

PROCEEDINGS AT MEETINGS OF THE ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

THE SUMMER MEETING AT BIRMINGHAM.

20th to 28th July, 1926.

Meeting Committee : Prof. Sir William Boyd Dawkins, M.A. D.Sc. F.R.S. F.S.A. ; Sir Edward Brabrook, C.B. F.S.A. ; W. Heward Bell, F.S.A. ; Harold Brakspear, F.S.A. ; D. Cory-Wright, M.A. F.S.A. ; The Rev. J. Kestell Floyer, D.D. F.S.A. ; Major-General B. R. Mitford, C.B. C.M.G. D.S.O. F.S.A. ; Prof. A. Hamilton Thompson, M.A. Litt.D. F.S.A. ; and Aymer Vallance, M.A. F.S.A.

Hon. Secretary of the Meeting : Francis B. Andrews, F.S.A. F.R.Hist.S. A.R.I.B.A.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS.

Tuesday, 20th July, 2.45 p.m. Birmingham art gallery and museum. Reception by the Lord Mayor. Tea. Evening meeting.

Wednesday, 21st July. Motor to Polesworth church. Pooley hall. Merevale abbey. Lunch at Atherstone. Maxstoke castle and priory. Reception by the Birmingham Archaeological Society at Aston hall. Tea. Evening meeting.

Thursday, 22nd July. Motor to Stratford-upon-Avon : church, birth-place, grammar school, guild chapel. New Place, Harvard house, Clopton bridge, old houses. Lunch and tea at Stratford. Evening meeting.

Friday, 23rd July. Motor to Coughton court. Huddington church and court. Lunch at Droitwich. Westwood house, Hartlebury. Tea at Bromsgrove. Annual general meeting.

Saturday, 24th July. Rail to Coventry : Ford's hospital, Bond's (Bablake) hospital and church, St. Michael's and Holy Trinity churches. Lunch. St. Mary's hall, White Friars, Charter-house. Tea.

Monday, 26th July. Rail to Warwick. St. John's, St. Mary's church, Beauchamp chapel, Leycester's hospital, gates. Lunch. Castle. Tea. Evening meeting.

Tuesday, 27th July. Motor to Solihull church. Temple Balsall church and hospital. Lunch at Knowle. Knowle church and guild-house. Lapworth church, Austy manor. Tea. Wootton Wawen church. Evening meeting.

Wednesday, 28th July. Motor to Berkswell church. Kenilworth castle. Lunch. Stoneleigh abbey. Tea. Return to Birmingham.

This is the first occasion on which the Institute has made Birmingham its centre.

The meeting opened at 2.45 p.m. at the Birmingham art gallery and museum where the members were received and conducted over the galleries by the Director, Sir Whitworth Wallis, F.S.A. They comprise a large museum of industrial and decorative art, a museum of casts, a natural history department, and seventeen picture galleries. The art gallery is famous for its unrivalled special collections of works by the English Pre-Raphaelites, and Sir Edward Burne-Jones, and David Cox, both born in Birmingham.

At 5 o'clock the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Birmingham (Alderman Percival Bower) held a reception in the Council-house and entertained the members to tea.

EVENING MEETING. In the evening a meeting took place in the rooms of the Birmingham and Midland Institute at which Mr. Donald Atkinson, B.A. gave an account of the excavations at Viroconium (Wroxeter) in 1923-1925 which he had directed on behalf of the Birmingham Archaeological Society.

Wednesday, 21st July.

The first place visited was Polesworth church, which was described by the Rev. A. T. Corfield.

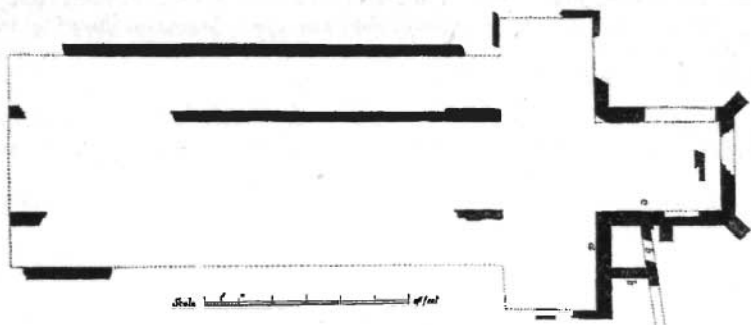
POLESWORTH CHURCH. This church is dedicated to St. Edith, daughter of king Egbert. It was part of the conventual church of a Benedictine nunnery founded by the king and his daughter. It now consists of a nave with north aisle, a small chancel and a lofty tower at the north-east angle of the nave. The west doorway of the church is of fourteenth-century work, and retains its original door and some good ironwork. In the church is a monumental effigy of an abbess, probably Sara de Manchester (1269-1276), with a pastoral staff, said to be the only effigy of the kind now remaining in England. There are also other monuments of interest, especially a fine alabaster effigy of Isabel, wife of Sir J. Cockayne (died 1447). The abbatial buildings and cloister were to the south of the church and some small remains still exist and may be seen in the vicarage garden. The site of the abbey was sold to Francis Goodyear in 1544 and he built a mansion on the south side of the church. The materials of this mansion were utilised some hundred years ago to build the present vicarage.

The members then proceeded to Pooley hall which was visited by permission of Colonel D'Arcy Chaytor, C.M.G. C.B.E. and described by the architect, Mr. Beckett.

The hall was the chief residence of the Cockayne family from the end of the fourteenth century, and in earlier days belonged to the Marmions of Tamworth. The present beautiful house was rebuilt by Sir Thomas Cockayne about 1509. There is a chapel (now desecrated) on the south side, close to the hall.

POOLEY HALL. Merevale abbey was next reached and the party was welcomed by Mr. W. F. S. Dugdale, F.S.A. of Merevale hall, who kindly described the building.

It was a Cistercian abbey, founded and endowed by Robert, earl of Ferrers, about 1148, and, owing to the presence of an image of our Lady, it attracted many pilgrims. At the Dissolution the value of the abbey was placed at no less a sum than £254 1s. 8d., and it was surrendered, despite all bribery and efforts, on October 13th, 1538. The environment of the place is very beautiful. Considerable portions of the plan of the abbey and its buildings have been revealed by excavation, and show it to have been laid out on the usual Cistercian lines. The chapel



MEREVALE ABBEY. PLAN OF EXCAVATIONS MADE 1849.

From the *Ecclesiologist*, x, 306.

of St. Mary still stands, and includes work of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. There is some fourteenth and fifteenth-century glass, described by Mr. Aymer Vallance, M.A. F.S.A., including a Jesse window, and one or two monuments of interest, including a chain-mail figure of William Ferrers, earl of Derby (*ob.* 1254), alabaster effigies of a knight and his wife of the fifteenth century and a brass of Robert, Lord Ferrers, 1413.


Merevale hall, which was re-built in the middle of the last century on the site of a house of the sixteenth century built by the earl of Essex, contains the library of the antiquary, Sir William Dugdale.

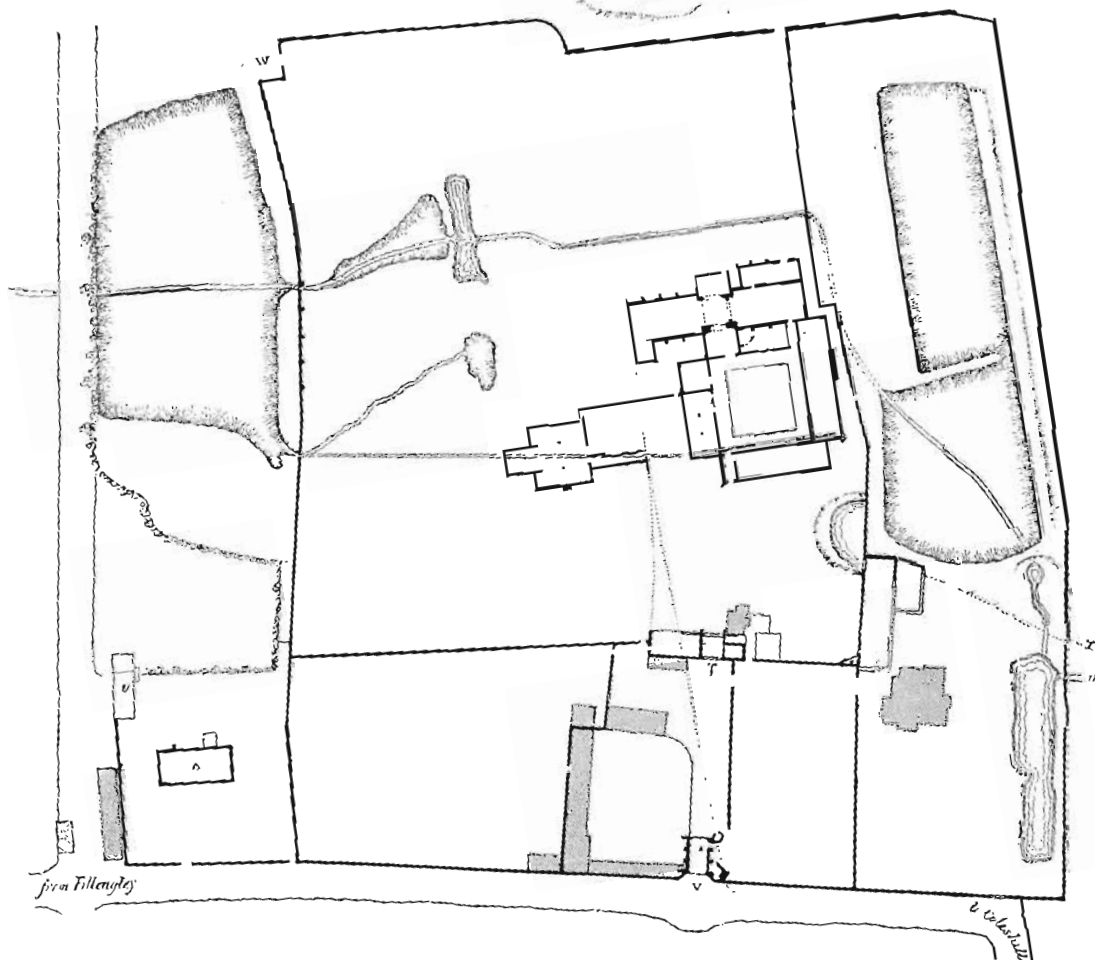
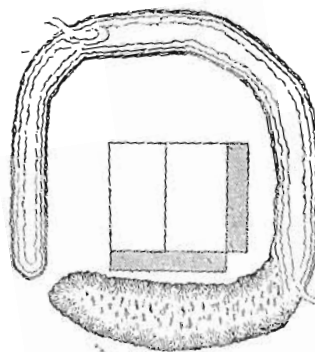
Lunch was partaken of at Atherstone and the party then motored to Maxstoke, where the castle was first visited by permission of Mr. B. A. Fetherston-Dilke, M.B.E. M.B. The building was described by Mr. P. B. Chatwin, F.S.A.

It was built, *c.* 1345, by the founder of Maxstoke priory, Sir William de Clinton, earl of Huntingdon. The outer walls, gatehouse, four corner towers, and the moat remain intact. Within, the buildings, while retaining some of their original form, including a fine banqueting hall, have been considerably modernised. The present kitchens have been formed out of the early hall.

Mr. Chatwin then described Maxstoke priory. This was re-founded in 1336 and consecrated in 1343 as a house for Austin canons; previously it had been a college for priests founded in 1331 by Sir William de Clinton. The dedication was in honour of SS. Mary, Michael, and All Saints. The house provided for twelve canons and a prior. It was suppressed in 1536. The principal remains are the gatehouse, and the ruins of the central tower of the church, and other

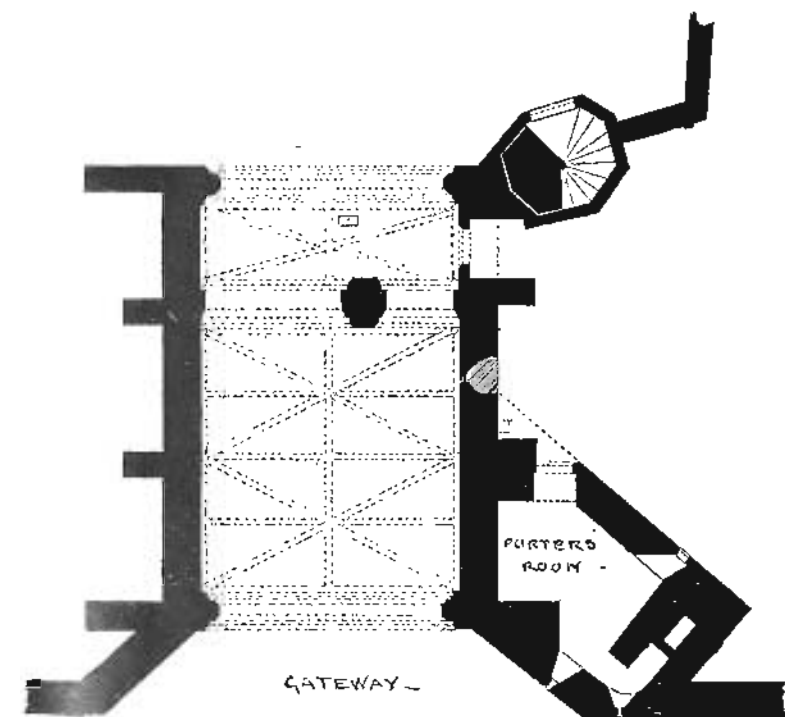
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 modern work.
 V. gate-house.
 W. old vicarage.
 e. parish church.

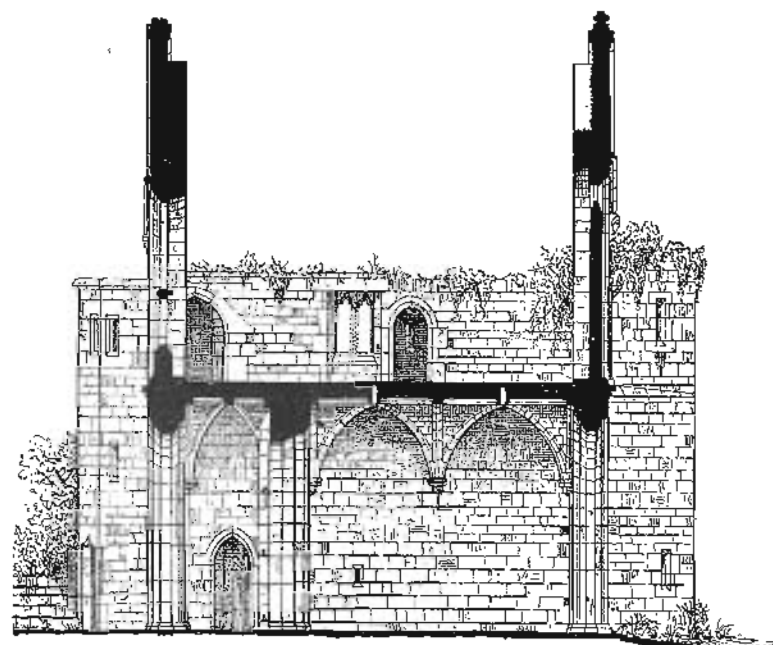


PLAN OF MAXSTOKE PRIORY.



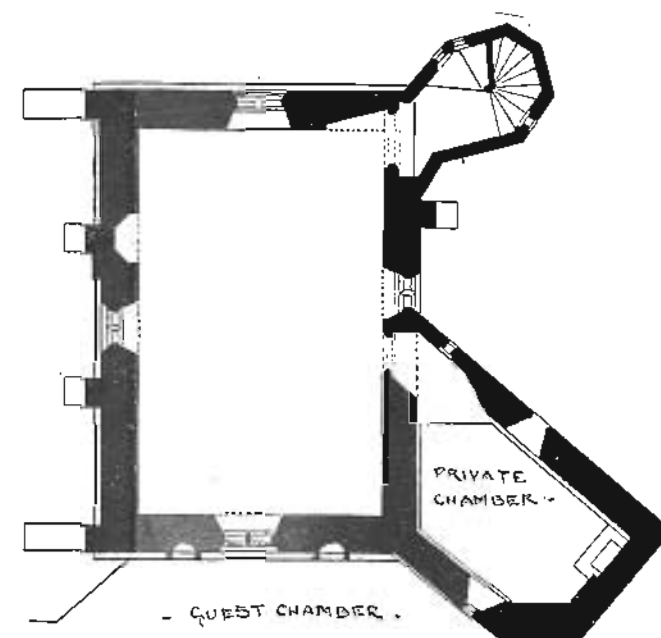


GROUND PLAN.



10 10 10 20 30 feet.

SECTION.



UPPER FLOOR PLAN.

GATE-HOUSE, MAXSTOKE PRIORY, WARWICKSHIRE.

fragments. Part of the buildings are now incorporated in the modern farm structures. The cloister and other of the conventual buildings were on the north of the church and were planned on somewhat unusual lines. The parish church of St. Michael is just outside the priory precinct, and has some work of the fourteenth century and a low-side window in the chancel. It was restored in 1886.

ASTON
HALL. The interesting day's proceedings were concluded by a visit to Aston hall which was reserved for the visit by the special permission of the Art Gallery Committee of the city of Birmingham. The party was received by the President (Mr. John Humphreys, M.A. F.S.A.) and the members of the Birmingham Archaeological Society, and entertained to tea which was served in the fine hall.

After tea the building was described and shown by Mr. Benjamin Walker.

The hall is now the property of the city of Birmingham, having been acquired by the Corporation in 1864.

Aston was originally part of the vast possessions of William Fitz-Ansculf, given to him by William the Conqueror; after passing through the hands of various intermediate holders it came at length into those of John at-Holte of Birmingham from Maud de Grimsarwe in 1367, and remained for the rest of its older historic period in the ownership of the Holte family. The present hall was, according to the tablet over the entrance doorway, begun in 1618 by Sir Thomas Holte, Bart. and he came into residence here in 1631, although the buildings were not then complete, nor were they for some three or four years later. Dugdale said it was 'a noble fabrick, which for beauty and state much exceedeth any in these parts.' And this is still true, for it is a very notable and beautiful building of early Jacobean period. Within is a remarkably beautiful staircase with very ornate balustrades and newels, and many of the rooms are finely panelled with considerable decorative detail. The great gallery, 136 feet long and 18 feet wide and 16 feet high, is as fine as any in the kingdom, and its panel and pilaster work, its ceiling and chimney-piece are all of unusual beauty. The great drawing room is another fine apartment. It is 39 feet long by 23 feet wide, and proportionately lofty, with panelled walls and a fine stone chimney-piece. The lodges and curtain walls give considerable dignity to the front elevation of the hall, which is itself of fine proportion and of the characteristic detail of the period. In 1643 the hall was garrisoned on behalf of Charles I, and was besieged by the Roundhead party. Evidences of damage by cannon-shot may still be observed on the staircase.

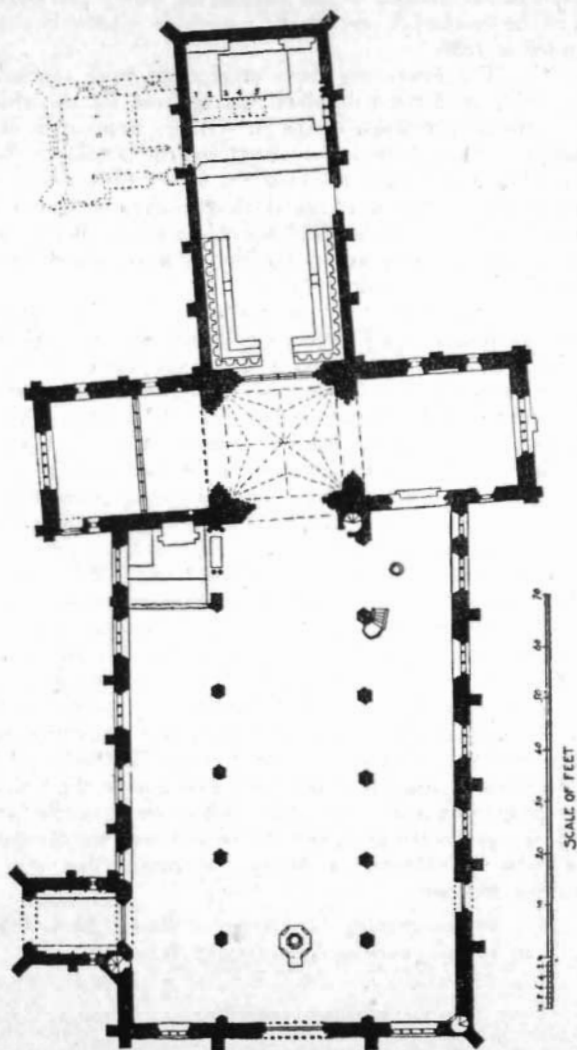
EVENING
MEETING. In the evening Mr. Aymer Vallance, M.A. F.S.A. gave an address, entitled 'Concerning Windows.'

Thursday, 22nd July.

This day was entirely devoted to Stratford-upon-Avon, the church being first visited.

STRATFORD
CHURCH. The Collegiate Church of Holy Trinity is a fine cruciform building exhibiting work of various architectural periods. The oldest portions, the central tower, the transepts and the north-aisle are of thirteenth-century date, though much altered in the time of Henry VII. Work of the fourteenth century is shown by

the clerestory windows and the south aisle; and that of the fifteenth century by the chancel built between 1483-91. The stone spire now existing replaces a wooden one which was taken down in 1763. The



STRATFORD-UPON-AVON CHURCH.

From a Plan in *Stratford-on-Avon* by H. Baker, by permission of Messrs. G. Bell & Sons.

Shakespeare monument is on the north wall of the chancel. It exhibits a bust of the poet, under an arch, with the usual enrichments of the period. The bust is attributed to one Gerard Johnson of Southwark, and was erected

at some date prior to 1623. The colouring was renewed in 1861. Below is the grave-stone bearing the well-known lines beginning :

' Good friend for Jesus Sake forbear.'

Near to the left is the tomb-slab of Anne Shakespeare, who died in 1623. There are a number of other monuments in the church of varying interest, including many to the Clopton family, one, without an inscription, which was probably intended for Sir Hugh, who had a house in Stratford, and was Lord Mayor of London in 1492.

In order not to overcrowd the various places to be visited, the members were divided into four sections on leaving the church. Each section had special coloured tickets and were conducted by leaders who wore buttonhole ribbons of the same colour as the tickets. Each section had its own itinerary printed on its tickets.

The places visited are described below :—

SHAKE-SPEARE'S BIRTHPLACE. The baptism of William Shakespeare at Holy Trinity and the date of his birth, 23rd April, 1564 (St. George's Day), are beyond all reasonable doubt. At that time his father, John, was living in Henley Street in the western of two houses which he bought for £40 ten years later—'two messuages, two gardens and two orchards and their appurtenances.' He used the second house as a wool shop. At his death the properties came to his son William. The houses have both undergone many minor alterations, but the main timberings remain almost as they were in the sixteenth century. Tradition says that the poet was born in the room over the centre of the front portion. The property has since passed through various hands, and now belongs to the Shakespeare Trustees. The dormer windows to the topmost floor are replacements; the pent-house doorway is also a restitution, and sundry other restorations have been made. The premises are now used as a museum and contain many interesting relics, documents, and books of and concerning the poet and his immediate connections.

NEW PLACE. New Place was the largest house in the town (except the college). This house was purchased by William Shakespeare in 1597. It was then 'in great ruyne and decay and unrepayred,' and perhaps he playfully named it New Place from the extent to which he found renewals were necessary. Here queen Henrietta, wife of Charles I, was received in June of 1643 by Shakespeare's daughter Susanna and his grand-daughter, and she held court in the house for three days. The house was pulled down in the middle of last century by the Rev. Francis Gastrell, but it was then only a rebuilding since the days of Shakespeare. The poet spent the last days of his life in this house after his retirement from London affairs. The present building near at hand is used as a museum, and contains some interesting relics, including the interesting 'finds' of the recent excavations in the Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Bidford. 'Shakespeare's garden,' the ground about the site of the house, has been carefully planted with the flowers and herbs mentioned in the plays, and is a most interesting spot; it has been in the hands of the Trustees since 1861.

THE GUILD CHAPEL. This building, the chapel of the guild of the Holy Cross, is an ecclesiastical structure of moderate interest. Its work in the main is of fifteenth-century date, being rebuilt *temp.* Henry VII at the charges of Sir Hugh Clopton.

THE GUILD HALL. This hall closely adjoins the chapel. An early structure was built by Robert de Stratford in 1296, and here the members of the guild met. Here, possibly, Shakespeare, at the age of five, saw a first dramatic performance, when his father entertained the earl of Worcester's players.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL. The school is above the Guild Hall, and was originally endowed by a priest of the name of Jollyfe in 1482. Here Shakespeare had his schooling and learned 'little Latin and less Greek.' The building of the Guild Hall and school is of half-timbered work, and contains several rooms of interest.

TOWN HALL. This building replaced in 1767 another of earlier date. Architecturally, it has very little interest. The bust in the niche on the north front was presented by Garrick and, also presented by him, there is a portrait of Shakespeare by Wilson and another of Garrick by Gainsborough. There is also a Romney of the third duke of Worcester, and a Hogarth of 'A Family Tea-party.'

HARVARD HOUSE. This house is named after John Harvard (1607), the founder of the celebrated American college, and is a fine carved half-timbered building fronting to High Street. It was built in 1596 by one Thomas Rogers. The interior is also of considerable interest.

MEMORIAL THEATRE. All that is now to be seen of this building is the ruin after the disastrous fire in March of this year. A subscription list for the building of a new theatre has been promoted by the Governors, but has not met with as generous a response as the national interest of the proposal demands; it is, however, yet hoped that further assistance will be forthcoming and means provided to erect a new and fitly equipped building in which to continue the work so usefully carried on hitherto.

The Gallery contains a very fine collection of rare and valuable pictures which have recently been re-arranged by Sir Whitworth Wallis, F.S.A. director of the Birmingham art galleries and museum.

CLOPTON BRIDGE. The road to London leads out of the town across a narrow bridge of fourteen arches, built in the reign of Henry VII by Sir Hugh Clopton (*ob.* 1496) and since widened. This bridge has been called a 'great long sumptuous bridge' by one writer not long after its erection, but the praise of it was probably prompted by the munificence of the gift, for Sir Hugh bore the whole cost of it himself.

The party lunched at the River Restaurant and were hospitably entertained to tea by the Governors of the Memorial Theatre.

EVENING MEETING. In the evening, Mr. John Humphreys, M.A. F.S.A. (President of the Birmingham Archaeological Society), read a paper on 'The Gunpowder Plot and its Local Connections.'

Friday, 23rd July.

Motors conveyed the members to Coughton Court which was visited by the kind permission of Mrs. Throckmorton. Mr. John Humphreys, M.A. F.S.A. described this house and also Huddington church and court.

COUGHTON COURT. This property has been in the hands of the Throckmortons since the days of Henry V, when Sir John Throckmorton, Under-Treasurer of England, married Eleanor de Spine, heiress of Coughton. The present building was erected *temp.* Henry VII and was originally moated. About the year 1780 the east front of the quadrangle was taken down, the isolated gateway joined up to the side wings and the moat filled in. The hall on the first floor, though much restored, has some fine panelled work and an open roof of considerable interest. This house is specially associated with the Gunpowder conspirators. It was rented at the time by Sir Everard Digby, and was a rendezvous. Here, on the night of the 5th of November, 1605, lady Digby, and father Gerrard and others, waited news of the plot, brought them by Thomas Bates, who arrived with a post-haste warning about midnight, telling that 'all was lost.'

The church adjoining is chiefly of fifteenth-century work, and its chief interests are in the late fifteenth-century glass and the Throckmorton monuments.

Huddington was the next place reached and here the church was inspected by permission of the vicar and the court by the kind consent of Mr. Gilbert Slater.

HUDDINGTON CHURCH. The church of St. James (formerly St. Michael's) is quite small. It has a nave with a timbered north porch, a chancel and south chapel, and embodies work of all periods from the twelfth century onward. The screen is worked up as pews in the chancel. In some of the windows the bearings of the Hodington, Wyntour, and other families, including Cokesey (a table in a cock-boat) may be seen; there are also several monuments of the Wyntour family and a fine church chest.

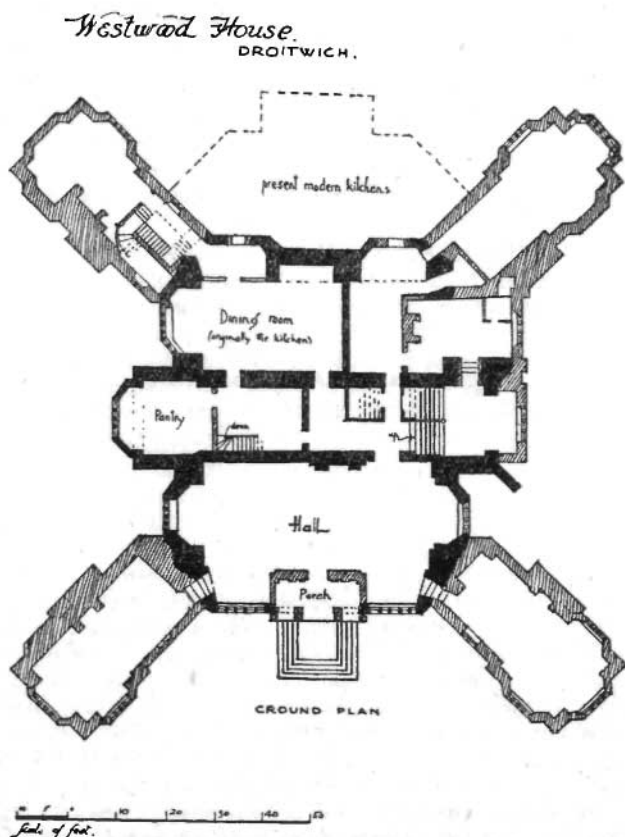
HUDDINGTON COURT. The court is a moated half-timbered building of T-shaped plan. It was the home of the Hodingtons and afterwards, from the middle of the fifteenth century, of the Wyntours. The older part of the house belongs to the time of the settlement of the latter family. There is a fine fifteenth-century brick chimney stack with twisted flues; the porch and other parts of the building are of late sixteenth-century date. About forty years ago some panellings, the principal staircase, and a dated chimney-piece (1564) were removed, and the place considerably despoiled. This house was one of those where the conspirators of the Gunpowder Plot foregathered, and discussed the final arrangements. Thomas Wyntour was the owner at the time; he at first strongly deprecated the proposal, but afterwards agreed. He was not at the court on November 5th, 1605, but those gathered there included his brother, Robert, and Robert Catesby, his cousin, with Stephen Littleton and about forty others. Thomas arrived from London towards the evening of November 6th, and the whole party then fled, leaving about 6 o'clock in the morning of the next day and, after a long and harassing journey, were finally taken and brought to trial.

The party proceeded to Droitwich for lunch. The salt springs at this town have been worked from the very beginning of history, if not before. The Romans knew of them and had some sort of occupation there, and excavations now being carried out have revealed some interesting relics. From the town various ancient salt-ways proceeded, and some are even yet

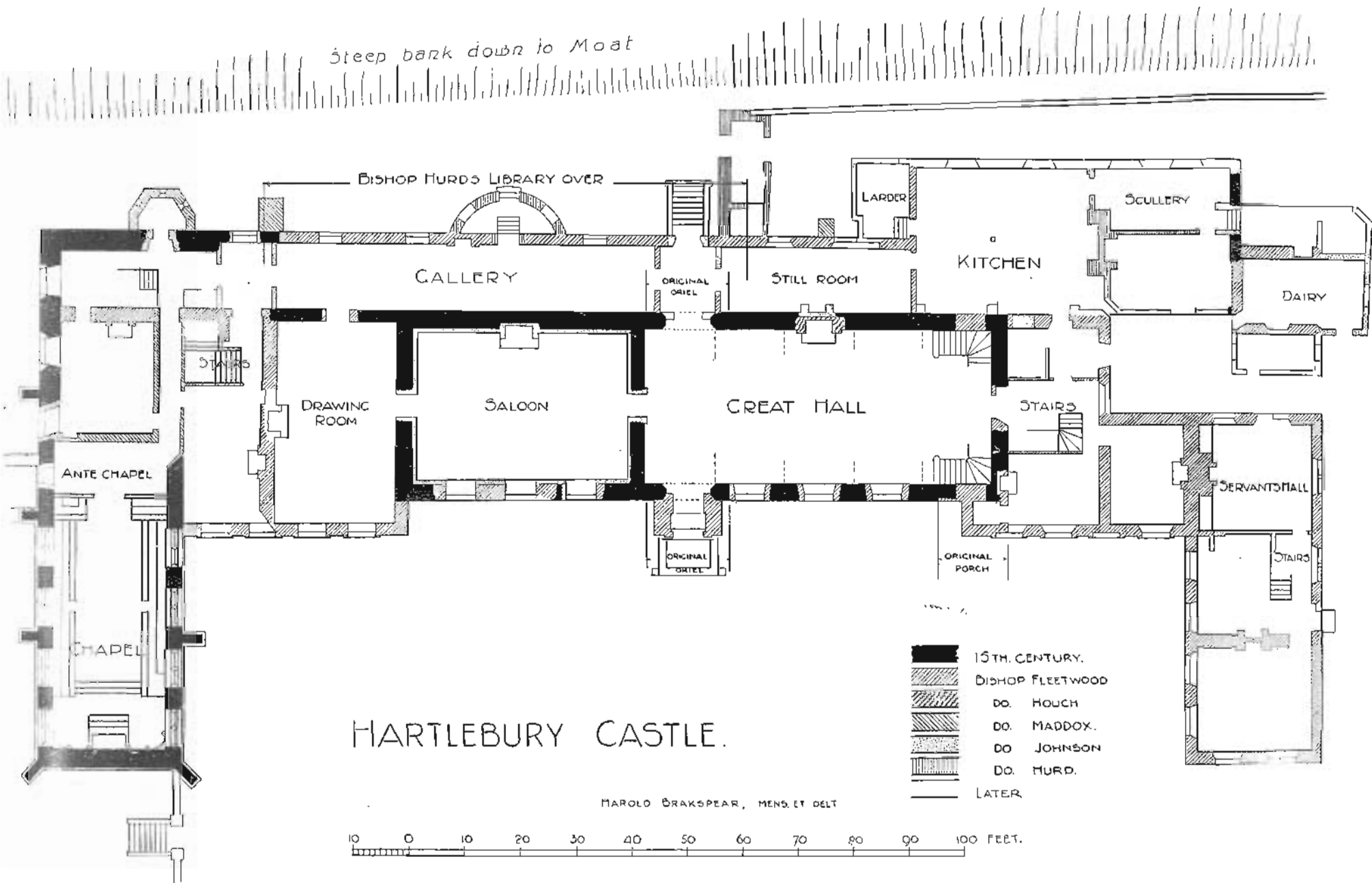
recorded on the Ordnance Survey. By reason of these mineral possessions Droitwich has long been celebrated and enjoyed hitherto considerable prosperity, but in more recent times wells and pumping installations have been inaugurated elsewhere, and this industry in the town has considerably declined.

There are three old churches in the town but time was not available to inspect them.

After lunch the members journeyed to Westwood house, where they were received by Lord Doverdale.



WESTWOOD HOUSE. This house stands in a large park, Habington called it 'a vast and solitary wood,' but it now encloses only 200 of the original 750 acres. The house is laid out on one of those extraordinary symmetrical plans, with equally balanced parts to its elevations, which were so much esteemed in the Elizabethan period, and in this case it



is the more emphasised by the four extended wings which were added not long after the original building, which was erected early in the seventeenth century, was completed. Westwood, however, has a much earlier, though very obscure, history. It was originally in ecclesiastical hands as far back as the second Henry, when it was granted a charter and was a nunnery of the order of Fontevault, and it remained in the hands of the religious until the Dissolution, when it was surrendered. Not a vestige of the conventual buildings remains, nor have any evidence of their extent been discovered. The present mansion was built by the wealthy Sir John Pakington, to whose grand-uncle the property of the convent had been granted in 30 Henry VIII, whose particular and privileged favourite he appears to have been. Sir John was the 'Lusty Pakington' of queen Elizabeth's court, and her great favourite. The house is of many stories, and is approached by a forecourt and gateway of unusual design, with curtain walls and summer-houses at the wall-angles. The entrance is on the south front; it is doubtful if the Italian frontispiece with which it is now enriched be of the original building or a later addition. The staircase and the saloon on the first floor are the most interesting apartments; the latter is particularly florid in its treatment. There are some rare and excellent pieces of furniture in the house.

Hartlebury castle was the next place on the day's itinerary. It was visited by permission of the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Worcester, and Mr. Harold Brakspear, F.S.A. described it.

The manor was given to the bishopric of Worcester at least as early as A.D. 850. The original manor house was HARTLEBURY CASTLE.

begun to be fortified by bishop Cantilupe c. 1265, and finished by his successor in 1268. 'The whole place was well builded by the acts of diverse bishops,' said Leland. It was almost entirely destroyed in the seventeenth century. The present structure is mainly the work of bishop Fleetwood about 1675; the library was added about a hundred years after by bishop Hurd. The house contains many valuable books and a long series of most interesting portraits of the various diocesans.

Tea was taken at Bromsgrove, and the opportunity was seized of inspecting the church and its interesting monuments.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. The annual general meeting was held in the evening, Sir William Boyd-Dawkins, President, being in the Chair. The Secretary read the report of the Council for the year 1925, it being agreed to take the accounts as read. The report and accounts were then presented by the Chairman. He moved their adoption and this was passed unanimously.

In the course of his speech the Chairman referred to the fact that advancing years had compelled him to resign his position as president, and he put forward the name of the successor nominated *ad interim* by the Council, viz. Sir Charles Oman. Sir Charles Oman was then elected unanimously.

Dr. W. M. Tapp moved a vote of thanks to Sir William Boyd-Dawkins for all he had done for the Institute during his presidency, and expressed regret, shared by all, that he felt it necessary to retire.

Mr. F. B. Andrews then showed his unique collection of lantern slides of 'Mediaeval Barns,' and commented thereon.

Saturday, 24th July.

The town of Coventry occupied the members the whole of the day. This town is of particular interest to archaeologists. It is of ancient origin, and at first centred around the great Benedictine monastery, which was founded here by Leofric, earl of Mercia, and Godiva, his wife, in 1043. The convent included twenty-four monks and Leofwine was its first abbot. It was a wealthy foundation, and enjoyed many and valuable benefactions. Under pope Pascal II the bishopric of Lichfield was transferred to Coventry, and in after years this translation was a fruitful source of dispute between the monks of Coventry and the canons of Lichfield, nor did they come to an end until the destruction of the abbey, at the Dissolution. Traces of the cathedral may be noted; the lower part of the west front was uncovered in the re-building of the Girls' Blue Coat school. The Franciscans (1230), the Carthusians (1381) had houses in or near the town, also the Carmelites, and though the major part of these convents were destroyed shortly after their surrender in 1538, some portions are embodied in later structures.

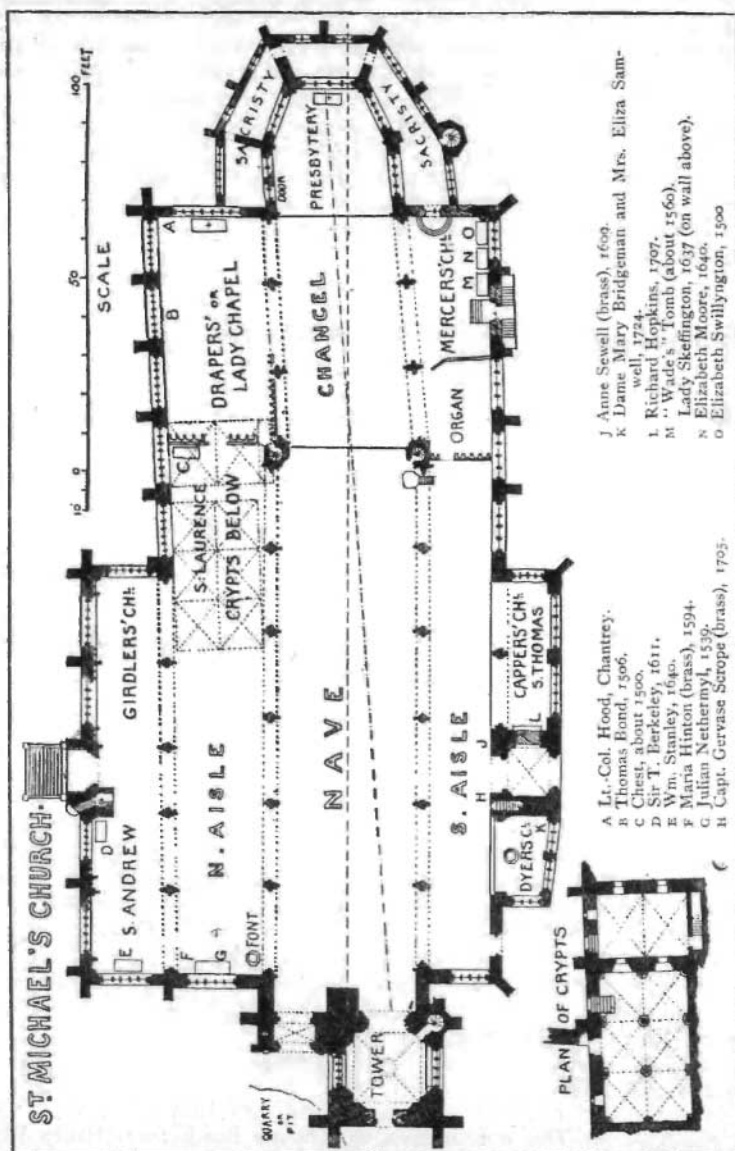
The various places of interest were visited in the following order as shown below :—

St. MICHAEL'S CHURCH. This is now the cathedral, and is a particularly fine example of a fifteenth-century parish church. The tower and spire were finished in 1398. The church is 293 feet long from east to west, and 127 feet wide across the transepts, and the spire rises to a height of 303 feet. It consists of a nave of seven bays and aisles (1434), a chancel of six bays with a pentagonal apsidal end. There are numerous chapels founded by the trade guilds, the Dyers, the Cappers, the Mercers on the south, and the Smiths, the Girdlers, and the Drapers on the north, the last being enclosed with screen-work and containing thirteen misericorde stalls. The south porch with its groined roof and priest's chamber over and the crypt to the west of the Drapers' chapel are the oldest portions of the church. The best of the fragmentary, ancient glass has been gathered together in the two outer windows of the apse, and the members listened with interest to the remarks on it of Mr. G. McN. Rushforth, M.A., F.S.A. Mr. Aymer Vallance, M.A., F.S.A., described an interesting chest at the west end of the church.

Mr. Harold Brakspear, F.S.A., then described St. Mary's Hall.

ST. MARY'S HALL. This building is now the property of the Corporation, and is used for municipal purposes. In the main it was erected about 1360. It was a place of meeting for the trading guilds. The hall, which is 76 feet long, 30 feet wide, and 34 feet high, was built in the early years of the fifteenth century, and contains a minstrels' gallery. The great north window is filled with late fifteenth-century glass representing the nine kings, considerably restored. Below this window is the noted Coventry tapestry which commemorates the visit of Henry VI; and on the other walls are portraits of various kings of England by notable artists. Of the domestic apartments the kitchen is the principal example.

Holy Trinity church was next inspected.



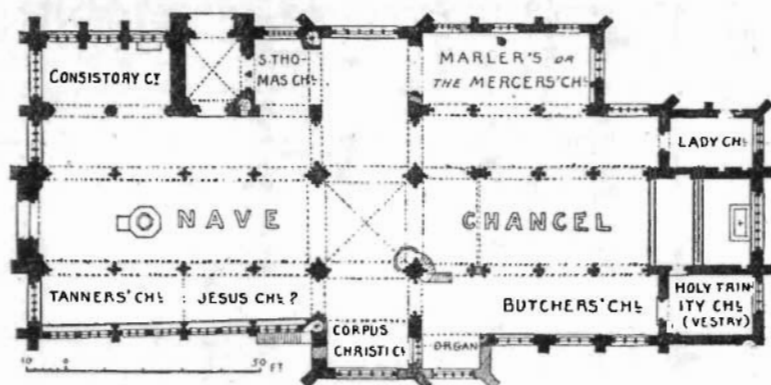
ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, COVENTRY.

From a plan in *The Churches of Coventry*, by F. W. Woodhouse, by permission of Messrs. G. Bell & Sons.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH.

This is a cruciform church. It is a fine structure, 186 feet long, 105 feet wide, and its spire rises to a height of 237 feet. Here the oldest work is in the north porch, and for the rest the whole building is almost exclusively of fifteenth-century date. It also originally contained many trade guild chapels—the Butchers', the Tanners', and others. Eastward of the porch is St. Thomas' chapel, with some remains of a crypt. The Lady Chapel is now used as a vestry. The pulpit is an interesting example of fifteenth-century work, and the font, the alms-box and the lectern are also worthy of notice.

The party then proceeded to Ford's Hospital, which was described by Miss Dormer Harris.



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, COVENTRY.

Reproduced by permission of Messrs. G. Bell & Sons.

FORD'S HOSPITAL.

This hospital building was founded in 1529 by William Ford, a wealthy merchant of the staple, and is one of the four hospitals remaining of the mediaeval town. It is also called the Grey Friars hospital, but though that Order had an establishment in the town, this building never had any connexion with them. Here provision was made for five men and one woman, and it is now devoted to the use of women only. The building is a fine example of timbered construction, having three gables towards the street and enriched with carved barge-boards and other ornamentation.

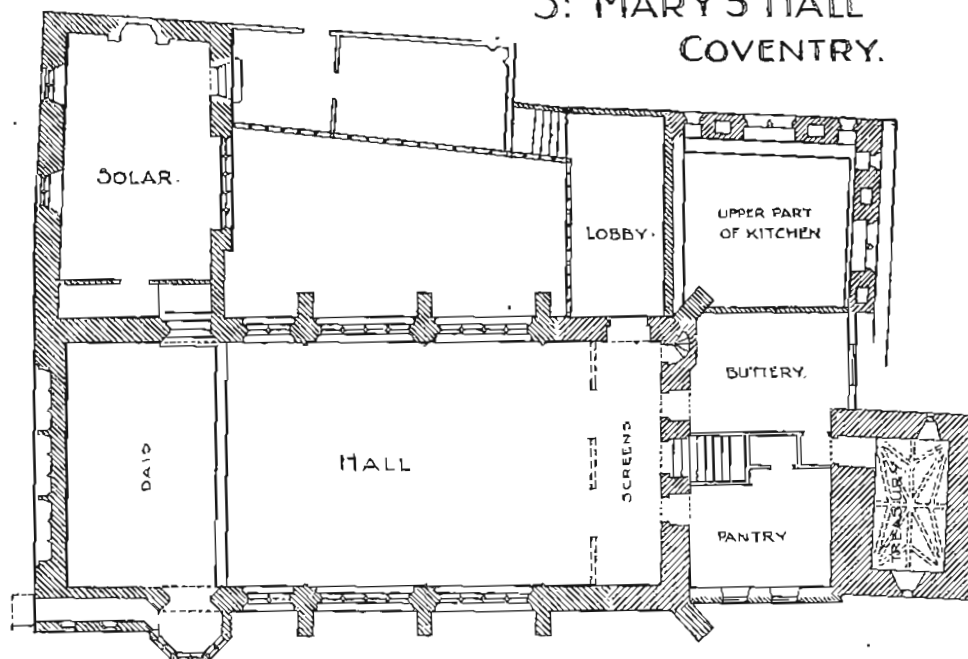
Bablake hospital and church, both described by Miss Dormer Harris, were soon reached.

BABLAKE HOSPITAL & CHURCH.



This was founded by Thomas Bond, *temp.* Henry VII, who was a draper of the town and its mayor in 1506, for ten poor men and a woman attendant. The buildings are very picturesque; they are of timbered construction of sixteenth-century period, and form one of the finest examples now to be seen in the town. It has been enlarged in recent years. Near at hand is Bablake school, containing a fine hall with a timbered roof.

To face page 300.

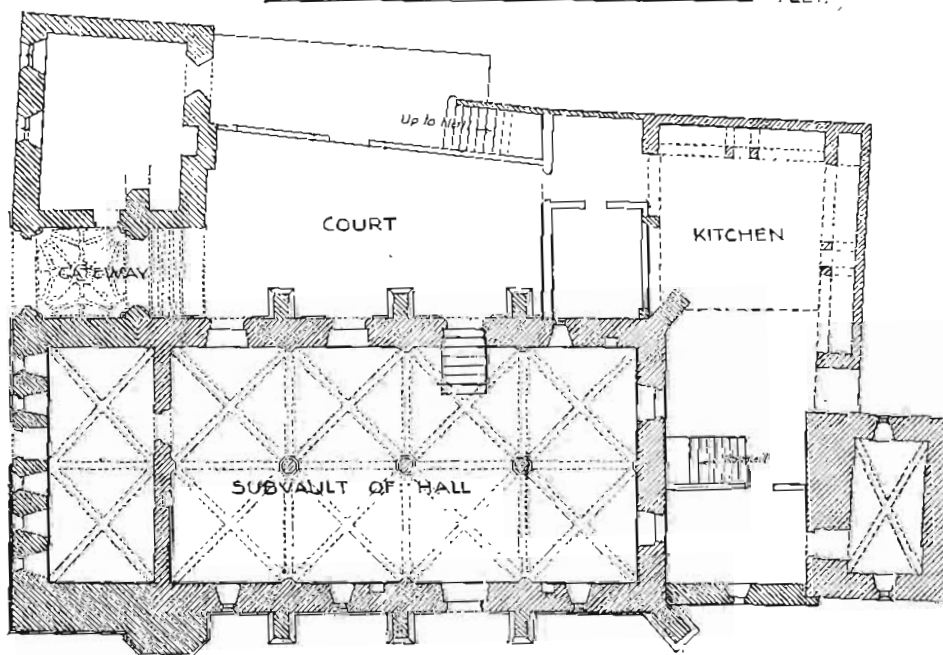
ST. MARY'S HALL COVENTRY.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

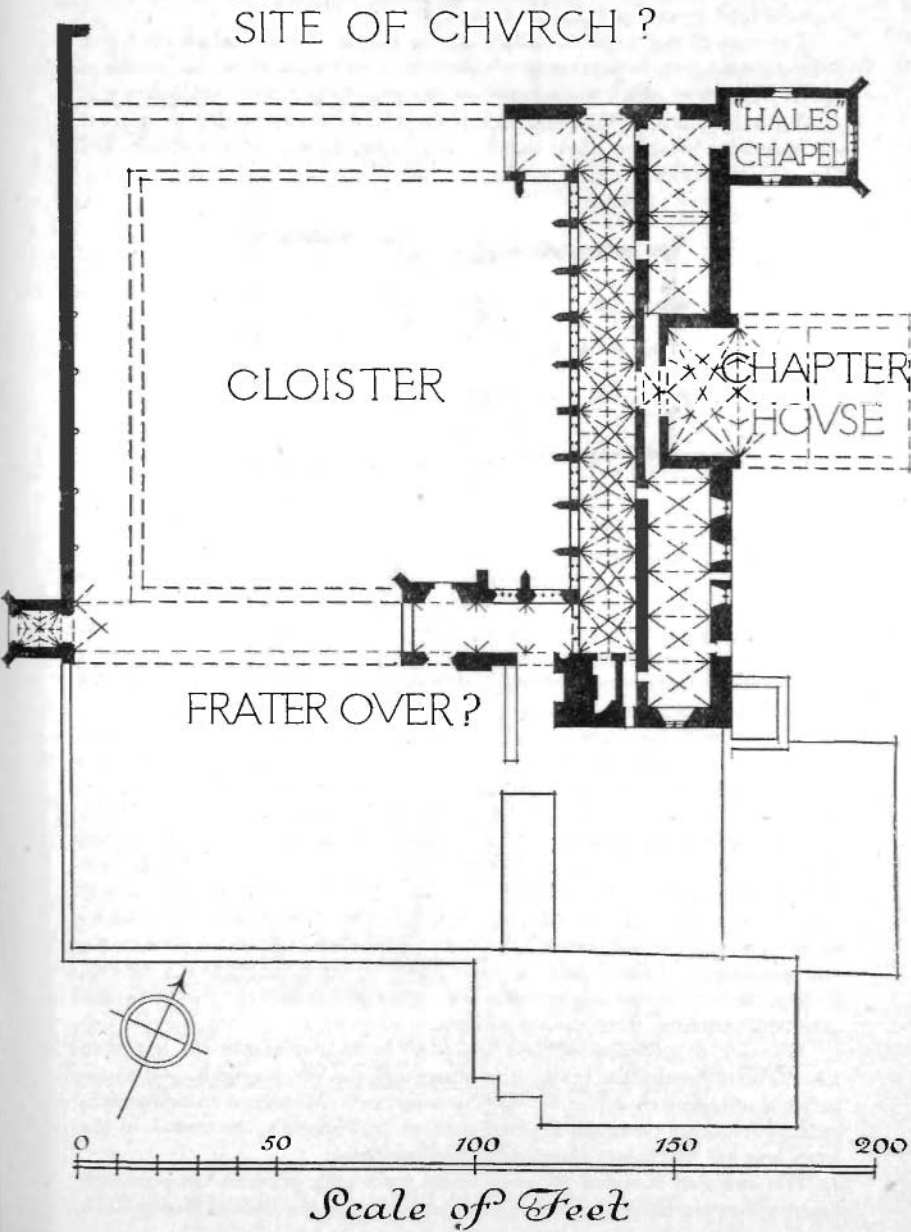
 c. 1340
 c. 1410.

10 0 10 20 30 40 50 FEET.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN.

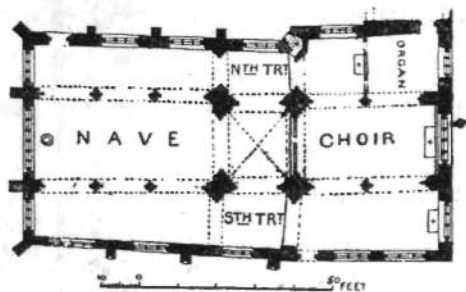
The WHITE FRIARS ~ COVENTRY
from a Plan by W. Reader 1800



The Collegiate church of St. John the Baptist, usually known as Bablake church, is a fifteenth-century building, with a central lantern tower. It was founded originally by one of the trade guilds as a chantry church in 1343. The college included a warder, eight priests, two singing clerks, and a school master, and was dissolved in 1548.

The tour of the town concluded with a visit to the Carmelites or White Friars, a considerable portion of which is now incorporated in the buildings of the workhouse which was erected on the site of the friary some years ago.

A short walk took the members to the Charterhouse where, in spite of the inclement weather, they much enjoyed tea as guests of Colonel and Mrs. W. F. Wyley.



ST. JOHN BAPTIST, COVENTRY.

Reproduced by permission of Messrs. G. Bell & Sons.

Monday, 26th July.

The many interesting buildings of Warwick absorbed the energies of the members for the whole of the day.

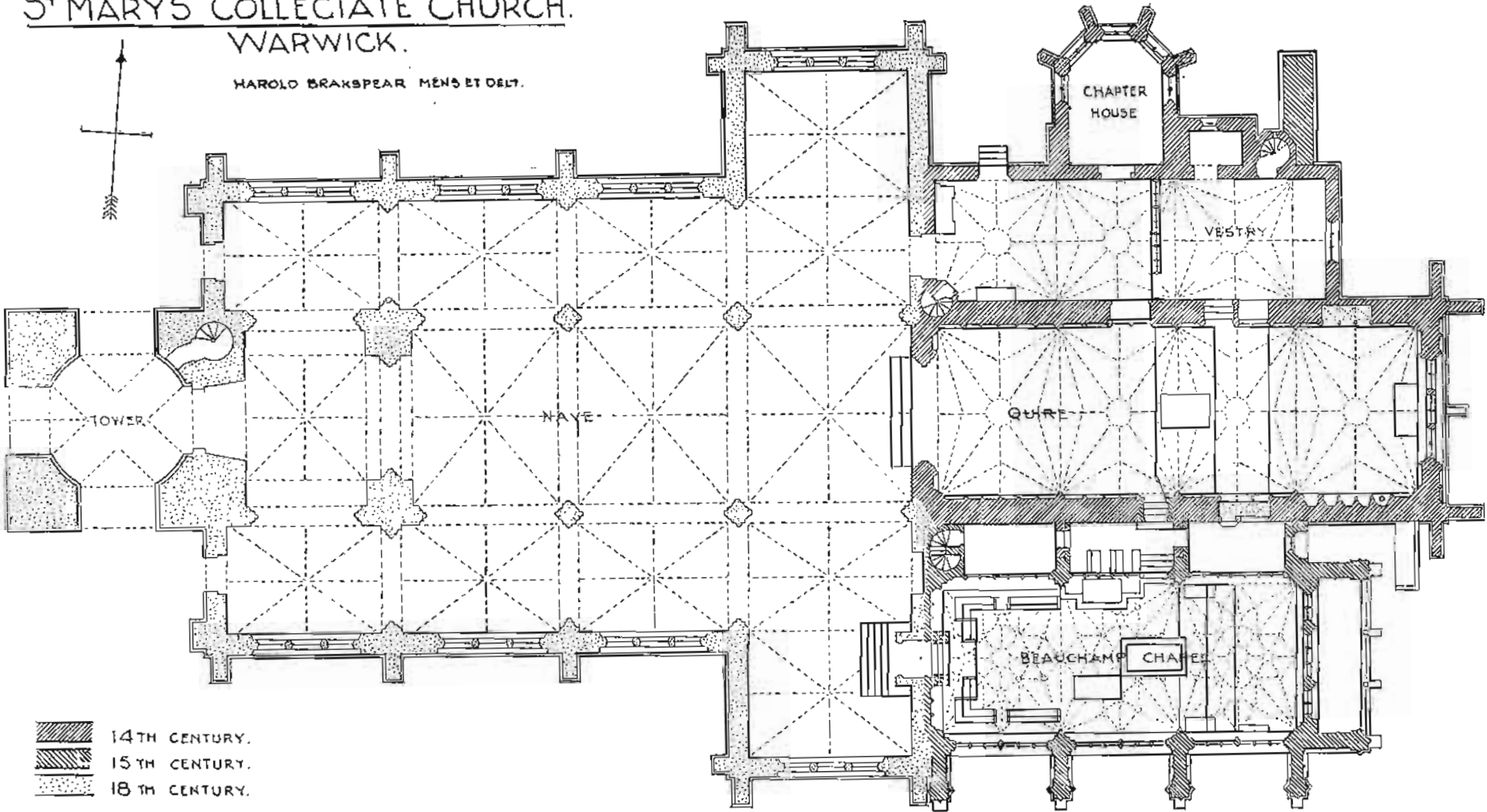
This ancient town is one of the most interesting in the Midlands. It is difficult to disentangle its early history from the many legends which have been handed down. It was here that one of the first Saxon burhs was constructed in the campaign of Edward the Elder and his sister Ethelfleda, the Lady of the Mercians, against the Danes. At the time of the Conquest it became a place of great importance, and within two years a castle was built and from that time onward the history of the town has been largely that of the castle and the collegiate church. The date of the first building of the town walls is not known. In later years these fortifications were strong and extensive. Leland said it was 'right strongly ditched and walled, having the compass of a good mile within the wall,' and the east and west gate, still standing, were also noted then.

Warwick is recorded to have included in its boundaries no less than ten churches besides the priory, the friary, and the two hospitals. Of these, only the collegiate church of St. Mary remains, as St. Nicholas is an eighteenth-century structure on an old site and parts of St. Michael's, the church of the leper hospital, are incorporated in a dwelling-house.

Warwick had a mayor for very many years long prior to the sixteenth century, but the borough was not incorporated until the time of Henry VIII.

ST MARY'S COLLECIATE CHURCH.
WARWICK.

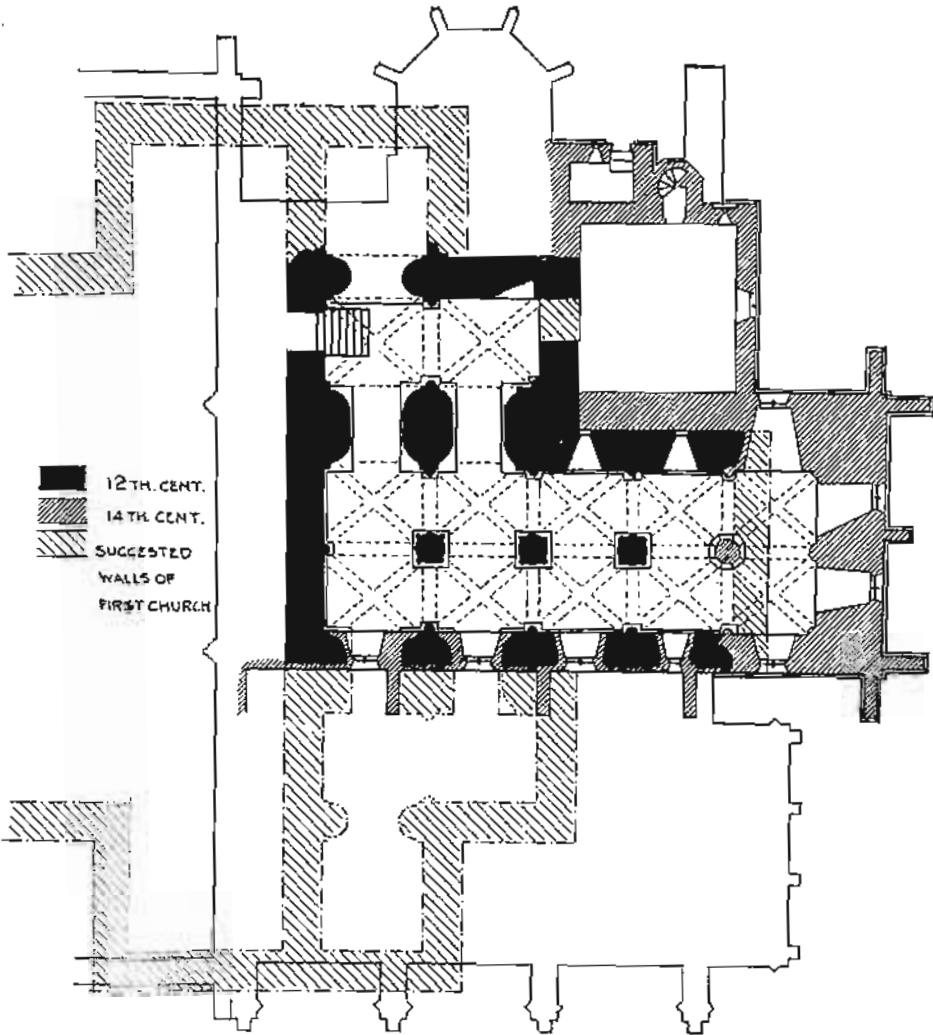
HAROLD BRAKSPEAR MENS ET DELT.



14TH CENTURY.
15TH CENTURY.
18TH CENTURY.

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 FEET.

PLAN OF CRYPT.



12TH CENT.
14TH CENT.
SUGGESTED
WALLS OF
FIRST CHURCH

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 FEET.

Of the defences of the town of Warwick only fragments of the walls remain, but there are two gates in a very considerable state of preservation, namely, the east gate at the end of Jury Street, with a chapel built above it which is quite devoid of archaeological interest, and the west gate, at the end of High Street, hard by Leicester's hospital (the chapel of which institution is actually built over it), which is the most interesting relic of the fortifications. The gateway has a series of very fine arches throughout its length.

The members on their way from the railway station to the town stopped for a short time to inspect the mansion known as St. John's.

ST. JOHN'S. This fine stone building, with its mullioned oriels and windows and ornamental gables, was built, *temp.* James I, on the site of a hospital of St. John the Baptist, which was founded *temp.* Henry II by Henry, earl of Warwick, for the purpose of relieving poor wayfarers and of housing the poor and aged of the district. It had a master and at least two chaplains. The hospital was suppressed in the reign of Henry VIII and given to Anthony Stoughton. In the demolition £16 was obtained for the lead from the roof of the chapel.

On leaving St. John's the party soon passed the east gate and reached St. Mary's church, which was described by Mr. Philip B. Chatwin, F.S.A.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH. The collegiate church of St. Mary was re-founded by Roger de Newburgh, earl of Warwick, probably in the year, 1123, combining the two smaller establishments of All Saints, within the castle, and that of St. Mary which was probably on the present site. The remains of the crypt is work of that date. The choir and sacristy above the crypt were rebuilt at the end of the fourteenth century. The work was begun by Thomas Beauchamp (I), earl of Warwick, who died in 1369, and completed by his two sons, Thomas (II), earl of Warwick, and William who also rebuilt the body of the church. The most noticeable feature in the choir is the vaulting which is remarkable for its slender flying-ribs. On the north side is an Easter sepulchre, and opposite a four-stall sedilia. In the thickness of the south wall is a small private 'pew,' now approached from the Beauchamp chapel, but at one time from some other building, possibly the deanery. This is strongly barred off from the choir. The west end of the church was destroyed in 1694, when a large part of the town was devastated by fire. It was rebuilt to a great extent on the old foundations, though the transepts were extended and the tower moved further westward.

In the north of the sacristy and 'lobby' is the chapter-house, a small building with a semi-octagonal end, having nine seats under the windows. In one of these, on the eastern side, is a blocked opening, which, had it been in a chancel of a church, would be called a low-side window. The chapter-house is spoilt by the Greville monument which is far too large for such a small space. Its inscription reads:

FVLKE GREVILL, SERVANT TO QUEENE ELIZABETH,
CONCELLER TO KING JAMES, AND FREND TO SIR
PHILIP SIDNEY. TROPHÆVM PECCATI.

In the choir is the alabaster monument to Thomas Beauchamp (I) and his wife, Catherine (Mortimer). It was somewhat seriously damaged in the fire, and, in the restoration, the tomb-chest was reconstructed with an extra niche and figure on each of its four sides. These figures no doubt

represent various relatives whose identity was made clear by the shields beneath them, but all signs of whatever painting there was has now gone. On the wall of the south transept are the brasses of Thomas Beauchamp (II) (*ob.* 1401), and his wife, Elizabeth (Ferrers), all that remains of the monument which was destroyed in the fire. Several other monuments were also destroyed, the brasses from that of Thomas Oken (*ob.* 1573), a great benefactor of Warwick, alone remain.

The Lady chapel, better known as the Beauchamp chapel, was built by the executors of Richard Beauchamp, son of Thomas Beauchamp (II). He left instructions for the building of the chapel and its furnishing, and for the provision of the central monument. The executors carried out their work with unsparing freedom—the details of much of the work with the names of the contractors, and the prices paid, are preserved in Dugdale's Warwickshire, and elsewhere. In every case, apparently, the finest craftsmen obtainable were employed on the work, and though somewhat mutilated, it is still one of the most beautiful buildings of the fifteenth century. The work recently carried out of removing the early nineteenth-century paint from the vaulting has much enhanced the beauty, and the west wall now displays the 'Doom' picture, painted in 1678, over the medieval one which was then decayed. Of the many craftsmen employed on the central monument, William Austen, of London, who cast the bronze effigy, and 'Bartholomew Lambspring, Dutchman and goldsmith of London,' who finished and gilded it deserve special mention. These two also were largely responsible for the small bronze figures of 'weepers' and the angels on the tomb-chest. Of the other monuments, that of Robert Dudley, the earl of Leicester, queen Elizabeth's favourite, is on the north wall, and that of his son who died in infancy is against the south wall but nearer the east end. To the south-west of the central monument is the tomb of Ambrose Dudley, earl of Warwick, elder brother of Robert.

The ancient glass in the chapel was described by Mr. G. McN. Rushforth, M.A. F.S.A.. The chapel was built as near to the choir as its buttresses would allow, and the spaces were made into separate small chapels, the easternmost being provided with some delicate fan-vaulting. There are indications that a building contemporary with the choir stood here, and was altered to its present form when the Beauchamp chapel was built.

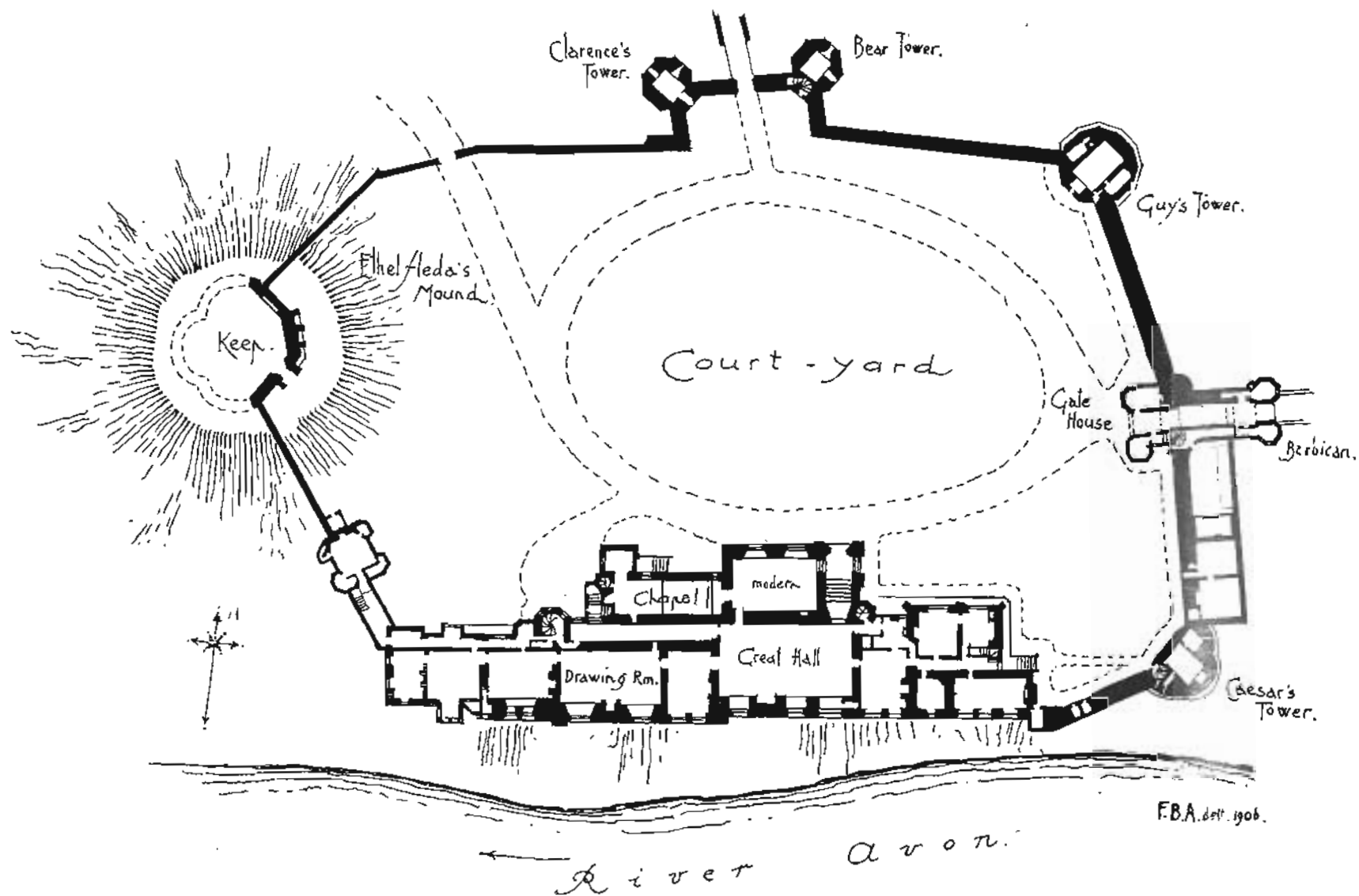
Lord Leycester's hospital was next visited and the members were welcomed by the Master, the Rev. F. G. J. Page, who conducted them round the building.

LORD LEYCESTER'S HOSPITAL. The buildings are placed round a court, and were originally intended for the use of the brethren of St. George's guild. They were probably enlarged *c.* 1400, when the guild of the Holy Trinity was united with that of St. George in the use of the place. The guild hall was at the south-east corner, on the upper floor, and approached by a picturesque external staircase. After the guild was dissolved its hall became the Burgess' hall, but now it is, unfortunately, divided up to form bedrooms for the present brethren. The entrance to the courtyard is by an archway on the south side; opposite is the master's house, and on the left the dining hall. The latter was once a very fine room, and though it has now become derelict, the remains of its very beautiful open-timbered roof can be seen, but the floor area has been cut up with

To face page 304.

WARWICK CASTLE.

0 50 100 1200 feet.



partitions to form various offices of modern purposes. In this hall James I was entertained by Fulke Greville in 1617. At the south-west angle of the courtyard is the chapel of the hospital, once the guild chapel. It has been much restored both externally and internally, but the tower retains its fifteenth-century work in some completeness. The chapel stands over the west gate of the town, which itself is of thirteenth-century work.

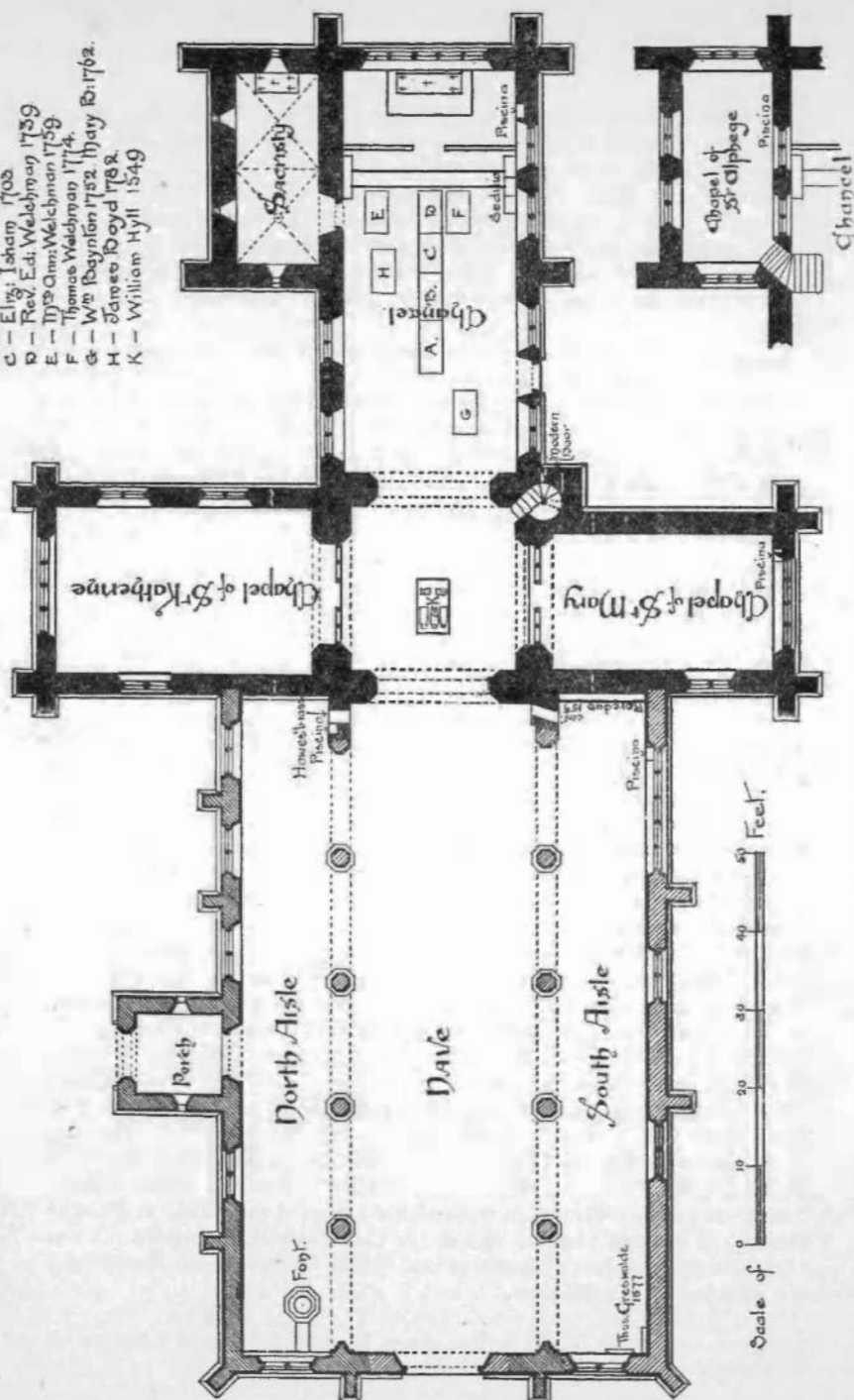
After luncheon the whole of the afternoon was devoted to an inspection of the castle under the guidance of Mr. Philip B. Chatwin, F.S.A.

THE CASTLE. This castle is probably one of the best preserved and completest examples of military architecture in the kingdom. The entrance is at the bottom of Castle Hill, through an embattled gateway which, however, only dates from 1800. Beyond the gateway is a deep-cut road, about 100 yards long, which leads into the outer court. The outer wall of the castle, with a fourteenth-century gateway, is here seen. On the left is Cæsar's tower, 147 feet high, and on the right Guy's tower, a massive twelve-sided structure 128 feet in height. Its walls are no less than 10 feet thick, and each of its five stories have groined ceilings. Opposite the gatehouse is the Mount. This is the earliest evidence of defence work in Warwick. In all probability it is the motte of the castle thrown up by William the Conqueror in his march to the north in 1085. The residential part of the castle embodies work of the fourteenth century, probably built by Thomas Beauchamp (I) when he erected Cæsar's tower. The great hall was mainly of this date, but as far as the inside is concerned is a reconstruction after the serious fire of 1871. Probably the wall round the courtyard was also built by Thomas Beauchamp (I) but the whole of the defences, including the building of Guy's tower, were not completed till the time of the second Thomas Beauchamp. The duke of Clarence, after he obtained possession of the castle through his wife, the daughter of Richard Neville, 'Warwick the King-maker,' began an addition to the north wall of the court, but his attainer for high treason and death intercepted the proposals. King Richard III, Warwick's other son-in-law, continued the work, but he did not live to finish it. The domestic buildings occupy the whole length of the southern side of the court-yard, and they form a very fine pile of buildings when viewed from the river side. There are very many rare and beautiful pictures and articles of *vertu* in the various rooms of the castle, including the celebrated 'Warwick Vase' which was found in a lake at Hadrian's Villa near Tivoli by Sir William Hamilton, and bought from him by the second earl of Warwick. This vase is of white marble, is 5 feet 6 inches high, and has a capacity of 163 gallons.

In the reign of James I the castle was in a very ruinous condition, and on its being granted to Sir Fulke Greville, he expended great monies making it 'the most princely seat within these midland parts of the realm,' as Dugdale records. The castle played a part in the Commonwealth struggles. It was then held by an ardent parliamentarian, Robert Greville, Lord Brooke, and was attacked by the Royalists.

EVENING MEETING. Mr. F. T. S. Houghton, M.A. F.S.A., gave a lecture on 'Astley (Warwickshire) Stall Paintings.'

- A — Rev Robert Ladbrooke 1655
 B — Zac: Isham 1705
 C — Eliza: Isham 1705
 D — Rev. Ed. Welchman 1739
 E — Mrs Ann: Welchman 1759
 F — Thomas Welchman 1774
 G — Wm Baynton 1752 Mary Barlow
 H — James Boyd 1782
 K — William Hyll 1549

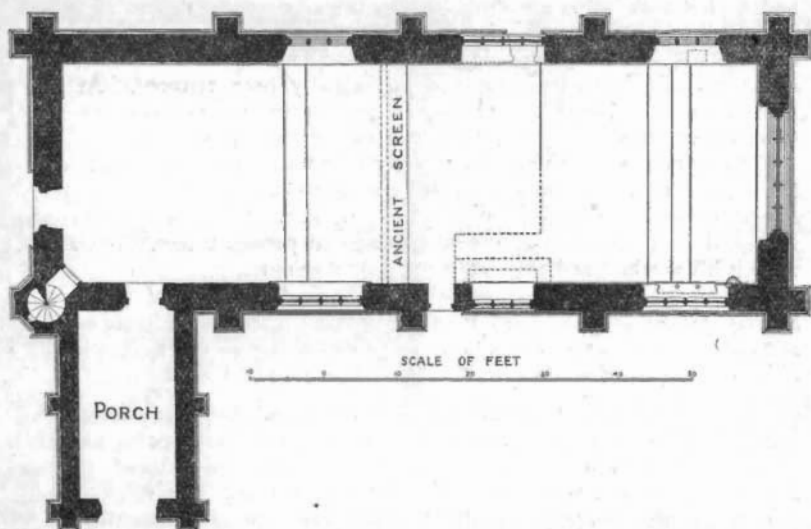


Tuesday, 27th July.

Motors conveyed the party to Solihull church, which was described by Mr. Harold Brakspear, F.S.A.

SOLIHULL CHURCH. This fine church consists of nave and aisles, a central tower and spire, north and south transepts and a chancel. The chancel was built at the end of the thirteenth century, and contains a beautiful east window and finely cusped side windows; the nave arcades are unusually lofty. The church has several piscinas, brasses and remains of screens.

A very short run brought the members to Temple Balsall and Mr. Harold Brakspear, F.S.A., also described this church.



TEMPLE BALSALL CHURCH.

TEMPLE BALSALL CHURCH. The manor was acquired in 1118 by the Knights Templars, and a preceptory was established by them there. Various benefactions were later received, but in 1309 the Order was suppressed, and of the brethren arrested eight belonged to the house at Balsall. Some time after the suppression the properties came into the hands of the Knights Hospitallers. In 1385 its annual value was £127 2s. 6d., and it included in its household a preceptor, two brothers, two chaplains, a steward, a clerk, a chamberlain, and seven servants. In 1540 the Hospitallers were suppressed, and the manor was granted to queen Catherine Parr by Henry VIII. Later, by the gift of queen Elizabeth, it passed into the hands of the earl of Leicester. The church is built of red sandstone, and is a fine example (very much over-restored in 1849) of late thirteenth-century work. It is 104 feet long, 39 feet wide, and of the very lofty height of 57 feet. Internally, there are very beautiful sedilia and a piscina in the south wall. The traceried work of the windows, including

the large west wheel-window, is very fine. Of the preceptory buildings, no traces now remain; but to the west of the church is an ancient hall, possibly the refectory, 70 feet long and 30 feet wide, divided into three aisles with wooden posts. Unfortunately it is now cut up into rooms, and, therefore, its extent and interest are largely obliterated.

Knowle church was next reached, and the members again had the pleasure of listening to Mr. Harold Brakspear's description of it.

KNOWLE CHURCH. The parish church of SS. John the Baptist, Anne and Lawrence of Knowle, is of collegiate origin. In 1413 a guild was founded here by canon Walter Cook, and a year or two afterwards it was extended to form a college for ten chantry priests. The guild became popular, and its registers from 1497-1506 show it to have had no less than 3,000 members, and include the names of men of great distinction, and the abbots of many midland monasteries, including those of Evesham, Pershore, Bordesley and Hales. The fifteenth-century half-timbered guild house remains, and has recently been restored. At the Dissolution the college was suppressed and its possessions taken by the Crown under Edward VI, but the chapel was fortunately saved.

The church is a very complete example of fifteenth-century work, and has nave, chancel, and west tower. There is no chancel arch, but a good screen remains, and the stairway to the rood-loft. Formerly the chancel was raised and there was an arched processional passage below. The altar table is Elizabethan, and there are two good 'dug-outs.'

After lunch the members inspected, at the kind invitation of Mr. R. N. Murray, Grimshaw hall, which is an interesting half-timbered house of the middle of the seventeenth century, and they then motored to Lapworth church which was described by Mr. Philip B. Chatwin, F.S.A.

LAPWORTH CHURCH. The dedication is in honour of St. Mary and the church consists of a nave with aisles, a chancel with north chapel, open west portico, or processional way, with chapel above, and a north tower, which was once entirely detached, and spire. The church includes work from early Norman down to the fifteenth century. The whole structure was extensively restored in 1872, and the spire was rebuilt in 1884. There is a low-side window in the chancel. The altar table is Elizabethan. A notable feature at the west end of the church is the projecting portion. Here are two stairs leading to a chapel above, but there is no communication between it and the church.

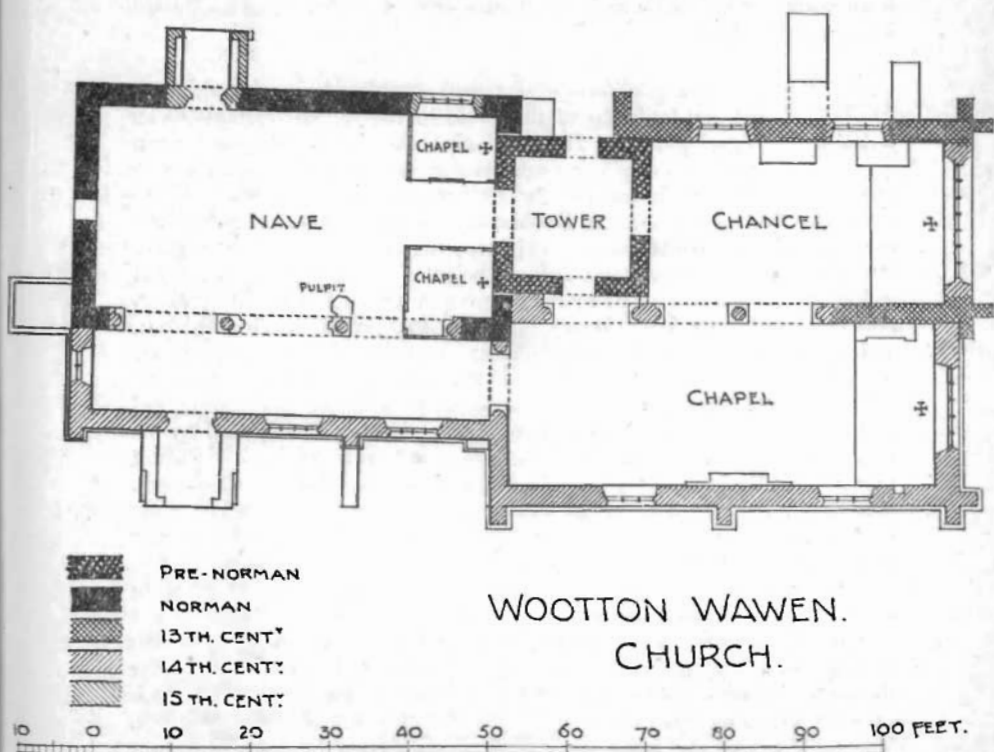
The party next reached Austy Manor, where Mr. W. J. Fieldhouse, F.S.A., entertained the members to tea and afterwards showed them his interesting and extensive collection of antiques.

The day's excursion was concluded by a visit to Wootton Wawen church, which was described by the vicar, the Rev. L. A. Pollock, M.A.

WOOTTON WAWEN CHURCH. St. Peter's is an extremely interesting church, and exhibits a considerable amount of Saxon work. Here was originally a priory. Soon after the Conquest the church passed by the gift of one Robert de Tony into the hands of the Benedictines of Conches, in Normandy. All traces of the priory are gone.

The earliest work, undoubtedly Saxon, is in the two lower stages of the tower. The arch into the chancel is only 4 feet 8 inches wide, that towards

the nave 6 feet 9 inches, and the construction of the internal upper work of the tower is interesting and unusual, forming it into a sort of double tower. In the fourteenth century the church was much altered, and a chantry built; and in the fifteenth century the upper work of the nave was added and the roof. The ornaments of the east window are unusual. There is some interesting woodwork, pulpit, and screen enclosures and some monuments of note, and there are also a number of chained books. A few years ago some paintings were discovered on the wall of the south chapel.



Wednesday, 28th July.

The last day of the meeting started with a visit to Berkswell church, which was described by Mr. Philip B. Chatwin, F.S.A.

This church is dedicated in honour of St. John Baptist, and contains much that is of particular interest. The chancel is Norman and also part of the nave. The aisles are of thirteenth and fourteenth-century work. The tower and the clerestories are later additions. The two-storied porch is timber-framed, and very picturesque.

BERKSWELL
CHURCH.

The most interesting feature of this church is its Norman crypt; this has two divisions, a rectangular part which lies under the whole of the chancel, and an octagon under part of the eastern end of the nave. The octagon is slightly later in date than the rest, and in all probability replaces some building of Saxon date. On both sides of the portion of the crypt under the chancel is a flight of steps, the same arrangement as may be found in many Saxon buildings.

The party then proceeded to Kenilworth and visited the castle on the invitation of Lord Clarendon and the gate house on the invitation of Mr. K. Rotherham. Both castle and gate house were described by Mr. Harold Brakspear, F.S.A.

KENIL- WORTH CASTLE.

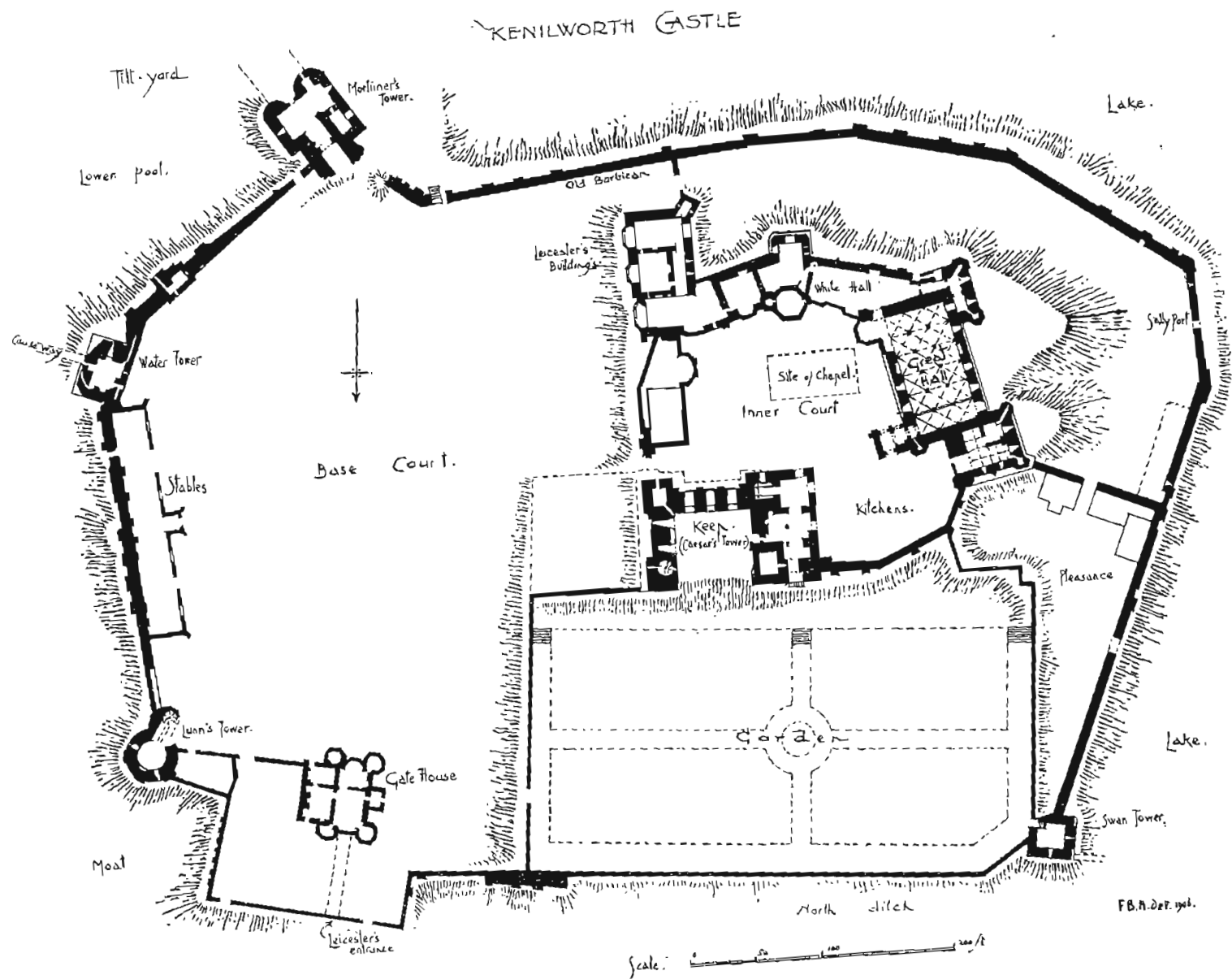
The ruins here show almost completely the general extent of the buildings of the castle in the successive stages of its developments. It is said that there were defensive works of Saxon origin, but whatever these may have been they were erased in Norman work, and the earliest portions now to be seen are the works of Geoffrey de Clinton, Chamberlain to Henry I, *c.* 1125. Of this date (with later modifications) is the keep, the massive, square, tower-like stronghold called 'Cæsar's tower.' In the reigns of succeeding kings (Henry II and John), the castle was held by the Crown and further fortified at considerable cost, and again *temp.* Henry III, additional works were carried out, and it ultimately became a very complete example of the larger military works in the kingdom. In 1266 it was in the holding of Simon de Montfort, to whom it had come some years before, but in June of that year was besieged and in November surrendered to the Crown. It afterwards passed to the king's son on his creation as earl of Leicester, and remained in the hands of that family till 1391, when from John of Gaunt it passed again to the Crown. The next important note in the history of the castle is both in the works carried out by Robert Dudley, earl of Leicester, and in his extravagant entertainments of queen Elizabeth in 1575.

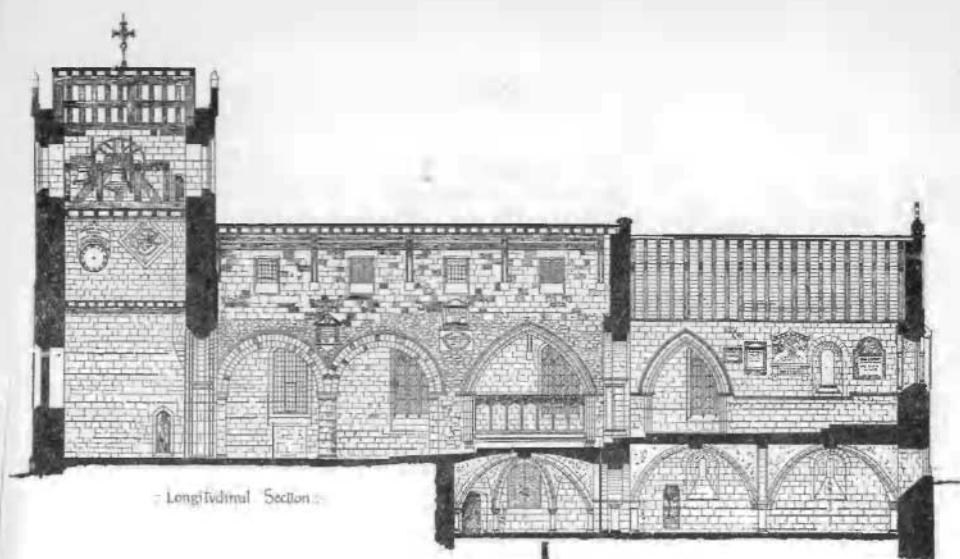
The walls contain masonries of all dates, and along the circuit of them are still six important structures and fragments of others. The keep is a very notable example of a rectangular military keep. It is chiefly of twelfth-century work, though with alterations of various later dates, and in the sixteenth century a somewhat extensive re-casting of the interior and much external alteration was carried out under the direction of Robert Dudley. The buildings of the inner ward were much altered by John of Gaunt during the last decades of the fourteenth century. They are now known as Lancaster's buildings, and include a magnificent hall with state, domestic and kitchen departments attached. The hall was 90 feet long by 45 feet wide, with vaulted roofs, and was a very fine example of the work of an excellent building period.

GATE HOUSE. The gate house, known as Leicester's gate house, was also built by Robert Dudley about 1570. In Commonwealth times it was converted into a dwelling-house, and remains so still. It has many interesting details, both externally and internally.

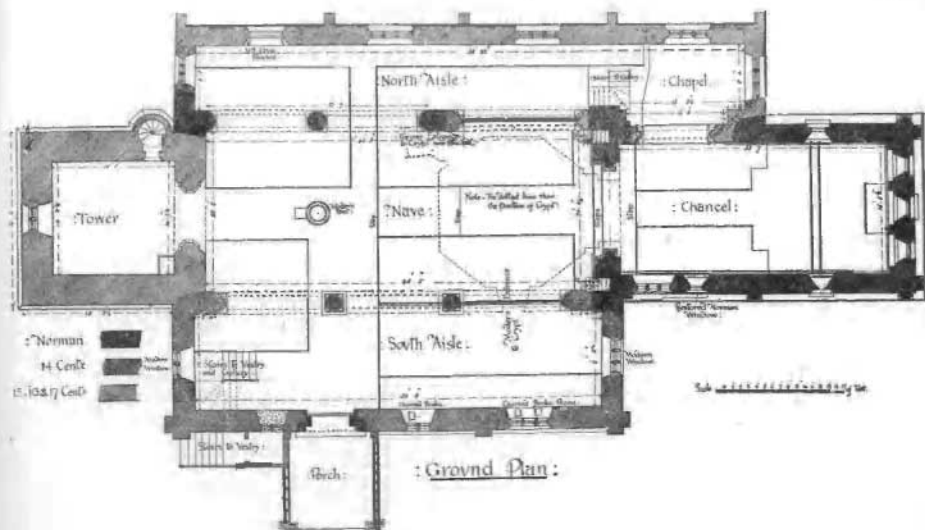
After lunch the members reached Stoneleigh abbey, which was visited by permission of Lord Leigh.

To face page 310.

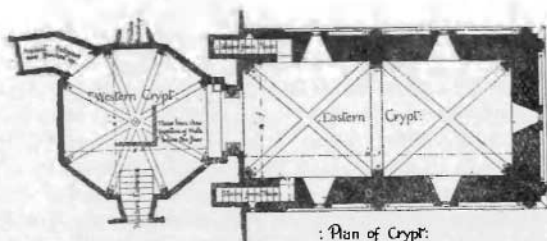




: Longitudinal Section :



: Ground Plan :



: Plan of Crypt :

BERKSWELL CHURCH, WARWICKSHIRE.

STONE-
LEIGH
ABBEY.

The abbey, as it now stands, was erected in the middle of the eighteenth century by Edward, lord Leigh, the architect being Smith of Warwick. Incorporated in the present building is a certain amount of the Cistercian abbey. The wall which faces the lawn is probably on the site of the arcade between the nave and south aisle, the nave itself and other parts of the church being beneath the turf. The kitchen and other domestic offices occupy the site of the chapter house and other monastic apartments. The windows on the west side look out on to what must have been the cloister garth. The more modern part of the mansion contains some valuable treasures in furniture, glass, and pictures.

Across the lawn are the gate house and guest house, the most important parts of the medieval work which now survive.

After the members had partaken of tea in the riding school of the abbey they visited Stoneleigh church which was described by Mr. Philip B. Chatwin, F.S.A.

STONE-
LEIGH
CHURCH.

Stoneleigh church, dedicated to St. Mary, is of various dates. The base of the tower, a north door with tympanum, the magnificent chancel arch, and parts of the chancel are Norman. The rest of the church is decorated, much altered and added to in recent years. The remarkable font is Norman, and is decorated with figures of the twelve apostles: it was brought here from Maxstoke priory. In the chancel is a huge seventeenth-century marble monument to duchess Dudley, daughter of sir Thomas Leigh, and wife of Robert, the son of queen Elizabeth's favourite, the earl of Leicester, with recumbent effigies of the duchess and of her daughter, Alice. The monument is probably the work of Edward Marshall, of Fetter Lane, London. In the chancel is a medieval effigy of an unknown priest, and in the porch a much worn, but unusual, monument of a lady with her child lying on her left side.

Between the abbey and the village the road crosses the Avon by the fifteenth-century Stare bridge, built by the Cistercians of Stoneleigh and is an interesting example of early bridge-building.

The party then returned to Birmingham and the summer meeting of 1926 came to a close.

AUTUMN MEETING.
VISIT TO ROCHESTER.

SATURDAY, 25TH SEPTEMBER, 1926.

The autumn excursion of the Institute was a visit to the city of Rochester.

The town stands in an important strategic position on the line of the ancient road from the Kentish ports to London at the point where it crosses the river Medway. The medieval walls (*c.* 1225), of which extensive remains are still visible, follow closely and incorporate parts of the rectangular Roman defences. They were, however, extended on the south to enclose the cathedral and priory buildings.

The High Street contains a number of picturesque examples of domestic architecture of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Some of these are briefly described in *Arch. Cantiana*, vol. xvii, pp. 39-41.

The cathedral was first visited and described by Mr. A. W. Clapham, F.S.A.; Canon G. M. Livett, F.S.A. also spoke.

THE CATHEDRAL. The cathedral church of Rochester consists of nave and aisles, having a lady-chapel on the south, north and south transepts with a tower and spire over the crossing, quire and quire transepts, presbytery and crypt, and a detached tower to the north.

The earliest church at Rochester was built in 604, seven years after the landing of St. Augustine. The foundations of its apsidal east end are marked on the pavement of the nave of the present church immediately inside the west doorway.

Soon after 1082 the Norman cathedral church was begun under bishop Gundulf, and it was consecrated in 1130. Of this building there still remain portions of the nave, the two western bays of the crypt, and the detached north tower. The major portion of the nave was built *c.* 1140, and the west front *c.* 1160. The rest of the Norman church was destroyed by fire in 1179.

The thirteenth-century work which followed this misfortune includes the eastward extension of the crypt, the quire transepts and the presbytery (*c.* 1200-1215), the quire, separated from its aisles by solid walls (finished in 1227), the north nave transept (*c.* 1240-1255), the lower stages of the tower, the south nave transept (*c.* 1280), and the two easternmost bays of the nave arcade. The richness of all this work is explained by the offerings of the pilgrims attracted to the shrine of St. William of Perth, a baker who was murdered near Rochester about 1201 on his way to the shrine of St. Thomas of Canterbury. The north quire transept was built to accommodate the baker's shrine, which has since disappeared.

In the fourteenth century, another stage was added to the tower, on which a wooden spire was erected in 1343, the stone pulpitum was built, and the carved doorway to the chapter-room inserted in the south quire transept.

In the fifteenth century the great west window was inserted (c. 1490), and the south transept was extended westward to form the lady-chapel.

The church has suffered extensive restoration: the central tower was rebuilt in 1830. The present wooden spire is modern, but based on early prints. The west end of the north aisle was rebuilt to match the original work of the south side, by Pearson, who also 'restored' the pulpitum.

The most notable monuments in the church are:—(1) north quire transept: bishop Walter de Merton, 1277 (effigy dates from 1598), and bishop Lowe, 1467 (table-tomb); (2) north side of presbytery: bishop John de Shepey, 1360 (painted effigy); (3) presbytery: bishop Inglethorpe, 1291 (effigy under canopy), bishop St. Martin, 1274 (effigy under canopy) and bishop Glanville, 1214 (mutilated tomb); (4) south quire aisle: bishop Bradfield, 1283 (effigy under canopy); and (5) north quire aisle: bishop Hythe, 1352 (effigy under canopy).

The remains of the wooden quire-fittings dating from 1227 should be noticed, and the early wooden vestry over the south entrance of the crypt. The library in the modern chapter-room contains the *Textus Roffensis*.

Of the precinct, portions of the walls remain together with the Cemetery gate, next the High Street, the Sextry gate, the Prior's gate and an embattled tower on the south-east.

Of the conventual buildings practically nothing remains above ground beyond the twelfth-century chapter-house entry, a fragment of the dorter wall and subvault and the thirteenth-century lavatory and doorway to the frater. The bishop's palace is partly incorporated in private dwelling-houses. The nave of the cathedral church originally served as the parish church, but disagreement between the monks and the parishioners resulted in the exclusion of the latter and the erection in 1423 of the separate church of St. Nicholas within the precinct immediately to the north of the cathedral.

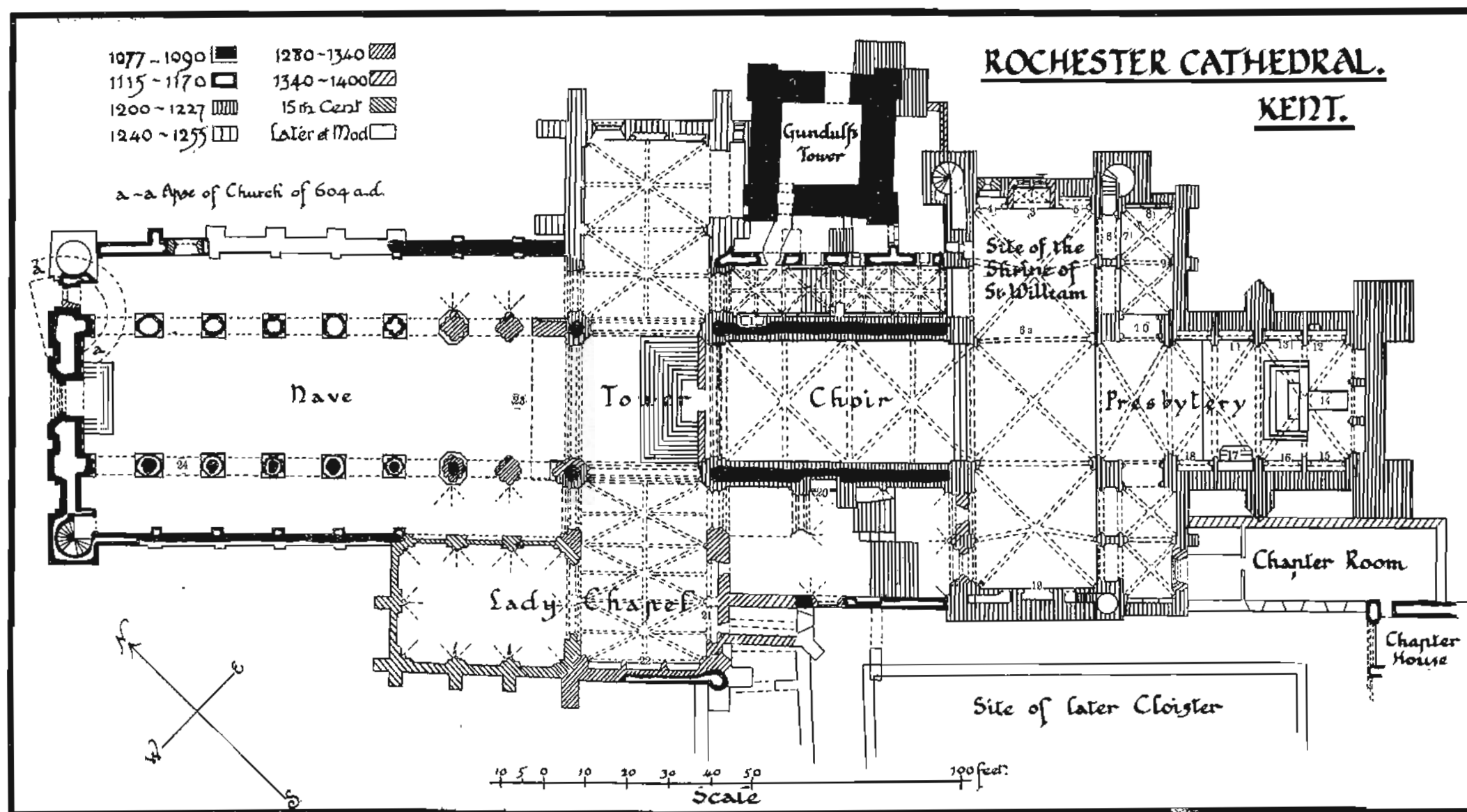
The architectural history of the cathedral is briefly summarised in *Arch. Cant.* vol. xvii, pp. 41-43, and a full description of church and monastery by Sir William St. John Hope is printed in *Arch. Cant.* vols. xiii and xxiv.

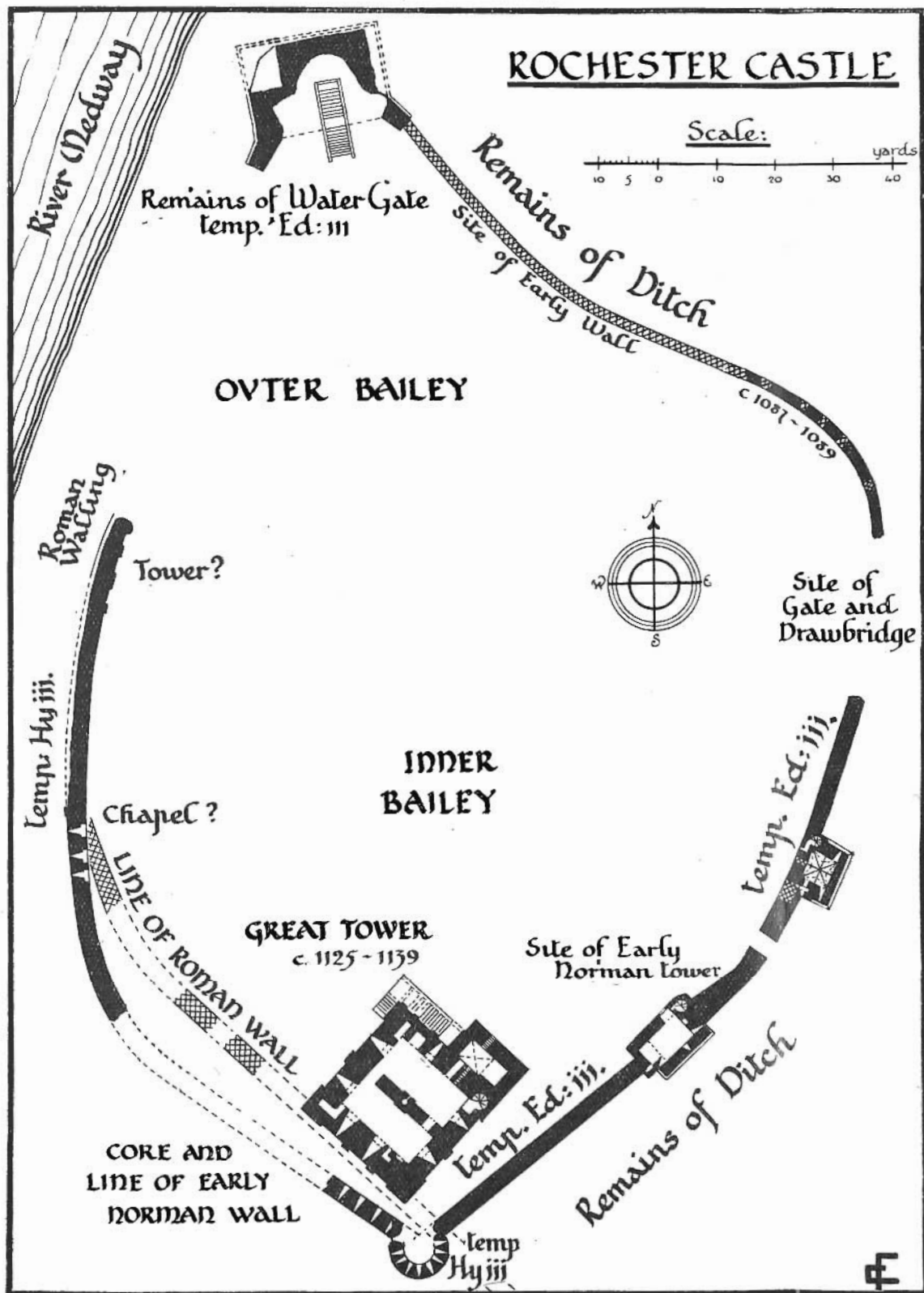
In the unavoidable absence of Mr. Harold Sands, F.S.A., the castle, which was next visited, was described by Mr. A. W. Clapham, F.S.A.; Sir Charles Oman also gave a short account of the siege of the Keep.

THE CASTLE. The castle stands by the water-side, close to the bridge across the Medway in the western angle of the Roman town wall. It consists of the great square tower, an inner and outer bailey, the division wall of which has gone, and a curtain-wall furnished with towers.

The castle was founded by Gundulf, bishop of Rochester, c. 1087-1089, but the only surviving remains of his work appear to be part of the curtain-wall overlooking the river.

The great tower, 70 feet square at the base and 120 feet high to the top of the corner turrets, was built by archbishop Corbeuil, c. 1125-1139. It consists of a room, and the kitchen on the ground floor, with store-rooms





beneath : a large apartment and a chapel were on the first floor with smaller rooms above. The tower was divided transversely by a partition wall with an arcade and stone screen at first floor level. Through the partition wall runs the well-shaft, serving all floors. There are two angle staircases set diagonally east and west, connected by wall passages.

The original double-vaulted roof rested on the inside partition, and above it ran the battlement walk with domed turrets at the four angles.

The original entrance seems to have consisted of a flight of steps leading to the great recessed arch in the thickness of the wall, which still retains the grooves, for the portcullis. This appears to have been strengthened *temp.* Henry III by the addition of two exterior gate-towers separated by a draw-bridge (the entrance now in use was breached in the eighteenth century).

In the curtain-wall at the northern corner nearest the bridge are the remains of the water-gate, *temp.* Edward III, originally surmounted by a circular tower with wooden steps running down to the river. At the south corner of the curtain is a thirteenth-century drum tower. Along the eastern section of the wall are the remains of two rectangular fourteenth-century towers, and north of them once stood the barbican, now gone. Against the western wall there are traces of a tower, *temp.* Henry III, and the remains of what may have been a chapel for the garrison.

The castle played an important part in the Barons' war, being captured by king John and by Louis of France in 1216, though not by Simon de Montford in 1264 when he entered the city. The castle was repaired under Edward IV, but fell into decay in the fifteenth century.

For further accounts of the castle, see *Arch. Cant.* xxi, *Arch. Journal*, xx, 205-223, and Armitage, *Early Norman Castles*, 195-201.

The party next visited the Bridge chapel, where a paper was read and the building described by Mr. Aymer Vallance, F.S.A.

THE BRIDGE CHAPEL. The remains of the fourteenth-century chapel of the old bridge, adjoining the Bridge-Warden's chamber, are on the right bank of the Medway between the castle and the existing bridge.

Visits were then paid to Restoration house and Eastgate House.

RESTORATION HOUSE. The former is so named because of the tradition that Charles II stayed here on 28th and 29th May, 1660, on his way to London to assume the crown. It dates from about 1600, though considerably altered at subsequent times. The Dutch gable at the west end of the southern wing is like those at Oriel College, Oxford, built 'regnante Carolo,' i.e. Charles I, and others at Knole, Sevenoaks. The façade of the central portion, with its rustication, is not earlier than the latter part of the seventeenth century.

EASTGATE HOUSE. Eastgate house is a fine example of sixteenth-century domestic work which now serves to house a museum of Roman and other objects of local interest. Its adaptation and extension for this purpose have been carried out with due regard to its original plan.

REFERENCE TO PLAN OF ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL.

1. Bishop Hamo de Heythe, d. 1352.
2. William Streaton and wife, 1609.
3. Bishop Walter de Merton, d. 1277.
4. Elizabethan effigy of Walter de Merton.
5. Tomb of a Prior.
6. Bishop John Lowe, d. 1467 (formerly at 6a).
7. John Warner, Esq., d. 1689.
8. Bishop Warner, d. 1666.
9. Archdeacon John Lee Warner, d. 1679.
10. Bishop John de Sheppey, d. 1360.
11. ? Gilbert de Glanville, d. 1214.
12. Lavatory, etc., behind high altar.
13. Bishop Laurence de St. Martin, d. 1274
14. Sir William Arundel, K.G., d. 1400, and Lady.
15. Coffin assigned to B. P. Gundulf, d. 1108.
16. Bishop Thos. de Ingoldsthorpe, d. 1291.
17. Sedilia.
18. Coffin lately removed from crypt.
19. Unknown.
20. Bishop John de Bradfield, d. 1283.
21. Sir Richard Head, d. 1689.
22. Bust of Richard Watts (d. 1579), 1736.
23. Site of St. Nicholas Altar till 1423.
24. Font. First used 1850.

PROCEEDINGS AT MONTHLY MEETINGS OF THE ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

Wednesday, 3rd February, 1926.

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

The Chairman referred in suitable terms to the lamented death of Sir Henry Fletcher, C.V.O.

Mr. A. W. Clapham, F.S.A. read a paper on 'Carolingian architecture in England,' with lantern illustrations.

In the discussion there spoke Mr. C. R. Peers, the Rev. J. K. Floyer, and Miss Rose Graham.

Wednesday, 3rd March, 1926.

Mr. Henry Plowman, V.P. F.S.A. in the Chair.

Mr. Bernard Rackham, M.A. read a paper on 'Some debatable questions in the history of English glass-painting: Winchester, Coventry and Westminster.

In the discussion there spoke Mr. W. W. Watts and Col. Parker.

Wednesday, 31st March, 1926.

Mr. Henry Plowman, V.P. F.S.A. in the Chair.

Mr. G. C. Druce read a paper on 'Figure sculpture and carvings in Kentish churches,' with lantern illustrations.

Dr. Fryer, Mr. P. M. Johnson and Miss Graham then spoke.

Wednesday, 28th April, 1926.

Mr. Heward Bell, V.P. in the Chair.

Dr. Philip Nelson read two papers entitled :

1. 'Some mediaeval documents relating to English tombs.'
 2. 'Some unusual English alabaster carvings,'
- with lantern illustrations.

In the discussion there spoke Dr. Hilburgh.

Wednesday, 2nd June, 1926.

Mr. H. Plowman, V.P. in the Chair.

Mr. Samuel Gardner read a paper on 'Some English Porches,' with lantern illustrations.

In the discussion there spoke Miss Rose Graham and Mr. Garraway Rice.

Wednesday, 7th July, 1926.

Mr. Harry Plowman, V.P. in the Chair.

Dr. T. Wilson Parry, M.A. M.D. F.S.A. read a paper on 'Holes in the skulls of prehistoric man and their significance,' with lantern slides and many exhibits.

In the discussion there spoke Mr. Garraway Rice and Dr. L. A. Parry.

Wednesday, 3rd November, 1926.

Mr. Harry Plowman, V.P. in the Chair.

Mr. Aymer Vallance read a paper on 'Looking for an old country house,' with lantern illustrations.

In the discussion there spoke Canon Livett, Miss Rose Graham, Mr. G. C. Druce, Mr. St. Clair Baddeley, and Mr. R. Garraway Rice.

Wednesday, 1st December, 1926.

Mr. Harry Plowman, V.P. in the Chair.

Sir Charles Oman, President, read a paper on the 'Haven-defending Castles of Henry VIII,' with lantern illustrations.

In the discussion there spoke Mr. Vallance, Miss Graham, Mr. Garraway Rice, Mr. G. C. Druce, Mr. P. G. Trendall and Major B. S. Browne.

Royal Archaeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland.

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