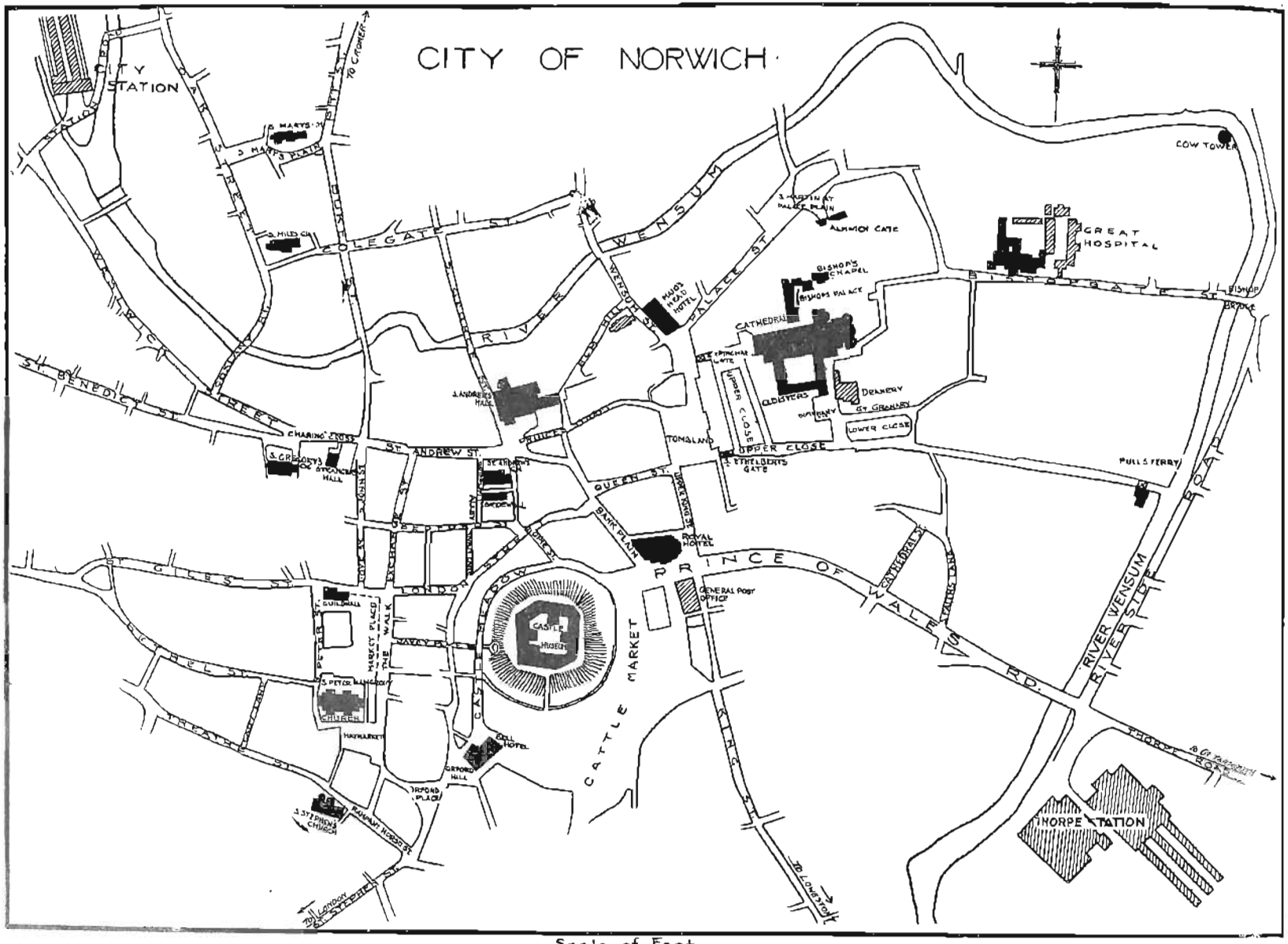


FIG. I. PLAN OF THE CITY OF NORWICH.

PROCEEDINGS AT MEETINGS OF THE ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

THE SUMMER MEETING AT NORWICH.

24TH JULY TO 1ST AUGUST, 1923.

Hon. Secretary of the Meeting: L. G. Bolingbroke.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS.

Tuesday, 24th July. Official Reception by the Lord Mayor and Corporation of Norwich. Inspection of the Council Chamber and city regalia. Saint Peter Mancroft church. Luncheon. Norwich cathedral. Evening meeting.

Wednesday, 25th July. Motor to Wymondham, Attleborough and Hingham churches. Luncheon in Norwich. Motor to Roman camp at Caistor, Carrow abbey (priory). Evening visit to the Strangers' Hall.

Thursday, 26th July. Motor to Great Snoring rectory and church, Binham priory, Warham camp. Luncheon at Wells. Great Walsingham church. Little Walsingham priory, friary and church. Tea at Little Walsingham. East Barsham manor house. Evening meeting.

Friday, 27th July. Rail to Wroxham. Motor launches on river to Ranworth church and to Ludham. Luncheon. Visit Ludham church. Motor boats to St. Benet's abbey and to Horning for tea. Return from Wroxham by rail. Evening visit to the Castle museum.

Saturday, 28th July. Motor to Beeston cum Mileham, Great Dunham and Swaffham churches. Luncheon. Motor to Castle Acre earthworks, priory and church. East Dereham church. Tea.

Monday, 30th July. Motor to Cawston and Sall churches. Visit Blickling hall and church. Luncheon. Motor to Cley and Blakeney churches. Tea at Blakeney. Annual general meeting.

Tuesday, 31st July. Motor to Barton Turf, Tunstead, Worstead and North Walsham churches. Luncheon. Motor to Bromholm priory and Paston church. Tea at Mundesley. Motor to Knapton and Trunch churches. Evening meeting.

Wednesday, 1st August. A walk through Norwich, visiting the Great Hospital, Bishop bridge, the convent of the Black Friars (St. Andrew's hall, Blackfriars' hall, and cloisters), the City Bridewell, etc.

This is the third occasion on which the Institute has made Norwich its centre for a summer meeting.[1]

MAYORAL RECEPTION. The proceedings began this year at 10.30 on 24th July with a formal reception by the Lord Mayor and Corporation in the council chamber of the Guildhall. The Lord Mayor offered a warm welcome to the members on behalf of the city of Norwich, and Mr. J. H. F. Walter voiced the welcome of the Norfolk and Norwich Archaeological Society, of which he was president. Mr. W. Heward Bell, F.S.A. vice-president of the Institute, who returned thanks, spoke in feeling terms of the recent death of their president, Sir Henry Howorth, whose genial presence and wide knowledge they deeply missed on such an occasion.

The regalia and corporation plate, which were on exhibition, form a most interesting collection. The mace, of rock crystal, was presented by St. George's Company[2] in 1551, and is one of the most beautiful in England.

The architectural features of the Guildhall were then inspected. This building, begun in 1407 and completed about 1435, is a fine example of Norfolk flint-work. In 1534 it underwent considerable alteration, and the council chamber was then fitted up in its present condition. Much of the woodwork is linen-fold panelling. The arms of Henry VIII, the city of Norwich and various guilds appear in the chamber. In the windows are many pieces of sixteenth-century glass.

In the south wall of the Guildhall is an inserted doorway of the time of Henry VIII which came from a house in London street.

ST. PETER MANCROFT. From the Guildhall the members walked to St. Peter Mancroft church, which was described to them by the vicar, the Rev. Canon Meyrick. This is the largest parish church in the city and was completed in 1455, replacing an earlier church which had been erected in the ' magna crofta,' the great open space attached to the Norman castle.

It is a splendid example of East Anglian perpendicular work, and consists of a clerestoried nave and chancel with aisles and small transeptal chapels, north and south porches, and a massive west tower. It has an open timber roof stretching along its whole length (196 feet), there being no chancel arch, and springing from a broad-ribbed cornice above the clerestory windows on each side. The font cover is of the fifteenth century, and forms a baptistery like that at Trunch, but was restored in 1887. In the vestry behind the altar is a painted alabaster carving of saints, the church plate (which is exceptionally fine), and a portrait of Sir Thomas Browne. The east window is filled with an interesting series of small fifteenth-century pictures representing scenes from the life of our Lord and portraits of donors and their families.

[1] The Institute paid its first visit to Norwich in 1847, and was there again in 1889.

[2] The guild of St. George was founded in 1385. In 1417, when Henry V gave his charter to the municipality, he conferred a charter on this guild, licensing it to hold property to the extent of £10. Its recognition as part of the corporation saved it from suppression in the reign of Edward VI. In 1731 the St. George's Company voluntarily agreed to deliver up to the corporation all their charters, books and records, provided the city would pay their debts, which it promised to do, and so this ancient company, after an existence of nearly three and a half centuries, became extinct.

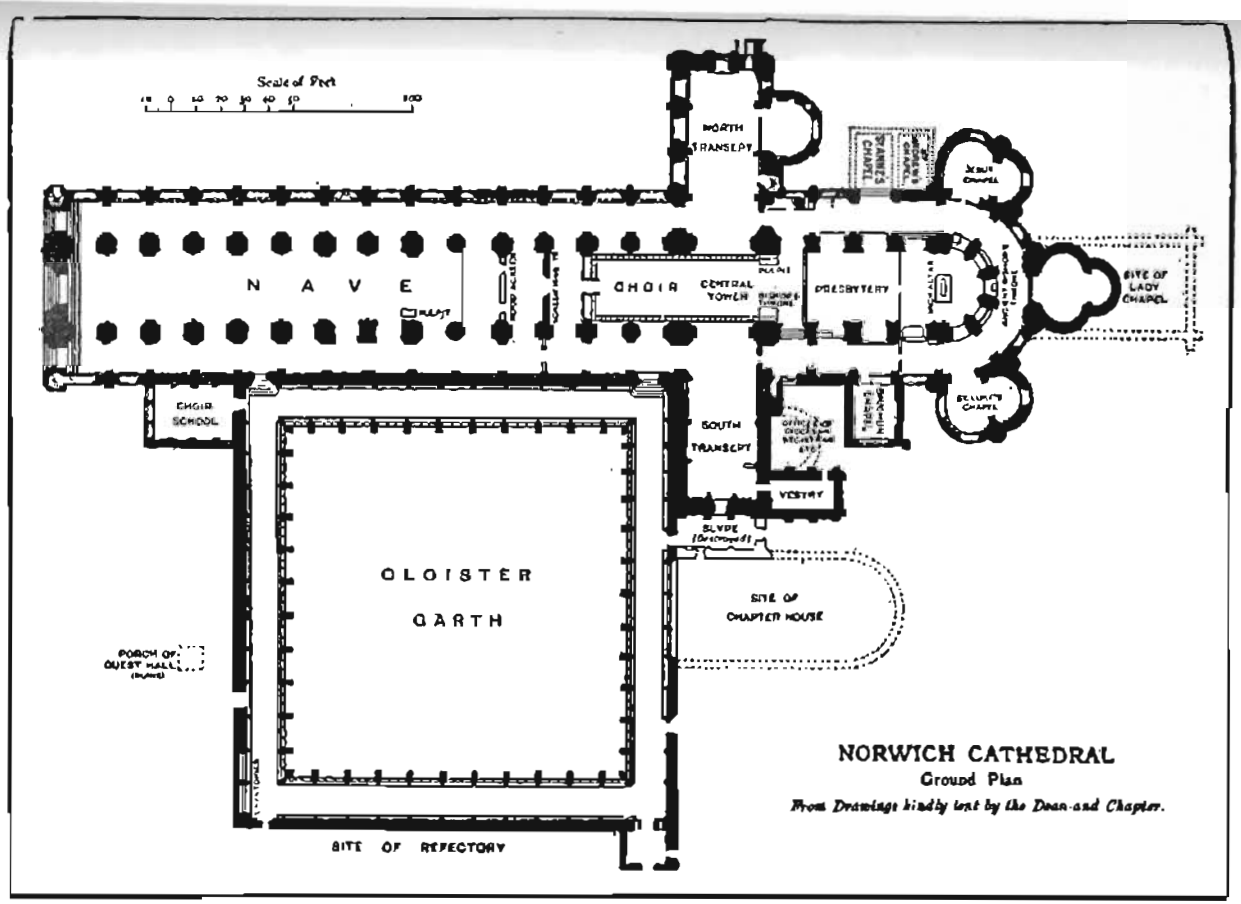


FIG. 2. NORWICH CATHEDRAL.

NORWICH CATHEDRAL.

The afternoon was devoted to the inspection of Norwich cathedral (fig. 2) and the Bishop's palace. The members were welcomed at the west door of the cathedral by the Very Rev. the Dean of Norwich, and an account of the building was given by Prof. A. Hamilton Thompson, M.A. D.Litt. F.S.A.

The cathedral was founded in 1096 by bishop Herbert Losinga, who also founded a Benedictine priory on its southern side. Beginning at the east end of the church, Herbert is said to have built the presbytery and apsidal chapels, the quire and two bays of the nave, the lower stage of the central tower, and the transept with its eastern chapels. The remainder of the nave and the upper story of the tower were the work of his successor, bishop Eborard (1121–45). Between 1245 and 1258 the original chapel at the east end was replaced by a large rectangular one which fell into decay in the reign of queen Elizabeth, but its Early English entrance remains. In 1362 the wooden spire on the central tower was blown down, injuring the roof and Norman clerestory of the presbytery, which were replaced by the present graceful clerestory and spire by bishop Percy (1356-69). The west front of the cathedral was remodelled by bishop Alnwick (1426-36) whose executors added the large west window. Bishop Lyhart (1446–72) erected the lierne stone vaulted roof of the nave in place of the original Norman wooden roof, and his successor, bishop Goldwell (1472–99), built the stone vaulting over the presbytery and the flying buttresses to support it; while the vaulting of the transept is the work of bishop Nikke (1502–36). The sculptured bosses in the nave illustrate the scripture history from the Creation to the Last Judgment, and those in the transept, various scenes in the life of our Lord. Attention was drawn to the remains of the ancient stone throne of the bishops, between the easternmost piers of the apse of the presbytery, and to the beautiful reredos in the south ambulatory.

The cloister was begun in 1297 and finished in 1430, the vaulted roof being richly adorned with bosses. The thirteenth-century priests' door at the north-east corner of the cloister should be specially noticed. On the south of the cloister was the refectory, while south of the refectory stood the infirmary, some columns of which may still be seen. The deanery was the prior's lodging, between which and the eastern arm of the cloister was the dormitory.

BISHOP'S PALACE.

From the cathedral the members passed to the Bishop's palace, where they were entertained at tea by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Norwich. The palace contains some early features, including a large Norman kitchen, but was much altered about 1855.

EVENING MEETING.

In the evening a meeting was held in the room over St. Ethelbert's gateway, one of the gates of the precinct, when a paper was read by Prof. G. Baldwin Brown on 'English village churches of the eleventh century.'

The speaker expressed the intention to confine his remarks to the middle portion of the eleventh century, the period in which there appeared in the same building both Saxon and Norman features. He had chosen this theme partly because that 'overlap' was represented in a large number of East Anglian churches, some of which would be visited during the week of the meeting. It was, of course, rarely that one met with a building presenting

the same style throughout the existing fabric. The village church, as they knew it, was generally the work of the centuries from the thirteenth to fifteenth, but it commonly bore traces of older handiwork of the twelfth and even the eleventh, while between two and three hundred examples up and down the country contained work that carried them back to the Anglo-Saxon period. The great majority of their mediaeval churches were, indeed, of Saxon foundation, though the fabric of them might have been completely reconstructed. Hence the examples noted, though regarded specially from the standpoint of the eleventh century, presented themselves as illustrating the village church in general, always mediaeval, though representing more than one century. Built originally by the local lord or squire, but for the common use, at first probably of wood, but later rebuilt in stone, enlarged by the Normans after the Conquest, altered, added to, refitted, from age to age, the church had come down to them as the dominant feature of their settlements, rural and semi-urban. The speaker went on to say that in all Europe there was no class of monuments more full of varied interest than English country churches, for, belonging on the one hand to the great, and on the other hand to the simple, they enshrined a large part of the social history of the land.

The Saxons had their own repertory of constructive and ornamental forms which was quite different from that of the Normans. Characteristic Anglo-Saxon marks, none of which were used by the Normans in their own duchy, were: (i) double-splayed windows; (ii) pilaster-strips, narrow upright bands of stonework, not buttresses, but decorative enrichments of walls; (iii) similar projecting strips surrounding openings; (iv) double openings in the belfry stages of towers divided by mid-wall shafts; (v) the special treatment of corners of structures and jambs of openings called popularly 'long-and-short-work.' The Normans had also their characteristic forms and methods, and the relation between the two sets of forms when they occur in the same building required careful investigation.

It was a fact worthy of special attention that a study of the buildings of this period cast a light on the historical situation after the Conquest. On general grounds it would not be anticipated that certain Anglo-Saxon schemes of planning and details were taken over by the Normans and became established features of post-Conquest architecture. That Norman and Saxon worked together on the churches, and that, at any rate at first, the Saxon influence was on the whole predominant, was not without its historical significance, and was a rebuke to those old-fashioned scholars, if any survived, who still believed that architecture, with all the other elements of civilisation, was introduced into Great Britain by the Norman invaders.

Wednesday, 25th July, 1923.

WYMONDHAM ABBEY CHURCH.

This day's programme was in some degree marred by rain. The party first motored to Wymondham abbey church (fig. 3), where the building was described to them by the vicar, the Rev. S. Martin-Jones. He explained that the priory of Wymondham was founded in 1107 by William d'Albini, chief butler to Henry I, for a prior and twelve monks, the priory n the first instance being a cell of St. Alban's. The original church was

completed about 1130, and was intended to serve both the monks and the people: it consisted of a nave with north and south aisles, a Galilee porch at the west end, between two western towers, a transept with a central tower, and a presbytery with north and south chapels.

Disputes having arisen between the monks and the townspeople, the matter was referred to the pope, who, by a bull, dated 1249 (a copy of which can be seen in the muniment room), directed that the parish church should be under the supervision of the vicar, the parishioners having the nave, the north aisle, and the north-west tower, and the monks the remainder of the church.

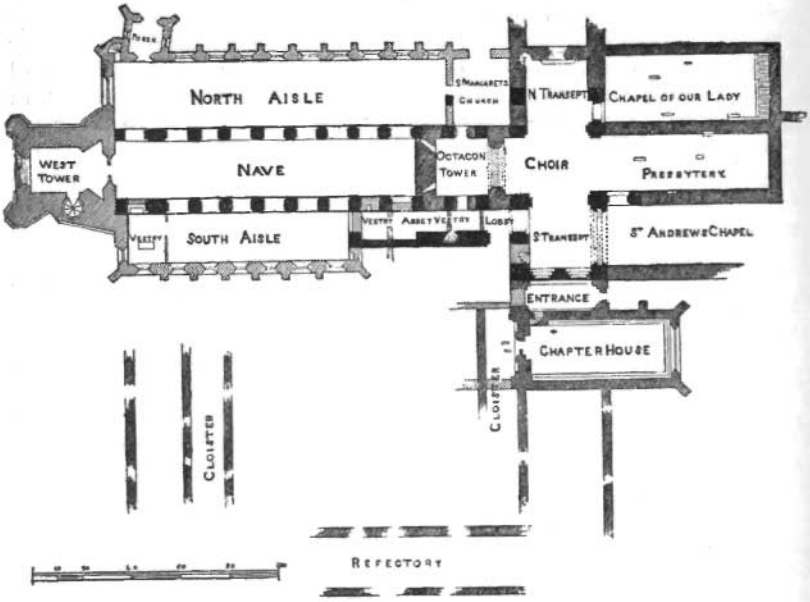


FIG. 3. PLAN OF WYMONDHAM ABBEY.

The Norman central tower becoming decayed in about the year 1400, the present octagonal lantern tower was built in its place. In 1445 the two western towers were pulled down and the lofty west tower was erected, while about the same time the Norman clerestory was removed and the Perpendicular roof and clerestory built, also the Perpendicular north aisle, with its glorious panelled roof. In 1448 the priory was made into an independent abbey. At the Dissolution in 1538, the monastic buildings on the south side of the church fell into ruin, and beyond a few traces of foundations, the only remains are the lantern tower and the gable end of the chapter-house. At the east end of the nave, south of the altar, is an elaborate renaissance triple-arched erection in terra cotta, which either served as

sedilia, or, as some think, as a monument. The room or solar over the north porch has recently been fitted up as a muniment room, in which are numerous documents and objects of interest to antiquaries.

ATTLEBOROUGH CHURCH.

At Attleborough, the next place visited, Mr. A. B. Whittingham described the church. It was, he said, originally a cruciform structure of the middle Norman period, of which only the central tower remains, with its belfry rebuilt in the geometrical style. Above the four main arches the tower has two passages in the middle of its walls, opening into the interior by two tiers of arcading.

The later alterations have obscured the earlier history of the church. But for a long time there were two rectories in Attleborough, Attleborough major, St. Mary's, the dedication of the church to-day, and Attleborough minor, Holy Cross, a rector of which is mentioned in 1295. The Mortimers were mostly patrons of this. Sir William, who died two years later, directed that he should be buried in his chapel (Holy Cross) where he had founded a daily mass. The chapel of this rectory was the south aisle of the chancel.

Towards the end of the fourteenth century the nave and aisles were rebuilt on a larger scale, with a clerestory. This work shows a mixture of decorated and perpendicular design in its details. The window-tracery would be taken for decorated, apart from its mouldings. The rood screen of this date, which crossed the nave and aisles without a break, still exists, nearly perfect, with much of its original painting, though transferred to the west end of the nave, when the church was restored in 1844. The transepts were rebuilt with the same design as the aisles, shortly afterwards. The vaulted north porch, which is even later, still copies some of the nave mouldings. The panelled door of its stairs is cut from a single piece of wood. The decayed shields over the door once displayed the arms of the Radcliffes, lords of Mortimer's manor from 1411.

In 1405 a licence was obtained to found a chantry here in honour of the Holy Cross, with money left by the will of Sir Robert Mortimer for that purpose. The chapel on the south side of the chancel was perhaps enlarged for the chantry before 1417, when the first warden was instituted. At the Dissolution this chantry was granted to the lord of the manor, who took the opportunity to pull down not only the chapel but the chancel also, and used their materials on his house. Only their west wall and the arches connecting them with the rest of the church now remain. About 1450 the present cambered tie-beam roof was erected over the nave. In three places on it occur the Fitzwalter arms, an heiress of which family married a Radcliffe in 1436. The aisles and transepts also had their roofs raised. There is an interesting iron-bound chest and alms-box, and a fine eighteenth-century pulpit.

Mr. Aymer Vallance, M.A. F.S.A. drew attention to the screen, which is often overlooked, probably because it is no longer in its proper place. And yet it is typical of Norfolk screen-work, and, next to Ranworth, the finest and most complete example. He expressed the hope that, as a result of this meeting, the vicar and churchwardens would restore the screen to its proper place in the church.

HINGHAM CHURCH.

From Attleborough the party motored to Hingham, where the rector, Canon A. C. W. Upcher, described the church (fig. 4). It consists of chancel, nave with aisles, south porch, and western tower, built towards the end of his life by Remigius Hethersett (rector 1316 to 1359). The east window is filled with German glass of about 1500, containing the figures of St. Anne, the Madonna, and saints. On the north side of the chancel is a fine table-tomb, with canopy over, to Thomas lord Morley, who died in 1435, and his wife. The roofs throughout the church are modern. Abraham Lincoln having descended from the Lincoln family of Hingham, a bust of the President has, within recent years, been presented to the church by citizens of the United States.

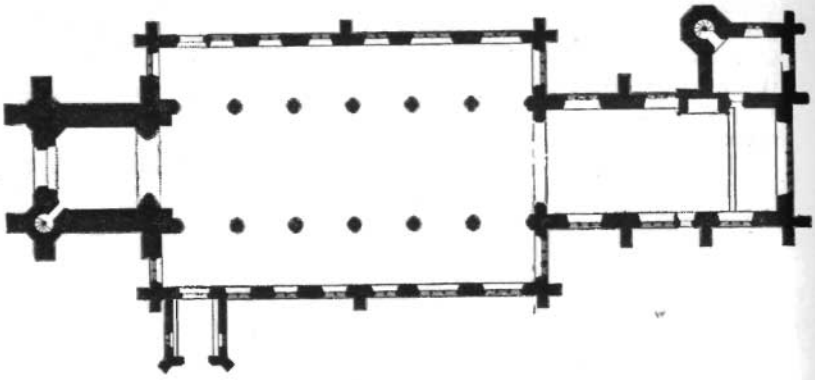


FIG. 4. PLAN OF HINGHAM CHURCH.

CAISTOR CAMP.

From Hingham the members returned to Norwich for luncheon, after which they motored out to the Roman camp at Caistor, described to them by the Rev. H. J. Dukinfield Astley, M.A. D.Litt. This is the Venta Icenorum of the ninth *iter* of Antoninus. Its ramparts are strongly built and consist of a stone wall banked upon each side with gravel, now overgrown with grass. The area within the ramparts contains about thirty acres, large enough to accommodate a considerable garrison as well as to serve as a market for the neighbouring country. It stands within a bend of the river Tas and its marshes which form a natural defence. On the east, south, and to a certain extent on the north, is a ditch, once probably deeper. On the other side the marshy nature of the ground was apparently considered sufficient protection to the wall.

The Rev. J. W. Corbould-Warren, the rector, gave a short account of some excavations which had been made in 1922 near the western gate. These had exposed a portion of the tower, the masonry of which was in excellent preservation. A downpour of rain unfortunately made it impossible to view these remains.

CARROW PRIORY. After tea at Trowse cafe a visit was paid to Carrow priory by invitation of the Misses Colman, who were unavoidably absent. Mr. B. Cozens-Hardy explained that the priory was founded in the reign of Stephen as a house of Benedictine nuns. The house, now known as Carrow abbey, was originally the prioress's lodging, the older portions consisting of the hall, the prioress's parlour (panelled in dark oak) and her bedroom above. It was built by the last but one of the prioresses, Isabella Wygun, early in the sixteenth century. Her rebus, in the form of a Y and a gun, appears on the mantelpiece in her parlour. The bed-chamber is approached by a turret staircase. On the east side of the lodging is the enclosed cloister garth and beyond them the ruins of the church and convent buildings. On the suppression of the nunnery about 1536, the buildings fell into decay, even the foundations being for the most part covered up, until, in 1881, the late Mr. J. J. Colman began their excavation.

From Carrow priory the party walked back to Norwich through King street, under the guidance of Mr. W. R. Rudd, inspecting the city walls and towers and various interesting houses *en route*.

STRANGERS' HALL. In the evening Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Bolingbroke entertained the members in the Strangers' Hall (figs. 5 and 6), a mediaeval building which Mr. Bolingbroke had recently presented to the corporation of Norwich together with a nucleus of furniture and exhibits to form a folk and historical museum.

During the evening Mr. Bolingbroke read a short paper on the history of the building, which was a fifteenth-century merchant's house, built over the foundations of an earlier fourteenth-century house. The banqueting hall has a good king-post roof, and is lighted by a stone oriel, while at its eastern end is a finely-carved staircase, inserted in a large oak bay window dated 1627. Other rooms in the house are excellent specimens of the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries.

Thursday, 26th July, 1923.

GREAT SNORING RECTORY. The first place visited to-day was Great Snoring, where the rectory was described by Mr. John Page, A.R.I.B.A. This was formerly a manor house, erected by the Shelton family, in the reign of Henry VIII. The south-east and east portions are the oldest parts of the house, but the east wall flanked by two turrets has been covered with plaster and otherwise modernised. The south-east turret is the most perfect and is hexagonal in three stages, the base of brick on which are two other stages of richly traceried terra-cotta work. The north-east turret has unfortunately lost its upper stage. The windows in the south-east side are simple but well moulded, and the string course of shields and lozenges, which runs the whole length of the east and south-east sides, contains the arms of the Sheltons. The entrance door, which however has been moved to its present position, is elaborately carved, and has a scroll with a shell and tun, the rebus for Shelton.

GREAT SNORING CHURCH. Mr. Page also gave a description of the church. Here the chancel-arch is of early fifteenth century date, the east window being a fine five-light window of intersecting tracery, while the rest of the church is perpendicular. There is a three-tiered sedilia in the chancel, and the screen has still some of the

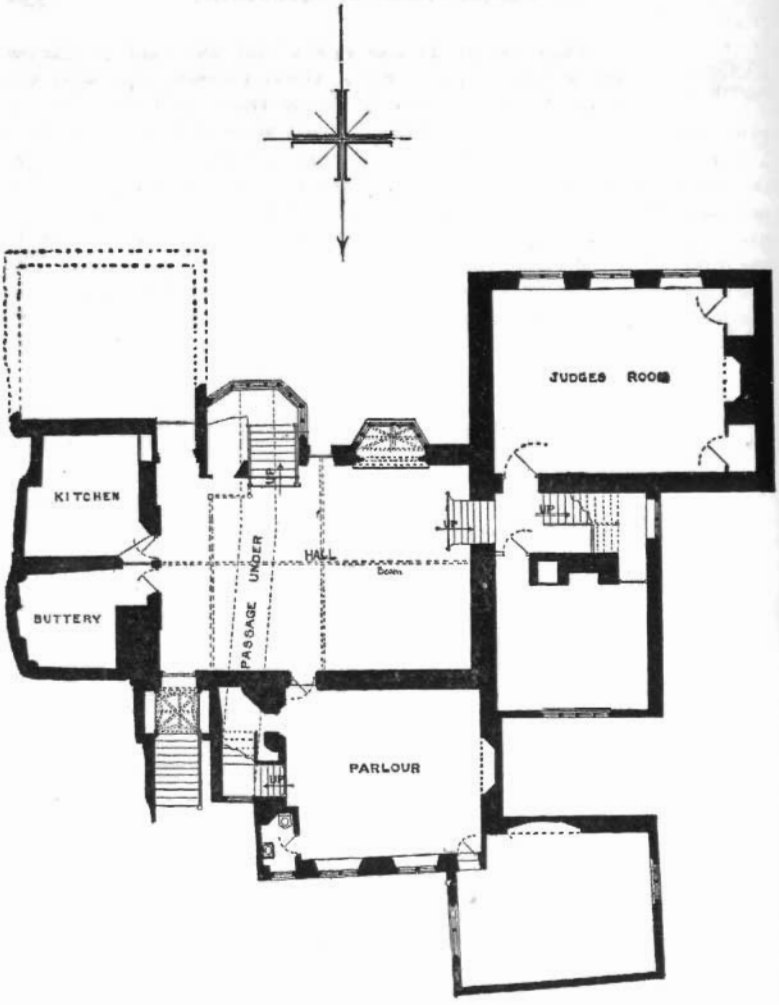


FIG. 5. STRANGERS' HALL, GROUND-FLOOR PLAN.

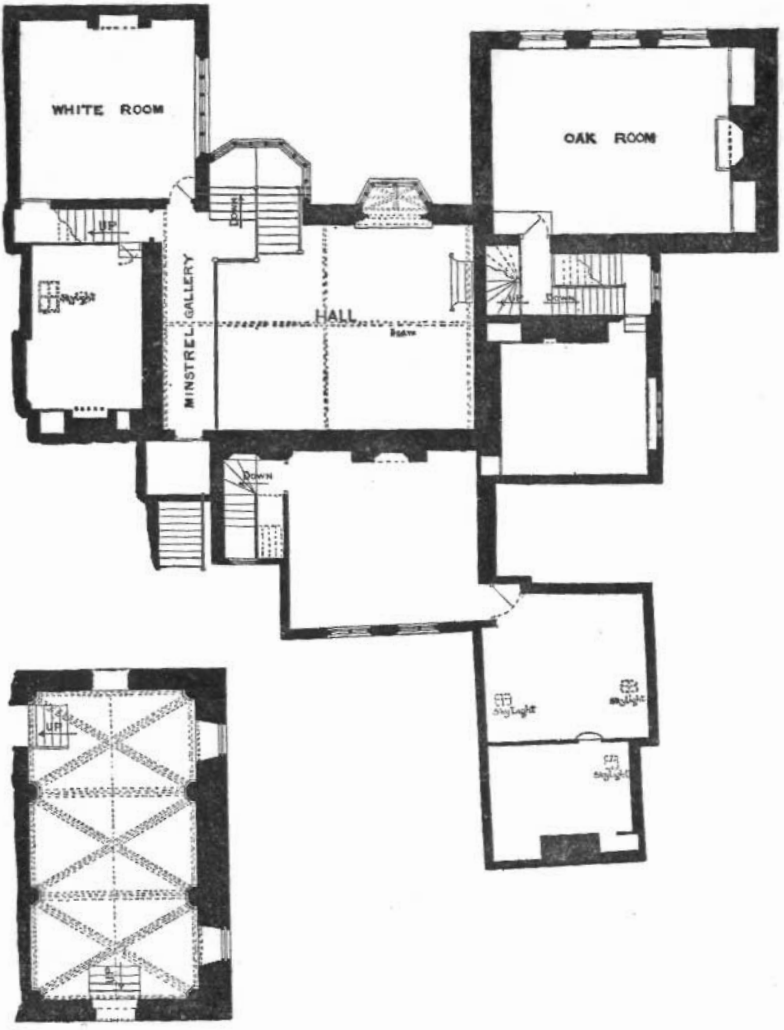


FIG. 6. STRANGERS' HALL,
PLAN OF UPPER FLOOR AND OF UNDERCROFT.

original paint left on it. On an old black letter commandment table of post-reformation date are the remains of some earlier paintings of saints holding emblems.

Mr. G. McN. Rushforth, M.A. F.S.A. called attention to the remains of a set of the Nine orders of Angels in early fifteenth-century glass in the south window of the chancel. The symbolism of some of the orders was fixed, e.g. the Powers, who appear here, as always, in the form of an armed knight subduing a devil. The armour shows that the date is (at latest) early fifteenth century. But with most of the orders there was much variety. One here holds a pair of scales, which, as the symbol of justice, is sometimes associated with the Thrones, but at Great Malvern is found with the Cherubim. The figure here has not a name attached to it, but *Cherubin* survives on a detached fragment elsewhere in the window, and possibly belonged to it. Dominations, again, are not represented in the usual way, in princely or regal attire, but simply robed in a white mantle, with the left hand raised, perhaps as a gesture of authority.

BINHAM PRIORY.

From Great Snoring the party proceeded to Binham where Mr. F. E. Howard described the Benedictine priory (fig. 7). This house was founded about the end of the eleventh century, and was a cell of St. Alban's abbey. The church was a cruciform building with central tower. The quire and transepts, which were used only by the monks, were destroyed at the suppression of the priory in 1538. The nave (Norman) consisted originally of nine bays, with a triforium and clerestory, but now of seven only, the two easternmost bays, which formed part of the monks' portion of the church, being also destroyed, while the other seven have continued to be used by the parish as in pre-Reformation times.

The south aisle disappeared long ago, but the north aisle was only removed early in the last century ; the arches dividing the nave from the aisles have been bricked up, and some of the windows from the aisles inserted. The west front is a fine example of Early English work, and built by prior Richard de Parco (1226-44), the bell-cot being of the same period.

The floor of the church has been raised about three feet, so that the seats of the sedilia are now level with it.

The Perpendicular font is a beautiful one, though mutilated, with the seven sacraments on the upper panels and saints in niches below.

The monastic buildings have been almost all cleared away, but their positions are indicated in the plan (fig. 7), taken from Harrod's *Gleanings*.

Professor Hamilton Thompson added a note on the history of the priory. He said that the dependent position of the priory upon St. Albans, and its consequent claim to exemption from episcopal jurisdiction, led to much trouble in the later middle ages, especially when the monks refused to admit bishop Alnwick as visitor. He also called attention to the scheme of the nave and triforium arcades, which showed the influence of the designs at Norwich and Wymondham.

WARHAM CAMP.

The next place visited was the so-called ' Danish ' camp at Warham, which was described by Dr. Astley. This earth-work stands on the slope of a hill, the foot of which is defended by a bend in the river. Elsewhere it is protected by two lines of chalk en-trenchments running on a curve resting on the river bank at each end. The

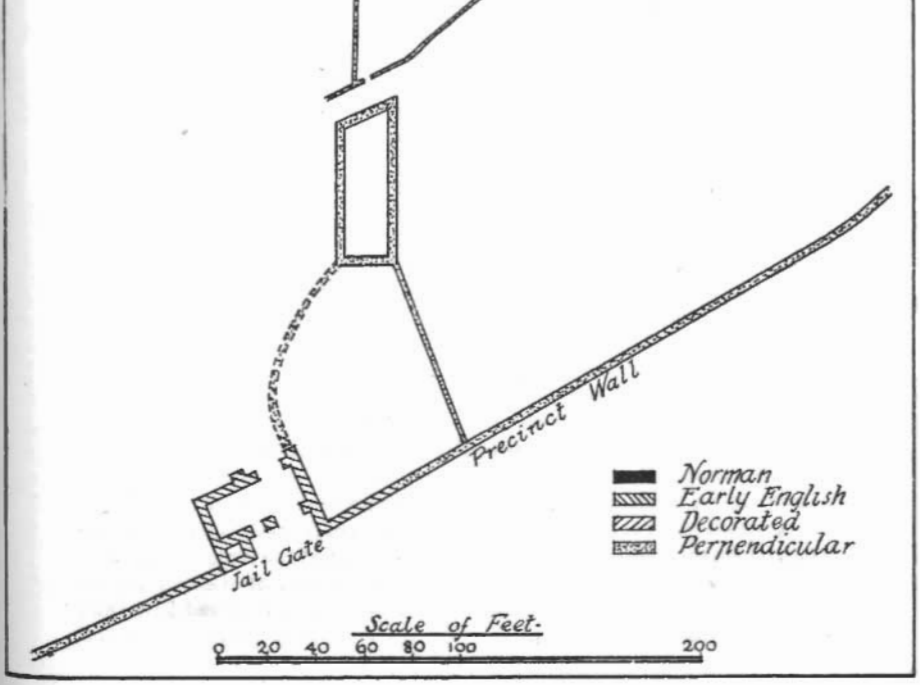
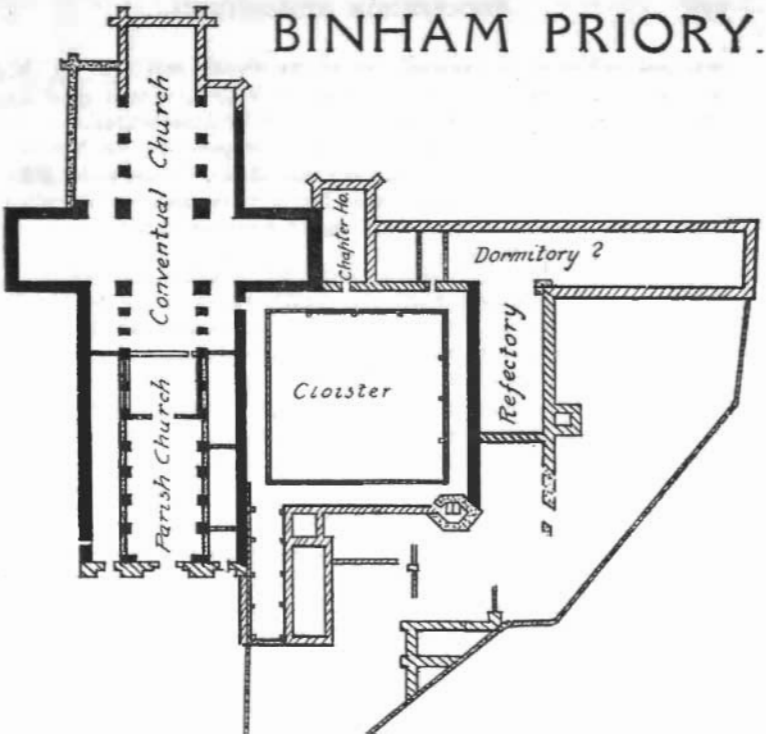

Precinct Wall
Jail Gate
Norman
Early English
Decorated
Perpendicular
Scale of Feet.
0 20 40 60 80 100 200

FIG. 7.

BINHAM PRIORY.



total area of this camp is about nine acres: the space within the shorter entrenchment is approximately three and a half acres. Excavations carried out in 1914 have disclosed definite evidences of Roman occupation, and also slight indications of the presence of late Celtic pottery; but the earliest date of Warham camp has not yet been ascertained. There seems to be no evidence of Danish occupation, but it has been the fashion to attribute a Danish origin to this and other camps in the neighbourhood.

GREAT WALSINGHAM CHURCH.

After luncheon at Wells the members motored to Great Walsingham, where the church was described by Mr. F. E. Howard. This is of the decorated period with the exception of the south porch, which is perpendicular. The chancel has long been in ruins. The windows in the aisles are filled with flowing tracery, and those in the clerestory are good decorated quatrefoils. The carved bench ends and benches of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries should especially be noticed, while the pulpit dated 1613 is probably of earlier date. There is an interesting poor-box. The church is in a sad state of dilapidation and requires immediate attention.

LITTLE WALSINGHAM PRIORY.

Proceeding to Little Walsingham the party first visited the priory, which was described to them by Prof. Hamilton Thompson. This house of Austin Canons was founded on the site of an earlier chapel of the Blessed Virgin about the middle of the twelfth century, and was one of the most famous places of pilgrimage in England. It is entered by a fifteenth-century gate-house in the west wall of the precinct, adjoining which are remains of the almonry buildings. The church stood on the north side of the cloister, and was of an unusual plan, a long aisled building without transepts, and with an aisleless bay projecting at the east end. The east wall, with very beautiful early fourteenth-century detail, remains; the gable was rebuilt and a large window inserted in the fifteenth century. There are also remains of the western piers of the nave. On the north side there were traces of a small chapel, projecting from the north wall, and a large projecting building further west, which appears to have been the *novum opus*, built in the fifteenth century to hold the celebrated shrine.

The topography of the church, however, is perplexing, and the remains are not easy to reconcile with documentary evidence. The south part of the eastern range of the cloister, including a passage through the range, and the common house or dormitory sub-vault, remain. The latter, with the vaulted passage between the dormitory and refectory, is included in the modern house. Much of the south wall of the refectory, with its pulpit and stair, is left: the west wall and gable, the doorways of the screens at the west end, and portions of the north wall also remain. The west range, which probably contained the cellar with the prior's guest-hall and great chamber above, has disappeared.

Remains of other buildings to the south-east and south of the cloister, one of which was probably the infirmary, are incorporated in the modern house. There is some ancient work in a gateway, called the Knight's gateway, to the north-east of the priory. The holy wells, east of the church, are approached by a beautiful archway, c. 1200, which was removed here from one of the destroyed buildings.

THE GREY-FRIARS. The Greyfriars, Little Walsingham, also described by Prof. Hamilton Thompson, is a very picturesque building enclosing two courtyards. The smaller court, on the south, was entered at the south-west corner, and had covered passages with rectangular traceried windows on its east and west sides. The east passage may have communicated with the infirmary and other offices, of which there are traces on the east and south sides. The passage on the west leads to the cloister court, on the north side of which was the church. Of this and of the eastern cloister range, there are only fragments, and little is left of the refectory: but the walls and gables of the western range are left and show that it was of unusual size. The friary was founded in 1346; but the remains, so far as their date can be identified, seem to belong to the next century.

By kind invitation of Sir Eustace and Lady Gurney, the members took tea at Walsingham abbey, and then went on to East Barsham manor house, where they were met by Mr. John Page.

EAST BARSHAM MANOR HOUSE. This beautiful house of the early part of the sixteenth century is remarkable for the use of brick and terra cotta, which are employed with very rich decorative effect, especially in the gate-house and chimneys of the building. It was erected by Sir William Fermor in the reign of Henry VII. It is approached by a gate-house bearing the arms of England with the ensigns of the Tudors and beneath a shield. Henry VIII visited the house in 1511 and is said to have walked hence barefoot to Walsingham priory (2½ miles) to invoke our Lady's patronage for a male heir. Until recently the building has been in great disrepair, but it has now been carefully restored.

EVENING MEETING. In the evening Mr. F. E. Howard read an interesting paper on Norfolk screens, in which he gave a brief account of their characteristic features, illustrated by a representative collection of lantern-slides.

Friday, 27th July, 1923.

To-day afforded a pleasant contrast to Thursday. The weather was sunny and the excursion took the party by motor-boat into the district of the Broads and into distinctive Norfolk scenery.

The first part of the journey was accomplished by train, to Wroxham, where a motor-launch conveyed the party to Ranworth.

RANWORTH CHURCH. Here Mr. F. E. Howard described the church. He observed that in Norman times there was a long and narrow church here, consisting of aisleless nave and chancel. The present chancel retains certain windows of the fourteenth century, but these seem to have been re-used in a re-building or re-modelling of the late fourteenth century, or early fifteenth. Instead of adding aisles to the Norman nave, as would have been done in other parts of England where stone is more readily obtainable, the builders of the early fifteenth century nave built a huge structure, comprising, as it were, nave and aisles in a single span. They also added a western tower and north and south porches. The church was restored in 1903 by Mr. J. T. Micklethwaite. A glorious double

hammerbeam roof is known to have been destroyed by faculty in 1705. Probably the font cover, of which a fine drawing remains in the church, was destroyed about the same time.

The fittings are of the greatest interest. Besides a fine set of characteristic backless benches, disfigured in modern times, and considerable remains of the quire stalls, there remains a most interesting quire lectern, with desks at different heights, one painted with the eagle of St. John, the other with the doxology of the Ascensiontide office hymns.

The rood screen is perhaps the most beautiful, though not the most elaborate in Norfolk. It extends right across the wide nave, the side sections being treated as reredoses for the two side altars, with delightfully designed wings to protect them. On the reredoses are painted seated figures of women saints, with angels upholding dorsals behind them. On the lower panels of the screen are painted the twelve apostles. On the wings are large figures of St. Michael, St. George, an archbishop, probably St. Thomas of Canterbury, and a bishop, possibly St. Nicholas, with SS. Stephen and Lawrence. Though the screen retains a large portion of its loft the greater part of its vaulting has been destroyed. What remains is exquisitely painted with floral sprays.

Mr. Aymer Vallance expressed the conviction that the paintings of the screen are by different hands; some of the more striking figures, particularly the St. Michael and the St. George, not being English work, but Spanish. The vicar contended that this was impossible because the panels show, by the marks of shrinkage at the edges, that they must have been painted in situ. This circumstance, however, in no way weakens the argument of Mr. Vallance, who still contends that the work is Spanish, not of course that it was actually painted in Spain and brought from there, but in the sense that it is by the hand of a painter trained in the traditions of the Catalan school.

From Ranworth staithe the motor-launch carried the party to Womack Broad and Ludham, where they disembarked for luncheon at the King's Head.

LUDHAM CHURCH.

A visit was then paid to the church, where Mr. Howard again acted as guide. Of this church he said that the chancel, which dates from the first half of the fourteenth century, is probably a re-building, on a much larger scale, of the original Norman chancel. The west tower, rather later in style, must have been commenced quite clear of the older church. The fine aisled nave dates from the late fourteenth or early fifteenth century. The eastern four bays appear to have been built first, the work being then extended to link up with the western tower. The roof of the nave is a magnificent hammerbeam example, relying for its stability on its long wall posts which transmit the thrust to the aisle roofs, which are of the same date and of flying buttress form The chancel roof is modern.

Of the fittings, the most important is the glorious rood screen, dated 1493, retaining its original colour, including a fine series of saints on the lower panels. Above the screen is a mediaeval tympanum, discovered in recent times in the roodloft stairway, bearing the rood with our Lady and St. John, Longinus and another figure, and two cherubim. The actual painting probably dates from Marian times. Within the chancel are simple

but dignified returned stalls on their original platforms. There is an interesting chest, and a plain and massive almsbox. The font is a good example of the usual Norfolk type with alternate evangelistic symbols and lions.

From Ludham the return journey to Wroxham was resumed by water, a pause being made *en route* to view the ruins of St. Benet's abbey, built on what was a low island among marshes. All that remains of this once-famous house is part of a gateway. It was never dissolved, since, before the Suppression, it became part of the endowment of the bishop of Norwich, who is said to occupy his seat in the House of Lords by virtue of his abbacy.

Tea was taken at Swan inn, Horning, and the party entrained at Wroxham for Norwich.

EVENING MEETING IN NORWICH CASTLE.

In the evening the President and Council of the Norfolk and Norwich Archaeological Society held a reception in the keep of Norwich castle, to which the members of the Institute were invited.

The square Norman keep was erected about 1150 on an artificial mound surrounded by ditches. It was recased with ashlar in 1834. The museum contains a fine collection of birds, and in the keep itself is an extensive display of prehistoric implements from Grime's Graves near Brandon and elsewhere. There are also some well-arranged rooms representing domestic furniture and decoration at various periods.

Saturday, 28th July, 1923.

As if to compensate for the fine weather of Friday, rain fell to-day almost without intermission.

BEESTON-CUM-MILEHAM CHURCH.

The first point visited was Beeston-cum-Mileham, where Mr. Howard described the church, which had originally consisted of an aisleless nave and chancel of Norman date. Early in the fourteenth century a tower had been added to the west end of the nave. At about the same time the chancel was rebuilt and somewhat later the nave was also rebuilt and aisles were added to it.

The clerestory was originally of the same period, with circular windows over the piers, but this was raised and larger windows inserted, probably in 1410. There is an eastern clerestory window above the chancel arch. The fabric is of exceptional beauty agreeing exactly with that of Old Walsingham.

The nave retains a very fine hammerbeam roof of the latter part of the fifteenth century, while the north aisle roof is of the same date. The chancel roof is modern and also that of the south aisle.

The fittings are remarkably complete and have not been restored. The rood screen has had its loft and even its head and arcading removed, but it retains delicately cusped ogee arches in its openings, while the beautifully carved lower panels retain figures of saints, horribly mutilated, with landscape backgrounds. There is a lovely parclose at the end of each aisle, both retaining portions of their returned stalls. The whole of the nave retains its original seating, mutilated but still beautiful, and the plain fourteenth-

century font has a wooden crocketed pyramid cover. An interesting painted panel, recording a gift of stalls in the seventeenth century, hangs on the north walls of the nave. These have been destroyed in recent times.

GREAT DUNHAM CHURCH.

Great Dunham church, the next place to be visited (fig. 8), also described by Mr. Howard, is perhaps the most valuable example of late Saxon work in the county. The original church consisted of the present nave with the central tower of the same width, and a narrower chancel, which has since been altered. Foundations of an apse were discovered at the restoration, but this may have been Norman work. The lofty nave is distinguished by shallow wall-arcading, and there is a characteristic west door with a triangular head. The original fenestration has given place to windows of the late thirteenth and fifteenth centuries. The tower has simple round-headed arches, and its windows, some round-headed with double splays, others circular, while the belfry windows are double with mid-wall shafts, show the three normal

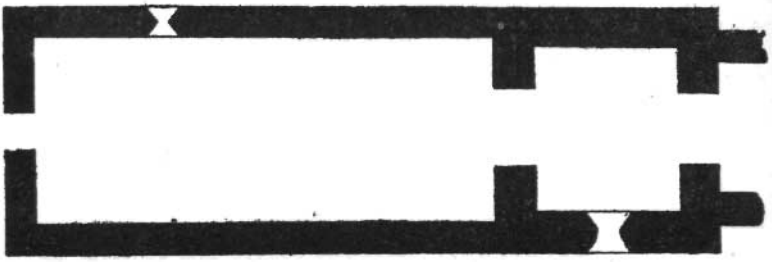


FIG. 8. PLAN OF DUNHAM MAGNA CHURCH.

Saxon types. The south porch is an addition of the fifteenth century, as are the battlements of the tower. Probably the original termination was a pyramid roof.

The Rev. A. D. Hill compared the shallow wall-arcading with similar work in the early church at Bradford-on-Avon.

SWAFFHAM CHURCH.

Continuing the journey to Swaffham, the members visited the parish church, which was briefly described by Professor Hamilton Thompson, who called attention to the fine proportions of the building, an excellent example of fifteenth-century design at its best, and to the noble timber roof of the nave.

The vicar, the Rev. F. Keeling Scott, told the familiar story of the Swaffham pedlar's treasure, and spoke of the Black Book of Swaffham, and of the collection of books belonging to the parish.

After luncheon at the George hotel, the drive was continued to Castle Acre, where a couple of hours were devoted to the castle earthworks, the church and the priory.

CASTLE ACRE EARTHWORKS.

The castle, which was described by Dr. Astley, was of the mount and bailey type, whose earthworks, says Mrs. Armitage, 'are perhaps the finest castle earthworks in England: the banks enclosing the bailey are vast.' It stands on ground which has no natural defence, sloping down to the river Nar. The great earthworks enclosing the inner bailey and the north-east corner are probably prehistoric. The rectangular enclosing vallum and fosse of the outer bailey, of which there are good remains on the west side, may be due to the Romans. The keep was erected by the first earl of Warenne, on a natural eminence to the north; of this there are no remains; but the curtain wall still largely exists. Although the castle was never called on to withstand attack, some stirring events took place here in the time of Edward I. When the last earl of Warenne died in 1347, the castle began to fall into decay.

CASTLE ACRE CHURCH.

The next move was to the church where Mr. Howard observed that there must have been a church on the site in Norman times, but of this nothing remains with the possible exception of the western portion of the south wall of the chancel. The large chancel dates from the last quarter of the thirteenth century. In the early fourteenth century the vestry was added on the north side and the nave appears to have been re-built with aisles on either side. Late in the fourteenth century the whole of the nave was rebuilt, and the nave extended westward to join up with a fine western tower commenced at the same time. The early fourteenth-century arcades must have been taken down, but the eastern responds were left and the piers used alternately with new ones. The clerestory and roof seem to be of the same period. In the fifteenth century a north chapel seems to have been formed between the aisle and the vestry, while new windows were inserted in the vestry, the south side of the chancel, and the south aisle of the nave.

The church was largely gutted at the restoration of 1875, but retains the base of the rood screen with painted figures of the twelve apostles of exceptionally good style, and having returned stalls within. There are remains of the parclose screens at the eastern ends of both aisles and a portion of the very simple and beautiful seating has been allowed to remain. Portions of the parcloses are utilised in the modern chancel fittings. The pulpit with the four doctors of the Church is unspoilt and of beautiful proportion, while at the west end the font, beautiful in its simplicity, is crowned with a lofty font cover of exquisite design.

CASTLE ACRE PRIORY.

At the priory (fig. 9), Prof. Thompson acted as guide. He said that the priory of St. Mary, St. Peter and St. Paul was founded, as a cell of the Cluniac priory of St. Pancras at Lewes, by William de Warenne before 1089. The remains, excavated under the direction of the late Sir William St. John Hope in 1889, afford a very complete example of the arrangements of a Cluniac, or, speaking generally, of a Benedictine house. The precinct is entered by a Tudor gatehouse on the north side. The church, the principal remaining feature of which is the magnificent west front, was originally of the common Norman triple-apse plan, with apsidal chapels on the east sides of the transept, and with central and two western towers. The north aisle of the presbytery was rebuilt as a rectangular chapel in the fourteenth century, and in the

fifteenth the church was lengthened with a new presbytery, and the east end of the south aisle was squared. The other cloister buildings show the normal Benedictine plan, with the infirmary buildings standing apart on the east side, and the kitchen to the south west. The western range, of which the northern part is still fairly perfect, stood beyond the west front of the church, and contained the cellar and outer parlour on the ground floor, with the prior's guest-hall and chamber above: this, with its later alterations and additions, forms one of the most interesting examples in existence of this part of a monastery. A full description of the remains, with a coloured plan, by Sir William St. John Hope, will be found in *Norfolk Archaeology*, vol. xii.

Leaving Castle Acre, the party continued the journey to East Dereham, where tea was taken, and a hurried visit paid to the church brought the day's programme to a close.

Monday, 30th July, 1923.

CAWSTON CHURCH.

The first place visited this day was Cawston, whose fine church was described by Prof. Hamilton Thompson. It was, he said, an interesting example of rebuilding and enlargement extending over a considerable period. The chancel was built in the early part of the fourteenth century, and the south transeptal chapel seems to have been added not long afterwards. About 1400 the west tower was built, largely of freestone, on a site clear of the building. New nave arcades followed and were joined to the tower by a western bay wider than the rest. The housing for the roof of this period remains on the east wall of the tower, and the clerestory and present aisles, with the south porch, were made in the course of the fifteenth century, to the end of which the north transeptal chapel and the north chapel of the chancel belong.

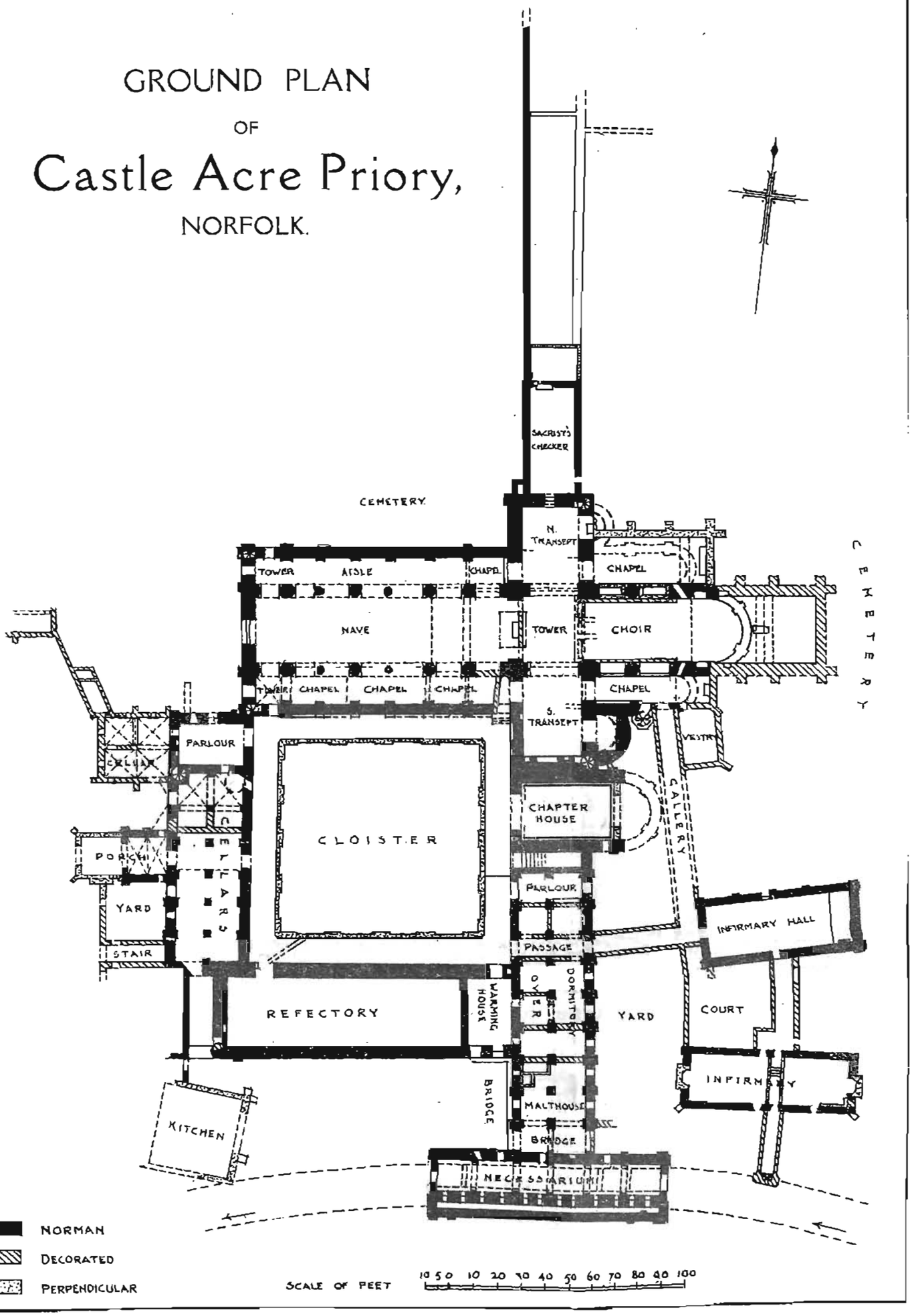
The chief glory of the church is its magnificent hammerbeam roof, remarkable for the tall figures of angels set in front of the struts between the hammerbeams and principal rafters. The screen, of the characteristic local type, has a series of painted panels with figures of the apostles, the four Latin Fathers, St. Agnes, St. Helen and the English saint, John Schorne, enriched with bands of gesso work and retaining a partially defaced inscription which relates to the donors of some of the paintings. There is a large wall-painting with a defaced inscription on a scroll, in the south transept, which also has a ceiling with well painted bosses. The ringers' loft in the tower remains, with an interesting English inscription along its front. The piscina in the south transept, the font (with a much restored wooden cover), and the band of heraldic shields above the west door, which, with the whole tower, forms a magnificent piece of design, deserve attention. There are a fifteenth-century pulpit and a large number of contemporary seats in the nave, and the door leading to the porch stair retains some of its ironwork.

Mr. Aymer Vallance drew attention to the silhouette of the great rood above the chancel arch.

SALL CHURCH.

From Cawston the party was conveyed to Sall church, also described by Prof. Hamilton Thompson. The whole of this church was completely rebuilt in the fifteenth century, most of it apparently about 1440. The work of the chancel appears to be quite independent of the work of the nave.

GROUND PLAN
OF
Castle Acre Priory,
NORFOLK.



There are two transeptal chapels, north and south porches with upper chambers, and a west tower. The design of the west doorway shows some likeness to that of Cawston, but is altogether less vigorous; and the belfry stage of the tower, above the fine sound-holes, is an after-thought which harmonises somewhat imperfectly with the lower stages. The beautiful chapel above the north porch retains its piscina, and is vaulted. The central boss represents the Coronation of the Virgin, and there are figures of angels on the surrounding bosses.

The piscinae in the church are of good design, and the font, with representations of the seven sacraments, stands on a base inscribed with a prayer for the donors. The tall font cover is dependent from a painted wooden crane fixed to the ringers' loft in the tower. There is a handsome series of quire stalls with carved misericords, and the lower portion of the screen remains, with defaced paintings of St. James the Great and the Latin Fathers, and remnants of the Nicene Creed painted on the sill above.

The roofs of chancel and transepts have good bosses: and the roof of the nave, which is plain and rather slender in construction, is painted with monograms. The pulpit, with seventeenth-century additions, and much of the seating belong to the later part of the fifteenth century. The west, north, and south doors are all old, with much delicate carving, and the doors to the porch-chambers keep some of their ironwork. There are late fifteenth-century brasses in the north transeptal chapel, which was much restored in 1912, and some brass inscriptions on the floor of the nave. In the east window, and elsewhere in the church, are interesting fragments of fifteenth-century stained glass.

Mr. Rushforth remarked on the fifteenth-century glass preserved in the tracery lights of the chancel and transept windows. Here again there were some unusual representations of the Hierarchies. In the south chancel window, while the Powers appear in their usual form, a pair of Principalities are not only crowned and robed like kings, but have a small earthly king kneeling in front of them. The Archangels (in the east window) are represented flying above a church, which recalls the painted panels in the Victoria and Albert museum, where they hold models of churches and are described: *Archangeli presunt civitatibus.*

In regard to the screen, Mr. Vallance said that here is an instance in which the painted decoration was begun but not finished. The fact is proved (as the late Sir William St. John Hope pointed out) by the condition of the figures, some of which remain mere whitened silhouettes, showing clearly that, after the initial priming had been carried out, the work was interrupted, and never resumed.

BLICKLING HALL.

The next subject on the programme was Blickling Hall, a great house, chiefly of red brick, with stone dressings, built by Sir Henry Hobart, in 1620, on the site of an earlier house erected by Sir Nicholas Dagworth. It is flanked by square towers at the four corners, with lead roofs and vanes. The gables are curved, with mullioned bay windows beneath them. The entrance from the court in front formed by the stables and offices is over a bridge of two arches which spans a moat. Over the entrance gateway rises a clock tower of later date. In plan the house is arranged around two inner courts, the block between them comprising the great hall, from which rises the double staircase. Upon

the hall door is the date 'Ano Di 1620.' The library, or long gallery, on the first floor, has a heavy plaster ceiling, containing emblematical figures, and is very rich in effect. The house is flanked by fine gardens, whose formal lay-out is full of charm.

The Rev. Canon Meyrick gave a brief account of the history of the house.

After luncheon at the adjoining Buckinghamshire Arms, a hurried visit was paid to Blickling church, and the party then motored on to Cley church.

BLICKLING CHURCH.

Blickling church consists of chancel, clerestoried nave with aisles, south porch, and western tower, but the two last were only built about fifty years ago, when the whole church underwent a drastic restoration at the hands of Mr. Street. What is left of the original church is of the Perpendicular period. There is an interesting old chest with five locks and a fifteenth-century inscription. The brasses are particularly noteworthy, especially those to an unknown civilian, *c.* 1360; Sir Nicholas Dagworth, 1401; Cecilie, Anne and Isabella Boleyn, 1458, 1479, and 1485 respectively; and Anne Asteley, with two babies swaddled, 1512. There is an interesting table monument, enriched with heraldic shields, erected by Sir Edward Clare, at the end of the sixteenth century, in the south aisle, and a good monument to Elizabeth Gurdon on the south wall of the chancel. There is another tablet to members of the Hargrave family with a curious inscription on the north chancel wall. There are two particularly fine modern monuments, one in the nave to the eighth Marquis of Lothian, the work of G. F. Watts, R.A. and the other near the south door to his widow by A. G. Walker.

CLEY CHURCH.

At Cley church (fig. 10), which was described by Mr. A. B. Whittingham, the earliest portion is the Early English tower at the west end of the north aisle, much too small in scale for the church. The tower, when first built, was at the end of a small gabled nave of proportionate size. The rest of the thirteenth-century church has been destroyed, except for the present chancel windows. But the chancel is in scale and on axis and probably therefore contemporary with the present nave, but built with the old materials from the former church. In the east wall outside are the extreme jambs and arches of a group of (probably three) lancets, and in the side walls geometrical windows of varying design.

But during this time Cley was a flourishing port, and in the second quarter of the fourteenth century it was decided to rebuild the church on a more magnificent scale. It is the work that was then done for which the church is famed. A clerestoried nave was set out on the south side of the old nave, owing to the rising ground on the north. It was much wider than before, and double the length, being carried further west so as to flank the old tower. On each side broad aisles were designed, with transeptal chapels at their east ends. The south aisle, transept and clerestory were built first, followed by the north arcade (just inside the wall of the old nave), clerestory and transept. But here local resources began to run short. The original scheme probably included a west tower of proportionate size, but the idea was abandoned. The north aisle consequently was not made as wide as originally intended, the old north wall and west tower being retained. Only a new belfry was added to make the tower appear a little more in scale,

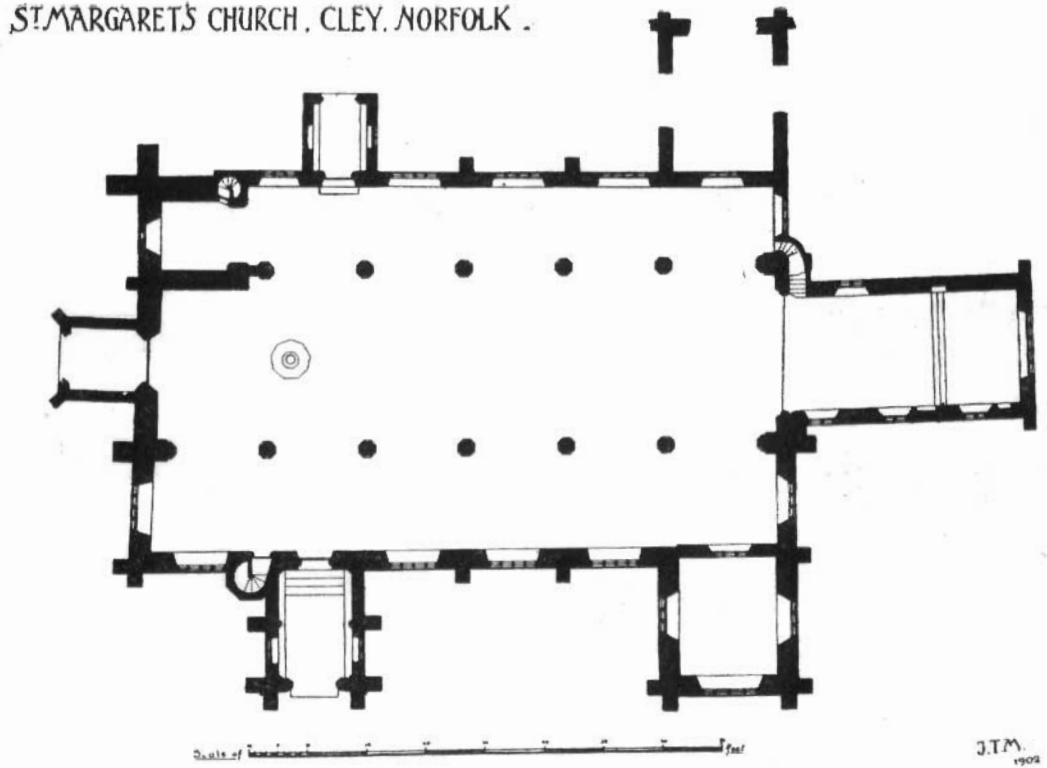


FIG. 10.

St. Nicholas' Church, Blakeney, Norfolk.

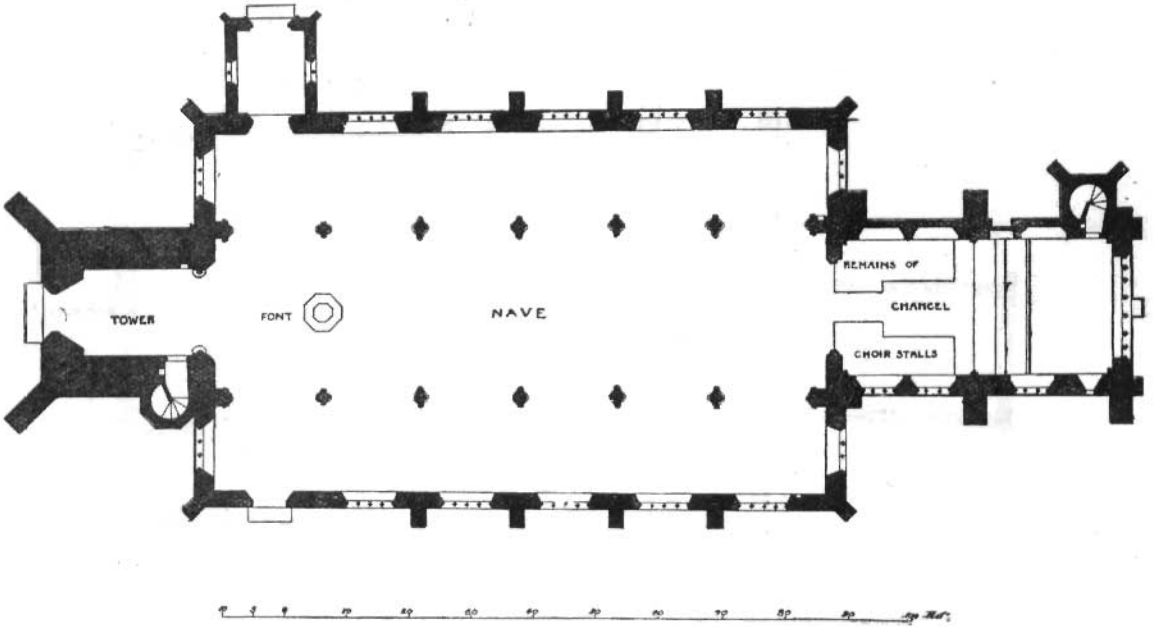


FIG. II.

and the west wall of the nave had to be built crooked so as to join on to the tower. Finally the chancel was built with the remains of the old church.

In the fifteenth century, new windows and roofs were given to the aisles and chancel, and three porches (one at the west end) were added. The nave received a new flint-panelled parapet, and no doubt a new roof also. The south porch is a fine piece of work of about 1400, and can be dated by its heraldry. In the room above is a rare contemporary iron-bound chest for the church valuables. The north porch is of about the same date. The design of the alterations to the aisles is identical with the work at Blakeney which began in 1434. The work here stops with a four-centred arch across the aisle, one bay short of the east end on reaching the transepts. This shows that the transepts were then weather-tight. It is since the Reformation that they have fallen into ruin, when they were no longer needed for side altars. There are some good pew-ends, a font sculptured with the seven sacraments, and, among several others, a brass to John Symonds and his wife. The pulpit is dated 1611.

From Cley, the party motored to Blakeney where Mr. Whittingham again acted as guide.

BLAKENEY CHURCH.

This church (fig. 11) is chiefly remarkable for its two towers, there being a small beacon tower at the north-east of the chancel in addition to a large one at the west end. The building is all of two dates. The thirteenth-century chancel is vaulted in two bays. Its east window is of seven lancets, but the three-light side windows have given way to others of perpendicular date. At the east end a space was originally walled off to form a sacristy, and from this a stair ascended to the beacon tower, and the space above the vault. The tower was rebuilt in the fifteenth century, and ends in a stone lantern whose wide lights were originally glazed. The present sacristy wall is modern, but built where there clearly had been one before.

The rest of the church was entirely rebuilt in the fifteenth century. The rebuilding began in 1434, as an inscription informs us on the north-west aisle buttress;—'ꝟ I sta: ecca: ffuit: ffudita: A: dn̄i: m°: cccc: xxx: iv.ꝟ' This work consists of a clerestoried nave with aisles, north porch, and west tower, the west bay and tower being a little later than the rest. Internally the building is quite pleasing with its hammer-beam roof and hood-moulds round the windows, but externally the tower is not well proportioned, and the rest of the work seems rather poor. The beacon tower was rebuilt shortly afterwards.

A number of ancient stalls remain in the chancel and the original arrangement has been restored. The rood-beam is still in situ, and the lower part of the screen. The bowl of the font is sculptured with the emblems of the four evangelists and four seated figures, while round the base are three shields of the Passion and one of the Wounds.

The Rector of Blakeney and Mrs. Lee-Elliott kindly entertained the party at tea at the rectory, after which the journey was resumed to Norwich.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

In the evening, the annual general meeting of the members of the Institute was held at 8.30 in the room over St. Ethelbert's gateway.

Sir Henry Fletcher, C.V.O. Vice-President, took the Chair.

The Chairman referred in feeling terms to the death of the President,

Sir Henry Howorth, which took place on 14th July, and moved a resolution of condolence with his relatives.

Prof. Hamilton Thompson seconded, and the resolution was adopted unanimously.

The report and accounts for 1922 were presented and taken as read, their adoption moved from the Chair and passed unanimously (these will be found printed at pages 364-367).

The question of nomination to the vacant presidency was left to the Council.

The place of meeting in 1924 was discussed, Lancaster, Chester, Winchester, Cambridge, Leamington and Hereford being mentioned, the decision being left to the Council.

Hearty votes of thanks to Mr. Bolingbroke for his efficient organisation of the meeting, to the dispensers of hospitality, and to the owners of places visited, were moved from the Chair, seconded by Mr. Rice and adopted.

ORDINARY EVENING MEETING.

At 9 o'clock H.H. Prince Frederick Duleep Singh, F.S.A. read a paper on 'Some Norfolk Manor Houses,' passing in review an admirable selection of lantern slides of characteristic houses, and giving a brief architectural and historical account of each subject.

Tuesday, 31st July, 1923.

This was the last full day's excursion of the meeting, and carried the party into the northern part of the county.

BARTON TURF CHURCH.

The first church visited was at Barton Turf. This church, which was described by Mr. Whittingham, is mentioned in Domesday Book as consisting of nave and sanctuary: of these no features remain. The building was enlarged early in the fourteenth century by the addition of the present aisles and chancel. Later in the same century a small clerestory was built.

Early in the fifteenth century various improvements were made. The chancel was given fresh buttresses and windows, of which the east window shows originality of design. A new rood-screen was erected at this time which now forms the chief feature of the church. The paintings on its twelve lower panels have a well-deserved reputation. They represent the nine heavenly orders, with SS. Barbara, Apollonia, and Zita to fill up.

A well-proportioned tower was built up just outside the west end. Its stair has been contrived in the thickness of the wall with very little external projection. There is a contemporary panelled west door. In the middle of the century the aisles were given fresh windows and buttresses. Two porches were added, the south of which has been blocked up and used as a store place. The north porch is vaulted with an upper room, and is faced with careful flush-work in flint. The corbels, etc. have various representations of contemporary female head-dress.

About 1490 the chapel of St. Thomas was added on the south side of the chancel. It can be accurately dated by three inscribed brasses. Also the lower part of its parclose screen remains, painted with a representation of Henry VI (died in 1472), and three other sainted kings. This is one of the earliest portraits of king Henry, whose canonisation was never completed.

The church suffered from a drastic restoration in 1793, when the fine

To face page 349.

[*G. Granville Buckley, phot.*

WROUGHT-IRON WORK ON SOUTH DOOR, TUNSTEAD CHURCH.

angel roofs, stained glass, and wall paintings were swept away. At a recent restoration, the eighteenth-century panelled pulpit has been worked into the base of a screen. At the east end is a painting of the Descent of Christ from the Cross, said to be by Van Dyck, and certainly showing the influence of his school.

TUNSTEAD CHURCH.

From Barton Turf the visitors proceeded to Tunstead. Here Mr. Philip M. Johnston, F.S.A. who acted as guide, described the church as the stately church of a vanished town—Tunesteda in Domesday Book. As it gives the name to the Hundred, it was probably in Saxon times the capital town in it. There are records of walls, gates, and important houses and holdings, indicating a town of some size and importance, of which nearly every trace has vanished. Between 1344 and 1351 the advowson passed by gift or sale to the prioress and nuns of Campsey in Suffolk.

The church (fig. 12) is remarkable for its size, the internal measurements being — chancel, 51 ft. 4 ins. by 25 ft. 3 ins.; nave, 87 ft. 2 ins. by 24 ft. 10 ins.; and aisles, coterminous with the nave, 14 ft. 1 in. wide. The tower is 13 ft. 3 ins. north to south, and, together with the nave and its aisles and the lofty chancel arch, was rebuilt from the ground somewhere about 1340, the nave roof being one of the comparatively rare examples of that period in Norfolk. Apparently the older chancel was left standing and the foundations only of the existing one had been laid, when the cataclysm of the Black Death, in 1349, swept over Norfolk, and practically wiped out the inhabitants of Tunstead and many another village hereabouts.[1] Building operations were brought abruptly to a standstill, and the rebuilding of the chancel was not resumed till about half a century later, and then, of course, in the perpendicular phase of Gothic. The slender quatrefoil-shaped pillars of the arcades, with unusually tall spreading bases and plinths, bent and bowed by the weight of the walls, the battlemented capitals and corbels, and grotesque heads are noteworthy details of decorated work.

There is a hint of the oncoming perpendicular in some of the details of the decorated nave and aisles. On the other hand, in the piscina and sedilia in the perpendicular chancel much decorated feeling remains. In this connexion, the peculiar development of reticulated and flamboyant tracery in the aisle windows, the two lower ogee-shaped figures of which have been gutted of their sub-tracery, is noticeable.

Mr. Johnston drew particular attention to the magnificent preservation of the flint and stone facings of the exterior, and of the inside stonework; also the blind-story of flush-panelled work. He also pointed to the superb iron scroll-work, of very free design (date about 1300), round the latch-ring of south door (plate 1), and the ancient wooden lock-case, evidently relics of an older church.

The rood-screen is finely carved and enriched with gesso: it was 'new made' in 1470, with contemporary paintings of the twelve apostles (St. Paul included) and the four doctors, in a good state of preservation.[2] Above this, and about thirty years later, is an independent rood-beam, also painted, with arched brackets—a rare feature locally.

[1] It is said to have caused the death of 57,000 persons in the diocese of Norwich, and to have ruined all trade for a long period.

[2] John Corp, senior, of Tunstead, 1470, gave 8d. by will 'to the painting of the perke' or screen.

Behind the altar is the feature which makes this unique among Norfolk churches—a narrow chamber running along the east wall of the chancel, its floor sunk below the sanctuary level, and entered by a small doorway at the southern end. It is lit only by a grating in the flat top, and this is approached by a flight of seven stone steps at the northern end. The western elevation, about 7 ft. in height, displays the mutilated remains of rich tabernacle work, coloured and gilt, originally carried up as a parapet to the platform behind. There seems to be little doubt that this chamber was used as a reliquary and treasury, and that the platform was used for the display of the relics to pilgrimages. Incidentally it may have served as a sacristy; so very important a church, with so many altars and shrines, would call for such an adjunct; but as against this, the cramped width (3 ft.) and the absence of light must be remembered.

The old chests are remarkable: in one of them Mr. Johnston said he had discovered a complete series of court rolls of the manor between the reigns of Richard II and Elizabeth.[1]

William Wichingham, of Tunstead, by will, in 1528, left money to the repair of the church and for a tabernacle for the image of the Holy Trinity to be carved and gilt. This may still be seen in the north aisle chapel.

The church of Tunstead had, annexed to it from an early date, the church or chapel of Sco Ruston, and the presentations were made jointly. This daughter church is remarkable for an oak door to the south doorway on which is carved in black letter a prayer for the souls of the donors, Stephen Bolte and Alice his wife, and a fine drop-ring of wrought and perforated ironwork, retaining the original leather backing.

WORSTEAD CHURCH.

The next church visited was that of Worstead, and here again Mr. Johnston acted as guide. This fine church occupies about the same area as its neighbour at Tunstead, but while its chancel is wider and much shorter, it is flanked by important chapels, and that on the north has an original two-storied sacristy to the eastward—a comparatively rare feature locally. The nave is 89 ft. by 29 ft. The aisles, about 12 ft. wide, continued as chapels. The chancel is 39 ft. by 29 ft. 3 ins. and the sacristy also continuous with the north aisle, extends to the eastern limit of the chancel. The noble western tower, of three stories, 109 ft. high, retains more decorated feeling than the rest of the building,[2] but speaking generally, we have here a reconstruction in the perpendicular style, beginning with the chancel in 1379. The sacristy was added in *c.* 1460.

The tall clerestory of the nave has ten windows on each side, answering to the five bays, and two flying buttresses on both sides have been added later to take the thrust of the magnificent hammerbeam roof. The great porch on the south has a ribbed vault and a chamber over, the vaulting-bosses being carved with a Trinity and the four Living Creatures. There is a group of three canopied niches, over the outer entrance.

On the walls of the chancel are painted two consecration crosses, no less than 2 ft. in diameter. The octagonal font, carved with tracery and angels, retains its coeval lofty wooden cover. Note the pedestals for images at the east of nearly all the window sills of aisles, and flanking the remains of the

[1] Since deposited in the muniment room of Norwich castle.

[2] Note the flint and stone panelling of plinth and battlements, the square-framed sound-holes and the ball-flower of the bell-chamber windows. The pinnacles are an eyesore and date only from 1861.

CHURCH of St. Mary the Virgin.
TUNSTEAD, Norfolk.

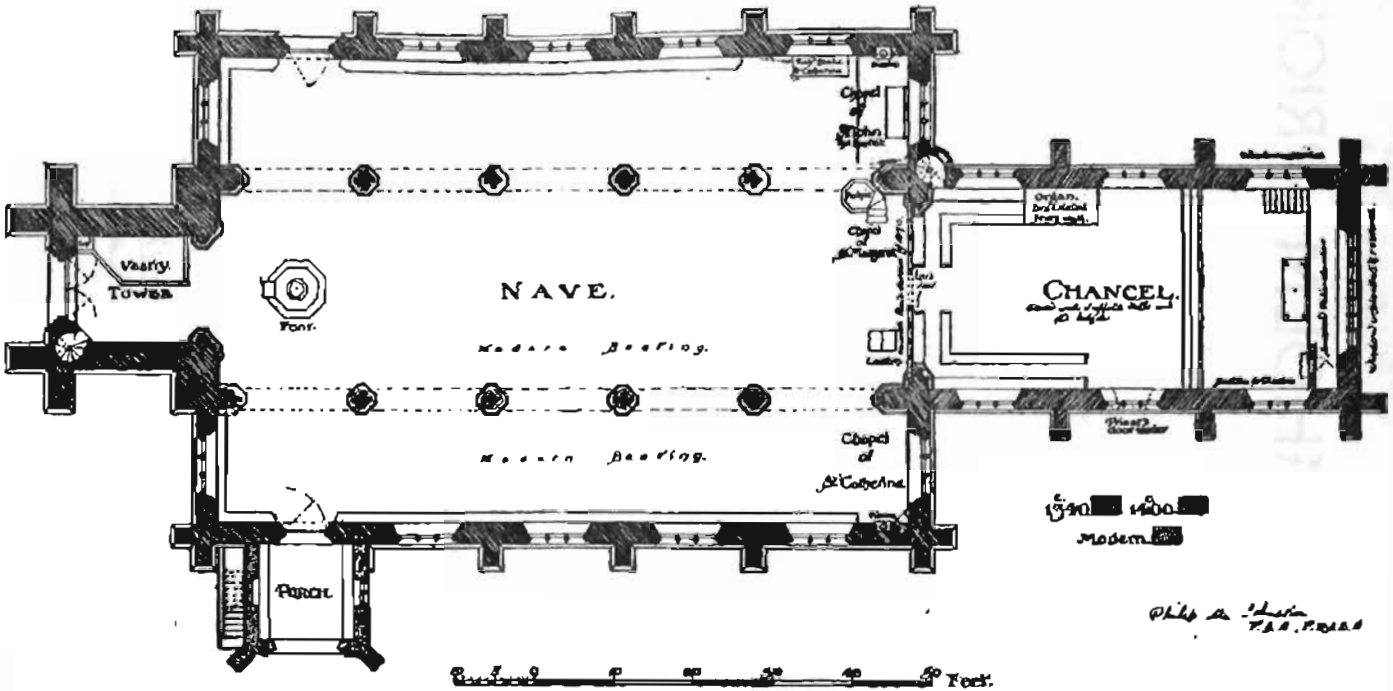


FIG. 12.

BROMHOLM PRIORY.

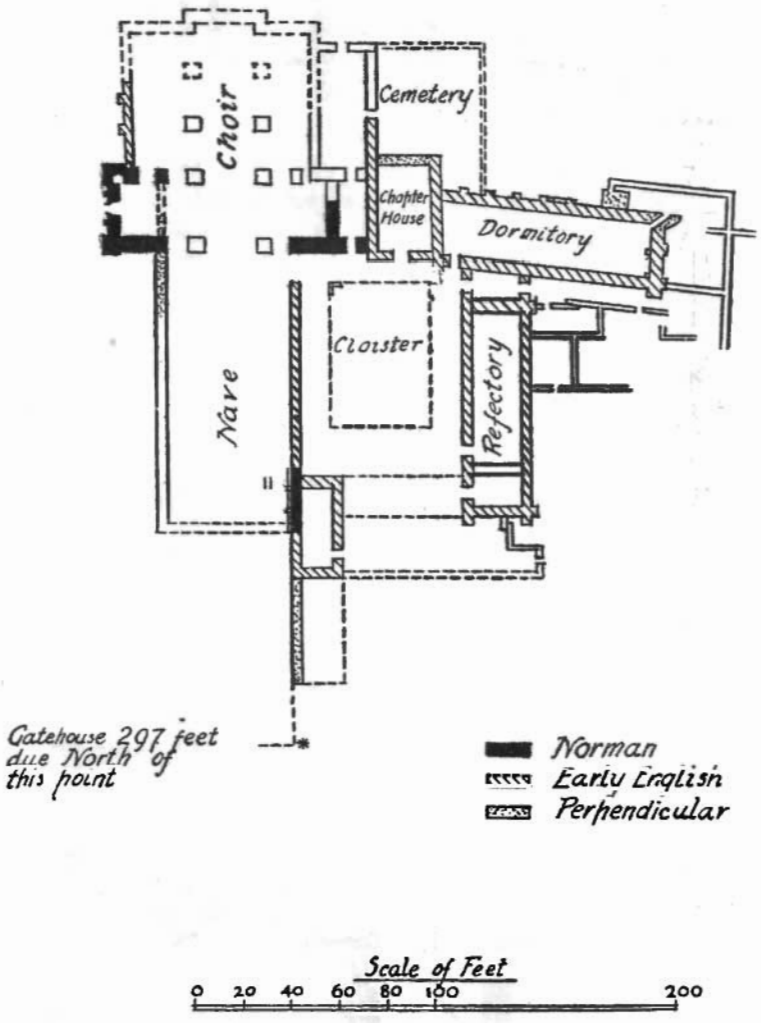


FIG. 13.

altar-piece in St. John the Baptist's Chapel on the north—a delicately painted piece of woodwork set above the old altar-piece. The lady chapel on the south is longer, and preserves its piscina.

The church is exceptionally rich in painted screens. The rood-screen of ten openings retains its vaulted cove, and was the gift of John Arblaster and his wife Alice, erected between the years 1512 and 1524. The saints depicted on the lower panels represent the apostles and doctors, with one or two doubtful nineteenth-century re-paintings. The similar screens at the end of the aisles were also painted and gilt, with figures of SS. Bartholomew, Philip, Lawrence, and Sixtus (north), and Peter, Paul, John the Baptist, and Stephen (south), for which we have the valuable record of the Dawson Turner drawings made in 1823-34.

At the west end, under the tower, is a gallery on carved wooden pillars, having a screen in front, coved and balustraded, bearing the inscription :

This work was made in ye yer of God MCCCCCCC. at ye propur cost of ye Catell of ye chyrche of Worsted callyd ye batchellers Inte yt God preserve wth all the benefactors of ye same now and eber. Amen.
Than were husbondes (wardens) **Christofyr Kant and Jeffery Deyn.**

The original panel paintings were covered in 1831 by copies of Sir Joshua Reynolds' *Virtues*.

Mr. Johnston added that the village of Worstead is but a shrunken fragment of that which formerly stood here. The size and richness of this and other fine Norfolk churches is in part due to the ancient and flourishing wool industry, which has a special link with this place in the stuff called 'worsted.'

BROMHOLM PRIORY.

From Worstead the party continued the journey to North Walsham where luncheon was taken at the King's Arms. Thence they went on to Bromholm priory, near Bacton (fig. 13), also described by Mr. Johnston.

The remains are much ruined, they are covered with ivy and are in a dangerous state. The site has never been excavated and no proper plan exists. The remains include the gate-house, a part of the chapter-house which still retains some interesting details, and portions of the transepts of the church. The priory was founded in 1113 for Cluniac monks.

Prof. Hamilton Thompson expressed the hope that the Earl of Kimberley, who owns the site, would cause the ivy to be removed and the remaining masonry to be secured.

PASTON CHURCH.

The next place to be visited was the village of Paston, so closely associated with the Paston Letters. Here Mr. Herbert Loraine met the party and gave a brief account of the church which dates from early in the fourteenth century. The interest in this church centres round the remarkable wall-paintings which were uncovered in 1922.

There are some brasses to the Paston family and in the chancel an elaborate tomb of Dame Katharine Paston executed by Nicholas Stone in 1629 for which he was paid £340, and another of her husband, Sir Edmund Paston, also by Stone, dated 1635.

Mr. Rushforth said that one of the scenes of the wall-paintings evidently represented the story of 'Les trois vifs et les trois morts' : three kings out

hunting suddenly come on three corpses, here represented as three skeletons. Mr. Rushforth also drew attention to the pure Italian classical style of Sir Edmund Paston's tomb in contrast to the rather barbaric monument to his wife.

Mr. Aymer Vallence drew attention to a passage in the Paston Letters, under date 1451, which probably refers to the parclose screenwork in this church :—' On the Sonday before seynt Edmond, after evynsonge, Agnes Ball com to me to my closett and bad me good evyn, an Clement Spycer with her. And all that time Waryn Herman leyned over the parklos and lystynd what we seyd.'

The rood-screen is distinguished for the beauty alike of its mouldings and of the relative proportions of its parts. It is mentioned by Mr. C. E. Keyser (1883) as having painted decoration, but ' varnished over.' There is now unfortunately no trace of colour.

BARN. Adjoining the church is the great barn built by Sir William Paston in 1582.

Mrs. Bardswell, who described it, said that it is the only complete building which remains of the old home of the Paston family. It is generally regarded as the finest barn in the county : certainly it is one of the largest and best-proportioned (163 ft. long, 31 ft. wide, and 44 ft. high to wall-plate level). The walls are of flint, some ten feet thick, with quoins of freestone. The roof is composed of fine oak with alternate hammer-beams and tie-beams, and it is thatched. In the north-east gable is a stone bearing the date 1581 over which are three mutilated heads. Over the west entrance is a larger stone inscribed 'A° 1582 : A° ER 24. The bilding of this bearne is bi Sir W. Paston Knighte,' with the initials of Sir William Paston and his wife, W ^{P} F.

KNAPTON CHURCH. From Paston the party motored on to Mundesley for tea, and then visited Knapton church. This was described to them by Mr. Aymer Vallance. The building, he said, consists of chancel, nave with south porch, and a western tower. The roof which, as compared with that of Trunch is somewhat less steeply pitched, is a magnificent specimen of a double hammer-beam roof, assigned to the year 1503. As late as 1849 it was described as retaining its original colouring almost perfect, and it still presents a strikingly rich array of exquisite figure-sculpture. Every collar-beam has, at the apex of the camber, an angel facing east and another facing west ; and every hammer-beam terminates in an angel, while the cornice consists of two tiers having, in each bay, an angel with wide-spread wings in either tier. The wall-pieces, resting on corbels in the shape of angels, present a series of tabernacled niches with a sculptured figure standing in every niche. In short the late Dr. J. C. Cox describes it as the best late Perpendicular roof to be found throughout England. The rood-screen is of late-Gothic work, with Jacobean gates. The rood-stairs are on the north side.

Mr. Rushforth drew attention to the Greek inscription on the baptistery (1704), a palindrome reading :—*nipson anomema me monan opsin* (' wash my sin, not my face only '). There are other seventeenth-century instances, but its origin is Byzantine.

TRUNCH CHURCH. The last church on this day's programme was at Trunch. It was described by Mr. Vallance, who said that the building consists of an unaisled chancel, nave with aisles and south porch, and a western tower. There is further a small porch for the priest's door on the south side of the chancel. Externally there are remains of three scratch dials.

The stone font stands beneath an elaborate canopy of oak, hexagonal on plan, supported from the ground on six sculptured shafts, while its upper stage, of very ornate tabernacle work, culminates in what may be said to resemble a crown steeple. The date of this canopy is early sixteenth century. It may be compared with the example, of not dissimilar motif, though somewhat earlier in date and now much renovated, at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich.

The roof is fairly high-pitched, and is a fine example of single hammer-beam construction. The absence of a collar-beam is remarkable. A feature is the great beauty and variety of the spandrels of pierced tracery. These spandrels are unusually large. The wall-piece of every alternate truss is cut short to make way for a corresponding window of the clerestory.

The rood-screen is of particular interest, since it is a dated example, the date 1502 being carved on the middle rail. The complete inscription, which is in Latin, may be Englished as follows, beginning on the north side of the entrance :—'Pray for the souls of all benefactors of this work, which was made in the year of the Lord fifteen hundred and two, on whose souls may God be merciful; so be it,' and, on the south side of the entrance, 'Glory, laud, honour, virtue and power and rejoicing, giving of thanks, love unfailing for endless ages of ages. Amen say all.'

The screen, happily not modernised, is, however, in a grievous state of dilapidation. It stands immediately under the chancel arch, and measures 16 ft. 10 ins. in length. It consists of eight bays, of which the two in the centre go to form the chancel entrance, with a clear opening of 3 ft. 9½ ins. wide. The doorway is 8 ft. 9½ ins. high from the crown of its two-centred arch to the floor level. Each of the bays contains, for tracery, a trefoil head with ogre apex. These ornaments have all, like the entrance arch, been delicately feathered beneath and enriched with crocketed work above on both faces, east and west; but the greater part of this ornament has perished, only fragments remaining to indicate what the completed design was. A pair of structural braces in the head of each bay remains, as also some of the broken off ribs on both sides, proving that the screen originally was vaulted on its eastward as well as on its westward face. The vaulting on the east or chancel face of the screen, as it was before it disappeared, is illustrated in the Brandons' *Parish Churches* (1848).

The figures painted on the panels of the wainscot comprise the twelve apostles, St. Paul, however, being depicted instead of St. Matthias. Throughout the screen numerous traces of the original gilding and colour decoration survive. The rood-stair is situated at the north-east of the nave, in the re-entering angle between the chancel and the nave's north aisle.

Prof. Hamilton Thompson here took the opportunity of summarising the principal features of Norfolk church architecture, referring especially to the gifts of design shown by the fifteenth-century builders, and to the magnificent treasures of church furniture and decoration which exist in the

county. He laid special emphasis on these as the productions of local craftsmen working with trained skill upon the materials furnished by the neighbourhood.

EVENING MEETING. At the evening meeting, Mr. F. C. E. Erwood read a paper on Langley abbey, Norfolk, excavated by him.

The abbey of Langley was founded for Premonstratensian canons from Alnwick by Sir Roger Fitz-Roger or Helke, lord of Langley and some time sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk, in 1195.

It was about the fifteenth house of the order established in the kingdom and was dedicated in honour of the Assumption of the Virgin.

As is so often the case, the documentary history of the abbey is devoid of great interest, being concerned almost entirely with matters pertaining to the various livings and churches appropriated to the house, which extended into more than eighty parishes in the diocese.

The number of the canons, never very great, was reduced to six at the time of the dissolution, and the inventory of goods, taken at the same time, shows a deficiency of articles of value. The buildings were in a bad state of repair and the monastery was in debt to more than £120. The case was quite clear for suppression: this was carried out in the year 1536, and the site granted to John Berney on 10th June, 38 Henry VIII.

The buildings were in the main taken down, a manor-house being built on the site, incorporating probably parts of the older work where possible. Other parts were converted into farm buildings, and as such they remain at the present time. The recognisable remains include the western range, the site of the cloister and fragments of the walls of the associated buildings. Of these, the chapter-house displays most details of an architectural character. The whole of the site of the church was meadow land and was excavated in 1921 by the British Archaeological Association and the Norfolk and Norwich Archaeological Society, a full account of the work done being published in the journals of those Societies.[1]

The chief matters of interest at Langley are to be found in the arrangements of the church and chapter-house.

The church was probably designed without aisles. Certainly the south aisle was an afterthought, though in date it was not later than the rest of the work, the aisle being laid out after the foundations of the nave were in, but before the upper works had progressed very far. This addition to the original plan modified the form of the cloister which was already set out, and changes had likewise to be made in the arrangement of the west wall of the church and the north wall of the cellarium. The final plan of the church, as recovered by excavation, was cruciform, with an aisled nave north and south, transepts, quire and side chapels. A central tower was probable though no evidence was found of it. A western tower was, however, added in the fourteenth century and the original thirteenth-century west doorway was re-inserted in this tower, where the mutilated fragments were found. The chapter-house was of an elaborate character, consisting of an apartment 49 ft. 6 ins. long and 23 ft. 9 ins. wide, divided into three alleys, each of six bays, the vault being thus supported by ten columns and eighteen corbels.

[1] *Jour. B.A.A.* n.s. xxviii, 49-108, *Proc. Norfolk and Norwich Arch. Soc.* xxi, 175-234. A summary and survey of the whole of the English houses of Premonstratensian canons appears in *Archaeologia*, lxxiii, by A. W. Clapham, F.S.A.

The three western bays, under the dormitory, formed a vestibule and were approached from the cloister by the usual openings, the doorway having its head filled by two heavy cusped slabs of Purbeck marble, finely moulded on the edges.

The three eastern bays were of a greater altitude than the rest, as they extended beyond the dormitory range eastwards. The two eastern bays and probably the bays on the east wall also, were each subdivided into two arched seats, with moulded arches and foliated caps, thus making accommodation for fourteen canons.

The remains of the lavatory were found in the wall of the western range, which also contained the outer parlour, a vaulted apartment at the north end.

There seemed to be some definite evidence that in the fourteenth century the dormitory had been transferred to the upper floor of this west range or to the gallery above the gatehouse block that joined it. Only fragmentary remains were found of other buildings.

Wednesday, 1st August, 1923.

PERAMBULATION IN NORWICH.

This was the last day of the meeting and the programme was limited to the morning. Mr. W. R. Rudd, the General Secretary of the Norfolk and Norwich Archaeological Society, took charge of the party and conducted a walk through Norwich, visiting St. Helen's hospital and church, Bishop Bridge, the convent of the Blackfriars (St. Andrew's Hall, Blackfriars' Hall and the cloisters), the City Bridewell and other ancient buildings.

St. Helen's Hospital, formerly known as St. Giles' Hospital, was founded by bishop Suffield in 1250. After the dissolution it was refounded under a charter of Edward VI as an almshouse for aged poor, and its revenues were vested in the corporation of Norwich for this purpose. The portion of the building used as a church is the central part of the nave. The chancel has been converted into women's wards and that part of the nave which extends from the tower to the south porch has been divided up into men's wards. Most of the church is of fifteenth-century date, but the quire is about 1380. The bosses on the ribbed transept are worthy of notice, as are also the poppy-heads on the front benches. The quaint cloisters were built about 1451 by bishop Lyhart and prior Mollett. There are some fine roof paintings in the Eagle ward ascribed to the late fourteenth century in honour of Richard II and queen Anne of Bohemia.

The party then proceeded to Bishop's Bridge, a fine example of a mediaeval bridge with three arches, erected in 1295 by the prior. It formerly had a gatehouse upon it. To the north was pointed out the Cow Tower standing at the bend of the river. It is said to be one of the oldest brick buildings in England.

Traversing the Palace Plain and Tombland, Mr. Rudd pointed out, near St. Andrew's church, the old city Bridewell, the long outer wall of which (considered the finest example of squared flint work) with the brick crypts formed part of the house of William Appleyard, first mayor of Norwich (1403).

The party were then directed to St. Andrew's Hall. This building, which must be the finest complete survival of friar architecture in England,

was formerly the nave of a Dominican church built in the middle of the fifteenth century on the site of an earlier church destroyed by fire. At the suppression of the monasteries the building was saved by the intervention of the duke of Norfolk and granted to the citizens, and has since then been used for civic and other purposes such as the triennial musical festival. The quire of the church, now called Blackfriars' Hall, was for a long time used by the Dutch settlers in the city as their place of worship. There are some wall-tablets to their pastors. The windows contain fine perpendicular tracery. Towards the north are the cloisters, surviving on three sides. The site of the chapter-house has been in part excavated, and adjacent to it was a crypt chapel to St. Thomas a Becket, needlessly destroyed fifty years ago by the city authorities. A lofty vaulted entrance-chamber with a central shaft, however, still survives.

NOTE.—The Institute is indebted to the Norfolk and Norwich Archaeological Society for permission to reproduce the plans illustrating this report.

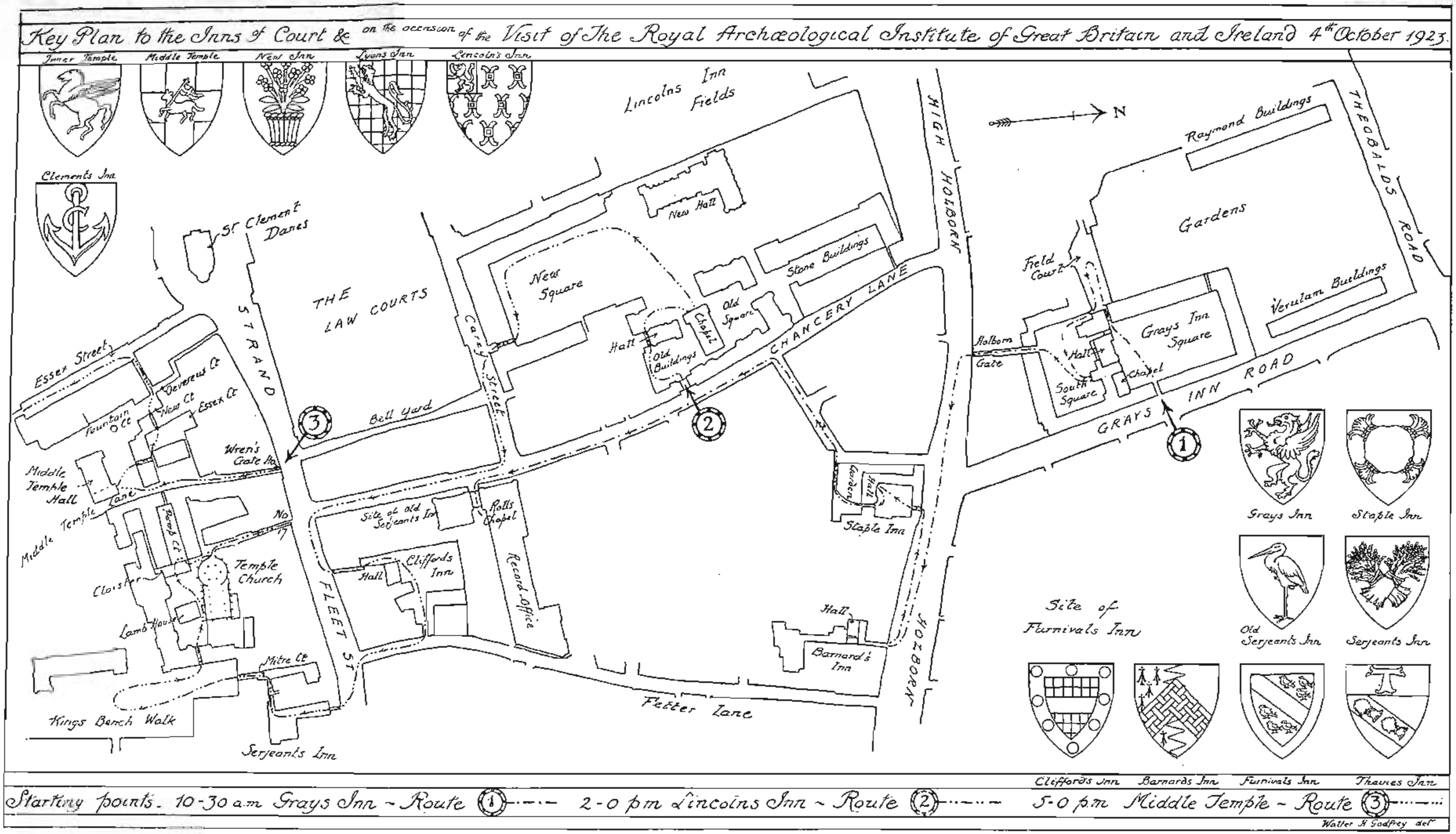

Key Plan to the Inns of Court &c on the occasion of the Visit of The Royal Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland 4th October 1923.
Inner Temple
Middle Temple
New Inn
Lyons Inn
Lincoln's Inn
Clements Inn
Lincolns Inn Fields
High Holborn
N
Raymond Buildings
Theobalds Road
St Clement Danes
New Hall
Gardens
Stone Buildings
Field Court
Verulam Buildings
The Law Courts
New Square
Old Square
Chapel
Hall
Old Buildings
Chancery Lane
Grays Inn Square
Holborn Gate
Chapel
South Square
Grays Inn Road
Essex Street
Devereux Ct
New Ct
Essex Ct
Strand
Carey Street
Fountain Ct
Bell Yard
Wren's Gate
Middle Temple Hall
Middle Temple Lane
No 17
Brick Ct
Site of old Serjeants Inn
Rolls Chapel
Garden
Hall
Staple Inn
Grays Inn
Staple Inn
Temple Church
Cloister
Cliffords Inn
Hall
Record Office
Site of Furnivals Inn
Old Serjeants Inn
Serjeants Inn
Lamb House
Fleet St
Hall
Barnard's Inn
Holborn
Mitre Ct
Kings Bench Walk
Fetter Lane
Serjeants Inn
Cliffords Inn
Barnards Inn
Furnivals Inn
Thavies Inn
Starting points. 10-30 a.m Grays Inn ~ Route 1 2-0 p.m Lincolns Inn ~ Route 2 5-0 p.m Middle Temple ~ Route 3
Walter H Godfrey del

Fig. 14

AUTUMN MEETING.

VISIT TO THE INNS OF COURT.

THURSDAY, 4TH OCTOBER, 1923.

The autumn excursion of the Institute took the form of a visit to the Inns of Court and Chancery, under the guidance of Mr. Walter H. Godfrey, F.S.A.

GRAY'S INN. The members assembled at Gray's Inn at 10.30 a.m. and, passing through Field Court and South Square, entered the great hall (1559). Here in a brief historical introduction Mr. Godfrey pointed out that the Inn was formerly the manor of Portpool and was owned by the family of Grey of Wilton from the thirteenth to fifteenth century. There was a record of its occupation as one of the inns of court as early as 1311. From 1547 the Inn held directly from the king until in 1753 it finally purchased the property. The architectural features of the hall, and especially the hammer-beam roof, screen and heraldic glass, were described, and later a visit was made to the chapel, to the courts of seventeenth and eighteenth-century chambers, and to the gardens associated with Sir Francis Bacon.

BARNARD'S INN. Leaving Gray's Inn by the south gate (*c.* 1630) the party crossed Holborn, passing the site of Furnivall's Inn (now occupied by the Prudential Assurance Company) and visited Barnard's Inn, which was originally the house of John Mackworth, dean of Lincoln, who bequeathed it to the dean and chapter of Lincoln in 1451. The building was then in the occupation of Lionel Barnard, and was let to students of the law as early as 1454. Like Staple Inn it was an inn of chancery attached to Gray's Inn. It has latterly become a school of the Mercers' Company. The hall, of late fourteenth-century construction, was examined, with such details as the little lead-covered louvre to the roof, which is one of the valuable survivals from early London architecture.

STAPLE INN Staple Inn, on the south side of Holborn, was next visited. Standing just within Holborn Bars, it appears originally to have been a custom-house connected with the wool trade. In a will of 1333 it is called 'le Stapled Halle.' It was an inn of chancery as early as the reign of Henry V, and there is little doubt that the disputes connected with the customs were at first responsible for drawing to it the legal element. It was dissolved in 1884 and is now the property of the Prudential Assurance Company. The hall, which is occupied by the Society of Actuaries, has a very interesting example of an Elizabethan hammer-beam roof, which is carved with the arms of Richard Champion and the date 1581. There is a good screen, and the glass, which includes the royal arms, is excellent. Most of

the courtyard has been rebuilt in the eighteenth century, but the frontage to Holborn presents almost the only considerable survival of sixteenth-century timber buildings in London. The overhanging stories and windows, although much restored, are of great interest, and the doorway (1570-1586) is of good design and in excellent preservation.

ROLLS CHAPEL. Passing out of Staple Inn by the south, where the alterations of the Chippendale Gothic period are apparent, the members passed to the Record Office and the site of the Rolls Chapel. Here Henry III founded a home for converted Jews in 1232, a collegiate foundation with a chapel. The office of keeper of the house of converts became attached to that of the Master of the Rolls from 1290, and was formally united with it in 1377. The functions of the 'college' gradually ceased until, in 1717, the Rolls House was rebuilt for the Master of the Rolls. The house was used as a court of law about 1529. The buildings were destroyed when the Record Office was built, but the chancel arch of the original building was preserved, and the monuments and fittings placed in a well-arranged museum. The interesting exhibits here were inspected and, among the tombs, that of Dr. John Young (ob. 1516), Master of the Rolls under Henry VIII, was specially noticed. It is an important work by Torregiano and is largely composed of terra cotta.

LINCOLN'S INN. Crossing Chancery Lane the members next entered Lincoln's Inn beneath the gatehouse built in 1518. The Inn stands on the site of the house of Ralph Nevill, bishop of Chichester (d. 1244). The Society of Lincoln's Inn appears to have started in the house of Henry de Lacy, earl of Lincoln (d. 1312), on the site of the old house of Blackfriars, Holborn, and it obtained a lease of the Chancery Lane property in 1422. The Inn acquired the freehold in 1580.

The Tudor work of Old Buildings was inspected, but the old hall (1507) being under repair could not be entered. In the chapel, built, according to tradition, by king James in 1621, the contemporary glass and the excellent pew-ends were examined, and also the vaulted undercroft beneath the chapel. A visit was also paid to the new hall (1845) where the heraldic glass from the old hall has been fixed. Finally a tour of inspection was made of Stone Buildings and New Square (1690), and so out through the gate into Lincoln's Inn Fields and Carey Street.

CLIFFORD'S INN. A visit was then paid to the remains of Clifford's Inn, where a range of seventeenth-century buildings still stands. The Inn takes its name from Robert de Clifford (*c.* 1310) whose widow and successors leased it to law-students from 1344 to 1618. In the latter year the Society acquired the freehold. The Inn was dissolved a few years back. The boundaries commission following the Great Fire of London sat in the old hall, which was rebuilt in the eighteenth century.

SERJEANTS' INN. In order to reach the Temple the party crossed Fleet Street and passed through Serjeants' Inn, the home of a legal guild or society (comprising the higher ranks of the profession) dating from the early sixteenth century. It was sold at the end of the eighteenth century and rebuilt as private houses, several of which remain. Attention was called to the fact that the inn called 'Old Serjeants'

Inn' stood between Clifford's Inn and Chancery Lane and was dissolved in 1876.

THE TEMPLE. Through Mitre Court and past King's Bench Walk with its interesting houses built by Sir Christopher Wren (1678) the members were conducted to the Temple church. The house of the Knights Templars was originally in Holborn, but it was moved to this site in the twelfth century, the church being consecrated in 1185. In 1312 the order was suppressed and its possessions granted to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem. About this time the Inner and Middle Temple were leased to students of the law (the 'Inner Temple' comprising the monastic buildings), and the Outer Temple was occupied by the bishops of Exeter (afterwards Essex House, on the site of Essex Street). A perpetual lease was granted by James I.

The round nave of the church (consecrated 1185) was first inspected and its characteristics pointed out, including the thirteenth-century effigies on the floor. Later the over-restored eastern arm (consecrated 1240) was visited, and the numerous memorials in the triforium of the round. From here the party proceeded past Lamb Building, beneath Wren's cloister into Pump Court (1681) and thence to the Middle Temple hall (1571). Here the signal beauties of the roof, screen and the heraldic glass (1575) were described, and the proceedings terminated with a short address on some of the customs of the benchers by Mr. R. Garraway Rice, F.S.A.

The Inner Temple is approached from Fleet Street by a gate under No. 17, formerly a tavern, called successively the 'Hand,' the 'Prince's Arms,' and the 'Fountain.' Built in 1610, it has carved panels on the front. The room on the first floor is the reputed council-room of the duchy of Cornwall, and has a fine plaster ceiling with a badge of Prince Henry.

The Middle Temple has a gatehouse on Fleet Street, built by Wren in 1684, and another entrance leading from Essex Street (1682) and Devereux Court into New Court and Essex Court (1677).

PROCEEDINGS AT MONTHLY MEETINGS OF THE ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

Wednesday, 7th February, 1923.

Mr. H. Plowman, F.S.A. in the Chair.

Mr. F. Morris Drake read a paper on the making of stained-glass windows, with lantern illustrations and examples. This paper will be printed in the *Journal*.

In the discussion there spoke, Miss Graham, Mr. Aymer Vallance, F.S.A. Mr. R. Garraway Rice, F.S.A. and the Chairman.

Wednesday, 7th March, 1923.

Sir Henry Fletcher, C.V.O. Vice-President, in the Chair.

Mr. Cyril Fox, Ph.D. read a paper on the distribution of population in the Cambridge region in early times, with numerous lantern illustrations.

Mr. W. J. Hemp, F.S.A. and Mr. Garraway Rice also spoke.

Wednesday, 4th April, 1923.

Sir Henry Fletcher in the Chair.

Mr. Aymer Vallance read a paper on ' The tour of an old parish church,' with lantern illustrations. An abstract of this will appear in the next volume.

Mr. C. A. Bradford, F.S.A. Mr. F. C. Eeles, Mr. H. Plowman and another commented on the paper.

Wednesday, 2nd May, 1923.

Sir Henry Fletcher in the Chair.

Dr. Nelson, M.D. F.S.A. read a paper on ' Some further examples of English mediaeval alabasters ' with examples and lantern illustrations. This paper will be printed in the *Journal*.

In the discussion there spoke Prebendary W. C. Clark-Maxwell, F.S.A. Dr. Hillburgh, F.S.A. and Mr. Garraway Rice.

Wednesday, 6th June, 1923.

Sir Henry Fletcher in the Chair.

Mr. Arthur Gardner, F.S.A. read a paper on English alabaster tombs, with lantern illustrations. This paper is printed at page 1 of this volume.

In the discussion there spoke Mr. A. C. Fryer, Ph.D. F.S.A. and Mr. Aymer Vallance.

Wednesday, 4th July, 1923.

Sir Henry Fletcher in the Chair.

The Rev. J. K. Floyer, D.D. F.S.A. read a paper on English brick buildings of the time of Henry VII and VIII, with lantern illustrations. This paper is printed at page 291 of this volume.

Wednesday, 7th November, 1923.

Mr. W. Heward Bell, F.S.A. Vice-President, in the Chair.

Mr. Aymer Vallance read a paper entitled 'A criticism of thirteenth-century architecture,' with lantern illustrations. This paper will be printed in the *Journal*.

In the discussion there spoke, Mr. C. A. Bradford, Mr. P. M. Johnston, F.S.A. and Dr. Floyer.

Wednesday, 5th December, 1923.

Sir Henry Fletcher in the chair.

In the unavoidable absence of Mr. Oliver, who had undertaken to read a paper on 'Some French abbeys and cathedrals,' Mr. W. H. Godfrey, F.S.A. spoke on 'The parish of Chelsea,' with lantern illustrations.

Mr. Plowman also spoke.