REPORT OF THE SUMMER MEETING OF THE ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE AT EXETER IN 1957

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF THE MEETING

The Summer Meeting in 1957 was held at Exeter from Monday, July the 8th to Saturday, July the 13th, in association with the Devonshire Association for the Advancement of Science, Literature and Art; the Devon Archaeological Exploration Society; and the Devonshire Institute. Former meetings of the Royal Archaeological Institute took place in Devonshire in 1873 and 1913. The reports of these will be found in vols. XXX and LXX of the *Archaeological Journal*.

The Patrons of the Meeting were the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Exeter (the Right Rev. R. C. Mortimer, D.D.), the Very Rev. the Dean of Exeter (the Very Rev. A. R. Wallace, M.A.), the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Exeter (Councillor Lt.-Col. R. H. Creasy), the High Sheriff of Devonshire (Commander W. R. Gilbert, R.N., Ret'd.), Sir Peter Hoare, Bart., Sir Cyril Fox, D.Litt., Ph.D., F.B.A., F.S.A. (President, Archaeological Exploration Society), Dr. S. C. Carpenter, D.D. (President, Devonshire Association), J. W. Cook, Esq., D.Sc., Ph.D., Sc.D., F.R.I.C., F.R.S. (Vice-Chancellor, Exeter University), C. A. R. Radford, Esq., M.A., F.B.A., F.S.A., and Professor F. Barlow, M.A., D.Phil. (Professor of History, Exeter University).

The Institute is much indebted to Mr. C. A. Ralegh Radford for writing the Introduction to Devonshire Archaeology; in addition, the society deeply appreciates the invaluable help he gave in making local arrangements for the Meeting. The Institute is also most grateful for the help given by the local committee, but particularly it wishes to thank Professor Barlow, chairman of this committee, and Mr. William Ravenhill, who acted as secretary.

The President, Professor W. F. Grimes, was present throughout the Meeting, which was attended by 136 members and their guests.

The present report of the Meeting follows the sequence of events given in the synopsis of the programme below:

MONDAY, 8th July. Afternoon in Exeter: visits to the Cathedral; the Well Spring and the exterior of the Bishop's Palace; the Cathedral Library; and the Castle. Evening reception by the Right Worshipful the Mayor, in the Guildhall.

TUESDAY, 9th July. Crediton Church; St. Peter's Church, Tiverton; and either St. George's Church, Tiverton, Chevithorne Barton, and Cullompton Church; or Hembury Hill-Fort. Tea at Bradfield House by invitation of Mr. C. A. R. Radford.

WEDNESDAY, 10th July. Either Doddiscombsleigh Church; Bradley Manor; Torre Abbey; Luscombe Castle, and Mamhead; or Dartmoor: with Spinster's Rock, Drewsteignton; Shovel Down, Chagford; Scorhill, Gidleigh; and Grimspound, Manaton. Evening Reception by the University of Exeter.

THURSDAY, 11th July. Cadhay; Ottery St. Mary Church; Blackbury Castle; Sidbury Church, and Sand House. Evening tour on foot of the S.W. part of Exeter; Stepcote Hill and the Custom House.

FRIDAY, 12th July. Compton Castle; Paignton Church; Totnes, The Borough, Church, and Castle; Dartington Hall. Evening Reception by the Devonshire Association at the Devon and Exeter Institution.

SATURDAY, 13th July. Exeter: the Roman City, house in Frog Street, the Priory of St. Nicholas, St. Mary Arches.

The Institute wishes to record its sincere gratitude for the hospitality it received while in Devonshire, and in particular would like to express its thanks to the Mayor,

the Devonshire Association, and the University of Exeter for their receptions; to Mr. C. A. R. Radford for his kind invitation to tea at Bradfield House; and to Dr. Joyce Youings for her invaluable help in arranging accommodation for the Institute at Hope Hall.

Thanks are especially due to Sir Cyril and Lady Fox, Dr. W. H. Hoskins, and Mr. C. A. R. Radford for the heavy programme they undertook as guides; and to the Meetings Secretary, Mr. S. D. T. Spittle. Mr. Radford, Dr. Peter Eden, Mr. A. W. Everett and Mr. Spittle must also be thanked for the field-work which has resulted in new plans and measured drawings.

We are indebted for their services as guides to the various monuments to Miss Mary Baldwin, Mr. John Campbell, Mrs. Trenchard Cox, Mrs. M. Cruwys, Dr. Eden, Mr. L. Elmhurst, Commander W. R. Gilbert, Mr. W. H. Godfrey, Mrs. L. Needham, Mr. E. N. Masson Phillips, Captain N. J. W. William-Powlett, Miss Ursula Radford, Miss K. M. Richardson, Mr. S. E. Rigold, Mr. E. C. Rouse, and Professor Geoffrey Webb. Miss Mary Coate earns our gratitude for a description of Cadhay, and Mr. A. S. Mahood for notes on the Law Library and St. George's, Tiverton.

To the following our thanks are due for permission to visit houses and monuments: to the Dean and Chapter of Exeter Cathedral, the Librarian of the University of Exeter (Cathedral Library), the Exeter Law Library Society (Law Library), Exeter City Council (St. Nicholas Priory), the Devonshire County Council (Bradfield House), the Librarian and Curator, Torquay Library (Torre Abbey), H.M. Surveyor of Customs and Excise (Custom House, Exeter), the Ministry of Works (Totnes Castle), and Pathfinder Tours (Mamhead). We also thank Mr. John Campbell (Sand Manor), Mr. L. Elmhurst (Dartington Hall), Commander and Mrs. Gilbert and the National Trust (Compton Castle), Mr. H. E. B. Gundry (Hembury Hill-Fort), Mrs. L. Heathcoat Amery (Chevithorne), Sir Peter Hoare, Bart. (Luscombe Castle), Mr. J. A. Palmes (Spinster's Rock), Captain N. J. W. William-Powlett (Cadhay), and Mrs. Woolner and the National Trust (Bradley Manor).

THE COUNTY OF DEVON. By C. A. Ralegh Radford

Devon forms the main mass of the south-western peninsula of England, which projects boldly forward into the Atlantic. The peninsula measures 130 miles from Lands End in Cornwall to the narrow neck between the Parret marshes of central Somerset and the Dorset coast, which constitutes the only direct link with the rest of England. Its maximum breadth—in Devon—is 70 miles. This position, imposing an orientation as much to the sea as to the land, has governed the development of the area throughout its human history.

In broadest outline the structure of the area is dominated by the great central mass of Dartmoor, an outcrop of granite, which occupies one-ninth of the total area. The granite affords good natural pasture relatively free from forest and scrub, but cut by deep valleys and bogs and open to the disadvantages accruing from a high elevation, heavy rainfall and an extreme winter climate. North and South Devon—one-quarter of the total area—consist of the slates and sandstones of the Devonian series. The soil is relatively fertile, and, in some parts, such as the limestone in the hinterland of Torbay, afforded open areas for primitive settlement. The whole centre of the county, north of Dartmoor, and west Devon—amounting together to two-fifths of the area—is covered by the cold shales of the Culm series, often waterlogged and inhospitable. Finally, there are two areas in east Devon, which have, at different periods, played an important role in human history. The Permian and Triassic rocks, mostly red sandstones and marls, provide the rich red soils that formed the great wealth of medieval and later agriculture of the county. This is the area always regarded as typical of Devon, though in fact covering only some 15% of the surface. In the extreme east is the extensive greensand plateau of the Blackdowns, which crops again on Haldon, west of the Exe; it served as an important focus of prehistoric settlement. Such is the basic pattern, a pattern continually diversified in detail by the intricate penetration of the valleys and the complex arrangement of the secondary deposits, which lead to the existence of patches of fertile soil and wealthy settlements within the barren areas.

The earliest human relics that have been found in Devon belong to the Palaeolithic Age. Extensive deposits covering these early stages of human settlement have been found in limestone caves, such as Kent's Cavern, Torquay, and the caves at Brixham. Palaeolithic implements have been recovered from the gravels at Broome in the Axe Valley and from other sites. The full correlation of these deposits has yet to be worked out; the problems are under investigation by Professor F. Zeuner, who has been working for some seasons in the caves at Torbryan.

The mesolithic hunters are also represented on a number of sites in Devon. Their microlithic industry, known from several surface sites, belongs to a group with Sauveterrian affinities that is widespread in the north and west of England and the Midlands. It has recently been discussed by Professor Clark (to his list add East Wyke). The two excavated sites on the north Devon coast—Yelland and Westward Ho—produced the typical industry from an old land surface sealed with a marine clay that can, in all probability, be correlated with the basal deposit noted by Dr. Godwin in the valleys of the central Somerset marshes.

The primary Western Neolithic, resembling the first stage of the key site at Windmill Hill, is well represented in the causewayed camp that underlies the great Iron Age hill-fort of Hembury. On Haldon a hut belonging to the same culture has been excavated near the Belvedere; it was among the first of the type to be recognized in Britain. The still unpublished remains from Hazard Hill, west of Totnes, fit into the same general picture.

The megalithic chambered tombs are sparsely represented by the surviving remains in Devon. A reset and entirely denuded example, known as the Spinster's Rock, is at Drewsteignton; and there is a badly defaced chambered barrow on Corringdon Ball on the south edge of Dartmoor. In 1956 a further tomb, much damaged, but probably related to the Scilly group, was found near Paignton.

Tumuli of the Bronze Age are numerous in most parts of the country. The great barrow field on Broad Down, a part of the eastern greensand plateau, contained tombs which have an affinity with the Wessex culture further east; the most important finds

are two shale cups. Other rich finds of the Early and Middle Bronze Age have been made at Hameldon on Dartmoor, on the borders of Exmoor and elsewhere. The greater number of the barrows on the Culm measures of north and west Devon are likely to be of this period. The warm dry climate would have made these areas more inviting to pastoralists and the few barrows that have been opened have produced remains of the earlier part of the Bronze Age. The number and distribution of these barrows suggests an occupation of these areas of secondary settlement more intense than at any other period before the full Middle Ages.

The most important feature in the prehistory of Devon is the intensive exploitation of Dartmoor throughout the Bronze Age. Occasional finds of earlier types of flint implements are never associated with the settlements, but rather suggest temporary encampments of nomadic hunters. The earliest permanent occupation of the moor goes back to the age of the Beaker Folk of the Early Bronze Age; characteristic vessels, albeit in a late development, have been found in cist burials. This stage and the following Middle Bronze Age are represented by a large series of settlements, villages consisting of hut circles. The stone bases of the walls of these huts, with an internal diameter of up to 20 ft. or slightly more, survive in great numbers in many parts of the Moor (and less commonly on Exmoor). They were originally roofed like wigwams with a thatched conical covering on a turf base supported by poles. Some of the villages are very large —up to ninety or more huts have been counted at Standon Down above Tavy Cleave— but the greater number consist of a dozen or even fewer huts, often set within an enclosing wall or pound. Grimspound, perhaps the best known, is a typical and well-preserved example, which probably belongs to the oldest stage. In some cases the pound shows evidence of soil creep suggesting cultivation and in others there are associated 'garden' plots, also with evidence of cultivation.

Associated with the settlements is a large number of stone monuments—circles, standing stones and stone rows—together with cairns and cists, illustrating the ritual and funerary practises of the inhabitants. The stone rows point towards Brittany, a connection borne out by objects belonging to this period found both on Dartmoor and in other parts of the county, the most notable being the amber pommel in the rich burial on Hameldon.

The Late Bronze Age saw a deterioration of the climate, which was intensified in the succeeding Iron Age. This was accompanied by a contraction of settlement on Dartmoor. The few settlements with modified forms of 'Celtic' fields, such as Kestor and Foale's Arrishes, generally lie at a lower level. They are to be identified by the larger huts—up to 36 ft. in internal diameter—which would have needed an inner setting of posts to carry the roof. Kestor, which has been excavated, showed that the fields had been reclaimed from the blanket peat, which was then forming over large areas. Kestor already belongs to the beginning of the Iron Age. It lies on the north-east edge of the moor and it seems probable that the central area, above 1200 ft., was already abandoned for permanent settlement. It may still have been used as summer pasture. The evidence is too slight to establish the custom of transhumance at this date; it was practised in Wales and Ireland almost to our own days and if the early evidence could be substantiated it would form an interesting instance of the long survival of the custom among the Celts.

The main evidence for the Iron Age comes from the hill-forts. While the earlier phases can only be dimly distinguished on sites like Kestor and Dainton, the later stages, covering some 200 years down to the Roman conquest in the middle of the 1st century A.D., begin to form a clearer picture. The earliest of the excavated hill-forts is Blackbury Castle, near the coastal edge of the greensand plateau. This is a single ramparted enclosure with an added, but unfinished, outwork covering the gate. The fragments of pottery point to an occupation in the 2nd century B.C. and the design of the outwork connects it with an early stage of Maiden Castle. No other hill-fort has produced pottery of so early a character, but there are many simple enclosures within the county and some of them should doubtless be attributed to this phase. The pottery and the character of the

defences point towards the east and the classic culture of Wessex, rather than the contemporary settlements in Cornwall.

Hembury Fort lies inland, at the end of a spur on the western edge of the same greensand plateau. The hill-fort has elaborate defences with as many as four successive ramparts at the north-west corner, where the approach is easiest. Here again the finds recovered were few in number, and extensive excavation failed to produce evidence of a permanent settlement within the enclosure. There were traces of iron working. The culture was the south-western B, the occupation being confined to the last 100 years before the Roman Conquest. The gates, both of which were excavated, were on a scale and of an elaboration that can compare with all save the very greatest of the British hill-forts.

Hembury Fort, in a commanding tactical position, was clearly a native *oppidum*, like those recorded in the Gaul of Caesar's day. Milber Down, near Newton Abbot, though belonging to the same culture, and also yielding no evidence of permanent settlement, lies on the slope of the hill; the site was ill-chosen for military purposes. Moreover the widely separated ramparts, which recur at Clovelly Dykes and elsewhere, point to a different function. It has been suggested that enclosures of this type were connected with cattle raising and mustering, and that suggestion holds the field.

Multivallate hill-forts, of the type which in Devon reaches its fullest expression at Hembury, occur over the greater part of the county, forming an interlocked network, which might be compared with the Norman castles of a later age. Only the cold Culm measures and the uplands of Dartmoor and Exmoor fail to produce examples. It has been suggested that the ring of hill-forts encircling Dartmoor was a defensive measure against the older peoples on the moor. Climatic and distributional considerations rather suggest that all three areas were gradually deserted as the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age with their deteriorating conditions gradually progressed.

South-western Iron Age B, in the developed form found at Hembury and other sites in the county, forms a homogeneous pattern reaching from the marshes of central Somerset, where it is most richly represented in the Lake Villages of Glastonbury and Meare, to west Cornwall, from which its roots stretch back to Brittany. It is clearly connected with the B cultures of Maiden Castle and with the kindred culture of the lower Severn. But the characteristic pottery with the curvilinear decoration, emphasized by cross-hatching, is either absent in these two areas or occurs sporadically against a different background. Translated into political terms, these three cultures of the late Iron Age represent the tribal units known to the Romans as the Dumnonii, the Durotriges (Dorset) and the Dobuni (Cotswolds and lower Severn). In Roman days the centre of the Dumnonii was at Exeter (*Isca Dumnoniorum*), perhaps replacing a native *oppidum* at Hembury, where a scanty occupation within the sleighted defences of the hill-fort lingers on for a generation after the Roman Conquest. The spread of this people across Devon occurred during the 1st century B.C. and is marked by the great multivallate hill-forts, which are particularly numerous on the eastern greensand plateau, which marked their frontier towards the Durotriges. In part at least this spread is probably due to refugees from the Caesarian conquest of Gaul, who fled oversea to take refuge with their kinsmen already established in Britain.

The Roman conquest of Dumnonia seems to have proceeded with little trouble. Neither Hembury nor Milber produced evidence of resistance such as the War Cemetery of Maiden Castle or the massacre at Bredon. The early camp tentatively identified at Topsham, on the estuary of the Exe, is the only known military site of this age in Devon. It is more likely to represent a naval station for the fleet operating up the west coast than a base for campaigns inland. Isca, established on the site of Exeter soon after the middle of the century, formed the centre for the romanization of the tribe. The earliest settlement had simple timber buildings, but about A.D. 80 these are replaced in the centre of the city by a monumental layout, probably the Forum.

The defences of the city followed. An earthern bank of the 2nd century, probably about 150, has been identified in the south-east quarter opposite Southernhay. The wall

of squared stone rising from a chamfered plinth dates from *c.* 200 or later. It can be traced in many places at the base of the later city wall, which is preserved for the greater part of the Roman and medieval circuit. Within the city evidence of a large public building, almost certainly the Baths, has been found beside the Deanery. Substantially built houses and mosaics are recorded from several places, including the mosaic preserved *in situ* in the Police Headquarters behind the Guildhall.

Though constituted a *civitas*, the Dumnonii do not seem to have fully shared the life of the civil province. In east Devon villas of normal types have been found at Seaton and Uplyme; they represent an extension of the civilized conditions further east in Dorset and Somerset. West of the Exe Romano-British remains are scanty and poor. An extensive settlement of ill-defined character is known at Plymouth and there is a small enclosed farm on Milber Down above Newton Abbot. Elsewhere the remains consist of a scatter of coins and occasionally of other objects. Recently traces of Roman roads have been recorded, running from Exeter south-west over Haldon to a crossing of the Teign—perhaps with a Roman bridge—and westward across central Devon, passing near South Tawton. Of tin working, so important on Dartmoor in medieval times and later, there is no evidence in either the prehistoric period or the Roman age. The extensive exploitation of the Cornish stream works seems to have been based on local harbours.

The end of Roman Exeter, as of most Romano-British towns, is veiled in darkness. With the decline of Imperial power, Dumnonia became an independent kingdom under a native line of rulers, who were probably *foederati* in origin. These kings can be traced back at least as far as the 5th century. Evidence concerning this period is still very scanty. The early Christian inscriptions, better known in Cornwall and Wales, exist to the number of a dozen, dating from the 5th to the 7th centuries. A small trading station at Bantham has produced imported Mediterranean pottery of the types better known from Tintagel in Cornwall. Other sites tentatively ascribed to this period await confirmation. But the wide spread of churches named in honour of Celtic Saints—St. Petrock at Lydford and in Exeter, St. Bridget at Bridestowe and St. Rumon in Tavistock and at Rumonsleigh are examples—provides evidence of the evangelization of the countryside at a date before the Saxon advance and roughly contemporary with the inscriptions. It has been suggested, largely on the evidence of the place names, that Celtic Devon was a thinly occupied land; this is hardly borne out by the medieval dedications. A recent study of the topographical evidence at Treable in mid-Devon has led to the identification of a Celtic enclave and further study on these lines might be profitable.

The Saxon advance across Devon was swift. In 658 the victory of Penselwood, on the borders of Wiltshire and Somerset, opened the road to the west. The story of St. Boniface, whether or not we accept the traditional birthplace at Crediton, is evidence that the Exeter region was firmly in Saxon hands by a date that can hardly be later than 680. Soon after 700 the king of Wessex was in a position to grant land west of the Tamar—the 20 hides at Linig (Lynher)—to the church of Glastonbury.

Saxon settlement in Devon, as elsewhere, is wrapped up with the exploitation of the heavier soils which had been largely neglected by prehistoric man. The oldest and largest settlements are in the valleys of the rivers, from which they took their names. Some are attested in early charters, but a surer indication of their distribution is the characteristic nucleated layout with the houses set along the sides of a central square and the church a little withdrawn to one side. Bradninch, Bradworthy, Uffculme and Ugborough, together with a score of others, illustrate the type. As the age progressed and the pressure of population grew, there was a gradually increasing penetration of the areas of secondary occupation, with settlements covering the cold clays of the Culm measures and climbing into the uplands of Dartmoor and Exmoor. The place names ending in 'cott' and 'worthy' and other late compounds, which spread so thickly over the Devon map, mark this advance. Domesday shows it still in progress, recording settlements that can hardly have been in existence for more than a generation or so. Nor did the process stop with the Norman Conquest; the stories of Cholwich Town and Galsworthy, so charmingly told by Hoskins, illustrate the later stages of the advance in the 12th and 13th centuries.

Saxon buildings in Devon are few. The great monastery founded at Crediton in 739—once the Cathedral—shows no pre-conquest remains. The even older church at Exeter retains only the Saxon well studied by Sir Cyril Fox, while the fragment of the lesser church of St. George, exposed during the bombing of the same city, no longer survives. At Sidbury an early type of shrine was destroyed by the Norman chancel walls. In the same church there is a fragment of a cross head belonging to a type of which there are better examples in the church at Colyton and at Copplestone.

Medieval Devon was prosperous, largely as a result of the agricultural expansion of the earlier Middle Ages. In the countryside this prosperity expressed itself in the early enclosure of the open fields. The older theory that Devon lay outside the area of the open field system has not been able to survive a closer examination of the records and of the countryside. It is now clear that the new Saxon settlements on the rich red soils and many others had a normal layout with open fields surrounding the village. But these fields were in process of enclosure even as early as the 14th century and subsequent cultivation has often led to the obliteration of the earlier ridges and furrows.

The wealth of late medieval Devon is also expressed in the architecture of its churches, in which the Perpendicular of the 15th century is the dominant style. The rarity of Saxon remains suggests that the establishment of the parochial system and the consequent building of the parish churches is a compartively late development. Most of these churches were built or rebuilt in the course of the 12th century, a phase often recalled by a fragmentary architectural feature or the font of this date incorporated in the later building. At Tiverton the 12th century north door alone survives from what must have been an important building. The base of the Norman west tower at Sidbury and the early 12th century chancel also indicate a cruciform building larger than would normally be expected in a village and is possibly explained by the fact that the manor was an early possession of the church at Exeter. The 13th and 14th centuries are seldom represented in the village churches and it is again Sidbury that shows a gradual development of a type unusual in Devon, with traces of aisles added in the 13th century, preceding the present arcade of *c.* 1450.

The 15th and early 16th centuries saw the flowering of the local Perpendicular with its elaborate stonework, rich carved and painted screens of wood and other ornate furnishings. The plan with three parallel aisles of more or less equal width and lacking any structural division between nave and chancel is that normally found. Cullompton is perhaps the finest of the parish churches of this style. It has a richly decorated western tower, which in detail resembles Somerset rather than Devon work, and a screen which, though repainted in the 19th century, still contrives to convey the richness of the original polychrome effect. Of particular interest are the pieces of the Golgotha from the top of the screen, still showing the sockets for the Rood and the attendant figures. Paignton is another fine Perpendicular church, though the architectural interest is almost overshadowed by the fine Kirkham chantry. The great series of painted windows at Doddiscombsleigh serves to recall how much colour most of these churches have lost. Tiverton belongs to a rather richer community and the church was over-restored in the 19th century. There and again at Cullompton and Ottery St. Mary the added aisles of the 16th century recall the growing wealth and prosperity of the local families.

Exeter Cathedral, Ottery St. Mary and Totnes are all churches serving, in one form or another, ecclesiastical communities. In plan and in architectural history they differ from the normal pattern in Devon. Exeter Cathedral is a 12th century church with transeptal towers, lengthened and remodelled in the late 13th and 14th centuries. Ottery, an early possession of the church of Rouen, was refounded as a college in the 14th century. The church plan is clearly influenced by Exeter. Only at Totnes does the increasing power of the Borough in relation to the Priory lead to a complete 15th century rebuilding, in line with the normal development of Devon churches. Of the destroyed monasteries there are few important remains in the county. Torre Abbey, a Praemonstratensian house, and the Benedictine Priory of St. Nicholas in Exeter are among the more extensive sites.

Medieval military remains are also few in number. Exeter and Totnes are interesting

examples of the Norman ring motte later strengthened with a shell keep. Later castles include Berry Pomeroy (14th century) and Tiverton (14th century). There are also coastal defences at Plymouth (14th century) and Dartmouth (*c.* 1500).

Domestic building prior to the late 14th century was normally in wood and has not survived. At Dartington there are substantial remains of the great house erected by John Holland, the half brother of Richard II. The great hall now restored and the extensive range of apartments for guests disclose the splendour of this plan. Dartington together with Holland's other house at Bowhill, on the outskirts of Exeter, does not represent a local development, but the importation into the county of metropolitan fashions.

These fashions spread quickly to the wealthier landholders. Bradley and Bradfield (15th century), Cadhay and Sand (16th century) and Chevithorne (*c.* 1600) are typical examples. Compton Castle is an anomaly—a 15th century manor house of normal type, reinforced in the early 16th century with a defensive screen wall on the eastern side, the appearance of this wall on one side only and the poor tactical position show that prestige rather than military reasons were involved. Unlike Dartington these houses represent the local development of domestic architecture carried out by the more prosperous of the local families. Examples might be multiplied. Once started the fashion spread, and substantial well-built farmhouses were arising in numbers in the later 16th and early 17th centuries.

These houses were furnished with fine woodwork and plasterwork. In part this represents a diversion to the secular market of craftsmanship previously employed in the churches. It was the Reformation that consummated this process, but it had begun before as can be seen in the great timber roof of the hall and other reset woodwork at Bradfield. Nor did the Reformation bring to a complete end work on the churches. Essential structural work continued and it is only documentary evidence that enables us to place a typical Perpendicular tower like that of Clyst Hydon as late as the middle of the 17th century. But in Devon the revival of church ornament in the early 17th century, so conspicuous in the neighbouring diocese of Bath and Wells, finds no place. Here work is confined to the memorials and, as at Cullompton, the family pews, which usurped the position of the medieval chantries.

With the 18th century there was a certain revival of church building. The classical church of St. George at Tiverton is perhaps the finest in the county. This was erected early in the 18th century in order to provide for an influx of nonconformists, which was expected but did not materialise. There is also evidence of the refitting and redecoration of churches at this period, of which Cruwys Morchard with its fine classical screen and other furniture, inserted after a disastrous fire, may serve as an example.

Compared with some other counties Devon is not rich in great houses of the period after 1660. There are a few on the grand scale—Pynes near Exeter and Saltram (early 18th century), Ugbrooke (*c.* 1740), and Bicton (late 18th century)—reflecting metropolitan rather than local influences. The same is true, in the early 19th century, of Mamhead, where the great house erected by Salvin still retains much of its original furnishings.

More characteristic of the western region is the architecture of the towns and the smaller country houses, a reflection of the gradual spread of wealth, during the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, among the lesser gentry and the successful merchant families.

The western towns, firmly based on seagoing trade, had long been prosperous; their trading connections are demonstrated as early as the 12th century by discoveries of imported pottery in Exeter. This prosperity, increasing throughout the Middle Ages, received a further stimulus by the development of the woollen manufactures in the 15th century—a development reflected in magnificent additions to the churches, such as the Lane aisle at Cullompton and the Greenway Chapel at Tiverton—and by the opening of new outlets through the organization of the American trade after 1600. The medieval tradition of civic architecture is well exemplified by the 14th century Guildhall at Exeter with its added Mayor's Parlour of *c.* 1600. Attention may also be drawn to the Custom House at Exeter (*c.* 1700), also the Devon and Exeter Hospital in Southernhay

(*c.* 1740), the Higher Market in Queen Street (*c.* 1840) and the Devon and Exeter Institution (*c.* 1820). Plymouth, with the great naval development of the 18th century, is even richer in such architecture.

The town houses are also a feature of the regional architecture and form a class in which the county is very rich. In spite of the disasters in 1942, Exeter retains a number of medieval and 16th century houses, characterized by a single wall of stone, carrying the chimney, and a timber-framed building with the storeys successively projecting forward towards the street. Two reasonably well-preserved examples remain in the High Street near the Guildhall, together with others in the West Quarter. The Walronds (mid-16th century) and the Manor House (*c.* 1600) at Cullompton, and the Great House in St. Peter Street (*c.* 1700), now the Rural District Council Offices, Tiverton, are outstanding examples. Exeter itself is particularly rich in the architecture of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The surviving part of Southernhay (*c.* 1800), Rougemont House, now part of the City Library (*c.* 1820), the house on St. David's Hill, now the Imperial Hotel (*c.* 1830), Barnfield Crescent (*c.* 1800) and Pennsylvania Park (*c.* 1835), all in their different ways, illustrate the development of the town house in this period and the list could easily be extended. The examples cited are among the more accessible and are confined to Exeter. Much of the work of this type is in the seaside towns that early entered in the list of fashionable watering places, of which Torquay, Teignmouth and Sidmouth readily occur as examples.

Select Bibliography

Note.—The list normally excludes works and articles of a general character, in which examples in Devon are listed or mentioned in the course of a wider survey. In the case of sites or problems that have given rise to an extensive literature only the latest and most authoritative articles and those containing a bibliography are normally included. Records of individual objects are omitted.

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GENERAL

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PROCEEDINGS

Monday, 8th July

EXETER CATHEDRAL. By G. F. Webb

The Romanesque cathedral on this site, of which the two transeptal towers are the most striking remains, was begun in the first quarter of the 12th century and finished some time before 1200. The existing building embodies considerable parts of the lower walls of the aisles of this church extending almost the entire length of the nave and for three bays east of the transepts. Details remain of the pilaster buttresses externally, and the aisle responds inside are visible. A large capital implying a big cylindrical pier was found in the course of the repairs after the bomb damage.

The lower parts of the chapter-house and the doorway at the east end of the south aisle of the nave date from the second quarter of the 13th century, and the remarkable series of misericordes incorporated in the present stalls from the first quarter.

Some time before 1280 the great reconstruction of the church was begun from the east end. The eastern chapels seem to be well advanced in the Fabric Roll of 1279 and the whole of the presbytery (i.e., the four easternmost bays) was roofed by 1307. In the years immediately following, the Romanesque choir was transformed and the triforium arcade and clerestorey gallery was introduced into the design of the interior. By 1317 this new feature had been extended eastward into the new-built presbytery. As first built, the clerestorey windows of the presbytery had come down in the form of splays almost to the top of the main arcades after the manner of Abbey Dore or Pershore.

The transformation of the Romanesque nave to correspond with the new eastern limb belongs to the second quarter of the 14th century though the vault does not seem to have been put in hand until after 1353. To the mid-14th century, or shortly after, belongs the beginning of the image screen (west front) and it seems probable that its form was determined at this time, though some of the upper tier of figures are considerably later.

The cathedral is rich in fittings, as the Bishop's Throne, sedilia, and choir screen, dating from the first quarter of the 14th century. Many of these can be accurately dated by entries in the Fabric Rolls which, though not a complete series, are sufficiently well preserved to make Exeter Cathedral as a whole one of the best documented of all great English medieval churches.

Herbert E. Bishop and E. K. Prideaux, *The Building of the Cathedral Church of St. Peter in Exeter* (1922).

E. K. Prideaux, *The West Front Sculptures of Exeter Cathedral Church* (1912).

See also Professor Lethaby: How Exeter Cathedral was Built, *Architectural Review*, 1903; and *Country Life*, December, 1906.

THE CATHEDRAL WELL-SPRING. By Sir Cyril Fox

This long-forgotten water supply, now dry, is situated between the great gable buttress and its western neighbour, on the south side of the cathedral. There is no record known to survive in the archives. The site, that is, 'Platform' on my map, was superficially dug in 1933, and called St. Leofric's Tomb: the area was fenced off for this reason. The writer recognized its probable character from a geological study of the Combe Street contours, and of the curious alignment of the cathedral along a slope. The structural features, exposed by excavation in 1951 with the permission of the Dean and Chapter, are plotted on Figure I. The area is some 12 by 9 ft.: the spring is deep down in the south-east corner: the platform was reached by steps from the east, probably Saxon: the massive dam, of Exeter 'trap' rock, may be Roman (only the lower part is original). A 13th century (?) pier carrying a statue base is directly above the spring-head. The rill channel outside the dam was located.

A shallow basin near the floor of an adjacent early medieval building in which the dam was incorporated first receives the overflow: it will have been for the washing of feet.

No early finds were made for dynamic reasons: when the spring was powerful the whole area was in turmoil and much mud ultimately settled in the pool. This mud was cleared at intervals—with anything that may have been dropped into it by accident: the earliest material was 18th century.

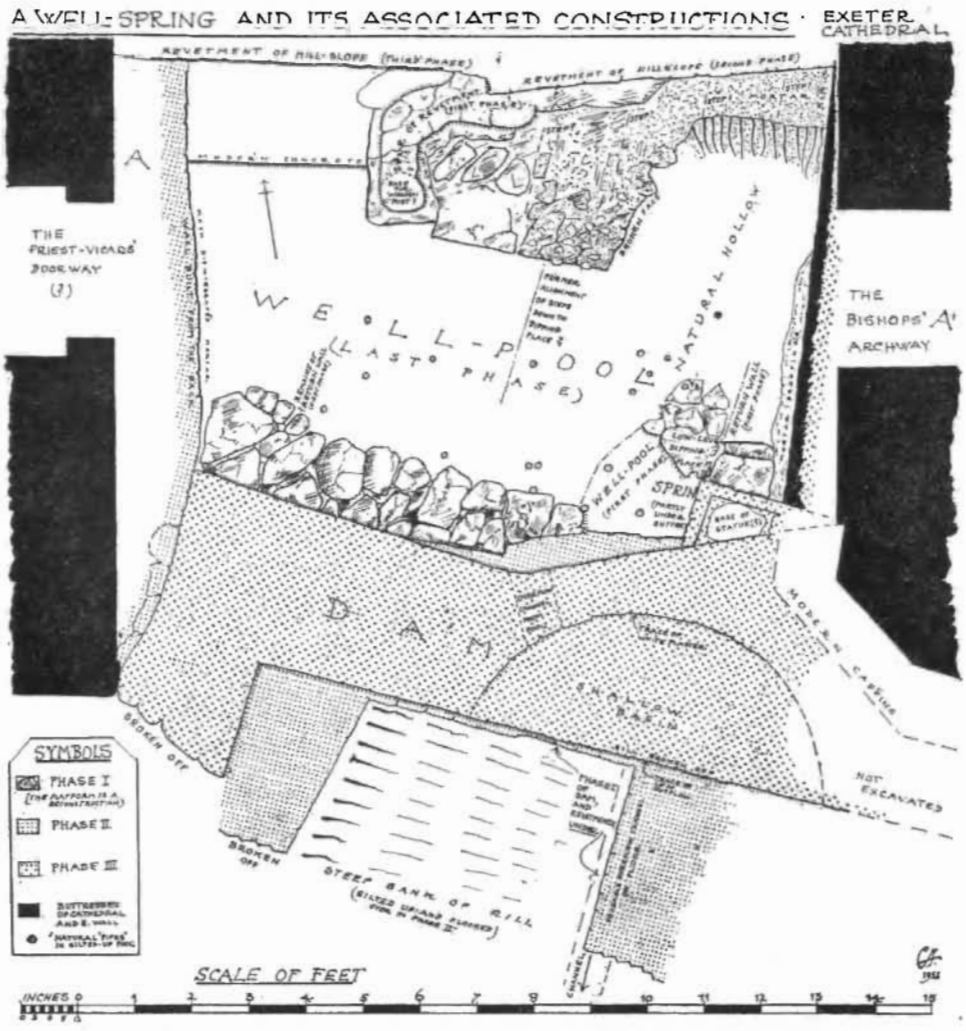


Fig. 1. Exeter Cathedral. The well-spring on the south side of the Presbytery

Bishop Bronescombe built the presbytery without diverting the water supply. He made an open archway through the great buttress on the east side for his own servants, and a lockable doorway for the cathedral authorities on the west side. While the work was going on (and the water tainted?) he secured a supply, in 1258, from another source for the palace: but the reason is not recorded.

Cyril Fox, *Dark Age Britain* (1956), 202–17.

THE LAW LIBRARY: No. 8, THE CLOSE, EXETER. By Sir Cyril Fox

This remarkable building flanks the Archdeacon of Barnstaple's House, on the north-west side. It is the hall of an L-shaped house of the first half of the 15th century, built mainly of red 'Heavitree' stone, the arched entry and the service wing of which faces the cathedral yard. The solar wing of this house was replaced at the close of the 17th century by a four-square modillion-corniced, red-brick building—a prominent feature of the view of close and cathedral from Bedford Street. The hall was entered by a plain, massive doorway of Beer stone with four-centred head: this is now blocked. It is 32 by 22 ft. internally, of three bays, and has three tall windows with four-centred arched heads, hollow-moulded: these have been widened and their tracery destroyed. A lateral fireplace has been blocked up. The notable roof (Pl. XXVIIA), of four trusses, is a small-scale copy, with modifications, of the Westminster Hall roof, dating perhaps a quarter of a century later: curved braces (stiffened by association with hammer-beam units) form two-centred arches rising from five-sided stone corbels to the collar-beams: the main purlins at the level of the collars have curved longitudinal braces. Intermediate rafters, moulded and decorated, rise from wall-plate to purlin in each bay: these are fronted at their bases by lions *sejant*. The hammer-beams end in shielded angels (Pl. XXVIIB): the heraldry is said to be later than the building. The secondary timber work of the trusses—vertical tracery—has cusped ogee heads, as at Westminster.

Above the main purlins is a shallow coved ceiling framed in 'squares' and plastered, with carved bosses—like the open spaces of the roof below it (there is nothing of the sort at Westminster): a unity of decorative treatment throughout this fine roof is thus achieved[1].

E. Lega Weekes, *Topography of the Cathedral Close*, 166 ff.

EXETER CASTLE. By C. A. Ralegh Radford

Exeter Castle was thrown up in 1068 by William I[2] within the north-east corner of the Roman city. The site is a rock outcrop, which is the highest point within the walls. The north and east defences were formed by the Roman wall and the mention of a wall of squared stones early in the 12th century[3] suggests that much of the Roman masonry was still visible.

The castle had two wards. The inner ward, which still survives in recognizable form, lay in the angle of the city. It was protected in that direction by a high bank and deep ditch, enclosing a roughly rectangular area with the outer corners rounded. The manner in which the ditch ends against the inner face of the city wall is sufficient to show the secondary character of the inner rampart. In the south side, near the inner angle, is the original extrance tower. The gate, now blocked, has a round arch of two square orders, the inner with half columns surmounted by cubical capitals. Above the gate is a pair of openings with triangular heads, framed by projecting strips of stone. The tower, with the features described, was built as an independent structure of masonry when the bank and ditch were thrown up in 1068.[4]

The outer bailey ran from the east to the north wall of the city, completely isolating the inner ward. Its extent is indicated by the grounds of Rougemont House, with the new City Library, and by a continuation on the east side of Castle Street. The sudden drop in level along a great part of the line marks the position of the bank. The outer ward or bailey is mentioned in documents of *c.* 1200[4] and presumably dates from the period following the Conquest; this would explain the forty-eight houses within the city recorded as waste in the Domesday Survey of 1086.[5]

[1] My attention has been drawn to a roof of similar type at Fordingbridge, Hants, by Mr. S. E. Rigold. This differs from the library roof in that the arch-braces strengthen a tie, not a collar.

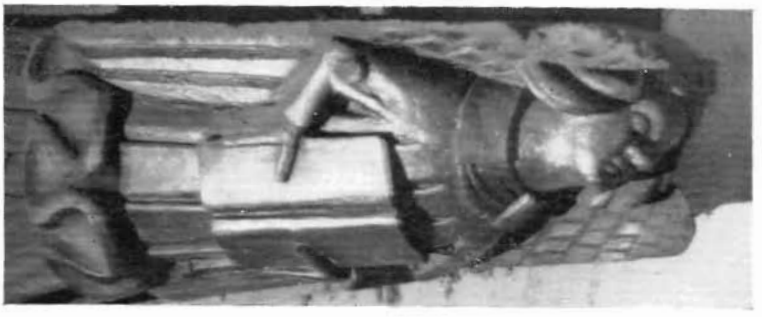
[2] *Orderici Vitalis historia ecclesiastica.*

[3] *Willelmi Malmesburiensis gesta regum* (Rolls Series, ii, 148).

[4] Devon and Cornwall, *Notes and Queries*, xviii, 198–200.

[5] Devonshire Domesday, 2–3.

A. Roof truss



B. Angel carved on hammer beam

THE LAW LIBRARY, EXETER

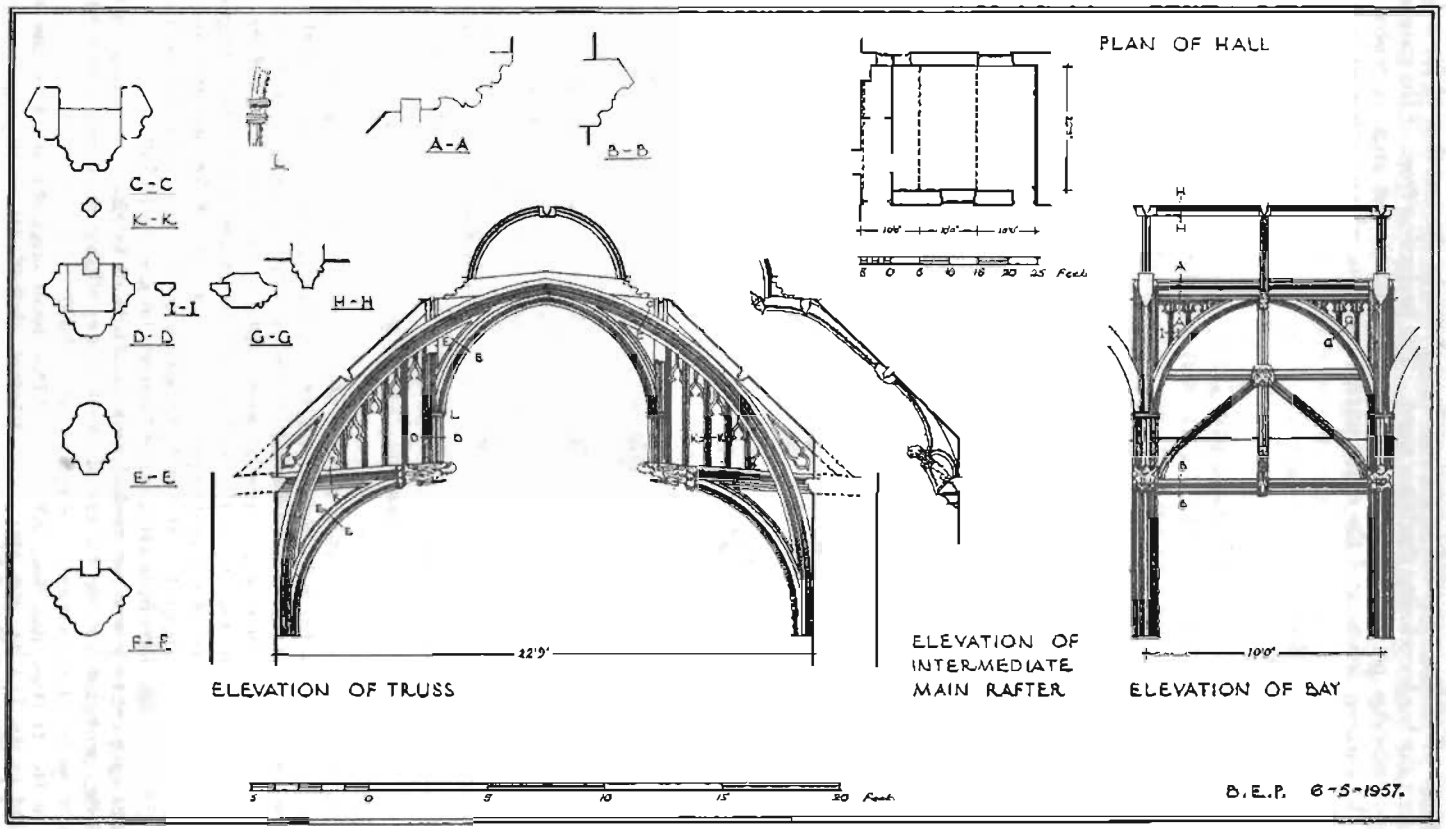


Fig. 2. Exeter, the Law Library. Plan and survey of roof-truss

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The extensive building recorded in 1170 and 1171[1] marks the erection of the existing stone curtain on the bank enclosing the inner ward. The projecting front of the gatehouse, flanking the drawbridge pit and covered with a more sophisticated arch, is probably of this date. The earthen defences of the outer ward were replaced with stone early in the 13th century[2].

T.D.A., XXVII, 137–43.
P.D.A.E.S., II, 181–2.

TUESDAY, 9TH JULY

CREDITON, COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS. BY C. A. R. RADFORD

In 739 a Saxon monastery, with an extensive endowment of 20 hides, was founded at Crediton. From 909 to 1050 the church was the seat of a bishopric, which was then transferred to Exeter. No pre-Conquest remains are now visible.

After the transfer of the bishopric Crediton become collegiate, with an establishment of twelve canons. The Romanesque church was cruciform, with an aisled nave and quire. The base of the piers of the crossing and the north transept were built in the middle of the

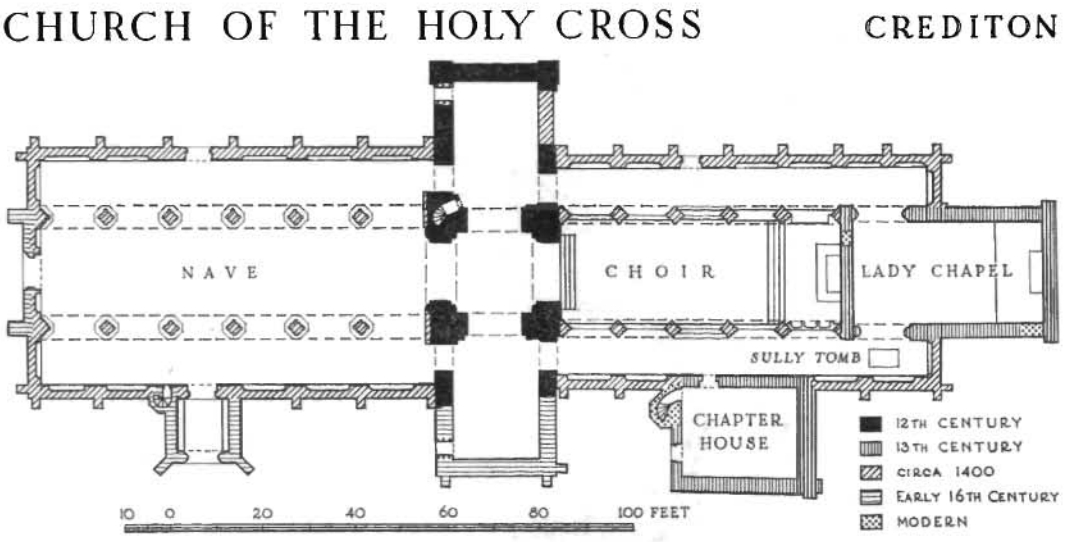


Fig. 3. Crediton church, plan

12th century; parts of the south transept are also of this date. Recent excavations at the east end of the south aisle of the quire have brought to light older foundations cut through by the 13th century sleeper wall. These consist of the inner face of an apse, with a sleeper wall across the chord. The face of the apse lay immediately west of the tomb of Sir John Sully.[3] The chord continued the line of the wall behind the modern high altar, suggesting that this represents the chord of the main apse. The outer face of the side apse was not found, but analogy would suggest that the termination of the aisle was rectangular as at Hereford. The foundations indicate a quire between 60 and 70 ft. long.

The earlier 13th century was a period of some difficulty at Crediton. Bishop Bronescombe (1258–80) provided for the reform of the College, adding six new canons to the

[1] Pipe Roll 16 Hy. II (Pipe Roll Soc., XV, 98 and 100), and 17 Hy. II (*ibid.*, xbi, 27).
[2] Pipe Roll 9 Joh. (Pipe Roll Soc., n.s.).
[3] This tomb originally stood in the north transept (Stafford, 74).

older twelve and appropriating further endowments.[1] As a result of these reforms the extension and rebuilding of the church was put in hand. A Lady Chapel was added at the east end; the 13th century fabric largely survives with Perpendicular windows inserted in the older openings. A Chapter House was added on the south side of the quire and is now used as a vestry; the fabric towards the church shows that the aisle was designed for vaulting. The reconstruction of the quire was certainly completed and the arches of the crossing raised, the work being carried out before the end of the century. It is probable that the nave was not put in hand as a document of 1334 makes special provision for certain parochial clerks (*clerici aquebaiuli*) to take part in the offices in the quire 'until the ancient parish church shall be rebuilt'.[2]

A general reconstruction of the church in the Perpendicular style was begun at the end of the 14th century. In 1399 Bishop Stafford ordered that the canons should be compelled to contribute to the cost of completing the quire of their church.[3] In 1413 there is record of a legacy to the fabric of the nave, which is stated to be almost fallen to the ground. The arcades and the main fabric of the walls are of this date. The piers are distinguished with wave mouldings and colonnettes at the angles; they have characteristic bases and foliated capitals. The windows are set in recesses carried down to the floor.

In the early 16th century the fabric was again in a bad condition. Bishop Oldham in 1511 called particular attention to the defects of the roof. The south porch was added at this date and the centre of the west front was remodelled. Other work involved alterations to the windows and the rebuilding of the south transept. In 1540 Leland could write of Crediton church 'it hath no maner or token of antiquitie'.

G. Oliver, *Monasticon Dioicesis Exoniensis*, 75–89 (references to the original records are given only when these correct or add to the information printed by Oliver; such references are to the published Bishops' Registers edited by F. C. Hingeston-Randolph).

Arch. J., LXX, 527–9.

TIVERTON, ST. PETER'S CHURCH. By Ursula Radford

St. Peter's is a large, dignified 15th century building of red sandstone flanked by grey limestone aisles which stands on a cliff above the River Exe near the castle. In 1517 the south porch and the Greenway Chapel were built by a Tiverton wool merchant. The chapel walls are adorned with a frieze of ships, wool-packs, merchants' marks and coats of arms; its interior was drastically restored in 1825. The shallow vaulted ceiling dates from this time, when the screen on the north side was truncated, and the wall-paintings scraped off. Now only the brasses remain of the table tomb of the founder and his wife (1529). The western tower is of the Somerset type, its eight bells date from the 18th century; the nave has six bays, the chancel two.

The church was restored in 1853–55 when the north wall, in which are the remains of a Norman doorway, was rebuilt. Large perpendicular windows light the building but retain none of their ancient glass. The organ was built in 1696 by Christian Smith of Hart Street, Bloomsbury; there is a spider chandelier of 1707, a Mayor's pew and a mace-rack, and also a large picture of the Liberation of Saint Peter by Richard Cosway, a native of Tiverton. The plate was stolen in 1841 and has been replaced by new.

Arch J., LXXV, 210–40, with plan.

E.D.A.A.S., VI, 37–46.

T.D.A., LI, 30–1.

TIVERTON, ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH. By M. Baldwin and A. S. Mahood

A subscription list for a new chapel in Tiverton was issued in 1713, and the foundation stone of St. George's was laid on 1st December, 1714. Henry Blagdon, one of the original subscribers, by his will in 1716 left a further £1000 towards the building on the condition

[1] Bronescombe, 61.

[2] Grandisson, ii, 754.

[3] Stafford, 75.

that it should be completed according to the model of 'Mr. James, surveyor', subject to such alterations that 'would tend to advance the strength, commodiousness, and beauty of the said building, and not otherwise'. The church is indeed an exemplar of John James' belief that 'the Beautys of Architecture may consist with the greatest plainness of the Structure'.

In his *History of Tiverton*, 1790, Martin Dunsford states that the church was built to accommodate the numerous dissenters who were expected, in the reign of Queen Anne, to be forced into the Church of England; and that when the mild policy of George I 'dissipated the hopes of the friends of intolerance, this chapel, after being covered in' was used for several years as a wool store. Whatever the reason, the building proceeded briskly at first, then languished, and received a new impetus in 1727 from the encouragement of the Bishop of Exeter and a new subscription list. In 1732 it was established by Act of Parliament as a perpetual cure with three rectors and a curate, and was consecrated on 11th October, 1733.

St. George's prospered throughout the 18th century, throughout which it was known as the 'New Church'. It was considerably altered in the 1840's, when the roofs of the north and south aisles were raised, the west gallery added, and the organ inserted. The chancel window was put in in 1846.

W. Harding, *History of Tiverton* (1849), ii, 236.

CHEVITHORNE BARTON. By C. A. Ralegh Radford

Chevithorne, a small Domesday manor which gave its name to a medieval family, was acquired by John Francis, a younger son of John Francis of Combe Florey, Somerset. John Francis, the younger, was already resident at Chevithorne in 1623 and had probably then held the property for a number of years. He must be regarded as the builder of the present house.

The main central block faces south with a large projecting wing at the east end, a smaller western wing and a projecting central porch. The western part, originally the service quarters, was remodelled in the 19th century, but the main walls are old. The slope in front of the house is terraced to form a courtyard with the outer retaining wall pierced by the entrance gate. A further terrace to the east formed the bowling green.

The hall occupying the eastern part of the main block is on one floor only; it retains the original fireplace and windows. The eastern wing contains the solar in front with a staircase in the centre of the wing and a second chamber behind. The solar retains the original fireplace and panelling with a contemporary plaster ceiling.

The house is an excellent and well-preserved example of a smaller manor house of about 1600.

CULLOMPTON CHURCH. By Mary D. Cox

The church of Cullompton is mentioned in the will of King Alfred, dated 872, as a royal possession and it was among the endowments given by William the Conqueror to Battle Abbey. It was later transferred to St. Nicholas' Priory, Exeter, when this was founded by monks from Battle. In 1120 Henry I gave it to Bishop William Warelwast of Exeter. No remains of this early church are visible and the existing building dates from the 15th and early 16th centuries, with the exception of the chancel, which was rebuilt in 1849, when the roof also was extensively restored and repainted. There is no structural division between the nave and the chancel, and the sense of unity is increased by the fact that the panels of the roof are enriched with cross ribs throughout, and not only above the high altar. An additional south aisle was built as a chantry chapel for John Lane (died 1528), a wealthy clothier. It was finished in 1552. Like the Greenway aisle at Tiverton, the profuse exterior ornament of this chapel includes a frieze of panels illustrating the life of Christ, and many devices referring to the founder's trade: ships, shears, tuns of wine and his merchant's mark. An inscription on the exterior solicits prayers for the souls of John Lane and his family. The piers of the arcade dividing the Lane chapel from the south aisle have ornate buttresses on the north side, carved with

niches containing statuettes of bearded men and boys. The rich fan vault has pendants carved with angels holding shields on which are shown the Emblems of the Passion.

The west tower, built 1545–49, is probably the finest church tower in Devon. Its general design and profusion of ornament are clearly influenced by the work of Somerset masons. A much damaged carving of the Crucifixion is on the west face and there are also statues of St. George and King Edward VI, and the arms of Bishop Veysey of Exeter (1465?–1554).

There is a fine rood screen, coved on both sides, and two parclose screens. At the west end of the nave are two sections of a massive wooden Golgotha, carved with rocks and skulls. This unique relic may have been the base of the rood over the screen, in which case the carved rood-beam which is still in place, very high up, must have supported it from above, or it may have been the base of a large wooden reredos. A Jacobean gallery runs across the west end of the church.

BRADFIELD HOUSE, UFFCULME. By C. A. Ralegh Radford

The Walronds have been established at Bradfield since the 12th century, when they obtained the estate by grant from Fulk Paynel. They were substantial landholders and

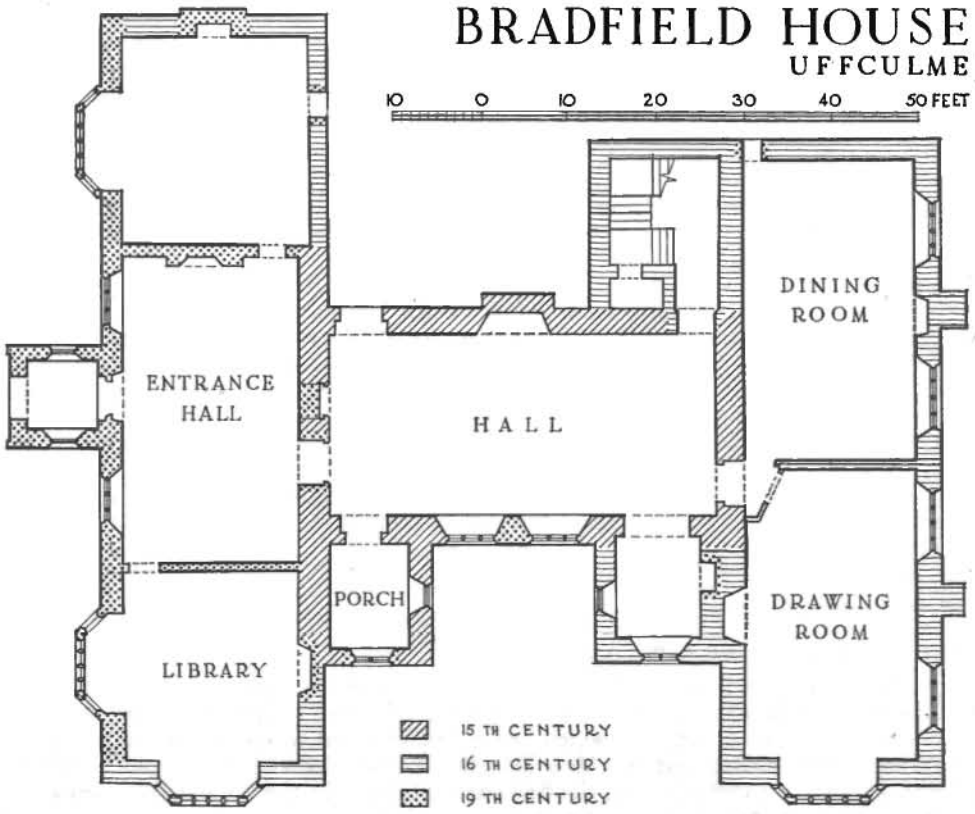


Fig. 4. Bradfield House, Uffculme. (The house is orientated thus: —→ N).

John Walrond in 1332 obtained a licence to celebrate Mass in his chapel at Bradfield. The licence reserved the rights of the parish church of Uffculme, in which are monuments to later members of the family.

The oldest part of the present house is the Great Hall, which forms the central block of an H-shaped house. The hall faced east with the screens passage and porch of one storey at the south end. The roof of the hall is original, in four bays. The principal trusses have moulded ribs, hammer beams and foliated pendants; the purlins have arched and cusped braces. The only original window, a single light with a cusped ogee head, was found in the west wall above the screens passage. It was removed to provide space for a new door and a copy placed in the staircase. The soffit of the arch to the oriel on the east side of the dais is panelled. These features indicate a date in the second half of the 15th century. It is possible that the present north wing with its buttressed outer wall represents the solar wing of this date, but no contemporary features have survived. The thicker masonry, prolonging the line of the south end of the hall, indicates the extent of the medieval service wing.

The house was entirely remodelled in the 16th century, when a symmetrical façade facing east was formed and the north wing entirely rebuilt. Rectangular windows were inserted in the hall. Those on the west side are old, using the original embrasures. The two on the east front are 19th century copies, using the old outer splays of the medieval windows; they replace a single large window of many lights, which had weakened the seating of the original roof. The porch was carried up to a second storey, blocking an original window over the screen passage. The oriel at the opposite end was reformed to provide a symmetrical feature. The southern service wing was extended to the same line as the solar range and bays thrown out to emphasize their gables.

The east room of the north wing has an elaborate plaster ceiling and rich panelling with an internal porch. The ceiling uses the same moulds as that in the Job Room at Bradninch Manor, where the building was finished in 1563. The panelling also resembles that at Bradninch, which was completed before 1603. The dates 1592 and 1604 are said to occur on the east front at Bradfield.

As part of the 16th century alterations a staircase was added in the angle between the back of the hall and the solar block. The south wing contained the service quarters, with the kitchen in an extension running west.

Bradfield was thoroughly and conservatively restored in the 19th century under the direction of John Hayward. The whole of the south wall was rebuilt and a new entrance with a Jacobean porch formed in the centre of this wing. The new elevation was enriched with two bays copied from those on the east front. The interior of the wing was converted into an entrance hall, library and other apartments, new service quarters being built at the rear. The old porch was converted into a small room and the forecourt to the east of the house laid out as a formal garden in a style contemporary with the Elizabethan remodelling of the house.

There is heraldic glass of various dates in the windows of the hall. The mid-16th century panelling in this room is reset, but was already in its present position before the 19th century restoration.

E.D.A.A.S., II, i, 79–84.
T.D.A., xlii, 27–30.

HEMBURY HILL-FORT. By Aileen Fox

Hembury hill-fort is situated at the tip of a finger-like spur which projects from the Blackdown Hills into the Otter Valley, west of Honiton. The underlying formation is greensand with a clay capping, which grows bracken and mixed woodland at present. Excavations were carried out by Miss Dorothy Liddell for the Devon Archaeological Exploration Society from 1930–35; the finds are exhibited in the museum at Exeter.

The occupation was found to be of three periods.

(1) *NEOLITHIC*

The primary construction was a causewayed camp, consisting of eight sectors of flat-bottomed ditches, 6–7 ft. deep, 25–56 ft. long, crossing the centre of the later hill-fort. Remains of a rampart were detected on its southern side, and of a timber-framed entrance on a causeway at its west end, with an oval guard-hut, 28 by 12 ft.

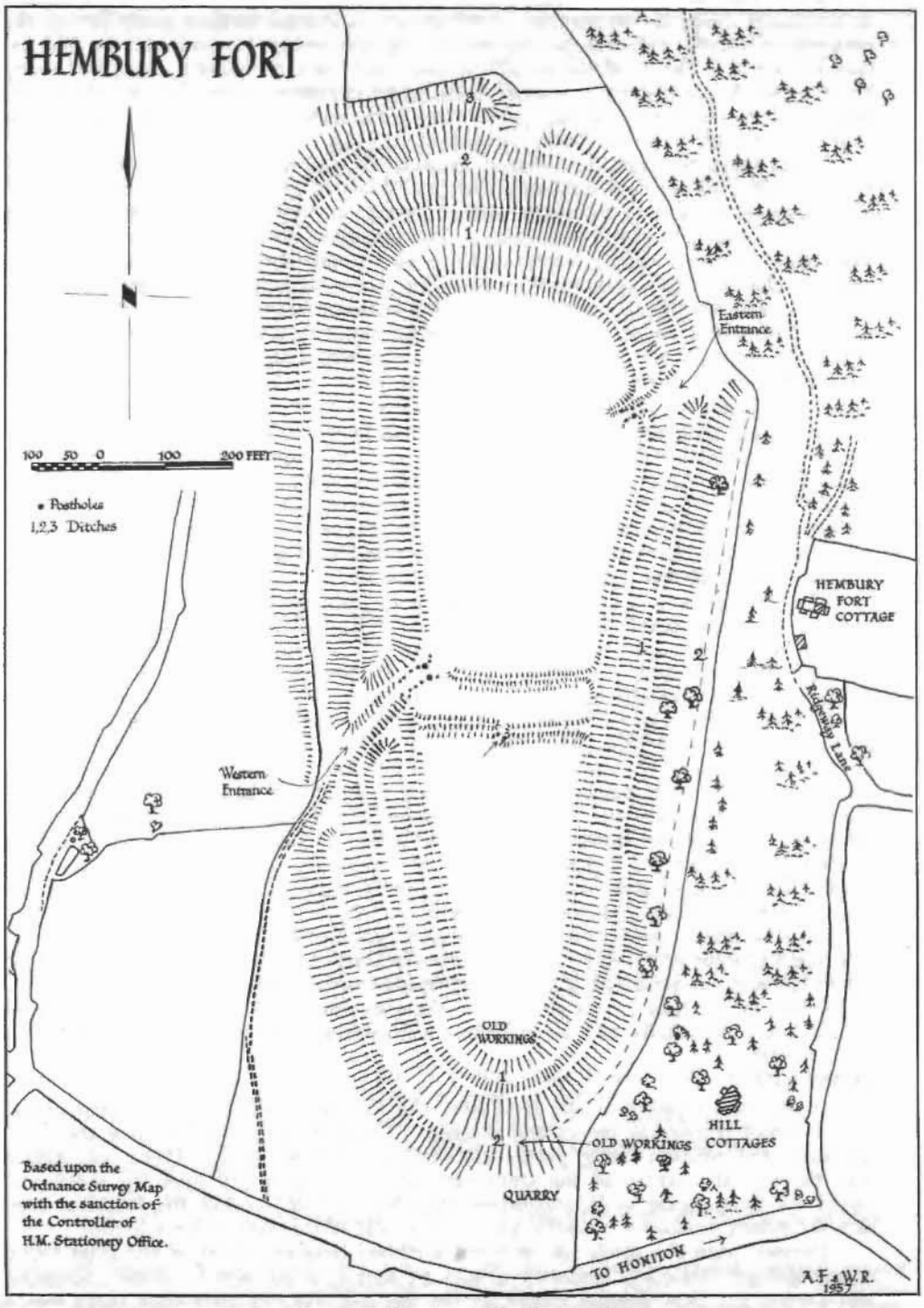


Fig. 5. Hembury Hill-fort, plan

immediately inside it. A second line of ditch was located farther north but on the east side of the hill, with the post-holes of a palisade outside it and remains of habitation behind it. The southern tip of the spur had been intensively occupied: many hearths, small cooking-pots, storage holes and occupation debris were found here sealed below the Iron Age rampart. The huts were probably wattle and daub constructions, on a rough stone foundation.

Finds included many leaf-shaped arrowheads and other relics of an extensive flint industry, 20 polished flint axes and 15 of Cornish greenstones of Groups II and IV*a*, showing trading connections with the west, as well as jet and steatite beads and charred grains of wheat and barley. The abundant pottery is a variant of British Western Neolithic ceramic, Hembury ware, as recently defined by Professor Stuart Piggott, characterized by trumpet lugs. The occupation probably began soon after 2000 B.C. and may have continued into the Beaker phase on the evidence of some of the flint work. The inner sides of the interrupted ditches were heavily burnt above the primary silt, suggesting that the site was abandoned after a fire. The ditches thereafter silted right up, leaving no trace on the surface.

(2) *IRON AGE B*

The later Iron Age people made good use of the defensive possibilities of the site. The initial fortification, perhaps designed only for temporary shelter for the builders, was by means of a palisade of close-set posts, set in a deep stone-packed trench in front of a small rampart dug from surface scrapings, and by a second palisade lower down the slope. The great mass of timber felled for these constructions would have helped to clear the slopes and thus provide a field of view for the defenders. The area enclosed was approximately eight acres.

The next stage was the digging of two great ditches and the disposal of the soil to form three ramparts ringing the spur and rising to their greatest height across its neck to bar the easy line of approach from the plateau. Here the inner rampart measures 58 ft. on the scarp and the crest is 30 ft. high above the bottom of the ditch. A third line was projected on this side but was not completed: the ditch was started on the west side and dug half-way across the neck, and soil was dumped on the east for the base of the rampart only. There were two entrances to the fort, both marked by a short inturn of the inner rampart. On the west, the approach was by a worn track diagonally up the hillside which passed through the heavily revetted ends of the ramparts: the gate was double with a central door-stop and was probably surmounted by a timber tower bridging the inner ramparts. There was a similar arrangement of post-holes at the east gate; the southern inturn appears to have been sleighted. The approach was screened by palisades on the lip of the inner ditch which bends outwards, forming a barbican.

No dwellings were found inside the fort, which may have been occupied only as a refuge in inter-tribal war. The pottery is of Iron Age B western type, and includes decorated ware as found at Glastonbury, mostly with geometric patterns assignable to the late 1st century B.C. or early A.D. Sling stones were abundant. The affinities of this fine multivallate fort lie in Dorset and Somerset rather than in west Devon or Cornwall.

(3) *IRON AGE C*

In the latest phase of the Iron Age, the fort was halved by the construction of two small transverse banks and ditches. The east entrance was now the main entrance, the western being partly blocked by the new work. There was also a way through the centre of the transverse banks by causeway over the ditch and round the overlapping ends, suggesting that the southern end of the fort was used as a secondary enclosure or cattle kraal. No huts of this period were found.

Pottery from the ditch silt included a ribbed bead-rim bowl of the type found at the Maiden Castle war cemetery of A.D. 45, and at other sites in Dorset, Somerset and Devon (A. Fox, *Roman Exeter*, p. 80, fig. 15). It indicates that there was a change of culture in east Devon as elsewhere shortly before the Roman conquest.

Some Roman pottery shows that the occupation continued to *c.* A.D. 70, twenty years after the military conquest and pacification of the Dumnonii had been completed.

D. M. Liddell, *P.D.A.E.S.*, II, 40, 90, 162; III, 135.

Stuart Piggott, *Neolithic Cultures*, 25, 66 ff.

Wednesday, 10th July

DODDISCOMBSLEIGH: ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH. By E. C. Rouse

The earliest work is in the north aisle, which may once have been the original early 12th century nave with primitive coigns and one window remaining. The rest of the church is largely of the 15th century, with some unusual features; i.e., the west tower with the curious placing of the north and south buttresses in the centre of each side and not, as is the usual Devon type, with corner buttresses reaching almost to the top of the tower. The nave arcades are also of abnormal section, recalling those at Dunsford. There are some 16th century bench ends with shields, a good 18th century pulpit, and a monument to John Babb, 1697.

The main feature of the church is, however, the 15th century stained glass—a rarity in Devonshire. There are five complete windows somewhat restored. There is no reason to suppose that the Doddiscombsleigh glass is anything other than English in origin, and it is characteristically West Country in technique and style. The north aisle windows contain figures of the Virgin, a curious Trinity and assorted saints (three modern) in each of the three lights, above a shield of arms or initials, mostly those of Chudleigh and Dodscombe. The east window of the aisle, much restored and with a 19th century central figure of Christ seated, has an interesting series of the Seven Sacraments[1].

List of Windows in North Aisle

A. East window

1. Tracery lights: ? four Deacons, Stephen, ? Vincent, Lawrence and another.
2. Main lights: Christ (modern) surrounded (and connected by Five Wounds) with Seven Sacraments—on the north: Eucharist, Marriage, Confirmation; Centre: Penance; South: Orders, Baptism, Extreme Unction.

B. North windows

Easternmost:

1. Tracery lights: Symbols of the Four Evangelists.
2. West light: St. James the Great: below, initial I in wreath, and fragment of inscription.
3. Centre, at top: Trinity—three crowned figures with crown at base, formerly set higher, perhaps part of larger subject, possibly a Coronation of the Virgin. Below, shield with the Five Wounds.
4. East light: St. Edward the Confessor (modern): below initial C on shield in wreath as in west light, and more inscription. The initials I.C. are perhaps for John Chudleigh.

C. Second window from East

1. Tracery lights: foliage.
2. West: St. Patrick (modern): shield below, arms of Chudleigh (compare series of heraldic shields with Chudleigh arms at Ashton).
3. Centre: a small St. George and Dragon, and St. George's shield below.
4. East: St. Andrew; and below, a shield with Passion Emblems.

D. Third window from East

1. Tracery lights: foliage (? lily pot).
2. West: St. John the Evangelist (modern); shield with arms of Chudleigh as above.

[1] Compare Melbury Bubb, Dorset, etc., described in *Arch. J.*, XLV, 369 (1888), teaching the Divine Institution of the Seven Sacraments and their efficiency derived from the Precious Blood. See also Le Couteur, *English Medieval Painted Glass* (S.P.C.K. 1926), 55. Also, M. D. Anderson, *The Imagery of British Churches*; C. Woodforde, *Stained Glass of Somerset Churches*.

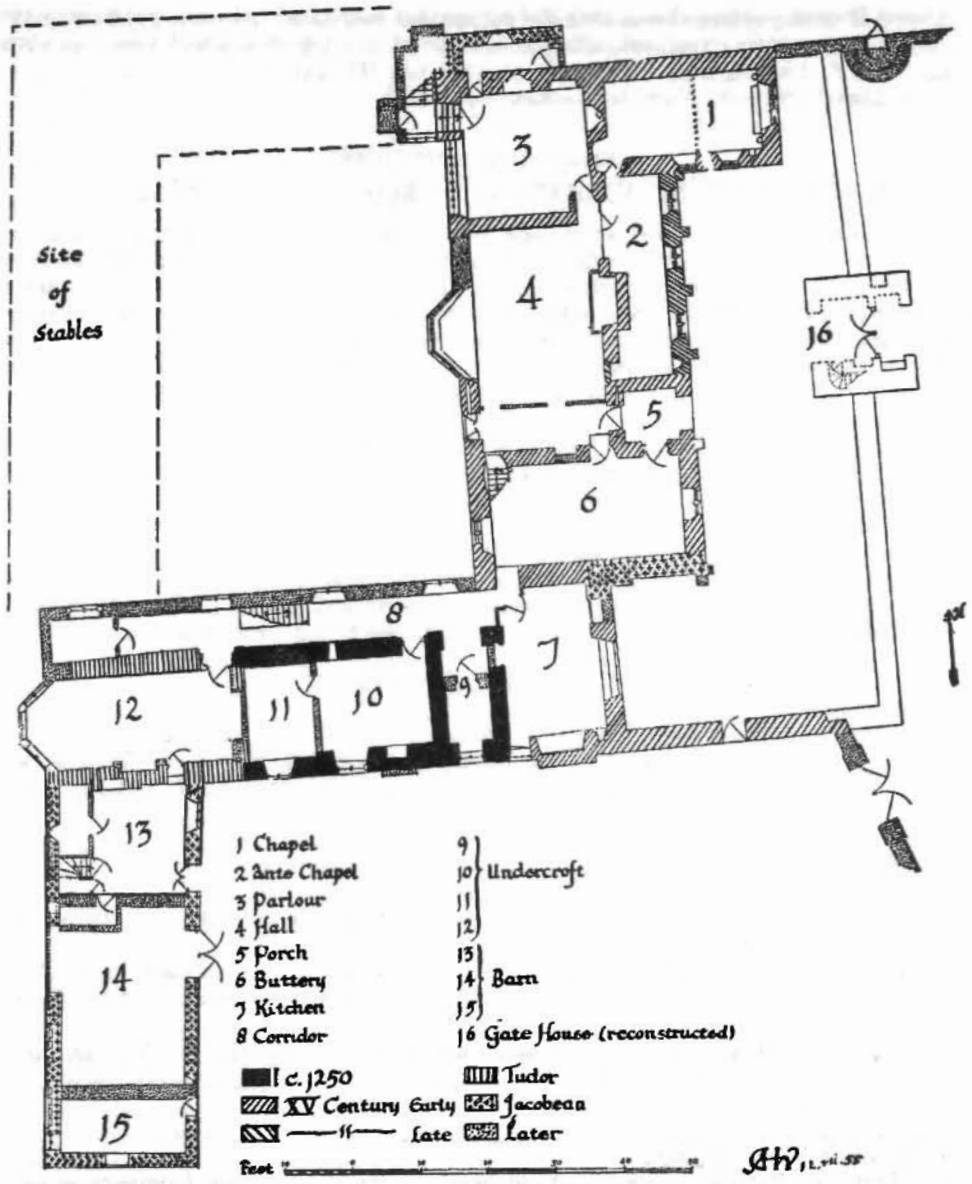


Fig. 6. Bradley Manor, plan

(Reproduced by kind permission of the National Trust)

3. Centre: Blessed Virgin Mary; below initial M.
4. East: St. Paul (who holds one hand to his face and eye, perhaps in reference to his conversion); shield below with arms of Chudleigh.

E. Westernmost window (best preserved)

1. Tracery lights: foliage.
2. West light: St. Christopher; shield below with arms of Dodscombe, incorrectly blazoned if intended for this.

3. Centre: St. Michael weighing souls. Same arms below.
4. East light: St. Peter, same arms below.

There are extensive remains of donors' inscriptions.

N. Pevsner, *Buildings of England: S. Devon* (1952), 121.
R. Polwhele, *History of Devonshire* (1793 and 1797), II, 83.
F. M. Drake, *Arch. J.*, XX, no. 2 (1913), 163–74.
G. McN. Rushforth, *Ant. J.*, IX, no. 2 (1929).

BRADLEY MANOR. By C. A. Ralegh Radford

The house at Bradley dates back to the 13th century, when the property was held by Sir Theobald de Englishville and his nephew and adopted son Robert Bushell. From their descendants it passed by inheritance to Richard Yarde, who married Joan Ferrers, heiress of Churston, and was settled here about 1420. The estate was sold by Gilbert Yarde in 1751 and, after passing through various hands, the house was bought by the late Cecil Firth in 1909 and carefully restored.

The oldest part is the south range, dating from about 1250, but modernized. The east range, containing the hall and solar, has a projecting service wing at the south end and a porch in the angle between this wing and the main block. These buildings were erected by Richard Yarde about 1420. Shortly afterwards the chapel, flanking the main block on the north, was added; it was licensed for service in 1427. The re-entrant space between the porch and the west end of the chapel was enclosed late in the 15th century with an elaborate screen wall and roofed with two gables running back transversely.

The Tudor house had four ranges enclosing a courtyard. The north and west sides, forming the barns and stables, were already ruinous in 1750 and have been demolished. The small walled forecourt and gatehouse in front of the east side have also been demolished.

The hall retains a contemporary granite fireplace and has the original collar-beam roof. Two of the shields below the principals bear the arms of Yarde and Ferrers. The chapel has a typical West Country waggon roof with bosses. The panelled room in the south range, contrived in the 13th century block, was elaborately decorated with panelling and plasterwork about 1695.

Diana Woolner, *Bradley Manor, Devon* (National Trust).

TORRE ABBEY, TORQUAY. By C. A. Ralegh Radford

The Praemonstratensian house at Torre was founded in 1196 by William Brewer and settled with canons from Welbeck. The greater part of the existing remains, including the ruined church and east range and the southern and western subvaults, date from the years following the foundation. The great tithe barn to the south-west, measuring 119 by 28 ft., is of the 13th century. The gatehouse beside the kitchen is a fine example of 14th century architecture. Torre, which was surrendered in 1539, had a net income of £396, the largest of any of the English Praemonstratensian houses. In 1543 the site was acquired by John St. Leger as part of a large grant of lands, mainly monastic. The property passed through various hands till it was bought, in 1662, by Sir George Carey; it remained in the hands of his descendants till acquired by the Corporation of Torquay some twenty-five years ago.

The church, now almost entirely destroyed, was partly excavated in 1911. It was cruciform with a square-ended aisleless presbytery of three bays, short transepts each with two eastern chapels, and a nave of six bays. The north aisle is an early addition, but the rest of the church is of one date. The tomb in the centre of the quire, before the high altar, is probably that of William Brewer the younger (*ob.* 1232), son of the founder, whose burial at Torre is recorded.

The doorway to the chapter-house, of three round-headed orders with moulded arches and nook shafts, is flanked with round-headed windows. The subvault of the Refectory, of the south side of the cloister, is largely intact, though disguised by later insertions.

The upper floor, on which the Frater lay, was entirely remodelled after the house passed to the Careys. The western range is also built over a medieval subvault, forming the Cellarer's store. The upper floor was remodelled in the 19th century. It formed the guest hall and Abbot's lodging. These were approached through an outer porch added in the 14th century.

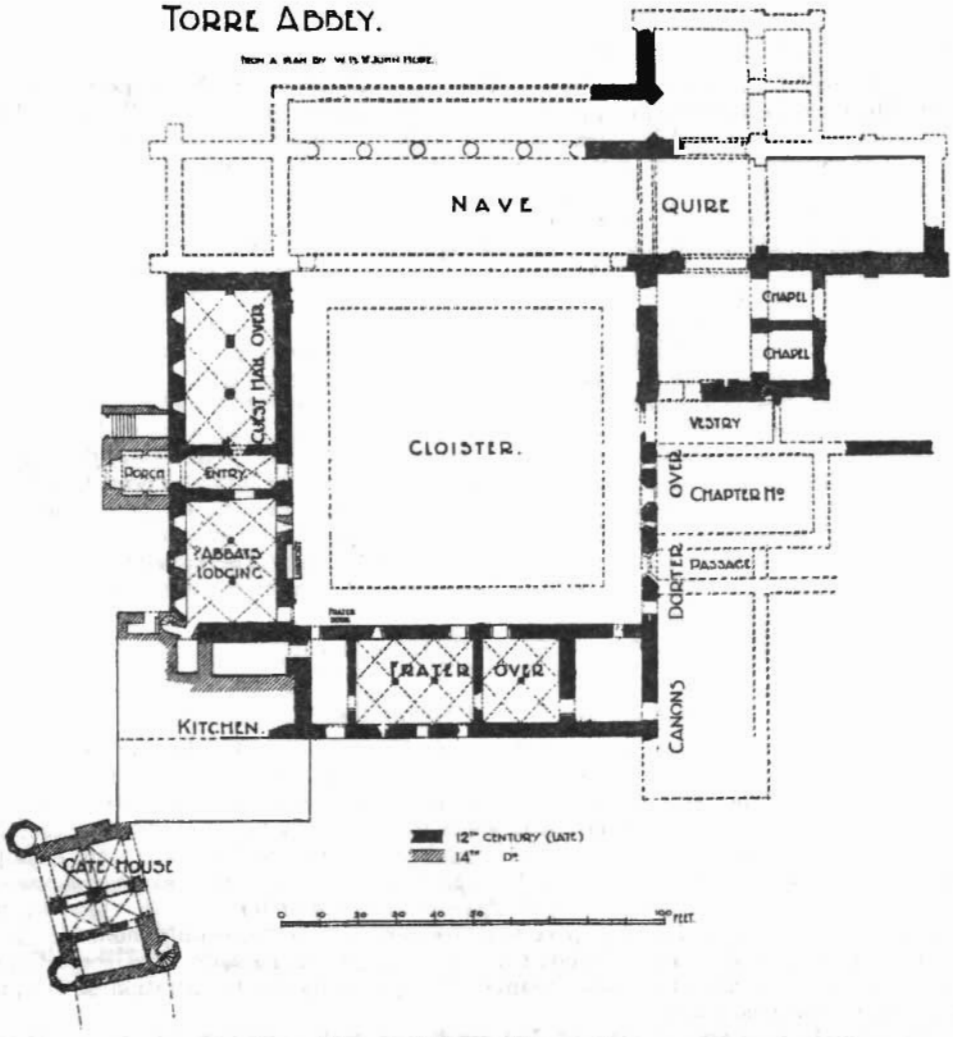


Fig. 7. Torre Abbey, plan

The gatehouse is of two vaulted bays with a double entry, wider on the north side for carts and narrower on the south.

Archaeologia, LXXIII, 124–6 and fig. 15.
Arch. J., LXX, 546–7.
H. R. Watkin, *A Short History of Torre Abbey, Torquay, Devonshire.*

LUSCOMBE CASTLE. By Mary Baldwin

Charles Hoare, who built Luscombe in 1799–1804, was a partner in the family Bank founded in the 17th century by Sir Richard Hoare. Charles was the third of five brothers, the eldest being Sir Richard Colt Hoare, the antiquary, of Stourhead; the present owner of Luscombe is descended from the youngest brother.

Mrs. Charles Hoare was delicate, and it was because earlier visits to Dawlish had suited her health so well that her husband decided to remove from the capital to Devon, and started to acquire land at Luscombe in 1797. Humphrey Repton, at that time in partnership with John Nash, was approached. In 1799 Mrs. Hoare was presented with the usual Red Book, the designs within being, as Repton pointed out, 'not the effect of whim or caprice, but the result of Principals of Landscape Gardening'.

The Repton–Nash felicities have survived almost unchanged, and the Red Book explains the exact intentions of the designers. A Gothic scheme was preferred both because a pitched roof would appear unsightly from the slopes above the house, and because a castle style 'by blending a chaste correctness of proportion with bold irregularity of outline, its deep recesses and projections producing broad masses of light and shadow, while its roof is enriched by turrets, battlements, corbels, and lofty chimneys, has infinitely more picturesque effect. . . . My ingenious friend Mr. Nash, without losing sight of internal arrangements or convenience, has given the house an outline which from its chaste simplicity must always please the Eye of Taste. Its very Irregularity will give it consequence, while the offices and mere walls which, in a modern building it would be essential to conceal, by partaking of the character of the Castle will extend the Site and make it an apparently considerable pile of building'.

The plan of the house is irregular and includes two towers. One lies over the vaulted *porte cochere* entrance, the other is the principal octagonal tower rising over the octagonal drawing room, from which a single-storey extension now projects on the south side. This represents an early change of plan; the tower originally was to rise sheer from the ground on the south front.

The younger Thomas Chippendale, who was much employed at Stourhead by Sir Richard Colt Hoare, supplied furniture to the value of £1,424. Charles Hoare also patronized Samuel Woodford, a painter employed by his brother. There are pictures by Zurbaran, Morland, and Henry Thomson. The drawing room fireplace is by Flaxman.

Peter Richard Hoare, who succeeded Charles in 1851, built the chapel which supplants Repton's shrubbery. The design is by Gilbert Scott.

Christopher Hussey in *Country Life*, 9th, 16th, 23rd February, 1956.

MAMHEAD. By Mary Baldwin

When Mamhead passed by purchase to a new owner in 1822 it was decided to rebuild the house on a new site. The older house, a 17th century building that had been brought up to date by Robert Adam, stood near the church about a quarter of a mile south of the present mansion. It was destroyed as soon as the present house was habitable, but a relic of the 18th century survives in the domed temple, now a gardener's lodge, that is referred to in a drawing by Adam as a 'water house'.

In 1822 a symmetrical plan for the new house was provided by the Plymouth architect Charles Fowler, and this was adapted by Salvin when he was employed to design the house in 1827, though his development of it in a Tudor style had probably never been envisaged by Fowler.

Anthony Salvin (1799–1881) undertook Mamhead when he was twenty-eight, and it is one of his first important commissions. He had been trained by Nash, in whose office he would have come into contact with the elder Pugin; this probably accounts for his excellent understanding of medieval idiom. Later Salvin was to become the leading authority on medieval military architecture, and was to be entrusted with massive schemes at (to quote a few) the Tower of London, Windsor, Caernarvon, Dunster, Rockingham and Alnwick.

Mamhead represents the phase of taste immediately preceding the Victorian. Its romanticism is essentially English and the exterior is based on careful study of vernacular Tudor examples; its world is that of the Waverley novels, or in architecture the more grandiose conceptions of Ashridge or Wyatville's work at Windsor. Among its features are an 'ancient castle', actually the stables and brewhouse, whose local red sandstone is deliberately contrasted with the pale Bath stone of the mansion.

The house itself is arranged round a court and contains a gallery with statues, elaborate carved and painted fireplaces, and a fine fan-vaulted staircase-hall projecting into the inner court, with windows glazed by Thomas Willement. Much of the original interior decoration survives, and combines Tudor motifs in wallpapers and carpets with the elegances of late Georgian English and French taste. The surviving furniture designed by Salvin combines Regency design with a heavy Jacobean air.

Christopher Hussey, *Country Life*, 26th May, 2nd June, 1955.

THE PREHISTORIC MONUMENTS OF DARTMOOR

By Aileen Fox

Dartmoor is a granite upland 25 miles long from Okehampton on the north to Brent on the south, and 20 miles wide from Moretonhampstead on the east to Tavistock on the west. It rises sharply from the underlying culm and Devonian formations and then presents a rolling tableland 1,000–1,400 ft. high with further rises in the north, Yestor, 2,039 ft., and south, Ryder's Hill, 1,692 ft. The moor is predominantly grass with heathery patches, a vegetation that pollen analysis has shown to have persisted since the Iron Age; the peat bog that now blankets the heights and parts of the plateau is of Late Bronze Age origin[1]. Stunted oak woods survive in some river valleys, as in the West Dart, Erme, and West Okement; in prehistoric times these were probably widespread in similar situations. The heights apart, Dartmoor is an attractive stretch of open country, well watered and suitable for prehistoric settlement.

The monuments range from late Neolithic to early Iron Age in date; individually they are not outstanding, but they are very numerous and since their setting is relatively unchanged, they provide a succession of pictures of prehistoric communities in relation to their environment that is hard to match elsewhere. The building material throughout is the local granite: no metal or bones survive in the acid soil.

The earliest remains are sepulchral; three megalithic tombs on the fringes of the moor (see Spinster's Rock below) indicating that south Devon was only slightly affected by the immigrations that populated Cornwall at this time. Megalithic influence persisted, however, in the free-standing circles and alignments, as well as in a few stone cists large enough for inhumations, as at Merrivale.

Interments of the Beaker folk are cremations in small cists or pits under a low cairn as at Fernworthy, Chagford; both necked (A) and debased bell (B) beakers are recorded. Cairns of this type, up to 20 ft. in diameter, often with a peristalith or kerb of larger stones and inconspicuously sited on the hillsides, have a wide distribution on the moor and a prolonged period of use.

The stone rows or alignments are nearly all associated with such cairns (see Shovel Down below); they consist of granite uprights mostly under 3 ft. high and set 4–5 ft. apart; the cairn is normally at the higher end of the row and a pillar stone or transverse slab—the so-called 'blocking stone'—may be set up as a terminal at the lower end, as at Drizzlecombe in the Plym valley. Other rows end on the bank of a stream. There is no consistency of orientation, the direction being related to the slope.

Twenty-eight out of the 62 rows on Dartmoor are double, forming a processional path 4 to 5 ft. wide and about 150 yds. long up to the cairn; 25 are single, whilst a few are triple, as, for example, at Headland Warren, where the rows converge on a large

[1] Peat deposits have been demonstrated to be post-rapier at Fice's Well, Princetown (*T.D.A.* LXXXIV, 245); pre-Iron Age A at Kestor (*T.D.A.* LXXXVI, 35).

standing-stone at the upper end instead of the normal cairn. Rows of exceptional length occur in the Erme valley, the Stall Moor single row being over 2 miles long. These monuments are often found in groups of two or three and sometimes associated with other cairns, or with a free-standing circle as at Merrivale or Fernworthy.

No direct dating evidence has been recorded as the small cairns have invariably been tampered with. Peat has grown over part of the long Stall Moor row, and at Hook Lake, Erme valley, a double row is cut through by the wall of a settlement of presumed Late Bronze Age type. This, with the A beaker associated with the Fernworthy group, indicates a date in the early part of the Bronze Age; the general distribution points to a long survival.

It is the consistent association of cairn and alignment that characterizes the Dartmoor region and differentiates these monuments from the well-known Breton series at Carnac, or from the Avebury avenue and kindred British structures. A close parallel occurs at Garrywhin, Caithness, where a small cairn containing an inhumation in a cist with a cord-ornamented beaker (now lost) has four converging rows of small stones leading up to it from a nearby stream[1]. The equivalent in timber has also been recorded in connection with a turf barrow at Zeijen in Holland, where a double avenue of posts, 120 ft. long and 5 ft. wide, with a blocking post at the far end, led up to interments of early Bronze Age type in a mortuary house surrounded by two circles of posts[2].

The twelve free-standing circles are also assigned to this period (see Scorhill below). The monuments are small-scale, 60–100 ft. in diameter, with uprights usually between 3 and 6 ft. high, set well apart. There are no enclosing banks or ditches to connect them with the henge monuments proper, such as surround the Stripple Stones on Bodmin Moor. The excavations at Fernworthy in 1898 revealed only deposits of charcoal within the circle; negative results were also obtained by Mr. G. C. Dunning when he excavated the comparable Ynys Hir circle on the Epynt, Breconshire, in 1940, with which a cairn of the Middle Bronze Age was associated[3].

Hill-top burial on Dartmoor began in the first phase (Wessex) of the Middle Bronze Age, as shown by the Hameldon cremation burial associated with a grooved dagger with gold-studded amber pommel of Breton type (destroyed, Plymouth, 1940); the cairn was a composite structure, containing a cairn-ring, and a turf core covering a small centre-cairn; similar constructions are known from Parracombe, north Devon, several in South Wales, and another at Treneglos, near Launceston[4]. A cairn in the form of a bell-barrow on Piles Hill, Erme, may also be of this period. An overhanging-rim urn with profuse cord decoration from Hurston Ridge, Chagford is the only recorded cinerary urn of the later Middle Bronze Age.

Settlement remains are abundant but cannot be correlated with the burials; in the Avon valley, for instance, there are some thirty settlements with a total of 200 huts and only six hill-top and two hill-side cairns[5]. Three kinds of layout can be distinguished, reflecting variations in pastoral and arable economies: (*a*) the enclosed settlements or pounds, (*b*) the nucleated open settlements or villages, (*c*) the scattered settlements or farmsteads, consisting of huts and fields.

The pounds are walled enclosures of varying sizes and strength (see Grimspound), densely distributed on the slopes of the southern and western valleys, with a scatter extending to the East Dart. In some, the soil accumulation on the lower side, as at Trowlesworthy, indicates that there have been cultivation patches; in others, like Rider's Rings and Gripper's Hill[6], there are pens on the inside of the wall showing stock-keeping was the main activity. All contain huts, poorly constructed, from 10–20 ft. in diameter. Recent excavations at Dean Moor, Avon, have shown that the larger hut roofs were

[1] *R.C.H.M. Scotland, Caithness*, no. 358; for the pot; Anderson, *Scotland in Pagan Times*, 126–7, fig. 133. It is accepted as a B beaker by Mitchell and Childe.

[2] W. Glasbergen, *Barrow Excavations in the Eight Beatitudes*, ii, 35. Tumulus 75, and fig. 69, p. 155.

[3] *Arch. Camb.*, XCVII, 191. See also W. F. Grimes, *P.P.S.* 1936, 108.

[4] P. Ashbee's excavations, 1955.

[5] Figures from a recent field survey by A. Fox.

[6] A. Fox, *T.D.A.*, LXXXVII, 55, fig. 1.

supported by a ring of six to seven uprights 4 ft. from the wall and on a centre post. Whetstones showed that metal was commonly used: tin was smelted and iron ore mined but discarded—presumably the method of extraction was unknown. The pottery is characterized by flat rims, applied cordons, incised decoration and occasional cord impressions; it is consistent with a Late Bronze Age date. Other sites, such as Legis Tor, Plym, are thought to be of earlier origin.

The villages such as Standon Down, Tavy, consist of a complex of small huts, up to seventy in number, linked by low wandering walls forming irregular enclosures, some probably for cultivation, some for stock. They are distributed on the west and south sides of the moor. No recent investigation has taken place; the early excavations produced nothing dateable.

The farmsteads are distributed on the eastern, and drier, side of the moor, with a few in the lower Plym valley: the pattern is complementary to that of the enclosed settlement. The huts are larger, 20–30 ft. in diameter, and better built than those in the pounds or villages. They are sited singly or in groups of two to four, surrounded by small, rectangular lynchetted fields, marked out by upright slabs (see Kestor). The single holding, as at Rippon Tor, Ilsington, consists of two or three fields totally about an acre, but there are also agglomerations of fields which contain up to twenty huts, scattered in small groups, as at Foales Arrishes. The fields have often been remodelled by medieval and later cultivators. The discovery of iron smelting furnaces at Kestor in 1953 has shown that the occupation dates from Iron Age A; the pottery included finger-printed and carinated sherds. Late Bronze Age influence is discernible in the wares from Foales Arrishes and in the cord-ornamented sherds from Smallacombe Rocks, Ilsington, indicating a chronological overlap with the enclosed settlements.

How long the intensive occupation of the moor lasted is uncertain: two carnelian beads of the Iron Age from Dean Moor and one blue glass bead, probably early Roman period, from Watern Oke village are the only evidence for later contacts. The hill-forts of Iron Age B are significantly sited only on the foothills and fringes of the moor.

R. N. Worth, *Dartmoor* (1953).
J. Brailsford, *Antiquity*, 1938, 444. Bronze Age Stone Monuments on Dartmoor.
Aileen Fox, *P.P.S.*, 1955, 87. Celtic Farms and Fields on Dartmoor.
Aileen Fox, *T.D.A.*, LXXXIX, 18. Excavations on Dean Moor, 1954–56.
C. A. R. Radford, *P.P.S.*, 1952, 55. Early Settlement on Dartmoor and the Cornish Moors.

Spinster's Rock, Drewsteignton[1]

The remains of a megalithic chamber tomb, known as Spinster's Rock, are situated on Shilstone farm, west of Drewsteignton, on the edge of the granite formation at approximately 800 ft. The site chosen appears to be related to a ridgeway along the flank of the Teign valley and to the source of a stream, the White Water, to the north-west of the monument.

The remains of the chamber consist of three granite orthostats, 6 to 9 ft. 6 ins. high, which support a large capstone 14 ft. 6 ins. long by 10 ft. wide: no trace of any mound survives. The monument collapsed in 1862 and was re-erected: no finds were recorded. It has been asserted that circles and alignments were associated with the tomb, but of these only a few isolated stones can be doubtfully identified in the neighbouring fields.

Late neolithic occupation of the area is attested by a stone axe made of the local hornfels from Nattonhole, a quarter of a mile to the north, and by stone axes and extensive flint-working sites near Week, two miles higher up the ridge.

R. H. Worth, *T.D.A.*, LXIV (1932), 279.
G. W. Ormerod, *J. R. Arch. Inst.*, XXIX (1872), 348.
F. C. Tyler, *T.D.A.*, LXII (1950), 249 (circles).
W. F. Rankine and O. Greig, *D.A.E.S.*, V (Week), 8.

[1] 1-in. O.S. map, sheet 175, Okehampton. 2½-in. map, 20–79.

Huts and Fields at Kestor, Chagford[1]

Kestor is an open settlement consisting of some twenty huts surrounded by their fields on both sides of the ridge, north-east of Kestor rock, Chagford Common, at a height of 1,200–1,400 ft. The fields are marked out by straight lines of granite orthostats, 2–4 ft. high, and are lynchetted. The smaller fields are squarish and adjoin the huts; the larger ones may have been remodelled in medieval times. The layout includes two enclosed roadways, one on either side of the ridge, which give access to some of the huts and to a watering place on the Batworthy stream.

The huts are scattered in the fields, singly or in groups of two or three; most of them are well-built structures 20–30 ft. in diameter and terraced into the hillside. The walls are 4–5 ft. thick, faced internally with large slabs bedded vertically, and externally with horizontally coursed dry-walling: the entrances are 2–3 ft. wide and are formed by transverse slabs. The largest hut, 37 ft. in diameter, is set in a circular enclosure known as Round Pound, which is entered through a lintelled and paved passageway from the lower road.

Excavations in 1951–52 showed that the huts had a turf roof with the principal rafters supported on a centre post and on a ring of seven uprights 4–5 ft. away from the walls: the hearth was at the back of the hut. Round Pound proved to be a metal worker's hut with living and working quarters; the latter containing a complete iron-smelting bowl furnace and a forging pit. Slag, some micaceous iron ore, a stone anvil and a hammer were recovered. The hut had a centre roof-opening above a shallow pit, probably used for quenching by the smith as well as catching the eaves' drip, from which a covered drain led out under the hut wall. The radial walls dividing up the outer enclosure proved to be medieval.

The settlement dated from Iron Age A (400 B.C. or later) on the evidence of the iron working and of the pottery. One of the fields was proved to be contemporary with the huts and to have been ploughed subsequent to a growth of peat on the Moor, assigned to the Late Bronze Age.

E. C. Curwen, *Antiquity*, I, 283.
Aileen Fox, *T.D.A.*, LXXXVI, 21.
Aileen Fox, *P.P.S.*, 1952, 55.

Cairns and Alignments on Shovel Down North, Chagford

This group of monuments lies on the north facing-slope of Shovel Down, west of Kestor rock, at a height of 1,350 ft. It consists of three stone rows, all double, two of which terminate in small cairns; a standing stone; and three stones which may be part of a free-standing circle (Fig. 8). Over the crest of the ridge there are two more rows on the south slope with which the Longstone 10 ft. 6 ins. high and the Three Boys (one remaining 5 ft. long, perhaps from a large cist) are associated, all adding to the importance of the Shovel Down site.

Row A is over 550 ft. long and has been robbed for wall building at Batworthy at its commencement; it consists of small stones 2–3 ft. high, set in pairs 3 ft. 6 ins. to 4 ft. 6 ins. apart. It leads up to a low cairn 27 ft. 6 ins. by 29 ft. across and 1 ft. high, which contains four settings, of small stones, approximately concentric (Fig. 9). Between the rows and the cairn-circle are two menhirs, 11 ft. 6 ins. and 7 ft. 4 ins. high, which have fallen across the line of the Row, of which they probably formed part. It is uncertain without excavation whether the stones protruding from the cairn were set as circles, or in a horseshoe formation, opening towards the Row and the menhirs. The centre has been dug into and a slab, probably from a cist, exposed: the cairn material is very slight and does not appear to extend to the outermost setting.

A similar setting of four concentric circles associated with alignments is known at Yellowmead, Sheepstor, but it has been reconstructed; there is evidence of a low cairn

[1] 2½-in. map, 20/68.

in the centre. Three settings within the body of a cairn, 3 ft. 6 ins. high and 25 ft. in diameter, have been observed on Archerton ridge, north-west of Postbridge.

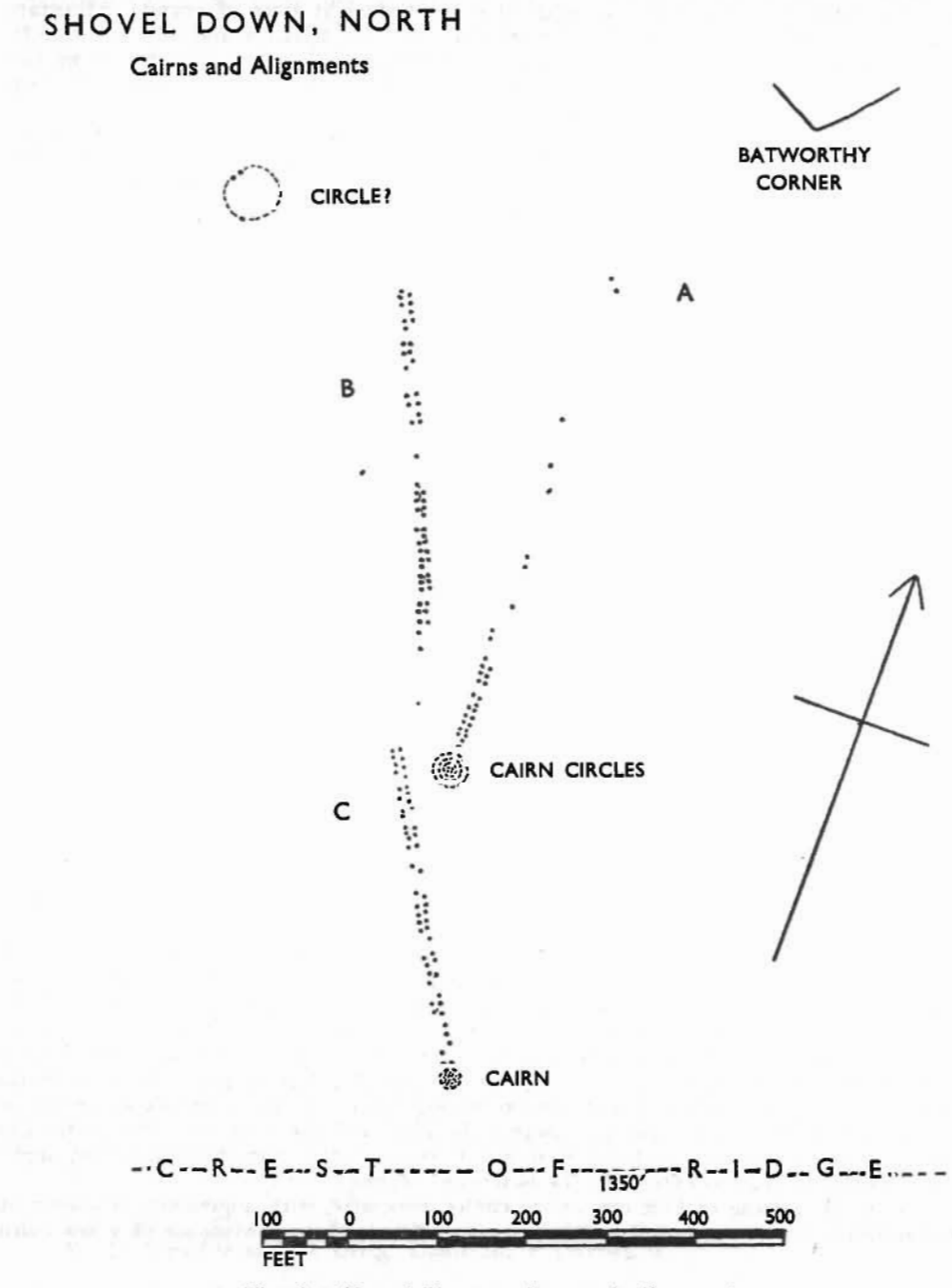


Fig. 8. Shovel Down, cairns and alignments

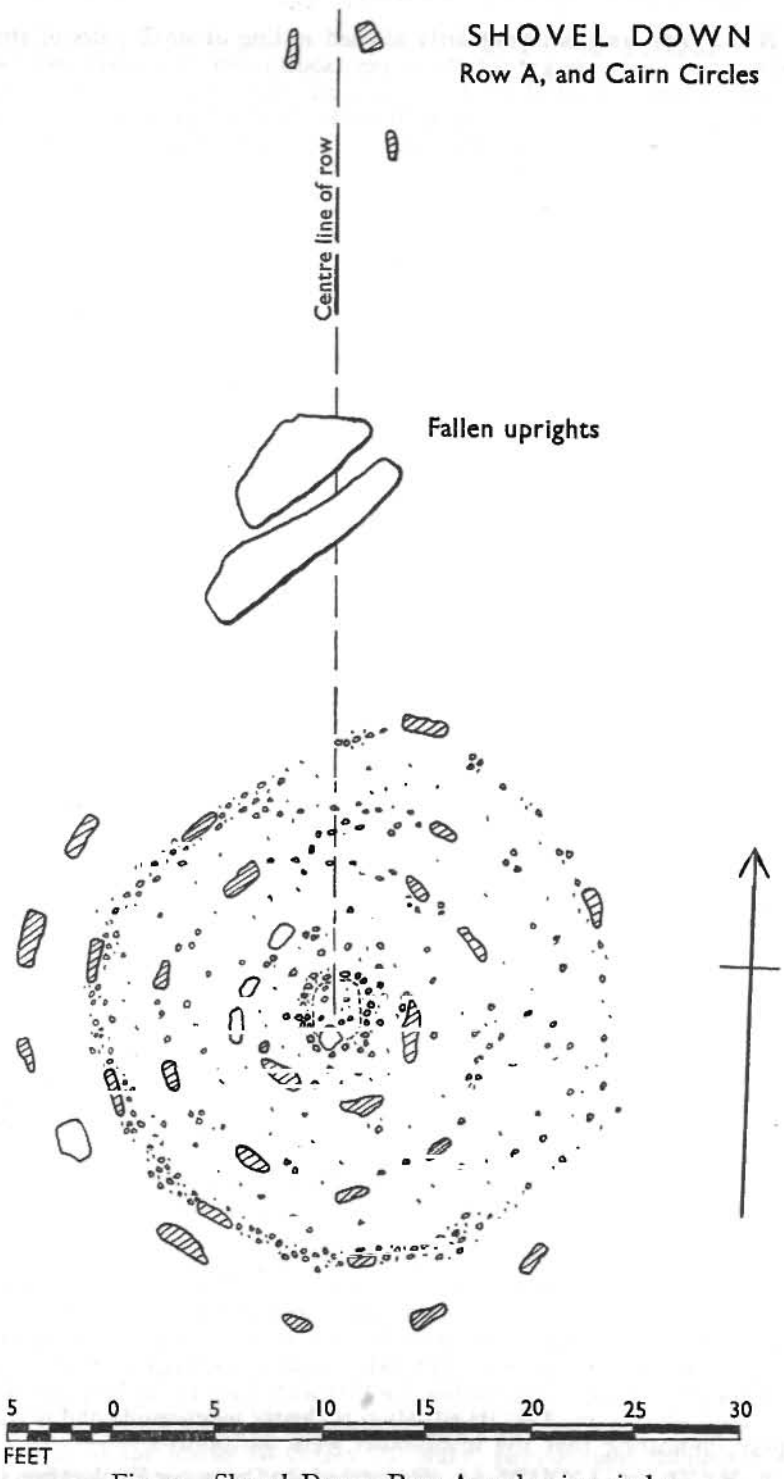


Fig. 9. Shovel Down, Row A and cairn circles

Row B is 476 ft. long, an irregularly aligned setting of small pairs of stones 4–5 ft. apart, ending in a single upright, at the upper (south) end: the lower end has been cut away by peat digging. A standing stone lies to the west of this row, in line with Row C.

Row C is 375 ft. long and 5 ft. wide: it leads up to a small cairn, 22 ft. in diameter and 2 ft. high, just below the crest of the ridge. The centre has been robbed and tumbled slabs of a cist are exposed: no finds are recorded.

R. H. Worth, *T.D.A.* (1932), LXIV, 283. (The cairn south of Row A is doubtful and has been omitted from the plan.)

Scorhill Circle, Gidleigh

Scorhill Circle is a free-standing stone circle, 88 ft. in diameter erected on the left bank of the north Teign river above its junction with the Wallabrook, at a height of 1,200 ft. It now consists of twenty-three upright granite slabs and six fallen, ranging in height from 8 ft. 2 ins. to 2 ft. 8 ins. above ground. The stones are close-set, 2–3 ft. apart with their long axes aligned on the circumference; if completed at a similar density as the surviving portions the circle will have consisted of 65–70 stones. Some of the missing stones have been removed to build an adjoining leat.

No excavation has taken place; the date of construction is probably early in the Bronze Age. The circle can be seen from the Shovel Down north alignments, nearly a mile away, so that ceremonies taking place at either site would be mutually visible.

R. H. Worth, *T.D.A.*, LXIV, 279.

Grimspound, Manaton

This is an enclosed settlement situated in a fold of the hills between Hookney Tor and Hameldon at a height of 1,500 ft. on the eastern side of Dartmoor. The Grim's Lake, a winter-bourne tributary of the west Webburn river, runs through the north side of the enclosure and passes under the walls. The wall is 9–10 ft. wide, and stands 4–5 ft. high in places: it is massively built of large facing slabs coursed horizontally with a filling of small stones between. There is no justification for the reconstruction of 1895 showing a hollow core between double walls. A ditch or gully has been scarped for a short distance on the north-west side, where the fall to the stream makes the position vulnerable. The imposing entrance, which incorporates huge boulders, is on the upper side, approached steeply downhill from Hameldon; the passage is 6 ft. wide, roughly paved and stepped. The apparent extension of the side walls is due to collapse, which has been reconstructed; the straight joints marking the original wall face are apparent.

The area enclosed is 3·94 acres; it contains 16 dwellings, 6–7 store huts (nos. 2, 13–15, 22–24 on plan), and five cattle pens built against the main wall (Fig. 10). The huts are all small, 8 ft. 6 ins. to 15 ft. in diameter, with walls 3–4 ft. thick; there is a misconception that the walls had an external casing of turf and one hut, no. 3, has been so reconstructed. Large pillar stones are used as jambs for the narrow doorways, which were probably lintelled. Two huts, nos. 3 and 5, have a screen wall at the entrance, forming a sort of vestibule; one hut is double, the western element (no. 19) perhaps being added to the eastern (no. 18). The store huts, in which no hearths were found, are slight constructions, one stone thick, badly overgrown with heather to-day.

Excavations were conducted by a committee of the Devonshire Association in 1894–95, in the manner of the time. In the dwelling huts part of the floor was apparently raised, cooking was carried out on a hearth, and in ashes in a small pit 9 ins. deep, and the roof was probably supported on a centre post bedded on a flat stone. No dating evidence was recovered, only a few pieces of flint being found. Grimspound differs only in the strength of its walls from other enclosed settlements like Dean Moor or Raddick Hill occupied in the Late Bronze Age: its situation is clearly indefensible and is related to the water supply, indicating that the inhabitants were pastoralists.

T.D.A., XXVI, 101; LXXVII, 85. (Reports of the Dartmoor Exploration Committee.)

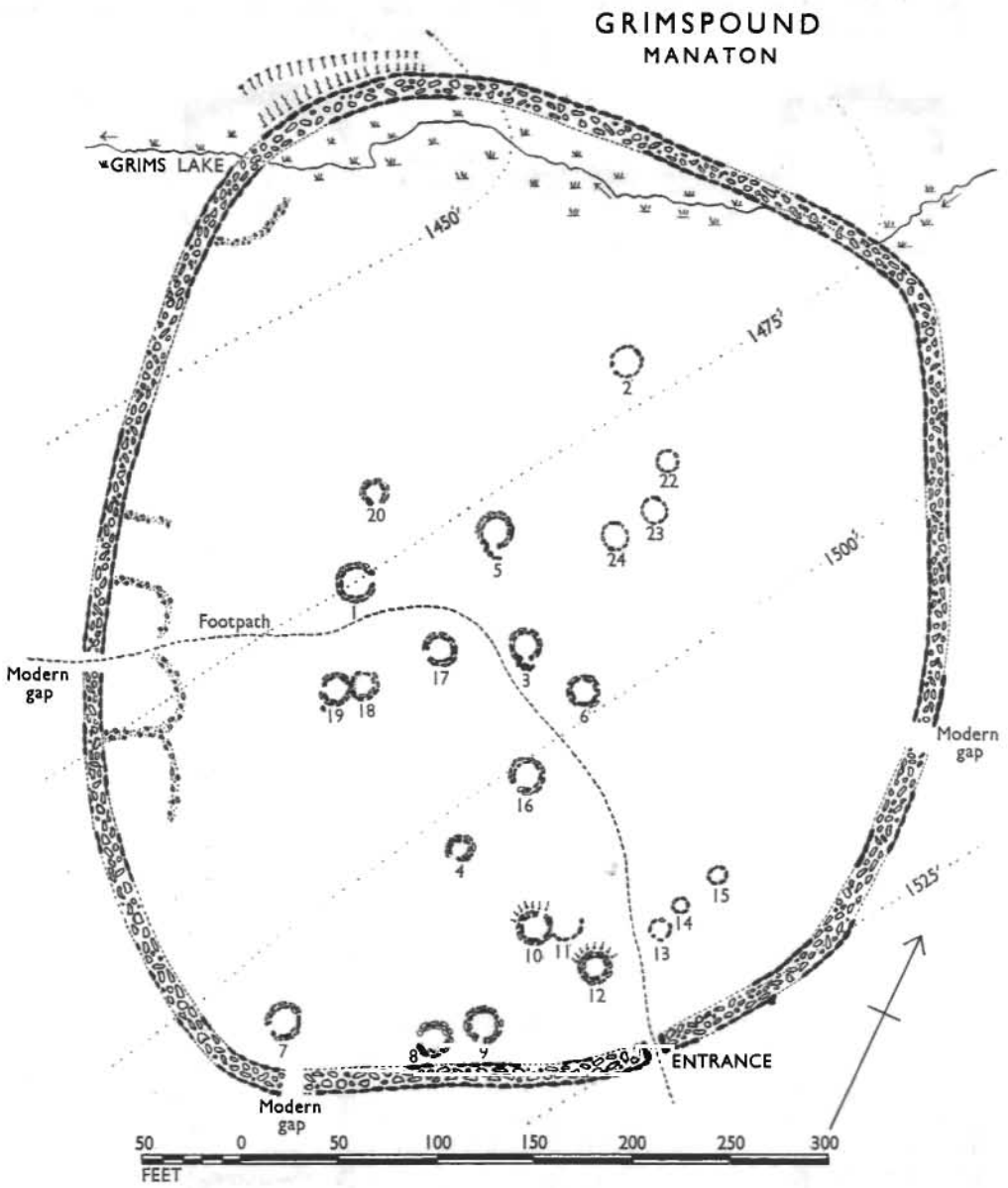


Fig. 10. Grimspound, Manaton

Thursday, 11th July

CADHAY. By Mary Coate

Cadhay is a manor-house a mile to the north-west of the church of Ottery St. Mary; it is set in farmland and meadow watered by the river Otter. Its successive owners have given to the house charm and individuality.

A sub-manor of the manor of Ottery St. Mary, paying eight shillings a year rent, Cadhay was held in the reign of Edward I by the de Cadehay family. Well preserved

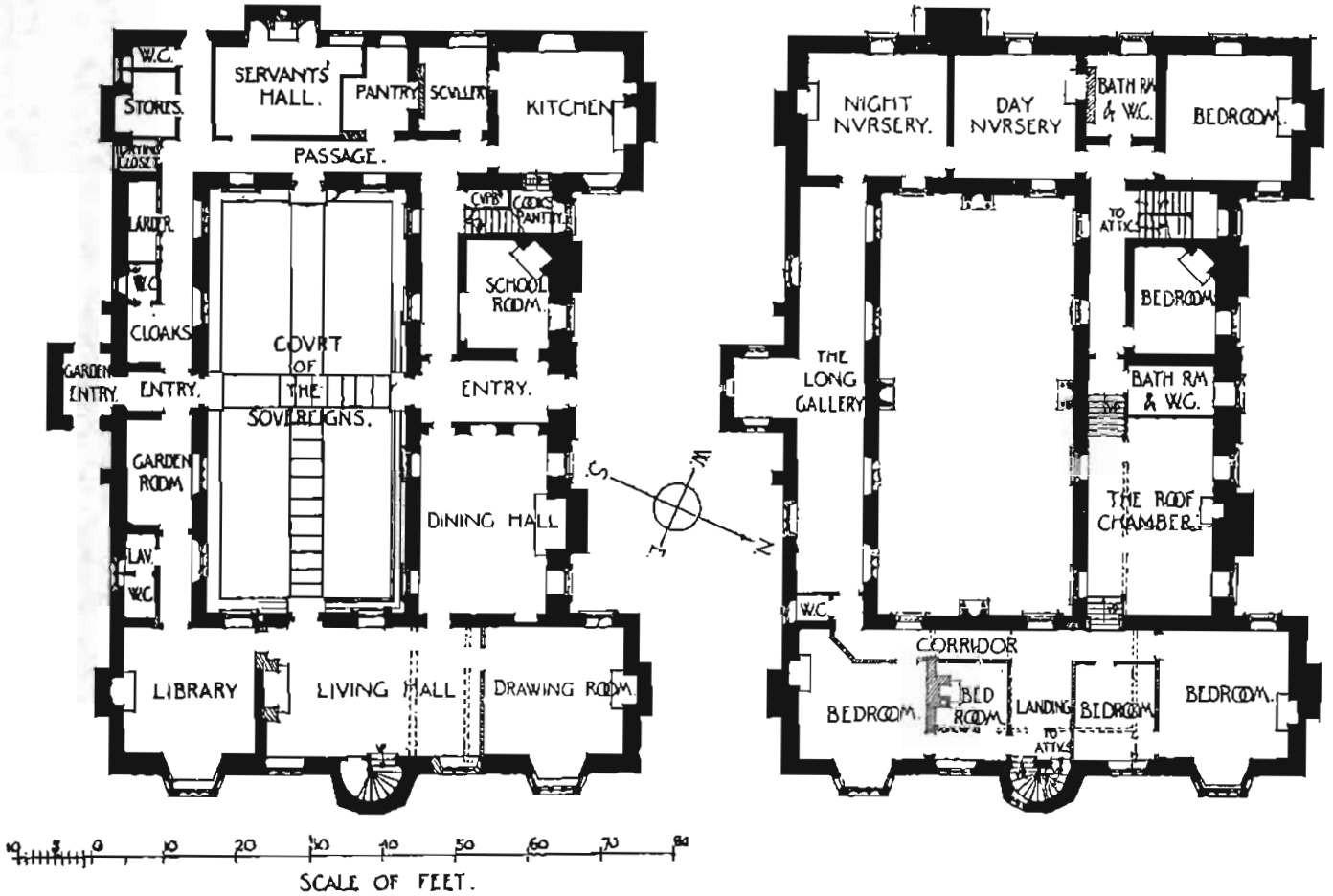


Fig. 11. Cadhay, plan

(By courtesy of 'Country Life')

original deeds, on deposit in the Exeter City Library, carry the story into the 15th century. Then the male issue failed and the heiress Joanna married Hugh Grenefeld or Grenville. Their son and heir Robert died and his widow Elyn settled Cadhay on their daughter Joan on her marriage to John Haydon, second son of Richard Haydon of Woodbury and Harpford, steward to Bishop Veysey of Exeter.

John Haydon is a typical Tudor figure, a successful lawyer and bencher of Lincoln's Inn, legal adviser to the City of Exeter and under-steward of the manor of Ottery St. Mary. At the Reformation, he swam with the tide, bought and sold lands of dissolved priories in Exeter, and finally, now an official of the Court of Augmentations, was appointed one of the first four governors of the Corporation of the Church of Ottery St. Mary, erected by Henry VIII, when he dissolved Bishop Grandisson's College of priests in 1545.

In 1620 Risden in his *Survey of Devon* wrote 'John Haydon esquire, sometime bencher of Lincoln's Inn, builded at Cadhay a fair new house and enlarged his demesnes'. It has therefore been assumed that the present house dates from the middle of the 16th century. A re-examination of the fabric, however, has led to the conclusions offered in the architectural note below. Sir William Pole, in his 'Description of Devon', tells us that John Haydon also built the bridge over the river between Cadhay and Ottery; this once bore the inscription 'John and Joan built me, pray good people repair me'.

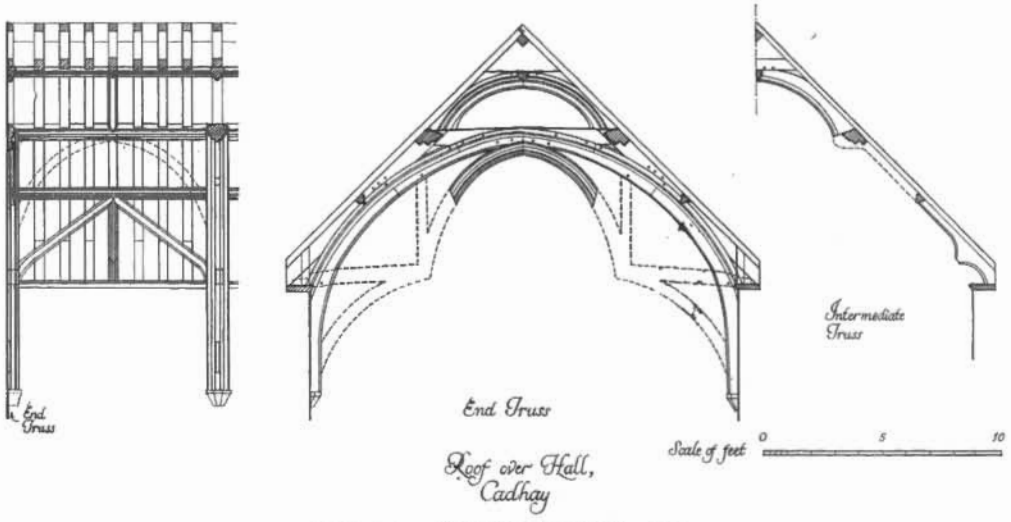


Fig. 12. Cadhay, the hall roof

John Haydon died without issue 9th March, 1587; he and his wife Joan who died in 1592 are buried at the eastern end of the north choir aisle in the Church of St. Mary, Ottery. He left benefactions to that church for the relief of the poor, and similar gifts to the City of Exeter. Cadhay he bequeathed to his great-nephew Robert, son of his nephew Thomas. Robert inherited a fair estate and he married well, Joan the daughter of Sir Amias Poulett, ambassador to France, 1576–9, and Keeper of Mary Queen of Scots from 1585 to her execution.

Robert died in 1626 and after him five Gideon Haydons in direct succession reigned at Cadhay. The records of the Corporation of the Church of St. Mary Ottery show that each Gideon Haydon in turn served as one of the Governors. The Civil War disturbed Cadhay little, though in 1649 Nicholas Haydon was fined £69 4s. 6d. for delinquency, and in 1660 Gideon had to contribute £10 towards the disbandment of the Cromwellian army.

During these years the Haydons married well and prospered; by 1670 they held lands in Ottery St. Mary and seven villages; they owned 670 acres of land, 30 orchards and six

mills. Even so they over-spent their income, though to what end the papers surviving do not make clear. By 1693 Gideon the fourth owed £17,000, and finally in 1736, his son, Gideon the fifth, sold Cadhay for £5800 to one John Brown, who re-sold it next year for £6750 to William Peere-Williams, second son of the well-known lawyer of that name.

Mr. Peere-Williams found Cadhay in sad disrepair; he saved it by drastic alterations. He died in 1766, his widow in 1792 without male issue, and Cadhay passed through daughters first to Lord Graves who died there in 1802, and then to the Hare family of Stow Bardolf, Norfolk. By now the state of Cadhay was deplorable; 'the premises are wonderfully ruinous' writes a correspondent to Sir Thomas Hare in 1803; 'as they are no gentleman would take them'. The house was divided and the farmer of the home farm and cottagers lived in the building. Dry rot was in the walls, and the roofs leaked.

In 1910 Sir Ralph Hare sold Cadhay to the Cambridge mathematician, Mr. W. C. Dampier Whetham. Mr. Whetham saved Cadhay by careful repair. He pulled down the ruinous old farm buildings and cottages, built others further off, removed the partitions which disfigured the splendid chamber under the roof, uncovered the filled-in fireplaces, and on the east front set up a tablet of lead with an inscription setting out the history of the house with the arms of the families Haydon, Williams, Hare and Whetham.

In 1924 Major B. William Powlett took a lease of Cadhay and in 1935 bought the property, appropriately indeed, in view of the old link between the Haydons and the Powletts. Major William Powlett built the high wall to the south in the garden, while his son, Captain N. J. W. William-Powlett, R.N., the present owner, has filled in the open archways in the dining-hall and beautified the long gallery and the great chamber below the timbered roof.

Cadhay has seen changes and vicissitudes in its history, but it has preserved its essential characteristics. It remains to-day serene and dignified, bound intimately as of old with the life of the countryside, and with the historic church of St. Mary of Ottery, for the present owner carries on the Haydon tradition as one of the Governors of the Corporation of the Church.

The Cadhay Deeds on deposit; Exeter City Library.
The Manuscripts of the Corporation of the Church of St. Mary of Ottery.
The Parish Registers, St. Mary of Ottery.
Lawrence Weaver in *Country Life*, 18th January, 1913.
Whetham, *A Manor Book of Ottery St. Mary*, 1913.
Notes supplied to me for consultation by Captain N. J. W. William-Powlett.

ARCHITECTURAL NOTE. BY M. BALDWIN and S. D. T. SPITTLE

The former Great Hall at Cadhay has been divided by the insertion of a floor, but the roof, though mutilated, still forms a magnificent feature. This roof is of a distinctive group that includes the Law Library in Exeter (see p. 139) and the slightly later example at Bowhill, a hall-house on the western side of the river on the outskirts of Exeter.[1] Bowhill, formerly the town house of the Hollands of Dartington, probably dates from *c.* 1470. Its roof is not of hammer-beam type but the general design with the cove above the collar purlins is similar. Cadhay's lost hammer-beams and the vertical tracery above them are very closely paralleled at the Law Library; indeed the roof may be said to be a copy of the Exeter example. It is therefore reasonable to assign the Cadhay roof to the 15th century, probably near its end. This date agrees well with the design of the two remaining medieval fireplaces, that of the former Great Hall and one upstairs at the north end of the east wing. These have always created a problem[2] as their style appears singularly old-fashioned if they are regarded as of John Haydon's date; also, the Hall fireplace bears shields carved with the Haydon and Poulett arms, and the Poulett arms should not appear until the house was inherited by John Haydon's great nephew.

[1] A description of Bowhill and Dartington will appear in *Arch. J.*, vol. CXV, forthcoming.

[2] *Country Life*, 18th January, 1913.

A likely explanation is that the arms were added by a later owner and are 'antiquarian' additions to plain shields whose original painted arms had perished.

The nucleus of a medieval house emerges; the Great Hall of three bays, excluding that of the screens passage, which occupied the present entrance hall, the screens being represented now by the arches filled in by the present owners; and east of the Hall, a two-storey wing at right angles to it with a solar, still containing its original fireplace, on the upper floor, which was reached by the circular stair projecting from the east front. West of the Hall lay another wing, probably irregular, with two stories at the north end, as can be seen by the traces of a 15th century light on the upper level. At the south end of this wing lay the great kitchen, whose stack projects on the west front from what is now the servant's hall. The thickness of the outside walls of the north and east wings and the north end of the west wing bears out this interpretation. A 15th-century range ran south from the present south front; this was removed in the 19th century.

It may be assumed that John Haydon's 'new house' involved a remodelling of the existing ranges to form a coherent whole. The completion of the south side with the Long Gallery is more likely to date from the time of his successor Robert: certainly it was Robert who completed the inner 'Court of the Sovereigns' with its symmetrically placed openings, walls patterned in flint and Beer sandstone, and the four monarchs in their niches, dated 1617.

The north front has been refaced with ashlar, and this facing must antedate the dividing of the hall into two storeys as there is an inserted patch of ashlar between the upper and lower sashes now lighting the two floors. The sash windows, the division of the hall, and the panelling of the drawingroom were done by Mr. Peere-Williams, who found Cadhay in a sorry state of disrepair when he bought it in 1737. The north front was subsequently given a dummy chimney-stack west of the entrance to balance the projecting stack of the Great Hall. The gables were crow-stepped, and an early 19th-century shield with the arms of Hare, Graves and Williams was set up over the entrance.

On the east front the projecting window-bays and the top storey of the stair turret appear to be additions, possibly of the 19th century.

OTTERY ST. MARY CHURCH. By Peter Eden

In 1061 Edward the Confessor granted *quandam villam nomine Otregiam* to the canons of Rouen cathedral. Bishop Bronescombe (d. 1280) dedicated a church of St. Mary at Ottery in 1260 and secured an ample endowment for the vicarage. In 1335 after protracted negotiations with the Rouen chapter the estate was purchased out of his private means by Bishop Grandisson (d. 1369), who founded a college at Ottery for forty members. The royal licence for this foundation was granted in 1337.

It has been suggested that parts of the existing fabric, for example the side walls of the choir aisles and the transeptal towers, are of Bronescombe's day. Careful inspection of the structure does not bear this out. Apart from the 16th century modifications in the nave there is no obvious evidence of major alteration, and in spite of certain archaisms such as the austere fenestration the original details are all of 14th-century character, many of them quite advanced.

The plan is also an archaism, supposing that it is indeed of Grandisson's time. It is not impossible that he inherited from some over-ambitious predecessor the working drawings or even the actual groundwork of an earlier project, but upon the whole it seems more likely that, for reasons at which we can only guess, he deliberately set about building a miniature Exeter. The expression *ecclesiola* used by him in a letter to Pope Benedict XII rather encourages this view.

There are the hesitancies almost invariable in medieval building. Thus the east ends of the choir aisles are in a robuster and slightly earlier idiom than the rest of them. The south chapel similarly seems to antedate the north chapel. It is slightly larger, but both chapels are apparently integral parts of the plan, in spite of the awkward disposition of the adjacent aisle windows. The vaulting of the transeptal towers is not satisfactorily married to the piers of the crossing. But upon the whole the church, which is accurately

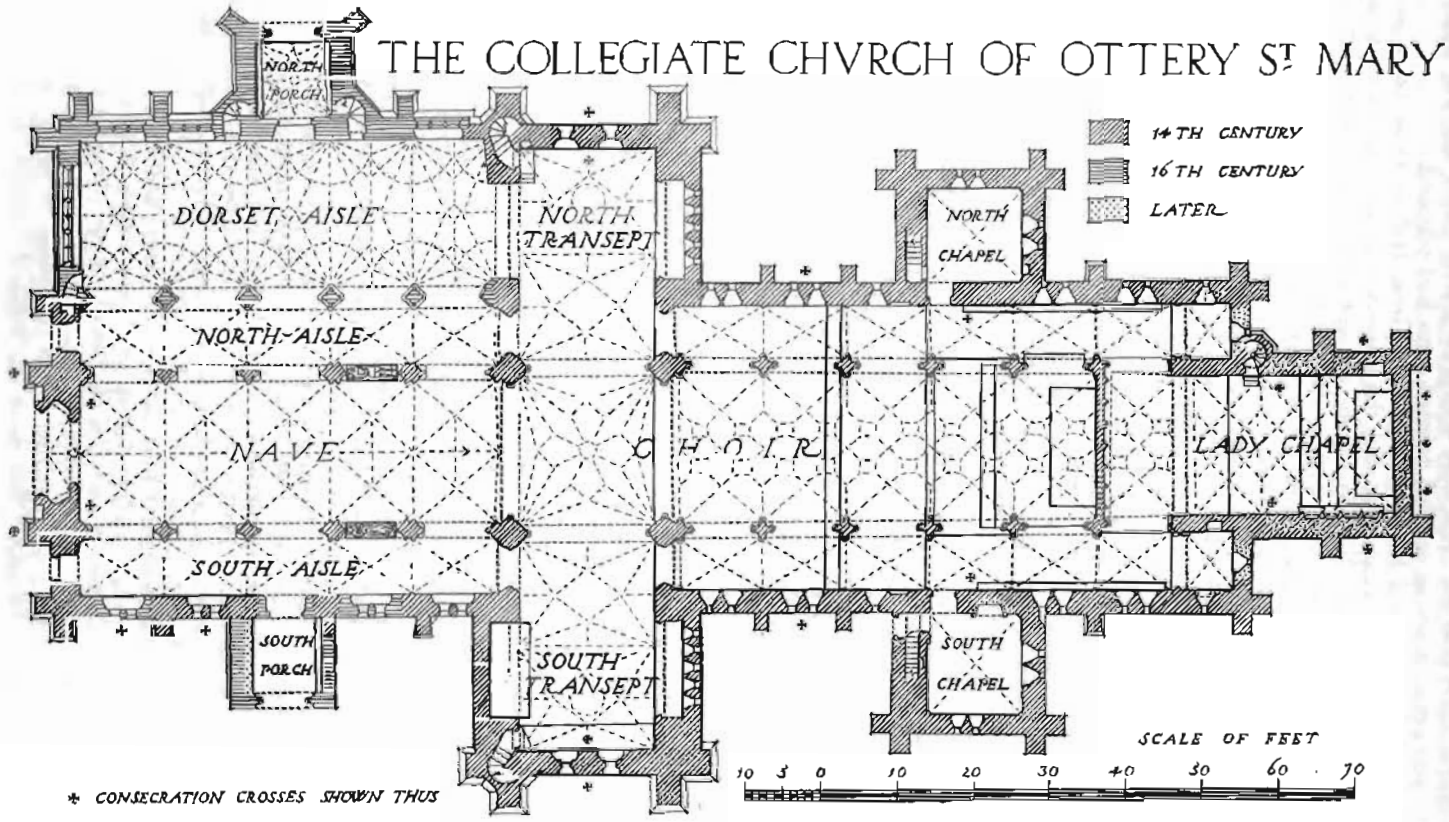


Fig. 13. Ottery St. Mary church, plan

set out, exhibits the characteristics of careful and even self-conscious design, to which the consecration crosses, most of which have been restored, give added emphasis. It is tempting to believe that the optical effect created by the marked easterly convergence of the choir arcades is deliberate. The lierne vault of the choir resembles that at Wells Cathedral, but instead of flying buttresses it has stone struts of dog-leg form rising off the crown of the aisle vaults. These are concealed by the aisle roofs, as are the more orthodox but still perfunctory fliers which perform the same function in the nave. The outer north aisle to the nave with its fan vault was provided by Cicely, Marchioness of Dorset, in the first quarter of the 16th century as additional space for the parish. The vault closely resembles that of the Lane Aisle at Cullompton. The ground stage of the three-storey north porch is also vaulted.

The reconstruction of the reredos was completed by Blore in 1833. A general restoration was entrusted to Butterfield in 1849. In addition to some characteristic and not unpleasing adventures in polychrome he lowered the floor level in the middle of the church. This involved the translation of the original screen from the east end of the nave to its present position as well as, it would appear, the curtailment of the stone benches in the choir aisles. The Lady Chapel was heavily restored at the same time and its stone gallery rebuilt.

Among the ostensibly original fittings the gilded wooden lectern, the clock, the monumental effigies in the nave and the whistling weathercock (another reminiscence of Exeter) are notable. The ancient glass alluded to by Risdon in his survey has vanished, but many of the 19th century windows which replace it are of merit. A number of them are from designs by Pugin.

Arch. J., LXX, 1913.
Trans. of Exeter Diocesan Arch. Soc., 1843.
J. D. Coleridge, *On the Restoration of the Church of St. Mary the Virgin at Ottery St. Mary* (Exeter, 1851).
S. W. Cornish, *Short Notes on the Church and Parish of Ottery St. Mary, Devon* (Exeter, 1869).
J. N. Dalton, *The Collegiate Church of Ottery St. Mary* (1917).
J. A. Witham, *The Church of Ottery St. Mary* (n.d.).
Country Life, 22nd February, 1952, has a letter on the weathercock with photograph. There are some unpublished MSS. and drawings in the B.M. and Exeter City Libraries. Among these James Davidson's notes (Exeter) are of interest.

BLACKBURY CASTLE. By K. M. Richardson

Blackbury Castle lies at about 595 O.D. on a clay-capped promontory running eastward from Broad Down (Nat. Grid. Ref. SY (30) 188925) and covers about 6½ acres. Excavations were carried out on the site by the D.A.E.S. in 1952–54. This univallate earthwork consists of a D-shaped main enclosure with an outwork or 'barbican'. Gaps in the main rampart on the north, east and west were found to be recent, thus the only entrance is on the south approached through the barbican. The main bank was of simple construction and the ditch relatively shallow. On the east of the entrance, the bank end expanded southwards to form a platform largely made up of flint and clay. A palisade trench and post-holes proved that bank ends and platform had been faced with a post and wattle revetment. Two large oblong post-holes in the entrance probably carried supports for a fly-over bridge and the gate. A pair of gate post-holes were uncovered at the entrance to the barbican. The ramparts of this outwork (proved to be an unfinished addition to the main enclosure) apparently had retaining walls of chert blocks which had collapsed into the ditches. Pottery from in and under the main bank included Iron Age A as well as Iron Age B wares. Occupation was sparse and the slight post-holes uncovered in the central area indicate temporary shelters. The inference is that the site was used by pastoralists whose herds could graze on the hill slopes, be watered both from the springs welling out at the foot of the greensand or the valley streams and be safely folded within the barbican.

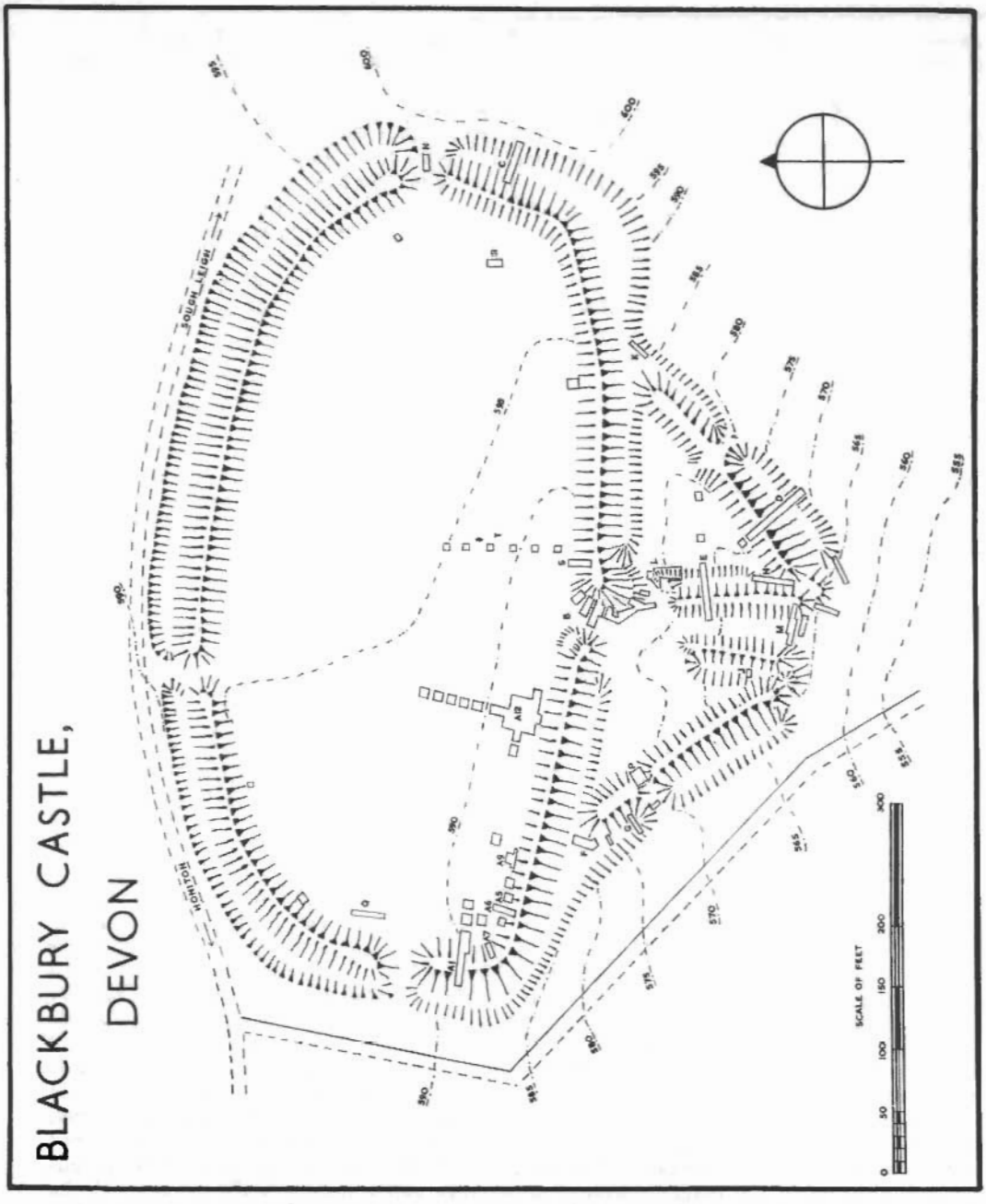


Fig. 14. Blackbury Castle, plan

(Reproduced by kind permission of the Devon Archaeological Exploration Society)

SIDBURY: CHURCH OF ST. GILES. By C. A. R. Radford

Sidbury was a pre-Conquest possession of the church of Exeter. A Saxon church might be expected on the site, as it was an important holding assessed at five hides. The only structure remaining from this period is a hypogeum or shrine beneath the floor of the chancel. This consisted of a small four-sided building, half buried in the earth of

the cemetery and entered by a short flight of steps. Such a building stood free and was designed as the memorial of a saint, probably the founder of the church. The Sidbury shrine was already ruined, and probably forgotten, when the early 12th century chancel was erected. A similar shrine at Glastonbury was disused in the 10th century. A French example at Poitiers dates from the 7th century. There is also a fragment of a pre-Conquest cross-head walled into the west side of the south transept.

The early 12th century church included a short chancel (the eastern quoins are visible outside) and nave; it may have been designed on a cruciform plan with a central tower. The present west tower was added late in the 12th century. The church was enlarged in the course of the 13th century. The extended chancel has a fine diapered east wall, which is still Romanesque in character. The east respond of the north arcade is clustered, of the early 13th century, and the whole rebuild was probably completed before 1250. The aisles were enlarged, the walls heightened and the waggon roofs inserted in the middle of the 15th century. The manorial records of Salcombe record that in 1445 there was no return from Dunscombe quarry as this had been handed over to the parishioners of Sidbury for work on their church.

The rude Norman figures on the tower were found covered with plaster when the upper stage was rebuilt in the 19th century. There is an interesting series of wall paintings of various dates.

Arch. J., LVI, 74–6.
J. Brit. Arch. Assoc., II, xxxiii, 181–2.
T.D.A., XXXV, 353–9.

THE MANOR OF SAND. By J. D. Campbell

The Manor of Sand was granted during the reign of Henry III by the Dean and Chapter of Exeter to a certain William de Sand. It passed to the Tremayle family during the reign of Henry V and it was to them that Bishop Stafford granted a licence for an oratory (the windows from which are still in use) on 25th January, 1418. Legend relates that Catherine of Aragon stayed at Sand for a time after her divorce. Henry Huyshe purchased the property in 1560 and it has remained in that family until the present day.

Except for part of the heraldry in the hall windows, only the panelled withdrawing room and what is now the kitchen remain from the pre-Huyshe period as the rest of this north-west wing was destroyed by fire in the early 18th century.

It was James Huyshe in 1583 who extended the old north-west wing towards the south-east, building out a porch in the middle and another wing to obtain an 'E' plan. His son Roland completed the work and installed a plaque, 'RAH. 1600', on the gable end of the stable block.

The present drawing-room was the original kitchen which still retains the open fireplace and bake-oven, although the old well in the floor has been closed in. The two circular solid oak-stepped staircases originally led to a gallery around the great hall, which was used as a main living room. A heavy carved oak screen now separates the two rooms.

Over the entrance to the garden and terrace is a sculptured shield dated 1600, with a Latin inscription denoting that the garden was created by J. Capel—a cousin of the Huyshe family. On the terrace is what old records describe as a 'pleasance house'.

Between 1724 and 1908, Sand was used as a farmhouse, but it was restored to its former state and modernized in 1908 and has continued as a private dwelling to this day.

EXETER: THE SOUTH-WESTERN AREA

By W. G. Hoskins

Nos. 11 and 12 WEST STREET

These two timber-framed houses stand at the junction of Stepcote Hill with West Street. No. 11 occupies the corner site; no. 12 faces West Street. They were built as a pair, despite certain differences of plan, as is evident from the massive red sandstone

wall at the rear of the houses, which is continuous and of one build. This building of houses in pairs is found repeatedly in Exeter, down to the 17th century at least, and has yet to be explained. Two notable examples in the High Street are nos. 41 and 42 (built in 1564) and nos. 46 and 47 (built about 1475–1500).

The West Street houses stood in the principal industrial quarter of medieval Exeter. They are just within the West Gate, at the foot of Stepcote Hill, which was formerly the principal street into Exeter from the west[1]. Stepcote Hill still retains some of the features of a medieval street at its bottom end, with a narrow, cobbled and pitched way for pack-horse traffic and steps at each side for foot-passengers. Before the slum clearance of the 1930s the whole street from top to bottom was lined with substantial houses, mainly of the merchant class, and mostly of 16th and 17th century date. Doubtless these houses concealed much medieval work also. On the east side of Smythen Street, the continuation of Stepcote Hill at the upper end, may be seen a fine stone medieval fireplace, probably 14th century in date, which gives some idea of the quality and age of the buildings now lost to us. Unfortunately, no record was ever made of the houses in Smythen Street and Stepcote Hill before they were destroyed.

Of the two houses under discussion here, no. 11, the corner house, is much the better preserved. A thick wall of the local new red sandstone carries the building to first floor level, above which is the characteristic timber frame of the period (*c.* 1475–1500). As stated above, the back wall of both houses is also of red sandstone. It contains the three medieval fireplaces of the corner house, and was also intended to act as a firebreak. These massive stone firebreaks may be seen all over the older part of the city, and must have been built as a result of a civic by-law passed at some date in the 15th century. Such a wall may be seen in the largely rebuilt house above no. 11, on Stepcote Hill. The Frog Street house described by Sir Cyril Fox also has such a wall separating it from the adjoining property. Others will be noticed at various places in the High Street (e.g., between nos. 40 and 41).

No. 11 West Street consisted originally of a small shop (as now) with a larger kitchen behind. This kitchen has been incorporated into the modern shop. In the process the original fireplace was destroyed, and also the stair in the north corner of the kitchen, which led up into the hall above. The hall, now divided into two rooms, seems originally to have occupied the whole of the first floor level. A well-preserved stone fireplace remains in the back wall, and one very good traceried window remains, with a fragment of another. There was independent access to the hall from the street (Stepcote Hill) by means of a short external stone stair. The doorway from the street is clearly in evidence, both internally and externally. Above the hall is the solar, jettied out on the two free sides. This, too, seems to have occupied originally the whole of this floor. It is now divided into two rooms, and it is just possible that the dividing wall is an original feature. On the whole, it is unlikely to be so, for the only original fireplace again lies in the back wall. Here, too, at the solar level, is a very good traceried window. Much of the original timber frame is visible internally, but some of it is in poor condition and needs treatment as a matter of urgency. Above the solar is the cock-loft, which does not seem to have been lighted in any way. The neighbouring house (no. 12) also had a cock-loft, converted into an attic floor by the insertion of a window, possibly at a later date. No. 11 is an exceptionally interesting specimen of a late medieval town house, despite some modern alterations, retaining an unusual number of its original features.

CRICKLEPIT MILLS AND THE LEATS (see Fig. 19, p. 179)

The city wall, which is of Roman origin, followed the top of a low bluff, of varying height, along the whole of its south-western side. Between the wall and the main channel of the Exe, which was considerably wider in early medieval times than it is to-day, lay a flat stretch of alluvial land. This was probably covered twice a day by the tide, which

[1] The present line Exe Bridge–Bridge Street, now the main entrance from the west, was opened up only in 1778, when the city wall was breached and a viaduct made at the foot of Fore Street for this purpose.

then flowed up to the walls of the city and possibly even higher before the numerous weirs, which now block the river, were constructed. At an early date a leat or water-course was dug for a distance of just under half a mile from the river below the Mount Dinham cliffs south-eastwards as far as the present quay. This leat followed approximately the foot of the city walls, with a narrow space between. It helped to drain the flat marshland, and so formed an island known by the middle of the 12th century as Exe Island[1]. It also provided water-power for a series of mills. In the course of time other leats were constructed, for both power and drainage, and a number of islands created on this side of the city. This part of the city is a network of waterways, all of which are of medieval date or earlier. It is conceivable that the first leat to be made, that beneath the city walls, is even older than the medieval period, but of this there can be no definite proof. All the other leats are shown on Hogenberg's map of the city made in 1587, which suggests that they are all of medieval origin as the 16th century city records do not mention any construction of this kind.

In this area, between the city walls and the now-diminished channel of the Exe, there grew up from the 12th century onwards a busy industrial quarter—chiefly corn and fulling mills, 'weaving sheds', breweries, and tanneries. Breweries and tanneries still remain. The manor of Exe Island, as it came to be, belonged to the earls of Devon, whose jurisdiction therefore came up to the very foot of the city walls. The rivalry, and occasionally enmity, between the civic authorities and the earls of Devon (mainly the Courtenay family) as a consequence of this proximity is a feature of Exeter history from the 13th century to the early 16th, and was only ended by the downfall of the Courtenays in 1538. In 1550 their manor of Exe Island was granted by the king to the city, so paving the way for the construction of the ship-canal in 1564–67 in order to by-pass the medieval weirs in the river.

The earliest documentary reference to mills in this part of Exeter is a grant by Robert de Courtenay to Nicholas Gervase of 'all his water which Thomas the Fuller holds of him outside the west gate of Exeter, which is between his corn-mills and Crikenpette, so that the said Nicholas and his heirs may build a mill on the said water towards Crikenpette as shall appear best and most commodious to them. . . . And if it shall happen that the said Robert's mills near the west gate shall be hindered by the mill of the said Nicholas, the dispute shall be settled by the view of true and lawful men'[2]. This grant is undated, but is earlier than 1194, when Lord Reginald de Courtenay, one of the witnesses, died. It is probably *c.* 1180–90 in date.

The corn-mills of the Courtenays in the 12th century are represented to-day by the City Mills of Messrs. French. The Cricklepit Mills (to give them their modern name), first constructed by Nicholas Gervase towards the end of the 12th century, still survive, but are no longer used as mills. There must have been several mills belonging to the Courtenays by the early 13th century for in 1242 the king assigned to Mary, the widow of Robert de Courtenay, certain manors 'and £9 13*s*. 8*d*. rents out of the mills of Exeter as dowry' from the lands that had belonged to her husband[3]. This is a substantial rent and reflects considerable industrialization on the Courtenay property in Exe Island. There are references in the city deeds to fullers and dyers at this date and in this quarter of the city, and we know from other sources that Exeter was one of the principal cloth-making towns of England in the 12th and 13th centuries. The industry was concentrated in this part of the town.

The will of Walter Gervase, son of Nicholas, made in 1257, speaks of 'my mills, with the gardens and other appurtances between the two waters of the Exe outside the west gate of Exeter, with the whole land from the mill of Lord John de Courtenay up to the wall of the city and downstream as far as Crykineputte, which mills with appurtances,

[1] The earliest reference to Exe Island (*Insula Ex*) appears to be in a charter whereby Robert fitz Henry confirms to Richard son of Nicholas Floyer all the land beyond the Exe that his grandfather Richard Floyer held, to hold as Richard son of Floyer held it. Nicholas son of Flohere is recorded in 1158, so this charter may be dated *c.* 1180.

[2] Exeter city records, Misc. Deeds, no. 606.

[3] *Cal. Close Rolls*, 1237–42, 476.

as also my great weaving-shed (*magnum tellare meum*), with all shops and rents, which is called new road, which my mother holds till now, I bequeath to the bridge of the Exe . . .'[1]. Other mills, known in later times as the Lower Mills, were built below the Cricklepit Mills, probably before the end of the 13th century. The derelict water-wheel, still visible on the leat at the Lower Mills, is the last survivor of its kind in Exeter. The whole area is a picturesque and interesting example of a 12th–13th century industrial suburb, outside the walls of an important medieval city.

THE CUSTOM HOUSE.

The handsome Custom House which stands on the Quay at Exeter is one of the best of its kind in England. It was built at the expense of the city in 1680–81. On 28th May, 1678, a committee was set up by the Chamber 'for erecting a new customs house and cellars in such place and such manner as they shall think fit'[2]. Work seems to have begun in the year 1680, to a design by one Richard Allen, who was paid £3 4*s.* 6*d.* for his drawing[3]. Nothing more is known about Allen, who is not recorded in Colvin's *Biographical Dictionary of English Architects, 1660–1840.*

The surviving accounts in the city records show that by September, 1681, work was going ahead rapidly on the internal fittings of the building. Charles Comings was paid £4 3*s.* 0*d.* on 3rd September for the wainscoting, and in the same month we find payments to John Abbott of Frithelstock, the most eminent of the Devonshire plasterers of his time, for the plastering of the ceilings. He was paid in all £35 and the plasterwork was completed by December of that year. The Long Room is a good example of John Abbott's craftsmanship in a baroque vein.

Stone was used for the foundations of the building and for the quoins, but the walls were constructed of brick, and the Custom House is important for the additional reason that it is the earliest brick building in the city. On 1st July, 1682, the city receiver paid £118 7*s.* 3*d.* for 132,067 bricks, at the rate of 18*s.* 8*d.* a thousand. Later consignments of bricks (in 1684–85) cost 2*s.* 6*d.* a hundred. Some work was still going on at the Custom House in 1684–85 (e.g., glazing and some brickwork).

It is not known whence the earliest Exeter bricks came, but probably it was from St. Sidwells, outside the east gate, where brickfields are known to have been in operation in 1690[4]. The building was completed externally by 1681, which is the date given on a rain-water head, but there seems to have been an extension eastwards in the early 18th century. By an agreement of 1683 the building was shared between the custom officials of the Board of Custom and Excise and the city custom officials. Originally the Custom House had an open arcade at ground-floor level but this was filled in at some date in the 18th century. The original staircase remains; so, too, do the ceilings of John Abbott.

Near the Custom House stands the pleasant little brick-built Wharfinger's Office built in 1778, and a little down-river, at the far end of the Quay, is a noble range of warehouses built by the city in 1835. One is built in Devonian limestone with a plinth of the local volcanic stone and quoins and window frames of the same stone; and the other is built throughout in volcanic stone. Within twenty years of this piece of civic enterprise,

[1] Hooker, *The Description of the Citie of Excester*, iii, 600–1. The first stone bridge over the Exe had been begun by Nicholas Gervase in the last quarter of the 12th century and was completed by his son Walter. Hooker (*op. cit.*, iii, 602) says that in the time of Nicholas Gervase and his wife 'there was no bridge of stone over the river of Exe, but only certain clappers of timber which served for men to pass over on foot, but in the winter the passage was very dangerous and many people thereby perished and were carried away with the floods and drowned'. The stone bridge is recorded by 1196, but does not seem to have been finished until about 1230–40. Some arches of the original bridge may be seen underneath the present Edmund Street, notably beneath St. Edmund's Church and the City Brewery.

[2] Exeter city records, Act Book of the Chamber (1663–83), *passim.*

[3] *Ibid.*, Accounts of the Key, 1677–82. There is a gap in the accounts from October 1679 to September 1680, but the Receiver's Vouchers indicate that building work was going on throughout most of the year 1680. The builder seems to have been one Luke Falvey, who also did much work for the city on other buildings.

[4] Hoskins, *Exeter in the Seventeenth Century: Tax and Rate Assessments*, 1602–99 (1957), xi.

Exeter's foreign trade was almost killed by the arrival of the railway, and the buildings are now mostly occupied as bonded warehouses.

Friday, 12th July

COMPTON CASTLE. By W. R. Gilbert

The Compton estate passed by marriage from the de Compton family, who had owned it from the 12th century, to the Gilberts in the second quarter of the 14th. It remained in the family till early in the last century but it was re-acquired by Commander Walter Raleigh Gilbert in 1930 and presented by him to the National Trust in 1951.

The castle as it now stands was probably constructed in three stages. The first building consisted of the hall with a solar and possibly a chapel in the west wing, and the kitchen and butteries in the east wing. This stage has been ascribed on the evidence of fragments of window-masonry and of the solar fireplace to the time of Joan, daughter and co-heiress of William de Compton, who married Geoffrey Gilbert in 1329. The second stage took place in the 15th century, possibly during the second half, when the buildings at the west end of the hall were destroyed and replaced by a wing of greater size. It included a withdrawing room, a tower and a chapel; the latter may be of 14th century date and the later features, such as the windows, the piscina and the squints from the withdrawing room added in the 15th century.

The character of the castle was drastically altered during the third building stage in the first part of the 16th century. Compton was converted into a fortified manor house in the face of attacks by the French on the coastal towns of the West Country. A high protective curtain-wall with two portcullis entrances was added, and at the east end of the hall the whole of the service wing was rebuilt. At the northern and southern end of this new wing, and also at the north-west corner of the chapel, angle towers were added, each equipped with machicolations and loopholes. Guest chambers were incorporated in the new east wing.

By the time of the Spanish Armada this fortified manor house had become the centre for the defence of Torbay, and Sir John Gilbert, Admiral of South Devon, marched a thousand men to the Bay, as he himself recorded. Sir John's younger brother was Sir Humphrey Gilbert, who founded the Colony of Newfoundland in 1583; he sailed in the frigate *The Squirrel*, having chosen this name from the Gilbert crest. The crest also appears carved in the spandrels of one of the windows. Sir Walter Raleigh, Sir Humphrey's half-brother, and thirteen years his junior, must have known Compton well. Sir Richard Grenville, hero of the sea fight at Flores, was their cousin, his great grandmother being a daughter of Otho Gilbert of Compton.

Little work seems to have been done to the castle after the 16th century, and eventually the hall became ruinous and was removed. During the last twenty years Commander Gilbert has repaired the whole building, and in particular, has rebuilt the destroyed hall. This work has been carried out as faithfully as possible; evidence existed for the form of the windows and for the construction of the roof, enabling an accurate restoration to be made.

Br. Arch. Ass. J. (1863).
Arch. J., XX, no. 4 (1913), 544–546.
T.D.A., LXXI, 343–5; LXXXVIII, 78–85.
National Trust Guide Book (1952).

PAIGNTON CHURCH. By Peter Eden

The fabric of this church is a patchwork of several periods and the architectural development is by no means clear. There are traces of late 12th and 13th century work of which the re-set west door is the most conspicuous. The walls of the chancel seem to antedate the rest of the structure and may be of this date.

St. John Hope was of the opinion that the transeptal plan-form here exemplified resulted from the loss of a central tower, adducing the obvious rebuilding of the first piers

on each side. Aisled transeptal churches were so often arrived at in this way that the likelihood is strong, although proof is lacking.

The present plan (which closely resembles that at Ashburton) seems to have been reached from the Norman church in two stages, the first being conversion in the early 14th century to the standard aisled nave and western tower type. The second was the later medieval addition of transepts and chancel chapels.

Among the fittings are a 'cadaver' effigy in the south aisle, a stone pulpit, and a 16th century chest.

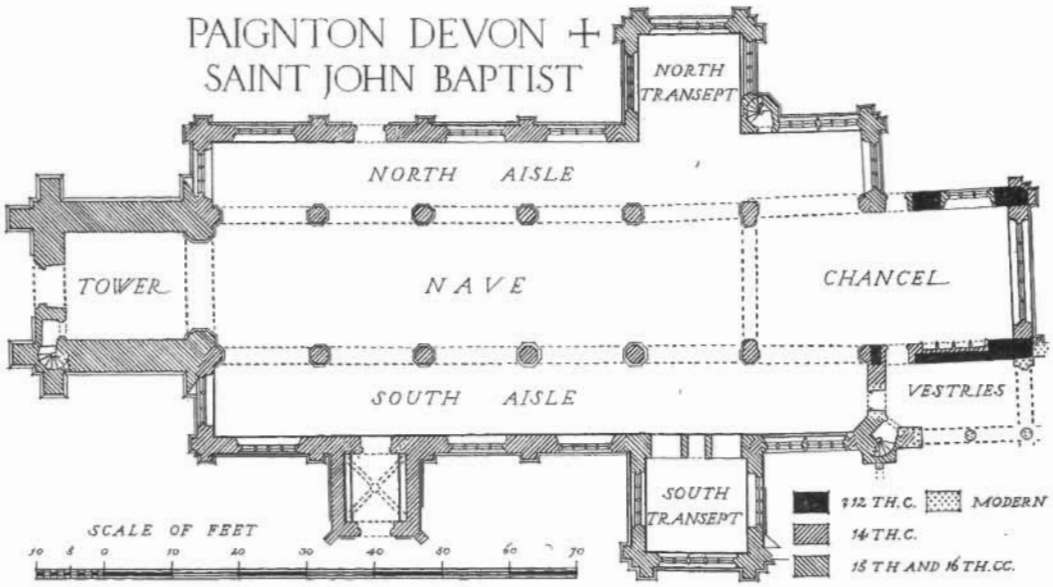


Fig. 15. Paignton church, plan

There are related buildings of substantially medieval date both north and south of the churchyard. Those on the south side comprise much of the enceinte of the episcopal palace, sold by Bishop Veysey about the middle of the 16th century. The medieval annexes to the south of the chancel (dating, in part at least, from the 14th century) are now largely obliterated by modern vestries.

Arch. J., LXX (1913).

The Story of the Parish Church of St. John Baptist, Paignton (British Publishing Co. Ltd., n.d.).

Unpublished MSS. and drawings in the B.M. and Exeter City Libraries.

THE KIRKHAM CHANTRY. BY MARY D. COX

There is no contemporary record of when the elaborate screen, incorporating two tombs under open arches flanking a central doorway, was built. The effigies of the two knights are most closely comparable with that of Sir Otho Gilbert (died before 1492) in Marldon church, which was once a chapelry of Paignton. The screen was probably made by the same workshop as the 16th century chantry chapels of Sir John Speke and Bishop Oldham in Exeter Cathedral, for certain iconographical and structural peculiarities are repeated in both places. The composition of two stone reliefs under the tomb arches, which represent the Mass of St. Gregory and the Holy Kindred, suggest that the carver followed a German or Flemish model, the closest parallels being found in German wooden altar-pieces. The subject of the Holy Kindred, showing St. Anne with her three husbands,

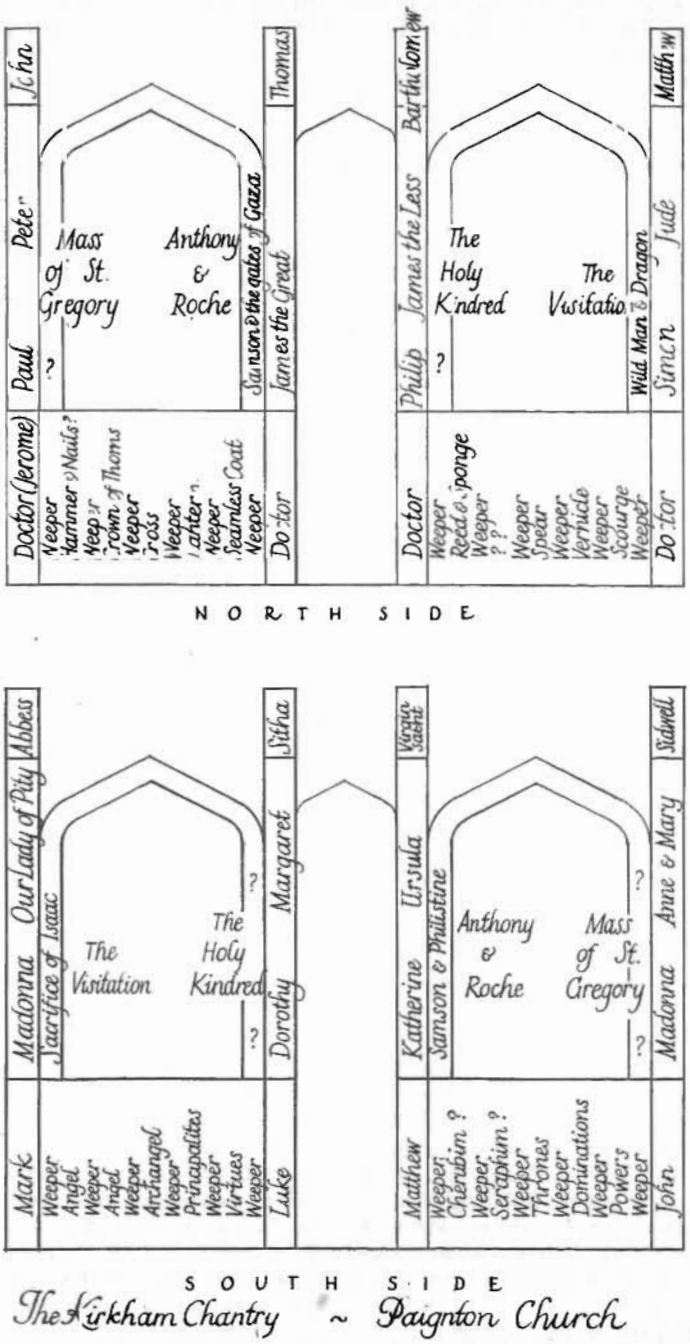


Fig. 16. The Kirkham Chantry, diagram of iconographic scheme

Joachim, Cleophas and Salome, and the Virgin Mary with the Christ Child and St. Joseph, was also more often represented in Germany than in England. The other two reliefs show the Visitation and the figures of SS. Antony and Roch. These subjects are unusual on chantry chapels and may furnish us with the key to the over-all meaning of what is evidently a very complex and carefully chosen scheme of iconography, including Old Testament types, Evangelists, Doctors of the Latin Church, saints and angels. This scheme has been interpreted as illustrating the whole Christian Faith as it was understood in the later Middle Ages, but it can also be argued that it was associated, either as a supplication or a thank-offering, with the birth of a long-awaited heir.

TOTNES. By Cyril Fox

Totnes is one of the four Saxon royal boroughs of Devon: coins were minted here intermittently from King Edgar (959–75) to William Rufus.

Its key position made it a good centre for trade: though far from the coast, it lies at the head of tidal water, on the Dart, and five main roads radiate from it. It replaced Halwell, a few miles further south, probably for these geographical reasons.

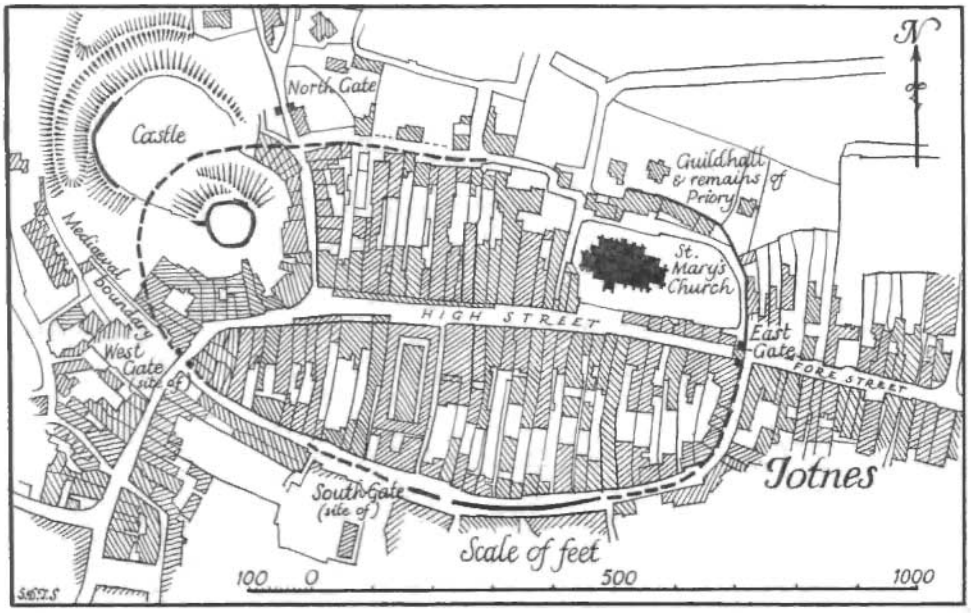


Fig. 17. Map of Totnes

As for its site, a spur 70 to 110 ft. above O.D. and 350 yards from the river determined its position and name—Totta's Ness (P.N. Devon). The 13th century (?) walls on east and south (see fig. 17), and North Street with its two levels, are almost certainly on the line of the Saxon 'stockade', being at points where a gentle slope steepens: they show the *burh* to have been a small oval, measuring 200 by about 350 yds. The intrusion of a Norman motte makes the length in Saxon times uncertain, but the contours suggest that this will have been built wholly within the Saxon alignments: the bailey, then, is likely to be later (see Totnes Castle, below).

The North Gate, a structure of Norman character, represents, I suggest, an extension downhill of the borough boundary, to 'cover' the Castle Gate, which will have been close to the present entry to the bailey.

The borough proper is reached from the river bridge (Charles Fowler, 1828) by Fore Street. Fore Street at its river end was built up in the early 19th century: but as

we approach the modernized East Gate of the borough, and the slope becomes steeper, it is seen to present a series of interesting medieval and later houses on either side.

Within the Gate, on the right, is the well-documented, richly decorated St. Mary's Church, rebuilt 1432–48, the west tower being added in 1449–59: the rood-screen was given by the corporation in 1460. North of the church is the Guildhall, built in 1553 and showing some good detail (e.g., the doorway) of that date and later: Saxon coins of the Totnes mint and other objects of borough interest are on view. The granite columns, outside, come from the Elizabethan Exchange, which occupied the recess in High Street fronting the church, and was pulled down in our own time.

The property divisions of the walled town, shown on the printed map, are interesting. They extend on either side of the High Street to the north and south streets respectively, adjacent to the walls, providing for the owners the possibility of farming, trading, and manufacturing activities behind the rich front of a 'Town house'. It is conceivable that these property divisions date from the lay-out of the Saxon borough: but they are more likely to be medieval.

Provincial street architecture is now widely appreciated, but the literature is inadequate. Nearly all the Totnes examples of interest are in High Street and Fore Street from Station Road to where Castle Street branches off the former. The breadth of the plots they are placed on is of interest. One notable aspect of our map is the number of narrow strips—so many that 20 ft. of frontage may be regarded as standard, the wider ones representing a merging of plots (this merging often does not affect the service ends, as the map shows).

Now 19 ft. is an average overall breadth for yeoman's houses of wood (i.e., medieval) in Monmouthshire, and in many small townships early houses have their gables fronting the road; there are several such surviving in Fore Street and High Street, Totnes[1]. (Medieval townscapes on documents showing the resulting saw-edged pattern of the gables are known.) We have then only to multiply this remarkable survival in the borough to appreciate what the greater part of medieval Totnes looked like.

A few of the larger and later houses (notably no. 70 Fore Street) are planned with a tiny courtyard, others have a mere light-well; this is done, of course, to extend living accommodation beyond the limitations of back-and-front room on a narrow front.

Late medieval wooden houses in Totnes have jettied fronts—as in nos. 52 and 68 Fore Street. Sometimes fireplaces are contemporary and lateral, part of a gable wall which, fronting the street, is handsomely corbelled out in keeping with the wooden framework —this is good Devon practice, seen also in Exeter and Plymouth.

Where a tall house is concerned, as no. 64 nearby, it may be flanked on both sides by such corbelled stonework. This certainly limited the risk of widespread fires, but whether the practice was purposeful, and concerted by authority in Totnes, is not known to the writer. Higher up within the East Gate, on the opposite side of the road, is an earlier house of this character having an extensive frontage. It is doubly jettied: carved brackets of renaissance character and a fine plaster ceiling on the first floor are obviously later work.

In other High Street and Fore Street houses interesting interiors, 16th century and later, survive—panelling, fireplace-surrounds and plaster ceilings. But we are on this occasion necessarily more concerned with elevations.

The High Street feature known as the 'Butterwalk' is a south-facing arcade about 100 yds. in length with upper floors in the plane of the colonnade. The latter is varied in character, mostly with Doric caps, and shafts of granite, about 1800 in date. The earliest pair of columns, octagonal, built of stone, with boldly chamfered caps, is probably of 14th century date. There are isolated arcaded houses on the opposite side of the street, and it seems likely that the whole business centre here was open to development in this manner. Mr. J. T. Smith has suggested that the idea reached west coast ports

[1] I find support for the normality of this narrow frontage in the records of Dartmouth: when the New Quay was built, six plots fronting it, each 18 ft. 9 ins. wide were leased by the Corporation. This was in 1593. P. Russell, *Dartmouth*, p. 97.

from southern France as early as the 13th century. (The well-known Dartmouth Butterwalk was built 1635–40 on lease from the corporation; it is continuous and suggests that the block was a unit[1].)

No. 16 High Street, opposite the church gate, built in 1583, has a loggia, now enclosed. The building owner, Nicholas Ball (whose widow married Thomas Bodley) was fined by the corporation for encroaching on the sidewalk. I suggest, in defence of my thesis, that this meant not that he built his house over the sidewalk—which was expected of him—but that he supported his superstructure by too many and too massive columns.

Bodley's house is notable for its surface ornament, in horizontal bands above ground and first floors flanked by Doric and Ionic pilasters, and in the spandrels of the arched arcade. Most of the second floor (and gable?) ornament is unfortunately destroyed.

The houses numbered 26 and 28 on the same side of the High Street are equally interesting. They show the declining importance of the gable, in the period round about 1700, in a three-storey elevation: and also present two contemporary modes of surface ornament—one with a past, the other with a future.

No. 28 has baroque plasterwork: leafy scrolls on the cove of the cornice and flanking the upper windows: equally prominent are masks on the keystones of the lower windows. No. 26 is classical but crude: Ionic pilasters carrying an appropriately bold cornice. Here, in this busy shopping street, the original window-frames surprisingly survive.

The 18th century slate-hung fronts everywhere, and the early 19th century Gothicry in Fore Street, are worthy of attention. There is also in Fore Street a good red-brick town-house set back from the road: though a late 18th century porch is present it is attached to an early 19th century building. To this period also belongs a good hotel façade, and many other buildings on the Plain; all reflect the contemporary development of river traffic.

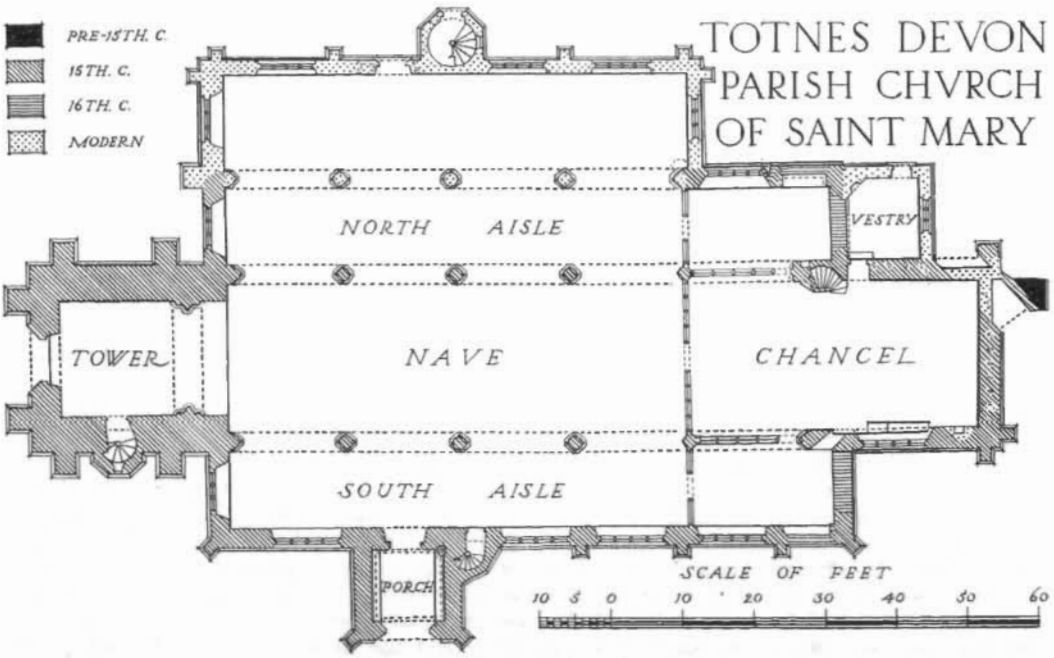


Fig. 18. Totnes church, plan

[1] Inf. Mr. E. N. Masson Phillips.

TOTNES CHURCH. By Peter Eden

A general rebuilding of the parish church of Totnes was begun by the people of the town soon after 1430. The documentary evidence, principally in the form of the rolls of the mayoral court, is more than usually detailed, at least up to 1452; but from that year until 1475 the rolls are missing.

The combined nave and chancel are of six bays, four and two, with the aisles overlapping the western bay of the chancel. There is a fine west tower which was still building in the middle of the century. Part of what is now the outer north aisle was added about 1824 but it did not assume its present form until 1869.

An unusual feature is the processional way under the north-east corner of the chancel, now blocked. It was provided for in an agreement of 1445 between the corporation and the priory of Totnes, the parish church having been conveyed in 1088 by the Conqueror's grantee to the abbey of Angers. The conventual church lay immediately to the north-east and the enlargement of the parish church brought their respective south-west and north-east corners together, necessitating this contrivance.

Among the fittings the painted stone screen, with its returns across the two arches flanking the western bay of the chancel and its staircase, takes pride of place. It is dated, perhaps rather insecurely, to the years 1459–60. The stone pulpit should perhaps also be mentioned.

Arch. J., LXX (1913).
H. W. Watkin, *History of Totnes Priory and Mediaeval Town*, 3 vols. (Torquay, 1914).
C. F. Rea, The Building of Totnes Parish Church (for the agreement about the processional way), *T.D.A.*, LVII (1925).
Unpublished MSS. and drawings in the B.M. and Exeter City Libraries.

TOTNES CASTLE. By Stuart E. Rigold

Most of the old English boroughs were saddled with Norman castles; the size and siting of the huge 'text-book' motte and bailey overlooking the little walled town of Totnes provides a conspicuous example of this practice. It owes its origin to Judhael, a Breton adventurer who acquired Totnes, among other extensive holdings in Devon, for his share in the spoils of the campaign of 1068. The primitive castle had a square wooden tower carried on rough stone foundations built up in the body of the motte, as revealed by recent excavations. The bailey, at present largely unexplored, is bounded by a deep ditch, doubled on the exposed side.

Judhael lost his lands for siding with Robert against William II. At Totnes he was displaced by the de Nonant family, who held the lordship until William de Braose, who claimed to represent the house of Judhael, recovered it by favour of King John, only to lose it soon after in disgrace. His surviving son Reginald regained it under Henry III. The Nonants were accommodated by a compromise which left them half the Honour, not including the castle. Signs were found on top of the motte of an intensive occupation about the time of these disputes, i.e., the beginning of the 13th century.

On recovering Totnes in 1219, Reginald de Braose began extensive buildings, including stone curtain-wall, hall and shell-keep, apparently the first on the site. Little or nothing of this is still visible. When, after passing through two heiresses, it reached the Midland family of Zouche, in 1273, everything was in a shocking state of disrepair, and the defensive parts at least, were completely rebuilt, the work being finished at latest in 1326. The lodgings, if rebuilt, were soon again in disuse, but the Zouches, mindful of the fact that many sub-tenants held by 'guard and service' instituted the policy of continuous attention and good management which has preserved the archaic and severe reconstructed defences (early 14th century, or possibly a trifle earlier) with little alteration to the present day. After the Zouches forfeited the Castle in 1485 this policy was continued by their successors, Edgecomes and Seymours, among whom the late Duke of Somerset placed the castle in the guardianship of the Ministry of Works in 1947.

Small signs of early repairs are visible in the western part of the remarkable parapet and in the garderobe chamber; otherwise the keep, now thoroughly overhauled, is very complete. Of the curtain of the bailey, however, only a portion remains; thin and recent walls complete the circuit.

T.D.A., LXXXVI (1954), 228–56, for account of the recent excavations.

DARTINGTON HALL

The present house is for the most part the work of Richard II's half-brother, John Holland, first Duke of Exeter, and dates between 1385 and 1388. Little research has been published on this very important house since A. Hamilton Thompson described it in 1913. A paper on the house is now being prepared by Mr. Anthony Emery, with new plans, and it together with a description of Bowhill, another property of the Hollands in Exeter, will appear in the forthcoming volume (vol. CXV) of the *Archaeological Journal*.

EXETER: THE DEVON AND EXETER INSTITUTION, THE CLOSE. By C. A. R. Radford

The site now occupied by the Devon and Exeter Institution can be identified with the house occupied by Canon William Browning, who was collated a prebendary of Exeter on 23rd May, 1431 (Register of Edmund Lacy, i, 131). The original house consisted of a block fronting the street and another at the back, separated by an open court. In the 17th century the property was leased to the Courtenays, who added a number of rooms, partly filling the court. In 1813 the house of the Courtenays was acquired by the newly-formed Devon and Exeter Institution for the Promotion of Science, Literature and Art. The added buildings in the medieval courtyard were demolished and the area used to build two large libraries connecting the two blocks.

The medieval house at the back, now the caretaker's residence, retains the medieval roof and other contemporary details (not accessible), together with inserted and reset panelling and plasterwork of the 17th century. The front block was entirely refitted after 1813 and, with the libraries, remains an excellent example of functional Regency planning and decoration.

E. Lega Weekes, Topography of the Cathedral Close, *Devon and Cornwall Notes and Queries*, VII, pt. ii, 174–7.

Saturday, 13th July

EXETER: THE ROMAN CITY. By Aileen Fox

Exeter in Roman times was *Isca Dumnoniorum*, the cantonal town of the Dumnonii, the Iron Age confederacy of Celtic peoples occupying the south-western peninsula. The existence of many Greek and Ptolemaic coins as well as a few other Mediterranean imports suggests that there may have been a riverside trading post here in pre-conquest times, but there is nothing to indicate a native Iron Age settlement. The site, on the end of a spur leading down to the River Exe at the former head of tidal water, was not central to Dumnonian territory, but was in a well-populated district as shown by the many native hill-forts (see Hembury, p. 144). It was presumably related to the limits of early military penetration beyond the Fosseway, now attested by the Wiveliscombe fort in west Somerset and by pre-Flavian finds from Topsham which suggest a naval post on the Exe estuary.

Excavation (1945–47) has shown, however, that the earliest occupation at Exeter was civil, starting *c.* A.D. 50–55 in the governorship of Ostorius Scapula. It began as an open settlement, a straggle of wooden buildings on a main road, here leading to the first practical crossing of the Exe beyond the later West Gate. The structures discovered include rectangular timber-framed houses and workshops which preserve native elements in their internal plan but show the influence of Roman example in the regularity of their timberwork and the use of tile for roofing. A high proportion (20%) of all the 1st and

2nd century coins recorded are Claudian, and attest to the prosperity of the growing township in the pre-Flavian epoch: unlike the cities of the south-east, it was unaffected by the Boudiccan rebellion of A.D. 61. A closed find in Fore Street (1953) of glass and pottery testifies to the importation of luxury goods at this period.

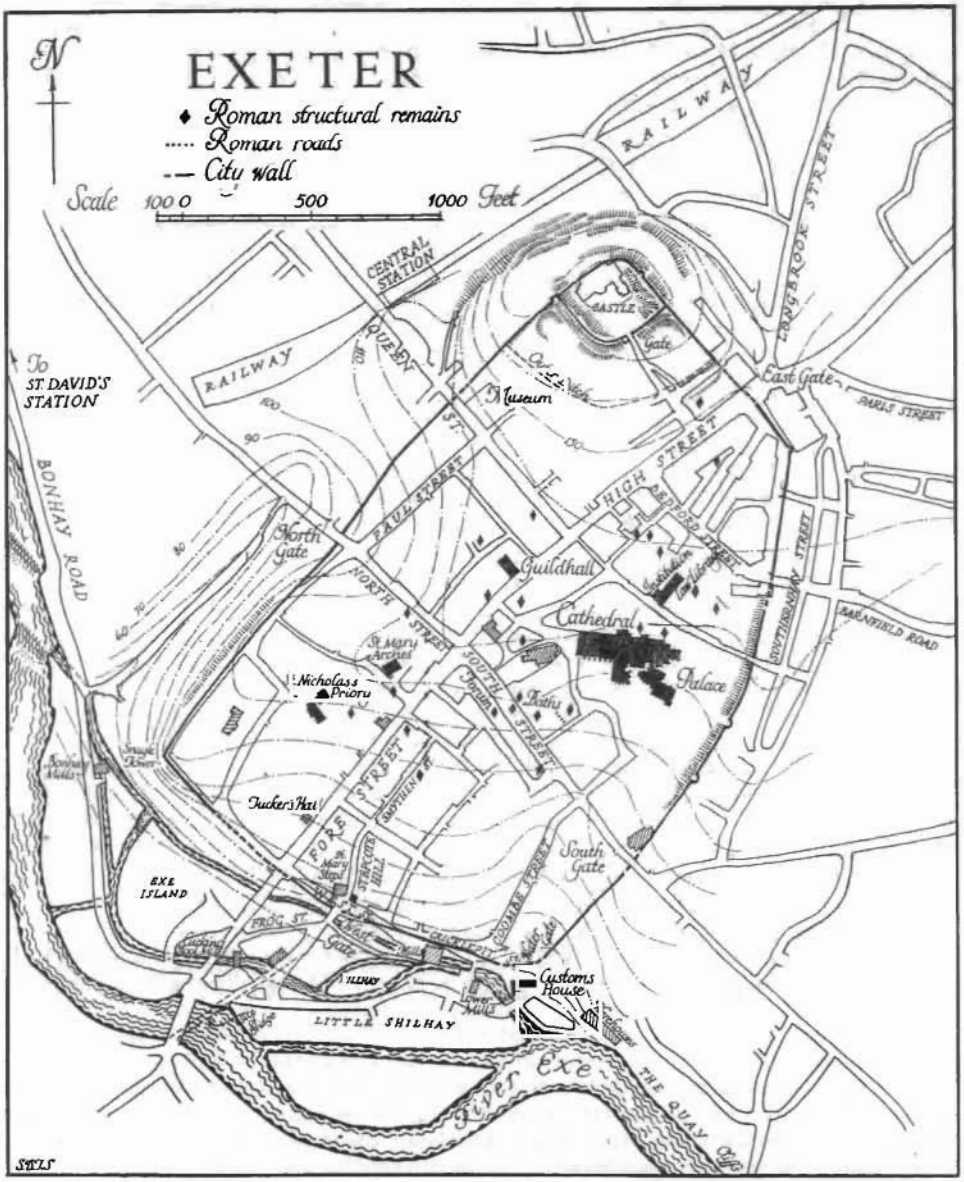


Fig. 19. Plan of Exeter showing Roman and Medieval features

(Based on information kindly supplied by the City Engineer and Surveyor, Exeter, March, 1957)

The second phase in Isca's development occurred *c.* A.D. 80, reflecting the governor Agricola's policy of encouraging urban improvements. The wooden buildings in the

city centre were dismantled, the street plan altered, the site levelled and public buildings in stone and concrete begun. Of these, remains of the public baths have been identified in the neighbourhood of the Deanery; the side of a large plunge bath, 52 ft. long and 4 ft. deep, and a surrounding colonnade (1931); walls and foundations of two periods, parts of a portico (1946); and massive concrete sub-structures extending midway across the present South Street, which seem to represent a levelling of the sloping site (1953 and 1955). Remains of several tessellated pavements were also recorded in 1831–35. The water from the baths was carried away in a large stone-built conduit with a tile floor, beside a gravel road on the east side of the building (Bear Street, 1953).

The forum apparently adjoined the baths; its open court, an area exceeding 100 by 150 ft. levelled with gravel and surfaced with cobbles, and the foundations of an ambulatory were identified in 1946 between South Street and Milk Street.

Remains of private buildings are scrappy and indeterminate: eight tessellated floors have been recorded, probably all in private houses; one is preserved in the police station, Waterbeer Street. In Catherine Street (1947) a fragment of a simple geometric design in coarse tesserae was dated to the 2nd or early 3rd century. Remains possibly of a temple were found in Broadgate, the Close, in 1911, and bronze statuettes of Mercury, Ceres and Mars on an adjoining site in 1778. No inscription has been found in Exeter.

The Roman street grid remains uncertain: the main east-west road down the spur was interrupted at the forum; Market Street indicates its probable alignment down the hill to the river. Portions of north-south cross-roads have been found in Abbot's Lodge, the Close (1946) and Bear Street (1953); the latter is continued in the medieval North Street. Neither South Street nor Catherine Street are Roman in origin as generally asserted, because Roman structures have now been found beneath them.

The city defences date from the later 2nd century. A rampart over 21 ft. wide and 5 ft. high, topped with trampled clay, and a ditch were constructed probably *c.* 150 A.D., and then a stone wall, 9–10 ft. wide and at least 20 ft. high added and the rampart heightened, *c.* A.D. 200. Exeter thus falls into line with the sequence now established for many other Roman towns in Britain. The area enclosed was 92·6 acres and included a small combe (Combe Street) and much sloping ground in the lower half of the city. On the west the walls were aligned on the river, on the north they were set on the edge of the steep scarp of the Longbrook valley (now the railway) rounding the natural bastion of Rougemont (the Castle) to cross the neck of the spur where the main roads converged at the East Gate. None of the Roman gates have survived, but were almost certainly on the sites of their medieval successors which were demolished in the early 19th century.

The building stone used throughout was Trap, a dark purplish volcanic stone quarried from Rougemont. The foundations and core of the wall were of rubble, pitched herring-bone fashion and loosely grouted with coarse gravelly mortar; this is visible in Rougemont gardens and in Post Office Street, where the rampart has been removed from the back of the wall. The facing consisted of coursed ashlar of varying size above a chamfered plinth; 21 courses can be seen in Southernhay car park. There is some evidence that the wall has been heightened at a reduced width in Post Office Street: eight courses of small Trap blocks, the three uppermost offset, can be seen at the back, below the medieval wall-walk; these are plainly an addition above the top of the Roman bank. The use of Trap solely is compatible with a late Roman date, but a Saxon date is also possible, for William of Malmesbury states that King Athelstan fortified Exeter with towers and a wall of squared stone (*opus quadratus*). Medieval repairs and underpinning use veined Poccombe stone, white Beer stone and red Heavitree conglomerate; the bastions on the landward side can thus be recognized from their material as medieval additions.

Very little is known of the Roman city in the later empire; coins indicate prosperity in the Constantinian era and a Christian community may be inferred from a Chi-Rho symbol inscribed on a cooking pot. By A.D. 380 the forum was in decay, and probably abandoned: the coin series ceased with Magnus Maximus (A.D. 383–88). Although it

is inherently probable that the city, far from any known Pagan Saxon penetration, continued to be inhabited during the Dark Ages, archaeological evidence is lacking till Late Saxon times.

Aileen Fox, *Roman Exeter*, excavations, 1945–47, and summary of discoveries before 1942 (by R. G. Goodchild). History of Exeter Research Group Monographs, 1952.
P.D.A.E.S., IV, 106, Fore Street (1952); IV, 111, Deanery (1951); V, 30, Bear Street (1953).
T.D.A., LXXXIII, 40, Catherine Street (1950).
Ibid., LXXXVIII, 219, Chapel Street and South Street (1955).
R. Goodchild and J. G. Milne, *Num. Chron.*, XVII, 130 for Greek coins.

EXETER: THE CORNER SHOP, FROG STREET. By Cyril Fox

This is the earliest of three medieval wooden houses, near the destroyed West Gate of Exeter: it is without the Gate, at the entry to Frog Street; the others are within, at the foot of Stepcote Hill. It is the subject of a Preservation Order.

The 'Shop' is doubly jettied, on first and second floors: being at a corner it is of the widespread 'dragon-beam' construction, the main beam of each upper floor bisecting part of the building diagonally and forming, with the aid of the (shortest) ceiling beam on either side, the principal unit of support of each projection—dramatically demonstrated by the splay of the heavy chamfered curved triple bracket below, part of the corner pier. The compound bases of these piers (the lower is partly hidden) are roughly moulded. Their effect is heightened by the use of curved struts in the wooden wall adjacent: the artistic excellence of this familiar design is too seldom stressed. The ends of other ceiling beams project on either side of the corner-complex in the usual manner.

The security of the structure depended in part on a massive stone chimney stack at the end of the Frog Street elevation: this was corbelled out in line with the framed work, but has now been partly cut back.

That the ground floor was a shop is shown by the character of the Frog Street frontage, 15 ft. in length. This consisted of two broad openings, and a narrow chamfered window-frame, separated by massive piers with splayed brackets supporting the beam on which the first-floor joists rest. The openings have plain surfaces, smoothly finished on each side: at night shutters were no doubt slid into position at the back.

There are three traceried windows upstairs, the main lights being surmounted by a cusped ogee-arched head of Decorated character; one, it is certain, belongs to the house and dates it; the writer was present when it was uncovered. The whole front had been plastered and re-windowed in the early 19th century. Such window types, in Exeter, seem to have been used down to *c.* 1500.

EXETER: THE PRIORY OF ST. NICHOLAS. By Lorna Needham (Curator).

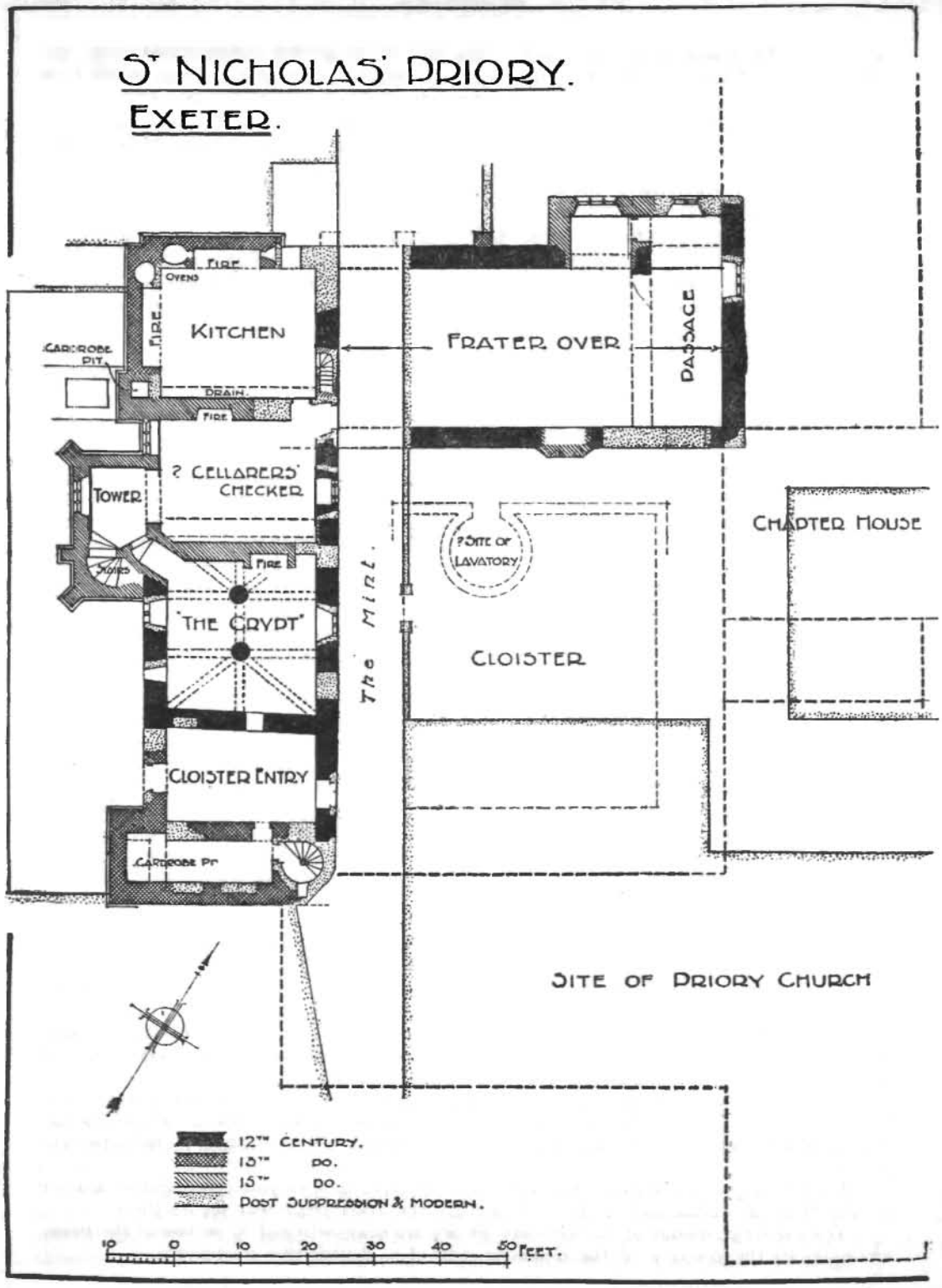
St. Nicholas' Priory, Exeter, was founded by William I in 1080 as a cell of Battle Abbey. At the Dissolution, the church and the eastern range were destroyed.

The guest house was granted to Sir Thomas Denis and still shows much of its Tudor characteristics. Eventually it became tenement dwellings and was in that state in 1913 when purchased and restored by the Exeter Corporation.

It comprises the 11th century crypt, kitchen and Tudor entrance on the ground floor. On the first floor there is the guest hall with its fine screen, dormitories and Prior's rooms. The Refectory, which in this case stood on the north side of the cloisters, is still in private hands.

Built chiefly of local stone, the building is situated in a narrow thoroughfare known as The Mint, as at the end of the 17th century the assay office was set up there.

The existing remains of St. Nicholas' Priory are acknowledged to be one of the finest examples in the country of the domestic side of a Benedictine monastery.



PLAN measured and plotted by HAROLD BRAKSPEAR and LEWIS F. TONAR.

Fig. 20. The Priory of St. Nicholas

(Plan by Harold Breakspear and Lewis F. Tonar; block kindly lent by the Exeter City Council)

EXETER: THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY ARCHES. By Ursula M. Radford

St. Mary Arches is first mentioned as a parish church in the early 13th century. In 1646 it was one of the four churches in the city retained for public worship. The roof was destroyed by incendiary bombs in 1942. The interior has been well restored, but the refacing of much of the outside has destroyed the evidence for its structural history; only the east end is now available for inspection.

The east end, where the quoins of the nave are continued down to ground level, shows that the original building consisted of an aisleless nave and a rather narrower chancel. The masonry has been much refaced, but shows no pre-Conquest features; it must be attributed to a date *c.* 1100. The church of this date probably extended as far west as the existing nave, but there is now no visible evidence of this end of the early building. The aisles were added in the late 12th century. The arcades in four bays, with round columns, reeded capitals and round-headed arches of two chamfered orders, give the church its name.

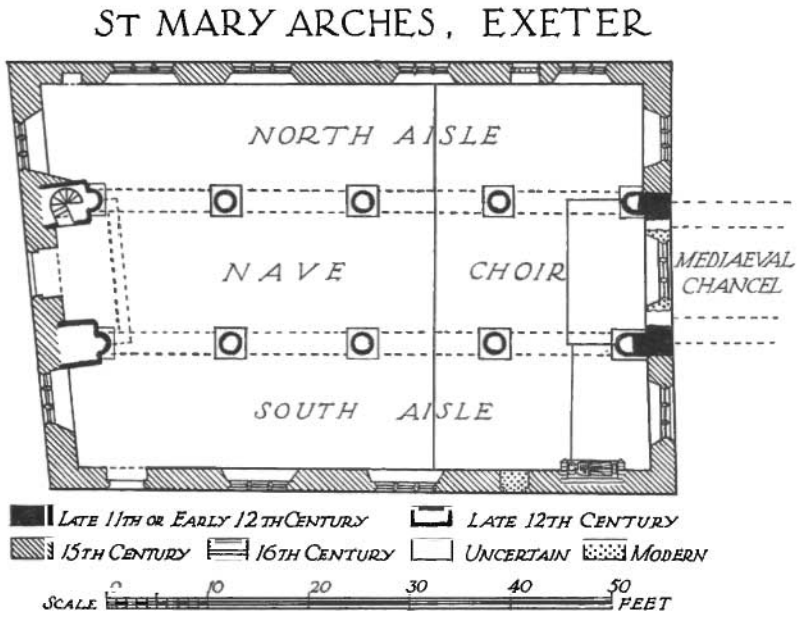


Fig. 21. St. Mary Arches, plan

The 12th century aisles were presumably narrower than at present. The existing aisles date from the 15th century. The masonry is entirely of that date, employing a large amount of local brescia. At the east end the new work is carried down to ground level and butted against the older nave, entirely obliterating all trace of the earlier aisles. The windows and the south and west doors are a part of the 15th century extension, though much of the detail has been modernized. There were also small doors, now blocked, near the east ends of the side walls.

The west tower also dates from the 15th century, but the broad solid abutments at the ends of the 12th century arcades suggest that there may have been an earlier tower, perhaps extending further west than at present. The alignment of the west front, running obliquely to the axis of the building, is determined by an older street line; the position of the 12th century abutments shows that this line was already in existence, but the street was clearly widened in the 15th century, so that the tower, though narrow, projects into the first bay of the nave; the east wall is carried on a moulded arch near the roof.

The loss of the chancel probably dates from the 17th century, when a fine classical reredos, destroyed in 1942, was inserted. The window above the altar dates from 1880.

At the east end of the south wall a good monument to Thomas Andrew (ob. 1518) is inserted in a niche. He was mayor of Exeter in 1505 and again in 1510. His effigy lies under an ogive arch. The church also contains a fine series of monuments, many of them to mayors of the 16th and 17th centuries.

B. F. Cresswell, *Exeter Churches*, 91–110 (*Devon and Cornwall Notes and Queries*, v, pt. 2).