

knew there had been a 'town' (i.e. village) of East Layton earlier in the century.⁶⁴ No inhabited building of any kind appears on Farrowe's plan but there was a house, perhaps the former manor, since he noted at the end of his *Abstract* that 'ye garden, house and curtledge are not measured'.

M. W. BERESFORD

THE THIRD CHATEAU-GAILLARD CONFERENCE AT BATTLE, SUSSEX

The first Château-Gaillard conference was held at Les Andelys in 1962 (*Med. Archaeol.*, vi-vii (1962-3), 304). At the second at Büberich on the outskirts of Düsseldorf members were able to see something of the notable work on mottes that Dr. Herrnbrödt has been carrying out for some years in the Rhineland. For the third conference on the occasion of the ninth centenary of the battle of Hastings the place chosen was appropriately Battle in Sussex. About 100 scholars attended the conference, mainly from Germany, Holland, France and, of course, this country. Accommodation was found in and around the small country town for five days (19-24 September, 1966); the whole burden of organization for this and for the lectures and excursions was carried by Mr. A. J. Taylor, to whom the credit for the success of the conference is in no small measure due.

Fortunately during the whole period of the conference the weather was bright and hot, which made the excursions extremely pleasant. Hurstmonceux and Bodiam were seen at their best and there were memorable visits to Pevensy, Hastings, Arundel, Lewes, the site of the battle of Hastings, and Rochester. The outings concluded with a fine buffet supper at Dover Castle, where the conference was the guest of the Ministry of Public Building and Works.

It would be wrong to single out names from the speakers who offered a feast of lectures to the conference, but in many respects the youngest of them made the most interesting, if the most controversial, contribution. Mr. B. K. Davison, rather like Mrs. Armitage in England 60 years ago, had been to Normandy and looked at those castle earthworks for which there is historical evidence that they are earlier than 1066; the surprising fact that emerged was that the great majority are simple enclosures without a citadel mound or motte. This is obviously an advance of the first importance in our knowledge, but it need hardly be said that the conclusion he drew, that the Normans were unfamiliar with mottes when they reached England and that they invented them here in 1068, upset our continental colleagues. Few of his compatriots would perhaps be able to swallow all his views, but the lecture did provide a thought for all to take home: to what extent were the Normans themselves transformed by the giddy success at Hastings; and may a search for Saxon or Norman antecedents before 1066 sometimes cause one to fail to recognize that something is new?

M. W. THOMPSON

THE LONDON CONFERENCE, 1967

The 10th Annual Conference of the Society was held in London from 7-10 April, 1967. The theme of the Conference was 'Medieval archaeology—the next ten years'.

The Conference opened on 7 April with a lecture by Professor W. F. Grimes entitled 'Post-Roman and medieval excavations in London since the war'. Following this lecture there was a dinner in University College to mark the 10th anniversary of the foundation of the Society. Professor Francis Wormald, president of the Society of Antiquaries of London, was the guest of honour. On 8 April the Conference heard lectures by Mr. M. Biddle on 'Urban archaeology—the next ten years', by Mr. R. H. M. Dolley on 'Medieval numismatics—the next ten years', by Mr. P. J. Fowler on 'Agrarian archaeology—the next ten years' and by Mr. B. K. Davison on 'Medieval fortifications—

⁶⁴ Public Record Office, E134, Trinity 28 Elizabeth, no. 16.