

PRE-CONQUEST SCULPTURE OF THE TEES VALLEY (FIG. 47)

During research on the pre-conquest sculpture of the Tees Valley a number of fragments of sculpture was found, and corrections found necessary to the standard accounts of other finds. The standard work on such stones in Co. Durham is by C. C. Hodges,⁴⁰ and that on those of the N. Riding of Yorkshire is by W. G. Collingwood.⁴¹ The large collection of stones, including many from both counties, now in the monks' dormitory, Durham Cathedral, was described by Canon W. Greenwell.⁴² These notes are intended as supplementary notes to these accounts and are simply a guide to the material for other workers, who may be unaware of more recent finds and work on them.⁴³ Eventually the *Corpus of Pre-Norman Sculpture* under the general editorship of Professor Rosemary Cramp will, in its various regional volumes, cover in detail all such stones in England.⁴⁴

CATALOGUE

AYCLIFFE (NZ 283222). The twelve stones mentioned by Hodges are still intact. Eleven are inside the church — the two large cross-shafts on bases at the W. end of the N. and S. aisles, the remainder loose (usually around the chancel in the N. aisle). H. M. Taylor⁴⁵ has confused Hodges nos. i and ii, and no. i is still in Cambridge. Three stones not mentioned by Hodges are built in outside — two plain shafts, one fragment with a bird in relief — as recorded by J. F. Hodgson.⁴⁶ The bird on the fragment has certain similarities to the eagle(?) on Hodges no. v, which may be an evangelist symbol like that at Durham (Greenwell, xx). Three fragments recorded earlier by Hodgson⁴⁷ are now missing.

BARNINGHAM (NZ 085104). Both the stones mentioned by Collingwood are now missing, but it seems likely that they have been grown over in the churchyard. A cross, now loose in the chancel, shows the influence of the pre-conquest plate-headed form of cross, but is quite possibly post-conquest in date.

BILLINGHAM (NZ 457224). The pattern on the three stones in the external S. wall of the tower mentioned by Hodges can no longer be deciphered, although the stones can still be picked out in the fabric of the tower. The architectural detail inside the porch, which has the termination of a floral scroll pattern with pellets, is deteriorating. Several other fragments, together with those which came to light in the rebuilding of the chancel in 1938, are briefly mentioned by E. C. Gilbert.⁴⁸ The two stones built in externally on the N. side of the tower, one with an animal design in interlace, the other possibly originally also with interlace, are deteriorating fast, no doubt due to the industrial pollution in the area. The two grave-markers, with crosses in relief, removed in 1938, are now inside the church on a window-shelf in the S. aisle. On the reverse of one of these is a cruciform design similar to that on the Lindisfarne and Hartlepool grave-markers.⁴⁹

BOLAM 'LEGS CROSS' (NZ 207225). A large weathered cross by the side of the B6275 (on the line of the Roman road from Piercebridge to Binchester), about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile S. of the junction with the A68. The E.-facing side appears to have traces of panels with interlace, but these are too worn to be distinguished clearly.

CRATHORNE (NZ 443076). All stones drawn by Collingwood are extant, and in the positions indicated. J. T. Lang has identified (*a*) as being a Viking-period hogback. Two other hogbacks, also from this site, are now in Durham (monks' dormitory 11), one in two pieces. The further two hogback fragments mentioned by Collingwood (not drawn) as being in the church are now missing. A large plain stepped cross-base is now in the churchyard W. of the S. porch, but there is no diagnostic feature or ornamentation to help date it.

⁴⁰ 'Anglo-Saxon remains', *Victoria County History (V.C.H.), Durham*, I (1905), 211-40 (217-40 on sculpture).

⁴¹ 'Anglian and Anglo-Danish sculpture in the North Riding of Yorkshire', *Yorks. Archaeol. Jnl.*, XIX (1907), with supplementary notes in *ibid.*, XXI (1911), XXIII (1915), and summary in *V.C.H., Yorkshire*, II (1912), 109-31.

⁴² F. J. Haverfield and W. Greenwell, *A Catalogue of the Sculptured and Inscribed Stones in the Cathedral Library, Durham* (Durham, 1899).

⁴³ The writer would be grateful for any further information from other workers about sculpture in this area, or other parts of Yorkshire, that may come to light.

⁴⁴ The material from northern England for the Viking period is being dealt with by the writer, R. N. Bailey and J. T. Lang.

⁴⁵ *Anglo-Saxon Architecture*, I (Cambridge, 1965), 35.

⁴⁶ *Trans. Archit. and Archaeol. Soc. Durham and Northumb.*, VI (1906-11), 12, 18.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*, III (1880-9), 70, fn. 20, nos. 1, 2, and 9.

⁴⁸ *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Newcastle*, 4th ser., XI (1946-50), 204.

⁴⁹ C. D. Morris, *Archaeol. Aeliana*, 5th ser., II (1974), 49-56.

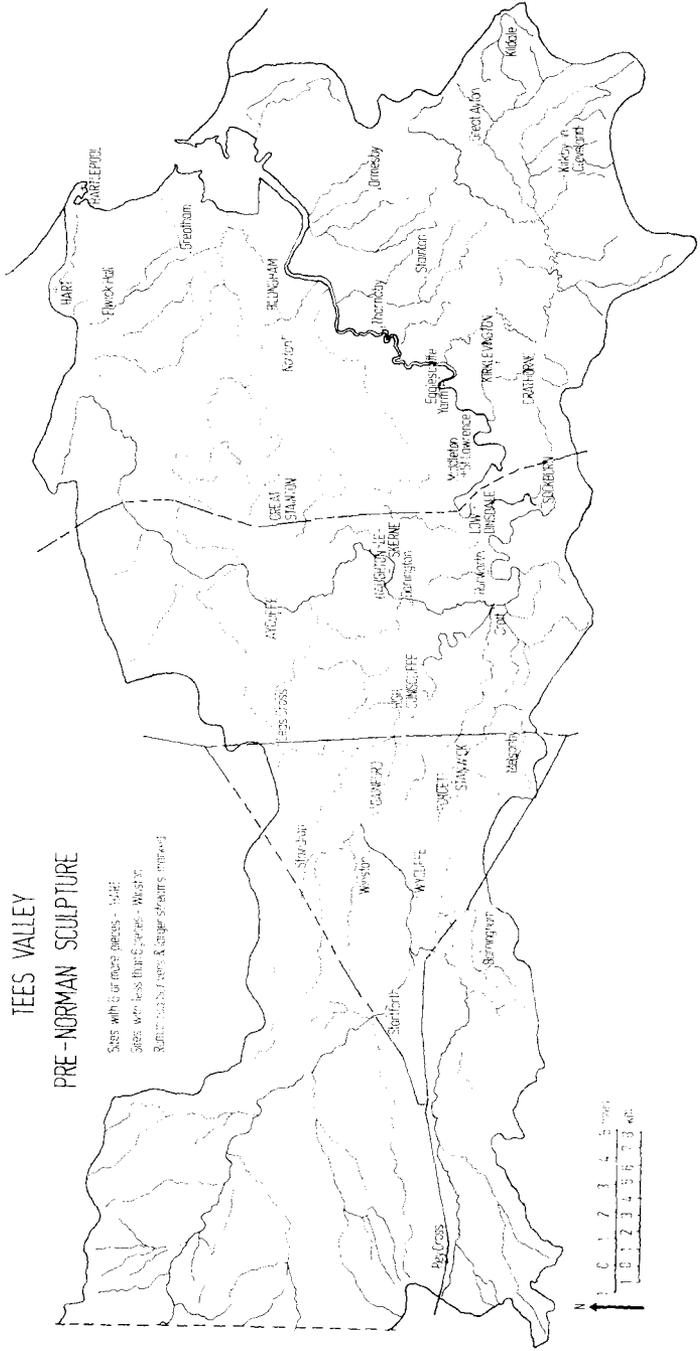


FIG. 47
PRE-CONQUEST SCULPTURE IN THE TEES VALLEY
 Sites with six or more pieces in capitals; sites with less than six pieces in small type.
 Roman roads are marked

CROFT (NZ 289099). Both stones figured by Colingwood are extant, although one (*e, f, g*) is jammed in between a heating-pipe and the wall, so that it is impossible to see the ornamentation on the fourth face. The hogback mentioned by J. Romilly Allen⁵⁰ is still missing.

DARLINGTON (NZ 291144). A fine hogback was rediscovered by J. T. Lang in 1961, and it is now displayed in an aumbry in the N. wall of the N. transept. A fragment with pseudo-interlace designs is stacked with other fragments (of later date) against the external S. wall of the S. transept.

EGGLESCLIFFE (NZ 421132). Inside the S. porch of the church is a baluster-shaft and a cross-shaft with Viking-period ornament on it.

ELWICK HALL (NZ 453322). A round-headed grave-marker, with a cross in relief and interlace designs in the angles between the arms of the cross and the border, is built into the W. side of the chancel wall S. of the arch. Another stone, with a rounded top and figural scene in relief, is built into the N. side of the arch in the same wall.

FORCETT (NZ 176124). Collingwood lists and draws five stones. All are built into the inside walls of the porch, but in fact Collingwood's (*a*) and (*b*) are built in in such a way that the other faces are visible from the outside also. The cross-head (*a*) has basically the same design on the reverse, but the cross-shaft (*b*) (with remnants of the lowest cross-arm) has a second figural scene on the reverse, consisting of two quadrupeds set one above the other, with a coiled serpent below. In addition, other pre-conquest fragments can be distinguished. A second cross-head with knots in the arms around an emphasized central boss is built into the inside of the W. wall of the porch. The arm of a third cross-head is built into the outside of the E. wall of the porch. It is decorated with a terminated eight-strand interlace pattern with flat straps. A small fragment with interlace on it is built into the outside of the S. wall of the chancel, approximately 10 ft. from the E. end, and in the first course of stone above ground level. There is also a grave-slab, with incised decoration on one face only, cemented against the E. wall of the porch, acting as a seat; it is difficult to determine whether this is pre-conquest or post-conquest in date.

GAINFORD (NZ 169167). The two shafts Hodges described as being "over the doorway between the newel staircase of the tower and ringing chamber, and forming the lintel to it" are now placed at the W. end of the church. Unfortunately both have been attached to the wall so that one side of each is inaccessible. However it is clear that the one with chevron designs was ornamented only on one side, and is probably a grave-slab. The face of the shaft has an interesting design of figures enmeshed in interlace, undoubtedly a Viking-age motif.

The fragment "at the E. end of the south aisle" is built in externally. The fragment "on the E. side of the exterior of the porch" is built in sideways approximately 1.47 m. (4 ft. 9 in.) above ground, and has an interesting local interlace pattern (J. Romilly Allen, no. 659).^{50a} The stone "worked with a design resembling an interlaced arcade" is built in upside down into the external E. wall of the porch c. 1.47 m. (4 ft. 9 in.) above ground.

Three stones mentioned by Hodges are now missing — the "two small fragments in the N. angle of the porch" and that "in the garden-wall of the vicarage". Also missing is a hogback not mentioned by Hodges, but described by G. F. Brown⁵¹ and clearly of the house-type rather than end-beast variety.

Two small fragments with interlace designs have come to light in examination of the fabric of the church. One is built into the exterior N. wall between the porch and transept approximately 2.31 m. (7 ft. 7 in.) above ground. The other is built into the S. wall near the SW. corner about 2.29 m. (7 ft. 6 in.) above ground.

Two fragments from either shafts or even hogbacks (of the Crathorne variety) have spiral designs. They are to be found built in 3.20 m. (10 ft. 6 in.) above ground on the external W. wall of the S. aisle, and inside the ringing chamber built into the E. wall 3.05 m. (10 ft. 10 in.) above floor level.

GREAT AYTON (NZ 556108). The 'new' church of Christ Church has no pre-conquest sculpture preserved in it; this is now to be found at the 'old' church of All Saints. All three fragments mentioned by Collingwood are now kept loose inside a cupboard in a niche in the N. wall of the nave constructed out of an old opening now blocked. The fragment removed from "the wall between the vicarage garden and the churchyard" has interlace designs on two faces.

GREATHAM (NZ 493276). In the year in which Hodges's work appeared, important fragments found in restoration were published by the Rev. E. Boddington.⁵² They include two baluster-shafts and one other baluster fragment, a cross-arm, a cross-head fragment, and two other pieces; all are to be found loose inside the church.

⁵⁰ *Chester. Archaeol Jnl.*, v (1893), 148.

^{50a} J. Romilly Allen, *Early Christian Monuments of Scotland* (Edinburgh, 1903), 258.

⁵¹ *Archaeol Jnl.*, XLIV (1887), 147.

⁵² *Archaeol Æliana*, 3rd ser., IX (1912), 11-24.

GREAT STAINTON (NZ 336223) (formerly Stainton-le-Street). The shaft Hodges describes as being in the churchyard was built into the NW. angle of the nave of the old church,⁵³ and presumably was removed in the 1876 restoration. It is now loose in the S. porch. It has a key-pattern and two interlace patterns on the remaining faces.

The "roughly sculptured base of a cross" is now at the W. end of the church behind the font.

The three stones said to be "partly buried in the ground" in the garden of the (now Old) Rectory are no longer to be found; presumably they are completely buried.

HART (NZ 471352). The stones that Hodges describes are now kept together inside the church at the W. end of the S. aisle. The stone described as "part of the head of a cross which had a circular cross patée in a circle" clearly depicts the crucifixion, and a recent find is of part of a fine cross-head with vine scroll on one face, and evangelist symbols on the other surrounding the *Agnus Dei*. A fragment of a shaft with interlace, hitherto undetected, is built low into the external E. wall of the porch.

HARTLEPOOL (NZ 529337). No. 1 of the nine grave-markers is now in the parish church,⁵⁴ but no. 0 is still missing. The rest are in Newcastle Museum of Antiquities, the monks' dormitory at Durham Cathedral, and the British Museum.⁵⁵

HAUGHTON-LE-SKERNE (NZ 308159). Apart from the two stones in the porch mentioned by Hodges, there are also parts of apparently two cross-heads, now without discernible ornament and both built into the interior W. wall of the porch, and a small fragment with the roll moulding from the edge of a shaft. As J. F. Hodgson⁵⁶ mentions "numerous ancient fragments, some of which appear to be Saxon in date" as being in the porch then, it is possible that these three were found before the restoration of 1890. He also described a shaft fragment "built into the wall immediately below the large square opening on the S. side". This is now missing and, since it is not mentioned by Hodges, presumably was lost in the restoration.

The stones built into the N. wall of the nave are essentially as Hodges described them, except that the "small grave-cover or headstone" in the western group is in fact 98 cm. (3 ft. 2½ in.) long not 2 ft. long. Hodges omitted the plain portion below the design in his measurement. The stone he described as "a portion of the ridge of a hogback" is more likely to be the corner fragment of a cross-shaft or slab.

HIGH CONISCLIFFE (NZ 226153). In addition to the stones mentioned by Hodges, there are other fragments built into the fabric of the church. One with an interlace design is built into the internal E. wall of the porch about 34 cm. (1 ft. 1½ in.) above ground. A second, with a step-pattern, is built into the external S. wall of the nave approximately 3.66 m. (12 ft.) above ground. A third, mentioned by Hodgson,⁵⁷ is built in sideways into the external N. wall of the church about 2.13 m. (7 ft.) above ground, and appears to be part of a cross-shaft with a figural scene. Less seems to be remaining than was described by Hodgson. Three stones, also mentioned by Hodgson, cannot now be found: one acting as the "lintel stone of the doorway from the church to the tower", another "the head to the S. window of the lower stage of the tower", and a third forming the "footing of the buttress supporting the chancel arch towards the S."

HURWORTH (NZ 309102). A fragment of a grave-slab in three pieces was found in 1962, and is now in Newcastle Museum.⁵⁸

KILDALE (NZ 604096). The fragment (*a*, *b*) included by Collingwood is now stacked with other fragments of carved stone against the S. side of the tower. The grave-marker (*c*) appears to be missing. However, among the pile of stones is another grave-marker, of different dimensions and cross-design; it appears to be pre-conquest.

KIRKBY-IN-CLEVELAND (NZ 538061). The three stones listed by Collingwood are loose on the E. wall of the S. aisle. Fragment (*a*) has slight traces of designs on other faces also. The cross-head (*b*) has an identical design on the reverse. Cross-arm (*c*) has the fragmentary remains of a ring joining it to the other arms, and the decoration appears to be of some sort of leaf-design; all other faces have been cut away.

KIRKLEVINGTON (NZ 432098). Of the stones listed and drawn by Collingwood (*z*) is now built into the S. wall of the chancel by the arch at St Hilary's Church, Picton (NZ 419078), and (*g*, *h*) is apparently missing. Fragments (*i*) and (*k*) are built into the internal N. wall of the vestry. The "fragment of interlacing built into the E. end outside" is, in fact, built in sideways into the E. wall of the chancel, outside, about 3.7 m. (12 ft.) above ground level. The "morsel of pre-Norman carving near the priest's door, outside" is built in outside into the N. wall of the nave by the junction with the chancel N. wall, partly hidden by a drain-pipe. The "bit of interlacing built in outside the organ-chamber" is in the W. wall of the vestry 15 cm. (6 in.) above the ground and 60 cm. (2 ft.) from the NW. corner. Another small fragment is also to be seen built into the S. wall of the nave, outside, by the second buttress E. of the porch; it appears

⁵³ W. H. D. Longstaffe, *Archaeol. Jnl.*, xii (1885), 196.

⁵⁴ Cf. F. S. Scott, *Archaeologia Aeliana*, 4th ser., xxxiv (1956), 196-212.

⁵⁵ Cf. E. Okasha, *A Handlist of Anglo-Saxon Non-runic Inscriptions* (Cambridge, 1971), 75-6.

⁵⁶ *Trans. Archit. and Archaeol. Soc. Durham and Northumb.*, 1 (1862-8), 145 ff.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.*, 155.

⁵⁸ C. D. Morris, *Archaeol. Aeliana*, 5th ser., 1 (1973), 236-40.

to have the remnants of an interlace pattern on it. It should also be noted that cross-shaft (*aa*, *bb*) is now in two pieces. The upper part is loose in the porch, while the lower part is on the ground outside the W. wall of the porch. All other pieces are arranged against either wall, or on the window-ledges of the S. porch, inside.

LOW DINSDALE (NZ 347113). The hogback, after several vicissitudes, is now broken in two places and stands in the S. porch. A second hogback, mentioned by J. C. Wall,⁵⁹ is now missing.

Clearly one or two stones were not noticed by Hodges, and a longer list is given by E. P. L. Brock.⁶⁰ A grave-marker (no. 11) with an equal-armed cross in relief is built into the internal W. wall of the porch. Three shafts are built into the internal E. wall of the porch near the one Hodges describes as having two figures (no. 5). One (nos. 6 and 7) has interlace designs and an animal head contained in panels, and nos. 8 and 9 also have panels with interlace. There is also a fragment with interlace built in inside over the door of the S. porch, unnoticed by previous writers, and it is possible that the base of the font, inside the church at the E. end of the S. aisle, has faint traces of interlace on it (Brock, no. 13). Two monuments in the churchyard, a coffin-lid and a cross-shaft, are deteriorating in condition owing to lichen. The shaft is particularly affected; its designs are now very difficult to distinguish.

MELSONBY (NZ 201085). The two large Anglian slabs are still on window-ledges at the W. end of the aisles of the church, and fragment (*e*) is kept in the W. vestry along with another small stone, which has a spiral design within plain borders.

MIDDLETON ST GEORGE (NZ 366117). The sundial formerly built into the S. wall is now in a wooden case in a cupboard in the old vestry of Middleton St Lawrence Church (NZ 349124).

NORTON (NZ 443222). As well as the fragments mentioned by Hodges, there is also a cross-shaft fragment with interlace designs in panels built into the S. wall of the chancel. Two crosses, referred to by Longstaffe⁶¹ as being in the churchyard and at Colpitt's Farm (NZ 425234, now Thorney Close Farm), which might indeed be post-conquest rather than pre-conquest, are missing.

ORMESBY (NZ 530168). The two fragments (*a*) and (*b*) are still built in outside, but it seems that (*b*) could possibly be part of a hogback, for there appears to be a curve to the upper part of the pattern not noted by Collingwood. The hogback he recorded is now lying at the E. end of the N. aisle, inside the church underneath the font, which Collingwood also mentioned. Another possible fragment of pre-Norman sculpture is built into the S. wall about 90 cm. (3 ft.) E. of (*b*). Although the pattern is now difficult to distinguish, it could be a leafy ornament. Recently, in excavation in the church Miss M. Brown has recovered "a free-armed cross of 10th-century date decorated on both sides with a central boss and crude interlace ornament".⁶²

REY CROSS (NY 902124). The battered remains of this cross can be seen, but it is now quite impossible to assess whether Collingwood was correct in ascribing it to the pre-conquest period.

SOCKBURN (NZ 349070). Although the stones are no longer in the positions indicated by Hodges, all extant monuments are in the Conyers Chapel on the N. side of the nave of this ruined church. W. H. Knowles⁶³ gives details with drawings of the stones and they can be correlated with Hodges's account. One of those mentioned by both (Knowles no. 6; Hodges "third in the first row") is now missing, as is a hogback, "sculptured on both sides with groups of figures", said to have been taken to Matfen Hall, Northumberland.⁶⁴ The latter is not mentioned by Hodges, although it is possibly the same as Knowles no. 11 (information from J. T. Lang). There was also a shaft fragment referred to by Brock,⁶⁵ which is difficult to find amongst extant fragments, but may be the top of Knowles no. 10. The fragment with "a dog and part of a human hand" (according to Hodges) seems to be missing.

Two small fragments, apparently unrecorded, are also here: one is part of a cross-arm and has a local 'ring-chain' design and an unrecognizable design on the reverse (is *this* Hodges's fragment?); the other is apparently the bottom corner of a shaft, and has two human feet carved on it.⁶⁶

STAINDROP (NZ 131207). Although the sundial mentioned by Hodges is still extant, the other three localized pieces appear now to be missing. The only possible pre-conquest stone is a half of a cross-head with a ring added, now loose at the W. end of the S. aisle.

STANTON (NZ 480140). All three stones recorded by Collingwood are built into the N. wall of the chancel, along with a second cross-head which has little, if any, design visible on its face.

⁵⁹ *Jnl. Antiq. Assoc. British Isles*, 1 (1930), 45.

⁶⁰ *Jnl. Brit. Archaeol. Assoc.*, XLIV (1888), 177.

⁶¹ *Archaeol. Jnl.*, XII (1855), 151.

⁶² Personal information; cf. now *C.B.A. Group 3 Bulletin*, no. 12 (Jan. 1976), 7.

⁶³ *Trans. Archit. and Archaeol. Soc. Durham and Northumb.*, V (1905), 110-20.

⁶⁴ *Reliquary*, n.s., VIII (1894), 71; *V.C.H., Yorks. North Riding*, I (1914), 455.

⁶⁵ *Ibid.*, 409, fig. 15.

⁶⁶ Cf. J. T. Lang, *Archaeol. Æliana*, 4th ser., I (1972), 235-48.

STANWICK (NZ 185120). Fragments 3, 4, and 5 of Collingwood's list are built into the W. wall of the S. aisle; nos. 6 and 7 are not obviously present in the fabric of the church or with other loose stones in the church. Cross-head (*g, h*) is loose at the W. end of the church near the cross (*i, j*), and fragments (*k, l, m, n, o*) are built into the W. wall of the S. aisle inside. Also built into this wall is the central part of what appears to be a grave-marker, and three other fragments of cross-shafts with various interlace designs. In the SW. corner of the porch is built half of a wheel-head cross, which, however, may be post-conquest.

STARTFORTH (NZ 047159). The cross is still in the monks' dormitory, Durham Cathedral (Greenwell, XLIX).

THORNABY-ON-TEES (NZ 451165). Only stone (*a*) is now extant at the church of St Peter in Chains on the green of the old settlement. The E. end of the church is now blocked, so that it appears that the runic stone (*b*) is now lost.

WINSTON (NZ 143169). The cross-head is loose in the S. porch against the E. wall.

WYCLIFFE (NZ 117144). Of the stones mentioned by Collingwood, the hogback fragment (*a*), and the "small bit of well-cut but weathered plait-work" are now missing, but Drs Cowen and Okasha have located the inscribed cross-shaft missing in Collingwood's day at Wycliffe Hall near by.⁶⁷ Shaft fragment (*b, c, d*) is now upside-down on the E. side of the porch, and the hogback against the S. wall of the church, inside. The other two stones (*f, g* and *h*) are against the inside of the N. wall of the church, along with another small fragment with remnants of a pellet-strip.

YARM (NZ 416129). Apart from the shaft fragment in the monks' dormitory, Durham Cathedral (Greenwell, L), there are two hogback fragments noted by Lang in the church (one of which was noted by Collingwood); they are cemented into the vestry wall behind a cupboard.

COMMENTARY

As indicated on the map (FIG. 47) there are thirty-seven sites with pre-conquest sculpture; although there are *c.* 300 fragments from this area, they are not found uniformly. There are large concentrations at particular places, with over thirty pieces at Gainford and Sockburn, over twenty at Kirklevington, Aycliffe and Stanwick, and also large groups at Billingham, Low Dinsdale, Haughton-le-Skerne and Hart. All these places, then, were clearly important centres in the pre-conquest period, and the accident of discovery may in time reveal that other places, too, were of similar importance.

Of the thirty-seven sites, only six have produced evidence in the fabric of the church at the site for a pre-conquest origin on architectural grounds (Aycliffe, Billingham, Hart, Norton, Sockburn and Staindrop).⁶⁸ Only one of these (Hart) is not, as such, mentioned in pre-conquest contexts in documentary sources. Five other sites with pre-conquest sculpture, but no evidence for an Anglo-Saxon church fabric, are mentioned in such sources (Darlington, Gainford, Hartlepool, Startforth and Wycliffe). This means that the identification of the existence of pre-conquest sculpture has added twenty-six religious sites to the eleven already known from the area from documentary or architectural evidence.

It is not possible to assert that all these sites were necessarily the sites of stone churches. Some of the fragments may represent preaching crosses, which could well have preceded any actual building on the site, although there are few cross fragments in this area with the elaborate iconographic schemes of those at Ruthwell or Bewcastle. Again, a considerable number of fragments are undoubtedly from grave-monuments; even if it is necessary to assume that a graveyard always had a church, the church may not have been of stone. In the Celtic world early stone grave-markers are found at sites, such as Ardwall Isle or Church Island, where the earliest structures were of wood.⁶⁹ Again, it is argued that hogbacks are basically non-Christian monuments,⁷⁰ so that they may be taken to imply the existence of a non-Christian religious site, but it is interesting to note that all the sites were or became the sites of Christian churches.

⁶⁷ Op. cit. in note 55, 129.

⁶⁸ Op. cit. in note 45.

⁶⁹ C. Thomas, *Early Christian Archaeology of North Britain* (Glasgow, 1971), 68 ff.

⁷⁰ J. T. Lang, *Hogbacks in NE. England*, unpublished M.A. thesis, Durham University (1967), chap. 7 *passim*.

However, examination of the fragments has enabled a small group of stones to be identified as church-fittings (which presumably, therefore, presuppose a stone building). A baluster-shaft has been found at Eggescliffe, and there are others at Hart and Great-ham. A floral scroll at Billingham, and two stones at Stanwick look like parts of decorative friezes. More difficult to assess are the sundials, said to be Saxon, at Staindrop, Hart, and Middleton St George. A pre-conquest origin has been claimed at various times for the fonts at Aycliffe (now lost) and Ormesby.

Of the types of monument represented, apart from about fifteen church-fittings, a substantial number were grave-monuments: twenty-eight grave-markers and twenty grave-slabs and covers have been distinguished, apart from the twenty-eight hogbacks. Although a number of stones are fragments of indeterminate form, a considerable proportion of the remaining 200 or so must be from free-standing stone crosses. Some of these may well join, so that the total number of crosses represented will be less; even so the impression is that a large proportion of the total number of fragments is from crosses. Since few appear to have an elaborate iconography, it appears that the bulk were probably memorial crosses, although in the area under discussion inscriptions are by no means as common on crosses as they are on grave-markers.

Detailed analysis of the material is beginning to show distinctive features in the forms of the monuments, and in the styles of decoration. Such analysis is beyond the scope and purpose of this note which is simply to draw attention again to this neglected but vital source of information for the pre-conquest period.

C. D. MORRIS

RICHARD FITZ TUROLD, LORD OF PENHALLAM, CORNWALL

In a recent issue of this journal Guy Beresford described the excavation of a medieval Cornish manor house of the late 12th and 13th centuries at Penhallam in the parish of Jacobstow, Cornwall.⁷¹ The site chosen for this manor house, now known as Bury Court, was within the confines of an earlier ring-work which was probably in existence at the time of the Domesday Survey.

The manor of Penhallam was held in 1086 by Richard fitz Turolde⁷² and formed part of an extensive fee which was to become known in the 13th and 14th centuries as the honour of Cardinham. Richard, in turn, held his lands from the king's half-brother, Count Robert of Mortain who, with 1,002 manors valued at £2,000, ranked as the most important secular landholder in the country after the king.⁷³ In Cornwall, particularly, his position was supreme with some 277 estates worth £424 and housing an enumerated population of almost 3,500 persons.⁷⁴ The count appears to have received, in fact, the entire county except for the royal, ecclesiastical and two minor estates.⁷⁵

Analysis of the Mortain fee in Cornwall as recorded in Domesday Book yields a valuable indication of the position of Richard fitz Turolde within the county. For his demesne Count Robert retained twenty-two manors valued at £243 and subinfeudated the remainder among some forty-four tenants. It is unusual that the majority were English (twenty-eight), but collectively their sixty-seven estates rendered a mere £31 and they were evidently of little feudal importance. There were also a few Breton tenants and one Fleming while the Normans numbered only twelve, but their superiority is indicated by the fact that they controlled 155 manors to the value of nearly £123. It can be shown, however, that eight of these Normans were of only minor status, with a

⁷¹ *Medieval Archaeol.*, xviii (1974), 90-145.

⁷² *Domesday Book* (Record Commissioners), III, f. 259.

⁷³ I. N. Soulsby, *The Fiefs in England of the Counts of Mortain*, M.A. thesis, University of Wales (1974), 73.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*, 183.

⁷⁵ These were 'Forchetestona' and 'Pighesdona': *D.B.*, III, ff. 334b, 397b.