

PROCEEDINGS.

I. SPRING MEETING, 1954.

COUNCIL met in Carlisle on the morning of Saturday, 20 March 1954, to fulfil its obligations under Rule XI and to transact routine business; and the Society's spring meeting was held that afternoon, in the lecture theatre at Tullie House. The President, Mr J. E. Spence, F.S.A., was in the chair, and there was an attendance of more than 50 members or their friends.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the President referred to the loss which the Society had sustained by the deaths of Mr Anthony Wilson, senior (elected 1900), Mr W. N. Ling (1907), Dr E. Parker Haythornthwaite (1915) and Mr J. W. Shepherd (1917), and on his motion those present stood for a few moments in tribute to their memory; obituary notices have been printed in the Society's *Transactions* (CW2 liii 253 ff.). The President also moved that congratulations be conveyed to the Society's senior Vice-President, Sir S. H. Scott, Bart., on his completion in 1954 of fifty years' membership; this motion was carried by acclamation. For the Editors, Mr Eric Birley reported that *Transactions*, n.s. lii had been issued to members shortly after the previous meeting; n.s. liii was well advanced, three-quarters of its Articles being already in page-proof, and several contributions for inclusion in n.s. liv were already to hand; he added that arrangements had been made with Titus Wilson & Son to supply members with copies of *Transactions* bound in cloth, at an extra charge of 5/6d., provided that they placed their orders with the Society's General Secretary, Miss Ainsley, in advance of publication. The President reported that Council had made the following grants towards the cost of excavations: to Mr John Gillam, for work at Bewcastle (see now pp. 265-7, above), £20 from the Roman Wall Account; to Miss K. S. Hodgson, F.S.A., Past President, £10 for excavations at Old Penrith, and to Mr Eric Birley, F.S.A., £15 for excavations at Brough-under-Stainmore, in each case from the Research Fund. In his capacity as Secretary for Excursions, he added that Council had confirmed the arrangements for excursions set forth in the printed meeting notice. Seventeen candidates were elected members of the Society. The following papers were then communicated: "The Birdoswald hoard

and its composition" by Professor I. A. Richmond, F.B.A. (Art. VI above); "The Birdoswald hoard: the pay and the purse" by G. R. Watson (Art. VII); "The Roman site at Brough-under-Stainmore" by Eric Birley, F.S.A.; and "Ancient stained glass in Wetheral Church" by the Rev. C. M. L. Bouch, F.S.A. Finally, Dr P. R. Giot, director of the fourth district for pre-historic antiquities and lecturer in the Faculty of Science at the University of Rennes, gave a lecture on "Breton Prehistory", for the benefit in particular of those members who were intending to take part in the excursion to Brittany a few weeks later. Dr Giot's lecture was illustrated by a splendid series of lantern-slides, many of them in colour, and the fluency of his English and the clarity of his exposition combined to make the lecture a memorable event, as was made clear by the warmth of the applause when the President moved a special vote of thanks to him. This concluded the business of the meeting.

II. EXCURSION TO BRITTANY.

This, our most ambitious and first truly "foreign" excursion, took place from 18-27 May 1954 and proved a brilliant success. We were privileged to have Dr Giot as our guide throughout the tour, and on two days we were joined by his colleagues MM. Flatrès and Gourvil, who acted as guides to some of the medieval monuments. In all, 36 members or their friends took part; most of us travelled by coach from Carlisle or other points on its route south, on 18 May, reaching Southampton that evening and crossing to St Malo by the night steamer. The Editors regret that it would occupy too much space in *Transactions* to give a full account of the excursion, but it is right that details of the itinerary should be placed on record.

On *Wednesday, 19 May*, we saw the 13th century cathedral of St Samson at DOL, the Romanesque church at GAEL, the ruined CHATEAU DE COMPER and PAIMPONT CHURCH (with a 13th century doorway showing a statue of the Virgin trampling a dragon), all before lunch, which was taken at the Hôtel des Forges in the FOREST OF FOUGERES. In the afternoon we visited PLOERMEL CHURCH (founded by the British St Armel), JOSSELIN CHURCH and JOSSELIN CASTLE. That night and the next we spent at Vannes.

Thursday, 20 May, was devoted entirely to Prehistory. First we took boat for GAVRINIS, an island famous for its passage-graves, but the tide proved wrong for landing; thence we sailed past the island of ER LANNIC, on which there is a double stone-circle in a figure of eight (the upper circle has been excavated and 58 hearths found, the finds thence now preserved in

the museum at Carnac, but the lower circle is now submerged owing to a rise in sea-level). Lunch was taken on the ILE AUX MOINES. After lunch we landed at LOCMARIAQUER, in a district noted for its megalithic remains, first visiting the MEN-ER-BROEC'H or Fairy Stone, a gigantic menhir which had originally stood 67 feet high but had been struck by lightning 200 years ago, and now lies in four pieces; it has been calculated to weigh 350 tons. Close by, we saw the passage-grave known as the TABLE DES MARCHANDS, entered by a passage of granite slabs set on edge, the burial chamber having carved on its roof a stone axe in its haft and other signs, while the huge stone which forms the wall opposite the entrance is covered with mysterious marks which some people have interpreted as ears of wheat and the sun, though they might just as easily represent human forms, reaping-hooks or even boomerangs. Next came what some of us had made the journey specially to see, the ALIGNMENTS OF CARNAC: 3,000 great monoliths standing, row upon row, in parallel lines over a length of more than two miles, in three groups with intervals between them; at right-angles across either end is set a semi-circle, not reaching all the way across, as if to leave a processional entry or exit at the side; here and there amongst the lines are to be found a stone with five serpents carved on its base, a cromlech, a passage-grave and a trilithon (reminiscent of Stonehenge but much lower). The date suggested for Carnac is 2,000 B.C., and its builders were clearly seafarers who had worked their way northwards up the Atlantic coast from Mediterranean regions; it was interesting to see big white asphodels (a Mediterranean flower) growing amongst the stones. The *Car-* in the name is a pre-Celtic word meaning "stone", perhaps a survival of the megalithic builders' language. The MILN MUSEUM at Carnac, founded by a Scotsman, contains a collection of objects found in the district, and casts of the carvings from the roofs and walls of the passage-graves. On the way back to Vannes we looked at the remains of the CHATEAU DE RUSTÉPHAN and visited three more prehistoric sites: MANÉ-KERIONED (a group of three passage-graves, one of them still covered and with carvings in its interior), KERIAVAL (a single gallery-grave with side chambers), and RONDOSSEC (a group of three passage-graves parallel with one another and formerly covered by a single tumulus).

On the morning of *Friday, 21 May*, we first visited the museum of the *Société Polymathique du Morbihan* in VANNES, paying special attention to its Prehistory section, notable for its grave-goods from the sites visited on the previous day, including gold torques and armlets, and with an interesting collection of Gallo-

Roman antiquities. Thence we drove via HENNEBONT (church with Flamboyant Gothic 16th century porch) and QUIMPERLE (Romanesque church, founded in the 11th century) to PONT-AVEN, where we lunched; then to CONCARNEAU, a walled town on an island reached by a bridge, a port and the centre for sardine and tunny fishing, the Flamboyant church of LA FORET FRÉNAV, the Romanesque church at FOUESNANT and the small late Gothic chapel at LE DRENNEC, and so to Quimper, where we spent the next four nights.

On *Saturday, 22 May*, we visited PONT L'ABBÉ CHURCH (originally a Carmelite monastery of the 14th century, enlarged in the 15th), LOCTUDY (a Romanesque church founded in 1080) and PENMARC'H, with the National Museum of Prehistory, its contents (all found in Finistère) ranging from Palæolithic to Iron Age times. Outside the building sundry megalithic monuments have been set up; inside there are Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age burials, reconstructed exactly as found when excavated. We lunched in a restaurant at the most southerly point of Finistère, enjoying the views of the rocky coast, before visiting the Chapelle Notre Dame de la Joie on PENMARC'H POINT, the 16th century Flamboyant PENMARC'H CHURCH and the TRONOAN CALVARY (the oldest and one of the most impressive in Brittany). We noted that the field-strip system of cultivation still prevails in this part of Brittany, but it is much more complicated than the three-field rotation which we know of. Before returning to Quimper we had time to visit the chapel of St Guy at LANGUIDOU and the chapel of ST GERMAIN (of the 13th and 15th centuries respectively).

Sunday, 23 May, was spent in QUIMPER itself. In the morning M. Flatrès took us on a tour of the old streets and showed us the outside of ST CORENTIN'S CATHEDRAL, the most completely Gothic church in Brittany, on the site of a Romanesque building. After lunch we were taken to watch a Rogation-tide procession, and then to the BRETON MUSEUM (in what was once the Bishop's palace), a folk-museum which portrays the life of the Breton people from the earliest times until the present day; later we visited KERFONTEIN CHURCH, in the north part of the town, and the chapel TY MAM DOUÉ. Some members were also able to fit in a visit to the MUSÉE DES BEAUX ARTS, with its splendid collection of paintings.

On *Monday, 24 May*, we drove westwards, our first stop being at the Flamboyant chapel of ST TUGEN; thence via Plogoff and Lescoff to the POINTE DU RAZ, where we battled with an Atlantic gale and had a splendid view of the rocky headland, and the POINTE DE VAN (where the hardest of us braved the

gale again in order to see a fragment of Roman wall). Lunch was taken at LA PLAGE AUDIERNE, whence we drove to visit PONT-CROIX CHURCH (late Romanesque and early Gothic) and NOTRE DAME DE CONFORT (where we were greeted by the Curé, wearing large black sabots), and then to DOUARNENEZ PORT, the most flourishing fishing centre in Brittany, in a district noted for its Breton and Arthurian legends. Next came LOCRONAN with its church on a hill and a little chapel lower down, where the Irish bishop St Ronan settled as a hermit in the 5th century.

We left Quimper on the morning of *Tuesday, 25 May*, our first stop being at PLEYBEN, where M. Gourvil joined us and described its magnificent CALVARY (of early 16th century date) and Flamboyant CHURCH. Next we drove to MONT ST MICHEL D'ARREE, near Brasparts, the highest point in Brittany; climbing to the top of the hill we found a small medieval chapel, and a wonderful panorama stretching for 40 miles in every direction. Thence eastwards again, passing LANNÉDERN (founded by a Welsh prince, Ederne), to ST HERBOT'S CHURCH, and then to HUELGOAT, where we climbed through and over an aptly named *Chaos du Diable* (a tumbled mass of huge round boulders, brought down by a primeval torrent which still foams far below); next we drove over the high moorland country of the ARREE HILLS (with a magnificent view from their summit) to Morlaix, where we had lunch. After lunch we visited the Calvaries at ST THÉGONNEC and GUIMILIAU, passed within sight of ROSCOFF (the port where Mary Stuart landed, at the age of six, to be educated at the French court and where, two centuries later, Prince Charles Edward landed after his escape from Culloden), and so came to ST POL DE LÉON, with a Gothic cathedral reminiscent of Salisbury and said to have been designed by an English architect; then back to Morlaix, where we spent the night (that evening, we were accorded a reception by local dignitaries, the speeches both of hosts and guests being of a very high order).

On *Wednesday, 26 May*, we made an early start from Morlaix, making for TREGUIER CATHEDRAL (mainly Gothic of the 14th and 15th centuries, but incorporating earlier structures); thence we drove through Paimpol to the chapel of KERMARIA, and so to DINAN (where we paused for tea and were able to look at some of the picturesque 16th century houses) and ST MALO, where we inspected the ruins of its great church, badly shattered in the war and still showing traces of its ordeal. Then the boat, the night-crossing to Southampton, and the drive

north into our own territory, and so ended the Brittany excursion. It would be wrong to close this brief account without an expression of our gratitude to Dr Giot and his colleagues for their generous help in planning and carrying through the tour of Brittany, to Mr Spence for the very heavy administrative burden which the tour placed upon his shoulders (and which he seemed able to carry without effort), and to the Hon. Marjorie Cross, F.S.A., for furnishing the full and extremely interesting journal of the tour, from which the foregoing account has been condensed.

III. SUMMER MEETING, 1954.

The summer meeting was held in Yorkshire, with headquarters in the hostel of St John's College, York, 19-23 July 1954; more than 70 members or their friends took part in the meeting. We were fortunate in having fine, bright weather during the first four days, but rain marred the last day. Arrangements for the meeting were made by a committee consisting of Mr Eric Birley, F.S.A., the Hon. Marjorie Cross, F.S.A., and Mr J. E. Spence, F.S.A. (President of the Society).

Monday, 19 July.

The main party travelled by coach from Carlisle which picked up additional passengers at Penrith, Kendal and Kirkby Lonsdale on the way to Hawes, where lunch was taken before we visited the ROMAN FORT AT BAINBRIDGE. Here our member Mr W. V. Wade, F.S.A., was waiting to give us an account of his excavations at that site (where the University of Leeds combines research with the training of students, under his direction).

Excavations at this site were first conducted under the auspices of the Yorkshire Archæological Society's Roman Antiquities Committee, in the period 1926-1931, and since 1950 the University of Leeds has assumed responsibility for its further examination. The fort stands on a hogback hill close to the confluence of the Bain with the Ure; its area (between two and three acres), the details so far known of its lay-out, and inscriptions recorded by Camden but not now extant, combine to show that it was built to house a cohort 500 strong: and excavations have shown that it was founded in the Flavian period, converted to stone in place of turf and timber in the early part of the second century, rebuilt in the time of Severus and not abandoned before the very end of the Roman occupation of Britain. The excavations of 1951 had revealed part of a stone granary underlying the north wall of the Severan headquarters building, showing that the rebuilding by Alfenus Senecio had involved some modification of the

fort's plan; the earlier headquarters has not yet been found. Outside the fort, work in 1929 and 1931 revealed something of a small annexe, strongly defended by a stone wall, as though the *vicus* here had special need of protection, presumably from marauding hill-folk. Reports of the site's investigation may be found in the *Proceedings* of the Leeds Philosophical Society, Literary and Historical Section, vols. i 261-284; ii 77-85 and 234-245; iii 16-38 and vii 1-19 and 153-166, and there are brief summaries in the *Journal of Roman Studies*.

After the President had thanked Mr Wade for his address, we continued our drive down Wensleydale to MIDDLEHAM CASTLE, which we visited by permission of the Ministry of Works and where our member Mr John Charlton, F.S.A., was present to give us an account of the history of the building and to show us round it; for an earlier visit, in 1892, reference may be made to CWI xii 262. The Norman keep was begun about 1170 by Robert FitzRalph, grandson of the first lord of Middleham; it is one of the largest in the country, measuring 105 ft. by 78 ft., dominating the whole pile and occupying a large area of the bailey. The entrance, as usual, is on the first floor and is approached by a flight of steps on the east side. The keep was divided longitudinally, the great hall being in the eastern half and the private apartments in the western; the kitchens and cellars, on the ground floor, were approached by a circular stair in the SE. corner. The chapel, on the east of the keep, is of the late 13th century and is of three storeys, including a basement and a priest's lodging. The curtain walls date from the same period as the chapel; they were originally 24 ft. high, surmounted by a parapet wall; at the SW. angle there was a round bastion, now forming the base of the Princes Tower, and at the SE. angle there is a rectangular tower projecting beyond the line of the curtain wall. The 14th century gatehouse is at the NE. corner, and at the NW. corner there is a tower which was enlarged and raised in the 15th century. A ditch of moderate depth and width remains on the E. and N. sides of the curtain; elsewhere it has been filled in. Within the bailey, built up against the curtain wall, are the later private apartments, a brew-house and a 16th century horse-mill. The Princes Tower is the traditional birth-place of Edward, son of Richard duke of Gloucester (later Richard III). The great days of Middleham were during its tenure by the Neville family—John, the builder of Raby; Ralph, first earl of Westmorland; Richard, earl of Salisbury, beheaded at Pontefract in 1460; and Richard earl of Warwick, the King-Maker, killed at Barnet in 1471: after the latter's death the estate was forfeited to the Crown, and Edward IV gave it to his brother, Richard of Gloucester.

From Middleham we drove on to Ripon for tea, and thence to York, our base for the remainder of the meeting.

Tuesday, 20 July.

In the morning the party assembled at the MANSION HOUSE, where we were welcomed by the Lord Mayor of York. Much of the city's very valuable plate and its civic regalia had been laid out for inspection and were described to us by the Lord Mayor's attendant, who afterwards showed us the main apartments of the building; for further particulars, see the account of the Society's previous visit to York, in 1936 (CW2 xxxvii 200). Next we proceeded to the CATHEDRAL, where the verger described its history and then conducted us round the building. The rest of the day was left free, to enable members to explore some of the many interesting buildings in the city; most of them devoted the greater part of the afternoon to an examination of the Castle Museum, founded by Dr J. L. Kirk (who had shared with R. G. Collingwood in the first series of excavations at Bainbridge), with its unrivalled collection of old shops and their contents. After dinner that evening there was a meeting of Council; amongst those present was our Past President, Lt-Col. O. H. North, F.S.A., clearly far from well, but still full of the gay spirit one will always associate with one's memory of him.

Wednesday, 21 July.

Our first call was at MOUNT GRACE PRIORY, by permission of the National Trust, in which the guardianship of the monument is now vested; here we were met by Miss Cooper Abbs, the occupier of the house, and by Mr R. Gilyard-Beer, F.S.A., of the Ancient Monuments Department, who gave us an account of the history of the foundation and described the remains of the buildings. Mount Grace is the only Carthusian house in England of which sufficient is now visible to show the arrangement customary in a house of that Order. The priory was founded in 1398 by Thomas Holland, Earl of Kent and Duke of Surrey. The Carthusian monk was in effect a solitary hermit who lived in his own cell, only meeting other members of the community in church or on exceptional occasions, and for this reason the arrangements of Carthusian priories differed markedly from those of other monastic orders. At Mount Grace, the buildings are arranged round two courts which are partly separated by the church and the site of the prior's lodging; the inner court had a covered cloister walk, and on three of its sides there was a similar group of five cells, each with its

entrance from the cloister, with a fireplace in the ground-floor room and above, reached by a narrow wooden stair, a bedroom and oratory, while there was a small enclosed garden behind; near the door of the cell there was a hatch with a right-angled turn in it, so contrived that food could be passed in to the inmate without him seeing the server. The fourth side of the cloister was occupied by the church, the lavatory and the prior's house. The nave and tower of the church are early Perpendicular, but the transepts and chancel are of later date; the width of the tower is less than that of the nave or chancel, and is awkwardly filled in by the lateral walls; the transepts project from the nave, which is much shorter than the chancel. The outer or west court's W. side, near the gateway, is occupied by a range of buildings which were incorporated into the dwelling-house built in 1654 by Thomas Lascelles, and south of the gateway are the remains of the guest-house. At the NE. of this court, beyond the chancel of the church, there are two cells against the outer wall, and there are three more cells running westwards to form, with the church, another small court in which are the ruins of a chapel, attached to the chancel. On the hill above the priory are the remains of another chapel, approached by a flight of steps, where the monks are supposed to have been buried. It is hoped that arrangements may be made for the Ministry of Works to excavate the site and to preserve the exposed buildings.

The next halt was made at BYLAND ABBEY, visited by permission of the Ministry of Works and described by Mr Gilyard-Beer. Byland was founded by a colony of Cistercian monks from Furness Abbey, after their new foundation at Calder (1134) had been plundered by the Scots (1138); their first settlement in Yorkshire was at Hood, near Thirsk, whence they moved into Ryedale, across the river from Rievaulx; but trouble arose between the two houses, as the bells of one could be heard at the other, and in consequence the community moved westward over the moors, to Cuckwald under Blackhow; by now, the first abbot, Gerald, had died, and the new buildings were begun by his successor, Roger. The earliest work at Byland, in the south transept, dates from 1177, but the west front with its rose window was not completed until the early years of the 13th century; the first stone buildings to be completed were those for the lay brethren, on the west of the cloister. The high altar stood on a platform surrounded by a stone screen, and there were five chapels against the east wall of the chancel. The monks' quire took in the first three bays of the nave beyond the crossing, and was separated from the rest of the nave by a stone

pulpitum; to the west of this was the retroquire with a screen to its west, against which was the altar for the lay brothers. The aisles of the nave were divided into three chapels on each side, by stone screens, towards its east end. An unusual feature on the W. side of the cloister is the lane separating it from the western range of buildings; the original cloister-walk was enclosed by an open arcade on twin shafts, but the cloisters were rebuilt in the 15th century. The arrangement of buildings round the cloister-garth follows the usual Cistercian plan. The parlour adjoins the chapter-house, and beyond it there is a passage leading to the cemetery and the eastern buildings, while near it are the day-stairs to the dormitory and beyond them the rere-dorter and the abbot's lodging; on the south side of the cloister are the warming-house, frater and kitchen, and further south the 15th century meat-kitchen. The frater was entered from the cloister by a flight of steps, and there was a vaulted basement below it. The lay brothers' range was 275 ft. long, of two storeys (dormitory above, vaulted storehouse below); the infirmary is SE. of the main block of buildings and of unusual form, its chapel being in the crypt.

From Byland we proceeded by Wass Bank to Helmsley, for lunch, and thence to RIEVAULX ABBEY, where Mr Gilyard-Beer was once more our guide. The Society last visited Rievaulx in 1938, when it was described to us by the Rev. J. C. Dickinson, F.S.A., whose account is summarised in the *Proceedings* of that meeting (CW2 xxxix 324-326). Thence we drove via Helmsley and Barton-le-Street to CASTLE HOWARD. The old castle of Henderskelfe was destroyed by fire, and the third earl of Carlisle commissioned Sir John Vanbrugh to design and build a new mansion for him on its site. Work began in 1702, but it was not yet completed at Vanbrugh's death in 1726 and his original design was left unfinished; the west wing was built by Sir Thomas Robinson in 1750, and the western portion of the south front was altered to conform with this wing. The fifth earl, Byron's guardian and the friend of Charles James Fox, considerably enlarged the collection of works of art which had been formed by the third earl, and the Castle Howard paintings, statues, tapestry and furniture are justly famous. On the death of the ninth earl of Carlisle the family estates were divided, and Castle Howard is now the property of his grandson Mr George Howard, by whose kind permission we were enabled to visit the mansion and inspect some of its treasures.

It was at the end of our visit here that our Past President, Lt-Col. Oliver North, died—as he would surely have wished, in archæological harness to the last. At the ANNUAL

GENERAL MEETING on the evening of this day the President referred to the great loss which the Society had sustained by Colonel North's sudden death; he added that it was Mrs North's wish that the Society's meeting should continue without interruption, but he knew that members would wish to mark their sense of personal loss and to send a message of sympathy to Mrs North and her sons; an obituary notice of our Past President will be found on a later page of this volume. The President also reported the deaths of the Rev. A. Ainley (elected 1911) and Mr E. L. Hartley (1916).

The minutes of the spring meeting were read, confirmed and signed, and nine new members were elected. The President reported that members whose membership had lapsed might apply for re-election in the ordinary way, and that they would not be liable for the payment of arrears of subscriptions unless they wished to obtain the volumes issued during the period in question; this had been decided by Council at its meeting the previous evening. The balance-sheets for the Society's year 1953-54 were laid on the table, but had yet to be audited. Reports were then received from the Editors and from the Regional Groups, and brief accounts were communicated of Mr Gillam's excavations at Bewcastle (pp. 265-7 f. above) and Mr Hogg's at Carlisle, and the meeting was then closed.

Thursday, 22 July.

The first visit of the day was to FOUNTAINS ABBEY, where Mr Gilyard-Beer gave an account of the history of the foundation and described the structures; the Society visited Fountains in 1936 and an account of the buildings will be found in the Proceedings of that meeting (CW2 xxxvii 207). Next we drove to inspect RIPON MINSTER, described by Mr Gilyard-Beer, and ST WILFRID'S CRYPT (CW2 xxxvii 209). Lunch was taken in Ripon, and we then drove to WEST TANFIELD CHURCH, which was described to us by the rector, the Rev. J. Lowe. The chief attraction of the church is the collection of alabaster monuments of the Marmion family; the church itself is chiefly Perpendicular and has two interesting features: its "low side" window consists of two square lights placed in an unusual recess which projects on the south wall, and on the north side of the chancel there is a curious chamber which has two openings with Perpendicular tracery, one facing south and the other east. The sole surviving fragment of the Marmions' house is the gateway tower, to the south of the church, Perpendicular in style and with an interesting oriel window on the east face.

Next we visited JERVAULX ABBEY, where Mr Gilyard-Beer was once more our guide. It was established on the present site in 1156 as a daughter house of Byland Abbey; the last abbot, Adam Sedburgh, was hanged at Tyburn in 1537 for his part in the Pilgrimage of Grace, and in the next year the buildings were despoiled by Richard Bellyseys, so that the church is now represented by nothing more than the lower courses of its walls, but more remains of the monastic buildings. There are grave-slabs of the Fitzhugh family in the church, and the tombs of five abbots in the chapter-house. At the west end of the south aisle is a circular-headed Early English doorway; the transepts are in the same style; the chapter-house is separated from the south transept by a vestry and book-recess (later converted into a passage) and is entered by descending six steps: in it are the remains of four octagonal piers which once supported a vaulted roof. The monastic buildings followed the normal plan; they include the remains of a kitchen with two large fireplaces and, beyond it, a small 14th century chapel (probably the abbots' private chapel). Before we left Jervaulx the President expressed the Society's thanks to Mr Gilyard-Beer for the excellent series of accounts which he had given at the abbeys which we had been visiting, and for the great help which he had given in the arranging of the programme of visits.

We returned to York for dinner, and in the evening Dr E. A. Gee, F.S.A., of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England), gave us a lecture, illustrated with lantern-slides, on the Gothic buildings of York; the lecture was based on the survey of York on which the Commission is at present engaged, and the President, in his expression of thanks to Dr Gee, stressed our gratitude to him and to the Commission for allowing us to benefit from their labours, to the publication of which we look forward with enhanced interest.

Friday, 23 July.

The sky was overcast when we left York, it was raining by the time we reached Tadcaster and thereafter heavy rain fell all day. Our first visit was to BOLTON PRIORY, described to us by Mr W. Lemmon (deputising for the rector, who was ill); it was founded at Embsay near Skipton in 1120, and transferred to the present site in 1151. It resembles Lanercost in that its nave was retained in use as a parish church after the dissolution of the priory; like most Augustinian houses, it has an aisle on its north side only; the surviving remains of 12th century work are the lower part of the quire, the piers of the crossing and the lower part of the south wall of the nave; the west front, nave

and aisle were rebuilt in the Early English style. The great west tower was still unfinished at the Dissolution.

Lunch was taken in Skipton, where members were able to inspect the parish church before visiting SKIPTON CASTLE, by kind permission of Lord Hothfield, whose agent, Captain C. E. Fordyce received us and acted as our guide. The castle is of special interest to this Society as the principal home of the Clifford family; of the original structure only the Norman doorway remains, with its portcullis grooves and a few fragments of masonry, and the main part of the present building was the work of Robert de Clifford early in the 14th century. The interior of the quadrangle was reconstructed in the reign of Henry VII by the "Shepherd Lord", after his restoration to his honours and estates. This part of the castle was damaged during the siege of 1642, and was restored by Countess Anne. From the courtyard access is obtained to the great hall, at one end of which is the kitchen with two enormous fireplaces, and to other rooms in the old part of the castle. In the outer court is the chapel of St John, now used as an outbuilding. At the close of our examination, the President thanked Captain Fordyce for his services as guide, and asked him to convey to Lord Hothfield the Society's thanks for his kind permission to visit the castle. This concluded the meeting, and members returned home, the coaches travelling by way of Settle and Kendal.

IV. AUTUMN MEETING, 1954.

The autumn meeting was held in the Penrith district, with headquarters at Penrith; arrangements had been made by a committee consisting of the Rev. C. M. L. Bouch, F.S.A., Mr C. Roy Hudleston, F.S.A., Mr T. D. Shepherd, Dr J. R. K. Thomson and Mr J. E. Spence, F.S.A. (President, and Secretary for Excursions). Considering the wetness of the summer, the weather conditions, though showery at times, were reasonably good, and at times it was possible for members to enjoy genuine sunshine.

Tuesday, 14 September.

The coaches left Penrith railway station at 10-30 a.m., the first stop being at BROUGHAM CHAPEL. It is surprising to discover that the Society had never previously visited the chapel, though it is famous for its remarkable woodwork, an account of which may be found in *RCHM Westmorland*, 56 f. The reason for this neglect can perhaps be found in the description of the building's contents by a local clergyman, as resembling

"an ecclesiastical junk-shop" with its collection of church furnishings gathered mainly from foreign sources by members of the Brougham family. On this occasion the Society was privileged to hear an account of the woodwork by our member Mr W. A. Thorpe, F.S.A., Keeper of the Department of Woodwork in the Victoria and Albert Museum, who was able to throw a very different light on its value and interest. Mr Thorpe showed that, though some of its finest fittings (the famous reredos, for instance) were undoubtedly foreign importations, other parts (such as the open woodwork screen) were of English origin. But for members of this Society perhaps the most interesting part of his account was that which dealt with the origin of the choir stalls; these, though in part imported from the Continent, were mainly the work of local 19th century craftsmen. It is hoped to give Mr Thorpe's paper at length, with illustrations, in the next volume of *Transactions*. The rector of Brougham (the Rev. C. M. L. Bouch) added a few details of the building's history.

From Brougham we proceeded to MILLRIGG, the home of our member Mrs Boazman, and for many years the seat of a branch of the Dalston family of Acorn Bank: CW2 x 255 gives a pedigree showing the descent of the Boazmans from Mary Dalston, sister of William Dalston (ob. 1771), the last male of that family, and in CW2 xxvii 178-183 there is an excellent account of Millrigg by the late Daniel Scott. On this occasion the President was the speaker. After giving the history of its owners, he pointed out the architectural interest of the house as an example of a small Elizabethan home: not a manor house, but the home of minor gentry, a type of which few examples remain in our district. He drew special attention to the unusual position of the circular staircase at the front of the house instead of at the rear of the entrance passage, as in most local houses, and suggested that it might be part of an earlier building. Above the entrance there is a stone with the date 1597, probably put up when the main part of the present house was built by the Birkbeck family, for whose pedigree see CW2 x 240; above it is another inscribed stone with the date 1669, probably giving the year in which the house was bought by the Dalstons. Within the porch is a door leading, through the centre of the house, to another door at the rear; this, however, is not original, having been made at a later date by the enlargement of a window. Tradition says that this passage was once part of the dining-room. In the latter there is the large arch of the old fireplace, about 7 ft. across; the whole room is panelled in oak, now nearly black. On the other side of the passage is the drawing-

room. A circular staircase leads to a small open room in the first floor of the turret, which has its original windows; this turret may well have been used as a watch-tower, commanding an extensive view of the main road.

After a picnic lunch at Temple Sowerby, NEWBIGGIN HALL was visited. For an account of its owners, the Crackenthorpes, see CW2 xxxiii 43-97; there are descriptions of the building in *RCHM Westmorland* 183 f., CW1 xii 33-41 (reprinted in M. W. Taylor's *Old Manorial Halls*, 147-155) and CW2 xxii 158-161. On this occasion Mr Bouch put forward a new explanation of the building's structural history, and that part of his address is printed as Art. XIII (pp. 140 ff.) above. Next we proceeded to HOWGILL CASTLE, which was described by the President. Accounts of the building may be found in *RCHM Westmorland* 174; Curwen's *Castles & Towers*, 281 ff.; CW1 xii 27-33 and CW2 iv 198-201. After referring to the various families to whom the castle had belonged, the President pointed out that it had been built in the last quarter of the 14th century, on a plan very unusual in the Border country. Further south, away from the danger of raids, it is quite usual to find halls constructed on an H plan, having a central hall with the private apartments at its upper end and the kitchen wing at the lower end; but Preston Patrick and Middleton halls, tucked away in the western foothills of the Pennines, are the only other examples of this plan in the Society's area, in which the normal 14th century manor house consisted of a pele-tower, with the solar or private apartments on its first floor; as the desire for more comfortable accommodation developed, a hall was built adjoining the pele, with its dais at the tower end and the kitchen wing at the other end, the resulting plan often being H shaped—a central hall and two wings. At Howgill we find in the original design an interesting variant of the H plan: two massive pele-towers, with a central hall block. In the 17th century a block containing the great staircase was added on the NW. side of the building. The castle was remodelled in the 18th century, when the towers were given their present gabled roofs, and the central block was raised to the same height as the wings; as a result of these alterations, its front shows no evidence of the earlier building, except at the top of the east wing, but from the back of the house a far better idea of its original appearance can be obtained.

The day's excursion ended with a visit to KIRKBY THORE CHURCH, which was described by the rector, the Rev. A. P. Haythornthwaite, who also exhibited some of his parochial records; a full description of the church will be found in *RCHM Westmorland* 146 f., and for its registers reference may be made

to CWI iv 372-86. Mr Eric Birley then read extracts from a paper which he had written jointly with our member the Rev. John Rogan, on Thomas Machell the antiquary, who was rector of Kirkby Thore from 1677 until his death in 1698, and whom Chancellor Ferguson once termed, by a pardonable hyperbole, "the father of all Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquaries" (CWI iv 1); it is hoped to print the paper in full in the next volume of *Transactions*.

We returned to Penrith in time for most members to have tea, while members of Council held their statutory meeting. After dinner, the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society was held in St Andrew's parish rooms, at 8-15 p.m., with Mr J. E. Spence, President, in the chair. He referred to the loss which the Society had sustained, since its last meeting in our own territory, by the deaths of Lt-Col. O. H. North, F.S.A., Past President, and of Miss Anne G. Gilchrist, F.S.A., and on his motion members stood in silent tribute to their memory. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and fourteen new members were elected. The Society then proceeded to the election of officers for the year next ensuing. The Rev. C. M. L. Bouch, F.S.A., was elected President of the Society, and all other officers and members of Council were re-elected *en bloc*. The new President, after thanking the Society for the honour conferred on him, expressed the Society's grateful thanks to Mr Spence for the devoted and successful work which he had done for the Society during the three years of his Presidency, without shedding any of the heavy burden of his work as Secretary for Excursions, and added that he had been fortunate in persuading Mr Spence to continue in office as Chairman of Council; in this Mr Eric Birley joined. Mr Spence, in a brief reply, confessed that he had enjoyed his tenure of office as President, and paid a tribute to the work of his colleagues on the Council, on whom he had always been able to count for help in attending to the Society's affairs. The Treasurer's accounts for the year ending 30 June 1954, which had been audited, were adopted, and the Treasurer and the Society's honorary Auditors were thanked for their services. For the Editors, Mr Eric Birley reported that *Transactions*, n.s. liii, had now been printed off, and members would be receiving their copies in the near future; he laid an advance copy of the volume on the table. More articles were to hand than could be fitted into n.s. liv, which promised to be somewhat larger than recent volumes, and was likely to contain a number of papers of exceptional interest. The Secretary for Excursions announced that the spring meeting would be held in Kendal on 26 March 1955,

and that the summer meeting would probably be held on 19 and 20 July. The following papers were then read or reported: "Three polished stone axes" by Clare Fell, F.S.A. (Art. I above); "A newly discovered Roman fort at Park House, near Carlisle", "The Roman road from Old Penrith to Keswick, and beyond" and "Roman sites on the Cumberland coast, 1954" by R. L. Bellhouse (Arts. III-V); "Excavations at Burrow in Lonsdale, 1952-53" by E. J. W. Hildyard, F.S.A. (Article VIII); "Excavation of the fortified manor-house at Burgh-by-Sands" by Robert Hogg (Art. X); "The manor of Burgh-by-Sands" by R. L. Storey (Art. XI); "The keeping of Carlisle castle before 1381" by J. L. Kirby (Art. XII); "The Windermere 'Four and Twenty'" by B. L. Thompson (Art. XV); "Kirkby Stephen churchwardens' accounts, 1658-70" by J. Breay (Art. XVI); "Coalyeat, Broughton-in-Furness" by H. V. Koop (Art. XVII); "The court-martial of General Oglethorpe" by C. Roy Hudleston (Art. XVIII); "Cumberland shipping in the 18th century" by R. C. Jarvis (Art. XIX); and "Farmhouses of south-west Cumberland" by W. M. Williams (Art. XXI). Mr Robert Hogg also exhibited plans and photographs of a recent excavation in Carlisle; his report is held over until the next volume of *Transactions*, so that it may include a full study of the important group of medieval pottery which the excavation yielded. Owing to the lateness of the hour, the meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks, on the motion of the President, to the contributors of the large number of papers, which members would look forward to reading in detail in due course.

Wednesday, 15 September.

The coaches left Penrith at 9-30 a.m. and drove first to SCALES HALL, where Mr C. G. Bulman was the speaker. The Society's first visit was in September 1931, when the late Ferdinand Hudleston read the paper later printed in CW2 xxxii 80-83. The building is a delightful example of local Tudor architecture, built in days when our forebears could begin for the first time to think of a house in terms of comfort and convenience rather than of defence; it is also of interest as the home for several generations of a branch of the Brougham family, from which the famous Lord Chancellor sprang. It is hoped to print an extended study of the building, by Mr Bulman, in an early volume of *Transactions*. Our next call was at CASTLE SOWERBY CHURCH. Here the vicar, the Rev. M. Birchall, was to have spoken to us, but he had been called away suddenly; he had left behind, however, a typed description of the church,

which was read to us by the President, the Rev. C. M. L. Bouch, F.S.A. The church, which is dedicated to St Kentigern, was built in the 12th century and was lengthened at both ends *circa* 1250; a south aisle and porch were added in the late 16th century, and the whole building was repaired and altered early in the 19th century, and restored (at a cost of £509) in 1889. Our member Mr R. R. Sowerby then read a short paper on the manor of Castle Sowerby, basing his remarks on his recently published book, a review of which will be found on pp. 301-2, below. From here we drove to JOHNBYS HALL, which was described by the President, by kind permission of Mrs B. Howard, who also allowed us to examine the interior of her most interesting Elizabethan house. The President based his observations on an Article by M. W. Taylor, CW₁ xi 80-90 (reprinted in his *Old Manorial Halls*, 294-304), and on the very valuable supplementary study by Mrs Wright Brown, CW₂ xxxi 85-103. He stressed that hitherto it had not been pointed out how extremely interesting the house was, for the interior planning of its system of staircases; one of these led direct from the entrance lobby into the main hall, or lord's room, on the first floor, forming his private way in; another led from the hall to the second floor, giving the lord and his lady access to their bedroom. Another staircase led from the kitchen and store-rooms, on the ground floor, to the buttery passage, adjoining the main hall, and from there connected with a further staircase leading to the second floor, thus providing a means whereby meals could be served and the servants could go to bed without disturbing the lord. At the opposite end of the ground floor there was another staircase, now blocked up, leading to the parlour or withdrawing-room, by means of which the lady of the house had immediate access to the kitchen.

A picnic lunch was eaten at Greystoke, but the weather had now turned inclement, and some members preferred to remain in the coaches, while others sought the shelter of the local inn. We then paid a short visit to HARDRIGG HALL, of which an account will be found in CW₂ xxxii 78 f.; here Mr Spence was the speaker, and he succeeded in holding our attention despite the vociferous barracking of a large gathering of turkeys in the adjacent field. He pointed out that though this small pele-tower has no unusual features, its remains are of considerable interest as showing it in half-section, thereby revealing the interior arrangements of the type very clearly. The excursion ended with a visit to HUTTON-IN-THE-FOREST, which was described to us by its owner, our member Mr W. M. F. Vane, M.P., and its architectural history was outlined to us by Mr

C. B. Martindale. The Society had only visited the house once previously, it seems, in September 1931, when the late W. T. McIntire was the speaker; a summary of his account will be found in CW2 xxxii 176 f.—and that, except for a rather meagre list of its chief dates, given in Curwen's *Castles & Towers*, 284 f., is the only description of this exceptionally interesting building in any of the Society's publications.¹ The Editors are therefore glad to be allowed to report that the deficiency is soon to be made good and that Mr Vane and Mr Martindale hope to furnish an account of the house, with plans and photographs, for inclusion in an early volume of *Transactions*. Mr Spence had thoughtfully arranged for a travelling canteen to meet us at Hutton, so that members were able to take tea there, during a period of welcome sunshine which enabled them to enjoy the delightful grounds, and to visit the old pigeon-house (for which, cf. CW1 ix 422-423). The new President's vote of thanks to his predecessor in that office, the Secretary for Excursions, was therefore carried with much acclaim (though, in the interest of historical accuracy, it must be said that Mr Spence was in error in saying that this was the first time for three years on which he had been thanked: CW2 li 208 shows that Mr Eric Birley stepped into the breach and did so at the conclusion of the September meeting of 1951). Thus ended another successful meeting.

¹ Curwen's reference to Taylor's *Old Manorial Halls*, 252, is a mistake: the house there referred to is Hutton Hall, Penrith and not Hutton-in-the-Forest.