

AN ACCOUNT OF THE BUILDINGS OF NEWARK PRIORY

WITH A NOTE ON ITS FOUNDERS' FAMILY

BY

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THE proposal to excavate the site of Newark Priory originated with the Surrey Archæological Society which was good enough to make a sufficient grant from its small excavation fund to enable me to start operations in May 1928.

The remaining funds were collected partly by myself, but chiefly by Mr. Mill Stephenson, F.S.A., without whose skilful financial management the project could not have been carried through. Both he and Mr. A. W. Clapham, F.S.A., frequently visited the site, and their advice and suggestions as to the work were invaluable to me. During the whole six months of the work I had the advantage of an excellent and enthusiastic foreman, George Sale, and the assistance of Mr. R. N. Bloxam, who took charge when I had to be absent. I am also indebted to Mr. Bloxam for many of the photographs reproduced, and to Mr. E. C. Preston for the final form of the two plans.

Newark Priory stood among the water meadows on the edge of the parish of Send and Ripley, and near the boundary between it and Pyrford. No indications have been found of any building upon the spot earlier than that of which the remains still stand, and the Priory is no doubt the "new place" which Ruald de Calna intended should be built upon the spot till then called Aldebury. The house was dissolved on 15 January, 1539, Sir Anthony Browne being put in as farmer for the Crown.

The accounts of the Augmentation Office show that he was renting the site of the late monastery along with the demesne lands in 1540-41, and it is probable that such parts of the

buildings as could easily be demolished were at once pulled down for the sake of the lead, fashioned stone, etc.

Sir Anthony had a grant of the manor of Ripley and of all the late Priory's possessions in the parish in July 1544: but neither he nor his descendants ever lived upon this property, and there is no reason for thinking that the site of the Priory was ever again used as a permanent dwelling-place. After the initial stripping of the buildings they were not at any one time systematically destroyed, but were pulled down and dug up for road and building material in haphazard fashion as occasion arose. According to Grose they were only saved from complete disappearance by the intervention of Speaker Onslow, who died in 1768.

Remains of Church.

The Church was built throughout of flint rubble with Reigate stone dressings and the following portions remain above ground:—

1. The three bays of the presbytery on the north side, and the middle and western bays on the south side. There are indications of the eastern return wall at the north-east angle.
2. The three bays of the choir on the south side, and the lower portions of two bays on the north side.
3. The south transept, complete as to its walls, and the southern wall of one of two chapels leading eastward from it. On the outer faces of the east wall of this transept and of the south wall of the presbytery there are indications which enable one to reconstruct both these chapels.
4. The lower part of three walls belonging to one of two corresponding chapels leading from the east of the north transept. Here again on the outer face of the north wall of the presbytery are indications enabling us to reconstruct the other chapel.
5. Part of the south wall of the barrel-vaulted passage between the south transept and the chapter house, leading from the cloister walk to the cemetery.
6. A portion of the outer wall of the south aisle of the nave lying upon its side.



NEWARK PRIORY AND EXCAVATIONS. FROM THE AIR—JULY, 1928
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S. walls of eastern arm, showing spring of choir arch.



S. wall of S. transept, showing marks of gable of eastern claustral range.



W. wall of S. transept and S. side of retro-choir, showing marks of S. aisle roof.

Presbytery.

The three bays of the presbytery, which was 42 feet long by 25 feet wide, each contained a single lancet, the enclosing arches of which were of three orders. The presbytery was vaulted, and remains can be seen on the north side of the caps of the vaulting shafts of the eastern bay.

There is a simple chamfered plinth mould round the inner face of the presbytery walls. The middle bay on the north side contains a ragged hole leading through into the adjoining chapel. Over it are portions of a segmental arch, underneath which are traces of painting in imitation of vaulting. Mr. Rowland Paul thinks this was not a doorway, but that a tomb stood here.

On the opposite side of the presbytery rough gaps remain where the canopies of the sedilia were torn from the wall. The division between presbytery and choir was marked by an arch spanning the Church, but there does not appear to have been any change in floor level at this point. Immediately east of this arch doors lead to the chapels on either side. That on the south has tufa incorporated in its arching.

Choir.

This was vaulted like the presbytery, the shafts having been carried on corbels set above the stalls.

The two eastern bays are divided from the transepts by stone screen walls about ten feet high. Above on either side are two arches of two orders.

The southern of these two walls—and obviously the northern one as well—was carried westward for one bay into the western arm of the Church. Through it a door is pierced opposite the site of the eastern processional door from the south aisle to the cloisters. Above but slightly to the east of this doorway is an arch opening to the aisle. Over this again is a lancet clearstory window. A pulpitum crossed the western end of the choir beneath the arch dividing it from the nave, for there are traces of the southern of the two doorways which probably flanked a nave altar set against the pulpitum. For ritual purposes the western bay of the choir was doubtless shut off from the other two by a screen, against which the stalls would have been returned facing eastwards. The space

between screen and pulpitum would thus form a small retro-choir.

It is noteworthy that the choir projected structurally into the western arm. This is no case of the easternmost bay of the nave being cut off to form a retrochoir. The western bay of the choir was vaulted like the other two, and though the nave aisles extended one bay further eastward than the nave itself, there are indications suggesting that they, too, may have been shut off in line with the pulpitum. The choir was 42 feet long with a mean width of 25 feet 9 inches.

The writer of the architectural description in the *V.C.H. of Surrey* sees in the lay-out at Newark evidence of an older building set at a slightly different axis, represented by the choir and nave of the existing church. He suggests that the present choir represents the presbytery, and possibly the choir also, of a simple twelfth-century church—all else being thirteenth-century enlargements.

Such detailed work as exists gives little ground for such differentiation, being all of it consonant with the same early thirteenth-century date. In order to test the degree of importance to be attached to the supposed alteration in axis, Mr. Clapham has made a careful survey of what remains above ground.

It was found that the difference in orientation between presbytery and choir, so markedly shown on the *V.C.H.* plan, is in reality very trifling, though there is indeed a slight change in axis. The quadrilateral formed by drawing lines from the two eastern angles of the presbytery to the two western angles of the choir—ignoring the direction of the choir walls—is found to have an all but consistent mean line. But whereas the presbytery has a width at either end of 25 feet, and the choir a western width of 25 feet 6 inches, the latter has an eastern width of almost 26 feet. The choir walls thus splay out as they approach the presbytery. But it is only when either of them is regarded in conjunction with the adjacent presbytery wall that the eye receives the impression of a marked divergence in axis. The mean line of presbytery and choir as a whole is affected only to the small extent that the increased width of the eastern end of the choir is disposed unevenly on either side at the point of junction

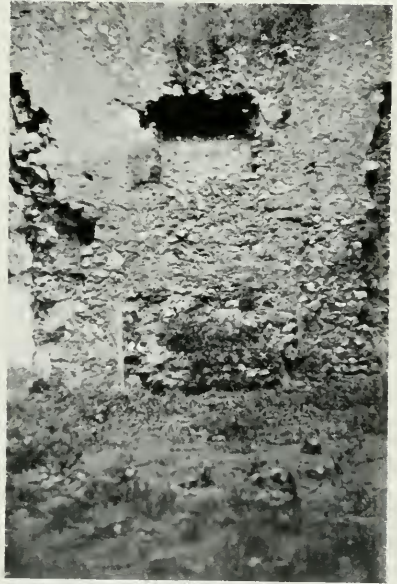


N. wall of presbytery—in foreground spring of arch of southernmost door through pulpitum.



N.E. angle of presbytery, showing traces of reredos (?)

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Remains of altar and recess in S. transept.



S. wall of presbytery and E. wall of S. transept, with indications of side chapels.



Straight joint in E. end of screen wall N. side of choir.



S. aisle foundations, looking east.

with the presbytery. The fault thus lies with the alignment of the screen walls between choir and transepts rather than with the general lay-out of the choir.

The clue to this bad alignment is provided by the straight jointing of the quoins in the north-east angle of the south transept.

This straight joint is shown in the *V.C.H.* plan as running right through to the other side of the wall. Mr. Rowland Paul in his plan published in the *Builder* of 26th November, 1898, noted that the corresponding straight joint on the other side of the wall was approximately 2 feet to the west, and concluded—correctly as subsequent examination proved—that these two were connected by a third and intermediate straight joint buried in the wall. It remained, however, for Mr. Clapham to draw the conclusion that these three straight joints, disposed in steps, represented the three orders of an arch which had been originally intended to open from the choir to the transept. There are similarly disposed straight joints at the south-east angle of the north transept denoting a corresponding arrangement on that side also. On the south the straight jointing ceases just before the top of the screen wall is reached, the work above being of one core.

It seems therefore that when both choir and transepts were no more than 10 feet above ground the plan was changed. Instead of an open crossing between presbytery and choir, it was decided to shut off the transepts and to advance the choir eastwards. This was done by filling in the intended openings with screen walls built, at their eastern ends, flush with the seating of the three orders of the arches originally designed to open to the transepts rather than aligned to the presbytery walls. The western end of the choir can at that time have had little more than its footings in position, for there is no straight joint at the north-west angle of the south transept to indicate that work had been started on that side of the arch.

Excavations were subsequently made along each side of the screen walls, and they confirm the above conclusions. The middle of each wall is found for about two-thirds of its length to rest upon an independently constructed foundation, butted up at either end against massive footings 5 to 6 feet long and almost as wide, which project towards the centre of

each arch from beneath the positions whence the arches would have been carried. The strength of these footings leads one to surmise that it may have been intended that the arches when completed should carry a central tower, which would have had an internal measurement of 26 feet square.

The Church as originally planned would in that case have been divided into an eastern arm of 42 feet containing the presbytery, a crossing of 34 feet, and a western arm containing both choir and nave. Actually as completed it consisted of a presbytery and choir which with their cross arches measured 92 feet, and a nave of 96 feet. The interior breadth of the cross-arm was 94 feet.

The Transepts.

The south transept measures 30 feet by $25\frac{1}{2}$ feet, and was lit by three lancet windows in its east and west walls. It had a wooden roof borne on eight corbels, two of which remain in the southern angles. A loft above was lit by a lancet in the southern gable end. In its east wall are pointed arches leading to the two chapels and between the arches are the remains of an altar with a recess 2 feet 6 inches square about it. This is now largely filled in with modern flint work put in when the ruins were strengthened in 1921. In 1898 Mr. Paul measured this altar as 5 feet long and over 3 feet high, and saw traces of brackets with a very delicate moulding, or perhaps corbels, on either side of the recess. At the western end of the south wall of this transept a ragged hole represents the entrance from the dorter, the descent from which must have been by a wooden night stair.

The foundations of the west and north walls of the north transept were excavated and showed that it did not differ materially in size from the south transept. It is not, however, in alignment with it, being set some 18 inches further to the east. The chapels from this transept are similarly out of alignment with their fellows on the south.

There appears to have been a clasping buttress round the north-west angle of this transept, a smaller buttress midway along its northern wall, and a broad flat buttress at its north-east angle. From the clasping buttress a wall foundation was traced towards the river for some 20 feet. Nothing led from

it, and it presumably bore a wall bounding the Canons' cemetery.

The Chapels.

The chapels on the south side measured 27 feet by 10 feet and 12 feet by 11 feet respectively. The inner one had an almost semi-circular barrel vault, and was covered by a lean-to roof, the pitch of which has clearly at some time or other been altered. It had been divided into two bays. The smaller chapel had a slightly pointed barrel vault, springing from a string course, and covered by a gable roof which cut across the lower part of the transept lancet overhead; above the barrel vault and beneath the roof is a small window from the transept. There are the remains of a piscina on the south side.

These two chapels, though side by side, did not share a common wall. There was an open space of three feet between the south wall of the long chapel and the north wall of the small chapel. The outer face of the transept's eastern wall bears the toothings of each of these walls, and between them, about 18 inches from the ground, there remains a projecting drip-stone.

The chapels on the north side measured $26\frac{1}{2}$ feet by 10 feet and $11\frac{1}{2}$ feet by 10 feet respectively. They were clearly of the same plan as the southern chapels.

Nave.

The exact length of the nave was for some time in doubt—the rubbish found on the site of the west end being very indeterminate. But the one good piece of foundation uncovered had a face from which a measurement of 96 feet to the pulpitum was established. On the assumption that the bays of the nave arcade had a span similar to that of the most western bay of the choir—that is 12 feet—there would have been six bays to the nave. This assumption was strengthened by the discovery of a lump of rubble foundation $2\frac{3}{4}$ feet below ground in the line of the north arcade at a point corresponding with the supposed position of the second pier from the west end. Trenches were dug along the whole length of both arcades to a depth of $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet, but every vestige of foundation had been removed. Thin

mortar dust was all that remained in the sand, save for the lump just mentioned and a length of good rubble foundation at the west end of the south arcade trench. This was not exactly in position, but had been turned over northward on to its side.

Aisles.

The south aisle had a walk 10 feet wide. Against the transept wall can be seen the weatherings of its lean-to roof, which cut across the lower part of the innermost western lancet of this transept. The remaining length of south aisle wall, now fallen on to its side, shows a clean mortared surface where it has parted from its foundations, and these were found to be no more than quite shallow mortared pudding-stone. Further to the west the foundations were found at about 18 inches below ground and extending to a depth of about 2 feet 6 inches. They were of the same character, though mortared flint was now usually found above the pudding-stone. Against the line of the south aisle wall at the point where the western cloister wall joins it, there was found near ground level a block of very hard rubble masonry 6 feet by 5 feet and as deep. Just east of this block, in the angle of the two walls, was found the only paving obviously still in position—a triangular fragment with sides about 4 feet long and composed of orange and dark green tiles set roughly diamondwise.

A little westward from the block of masonry, the flint or pudding-stone foundation ended abruptly, and after a gap of two feet, filled only with sand, there began a fresh type of foundation of much disintegrated Reigate stone based on pudding-stone. This new foundation lay at a slightly greater depth below ground level, and extended for a depth of four feet into the ground. As it ran westward it tilted deeper into the ground, but it ended just before the south-west angle which, like almost all angles, had been carefully cleared out.

The north aisle wall foundations were disclosed in excellent condition only one foot below ground level, and they continued throughout its whole length but for its north-east and north-west angles. They extended three feet into the ground, and consisted of mortared flint and pudding-stone

in layers of about 9 inches each, and were of a width of $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{3}{4}$ feet.

In uncovering this length of foundation two graves were disturbed in the two most western bays of the north aisle. The westernmost, which had been much disturbed, contained portions of three skeletons one above the other. Two appeared to be facing to the west. The third faced east, was more complete, and was in excellent preservation. Small pieces of Sussex marble and a quantity of bits of plaster were found in and around this grave.

In the more eastern of the two bays was found a lead coffin with two of the four seals upon it intact, though the lid itself had sunk under the weight of soil and broken. It contained the remains of a skeleton which was considered to be that of an elderly woman.

Cloisters.

The cloisters were neither strictly equal-sided nor rectangular, owing to the south aisle not being at right angles to the western wall of the south transept from which the eastern claustral range takes its direction. Roughly speaking, the claustral buildings enclose a square of 86 feet. Within this space were found the foundations, only one foot deep, of a breast wall. Projecting from it into the cloister garth at slightly irregular intervals were the footings of buttresses. These were of flint on pudding-stone and extended some 2 feet into the ground. The cloister walk, which was 10 feet wide, was therefore presumably vaulted. Sussex marble shafts and volutes of capitals, together with a piece of a square base with spur, were found here. There is an appreciable slope from the dry knoll on which the Church stands to the position of the southern claustral range. The buttress footings were considerably nearer the surface in the south-west angle than in the north-west angle. At the northern end of both eastern and western walks it seems that in order to maintain an even gradient the walk was sunk below ordinary ground level. Steps therefore would be necessary to connect the two processional doors from the Church with the cloister level, and the piece of paving previously mentioned may have formed part of the platform of such a step.

Passage.

To the south of the south transept there remains a piece of wall above ground forming part of the southern wall of a passage between the transept and the chapter house. At its east end this wall forms the south-east angle of the passage, and the north-east angle of the chapter house.

This passage is $40\frac{1}{2}$ feet long by $12\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, and was covered by a low barrel vault the springing of which can be seen on the outer wall of the transept. Mr. Paul saw a recess in the north-east angle, but there is now little more than a slight depression in the masonry.

Above the western end of it must have run the passage from the dorter to the night stair. Over the rest would appear to have been another long narrow room, also with a vaulted roof from the evidence of springing on the outer transept wall. Above this again on the same wall can be seen the marks of the gable of the eastern range, between which and the vaulting of the upper passage there was evidently a considerable loft. There was no direct means of access from the Church to the lower passage and it may have been solely the approach to the Canons' cemetery. The treasury, or perhaps even the sacristy for which no obvious place exists, may have been in the upper passage room—approach being only by the night stair.

No excavations were made in any part of this passage room, but from it to the day stair the western wall of the eastern range was found to have its lower foundation intact—pudding-stone at a depth of $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet below present ground level. Thereafter only rubbish remains.

Chapter House.

This proved to be $40\frac{1}{2}$ feet long by 22 feet wide. Except for the piece of wall standing above ground, and the massive flint foundation of a buttress outside its south-east angle, the eastern end was traced only by the rubbish left after the flint had been dug out. Upon the remaining piece of wall are indications of the vaulting which suggest a height of roof considerably above the level of the passage from dorter to night stair which must have run over the western end of the chapter house. A solution is provided by supposing an antechamber with a lower roof level than the rest of the chapter house, though the length



Reigate stone base with mark of circular pillar in
dorter sub-vault.



N. aisle foundations, looking east.



Masoned coffin in middle of chapter
house.



Paving between oven bases in kitchen. Raised tile hearth to right.



Reredorter, looking east.



Tile hearth and Reigate stone block in Cellarer's range.

of the room is not such as to suggest this subdivision. The whole floor space was dug across from north to south at intervals of 5 feet. Nothing but clear sand was met with, save for one coffin of masoned flint and chalk, 7 feet by 3 feet externally. The interior length, including head cavity, is 5 feet 8 inches, and its width at the shoulders 1 foot 7 inches, and at the feet 1 foot 3 inches. It contained a skeleton in poor preservation and without a skull. Its depth in the ground is such that its lid, now missing, if of a thickness comparable with the rest, would have been flush with the floor level. The coffin lid now lying in the south transept could have covered this coffin, which presumably is that of an early prior.

In the cloister walk immediately outside this room six interments without coffins were found.

Stairs.

A solid block of flint mortared together and set on pudding-stone adjoins the chapter house on the south and extends the whole width of the eastern range. It is 9 feet broad and is conjectured to be the foundation of the day stairs.

Passage Room.

South of the stairs a room 19 feet by 20 feet was traced. Only its southern wall, which was continued eastward as part of the infirmary passage, had foundations remaining. The whole floor space was dug over, but only miscellaneous articles found.

Dorter Sub-vault.

This again had no hard foundations left, and was traceable only by its rubbish. It was 43 feet long by 20 feet wide. The whole space was covered deep in demolition rubbish, amid which there were found in position down the middle of the room at irregular intervals of from 5 to 9 feet, three Reigate stone bases, and the flint footing of a fourth. These bases were each roughly a foot square and from $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches to 6 inches high. They were chamfered off from half their height to a square of about 9 inches.

One had the markings of a circular pillar upon it—probably

of wood. The pillars standing on these bases clearly bore the floor of the dorter.

The flooring could not be distinguished from the rubbish superimposed on it, but three or four tiles of the same geometrical pattern were found here.

Reredorter.

South of the dorter sub-vault there is the rubbish of a wall some 6 feet wide, which must have to do with the connection between dorter and reredorter. The latter itself seems to have been 8 feet across and of no greater length than the width of the eastern range. The drain is here hardly 4 feet across and has a clay bottom bounded by a timber framing with cross-stays at intervals, upon which rested on the south side a course of squared Reigate stones, and on the north side pudding-stone.

From the course on the north side, slabs of pudding-stone were found projecting one beyond the other over the drain, in such a way as to suggest that the sides of the drain roughly curved towards each other. The whole reredorter was completely filled with masses of broken tiles, oyster shells and animal bones. No trace of any continuation of the reredorter to east or west was found.

Southern Range.

The inner wall of this range has tolerable foundations from the west end as far as the eastern end of the frater, extending from 2 feet below ground to a depth of $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet. Thereafter to the south-east angle rubbish only is found.

The eastern room of this range measures approximately $20\frac{1}{2}$ feet by $19\frac{1}{2}$ feet. I believe it to be that room shown by Buck's print as existing in 1737 and placed by him to the left of the chapter house (Plate XII). It is true he places it far too nearly in alignment with the chapter house, and leaves an insufficient space between the two. But it appears in his print to be a square building of two stories, each of which has a fireplace, and to have been beneath a gable running from east to west. Characteristics such as these render it unlikely that it could have formed part of the eastern range, and yet judged by what still remains Buck gave a faithful representation of

Newark Priory—even, with a few exceptions, as to small detail. It is unlikely, then, that he drew upon his imagination alone for this building, but quite likely that to bring it into the perspective of his picture he both advanced its position and moved it nearer to his main objects. The lower story may have been the warming house, or more likely the priors' hall, with his chamber above.

Frater.

This was 61 feet long by $19\frac{1}{2}$ feet broad. Of its south and east walls the rubbish only remains—except for a lump at the south-east corner which would seem to denote a projection into the room. At the western end a slight but definite foundation marked the probable position of screens 12 feet from the western wall. The effective length of the frater would thus be reduced to the more proportionate length of 49 feet.

Kitchen.

This room has only rubbish indications on its north and west sides. Its east wall has good foundations at $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet below ground except for 5 feet at the northern end. The south wall also is for the most part good. Its dimensions were 27 feet by $19\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

In its north-west angle are the remains of what seems to be the fire base of an oven or fixed cauldron. An edging of Reigate stone set in clay surrounds a circular patch, 5 feet in diameter, composed of layers of clay, charred wood, and again clay. A similar circular patch of clay and ash without a curbing was found in the south-west angle, and between them where treading would be constant is a piece of paving composed of Reigate stones set diagonally and forming a rough diamond of 6 feet by $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

Apart from this no trace of a floor level was found in the sand.

A little to the east is a small hearth of tiles set on edge, forming a rectangle 3 feet by $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet. This is not set against the site of any wall, but between it and the north wall there was much clay.

Western Range.

All the foundations of this were traceable by rubbish only, except for $14\frac{1}{2}$ feet at the southern end of its eastern wall, which was in excellent state, $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide and with a step-like projection near the foot of the foundation. From it at right angles and to the west ran a good piece of mortared foundation about 4 feet square. The two were not bonded together but joined by stiff clay.

Cellarer's Buildings.

The southern room of this range was $26\frac{1}{2}$ feet by $21\frac{1}{2}$ feet. A trench dug through it yielded up nothing but a small circular Chertsey tile bearing the familiar King's head. This had clearly never been used.

To the north is a room 39 feet by $21\frac{1}{2}$ feet. In the centre of its width and 10 feet from its southern wall is a hearth $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet by 2 feet set diamondwise and consisting of tiles on edge. Immediately north of it, and almost touching, is a 2-foot square of Reigate stone.

At the other end of this room a floor level of earth and clay beaten hard by long usage was found at a depth of a foot or 18 inches below the adjoining cloister walk. On it are two parallel lengths of walling each about 7 feet long and $1\frac{1}{4}$ feet wide. They are 4 feet 4 inches apart and are roughly constructed of all kinds of material, Sussex marble, brick and Reigate stone, as well as flint. On top are Horsham slabs and with them an inverted circular moulded abacus. It seems reasonable to conjecture that these are the supports of the great tun, and to accept this room as the great cellar.

Outer Entry.

Next to this room is a confused mass of deep mortar rubbish stretching to the wall of the Church. It occupies the site of the outer entry which must have been approximately 13 feet wide.

Water Supply and Drains.

Close up against the south wall of the kitchen, and extending eastwards from the south-west corner of the kitchen for 42



Supports for tun in Cellarer's range (one superimposed on hearth).



Chalk-floored channel, looking east.



Eastern side of receptacle at W. end of chalk-floored channel.



Outlet on E. side of brick tank.



Flint-walled receptacle at W. end
of chalk-floored channel.

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Block of masonry, south of and parallel
with chalk-floored channel.

feet, is a channel $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide and $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep running between walls of faced-up flint a foot wide.

The eastern end terminates abruptly. It is cleanly finished off, and no trace is found in the sand of any continuation of its course. It has a clay bottom save for the first 10 feet from the west which are paved with chalk blocks, 1 foot square by 8 inches deep. A course of Reigate stone divides the chalk flooring from the rest, and where the floor is of chalk, the walls on either side are of Reigate stone instead of flint.

At the eastern end of the chalk floored portion, the enclosing walls are cut down slightly as though to form a seating for something which crossed this part of the channel. Eastward again and opposite the south-east angle of the kitchen there is a marked circular depression in the wall on the south side of the channel which may denote the removal of a wall which has crossed at this point in continuation of the east wall of the kitchen. If, however, it is deliberately so formed, it would suggest an inlet or an outlet, were it not that it is hard to believe either of these would be midway in the length of the channel.

It is difficult to account for the features of this channel. It may be hazarded that it had some connection with the original water supply, and the chalk floored and Reigate walled portion is clearly designed to hold water in greater purity than the rest. If water flowed from here to the reredorter drain—a fall of 9 inches only, some contrivance would be necessary to prevent contamination by backing up, and to maintain a head in the part from which it was intended to draw water.

A penstock may have stood at the east end of the chalk-paved portion and water have been drawn from above it. Though it is close by the kitchen there are no adjacent foundations, or even wall rubbish to indicate that it was under a roof.

At some later date its original use must have been abandoned, for its western end is effectively blocked by a huge mass of rough masonry which is securely mortared into the whole mouth of the channel. This block forms the eastern side of a curious receptacle about 5 feet deep, the remaining sides of which are irregular flint walls about a foot wide and with interior lengths of 3 feet 6 inches to 3 feet 10 inches.

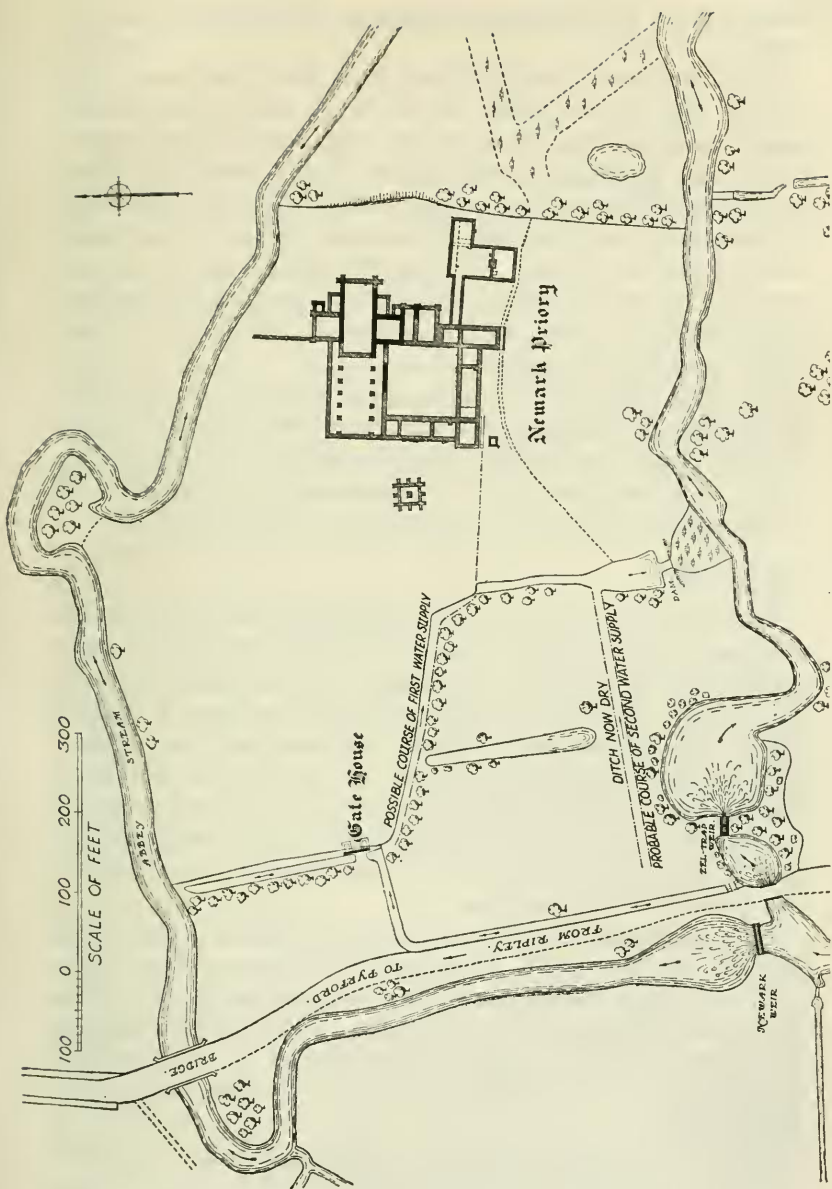
Inside it is carefully rendered, particularly on the east, as though it were essential that whatever it held should not gain access to the chalk floored channel. It has no outlet at the bottom, and if, as is conjectured, it was some kind of midden or small cesspit, it must have been awkward to clear of whatever it may have contained, for its proportions are too small for a man to work from within it.

To the south of the chalk channel, and connected with it at two points by masonry, is a brickwork tank about 10 feet square, the east and north walls of which are reinforced by flint walling outside. For some 7 feet of its width from north to south it had had a flattened brick arch over it running from east to west. The remaining 3 feet had never been arched over. The whole arch has collapsed into the tank, the flooring of which is of bricks set on edge. At the south-west and north-east corners it has an inlet and outlet respectively, both of which are paved with chalk as they pass through the walls. This tank is rather more deeply sunk than the chalk floored channel, the height from floor to arch being $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet. This is clearly a tank for water storage. The direction of its inlet shows us whence it was fed, though no trace remains in the ground immediately adjoining of any watercourse to or from it.

The chalk floored channel could only be fed by water brought from the level of the weir and eel trap round two sides of a square, as shown upon the sketch map.

Both the alignment of the channel and the levels taken demonstrate this.

Though there is a fall of 4 feet, the route necessary to avoid the low intervening ground is so long that this gradient must have been unsatisfactory for a clear water supply, even if the water level at the weir could always be maintained. It is concluded that for this reason the old system of supply was abandoned in favour of a storage pond midway between the Priory and the eel trap weir, which could be kept full even when the water level at the weir was low, and which would give a fall of about 2 feet over a much shorter distance into the brick tank. The probable course of the feed to this pond is shown by a shallow ditch still remaining. The pond—now a sedgy marsh—has at its lower end a high earthen embankment with a narrow channel through it in which a penstock



NEWARK PRIORY—SITE PLAN.

could control the discharge of surplus water into the eel trap stream.

From this pond a supply ditch must have run towards the Priory, and 19 feet south of the brick tank it was found, clearly coming from the direction of the pond. At this point it has only a ramp of pudding-stone on its south side where the ground falls away, but at each point where it was uncovered further on it had low but substantial walling of the same material on both sides. The supply ditch comes no nearer than this to the brick tank, but the inlet opening of the latter faces towards the ditch and the connecting ditch or pipe must have been near this spot.

The main ditch then curves away towards the reredorter through which it flows in a channel, narrowed down to increase the flow, and after passing near the infirmary buildings, the drain, as it has now become, discharges in the direction of some low wet ground to the south-east of the precincts.

Bell Steeple.

Fifty feet westward from the middle of the western range are the foundations of a square structure with an interior measurement of 22 feet square and an outside measurement of 31 feet. Each side has three buttresses about 7 feet by 4 feet. In the middle is a block of foundation 8 feet square. The presence of this building was detected by the aid of air photographs. The foundations consist of 2 to 3 feet of gravel mixed with clay sunk with almost geometrical precision into the clear sand. Not a vestige of flint or stone was found at any part of the foundations.

It is presumed that this must have been an isolated bell steeple. No trace of a tower was found at any part of the Church, though it is known from the dissolution accounts that there was a steeple with three bells. The strong buttressing of so small a building accords with this theory, and the block of foundation in the middle may have been the footing of a central pillar.

The nature of the foundations, however, are clearly against the tower having been of any height.

In the bays between the buttresses on the south side more fragments of stained glass were found than anywhere else,

including sufficient to reconstruct the pattern of one whole quarry.

Farmery.

A passage 81 feet long and 8 feet wide leads from the eastern range to the farmery. This has shallow flint and mortar foundations about 3 feet wide for a length of 33 feet on the south side, after which there is rubbish only till shortly before the farmery is reached. The north side is all rubbish.

The passage leads to a room conjectured to be the farmery hall, and measuring 52 feet by $35\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The north wall of this is rubbish, though clearly defined against the sand upon the northern side. On the inner side a 10-foot band of mortar rubbish extends for 27 feet along the length of the wall and is bounded on the south by a slight flint and gravel foundation. It is possible that this represents a range of cubicles.

A continuation of the north wall of the farmery hall to the east forms one side of the supposed farmery chapel. There is much rubbish again in the north-east of the hall near the entrance to the supposed chapel.

The west wall of the hall has a good piece of foundation running south from the passage for a few feet, after which there is a gap of 18 feet in which there are no signs of any foundation having ever existed. This is succeeded by a length of hard foundation, $9\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length, extending to the south-west corner. From this corner an excellent piece of foundation $3\frac{3}{4}$ feet wide projects westward for 13 feet. It is well faced up with mortar at the west but deteriorates where it joins the farmery.

The south wall has intact foundations of flint on gravel 4 feet wide and from 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep. It has a hearth against it 8 feet long by 3 feet wide composed of squared Reigate stones of various sizes, but all about 6 inches deep. To the east of this is a small enclosure sunk 1 foot into the ground, the sides of which are $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet by 2 feet and are formed of tiles set flatways in clay. It has no bottom other than the sand.

The east wall has good flint and gravel foundations from the south-east corner for a short length, succeeded by a gap of 19 feet similar to that in the west wall. There may have been some timber construction in these gaps. Where the east

wall of the hall meets the south wall of the chapel, the latter is prolonged 6 feet into the hall; and in continuation of this there is a distinct change in floor level right across the hall. This indicates the possibility that at one time it has been divided into two rooms.

South of the hall is a large room 24 feet by $35\frac{1}{2}$ feet. None of its wall foundations are good. It contained against its north wall a hearth 10 feet long by $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, composed of tiles on edge puddled in clay and edged up with mortar.

To the west of this and nearly adjoining it is a pit sunk below the level of the ground. It projects from the wall and has its other three sides retained by good flint-mortared work about 18 inches wide, which extend deeper into the ground on the south and at the southern ends of the east and west sides. The bottom of the pit, which measures $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet by $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet, consists of unmortared flints set in sand which slope like the bottom of the retaining walls from north to south.

The chapel has a length of good foundation on the south with some indications of a buttress against it. The east wall could only be examined at one point and then very imperfectly—for it coincides with a bank on which trees are growing.

A few weeks in the summer of 1929 were devoted to work upon the gatehouse, and upon various points which the previous year's working had not cleared up satisfactorily.

Gatehouse.

This stood 500 feet westward of the Priory on the inner side of a deep ditch. The lower courses of its western wall still retain the bank of this watercourse where a cart-track crosses it. The wall consists of flint and Reigate stone chequer work, which must belong to the fifteenth century. The roots of hedgerow trees have so disintegrated the mortar rubbish of the north, south and east walls that even if the trees could be removed and the roots grubbed up, little more than the following could be said. The gatehouse was a small building, what remains being the full length of the western wall—some 36 feet. From west to east the walls seem to have been about 16 feet long. The modern brick archway crossing the ditch is not flush with the original entry through the middle of the gatehouse,

which can be traced in the clear sand as 12 feet wide. To right and left of the entry there were small rooms, the walls of which could here and there be traced as about 2 feet 9 inches wide, giving internal measurements of 10 feet 6 inches from east to west, and 6 feet 6 inches from north to south. There is no evidence of other buildings adjoining the gatehouse, though a wall seems to have extended along the watercourse. Exactly opposite the gatehouse is a ford in the river, and it is suggestive that a footpath still leads thence to Woking.

Various Buildings.

The previous year's work had led us to think that there might be some building in the south-west angle of the infirmary and the passage leading to it. Here it was hoped might be an infirmary reredorter. A trench dug from the encouraging block of masonry which projects westwards from the south-west corner of the infirmary hall only disclosed 14 feet away a piece of mortared flintwork 6 feet from north to south and a foot and a half wide. From the ends there project westward two short arms of 3 feet and 2 feet 6 inches. Mortar rubbish filled the space between and continued westward for some 12 feet at a width of about 6 feet. Thence a thin layer of mortar continues in a straight line to the dorter sub-vault. The impression conveyed was that of the remains of masonry which had surrounded a removed tank of about 9 feet by 3 feet. If so, this may have been a part of the freshwater supply to the infirmary, and the thin layer of mortar may denote the course of a pipe. A band of damp dark soil on the western side of the dorter sub-vault at a corresponding point to the layer of mortar runs towards the chalk watercourse and the brick tank.

Trenches were dug between this possible pipe line and the infirmary passage from east to west, and from the north-west corner of the infirmary buildings to the south-east corner of the chapter house ; but there were no signs of any building leading either north or south from the passage. A grave was encountered 16 feet northward from it, and 45 feet eastward from the chapter house corner, from which it is clear that the Canons' cemetery extended right up to the passage on the north side.

The brick tank was completely cleared this year, and an attempt made to trace the continuation of its outlet. No indication whatever could be found in what appeared to be untouched sand.

Parallel with the chalk watercourse and 6 feet from its southern side, is a great rectangular block of flint masonry, 18 feet 6 inches long, 5 feet wide, and 3 feet 6 inches deep into the ground. It extends eastward about the same distance as the chalk channel. Though irregular on its upper face, its ends and sides are well finished off, and it has no apparent connection with any adjacent walls. The sand on its southern side has evidently been subjected to fierce heat. It seems designed to bear a great weight—far more than that of a pent-house roof from the kitchen wall which at best would have covered only part of the chalk channel. No satisfactory theory as to its purpose has been adduced.

Parallel trenches were dug from west to east through the presbytery and choir, and disclosed evidence of much previous digging. Just east of the chapel entries at the west end of the presbytery two burials were found about 4 feet in the ground. One lies almost in the middle of the presbytery: the other between it and the south wall. Both had been in wooden coffins. The former had had considerable masonry round it, suggesting the foundations of a superimposed tomb: but the grave had been interfered with and robbed of all stone. The skeleton was that of a small and slightly built man and was excellently preserved. The other—that of a large man of over 6 feet—was in poor preservation and had no signs of a tomb.

These trenches revealed no indications of an altar platform, or of any other internal arrangements: nor was there any trace of the east wall itself. The trench projected for this purpose was carried on, but no building seems to have existed further to the east.

Similar trenches produced equally negative results in the south transept and in the two south chapels, where there were no signs whatever of the foundations of the missing walls. It was constantly observed during the course of the excavations that usually there are fewer traces in the ground of what is known to have been standing lately than of what is known to

have been pulled down earlier. It seems that when the ruins of the Priory were seriously attacked for road material, the knowledge of the position of the older buildings had died, and that their grass-covered foundations escaped. On the other hand, standing walls were not only pulled down, but their foundations so completely removed that but for the evidence of tothing on adjacent walls it would be impossible to show that they had existed.

Finds.

The objects found were as a whole disappointing. A fair number of geometrical patterned square slip tiles were dug up in various parts of the excavations, but they were rarely in good condition (Plates IX and X). One tile has on it a spread eagle on a ground semé of quatrefoils within a circle. In the presbytery were found two parts of a tile depicting Mercury, and a fragment of one with the hindquarters of a deer running through oak foliage. Colonel Bidder in his excavations at Merton found what appears to be approximately the other half of such a tile. Edging tiles of various sizes were found, and small wedge tiles each containing a separate letter, and plain tiles glazed in various colours, orange, green, white, and black.

The usual miscellaneous metal was found—broken keys, book clasps, knives, and spoons, and spurs, an adze head, part of a reaping hook, lead piping and window lead; a token, but no coins.

Some Sussex marble shafts and volutes were found near the pulpitum, in the cloisters, and in the infirmary, the chapel of which also contained a piece of carved foliage and a great quantity of broken glass. Broken crockery was found in many places, particularly in the drains; and in the infirmary were a few pieces of Bellarmine ware.

The paucity of finds is no doubt chiefly due to the higher ground on which the Priory stood having been arable land till within the last fifty years. The plough must constantly have turned up tiles and other small objects lying near the surface. Within the walls now standing there is known to have been a good deal of illicit digging in the past by uninformed persons in search of hidden treasure.

A farm-house in the neighbourhood is recorded in 1806 to have had ornamental tiles found at Newark, "some with men on horseback"; and in 1844 there were exhibited to the Society of Antiquaries a number of small articles found from time to time on the site. These are enumerated in *Archæologia*, Vol. 31, and include a thumb ring, the matrix of an heraldic seal, two small badges, and several tiles: one with the figure of a priest, one with that of an archer, one with a rose between a fox and goose.

These may well have been some of the results of excavations made in April 1840, and referred to in Brayley's *History of Surrey*, Vol II, p. 137, which quotes a pamphlet printed at Woking in 1840 entitled *A History and Description of Newark Priory*. I have been unable to trace any copy of this, but it would appear that the excavations were the unauthorized act of "several persons in the neighbourhood," and were stopped as soon as discovered. Portions of tessellated pavement were found in the south transept, "chiefly small glazed tiles exhibiting inlaid devices of animals, flowers, buildings; and on one was impressed the figure of an abbot with his pastoral staff." Wedge tiles were also found bearing letters and numerals, but the whole was disarranged by careless digging.

In the circumstances, it is not remarkable that little of this kind remained to be found.

THE FOUNDERS OF NEWARK PRIORY.

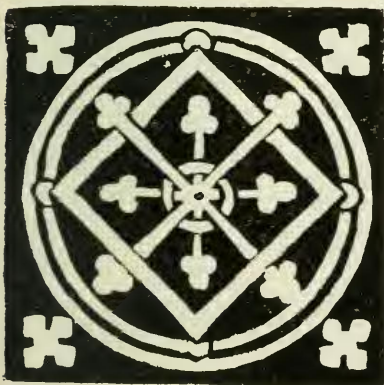
Little has hitherto been recorded of Ruald de Calna, the founder of Newark Priory. Dugdale misread his name in the Charter Roll of 1320, and calls him Ruald de Calva. This error has been copied from the Monasticon without verification into every subsequent account of the Priory and has obscured his identity. Once it is disposed of, his family history proves to be well documented.

Almost certainly either he or his wife, Beatrice de Sandes, represented Rainold, son of Erchembald, who held both Send in Surrey and Shipton in Hampshire under Alfred of Marlborough at the time of the Domesday Survey.

Alfred held as tenant in chief, together with nine other Herefordshire manors, the Castle of Ewyas in the marches of



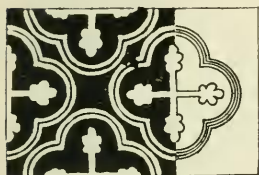
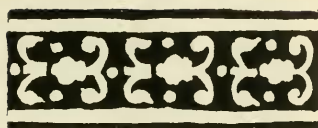
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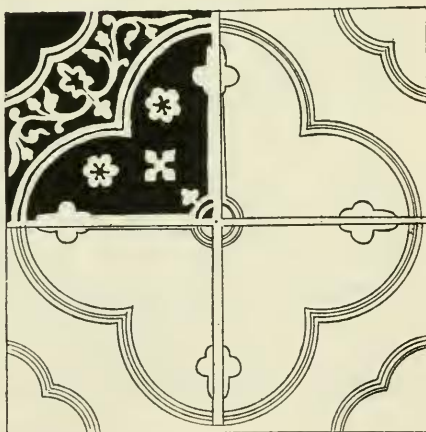
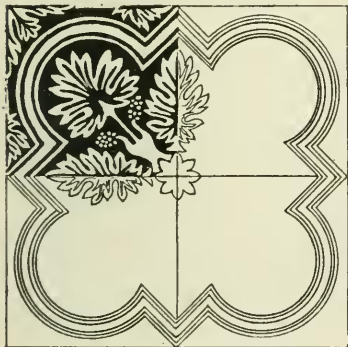
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TILES FROM NEWARK PRIORY.

Wales, where he had five unnamed knights each with a carucate of land. In addition, he had nineteen manors in Wilts, Somerset, Hants, and Surrey, which Carlo had held in the Confessor's time. Some twenty years later in unexplained circumstances Harold of Ewyas had succeeded him in the castle, in three of the Herefordshire manors, and in at least twelve of the former Carlo manors, including Shipton and Send.

Nothing is known of Rainold, son of Erchembald, except that he held these two manors under the lord of Ewyas, but from what we learn subsequently he may well have been one of the five knights round the Castle.

As to his descendants—the Pipe Roll of 1130 records a payment forgiven in Surrey from Erchembald, son of Raginold¹: Erkembald had already witnessed a charter of about 1100 by which Robert of Ewyas had founded the Priory of Ewyas,² and a document of later date about to be referred to makes mention of him as Archembald, a knight of Harold of Ewyas, holding the fee of Hardwick near Ewyas.

The Public Library of Hereford contains a MS. copy of a cartulary of Ewyas Priory. Canon Bannister, who printed translations from it in his *History of Ewyas*, tells me that it was made by a local antiquary, Mr. John Webb, and that the whereabouts of the original is unknown. From internal evidence there can be no doubt of its authenticity. It contains the arbitration ending a dispute between Gloucester Abbey, of which Ewyas Priory was a cell, and Roald the Knight called of Calna. This has no date, but from the Bishop, Dean, and Archdeacon of Hereford designated in it by initials, it can be assigned to the period 1135–1148. The monks sought the tithe of Roald's demesne at Hardwick juxta Ewyas in accordance with the ancient gift of Harold of Ewyas and the grant of Archembald, then his knight of the same fee. Roald admitted their claim, and the wording, though not conclusive, suggests that Archembald was his ancestor.

Robert of Ewyas's return of fees made in 1166 for the purpose of assessment of scutage is headed by "*Ruald v milites*,"³

¹ Mag. Rot. Scacc., p. 51, Rec. Comm.

² Glos. Cart., no. ccxxviii, Rolls Series, vol. 33.

³ Red. Bk. of Exch., Vol. I, p. 286, Rolls Series.

and when this return is analysed in conjunction with the subsequent payments of scutages and aids, it would seem that the services which at the time of the Survey were performed by five knights each with a carucate near Ewyas were now due from five fees which Ruald held: one still at Ewyas, which Archembald had held, and possibly his father before him as one of the five knights—the others, two at Send and two at Shipton, manors which Rainold had held of the lord of Ewyas.

There is no complete proof of relationship between Rainold son of Erchembald and Erchembald son of Raginold, or between Archembald and Ruald. But the presumption raised by Ruald holding three manors in different counties known to have been held formerly by either Rainold or Archembald is much strengthened by the further coincidences of name and tenure here given.

The appellation “de Calna” seems to have been a personal description only. Calne in Wiltshire belonged to the King, and was farmed out at a rent. Ruald may have been associated with it in this way, but the first known farmer of the town was Fulk de Cantilupe, who received a grant of it in the early years of John’s reign, about the time of Ruald’s death.¹

Between 1175 and 1184 the Pipe Rolls record fines of 10 marcs and 5 marcs for forest offences which were being paid off concurrently by Ruald de Calna and Calna Rualdi.² The words Ruald’s Calne suggest that all Calne was not Ruald’s, and perhaps he was only at the head of a Norman colony settled side by side with the English town.

His surname presumably was Maubanc—that which his children bore, and by which his wife was sometimes called. No ground is known for connecting him with the Maubancs who were barons of the Palatine County of Chester, but there are indications that the family of Clifton Maubanc in Dorset and Horton in Sussex was of his stock.

Ruald was living in 1193, when he gave surety for prosecuting a suit in Herefordshire.³ He was dead by 1210, when Beatrice rehearsed and confirmed a charter which she had granted to the Priory after his death.⁴ This is in words almost identical

¹ Close Rolls, 6 John, m. 12.

² Pipe Roll Soc., *passim*.

³ Pipe Roll Soc., New Series, Vol. iii, p. 92.

⁴ F. of F. Surr., 11 John, 225/3/39.

with those of the first charter by which she and Ruald had granted, with other lands in Send, the Ham of Pappeworth to construct there a church in a place called Aldebury, together with the church of Send and the oratory of Ripley, the church of Shipton and the chapel of Snodington.¹

But whereas Ruald and Beatrice were joint donors in the first charter, Beatrice in the second was "in unconditioned power" after her husband's death. Moreover, it was still possible to refer to William Maubanc as "our heir." It may be that Ruald held in right of his marriage with Beatrice, and that she was the heiress of the line traced above.

On the other hand, in 1205 William Maubanc was in a position to warrant the first charter.² The evidence at present available is inconclusive.

The Priory must have been founded by 1199, when Godfrey, Bishop of Winchester, granted an annual pension of half a marc from the church of Wield in Hants to the church of St. Mary and St. Thomas the Martyr of Aldebyrie and the canons there serving God.³

The same Bishop endowed it with Rothercombe in East Meon—(misquoted by the *V.C.H.* as the gift of Prior John of Aldebury). These two grants are the only known ground for the assertion in Bishop Woodlock's register in 1312 that the house was founded by a Bishop of Winchester. The claim is contrary to the tenor of the charters of the Priory confirmed in 1320, and may reasonably be explained as a statement made in support and in extension of the fact that the Bishops of Winchester exercised patronage over the Priory—a right recorded as early as 1284.⁴

Dr. Cox in the *V.C.H. Surrey* (Vol. II, p. 103) accepts this claim and says: "It would appear that the charter of Ruald and Beatrice, *temp.* Richard I, was one of refounding rather than founding (as indeed is implied by the actual phraseology), and that the canons of St. Austin at Aldbury were of a far older establishment."

¹ Charter Roll, 14 Edw. II, m. 8.

² F. of F. Surr., 6 John, 225/3/12.

³ Winton Cath. Cart., no. 90, Hants Rec. Soc.

⁴ Reg. Johan. Pontissara., Surr. Rec. Soc., ix, p. 431.

The wording referred to must be that by which the grant is made to "the canons there serving or about to serve God . . . to construct there in a place called Aldebury." But little can be deduced from this. The *Monasticon* supplies many examples of such phrasing where the gifts had been made and the community established before the date of the formal charter of foundation. Even the implication that the community was in existence at the actual date of founding is not uncommon with Austin houses which often grew from small bodies of secular priests living together for a common purpose. There seems no reason to doubt that de Calna and his wife were the first founders of the Austin Priory as such, though a nucleus of the community may well have existed previously. Indeed the name *Novus Locus*—the New Place or Newark—which quickly superseded the old place-name of Aldebury, may be held to point to it.

In this connection it is noteworthy that the oratory of Ripley, which survives in the late Norman Chancel of the present church, is some forty years older than the structure at Newark. If, as appears, Ripley did not exist as a centre of population until after the founding of the Priory, the oratory can have had no parochial origin. At the time of the dissolution of the Priory it was associated with an almshouse where the Prior maintained ten poor persons, and Edward VI's chantry commissioners speak of it as "builded longe tyme paste for an hospitale and sythen that tyme altered." It is possible that this was a small roadside foundation which was developed by de Calna's benefactions into an Austin Priory on a fresh site.

William, son of Ruald de Calna, was so described in 1184-5 when he was fined for bows against the assize in Surrey.¹ He witnessed a charter of Robert of Ewyas in 1196,² and besides warranting his parents' charter to Newark, he confirmed his father's gifts to Ewyas Priory.³ This last was witnessed by a son Robert Maubanc who was possibly husband of Gunilda and father of Edmund Maubanc.⁴ From him almost certainly descend that cadet branch of the family which in the name

¹ Pipe Roll Soc., Vol. xxxiv, p. 237.

² Glos. Cart., no. ccxl, Rolls Series, vol. 33.

³ Ewyas Chart., Hereford Pub. Lib.

⁴ F. of F. Surr., 44 Hen. III, 226/17 (old nos.), Assize Roll, 888, m. 30 (16 Edw. II).

Mabank can be traced generation after generation among the yeomen of the parish of Send till the close of the eighteenth century.

William's elder son was another Ruald. He is sometimes miswritten as Reginald and is indifferently called Maubanc or de Sandes.¹ He occurs fairly frequently in local litigation, notably when he agreed with Henry de Bovill of Clandon to divide the common pasture of Burnt Common between the manors of Send and Clandon in such a way that the Prior of Newark could keep there only a quarter of the number of sheep that he formerly had.² The Prior vindicated his right at law and in 1243 the agreement was declared void.³ Ruald granted certain rents in Shipton to Newark,⁴ and confirmed his father's grants to Ewyas Priory.⁵ He was found to hold a knight's fee in Ewyas in 1242-3,⁶ and he was dead by 1249, when his heirs held there only a sixth of a knight's fee.⁶ He married twice—first, Margery, daughter of Walter de Mucegros of Moniton on Wye in Herefordshire and Lassenden in Gloucestershire; secondly, Alice, who remarried Gilbert de St. Fide, and in 1255 held a knight's fee in Send in dower from the daughters of Ruald's first marriage—Lucy wife of Robert de Pappeworth, Joan wife of Roger de Dendeswell, and Alice Maubanc.⁷

The troubles of the Mucegros family supply further information as to Ruald's three daughters and coheirs. Walter de Mucegros, grandson of Margery's father Walter, was an adherent of Simon de Montfort, and his estates were confiscated after the battle of Evesham in 1265. He died a few months later, leaving as his heirs seven aunts and the children of two others then dead. Margery de Mucegros had been one of them.⁸ From the continued efforts of these coheirs to recover their inheritance we learn of Margery's children that in 1277-8 Lucy de Pappeworth was still alive, but that Joan de Dendeswell

¹ Pip Rot., 26 Hen. III; Fin. Rot., 20 Hen. III, m. 9; Assize Rolls, 868, m. 3, 869, m. 6; F. of F. Surr., 225/6/14, 225/9/14, 226/13/9.

² Curia Regis Roll, 125 f. 23d. (26 Hen. III).

³ F. of F. Surr., 27 Hen. III, 225/12/12.

⁴ Cott. Chart., B.M., xxvii, 64.

⁵ Ewyas Chart., Hereford Pub. Lib.

⁶ Book of Fees, pp. 811, 1814.

⁷ Assize Roll, 872, m. 15 (39 Hen. III).

⁸ Chanc. i.p.m., 49 Hen. III, File 32 (i).

had been succeeded by her son, John de Dendeswell, while Alice Maubanc had married and died leaving a son Geoffry Maubanc.¹ By 1291 Lucy was also dead, and her son Thomas de Pappeworth was claiming in her stead.² Alice Maubanc's husband remains unknown. Her son bore the name Maubanc, and possibly she was married to an agnatic cousin.

These are the representatives of Ruald's three coheirs who have been dealt with so confusedly in the histories of Surrey.

In 1290 inquiry was made whether it would harm the King if John Tregoz (chief lord of the fee by inheritance from the Ewyas family) should grant to Newark the services due to him from the mesne lords: and if Thomas and Alice de Sende should grant to Newark certain lands.³ Manning and Bray read the finding of the jurors to denote that a certain Robert de Lodeham held the whole lordship from Tregoz, and had under him John de Blund, John de Dendeswell, and Thomas de Sende, each holding a third of a knight's fee in right of their wives, Ruald Maubanc's daughters. They say, correctly enough, that the grant was delayed, and add that accordingly on Tregoz's death in 1299 Geoffry Maubanc, John de Dendeswell, and Simon Pipard are each found to hold a third of two knights' fees from him in Send.

The *V.C.H.* varies this, saying that the grant sought in 1290 actually took place: that Alice de Sende is known to have been Ruald's daughter: that the other two—one of them apparently Dionisia—may have married le Blund and de Dendeswell. As to the inquisition after Tregoz's death in 1299, Geoffry Maubanc, John de Dendeswell, and Simon Pipard are said by the *V.C.H.* to have held a third of two knights' fees apiece formerly.

Both these inquisitions have been misread. That of 1290 shows Robert de Lodeham holding not the whole fee which Ruald had held, but a third of it only. Thomas and Alice de Sende held from him. John le Blund and John de Dendeswell held the other two-thirds, not from de Lodeham, but from Tregoz. Again, the inquisition of 1301 after Tregoz's death

¹ Coram Rege Roll, 6 Edw. I, Mich. Term, No. 32, rot. 7 *in dorso*.

² Assize Roll, 303, m. 22 *in dorso* (20 Edw. I).

³ Chanc. Inq.a.q.d., 18 Edw. I, File 14, No. 30.

in 1299 does not say that Geoffry Maubanc held a third of two fees when Tregoz died—as did Pipard and de Dendeswell : but that he had formerly held such a third, and that Tregoz had alienated it to John le Blund in an unknown manner.¹

The discrepancy in the number of fees given in the two inquisitions is perhaps due to one being still in dower in 1290 : and the explanation of the substitution in 1301 of Geoffry Maubanc and Pipard for le Blund and de Sende who held in 1290 is as follows.

Thomas de Sende is none other than Thomas de Pappeworth, Lucy Maubanc's son and heir, while Alice his wife may be a daughter of Robert de Lodeham. In 1282 as Thomas, son of Thomas de Pappeworth, he conveyed certain lands in Send to Robert de Lodeham who settled them on Thomas and Alice and the heirs of their bodies : failing whom to Alice's brother Richard and the heirs of his body : failing whom to Robert himself and his heirs, through whom the property was to be held of the chief lord.²

In 1290 occurs the attempt by Thomas de Sende and Alice his wife to grant part of this same land to Newark, and this is frustrated as against the king's interests.

Next in 1296 Richard de Lodeham and Roger de Lodeham relinquish their interest in the premises settled in 1282, and convey them to Thomas and Alice de Sende and the heirs of their bodies : failing whom to Simon Pipard and his wife Dionisia.³ Walter Prior of Newark puts in his claim against the passing of this fine. There follow a series of actions between the Pipards, the de Sendes, and the Priory, the purport of which is difficult to follow through the broken sequence of the assize rolls. But it seems likely that they were collusive actions designed to defeat the Statute of Mortmain, and to effect a conveyance to Newark through Pipard as a nominee.

In 1301, John le Warre, grandson of John Tregoz and then chief lord, obtained letters from the king, with whom he was serving in Scotland, respiting the grant of seisin to the Prior of Newark of the manor of Send which he had obtained by collusion with the Pipards who had let themselves be sued, and

¹ Chanc. i.p.m., 29 Edw. I, File 94 (9).

² F. of F. Surr., 10 Edw. I, 227/23/23.

³ F. of F. Surr., 24 Edw. I, 227/27/13.

lost the manor by default.¹ Similar letters on the score of his absence in Scotland were issued in June and August 1303² with regard to an assize of novel disseisin brought against him by the Pipards. But no further trace of either suit can be found, and it is uncertain whether the Priory ever obtained the land in question. Pipard was still holding two-thirds of two fees in Send in 1306.³

As to Geoffrey Maubanc, whose two-thirds in 1301 had been alienated to John le Blund, a suit of much later date⁴ rehearses that he married one Alice, whose daughter and heir Juliana inherited lands in Send conveyed by John le Blund to Geoffrey and Alice and the heirs of her body. A case reported in a Year Book⁵ as having occurred in 1293 throws some light on the position of le Blund, though there is the confusion of names and dates commonly found in year books, the sole purpose of which was the reporting of points of law.

Geoffrey Maubanc is represented as having enfeoffed John le Blund with the consent of Sir John Tergot (*sic*), his overlord. Le Blund then jointly enfeoffs Geoffrey and his wife Maud (*sic*) to them and their heirs. Geoffrey dies, and Maud as surviving joint feoffee enfeoffs Henry de Guldeford for life. Tergot dispossesses de Guldeford on the ground that the last enfeoffment deprived him of his wardship of Geoffrey's infant son William. De Guldeford brings an assize of novel disseisin against Tergot, and succeeds on the score of the latter having entered with intent to harm rather than to protect the interests of the infant heir.

There are plainly errors in the facts stated. Geoffrey Maubanc certainly outlived Tregoz, and our evidence is that his wife was Alice and not Maud. We know of his wife's daughter and heir Juliana, but nothing of Geoffrey's supposed son and heir William. Unfortunately no trace of the case reported can be found. But we are probably safe in assuming that le Blund was enfeoffed as a trustee of some kind, though the limitation to the heirs of Alice's body presents a difficulty yet to be solved.

¹ Chanc. Warrants, 29 Edw. I, 26 (2601).

² Chanc. Warrants and Close Roll, 31 Edw. I.

³ Close Roll, 34 Edw. I, m. 19.

⁴ De Banco Roll, Mich., 22 Ric. II, No. 551, m. 89.

⁵ Year Book, 21 and 22 Edw. I, Rolls Series, 31.

SUGGESTED PEDIGREE

Rainold son of Erchembald
of Send and Shipton in 1086
? one of the 5 unnamed
knights of Ewyas

Erchembald, son of Raginold
of Hardwick juxta Ewyas.
Fine forgiven to him in
Surrey 1130

?

Ruald de Calna of Send, = Beatrice de Sandes or Maubanc,
Shipton and Hardwick: cofounder with her husband of
held 5 fees of Ewyas in Newark Priory, living 1209
1166, founder of Newark
Priory; died *circa* 1195

William Maubanc, of Send,
Shipton, and Hardwick,
benefactor of Newark

Alice (2) = Ruald Maubanc of Send, = (1) Margery Gunilda = Robert Mau-
remarried Shipton, and Moniton, de Mucegros banc
to Gilbert near Ewyas, died before
de St. Fide 1249

Lucy = Robert de Joan = Roger de Alice =
dau. & coh., Pappeworth dau. & coh., Dendes- dau. & coh.,
dead by 1291 dead by 1277 well dead by 1277

Thomas de Send = Alice, sister
in 1282 conveyed of Richard
in trust to Robt. de Lodeham
de Lodeham, who
in 1296 conveyed
(? in trust for the
Priory) to Simon
Pipard, who in
1306 held $\frac{1}{3}$ of 2
fees in Send

John de Dendeswell = Lettice
held $\frac{1}{3}$ of 2 fees in
Send in 1306

Geoffry Maubanc = Alice
conveyed in trust
before 1290 to
John le Blund,
who by 1306 had
reconveyed to
Geoffry, who then
held $\frac{1}{3}$ of 2 fees in
Send

Juliana = Henry atte Beche
dau. and heir
of her mother
whom she had
succeeded by

1311

Geoffry Maubanc was in possession again in 1306,¹ but Juliana, wife of Henry de la Beche, had succeeded her mother Alice, whose heir she was, in 1311.² Geoffry as well as Alice must then have been dead, and thenceforward no portion of the two knights' fees remained to the male line of Maubancs.

THE SEALS.

The Society is indebted to Mr. Mill Stephenson, F.S.A., for the plate of the Priory Seals from casts in the collection of the Society of Antiquaries; and to Mr. H. S. Kingsford, Assistant Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries, for the account of them. Three are from seals attached to the following documents of Selborne Priory now in the possession of Magdalen College, Oxford:—

Nos. 1 and 3. The seal and counterseal to an agreement between the Priors of Selborne and Newark dated 1266.

No. 2. The seal attached by Richard, Prior of Newark, to the Process for the Annexation of Selborne Priory to Magdalen College in 1484, for which purpose he had been appointed a Commissioner by the Bishop of Winchester.

No trace has been found of the seal from which No. 4 is taken.

1. *The Priory Seal.*

Vesica, $3\frac{1}{4}$ in. \times 2 in.

Above, the Virgin crowned, seated on a bench and suckling the Child who sits on her left knee; on either side two censing angels. Below, under a cusped arch with gables on either side, the martyrdom of St. Thomas of Canterbury: on the left, two armed knights, the foremost one in closed helmet and holding a shield, charged with a bear (?) for Fitzurse, cleaves the head of the kneeling archbishop and at the same time wounds the arm of Grim, who stands behind holding the archiepiscopal cross. The figures stand on a low arcade of three arches.

[S':E]CCLESIE : BETÊ : MARIE : E MÊ :
MÂRTIRIS : DE : NOVO LOCO : SVRREI . . .

¹ Close Roll, 34 Edw. I, m. 19.

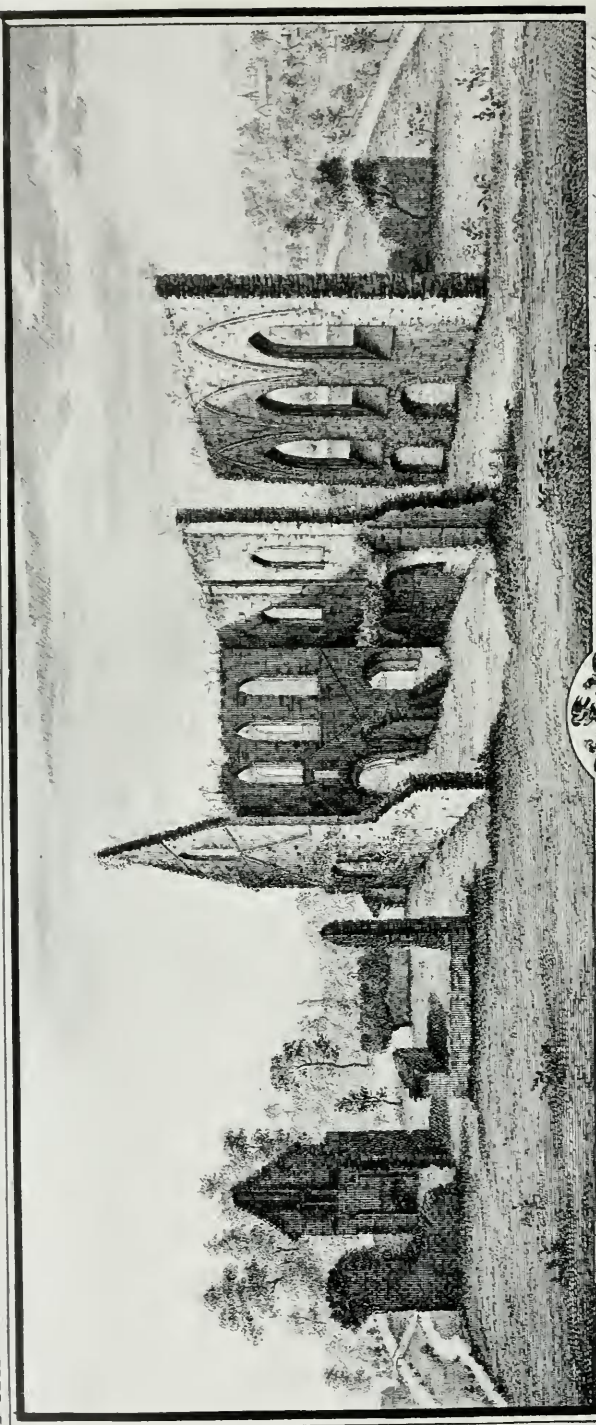
² Assize Roll, 887, m. 2 (5 Edw. II).



NEWARK PRIORY SEALS

- (1) The Priory Seal. (2) Seal of the Prior and Convent *ad causas*. (3) Geoffrey, prior, 1266-80, used as a counter to the Priory Seal. (4) A counter seal or secret.

THE SOUTH-EAST VIEW OF NEWARK-PRIORY, IN THE COUNTY OF SURRY.

[illegible]

To the ^{Rev.} **Capt. Henry THOMAS, Lord Onslow**—
 Lord Lieutenant of the County of Surrey, &c.
 This Prospect is humbly presented by _____
 his Secretary most Obedient Servant, _____
 John Griffith, Clerk.

2. *Seal of the Prior and Convent ad causas.*

Vesica, $2\frac{5}{8}$ in. \times $1\frac{1}{2}$ in.

On the left a seated figure (? of the prior) holding a book ; before him on the right the standing figure of a canon in his habit, his hands joined in homage or adoration.

✠ S' PRIORIS ET 9VENTVS D NOVO LOCO
SVRREIE AD CĀS.

3. *Geoffrey, prior : 1266-80, used as a counter to the Priory seal.*

Vesica, $1\frac{3}{8}$ in. \times $\frac{7}{8}$ in.

A cross formy, with two stars, the sun and the moon within the arms. Below, under an arch with pinnacles, the full-face bust of the prior wearing an amice.

✠ S' GALFRIDI : PRIORIS : DE NO[V]O LOCO.

4. *A counter seal or secret.*

Oval, $\frac{13}{16}$ in. \times $\frac{11}{16}$ in.

An oval gem : a winged monster.

✠ SIGILL SECRETI.