

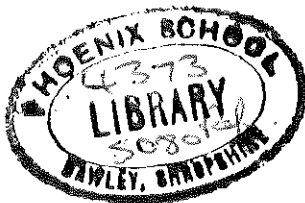
**Transactions**  
of the  
**Shropshire Archaeological Society**

*with which is incorporated the Shropshire Parish Register Society*

**VOLUME LVII**  
**Part III**  
**(1964)**  
Issued April, 1966

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**Transactions**  
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**Shropshire**  
**Archaeological Society**

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**VOLUME LVII, 1961-64**

SHREWSBURY  
Printed for the Society

1966



# SHROPSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Volume LVII, 1961-64

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Wilding & Son, Ltd., Shrewsbury.

## SHROPSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE SHROPSHIRE PARISH REGISTER SOCIETY)

### EDITORIAL

#### NOTICE

To facilitate printing and avoid unnecessary cost, the following points are brought to the notice of contributors:—

It will generally be possible to consider for publication, in the Part then next forthcoming, only such papers as are submitted to the Editor (complete in all details), in sufficient time for consideration by the Editorial Committee towards the end of the year, and hence not later than the 31st October.

Papers offered should have the text in double spaced typescript. Illustrations, plans, etc., must be submitted at the same time, and be accompanied by a note of the intended captions. If notes and references are numerous, it is preferable for them to be placed together at the end of a paper rather than as footnotes to each page. Printers' proofs are sent to contributors for checking. They should be corrected clearly in ink, and in accordance with the established customs of proof correction. The process should be strictly confined to rectifying typographical errors, and *not* extended to making new insertions; if any insertions are made, or alterations other than typographical corrections, the contributor may be asked to reimburse to the Society the extra expense involved. Corrected proofs must be returned speedily to printers.

Contributors are urged to be concise, and to limit illustrations to those of importance.

*Particular attention is called to the following arrangement for illustrations:—*

So that all Plates and Figures may be numbered consecutively throughout a Volume, contributors are requested *not* to place indelible numberings on their illustrations. The relevant numbers will be notified before or during the course of printing.

### GENERAL MEETINGS

The Annual General Meeting for 1963 was held on the 7th June, at Shrewsbury Priory School for Boys (by kind permission of the Headmaster, Mr. C. W. E. Peckett), the chair being taken by the President, Sir Offley Wakeman, Bt., C.B.E. The business of the meeting followed its normal course. The Hon. Secretary, in making his report for the past year, mentioned that there was some doubt as to continuance of the lectures arranged in winter months, the attendance at those held having been small.

After the conclusion of the business, and vote of thanks to the President for his constant support, a lecture was kindly given by Mr. S. A. Jeavons, F.S.A., on "The Church Plate of Shropshire." As this is virtually the subject of his work on the plate of the Archdeaconry of Salop, now on sale as a Supplement to Part 2 of this Volume of *Transactions*, there is hardly need to say more here than to mention the tracing of goldsmiths concerned with particular types of early vessels in the West Midlands, and the possible importance of Ludlow. It may be added that Mr. Jeavons kindly declined to make any inroad on the Society's funds in respect of his expenses for this lecture.

For the Annual General Meeting for 1964, held on the 12th June, the Society again was kindly permitted to make use of the Priory School. A satisfactory year was reported. Business was followed by a lecture given by the Rev. J. C. Dickinson, M.A., Senior Lecturer in Theology, Birmingham University, who had acted as leader in the previous year's visit to Shropshire Abbeys. In this, entitled "English Monastic Building after the Dissolution of the Monasteries," illustrated by slides, he enabled those present to explore a wider field, seldom touched on in studies of English monastic life.

## EXCURSIONS AND OTHER MEETINGS

EXCURSION TO SHROPSHIRE ABBEYS.—On the 29th June, 1963, an opportunity was given for a detailed study of three great Shropshire Abbeys, Haughmond, Lilleshall and Buildwas, under the guidance of the Rev. J. C. Dickinson. The presence of one who is such an authority on monastic orders and houses permitted those attending to gain as much insight into the history, architecture, and other features of these ancient places as the length of one summer day would allow.

EXCURSION TO CASTELL BRYN AMLWG.—The slight remains of this isolated and little known castle lie in the extreme south-west corner of the county, near to New-castle. On the 28th September, 1963, an excursion was made to this site, by kind invitation of Mr. Hartley P. Davies, who also entertained members to tea at the Anchor Inn. Excavational work had recently been undertaken by the Cambrian Archaeological Association under Mr. Leslie Alcock, and particulars were kindly furnished by Mr. Spurgeon. There is no certain historical reference to this castle, but it may have been an outpost castle of the Clun Lordship. It is possible that this part of Clun Forest had been granted to Llewellyn ap Gruffydd, and that this was the castle which he was rumoured to be building in 1274. Excavation had disclosed six structural phases, from about the early 12th century to the mid-late 13th century.

LECTURES.—A lecture intended to be given by Dr. A. W. J. Houghton in January 1963 had to be cancelled, owing to extremely bad weather, but two others were given in Shrewsbury in the following months: "The Economic State of Shrewsbury in the Early Seventeenth Century", by Mr. J. E. Pilgrim, M.A., and "Croft Ambrey, an Iron Age Village", by Mr. S. C. Stanford, B.A., F.S.A.

EXCURSION TO CONDOVER HUNDRED.—Mr. Alex Gaydon, B.A., is the present Editor of the *Victoria County History of Shropshire* now in the course of compilation, and the part of the county which is being studied first comprises the ancient Hundred of Conover. It was thus of particular interest that an excursion should be made into that region under his guidance. This took place on the 27th June, 1964, and consisted of a visit to see the interior of a number of houses in the western half of the Hundred, all of them built between 1400 and 1675. They afforded comprehensive illustration of the development of the local building tradition throughout this period. The list was quite a long one, as follows: Old School House, Conover; Conover Court (formerly The Small House); Lower House, Dorrington; Moat House, Longnor; The Binords, Smethcott; Middle Farm, Betchcott; Sheppen Fields, Pulverbatch; Underhill Hall, Smethcott; The Moat, Stapleton. In this list there was a deliberate omission of larger houses, in "national" styles; but a single exception was made as regards the final visit to the ruinous Great Lyth Manor House.

EXCURSION TO SOUTH-EAST SHROPSHIRE AND BEYOND.—An excursion was held on the 14th September, 1964, under the leadership of Mr. John Salmon, B.A., F.S.A. The first visit was to Kinlet Church. Architectural features include the early 13th century south porch (which should be compared to work at Cleobury Mortimer), and the 15th century clerestory to the nave. Here is the most elaborate Elizabethan monument in Shropshire, that to Sir George Blount and his wife. A short drive through Wyre Forest brought the party to Dowles Manor, visited by courtesy of Mrs. M. C. Sheldon. This is a two-storeyed 15th century house, the ground floor being constructed of sandstone and the upper timber-framed. There is much good woodwork inside, notably a 17th century over-mantel, but of special interest is the series of rather crude and formal paintings in most rooms, c. 1600. After lunch, the party drove through Bewdley and visited Ribbesford Church. This has a good Norman tympanum, timbered porch dated 1633, and 15th century timbered arcade. Next visited was Great Witley Church, of elaborate rococo style. It was built in 1733-47, and has a richly painted plaster ceiling (probably from the domestic chapel of the Dukes of Chandos,



at Canons, Middlesex), monuments to the Foleys, and glass by Joshua Price. Tea was taken at Abberley, and for the last visit the Shropshire border was re-entered and Burford Church examined; interesting for its outstanding series of monuments, especially the vast tryptych to Richard Cornwell (1568), of which the only parallel in this country is at Lydiard Tregoze in Wiltshire. The base of the churchyard cross, the upper part of which was restored in 1867, has a triangular headed recess, a feature only found in the Herefordshire region. Another and a very elaborate Shropshire example is at Highley. Adopted from the Hereford use, the reserved sacrament was perhaps placed in this recess early on Palm Sunday morning, and then later in the day was returned to the church in procession after the blessing of the palms.

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

The following notes contain a summary, which is purposely very brief, of such items of the Minutes as (generally) may seem of special interest or likeliest to be needed for future reference.

TRANSACTIONS AND OFFPRINTS.—Decided that one copy of each year's *Transactions* be sent to every person in membership during that year; that no member be allowed to purchase more than one copy of each part at the reduced rate without express consent of the Council (March, April 1963). Arrangements decided as to numbers of offprints of papers (September 1963), to be twelve of his paper for each contributor; a contributor may order any number above this, if paid for at cost and ordered in advance; the Council, through the Editor, may order further copies for sale to the public, of papers selected for this purpose by the Editorial Committee; the Editor may order a maximum of a further twelve of other papers for which a future demand might arise (September 1963). A more economical way of printing offprints was considered; decided that future offprints be in cheaper format, without a cover, except those printed for public sale (February 1964).

INSURANCE AT EXCAVATIONS.—Arising on an accident occurring at Wroxeter, it was agreed no claim be made under the terms of the Society's present Policy. Other cover was to be considered (September 1963). Agreed (October 1963) that premiums required for cover against injury to members at excavations being too high, no such insurance be undertaken; that Groups be reminded that the Society can accept no liability, and that members engaged in excavating be advised to take out their own insurance; and that parents of children working on sites be asked to sign a form indemnifying the Society against risk of accident.

AVON-SEVERN VALLEY RESEARCH GROUP.—Reported that under the auspices of the C.B.A. Regional Group 8 a Committee was formed for organising research in the numerous gravel sites in these valleys. Mr. T. W. Rogers was elected to represent this Society on the Executive Committee (September 1963)). He submitted a detailed report of the objects in view (October 1963). Subsequent to his death, Dr. Houghton was elected in his place (January 1964).

THE LATE MR. T. W. ROGERS.—The Chairman spoke of the loss to this Society in the death of Mr. Rogers. It was agreed that £2/2/0 be sent to the Cancer Research Fund, in accordance with a request for such donations in place of flowers at his funeral (January 1964).

ASSISTANCE AT OUTINGS.—At the instance of Dr. Houghton, it was agreed that the Society give what assistance it could (e.g. by guides), as regards schemes for outings having some archaeological or historical purpose for hospital patients, and for seriously crippled invalids (March, May 1964).

OLD ST. CHAD'S CHURCHYARD, SHREWSBURY.—Mrs. Thickpenny referred to the danger of loss of evidence from the old crypt which could result from work proposed by the Town Council. Mr. Barker was requested to make some arrangements (June 1964). Mr. Barker reported discussions. Agreed that it was desirable that the crypt be opened up, consolidated as necessary, and preserved; volunteers to be requested (September 1964). Further courses considered; Mr. Barker would make detailed plans of churchyard and gravestones; Miss Chitty would instruct boys undertaking to record inscriptions (October, November 1964).

EDITORSHIP.—Mr. Peele intimated that he wished to resign the office of Editor which he had held for about seventeen years. The Council accepted his decision with regret, and expressed appreciation of his work. Agreed that Mr. Gaydon be asked if he would be willing to take this office; and he accepted this invitation (October, November 1964).

SITES INVESTIGATED, ETC.—Reports, suggestions, etc., considered as to Caughley Pottery site (July 1963), Cruciform Cottage, Condover (November 1963), a castle site at Stoke-on-Tern, the foundations of a timber bridge at Acton Burnell, and a site at Braggington (December 1963), buildings at Condover not hitherto scheduled (January 1964), houses at Fish Street, Shrewsbury, in danger of demolition (April 1964), and Wroxeter bridge site (September 1964). The bridge remains from Acton Burnell have been brought to the yard at Rigg's Hall. The Council favoured a suggestion of the Stewart Society for erection of an inscribed stone at the site of Oswestry Castle to record its connection with the Fitz Alan family (January 1964).

RECORDS AND STORAGE.—Arrangements as to photographic records of sites, etc., of industrial archaeology considered (January 1963), and the question of storage of large items of archaeological or historical interest (March 1964).

## PUBLICATIONS

The following publications of the Society may be obtained at the prices quoted, plus postage or carriage charges (the special prices for Members are indicated in brackets), subject to stocks being still available. Applications should be made to the Hon. Publications Secretary, M. F. Messenger, Esq., F.L.A., Borough Library, Castle Street, Shrewsbury.

*Shrewsbury Burgess Roll*. Ed. H. E. Forrest. Bound 10/6 (Members 7/6). Unbound 7/6 (5/-).

*The Lordship of Oswestry, 1393-1607*. Ed. W. J. Slack. Bound 21/- (12/6).

*An Architectural Account of the Churches of Shropshire*. DR. D. H. S. CRANAGE. Parts 2-9 inclusive, 5/3 each; Part 10, 10/6; Shrewsbury Churches (portion of Part 10), 5/3; the Appendix, 1/3; General Survey, 2/6.

*Transactions*. Unbound. First-Fourth Series, 7/6 per part. Vols. 46-55, 20/- per Part. Vol. 56 onwards (new quarto format), 30/- per Part. (For Members, discount of 10% off above prices.) No Member to purchase more than one number of each Part without consent of the Council.

*Printed Parish Registers*. From 3/- to 7/6 per Part, according to size of Register. Wellington Register 20/-.

*Church Plate of the Archdeaconry of Salop*. S. A. Jeavons. 40/-, and postage 1/- (36/-, and postage 1/-).

## RULES

1. The Society shall be called the "Shropshire Archaeological Society (with which is incorporated the Shropshire Parish Register Society)".
2. The objects of the Society shall be, in general, the promotion of archaeological and historical investigation in the County and the preservation of its antiquities; in particular the publication of the results of research and excavation, the recording of archaeological discoveries, the editing and printing of documents of local historical importance, and the transcription and printing of Parish Registers.
3. Candidates for membership may be proposed by a member of the Society and shall be elected by the Council.
4. The Council shall have power to elect Honorary Members.
5. The subscription of each member shall be paid on election or on 1st January to the Honorary Secretary or Treasurer, and shall be the annual sum of £1 1s. 0d. If any member's subscription shall be in arrears for two years, and he shall neglect to pay his subscription after being reminded by the Honorary Secretary, he shall be regarded as having ceased to be a member of the Society.
6. The management of the Society shall be vested in the Council, which shall consist of the following: the President, Vice-Presidents, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, the Shrewsbury Borough Librarian, the County Archivist, and not more than 12 elected members. The officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting on the recommendation of the Council, but the President and Vice-Presidents shall be elected for five years and shall be eligible for re-election. Casual vacancies amongst officers shall be provisionally filled by the Council, subject to confirmation at the next Annual General Meeting. Members of the Council (other than ex-officio members), shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. Members of the retiring Council shall be eligible for re-election and their names may be proposed without previous notice; in the case of other candidates a proposal, signed by four members of the Society, must be sent in writing to the Honorary Secretary not less than fourteen days before the Annual General Meeting. The Council shall have power to co-opt not more than five additional members to serve on the Council for the year.
7. Five members in attendance at Council Meetings shall be deemed a quorum.
8. The Council shall have power to elect Associate Members of the Society who shall be under the age of 21. The annual subscription for an Associate Member shall be 2/6d. Associate Members shall not be entitled to free issues of the *Transactions* or other publications of the Society, except by special decision of the Council.
9. The Council shall determine what number of each publication shall be printed.
10. Every member not in arrears of his annual subscription shall be entitled to one copy of the *Transactions*, and copies of other publications of the Society on such conditions as may be determined by the Council.
11. Contributors of papers shall be entitled to twelve free copies of off-prints of such articles as they may contribute.
12. No alteration shall be made in the Rules of the Society except at the Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting called by the President and Council for that purpose. Any proposed alteration must be submitted to the Honorary Secretary in sufficient time to enable him to give members at least twenty-one days' notice of the Extraordinary General Meeting.

## SHROPSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

1964

*President:*

CAPT. SIR OFFLEY WAKEMAN, Bt., C.B.E.

*Vice-Presidents:*

The Right Hon. LORD HARLECH, P.C., G.C.M.G.  
 The Right Hon. LORD BARNARD, C.M.G., M.C.  
 The Right Rev. THE LORD BISHOP OF LICHFIELD  
 The Right Rev. THE LORD BISHOP OF HEREFORD  
 Miss L. F. CHITTY, O.B.E., M.A., F.S.A.  
 Rev. J. E. G. CARTLIDGE, F.R.Hist.S.  
 Dr. KATHLEEN M. KENYON, D.Litt., F.S.A.  
 T. HAMAR  
 L. C. LLOYD, F.L.S.

*Council:*

Chairman: Alderman Mrs. C. E. THICKPENNY, J.P.  
 President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, together with the following:

*Elected Members:*

P. A. BARKER, F.S.A.	J. F. A. MASON, M.A., D.Phil. (Oxon.)
W. DAY	J. A. PAGET
A. GAYDON, B.A.	M. C. DE C. PEELE
Dr. A. W. J. HOUGHTON, F.S.A.	J. E. PILGRIM, M.A.
Miss E. N. MACKENZIE	J. SALMON, B.A., F.S.A.

*Co-opted Members:*

T. S. COLE  
 GRAHAM WEBSTER, Ph.D., F.S.A.

*Ex-officio Members:*

Borough Librarian, Shrewsbury (J. L. HOBBS, F.L.A., F.R.Hist.S.)  
 County Archivist (Miss M. C. HILL, M.A., F.R.Hist.S.)

*Editorial Committee:*

Editor: M. C. DE C. PEELE, Dogpole, Shrewsbury.  
 Advisory Committee: THE CHAIRMAN, H. BEAUMONT, L. C. LLOYD, Miss M. C. HILL, A. GAYDON,  
 GRAHAM WEBSTER.

*Hon. Adviser in Archaeology:*

GRAHAM WEBSTER, Ph.D., F.S.A.

*Hon. Secretary:*

H. BEAUMONT, M.A., F.R.Hist.S., Silverdale, Severn Bank, Shrewsbury

*Hon. Librarian and Publications Secretary:*

J. L. HOBBS, F.L.A., F.R.Hist.S., Borough Librarian, Castle Gates, Shrewsbury

*Hon. Treasurer:*

Miss J. WOOD, Ivy Cottage, Condover, Nr. Shrewsbury

*Hon. Auditor:*

J. DYKE, F.C.A.

A list of members will be found on page 274.

**SHROPSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND PARISH REGISTER SOCIETY  
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1963**

	RECEIPTS			PAYMENTS		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand, 1st January, 1963—						
Lloyds Bank	624	10	2			
W.M. Trustee Savings Bank	190	14	6			
Subscriptions	815	4	8			
Sale of Transactions	229	3	0			
C.B.A. Grant towards Transactions	157	19	8			
Ministry of Works Grant towards cost of excavation at Braggington	50	0	0			
Ministry of Works Grant towards cost of excavation at Acton Burnell	200	0	0			
Contents of Collection Box at Rowley House	25	0	0			
Interest on C. S. Woollam Excavation Fund	29	7	7			
Sale of Parish Registers	1	8	6			
Interest on Deposit Account—West Midland Trustee Savings Bank	10	5	0			
Tax Rebate on Covenanted Subscriptions for year to 5th April, 1963	3	6	5			
Income from Excursions	32	0	0			
Dividend on 3½% War Stock	33	11	0			
	1	15	0			
	<u>£1,589</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10</u>			
By Transactions, Vol. LVII, Part 1 (1961)						
Postage on Transactions						
Excavation Expenses (recoverable against Ministry of Works Grants)						
Public Liability Insurance						
Cost of Microfilming Parish Registers						
Cost of collection and return of Registers						
Cost of Excursions						
Postages on News Letter						
Clerical expenses, postages, telephone, stamping fees, circulars, etc.						
Subscriptions to C.B.A., 1963						
Balances at 31st December, 1963—						
Current Account—Lloyd's Bank				604	9	0
Deposit Account—West Midland Trustee Savings Bank				138	2	1
C. S. Woollam Excavation Account				59	2	4
				<u>801</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>5</u>
				<u>£1,589</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10</u>

179

	£	s.	d.
Analysis of Balance in hand—			
Transactions	413	15	2
Excavation	100	5	9
Parish Registers	140	2	2
Administration	9	8	3
Capital	138	2	1
	<u>£801</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>5</u>

**AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE**

Examined with the Cash Book, Vouchers, Bank Statements, and Receipts and found correct.

18th March, 1964.

JOHN DYKE, F.C.A.,  
Hon. Auditor.

J. Wood, Hon. Treasurer,  
2nd January, 1964.

NOTES ON A STONE PESTLE FOUND IN THE RIVER SEVERN BELOW  
FORD, WEST SHROPSHIRE<sup>1</sup>

By LILY F. CHITTY, O.B.E., Hon. M.A. (Wales), F.S.A.

While bathing in the Severn below Ford, West Shropshire, on 11th June, 1963, David Yeomans, of Ford, a pupil at Pontesbury County Secondary School, discovered a remarkably large stone pestle in the bed of the river: it lay about midstream (then some 6 ft. deep) a short distance above the confluence of the Ford brook, west of the bylets in the bend of the Severn opposite Montford and one-third of a mile above the old ford, which was at the S.E. end of the long island: the find-spot has now been mapped on 6 inch O.S. Shropshire Sheet XXXIII N.E., S. of the "We" of Weir Farm, Montford; 1 inch O.S. 118 (Shrewsbury), SJ/418145; the parish boundaries of Ford to S. and Montford to N. of the river there meet in the middle of the Severn.<sup>2</sup> The pestle is illustrated in Plate XXIII and Fig. 34.<sup>2a</sup>

David showed his find to Mr. V. Gray, Second Master of Pontesbury School, who kindly brought it to me for a report before its presentation to Shrewsbury Museum.

The implement is made from an almost cylindrical stone rod, somewhat bowed; it is  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches long (350 mm.), with a well-defined shallow-domed pestle-face  $1.8 \times 1.7$  inches diameter ( $45 \times 42$  mm.) and a conical butt, slightly oblique. The middle areas of both long faces have been rubbed down; the sides are rounded. There is a good hand-grip with a flattened space for the fingers directly above the centre of the tool. The cross-section of much of the body is a slightly flattened oval behind the almost circular pestle-end and it again approaches a circular form towards the butt (diam. 19 mm.), which has been ground down and subsequently chipped on one side (perhaps by a recent blow). Both pestle-face and butt appear to have been used: the rim of the pestle-dome is highly polished: a flake  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches long has been splintered off up the body from one edge of this face and shows transverse striations. The colour of the implement is very dark grey, almost black at the ends, with a lustrous surface, considerably pocked and showing some unworked flake scars. The weight is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lbs.

The specimen was submitted to Professor F. W. Shotton, F.R.S., for petrological examination in the Department of Geology of the University of Birmingham: his report is appended:

"Sh. 44/c, from River Severn, Ford, Shropshire.

"This pestle is a most peculiar object. At first glance one wonders whether it could be a casting, for there is what looks like a mould junction line running along its length. Fortunately, where a small flake has been chipped off, it can be seen that this line is made by a thin resistant vein that runs through the rock. I find it very difficult to decide whether the cylinder is natural as the result of most unusual wear by water, or whether it has been deliberately shaped. It looks rather as though it had been pecked into its present shape, but it is notable that the whole surface is polished by natural erosion, whereas the end which is clearly shaped artificially does not show this polish.

## STONE PESTLE

Ford, Salop

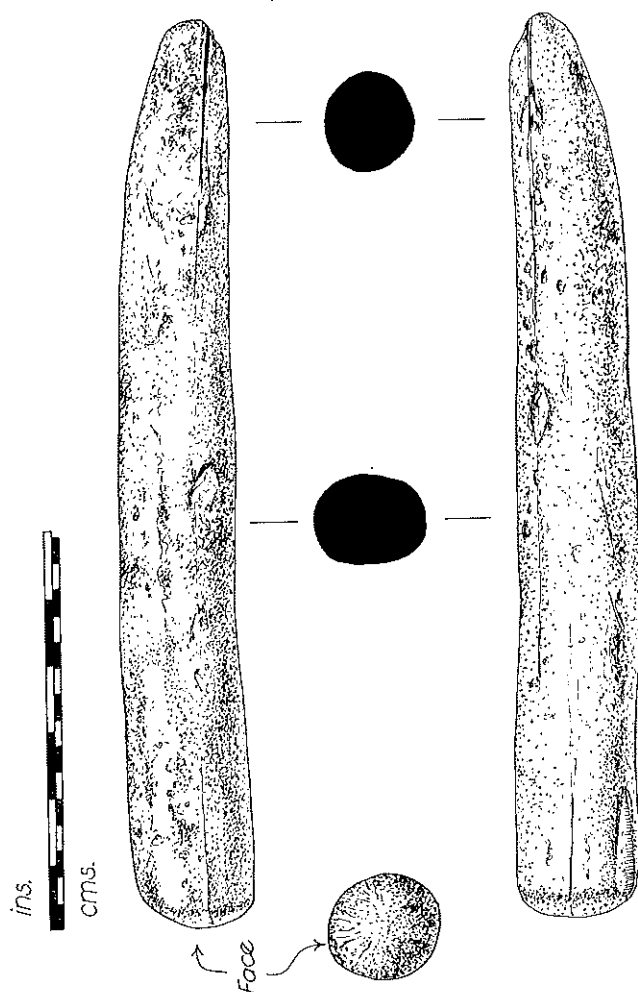


FIG. 34.—Stone Pestle from River Severn, Ford, Shropshire.  
 Drawn by P. A. Barker, F.S.A.

Shropshire has one of Group I (Cornwall) rock from Greenfields, Shrewsbury (Sh. 3/c),<sup>4</sup> one (Sh. 37/c) from Attingham Park of Group XV (Micaceous Sub-Greywacke),<sup>5</sup> and a small axe of dolerite (Sh. 36/c) from a flint-producing area on the Garn Farm,<sup>6</sup> near Bucknell, in Clun Parish: all three are in Shrewsbury Museum.

It is highly probable that these implements are very roughly contemporary and connected with traffic in stone axes in the Late Neolithic period, continuing on to overlap Bronze Age trade in perforated stone axe-hammers and battle-axes, of which a fine example was found in the Severn at Montford Bridge,<sup>7</sup> a mile to the N.E. and about 1½ miles down the river from the site of the Ford stone pestle.

“Petrologically, the rock is difficult to define, but I think it can be best described as a greywacke-type siltstone. It probably comes from one of the greywacke horizons which occur in the Silurian of the Welsh Borderland, west of the limestone development. Wide as is this location, the provenance becomes even vaguer when it is realised that the parent rock might have been a glacial erratic”.

*Possible Local Analogies.*—The Ford example is the first ancient stone pestle to be recognised from the West Midlands, but a comparable cylindrical object, 9½ inches long (240 mm.), with straight sides, axe edge (w. 2½ inches) and domed butt, was found in the parish of Harley, Shropshire, and is in the T. R. Horton Collection in Shrewsbury Museum (Sh. 8/c, Porphyritic epidotized andesite).<sup>3</sup>

Cylindrical-bodied axes with conical butts are not uncommon:

It may be well here to place on record a doubtful artifact found at Brockton, near Worthen, West Shropshire, and brought to Clun Museum in 1956. It is a peculiarly-shaped stone having the appearance of a rough pestle with the butt end formed for a hand-grip and hammer-faces used at each end. Professor Shotton doubts whether it should be classed as an implement and decided against giving it a place in our List: it is certainly not to be compared with the more sophisticated Ford pestle. The rock is a coarse, ashy grit, from the Welsh Ordovician, and was most probably a glacial erratic brought to the neighbourhood of its find-spot: the form could be natural.

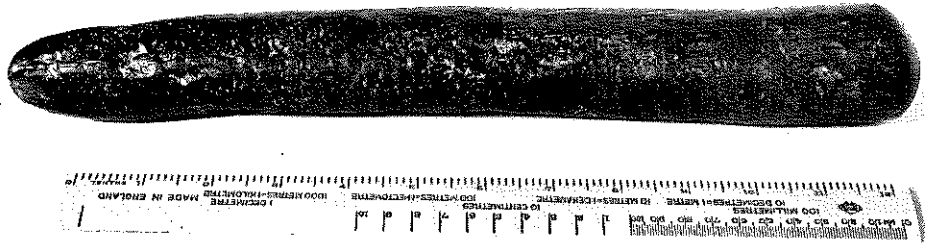


PLATE XXIII—Stone Pestle from River Severn, Ford, Shropshire. (Shrewsbury Museum).  
(Photograph by Mr. H. Griffiths)

*Other Stone Pestles.*—From Central Wales comes a stone pestle remarkably similar to that from the Severn at Ford (Salop), though it is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches shorter (i.  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches, diam. 2 inches at pounding end). It was found, in or before 1913,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet deep in draining 300 yards east of the farmhouse at Caergai, which stands within the Roman fort<sup>8</sup> that dominates the Bala Gap at the south-west end of the lake, in the parish of Llanuwchllyn, Merioneth. Recorded as No. 463 in the R.C.A.M. *Inventory of Merioneth* (1921), it was published by the late Canon Ellis Davies in *Archaeologia Cambrensis*, 1933, p. 106, with a photograph, which shows it with sides straighter than the Ford specimen and expanding slightly towards the pestle-face. It was identified by Dr. Greenly as “composed of a dark, fine sandstone . . . not of Carboniferous type. It is of a type which is common in the Ordovician rocks of North Wales (Caernarvon or Anglesey) . . . but is not likely to be from east of the Conway river”. The implement is now in Bangor University College Museum.



No stone pestles are recorded as in the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, in W. F. Grimes' *Prehistory of Wales* (1951), but his No. 78, Fig. 51, 9, a cylindrically-bodied axe from Bwlch-y-ddwyallt, Cards., is practically a duplicate of the Attingham Park axe of Group XV (mentioned above, p. 181), in form but not in material; Professor Shotton found the Welsh axe to be of quartz-diorite, and not of "diabase from St. David's Head", as previously stated (*Arch. Camb.*, 1921, 6, Fig. 2, 1; 1925, 202-3, photo.).

Mr. C. H. Houlder, F.S.A., of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments in Wales and Monmouthshire, tells me that no other stone pestles from Wales have come to his notice while he has been collecting evidence for the petrology of Welsh stone implements.

By a curious coincidence, when these notes were already with our Editor, another pestle-like stone, 10 inches long, was found by the father of a Pontesbury pupil, W. Meredith, while digging foundations for the new Fire Station at Welshpool in June, 1964. It has the appearance of a stone skittle with convex circular body tapering to a conical butt, the other end showing a flat face which may have been used. Professor Shotton identifies it as a natural concretion and not to be published as an artifact.

*The Type.*—The Stone pestle was isolated as a British type by Sir John Evans in his *Ancient Stone Implements*, 1872, pp. 227-231, Figs. 172-8; but even in his Second Edition, 1897, pp. 254-7, he can quote only seven English examples,<sup>9</sup> though he notes that "many pestles, more or less well finished in form, have been discovered in the Orkney and Shetland Islands and in different parts of Scotland" (1897, p. 255). Of the Scottish implements he observes that many of the pestle-like stones are merely chipped into a somewhat cylindrical form, but others have been picked or ground all over, so as to give them a circular or oval section. The ends in many instances are more or less splintered, as if by hammering some hard substance rather than by pounding, and the exact purpose to which they were applied it is extremely difficult to divine". We have noticed that there is a long splinter above the pestle-end of the Ford (Shropshire) specimen.

The subject was carried forward by the late Dr. Eliot Curwen, F.S.A., in *Sussex Archaeological Collections*, LXIX (1928), pp. 89-91, at the end of his "Notes on some uncommon types of Stone Implements found in Sussex",<sup>10</sup> when he illustrated (his Plate II, Fig. 3, p. 84) a pestle of decomposed dolerite (L.  $8\frac{3}{8}$  inches) found, in 1922, three feet below the surface in clay-working at West Road, Fishersgate, west of Hove. After making enquiries from nearly seventy museums in Britain, Dr. Curwen could only record a dozen stone pestles of similar and related character, varying in length between 16 inches (Grindale, Cumberland, in Carlisle Museum),<sup>11</sup> and  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches (Collingbourne Ducis, Wilts., in Devizes Museum), the latter in a Bronze Age context.<sup>12</sup> The Fishersgate pestle and another Sussex example from Pulborough ( $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches: Evans, *A.S.I.*, Fig. 173) appear to be of finer workmanship than our Salopian specimen.

Sir Cyril Fox<sup>13</sup> postulated a Bronze Age date for the Caergai (Mer.) pestle on the strength of two Essex associations quoted in his *Archaeology of the Cambridge Region* (1923), pp. 37, 44: he recorded similar pestles from Hauxton and Barnwell, Cambs., in the Cambridge Museum.

The pestle ends of the long implements under consideration are most closely matched in the domed hammer-faces and butts of the short full-bodied pestle-hammers (or "mace-heads") with cylindrical shaft-hole (e.g. Evans, *A.S.I.*, Fig. 150), most of which may well be contemporaneous; they have been suggested as fine metalworkers' tools, mainly of the Early Bronze Age,<sup>14</sup> to which our Ford pestle may be tentatively assigned.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I must express my gratitude to Mr. V. Gray for bringing this important discovery to my notice; to Mr. H. Griffiths for his photograph and to Mr. J. L. Hobbs for his kind offices in the matter; as well as to Mr. Philip Barker, F.S.A., for the accompanying drawings which clarify the form of the Ford stone pestle.

#### REFERENCES

1. A preliminary record was given in the *Shropshire News Letter*, No. 25 (January, 1964), pp. 3-4.
2. Another find from the Severn between Ford and Montford was made by Patrick Rust, of Ford, also a Pontesbury scholar, on 2nd July, 1957: while he was bathing between the islands at the west tip of the long one, he saw what looked like a green stone about eighteen inches down in the water and picked it up: it proved to be a socketed ferrule of bronze or brass (2½ inches long, socket diameter 1.7 × 1.3 inches, weight 4½ oz.) with a hole near the top of the flattened under-surface, which was worn and broken through near the rounded end. This proved a puzzle to many archaeologists to whom I showed it, but ultimately it was recognised by Julian Bird as the metal tip of the shaft of a pony-trap or some other vehicle.  
A more recent find from the Severn in the same locality was a holed stone fished up on the Montford-Ford boundary opposite Preston Rough in July, 1963, by Mr. S. R. Heath of Stockton Grange, near Newport, Salop. This object, however, Professor F. W. Shotton pronounced as wholly natural, a water-polished non-calcareous siltstone from which the soft centre had dropped out.
3. The numbers here quoted are those to be published in the List accompanying our forthcoming *Report on the Petrological Identification of Stone Implements found in the West Midlands*, together with the results of Professor Shotton's examinations. There are two major categories: (1) We use "c" for "celt", a valuable comprehensive term to cover axes, adzes and related solid specimens, (2) reserving "ah" (axe-hammer) as a term of convenience for all perforated implements.
4. *Shrops. Arch. Trans.*, LIV (1951-52), 108-113, 140, Fig. 1.
5. F. W. Shotton, *Proc. Prehist. Soc.*, XXV (1959), 139; full publication pending.
6. As Note 4, p. 111, preliminary record.
7. *Shrops. Arch. Trans.*, 4, X (1926), 242-5, Pl. II, 2 and refs. (the axe-hammer found on Onslow Hill (p. 243) has vanished); *P.P.S.*, 1951, 161, Sh. 25/ah., Fig. 1.
8. Nash-Williams, *Roman Frontier in Wales* (1954), 42-6, Map and Plan, Fig. 19.
9. The club-like object illustrated from Holyhead Island (Fig. 172) would appear to taper at each end and not to have had a pestle facet: it was lost before Albert Way described it as found not far from the Ty Mawr stone huts, Anglesey; *Arch. Camb.*, 1868, 417, Fig. 7; *Arch. Jn.*, XXIV, 252.
10. Notably adziform perforated stone maceheads.
11. Way, *op. cit.*; Evans, *A.S.I.* (1872), 228.
12. *Wilts. Arch. Mag.*, X, 94-7; Thurnam, *Archaeologia*, XLIII (1871), 408, Fig. 95; *Devizes Museum Catalogue*, Part II, ed. 2 (1934), 37, Pl. XVI, 2. One might be reluctant to include this small but important pestle or hammer in the same category as the Ford pestle and other large examples. It was found loose in the mound of Barrow 5, Cow Down (Goddard's Collingbourne Ducis 10, *W.A.M.*, XXXVIII (1913), p. 232), and presumably dates from the Bronze Age.  
It is No. 291 in the 3rd S.W. Petrological Report, *Proc. Prehist. Soc.*, 1951, p. 101, List of Additions to Group I rock (Cornwall). Another pestle of the same rock is No. 507, from Tredinney, St. Buryan, Cornwall.  
In the 4th S.W. Report, *P.P.S.*, 1962, List, pp. 243-266, ten other possible pestles from Cornwall are recorded (Nos. 505, 513, 562, 564, 566, 618, 691, 721, 724, 912), also questionable examples from Wiltshire (No. 884) and from Meare Lake Village, Somerset (No. 961).  
Dr. Curwen's Hove (Fishersgate) pestle is No. 151, described as of Tuff: now in Lewes Museum.
13. *Arch. Camb.*, 1933, 106, also Curwen, *op. cit.*, 91.
14. H. Maryon, "Technical Methods of Irish Smiths", *Proc. R. Irish Academy*, XLIV, C, No. VII, p. 186; H. H. Coghlan and L. F. Chitty in paper on "The Perforated Stone Hammer"; Summary in *MAN*, XLVI (1946), No. 105, p. 126.

## A ROMAN ROAD FROM ASHTON, NORTH HEREFORDSHIRE, TO MARSHBROOK, SALOP.

*By* A. W. J. HOUGHTON, F.S.A., M.B., M.R.C.P. (Lond.)

A Roman road alignment is described which appears to be the continuation of I. D. Margary's ARCONIVM to Ashton alignment number 613<sup>1</sup>. It joins the Watling Street West south of Little Stretton, Salop.

There are three north-south Roman roads in N. Herefordshire, all of which coming up from the south, are aimed at VIROCONIVM. The most westerly is the well-known Watling Street West which crossed the Severn by a timber bridge at Wroxeter.<sup>2</sup> Then comes No. 613, the northern continuation of which is the subject of this paper, and most easterly is I. D. Margary's number 610 which may have been laid north-west from Gloucester.<sup>3</sup>

Number 613 is traced by Margary as far as Ashton (516645) where the damaged terraceway is easily seen.<sup>4</sup> The writer has not been able to do detailed work south of Ludlow, but the general line seems to have been via Wyson and Wooferton, near which place a crop mark resembling the plan of a Roman temple has lately been observed by Arnold Baker during aerial reconnaissance.<sup>5</sup> Going north the road passed through the Ludlow gap where the river Teme flows between the western anticline of Bringewood Chase and the outliers of the Clee massif to the east.

The present road from Ashford Bowdler was laid out soon after 1832 and replaced the old way which went somewhat to the east, following fairly closely the curve of the river upstream to Ludford. There, in old time, it may have crossed the river by a ford before going straight over the little hill where, in after years, Ludlow developed. In that town the Roman road is known first as Old Street and then as Corve Street. Recent excavations in these streets reveal a thickness of two to three feet of dirty compact hardcore which has clearly been patched and repaired through the centuries. This lies on a firm mass of broken shale.

Rocque's map of Salop first published in 1746, shows a direct road going north from Ludlow through Rye Felton to Oldfield and the "horse course". This road was mostly destroyed when the railway was made but at the racecourse it passed across a level plain where a number of damaged Bronze Age barrows are still to be seen. At Bromfield station the road goes close to the east side of station and railway and continues in this proximity as far as Onibury. In the field immediately north-west of the station and road is the north-east side of a Roman marching camp. This was first noticed by Dr. St. Joseph in 1956 and was partially excavated in that year by Graham Webster and a party from Ludlow. (Plate XXIV and fig. 35.)

It is interesting to note that the modern road to Shrewsbury from Ludlow makes a detour to the west and descends into a wet valley where the rivers Ony and Teme meet and where the hamlet of Bromfield grew up in Saxon times.

The ancient way however continues as a little used tarmac road to the north-west, high on sloping ground above the left bank of the Onny where, to the west, a fine view is to be had of the well watered plain of Bromfield. The way makes a descent to



PLATE XXIV—Roman temporary Marching Camp at Affcott, Craven Arms, Salop. One corner and one side are indicated by the white arrows.

Onibury and in the village turns sharply to the right, probably to avoid the marshy Onny valley. It climbs steeply by a deeply cut way to reach the high open ground east of Norton Walls iron age hill fort. It should be noted that at Onibury this road is joined by what is almost certainly another Roman road coming from the Watling Street West at Shelderton by way of Shelderton Rock, Green Lane, and Whittytree. Traces of the old ford across the Onny can easily be seen and the deserted track from the left bank passes up to where the level crossing now lies over the old road.

For one and a half miles the way is straight and runs true north; near Upper Onibury the present road may offset the older one, part of which may still be seen as a hollow way just over the east hedge. From Norton village the road descends with occasional minor warpings but still on a northerly line to Greenway Cross where, for the last part of its length, a parish boundary follows it as far as the Cross. Here the

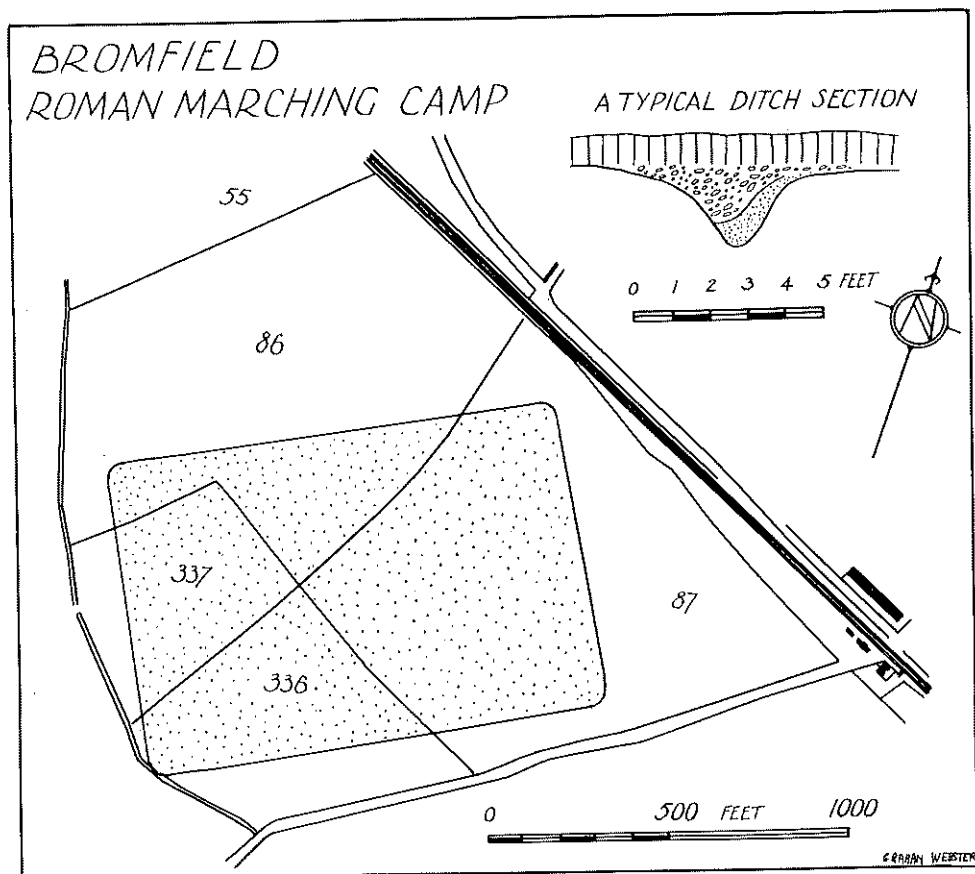


Fig. 35

boundary turns and follows the east-west road to the east. This road is in fact another Roman road which runs from Greensforge through the central Welsh march via Newtown to Caer Sws.<sup>6</sup>

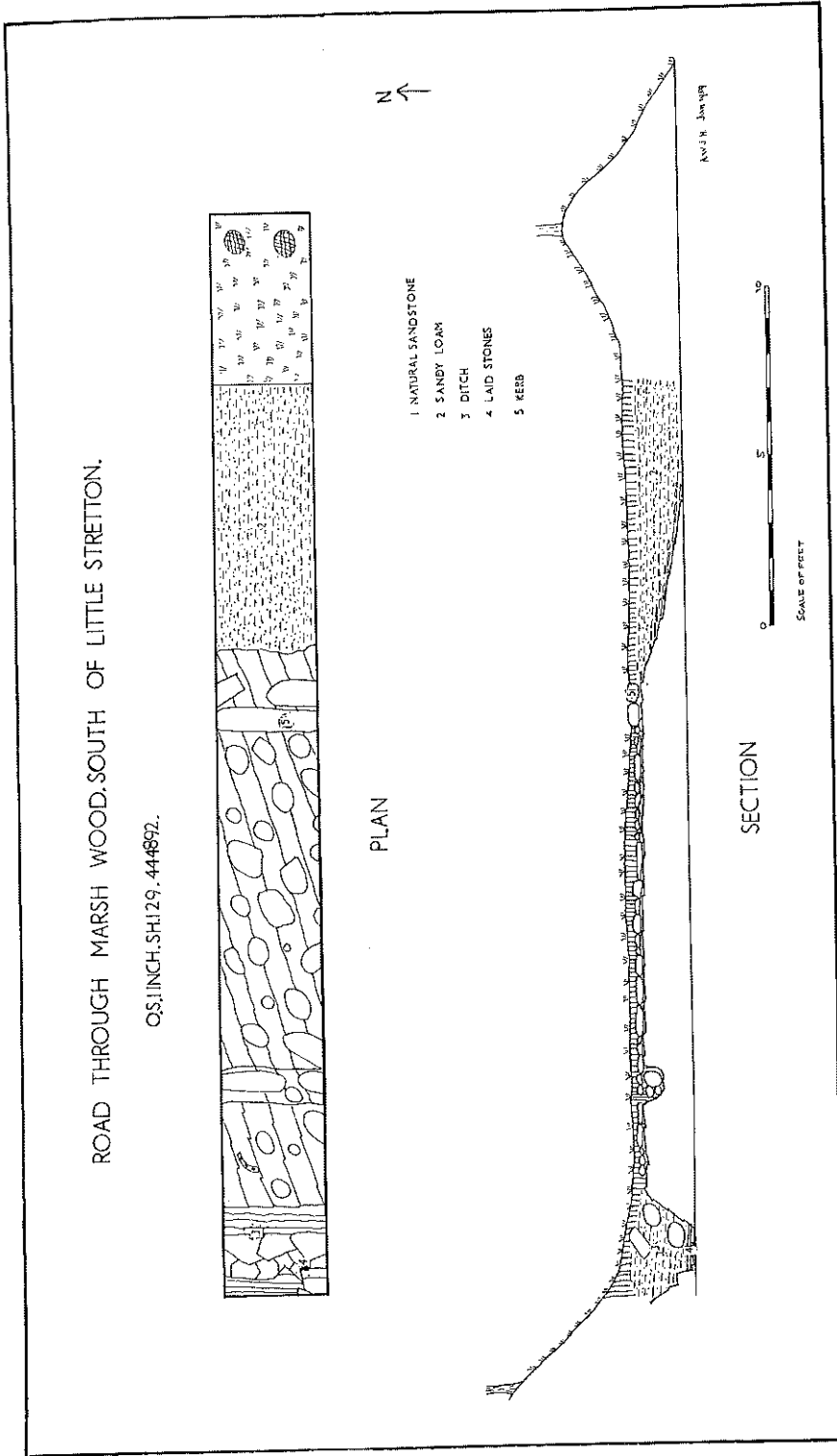
From Greenway Cross the road now climbs sharply to Upper Dinchope and drops to Lower Dinchope in less than a mile. From this hamlet it seems likely that the ancient route skirted Strefford Wood and Batch Coppice, though this stretch is now almost concealed by debris fallen from the slope above. The modern road passes down the defile on the other side of the brook, skirting Berrymill Wood and then continues down the open slope to ford the stream at the junction of the Quinny and Byne Brook at Strefford. This alignment is clearly seen on modern maps but is given prominence on Rocque's map where the Byne Brook is called the Strad Brook. This river name, of singular interest, had ceased to be used by the date of publication of the first edition of the Ordnance Map in 1829.

The importance of the place-name Strefford<sup>7</sup> must not be overlooked when considering the Roman origin of this interesting road. In the past it has either been ignored or confused with the better known Stratford Bridge a mile away to the south-west, where the Watling Street West crosses the Onny.

At Stefford, having crossed the brook, the way is now seen as a farm lane (O.S. ref. 446860) at which point excavation showed a road eleven feet broad with basal construction of large cobbles set in firm clay. Passing through several fields between hedges, it continues as a footpath following the edge of the little escarpment above the Quinn Brook. Here the natural subsoil contains quantities of large cobbles and the buried remains are hard to detect, though a right of way which joins the highroad a little south-east of Felhampton may indicate the old course. At Upper Affcot the route passes hard by a large Roman marching camp (plate XXV) discovered by Arnold Baker when flying in 1959. This camp appears to include the general area Travellers' Rest Inn and the hamlet of Upper Affcot. For a short distance the present highroad lies on the Roman course, and Mr. T. Ewart informs me that an excavation on the west side of the road a hundred yards south of Felhampton revealed a well-made stone surface extending beneath the hedge.



PLATE XXV.



North of Felhampton, the present road takes a somewhat circuitous course to the east of the Marshbrook, avoiding the wettest part of this small flood plain. This road is relatively modern and most tortuous and dangerous to drive along. The Roman alignment is followed by the almost deserted but more direct old Ludlow Road, as it is described on the Acton Scott tithe map. This left the present road a little to the north of Felhampton, and may be easily traced to Marsh farm, whence it passes through Marsh Wood, becoming in the latter part of its course a terraced way now covered in grass-grown debris. Excavation (444891) showed a well made level surface cut out of the solid rock (fig. 36). A short distance away eastwards, across the Marshbrook valley and up the near hill is the considerable Roman villa which was excavated, described and beautifully drawn and illustrated by Mrs. Georgina Acton in the early 19th century.<sup>8</sup>

After emerging from the wood the road crosses a small valley. It then passes along a low crest and finally descending it reaches Marshbrook station, at which point it joins the Watling Street West which has made a steep descent from the heights north of Bushmoor and Whittingslow.

In the mid-eighteenth century this was a much travelled way, and a detailed examination of the local terrain shows no other reasonable or probable alternative for the layout of the final stretch of the Roman road, number 613.

I am grateful to Dr. St. Joseph for permission to reproduce plate XXIV and to Mr. Arnold Baker for plate XXV. Thanks are also due to Dr. Graham Webster for helpful suggestions and for kindly reading the typescript and for permission to publish fig. 35.

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3. I.D.M., *op. cit.*, p. 90.
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6. A. W. J. Houghton, *Trans. Shrop. Arch. Soc.*, Vol. LIV, Part III (1960), p. 233.
7. Ekwall, E., *Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place Names*. Strefford, Salop: "Ford where a Roman road crosses a river".
8. Original drawings in the possession of T. S. Acton, Esq., of Acton Scott, Marshbrook, Salop.



## EXCAVATION OF A MOTTE AND BAILEY AT RYTON, SHIFNAL

By JOHN W. G. SNAPE

*Summary*

The mound at Ryton, near Shifnal, was not apparently known as a motte until the writer's family moved to the village in 1959.

The Rev. R. W. Eyton, author of *The Antiquities of Shropshire* (1855-1860) was the Vicar of Ryton from 1841-63, but does not mention the mound in that work.

*The Site*

The mound is situated in the corner of a field, bounded on two sides by a steep drop down to the river Worfe (see plan) (Nat. Grid ref. SJ/761029, O.S. 6 inch map SJ 70). The bailey is well defined on the east side by a wide ditch, but on the south side it has been partly destroyed by the development of a 19th century garden. The subsoil of the district is red sand and sandstone.

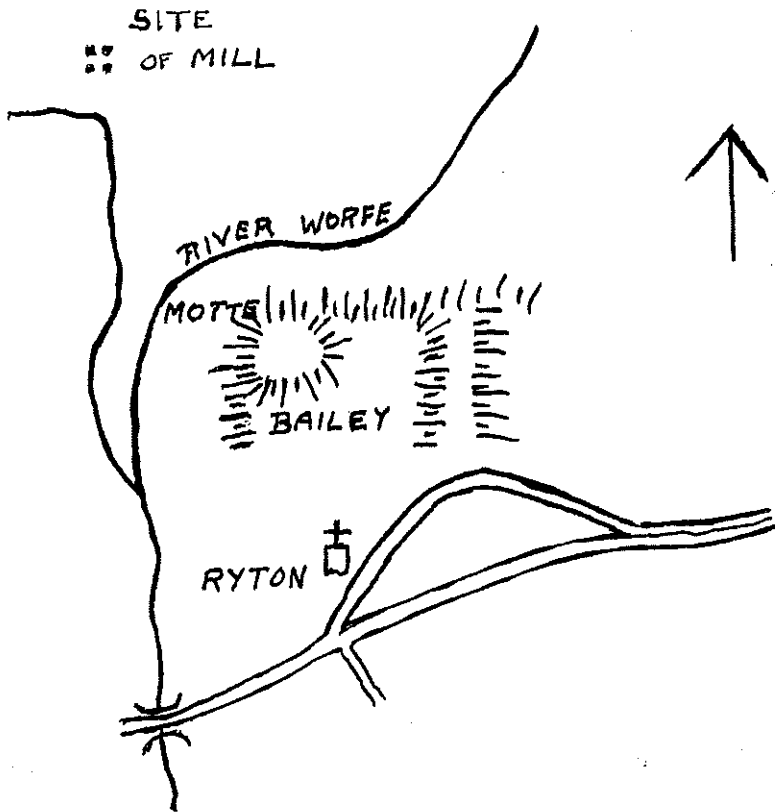


Fig. 37.

*The Excavation*

The excavation, carried out in the summer of 1959, was of an exploratory nature only, the intention being to determine the nature of the mound by sectioning the presumed ditch surrounding it and to obtain artifacts for dating purposes. Accordingly, a trench, 13 ft. x 4 ft., was cut across the probable line of the ditch on the east side.

The excavation revealed a ditch which was approximately 10 ft. 6 in. deep and some 12 to 15 ft. wide at the top. There were possible indications of a recut showing in the section of the trench, although the nature of the soil made any such interpretation difficult. The finds from this trench consisted of four sherds of medieval pottery and a quantity of 18th and 19th century pieces. The medieval sherds were all found at depths varying from 1 ft. 4 in. to 5 ft. 0 in., suggesting that they had fallen from the top of the motte during the gradual infill of the ditch. The bottom of the ditch was cut to a width of only one foot, but must have rapidly silted with the fine, sandy soil.

*Documentary Evidence*

The Saxon name "Ryton" or "Ruitone" is clearly derived from the cereal rye, which must have thrived in this very light, sandy soil. The manor at the time of Domesday Book was assessed at five hides and contained land for eight ploughs; it was one of the larger Shropshire manors. It included a water-mill rendering eight sextaries of rye.<sup>1</sup> Traces of the mill-pond, which was fed by a tributary of the Worfe, are visible today.

The manor adjoined the granges of Hatton and Cosford, which were both dependencies of Buildwas Abbey. The abbey appears to have benefited greatly at the hands of William de Ryton who, by a series of deeds between 1279 and 1284, made substantial grants of land to the monks of Buildwas. William also assigned the mill to the monks and granted them free grazing rights and permission to build a bridge over the Worfe.<sup>2</sup>

An interesting reference to the mound occurs in an account by the curate of Beckbury, written in 1841.<sup>3</sup> Several mounds in the district are described, including a tumulus at Beckbury excavated by the curate and revealing a quantity of charred

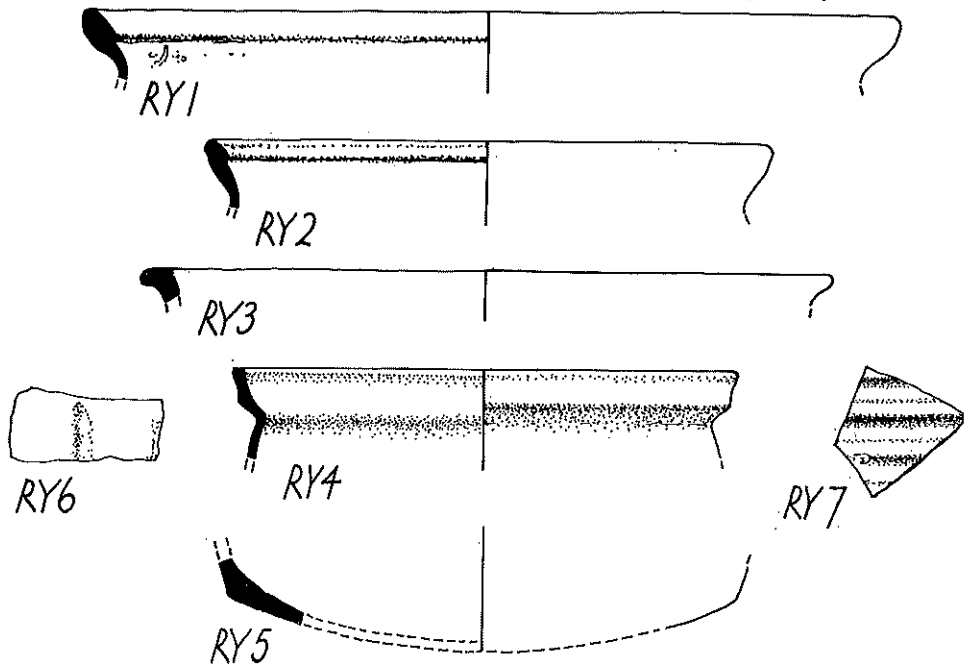


Fig. 38.

bones and earth. He describes the Ryton mound as "an undoubted barrow", even though it was never excavated and in spite of the fact that the field in which it lay was then known as "Castle Hillfield".

*Appendix on the Pottery, by P. A. Barker, F.S.A. (see drawings)*

- Ry. 1.—Fine, sandy grey fabric, hard fired—rim folded inwards strictly comparable to the pottery of Type 3 from Brockhurst Castle, Church Stretton. *S.A.S. Transactions*, Vol. LVII, Part 1 (1961), there dated to c. 1214.
- Ry. 2.—Similar fabric, though buff in colour, comparable to variants of the Brockhurst Type 3 rim and probably of the same date.
- Ry. 3.—Dark grey sandy fabric with grey/buff surfaces, fired hard. Paralleled at Hen Domen, Mont., and probably 13th century.
- Ry. 4.—Very hard, dark purplish/red fabric with dark grey outer surface. An elaborate form, quite different from previous example. The fabric is comparable to sherds found at Roushill, Shrewsbury, in layers dateable to c. 1350 onwards. *Med. Arch.*, Vol. 5 (1961).
- Ry. 5.—Sherd of sagging base, hard fired sandy/grey fabric. Probably 13th century.
- Ry. 6.—A sherd, quite flat, 9 mm. thick, of grey fabric, buff on one side, with shallow grooves on the other—does not appear to have come from a pot, though it may have come from a dish. Its date can only be conjectured as 13th century.
- Ry. 7.—Sherd of very hard light red fabric with pale buff outer surface 9 mm. thick decorated with wide horizontal grooves, 14th or 15th century.

*Conclusion*

This exploratory excavation can be said to confirm the existence of a motte and bailey dating from the 13th century, although there is, as yet, no evidence to suggest a mid-12th-century adulterine castle since no pottery of that century was found in the vicinity. It is hoped, however, that further opportunities may occur for a full scale excavation of the site concentrated mainly on the bailey.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My thanks are due to Mr. P. A. Barker for drawing and reporting on the pottery and for his help generally, and to Mr. G. S. Gamble for his advice on the excavation.

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2. Eyton, II, 86-7.
3. This is written by way of a memorandum in the Register of Burials for Beckbury and I am indebted to the Rev. T. C. Bray for drawing my attention to the document.

## EXCAVATION OF THE MOATED SITE AT SHIFNAL, SHROPSHIRE, 1962

By P. A. BARKER

*Summary*

The excavation of this sub-circular moated site showed that it had contained in its eastern quadrant a substantial building with foundations of mortared sandstone rubble. Elsewhere within the enclosure there had been timber buildings, and the remains of the rampart on the north-western corner contained evidence of a timber palisade. There were no finds datable before c. 1200 and occupation appears to have ceased in the 14th century. Metal finds included a pair of decorated tweezers, perhaps for toilet use. The cooking pots were principally of Brochhurst Type 3, and were associated with ridge tiles with hooked crests.

*The Site* (Nat. Grid Ref. SJ 746072. 1 inch O.S. sheet 119. 6 inch sheet XLIV N.W.)

The site (Figs. 39 and 40) consists of a sub-circular ditch some sixty feet wide and at present about ten feet deep enclosing on three sides a level area of a little under an acre. The site is bounded on the south by marshy ground and the Wesley Brook, though the moat seems to have been complete in the past (see the plan in the *Victoria County History*, Vol. I, p. 404) and to have silted up and become overgrown within recent years.

A causeway, X on Fig. 40, joins the enclosure to the land on the north. It was not possible to establish whether this causeway was original or not. The north-west corner of the enclosure is bounded by a low rampart which is highest towards the north. Elsewhere, if the rampart existed, it has disappeared. (There was, as will be seen, evidence of considerable erosion of the edges of the enclosure.)

The subsoil consists of stone-free clay and sand with some gravel at lower levels, all glacially deposited. The northern half of the site lies principally on stiff red clay, while the southern half, that which proved to have been built up artificially, lies on soft sand. At the time of the excavation the interior of the enclosure was rough pasture with trees growing on the edge and scarp of the ditch.

*The Circumstances of the Excavation*

When it became known that the site was to be developed as part of a housing estate, the Ancient Monuments Department of the Ministry of Works arranged a short excavation, directed by the writer, to attempt to date the site and to establish if possible the nature of the occupation. The work lasted from the 7th to the 16th April, 1962, and was carried out, with the aid of a grant, by members of the Shrewsbury Archaeological Research Group and other local volunteers. The numbers at work on the site each day varied from fifteen at the beginning of the week to twenty-five at the end.<sup>1</sup>

The finds are deposited in Rowley's House Museum, Shrewsbury. There is no record of previous excavation on the site.

*The Documentary Evidence*<sup>2</sup>

Shifnal was called *Iteshale* in Domesday Book. Variants of this name, such as *Ydeshal*, *Idechall* and *Idshall* appear until 1315, when *Schuffenhale* is first used of the manor. Both names continue to be used side by side for the next four centuries, when the name *Idsall* is dropped. Eyton believed that these two names reflected the origins of the manor in two Saxon settlements "lying respectively west and east of the small

stream that divides the town". E. Ekwall, in *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names* derives the names of the two settlements from *Iddeshale* (836 A.D. *Cartularium saxonicum*, ed. Birch) meaning "Iddi's HALH or valley" and from *Scuffanhalch* (664 A.D. *ibid.* and 675 A.D. Anglo-Saxon Chronicle (E)) meaning "Scuffa's HALH or valley".<sup>3</sup>

The present town lies almost wholly to the east of the stream. There is a tradition that the town originally stood to the west of the site excavated in 1962, and that after a disastrous fire, it was rebuilt on its present site. There is evidence for the fire in John Randall, *Shifnal and its Surroundings, Historically, Topographically and Geologically considered*, 1879, who says that the "Great Fire of Shifnal" is "described in a book written on the subject, which as yet is known only by its title, all attempts to discover the book itself having failed" (p. 47). This book is noticed in Ame's *Topography*, by Herbert, p. 1371:

*The lamentable ruines of the towne of Shifnal, alias Idsall, in Shropshire, by Fire; with the most rare and wonderful burning of the Parish Church standing on the other side of a water; and the miraculous preservation of certain Houses which stood close by the said church, set forth by Edward Mullard, Parson of Idsall, alias Vicar. Printed by John Danter, Lond. 1591. 40' (p. 31)*

There is further evidence from a letter dated 7th August, 1591, from the Right Honourable Gilbert Talbot, 7th Earl of Shrewsbury, appealing for help to the Justices of the Peace of Shropshire for the relief of those who had lost their possessions in the fire, and mentioning that thirty-two houses had been destroyed, with great damage to the church.<sup>4</sup>

If the town destroyed by fire was on the other side of the stream from the church, as the title of the lost book suggests, then it seems likely that in fact the present town stands on the original site. Tradition has probably confused and combined the desertion of the Idsall part of the manor with the fire that destroyed Shifnal. The writer, walking across the field marked *A* on the map, Fig. 39, which had been pointed out as the site of the burnt and abandoned village, and which was newly ploughed, could find no pottery earlier than the usual scatter of 18th-20th century sherds, and there was no visible charcoal or darkening of the soil. Nevertheless, aerial photography of these fields under the right conditions is very desirable.

Eyton (*op. cit.*) traces the descent of the manor, held chiefly by the Dunstanville family, down to 1314, but there are no real clues as to the occupiers of the excavated site. However, Eyton points out (p. 301) that about 1313-14 John de la Mare, dying, ended "the history of nearly two centuries which connected the manor of Idsall with the name and race of Dunstanville" and that "coincidentally with its change of Lords, the manor appears to have been first described by its other name of Shifnal". That this period may be connected with the abandonment of the site is discussed below (p. 199).

## THE EXCAVATION

### *Method*

It was not possible, for various reasons, to grid the site with a resistometer or proton magnetometer, and as a short time only was available for excavation the method adopted was to cut two three-foot trenches at right angles to one another

across the "diameters" of the site in the hope that this would pick up the remains of buildings and recover sufficient material with which to date them. It was realized that this method might show the previous existence of timber buildings, but that only area stripping would recover their plan. The rampart was examined in three places (trenches 1A, 2A and 3) and the area in which foundations were eventually discovered was examined by means of trenches 5, 6, 7 and 8.

The secondary purpose of this short excavation was to decide whether a longer dig would be justified. In the event it was decided that the law of diminishing returns would operate and that a large area would have to be stripped before much of significance would be added to the results of the first week's work. As funds on the scale required were not available the excavation was not continued.

#### *Structures*

Trench 1, cut across the site from north to south, was almost completely without features. The natural clay was reached at a depth of a foot at the northern end of the trench, but at 130 feet south the natural sand was 4 ft. 6 in. below the surface and here the level had clearly been made up with material from the moat, consisting of about 3 ft. 9 in. of mixed sand. At the southern end of the trench the natural subsoil, again sand, was six feet below the surface and sloping down towards the brook (see Section a-a<sub>1</sub>, Fig.41). Here the make-up was very wet and dirty, and contained many fragments of roof tiles, but no pottery. The significance of this will be discussed below (p. 198). There was a single round post hole (F1/1) at 167 ft. 6 in. south, and a lamb burial (F1/2) datable by pottery to the early 19th or 20th centuries, at 60 ft. south.

In trench 2, which was cut at right angles to trench 1, were two post holes (F2/1 and 2) both square in plan, and in trench 4, a continuation eastwards of trench 2, was a concentration of mortared sandstone rubble, clearly the foundations of a substantial building. Trenches 5, 6, 7 and 8 were cut to determine the limits of these foundations. They had been severely robbed and there were no dressed stones or faced walls left, the edges merely petering out, except on the ditch edge, where they stopped abruptly, though again without faced stones. Time did not permit stripping these foundations out to the natural subsoil at any point though a test pit showed that they were more than three feet deep at the west end.

Areas of the north-western rampart were stripped in two places (Trenches 2A and 3) in the hope that the nature of the curtain wall or palisade could be determined. Only two post holes were found, one (F2A/1) in trench 2A, and the other (F3/1) in front of the crest of the rampart close to its highest point. There was no trace of mortar or of stone foundations (though there was a good deal of random sandstone rubble in trench 2A) and it seems clear that there was only ever a timber stockade round this part of the site. As the postholes found were very shallow it seems likely that there has been heavy erosion of the ramparts and that other postholes have disappeared completely, those found being only the bases of originally deep holes. Embedded in the sand which made up the rampart in trench 3 were a number of random blocks of sandstone, one of them dressed. They appeared to be builder's rubble. Associated with them was the bulk of a ridge tile with a hooked crest (Fig. 43).

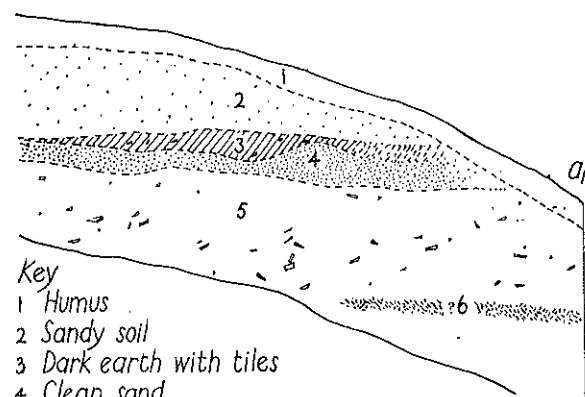
A trench (1A) was cut to explore the enclosure edge on the southern side, but although this was carefully trowelled horizontally, there was no trace of postholes.

SHIFNAL · Moated Site

Sections

Trench 1 · South end

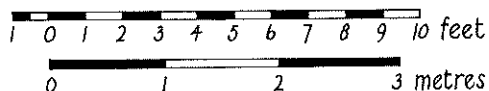
a



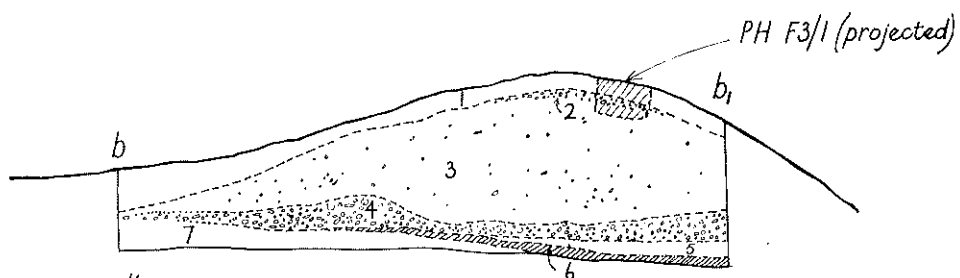
Key

- 1 Humus
- 2 Sandy soil
- 3 Dark earth with tiles
- 4 Clean sand
- 5 Soft dark humic soil with tiles
- 6 Earth with much charcoal

Scale :



Trench 3 · Rampart



Key

- 1 Humus
- 2 Gravel
- 3 Mixed sandy earth with some gravel
- 4 Gravel
- 5 Sandy earth
- 6 Buried soil (old turf line)
- 7 Soft earth

Fig. 41

It seems likely that this end of the site has suffered more than the other from erosion, due to the soft sandy nature of the subsoil and the overlying make up, and to flooding of the moat and the adjacent brook, and that the palisade, with perhaps a rampart, was further out and has disappeared. This supposition is supported by the section (a-a<sub>1</sub>, Fig. 41) where layers 3 and 4 are cut off abruptly. Section a-a<sub>1</sub> also suggests the possibility that there was an earlier phase of occupation. The layers of make-up (Layers 5 and 6) contained a great number of roof-tile fragments (but no pottery). These must be derived from a phase, however short, before the enclosure reached its final form, though since they are of the same thickness and fabric as the tile debris found in the upper levels, associated with the main building period, it may simply be that building had commenced or even reached an advanced stage before this end of the site was made up. There was nothing elsewhere to suggest two or more periods of occupation, and nothing underneath the make-up to suggest occupation on the old ground surface. This proved, however, to have been stripped off in at least two places where test holes were dug, so that the evidence is by no means conclusive.

A section (b-b<sub>1</sub>) was dug across the rampart in trench 3 and showed that the rampart was of simple dump construction, with a layer of gravel (4) at its base, which did not appear to represent an earlier phase. The rampart material rested on a layer (6) of buried soil (an old turf line) which had been shaved off towards the interior where it lay on a thickening layer of soft earth (7). This may indicate that the rampart was made after a period of time, sufficient to allow the development of a turf line, had elapsed since the moat was dug. But the evidence is inconclusive and a much longer section down the scarp of the ditch would be needed to elucidate this point. Trench 9 was cut at the southern end of the causeway to see if a road led across the causeway into the enclosure. The trench showed that here the natural clay subsoil lay immediately below the humus. There was no sign of a road or any other feature.

#### *Dating Evidence*

A simple analysis of the pottery discovered shows that 100 sherds date from the 13th-14th centuries and that the remaining 95 sherds are spread in roughly equal numbers over the following six centuries, about 20 sherds being post-medieval in date, about 35 dating from the 17th and earlier 18th centuries, and the same number from the later 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries. This proportion is sufficient to establish occupation of the site during the 13th and earlier 14th centuries (there being few sherds of late 14th century character) though the possibility that there was a cottage or outbuildings within the enclosure during the later period must not be precluded. There are one or two large sherds of the 15th to 19th centuries, but the majority of the late sherds are very small (a fact which adds to the hazards of precise dating). This scatter is consistent with derivation from manuring or similar occupations, and the considerable number of clay pipe fragments which came particularly from the northern and southern ends of trench I suggest that the enclosure was used for cultivation, perhaps as a garden or allotments, in the 17th and 18th centuries.

None of the finds is datable before c. 1200 A.D., the earliest types of cooking pot rim (SHI 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 11, Fig. 4) being closely comparable, and in some cases identical, with those of Type 3 from Brockhurst Castle, Church Stretton, which were datable to the early 13th century.<sup>5</sup> SHI 5 and 8 appear to be variations of the same type, while SHI 9 and 12 are 13th century in fabric, though their form was



hitherto unknown in the region. SHI 13 and 14 are later, the fabric of SHI 13 being a hard, fine red type, and that of SHI 14 being buff with pinker surfaces and a spot of interior glaze. Both these fabrics are typical of the later wares from Roushill, Shrewsbury,<sup>6</sup> and neither appear at Brockhurst Castle, definitely abandoned by 1255,<sup>7</sup> or at Hen Domen, Montgomery, abandoned during the 13th century, though perhaps as early as 1223.<sup>8</sup> SHI 15 and 16 are fragments of typical thumb-pressed bases of the 13th century, but probably little later. SHI 17, 18 and 19 are all from jugs of the late 13th or 14th centuries.<sup>9</sup> SHI 20 is an anomalous piece but the fabric and decoration are typically 13th century. SHI 21, part of the base of a massive jar, dates from the later 14th or 15th centuries.<sup>10</sup> The weight of the evidence points therefore to occupation of the site beginning about 1200, and ending during the 14th century, after which cultivation of the interior of the enclosure seems more likely than occupation.

#### *Discussion*

If this was the site of the manor house of Idsall/Shifnal, it is possible that the change of lordship in 1313-14 (p. 195 above) marks the abandonment of the house, though the pottery evidence is not conclusive. It will be seen from the Area Plan (Fig. 39) that another moated manor house, still occupied, exists half a mile to the south-west of the excavated site. It too is on the Wesley Brook, and also has a mill pool/fish pond upstream from the house. We therefore have two complete manor house/mill complexes, and the obvious question which arises is whether they were occupied simultaneously, as the manor houses of Idsall and Shifnal, or consecutively, the present manor house being founded, therefore, sometime in the 14th century. The evidence at present available is insufficient to provide an answer, but the problem deserves study.

An interesting point arises regarding the limitations of the excavation technique employed. Trench 1, which bisected the site, passed within twenty feet of house foundations without producing any trace of mortar or rubble. In fact, the mortared rubble had spread only a very few feet away from the house area, and was found nowhere else on the site, in spite of the fact that the bulk of the building had been carted away, presumably across the causeway, by the stone robbers. It would therefore have been possible to have laid out extensive trial trenches which would have missed these foundations, and, producing no mortar, though some postholes, would have led to the conclusion that all the buildings in the enclosure were of wood. As it is, considerable areas of the interior were not examined during the excavation and it is possible that smaller stone buildings, or a brick cottage, perhaps, remain undetected. The point is emphasised by an earlier excavation on a similar site, Watling Street Grange, Oakengates,<sup>11</sup> where Trench 13 was trowelled down to natural without producing evidence of occupation, or indeed, any finds. Yet it was within forty feet (at most) of a building occupied in the 17th or 18th centuries, of which there was ample evidence in Trench 14.<sup>12</sup>

It is clear that trial trenching has very severe limitations, and that only the investigation of complete areas, either magnetically, or ideally, by excavation, will avoid the possibility of considerable distortion of the evidence. Where trial trenching is inevitable, as in the present case, there must be awareness of these limitations if gross misinterpretation is to be avoided.

## THE FINDS

*Pottery*

The general characteristics of the pottery have been discussed above (p.198). The catalogue below describes the sherds illustrated in Figs. 42, 43. The numbers in brackets refer to the serial numbers on the sherds.

*Cooking Pots*

The majority of the cooking pot rims compare very closely in shape with those of Type 3 from Brockhurst Castle, but it is significant that in most cases the fabric of the Shifnal pots is more sandy. This strongly suggests that the pots from both sites were made by the same potter or group of potters but that the clays used were from different sources. The area round Shifnal, as we have seen, has much sand, whereas there is little sand, though some boulder clay, in the Stretton region. It seems quite probable that the potters who made this type of cooking pot were itinerant, though perhaps within a limited area. The solution of this problem must await the discovery of the kiln sites.

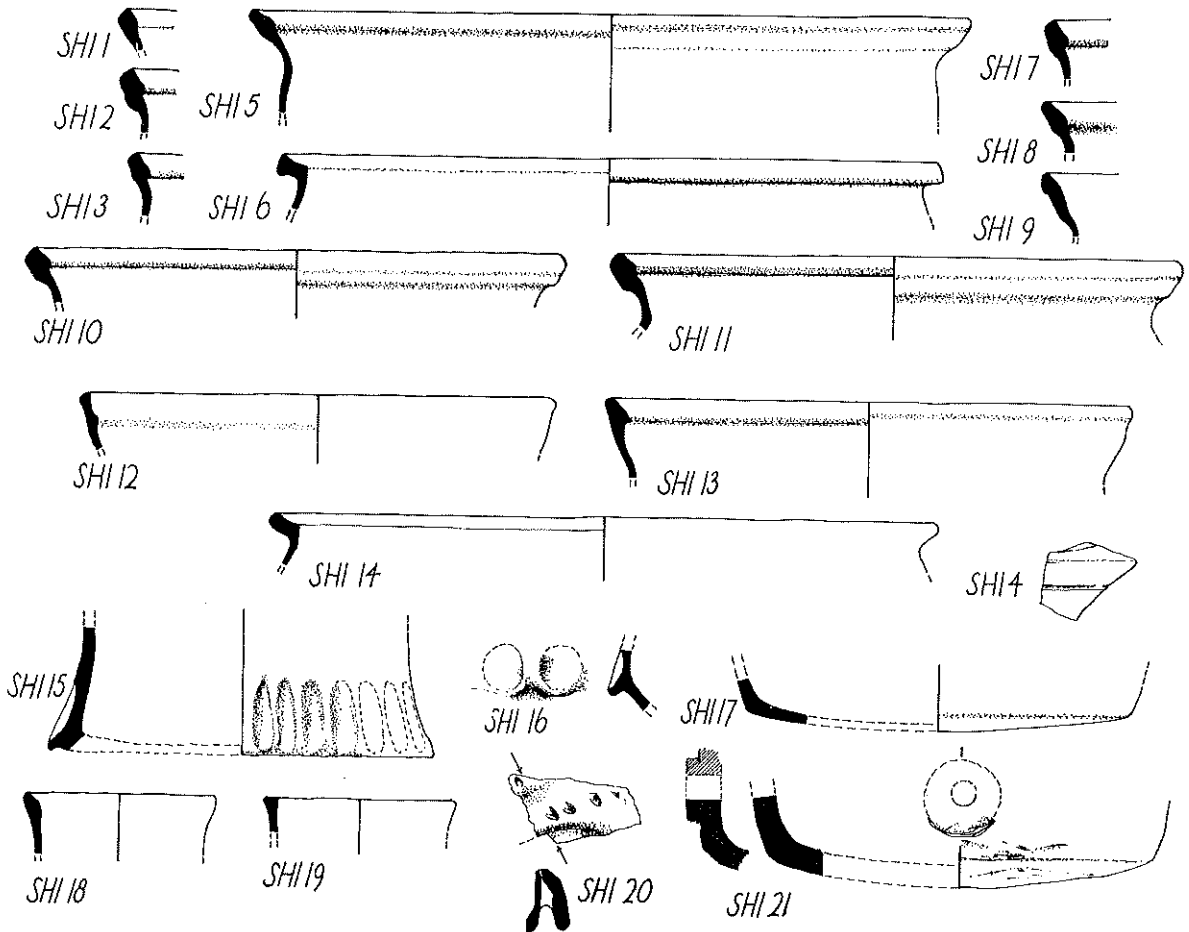


Fig. 42.

- SHI 1 (P.87).—Rim sherd, diameter uncertain, but at least 12 in.; fine hard black sandy fabric with brown surfaces, blackened on the outside. There are no close parallels yet in the region.
- SHI 2 (P.147).—Rim sherd, diameter uncertain, but approximately 12 in.; fine hard sandy dark grey fabric with light grey interior surface, and light brown exterior surface, blackened by fire. Brockhurst Type 3 shape.
- SHI 3 (P.133).—Rim sherd, diameter uncertain, but approximately 12 in.; fine hard sandy dark grey fabric, pink and light grey exterior surface. Brockhurst Type 3 shape.
- SHI 5 (P.1).—Rim sherd, fine hard dark grey sandy fabric, brown surfaces, blackened by fire. The shape is related to Brockhurst Type 3 (*op. cit.*, Fig. 15, No. 4). The body is notably thin (4 mm.) for the great size of the pot.
- SHI 6 (P.215).—Rim sherd, hard very fine slightly sandy fabric, dark grey throughout. This shape and fabric are closely paralleled at Brockhurst (*op. cit.*, Fig. 16, No. 10), Adderley and Smethcott (these *Transactions*, Vol. LVI, Part III (1960), p. 259).
- SHI 7 (P.115).—Rim sherd, hard grey sandy fabric, with black interior surface and brown exterior surface, blackened by fire. Brockhurst Type 3 shape (*op. cit.*, Fig. 15, No. 8).
- SHI 8 (P.235).—Rim sherd, hard sandy grey fabric, with partly oxidised exterior surface. Shape similar to SHI 15.
- SHI 9 (P.145).—Rim sherd, hard black sandy fabric, light brown interior surface becoming pink on edge of rim. An anomalous shape, being folded over outwards.
- SHI 10 (P.4).—Rim sherd, hard dark brown-grey slightly sandy fabric with blackened surfaces. Brockhurst Type 3 shape. From the material of the N.W. rampart
- SHI 11 (P.158).—Rim sherd, hard pinkish-brown slightly fabric. Brockhurst Type 3 shape.
- SHI 12 (P.237).—Rim sherd, hard black sandy fabric, with pink interior surface, brown exterior surface. Notably thin, and an anomalous shape, for which no local parallel is known. But cf. a sherd from Quatford, these *Transactions*, this Vol., Cf. p. 57.
- SHI 13 (P.228).—Rim sherd, very hard fine fabric, pink-orange throughout. The fabric and the shape suggest a late date, fourteenth century or later.
- SHI 14 (P.210).—Rim sherd, very hard slightly sandy buff fabric, with light grey core; a spot of clear glaze on the shoulder internally. Although the shape is like that of SHI 6, the fabric is quite different, and indicates a late date, again probably after the mid-fourteenth century.

### *Jugs*

Few of the jug sherds discovered are capable of illustration and these are unremarkable. The absentees are notable. For instance, there was no evidence of tripod pitchers, found at Shrewsbury, Brockhurst Castle and Hen Domen, Montgomery.<sup>13</sup> Though thumb-pressed bases were present, there was very little other decoration—

the applied strips and combed or rouletted ornament common elsewhere in the region were absent, except on two sherds, SHI 4 and 22. There was no highly decorated pottery, such as one would expect from this period in eastern, southern or south-western England.<sup>14</sup> Finds of highly decorated jugs are rare elsewhere in the region also, and it seems that these elaborate wares were neither made here nor imported in any quantity. As a whole however, the collection is too small, and covers too wide a date range to make generalisations very valuable.

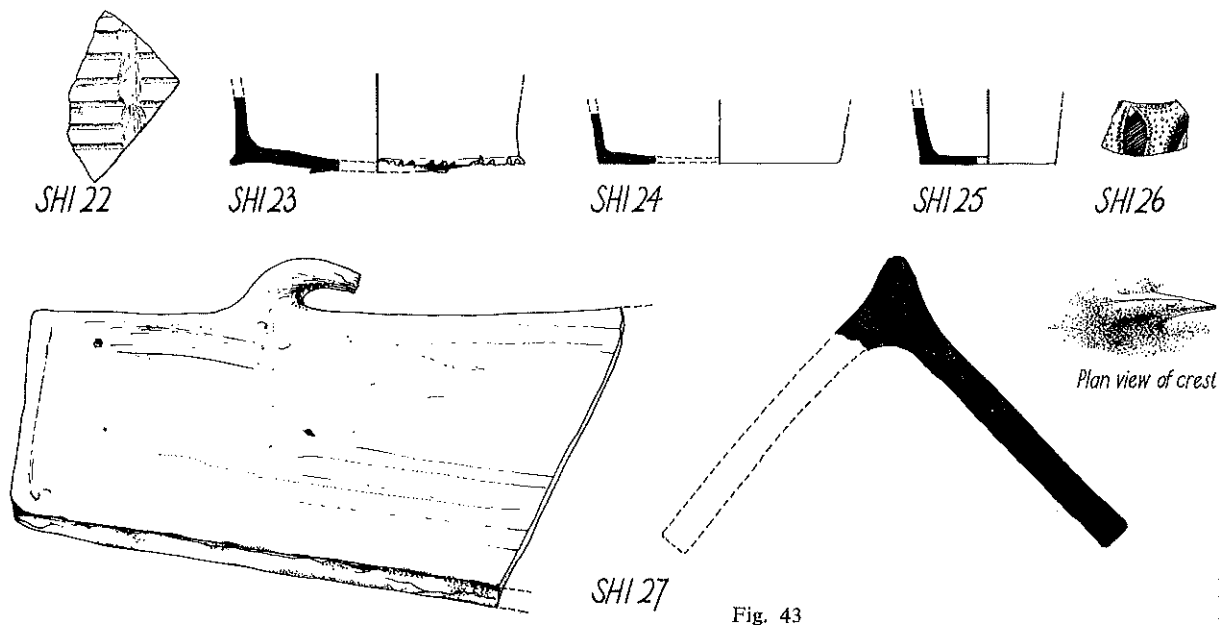


Fig. 43

- SHI 4 (P.239).—Body sherd of jug; slightly sandy grey fabric, light red interior surface, light grey exterior surface; incised girth decoration; patchy brownish glaze. 13th century.
- SHI 15 (P.3).—Base sherd of jug; hard slightly sandy dark grey fabric, light red interior surface, similar exterior surface except under glaze where clay has not oxidised and light grey; decorated with long “thumb-pressed” grooves; patchy brown glaze. Perhaps from the same jug as SHI 4. 13th century.
- SHI 16 (P.6).—Base sherd of jug, dark grey sandy fabric, pinkish interior and exterior surfaces; decorated with round “thumb-pressed” indentations; brownish patchy glaze, similar to that on SHI 15, 13th century.
- SHI 17 (P.168).—Base sherd of jug, very fine pinkish-buff fabric of chalky consistency, capable of marking paper. Thrown on a fast wheel. 14th-15th century.
- SHI 18 (P.19).—Rim sherd of jug, fabric similar to that of SHI 17, but a little sandier and with a pale grey core. A spot of thick dark, almost black glaze shows that the pot was fired upside down. ? 14th century.
- SHI 19 (P.126).—Rim sherd of jug, hard grey slightly sandy fabric, with light red surfaces except under a patch of clear glaze mottled with green spots.

- SHI 20 (P.225).—Part of a slashed glazed strap handle and body attachment of a vessel probably not a jug. The handle seems more likely to have been horizontal, as in the 19th century panchon or bread bowl, or in the chamber pots, with a single horizontal handle, of which there are examples in Coventry Museum, Rowley's House Museum, Shrewsbury, and from Haughmond Abbey, Shropshire. Hard slightly sandy dull red fabric, patchy light brown glaze under the handle, green glaze above, encrusted with lime. 13th century.
- SHI 21 (P.166).—Base sherd of jar with a hole for a tap; very hard pinkish grey fabric; the sagging base is knife trimmed and the potting crude; there is a wash of pitted dark brown, almost black, glaze on the inside of the base. This jar compares with a vessel from Roushill, Shrewsbury (*op. cit.*, in note 5, Fig. 51 and p. 197) which was there dated to the period 1450-1600. A similar base with a bung hole comes from Haughmond Abbey. (Unpublished).
- SHI 22 (P.214).—Body sherd of jug, hard slightly sandy red fabric, with grey core. Decorated with shallow horizontal grooves made with a blunt point; a vertical groove, made almost certainly with the finger, crosses them. 14th or 15th century.
- SHI 23 (P.5).—Base sherd of jug; very hard sandy grey-buff fabric with light brown outer surfaces. The "burr" round the edge of the base is decorated with small knife cuts. The pot has clearly been fired upside down, with another standing upside down on it. The dull brown-green glaze from the upper pot has spread across the base of SHI 23; in addition, when the pots were separated, part of the rim of the upper one was left adhering to the base of this one. ? 15th century.
- SHI 24 (P.168).—Base sherd of jug, very fine pinkish buff fabric of chalky consistency, capable of marking paper. ? 14th century.
- SHI 25 (P.192).—Base sherd of flower-pot; hard buff fabric with pink surfaces; there is a central hole  $\frac{3}{4}$ in. in diameter. ? 18th century.
- SHI 26 (P.195).—Sherd of ? plate; fine buff fabric with slip decoration in cream and dark brown, the whole covered with clear yellowish glaze. Staffordshire, ? early 18th century.

#### *Roof Tiles* (Fig. 43)

No complete roof tile was found. The fragments recovered averaged half-inch in thickness and there were some with the usual "nib", and one fragment with a nail hole in one corner. The fabric of the roof tiles was softer and more buff than that of the ridge tiles of which SHI 27 is an example. All these fragments could date from the early 13th century by analogy with the stratified tiles from Roushill (*op. cit.* in note 5, p. 198). The writer knows of no other example of this particular form of crest in the region, however.

SHI 27.—Part of a ridge tile (in three fragments) from the material of the north-west rampart. Hard red "flower-pot" type fabric.

The crest was made by extruding the clay, bending it over and then pinching it between the fingers. An unusual feature is the fact that the bottom edge of this fragment is not parallel with the ridge—it may have been used on a hipped roof. The fact that the tile was the only find from the body of the rampart makes it possible that it was a reject from the building period.

*Metal Objects*

The metal objects included a variety of nails, including horse-shoe nails,<sup>16</sup> but only two other objects capable of illustration.

SHI (M.81).—Chisel-shaped tool of iron,  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches (10.8 cm.) in length, with a short tang of square section. Perhaps the remains of a mason's chisel; the rounded edge suggests that it was well worn. From Trench 6, Layer 1, above the house foundations.

SHI (M.1).—Bronze tweezers, made by taking a narrow strip, folding it in half and twisting the folded end to form a handle.  $2\frac{1}{16}$  inches (5.3 cm.) long. Presumably for toilet or cosmetic use. From Trench 4, Layer 1, above the house foundations.

SHI (M.2).—Not illustrated. A rectangular strip of bronze approximately 3 inches  $\times$   $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches (7.5 cm.  $\times$  3.75 cm.) folded along one edge and with a small rectangular hole punched near one edge close to the fold. Perhaps part of a repair to a vessel such as a cauldron. From Trench 4, Layer 1, above the house foundations.

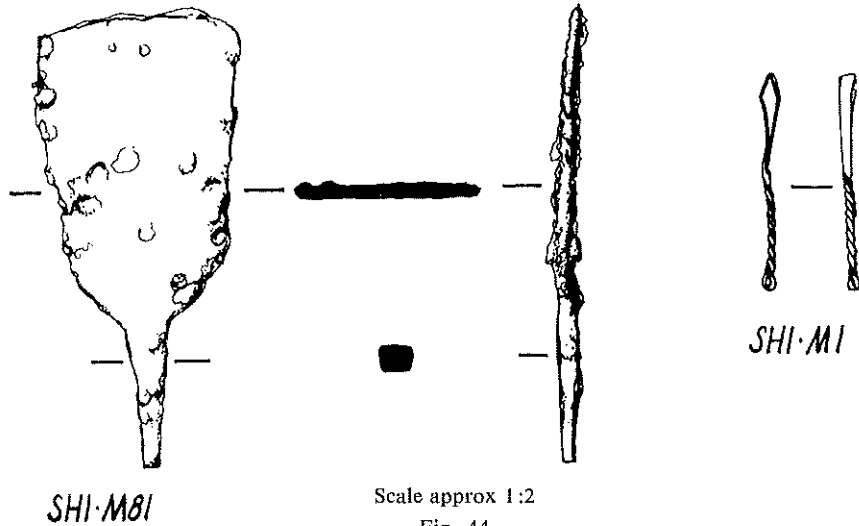


Fig. 44

## APPENDIX I

*Hooked or Horned Crests. A note by J. G. Hurst, M.A., F.S.A.*

Ridge tiles with single or double hooks are a Midland regional type common on many sites in Leicestershire and Warwickshire. Rough examples were made at Potters Marston<sup>16</sup> and other examples have been published from Humberstone<sup>17</sup> and Hawkesley<sup>18</sup>. There are other examples closer to the Shifnal crest in the Leicester and Coventry Museums, and they vary in date from the 13th to 14th centuries. It is of interest to see this Midland outlier in Shropshire although most of the pottery is of West Midland type, except for SHI 6 and 14, which are also Midland in character.

Another crest of this type was recently found by Mr. N. Bridgewater at Wallingstones in Herefordshire.

## REFERENCES

1. Thanks are due to all those who assisted with the excavation, in particular to the Rev. V. G. Clarke, and Messrs. Smith Bros., Construction, Ltd., owner and prospective owners of the site, for their co-operation, to Mr. J. G. Hurst of the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments for arranging the excavation and for discussion on the site, to Mr. L. Biek, also of the Inspectorate, for technical advice, to Mr. Brian Dunckley for his contoured plan of the site, to Mr. R. Buckley for assistance with the direction of the excavation, and to Mrs. S. M. Bell for treatment of the finds.
2. The documentary history of the manor of Shifnal, or Idsall, from Domesday to the 14th century, which includes the period during which the site was occupied, is reviewed at some length in Eyton's *Antiquities of Shropshire*, Vol. II, p. 265 ff., hereafter called Eyton, II.
3. Ekwall, pp. 250 and 397.
4. These *Transactions*, 3rd Series, Vol. I, 281-2.
5. *Shrop. Arch. Soc. Trans.*, Vol. LVII, Part I, 1961, pp. 63 ff.
6. *Medieval Archaeology*, Vol. V, 1961, p. 181 ff.
7. *Op. cit.*, in note 4, p. 66.
8. *Medieval Archaeology*, Vol. V.
9. *Op. cit.*, in note 5, Fig. 50, p. 194.
10. *Ibid.*, Fig. 51, p. 196.
11. These *Transactions*, Vol. LVI, Part I (1957-58), p. 21.
12. *Ibid.*, Fig. 1, p. 23.
13. These *Transactions*, Vol. LVI, Part II (1959); *op. cit.* in note 2; and *Medieval Archaeology*, Vol. V.
14. From Nottingham, for example (see Rackham, *Medieval English Pottery*, Pl. 82), or from the Ham Green Kilns, Bristol (*Trans. Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeol. Soc.*, Vol. 82, 1963, pp. 95 ff.
15. Nails are recovered in quantity from most medieval sites but there seems little value in publishing them haphazard as they occur. It is hoped, rather, to publish a type-series from the region to which further finds can be related though L. F. Salzman has pointed out in *Building in England down to 1540*, p. 317, that we cannot expect much standardisation at this time.
16. *Trans. Leics. Arch. Soc.*, XXVIII (1952), 61, Fig. 3, no. Q.
17. *Trans. Leics. Arch. Soc.*, XXXV (1959), 24 and 30, Fig. 17, S.1-3.
18. *Trans. Birm. Arch. Soc.*, LXXXVI (1958), 45 and 46, Fig. 6, no. 1.

PONTESBURY CASTLE MOUND EMERGENCY EXCAVATIONS  
1961 AND 1964

By P. A. BARKER

*These two short excavations showed that the mound was a ring work of at least three periods, datable by pottery to the late twelfth and the thirteenth centuries, with a large tower on one side of the earthwork. The tower was in ruins in the sixteenth century, but the ramparts seem to have been slighted, the ditch filled, and the tower finally levelled in the nineteenth century.*

1961

The first excavation arose because of the intention of the owner of the northern part of the site to sell the land as a building plot. Though the site was at that time unscheduled, the County Planning Authority, recognizing it as an ancient monument, asked the advice of the Ancient Monuments Department of the Ministry of Works before granting planning permission. An unfinished ditch section had been cut by the writer in 1960 and, at the invitation of the Ministry, a more extensive excavation was carried out with the aid of a grant in July 1961. Since this showed the presence of buildings in the interior of the site, a further Ministry excavation, designed to investigate as much as possible of the interior of the threatened area, was arranged. This was directed by P. V. Addyman. Meanwhile the tenant of this part of the site, who used it as a garden and an orchard, successfully restrained the owner from selling the land, and as a result the excavations were abruptly curtailed. Mr. Addyman had time only to finish the trenches begun by the writer and to confirm and expand their interpretation.

1964

The excavations of 1964 were occasioned by the proposal of the owner of the southern part of the site to build a house on the highest point within the earthwork, the south-east quadrant. Excavations were again arranged by the Ministry of Public Building and Works and were directed by the writer, assisted by Mrs. P. M. Wilson. They lasted from the 6th to the 17th of July with a force of about nine volunteers.

The unexpected discovery of massive wall foundations and the urgency of the excavation limited the area which there was time to excavate and the extent to which it could be dug to the natural sub-soil, so that some crucial problems remained unsolved. However, the trenches were backfilled, thus sealing the remains of the structures, before the house was built, so that the site has been preserved for investigation at some future date.

*The Site* (Fig. 45) (Nat. Grid. Ref. SJ 401058, O.S. 1 inch Sheet 118, 6 inch Sheet SJ 40 N.W.)

Pontesbury lies in the valley of the Rea Brook, seven miles S.W. of Shrewsbury, on the line of the probable Roman road from the lead mines of the Shelve area to Viroconium (Wroxeter). The village is dominated by the massive hump of Pontesford



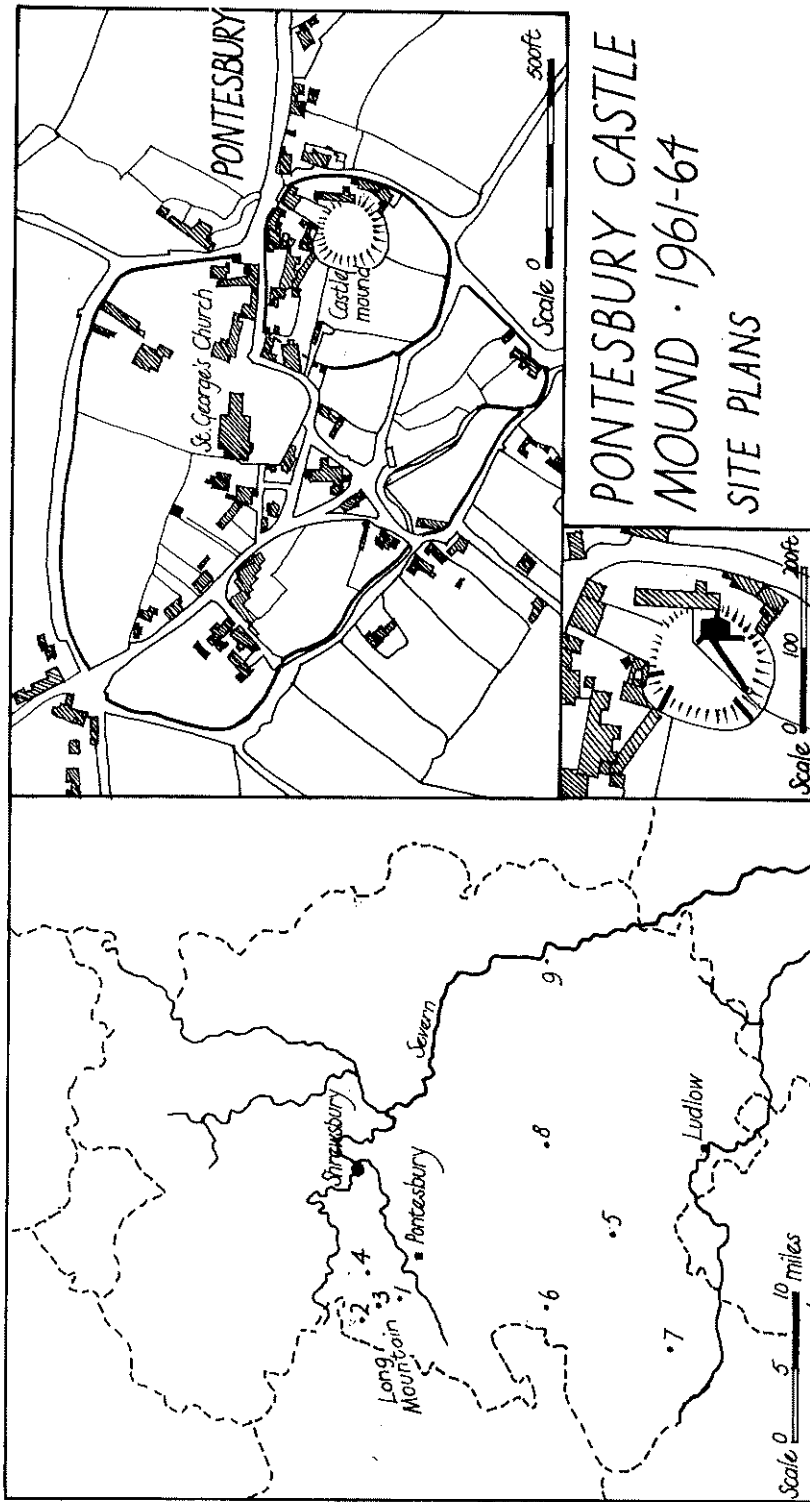


Fig. 45

or Earl's Hill, crowned by a hill-fort of great extent, with another, much smaller, on its northern outlier. The road from Shelve to Shrewsbury has to skirt this hill and the high country to the south-west, and the village seems to have grown up at the junction of this road and the Habberley valley, in which, in all probability, King Edward the Confessor had a hunting lodge.<sup>1</sup>

The castle site lies at the eastern end of the village, about 500 feet from the parish church of St. George. The mound, as it appears to be, is roughly circular, 10-12 feet high and from 120-150 feet in diameter. The ditch is barely visible except on the west side, in the area of Trench 1, and the interior is more or less level, though rising to the east, but without trace of the ramparts now shown to have existed. A bungalow and other buildings encroach on to the site in the east and the interior is divided into gardens and orchards.

The line of the road and the field boundaries encircling the site strongly suggest the presence of a former bailey with perhaps only slight earthworks. This was noticed by Cobbold, who published a plan of the site in 1907.<sup>2</sup>

Since the area thus enclosed is under intensive cultivation, and the line of the probable ditch lies mainly under the road, it would now be difficult to prove that this was the bailey, though the opportunity may occur to test the theory where the line runs across a field to the west of the site. Similarly, the village itself has a road (drawn with a heavier line in Fig. 45) apparently enclosing it, springing from the north and south sides of the "bailey". This suggests the former existence of a village earthwork regular in shape to the north, but winding along the course of a small stream to the south. This would be even more difficult to prove.

The subsoil in all the trenches was yellow boulder clay.

### *The Documentary Evidence*<sup>3</sup>

The manor of Pontesbury was held in 1086 by Roger Fitz Corbet as mesne lord under Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury. The manor continued to be held of Roger Fitz Corbet's successors as lords of Caus Manor until the 14th century. There is no mention of a castle during this time. In 1286 an Inquisition Post Mortem held at Pontesbury states that the manor contained a capital messuage, and a garden, valued at 3/-. A similar Inquisition held in 1353 says specifically that the capital messuage had disappeared. The manor was acquired by the King in 1309, in exchange for the manor of Talgarth, and was then granted to John de Charlton, Lord of Powys. The latter was probably already in possession of the manor by 1307, when he was granted free warren in his demesne at Pontesbury.

The only mention of a castle is much later. John Leland, travelling through Britain in the years after 1538, wrote about Pontesbury:

"On the south side of the Chirch Yarde appear great Tokens and Stones fallen downe of a great Manor Place or Castelle; and thereby yet remaineth the Name of the Castelle Paviment".<sup>3A</sup>

Our present site is not to the south of the churchyard, but if we remember that Leland thought that Quatford was "by northe est" from Bridgnorth, allowance can be made for his sense of direction.

Mr. Alec Gaydon has kindly drawn my attention to the following reference, which implies that the tower was still being robbed of stone in the first half of the nineteenth century, and that the facing stone was of sandstone, comparatively little of which was found in the 1964 excavations. Both these implications fit in well with the archaeological evidence.

Pontesbury parish records, *Commonplace book of Charles Drury, 1857*:

"Pontesbury is supposed to derive its name from an early Norman baron called Pontus, probably the same name as Poyntz. The ditch of his little castle, or stronghold, are (*sic*) very visible in the garden of the fair-looking house turning into Habberley road in the village. It seems to have been small and built of the same red stone as the Chancel, as materials have often been taken from its foundations. The north side of the Chancel was probably rebuilt from it. It is manifestly of very superior materials and better constructed than the south side . . . whether the few mason's marks left on a few stones at the East end of the chancel were at the construction of the fort or church cannot be known".

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our grateful thanks are due to L. Jones, Esq., the owner of the northern part of the site, and his tenant, J. Tucker, Esq., for permission to excavate in 1961; to J. Corfield, Esq., the owner of the southern part of the site for permission to excavate in 1964; to Mrs. P. M. Wilson for her untiring assistance; to J. G. Hurst, Esq., for arranging the excavations, and for constant help; and to all those who helped on the site in any way.

#### THE 1961 EXCAVATION

##### *Trench 1*

The abortive ditch section cut in 1960, of which the drawn section is missing, showed that the ditch here was V-shaped and backfilled almost to the bottom with heavy yellow clay with stones. Only one small glazed sherd of 13th or 14th century date was found in the filling, the rest of the finds dating from the eighteenth and 19th centuries. This cutting did not extend far enough in either direction to reach the top of the scarp or counter-scarp of the ditch.

##### *Trench 2 (Fig. 46A)*

Trench 2, the first cut in 1961, was sited to examine the nature of the eastern edge of the mound and to determine whether any occupation levels still existed in the interior.

The result was unexpected. Layer 9, and layers 16 and 17 together were clearly the bases of two distinct ramparts which had been truncated. The two ramparts were constructed of different materials. The earlier rampart (layers 16 and 17) which was shown to be so because it underlay the later (layer 9), was of yellow clay with stones (layer 17) and fine crumbly clayey soil (layer 16) sealing, a buried soil (layer 18) lying on the natural boulder clay. The later rampart (layer 9) was of yellow clay with many large stones. The two ramparts were separated by a layer (15) of dark

almost stone-free soil, apparently an old turf line which had formed during the time between the construction of Rampart 1 and the dumping of layer 9 to form Rampart 2. The formation of layer 15, which rode up on to the back of Rampart 1, showed clearly that the interior of the site had been lower than the rampart surrounding it and that therefore the fortification of period 1 was a ringwork as bailey with occupation (presumed but not proved) on the original ground surface.

At some subsequent date the rampart represented by layer 9 had been piled on the back of the first rampart. Whether the first rampart had been slighted beforehand is not clear, but it seems likely since layer 15 will be seen to have been shaved off, presumably in connection with the construction of the second rampart.

The occupation associated with this second rampart is attested by layer 7, an arrangement of massive stones with a face (marked on Fig. 46A) on one side, parallel to the rampart. These stones were simply laid in earth, which may however have sifted between them subsequently. Layer 6, like layer 15, seems to be an old soil which had formed on the back of the rampart. It will be noticed that in each case the old turf line does not extend the whole distance between the back of the rampart and the end of the trench, presumably because occupation of the interior prevented the growth of grass and weeds and therefore the formation of soil.

At a later date still, and after the building up of the level of the interior by about two feet (layers 4, 4a and 5) a floor (layer 5a, fig. 46A, plan) of clay and small stones with four post-holes along its edge, was laid behind the rampart. This floor level had been sealed after its abandonment by the accumulation of layers 3, 2 and 1, which, fortunately for archaeology, had protected the occupation levels of the interior in spite of gardening over the past two hundred years. Layers 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 were connected with the recent laying of the drain shown in the section.

#### PONTESBURY CASTLE MOUND 1961: KEY TO SECTIONS

##### *Trench 2*

1. Humus.
2. Dark earth.
3. Dark clayey earth with small stones, coal, brick, etc.
4. Clay with stones. ...
- 4a. Clayey earth.
5. Clayey earth with some stones.
6. Fine dark earth.
7. Large stones in earth.
8. Earth, few stones.
9. Yellow clay with many stones.
10. Dark earth.
11. Mixed clayey earth.
12. Dark earth with brick.
13. Cinders.
14. Light brown clay and soil.
15. Dark, almost stone-free humic soil.

16. Fine crumbly brown-grey clayey soil, stonefree in places, but for small soft schist-like pebbles.
17. Mixed but fairly clean yellow clay.
18. Grey clayey earth—buried soil.

##### *Trench 3*

1. Turf and topsoil.
2. Mixed yellow clay.
3. Grey soil, small shaley fragments with many large stones.
4. Yellowish clay, with some stones.
5. Sticky grey clayey soil with a large amount of charcoal, some bone fragments, etc.
6. Dark earth, ashes, etc.
7. White limey soil.
8. Cinders.
9. Mixed yellow clay.
10. Dark humic soil.
11. Mixed crumbly light brown clayey soil.

##### *Trench 3 (Fig 46B)*

Trench 3 was cut to the north-west of trench 2 to examine further the relationship of rampart 2 to rampart 1, and to provide a ditch section. This cutting confirmed the relationship of the ramparts and showed that they were of similar construction to that

shown in trench 1, except that rampart 1 was here entirely of yellow clay with stones, and that there was no buried soil between the ramparts. Behind rampart 2 there had been a build-up (layer 2) rather similar to that behind the same rampart in trench 1, but here there was no evidence of structures, though a considerable quantity of bones pointed to occupation nearby. The soil buried below rampart 1 (layer 5) was here a good deal thicker than in trench 1, though the reason for this is not clear.

The ditch section, which was not completed because of lack of time, showed that the ditch had been deliberately filled with clay (layer 9), suggesting that the rampart had been thrown into it. This confirmed the impression gained in the ditch section cut in 1960. Sherds from layer 9 (PO 6, Fig. 52A) show that this back-filling took place after the 14th century. Sherds from the similar layer in trench 1 suggest that the back-filling should be dated much later to the 19th century.

In both trenches cut in 1961 the buried soils produced evidence of occupation of the site before the throwing up of rampart 1. Unfortunately this evidence was undatable, consisting merely of charcoal, bones and an iron object (Fig. 52A).

#### THE 1964 EXCAVATION

The excavation of 1964 was planned on the assumption that the structures to be found in the south-east quadrant of the ring-work would be similar to those in the area already dug in 1961. Nothing could have been further from the truth. The area (Area 1, Fig. 49) which the house was expected to occupy was stripped to recover the plans of the assumed timber buildings and revealed, under the topsoil, a continuous surface of boulder clay and massive rubble. Since this part of the site was the highest within the earthwork, the excavation then proceeded on the hypothesis, also mistaken, that here was the core of a slighted motte, and a search was made for the postholes of a motte-tower or other structure. None were found.

At this point the excavation was diverted to investigate a horse-operated rotary power unit, or "gin-ring", which lay on the boulder clay surface of Area 1, close to the old farm buildings on the east of the site. Local enquiry showed that it had been used in the early years of this century for driving a chaff cutter and for pulping roots. A circular path (Fig. 48) 22 feet in diameter, of hardstone chips, showed the length of the arm to which the horse or horses had been harnessed. The machine was secured by bolts to four beams of timber laid crosswise, and power was transmitted to the adjoining building by means of a universal joint coupled to a bar some 14 feet long.<sup>4</sup> Since few of these machines now exist, this one was recorded and has been preserved at Attingham Park for a future museum of rural life in the region.

The clay and rubble mass on which the gin-ring lay proving featureless, a trench (Y) was cut from the west side of Area 1 to the known line of the ditch and rampart on the western edge of the site. It was intended that this trench would find the ditch, if any, or at least establish the relationship of the clay/rubble mass to the features discovered in 1961.

The east end of trench Y was found to be filled with a mass of loose rubble with air-spaces, and what were clearly the heavily robbed remains of one angle of a very large wall, with footings of mortared sandstone and rubble, approximately 14 feet wide Figs. 47, 49 and 50 [Sections e-e<sub>1</sub> and f-f<sub>1</sub>]. The core of the wall still stood to a height

PONTESBURY CASTLE MOUND · 1964  
 PLAN · TRENCHES X AND Y

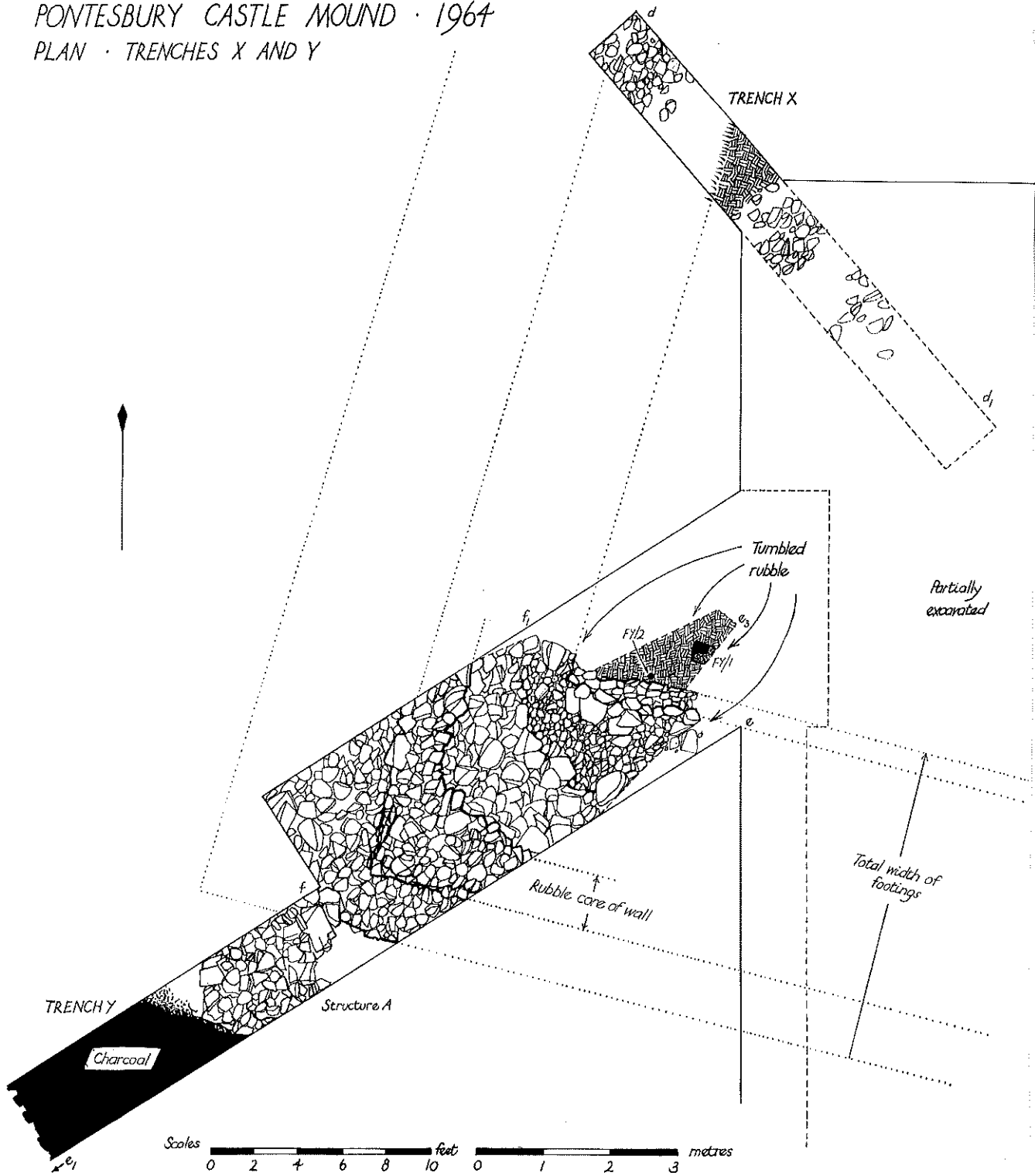


Fig. 47

of six feet, but no facing stones were left. The footings were largely of sandstone rubble, but the core of the wall was of Stiperstones quartzite, probably from the quarries still being worked on Pontesbury Hill.<sup>5</sup>

The mortar was pink, of good quality in the existing core, though much decayed elsewhere. It is perhaps significant that not one faced stone or recognisable fragment of dressed stone was found. This makes it likely that the walls were rubble faced and perhaps subsequently plastered.

Trench X was cut to try to establish the line of the wall at that point and trench Z to determine the relationship of the wall to the rampart. Trench X showed that here the wall had been almost completely rubbed away, only a fragment of the mortared rubble core being left (Fig. 47 and Section d-d<sub>1</sub>, Fig. 50). The line of the wall was

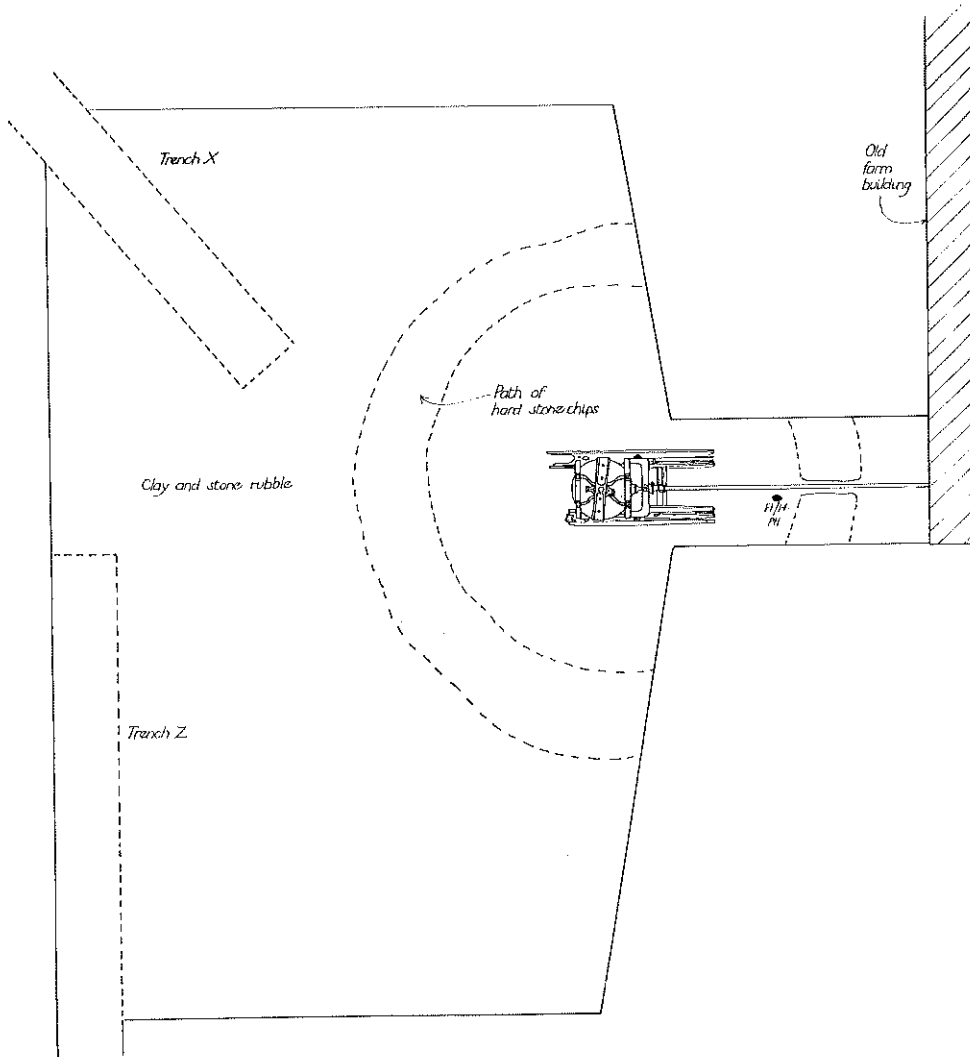


Fig. 48

marked by a slight scarp cut out in the natural boulder clay. This was in line with the wall found in Trench Y.

Trench Z was not completed because it was very close to the proposed house footings, so that its evidence is inconclusive. It does not however contradict the evidence from trenches Y and X. Trench Y was excavated sufficiently to show the extent of the burnt outbuilding, and to show that the rampart and ditch remains were similar to those found in 1960 and 1961 and were in their expected places. The excavation was back-filled and a house now occupies the position of Area I.

PONTESBURY CASTLE MOUND · 1960-67

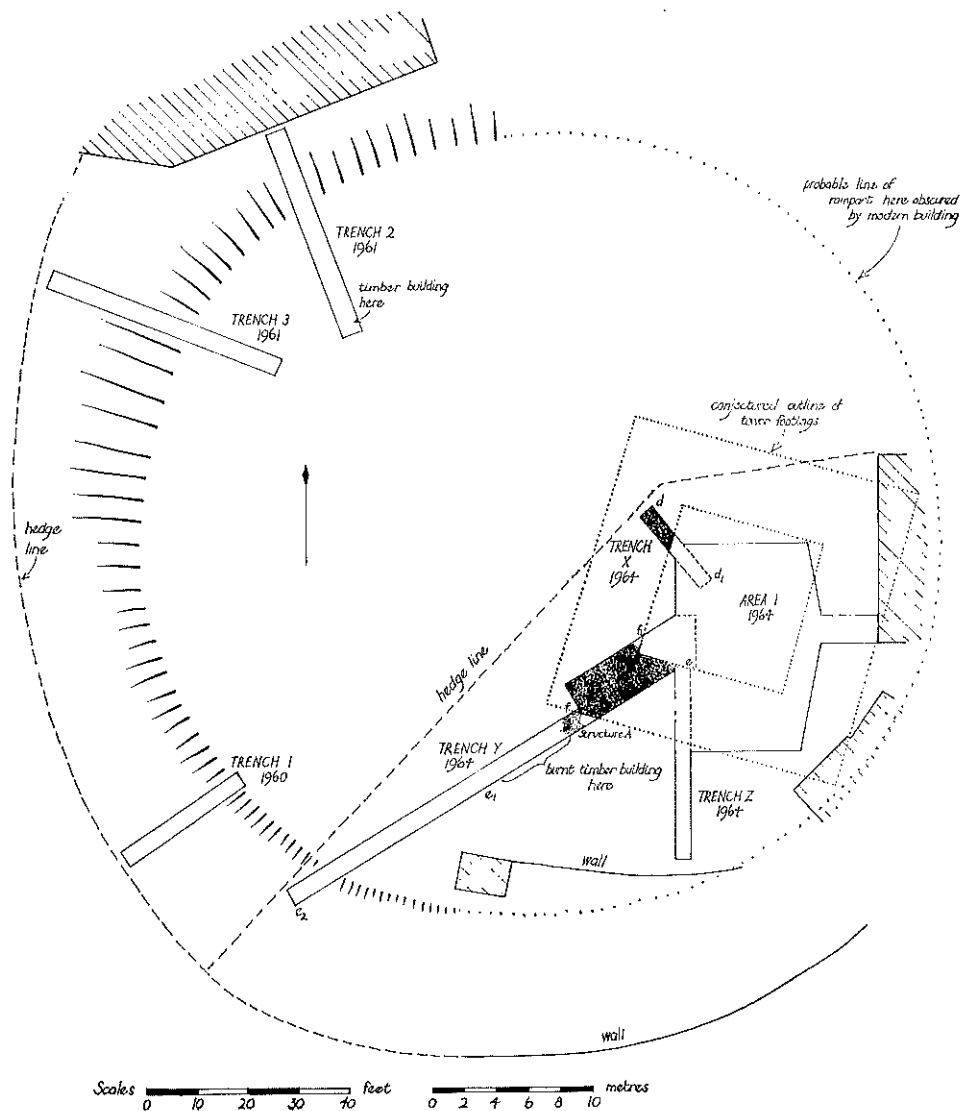


Fig. 49



## INTERPRETATION OF THE 1964 STRUCTURES

The enormous width—14 feet at least—of the footings found in trench Y suggests a standing wall at least six to seven feet in thickness and probably therefore as much as forty or fifty feet high; it would otherwise have been pointless to have had such massive foundations. The robber trench in trench X, together with the angle found in trench Y, gives two sides of the building represented by the wall. Since it is most unlikely that a building of this size and weight would be built over a ditch, the line of which can be presumed with a good deal of confidence (see Figs. 45, 49), it follows that the east side is likely to rest within, or on the line of, the rampart, giving a total width of approximately sixty feet. If it is accepted that the wall must have been very massive it is much more likely to be the remains of a tower than of a slighter building such as a hall. Such a tower might be rectangular in plan (as at Clun) but is more likely, for reasons of space within the rampart, to have been square.

Structure A, at the south-west corner of the tower, is again an angle of a wall, of slighter construction than the tower and built above layers 14 and 15 which abut the tower. It may be part of a forebuilding, a version, on a small scale, of the structures well known from Hedingham, Rochester, and other towers of similar date. Beyond it are clearly the remains of a burnt-out building of timber and wattle-and-daub, though no post-holes or timber-slots were found in the narrow trench dug.

## THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS ON THE SITE

1. *The Ramparts* (Fig. 51)(a) *Pre-rampart occupation*

The site, on gently rising ground, near the church and therefore close to the heart of the village, was occupied in some form before work on the defences began, but there was no evidence of structures in the small area excavated.

(b) *Period 1*

A more or less circular ditch was cut, enclosing an area of a little under half an acre. The material from the ditch was cast up to form a rampart of dump construction. This rampart was presumably crowned with a palisade, though the evidence for it has long since disappeared. This form of defence, rather than, for instance, a motte, may have been chosen if the buildings to be defended already existed.

(c) *Period 2*

Either the existing rampart was heightened by the addition, at its back, of a dump of clay and stones, or a new rampart replaced one which had been slighted. The fact that layer 9 in trench 3 was very similar to the material of rampart 1 in the same trench supports the former theory, since rampart 1 must have been standing to a considerable height at the time of the final demolition. Since there was no evidence of a shallow recut in either ditch section, it seems likely that the ditch was completely recut at this time.

There is evidence of a building, almost certainly of timber on rough dry-stone foundations (Layer 7, Trench 2) behind the rampart at this period.

# PONTESBURY CASTLE MOUND · 1961

Composite phase diagrams

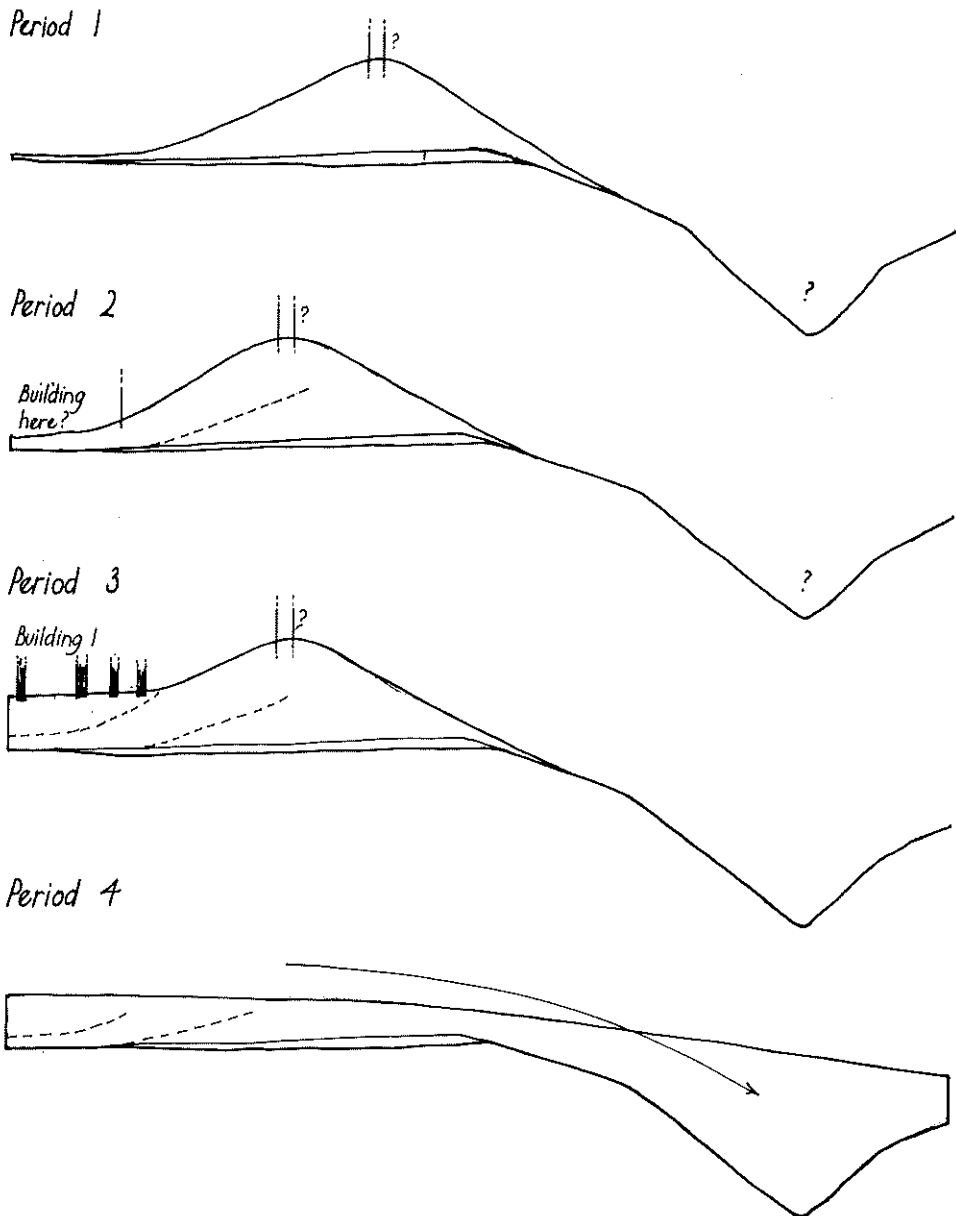


Fig. 51

(d) *Period 3*

The interior, close to the rampart, was raised some two feet by the laying down of layers 4 and 4a, and a timber building with a clay floor was constructed immediately behind the rampart.

(e) *The demolition of the defences*

The rampart was subsequently thrown into the ditch to level it and the site eventually used as a garden. There was no evidence of post-medieval building in the trenches dug.

2. *The Tower*

The relationship of the tower to the earthwork defences cannot at present be conclusively dated. Three possibilities exist. The first is that the tower and the circular earthwork were built at the same time as a unit; the second that the tower was a later addition to an already existing ring-work; the third, and by far the least likely, that the earthwork was added to a free-standing tower. What evidence there is suggests that the second of these hypotheses is the more likely. The post-holes FY/1 and FY/2 were sealed by the clay and stones layer 20, which was probably a floor. FY/1 was empty, suggesting if not proving, that the post it had contained had been sawn off at ground level; otherwise the clay and stones would have fallen into the posthole when placed there. By the time the timber stump had rotted the layer had become consolidated sufficiently to remain in place. These two postholes are, also, very close to the tower wall, and it is difficult to see their function in relation to the tower. It is easier to see them as part of a previous building demolished before the tower was built. But it must be re-emphasised that the evidence is slight.

The natural clay was not reached in the area immediately outside the tower, but layer 15 (section e-e<sub>1</sub>) of grey clay mixed with mortar, layer 14 of clay with charcoal, and layer 13 of mixed clay, show that there was never a bank or mound piled round the base of the tower, as at Ascot Doilly,<sup>6</sup> or at Farnham.<sup>7</sup> The evidence of these layers is difficult to interpret in detail. Layers 15 and 16 are perhaps builder's debris, but layer 14, which contained much charcoal, especially close to the wall, suggests the burning of a timber building nearby. Layers 15 and 16 may have been piled against the footings in the manner discovered elsewhere in the region, at Brockhurst Castle, Church Stretton,<sup>8</sup> and on the Town Wall of Shrewsbury.<sup>9</sup> Layer 14 ran under the subsidiary structure A outside the main tower. This structure is perhaps best interpreted as part of a forebuilding, though much more work would be needed to prove this. Since, however, layers 14 and 15 ran under it, it seems to be secondary to the tower.<sup>10</sup>

Abutting structure A and running for 24 feet down towards the rampart and ditch, was a thick layer of charcoal and burnt wattle and daub, 11, which can only represent a wooden building, probably attached to the tower and certainly burnt down. This building was at a higher level than layer 14 and must belong to the last phase of the castle's life. There was no positive evidence that the tower itself was destroyed by fire with this outbuilding, but since there was no facing stone left and since layer 20 within the tower contained much burnt wattle and daub, it is tempting to connect these two layers, 11 and 20, with a final conflagration.

## DATING

*(a) Pre-rampart occupation*

The pre-rampart phase produced no datable material, though the iron object (No. 2, Fig. 52A) shows that the ramparts are at least post bronze age.

*(b) The first rampart*

This rampart did not produce any datable material, but it seems likely on general grounds (e.g. the lack of a turf line between layers 3 and 4, the two ramparts in trench 3) to precede period 2 by only a short time. It seems unlikely, for instance, that period 1 represents a dark-age ring-work, refurbished in medieval times, though the evidence is not conclusive.

*(c) The second rampart*

This is broadly datable by pottery from layers 7 and 8 in trench 2 to the later 12th century or the first half of the 13th century.

*(d) The timber building behind the rampart*

This is similarly datable, though it should be noted that finds in and around the floor of the building were few, and that there were no datable finds from the similar period, layer 2, in trench 3.

*(e) The Tower*

The dating of the tower rests chiefly on its associated pottery. Though square towers are more common in the twelfth century than in the thirteenth, when round towers became fashionable, mere squareness is an uncertain guide. Ludlow, built about 1100, has a square tower, and Clun, rebuilt in stone probably after 1196<sup>11</sup> has a rectangular one, though with semi-circular bastions, presumably of the same date, nearby. The towers of the Town Wall of Shrewsbury, built between 1218 and c. 1240<sup>12</sup> were square, though the bastions and towers at Montgomery, built in 1223 or immediately after, are round.<sup>13</sup> Red Castle, Hawkstone, dating from the early years of the thirteenth century, has round towers, and the flanking towers of the great hall at Shrewsbury, built in the later thirteenth century, are round also.<sup>14</sup> On the other hand, the square keeps at Hopton and Wattlesborough have now been shown to date from the fourteenth century.<sup>15</sup>

The footings of the Pontesbury tower were left undisturbed, with the result that no pottery was found sealed in or under the footings. The pottery from the burnt wattle and daub layer (20) within the tower, which should probably be associated with the tower's destruction rather than its construction, dates from the period 1150-1300. Rim sherd PO.7 is paralleled at Hen Domen, Montgomery in layers which must date from the latter part of the twelfth century, and at Brockhurst Castle, Church Stretton, in rims of rather similar shape, datable to the mid-twelfth century. Sherds PO.8 and 9 seem to be later, dating from c. 1200 onwards. There was no pottery from the excavation which could be dated between c. 1300 and the 18th century.

It seems very probable, therefore, that the tower was built during the 12th century and went out of use before 1300.

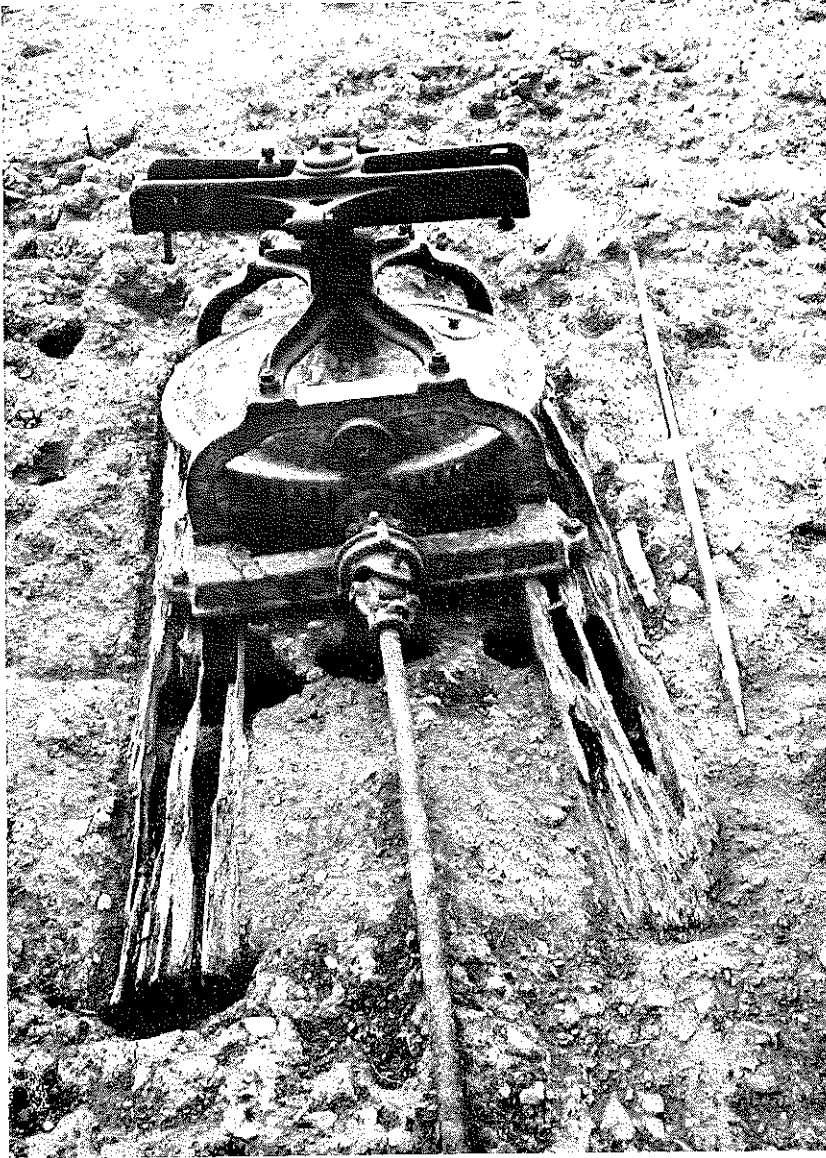


Plate XXVI. The gin ring



Plate XXVII. The tower foundations, Pontesbury Castle Mound.



Plate XXVIII. The tower foundations.



Plate XXIX. The tower foundations with internal post-holes, Pontesbury Castle Mound.

## CONCLUSIONS

The excavation has shown that the shape of the Pontesbury mound was very misleading. What looked at first sight to be a large low motte seemed, after the 1961 excavations, to have been a ring-work, with only timber buildings within its enclosure. The 1964 excavation added a massive stone tower to the defences. Both excavations show that great caution must be used before earthworks are classified on their superficial appearance alone. One wonders how many more "mottes" contain similar, or other surprises.

It has not been possible to establish positively the chronological relationship between the tower and the earthwork defences, but there are two chief possibilities. The first, and to the writer the less likely, is that the tower and the circular earthwork are contemporary, the earthwork planned to form a bailey eccentric to the tower. This arrangement seems to be unique, though it is possible that excavation of other circular sites will produce evidence of towers. The second possibility is that a ring work with internal timber buildings was later strengthened by the addition of a tower. This would also be a likely context for the refurbishing of the rampart which had been demonstrated by the 1964 excavations.

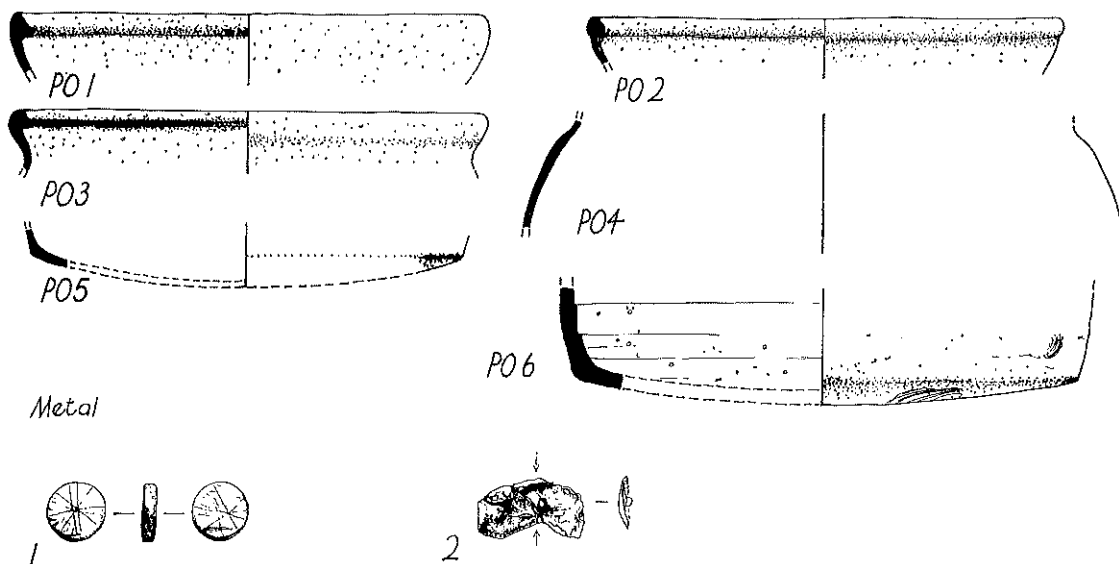
It happens that there is a small group of ringworks in this part of the county, east of the Long Mountain, an area under the control of the Corbets of Caus during the whole of the middle ages (Fig. 45 and Appendix 1). Four of them have been described by Miss L. F. Chitty.<sup>16</sup> There are five more in scattered situations in the south of the county, and it may be that excavation will add others to the list. It must be stressed that no two of these sites are identical in type. Some, such as Hawcock's Mount, Westbury, are defended by massive ramparts and ditches, while others, Caesar's Camp, Wollaston, the ring-work above Marche Hall, Westbury, and the site above Clun are weakly defended, the first with rising ground surrounding it on two sides, the others on hills, but with only slight banks and encircling ditches. It may eventually prove that they have little more in common than the same generalised shape, though the fact that five of them are concentrated in a comparatively small area suggests a common influence, perhaps that of the Corbets. This assumes that they are of medieval date, which has yet to be shown.<sup>17</sup> The ring-work seems to be the type of fortification most suitable for the defence of an already existing building, though in the case of Pontesbury there was no direct evidence of the date of the defences, only of the occupation of the interior.

## FINDS 1961

Finds were few, but were significantly stratified. The pottery from layers 1 and 2 was all 18th century or later, and was not capable of being illustrated. This can reasonably be assumed to be the accumulation of rubbish during the period in which the site was used as a garden. The sherds associated with the structures behind the rampart in Trench 2 were all medieval in character, grey, brown or red body-sherds of hard sandy fabric, together with the rim-sherds and the base sherd illustrated in Fig. 52A, Nos. PO.1-5. There were no glazed medieval jug sherds, except the late sherd (PO.6). The only finds of metal worth illustrating were a disc of lead (Fig. 52A) criss-crossed

with scratches (from Trench 2, Layer 11, which had been disturbed during the digging of the adjacent drain), and an iron object with a rivet (Fig. 52) from Trench 2, Layer 18, the old ground surface under Rampart 1).

1961 Pottery



Metal

Fig. 52A

Pottery

- PO.1.—Rim sherd of cooking pot, hard grey gritty fabric with light red surfaces. From layer 5, trench 2, close to floor 5a.
- PO.2.—Rim sherd of cooking pot, hard grey-buff gritty fabric, similar surfaces. From the same layer as PO.1.
- PO.3.—Rim sherd of cooking pot, hard grey gritty fabric with lighter more buff surfaces. From layer 8, trench 2.
- PO.4.—Sherd from shoulder of cooking pot, hard dark grey sandy fabric with pink-buff surfaces. From trench 2 layer 4, close to clay floor 5a.
- PO.5.—Base sherd from cooking pot, hard fine black sandy fabric, brown surfaces. From trench 2, layer 7, ? wall foundation.
- PO.6.—Base sherd of jug, very hard fine grey fabric with light red outer surface, glazed with dull green pimply glaze on interior. From Trench 3, layer 7, a disturbed layer above the drain on the slope of the ditch.

The cooking pot sherds PO.1-5 can all be paralleled in fabric, if not precisely in shape with other sherds of later 12th-13th century date in the region, particularly from the yet unpublished site of the motte and bailey castle at Hen Domen, Montgomery. While the fabrics of these sherds are typical of the sandier medieval wares of the region, the fabric of PO.6 is typical of the later medieval types found, for example, in the excavation on the Town Wall, Roushill, Shrewsbury.<sup>18</sup> Compare Roushill nos. 37, 38 and 46, Fig. 51, p. 196.



*Metal*

- 1.—Disc of lead with a number of scratches on both sides, roughly across the diameters. From trench 2, layer 11.
- 2.—Object of iron, consisting originally of two plates joined by a rivet. From trench 2, layer 18.

## FINDS 1964

It is curious that neither of the excavations produced more than a very small number of tiny sherds of jugs. This may have little significance when one compares the small area excavated with the size of the site, but the trenches were widely separated and cannot all have been in the "kitchen area". A similar discrepancy was noted in the excavations at Brockhurst Castle, Church Stretton (*op. cit.* in note 8 above). Statistics such as these will have greater validity from totally excavated sites. Meanwhile they merely represent a tendency.

## 1964 Pottery

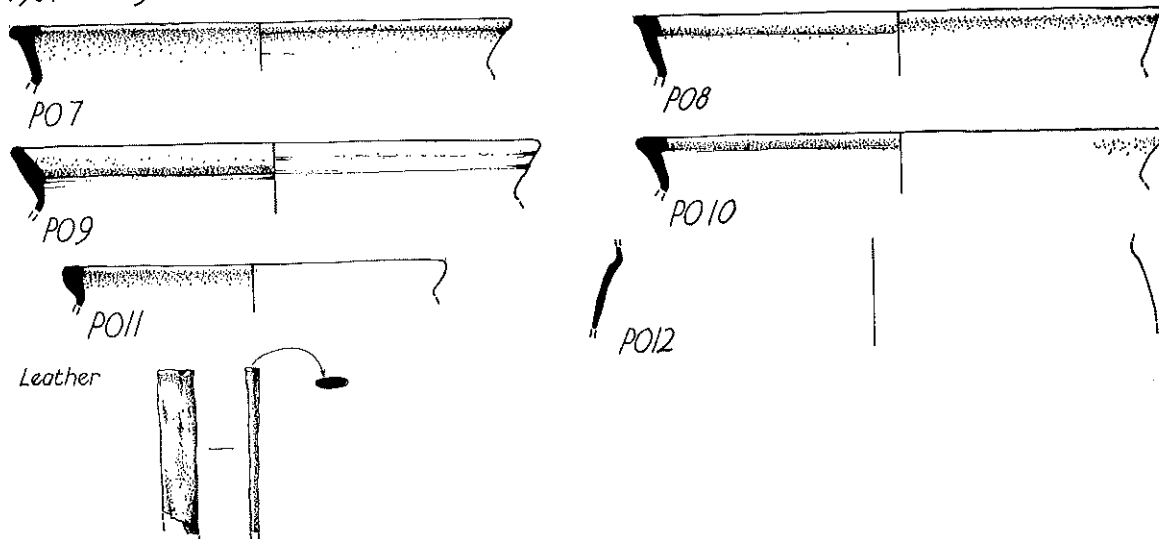


Fig. 52B

*Pottery*

- PO.7.—Rim sherd of cooking pot, hard grey-buff fabric with pink surfaces. From Trench Y, layer 20, inside the tower.
- PO.8.—Rim sherd of cooking pot, hard dark grey sandy fabric with brown surfaces. From the same layer.
- PO.9.—Rim sherd of cooking pot, hard dark grey fine sandy fabric, pinkish outer surface. From the same layer.
- PO.10.—Rim sherd of cooking pot, hard grey fabric, black interior surface. From Trench X, layer 5.

PO.11.—Rim sherd of cooking pot, fine sandy black fabric, black surfaces. Trench Y, layer 24.

PO.12.—Shoulder sherd of cooking pot, hard grey sandy fabric, lighter surfaces. From trench Y, layer 24.

#### *Leather*

Sheath of small knife? From the charcoal layer, 11, in Trench Y.

### APPENDIX I

#### *Provisional List of Ring Works of Probable Medieval Date in Shropshire<sup>1 2</sup>*

- |  |           |  |
|--|-----------|--|
| 1. Caesar's Camp<br>Wollaston          | SJ.324121 | Low-lying in marshy ground, slight defences, rising ground on two sides. Now (1963) ploughed.                      |
| 2. Site above Marche<br>Hall, Westbury | SJ.343108 | On the crest of a hill, but with only slight defences. A stone built causeway runs through the centre of the site. |
| 3. Hawcock's Mount,<br>Westbury.       | SJ.349078 | The largest and most massively defended of these earth works.  |
| 4. Amaston                             | SJ.378113 | Has a bailey—see these <i>Transactions</i> , Vol. LIII, Part 1, 1949, p. 84.                                       |
| 5. Cheney Longville                    | SO.418849 | ? the small forerunner of the nearby moated site, with its existing manor house.                                   |
| 6. More                                | SO.339914 | Shown to be a ring work, at least in its first stages, by Dr. B. Hope-Taylor, in his excavation of 1959.           |
| 7. Site above Clun                     | SO.290785 | Similar to that above Marche Hall (2 above) in situation and scale of defences.                                    |
| 8. Rushbury                            | SO.514919 | Large flat-topped mound with slightly raised edges, close to Church. ? earthworks of house sites nearby.           |
| 9. Panpudding Hill,<br>Bridgnorth      | SO.716925 | Has a bailey. Its relationship to Bridgnorth Castle is not clear.  |

#### *Addenda*

- (a) A circular raised site in the centre of the village of Edgton (SO.387858) is very probably a ring-work.
- (b) The mound at Wilcott (SJ.379185) has a hollow top, though whether this is original or not is difficult to say. The site has certainly been disturbed recently.

## APPENDIX II.

## PONTESBURY CASTLE MOUND. KEY TO SECTIONS (FIG. 50)

## Section e—e1—e2

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Humus                           | 17. Mortar                              |
| 2. Clay with stones                | 18. Large rubble                        |
| 3. Clay without stones             | 19. Clay and mortar                     |
| 4. Clay with mortared rubble       | 20. Mixed clay, burnt daub and charcoal |
| 5. Sandstone ships                 | 21. Grey clay with charcoal             |
| 6. Mortar                          | 22. Clay with stones                    |
| 7. Loose rubble                    | 23. Yellow clay                         |
| 8. Clayey humus, with small stones | 24. Clay with stones.                   |
| 9. Sandstone chips                 | 25. Stones in clay                      |
| 10. Yellow clay with stones        | 26. Earth without stones                |
| 11. Charcoal                       | 27. Yellow clay                         |
| 12. Burnt daub and charcoal        | 28. Mixed yellow clay                   |
| 13. Mixed yellow clay              | 29. Mixed clay with stones              |
| 14. Clay with charcoal             | 30. Hard yellow clay                    |
| 15. Grey clay with mortar          | 31. Hard clay with many stones          |
| 16. Mortar                         |   |

## Section f—f2

- |                                      |                                |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Humus                             | 6. Mixed clay and earth        |
| 2. Yellow clay with stones           | 7. Yellow clay without stones  |
| 3. Clay with many small stones       | 8. Large tumbled rubble        |
| 4. Clay with mortar and stone rubble | 9. Loose stones in yellow clay |
| 5. Clay with large rubble            |                                |

## Section d—d1

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1. Humus                   | 4. Loose rubble                               |
| 2. Yellow clay with stones | 5. Alternate layers of mortar and mixed clay. |
| 3. Mortar and stones       | 6. Footings in mortar                         |

For key to sections see p. 210.

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1. At Marsley or Marstley. *V.C.H. Salop*, I, 309.
2. These *Transactions*, Third Series, Vol. VII, 1907, p. 173.
3. Eyton, *Antiquities of Shropshire*, Vol. VII, pp. 129 ff. I am also deeply indebted to Mr. A. T. Gaydon for discussion of material which he has collected for the forthcoming Volume VIII of the *Victoria County History of Shropshire*.
- 3a Leland, *Itinerary*, ed. Toulmin Smith, ii, 26.
4. See Atkinson, "The Horse as a Source of Rotary Power", *Transactions of the Newcomen Society*, Vol. XXXIII, 1960-61, p. 31 ff.
5. Information from Mr. Charles Sinker, to whom I am indebted for discussion on the point.
6. *Antiq. Journal*, Vol. XXXIX (1959), 219 ff.
7. *Med. Archaeology*, Vol. IV (1960), 81 ff.
8. These *Transactions*, Vol. LVII, Part 1, 1961, 63 ff.
9. *Med. Archaeology*, Vol. V (1961), 181 ff.
10. Perhaps replacing a timber structure whose destruction is represented by layer 14?
11. Eyton, *Antiquities of Shropshire*, Vol. XI, p. 229.
12. *Op. cit.* in note 9.
13. Eyton, Vol. XI, p. 131 ff.
14. These *Transactions*, Vol. LVI, Part I, 18 ff.
15. Information from Mr. R. Gilyard-Beer.
16. These *Transactions*, Vol. LIII, Part 1, 1949, pp. 83-90.
17. The degree of erosion and silting seems to preclude a prehistoric date for most of them, but they could well be dark age—an extensive period in this part of the world.
18. *Medieval Archaeology*, Vol. V, p. 181.
19. This table and the map (Fig. 45) should be read in conjunction with Miss L. F. Chitty's paper, "Subsidiary Castle Sites West of Shrewsbury", these *Transactions*, Vol. LIII, Part 1, 1949, p. 83 ff.

## WILLIAM LANGLAND — POET AND HERMIT

By JOHN CORBETT, B.A.

William Langland was one of the great English poets and one of the earliest. He was contemporary with John Wycliffe and Geoffrey Chaucer, and was their peer. His "Vision of Piers Plowman" reveals the peasant, his life and thought, on the eve of Wat Tyler's Peasants' Revolt. It is written in Middle English, in the West Midland dialect, and was so popular in Langland's lifetime, and after, that some sixty manuscript versions have survived.

The poem was the work of a lifetime which spread from c. 1332 to 1400. The first version, now called the A-Text, seems to have been completed by 1362. Fifteen years later a revised and expanded form appeared, which is now identified as the B-Text and the final, much longer form, was written about 1393. This we distinguish as the C-Text. Manuscripts of these three forms were copied throughout the fifteenth century, and it was not until 1550 that the first printed edition was published by Robert Crowley. The foreword to this says that Langland was "a Shropshire man born at Claybire". The window in St. Mary's Church at Cleobury Mortimer accepts this claim; it was dedicated in 1875 to honour Langland as one of Shropshire's greatest sons.<sup>1</sup>

New evidence presented in this paper adds justification to this claim and suggests that William Langland was born in the parish of Kinlet and was educated at the Austin Friary called "The Woodhouses", two miles from Cleobury Mortimer. There has been reluctance to accept the Shropshire birth of Langland and, because the Malvern Hills are mentioned in the poem, the claims of Worcestershire have been advanced.<sup>2</sup> The main reasons for this doubt are: (1) No Shropshire Langland family has been found; (2) three of the manuscripts give "Willelmi W" as author; (3) Crowley put Cleobury Mortimer eight miles from Malvern Hills whereas the actual distance is twenty-three miles; (4) a memorandum in one of the manuscripts gives Stacy de Rokayle of Oxfordshire as the poet's father. The object of this paper is to dispose of these causes of doubt and to re-affirm Shropshire's claim to this great poet.

Professor Skeat, the great authority on "Piers Plowman", wrote, "But any trace of a Langland family in the Midland counties is so utterly absent that the name ought perhaps to be given up"<sup>3</sup>. Such despair, and the search for Langleys as a probable alternative, were unnecessary, for there was a family of Langland in Kinlet, the adjoining parish, owing suit to the manor of Cleobury<sup>4</sup>. The clue to the existence of this family was found in the Kinlet parish register. A Terrier of "Easter Tythe Hay Commutation Payments" is printed which gives details of such a payment for a "Langland's Livinge". The terrier can be dated between 1617-1634.<sup>5</sup> A search of the Childe muniments, which refer to the Kinlet estate, revealed a deed in which one John Longlonde bequeathed land at the Byrche in Kinlet to his son in 1437.<sup>6</sup> This is perhaps two generations after the poet, but establishes that the name existed in the area and that the family were land-holders. The spelling in the deed and in the cryptogram in "Piers Plowman" is the same:

"I have lived in *londe*," quod I, "My name is *Long Wille*"<sup>7</sup> and it reflects the West Midland spelling of the o-a sound before a nasal consonant, by the use of 'o'.

The further history of the holding and family, and the change of the name from Longlonde to Langland, can be followed in other deeds:

1437 John Longlonde left land at the Byrche to Thomas Longlond his son.

1524 Thomas Longlonde left land at the Byrche to Thomas Longelond his son. Thomas the eldei had a brother William and Thomas the younger had a son William.

1581 Thomas Longlande sold land to Humphrey Dallow.<sup>8</sup>

c.1617 Langland's Livinge was tithable.

There is no proof that the poet was connected with the Kinlet family but its existence disposes of the belief that there were no Langlands near to Cleobury Mortimer.

Who was the "Willelmi W" to whom three of the manuscripts give the credit of authorship? Because Prof. Skeat believed that Langland had been educated at one of the Malvern Priories he suggested that the "W" meant "of Worcester". But there is no evidence that the poet had been educated at Malvern, and even if he had, he would not have been known as William of Worcester. The Priory of Great Malvern was a dependency of the Abbey of Westminster and was exempt from supervision by the Bishop of Worcester. The Priory had managed to preserve its freedom from episcopal control. Godfrey Giffard, Bishop in 1282, had excommunicated the Prior of Great Malvern to bring him to heel, and his action had the support of Archbishop Pecham. The Abbot of Westminster appealed to Rome and the Pope confirmed the exemption. Worcester had no power over Malvern. The "W" is unlikely to refer to Worcester.

Let us leave the Malvern Hills and find the explanation two miles from Cleobury Mortimer. A house of the Austin Friars was founded there in 1250; it was the second of the order to be founded in England.<sup>9</sup> This friary was named "The Woodhouses" and it is suggested that this is the explanation of the "Willelmi W". William Langland could have been educated there and have been known as William of Woodhouse. Such a name would not be unique. In 1342 Robert of Woodhouses was given permission to found a house of Austin Friars at Stamford, and in 1438 (alas, too late) William de Woodhouse, O.E.S.A., was ordained acolyte and sub-deacon.<sup>10</sup> The full title of the Austin Friars was "Ordo (h)eremitorum Sancti Augustini", shortened to O.E.S.A. and popularly "The Hermits".

By the 14th century hermits were no longer solitaries; they had been organised and institutionalised. Pope Innocent IV in 1243 had brought the hermits of Tuscany under control and had placed them under the guidance of Cardinal Richard Annibaldi to follow the Rule of St. Augustine. Thirteen years later, Alexander IV issued the Bull which expanded this into the fourth order of Friars and within four years the Turberville family (related to the Bramptons, lords of Kinlet) had established the "Woodhouses".<sup>11</sup> It may be profitable therefore to this enquiry to note the references to the Hermits in "Piers Plowman". Two of these references appear to have particular importance: the third line of the A-Text<sup>12</sup> and the fourth line of Passus VI of the C-Text, penned thirty years later.<sup>13</sup> They could tell the story of the journey William made from South Shropshire to London.

The first seven lines of the A-Text may describe his leaving the Woodhouses to make the journey to London, and the lines from C-Text could give a glimpse of the life he lived when he had settled there. These seven probably autobiographical lines are:

“In a somer seson                    whenne softe was the sonne  
 I shope me in shoudes            as I a shepe were  
 In habite as a heremite            unholy of werkes  
 Went wyde in *this* world          wondres to here  
 Ac on a May mornynge            on Malverne Hulle  
 Me byfel a ferly                    of fairy me thoughte  
 I was wery for wandred          and went me to reste”.

William was to tell us later in C-Text, how his father and friends had sent him to learn scripture and how he had to leave his studies when his benefactors died, but these seven lines are concerned with how, not why, he left. Here is the picture of the student friar, unable to complete his studies, and so he left the friary and “went wyde in *pis* world, wondres to here”; but he was still “in habite as a heremite”, wearing the cloak and sandals of the Friars Hermit of St. Augustine but very conscious of not having completed his full initiation. He was merely a lay-brother, “unholy of werkes”.

The seventh line dispose of the idea that the journey began at the Malvern Hills: “I was wery for wandred, and wente me to reste”. The journey had not been *from* the Malverns but *to* them. The twenty-three mile tramp from the Woodhouses had made the poet “wery for wandred”. The probable original rendering of the first lines adds strength to this interpretation. In three manuscripts it is:

“In a somer seson                    whanne I south wente”.

Prof. Kane thinks this is the earlier form and that the later “whenne softe was the sonne” was a B-Text and C-Text rendering which ousted the earlier form.<sup>14</sup> Thus, writing soon after the journey, Langland tells us he went south to Malvern Hills and that the journey was a tiring one.

From these first seven lines it may be deduced that William Langland left the Woodhouses friary not fully initiated as a friar, but as a lay-brother wearing the friars’ habit. He travelled via the Malvern Hills, and it was there that the idea of “The Vision of Piers Plowman” first came to him.

When Langland wrote the A-Text he had not fully experienced London life and it was not until the C-Text was penned thirty years later that he could give a considered and critical view of life in the capital. It is then that he tells us that he lives “Among the lollares of London and lewede heremytes”.<sup>15</sup> The “lewede” is a synonym of “unholy of werkes”. He still lived with and as a lay-brother of the Friars Hermit. But why should Langland have chosen London as his destination? There may be three connected reasons why he did so. In 1354, when the poet was 22, Edmund de Cornwall, the lord of Kinlet, and his wife Elizabeth both died.<sup>16</sup> They may have been Langland’s benefactors. In the same year, Humphrey, 10th Earl of Hereford, built the great Church of the O.E.S.A.-London,<sup>17</sup> and the Prior of O.E.S.A.-London was John de Arderne.<sup>18</sup> The coincidence between the death of the Cornwalls and the fact that the building of the new Church would provide work for Hermits who were not properly settled, may have been the reason why Langland chose London as his goal.

He had to move and London needed men. The identity of the Prior of O.E.S.A.-London may be even more significant. One of the names on the 1327 Lay Subsidy Roll for Kinlet and Earnwood is John de Arderne.<sup>19</sup> If the Prior of London in 1354 was the son of the Kinlet John de Arderne of 1327, then it is possible that William Langland and he were children together and may have been trained at the "Woodhouses" Friary together. It would be understandable for the Prior, wanting men to help with the building, or to supervise it, and knowing of the death of William's benefactors, to offer him work in London.

The Earl of Hereford died in 1361. He left "300 marks in silver for fifty brethren of the Order . . . to chant masses, say Placebo and Dirige, commendations and other devote prayers for us . . . one group of thirteen shall relieve the other through the whole year saying Placebo and Dirige, psalters and other devote prayers".<sup>20</sup>

There was now more work than ever in London for the Hermits. William tells how he earned his living:

"And ich lyue in Londone	and on Londone bothe
The lomes at ich laboure with	and lyflode deserue
Ys Paternoster, and my Prymer,	Placebo and Dirige
And my sauter some tyme,	and my seune Psalms,
Thus ich synge for hure soules	of such as me helpen" <sup>21</sup>

The similarity of the terms of the will and Langland's description of how he earned his living could be significant in view of the other evidence. Kinlet is connected in a special way with the Friars Hermit. In June 1279 Brian de Brampton, lord of Kinlet, was granted a letter of confraternity with the order.<sup>22</sup> In 1380 Edmund Mortimer, Earl of March and feudal lord of Kinlet gave an annual gift of 40/- to the Hermits<sup>23</sup> and a year later he "remembered" Woodhouses in his will.

Langland also gives a glimpse in the poem of his special feeling for the Hermits. In Passus XV he makes St. Paul the Hermit the founder of the Augustinian Friars. This gives the Hermits unearned antiquity over the other three Orders of Friars. *That* St. Paul had been dead a thousand years when the O.E.S.A. was founded. This appeal to St. Paul the Hermit as the founder is made in the satirical Bill of Conveyance in the poem. One of the witnesses is "Piers the Pardonner of the Pauline Order".

From the foregoing it would appear that "Willelmi W" refers to William Langland and points to Woodhouses as the place where he was educated.

Crowley, in his 1550 preface, states that the author was named "Robert Langland, a Shropshire man born at Claybire about VIII myles from Malvern Hills". Nine years later John Bale, Bishop of Ossery, gives the birthplace as "Mo.tymer's Clibury . . . octavo a Malvernīs montibus milliari".<sup>24</sup> As both these 16th-century authorities make the same mistake regarding the distance between Cleobury Mortimer and Malvern Hills, it is probable that they used the same inaccurate source. Bale gives his sources. There were three of them. All call the author Robert, all fix the birthplace at Cleobury Mortimer, two put the distance between the hills and the town as eight miles, and the other says that Cleobury is "near" to the Hills. The three must have had a common source and from this they perpetuated in script the errors which Crowley and Bale set up in type.

There is little difficulty in finding the reason for the error regarding the Christian name of the poet. One line begins "Thus y-robed in russet . . ." which in an Oxford manuscript is rendered "Thus I Robert in russet . . ." It was a scribal error. The poet's name was William.

There are several possible explanations for the geographical error. The common source may have misconstrued the Roman numerals "XXIII" and put "VIII" in their place. A. H. Bright claimed that the common source had misread the earlier document and had substituted "Cleobury" for "Ledbury" which is eight miles from the hills. R. W. Chambers gave some support to this idea: "We have all followed each other like sheep in supporting 'Cleobury' to be the correct reading and eight miles to be the scribal error".<sup>25</sup> But 'Ledbury' can only be sustained if we are unaware of the Langlands of Kinlet and the "Woodhouses" Friary. These, pivoting around Cleobury Mortimer, mean that we must look again at the 'VIII' miles and 'Malvern Hills' to find the solution.

It is possible that the word "Hulles" is a misreading. Just eight miles from Cleobury Mortimer there is the parish of Quatte Malvern. It is possible that the reference, passed third or fourth hand to Bale and Crowley, may refer to the parish and not to the hills. A portion of the Manor of Quatte was given to the Priory of Great Malvern before 1127 by Wydo FitzHelgot and remained Priory property till the Dissolution. The Priory's holding became known as Quatte Malvern to distinguish it from Quatt Jarvis and Quatford. In 1304 the spelling was Quatte Malverne.

The reversal of place names was not uncommon in South Shropshire. Cleobury Mortimer became Mortimer's Cleobury to John Bale. It is probable that Quatte Malverne was known as Malverne's Quatte.

The document from which the common source derived his information could have been written by one of the monks seconded to the church at Quatte. He would measure the distance to Langland's town from the place where he was writing. Cleobury Mortimer is eight miles from Malverne's Quatte. The fifth line of the poem contains 'Malverne Hulles'. The document from which the common-source derived his information may have had 'Malverne's Quatte'. The mistake could be easily made. Once made, the others perpetuated it. The 'lles' of Hulles, abbreviated, would be similar to the 'tte' of Quatte. The 'H' and 'Q' could be confused. This is conjecture, but it does not violate reason and allows us to keep the "Malvern", "Cleobury Mortimer" and "VIII" of the earliest printed sources.

The other conflicting piece of evidence which needs to be examined is the memorandum which is found in Dublin MS. D4.1. J. J. Jusserand presents the memorandum:

"Memorandum quod Stacy de Rokayle pater Willelmi  
de Langland qui Stacius fuit generosus, et  
morabatur in Schiptone under Wicwode, tenens domini  
le Spencer in comitatu Oxon, qui praedictus  
Willelmus fecit librum qui vocatur Peys Ploughman"<sup>26</sup>

This is a welcome early statement that Langland was the author, but why was this information written in a different hand to the poem, on this one manuscript while it is



absent from the others? Was the author's name common knowledge or had he been careful to hide his identity? If he had hidden it, who wanted the information, and why?

The poem leaves little doubt that the poet was born in wedlock, for in the poem he writes that those born out of marriage are swindlers, imposters, liars. Yet the memorandum, as presented, implies that not only did he not take his father's name but that his father's wealth and influence were insufficient to keep him at Woodhouses or to save him from the poverty of his London life.

Jusserand and others who have quoted the memorandum have expanded the abbreviations, and it is there that a mistake may have been made. The word *pater* does not appear on the manuscript; there is instead the abbreviation 'pat'. This usually means *pater* but if in this case it could be rendered 'patronus' it would fit the sentiments of the poem and still be reasonable. There was a manuscript of the poem in Dublin in 1396 and if that is MS. D4.1, now in Trinity College, it would be significant.

Walter de Brugge, parson of Trim and Prebendary of St. Patrick's Cathedral, left a manuscript of the poem to Dominus John Wornynghton in his will. Brugge had been guardian to Roger Mortimer, Lord of Trim, heir-presumptive to the throne, Lord of South Shropshire.<sup>27</sup> Roger Mortimer was in Ireland, where he died in 1398. It is possible that Brugge could have written the memorandum while making enquiries for his master, high in the councils of the state and concerned about the criticisms of church and state contained in the poem. Langland had been born in the domain of the Mortimers; it is likely that Mortimer would want to know who wrote the poem and who was maintaining him.

The evidence discussed in this paper is mostly circumstantial, but there is so much of it that it strongly points to the following conclusions: William Langland was born of the family of Longlond at the Byrche in Kinlet; he was educated at the Friary of the Woodhouses and remained a lay member of that order which he served in London while he wrote the three texts of the "Book of Piers Plowman".<sup>28</sup>

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6. Childe Muniments, Box 16. Birmingham Reference Library.
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10. Roth, as above.
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13. *Fourteenth Century Verse and Prose*. Kenneth Sisam, Oxford, 1921, p. 89.
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16. Blakeway, as above.
17. Roth, as above.
18. Roth, as above.

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20. Roth, as above.
21. Sisam, as above.
22. Roth, as above.
23. Roth, as above.
24. *Scriptorum Illustris Majoris Brytanniae*. John Bale, 1559.
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26. *Piers Plowman*. J. J. Jusserand. T. Fisher-Unwin, 1894.
27. "Article E". St. John Brookes. *The Library*, December, 1951.
28. *Piers Plowman, The Evidence for Authorship*, George Kane, Athlone Press 1965, prints a further document which is dated 1399 and shows the Langlands were in Shropshire then. It also shows a close connection between the "Longelonde" and "de Ardarne" families.

HENRY VYNAR, LORD OF CONDOVER  
(1561-1584)

By BRIGADIER G. A. VINER, O.B.E. (ret.)

In 1895, the Rev. C. H. Drinkwater, M.A., transcribed The Manor Court Rolls and Henry Vynar's Day Books of The Manor of Condover for the Cholmondeley Family, who at that time held the Condover Estate. In so doing, he (Drinkwater), according to his own statement, found, on the first page of the Condover Court Roll Book, probably in Henry Vynar's own handwriting, the full details of Henry's date of birth, his two marriages and the dates of birth of all his eighteen children, together with the names of the godparents. This information he published in these *Transactions*, Second Series, Vol. XI (1899), under the heading "The Domestic History of Henry Vynar of London and Condover, together with a Transcript of his Will". Since that date, the late W. J. Slack, the late Joseph Morris and the late Miss H. M. Auden and others, have provided a considerable history of Condover Manor, so the following article proposes only to continue and expand on the family relationships of Henry Vynar.

Henry Vynar was born at Slaughterford, a mile or so from Castle Combe in Wiltshire, in 1524, the only child of Henry Vynar, the Elder, whose name appears in the Subsidy Rolls for Slaughterford in 1523 and 1524 and who married Ann, daughter of Sir John Scrope of Castle Combe. His father, Nicholas Vynar, who was buried at Slaughterford, died in 1548 (p.c.c. Popuwell 26) and appeared on the Subsidy Rolls for Colerne, adjoining Slaughterford, for 1523, 1524, 1535, 1545 and for Slaughterford 1545. In 1532, he obtained the lease of the Rectory or Parsonage of Slaughterford, in the Manor of Biddestone, for seventy years. At his death in 1548, when both his sons, Henry aforesaid, and Thomas, were dead, he left his Slaughterford property to his grandson, John, son of Thomas, whom he made his executor.

Henry Vynar, the Elder, died not much later than 1525, for Ann, his widow, married, secondly, John Harford, of Bosbury, co. Hereford, Clothier (whose brother, Robert Harford, lived at Castle Combe). Richard, the eldest son and heir of this marriage, is shown in the Harford Family Records as being born in 1526 at Bosbury. Their daughter, Mary, married John Webb, of Slaughterford, to whom John Vynar, aforesaid, leased a part of the Rectory or Parsonage of Slaughterford.

Henry Vynar, the younger, was apprenticed to Robert Long, Citizen Mercer of London, and admitted to the Freedom in 1548. He married, on 22nd February, 1551/2, at Condover, Mary, the eldest daughter and co-heiress of his master, Robert Long, who had purchased the Manor of Condover of Sir Henry Knyvett, in 1544. (L. & P. Hen. VIII, xix (2), p. 195; SPL Deeds 6849, 9405, 13407, 6853; P.R.O. C142/75/70.)

Robert Long died 12th December, 1551, and was buried at St. Laurence Jewry, London. In his Will (p.c.c. 6 Powell and S.B.L. 9460) he left his estates in Condover West Thurrock, co. Essex and Wandsworth, co. Surrey, to his widow, Cecilia, for her lifetime. By patent, 11th July, 1545, Thomas Hawley, Clarenceux King of Arms,

granted Robert Long, Gent., of the City of London, Merch., "Sable and Sylver party per byllyck (per bend sinister) a Lyon salyant langed & armed Gules betwene syx Crosse crossletts enterchanged of the field".

It appears, after Robert Long's death, that Henry Vynar took charge of affairs at Condover, on behalf of his mother-in-law, who died in 1559 (p.c.c. 44 Chayney). A division of her husband's estates was made by Deed Poll, 1st February 1561/2; Condover and Wandsworth estates becoming the property of Henry Vynar and his wife, Mary; the West Thurrock estate being divided between Mary Vynar's two sisters, Martha wife of William Meredith, citizen mercer of London, and Maudlyn wife of Roger Sadler, citizen draper of London.

Robert Long was one of the sons of Henry Long (ob. 1535) of Trowbridge, co. Wilts. In March 1562/3, the Will of his brother Thomas Long of Trowbridge, Clothier, was proved (p.c.c.12 Chayne). He, dying without issue, bequeathed his estates in Trowbridge and Hilperton, co. Wilts., and the Manor of Chapmanslade, co. Somerset, to his brother Robert's three daughters, Mary Vynar, Martha Meredith and Maudlyn Sadler, in equal shares.

Henry Vynar's wife, Mary, died and was buried at St. Laurence Jewry, 15th July, 1561, leaving her husband with three young children, an elder daughter having died as a child.

(A) MARY. Born 25 December 1553. Died 21 March 1559/60. Buried at St. Laurence Jewry.

*Godparents:*

- (1) SIR WILLIAM COPPINGER, Knt. Lord Mayor, 1513 (great uncle) brother of John Coppinger, first husband of Cecilia, who married, secondly, Robert Long, citizen mercer, of *Condover*.
- (2) CECILIA LONG (grandmother) aforesaid.
- (3) THOMASINE (aunt), wife of Christopher Dauntsey, citizen mercer, of Trowbridge descent, daughter of John Coppinger, by Cecilia.
- (4) MRS. MARTHA MEREDITH, nee *Long* (aunt).  
"Godmother at the Bysshoppe".

(B) ANNE. Born 10 February, 1555/6. Baptised St. Laurence Jewry. Married 22 April, 1586, at St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, Sir William Daniel, Sgt. at Law, grandson of Thomas Daniel, of Over in Tabley, co. Cheshire.

*Godparents:*

- (5) THOMAS LONG, of Trowbridge, Clothier (great uncle).
- (2) CECILIA LONG (grandmother).
- (4) MRS. MARTHA MEREDITH (aunt).
- (6) ANN HARFORD, nee *Scrope*, relict Henry Vynar, the Elder (grandmother).  
"Godmother at the Bysshoppe".

(C) HENRY (Later Sir Henry Vynar, Kt., J.P., of Wyke House, Hilperton, Trowbridge,) Born 20 November, 1557.

*Godparents:*

- (7) WILLIAM LONG, of Beckington, co. Somerset, Clothier, brother of Robert Long.

- (2) CECILIA LONG (grandmother).
- (8) HENRY LONG, of Whaddon, Clothier (another brother of Robert Long).
- (9) JOHN HARFORD, of Bosbury (step-father of Henry Vynar).  
 "Godfather at the Bysshoppe".

(Sir) Henry Vynar was admitted to Gloucester Hall, Oxford, 20 December, 1577. He married Mary, daughter of Richard Lee of Langley, co. Salop. He became a J.P. and was knighted. In 1611 he contributed £66 13s. 4d. to the Royal Loan. Dying on 3rd September, 1626 (Inq. P.M. taken at Marlborough 28 Mar. 1626/7, 3 Chas I. pt. 3 No. 15) he was buried with his wife in the Wyke Chapel of St. James' Trowbridge. He had issue:

- (a) HENRY, buried at St. James', 1601.
- (b) MARY, who married Thomas Bromley, son of Sir Thomas Bromley, Lord Chancellor in 1579. They had issue: (i) *Mary*, who married the Rev. John Minshull, descended from the Cheshire Family of *Minshull of Minshull*, and died without issue. (ii) *Ann*, who married the Rev. Oliver Chivers, Prebendary of Sarum, and had issue two daughters, of whom Mary married Thomas Bythesea of Compton Bishop, Axbridge.
- (c) RICHARD, who succeeded his father to the Manor of Chapmanslade and Wyke House, Hilperton, which he re-built. Born about 1586, he matriculated at St. John's College, Oxford, 12 November, 1602. There is no record of any marriage and he died without issue in 1648 and was buried at St. James', Trowbridge. He left his estates to his two nieces, Mary Minshull and Ann Chivers, and a small bequest to his cousin, William Locke, presumably the son of Jane Locke, daughter of Nicholas Vynar, citizen merchant tailor, his uncle. (p.c.c. Admons 98 Essex 16 June 1648 and 45 Fairfax August 1649)

Sir Henry Vynar was not on good terms with his step-mother, Ann, neé Lane (see later), as is clearly shown in the conditions of the last will of Henry Vynar of Condover, his father. (S.B.L. 9425, 9427, 6953). As no mention is made in this will or the other two previous wills, or the Inq.P.M. (C142/207/107) taken at Salop 19 Aug. 1584, on Henry Vynar, of his Wilthshire and Somerset estates, one can only presume that he handed them over in his lifetime to his son, Sir Henry, probably at the time of his marriage to Mary Lee.

(D) MARY. Born 2 July 1561. Baptised 3 July at St. Laurence Jewry.

*Godparents:*

- (10) THOMAS HETON, Citizen mercer.
- (3) THOMASINE DAUNTSEY (step-sister to Mary Vynar, neé Long).
- (11) MAUDLYN, wife of Roger Sadler, Citizen mercer (aunt).

*Mary* married Christopher, son of Christopher Holford, of Holford, co. Cheshire, by Margaret, daughter of Thomas Daniel of Over in Tabley, co. Cheshire. Christopher Holford, the Elder, purchased the West Thurrock, co. Essex, estates (lately held by Martha Meredith and Maudlyn Sadler), of Sir Roger Owen, son of Judge Thomas Owen, of Condover. (Essex R.O. D/DWN Whitbread papers.)

After a short widowerhood, Henry Vynar, the Elder, married, secondly, on 25 May, 1562, at St. Mary Aldermary, Ann, daughter of the late William Lane, Citizen

grocer (P.C.C. 33 Powell, 1552) by Ann, daughter of Henry Luddington, Citizen grocer (who married secondly Sir Thomas Lodge, Citizen mercer, Lord Mayor in 1562).

Between 1562 and 1573, Henry Vynar appears to have lived in the City of London and at his house in Wandsworth, but at some period between 1571 and the birth of his daughter Ann, at Condover, in 1573, he moved his family to Shropshire and took personal charge of the running of The Manor of Condover. On 14 July 5 Eliz. (1564) Henry Vynar purchased the Rectory of Condover of Robert Hychcock and John Gyfford (*Salop. Arch. Trans.*, Pt. 1, Vol. IV, p. 121). He also states in his memorandum (S.P.L. MS. 377 x f 127 D) the "hall of Condover is 25 foot long and 17 foot broad", and this is presumably where he lived during his visits to Condover. In the Survey of the demesnes of 1545 the site of the Manor is said to have lain on the west side of the Churchyard, south of the two chantry houses, probably in the vicinity of Church House, which contains the remains of a cruck hall. There is, however, a tradition that Cruciform Cottage was The Manor House. At the period that Henry Vynar left London and took up permanent residence at Condover, his family consisted of eight children, which was, in due course, followed by a further nine. It is therefore conceivable that he found the accommodation in The Manor House too small and built Cruciform Cottage to take its place.

Condover Manor Hall was built by Judge Thomas Owen, who purchased Condover from the Vynar family after Henry Vynar's death in 1584.

Henry Vynar had issue by Ann, his second wife, fourteen children, five sons and nine daughters, of whom:

(E) THOMAS. Born 9 October, 1563, and buried 28 January 1582/3, at St. Laurence Jewry, a bachelor.

*Godparents:*

(12) SIR THOMAS LODGE, Citizen mercer, Lord Mayor, 1562. Married Anne Lane, relict of William Lane, Citizen grocer.

(13) WILLIAM BURDE, Citizen mercer. Apprenticed to *John Blundell*. Admitted to the Freedom in 1548, Master of The Mercers in 1588. Comptroller of The Petty Customs, London, 1560-1568. Son of Hugh Burde, of Bradford-on-Avon (and grandson of Thomas Burde, of Cloptom, co. Salop), by Alice, daughter of William Horton, of Iford, juxta Bradford-on-Avon (aunt of Mary Horton, who married Henry Long of Whaddon, a brother of Robert Long).

(14) LADY JOAN LAXTON (relict of Henry Luddington, Citizen grocer, grandfather of Ann Lane, aforesaid). She married, secondly, Sir William Laxton, Citizen grocer, Lord Mayor 1544, and Founder of Oundle School.

(F) ANNE. Born 29 September 1564. Baptised 8 October 1564 at St. Laurence Jewry.

*Godparents:*

(15) PETER OSBORNE (1521-1592) Lawyer and Keeper of The Privy Purse Ed. VI. Son of Richard Osborne of Tyld Hall, Latchington, co. Essex, by Martha, his first wife; brother-in-law of William Lane (grandfather). He married Ann, daughter of Dr. John Blythe, first Regius Professor of Physic Cambridge, by Alice, sister of Sir John Checke (1514-1557), Secretary of State.

- (16) LADY ANN LODGE, relict of William Lane (grandfather).
- (17) MRS. LETITIA MARTYN, daughter of Humphrey Packington and wife of Sir Roger Martyn, Lord Mayor 1567. Her sister Jane Packington, married secondly, Sir Lionel Duckett, Citizen mercer, Lord Mayor 1573, brother of John Duckett, of Flintham, co. Notts., who married secondly Thomasine, née Coppinger, relict of Christopher Dauntsey, Citizen mercer, and firstly, Humphrey Baskerville, Citizen mercer, Alderman (ob. 1563).
- (G) RICHARD. Born 5 November 1565. Baptised 9 November 1565 at St. Laurence Jewry.

*Godparents:*

- (18) SIR ROGER MARTYN, Citizen mercer, Lord Mayor 1567, who married Letitia Packington, aforesaid.
- (19) THOMAS SMYTHE, Citizen haberdasher, Customer of London, son of John Smythe, of Corsham, co. Wilts., by Joan, daughter of William Bruncker, of Melksham, co. Wilts. Thomas Smythe built Corsham Court. He married Alice, daughter of Sir Andrew Judd, Citizen skinner, Lord Mayor in 1550. John Smythe was the overseer of the Will of Thomas Webbe, of Slaughtford (1535) whose son, John, married Mary, daughter of John Harford of Bosbury. (aforesaid).
- (20) MARY ALINGTON. Proxy for her mother Jane Allington, who was most probably the wife of George Alington of London and Swinhope, co. Lincs. (and ancestor of the late Rev. Cyril A. Alington (1872-1919), Headmaster, Shrewsbury School, (1908-1917), whose son, George Alington, married Ann, sister of Sir John Checke.

Richard Vynar entered Shrewsbury School c. 1575. Nothing further is known, but he may well have been Richard Vynar, grocer, buried St. Olave's, Hart Street, E.C., 13 May 1613, who married Ann, daughter of Richard Hassall, or Hassald, late of Kidderminster, at St. Laurence Jewry, 6 October 1594.

- (H) ELIZABETH. Born 14 January 1567/8. Buried Wandsworth, 1 September 1568.

*Godparents:*

- (21) LUKE LANE, Citizen grocer (uncle).
- (22) ELIZABETH, née Lane (aunt), wife of John Dale of London, Citizen haberdasher (brother of Elizabeth Dale=Gregory Isham, Citizen mercer), and son of Matthew Dale, Citizen haberdasher, of London, late of Bristol.
- (23) ELIZABETH BYTTENSON, "her 'Cussyn/Cozen' godmother". Presumably Elizabeth Osborne, niece of Peter Osborne, who married in London 1562 Richard Bettenson, descended from Bettenson of Foxton, co. Staffs, London and Kent.
- (I) JOHANE. Born 11 March 1568/9.

*Godparents:*

- (21) LUKE LANE, aforesaid.
- (22) ELIZABETH DALE, aforesaid.
- (23) ELIZABETH BYTTENSON, aforesaid.

(J) ELIZABETH. Born 14 January 1571/2.

*Godparents:*

- (24) THOMAS OWEN, of Shrewsbury, Judge of Common Pleas, who married Sara, daughter of Humphrey Baskerville, by Jane, daughter of Humphrey Packington, who married, secondly, Sir Lionel Duckett, Lord Mayor. Thomas Owen purchased Condover Manor in 1586. Henry Vynar called him "his kinsman".
- (25) ANN OSBORNE, daughter of John Blythe, first Regius Professor of Physic, Camb. (1540), by Alice, sister of Sir John Checke. Wife of Peter Osborne, brother-in-law of William Lane (grandfather).
- (26) ELIZABETH BLUNT. Probably the daughter of William Blunt, of London, clothmaker, of Mangotsfield, co. Glos., descent by Katherine, daughter of Thomas White, of Farnham, co. Surrey, son of Sir John White, Citizen grocer and Lord Mayor in 1563. Her brother, Thomas Blunt, married the daughter of William Burde, Citizen mercer and customer of London (aforesaid).

(K) ANNE. Born 5 July 1573. Baptised 9 July 1573 at Condover.

*Godparents:*

- (27) ADAM OTELEY, of Pitchford in Condover; related to Judge Thomas Owen and the Rev. Richard Harford by his second marriage to Martha, daughter of Charles Fox, of Bromfield.
- (28) LADY ANN HOUGHTON, wife of Sir Richard Houghton, who married, secondly, Edward Corbett, of Longnor. Edward Corbett married firstly Katherine Lee, daughter of Thomas Lee of Langley.
- (29) ELYNOR LEE, daughter of Walter Wrottesley (1521-1563), of Wrottesley, co. Warwick, by Isabella, daughter of John Harcourt, of Ranton, co. Staffs., and wife of Richard Lee (brother of Katherine Lee, aforesaid). Their daughter, Mary Lee, married Sir Henry Vynar. [C]

(L) WILLIAM. Born 17 January 1574/5. Baptised 21 January 1574/5 at Condover. He entered Shrewsbury School in 1597 but nothing further is known of him.

*Godparents:*

- (30) RICHARD LEE, of Langley, aforesaid.
- (31) WILLIAM FOWLER, of Harnage Grange, co. Salop., who married Mary, daughter of John Blythe, first Regius Professor of Physic, Camb. (1540), Doctor of Medicine. He sold land in Cressage in 1590 to Peter Osborne, who married Mary's sister, Ann Blythe.
- (32) ELYNOR LEIGHTON. Probably the daughter of William Leighton of Leighton. Her sister, Dorothy, married Richard Prince, of Shrewsbury. Sir Lionel Duckett, Lord Mayor, married, secondly, Mary, daughter of Hugh Leighton of Leighton. Mary's brother, John Leighton, married Dorothy, daughter of William Oteley, brother of Adam Oteley, of Pitchford. The Oteley and Leighton families intermarried with the Fox family of Bromfield; Martha Fox married the Rev. Richard Harford (step-brother of Henry Vynar, of Condover).



(M) MARY. Born 31 December 1575. Baptised 4 January 1575/6. at Condover.

*Godparents:*

(33) STEPHEN DUCKETT, of Calne, co. Wilts., M.P., son of Thomasine, née *Coppinger*, by her second marriage to John Duckett. Stephen Duckett married Ann, daughter of Humphrey Baskerville.

(34) MARY FOWLER, wife of William Fowler, of Harnage, aforesaid.

(35) ANN BLYTHE, wife of Peter Osborne, aforesaid.

(N) MARTHA. Born 10 February 1576/7. Baptised 14 February 1576/7 at Condover.

*Godparents:*

(36) RICHARD PRINCE, of Shrewsbury, Lawyer, who married Dorothy, daughter of William Leighton of Leighton.

(37) ELYNOR WEBB, probably the wife of John Webb, who married Elynor Spenser at Condover in 1575.

(38) MRS. HARRIES. The Harries family were tenants of Condover, and probably Jone Smythe, a kinswoman of Thomas Smythe of Chatford juxta Condover, who married John Harries at Condover in 1579.

(O) ELYNOR. Born 5 April 1578. Baptised April 1578 at Condover.

*Godparents:*

(39) GABRIEL LANE, of Lincoln's Inn (uncle).

(32) ELYNOR LEIGHTON, aforesaid.

(40) ELYNOR BURNELL, "my kinswoman". She was probably the wife of Thomas Burnell, Bailiff of Shrewsbury, 1597, and daughter of Edward Onslowe, of Onslowe, by Johanna, daughter of Roger Fowler, of Broomhill, father of William Fowler, aforesaid. The Burnell family inter-married with the Lee family, of Langley; the Onslowe family inter-married with the Leighton family.

(P) EDUARDE. Born 21 September 1579. Baptised 26 September 1579 at Condover. Buried 9 March 1581/2 at Condover.

*Godparents:*

(41) EDWARD COOKER. Possibly Sir Edward Cooke of Giddy Hall, co. Essex, who married Martha, daughter of Sir William Daniel, of Tabley, co. Cheshire descent, and whose son Sir William Daniel, Kt., Sgt. at Lawe (1604) married Ann, daughter of Henry Vynar by Mary, his first wife.

(42) THOMAS MACKWORTH. Married Dorothy, daughter of Thomas Lee, of Langley (sister of Richard Lee, aforesaid).

(43) MARY OTELEY, daughter of Richard Mainwaring, of Ightfield. Married Adam Oteley, of Pitchford.

(Q) MAWDLYNNE. Born 26 June 1583. Baptised 30 June 1583 at Condover.

*Godparents:*

(44) JOHN WEBB, of Salop. See Elynor Webb (37). A John Webb married Elynor Spenser at Condover in 1575. A John Webb was Burgess of Shrewsbury in 1612. There is reason to believe that John Webb of Salop may have been one and the same as John Webb, son and heir of John Webb (1572) of Slaughterford, who married Mary, daughter of John Harford, by Ann, relict of Henry Vynar.

- (45) ANNE EDWARDS, of Salop. Daughter of Humphrey Baskerville, by Jane, daughter of Humphrey Packington. She married, firstly, Stephen Duckett, of Calne (aforesaid), and secondly, Thomas Edwards, Sheriff of Salop, 1622, son of Hugh Edwards, Citizen mercet of London and later of Shrewsbury, who obtained the Royal Bounty to found Shrewsbury School in 1551.
- (46) JOHANE CROMPTON. Probably the wife of Francis Scriven, of Condover.
- (R) NICHOLAS. Born 22 October 1584. Baptised 25 October 1584 at Condover.
- Godparents:*
- (39) GABRIELL LANE, of Lincoln's Inn (uncle).
- (47) THOMAS SMYTHE, of Chatford juxta Condover (see Harries, No. 38).
- (48) ANN SCRIVEN, of Condover. Probably the wife of William Scriven, of Condover, whose son Francis Scriven (buried at Condover 1634) married Joan Crompton, 23 January 1596, at Condover.

Nicholas Vynar was apprenticed to William Deakins, of Bowe Lane, London, and became free of the Merchant Tailors Company, 10 August 1601. He married, firstly Jane, daughter of Thomas Smyth of Chesson, co. Bucks., at All Hallows' on the Wall, on the 29th January, 1611/12, and secondly, Frances White, married 17th January 1614 at All Hallows' on the Wall. In his Will (p.c.c. Goare 106) proved 20 July, 1637, he mentions only his wife, Frances, and his daughter, Jane Locke. (See the reference later to Richard Vynar of Wyke House, son of Henry Vynar.)

Henry Vynar of Condover made three Wills which are now deposited in the Shrewsbury Borough Library. The first was dated 19 December, 1577 (S.B.L. 9427), in which he leaves his Shropshire property to his wife, Ann, for her lifetime; this included a lease of Condover to his step-brother, Richard Harford of Bosbury. To his eldest son, Henry Vynar, £40 yearly on condition that he "does not molest vexe and trouble Ann Vynour now my wyfe". After the death of Ann, the property to go to his eldest son, Thomas Vynar, and then to his younger sons, Richard and then to William. No mention is made of his other property in Kent or Wandsworth, co. Surrey, which was probably sold in accordance with the instructions in the Will of his mother-in-law, Cecilia Long. Nor is mention made of his Wiltshire estate or of his eldest son and heir (Sir) Henry Vynar.

His next Will (S.B.L. 6935) was made on the 28 October, 1581, due to the death of two of his sons, Thomas and Edward Vynar. In this Will, Richard is now to inherit the Shropshire property, after the death of his mother, Ann.

Henry Vynar made his third and final Will (S.B.L. 9425) on 14 August, 1583. This Will is cited in the Inquisition Post Mortem (C142/207/107), taken at Shrewsbury on 19 August, 1584, after Henry's death, 24 May, 1584.

At the Inquisition, (Sir) Henry Vynar is stated to be the son and heir. By 1586 (Sir) Henry Vynar and his wife Mary, and his half-brother Richard Vynar, joined in various deeds (S.B.L. Purton's Calendar of Deeds & Charters) conveying the Manor of Condover to Thomas Owen, Judge of Common Pleas. After the sale of the Manor, Ann Vynar appears to have been left with only the tithes, etc., of Longnor, which

she obtained from Edward Corbett for consideration, by Deed Poll, dated 23 May, 1586; Edward Corbett having previously obtained this property from Henry Vynar of Condover in 1582.

Edward Corbett married firstly Katherine, daughter of Thomas Lee, of Langley, and secondly Ann, daughter of Roger Brown, relict of Sir Richard Houghton and godmother to Ann Vynar (born 1573). It is possible, therefore, that Edward Corbett was acting in the interests of Ann Vynar in her widowhood.

The Inquisition Post Mortem states that Ann and her son, Richard, were both living in Condover in August, 1584; both unmarried. At the time of the sale of the Manor in 1586, Richard, who entered Shrewsbury School c. 1574, would about have reached his majority. William, his brother, did not enter Shrewsbury School until 1587, which is the last date of any mention of the Vynar family at Condover.

What happened to Ann Vynar and her tribe of eleven surviving children remains a mystery. Probably she moved to London under the guardianship of her two brothers, Luke Lane, Citizen grocer, and Gabriel Lane, of Lincoln's Inn, who were the executors of the Will of her late husband. No trace of any Will she may have made, or announcement of her death, has been found.

Whereas the family story of Sir Henry Vynar and his two sisters, Mary Holford and Ann Daniell, is fully recorded, very little is known of the children of Henry, the Elder, by his second wife, Ann. Of these, Richard and his brother, William, entered Shrewsbury School, and Nicholas, the youngest son, became a Citizen Merchant Tailor; married twice and had a daughter, Jane Locke. Richard Vynar, of Wyke House, son of Sir Henry Vynar, in his Will of 1648 mentions his cousin, William Locke, who was presumably the son of Jane Locke. Nothing is known of any of Ann Vynar's daughters.

Not only is no information available concerning the descendents of the three sons of the second marriage of Henry Vynar but a similar circumstance arises over the descendents of John Vynar, of Chippenham and Nicholas Vynar of Slaughterford and Calne in Wilts., the sons of Thomas Vynar, of Slaughterford, his uncle. Thereby a complete generation of a family is lost.

By the 17th century, three branches of the Vynar family were living; at Marshfield, Acton Turville and Stroud, in Gloucestershire, and ample evidence is available that each branch is related to each other and to the Slaughterford branch, but whether or not any of these three branches stemmed from Henry Vynar, of Condover, still remains to be discovered.

Henry Vynar, of Condover, was granted Arms by Hervey, Clarenceux, in 1558. "Azure a bend or on a chief argent a saltire engrailed gules between two Cornish choughs proper". The allusion in the Grant to his Scrope parentage is very marked, for the Arms of Scrope, of Castle Combe, were "Azure a bend or". The Badge of the Scrope family is the Cornish chough, and the "saltire engrailed gules" are the Arms of Tiptoft, the family of Henry Vynar's wife's (Ann Scrope) maternal great-grandmother.

John Harford, of Bosbury, was granted Arms by Thomas Tonge, Norroy (1522-1534), presumably at the time of his marriage to Ann, née Scrope, relict of Henry Vynar, of Slaughterford: "Sable, two bends argent with a canton of Scrope" (Azure, a bend or).

It is of interest that in the 18th century, the Stroud branch of the Vynor family adopted Arms: "Gules, a bend or, on a chief of the second a saltire engrailed gules between two Cornish choughs proper". These Arms are described in Joseph Edmondson, *Complete Body of Heraldry* (1780), as "The Vynors of Wilts." A similar description is also to be found in Burke's *General Armory* (edn. 1842). This reference to Wiltshire suggests that the Stroud branch of the family were fully aware of their Wiltshire descent, rather than descent from two Gloucestershire branches of the family living at Cirencester in 1521 and in Churchdown in 1542, neither of which can be traced as in any way related to the Wiltshire family of Slaughterford.

I am deeply indebted to Miss Jone Wood of Condover, Treasurer, Shropshire Archaeological Society, for her assistance, guidance and patience; to the late J. L. Hobbs, Esq., Librarian, Shrewsbury Borough Library, and R. E. Sandell, Esq., Hon. Librarian, Wiltshire Archaeological Society, and the many other friends and acquaintances who have made the publication of this article possible.

## CHANDELIERS IN SHROPSHIRE CHURCHES

By ROBERT SHERLOCK

Candles were the chief means of lighting churches until the 19th century, and the extent to which they were used in Shropshire is illustrated by the following extracts from churchwardens' accounts:

*Ludlow*

1649-50	Itm Deliued to william Daniel 36 poundes of Candles for hese 2 winter quarters for the Church	0	18	0
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*Shrewsbury, St. Mary*

1729	for 6 pound Candles on Christmas Day in y <sup>c</sup> Morning	0	3	3
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*Shrewsbury, Holy Cross*

1782	Candles for Rodney's Night	0	3	4
1789	28 <sup>lb</sup> Candles for Illuminating the Church on the happy Recovery of King	0	16	11

*Shrewsbury, St. Julian*

1814	Expence Lighting up the Church for a General Peace	0	10	0
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At Shifnal, during the year 1829-30, 24 lb. of candles were bought for the singers (who practised once weekly in the winter) and a further 17 lb. for the ringers. All this expenditure shows that it was not just the minister and congregation who needed candles or that candlelight was restricted to services. In fact, while the custom of having evening prayer in the early afternoon prevailed as it did until the 19th century, the regular use of candlelight arose only under two conditions. The first was if morning prayer was held at six o'clock. This was so, for instance, at Ludlow, and in 1717, in order to economise with candles, the parishioners there decided to forego morning prayer during the depths of winter except on Christmas Day, the Sunday after Christmas, New Year's Day and Twelfth Day. The second was if money was given for evening prayers to be held, accompanied sometimes by a lecture. This was so at St. Alkmund's, Shrewsbury, where the time of the daily prayers was six o'clock in the evening. In 1733 the donor's widow left 40s. a year, from which the vicar was to provide candles, should the parishioners refuse to do so. The responsibility for candles was a source of contention at St. Alkmund's, and in 1736 the vestry agreed to bear the cost "for this Winter Season and no longer". By 1737/8, however, there had been a change of heart, and "it was then agreed that Candles Shall be allowd for the Sconce & c<sup>a</sup> as usual at Six o'Clock prayers". £1 17s. was paid for candles for this purpose in 1738-9, and £2 16s. for eight dozen in 1741-2.

The main receptacle for candles was the brass chandelier, called until about 1750 the "candlestick", "branch", "sconce" or even "lamp". The same terms were used indiscriminately for standing candlesticks. The height of confusion was reached at

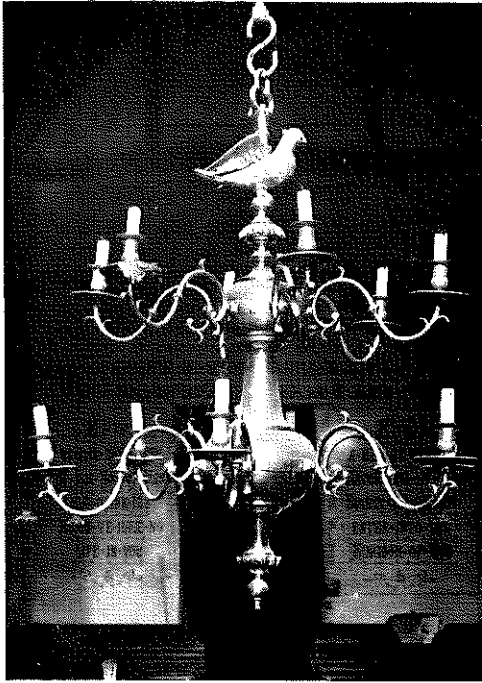


PLATE XXX.—CHIRBURY

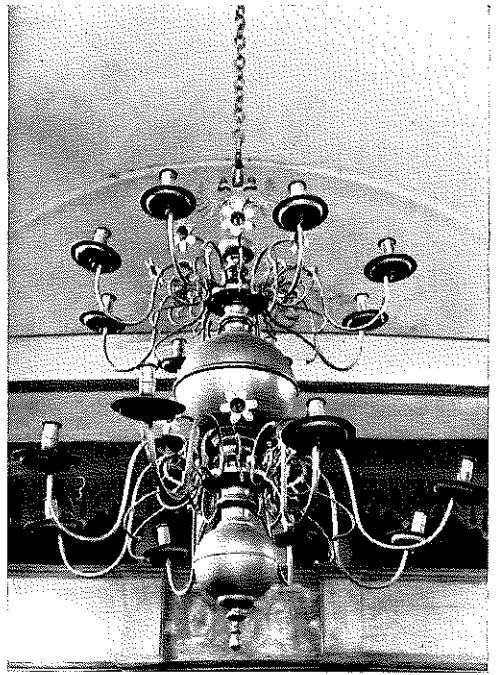


PLATE XXXI.—HALSTON

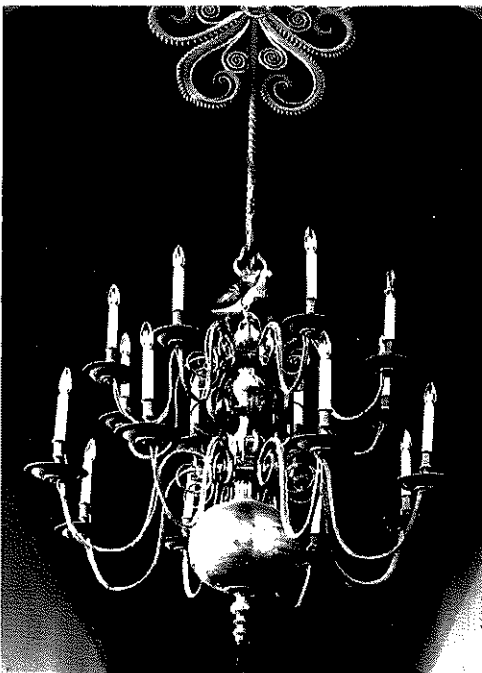


PLATE XXXII.—REIGATE, SURREY

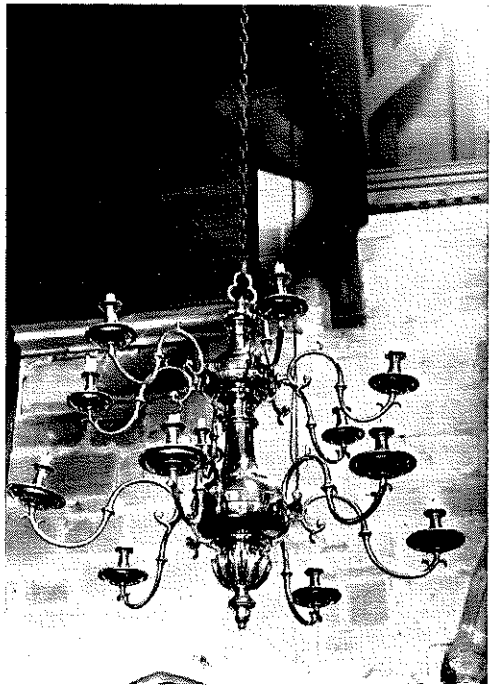


PLATE XXXIII.—TARVIN, CHESHIRE

Ellesmere in 1782-3, when the chandelier was the "candlestick", and the candlesticks of the desk and pulpit were the "chandeliers".

In Shropshire five churches possess chandeliers in the strict sense earlier than 1835, and at least eleven others formerly did so. The introduction of gas was the usual cause of removal, but the chandeliers at the two Shrewsbury churches of Holy Cross and St. Julian were disposed of long before gas, which is significant as demonstrating the dispensable nature of such fittings.

The six chandeliers that survive and the one that was photographed before its removal exemplify a wide range of styles. This is due partly to their differing dates and partly to their places of manufacture. At first all chandeliers in England worthy of the name seem to have been made in London, as was so of one acquired at Ludlow in 1622-3. Provincial makers emerged at the beginning of the 18th century and are considered responsible for the chandeliers in five of Shropshire's churches. The identity of the place is not always known although the chandelier at High Ercall was made at Wellington, the seat of a bell-foundry in the 17th century, and that at Wem probably at Shrewsbury, where brassfounders certainly made candlesticks and small chandeliers and were sufficiently numerous to form a section of one of the Companies.<sup>1</sup> Despite the competition London remained the all-important centre, judged both by output and by influence in design. It was from here that candlesticks for Ellesmere were brought in 1767. The only centre that may ever have superseded London was Birmingham, and then only after 1770. The chandelier at Chirbury and that formerly at Market Drayton were both made in Birmingham: the latter appropriately marks the end of the Shropshire series.

#### SURVIVING CHANDELIERS

Each entry begins with basic data: first the diameter, given in inches, of the widest part of the body—either a globe or the collar to a globe—then the number and arrangement of the branches, and finally the inscription where there is one. The word "group" has a special significance and is used only of chandeliers attributed to a single workshop.

#### *CHIRBURY*—Chancel (Plate XXX)<sup>2</sup>

8½. 2 tiers of 6.

This chandelier originally hung further west:<sup>3</sup> it was erected at the same time as a ceiling was inserted in the roof of the nave, and the two were clearly regarded as complementary to one another. The cost of the ceiling was to have been met partly by subscriptions, but not enough was received in this way, and on 20th April, 1771, the vestry agreed to return the subscriptions and to use instead the credit balance from the church rate. At the same meeting it was agreed "to allow three Guinees towards Joyning M<sup>rs</sup> Dowlar in paying for the Scons". It looks as though Mrs. Dowlar had intended to give the whole of the chandelier, but now it seemed fair that at least some of the cost should be borne by the rate.

The chandelier belongs to a group that ranges in date from 1766 to 1832.<sup>4</sup> It is characterised by slender proportions, a body ornamented with gadrooning and the same suspension-ring in the form of a trefoil-headed column. The branches have a

hexagonal centre moulding and are square in section where attached to the body. The Chirbury chandelier most resembles those at St. Harmon, Radnorshire (1771),<sup>5</sup> and Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex (c. 1775).<sup>6</sup> All have the same globes and the same pendant, and the upper branches at Chirbury are the same as the upper ones at St. Harmon. All have a dove finial, and at Chirbury this is from patterns similar to ones that were in use in London by 1704.<sup>7</sup>

The chandelier at St. Harmon is inscribed "JA<sup>S</sup> HAYWOOD BIRMINGHAM 1771". This would have been the signature of the maker, as there was a James Haywood who was practising as a brassfounder at Birmingham about this date. On the joint evidence of parish rate-books<sup>8</sup> and directories<sup>9</sup> he was at Weaman Street between 1752 and 1764 and at 12 Catherine Street between 1765 and 1776. In 1777 he had been succeeded by John.

Presumably the Chirbury chandelier is likewise the work of James Haywood. It certainly came from Birmingham, as the payments of one of the wardens for 1769-70 included the following:

P <sup>d</sup> for Carring the Sconch from Brimigham to Salop	0	2	8
for the Carriage of the Sconch & the Wyer for y <sup>e</sup> wind			
[window] from Salop to Chirbury	0	3	0

The Birmingham origin of the chandelier and indeed the choice of such a gift are to be explained by the domicile of the donor. She would have been Elizabeth, wife of James Dowler, a Birmingham surgeon.<sup>10</sup> Her husband and an infant daughter both died in 1768, and it may have been deprivation of legatees that prompted a benefaction to Chirbury church.

The chandelier is suspended by iron rods, and the bottom part is no doubt contemporary. It is ornamented on all four sides with elaborated S-scrolls; a gilt ball divides these from further scrolls above.

#### HALSTON—Nave (Plate XXXI)

12½. 2 tiers of 8.

The detail throughout is too regular and well defined for this chandelier to be any earlier than the late 19th century. On the other hand the design is authentic, and this is no doubt because the chandelier is a faithful copy of one that cannot now be traced and is presumably destroyed.

The chandelier that provided the model would have been made in Bristol about 1700. The spread-eagle finial and suspension-ring are similar to those at Cirencester, Gloucestershire (1701),<sup>11</sup> but in other respects this was a typical example of Bristol Style I.<sup>12</sup> The one incongruous feature is the branches for the flower ornaments between the branches of both tiers. By coincidence these are like those between the upper branches at Whitchurch.

The chandelier is wrongly assembled, and the two globes of the body should be interchanged.

There are twelve matching candlesticks fixed round the walls and screen of the chapel.



*HIGH ERCALL*—Chancel<sup>13</sup> (Plate XXXIV)

10 $\frac{7}{8}$ . 2 tiers of 6. (Lower half of globe:) GIVEN BY VS IOHN SPENLOVE CLIVE THOMAS SPENLOVE RACHEL PRESTON LESTER YEMONS THOMAS SPENLOVE SEN<sup>r</sup> SALOP THOMAS SPENLOVE JVN<sup>r</sup> DOROTHY TWIST ELIZABETH TWIST THOMAS LEE EXCEQ<sup>u</sup> MAY 29 1730. (On bell:) The Ocasion of this Bell—Thomas Spenlove—You know he was a Ringer all very well. (Upper half of globe:) William Bradshaw Wellington Fecit.

It is difficult to imagine a greater travesty of good design than the chandelier at High ErCALL. It copies what was typical work in London about 1705, and the nature of the prototype is well seen at Reigate, Surrey (1704) (Plate XXXII). Here the finial is a dove, the suspension-ring is clutched by a hand, the branches, which end in an open spiral, are everted beneath the pans, and there is a tier of plain S-scrolls between the tiers of branches. At High ErCALL all these features are repeated, and there is a similar succession of mouldings, including a spherical globe, to the body. Circular holes between the branches of both tiers would have been filled originally by ornamental pins, like those that still survive between the upper branches at Reigate. However, from this point onwards the divergences begin.

At High ErCALL, instead of a core being used, the hollow sections of the body each consist of a number of castings soldered together. The branches are braced with an extra scroll. The wings of the dove are a single casting, and its feet are cast separately from the body. A huge left hand clutches the iron suspension-ring. An innovation is the bell: its symbolism is explained by the inscription, but it is also functional in that it hides the nut that holds the body of the chandelier together.

The maker of the chandelier recorded his name and was William Bradshaw, described as pewterer in his will at Lichfield, proved 14th April, 1763. His father, John, was also a pewterer<sup>14</sup> and died in 1740. He himself was baptised at Wellington, 16th November, 1683, and was buried at Wellington, 14th March, 1763.<sup>15</sup> When he made his will in 1741, he owned seven tenements in New Street, Wellington.

The chandelier is not referred to in Thomas Spenlove's will, but John Spenlove of Clive and the other eight donors were all beneficiaries under his will, which was proved at Lichfield, 29th October, 1729.

The hangings and erection of the chandelier were paid for by one of the wardens for 1729-31:

To Mr. Hall for colouring the rod for the candlestick	0	8	0
The rod for the candlestick weighed 76 pounds	1	11	8
For two journeys to Wellington about the candlestick	0	2	0
For turning two balls for ye candlestick	0	1	0
My expenses upon that day for men assisting with ladders and helping up with the candlestick	0	3	0

The day on which the chandelier was hung—or at least first lit—was presumably that given in the inscription, 29th May. This, being the anniversary of the Restoration, is a ringing day, and the choice was no doubt further recognition of Thomas Spenlove in his capacity as a ringer.



PLATE XXXIV.—HIGH ERCALL

In the following year "a ladder for the candlestick" was bought, and in 1760 "A Cover for the candlestick". The latter would have been a linen cloth to wrap the chandelier when not required.

The chandelier was restored and placed in its present position in 1890. Before this it had been "for many years" in the schoolroom at High Ercall. The rod that was bought in 1729-31 to suspend the chandelier has now been replaced by a chain.

*SHAWBURY*—Nave (Plate XXXV)

9§. 1 tier of 10. The Gift of Rich<sup>d</sup> Hill Esq<sup>r</sup> 1776.

The group of chandeliers to which that at Chirbury belongs was subject to extensive copying, and the result of this practice would seem to be seen at Shawbury, the Victoria and Albert Museum (undated),<sup>16</sup> and Tarvin, Cheshire (undated) (Plate XXXIII). The Shawbury chandelier, apart from different branches and pans, is identical with the one at the Victoria and Albert Museum. The body sections from the globe downwards are repeated at Tarvin, and the branches are the same as the upper tier at Tarvin. All three chandeliers are presumably the product of a single foundry and may have been made in Birmingham. Certainly they are closely modelled on the Chirbury group and have similar branches and similar pans, receded at the base. At Tarvin there is no finial and a trefoil suspension-ring; at Shawbury the finial is a flame instead of the dove usually associated with this design of chandelier; at the Victoria and Albert Museum the finial is missing.

The cost of the Shawbury chandelier was, of course, borne by the donor, and the wardens for 1775-6 had this expense only:<sup>17</sup>

Spent putting up the Sconces for the Candles	0 3 0
--	-------

The "sconces" could have been the chandelier or some contemporary candlesticks.

The hangings by which the chandelier is suspended seem to be the original ones. They consist of four twisted iron rods: the joints are hidden by discs, and the centre two rods are ornamented with scrolling.

*WEM*—Nave<sup>18</sup> (Plate XXXVI)

15. 2 tiers of 12 and 6. The Gift of GEO: TYLER Curate at the Request of his Aunt M<sup>rs</sup> ANN WALFORD who was interred Beneath DECEM. 16<sup>th</sup> 1733.

This must be regarded as another local copy of London work. The group from which it is derived includes the chandeliers at Goudhurst, Kent (1722),<sup>19</sup> and Teynham, Kent (pre-1723) (Plate XXXVII), and those formerly at Honiton, Devon (post-1725),<sup>20</sup> London, St. Stephen Walbrook (1729),<sup>21</sup> and Buckland, Berkshire (1733).<sup>22</sup> All the members have markedly flattened globes, no finial and a similar succession of mouldings to the rest of the body. The branches, of one tier only, end in open spirals and are elaborately moulded beneath the pans. They are attached to a plain receded band above the globe by means of hooks fitting into projecting bosses. The chandelier at Wem possesses many of the characteristics of the group, and where it departs from them it is to the obvious detriment of the design.

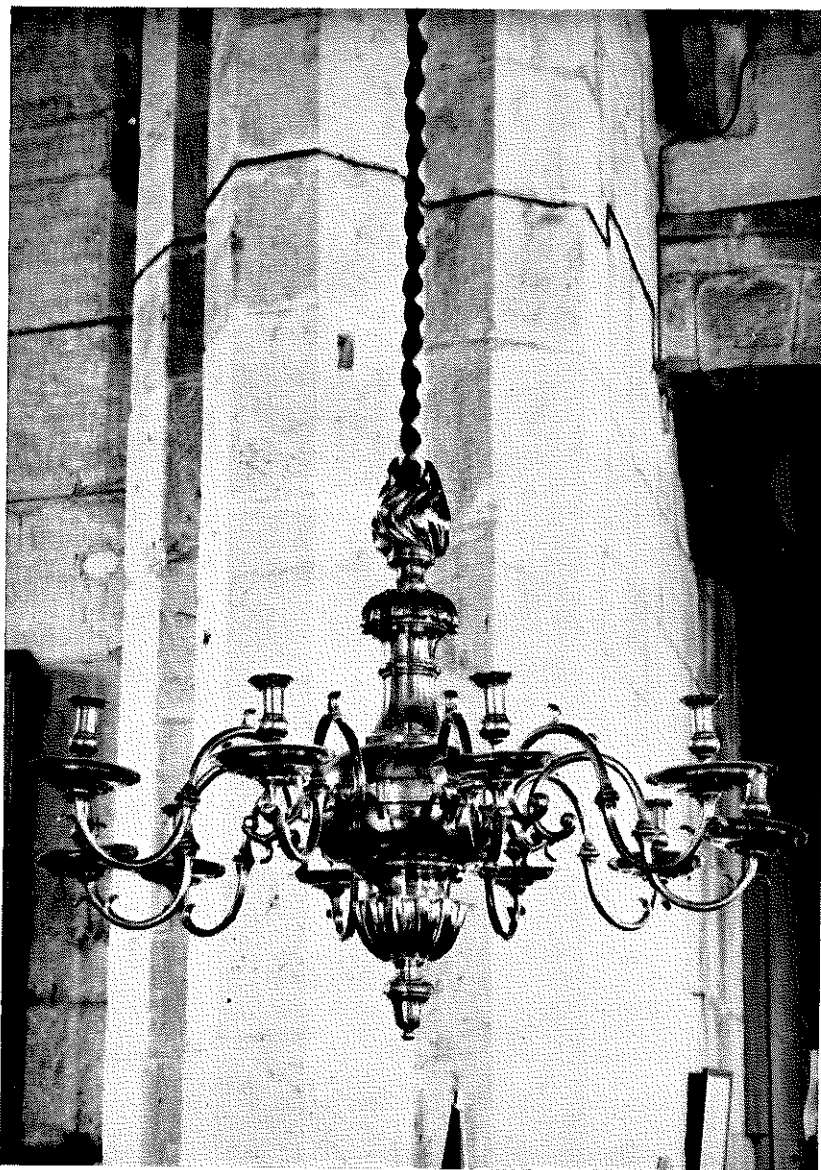


PLATE XXXV.—SHAWBURY

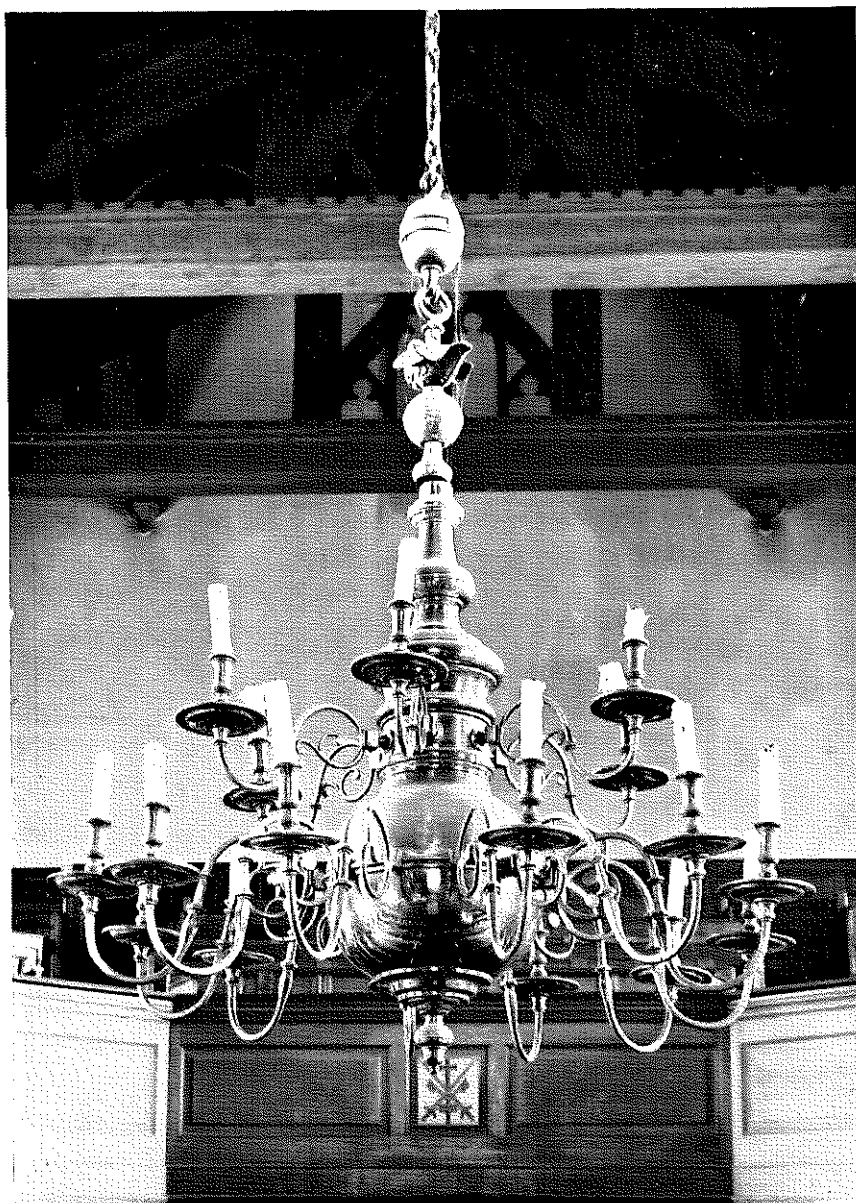


PLATE XXXVI.—WEM

Instead of one tier of branches there are two, and the globe instead of being flattened is grossly spherical in order to accommodate the extra tier. Both tiers are mainly hexagonal in section and are dovetailed rather than hooked to the body. The lower branches, apart from a brace to the inner curve, are like those at Goudhurst; the upper branches end in two scrolls and in this respect are like those at High Erroll. The suspension-ring, wooden dove and small globe at the top of the body are incongruous features and may represent later additions.

As the inscription records, the chandelier was given by George Tyler. His aunt, Mrs. Ann Walford, makes no mention of the chandelier in her will.<sup>23</sup> She had a strong claim upon her nephew's good faith in so far as she had brought him up as her son<sup>24</sup> and in her will made him sole executor and main beneficiary.

The cost of the chandelier, according to a benefactions table in the vestry, was £15, and it would seem from the wardens' accounts for 1736-7 that it took some time to be acquired and installed:

p <sup>d</sup> . . . to Ed <sup>rd</sup> Austin ffor ffixing y <sup>e</sup> Branch	6 <sup>s</sup> 6 <sup>d</sup>
p <sup>d</sup> to men to assist him w <sup>th</sup> Ladders	5 <sup>s</sup>

The same accounts may provide a clue as to where and by whom the chandelier was made:

p <sup>d</sup> M <sup>r</sup> Reynolds ffor 5 Branches	3 2 6
--	-------

The five "branches" were presumably candlesticks matching the chandelier, in which case the chandelier is likely to have been supplied by "Mr. Reynolds" also. He may have been the same as Michael Reynolds, brazier, who was admitted a burgess of Shrewsbury in 1734 and whose father was Roger of the Isle Gate, Shrewsbury.<sup>25</sup> Michael Reynolds was paid for casting some brasses for St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, in 1726-7, and one of this name was buried at St. Chad's, 30th November, 1739.<sup>26</sup>

If in fact the Wem chandelier was made in Shrewsbury, the chandelier given in 1727 to St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, might conceivably have served as the model. Some facility such as this is necessary to explain why the Wem chandelier so deliberately resembles London work of only a few years before.

In 1899 £7 was paid for restoring the chandelier and for renewing the chain by which it hangs.

#### WHITCHURCH—Nave<sup>27</sup>

A pair. 13½. 2 tiers of 6.

The chandeliers are contemporary with the church, the rebuilding of which was completed in 1713, and the cost was met from subscriptions towards the rebuilding:

Pd p 2 Candlesticks	43 0 0
---------------------	--------

A ladder to give access to the chandeliers was paid for by one of the wardens in 1713/4:

5 Feb. pd p 27 foot of Rayle & 7 foot of Board for the Candlestick Ladder	0 3 6
pd George Davies for makeing the Ladder	0 4 6

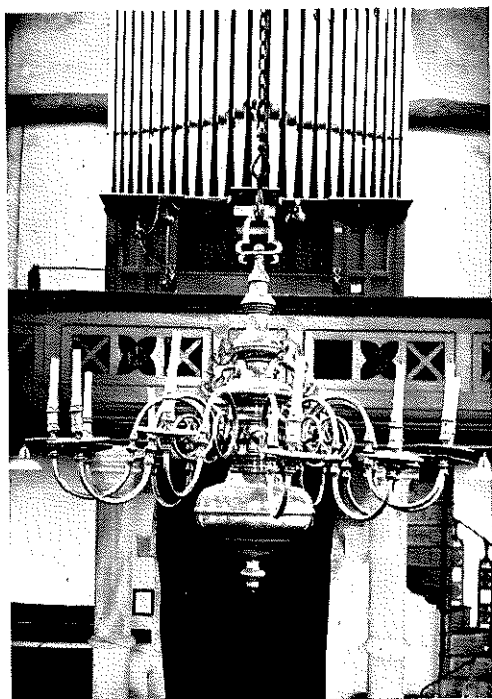


PLATE XXXVII.—TEYNHAM, KENT

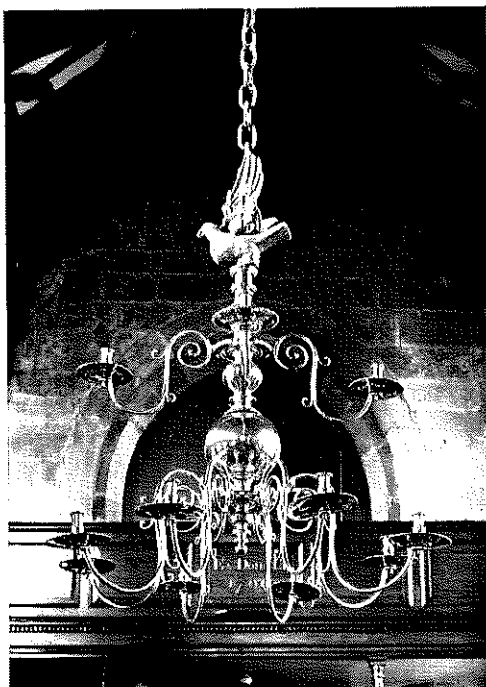


PLATE XXXVIII.—HOLMES CHAPEL, CHESHIRE

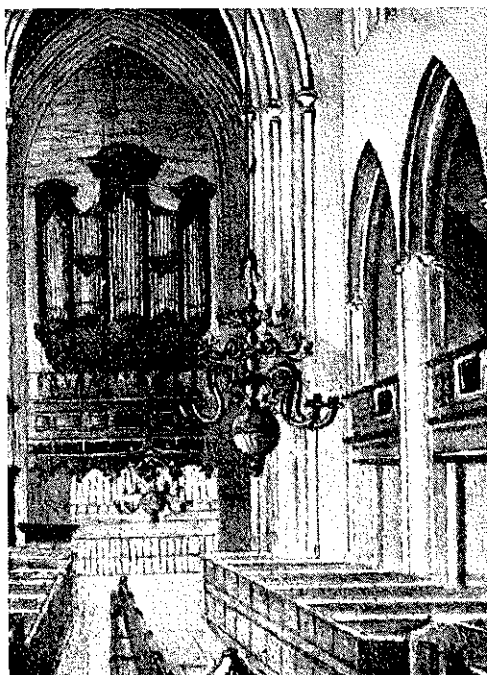


PLATE XXXIX.—LUDLOW



PLATE XL.—MARKET DRAYTON

The patron of the church, the 4th Earl of Bridgewater, was the chief subscriber towards the rebuilding, and in recognition of this his coronet and crest, a lion rampant supporting an arrow, appear as the finial of the west chandelier (Plate XLI). A copy of this coronet occurs without justification at Gresford, Denbighshire (1747).<sup>28</sup>

The chandeliers at Whitchurch are in certain respects reminiscent of London work. The suspension-ring with dolphin-masks is like that at Canterbury Cathedral (1685); the dove finial of the east chandelier is a London form; and the branches (Fig. 56) with six-petalled flowers between the upper branches are like those at Uffington, Lincolnshire (1685). However, no London maker would have cast separate trays for the branches or designed with such lack of heed for the final result. Nor is there any parallel for the ornaments between the lower branches, which each consist of three tulips in a pot (Fig. 57).

In fact, the chandeliers are demonstrably examples of north-west manufacture, and they need to be compared most of all with that at Holmes Chapel, Cheshire (1708) (Plate XXXVIII), where there is a similar reeded pendant and similar though less elaborate branches. Presumably the Holmes Chapel and Whitchurch chandeliers came from the same source, but where this was is not known. One possibility is Chester because of its nearness and because chandeliers attributed to the Brock family were being made here from at least 1722 onwards. A second possibility is Manchester, and a third Wigan because there are chandeliers in Lancashire at Leigh (1723-4),<sup>29</sup> Kirkham (1725?)<sup>30</sup> and Whalley (undated)<sup>31</sup> that have branches similar to those at Whitchurch. That at Leigh was made by George Brown of Wigan, founder,<sup>32</sup> and that at Kirkham by "Mr. Brown of Wigan".<sup>33</sup> However, none of these places—Chester, Manchester or Wigan—has an overriding claim to consideration. The Brock-made chandeliers represent a different series of designs and castings, while the evidence in favour of Wigan is of dubious significance because there was so much interchange of ideas and patterns among the makers of the various north-west centres.

At Whitchurch the chandeliers are each suspended by hangings that may be original and consist of four twisted iron rods with scrollwork on all four sides at the joints. There are corresponding roses in the ceiling: the east one a flower and the west one a double cherub-head.

#### CHANDELIERS FORMERLY EXISTING

##### *ELLESMERE*<sup>34</sup>

Ellesmere's first chandelier seems to have been acquired in 1716-7. The expenses were shared between the four churchwardens as follows:

(1) pd towards ye New Candle stick	6	0	0
(2) pd towards ye brass Candle stick	3	17	6
(3) pd to m <sup>r</sup> Davies for ye Iron Rod for ye Candle stick	1	7	0
pd Sam Trevor for gilding ye Rod for ye Candle Stick	0	17	0
(4) pd towards ye New Candle stick	5	17	6

The total cost of the chandelier without the hangings was therefore 15 guineas. Nothing about its design is known except that it had a dove finial. Payments were



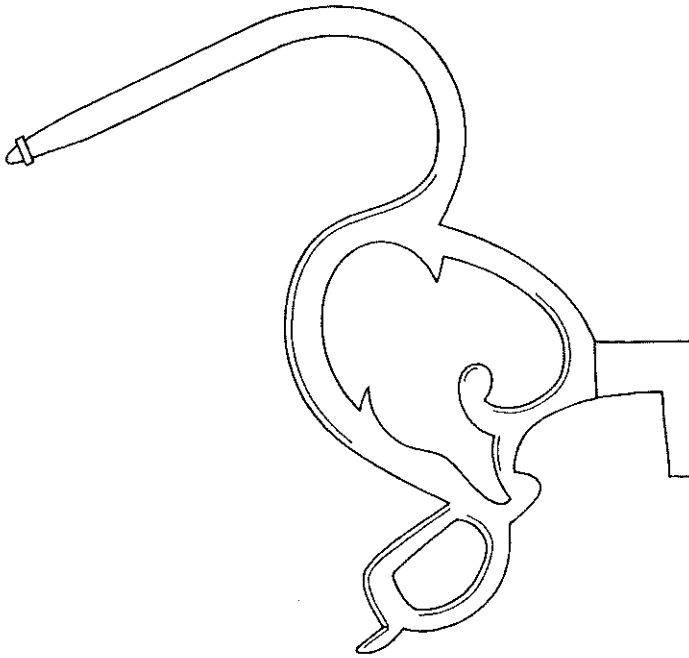


Fig. 56

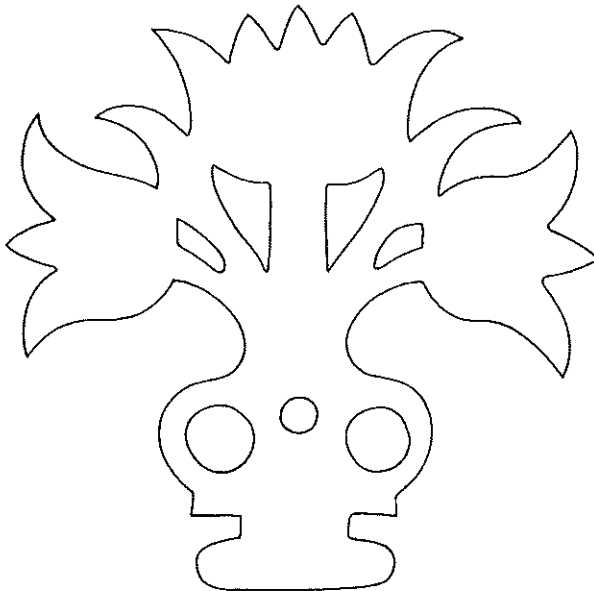


Fig. 57

Scale:  $\frac{1}{4}$

made for mending this finial in 1727-8, for gilding it the same year (11s.) and for painting it in 1779. In 1735 6d. was spent on "Coulering y<sup>e</sup> Branch that Its in y<sup>e</sup> Doves mouth".

Gas-lighting was introduced about 1837, and the removal of the chandelier may have taken place at the same time. Between 1827 and 1838 a salary was paid each year for maintaining the clock and chimes and the "chandeliers", but in the accounts for 1838-9, the last to survive, only the "clock etc." is mentioned, although the amount of salary remained the same.

From 1735 to 1783 the chandelier was being cleaned at 5s. a time, and from 1787 to 1804 the chandelier and candlesticks were being cleaned at 7s. a time. The cleaning took place twice a year before Christmas and Whitsun if the practice followed in 1774 is typical. In 1720-1 "a Ladder for ye Candle stick", presumably to facilitate cleaning and replenishment of candles, was provided.

The candlesticks that added to the cost of cleaning were what are described in the accounts for 1782-3 as the "Chandelers of the desk & Pulpit". They were acquired by the wardens for 1767-8:

14 Dec. 1767	To Cash P <sup>d</sup> for y <sup>e</sup> Sconcies	6	12	0
	To Postage of Letters To & from London	0	1	10
20 Mar. 1768	To M <sup>r</sup> Wall Setting up y <sup>e</sup> Sconcies	0	1	6
	p <sup>d</sup> for Carriage of the Sconces from London	0	3	7

#### LUDLOW<sup>35</sup>

An inventory of 1658 lists the following lighting fixtures:

- Itm one pulpitt Candlesticke and branch
- Itm xj<sup>n</sup> branches of brasse lampes & lampes hanginge
- Itm one other Candlesticke for the deske

The "pulpit candlestick and branch" were supplied in 1631-2 by "Mr. Smith", who seems from other references to have been a local metalworker:

Item paid m<sup>r</sup> Smith for a Candlesticke for the pulpitt xvij<sup>s</sup>

The second item evidently comprised both standing and hanging fixtures. Some of these eleven fixtures together with the "candlestick for the desk" dated from 1622-3:

- Itm for a brasen Candlestick w<sup>th</sup> xij branches for the midle Ile xxxvj<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup>
- Itm for 2 branches for the said [side] Iles w<sup>th</sup> Cups x<sup>s</sup>
- Itm for a skrude Candlestick for the deske to read service at morninge praier ij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup>
- Itm for a Cord to hange the Candlestick in the midle Ile x<sup>d</sup>
- Itm for a boxe to bringe theese Candlesticks from London xij<sup>d</sup>
- Item for cariage of the said Candlesticks from London beinge a quarter of an hundred & xiiij<sup>l</sup> at xijs a pack ij<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup>

The "candlestick with twelve branches" was cheap compared with one of twelve branches at the London church of St. Olave Jewry, which cost £4 15s. in 1623-4.<sup>36</sup> It is the earliest known example of a chandelier in Shropshire. With the other "candlesticks" it came from London as though it had been made there, and it must have been small as well as cheap if the whole consignment weighed only 1 ar. 14 lb.

What seems to have been a second chandelier was acquired in 1633-4. It is called a "lamp" in accordance with a usage that was practised at Ludlow throughout the 17th century and recurs elsewhere, for example at Salisbury:<sup>37</sup>

Item paid for a lampe and hanginge yt vp ij<sup>li</sup> iiij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup>

In 1641-2 1s. was paid for mending "the lampe in the Middle Ile". From 1640 to 1642 cleaning of the "lamps" cost 1s. a year. From 1690 to 1706 it was done by the sexton or his wife for 3s. a year.

In 1708 a new chandelier was placed in the nave. On 22nd December the following contract, recording the gift and the conditions to which it was subject, was signed by the rector, churchwardens and sidesmen:

m<sup>r</sup> Thomas Meyrick one of the Comon Councill of this town hath generously given a branch or Candle stick of Eighteen Lights to Bee hang'd up Beetween the master Beame over the font and y<sup>e</sup> next summer westward and there to Remaine, and in Case any Church warden or wardens of the sd parish or any other person by vertue of any order or orders of any vestry to bee holden for this parish hereafter shall p<sup>r</sup>sume to Remove ye sd Candlestick to any other part of this Church, then y<sup>e</sup> sd Guift to Bee forfeited and Revert to ye sd m<sup>r</sup> Meyrick or his heires w<sup>ch</sup> shall bee then In being.

The wardens for 1709-10 paid for the erection of the chandelier:

p<sup>d</sup> for putting up y<sup>e</sup> New Candlestick & alting y<sup>e</sup> other 0 4 0

The cleaning of this chandelier was performed for 3s. a year from 1711 and for 5s. from 1715. Payment was still 5s. in 1720-1, but in 1726-7 10s. was paid for "Cleansing y<sup>e</sup> Church Candlesticks". A second large chandelier had been acquired between 1721 and 1726, and this is confirmed by reference to "Two Large Sconces" in 1730-1.

Despite these additions the two chandeliers of the early 17th century were apparently retained and would be the ones that were cleaned by the sexton for 2s. a year between 1710 and 1734. They were described as "2 Branches" in 1713-4 and as two small "sconces" in 1717-8 and later years.

After 1730 the chandeliers at Ludlow do not seem to have changed. Notes on the church made "some years" before 1808 refer to "two handsome brass chandeliers" suspended from the ceiling of the nave and "a small brass chandelier" in each of the two galleries.<sup>38</sup>

The two chandeliers in the nave, if not those in the galleries, were still in position about 1835 for they appear in a lithograph at the church, drawn by Edward Hodson junior (Plate XXXIX). One seems to hang from the second truss from the east, and the other from the fourth truss, which is that above the font. The chandeliers are conventionally shown but seem to have been identical with one another. The eighteen branches, arranged in three tiers instead of the usual two, were attached to a stem above a single spherical globe. The style is consistent with the earlier one having been made in 1708. It is not clear whether there was any finial. The hangings were simple and consisted of a series of rods.

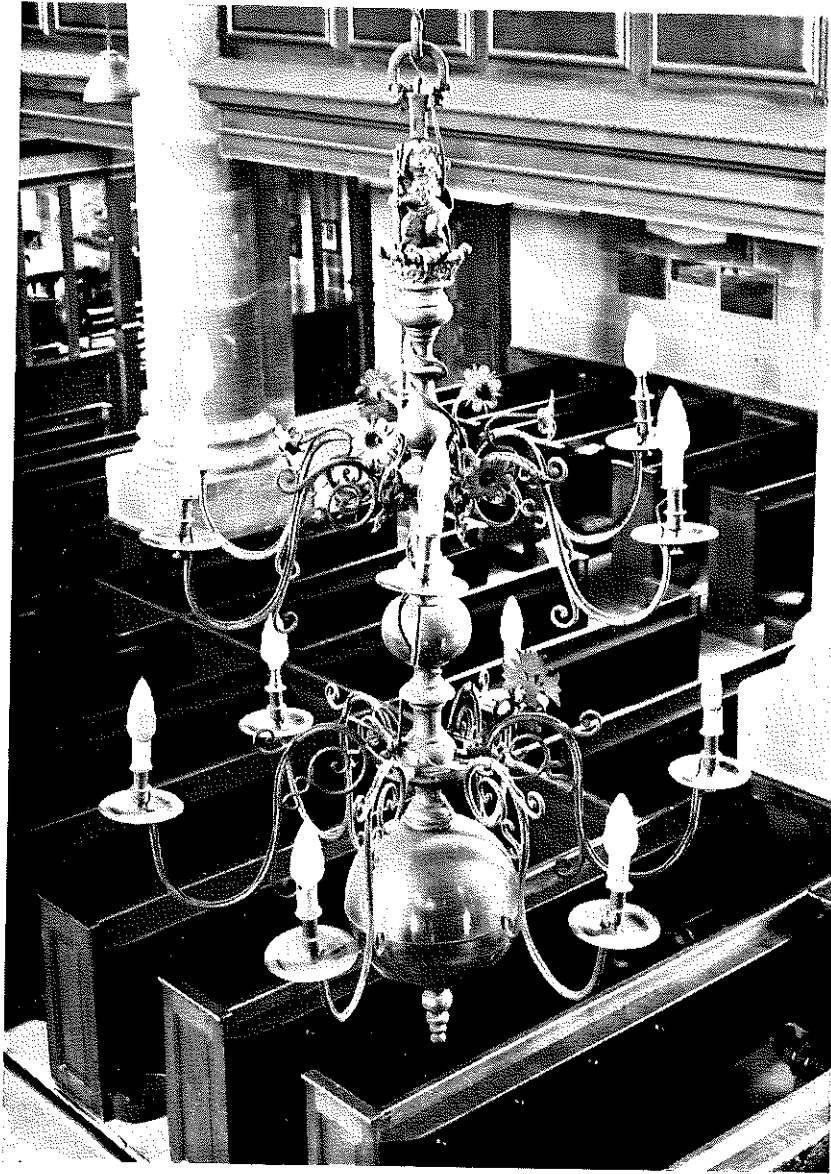


PLATE XLI.—WHITCHURCH

Gas-lighting was introduced in 1837-8, and payment for removal of the font was made in 1849. The "chandelier" was still being cleaned in 1845, but in 1849 it was possible to refer to the two tie-beams in the roof of the nave "from which the heavy chandeliers were formerly suspended." Their weight had helped to cause a distortion in the beams which was sufficiently serious to be mentioned specifically in an architect's report.

#### MARKET DRAYTON

A large chandelier that hung from a central ceiling-rose in the nave has been removed, and this was no doubt done when the church was restored in 1881-4. Three photographs<sup>39</sup> taken before the restoration show the chandelier (Plate XL). It had two tiers of eight branches and bore all the signs of having been made by Thomas or John Cocks of Birmingham. Thomas Cocks & Son were brass-founders of Great Charles Street in 1803,<sup>40</sup> and "Cocks & Son" signed chandeliers at Yardley Hastings, Northamptonshire (1808),<sup>41</sup> and Wrenbury, Cheshire (1839).<sup>42</sup> Thomas died on 11th March, 1806,<sup>43</sup> and by 1808 the firm had assumed the name of John Cocks, his son.<sup>44</sup> John Cocks signed the chandelier in the nave at Prestbury, Cheshire (1814).<sup>45</sup> In addition he is likely to have made two unsigned chandeliers: one at Deeping St. James, Lincolnshire (1808),<sup>46</sup> and the other at London, St. Michael Paternoster Royal (1811). Directories show that John Cocks was no longer in business in 1815.<sup>47</sup>

Whether signed or attributed, the work of the Cocks family is unmistakable. The finial takes the form of a flame, and there are brackets beneath the pans. The design of the body is normally based on the recurring theme: concave section, roll, concave section and gadrooning. The branches are angular in section below the pans, and their inner curve ends in a plain swelling. The chandelier at Market Drayton most resembled that at London, St. Michael, if the bottom of the three tiers of branches at London and the corresponding body sections are ignored. The branches seem to have been the same, as also the flame finial and the rest of the body apart from the globes, the top section of the pendant and the scrolled pendant handle.

Parish records do not indicate when the Market Drayton chandelier was acquired. An organ was installed in 1807,<sup>48</sup> and the chandelier was presumably more or less contemporary.

The hangings consisted of chains, complete with pulleys and counterweight.

#### NEWPORT<sup>49</sup>

A chandelier was erected in this church in 1705-6, and the event was commemorated by special ringing and lighting. The only expenses incurred by the two wardens, shared equally between them, were the following:

(1) pd for 4 <sup>li</sup> of Candles when the Candlestick was fixt	0	1	4
2 <sup>li</sup> of Candles more	0	0	8
pd the Ringers & charges erecting the Candlestick	0	5	0
(2) pd Robert Adderley 6 <sup>li</sup> of candles	0	2	0
charges in erecting the Candlestick	0	5	0

From 1706 there were regular payments for cleaning the "candlestick". Cleaning took place just before Michaelmas, Christmas and Easter in 1707-8 and twice during 1717-8 at 4s. a time.

The subsequent history of the chandelier is not known due to the loss of the wardens' accounts from 1723 to 1864. It may have been removed when gas was introduced in 1838.<sup>50</sup>

#### OSWESTRY<sup>51</sup>

Surviving wardens' accounts begin in 1717-9, and there are references to a chandelier between 1721 and 1764. In 1724-5 4s., shared between the wardens of the three divisions, was paid for soldering and cleaning the "candlestick", and in 1746-7 2s. 6d. for cleaning the "sconce". Inventories confirm that there was "1 Brass Sconce or Candlestick" in 1751, and the same was so in 1763.

By 1824 the chandelier seems to have been removed. No mention is made of it in the vestry minutes of 1st August, 1824, when it was resolved that the church be lighted during evening service and an estimate "for lighting the Church with twelve Chandeliers and other proposals for lighting it with Candles or otherwise" were under consideration. In fact it was finally agreed that the twelve "chandeliers" should be for gas, and these were provided by Robert Roberts of Oswestry, "the first man to introduce gas into Shropshire".<sup>52</sup>

#### SHIFNAL<sup>53</sup>

There was a chandelier here between at least 1815, when 18½ lb. of iron was added to the "carriage" or hangings, and 1847. The branches were evidently bolted rather than hooked to the body, as in 1846 John Davis was paid 15s. for "Takeing Down Chandelier, Screw Branches on and Putting up". Such a method of construction suggests that the chandelier was not any earlier than 1740. Between 1825 and 1831 the chandelier was being cleaned by the clerk, usually at Christmas only and at 3s. a time.

It is possible that the dove that rather incongruously forms the finial of the present font-cover was once the finial of this chandelier. The cover is presumably contemporary with the font itself, and the latter was erected in 1878 as part of a general restoration.<sup>54</sup> The dove casting represented here recurs at Chirbury (1769-70), Billinge, Lancashire (undated), and Slaidburn, Yorkshire (undated). All three chandeliers belong to the same group. The Shifnal chandelier, if in fact it possessed the font-cover dove, is likely to have belonged to this group also.

#### SHREWSBURY, HOLY CROSS<sup>55</sup>

A benefactions table in the north porch records that "Richard Porter gave a large Brass Candlestick for the Use of the Church", and an annotation against the vestry minutes of 30th May, 1806, records the inscription round it:

The gift of Richard Porter to the Abby Church in Shrosbury 1713.

The cost of hanging the chandelier was borne by the wardens for 1713-4:

p' Benj. povey for hanging the Candlestick	0	9	0
--	---	---	---

The chandelier was cleaned for 2s. 6d. a year from 1716 to 1718. In 1806 an organ was erected in the church, and on 30th May the vestry ordered "that the Brass sconce the gift of M<sup>r</sup> R. Porter being intirely worne out that it be sold and the Money be applied towards the expence of a time piece to be put up in the Center of the gallery front to the Organ or for any other Purpose that may be more wanted".

The proceeds from the sale appear in a statement of account that was submitted on 26th January, 1808:

Sconce, sold	3	7	4
--------------	---	---	---

#### SHREWSBURY, ST. ALKMUND<sup>56</sup>

This is the church to which Joseph Jones by will dated 1729 made a bequest for evening prayers to be held daily at six o'clock, and in 1743 the lighting fittings comprised:

1 large Brass Branch in the Middle Ile, 2 D<sup>o</sup> Small ones under the Gallerys  
5 D<sup>o</sup> with 2 Branches fix' to the Pillars

The "large brass branch" is the same as the "Brasen Sconse" which a benefactions table formerly in the church<sup>57</sup> recorded as having been the gift of Richard Morgan, butcher, in 1703. The chandelier evidently had a winged finial, which in view of its date was most probably a dove: in 1738-9 6d. was paid for "mending y<sup>e</sup> wing of y<sup>e</sup> Sconse". In 1753-4 the "Sconce rod" was painted for £1 5s.

The other fittings, or at least some of them, were acquired in 1739-40:

p <sup>d</sup> for putting up y <sup>e</sup> foure Small Sconcies	0	2	6
p <sup>d</sup> M <sup>r</sup> Rich <sup>d</sup> Wood for Graving M <sup>r</sup> Madox <sup>s</sup> Sconce	0	5	0
p <sup>d</sup> M <sup>r</sup> Burges for a Candle Stick	1	5	0

Richard Wood was a watchmaker of the parish,<sup>58</sup> and the donor of the "sconce" he engraved was probably John Maddox, another parishioner and warden for 1741-2. "Mr. Burges" would have belonged to a family of Shrewsbury metalworkers. There was Ralph Burges, pewterer, and his brother, Thomas.<sup>59</sup> The latter, who is described in the St. Chad's register as both brazier and pewterer,<sup>60</sup> died in 1758.

In 1778 the means of lighting was further improved. This followed a vestry agreement on 11th January "that a Brass Sconce with four Branches Should be provided for each Gallery":

20 Apr. Mess <sup>rs</sup> Harrop and Cook for 2 New Chandeliers and other Repairs	7	9	6
8 May M <sup>r</sup> Hen <sup>y</sup> Richards for hanging the Chandeliers	0	14	0

The suppliers of the chandeliers were no doubt Samuel Harrop and White Cook. The former, a brazier, was admitted a burgess of Shrewsbury in 1750<sup>61</sup> and was buried at St. Chad's, 19th December, 1779.<sup>62</sup> The latter married Samuel Harrop's daughter, Elizabeth,<sup>63</sup> and was paid for "repairing the Chandelier" in 1779-80.

The rebuilding of the church in 1794-5 created a need for new chandeliers. Already by the time of the draft contract<sup>64</sup> it had been decided to have two chandeliers, as two was the number of "small flowers" in the ceiling from which they were to be suspended. Inevitably the chandeliers would have hung down the centre of the body of

the church, and that this was envisaged is confirmed by the minutes of the trustees for rebuilding for 12th June, 1795. On 23rd October following, the trustees agreed "that a pair of Shondaleers be provided for the Use of the Church with proper Chains, agreeable to the plan produced N<sup>o</sup> 1". They were not to cost more than 32 guineas, exclusive of the chains. On 13th November it was further agreed "to have Brass Chains to suspend the Shondaleers from agreeable to the pattern produced, price ten Shillings p Yard". These were expenses not covered by the contract, and the trustees would have had to authorise payment of the bills. No bill for the chandeliers and chains is recorded as such, but there is one, not otherwise fully explained, in which it might have been included. This, for £54 6s. 2d., was submitted by Richard Lloyd and ordered to be paid on 31st December, 1795. Richard Lloyd was an ironmonger of the parish: in view of the size of the chandeliers suggested by their cost, it is unlikely that he himself made the chandeliers, though he could appropriately have been the intermediary.

In 1808 Edward Howell, a brazier and tinsplater of the parish, was paid £20 6s. for repairing the chandeliers and providing new candlesticks for the pulpit and desk. In 1809 he supplied a pair of "sconces" at £1 1s. for the gallery.<sup>65</sup> Satisfactory candlesticks were beyond a local maker's capabilities, and in 1816-7 £5 1s. 9d. was "Paid M<sup>r</sup> Thomas of Birmingham for Chandeliers for the Pulpit & desk". William Thomas was a brassfounder who appears in Birmingham directories between 1815 and 1825: until 1818 in partnership with Benjamin and from 1816 at Lionel Street.<sup>66</sup> He died 4th June, 1826, aged 37 years.<sup>67</sup> On the evidence of parish rate-books, he succeeded Elizabeth Haywood who in turn succeeded John Haywood who in turn succeeded James Haywood, the presumed maker of the Chirbury chandelier.

In 1828 gas-lighting was introduced. The chandeliers are no doubt included in the "candlesticks" that were sold in 1828-9:

Received for brass candlesticks sold to different people	8	6	4½
D <sup>o</sup> for old Iron	0	5	6

The cleaning of the chandelier was originally performed by the clerk, though between April 1736 and June 1737 the duty was forfeited as part of the penalty for ill-behaviour and disobedience to the parishioners. From 1813 to 1828-9 the clerk, the beadle or both were paid 5s. each year for putting up the chandeliers and another 5s. for taking them down again. When this was done is not recorded, but it was probably at autumn and spring respectively, which would explain why the clerk who died in December 1823 only put the chandeliers up that year. During the summer the chandeliers would have been stored. This reduced the cost of cleaning, which was done between 1819 and 1826 by the beadle for 5s. a year.

#### *SHREWSBURY, ST. CHAD*<sup>68</sup>

According to a "Catalogue of Gifts" John Felton, gent., one of the aldermen of Shrewsbury, gave St. Chad's in his lifetime a silver flagon and "one large Brass Branch that is fix'd opposite the Reading desk". John Felton was a brazier. The date that he gave the chandelier is not recorded but would have been before 28th February, 1707/8, which is when he died.<sup>69</sup>



On the evidence of inventories two further chandeliers were acquired between 30th June, 1738 and 12th June, 1739:

M<sup>r</sup> Millingtons brass Sconce

M<sup>r</sup> Gregorys brass Sconce

The first "sconce" was bequeathed by James Millington of Shrewsbury, draper. It is referred to as follows in his will, proved 10th May, 1738:<sup>70</sup>

Also I give to my Executors hereinafter named Twenty pounds in Trust to be laid out by them as soon after my decease as they conveniently can in purchaseing a Brass Branch or Sconce which when purchased My Will is shall be given to and hanged up in the said Parish Church of S<sup>t</sup> Chad for the Service thereof.

The second donor, no doubt inspired by James Millington's example, is likely to have been Edward Gregory, a Shrewsbury furrier.<sup>71</sup> Some of the costs incidental to the acquisition of the two chandeliers were borne by the wardens for 1738-9:

Spent on Grant & Fothergale &c in hanging y <sup>e</sup> Sconces	0	2	[
Paid for Hanging & Iron for M <sup>r</sup> Gregorys Sconce	0	7	[

On 22nd April, 1739, it was agreed that any credit balance in the churchwardens' accounts should be applied towards fixing a "candlestick" in the chancel. Despite a balance, the minute recording the agreement is crossed through and presumably was never executed. This may have been because Mr. Gregory's chandelier itself was placed in the chancel.

From 1722 to 1727 the cleaning of the chandelier cost 10s. a year, but when two others were added the charge rose proportionately: it was £1 10s. in 1739-40.

Of the three chandeliers two seem to have been damaged beyond repair when St. Chad's collapsed in 1788, but the third was saved and moved to St. Julian's.<sup>72</sup> There is no indication that the new St. Chad's had any chandeliers at first, but on 9th December, 1819, it was resolved by the trustees for rebuilding "that the Church Wardens provide such Chandeliers as are necessary for the better lighting the Church". By 7th September, 1830, the number of chandeliers was at least three because gas-lights in their positions were being considered. Although a decision to introduce gas was finally reached in 1835, chandeliers were retained for some time afterwards. In 1841 there were three of brass in the body of the church, one in the steeple and others with candlesticks in the entrance and closets.<sup>73</sup>

#### SHREWSBURY, ST. JULIAN<sup>74</sup>

The first chandelier was evidently a gift, but the wardens for 1719-20 paid for the hangings:

pd mr Grant for Iron work for y <sup>e</sup> Sconce	4	0	0
pd mr bowing for Gilding and panting itt	1	7	0

The rebuilding of the church caused 6s. to be paid in 1751-2 for mending, cleaning and re-hanging the chandelier. Between at least 1784 and 1787 it was being cleaned by Joseph Bryan, a tinman and brazier of the parish, for 5s. a time.

On 25th May, 1789, the goods of the church included:

The small Sconce in the Isle

The large one belongs to the Parish of S<sup>t</sup> Chadd

The "small sconce" was no doubt the original one; the "large sconce" would have been lent by St. Chad's after the destruction of that church. Its presence at St. Julian's would have been welcome, since in 1788 the vestry agreed that a fund should be established from the bequest of Mary Elisha for the preaching of an evening sermon every Sunday throughout the year.

In the inventory of 1791 the words "belonging to the Parish of S<sup>t</sup> Chad" were crossed through subsequently. In the inventory of 1792 this phrase does not appear and both the chandelier entries have been crossed through subsequently. In the 1793 inventory there is no chandelier entry. All this suggests that the large chandelier was appropriated to St. Julian's in 1791-2 and that both chandeliers were removed in 1792-3. The second part of this interpretation is confirmed by the following receipts in 1792-3:

23 Nov. 1792 Of M <sup>r</sup> Bryan for Brass	4 14 6
Of M <sup>r</sup> Hazledine for Iron	0 12 0

"Mr. Bryan" would have been the same as the former cleaner of the chandelier; "Mr. Hazledine" would have been William Hazledine, the ironfounder famous through his association with Thomas Telford.

The sale of the chandeliers may have been precipitated by the need to raise funds for an organ that was erected in 1792.

After the removal of the chandeliers there continued to be pulpit and desk candlesticks, which Joseph Bryan was cleaning from 1810 to 1816. Gas-lighting was installed in 1828.

#### SHREWSBURY, ST. MARY <sup>75</sup>

The wardens' accounts contain no reference to a chandelier until 1727-8:

Pd for y <sup>e</sup> Iron work of y <sup>e</sup> Candlestick	3 12 0
Pd for Painting y <sup>e</sup> Iron work & the mares Seat	2 15 0
Pd for Entering y <sup>e</sup> Candlestick in y <sup>e</sup> Table	0 7 6
Gave the workmen in ale Setting up y <sup>e</sup> Candle Stick & att other times	0 3 0
half a day's work myself & a man fixing the Candlestick	0 1 10

The benefactions table, on which the chandelier was "entered", is under the tower of the church and records that "M<sup>rs</sup> Priscilla Boycott gave a large Sconce for the Use of this Church, Ano 1727". Beside the entry is the lozenge-of-arms of Boycott impaling Betton.

There is no record of the chandelier's removal, but this is probably because the wardens' accounts do not survive after 1824. The cleaning of the chandelier was performed by the clerk between 1733 and 1771: at first for 5s. a year and then, with washing of the linen, for 17s. from 1738 and for 17s. 6d. from 1756.

In 1809-10 £2 was paid to Mr. Schofield for "pulpit candlesticks" and £1 8s. 6d. to Mr. Howell for "candlesticks". The former would have been George Schofield and the latter Edward Howell. Both were Shrewsbury braziers.<sup>76</sup>

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The help of all those who supplied information or gave access to records is gratefully acknowledged. In particular, clergy and vergers are thanked for many instances of indispensable co-operation.

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## MISCELLANEA

## MEDIEVAL POTTERY FROM ABBEY FOREGATE, SHREWSBURY. SJ 500124

By P. A. BARKER

The pottery here illustrated was found in September 1963 by Mr. R. W. Griffiths of Bletchley, who noticed a pit underlying a layer of cobbles, both of which had been sectioned during the excavation of foundations for a super-market west of the "Dun Cow" Hotel in Abbey Foregate. The cobbled surface ran parallel to a timber-framed building, perhaps of the sixteenth century (and now demolished), which lay between the "Dun Cow" and the site of the super-market. The pit was sealed by the cobbled layer, which was probably contemporary with the timber-framed building.

Mr. Griffiths recovered from the pit the remains of three vessels; part of the rim and shoulder of a cooking pot, SAF 1; a large base sherd of a tripod pitcher, SAF 2; and many fragments of a large decorated pitcher, SAF 3. These sherds, coming from what is presumably a rubbish pit, are, with very little doubt, contemporary with one another. Parallels (quoted below) from other sites within the region would suggest that they date from the first half of the 13th century.

SAF 1.—Rim and shoulder sherds of cooking pot, fine hard slightly sandy dark brown fabric with black surfaces.

Paralleled from the mottes at Smethcott and Adderley (these *Transactions*, Vol. LVI, Part III (1960), p. 258) and Brockhurst Castle, Church Stretton (*Ibid.*, Vol. LVII, Part 1 (1961), p. 63). The similar rim from Brockhurst Castle was stratified in a layer datable from documentary evidence to the period 1215-1255 and probably early in that period. (*Op. cit.*, p. 77).

SAF 2.—Base sherd of a tripod pitcher, hard grey sandy fabric, with light red surface, glazed on exterior with mottled dull green and buff yellow glaze. Part of the base is unglazed.

Tripod pitchers have been found in Shrewsbury, (these *Transactions*, Vol. LVI, Part II (1959), p. 164), at Brockhurst Castle (*op. cit.* above) and at Hen Domen, Montgomery (to be published). Those at Brockhurst Castle and Hen Domen derive from layers datable to the early or middle years of the 13th century. None exactly parallel this example, but clearly they are all related, the Shrewsbury examples being particularly close.

SAF 3.—Sherds of a large pitcher, hard grey sandy fabric with light red surfaces, the bulk of the outside being covered with a yellow-green, partly opaque, glaze. The upper part of the jug is rouletted with a trellis-form decoration which fades away and is obscured by decomposition of the surface below the girth. The whole of the lower half of the pitcher has a badly pitted and eroded outer surface, though the reason is not clear. The slashed handle had come apart from the jug at its lower end and made it possible to see that the rouletting had been done before the handle was put on. The decoration was crisply preserved under the point of junction of the handle whereas it had disappeared where the potter had smoothed the handle on to the body of the jug.

Jugs and pitchers with slashed handles and with thumb-pressed bases and rouletted decoration are found on most sites in the region which are datable to the 13th century. Similar, though not identical vessels or fragments have been found on all the sites mentioned above, and at the well at Loppington, near Wem (to be published).

The writer wishes to thank Mr. Griffiths for generously allowing him to publish this find, and supplying him with the relevant information.

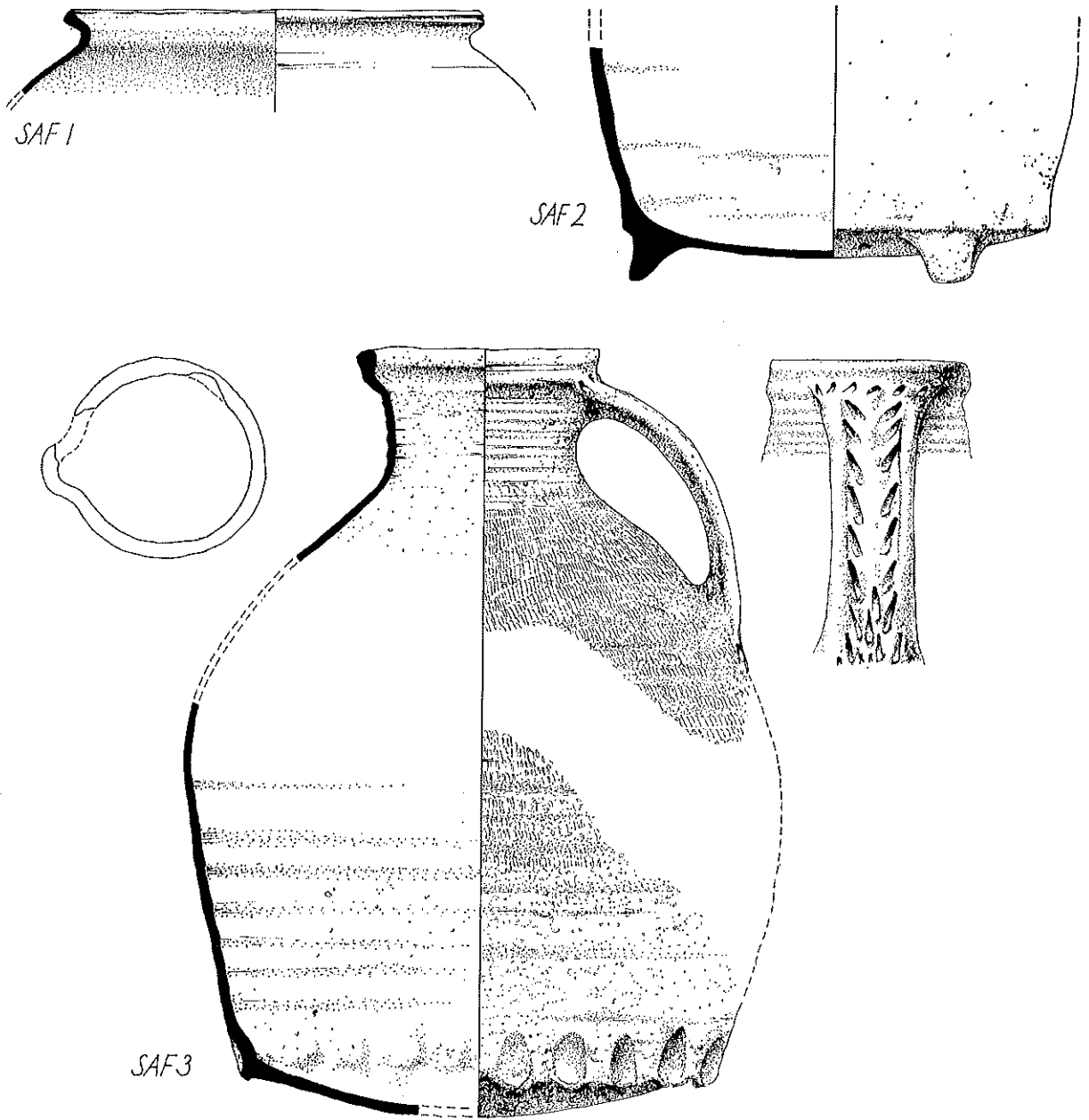


Fig. 58  
Scale 1:4

AN AQUAMANILE FROM THE SITE OF BARCLAYS BANK, PRIDE HILL,  
SHREWSBURY

By P. A. BARKER

The aquamanile illustrated in figure 59 was found during the excavation of the foundations for a new Barclays Bank building at the top of Pride Hill in 1958. The vessel was not noticed until the lorry reached the tip, outside Shrewsbury, where the excavated material was to be dumped. It seems to have suffered remarkably little from its journey, the breaks almost certainly being ancient. That it derived from a rubbish pit seems very probable—the natural banded gravel comes almost to street level here and, as in the sites of the Woolworth's and Littlewood's buildings nearby, it is clear that all the early levels had long ago been stripped off, leaving only features such as wall foundations and rubbish pits which had been cut deep into the sub-soil. This was a considerable disappointment, since we are here within the limits of the Saxon town and the chances of finding early structures or stratified material seem to be fading.

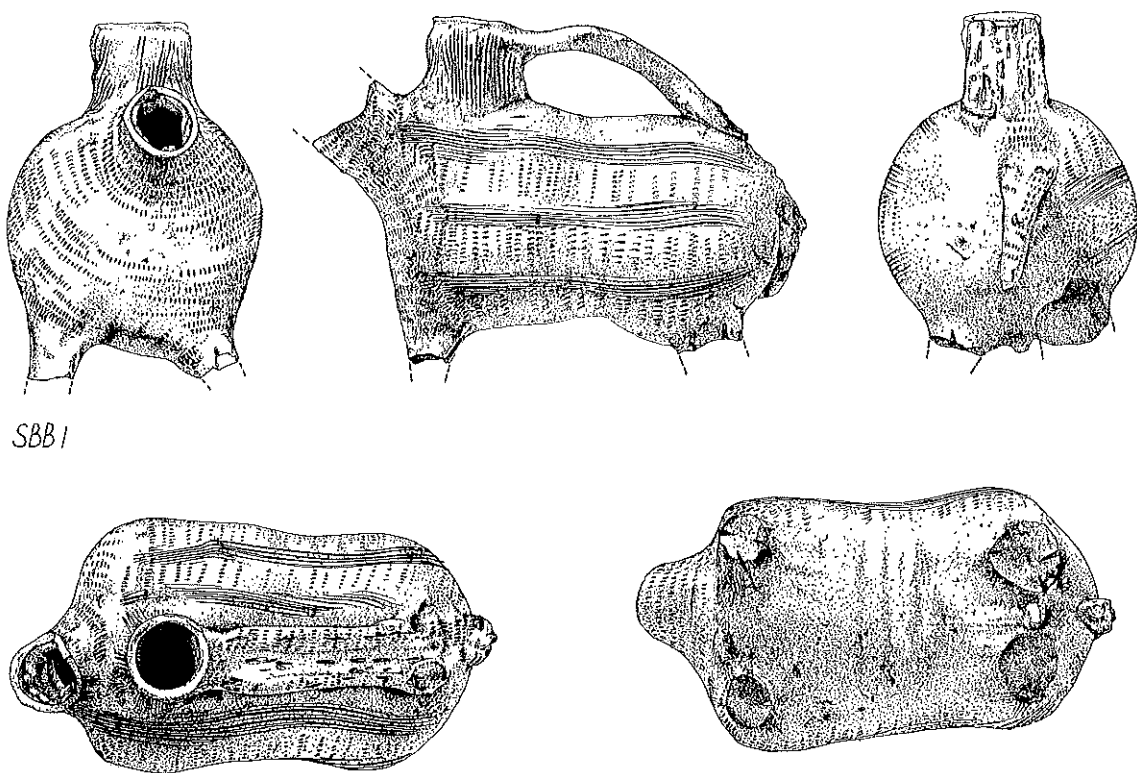


Fig. 59.  
Scale 1:4

The vessel, used for washing the hands at table, seems to represent a boar (the prototype of the piggy bank?) with decoration which is partly ornamental and partly simulates bristle. The fabric is a hard grey sandy ware with light red surfaces, decorated by means of a comb or combs used to stab as well as to make the horizontal

decoration along the creature's sides. The legs have been slashed in the manner of tripod pitcher legs found in the region, and the handle is very like many slashed and stabbed handles of contemporary jugs.<sup>1</sup> The head of the animal had been added to a roughly finished neck stump which can be seen inside the remains of the neck. The vessel was apparently made in two parts joined round the girth; visible rilling suggests that a slow wheel may have been used to make the original cylindrical bowl shapes of each half. It has been glazed, except round the mouth of the upper opening, with a dark yellow-green mottled glaze. This glaze, the fabric and the combed, slashed and stabbed decoration are all consistent with a date in the thirteenth or the early part of the fourteenth century. This aquamanile is less elaborate than other examples,<sup>2</sup> and since the simple decoration it bears is found on early 13th century sherds, if not on some of the 12th century, it need not be dated very late in the 13th century. It is at present on loan to Rowley's House Museum, Shrewsbury.

1. These *Transactions*, Vol. VI, Part II (1959), pp. 164-171; Vol. LVI, Part III (1960), pp. 258-262, together with unpublished material from Hen Domen, Montgomery.
2. For instance, the fragment from the square earthwork in Joyden's Wood, Kent (*Archaeologia Cantiana*, Vol. LXXII, 1958, pp. 36-38) decorated with scales and rough-cast ornament. This fragment has rudimentary genitals as has the Shrewsbury vessel. Other aquamaniles, from Scarborough (Victoria and Albert Museum, *Exhibition of Medieval Art*, 1930, p. 47, no. 232, pl. 49) and from Chester have scale decoration. A large unpublished sherd from More, Shropshire, which also has scale decoration, may be from an aquamanile. The body of a horseman aquamanile from Seaford, Sussex (Rackhem, *Medieval English Pottery*, pl. 13A, and p. 18) has a body very similar in shape and proportions to ours, while the body of an aquamanile from Faversham, in the Royal Museum, Canterbury, has a more elegant body with stabbed decoration.



## NOTES ON THE CROSS FAMILY

By T. GERALD CROSS

The pedigree of the Cross family of Ford, co. Salop, printed in these *Transactions*, 4th Series, Vol. VI, seems to need correction and amplification. The scheme should stand as in the appended table.

Elinor was buried not in 1644 but in 1664. The infant buried in 1643 was fathered not by William but by George.

William Cross of Ford was enrolled a burgess of Salop in 1641, and then lists his issue, which includes an elder son, Richard, living at the same time as the younger, and a daughter, Ann, whose ages are given as respectively 11 and 13. The baptisms are found thus:

Hanwood: 1626 Apr. 11 Anna f. Willielmi Crosse & Elnore.

Pontesbury: 1628 Oct. 26 Richardus Crosse f. Willmi & Elnore.

The deaths of both Richards are recorded at Alberbury thus:

1653 Apr. 6 Rich s of William Crosse of Foord bur.

1655 June 26 Rich s of William Crosse of Foord bur.

Further, a note at Alberbury runs thus:

"Since ye 25th of M'ch 1649 Burialls.

Before the . . . since Candellmas.

Fraunces Crosse."

There is another entry there:

1643 Apr. 8 (Blank) f. Willimo (*sic*) et Ellinore Crosse de Foorde sep.

This could of course, since the contraction of *filius* or *filia* is undetermined, be Ann or Sara, but is more likely perhaps to be Cesar, since Cesar did not inherit in 1676.

The author of the article thinks that the family were probably considered only as yeomen, because "Mr." is not always appended to their names in the registers; but in the Burgess Roll William Crosse is explicitly written as of Ford, gentleman, son of Thomas Crosse of the same; and no doubt suffered the gentleman's privilege of paying twice the enrolment fee.

It had seemed very likely even before the examination of the burgess entry that William derived from the Crosses of the neighbouring parish of Pontesbury, who are also often written as gentlemen and as often not. The birth dates of William's children seem to indicate a possible birth date for himself of about 1595. At the head of the table he stands like Melchisedec, without beginning of days; but at Pontesbury is baptized 15th February 1595/6 Willielmus f. Thomae Crosse, of whom we then hear no more, save that a Thomas Crosse without further description is buried there on the 15th July, 1625. William lists his father Thomas as deceased before 1641.

The baptism of William is listed at Hanwood as well, and at Hanwood, too, is the following entry:

1599 Aug.—Anna f. Thomas (*sic*) Crosse de Cruck meelee Bapt.

After the baptism of William's daughter, Anne, in 1626, apart from the marriage of a John Crosse from Montgomeryshire, no more Cross entries appear at Hanwood until 1710, when a James Cross has a daughter christened there. This family then settles there. They are of a different stem, though until further evidence appears they cannot be said decisively to be of a different root. They also are written as gentlemen in their own parish, but in Shrewsbury only as yeomen, whether to avoid the greater expense of enrolment or because their condition appeared more rustic in a more sophisticated atmosphere. It was not until 1865 that one of their descendants became armigerous.

Their pedigree is given in Crisp's *Visitations*, and more extendedly in his notes, Vol. 14. They were formerly of Shelton, neighbours of William Crosse of Ford, three miles away. The Crisp pedigree begins with John of Shelton, yeoman, son of James of the same place and condition. No burial is there given for James and no baptism for John; but in the registers of High Ercall it is recorded that in 1622, April 13, James Cross of Haughton (in the parish of High Ercall) *died at Shelton* and was buried at Ercall. Upon this the name vanishes in Ercall for two hundred years.

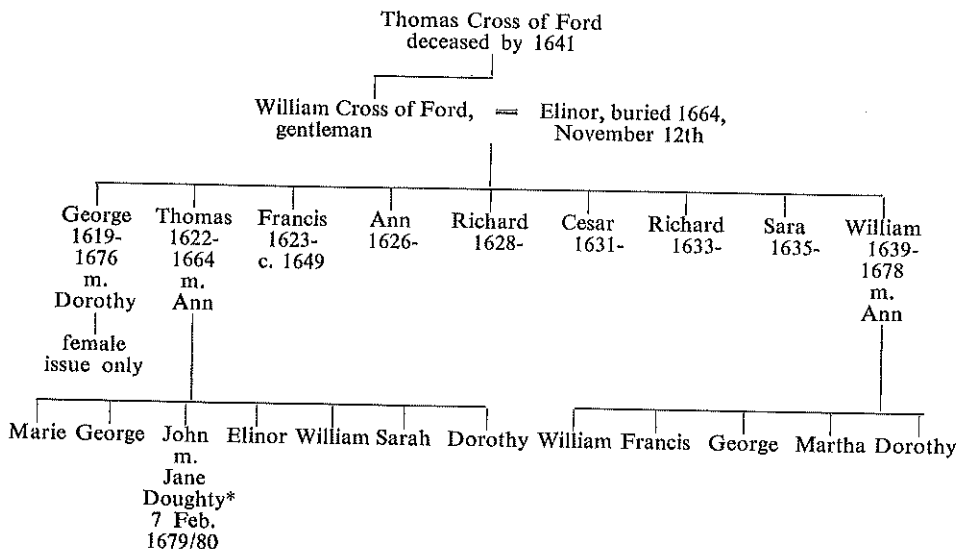
Looking back in High Ercall we find:

1595/6 Jan 19 John Crosse chr.  
 1600/1 Mar. 19 Johan (Joan) Crosse bur.  
 1604 Apr. 11 Sara d. of Dorotheie wiffe of James Crosse of Haughton Bapt.  
 1611 May 12 James s. of James Crosse of Haughton and Dorathie Bapt.  
 1615 June 5 Thomas Crosse of Ponsburie and Alice Wynnington of Terne of this p. wed.

And finally, the burial of James, who died at Shelton. Haughton is about eight miles from Shelton.

Now, though there are many parishes in the northern half of Shropshire where the name of Cross appears for short periods, or in isolated entries, Pontesbury (and its immediate neighbourhood) is one of two parishes very remarkable for a long series of entries extending from the start of the parish registers in each case, until the nineteenth century. The other parish is Moreton Corbet in the hundred of North Bradford; and it arrests attention at once that Haughton in the parish of High Ercall is only five or six miles from Moreton Corbet.

A fair provisional pedigree can be constructed for the Moreton Corbet family from the registers alone; but this is not so for the Crosses of Pontesbury. At present it can only be said that if wills and other supplementary evidence do in fact connect the families of the Pontesbury and Moreton Corbet regions, which lie some fifteen miles apart, it will not be surprising.



\*At WESTBURY: 1702 Aug. 25 John Cross bur.  
 1704/5 Feb. 2 Jane Cross bur.  
 The identification may be probable.

## PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO SHROPSHIRE

- HOLLAND, C. H., LAWSON, J. D. and WALMSLEY, V. G. *Silurian Rocks of the Ludlow District, Shropshire*. British Museum. Geology, Vol. 8, No. 3, 1963.
- Shrewsbury and District Directory*. Ashton & Denton Publishing Co. 1964.
- WRENN, D. P. H. *Goodbye to Morning (A biographical study of Mary Webb)*. Shrewsbury, Wilding, 1964.
- PRICE, M. R. C. *The Cleobury Mortimer and Ditton Priors Light Railway*. Lingfield (Sy). Oakwood Press. 27 p. 1963.
- Stokesay Castle, Shropshire*. Derby, English Life Publications. 18 p. 1963.
- COWBURN, P. (ed.). *A Salopian Anthology*. Macmillan. 1964.
- OAKLEY, R. R. *A History of Oswestry School*. Seeley Service & Co. 1964.

## ARTICLES

- SCHOFIELD, M. Shropshire leadership of 1763. (In *Iron and Steel*, 36, Aug. 63, p. 429-30).
- KENNETH BROWNE and IAN NAIRN. Ironbridge. (In *Architectural R.*, 133 (June 63), p. 410-414).
- IAN NAIRD. What new town? (In *Architectural R.*, 133 (June 63), p. 389-91).
- GINSBURG, L. B. Within the bridges: urban renewal in Shrewsbury (In *Officia Architecture and Planning*, 26 (Oct. 63), p. 970-7).
- CHITTY, L. F. The Clun-Clee Ridgeway. (In *Culture and Environment*. Ed. I. Ll. Foster and L. Alcock. Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1963.)
- IAN A. RICHMOND. The Cornovii. In *ditto*.
- L. ALCOCK. Pottery and Settlement in Wales and the March, A.D. 400-700. In *ditto*.

## OBITUARY

## MRS. LILIAN H. HAYWARD

With deep regret the Society has to record the death of Mrs. Lilian Holland Hayward, on June 15th, 1964. The only daughter of Mr. William Squire Buddicom, of Ticklerton Court, she was born in December 1878. In 1918 she married Mr. John Alfred Le Mesurier Hayward, who died four years later.

During the first World War she worked for refugees and at the Auxiliary Hospital in Church Stretton.

Mrs. Hayward travelled a good deal abroad, and was a great walker. In 1935 she walked from Land's End to John O'Groats. She had an extensive knowledge of the Shropshire hills and countryside, about which she wrote with such charm and wisdom.

In her busy life she was on the Ludlow Rural District Council, first President of the Eaton-under-Heywood Women's Institute, on the Parochial Church Council, amongst many other activities. She was Recorder for Folklore and Customs for the Caradoc and Severn Valley Field Club.

Heraldry was one of her many interests, and among her numerous articles were several on "Armorial Bearings in Shropshire Churches".

Her keen and lively interest and originality will be sadly missed by this Society and by all who knew her.

E.N.M.

## JOHN LESLIE HOBBS (1916-1964)

Mr. John Leslie Hobbs, F.L.A., F.R.Hist.S., who died with tragic suddenness at his home, 4 Elmfield Road, Shrewsbury, on 23rd December, 1964, at the early age of 48, had been the Borough Librarian and Curator of Shrewsbury for eighteen years. Born at Whitchurch, Shropshire, he was educated at Derby Grammar School, and entered the public library service at Derby in 1931. By 1938 he had become chief assistant, and with the outbreak of war in 1939 he joined the National Fire Service, which he served in London and south-east England until the end of the war. He passed the Fellowship examination of the Library Association with honours in 1942. Returning to Derby, he was soon appointed Deputy Librarian, and later in the same year was appointed Borough Librarian and Curator at Shrewsbury.

Only thirty years of age when he undertook this responsible position, Mr. Hobbs quickly showed that he possessed uncommon ability and enterprise, and during the years that followed he did much to improve the services provided by the library, museums and art gallery.

Always particularly interested in the study of local history, Mr. Hobbs was a contributor to the *Transactions* of the Derbyshire Archaeological Society before he came to Shrewsbury, and while here he developed and extended this side of his work. He continued the calendaring of deeds and documents in the library's collection—work which had been initiated by the late Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher and continued by the late Rev. R. C. Purton—and published in 1954 a volume on *Shrewsbury Street Names*, which was followed in 1962 by a work on *Local History and the Library*. He served on the Council of the Shropshire Archaeological Society, was honorary librarian to the Caradoc and Severn Valley Field Club, and edited the *Shropshire Archaeological Newsletter*, a joint undertaking of the Shrewsbury Library Committee and the Shropshire Archaeological Society, from its beginning in 1957 until his death. He was a frequent lecturer to various organisations on local history subjects, a past president of the Shrewsbury branch of the National Association of Local Government Officers, a trustee of the 4th Battalion K.S.L.I. (T.A.) regimental museum at the Sir John Moore Barracks, Shrewsbury, and in 1963 was president of Shrewsbury Rotary Club.

Mr. Hobbs's chief contributions to these *Transactions* were: "A Shrewsbury Subsidy Roll, 1445-46" (Vol. LIII, pp. 68-75); "Three Borough Rentals of Shrewsbury, 1521, 1580, 1610" (Vol. LIII, pp. 212-241); "Some Letters of William Fowler, Steward of Shrewsbury, 1593-95" (Vol. LVI, pp. 273-281); "John Milton's Shrewsbury Connections" (Vol. LVII, pp. 26-30); "Wills and Administrations in Ruyton-Eleven-Towns Manorial Court" (Vol. LVII, pp. 20-25). He also contributed to the *Transactions* of the Caradoc and Severn Valley Field Club (1957-60, in the press) a paper on "John Frail, Election Agent", and at the time of his death is believed to have been engaged on a biography of John Mytton.

Mr. Hobbs's first wife died some years ago, and he is survived by his second wife, a son of the first marriage, and a child of the second marriage. L.C.L.

#### TOM HAMAR OF CLUN

In the passing of Mr. Tom Hamar, on 30th December, 1964, at the age of 78, Shropshire has lost an outstanding personality and the archaeology of the Clun Region has suffered an irreparable loss. To him, together with his friend the late Mr. Herbert C. Jones, schoolmaster of Clun and later of Clungunford (who died in 1940), we owe the initiation of the Museum at Clun, with its astonishing collection of some 10,000 flints and flint implements found locally, which they had been amassing for years before it was first opened in 1932, when Mr. Hamar undertook the work of Honorary Curator. One of the most valuable exhibits is the series of six-inch O.S. Maps on which they marked the sites of their discoveries and the fields from which flints and other interesting objects were brought in by farmers, workmen and school-children, and from these maps the routes are revealed by which early man moved through the district. Mr. Hamar was particularly keen to encourage local children to take part in the building up of the work and he enjoyed leading school parties round the Museum.

Tom Hamar was born in Clun on 30th July, 1886, the fifth of the seven sons of Wm. Hamar, draper and outfitter there, to whose business he later succeeded. He married Mary Ann Luther and, thanks to her devoted partnership, he was able to achieve some leisure to carry on his archaeological researches; they celebrated their Golden Wedding in 1962. He served his native community in many capacities and was on the Clun Parish Council for forty years.

Tom Hamar was a man of vision: when we discussed his flint implements a far-away look would light up his grey-blue eyes as if he could actually see their makers moving along the beloved Ridgeway. His fine sense of humour was revealed in some delightful local sketches produced with his friend Mr. Tom Beardsley in early numbers of the *Shropshire Magazine*, but, these apart, his instinctive humility of mind was such that it proved impossible to persuade him to record in writing his priceless knowledge of his homeland and its lore. I am indebted to Mr. Beardsley for particulars of his life history.

Tom Hamar joined the Shropshire Archaeological Society in 1952, was elected to the Council in 1956, and made a Vice-President in 1960. His leadership of excursions was always greatly enjoyed.

A fuller appreciation of the work of Mr. Jones and Mr. Hamar and of their co-operators may be found in my address given on the occasion of the re-opening of Clun Town Trust Museum on 18th May, 1955 (*Trans. Caradoc and Severn Valley Field Club*, XIV (1951-56), 109-113), and in my essay on "The Clun-Clee Ridgeway", No. VII in *Culture and Environment* (Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1963), 171-192, with a map embodying on a reduced scale Mr. Hamar's records of flint implements from the Clun Region, which with characteristic generosity he placed at my disposal.

LILY F. CHITTY

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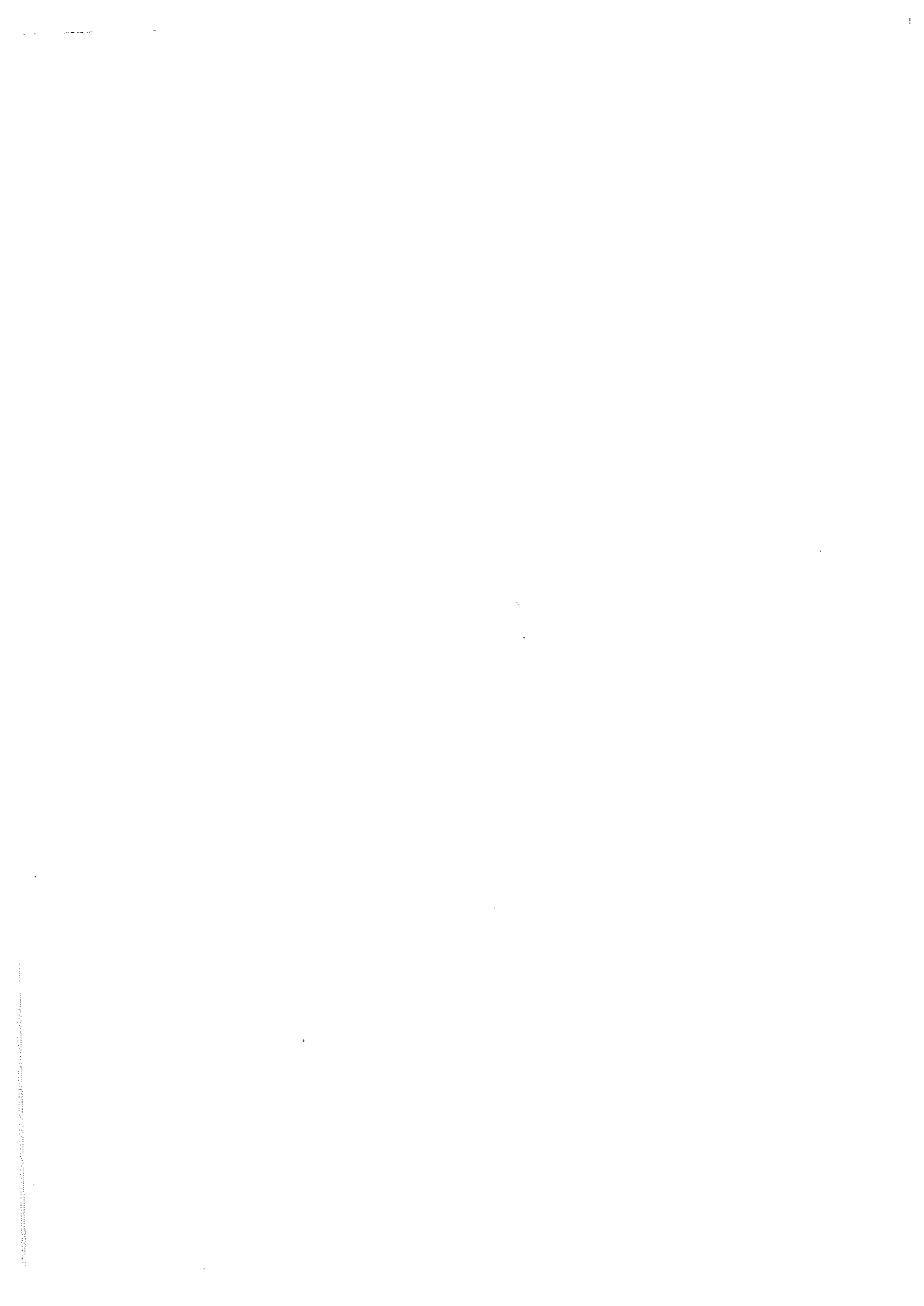
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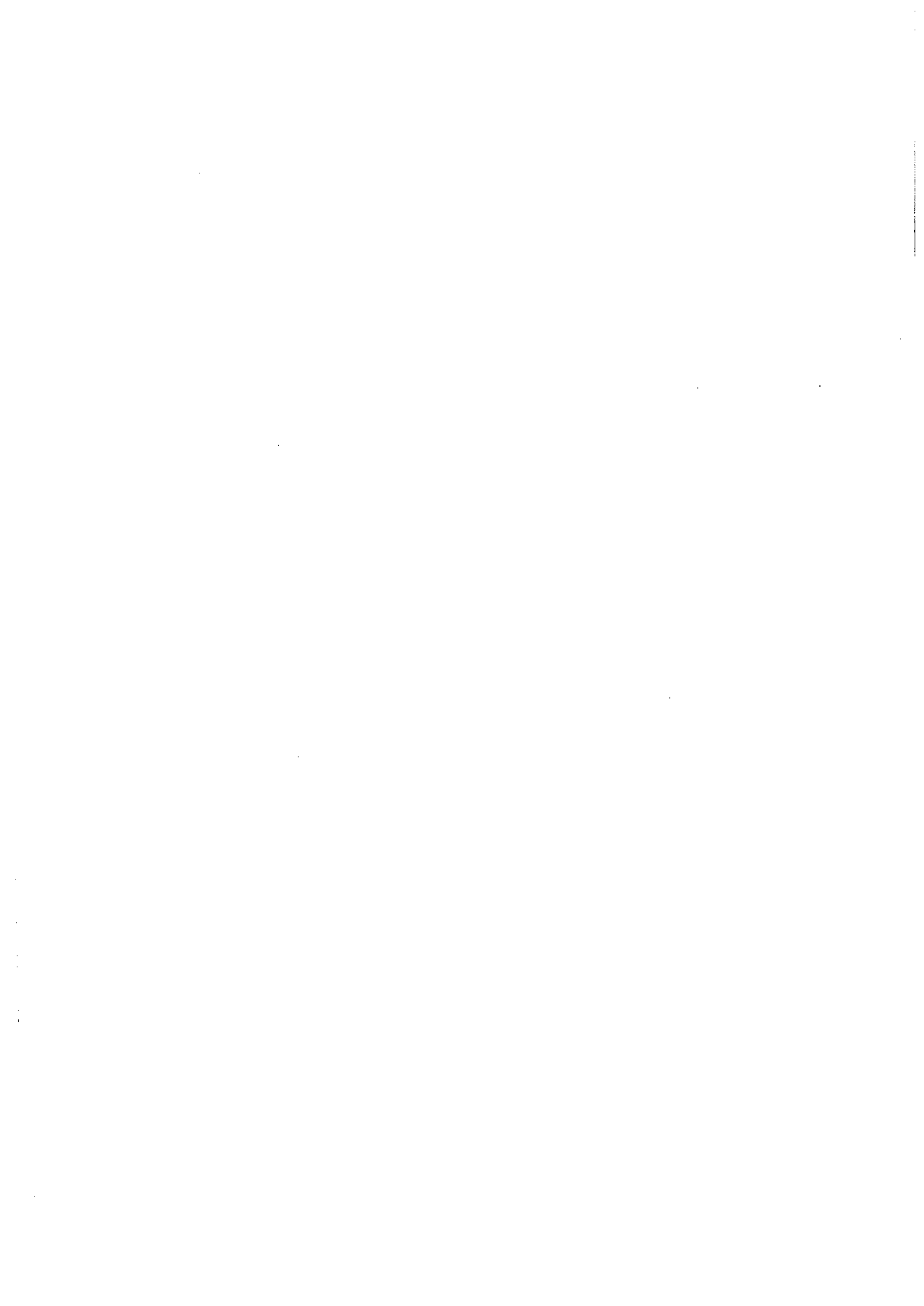
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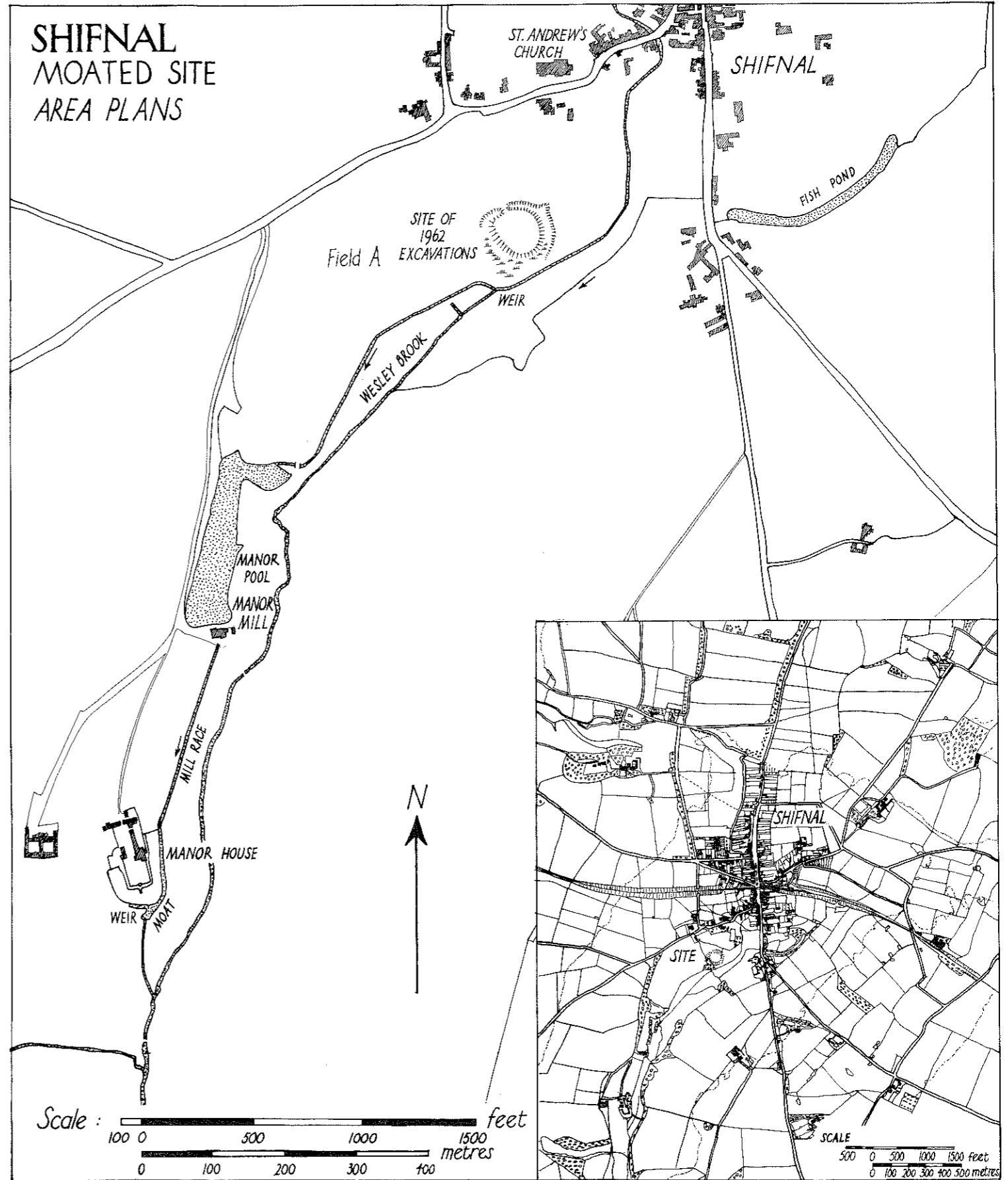


Fig. 39.

**SHIFNAL**  
**SHROPSHIRE**  
**MOATED SITE**  
 NAT. GRID REF. SJ7463 0727

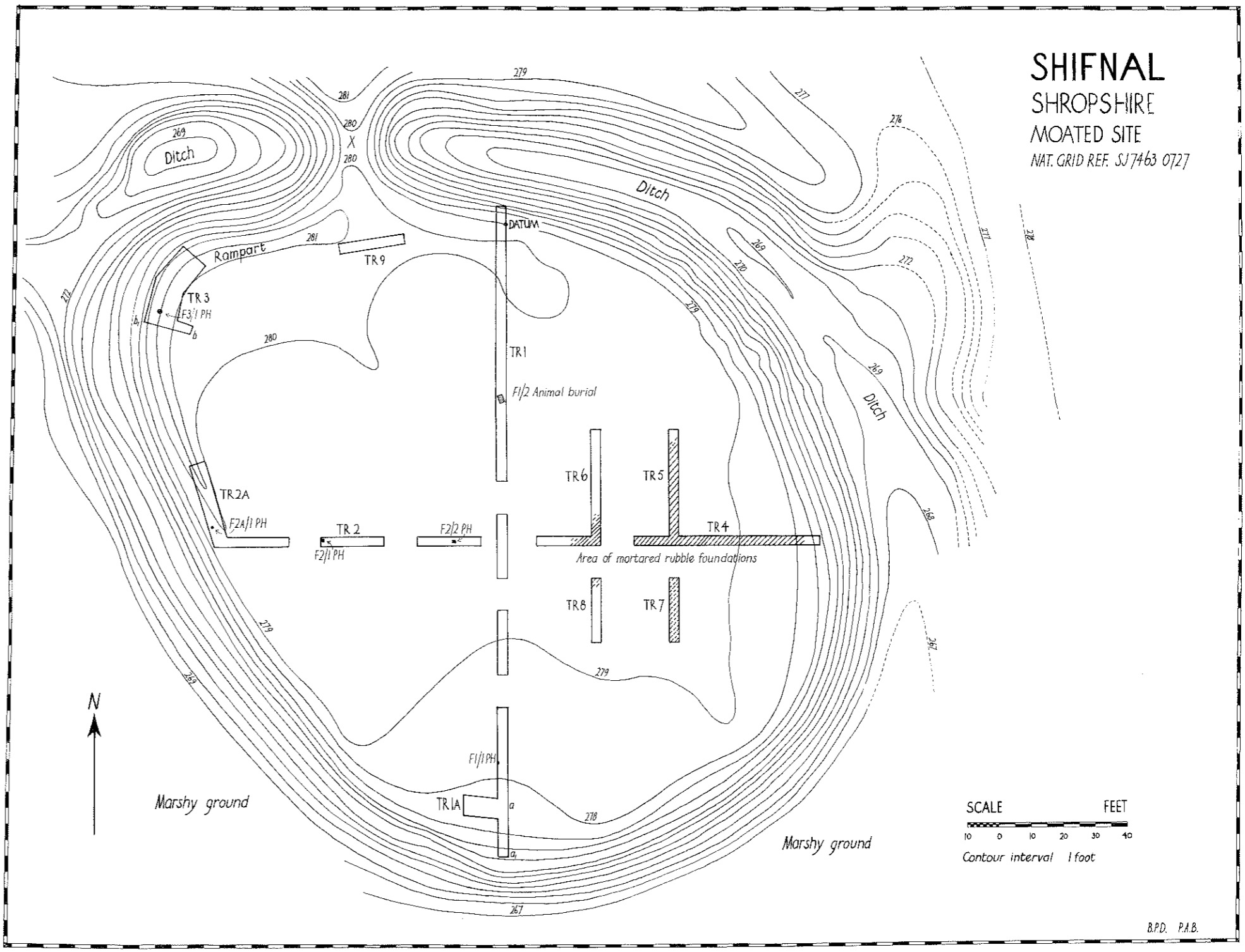


Fig. 40.

B.P.D. P.A.B.

PONTESBURY CASTLE MOUND · SECTIONS · 1961  
TRENCH 2 · SECTION

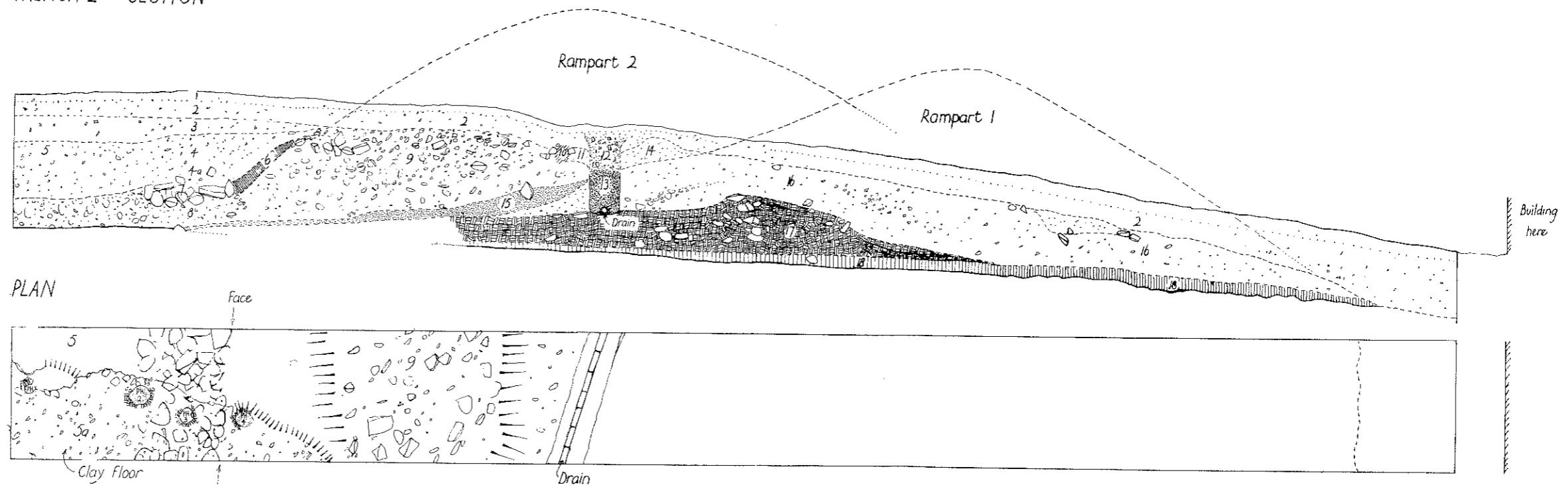
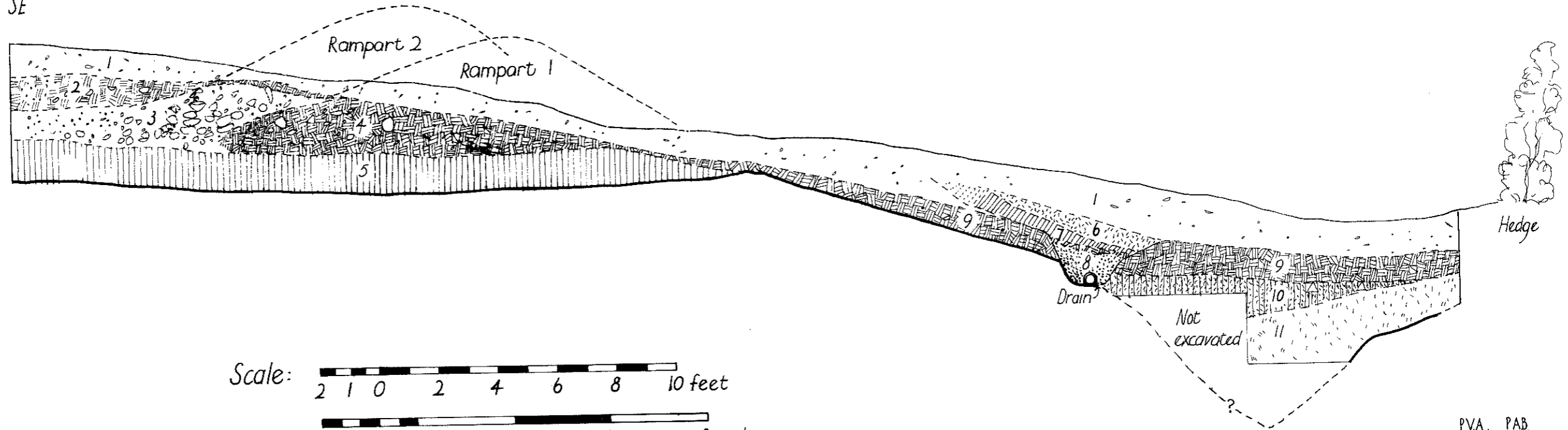


Fig. 46A

TRENCH 3  
SE

NW



Scale: 2 1 0 2 4 6 8 10 feet

1 0 1 2 3 metres

For key to sections see p. 210  
Fig. 46b

R.V.A. P.A.B.

PONTESBURY CASTLE MOUND · 1964

Sections

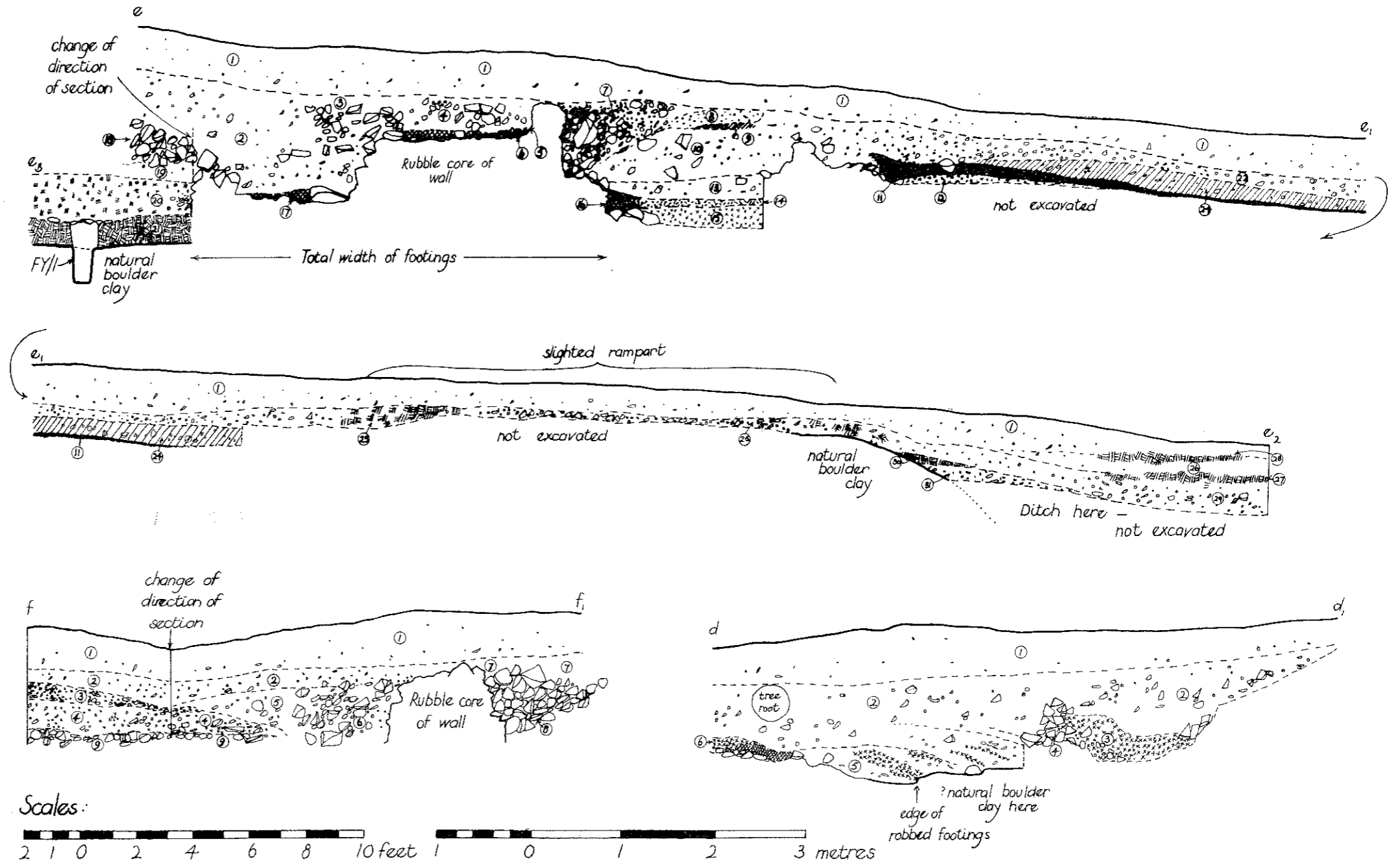
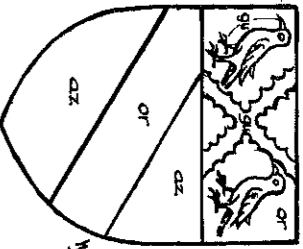


Fig. 50.

# THE VYNAR GENEALOGY



WILLIAM

Subsidy Rolls  
COLLEGE 1525, 1524  
CANTON 1526, 1525  
STANDERTFORD 1545.

NICHOLAS  
bur. STANDERTFORD  
Co WILTS  
Pcc. 26 PAPWELL  
p. 22 Feb 1549/50

Held lease of the Rectory  
of STANDERTFORD from 1532  
land of W. CALKE Co WILTS

EDITH

JOHN VYNAR = JOAN  
bur. BRADFORD ON AVON  
Co WILTS  
Pcc. 18 VOX.  
p. 7 March 1493/4

bur. BRADFORD ON AVON  
Pcc. 18 MOORE  
p. 16 Jan 1500/1

HENRY = ANN = (1) JOHN HARROLD  
d. SIR JOHN SCROPE  
of ROSEBERY  
Co Hereford  
b. 1504.  
pcc. 24 CHRYNAN  
p. 1559  
Grant of Arms by  
Thomas Towce  
c. 1525.  
bur. ROSEBERY  
Co Hereford  
1573.

Richard HARROLD BA.  
of ROSEBERY  
b. 1526  
Reburden son of S. DAVIS  
pcc. 9 CAREW p. 1575.

JOHN = ROBERT NICHOLAS  
of COATE in BISHOPS CANNINGS  
Co WILTS  
Son of JOHN NICHOLAS, of BOUNHWAY  
by ALICE dau. of JOHN GOATE  
of HINTON in STEERLE ASHTON Co WILTS

Sue. Robt. 1576  
Eson will of GRANDFATHER NICHOLAS VYNAR  
Inherited the Rectory of STANDERTFORD

JOHN  
Fuswyke of  
CHIPPENHAM

NICHOLAS  
WILL IN  
STANDERTFORD

THOMAS  
of STANDERTFORD  
died s.p. between  
1545-1549.  
LANDS IN CALKE  
SUB. ROLL STANDERTFORD  
1524, 1545.

ANN = ANTHONY OTHERS  
SCROPE  
bro. of  
Ann SCROPE  
sub. roll  
STANDERTFORD  
bills dated 1545  
Council  
Co Hereford

ANN = ANTHONY OTHERS  
dau. of WILLIAM  
LANE  
Co Hereford of LONDON  
pcc. 33 PAPWELL  
p. 14 Dec. 1592.  
by ANN dau. HENRY  
LUSHINGTON cl. / groom  
m. at St MARIS  
ALDERMARSH  
25 May 1561.

HENRY VYNAR = MARY  
[1] eldest dau. of  
Robert Long  
of STANDERTFORD  
bur. STANDERTFORD  
Co SALOP  
24 May 1584.  
apparently is  
ROBERT LONG  
cl. / mercer  
Loop of the Manors  
of CONDOVER.  
SEAND HEAD Co WILTS  
CHARMANSLEDE Co SOM.

Grant of Arms by  
THOS HANLEY Chateaux  
July 1545.  
West Turcock Co EX.  
by CECELIA widow of JOHN COPINGER  
m. at CONDOVER  
22 Feb 1581/2  
bur. ST LAWRENCE JEWRY  
ob. 12 July 1561. [cat 24]

SIR HENRY VYNAR = MARY  
K. J.P.  
of WYKE HOUSE  
HILBERTON  
JURTA TROWBRIDGE  
b. 20 Nov 1577  
bur Trowbridge  
3 Sept. 1626.  
pcc. 125 HELLE  
p. 1626  
MANOR OF CHROMMSLEDE  
Co SOM.

MARY = JOHN  
VERB  
of STANDERTFORD

MARY = JOHN  
VERB  
of STANDERTFORD

MARY = CHRISTOPHER  
HOLFORD  
of W. TURROCK Co SOX

MARY = SIR WILLIAM  
DANIELL  
Sgt at Lawe  
S. of PIER  
DANIEL  
of TRABLEY  
Co CHAS.

MARY = THOMAS BOONLEY  
of Co Cheshire  
S. of Sir Thomas BOONLEY K.  
Lord Chancellor

HENRY  
S.p.  
ob. 1621  
rdm. Middle Temple  
20 Oct 1600

Richard  
b. c. 1586  
m. Marie St. JOHN'S  
12 Nov 1602. okon  
of WYKE HOUSE  
bur. St. James' Trowbridge 1618  
Manor of Chrommslede 45 furlong  
no issue  
Co Som.

MARY = JOHN  
VERB  
of STANDERTFORD

MARY = JOHN  
VERB  
of STANDERTFORD

ANN = OLIVER OTHERS  
Prebendary of Sarum.

MARY = JOHN  
MINKSHILL  
no issue.

THOMAS  
b. 9 Oct 1563  
bur St Lawrence  
Jewry 28 Jan 1582  
s.p.

RICHARD  
bp. 9 Nov 1563  
at St Lawrence  
Jewry  
bur. Strensbury  
School between  
1572-1575.

EDWARD  
bp. 26 Sept 1579  
at CONDOVER  
ob. 14 Jan 1581  
s.p.

WILLIAM  
bp. 21 Jan 1574/5  
at CONDOVER  
bur. Strensbury  
School. 9 Jan 1587

JANE  
d. TRIGWIS  
of CHESHAM  
Co Bucks  
m. 10 June 1611  
ALL HOLLOWES  
ON THE WALL

NICHOLAS = (3) FRANCES  
WHITE  
m. 17 Jan 1611/15  
at ALL HOLLOWES  
ON THE WALL.

JANE = WILLIAM LOCKE  
mentioned in will of Richard VYNAR  
of WYKE the 1648

MARGARET  
bp. 30 June  
1583  
at CONDOVER

ELINOR  
bp. 4 April 1578  
at CONDOVER

MARTHA  
bp. 4 Feb  
1576/7  
at CONDOVER

MARY  
bp. 15 Jan  
1575  
at CONDOVER

ANNE  
[This you had]  
bp. 7 July 1573  
at CONDOVER

ELIZABETH  
b. 14 Jan 1571/2

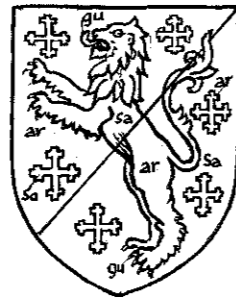
JOAN  
b. 11 Nov  
1566/9

ELIZABETH  
b. 15 Aug 1567  
bur at STANDERTFORD  
ob. 1 Sept. 1588

ANNE  
bp. 8 Oct 1564  
at St Lawrence  
Jewry

F15153





ROBERT LONG  
1545.

# THE LONG GENEALOGY.

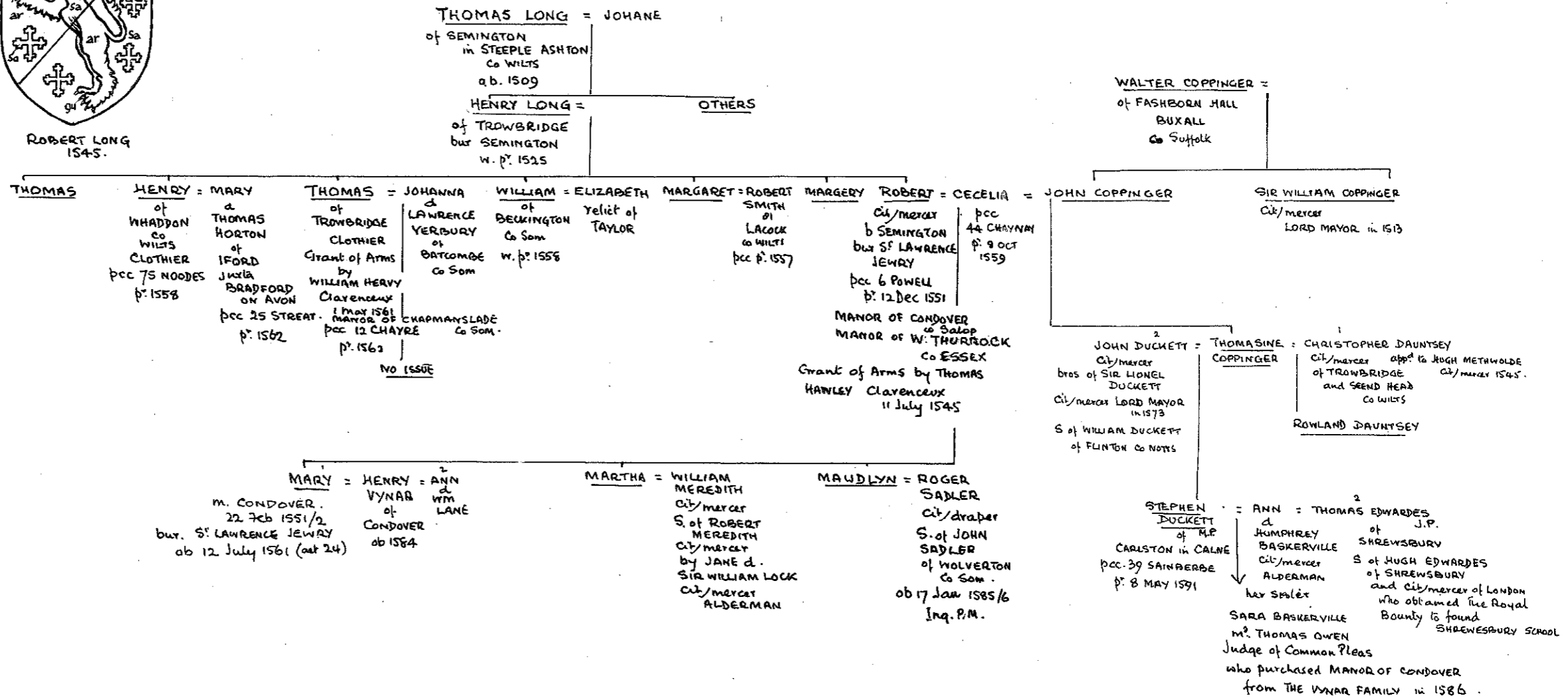


Fig: 54



JOHN LANE  
OF LONDON  
1552

# THE LANE GENEALOGY.

EDWARD LANE  
Land in FISHBOURNE  
Juxta CHICHESTER  
SX.

THOMAS =  
of  
NEWFISHBOURNE  
a° 1496

ALICE  
br. S. MARY'S NEWFISHBOURNE  
will p. CHICHESTER  
29 Jan 1500/1.

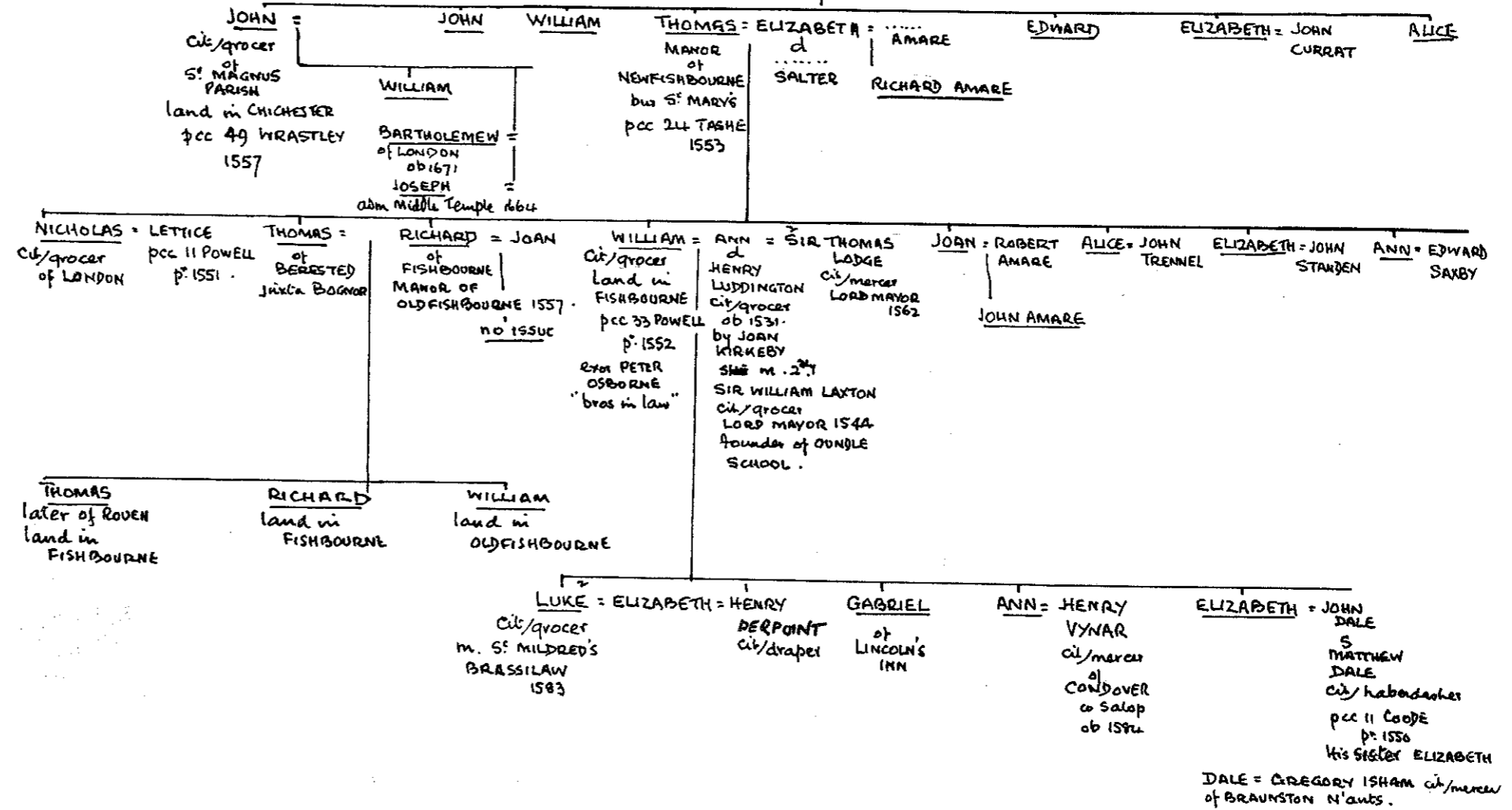


Fig: 55