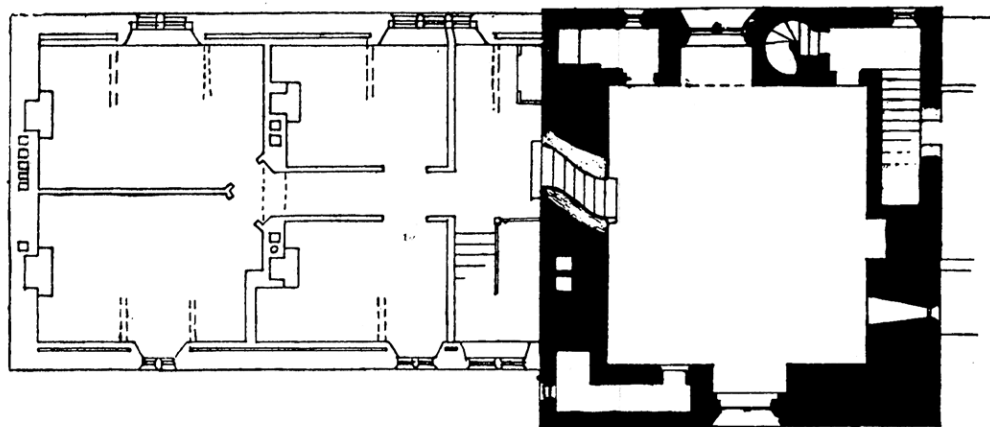
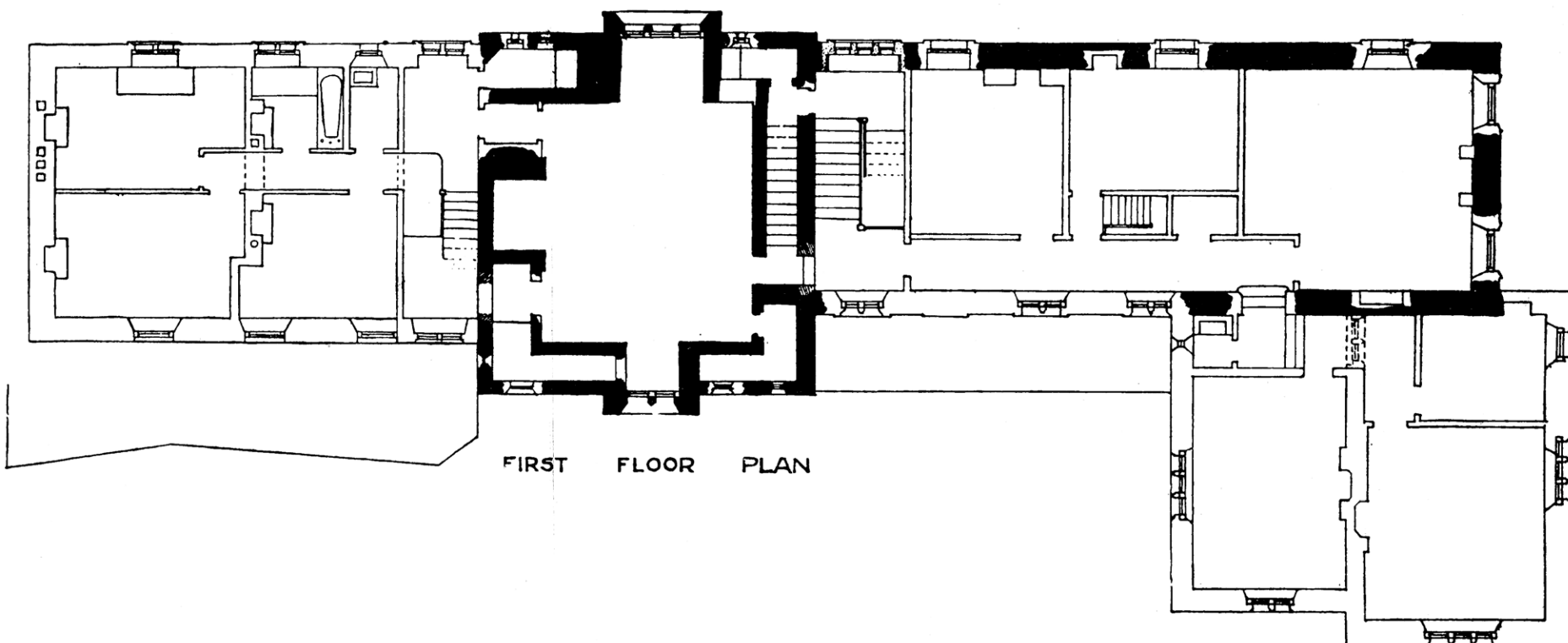


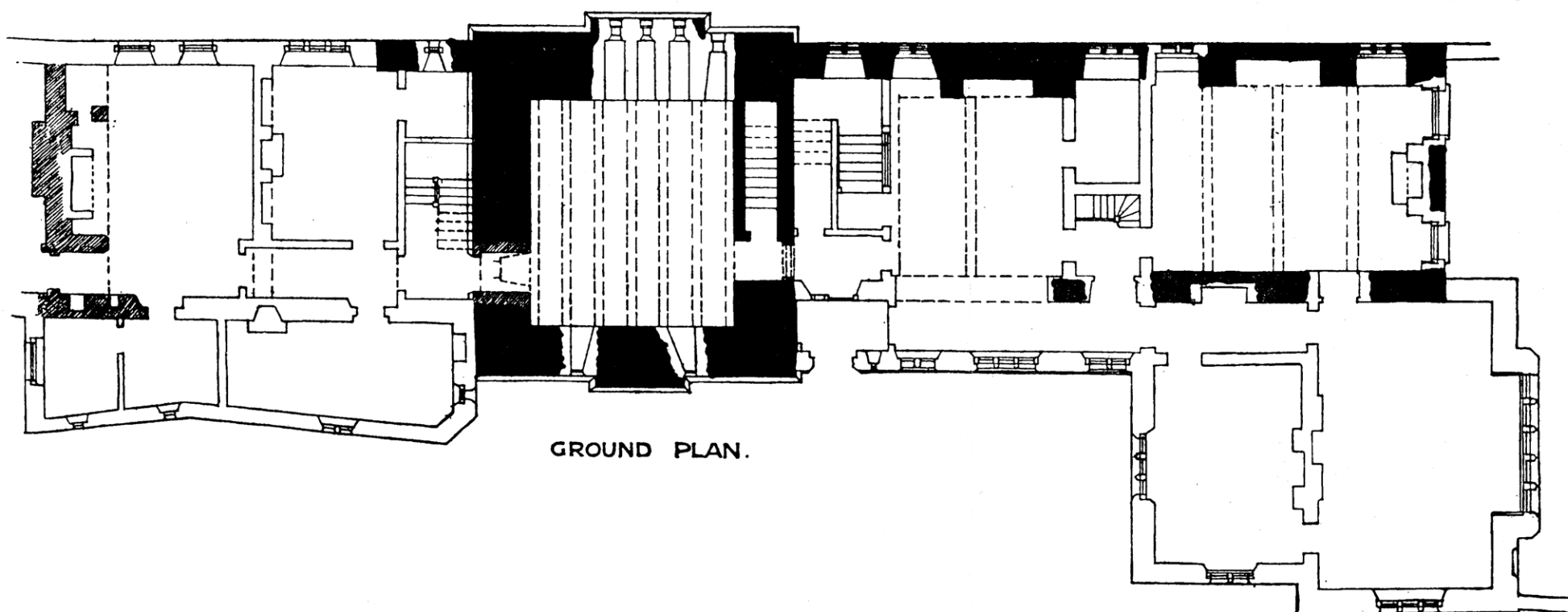
THE DEANERY CARLISLE



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



GROUND PLAN.

SCALE OF 0 10 20 30 40 50 FEET.

(TO FACE P. 185.)

ART. XX.—*Notes on the Deanery, Carlisle.* By J. H. MARTINDALE, F.R.I.B.A.

Read at Carlisle, April 5th, 1906.

RISING above the ancient walls of the city, so familiar to all travellers to Scotland, the old group of buildings, with the mark of centuries stamped on their face and known as the Deanery, are most interesting and instructive from many points of view, and yet very little has been written about them. It is not my intention to describe the buildings from documentary sources, but simply to outline the various changes made in them, as far as I am able to read the history written in their stones.

We possess comparatively few residences, omitting episcopal houses, of the greater ecclesiastical dignitaries, still occupied and used by the present holders of the original office.

Of the nine English cathedrals of the old foundation, only two—Wells and Exeter—possess residences of the date of Carlisle still inhabitable. In the thirteen cathedrals of the new foundation, only five—namely, Canterbury, Durham, Chester, Winchester, and Rochester—have portions of the building in use; while in the large monastic houses the buildings are more or less in ruins, and in most cases only with the aid of Mr. St. John Hope can the outline of the plan be traced from foundations just visible above the ground. But here in Carlisle—and we must remember it was the residence of the prior long before there was a dean of Carlisle—we have a building which has been used by the head of the Carlisle Chapter for between four and five hundred years, and it replaces still earlier structures.

The long building we see to-day is the outcome of many additions at various dates, the nucleus being the tower, with north and south wings of the latter part of the fourteenth or early fifteenth century.

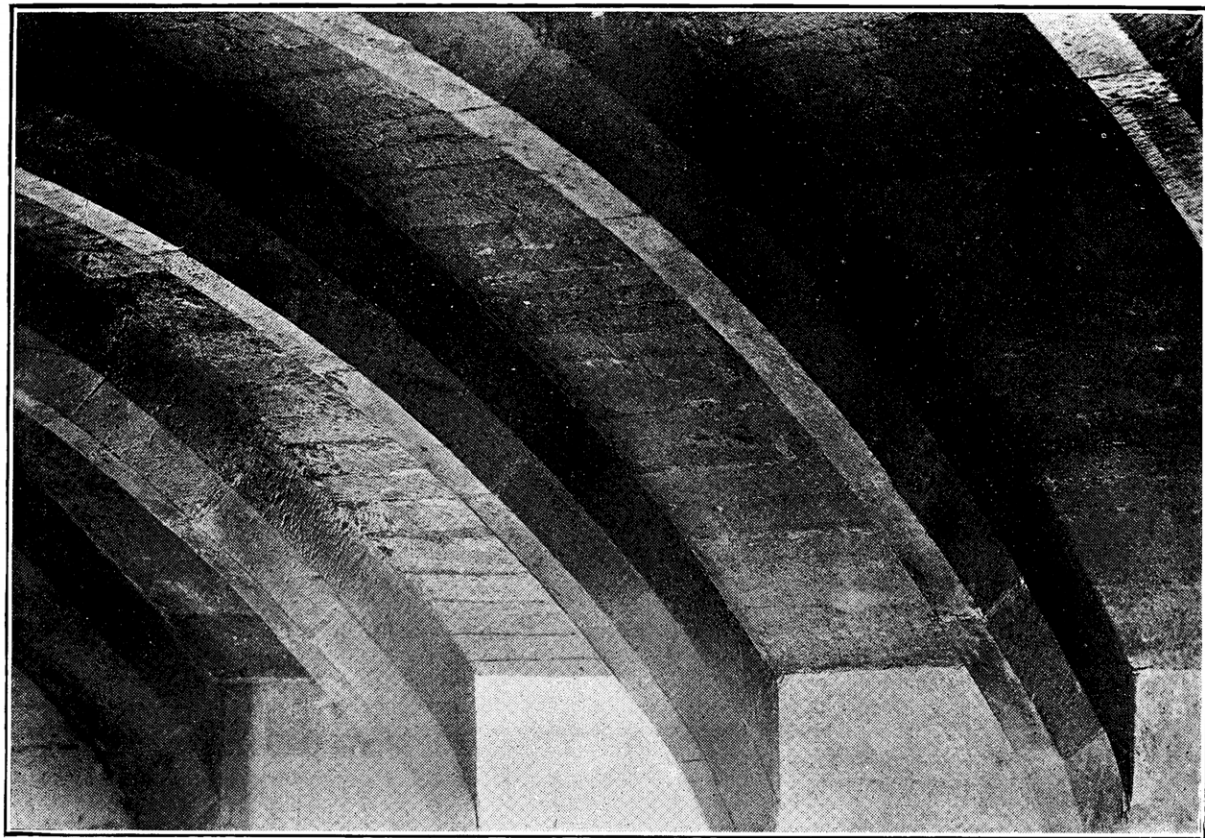
This tower has been called a "pele" tower. It is unnecessary to discuss here whether the term means an isolated tower or small fortress. We all understand the type, period, and characteristics of a building so designated, and in this case we have a fine and interesting example—interesting because, though generally associated with military purposes, it is here combined with and put to ecclesiastical purposes, thus indicating the importance and influence in civil affairs of the chief ecclesiastic of Carlisle at the period, or the danger to which he was exposed from friends across the border.

This tower from the date of its erection had buildings abutting on both north and south sides, as proved by the original label moulds, for high pitched roofs on these faces, and the position of the door and window openings, the former indicating that originally only the buildings to the north communicated with the tower.

The tower does not stand square with the points of the compass. One side is parallel with and abuts on the western ramparts of the city, and for distinction and reference I will call this the "west face" (though not quite correctly), and the front to the Abbey Grounds the "east face."

The outside dimensions are 34 feet from east to west and 32 feet from north to south, comparing very nearly with the towers of Yanwath and Hutton John in Dr. Taylor's list of *Manorial Halls*, being larger than the Strickland tower at Rose Castle, and sixth largest in respect of total width.

The west wall is 7 feet thick, the north and south walls 6 feet, and the east wall 5 feet. On the west face, not quite in the centre, is a flat projection 11 feet wide and



C. J. F. Martindale, photo.

PLATE I.—CRYPT IN THE DEANERY, CARLISLE.

tcwaas_002_1907_vol7_0023

TO FACE P. 187.

1 foot 3 inches from face of wall, forming the base of the fine corbelled rectangular bay window of the solar or prior's room.

A similar base on the east face is only 9 feet wide and 1 foot projection.

The tower consists of three storeys, and is 42 feet high to the top of the battlements.

The original entrance was on ground floor in the north wall about 10 feet from east angle. The jambs remain and indicate an opening 3 feet 6 inches wide in the clear; they are not checked or rebated for a door, but have a double splay, confirming the existence of contemporary building on this side of the tower. The head of the opening must have been square; no trace remains, and there is not sufficient height for an arch. This confirms the late date of the tower. The earlier peles usually have arched doors.

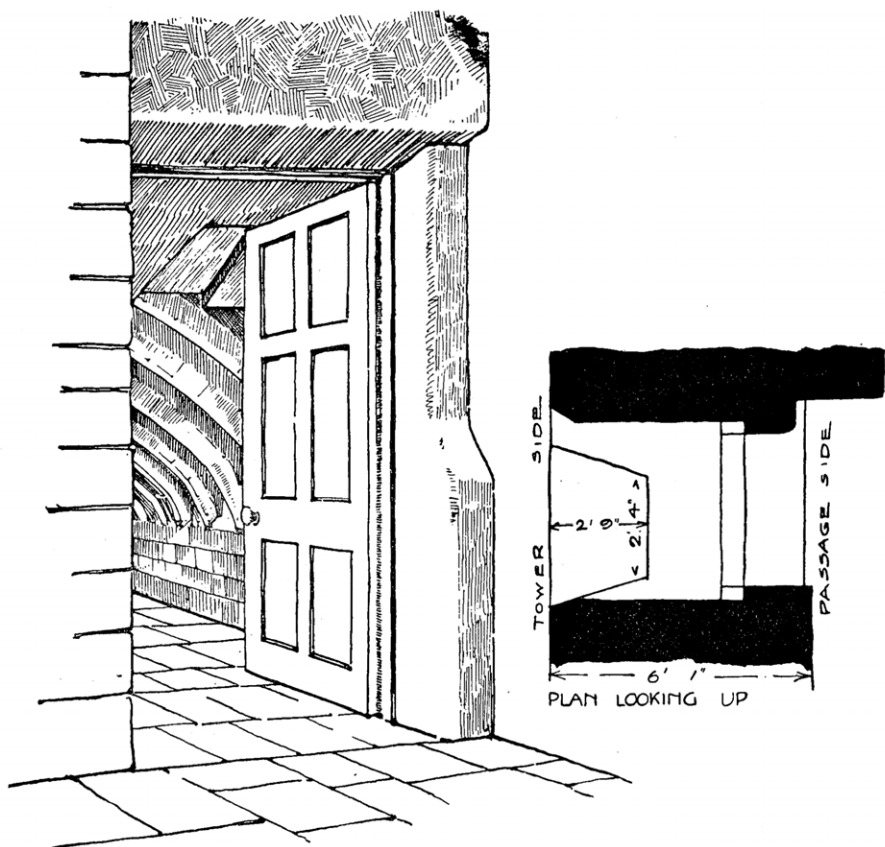
This opening leads into a vestibule 3 feet 9 inches square in the thickness of the north wall, having on the right hand or west side a door giving access to a straight mural stair in the thickness of the north wall. The opening on the inner face of the wall giving access to the ground floor has been much mutilated, and its form or outline cannot be made out; but no doubt it was the original entrance to the vault or crypt forming the basement or bottom storey of the tower. This apartment is 22 feet 6 inches east to west, and 20 feet north to south. It has a very fine ribbed segmental vault (see Plate I). The span from east to west consists of five doubled-splayed ribs, $12\frac{1}{4}$ inches deep and $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, spaced about two feet apart, and two wall ribs. The height at the springing is 3 feet 6 inches, and at the crown 8 feet 3 inches. The whole is of very fine masonry, and similar in character to the magnificent ribs in the vault of the "Captain's Lodging" in Bamburgh Castle, and also to the Dacre tower at Naworth Castle.

This vault was originally lighted by a single loop at the east end of the south side (see Plate II), where is now the door giving access to the kitchen wing, the only remains of it being in the head of this inserted door. That it was outside the external wall of buildings on the south side is proved by the roof lines. The two loops on the east side were no doubt inserted when the buildings on this side were connected with the prior's apartments in the seventeenth century, or else in the sixteenth century at the change in the foundation by Henry VIII., when the original loop was converted into a door.

The four loops in the west wall are modern, and were inserted twenty-two years ago when certain division walls were removed, and the apartment restored to its original size. There is no indication of any other opening into this apartment on this floor.

The stair to the solar or first floor, mentioned before, is 3 feet 2 inches wide, and the lowest flight of steps is not in its original position, but was moved further west by Dean Smith. Originally, access was gained to the rooms in the building to the north of the tower by an opening, which remains but is boarded up, exactly the reverse of the present landing near the top of the mural stair, which continued up, turning the north-west angle; the solar was entered through a mural chamber, now cut down and converted into a closet. Entering the solar, we have a noble room about 22 feet by 20 feet, with a recessed window of three lights, 6 feet deep, in the west wall, and one of two lights, 4 feet deep, in the east wall. Both have fine ribbed rear arches the full thickness of the recesses; the heads of the lights have five cusps.

The ceiling is the original oak one, and has two moulded main beams running north and south dividing it into three bays, two smaller or secondary beams running east and west, tenoned into the main beams, again divide each bay into three, and these are further sub-divided by four small moulded joists.



THE SOUTH ENTRANCE TO TOWER BASEMENT

Inserted door from Basement of Tower to present Kitchen Wing, showing line of ancient loop in ceiling.

*C. H. Perkins
dell*

PLATE II.



PLATE III.

DETAIL OF THE CEILING, CARLISLE DEANERY.

(TO FACE P. 191.)

There are wall beams on the east and west sides the same depth as the main beams, and on north and south the depth of secondary beams; the whole forming nine main compartments or divisions. At the intersections of the main and secondary beams are four demi-figures, holding shields with red fields and charged with the implements of the passion. At the south ends of the main beams are two circles, one containing a pelican in her piety and the other a mermaid. These two designs appear on the misereres of the stalls in the cathedral. The north ends have semicircles filled in with conventional ornament, which has been renewed. On the flat soffit of the main beam are devices consisting of two birds or parrots holding sprigs of leaves and red roses, and on the sides of one beam the inscription:—"Senus Pryor, lothe to offend. Simon Senus sette yis Roofe and Scallope here, To the intent wythin thys place they shall have prayers every day of the yere." On the other beam:—

Remember man ye gret pre-emygance
 Geven unto ye by God omnipotente.
 Between ye and angels is little difference,
 And all thinge earthly to thē obediente.
 By the byrde and beist under ye fyrmament
 Say what excuse mayest thou lay or finde.
 Thus you art maid by God so excellent
 Butte that you aughteste again to hyr be kinde.
 Soli Deo honor et gloria. DEO GRACIAS.

("Ye" and "you" for *thee* and *thou*.)

On the wall beam over window:—"Love God and thy prynce and you neydis not dreid thy enmys."

The writing is in old English characters with the capitals, in some cases, in red, and with red crosses between sentences (Plate III).

In the flat parts of the ceiling between the small moulded joists are three designs repeated alternately. The first, with white ground, two birds holding red roses, and above the words "Senus Pryor." The second has

red ground, two birds holding a ribbon with the words "Simon Senus prior, whose soul God have mercy." There is a slight variation in the ribbon, and the lettering is sometimes thus:—"Soli deo honor et gloria. Deo gracias." The third panel has a black ground with the Dacre badge, the escallop shell and staff. These three designs are repeated alternately right through each compartment of the whole ceiling. The small joists have in some instances a rope or cable pattern of black and gold, and in others a simple line of colour.

This is undoubtedly the finest example of a decorated ceiling we possess in the diocese. In East Anglia there are many richly painted roofs in churches, but I know of none equal to this in the north. In the possession of the Dean is a careful drawing made some twenty-two years ago by the late C. J. Ferguson, who has (to our loss) only very briefly described the ceiling in *The Builder* series of articles on English cathedrals.

Canon Bower in his paper on mural and other decorations gives a short description. The birds (popinjay or parrot) are, no doubt, introduced from the family arms of Senhouse. I do not know how to account for the Dacre badge.

On the south side of the room is a fine red-stone open fireplace, 6 feet 9½ inches wide, with a flat-jointed head (see Plate IV). The jambs and head are finely moulded with a bold round and hollow, and casement mould on the outer edge of jambs; the shelf is modern. The room was panelled in the seventeenth century, possibly by Dean Smith, but the panelling over the fireplace has been removed, and the wall surface shown—a fine ashlar walling, with a relieving arch over the lintel of the fireplace.

The south-west angle had a mural chamber, probably a garderobe; the entrance to this was originally in the west wall, but was altered in recent times. The present doorway on the right of the fireplace, giving access to the first

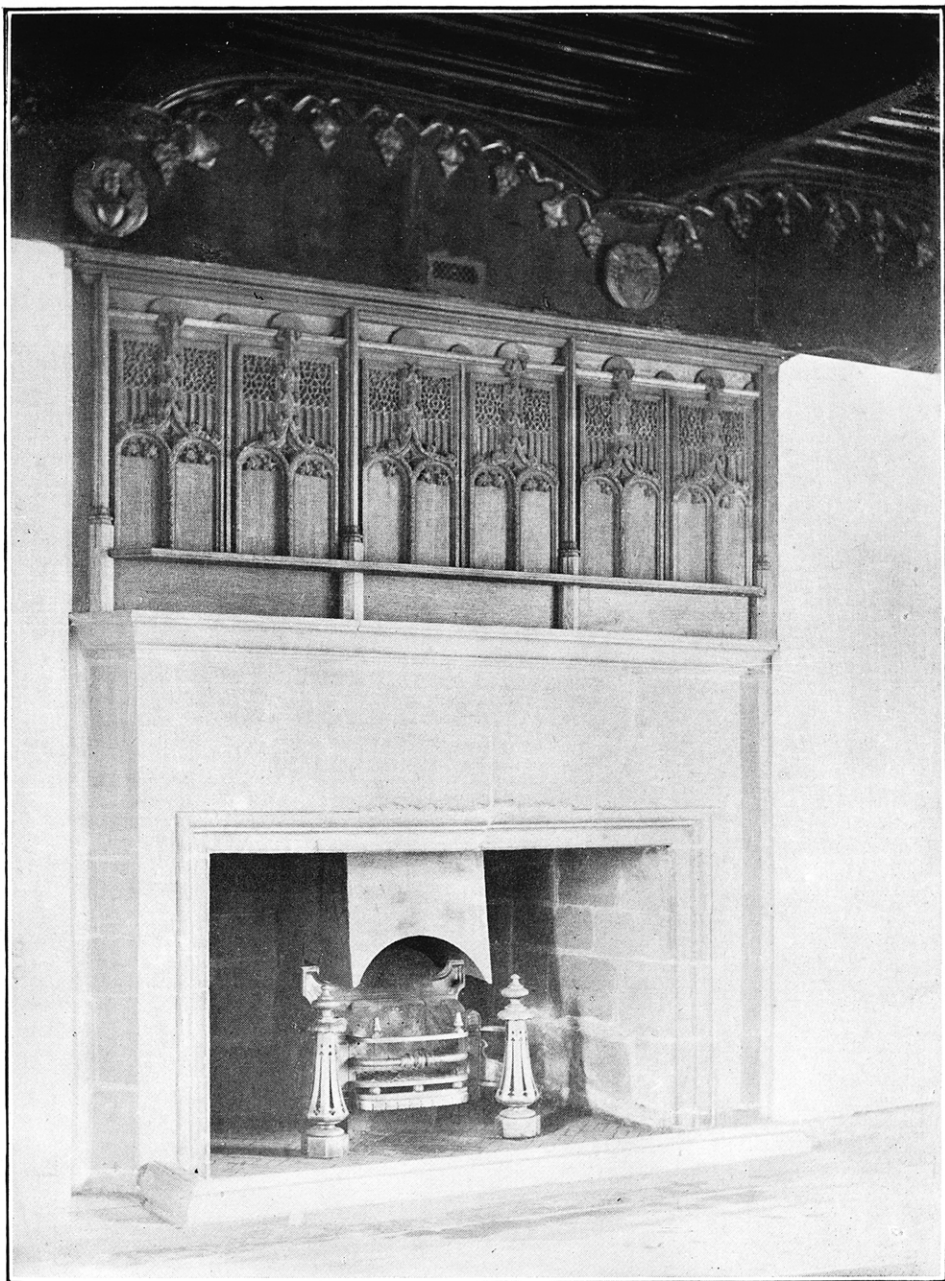
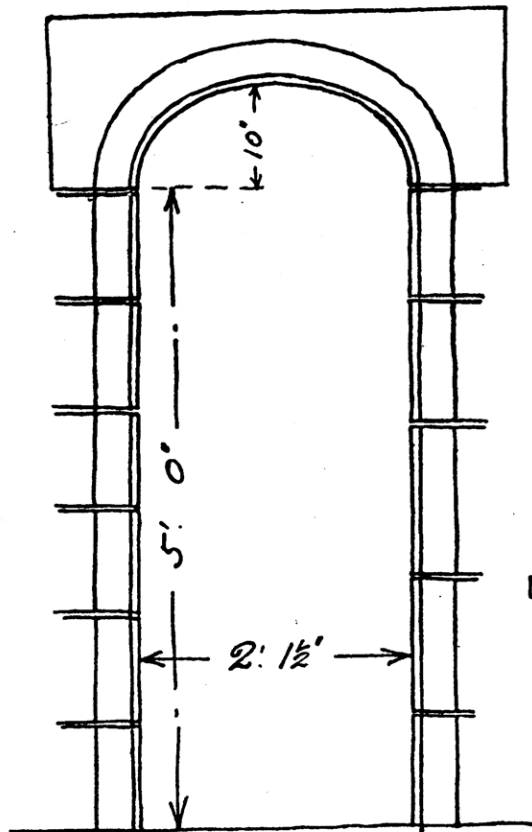


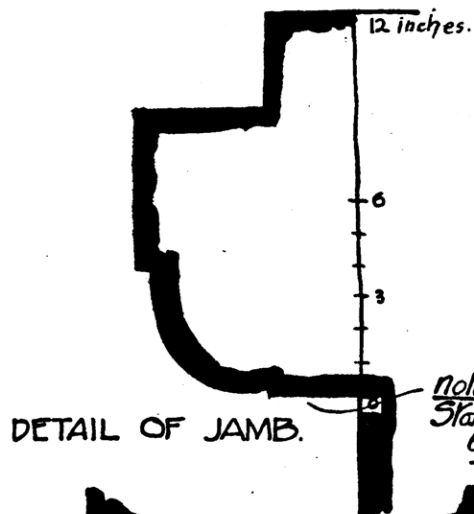
PLATE IV.—FIREPLACE IN THE PRIOR'S ROOM :
THE DEANERY, CARLISLE.

C. F. F. Martindale, photo.

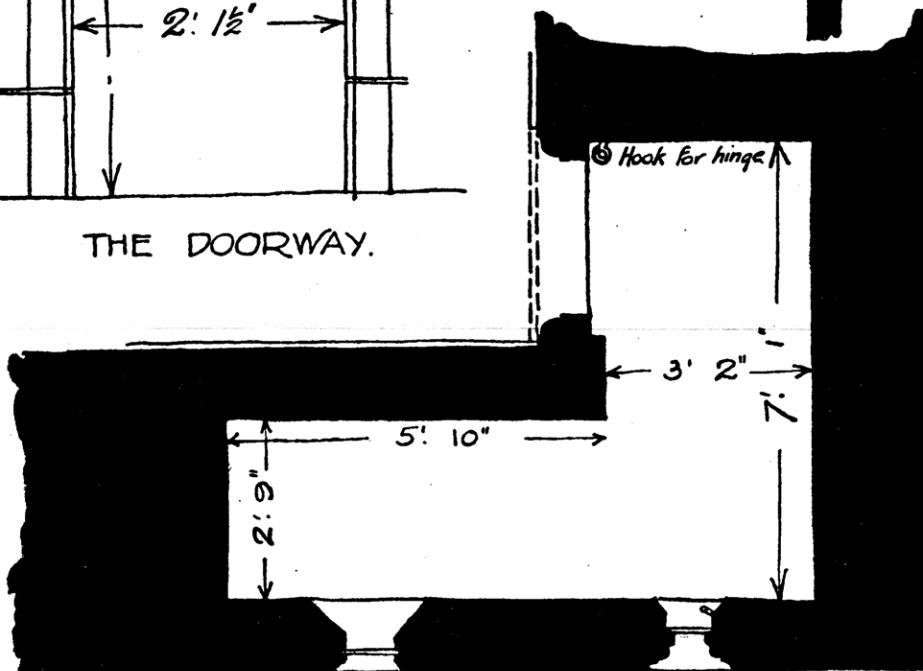
TO FACE P. 192.



THE DOORWAY.



DETAIL OF JAMB.



NORTH-EAST MURAL CHAMBER OF PRIOR'S ROOM.

o

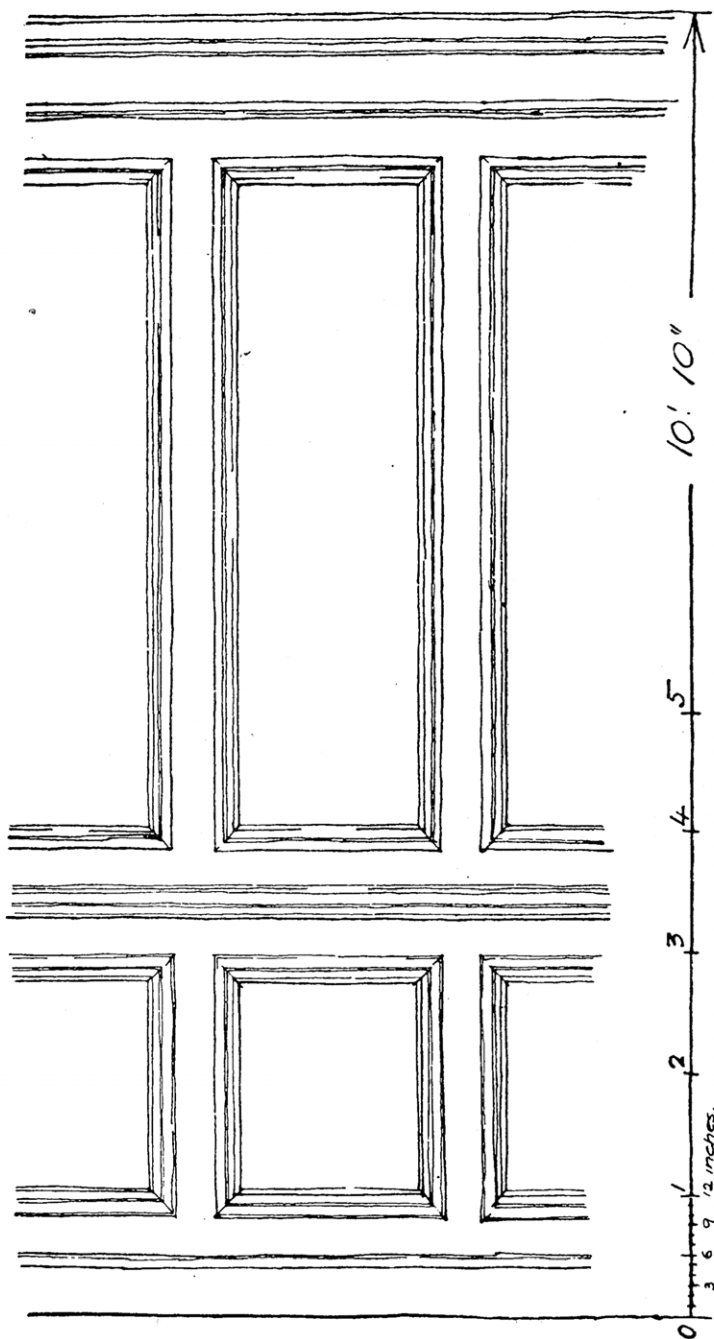


PLATE VI.—PANELLING IN PRIOR'S ROOM.

C.N.P.

floor rooms to the south of the tower, was probably broken out at the time the panelling was added; it is not original, though it may be as old as the panelling. In the north-east and south-east angle are mural chambers lighted by loops looking into the Abbey Close. The one in the south-east angle was originally entered from a door in the south side of the recess of the east oriel window, with moulded jambs and a three-centred arched head, 2 feet $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide and 5 feet 10 inches to the crown, which remains behind the panelling. This chamber is 11 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 8 inches, with a return in the south wall about two feet deep, and is lighted by two loops, one in the east and one in the south face; that in the east is a later insertion.

When the solar was panelled the old entrance to this mural chamber was done away with, and a new opening cut in the thick south wall to the east of the great fireplace, the object being to give access to a door at this level, which remains; it opened upon a bridge, gallery, or steps connecting the prior's room with the fraternity, and so on to the cloisters and cathedral, for it opens *outside* the eastern wall of the building on this side of the tower.

The chamber in the north-east angle (see Plate V) is smaller and has a similar door, but in the north wall, and not from the window recess. It has two loops, both in the east wall. The doorways in both chambers are rebated for doors inside, and the iron crooks remain.

The panelling (which was found to have been originally painted white) is of the seventeenth century, with large panels and bolection moulds—total height, 10 feet 10 inches, with six-inch skirting and three-inch dado rails at 3 feet 6 inches above the floor, and long panels up to the cornice (see Plate VI). The original doors in this framing have flat wrought-iron L hinges.

The floor of the room is boarded over the vault, and of the same date as the panelling, but six inches higher than the original floor, as proved by the step of the stone stair.

The present door into the solar at the east end of the north wall is original only as far as the opening on the room side goes, in that it gave access to the straight flight of stairs in the north wall leading to the second floor of the tower, and did not open entirely through the wall to communicate with rooms to the north as at present. This arrangement of the stair is the same as in the keeps at Carlisle and Bamburgh, and clearly is a military device; any one ascending or descending the tower crossed the floor of the solar. It is quite different in character to the straight stair, mentioned by Dr. Taylor, at Dacre, Howgill, Arnside, and Linstock. The opening on to the landing at the first floor level of the present oak stair is an insertion at the same date as the stairs—seventeenth century. Ascending this upper mural stair we have, half-way up, a narrow doorway giving access to the roof over the building on the north side, now attics; this may be an insertion of the date of the dormers on the east side. The head of the stairs turns the west angle of the tower, and enters the second-floor room through a door 2 feet 2 inches wide and originally 5 feet high, with stone jambs, boldly moulded. The head of this door has been mutilated to give greater height, as the present wood floor is not original, but about 1 foot 3 inches higher than the old floor. This room is the same size as the one below, but the east and west windows are now in the flat surface of the wall, the oriels being roofed over. Two fine mural chambers in the south-east and south-west angles exist again here, and both have stone splayed sills or thresholds seven inches below the present wood floor and eight inches above the original floor. The jambs are boldly moulded, and the heads are flat. The checks for doors are on the inside, and the crooks remain; both have a single loop. The south-west chamber (see Plate VII) was a garderobe over the one below. There is an interesting loop to the room on the north side above the roof of the adjoining building on this side. The fireplace in

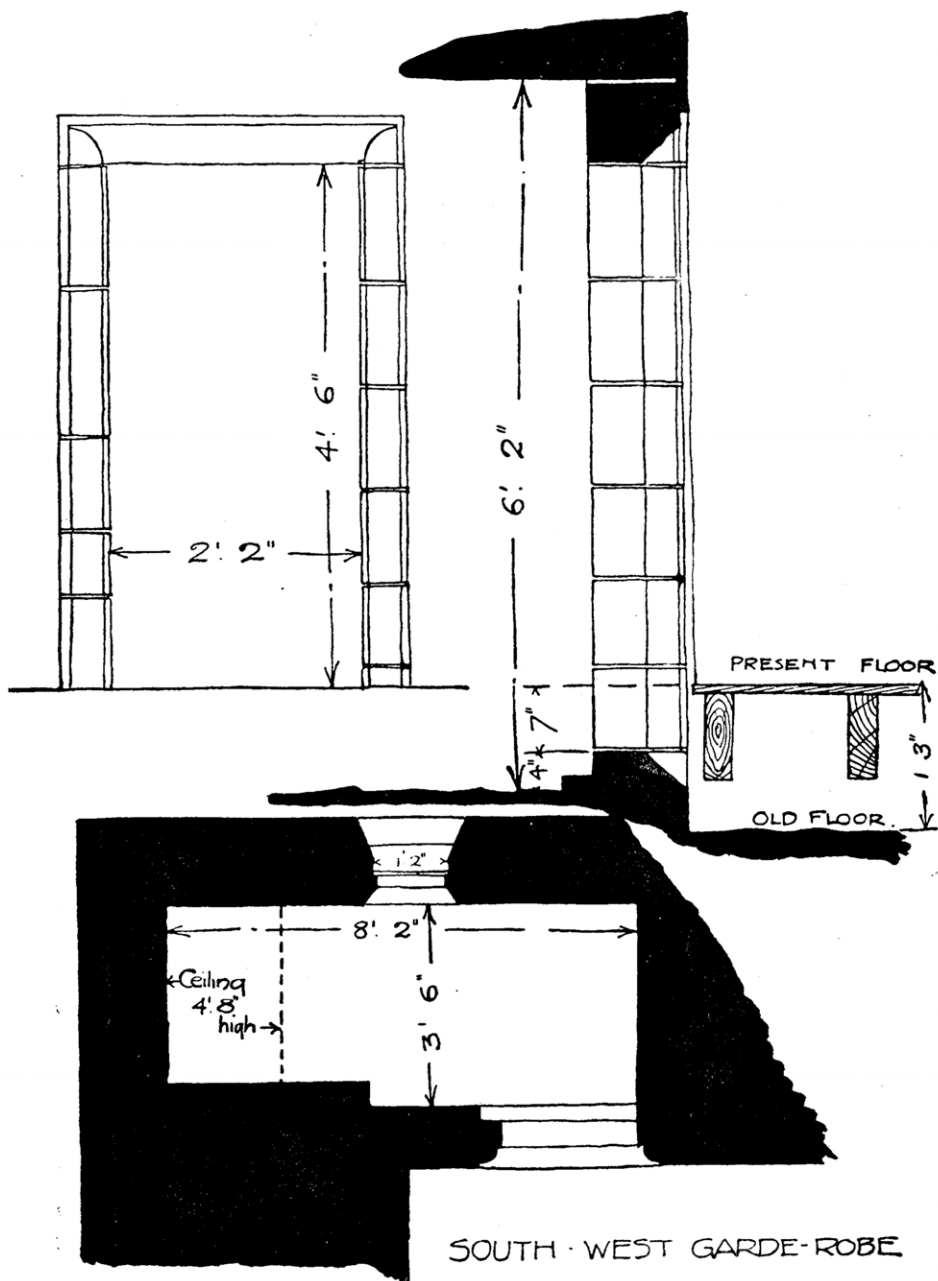


PLATE VII.

C.M.P.

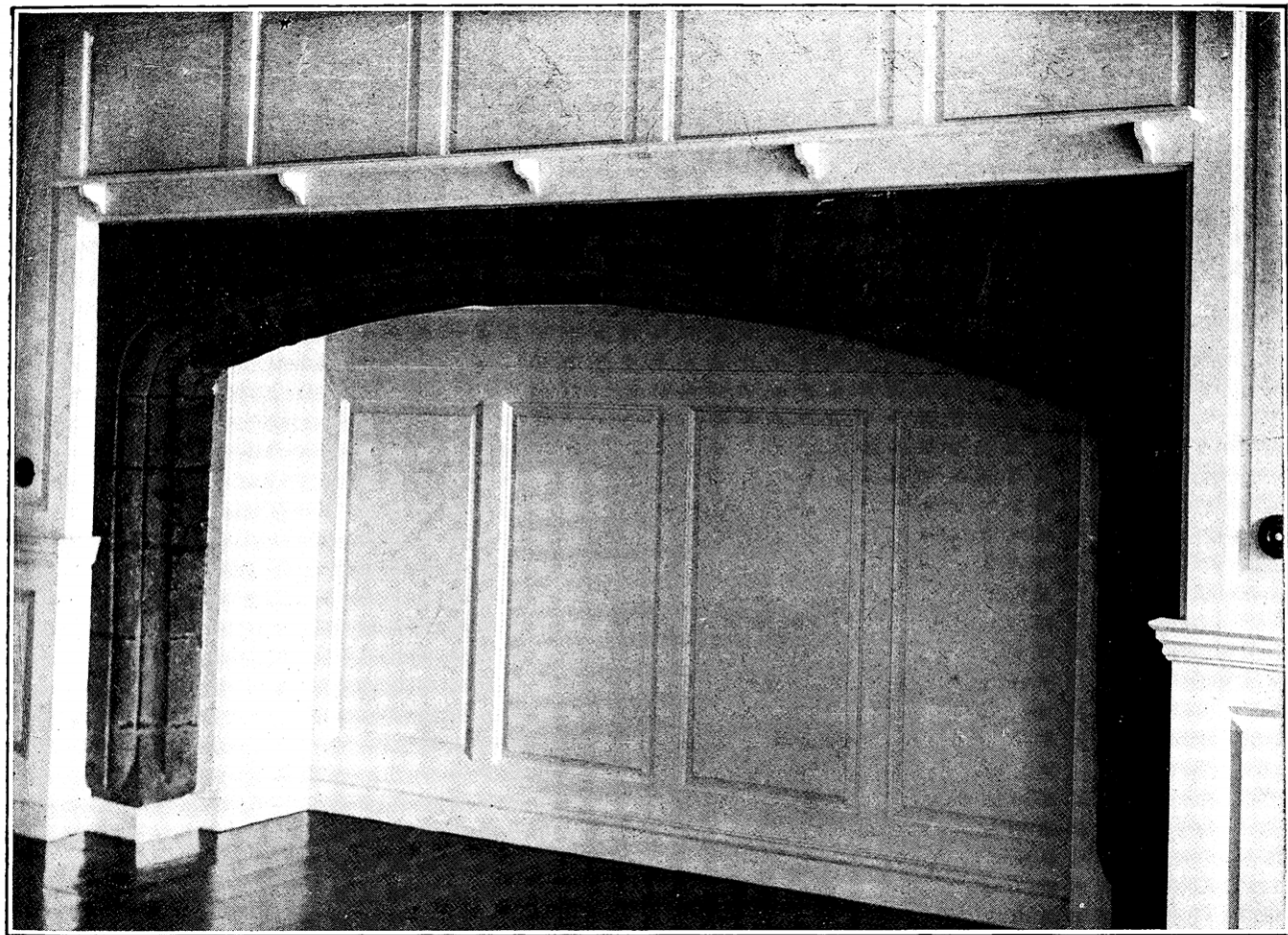


PLATE VIII.—OLD FIREPLACE IN THE LIBRARY AT THE DEANERY, CARLISLE.
C. J. F. Martindale, photo.

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this room is an insertion. The door communicating with the rooms on the south side is also an insertion.

Returning to the head of the stairs, we find a short circular stair in the thickness of the wall, giving access to the roof; it is at present finished by a trap-door, but originally there has been a turret at this angle, and a part of one jamb of the door remains. At Clifton Hall, Westmorland, is an example of a single turret to a pele. The exterior walling of this tower is of fine ashlar in large courses, with a bold moulded plinth 10 inches deep and 5 inches projection on the east and west sides, and moulded strings at each floor, and finished with plain splayed battlements resting on moulded strings. The second-floor windows have had moulded labels.

On the north and south faces of the tower the roof labels remain, indicating clearly the height of the adjoining buildings. Those on the north side have had a steep roof, lineable with the present roof on the west face, but continued a little higher. At the eaves on the east face the label is flattened, indicating a porch or lower building in front. The string courses are all stopped for this roof labelling.

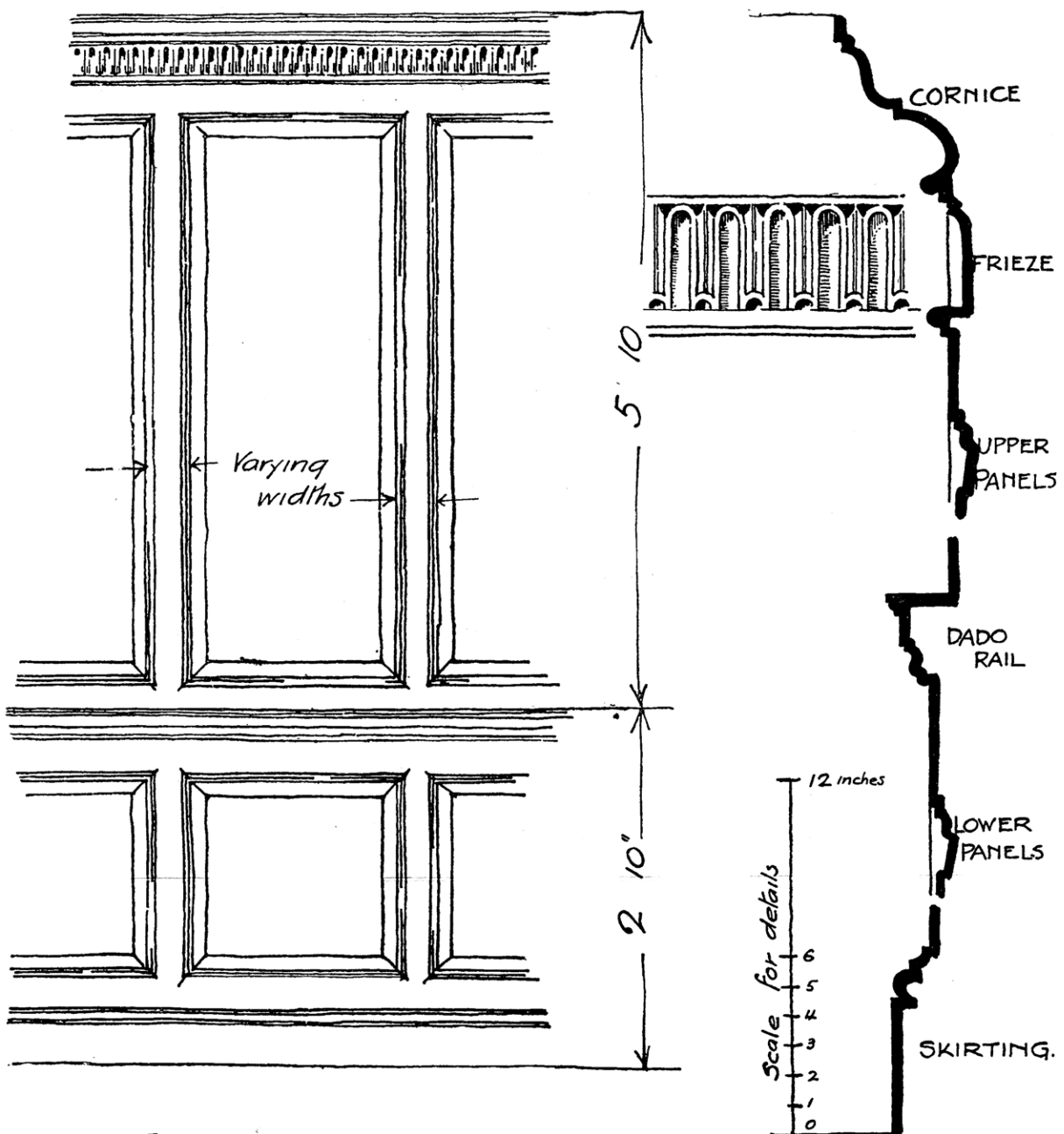
On the south side the old label exists, but has been cut and dressed down at some later period, and the roof raised on the east or abbey side. This again has been altered, when the additions were made some twenty-two years ago, and the second line of roof is now inside the present roof. The original external wall finished twelve feet from the east angle.

The buildings to the north of the tower have extended to the end of the present library, about sixty-four feet long. The west wall is very early (possibly fifteenth century), about four feet thick, and contains two fine old fire-places—one used in the present hall, with splayed jambs and square head; the other, formed into a recess in the library, is arched and has moulded jambs (see Plate VIII).

This building seems to have been a large hall, 60 feet by 18 ft. inside. All the present divisions are insertions, the first floor being carried by a series of seven beams. It is just possible that this may have been a hall with open timber roof, or at least two storeys high; and if so, the door mentioned before from the stone stair would give access to the minstrels' gallery over the screens. Facing west are very small and low-mullioned windows; they were opened out twenty-two years ago. The east wall is now an internal one, and all original external openings were obliterated by Dean Smith.

When Dean Smith made his alterations in the seventeenth century, if he did not insert the present first floor, he re-arranged it entirely. Until that date, as we should naturally expect in a building with some purpose of defence, the chief windows to the hall and first floor faced east, into the abbey precincts or protected side. Dean Smith at once changed this. He inserted the oak staircase, doing away with the access from the stone stairs of the tower, and making the new stair to land exactly on the opposite side of the building, with a corridor to give access to the various rooms on the *east* side, and broke out windows in the west wall facing the open country. This necessitated a new door from the prior's room, which was made at the foot of the stone stair to the second floor of the tower. He inserted the fine three-light window to light his new stairs from the west; this was blocked up later, but was opened out twenty-two years ago. He also panelled the present library similarly to the prior's room (see Plate IX). The panelling in the library is 8 feet 6 inches high, the full height of the room, with dado 2 feet 10 inches, and a cornice and fluted frieze; the panels are raised.

Turning now to the buildings on the south side of the tower, we have a block extending south for a distance of about forty-two feet to the present kitchen fireplace. This is a fine old wall six feet thick, but of later date than the



PANELLING IN LIBRARY.

TO FACE P. 200.

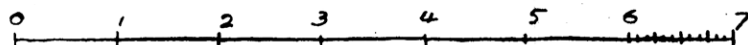
PLATE IX.

C.P.

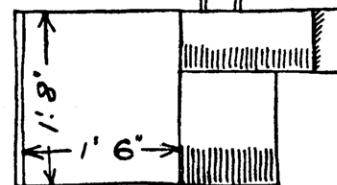
ANTIENT ENTRANCE TO KITCHEN
FROM CONVENTUAL BUILDINGS.

LOCKER.

SECTION THRO' LOCKER.



SCALE OF FEET.



3' 11"

1' 10"

1' 1"

LOCKER.

LOOP.

PLAN.

building on the other side. The stone mantels are modern, or have been renewed; but on the east side of the fireplace is a curious arch and doorway, with remains of a locker and loop in the thickness of the wall (see Plate X). This, to my mind, is the ancient entrance to this kitchen from the conventual buildings, and earlier than any connections to the tower.

The buildings on this side of the tower must have been originally narrower than the hall on the north side, and had no connection on the ground floor; the present access from the crypt being, as mentioned before, of Dean Smith's date. The same may be said of the opening for connection on each floor.

The Court Leet Rolls of Carlisle (20th April, 1682) have the following item, which seems to indicate that Dean Smith was not quite up to date with the then Sanitary Authority:—"We present Do'ter Thos Smith deane of Carlisle for his dung hill in the highway, under ye wall of the City, and we amercye him vi^s viii^d."*

The old garderobes were on this west side of the tower.

There are remains of old walls beyond the buildings I have described, both north and south.

It seems to me that originally the purely domestic apartments of the prior were confined to the tower and buildings to the north. This would give him no kitchen, but under the rule of the Augustinian Order he would use the common refectory. Then when King Henry VIII. converted the cathedral body from Regulars to Seculars, the prior, now dean, required a kitchen and suitable offices, and at once opened out the communication with the old kitchen of the priory, south of the tower. This corresponds fairly with the date from the evidences in the building. The Chancellor says "the Chapter dined in common."

* Municipal Record, City of Carlisle, p. 296. Dr. Smith, afterwards Bishop of Carlisle, presented a silver tankard to the Tanners' Guild.

As to the door from the mural chamber on the first floor of the tower, if this is earlier than the seventeenth century it only seems to confirm the idea that the prior lived in common with the brethren of the Order, and that it was his private access to the refectory and conventual buildings.

* * * * *

Since reading the above, I have received from the Chancellor of Carlisle the following extract from the Parliament Survey made in April, 1650 :—

All that the house, called the Deane's house, a stable with a large open house like a barn adjoyneing the south end thereof. All which are in great decay whose materialls are stone, timber, boords, leade, and slate wee value worth to be sold £120 . 00 . 00

All which aforesaid Deane's house and the other large house adjoyneing the Governour desireth for a storehouse, for a horse mill, and Bakehouse for baking bread for his souldiers in case of necessity, and for his store keeper to live in, this place being much incumbered with thieves (*sic*) and many other inconveniences.

At the date of the above survey the Deanery was vacant. Dean Thomas Comber was deprived by Parliament in 1642, and Dean Guy Carleton was not appointed until 1660. The second and fourth stalls were both vacant, Frederick Tunstall and Henry Hutton both having been ejected, and the holders of the first and third stalls must have been very old men; they died in 1655 and 1667 respectively. The see also was held by Bishop Usher *in commendam* as a means of subsistence; therefore a sorry time had fallen on Carlisle Cathedral, and we may quite expect the buildings to be "in great decay." The governor probably obtained the permission he sought; giving it a wide interpretation, he used the old kitchen for a bakehouse, and certain communications were broken out by the storekeeper to connect with the dean's house. Then, when Dean Smith was appointed, he at once and for all time incorporated the buildings in the Deanery.

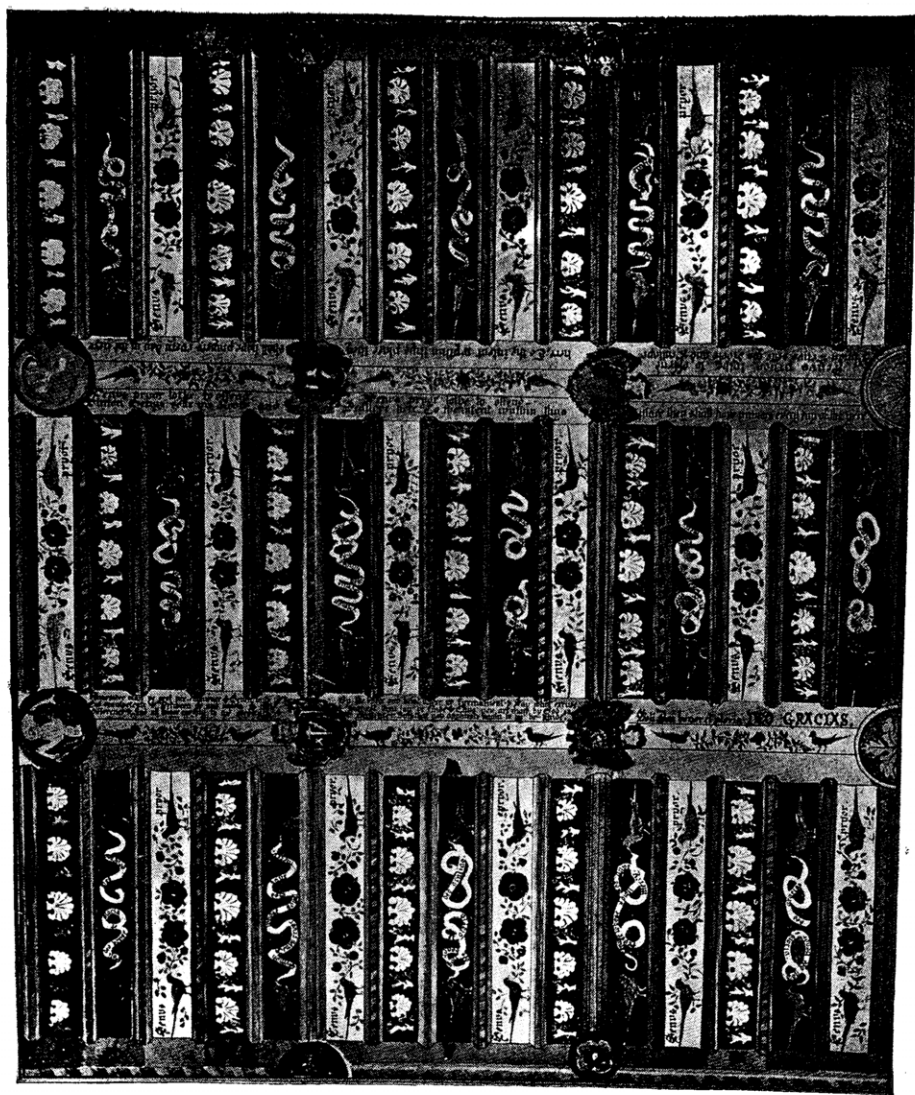


PLATE XI.—THE CEILING, PRIOR'S ROOM, CARLISLE DEANERY,
from Mr. C. J. Ferguson's drawing.

C. J. F. Martindale, photo.

TO FACE P. 202.

The Bishop of Barrow-in-Furness has very kindly looked through the registers of the Dean and Chapter from the commencement to 1703, to see whether they contained any information about the Deanery, but tells me he finds very little. He says:—"I gather that from the death of Lancelot Salkeld in 1560, the last prior and first dean, to the Restoration, *no dean was ever resident*, except Dean Comber for a few months. He was installed by *proxy* in 1629, but was present in Chapter, November, 1629, and was present June and August, 1630; also August and October, 1638. He was provost of Eton, and probably resided there. This is the only trace I have observed of any dean having *even visited* Carlisle between the death of Lancelot Salkeld and the restoration. It is therefore very improbable that anything was done to improve the deanery as a dwelling-house during that time. At the restoration in 1660-1661, there were a great many new leases with fines (owing, I suppose, to the resumption of the cathedral estates after the great Rebellion). In the bishop's visitation in September, 1666, the bishop ordered that the dean's and prebendaries' houses be well repaired, and such of them as had not yet, out of the fines, built their houses, do now take order for the building of these before the 1st of November next. At this time my own house was rebuilt (second stall). There was a grant of timber for it in 1669. Dean Carleton, 1660-1672, and Dean Smith, 1672-1684, were generally resident. Dean Musgrave, 1684-1686, was a good deal absent, being chaplain to Princess Anne of Denmark, afterwards Queen Anne."

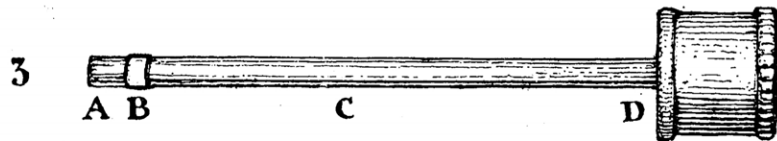
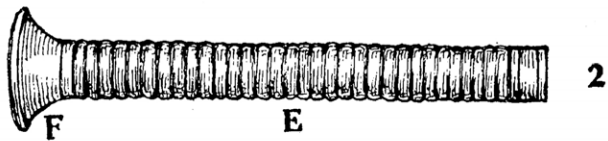
I am extremely obliged to the Bishop for the above most interesting notes, and am pleased to think that they tend to confirm all my views.

We have the early buildings in the tower and wings from about 1500, during the times of Priors Gondibour, Senhouse, Slee, and Salkeld—about sixty years. These buildings were then allowed to fall into "the great decay"

for 110 or 112 years, to the time of Dean Smith, except for mutilation authorized by the then War Office, as described in the Chancellor's note. But Dean Smith, who appears to have been both wealthy and liberal, set to work to make the building habitable and suitable to the advanced ideas of domestic architecture, and we have more or less to-day the Deanery of his planning, especially in the buildings to the north of the tower.

With regard to the introduction of the Dacre escallop into the ceiling (p. 192), the Chancellor informs me that Prior Senhouse was a friend of the Lord Dacre of the time, so that perhaps the same painter worked for both patrons.

The line-drawings accompanying this paper were made by my assistant, Mr. C. H. Perkins; and the photographs were taken by my son, Fawcett Martindale. Plate III. is an attempt by the Editor to represent the colour-effect of the ceiling, from Mr. C. J. Ferguson's drawings.



A CONTRIVANCE FOR PRODUCING FIRE.

SCALE—HALF SIZE.