

- 1 St. Margaret's Church
- 2 St. Nicholas Chapel
- 3 All Saints, South Lynn
- 4 St. Peter, West Lynn
- 5 Austin Friars Gateway
- 6 Friars Gateway
- 7 Greyfriars Steeple
- 8 Thoresby's College
- 9 Red Mount Chapel

- 10 Custom House
- 11 Guildhall
- 12 St. George's Hall
- 13 Greenland Fishery Museum
- 14 Duke's Head Hotel
- 15 Globe Hotel
- 16 East Gate (Site of)
- 17 South Gate
- 18 Line of Walls
- 19 Remains of Walls
- 20 North Tower

The Town of  
KING'S LYNN



0 300 1000 1500 Scale of Feet

PROCEEDINGS AT MEETINGS OF THE ROYAL  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

THE SUMMER MEETING AT KING'S LYNN<sup>1</sup>

11th to 19th July, 1932

MEETING COMMITTEE

*Patrons*: The Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk (Russell James Colman, J.P.); the Marquis Cholmondeley; the Marchioness Townshend of Raynham.

*Chairman*: The Mayor of King's Lynn (the Lord Fermoy, M.P.).

*Members*: The Archdeacon of Lynn; Sir Henry Paston Bedingfeld, Bt.; H. L. Bradfer-Lawrence, F.S.A.; Col. E. G. W. Bulwer; J. Harwood Catleugh; B. Cozens - Hardy, F.S.A.; R. F. E. Ferrier, F.S.A.; the Rev. Lawrence Gee, R.D.; the Rev. M. Hinton Knowles; J. L. Luddington, D.L.; Thomas Ramsden; C. G. L. Wagstaff; J. W. Woolstencroft.

*Hon. Secretary of the Meeting*: Lieut.-Col. B. S. Browne.

PRESIDENT OF THE MEETING

Professor Sir Charles W. C. Oman, K.B.E., LL.D., D.C.L., F.S.A., F.B.A., M.P.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—In the preparation of the Programme and of the present Report, the Editor is especially indebted to Mr. H. L. Bradfer-Lawrence, F.S.A., Mr. A. W. Clapham, C.B.E., F.S.A., Professor A. Hamilton Thompson, F.S.A., F.B.A., Miss V. M. Dallas, and Miss M. T. Cruso.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Monday, July 11th, 9 p.m. Reception at the Guildhall by His Worship the Mayor.

Tuesday, July 12th. Grey Friars, Red Mount, South Gate, South Lynn Church, Greenland Fishery Folklore Museum, Custom House, St. George's Hall, St. Nicholas Chapel, Thoresby's College, Guildhall, St. Margaret's Church. Tea at the Vicarage (by kind invitation of the Vicar and Mrs. Hinton Knowles). Evening Lecture.

<sup>1</sup> The Institute has not previously met at King's Lynn.

Wednesday, July 13th. Castle Rising : Castle, Church and Hospital. Snettisham Church. Brancaster for luncheon. Brancaster Roman Fort, Burnham Deepdale, Creake Abbey, Holkham. Tea. Evening Lecture.

Thursday, July 14th. Thorney, Crowland, Spalding. Luncheon. Wykeham Chapel, Whaplode, Holbeach, Gedney. Tea.

Friday, July 15th. North Elmham Church and Ruins, Raynham House, Fakenham. Luncheon. Harpley Church, Houghton House. Tea. Shernborne, South Wootton. Evening Lecture.

Saturday, July 16th. Terrington St. John, West Walton, Walsoken, Wisbech. Luncheon. Walpole St. Peter, Tilney All Saints. Tea.

(Sunday, July 17th. Service at St. Margaret's, 11 a.m.)

Monday, July 18th. Freiston, Boston. Luncheon. Long Sutton. Tea. Terrington St. Clement's, Lovell's Hall. Evening Lecture.

Tuesday, July 19th. Middleton Towers, Pentney Priory, Narborough Hall, Marham Abbey, Fincham, Stoke Ferry. Luncheon. Oxborough Hall, Wallington Hall.

#### PREFATORY NOTE ON KING'S LYNN

'The customary derivation of Lynn made it the equivalent of Welsh *llyn*, a pool. But doubts have sprung up, partly because the common form of the word in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries was *Lenn* or *Lenne*, and partly because the place was assumed to have no great antiquity. Both these difficulties may, however, be scored out. Lynn, *mutatis mutandis*, has a position like that of London. It stands where in the earliest days there was an important river-crossing; it is a place, in fact, of the highest antiquity. As for the ancient form of the name, *Lenn* or *Lenne*, it is possible to quote other instances where *e* for *i* occurs in local names. Although the difficulties are by no means exhausted, it is fair to say that no other explanation is as free from difficulty as that which may be called the traditional one.'

And so the Rev. A. Goodall, a distinguished philologist, gives us all the knowledge we have of Lynn before Domesday. The lay-out of the Marshland province on the west and the old East Sea Banks on the Norfolk side, whatever their age and period, confirm in a physical sense the etymology of the word 'Lyn' indicated above.

In the Middle Ages the town, as a manor of the bishop of Norwich, was known as Lynn Episcopi. This was changed to Lynn Regis in the reign of Henry VIII, when that king 'persuaded' the bishop to exchange the manors of Gaywood and Lynn (*inter alia*) for the abbacy of St. Benet's at Hulme.

Many centuries have passed since the earliest burgesses raised the status of the ancient town into the front rank of maritime import-

ance. But its foundation is wrapped in obscurity. There is an air of antiquity about the lay-out of the original settlement, its one-time muddy creeks and artificial banks, dams and ways, which bespeaks perhaps the presence of early man, but nothing else. There is more evidence of pre-Norman antiquity in the neighbourhood on all sides of the town, than in the town itself.

Lynn is mentioned in the Domesday survey only as an adjunct to various capital manors in the district, but that it was a place of importance by the twelfth century is evident from the early Pipe and Customs Rolls. The Pipe Rolls for 1165-67 contain 'a list of no fewer than 169 of its chief inhabitants, who were mulcted in a fashion only to be borne by wealthy people, whilst a select band of them were actually fined *pro navibus oneratis*.'<sup>1</sup> It is extremely unlikely that a community of so recent a date as Domesday could have grown to such proportions by 1165-67 as to include no less than 169 defaulting inhabitants and merchants.

The development of the old Borough can be traced, in its main outlines, from the time when the first Bishops of East Anglia, from their adjoining settlement on the higher land at Gaywood, 'watched the sea receding seaward of the bank; they watched the lining of the shores of the Lin with the wharves and dwellings of the merchants. The foreshore on which these rested was the property of the Bishops; they claimed it as their own; and until their grasp gave way in the fifteenth century, the history of Lynn is the history of the domination of the Church.'<sup>2</sup>

The first Norman Bishop of Norwich, Herbert de Losinga, began the building of the church of St. Margaret's at Lynn sometime during his episcopacy (1091-1119), and here are the actual words he used for the occasion, taken from his address to the people of Norfolk and Suffolk as preserved among the archives in the Treasury at Norwich Cathedral:—'Whereas I have begun to build a church at Lynn.' This church, when finished, he gave to the Benedictine monks at Norwich, who established on the S. side a cell, of which remains may be observed still in the adjoining street called Priory Lane.

The Chapel of St. James, also placed in the older part of the original settlement, but towards the eastern end thereof, is thought to have been founded by Herbert's successor, Eborard (1121-1145), the second Norman Bishop, before 1146. Practically all trace of this chapel has disappeared.

By the time of Eborard's successor, Bishop Turbe or Turbus (1146-1174), the community appears to have overgrown its first confines, and so this Bishop laid out and planned 'The New Londe' to the North and in that extended boundary he built his new Chapel dedicated to St. Nicholas. Before this it had been a marsh over which the tide ebbed and flowed. Bishop Turbus, in his charter, recites:—'He had built it in his own liberty,' and, therefore, not in

<sup>1</sup> From an unpublished essay on 'The Trade of Lynn Before A.D. 1400,' by the late Richard Howlett, F.S.A., *penes me*.

<sup>2</sup> 'The Making of Lynn,' by the late E. M. Beloe, *senr.*

the liberty which Herbert had given to the Monks, and on the new land which he had laid out for habitation, ' fundo nostro de Lynna in nova terra nostra quam de novo providimus habitandam.'<sup>1</sup> In a terrier of the time of Edward I this ' nova terra ' is called ' the new londe ' and the original lay-out of the streets can be traced to-day. Bishop Turbus fortified it on the east with a stone wall which extended only the breadth of this new settlement.

Continuing, the late Mr. E. M. Beloe, senr., observed :—

' Here, then, we have the foundation, upon the marsh intersected by its rivers, of the town which became, in the Middle Ages, one of the great seats of national exports.

' In the old town we find the parish church, the chapel of St. James, now gone ; the hall of the Trinity Guild, of the Hanse, and the public buildings. Through it ran the Purfleet, in Latin the " Portus fleta," the fleet of the port. At the end of the Purfleet was the Chequer, the local name for the Exchange, the Bishop's Staithe, and the toll-booth for the receipt of the Bishop's dues. It was the entrance to the port of Lynn. Outside of the old town there was no public building. These were all on the south side of the Purfleet. The grand chapel of St. Nicholas, founded for the use of the new land, and St. George's Hall, are the only great buildings on the new portion. The chapel was rebuilt in the fifteenth century, and now ranks with the finest parochial buildings in the kingdom.

' The market of the old town was the Saturday Market, and mentioned by name in Herbert's Charter to the Monastery of Norwich, and the Bishop on his new land put the Tuesday Market, as it is now, between the year 1146 and 1171, and this accounts for the unusual fact of two market places in one town—the one in the old town and the other in the new land.'

As early as the twelfth century, the community on the banks of the great river had lifted itself from comparative obscurity into the highways of commerce. Two magnificent churches had been built or begun, and the beginnings of a powerful guild of merchants laid. Within the following two generations a host of religious zealots found shelter within its walls, and the guilds of lay-folk sprang up on all sides ; the greed of a Bishop and the need of a King (John) launched the first royal charter (1204) and so started the town on its struggle to be free from the thraldom of episcopacy.

The history of Lynn's upward struggle against prelate and baron (of Rising) is well illustrated in the very complete and extensive collection of archives in the custody of the corporation.

In 1312 the town was involved in a serious lawsuit, brought by the powerful lord of Rising, Robert de Montalt, for personal assault and trespass upon his Tolboth rights, and was assessed in damages amounting to the (then) enormous sum of £4,000.<sup>2</sup> This large sum was paid to de Montalt by fixed annual instalments and the receipts remain among the town records with his beautiful armorial seal affixed thereto.

<sup>1</sup> *ib.* p. 22.

<sup>2</sup> See *The History of Castle Rising*,

by H. L. Bradfer-Lawrence, for the full story.

'The Merchants of Lynn' is no new title, characteristic or name of eighteenth-century invention, but is said to occur as early as the thirteenth century. In the Bodleian is a list of English towns with their characteristics, probably written in the fourteenth century, in which Lynn figures as 'The Merchants of Lynn.' When this name was first given and why, we cannot say; but it is abundantly clear that the merchants of the old town were men of great substance whose argosies returned laden with the spoils of a rich world.

In 1177 we learn that Norwich contributed 100 marks to an aid, Lynn 80, Yarmouth and Thetford only 20 each.

All four major Orders of Friars were established in Lynn within a few years of their respective arrivals in England:—

The Dominicans before 1272.

The Franciscans before 1261.

The Carmelites before 1261.

The Augustines before 1294.

During the next four or five centuries the town reached its zenith amidst all the glamour of the late middle ages. In fact, for upwards of six centuries Lynn was noted for its great trade, particularly in wine, and for the opulence of its traders. Tucked away in the south-east corner of the Wash, secure from raiders, at the head of an extensive system of rivers and waterways, its natural advantages laid the foundations of what has been described as the medieval Liverpool of the east coast. The discovery of coal and iron in the north, with the resultant industrial development; the founding and growth of America; the silting up of the Wash; the continual increase in size of vessels; and lastly, the introduction of railways, have each in turn, and all cumulatively, diminished its trade and importance.

The Hanseatic League maintained a depot here from the thirteenth to the eighteenth centuries, and the picturesque old 'Steelyard,' with its fine mansion near the waterside, remains to-day, somewhat disguised behind a cement front.

The late Mr. Walter Rye traced no less than seventy-five gilds which existed at one time in the Town. Of these the principal were 'The Great Gild of the Holy Trinity,' founded before 1204, the governing gild to which all the merchants belonged, and the gild of St. George the Martyr, the extensive remains of whose Hall, c. 1420, are to be seen in King Street, having, since the reformation, been put to various uses, including that of a theatre. Local tradition would like to associate Shakespeare with this building, but there is no definite evidence for doing so. An inn adjoining was long known as 'The Shakespeare,' and next door to that The Globe Hotel flourishes still. The Hall of the Great Gild is now the Town Hall. It was burnt down in 1421, and the Chamberlain's Accounts for 1421-1422 record disbursements by the *Scabins* under the head of 'Constructio Nove Aule.' This Hall was shortened in the year 1768 to make way for the new Assembly Rooms and Card Room.

Ship-building was a craft early established in Lynn. In 31st

Edward I 'John de Swonland and Thomas de Port made pontoons at Lynn to enable the army to cross the passage of Stirling.' There is a roll among the Exchequer accounts for the 10th Edward III which gives minute details of the building at Lynn of the King's galley *le Philipe*. It appears that a piece of land was hired and fenced in by Thomas de Melchburne, the Collector of Customs, and quarters were put up for the workmen. Timber, board, and wooden nails were bought from John Sefoul and many other named merchants; Spanish iron, pitch and bitumen were laid in. There is also a long list of purchased items such as one lof (probably luff) and one bowsprite 43s. 4d.; and seilyerde 6os. and a mast £10. There were six anchors of different sizes. Wages varying from 5rs. 4d. to 105s. 6d. collectively per week were paid for 15 weeks to workmen; 3½ months appears to have been the time occupied in building, and the total cost was £66 13s. 4d.

Thomas de Melchburne's probate is recorded in the Red Register (folio 101), and tells us that he lived in a house at the corner of Stokfyshrowe (afterwards called Chequer Street and now King Street) and the Common lane south, i.e. at the corner of King Street and Purfleet Quay: with the great river on the west. The adjoining tenement north belonged to Cecilia Belyeterre and William her son. This Thomas de Melchburne was a Freeman of the town, Mayor in 1338, and for some years Collector of Customs. He was one of the parliamentary representatives for Lynn in 1319, 1328, 1330, 1336, 1337-8, and 1340, and died in 1349.

The town possesses a fine series of Royal Charters, from the first granted by King John in 1204. That monarch granted the burgesses the privilege of modelling their liberties and ordinances upon those of Oxford, and the contemporary 'Red Book' of Lynn, containing within its 'oaken closures' copies of the Oxford Ordinances and Acts of the Assembly, is in the British Museum; while the 'Red Register' of Lynn, one of the earliest paper books in existence, dating from the beginning of the fourteenth century, if not earlier, is preserved with the town records. These records provide unusually full and valuable data upon the subject of local government in the middle ages.

The office of Mayor dates certainly from 1223; some authorities say from 1204. The writer discovered the first known holder of the office as a subscribing witness to an undated charter, from internal evidence *c.* 1223, under the following description: 'Roberto de London tunc primo maiore Lenn.'

All along the waterside from Bridge Street (Coldhirne), Nelson Street (Lath Street), St. Margaret's Place, Queen Street (Wyndgate), Purfleet, King Street (anciently Stokfyshrowe and afterwards Chequer Street), Tuesday Market Place, St. Nicholas Street (Woolmarket), to St. Annes (Fort), there was and still is a succession of interesting houses, wharves and yards, in which the old burgesses lived and carried on their trade. Time and the hand of man have swept away most of the oldest buildings. One fifteenth-century house, long since converted into cottages under the name of 'Hampton



FIG. I. KING'S LYNN c. 1588

Court,' remains ; while an ancient warehouse on the Quayside, once part of the possessions of the Hanseatic League, is still earlier. There is some Tudor and Elizabethan work, and much of the Restoration and early Georgian periods. The fine series of early doorways serves as a reminder of those architectural glories which existed in former days.

Of royal visits the town has had many, but none so tragic, perhaps, as that mentioned by Shakespeare in 3 Henry VI, Act IV, Scene 5 :—

' Gloucester : The time and case requireth haste.

The King : But whither shall we then ?

Hastings : To Lynn, my lord : and ship from thence to Flanders.'

This visit at the time of Edward IV's flight is recorded in the Corporation's Hall Book II, folio 284 :—

' Memorandum quod die dominica ultimo die Septembris Anno Domini millesimo cccc<sup>mo</sup> septuagesimo Dominus Edwardus quartus nuper Rex Angliae hora X<sup>ma</sup> in nocte venit equester usque lenn cum Antonio Widevile comite de Rivers ac Domino de Cromewell Domino de Hastynges camerario ipsius Domini Regis et Domino de Say et aliis militibus Armigeris valectis et aliis hominibus ad numerum trium millium et expectavit hic usque diem martis et circa horam octavam eiusdem diei martis Idem Dominus Edwardus cum predictis Dominis excepto Domino de Cromewell inierunt ad naves in portu de lenn et pervenerunt [ad] mare ad transfretandum.'

The bird's-eye view of Lynn (Fig. 1) is taken from a coloured vellum map, c. 1588, of the Chase of Rising, belonging to Brigadier C. A. Howard, D.S.O. It was made by one John Hexham for the Crown, on the occasion of the forfeiture of the vast Howard estates, when Thomas Howard, 4th Duke of Norfolk, was beheaded in 1572, and his son Philip Howard, Earl of Arundel, was imprisoned in the Tower in 1588. Of the public buildings depicted, attention may be drawn to the churches, and particularly to the curious form of the chancel of St. Margaret's. This may be part of the old Benedictine Priory then remaining (1588). The south porch is shown also. The church of the Greyfriars, with chancel, also appears. There are turret-pinnacles to the tower of All Saints, South Lynn. No traces are shown of the Blackfriars and of the Augustine monastery, nor of St. John's Hospital in the Damgate (Norfolk Street). The remains of the Hospital of St. Mary Magdalen, Gaywood (founded c. 1140), are shown—evidently all which were left after the burning and 'sacking' of that building by Kett's rebels from the camp at Rising in 1549. The tower of the Whitefriars Church is shown standing—it fell in 1630. Of the Gates, all three, including St. Ann's, are drawn ; also the old Market Cross and the railings on the Tuesday Market Place. The Kettle Mills, or town waterworks, are drawn astride the Common Trench cut in 1425. The ancient outfall of the Gaywood River is shown as 'Whiting Ea'—an obvious reference to the numerous salt-works and pans which existed thereabouts from an early date.

The two ships in the Haven are interesting as types of vessels then in use ; the ornate poop of the one and the high prow and poop



A. THE RED MOUNT CHAPEL, KING'S LYNN  
*(Photo by courtesy of Messrs. Jewsons, King's Lynn)*



B. ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH, KING'S LYNN



ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH, KING'S LYNN, IN THE EARLY PART OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY  
(From Bell's Engraving)

of the other, which seems to be flying the flag of St. George at the main and a tricolour on the ensign-staff.

The town suffered a siege of about thirty days' duration in 1643. Having wavered in its allegiance for months, the townsmen suddenly declared for the King, put themselves into a state of defence under the leadership of the local gentry, and invited the investing Parliamentary forces, under the Earl of Manchester, to help themselves and not to forget to plunder the richest of them when they took the town.

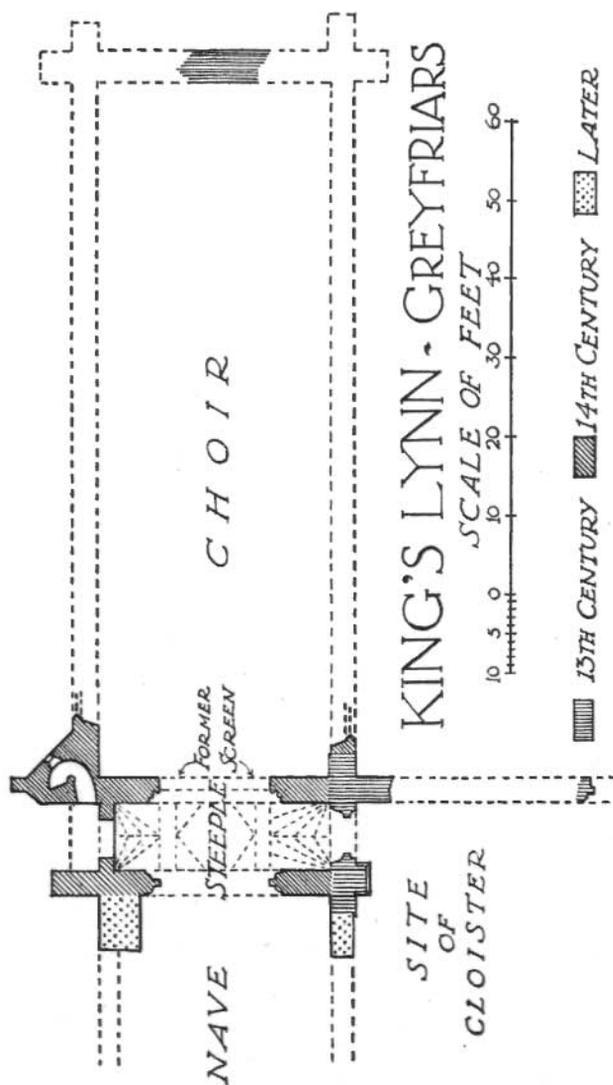


FIG. 2

This invitation was not lost sight of thirty days later (Friday, September 15th, 1643), when the town capitulated and the Roundheads mulcted the defeated Royalists in the sum of £30,000! The defences thrown up at this time are shown on the plan by Henry Bell and are indicated in Fig. 1.

Eugene Aram, then an usher at the Local Grammar School, was arrested here in 1759 for the murder of Daniel Clark, committed fifteen years previously, at Knaresborough.

(H. L. BRADFER-LAWRENCE.)

## PROCEEDINGS

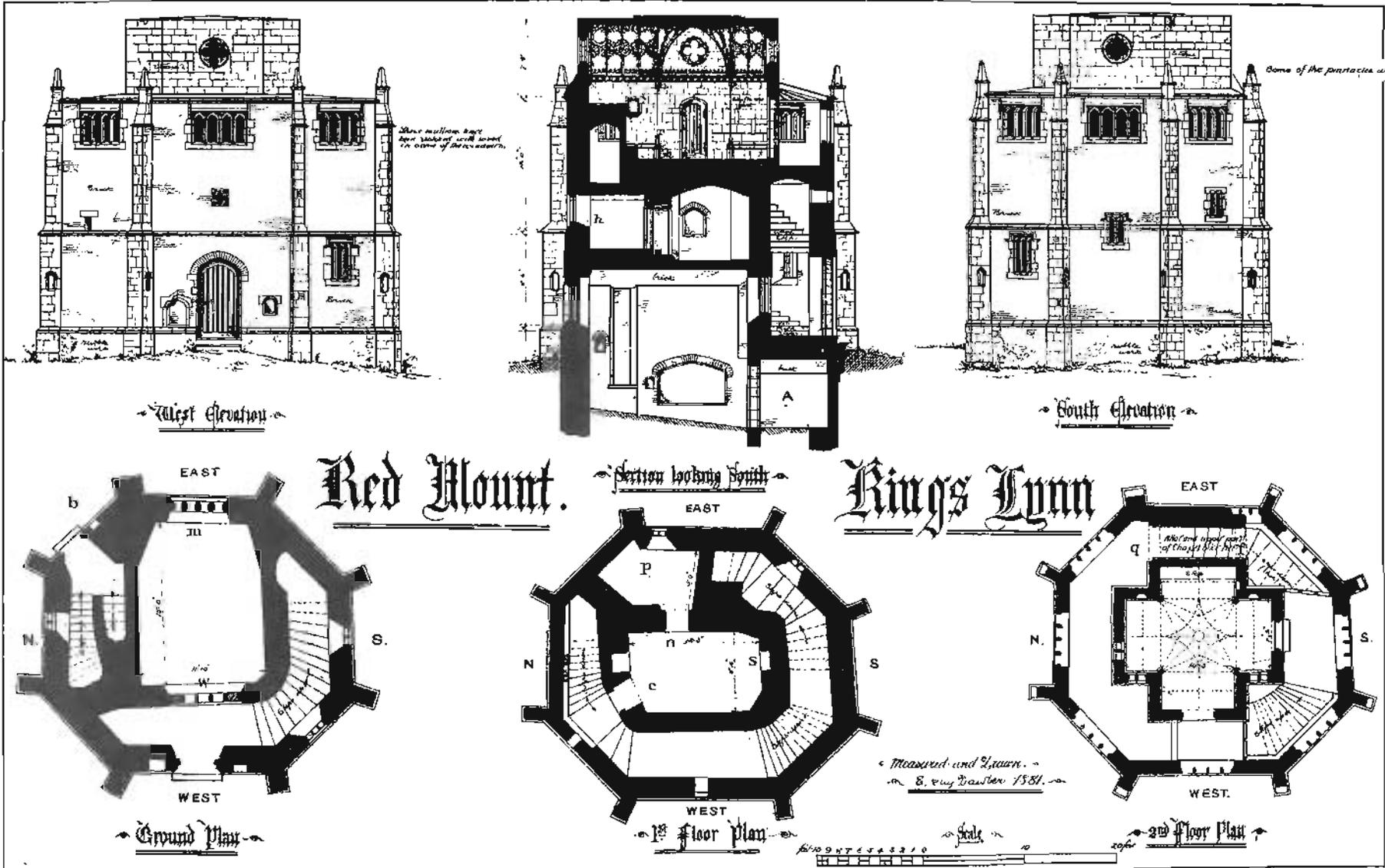
Monday, 11th July

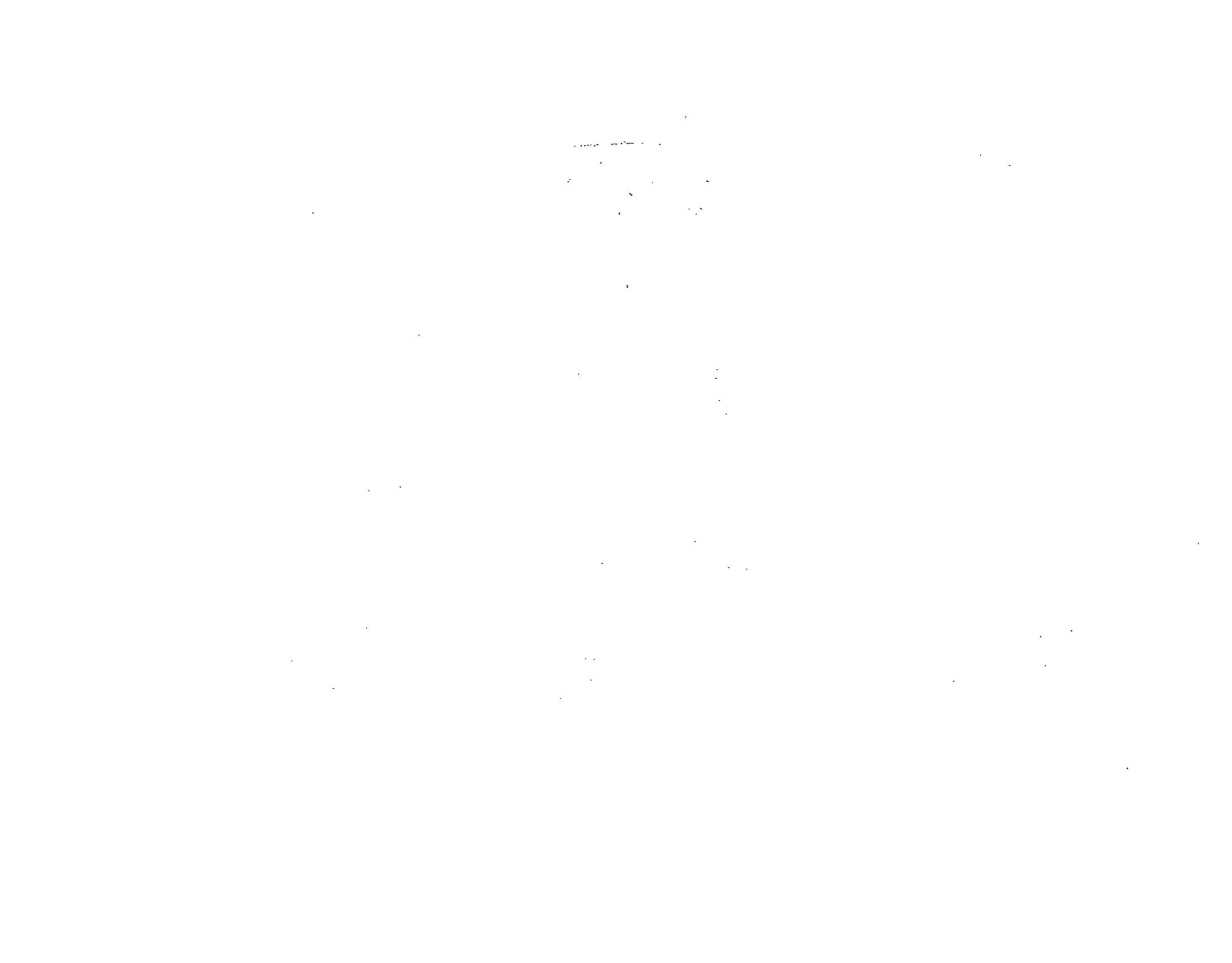
About 100 members and their friends were received at the Guildhall by His Worship the Mayor and the Lady Fermoy. The Corporation plate, charters, etc., were on view.

Tuesday, 12th July

At 9.45 a.m. the members assembled at the Duke's Head Hotel, and walked to the Grey Friars (Fig. 2), which they inspected under the guidance of Mr. A. W. Clapham, C.B.E., F.S.A.

GREY FRIARS There were houses in Lynn of the four chief orders of Friars and also a small establishment of the Friars of the Sack, which disappeared in the fourteenth century. The *Grey Friars* were established here before 1261. Of their house there still survives the graceful steeple which is of the typical friars' type, built over an oblong crossing on arches sprung across between two parallel walls. The S. doorway and the adjoining walls formed part of the original thirteenth-century church, in which was inserted the existing steeple probably late in the fourteenth century. The ribbed vault within the crossing still survives and above it rises the light hexagonal tower. The cloister evidently lay to the S. of the nave and there are some remains of its E. wall. A fragment of the foundation of the E. wall of the choir is crossed by a footpath. The arches standing to the S.E. are reconstructions of a fourteenth-century house removed from the S.W. corner of the Tuesday Market Place. The *Austin Friars* were established early in the reign of Edward I. Of their house in Austin Street there remains only a late fifteenth- or early sixteenth-century gateway with a four-centred arch, set in a brick wall. The *White Friars* in Bridge Street are first mentioned in 1261. The red brick and stone gateway of their house is a late fourteenth-century structure with a segmental-pointed arch and three niches above. Of the *Black Friars* (near Black Friars Street) there are no remains.





At 10 o'clock the company proceeded to the Red Mount Chapel (Pls. ii A, iv), which was described by Mr. H. L. Bradfer-Lawrence, F.S.A. The Chapel is a highly remarkable structure, fortunately exactly dated. The town records contain an entry under January 25th, 1485, that 'it is agreed by alle that Robert Curraunce shall have licence to bilde a chapell upon the mount called Ladye Hylle.' This mount is part of an old embankment of the Ouse. The chapel is of two storeys, the upper entered by the existing W. doorway and a staircase-passage which runs round the S. side, passes below the altar and enters the chapel itself from the W. The chapel is of cruciform plan with a panelled stone vault comparable in style with that of King's College Chapel, Cambridge. The lower chapel is vaulted in brick and was formerly approached by a passage on the W. The chapel was a way-side shrine for Walsingham; it subsequently served as a water cistern, a powder-magazine, and a stable.

At 11 o'clock, again under the guidance of Mr. Bradfer-Lawrence, the company proceeded along 'The Walk' to the South Gate, passing *en route* a mount known as 'The Seven Sisters,' on which the gallows formerly stood. 'The Walk' was laid out in 1740 along the line of the ancient rampart. Lynn was a walled town in the middle ages, and probably from the thirteenth century onwards. The East Gate was pulled down about a century ago, and the only surviving relic of these fortifications is the *South Gate*, a square-turreted structure rebuilt in 1520. It has a four-centred main arch. Two sections of the old town walls flank the site of the East Gate, and a fragment of the destroyed Gate is preserved in the Museum. Probably in the seventeenth century the fortifications of the town were modernised in accordance with the military engineering of the day. One of the bastions of this age still encloses the Red Mount Chapel. According to Defoe, a line of fortifications was drawn round the town during the Civil War;<sup>1</sup> they are distinctly shown on the plan of the town drawn by Henry Bell (1653-1717). The date on the plan, 1562, is an error and, although the exact year is not known, it must have been after 1670 and before the building of the Exchange [Custom House] in 1683, because the latter building is not depicted.

The members then walked to All Saints Church, South Lynn, where Mr. Bradfer-Lawrence and Mr. Clapham spoke. The parish of South Lynn was not incorporated within the borough of King's Lynn until 1557-8. The church is of Norman foundation—probably earlier than St. Margarets—and retains an original buttress and corbelling in the S. wall of the chancel. The plan was probably then cruciform. The present building is chiefly of the fifteenth century. The tower fell in 1763 and destroyed much of the structure. Inside

<sup>1</sup> A plan dated 1645, showing part of these fortifications, indicates that they had then been recently constructed.

there are remains of a fine fifteenth-century oak screen with painted panels representing the Apostles. The plate includes pieces of Charles II and Queen Anne.

The party then visited the Greenland Fishery Folklore Museum, housed in a building which was constructed as an inn in 1605.

At 12.30 p.m. the members proceeded to the Custom House *via* Clifton House, the home of the Tayler family, which was prominent in the wine trade with Portugal. Under Clifton House are thirteenth-century cellars with groined vaulting, and the fine entrance and street-façade were designed in 1708 by Henry Bell, a local architect who was twice mayor of Lynn and died in 1717.<sup>1</sup> The watch-tower is sixteenth-century work. The Custom House was also designed by Bell. It is

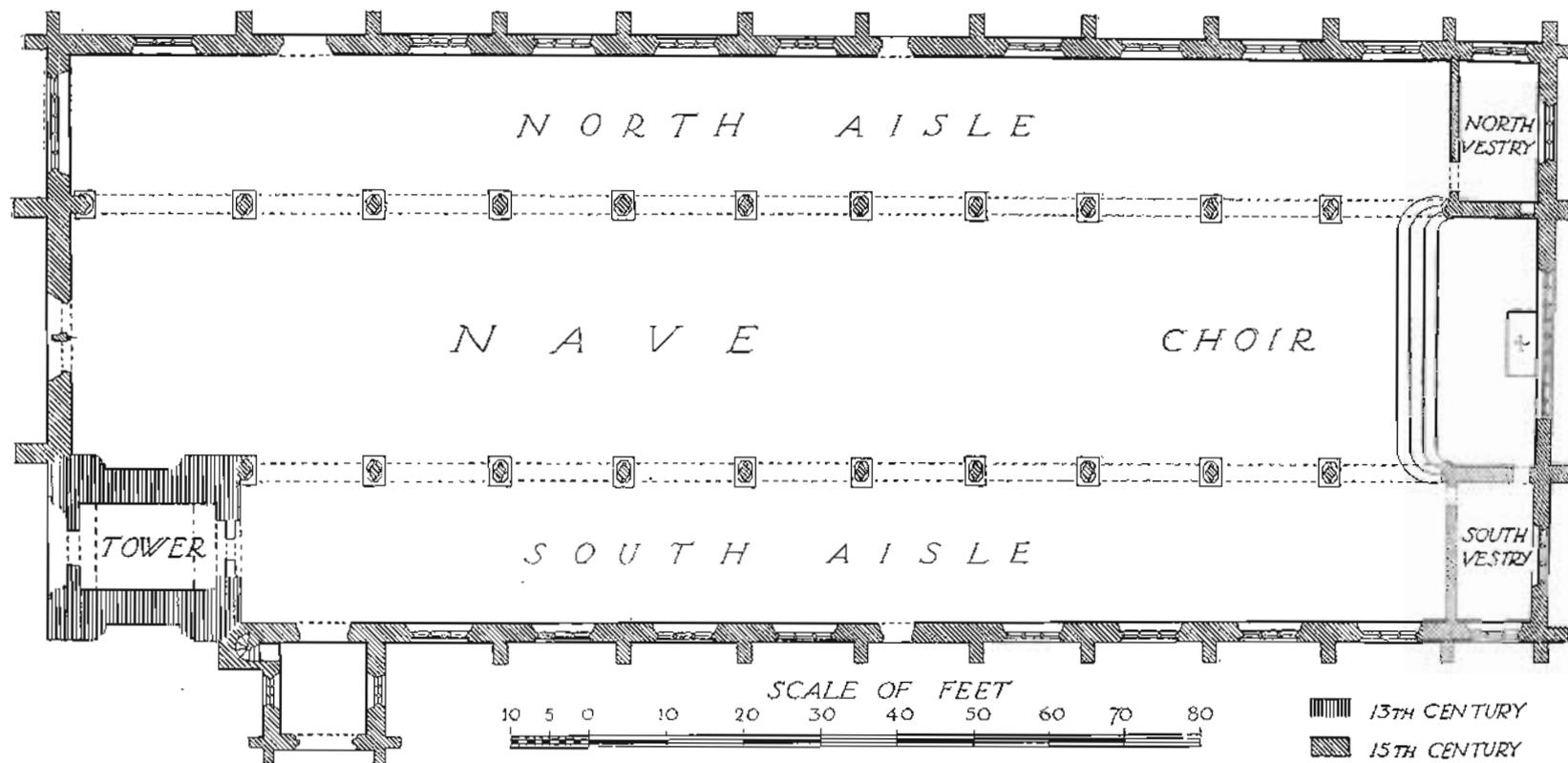
his masterpiece, and was built as an Exchange for merchants in 1683. It may be compared with the town hall at Abingdon, though it is less severely classical. Above the doorway is a statue of Charles II. To the same architect is ascribed the *Duke's Head Hotel*, built in 1685 as an inn for the accommodation of the merchants resorting to the Exchange; over the central window are the arms of Sir John Turner, Knt., the builder of the Exchange and this inn. Henry Bell also built the Market Cross, now demolished, in Tuesday Market Place, largely through the munificence of Charles Turner, brother of Sir John.

Afterwards, St. George's Hall, in King Street, was visited. The building was the hall of St. George's Guild, but it has been much altered and long served as a theatre.

After luncheon, the members assembled at St. Nicholas Chapel (Pl. v), which was described by Mr. Clapham. This chapel, at the N. end of the town, was founded in 1146 to serve the new quarter of the town lying to the N. of the Purfleet. An early thirteenth-century chapel succeeded this building, and its W. gable is incorporated in the E. side of the existing tower. The rest of the church was rebuilt in the fifteenth century and completed before 1419. It is now a fine aisled and clear-storeyed building without structural division and retains its original timber roof with figures of angels holding a fine series of musical instruments. The W. door is unusual in having a central pillar, while the N. door has a wooden hood *temp.* Henry VIII. The S. porch is two storeyed, and has two ranges of niches on the front and a ribbed vault to the lower storey. The E. window has nine and the W. eleven lights. The font (given by Samuel Harsnett, Bishop of Norwich) dates from 1627, and there is a fifteenth-century eagle-lectern in bronze. Much of the old carved woodwork was removed to the Architectural Museum of Westminster and is now at the Victoria

<sup>1</sup> See *Burlington Mag.*, ? 1925.

# KING'S LYNN - ST. NICHOLAS CHAPEL





and Albert Museum. The monuments include those to John Snelling, 1623, Thomas Greene, 1675, Sir Benjamin Keene, 1757, and others.

At 3.15 p.m. the company moved to Thoresby's College in Queen Street. The College was founded early in the sixteenth century by Thomas Thoresby (Mayor in 1502) for THORESBY'S the priests serving St. Margaret's Church. It is a COLLEGE red-brick building of quadrangular plan. On the door is the inscription: '[Orate pro anima] magistri Thomas Thoresby fundatoris hujus loci.' There are some remains of the roof of the Hall.

The members proceeded thence to the Guild Hall in Saturday Market Place, under the guidance of Mr. Bradfer-Lawrence. The building is chiefly remarkable for the fine hall of the GUILD Trinity Gild with the adjacent Elizabethan porch. HALL The Hall was re-built in 1421 and has a checker-work front with a large seven-light traceried window. The Hall itself is on the first floor and retains its old timber roof. The adjoining porch is of c. 1580; it has a Renaissance doorway and a large stone carving of the arms of Queen Elizabeth. In 1768 the Hall was partitioned off at one end to form a card-room. The town hall contains an interesting series of portraits. In the Court Room is a Royal Arms of 1577, and in the Mayor's Room is a painting showing the old Market Cross in Tuesday Market Place, demolished in 1831. The Corporation Plate is of extraordinary interest and includes the celebrated King John's Cup, a fourteenth-century standing cup decorated with English enamels; the Sword, ascribed to King John and with an inscription to Henry VIII; a Nuremberg loving-cup; the old Borough seal of c. 1300; the Mayor's seal of about the same date; the Mayor's chain of c. 1550; early eighteenth-century maces and various other pieces. The corporation records are almost equally interesting, and include the Red Register of Lynn, beginning c. 1300, one of the earliest paper books, the Guild Rolls going back to the thirty-fourth year of Edward I, and the Corporation Minute Books from 1431.

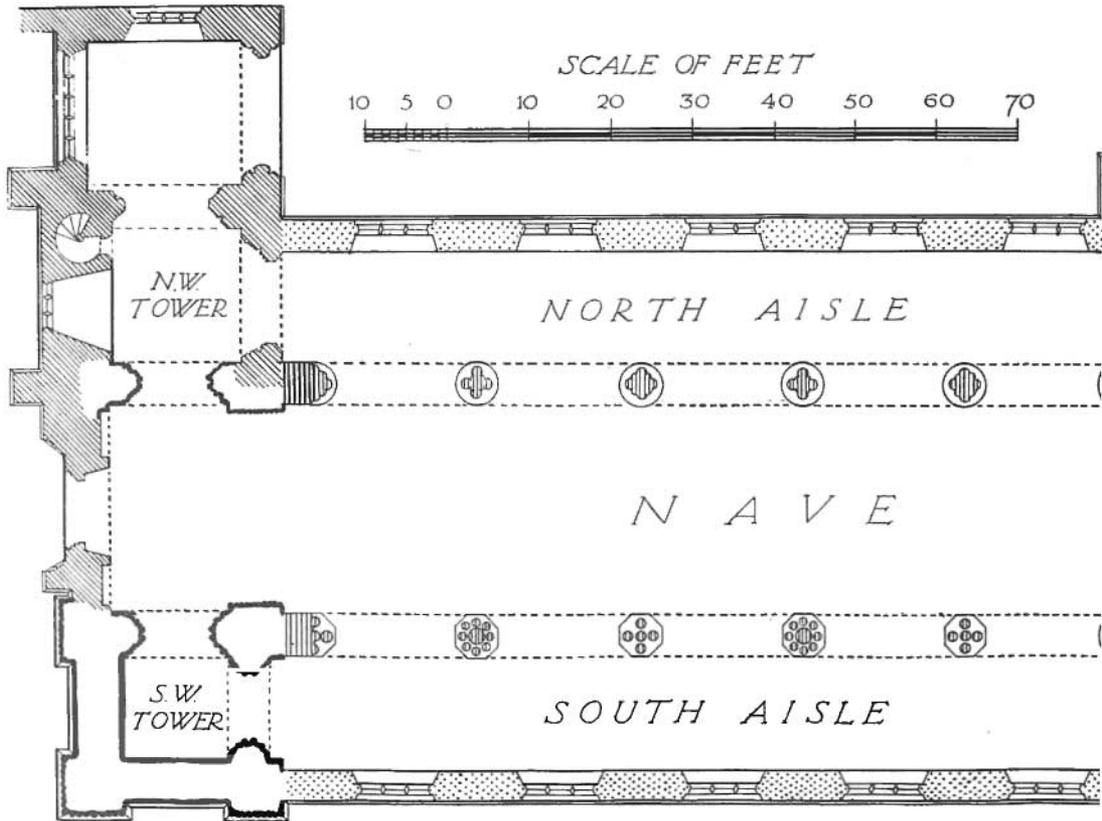
After tea at St. Margaret's Vicarage (by kind invitation of the Vicar and Mrs. Hinton-Knowles), the company visited St. Margaret's Church and was addressed by Mr. Bradfer-Lawrence. ST. MAR- The church (Pls. ii B, iii, vi) was founded by Bishop GARET'S Herbert de Losinga about 1100 when he established CHURCH here a cell of the cathedral priory of Norwich, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, St. Margaret and all virgin saints. The church was no doubt built as usual from east to west, but the only surviving remains of it are the late twelfth-century base of the S.W. tower and part of the S. opening of the N.W. tower. The innermost corners of these towers are shafted up to the first stage. The whole of the rest of the church seems to have been rebuilt about the middle

of the thirteenth century, when it consisted of an aisled choir, transept, crossing and an aisled nave. Various additions and enlargements were made to the church in the fifteenth and sixteenth century, including a chapel of the Trinity (N. of the choir) founded by Walter Coney (d. 1479) and a S. chapel founded by Thomas Thoresby (d. 1510), who also founded the College of Priests called Thoresby's College. The appearance of the church, before its mutilation and partial destruction, is preserved in an exterior and interior view engraved by Henry Bell (1653-1717), the architect of the Custom House. The exterior view shows the lead-covered timber lantern over the crossing, perhaps an imitation of that over the octagon at Ely and like it of fourteenth-century date; it shows also the range of gild and other chapels on the N. side of the church, and the lofty timber spire of the N.W. tower. This steeple was blown down in the great tempest of September 8th, 1741, and falling across the nave damaged it so severely that it had to be pulled down. It was replaced by the existing structure in a debased 'Perpendicular' style in 1745 and fitted up with pews and galleries. These were cleared away in the restoration of 1874.

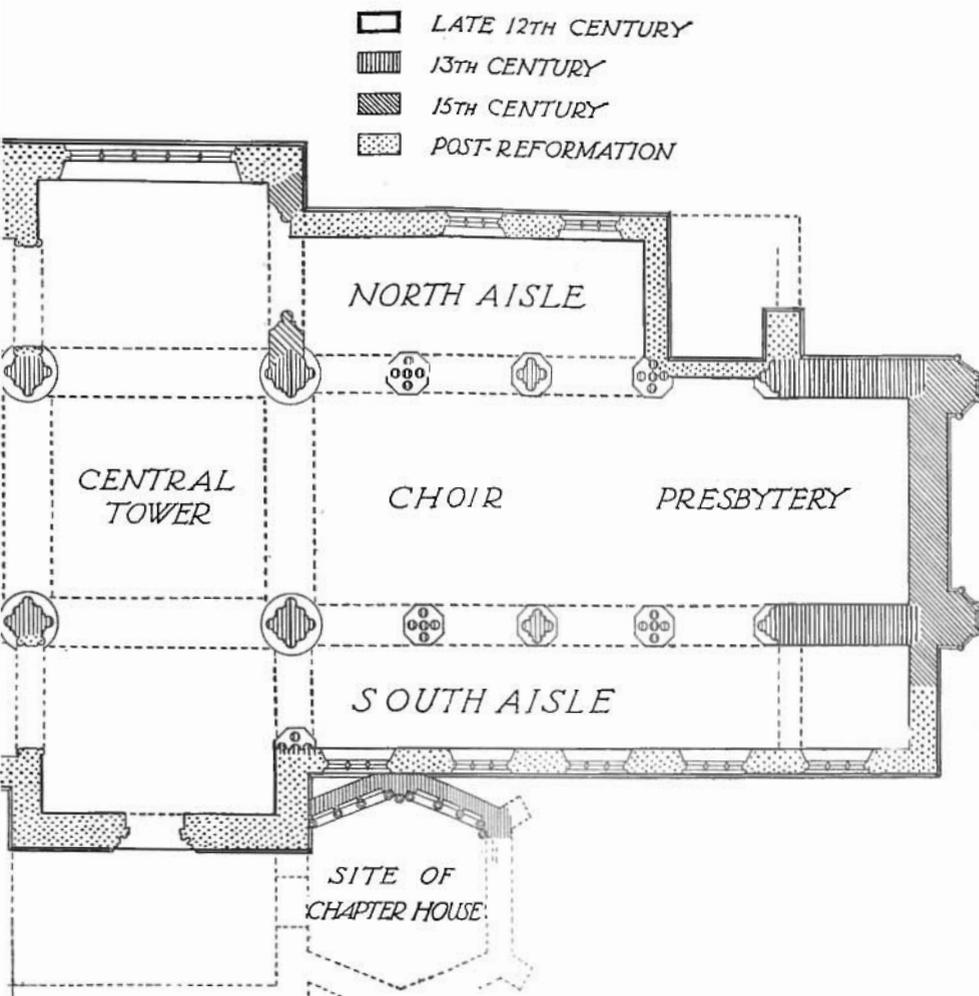
The chancel retains its thirteenth-century arcades with foliated capitals, but the curious circular E. window and the clearstorey are works of the fifteenth century incorporating re-used material of the thirteenth. The crossing retains its four thirteenth-century arches, but the nave is entirely of the eighteenth century, though the piers rest on the bases of the thirteenth-century arcades, uncovered at the restoration. The S.W. tower is of twelfth- and thirteenth-century date, but most of the N.W. tower is of the fifteenth century; this alteration or re-building was done in 1419. The buttresses of the S.W. tower and the internal buttress of the N.W. tower should be noticed, as they are formed of a series of shafts of varying size.

Of the fittings the most important are the magnificent Flemish brasses of Adam of Walsoken, 1349, and Robert Braunche, 1364, the latter brass representing the Peacock Feast given to Edward III, both now under the S.W. tower. The Elizabethan and Jacobean chancel-screen is now under the organ; the lower part bears the date 1584, and the upper part the words 'BEATI PACIFICI REGNA JACOBUS HENRICUS ROSAS (junxerunt),' the first words of the speech of James I to his parliament. The pulpit with its sounding board (the latter now in the S.W. tower) dates from 1743. The best woodwork, however, is the fourteenth-century screen and the stalls of the chancel. The misericords have heraldic enrichments, including the arms of Bishop Henry Despenser (1370-1407), Edward III, the Black Prince and his brother. Mention may also be made of an interesting wooden sword-rest carved with the arms of Lynn.

On the S. side of the church and formerly communicating with the S. transept are the partially excavated remains of a thirteenth-century hexagonal structure, which served either as a chapter-house or a chapel. There are some remains of the Priory range of buildings, including a gate house, fronting the road to the S. of the church.

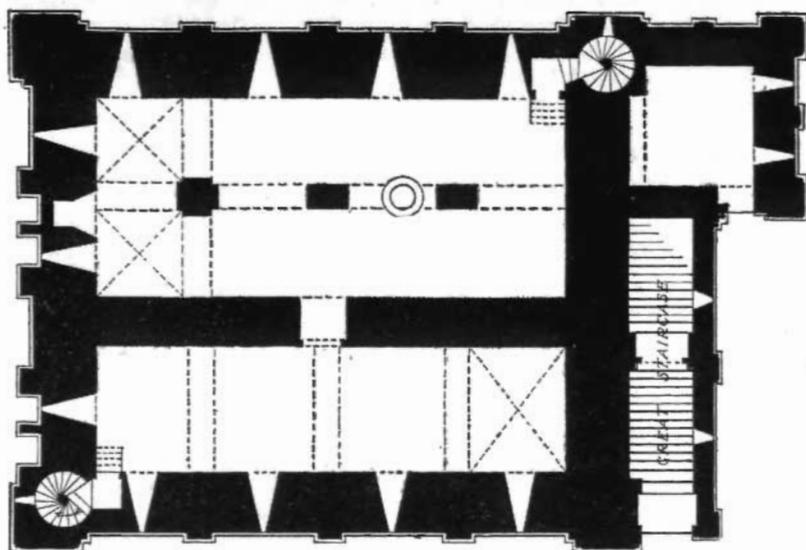


KING'S LYNN  
*The* CHURCH *of* ST. MARGARET



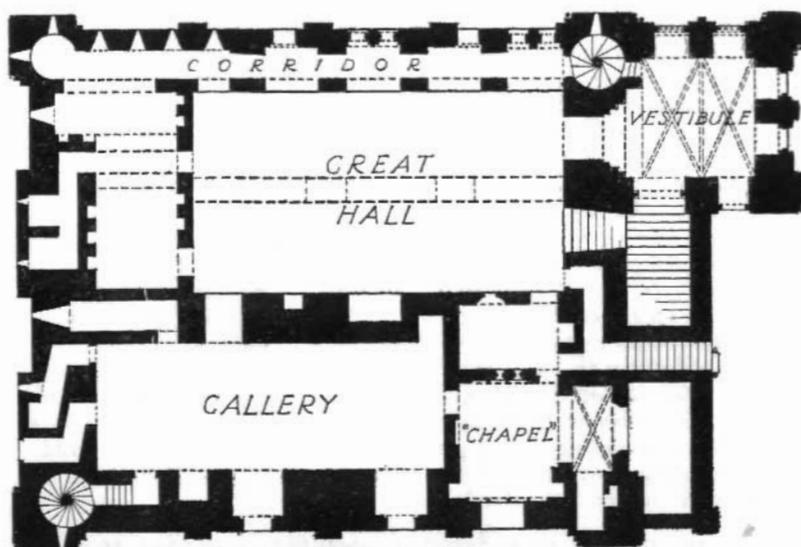


# RISING CASTLE



PLAN OF GROUND FLOOR

Scale  $\overline{\overline{10}} \quad \overline{\overline{0}} \quad \overline{\overline{10}} \quad \overline{\overline{20}} \quad \overline{\overline{30}} \quad \overline{\overline{40}} \quad \overline{\overline{50}}$  of Feet



PLAN OF UPPER FLOOR

FIG. 3  
(Plans by H. Marsh)

At 8.30 p.m. a lecture (with lantern-slides) on 'The formation and early human occupation of the Fenland basin, down to Roman times' was given by Mr. J. G. Grahame Clark at the Duke's Head Hotel.

Wednesday, 13th July

At 9.45 a.m. the company motored to Castle Rising under the guidance of Mr. Bradfer-Lawrence. Though now a small village, Castle Rising obtained extensive privileges, including the right of electing a Mayor, before the death of Hugh d'Albini in 1243. The borough returned two members to parliament until the Reform Act, though only four or five names appeared on the poll-lists.

The *Castle* (Fig. 3) belonged successively to the Albinis and Montalts, and then passed to Isabel, widow of Edward II, who lived here from 1331 to just before her death in 1356. After being largely in the hands of the Crown for a couple of centuries, it passed eventually (*temp.* Henry VIII) to the Howards.<sup>1</sup>

The main earthworks enclose an irregular oval area, and consist of an enormous rampart and ditch, the vertical height from the top of the rampart to the bottom of the ditch being 64 ft. There are no traces of a motte. There are outer enclosures to the E. and W. The main enclosure is entered by a twelfth-century gate-house on the E. side, with a fifteenth- or sixteenth-century bridge, replacing the earlier drawbridge. Within the enclosure the only building now surviving is the Keep, but to the N. of it are the exposed foundations of an apsidal twelfth-century chapel.

The Keep appears to have been built about the middle of the twelfth century, and is a rectangular building some 78½ feet by 68½ feet, with a forebuilding on the E. side. It is one of the most complete surviving examples of its type in England. The staircase in the forebuilding gives access to a square vestibule or guardroom, from which a handsome enriched archway opens into the main hall. This room has a gallery running along one side in the thickness of the wall. The smaller room on the S. shows evidence of thirteenth-century alterations, and from it, on the E., is entered the richly decorated apartment formerly called the chapel. It has extensive remains of wall-arcading, and on the E. is a vaulted recess with a twelfth-century arch.

The exterior of the Keep has heavy clasping buttresses at the angles and pilaster buttresses between. The forebuilding has external wall-arcading. The parapet-crested, throughout the building, has fallen, but this is practically the only part of the original structure which no longer survives.

<sup>1</sup> See H. Harrod, *Castles and Castle*; (2) Church and Hospital, *Convents of Norfolk*; and H. L. 1929. Bradfer-Lawrence, *Castle Rising* (1)

At 10.30 a.m. the members proceeded to the church of St. Lawrence (Fig. 4). The building is of about the same date as the castle keep (mid-twelfth century); it originally consisted of a chancel, central tower and nave, and is a good example of the 'three apartment' type of Norman church. In the fourteenth century an arch was cut in the S. wall of the tower and a chapel added on this side. The church was extensively restored in 1841, and the old S. chapel, long destroyed, has been replaced by a modern building. The W. front is unusually elaborate for a parish church, and has a central door and

CASTLE  
RISING  
CHURCH

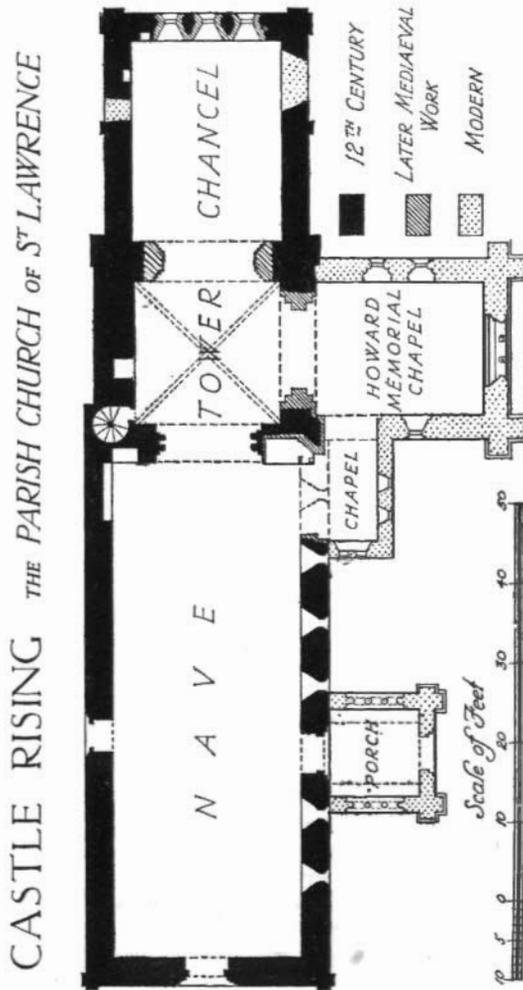


FIG. 4.

window, and two ranges of wall-arcading, the upper being mainly modern restoration. The E. window is a triplet of thirteenth-century lancets. The richly carved twelfth-century font should be noticed, and also the small altar and recess, N. of the chancel arch. This is identified as St. John's altar from a will of 1491. The corresponding altar, S. of the chancel-arch, has gone, but the thirteenth-century recess remains. The unusual open arcade above the W. tower-arch and the remains of arcading in the chancel should also be noticed.

The party then visited the Hospital of the Holy and Undivided Trinity (Fig. 5), which was founded by Henry Howard, Earl of Northampton (1540-1614). It was apparently erected in 1009-15 at a cost of £451 14s. 2½d., and seems to have been originally thatched. The Earl also founded hospitals at Clun and Greenwich. The quadrangular brick building is entered by a gate-house in the middle of the W. side; the room above is the Treasury and has Jacobean panelling and a chest with three locks. The chapel, on the opposite side of the court, has been rebuilt, but the dwellings of the almswomen retain many of their original fittings, including a chair and table in each tenement.

TRINITY  
HOSPITAL

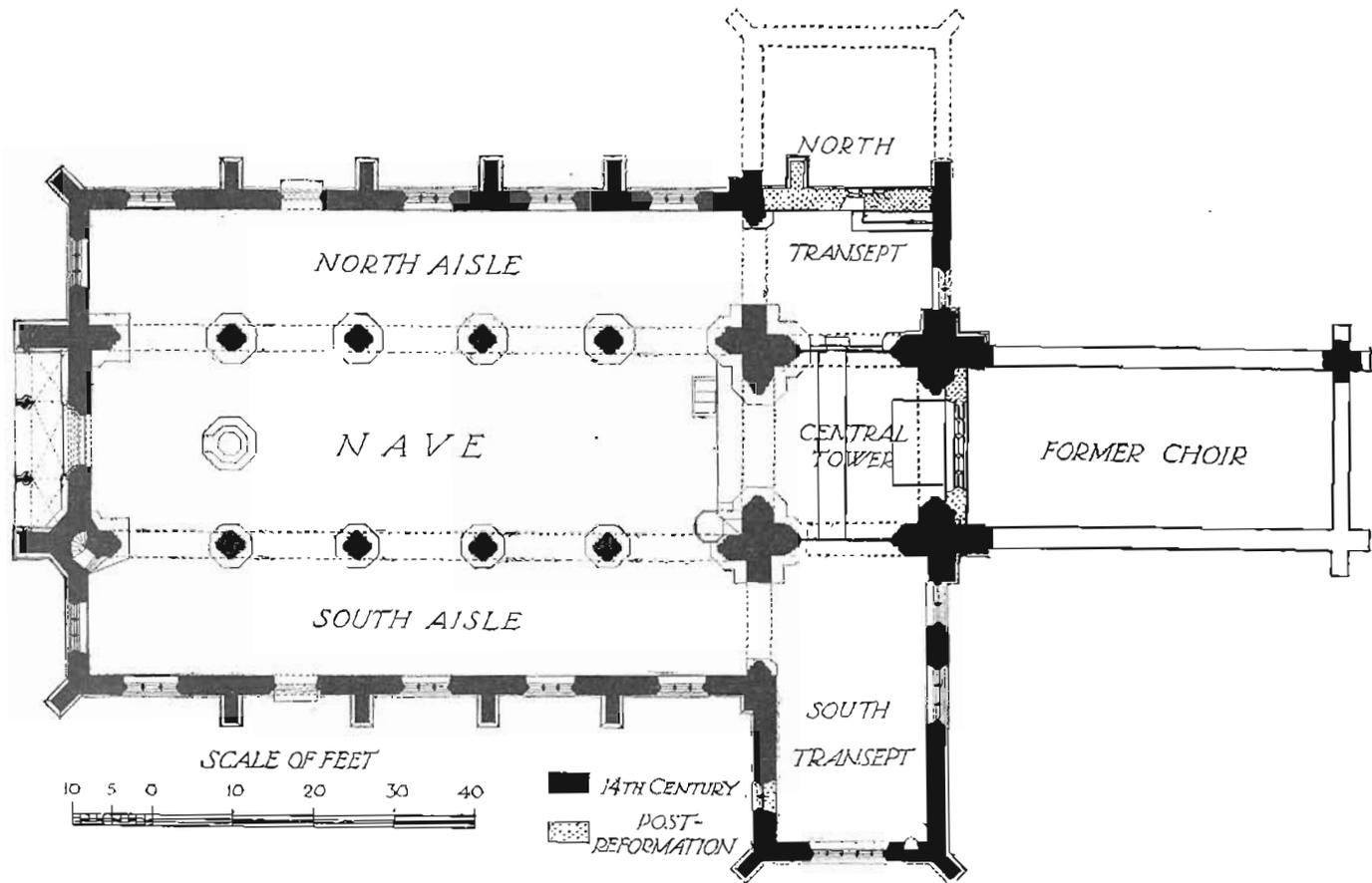
The members then proceeded to Snettisham and inspected the church of St. Mary, where they were received by the Vicar (Mr. Bligh). The church (Pls. vii, ix A) was entirely rebuilt early in the fourteenth century. It was formerly of cruciform plan with a central tower and a stone spire, but the chancel is ruined and the N. transept has been destroyed except for a portion, the width of the N. aisle, which was rebuilt, according to an inscription, in 1595. The existing church consists of a nave with N. and S. aisles, S. transept and vaulted W. porch with three arched entrances. The nave is of five bays with a clerestory of five circular windows, alternating with four two-light windows; in the W. wall is a large six-light window, the elaborate tracery of which was formerly blocked, but it was restored and filled with glass by Warrington in 1846; the nave piers rest on the high bases forming seats found in other churches in the district. The nave roof is of the fourteenth century, but was lowered and repaired in 1785.

There is a brass of John Cremer, 1610, and a bell (not hung) of the thirteenth century. Against the N. wall is an alabaster monument to Sir Wymond Carey, 1612, and there are monuments to the Styleman family in the S. transept. The lectern is an interesting example of a medieval brass eagle.

Externally the church is of considerable interest, the W. front being a striking composition, with its fine porch remotely resembling that at Peterborough. The tower is of one stage, having a plain parapet and pinnacles at the angles connected with the octagonal stone spire by flying-buttresses; the spire is plain but has two tiers of lights.

The church was restored by Butterfield.

SNET-  
TISHAM  
CHURCH



SNETTISHAM CHURCH



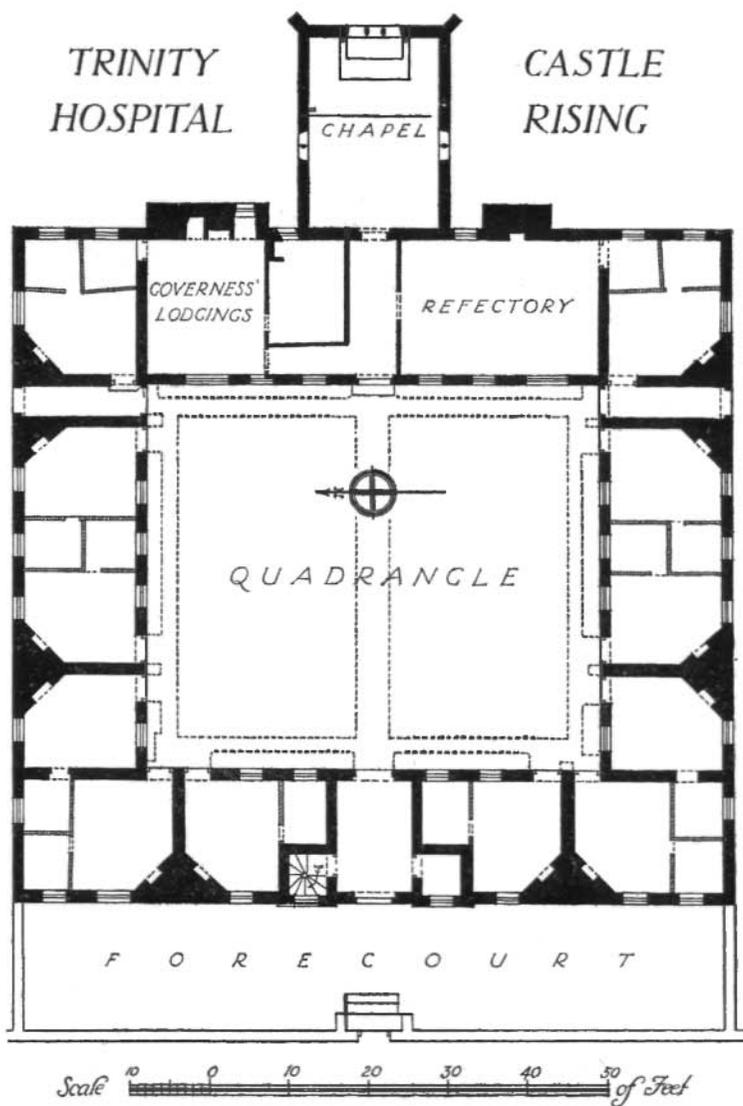


FIG. 5

After luncheon at Brancaster, the company halted for a few minutes at the site of the Roman fort, a short distance E. of the village. The fort is represented by slightly rising ground on the N. side of the highroad. It was of importance as a member of the system of coastal defences organised at the end of the third and in the fourth centuries A.D. to defend the E. and S. coasts of Britain against Saxon adventurers. The headquarters of this system were at Richborough, in Kent, and Brancaster is the most northerly of the recorded forts of the series. It guarded the important natural landing-places formerly provided by the Wash and the inlets of the adjacent Norfolk coast. From the *Notitia Dignitatum* it may be inferred that the name of the place was Branodunum and that it was garrisoned by a regiment of Dalmatian cavalry.

The fort appears to have been about 8 acres in extent and roughly square. Excavations in 1846 showed that the defensive wall was 11 feet thick, with facing and bonding courses of sandstone. The N.E. corner was rounded and had an oblong internal tower; the E. gate had flanking bastions and a 33-foot roadway. Coins from the site are mostly of the late third and fourth centuries, but an occasional coin of the first and second centuries points to some occupation at an earlier date—whether civil or military is not known, in the absence of adequate exploration. (See Victoria County History, *Norfolk* i, 303.)

At 2.30 p.m. the members arrived at Burnham Deepdale and inspected the twelfth-century font. This font is of Barnack stone, and is decorated with scenes of agricultural and domestic life represented in arcaded panels. The N., E. and S. sides show the occupations of the months of the year, and in some cases retain the inscribed names of the respective months: JANUARIUS (a seated figure with a drinking-horn), [F]EBRUARIUS (a seated figure with his foot upon a hearth-stone), MARTIUS (a husbandman digging), JUNIUS (a husbandman with a weeding-tool), JULIUS (mowing), and AU[GUSTUS] (binding a sheaf) can still be read. The W. side contains four panels filled with trees and foliage. Round the top is a frieze of foliage and lions. (See H. J. D. Astley, *Memorials of Old Norfolk*, p. 225.) The church contains also a fifteenth-century cope and some old glass in the W. window of the N. aisle.

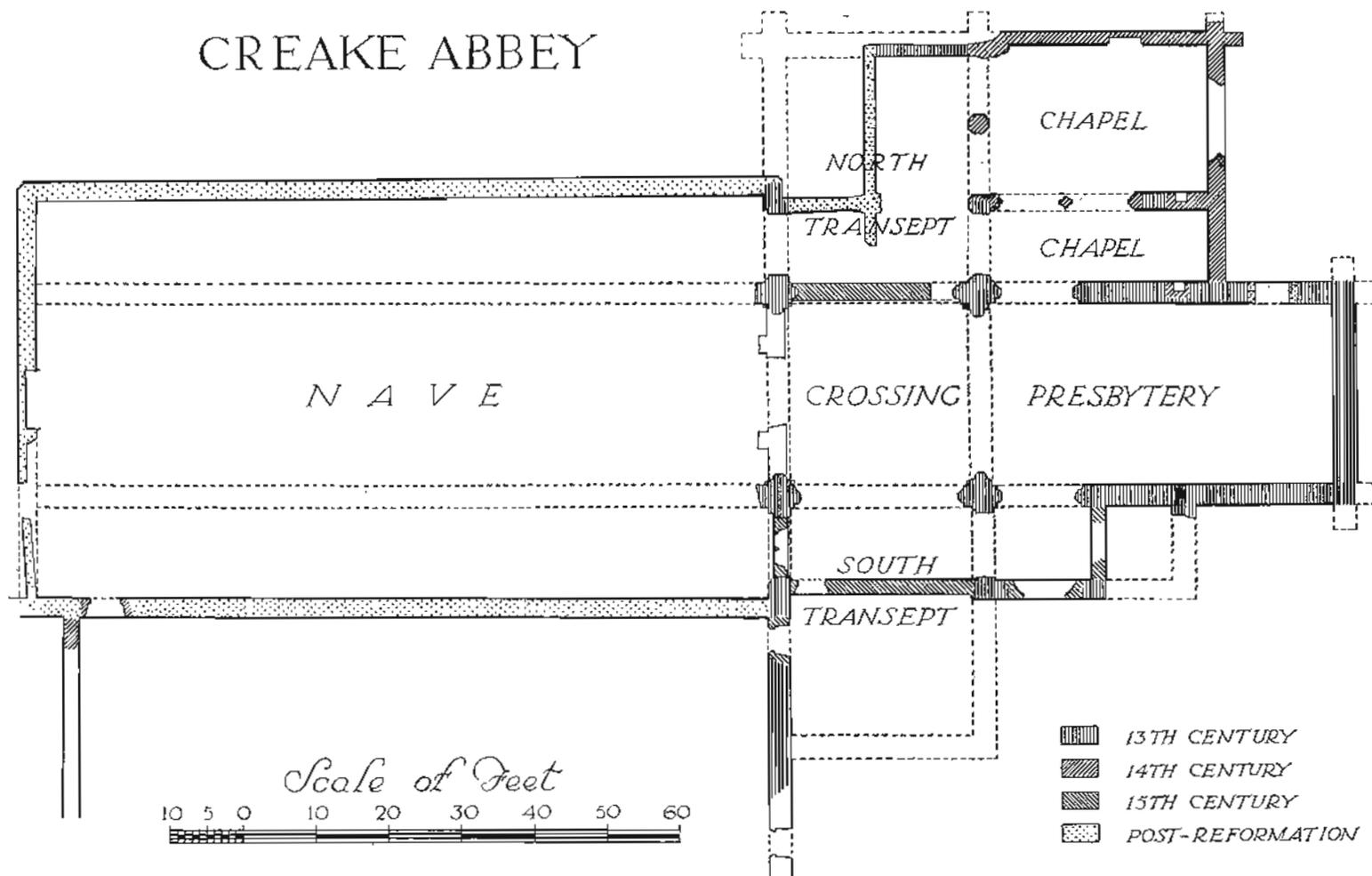
The party then proceeded to Creake Abbey (Pls. viii, x, xi), and was addressed by Mr. Clapham. A house of Austin Canons, known as St. Mary de Pratis by Creake, was founded in 1206 by Alice, widow of Sir Robert de Nerford. This lady and her husband had in the time of Henry II founded a hospital of St. Bartholomew for a master, four chaplains and thirteen poor brethren. The establishment was changed by the widow, in 1206, into a priory of canons-regular. The chapel of the priory was consecrated in 1225 by Geoffrey Bishop of Ely. In 1231 the patronage was transferred to the King, and the house raised to the status of an abbey. Much of the monastery was burnt in 1378, and, it being

BRAN-  
CASTER.  
ROMAN  
FORT

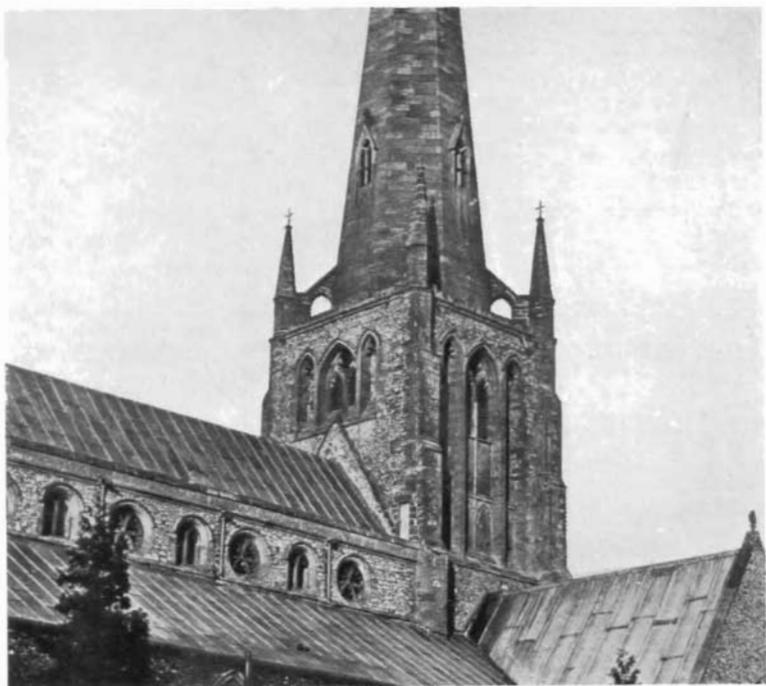
BURNHAM  
DEEPDALE  
FONT

CREAKE  
ABBAY

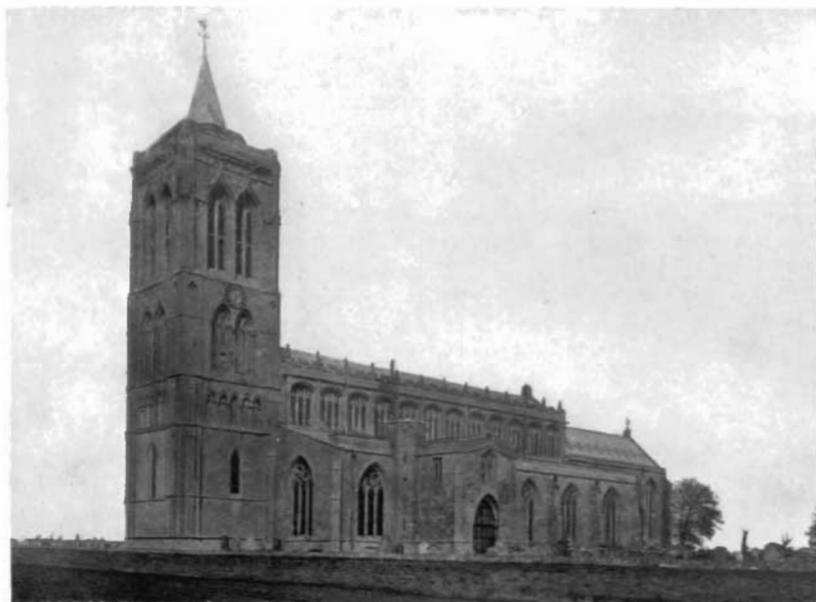
# CREAKE ABBEY







A. SNETTISHAM CHURCH



B. GEDNEY CHURCH



CREAKE ABBEY : CHAPELS OF THE NORTH TRANSEPT

then in very low water financially, Richard II granted £40 13s. 4d. towards the rebuilding. Extensive reconstruction of the quire and presbytery was apparently in progress under Abbot Robert Walsingham (el. 1491). Sir William Calthorp, many of whose ancestors were buried in a chapel of the church, left by will (1495) £74 towards the building of the quire and presbytery. The convent came to an abrupt end in 1506, owing to an epidemic which carried off all the inmates, the Abbot being the last survivor. The revenues were given to Christ's College, Cambridge.

There are extensive remains of the E. parts of the church, and the extent of the aisled nave can be traced by modern enclosing walls on the old lines. The structure is mainly of the first half of the thirteenth century, and is good work of its type. The aisleless presbytery of four bays has a series of deep moulded wall-arches on each side, with shafts carried down between the bays. The four piers of the crossing still stand to their full height, but the actual arches have fallen, leaving only the springing-stones. Flanking the presbytery were chapels of two-bay projection, but that on the S. has been reconstructed of smaller size at a late date. Beyond the N. chapel is a much larger chapel added at a later date (early fourteenth century); it was entered from the transept by two arches, one of which has fallen, and it has a single large E. window. Two small arches communicate between it and the inner chapel. The original arches opening from the transept into the nave aisle still survive intact. The building shows extensive evidence of reduction in size and partial abandonment, which is noticeable in a number of the smaller Norfolk houses. Thus the S. transept appears to have been abbreviated, the arch opening thence into the S. aisle blocked and the aisle itself perhaps thrown into the cloister. There are also remains of two late blocking-walls in the N. transept. These alterations are perhaps to be assigned to the reconstruction of the quire and presbytery at the end of the fifteenth century. Foundations of the pulpitum remain under the W. arch of the crossing.

At 4.0 p.m. the company visited Holkham Hall by kind permission of the Earl of Leicester and was received by the agent,

Mr. A. W. Tower.

HOLKHAM  
HALL

This mansion (Pl. xii) was designed by William Kent, and built for Thomas Coke, 1st Earl of Leicester, between 1734 and 1760. An inscription over the main entrance to the hall reads: 'This seat, on an open, barren estate, was planned, planted, built, decorated, and inhabited in the middle of the eighteenth century, by Thomas Coke, Earl of Leicester.' It is recorded that on one occasion this Earl remarked that his nearest neighbour was the King of Denmark. The plan consists of a rectangular block containing the principal rooms, with four smaller detached blocks connected by passages at the angles with the main block. The front presents an expanse of bare yellow-brick wall varied by a repetition of Venetian windows; and the whole building is a notable and monumental example of the formal and somewhat arid style of the architect and his day. The interior is more lavish; many of

the ceilings are of 'curious gilt fret and mosaic work,' and there are several handsome marble chimney-pieces. The entrance-hall, cased in Derbyshire alabaster, has a gallery supported by 24 Ionic columns; the Statue Gallery, with octagonal ends, is also noteworthy.

At 9.0 p.m. a lecture (with lantern-slides) on 'Some comments upon the history of the Fens in the Christian Era' was  
LECTURE given by Major Gordon Fowler in the Duke's Head Hotel.

#### Thursday, 14th July

At 9.30 a.m. the members motored to Thorney Abbey (Pls. xiii, xiv A), and were addressed by Mr. Clapham.

THORNEY fen-island monastic foundations. It is said to have  
ABBEY been founded by Saxulph, first Abbot of Peterborough, with the consent of Wulfhere, King of Mercia, *c.* 662. The establishment survived until the incursion of the heathen Danes in 870, at which time, according to Ingulf, it consisted of a prior, sub-prior, and several anchorites. It shared the fate of the other fenland abbeys in sack and destruction by the invaders, but its prior and sub-prior apparently escaped, since they are mentioned as instrumental in the interment of their murdered brethren at Peterborough. The place had, up to this time, been known as Ancarig, and apparently at some time also as Beamslede, which name is employed even after the refoundation in 972; by this time it had also acquired the present name of Thorney. This refoundation was carried out under King Edgar, whose charter survives, by Ethelwold, Bishop of Winchester, who placed the monastery under Benedictine rule and dedicated it to the Blessed Virgin. Shortly afterwards, apparently in King Ethelred's time, the remains of St. Botolph, a seventh-century saint, were translated hither from Ikanhoe, near Boston, and the double dedication to Sts. Mary and Botolph was adopted. The main endowments were in Cambridgeshire, Hunts, Beds, and Northants, with valuable fisheries on the great mere of Whittlesea, which were shared with the abbeys of Ramsey and Peterborough. The Saxon buildings survived the rule of the second post-Conquest abbot, but his successor, Gunter of Le Mans, formerly a monk of Battle and Archdeacon of Sarum, introduced the custom of Marmoutier, and undertook the rebuilding of church and monastery in 1085. Much had been done by 1098, and Gunter's work in the nave is stated to have been completed by 1108, with which period the surviving work accords. Dedication, however, did not take place until twenty years later, under Abbot Robert, and probably awaited the completion of the upper portions of the nave, possibly vaulting, and the western turrets. Shortly after this William of Malmesbury is high in praise of the beauty and fertility of the enceinte of the Abbey.

Later records of building are almost absent. Abbot William de Clopton in 1305 rebuilt the chapter-house, and work was in progress in the lady chapel, as he contributed to its decoration. The list of



CREAKE ABBEY : SOUTH PIERS OF CROSSING



abbots was recorded in the Red Book of Thorney, formerly in the possession of the Earl of Westmoreland, and can be seen in the Monasticon. The Abbey was suppressed with the greater houses, 1538-9, and the site was granted to John, Duke of Bedford, in 1550. The greater part of the buildings was apparently promptly destroyed, the western five bays of the nave being retained as the parochial church.

*Remains.* These are limited to the five nave bays mentioned above, now shorn of their aisles, and an undercroft beneath a house to the S. of the church. Destruction probably took place at the line of the rood-screen, as in many other eastern abbeys, and the nave most likely possessed two further bays to the E., possibly three. The aisles were at first retained, but in 1638, the clerestory was removed, except for a Norman fragment visible externally at the west end, the great west window was filled with a wall in which a smaller window was inserted, and the central part of the west front below this was reconstructed, between the Norman turrets. The aisles also were removed and their arcades blocked and the building roofed above the triforium level. Finally in 1840-1 the eastern blocking wall was removed and a modern transept erected, bringing the building to its present condition.

The Norman work is of the massive, austere type characteristic of the first years of the twelfth century, before the free introduction of ornament. The jambs of the arcade-arches are alternately semi-circular and clustered, the caps of the heavy cushion type, and the only relief in the arch a heavy roll and cavetto in the outer order. The triforium has a heavy roll on the soffit of the arch and a roll and square edge as an outer order, and shows voluted and scallop caps. Billet ornament appears in the surviving fragment of Norman clerestory. Externally, the western Norman turrets with their shafted recessing are equally severe with the nave elevation. Between these turrets, the great west window (blocked in 1638), the row of saints in niches above it, and the octagonal upper portions of the turrets, are a reconstruction of the fifteenth century. An old drawing made before the Dissolution is described as showing a building five times the size of the present nave, with aisles, and spires, the north one only surviving, on the western turrets. It has been stated that the final church reached the length of 290 feet—the present Norman work is about 74 feet.

A few shields of medieval stained glass survive in the windows, among them the royal arms before and after 1340. The arms of the abbey were azure, three croziers two and one, between as many cross-crosslets fitchy, or.

At noon, the party reached Crowland Abbey (Pls. xiv B, xv), which was described by Mr. Clapham.

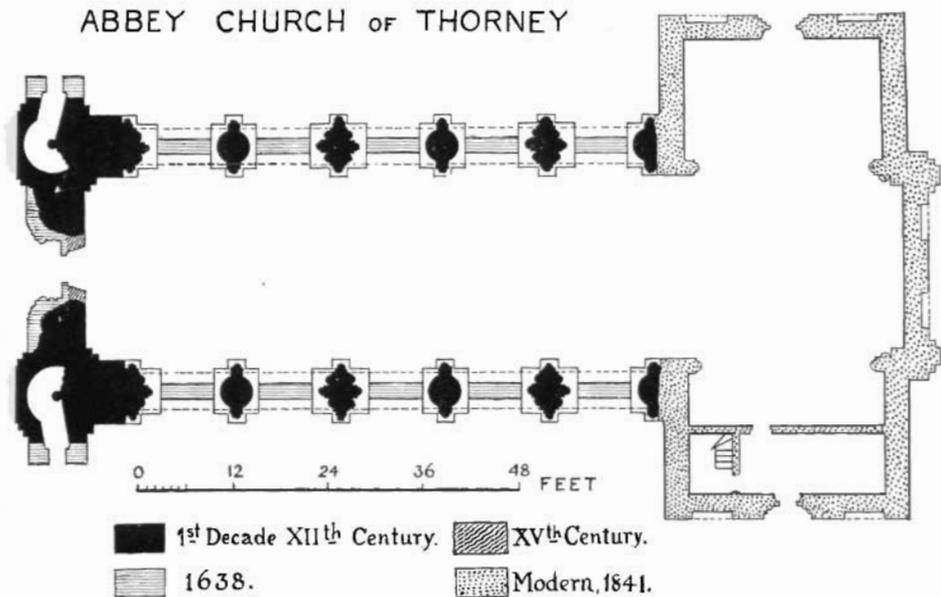
**CROWLAND ABBEY** The great abbey of Croyland, or Crowland, took its rise from the hermitage of St. Guthlac, and was founded by King Ethelbald on this island in the fens in 714. Croyland was destroyed by the Danes in 870, but was restored as a Benedictine abbey under Abbot Thurkytel about 947.

The buildings were reconstructed in 1061 by Abbot Ulfketyl, but were burnt down about thirty years later, when Ingulf was abbot. On March 13th, 1113, Abbot Geoffrey laid the foundations of the new choir and, though damaged by an earthquake and a fire, this building was carried on to the W. end, which dates from perhaps 1160-70. In the time of Abbot Ralph de Mersh (1254-81) the W. front was damaged in a great gale and partly reconstructed; to this period belongs the existing W. doorway. In the fifteenth century the nave was entirely remodelled by Abbots Overton, Upton and Litlington, under the last of whom (after 1427) the nave was vaulted and glazed; the N. aisle was greatly enlarged at the same time and the N.W. tower built. A large window in the N. side of the tower has recently been unblocked and the tracery renewed. The abbey was dissolved in 1539, when the eastern parts of the church were destroyed. The nave with its aisles was retained for parochial purposes. The nave roof fell in 1720, and in 1744 the main S. wall was taken down. The outer N. aisle now alone serves as the parish church.

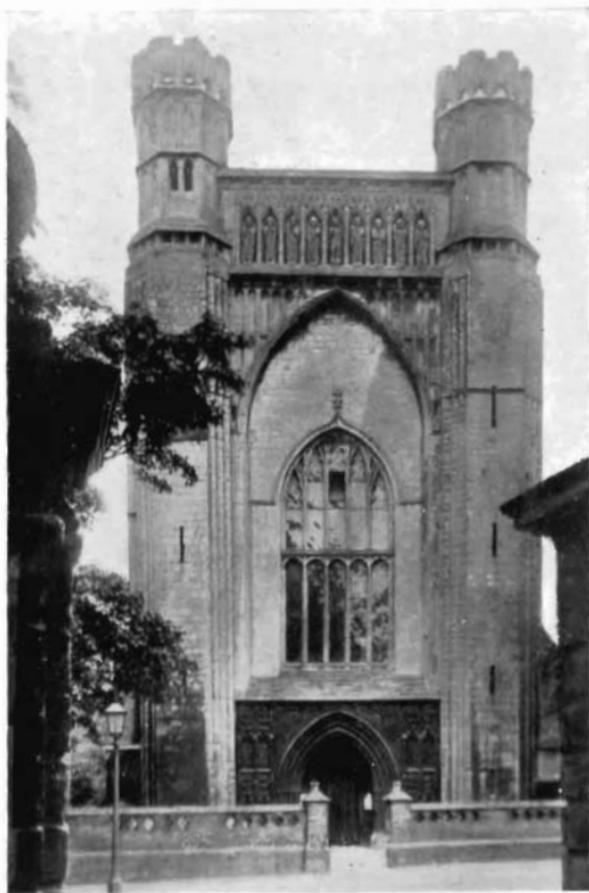
Of the Norman church there survive the two W. piers of the crossing and portions of the W. front. The crossing retains part of its W. arch with chevron ornament, and in the adjoining portions of the nave walls can be seen remains of the Norman nave-arcade and triforium. At the W. end the arcading on the W. face of the S. aisle can be seen, together with a further portion of the front now incorporated in the tower. The nave of nine bays retains all of its fifteenth-century N. arcade and four bays of its S. arcade, with lofty pointed arches equalling in height the earlier arcade and triforium. The base only of the clerestory on the N. side survives with its wall-passage. Under the W. arch of the crossing is the panelled stone rood-screen with its two doorways; it appears to have been taken down and reset with its face to the east. The main W. front is a rich example of the thirteenth century with a large inserted fifteenth-century window and superstructure. The great W. doorway with its twin openings is particularly fine, though the carved scenes from the legend of St. Guthlac are insignificant; the front has an extensive, though mutilated, display of imagery of various medieval dates from the thirteenth century.

The N. aisle, which has lost its eastern bay, has six bays of ribbed vaulting with carved bosses, one bearing the rebus of Abbot Overton. Between the buttresses on the N. side are three chapels, the middle one retaining the springers of a rich vault. The font is a panelled fifteenth-century work. In the tower is an extremely interesting incised slab to a master-mason—William of Wermigton—a fourteenth-century work with a figure holding a square and compasses; a second fourteenth-century slab in the nave bears a cross and an inscription to John Tomson. The massive but rather squat tower forms a vestibule to the N. aisle. It has a large six-light W. window and is crowned by a low octagonal stone spire. In the S. respond of the E. arch is a holy-water stoup. Set in front of the tower is a small two-storeyed porch of the fifteenth century, with provision for a stone vault.

ABBNEY CHURCH OF THORNEY



(From a plan by F. H. Fairweather)



A. THORNEY ABBEY : WEST FRONT



B. CROWLAND ABBEY : CROSSING AND SCREEN

The monastic buildings stood to the S. of the church, but of these there are no remains, neither does any attempt appear to have been made to trace the plan of the destroyed transept and presbytery.

In the middle of the little town is the well-known three-arch *bridge*, formerly spanning the junction of two streams, but now standing high and dry. It is a fourteenth-century structure approached by flights of steps. On one arm is set a seated figure in stone of Christ in Majesty, probably from the gable of the W. front of the church.

After luncheon at Spalding, time was given to members to examine the parish church (Fig. 6). The original church was cruciform with north and south transepts. The chancel appears to have been lengthened towards the close of the twelfth century, to which belong the lower parts of the east and south walls of the present chancel, entirely restored in modern times. In 1284 the nave and transepts were rebuilt, the parishioners furnishing £100 of the cost by agreement with William of Littleport, prior of Spalding. The nave arcade of four bays and the arches opening into the transepts and their east aisles are of this date.

In 1315 a large chapel was built at the S.E. end of the south transept, projecting some distance southward; and about the same time a second south aisle, with its outer wall in line with the end wall of the transept, was built, together with the south porch. This aisle was terminated westward by the tower, which had been begun in the thirteenth century outside the west bay of the inner aisle, with its west face in line with the west wall of the church. The belfry stage was completed in the fourteenth century, and the spire with flying buttresses was added in the fifteenth.

In the later part of the fifteenth century the nave arcades were heightened by some 5 feet and a lofty clerestory was added, giving noble proportions to this part of the church. The west window was now inserted, a four-light window was made in the gable above the chancel, and the walls were heightened throughout: the fine roofs belong to this date and have carved wooden angels. A north chapel of two bays was added with its outer wall in line with the end wall of the north transept, a skew-arch being built across the N.E. corner of the earlier north aisle, the outer wall of which was now rebuilt. The north porch adjoins the west side of the added chapel: the roof is vaulted, and above the outer doorway, enriched by cusping, there are three lofty canopied niches. The height of the new work considerably dwarfed the tower, and the lofty spire did little to remedy the defect.

The greater part of the rood-screen is old, but it was much renewed in the nineteenth-century restoration, when the fifteenth-century east window was taken down, and a neat 'Early English' character given to the chancel, to which a north aisle was added.

The company then proceeded to Wykeham Chapel under the guidance of Professor Hamilton Thompson. This beautiful chapel, dedicated to St. Nicholas, was built in 1311 by Clement Hadfield,

prior of Spalding, as a domestic chapel adjoining his country residence, Wykeham Hall, by the river Welland,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles N. of Spalding. Like many other such houses of which there

**WYKEHAM  
CHAPEL**

are remains and records, this was habitually used as the place to which monks were sent during their 'seynies' or *minutiones*, i.e. the period after their medical treatment by bleeding, for rest and recreation. The chapel is 43 feet long and 22 feet wide. There are E. and W. windows, and a window in each of the three bays in the N. and S. walls; three of them were blocked probably in the seventeenth century, the others retain original intersecting or net tracery. In the W. bay on the S. side is a doorway, and in the middle bay a small lowside window. Inside, a stone bench ran round the N., W. and S. walls; and there are a number of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century grave-slabs. After the Reformation, the chapel was endowed as a free chapel and repaired out of the parish church rate, but it fell into decay after the collapse of its roof in 1782.

It may be noted that the priory of Spalding, whose church and cloister stood near the parish church, was originally founded as a cell of the abbey of S. Nicholas at Angers, but gradually achieved its independence as a separate priory.

(For the chapel, see *Lincolnshire Notes and Queries*, xvi, 1 ff.)

The party then motored to Whaplode Church (Fig. 7), which was also described by Professor Hamilton Thompson.

**WHAPLODE  
CHURCH**

This very fine church has lately been judiciously repaired from the dilapidated state into which it had fallen. The original nave is represented by the four eastern bays, with piers alternately circular and octagonal, and round arches with heavy soffit-rolls. The chancel arch, mutilated by the insertion of a later screen, has jamb-shafts with square abaci, and is ornamented with cheverons and scalloping. This work belongs to the second quarter of the twelfth century. Towards the end of the same century the nave was lengthened westward by three bays, with piers of quatrefoil section having round capitals carved with stiff-stalk foliage, and round arches of two chamfered orders. The west doorway, elaborately moulded and shafted, with shallow arches flanking it, has a pointed arch: the south doorway, which seems to be in its original position, though much of the adjoining aisle-wall was rebuilt in the fifteenth century, is similar in design upon a smaller scale. The clerestory of the nave was part of the late twelfth-century additions, and the row of round-headed windows within a continuous arcade remains on the north side, as well as the window in the heightened wall above the chancel arch. Below the clerestory in the spandrels of the arches are sunken circles. Externally, much of the corbel-table is left.

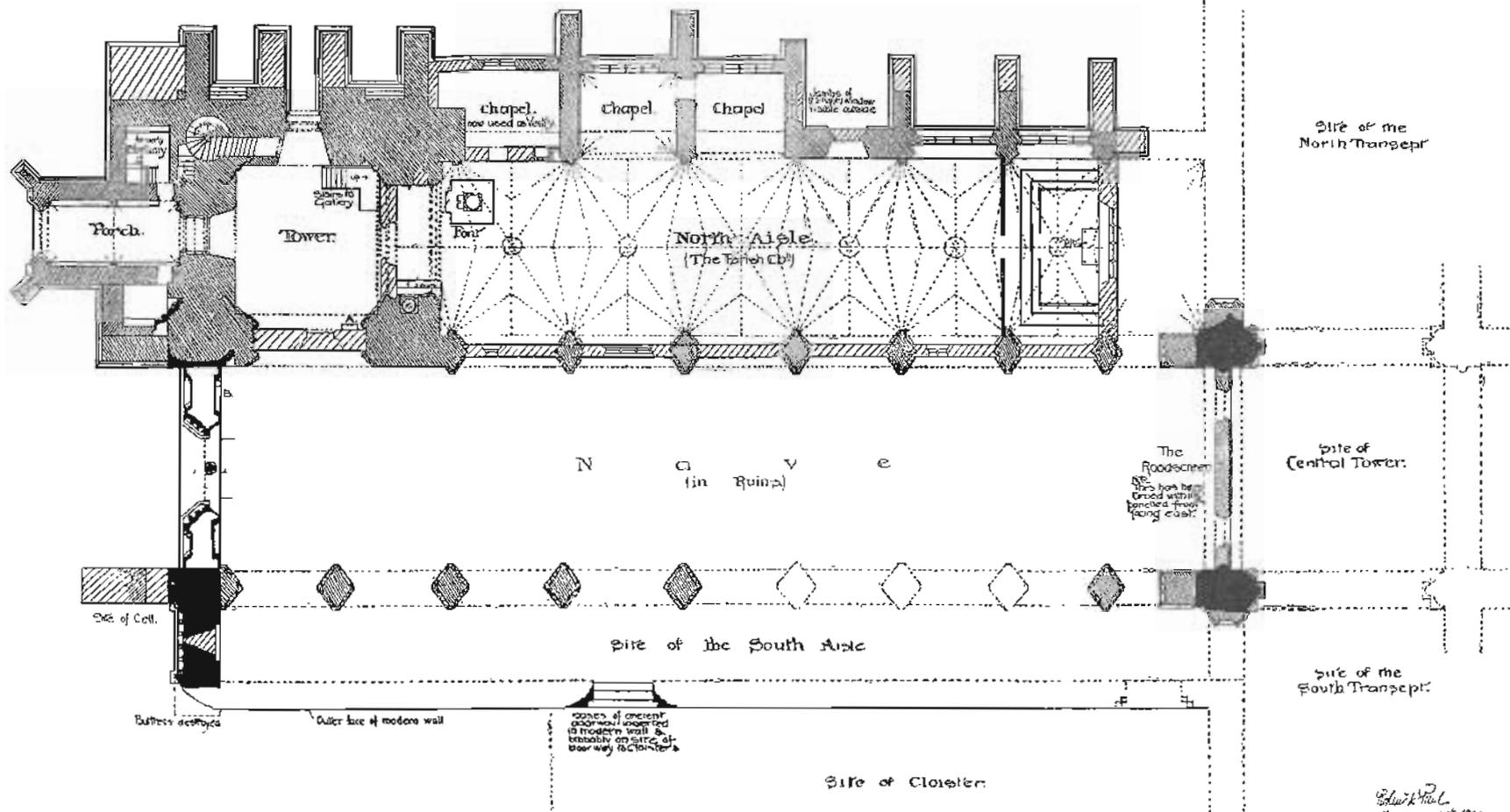
It is probable that, before the aisles were begun, the church was a cruciform building with north and south transepts. The high-pitched roof-line of the south transept remains upon the wall of the tower, which was begun at its south end about 1200, and opened into it by a lofty arch. Two more stages were added to the tower in the course of the thirteenth century, and the belfry stage with double

Croyland Abbey Church  
Ground-Plan.



Monuments  
A. Tomb of Wm de Vermiglian.  
B. . . . John Tomson.

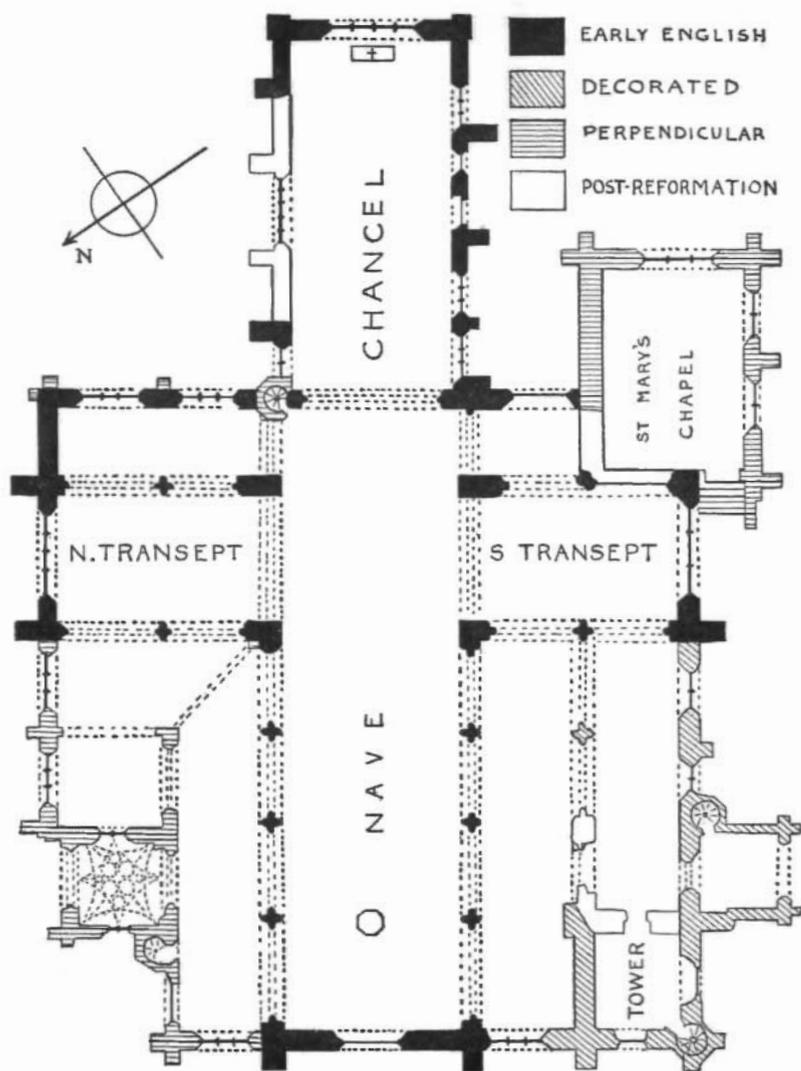
Norman  
Early English  
Perpendicular  
Late aisle  
Post Reformation.  
Conjectural parts shown by dotted lines.



(From *The Builder*)

Edw. P. St. John  
"Arch. et Hist." 1884



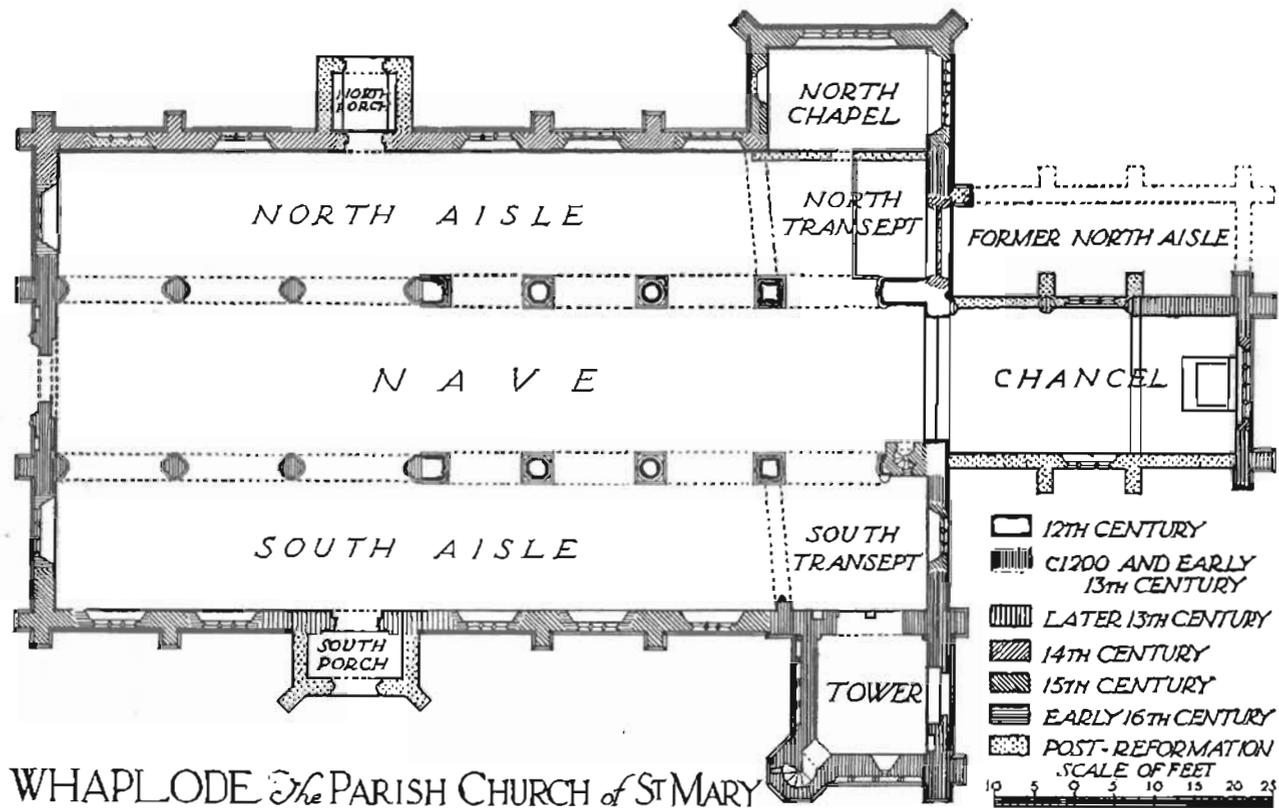


Scale of 0 10 20 30 40 50 feet.

PLAN OF SPALDING CHURCH.

J W Watts, mens. et del.

FIG. 6



WHAPLODE *Parish* CHURCH of ST MARY

FIG. 7

windows in each face was completed early in the fourteenth. In this century the chancel was rebuilt with an aisle, now destroyed, on the north side: the chancel, however, was practically rebuilt in 1818.

The north aisle was rebuilt in the fourteenth, and most of the south aisle in the fifteenth century. The walls of the clerestory were raised and a five-light window inserted above the west doorway, and the nave roof, with carved spandrels and bosses, was added. The north transeptal chapel, subsequently long used as a village school, was built at this time. The windows of this period have suffered much mutilation in more recent times, when their tracery was destroyed.

The stair to the rood-loft was inserted in the heavy masonry south of the chancel-arch in the fifteenth century. A carved beam attached to one of the pairs of hammer-beams in the nave roof was a portion of the rood-loft and retains traces of painting. At the west end of the south aisle is the handsome early seventeenth-century table-tomb of Sir Anthony Irby and Elizabeth his wife, surrounded by a fine iron railing. There are also a few fragments with pre-Conquest decoration.

At 4.0 p.m. the members reached Holbeach Church and were again addressed by Professor Hamilton Thompson and the Vicar (the Rev. Canon Hutchinson). Twelfth-century foundations have been discovered beneath the three west piers of the north arcade; but the church was entirely rebuilt in the second quarter of the fourteenth century, with chancel, aisled nave of seven bays, north and south porches, and west tower with spire. The design and details, including the slender piers of the nave-arcades, consisting of clusters of four attached shafts, and the fine series of traceried windows, are entirely characteristic of South Lincolnshire work of this period, of which this church is perhaps the most complete example. There are two doorways in the south wall of the chancel, one of which has been blocked up. The north porch seems to have been an after-thought, as the vaulted roof of the ground-floor, now removed, mutilated the inner doorway. At the outer angles are circular turrets, in one of which is the stair which led to the upper chamber of the porch, while the other contains a small vaulted room. These alterations may be later than the porch itself, but they closely resemble the work of the north porch at Grantham, the date of which is *c.* 1350.

In the north and south walls of the tower are very large five-light windows, lighting the lowest stage, which is vaulted. The tower is of three stages, with two-light belfry windows: the spire was probably not completed until the fifteenth century.

The old furniture and fittings have for the most part disappeared, and the sedilia have been completely restored. The doorway and stair to the rood-loft remain. At the west end of the north aisle is the mid-fourteenth-century table-tomb and effigy of Sir Humphrey Littlebury, who married the heiress of the Kirtons, lords of the manor of Holbeach. A notable feature of the tomb is the carved helm in the form of a human head covered with a net. There are remains of

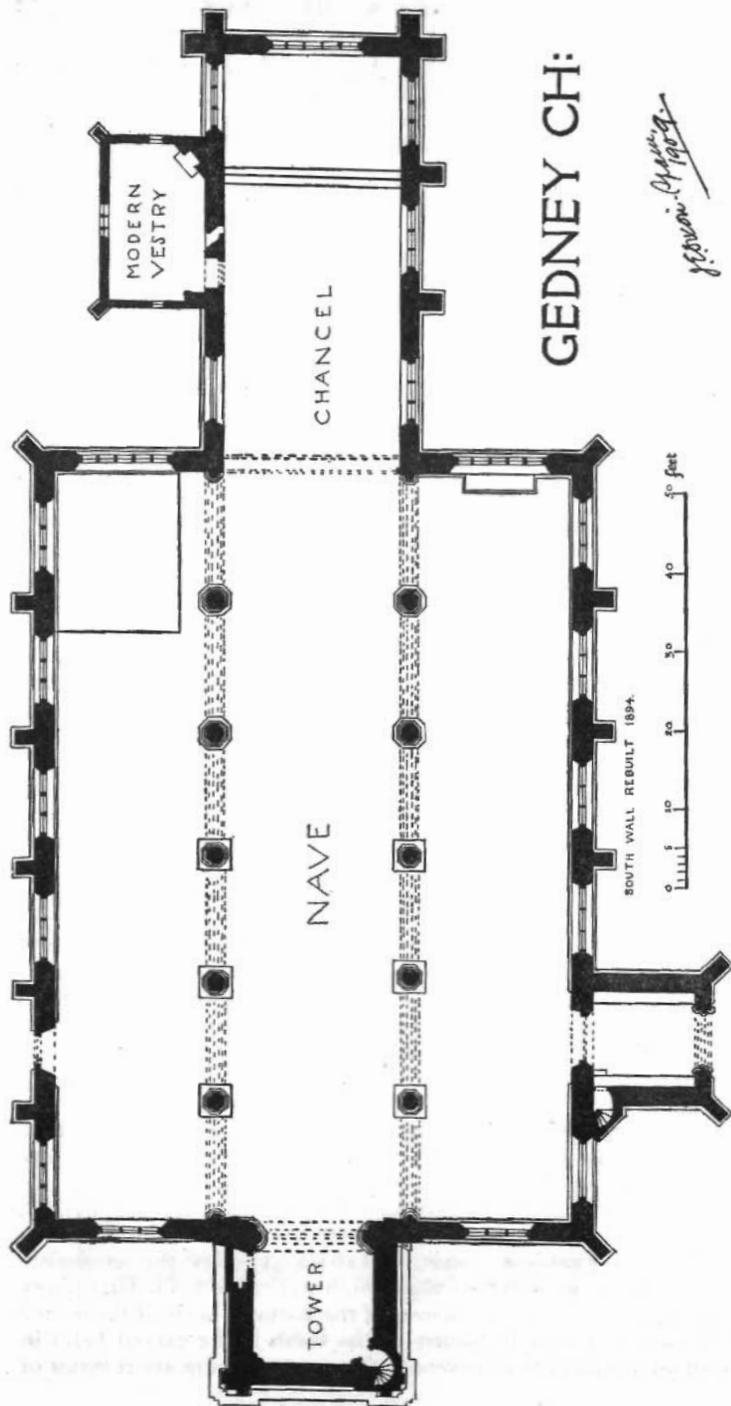


FIG. 8

a brass of a knight, and another brass commemorates Joan Welby, who died in 1488.

After tea the party visited Gedney Church (Fig. 8 and Pl. ix B), which was described by Professor Hamilton Thompson.

**GEDNEY CHURCH** This church has passed through three stages of building, marked by the roof-lines on the east wall of the tower. A west tower was added in the thirteenth century to an earlier building, of which the only surviving remains are a pillar-piscina and other fragments preserved at the end of the south aisle. The lower stages of this tower have very graceful external arcading, shafted and ornamented with bands of dogtooth in the window jambs; and the arch into the nave has dogtooth ornament. In the fourteenth century the chancel and nave of six bays with aisles were entirely rebuilt and the roof raised: the lofty nave-arcade has octagonal piers, and the windows of aisles and chancel show a variety of tracery. The beautiful clerestory was added in the fifteenth century, with a cot for the sanctus-bell on the east gable of the nave; the south porch, formerly with an upper chamber, was built; and the belfrey stage, an admirable piece of design with two tall transomed windows in each face, was added to the tower, which is crowned by a short spire of timber covered with lead. A two-light window was also inserted in the south wall of the chancel, west of the doorway.

There are fragments of old glass, including remains of a Jesse tree, in the five-light east window of the north aisle. Two interesting monuments remain, a Purbeck marble effigy of a thirteenth-century knight, and the Elizabethan alabaster tomb of Adlard Welby and his wife Cassandra: there is also a late fourteenth-century brass of a lady. The oak door with its wicket has been preserved in the south doorway, with the inscription: PAX CHRISTI SIT HUIC DOMUI ET OMNIBUS HABITANTIBUS IN EA: HIC REQUIES NOSTRA. On the lock is a band of bell-metal inscribed: BE WARE BE FORE JOHANNES PETE AVYSETHE. A small ivory panel carved with a representation of the Crucifixion is let into the door and by it is the secondary inscription IN HOPE.

The advowson of the church belonged to the abbot and convent of Croyland. It remained unappropriated, but the rectory was held as a sinecure and the cure of souls served by a vicar.

#### Friday, 15th July

At 9.30 a.m. the company motored to North Elmham and sheltered in the parish church of St. Mary. This building was largely reconstructed in the thirteenth century when the two responds of the twelfth-century chancel-arch were reset as the E. responds of the arches opening into the N. and S. chapels. The W. tower was added early in the fifteenth century and the arcades heightened and the clerestory added later in the same century. The base of the fifteenth-century rood-screen

**NORTH  
ELMHAM**

has painted figures of apostles and virgin-saints (SS. Barbara, Cecilia, Zita (Sythe), etc.). There is some fourteenth- and a little fifteenth-century glass and a late sixteenth- or early seventeenth-century pulpit. Whilst in the church, the members were addressed by Mr. Clapham

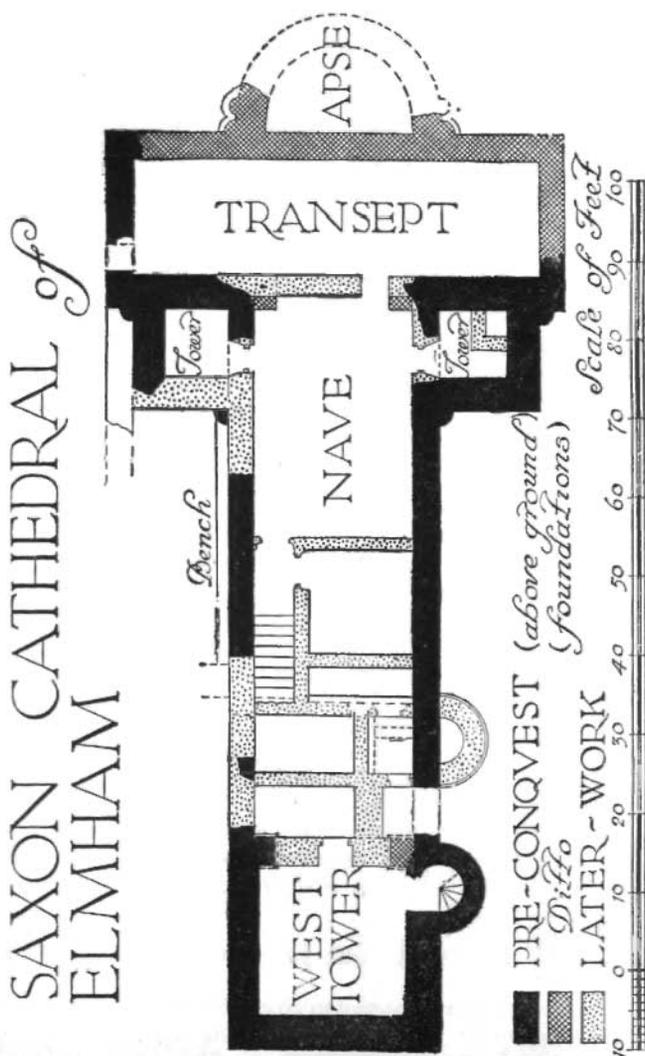


FIG. 9

(From *The Antiquaries' Journal*, vi.)

on the subject of the adjacent remains of a remarkable structure (Fig. 9) which with little doubt represents the Saxon cathedral of Elmham, set in the S.W. angle of a large rectangular earthwork of later date. Some doubts have been expressed that N. Elmham was indeed the see of the Saxon bishopric, but apart from the fact that the

alternative site is in Suffolk and not many miles from the other East Anglian see of Dunwich, there is a direct statement of the time of Bishop Anthony Bek that North Elmham was in ancient times the bishop's see. The remains are standing some 6 or 8 feet high and with the exception of the main apse show almost the complete plan of a cruciform church, with small towers in the W. angle of the transept and a large tower at the W. end. The masonry is of pudding stone and in the angles of the building are curious semi-cylindrical pilasters; whilst a semicircular stair-turret projects from the S. side of the W. tower. It appears likely that the building is to be assigned to the early part of the eleventh century. The ruined building was transformed into a manor-house by Bishop Henry Despenser, late in the fourteenth century and some remains of his additions may still be seen. (*Antiq. Journ.* vi, 402.)

Shortly after noon, the members reached Raynham Hall, which they visited by kind permission of the Marchioness Townshend, and under the guidance of Mr. Bradfer-Lawrence.

RAYNHAM HALL The mansion was begun in 1619 by Sir Roger Townshend, and many of the earlier building-accounts are still preserved in it. It was, however, still unfurnished, and perhaps therefore incomplete, at Sir Roger's death in 1637; indeed, it may not have been occupied until just before or after the Restoration. Apparently Sir Roger himself was mainly responsible for the ground-plan, though a working mason named William Edge was employed at the rate of one shilling a day to draw the plans and details for the work during the period covered by the accounts. There is no evidence for the tradition that Inigo Jones was concerned in the work, although the ceilings, fireplaces, doors and other details of the principal rooms might well be from his designs. The house provides an early instance of the use of a grand flight of external steps to reach the first or principal floor. The whole structure remains substantially unchanged, except that the central pediment and Ionic order on the E. side were added towards the end of the seventeenth century, when alterations were also made in the internal decoration.

Some of the vicissitudes which attended the early stages of the construction of the house are turned to good account by Spelman in his *History of Sacrilege*: 'Sir Roger the Bar(onet) intending to build a goodly house at Raynham, and to fetch Stone for the same from Coxford Abbey, . . . begun to demolish the Church there, which till then was standing; and beginning with the Steeple, the first Stone (as 'tis said) in the fall brake a Man's Legg, which somewhat amazed them, yet contemning such Advertisement, they proceeded in the work, and overthrowing the Steeple it fell upon a House by, and breaking it down, slew in it one Mr. Seller that lay lame in it of a broken Legg, gotten at Football, others having saved themselves by Fright and Flight.

'Sir Roger having digged the Cellaring of his new House and raised the Walls with some of the Abbey-Stone Breast high, the Wall reft from the Corner Stones though it was clear above Ground. . . .

Sir Roger, utterly dismayed with these Occurrents, gave over his begun Foundation, and Digging a new wholly out of the Ground about 20 yards forward toward the North, hath there finished a stately House, using none of the Abbey-Stone about it. . . .'

(See H. L. Bradfer-Lawrence in *Trans. Norfolk and Norwich Archaeological Society*, xxiii, 93; and C. Hussey in *Country Life*, November 14th and 21st, 1925.)

The company next proceeded to the parish church of Toftrees, to inspect the mid-twelfth-century font. The square bowl is supported by a cluster of four shafts at each corner, and is decorated with grotesque human and animal forms and foliage.

After luncheon at Fakenham, one of Norfolk's principal market-towns, the members visited the large parish church of Sts. Peter and Paul. The chancel is of the late fourteenth century with good five-light E. window of flowing tracery, and similar side windows of three lights; in the S. wall are three sedilia and a piscina with ogee niches, crockets and finials terminating in a horizontal moulding—a fine composition. There is a rood-screen of good tracery, c. 1400. The nave and aisles are also late fourteenth century. The tower (renovated 1899) is excellent work of the time of Henry VI, with panelled buttresses and a good six-light W. window. The porch, with room above, was built in 1497. The octagonal font (fifteenth century) has in the panels the Evangelistic emblems, the Trinity, and symbols of the Passion, whilst on the shaft are the crowned initials P. (for Sts. Peter and Paul), which also appear above the W. entrance of the tower. Though the church has been stripped of many brasses, the following remain: a civilian (headless) and two female figures, c. 1450, in the parish chest; four double hearts, each engraved *Jhu merci ladi help*, c. 1470; Richard Betteson, with date 1495 in Arabic numerals; and a female figure in the parish chest, c. 1510.

(J. C. Cox, *Norfolk Churches*.)

At 2.30 p.m. the party reached Harpley and were received by the Rector (the Rev. H. Beck) who, with Mr. Bradfer-Lawrence, described the church. The chancel, restored in 1878, was built by John de Gurney, rector and patron, 1294-1332; the nave roof is of the same date; the N. aisle, screen, and S. aisle battlements are later (c. 1400). The chancel has a square lowside window on the S. side; on the N. side is an Easter sepulchre recess, and a beautifully enriched doorway into a sacristy. This was a vaulted structure of two bays, of which the springers of the vault remain. There is a good front to the S. porch, with niches on each side of and above the entrance. The clerestory has a good range of three-light windows. Within the porch is a beautiful and elaborately carved original door, with crocketed ogee niches and figures of the four Doctors. The embattled parapet of the S. aisle has a remarkable series of shields of arms, and a large seated

figure at each end. There are nineteen merlons and two shields on each. The arms are chiefly of the Knollys family and connections, but two or three of the shields bear St. Laurence's gridiron and one bears the arms of the Black Prince. This parapet and other early Perpendicular work were due to Sir Robert Knollys and his chaplain and secretary, John Drewe, who was rector of Harpley from 1389 to 1421. The carved pews are of the fifteenth century but bear the inscription 'John Martin 1638,' which records a repair. The font is late Norman. (Registers 1722.) The glass includes fourteenth-century tabernacle work (E. end of S. aisle) and fifteenth-century figures of angels and saints in the tracery of the W. window, including an Annunciation, St. Edmund, St. Edward the Confessor, St. Wilfrid and St. Blaise.

(J. C. Cox, *Norfolk Churches*.)

At 3.30 p.m. the party visited Houghton Hall, by kind permission of the Marquis of Cholmondeley, and were received by Mr. A. H. Munro. The Hall was built by Sir Robert Walpole, the Prime Minister; it was begun in 1722 and finished in 1735. The design was originally prepared by Colin Campbell, author of *Vitruvius Britannicus*, but the execution of it was entrusted to Thomas Ripley, who considerably modified it. Ripley was 'a Yorkshire lad who had walked up to London to seek his fortune, and he found it by marrying a servant of Walpole's.' He became Comptroller of the Board of Works, built the Admiralty, and incurred Pope's sarcasm:

'So Ripley, till his destined space is filled,  
Heaps bricks on bricks and fancies 'tis to build.'

Nevertheless, Houghton Hall has been described, not unjustly, as 'the largest and most magnificent country house in Norfolk.' Its comparatively simple exterior is enriched with domes, crowned by cupolas, at the four corners of the main block. The W. front presents a double balustraded flight of steps, and over the entrance is an entablature supported by four Ionic columns. The wings, which contain the offices, are connected with the front by balustraded colonnades. The extent of the front is 166 feet, or, with the colonnades, 450 feet.

Inside, the Stone Hall, 40 feet square, is the most noteworthy feature: the ceiling with its central achievement of arms and its cornice filled with lively *putti*; the elaborate balustraded balcony; the fireplace flanked by terminal figures and surmounted by a classical relief; and the frequent consoles bearing imperial busts around the walls; all combine to produce an effect of grandeur and austerity which, of its kind, is probably unsurpassed in England. Other rooms, notably the White Drawing-room, have also richly ornamented ceilings, walls and fireplaces.

(See *Country Life*, July 27th, 1907; and Britton, *The Beauties of England and Wales*, xi, 322.)

After tea, the company proceeded to Shernborne Church and inspected the font under the guidance of Mr. Bradfer-Lawrence.

**SHERN-  
BORNE  
FONT AND  
BRASS**

The church was rebuilt in 1898. The font belongs to the same group as that at Toftrees; it is richly ornamented, and is one of those of which it has been stated that 'the carving has the characteristics of Saxon work.' It is, however, though rudely executed, of pure Norman workmanship. A cable-moulding runs round the top; an ornamented pillar, ornamented stands at each corner; interlacing cable-ornament of varied designs occupies the top centre of the north, east, and west sides, while a grotesque head takes up the space below. The bowl rests on four pillars with cushion caps, and with cable-moulding above. The church also contains a fine brass of Thomas Shernborne, 1458, in armour, and his wife Jamon de Cherneys, maid of honour to Margaret of Anjou.

At 5.45 the party reached South Wootton Church, and were addressed by Mr. Bradfer-Lawrence.

**SOUTH  
WOOTTON  
CHURCH**

The cruciform church of St. Mary consists of chancel, transepts, nave, S. porch, and W. tower; there was much restoration in 1896, when the Hammond mausoleum was added on the N. side, and the tower, which had been struck by lightning in 1881, renewed. The chancel is fourteenth century, with a good four-light E. window and three graded sedilia. The nave and tower are fifteenth century. The font is early Norman and noteworthy; the bowl is square and supported by a central column and eight smaller shafts, four of which have heads for capitals. A remarkable piece of church furniture, described and painted in detail in the Dawson-Turner collection, is an old bier, the gift of Henry Kidson, rector, dated 1611; on the long rails are painted in black letter texts from Heb. ix. 27; Phil. i. 21, 23; iii. 31; and 1 Cor. xv. 52.

(J. C. Cox, *Norfolk Churches.*)

At 9.0 p.m. a lecture (with lantern-slides) on 'Some examples of fifteenth-century art in East Anglia' was given by Mr. Percy Flemming, F.R.C.S., F.S.A., at the Duke's Head Hotel.

**LECTURE**

Saturday, 16th July

At 9.30 a.m. the members motored to Terrington St. John Church, where they were addressed by Professor Hamilton Thompson. This interesting church was originally a chapel dependent upon Terrington St. Clement's, and remained in that position until 1843. Its plan, however, is that of an ordinary parish church, with chancel and nave of five bays with aisles. It was built in the early part of the fourteenth century, and the whole fabric is substantially of that date. The fourteenth-century clerestory of the

**TERRING-  
TON ST.  
JOHN  
CHURCH**



WEST WALTON : CHURCH TOWER



WEST WALTON CHURCH : NAVE

nave deserves special attention, as composed of two-light windows alternating with traceried circles. The south porch has an outer roof of stone with transverse ribs beneath it. In the fifteenth century most of the windows in the chancel and aisles were inserted: the earlier west doorway was left beneath the new west window, together with the west windows of the aisles and the south doorway of the chancel. Two low-side windows in the chancel were now blocked up.

The tower, like others in the neighbourhood, was built on a detached site S.W. of the church, but the intermediate space was filled up with a remarkable building, consisting of a room on the ground floor, 11 feet by 9 feet, a similar room above it, and above this a passage which gives access to the bell-chamber and the roof of the church. The two rooms were probably intended for the habitation of the chaplain. The sacristy, now destroyed, was on the north side of the chancel.

The roof of the nave was made in 1601, and the font, ornamented with strap-work, is dated 1632. The old chancel-arch was filled in with a smaller one in comparatively recent times. The doorway to the rood-loft remains in the south-east corner of the north aisle.

Amongst the plate is a silver communion cup of 1639.

At 11.0 a.m. the party arrived at West Walton Church (Pls. xvi, xvii), again under the guidance of Professor Hamilton Thompson.

**WEST  
WALTON  
CHURCH** This beautiful church was entirely rebuilt in the thirteenth century, and, in spite of much neglect and dilapidation at a later date, is one of the finest examples of its period in England. The nave arcade, of six bays, consists of circular piers, each with four detached shafts of Purbeck marble (much of which has been broken and its place supplied by wood painted black) and delicately carved capitals, and heavily moulded arches. Above this is a clerestory of lancet windows set in every other space of a continuous arcade. The arches into the chancel and its former chapels (removed at the end of the fourteenth or the beginning of the fifteenth century) are similar in design, and a blank arcade in the side walls of the chancel was originally carried round the east wall. The chancel, however, was shortened by 4 feet in 1807, when the present east window was made.

The aisles were widened towards the end of the fourteenth century, which caused the destruction of half the south porch, the outer part of which was left. Most of the windows were inserted later, when the present west window took the place of the former triplet of lancets, the outer jambs of which remain. The round-headed west doorway, elaborately moulded, with jamb-shafts and with a central shaft which divides the opening into two pointed arches, was preserved; but a settlement in the foundations has put it out of shape, and it is somewhat interfered with by two heavy buttresses added on each side. One of the original windows in the S. aisle remains, a beautiful composition of two lights with a quatrefoil in the head and dog-tooth and lilies carved in the hollow moulding of the jambs.

The splendid tower, entirely of the thirteenth century, stands in an isolated position on the south side of the churchyard. The lowest stage has an open arch in each face : above this the walls of the tower are arcaded, and the belfry lights are double with circles pierced in the spandrels between them and the enclosing arches.

The nave has a good fifteenth-century roof, and the font, on steps at the west end of the nave, is of the same period. The fragments of a thirteenth-century effigy of an ecclesiastic with a crozier (perhaps a prior of either Ely or Lewes) are preserved upon a later table-tomb at the east end of the church. In the middle of the twelfth century the advowson of the church was divided in two moieties between the prior and convent of Ely and the prior and convent of Lewes, neither of whom appropriated their share. Above the nave arcades are remains of late seventeenth-century paintings, representing the emblems of the twelve tribes of Israel.

At noon the members reached Walsoken Church (Pl. xxi), which was described by Professor Hamilton Thompson.

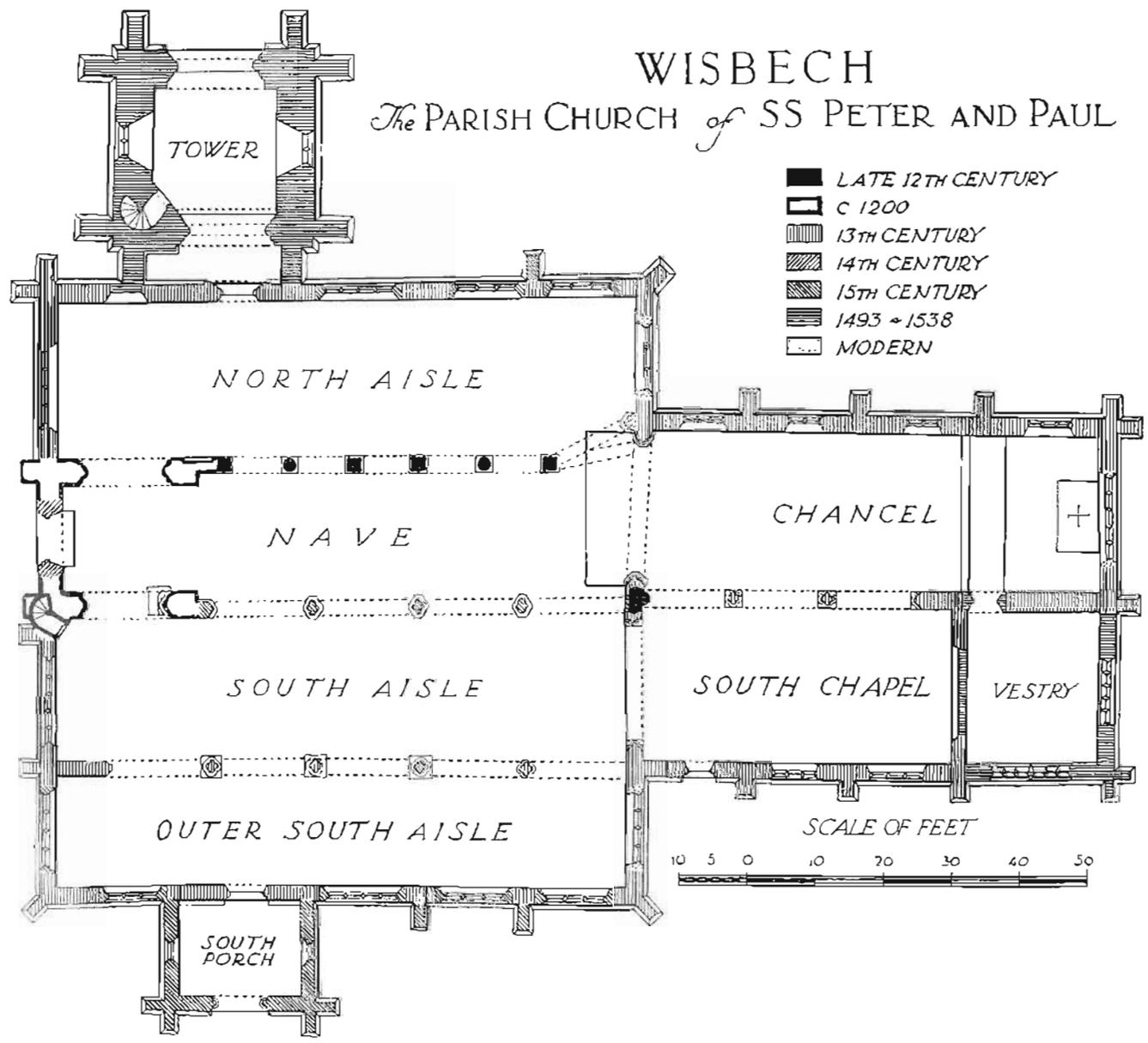
**WALSOKEN CHURCH** The nave arcades of seven bays, with alternately circular and octagonal piers and round arches with chevron and other mouldings, together with the chancel arch, which is slightly pointed and moulded with rich ornament, belong to the latter part of the twelfth century. Blocked windows of this date also remain in the chancel. Early in the thirteenth century the west tower was begun and was built as far as the belfry stage, the walls being covered with shafted arcading, as at Elm, West Walton, and other neighbouring towers : the west doorway has a round arch. The chancel was also lengthened and chapels added to it during the thirteenth century, and the jambs of the east window appear to be partly of this date.

The aisles were widened and the south porch built in the fourteenth century, when the belfry stage was added to the tower, crowned by a low spire. In the course of the next century the nave was heightened by the addition of a clerestory, and was covered by a fine hammer-beam roof of very low pitch, with figures of angels carved on the ends of the beams, and with wall-pieces ending in canopied niches enclosing figures of saints ; tie-beams were added in the seventeenth century. The east window was now inserted, and a two-storied vestry built east of the south chapel of the chancel.

Many old bench-ends and some of the chancel stalls remain, and there is a handsome fifteenth-century screen with elaborate tracery at the east end of the south aisle. The piscina in the north chapel has brackets for cruets, and in the south chapel there is a stone ledge for a book. In the N. aisle is a fourteenth-century memorial of a heart-burial. The beautiful octagonal font, of clunch, has carved panels representing the Seven Sacraments and the Crucifixion : the stem is surrounded by figures of saints under canopies, above which are figures of angels with outstretched wings. The base bears the date 1544 and the inscription REMEBIR YE SOUL OF S BONYTER AND MARGARET HIS WIFE, JOHN BEFORTH CHAPLĪ. Above the

# WISBECH

The PARISH CHURCH of SS PETER AND PAUL





tower-arch is a wooden figure of a king, forming the centre of a wall-painting which represents the Judgment of Solomon.

At 12.45 p.m. the party arrived at Wisbech and, after luncheon, inspected the church (Pl. xviii) under the guidance of Professor Hamilton Thompson and the Rector (the Rev. Canon Crookham). The earliest portion of the present church is the north arcade of a late twelfth-century church, with round arches on tall piers, plain cylinders or with shafts attached. The bases of a similar row of piers on the south side were found under the floor at the restoration by Sir Gilbert Scott. The twelfth-century church thus had an aisled nave, and a respond which remains at the S.W. corner of the present chancel shows that the chancel also had a south chapel. A west tower (engaged within the aisles), of which the lateral arches remain, was added about the end of the same century: externally, its west buttresses are *in situ* on either side of the west door.

About 1280-90 the church was considerably enlarged by the widening of the south aisle of the nave and the addition of an extra aisle on this side. The arcade between the two aisles has low piers composed of clusters of four attached shafts with well-moulded capitals and bases, and above it was a clerestory. The widened south aisle appears to have had a separate gabled roof. The north aisle may have been widened about the same time. It would seem also that, in order to prepare for the enlargement of the chancel and south chapel, which followed shortly afterwards, the old south arcade of the nave was taken down and a new arcade built in a line with that of the chancel. The chancel was rebuilt and was widened northward; and, as the north wall was beyond the line of the north arcade of the nave, the east arch of the arcade was taken down and a skew arch built, connecting it with the N.W. corner of the chancel. The south chapel of the chancel was also rebuilt, forming a continuation eastward of the inner south aisle. The arcade between the chapel and the chancel is very similar to that between the two south aisles; and probably this part of the enlargement was finished before the chancel was taken in hand. The whole work was completed early in the fourteenth century, when the five-light west window of the nave and the doorway below were inserted.

In the later part of the fifteenth century the nave and south aisle were combined under a single roof, in consequence of which the south arcade of the nave was removed and a lofty arcade of light construction substituted. At the same time the clerestory above the north arcade was made, and to carry it to the chancel wall another skew arch was added above the old one. A large window also superseded part of the clerestory between the two aisles, most of the aisle windows were inserted, the south chapel of the chancel was largely rebuilt, and the south porch, which has an upper chamber, added. The handsome N.W. tower, which stands free on three sides, was built between 1493 and 1538, to which date also belongs the vestry. It is probable that the original west tower was taken down when the new roof was made for the nave and south aisle: the bell-turret in the west wall of the church seems to have been formed out of the tower staircase.

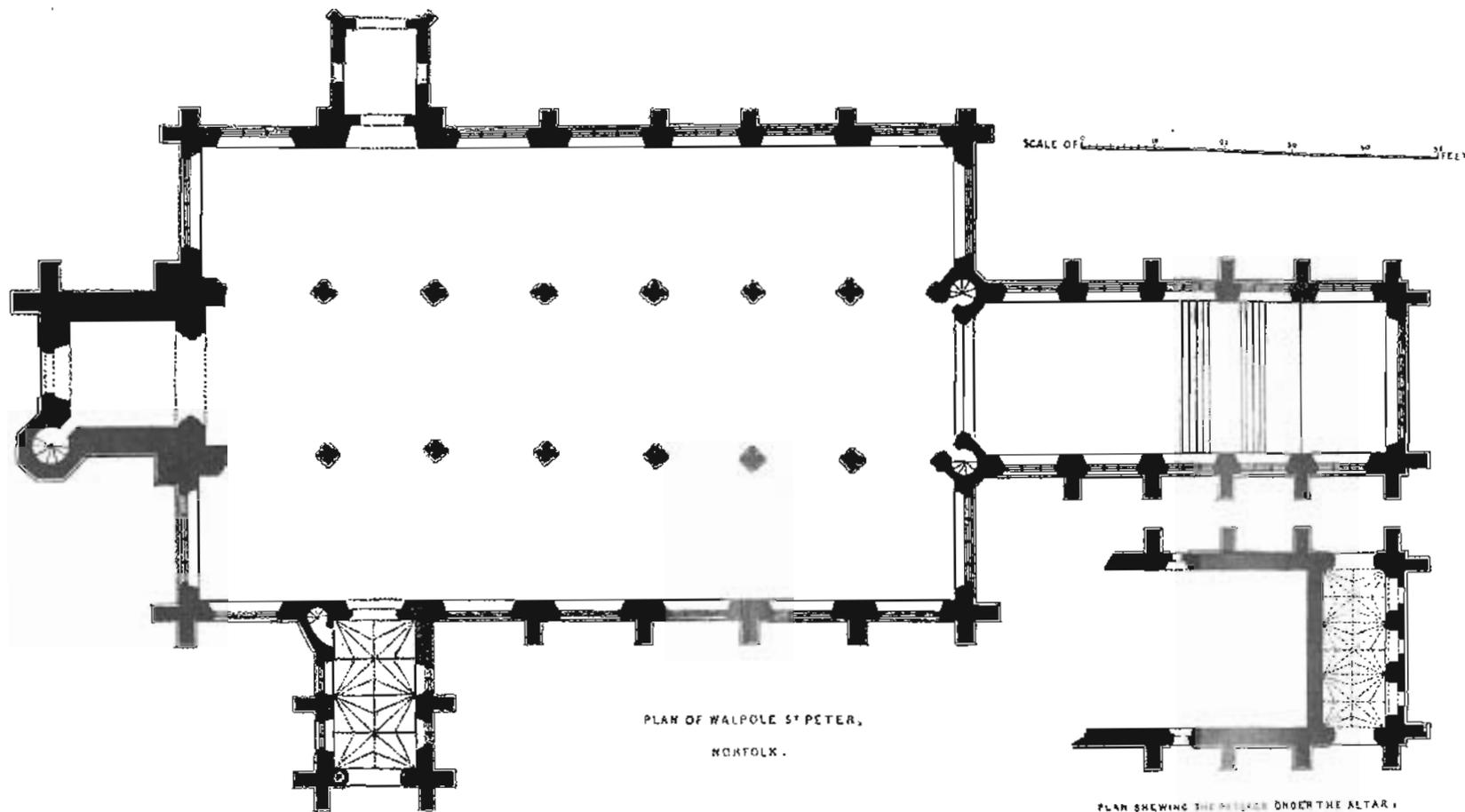
The whole building is an interesting and somewhat complicated example of the gradual enlargement of a twelfth-century church in obedience to successive requirements for which unfortunately no documentary evidence remains.

In the chancel is a brass of a knight in armour, canopy and shields missing, of 1400.

At 3.0 p.m. the members visited Walpole St. Peter Church, again under the guidance of Professor Hamilton Thompson. This church (Pls. xix, xxii A) was originally, like West Walton, divided into two moieties, each with its own rector, which appear to have been separated in the fifteenth century, when the church of St. Andrew was built at a short distance north of the parent church. No part of the present building is earlier than the first half of the fourteenth century, when the west tower was built. The rebuilding of the nave was begun c. 1380-1400, with the three bays east of the tower. The tower-arch was now remodelled to adapt it to the increased height of the nave arcades and somewhat later the nave was continued eastward by four bays, thus covering the whole space occupied by the nave and chancel of the earlier building. The nave was completed with wide aisles, a fine south porch with upper chamber, and a clerestory. The S. parapet was renovated in 1634. The aisleless chancel, about half the length of the nave, was built separately, probably at the expense of the rectors of this wealthy benefice. As it extended to the east wall of the churchyard, it was built at a higher level than the rest of the church, with the altar above a vaulted open passage. There are five three-light windows on each side of the chancel, with niches in the spaces between; and the choir-stalls below form continuous arcades of ogee-headed recesses with ornamental ribbed vaulting, retaining traces of colour and gilding. The piscina and sedilia are in a mutilated state. On either side of the chancel-arch are stairs which led to the rood-loft and the roofs, and end in tall pinnacles: on the elaborately carved gable between them is a bell-cot, which still contains the sanctus-bell.

The lower part of the rood-screen still remains, with paintings of saints on the panels: the upper portion was destroyed in 1730. There is also a screen enclosing a chapel in the south aisle. Many medieval bench-ends survive, together with the choir seats and desks. The octagonal font is dated 1532 and is surmounted by a lofty Elizabethan cover with hinged shutters in the lower part. In the seventeenth century the nave was handsomely refurnished with pews, pulpit, reading-desk and a screen across nave and aisles at the west end. The poor-box bears the date 1639: the date on the screen, 1828, refers to the addition of a west gallery, afterwards taken down.

The remarkable splendour of this church, which has few rivals among the churches of East Anglia, is entirely due to local prosperity during the later middle ages. Neither this nor any of its neighbours were more than parish churches, and, although the provision for seating in the chancel at Walpole is unusually elaborate, there was never any intention of establishing a college of clergy in the church.



PLAN OF WALPOLE ST PETER,  
NORFOLK.

PLAN SHOWING THE PASSAGE UNDER THE ALTAR.

(From Brandon's *Norfolk Churches*)



The programme for the day ended with a visit to Tilney All Saints Church, where Professor Hamilton Thompson again addressed the assembly.

**TILNEY ALL SAINTS CHURCH** The church, the nave of which is now continuous with the chancel, without an intermediate arch, was aisled towards the end of the twelfth century. The nave arcades, of six bays, have plain round arches upon circular piers, the capitals of which have a variety of ornamentation, scallop, water-leaf, etc. One pier and a respond on the north side are formed of clustered shafts. Above the arches are the remains of the contemporary clerestory.

About 1280 the tower was built outside the west front, which was taken down, and the tower joined up to the nave arcade by a pair of arches, the aisles being widened and extended westward. This work was completed early in the fourteenth century. The west bays of the extended aisles were screened off as chapels, of which the piscinas and the screen in the south arch remain. The lower part of the tower is arcaded: the belfry stage was added in the fourteenth century. The spire, battlements and pinnacles belong to the fifteenth century. At the west angles of the tower are large turrets: that on the S.W. contains the stair, which is connected by a passage across the west window with a vaulted chamber in the N.W. turret above a similar chamber on the ground-floor.

In the fifteenth century most of the windows were re-made and the south porch was built. The aisles were lengthened eastward, and the clerestory and roofs made. The double hammer-beam roof of the nave is the most striking feature of the church. The chancel was also re-modelled, and probably the chancel-arch of the earlier building was taken down. The piscina and triple sedilia are of this period. The present chancel-screen was made in 1618, and is a fine example of woodwork of this date: it was originally surmounted by the royal arms with open woodwork on each side. The font is dated 1616, and replaces a fifteenth-century font, the remains of which are in the N.E. chapel.

#### Monday, 18th July

At 9.30 a.m. the members motored to Freiston Priory (Pl. xx), where they were addressed by Mr. Clapham.

**FREISTON PRIORY** Freiston Priory of St. James was founded as a cell of the Benedictine Abbey of Crowland soon after 1114, when Alan, son of Guy de Craon, gave Freiston church to the abbey and shortly after placed a prior and monks there. In 1431 the number of monks had dwindled to seven, and the bishop ordered the original number to be made up; this number, however, is not recorded. In 1534 the value of the cell was £167 8s. 1½d. net. The transept and presbytery, which formed the monastic portion of the church, were destroyed at the Dissolution, but the parochial nave survives. It is of two distinct dates, the eastern six bays being the original mid to late twelfth-century

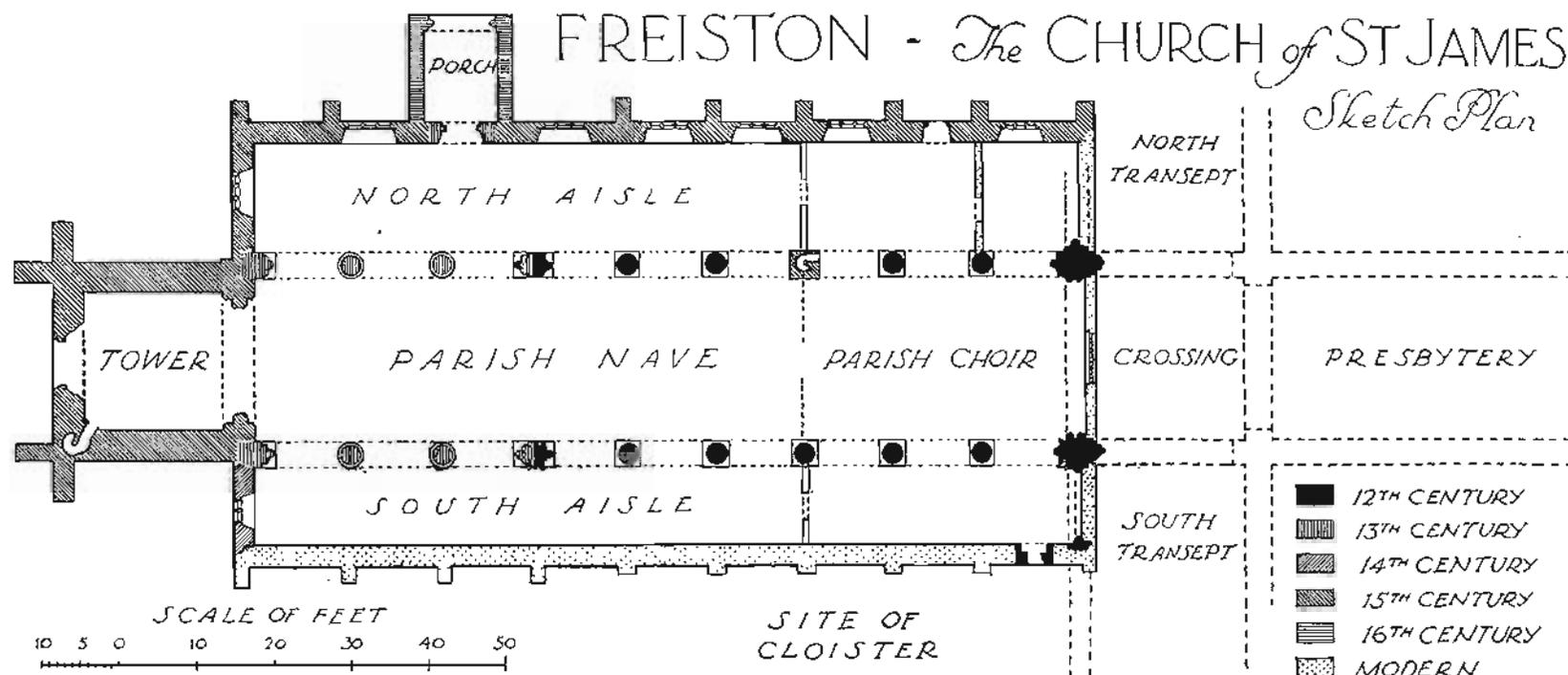
building, and the three W. bays being a thirteenth-century enlargement. The large W. tower, the N. aisle and the clerestory are all of the fifteenth century. In the E. wall is the blocked pointed arch of the crossing with two orders of chevron-ornament. The original bays of the nave have cylindrical columns with scalloped capitals and round arches. The thirteenth-century bays also have cylindrical columns with foliated capitals to the responds. The N. porch is probably a sixteenth-century construction with re-used materials. The S. aisle has been almost entirely rebuilt. The third pier of the N. arcade has been reconstructed square, in the fifteenth century, to enclose a rood-loft staircase. There is a fine fifteenth-century font-cover.

At 12.30 the members reached Boston (Fig. 10, Pls. xxii B and xxiii), where they inspected the town and the church and were addressed by Professor Hamilton Thompson.

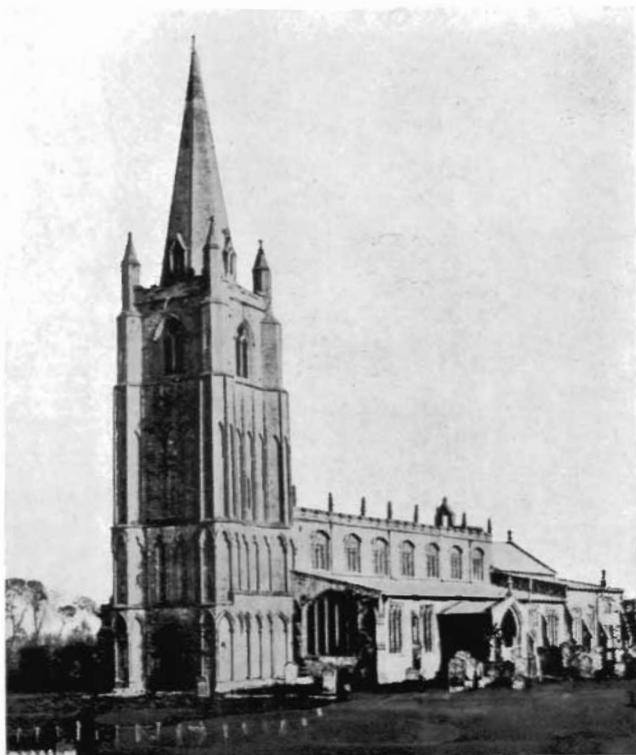
#### BOSTON

It is generally assumed that Boston took its name from the monastery which King Ethelmund founded about 654 for St. Botolph at a place called Icanhoe. The site of Icanhoe, however, is by no means certain, though most authorities place it in or near Bcston. The foundation of Icanhoe is mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle and the monastery no doubt survived until the Danish invasions. After the conquest the site of Boston was granted to Alan, Earl of Brittany, and formed part of the honour of Richmond. It was then part of the manor of Skirbeck. The town must have sprung up shortly after, as it begins to make its appearance as the port of St. Botolph. By 1203 the commerce of the town had greatly increased, and the citizens received their first charter from King John authorising them to appoint their own bailiff. At the annual fair of 1287 there was an organised attempt to loot and fire the city by a band of men disguised as mummers. At some uncertain period the town on the east bank of the Witham was walled, and these walls were repaired in 1285. In the reign of Edward III the town was granted a Staple, and this, with the establishment here of a depot of the Hanseatic League, greatly increased the town's prosperity. One of the merchants of the League was killed in the street in 1470; as a consequence the Hanseatic merchants withdrew from the town, and from this point the town began to decline. In 1546 Henry VIII granted a charter of incorporation with power to elect a mayor, the first to hold this office being Nicholas Robinson. By a charter of Philip and Mary (1554) the corporation became possessed of the Guildhall, with other property of the dissolved guilds. The grammar school was erected in 1567. In the next century the chief event was the founding of the colony of Massachusetts Bay and the city of Boston there, with which several Boston citizens were intimately connected. In 1643 Boston was besieged and taken by the Parliamentarians, but since this date its history has been uneventful.

During the middle ages the town contained convents of all the four chief orders of Friars, but of these there are now hardly any recognisable remains. The timber-framed building called Shodfriars Hall, however, recalls the adjoining house of the Black Friars and the







WALSOKEN CHURCH



A. WALPOLE ST. PETER'S : FONT COVER  
(Photo by courtesy of Mrs. Lilian Ream, Wisbech)



B. ST. BOTOLPH'S CHURCH, BOSTON  
(Photo by courtesy of Messrs. Wing & Co., Boston)



remarkable incised slab of *Wissel von Smalenburg*, 1340, a merchant of *Munster* in *Westphalia*, now in *St. Botolph's* church, was found on the site of the *Greyfriars* church. The church of *St. John* on the *Skirbeck* road was demolished in 1625.

The most important secular building in *Boston* is the *Guildhall* in *South Street*. It was formerly the hall of *St. Mary's Gild* and is a fifteenth-century structure of brick and stone. The *Hall*, on the first floor, has a fine west window with some remains of ancient glass, wainscotted walls and an open timber roof. A short distance south of the *Guildhall* is the red brick schoolhouse of the *Grammar School*, built in 1567. The fine seventeenth-century wrought-iron gate, formerly in *Mart Yard*, has now been restored to the church. The medieval walls apparently had four gates—*Wormgate*, *Bargate*, *St. John's Gate* and a gate at the end of the bridge over the river. *Hussey Tower*, close to the *Skirbeck Road*, an early sixteenth-century brick structure, formed part of the mansion of *Lord Hussey*, who was beheaded for his part in the *Pilgrimage of Grace*.

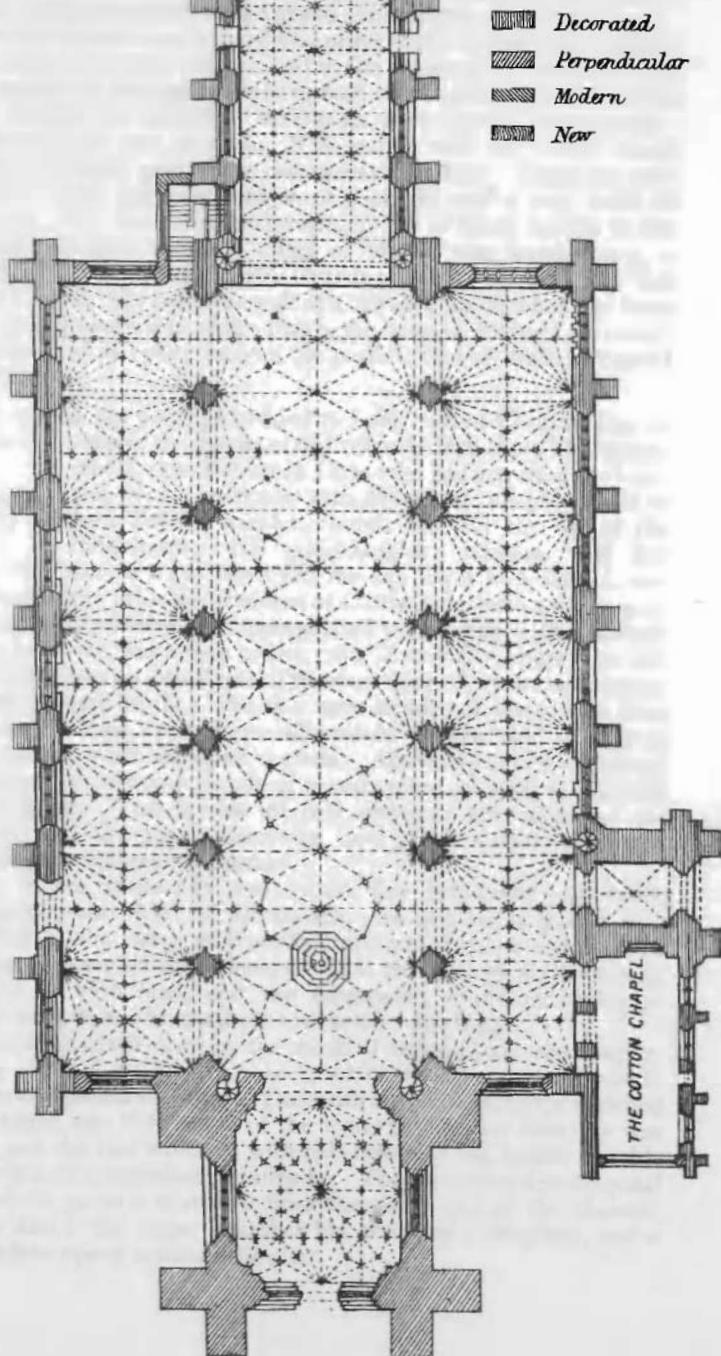
The church of *Boston* appears to have been separated from the mother parish of *Skirbeck* in 1089, when the advowson was given to *St. Mary's* abbey at *York*, to which the church was eventually appropriated. The great commercial prosperity of the town, the chief place for the export of wool to *Flanders* and the seat of a great medieval fair, led to the rebuilding of the church on a magnificent scale, begun in 1309. The nave and aisles have features in common with most of the fourteenth-century parish churches of this part of *Lincolnshire*: the tall piers, with clusters of attached shafts, the arches with suites of convex mouldings, the aisle-windows with flowing tracery and the clerestory of two-light windows are here seen in their highest state of development. The chancel appears to have been left incomplete: at any rate, the two east bays were not built until the fifteenth century, when windows were also made in the east and west walls of both aisles.

The splendid tower was begun at this time and continued to its height of 286 feet at intervals during the fifteenth century, possibly with some change of design. Its walls up to the belfry stage are covered with shallow panelling; the belfry stage has a large single window with gridiron tracery in each face; and above this rises an octagonal lantern with traceried openings and pinnacles. The ground-floor, lighted by the great west window and tall windows in the north and south walls, was intended for vaulting, but the vault was not added until 1852, when the present east window of the chancel was made.

Adjoining the south aisle and south porch is a chantry chapel, built in the fourteenth century and apparently rebuilt later. East of the south porch was another chapel, and there are records of others which were destroyed in the seventeenth century. The chapels of the gilds of *St. Mary* and *St. Peter* and *St. Paul* were screened off at the east ends of the south and north aisles respectively: that of *St. Mary* had a rood-loft, the two stair-doorways of which remain.

Until recently the church was greatly disfigured by the flat plaster

# ST BOTOLPH BOSTON



Scale of Feet.



NOTE: THIS PLAN SHOWS THE MODERN VAULTING IN NAVE AND AISLES, NOW REMOVED





vault placed upon the nave at the end of the eighteenth century. This has now been removed and the old roof behind it thoroughly repaired, with great effect to the grand proportions of the building.

The rood-screen was removed by order of the corporation in 1590. Its two stairs, however, remain, and in the crown of the chancel arch are the sockets of the chains which upheld the rood on its beam. The chancel retains its sixty-four stall-seats with carved misericords: the stall-canopies are modern. The pulpit with its sound-board belongs to the latter part of the seventeenth century. There are two table-tombs with alabaster effigies of a knight and a lady, both of c. 1440-50. The fine fourteenth-century slab of black marble in the north aisle, incised with the effigy of Wissel von Smalenburg, a merchant of Münster, was in the church of the Greyfriars, and was removed here in 1887 from the wall of a cottage into which it had been built. On the south side of the altar is the brass of Richard Strensall, rector, who died in 1381; and on the north is that of Walter Peascod (d. 1398).

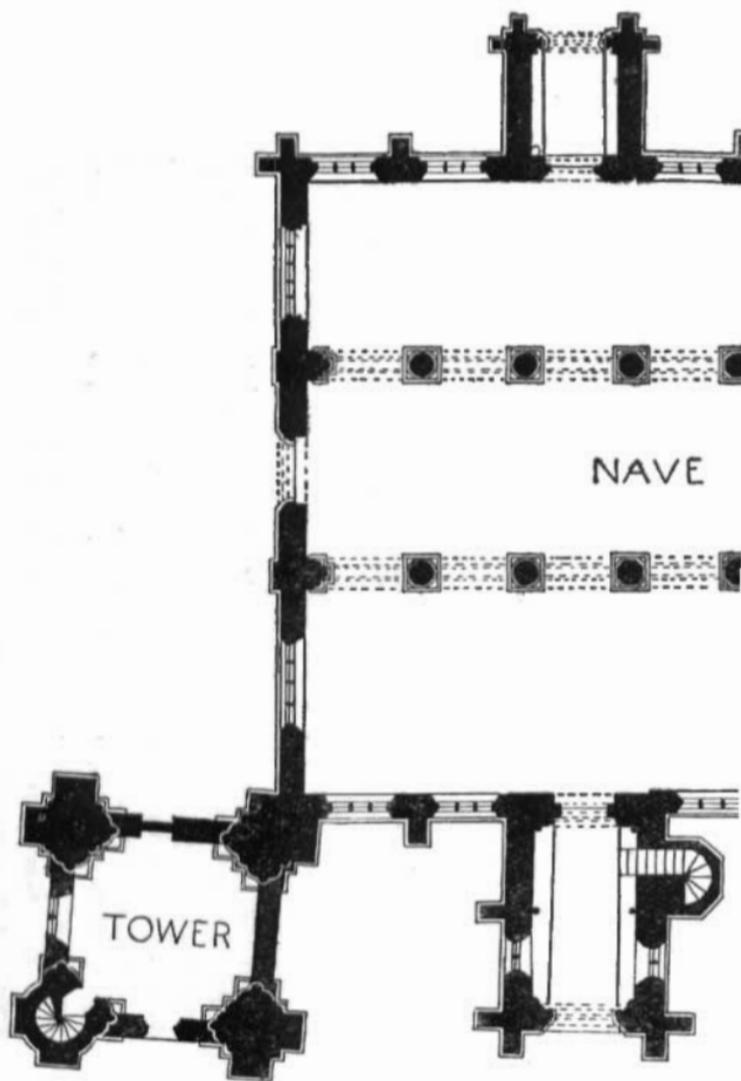
At 2.15 p.m. the party proceeded to Long Sutton Church (Fig. 11 and Pl. xxiv A), under the guidance of Professor Hamilton Thompson.

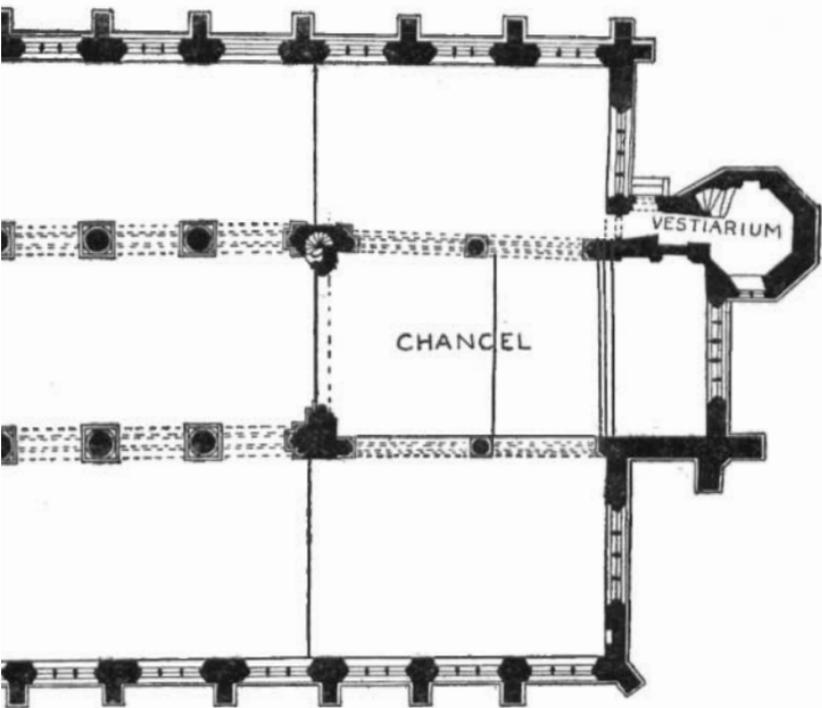
LONG  
SUTTON  
CHURCH

About 1120 Robert de Haia, who had acquired the lordship by his marriage with Muriel of Sutton, is said to have built a wooden church here for the use of the inhabitants. His granddaughter Nicolaa, with her husband William, in 1180 conveyed the site for a new church and churchyard to the prior and convent of Castle Acre, who were in possession of the advowson and appropriated the church. The present building, however, was begun before 1180. Externally, apart from two pilaster-buttresses on either side of the west door, there are no remains of twelfth-century work. The fine nave arcades of seven bays have plain round arches upon piers, alternately circular and octagonal, as at Walsoken, with scalloped capitals. Above them is a clerestory consisting of a continuous arcade of round arches, pierced at intervals by single lights. This is now internal, owing to the raising of the aisle roofs, and the upper clerestory, now much restored, was not added until the eighteenth century.

Early in the thirteenth century the fine bell-tower was built, on a detached site S.W. of the church. In general character it is closely akin to the tower at West Walton, and, here as there, stood upon four open arches now blocked. It is crowned by a tall wooden spire covered with lead, and the buttresses, which terminate in octagonal turrets, are finished off with similar spirelets.

In the fourteenth century the work of enlargement was begun, including the widening of the aisles, which seems, however, not to have been completed till later. The south aisle was certainly widened so as to touch the N.E. angle of the tower; the west doorway was inserted, and the east window, with ball-flower in the hollow mouldings, now much modernised, was made. The two-storied pentagonal vestry, which projects eastward from the north end of the chancel, is of this date: the upper chamber has traces of a fireplace, and a small window opens towards the altar.





LONG SUTTON CH:

0 10 20 30 40 50 feet

*J. E. Owen*  
1909.



A. LONG SUTTON CHURCH



B. TERRINGTON ST. CLEMENT CHURCH



The widening of the aisles was completed early in the fifteenth century, when the roofs were raised so as to cover the clerestory; the chancel-arch was raised; and the fine south porch, with an upper chamber, was built. The arches on the north side of the chancel are later, and their date is probably marked by a bequest in the will of Robert Phillips in 1492 for the completion of work then in progress. The roof of the chancel is of this period: the screen has disappeared, but the rood-stair remains. There are some fragments of old glass and an old brass eagle lectern.

The often repeated story that Long Sutton and the other churches on the way to Spalding were built as the result of a competition between Castle Acre, Croyland and other monasteries, has no foundation in truth. The religious houses to which these churches were appropriated were responsible merely for the fabric of the chancel, the part of these buildings in which there is least sign of competitive emulation. It is possible that in some cases the monastery may have made itself responsible for hiring and paying masons: this happened at Spalding in 1284, but there the parishioners compounded with the prior and convent by the payment of £100.

After tea, the company motored to Terrington St. Clement Church (Pls. xxiv B, xxv), where Professor Hamilton Thompson again acted as guide. The lower part of the west wall of the church contains twelfth-century masonry, and the piscina and sedilia in the chancel are made up of thirteenth-century fragments discovered during a restoration. A complete rebuilding on a large scale was begun towards the middle of the fourteenth century, probably while Edmund Gonville, the founder of Gonville Hall at Cambridge and of the college of Rushford in Norfolk, was rector. The new church was designed on a cruciform plan, with transepts and a central tower: the nave-arcades, of seven bays with octagonal piers, were completed, together with the piers of the crossing and the springers for its vault, and the west portion of the chancel. The work, however, seems to have been interrupted, and was not resumed until the close of the century. The aisles were then built with the south porch, which was intended to have an upper storey. The cruciform plan was abandoned in the fifteenth century, when the clerestory was added to the nave: the high end-walls of the transepts were finished flush with the aisle-walls, and the east arch of the crossing was raised, a series of canopied niches made above it, and a five-light window added in the gable. The chancel was completed, and the large west window of the nave was made above the earlier doorway. A massive tower, plain in detail, was built free of the church at the S.W. corner of the nave. Later settlements in the foundations led, as at West Walton, to the addition of heavy buttresses against the west wall of the nave, blocking the niches on either side of the west window.

All of the old furniture of the church has disappeared except the octagonal font with its lofty fifteenth-century cover. The back and the shutters of the lower part of this are painted internally with seventeenth-century pictures of the baptism and temptation of our

TERRING-  
TON ST.  
CLEMENT  
CHURCH

Lord and of the four Evangelists. There are several altar-slabs with consecration crosses in the paving of the church, and Elizabethan tablets of wood in handsome frames, with the Ten Commandments, etc., in black letter, are fixed upon the walls. In the chancel is a small fragment with late pre-Conquest interlacement.

At 6.0 p.m. the members visited Lovell's Hall, Terrington St. Clement's, under the guidance of the owner, Col. H. R. Lawrence, D.S.O. The hall stands in a small park about a mile south of the church, and on the road leading to Tilney. It is believed to have been built, or re-built, in 1543, and was of larger extent than it is now. The lower stage and the projecting porch are of Barnack stone; the upper stages are of brick. The walls are in some places four or five feet thick, and the principal room is panelled in oak. The manor of Lovell's Hall is not mentioned separately in Blomefield's *Norfolk* (ix. 84), but it seems to be the same as that originally called 'Bardolph's Fee,' of which 'the whole right was in the Lovells' before 1416, when Thomas Lovell of Barton Bendish presented to the chapel of St. James, now destroyed. By his will, dated September 10th, 9th Henry V., he gives it to his second son, Nicholas, who presented in 1424. William Lovell of Wretton presented in 1503. Blomefield (i.e. Parkin) says that it passed from the Lovells to the Howards, and was united with 'Howard's Manor' in the same parish. But the family of Richers resided at Lovell's Hall, and held the manor for a very long time before 1688, when it was sold to Thorowgood Upwood; and both Howard's and Lovell's Manors still exist separately. There is a small view of the house in Mason's *Norfolk Photographically Illustrated*, and a poor sketch of a portion in Willins's *Old Halls and Manor Houses of Norfolk*.

At 9.0 p.m. a lecture (with lantern-slides) on 'Castle Rising, the neighbourhood and borough' was given by Mr. Bradfer-Lawrence at the Duke's Head Hotel.

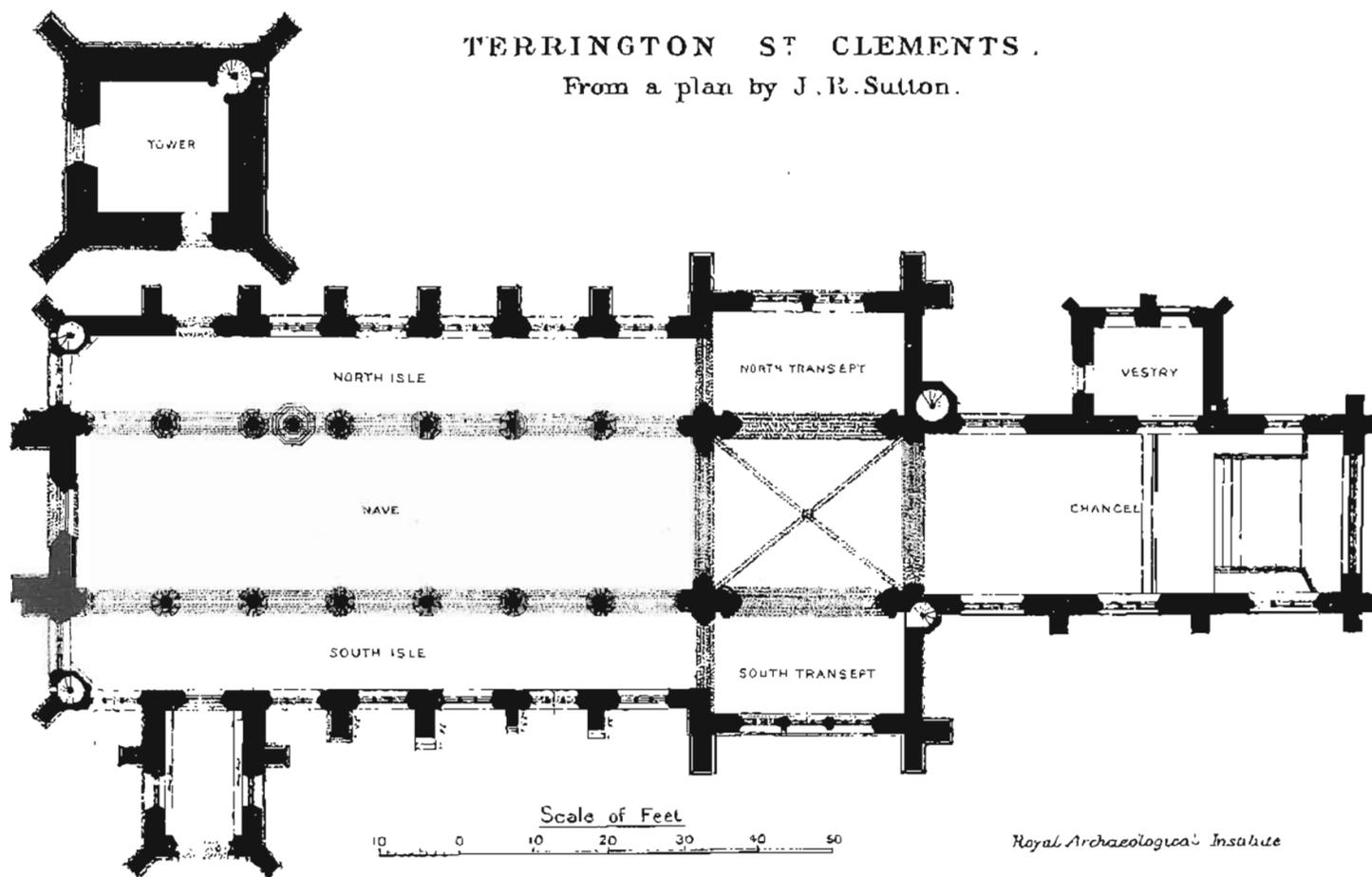
### Tuesday, 19th July

At 9.30 a.m., the members motored to Middleton Towers, which they inspected by the courtesy of Mr. Thomas Ramsden and under the guidance of Mr. Bradfer-Lawrence.

MIDDLE-  
TON  
TOWERS  
Middleton is mentioned first in the Domesday Survey, and at the time there appear to have been five separate lordships, shortly afterwards known as Scales Hall, Bury Abbey, Castle Hall, Tyrrington Hall, and another belonging to Alan, Earl of Richmond. The sites of four of these manors are fairly easy to trace, but the fifth is obscure, and probably became merged in Scales Hall at an early date. Middleton Tower occupies the site of Scales Hall Manor. Originally part of the Montfort fief, it was held for a short time by the Lisewis family, and passed, according to Blomefield, in the reign of Henry III to Roger de Scales on his marriage to Muriel, one of the daughters and

# TERRINGTON ST CLEMENTS.

From a plan by J. R. Sutton.





co-heiresses of Jeffery de Lisewis. It descended in this family of Scales until the death of Thomas, Lord Scales, who was captured and brutally murdered by wherry-men when attempting to escape from the Tower of London by water late in the evening of July 9th, 1460 (38 Henry VI), after the defeat of the King at the Battle of Northampton. By the marriage of his daughter and eventual heiress to Anthony Wodevile, son and heir of Richard Wodevile, Earl Rivers, the property passed to the brother of Edward IV's Queen, Elizabeth Wodevile. Elizabeth Scales died in 1473 without issue, and her husband Anthony Wodevile, Earl Rivers, K.G., and Lord Scales, was captured and beheaded at Pomfret Castle in 1483 by order of Richard, Duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard III. By his will it was directed to be sold, but the Manor is said to have passed by grant from Richard III to his favourite, John Howard, Duke of Norfolk. On the death of the latter on the field of Bosworth in 1485, the grant was forfeited, and on the accession of Henry VII, Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Sir John Howard, wife of John de Vere, Earl of Oxford, was found to be one of the heirs of Elizabeth Lady Scales, above mentioned, as great-granddaughter of Margaret Scales, daughter of Robert Lord Scales, wife of Sir Robert Howard, and sister of Roger Lord Scales.

Thus it was that in one generation (1460-90) this ancient gatehouse passed out of and into the possession of four of the greatest families in the land—Scales, Wodevile, Howard, de Vere. At Bosworth de Vere (himself half a Howard) is said to have slain with his own hand 'Jock of Norfolk,' the uncle who in the troublesome days of Edward IV and Richard III had taken the youth into his own household to protect him and his estates from avaricious enemies. This Manor remained with the de Veres but a short while, and then passed by female heirs into the Cecil and Wingfield families, the former selling it to Sir Thomas Holland in 19 James I (1622). Blomefield says Sir John Heveningham was lord in 1635, and Sir William Paston, Bart., in 1649. Richard Barney was lord in 1699. It appears to have been sold in 1709 to Isaac le Heup. His two daughters succeeded as heiresses, having married respectively Sir Edward Williams, Bart., of Wales, and 'Lloyd Esq.,' of Epping in Essex. Sir Edward Williams sold the Manor and estate to Vice-Admiral Savage Mostyn. His nephew, Sir Roger Mostyn, Bart., succeeded in 1757, enjoyed it for a few years, and then (1766) sold it to Philip Case, Esq., of King's Lynn, for £18,000. From Case it passed to Benoni Mallett, then at his death back to the Case family, and so in the nineteenth century to their relations, the Wythes. About 1868 it was bought by Sir Lewis Whincop Jarvis, of King's Lynn, who soon afterwards restored the gatehouse and inner moat and subsequently made several further additions. On his death in 1888 the property was again sold and at the beginning of the twentieth century came into the possession of Mr. Thomas Ramsden's father, whose family have added to the mansion and equipped parts of the interior with old panelling.

The earliest view of the ruined gatehouse is the drawing un-

dated by Wm. Millicent. That this drawing was made before 1741 is plain, as at the side appears a view of Lynn showing the spire and central lantern tower of St. Margaret's Church, blown down that year in a great storm. Cotman's sketch of the south front, made in 1817, differs considerably from Millicent's in the arrangement of the windows in the first floor. He shows the fine central oriel window in greater detail with two smaller windows—one in either side—having flat Gothic moulded heads with fine corbelled projecting bases. A careful examination of the south front fails to reveal any trace whatever that a third oriel window ever existed. Cotman seems to have exercised an artist's licence to give more balance to his picture.

The proportions of the gate-tower are such as to strike the eye at once, with a fitness which renders them very elegant. The lower stage contains, between these turrets, the gate and two small windows or panels, of two lights each. This stage is divided from the one above by a good string moulding. The second stage contains two one-light pointed windows, and between them the remains of a beautiful small oriel, set on a rich and good corbel, with a beautiful groined roof. There are also good corbels under the one-light windows, showing at once the pre-eminence of this storey. Another string divides this storey from the upper one, which has in the centre, over the oriel, a shield of arms, and on each side, over the side windows, two other windows, also of one light each, but distinguished from the lower ones by having their arched heads surmounted by square-headed drip-stones. In the turrets there are several apertures of varied forms and good proportions. The battlements above have been restored, but when complete this tower must have been very beautiful.

Finally we may consider the date of its erection and the builder. Mr. Walter Rye, in his *Norfolk Families*, doubted that the Scales ever had a residence here, and suggests it was a hunting box only. Some twenty letters from Thomas Lord Scales are preserved in the *Paston Letters*, and practically all are dated from Middleton, at all seasons of the year, and this evidence alone would seem to be sufficient to prove he was actually living here. Moreover, this same Lord Thomas Scales rode over with armed forces from Middleton to Roydon, about September 21st, 1454, and utterly destroyed the magnificent mansion of the Wodehouses to prevent it from falling into the hands of Thomas Daniell, then constable of Castle Rising and a near relation of Sir John Howard, and his cousin, John Mowbray, Earl of Norfolk. The exact date of its erection is uncertain. The arms above the gatehouse are those of the Wodeville family and, therefore, must be later than the marriage between Anthony Wodeville and Elizabeth Scales, c. 1462. Did Anthony Wodeville build this medieval mansion, or were his arms a later insertion? It is uncertain whether the Scales family had an earlier house on the site—probably they had—or perhaps it may have been at another moated site about half a mile to the west, where are the remains of an old house, for long known as the Old Hall Farm. As may be seen to-day, there was an extensive outer moat enclosing

some ten or twelve acres. A short distance to the east are two small curious banked enclosures—the one circular and the other square. Great quantities of the fallen masonry and worked stones were removed to Sandringham about sixty years ago for rockeries. Several fine gargoyles and grotesque figures may still be seen on the gatehouse, and the shields on the base of the bracketed pediment of the oriel windows seem to bear traces of heraldry. On the modern additions to the building may be observed the arms of the Jarvis and Ramsden families.

At 10.45 the members reached Pentney Priory (Fig. 12), and were addressed by Mr. Clapham.

Pentney Priory was founded in the twelfth century by Robert de Vaux for Austin Canons, and dedicated to the Holy Trinity, B.V.M. and St. Mary Magdalene. In 1468 the neighbouring priory of Wormegay was united to it. In 1492 there were eighteen canons, but at the last visitation in

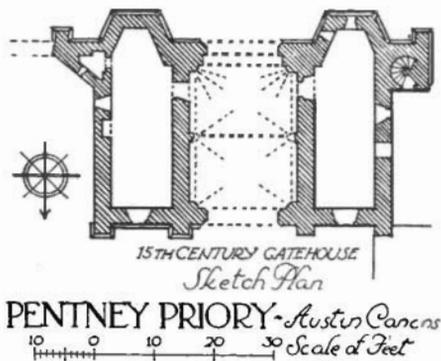


FIG. 12

1532 the number had sunk to thirteen. At the dissolution the house had a net value of £180 19s. 0½d.

There are no very definite traces of the position of the church and main block of the priory-buildings, which are probably obscured by the farm buildings and the ruins of a house which stand to the north. All these buildings, however, contain much re-used material. The great gatehouse of the priory, however, stands largely intact. It is a handsome late fourteenth- or early fifteenth-century structure of flint rubble and Barnack stone, with inner and outer four-centred arches and the remains of a ribbed vault of two bays between them. The outer archway is flanked by semi-hexagonal projecting bays. A length of precinct wall survives to the west of the gatehouse.

At a bend of the road about half a mile east of the priory is a good fourteenth-century stone cross, with the shaft springing from four tabled buttresses; the cross-head has gone.

After leaving Pentney, the motors passed Narborough Hall, which was noted in passing. The Hall is a characteristic example of

Tudor brickwork, and contains an original Tudor ceiling. It belonged to the Spealman family.

NAR-  
BOROUGH  
HALL

In the park in front of the house is a mound and earthen rampart. In making a garden near the base of the mound in the year 1600 'several human bones and pieces of armour' are recorded to have been discovered (Britton, *Beauties of England and Wales*, xi, 274).

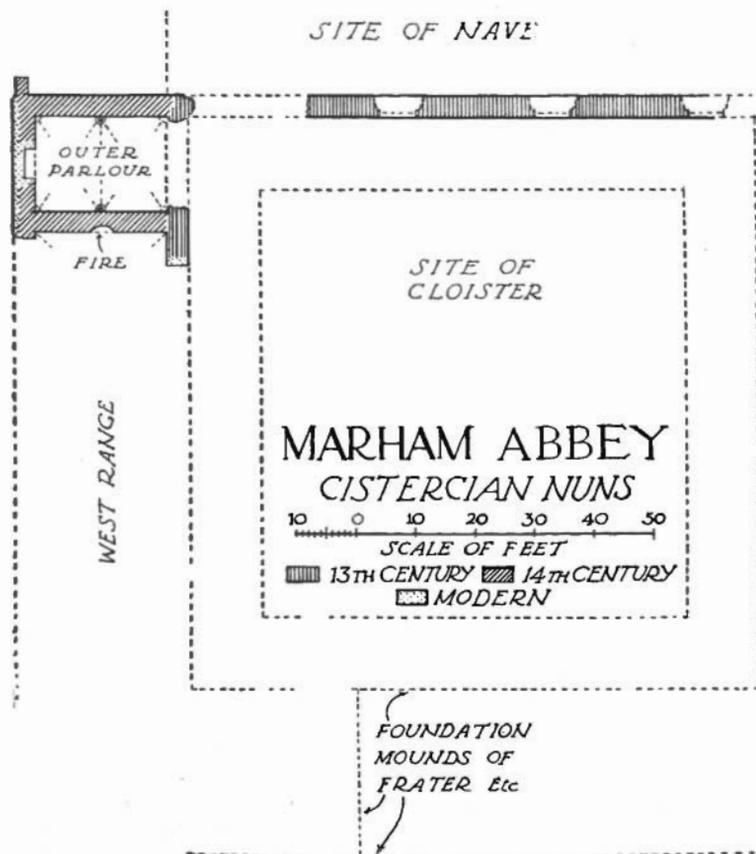


FIG. 13

At 11.45 the members inspected Marham Abbey (Fig. 13) under the guidance of Mr. Clapham.

This abbey of Cistercian nuns was founded by Isabel, widow of Hugh de Albini, earl of Arundel.

MARHAM  
ABBNEY

It was dedicated to the honour of Blessed Virgin, St. Barbara, and St. Edmund, on January 27th, 1249, by Richard,

bishop of Chichester. The original endowment was the lands of the foundress at Marham together with the manor and all its services; they were granted for the good of the souls of William Earl Warenne and Surrey her father, of Maud her mother, daughter of William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, of Hugh her husband, and of all her ancestors and successors. In 1252, this nunnery was formally incorporated into the abbey of Waverley, the first and mother-house of the Cistercian order in England; the nunnery making an offering to Waverley of four marks and a cask of wine!

The Valor of 1535 returned the gross annual value of this small abbey as £42 4s. 7½d., and the clear value £39 os. 1¾d.

The chartulary contains a mortuary list from 1401 to 1453, with sixteen names of lay persons who died in this house or within its jurisdiction, and who were probably buried here. The mortuaries were chiefly gowns or mantles; thus Sir Ralph Hersent, a gown of violet colour; Isabel Cooper, a gown of cloth of gold; John Dolman, his best russet gown; Cecil Narburgh, a gown of blood colour furred with minever; Matilda de Marham, a mantle furred with white; Lady Eleanor, relict of Sir William Ingoldesthorpe, a mantle furred with grey. But the mortuary of Thomas Rynstede was a sorrel horse and that of Sir John Champeney, a priest who had a chamber in the abbey precincts, a book, which was sold for eight marks.

The abbess of Marham had the privilege of proving the wills of those who died within the precincts or jurisdiction of the house.

The remains consist only of the S. wall of the aisleless nave of the church and the shell of the outer parlour. The church was a thirteenth-century building with a range of circular windows above the cloister roof, two of these remain complete, one being octofoiled and the other quatrefoiled, between the surviving windows are the mitres on the weathering of the cloister-roof of two more windows, contemplated but never pierced. The fourteenth-century outer parlour has remains of a ribbed vault springing from shafts and carved grotesque corbels. The foundation-mounds of the cloister and surrounding buildings are very pronounced, but there is no evidence of the width of the church or of its extent to the E.

Shortly after noon, the company reached Fincham, and inspected the font in St. Martin's Church under the guidance of Mr. Clapham.

**FINCHAM FONT** This mid twelfth-century font belonged originally to St. Michael's church, but was brought here on the destruction of that church in 1744. It is square, and has on each side three arcaded panels with scriptural representations. On the N. side are Adam and Eve and the tree; on the E., the Magi; on the S., the Nativity; and on the W., St. John the Baptist, Christ, and a bishop.

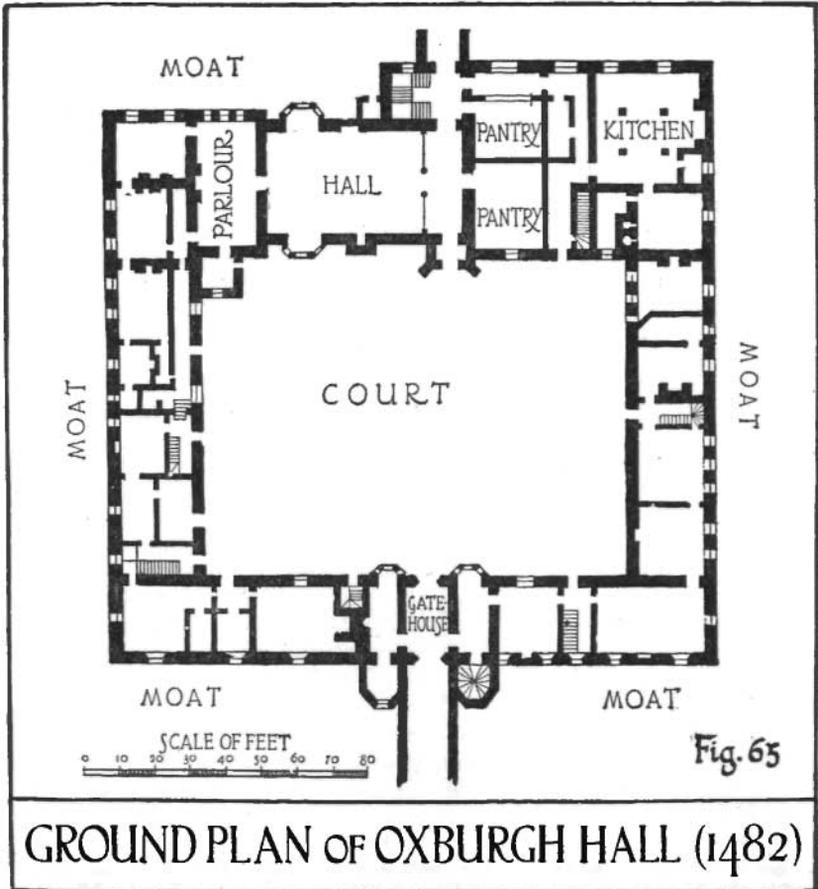
(H. J. D. Astley, *Memorials of Old Norfolk*, p. 229.)

St. Martin's Church was rebuilt in the fifteenth century and contains a screen with shields of arms of Fincham and William Bate-man, bishop of Norwich (1344-55). There is a hammer-beam roof, a shroud-brass and a sounding-board (dated 1604), now in the vestry.

After luncheon, the members were received at Oxborough Hall by Sir Henry Bedingfeld, Bt.

OX-  
BOROUGH  
HALL

Oxborough Hall (Fig. 14) is perhaps the finest surviving example of medieval domestic architecture in Norfolk. It was built in and after 1482 by Sir Edmund Bedingfeld, ancestor of the present owner. The house is of brick, and was originally of quadrangular plan; but one side,



GROUND PLAN OF OXBURGH HALL (1482)

FIG. 14

(From H. W. C. Davis, *Mediaeval England*, by kind permission of the Clarendon Press)

containing the great hall, was pulled down in 1778 and has not been rebuilt. The building is surrounded by a moat, and is entered through a fine gateway, flanked by tall towers enriched by recessed panels. The entrance passage is vaulted.

The state rooms are also of considerable interest, and contain furniture, tapestry, etc., of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. In the house is also preserved a bed-cover said to have been worked by Mary Queen of Scots and the Countess of Shrewsbury for Thomas Howard, fourth Duke of Norfolk.

The church of St. John the Evangelist has an early fourteenth-century nave, the two E. bays and the clerestory being of the end of the century. The chancel was rebuilt in the fifteenth century. The most noteworthy feature of the church is the Bedingfeld chapel added on the S. side of the chancel, in pursuance of the will of Margaret, widow of Edmund Bedingfeld, died 1513. The early Renaissance carved screen may be compared with the contemporary sedilia at Wymondham Abbey. In the chapel are monuments to Sir Henry Bedingfeld, 1583 and Sir Henry Bedingfeld, 1657. The fittings include the stem of a medieval pulpit, a late fifteenth-century brass lectern (inscribed THOME KYPYING QUONDAM RECTORIS DE NARBURGH) and a fifteenth-century screen with large figures of saints of unusual type; they represent St. Thomas of Canterbury, St. John the Evangelist, St. John the Baptist, St. Withburga, St. Mary Magdalene and St. Etheldreda. In the chancel is some fifteenth-century glass with figures of angels and apostles.

At 4.0 p.m. the company was received at Wallington Hall by Mr. J. L. Luddington, who entertained the party to tea and addressed his guests. As Eston Hall, the history of the house goes back at least as far as the 20th of Edward III, when it was held by Jeffrey de Eston. Later lords of the manor were William Hunt (3rd of Henry IV) and the Gawsells who, in the 16th of Henry VIII, conveyed the manor to William Coningsby, Justice of the King's Bench. At the end of the century it passed by marriage to the Earl of Warwick; thence, shortly afterwards, to Daniel Finch, Earl of Nottingham, who sold it to his nephew, Philip Bell. From the Bells it was acquired in 1918 by the present owner. (*Country Life*, November 16th, 1929).

The existing house is largely a brick structure of early sixteenth-century date with later alterations. The great hall occupies the middle part with a porch at the screen-end and the blocked arch of the former oriel at the dais-end.

At the conclusion of the Meeting a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Bradfer-Lawrence, who had been instrumental in arranging and carrying out many of the visits, and to the Meeting Secretary (Lieut.-Col. Browne), who had unfortunately been taken ill during the Meeting but had previously borne the responsibility of all the necessary arrangements.

## OTHER MEETINGS OF THE INSTITUTE

### A. SPRING MEETING AT ETON AND WINDSOR

Saturday, 7th May, 1932

The members assembled at Eton College Chapel at 11.45 a.m., and were met by the Provost, Dr. M. R. James, O.M., F.S.A., who described the fifteenth-century wall-paintings in the Chapel, and their recent restoration by Professor E. W. Tristram. After luncheon the members reassembled at St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, where the building, and the work recently carried out on the structure, were described by the architect-in-charge, Sir Harold Brakspear, K.C.V.O., F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A.

### B. AUTUMN MEETING AT SUTTON PLACE, LOSELEY PARK AND GUILDFORD

Saturday, 8th October, 1932

In the morning the members visited Sutton Place, Surrey, by kind permission of His Grace the Duke of Sutherland. After luncheon, Abbot's Hospital, Guildford, was first visited, and the party then went to Loseley Park, Godalming, by kind permission of Mrs. G. Longdon. Mr. W. H. Godfrey, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., acted as guide during the day. The members were subsequently entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. H. A. A. Cruso.

### C. MEETINGS IN LONDON

Wednesday, 3rd February, 1932

The President (Sir Charles Oman) in the chair.

Mr. Percy Flemming, F.R.C.S., F.S.A., read a paper on 'St. Antony the Great,' followed by Mr. C. C. Oman with a paper on 'Post-Reformation Brass Lecterns.' Both papers were illustrated by lantern-slides.

Wednesday, 2nd March, 1932

The President (Sir Charles Oman) in the chair.

Mr. T. D. Kendrick read a paper on 'Enamelled Metalwork of the Dark Ages in Great Britain,' illustrated by lantern-slides.

Mr. E. T. Leeds, F.S.A., Mrs. R. E. M. Wheeler, F.S.A., and the Secretary contributed to the subsequent discussion.

Wednesday, 4th April, 1932

Mr. Aymer Vallance, F.S.A., Vice-President, in the chair.

Professor E. F. Jacob, D.Phil., F.S.A., read a paper on 'Some aspects of Fifteenth-century German Sculpture,' illustrated by lantern-slides.

Dr. Rose Graham, F.S.A., and Mr. C. C. Oman contributed to the subsequent discussion.

Wednesday, 4th May, 1932

The President (Sir Charles Oman) in the chair.

Five short papers, all illustrated by lantern-slides, were given on 'Recent Hill-Fort Excavation and Research in England.'

Dr. E. C. Curwen, F.S.A., on Hollingbury Camp and The Trundle, Sussex.

Mr. Stuart Piggott on Uffington Castle and Alfred's Castle, Berkshire.

Mr. R. F. Jessup on Bigberry Camp, Kent.

Mr. G. C. Dunning on Salmonsbury Camp, Gloucestershire.

Mr. V. E. Nash-Williams, F.S.A., on Llanmelin Camp, Monmouthshire.

Dr. Cyril Fox, F.S.A., opened the subsequent discussion.

Wednesday, 8th June, 1932

Annual General Meeting, held in the apartments of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, W., at 4.30 p.m.

The President (Sir Charles Oman) in the chair.

1. *Report of the Council*

The adoption of the Report of the Council for the year 1931, which had been circulated, was proposed by the President, seconded by the hon. Editor, and carried unanimously.

2. *Balance Sheet*

The adoption of the balance sheet was proposed by the Hon. Treasurer, seconded by Lt.-Col. B. S. Browne, and carried unanimously.

3. *Retirement of Members of Council*

It was announced that the following members of the Council retire by rotation:—

Sir J. K. Fowler, K.C.V.O., M.D., D.Sc.

Arthur Gardner, Esq., F.S.A.

G. Hardinge-Tyler, Esq., C.B.E., F.S.A.

Miss Rose Graham, M.A., D.Litt., F.S.A.

W. J. Hemp, Esq., F.S.A.

H. L. Bradfer-Lawrence, Esq., F.S.A.

The last two members, who had been elected to fill recent vacancies, were eligible for re-election.

A further vacancy has been caused on the Council by the resignation of Mr. D. A. Casey, M.C., F.S.A., on leaving England.

The Council recommended the election of the following in their places :—

W. J. Hemp, Esq., F.S.A.  
 H. L. Bradfer-Lawrence, Esq., F.S.A.  
 V. B. Crowther-Beynon, Esq., M.B.E., F.S.A.  
 Mrs. D. P. Dobson, Litt.D.  
 Percy Flemming, Esq., F.R.C.S., F.S.A.  
 P. M. Johnston, Esq., F.S.A.  
 Professor A. Hamilton Thompson, D.Litt., F.S.A., F.B.A.,  
 Hon. A.R.I.B.A.

All of whom were duly elected.

In the place of the senior retiring Vice-President, Professor Hamilton Thompson, F.S.A., who becomes an honorary Vice-President, Dr. Rose Graham, F.S.A., was proposed and elected Vice-President; and Mr. Ernest Woolley, F.S.A., was reappointed Hon. Auditor, Messrs. Francis Nicholls and White continuing to act as Auditors.

The ordinary meeting followed the business meeting at 5 o'clock, when Mr. J. G. Mann, B.Litt., F.S.A., read a paper on 'Instances of Antiquarian Feeling in Medieval and Renaissance Art,' illustrated by lantern-slides.

Mr. A. W. Clapham, F.S.A., Dr. R. E. M. Wheeler, F.S.A., Mr. A. R. Martin, F.S.A., Dr. F. H. Fairweather, F.S.A., and Dr. Joan Evans contributed to the subsequent discussion.

#### Wednesday, 2nd November, 1932

Mr. Aymer Vallance, F.S.A., Vice-President, in the chair.

Mr. G. McN. Rushforth, F.S.A., read a paper on 'Minster Lovell,' illustrated by lantern-slides.

Mr. A. R. Martin, F.S.A., and Dr. Rose Graham, F.S.A., contributed to the subsequent discussion.

#### Wednesday, 7th December, 1932

The President (Sir Charles Oman) in the chair.

A paper on 'Some Contemporary Drawings of the Battle of Pinkie in the Bodleian Library' was read by the President.

Colonel C. Cruikshank, M.P., Major Gordon Home and the Secretary joined in the subsequent discussion. A vote of thanks was moved by Rev. J. K. Floyer, D.D., F.S.A.

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