

PROCEEDINGS.

I. SUMMER MEETING, 1964.

THE Summer meeting was held on 10 and 11 July 1964 with Headquarters at Tullie House, Carlisle. Arrangements for the excursion were made by a committee of the President, Chairman of Council, Mr C. R. Hudleston, Mr R. Hogg, Hon. General Secretary and Hon. Secretary for Excursions.

A meeting of Council was held on the evening of 11 July. Miss K. S. Hodgson presiding.

Friday, 10 July.

Over 140 members and guests took part in a tour of the Inglewood and Ullswater districts.

At Carlisle the party assembled at the Castle and visited the RECORD OFFICE to hear the County Archivist, Mr B. C. Jones, describe Inglewood Forest. They also saw documents appertaining to the district.

Members then went to DALSTON HALL (CW1 ii 152) where Mr J. Hughes described the house and spoke of its former owners who were bond tenants of the Bishops of Carlisle. On several occasions attempts were made by the Dalston family to end this state of affairs. Mr Hughes quoted a document in the Record Office concerning an action brought against Sir John Dalston, 2nd Baronet, by Bishop Smith: ". . . that in . . . 1696 by reason of the Great Flood which then happened severall great and extraordinary breaches were made in the weir or dam of the said Milnes, so that in or about the month of December and January in the said yeare . . . the same became almost totally ruined, occasioned in a great measure by the default of the said Sir John Dalston who neglected and at last refused to join with the rest of the bond tenants and contribute his 4th part . . . towards the repairing of the lesser breeches in convenient time, so that the said milnes . . . became in a manner for want of sufficient water useless and in danger of lying quite wasted."

At a meeting, the bond tenants appointed a contractor to repair the damage at a cost of £40 plus materials, this sum to be met by the tenants, each paying his share. But considerable difficulty was experienced in drawing up the contract. John Dawson, the builder, demanded an assurance that the full £40

would be paid, knowing full well that Sir John Dalston would refuse to add his contribution to that already subscribed by the other tenants. Deadlock ensued until the Bishop himself was finally compelled to pay the fourth share in default of Sir John.

"Although the Bishop was no doubt anxious to recover his £10 the real object of the Exchequer Bill was to establish the fact that the Dalstons were still bond tenants."

The tour continued to CASTLE SOWERBY CHURCH, which was described by the Rev. F. B. Swift. He said:

"The building with its whitewashed walls and unassuming architecture is a typical Lakeland church and appears 'to belong' to its site. It dates from the Norman period and though there must have been earlier churches no remains of them are to be seen.

"The patronage was originally in the king's hands but at various times it was granted to Alexander III, Anthony Bec, bishop of Durham, and John Balliol. In 1307 the church was appropriated to the prior and convent of Carlisle by grant of Edward I. Since the dissolution of the priory the Dean and Chapter have been the patrons."

Picnic lunch was taken near the church before the party moved off to WARNELL HALL (CW2 xx 238) to hear Mr C. R. Huddleston speak on the Denton family, former owners.

Continuing their journey, members made a call at AUGHERTREE FELL ENCLOSURES (CW1 vi 190) where Mr R. Bellhouse pointed out the ditch and rampart features and spoke of the importance of this prehistoric site.

At CALDBECK CHURCH (CW2 xx 239) the Rev. F. B. Swift gave an account of the building which is one of the eight churches in Cumberland dedicated to St Kentigern. He said:

"Sometime before 1170 Gospatric, son of Orm, gave the hospital for travellers at Caldbeck with the advowson of the church to Carlisle Priory, and in 1223 Prior Bartholomew granted the advowson to the Bishop of Carlisle. The church was, however, never appropriated and in the time of King John it was endowed with the lands of the dissolved hospital. Originally the church consisted of a short chancel with nave and south aisle. In the 12th century the chancel was lengthened to its present extent and in the next century the north aisle was added and the three western bays probably erected or rebuilt.

"In the 16th century, during extensive alterations to the chancel carried out by the rector, John de Whelpdale, the east window and the clerestory window on the south of the sanctuary were inserted. A new chancel arch was built and the former one with its beak ornamentation was removed to form the entrance to the new south porch. The tower was built in 1727."

Interesting features were the medieval grave slab near the vestry door, the "leper" window in the north chancel wall, the original windows at the east and west ends of both aisles, the shaped arch stones in the south aisle discovered during the

restoration, the square-headed piscina in the south aisle and the Nicene Creed painted on the east wall of the nave.

Tea was in Caldbeck Village Hall.

The general meeting was held in the evening at Tullie House with the President in the chair. About 40 members were present. The Secretary submitted 13 applications for membership which were approved. The Hon. Treasurer gave a review of the Society's finances.

After the formal business of the meeting Mr R. L. Bellhouse exhibited several articles of Roman origin which had been discovered during his recent excavations.

The following papers were communicated: "Excavations at Barnscar" by Dr D. Walker (Art. III, above); "The distribution of rough-out 'Cumbrian' and related stone axes of Lake District origin in Northern England" by Mr T. G. Manby (Art. I, above); "Richard Bell, Bishop of Carlisle" by Dr Barrie Dobson (Art. XI, above); "Disagreements by the Duddon" by Mrs Susan Johnson.

Saturday, 11 July.

On the second day, in continuing fine weather, members re-assembled at RAUGHTON HEAD CHURCH where the Rev. W. F. Ewbank gave an account of its early history and displayed the church's registers, communion vessels and plate. Mr B. C. Jones exhibited and explained documents relative to the church.

At CATTERLEN HALL (CW1 i 327 and CW2 vii 111) Mr C. R. Hudleston described the house and spoke of the Vaux and Richmond families, former owners.

A short distance away, members had the opportunity of seeing JOHNBYS HALL, the home of Mrs Glory Howard (CW2 xxxii 85), which was described by Mr N. Hudleston, who said:

"The present Hall may be ascribed to the middle of the 14th century, and to have been designed as a small Tower, some 32 ft. by 28 externally, with a curtain wall, or pele, enclosing a courtyard round it. It was built by Robert de Aubigny, or perhaps his son-in-law Nicholas de Veteripont, but by 1583 it had passed to William Musgrave who, in that year made considerable alterations and additions on the east side of the tower and inside the curtain wall. The ground floor was used as stores and kitchens, and the floor above as the Great Hall, with a parlour next to it. The entrance was in a turret in the south-east corner, whence a spiral stair leads up to the hall floor, with a further spiral stair to the sleeping-rooms on the second storey. Over the entrance door is an interesting carved panel with the quartered coat and quarterings of William Musgrave. Another wing on the west side of the courtyard was added in 1637, and further additions were made in 1675 and 1687. The property has passed through many hands, from the de Johnbys through the de Aubignys, Stapletons, Musgraves, Williams, Hasells, to the Howards who are the present owners."

After lunch the party went to GREYSTOKE CHURCH (CW1 321 and CW2 vii 305), which was described by Mr N. Hudleston:

"The present church dates from the 14th century, though the chancel arch and the wall it supports seem to indicate an earlier building. By 1382, however, it was much dilapidated, 'The walls crazy, the belfry fallen, and the wooden shingles on the roof mostly scattered.' Restoration and enlargement were carried out to form north and south transepts with a five-arched nave and narrow lean-to aisles. Further rebuilding was carried out in the 15th century. A College of secular priests was established, with six chantries, which continued until the Dissolution, though the church itself remained as the parish church of this very large parish.

"The east window contains a great deal of 15th-century glass, and some fragments of earlier date. There are four bells, dating from the 14th and 16th centuries with interesting inscriptions; and two effigies, one of William Lord Greystoke, 'le bon Baron', who founded the original College, and died in 1359, and the other of John, his grandson who died in 1436. There are numerous brasses to prominent people of the district. The "College" was started again in 1947, and students from all walks of life are trained here for the ministry."

At DACRE CHURCH (CW1 xi 323) the Rev. K. H. Smith was the speaker.

The last item on the programme was a visit to DALEMAIN where the members were hospitably received by Mrs Hasell, who described and conducted members round the house in the absence of Major E. W. Hasell, who was unfortunately indisposed.

Tea was at Glenridding.

II. AUTUMN MEETING, 1964.

The Autumn meeting was held in South Westmorland on Friday and Saturday, 4 and 5 September 1964, with headquarters at Abbot Hall, Kendal. The committee responsible for the arrangements consisted of the President, Chairman of the Council, Mr C. R. Hudleston, Mr R. Hogg, Mr P. N. Wilson, Hon. General Secretary and Hon. Secretary for Excursions.

Council met on the evening of 3 September, Miss Hodgson presiding.

Friday, 4 September.

About 125 members and guests assembled at ABBOT HALL ART GALLERY, to hear Mr M. J. Bunney describe the premises and explain the recent restorations.

After being conducted through the Art Gallery the party joined the minibuses and cars to proceed to HELSINGTON LAITHES SNUFF MILL. This good example of industrial archaeology, which is still in perfect working order, was described by Mr P. N. Wilson, who said:

"Helsington Snuff Mill is driven by the last working water-wheel on the river Kent. One hundred years ago there were more than twenty mills on the river (that is to say the Kent alone), all of which were driven by water. Now there are five, and since the Gunpowder Mills at Sedgwick and Bassingill were closed down more than 30 years ago the snuff mill is the lowest downstream dam in the river.

"There has been a mill or mills at Helsington since 1297, and there are further records in 1323 and 1581. We do not, however, know whether the original mills were on the same site as the present buildings. John Somervell suggests, I think rightly, that the present great weir across the river was built about 1800 by Messrs Webster and Holmes when they started their business of marble milling. Probably some of the buildings date from this period when the Industrial Revolution made such a great difference to the nature and industries of Kendal and the surrounding district.

"There are two mills at Helsington, both fed by the same weir and head-race. These we may refer to as Gawith, Hoggarth's Mill, and the Chaplow's Mill. The latter had the large race and wheel, and is on the right as the snuff mill is approached. It was taken over in 1895 and for many years the wheel provided power to drive and light Chaplow's engineering works. The water power is no longer used.

"Gawith, Hoggarth took over the small mill and converted it into a snuff mill in 1882. Much, if not all, the machinery probably dates from *about* this period. In spite of the fact there is considerable use of timber in the water-wheel and the frames of the machines in the mill, most of the moving parts, bearing housings, etc., are of cast or wrought iron, and this makes it very unlikely that they can be dated before the early 19th century."

At PRESTON PATRICK HALL (CW2 xlvi 289) Dr R. W. Brunskill was the speaker and said:

"The main hall was altered in the late 17th or early 18th century, an intermediate floor being inserted and the whole roof raised. Large cambered beams now supporting the floor retain mortices which suggest that they were originally the beams of the open roof. There is no sign of an early fireplace in the hall and presumably an open hearth was provided. Little trace remains of the customary screens passage and the present entrance was formed when the hall was divided. A later extension into the garden has obliterated all trace of the staircase which probably rose from the N.W. corner of the hall to the upper room of the west wing.

"This room, though now divided, formerly occupied the whole floor and retains a fine example of a mediaeval fireplace as well as an original window complete with hinges and an unusual masonry slot for shutters. Below, another early fireplace remains in the subsidiary private room. An extension to the west, probably original, has been considerably altered.

"The east wing consists, on the ground floor of two rooms with barrel-vaulted ceilings and probably serving as buttery and pantry, separated by a barrel-vaulted passage which presumably led to an outside kitchen. Early 'Caernarvon Arches' survive though some have been moved. The walls at this level are over 4 ft. thick. Above there is the fine room known as the 'Court Room' (though there is no record that a court was actually held here). It is approached both by a mural staircase from the hall and by a later external staircase. The room is open to a roof now well preserved but with signs of reconstruction.

Lunch was taken on the banks of the River Lune, by the Devils Bridge at Kirkby Lonsdale.



Photo: Audrey Charlton

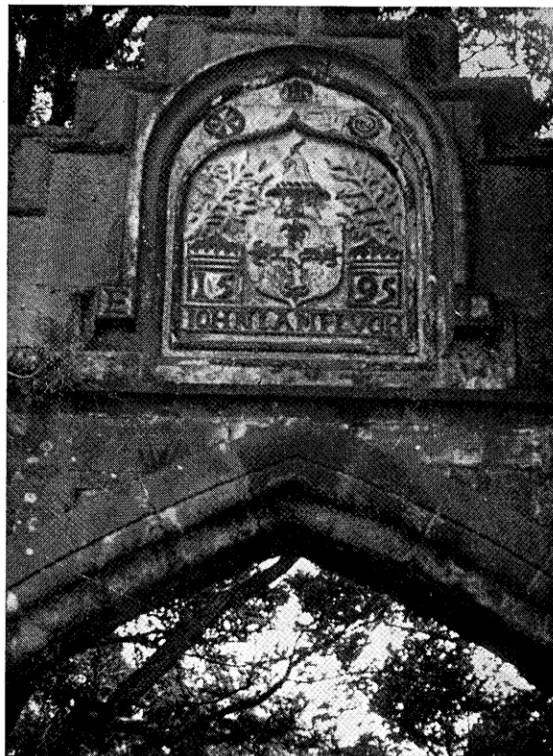


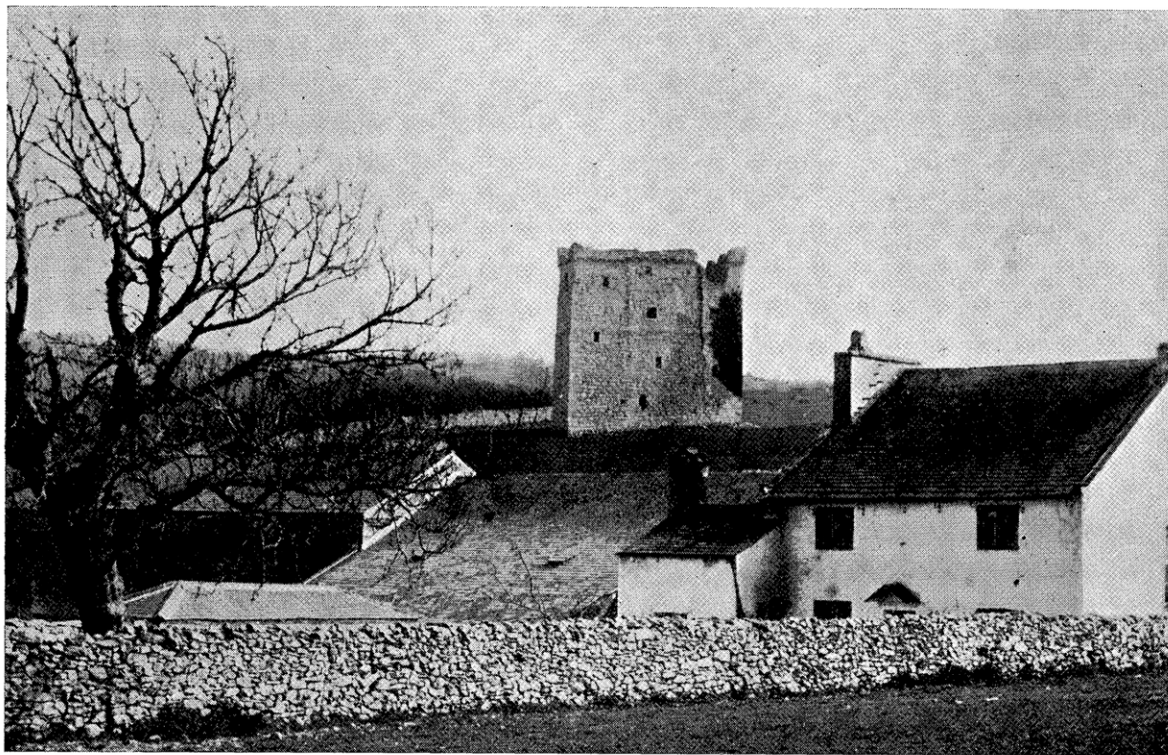
Photo: John Dixon-Johnson

TWO ARMORIAL STONES.

Left. The Denton coat over the front doorway of Warnell Hall.

Right. The Lamplugh coat over the gateway at Lamplugh Hall.

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Arnside Tower, from a photograph taken before 1884, in which year a considerable amount of the building fell.

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In the afternoon the tour included a call at CASTLE HILL, BURTON-IN-LONSDALE (CW2 v 283), where members heard Mr J. J. Bagley describe the site.

At HORNBY CHURCH the Rev. J. C. Dickinson was the speaker. He said:

"Hornby is mentioned in Domesday Book but remains of cross shafts at the church show that it was no new place at this time. In Norman times and possibly before, it was the seat of a major local lord. The first castle was probably the work of de Montbegon family who held the manor for a century and a half after the Norman Conquest. Later it passed successively to the families of de Burgh, de Neville, Harrington and Stanley. At the end of the 15th century the manor and castle were held by Sir Edward Stanley, son of the first Earl of Derby. He was sheriff of Lancashire for life, and as such raised the force of the county for the famous battle of Flodden Field. His part herein is vividly and lengthily described by a devoted admirer in a long and complex Tudor ballad published long ago (An exact and circumstantial history of the Battle of Flodden (edited) by Robert Lambe, Berwick upon Tweed and London, 1774). For his prowess at the battle Sir Edward was created Lord Mounteagle by his royal friend Henry VIII. He died in 1523, having started but evidently not completed the rebuilding of Hornby Parish Church. The provision in his will for the foundation of a hospital with two priests, a clerk, five bedesmen and a schoolmaster to maintain a free school was not given effect by his ancestors.

"The present church though much re-built is of considerable interest on account of its unusual 16th-century work and its pre-Conquest carvings. Of the latter the most notable is a cross fragment with a representation of the miracle of the loaves and fishes; on the reverse side is a relief of an angel holding a book with remains of a fragmentary inscription. W. G. Collingwood classifies it an early 9th-century work of the Ripon School of carvers and terms it 'as one of the most remarkable of Anglian monuments because of its delicacy and beauty.'

"Nearby is part of a cross-head and several post-Conquest grave slabs. On the south side of the church is the tower part of what was originally a very large cross shaft. It is simply carved with a round-headed arch on each face and is unlike the general race of Northumbrian crosses; its date is uncertain.

"The church was much re-built in 1817 and 1889, the present nave, aisles and clerestory belonging to this period, with almost all the furnishings, notable exceptions being the 18th-century processional cross, vestments and altar frontal. The attractive and unusual octagonal tower at the west end of the church is supposed to have been built in 1514 and is conveniently dated to about this time by bearing a square tablet with the Mounteagle arms and the inscription 'E. Stanley miles, dominus Montegle me fieri fecit'. The chancel is of the same date and on its outer wall can be seen the Stanley crest of the eagle's claw and arms of the kingdom of Man which the family held for some time.

"Across the road from the parish church is a Roman Catholic chapel, the present structure dating from 1820. The eminent Victorian historian Dr John Lingard was priest in charge here from 1811 to 1851 and wrote his history of England during this period. He is commemorated in the parish church by a tablet."

The return journey was made via BEETHAM PARISH

CHURCH where Mr Dickinson was again the speaker. He drew attention to the fact that this church was the centre of one of the largest and oldest parishes of medieval Westmorland, and added:

"A priest at Beetham is mentioned in Domesday Book, and about 1090-97 the church here was one of several local ones given to St Mary's abbey, York. In 1459 began an attempt to utilize much of the endowments of the church to endow a chantry college of Eccles, but this proposal finally failed. Valuable information on the history of the church and parish was preserved through the activities of its remarkable vicar, William Hutton, in his *Beetham Repository*, which has been published by our Society. According to Machell the church was dedicated to an obscure Anglo-Saxon saint, St Leoba, though the traditional dedication is to St Michael. An ancient chapel formerly stood on the little hill east of the church, of whose history next to nothing is known.

"A clear picture of the architectural evolution of the parish church is not available. Although the tower and adjacent parts of the west wall are assigned to the 12th century by H.M.C.W. (where they are inaccurately drawn) it is very likely that much of them are of the 11th century or earlier. But the south arcade of the nave and the head of the tower arch belong to about the end of the 12th century, as does the font now much encased in post-Reformation woodwork. The present Beetham chapel at the east end of the south aisle was added about the end of the 14th century and the south aisle and tower given new windows about the same time.

"In the late 15th and early 16th century considerable work was undertaken. The north aisle was added, the roofs and ceilings and top of the tower remodelled. In the age immediately before the Reformation a statue of St Sitha in the south aisle of the church inspired local pilgrimages, and several bequests to its chapel are known. There was a fair amount of post-Reformation restoration at Beetham, notably in 1872-5, to which period, the porch, pews and pulpit belong.

"The most notable of the furnishings of the church is the Beetham tomb with its male and female effigies and ten coats of arms almost all identifiable as belonging to local families. It is dated c. 1420 by H.M.C.R. and certainly was made for one of the de Beetham family, perhaps the John de Beetham who was engaged to marry Mary de Tunstall in the late 14th century, or his immediate successor. William Hutton gave to the church a fine chest and was the principal benefactor of the interesting little parish library still preserved there. Much of the old glass has gone but a coat of the Stanley family and some fragments remain in the Beetham chapel and one or two figures in the west window of the belfry."

After tea at Beetham, members returned to Kendal where the annual general meeting was held at Abbot Hall. The President made sympathetic reference to the death of Council member Mrs. A. Bromley-Boorne. The Hon. Treasurer presented the accounts. 15 new members were elected and the President gave an encouraging report of the Society's activities during the past year.

Saturday, 5 September.

Next morning the party went to SIZERGH FELL SETTLE-

MENT AND CAIRNS (CW2 xii 397; CW2 iv 71 and 201). Here the President gave the following account:

"A visit by this Society to Sizergh Fell settlement (or Heaves Fell as it is sometimes called) and cairns seem worth-while, not because a great deal remains to be seen, but for three other reasons — first because from this high limestone ridge a very good idea can be formed of the type of land which appealed to the early agricultural settlers with a pastoral or mixed economy; secondly, because we know more about this site than about many similar ones in our area; third because a considerable amount of pollen-analysis has been carried out in this area in the last few years, revealing man's effect on natural vegetation.

"Professor McKenny Hughes, professor of Geology at Cambridge, started his investigations here in 1903 spring and summer. He had noticed two cairns, or tumuli close to the 400-ft. contour. The first on the slope overlooking the Gilpin (CW2 iv 71-79) was 24 ft. in diameter with a ring of boulders round the base and a cluster of similar stones at the centre. The low mound was made up of earth and small stones and was grassed over. In a small cavity under a boulder he found the broken remains of a pot. It is not clear from his description whether cremated bones accompanied this vessel, or were found elsewhere in the mound — indeed he does not mention them in his first report, but refers to them in his second account (CW2 iv 201-204). The pot was reconstructed some years ago at Cambridge by permission of our patron, Mr Hornoyld-Strickland, and proved to be a Cord-zoned Beaker (Abercromby Class B) (CW2 liii 1-5) and is now at Sizergh Castle. A date somewhere between 1800 and 1600 B.C. is likely. No other finds were made.

"The second cairn on the crest of the ridge overlooking the Kent was larger, 38 ft. in diameter and composed entirely of stones with a ring or wall of larger stones within its margin. Five contracted inhumation burials were found, protected by large stones — none had any grave goods. The mode of burial suggests either multiple interments of the Neolithic 'Dorchester' culture, as at Duggleby Howe, Yorks., or Crosby Garrett, Westmorland (Greenwell barrow 174) or a series of single-grave burials of Beaker, or more probably Early Bronze Age food vessel type. The bones were all in poor condition.

"In 1912 Prof. McKenny Hughes returned to the area and turned his attention to the settlement and cairns where we are now standing. They lie between the 300- and 400-ft. contours (CW2 xii 397 ff.). Mr Prickett of Heaves Farm told him that he remembered the enclosing walls much higher, but his father had carted away hundreds of cart-loads for walling, road mending and other purposes. Stukeley, the 18th-century antiquary, would have had drastic punishment recommended such as an iron collar round the neck of the destroyer, his name written on his back with burning phosphorous and 'agitated by angry demons with ox goads'. The enclosure is in two parts, an oval one to the north and a sub-rectangular extension at the south. *RCHM Westmorland* 1936 shows a slightly turned entrance at the north end. McKenny Hughes found the walls was constructed with limestone slabs with a rubble core, parts of a circular and of a rectangular structure abutting the eastern side. The area enclosed is about $\frac{1}{2}$ an acre. He also detected two cairns, one on the east side (now gone) in which nothing was found, one at the south-west corner where it joins the outer extension. The enclosure bank overlay this cairn. In it he found an inhumation burial with a bronze pennanular brooch and ring. A broken blue-glass melon bead was also recovered, all suggesting a 2nd or 3rd century A.D. date. Pennanular brooches have recently been studied

by Mrs E. Fowler (PPS xxvi (1960) 149-177). This brooch belongs to her type A, two which she has shown developed in this country from Early Iron Age types, and are common in northern England at Roman forts, and native sites and settlements 1-4th century A.D. This homestead may be as late as the 3rd or 4th century. It is undefended, unlike the Aughtertree enclosures we visited this summer. The upper stone of a rotary quern found this summer by Mr Henderson of Lane End Farm not far north of the site, is of steep-sided Romano-British form, and accords well with the dates suggested for the settlement and cairn. It will be kept at Sizergh Castle.

"In addition to the settlement and cairns already mentioned, a number of stray finds of various prehistoric periods have been found in the area. A polished stone axe and a broken flint axe were recently recorded from Whitbarrow, a rough-out axe from Scout Scar, and in the past axes have been found at Low Levens and below Gilpin Bridge and a perforated adze at Brigsteer, all suggesting Neolithic settlement. Tanged and barbed flint arrowheads from Whitbarrow, Gilpin Bridge and Underbarrow, a bronze dagger from Helsington, or Stakes Moss a bronze ninezergh show that Bronze-Age occupation was considerable. We have already seen that settlement continued into Romano-British times.

"Finally, a word about recent pollen analysis. Beyond Whitbarrow cores have been taken at Helton Tarn and near Witherslack Hall, while on this side of Whitbarrow further cores have been taken from Nichols, Foulshaw and Helsington Mosses. (Oldfield, *Geografiska Annaler* xlv (1963), no. 1, 23-40). From Helsington Moss a C.14 date of 3317 — 120 N.C. dates the boundary between zone VIIa and VIIb (Atlantic Sub-Boreal). All show man's influence on the forest growth c. 3000 B.C. The corduroy track in Foulshaw Moss appears to date from late in the Bronze Age (CW2 iv 207-210). Very little cereal pollen is recorded until Episode E, which coincides with a marked decline in tree pollen, for which a second Carbon 14 date of A.D. 436-100 has also been obtained from Helsington Moss. This date fits well with the later settlement cairns and quern evidence from Sizergh Fell."

We next went to HEVERSHAM CHURCH (CW2 xxv 28) where an account of the church was given by Mrs O. R. Bagot, who stated that the *Historia Sancti Cuthberti* made reference to Tilred, abbot of Hefresham, who gave the vill of South Eden, half dedicated to St Cuthbert, that he might be admitted monk of that place, and half to Norham, that he might be abbot of that place. Mrs Bagot continued:

"Tilfred appears to have been seeking a safer place than Heversham, which was exposed to Danish raids. There is a Saxon cross shaft to be seen inside the porch of the present church at Heversham, which belongs to this period.

"After the Norman Conquest the rectory and advowson of the church was given by the Lord of Kendal to the Abbey of St Mary of York in 1090-97. In 1448 the Abbey installed a secular priest and left for his maintenance; £20 per annum, with a manse and garden, and a third part of the mill at Milnthorpe and tithes due of the parishioners at Quadragesima with first fruits of lambs, wool, hay, fishing, mills, calves, pigs, brood geese, hens, ducks, bees, etc., and mortuaries both alive or dead. The vicar, for his part, had to find wine, bread and candles, and pay £5. 6s. 8d. to the Abbot and repair the chancel of the church.

"There exists at Levens Hall various Easter books from 1581-1631 which show the amounts of the Quadragesimal Tithes due from all the parishioners of the various hamlets which composed the parish of Heversham. These were Milnthorpe, Ackenthwaite, Rowel, Woodhouse, Leasgill, Hincaster, Mabbin Hall, Sedgwick, Stainton, Preston (Richard), Preston Row, Milton, Brigsteer, Beyond Kent (Beathwaite Green, and incorporating Levens Hall and Nether Levens) and, of course, Heversham. After the Dissolution, the advowson became the gift of Trinity College, Cambridge, who still retain it. The vicar still received his Quadragesimal Tithes until the Enclosure of 1803, and the goods he received were much the same as in the original charter, though milk and garden produce make their appearance in the books in addition. Names frequently appearing are Audland of Ackenthwaite (the only family still in possession of their original site), Chambers of Sedgwick, Wilson of Nether Levens, Bellingham of Levens. There is a Nicholas Wakefield of Sedgwick appearing in 1596. The first vicar (Dr George Lawson) who had to deal with the newly Enclosed Parish, and therefore made an attempt to farm, was totally unsuccessful and died, as he had lived, heavily in debt. His Memorial Tablet high in the north wall of the sanctuary ends with the somewhat equivocal quotation, 'The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon him and he caused the widows heart to sink with joy'.

"In 1601 a great fire completely destroyed the roof of the church. Work was immediately put in hand to rebuild, and three years later the work was certified as complete. However, the present building has been greatly altered by the Restoration of 1867, when the tower was pulled down and rebuilt, a new chancel arch and north clerestory put in, and, in 1887, new chancel pews completed the transformation. The remains of the original church which have withstood both fire and restoration are: 12th-century pillars in the south arcade, a 14th-century wall, with late 15th-century south chapel, 15th-century north wall with a slightly earlier vestry. There is a little heraldic glass in the south chapel, a fine Preston tomb, a charming but practically invisible tomb to Dorothea Boynton, wife of James Bellingham who died in 1636 in childbirth. This is to be found high on a pillar in the north chapel. 17th-century pews and a screen in the north chapel, and pews in the south chapel are obviously part of the new furnishings after the fire in 1601.

"The Plate is very fine, and consists of a chalice of 1633 with cover paten, stand paten and two flagons of 1675 given by James Bellingham, and a stand paten of 1713. There is a charming sketch of the church before its restoration, in the vestry, and a beautiful medieval parish chest."

At ARNSIDE TOWER (CW2 xxxiv 214) Prof. G. P. Jones said:

"Arnside Tower is one of seven towers or fortified houses which exist, or once did so, within a seven-mile square on both sides of the Kent estuary. That district was open to attack by the Scots, either following the coast down to Furness and Cartmel, as Bruce did in 1322, or taking a more inland route down the valley of the Kent. Besides being threatened by the Scots, and thus needing refuges and beacon sites, the North was disturbed by the quarrels and violence of the local nobles and gentry, so that a man might feel safer living in such a fortress as Arnside Tower. It is also possible that at one time the owner held in it a manorial court for his Arnside tenants.

"If of 15th-century date, the Tower was presumably built for some member of the de Bethom family, lords of the manor of Beetham from

about 1195 to 1485. The family was probably, like some others in the locality, Yorkist in allegiance. At any rate Roger Bethom was an adherent of the Earl of Warwick in 1459; and after the battle of Bosworth, according to tradition, the estate was forfeited and granted to the Earl of Derby. The devolution of the manor is, however, obscure. Agnes, daughter and heir of Sir Roger Bethom, in the reign of Edward IV married a Robert Middleton, and a Thomas Middleton was in occupation of the manor at his death in 1517. The Stanleys owned it in 1574 and except for a few years about 1655, continued to do so until it was sold to Daniel Wilson of Dallam Tower in 1815.

"While in the possession of the Stanleys the Tower was damaged by fire in a high wind in 1602 and dismantled late in the 17th century, though it could still be said in 1777 that the walls were 'not much decayed'. The north and east wall and much of the west wall still stand but the great masses of masonry visible on the south side were brought down by a storm about 1884."

After a picnic lunch at Silverdale the tour continued to WARTON CHURCH (CW2 x 39 and CW2 xxxlv 215), which was described by Rev. F. B. Oddy, who also gave an account of the OLD RECTORY.

The excursion concluded at LEIGHTON HALL where tea was taken and Major J. R. Reynolds gave an account of the history of the house. Mr C. R. Hudleston spoke of former owners, the Hodgson family.

III. SPRING MEETING, 1965.

The Spring meeting was held at Tullie House, Carlisle, on Saturday, 3 April 1965. The President presided and 50 members were present.

29 applications for membership were submitted by the Hon. Secretary which had been approved by Council, who had met earlier in the day.

After the formal business Miss B. Harbottle, M.A., gave a talk entitled "Recent excavations in Newcastle upon Tyne and Northumberland" which was well illustrated with colour-slides.

The following papers were communciated: "The problem of Borrow Walls" by R. L. Bellhouse, B.Sc.; "Roman sites on the Cumberland coast, 1962-1963" by R. L. Bellhouse, B.Sc.; "Cartmel Fell parish documents" by Prof. G. P. Jones, M.A., D.Litt., and Sheila J. MacPherson, B.A.; "The diary and farm accounts of William Fisher, 1811-1859" by William Rollinson, M.A.; "Sir John Hall" by Major-General R. E. Barnsley, C.B., M.C.; "Ireby church" by C. G. Bulman and the Rev. F. B. Swift (Art. XII, above); "The Rev. Richard Armitstead" by Timothy Cockerill (Art. XX, above); "A Brontë at Broughton-in-Furness" by Timothy Cockerill.