also occupies a strong defensive site, but it seems probable that its defences have a complex history. The "New Castle" of Ewyas Lacy was being built between 1185 and 1195 within the massive earthwork, enclosing three acres, which seems to be of pre-Conquest and possibly of Roman origin. South of this lies the plan of the borough with a large plain thirteenth century borough chapel overlooking a triangular market place. There are indications of a line of defensive earthworks enclosing this area, but they are very slight compared with those to the north.

This phase from 1155 to the early thirteenth century may be regarded as a third phase in the process of borough creation on the Marches, when the Welsh obtained siege engines and stronger sites for castles and boroughs became imperative. With the death of Rhys ap Gruffydd in 1197 and the great Welsh defeat at Painscastle in the following year the leadership of Wales passed to the princes of North Wales, and the pressure on the borders of Herefordshire itself was lessened somewhat, but until the end of the century boroughs which laid any claim to military significance felt the need to rebuild their defences in stone. Royal grants of "murage" tolls are known for Hay (1237) and Radnor (1257, 1283 and 1290) where the lines of the stone walls can be clearly traced, but they are also known for Knighton (1260 and 1272)<sup>7</sup> where neither alignment nor remains are known, and walls may have existed at other border boroughs which have no tradition or trace of them today.

In the eastern half of Herefordshire developments had taken a very different course. Leominster and Bromyard may have been functioning as small trading centres before Domesday; Ledbury and Ross were prosperous manors then; and all four grew up under the protection of the Church, not of baronial castles. By the end of



the thirteenth century, however, the general increase in population and prosperity was making the ownership of boroughs increasingly profitable and lords, often of less than baronial rank, were looking for opportunities to establish proprietary trading boroughs. A large number of royal grants for the establishment of markets and fairs in different Herefordshire villages were purchased in the course of the thirteenth century. Probably in most cases no further steps were taken to set up "boroughs", but three and possibly four examples of this fourth phase can be recognised. At Eardisley Walter de Baskerville obtained a licence for a market and fair in 1223, and up to the last century separate manorial courts were held for the "Borough" and the "Foreign".<sup>8</sup> At Pembridge Henry de Pembridge obtained a Charter for a market and fair in 1240 and took advantage of a break in the succession of his overlords at Radnor to establish a "free borough" there. Something similar may have happened at Presteigne where the de Fraxino family had obtained the lordship, though there may have been an earlier establishment of some settlement here associated with the church and remotely protected by Stapleton Castle on the other side of the valley of the Lugg. In the course of the century both de Pembridge and de Fraxino were dispossessed of their boroughs by the rising power of the Mortimers of Wigmore.

Ploughfield, Preston-on-Wye, was described as a "borough" in the accounts of the Chapter Estates of Hereford Cathedral in 1273. It had a bailiff, market and fairs. An earlier reference to a market and "mercatores tenentes de feodis" at Preston in 1262 probably refers to Ploughfield.<sup>9</sup> The site deserves careful examination.

Pembridge shows no evidence of planned layout, or of defensive works of any strength and it seems clear that the "creation" of a borough here was merely the "promotion" of a village which had been in existence before the Normans came. The Charter given by Henry of Pembridge soon after 1240 read: "Be it known to present and future that I, Henry of Penebrugge give to all my free burgesses of the Borough of Penebrug all the free customs according to the Law of Breteuil, with the markets and fairs appertaining according to the tenor of the Charter of King Henry which I possess, to hold to themselves and their heirs paying to me and my heirs 12d. for each Burgage at Michaelmas".<sup>10</sup>

The manor and borough were seized by Roger Mortimer when Henry was disinherited, as a follower of Simon de Montfort, in 1265. The manor-house, near the church, became the residence of Maud (de Braos) Roger's widow, between 1282 and 1301. The rebuilding of the church probably indicates her wealth, rather than the prosperity of the borough, though the borough does seem to have remained modestly prosperous until the end of the medieval period,

The oddest "commercial borough" development seems to have taken place at Kington. An "Inquisition" of 1267 which mentions 19/- from burgage rents from Huntington and 22/- from "Kington borough" also lists 64s. 3d. rents from "New Kington". This seems to be the present town centre and the plan of its roads, narrow lanes and garden plots suggest that they were laid down on strips of "Open Field" land.

No later borough foundations than Pembridge and Ploughfield are known for west Herefordshire, and the north-western part had more than enough boroughs by this time to meet all the possible developments of trade and production. It is difficult to assess the comparative standing of the west Herefordshire boroughs at the end of the thirteenth century without a good deal of research in the Public Records. The lack of straightforwardly comparative material is complicated by the existence and extension of the separate legal systems of the Marcher Lordships, which meant that even well-established boroughs such as Monmouth and Radnor sent no representatives to the Parliaments of Edward I.

Weobley was the only one of the west Herefordshire boroughs which was called on to send members to Parliament in 1295 and 1304, but along with Ledbury, Ross and Bromyard it was released from the obligation in the following year, on their petitions that they were unable to pay their members their legal wages of 2/- per day. Their prosperity may have already been affected by the higher rate of borough taxation but Weobley seems to have continued to be the most prosperous of the west Herefordshire boroughs until the sixteenth century, though there is no evidence that its burgesses ever obtained any rights of self-government or incorporation. Pembridge also managed to thrive. The two probably benefited as the most westerly points to which English merchants and traders could venture without losing the protection of the laws of England by crossing into the hazardous jurisdictions of the Marcher Lordships. Their fine early timber buildings seem to indicate that they also escaped the worst ravages of the Welsh in Glyndwr's rebellion, between 1402 and 1408, when Herefordshire lay open to frequent ravages and Hay and Radnor in particular were left semi-derelict for over a century. The Act of Union in 1536 abolished the Marcher Lordships and left the further history of the west Herefordshire boroughs to be decided primarily by economic factors.

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- <sup>2</sup> See Tait, J., *The Medieval English Borough*, Manchester, 1936, esp. pp. 4, 80-2 and p. 117.
- <sup>3</sup> *English History Review*, xv, xvi and xvii (1900-2), "The Laws of Breteuil". An interesting addition to Miss Bateson's lists is Tetbury, founded by William

de Braos before 1208 with—"all the liberties and customs contained in the law of Breteuil according to the better and freer usage of the men of Hereford". Finberg, H. P. R., in *Gloucestershire Studies* (Leicester, 1957).

<sup>4</sup> *Calendar of Inquisitions post Mortem*, iv, Edward I, years 29-35. Edmund de Mortimer. "Wigmore—140½ and ¼ burgages". This volume contains valuable details of other Herefordshire boroughs and manors.

<sup>5</sup> See Woolhope N.F.C. *Transactions*, 1941, pp. 128-39; Benn, C. A., "Castles—in the Pipe Rolls—", and compare *Archaeologia Cambrensis*, cxii (1963), Hogg, A. H. A. and King, D. J. C., "Early Castles in Wales and the Marches".

<sup>6</sup> Parry, R., *History of Kington*, 1845, p. 260, and Banks, R. W., "The Manor of Huntington" in *Archaeologia Cambrensis*, 1869, 1870 and 1876.

<sup>7</sup> Grants of murage can generally be traced through the *Calendars of Patent Rolls*, Public Record Office.

<sup>8</sup> Woolhope N.F.C. *Transactions*, 1900, Beddoe, H. C., "Manorial Customs in the County of Hereford", p. 7.

<sup>9</sup> Capes, W. W., *Chapters and Records of Hereford Cathedral*, pp. 135-40 and p. 119.

<sup>10</sup> Robinson, C. J., *Manors of Herefordshire*. A fuller transcript from Blount's lost MS. has been preserved in Phillips' notes, now in the Herefordshire County Record Office.

A general introduction to the study of town topography and history is given in chapters 6 and 7 of Hoskins, W. G., *Local History in England* (Longmans, 1959), with lists of additional references on pp. 182-3.

A book which is shortly to be published: Beresford, M. W., *New Towns of the English*, will add greatly to the knowledge of medieval borough plantations. Professor Beresford's help in correspondence on various details is gratefully acknowledged.

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*Photograph by kind permission of Donovan Wilson, A.I.B.P*

AIR PHOTOGRAPH OF HAMPTON COURT.

## THE WORK OF HANBURY TRACY, LORD SUDELEY, AT HAMPTON COURT

By M. J. MCCARTHY

Hampton Court was the property of the Coningsby family and appears to have been first built in the early fifteenth century. It remained in the possession of the family until the beginning of the last century, when it was sold by George Coningsby, fifth Earl of Essex, to Richard Arkwright, son of the Richard Arkwright who perfected the power loom and himself a wealthy cotton industrialist. He settled the property on his younger son, John, who eventually came to live there. John Arkwright showed no particular interest in architecture, but after his marriage in 1830 with Sarah, daughter of Sir Hungerford Hoskins, a director in the East India Company, he decided to make his great house more comfortable and convenient. He was fortunate in having the help of Charles Hanbury Tracy, later first Baron Sudeley of Toddington, Gloucestershire. This talented amateur architect had just then completed his most ambitious and successful building project, his own house, Toddington Manor.

No doubt he was pleased at the thought of having a new field for the pursuit of his architectural interests, and he enjoyed the advantage of being familiar with Hampton Court, for as a boy he had visited and admired the old building while it was still in the possession of his cousin, the fifth Earl of Essex.

Hanbury Tracy was introduced to John Arkwright by a friend of them both, John Davenport, and in March 1834, when Arkwright first visited Toddington, he offered his services as architect of the proposed alterations. There were difficulties from the start, and in May of the same year Arkwright wrote to suggest cancelling the arrangement should Hanbury Tracy have tired of the project because of Mrs. Arkwright's "impossible demands", or a disagreement with the family architect. This was Mr. Atkinson, who was present at Hampton Court when Hanbury Tracy made a preliminary visit in October 1834. Arkwright wrote to him later, asking his opinion of the Hanbury Tracy proposals. His reply (November 1834) referred to the alterations as "expensive mischief" and he warned grimly: "Do not make Hampton Court a cell to the abbey of Toddington". However, in a letter of December 19th, Arkwright stated that he intended to proceed with the Hanbury Tracy plans, and asked Atkinson if he would consent, though a professional, to execute the amateur's designs. The reply has not survived, and though Atkinson was at Hampton Court on several occasions during the course of the alterations, he seems to have

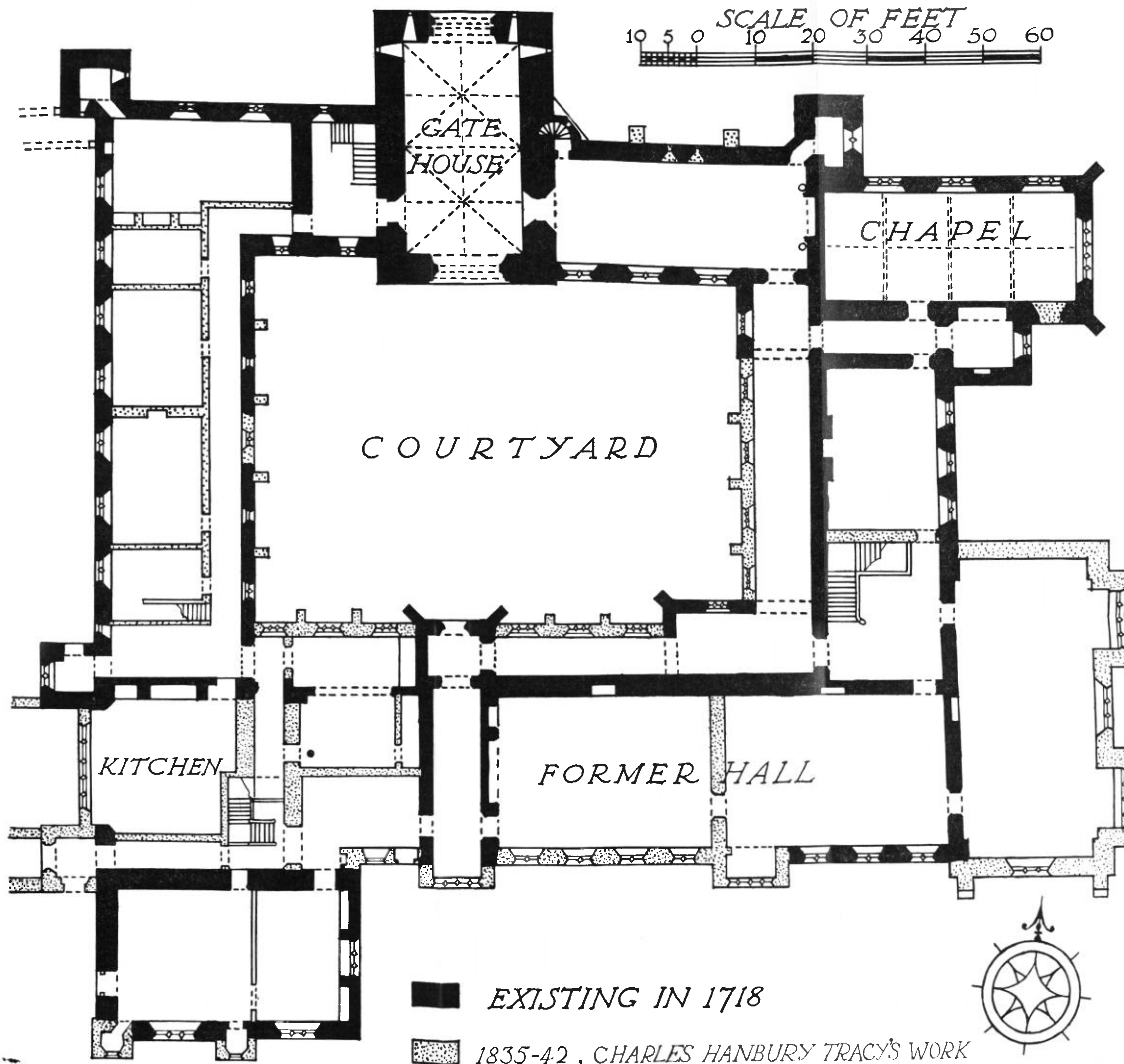
acted in an advisory capacity only. The execution of the plans was entrusted to the foreman, Mr. Gray.

The history of the work can be traced in correspondence in the Arkwright Collection at the Hereford County Record Office (H.C.R.O. A63). This correspondence was not seen by the compilers of the Report of the Royal Commission of Historical Monuments, nor by Dr. Pevsner, who attributed the alterations to Sir Jeffrey Wyatville, whose name does not appear in the Arkwright letters. Dr. Pevsner gives the date as 1817, but it seems that nothing was done until October 1835, a date more compatible with the Neale drawing of 1826.<sup>1</sup>

Hanbury Tracy was at Hampton Court again in February and May, 1835, and on May 20th, Arkwright received in London a copy of the ground plans. Work commenced in the following October with the complete destruction of the South Front. However, all difficulties had not yet been overcome, and the project was to prove exasperating for both Hanbury Tracy and Arkwright. Hanbury Tracy's architectural work was motivated by the conviction that Gothic architecture was the most suitable style for modern domestic purposes, as he explained to Davenport in a letter of March 1834 (H.C.R.O. A63). But he was insistent that the provision of the domestic conveniences of a more leisured age was not to entail any sacrifice of correct and authentic Gothic detail. With the first of these principles Arkwright seems to have had no quarrel, but the second involved expenses which he seems to have regarded as superfluous. He proposed £7,000 as the amount to be expended, but was prepared to go to £10,000.<sup>2</sup> "Comfort is the only consideration which has induced me to make any alteration whatever, and that obtained, I care as far as my own taste is concerned, but little for the rest", though he added: "But I hope you will not think me so entirely devoid of feeling as to cause disgust in others and make so fine a specimen of the taste and style of that day a byword for the bad taste of this" (November 20th, 1834).

Again he wrote in 1839: "I receive your letters in great anxiety and alarm. Your plans are so beautiful, grand and frightful as to their consequences in matters of expense".<sup>3</sup> Referring later to the alteration of the windows on the North Front, he wrote: "I should be satisfied myself to take out the sashes and put in tracery like the lower windows, but I know you say that if altered at all, it should be differently and well done".<sup>3</sup> It is hardly surprising to find Hanbury Tracy's replies become emphatic and even sarcastic. "So now you begin to know where the difficulty lies—now you begin to perceive that the mere mounting a few villainous steps is not the only expense that you have to encounter—you have to enter the hall—and how do you mean to do it—some contrivance!!! I should

# HAMPTON COURT, HOPE • UNDER • DINMORE



like much to use it—more particularly if it is to be made for nothing.”<sup>4</sup> Again in August 1840, he wrote: “Your silence leads me to fear that Mrs. A. still engages too much of your care and attention to allow you to turn your thoughts to Hampton Court”.

It is quite possible that many of the workmen engaged at Toddington moved over to Hampton Court when the former was completed in 1835. From the *Derby Mercury* of October 31st of that year we learn that two hundred men were in employment at the alterations,\* but in the absence of records of the Toddington building we cannot be sure that they were the same people. The sculptured heads at Hampton Court give reason to suppose that they are by the sculptor of Toddington. The foreman, Mr. Gray, was a local man, and an ingenious contriver of “machines” for the works. Indeed his fame reached Barry in London. The latter asked Hanbury Tracy in August, 1839, if he might inspect the works at Hampton Court and visit Toddington en route. A date in early September was convenient for the Arkwrights, and Hanbury Tracy wrote to confirm the appointment,<sup>5</sup> so presumably the visits took place, though I have noticed no further reference to the matter.

Gray's ingenuity was in fact a source of further frustration for Hanbury Tracy, for on one occasion at least he took the liberty of departing from the plans. When Hanbury Tracy went in July, 1837, to see the newly-built South Front, he found that there was as much wall surface as window-space, where he had intended greater window-space. Arkwright was absent (perhaps wisely) on the occasion and Hanbury Tracy wrote immediately expressing his disappointment in no uncertain terms. He told Arkwright to warn Gray against interfering with the designs: “You have no conception how easily a good design is destroyed by what persons who have not *experienced* the truth of what I say would suppose a deviation of trifling importance”.<sup>6</sup> By the common agreement of Gray, Arkwright and his wife it had earlier been decided that Hanbury Tracy's proposal to move the East Front forward was unnecessary, and the decision stood despite his protestations. The truth is that John Arkwright grew quite alarmed at the extent of the alterations he had initiated. In August, 1836, he wrote: “They have now pulled down so much, indeed as far as we have gone it is entirely new (foundations and all)”. In October they were trying to complete work on the billiard-room, and he wrote to say that he regretted ever having “meddled” with it, for: “I find that as we proceed we pull down and build up from the ground anew”.

\* For this reference and notes on John Arkwright's life at Hampton Court, prior to his marriage, I am indebted to Miss M. H. Mackenzie, who has been investigating the Derbyshire branch of the family.

From 1838 to 1841 work continued on the interior, and the North Front was not tackled until the latter year. There was no question of pulling that down, but the windows were altered and the arched entrance vaulted. At this time Hanbury Tracy asked what Arkwright proposed doing with the Chapel, but Arkwright insisted that the North Front be finished before they should go further.<sup>7</sup> Letters from Arkwright in January and March of the following year (1842) show that on this subject too there was friction. Hanbury Tracy's proposal for an oriel window in the Tower was first accepted, but later "Mrs. Arkwright and I" changed their minds, saying that they wanted to preserve as much of the old Tower as possible. By now they were heartily sick of building, Arkwright confessed, and wanted to be rid of the workmen. Consequently the Chapel was left unaltered, though Hanbury Tracy prepared designs to harmonise its castellated parapet with that of the new East Front. In fact the present parapet was not erected until 1850, by Thomas Nicholson of Hereford.<sup>8</sup> The Hampton Court accounts for 1842 to 1845 show that the Chapel ceiling was renovated in 1843, but there was no major internal decoration until 1870.\* There is no evidence to connect these changes with Hanbury Tracy. Nor was he responsible for the Conservatory, built in 1845. Their correspondence stops in June, 1842, and one can only suppose that both owner and architect had had quite enough of each other.

In the circumstances, the building can hardly be taken as an index of Hanbury Tracy's architectural aims or opinions, but there are interesting parallels with Toddington in plan and elevation. The old Hall was divided to provide a dining-room and library on the south, and the new hall was placed on the north side. The billiard-room was built on the east, and at the south-east an extension was built to provide a large drawing-room. The kitchen and offices were on the west, a feature of the plan which differs from Toddington, but Hampton Court is a much smaller building, of one block. Vaulted cloister-passages were built in the courtyard, except on the north side, and, as at Toddington, these provide direct access to the principal rooms. The principal staircase is off a lobby at the south-east junction of the cloisters.

Externally, the arrangement of a series of straight-headed windows above arched windows on the south and east obviously derives from the south elevation of Toddington. The parallel is emphasised on the Hampton Court South Front by the framing of the series with bay windows. It is interesting that the north-east corner of Hampton Court is similar in disposition to the Entrance Tower of the Stables Court at Toddington, with the mock-chapel to its left. Perhaps Hampton Court provided a model for Toddington in this

\* By a London firm. The designs are in Hereford County Record Office.

respect. Hanbury Tracy had certainly seen the old building, and probably knew it well when it had belonged to his cousin, George Coningsby. In the March, 1834, letter to Davenport he expresses admiration for its architecture, "although much disfigured by sundry alterations made from time to time without consideration of anything but the convenience of the moment". His own alterations succeeded in bringing greater convenience to Hampton Court, and certainly made its exterior more consistent and harmonious than Colin Campbell had left it.<sup>9</sup>

#### REFERENCES

##### HAMPTON COURT

Sources: The Arkwright Papers, Hereford County Record Office, A63.

##### Notes:

<sup>1</sup> H.C.R.O. A63, December 29th, 1836.

<sup>2</sup> H.C.R.O. A63, July 28th, 1839.

<sup>3</sup> H.C.R.O. A63, September 13th, 1841.

<sup>4</sup> H.C.R.O. A63, February 27th, 1839.

<sup>5</sup> H.C.R.O. A63, August —, 1839.

<sup>6</sup> H.C.R.O. A63, August 1st, 1837.

<sup>7</sup> H.C.R.O. A63, October —, 1841.

<sup>8</sup> H.C.R.O. A63, —, —, 1850.

<sup>9</sup> Alterations c. 1700 effected by Colin Campbell, illustrated in Vol. II, *Vitruvius Britannicus*.



# CRASWALL PRIORY—REPORT OF A FIELD STUDY MADE IN 1962

By CECIL F. WRIGHT<sup>1</sup>

In July, 1962, a group of students from the Liverpool College of Building carried out a survey of the ruins of Craswall Priory, making a careful record of those parts of the ruins uncovered in earlier excavations and undertaking a little further excavation to reveal the nature of the north and south chapels. This report is therefore an account of a further stage in work done at Craswall Priory.<sup>2</sup> It does not aim to give a history of the Priory or even a description of the whole site, but merely to describe the work done in 1962.

This work was concentrated in establishing the true form of the chambers marked on earlier plans as "North Chapel", "sacristy", and "passage" and in collecting trifles and details of wrought stone work found on or near the site. As the site has suffered from steady deterioration it seemed advisable, too, that a description should be given of the conditions found and noted in the course of the survey.

## THE CHURCH

The arches to the small north and south doorways at the apse steps had collapsed since Mr. R. E. Kay made his drawings and notes about 15 years ago.<sup>3</sup>

The most northerly of the three apse windows has remains of a sloping sill in stepped stonework but the jambs have been displaced by the roots of a massive yew tree which prevented examination of the point where the apse and the east wall of the north chapel joined.

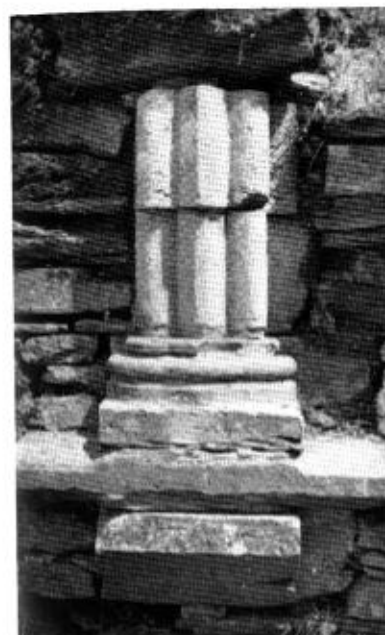
The most southerly apse window has some blocks of tufa in its remaining jamb and again, a stepped stone sill. The tufa occurs in pieces of various sizes in all parts of the site, usually in jambs or quoins.

Inside the west wall of the church another stepped sill and fragments of the south jamb indicated the position of the west window. In an attempt to check the existence of a west door or a cloister door through the south wall of the church near the west end two trenches were cut against the internal wall face but no traces of relieving arches were revealed down to within about six feet of the church floor.

<sup>1</sup> Lecturer in Medieval Architecture at the Liverpool College of Building, School of Architecture.

<sup>2</sup> See *Transactions*, 1904, 1908, 1915, 1918, 1942, for accounts of earlier projects there.

<sup>3</sup> The working party record with grateful thanks the generosity with which Mr. Kay made available to them his unpublished notes and drawings.



Springer from a position over one of the attached triple corbel shafts (see next photograph). Profiles from this appear on one of the student's drawings.

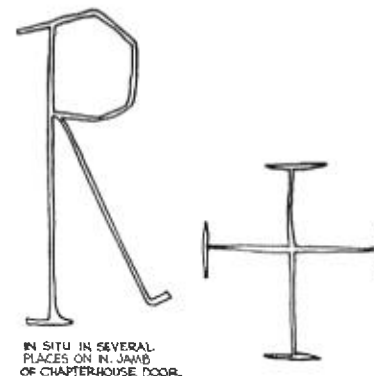


Corbel originally on inside of north jamb of doorway to Cloister (1906 photo) now on Abbey Farm garden wall.

The only piece of carving to show a naturalistic form so far identified on the site.



Attached triple corbel shaft on east wall of Chapterhouse. Remains also in north and south walls. A triple shaft such as this may have surmounted the corbel shown at the bottom left of this page.



Masons' marks, both associated with the Chapterhouse; "R" on the north door jamb and originally hidden by triple clustered shafts; "cross" on a stone probably also from a jamb.



As the church and chapels were evidently plastered internally it seems likely that the stepped sills—in which the courses of stone are only 2 in. or 3 in. thick—were flushed over with mortar, giving a chamfered effect. Nothing of this remains.

The western half of the nave is still buried over 8 feet deep in debris from the pointed tunnel vault which was untouched at the conclusion of the Lilwall excavation. Consequently there is no evidence of any door through the north wall into the area possibly used as the monks' cemetery. The south doorway from the church to the cloister, however, is accessible and was cleared. No jambs were found but upon the threshold step were faint mortar marks where the jambs had been bedded, enabling the door width to be measured as 4 ft. 5 in.

No evidence now remains of the springing of the vault over the nave and apse. The illustration facing page 194 in *Archaeologia*, vol. LXXXV, shows a string course in this position at Comberoumal Priory, France, and if such existed at Craswall its last traces must have disappeared in the extensive collapse in the spring of 1947. There is, however, evidence in the south chapel that no string course was used.

#### NORTH CHAPEL

The area of floor uncovered revealed only plain flagging and the altar step, and it is impossible to say whether the chapel contains any tombs.

In the south wall of the chapel east of the doorway is a twin piscina contained in a plain rectangular recess with an un moulded semicircular arch over. The base of an aumbry in the remains of the north wall faces the piscina and between them is the altar from which the top appears to have been removed—no doubt a useful slab of stone put to another purpose. There are no signs of a reliquary in this altar.

Amongst the debris removed were numerous voussoirs of vaulting ribs decorated with a continuous roll moulding. These bore traces of having been painted white ground with a serpentine brush line in red ochre. The presence of these ribs indicated some form of springing and although the plan published by the R.C.H.M. and another version in *Archaeologia* show a springer above the east jamb of the doorway, no sign of this and little evidence of its seating remains.

A trench was opened outside the probable west wall of the north chapel and after excavating only a couple of feet towards the east the outer face of the wall was found just below the surface. From this the top of the wall was uncovered for a small area including the north-west internal angle of the chapel where an attached rib

was discovered. On continuing excavation within this angle to find the springer, the working party found, some nine inches below the turf, fragments of plaster evident on the internal wall-face and shortly afterwards traces of paint. Very careful removal of soil over an area of about three square feet showed there to have been a design in red ochre and black on a white ground—very vestigial and suggesting, perhaps, some form of vine scroll. In view of the character of the design on the vaulting ribs this would not be improbable.

At the same level, however, the corner corbel supporting the rib was uncovered. This consisted of a rectangular slab, being the base of an inverted pyramid. The rib bore traces of red ochre and on the face of the slab was an irregular zigzag line in black on a cream or white ground.

Amongst the fragments of ribbing found in the debris was a plain intersection between diagonals—no boss carving—and angles taken off this member proved accurate to within half a degree in setting out the plan of the vault.

It was possible to take an accurate profile showing that the diagonal ribs in fact formed a semicircular arch of 20 ft. diameter. The chapel was a plain rectangle measuring 26 ft. 5 in. east-west and 15 ft. 2 in. north-south. It was vaulted in two bays by a ribbed quadripartite vault springing from triple-grouped corbels between the bays and single corbels or springers in the angles. The springers were of a common pattern.

The vaulting ribs appear to have sprung from a level 6 ft. 3 in. above the level of the altar steps but although there is documentary evidence of there having been a corbel or springer by the door to the church and there is a hole from which it has fallen, the wall surface on the south side to its present height of some 10 feet above floor level shows no sign of curving at a springing or of a vault having abutted against it.

In the east wall, behind the altar, were the slightest traces of a window opening, but none was found in other walls.

A conjectural external wall-face with an internal angle formed by projecting the known lines of the apse and the chapel wall has little regard for appearance and does not compare with the articulation of the apse of the south chapel with the larger element. The north chapel has features alien to the remainder of the site and may be a rebuilding but this could only be proved by complete excavation and an examination of the foundations on the eastern side.

#### SOUTH CHAPEL

This chamber has hitherto been labelled on plans of the site as "Sacristy" and was only partially excavated by Lilwall whose men cleared a trough almost down to floor level from the door to the

church across to the south wall opposite and a little way to the east, exposing an aumbry very similar to that in the north wall of the church apse and probably also that in the north chapel.

To establish the plan-form trenches were cut along the inside faces of the north and south walls. That on the south soon revealed a break in the wall face matching the one between the doorway and the aumbry in the north wall. This was taken as confirmation of the chapel theory and shortly afterwards a semicircular-headed recess containing the familiar twin piscinae was found, and beyond it the beginning of the curve of an apse.

The apsidal wall had almost completely collapsed and was deeply buried in rubble. Its inner face was followed with a trench and vestigial remains of the splayed north jamb of the northern window were located. No rib voussoirs were found amongst the debris removed but one corbel, very badly weathered, was identified. This was of the inverted pyramid type but formed to fit in a flat wall surface and not in an internal angle as those in the north chapel.

It was in this trench round the apse that the only piece of recognisable mediaeval pottery was found—a lug or handle from the shoulder of a crock in a dark greyish brown ware. The surface had a dark green salt-glaze and the ring of the handle was decorated with finger-nail indentations. It is now amongst the Craswall finds in Hereford Museum.

At the western end of the south chapel the wall between it and the cloister was completely buried in debris from which a large yew tree grows. Over the position of the north-west corner, however, several over sailing courses of stonework bonded back into the south wall of the church indicated the possible springing of the chapel vault and excavation under these located the internal angle and wall face of the cloister wall.

There was no indication that any string course marked the line of the springing of the vault and it was difficult to determine the precise level in view of past movement of the stonework. The wall appears to have run up into the vault soffit without a break. At the point where the cloister wall was found the topmost voussoirs of a relieving arch were just visible and further digging uncovered the entire archway in this wall against the north wall of the chapel. Time did not permit the exposing of the outer face of this arch but by clearing under the relieving arch it was found that the dressed head on the outer face had fallen away.

#### PASSAGE

This was easily accessible from the Cloister and when its general form was established and it was proved there was no doorway from it to the South Chapel it was not investigated further.

The eastern end of the passage has almost disintegrated and wall faces were difficult to identify. If, indeed, this range of building was of two storeys as the mass of debris would suggest, the eastern wall must have collapsed almost to ground level and there is solid debris to a depth of 8—9 feet above the Chapter House floor level.

The Cloister entrance to the Passage is of some interest as the jambs appear to have been built at different times; that on the north being entirely in large dressed stones and the other in rubble with dressed quoins.

The floor and threshold are paved with large stone slabs in the manner of the remainder of the building and along the bases of both walls are narrow stone ledges. The purpose of these is not clear; they are too low and narrow for seats.

It was impossible—without deep excavation—to determine the form of the eastern doorway if one existed.

#### CHAPTERHOUSE

This was completely cleared by Lilwall and several photographs exist in the Hereford Museum. Since the Lilwall excavation the fabric has suffered extensively from frost damage; door jambs have been moved up to a foot from their true position and much of the walling has fallen. The measured drawings have, wherever possible, corrected these displacements.

Fortunately the setting-out marks on the bases of the two columns, the various springers in the region of the Chapterhouse and other principal members gave a very good idea of the vaulting pattern which confirmed the lineal measurements.

The windows in the eastern wall of the Chapterhouse had glazing grooves, mullion and transom sockets together with a deep slot in the sill just inside the glazing plane. The purpose of this slot has not yet been determined. It does not appear to be the result of the sill splitting and frost action opening the crack, but this origin should not be entirely ruled out.

Whereas the eastern windows were glazed, the openings to the cloister walk were never intended to have any form of doors or shutters. It would have been impossible to hang any such fittings against the clustered column shafts lining the jambs.

In the south-west corner of the Chapterhouse is a narrow door opening leading to the dormitory undercroft (sometimes labelled "Warming House"). Such doorways appear in most of the Grandmontine plans reproduced in *Archaeologia*, but in other Orders the Chapterhouses were entered only by one portal. Even book closets were customarily placed outside the entrance (Furness, Valle Crucis, etc.).

Most of the better carving found at the farm or on the site came from the Chapterhouse or from the Sedilia in the church. Photographs taken about 1906 show certain stones in position which are now dispersed.

Sufficient material lies scattered about the site to enable a detailed reconstruction of the Chapterhouse to be made, but since the excavation of 1904 it has suffered in proportion more than any other part of the site. This may be judged by comparing contemporary photographs in *Archaeologia* with present conditions resulting from frost movement.

The dorter stair against the outside of the southern end of the Chapterhouse wall in the Cloister provides an interesting detail. There are traces of a dozen or so steps—several marked only by their seating in the wall—which cross the level of the outer sill of the southern Cloister window. The steps above the sill line are carried over to the splayed and shafted outer reveal of the window opening where an articulation is formed by the shaft bases being set upon them. A drawing and photograph illustrate the result achieved.

It is interesting to note that the site appears devoid of representational carving, neither human figures nor leaf forms. The nearest approach is the tiny leaf on a corbel illustrated in a photograph.

The architecture is severe and inclined to be ponderous in detail. The stone is dark and unless paint and plaster were used extensively the buildings must have exuded a gloomy and depressing atmosphere which would have done nothing to alleviate the rigorous Rule of the Order.

The following students of the Liverpool College of Building, School of Architecture, took part in the study: M. E. B. Brown, R. Burbidge, G. Daley, S. Clarke, R. W. Dransfield, M. Gill, S. T. Evans, P. Fauset, P. G. Garrett, G. F. Hill, D. McCannon, A. H. Price, R. Scott, A. Sutton, J. G. Taylor.

The group received much help and advice from many individuals and organizations. Special thanks are due to Mr. J. Price of the Abbey Farm, owner of the ruins, who gave every assistance, and to the Woolhope Club which kindly lent much of its equipment from the Croft Ambrey excavations.

## NOTE

### RAINFALL AT LADYWELL HOUSE, VOWCHURCH DURING THE YEARS 1961-64

By A. S. Wood

In continuation of, and to link up with the rainfall statistics appearing in the *Club Transactions*, Vol. XXXVI (1958-60), pp. 309-16 covering the period 1930-59, with data relating to the year 1960, as an addenda; this paper deals in a more general manner with the four years ending 31 December, 1964.

A summary of the rainfalls in each year is appended in tabular form, and in order to comprise half of a decadal period for the purpose of computing an average to compare with the standard Meteorological Office figures (34·9 in.) that of 1960 is included.

	Total fall in inches	No. of days on which ·01 in. or more fell	No. of days on which ·04 in. or more fell
1960	50·42	220	165
1961	30·28	171	134
1962	29·94	174	125
1963	34·84	200	150
1964	25·71	160	133
Average per year	34·24	185	137

The order of "month wetness" exhibits a close resemblance to that of the previous 30 year period as detailed p. 316 of the 1958-60 *Club Transactions*. The months of November, December, October, January, in that order occupy four of the five top places. March takes the sixth place, previously tenth, and April has moved up from the eleventh to fourth. June remains in the twelfth place. The proportion of the six wettest months to the total fall is 60 per cent and that of the driest is 40 per cent; thus almost identical with the longer period.

**1961.** Unsettled conditions occurred in the early weeks, with a short warm spell in the middle of February. March was exceptionally dry with only ·09 in. of rain, and on the 14th a temperature of F. 78° was recorded. April was a wet month, 5·51 in. At the end of June, temperatures ranged around F. 80°, and on the 29th August F. 84°; the maximum for the year. The summer was characterized by the absence of thunderstorms. Rainfall during the autumn months was the normal amount, followed by a short snowy spell in the last

week of December; the greatest fall being ·73 in. on the 29th accompanied with low temperatures. A thaw set in quickly.

**1962.** Weather was of similar type to that of 1961, a wet January 4·34 in. of rain was followed by a dry February, ·69 in. only, with a few light snowfalls continuing into March. Persistent east winds prevailed early in the spring with scattered sleet storms. Throughout the remainder of the year rainfall was fairly consistent to an average of 3 in. per month, except June when only ·55 in. fell. There were two short thunderstorms in May and July. Late in December low temperatures with almost daily snowstorms continued until the end of the year.

**1963.** Severe weather was prevalent in January and February. A snow storm on the 2nd January fell to a depth of 10 in., seriously impeding road transport. A notable feature was that precipitation on 10 days in January occurred entirely in the form of snow, and also on 13 days in February. The equivalent rain measure being slightly in excess of 4 in. for the two months. Rainfall in March and April was in excess of the average, from thence inclusive of October distribution was fairly even each month. Foggy conditions were frequent in the autumn. November was a wet month (7·64 in.) and December dry (1·41 in.). Very cold weather set in during the final week of the year.

**1964.** The driest year since 1953. Rainfall in January was only ·67 in. For the eight months April to November falls barely averaged 2 in. per month. December at 4·64 in. was the greatest amount. Thunderstorms were rare, but that on the 30th May recorded ·78 in. There were hot spells in August (F. 82° on 26th) and September. The year terminated with snowstorms and intense frosts, the lowest reading being F. -1° on December 29th. The seasonable effect of the droughty conditions was that the hay crop was secured in good order, and the corn harvest (wheat and barley) was of excellent yield and quality. On the reverse side, the hillside springs diminished in quantity and many ceased to flow, not recovering until late in December. Local water shortages were more acute than known for many years past.

## REPORTS OF SECTIONAL RECORDERS

### ANCIENT BUILDINGS, 1964

By J. W. TONKIN, B.A.

In this county with its very rich heritage of old buildings of all sizes and types there is much to be done simply in keeping pace with demolition and major alterations. Careful recording takes time, but if we are to preserve a record of the homes of our predecessors in this area it must be done, and done thoroughly. Such a record is not simply architectural or archaeological, but is of importance to the social and economic historian as well and, in fact, to all who study the culture of the county. Thanks to the Extra-Mural Department, University of Birmingham and the W.E.A., a group is being trained to record buildings and the fruits of their labours will be deposited with the Club and at the National Buildings Record.

#### HEREFORD

3 *High Street*. SO 510400. With the permission of Littlewoods the group made a complete record of this house before demolition began. It was substantially as it had been reconstructed about 1600 with some older vaulted cellars and much timber re-used from an earlier building. A full report on this important house is given on pp. 49-61. A good compromise was reached with Littlewoods, and the least altered part of the house, including the High Street façade, is being preserved.

23 and 24 *Church Street*. SO 511398. Thanks to Mr. S. C. Beaumont, a last minute attempt has been made to save this house, which is important not only as being a good house of its type, but is important to the character of the street. It was already known for its seventeenth century ceiling, but the northern part of the house has a good late medieval roof and there are good cellars. It is perhaps the most complete example remaining in the city of a sixteenth century merchant's house.

#### BURRINGTON

*Lynch Cottage*. SO 445728. A small stone farmhouse of the eighteenth century which was recorded before being sold. It is now undergoing major alterations. It was interesting in still having an unheated room downstairs on one side of the passage, the other acting as a hall-living room.

*Yew Tree Cottage*. SO 454722. A stone and timber framed farmhouse of the eighteenth century "inclosure period" now deserted

and falling down. One big room downstairs with a stone hearth and a bake oven at one end and stairs leading to a sleeping loft lit from the gable at the other. It must be typical of a number of local farmhouses which have quite recently been destroyed in the same area.

#### HAMPTON BISHOP

*Tupsley Court*. SO 536402. With the permission of the owner and the occupier the group visited and recorded this seventeenth century farmhouse and buildings. There had been some talk of demolition. It turned out to have been built in three quite distinct phases.

#### RICHARDS CASTLE

*Oldfield Farm*. SO 466694. This fine late Elizabethan farmhouse was sold during the year and was recorded before any opportunity arose to alter it. It is an interesting house of two storeys and attics with no screens passage.

#### STAUNTON-ON-WYE

*Lower House Cottage*. SO 369452. A report of this interesting variant of a long house has already appeared in the Club's *Transactions* for 1963. It was in a bad state of repair and was to be renovated.

*Lower House Farm*. SO 368452. Also by permission of Mr. Davidson this late seventeenth-century farmhouse, which probably replaced the "Cottage" across the road, was recorded before being altered and having a wing demolished. It was a typical, bigish farmhouse of its time.

#### WEOBLEY

5 and 6 *Hereford Street*. SO 402515. These were recorded with the help of Mr. V. H. Coleman as there was a possibility of their being demolished. They have been much altered and encased in stone probably in the late eighteenth century, but once formed part of a fairly big seventeenth century timber-framed house, its wing now forming a third cottage. They are not mentioned by the R.C.H.M.

#### WIGMORE

*Castle Cottage*. SO 413690. This house was for sale and an opportunity was taken of recording it while empty. It is an interesting mid-seventeenth century timber-framed house with a hall approached directly from the road, some good chamfered and stopped ceiling beams, and an eighteenth century stone addition at the back. It is not mentioned by the R.C.H.M.

*Steps House.* SO 413690. This house was for sale and has been considerably modernised since. It is a fascinating example of the early use of brick, probably about 1600, on what are probably still older stone foundations. It has some good chamfered and stopped beams.

*Upper Limebrook Farm.* SO 665375. Along with the Hereford houses this was the most important building covered during the year. It was about to be pulled down and the timber used for repairs to a house in Lingen. It is a fine three-bay cruck building with cusped wind-braces and decoration, arch-braced collars to the main cruck trusses, an open hall which had been divided in the seventeenth century, and a wing and cellars. The R.C.H.M. inventory states that the wing was later but various pieces of evidence found when the wing was pulled down seemed to show it was contemporary with the cruck part of the house. This latter part has been saved and is being restored by Mr. Nicholas, the owner.

Other houses recorded by the group during the year include Broadlands at Eardisley, the home of Mr. V. H. Coleman, and Mr. and Miss Homes' house at Upleadon. The former is a two-bay cruck building, the latter a big house of about 1600 with a later wing and outbuildings with interesting upper base crucks.

Five houses in Burrington parish were recorded, the Manor, the Farm, Monstay Farm, the Old Willows Farmhouse (now four cottages), and the house by the old vicarage ruins. In addition, the site and a few of the timbers of the old Bringewood Hall were located.

Mr. I. and Miss M. Homes in the Ashperton and Bosbury areas, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Perry in the Bromyard area, Commander M. B. Hale in Much Marcle parish, Mrs. D. O'Donnell in Hereford, Mr. V. H. Coleman in various parts, Miss J. Bickerton and Mr. A. Clarke have all been actively recording, and it is hoped to include their work in next year's report.

## ARCHAEOLOGY, 1964

By S. C. STANFORD, B.A., F.S.A.

### IRON AGE

*Croft Ambrey* (SO 443668). The fifth season of the Club's excavations, directed by the writer, has added much to our knowledge of the hill-fort, and imposed fresh interpretations on the results of earlier seasons. The evidence of permanent and long-continued occupation is of a new degree for British hill-forts.

Eleven phases of construction and repair have been recorded at the South-West Gate of the Main Camp, suggesting a date not later than the third century B.C. for the erection of the Main Camp

defences. This will also be the latest acceptable date for the emergence of the Western Third B culture at Croft Ambrey. It is some measure of the interest of the Club's excavations that before they started in 1960 the first century B.C. was generally accepted as the time of arrival of Western Third B in this area.

On the plateau of the Camp interior the extension of the 1963 area of excavation showed that the partial plan of a timber round-house was an illusion; instead we now have three rows of rectangular four-poster wooden huts ranging in size from 8 ft. by 6 ft. to 10 ft. by 12 ft. All the post-holes show several replacements, and one is demonstrably of seven phases. Whatever the function of these buildings the persistence of their orderly plan throughout the hill-fort's occupation is something that once again is new for a British hill-fort.

The nature of the areas worked in 1964 meant that few finds could be expected, but two complete, though broken, saddle querns have been amongst the finds. A report on the bones from the first three seasons' work has been received from Mr. and Mrs. D. Whitehouse, and points out the greater importance of pig in the Ambrey economy compared with other Iron Age sites.

To local subscriptions in 1964 have been added substantial grants from the Prehistoric Society (£100), The University of Birmingham (£75), and The Cambrian Archaeological Association (£50). We are greatly indebted to these bodies and to the numerous private subscribers whose support has allowed the impetus of the original project to be successfully maintained. An increasing burden of responsibility for recording has been placed upon individual members of the excavation team, and our progress on the site has reflected their success under the site supervision in 1964 of Messrs. A. E. Flatley, M. W. Jones, R. Marks, C. D. Miller, and C. O. Peabody. The popularity of the dig, which has given us a full-time team of 30 in each season, owes most to the efforts of Mrs. Julianne Pulzer and Mrs. Yvonne Stanford who have managed to combine their activities on the site with the catering involved in our "camp" at Croft Castle Stables.

### ROMAN

*Huntsham* (SO 565175). The Archenfield Archaeological Group has discovered another building, measuring 60 ft. by 30 ft. on this Romano-British villa site. Its rooms have stone floors, and are flanked by a long corridor which was added later. Finds of coarse pottery, samian ware, and several coins from drainage channels and a rubbish pit outside the building show that the house was in use until the mid-fourth century. A thick precinct wall has also been found, that surrounds the house and probably the villa.

*Leintwardine village* (SO 403742). Rescue excavations in advance of the construction of a new bungalow were directed by the writer under the Club's auspices and financed by the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works. On a badly eroded site were found the remains of a large building with three phases of construction of which the first two were in timber, and the last partly in stone. Later occupation was marked by a series of latrine pits producing third and fourth century pottery, but little survived of any buildings of these periods.

*Leintwardine, Mill Lane* (SO 403739) Rescue excavations under the Club's auspices and financed by the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works were directed by the writer on the recently exposed site of a Roman bath-house west of Griffiths Garage. Three phases of work have been discerned, the earliest being no earlier than the second century. Of the original building two heated rooms, the stoke-hole and a cold room with cold plunge bath, were revealed. The second phase was marked by minor alterations to the plunge bath level and the relative sizes of the heated rooms. The building was then left derelict at some time in the second century. When the bath-house was restored in the final phase these rooms and bath were converted to cold rooms.

On the north side of Mill Lane examination of a cut made in the bank that comes southwards from Chantryland showed that this is the same log-laced rampart as that excavated in 1958. This indicates that the late second century defences enclose about 12 acres.

*Mordiford, Backbury Hill* (SO577386). Second century Romano-British sherds have been brought into Hereford Museum from this new site, which was subsequently inspected by Miss M. Crompton.

*Whitchurch* (SO 548172). Mr. N. P. Bridgewater reports the cutting of a small section on the new premises of Mr. A. J. Kirby, opposite Norton House. Below a sandy layer, a thick layer of iron slag containing Romano-British coarse pottery extended to about 6 ft. below ground level.

#### MEDIEVAL

*Marstow* (SO 554192). A preliminary excavation was carried out by the Archenfield Archeological Group on the site of the ancient church of Llan Martin in Eryng. Mr. Bridgewater points out that the *Book of Llandaff* refers to the priest Morfwy who was ordained there in the time of Edward the Confessor. The foundations of the medieval church, the nave of which was 10 ft. wide internally, were revealed, with the remains of a mortar floor laid upon a bed of iron slag. Beneath this is an earlier destruction layer, not yet dated. It is clear that the inner and outer levels of the church were raised in the eighteenth century and the north wall buttressed with massive

stones to counteract collapse. The medieval altar stone was also discovered. Many finds have been obtained, including coins of Edward I and James I, a wide range of glazed roof tiles (13th—16th centuries) and several hand-made eighteenth century pins.

*Richard's Castle* (SO 484703). Dr. M. W. Thompson has sent the following report on the fourth and final season of excavations directed by himself and Mr. P. E. Curnow. There were two objectives: filling-in and making a section through the village bank and ditch. The latter was very successful, since sherds of medieval pottery were found both in and beneath the bank, which proved to be of dump construction. An unexpectedly high water table rendered digging in the ditch below six feet impossible. It was particularly satisfactory to have dating material from the village bank, which some had suggested was an earlier Iron Age construction. The sherds ought to be of c. 1050 but there remains some doubt as to whether they are not 50–100 years later than this.

#### POST-MEDIEVAL

*Bishopswood, Upper Lodge* (SO 599183). This site was examined by the Archenfield Archaeological Group on behalf of the City Museum, and through the courtesy of Col. I. B. S. Lewin. The walling found previously on the site was shown to be modern, possibly late nineteenth century. Beneath levels associated with this walling was a thick bed of charcoal, thought to result from nineteenth century charcoal burning, and below this again, a thick layer of iron slag, most of it of blast furnace type, but including some pieces of bloomery slag and some roasted ore. Alternating layers of slag, sand and pebbles continued to the limit of excavation, 5 ft. below the modern surface. Mr. Bridgewater concludes that the site must lie very close to a blast furnace of the seventeenth century or later.

*Kilpeck, Bridge Farm* (SO 444308). A plan of foundations exposed during levelling operations south-east of Bridge Farm has been deposited with the Club by Miss M. H. Thomas. Post-medieval pottery was found in the area.

#### BOTANY, 1964

By F. M. KENDRICK

This year as in many previous years, I have drawn freely on the records of our affiliated section, the Herefordshire Botanical Society, through the kindness of its recorder, Mrs. L. E. Whitehead. The field work by this society continues to add fresh records to our flora, many of them members of our native flora.



Amongst the most interesting records are the following new records.

#### NEW RECORDS

*Dianthus deltoides* (Maiden pink)—Totteridge Hill; Mary Knowl.  
*Epilobium lanceolatum* (Spear leaved willow herb)—Hampton Park.

#### NATURALISED ALIENS

*Saxifraga cymbalaria* (Ivy leaved saxifrage)—Lady Grove; Llangrove.  
*Maianthemum bifolium* (May lily)—Walterstone Camp.  
*Ambrosia trifida* (American Ragweed)—Franchisestone, Hereford.

#### INTERESTING RECORDS

*Helleborus viridis* (Green hellebore)—Ruxton, King's Cuple; Hampton Court, Humber; The Nobles, Dulas.  
*Montia perfoliata* (Claytonia perfoliata)—Pipe and Lyde; Walterstone Camp.  
*Geranium paeum* (Dusky Cranesbill)—Little Dewchurch.  
*Lathyrus montanus* (Bitter pea)—Bircher Common; Frith Wood, Ledbury.  
*Epipactis sessilifolia* (Violet helleborine)—Putley; Dog Hill, Ledbury; Sapeybrook, Tedstone Delamere.  
*Juniperus communis* (Juniper)—Sapey brook valley.

The fungus foray, under the leadership of Mr. F. Pincher, was held in Mains wood, Putley. It produced 71 species which was very good considering the very dry season. Some of the specimens were uncommon and the help of Kew was sought in confirming some of the records, one in particular, *Pholiota tuberculosa*, was of great interest as Kew had only a single specimen of this particular fungus. In one part of the wood large numbers of *Boletus parasiticus* were found, whilst a remarkable amount of *Chlorociboria aeruginascens* was found scattered throughout the wood.

Mr. T. C. Gwynne sent me a specimen of mistletoe which was found growing on a plum tree at Little Dewchurch. This is only the second report I have received of a plum tree as host.

#### DIALECT, 1964

By MRS. W. LEEDS

Good progress has been made this year in the recording of many dialect words and expressions in use now or recently within the county. As the lists grow long it has been decided that the records compiled should not be published in full in this report every year,

but that they be lodged with the Club so that a full glossary of words and phrases may eventually be made.

In working towards the preparation of such a glossary I am very grateful to all those who gave me information and ask for co-operation from all members of the Club, particularly from those who have knowledge of special terms used in crafts and trades. These form very interesting and in many cases, fast dying, instances, of dialect usage.

I give a list of farm words sent to me by Mr. T. C. Wall, familiar to him in the Ross, Cradley and Holme Lacy districts, and apparently in general use within the last fifty and sixty years.

#### FARM WORDS BY T. C. WALL

*Adze* or *Stocker*—A large hoe-like tool used to ridge up potatoes, etc.

*Alleybo*—A wheelbarrow (Woolhope, Cradley, etc.).

*Bailey*—A seed-barrow for planting clover and grass seeds. I have used one myself at Cradley.

*Gee-o lines*—Thin rope reins, usually tapered as far as I remember, used when ploughing, etc.

*Fiddle*—An implement like a kidney-shaped box, slung round the shoulders, and with a sort of "fiddle-stick" which when sawed back and forth distributed seed. I dimly recollect seeing one used on my father's farm near Ross, but I cannot recollect the mechanical details. A simple kidney-shaped box carried slung at waist-level was also used when broadcasting seed by hand, the right and left hands casting handfuls of seed to left and right alternately, across the front of the body. Considerable skill was required to give an even cover of seed, without overlapping, and a sort of marching step was used—one step, one handful of seed. Another type was slung on the left side of the body, with a handle for the left hand to steady it, whilst the right hand was used to cast the seed.

*Hales*—Plough handles (Ross and Ledbury).

*Housen*—This was also part of horse harness. My brother used to say when it was wet that we ought to "put the housen up"—to cover it over. He said that originally a canvas covering was slipped over the hames round a horse's collar, to stop the wet from getting under the collar and thus making the neck more liable to be chafed. I have never seen such "housen", nor heard of them elsewhere.

*Cusp*—Tooth. Used of the inward-facing teeth forged, or cast, on the quadrant fixed to the front of a plough, to which the whippletrees were hooked. The position of the hook controlled the draft of the plough, and made it bear into or away from the side

of the furrow. Hence the expression "Thee'st want to odds the cusp"—if a job was not going right, then the tool should be re-set to suit the work better.

*Shut-link*=An open chain link, with overlapping ends, used to join a broken chain trace in the field until such time as a proper weld could be made by the blacksmith.

*Skerriers*=Spring-tined harrows, still widely used to-day to break down ploughed land to make a tilth.

*Sword*=A long flat steel or iron bar secured to the inner end of the near-side shaft of a tipping cart. This passed through the forward end of the wood side member of the cart body, and was drilled with holes along its length, so that a captive steel pin could be inserted to limit the angle of tip of the cart body.

*Bishop*=When a carter inadvertently tipped a whole load of muck in one large heap in a field (instead of a series of smaller ones, more easily spread by a fork), through having set the "sword" too high, he was said to have "made a bishop". The traditional penalty for him was to spread this very large heap himself, which entailed extra labour.

*Thripples*=Wooden frames which could be mounted fore and aft on a large four-wheeled wagon with a flat bed so as to enable a larger load of hay or corn sheaves to be put aboard. The word was often pronounced "dripples".

*Mullen*=Bridle for a cart-horse (also *mullein*).

*Sup-up*=To give the working horses a final feed last thing at night.

*Hutch*=The hatch of a mill.

*Bouter* or *boater*=A plough with two mould boards, right and left handed, used for "bouting out" ground for planting potatoes.

*Cop* or *top*=The point in ploughing where the furrows come together from right and left, when "gathering", i.e., ploughing up the field, then crossing the work already done, and going down the opposite side.

*Rean*=The opening between furrows ploughed to right and left. A rean was in the exact middle of two cops usually. "Slitting" was to plough up one side, cross unploughed ground, and return down the side opposite where the rean would finally be left. The width between cops and reans was decided by the nature of the ground, as the reans helped to drain heavy soil.

*Copping-out*=Setting out the field by making the cops. The accuracy of the cops largely decided the tidiness and accuracy of the ploughing.

## ENTOMOLOGY, 1964

By H. G. LANGDALE-SMITH, M.B., CH.B.

Last year I reported butterflies according to their time of appearance. This year I propose to refer to them by their families.

The weather has been much more favourable.

### SATYRIDAE

As usual the Speckled Wood (*aegeria*) were very numerous; very few Wall butterflies (*megaera*), but Ringlets (*hyperanthus*) were more numerous than usual.

I saw no Grayling (*semele*), but a few Marbled White (*galathea*) were on Broadmoor Common.

The ubiquitous Meadow Brown (*janira*) has been quite uncommon: Gatekeepers (*tithonus*) scarce.

### NYMPALIDAE

These were again very scarce.

Pearl Bordered fritillary (*euphrosyne*) and Small b.p. (*selene*) appeared in small numbers, but the silver-washed (*paphia*) was more in evidence than usual—I hope partly due to the larvae I introduced in the spring.

No White Admirals (*camilla*) were seen. Quite a number of Painted Ladies (*cardui*) were seen and it seemed quite a Red Admiral (*atalanta*) year. Commas (*c-album*) were scarce; Peacocks (*io*) very plentiful.

A Large Tortoiseshell (*polychloros*) was reported from Fownhope but this was not confirmed.

### LYCAENIDAE

Members of this family are not common in Herefordshire. I saw a few White Letter Hair Streaks (*w. album*) and Purple Hair Streaks (*quercus*) at Stoke Edith.

I saw no Small Coppers (*phlaeas*) although I bred some in my garden.

### PIERIDAE

The Wood White (*sinapis*) were very plentiful and a second brood appeared. Large White (*brassicae*) and Small Whites (*rapae*) seemed to be well controlled. Green Vein (*napi*) were abundant, Orange Tips (*cardamines*) less numerous. A brimstone (*rhanni*) was reported from Colwall but although I need them every year in my garden, I have not seen any.

## HESPERIIDAE

The Skippers (*tages*, *malvae*, *sylvanus*) were scarcer than usual.

## MOTHS

Elephant Hawk (*elpenor*) reported from Putley; *Convolvulus* (*convolvuli*) and Humming-bird Hawk-moth (*stellatarum*) appeared in my garden.

Two Death's Head Hawk-moths (*atropros*) have been reported.

Although 1964 has been a very good year, there is much room for improvement and I am glad to know that in schools and also in private gardens, interested people are breeding butterflies.

## GEOLOGY, 1964

By F. M. KENDRICK

The re-working of the old Frith Quarry at Ledbury has practically destroyed the fossiliferous beds which had yielded such an excellent collection of Upper Ludlow fossils. Fortunately a forest road above the quarry has again cut across practically the same horizon and though not so rich in species as the old exposure a fairly representative collection can be obtained.

Whilst examining a section on the western side of the Knapp Lane quarry at Ledbury, I was fortunate to obtain a good specimen of *Spongarium edwardii*. I can find no record of one being obtained from this area before.

An old workman repairing a stone tiled roof in the Bredwardine area pointed out some greenish-grey coloured tiles and explained that these were the most sought-after and had probably come from the Cusop Quarries. As these resembled the "Rowlestone beds" enquiries made in that area indicated that the same type came from the quarries at Trelandon. Interesting information was obtained about the quarrying of these "tiles" amongst which was the fact that large blocks were raised in the autumn and frost action enabled these to be split more easily in the spring.

A most interesting discovery was made this year by Dr. B. Miles in the passage beds at Perton Quarry. Associated with plant remains and fragments of *Pterygotus gigas* was a fossil which has been identified by Dr. J. D. Lawson as the calcareous algae *Actinophyllum spinosum*. It is understood that a few more specimens have since been found in the same beds of this quarry (see illustration).

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ACTINOPHYLLUM SPINOSUM.

## MAMMALS, 1964

By C. W. WALKER, M.C., M.D., Ch.B.

Reports of occurrences of the Polecat continue to come in. They are worth recording as this animal is almost absent from the rest of England, its headquarters being in central Wales. One crossed the Checkley road at Mordiford Froome in front of Mr. Patrick Lee's car and was well seen by him in the light of his headlamps. Another was snared alive at Aconbury and placed in a wooden box but bit its way out. A dead specimen was picked up near Shucknall on August 20th, and another at Eggleton on August 27th: their lengths were 23 in. and 17 in. respectively (Mr. H. J. Arnold, Newtown). Two were seen in late November by Mr. W. R. Pye—one near Flintsham and one between the Rodd and Presteigne.

A water-shrew found dead in Shobdon village on December 15th, was sent to the Museum by Mr. T. R. Ammonds. This animal occurs in our rivers though it is rarely seen: it is larger than our other shrews, black above and white below, and with a very mole-like head.

## ORNITHOLOGY, 1964

By C. W. WALKER, M.C., M.D., Ch.B.

After the "silent spring" of 1963—silent because of the heavy loss of bird life in the hard weather of the preceding winter—there was some improvement in numbers of such hard-hit species as the wren, song-thrush, pied wagtail, green woodpecker and moorhen, but none of these species had recovered by 1964 to their pre-1963 numbers. Kingfishers—almost absent throughout 1963—began to reappear in small numbers, but herons remained very few and a barn owl was still a very rare sight in this county. Two other species remaining very scarce were grey wagtails and woodlarks—the latter almost a lost species for Herefordshire. One newcomer—the collared dove—increased in numbers, especially round Eardisland. A marsh-warbler was seen and heard in the county on May 25th—it has been absent since 1956: we hope it may again become a regular breeding species in the county.

Migrant swans—Whooper and Bewick's—again frequented the Teme and upper Wye during the winter: this appears to be becoming their regular winter custom. Other unusual water-birds were a Barnacle goose and a Scoter duck seen at Winforton, a drake and two duck Gadwall at Llyn Hilyn pool, and a Manx shearwater picked up in Hereford after a gale on September 16th. It was liberated in Anglesey on 18th and flew strongly out to sea.

On 27th April a whoopoe was seen at Blakemere, being chased by an angry starling.

A rough-legged buzzard was seen on September 27th at Turner's Boat, and another in the Elan Valley on January 19th. An osprey haunted the Wye Valley near Moccas from 5th to 12th July. The hobby again reared young successfully. Numbers of crossbills remained in our conifer woods until late spring: none were seen later.

It was a remarkable year for quail all over England. There were scattered records from all quarters of the county and one from Radnorshire. They bred as usual at their one regular haunt in Herefordshire.

There were several reports of corncrakes, and one pair bred successfully at Almeley Wooton, where birds remained until August and a young bird was caught and photographed. It is about 40 years since the last successful breeding record in this county.

(Fuller details of all the above records may be found in the Herefordshire Ornithological Club's Annual Report, edited by Mr. R. H. Baillie.)

## NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

PAUL BURNHAM is a Cambridge graduate in geology and agricultural science. From 1956 to 1964, he was with the Soil Survey of England and Wales, working in south Shropshire with D. Mackney; their joint productions include the Soil Survey Map and memoir of the Church Stretton district, a bulletin on the soils of the West Midlands, a general account of the soils of Shropshire (*Field Studies*, vol. 2, no. 1) and a paper on soils in Wales (*Journal of Soil Science*, vol. 15, no. 2). He lectured widely in the West Midlands, and in 1963-64 gave a course at Bredenbury, which disclosed considerable interest in Herefordshire soils, and led to the preparation of the paper published in this issue of the *Transactions*. He is now a lecturer in soil science at the University of Aberdeen, but retains a lively interest in the Welsh borderland, and especially in the soils courses at the Preston Montford Field Centre.

E. L. JONES, M.A., D.PHIL., is a Research Fellow in economic history at Nuffield College, Oxford, and Visiting Associate Professor-elect at Purdue University, Indiana. He wrote his doctoral thesis on "The Evolution of High Farming, 1815-65, with reference to Herefordshire". His publications include: "Eighteenth-century Changes in Hampshire Chalkland Farming", *Agricultural History Review*, viii, 1960; "Agricultural Conditions and Changes in Herefordshire, 1660-1815", *Trans. Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club*, xxxvii, 1961; "The Changing Basis of English Agricultural Prosperity 1853-1873", *Agric. Hist. Rev.*, x, 1962; "English Farming before and during the Nineteenth Century", *Economic History Review*, 2nd ser., xv, 1962; "Wheat Yields in England, 1815-59", *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*, vol. 125, 1962; "The Agricultural Labour Market in England, 1793-1872", *Econ. Hist. Rev.*, 2nd ser., xvii, 1964; "Agriculture and Economic Growth in England, 1660-1750", *Journal of Economic History*, xxv, 1965; and *Seasons and Prices: The Role of the Weather in English Agricultural History* (Allen & Unwin, 1964).

THE REV. BR. MICHAEL J. MCCARTHY is a member of the Roman Catholic religious order of Christian Brothers, the present proprietors of Toddington Manor. His interest in Charles Hanbury Tracy derives from his student days at the Manor, and as a member of the School of Architecture and Fine Arts at Cambridge he had the opportunity for research on the subject of Hanbury Tracy's architectural career. The results of this research are presented in this article and in an account of Hanbury Tracy which he has contributed to the *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society*. Br. McCarthy now teaches at the John Rigby Grammar School, Orrell, Wigan.

## BOOK LIST

### PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO HEREFORDSHIRE OR CONTAINING MATERIAL RELEVANT TO HEREFORDSHIRE STUDIES

Given below is a selection of books and articles published 1960—1964 likely to be of interest to those concerned with Herefordshire studies. It would be of help in the compilation of such lists if members of the Club would forward to the Editor references made from their own reading. The Editorial Committee is especially glad to be able to bring before the Club in this way references to works published by members and would indeed like to print, as an extension of lists of this kind, references to any work published by members, whether of Herefordshire or of wider or specialist interest

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- MOIR, THE REV. PREB. A. L.: *Bishops of Hereford*. Jakeman, Hereford, 1964.
- MORGAN, F. C.: "Doctor William Brewster". *Medical History*, Vol. VIII, No. 2 (April 1964).
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- ORDNANCE SURVEY: *Map of Southern Britain in the Iron Age*. H.M.S.O., 1962.
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## AN INVITATION

The Club needs from its members active participation in its task of recording "all branches of the natural history and archaeology of Herefordshire and the districts immediately adjacent". (Rule 1). The Editorial Committee warmly invites such contributions which can be included in the Sectional Reports, or take the form of a separate short note or longer paper. It is specially requested that all members who give papers at meetings, or act as guides or speakers at field meetings, send to the Editor either the manuscript or a precis of their paper, or a concise, factual account of places visited, with appropriate acknowledgements.

## DIRECTIONS TO CONTRIBUTORS

The annual *Transactions* cover the activities of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club during the calendar year January 1st to December 31st, and are published as soon as possible afterwards. Contributors are asked to submit papers to be considered for publication as early as possible during the year in hand and no later than October 1st. Those writing Sectional Reports, and papers given at autumn meetings, are asked to keep strictly to the deadline of December 31st. Material, however, likely to qualify for a grant in aid of publication by the Council for British Archaeology must reach the Editor at least two months before a meeting of the Council—at present held in March and August.

### PREPARATION OF MANUSCRIPTS

1. Contributions should preferably be typed, double-spaced, and written on one side of the paper *only* with a wide margin on the left. They should carry clear title headings, and the author's name and style. Continuation sheets should be headed with an abbreviated title to be printed at the top of the published pages. The full name and address of the author should be provided in a covering note.

2. Illustrations should be submitted with the text. Line drawings (both in the text and on separate pages) and half tones (on art paper) are used. In both cases originals should be at least twice the published size, which should normally not exceed seven inches long by four inches wide. Any illustration likely to exceed this should be discussed with the Editor before submitting the paper.

*Line Drawings.* Each drawing (in black ink on white or tracing paper or linen) should be on a separate sheet, and where appropriate should be contained within a frame. Archaeological drawings should follow current conventions, e.g. pottery drawn full scale for reduction to one quarter; objects drawn to a scale which can be stated fractionally in the caption, such as 1/1, 2/3 or 1/2.

## AN INVITATION

*Half Tones.* Photographs should show good contrast and be on glossy paper. Where appropriate the photograph should include a scale.

*Captions.* Each illustration should carry, lightly written in pencil, the author's name, brief title of paper, and figure or plate number. In addition full captions should be typed on separate sheets, e.g. Figure number (for a line drawing), or Plate number (for a half tone). Caption including scale. Name of photographer. In brackets, the author's name and brief title of paper.

3. Footnotes and references. These should be indicated in the text by a serial number in round brackets, e.g. (6); and the series should be typed on a separate sheet. References should be given as follows: R. F. Tylecote, 'The Roman Anvil from Sutton Walls', *Transactions W.N.F.C.*, vol. xxxvii (1961), pp. 56-61. Underlining of a word in a manuscript is a request to the printer to use italics; thus the name of an author is not underlined, nor is the title of an article, which should be given between single inverted commas. The title of a book, periodical or other collective publication is underlined; and the number of a periodical is given in small roman numerals. The publication date and page reference should be given, and underlined twice. Where abbreviations are used they follow accepted practice.

4. A brief summary suitable for printing beneath the title should be given at the beginning of a paper.

5. *Proofs.* Contributors will be sent galley proofs which should be corrected for printers' errors. Those who are not accustomed to proof reading should refer to *The Writers' and Artists' Year Book*, or to *Rules for compositors and readers at the University Press, Oxford*, by Horace Hart. Proof state is too late for major alterations to the text. If the author finds he has to make any drastic revision at this stage, he may be called upon to bear the full cost of the alterations. Corrected proofs should be returned to the Editor without delay.

6. *Offprints.* Contributors receive 15 free copies, and may order further copies, at cost price. Such orders *must* be placed with the Editor when the corrected proofs are returned.

The Editor is not responsible for loss of, or damage to, manuscripts and illustrations, nor for errors and inaccuracies in an author's work. The views expressed by authors are their own.

Editor's Address: Miss Meryl Jancey,  
Frankhurst,  
Sutton St. Nicholas,  
Hereford.



## Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club

(HEREFORDSHIRE)

### PROCEEDINGS, 1965

#### SPRING MEETINGS

**FIRST MEETING:** 25th February: The President, Mr. F. Noble in the chair.

Mr. A. J. Rees, A.M.T.P.I., member of the staff of the County Planning Office, spoke on the plans for the re-development of the central area of Hereford City. This whole matter is one of great interest and concern to members of the Club and a sub-committee had been formed to study some of the implications of these plans. A report of that committee's work is given on pp. 169-173.

Mr. Rees explained the principles on which the plans were based and stressed the importance of preserving monuments surviving from the city's ancient history while indicating some of the difficulties involved in doing so. In the discussion which followed the talk Dr. A. W. Langford asked that the Club urge that everything possible be done to retain the city walls as an integral part of the city plan.

**SECOND MEETING:** 11th March: Mr. V. H. Coleman, in the absence of the President in the chair.

Mr. E. M. Staite, Fishery Officer of the Wye River Board, gave a talk on the research carried out by the river board on the salmon population of the Wye and its tributaries to establish statistical and other information of importance in face of the effects of changing conditions on the rivers and the dangers of pollution.

**THIRD MEETING:** 3rd April: The President, Mr. F. Noble, in the chair.

The Rev. Preb. A. L. Moir gave a talk on "The Historical Significance of Craswall Priory". This little house in its remote valley was of the Grandmontine order, its properties eventually confiscated with those of other alien priories, and granted for a time to form part of the endowment of Christ's College, Cambridge. Prebendary Moir showed how its founders and benefactors were members of the great Marcher families with whom its earlier history is closely bound. In the course of the present century excavations and surveys at the site have been carried out and reported on in the *Transactions* for 1904, 1908 and 1964.

The remains of the priory buildings are now in hazard from the effects of exposure and the growth of trees and underwood. Prebendary Moir urged the importance of the site and the need for something to be done to prevent its continuing deterioration.

**F. C. MORGAN LECTURE:** 15th April: the President, Mr. F. Noble, in the chair.

Dr. Kathleen Kenyon kindly accepted the invitation to deliver the open lecture in honour of Mr. F. C. Morgan. The Club was delighted to welcome back to Herefordshire one whose great work on Sutton Walls has added so much to our knowledge of this area's pre-history. Her lecture, illustrated with colour slides, concerned her excavations in Jerusalem and her audience was privileged to have this first-hand account of work which is proving of such significance for the understanding of so important a site.

**SPRING ANNUAL MEETING:** 29th April: The President, Mr. F. Noble in the chair.

The President gave his address, choosing as his subject, to mark the 700th anniversary of the revolt of Simon de Montfort, the part played by Hereford in the rising of 1265. The address is printed on pp. 111-118.

As retiring President Mr. Noble installed as President for 1965-1966 Mr. H. J. Powell who then took the chair. At the close of the meeting. Mr. Noble guided members to see the excavations in progress on the line of the city wall between Maylord and Blueschool streets. The site of one of the medieval bastions in the wall had been located and its remains uncovered.

**SPECIAL MEETING:** 20th May: The President, M. H. J. Powell in the chair.

This meeting had been called by Mr. Noble as retiring President that some aspects of the Club's management and future could be discussed. The Club's work and purpose covers all aspects of local studies in the county. Its function as a centre and focus for the encouragement and pursuit of work in archaeology, natural history and geology, local history and rural life, is a valuable one and it would be a sad day for the Club and for the county if any of these interests became fragmented and broke away from the main body. On the other hand, the large scope of all these enterprises has some disadvantages. Members with specialised interests are not always well catered for within the Club's programmes.

It was therefore suggested that subsections be set up, and, administered by their own officers but within the framework of the Club, carry out studies in working parties formed from interested

members. A section for work in Archaeology was almost immediately set up, and a report on the first year of its life is given on p. 168.

### FIELD MEETINGS

**FIRST MEETING:** 22nd May: USK VALLEY.

After a beautiful drive through Glasbury and Talgarth and past Llangorse Lake, members visited the ruins of Castell Blaen Llynfi and then moved to Llanddettty Church. A picnic lunch was eaten beside the mountain road leading to Beaufort, and a stop made at the disused quarry at Cefn Onneu to see there the exposure of the massive horizontal bedding of carboniferous limestone. Mr. Inett Homes pointed out a cave extending for about 50 feet in the north face, and, in the floor of the quarry, a pothole formed by water percolation through the vertical cracks. Fragments of millstone grit on the quarry floor were derived from the thin millstone grit strata covering the limestone. The interesting flora of this limestone is now protected by the Nature Conservancy. The next visit of the day was to the Gilwern canal-tramway junction and to an area interesting for the remains still to be seen of its industrial past. Coal was transferred here to go by the Brecon and Hay tramway to Hereford. A towpath walk towards Llanfoist was followed by some of the party, to see the wharf where a warehouse for iron still survives, though it is now used as a workshop for pleasure craft. A tramway bridge crosses the canal here, linking the inclines up to Blorence and down to Llanfoist. Mr. V. H. Coleman has recently found documentary evidence that this bridge was built in 1818. The cast iron T girders to which are bolted plates supporting the double track of 3 ft. 4 in. gauge, are still in position.

**SECOND FIELD MEETING:** 12th June: FAIRFORD DISTRICT.

The first visit of the day was to the roman villa at Chedworth. After a picnic lunch, members drove on to see in turn the three different but fascinating churches of Coln St. Denis, Coln Rogers and Fairford and so to tea at Cirencester, where they visited the roman museum which the curator kindly kept open to a later hour than usual to enable them to see it.

**THIRD FIELD MEETING (half-day):** 1st July: LONGTOWN AREA.

Two most interesting churches were visited on this excursion—the first Rowlestone, which has a most beautiful Norman tympanum Christ in Majesty over the South Doorway, and next, Clodock, remarkable not only for its ancient features, but for its seventeenth and eighteenth century furnishings unaltered by nineteenth century restorations. Recent work on the church has revealed wall paintings

under the plaster in window embrasures on the south wall. It is hoped that sufficient money can be raised for the full uncovering and treatment of these paintings. From the church, the party moved up the hill to Longtown, where, after tea, Mr. Noble guided members round the ruins of Longtown Castle.

**FOURTH FIELD MEETING: 29th July: USK.**

The first visit of the day was to the small church at Gwernesey, and then, in the afternoon, the party saw the encampment of Gaer Fawr and the old church of Llangwm Uchaf which has a remarkable screen of delicate tracery and the remains of the rood loft. The party then moved on to Usk and were guided over the castle there by Mr. F. Noble.

**FIFTH FIELD MEETING: 4th September: RADNORSHIRE.**

Old Radnor has perhaps the finest church in Radnorshire and members much enjoyed its many features of interest, noting particularly the rood screen, organ case, the roof timbers, and encaustic tiles. The next stop on this excursion in Radnorshire was at Bryn-draenog near Beguildy where by kind permission of Mrs. Thomas, the party saw the timber-framed building with its cruck hall. A halt was made for a picnic lunch at Gorddwr Bank near the source of the Teme. Then a move was made to Llanbadarn fynydd and so to the church at Llananno, where the sixteenth century screen has been incorporated into the much later building.

At Cwm Aran, the next stop, members climbed to the bailey of Castel Cwm Aran where Mr. Noble described the site and outlined its history as an important stronghold of the Mortimer family. The last visit of the day was paid to Llanfawr Quarry under the guidance of Mr. Kendrick, who gave a brief talk on the geology of the area.

**SIXTH FIELD MEETING: 30th September (half-day): RISBURY.**

At Risbury members visited the iron age camp which was described by Mr. S. C. Stanford and then walked on to see the remains of the old water mill which still has some of its machinery intact and on to the packhorse bridge. The next stop was at Blackwardine, where the road crosses the railway line, now closed, from Leominster to Bromyard. Here, when the railway was built in 1881, a considerable quantity of Roman material was found, and further pottery finds were made when the Club undertook an excavation there in 1921. The last visit of the day was to the fine church at Wellington.

The Club is indebted to those of its members and others who so kindly throughout the summer season act as guides and speakers at the places of interest which are visited, and specially to

Mr. F. Noble and Mr. H. J. Powell and Mr. V. E. Coleman who did so much to make the excursions a source of valuable information as well as pleasure.

**AUTUMN MEETINGS**

**FIRST MEETING: 4th November, at 3 p.m.:** The President, Mr. H. J. Powell in the chair.

Mr. Rex Palmer then gave a talk on the history of Church bells with special reference to Herefordshire and neighbouring counties and to examples of the work of famous bellfounders represented locally.

**SECOND MEETING: 23rd November:** The President, Mr. H. J. Powell in the chair.

Mr. P. Thompson gave a lecture on "Some British Orchids and their habitats". He described the anatomy of orchid flowers and explained their fertilization by insects. His talk was beautifully illustrated with fine colour slides of most of the British orchids.

**THIRD MEETING: 4th December, at 3 p.m.:** The President, Mr. H. J. Powell in the chair.

At this meeting the sectional recorders read their reports.

**WINTER ANNUAL MEETING: 18th December, at 3 p.m.:** The President, Mr. H. J. Powell in the chair.

The President made to Mr. and Mrs. V. H. Coleman a presentation of a table trolley and mats purchased by subscriptions from members to mark the occasion of their marriage as a token of appreciation of Mr. Coleman's work for the Club.

Officers were elected to take office in spring, 1966.

Mr. Dawson, on behalf of the Honorary Treasurer, presented the accounts for the year 1964.

Under any other business the President drew attention to the Conway bridge appeal made by the National Trust, and Mr. Frank Noble opened a discussion on the modifications of the plans for the new inner relief road in Hereford.

## OBITUARIES

### GEORGE HUMPHREY MARSHALL 1900-1965

George Humphrey Marshall—born 20th March, 1900, died 11th September, 1965 was the eldest son of the late George Marshall, F.S.A.—one time President of the Woolhope Club and for many years Honorary Secretary.

Humphrey Marshall had been associated with the Club for over 40 years, having become a member in 1921. He took great interest in its affairs, although of late he did not attend many meetings. His chief interests were fruit growing, parish affairs, and the older forms of transport such as coaching and canals. His collection of books and prints concerning coaching was quite considerable. He took a keen interest in motoring and at one time participated in several rallies such as the Land's End to John O'Groats.

He bequeathed to the National Trust his property adjoining Breinton Church and comprising the orchard in which lies a Saxon camp, an area of woodland and some meadowland on the banks of the River Wye. He hoped that this riverside meadow might continue to be enjoyed by members of the public.

E.B.

### ARTHUR JOHN WINNINGTON-INGRAM, M.A.

"One of the wisest men I have known", was the verdict of many who came into contact with the Venerable Arthur John Winnington-Ingram, who died on 1st June, 1965, aged 76. Born at Bewdley in 1888 his father was the Ven. Edward Henry Winnington-Ingram, a former archdeacon of Hereford and canon residentiary of Hereford Cathedral (offices to which his son succeeded). He was a nephew of Dr. Arthur Foley Winnington-Ingram, bishop of London and was once heard to say with a twinkle that "My claim to fame will not arise from ability, but because I am nephew of a famous bishop . . .". Some of his boyhood was spent at Ross, where his father was rector, and he was educated at Hereford Cathedral School, of which he often spoke with affection. From here he won an open exhibition at St. John's College, Oxford, and graduated B.A. in 1911 and M.A. in 1914. Later he went to Wells Theological College under Dr. R. G. Parsons (later bishop of Hereford), and was made a deacon in 1912 and ordained priest a year later. In 1921 he went to St. Aidan's Theological College, Ballarat, Australia, as sub-warden and afterwards as principal, but returned to England in 1929 and was instituted as vicar of Kimbolton the same year. In 1934 he became rural dean of Leominster, but two years later he went to Ledbury as rector and rural dean there. He was appointed archdeacon of Hereford in

## OBITUARIES

1942 and in 1945 he left Ledbury when made a canon residentiary of the Cathedral. This office he resigned in 1961, having previously relinquished his archdeaconry in 1958, on doctor's orders, after 17 years of devoted service. He retired to Winchester where he spent the last years of his life.

As a member of the Local Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches for many years the writer had some enjoyable and instructive journeys with the Archdeacon who was always a most genial companion. As chairman of the committee his wonderful skill in smoothing difficulties and management of controversial matters was well known. After hearing all, sometimes opposing, opinions he summed them up in a few witty words and solved difficult problems to every one's satisfaction. His love for and care of the churches in the diocese was outstanding.

A.J.W.-I., as he was called affectionately by his friends, joined the Woolhope Club in 1937 and became President in 1948 and again in 1956. He took an active part in the work of the Club and was always ready to help in any way he could. Having at some time been acquainted with the late Sir Harold Brakspear, a well-known architect, he became particularly interested in architecture, and could describe a church in the most lucid and attractive manner. The writer first heard him at Ledbury and has not forgotten the great impression he made on his hearers.

The *Transactions* of the Club contain nine papers by Winnington-Ingram; those associated with Ledbury church and town and with Hereford Cathedral being outstanding. He dearly loved the last named. When lecturing the humorous asides and comments by the author on his subjects were memorable. His presence at either indoor or field meetings was a guarantee that they would be both instructive and enjoyable.

The Woolhope Club owes Winnington-Ingram a great debt, and extends sincere sympathy in her loss to his devoted wife, Joan Mary the daughter of the Rev. R. A. Lyne, There were no children of the marriage which took place on 9th August, 1938.

F.C.M.

### PREBENDARY T. H. PARKER 1862-1965

Prebendary Parker died within three months of his 104th birthday. That he obtained so great an age must be due to the devoted care and consistently cheerful companionship of his wife.

The Woolhope Field Club is enriched by the gift of valuable books from his library but also by memories of a member who had the ideals of the club so close to his heart.

The career of Thomas Henry Parker can be summarised. Hereford Cathedral School; St. John's College, Cambridge; Ely Theological

College; curate and vicar of country parishes, rural dean, editor of the Diocesan Messenger and prebendary of the cathedral. But a list of the posts he held gives no clue to his character, his spontaneous welcome for friends, hilarious laughter, incisive wit and pungent comment, a relish for gossip if unmalicious, a bemused acceptance of some modern views with a discreet veneration for the past. Underlying all this lay a profound knowledge of the bible and deep love for church and cathedral.

He revelled in his garden. It was a delight to him that his home, Vineyard Croft, was once the site where the Guthlac Priory grew vines. He too tried to grow vines there, but unsuccessfully, and turned to apples to become an expert on them.

A last memory of him. There he sat at his study table, reading the Greek Testament, without glasses, with his beloved birds, the robin, sparrows and tits outside on the verandah and bird-table.

His end was ideal. It was the last Sunday of the Church year. He returned from early service and seated in his arm-chair quietly sank into his final sleep to awake in eternity.

His body was laid to rest at Breinton, his old parish, beneath the shade of the perpetual green of age-long yews.

A.L.M.

## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

By F. NOBLE

## HEREFORDSHIRE AND SIMON DE MONTFORT: 1265

The Seventh Centenary of Simon de Montfort's Parliament is of great, if disputed, constitutional interest, but locally it also represents the last time when Hereford stood for a short while at the very centre of English affairs.

The Parliament, convened at Westminster in January had ended its sittings by March 14th. There seems to be no record of the names of the burgesses who represented Hereford, or of the other Herefordshire boroughs which may have sent representatives, nor can we be certain who were the "knights of the shire" who sat with them, though Sir William D'Ebroicis (Devereux) and Henry de Penbruge (Pembroke) or Walter de Baskerville are possible. The most powerful lord of Parliament from the county was certainly young Humphrey de Bohun,<sup>1</sup> who had come into possession of Kington and Huntingdon, Brecon and Hay by his marriage to one of the de Braos heiresses. He was to prove one of the most consistent supporters of Earl Simon, even when his father, the Earl of Hereford, joined Simon's opponents, and he must have been the leader of the group of Herefordshire barons and knights against the intransigent Marcher lords who were led by another Herefordshire baron, Roger de Mortimer of Wigmore, another sharer in the great de Braos inheritance, who was the only leading baron to remain actively in arms against Simon after the battle of Lewes.

In Parliament the higher Clergy were more numerous than the dwindling ranks of Simon's baronial supporters, but it is doubtful whether the Bishop of Hereford, the detested Savoyard, Peter de Aquablanca, would have dared to appear there; though it seems to have been a plaint raised on his behalf which produced a most interesting account of the defence of Hereford against the enemies of Simon in the preceding November.

In reply to the writ of 8th February 1265, John de Balun (of Much Marcle), Roger de Chandos (of Snodhill) and William D'Ebroicis (of Lyonshall), reported on the preparations the citizens of Hereford had made when they heard that Roger Mortimer was leading an army against them. They had burnt and thrown down houses outside the gates which might hinder the defence, and they had encroached on their gardens to widen the ditch between St. Nicholas and "Thithene" (Eign) gates, and pulled down the Prior of St. Guthlac's mill on the stretch between "Thithene" and "Wydemareis"

gates. Between "the gate of Bissop Street" to the gate of St. Owen, they had only deepened the ditch, throwing the earth onto the Bishops field, but had pulled down another mill and part of the mill-pond of Richard de Hereford, because it was on the town ditch.

On the eve of St. Martin the hostile army, including Roger de Mortimer and his son Ralph, Roger de Clifford (of Tenbury and Ewyas), Hugh de Mortimer (of Richard's Castle), Brian de Brompton, "many of the liberty of the prior of Leominster" and many Shropshire and other Marcher lords, "came to the city with a great army with banners displayed—and grievously assaulted it from the first hour of day till night". While they were at the assault, others, including Stephen le Arblester marshall of the Bishop of Hereford had crossed the Wye and had plundered Lower Bullingham, Putson and Hinton, and also Litley, Tupsley, Widemarsh, Moor and Huntington in the suburbs of Hereford, and even the leper hospital of St. Giles.

That night the keepers of Hereford Castle, Walter de Muchegros<sup>2</sup> and Richard de Bagginden, sent men out to set fire to St. Guthlac's mill and "eight houses in the street called Bithebroke", belonging to the Dean and Chapter.

On St. Martin's day the army attacked again and "cast fire on the street called Bissopstret and burned all that suburb" and also burned the Prior's mill and "the house of Aylmeston" (Ayleston?).<sup>3</sup>

It is remarkable that this document, calendared in one of the great series of Public Record Office publications, should have received so little attention in works on Hereford, for besides the vivid impression of a medieval attack upon a town, it gives much specific topographical information. Perhaps the most remarkable fact is that the description seems to show that the city and suburbs of Hereford were at least as extensive in 1265 as they were five hundred years later, when Taylor produced his fine plan of the city. Historically it sets the context for Simon's campaign, in concert with Llywelyn of Wales, which compelled the Marchers to sign a "Covenant" on December 12th at Worcester, promising that the Mortimers, Clifford and Roger Leyburn would hand over prisoners taken at Northampton and withdraw themselves to Ireland.<sup>4</sup>

The promises were never fulfilled. Simon's power was greatly weakened by the defection of young Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester. His loyalty had been strained in a dispute between Simon and one of Gilbert's followers, John Giffard, a tournament hero (who in 1263 had abducted the widowed Maud de Longspee, heiress of Clifford Castle and its barony), and seems to have been finally broken when Simon prohibited a great Tournament which was to have been held at Dunstable. Tournaments had a great following among the young lords who had been Simon's first supporters, but a

dangerous rivalry had developed between Gilbert and Simon's sons.

Gilbert de Clare withdrew to Glamorgan and then joined John Giffard in the Forest of Dean. On April 22nd Simon de Montfort arrived at Gloucester with King Henry III and Prince Edward in his train, and waited there fourteen days while clerical intermediaries made their way to Gilbert's camp on a hill called "Erdlond" and where his blazing camp-fires were visible from the walls of Gloucester.<sup>5</sup> It seemed that agreement might be reached, but when Simon moved his armies forward to Hereford on May 6th he had a narrow escape from capture.

Simon was drawn into Herefordshire by the need to counter the growing threats from Roger de Mortimer, who was now joined by the Earls of Surrey and Pembroke who had crossed to Milford from France. The Earl of Pembroke was the Savoyard, William de Valence, who had obtained the earldom by marriage and was one of the main builders of Goodrich Castle.<sup>6</sup>

For the next two months all the administration of that part of England which was still in the hands of Simon's followers was centred on Hereford, though already the Chancellor who had been appointed by the Council, Thomas de Cantilupe, had withdrawn. His great association with Hereford lay in the unforeseeable future. His uncle, the Bishop of Worcester, was among those trying to secure the reconciliation of Gilbert de Clare, and on May 12th it seemed that they had been successful when Gilbert attended a convention at Hereford. On May 20th letters were sent to all Wardens of the Peace for the counties that no discord existed between Gilbert of Gloucester and Simon, Earl of Leicester.

The outcome shows that Gilbert had already come to an understanding with the Mortimer faction and that the aim was to lull Simon into a sense of security while plotting the escape of Prince Edward. Gilbert's brother Thomas was left as a companion for Edward and on May 23rd a safe-conduct was given to enable Roger de Clifford, Roger de Leyburn and three or four of their knights to come to Hereford to visit Edward and stay until Whit Tuesday.<sup>7</sup> Simon must have been completely duped to have allowed this formidable contingent to exercise their horses on May 28th outside Widemarsh Gate in the Company of Edward, thereby making his escape to Wigmore an easy matter.<sup>8</sup>

This was a shattering blow for Simon, and it is difficult to discern any clear policy in his activities in the following two months, or in the edicts which continued to be issued, in the King's name, from Hereford.

Edward and the Marcher Lords were then able to cope with the Marcher Lords at Ludlow. An army was raised from the neighbouring counties and Edward led it down the Severn valley to cut

Simon off from his main sources of support. Before the end of June they had occupied Gloucester, and the castle, in the absence of any relief from Simon or his son, had been surrendered.

In Hereford preparations were being made to resist a siege, and Henry III is said to have been present in person when more houses were destroyed outside Eigne gate,<sup>9</sup> and to have compensated Thomas Suard with the grant of houses formerly belonging to the Jews in Byster's gate.<sup>10</sup> The Jewish colony in Hereford was centred on the eastern end of "Maliard" (Maylord) street, long afterwards known as Jewry lane, where they had a synagogue.<sup>11</sup> They had suffered severely at the hands of Simon's followers and may have deserted the city at this time, but they were to return and arouse the wrath of Bishop Swinfield with their displays of wealth before they were finally expelled from England in 1290.<sup>12</sup> The current excavations on the bastion in Blueschool Street suggest that they threw away very little in the way of broken pots or other identifiable objects. Perhaps further work in the area may be more fortunate in this respect.

Lacking aid from his sons who were engaged in the siege of Pevensey, Simon had turned to make an alliance with Llywelyn of Wales at Pipton, near Hay, on June 22nd, granting extensive concessions in return for a very limited amount of support. To hear, on their return to Hereford, the news of the surrender of Gloucester castle must have caused despondency among Simon's followers. In an attempt to break out he took Monmouth, where the King was placed from June 25th to 28th, and his forces are said to have taken Usk and Newport, but Edward had moved along the Severn destroying all the bridges, fords and ferries, and there was no chance of crossing to Bristol.

Simon and the King may have returned briefly to Hereford on July 1st, when a letter was issued calling on fifty named knights of the county to gather in haste at Hereford to defend the town.<sup>13</sup> It gives an interesting indication of the number who, while not members of Simon's army, were considered to be reliable at this juncture. This was the last writ enrolled by the King's chancery before the battle of Evesham. In the following month Simon seems to have been occupied in fruitless and obscure campaigns in company with Llywelyn, against the Glamorgan castles of Earl Gilbert, but Hereford was still in friendly hands when he returned on the last day of July, intent on pushing eastwards to join his eldest son.

On that same morning however, the forces of the younger Simon who had foolishly encamped themselves outside the castle at Kenilworth, were surprised by Edward's army and routed. Unaware of this Simon set out and crossed the Severn at a ford south of Worcester, to be trapped on the morning of August 4th on the fatal

field of Evesham. The head from his mutilated corpse was sent to Maud, wife of Roger de Mortimer, at Wigmore. The captive Henry narrowly escaped death at the hands of his rescuers and many Herefordshire men must have been among the slain with Sir William d'Evereux (de Ebroicis) of Lyonshall and Robert de Tregoz of Ewyas Harold, and with young Humphrey de Bohun.

One of the first writs of the new Chancery on August 8th, records the reception at Worcester of the men of Hereford, who had hastened to seek the King's peace. It was granted under the condition that they should make amends for their trespasses to Edward the king's son and the King's men, and on the 24th the mayor, bailiffs, good men and whole commonalty of Hereford were ordered without delay to make up the fine of 560 marks (£373 6s. 8d.) which certain of their fellow citizens had offered to have the king's grace.<sup>14</sup> They were more fortunate than other towns, particularly London and Northampton, whose cases came up at a time when the attitude of the King's advisers, with Roger de Mortimer amongst the most intransigent, had hardened into a demand for the complete disinheritation of all who had supported Simon de Montfort. The violent Marchers had proceeded to take into their own hands all the manors which had belonged to the rebels.<sup>15</sup> The disinherited lords held out bitterly in strongholds such as Kenilworth while dissensions among the victors prolonged and extended the chaos for another two years, until the disinherited were allowed to redeem their estates by heavy fines and the Peace of Montgomery confirmed Llywelyn of Wales in almost all the lands he had occupied, and in the concessions he had obtained at Pipton.

In the county of Herefordshire and its marches, many old-established families were deprived of their lands, or reduced by heavy fines, while the Mortimers and their associates rose in power and wealth. Pembridge may be taken as an example, where Henry de Pembridge, whose family had held the manor under the de Braos "Honour of Radnor" for generations, was evicted by Maud and Roger Mortimer for having been a follower of Earl Simon. His son tried to regain the lands in the King's court in 1274, but was unsuccessful, and although their descendants became prominent again in the following century, they never again held the manor from which they had taken their name, or the borough they had founded there.<sup>16</sup> Coming at the end of a period of great economic growth the crisis of these years left its mark deeply on baronies such as that of Much Marcle, whose lord, John de Ballon (Balun), although he seems to have withdrawn from Simon's side before Evesham and had his lands restored to him by the King's orders on September 19th, 1265,<sup>17</sup> seems to have suffered losses which eventually led his descendants to dispose of the lands to the Mortimers of Wigmore and the title itself



to the "nouveau riche" de Ludlows of Stokesay, so that only an obscure mound remains to tell of a once great baronial family and their castle.<sup>18</sup> The de Baskervilles of Eardisley were more fortunate. Walter had apparently joined Simon's sons in Kenilworth and in exile, and was outlawed, because of his part in the murder of Henry of Alemaine, nephew of Henry III and only son of Richard "King of the Romans", by Simon and Guy de Monfort at Viterbo in Italy, but obtained a pardon to fight for Edward in the conquest of Wales and was ultimately re-granted the reversion of his lands in Eardisley, Yazor, Stretton, Orcop and Tarrington, and in other counties from Roger de Clifford, in 1278.<sup>19</sup>

The other gains of the victorious lords were in many other cases equally temporary. Roger Clifford's descendants became Earls of Cumberland, with little interest in Herefordshire. The custody of the lands of the Clifford barony passed into the control of John Giffard on the recognition of his marriage to Maude de Longspee, but on his death passed to her daughter's husband, Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln. Hugh de Mortimer of Richard's Castle had a grant of "free borough" for Burford, but in the changed economic conditions it was never applied. He also had the grant of valuable royal manors in Worcestershire, but in 1304 the barony was divided among co-heiresses and declined in importance. The de Valence Earls of Pembroke gained the possessions which enabled them to rebuild Goodrich Castle as a sumptuous half-way-house between their English manors and their Earldom, but it passed with a heiress to the Talbots of Eccleswall in 1327. Only the Mortimers of Wigmore showed long-term gains, and the rewards which Roger Mortimer seems to have sought most eagerly were the confirmation and extension of legal immunities for his territories, removing his Wigmore and Radnor baronies, and even his lordships in Willersley, Winforton and Whitney from Herefordshire<sup>20</sup> to form a base from which the Mortimers and their successors were to dispute the throne itself, but with little apparent benefit to this region.

The city of Hereford, whose growing confidence and wealth, allied to its dislike for its alien bishop, Peter de Aquablanca, had led it to take the side of Simon de Montfort, was reduced to abject submission. More closely hemmed in by unfriendly Marcher lordships, its trade seems to have declined and for the next five hundred years the town occupied no larger area, and seems to have been no more populous than the town which was described in 1265.

## NOTE

Professor R. F. Treharne, who is at present engaged on a biography of Simon de Montfort which will represent the culmination of over thirty years of published work, and Dr. C. H. Knowles of Cardiff who is the exponent of a different assessment of Simon's place in history, have been kind enough to look over this paper and to save me from several errors of fact. They have also pointed out how

much scope there is for further enquiries into the participation of Herefordshire in the actual struggle, and into the effects of the subsequent penalisation of Simon's followers.

A useful bibliography is given by C. H. Knowles in a pamphlet published by the Historical Association after the delivery of this paper (General Series No. 60, *Simon de Montfort*, 1265-1965). Mr. Knowles has been good enough to glance through the paper and save me from some errors of fact. The main background material here is drawn from Sir M. Powicke, *King Henry III and the Lord Edward*, published 1947; supplemented from two Chronicles in the Rolls Series: No. 28, part II, *Willelmi Rishanger, Chronica et Annales* 1259-1307 (1865); No. 86, *Metrical Chronicle of Robert of Gloucester*, Part 2 (1887), and from the Public Record Office Calendars, etc. quoted below.

## REFERENCES

<sup>1</sup> His name, however, does not appear in the list of those summoned, nor does that of John de Balun of Much Marcle or any other Herefordshire baron or ecclesiastic, and there seems to be no list of the boroughs which were summoned, nor positive evidence that Hereford sent representatives. *Calendar of Close Rolls*, Hen. III, Vol. XIII, p. 84. His father, who had inherited the title of Earl of Hereford via his great-grandmother, eldest daughter and eventual co-heiress of Miles of Gloucester, had no great possessions in the county. (See Saunders, *op. cit.* under note 17.) Professor Treharne points out that he had ceased to be counted among the "reformers" as early as 1262.

<sup>2</sup> Walter de Muscegros died before Feb. 26th, 1265 in possession of the manors of Tretire, Monnington and Winforton and of two mills in Bodenham. *Ibid.* p. 25. He was buried in a chapel of St. Mary which was being erected in the Priory of Hereford. *Ibid.* p. 110.

<sup>3</sup> *Calendar of Miscellaneous Inquisitions*, Vol. I, No. 291. There is no explanation why the Marchers desisted after two days, but the context suggests that the attack was beaten off.

<sup>4</sup> By 3rd March, 1265, Roger Mortimer had "come to the King's peace" and the Sheriffs of Herefordshire and Shropshire were ordered to release any of his men they held as prisoners. *Cal. Cl. R.* Hen. III, XIII, p. 26.

<sup>5</sup> Robert of Gloucester, *op. cit.* lines 11, 520-6.

<sup>6</sup> Mr. C. H. Knowles points out that he was never formally invested as "Earl of Pembroke".

<sup>7</sup> *Calendar of Patent Rolls*, Henry III, Vol. V. 1265, May 23rd.

<sup>8</sup> *Cal. Cl. R.*, Henry III, XIII, p. 124 has a mention of Edward's escape "with two knights and four squires", but it has usually been taken that Thomas de Clare was one of these. Professor Treharne doubts whether Gilbert ever put himself into Simon's power by coming to Hereford, but Simon seems to have been convinced that the reconciliation was genuine.

<sup>9</sup> *Cal. Misc. Inq.*, Vol. I, No. 1087. *Cal. C. R.*, Henry III, 13, p. 58 also includes a grant of 12 oaks to the citizens of Hereford to build a swing bridge over towards the house of the Friars Minors.

<sup>10</sup> Johnson, R. *The Ancient Customs of the City of Hereford*, pp. 45-46.

<sup>11</sup> *Cal. Misc. Inq.*, I, Nos. 185 and 328.

<sup>12</sup> Webb, J. (ed.) *Roll of Household Expenses of Richard de Swinfield* (Camden Society), 1855, p. xciv. See also Capes, W. W. (ed.) *The Register of Richard de Swinfield* 1283-1317.

<sup>13</sup> Professor Treharne points out that Simon and the King were probably at Newport or Chepstow at this date, waiting for the boats which had been summoned from Bristol, but which were prevented from crossing by the three royal galleys which Edward had captured at Gloucester. The list is printed in *Cal. Cl. R.*, Henry III, XIII, p. 126 (1265 m.4d.), 1st July. The names are given as follows: Walter de Cernefeld, Henry de Solers, Robert de Chaundos, Hugh Ragun, Roger Pychard, William Torel, Hugh le Poer, Roger de Bradel, William Comyn, Geoffrey son of Geoffrey de Morton, Richard de Baginden, William de

Stapleton', Henry de Hereford, Ralph le Poer, Roger de Burley, Richard Fouke, Nicholas de Secler, Robert de Weston, Roger de Everus, Hector de Bradwyrthin, Hugh de Radnor, Warin de Grendon, Hugh Panton', William de la Fenne, William de la Were, Adam de Lascy, Ralph de Yedefenn', William de Loges, William de Homme de Coste, John de la Forde, Walter de Baskervill', William de Pembrig', Thomas de Hunteleye, Roger Ragun, William de Caple, John de Dudeleya, Phillip le Peytevin, Eustace de Wyteneve, Hugh de Crofte, Robert le Brette, Andrew de Baskervill', Richard de Baginden, Hugh de Kinardesleye, Mathew de Maus, William de Furches, Ralph de Seynt Owen', Walter de Eynesford', Walter de Avensbir', Walter de Montgomery, John le Brun, Roger de Burhill' 'et omnes alios milites et armigeros de comitatu predicto'. Those who did not come, or send adequate substitutes were threatened with disinheritance, and the others were ordered to seize their lands and goods. It appears that all these held lands in Herefordshire by knight service, but I do not recognise any tenants of the Wigmore barony among them, for example, and it would be interesting to try to work out the basis of selection.

<sup>14</sup> *Cal. Pat. R., Henry III*, V. 1265, Aug. 8th and Aug. 24th, on p. 548 the fine is stated as 600 marks. (C.H.K.), *C. Cl. R., Henry III*, 13, p. 165.

<sup>15</sup> *C. Cl. R., Henry III*, 13, pp. 127-8. Already by August 8th, Robert Wale- raund was complaining that lands over which he had first claim, taken from John de Dudeleye in Didley, Harewood and Grafton, Tomas le Petite in Hare- wood, Roger le Rus in "Moralayn" (Allensmore) and Wylenhall (Winnall) and from Roger Pychard in Thruxton, had been seized by Roger Mortimer, John Giffard, John L'Estrange and Robert Turbeville.

<sup>16</sup> *Abbreviatio Placitorum*; Record Commissioners, (1811), 52. Henry III and 2 Ed. I (Rot. 14 and 17).

<sup>17</sup> *C. Cl. R., Henry III*, 13, p. 129 (1265, m. 3d).

<sup>18</sup> Saunders, I. J., *English Baronies, 1086-1327* (Oxford, 1960), sub "Much Marcle"; c.f. Round, J. H. "Family of Ballon" in *Studies in Peerage and Family History*.

<sup>19</sup> *Archaeologia Cambrensis*, 1883, 4th Ser. XIV, p. 161; *Abbrev. Placit.* pp. 188, 193, 195, 266.

<sup>20</sup> *Placita de Quo Warranto* (Rec. Com., 1818), p. 675. Roger de Mortimer had obtained the latter, nominally under Ralph de Tony, from the forfeiture of Walter de Muscegros (*C. Misc. Inq.* I, 1071).

## THE MANOR OF PENCOMBE, 1303-1452

By E. D. PAUL

The manor of Pencombe lies about eleven miles north-east of Hereford and immediately south-west of Bromyard in a hilly area which is still comparatively remote. The exact extent of the manor is not known, but the identifiable place names lie within the boundaries of the present parish. It was held during the Middle Ages by the Whitney family, the descendants of Agnes, widow of Turstin Flandrensis, who held Whitney and Pencombe after the Norman Conquest. They held as of the honour of Ewias Harold and owed castle gard to the lords of Ewias. No reliable pedigree of the family exists for the mediaeval period, but Henry Melville<sup>1</sup> names the following heads of the family: Eustace, granted free warren in Pencombe, Whitney and Caldewell in 1284; Eustace knighted in 1306; Robert, who presented to the living of Pencombe in 1353; Robert who died fighting against Owen Glendower in 1402; Robert who made several presentations to the livings of Whitney and Pencombe between 1417 and 1435 and died in 1441; and Eustace who died about 1470. The court roll deposited in Hereford County Record Office, (A63/II/1/i-xxx), on which this study is based, names four lords, Eustace in 1305, Baldwyn in 1341 or 1342, Baldwyn in 1369 and Robert in 1427. Most of the courts are simply headed "Court of the lord of Whitney . . .". Opinion seems to vary as to whether the Whitneys lived principally at Whitney or at Pencombe. Robinson<sup>2</sup> thinks that they probably lived at Pencombe and used Whitney mainly as a hunting lodge. Certainly they were at Pencombe some of the time, since the lord of the manor presided over his own court there on several occasions. But it seems unlikely that a castle in the Marches of Wales was used solely for the chase and several members of the family are known to have died there when Glendower burnt the building in 1402. Whatever the truth of the matter, the family had a park at Pencombe and a demesne farm, which in 1452 covered at least three hundred acres. During the fourteenth century they seem to have farmed it themselves, probably with their own servants or with hired labour, since the tenants had already commuted their services for payments in money or kind by the beginning of the century. In the fifteenth century, however, it was increasingly let out, either to tenants on the manor as customary land or to a farmer. In 1427 Thomas Duraunt was granted "a messuage . . . and 30 acres of the lord's demesne . . ." to hold according to the custom of the manor at an annual rent of nine shillings and six chickens for an

<sup>1</sup> *The Ancestors of John Whitney*, New York, 1896, privately printed.

<sup>2</sup> *Mansions and Manors of Herefordshire*, 1872.

entry fine. In 1438 the entire demesne was let to a man called Morgan Taillour, who is described as escheator of the royal lands, at a rent of sixty-six shillings and eight pence. But it was evidently granted out again fairly soon to various tenants of the manor, since in 1452 a total of three hundred acres was granted, most of it being regranted to people who are stated to have lost their copies. The rents specified for a hundred and forty seven acres of this then amounted to thirty-six shillings and fourpence and the fines to ten capons.

The roll gives very little other information about the agricultural organisation of the manor. The lord had his demesne farm and park and a mill at Pencombe, and the woods on the manor were reserved to him. The tenants might not cut wood of any kind without permission and they paid the lord pannage for the right to feed their pigs in the woods. It appears from the amercements imposed for animals breaking into the lord's land that the demesne farm grew corn and oats and the livestock kept on the manor included oxen, cows, pigs, sheep, horses, chickens and geese. The tenants were also allowed to keep dogs, one woman being amerced when her dog was found hunting in the lord's park. But it is impossible to tell how many fields there were, or whether the lord's arable, meadow and pasture were wholly or partly separated from those of his tenants, except that he had an enclosure of some kind.

The status of a large number of the tenants cannot be ascertained. They only appear in the roll because they acted as sureties for their fellow tenants or were fined for letting their animals get on to the lord's land. Of those whose status can be determined, rather more than half were freeholders. In personal status the vast majority seem to have been free men. Only three people are specifically described as serfs. Again many of the freeholders are only identifiable as such because they are ordered to exhibit charters, or because their transactions in selling, demising or settling their lands are recorded in the roll. The size of their holdings is in many cases not given. The property is simply described as "all that tenement lately held by so-and-so". Many of the customary tenants held a messuage or a messuage with a croft, a curtilage (courtyard) or a garden. None of them seems to have held more than a virgate (30 acres) until the demesne was granted out in 1452, when some of the holdings were as large as forty-eight, sixty or a hundred acres. Most of the freeholders held at least a messuage and half a virgate, and some as much as a carucate (80 to 120 acres) with several other smaller holdings. The majority of the tenants, judging from their surnames, came of families which had long been resident on the manor. The free tenants, however, included the Prior of Leominster holding a meadow in free alms, the Dean of Hereford holding a tenement called Berneslondes

by a spur or sixpence, the Abbot of Wigmore, the chaplain of Saint Nicholas, Hereford, the Prior of Saint John of Jerusalem who held a rent in Nether Hakeleye, the Walwyns of Much Marcle and the Hakluits. The tenants who held by knight service were Walwyn, Pere, de Cimiterio or Churchyard, Bagham, le Wild, Honaldwod, de Grafton, de la Stone, de la Fishpole, de la Grene, de Fraxino or Ashe, de Berneston, de Grendene and de Went. Several printed works state that the lord of Pencombe claims by ancient custom a pair of gilt spurs from every mayor of Hereford who dies in office. The mayor never features in the roll and it is possible that tradition has confused him with the Dean.

The tenures on the manor exhibit a number of departures from what is generally accepted as normal practice. All tenants, except the Prior of Leominster, the Dean of Hereford and perhaps the other ecclesiastical tenants, paid heriot. This payment of the best beast or money in lieu was normally made only when a customary tenant died. But at Pencombe it was made not only on the death of almost every tenant, but whenever land changed hands. Very little freehold land was actually sold, but a certain amount was conveyed and re-conveyed to create family settlements and quite a large amount was demised. This usually meant that it was let by one tenant to another for a purely nominal rent and the tenant to whom the land was demised became responsible for the services due to the lord. The court's sole interest in the matter was to secure the lord's heriot and an acknowledgement of the services due from the demisee, so that one cannot tell whether the demises represent an early form of mortgage or a means of transferring land to someone who could not raise the money to buy it. Relief, usually paid by all freeholders on taking up their inheritance, was due from most but not all of those who held by knight service and from a minority of socagers (free tenants owing a non-military service). In addition to heriot and in most cases relief, the tenants by knight service paid homage and fealty, a rent in money or sometimes pepper, wardship and marriage. The lord also seems to have claimed some right over the marriage of their widows, since Ralph de Berneston was fined twenty shillings in 1303 for marrying Anflissa de Fraxino, a widow whose family was the only one to pay ward money in lieu of doing castle guard at Ewias. Unfortunately the amount paid has been lost. To distinguish clearly between socagers and customary tenants on a manor where services had been commuted for money, where everyone paid heriot and the payment of relief was apparently the exception rather than the rule among the socagers, is not easy; especially since the terms "according to the custom of the manor" and "by copy of court roll" were not used at Pencombe before the fifteenth century. They all did fealty and owed rent in money or kind, heriot and suit of

court. All the people, however, who are identifiable as customary tenants in the fifteenth century held for one, two or three lives, apparently according to their individual circumstances, and paid a fine on entry to the land. It therefore seems probable that the tenants holding for lives and paying entry fines in the fourteenth century were customary tenants and that those holding for an unspecified time were socagers.

The manor was administered through its court, which was held at intervals ranging from three weeks to six months. It was both a court baron and court customary, dealing with all matters affecting land within the manor and such breaches of manorial good order as bad planting and unrepaired buildings, and a court leet with a criminal jurisdiction equivalent to that of a hundred court. The tenants were forbidden to seek justice in any other court and could be sued by the lord for doing so. The chief officer of the court was the steward, who acted as the lord's deputy, presiding over the court and transacting business outside the manor. Under him was the bailiff who was responsible for the daily supervision of the manor, for collecting and accounting for all payments made in money or kind and for carrying out the orders of the court. The surnames of several bailiffs are known and it seems that they were appointed from among the tenants. The only other officers mentioned are the affecrors, the assessors of fines and amercements, who are named on three occasions. The roll makes no mention of jurors, except once when tenants were chosen by the whole court "to fill the office of four jurors". Throughout the fourteenth century a body variously described as "the court", "the whole court" or "the whole township" made enquiries, viewed encroachments, gave judgement and presented defaults and deaths. In the fifteenth century a certain distinction seems to have been observed between "the homage" who might present anyone or anything, "the free tenants" who presented the defaults, misdemeanours and deaths of free tenants and "the customary tenants" or "tenants at will" who did the same in the case of customary tenants. Tenants presented were allowed to make three essoins or excuses for non-appearance and had to find fellow tenants to act as sureties to secure their appearance or the payment of their fines.

Disputes over land were rare, but Joanna de la Churchyard, evidently a rapacious widow, on two occasions entered land which had escheated to the lord for lack of an heir; once on the ground that it had been previously granted to her and once as a relation of the last tenant but one. This relationship was clearly extremely tenuous and its exact nature is not evident from the rather tortuous exposition given in the roll. The decisions in these cases are now lost. Otherwise the court dealt with numerous failures to pay suit or

fealty or rents (the Deans of Hereford being notable defaulters), the various breaches of good order mentioned above and a variety of criminal offences. These included trespass, debt, defamation, sheep stealing, theft of such items as trees, cups, pots, hay, saddles and even earth, and cases of assault. One tenant attacked another with a knife and one man beat another man's wife. Neither the cause of nor the sentence for this last incident is known, but the parties to the suit essoined alternately through a great many courts. When the business of the court was over the steward held a feast and in 1438 he consumed bread, ale, flesh of pigs and oxen, one goose and one spare rib at a total cost of twenty-two pence.

The roll ends in 1452, but the history of the manor might be pursued further in another roll beginning in 1480 and ending in 1553, in a series of paper drafts for the seventeenth century and in a third roll for 1685-1718.

## ROMANO-BRITISH IRON WORKING NEAR ARICONIUM

By N. P. BRIDGEWATER, B.SC.

A sample of the extensive iron working structures of the Ariconium complex was examined by excavation. Remains of six furnaces, probably of the shaft type, were found, together with slag pits and working hollows. It is shown that these were in use in the second half of the second century, and the subsequent history of the site is also described.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

The field (N.G.R. SO/643244) in which this excavation was carried out lies north of the Bollitree to Bromsash lane, in the parish of Weston-under-Penyard, south-east of Ross-on-Wye (Fig. 1). The traditional site of Ariconium lies in the fields to the south of the above mentioned lane, and field work in this part suggests that several extensive buildings existed there. In the area chosen for the present excavation, which lies 320 feet above datum, ploughing has revealed a large spread of black soil containing much iron slag, burnt clay and Romano-British pottery, and these finds justified a systematic search for iron working furnaces. The fields in this region, used mainly for corn growing, are normally available for excavation only during the autumn and winter.<sup>1</sup> The excavation was undertaken by the Archenfield Archaeological Group in 1963.<sup>2</sup>

## THE EXCAVATION

The region which was examined is shown in Fig. 2, covering 72 feet by 84 feet. Four major areas, A-D, were systematically excavated, revealing working hollows cut deeply into the bedrock, whilst trial trenches in the intervening parts showed little disturbance, the bedrock lying at 15-18 ins. below ground level. The bedrock was a pinkish-brown, soft, flaky sandstone, which was covered by a red sandy subsoil. The main hollows all contained similar features of varying design, namely small furnaces with their associated slag pits and shallow working pits. These were all sealed by back-filled material, the special significance of which will be discussed later. The average thickness of humus was 12 ins.

## AREA A (see Figures 2 and 3)

The main features here (F3 and F4) formed a complete unit which, when totally excavated to bedrock level, was revealed as a single

<sup>1</sup> Permission to excavate was kindly given by Mr. D. Harper, who also undertook the backfilling and supplied hurdling.

<sup>2</sup> The team consisted of Col. A. Bellhouse, A. Clarke, H. Armstrong, R. Winnel, A. Selway, R. E. Kay, Mrs. H. Howell and Miss M. Howe. Considerable help was derived from a visit by Dr. R. F. Tylecote whose specialist technical advice is greatly appreciated.

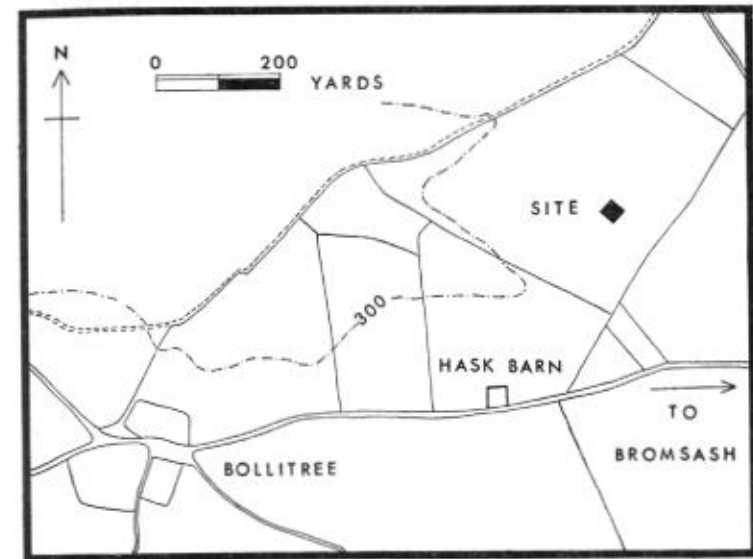


Fig. 1.

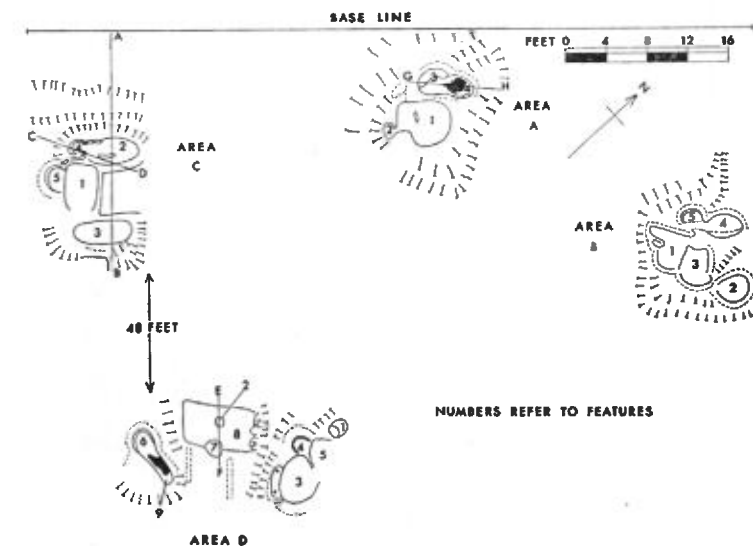


Fig. 2.

scooped hollow increasing in depth from west to east. The western part (F3) contained the furnace, whilst the eastern part (F4) had been a slag collecting pit. The contents of F3, as found during excavation, represent the demolished portions of furnace material, together with sandy deposits. The plan (Fig. 3) drawn after the removal of all layers above (14) (other than the clay and the large slag mass), shows a complex of clay linings of the feature F3, and it may be noted that these appear to be excessively thick if a single shaft-type furnace had been present. A typical shaft furnace, which was normally only about one foot in diameter could easily have been accommodated in the southern half of the rock-cut hollow, F3, and it is possible that the whole of F3 was originally a bowl furnace which was later clay packed in its northern half, in order to adapt it for the construction of a shaft furnace.<sup>1</sup>

In support of this idea it was observed that, in the northern sector of F3, some slag had fused to the rock where the heating had imparted to it a bluish colouration. Layer (14), a hard sandy, bluish loamy mass, spread out from the lip of the furnace area down into the slag pit, and could well have supported the front of a shaft furnace.<sup>2</sup>

The main feature of the slag pit was the presence of an extensive mass of bloomery slag, still in position with an attached runner. A large stone was found in the centre of this mass. It was noted that the direction of layering of the slag to the north of the stone, and which had flowed around it, was opposite to that of the southern part, and undoubtedly represents congealed slag formed by previous smelting operations. Pieces of charcoal were found beneath the pit-slag. The southern part of the slag pit had been closed by a line of roughly cut sandstone blocks.

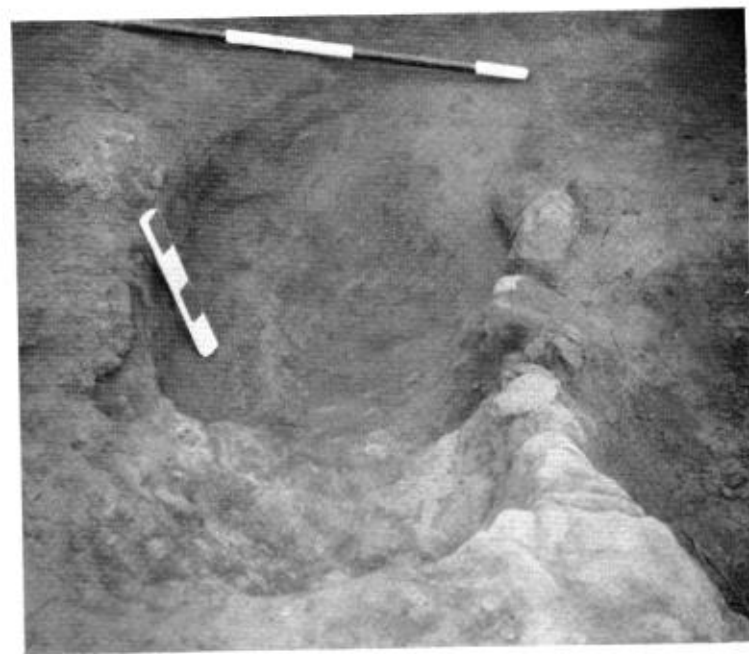
The layers immediately above these already discussed consisted of sand and furnace destruction material. No datable finds were discovered in any of these layers. A compact soil layer (2) had filled the main hollow, thus sealing the furnace pit. This contained some furnace destruction material and much slag. Coal and charcoal,

<sup>1</sup> Cp. "A second-century Iron Smelting site at Ashwicken, Norfolk", R. F. Tylecote and Elizabeth Owles. *Norfolk Archaeology*, Vol. XXXII, Pt. III, 1960, p. 159.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Tylecote remarks "I feel sure that the blue-black layer was not deposited during smelting but was put there intentionally as some sort of levelling layer. While the bellows were in use, they would have to be supported at a suitable height above the rock-filled hollow, probably on some sort of wooden scaffolding as is being used in pre-industrial Indian furnaces. They would be withdrawn while it was necessary to tap the slag. The slag would have been tapped onto a layer of sand in the hollow and removed as soon as it was cool. Then the bellows would be replaced. I feel strongly that the layer sequence is due to collapse of the lining outwards. The slag would in fact be slagged furnace lining left more or less as it was deposited and the sequence of grey to red, the grey being uppermost and the red downwards, would be that expected on Ashwicken evidence". (See Fig. 6).

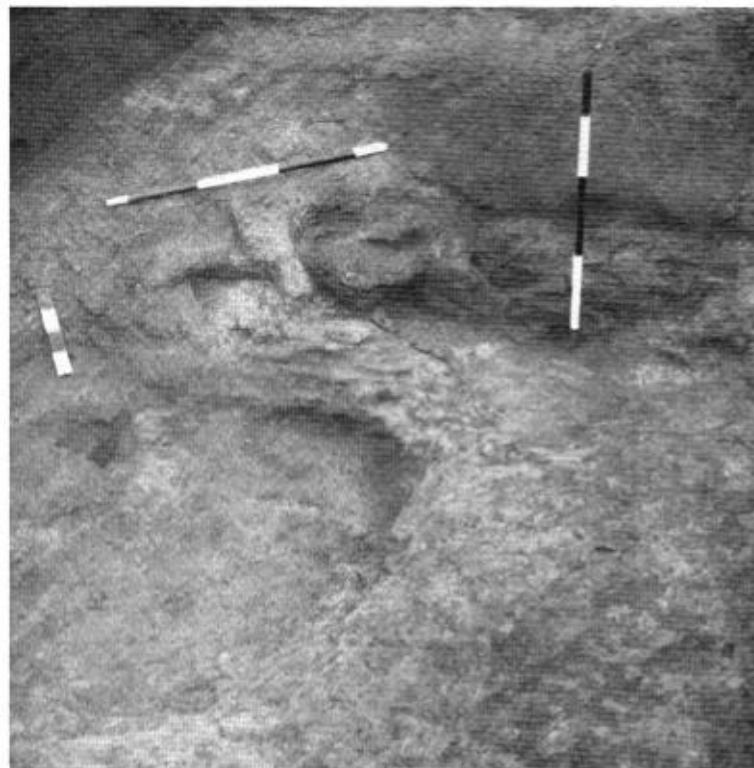


AREA A. FURNACE WITH CLAY FILLING, AND SLAG PIT WITH SLAG MASS AND STONE.

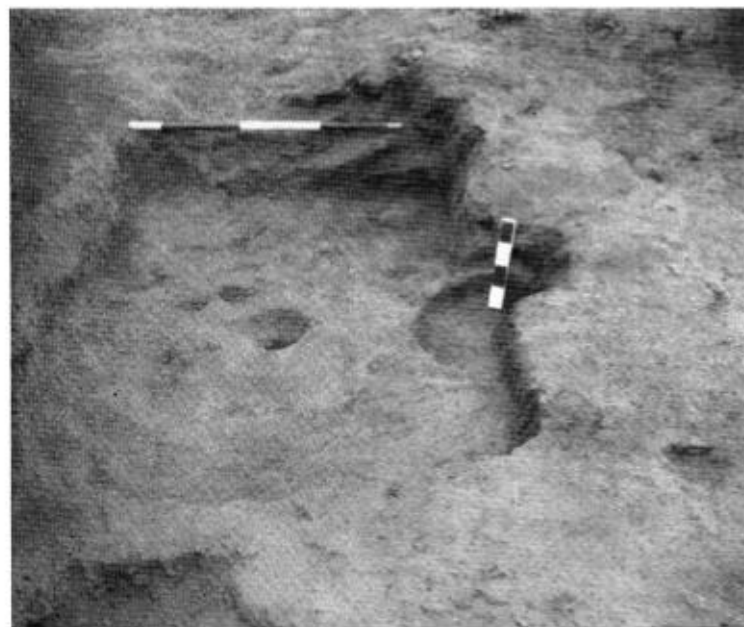


AREA A. FURNACE AND SLAG PIT COMPLETELY EXCAVATED TO BEDROCK.

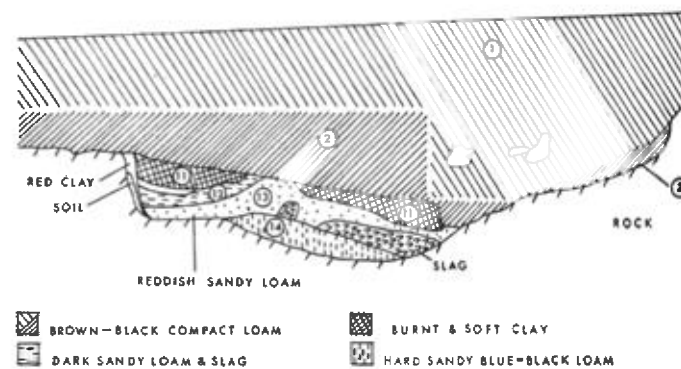
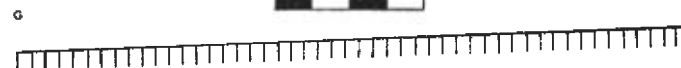
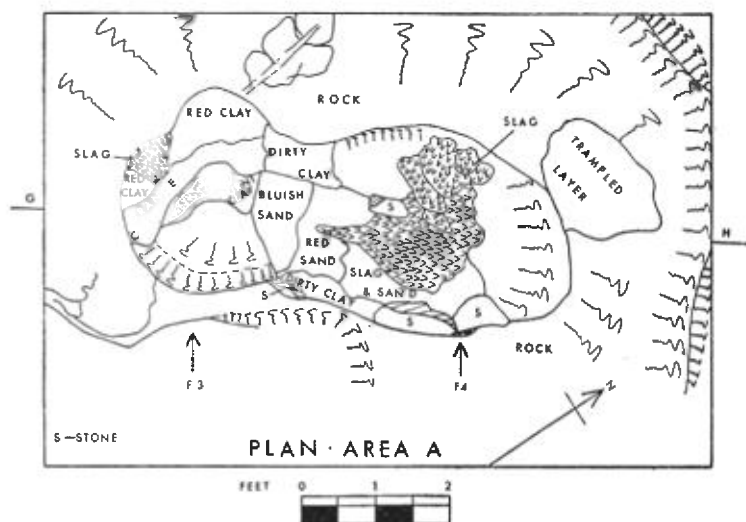




AREA C. FURNACE AND SLAG PITS: F4 AND F2 IN CENTRE; F5 AND F1 TO LEFT



AREA D. CHARCOAL STORE, SHOWING CENTRAL STAKE HOLE, AND REMAINS OF POST HOLE TO RIGHT



SECTION AREA A

FIG. 3.



together with various sherds of coarse wares (Pottery List Nos. 1-8) of second to fourth century forms, with some samian, were present. It was apparent, however, that this layer had been penetrated at one spot during the 17th or 18th century, for the purpose of abstracting the larger lumps of slag, but had fortunately missed the furnace and pit areas. The covering layer (1), also filling the robber hole in (2), was less firm and contained little slag, but clay tobacco pipe stems and post-medieval sherds were found. Area A also contained two other features. F1 was a large, shallow, rock-cut hollow which had probably been a general working area, and to the south-west lay a small hollow, F2, at a higher level; this may have been a subsidiary furnace for reheating blooms,<sup>1</sup> discharging into a small pit situated in F1. A heap of yellowish sand was found in F1. The sandy fill<sup>2</sup> of F2 contained an iron rod and some fourth century coarse pottery. In the vicinity of F2, lying in a depression in the bedrock, were found fragments of amphorae.

#### AREA B (Fig. 2)

Here also the main feature was the remains of a furnace (F5) which, with its slag pit (F4), formed a complete unit. The site of the furnace, as found during excavation, was filled with soft and burnt clay, and loamy soil containing slag and charcoal. This could have been a shaft furnace of about one foot internal diameter. From the furnace the bedrock sloped down to the deeply cut slag pit, and the rocky slope was bluish coloured due to the heat action. At the edge of the furnace was a portion of slag runner. The fill of the slag pit consisted of greyish-brown soil with large lumps of slag and charcoal. There were three other features in this area (F1-3), in the form of irregularly-shaped shallow hollows, which must have been general working areas, as these contained light-brown sand, charcoal and cinder, forming trampled layers over the bedrock and subsoil. There was no datable material in these deposits. In the higher, uncut bedrock lying to the north of the furnace area were a few shallow depressions, which are interpreted as former bush-root holes. These were also found elsewhere on the site, and this suggests that an area of scrub existed before the land was levelled out for agricultural purposes.

The back filled layers (1) and (2) were also present in the main hollow (as described under Area A) and sherds of Romano-British coarse pottery were found in layer (2).

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Tylecote feels that the hollow F2 was a working-up hearth. In primitive smelting the bloom was actually an accretion of reduced ore lumps and charcoal. The reduced ore lumps were picked out of this mass and put into a hearth and heated and finally hammered together. Working-up hearths would therefore be almost as numerous as smelting hearths.

<sup>2</sup> This fill cannot be regarded as contemporary with the iron working period, and the iron rod may be domestic rubbish from a later period.

#### AREA C (Fig. 2 and sections AB and CD of Fig. 4)

This area was more complex, containing two furnace and slag pit units and a working hollow. There was a long steady slope in the north-western part, dipping steeply into the furnace region, and it was evident that during occupation this had been exposed down to bedrock level. There was firstly a bed of yellowish soft clean sand (see section AB Fig. 4) terminating in a shallow pit about one foot in diameter. It is possible to regard this pit as either a bowl furnace or a smithing pit. Lying on the bedrock to the south-east of the pit was a spread of dirty white clayey mortar.

Section CD (Fig. 4) was taken across the furnace (F4) and its associated slag pit (F2). Of the fragmentary clay structure remaining, layers (24), (25) and (26), together with the ring of slag lining, clearly suggests the collapsed base of a former shaft furnace, particularly as layers (24) and (26) were of burnt clay. The sandy blue-grey mass, layer (22), must have been a levelling layer and had obviously been subjected to the action of heat. The extent of (22) showed that the furnace would have rested upon a reasonably flat platform, and outside of this the bedrock sloped downwards into the extensive slag pit. Portions of a slag runner were found *in situ* down this slope.

In the slag pit was a large flat stone; similar to that found in Area A. The layers (11) to (16) were variously coloured sands, some containing soil, charcoal, slag and cinder, and they can be interpreted as representing successive fillings of the pit after disuse. Layer (11) contained a rim of burnished grey ware of second century form (Pottery List No. 18). The most interesting layer, (7) was the compact black trampled soil containing small slag, because it covered F4 and F2 but not the other slag pit (F1). Layer (7) contained several sherds of coarse wares, including one of second century form (Pottery List No. 19).

The characteristics of furnace F5 and its slag pit F1 were similar to those of the first unit, and the stratigraphy shows that the latter was replaced by the former. Moreover, a *terminus post quem* of A.D.170 for the abandonment of F4 and F2 can be given, as layer (6) (Section AB, Fig. 4) contained a rather abraded samian rim made probably between A.D.125 and 150 (Pottery List No. 20).

The function of pit F3 could not be determined, but the layer sequence suggests that it was contemporary with pit F2. The area bounded by pits F2, F1 and F3 was a slightly raised platform.

The main hollow must have been left open until the 17th or 18th century, as the backfill layer (2) contained portions of clay tobacco pipes. Besides these there was a large quantity of second century coarse pottery (Pottery List Nos. 9-12), with some samian, remains of amphorae, slag runners and small slag, charred sticks and coal, and a portion of quern.

## AREA D (Fig. 2 and section EF of Fig. 4)

This area contained two furnace units, a rock-cut hut floor and two large post holes. The remains of both furnaces (F6 and F4) with their associated slag pits (F9 and F5) were similar to those in area C, and need not be described in detail. Both could be regarded as shaft furnaces in their original form. The slag pit F9 contained a large slag mass *in situ*, with an attached runner.

The feature F3 was a large working hollow, with a raised platform to the south, containing two small square-sectioned holes which may have been stake holes for a crude shelter. These pits and hollows were variously filled with sand, clay, black soil, coal, slag and pottery—these materials having collected after the abandonment of the furnaces.

The most interesting feature in this area was F8, a rectangular hollow cut one foot deep into the bedrock. Lying in it, and upon the bedrock was a complete bed of charcoal, layer (9), upon which rested a layer of burnt daub impressed with wattle marks (7). In both of these layers were found rims and sherds of plain and decorated samian (Pottery list Nos. 21–23). These could have been deposited by the end of the second century. Both of these layers were penetrated by a conical-shaped stake hole (F2) in the centre of the hollow, and the whole was covered by a sandy layer (4).

The rectangular hollow is regarded as a charcoal store which served both the furnaces F6 and F4, being a hut of wattle and daub structure. There were also traces of an extension to this store to the south-east, in the form of two parallel clay walls, and this may have been an adjoining hut. It is of interest that the stake hole F2 contained slag with small attached pieces of coal, and this is evidence of smithing operations on the site.

The other features of note were two large post-holes (F1 and F7). The former was 18 ins. deep and 18 ins. wide, whilst the latter was fragmentary, having been cut away by the charcoal store. Whilst no date can be given to the post-holes, it is clear that they antedate the furnaces, and may be part of a much larger structure. It was not possible, however, to strip a large area to investigate this feature.

The subsequent back-fill layers of the main hollow were similar to those described in the other areas, and contained second to fourth century coarse wares (Pottery list, Nos. 13–17).

## DISCUSSION

The present work has thrown some light upon the iron smelting activities in the Ariconium district. Although iron smelting has been inferred from the various surface finds,<sup>1</sup> no furnaces had either been

<sup>1</sup> History and Antiquities of the County of Hereford, *Duncomb's History*, Vol. III, *Greytree Hundred*, pp. 214–217.

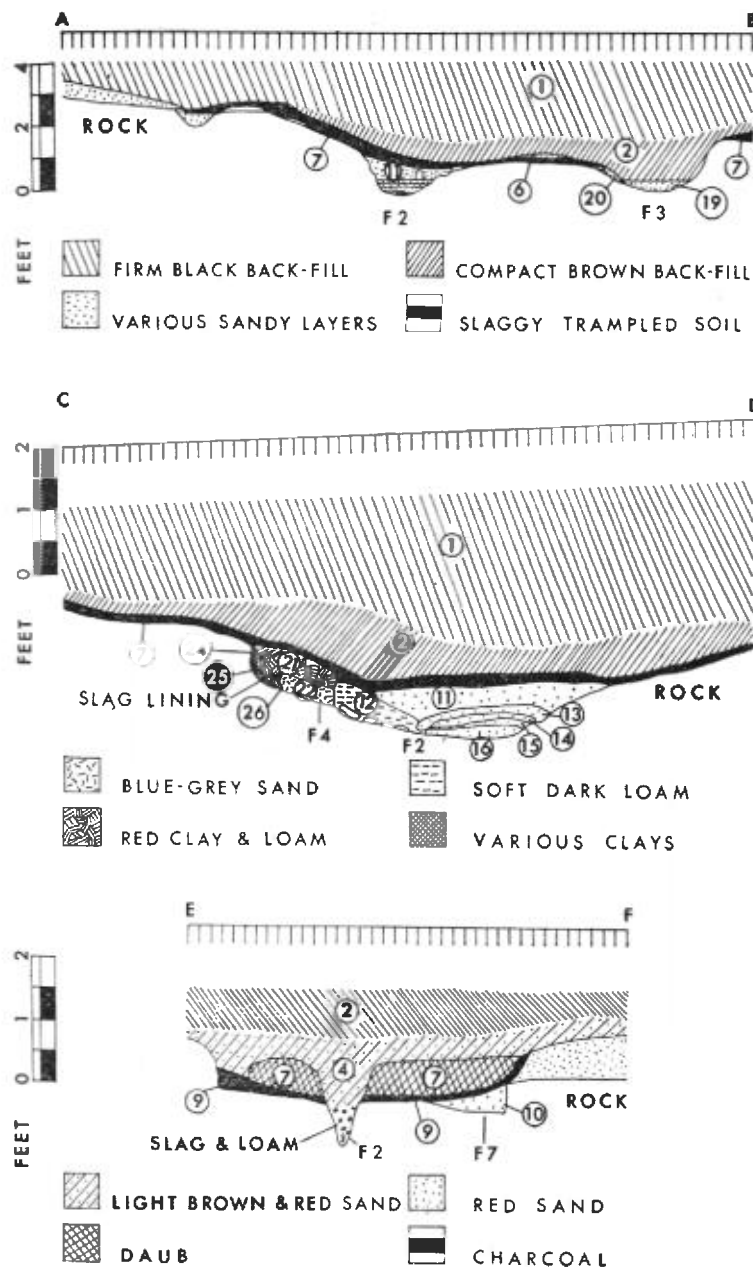


FIG. 4.

discovered or systematically examined. This has now been done for a small area, although the remains of the actual furnaces are scanty.

There is no evidence to decide whether the furnaces were of the bowl or shaft type, but the latter seems probable, and it seems likely that forced draught was employed. That some of the furnaces are not far below ground level suggests they were not so tall as those at Ashwicken<sup>1</sup> and induced draught alone would have been insufficient to work them.

Apart from the initial smelting process, there is also some evidence for smithing operations, by the presence of various pits and hollows and the finding of slag containing coal inclusions. Some of the pits may have been used for quenching. The finding of tap slag in the pits *in situ* with attached runners is conclusive evidence for the process of smelting. No ore or "fines" however could be found, indicating that roasting of the ore was either carried out in an adjacent area or even at the ore mines.

It is fortunate that some dating evidence for the use of the furnaces was discovered, this ranging from before A.D. 125 until the end of the second century. It is clear that some hollows were re-used.

A reasonable picture thus emerges of smelting and smithing activities in the second century, leaving hollows partly filled but mostly left open. During the following centuries the hollows and the surrounding slag heaps must have become rubbish dumps for the occupants of the houses at Ariconium, but later the land reverted to a scrubby waste. As is well known, considerable quantities of bloomery slag were re-used in the 17th and 18th centuries,<sup>2</sup> and there was considerable evidence to show that a sorting-out of the larger slag lumps had been undertaken, leaving the finer material and domestic rubbish behind. When the land was required for cultivation, this remaining material was backfilled into the main hollows and the land generally levelled. Several cinder lumps were discovered, but no true hammer scale, although there were several accumulations of very small slag pieces.

From field work carried out during the season, it is clear that the whole of the Ariconium complex must cover a large area, possibly 250 acres. To the south of the Bollitree-Bromsash lane there must be several stone built structures, which is indicated by the large amounts of pottery brought up by the plough, together with building stones, whilst to the north a large acreage is covered by furnace sites. So far there is no evidence for regarding Ariconium as a town, and a more realistic picture might be that of a villa estate with other buildings appertaining to a posting station, adjoining an industrial belt.

<sup>1</sup> "A second-century Iron Smelting site at Ashwicken". See footnote 1, p. 126.

<sup>2</sup> History of Iron Working in and near the Forest of Dean. I. Cohen. *Trans. Woolhope Naturalists Field Club*, XXXIV, Pt. III (1954), pp. 170, 174.

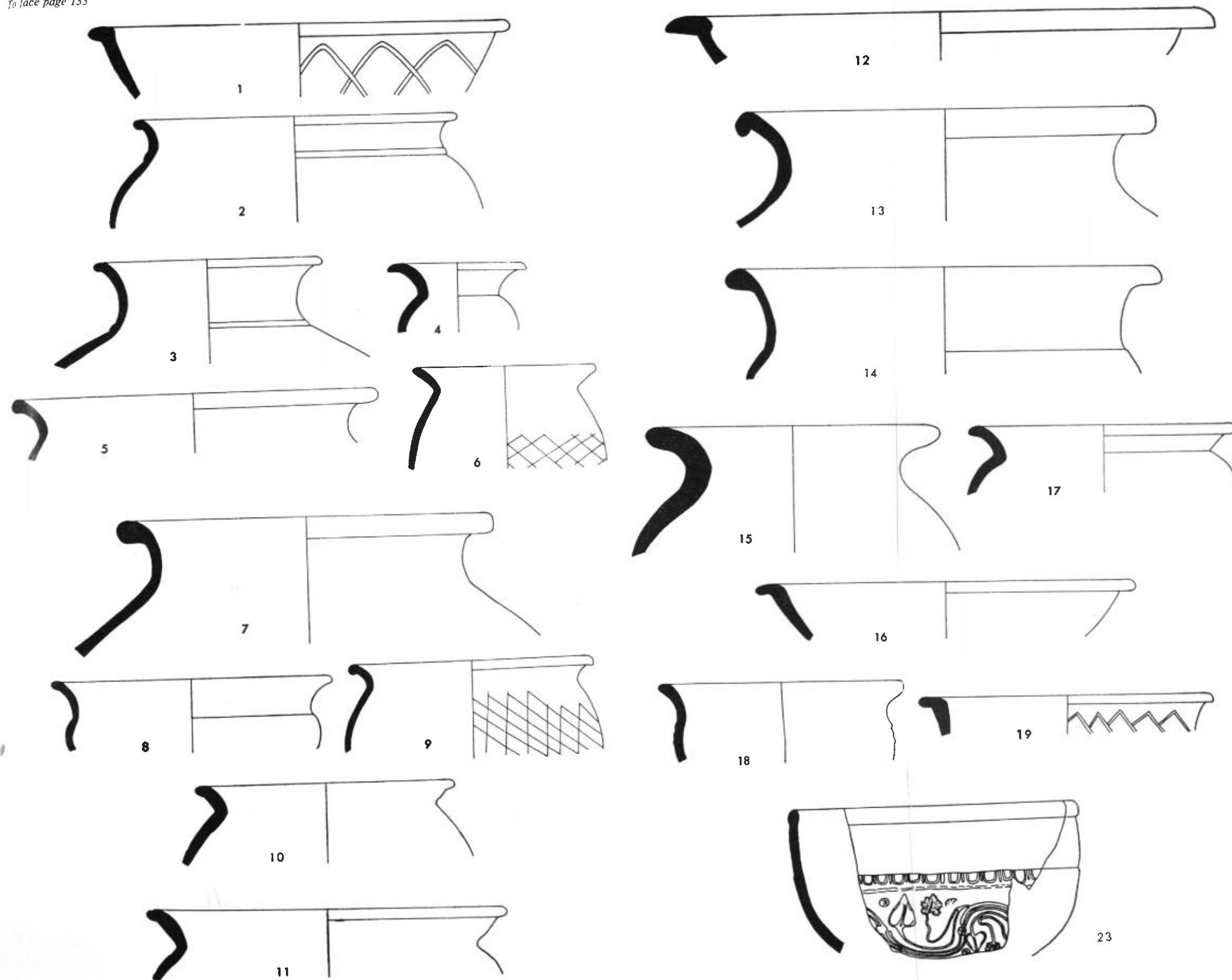


FIG. 5.

The industrial economy of the site is more difficult to imagine; there is no doubt that the iron smelting was carried out by skilled metal workers, probably with the help of native labourers; this was not a spare-time occupation for agriculturalists. There is still no satisfactory explanation for the siting of the smelting industry away from the mines, and until a forest mining settlement has been examined this question will remain unanswered.

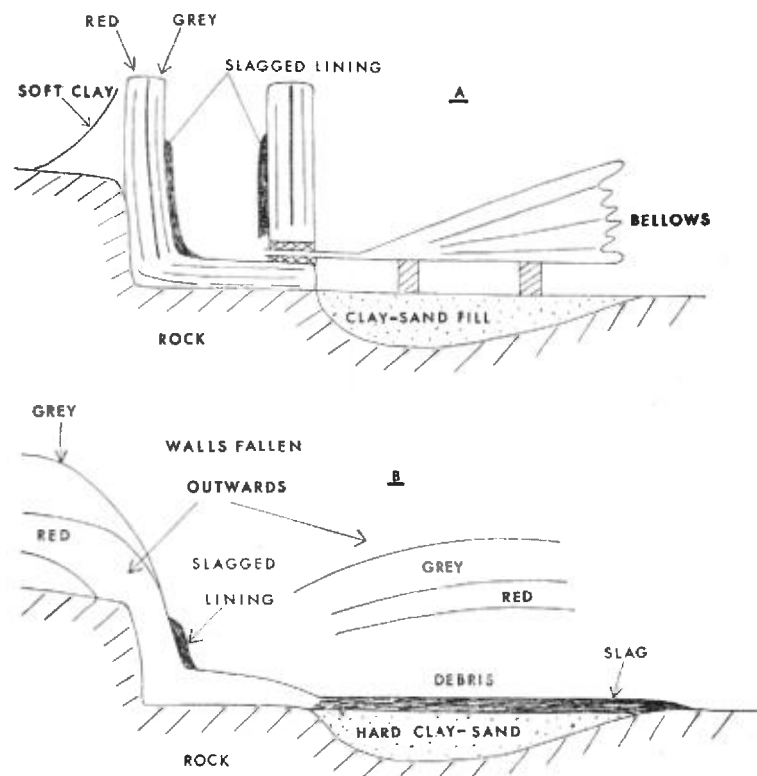


FIG. 6.

#### POTTERY LIST (see Figure 5)

*In the backfill of the main hollows*

##### *Area A. Coarse Wares*

1. Pie dish of grey ware with external trellis pattern. From A.D. 120 Jewry Wall Fig. 19, No. 10, Type A.

2. Necked bowl of red fabric with slight cordon around neck. First to fourth century. *Jewry Wall*, Fig. 24, No. 9.
3. Necked Jar of red fabric. Second to fourth century. *Jewry Wall*, Fig. 25, No. 26, Type E.
4. Black burnished cooking pot. A.D. 270–340. *Gillam Arch. Ael.* 4th series Vol. XXXV, No. 145.
5. Necked bowl of light brick-red fabric. First to fourth century *Jewry Wall*. Fig. 24, No. 13, Type E.
6. Black burnished cooking pot with zone of acute lattice work. Hadrian—early Antonine. *Jewry Wall*, Fig. 26, No. 13.
7. Necked jar of red fabric. First to third century. *Jewry Wall*, Fig. 25, No. 20, Type E.
8. Necked bowl of buff fabric, fine textured. Second to fourth century. *Jewry Wall*, Fig. 24, No. 6, Type C.

#### *Area C. Coarse Wares*

9. Black burnished cooking pot. Acute lattice work. A.D. 120–140. *Gillam*, No. 115.
10. Black burnished cooking pot. A.D. 140–180. *Gillam*, No. 130.
11. Black burnished cooking pot. A.D. 140–180. *Gillam*, No. 130.
12. Wide-flanged bowl of red fabric with remnants of light-brown burnishing. No parallel form can be found for this.

#### *Area D. Coarse Wares*

13. Jar of light brick-red fabric; undercut and overhanging rim. Fourth century. *Great Casterton*, 1950, Fig. 8, No. 19.
14. Wide-mouthed jar of light brick-red fabric. Fourth Century. *The R. B. Potter's Field at Wappenbury, Warwicks.* M. and B. Stanley. *Trans. Birmingham Arch. Soc.* Vol. 79 (1964), Fig. 5, No. 3.
15. Jar of fine textured, biscuit-coloured fabric, with heavily rolled rim.
16. Dish of red fabric. A.D. 125–160. Similar to *Gillam*, No. 307.
17. Black burnished cooking pot. A.D. 200–280. *Gillam*, No. 144.

#### *In the occupation layers of the slag pit*

##### *Area C. Coarse Wares*

18. Bowl of grey fabric with slightly burnished exterior surface and regular horizontal rilling. No direct parallel form can be found, but on the evidence of stratification this must have been deposited before A.D. 170.
19. Black burnished pie dish with fairly broad acute trellis pattern. Common up to A.D. 220 in *Jewry Wall*, Fig. 19, No. 10, Type A.

#### SAMIAN<sup>1</sup>

20. (Not illustrated). Rim of samian bowl, form 18/31 of Lezoux potters. Manufactured around A.D. 125–150. the sherd is rather weathered.

#### *In the Charcoal and daub layers of the charcoal Store*

##### *Area D. Samian*

21. (Not illustrated). Five fragments, some slightly burnt, of a large bowl, form 31R, of Central Gaulish origin. The bowl has been prepared for rivetting, but the rivets were probably never added. It is close in form and size to examples from a recently excavated Lezoux kiln of c. A.D. 170–190.
22. (Not illustrated). Four pieces of the same heavily burnt form 38. This form is typically Antonine, and this example is probably Central Gaulish.
23. Three joining fragments, all burnt, of a form 37 in the style of MERCATOR of Lezoux. The ovolo (Stanfield and Simpson, *Central Gaulish Potters*, pl. 145, Nos. 4, 5, 8, etc.) was not used by any other potter, and the rayed rosette is also characteristic of this potter. No parallel is known for the large scroll decoration, which must now be added to MERCATOR'S repertoire. Bowls by this potter are relatively common in forts in the Penines thought to have been re-occupied about A.D. 160, and a few of his bowls have recently been found at Lezoux in a late Antonine context. This piece may be dated c. A.D. 160–200.

##### *Brown Burnished Wares*

Several rims and sherds were found in the backfill layers of the main hollows on which remained a residual brown burnish, which is similar to, but not identical with, the "Glevum ware" burnishing.<sup>2</sup> Where the burnish has become abraded the exposed fabric is typical of the West Midland coarse wares of second to fourth century forms.

<sup>1</sup> All the samian wares listed were kindly examined and described by B. R. Hartley.

<sup>2</sup> These specimens were kindly examined by Mr. J. F. Rhodes, City Museum, Gloucester, who considers them to be red wares of soft fabric, coated with a burnished slip, which are unlike the local Gloucester wares.

## THE LETTON LINTEL FIGURES

By the Rev. J. E. GETHYN-JONES

The early 12th century lintels at Bredwardine (2), Letton and Willersley represent a small group of monuments which has formed part of several studies of the Romanesque sculpture surviving within the boundaries of the mediaeval diocese of Hereford. They have been considered in some detail by such authorities as Sir Alfred Clapham<sup>1</sup> and Professor George Zernecki,<sup>2</sup> and also have been discussed by Mr. Charles Keyser,<sup>3</sup> Mr. George Marshall<sup>4</sup> and the author.<sup>5</sup>

Geometric motifs predominate in the enrichments of these lintels, but upon the one over the blocked N. doorway of the nave at Bredwardine and that over the S. doorway of the nave at Letton is simple figure sculpture.

The Bredwardine lintel<sup>6</sup> has, carved upon the centre of its face, two figures which have been the subject of considerable speculation. They have been variously identified as, Christ and a cockatrice. The Temptation, the Egyptian gods Bes and Thoth and the Indian divinities Ganésh and Hanumen.

At Letton there are four small figures carved upon the E. half of the lintel (Fig. 1). Each is formed within a medallion. The upper two (heads only) appear to be human, while the lower pair are animal representations.

These Letton figure carvings, unlike those at Bredwardine, have aroused little interest. Mr. Marshall says, "in two of the circles . . . are small heads, the one on the right is bearded, and each is surrounded by rays like an aureole. They may be intended to represent the Father and Son. Below in two other circles are a scorpion and a frog, possibly spirits of evil".<sup>7</sup> Mr. Keyser repeats Mr. Marshall's statement verbatim;<sup>8</sup> while Sir Alfred Clapham merely calls them, "rayed heads" and "toad-like forms".<sup>9</sup> These descriptions are, largely, correct. It is noticeable, however, that none of these authorities suggests any possible sources or influences which may lie behind the figures.

<sup>1</sup> R.C.H.M. (Herefordshire), Vols. 1-3—parish headings.

<sup>2</sup> G. Zernecki, (a) Thesis, *Regional Schools of English Sculpture in the twelfth century*, deposited London U. (b) *English Romanesque Sculpture 1066-1140*, London, 1951, p. 29.

<sup>3</sup> C. E. Keyser, *Norman Tympana and Lintels in the Churches of Great Britain*, London, 2nd ed., 1927.

<sup>4</sup> G. Marshall, Woolhope N.F.C., Vol. for 1918, pp. 52-59.

<sup>5</sup> J. E. Gethyn-Jones, Thesis, *The Romanesque Sculpture in the Dymock Group of Churches*, deposited Bristol U.

<sup>6</sup> Marshall, *op. cit.*, plate facing p. 57.

<sup>7</sup> *Op. cit.*, p. 58. <sup>8</sup> Keyser, *op. cit.*, p. 31. <sup>9</sup> R.C.H.M., Vol. III, p. 134.

To face page 136.



FIG. 1. LETTON CHURCH, SOUTH DOORWAY OF NAVE.



FIG. 2. EAST END OF THE LETTON LINTEL—DETAIL.

Sir Alfred Clapham describes the human heads as “rayed”. It is most apt. The effect is almost that of the heads of Carausius or Allectus upon the Romano-British coins, except that the Letton heads are full faced. The E. head is that of a male; that to the W. could be female. The ray effect may be no more than the pattern carved on the underside of the decoration on the lintel at Bredwardine.<sup>1</sup> The other circles contain small figures. Their size, the coarse nature of the stone and its weathered condition make identification difficult. The figures appear to be shelled like a tortoise or turtle, and have heads protruding from one end and what must be tails at the other (Fig. 2).

The well-known book by Cotman,<sup>2</sup> published in 1822, includes a drawing of corbels in Holy Cross Church at St. Lô. The text explains that there is a local tradition that there was once on the site a Roman temple of Ceres.

One of the corbels illustrated by Cotman (Fig. 4) is termed by him, “the mystic Scarabacus”, and it is not unlike the W. figure at Letton which also has six legs. It is possible that these two have behind them a common source of inspiration. The second figure at Letton (it has four legs) appears to be a tortoise. The presence of these figures is difficult to explain, in view of the fact that there are no parallels, as far as I know, in British mediaeval sculptural enrichment. It might be that, in his travels, the sculptor had visited the Mediterranean lands and had seen these creatures or illustrations of them. A second suggestion, but a most improbable one, is that the Letton sculptor may have been influenced in his choice of subject by Roman remains, e.g. pavements, sculpture or stucco decoration.<sup>3</sup> If this was the case the small human heads might, after all, be imitations of the barbarous radiates, which were common in Britain during the last century and a half of Roman rule.

A third possible identification of the four figures on the Letton lintel is suggested by an illumination on 6v of the *Chronicon Zwifaltense Minus*<sup>4</sup> at Stuttgart. It will be seen, if the two Letton human figures, with radiations round their heads, are compared with the medallioned moon and sun symbols cupped in the hands of Annus in the manuscript (Fig. 3), that there is a marked similarity between the pairs. The W. figure at Letton, with its pronounced hair style, is close in form and general appearance to the figure of the moon. The E. figure at Letton has much in common with the representation

<sup>1</sup> Gethyn-Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 31, footnote 1.

<sup>2</sup> J. S. Cotman, *The Architectural Antiquities of Normandy*, 2 vols., London, 1822, pp. 105–7, plate 88.

<sup>3</sup> Letton is less than 10 miles from the site of the Roman town of Magna (Kenchester) and less than 40 miles from the large Roman centres of Caerleon and Gloucester.

<sup>4</sup> Zarnecki, G., *Sculptor of Autun*, Paris, 1961, p. 24 and p. 29.



of the sun. Professor Zarnecki points out<sup>1</sup> that this manuscript makes possible the identification of the subjects of the 31 medallioned figures (including Annus) on the outer arch above the tympanum of the W. doorway at St. Lazarus, Autun. It will be observed<sup>2</sup> that medallions 16 and 24 of the Autun arch contain the Zodiac figures of Cancer and Scorpio (Fig. 4) and are remarkably like the two animal carvings at Letton (Fig. 2). The Zodiac and Monthly Labour figures, so common on the Continent, are only occasionally found in surviving mediaeval English stone sculpture, e.g. Brayston, Yorkshire. (There are other examples in Yorkshire including St. Margarets), Ely (Aries and Pisces) and Romsey (Cancer ?). It is interesting to observe, however, that there are an unusual number of examples in Herefordshire, e.g. Brinsop (Pisces, Sagittarius and Taurus, and possibly, Gemini and Virgo), Kilpeck (Pisces) and Shobdon (Aries, Gemini, Leo, Pisces and Taurus). There is at Ruardean (Gloucestershire, but in mediaeval times part of the diocese of Hereford) a panel on which the sign Pisces is carved.

In addition to these stone examples, the Signs of Zodiac and the Labours of the Months are found in other media, e.g., Lead, Brookland (Kent) font,<sup>3</sup> Dorchester Abbey (Oxon.) font, Wall Paintings: Copford (Essex), Westmeston (Sussex) and, possibly, Kempeley (Gloucestershire).<sup>4</sup> It is possible to postulate, from the fact that examples are found in widely separated districts and that the mediaeval sculpture in stone, lead and wood and the wall paintings which have survived the ravages of time, the onslaught of the Reformers and Puritans and the rebuilding zeal of the Victorians represent a very small percentage of that which once enriched our churches, that these motifs were employed more widely during the Middle Ages than is now generally recognized.<sup>5</sup>

It has been suggested by some that these Zodiac motifs were derived from works of the goldsmith's art, while Dr. P. C. Nye believes that the examples in Romanesque sculpture were inspired by Roman Mithraic sculpture. There seems to be more speculation than firm evidence in the arguments put forward. However, it is generally recognized that the innumerable illuminated manuscripts in current use during the mediaeval period exercised considerable influence on motif selections for stone sculpture.

<sup>1</sup> Zarnecki, *op. cit.*, p. 29.

<sup>2</sup> *Op. cit.*, plate B and ap. 30-31.

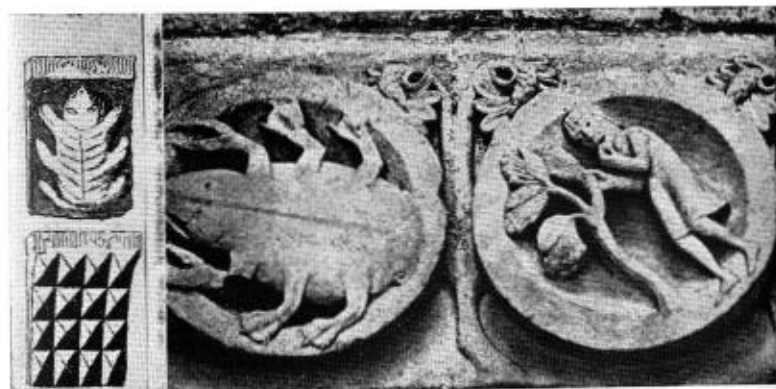
<sup>3</sup> Possibly imported from France. (a) G. Zarnecki, *English Romanesque Lead Sculpture*, London, 1957, pp. 18 and 26; (b) L. Stone, *Sculpture in Britain, The Middle Ages*, Penguin series, 1955, p. 89.

<sup>4</sup> Void roundels on E. face of chancel arch.

<sup>5</sup> On the subject of the Signs of the Zodiac and Labours of the Months there is vast bibliography, the most important of which is J. C. Webster, *The Labors of the Months*, Princeton, 1938. This contains a chapter on England.



FIG. 3. ILLUMINATION OF F. 6V. *Chronicon Zwifaltense Minus* (STUTT GART) PHOTOGRAPH FROM *Sculptor of Autun*, BY PERMISSION OF PROFESSOR G. ZARNECKI.



A B  
FIG. 4. A. "THE MYSTIC SCARABACUS" FROM *The Architectural Antiquities of Normandy* BY J. S. COTMAN.

B. ST. LAZARUS, AUTUN. MEDALLIONS ON OUTER ARCH OF WEST DOORWAY. PHOTOGRAPH FROM *Sculpture of Autun*, BY PERMISSION OF PROFESSOR G. ZARNECKI.

It seems probable, in view of the obvious relationship between the Stuttgart manuscript and the Autun medallion motifs, and the marked similarity in style and form between the Letton figures and those in the Stuttgart manuscript, that the inspiration behind the Letton carvings came not from the "Barbaric radiates" nor from some work of sculpture such as that at St. Lô, but from an unknown illuminated manuscript containing calendar illustrations,<sup>1</sup> and that the figures are intended to represent the Sun (top E.), the Moon (top W.), Cancer and Scorpio.

<sup>1</sup> e.g., St. John's College, Cambridge, Library, MS. B.20 (Worcester). There is no evidence for a mediaeval scriptorium at Hereford Cathedral, but a manuscript bought by or given to the cathedral library, and now lost, could well have supplied the pattern which inspired the Letton figures.

# BOSBURY TITHES AND OBLATIONS

1635 to 1641

By F. C. MORGAN

A manuscript now in the University of Edinburgh<sup>1</sup> is a record of the tithes and oblations of Bosbury, Herefordshire, from 1635 to 1641 when either George Wall, 1603-41 or William Coke, 1641-90/1, was vicar. The volume has seventy pages, measures 12 in. by 6 in., is damaged in several places, parts of some leaves are missing, and the writing is cramped and minute. It was bequeathed to the University by David Laing, a learned antiquary of the city, who died in 1878. A transcript has been made by permission of the librarian, and copies are deposited in Hereford Cathedral Library, Hereford County Library, and Malvern Public Library.

John Scudamore, "gentleman of the King's chamber", and one of the surveyors of the religious houses, chantries, and other foundations in Herefordshire in 1547, became possessed of part of the tithes of Upleadon, including the township of Catley, in the parish of Bosbury, at the suppression of the monasteries. His grandson the "Good Lord Scudamore" by a licence in mortmain<sup>2</sup> of 1631, returned these and the tithes of Bolston and Abbey Dore (where he also restored the church) to the vicars.

In 1635 the manor of Upleadon with Temple Court was purchased from the Sheldon family by Sir Robert Pye<sup>3</sup> of Faringdon, Berks. This led to a lawsuit, probably concerning the tithes, in 1692, when the vicar, Joshua Elmhurst, who was instituted on 10th February 1691, brought an action against Sir Robert Pye, jun.<sup>4</sup> and Richard Bennett in the High Court of Chancery. The relevant papers have not been found, but the case lasted for some time as an entry on the last page of the manuscript records that it "was shewed unto Francis Cowel at the time of his [Elmhurst's] examination on the 17th January, 1695. Evidently it was not returned to the church and later became the property of David Laing together with numerous other deeds. He was a great collector of records.<sup>5</sup>

The volume is of value to Herefordshire as it forms a directory of the inhabitants of Bosbury at the period, and gives some idea of the livestock they held. Curiously there is no mention of either pigs, poultry or geese, or of cereals. The famous parson's pig and the tithe corn do not appear.

With few exceptions the annual tithe paid by the parishioners was two pence halfpenny each. Apparently the sums due from all the members of the household were collected and paid by the master, as the amount paid by each, and the dues upon livestock and other

items, are included in the total sum paid. The names of servants, who usually paid the two pence halfpenny, are given.

The oblations and tithes paid for the year 1637 came to approximately £4 12s. 7½d. (It is not possible to be exact owing to gaps.) In addition £3 was paid in tenths, and other small items made up a total of £12 2s. 1½d., with two tithe lambs. There were also school rents; these are given for 1635 and 1637<sup>6</sup> only, and were paid twice annually. In 1637 the amounts were £4 18s. 7d. and £4 17s. 4d. The vicars usually acted as schoolmasters and this brought an addition to their stipends.

The rents were from lands and tenements recorded in the survey of 1547 as given in feoffment by one Richard Powyke to Richard Hope and others with an "encrease of a stock of money and cattalles . . . hathe bin alwayes employed to the use and fyndyng of a scole master to bring up yought in lernynge to play at organs and in other services in the said church." A history of the school is given in S. Bentley, *History of Bosbury*, 1891, where it is stated that Queen Elizabeth in 1566 re-endowed the school which had been founded by Sir Rowland Morton in the reign of Henry VIII with the lands of the dissolved chantry of St. Mary, Bosbury. The rent charge was to bring in £8 4s. 2d. to be paid to the master.

The earliest recorded schoolmaster was Sir (a courtesy title) Thomas Keyling whom the commissioners of the survey said had been master for the previous four or five years; he was of good conversation and 75 years old, but "not able to ride or go far for deceases". Keyling is not in the list of school masters in Bentley, which does not give any earlier than 1608 and stops at 1798.

In the tithe award of 1840 four rods and twenty square yards of school lands in Catley were rented by three tenants for a total of 2s. 11d., and twenty-nine acres one rod and sixteen yards in the other part of Bosbury were held by twenty tenants at a rent of £2 15s. 6d. payable to the vicar and £3 8s. 6d. to the impropriators. Edward Bettington, the chief tenant held nine acres one rod at a rent of 12s. 11d. The rent charge of the whole parish was then recorded as £400 to the vicar and £420 to the impropriators.<sup>8</sup>

In 1637 the tithe of one penny paid upon each of ninety cows came to 7s. 6d.: one was sold for only 6s. During the seven years several were killed for food for a household, either sixpence or fourpence being paid on each. Perhaps they were killed in the autumn and salted down for winter use: feeding livestock in the winter was a great problem before new crops were introduced into agriculture. Tithes upon thirty-six calves at one halfpenny each came to 1s. 6d. Seventeen were sold and 12s. 4d. was paid in tithes to the vicar. Thomas Cantwell sold three at 6s. 0d. each and paid

tithe of 3s. upon them. One was killed for consumption for which sixpence was paid.

Only eighty-nine sheep are recorded, at one halfpenny each (3s. 8½d.) and there were seven goats for which the vicar had seven pence in all. Six tithe lambs are mentioned, but some were only hoped for (*speran*).

Other sources of income for the vicar in 1637 were 13s. 7½d. for garden smoke (*hortus fumus*),<sup>9</sup> usually at twopence each, though some, perhaps poor, parishioners paid one penny, and one, probably richer, paid sixpence. The sum of six pence halfpenny was paid on a hive of bees (eight pence was paid in 1635); and £1 2s. 10d. for two hundred and seventy-four casks of "cider", at one penny each. Bosbury perry is mentioned by the poet John Philips in his poem *Cyder*. Probably both beverages are included in the same term here.<sup>10</sup> Philips writes:

"Chiefly the Bosbury, whose large increase,  
Annual, in sumptuous Banquets claim applause.  
Thrice acceptable bev'rage! could but Art  
Subdue the floating Lee, Pomona's self  
Would dread thy praise, and shun the dubious strife."

*Cyder*, Book 1.

Richard Nurden agreed to pay 5s. yearly for "his teithes of the herbage grounds he had of Dannell Dally Orchard his close at home offrrings excepted".

There seems to have been only one mill in Bosbury—at Catley Cross. In 1636 Thomas Powick paid 3s. 3d. upon this; the next year Henry Burgess, probably a new tenant, paid 5s. 6d.

The names of approximately 380<sup>11</sup> tithe payers are given in the manuscript for 1637 (some names are imperfect). The manor of Upleadon had been held by the Harford family for several generations. The Rev. Anthony Harford, the third of the same name, then held it, but he seems to have left Bosbury and in 1631 preached a sermon in Dorsetshire which led him into trouble and custody for disloyalty. The family of Brydges, then a very important one in the county, was represented by William, who had the largest number of servants; two were male and three female. Four other parishioners had three each.<sup>12</sup> Probably the males were young men or youths engaged by the year and lived in the house. The writer remembers this custom which lasted at least until the end of the 19th century in some country districts. Mothers brought their sons and daughters to the village draper for their first outfits before entering into the world's company of workers. They were paid at the end of the twelve months, less any small advances made in the meantime. They then paid their debts. Another of the principal

inhabitants was Thomas Dannett, whose daughter married Dr. Bridstock Harford of Hereford.<sup>13</sup>

The occupation of only one tradesman appears—William Morley, butcher; and only one tithe payer, if we except Abraham Lewis, had a forename showing puritan influence. He was Adonijah (= Jehovah is my Lord) Mutloe, who kept two male and one female servants. Other unusual names were Floritius Guillome and the "classical" Hercules Goodyear.

Only five of the old family names appear in Kelly's *Directory* for 1917—Brydges, Jones, Price, Pullen and Turner, and some of the owners of these may not be descendants of the earlier tithe payers. Even the larger families of Alcott (17 including all members), Fareley (12) and Hawfeild (11) have disappeared. By 1801 the population had risen to 776, but in 1961 it dropped to 711.

Another feature of interest is the small numbers of cows and sheep recorded in 1637. The biggest herd of cows belonged to J. Collins who had six head; four other herds were owned by J. Allen, L. Fareley, R. Hill and T. Turner, who had four cows each. Except for the twenty-three mentioned as sold by E. Wood, the largest flocks of sheep consisted of only six head, belonging to J. Williams, and five to R. Greasing.

From the foregoing notes it will be seen that the manuscript has many interesting features and is well worth study by students of local history and sociology.

#### REFERENCES

- <sup>1</sup> Shelf mark MS. La. II, 4.
- <sup>2</sup> Watkins, M. G., *Hundred of Radlow*, 1902 (Continuation of Duncumb's *History*).
- <sup>3</sup> Brother of Sir Walter Pye of the Mynde, Herefordshire.
- <sup>4</sup> Sir Robert Pye, sen., bought Faringdon in 1622 or 1623 and defended it for the Royalists successfully against Cromwell who was in command of the Parliamentarians in 1645. Next year his son, Sir Robert, colonel in the New Model army, who had married the daughter of John Hampden, was given the task of reducing his own family house. The garrison surrendered on 24th June and marched out with the honours of war. Sir Robert succeeded his father in 1662.
- <sup>5</sup> *Dictionary of National Biography*, vol. XXXI, p. 401.
- <sup>6</sup> See Appendix No. 1.
- <sup>7</sup> P.R.O. Certificate of chantries, etc., Hereford. E.301, Roll 24.
- <sup>8</sup> Tithe map and award for Bosbury, Herefordshire. Hereford Diocesan Archives.
- <sup>9</sup> Dr. D. M. Barratt records in her book *Ecclesiastical terriers of Warwickshire parishes*, vol. I (Dugdale Society, O.U.P. 1955) on p. xxxviii that "The only other common moduses on particular products were 'garden penny' in lieu of garden produce and 'smoke penny' in lieu of firewood". For example, under the parish of Binton on p. 56 is the entry: "Easter dues: For every house and garden call'd smoak-penny & garden-penny. 2d."
- <sup>10</sup> Philips is buried in Hereford Cathedral; there is a memorial to him in Westminster Abbey.
- <sup>11</sup> See Appendix No. 2.
- <sup>12</sup> 26 male, 25 female and 3 unnamed servants recorded.
- <sup>13</sup> Harford, Alice, ed., *Annals of the Harford family*, 1909, pp. 20–21.

## TRANSCRIPT OF PAGE 29 OF MANUSCRIPT, 1637.

Abbreviations: *agn. decima*—tithe lamb; *cadi*—barrels or casks; *hinnulus*—goat; *hort. fum.*—see note ix; *sicera*—cider or perry; *vacca*—cow; *vit. vitulus*—calf; *vit. lactat.*—sucking calf? *vend.*—sold; *ob. stip.*—from wages.

Willimus Pullen et uxor oblat 5d vacc 2 ijd vit cad 1 jd hort. fum ijd Johanes Nox oblat ijd ob	}	. . .
Johanes Bayly et uxor oblat 5d hort jd Martha fil pro 2 annis 5d		
Richus Bayly et uxor oblat vd Willimus Trigge et uxor oblat 5d Sicerae 3 cad iijd hort. fum: ijd	}	xjd dt.
	}	xd

*Tractus Catlyensis. Nouthowse*

Thomas Skynnar et uxor oblat Franciscus Cowell et uxor oblat 5d hort fum ijd	}	vijd
Nathanaell Collins et uxor oblat 5d vacc 2 ijd steriles agn 1 ob oves vend ijd hort fum. ijd		
Vidua Bundy oblat oblat ijd ob vacca sterilis jd hort fum ijd. fil Keene oblat ijd ob	}	xjd
Georgius Browne et uxor oblat 5d pro manu vjd	}	viijd
Vidua Carelesse oblat ijd ob vacc 3 iijd vit 2 vend: pret: 10s xijd Sice- rae 7 cadi vijd hort: fum: ijd fil Rich oblat ijd ob	}	xjd
Thomas Alcott et uxor oblat 5d hort jd fil: Richus et filia oblat 5d	}	iis vd
Willimus Bridges et uxor oblat 5d vacc 2 ijd vit 1 lactat ob agn Decima Sicerae 2 cadi ijd hort: fum: ijd	}	xjd
Rogerus Millard et uxor oblat 5d vacc 2 ijd vit 2 vend pret 12s xiiijd Sicerae 2 cadi ijd hort fum ijd Maria Perkes ser: obstip iijjd ob	}	xjd ob dt
Richus Cowell et uxor oblat 5d vacc 2 vit 2 vend pret 14s xvd agn: 6 iijd Decima expect: hinnulus jd Sicerae 9 cadi ixd hort fum ijd	}	iis vd ob debeo
ser. Willimus Turner ob stip vjd ob Johana Turner oblat ijd ob Johanes Turner oblat ijd ob Sicerae 8 cadi viijd hort: fum: ijd Patrick et uxor oblat 5d Anna Blancha Ursula filiae oblat 7d ob Mathoes oblat stip: iijjd ob	}	iis xjd
	}	iis vjd

## TRANSCRIPT OF PAGE 53 OF MANUSCRIPT, 1640.

Bosburiensis Parochiae tractus.  
Jacobus Hawfeild et uxor oblat 5d  
Margaretta Baylis ser. . . iijjd  
Ricus Turner . . . . ?

Thomas Browne . . . ijd Richus Hill et uxor oblat 5 vacc. 5 vd vit 5 unus vend 8s 4d 10d 4 oblat ijd Agno Decima fruges vendita 5d Sicerae Cad 14 14d hort. fu. ijd Tho. Bridges et uxor oblat 5 Edwardus Burrop ser. ob stip. vijd ob Anna Dowding ser. ob stip. iijjd ob	}	vs ijd
Henricus Bray et uxor oblat 5 mater et sor[or] oblat 5 Anne Wood ijd ob Ricus Kings ser. obstip. vid ob Thomas Houlder ser. obstip iijjd ob	}	iis
Johannes Allen et uxor oblat 5 vacc. 6 vjd Agn 2 <sup>ae</sup> decimae speran Sicac. 6 vjd hort. fu. ijd Johan filius et fil oblat 5 cognat. ijd ob Rogerus Grubb ser. obstip vjd ob Hercules Goodyer obstip ij ob	}	iis iijd
Ricus Dally et uxor oblat 4d vacc 1 jd vit 1 ob Agn decima speran Sicera Cad. 1 jd hort. fu. ijd 2 fil 5 2 filiae 5d	}	1s 6d dt ob
Thomas Jennings et uxor oblat 5 pro manu 4d Willim Tiler ser. iijjd Ricus Hawfeild sen non solvit et uxor oblat 4d vacc iij 3d vit 2	}	xijd
Thomas Wingod et filia oblat 5d hort. fu. ijd	}	xd
Johannes Pyfinch et uxor oblat paid Johannes Tiler ser oblat ijd ob Johannes Hawfeild et uxor oblat 4d vacc 1 jd vit 1 ob. hort. fu. ijd	}	vijd
Thomas Hawfeild et uxor oblat 5d hort. jd	}	vijd
Willimus Houlder et uxor oblat 5d hort. fu. ijd	}	vijd
Willimus Goodyer et uxor oblat 5d hort. fu. [ijjd]	}	vijd
Ricus Dunnop et uxor oblat 4d ob hort. fu. ijd	}	vjd dt ob
Vidua Thomas oblat ijd ob hort. fum ijd Edwardus Pritchard.	}	iijjd ob

## APPENDIX 1

## SCHOOL RENTS, 1637.

Mrs. Unet ..	15	0	15	0
Thomas Whoman ..	16	8	16	8
Will. Browne ..	11	2	11	2
Tho. Cantwell ..	2	6	2	6
Rich. Makam ..	6		6	
Will. Guillom ..	6		6	
Rich. Colls ..	17	2	17	2
Rich. Bacon ..	1	0		
Rich. Wooddend ..	5	0	5	0
Will. Dowding ..	6	8	6	8
Mr. Bridges ..	6	8	6	8
Mr. Marryott ..				
Gilbert Jones ..	1	0	1	0
Rich. Crispe ..	14	0	14	6

£4 18s. 7d. (sic.)

## APPENDIX 2

INHABITANTS OF BOSBURY, HEREFORDSHIRE, 1637, AS RECORDED  
IN "TITHES AND OBLATIONS", 1635 TO 1641<sup>1</sup>

Abell alias Bullock, John ..	22	Beale, Joseph, serv. to T. Turner	27
William, brother ..	22	Maria, sister to Wm. ..	28
Aedney, George and w. ..	21	William and w. ..	28
Alcott, Humfrey and w. ..	25	William, brother to Wm. ..	28
James and w., n.p. [=not paid?] ..	23	Bedell, Ambrosius ..	24
John ..	28	Belcher, Richard ..	23
Richard and w., n.p. ..	22	?, see Hawfield, A. ..	
Richard, s. of Thos. ..	29	Bentley, Edmund and w. ..	26
Roger and w., n.p. ..	30	Edward ..	22
Thomas and w. ..	28	Thomas, son of Edmund ..	26
Thomas and w. ..	28	Blackway, ?, widow, n.p. ..	21
Thomas ..	29	Bowen, ?, widow, dec. ..	28
?, daug. of Thos. ..	29	Bray, Catherine, serv. to W. Bridges	27
?, widow, n.p. ..	30	Henry and w. ..	24
Allen, John and w. ..	24	?, mother of Henry ..	24
John ..	24	?, son of Henry ..	24
Joseph ..	24	Bridges, Thomas and w. ..	24
Susanna, daug. of John ..	24	William and w. ..	27
William and w. ..	28	William and w. ..	29
Ambrose, serv. to J. Allen ..	24	Brookinne, Richard, son of Thos.	26
Bacon, Jososa ..	21	Thomas and w. ..	26
Richard and w. ..	28	Thomas, son of Thos. ..	26
Baker, John, serv. to A. Mutloe	28	Browne, George and w. ..	29
Thomas and w. ..	30	Richard and w., n.p. ..	22
Barber, James ..	28	Richard (jun.) and w., n.p. ..	23
Berkeley, Thomas and w. ..	27	William and w. ..	25
Walter, brother of Thos. ? ..	27	William ..	27
?, mother of Thos. ..	27	?, widow, n.p. ..	25
Bayley, Alicia, serv. to W.		Brownwright, Joan, serv. to R.	
Nashe ? ..	25	Bacon ..	28
John and w. ..	21	Browning, Anthony and w. ..	28
John and w. ..	29	Bundy, Hugh, serv. to R. Makam	30
Martha, daug. ..	29	Keene, 'fil' of widow Bundy ..	29
Richard and w. ..	29	?, widow ..	29
		Burford, Elianora, serv. ..	24

<sup>1</sup> The numbers after personal names give the pages in the manuscript.

Burgess, Henry and w. ..	26	Gough, John and w. ..	26
Burrows, Edmund, serv. to R.		Greasing, Robert and w. ..	28
Rowbery ..	27	Grubb, Roger, serv. to T. Wood-	
		yatt ? ..	26
Cantwell, Thomas and w. ..	22	Guillome, Floritius and w. ..	21
Careless, Richard, son of widow		Richard and w. ..	21
Careless ..	29		
?, widow ..	29	Hall, Thomas and w., n.p. ..	21
Christiana, serv. to J. Gough ..	26	?, widow ..	25
Collins, John ..	25	Harford, Anthony and w. ..	21
Nathaniel and w. ..	29	Hawfeild, Anthony and w. ..	26
?, sister of John ..	25	Belcher, 'fil' ..	26
?, 'pater' ..	28	John and w. ..	24
Colls, James, serv. to J. Collins ?	25	Richard and w. ..	24
Richard and w. ..	25	Thomas and w. ..	24
William and w. ..	25	?, and w. ..	24
Cowell, Richard and w. ..	29	Hill, John and w. ..	30
Crisp, Richard and w. ..	21	Joseph ..	28
		Richard and w. ..	24
		Richard ..	25
Dally, Richard and w. ..	24	Holder, Anne, serv. to J. Gough	26
?, son of Richard ..	24	Catherine ..	24
?, daughter of Richard ..	24	Elizabeth, serv. to R. Hill ..	24
Danford, Thomas and w. ..	26	William ..	24
William and w. ..	26	Hyde, John and w., n.p. ..	23
Dannet [Thomas ?], Mr. ..	21		
Davise, John and w. ..	25	John, serv. to Mr. Dannet, n.p. ..	21
Margerie, daughter ..	25	Jones, Gilbert and w. ..	22
Margarita, serv. ..	26		
William, serv. ..	26	Key, ?, widow, n.p. ..	21
Dayton, Thomas and w., n.p. ..	28	Kings, Elenora ..	26
Dowding, Anne ..	23	Francisca, daughter of widow	
?, serv. to L. Fareley ..	25	Kings ..	26
Drewe, Anthony and w. ..	28	Richard, serv. ..	24
?, mother of Anthony ..	28	?, widow ..	26
Dunnopp, Richard and w. ..	25	Knight, Richard ..	25
		?, widow, n.p. ..	30
Elizabeth, serv. to T. Rowbery ..	27	Knott, Richard and w., n.p. ..	21
serv. to T. Wooddend ..	27		
Fareley, Elizabeth, serv. to A.		Laurence, Richard ..	27
Mutloe ..	28	?, mother ..	27
Francis ..	21	Leithe, ?, widow, n.p. ..	25
Jocosa ..	25	Lese, Christiana, serv. ..	28
Launcelot and w. ..	25	Lewis, Abraham, serv. ..	28
Margeria, daughter of Launcelot	25	John ..	28
Tristram and w., n.p. ..	25	Lombard, Richard and w., n.p. ..	26
Tristram, serv. to R. Bacon ..	28	Long, John, serv. to [?] Hawfeild	24
?, widow ..	28	Lyciman, William and w. ..	27
?, son of widow ..	28		
?, son of widow ..	28	Makam, Richard and w. ..	30
		Marden, James and w. ..	26
Gennings, Thomas and w. ..	24	Marryatt, Richard and w. ..	23
Gibbs, George and w. ..	25	Mathoes, Anna ..	29
?, mother of George ..	25	Blanche ..	29
Glasier, Anne, n.p. ..	23	Ursula ..	29
?, sister of Anne, n.p. ..	23	(Servants to P. Turner)	
Godsoc, Thomas ..	26	Millard, Roger and w. ..	29
?, widow ..	21	Morley, William, butcher ..	21
?, daughter ..	21	Mutloe, Adonijah and w. ..	28
Goodyear, Hercules, serv. ..	22	Martha, daughter of Wm. ..	22
Maria ..	24	Matthew ..	28
William ..	24	William and w. ..	22
		?, mother of Adonijah ..	28

Nashe, Jocosa, daughter of Wm.	25	Tommes, Richard and w.	21
John and w.	23	Trigg, Anne, serv.	28
Key, 'fil' of Wm.	25	William and w.	29
William and w.	25	Turner, George and w.	22
?, mother of Wm.	25	Joanna	29
Nest, William and w.	21	John	29
?, son of Wm.	21	Lucia, serv. to R. Barkeley	27
Nox, John.	29	Patrick and w.	29
Nurden, ?, and w.	22	Thomas and w.	27
		William, serv. to R. Colwell.	29
Parsons, Thomas and w., n.p.	21		
Perks, Francis, serv. to W. Bridges	27	Urough, Anne, serv. to T.	
Jocosa, serv. to W. Bridges	27	Woodyatt	26
Maria, serv. to R. Millard	29	?, widow	25
Pewtress, Thomas and w.	21	?, 'fil'	25
?, sister	21		
(Also a servant un-named)		Vaughan, Peter and w., n.p.	22
Pitt, John and w.	21		
Plaine, William	28	Wade, Thomas and w., n.p.	27
Powell, Francis and w.	29	Walton, John, serv.	28
James and w.	22	Wanklinne, William and w.	27
?, son of James.	22	Watkins, John and w.	23
?, son of James.	22	Richard and w., n.p.	23
?, son of James.	22	Welbye, Elianora, serv. to R.	
?, daughter of James	22	Bacon.	28
?, widow	23	Whoman, Thomas and w.	21
Price, Margareta, serv. to W.		(A servant and maid also, un-	
Bridges	27	named)	
Pritchard, Edward, n.p.	24	William, serv. to T. Rowbery	27
Pryse, John, n.p.	23	Williams, John and w.	26
Pullen, James and w.	21	Owen, serv. to J. Gough	26
William and w.	29	Pierce, serv. to R. Makam	30
		Wingod, Thomas and w.	24
Richards, Edward, serv. to A.		?, daughter of Thos.	24
Mutloe	28	Winston, Mrs., n.p.	25
Rowbery, Thomas and w.	27	?, daughter	25
		Wood, Edward and w.	21
Sedgwick, William and w.	21	Guy, serv. to W. Bridges	27
Sheepheard, Edward and w.	28	?	30
Showell, John and w.	28	Wooddend, Anthony and w.	27
Siblesse, Maria	30	John, son of Richard	27
Skynner, Abigail, serv. to Domina		Richard and w.	27
Wright	21	?, sister of Anthony	27
Thomas and w., n.p.	29	(An un-named servant also)	
Smith, William and w.	27	Woodyatt, John and w.	27
?, daughter of William.	27	John	27
Stead, Richard	25	Thomas and w.	26
Stokes, John serv. to R. Tommes	21	Wright, Domina	21
		?, daughter	21
Thomas, John	24	?, daughter	21
Tiler, John and w.	30		
Richard, serv. to R. Barkeley	27		
Roger and w.	30		
?, widow, n.p.	26		
?, widow	27		
?, serv. to R. Tommes	21		

## Uncertain or imperfect

... celer and w.	28
... Francis and w.	28
... paly	26

## NOTES

## THE MAYOR'S BOOK AND THE GREAT BLACK BOOK

By I. M. SLOCOMBE

The archives of the City of Hereford contain two books commonly called the Mayor's Book and the Great Black Book. They have long been considered to contain a record of the customs of Hereford and the Great Black Book, in particular, has been venerated, being still used for the swearing in of Freemen of the City. There has, however, been considerable confusion over the nature, contents and origins of these books. Only one thing is quite clear: both were among the documents stolen by Ester Garstone and recovered in January 1830 from a grocer in Eign Street.

## MAYOR'S BOOK

The Historical Manuscripts Commission<sup>1</sup> described this as a paper volume in quarto with 274 numbered leaves being minutes of the council's proceedings from 15 Dec. 16 Henry VII 1500 to 12 Dec. 22 Henry VIII 1530.

Johnson<sup>2</sup> calls this the Lesser Black Book containing ordinances and regulations of the City from Edward IV to Henry VIII but only half the pages were recovered.

In the front of the present volume there is a note (probably written when the book was recovered and rebound in 1830): "The proceedings of the Mayor, Steward, the Mayor's Brethren and the three Inquests at their Lawdays from the 16th Henry VIII 1500 until 21st Henry VIII 1529".

The leaves of the book are, in fact, numbered from 138 to 274 but there is an older, probably 16th century, numbering from 69 to 207. This seems to confirm Johnson's statement that only part of the book was recovered. The book at first sight runs from 15 Dec. 16 Hen. VII to 12 Dec. 22 Hen. VIII but there are some earlier records bound in the centre of the book (and included in the 16th century numbering). These leaves include memoranda and lists of councillors for the years 1487, 1492, 1495, 1498 and 1503. There is also another single sheet, not numbered, with a list of ordinances for 1472.

## GREAT BLACK BOOK

The Historical Manuscripts Commission<sup>3</sup> described this as a folio volume with 468 numbered leaves being minutes of the council's proceedings from Oct. 35 Hen. VIII 1543 to 31 May 34 Eliz. 1592.

Johnson simply states it "continues the relation of city affairs to the reign of Queen Elizabeth"<sup>4</sup>



In the front of the present volume there is a note (again probably written after the book had been recovered in 1830): "Minutes of the proceedings of the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Hereford from 35 Hen. VIII 1543 until 31 Eliz. 1589".

The book actually contains 483 numbered leaves again with two systems of numbering, one obviously 16th century and the other probably late 17th century. At first sight the book runs from 35 Hen. VIII to 31 May 34 Eliz. but the entry dated 31 May 34 Eliz. is simply a note added to the back of the book. The book really covers the years 35 Hen. VIII to 33 Eliz. inclusive but there is some confusion because the years 31 Eliz. to 33 Eliz. are bound between the years 27 Eliz. and 28 Eliz. This explains the confusion in the numbering of the leaves. This also suggests that the book was originally not bound. But, even if this is so, the book must be considered as a whole (e.g. the watermarks in the paper are consistent throughout) and the binding must have been done quite early, probably before there was prefixed on four quarto leaves an index of ordinances by Griffith Reynolds, mayor, in 1685.

An examination of these records shows quite clearly that there is no difference in content between the Mayor's Book and the Great Black Book. It is clear also that these are not "Minutes of the Council's proceedings". In fact, in the 16th century, the administrative body of the City was still the three Inquests meeting at Lawdays rather than the Council as such.

The entries for each year start with a list of the council ("nomina electionis") although this is sometimes omitted for the earlier years of the Mayor's Book. Then follow records of disfranchisements, recognisances, sales of lands, and indentures of apprenticeship (after an order of 20 April 14 Eliz. making their registration compulsory). Finally there are the ordinances, a copy of the decisions made by the three Inquests at the Lawdays.

Thus the Mayor's Book and the Great Black Book are really register books rather than minute books and cover the period 1500 to 1591 with fragments from earlier years and a gap from 1531 to 1542.

Johnson<sup>5</sup> refers to another missing book probably commenced under Thomas Bromwich, mayor in 1477 and referred to in an Elizabethan legal dispute between the citizens and the bishop's bailiffs as "the ancient Red Book of the City". It seems that this must have been similar to the Mayor's Book and the Great Black Book.

#### REFERENCES

<sup>1</sup> Historical Manuscripts Commission: MSS. of Rye and Hereford. 13th Report, Pt. 4, 1892, p. 288.

<sup>2</sup> Johnson, R. *The Ancient Customs of the City of Hereford* (1868), p. 59.

<sup>3</sup> Hist. MSS. Commission, *op. cit.*, p. 288.

<sup>4</sup> Johnson, *op. cit.*, p. 59.

<sup>5</sup> Johnson, *op. cit.*, p. 59.

## A VISIT TO CANNONS

By R. G. SCHAFER

The eighteenth century English public was very evidently intrigued by the appearance, the decor, and the daily routine maintained by the owners of the series of great mansions whose sudden uprearing was the cause of comment from foreign visitors and local journalists alike. Unfortunately, most of these accounts of life at the top dwelt upon the static setting presented by the place itself, or they confined themselves to describing the highly artificial ceremonial occasions for which such places were especially suited. Authentic accounts of the way the residents actually conducted themselves when they were among friends and thus, so to speak, out of the public view, are rare.

One such account which has survived, and is now to be found in the Hereford County Record Office, describes a visit made in 1717 to one of the most conspicuous of these places, Cannons, near Edgeware, Middlesex, the great Palladian mansion then being constructed by James Brydges, earl of Carnarvon (who was in 1719 to become first duke of Chandos). The man who in the following letter described for his brother the visit to Cannons was William Brydges (no relation to his host, although they addressed each other as cousin), an old friend who had some years earlier introduced James to his first wife, Mary Lake. Some years after their marriage (which had taken place in 1697) James had purchased from Mary's uncle the Lake family home, the Elizabethan mansion of Cannons. Then, following his retirement from the office of Paymaster of the Forces Abroad (in 1713), he had begun to build on the site the modern new palace which a few years later was to be instantly recognised by the public as the source of the inspiration for Alexander Pope's satire on these places, in the fourth Moral Epistle, "On the Use and Abuse of Riches".

Quite apart from the interest of the subject, the letter is important in that it very tellingly reveals why the public so readily identified the "Timon's Villa" of Pope's poem with Chandos' Cannons. The sober, admiring account given here by the old friend who came to Cannons to visit and to be impressed, only needs a touch of poetic license—and of poetic skill—to become the description of the highly artificial, imposing, but tasteless scene described by Pope. From Chandos' own letters and accounts (now in the Stowe Collection in the Huntington Library) we know that after he had begun to reside at Cannons he had entertained extensively,<sup>1</sup> so that there were

<sup>1</sup> For a description of "Cannons Hospitality" based on these materials, see C. H. C. Baker, *Life and Circumstances of James Brydges, First Duke of Chandos* (Oxford, 1949), pp. 192–197.

many persons, prominent and not so prominent alike, who had come to Cannons to dine and, presumably, also to be impressed. It can be surmised that some, and possibly many, of these guests had subsequently spread reports of the "grandeure and order" maintained by their host. Such visitors certainly, and many of their friends probably, would thus have had little trouble in finding in Cannons a suitable model for Pope to have taken for his own malicious sketch, however vigorous his denials that he had this place, or any such specific house, in mind.<sup>1</sup>

Carnarvon's visitor, the writer of the letter given here, was William Brydges of Tyberton, Herefordshire (1663-1734) a Sergeant at Law of the Middle Temple. He was writing his elder brother Francis (1661-1727) back home in Hereford. The letter is reproduced with the kind permission of Miss Lee Warner and the Hereford County Record Office, where she has deposited it as part of the Brydges of Tyberton Collection.

Jany 9th 1717

Dear Brother,

Upon New-Years-day, I rec'd yours dated the 30th of Decr. The acct. it gave of your health, added much to the enjoymt I had of the good company that were with me, and we heartily wished you many happy years. Upon Saturday last my Nephew & I did goe to Cannons, where we were kindly received and generously entertained. I never saw soe much grandure & order in any ffamily. Nothing was irksome but late hours. Betw. 11 & 12 we went to chappell. Abt. 2 of the clock wre sent for to his Lordsp in his library. Staid there till Dinner (wch was about an hour) and after Dinr were entertained with ingenious conversation, generous Wine & a Pipe till betw. 9 & 10. Then went to Supper. After Supper we drank 2 or 3 glasses of Wine whilst the Musically Instruments wre Tuned, and then wre entertained with a Consort for an hour or more, then took a glass of wine & a pipe and soe to Bed, and by this time twas between 1 & 2 of the clock. His Ldpp. did every day begin ye healths by the name of his cos ffrank Brydges. Mr. Westfalling Monsr. Des Egguliers (the Mathematician & Experimental philosopher), Dr. Pepus the famed Musitian, lay in the house. Mr. Walcot, Coll. Dobyns, & Mr. Philpotts<sup>2</sup> din'd & supped with us on Monday. Upon Tuesday Mr. Westfalling my Neph. and I return'd home, and his Ldship came to London.

<sup>1</sup> The problem of Pope's intentions has been thoroughly explored by George Sherburn in "Timon's Villa and Cannons", *Huntington Library Bulletin*, VIII (1935), pp. 131-152.

<sup>2</sup> These gentlemen were, John Theophilus Desaguliers (1683-1744), born in France but brought by his Huguenot refugee parents to England in 1685. He was a lecturer at Oxford who had in 1714 become a Fellow of the Royal Society,

## STONE AXE (He 46/c) AND FLINT IMPLEMENTS FROM BUCKTON, N.W. HEREFORDSHIRE

By LILY F. CHITTY

For several years flints have been coming to light on two fields (one Next-the-Shed Field and the Jay Field) which are farmed by Mr. Trevor Davies of Buckton: they lie south of Adley Moor on the River Redlake, S.W. of its junction with the River Clun above Leintwardine, and are in the parish of Buckton-and-Coxall, Herefordshire, of which the boundary adjoins that of Bucknell, in Shropshire, with its numerous flint finds on the Vicarage Field and other local sites.<sup>1</sup> I am grateful to Mr. W. J. Norton, Curator of Ludlow Museum, for reporting the Buckton flints and for telling me of a new find of outstanding interest.

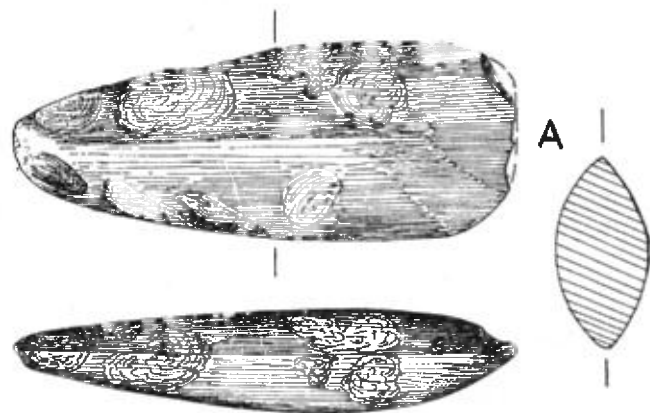
On 7th June, 1965, Mr. Charles Davies followed up his father's previous loan of flints to Ludlow Museum by bringing in 4 more examples (3 worked) which had been found on April 24th, together with a polished stone axe discovered near them in the Shed Field when Mr. Davies was scuffling on its west side about half way along the hedge. The axe was turned up by the machine not far from the surface, but this field (W. of the first two) had been ploughed about a year before to a depth of about 10 inches, so the implement may have been disturbed then and brought up from an old surface. The site is on the margin of marshy ground where there is a certain amount of peat. The three adjacent fields are in the N.E. angle of 6 in. O.S. Sheet Herefs. II S.W., Shropshire LXXVII S.W.: Mr. Davies kindly indicated the exact position of the axe on a tracing: 1 in. O.S. 129 (Ludlow) S.O. 383743.

The axe, dark grey in colour and 5½ inches long (141 mm.), was made from a rough-out, of which many of the flake scars remain, the surface being incompletely ground and polished. The greatest breadth of the implement is 55 mm. below the centre, with its maximum thickness 28 mm. The weight is 9 oz.

chaplain to Carnarvon, and incumbent at Stanmore Parva (adjacent to Cannons). In March, 1718, he became chaplain to the Prince of Wales, and in the early 1720s acted as the engineer in charge of constructing Cannons' fancy water works. John Christopher Pepusch (1667-1752), was born in Berlin, but settled in London in 1688. A notable teacher, composer, and conductor, he was the director of Cannons' Concert until 1732. From 1718 to 1720 G. F. Handel was something like composer in residence, but during at least part of that time Pepusch continued to draw his salary as Cannons' Master of Music. Conjecturally, the others were Herbert Rudhall Westfalling (1671-1743) of Grafton, Herefordshire; Humphrey Walcot (1672-1743), an old friend and business associate of Carnarvon's who was now a neighbour living at Stanmore Magna; Colonel William Dobbins, another old friend and neighbour from Stanmore; and, probably, Nicholas Philpotts, for some years Carnarvon's agent in Herefordshire.

Professor F. W. Shotton identifies the material of the axe (He 46/c) as a fine andesitic ash, but not at present referable to any specific rock group.

The upper end of the axe on one face (A) is bevelled from a medial ridge in two large facets, of which one is well polished, as is the corresponding half of face (B): on each face the other half is rougher, with large flake scars still prominent. The blade end is finely ground and polished, with a smooth and lustrous bevel down to one sharp edge angle; on the other angle there is a small lozenge-shaped patch of paler material. The edge (w. 54 mm.) has been damaged and two large flakes broken out on face (B). The butt end was left rough:



it narrows in and is bevelled off towards face (A) with a facet 15 mm. wide. The sides have been rubbed down and show an irregular thin lustrous band interrupted by the adjacent flake scars. The section is a pointed oval with the angles flattened and the faces well arched.

In shape and cross-section, as in surface treatment, the Buckton implement resembles a larger axe (He 15/c), almost black externally, found a couple of miles to southward on Letton Farm, of which the rock was identified by Professor Shotton as a fine banded felspathic ash with mica, perhaps from the Welsh Ordovician, but not of any known group. It, too, was made from a rough-out and only partially ground and polished.<sup>2</sup>

The Buckton axe is, indeed, no isolated object; it only adds another dot to a cluster of axes of stone and flint marked on my map towards the east end of the hills between the Clun and Teme rivers and along their valleys.<sup>3</sup>

A mile to the south-west, at Brampton Bryan, a lovely axe of rhyolite with a mottled blue surface (He 13/c) was found

on the N. bank of the Teme W. of Parson's Pole Bridge,<sup>4</sup> and an axe-butt (He 38/c) came from Broomy Hill, in Brampton Bryan Park, in 1962.

To the north of Adley Moor, flints found S. of Heath House<sup>5</sup> may link on to the Clunbury focus beyond Hopton Heath and to traffic along the Ridgeway.

Bronze implements add their testimony to prehistoric penetration of the district, and even of its marshy areas. The British Museum has a palstave of early type, with curving bar-ridge and slight shoulders, labelled as found at "Ardley Moor, Bucknell (Salop). 1868."<sup>6</sup> A palstave from Leintwardine district is in Ludlow Museum. In 1852, Richard Price, Esq., exhibited "A bronze palstab found between Brampton Bryan and Brandon Camp" in the Temporary Museum arranged for the Ludlow Meeting of the Cambrian Archaeological Association.<sup>7</sup> It is noteworthy also that the site of the great Broadward Hoard of Late Bronze Age weapons is less than 1½ miles northward from that of the Buckton stone axe, up the Clun Valley in marshland west of the River.<sup>8</sup>

So further finds from the locality may be anticipated with the greatest interest.

#### REFERENCES

- <sup>1</sup> See my paper on "The Clun-Clee Ridgeway" in *Culture and Environment* (1963), p. 190, Map Site No. 37.
- <sup>2</sup> Hereford Museum, No. 7800: Donor, Mr. M. P. Morgan; J. F. L. Norwood, *Woolhope Trans.*, XXXVII (1961), 104, Figs. 2, 3.
- <sup>3</sup> *Culture and Environment*, p. 185.
- <sup>4</sup> Hereford Museum, No. 6602: Norwood, *Woolhope Trans.*, XXXV (1957), 316, Fig. 1, 1.
- <sup>5</sup> Parish of Leintwardine North: sited marked on my 6 in. O.S. Sheet, Heref. II, N.W.; Shrops. LXXVII, N.W.; flints formerly in Knighton Co. Sec. School; others collected by Mr. Bayliss.
- <sup>6</sup> B.M. 73.7.2, 2: Evans, *Anc. Bronze Imps.* (1881), pp. 74-5, Fig. 54, "Bucknell, Herefordshire".
- <sup>7</sup> *Arch. Camb.*, 1852, 334.
- <sup>8</sup> Site marked on 6 in. O.S. Shropshire Sheet LXXVII N.E., just within the Shropshire border, S.E. of Broadward Hall: Evans, *A.B.I.*, p. 465, Hoard No. 30, "Broadward, Leintwardine, Herefordshire." The bulk of the hoard known is in the British Museum: there are many references to it since its publication in *Arch. Camb.*, 1872, 338-355, 366; 1873, 80-3, both illustrated.

## REPORTS OF SECTIONAL RECORDERS

### ARCHAEOLOGY, 1965

By S. C. STANFORD

#### EXCAVATIONS

##### NEOLITHIC

*Dorstone* (SO 326423). Mr. C. Houlder, M.A., F.S.A., and Mr. R. Pye have submitted the following note:

"The surface of a field on Dorstone Hill, has yielded some 3,000 flint fragments over recent years to Mr. R. Pye of Kington. These include many leaf-shaped arrowheads which, along with more than 50 fragments of polished stone axes, indicate an extensive neolithic settlement. The field lies on a broad, flat-topped spur of some 20 acres, projecting southwards from the ridge between the Wye and the Golden Valley. The spur is only 150 yards wide at its neck, and it was the object of a two-day excavation in November 1965 to test the nature of much flattened bank in this position. An old ground surface bearing traces of burning had been covered by the dilapidation of a rough sandstone wall, 2 ft. 6 in. wide and probably not more than 2 ft. high originally, which had been built to consolidate a line of stakes of 5 in. diameter. An undisturbed occupation soil behind this wall contained waste flint, a polished axe fragment and pottery consistent with western neolithic material from the area. A further cutting at the most prolific source of surface finds yielded more pottery and flint which seemed to have been derived by soil movement into a hollow from the slightly higher south edge of the spur. It is hoped that further trial excavations will help to define more precisely the distribution and character of neolithic activity on this hilltop before full excavation is considered."

##### IRON AGE

*Croft Ambrey* (SO 443668). The final summer season of the Club's excavation on the hill-fort was devoted to more work on the Main Gates, the buildings within the plateau camp, the eastern end of the Main Camp quarry ditch, and the mound in the Annexe outside the Main Defences.

It has now been shown that the East entrance of the Plateau Camp was in the position subsequently used for the Main Camp entrance. The Main Camp entrances, as now interpreted, show 15 phases of construction, bringing the total of gate phases for the camp to 20. A date in the fourth century B.C. for the establishment of the hill-fort now appears certain, and the construction of

the quarry-ditched Main Camp must be placed in the early third century. Important features of the Main Camp entrances in its third, fourth and fifth phases were twin rectangular guard-rooms, representing the most southerly occurrence yet known of Dr. Savory's "Cornovian Guard chambers". More small rectangular buildings have been excavated within the Plateau Camp West Gate, and also on the very summit of the hill above the 1000 ft. contour. At the eastern end of the Quarry Ditch was located a deep succession of hearth sites and a frequently re-cut drain. These have added forceful evidence to the conclusion that Croft Ambrey was intensively and continuously occupied during the four centuries of its existence as a hill-fort.

Three-quarters of the circular mound, 30 ft. in diameter, in the Annexe, has now been excavated. It had a roughly rectangular stone kerb to its lower, southern, side and on this a hearth had been set and used before the clay and stone dump of the mound was raised over it. A few sherds of Romano-British pottery were found in this dump. Beneath the mound the earliest construction was a terrace formed by throwing downhill turf and subsoil cut by terracing into the hill slope. On this terrace a layer of red clay had been laid and a number of stakes set which had been subsequently burnt. On the downward side of the terrace was a thick ashy layer containing numerous Romano-British potsherds and nails, and four bronze breeches. This layer had accumulated during the first and second centuries A.D. and represents the sweepings from the clay-floored terrace. Present impressions are that this was some kind of religious site for open-air ceremonies involving the cremation of animal sacrifices. If this interpretation is maintained a similar function would be indicated for the kerbed mound which was placed squarely upon the earlier site.

The only Romano-British material found within the Main Camp has been half a dozen sherds and some beads (kindly identified by Mrs. M. Guide, F.S.A.). The recent finds below the mound have now revived the problem of Romano-British occupation in the area, and with it the fate of Croft Ambrey's inhabitants when the Main defences were slighted. A single trench at the back of the Annexe rampart produced no evidence to date its construction. It is planned to complete the excavation of the mound in 1966.

*Midsummer Hill* (SO 760375). The first season of work on this hill-fort at the southern end of the Malverns took place at Easter. It was directed by the writer on behalf of the Malvern Hills Archaeological Committee who are organising the campaign of excavation in co-operation with the Club and the Worcestershire Archaeological Society. A detailed levelled survey of the whole 19 acres site was carried out as the first stage towards an assessment of the total

hill-fort population; and gradiometer and resistivity surveys were conducted extensively on Hollybush Hill. A number of small trial excavations revealed many post-holes suggesting a close cover of timber buildings.

Excavations in 1966 will be for four weeks starting on 8th August. Volunteers are invited to apply for details from the writer at Ashfield Cottage, Luston, Leominster.

#### ROMAN

*Croft Ambrey* (SO 443668). See above, p. 156.

*Huntsham* (SO 565175). Mr. N. P. Bridgewater has sent the following report on the Archenfield Group's excavations:

"The present site, area G, was commenced in 1962, and has now been extended. This is clearly the main villa, and work has revealed the plan of one wing, 100 ft. in length. This contains nine rooms, most of which have stone floors. In one room some of the stone paving remains. Although the dating has not yet been fully elucidated there appears to have been three main periods: (1) second century; (2) early-mid fourth century; (3) late fourth century.

"One room contains a channelled hypocaust, the back-fill of the flues containing samian ware. Period 2 is represented by the insertion of a corndrier in one room, and this was later filled in and covered by a new floor which sealed a coin deposited in the mid-fourth century. Period 3 is indicated by the presence of coins probably deposited up to 390 A.D., found in the destruction layers.

"In another room were found the remains of a domestic oven. Two large square column bases have been found in this area indicating the existence of a colonnade."

#### MEDIEVAL

*Longtown* (SO 921292). Dr. M. G. Jarrett has directed trial excavations here.

*Tretire* (SO 521239). Mr. N. P. Bridgewater has sent the following report on the excavations carried out on behalf of the Ministry of Public Building and Works:

"An earthwork at Tretire reputed to have been a castle mound, was examined in 1965. References to *Rhytir* manor being held by Walter de Muchgros exist in A.D. 1211. The present excavations did not reveal any early building (of wood or stone) nor a castle mound.

"The earthwork consists of a mound about 145 ft. square with a tump at the northern end, about 8 ft. above general mound

level. A N-S trial trench, 90 ft. x 6 ft. through the tump and mound revealed occupation layers containing only thirteenth century pottery. In the southern sector these layers were cut by an 8 ft. wide W-E wall trench which was over 70 ft. long and had been completely robbed and backfilled with building stone, rubble and mortar. In the northern sector, clay oven remains were found covering burnt grain. Over these layers was a general stony destruction level. The tump consisted of ditch spoil heaped over the earlier layers.

"A central area, 35 ft. x 20 ft. when excavated, showed the robbed wall trench and also demonstrated that it cut a post-hole contemporary with thirteenth century occupation levels in this area. Hence the wall may have been later than the thirteenth century. The area also contained a later stone building with a cobbled stone floor, laid upon the earlier levels. Its destruction layer contained post-medieval pottery.

"Generally, an appreciable amount of pottery (pots, jars and dishes) was found, together with such items as iron knife blades, a rowel spur, nails, iron slag, bronze strips and animal bones. A coin of Constantine I was found in the destruction material.

"The finds are clearly indicative of medieval manor life, but the original structures were probably timber ones. No stone structures could be seen even when the site was levelled in 1965 for agricultural purposes."

#### BOTANY 1965

By F. M. KENDRICK

The only new record for the year was the water plant *Ceratophyllum Submersum* (the Horn wort) which was found in a pool at Homme Park, Much Marcle. Although reported from many stations in the Malvern area, this is the first record for the County.

Other interesting records were:

*Epilobium Nerterioides*—the New Zealand creeping willow herb.  
In Cusop Quarry.

*Aconitum europaeus*—on the Teme near Brimfield. Early records give this from the Leominster area, but no reports have been received for many years of any plants in that area.

*Frangula alnus*—from Jays Green; now becoming rare in the County.

*Sambucus ebulus* (Danewort)—The Wonder, Marcle Hill.

*Sagina nodosa* (Knotted sandwort).—Cefn Hill—the first discovery for some years.

*Alopecurus aequalis* (Orange foxtail grass)—found round Blake-mere Pool. Again the first recent record of this rather uncommon grass.

Two fungus forays were held this year, the first at Homme Park where 85 different species were found. Of these 10 were rare species and one, *Lactarius mairei*, very rare. The second foray to Haugh wood yielded 51 species which was a good record considering there had been dry weather for the preceeding two weeks.

## DIALECT

By MRS. W. LEEDS

In accordance with the practice adopted in 1964 when I concentrated particularly on terms used in farm work, I this year give details of the work in hopyards and of some of the special terms used in connection with it. For this information I am indebted to Mrs. E. M. Watkins of Preston Wynne and Mr. J. Weaver of Sutton.

The commercial life of a hop plant is 20 years and upwards. The roots are planted in rows and their cultivation involves work at almost every season of the year.

In March comes the "ploughing down". By this, the mould ridged in the previous season round the roots, is broken down and the alley ways, or reans, between the rows, cleared. "Stocking" follows, by which the weeds are cleared from the roots with a "kerf", a type of hoe, or with a three-tined prong or fork. The young shoots of the hops are cut level to the ground with a "hop-hook".

Hops grow rapidly. The shoots, or wires as they are called, are trained and supported on a framework of string which is anchored at ground level to a pin hammered near each root and attached overhead by hooks to wires carried on permanent posts set at intervals of about 20 feet. In attaching the string to the hooks a special pole called a "monkey" is used. The string is "braced" from the pin. At a height of about three feet, two strands are tied together and from that point led out in a single strand along which the wires are trained, two to one strand, three to the other. The remaining wires are pulled out.

The growing of hops in this way on a string framework supported on wires carried by permanent posts, has superseded the exhausting process, in use in some yards as recently as the last war, by which separate poles were each placed to every root. Old workmen who used this method will tell of pain this caused to the feet as each pole was stamped in with the heel. The need for these poles created an

industry within an industry and their provision was a valuable by-product of forestry. Ash coppice originally planted for hop poles is still often to be seen, now wild and neglected, on odd triangles of land up and down the county.

Hop wires grow to follow the sun and as they grow must be "headed"—that is, put up to twine the right way. Then more weeding is done, ready for the "ploughing up", when the soil in the reans is built once more into ridges, on the principle of making "cops" in ploughing, and the reans or alleys cleaned again by scuffling.

In early summer comes the "leafing", the pulling away of leaf growth on the lower part of the wires. Most of the work, apart from the ploughing and the use of the "monkey", is done by women, but after the "leafing" their work in the yards is ended until the September hop-picking.

Throughout July a careful watch must be kept for mildews and pests. Modern fungicides and insecticides have done much to ease this work, which until recent years relied on powder chemicals which had to be used on windless nights.

The hop-picking season usually lasts for three September weeks. In most yards picking is now done by machines, but in smaller yards, or on farms where hops of specially good quality are needed as a sample, hand pickers are still employed. Hand-picking is organised round the crib, a container of hessian nailed to a wooden frame-work about 8 feet long by 3 ft. 6 in. wide, sometimes divided into two for smaller families or single pickers. Each crib is placed in the centre of a "house", an area containing 24 hop roots. The pickers cut the bines, as the growth at this stage is called, and shred the hops into cribs. Bines still left entwined round the upper wires and string are cut down by workmen passing continually up and down the yard to do this. In the old pole yards, these men had the duty of cutting the bines for the pickers, and pulling up the poles covered with the growth and bringing them to the crib. When the "house" is cleared, the crib is moved down the yard to a fresh station, a movement made in rigorous rotation so that each family of pickers has a share of the best hops and of the inside and outside positions. Twice a day, at noon and in the evening, the measuring takes place. Warning is given of the approach of the measurer and his booker by the cry "Clear 'em up"—a request to the pickers to clean from the crib as much as possible of any leafage picked by accident. The hops are measured from the crib in a bushel basket, black and sticky with hop stain, into sacks, 12 bushels to the sack, and a record is made by the booker of the number picked by each family or picker. Until quite recent times it was still the custom in some yards for no written record to be kept, but for tallies or tokens to be given to the pickers which they kept for reference at the day at payment.

The sacks are taken to the kiln—always pronounced “kill”—for drying. In the older type of kiln, this is still done, not by automatically controlled heat, but by the skilled adjustments made by the dryer, the man who carries the greatest responsibility of all and who often stays in the kiln night and day throughout the drying process. Each “Kill Load” is spread thinly over the floor above a hearth which burns anthracite type fuel at a steady heat, and the hops turned once in the process of drying. Throughout great care is taken to prevent as far as possible overmuch breaking and mangling of the flowers.

When dried, the hops are pushed through a trap door into a sack, capacity 2 cwt., the “hoppocket”, and pressed down with the “hop-bagger”, a press operated by the turning of a handle. This done, the pockets are ready for the journey to the hop markets and the breweries.

In the yards, work ends for a brief while. The pickers are paid. The custom of pulling up the last pole and setting it, wreathed with its bine, at the farm gate until pay day, is now long since gone, but a wreath is reserved for the church decoration at harvest festival which in hop growing parishes is often delayed until the hop-picking is over. In this part of the world, the term “hopping” is never used, but always the full word “hoppicking”.

In the later autumn, muck is carried to the yards, and stands in heaps along the desolate and deserted rows until next season's work begins. Again, in old pole yards, these heaps of muck were accompanied by the wigwam-like erections of poles raised ready for use the next spring, but that is a sight now gone for ever.

## VERNACULAR BUILDINGS 1965

By J. W. TONKIN

The recording of smaller, threatened old buildings has gone on steadily and quietly during the year. The old Buildings Recording Group has met for a double session about once a month, sometimes in the Woolhope Room, sometimes in the field and a lot of work has been done. I feel a great debt is owed to the University of Birmingham Extra Mural Department and the W.E.A. for encouraging this work.

### HEREFORD

14 *Belmont (Pool Farm)* (SO 506392). Now empty. This is the most important building recorded during the past year. The R.C.H.M. Inventory suggests that this was a fifteenth century house largely

reconstructed in the sixteenth, but our examination of it suggests that the main trusses and the external framing apart from the front of the wing are all of one build. It is in excellent condition and a very good example of an open hall with cross wing. The open hall was divided in the sixteenth century, but its timber work is still complete. The porch and stair well were added in the seventeenth century.

### ASHPERTON

*Haywood Lane Cottages* (SO 649417). A sixteenth century thatched house with “eyebrow” dormers, on a two room plan. This was added to later with a lateral outbuilt chimney and two extra rooms. Later still in the eighteenth century a second cottage of much lighter framing was added on the west.

### AYLTON

*Cottage* (SO 667372). Small timber-framed cottage on two room plan, probably eighteenth century. Collar and tie beam trusses. Lateral, stone outbuilt fireplace.

### BISHOP'S FROME

*Colliers Bridge* (SO 694462). Small, derelict, timber-framed cottage probably of late seventeenth century date. The lower storey has been cased in stone, there is a long lean-to at the back and big stone outbuilt chimney at one gable. Roof has collar and tie beam trusses.

*The Mounts (Middle Cottage)* (SO 692462). Derelict house on two room plan with long lean-to and big, stone outbuilt gable chimney. Originally timber-framed, but lower storey now cased in stone on front and gable. Queen post, collar and tie beam trusses with V struts; one original door preserved. Probably seventeenth century.

*The Mounts (South Cottage)* (SO 692460). Derelict seventeenth century farmhouse.

*The Mounts (Top Cottage)* (SO 692461). Small, derelict cottage, probably mainly eighteenth century. Queen post, collar and tie beam roof trusses. On two room plan with outbuilt lateral chimney. Very thin timber in framing. Cased in brick.

*MUNDERSFIELD* (SO 654496). Unsafe derelict eighteenth century brick cottage.

### BOSBURY

*Stanly Hill* (SO 675441). Derelict eighteenth century cottage now unsafe to enter.

*Barland Cottage* (SO 682430). Derelict stone cottage of about 1700.



## BROMYARD

*Flaggoners Green* (SO 645543). Eighteenth century stone cottage now derelict. Two room plan.

*1 and 2 Stallards Bank* (SO 647555). A pair of early semi-detached cottages and important as being an example of early, true cottages. Timber-framed with stone chimney stacks at each end. Framing infilled with brick. Each cottage has two rooms down and two up; and the roofs have collar and tie beam trusses. Eighteenth century buildings now derelict.

*Toll House* (SO 646544). Derelict brick and stone toll house. These buildings are important from the point of view of the industrial archaeologist and the historian of the turnpike roads.

## BURRINGTON

*Old Vicarage* (SO 442720). Now partly in ruins and partly a poultry house. At one time quite a big house. The earlier part, now poultry house, seems to be a late sixteenth century timber-framed building encased in stone in the eighteenth century having a gable outbuilt fireplace. The ruined wing is late seventeenth century and almost doubled the size of the house. It was timber-framed and the fine turned baluster staircase and one panelled door still remain.

## CODDINGTON

*Coddington Farm* (SO 722431). Eighteenth century stone farmhouse with upper cruck trusses.

## DOCKLOW

*Holly Cottage* (SO 557562). Timber-framed cottage cased in stone.

## ELTON

*Evenhay* (SO 463700). A typical lesser yeoman's house of the seventeenth century recorded before modernisation and additions carried out early in 1965. Two-room plan, timber-framed house with entry directly into hall. Big outbuilt, stone gable chimney; other end unheated. Thatched. Collar and tie beam trusses and remarkably well preserved sets of carpenters' marks. An interesting stone, possibly a weaver's mark, is built into the fireplace gable. A remarkably unaltered house until this year's alterations were made.

## GRENDON BISHOP

*Yew Tree Cottage* (SO 594572). Stone cottage with brick additions. Now modernised. Two-room plan.

## LEDBURY

*Ham Brook* (SO 681399). Remains of two seventeenth century timber-framed houses.

*Marley Hall* (SO 685406). Seventeenth century timber-framed hall and cross-wing now used as store rooms.

## LEINTHALL STARKES

*Old Farm* (SO 434695). Fine, prosperous yeoman's, timber-framed house of the period 1620-40 with a stone service wing of 1779. Original house jettied at gables on first floor and attic levels. Good moulded beams and bressummers throughout in a remarkably uniform style. Big stone outbuilt stack serves hall and chamber above and has two diagonally placed stacks.

## LITTLE MARCLE

*The Ladin* (SO 665355). Seventeenth century hop room with upper cruck trusses. This building was dismantled apparently soon after being built and rebuilt in its present position.

## MUNSLEY

*Little Nelves* (SO 669402). Derelict brick cottages.

*Old Parsonage* (SO 662422). Now derelict seventeenth century timber-framed building with collar and tie beam trusses and V struts. House is on a two room and passage plan with the stairway at the end of the passage. The original hall has a stone outbuilt gable fireplace, and the upstairs is lit by dormer windows.

## ROSS-ON-WYE

*Cleeve Farm* (SO 590236). Stone and timber-framed barn of stilted cruck construction. A very good example.

## WACTON

*Butterley Brook Cottage* (SO 618581). A late sixteenth or early seventeenth century timber-framed house on a two room plan with an outbuilt gable fireplace to which was added a stone wing later in the seventeenth century. In one room a hop treading hole still remains. Now derelict.

## WIGMORE

*Brook Farm* (SO 413689). A most interesting central chimney type of house probably of the period just before the Civil War. Timber-framed. Recorded before major alterations this year. Collar and tie beam trusses with V struts. Lobby entrance into space by chimney. A good example of a yeoman's house of the period.

*Ford Street* (SO 416690). Now two cottages, perhaps two dwellings since late seventeenth century. Eastern house built about 1600 on two-room plan with entry directly into hall. Jettied in front. Woodwork very good and obviously this was the home of somebody of some wealth in the borough. Later the house was extended to make an additional room around the stone outbuilt gable chimney on the west. Late in the seventeenth century a two room addition was made to this possibly as a separate cottage from the start.

*Lodge Farm* (SO 388692). Now empty. A fine farmhouse, magnificently situated on the Wigmore Rolls. It appears to be of three periods of building, early sixteenth century with jettying, early seventeenth, and late seventeenth. The big stone fireplace of the earliest part has Norman pillars and capitals as jambs, probably from Wigmore Abbey. The second part consisting of a parlour and chamber above has a panelled ceiling. The third part is an addition to the full length of the house at the back with a typical, big central dormer window.

#### YATTON

*Westnors End* (SO 626318). Barn now demolished. Six-bay, timber-framed of the late sixteenth century or early seventeenth century. Collar and tie beam trusses.

In addition to the above houses which have been recorded as fully as possible in the circumstances prevailing at each site important features have been recorded in other buildings and notes made as indicated below.

#### HEREFORD

*4 and 5 High Town* (SO 511401). During alterations a record was made of what was left of the earlier plan of these buildings, of the early eighteenth century stairway and of some medieval woodwork in the cellar.

#### ACTON BEAUCHAMP

*Church Farm* (SO 680504). Details and measurements of one of five upper cruck trusses in a stone built hop room.

#### ALLENSMORE

*Three Horseshoes Inn*. Plan of timber-framed inn.

Of the buildings mentioned above those in the Bosbury area were recorded by Mr. I. Homes sometimes with Miss M. Homes, those in the Bromyard area by Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Perry and those in the Wigmore area by the writer and Mrs. M. Tonkin. Cleeve Barn was

recorded by Mr. A. Clarke, the Three Horseshoes Inn by Miss J. Bickerton and Pool Farm by the group as a whole.

The R.C.H.M. Inventory for Herefordshire lists only those buildings erected before 1714. However, some of earlier date were not included and many of those mentioned above are not in the inventory.

In addition to the above much has been done in photographic recording especially by Cmdr. M. B. Hale in the Much Marcle area and in a number of ways by Mr. V. H. Coleman, Mrs. J. O'Donnell and others.

Work has been started on other buildings derelict or in danger of alteration or demolition and brief recordings have been made of some not mentioned above. 1965 seems to have been a fruitful year and we hope 1966 will be even better.

## REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND SUB-SECTIONS

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH SECTION

At the Special General Meeting of the Club held on May 20th, 1965, it was agreed that members could form sections to pursue particular interests. An inaugural meeting of the Archaeological Research Section was held on July 8th and the following constitution was adopted.

#### CONSTITUTION

1. The section shall be called the Archaeological Research Section.
2. It shall arrange its own programme, but shall remain subordinate to the Central Committee in all matters relating to the general welfare of the Club.
3. Membership shall be open to all Club members prepared to take an active part in the sections work.
4. The annual subscription shall be 5/-.
5. The section shall have its own Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.
6. The A.G.M. shall be held before June 30th.
7. Monthly meetings shall be arranged by the Officers.

#### OFFICERS elected were:

<i>Chairman</i>	..	..	Mr. S. C. Stanford.
<i>Vice-Chairman</i>	..	..	Mr. F. Noble.
<i>Secretary</i>	..	..	Miss S. M. Crompton
<i>Treasurer</i>	..	..	Mr. E. L. Crooks.

The section now has 48 members and has held four monthly meetings. The County has been divided into areas for which individual members have taken responsibility and a regular inspection of scheduled monuments has begun. All members have been given forms on which to enter the date of inspection, condition and National Grid Reference of known monuments, and a description of new sites. Several probable new sites have been noted and it is hoped that visits to these can be arranged during the Summer months.

Members report on their field work at the monthly meetings when there is also a discussion on some archaeological topic. All members take part in the discussions which have included Lynchets, Deserted Medieval Villages and Roman Roads in Herefordshire.

## THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON HEREFORD RE-DEVELOPMENT

In view of the need for careful study of plans for re-development and road widening in the city, a special sub-committee was formed consisting of the following members: F. Noble, B.A., H. J. Powell, F.R.I.B.A., Miss J. E. Bookham, B.Sc., Miss S. M. Crompton, Mr. V. H. Coleman, Mr. R. J. Hillaby, B.A., Mr. J. V. Tonkin, B.A. This met for the first time on February 13th, 1965 to consider a memorandum on the apparent threat to the City Walls, prepared by the President. It was agreed that the following statement should be sent to the authorities concerned, to National Societies, and to any organisations and individuals who might assist a campaign for the preservation and enhancement of the Walls, to ensure that they knew of the threats posed by the present scheme:

#### RELIEF ROAD PLANS AND THREATS TO HEREFORD CITY WALLS

The "Statement of Principles" published by the Central Area Re-development Sub-Committee in 1962 pointed out (p. 4) how the opportunity of defining the Central Area by rebuilding the old City Walls, presented itself with the suggested construction of the Inner Relief Road. This was to be laid out as a "parkway" with no frontage development, and (p. 8) "the area remaining between the wall and the inner ring road should be landscaped".

From this and the Diagrammatic Plan appended it was taken that the propositions which had been put forward by the Woolhope Club, and by George Cadbury in his pamphlet on *Hereford City Walls* in 1946, had been accepted, and that the demarcation, and preservation of the remains of the wall, and of its gates, throughout the whole circuit, had been adopted as part of the far-sighted scheme to establish the central area as a pedestrian precinct, retaining its ancient street pattern.

Plans appended to the "Statement of Principles" (1962) gave no indication that the line of the Walls was likely to be threatened, and it is well known that all building development in the vicinity of the wall has been restricted for the past fifteen years.

No public indication has ever been given that this principle has been in any way diluted or abandoned, and only a careful examination of the Draft Town Centre Map published in December 1964, and comparison with the detailed plans for the road which have been approved by the Ministry of Transport, reveals that in fact considerable stretches of the line of the Wall are to be obliterated in the programme which is now in hand, and that the idea of retaining its integrity as a feature seems to have been almost abandoned. It

seems that the engineers are determined to make it a Ring Road which will look like every other Ring Road.

The scheme, properly carried out, would have provided Hereford with a major historic feature in its town centre development which would have been unique in Britain in its completeness and accessibility.

The stretches immediately threatened are:

- (1) From West Street to approximately 100 yards beyond Eign Street along Wall Street, completely obliterating the site of Eign Gate by a pedestrian subway access, and the north-western salient of the town, unless the Ministry of Transport can be persuaded to accept a much altered scheme for the traffic junction at this point, which is generally regarded as unsatisfactory. Over 20 yards of wall could be saved in the present scheme by a slight alteration in the line of footpath proposed, turning it back through the Brewery entrance on to the present Wall Street.
- (2) From about 50 yards east of Widemarsh Street to about 50 yards beyond the Commercial Street roundabout along Bath Street, a stretch of about 200 yards where the work of obliteration, begun towards the end of the 18th Century is now to be completed to leave no trace of the line of defence. At least 30 yards of this could be saved by keeping the line of the footway behind the wall by turning it through the existing gap at Bell Alley. A similar adjustment could preserve the entire line south of Union Street. It would be possible to preserve more extensive stretches by a minor adjustment of the lines of the road itself, but we consider it regrettable that the possibility of complete preservation here seems to have been compromised by the planning permission granted in recent years, which has allowed the erection of the Franklin Barnes "Garden Centre".

It seems that these works are liable to be put in hand without any opportunity being given for excavating and recording the plans and details of these gates and stretches of wall. Even on those parts where the walls are to be preserved, and where work is in progress, little care seems to be demanded and some of the wall has already suffered casual damage.

A regrettable feature is the way in which these schemes have gone through without any effort being made to inform interested people that it had been found necessary to change the published "principles", and without consultation. If the Ancient Monuments Branch of the Ministry of Works have approved this scheme it is a deplorable decision, and we must press them to undertake adequate excavation and recording of what is lost if it is now impossible to maintain the

integrity of the original plan. No adequate archaeological or historical account of the development of Hereford's defences exists and a considerable amount of the evidence is now likely to be bulldozed away.

If the principles of the Re-development Plan are to be eroded in this way by Government Departments it is idle to hope that commercial interests will spare much effort to implement the other principles of the scheme. There is a danger that Hereford may come to share with Worcester its unenviable reputation for the unintelligent destruction of features of interest and antiquity, instead of fulfilling hopes that it would provide an outstanding example of the successful reconciliation of the best features of past, present and future through this plan.

The Committee agreed that plans should be made to secure the participation of the Ministry of Works and as much local assistance as could be found for the extensive programme of excavation and recording which will need to be undertaken if major alterations in the plans be achieved. The offer of full co-operation from the City Surveyor was welcomed.

The Committee expressed general satisfaction with reports of progress on the houses in High Street and Church Street. It was agreed that members should make further investigations into the likely effects of road widening programmes and re-development schemes in the Central area on scheduled buildings.

Reports on this were presented to a meeting of the Club on February 25th, when a unanimous resolution was passed urging that all possible steps should be taken to maintain the City Walls and requesting the authorities to see if alterations could be made to the present schemes so that the original plan of exposing, conserving and landscaping the walls could be fulfilled.

Representations to the Ancient Monuments Branch of the Ministry of Works led to a grant towards the cost of an excavation organized by the City Museum on the site of a bastion in Blueschool Street at Easter. A suggestion that the Ancient Monuments Branch be approached by the City for help and advice on the restoration was taken up, and a visit was made by the Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments on July 14th.

Hereford was listed among the 51 "Historic Towns" which the Council for British Archaeology, in its list published in July 1965, considered so important that they urged that the responsibility for them should become a national concern. (The only town of comparable size in the West Midlands and Wales to appear in this select list was Warwick.)

Representation was made to the C.B.A. that every effort should be made to have Hereford designated as a pilot project in historic

town re-development, in the hope that this might lead to a more adequate implementation of the plans for retaining historic features than seemed likely under the existing arrangements.

Further concern was aroused by features of the draft plans for Central Area Re-development. These were discussed at a meeting on November 29th and reported to the Annual General Meeting on 18th December, 1965, which passed a resolution that the following points should be brought to the notice of those concerned:

### CENTRAL AREA RE-DEVELOPMENT AND THE HISTORIC CHARACTER OF HEREFORD

#### THE CITY WALLS

It seems that the hopes of retaining a meaningful and reasonably complete line of the City Wall round the northern perimeter have been largely abandoned. We would urge that every effort should be made to keep some stretch on its true line in every sector. We would not favour the erection of mock "wall" on different alignments.

#### EXCAVATIONS

These plans will involve the destruction of a considerable amount of evidence from which many obscure features in the history of Hereford might be illuminated and we would urge that an "Excavation Fund" be set up, to which public contributions might also be invited. We would also urge discussions with the Ancient Monuments Division of the Ministry of Works, to ensure that the maximum amount of preservation and the best conservation of surviving features is obtained, and that all excavation and recording of demolished features is competently carried out.

#### THE RE-DEVELOPMENT AREAS

The present plan seems likely to affect the following features: the 13th century cellars under 88 and 89 Eign Street and the timber-framed 43 Bewell Street; the Black Swan and the Mansion House in Widemarsh Street, two of its most interesting old buildings are shown as to be preserved only as facades, but we would urge that an attempt should be made to preserve the timber framing, ceilings and panelling of their upper rooms in the plan; behind this, consideration should be given to retaining the Bowling Green, which is well over 200 years old, since its position largely coincides with an open central space in the development plan. On the opposite side of Widemarsh Street the proposed development appears to break the present "building line" in an unnecessarily obtrusive fashion. We would also like to see more effort to retain a clearer indication of the ancient line of Maylord Street. It is also hoped that the note "Future development

to allow for rear service access" does not imply any threat to the block of buildings at the junction of High Town and Widemarsh Street, which seem essential to the townscape.

#### THE ANCIENT STREET PLAN

We would emphasise that the really unique opportunity in Hereford is that of retaining an almost unaltered plan of early streets in a re-developed and active central area. Other towns may retain more in the way of ancient buildings, but none have such an opportunity of retaining the real setting and character of a historic centre without diminishing its capacity for commercial activity and growth. Any modifications of the present street plan in the central area should be kept to a minimum.

## NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

R. G. Schafer is Professor of History in the University of Michigan, Flint College, U.S.A. His researches in the Huntington Library, California, have resulted in much work on the career of James Brydges, first Duke of Chandos (1674-1744). This has led to a concern with political and social life of Herefordshire in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. Publications include "Bye-election in a Rotten Borough", and "the Making of a Tory", in the *Huntington Library Quarterly*, and "Cannons no Canon" in *Papers of the Michigan Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters*.

## Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club

(HEREFORDSHIRE)

### PROCEEDINGS, 1965

#### SPRING MEETINGS

FIRST MEETING: 25th February: The President, Mr. F. Noble in the chair.

Mr. A. J. Rees, A.M.T.P.I., member of the staff of the County Planning Office, spoke on the plans for the re-development of the central area of Hereford City. This whole matter is one of great interest and concern to members of the Club and a sub-committee had been formed to study some of the implications of these plans. A report of that committee's work is given on pp. 169-173.

Mr. Rees explained the principles on which the plans were based and stressed the importance of preserving monuments surviving from the city's ancient history while indicating some of the difficulties involved in doing so. In the discussion which followed the talk Dr. A. W. Langford asked that the Club urge that everything possible be done to retain the city walls as an integral part of the city plan.

SECOND MEETING: 11th March: Mr. V. H. Coleman, in the absence of the President in the chair.

Mr. E. M. Staite, Fishery Officer of the Wye River Board, gave a talk on the research carried out by the river board on the salmon population of the Wye and its tributaries to establish statistical and other information of importance in face of the effects of changing conditions on the rivers and the dangers of pollution.

THIRD MEETING: 3rd April: The President, Mr. F. Noble, in the chair.

The Rev. Preb. A. L. Moir gave a talk on "The Historical Significance of Craswall Priory". This little house in its remote valley was of the Grandmontine order, its properties eventually confiscated with those of other alien priories, and granted for a time to form part of the endowment of Christ's College, Cambridge. Prebendary Moir showed how its founders and benefactors were members of the great Marcher families with whom its earlier history is closely bound. In the course of the present century excavations and surveys at the site have been carried out and reported on in the *Transactions* for 1904, 1908 and 1964.

The remains of the priory buildings are now in hazard from the effects of exposure and the growth of trees and underwood. Prebendary Moir urged the importance of the site and the need for something to be done to prevent its continuing deterioration.

F. C. MORGAN LECTURE: 15th April: the President, Mr. F. Noble, in the chair.

Dr. Kathleen Kenyon kindly accepted the invitation to deliver the open lecture in honour of Mr. F. C. Morgan. The Club was delighted to welcome back to Herefordshire one whose great work on Sutton Walls has added so much to our knowledge of this area's pre-history. Her lecture, illustrated with colour slides, concerned her excavations in Jerusalem and her audience was privileged to have this first-hand account of work which is proving of such significance for the understanding of so important a site.

SPRING ANNUAL MEETING: 29th April: The President, Mr. F. Noble in the chair.

The President gave his address, choosing as his subject, to mark the 700th anniversary of the revolt of Simon de Montfort, the part played by Hereford in the rising of 1265. The address is printed on pp. 111-118.

As retiring President Mr. Noble installed as President for 1965-1966 Mr. H. J. Powell who then took the chair. At the close of the meeting, Mr. Noble guided members to see the excavations in progress on the line of the city wall between Maylord and Blueschool streets. The site of one of the medieval bastions in the wall had been located and its remains uncovered.

SPECIAL MEETING: 20th May: The President, M. H. J. Powell in the chair.

This meeting had been called by Mr. Noble as retiring President that some aspects of the Club's management and future could be discussed. The Club's work and purpose covers all aspects of local studies in the county. Its function as a centre and focus for the encouragement and pursuit of work in archaeology, natural history and geology, local history and rural life, is a valuable one and it would be a sad day for the Club and for the county if any of these interests became fragmented and broke away from the main body. On the other hand, the large scope of all these enterprises has some disadvantages. Members with specialised interests are not always well catered for within the Club's programmes.

It was therefore suggested that subsections be set up, and, administered by their own officers but within the framework of the Club, carry out studies in working parties formed from interested

members. A section for work in Archaeology was almost immediately set up, and a report on the first year of its life is given on p. 168.

#### FIELD MEETINGS

FIRST MEETING: 22nd May: USK VALLEY.

After a beautiful drive through Glasbury and Talgarth and past Llangorse Lake, members visited the ruins of Castell Blaen Llynfi and then moved to Llanddetty Church. A picnic lunch was eaten beside the mountain road leading to Beaufort, and a stop made at the disused quarry at Cefn Onneu to see there the exposure of the massive horizontal bedding of carboniferous limestone. Mr. Inett Homes pointed out a cave extending for about 50 feet in the north face, and, in the floor of the quarry, a pothole formed by water percolation through the vertical cracks. Fragments of millstone grit on the quarry floor were derived from the thin millstone grit strata covering the limestone. The interesting flora of this limestone is now protected by the Nature Conservancy. The next visit of the day was to the Gilwern canal-tramway junction and to an area interesting for the remains still to be seen of its industrial past. Coal was transferred here to go by the Brecon and Hay tramway to Hereford. A towpath walk towards Llanfoist was followed by some of the party, to see the wharf where a warehouse for iron still survives, though it is now used as a workshop for pleasure craft. A tramway bridge crosses the canal here, linking the inclines up to Blorence and down to Llanfoist. Mr. V. H. Coleman has recently found documentary evidence that this bridge was built in 1818. The cast iron T girders to which are bolted plates supporting the double track of 3 ft. 4 in. gauge, are still in position.

SECOND FIELD MEETING: 12th June: FAIRFORD DISTRICT.

The first visit of the day was to the roman villa at Chedworth. After a picnic lunch, members drove on to see in turn the three different but fascinating churches of Coln St. Denis, Coln Rogers and Fairford and so to tea at Cirencester, where they visited the roman museum which the curator kindly kept open to a later hour than usual to enable them to see it.

THIRD FIELD MEETING (half-day): 1st July: LONGTOWN AREA.

Two most interesting churches were visited on this excursion—the first Rowlestone, which has a most beautiful Norman tympanum Christ in Majesty over the South Doorway, and next, Clodock, remarkable not only for its ancient features, but for its seventeenth and eighteenth century furnishings unaltered by nineteenth century restorations. Recent work on the church has revealed wall paintings



under the plaster in window embrasures on the south wall. It is hoped that sufficient money can be raised for the full uncovering and treatment of these paintings. From the church, the party moved up the hill to Longtown, where, after tea, Mr. Noble guided members round the ruins of Longtown Castle.

**FOURTH FIELD MEETING: 29th July: USK.**

The first visit of the day was to the small church at Gwernesey, and then, in the afternoon, the party saw the encampment of Gaer Fawr and the old church of Llangwm Uchah which has a remarkable screen of delicate tracery and the remains of the rood loft. The party then moved on to Usk and were guided over the castle there by Mr. F. Noble.

**FIFTH FIELD MEETING: 4th September: RADNORSHIRE.**

Old Radnor has perhaps the finest church in Radnorshire and members much enjoyed its many features of interest, noting particularly the rood screen, organ case, the roof timbers, and encaustic tiles. The next stop on this excursion in Radnorshire was at Bryn-draenog near Beguildy where by kind permission of Mrs. Thomas, the party saw the timber-framed building with its cruck hall. A halt was made for a picnic lunch at Gorddwr Bank near the source of the Teme. Then a move was made to Llanbadarn fynydd and so to the church at Llananno, where the sixteenth century screen has been incorporated into the much later building.

At Cwm Aran, the next stop, members climbed to the bailey of Castel Cwm Aran where Mr. Noble described the site and outlined its history as an important stronghold of the Mortimer family. The last visit of the day was paid to Llanfawr Quarry under the guidance of Mr. Kendrick, who gave a brief talk on the geology of the area.

**SIXTH FIELD MEETING: 30th September (half-day): RISBURY.**

At Risbury members visited the iron age camp which was described by Mr. S. C. Stanford and then walked on to see the remains of the old water mill which still has some of its machinery intact and on to the packhorse bridge. The next stop was at Blackwardine, where the road crosses the railway line, now closed, from Leominster to Bromyard. Here, when the railway was built in 1881, a considerable quantity of Roman material was found, and further pottery finds were made when the Club undertook an excavation there in 1921. The last visit of the day was to the fine church at Wellington.

The Club is indebted to those of its members and others who so kindly throughout the summer season act as guides and speakers at the places of interest which are visited, and specially to

Mr. F. Noble and Mr. H. J. Powell and Mr. V. E. Coleman who did so much to make the excursions a source of valuable information as well as pleasure.

**AUTUMN MEETINGS**

**FIRST MEETING: 4th November, at 3 p.m.:** The President, Mr. H. J. Powell in the chair.

Mr. Rex Palmer then gave a talk on the history of Church bells with special reference to Herefordshire and neighbouring counties and to examples of the work of famous bellfounders represented locally.

**SECOND MEETING: 23rd November:** The President, Mr. H. J. Powell in the chair.

Mr. P. Thompson gave a lecture on "Some British Orchids and their habitats". He described the anatomy of orchid flowers and explained their fertilization by insects. His talk was beautifully illustrated with fine colour slides of most of the British orchids.

**THIRD MEETING: 4th December, at 3 p.m.:** The President, Mr. H. J. Powell in the chair.

At this meeting the sectional recorders read their reports.

**WINTER ANNUAL MEETING: 18th December, at 3 p.m.:** The President, Mr. H. J. Powell in the chair.

The President made to Mr. and Mrs. V. H. Coleman a presentation of a table trolley and mats purchased by subscriptions from members to mark the occasion of their marriage as a token of appreciation of Mr. Coleman's work for the Club.

Officers were elected to take office in spring, 1966.

Mr. Dawson, on behalf of the Honorary Treasurer, presented the accounts for the year 1964.

Under any other business the President drew attention to the Conway bridge appeal made by the National Trust, and Mr. Frank Noble opened a discussion on the modifications of the plans for the new inner relief road in Hereford.

## OBITUARIES

### GEORGE HUMPHREY MARSHALL 1900-1965

George Humphrey Marshall—born 20th March, 1900, died 11th September, 1965 was the eldest son of the late George Marshall, F.S.A.—one time President of the Woolhope Club and for many years Honorary Secretary.

Humphrey Marshall had been associated with the Club for over 40 years, having become a member in 1921. He took great interest in its affairs, although of late he did not attend many meetings. His chief interests were fruit growing, parish affairs, and the older forms of transport such as coaching and canals. His collection of books and prints concerning coaching was quite considerable. He took a keen interest in motoring and at one time participated in several rallies such as the Land's End to John O'Groats.

He bequeathed to the National Trust his property adjoining Breinton Church and comprising the orchard in which lies a Saxon camp, an area of woodland and some meadowland on the banks of the River Wye. He hoped that this riverside meadow might continue to be enjoyed by members of the public.

E.B.

### ARTHUR JOHN WINNINGTON-INGRAM, M.A.

"One of the wisest men I have known", was the verdict of many who came into contact with the Venerable Arthur John Winnington-Ingram, who died on 1st June, 1965, aged 76. Born at Bewdley in 1888 his father was the Ven. Edward Henry Winnington-Ingram, a former archdeacon of Hereford and canon residentiary of Hereford Cathedral (offices to which his son succeeded). He was a nephew of Dr. Arthur Foley Winnington-Ingram, bishop of London and was once heard to say with a twinkle that "My claim to fame will not arise from ability, but because I am nephew of a famous bishop . . .". Some of his boyhood was spent at Ross, where his father was rector, and he was educated at Hereford Cathedral School, of which he often spoke with affection. From here he won an open exhibition at St. John's College, Oxford, and graduated B.A. in 1911 and M.A. in 1914. Later he went to Wells Theological College under Dr. R. G. Parsons (later bishop of Hereford), and was made a deacon in 1912 and ordained priest a year later. In 1921 he went to St. Aidan's Theological College, Ballarat, Australia, as sub-warden and afterwards as principal, but returned to England in 1929 and was instituted as vicar of Kimbolton the same year. In 1934 he became rural dean of Leominster, but two years later he went to Ledbury as rector and rural dean there. He was appointed archdeacon of Hereford in

1942 and in 1945 he left Ledbury when made a canon residentiary of the Cathedral. This office he resigned in 1961, having previously relinquished his archdeaconry in 1958, on doctor's orders, after 17 years of devoted service. He retired to Winchester where he spent the last years of his life.

As a member of the Local Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches for many years the writer had some enjoyable and instructive journeys with the Archdeacon who was always a most genial companion. As chairman of the committee his wonderful skill in smoothing difficulties and management of controversial matters was well known. After hearing all, sometimes opposing, opinions he summed them up in a few witty words and solved difficult problems to every one's satisfaction. His love for and care of the churches in the diocese was outstanding.

A.J.W.-I., as he was called affectionately by his friends, joined the Woolhope Club in 1937 and became President in 1948 and again in 1956. He took an active part in the work of the Club and was always ready to help in any way he could. Having at some time been acquainted with the late Sir Harold Brakspear, a well-known architect, he became particularly interested in architecture, and could describe a church in the most lucid and attractive manner. The writer first heard him at Ledbury and has not forgotten the great impression he made on his hearers.

The *Transactions* of the Club contain nine papers by Winnington-Ingram; those associated with Ledbury church and town and with Hereford Cathedral being outstanding. He dearly loved the last named. When lecturing the humorous asides and comments by the author on his subjects were memorable. His presence at either indoor or field meetings was a guarantee that they would be both instructive and enjoyable.

The Woolhope Club owes Winnington-Ingram a great debt, and extends sincere sympathy in her loss to his devoted wife, Joan Mary the daughter of the Rev. R. A. Lyne. There were no children of the marriage which took place on 9th August, 1938.

F.C.M.

### PREBENDARY T. H. PARKER 1862-1965

Prebendary Parker died within three months of his 104th birthday. That he obtained so great an age must be due to the devoted care and consistently cheerful companionship of his wife.

The Woolhope Field Club is enriched by the gift of valuable books from his library but also by memories of a member who had the ideals of the club so close to his heart.

The career of Thomas Henry Parker can be summarised. Hereford Cathedral School; St. John's College, Cambridge; Ely Theological

College; curate and vicar of country parishes, rural dean, editor of the Diocesan Messenger and prebendary of the cathedral. But a list of the posts he held gives no clue to his character, his spontaneous welcome for friends, hilarious laughter, incisive wit and pungent comment, a relish for gossip if unmalicious, a bemused acceptance of some modern views with a discreet veneration for the past. Underlying all this lay a profound knowledge of the bible and deep love for church and cathedral.

He revelled in his garden. It was a delight to him that his home, Vineyard Croft, was once the site where the Guthlac Priory grew vines. He too tried to grow vines there, but unsuccessfully, and turned to apples to become an expert on them.

A last memory of him. There he sat at his study table, reading the Greek Testament, without glasses, with his beloved birds, the robin, sparrows and tits outside on the verandah and bird-table.

His end was ideal. It was the last Sunday of the Church year. He returned from early service and seated in his arm-chair quietly sank into his final sleep to awake in eternity.

His body was laid to rest at Breinton, his old parish, beneath the shade of the perpetual green of age-long yews.

A.L.M.

## PAPERS, 1964-5

### PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

By F. NOBLE

#### HEREFORDSHIRE AND SIMON DE MONTFORT: 1265

The Seventh Centenary of Simon de Montfort's Parliament is of great, if disputed, constitutional interest, but locally it also represents the last time when Hereford stood for a short while at the very centre of English affairs.

The Parliament, convened at Westminster in January had ended its sittings by March 14th. There seems to be no record of the names of the burgesses who represented Hereford, or of the other Herefordshire boroughs which may have sent representatives, nor can we be certain who were the "knights of the shire" who sat with them, though Sir William D'Ebroicis (Devereux) and Henry de Penbruge (Pembroke) or Walter de Baskerville are possible. The most powerful lord of Parliament from the county was certainly young Humphrey de Bohun,<sup>1</sup> who had come into possession of Kington and Huntingdon, Brecon and Hay by his marriage to one of the de Braos heiresses. He was to prove one of the most consistent supporters of Earl Simon, even when his father, the Earl of Hereford, joined Simon's opponents, and he must have been the leader of the group of Herefordshire barons and knights against the intransigent Marcher lords who were led by another Herefordshire baron, Roger de Mortimer of Wigmore, another sharer in the great de Braos inheritance, who was the only leading baron to remain actively in arms against Simon after the battle of Lewes.

In Parliament the higher Clergy were more numerous than the dwindling ranks of Simon's baronial supporters, but it is doubtful whether the Bishop of Hereford, the detested Savoyard, Peter de Aquablanca, would have dared to appear there; though it seems to have been a plaint raised on his behalf which produced a most interesting account of the defence of Hereford against the enemies of Simon in the preceding November.

In reply to the writ of 8th February 1265, John de Balun (of Much Marcle), Roger de Chandos (of Snodhill) and William D'Ebroicis (of Lyonshall), reported on the preparations the citizens of Hereford had made when they heard that Roger Mortimer was leading an army against them. They had burnt and thrown down houses outside the gates which might hinder the defence, and they had encroached on their gardens to widen the ditch between St. Nicholas and "Thithene" (Eign) gates, and pulled down the Prior of St. Guthlac's mill on the stretch between "Thithene" and "Wydemareis"

gates. Between "the gate of Bissop Street" to the gate of St. Owen, they had only deepened the ditch, throwing the earth onto the Bishops field, but had pulled down another mill and part of the mill-pond of Richard de Hereford, because it was on the town ditch.

On the eve of St. Martin the hostile army, including Roger de Mortimer and his son Ralph, Roger de Clifford (of Tenbury and Ewyas), Hugh de Mortimer (of Richard's Castle), Brian de Brompton, "many of the liberty of the prior of Leominster" and many Shropshire and other Marcher lords, "came to the city with a great army with banners displayed—and grievously assaulted it from the first hour of day till night". While they were at the assault, others, including Stephen le Arblester marshall of the Bishop of Hereford had crossed the Wye and had plundered Lower Bullingham, Putson and Hinton, and also Litley, Tupsley, Widemarsh, Moor and Huntington in the suburbs of Hereford, and even the leper hospital of St. Giles.

That night the keepers of Hereford Castle, Walter de Muchegros<sup>2</sup> and Richard de Bagginden, sent men out to set fire to St. Guthlac's mill and "eight houses in the street called Bithebroke", belonging to the Dean and Chapter.

On St. Martin's day the army attacked again and "cast fire on the street called Bissopstret and burned all that suburb" and also burned the Prior's mill and "the house of Aylmeston" (Ayleston ?).<sup>3</sup>

It is remarkable that this document, calendared in one of the great series of Public Record Office publications, should have received so little attention in works on Hereford, for besides the vivid impression of a medieval attack upon a town, it gives much specific topographical information. Perhaps the most remarkable fact is that the description seems to show that the city and suburbs of Hereford were at least as extensive in 1265 as they were five hundred years later, when Taylor produced his fine plan of the city. Historically it sets the context for Simon's campaign, in concert with Llywelyn of Wales, which compelled the Marchers to sign a "Covenant" on December 12th at Worcester, promising that the Mortimers, Clifford and Roger Leyburn would hand over prisoners taken at Northampton and withdraw themselves to Ireland.<sup>4</sup>

The promises were never fulfilled. Simon's power was greatly weakened by the defection of young Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester. His loyalty had been strained in a dispute between Simon and one of Gilbert's followers, John Giffard, a tournament hero (who in 1263 had abducted the widowed Maud de Longspee, heiress of Clifford Castle and its barony), and seems to have been finally broken when Simon prohibited a great Tournament which was to have been held at Dunstable. Tournaments had a great following among the young lords who had been Simon's first supporters, but a

dangerous rivalry had developed between Gilbert and Simon's sons.

Gilbert de Clare withdrew to Glamorgan and then joined John Giffard in the Forest of Dean. On April 22nd Simon de Montfort arrived at Gloucester with King Henry III and Prince Edward in his train, and waited there fourteen days while clerical intermediaries made their way to Gilbert's camp on a hill called "Erdlond" and where his blazing camp-fires were visible from the walls of Gloucester.<sup>5</sup> It seemed that agreement might be reached, but when Simon moved his armies forward to Hereford on May 6th he had a narrow escape from capture.

Simon was drawn into Herefordshire by the need to counter the growing threats from Roger de Mortimer, who was now joined by the Earls of Surrey and Pembroke who had crossed to Milford from France. The Earl of Pembroke was the Savoyard, William de Valence, who had obtained the earldom by marriage and was one of the main builders of Goodrich Castle.<sup>6</sup>

For the next two months all the administration of that part of England which was still in the hands of Simon's followers was centred on Hereford, though already the Chancellor who had been appointed by the Council, Thomas de Cantilupe, had withdrawn. His great association with Hereford lay in the unforeseeable future. His uncle, the Bishop of Worcester, was among those trying to secure the reconciliation of Gilbert de Clare, and on May 12th it seemed that they had been successful when Gilbert attended a convention at Hereford. On May 20th letters were sent to all Wardens of the Peace for the counties that no discord existed between Gilbert of Gloucester and Simon, Earl of Leicester.

The outcome shows that Gilbert had already come to an understanding with the Mortimer faction and that the aim was to lull Simon into a sense of security while plotting the escape of Prince Edward. Gilbert's brother Thomas was left as a companion for Edward and on May 23rd a safe-conduct was given to enable Roger de Clifford, Roger de Leyburn and three or four of their knights to come to Hereford to visit Edward and stay until Whit Tuesday.<sup>7</sup> Simon must have been completely duped to have allowed this formidable contingent to exercise their horses on May 28th outside Widemarsh Gate in the Company of Edward, thereby making his escape to Wigmore an easy matter.<sup>8</sup>

This was a shattering blow for Simon, and it is difficult to discern any clear policy in his activities in the following two months, or in the edicts which continued to be issued, in the King's name, from Hereford.

Edward and the Marcher Lords were then able to cope with the Marcher Lords at Ludlow. An army was raised from the neighbouring counties and Edward led it down the Severn valley to cut

Simon off from his main sources of support. Before the end of June they had occupied Gloucester, and the castle, in the absence of any relief from Simon or his son, had been surrendered.

In Hereford preparations were being made to resist a siege, and Henry III is said to have been present in person when more houses were destroyed outside Eigne gate,<sup>9</sup> and to have compensated Thomas Suard with the grant of houses formerly belonging to the Jews in Byster's gate.<sup>10</sup> The Jewish colony in Hereford was centred on the eastern end of "Maliard" (Maylord) street, long afterwards known as Jewry lane, where they had a synagogue.<sup>11</sup> They had suffered severely at the hands of Simon's followers and may have deserted the city at this time, but they were to return and arouse the wrath of Bishop Swinfield with their displays of wealth before they were finally expelled from England in 1290.<sup>12</sup> The current excavations on the bastion in Blueschool Street suggest that they threw away very little in the way of broken pots or other identifiable objects. Perhaps further work in the area may be more fortunate in this respect.

Lacking aid from his sons who were engaged in the siege of Pevensey, Simon had turned to make an alliance with Llywelyn of Wales at Pipton, near Hay, on June 22nd, granting extensive concessions in return for a very limited amount of support. To hear, on their return to Hereford, the news of the surrender of Gloucester castle must have caused despondency among Simon's followers. In an attempt to break out he took Monmouth, where the King was placed from June 25th to 28th, and his forces are said to have taken Usk and Newport, but Edward had moved along the Severn destroying all the bridges, fords and ferries, and there was no chance of crossing to Bristol.

Simon and the King may have returned briefly to Hereford on July 1st, when a letter was issued calling on fifty named knights of the county to gather in haste at Hereford to defend the town.<sup>13</sup> It gives an interesting indication of the number who, while not members of Simon's army, were considered to be reliable at this juncture. This was the last writ enrolled by the King's chancery before the battle of Evesham. In the following month Simon seems to have been occupied in fruitless and obscure campaigns in company with Llywelyn, against the Glamorgan castles of Earl Gilbert, but Hereford was still in friendly hands when he returned on the last day of July, intent on pushing eastwards to join his eldest son.

On that same morning however, the forces of the younger Simon who had foolishly encamped themselves outside the castle at Kenilworth, were surprised by Edward's army and routed. Unaware of this Simon set out and crossed the Severn at a ford south of Worcester, to be trapped on the morning of August 4th on the fatal

field of Evesham. The head from his mutilated corpse was sent to Maud, wife of Roger de Mortimer, at Wigmore. The captive Henry narrowly escaped death at the hands of his rescuers and many Herefordshire men must have been among the slain with Sir William d'Evereux (de Ebroucis) of Lyonshall and Robert de Tregoz of Ewyas Harold, and with young Humphrey de Bohun.

One of the first writs of the new Chancery on August 8th, records the reception at Worcester of the men of Hereford, who had hastened to seek the King's peace. It was granted under the condition that they should make amends for their trespasses to Edward the king's son and the King's men, and on the 24th the mayor, bailiffs, good men and whole commonalty of Hereford were ordered without delay to make up the fine of 560 marks (£373 6s. 8d.) which certain of their fellow citizens had offered to have the king's grace.<sup>14</sup> They were more fortunate than other towns, particularly London and Northampton, whose cases came up at a time when the attitude of the King's advisers, with Roger de Mortimer amongst the most intransigent, had hardened into a demand for the complete disinheritation of all who had supported Simon de Montfort. The violent Marchers had proceeded to take into their own hands all the manors which had belonged to the rebels.<sup>15</sup> The disinherited lords held out bitterly in strongholds such as Kenilworth while dissensions among the victors prolonged and extended the chaos for another two years, until the disinherited were allowed to redeem their estates by heavy fines and the Peace of Montgomery confirmed Llywelyn of Wales in almost all the lands he had occupied, and in the concessions he had obtained at Pipton.

In the county of Herefordshire and its marches, many old-established families were deprived of their lands, or reduced by heavy fines, while the Mortimers and their associates rose in power and wealth. Pembridge may be taken as an example, where Henry de Pembridge, whose family had held the manor under the de Braos "Honour of Radnor" for generations, was evicted by Maud and Roger Mortimer for having been a follower of Earl Simon. His son tried to regain the lands in the King's court in 1274, but was unsuccessful, and although their descendants became prominent again in the following century, they never again held the manor from which they had taken their name, or the borough they had founded there.<sup>16</sup> Coming at the end of a period of great economic growth the crisis of these years left its mark deeply on baronies such as that of Much Marcle, whose lord, John de Ballon (Balun), although he seems to have withdrawn from Simon's side before Evesham and had his lands restored to him by the King's orders on September 19th, 1265,<sup>17</sup> seems to have suffered losses which eventually led his descendants to dispose of the lands to the Mortimers of Wigmore and the title itself

to the "nouveau riche" de Ludlows of Stokesay, so that only an obscure mound remains to tell of a once great baronial family and their castle.<sup>18</sup> The de Baskervilles of Eardisley were more fortunate. Walter had apparently joined Simon's sons in Kenilworth and in exile, and was outlawed, because of his part in the murder of Henry of Alemaine, nephew of Henry III and only son of Richard "King of the Romans", by Simon and Guy de Monfort at Viterbo in Italy, but obtained a pardon to fight for Edward in the conquest of Wales and was ultimately re-granted the reversion of his lands in Eardisley, Yazor, Stretton, Orcop and Tarrington, and in other counties from Roger de Clifford, in 1278.<sup>19</sup>

The other gains of the victorious lords were in many other cases equally temporary. Roger Clifford's descendants became Earls of Cumberland, with little interest in Herefordshire. The custody of the lands of the Clifford barony passed into the control of John Giffard on the recognition of his marriage to Maude de Longspee, but on his death passed to her daughter's husband, Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln. Hugh de Mortimer of Richard's Castle had a grant of "free borough" for Burford, but in the changed economic conditions it was never applied. He also had the grant of valuable royal manors in Worcestershire, but in 1304 the barony was divided among co-heiresses and declined in importance. The de Valence Earls of Pembroke gained the possessions which enabled them to rebuild Goodrich Castle as a sumptuous half-way-house between their English manors and their Earldom, but it passed with a heiress to the Talbots of Eccleswall in 1327. Only the Mortimers of Wigmore showed long-term gains, and the rewards which Roger Mortimer seems to have sought most eagerly were the confirmation and extension of legal immunities for his territories, removing his Wigmore and Radnor baronies, and even his lordships in Willersley, Winforton and Whitney from Herefordshire<sup>20</sup> to form a base from which the Mortimers and their successors were to dispute the throne itself, but with little apparent benefit to this region.

The city of Hereford, whose growing confidence and wealth, allied to its dislike for its alien bishop, Peter de Aquablanca, had led it to take the side of Simon de Montfort, was reduced to abject submission. More closely hemmed in by unfriendly Marcher lordships, its trade seems to have declined and for the next five hundred years the town occupied no larger area, and seems to have been no more populous than the town which was described in 1265.

## NOTE

Professor R. F. Treharne, who is at present engaged on a biography of Simon de Montfort which will represent the culmination of over thirty years of published work, and Dr. C. H. Knowles of Cardiff who is the exponent of a different assessment of Simon's place in history, have been kind enough to look over this paper and to save me from several errors of fact. They have also pointed out how

much scope there is for further enquiries into the participation of Herefordshire in the actual struggle, and into the effects of the subsequent penalisation of Simon's followers.

A useful bibliography is given by C. H. Knowles in a pamphlet published by the Historical Association after the delivery of this paper (General Series No. 60, *Simon de Montfort, 1265-1965*). Mr. Knowles has been good enough to glance through the paper and save me from some errors of fact. The main background material here is drawn from Sir M. Powicke, *King Henry III and the Lord Edward*, published 1947; supplemented from two Chronicles in the Rolls Series: No. 28, part II, *Willelmi Rishanger, Chronica et Annales 1259-1307* (1865); No. 86, *Metrical Chronicle of Robert of Gloucester*, Part 2 (1887), and from the Public Record Office Calendars, etc. quoted below.

## REFERENCES

<sup>1</sup> His name, however, does not appear in the list of those summoned, nor does that of John de Balun of Much Marcle or any other Herefordshire baron or ecclesiastic, and there seems to be no list of the boroughs which were summoned, nor positive evidence that Hereford sent representatives. *Calendar of Close Rolls*, Hen. III, Vol. XIII, p. 84. His father, who had inherited the title of Earl of Hereford via his great-grandmother, eldest daughter and eventual co-heiress of Miles of Gloucester, had no great possessions in the county. (See Saunders, *op. cit.* under note 17.) Professor Treharne points out that he had ceased to be counted among the "reformers" as early as 1262.

<sup>2</sup> Walter de Muscegros died before Feb. 26th, 1265 in possession of the manors of Tretire, Monnington and Winforton and of two mills in Bodenham. *Ibid.* p. 25. He was buried in a chapel of St. Mary which was being erected in the Priory of Hereford. *Ibid.* p. 110.

<sup>3</sup> *Calendar of Miscellaneous Inquisitions*, Vol. I, No. 291. There is no explanation why the Marchers desisted after two days, but the context suggests that the attack was beaten off.

<sup>4</sup> By 3rd March, 1265, Roger Mortimer had "come to the King's peace" and the Sheriffs of Herefordshire and Shropshire were ordered to release any of his men they held as prisoners. *Cal. Cl. R.* Hen. III, XIII, p. 26.

<sup>5</sup> Robert of Gloucester, *op. cit.* lines 11, 520-6.

<sup>6</sup> Mr. C. H. Knowles points out that he was never formally invested as "Earl of Pembroke".

<sup>7</sup> *Calendar of Patent Rolls, Henry III*, Vol. V, 1265, May 23rd.

<sup>8</sup> *Cal. Cl. R.*, Henry III, XIII, p. 124 has a mention of Edward's escape "with two knights and four squires", but it has usually been taken that Thomas de Clare was one of these. Professor Treharne doubts whether Gilbert ever put himself into Simon's power by coming to Hereford, but Simon seems to have been convinced that the reconciliation was genuine.

<sup>9</sup> *Cal. Misc. Inq.*, Vol. I, No. 1087. *Cal. C. R.*, Henry III, 13, p. 58 also includes a grant of 12 oaks to the citizens of Hereford to build a swing bridge over towards the house of the Friars Minors.

<sup>10</sup> Johnson, R. *The Ancient Customs of the City of Hereford*, pp. 45-46.

<sup>11</sup> *Cal. Misc. Inq.*, I, Nos. 185 and 328.

<sup>12</sup> Webb, J. (ed.) *Roll of Household Expenses of Richard de Swinfield* (Camden Society), 1855, p. xciv. See also Capes, W. W. (ed.) *The Register of Richard de Swinfield 1283-1317*.

<sup>13</sup> Professor Treharne points out that Simon and the King were probably at Newport or Chepstow at this date, waiting for the boats which had been summoned from Bristol, but which were prevented from crossing by the three royal galleys which Edward had captured at Gloucester. The list is printed in *Cal. Cl. R.*, Henry III, XIII, p. 126 (1265 m.4d.), 1st July. The names are given as follows: 'Walter de Cernefield', Henry de Solers, Robert de Chaundos, Hugh Ragun, Roger Pychard, William Torel, Hugh le Poer, Roger de Bradel', William Comyn, Geoffrey son of Geoffrey de Morton, Richard de Baginden', William de

Stapleton', Henry de Hereford, Ralph le Poer, Roger de Burley, Richard Fouke, Nicholas de Secler, Robert de Weston, Roger de Everus, Hector de Bradwrthin, Hugh de Radnor, Warin de Grendon, Hugh Panton', William de la Fenne, William de la Were, Adam de Lascy, Ralph de Yedefenn', William de Loges, William de Homme de Coste, John de la Forde, Walter de Baskervill', William de Pembrig', Thomas de Hunteleye, Roger Ragun, William de Caple, John de Dudeleya, Phillip le Peytevin, Eustace de Wyteneys, Hugh de Crofte, Robert le Brette, Andrew de Baskervill', Richard de Baginden, Hugh de Kinardesleye, Mathew de Maus, William de Furches, Ralph de Seynt Owen', Walter de Eynesford', Walter de Avensbir', Walter de Montgomery, John le Brun, Roger de Burhill 'et omnes alios milites et armigeros de comitatu predicto'. Those who did not come, or send adequate substitutes were threatened with disinheritance, and the others were ordered to seize their lands and goods. It appears that all these held lands in Herefordshire by knight service, but I do not recognise any tenants of the Wigmore barony among them, for example, and it would be interesting to try to work out the basis of selection.

<sup>14</sup> *Cal. Pat. R., Henry III*, V. 1265, Aug. 8th and Aug. 24th, on p. 548 the fine is stated as 600 marks. (C.H.K.), *C. Cl. R., Henry III*, 13, p. 165.

<sup>15</sup> *C. Cl. R., Henry III*, 13, pp. 127-8. Already by August 8th, Robert Wale- raund was complaining that lands over which he had first claim, taken from John de Dudeleye in Didley, Harewood and Grafton, Tomas le Petite in Hare- wood, Roger le Rus in "Moralayn" (Allensmore) and Wylenhall (Winnall) and from Roger Pychard in Thruxton, had been seized by Roger Mortimer, John Giffard, John L'Estrange and Robert Turbeville.

<sup>16</sup> *Abbreviatio Placitorum*; Record Commissioners, (1811), 52. Henry III and 2 Ed. I (Rot. 14 and 17).

<sup>17</sup> *C. Cl. R., Henry III*, 13, p. 129 (1265, m. 3d).

<sup>18</sup> Saunders, I. J., *English Baronies*, 1086-1327 (Oxford, 1960), sub "Much Marcle"; c.f. Round, J. H. "Family of Ballon" in *Studies in Peerage and Family History*.

<sup>19</sup> *Archaeologia Cambrensis*, 1883, 4th Ser. XIV, p. 161; *Abbrev. Placit.* pp. 188, 193, 195, 266.

<sup>20</sup> *Placita de Quo Warranto* (Rec. Com., 1818), p. 675. Roger de Mortimer had obtained the latter, nominally under Ralph de Tony, from the forfeiture of Walter de Muscegros (*C. Misc. Inq.* I, 1071).

## THE MANOR OF PENCOMBE, 1303-1452

By E. D. PAUL

The manor of Pencombe lies about eleven miles north-east of Hereford and immediately south-west of Bromyard in a hilly area which is still comparatively remote. The exact extent of the manor is not known, but the identifiable place names lie within the boundaries of the present parish. It was held during the Middle Ages by the Whitney family, the descendants of Agnes, widow of Turstin Flandrensis, who held Whitney and Pencombe after the Norman Conquest. They held as of the honour of Ewias Harold and owed castle gard to the lords of Ewias. No reliable pedigree of the family exists for the mediaeval period, but Henry Melville<sup>1</sup> names the following heads of the family: Eustace, granted free warren in Pencombe, Whitney and Caldewell in 1284; Eustace knighted in 1306; Robert, who presented to the living of Pencombe in 1353; Robert who died fighting against Owen Glendower in 1402; Robert who made several presentations to the livings of Whitney and Pencombe between 1417 and 1435 and died in 1441; and Eustace who died about 1470. The court roll deposited in Hereford County Record Office, (A63/II/1/i - xxx), on which this study is based, names four lords, Eustace in 1305, Baldwyn in 1341 or 1342, Baldwyn in 1369 and Robert in 1427. Most of the courts are simply headed "Court of the lord of Whitney . . .". Opinion seems to vary as to whether the Whitneys lived principally at Whitney or at Pencombe. Robinson<sup>2</sup> thinks that they probably lived at Pencombe and used Whitney mainly as a hunting lodge. Certainly they were at Pencombe some of the time, since the lord of the manor presided over his own court there on several occasions. But it seems unlikely that a castle in the Marches of Wales was used solely for the chase and several members of the family are known to have died there when Glendower burnt the building in 1402. Whatever the truth of the matter, the family had a park at Pencombe and a demesne farm, which in 1452 covered at least three hundred acres. During the fourteenth century they seem to have farmed it themselves, probably with their own servants or with hired labour, since the tenants had already commuted their services for payments in money or kind by the beginning of the century. In the fifteenth century, however, it was increasingly let out, either to tenants on the manor as customary land or to a farmer. In 1427 Thomas Duraunt was granted "a messuage . . . and 30 acres of the lord's demesne . . ." to hold according to the custom of the manor at an annual rent of nine shillings and six chickens for an

<sup>1</sup> *The Ancestors of John Whitney*, New York, 1896, privately printed.

<sup>2</sup> *Mansions and Manors of Herefordshire*, 1872.



entry fine. In 1438 the entire demesne was let to a man called Morgan Taillour, who is described as escheator of the royal lands, at a rent of sixty-six shillings and eight pence. But it was evidently granted out again fairly soon to various tenants of the manor, since in 1452 a total of three hundred acres was granted, most of it being regranted to people who are stated to have lost their copies. The rents specified for a hundred and forty seven acres of this then amounted to thirty-six shillings and fourpence and the fines to ten capons.

The roll gives very little other information about the agricultural organisation of the manor. The lord had his demesne farm and park and a mill at Pencombe, and the woods on the manor were reserved to him. The tenants might not cut wood of any kind without permission and they paid the lord pannage for the right to feed their pigs in the woods. It appears from the amercements imposed for animals breaking into the lord's land that the demesne farm grew corn and oats and the livestock kept on the manor included oxen, cows, pigs, sheep, horses, chickens and geese. The tenants were also allowed to keep dogs, one woman being amerced when her dog was found hunting in the lord's park. But it is impossible to tell how many fields there were, or whether the lord's arable, meadow and pasture were wholly or partly separated from those of his tenants, except that he had an enclosure of some kind.

The status of a large number of the tenants cannot be ascertained. They only appear in the roll because they acted as sureties for their fellow tenants or were fined for letting their animals get on to the lord's land. Of those whose status can be determined, rather more than half were freeholders. In personal status the vast majority seem to have been free men. Only three people are specifically described as serfs. Again many of the freeholders are only identifiable as such because they are ordered to exhibit charters, or because their transactions in selling, demising or settling their lands are recorded in the roll. The size of their holdings is in many cases not given. The property is simply described as "all that tenement lately held by so-and-so". Many of the customary tenants held a messuage or a messuage with a croft, a curtilage (courtyard) or a garden. None of them seems to have held more than a virgate (30 acres) until the demesne was granted out in 1452, when some of the holdings were as large as forty-eight, sixty or a hundred acres. Most of the freeholders held at least a messuage and half a virgate, and some as much as a carucate (80 to 120 acres) with several other smaller holdings. The majority of the tenants, judging from their surnames, came of families which had long been resident on the manor. The free tenants, however, included the Prior of Leominster holding a meadow in free alms, the Dean of Hereford holding a tenement called Berneslondes

by a spur or sixpence, the Abbot of Wigmore, the chaplain of Saint Nicholas, Hereford, the Prior of Saint John of Jerusalem who held a rent in Nether Hakeleye, the Walwyns of Much Marcle and the Hakluits. The tenants who held by knight service were Walwyn, Pere, de Cimiterio or Churchyard, Bagham, le Wild, Honaldwod, de Grafton, de la Stone, de la Fishpole, de la Grene, de Fraxino or Ashe, de Berneston, de Grendene and de Went. Several printed works state that the lord of Pencombe claims by ancient custom a pair of gilt spurs from every mayor of Hereford who dies in office. The mayor never features in the roll and it is possible that tradition has confused him with the Dean.

The tenures on the manor exhibit a number of departures from what is generally accepted as normal practice. All tenants, except the Prior of Leominster, the Dean of Hereford and perhaps the other ecclesiastical tenants, paid heriot. This payment of the best beast or money in lieu was normally made only when a customary tenant died. But at Pencombe it was made not only on the death of almost every tenant, but whenever land changed hands. Very little freehold land was actually sold, but a certain amount was conveyed and re-conveyed to create family settlements and quite a large amount was demised. This usually meant that it was let by one tenant to another for a purely nominal rent and the tenant to whom the land was demised became responsible for the services due to the lord. The court's sole interest in the matter was to secure the lord's heriot and an acknowledgement of the services due from the demisee, so that one cannot tell whether the demises represent an early form of mortgage or a means of transferring land to someone who could not raise the money to buy it. Relief, usually paid by all freeholders on taking up their inheritance, was due from most but not all of those who held by knight service and from a minority of socagers (free tenants owing a non-military service). In addition to heriot and in most cases relief, the tenants by knight service paid homage and fealty, a rent in money or sometimes pepper, wardship and marriage. The lord also seems to have claimed some right over the marriage of their widows, since Ralph de Berneston was fined twenty shillings in 1303 for marrying Anflissa de Fraxino, a widow whose family was the only one to pay ward money in lieu of doing castle guard at Ewias. Unfortunately the amount paid has been lost. To distinguish clearly between socagers and customary tenants on a manor where services had been commuted for money, where everyone paid heriot and the payment of relief was apparently the exception rather than the rule among the socagers, is not easy; especially since the terms "according to the custom of the manor" and "by copy of court roll" were not used at Pencombe before the fifteenth century. They all did fealty and owed rent in money or kind, heriot and suit of

court. All the people, however, who are identifiable as customary tenants in the fifteenth century held for one, two or three lives, apparently according to their individual circumstances, and paid a fine on entry to the land. It therefore seems probable that the tenants holding for lives and paying entry fines in the fourteenth century were customary tenants and that those holding for an unspecified time were socagers.

The manor was administered through its court, which was held at intervals ranging from three weeks to six months. It was both a court baron and court customary, dealing with all matters affecting land within the manor and such breaches of manorial good order as bad planting and unrepaired buildings, and a court leet with a criminal jurisdiction equivalent to that of a hundred court. The tenants were forbidden to seek justice in any other court and could be sued by the lord for doing so. The chief officer of the court was the steward, who acted as the lord's deputy, presiding over the court and transacting business outside the manor. Under him was the bailiff who was responsible for the daily supervision of the manor, for collecting and accounting for all payments made in money or kind and for carrying out the orders of the court. The surnames of several bailiffs are known and it seems that they were appointed from among the tenants. The only other officers mentioned are the affeerors, the assessors of fines and amercements, who are named on three occasions. The roll makes no mention of jurors, except once when tenants were chosen by the whole court "to fill the office of four jurors". Throughout the fourteenth century a body variously described as "the court", "the whole court" or "the whole township" made enquiries, viewed encroachments, gave judgement and presented defaults and deaths. In the fifteenth century a certain distinction seems to have been observed between "the homage" who might present anyone or anything, "the free tenants" who presented the defaults, misdemeanours and deaths of free tenants and "the customary tenants" or "tenants at will" who did the same in the case of customary tenants. Tenants presented were allowed to make three essoins or excuses for non-appearance and had to find fellow tenants to act as sureties to secure their appearance or the payment of their fines.

Disputes over land were rare, but Joanna de la Churchyard, evidently a rapacious widow, on two occasions entered land which had escheated to the lord for lack of an heir; once on the ground that it had been previously granted to her and once as a relation of the last tenant but one. This relationship was clearly extremely tenuous and its exact nature is not evident from the rather tortuous exposition given in the roll. The decisions in these cases are now lost. Otherwise the court dealt with numerous failures to pay suit or

fealty or rents (the Deans of Hereford being notable defaulters), the various breaches of good order mentioned above and a variety of criminal offences. These included trespass, debt, defamation, sheep stealing, theft of such items as trees, cups, pots, hay, saddles and even earth, and cases of assault. One tenant attacked another with a knife and one man beat another man's wife. Neither the cause of nor the sentence for this last incident is known, but the parties to the suit essoined alternately through a great many courts. When the business of the court was over the steward held a feast and in 1438 he consumed bread, ale, flesh of pigs and oxen, one goose and one spare rib at a total cost of twenty-two pence.

The roll ends in 1452, but the history of the manor might be pursued further in another roll beginning in 1480 and ending in 1553, in a series of paper drafts for the seventeenth century and in a third roll for 1685-1718.

# ROMANO-BRITISH IRON WORKING NEAR ARICONIUM

By N. P. BRIDGEWATER, B.SC.

A sample of the extensive iron working structures of the Ariconium complex was examined by excavation. Remains of six furnaces, probably of the shaft type, were found, together with slag pits and working hollows. It is shown that these were in use in the second half of the second century, and the subsequent history of the site is also described.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

The field (N.G.R. SO/643244) in which this excavation was carried out lies north of the Bollitree to Bromsash lane, in the parish of Weston-under-Penyard, south-east of Ross-on-Wye (Fig. 1). The traditional site of Ariconium lies in the fields to the south of the above mentioned lane, and field work in this part suggests that several extensive buildings existed there. In the area chosen for the present excavation, which lies 320 feet above datum, ploughing has revealed a large spread of black soil containing much iron slag, burnt clay and Romano-British pottery, and these finds justified a systematic search for iron working furnaces. The fields in this region, used mainly for corn growing, are normally available for excavation only during the autumn and winter.<sup>1</sup> The excavation was undertaken by the Archenfield Archaeological Group in 1963.<sup>2</sup>

## THE EXCAVATION

The region which was examined is shown in Fig. 2, covering 72 feet by 84 feet. Four major areas, A-D, were systematically excavated, revealing working hollows cut deeply into the bedrock, whilst trial trenches in the intervening parts showed little disturbance, the bedrock lying at 15-18 ins. below ground level. The bedrock was a pinkish-brown, soft, flaky sandstone, which was covered by a red sandy subsoil. The main hollows all contained similar features of varying design, namely small furnaces with their associated slag pits and shallow working pits. These were all sealed by back-filled material, the special significance of which will be discussed later. The average thickness of humus was 12 ins.

### AREA A (see Figures 2 and 3)

The main features here (F3 and F4) formed a complete unit which, when totally excavated to bedrock level, was revealed as a single

<sup>1</sup> Permission to excavate was kindly given by Mr. D. Harper, who also undertook the backfilling and supplied hurdling.

<sup>2</sup> The team consisted of Col. A. Bellhouse, A. Clarke, H. Armstrong, R. Winnel, A. Selway, R. E. Kay, Mrs. H. Howell and Miss M. Howe. Considerable help was derived from a visit by Dr. R. F. Tylecote whose specialist technical advice is greatly appreciated.

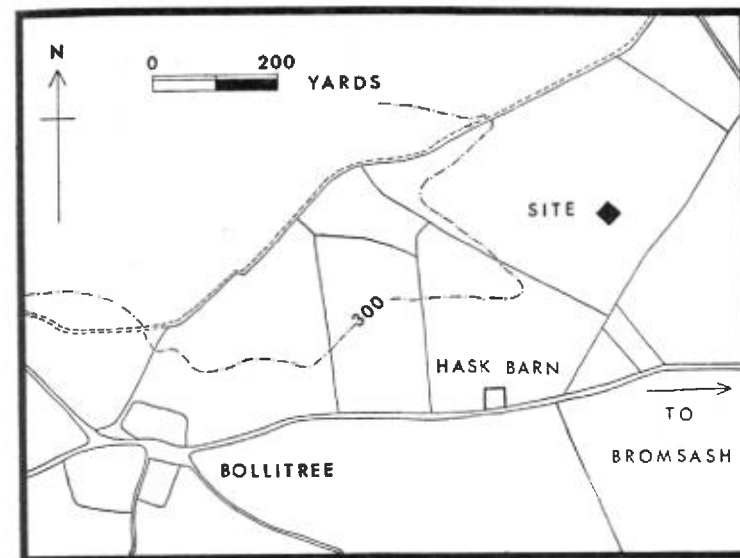


FIG. 1.

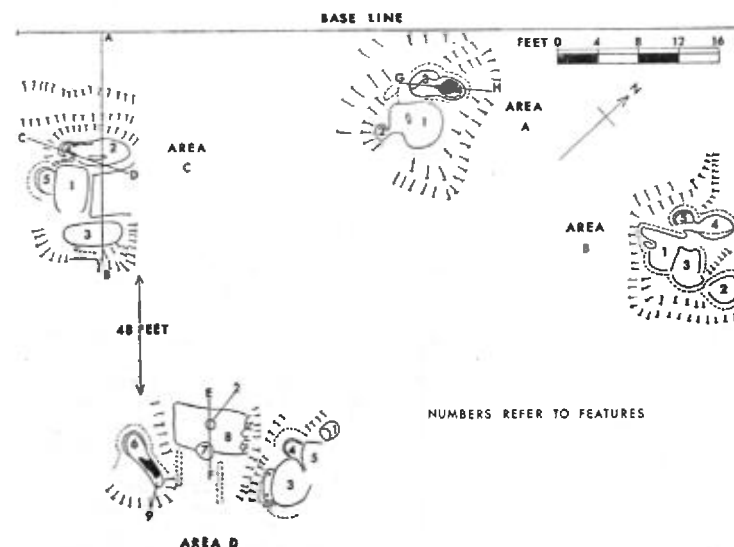


FIG. 2.

scooped hollow increasing in depth from west to east. The western part (F3) contained the furnace, whilst the eastern part (F4) had been a slag collecting pit. The contents of F3, as found during excavation, represent the demolished portions of furnace material, together with sandy deposits. The plan (Fig. 3) drawn after the removal of all layers above (14) (other than the clay and the large slag mass), shows a complex of clay linings of the feature F3, and it may be noted that these appear to be excessively thick if a single shaft-type furnace had been present. A typical shaft furnace, which was normally only about one foot in diameter could easily have been accommodated in the southern half of the rock-cut hollow, F3, and it is possible that the whole of F3 was originally a bowl furnace which was later clay packed in its northern half, in order to adapt it for the construction of a shaft furnace.<sup>1</sup>

In support of this idea it was observed that, in the northern sector of F3, some slag had fused to the rock where the heating had imparted to it a bluish colouration. Layer (14), a hard sandy, bluish loamy mass, spread out from the lip of the furnace area down into the slag pit, and could well have supported the front of a shaft furnace.<sup>2</sup>

The main feature of the slag pit was the presence of an extensive mass of bloomery slag, still in position with an attached runner. A large stone was found in the centre of this mass. It was noted that the direction of layering of the slag to the north of the stone, and which had flowed around it, was opposite to that of the southern part, and undoubtedly represents congealed slag formed by previous smelting operations. Pieces of charcoal were found beneath the pit-slag. The southern part of the slag pit had been closed by a line of roughly cut sandstone blocks.

The layers immediately above these already discussed consisted of sand and furnace destruction material. No datable finds were discovered in any of these layers. A compact soil layer (2) had filled the main hollow, thus sealing the furnace pit. This contained some furnace destruction material and much slag. Coal and charcoal,

<sup>1</sup> Cp. "A second-century Iron Smelting site at Ashwicken, Norfolk", R. F. Tylecote and Elizabeth Owles. *Norfolk Archaeology*, Vol. XXXII, Pt. III, 1960, p. 159.

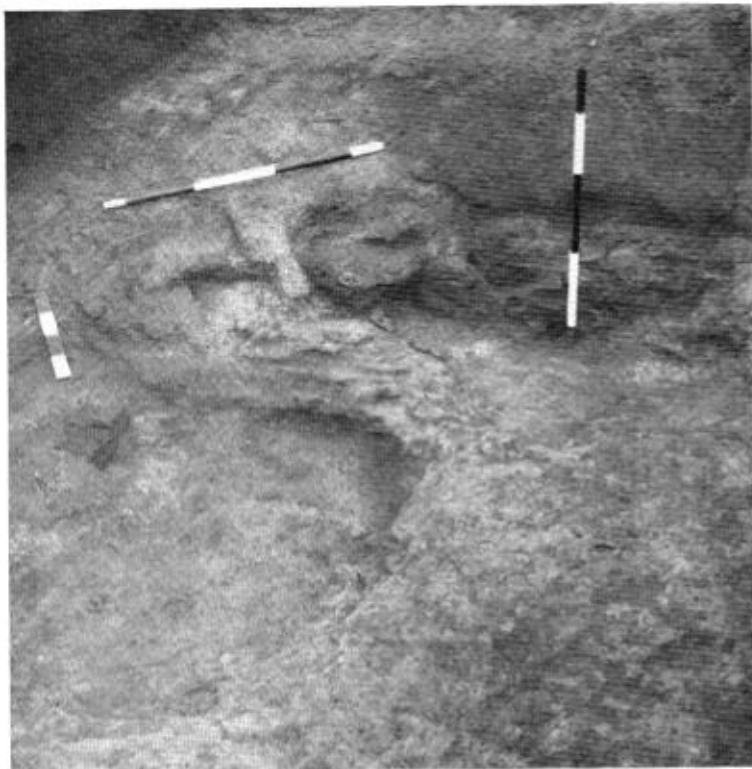
<sup>2</sup> Dr. Tylecote remarks "I feel sure that the blue-black layer was not deposited during smelting but was put there intentionally as some sort of levelling layer. While the bellows were in use, they would have to be supported at a suitable height above the rock-filled hollow, probably on some sort of wooden scaffolding as is being used in pre-industrial Indian furnaces. They would be withdrawn while it was necessary to tap the slag. The slag would have been tapped onto a layer of sand in the hollow and removed as soon as it was cool. Then the bellows would be replaced. I feel strongly that the layer sequence is due to collapse of the lining outwards. The slag would in fact be slagged furnace lining left more or less as it was deposited and the sequence of grey to red, the grey being uppermost and the red downwards, would be that expected on Ashwicken evidence". (See Fig. 6).



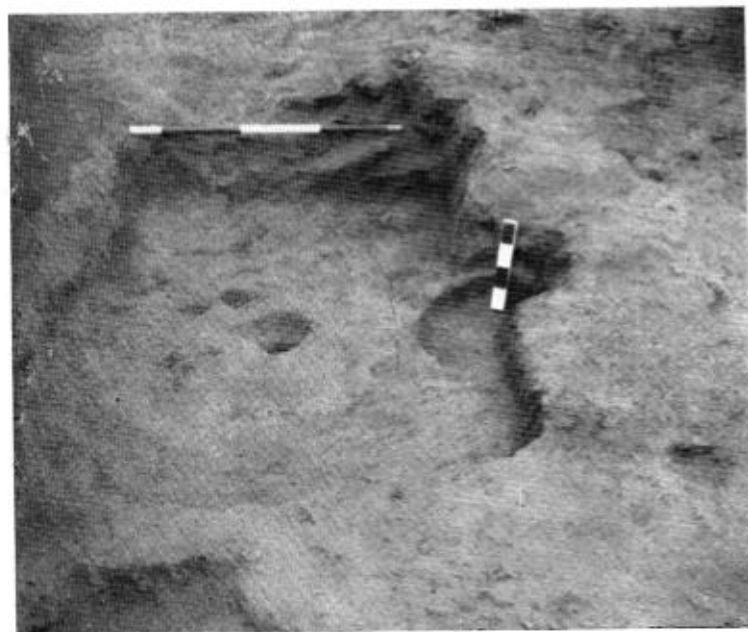
AREA A. FURNACE WITH CLAY FILLING, AND SLAG PIT WITH SLAG MASS AND STONE.



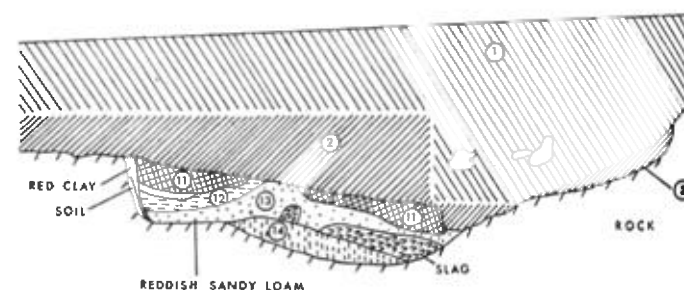
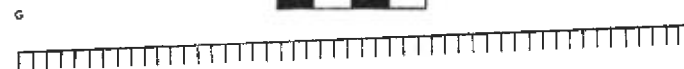
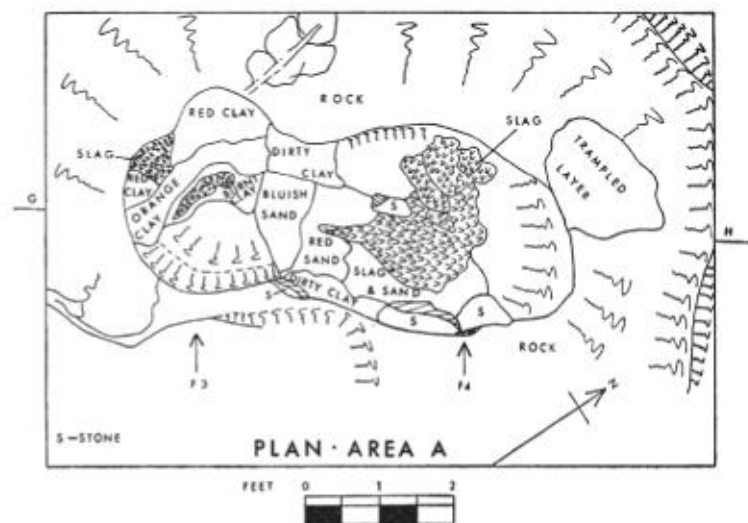
AREA A. FURNACE AND SLAG PIT COMPLETELY EXCAVATED TO BEDROCK.



AREA C. FURNACE AND SLAG PITS: F4 AND F2 IN CENTRE; F5 AND F1 TO LEFT



AREA D. CHARCOAL STORE, SHOWING CENTRAL STAKE HOLE, AND REMAINS OF POST HOLE TO RIGHT



SECTION · AREA A

FIG. 3.

together with various sherds of coarse wares (Pottery List Nos. 1-8) of second to fourth century forms, with some samian, were present. It was apparent, however, that this layer had been penetrated at one spot during the 17th or 18th century, for the purpose of abstracting the larger lumps of slag, but had fortunately missed the furnace and pit areas. The covering layer(1), also filling the robber hole in (2), was less firm and contained little slag, but clay tobacco pipe stems and post-medieval sherds were found. Area A also contained two other features. F1 was a large, shallow, rock-cut hollow which had probably been a general working area, and to the south-west lay a small hollow, F2, at a higher level; this may have been a subsidiary furnace for reheating blooms,<sup>1</sup> discharging into a small pit situated in F1. A heap of yellowish sand was found in F1. The sandy fill<sup>2</sup> of F2 contained an iron rod and some fourth century coarse pottery. In the vicinity of F2, lying in a depression in the bedrock, were found fragments of amphorae.

#### AREA B (Fig. 2)

Here also the main feature was the remains of a furnace (F5) which, with its slag pit (F4), formed a complete unit. The site of the furnace, as found during excavation, was filled with soft and burnt clay, and loamy soil containing slag and charcoal. This could have been a shaft furnace of about one foot internal diameter. From the furnace the bedrock sloped down to the deeply cut slag pit, and the rocky slope was bluish coloured due to the heat action. At the edge of the furnace was a portion of slag runner. The fill of the slag pit consisted of greyish-brown soil with large lumps of slag and charcoal. There were three other features in this area (F1-3), in the form of irregularly-shaped shallow hollows, which must have been general working areas, as these contained light-brown sand, charcoal and cinder, forming trampled layers over the bedrock and subsoil. There was no datable material in these deposits. In the higher, uncut bedrock lying to the north of the furnace area were a few shallow depressions, which are interpreted as former bush-root holes. These were also found elsewhere on the site, and this suggests that an area of scrub existed before the land was levelled out for agricultural purposes.

The back filled layers (1) and (2) were also present in the main hollow (as described under Area A) and sherds of Romano-British coarse pottery were found in layer (2).

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Tylecote feels that the hollow F2 was a working-up hearth. In primitive smelting the bloom was actually an accretion of reduced ore lumps and charcoal. The reduced ore lumps were picked out of this mass and put into a hearth and heated and finally hammered together. Working-up hearths would therefore be almost as numerous as smelting hearths.

<sup>2</sup> This fill cannot be regarded as contemporary with the iron working period, and the iron rod may be domestic rubbish from a later period.

#### AREA C (Fig. 2 and sections AB and CD of Fig. 4)

This area was more complex, containing two furnace and slag pit units and a working hollow. There was a long steady slope in the north-western part, dipping steeply into the furnace region, and it was evident that during occupation this had been exposed down to bedrock level. There was firstly a bed of yellowish soft clean sand (see section AB Fig. 4) terminating in a shallow pit about one foot in diameter. It is possible to regard this pit as either a bowl furnace or a smithing pit. Lying on the bedrock to the south-east of the pit was a spread of dirty white clayey mortar.

Section CD (Fig. 4) was taken across the furnace (F4) and its associated slag pit (F2). Of the fragmentary clay structure remaining, layers (24), (25) and (26), together with the ring of slag lining, clearly suggests the collapsed base of a former shaft furnace, particularly as layers (24) and (26) were of burnt clay. The sandy blue-grey mass, layer (22), must have been a levelling layer and had obviously been subjected to the action of heat. The extent of (22) showed that the furnace would have rested upon a reasonably flat platform, and outside of this the bedrock sloped downwards into the extensive slag pit. Portions of a slag runner were found *in situ* down this slope.

In the slag pit was a large flat stone; similar to that found in Area A. The layers (11) to (16) were variously coloured sands, some containing soil, charcoal, slag and cinder, and they can be interpreted as representing successive fillings of the pit after disuse. Layer (11) contained a rim of burnished grey ware of second century form (Pottery List No. 18). The most interesting layer, (7) was the compact black trampled soil containing small slag, because it covered F4 and F2 but not the other slag pit (F1). Layer (7) contained several sherds of coarse wares, including one of second century form (Pottery List No. 19).

The characteristics of furnace F5 and its slag pit F1 were similar to those of the first unit, and the stratigraphy shows that the latter was replaced by the former. Moreover, a *terminus post quem* of A.D.170 for the abandonment of F4 and F2 can be given, as layer (6) (Section AB, Fig. 4) contained a rather abraded samian rim made probably between A.D.125 and 150 (Pottery List No. 20).

The function of pit F3 could not be determined, but the layer sequence suggests that it was contemporary with pit F2. The area bounded by pits F2, F1 and F3 was a slightly raised platform.

The main hollow must have been left open until the 17th or 18th century, as the backfill layer (2) contained portions of clay tobacco pipes. Besides there was a large quantity of second century coarse pottery (Pottery List Nos. 9-12), with some samian, remains of amphorae, slag runners and small slag, charred sticks and coal, and a portion of quern.



## AREA D (Fig. 2 and section EF of Fig. 4)

This area contained two furnace units, a rock-cut hut floor and two large post holes. The remains of both furnaces (F6 and F4) with their associated slag pits (F9 and F5) were similar to those in area C, and need not be described in detail. Both could be regarded as shaft furnaces in their original form. The slag pit F9 contained a large slag mass *in situ*, with an attached runner.

The feature F3 was a large working hollow, with a raised platform to the south, containing two small square-sectioned holes which may have been stake holes for a crude shelter. These pits and hollows were variously filled with sand, clay, black soil, coal, slag and pottery—these materials having collected after the abandonment of the furnaces.

The most interesting feature in this area was F8, a rectangular hollow cut one foot deep into the bedrock. Lying in it, and upon the bedrock was a complete bed of charcoal, layer (9), upon which rested a layer of burnt daub impressed with wattle marks (7). In both of these layers were found rims and sherds of plain and decorated samian (Pottery list Nos. 21–23). These could have been deposited by the end of the second century. Both of these layers were penetrated by a conical-shaped stake hole (F2) in the centre of the hollow, and the whole was covered by a sandy layer (4).

The rectangular hollow is regarded as a charcoal store which served both the furnaces F6 and F4, being a hut of wattle and daub structure. There were also traces of an extension to this store to the south-east, in the form of two parallel clay walls, and this may have been an adjoining hut. It is of interest that the stake hole F2 contained slag with small attached pieces of coal, and this is evidence of smithing operations on the site.

The other features of note were two large post-holes (F1 and F7). The former was 18 ins. deep and 18 ins. wide, whilst the latter was fragmentary, having been cut away by the charcoal store. Whilst no date can be given to the post-holes, it is clear that they antedate the furnaces, and may be part of a much larger structure. It was not possible, however, to strip a large area to investigate this feature.

The subsequent back-fill layers of the main hollow were similar to those described in the other areas, and contained second to fourth century coarse wares (Pottery list, Nos. 13–17).

## DISCUSSION

The present work has thrown some light upon the iron smelting activities in the Ariconium district. Although iron smelting has been inferred from the various surface finds,<sup>1</sup> no furnaces had either been

<sup>1</sup> History and Antiquities of the County of Hereford, *Duncomb's History*, Vol. III, *Greytree Hundred*, pp. 214–217.

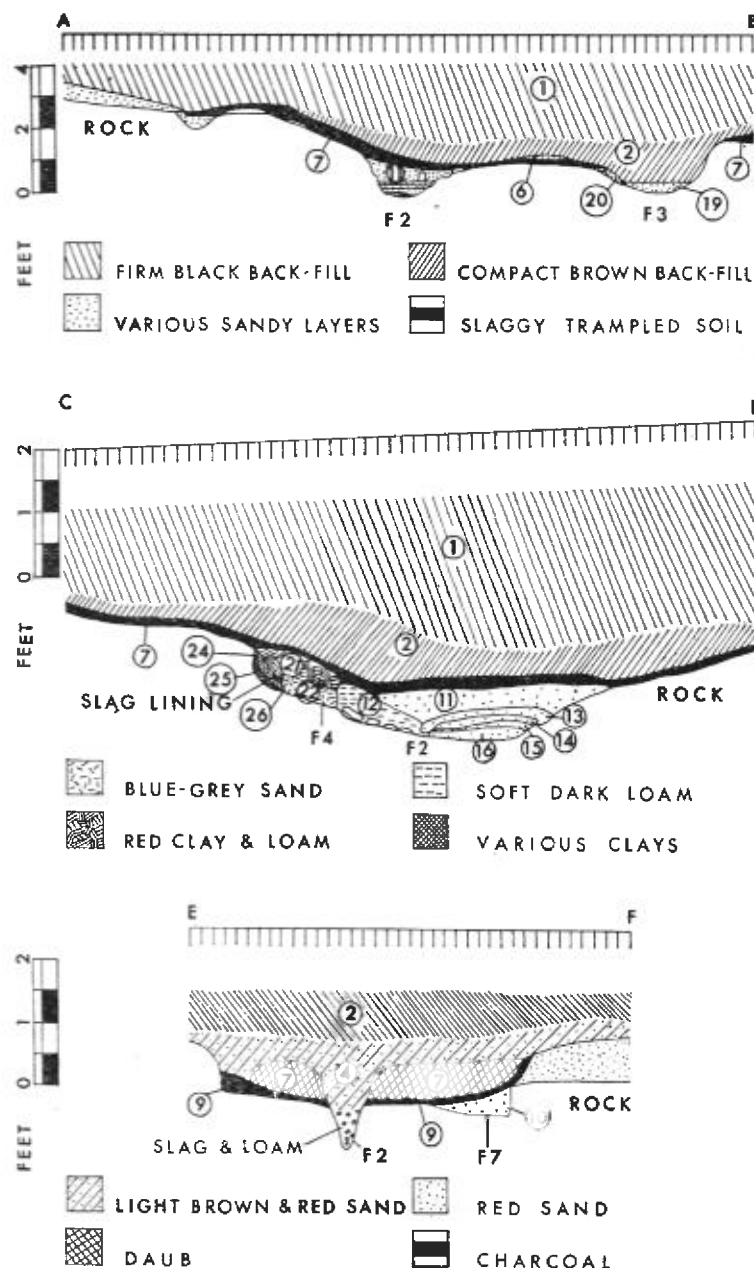


FIG. 4.



discovered or systematically examined. This has now been done for a small area, although the remains of the actual furnaces are scanty.

There is no evidence to decide whether the furnaces were of the bowl or shaft type, but the latter seems probable, and it seems likely that forced draught was employed. That some of the furnaces are not far below ground level suggests they were not so tall as those at Ashwicken<sup>1</sup> and induced draught alone would have been insufficient to work them.

Apart from the initial smelting process, there is also some evidence for smithing operations, by the presence of various pits and hollows and the finding of slag containing coal inclusions. Some of the pits may have been used for quenching. The finding of tap slag in the pits *in situ* with attached runners is conclusive evidence for the process of smelting. No ore or "fines" however could be found, indicating that roasting of the ore was either carried out in an adjacent area or even at the ore mines.

It is fortunate that some dating evidence for the use of the furnaces was discovered, this ranging from before A.D. 125 until the end of the second century. It is clear that some hollows were re-used.

A reasonable picture thus emerges of smelting and smithing activities in the second century, leaving hollows partly filled but mostly left open. During the following centuries the hollows and the surrounding slag heaps must have become rubbish dumps for the occupants of the houses at Ariconium, but later the land reverted to a scrubby waste. As is well known, considerable quantities of bloomery slag were re-used in the 17th and 18th centuries,<sup>2</sup> and there was considerable evidence to show that a sorting-out of the larger slag lumps had been undertaken, leaving the finer material and domestic rubbish behind. When the land was required for cultivation, this remaining material was backfilled into the main hollows and the land generally levelled. Several cinder lumps were discovered, but no true hammer scale, although there were several accumulations of very small slag pieces.

From field work carried out during the season, it is clear that the whole of the Ariconium complex must cover a large area, possibly 250 acres. To the south of the Bollitree-Bromsash lane there must be several stone built structures, which is indicated by the large amounts of pottery brought up by the plough, together with building stones, whilst to the north a large acreage is covered by furnace sites. So far there is no evidence for regarding Ariconium as a town, and a more realistic picture might be that of a villa estate with other buildings appertaining to a posting station, adjoining an industrial belt.

<sup>1</sup> "A second-century Iron Smelting site at Ashwicken". See footnote 1, p. 126.

<sup>2</sup> History of Iron Working in and near the Forest of Dean. I. Cohen. *Trans. Woolhope Naturalists Field Club*, XXXIV, Pt. III (1954), pp. 170, 174.

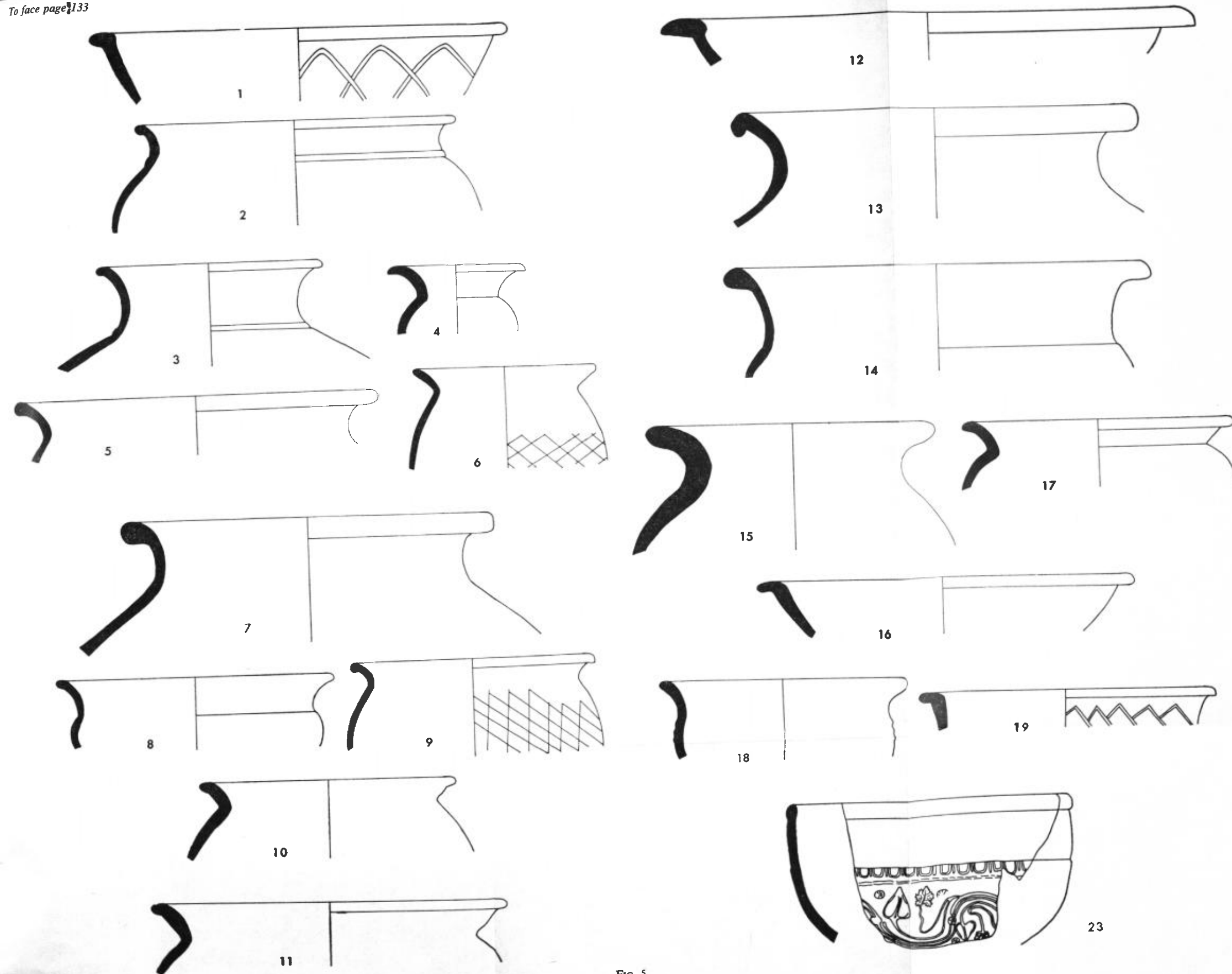


FIG. 5.

The industrial economy of the site is more difficult to imagine; there is no doubt that the iron smelting was carried out by skilled metal workers, probably with the help of native labourers; this was not a spare-time occupation for agriculturalists. There is still no satisfactory explanation for the siting of the smelting industry away from the mines, and until a forest mining settlement has been examined this question will remain unanswered.

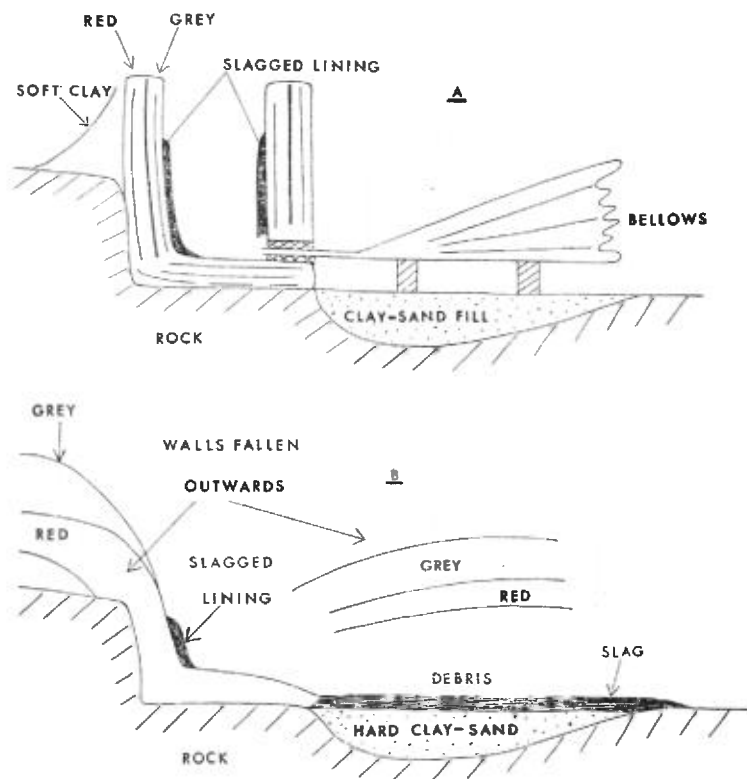


FIG. 6.

#### POTTERY LIST (see Figure 5)

##### *In the backfill of the main hollows*

##### *Area A. Coarse Wares*

1. Pie dish of grey ware with external trellis pattern. From A.D. 120 Jewry Wall Fig. 19, No. 10, Type A.

2. Necked bowl of red fabric with slight cordon around neck. First to fourth century. *Jewry Wall*, Fig. 24, No. 9.
3. Necked Jar of red fabric. Second to fourth century. *Jewry Wall*, Fig. 25, No. 26, Type E.
4. Black burnished cooking pot. A.D. 270–340. *Gillam Arch. Ael.* 4th series Vol. XXXV, No. 145.
5. Necked bowl of light brick-red fabric. First to fourth century *Jewry Wall*. Fig. 24, No. 13, Type E.
6. Black burnished cooking pot with zone of acute lattice work. Hadrian—early Antonine. *Jewry Wall*, Fig. 26, No. 13.
7. Necked jar of red fabric. First to third century. *Jewry Wall*, Fig. 25, No. 20, Type E.
8. Necked bowl of buff fabric, fine textured. Second to fourth century. *Jewry Wall*, Fig. 24, No. 6, Type C.

#### *Area C. Coarse Wares*

9. Black burnished cooking pot. Acute lattice work. A.D. 120–140. *Gillam*, No. 115.
10. Black burnished cooking pot. A.D. 140–180. *Gillam*, No. 130.
11. Black burnished cooking pot. A.D. 140–180. *Gillam*, No. 130.
12. Wide-flanged bowl of red fabric with remnants of light-brown burnishing. No parallel form can be found for this.

#### *Area D. Coarse Wares*

13. Jar of light brick-red fabric; undercut and overhanging rim. Fourth century. *Great Casterton*, 1950, Fig. 8, No. 19.
14. Wide-mouthed jar of light brick-red fabric. Fourth Century. *The R. B. Potter's Field at Wappenbury, Warwicks.* M. and B. Stanley. *Trans. Birmingham Arch. Soc.* Vol. 79 (1964), Fig. 5, No. 3.
15. Jar of fine textured, biscuit-coloured fabric, with heavy rolled rim.
16. Dish of red fabric. A.D. 125–160. Similar to *Gillam*, No. 307.
17. Black burnished cooking pot. A.D. 200–280. *Gillam*, No. 144.

#### *In the occupation layers of the slag pit*

##### *Area C. Coarse Wares*

18. Bowl of grey fabric with slightly burnished exterior surface and regular horizontal rilling. No direct parallel form can be found, but on the evidence of stratification this must have been deposited before A.D. 170.
19. Black burnished pie dish with fairly broad acute trellis pattern. Common up to A.D. 220 in *Jewry Wall*, Fig. 19, No. 10, Type A.

#### SAMIAN<sup>1</sup>

20. (Not illustrated). Rim of samian bowl, form 18/31 of Lezoux potters. Manufactured around A.D. 125–150. the sherd is rather weathered.

#### *In the Charcoal and daub layers of the charcoal Store*

##### *Area D. Samian*

21. (Not illustrated). Five fragments, some slightly burnt, of a large bowl, form 31R, of Central Gaulish origin. The bowl has been prepared for rivetting, but the rivets were probably never added. It is close in form and size to examples from a recently excavated Lezoux kiln of c. A.D. 170–190.
22. (Not illustrated). Four pieces of the same heavily burnt form 38. This form is typically Antonine, and this example is probably Central Gaulish.
23. Three joining fragments, all burnt, of a form 37 in the style of MERCATOR of Lezoux. The ovolo (Stanfield and Simpson, *Central Gaulish Potters*, pl. 145, Nos. 4, 5, 8, etc.) was not used by any other potter, and the rayed rosette is also characteristic of this potter. No parallel is known for the large scroll decoration, which must now be added to MERCATOR'S repertoire. Bowls by this potter are relatively common in forts in the Pennines thought to have been re-occupied about A.D. 160, and a few of his bowls have recently been found at Lezoux in a late Antonine context. This piece may be dated c. A.D. 160–200.

##### *Brown Burnished Wares*

Several rims and sherds were found in the backfill layers of the main hollows on which remained a residual brown burnish, which is similar to, but not identical with, the "Glevum ware" burnishing.<sup>2</sup> Where the burnish has become abraded the exposed fabric is typical of the West Midland coarse wares of second to fourth century forms.

<sup>1</sup> All the samian wares listed were kindly examined and described by B. R. Hartley.

<sup>2</sup> These specimens were kindly examined by Mr. J. F. Rhodes, City Museum, Gloucester, who considers them to be red wares of soft fabric, coated with a burnished slip, which are unlike the local Gloucester wares.

## THE LETTON LINTEL FIGURES

By the Rev. J. E. GETHYN-JONES

The early 12th century lintels at Bredwardine (2), Letton and Willersley represent a small group of monuments which has formed part of several studies of the Romanesque sculpture surviving within the boundaries of the mediaeval diocese of Hereford. They have been considered in some detail by such authorities as Sir Alfred Clapham<sup>1</sup> and Professor George Zernecki,<sup>2</sup> and also have been discussed by Mr. Charles Keyser,<sup>3</sup> Mr. George Marshall<sup>4</sup> and the author.<sup>5</sup>

Geometric motifs predominate in the enrichments of these lintels, but upon the one over the blocked N. doorway of the nave at Bredwardine and that over the S. doorway of the nave at Letton is simple figure sculpture.

The Bredwardine lintel<sup>6</sup> has, carved upon the centre of its face, two figures which have been the subject of considerable speculation. They have been variously identified as, Christ and a cockatrice. The Temptation, the Egyptian gods Bes and Thoth and the Indian divinities Ganesh and Hanumen.

At Letton there are four small figures carved upon the E. half of the lintel (Fig. 1). Each is formed within a medallion. The upper two (heads only) appear to be human, while the lower pair are animal representations.

These Letton figure carvings, unlike those at Bredwardine, have aroused little interest. Mr. Marshall says, "in two of the circles . . . are small heads, the one on the right is bearded, and each is surrounded by rays like an aureole. They may be intended to represent the Father and Son. Below in two other circles are a scorpion and a frog, possibly spirits of evil".<sup>7</sup> Mr. Keyser repeats Mr. Marshall's statement verbatim,<sup>8</sup> while Sir Alfred Clapham merely calls them, "rayed heads" and "toad-like forms".<sup>9</sup> These descriptions are, largely, correct. It is noticeable, however, that none of these authorities suggests any possible sources or influences which may lie behind the figures.

<sup>1</sup> R.C.H.M. (Herefordshire), Vols. 1-3—parish headings.

<sup>2</sup> G. Zernecki, (a) Thesis, *Regional Schools of English Sculpture in the twelfth century*, deposited London U. (b) *English Romanesque Sculpture 1066-1140*, London, 1951, p. 29.

<sup>3</sup> C. E. Keyser, *Norman Tympana and Lintels in the Churches of Great Britain*, London, 2nd ed., 1927.

<sup>4</sup> G. Marshall, Woolhope N.F.C., Vol. for 1918, pp. 52-59.

<sup>5</sup> J. E. Gethyn-Jones, Thesis, *The Romanesque Sculpture in the Dymock Group of Churches*, deposited Bristol U.

<sup>6</sup> Marshall, *op. cit.*, plate facing p. 57.

<sup>7</sup> *Op. cit.*, p. 58. <sup>8</sup> Keyser, *op. cit.*, p. 31. <sup>9</sup> R.C.H.M., Vol. III, p. 134.

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FIG. 1. LETTON CHURCH, SOUTH DOORWAY OF NAVE.



FIG. 2. EAST END OF THE LETTON LINTEL—DETAIL.

Sir Alfred Clapham describes the human heads as “rayed”. It is most apt. The effect is almost that of the heads of Carausius or Allectus upon the Romano-British coins, except that the Letton heads are full faced. The E. head is that of a male; that to the W. could be female. The ray effect may be no more than the pattern carved on the underside of the decoration on the lintel at Bredwardine.<sup>1</sup> The other circles contain small figures. Their size, the coarse nature of the stone and its weathered condition make identification difficult. The figures appear to be shelled like a tortoise or turtle, and have heads protruding from one end and what must be tails at the other (Fig. 2).

The well-known book by Cotman,<sup>2</sup> published in 1822, includes a drawing of corbels in Holy Cross Church at St. Lô. The text explains that there is a local tradition that there was once on the site a Roman temple of Ceres.

One of the corbels illustrated by Cotman (Fig. 4) is termed by him, “the mystic Scarabacus”, and it is not unlike the W. figure at Letton which also has six legs. It is possible that these two have behind them a common source of inspiration. The second figure at Letton (it has four legs) appears to be a tortoise. The presence of these figures is difficult to explain, in view of the fact that there are no parallels, as far as I know, in British mediaeval sculptural enrichment. It might be that, in his travels, the sculptor had visited the Mediterranean lands and had seen these creatures or illustrations of them. A second suggestion, but a most improbable one, is that the Letton sculptor may have been influenced in his choice of subject by Roman remains, e.g. pavements, sculpture or stucco decoration.<sup>3</sup> If this was the case the small human heads might, after all, be imitations of the barbarous radiates, which were common in Britain during the last century and a half of Roman rule.

A third possible identification of the four figures on the Letton lintel is suggested by an illumination on 6v of the *Chronicon Zwifaltense Minus*<sup>4</sup> at Stuttgart. It will be seen, if the two Letton human figures, with radiations round their heads, are compared with the medallioned moon and sun symbols cupped in the hands of Annus in the manuscript (Fig. 3), that there is a marked similarity between the pairs. The W. figure at Letton, with its pronounced hair style, is close in form and general appearance to the figure of the moon. The E. figure at Letton has much in common with the representation

<sup>1</sup> Gethyn-Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 31, footnote 1.

<sup>2</sup> J. S. Cotman, *The Architectural Antiquities of Normandy*, 2 vols., London, 1822, pp. 105-7, plate 88.

<sup>3</sup> Letton is less than 10 miles from the site of the Roman town of Magna (Kenchester) and less than 40 miles from the large Roman centres of Caerleon and Gloucester.

<sup>4</sup> Zarnecki, G., *Sculptor of Autun*, Paris, 1961, p. 24 and p. 29.

of the sun. Professor Zarnecki points out<sup>1</sup> that this manuscript makes possible the identification of the subjects of the 31 medallioned figures (including Annus) on the outer arch above the tympanum of the W. doorway at St. Lazarus, Autun. It will be observed<sup>2</sup> that medallions 16 and 24 of the Autun arch contain the Zodiac figures of Cancer and Scorpio (Fig. 4) and are remarkably like the two animal carvings at Letton (Fig. 2). The Zodiac and Monthly Labour figures, so common on the Continent, are only occasionally found in surviving mediaeval English stone sculpture, e.g. Brayston, Yorkshire. (There are other examples in Yorkshire including St. Margarets), Ely (Aries and Pisces) and Romsey (Cancer?). It is interesting to observe, however, that there are an unusual number of examples in Herefordshire, e.g. Brinsop (Pisces, Sagittarius and Taurus, and possibly, Gemini and Virgo), Kilpeck (Pisces) and Shobdon (Aries, Gemini, Leo, Pisces and Taurus). There is at Ruardean (Gloucestershire, but in mediaeval times part of the diocese of Hereford) a panel on which the sign Pisces is carved.

In addition to these stone examples, the Signs of Zodiac and the Labours of the Months are found in other media, e.g., Lead, Brookland (Kent) font,<sup>3</sup> Dorchester Abbey (Oxon.) font, Wall Paintings: Copford (Essex), Westmeston (Sussex) and, possibly, Kempley (Gloucestershire).<sup>4</sup> It is possible to postulate, from the fact that examples are found in widely separated districts and that the mediaeval sculpture in stone, lead and wood and the wall paintings which have survived the ravages of time, the onslaught of the Reformers and Puritans and the rebuilding zeal of the Victorians represent a very small percentage of that which once enriched our churches, that these motifs were employed more widely during the Middle Ages than is now generally recognized.<sup>5</sup>

It has been suggested by some that these Zodiac motifs were derived from works of the goldsmith's art, while Dr. P. C. Nye believes that the examples in Romanesque sculpture were inspired by Roman Mithraic sculpture. There seems to be more speculation than firm evidence in the arguments put forward. However, it is generally recognized that the innumerable illuminated manuscripts in current use during the mediaeval period exercised considerable influence on motif selections for stone sculpture.

<sup>1</sup> Zarnecki, *op. cit.*, p. 29.

<sup>2</sup> *Op. cit.*, plate B and ap. 30-31.

<sup>3</sup> Possibly imported from France. (a) G. Zarnecki, *English Romanesque Lead Sculpture*, London, 1957, pp. 18 and 26; (b) L. Stone, *Sculpture in Britain, The Middle Ages*, Penguin series, 1955, p. 89.

<sup>4</sup> Void roundels on E. face of chancel arch.

<sup>5</sup> On the subject of the Signs of the Zodiac and Labours of the Months there is vast bibliography, the most important of which is J. C. Webster, *The Labors of the Months*, Princeton, 1938. This contains a chapter on England.



FIG. 3. ILLUMINATION OF F. 6V, *Chronicon Zwifaltense Minus* (STUTTGART) PHOTOGRAPH FROM Sculptor of Autun, BY PERMISSION OF PROFESSOR G. ZARNECKI.



A

B

FIG. 4. A. "THE MYSTIC SCARABACUS" FROM *The Architectural Antiquities of Normandy* BY J. S. COTMAN.

B. ST. LAZARUS, AUTUN. MEDALLIONS ON OUTER ARCH OF WEST DOORWAY. PHOTOGRAPH FROM *Sculpture of Autun*, BY PERMISSION OF PROFESSOR G. ZARNECKI.

It seems probable, in view of the obvious relationship between the Stuttgart manuscript and the Autun medallion motifs, and the marked similarity in style and form between the Letton figures and those in the Stuttgart manuscript, that the inspiration behind the Letton carvings came not from the "Barbaric radiates" nor from some work of sculpture such as that at St. Lô, but from an unknown illuminated manuscript containing calendar illustrations,<sup>1</sup> and that the figures are intended to represent the Sun (top E.), the Moon (top W.), Cancer and Scorpio.

<sup>1</sup> e.g., St. John's College, Cambridge, Library, MS. B.20 (Worcester). There is no evidence for a mediaeval scriptorium at Hereford Cathedral, but a manuscript bought by or given to the cathedral library, and now lost, could well have supplied the pattern which inspired the Letton figures.



# BOSBURY TITHES AND OBLATIONS

1635 TO 1641

By F. C. MORGAN

A manuscript now in the University of Edinburgh<sup>1</sup> is a record of the tithes and oblations of Bosbury, Herefordshire, from 1635 to 1641 when either George Wall, 1603-41 or William Coke, 1641-90/1, was vicar. The volume has seventy pages, measures 12 in. by 6 in., is damaged in several places, parts of some leaves are missing, and the writing is cramped and minute. It was bequeathed to the University by David Laing, a learned antiquary of the city, who died in 1878. A transcript has been made by permission of the librarian, and copies are deposited in Hereford Cathedral Library, Hereford County Library, and Malvern Public Library.

John Scudamore, "gentleman of the King's chamber", and one of the surveyors of the religious houses, chantries, and other foundations in Herefordshire in 1547, became possessed of part of the tithes of Upleadon, including the township of Catley, in the parish of Bosbury, at the suppression of the monasteries. His grandson the "Good Lord Scudamore" by a licence in mortmain<sup>2</sup> of 1631, returned these and the tithes of Bolston and Abbey Dore (where he also restored the church) to the vicars.

In 1635 the manor of Upleadon with Temple Court was purchased from the Sheldon family by Sir Robert Pye<sup>3</sup> of Faringdon, Berks. This led to a lawsuit, probably concerning the tithes, in 1692, when the vicar, Joshua Elmhurst, who was instituted on 10th February 1691, brought an action against Sir Robert Pye, jun.<sup>4</sup> and Richard Bennett in the High Court of Chancery. The relevant papers have not been found, but the case lasted for some time as an entry on the last page of the manuscript records that it "was shewed unto Francis Cowel at the time of his [Elmhurst's] examination on the 17th January, 1695. Evidently it was not returned to the church and later became the property of David Laing together with numerous other deeds. He was a great collector of records.<sup>5</sup>

The volume is of value to Herefordshire as it forms a directory of the inhabitants of Bosbury at the period, and gives some idea of the livestock they held. Curiously there is no mention of either pigs, poultry or geese, or of cereals. The famous parson's pig and the tithe corn do not appear.

With few exceptions the annual tithe paid by the parishioners was two pence halfpenny each. Apparently the sums due from all the members of the household were collected and paid by the master, as the amount paid by each, and the dues upon livestock and other

items, are included in the total sum paid. The names of servants, who usually paid the two pence halfpenny, are given.

The oblations and tithes paid for the year 1637 came to approximately £4 12s. 7½d. (It is not possible to be exact owing to gaps.) In addition £3 was paid in tenths, and other small items made up a total of £12 2s. 1½d., with two tithe lambs. There were also school rents; these are given for 1635 and 1637<sup>6</sup> only, and were paid twice annually. In 1637 the amounts were £4 18s. 7d. and £4 17s. 4d. The vicars usually acted as schoolmasters and this brought an addition to their stipends.

The rents were from lands and tenements recorded in the survey of 1547 as given in feoffment by one Richard Powyke to Richard Hope and others with an "encrease of a stock of money and cattalles . . . hathe bin always employed to the use and fyndyng of a scole master to bring up yought in lernynge to play at organs and in other services in the said church."<sup>7</sup> A history of the school is given in S. Bentley, *History of Bosbury*, 1891, where it is stated that Queen Elizabeth in 1566 re-endowed the school which had been founded by Sir Rowland Morton in the reign of Henry VIII with the lands of the dissolved chantry of St. Mary, Bosbury. The rent charge was to bring in £8 4s. 2d. to be paid to the master.

The earliest recorded schoolmaster was Sir (a courtesy title) Thomas Keyling whom the commissioners of the survey said had been master for the previous four or five years; he was of good conversation and 75 years old, but "not able to ride or go far for deceases". Keyling is not in the list of school masters in Bentley, which does not give any earlier than 1608 and stops at 1798.

In the tithe award of 1840 four rods and twenty square yards of school lands in Catley were rented by three tenants for a total of 2s. 11d., and twenty-nine acres one rod and sixteen yards in the other part of Bosbury were held by twenty tenants at a rent of £2 15s. 6d. payable to the vicar and £3 8s. 6d. to the impropriators. Edward Bettington, the chief tenant held nine acres one rod at a rent of 12s. 11d. The rent charge of the whole parish was then recorded as £400 to the vicar and £420 to the impropriators.<sup>8</sup>

In 1637 the tithe of one penny paid upon each of ninety cows came to 7s. 6d.: one was sold for only 6s. During the seven years several were killed for food for a household, either sixpence or fourpence being paid on each. Perhaps they were killed in the autumn and salted down for winter use: feeding livestock in the winter was a great problem before new crops were introduced into agriculture. Tithes upon thirty-six calves at one halfpenny each came to 1s. 6d. Seventeen were sold and 12s. 4d. was paid in tithes to the vicar. Thomas Cantwell sold three at 6s. 0d. each and paid

tithe of 3s. upon them. One was killed for consumption for which sixpence was paid.

Only eighty-nine sheep are recorded, at one halfpenny each (3s. 8½d.) and there were seven goats for which the vicar had seven pence in all. Six tithe lambs are mentioned, but some were only hoped for (*speran*).

Other sources of income for the vicar in 1637 were 13s. 7½d. for garden smoke (*hortus fumus*),<sup>9</sup> usually at twopence each, though some, perhaps poor, parishioners paid one penny, and one, probably richer, paid sixpence. The sum of six pence halfpenny was paid on a hive of bees (eight pence was paid in 1635); and £1 2s. 10d. for two hundred and seventy-four casks of "cider", at one penny each. Bosbury perry is mentioned by the poet John Philips in his poem *Cyder*. Probably both beverages are included in the same term here.<sup>10</sup> Philips writes:

"Chiefly the Bosbury, whose large increase,  
Annual, in sumptuous Banquets claim applause.  
Thrice acceptable bev'rage! could but Art  
Subdue the floating Lee, Pomona's self  
Would dread thy praise, and shun the dubious strife."

*Cyder*, Book 1.

Richard Nurden agreed to pay 5s. yearly for "his teithes of the herbage grounds he had of Dannell Dally Orchard his close at home offerings excepted".

There seems to have been only one mill in Bosbury—at Catley Cross. In 1636 Thomas Powick paid 3s. 3d. upon this; the next year Henry Burgess, probably a new tenant, paid 5s. 6d.

The names of approximately 380<sup>11</sup> tithe payers are given in the manuscript for 1637 (some names are imperfect). The manor of Upleadon had been held by the Harford family for several generations. The Rev. Anthony Harford, the third of the same name, then held it, but he seems to have left Bosbury and in 1631 preached a sermon in Dorsetshire which led him into trouble and custody for disloyalty. The family of Brydges, then a very important one in the county, was represented by William, who had the largest number of servants; two were male and three female. Four other parishioners had three each.<sup>12</sup> Probably the males were young men or youths engaged by the year and lived in the house. The writer remembers this custom which lasted at least until the end of the 19th century in some country districts. Mothers brought their sons and daughters to the village draper for their first outfits before entering into the world's company of workers. They were paid at the end of the twelve months, less any small advances made in the meantime. They then paid their debts. Another of the principal

inhabitants was Thomas Dannett, whose daughter married Dr. Bridstock Harford of Hereford.<sup>13</sup>

The occupation of only one tradesman appears—William Morley, butcher; and only one tithe payer, if we except Abraham Lewisse, had a forename showing puritan influence. He was Adonijah (= Jehovah is my Lord) Mutloe, who kept two male and one female servants. Other unusual names were Floritius Guillome and the "classical" Hercules Goodyear.

Only five of the old family names appear in Kelly's *Directory* for 1917—Brydges, Jones, Price, Pullen and Turner, and some of the owners of these may not be descendants of the earlier tithe payers. Even the larger families of Alcott (17 including all members), Fareley (12) and Hawfield (11) have disappeared. By 1801 the population had risen to 776, but in 1961 it dropped to 711.

Another feature of interest is the small numbers of cows and sheep recorded in 1637. The biggest herd of cows belonged to J. Collins who had six head; four other herds were owned by J. Allen, L. Fareley, R. Hill and T. Turner, who had four cows each. Except for the twenty-three mentioned as sold by E. Wood, the largest flocks of sheep consisted of only six head, belonging to J. Williams, and five to R. Greasing.

From the foregoing notes it will be seen that the manuscript has many interesting features and is well worth study by students of local history and sociology.

#### REFERENCES

- <sup>1</sup> Shelf mark MS. La. II, 4.
- <sup>2</sup> Watkins, M. G., *Hundred of Radlow*, 1902 (Continuation of Duncumb's *History*).
- <sup>3</sup> Brother of Sir Walter Pye of the Mynde, Herefordshire.
- <sup>4</sup> Sir Robert Pye, sen., bought Faringdon in 1622 or 1623 and defended it for the Royalists successfully against Cromwell who was in command of the Parliamentarians in 1645. Next year his son, Sir Robert, colonel in the New Model army, who had married the daughter of John Hampden, was given the task of reducing his own family house. The garrison surrendered on 24th June and marched out with the honours of war. Sir Robert succeeded his father in 1662.
- <sup>5</sup> *Dictionary of National Biography*, vol. XXXI, p. 401.
- <sup>6</sup> See Appendix No. 1.
- <sup>7</sup> P.R.O. Certificate of chantries, etc., Hereford. E.301, Roll 24.
- <sup>8</sup> Tithe map and award for Bosbury, Herefordshire. Hereford Diocesan Archives.
- <sup>9</sup> Dr. D. M. Barratt records in her book *Ecclesiastical terriers of Warwickshire parishes*, vol. I (Dugdale Society, O.U.P. 1955) on p. xxxviii that "The only other common moduses on particular products were 'garden penny' in lieu of garden produce and 'smoke penny' in lieu of firewood". For example, under the parish of Binton on p. 56 is the entry: "Easter dues: For every house and garden call'd smoak-penny & garden-penny. 2d."
- <sup>10</sup> Philips is buried in Hereford Cathedral; there is a memorial to him in Westminster Abbey.
- <sup>11</sup> See Appendix No. 2.
- <sup>12</sup> 26 male, 25 female and 3 unnamed servants recorded.
- <sup>13</sup> Harford, Alice, ed., *Annals of the Harford family*, 1909, pp. 20-21.



## APPENDIX 1

## SCHOOL RENTS, 1637.

Mrs. Unet ..	15 0	15 0	
Thomas Whoman ..	16 8	16 8	
Will. Browne ..	11 2	11 2	
Tho. Cantwell ..	2 6	2 6	
Rich. Makam ..	6	6	
Will. Guillom ..	6	6	
Rich. Colls ..	17 2	17 2	
Rich. Bacon ..	1 0		
Rich. Wooddend ..	5 0	5 0	Oct. 26 'et pro obligat 3. 2'
Will. Dowding ..	6 8	6 8	
Mr. Bridges ..	6 8	6 8	
Mr. Marryott ..			
Gilbert Jones ..	1 0	1 0	
Rich. Crispe ..	14 0	14 6	
£4 18s. 7d. (sic.)			

## APPENDIX 2

INHABITANTS OF BOSBURY, HEREFORDSHIRE, 1637, AS RECORDED  
IN "TITHES AND OBLATIONS", 1635 TO 1641<sup>1</sup>

Abell alias Bullock, John ..	22	Beale, Joseph, serv. to T. Turner ..	27
William, brother ..	22	Maria, sister to Wm. ..	28
Aedney, George and w. ..	21	William and w. ..	28
Alcott, Humfrey and w. ..	25	William, brother to Wm. ..	28
James and w., n.p. [=not paid?] ..	23	Bedell, Ambrosius ..	24
John ..	28	Belcher, Richard ..	23
Richard and w., n.p. ..	22	?, see Hawfield, A. ..	
Richard, s. of Thos. ..	29	Bentley, Edmund and w. ..	26
Roger and w., n.p. ..	30	Edward ..	22
Thomas and w. ..	28	Thomas, son of Edmund ..	26
Thomas and w. ..	28	Blackway, ?, widow, n.p. ..	21
Thomas ..	29	Bowen, ?, widow, dec. ..	28
?, daug. of Thos. ..	29	Bray, Catherine, serv. to W. Bridges ..	27
?, widow, n.p. ..	30	Henry and w. ..	24
Allen, John and w. ..	24	?, mother of Henry ..	24
John ..	24	?, son of Henry ..	24
Joseph ..	24	Bridges, Thomas and w. ..	24
Susanna, daug. of John ..	24	William and w. ..	27
William and w. ..	28	William and w. ..	29
Ambrose, serv. to J. Allen ..	24	Brookinne, Richard, son of Thos. ..	26
Bacon, Jososa ..	21	Thomas and w. ..	26
Richard and w. ..	28	Thomas, son of Thos. ..	26
Baker, John, serv. to A. Mutloe ..	28	Thomas, son of Thos. ..	29
Thomas and w. ..	30	Browne, George and w. ..	22
Barber, James ..	28	Richard and w., n.p. ..	22
Berkeley, Thomas and w. ..	27	Richard (jun.) and w., n.p. ..	23
Walter, brother of Thos. ? ..	27	William and w. ..	25
?, mother of Thos. ..	27	William ..	27
Bayley, Alicia, serv. to W. ..		?, widow, n.p. ..	25
Nashe ? ..	25	Brownwright, Joan, serv. to R. ..	
John and w. ..	21	Bacon ..	28
John and w. ..	29	Browning, Anthony and w. ..	28
Martha, daug. ..	29	Bundy, Hugh, serv. to R. Makam ..	30
Richard and w. ..	29	Keene, 'fil' of widow Bundy ..	29
		?, widow, ..	29
		Burford, Elianora, serv. ..	24

<sup>1</sup> The numbers after personal names give the pages in the manuscript.

Burgess, Henry and w. ..	26	Gough, John and w. ..	26
Burrows, Edmund, serv. to R. ..		Greasing, Robert and w. ..	28
Rowbery ..	27	Grubb, Roger, serv. to T. Wood-	
		yatt ? ..	26
Cantwell, Thomas and w. ..	22	Guillome, Floritius and w. ..	21
Careless, Richard, son of widow ..		Richard and w. ..	21
Careless ..	29	Hall, Thomas and w., n.p. ..	21
?, widow ..	29	?, widow ..	25
Christiana, serv. to J. Gough ..	26	Harford, Anthony and w. ..	21
Collins, John ..	25	Hawfeild, Anthony and w. ..	26
Nathaniel and w. ..	29	Belcher, 'fil' ..	26
?, sister of John ..	25	John and w. ..	24
?, 'pater' ..	28	Richard and w. ..	24
Colls, James, serv. to J. Collins ? ..	25	Thomas and w. ..	24
Richard and w. ..	25	? and w. ..	24
William and w. ..	25	Hill, John and w. ..	30
Cowell, Richard and w. ..	29	Joseph ..	28
Crisp, Richard and w. ..	21	Richard and w. ..	24
		Richard ..	25
Dally, Richard and w. ..	24	Holder, Anne, serv. to J. Gough ..	26
?, son of Richard ..	24	Catherine ..	24
?, daughter of Richard ..	24	Elizabeth, serv. to R. Hill ..	24
Danford, Thomas and w. ..	26	William ..	24
William and w. ..	26	Hyde, John and w., n.p. ..	23
Dannet [Thomas ?], Mr. ..	21	John, serv. to Mr. Dannet, n.p. ..	21
Davise, John and w. ..	25	Jones, Gilbert and w. ..	22
Margerie, daughter ..	25		
Margarita, serv. ..	26	Key, ?, widow, n.p. ..	21
William, serv. ..	26	Kings, Elenora ..	26
Dayton, Thomas and w., n.p. ..	28	Francisca, daughter of widow ..	
Dowding, Anne ..	23	Kings ..	26
?, serv. to L. Fareley ..	25	Richard, serv. ..	24
Drewe, Anthony and w. ..	28	?, widow ..	26
?, mother of Anthony ..	28	Knight, Richard ..	25
Dunnopp, Richard and w. ..	25	?, widow, n.p. ..	30
		Knott, Richard and w., n.p. ..	21
Elizabeth, serv. to T. Rowbery ..	27		
serv. to T. Wooddend ..	27	Laurence, Richard ..	27
		?, mother ..	27
Fareley, Elizabeth, serv. to A. ..		Leithe, ?, widow, n.p. ..	25
Mutloe ..	28	Lese, Christiana, serv. ..	28
Francis ..	21	Lewisse, Abraham, serv. ..	28
Jocosa ..	25	John ..	28
Launcelot and w. ..	25	Lombard, Richard and w., n.p. ..	26
Margeria, daughter of Launcelot ..	25	Long, John, serv. to [?] Hawfield ..	24
Tristram and w., n.p. ..	25	Lyciman, William and w. ..	27
Tristram, serv. to R. Bacon ..	28		
?, widow ..	28	Makam, Richard and w. ..	30
?, son of widow ..	28	Marden, James and w. ..	26
?, son of widow ..	28	Marryatt, Richard and w. ..	23
		Mathoes, Anna ..	29
Gennings, Thomas and w. ..	24	Blanche ..	29
Gibbs, George and w. ..	25	Ursula ..	29
?, mother of George ..	25	(Servants to P. Turner) ..	
Glasier, Anne, n.p. ..	23	Millard, Roger and w. ..	29
?, sister of Anne, n.p. ..	23	Morley, William, butcher ..	21
Godsoe, Thomas ..	26	Mutloe, Adonijah and w. ..	28
?, widow ..	21	Martha, daughter of Wm. ..	22
?, daughter ..	21	Matthew ..	28
Goodyear, Hercules, serv. ..	22	William and w. ..	22
Maria ..	24	?, mother of Adonijah ..	28
William ..	24		

Nashe, Jocos, daughter of Wm.	25	Tommes, Richard and w.	21
John and w.	23	Trigg, Anne, serv.	28
Key, 'fil' of Wm.	25	William and w.	29
William and w.	25	Turner, George and w.	22
?, mother of Wm.	25	Joanna	29
Nest, William and w.	21	John	29
?, son of Wm.	21	Lucia, serv. to R. Barkeley	27
Nox, John	29	Patrick and w.	29
Nurden, ?, and w.	22	Thomas and w.	27
		William, serv. to R. Colwell	29
Parsons, Thomas and w., n.p.	21		
Perks, Francis, serv. to W. Bridges	27	Urough, Anne, serv. to T.	
Jocosa, serv. to W. Bridges	27	Woodyatt	26
Maria, serv. to R. Millard	29	?, widow	25
Pewtress, Thomas and w.	21	?, 'fil'	25
?, sister	21		
(Also a servant un-named)		Vaughan, Peter and w., n.p.	22
Pitt, John and w.	21		
Plaine, William	28	Wade, Thomas and w., n.p.	27
Powell, Francis and w.	29	Walton, John, serv.	28
James and w.	22	Wanklinne, William and w.	27
?, son of James	22	Watkins, John and w.	23
?, son of James	22	Richard and w., n.p.	23
?, son of James	22	Welbye, Elianora, serv. to R.	
?, daughter of James	22	Bacon	28
?, widow	23	Whoman, Thomas and w.	21
Price, Margareta, serv. to W.		(A servant and maid also, un-named)	
Bridges	27	William, serv. to T. Rowbery	27
Pritchard, Edward, n.p.	24	Williams, John and w.	26
Pryse, John, n.p.	23	Owen, serv. to J. Gough	26
Pullen, James and w.	21	Pierce, serv. to R. Makam	30
William and w.	29	Wingod, Thomas and w.	24
		?, daughter of Thos.	24
Richards, Edward, serv. to A.		Winston, Mrs., n.p.	25
Mutloe	28	?, daughter	25
Rowbery, Thomas and w.	27	Wood, Edward and w.	21
		Guy, serv. to W. Bridges	27
Sedgwick, William and w.	21	?	30
Sheepheard, Edward and w.	28	Wooddend, Anthony and w.	27
Showell, John and w.	28	John, son of Richard	27
Siblesse, Maria	30	Richard and w.	27
Skynner, Abigail, serv. to Domina		?, sister of Anthony	27
Wright	21	(An un-named servant also)	
Thomas and w., n.p.	29	Woodyatt, John and w.	27
Smith, William and w.	27	John	27
?, daughter of William	27	Thomas and w.	26
Stead, Richard	25	Wright, Domina	21
Stokes, John serv. to R. Tommes	21	?, daughter	21
		?, daughter	21
Thomas, John	24		
Tiler, John and w.	30	<i>Uncertain or imperfect</i>	
Richard, serv. to R. Barkeley	27	... celer and w.	28
Roger and w.	30	... Francis and w.	28
?, widow, n.p.	26	... paly	26
?, widow	27		
?, serv. to R. Tommes	21		

## NOTES

## THE MAYOR'S BOOK AND THE GREAT BLACK BOOK

By I. M. SLOCOMBE

The archives of the City of Hereford contain two books commonly called the Mayor's Book and the Great Black Book. They have long been considered to contain a record of the customs of Hereford and the Great Black Book, in particular, has been venerated, being still used for the swearing in of Freemen of the City. There has, however, been considerable confusion over the nature, contents and origins of these books. Only one thing is quite clear: both were among the documents stolen by Ester Garstone and recovered in January 1830 from a grocer in Eign Street.

## MAYOR'S BOOK

The Historical Manuscripts Commission<sup>1</sup> described this as a paper volume in quarto with 274 numbered leaves being minutes of the council's proceedings from 15 Dec. 16 Henry VII 1500 to 12 Dec. 22 Henry VIII 1530.

Johnson<sup>2</sup> calls this the Lesser Black Book containing ordinances and regulations of the City from Edward IV to Henry VIII but only half the pages were recovered.

In the front of the present volume there is a note (probably written when the book was recovered and rebound in 1830): "The proceedings of the Mayor, Steward, the Mayor's Brethren and the three Inquests at their Lawdays from the 16th Henry VIII 1500 until 21st Henry VIII 1529".

The leaves of the book are, in fact, numbered from 138 to 274 but there is an older, probably 16th century, numbering from 69 to 207. This seems to confirm Johnson's statement that only part of the book was recovered. The book at first sight runs from 15 Dec. 16 Hen. VII to 12 Dec. 22 Hen. VIII but there are some earlier records bound in the centre of the book (and included in the 16th century numbering). These leaves include memoranda and lists of councillors for the years 1487, 1492, 1495, 1498 and 1503. There is also another single sheet, not numbered, with a list of ordinances for 1472.

## GREAT BLACK BOOK

The Historical Manuscripts Commission<sup>3</sup> described this as a folio volume with 468 numbered leaves being minutes of the council's proceedings from Oct. 35 Hen. VIII 1543 to 31 May 34 Eliz. 1592.

Johnson simply states it "continues the relation of city affairs to the reign of Queen Elizabeth"<sup>4</sup>

In the front of the present volume there is a note (again probably written after the book had been recovered in 1830): "Minutes of the proceedings of the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Hereford from 35 Hen. VIII 1543 until 31 Eliz. 1589".

The book actually contains 483 numbered leaves again with two systems of numbering, one obviously 16th century and the other probably late 17th century. At first sight the book runs from 35 Hen. VIII to 31 May 34 Eliz. but the entry dated 31 May 34 Eliz. is simply a note added to the back of the book. The book really covers the years 35 Hen. VIII to 33 Eliz. inclusive but there is some confusion because the years 31 Eliz. to 33 Eliz. are bound between the years 27 Eliz. and 28 Eliz. This explains the confusion in the numbering of the leaves. This also suggests that the book was originally not bound. But, even if this is so, the book must be considered as a whole (e.g. the watermarks in the paper are consistent throughout) and the binding must have been done quite early, probably before there was prefixed on four quarto leaves an index of ordinances by Griffith Reynolds, mayor, in 1685.

An examination of these records shows quite clearly that there is no difference in content between the Mayor's Book and the Great Black Book. It is clear also that these are not "Minutes of the Council's proceedings". In fact, in the 16th century, the administrative body of the City was still the three Inquests meeting at Lawdays rather than the Council as such.

The entries for each year start with a list of the council ("nomina electionis") although this is sometimes omitted for the earlier years of the Mayor's Book. Then follow records of disfranchisements, recognisances, sales of lands, and indentures of apprenticeship (after an order of 20 April 14 Eliz. making their registration compulsory). Finally there are the ordinances, a copy of the decisions made by the three Inquests at the Lawdays.

Thus the Mayor's Book and the Great Black Book are really register books rather than minute books and cover the period 1500 to 1591 with fragments from earlier years and a gap from 1531 to 1542.

Johnson<sup>6</sup> refers to another missing book probably commenced under Thomas Bromwich, mayor in 1477 and referred to in an Elizabethan legal dispute between the citizens and the bishop's bailiffs as "the ancient Red Book of the City". It seems that this must have been similar to the Mayor's Book and the Great Black Book.

#### REFERENCES

<sup>1</sup> Historical Manuscripts Commission: MSS. of Rye and Hereford. 13th Report, Pt. 4, 1892, p. 288.

<sup>2</sup> Johnson, R. *The Ancient Customs of the City of Hereford* (1868), p. 59.

<sup>3</sup> Hist. Mss. Commission, *op. cit.*, p. 288.

<sup>4</sup> Johnson, *op. cit.*, p. 59.

<sup>5</sup> Johnson, *op. cit.*, p. 59.

## A VISIT TO CANNONS

By R. G. SCHAFER

The eighteenth century English public was very evidently intrigued by the appearance, the decor, and the daily routine maintained by the owners of the series of great mansions whose sudden uprearing was the cause of comment from foreign visitors and local journalists alike. Unfortunately, most of these accounts of life at the top dwelt upon the static setting presented by the place itself, or they confined themselves to describing the highly artificial ceremonial occasions for which such places were especially suited. Authentic accounts of the way the residents actually conducted themselves when they were among friends and thus, so to speak, out of the public view, are rare.

One such account which has survived, and is now to be found in the Hereford County Record Office, describes a visit made in 1717 to one of the most conspicuous of these places, Cannons, near Edgeware, Middlesex, the great Palladian mansion then being constructed by James Brydges, earl of Carnarvon (who was in 1719 to become first duke of Chandos). The man who in the following letter described for his brother the visit to Cannons was William Brydges (no relation to his host, although they addressed each other as cousin), an old friend who had some years earlier introduced James to his first wife, Mary Lake. Some years after their marriage (which had taken place in 1697) James had purchased from Mary's uncle the Lake family home, the Elizabethan mansion of Cannons. Then, following his retirement from the office of Paymaster of the Forces Abroad (in 1713), he had begun to build on the site the modern new palace which a few years later was to be instantly recognised by the public as the source of the inspiration for Alexander Pope's satire on these places, in the fourth Moral Epistle, "On the Use and Abuse of Riches".

Quite apart from the interest of the subject, the letter is important in that it very tellingly reveals why the public so readily identified the "Timon's Villa" of Pope's poem with Chandos' Cannons. The sober, admiring account given here by the old friend who came to Cannons to visit and to be impressed, only needs a touch of poetic license—and of poetic skill—to become the description of the highly artificial, imposing, but tasteless scene described by Pope. From Chandos' own letters and accounts (now in the Stowe Collection in the Huntington Library) we know that after he had begun to reside at Cannons he had entertained extensively,<sup>1</sup> so that there were

<sup>1</sup> For a description of "Cannons Hospitality" based on these materials, see C. H. C. Baker, *Life and Circumstances of James Brydges, First Duke of Chandos* (Oxford, 1949), pp. 192–197.

many persons, prominent and not so prominent alike, who had come to Cannons to dine and, presumably, also to be impressed. It can be surmised that some, and possibly many, of these guests had subsequently spread reports of the "grandeure and order" maintained by their host. Such visitors certainly, and many of their friends probably, would thus have had little trouble in finding in Cannons a suitable model for Pope to have taken for his own malicious sketch, however vigorous his denials that he had this place, or any such specific house, in mind.<sup>1</sup>

Carnarvon's visitor, the writer of the letter given here, was William Brydges of Tyberton, Herefordshire (1663-1734) a Sergeant at Law of the Middle Temple. He was writing his elder brother Francis (1661-1727) back home in Hereford. The letter is reproduced with the kind permission of Miss Lee Warner and the Hereford County Record Office, where she has deposited it as part of the Brydges of Tyberton Collection.

Jany 9th 1717

Dear Brother,

Upon New-Years-day, I rec'd yours dated the 30th of Decr. The acct. it gave of your health, added much to the enjoymt I had of the good company that were with me, and we heartily wished you many happy years. Upon Saturday last my Nephew & I did goe to Cannons, where we were kindly received and generously entertained. I never saw soe much grandure & order in any ffamily. Nothing was irksome but late hours. Betw. 11 & 12 we went to chappell. Abt. 2 of the clock wre sent for to his Lordsp in his library. Staid there till Dinner (wch was about an hour) and after Dinr were entertained with ingenious conversation, generous Wine & a Pipe till betw. 9 & 10. Then went to Supper. After Supper we drank 2 or 3 glasses of Wine whilst the Muscicall Instruments wre Tuned, and then wre entertained with a Consort for an hour or more, then took a glass of wine & a pipe and soe to Bed, and by this time twas between 1 & 2 of the clock. His Ldpp. did every day begin ye healths by the name of his cos ffrank Brydges. Mr. Westfaling Monsr. Des Egguliers (the Mathematician & Experimental philosopher), Dr. Pepus the famed Musitian, lay in the house. Mr. Walcot, Coll. Dobyms, & Mr. Philpotts<sup>2</sup> din'd & supped with us on Monday. Upon Tuesday Mr. Westfaling my Neph. and I return'd home, and his Ldship came to London.

<sup>1</sup> The problem of Pope's intentions has been thoroughly explored by George Sherburn in "Timon's Villa and Cannons", *Huntington Library Bulletin*, VIII (1935), pp. 131-152.

<sup>2</sup> These gentlemen were, John Theophilus Desaguliers (1683-1744), born in France but brought by his Huguenot refugee parents to England in 1685. He was a lecturer at Oxford who had in 1714 become a Fellow of the Royal Society,

## STONE AXE (He 46/c) AND FLINT IMPLEMENTS FROM BUCKTON, N.W. HEREFORDSHIRE

By LILY F. CHITTY

For several years flints have been coming to light on two fields (one Next-the-Shed Field and the Jay Field) which are farmed by Mr. Trevor Davies of Buckton: they lie south of Adley Moor on the River Redlake, S.W. of its junction with the River Clun above Leintwardine, and are in the parish of Buckton-and-Coxall, Herefordshire, of which the boundary adjoins that of Bucknell, in Shropshire, with its numerous flint finds on the Vicarage Field and other local sites.<sup>1</sup> I am grateful to Mr. W. J. Norton, Curator of Ludlow Museum, for reporting the Buckton flints and for telling me of a new find of outstanding interest.

On 7th June, 1965, Mr. Charles Davies followed up his father's previous loan of flints to Ludlow Museum by bringing in 4 more examples (3 worked) which had been found on April 24th, together with a polished stone axe discovered near them in the Shed Field when Mr. Davies was scuffling on its west side about half way along the hedge. The axe was turned up by the machine not far from the surface, but this field (W. of the first two) had been ploughed about a year before to a depth of about 10 inches, so the implement may have been disturbed then and brought up from an old surface. The site is on the margin of marshy ground where there is a certain amount of peat. The three adjacent fields are in the N.E. angle of 6 in. O.S. Sheet Herefs. II S.W., Shropshire LXXVII S.W.: Mr. Davies kindly indicated the exact position of the axe on a tracing: 1 in. O.S. 129 (Ludlow) S.O. 383743.

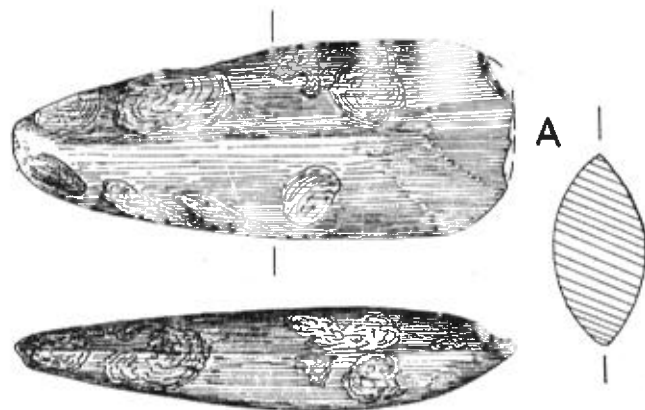
The axe, dark grey in colour and 5½ inches long (141 mm.), was made from a rough-out, of which many of the flake scars remain, the surface being incompletely ground and polished. The greatest breadth of the implement is 55 mm. below the centre, with its maximum thickness 28 mm. The weight is 9 oz.

chaplain to Carnarvon, and incumbent at Stanmore Parva (adjacent to Cannons). In March, 1718, he became chaplain to the Prince of Wales, and in the early 1720s acted as the engineer in charge of constructing Cannons' fancy water works. John Christopher Pepusch (1667-1752), was born in Berlin, but settled in London in 1688. A notable teacher, composer, and conductor, he was the director of Cannons' Concert until 1732. From 1718 to 1720 G. F. Handel was something like composer in residence, but during at least part of that time Pepusch continued to draw his salary as Cannons' Master of Music. Conjecturally, the others were Herbert Rudhall *Westfaling* (1671-1743) of Grafton, Herefordshire; Humphrey *Walcot* (1672-1743), an old friend and business associate of Carnarvon's who was now a neighbour living at Stanmore Magna; Colonel William *Dobbins*, another old friend and neighbour from Stanmore; and, probably, Nicholas *Philpotts*, for some years Carnarvon's agent in Herefordshire.



Professor F. W. Shotton identifies the material of the axe (He 46/c) as a fine andesitic ash, but not at present referable to any specific rock group.

The upper end of the axe on one face (A) is bevelled from a medial ridge in two large facets, of which one is well polished, as is the corresponding half of face (B): on each face the other half is rougher, with large flake scars still prominent. The blade end is finely ground and polished, with a smooth and lustrous bevel down to one sharp edge angle; on the other angle there is a small lozenge-shaped patch of paler material. The edge (w. 54 mm.) has been damaged and two large flakes broken out on face (B). The butt end was left rough:



it narrows in and is bevelled off towards face (A) with a facet 15 mm. wide. The sides have been rubbed down and show an irregular thin lustrous band interrupted by the adjacent flake scars. The section is a pointed oval with the angles flattened and the faces well arched.

In shape and cross-section, as in surface treatment, the Buckton implement resembles a larger axe (He 15/c), almost black externally, found a couple of miles to southward on Letton Farm, of which the rock was identified by Professor Shotton as a fine banded felspathic ash with mica, perhaps from the Welsh Ordovician, but not of any known group. It, too, was made from a rough-out and only partially ground and polished.<sup>2</sup>

The Buckton axe is, indeed, no isolated object; it only adds another dot to a cluster of axes of stone and flint marked on my map towards the east end of the hills between the Clun and Teme rivers and along their valleys.<sup>3</sup>

A mile to the south-west, at Brampton Bryan, a lovely axe of rhyolite with a mottled blue surface (He 13/c) was found

on the N. bank of the Teme W. of Parson's Pole Bridge,<sup>4</sup> and an axe-butt (He 38/c) came from Broomy Hill, in Brampton Bryan Park, in 1962.

To the north of Adley Moor, flints found S. of Heath House<sup>5</sup> may link on to the Clunbury focus beyond Hopton Heath and to traffic along the Ridgeway.

Bronze implements add their testimony to prehistoric penetration of the district, and even of its marshy areas. The British Museum has a palstave of early type, with curving bar-ridge and slight shoulders, labelled as found at "Ardley Moor, Bucknell (Salop). 1868."<sup>6</sup> A palstave from Leintwardine district is in Ludlow Museum. In 1852, Richard Price, Esq., exhibited "A bronze paalstab found between Brampton Bryan and Brandon Camp" in the Temporary Museum arranged for the Ludlow Meeting of the Cambrian Archaeological Association.<sup>7</sup> It is noteworthy also that the site of the great Broadward Hoard of Late Bronze Age weapons is less than 1½ miles northward from that of the Buckton stone axe, up the Clun Valley in marshland west of the River.<sup>8</sup>

So further finds from the locality may be anticipated with the greatest interest.

#### REFERENCES

- <sup>1</sup> See my paper on "The Clun-Clec Ridgeway" in *Culture and Environment* (1963), p. 190, Map Site No. 37.
- <sup>2</sup> Hereford Museum, No. 7800: Donor, Mr. M. P. Morgan; J. F. L. Norwood, *Woolhope Trans.*, XXXVII (1961), 104, Figs. 2, 3.
- <sup>3</sup> *Culture and Environment*, p. 185.
- <sup>4</sup> Hereford Museum, No. 6602: Norwood, *Woolhope Trans.*, XXXV (1957), 316, Fig. 1, 1.
- <sup>5</sup> Parish of Leintwardine North: sited marked on my 6 in. O.S. Sheet, Heref. II, N.W.; Shrops. LXXVII, N.W.; flints formerly in Knighton Co. Sec. School; others collected by Mr. Bayliss.
- <sup>6</sup> B.M. 73.7.2, 2: Evans, *Anc. Bronze Imps.* (1881), pp. 74-5, Fig. 54, "Bucknell, Herefordshire".
- <sup>7</sup> *Arch. Camb.*, 1852, 334.
- <sup>8</sup> Site marked on 6 in. O.S. Shropshire Sheet LXXVII N.E., just within the Shropshire border, S.E. of Broadward Hall: Evans, *A.B.I.*, p. 465, Hoard No. 30, "Broadward, Leintwardine, Herefordshire." The bulk of the hoard known is in the British Museum: there are many references to it since its publication in *Arch. Camb.*, 1872, 338-355, 366; 1873, 80-3, both illustrated.

## REPORTS OF SECTIONAL RECORDERS

### ARCHAEOLOGY, 1965

By S. C. STANFORD

#### EXCAVATIONS

##### NEOLITHIC

*Dorstone* (SO 326423). Mr. C. Houlder, M.A., F.S.A., and Mr. R. Pye have submitted the following note:

"The surface of a field on Dorstone Hill, has yielded some 3,000 flint fragments over recent years to Mr. R. Pye of Kington. These include many leaf-shaped arrowheads which, along with more than 50 fragments of polished stone axes, indicate an extensive neolithic settlement. The field lies on a broad, flat-topped spur of some 20 acres, projecting southwards from the ridge between the Wye and the Golden Valley. The spur is only 150 yards wide at its neck, and it was the object of a two-day excavation in November 1965 to test the nature of much flattened bank in this position. An old ground surface bearing traces of burning had been covered by the dilapidation of a rough sandstone wall, 2 ft. 6 in. wide and probably not more than 2 ft. high originally, which had been built to consolidate a line of stakes of 5 in. diameter. An undisturbed occupation soil behind this wall contained waste flint, a polished axe fragment and pottery consistent with western neolithic material from the area. A further cutting at the most prolific source of surface finds yielded more pottery and flint which seemed to have been derived by soil movement into a hollow from the slightly higher south edge of the spur. It is hoped that further trial excavations will help to define more precisely the distribution and character of neolithic activity on this hilltop before full excavation is considered."

##### IRON AGE

*Croft Ambrey* (SO 443668). The final summer season of the Club's excavation on the hill-fort was devoted to more work on the Main Gates, the buildings within the plateau camp, the eastern end of the Main Camp quarry ditch, and the mound in the Annexe outside the Main Defences.

It has now been shown that the East entrance of the Plateau Camp was in the position subsequently used for the Main Camp entrance. The Main Camp entrances, as now interpreted, show 15 phases of construction, bringing the total of gate phases for the camp to 20. A date in the fourth century B.C. for the establishment of the hill-fort now appears certain, and the construction of

the quarry-ditched Main Camp must be placed in the early third century. Important features of the Main Camp entrances in its third, fourth and fifth phases were twin rectangular guard-rooms, representing the most southerly occurrence yet known of Dr. Savory's "Cornovian Guard chambers". More small rectangular buildings have been excavated within the Plateau Camp West Gate, and also on the very summit of the hill above the 1000 ft. contour. At the eastern end of the Quarry Ditch was located a deep succession of hearth sites and a frequently re-cut drain. These have added forceful evidence to the conclusion that Croft Ambrey was intensively and continuously occupied during the four centuries of its existence as a hill-fort.

Three-quarters of the circular mound, 30 ft. in diameter, in the Annexe, has now been excavated. It had a roughly rectangular stone kerb to its lower, southern, side and on this a hearth had been set and used before the clay and stone dump of the mound was raised over it. A few sherds of Romano-British pottery were found in this dump. Beneath the mound the earliest construction was a terrace formed by throwing downhill turf and subsoil cut by terracing into the hill slope. On this terrace a layer of red clay had been laid and a number of stakes set which had been subsequently burnt. On the downward side of the terrace was a thick ashy layer containing numerous Romano-British potsherds and nails, and four bronze breeches. This layer had accumulated during the first and second centuries A.D. and represents the sweepings from the clay-floored terrace. Present impressions are that this was some kind of religious site for open-air ceremonies involving the cremation of animal sacrifices. If this interpretation is maintained a similar function would be indicated for the kerbed mound which was placed squarely upon the earlier site.

The only Romano-British material found within the Main Camp has been half a dozen sherds and some beads (kindly identified by Mrs. M. Guide, F.S.A.). The recent finds below the mound have now revived the problem of Romano-British occupation in the area, and with it the fate of Croft Ambrey's inhabitants when the Main defences were slighted. A single trench at the back of the Annexe rampart produced no evidence to date its construction. It is planned to complete the excavation of the mound in 1966.

*Midsummer Hill* (SO 760375). The first season of work on this hill-fort at the southern end of the Malverns took place at Easter. It was directed by the writer on behalf of the Malvern Hills Archaeological Committee who are organising the campaign of excavation in co-operation with the Club and the Worcestershire Archaeological Society. A detailed levelled survey of the whole 19 acres site was carried out as the first stage towards an assessment of the total

hill-fort population; and gradiometer and resistivity surveys were conducted extensively on Hollybush Hill. A number of small trial excavations revealed many post-holes suggesting a close cover of timber buildings.

Excavations in 1966 will be for four weeks starting on 8th August. Volunteers are invited to apply for details from the writer at Ashfield Cottage, Luston, Leominster.

#### ROMAN

*Croft Ambrey* (SO 443668). See above, p. 156.

*Huntsham* (SO 565175). Mr. N. P. Bridgewater has sent the following report on the Archenfield Group's excavations:

"The present site, area G, was commenced in 1962, and has now been extended. This is clearly the main villa, and work has revealed the plan of one wing, 100 ft. in length. This contains nine rooms, most of which have stone floors. In one room some of the stone paving remains. Although the dating has not yet been fully elucidated there appears to have been three main periods: (1) second century; (2) early-mid fourth century; (3) late fourth century.

"One room contains a channelled hypocaust, the back-fill of the flues containing samian ware. Period 2 is represented by the insertion of a corndrier in one room, and this was later filled in and covered by a new floor which sealed a coin deposited in the mid-fourth century. Period 3 is indicated by the presence of coins probably deposited up to 390 A.D., found in the destruction layers.

"In another room were found the remains of a domestic oven. Two large square column bases have been found in this area indicating the existence of a colonnade."

#### MEDIEVAL

*Longtown* (SO 921292). Dr. M. G. Jarrett has directed trial excavations here.

*Tretire* (SO 521239). Mr. N. P. Bridgewater has sent the following report on the excavations carried out on behalf of the Ministry of Public Building and Works:

"An earthwork at Tretire reputed to have been a castle mound, was examined in 1965. References to *Rhytir* manor being held by Walter de Muchgros exist in A.D. 1211. The present excavations did not reveal any early building (of wood or stone) nor a castle mound.

"The earthwork consists of a mound about 145 ft. square with a tump at the northern end, about 8 ft. above general mound

level. A N-S trial trench, 90 ft. x 6 ft. through the tump and mound revealed occupation layers containing only thirteenth century pottery. In the southern sector these layers were cut by an 8 ft. wide W-E wall trench which was over 70 ft. long and had been completely robbed and backfilled with building stone, rubble and mortar. In the northern sector, clay oven remains were found covering burnt grain. Over these layers was a general stony destruction level. The tump consisted of ditch spoil heaped over the earlier layers.

"A central area, 35 ft. x 20 ft. when excavated, showed the robbed wall trench and also demonstrated that it cut a post-hole contemporary with thirteenth century occupation levels in this area. Hence the wall may have been later than the thirteenth century. The area also contained a later stone building with a cobbled stone floor, laid upon the earlier levels. Its destruction layer contained post-medieval pottery.

"Generally, an appreciable amount of pottery (pots, jars and dishes) was found, together with such items as iron knife blades, a rowel spur, nails, iron slag, bronze strips and animal bones. A coin of Constantine I was found in the destruction material.

"The finds are clearly indicative of medieval manor life, but the original structures were probably timber ones. No stone structures could be seen even when the site was levelled in 1965 for agricultural purposes."

#### BOTANY 1965

By F. M. KENDRICK

The only new record for the year was the water plant *Ceratophyllum Submersum* (the Horn wort) which was found in a pool at Homme Park, Much Marcle. Although reported from many stations in the Malvern area, this is the first record for the County.

Other interesting records were:

*Epilobium Nerterioides*—the New Zealand creeping willow herb. In Cusop Quarry.

*Aconitum europaeus*—on the Teme near Brimfield. Early records give this from the Leominster area, but no reports have been received for many years of any plants in that area.

*Frangula alnus*—from Jays Green; now becoming rare in the County.

*Sambucus ebulus* (Danewort)—The Wonder, Marcle Hill.

*Sagina nodosa* (Knotted sandwort).—Cefn Hill—the first discovery for some years.

*Alopecurus aequalis* (Orange foxtail grass)—found round Blake-mere Pool. Again the first recent record of this rather uncommon grass.

Two fungus forays were held this year, the first at Homme Park where 85 different species were found. Of these 10 were rare species and one, *Lactarius mairei*, very rare. The second foray to Haugh wood yielded 51 species which was a good record considering there had been dry weather for the preceeding two weeks.

## DIALECT

By MRS. W. LEEDS

In accordance with the practice adopted in 1964 when I concentrated particularly on terms used in farm work, I this year give details of the work in hopyards and of some of the special terms used in connection with it. For this information I am indebted to Mrs. E. M. Watkins of Preston Wynne and Mr. J. Weaver of Sutton.

The commercial life of a hop plant is 20 years and upwards. The roots are planted in rows and their cultivation involves work at almost every season of the year.

In March comes the "ploughing down". By this, the mould ridged in the previous season round the roots, is broken down and the alley ways, or reans, between the rows, cleared. "Stocking" follows, by which the weeds are cleared from the roots with a "kerf", a type of hoe, or with a three-tined prong or fork. The young shoots of the hops are cut level to the ground with a "hop-hook".

Hops grow rapidly. The shoots, or wires as they are called, are trained and supported on a framework of string which is anchored at ground level to a pin hammered near each root and attached overhead by hooks to wires carried on permanent posts set at intervals of about 20 feet. In attaching the string to the hooks a special pole called a "monkey" is used. The string is "braced" from the pin. At a height of about three feet, two strands are tied together and from that point led out in a single strand along which the wires are trained, two to one strand, three to the other. The remaining wires are pulled out.

The growing of hops in this way on a string framework supported on wires carried by permanent posts, has superseded the exhausting process, in use in some yards as recently as the last war, by which separate poles were each placed to every root. Old workmen who used this method will tell of pain this caused to the feet as each pole was stamped in with the heel. The need for these poles created an

industry within an industry and their provision was a valuable by-product of forestry. Ash coppice originally planted for hop poles is still often to be seen, now wild and neglected, on odd triangles of land up and down the county.

Hop wires grow to follow the sun and as they grow must be "headed"—that is, put up to twine the right way. Then more weeding is done, ready for the "ploughing up", when the soil in the reans is built once more into ridges, on the principle of making "cops" in ploughing, and the reans or alleys cleaned again by scuffling.

In early summer comes the "leafing", the pulling away of leaf growth on the lower part of the wires. Most of the work, apart from the ploughing and the use of the "monkey", is done by women, but after the "leafing" their work in the yards is ended until the September hop-picking.

Throughout July a careful watch must be kept for mildews and pests. Modern fungicides and insecticides have done much to ease this work, which until recent years relied on powder chemicals which had to be used on windless nights.

The hop-picking season usually lasts for three September weeks. In most yards picking is now done by machines, but in smaller yards, or on farms where hops of specially good quality are needed as a sample, hand pickers are still employed. Hand-picking is organised round the crib, a container of hessian nailed to a wooden frame-work about 8 feet long by 3 ft. 6 in. wide, sometimes divided into two for smaller families or single pickers. Each crib is placed in the centre of a "house", an area containing 24 hop roots. The pickers cut the bines, as the growth at this stage is called, and shred the hops into cribs. Bines still left entwined round the upper wires and string are cut down by workmen passing continually up and down the yard to do this. In the old pole yards, these men had the duty of cutting the bines for the pickers, and pulling up the poles covered with the growth and bringing them to the crib. When the "house" is cleared, the crib is moved down the yard to a fresh station, a movement made in rigorous rotation so that each family of pickers has a share of the best hops and of the inside and outside positions. Twice a day, at noon and in the evening, the measuring takes place. Warning is given of the approach of the measurer and his booker by the cry "Clear 'em up"—a request to the pickers to clean from the crib as much as possible of any leafage picked by accident. The hops are measured from the crib in a bushel basket, black and sticky with hop stain, into sacks, 12 bushels to the sack, and a record is made by the booker of the number picked by each family or picker. Until quite recent times it was still the custom in some yards for no written record to be kept, but for tallies or tokens to be given to the pickers which they kept for reference at the day at payment.

The sacks are taken to the kiln—always pronounced “kill”—for drying. In the older type of kiln, this is still done, not by automatically controlled heat, but by the skilled adjustments made by the dryer, the man who carries the greatest responsibility of all and who often stays in the kiln night and day throughout the drying process. Each “Kill Load” is spread thinly over the floor above a hearth which burns anthracite type fuel at a steady heat, and the hops turned once in the process of drying. Throughout great care is taken to prevent as far as possible overmuch breaking and mangling of the flowers.

When dried, the hops are pushed through a trap door into a sack, capacity 2 cwt., the “hoppocket”, and pressed down with the “hop-bagger”, a press operated by the turning of a handle. This done, the pockets are ready for the journey to the hop markets and the breweries.

In the yards, work ends for a brief while. The pickers are paid. The custom of pulling up the last pole and setting it, wreathed with its bine, at the farm gate until pay day, is now long since gone, but a wreath is reserved for the church decoration at harvest festival which in hop growing parishes is often delayed until the hop-picking is over. In this part of the world, the term “hopping” is never used, but always the full word “hoppicking”.

In the later autumn, muck is carried to the yards, and stands in heaps along the desolate and deserted rows until next season's work begins. Again, in old pole yards, these heaps of muck were accompanied by the wigwam-like erections of poles raised ready for use the next spring, but that is a sight now gone for ever.

## VERNACULAR BUILDINGS 1965

By J. W. TONKIN

The recording of smaller, threatened old buildings has gone on steadily and quietly during the year. The old Buildings Recording Group has met for a double session about once a month, sometimes in the Woolhope Room, sometimes in the field and a lot of work has been done. I feel a great debt is owed to the University of Birmingham Extra Mural Department and the W.E.A. for encouraging this work.

### HEREFORD

14 Belmont (Pool Farm) (SO 506392). Now empty. This is the most important building recorded during the past year. The R.C.H.M. Inventory suggests that this was a fifteenth century house largely

reconstructed in the sixteenth, but our examination of it suggests that the main trusses and the external framing apart from the front of the wing are all of one build. It is in excellent condition and a very good example of an open hall with cross wing. The open hall was divided in the sixteenth century, but its timber work is still complete. The porch and stair well were added in the seventeenth century.

### ASHPERTON

Haywood Lane Cottages (SO 649417). A sixteenth century thatched house with “eyebrow” dormers, on a two room plan. This was added to later with a lateral outbuilt chimney and two extra rooms. Later still in the eighteenth century a second cottage of much lighter framing was added on the west.

### AYLTON

Cottage (SO 667372). Small timber-framed cottage on two room plan, probably eighteenth century. Collar and tie beam trusses. Lateral, stone outbuilt fireplace.

### BISHOP'S FROME

Colliers Bridge (SO 694462). Small, derelict, timber-framed cottage probably of late seventeenth century date. The lower storey has been cased in stone, there is a long lean-to at the back and big stone outbuilt chimney at one gable. Roof has collar and tie beam trusses.

The Mounts (Middle Cottage) (SO 692462). Derelict house on two room plan with long lean-to and big, stone outbuilt gable chimney. Originally timber-framed, but lower storey now cased in stone on front and gable. Queen post, collar and tie beam trusses with V struts; one original door preserved. Probably seventeenth century.

The Mounts (South Cottage) (SO 692460). Derelict seventeenth century farmhouse.

The Mounts (Top Cottage) (SO 692461). Small, derelict cottage, probably mainly eighteenth century. Queen post, collar and tie beam roof trusses. On two room plan with outbuilt lateral chimney. Very thin timber in framing. Cased in brick.

MUNDERSFIELD (SO 654496). Unsafe derelict eighteenth century brick cottage.

### BOSBURY

Stanly Hill (SO 675441). Derelict eighteenth century cottage now unsafe to enter.

Barland Cottage (SO 682430). Derelict stone cottage of about 1700.

## BROMYARD

*Flaggoners Green* (SO 645543). Eighteenth century stone cottage now derelict. Two room plan.

*1 and 2 Stallards Bank* (SO 647555). A pair of early semi-detached cottages and important as being an example of early, true cottages. Timber-framed with stone chimney stacks at each end. Framing infilled with brick. Each cottage has two rooms down and two up; and the roofs have collar and tie beam trusses. Eighteenth century buildings now derelict.

*Toll House* (SO 646544). Derelict brick and stone toll house. These buildings are important from the point of view of the industrial archaeologist and the historian of the turnpike roads.

## BURREINGTON

*Old Vicarage* (SO 442720). Now partly in ruins and partly a poultry house. At one time quite a big house. The earlier part, now poultry house, seems to be a late sixteenth century timber-framed building encased in stone in the eighteenth century having a gable outbuilt fireplace. The ruined wing is late seventeenth century and almost doubled the size of the house. It was timber-framed and the fine turned baluster staircase and one panelled door still remain.

## CODDINGTON

*Coddington Farm* (SO 722431). Eighteenth century stone farmhouse with upper cruck trusses.

## DOCKLOW

*Holly Cottage* (SO 557562). Timber-framed cottage cased in stone.

## ELTON

*Evenhay* (SO 463700). A typical lesser yeoman's house of the seventeenth century recorded before modernisation and additions carried out early in 1965. Two-room plan, timber-framed house with entry directly into hall. Big outbuilt, stone gable chimney; other end unheated. Thatched. Collar and tie beam trusses and remarkably well preserved sets of carpenters' marks. An interesting stone, possibly a weaver's mark, is built into the fireplace gable. A remarkably unaltered house until this year's alterations were made.

## GRENDON BISHOP

*Yew Tree Cottage* (SO 594572). Stone cottage with brick additions. Now modernised. Two-room plan.

## LEDBURY

*Ham Brook* (SO 681399). Remains of two seventeenth century timber-framed houses.

*Marley Hall* (SO 685406). Seventeenth century timber-framed hall and cross-wing now used as store rooms.

## LEINTHALL STARKES

*Old Farm* (SO 434695). Fine, prosperous yeoman's, timber-framed house of the period 1620-40 with a stone service wing of 1779. Original house jettied at gables on first floor and attic levels. Good moulded beams and bressummers throughout in a remarkably uniform style. Big stone outbuilt stack serves hall and chamber above and has two diagonally placed stacks.

## LITTLE MARCLE

*The Ladin* (SO 665355). Seventeenth century hop room with upper cruck trusses. This building was dismantled apparently soon after being built and rebuilt in its present position.

## MUNSLEY

*Little Nelves* (SO 669402). Derelict brick cottages.

*Old Parsonage* (SO 662422). Now derelict seventeenth century timber-framed building with collar and tie beam trusses and V struts. House is on a two room and passage plan with the stairway at the end of the passage. The original hall has a stone outbuilt gable fireplace, and the upstairs is lit by dormer windows.

## ROSS-ON-WYE

*Cleeve Farm* (SO 590236). Stone and timber-framed barn of stilted cruck construction. A very good example.

## WACTON

*Butterley Brook Cottage* (SO 618581). A late sixteenth or early seventeenth century timber-framed house on a two room plan with an outbuilt gable fireplace to which was added a stone wing later in the seventeenth century. In one room a hop treading hole still remains. Now derelict.

## WIGMORE

*Brook Farm* (SO 413689). A most interesting central chimney type of house probably of the period just before the Civil War. Timber-framed. Recorded before major alterations this year. Collar and tie beam trusses with V struts. Lobby entrance into space by chimney. A good example of a yeoman's house of the period.

*Ford Street* (SO 416690). Now two cottages, perhaps two dwellings since late seventeenth century. Eastern house built about 1600 on two-room plan with entry directly into hall. Jettied in front. Woodwork very good and obviously this was the home of somebody of some wealth in the borough. Later the house was extended to make an additional room around the stone outbuilt gable chimney on the west. Late in the seventeenth century a two room addition was made to this possibly as a separate cottage from the start.

*Lodge Farm* (SO 388692). Now empty. A fine farmhouse, magnificently situated on the Wigmore Rolls. It appears to be of three periods of building, early sixteenth century with jettied, early seventeenth, and late seventeenth. The big stone fireplace of the earliest part has Norman pillars and capitals as jambs, probably from Wigmore Abbey. The second part consisting of a parlour and chamber above has a panelled ceiling. The third part is an addition to the full length of the house at the back with a typical, big central dormer window.

#### YATTON

*Westnors End* (SO 626318). Barn now demolished. Six-bay, timber-framed of the late sixteenth century or early seventeenth century. Collar and tie beam trusses.

In addition to the above houses which have been recorded as fully as possible in the circumstances prevailing at each site important features have been recorded in other buildings and notes made as indicated below.

#### HEREFORD

*4 and 5 High Town* (SO 511401). During alterations a record was made of what was left of the earlier plan of these buildings, of the early eighteenth century stairway and of some medieval woodwork in the cellar.

#### ACTON BEAUCHAMP

*Church Farm* (SO 680504). Details and measurements of one of five upper cruck trusses in a stone built hop room.

#### ALLENSMORE

*Three Horseshoes Inn*. Plan of timber-framed inn.

Of the buildings mentioned above those in the Bosbury area were recorded by Mr. I. Homes sometimes with Miss M. Homes, those in the Bromyard area by Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Perry and those in the Wigmore area by the writer and Mrs. M. Tonkin. Cleeve Barn was

recorded by Mr. A. Clarke, the Three Horseshoes Inn by Miss J. Bickerton and Pool Farm by the group as a whole.

The R.C.H.M. Inventory for Herefordshire lists only those buildings erected before 1714. However, some of earlier date were not included and many of those mentioned above are not in the inventory.

In addition to the above much has been done in photographic recording especially by Cmdr. M. B. Hale in the Much Marcle area and in a number of ways by Mr. V. H. Coleman, Mrs. J. O'Donnell and others.

Work has been started on other buildings derelict or in danger of alteration or demolition and brief recordings have been made of some not mentioned above. 1965 seems to have been a fruitful year and we hope 1966 will be even better.



## REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND SUB-SECTIONS

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH SECTION

At the Special General Meeting of the Club held on May 20th, 1965, it was agreed that members could form sections to pursue particular interests. An inaugural meeting of the Archaeological Research Section was held on July 8th and the following constitution was adopted.

#### CONSTITUTION

1. The section shall be called the Archaeological Research Section.
2. It shall arrange its own programme, but shall remain subordinate to the Central Committee in all matters relating to the general welfare of the Club.
3. Membership shall be open to all Club members prepared to take an active part in the sections work.
4. The annual subscription shall be 5/-.
5. The section shall have its own Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.
6. The A.G.M. shall be held before June 30th.
7. Monthly meetings shall be arranged by the Officers.

#### OFFICERS elected were:

<i>Chairman</i>	..	..	Mr. S. C. Stanford.
<i>Vice-Chairman</i>	..	..	Mr. F. Noble.
<i>Secretary</i>	..	..	Miss S. M. Crompton
<i>Treasurer</i>	..	..	Mr. E. L. Crooks.

The section now has 48 members and has held four monthly meetings. The County has been divided into areas for which individual members have taken responsibility and a regular inspection of scheduled monuments has begun. All members have been given forms on which to enter the date of inspection, condition and National Grid Reference of known monuments, and a description of new sites. Several probable new sites have been noted and it is hoped that visits to these can be arranged during the Summer months.

Members report on their field work at the monthly meetings when there is also a discussion on some archaeological topic. All members take part in the discussions which have included Lynchets, Deserted Medieval Villages and Roman Roads in Herefordshire.

## THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON HEREFORD RE-DEVELOPMENT

In view of the need for careful study of plans for re-development and road widening in the city, a special sub-committee was formed consisting of the following members: F. Noble, B.A., H. J. Powell, F.R.I.B.A., Miss J. E. Bookham, B.Sc., Miss S. M. Crompton, Mr. V. H. Coleman, Mr. R. J. Hillaby, B.A., Mr. J. V. Tonkin, B.A. This met for the first time on February 13th, 1965 to consider a memorandum on the apparent threat to the City Walls, prepared by the President. It was agreed that the following statement should be sent to the authorities concerned, to National Societies, and to any organisations and individuals who might assist a campaign for the preservation and enhancement of the Walls, to ensure that they knew of the threats posed by the present scheme:

#### RELIEF ROAD PLANS AND THREATS TO HEREFORD CITY WALLS

The "Statement of Principles" published by the Central Area Re-development Sub-Committee in 1962 pointed out (p. 4) how the opportunity of defining the Central Area by rebuilding the old City Walls, presented itself with the suggested construction of the Inner Relief Road. This was to be laid out as a "parkway" with no frontage development, and (p. 8) "*the area remaining between the wall and the inner ring road should be landscaped*".

From this and the Diagrammatic Plan appended it was taken that the propositions which had been put forward by the Woolhope Club, and by George Cadbury in his pamphlet on *Hereford City Walls* in 1946, had been accepted, and that the demarcation, and preservation of the remains of the wall, and of its gates, throughout the whole circuit, had been adopted as part of the far-sighted scheme to establish the central area as a pedestrian precinct, retaining its ancient street pattern.

Plans appended to the "Statement of Principles" (1962) gave no indication that the line of the Walls was likely to be threatened, and it is well known that all building development in the vicinity of the wall has been restricted for the past fifteen years.

No public indication has ever been given that this principle has been in any way diluted or abandoned, and only a careful examination of the Draft Town Centre Map published in December 1964, and comparison with the detailed plans for the road which have been approved by the Ministry of Transport, reveals that in fact considerable stretches of the line of the Wall are to be obliterated in the programme which is now in hand, and that the idea of retaining its integrity as a feature seems to have been almost abandoned. It

seems that the engineers are determined to make it a Ring Road which will look like every other Ring Road.

The scheme, properly carried out, would have provided Hereford with a major historic feature in its town centre development which would have been unique in Britain in its completeness and accessibility.

The stretches immediately threatened are:

- (1) From West Street to approximately 100 yards beyond Eign Street along Wall Street, completely obliterating the site of Eign Gate by a pedestrian subway access, and the north-western salient of the town, unless the Ministry of Transport can be persuaded to accept a much altered scheme for the traffic junction at this point, which is generally regarded as unsatisfactory. Over 20 yards of wall could be saved in the present scheme by a slight alteration in the line of footpath proposed, turning it back through the Brewery entrance on to the present Wall Street.
- (2) From about 50 yards east of Widemarsh Street to about 50 yards beyond the Commercial Street roundabout along Bath Street, a stretch of about 200 yards where the work of obliteration, begun towards the end of the 18th Century is now to be completed to leave no trace of the line of defence. At least 30 yards of this could be saved by keeping the line of the footway behind the wall by turning it through the existing gap at Bell Alley. A similar adjustment could preserve the entire line south of Union Street. It would be possible to preserve more extensive stretches by a minor adjustment of the lines of the road itself, but we consider it regrettable that the possibility of complete preservation here seems to have been compromised by the planning permission granted in recent years, which has allowed the erection of the Franklin Barnes "Garden Centre".

It seems that these works are liable to be put in hand without any opportunity being given for excavating and recording the plans and details of these gates and stretches of wall. Even on those parts where the walls are to be preserved, and where work is in progress, little care seems to be demanded and some of the wall has already suffered casual damage.

A regrettable feature is the way in which these schemes have gone through without any effort being made to inform interested people that it had been found necessary to change the published "principles", and without consultation. If the Ancient Monuments Branch of the Ministry of Works have approved this scheme it is a deplorable decision, and we must press them to undertake adequate excavation and recording of what is lost if it is now impossible to maintain the

integrity of the original plan. No adequate archaeological or historical account of the development of Hereford's defences exists and a considerable amount of the evidence is now likely to be bulldozed away.

If the principles of the Re-development Plan are to be eroded in this way by Government Departments it is idle to hope that commercial interests will spare much effort to implement the other principles of the scheme. There is a danger that Hereford may come to share with Worcester its unenviable reputation for the unintelligent destruction of features of interest and antiquity, instead of fulfilling hopes that it would provide an outstanding example of the successful reconciliation of the best features of past, present and future through this plan.

The Committee agreed that plans should be made to secure the participation of the Ministry of Works and as much local assistance as could be found for the extensive programme of excavation and recording which will need to be undertaken if major alterations in the plans be achieved. The offer of full co-operation from the City Surveyor was welcomed.

The Committee expressed general satisfaction with reports of progress on the houses in High Street and Church Street. It was agreed that members should make further investigations into the likely effects of road widening programmes and re-development schemes in the Central area on scheduled buildings.

Reports on this were presented to a meeting of the Club on February 25th, when a unanimous resolution was passed urging that all possible steps should be taken to maintain the City Walls and requesting the authorities to see if alterations could be made to the present schemes so that the original plan of exposing, conserving and landscaping the walls could be fulfilled.

Representations to the Ancient Monuments Branch of the Ministry of Works led to a grant towards the cost of an excavation organized by the City Museum on the site of a bastion in Blueschool Street at Easter. A suggestion that the Ancient Monuments Branch be approached by the City for help and advice on the restoration was taken up, and a visit was made by the Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments on July 14th.

Hereford was listed among the 51 "Historic Towns" which the Council for British Archaeology, in its list published in July 1965, considered so important that they urged that the responsibility for them should become a national concern. (The only town of comparable size in the West Midlands and Wales to appear in this select list was Warwick.)

Representation was made to the C.B.A. that every effort should be made to have Hereford designated as a pilot project in historic

town re-development, in the hope that this might lead to a more adequate implementation of the plans for retaining historic features than seemed likely under the existing arrangements.

Further concern was aroused by features of the draft plans for Central Area Re-development. These were discussed at a meeting on November 29th and reported to the Annual General Meeting on 18th December, 1965, which passed a resolution that the following points should be brought to the notice of those concerned:

#### CENTRAL AREA RE-DEVELOPMENT AND THE HISTORIC CHARACTER OF HEREFORD

##### THE CITY WALLS

It seems that the hopes of retaining a meaningful and reasonably complete line of the City Wall round the northern perimeter have been largely abandoned. We would urge that every effort should be made to keep some stretch on its true line in every sector. We would not favour the erection of mock "wall" on different alignments.

##### EXCAVATIONS

These plans will involve the destruction of a considerable amount of evidence from which many obscure features in the history of Hereford might be illuminated and we would urge that an "Excavation Fund" be set up, to which public contributions might also be invited. We would also urge discussions with the Ancient Monuments Division of the Ministry of Works, to ensure that the maximum amount of preservation and the best conservation of surviving features is obtained, and that all excavation and recording of demolished features is competently carried out.

##### THE RE-DEVELOPMENT AREAS

The present plan seems likely to affect the following features: the 13th century cellars under 88 and 89 Eign Street and the timber-framed 43 Bewell Street; the Black Swan and the Mansion House in Widemarsh Street, two of its most interesting old buildings are shown as to be preserved only as facades, but we would urge that an attempt should be made to preserve the timber framing, ceilings and panelling of their upper rooms in the plan; behind this, consideration should be given to retaining the Bowling Green, which is well over 200 years old, since its position largely coincides with an open central space in the development plan. On the opposite side of Widemarsh Street the proposed development appears to break the present "building line" in an unnecessarily obtrusive fashion. We would also like to see more effort to retain a clearer indication of the ancient line of Maylord Street. It is also hoped that the note "Future development

to allow for rear service access" does not imply any threat to the block of buildings at the junction of High Town and Widemarsh Street, which seem essential to the townscape.

##### THE ANCIENT STREET PLAN

We would emphasise that the really unique opportunity in Hereford is that of retaining an almost unaltered plan of early streets in a re-developed and active central area. Other towns may retain more in the way of ancient buildings, but none have such an opportunity of retaining the real setting and character of a historic centre without diminishing its capacity for commercial activity and growth. Any modifications of the present street plan in the central area should be kept to a minimum.

## NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

R. G. Schafer is Professor of History in the University of Michigan, Flint College, U.S.A. His researches in the Huntington Library, California, have resulted in much work on the career of James Brydges, first Duke of Chandos (1674-1744). This has led to a concern with political and social life of Herefordshire in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. Publications include "Bye-election in a Rotten Borough", and "the Making of a Tory", in the *Huntington Library Quarterly*, and "Cannons no Canon" in *Papers of the Michigan Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters*.

## Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club

(HEREFORDSHIRE)

### PROCEEDINGS, 1966

#### SPRING MEETINGS

FIRST MEETING: 12th February: The President, Mr. H. J. Powell, in the chair.

Miss D. E. Paul, B.A., one time assistant at the County Record Office, spoke on "The Manor of Pencombe, 1303-1452". Miss Paul's talk was based on the Manor Court Rolls. During the period under review the manor was in possession of the Whitney family and other local families held tenancies. The records also revealed that the Bishops of Hereford held land on the estate and Miss Paul felt that this probably accounted for the local legend that the Mayor of Hereford had to pay a rent of a gilt spur to the Manor of Pencombe.

SECOND MEETING: 12th March: The President, Mr. H. J. Powell, in the chair.

Mr. J. W. Tonkin, B.A., a member of the club, who has been tutor to a group of people in the county during the past two years on behalf of the Extra-mural Department of Birmingham University and the W.E.A., referred to the work which had been done in various ways on the recording of old buildings. This work was valuable in the economic history and life of the people as well as a record of buildings before they were altered or demolished. Work done by the group in the form of plans, drawings, models, photographs, colour transparencies, transcripts of Herefordshire probate records, deeds and photostats of hearth tax returns were on display. Mr. Tonkin introduced three members of the group, viz. Mr. Coleman who spoke on his own cruck cottage at Eardisley; Mr. Perry on several houses in the Bromyard area, and Commander Hale on the 17th century Hearth Tax returns for the parish of Much Marcle alongside the houses there today; a tape made by Mr. Homes as he recorded a house was played back.

F. C. MORGAN LECTURE: 25th March in the Town Hall. The President, Mr. H. J. Powell, in the chair.

Professor W. F. Grimes, C.B.E., D.LITT., F.S.A., F.M.A., Director of the University of London Institute of Archaeology, had kindly consented to deliver this open lecture. Professor Grimes spoke on

"The Long Barrows of the Black Mountains". He traced the development of the long barrow from the Middle East through Europe to reach our own islands in the fourth millenium B.C. Having set the scene in this way he dealt in detail with the barrows of the Black Mountains and the surrounding area. As detailed examples he used two barrows which have been excavated, Ty Isaf near Talgarth and Pipton near Glasbury, and Arthur's Stone, the well-known Herefordshire example.

About 130 people were present and thoroughly appreciated this most interesting lecture by one of the great British archaeologists of our day.

**FOURTH MEETING:** 5th April: The President, Mr H. J. Powell, in the chair.

Mr. Miles Hadfield, a member of the club, gave his lecture on "Gardens, Gardeners and Herefordshire". He began by giving an outline of the development of gardens from the formal type of the Tudor times to the natural landscape pattern developed by Capability Brown and his successors. He explained how the introduction of brightly coloured shrubs had brought much colour into the present day gardens, and the re-introduction of the formal beds. Mr. Hadfield then showed colour transparencies of various gardens illustrating the features of design which he had been discussing. He showed how the designs of the natural gardeners such as Capability Brown had been modified by the work of such men as Uvedale Price of Foxley and Knight of Downton. Finally he explained how Herefordshire gardeners had improved the breeding of the flag iris, daffodil and orchids, and their contributions to garden design.

**SPRING ANNUAL MEETING:** 14th April: The President, Mr. H. J. Powell, in the chair.

The President gave his address on "Medieval Hereford and its Place in the Twentieth Century", a very appropriate subject in these days of constant talk of planning in the city. The address is printed on pp.256-261.

As retiring President, Mr. Powell installed as President for 1966-1967 Mr. F. M. Kendrick, who then took the chair.

#### FIELD MEETINGS

**FIRST FIELD MEETING:** 14th May: MEON HILL and WINCHCOMBE.

Proceeding through Evesham and Mickleton a stop was made near Meon Hill for members to visit the Iron Age hill fort. The Hon. Secretary said that the visit had something of the nature of

a pilgrimage as Mr. F. C. Morgan, who had served the club so well, had, while living at Stratford-on-Avon, visited the camp many times and made some surface finds. As far as could be ascertained no systematic excavation had been carried out. The site is best known for the discovery last century of a hoard of iron currency bars, one of which is in Hereford museum. The bivalent defences are typical of the Western Second B Iron Age culture. After a picnic lunch members walked round the defences. Passing through the attractive villages of Broadway, Stanton and Stanway, Hailes Abbey was reached. Mr. Powell spoke about its history and the remains were visited. The route thence was along the ancient Salt Way over Salter Hill to Sudeley Castle over which members were taken by guides. The gardens were visited also.

**SECOND FIELD MEETING:** 4th June: TALLEY and PUMPSAINT.

The party travelled through Brecon to Treacastle where the fine mountain road through Pont-ar-Hydfer and Twyn Llanan was taken. Unfortunately the mist came down and the good views of the Carmarthen Vans and Black Mountains could not be fully appreciated. A brief stop was made at Castell Meurig on Carreg Sawdde Common where members looked at the motte and bailey castle of Castle Meurig and where Mr. Kendrick explained its geological and historical significance. This castle was built on the only piece of solid ground amidst a gravel valley and it appeared to have had a short existence as it was destroyed about 1200. The party then proceeded through the villages of Bethlehem, Ffair Fach and Llandilo to Talley Abbey. Here, despite intermittent rain, members ate their picnic lunch and had a look at the remains of the only Premonstratensian abbey in Wales, now in the care of the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works. Members also walked up the hill to the north of the abbey to view the two natural lakes. The party travelled to Pumpsaint to visit the Ogofau Gold Mines where Mr. Kendrick spoke on their history and geology. These mines are known to have worked from Roman times down to the mid 1920's; the gold being found in the quartz veins of older metamorphosed rocks. Members climbed up the rock face to see the many adits of Roman and later times, a few of which run into the rock to a depth of a quarter of a mile. Nearby the motte which the Normans threw up to protect the mines was seen. The party proceeded up the valley of the Towy and then down to Llanwrtyd Wells. A brief stop was made at Cefn-y-bedd to see the monument marking the site of the slaying of Llewellyn, the last native Prince of Wales, in 1282.

**THIRD FIELD MEETING (half day): 25th June: ST. WEONARD'S and SKENFRITH.**

Members travelled via Wormelow and stopped at the ruined church at Llanwarne dating mainly from the 13th and 14th centuries and abandoned due to repeated flooding. It was described by Mr. Powell. The next stop was at Gillow Manor by kind invitation of Mr. R. W. Gaskell. It is a timber-framed building with a stone built tower and presumed chapel. Notes on its history compiled by Mr. G. Marshall in 1938 were read by Mr. Kendrick. There is a curious effigy in the cellar. St. Weonard's church with its massive perpendicular tower was visited and described by Mr. Powell. After a picnic tea members went to Skenfrith castle where Mr. E. Read spoke about the recent excavations inside the castle, which had revealed wall foundations and underground chambers and the effect these had on the history of the castle. By kind permission of Mr. Edwards members visited the adjoining water mill and were able to see the water wheel in action though the mill stones are not in use. The return journey through Garway Common, Garway Hill, Brgwy-Llidiart, Saddlebow Common and Orcop Hill afforded fine views.

**FOURTH FIELD MEETING: 21st July: EWENNY and OGMORE.**

The route was through Cardiff to Ewenny following in parts the Roman road from Caerleon to Carmarthen. At Ewenny the remains of the fortified priory were visited. Founded in 1141 by Maurice de Londres of Ogmores Castle as a cell of Gloucester for Benedictine monks the church is the best example in Wales of Norman ecclesiastical architecture. It was described by Mr. Powell. Members were conducted over the unique castellated curtain walls, gatehouse and towers by the custodian. The next stop was at Ogmores Castle, the ruins of which are picturesquely situated on the banks of the Ewenny river just above its confluence with the Ogmores River. At the castle the river can be crossed by the famous stepping stones. Here Mr. Coleman read notes prepared by Mr. Kay. Its history is bound up with the de Londres family, the first recorded member, William, was holding it in 1116. He had taken part in the Norman invasion under Fitzhamon. The castle eventually became crown property through marriage with the Lancastrians. The road alongside the estuary of the Ogmores river was then followed to Ogmores-on-Sea where the Sutton Quarries were visited. Mr. Kendrick spoke about the geological formations. Sutton stone has been used extensively in the Norman and Medieval churches of Glamorgan. The return to Hereford was via Ogmores Vale and the finely engineered road over the Bwlch-y-Clowdd pass to the

Rhondda valley and over the Craig Rhondda pass and the Heads of the Valleys road to Abergavenny. At the Craig Rhondda pass Mr. Kendrick spoke on the geology of the region to the north.

**FIFTH FIELD MEETING (half day): 27th August: HAY and PAINSCASTLE.**

Members travelled through Bredwardine and stopped at Clifford Castle which was associated with "Fair Rosamund" and mentioned in Domesday as held by Ralph de Toden. Mr. Noble gave an account of its history and Air Commodore Iron, who excavated the barbican some 13 years ago, explained features revealed by the excavation. The party travelled through Hay and Clyro to Painscastle where a picnic tea was taken on the huge mounds that mark the site of the castle founded by the Todenis about 1090. Mr. Noble in describing the castle's history spoke of the long, bitter struggles between the Welsh and the Marcher Lords and of the extended royal visit by Henry III. At Michaelchurch-on-Arrow Mr. Powell described the small church there with its unusual baldachino and tower.

**SIXTH FIELD MEETING: 17th September: STOKESAY and CORVEDALE.**

Members travelled via Canon Pyon, Mortimer's Cross and Wigmore and stopped at Pipe Aston where Mr. Coleman spoke about the small Norman church with its very interesting wall paintings inside and carved tympanum over the north door. Proceeding over Bringewood Chase and Whitcliff a stop was made at Stokesay Castle where Mr. Tonkin spoke about the buildings, most of which were erected about 1209-1305. The great hall is interesting in that it shows a mixture of the local cruck construction and the eastern England collar purlin. Attention was also drawn to the panelling, chimneys and other features. After travelling via Craven Arms, Diddlebury, Peaton and Bouldon, and the Heath Chapel, a picnic lunch was taken at Nordybank. Many members climbed to the top of the earthwork which affords a remarkable view over the whole of Corvedale. At Holdgate church Mr. Kay spoke about the fine Norman doorway and font and other features. Proceeding through Stanton Long, Broadstone and Beambridge, the White House, Aston Munslow was visited. Here Mr. Tonkin gave a brief talk about the history of this fascinating house. It has a cruck hall with a sixteenth century cross-wing and further additions of late eighteenth century date. Members enjoyed the small folk museum here. After tea at Craven Arms Hotel the party proceeded to Bromfield where Preb. Moir told of the interesting story of the abbey, the present chancel having for a time been part of a house after the

dissolution. Attention was drawn to the fine roof painting, the early stained glass and much else of interest. The return journey was through Ludlow to Hereford via Richard's Castle, Luston and Leominster.

**SEVENTH FIELD MEETING (half day): 1st October: WEOBLEY and KINNERSLEY.**

The first stop was at Wormsley where Mr. Powell spoke about the small, much altered Norman church. Proceeding through Weobley the next stop was at "The Ley" where members were able to walk around the garden and look at the house. Mr. Tonkin said this fine building of 1589 shows how timber-framing weathers to a pleasant grey if left untreated. Returning to Weobley, the church was visited and described by Mr. Powell. It is a building of many periods with a 180 foot spire and tombs of Walter Devereux and Colonel Birch. Before walking through the main street of Weobley to the castle, Mr. Tonkin spoke about the wealth of 16th and 17th century houses there and referred to particular ones which would be passed on the way to the castle. Mr. Noble spoke about the castle and its earthworks and pointed out their significance as the centre of the De Lacy Honour. The party proceeded through Sarnesfield to Kinnersley Castle where members were conducted over the building by the owner, Mr. H. Garratt-Adams, who spoke about the importance of this late Tudor house which incorporates an earlier, probably medieval, building.

**AUTUMN MEETINGS**

**FIRST MEETING: 22nd October: The President, Mr. F. M. Kendrick, in the chair.**

Miss E. M. Jancey, M.A., a member of the club, and the assistant county archivist, gave an interesting talk on Aconbury Priory. She traced its history from its foundation in 1216 when King John granted the land on which to found it to Margery Lacy, a daughter of William Braose, to its dissolution by Henry the Eighth in 1536. It was originally granted to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John but about 1240 it was transferred to the Augustinian order. During the thirteenth century it was well endowed by the great border families with lands in Herefordshire at Aconbury, Mansel Gamage, Peterchurch and Vowchurch and with rents from houses in Ludlow, Monmouth and Tetbury. Little remains of the priory buildings except the parish church of Aconbury. But what does remain are an immense number of documents, such as the cartulary and

manorial and bailiff's account rolls which show the workings of the priory which Miss Jancey brought alive to those present.

The secretary reported that the Great Oak at Eardisley was needing tree surgery, and it was agreed that the club should give a small donation if needed.

**F. C. MORGAN LECTURE: 12th November in the Percival Hall: The President, Mr. F. M. Kendrick, in the chair.**

Dr. C. S. Raleigh Radford, M.A., F.B.A., F.S.A., had kindly consented to speak on the "Excavations at Glastonbury Abbey". Dr. Radford, with a series of interesting slides, showed recent archaeological work at Glastonbury and told the story as far as it can be pieced together of the prehistoric settlements and the christian sites from the early Dark Ages onwards. He said that up to the present there is no evidence for the legend of Joseph of Arimathea, but that Arthur was definitely buried there. Over 100 members and friends thoroughly enjoyed Dr. Radford's fascinating lecture. The club also expressed its thanks to Mr. F. C. Morgan for providing tea.

**THIRD MEETING: 26th November: The President, Mr. F. M. Kendrick, in the chair.**

Sectional Recorders for Dialect and Folk Lore, Botany and Geology, and Vernacular Buildings read their reports. These are printed on pp.257-268.

**WINTER ANNUAL MEETING: 10th December: The President, Mr. F. M. Kendrick, in the chair.**

Officers for 1967-1968 were elected.

Mr. A. D. Dawson, Assistant Treasurer, presented the accounts for 1965.

Dr. C. W. Walker read his sectional report on Ornithology and Mammals. This is printed on pp.262-263.

Members were shown a colour film called "Rivers of Time" tracing the history of the civilisations of the Tigris-Euphrates valley from the Sumerians through to modern Baghdad.



## WILLIAM HENRY HOWSE

1884-1966

By the death of William Henry Howse in February, 1966, the Woolhope Club lost a valued member. A descendant of a family formerly owning much land in Oxfordshire, he was born in Worcestershire on July 4th, 1884, and was educated at Cheltenham Preparatory School and King Edward's School, Birmingham. At an entrance examination for the Civil Service 1903 he was placed twelfth in all England, and before ill-health overtook him in 1938 he had become a senior executive in the Ministry of Labour.

A life-long lover of Wales, Mr. Howse took up residence at New Radnor and subsequently at Presteigne upon retirement and devoted himself to the border country and became a great authority upon Radnorshire in particular. In 1949 he wrote and published a history and descriptive account of that county which will remain as his lasting memorial. He was a prominent member of the Radnorshire Society and contributed many articles to the *Transactions*, and wrote scholarly booklets upon several churches, including Old Radnor, which considerably helped the church finances. As a guide for visiting societies he was invaluable for his accurate knowledge. Presteigne owes much to his love of the town and the investigations made into its history published in 1945. He fought for the revival of almost forgotten charities and for the proper use of their finances and incomes.

Mr. Howse joined the Woolhope Club in 1945 and at once became a contributor to its activities. His earliest appearance in the *Transactions* was in 1945 when notes on ornithology were contributed—a subject in which he took a great interest. In 1946 he sent his first paper *The Coaching Era in Hereford* and in 1952 wrote a short history of the city for a chapter in the centenary volume published to commemorate the one hundredth year of the club in 1951. By permission of the late Major Ralph Harley, Mr. Howse examined the family archives at Brampton Bryan and from these contributed many items of local interest and a longer paper—*A Harley cash-book of 1725-7*.

William Henry Howse was of a retiring and quiet disposition but with a persistent character which urged him forward in any subject he studied. His gift of friendship was great and to be treasured. During the last two years of his life he had much illness and became almost blind, but kept at work upon his hobbies until nearly the end. His notebooks upon Radnorshire and district are a mine of information on local matters. In 1956 he was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, and in 1964 was created a

Member of the Order of the British Empire in recognition of his services to local history. He married Miss Marguerite Perceval, a member of the Egmont family in 1913, and is survived by his wife, two daughters, six grandchildren and a great-grandson. — F.C.M.

## REGINALD WATERFIELD, Dean Emeritus

Comparatively few of our members may remember that outstanding character, Reginald Waterfield, a former dean of Hereford and president of our club in a remote past, for it is twenty years since he retired and went to live in Ascot.

Ordained for seventy years, a widower after over sixty years of married life, he died in his one hundredth year and his ashes were interred in the Lady Arbour at the cathedral on 14th March, 1967.

Waterfield was a classical scholar with a double first at Oxford, and Doctor of Divinity. How versatile he was! For a year after Oxford he was tutor to Prince Arthur of Connaught, grandson of Queen Victoria, then successively a master at Rugby School, Principal of Cheltenham College (1899-1919), Archdeacon of Cheltenham and Cirencester, Dean of Hereford (1919-1946). He was also Chairman of the Cathedral Measures Commission, in masonic circles Provincial Grand Master and the founder-president of Hereford Rotary Club.

In extreme old age he translated the ten commandments in a series of verse for the Diocesan Messenger, and during sleepless nights transposed nursery rhymes into Latin hexameters.

In a letter to me only two months before his death he gave some recollections of his activities at Hereford, the repair of the surface of the central tower of the cathedral, the removal of houses facing Palace Yard which completely blocked the view of the cathedral from the street, his vacating the deanery at the outbreak of the first World War to reside in a corner of the college cloisters (now the Dean's Lodging) and his making plans for a new deanery overlooking the river.

But his abilities and achievements give no clue to his spiritual powers and the impressive dignity he imparted to the cathedral services especially on ceremonial occasions. To the very end of his life, in spite of failing eyesight, he endeavoured to use his exceptional gifts in selfless service. — A.L.M.

# WOOLHOPE NATURALISTS FIELD CLUB HEREFORDSHIRE

## LEINTWARDINE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1965

£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash at Bank, 1st January, 1965	713	15	0		
Payments for Site Excavations		53	12	6	
Cash at Bank, 31st December, 1965	660	2	6		
£713	15	0	£713	15	0

## GENERAL RESERVE ACCOUNT

£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash at Bank, 1st January, 1965	305	19	9		
Transfer from Current Account	700	0	0		
Legacy from George Marshall, deceased	100	0	0		
Bank Interest received	31	17	0		
£1137	16	9	£1137	16	9

## HEREFORDSHIRE FLORA ACCOUNT

£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash at Bank, 1st January, 1965	92	11	6		
Bank Interest received	4	1	0		
£96	12	6	£96	12	6

## MERRICK BEQUEST FUND

£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash at Bank, 1st January, 1965	47	13	0		
Interest on 3½% War Stock	3	10	0		
Bank Interest received	2	0	6		
£53	3	6	£53	3	6

## GEORGE MARSHALL FUND

£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash at Bank, 1st January, 1965	92	14	7		
Interest on 3½% War Stock	8	9	8		
Bank Interest	4	3	3		
£105	7	6	£105	7	6

## SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT

£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Transfer from Current Account	70	0	0		
Gift—Miss E. M. Jancey	5	5	0		
Bank Interest	9	9			
£75	14	9	£75	14	9

## HONORARY TREASURER'S CASH ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1965

£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balances, 1st January, 1965					
Cash at Bank	550	0	0		
Cash in Hand	15	13	8		
Interest on £590.6.6 3½% War Stock			565	13	8
Proceeds of Sales of Transactions, etc.			20	13	2
Subscriptions			13	7	3
Surplus on Field Meetings			681	15	0
Grants towards Transactions			29	17	3
Council for British Archaeology			100	0	0
Fire Insurance					
Printing					
Stationery					
Postage and Telephone					
Subscriptions, etc.					
Council for British Archaeology					
Headquarters					
Regional Group					
Cambrian Archaeological Association					
The Prehistoric Society					
The Harleian Society					
Bristol and Gloucester Archaeological Society					
British Mycological Society					
Herefordshire Community C'cil					
Conway Telford Bridge Appeal					
Journal of Industrial Archaeology					
Honoraria to Assistants					
Bank Charges and Cheque Books					
Expenses of Annual Gen. Meeting					
Expenses of Cambrian Festival					
Carriage of Books					
Excavations: Croft Ambrey					
Midsummer Hill					
Hereford City Walls					
Transfers to Deposit Accounts:					
General Reserve					
Special Publications					
Balances, 31st December, 1965:					
Cash at Bank					
Cash in Hand					

NOTE: £417.19.0 was owing at 31st December 1965, for printing the transactions and will appear in the next account.

£1411 6 4

## PAPERS 1966

## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

by H. J. POWELL

*Mediaeval Hereford and its place in the Twentieth Century*

My predecessor, in his Presidential address last year, mentioned the ancient city walls and I thought that I could do no better than speak about the streets within those walls with special reference to the ancient and historic buildings remaining. In order to do this I may, by way of example, refer to buildings without the walls and perhaps in the countryside and lesser towns of Herefordshire and for this I crave your indulgence. I shall also make some reference to 17th and 18th century buildings as the work carried out during that period forms an important part of our study.

It is a strange thing that whereas exorbitant prices are paid for paintings, furniture and other works of art, so little regard is given to old buildings other than the churches and certain historic buildings and perhaps by the discerning house purchaser looking for a country cottage. A damaged and ill treated canvas is lovingly restored but a dilapidated half-timber building is described by supposedly responsible citizens as 'rubbish' and much publicity is given in the press to such statements. However, I do not wish it to be thought that my policy is to preserve every building containing half-timber work or Georgian brickwork. As a practising architect I know that many such buildings have no architectural merit and are, in fact, impossible to save but perfect and unusual examples which still exist should be preserved for they are our noble heritage and in many cases when demolished are replaced by inferior work.

This policy of attempting to preserve everything is quite wrong and weakens the case for preserving the outstanding building. This, I think, is what was meant in a recent statement quoted in the press when the policy of too much preservation was condemned by a gentleman who said he did not wish to see the country as a whole turned into a museum. I think such statements need qualifying as they are fine ammunition for the anti-preservationists. I have many times pointed out to the Woolhope Club and to students of Architecture that while there may be new building materials, architecture like history, keeps repeating itself and many present day features such as the framed building and curtain walling can be found in mediaeval architecture. It is for this reason among others that our ancient buildings should be preserved if possible and studied by architectural students.

Our architectural heritage, the Britain the visitor comes to see, has been disappearing at an accelerating rate in recent years despite our planning legislation. We cannot keep all our old buildings for ever, many have little architectural quality, but it is essential to preserve traditional building until architects are more proficient not only in handling modern techniques but also in creating a harmonious elevation. It is my opinion that better legislation is needed to keep our ancient buildings intact and overall control by one department is needed to prevent mistakes and duplication of work. There is a good case for a strong State policy in Britain for the preservation of historic streets and buildings as now exists in France. I am always saddened by the tourist who returns from the continent and tells of the wonderful historic towns and buildings he has seen in France and elsewhere and yet takes no interest in his own heritage and in fact often actively but unconsciously assists in its destruction. It is as well to remember that a town that has lost its history is like a man who loses his memory; who knows neither who nor where he is.

What then is the position as we find it today in the City and County of Hereford?

In the county and lesser towns of Herefordshire there are still many fine 17th and 18th century buildings in regular use and also some of earlier date. I would like to draw your attention to a few examples to illustrate the points that I shall make.

At Eardisland, the Staick House has been a dwelling since the 14th century. The projecting east wing is of the 17th century. This house has been well maintained and is one of the chief assets of this picturesque village.

Weobley is a show place and is to Herefordshire what the Cotswold villages are to Gloucestershire. The 14th century crutch truss building at the rear of the Red Lion is a very perfect specimen of such a building. The Old Grammar School is an early 17th century building with a symmetrical front and a central porch. The Unicorn Inn at Weobley shows 14th century work at one end and the 17th century building at the other. It is interesting to compare it to-day with the illustration in Parkinson and Ould's book on Half-Timber Buildings published in 1904. It can be seen how these buildings have been maintained and improved without impairing their appearance.

Besides the Market Hall at Ledbury there are two fine half-timbered buildings, the Feathers Hotel dating from 1560-1570 with a top floor and north addition of the 17th century and Ledbury Park built by the Biddulph family about 1600. This house is described by Pevsner as the grandest black and white house in the county and the only one to vie with the houses of Shrewsbury.

At Leominster in Broad Street No. 18 is the only remaining half-timber elevation and dates from about 1600. Leominster suffers in comparison with Ledbury in this respect.

Later in date we have the fine Lucton School building of 1708 and Hill Court, Walford 1698-1723.

It is also interesting to consider some of the late Georgian houses in Castle Street, Hereford.

These are only a few examples of what the City and County have to offer but I hope I have shown you some mediaeval and 17th and 18th century buildings still in use which in my opinion are an asset to the country as a whole.

Mediaeval Hereford was a city of half-timber buildings and most of these which were not rebuilt were re-faced with brick walls in the 18th and 19th centuries. A good example of this can be seen adjacent to the Savings Bank in Hereford. (See photograph). Where the Bank is set back in St. Peter Street the side of the adjacent shop can be seen and the way the brick front wall covers the half-timber framing of the original building can be followed. To illustrate what I have already said, a few years ago I had two buildings demolished to prepare for rebuilding in Eign Street. These were both timber framed and with a brick wall facing the street but were devoid of any interest and were of no value either architecturally or archaeologically.

In contrast to this we have the half-timber buildings 4 and 5 King Street, Hereford, where the timber fronts above first floor level have always been exposed but the ground floor shop windows were built out to the line of the gables thus encroaching on the pavement and obscuring the original uprights and brackets which are still intact within the shop. This late 15th century building was restored in 1952/53 and an account of the work will be found in the *Transactions* for 1955.

Our examples of half-timbered buildings in the city become more scarce as the years go by and except for the Old House in High Town and the Almshouses in Aubrey Street, very few remain that can show an unaltered elevation to the street. Neither of these buildings is of the mediaeval period but are dated 1621 and 1630. The preservation of the High Street building is a matter for which we can be thankful and its incorporation in the new building will add interest and, in my opinion, 'raise' the building above the ordinary level.

Many years ago I remember two half-timber cottages being demolished in Kington and all the timberwork was numbered and re-erected as one house with modern improvements. This worthwhile job can be seen on the main road just below Kington church.





It is one thing to preserve a half-timber building but quite another matter to adapt one for modern usage. One of the difficulties of many such buildings, particularly the smaller dwelling, is the lack of headroom. In many cases the rooms are only 6'3" to 6'6" high. This means that for domestic use the rooms do not comply with the Building Acts where the minimum headroom is 7'6". This difficulty was encountered at the Almshouses in Aubrey Street mentioned before but was eventually resolved. The problem of accommodation was solved by converting two dwellings into one so that the original block of six almshouses became a block of three.

As an example of how a half-timber building can be re-used we have only to consider the 'Grange' at Leominster, where the Old Market Hall was purchased and re-erected as a house. It was built by John Abel, the King's Carpenter, in 1633 and is timber-framed, two-storeyed, of five by two bays and quite prodigiously decorated. The ground floor was originally open. We would all agree that Leominster would be better if the Market Hall had never been moved and Ledbury is an example where the Market Hall remains in its original position and makes a good focal point for that fine thoroughfare. However, the Leominster solution was better than Hereford's effort where the finest half-timbered Market Hall in the country was completely destroyed. This building, dating from about 1596, would have been a sight to thrill any visitor from England or abroad. Many fine half-timbered houses still exist in the county and 'The Leys' at Weobley is a worthy example of such a building in first class order.

This house dates from 1589 and has been very little altered. Although Hereford city has lost most of its half-timbered buildings it has retained its mediaeval street pattern and this is something we must not lose.

The Herefordshire County Council, as is known, has produced a development plan for the central area of Hereford which shows many desirable features although the suggestion to make the whole of the central area into a pedestrian precinct may be open to some criticism. One suggestion is the retention of such portions of the city wall that remain and the landscaping of these walls and the areas around them. However, when the inner ring road is laid out many portions of the wall which now exist will have to be demolished. This unfortunate state of affairs is partly the result of different Government departments working in watertight compartments and one Ministry not knowing what another Ministry is doing.

It was also the intention to preserve the ancient street plan of the city which has been described as the most perfect mediaeval city plan in England, but the latest plans prepared for the re-

development of the northern area of the city show the total destruction of both Bewell Street and Maylord Street. Again we were informed that the ancient street frontages on the north sides of Eign Sreet, High Town and Commercial Street would be left intact. But we find that demolition is suggested in Eign Street, Commercial Street and in High Town and if the Butter Market is removed what is to become of the old Market entrance with the Town clock? This was designed by John Clayton in 1861 and is now an indispensable part of High Town. Even worse demolition is contemplated on both sides of Widemarsh Street involving the Mansion House itself. A number of buildings marked for demolition are either recorded by the Royal Commission or 'listed' and the Authorities' attention has been drawn to this matter by the Club. Now the proposals regarding the buildings as originally suggested, if properly carried out, are very worthy but adequate car parks must be provided as a first step. What of these buildings in these areas of the city and how are they affected by the demolition mentioned? The area around the Cathedral has been designated an area of special interest and this is as it should be. The ancient buildings which are worthy and useful should be retained and any new buildings erected must be in sympathy with the surroundings both in scale and treatment. This does not mean copying past styles and there are good contemporary buildings already erected in Hereford and also, unfortunately, some which are not so good.

When dealing with a mediaeval street plan such as Hereford's the use of modern idioms can be completely out of scale with surroundings and this was one of the dangers in Church Street where the demolition of certain houses and the extension of the Telephone Exchange to the same scale as the existing would have completely ruined this most attractive thoroughfare. Many ancient buildings are perfectly adaptable for modern use and, in fact, are a big attraction in addition.

Late 17th and 18th century buildings are usually much easier to deal with than many of the mediaeval buildings. The Mansion House, that elegant William and Mary building (see photograph), like most buildings of its type and age is perfectly suitable for modern use being well built and with adequate headroom. In the 17th century the sash window had been introduced into this country and this lead to higher rooms to allow for the vertical sliding sash. With new show windows provided to this building the existing central walkway to the rear could be used as the main pedestrian access to any area of redevelopment which may be provided in the future. The building south of the Mansion House is also deserving of very careful consideration and 'The Raven' opposite, the site of the birthplace of David Garrick, would also be better

left intact and I see no reason for disturbing them; in fact they must remain if Hereford is going to be the model development we have been promised.

As regards High Town the suggestion to rebuild the block of buildings on the corner of Widemarsh Street is surely a grave mistake incorporating as it does the delightful shop with Georgian windows which is perfectly satisfactory for its purpose.

It is the retention of such buildings which gives Hereford its charm and identifies it from its neighbours.

One of the chief lessons to be learnt from mediaeval or Georgian buildings is their honesty and use of local building materials. The form of their construction is immediately apparent to the beholder and the materials used were to a large extent local and never conveyed any distance unless absolutely necessary. The days of the railways and cheap transport had not arrived and we therefore find native timber used and bricks and tiles often made on the site or close at hand.

Unfortunately, sufficient local materials are not available today for all types of building but nevertheless considerable restraint should be used in the county in the use of alien materials such as cedar wood for housing and Cotswold Stone which is quite out of keeping in our red sandstone countryside.

In conclusion I would also like to call attention to the interesting finds both architectural and archaeological which are uncovered from time to time whilst carrying out building works. In pre-war years any unusual feature or finds were reported to the Woolhope Club and in fact the preservation of the Booth Hall was probably due in a great part to such action. Today we do not seem to have this co-operation and this is probably due to pressure of business and the belief that the work will be delayed and I am afraid that many interesting finds are covered up and forgotten.

# AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE OVER THE ROMANO-BRITISH TOWN OF MAGNA (KENCHESTER)

by ARNOLD BAKER

This paper presents the results of aerial reconnaissance by the writer over the site of Magna (Kenchester) during the period 1956 to 1961. Although under cultivation throughout the period, the site was subdivided into plots each subjected to crop rotation. Because different crops under varying weather conditions year by year do not reveal to the same degree features such as building foundations, roads and ditches which lie beneath the cultivated top soil, it is necessary to maintain continuity in aerial reconnaissance over a number of years to compose an intelligible pattern of such features. Fortunately, the relatively larger area and more substantial construction of road surfaces and structures of a similar nature, may be observed through the medium of crop marks under less advantageous conditions than those necessary to resolve the detailed pattern of building foundations. As a consequence, the evidence from aerial survey during 1956 to 1961 is sufficient to establish the general form of the town plan and its defences; the detailed layout of buildings however, is incomplete, pending more favourable weather and crop conditions.

Only the uppermost remains of building foundations and roads are revealed by crop marks and, in all probability, represent the last phase of construction. The town plan at fig.1 is drawn from crop mark evidence, but not all the features shown are necessarily contemporary and may be the result of development over a period.

## TOWN PLAN (Fig.1. Plates I and II)

The town perimeter is well defined for the most part by the alignment of hedgerows coincident with the town wall. The south-east boundary is confirmed through crop marks and the buried wall foundation from the south corner of the town to a turning point near the east gate can be traced by a lighter line in the cereal crop (plate I). A modern lane and field boundary continue parallel with the wall for approximately half its length. The area occupied by the town is calculated to be 22 acres and confirms the figure quoted by G. H. Jack.<sup>1</sup>

Aerial reconnaissance in 1956 revealed the existence of defences of more than one period. Crop marks show two parallel ditches adjacent to the town wall on the north perimeter; these are probably associated with an early phase of town development. In addition, a more substantial outer ditch is visible on plate III, and forms part of the 4th century defences with bastions, as on other Romano-British town sites.<sup>2</sup> Excavations on the town defences at

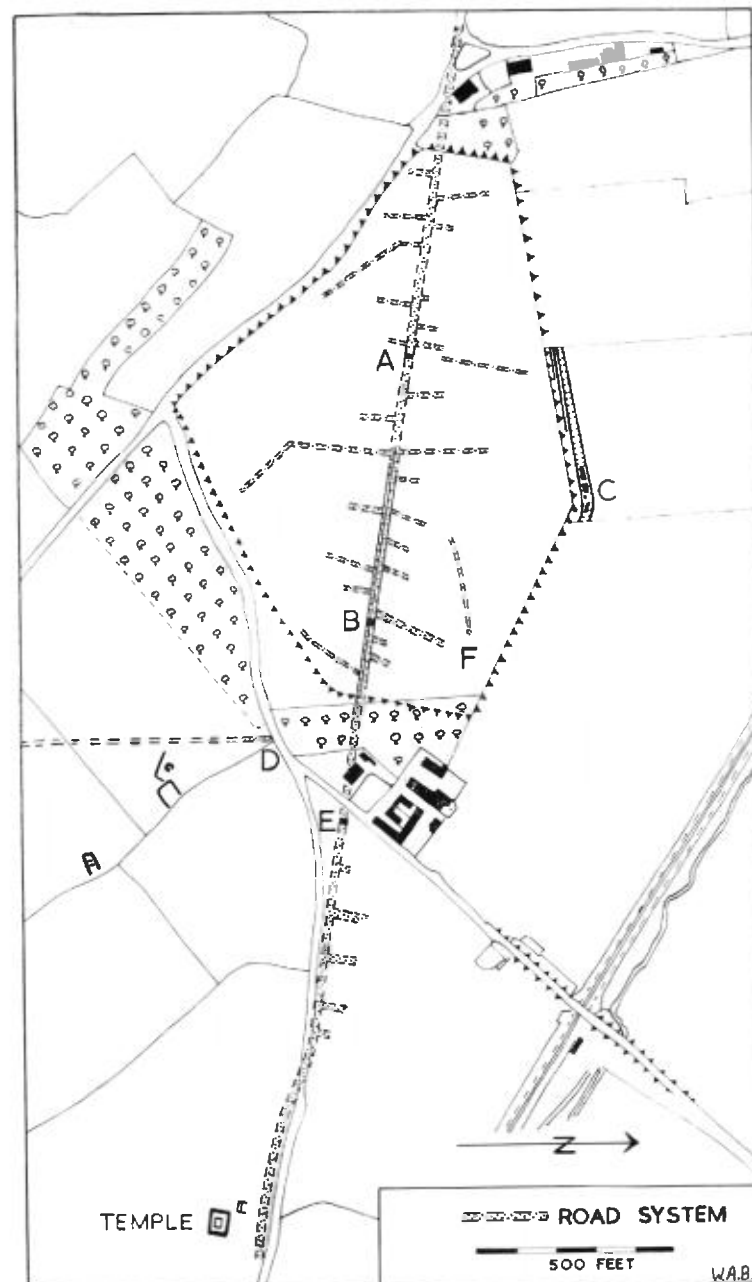


FIG. 1. MAGNA: PLAN OF ROADS AND BUILDINGS. BASED ON ORDNANCE SURVEY 1:2500 PLAN WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE ORDNANCE SURVEY.

[Crown Copyright Reserved]



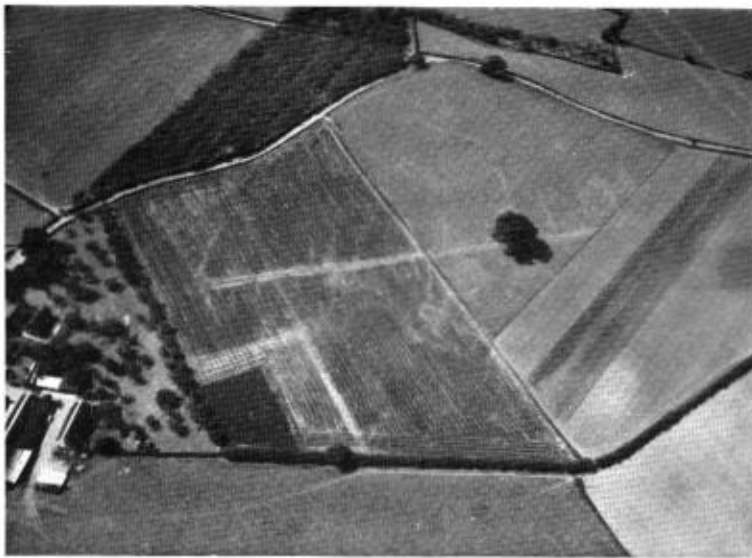


PLATE I. MAGNA FROM THE N.E., SHOWING THE ROAD LAYOUT AND REMAINS OF BUILDINGS

Photo: W. A. Baker



PLATE II. MAGNA FROM THE N.W. SHOWING THE IRREGULAR PATTERN OF SIDE ROADS AND PATHS IN THE WEST HALF OF THE TOWN

Photo: W. A. Baker

the west gate are reported in the *Transactions*.<sup>3</sup> The discovery of a bastion foundation at the north-west corner, during the 1956-58 excavations, coincided with aerial reconnaissance over the town site and confirmed the crop mark evidence for an outer ditch contemporary with this form of defence.

It is of interest to note that the crop marks over the 4th century outer ditch suggests two parallel ditches (plate III). Because the ground slopes away from the wall, debris has accumulated in the ditch from the rampart and wall, creating a more impermeable infill towards the centre of the ditch. As a consequence, the crop response at this point is poor compared with that either side of the infill, giving the impression of two ditches. Although the section cut by G. H. Jack in 1924 failed to locate the ditch, the presence of such debris is confirmed by his report: "To a distance of about 30 feet down the slope northwards, the ground was covered below the top soil with a layer of largish stones, a few squared but mostly round, no doubt the scattered remains of the wall". The position of Jack's section is indicated at point C on the town plan (fig.1) and shows on plate III as a dark line in the crop mark over the 4th century ditch, near the north corner.

It is significant that the outer ditch broadens towards the north corner and swings away slightly from the wall. Also the crop mark shows an apparent discontinuity in the inner curve of the ditch. A bastion sited at the north corner could have contributed to a greater rubble infill at this point than is evident elsewhere in the ditch, resulting in a relatively poor crop response suggesting a break in the ditch alignment. The probability of a gate at this corner is doubtful, since it would require a gap in the defences; this is not evident from the crop marks which suggest continuity of the outer ditch.

#### ROAD SYSTEM (Fig.1. Plates I, II, IV and V)

An outstanding feature is the main street, which runs directly through the town site on an east-west alignment. This shows in the crop marks as a broad light band across plates I and II; a centre channel is also identified by an intermittent dark line in the crop mark. Sections were cut across the road by G. H. Jack in 1924,<sup>4</sup> at points marked A, B and E on the town plan (fig.1); the section at A is visible on plate II as a dark line in the crop mark, across the road. On plates I and II a secondary system of roads can be seen to form an irregular pattern from the main street as at Water Newton.<sup>5</sup> The general arrangement of the road system gives no indication of gates in the north or south walls and continuity of the defences as observed on the north perimeter of the town also

supports this view, first suggested by G. H. Jack in 1912. Some of the side roads of course may be paths of rammed gravel, or possibly foundations associated with buildings. In some instances the side roads are flanked by buildings and in others a road, or gravel path, appears to serve only as a communication between buildings. A notable example of this can be seen in the north-east section of the town on plate I, where a path provides access from a large building to a bath-house (F on fig.1); this particular feature is well defined in an aerial photograph taken by Dr. J. K. St. Joseph.<sup>6</sup> During the summer of 1957, parch marks were also visible in pasture east of the town site and confirm continuity of road alignment with that of the town's main street. A number of short side roads, or paths, emanate from the main road at regular intervals in a northerly direction (plate V), but there is no supporting evidence for a second road parallel with the main alignment, as suggested by G. H. Jack. It is probable that the paved and cobbled surfaces revealed by his excavation in 1924 relate to occupation levels associated with the secondary system of roads or paths. Evidence to support this argument can be seen at a point 460 yards from the east gate and to the south of the main road alignment, where parch marks in the pasture revealed the outline of a small Romano-British temple, together with other building remains probably associated with it. (plate V. fig.1). Crop marks also show the existence of small enclosures to the south-east of the town (plate V. fig.1).

Kenchester is clearly established as 'ribbon' development either side of an arterial road and the town layout does not conform to that of Wroxeter with its regular pattern of *insulae* and buildings<sup>7</sup>; this shows the difference between casual development in the case of Kenchester<sup>8</sup>, and a tribal centre organised on an urban pattern from the outset. It is possible that Kenchester was originally a military site, since it occupies a commanding position in the Wye valley, and also lies at the crossing of a road from the north, which may have been a frontier during the governorship of Ostorius Scapula.<sup>9</sup> The east gate overlooks the intersection of two main roads, formed by the east-west alignment from Stretton Grandison to the fort at Clyro and a N.E.-S.W. road originating from the Watling Street 5 miles north-west of Hereford. A short section of this road, at point D on fig.1, is visible as a crop mark near the east gate (plate V), confirming its continuation south to a bridge point at a bend in the river Wye; its agger can still be traced in the meadows.<sup>10</sup> The road alignment at the river crossing was observed in the dry summer of 1957, as parch marks in the meadows to the north of the river and as a lighter line in a cereal crop to the south (plate IV).



PLATE III. MAGNA FROM THE N.W. CROP MARKS INDICATE DEFENSIVE DITCHES TO THE NORTH OF THE TOWN

Photo: W. A. Baker



PLATE IV. VIEW FROM THE S.E. SHOWING THE ROMAN ROAD ALIGNMENT AT THE WYE CROSSING, PARCH MARKS IN THE PASTURE TO THE NORTH AND CROP MARKS TO THE SOUTH DEFINE THE LINE OF THE ROAD

Photo: W. A. Baker



PLATE V. MAGNA FROM THE EAST. PARCH MARKS SHOW THE MAIN ROAD ALIGNMENT ACROSS THE PASTURE TO THE OAK IN THE CENTRE OF THE TOWN. SHORT SIDE ROADS AND THE OUTLINE OF A SMALL TEMPLE CAN BE SEEN.

Photo: W. A. Baker

As a result of river erosion, the stonework of the road is exposed in the south bank. The existence of an island a short distance downstream on the north bank is evidence for continuous erosion and if the river has slowly changed its course to the south over the centuries, it is possible that the bridge point lies between the existing north bank and the termination of the parch mark in the meadow. This presents an interesting project for further excavation.

#### FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup> G. H. Jack. 'Excavations on the site of the Romano-British Town of Magna, Kenchester, Herefordshire, 1912-13.' *Transactions W.N.F.C.* 1912-13 (1916), p.176.

<sup>2</sup> P. Corder. 'The reorganisation of the Defences of Romano-British Towns in the Fourth Century,' *Arch.J.*, VOL. CXII (1955), pp.20-42.

<sup>3</sup> G. Webster. 'Excavations on the Defences of the Romano-British Town at Kenchester, 1956,' *Transactions W.N.F.C.* VOL. XXXV (1957), pp.138-145.

F. G. Heys and M. J. Thomas. 'Excavations on the Defences of the Romano-British Town at Kenchester, 1956-8', *Transactions W.N.F.C.* VOL. XXXVI (1959), pp.100-116.

F. G. Heys and M. J. Thomas. 'Excavations on the Defences of the Romano-British Town at Kenchester, Final Report', *Transactions W.N.F.C.* VOL. XXXVII (1963), pp.149-178.

<sup>4</sup> G. H. Jack and A. G. K. Hayter. 'Excavations on the site of the Romano-British Town of Magna, Kenchester, Herefordshire VOL. II 1924-1925,' (1928).

<sup>5</sup> P. Corder. 'The reorganisation of the Defences of Romano-British Towns in the Fourth Century,' *Arch.J.*, CXII (1955) p.40 pl.V.

<sup>6</sup> J. K. St. Joseph. 'Air Reconnaissance of Southern Britain,' *J.R.S.* VOL. XLIII (1953), pl.XIV, 1.

<sup>7</sup> G. Webster and B. Stanley, 'Viroconium: a study of problems,' *Transactions Shropshire Archaeological Society* VOL. LVII (1964) pp.112-131.

<sup>8</sup> I. A. Richmond. *Roman Britain* (1955) pp.95, 96.

<sup>9</sup> G. Webster. 'The Roman Military advance under Ostorius Scapula', *Arch.J.* CXV (1960) p.66. The site has already produced three military type bronze pendants of this period:

*Transactions W.N.F.C.* 1912-13 (1916) pl.50, No.5.

*Excavations* Vol. II 1924-5 (1928) pl.33, No.15.

*Transactions W.N.F.C.* VOL. XXXII (1949) fig.7, No.10.

<sup>10</sup> I am grateful to Mr. F. G. Heys and Miss M. J. Thomas for the fieldwork in tracing the road alignment in the meadows to the river crossing point.

## LANN CUSTENHINN GARTHBENNI

by M. P. WATKINS

After the Norman Conquest it was claimed the diocese of Llandaff had suffered from predatory neighbours and in particular that the Bishop of Hereford had appropriated to his Diocese many Parishes. The Bishop of Llandaff applied to the Pope for their return. Whatever the merits of the case of Llandaff Diocese may have been most of these parishes have remained in Hereford Diocese to the present day, and the main result of the dispute is that we have copies of the document prepared at that time which lawyers would now call a "Brief for the Applicant", setting out the historical grounds upon which the claim of the Bishop of Llandaff was based. This is known as "The Book of Llandaff" and it may reasonably be inferred that it was completed prior to 1133.<sup>(A)</sup> It contains lives of Saint Dubricius, Saint Teilo, and Saint Oudoceus, who were early Saints of the Celtic Church and what purport to be copies or extracts of grants of lands and rights to the bishops of Llandaff over the previous six hundred years or so, and information showing that the Diocese of Llandaff had continued to own them even after the Conquest.

It has been suggested that the author of the Book of Llandaff was Geoffrey of Monmouth, who produced the fabulous histories of the Kings of England. If this is so it would make it probable that the life of Saint Dubricius (stated by him to have been an Archbishop) would set out the local legends of the local missionary Saint and that the description of lands in Archenfield (or Erging) might be coloured by knowledge of the land owned by the Church in the Eleventh Century.

It is a gift to Saint Dubricius with which we are now concerned, made in the Dark Ages when the Romans had left Britain and the following dates are a useful background: a pilgrim shrine of Nodens was apparently flourishing at Lydney up to the last quarter of the Fourth Century A.D., the Romans left Britain about the end of the first quarter of the Fifth Century, Bede records a visit of Germanus to Britain to combat the Pelagian heresy in the middle of the Fifth Century and the defeat of the Angles under Ambrosius Aurelius at Mount Badon in 493 but, apart from reporting civil strife and unspeakable crimes the next entry in his history is over a century later in 596 A.D. when Augustine is sent from Rome. According to the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle the Saxons had been slowly progressing westwards with victories over the Britons in 552 at Salisbury and in 577 they took Gloucester, Cirencester and Bath.

It was during these two centuries of which we are almost completely ignorant that Saint Dubricius lived. Even the dates given for his death vary by a century,<sup>(B)</sup> but it is clear that he was an ecclesiastic of the sixth century, is claimed as the first Bishop of Llandaff, and was one of the first missionaries of "the Age of Saints" to South Herefordshire. According to the Book of Llandaff he resigned the See of Llandaff in the year 512.

The earliest record of Saint Dubricius is in the life of Saint Samson written by a monk of the Monastery of Dol in Brittany, probably at the beginning of the Seventh Century. This shows him to have then been a well known and revered figure.<sup>(C)</sup>

The next record of him is the Book of Llandaff some 500 years later according to which he was a South Herefordshire man who was the head of a teaching school at Hentland which was later moved to Moccas.<sup>(D)</sup> The Churches of Whitchurch, Ballingham and Hentland are dedicated to him; he is the eponym of Sain Devereux and there was a Chapel of Saint Dubricius at Woolhope.

In the Book of Llandaff are details of more than one gift of land to him and the following is a translation of one of them<sup>(E)</sup>:

BE IT KNOWN TO YOU that King Peipiau son of Erb gave Mainaur Garthbenni as far as the Black Marsh between the wood and field and the water and the ferry of King Constantine his father-in-law across the River Wye unto God and Dubricius the Archbishop of the See of Llandaff, and to Iunapeius his cousin for his soul and for the writing of his name in the book of life with all its liberty, without any earthly payment and subjection small and moderate, except to God and to Saint Dubricius his servants and to the Church of Llandaff for ever.

And Peipiau held the Charter upon the hand of Saint Dubricius that it might be a house of prayer and penitence and an episcopal place for ever for the Bishops of Llandaff<sup>(F)</sup>; And in witness he consecrated the Church and left there three of his Disciples. Of the Clergy, the witnesses are first Dubricius, Arguistil, Ubeluui, Jouann, Iunapeius, Conuran, Goruan; And of the laity Peipiau the King was witness, Custenhin, Guourir, Dihiruc, Conduul, Guidgol, Clem.

Whosoever will preserve this alms given to God may God keep him; and who will not preserve it may God destroy him.

The translator of the Book of Llandaff in 1840 identified what places he could and stated "how far correct the explanations given may be, will be best known to those who are resident in those places, and it may be interesting to the investigating enquirer to ascertain the accuracy of the account given, and to discover the identity of other places mentioned in the work, of which there is

no explanation."<sup>(G)</sup> He gave no explanation of the name at the head of this article, but about six hundred years later than the ostensible date of this Grant (1144), a charter of the Abbey of St. Florence near Saumur in Normandy mentions "ecclesia Sancti Custenin de Biconovria" <sup>(H)</sup> thus identifying the Church of King Constantine (Custenhin) with that of Welsh Bicknor. The description in the Book of Llandaff reads<sup>(E)</sup>:

"Mainaur garthbennie usque ad paludem nigram inter silvam et campum et aquam et jaculum Constantini Regis soceri suo trans Guy amnem"

The land given could not have been of negligible size as the word "mainaur" is the late latin "manerium" and means fundamentally the same thing as the manor of later mediaeval times.<sup>(I)</sup> The careful description of the land may be a later accretion indicating the importance of the gift, but whether the description is thirteen hundred years old or only a mere eight hundred years it had been carefully made and by someone who knew the land.

Both search and enquiry failed to reveal in the Parish of Welsh Bicknor the position of any marsh of the exceptional depth and persistence which would be likely to merit the name of the black marsh. There is one marsh which can still be called "black" near but not in Welsh Bicknor Parish. This is at Huntsham, on the other side of the Wye and half a mile outside the boundary of the present Parish of Welsh Bicknor, where, despite deep drainage ditches on the outskirts, there is still a large pool surrounded with reeds.<sup>(J)</sup> (See map p.203). Whether we read the words "trans Guy amnen" (across the River Wye) as referring to the property or to the ferry, the description can relate to part of the land at Huntsham.

As all know who have stood on Symonds Yat Rock, the Wye here forms a large loop in which is Huntsham Farm. In the narrow part of this loop, running down from the Rock is Huntsham Hill which itself falls steeply to a stretch of easily worked alluvial flood plain. This steep slope was shown on an 18th century terrier of Goodrich Manor as waste of the manor.<sup>(K)</sup> It is still partly wooded, contains many huge blocks of conglomerate and is too steep for cultivation. At the southern end of this runs the road to the Yat Rock with Huntsham pool and the drained marshland filling the gap between it and the river.

When the River Wye is in flood the flat land is seen to be on two levels so that roughly (see plan) the Western half is covered by flood water while the Eastern half is a terrace above flood level. When the floods fall a series of shallow pools are left along the boundary between these two portions. This appears to indicate the

site of a former channel, which may well be an artificial boundary ditch running for over 1,000 yards from near the present Huntsham Bridge to Huntsham Pool. <sup>(L)</sup>

Huntsham Bridge replaced a ferry,<sup>(LL)</sup> and the road to it from the Yat Rock seems an old one which was probably used for the transport of the iron ore which provided the extensive layers of iron slag found on the West of the Wye. A ferry may well have existed there from Roman times as there is no ford where the road ends.

What was given to the Church is therefore identified as the terrace above normal flood level being the estate of Garth Benni as far as Huntsham pool (paludem nigram) between the wooded slopes of Huntsham Hill (silvam) and the flat land covered by floods (campum) and the River Wye (aquam) and the ferry, and with the boundary between it and the lower lying land indicated by the remains of a boundary ditch.

According to Bannister<sup>(M)</sup> "Benni" is the plural of "ban" — a peak. In Welsh Bicknor is a single long v. shaped ridge and the name suits the larger area now suggested much better than Welsh Bicknor Parish alone.

This tentative identification of land contained in an early post-Roman grant is of special interest because of the first report in the *Transactions* 1962 on the excavation of a Romano-British Villa at Huntsham. This Villa was within the area suggested for this grant and the report showed that the buildings already exposed had been in use up to about a century before the Romans left England. Perhaps the Archenfield Archaeological Group will be able to throw some light on the times of King Peipiau and St. Dubricius.

During the time Iunapeius was Bishop (he may have been identical with the Iunapeius in the first grant) and a subordinate of St. Dubricius the foundation seems to have prospered: the charter for Lan Louden (Llancloudy) is witnessed by Guernor Abbot of Llangarth benni and his pupil Gurguare<sup>(N)</sup> and that of Lann Badgualan (Ballingham) by Gwernabui "princeps" of Garth benni and the same pupil.<sup>(O)</sup> The latter again appears about the same period as a witness of the charter of (inter alia) land at Llandinabo.<sup>(P)</sup>

If we can judge from its position in the Book of Llandaff, (the first charter after the portion on the early state of the Church though probably not the first in date) the gift of the Mainaur Llangarth benni was regarded as an important one. There is a later entry — dates are still largely guesswork but this happened in the time of Bishop Berthgwyn who followed St. Oudoceus as probably the fourth Bishop of Llandaff (there is confusion at the start probably caused by the existence of subsidiary Bishops)<sup>(Q)</sup>



when Kings Clydri and Idwallon swore on the holy gospels and relics being placed on the altar of the Church of Garth benni that they would keep firm peace towards each other and that if either should break it he should resign his kingdom and be banished for life. The pact was broken and one of the reguli murdered the other and was excommunicated, with his children and all his kingdom "by making bare the altars of God, placing the crosses on the ground and dismissing the country without baptism and communion". The King sought pardon at the Church of Garthbenni as he had violated it and its refuge by committing homicide and perjury and he was duly banished for a long time and later allowed to return and granted pardon on making a substantial gift of over 500 acres of land to the Church.<sup>(R)</sup> In the sixth or seventh century two local reguli would not have chosen an unimportant place in which to conclude a truce.

There is a mention of Garthbenni in the Book of Llandaff about the time of Alfred the Great when, among the clergy, Eithin of Garthbenni witnessed a charter.<sup>(S)</sup> The next entry about it is at the time of the Conquest and shows Bishop Herwald consecrating many churches, presumably to replace those destroyed by the Welsh raids of 1052, 1055 and perhaps 1062 referred to in the Domesday Book after which many manors were then still waste. In the time of William the Conqueror "he consecrated In garthbenni Lancusthennin (sic) and therein ordained Armystil son of Sigrit to be priest and after him Cinon and afterwards Merchiaun in the time of Teudus son of March and Greir son of Sigrit and Guabeith and Glesni and Cinbran<sup>(T)</sup>".

Primitive Welsh law divides Churches into two classes, namely Mother Churches and those of less consideration. The former are treated as always having an Abbot with a community or "clas" of canons, including at least one priest <sup>(U)</sup>; Garthbenni in the sixth or seventh century must have been a Mother Church of considerable importance in the organisation of the Celtic Church, but the probable reason for its eclipse is not far to seek. The life of Saint Dubricius states that he had maintained a college at Henllan on the banks of the Wye where he retained 2,000 clergy for seven successive years after which he removed to Moccas.<sup>(V)</sup> Hentland, which is supposed to be the site of this college, lies not far from Welsh Bicknor and he may well have felt that its situation was even then too exposed to English raids. Many years later when Offa built his dyke a short length was within half a mile of Huntsham, and by the time of Domesday book or soon after we find the English or partly English names of Walford, Goodrich, Bicknor, Huntsham, Dixon and Monmouth, all in Archenfield near the Wye.

The Book of Llandaff was compiled with one object: to provide evidence to get the Pope to order the Bishops of Hereford and St. David's to restore Parishes which had formerly been included in the Llandaff Diocese, but which, during a period of political turmoil and when the Bishop of Llandaff was old and feeble, had, it was claimed, been filched from Llandaff. Modern scholarship has little early evidence to go on but tends to regard the authenticity of many of the documents as dubious. It is thought that they have at least been carefully edited and some may have been wholly or partly forged. They were chosen with a purpose, and original documents may have been considerably "improved" before details were entered in this book. Be that as it may, there had probably been at least certain emendations in the entry we are discussing. It seems clear that this land was regarded as of special importance, or in a specially perilous position, or why did the writer of the Book of Llandaff find it necessary to insert three times in the details of the Charter that it was annexed to Llandaff?

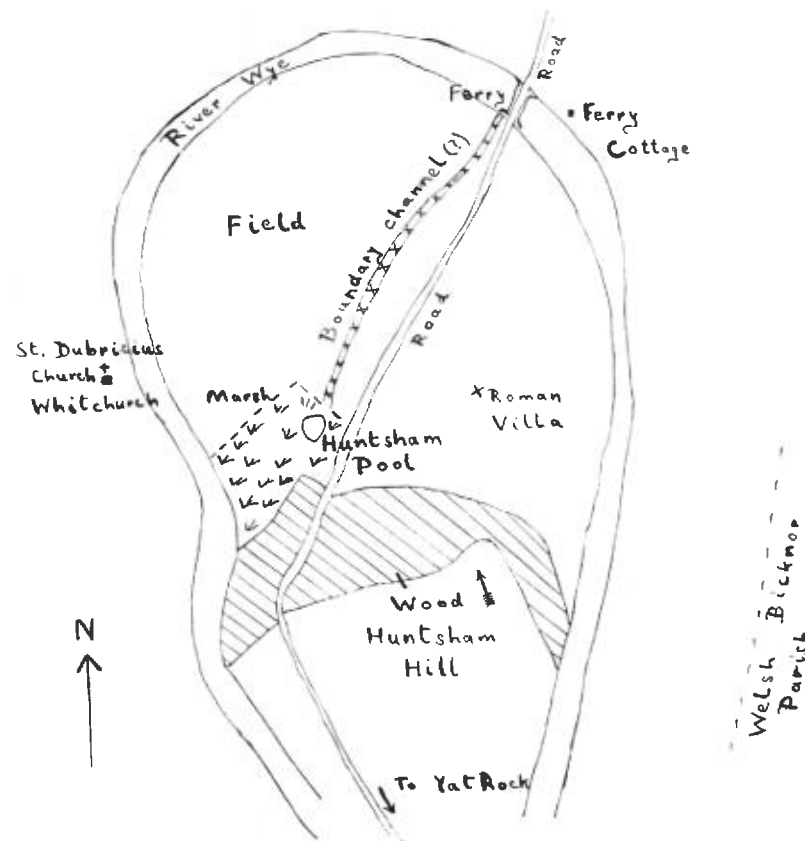
That it had a close connection by tradition with St. Dubricius, apart altogether from the wording of the Charter, appears clear. The Parish Church of Whitchurch only half a mile away is dedicated to St. Dubricius and when it first appears in written records (in 1291) it is named "Ecclesia de albo monasterio" which seems to indicate something more than a simple Parish Church.

The other source for information on Herefordshire at the time, the Domesday Book, contains a reference, among the lands which are situate on the border of Arcenefelde, to Niware tentatively accepted by J. H. Round as referring to Huntsham. The new weir stretched across the River Wye at what are now known as the Symonds Yat rapids. It was broken by floods about a century and a quarter ago, and the name still appears on the Ordnance Survey Map. In J. H. Round's translation in the Victoria County History of Herefordshire the entry reads as follows: "In Niware are two and a half hides, which used to come and do service, but Roger de Pistes in the time of Earl William made them part of Gloucestershire". If the Book of Llandaff shows the then rather archaic Welsh name and the land was then part of Niware (and there is no other Domesday land identified on the Wye south of Goodrich) this entry may account for the repeated statements that the land belonged to Llandaff. If it had originally been in Llandaff diocese and had been absorbed into the Bishopric and Shire of Hereford but had later been translated to the Shire of Gloucester as strong a case as possible would be needed to show that it really belonged to the Diocese of Llandaff.

## NOTES

All references to the Book of Llandaff (B/L) are to the 1840 Edition.

- A. B/L p.x.
- B. B/L p.329 says 14th November 612 and the editor notes that later chronologists had fixed on 522.
- C. Canon Doble's life of St. Dubricius p.3.
- D. B/L pp.324-5.
- E. B/L p.69 — translation is based on that book but "jaculum" as "ferry" follows Canon Doble who quotes in support Baxter and Johnson Mediaeval Latin Word — List (Oxford 1934).
- F. Canon Doble points out that the words "domus penitentie" remind us of the very common Breton penity, meaning a chapel founded by some famous Celtic saint, and also that "episcopalis locus" might possibly be a latinization of the Welsh "escop-ty" which he says appears in the laws of Howel Da as meaning, apparently, an episcopal monastery with special privileges (p.26).
- G. B/L p.xxxix.
- H. Duncumb's Supplement Lower Wormelov p.99.
- I. Duncumb's Supplement Lower Wormelov p.96.
- J. The approximate area based on (a) its appearance when the river is slightly in flood and (b) the absence of old cultivation marks, plainly seen under correct conditions on the neighbouring low ground, is shown thus — — —
- K. The waste is hatched on the map \\\ — Terrier of Goodrich with maps seen a few years ago (undated).
- L. Suggested boundary shown cross hatched xx
- M. "The place names of Herefordshire" — he seems to confuse Welsh Bicknor with the Doward Hills (in Whitchurch and Ganarew Parishes).
- N. B/L p.155.
- O. B/L p.156.
- P. B/L p.157 — spelling slightly different.
- Q. B/L p.626.
- R. B/L p.168.
- S. B/L p.221.
- T. B/L p.264.
- U. Lloyds History of Wales p.205-7.
- V. B/L p.324.
- LL. Heaths "Down the Wye".



SKETCH MAP OF  
HUNTSHAM AREA

Quarter Mile  
Approx.



## EXCAVATIONS IN BATH STREET, HEREFORD, 1966

by S. C. STANFORD

The excavations here described formed part of Hereford City Excavations Committee's project to recover the details of the City's defences before they are destroyed or covered by new developments.

In early October 1966 the Committee was informed that the levelling and re-surfacing of the Car Park between Bath Street and Gaol Street (N.G.R. SO 514399) would begin in about a fortnight. Because of the interest attaching to this area it was hoped that the Ministry of Public Building and Works would be able to finance a fortnight's excavation with paid labour. Three days before work was due to start it was learned that there was no grant available, and accordingly it was decided to carry out what can best be described as an 'instant dig', lasting three days, with volunteers.<sup>1</sup> Two trenches were opened by a mechanical digger, and were then excavated by hand below the level of modern building rubble.

The investigation had three limited objectives :

- 1) To locate the bastion shown on J. Taylor's Map of the City, 1757.
- 2) To locate the City Wall at the northern end of the Car Park.
- 3) To test the hypothesis that the curved line of Gaol Street marks the course of earlier defences conjecturally defined in the north-western quarter of the City by Bewell Street.

**THE BASTION.** The Gaol Street kerb wall showed above ground a number of facets and straight joints which it was hoped would indicate *inter alia* the position of the missing bastion. The evidence of the wall joints however contradicted Taylor's plot for the bastion and a central position within the two possible plots was used to start a machine trench parallel to the kerb and 4 ft. east of it. (fig.1). At the very beginning foundations of greenish-grey sandstone of City Wall character began to show across the trench which was continued 30 ft. northwards through greyish-brown turfy material, without sign of the other side of the bastion. The machine was therefore turned round and worked the trench southwards to expose similar sandstone across the trench 25 ft. south of the first exposure. It appeared certain that the bastion had been fixed, and that the southern half of the trench only required cleaning to attain the first objective. Accordingly it was agreed to allow the spare northern 20 ft. to be immediately backfilled. In the event these

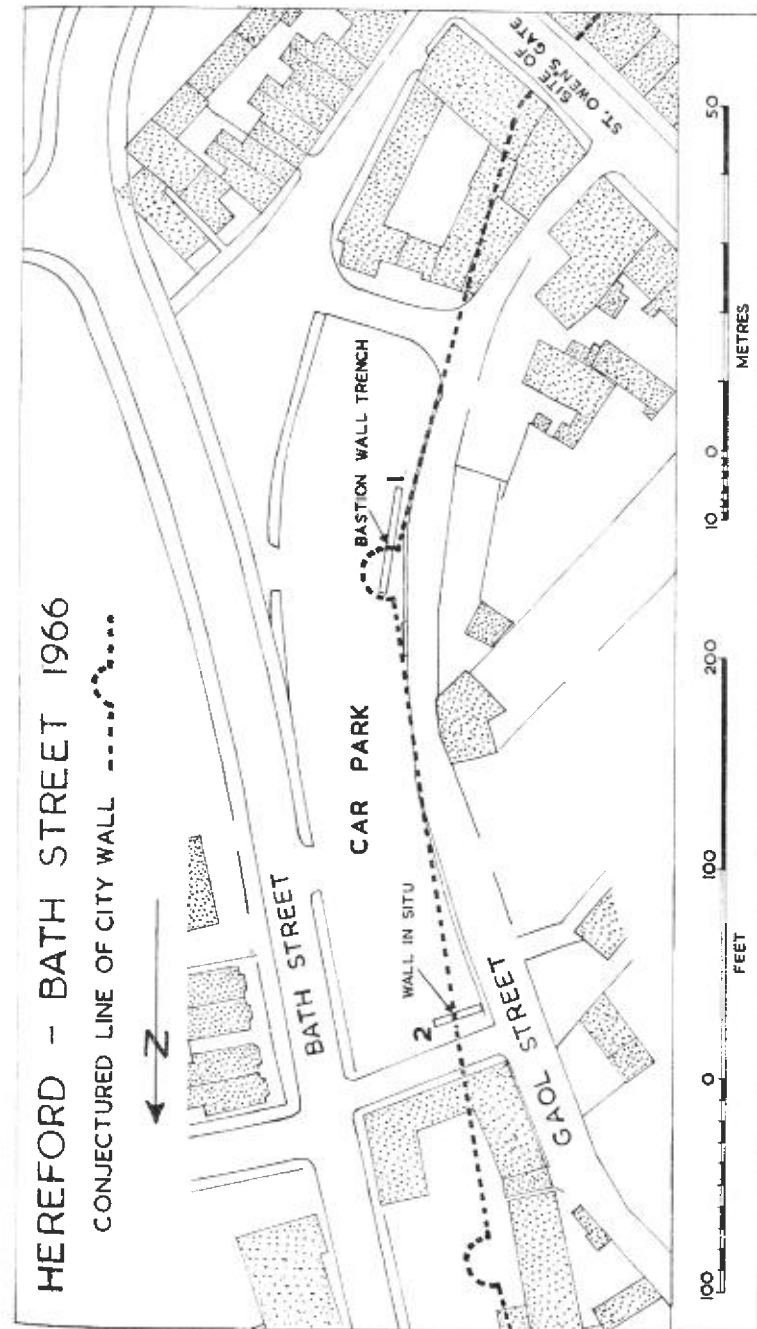


FIG. 1. PLAN OF BATH STREET EXCAVATIONS. BASED ON HEREFORD CITY COUNCIL'S 1:500 PLAN

necessarily hasty assessments were proved erroneous. The southern wall was the foundation of a brick-floored modern building, while the northern stonework represented the sandstone walling of a modern pit—4 ft. wide internally. To the north of this, cleaning revealed a deep wall-robber trench, shown in section on fig.2. Fortunately the robbing had left three courses of foundations *in situ* in the east face of trench 1, revealing that the construction of the robbed wall was earlier than the dark modern ash layer overlying the foundations. Sufficient survived to show that the foundations were trending north-eastwards. Their trench had been cut 1 ft. into the natural red clay and gravel, through 3 ft. of grey-brown turfy material containing numerous charcoal flecks. The spaces between this layer and the green-grey sandstone foundations were taken up by clean loose gravel, not derivable from any other exposed layers. It is clear from comparison of this feature with the preserved City Wall section obtained in Trench 2 (fig.3) that the robbed wall was part of the bastion, its 3 ft. wide wall set into an existing turf bank. The semicircular bastions excavated in Blue School Street in 1965 by Messrs. F. Noble and W. T. Jones, and at Easter 1966 by Miss H. Sutermeister on behalf of the Excavations Committee, were 24 ft. in diameter.<sup>2</sup> On this basis the northern arm of the bastion would lie just north of the end of Trench 1. It was recalled that at the very end of that trench the machine had been taking out much loose building rubble rather deeper than the general level of such material on the site; and in retrospect it seems certain that Trench 1 had been terminated on the very lip of the robber trench that had removed the bastion's northern arm. The plan, fig.1, shows the conjectured position of the bastion restored on this basis so as to fit such indications of wall line as are available.

2. THE CITY WALL. Trench 2 (section, fig.3) showed the City Wall, built of grey-green sandstone blocks bound with mortar, and 2½ ft. wide. The front is 15 ft. north of the stone kerb of Gaol Street. Like the bastion wall in Trench 1 it was cut partly through a turf bank (layer 5) the remainder of which passed below the wall and formed the berm between it and the western lip of the defensive ditch. It is clear that the wall was added to an existing bank. Had it been built as a revetment *pari passu* with the bank there would have been traces of stone chips at intervals in the bank layers 4 and 5, but there were none. Even more convincingly, this mode of construction would have resulted in the lower courses being backed closely by the turf of the bank. In fact the turf and wall are clearly separated by clean gravel, only derivable from the surviving top of the bank, the gravel of layer 1. There was some suggestion that the cut through the turf did extend through the

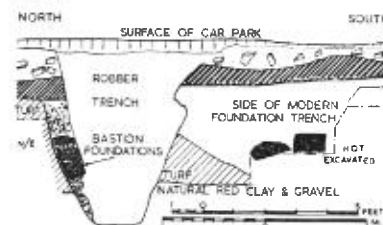


FIG. 2. BATH STREET: SECTION OF PART OF TRENCH 1

gravel layer 1 but with closely similar material either side of the cut, and so small an exposure to examine, the extension of the cut shown on fig.3 must be somewhat uncertain. Our conclusion must be that the bank and wall are separate constructions. It will be convenient to discuss the character and date of the bank first, and then to consider the light that these discoveries shed on the problem of the general alignment of the City Wall in the Car Park and elsewhere.

The bank will have been built from the spoil of a defensive ditch an unknown distance west of Trench 2. This spoil has been laid in the same sequence as it was dug from the ditch. First, the removal of the thick pasture-land humus over the full width of the ditch has provided material for a broad turf bank (layer 5) serving as a marker for subsequent tipping of spoil. This topsoil, containing occasional potsherds and fragments of animal bones was difficult to distinguish in excavation from the soil upon which it was laid (layer 7). Deeper digging in the subsoil horizon of the ditch would have produced the mixture of humus and clay (turning from red to brown with oxidization consequent upon exposure) seen in layer 4. Lower down the material would have been generally less weathered and the mixture producing layer 3 contained more gravel than before. The ditch diggers would then have begun to break into the clean dry gravel that must underlie the clay-with-gravel and the mixture of these two was dropped at the rear of the growing bank as layer 2. With the ditch now cutting everywhere into the gravel the rest of the surviving bank came to be made of clean gravel (layer 1). There are firm indications from the Committee's excavations in Blue School Street of the same straight-forward conversion of ditch spoil to bank, without any intermediate sorting or stock-piling of spoil.

No evidence of any timber stockade for this defence was present in Trench 1, and conditions were such that it was quite out of the question to consider extending the excavations.

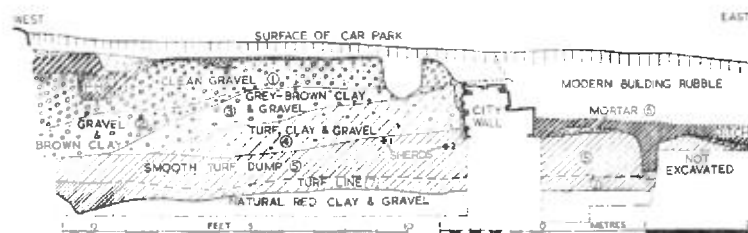


FIG 3. BATH STREET: SECTION OF TRENCH 2.

It was a fortunate chance that in this single narrow trench two medieval cooking-pot rims were recovered from layer 5 (drawn on fig.4). No. 1 is a somewhat angular, well smoothed, internally folded rim of a common West Midlands type. Parallels for the rim, though not the angle of the neck, may be seen from Weoley Castle in a deposit earlier than 1200,<sup>3</sup> Detton Hall,<sup>4</sup> and Hampton Wafer.<sup>5</sup> Something like this rim, but without external thickening is seen at Brockhurst Castle, a site argued by Mr. P. A. Barker to have been occupied between c.1154 and 1214 or 1255.<sup>6</sup> Together with the Weoley examples this might allow a dating bracket 1154–1200 for the Bath Street sherd. No. 2 is an earlier cooking pot rim, standing upright. The form is found with a more angular finish at Detton Hall (No. 2) and, with more pronounced internal squashing, at Hampton Wafer (No. 4). At Detton this form is argued on typological grounds to antedate the more angular rims of Brockhurst Group 3. A date in the first half of the 12th century would seem appropriate. The later of these two sherds provides us with a *terminus post quem* of c.1154 for the bank. If we use this as a general guide towards a late 12th century date, the most likely historical evidence to call into the discussion will be the charter of 1189 for the fortification (*claudende*) of the town.<sup>7</sup> Unless this equation is rejected we shall have incidentally gained a *terminus ante quem* for the rim form No. 1, enabling us to place its date of manufacture somewhere between c.1154 and c.1189.

When the decision was taken to fortify the City with a stone wall it had to be added to an existing bank. This would have presented no special difficulties but for the fact that the earlier work had been allowed to adopt a curved course between Bycester's Gate (Commercial Square) and St. Owen's Gate (in St. Owen's Street). Such an alignment was not acceptable for the new defence design which included bastions, shown by the Blue School Street excavations to have been built at the same time as the wall. The bastioned defence required straight wall alignments to allow the wall foot to



FIG. 4. BATH STREET: MEDIEVAL POTTERY. (4)

be enfiladed from the bastions. Accordingly it was necessary to plan the new stone defences as a compromise between the ideal of a fresh lay-out in which maximum and regular bastion spacing could be obtained and a slavish adherence to the curves of the old work, necessitating numerous bastions on the curved stretches. We do not yet have the detailed evidence to judge what the maximum permissible spacing was, although it would appear to be about 370 feet between bastion centres or, more usefully expressed, about 350 feet between bastion walls. The future work envisaged by the Committee should add precision to this. Meanwhile we may note that the distance between the Car Park bastion and the assumed centre of St. Owen's Gate is 254 feet, while northwards the distance to the conjectural centre of the next bastion towards Bicester's Gate is about 330 feet.

These approximations were only obtained by building the new wall across the curve of the bank, so that in one sector it might lie well towards the middle of the bank as in Trench 1, elsewhere probably near the crest (in Trench 2) or even over the lip of the original ditch, as in Blue School Street. This arrangement would have created differences in the width of berm from 5 ft. in our Trench 2 to nothing in Blue School Street.

No archaeological evidence for the dating of the stone defences was obtained from Bath Street, beyond the potsherds already discussed which show that, like the bank, it is later than c.1154. The first murage grant known for the City was that of 1224, and we are at present bound to accept this as the most likely date for the start of work on the stone wall with bastions.

It remains to consider the possibility of an early defence line marked by the curved course of Gaol Street. At its eastern end it has been shown that the curve does not mark an earlier defence wall or bank, for there is no ditch in front of it, below the 1189 bank in Trench 2. It seems more likely that its curved course reflects its development as an *intervallum* road at the foot of the 1189 bank. If this is allowed it still remains possible that this same late twelfth-century bank continues northwards along Gaol Street to go round to Bewell Street; that it is nothing to do with the pre-Wall defence works evidenced in Blue School Street. A major

obstacle to this theory is that it requires postulating an expansion of the enclosed area of the City by almost a third between 1189 and 1224. This seems unlikely. Furthermore, I understand from Mr. F. Noble that the equation of Bewell Street with a medieval "Behind-the-Wall Street" is not acceptable. In these combined circumstances it seems preferable to abandon the theory, and to look further south for the defence line that preceded that of 1189.

**SUMMARY.** Unpropitious though the circumstances of the excavation were they have been of interest in the light they have thrown on the general layout of the City's stone defences. The demonstration of the two periods of construction has enabled us to understand why the bastions came to be so irregularly spaced when they were superimposed on an originally curved circuit. The differences in the width of berm in front of the stone wall are now explained and the high bank behind the wall in the Greyfriars stretch is no longer anomalous, for a similar bank must have existed along the remainder of the circuit to the Bath Street car park. Largely composed as it must have been of the fine gravel seen in Trench I it would have provided a welcome quarry for anyone needing road metalling once the maintenance of the defences was neglected.

#### REFERENCES

<sup>1</sup> The Committee's thanks are due to Mrs. Y. Stanford, Mrs. J. O'Donnell, Miss R. Hickling, A/Cdre. L. P. Moore and Messrs. F. Noble, N. Lancaster, and R. Shoesmith for assisting the writer who directed the operation; and also to the City Surveyor and his staff for their co-operation.

<sup>2</sup> I am indebted to Miss H. Sutermeister and Mr. Noble for this information in advance of publication of their excavations.

<sup>3</sup> A. Oswald, 'Excavation of a thirteenth century wooden building at Weoley Castle, Birmingham, 1960-61', *Medieval Archaeology* vi-vii (1964), fig. 46, 5.

<sup>4</sup> S. C. Stanford, 'A medieval settlement at Detton Hall, Shropshire', *Trans. Shropshire Arch. Soc.* forthcoming (figs 5, 3).

<sup>5</sup> S. C. Stanford — report forthcoming. No. 21.

<sup>6</sup> P. A. Barker, 'A pottery sequence from Brockhurst Castle', *Trans. Shropshire Arch. Soc.* lvii (1961), fig. 15, 3-8.

<sup>7</sup> I am indebted to Mr. F. Noble for supplying this and other historical references.

## THE HISTORY OF HUNTINGTON SCHOOL

by MRS. E. S. LLOYD

Huntington School was built in the year 1791.

It was the first of thirteen schools and the only one (with the possible exception of Hay School) to be built by the Goff (or Gough) Charities in the lifetime of the Founder.

Other Goff schools, built after the Founder's death were at Eaton Bishop, Fownhope, Linton (Gorsley), Peterchurch, Walford (Lay's Hill), Tenbury (Worcs.), Pontesby, and Oswestry (Salop.).<sup>1</sup>

A newspaper cutting dated 1891 also lists Goff Schools at Longhope, Nantmel and Eastcombe but omits Eaton Bishop and Fownhope. Possibly by 1891 these were closed.

### THE FOUNDER 1738-9-1814

Edward Goff was born in 1738-9 at Huntington in a thatched cottage which stood on the site where the stables of Huntington School now stand. He was the son of a poor labourer, and worked on the land until the age of 25 or 26, when he went to London and was employed as a coal heaver at a wage of 12/- per week. He worked hard and diligently and after several years he was given sole charge of the retail side of the business and finally inherited the whole business from his employer. He became a rich man. His address was "Scotland Yard, London".

He was illiterate and always regretted his lack of education. In his later years he taught himself to read. He wrote and signed his name with difficulty. Hence his desire, when wealth came to him, to found a school for the children of the poor in his native Huntington. He is described as a "clean, plain farmer-looking man" very simple in his way of living, very earnest in religion. "When at his post he appeared in coarse clothes, a check shirt . . . and was often mistaken for one of his labourers". With his country upbringing, he was an early riser and was often on the coal barges before his labourers. A friend wrote of him that "he was sometimes very warm in temper and would rebuke the failures or sins of his friends with great passion".

He lived for 23 years after the building of Huntington School and frequently stayed at Huntington. He died of pleurisy on a visit to his Quaker friend, Mr. Swetman, at Hay, on June 4th, 1814. At his own desire he was buried in an unmarked grave in Hay churchyard.

## THE HISTORY OF THE BUILDING

Edward Goff built Huntington School on a far larger and more magnificent scale than the usual modest school house of a country school.

It is a tall dignified structure of three stories, consisting originally of eight rooms, including the school room. It is said to have been built of stone from Huntington Castle.

The founder had purchased a piece of land, about one acre round his birthplace with another small cottage on it, known as Kill Horse Tenement — so called because of the steep pitch of the road below and above the cottage. The one-storied wing which juts out at right angles to the house itself was probably this original cottage, being built of rougher stone than the house itself. Here the school was held until the house was built.

In 1828 the school was enlarged. The cost was to be £100 and timber on the premises was felled for the wood work. (As is very often the case the cost came to more than double the estimate!). A one-storied but much loftier projection behind the school house was the result.

In 1887 new windows were put in, "greatly improving school-room and house", and in May 1883 a sitting room was added to accommodate the school master's large and increasing family.<sup>2</sup> A final addition of a scullery behind the sitting room was made in 1893.

In addition to the barn and stable building, there is also a small building lower down in the garden, which was formerly known as "the bath". It contains the wash house (where until 1911 the school master's beer was also brewed) and the school closets. A small stream, an overflow of the well above the house, runs deep down beneath the closets and constitutes a natural flushing system. The remains of stone steps and a small square archway over the stream, may possibly account for the name, "the bath".

There is enough ground belonging to the school to feed a cow and a pony. A pig, hens, and ducks were also kept by the school master, so that, except for groceries, the school household was self-supporting.

## ENDOWMENT

Edward Goff left £12,000 when he died in 1814. Of this sum, £1,000 was bequeathed to Huntington and the income from a row of houses in "Bond St. Brighthelmstone". To the school in Hay he left £300. The rest of the capital, after bequests to relatives and charitable societies was vested in a Trust for the building of other schools in Herefordshire and adjoining counties.

The importance of Huntington is again stressed in the difference in the master's salaries. At Huntington it was £80 p.a., at the other schools £50.

## EQUIPMENT

The Trust paid for all repairs, and fuel (2½ tons of coal p.a.) at Huntington. At the other schools firing was paid for by the pupils! The master at Huntington was also permitted to take "pay scholars" and thus increase his income. Educational books were provided by the Trust and in addition every child was given a story book at Christmas "as a reward for good behaviour". (The arrival of the box of books, mostly the classics, a fortnight before Christmas was a source of great excitement to the sons and daughters of the school master J. H. Lloyd, much "free reading" was indulged in until their distribution!). Bibles and Testaments were also distributed to those children who possessed none.

In 1806, it was "the opinion (sic) of the Trustees that a pair of globes would be an instructing addition to the use of the school".

1826 list of books bought by the Trustees shows a wide range of subjects :

3	Dictionaries cost	10. 6d.
24	Spelling books	£1. 4. 0d.
3	on Agriculture	2. 3d.
6	on Ancient History	4. 6d.
6	on Astronomy	4. 6d.
6	on Bible or Gospel History	4. 6d.
12	British Law	9. 0d.
12	Duty to Parents	9. 0d.
12	Geography	9. 0d.
12	History of England	9. 3d.
3	on Religious Denominations	2. 3d.
6	on The Use of the Globes	4. 6d.
5	Lennies Grammar	7. 6d.

## ATTENDANCE

Edward Goff's intention was to provide for 100 poor children, but in the formulation of the rules in 1804, the number stated is 60 — over the years numbers varied greatly. In 1864, 170 names were on the register; some of these no doubt were adults who attended in the winter, when farmwork was slack, to learn to read and write. In 1823 children attending the school came from Huntington Gladestry, Newchurch, Cregrina, Colva, and St. Harmons.

## INSPECTION

At Christmas time every year, the local Trustees inspected the school. Admission to the school was by ticket, issued by one of the Trustees or the Master. The issue of tickets was strictly supervised and a ticket could be withdrawn if disputes between the master and the parents were made public before the annual meeting or if a child were absent for more than a month.

The annual committee meeting took place on 13th June. The Trust provided £5 p.a. for house repairs and for the entertainment of the Trustees. A succulent dinner was eaten at the school house, ending with a "glass of spirits". Thus mellowed the Trustees returned to the parlour to transact their business.

Each Trustee was given £1 for attendance at the meeting.

In the minutes of 1841-3, when funds were in low water, the school master accepted a cut of 10% in his salary, and the Trustees forewent their £1 — all except one elderly trustee of 84. He obviously objected to this arrangement and a minute, on two occasions records, "We desire Mr. Rees" (the schoolmaster) "to give Mr. David Evans £1 for his attendance". Mr. David Evans constituted himself as opposition in 1829 when he refused to vote for the election of Mr. Charles Nice Davies "on account that he is a dissenter" — a curious reason in view of the school's dissenting tradition!

## GOVERNMENT ACTS

After the 1870 *Education Act* the school became a state-aided school. Buildings were repaired to conform with the Government's requirements, a qualified school master, J. H. Lloyd, was appointed and the school was inspected by government inspectors. The grant was dependant on the number of passes obtained by the pupils, about £1 per head being paid. This added to the master's income considerably.

J. H. Lloyd was, among other qualities, a very efficient teacher and obtained a high percentage of passes. The grant came to between £60-£70 annually, which nearly doubled his salary. It must be put down to his credit that when the 1902 *Act* came into being, he was influential in the decision of the Trustees not to conform to the new regulations, and the grant, therefore, ceased to be paid.

The minutes record that the Trustees wished to continue "to carry out the Founder's intention of benefitting the poor" . . . Had the school been placed under the County Council, as the *Act* directed, a large proportion of the endowment would have been applied to the relief of rates.

The Government grant was withdrawn and the school again became independent. The inspectors however were interested enough in the school to continue their visits on a voluntary basis and to issue reports. The dynamic schoolmaster went further and with two of the Trustees became in 1904 a passive resister to the 1902 *Act*.

The *Encyclopaedia Britannica* states "a number of Nonconformist ratepayers refused to pay the education rate on the ground that their consciences forbade their supporting religious teaching in denominational schools, and their willingness to become subject to distraint — became the foundation of a widespread political campaign". At Huntington the distraint was a somewhat light-hearted affair. The Schoolmaster's carriage rug was auctioned for 7/6d. (the amount of the rate) by one of the local inhabitants. After the protest had been registered, the master bought it back again. In fact, he paid the rate, but not in principle!

By 1905 the parishioners were getting tired of the situation and signed a petition "requesting us (the Trustees) to place the school under the County Council with a view to getting the Education rate refunded". The Trustees refused and the school remained independent and without Government aid until its closure in 1953.

## THE RELIGIOUS TRADITION

In the articles of the school (June 13, 1804) it is stated that "it is the desire of the donor that a meeting for public worship shall be held every Lord's Day in the schoolroom any hour from nine o'clock in the morning". Also that "the master of the school must be of good moral character and a Protestant Dissenter". There was also to be a Sunday School, but Edward Goff laid it down expressly that the parents were to have complete control over their children in religious matters and all children should be free to attend the Established Church if they so desired. After the dismissal of the first master, Edward Goff applied to the Carmarthen Independent College for a master. The Rev. Thomas Rees was appointed and thus was started the Independent or Congregational tradition and chapel which is still centred at Huntington School to this day. A small graveyard lies to the north of the school. The earliest decipherable grave is dated 1827.

## THE SCHOOL MASTERS

Huntington School had a series of masters and one mistress remarkable for their long service and for their influence on the neighbourhood. Two, who served shorter terms achieved what might be termed notoriety rather than fame.

The first master was a Mr. JAMES (1791-1802) "who made it his practice to train the male scholars in tilling the ground adjoining the school" besides teaching the elementary subjects. Mr. James subsequently "acted indiscretely by, one evening, holding a ball in the house and illuminating the premises with lighted candles placed in the windows both of house and school room". Edward Goff's disapproval caused him to tender his resignation and he moved to Kingston.

Edward Goff then applied to the Independent College at Carmarthen and REV. THOMAS REES was appointed (1802-1858). In addition to his school duties, Thomas Rees was an indomitable, fearless and energetic preacher, speaking in all the adjoining hamlets and towns on Sundays and weekday evenings. At that time there was much hostility to the Nonconformist beliefs and Thomas Rees met with much opposition. When preaching out of doors at Gladestry, a bull and an untamed horse were driven into the congregation and the church bells were rung till the rope broke. At Eardisley in 1802 shots were fired at him. He restored the Chapel at Gore and in 1803 became the Minister there. He also founded a church at Kingston. An article in the "Christian Witness" for February 1859 states that "this church, to which for several years he ministered, became a Baptist communion, the origin of the present Baptist church in Kingston". It would seem that a friendly exchange of pulpits and even a sharing of pastors was frequent between the Baptists, the Wesleyan and the Independents. A Mr. Palmer, itinerant preacher from Shrewsbury, was the first Baptist to preach at Kingston. He also preached at Gore Independent Chapel. (The Rev. William Jones, one of the Huntington Schoolmasters, states in his diary, "resigned the Pastorship of Huntington, Kingston and Gore on July 28, 1878").

Thomas Rees married Miss Evans, daughter of a farmer of Hengoed Farm, Huntington.

Thomas Rees was described as a "tall slender figure with a pale countenance". On one occasion, during a riot, when he and a Miss Thomas were preaching, the leaders of the rioters cried out, "let him alone, he will not live to trouble us". The Trustees' minutes record on frequent occasions a donation of £5 to the master "that he might go to a watering place for a month for the benefit of his health". Nevertheless he lived to the ripe old age of 84. Thomas Rees must have been of a saving disposition as regards salary or possessed of independent means. When the school was in financial difficulties partly as a result of the cost of the new school room and partly because of a lower receipt from the Brighton rentals, he lent the Trustees a sum of over £100, which they gradually repaid in the course of years.

After his death, the Trustees granted his widow the use of two rooms in the house and free access to the cultivation of a small portion of the garden. From that time until the death of the last of William Jones's eight daughters in 1945, the school sheltered two households, inter-related (in the case of the Jones's and the Lloyds) but maintaining their own household economy and respecting each others' privacy.

In his later years Thomas Rees employed assistant teachers including his son, HENRY REES, who on his father's death in 1858 became Headmaster. In 1861 he was "discharged for great imprudence" and expelled from the church.

The REV. WILLIAM JONES was appointed to succeed him. He was a native of Gladestry and a descendant of James Beaumont, the first minister of Gore Chapel in 1720. He was in all probability educated at Huntington School with no other scholastic training. Nevertheless the Trustees probably felt that by appointing him they were fulfilling and reasserting the founder's wishes that the school master should be "a man of high moral character". He had been pastor of Gore Chapel since 1846 and was much respected in the neighbourhood. William Jones's long and gentle reign as schoolmaster of Huntington began with some acrimonious correspondence which may be read in the autumn numbers of the Hereford Times for 1861 between someone signing himself "Commercial Traveller" whom the indignant Trustees suspected of being the embittered ex-schoolmaster, and the Trustees themselves under the pseudonym of "Justus". Following the example set in the Founder's day he appointed an assistant master to carry on the teaching, and his own wife, Martha Jones, was appointed to teach the girls sewing and knitting. (Henry Rees's wife had also taught the same subjects).

Assistant teachers serving under William Jones included

Roger Prosser Powell of Llyswen 1861-72

Michael Eastwood 1872-3

Henry Jones (son of William Jones) 1873-5.

With the passing of the 1870 Education Act it became necessary to appoint a qualified schoolmaster and in 1875 JOHN HENRY LLOYD was appointed. William Jones however continued his pastoral duties until 1878 and his preaching until 1893 when he died at the age of 86.

A native of Cardiganshire, J. H. Lloyd was trained at the normal college at Bala, and previous to his appointment to Huntington had been headmaster at Lady Southampton's school at Breinton for two years. Before the end of his first year he had married the fourth daughter of the Rev. William Jones, and they raised a



family of eight children. William Jones and his family then occupied the "dower house" part of the school house.

J. H. Lloyd was a powerful, dynamic personality and soon made his presence felt in Huntington and the surrounding district. He was an excellent teacher and a strict disciplinarian. Children travelled for miles over the hills on their ponies, often passing the door of their own local school, to attend the school at Huntington.

From this date the duties of schoolmaster became separate from those of the minister to the three chapels. Nevertheless, like his predecessors J. H. Lloyd preached on Sundays in all the surrounding chapels. He baptised and buried the inhabitants, drew up their wills, and fought their legal battles.

In 1881 the agricultural labourer was enfranchised. Those labourers who lived in the farmhouse were eligible under what was known as "the lodger's vote" but certain conditions as to their living quarters had to be fulfilled. Each case was considered separately by the presiding judge. J. H. Lloyd was the spokesman for the labourers of the Huntington district. At Clyro on one occasion he argued his case so hotly that he was severely reprimanded by the revising barrister!

He was a popular chairman at meetings and concerts, often bringing his own concert party, singing himself, conducting and judging at local Eisteddfods.

He was respected by the farming community as being "the best judge of an animal for miles round".

Being a fighter, politics naturally attracted him. He was an enthusiastic adherent to the Radical Wing of the Liberal Party.

In 1904 he stood as a Liberal for the County Council of Radnorshire, against the long-established sitting member. So vigorous was his campaigning that he came within two or three votes of unseating his opponent. He was honoured by being created an Alderman in the same year. He represented Radnorshire in the court of governors of the University of South Wales. He was President of the East Radnorshire and West Hereford Council for Free Churches. He died at the comparatively early age of 64 in 1911.

He was succeeded by his daughter, Miss M. A. B. LLOYD who later married the minister, Rev. D. J. Morgan, and as Mrs. MORGAN continued as schoolmistress of Huntington. Mrs. Morgan had been engaged as pupil teacher to her father in 1891, and with the exception of two years at the Birmingham Training College (1896-8) she served the Goff schools for 62 years. After her training she took charge of the Goff school at Peterchurch from 1898 to 1907, when she returned to Huntington as assistant teacher, to take the place of her younger sister, Gertrude, who was marrying

a previous minister of Huntington, the Rev. D. D. Davies. (Huntington School was registered for marriages in that year). On her father's death she was appointed as headmistress, and retained the post till the closure of the school in 1953. Like her father in strength of character and teaching ability, as school teacher and minister's wife, Mrs. Morgan carried on his influence on the educational, musical and social activities of the neighbourhood. When she died at the age of 83 in 1959, it was said of her, "She was a great lady".

The life of the Congregational chapel continues, but with the closure of the school in 1953 Edward Goff's beneficial experiment in education came to an end in Huntington.

Sources: Minute books of the Trustees of Huntington School (by courtesy of Mr. Sydney Williams, secretary of the present Trustees).  
*The Life of Edward Goff*, J. H. Lloyd, 1891.  
 Newspaper cuttings of various dates in a family scrapbook.  
 Manuscript "*Lloyd the School*" E. S. Lloyd  
 Report *Herefordshire Charities 1819-39*.

#### REFERENCES

- <sup>1</sup> Listed in the report on Herefordshire Charities 1819-39.
- <sup>2</sup> J. H. Lloyd's diary: May 14-19 1883. "Whitsun week. Very busy building a Room or rather seeing that the materials were brought here. Being brick wall most of it was erected during this week".

by F. C. MORGAN

This is an attempt to give an outline of the conditions of the poor in Hereford and of the efforts made to relieve their great sufferings, especially during and after the Civil War. It is taken from the city archives in the Town Hall, which were transcribed by permission of the Town Clerk, Mr. T. B. Feltham, some years ago. It is not an exhaustive account of the problem that faced our ancestors, but illustrates the deplorable state of those unable to support themselves, by giving a few only of the numerous appeals of prisoners, of the impotent, blind and orphans.

Statutes of Henry VIII and Edward VI had tried to deal with the condition of the poor — those poor in very deed were acknowledged to be a charge on public charity, but against vagabonds the attitude was ferocious. Elizabeth I's first pauper act revived these statutes, but also recognized the duty of a compulsory levy for the impotent, aged and needy. Those who refused to contribute were to be forced to do so by the Justices of the Peace. A later enactment in 1572 made the treatment of vagabonds harsher still but encouraged the binding of pauper children as apprentices. Other acts followed, that of 1598 being comprehensive; begging was prohibited, overseers of the poor were appointed whose duty it was to raise by taxation material for workhouses, sturdy beggars were to be whipped until bloody and sent back to their birthplace, and were thrown into gaol until a place of service could be found. Dangerous rogues could be sent to the gallows, but private endowment of almshouses and hospitals was encouraged, provided they were endowed with a minimum of £10 annually. This law was altered slightly in 1601 and was the final effort of Elizabethan statesmanship.

No less than one hundred charities are recorded in *Hereford Charities: a report by Edward Clarke [etc.]* 1840. Some are of small amounts and many have now disappeared, but two are frequently mentioned in the petitions of the poor. *Wood's charity* was founded by the will of William Wood, master of the Free School of Sherborne dated 20th Oct. 7 James I [1609] when lands in Ermitage, Dorset, value £10 annually was bequeathed for the relief of the poor. *Harper's charity* was founded by the will of William Harper dated 16th Sept. 1640, whereby the house in which he lived in Bye street, land in Brobury, various mortgages of lands in the county and a messuage in St. Nicholas street were bequeathed to the city for the apprenticeship of children (boys and

girls) of the poor after the death of his widow. These two charities played a very important part in relieving poverty.

The *Canons' dole of bread* may originate about 1200. (v. Bothe Register, 1516-35, fol. 40). It distributed about 4,000 loaves annually, divided between the six parishes in the city (All Saints having 400, St. John's 440, and the four others 300 each) and twenty-seven parishes in the county varying from Pitman 14, to Fownhope and Woolhope 100 each.<sup>1</sup> Payment today is made by money grants. The number of loaves baked in 1608 given in an account book preserved among the cathedral archives is recorded as :

Fyer was lighted on sunday 4 Decem. 1608 about [blank]  
 Clock, the first batch was sett about 4  
 a clock in the afternoon drawn about 7 a clock  
 CCCC lxix loaves  
 2 batch was sett about eleven aclock &  
 drawn at 2 a clock on munday morning  
 474 loaves  
 3 batch was sett about 4 a clock on munday  
 morninge & was drawn at 7 a clock 486 loaves  
 4 batch sett about 10 a clock on munday morninge  
 & drawn about 1 in the afternoon 464 loaves  
 5 batch sett about 4 a clock on munday  
 afternoon drawn about 7 a clock at night  
 474 loaves  
 6 batch sett on tuesday morninge 11 a clock  
 & drawn about 2 a clock afternoon 518 loaves  
 7 batch sett on tuesday a bout 5 a clock  
 afternoon & drawn a bout 8 a clock 340 loaves  
 sum' tot 3225

Some loaves went to the prisoners in the gaol also.

A document of 1551 or 1556 during the mayoralty of Thomas Havard gives the names of "poore people apperyng" before him on 17th March. In Wyebridge ward two widows, one with a son, were appointed to full labour and "partly to be holpen". There were also two single women, one married woman, and two men. In St. Owen's ward there were four women (one with children and one married) and three men. In Widemarsh ward only one married woman is named, and in Eigne ward one widow and one man. All were to labour and some were to be helped. (303)<sup>2</sup>

In 1566 William Rawlyns, mayor, ordered the constables of Widemarsh ward and John Chamber, sergeant, to summon all poor people in the city that "lyveth by the almes and devocon of the

Inhabytaunces . . . and allso to geve warnynge to all other idle persons" in the ward to appear before him and his brethren in the Bothe Hall on 2nd July at 1 p.m. (263)

There are numerous petitions from poor folk and from prisoners. One of the earliest of 1576 or 1577 from John Gravel an old poor servant of Richard Seborn "Borne to trobles" who had been in prison for eighteen weeks "in penury and mysseye" and likely to remain there, beseeches his old master Mr. Seborn to speak for him to be released by the mayor on bail, but he only had ninepence. This is one of the few signed petitions. (165)

The conditions under which prisoners suffered would be unbelievable if evidence to support their truth was not ample. In 1595 five witnesses upon oath swore that Thomas Greenynge under-keeper struck Christopher Clyfton with a bunch of keys on Shrove Tuesday as he was carrying a pail of water from the court-house to his lodgings and "drew him with him by violence into the entry where he was to lye". Afterwards Clyfton languished until the Saturday when he died. (508-9). Other similar cases are recorded later.

In 1617 during the mayoralty of Phillip Symonds the names of seventeen who refused to pay towards the poor in St. Peter's parish are given. They vary from 8/- due from Richard Smith, 4/- each from John Tyler, Walter Foke and Edward Trehearne, seven others owed 2/- each and six owed 1/-. In addition nine residents refused to pay in full because the others were not compelled to do so. Walter Morris 8/- paid two quarters, the remainder range from 4/- to 1/-, of which six had paid two quarters and two one quarter. (803)

For 1622 we have the names of ninety-three persons assessed in St. Peter's parish, headed by Phillipp Traherne mayor, and Richard Veynall 7/- each, Owen Phillips, William Harper, Evan Preece 6/8, fourteen paid 5/- each, but eleven paid nothing. The total received by William Whitney and Thomas Exton, overseers, amounted to £12.6.8. (858). Next year the names of thirteen who were behind in the same parish are recorded, the sum unlevied being £1.7.11, and in 1624 twenty, including Robert Maylord who owed 6/8, left £1.18.7d. owing. (917-8)

The accounts of Bartholomew Taylor and William Rogers collectors for St. Peter's parish show they "Receaved of the former accounts not gathered by the last Collectors", in 1623 £4.1.8. "Receaved of the last Collectors made to us together Anno dni 1624 and 1625" £13.6.2. In all they therefore had £17.7.10 and they "Disburst at severall tymes . . . £17.10.4" leaving 2/6 due to them. Ungathered of the former and latter assessments that the now Collectors had to gather "accordinge to the Rowles" not received

of the first collection 29/4 and of the last collection 37/2 making £6.6.0 to be drawn from unwilling residents. (919)

The condition of the prisoners in Byster's gaol is depicted by the verdict of fifteen jurymen who signed a report upon those who died since September 1624 to 16th June, 1625. They were Robert Capper "a verie poore man"; Edward Hill of Putley; Phelip Philpotts, who "languished about four years"; James Bowley of Ullingswick; Thomas Drewe of Preston, Ledbury; Thomas Smith, walker; Matthew Jenkins; Thomas Holt of Stoke Lacy; Anne, servant of Mr. Ansell "hit was reported she poisoned herself"; Richard Williams; Walter Pewe "drowned in wy"; and James Carwardyne "did casually fall out of the gallery of the Boothall". All except three are said to have died by "God's visitacon". (891)

In 1627 the poor of St. Peter's, some with great charge, and some impotent complained that they had not received relief since the previous May except three weeks pay and certain doles from Mr. Leintoll. They plead for the overseers to be brought before the Mayor and for others to bring in their accounts. (984)

In 1630 when Jonas Meredith was mayor, Richard Barrow, Thomas Bullock, John Derry and Humffrey Amise were appointed overseers of St. Martin's parish. (1068)

Two years later the mayor, Thomas Curtos, was petitioned by Christopher Clark, who had been fined 20/- for selling ale without a licence and had been in prison for three days, for some commiseration of his estate and to "qualifie" the said fine so that he could be set at liberty. The fine was reduced to 10/- and he was "suppressed never to sell any more". (1065)

At this time petitions were numerous and pitiful and continued so until the end of the century. In the same year James Aspie, a poor prisoner in Bysters gate prison "utterly like to perishe to death for want of Bred" which he had not had for four days and "noe lowance nor frend to help" him, asks to be sent for to answer for himself. (1066) Two years later a William Aspie was to be committed to the place from whence he came, and to be whipped in open market and then sent with a pass to the "cuntry" where he was born. (1070)

All through the period there was difficulty in getting the poor rate paid. In 1636 nine persons "refewes" to pay including Phellipe Aston 2/-; Hendrye Melling, gent., and Ralfe Kington 1/2 each who had the largest assessment. Five others had 1/- each, and a widow 4d. The task of collecting rates must have been an unpleasant one — *and not paid for*. (1122)

Amy Mosley, milliner, whose trade was decayed by a "strainger" having been placed within the city, sent two petitions. One went to the Justices of Assizes who had previously referred her cause to

the mayor, Mr. Pembridge, to commend her case. The late mayor, Thomas Symonds, concealed the petitions and had imprisoned her in the bridewell (on Castle Green) for "offringe to address" herself for relief. The second petition which went to James Barroll, mayor, was to the same effect and asked for assistance. She had four children, her goods distrained for rent, and was turned out of doors with her family. (1191-2) Does history repeat itself in some ways? One wonders how many of the smaller shop-keepers of today are losing their livelihood by the invasion of "straingers" in the form of multiple stores.

Difficulties encountered by the collectors is shown in a plea of 1640 by David Jones, overseer of St. John's for security of the peace against Margaret, wife of Richard Gough, baker, who had called him a rogue and assaulted him when Jones was distraining goods for non-payment of the poore's "lewne". (2040) Probably similar scenes took place more often than are recorded.

Many petitions are pitiful indeed, others have sentences that are somewhat amusing in language. Ann Randle in 1641 was aged, an old native of the city, her father once a "wait" and she now deaf her "sences fayles her and shee hath not the understanding to tacke any worke" to "sustaine her poore Carkas" and a blind husband. (1232) The same year Margaret, widow of Michael Hearinge, weaver, who was once the bishop's bayliff and "bored" all offices and paid taxes, pleads that she was blind in one eye and nearly so in the other, and was destitute of any habitation. (1231)

Omitting many sad petitions, we come to the year 1651, when Joan Smyth, widow, poor, impotent and blind, with an orphan grandchild, states that there is great necessity in St. Peter's, and that the inhabitants are willing to contribute towards the poor, but her own and other pensions of 6d. weekly were unpaid for fifteen months and all were in extreme want. She pleads for help that "they perish not by extremity to the great dishonour of christian religion and the government of this city for the taking away of the grievous cryes of the poore, the Fatherless and widdows". (1305)

A sign of the Civil War begins to appear in 1652 in the plaint of Thomas Prichard, clerk. He and his children were natives of Hereford and "before these troublesome times" he had means, but now "hath no means, no worldly comfort", is old, lame, one son born lame and "verie sick of a Consumpcon". They would have perished if they had not been relieved by well-disposed people. Sixpence weekly was awarded from St. Martin's. (1303)

Another death in gaol was the subject of an inquest held on 7th March, 1652, before Thomas Davies, coroner. The verdict recorded that Francis Spencer of Clehunger gent. died on 3rd February by God's visitation. He had been committed by John

Pateshall at the suit of "utlarie" [outlawry] of Thomas Lane and others. (1415)

In 1653 the foster parents of Walter Carwardine a poor infant they had maintained for six years or more were awarded sixpence weekly from St. John's parish. (2471) In the same year Richard Whooper of All Saints, aged 70, and an "auntient servant of the city" ill for six months, complained that the overseers had not obeyed an order to give sixpence weekly to the poor of the parish — only 2/- had been paid. (1354)

Next year William Wyllis, prisoner in gaol, formerly a soldier under the Lord Protector and who had done service, when travelling home to see friends had exposed for sale some plate to raise money for his wants. He was accused as a "suspicious and vagrant person" and committed to prison. As no one had claimed the plate he pleads for his release and its return, or reasonable satisfaction. (1347)

On 24th October 1654 the six poor men of Mr. Williams' hospital say they have a great charge and are not able to pay rent, and pray for convenient habitations as their predecessors had "in regard of their present necessitie, And this for God's sake". (1343)

Regularly the complaint of allowances being unpaid by the overseers appear. Margaret Berrington, widow, of St. John's had been ordered 6d. weekly — 4/4 was kept back by the overseers. Four years later she again stated that James Tudor and William Bosworth, overseers, being covetous for their own ends are in arrears for her payment for twelve weeks and the new overseers John Garnons and Thomas Hitchins also are in default. (1429) In the same year [1658] John Powell of St. Peter's, carpenter, aged and decrepit, had petitioned at the general sessions of the peace and had been granted sixpence weekly. The new overseers through malice of some ill disposed persons and misinformation that he had refused work at eightpence daily would not pay him. He pleads for the next fall of a hospital and for sixpence weekly meanwhile. (1430)

At a meeting of the third inquest in 1659, composed of a jury of the principal inhabitants, it was desired that "some care tooke for the putting of poore people to work, And not to suffer them to walke the streets . . . which will tend to the Glory of God and the Credit of this Citty". (2561)

An attempt to force the overseers to carry out their duties and instructions appears in a document of 1661, when Hugh Prees of All Saints, aged 80, lame, blind and impotent, for 40 years a "painefull day labouringe man to some of the chief of the Citty" who had been granted the usual 6d. weekly to be paid by Edward King and Thomas Poule, overseers, of which 9 months was in

arrears except for 5/10 obtained after much "adoe". He petitioned for the defaulters to be dealt with by being either made to pay or imprisonment. (1482)

A unique ending to a petition is that of Margret Rogers and Sibble Nott, widow, of St. Martin's, one aged 70 and the other 60, who formerly gave to distressed persons, but are now disabled. Their "neview" George Juxton had taken some commiseration upon them, they had lived for a long time in a tenement of James Rodd and "are turned out of doores without goods". They plead for a "pittifull Eye to behold their perishing Condition . . . and they will ever have Just Cause to invoke the Almighty for your Worships Externall internall and Eternall happiness". This is a well written document, probably by a scrivener. (1534)

On the 8th April, 1661, petitions from the old soldiers of Charles I begin to appear. At the sessions Richard Gittoes of St. Martin's who had received such hurts that he was unable to help himself was granted 40/- yearly out of the treasury of the county upon the death of other recipients. Until then the Court asks for him to be taken care of by the city. (1526)

Edward Bayly's account of the same year reads

"A noate of what I did lay out for the poore Girle	
Impris, Bread and Drinke for them that did make	
her Cleane at 2 severall times	0.0.4
It. for 2 pecks of Coles to make her fire	0.0.4
It. for her weekes dyett	0.2.0
It. to Bettie Write that made her Cleane	0.0.6
	0.3.2"

(1526)

Margaret, widow of Ottwell Barrington, gunsmith, aged 70, and nearly blind, complained that John Harper, overseer, "most unconscionally, cruelly, and uncharitably . . . disdaininge and contemning" the grant of 6d. weekly is seven months in arrears in spite of "any humble and gentle persuasion". She had pawned all her goods to buy bread and "faggotts", was in debt and threatened with arrest. (1531) She petitioned again in 1662 that Robert Sangatt and William Morgan "doe altogether sleight and deale very uniustly & unconscionably" with her. Eight weeks only had been paid, and then only from 2d. to 4d. (1571)

John Miles, plasterer, with seven small children, was out of work by reason of the "whether" in the great frost of 1662 when the rivers of Europe were all frozen and the Hellespont was covered with ice. (1567) What a terrible time the poor people suffered in real cold weather.

The opening of the campaign for making the Wye navigable as recommended by Mr. Steward and prosecuted by Mr. Cotts Sandys was one of forty-four presentments and was approved by the third inquest in October 1662. This was for "Imploying of the poore at worke with the which this City doth see much abound". (2628)

Anne, the widow of Thomas Price, a soldier in the king's service, who had received grievous wounds and never changed his loyalty in spite of promises of reward, asks for the first fall of a hospital. (1566) And William Fisher, who also never deserted the king's service and was one of the garrison who defended the city against the Scots to the uttermost of his power, pleads for a grant to apprentice a manchild, one of his six children, aged eleven or twelve. A master was ready to take him. (1634)

The year 1662 was prolific in petitions. Walter Evans, deputy gaoler of the city prison called the House of Correction, complains that it was in decay and out of order for the reception of prisoners. He had been forced to receive "qualified prisoners" into the ward-house amongst those there for debt; not justifiable by law. He therefore could not demand any pay for their lodging or warrant their detention. He also asks for the "establishing and keeping of the place". (1632)

Katherine, widow of Thomas Webb, glover, states that their house was pulled down and the timber carried to the castle "in ye time of the unfortunate and unhappie Warrs". Now she was 80 years of age and in want. (1628)

Thomas Herring with a wife and one child "grievously pained with a perpetuall dolorous lameness in both legs" who had a small rotten almshouse like to fall down, is another pitiful case as he had not received any help "of a long season". (1578)

In 1663 there was a difference between the parishes of St. John and All Saints concerning Thomas Mason, deceased: there was a dispute to decide to which he belonged. Each was ordered to pay 2/6 for his "buringe". (1624)

In 1664 action was to be taken against those allowing poor people in their houses and who now cannot be removed. The churchwardens and overseers were fined 6/8 each for neglect, and a fine of 39/11½ on all who admit poor in the future unless security is given. (2676) The next year Henry Traherne aged 80 with "stupified" limbs who was in an old barn of a cottage for twelve years was granted 6d. weekly. (1654) Three years later Thomas Jones pleads for mercy. He was in durance in fetters for fifteen months, remote from friends and having sold all his clothes and now truly penitent for transgressing the "Law of God and man", was resolved to become a new person. (1647)

In 1664 when Robt Symonds was mayor, Patience Carwardine stated that her husband had died in "a very sadd condicon" and not having the wherewithal to leave to bury him. She had had to borrow money notwithstanding it was ordered that his allowance of 6d. per week was to be continued to her. Nine weeks and upwards was unpaid. (1581)

One of the most pitiful of all petitions came from prisoners in Bysters Gate prison on 7th April, 1665. They claimed to be "free denizens of this Nation . . . least of all able to help ourselves". Some "are enforced publickly to beg the charitable almes of commiserating Christians". The daily increase of prisoners was increasing their "weake and hungry natures". They conceive it is not his Majesty's intention or the Law, that any of his subjects prisoners, equally precious in his esteem with the rest, should in the affluence of God's blessing and in a fertile land, perish through want of bread while awaiting trial. They conceive "by the Precedent of most, if not all other prisons of England, that the King's pious and Christian care of his subjects hath beene seconded by some daily pension or allowance of bread out of the common stock or treasury of the nation". This petition is signed by six men and two women. (1581)

Next year seven inhabitants were presented for extortion of fees of several poor folk whose "Lowd Crie by Reason of sutch Opression Rings Lowd in the Ears of God and Man" (2717); and in 1666 Elizabeth Prosser, widow, complains that David Badham and William Roberts, overseers of St. Nicholas, made a "jeare" at the order to pay her to the "High Contempt" of the Justices. (1674) Next year twopence was added to her allowance. (2734)

Thomas Price in Bysters gaol asks to be allowed "to apeere" in Sessions and either discharged or to undergo what shall be imposed on him. He had "indured much sickness and abundance of want". (1674) Mary Tiler writes that she had 10/6 due to her when she asked for it "they gave me bace woords and abuse". This is one of the few signed petitions. (1673) Another especially sad case refers to Phillipp Richardson who believes himself to be fatherless, his mother was buried the day before leaving four small children, he being about nine year old, and pleads for money to be apprenticed and "a Mr. [master] Reddy to entertayne him". He was allowed £3.0.0 of Wood's charity, but we do not know what happened to the other three children. Poor wretches. (1673)

Hereford in this year seems to have been full of poverty. William Reynolds of St. Martin's, blind, plundered of all his belongings because of his loyalty to the king and his freeman's oath, and maimed in the head and arm in a sally against the enemies was

told that his petition was to be read at the next fall of any hospital. (1670) Henry Lane, widower, with two small children, whose wife had been ill for over a year, had no place of habitation except upon sufferance "untill tomorrow night, and formerly forced to lie in the church porch with his children". (1665)

Rowland Jones, tailor, who was in prison for a pretended action for £1000, and was unable to get bail complains that therefore the gaoler, Richard Cooke, put him among "cut-persons and other felonious persons" where he received many abuses from the gaoler and others. He also says he was acting legally in going to London to serve writs and that those served with them apprehended him at 10 p.m., wounded him from head to foot so that he would never be a perfect man again, robbed him of 10/- and writings of Mr. Unett, whereby the gentleman was undone. He had been in the gate prison for fifty-four days without relief for himself or family. (1675)

A change in the attitude of some overseers appears in the plea on 2nd May, 1667, of William Peacocke who asks to be relieved of collecting for the poor, and states that Edward Rodd and Thomas Phillips would testify that he had satisfied the poor of St. Martin's for two years. He suggested that a choice be made of two others whose names he submits, to be chosen at a meeting to be held at "Dindor". (1667)

In 1671 the famous "*Act for the Reliefe and Release of poore distressed Prisoners for Debt*" was passed. This stated that many were impoverished by the late unhappy times, "the sadd and dreadfull Fire, their own misfortunes", etc.; and unable to satisfy creditors "and may by Noysomnes become occasion of Pestilence". It was enacted that any Justice of Peace might require the Sheriff or gaoler to bring the body of any person in prison for debt on 14th April 1671 and to certify the cause of imprisonment. The prisoner was to take oath that he had no estate of any kind to the value of £10 or enough to pay the debt, etc. He was then to be remanded to prison and the Justices were to give a certificate for him to give to his creditors, and both were to appear at the next Quarter Sessions. The Justices being satisfied were to command the gaoler to set the prisoner free without any fee or "Chamber Rent".

At once, on 1st June, 1671, we see the result of this merciful act. Richard Langford took the necessary oath, and a writ was sent by Robert Symonds, mayor, to Edward Cornwall, and four creditors to appear with him at the Market House at the next sessions. Langford had received a *habeas corporacon causa* from Court of Record, Westminster, which enjoyed the late mayor, R.

Wadeley, to send him up; and the mayor offered to accept bail, but though this was offered, it was refused. He pleads for release. He was in custody for a bond of £200 unto the king with conditions unto Edward Cornwall, and one for £11.0.0 to Elizabeth Elliotts. The warrant to William Winter keeper of the gaol to bring Langford before the Justices and that to the creditors also are preserved. (1800, 2034, 1802)

Other prisoners who took advantage of the Act were David Warnell who was in prison since the 14th April, 1671, for an action of trespass as high as £40 at the suit of William Collins, and who took the required oath. He was remanded to prison on 24th May. On the 14th May he had petitioned that by reason of his long imprisonment he was poor, and asks for a warrant requiring the keeper to bring a copy of the cause of his imprisonment. He was admitted to take the oath. (1803-4)

In 1674 Mary Wall of Burcott's Row, a widow, aged and deaf with three children had been the subject of scandal by neighbours who said she had led an incontinent life and was with child "a meere feigned untruth". She had sold most of her goods and had borrowed 16/-. She had been awarded 1/8 weekly but 8d. had been stopped owing to the untrue charge. Her sickness was well known to Dr. Bridstock Harford, and her children hungry and bare in habit. (1819)<sup>3</sup>

The same year Thomas Herringe, lame and aged 60 complains that the overseers had stopped his grant of 6d. weekly because his wife had given shelter for four nights "to a poore harborless wench weaving bone lace" who had beseeched her for shelter. She lay upon a hard lodging of straw and behaved herself honestly. Neighbours had maligned Herringe for his wife's action. He was allowed his former pay of 6d. (1817)

In 1674 Phillipp George, cooper and freeman, aged 76, wounded in the service of Charles I at home and in Ireland and who had been burnt in the hands and feet when Col. John Birch was governor of the city for his fidelity and refusal to disclose secrets, formerly a sergeant at arms, lame and nearly blind, pleaded for the the benefit of the King's act of settlement in a hospital in his winter years. (1817)

Next year, on the 7th October, a process of contempt was issued against the overseers of St. Martin's for not paying Anne Powell her arrears and providing a habitation for her which they had been ordered to do on 15th April. (2905 and 2885)

The accounts of John Williams and William Richards, overseers of St. Peter's show that they distributed a total of £18.15.2 in 1675 and in the same year the overseers of St. John's were fined 20/- for neglect of duty. (2900) John Jones was ordered to give security

for a child born in his house, the mother being received as an inmate (2900), and Elizabeth, wife of Richard Mounsall, was committed for concealing a person likely to be chargeable to the parish. (2899) A year later Peter Rowley, churchwarden of St. Owen's, deposed that he and his fellow churchwarden and the overseers of the poor went into the dwelling of John Milles to demand the sum of 8d., but he refused to pay; they distrained two andirons, but Maudline the wife rescued them—one woman against four men! Both the churchwardens made their marks for signatures. (1864)

The inhabitants of St. Martin's complained that they were extremely oppressed with the charge of the poor, and begged for benevolence from the Justices unto Anne Parsons an infant left in the parish and fit to be placed an apprentice "or the parish might be undone in a short space". (1870) James Aston and his wife in 1677 petitioned that he had been in prison for nine weeks and had only the charity of Christians to help them. They had four young sons who came under the prison gate crying for relief. (1914) In 1679 Tisley Preece, widow, aged 100, pleads for some weekly pay "shee doe hope shee shall not trouble this World long". A grant of 4d. was made. (1942)

The petition of Johane Stocke, Phillipp Jenkins and Hannah Jenkins, of Traherne's hospital, states that they had been defamed by John Gyles, Anne his wife and their families. They could not rest quietly in their beds, especially when Giles came home drunken and used bad language. (This is quoted!). They plead for some course to be taken. (1953)

John Jenkins and William Weare, late overseers of St. Nicholas in 1681-2, by their accounts showed at a public meeting that they had distributed £11.14.9 which was approved by all present. (1985) They complained that the sum of 15/9 was due to them, which was denied, because they had hired Ursulla Tomlins at three pence weekly to help to turn and wash Margaret Harbart's wounds, who lay in an unspeakable condition of misery "her flesh ready to perish from her bones". (3083)

Thomas Philpotts states that he had given up brewing in 1682 owing to the increase in excise duty, but having a great family and "ye necessity of many poore prisoners in his custody" that he had to maintain "doth brew small drinke for them and his family." He pleads for cessation of excise on this. (2035) The overseers for St. Martin's expended £19.9.0 during the same year, 3/- having been given to widow Very during her life; (she died on the 30th May) and 9/6 was paid "to beri her". (2001)

Around 1683 there are numerous petitions. One by the churchwardens of St. Nicholas who are burdened with a more than



ordinary charge of poor, asks for a grant of £5 for apprenticing John Harrison "an orphan". (2012)

Edward Jones and Deu Parry of St. John's at Easter 1683 stated that they had received £4.17.6 from the previous overseers, £22.15.6 from the lewne, and paid out £25.12.11 in money and £3.18.2 in bread making them £3.18.2 out of pocket. They gave a list of all recipients, the largest amount being £7.13.8 to Haines children for 51 weeks. (1997)

James Jackard, glazier, had put in order the decayed pump at the head of Broad Capuch Lane, for which he was to have £2.2.0, only 20/- of which he had received. He was now very aged and past work. James Taylor, overseer of Wigmarsh, was ordered to give him 20/- out of Wigmarsh money from Wyebridge ward in his hands. (2053)<sup>4</sup>

Other casualties of war were James Carwardine, a drummer in the company of Major Cornwall, who had had a leg broken in the Monmouth rebellion and pleaded for Anne one of his three children to be apprenticed. This petition in 1688 was to remain until money comes in. (2056) Jane Bayley in 1691 said her husband was killed in Ireland and asked for one of her several small children to be apprenticed. (2096)

John Maverley who took two orphans, John Smeethes and John Sandy, to work at his trade of a button maker in 1695, asked for some apparel for them, they being almost naked. (2115) A case of rescue took place in the same year. Dansey Gwillim deposed that as he was bringing Martha Kenwood into the house of correction she was rescued by Thomas Powell. (2105)

One of the signed petitions is that of Thomas Gough, a freeman, imprisoned in the county gaol for debt, who asked for one of his children to be apprenticed in 1693. (2139) Joane Goode of St. Owen's, aged 80, who is in gaol and is closely confined to the "pip-hole", and ready to starve was awarded 6d. weekly. (2141) Next year, 1694 Amelia Jones, widow, applied for relief as she was lame and helpless and could not continue her work of gathering moss "by which she gott her sickness" at the rate of three halfpence daily. 4d. weekly was granted to her. (2152) The mayors of Hereford sometimes came under censure. John Abrahall was presented for not paying the poor men of each township their common stipend in 1694. (3352)

All but four of the foregoing incidents are commemorated in the loose papers kept in sheepskin bags in the Town Hall and relate to the 17th century. A few later notes from the Minute Books of the corporation show efforts made to relieve the poor in the 18th century. In 1705 a letter was sent to James, Lord Chandos, on

at Church but once in Seven Years, a Friend to help to save Jesuits and Priests, which came in to be Gaoler in the time of the late King James, he is a Fighter, disturbing, beating and wounding of his Prisoners, as will be prov'd; he is a common hunter of Whore-Houses, and such persons as will spend their Moneys Lewdly in his Company, he will take abroad with him, and at Midnight he will come home, and then they being all Mad-Drunk, he will sit upon the poor, quiet, sober Prisoners which Lodg in the Wards, which have not, or will not spend their Moneys upon him, he will Threaten to Beat, Wound, or kill, charging his pistols, and drawing his Sword against them, and run at them with a long and dangerous Javelin, to kill them; he hath endangered the Lives of several Prisoners, as will be prov'd; he not only Wounded but Murthered one Mary Barard, a Prisoner, that was under his Custody, (as Witness Nicholas Kenwood, and Thomas Gimmans, Gent. &c.) On the Morrow Morning after the Death of the said Mary Barard, one of his Sons declared, that his Father had Killed her, by knocking her on the Head with the Gaol-Keys; and the said Mary had her Death wholly upon him; this was done in the Year 1688, (Witness William Mulhouse, and Charles Clibbery, &c.) He Threatened to Beat, Wound, or Spoil, the Body of Anthony Meek, for no cause but going into the Chambers to see his Fellow-Prisoners; this was in December 1689. He Wounded the

Body

C 2

P. 27.  
A Gaoler knocking a Woman  
in the Head with his Keys



THE ILLUSTRATION IS FROM MOSES PITT "THE CRY OF THE OPPRESSED" IN THE PILLEY COLLECTION AT HEREFORD CITY LIBRARY.

19 October, asking him to pay the mayor £100 or £150 of the sum bequeathed by Lord Scudamore in 1668 for a perpetual stock to set poor people to work, many poor children needing work. And on 29th November of the same year the Town Clerk wrote to him giving an account of masters and apprentices to be put out with the £100. On the 29th December it was reported that twenty children were apprenticed.

On 22 Dec. 1729, application was made to the Duke of Beaufort to take steps that Lord Scudamore's money due on mortgage and bond from Mr. Middlebrook and Lord Chandos be recovered and applied according to the donor's will. How often the proper use of bequests is neglected, even today. On the same day the council decided to establish a workhouse and for the poor to be put there in woollen, linen, cotton and gloving manufactures. Next year a stock was to be provided for persons committed to the Bridewell and the place made fitting for the purpose. In 1784 on the 15th March, Mr. Ravenhill was indemnified for advancing twenty pounds for the poor in the late inclement weather out of Wood's charity. Ten years later on 26th November subscriptions were to be raised to buy grain, coal, etc., to be sold to the poor during the winter at reduced prices. The council subscribed £20 and on 19th May another £20 for supplying grain until the approaching harvest. Corn was not imported then. In order to save wheat during the high cost of it during the war, the Duke of Portland wrote to the corporation in January 1796, that bread be made of two-thirds only of wheat and one-third of rye or barley until the price of the first was more reasonable. On the 28th June, an opinion was expressed that too much grain was exported down the Wye, an increased price was apprehended and also deficiency if not stopped. A meeting was to be called for the 30th January to purchase a quantity of wheat and barley for the poor until 15th September next. Neighbouring farmers having expressed apprehension of danger and tumult in bringing grain to market it was recommended to them that after supplying their own neighbourhood they should bring grain in weekly, no toll to be taken and every encouragement given for its disposal and for suppressing disorders.

The Trinity Almshouses have now been demolished (1967) therefore a note regarding the inhabitants may be of interest. On the 17th May, 1706, they were ordered to "live therein and weare their Gownes and to be conformable to the Rules". When I came to Hereford in 1925 the Coningsby Hospital pensioners still attended the cathedral on Sunday mornings wearing their red tunics. They gave a picturesque appearance to the streets. Other notes about the hospitals or almshouses appear in the Minute Book for 19th October, 1784, when the men were ordered to reside

in their hospitals or lose their pay. Probably the condition of the houses was not too good for on 4th November, 1785, the state of Trinity Hospital was to be enquired into and laws, orders, etc., for good government were to be made as empowered by the will of Mr. Kerry. On the 19th March, 1824, it was decided that the houses, being small and incommodious, should be rebuilt and stock equal to £350 sold and £100 to be subscribed by the "house" i.e. the Corporation. On the 24th of the next month Mr. T. Traherne's plan was approved with the substitution of cast-iron gothic windows and door cases. There were to be fifteen houses, a wash-house forming a sixteenth in appearance, and a staircase at the back of each. A sufficient person to estimate the cost of elevating the houses eighteen inches higher and the work to be "done proper".

My last mention of the attempts made to improve the condition of the poor of this county is the minute of the 18th June, 1828, when the Council subscribed ten guineas to the Herefordshire Society for clothing and apprenticing children in or near London who were natives of this county or born of Herefordshire parents.

That the shocking conditions of the prisons in Hereford was no worse than those elsewhere is shown by a book written and published by Moses Pitt entitled *The Cry of the Oppressed* in 1691. The author had suffered imprisonment for debt in London having acted as a surety for a friend who defaulted in payment. He was so horrified by the treatment received by the poor that after his release he made investigations at many other places in England and received replies to his enquiries from the local people. All tell the same sad tale. Mr. John Taylor, Mr. John Seabourne and others wrote to him from Hereford on 7th November, 1690, and record the appalling behaviour of William Huck, gaol keeper, drunkard and loose liver, who among other atrocities defrauded the prisoners and murdered Mary Barnard by knocking her on the head with his keys in 1688. A copy of this rare book is in the Pilley Collection at the City Library; it has an illustration of the murder. A full account of the conditions will be found in John Howard's *The State of the Prisons in England and Wales*, first published in 1777. Several pages are devoted to Hereford.

Must not we of the 20th century be thankful for the improvement that has taken place in the social conditions of us all, especially when we see the care now taken of the old and infirm in our hospitals and the devotion shown to them by the doctors and nurses, and the benefits of the National Health Service and pensions compared with the treatment meted out to the aged and unwanted in earlier days.

## FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup> A considerable part of the rents formerly received by the Dean and Chapter was in the form of wheat and other grain from which the bread was baked. Pitman is probably an error in the *Charity report* as there is no parish in England of that name. Does it refer to an individual?

<sup>2</sup> Numbers in brackets refer to pages in F. C. Morgan's copy of the transcripts.

<sup>3</sup> An account of Dr. Bridstock Harford will be found in A. J. Winnington-Ingram's *Monumental brasses in Hereford cathedral*, revised edition, 1966.

<sup>4</sup> Freemen of Hereford in each ward had to pay an annual sum for the privilege of grazing stock on Widemarsh Common.

## EARLY STREET NAMES OF HEREFORD

by J. W. TONKIN

Hereford is remarkable in preserving its medieval street plan almost unaltered. The buildings have been demolished and new ones erected on the old sites but basically the actual layout of the city has changed very little. This layout in itself with its streets on a grid, or perhaps one might claim two or three grids, is fascinating, but to discuss this is not the purpose of this paper. It is to make available to club members the results of some fairly intensive research which has gone into the preparation of a gazetteer to accompany a street plan of Hereford which is to be published along with those of a number of other medieval European cities as part of an international project.

Two lists of streets in Hereford city have appeared in previous transactions of the club. The first was in Alfred Watkins, 'Hereford Place-Names and Sites' (1931) pp.113-115, and David Spiers, 'The Street-Names of Hereford, 1757-1961', Vol. XXXVII (1962), pp.192-209. Of these the former is not intended to be a complete list and the latter deals only with modern names. Further information on a number of streets is contained in C. Evans, 'A New Light on Behind-the-Wall Street, Hereford', (1938), pp.193-200.

In compiling the list below a number of documentary sources and early maps have been used. From these it has been possible to locate most of the medieval streets. In all cases the documents used are mentioned. A more intensive search of some of the State papers and city archives may produce a few more names and may make it possible to identify the location of those which are still marked as "location unknown" in the following list.

Where the identification of a street is not obvious from the name quotations are given in support of the location, e.g. Aley. Also a list of the sources used is given beneath each name together with the earliest spelling found, and any major variations in it. A complete list of the occasions on which each name is used would have been too long to print, but the dates of the first and last reference from each source are given.

Two names mentioned in Canon Capes, 'Some Notes on Old Hereford' *Diocesan Messenger*, have not been found in any of the documents used so far and for this reason are not shown below. These are le Vysham Row and Palace Lane. The latter presumably led to the Bishop's Palace or was somewhere close to it. Two other names, Endeleslone and Golden Alley, have not been found in the

documents used, but are given in the list because of their firm identification by Capes and Watkins respectively.

The writer would like to thank Miss E. M. Jancey for all her help in making sources available, Mr. I. Slocombe for his transcript of the Knights Hospitallers Rental, the other members of the small group working on the city plan for their comments and suggestions, and his wife for searching through some thousands of references.

### SOURCES AND ABBREVIATIONS USED BELOW

- A Ancient Deeds at the Public Record Office quoted in C. Evans, 'A New Light on Behind-the-Wall Street, Hereford', *Transactions W.N.F.C.* (1938), pp.193-200.
- A.S. Map of All Saints Parish, 1809, in County Record Office.
- B Map of Hereford, 1806, E. W. Bayley.
- C *Hereford Cathedral Muniments* (3 Vols.) Historical Manuscripts Commission, 1955. These cover the years 1070-1891/2.
- C.R. See below.
- Cy. Map of the City of Hereford, 1858, T. Curley.
- G A. T. Bannister, 'The Possessions of St. Guthlac's Priory, Hereford', *Transactions W.N.F.C.* (1920), pp.34-42. Documents mentioned cover years 1436-1559.
- H F. C. Morgan, 'Hereford Presentments, 1611-1659', *Transactions W.N.F.C.* (1940), pp.79-89. References to skin, file and document number.
- H.R. See below.
- J Joseph James, *Handbook for Hereford*, (1858).
- K Property of Knights Hospitallers in Hereford from Rental 20 H.7. 1504/5.
- L See below.
- M Hereford City Manuscripts quoted by Evans op. cit.
- Misc. See below.
- M.W. Hereford City Manuscripts quoted by A. Watkins, 'Hereford Place Names and Sites', *Transactions W.N.F.C.* (1931), pp.113-128.
- P Hereford City — Muniments of Title — Phelps Lands. These cover the years 1343-1636.
- Pet. See below.
- R See below.
- S Map of Hereford, 1610. John Speede.
- T Map of the City of Hereford, 1757. John Taylor.
- V See below.
- W *Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills. Vol. VIII* (1936), British Record Society.
- C.R. City Court Rolls.
- H.R. Corporation Registers, 1514.
- L. Lease.
- Misc. Miscellaneous documents.
- Pet. Petitions.
- R. Receipts of Tolls.
- V. Will of John Verbum, 1378.

} *Manuscripts of Rye and Hereford and others — Historical Manuscripts Commission, 1892.*

*Name in 1800 (or that last used)*      *Earliest recorded spelling and date*

**ABOVE EIGNE**      Abovethigene  
(Whitecross Road 1858)      1271/2 (C 221)  
1271-1401 (C), 1757 (T).

**ALEY**      Le Aley  
(Offa Street c.1869)      1400 (A E326/4120)  
(See also Milk Lane)

"Also one way called Le Aley leading from the said messuage"  
(in Hungreystrete opposite St. Peter's Church) "to a lane called  
Behyndewalles". (A E326/4120) 1400.

**BAKEHOUSE LANE**      Bakehous Lane  
(Location unknown)      1436 (G)  
1436-1559 (G)

Possibly near the Cathedral. There are many references to the  
Canons' Bakehouse from the early fifteenth century until 1661 in  
the Cathedral Muniments.

**BARTISHAME STREET**  
(Harold Street 1865)      1632 (H 17. xvi. xv)  
(See Green Way)  
"in Green Lane alias Bartishame Street".

**BEHIND THE WALL STREET** Byhindewalle  
(East Street 1844 & probably      2nd half 13th cent. (C 499)  
West Street 1844)  
(See also Packers' Lane)  
2nd half 13th cent. 1399/1400 (C), 1302, 1400, 1510 (A),  
1561 (M), 1610 (S), 1633 (H).

Messuage extending "from the street of Hungreye to the way  
which is called Bihyndewalle" (C 219) 1317.

"tenement lying between the lane called Byhyndethewalles and  
the tenement of . . . and extending from the common lane leading  
to another lane called Milkelone" (C 1473) 1345.

"tenements of burgages, with all their appurtenances . . . extend-  
ing from the High Street on the North as far as the lane called  
'Packer's Lane' alias 'byhynde-the-wallis' on the South" (A C 146/  
7557) 1510.

"in the Castle Streete at the lanes end called behind the Wallis"  
(H 17. xvii. xvi.) 1633.

"the which pale is sett in the backe lane towards the Castell  
Strete called the Lord Ferrers place and also in the lane called  
byhynd the Wallis" (M) 1651.  
See also Note at end.

**BERTON STREET**      Bertonestret  
(Barton Road 1855)      2nd half 13th cent. (C 504)  
2nd half 13th cent.-1459/60 (C), 1436-1559 (G),  
1757 (Barton Lane) (T), 1858 (Cy).

"Bertonestrete outside the gate called le Greyferon Yate" (C 68)  
1444. Often described as being in the suburbs.

**BEWELL STREET**      1277 (C 105)  
Street of Beauval  
1277-1375 (C), 1383-1636 (Bewall Street) (P), 1610 (S),  
1632 & 1655 (H), 1757 (Bewell Street) (T), 1806 (B),  
1809 (A.S.), 1858 (Cy).

**BISHOPSGATE STREET**      Bishopstreet  
(Commercial Street 1858)      1264 (R)  
(See Bye Street)  
1264 (R), 1657 & 1658 (H).

**BLACKLANE**      Blaklane  
(?Little Berrington Street)      1504 (K)  
1504/5 (K)

**BLACKMARSTON**      1504 (K)  
(Eastern part of Belmont Road  
c.1880)  
1504/5 (K), 1655 (H), 1858 (Cy).

**BOWSEY LANE**      Bowsye Street  
(Wall Street 1858)      1610 (S)  
(See also note on Behind the Wall Street)  
1610 (S), 1658 (H), 1757 (T), 1806 (B).

**BRITONS STREET**  
(See Bruton Street)

**BROAD STREET**      Brodestrete  
(Includes Norgate as well as      1368 (C 225)  
old Broad Street)  
1368-1629 (C), 1436-1539 (G), 1610 (S), 1655 (H),  
1757 (T), 1806 (B), 1809 (A.S.), 1858 (Cy).

**BROAD CABBAGE LANE**      Brode Cabochelane  
(Church Street 1855 south of      1434 (C 2861)  
East Street)  
(See also Cabbage Lane  
Narrow Cabbage Lane  
Great Capuchin Lane)  
1434-1679 (C), 1457 (P), 1655 & 1657 (H), 1757 (T).

**BROYNTONESWEYE**                      Broyntonesweye  
(? Breinton Road today)      End 13th cent. (C 611)  
End 13th cent. (C), 1858 (Cy).

**BRUTON STREET**                      Bruttonestrete  
(Mill Street 1855)                  2nd half 13th cent. (C 2014)  
(See also Britons Street)  
2nd half 13th cent.-1447 (C), 1610 (Britons Street) (S),  
1757 (Britons Lane) (T), 1806 (B).

"curtilage lying in Bruton strete in the suburb of Hereford . . .  
extending as far as the green way" (viridam viam) (C 174) 1312.

"curtilage in Burtonstrete between the tenement . . . and the lane  
leading towards the mill of the castle" (C 170) 1348/9.

"outside the gate of St. Audeonus in the suburb of Hereford in  
a street called Brutonstrete" (C 79) 1414.

"outside the gate of St. Owen in Brutonstrete" (C 129) 1447.

**BUTCHERY**                              Carnificum  
(South side of middle row in      c.1310 (C 746)  
High Town — now destroyed)  
c.1310 (C), 1610 (S), 1757 (T), 1806 (B).

**BYE STREET**                              Bystreet  
(Commercial Street 1855)          1504 (K)  
(See also Bishopsgate Street)  
1504/5 (K), 1655 (H), 1757 (T), 1806 (B).

**BYESTREET WITHOUT  
THE GATE**                              Extra portam de Byestrete  
(Commercial Road 1855)          1436 (G)  
1436-1539 (G), 1757 (T), 1806 (B).

**BYHYNDECOT STREET**              Byhyndecot  
(Outside the walls in parish      1st half 13th cent. (C 1298)  
of St. Nicholas)  
(See also Quakers' Lane)  
1st half 13th cent.-1428 (C), 1352 (A).

In the parish of St. Nicholas, in the suburbs of Hereford and on  
it a toft "between the high road and the Bishops of Hereford's  
field" (A C6428, 1352).

**CABBAGE LANE**                      Cabocheslone  
(Applied to the earlier Narrow      Late 13th cent. (C 2057)  
Cabbage Lane in 19th cent.)  
(Church Street 1855)  
(See also Broad Cabbage Lane  
Narrow Cabbage Lane

Great Capuchin Lane)  
Late 13th cent.-1404 (C), 1319-21, 1415-16 (C.R.),  
1610 (S), 1858 (J).

**CASTLE STREET**                      in vico castr  
(Included modern Castle Street      Early 13th cent. (C 1285)  
and St. Ethelbert Street)  
Early 13th cent.-1525/6 (C), 1561 (M), 1610 (S), 1633 (H),  
1757 (T), 1806 (B), 1858 (Cy).

**CATS LANE**                              Cattleslone  
(Catherine Street 1855.              Late 13th cent. (C 65)  
Sometimes included modern  
Coningsby Street 1855)  
(see also Fryerslane  
Hospital Street)  
Late 13th cent.-1351 (C), 1757 (T), 1806 (B), 1809 (A.S.).

**COOKEN ROW**                              Cokenrewe  
(North side of middle row in      1347/8 (C 48)  
High Town — now destroyed)  
1347/8-1435 (C), 1372-1636 (P), 1640 (H), 1757 (T),  
1806 (B).

**CORVESERESREWE**                      Corveseresrewe  
(Shoe-makers' Row)                  1386/7 (C 1161)  
(Location unknown)

**CROSHULLESWAYE**                      Croshulleswaye  
(Location unknown)                  Late 13th cent. (C 1314)

**CROSS LANE**                              Cross Lane  
(All Saints Street 1939)              1757 (T)

**ENDELESLONE**  
(East and West Streets 1844)  
(See also Behind the Wall Street  
Packers' Lane)

**EIGN STREET**                              Thyenestrete  
1272 (C 190)  
1272-1388 (C), 1757 (T), 1806 (B), 1809 (A.S.), 1858 (Cy).

**FERRERS LANE**                              Lord Ferrers Place  
(See also Gerlandeslane)          1561 (M)  
1561 (M), 1757 (Ferrers Lane) (T), 1806 (B), 1858 (Cy).

**FRENCHMAN STREET** Vrenschemannestrete  
(? eastern end of modern Bewell Street) c.1225-30 (C 861)

"the land which lies on the south part against the church of All Saints in the corner of the street called Vrenschemannestrete" (C 861, c.1225-1230).

**FROG LANE** Vroggelone  
(Perhaps closed mid 14th-cent.) 1321/2 (C 1333)  
(Between Coningsby Street and Smallpurs west of present Canal Road)

1321/2-mid 14th cent. (C).

"The lands extend from the street called Vroggelone to Smalpors" (C 1333 1321/2).

"A curtilage . . . lying between the lane called Froggelane and the lane called Cattleslone and extending from the way which leads towards Smalpors" (C 182 1340).

"petition for the closure of a lane called Froggelan near the yard of the chapter . . . the lane is used by all to lead to the stream called Smalpors" (C 1336 ? mid 14th cent.). Petition was by Dominican Friars; so lane presumably close to present ruins.

**FRYERS LANE** Fryers Lane  
(Catherine Street 1855) 1436 (G)  
(See also Cats Lane)  
1436-1559 (G), 1504/5 (Frerelane) (K).

**GAOL LANE** Gaol Lane  
(Union Street 1858) 1757 (T)  
(See also Old Street Waine Way)  
1757 (T), 1806 (B).

**GERLANDESLANE** Gerlandeslane  
(Ferrers Street 1561) 1410 (C 2064)

**GILFORD STREET** Gilford Street  
(Gunners Lane) 1610 (S)  
(See Guldeford Street)

**GOLDEN ALLEY** Golden Alley  
(Connecting Butchery & Cooken Row at eastern end)

**GREAT CAPUCHIN LANE** Great Capuchin Lane  
(Church Street 1855) 1757 (T)  
(See also Broad Cabbage Lane  
Cabbage Lane  
Narrow Cabbage Lane)  
1757 (T), 1806 (B).

**GREEN WAY** Grenewey  
(Harold Street 1865) c.1225-30 (C 851)  
(See also Bartishame Street)  
c.1225-30-1312 (C), 1632 (H), 1757 (T).

**GROPE LANE** Gropelone  
(Gaol Street 1841) 1368 (C 80)  
1368-1415 (C), 1436-1559 (G), 1757 (T), 1806 (B).

**GULDEFORDESTRETE** Guldefordestrete  
(Probably Gunners Lane and Wall Street) 1375 (C 696)  
(See also Gilford Street)  
1375-1428/9 (C).

"tenement lying in Guldefordestret in . . . extending from the street called Guldefordstret as far as the street called Beauvalestret" (C 696, 1375).

"tenement in Guldefordestrete . . . extending from the aforesaid street to the lane called Byhyndethewallus" (C 702, 1388/9).

"in le Myddelrewe between Guldefordstret and Beaufalestret" (C 2065, 1428/9).

See also note at end.

**HIGH STREET** Magnum Vicum  
(High Street and High Town) Mid 13th cent. (C 498)  
1830)  
(See also Butchery

Cooken Row  
Market Place)

Mid 13th cent.-c.1310 (C), 1302 & 1510 (A), 1436 (in Alto vico) (G), 1514 (High Causey) (H.R.), 1436-1559 (G), 1507-8 (P), 1610 (High Causey) (S), 1757 (T), 1806 (B), 1809 (A.S.), 1858 (Cy).

**HOSPITAL STREET** Hospetalestrete  
(Coningsby Street 1855) Mid 13th cent. (C 860)  
(See also Cats Lane)  
Mid 13th cent.-1351 (C).

"land . . . extending from Hospetalestrete as far as Cattleslona" (C 65, late 13th cent.).



"messuage between the land . . . and the common way leading to Smalpars and extending from the lane called Cattleslone to another lane called Hospitaleslone" (C 183, 1351).

**HUNGREYE STREET** Hungreye Street  
(St. Owen's Street northwest of 1296 (C 94)  
entrance to Bath Street)

1296-1446 (C), 1400 (A), 1610 (S).

"a tenement in Hungreye . . . inside the gate of St. Owen" (C 94, 1296).

"a messuage in a street called Hungreystrete opposite St. Peter's Church . . . le Aley leading from the said messuage to a lane called Behyndewalles" (A. E 326/4120, 1400).

**JEWRY LANE** Jury Lane  
(Eastern end of modern 1554/5 (M)  
Maylord Street)  
(See also Maylord Street)

1554/5 (M), 1610 (S), 1757 (T), 1806 (B).

"of houses which had belonged to Elias de Andre and Aaron le Blaund, Jews of the city of Hereford, which houses were situated in Malieristrete" (C 1162, 1398).

"a lane there called Malyers Street or Jury Lane " (M. 1554/5).

**JUDD STREET** Judd Street  
(Location unknown) 1658 (W)

Richard Judde, clerk, is mentioned in a decree of 1512. (Misc.).

**KING STREET** Kingestrete  
(also known as Kings Ditch) c.1230 (C 732)  
c.1230-last quarter 13th cent. (C), 1610 (S), 1655 (H),  
1757 (T), 1806 (B), 1858 (Cy).

**LANE FROM BISHOPSGATE STREET  
TOWARDS WIDEMARSH** 1658 (H)  
(? Gomond Street)

**LITTLE CASTLE STREET** Little Castle Street  
(St. Ethelbert Street) 1757 (T)  
(Earlier part of Castle Street)

**LITTLE LANE**  
(Off Castle Street) Early 13th cent. (C 518)  
Early 13th cent. (C). Three references.

**LITTLE PACKERS LANE** Little Packers' Lane  
(West Street 1858) 1757 (T)  
1757 (T), 1806 (B).

Shown as part of Packers' Lane by Speede 1610.  
Shown as Packers' Lane on All Saints Map, 1809.

**MARKET PLACE** Market Place  
(Northern end of High Street) 1566 (M.W.)  
1566 (M.W.), 1633 (Misc.).

**MAYLORD STREET** Maletharestrete  
(See also Jewry Lane Mid 13th cent. (C 860)  
St. Thomas Street)  
Mid 13th cent.-1398 (C), Malieristrete (C 1162, 1398),  
1416-1478 (P), 1464 (L), 1554/5 (M), 1809 (A.S.),  
1858 (Cy).

**MERCERIEREWE** Mercerierewe  
(Location unknown) 1321 (C.R.)

**MIDDLEDITCH** Middleditch  
(? Middlerewe in King Street c.1225-30 (C 875)  
(Ditch))

**MIDDLEREWE** Middlerewe  
(Apparently in King Street) Late 13th cent. (C 111)  
"in Middlerewe inside the King's Gate" (C 111 Late 13th cent.).

**MIDDLEREWE** Middlerewe  
(Between Guldefordstrete and 1428/9 (C 2065)  
Bewell Street)

**MILK LANE** Milkclone  
(St. John & Offa Streets 1858) 1345 (C 1473)  
(Northern part earlier known as Aley)  
1345-1446 (C), 1436-1559 (G), 1757 (T), 1806 (B).

**NARROW CABBAGE LANE** Narowe Gabeige Lane  
(Church Street 1855 — north 1530 (Pet.)  
of East Street)  
(See also Cabbage Lane)  
1530 (Pet.), 1757 (T).

**NORGATE** le Northgate  
(Northern end of Broad Street) 1404 (C 133)  
1404 (C), 1415-1515 (P), 1610 (S), 1757 (T).

**OLD STREET** Olde Street  
(Union Street 1858) 1610 (S)  
(See also Gaol Lane  
Waine Way)

**OLDESCOLESTRETE** Oldescolestrete  
(? Harley Close) 1397 (C 131)  
1397-1406 (C), 1436-1559 (G).

**PACKERS LANE** Packers' Lane  
(East Street and sometimes  
including West Street 1844)  
(See also Behind the Wall Street)  
1510 (A), 1610 (Modern West Street only) (S), 1679 (C),  
1757 (T), 1806 (B).

**PINNERS LANE** Pinners Lane  
(Little Berrington Street)  
(See also Blacklane)  
1757 (T)

**PIPE LANE** 1757 (T)  
(See Pipewell Street)

**PIPEWELL STREET** Pipewellestrete  
(Gwynne Street 1855)  
Late 13th cent. (C), 1610 (S), 1757 (T).

**POWLANE** Plowlane  
(Berrington Street 1806)  
1757 (T)

**PRIORY LANE** 1436 (G)  
(Stonebow Road c.1893)  
1436-1559 (G).

**QUAKERS' LANE** Quakers' Lane  
(Friars' Street 1858)  
(See also Byhyndecot Street)  
1757 (T), 1806 (B), 1809 (A.S.)

**ROUGHALL**  
(See Wroughtall)

**RODIPOT WAY** Rodipot  
(Wye Street 1860)  
1394-1525 (P).

Land between River Wye, Wye Gate, the highway and "viam  
vocatam Rody-pot quae ducit versus le Watryng-place" (P).

**ROTHOLVESWALLE** Rotholveswalle  
(See Wroughtall)

**SADELWRUYHTSTRETE** Sadelwruyhtstrete  
(Location unknown)  
1317 (C), 1352 (A).

**SAINT AUDOENUS** St. Audoenus  
(See Saint Owen)

**SAINT ETHELBERT STREET** St. Ethelbert  
(earlier was part of Castle Street) 1757 (T)  
(See also Little Castle Street)  
1757 (T), 1806 (B), 1858 (Cy).

**SAINT MARTIN'S STREET** St. Martin  
1757 (T)  
1757 (T), 1806 (B), 1858 (Cy).

**SAINT NICHOLAS STREET** in Vico Sancti Nicolii  
(See also Westgate Street)  
Early 14th cent. (C 398)  
Early 14th cent. & 1315 (C), 1858 (Cy).

**SAINT OWEN STREET** St. Audoenus  
(Also known as St. Audeonus Street)  
Early 14th cent. (C 93)  
(Until 17th cent. this name was applied  
to the street outside the gate only)  
(See also Hungrey Street and

St. Owen's without the gate)  
Early 14th cent.-1508 (C), 1657 (H), 1757 (T), 1806 (B),  
1858 (Cy).

"in the street of St. Owen in the suburbs of Hereford" (C 93,  
early 14th cent.).

"in a suburb of Hereford in the street of St. Audoenus" (C 69,  
1396).

"in the suburb of the city of Hereford in the street called Seynt  
Owenstrete" (C 49, 1508).

**SAINT OWEN'S STREET  
WITHOUT THE GATE**  
(Earlier St. Owen Street) 1757 (T)  
(Now south-eastern part of St. Owen Street)  
1757 (T), 1806 (B).

**SAINT PETER'S STREET** St. Peter  
1757 (T)  
1757 (T), 1806 (B).

**SAINT THOMAS STREET** Senthomastrete  
(Western end of modern  
Maylord Street)  
(See also Jewry Lane)  
1368-1489 (C), 1430 (A), 1436-1559 (G), 1610 (S),  
1757 (T), 1806 (B).

**SCHYTELANE** Schytelane  
(Location uncertain but between 1364 (C 70)  
modern St. Owen St. and East St.)

"tenement in the street called le Hungreye between the tenement of . . . and the lane called le Schytelane and extending from the highway to the lane called Byhindethewalles" (C 70, 1364).

**SUPER MURUM STREET** Super Murum  
(Location unknown) c.1239 (C 1083)

**SYNESTRETE** Synestrete  
(Location unknown) Last quarter 13th cent. (C 157)

**WAINE WAY** Waine Way  
(? Union Street) 1657 (H)  
(See also Gaol Lane  
Old Street)

**WESTGATE STREET** Westyate  
(? St. Nicholas Street) 1310 (C 181)  
1310 & 1316 (C).

"the street towards the gate called Westyate" (C 209, 1316).

**WIDEMARSH STREET** in vico de Widimarisco  
Early 13th cent. (C 511)  
Early 13th cent.-1410 (C), (Wydemerstrete) (C 732,  
c.1230), 1343-1636 (P), 1378 (V), 1504/5 (K), 1610 (S),  
1655 & 1659 (H), 1662 (Pet), 1757 (T), 1806 (B), 1809  
(A.S.), 1858 (Cy).

**WINSTON ROAD** Wyneston  
(Part of Belmont Road c.1880) Late 13th cent. (C 1271)  
Late 13th cent. (C), 1757 (T), 1806 (B).

**WOODYSLANE** Woodyslane  
(Location unknown but 1436 (G)  
apparently near St. Guthlac's  
priory)  
1436-1559 (G).

**WROUGHTALL ROAD** Wrothale  
(Aubrey Street 1858) c.1230 (C 732)  
(Also known as Rothelweswalle  
and Roughall)  
c.1230-1433/4 (C), (Rotholweswalle) (C 456, 1262), (The  
Roughall) 1610 (S), 1655 (H), 1757 (T), 1806 (B).

**WYE BRIDGE STREET** Weybruggstrete  
(Bridge Street 1858) c.1230 (C 732)  
c.1230-1481 (C), 1610 (S), 1757 (T), 1806 (B).

*Note on Behind the Wall Street and Guldeford Street*

The location of Behind the Wall Street was dealt with at some length by C. Evans (op. cit.) and further documents are quoted above to support his findings. This is the location shown by Speede on his map (1610).

However, three documents in the Cathedral charters show that either the name was applied to the modern West Street as well as East Street or that there was a second Behind the Wall Street. These are as follows: (a) "tenement . . . lying in angulo extending at one end towards the Church of All Saints . . . and at the other end towards the grantor's furnum near the land of John Yweyn in the street called behind the wall" (retro murum) (C 1294 mid 13th cent.). A furnum is a lime kiln. (b) "tenement . . . below the gate of Eygne in the street called Guldeford . . . extending from the aforesaid street as far as the lane called Behyndethewallus" (C 152, 1388/9 and C 702, 1388/9).

The problem is further complicated by the fact that there could be some doubt about the position of Guldeford Street. Speede shows the modern Gunners' Lane as Gilford Street and it seems highly probable that this name was derived from Guldeford Street. The following documents as well as (b) above refer to this thoroughfare. (c) "tenement lying Guldefordestret . . . extending from the street called Guldefordestret as far as the street called Beauvalestret" (C 696, 1375); (d) "tenement . . . in le Myddelrewe between Guldefordestret and Beaufalestret in which tenement are eight shops under two roofs" (C 2065, 1428/9).

If the name Guldeford Street was applied to Gunners' Lane and its continuation, the modern Wall Street (Bowsyc Lane in 1610) then Behyndethewallas of (a) and (b) could apply to the present West Street. The "Myddelrewe" of (d) could have been in the angle between Bewell Street and the present Wall Street, or quite probably the shops at the western end of the former between it and Eigne Street, perhaps not part of a continuous row to All Saints in this early period. This would mean that the name Behind-the-Wall was applied to the whole of the modern West and East Streets from Gunners' Lane to St. Ethelbert Street, and that Guldeford Street ran from the western end of this to Widemarsh Gate. This seems the more probable solution.

However, an alternative interpretation of the evidence would be to think of Guldeforde Street as being quite independent of Gilford

Street and running parallel to and north of Bewell Street with the modern Wall Street, earlier Bowsye Lane, as a second Behind-the-Wall. As both Speede and Taylor show very little building in the triangle formed by Widemarsh Street, Bewell Street and Bowsye Lane this interpretation is unlikely to be correct, but the problem cannot be completely settled without more definite evidence.

## A HUMAN RELIC FROM CRASWALL PRIORY, HEREFORDSHIRE

by I. W. CORNWALL

The contents of a small leaden casket, 25 ins. x 7 ins. x  $6\frac{1}{2}$  ins. discovered in the ruins of Craswall Priory and described in the *Transactions of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club*, 1942, p.18 ff., were sent to the Institute of Archaeology, University of London, for examination and report.

The remains, mixed with earth and stones, were received packed in a double polythene bag.

An almost intact human left ulna and the fitting radius were first picked out and the remainder of the bag-contents gently passed, dry, through a pair of square-meshed wire sieves of 6 mm. and 2 mm. aperture, respectively.

From the coarser sieve, along with lumps of red clay and some larger stones, were recovered most of the bones of the left carpus, metacarpus and phalanges. The only pieces obviously missing at this stage were one metacarpal and some of the smaller ungual phalanges.

Most of the bones were in excellent condition and could be cleaned by gentle brushing under a running tap. Only one metacarpal, the 5th, was broken and somewhat decayed. A few others lacked small fragments, most of which were later recovered and replaced. The extremity of the olecranon process of the ulna was missing and seemed to have been rather roughly cut off. This short and stout process is most unlikely to have been accidentally broken off in such well preserved material.

The sievings were first searched, dry, for any materials other than natural clay and stones, when a quantity of small fragments of corroded metal, obvious parings of lead and drops of solder, was recovered, evidently from the process of sealing the casket. In addition there were numerous short fibres of ?wool, tatters of woven ?linen, pieces and chips of broken glass, a small fruit-stone (cherry), etc., all of which were extracted for further examination. Among the finds were several small pieces of bone, all of which proved to belong to the bones of the arm and hand.

After thorough search under the low power of a binocular microscope, sievings passing the 2 mm. sieve were discarded. The residue, consisting mainly of largish tabular fragments of hardened red clay (natural casts of the interior of the lead casket), was repeatedly boiled with distilled water containing sodium hexametaphosphate to disperse the clay. The fluid was, each time, poured off

through the 2 mm. sieve and the solids re-examined after washing on the sieve with a jet of water. The original collection was thus added to, without the emergence of anything new. Several further very small bone-fragments, however, were thus recovered. There was no sign, even of fragments, relatable to the missing 4th metacarpal.

When the recovered bones had been cleaned and mended as far as possible, they were found to represent a left forearm and hand, complete save for the metacarpal, the 4th ungual phalanx, the decayed basal part of the 5th ungual phalanx, the pisiform bone of the carpus (save for a 3 mm. fragment possibly belonging to it) and the cut-off portion of the ulnar olecranon process. An additional bone-fragment, forming a spherical segment 12 mm. in diameter, seemed also to have been separated by a cut. A small part of the missing olecranon was also found, this bounded by a broken, not a cut, surface.

The former of the last two pieces, on comparison, proved to be part of the capitulum of the left humerus (upper arm). The recovery of this, and of some very tiny bone-fragments, makes it impossible that a metacarpal and phalanx, whether entire or in fragments, could have been missed during the search. One must conclude, therefore, that they were not originally present in the collection, as received.

The forearm and hand-bones, after cleaning and mending, were, as far as possible reassembled. For the restoration seen in the photograph, the missing 4th metacarpal was replaced by a cast in plastic from a corresponding, if slightly more slender, bone from the Institute's collections. The two (4th and 5th) ungual phalanges were roughly reproduced by modelling in plasticine on a whittled wooden armature. The pisiform was also made in replica to complete the restoration.

The cuts in the bones at the elbow-joint show that the forearm was detached from the upper arm, while fresh, by a relatively sharp heavy instrument — perhaps an axe or a meat-cleaver — and by at least two blows, for all the cut surfaces cannot be brought to lie in a single plane. One cut, from the lateral side, detached the capitulum of the humerus (which was still held with the forearm at least by the ligaments of the joint-capsule), at the same time just grazing the coronoid process of the ulna, which shows superficial damage in the same plane. A second cut, from the same general direction but not coinciding exactly with the first, separated the greater part of the extremity of the olecranon, which must, in the same way as the capitulum, have remained attached to the triceps tendon of the upper arm when the forearm was removed.

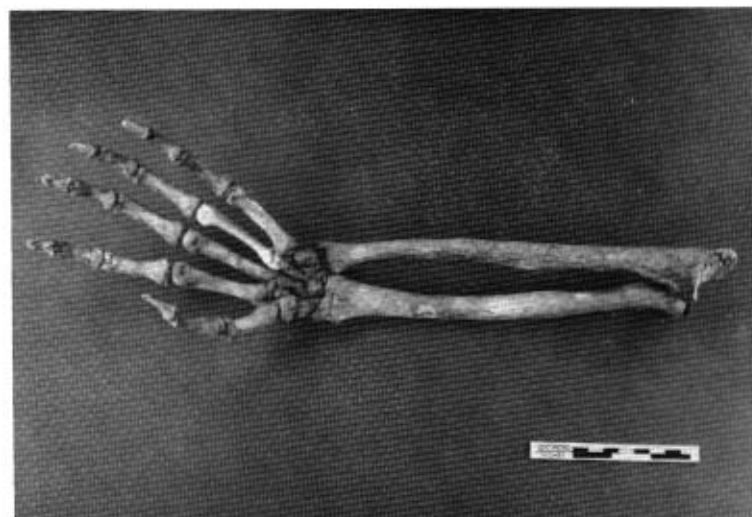


PLATE I — THE LEFT FOREARM RECONSTRUCTED, PALMAR ASPECT. THE 4TH METACARPAL AND THE 4TH AND 5TH UNGUAL PHALANGES ARE RESTORED AS IS THE PISIFORM BONE OF THE CARPUS.



PLATE II — MEDIAL VIEW OF THE ELBOW REGION SHOWING THE CUT OLECRANON AND THE FRAGMENT OF THE HUMERAL CAPITULUM ARTICULATED.

This second blow must have cut through the tendon in part, however, for the jerk which it imparted to the medial part of the olecranon in so doing broke off a corner, which remained with the forearm.

The loss of the 4th metacarpal is less easily explained. If skin, muscle and ligaments still clothed the hand, some dissection would have been necessary to free this bone (in the palmar part of the hand). There is no sign of any knife-cuts on the adjacent bones, which might have betrayed this. The ungual phalanx, easily accessible, might have been removed at this early stage to serve as another relic. It would appear, then, that the loss of the metacarpal probably happened at some later date, when the bones were already free from the soft parts.

From the presence of the linen and wool, it seems that the forearm may still have been clothed when detached, or was at least afterwards wrapped in cloth. Only very small pieces of this were preserved.

The earth, containing, as well as artificial materials, stones as large as 20 x 12 mm., suggests that the detached relic was first buried in earth and only later, when the soft tissues had decayed, was exhumed and, with some of the surrounding earth, enclosed in the leaden case and sealed. The earth and stones could hardly have entered the casket naturally until much later, after the hole seen in the photograph (Ibid.) had been caused by corrosion of the lead. If the reliquary was hidden under a stone, as described, only fine silt and clay could possibly have entered with trickling water, not conceivably the larger stones. It may thus well be that it was at the transfer from the earth to the leaden case that the 4th metacarpal was overlooked, lost or stolen, since there seems to be no evidence that the casket itself was tampered with between then and its modern discovery.

From the length of the radius (24.5 cms.) the standing-height of the individual in life was calculated, using the formulae of Dupertuis and Hadden, as adapted by Boyd and Trevor in *Modern trends in forensic medicine*, K. Simpson (ed.), London, Butterworth, 1952.

Calculated for a female (in view of the traditional sex), the result was 168.4 cms. (5 ft. 6½ ins.) — tall for a woman.

Recalculated as a male, the stature would have been 169.8 cms. (5 ft. 6¾ ins.). According to the authors of the procedure, these measurements are likely to be within 1 in. of the actual values, in the case of western European individuals.

The remains are fully adult, well-built and strong. The hand, as reconstructed, is notably large. Since the bones were re-assembled and joined with adhesive with their articular surfaces

in direct contact, not, as in life, separated by articular cartilage, the true dimensions of the articulated forearm and hand must have been at least some millimetres larger yet.

One may, therefore, justifiably cast some doubt on the presumed female sex of the owner of the remains, though the evidence of the measurements does not exclude this.

Iron-Age and Romano-British males (25-30 individuals) from Maiden Castle average 5 ft. 6½ ins. in height. Modern British men have an average just 1 in. greater than this. The average for females must be 2-3 ins. less. If female, therefore, this individual was tall and large-handed well above the average.

## NOTE

### HEREFORDSHIRE'S PREHISTORIC STANDING STONES

by JOHN G. WILLIAMS

This is a list of all the known prehistoric standing stones in the County of Hereford under the Parishes in which they are situated in alphabetical order with the Ordnance Survey Grid Reference taken from the One Inch to One Mile Ordnance Survey maps. A short description of each standing stone is given with a list of the books containing references to the standing stone. This list is as complete as possible and any additions would be welcomed.

No. 1. BRILLEY. Two stones on the right hand side of the road from Clyro to Kington on Brilley Mountain near cross roads on the County boundary. Ref. SO. 260. 505. They are both 2 ft. above ground and not previously recorded.

No. 2. DORSTONE. Standing stone on the side of the main road to Hay about 200 yards from a bungalow called the Kennels. Ref. SO. 307. 421. It is 5 ft. high and used as a gatepost.

*Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club Transactions* (1924-6) p.150 photograph Pl. 33.

No. 3. DORSTONE. Vagar Hill standing stone at the edge of the forestry plantation near the boundary with Michaelchurch Eskley Ref. SO. 281. 399. It is 5 ft. high and has a "w" symbol cut on its square top. Not used as a boundary mark or previously recorded.

No. 4. GOODRICH. The Queen Stone in a field at Huntsham. It was 7½ ft. high with many grooves running down the full length of the stone. Has been removed. Ref. SO. 565. 176.

*Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club Transactions* (1900-2) p.229; (1924-6) p.189; (1927-9) p.109.

Crawford, O. G. S. "Long Barrows of the Cotswolds" (1925) p.206.

Bates, F. W. "Forest of Dean" (London 1952) p.106.

*Victoria County History, Hereford* Vol. I. p.160.

No. 5. LLANROTHAL. Five standing stones adjoining the farm buildings of Lower Shencill Farm. Ref. SO. 477. 179. They were 5 ft. high and are not now to be seen as they have been moved since 1936 to erect farm buildings on their site.

*Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club Transactions* (1936-8) p.LXII with a photograph of the 5 stones in position.



No. 6. MICHAELCHURCH ESKLEY. Gold Post on Cefn Hill between Wern Genny and Mardy near the Parish boundaries of Cusop and Dorstone. Ref. SO.273. 394. A local farmer told me that this stone was moved from its original position before 1930 but it is clearly marked on a large old Ordnance Survey map (1904 edition of scale 6 inches to 1 mile).

No. 7. MICHAELCHURCH ESKLEY. Wernderris standing stone in a field near a farm of this name. Ref. SO.304. 371. It is 7 ft. 6 ins. high and leans over at a slight angle.

*Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club Transactions* (1921-3) p.287.

## REPORTS OF SECTIONAL RECORDERS

### ARCHAEOLOGY, 1966

by S. C. STANFORD

#### NEOLITHIC

*Dorstone* (SO 326423). Mr. C. Houlder, M.A., F.S.A., and Mr. R. Pye have carried out a further week-end's work on the site described in the Transactions for 1965.

#### IRON AGE

*Midsummer Hill* (SO 76037). The first full season of excavations was directed by the writer on behalf of the Malvern Hills Archaeological Committee, on which the Club and the Worcestershire Archaeological Society are represented.

The trench across the southern defences showed that the small earth rampart had been revetted with a stone wall—probably twice rebuilt. Beyond a broad berm was a shallow defensive ditch which had been waterlogged since it was first cut. What, on the surface, appeared to be an outer defensive bank, proved to be a natural ledge composed of glacial material. Below the archaeological features, the trench was cut some way into complex glacial deposits that indicate the former presence in the valley between Midsummer and Hollybush Hills of a pro-glacial lake. Glacial turf lines were found below such deposits at either end of the trench, but no artifacts were recovered from them.

The main effort was expended on the southern entrance. Here, the frequent replacement of gate posts showed that the camp was permanently defended over a long period of time. At least eight successive posts were used, and on the assumption that the gate would not have been repaired after the Roman Conquest, a date for the original construction of this entrance in the second century B.C. would seem reasonable. The earliest form of the gateway has not yet been determined, but from an early stage the rampart had apsidal terminals, a form associated with the Western Second B culture of the Cotswolds. At the gate the corridor was 13 ft. wide, and the excavation shows the approach to have been at least 30 ft. long. In the later stages it seems likely that a bridge was placed over the corridor some 8 ft. to 10 ft. forward of the gate. All the pottery so far recovered from all levels in the entrance is consistent with a Western Second B occupation. From the soil over the entrance and on the berm inside the defensive ditch were found a few sherds of Romano-British pottery, indicating some, perhaps intermittent, occupation during the Roman period.

## ROMAN

*Croft Ambrey* (SO 443668). A small excavation showed that the entrance through the annexe defences of the hill-fort south of the Mound was a secondary feature. Romano-British sherds over the filled ditch encourage the view that these defences were breached in the Roman period to allow direct access to the Mound.

The completion of work on the Mound produced only minor amendments to the interpretation recorded in the *Transactions* for 1965. Nothing but Romano-British material was found.

## MEDIEVAL

*Hereford*, Blue School Street. (SO 512402) and Bath Street (SO 514399).

Rescue excavations have been carried out by the Hereford City Excavations Committee on which the Club is represented. In Blue School Street where the work was supervised by Miss H. Sutermeister, B.A. and financed by the Ministry of Public Building and Works, two City Wall bastions were located. The one near Widemarsh Gate had been severely robbed, but the other, next to Bycesters Gate, had its thirteenth century semicircular foundations intact, and had been rebuilt as a rectangular structure, perhaps during the Civil War.

A report on the excavations in Bath Street appears in these *Transactions* p.204.

# REPORT ON THE ARCHÆOLOGICAL RESEARCH SECTION FOR 1966

by R. SHOESMITH

The Archaeological Research Section was set up in 1964 and had several aims, including the inspection of Ancient Monuments, Field Surveys and general discussion of topics of local archaeological interest. The last twelve months have been quite eventful as the Research Group has now a satisfactory system of inspection of Ancient Monuments. The county has been split up into 22 areas on the Ordnance Survey 2½" sheet lines to cover the 153 scheduled monuments in the county. During the last six months about 80 of these have been visited by the 22 members directly responsible for these areas.

The group has also issued to its members a duplicated list of all the Scheduled monuments in the county and has compiled a further list of nearly a hundred unscheduled monuments which are also being visited and reported upon.

Several visits were arranged last summer to sites of interest in

various parts of the county and during the winter, monthly discussion meetings have been arranged in members' houses. These have resulted in a very valuable exchange of information, ideas and varying points of view.

Although the group has decided to have no active policy of excavation, as this field seems to be already adequately covered, members have helped in the recent excavations at Bromfield and on Hereford City Walls.

A series of reports have been sent in to the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works through their local correspondent concerning damage to Scheduled Monuments. The most serious of these are perhaps Craswall Priory and Wigmore Castle, and the remains of several churches, all due to neglect of one form or another. Craswell is particularly striking when compared with photographs in our own transactions 50 years ago.

The group now also produces a News-sheet, which it is hoped to issue four or five times a year. This helps members to keep up-to-date with what is happening in areas other than their own and serves as a useful medium for reports of newly discovered monuments and recent excavations.

During the forthcoming year, the group hopes to do several field surveys of monuments which are unscheduled, but which are felt to be of some importance.

If members of the Woolhope Club come across items which they think may be of some archaeological interest, the section will be very glad of the information which will be fully investigated.

## BOTANY, 1966

by F. M. KENDRICK

The Herefordshire Botanical Society had a successful season and several interesting plants were found including two new records for the county.

The new records were:

*Petroselinum segetum*—(Corn Parsley). This umbelliferac was found in a cornfield at Fownhope after harvest. It is a fine rather insignificant plant and easily overlooked.

*Schaenus nigricans*—(Bog Rush). A small fen like piece of land near Canon Pyon produced this interesting plant, the nearest known stations for which are in North Shropshire and a few places on the Welsh Coast.

Other plants of interest were:

*Viola odorata* var *sulfera*—(Yellow Violet). This was discovered

at King's Caple and had been known in that area for some years. It was reported in the monograph on violets by Mr. Gregory as from the Ross area and the late Mr. Day recorded several plants from Colwall.

*Ranunculus lingua*—(Great Spearwort). From the Leintwardine area.

*Frangula alnus*—(Alder Buckthorn).

*Pinguicula vulgaris*—(Butterwort).

*Juncus subnodulosus*—(Blunt flowered Rush).

*Epipactis palustris*—(Marsh Helleborine Orchid).

All from near Canon Pyon.

*Potentilla palustris*—(Marsh Cinquefoil). From Buckton.

*Wahlenbergia hederacea*—(Ivy-leaved Campanula). Mynddbrith, Dorstone. This plant seems to have disappeared from all its known stations reported in the Flora.

*Narcissus obvalaris*—(Tenby Daffodil). From Welson.

A fungus foray was held in Garnons woods by kind permission of Sir Richard Cotterell. This mixed deciduous woodland yielded 97 different species; many uncommon, some rare and one very rare species.

## DIALECT, 1966

by MRS. W. LEEDS

This year most contributions have come from the north-western and southern parts of the county. A list of over a hundred dialect words still used in the area has been collected and sent in by Wigmore County Secondary School. Mr. M. P. Watkins has supplied words and sayings from the Whitchurch and Monmouthshire border.

The following are additions to lists published in previous reports.

### ANIMALS

Bullyhead = a tadpole.

Brawn = a boar.

Daccy = a little pig.

Geleany = a guinea fowl.

Gull = a gosling.

Long-tailed um = a pheasant.

Moggie = a calf.

Mouse = a dog.

Nisgull = the smallest of a litter.

Nibby or Nobby = a foal.

Oonts = moles.

Ram = an undersized animal.

Scunny or clover-snapper = a rabbit.

Tiddling = an orphan lamb.

Tup = a young ram.

Urchin = a hedgehog.

Woser = a pig.

### BIRDS

Billy plough boy = a water wagtail.

Bledfa cuckoo = a curlew.

Mummy-ruffin = a long-tailed tit.

Oolerts or Woorts = owls.

Quist = a wood pigeon.

Radnorshire pheasant = a thrush.

Thrustel = a thrush.

Tree-creeper = a nuthatch.

### FLOWER NAMES, PLANTS AND TREES

Donkey's beans = thistles

Ellern or Ellum = elderberries.

Ellern or Ellum blows = elderberry flowers.

Galley = a type of willow.

Hens and chickens = double garden daisies.

Naked ladies = autumn crocus.

Pins = very sharp hard leaves, e.g. pine needles

Rundel = a cropped tree.

Sally = a white willow.

Shuttle = potatoes.

### TOOLS

Brumhook = hacker, a short handled billhook.

Collinbill = a long handled hacker used by foresters.

Dunnock = a variation of dung fork.

Eelrake = a long hay fork.

Graft = a draining tool.

Isaac = a scythe (from Isaac Nash).

Spittle = a spade.

Snead = a scythe handle.

Tywbill = a broad bladed mattock with two blades set at right angles.

## ENTOMOLOGY, 1966

by H. G. LANGDALE-SMITH

The first hibernating butterfly I saw was a Peacock (*Vanessa io*) on March 2nd.

Nearly all Kentish Glory (*versicolora*) pupae had emerged by March 31st.

On May 1st Orange Tips (*cardamines*) appeared and also Wood Whites (*sinapis*), Wood Argus (*egeria*), Ringlets (*hyperantus*) in good numbers but there were very few Pearl Bordered Fritillaries (*euphrosyne*) and Meadow Browns (*jurtina*).

There was a good second brood of Wood White (*sinapis*).

A few Grayling (*semele*) appeared at British Camp.

Green-veined Whites (*napi*) were abundant.

Silver Washed Fritillaries (*paphia*) were scarce. Purple Hair-streaks (*quercus*) were fairly common.

Small Copper (*phlaeas*) were very scarce.

In the late summer Painted Ladies (*cardui*) and Red Admirals (*atalanta*) were common.

## ORNITHOLOGY, 1966

by C. W. WALKER

The winter of 1965-66 was notable for the irruption into this country of many hundreds of waxwings. These were first noted on the east coast in October and the first flocks reached Herefordshire in December. One flock frequented gardens in Leominster throughout January, feeding on cotoneaster berries and rotting apples. In February a Great Northern Diver was found at Shobdon and placed on the Decoy Pool, where it swam and fished for about ten days, eventually flying off unharmed, leaving the pool to its normal tenants, a pair of Great Crested Grebes. A record number of Bewick's Swans wintered in the county, flocks being seen on the Wye and Lugg and also on a flooded field at Ivington where a large flock lingered until March. Floods at Wigmore in February and March attracted large numbers of duck, including wigeon, teal, pintail and shoveler, as well as white-fronted and Canada Geese. A pair of Garganey were seen there on one occasion. Hoopoes were reported in April at Ledbury and Bodenham, and in July at Mansell Gamage. There were also several sightings of Hoopoes in Radnorshire, but it is uncertain whether more than one bird was concerned. Corncrakes were heard at Eardisland in June and at Bleddfa during June and July, and the almost annual

visit by a migrating Osprey was reported from Eastnor Castle Lake on June 12th: another was seen over the Wye at Bredwardine on July 1st.

Turning to our resident birds, a considerable improvement in numbers of those species which were hard-hit by the frost of 1962-63 was noticeable. Wrens and goldcrests had attained normal numbers, and Kingfishers and Grey Wagtails showed a distinct increase, but Herons and Barn Owls still showed a marked diminution in numbers.

## VERNACULAR BUILDINGS 1966

by J. W. TONKIN

Once again the recording of smaller, threatened old buildings has gone on steadily and quietly during the year. The Old Buildings Recording Group has met for a double session about once a month, sometimes in the Woolhope Room, sometimes in the field. Much has been done by the group as a whole and by members working individually or in pairs and reporting later on their finds. Again we feel that a great debt is owed to the University of Birmingham and the W.E.A. for encouraging this work.

### HEREFORD

50 and 52 WIDEMARSH STREET. SO 511402. (R.C.H.M.82)

Now demolished. This fine seventeenth century town house was surveyed before its destruction for the ring road. The survey showed that it was once probably symmetrical with a gabled wing to the north balancing that on the south. Some cellars, perhaps earlier than the actual house, were also noted.

A record is being made of all the houses in the proposed redevelopment area mainly from the outside in order that some account of the earlier layout and buildings of this part of the city may be preserved. So far ninety-nine buildings have been recorded in this way. A fuller account will be given when the task is completed. It is hoped to make detailed recordings of some of the more important buildings, particularly of the Mansion House.

### ADFORTON

OLD HALL (*also known as Fairfield*). SO 399711. (R.C.H.M. II)

This cruck house changed hands and has undergone considerable restoration and alteration. The new owner kindly allowed a survey to be made while this was going on. It would seem from this that the house once extended further eastwards and that the seventeenth century fireplace was built against the original screens passage. The real discoveries, however, were the ceiling of the hall, inserted when the house was modernised in the seventeenth century and since hidden by plaster, and the murals in the same room. It is a ceiling with joists chamfered and stopped running at right angles to each other in alternate panels giving something of a chequer-board effect. This is also to be seen at Almeley Manor and at Ford Street, Wigmore.

## VERNACULAR BUILDINGS

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### EYTON

THE MARSH. SO 475613. (R.C.H.M. 3).

This building, reported as "Good" in the R.C.H.M. Inventory, is now in a bad state and empty. The eastern truss was clearly a spere truss and this has been recorded.

### GRENDON BISHOP

NEWBURY. SO 591559. (R.C.H.M. 4).

This farm also is empty and is falling down, one wall having already disappeared. Time and the state of the building did not permit a full survey to be made, but sketch plans were drawn and details of woodwork recorded. The northern wing is still timber-framed except for the front which has been encased in stone to match the altered part to the south. This was quite a fine farmhouse of some importance.

### HATFIELD

OLD HALL. SO 592593. (R.C.H.M. 4).

This interesting farm-house is being renovated and undergoing some alterations and we were allowed to look at it and make plans and drawings. It looks as though the original house may have been a late three bay building, the centre bay being an open hall and the northern a parlour and chamber. The southern has been replaced by a seventeenth century two storey wing and a further wing was added on the east about the same time.

### LAYSTERS

WOONTON COURT. SO 548622. (R.C.H.M. 5).

Now empty. The stone hall with screens passage seems to be contemporary with the timber-framed cross wing, or at least very little different in age. The hall chimney is a fine example of seventeenth century stonework comparatively unusual in this area. Sketch plans made and photograph.

### LED BURY

235 HOMEND. SO 710382. (R.C.H.M. 40).

As this house was for a time under threat of demolition a survey was made. The cottage and that adjoining it, No. 233, were once an inn, the "Nag's Head". There are three bays with the original chimney in the middle bay. Three of the trusses are box frame with only the one cruck truss which happens to be the one exposed. The timber work as a whole appears to be about 1600. It may be

that what is left is the late extension along the street of an earlier cruck house most of which has disappeared. All that can be safely said is that it is an early seventeenth century house incorporating an earlier cruck truss.

### LEOMINSTER

GRAFTON HOUSE, BURGESS STREET. SO 495591. (R.C.H.M. 76).

This house is at present empty and for sale along with adjoining factory premises and has been for some time. The hall, described as being of two bays in R.C.H.M., is strictly speaking of one bay with an intermediate truss. The roof of the hall is smoke blackened and the seating of the original louver is still in situ. It is a tiny hall only 9' 6" long. It would seem that the single bay on either side of the hall was two storied with an open roof to the upper storey. These roofs are not smoke blackened. The house is an excellent example of a small town house of the fifteenth century

### MARDEN

WISTESTON COURT. SO 518488. (R.C.H.M. 5).

An important house now empty and derelict. A careful examination revealed much more than the R.C.H.M. investigators were able to see. Often a house has to be almost falling down before all the interesting features can be seen. A different interpretation from that given in the R.C.H.M. Inventory now seems clear.

The original house appears to have been a fifteenth century open, base-cruck hall with a cross wing of arched brace tie-beam type. The close-set timber wing running northwards has now almost completely disappeared, but was probably added to this earlier house in the sixteenth century.

The hall was divided and its roof altered in the seventeenth century and the house was added to again just before 1700. About 1800 a further considerable addition was made.

Some traces of the original painted patterns were found on the tie-beam of the cross wing while in the room below this was a sixteenth-century mural beneath the early seventeenth century panelling. Much of this panelling as well as some of a century later still remains.

### MARSTOW

MARSTOW COURT FARM. SO 553192. (Not in R.C.H.M. inventory).

A stone outbuilding here appears to have been originally a fifteenth century house. It has external stairs and retains some of its

original stone windows. The roof re-uses earlier timber, but appears in its present form to be an eighteenth century reconstruction. This is a very interesting little building.

### ORLETON

POOL FARM, COMBERTON. SO 498678. (R.C.H.M. 27).

This seventeenth century house has been empty for some time. It is on a hall/screens passage plan and some good woodwork is still preserved including two shaped door heads on the upper floor and the bracket of an oriel window.

### UPTON BISHOP

POUND COTTAGE, UPTON CREWS.

The cider house still complete with press and mill was surveyed when the cottage was undergoing reconstruction. The roof trusses carried on a tie-beam were a type of late upper cruck.

### WIGMORE

CASTLE INN STABLES. SO 414689.

The Castle Inn was burnt down about thirty years ago, but the stables survived until autumn 1966, when they were demolished to make way for a garage. The inn was described as having been newly built in 1721.

The stable was a well constructed stone building with ashlar quoins about 45 ft. by 20 ft. with an upper storey. The four roof trusses were of re-used timber each apparently from a different building. Three of them were of tie-beam and V strut type and one of collar and tie-beam with queen and V struts. All seemed to be seventeenth century and had complete series of carpenters' assembly marks. Outside was a mounting block.

Two previously unrecorded cruck barns have been found during the year and notes made on them. These were at Leinthall Starkes and at Comberton, Orleton.

Of the buildings mentioned above 50 and 52 Widemarsh Street was recorded by Mrs. J. O'Donnell and Mr. I. Homes; 235 Homend and Pound Cottage by Miss J. Bickerton, and Marstow Court Farm by Mr. R. E. Kay. Those in Adforton, Wigmore, Hatfield and Laysters were recorded by the writer and Mrs. M. Tonkin assisted in some cases by Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Keely. Wootton Court was found by Mr. R. Garfitt who has done a great deal of spotting during the year. Newbury was recorded by Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Perry, Mrs. Tonkin and the writer, and Wisteston by the

latter couple and Mr. J. G. Hillaby. The others were a combined effort by the group as a whole.

Many of the above buildings and others have been recorded photographically by the Misses G. and J. Davies, and once again Mr. V. H. Coleman and Cmdr. M. B. Hale and others have done valuable work during the year.

Mr. I. Homes is compiling a list of upper cruck buildings and Mr. and Mrs. Perry are working on buildings in the Bromyard area including an early non-conformist chapel. There is much to be done in the years ahead, and any recruits to the recording group are always welcome.

## RULES OF THE WOOLHOPE NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB (HEREFORDSHIRE)

I.—That the Society be known as the "WOOLHOPE NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB (HEREFORDSHIRE)" for the practical study in all branches of the natural history and archaeology of Herefordshire and the districts immediately adjacent.

II.—That the Club shall consist of ordinary members (ladies and gentlemen) and such honorary members as may from time to time be admitted; from whom a president, four vice-presidents, honorary treasurer and honorary secretary shall be appointed at the annual winter meeting to be held in Hereford in the latter part of each year, and they shall hold office for one year beginning at the next annual spring meeting. The club may also accept for affiliation as approved such societies or groups as exist for the furtherance of similar purposes to those of the club. Each group shall be entitled to have one representative at all meetings of the club, to receive copies of the *Transactions* and generally be treated as one ordinary member.

III.—The management of the club shall be in the hands of a central committee consisting of the said seven officers *ex-officio* and twelve other members elected by ballot at the annual winter meeting. Each elected member of committee shall hold office for three years from the next annual spring meeting and four shall retire each year but be eligible for re-election. Every candidate for election to the central committee shall be individually proposed and seconded at the annual winter meeting and no proposal for election or re-election *en bloc* shall be accepted. In the event of ties the president or the chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote. Casual vacancies may be filled at any general meeting and any member then elected shall hold office until the date when the term of office of the member whom he or she succeeds would have expired. The central committee shall be empowered to appoint an assistant secretary; its duties shall include making all arrangements for the meetings of the year. Seven shall form a quorum.

IV.—That the members of the club shall hold not less than three field meetings during the year, in the most interesting localities for investigating the natural history and archaeology of the district. That the days and places of two at least of such regular meetings be selected at the annual winter meeting, and that ten clear days' notice of every meeting be communicated to members by a circular



from the assistant secretary; but that the central committee be empowered upon urgent occasions, to alter the days of such regular field meetings, and also to fix special or extra field meetings during the year. The president shall have the privilege of choosing the place of one field day during his year of office. The committee shall also arrange such indoor meetings and lectures during the winter as they find possible.

V.—That the annual subscription for members and affiliated societies be thirty shillings, payable on the 1st January in each year to the honorary treasurer or assistant secretary. The subscription for additional members of the same household may at their option be reduced to ten shillings each, but those paying this reduced sum shall not be entitled to receive the publications of the club. Each member may have the privilege of introducing a friend to any field meeting of the club, but the same visitor must not attend more than two such meetings in one year. Members availing themselves of this privilege will be required to pay a capitation fee of five shillings for a full day meeting, or two shillings and sixpence for a half-day meeting, in respect of each visitor.

VI.—That the president be requested to favour the club with an address at the annual spring meeting on the proceedings of the year, together with such observations as he may deem conducive to the welfare of the club, and the promotion of its objects.

VII.—Every candidate for membership of the club shall be proposed and seconded by members. The central committee shall elect or reject the candidate and one black ball in five shall exclude.

VIII.—That members finding rare or interesting specimens or observing any remarkable phenomenon relating to any branch of natural history, or making or becoming acquainted with any archaeological discovery in the district, shall immediately forward a statement thereof to the honorary secretary or to the appropriate sectional editor.

IX.—That the club undertake the formation and publication of correct lists of the various natural productions and antiquities of the county of Hereford with such observations as their respective authors may deem necessary.

X.—That any member whose annual subscription is twelve months in arrear shall not be entitled to any of the rights and privileges of membership, and that any member whose annual subscription is two years in arrear may be removed from the membership of the club by the central committee.

XI.—That the assistant secretary send out circulars ten days at least before the annual spring meeting to all members who have not paid their subscriptions and draw their particular attention to Rule X.

XII.—That no addition to or alteration of the rules of the club be made except at a general meeting, after notice has been given of the proposed addition or alteration at a previous meeting, and the general purport of such addition or alteration has been circulated to all members with the notice of the general meeting.

XIII.—That no grant of money from the funds of the club exceeding £5 may be voted for any purpose, unless notice of such proposed grant has been given at a previous meeting, or has been approved by the central committee.

XIV.—That these rules be published in each volume of the *Transactions*.

## LIST OF PRESIDENTS

- 1851 Club formed in the winter months.  
 1852 Lingwood, Mr. R. M.  
 1853 Lewis, Rev. T. T.  
 1854 Symonds, Rev. Wm. S., B.A., F.G.S.  
 1855 Crouch, Rev. J. F., B.D.  
 1856 Wheatley, Mr. Hewitt  
 1857 Lingen, Mr. Charles  
 1858 Bevan, G. P., M.D.  
 1859 Bevan, G. P., M.D.  
 1860 Banks, Mr. R. W.  
 1861 Lightbody, Mr. Robert  
 1862 Hoskyns, Mr. Chandos Wren  
 1863 Hoskyns, Mr. Chandos Wren  
 1864 Crouch, Rev. J. F., B.D.  
 1865 Steele, Mr. Elmes Y.  
 1866 Bull, H. G., M.D.  
 1867 Hoskyns, Mr. Chandos Wren  
 1868 McCullough, D. M., M.D.  
 1869 Rankin, Mr. James, M.A.  
 1870 Cooper-Key, Rev. H., M.A.  
 1871 Cam, Mr. Thomas  
 1872 Steele, Mr. Elmes Y.  
 1873 Davies, Rev. James, M.A.  
 1874 Davies, Rev. James, M.A.  
 1875 Robinson, Rev. C. J., M.A.  
 1876 Chapman, T. A., M.D.  
 1877 Morris, J. Griffiths  
 1878 Phillott, Rev. H. W., M.A.  
 1879 Armitage, Mr. Arthur  
 1880 Knight, Mr. J. H.  
 1881 Ley, Rev. Augustin, M.A.  
 1882 Blashill, Mr. Thomas, F.R.I.B.A.  
 1883 Piper, Mr. George H., F.G.S.  
 1884 Burrough, Rev. Charles, M.A.  
 1885 Martin, Mr. C. G.  
 1886 Piper, Mr. George H., F.G.S.  
 1887 Elliot, Rev. William, M.A.  
 1888 Elliot, Rev. William, M.A.  
 1889 Southall, Mr. H., F.R.MET.SOC.  
 1890 Croft, Sir Herbert, Bart, M.A.  
 1891 Cornewall, Rev. Sir George H., Bart, M.A.  
 1892 Barneby, Mr. William Henry  
 1893 Lambert, Rev. Preb. William H., M.A.  
 1894 Davies, Mr. James  
 1895 Watkins, Rev. M. G., M.A.  
 1896 Moore, Mr. H. Cecil, F.R.C.S., E.  
 1897 Moore, Mr. H. Cecil, F.R.C.S., E.  
 1898 Marshall, Rev. H. B. D., M.A.  
 1899 Beddoe, Mr. H. C.  
 1900 Leigh, The Very Rev. The Hon. J. W., D.D., Dean of Hereford  
 1901 Blashill, Mr. Thomas, F.R.I.B.A., F.Z.S.  
 1902 Cornewall, Rev. Sir George H., Bart, M.A.  
 1903 Southall, Mr. H., F.R.MET.SOC.  
 1904 Hutchinson, Mr. T.  
 1905 Baylis, Mr. Phillip, M.A., LL.M., F.Z.S.  
 1906 Warner, Rev. R. Hyett, M.A.  
 1907 Rankin, Sir James, Bart., M.A.  
 1908 Moore, Mr. H. Cecil, and Rankin, Sir James, Bart, M.A.  
 1909 Williamson, Rev. Preb. H. Trevor, M.A.

- 1910 Farn, Mr. A. B.  
 1911 Phillips, Mr. E. Cambridge  
 1912 Stooke-Vaughan, Rev. F. S., M.A.  
 1913 Watkins, Rev. S. Cornish, M.A.  
 1914 Watkins, Rev. S. Cornish, M.A.  
 1915 Wood, Mr. J. G., F.S.A.  
 1916 Jack, Mr. G. H., M.INST.C.E., F.S.A., F.G.S.  
 1917 Grindley, Rev. H. E., M.A.  
 1918 Bannister, Rev Canon A. T., M.A.  
 1919 Watkins, Mr. Alfred, F.R.P.S.  
 1920 Humfrys, Mr. W. J.  
 1921 James, Mr. Francis R.  
 1922 Marshall, Mr. George, F.S.A.  
 1923 Bradney, Colonel Sir Joseph, A., Knt., C.B., M.A., D.LITT.  
 1924 Durham, Herbert E., D.SC., M.B., B.CH., F.R.C.S.(ENG.).  
 1925 Mackay, Mr. J. C.  
 1926 Scobie, Colonel M. J. G., C.B.  
 1927 Day, Rev. E. Hermitage, D.D., F.S.A.  
 1928 Symonds, Mr. Powell Biddulph  
 1929 Smith, The Right Rev. Martin Linton, D.D., D.S.O., Lord Bishop of Hereford.  
 1930 Gilbert, Captain H. A.  
 1931 Symonds-Taylor, Lt.-Colonel, R. H.  
 1932 Swayne, Lt.-Colonel O. R., D.S.O.  
 1933 Hamilton, Brig. General W. G., C.B., C.S.I., D.S.O.  
 1934 Walker, C. W., M.C., M.D., CH.B.  
 1935 Ellison, Captain F. B.  
 1936 Robinson, Mr. R. S. Gavin  
 1937 Morgan, Mr. F. C., F.L.A.  
 1938 Bettington, Mr. E. J., F.R.S.A.  
 1939 Benn, Mr. C. A., O.B.E., M.A., F.G.S.  
 1940 Benn, Mr. C. A., O.B.E., M.A., F.G.S.  
 1941 Martin, Rev. Preb. S. H., M.A.  
 1942 Martin, Rev. Preb. S. H., M.A.  
 1943 Waterfield, The Very Rev. R., D.D., Dean of Hereford  
 1944 Templer, Mr. P. J. T.  
 1945 Templer, Mr. P. J. T.  
 1946 Richardson, Mr. L., F.R.S.E., P.A.INST.W.E., F.G.S.  
 1947 Winnington-Ingram, The Venerable Archdeacon A. J., M.A.  
 1948 Gilbert, Captain H. A.  
 1949 Wallis, Captain O. B., M.A., LL.B.  
 1950 Clarke, Rev. B. B., M.A., M.SC.  
 1951 Morgan, Mr. F. C., F.S.A., F.L.A., M.A.  
 1952 Salt, Major A. E. W., M.A.  
 1953 Cohen, Mr. I., M.I.MECH.E.  
 1954 Johnson, Colonel T. W. M.  
 1955 Moir, Rev. Preb. A. L., M.A., F.R.HIST.S.  
 1956 Winnington-Ingram, The Venerable A.J., M.A.  
 1957 Kendrick, Mr. F. M.  
 1958 Langford, A. W., M.D., B.CHIR., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.  
 1959 Leeds, Mrs. Winifred, F.R.P.S.L.  
 1960 Maclean, Rev. D. A. L., of Dochgarroch, M.A.  
 1961 Stanford, Mr. S. C., B.A., F.S.A.  
 1962 Zimmerman, Mr. A. U.  
 1963 Coleman, Mr. V. H.  
 1964 Noble, Mr. F., B.A.  
 1965 Powell, Mr. H. J., F.R.I.B.A.  
 1966 Kendrick, Mr. F. M.

## LIST OF MEMBERS

## HONORARY MEMBERS

CHITTY, Miss L., F.S.A., Ingleside, Pontesbury, Salop.  
 COHEN, Mrs. H., 7 Angela Close, Hampton Park, Hereford.  
 THE EDITOR, *The Hereford Times*, Berrow House, Bath Street, Hereford.  
 KENYON, Dr. K. M., F.S.A., Old Brands Lodge, Terriers, High Wycombe, Bucks.  
 MARTIN, Mrs. C. H., 203 Hinton Road, Hereford.  
 MORGAN, F. C., F.S.A., 1A The Cloisters, Hereford.  
 SHERWOOD, J. F. W., City Library, Hereford.  
 WATERFIELD, The Very Rev. R., Hereford, Swinly Road, Ascot, Berks.  
 WEBSTER, Dr. G., F.S.A., 30 Portland Street, Leamington Spa.

## INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS AND AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

BIRMINGHAM: Reference Library, Ratcliffe Place, 1.  
 BIRMINGHAM: University Library, 15.  
 BRECON: County Library, High Street.  
 BRISTOL: City Library.  
 HEREFORD: Botanical Society, Orchard Gate, Winforton.  
 HEREFORD: City Library, Broad Street.  
 HEREFORD: College of Education, College Road.  
 HEREFORD: County Library, Widemarsh Street.  
 HEREFORD: Ornithological Society.  
 KIDDERMINSTER: Public Library.  
 LEICESTER: The University Library.  
 LIVERPOOL: The University Library, 3.  
 LONDON: Geological Survey and Museum, Exhibition Road, S.W.7.  
 LONDON: Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W.1.  
 LONDON: Society of Genealogists, 37 Harrington Gardens, S.W.7.  
 LONDON: Public Record Office, Chancery Lane, W.C.2.  
 LONDON: University of London, The Library, Senate House, W.C.1.  
 NEWPORT: Public Library, Dock Street.  
 ROSS-ON-WYE: Archenfield Archaeological Group, Westway, Picts Cross.  
 SOUTHAMPTON: British Mycological Society, c/o Dr. J. G. Manners, Botany Department, The University.  
 WOLVERHAMPTON: Public Library.

The list given below is made up to the 31st December, 1966. The Assistant Secretary, Mrs. M. Tonkin, Chy an Whyloryon, Wigmore, Leominster, will be grateful if members would send her details of any corrections to be made, and would notify her as to changes in address.

Names against which no date of joining appears are those of pre-1946 members of the Club.

1961 } ADAMS, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. F., Williamsgill, Bush Bank, Hereford.  
 1965 }  
 1959 ADDYMAN, Mr. and Mrs. K. J., Inverlochy, Trinity Road, Hereford.  
 1960 ALISON, Miss I., Glanant, Clodock, Abergavenny.  
 1966 ALLANSON, Miss, College of Education, College Road, Hereford.  
 1949 ANDREWS, P., Thinghill Grange, Hereford.  
 1963 ANSELL, Mrs. M. G., Almeley Road, Eardisley, Hereford.  
 1966 APPERLEY, D. A., 3 Holmer Manor Close, Roman Road, Hereford.  
 1960 ARMISTEAD, Dr. M., Newlands Croft, Newlands, Leominster.  
 1966 ARMITAGE, Mr. and Mrs. H., Yew Tree Cottage, Welsh Newton Common, Monmouth.  
 1949 ASHBY, J. F., 41 King's Road, London Colney, Herts.  
 1949 ATKINSON, L., Lowood, 9 Cofton Church Lane, Barnet Green, Worcs.  
 1962 ATTENBOROUGH, Miss K. E., 39 Hampton Dene Road, Hereford.

BAILEY, R. E. H., C.B.E., Breinton Court, Hereford.  
 1966 BAINTON, Mrs. C., 56 Breinton Road, Hereford.  
 1961 BAKER, Miss J., Tarrystones, Hoarwithy, Hereford.  
 1952 } BAKER, Dr. and Mrs. W. H. J., White Roses, Canon Pyon Road,  
 1954 } Hereford.  
 1958 BALL, Mr. and Mrs. E., The Old Quarry, Eardisley, Hereford.  
 1965 BAMFORTH, Miss J., Patty's Cross, Hamnish, Leominster.  
 BANKS, R. A., Hergest Croft, Kington, Herefs.  
 1963 BARBER, Miss P. W., 2 Canon Drive, Norton Canon, Hereford.  
 1963 BARKER, Dr. and Mrs. A., Talbot's Rise, Linton Hill, Ross-on-Wye.  
 1966 BARNES, Miss P., Lyme Cottage, Eardisland, Hereford.  
 1965 BARNETT, Mr. and Mrs. E. F., The White House, Aylton, Ledbury.  
 1966 BARRETT, Mrs., 84 Aylestone Hill, Hereford.  
 1966 BARRETT, Fr. I., Belmont Abbey, Hereford.  
 1955 BARTON, Mrs. B., Cherry Orchard, Weston-under-Penyard, Ross-on-Wye.  
 1952 } BAYLIS, Mr. and Mrs. P. G. S., Good Rest, Lugwardine, Hereford.  
 1956 }  
 1947 BEAUMONT, S. L., M.B.E., 2 Offa Street, Hereford.  
 1962 BEDSON, Miss C. M., Tall Trees, Loder Drive, Venns Lane, Hereford.  
 1964 BELL, Miss H. M., 6 The Crest, Edwin Ralph, Bromyard.  
 1961 BELLVILLE, Major, Tedstone Delamere, Bromyard.  
 1966 BEMAND, Mr., Mrs. and Miss, Crossways, Stoke Lacy, Bromyard.  
 1962 BENNETT, Mrs. M., 77 Green Street, Hereford.  
 1952 BEVAN, The Right Rev. K. G., The Vicarage, Woolhope, Hereford.  
 1963 BEVERLY-DAVIES, Rev. and Mrs. E., The Rectory, Whitney-on-Wye, Hereford.  
 1958 BIRCHLEY, Mr. and Mrs. W., Llanwarne Court, Hereford.  
 1956 BISHOP, Miss D., 19 Knapp Close, Ledbury.  
 1965 BISHOP, D. C., 28 Aylestone Hill, Hereford.  
 1960 BISHOP, W. H., Parks Superintendent, Harrogate, Yorks.  
 1958 BLACKITH, R. E., PH.D., Ashurst Lodge, Sunninghill, Ascot, Berks.  
 1961 BLAKE, A. W., The Cedars, Burghill, Hereford.  
 1966 BLASHILL, Miss B. J., Castle Bank, Monkland, Leominster.  
 1950 BLUNDSTONE, W. H., 78 Hampton Park Road, Hereford.  
 1962 BOOKHAM, Miss J. E., College of Education, College Road, Hereford.  
 BOOTH, C. E. T., New Grove, Roman Road, Bobblestock, Hereford.  
 1963 } BOOTH, Mr. and Mrs. W. N., Aylhill, Putley Ledbury.  
 1964 }  
 1965 BOUGHTON, Miss S. J., 63 Brampton Road, Hereford.  
 1964 BOWLES, Mr. and Mrs. C., Athelstan, Quay Street, Hereford.  
 1961 BOWLES, J. H., Athelston, Quay Street, Hereford.  
 BRADSHAW, Mrs. R. H., New Inn, Brilley, Hereford.  
 1950 BRANSTON, A. W., Sunset Farm, Kington, Herefs.  
 1955 BRENT-JONES, E., Greenhills, Tilford, Farnham, Surrey.  
 1964 BREWER, Mr. and Mrs. B. G. B., High Rising, Linton, Ross-on-Wye.  
 1949 BREWIN, J. L., The Grammar School, Ledbury.  
 1955 BRIDGEWATER, N. P., Glan-y-Arw, Pantygelli, Abergavenny.  
 BRIGHT, G., Drumore, Newtown, Leominster.  
 1959 BRITTON, Mr. and Mrs. R. P. L., Lincoln Hill, Ross-on-Wye.  
 1962 BROOKSBANK, Miss K. M. H., 1 Pembrige Close, Hunderton, Hereford.  
 1958 BROWN, A. E., Berryfield, Church Road, Clehonger, Hereford.  
 1959 BROWN, Miss E. V. G., Appleton, Orchard Lane, Leominster.  
 1952 BROWN, Rev. W. G., Mynde Park, Much Dewchurch, Hereford.  
 BULMER, G. H. B., Little Breinton, Breinton, Hereford.  
 1959 BULMER, R. H., Adams Hill, Breinton, Hereford.  
 1966 BURN, T., 123 Holme Lacy Road, Hereford.  
 1966 BURNS, W., Safari, Court Lane, Tillington, Hereford.

- 1966 BURT, J. U., c/o Lopez Botas 14, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Canary Islands, Spain.
- 1966 BURTON, Miss J. E., 2 The Marsh, Weobley, Hereford.
- BUTCHER, B., 177 Upper Ledbury Road, Hereford.
- 1954 BUTCHER, Mrs. E. E., 10 Angela Close, Hampton Park, Hereford.
- 1954 BUTCHER, H., St. Margaret's, Vineyard Road, Hereford.
- CADBURY, C., Beacons Wood, Rednal, Birmingham.
- 1963 CALDERBANK, J. E., Castlemead House, Burford, Tenbury-Wells.
- 1947 CAMPION, W., 23 Greyfriars Avenue, Hereford.
- 1964 CARTER, N. S., Down House, Ewyas Harold, Hereford.
- 1960 CATTERNS, Miss C. M., 20 Lichfield Avenue, Hereford.
- 1956 CAWLEY, Lady V., Berrington Hall, Leominster.
- 1962 CHAMBERLAIN, Mr. and Mrs. K. S. J., The Old Vicarage, Weobley, Hereford.
- 1951 CHANDLER, Dr. A. H., Brintirion, Kingstone, Hereford.
- CHARLETON, P., 40 Garrick Close, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.
- 1964 CHARLTON, Mrs. E., Falls Brook, Byford, Hereford.
- 1966 CHOULS, W. H., 21 Gattin Way, Hucclecote, Gloucester.
- CHRISTMAS, C. J., 1 Gorsty Lane, Hereford.
- 1964 CHUBB, Mrs. E., Old Shop, Lower Mascoyd, Pontrilas, Hereford.
- 1946 CLARK, Rev. B. B., The Vicarage, Padstow, Cornwall.
- 1955 CLIVE, Lady M., Whitfield Court, Allensmore, Hereford.
- 1958 CLOUGH, C. H., Brookwood, Gorsley, Ross-on-Wye.
- 1957 COLE, E. J., 155 Eastcourt Road, Gloucester.
- 1953 COLE, J. J. D., Doyer House, Pontrilas, Hereford.
- 1950 COLEMAN, Mr. and Mrs. V. H., Broadlands Cottage, Eardisley, Hereford.
- 1960 COLLEY, A. T. W., The Cottage, Park Way, Ledbury.
- 1948 COLLINS, J. G. F., Wye Cliffe, Breinton, Hereford.
- 1949 COMBE, Major R. E., The Sladd, Putley, Ledbury.
- 1948 COMLEY-WHITE, R., 2 Palace Yard, Hereford.
- 1956 COOKSON, Dr. and Mrs. J. S., 28 Lingen Avenue, Hereford.
- 1951 COPE, Mr. and Mrs. E. H., 29 Lichfield Avenue, Hereford.
- 1954 COPLAND-GRIFFITHS, Brig. F. A. V., D.S.O., Bircher Hall, Yarpole, Leominster.
- 1956 CORRY, Dr. S. L., 118 Ryelands Street, Hereford.
- COTTERELL, Sir R., Bt., Garnons, Hereford.
- 1966 CRAWFORD, Miss L. G., Selly Hall, Discoyd, Presteigne, Radns.
- 1961 CROFT, Rev. J. A., The Vicarage, Gwinear, Hayle, Cornwall.
- 1958 CROFT, Lord M. H. G. P., 8 Hereford Square, London, S.W.7.
- 1957 CROFT, Brig.-General W. O., The Anchorage, Mawnan, Falmouth, Cornwall.
- 1963 CROMPTON, Miss S. M., City Museum, The Square, Winchester, Hants.
- 1959 CROOKS, E. L., Edale, Belle Bank Avenue, Holmer, Hereford.
- 1960 CROWE, Miss M. E., Maple Dene, Stockenhill Road, Leominster.
- 1957 CURRIE, Mr. and Mrs. D. McD., 40 Hampton Park Road, Hereford.
- 1960 DAVIES, Mr. and Mrs. A. L., Stansbach House, Staunton-on-Arrow, Leominster.
- 1954 DAVIES, Mrs. E., Yulgibar, 19 Angela Close, Hereford.
- 1958 DAVIES, Miss E. P., Troy, 29 Breinton Road, Hereford.
- DAVIES, G. C., Wyeval Ltd., Bridge Street, Hereford.
- 1961 DAVIES, Mrs. L. K., 23 Broomy Hill, Hereford.
- 1966 DAVIES, Mr. and Mrs. R. H., 20 Mossville Road, Liverpool 18.
- 1963 DAWSON, A. D., 123 Ledbury Road, Hereford.
- 1966 DEES, A. N., 13 Broomy Hill, Hereford.
- 1957 D'ESMONDE, J. W., Kinnersley Castle, Kinnersley, Hereford.
- 1964 DEWHURST, Miss K. M., 2 Baggallay Street, Hereford.
- 1965 DICKSON, G. K., Victoria House, Wilton, Marlborough, Wilts.

- 1957 } DUGGAN, Mrs. W. L. and J., Little Lincoln, Ross-on-Wye.
- 1962 } DUNLOP, Miss E. M. M., Arncliffe, Ledbury Road, Ross-on-Wye.
- 1959 } DUNNE, Miss G., The Knoll, Bircher, Leominster.
- 1954 } EAGLING, Mrs. A. M., 4 Canon Drive, Norton Canon, Hereford.
- 1966 } EALAND, G. A., 5 St. Peter Street, Hereford.
- 1951 } EDGE, M. L., 33 Greyfriars Avenue, Hereford.
- 1953 } EDWARDS, Miss M., Somerset Cottage, Little Marcle, Ledbury.
- 1955 } EDWARDS, Mr. and Mrs. W. N., Dalkeith, Knapp Lane, Ledbury.
- 1964 } EGGINGTON, N. E., The Trout, Dulas, Hereford.
- 1962 } ELKIN, P. A. B., Stony Yeld, Holme Lacy, Hereford.
- 1956 } ELLIS, W. H., 85 Holme Lacy Road, Hereford.
- 1948 } ELTONE, Miss M., Tresco, Chase View Road, Duxmere, Ross-on-Wye.
- 1954 } EVANS, Miss C. M., Sunny Halt, Canon Pyon Road, Hereford.
- 1964 } EVANS, E., 26 King's Acre Road, Hereford.
- 1953 } EVANS, Miss G., 13 Castle Street, Hereford.
- 1961 } EWING, Miss A. D., 64 The Meadows, Green Lane, Leominster.
- 1960 } FAIR, Mr. and Mrs. R. W., Orchard End, Bush Bank, Hereford.
- 1964 } FAIRCLOUGH, Mrs. E. R., 34 Penngrove Road, Hereford.
- 1961 } FALKNER, Lady M. K., Kingsthorpe House, Kingsthorpe, Hereford.
- 1955 } FARR, Miss P. A., Little Oak, Whitney-on-Wye, Hereford.
- 1958 } FARROW, G. W. E., Mantley Horse Lane Orchard, Ledbury.
- FIXSEN, H. M., Flat No. 3, Lawnswood, 37 Hampton Park Road, Hereford.
- 1949 } FLETCHER, G. H., Noakes Cottage, Pontshill, Ross-on-Wye.
- 1961 } FLETCHER, H. D., Cranford, Colwall, Malvern, Worcs.
- 1962 } FLOYD, R. C., 78 Old Eign Hill, Hereford.
- 1966 } FROST, Miss I., 84 Aylestone Hill, Hereford.
- 1952 } GARDNER, C. E., Yatton Court, Aymestrey, Kingsland, Leominster.
- 1947 } GARDINER, N. H., 35 Breinton Road, Hereford.
- 1955 } GARRATT-ADAMS, H., Kinnersley Castle, Kinnersley, Hereford.
- 1962 } GETHIN-JONES, Rev. J. E., F.S.A., The Vicarage, Dymock, Glos.
- 1955 } GILLESPIE, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. R. R., Peterstow House, Peterstow, Ross-on-Wye.
- 1962 } GOUGH, Miss R. E., 13 Castle Street, Hereford.
- 1965 } GRAY-JONES, Mr. and Mrs. A., 9 Admiral's Close, Penngrove Road, Herefords.
- GREEN, Capt. L. H., M.B.E., The Whittern, Lyonshall, Kington, Herefs.
- 1966 } GREENHILL, Capt. A., School House, Staunton-on-Wye, Hereford.
- 1964 } GREENING, Miss G., Kedron, Little Birch, Hereford.
- 1956 } GRIFFITHS, Mr. and Mrs. H. R., c/o Martins Bank Ltd., Hereford.
- GRIFFITHS, J. W. B., Birtley House, Bucknell, Salop.
- GRIGG, D., Police Station, Ross-on-Wye.
- 1960 } GUEST, Misses W. and N., Hilltop, Dilwyn, Hereford.
- 1959 } GURNEY, G. T., Arrow Bank, Kington, Herefs.
- 1955 } GWYNNE, T. C., The Moors, Little Dewchurch, Hereford.
- 1960 } HADFIELD, M. H., Dillons Orchard, Wellington Heath, Ledbury.
- 1950 } HADFIELD, P. G. H., Bull's Grove, Putley, Ledbury.
- 1963 } HALE, Cmdr. and Mrs. M. B., Kynaston Place, Much Marcle, Ledbury.
- HALL, H., 62 Whitehorse Street, Hereford
- HAMMOND, G. T. H., Fownhope Cottage, Fownhope, Hereford.
- 1956 } HARDING, Mrs. B. J., Great Giles, Aston Ingham, Ross-on-Wye.
- 1950 } HARRIS, L. A. H., 56 Beattie Avenue, Hereford.
- 1960 } HARRISON, Miss D., The School House, Aymestrey, Leominster.
- 1953 } HARRISON, W. D., Barr's Court, Tarrington, Hereford.
- 1956 } HARVEY, Dr. P. G. T., Cornwall House, Monmouth.

- 1958 HASTAIN, Mr. and Mrs. P., The School House, Breinton, Hereford.  
 1966 HASTINGS, P., College of Education, College Road, Hereford.  
 1961 HATLEY, V., 10 Watkin Terrace, Northampton.  
 1964 HAYNES, Rev. W. B., The Vicarage, Breinton, Hereford.  
 1954 HEATH, Mrs. A. F., 23 Worlebury Park Road, Weston-super-Mare.  
 1962 HEATHERINGTON, Mr. and Mrs. A., Highfield, Green Lane, Leominster.  
 1965 HERD, J., 105 Sheen Road, Richmond, Surrey.  
 1959 HERMON, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. L., 92 Old Eign Hill, Hereford.  
 1965 HICKLING, Miss R., 85 Beaufort Avenue, Redhill, Hereford.  
 1965 HICKMAN, G. K., 21 Overbury Road, Hereford.  
 HIGGINS, T. H., Glaslyn, Broomy Hill, Hereford.  
 1963 HIGGS, E., Dept. of Archaeology and Anthropology, Downing Street, Cambridge.  
 1949 } HIGHAM, Mr. and Mrs. V., Moorside, Much Birch, Hereford.  
 1958 }  
 1962 HILLABY, J. G., Little Durance, Sutton St. Nicholas, Hereford.  
 1948 HOCKING, F. T., 1 Bullingham Lane, Hereford.  
 1958 HODDELL, Mrs. P., Burlton Court, Burghill, Hereford.  
 1966 HODGSON, M. W., Cheviot, Kings Pyon, Hereford.  
 1962 HODSON, Rt. Rev. and Mrs. M., The Palace, Hereford.  
 1960 HOMES, I., Lindum, Homend, Ledbury.  
 1954 HOWSE, Mrs. W. H., Broadaxe Corner, Presteigne, Radns.  
 HUGHES, D. J., Wyatt House, Crosskeys, Hereford.  
 1964 HUMPHREYS, R. M., The School House, St. Weonards, Hereford.  
 1959 HUNT, Dr. and Mrs. J. G., 2 St. John's Street, Hereford.  
 1951 HUTTON, Prof. J. H., 4 Rectory Lane, New Radnor.  
 1950 INMAN, S. W., The Cottage, Burghill, Hereford.  
 1951 IRON, Air-Cdr. D., Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall, London, S.W.1.  
 1949 } JACKSON, Lt. Col. and Mrs. E. H. P., Yew Tree House, Wellington, Hereford.  
 1960 }  
 1954 JACKSON, Miss P. M., 148 St. Owens Street, Hereford.  
 1962 JAGAN, Mrs. J., 144 King's Acre Road, Hereford.  
 1962 JAINE, Mrs. W. M. D., Kinsley House, Dinmore Road, Hereford.  
 1951 JAMES, D. W., Fernleigh Villa, 3 Grenfell Road, Hereford.  
 1948 JAMES, D. W., Via Borgonovo 19, Milano, Italy.  
 1952 JAMES, E. E., 28 Moor Farm Lane, Hereford.  
 1964 JAMES, Miss M., Windy Ridge, Pontrilas, Hereford.  
 JAMES, P. G., High Croft, Breinton, Hereford.  
 1959 JANCEY, Miss E. M., Frankhurst, Sutton St. Nicholas, Hereford.  
 1957 JENKINS, Mrs. M., Ladylift Villa, Almeley, Hereford.  
 1955 JENKINS, R. J., Hardwicke Manor, Bromyard.  
 1966 JENNINGS, J., 12 King's Street, Hereford.  
 1963 JEREMY, D. J., 10 Perrystone Lane, Tupsley, Hereford.  
 1961 JOHN, Mrs. M., Rudhall, Monkland, Leominster.  
 1949 } JOHNSON, Col. and Mrs. T. W. M., Green Farm, Hallwood Green, Dymock.  
 1955 }  
 JONES, D. E., Farthing Dingle, Leysters, Leominster.  
 JONES, H., c/o Midland Bank Ltd., Hereford.  
 1946 JONES, J., 15 Mill Street, Ludlow.  
 1964 JONES, Mrs. M., 115 Highmoor Street, Hereford.  
 1958 JONES, P. G., Bry Bras, Canon Pyon Road, Hereford.  
 1958 } JONES, Mr. and Mrs. W. T., Snowberry Cottage, Preston Wynne, Hereford.  
 1955 }  
 1963 KAY, R. E., 28 Belmont Avenue, Hereford.  
 1966 KEELY, Mr. and Mrs. J. G., The Old Post Office, Wigmore, Leominster.  
 1966 KEMP, Mr. and Mrs. W. G., 42 Quarry Road, Tusley, Hereford.

- 1948 } KENDRICK, Mr. and Mrs. F. M., 40 Stanhope Street, Hereford.  
 1955 }  
 1966 KER-RAMSAY, Miss E. M., The Fold, Checkley, Woolhope, Hereford.  
 1966 KILGOUR, Miss M., 30 Tower Road, Hereford.  
 1952 KINCAID-LENNOX, Major W. M. P., Downton Castle, Ludlow.  
 1955 } KING-KING, Miss B. M., Somerville Private Hotel, 12 Bodenham Rd., Hereford.  
 1960 } KING-KING, Capt. and Mrs. E. and M., Deerfold House, Lingen, Bucknell.  
 1964 }  
 1955 LAIRD, Miss M., Ladygrove, Birley, Dilwyn, Leominster.  
 1947 } LANE, A. C., 11a Ferndale Road, Hereford.  
 } LANGDALE-SMITH, Dr. and Mrs. H. G., Tarrington, Hereford.  
 1955 } LANGFORD, Dr. and Mrs. A. W., 5 St. John Street, Hereford.  
 } LAWRENCE, Miss F. R., Greenways, Little Birch, Hereford.  
 1954 } LAWSON, Rev. J. L., The Vicarage, Chilham, Canterbury, Kent.  
 1955 } LAWTON, Dr. A., Holling Hill, Woolhope, Hereford.  
 1946 LAYTON, A. W., Aconbury Court, Hereford.  
 1966 LEACH, P., 1 Folly Lane, Hereford.  
 1959 LEEDS, F. A., Withers Farm, Wellington Heath, Ledbury.  
 1954 } LEEDS, Mrs. F. and Miss H., Lynstead, Ryefield Road, Ross-on-Wye.  
 1964 }  
 1955 LEWIS, Miss G., 7 Heaton Drive, Birmingham, 15.  
 1949 LLOYD, D., 114 Ryelands Street, Hereford.  
 1955 LLOYD, Mrs. E. S., Three Hollies, Brilley Green, Hereford.  
 1966 LLOYD, H. T., Buckland, Bartstree, Hereford.  
 1958 LLOYD, Mr. and Mrs. T. G., Parkfield, Weobley, Hereford.  
 1948 LLOYD-JOHNES, H. J., F.S.A., Fosse Hill, Coates, Cirencester.  
 1966 } LOCKE, Mr. and Mrs. P. J. and S., Ridgemont, Fownhope, Hereford.  
 1946 }  
 1954 } LOCKETT, Mr. and Mrs. E., 1 Moreland Avenue, Hereford.  
 1962 } LOMAX, Miss K., The Old Forge, Nash, Presteigne.  
 1946 } LOWE, D. A., Glenview, 62 Hafod Road, Hereford.  
 1963 } LUCAS, Mr. and Mrs. E. W., The Green, Almeley, Hereford.  
 1962 MACAULEY, Mrs., The Grove, Weston-under-Penyard, Ross-on-Wye.  
 1953 } MACLEAN, Rev. and Mrs. D. A. L., and A., The Parsonage, Pitlochry, Perthshire.  
 1955 }  
 MALKIN, Dr. G. R., Mona, Fownhope, Hereford.  
 1966 MANNING, C. H., 119 Holme Lacy Road, Hereford.  
 1963 } MARPLES, Mr. and Mrs. M., Bracken Hill, Welsh Newton Common, Monmouth.  
 1954 } MARRIOTT, Misses G. and N., Cantilupe House, Cantilupe Street, Hereford.  
 1948 } MARSHALL, C., P.O. Box 25, Fort Portal, Uganda, East Africa.  
 1965 } MARSHALL, Mrs. G. H., Old School House, Gayton, Ross-on-Wye.  
 1965 } MARTIN, M. E., College of Education, College Road, Hereford.  
 1950 } MATTHEWS, E. K. W., Four Winds, Clehonger, Hereford.  
 } MATTHEWS, J. W., Ragleth, 39 King's Acre Road, Hereford.  
 1956 } MATTHEWS, Mrs. and Miss M. E., Mavis Holt, Hampton Park, Hereford.  
 1961 } MEAD, Miss I., The Flat, 15 South Street, Hereford.  
 1964 } MENGES, Mrs. G., Cumma Farm, Brilley, Whitney-on-Wye, Hereford.  
 1957 } MEREDITH, C. W., Little Eastbury, Sandy Lane, Northwood, Middx.  
 1960 } MEREDITH, Mrs. V. I., Cotterels Farm, Bridstow, Ross-on-Wye.  
 1960 } MILES, Dr. B., The Clyst, Hampton Park, Hereford.  
 1948 } MILLER, R. C., 63 Lichfield Avenue, Hereford.  
 1954 } MOIR, Preb. and Mrs. A. L., 55 Mill Street, Hereford.  
 1965 } MOORE, Air-Cdre. and Mrs. L. P., Chalfont, 12 Ferndale Road, Hereford.

- 1966 MORGAN, Mr. and Mrs. P. A. and Miss C. E., Heron Hill, Breinton Common, Hereford.  
 1955 MORGAN, Miss P. E., 1a The Cloisters, Hereford.  
 1966 MORRIS, Mr. and Mrs. A., Pendragon, Moreton-on-Lugg, Hereford.  
 1966 MOSS, P. R., 12 Waterside, Ross-on-Wye.  
 1959 MURPHY, Miss D. M., 73 Green Street, Hereford.  
 1963 NEAL, N., Carter House, Eton College, Windsor, Berks.  
 1953 } NEWMAN, Mr. and Mrs. E. S., 64 Penngrove Road, Hereford.  
 1954 }  
 NEWTON, F., 43 Penngrove Road, Hereford.  
 1961 NICHOLSON, G. G., Croft Mead, Kingsland, Leominster.  
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 "Hunter's Half Moon" (novel) (1967)  
 "Prehistoric Animals and their Hunters"  
 (In Press: Spring 1968)

Phoenix House  
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GENERAL INDEX OF THE  
TRANSACTIONS OF THE WOOLHOPE NATURALISTS'  
FIELD CLUB  
1964 to 1966

Compiled by MISS V. E. COLEMAN, A.L.A.

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