

## OUTSTANDING WIDE RINGS COMMON TO MUCH OF NW. EUROPE

950, 985, 999  
 1012, 1013, 1030, 1037, 1052, 1056, 1068, 1074, 1082, 1089, 1093  
 1100, 1108, 1117, 1130, 1140, 1146, 1149, 1153, 1160, 1168-69, 1182-83, 1187, 1190-91, 1196  
 1201, 1210-11, 1219, 1229-30, 1240-41, 1249-51, 1255-56, 1266, 1275, 1291  
 1303, 1309-10, 1317, 1327-29, 1376, 1386  
 1402-03, 1409-10, 1436, 1451, 1456, 1474-75, 1487, 1496  
 1509, 1515, 1528, 1531, 1535, 1541, 1555, 1562, 1570, 1580  
 1607, 1613, 1627, 1632, 1655, 1664, 1673, 1688  
 1704, 1713, 1727, 1738, 1761, 1763, 1774, 1783, 1789, 1792, 1797  
 1829, 1834, 1848-49, 1867, 1875, 1886  
 1900, 1912, 1931, 1936, 1947, 1950, 1966

D. J. SCHOVE

## NOTES

<sup>23</sup> D. J. Schove and A. W. G. Lowther, 'Tree-Rings and Medieval Archaeology', *Medieval Archaeol.*, 1 (1957), 78-95; and cf. III (1959), 288-90.

<sup>24</sup> D. J. Schove, 'Dendrochronological dating of oak from Old Windsor, Berkshire c.650-906', *Medieval Archaeol.*, xvii (1974), 165-72 (and see p. 166, note 91).

<sup>25</sup> J. M. Fletcher, 'Tree-ring chronologies in the 6th to 16th centuries for oaks of southern and eastern England', *J. Archaeol. Science*, 4 (1977), 335-52, and see Table 4, p. 342.

<sup>26</sup> D. Eckstein, E. Hollstein, W. A. van Es, 'Beitrag zur Datierung der frühmittelalterlichen Siedlung Dorestad, Holland', *Berichten van de Rijksdienst voor het Oudheidkundig Bodemonderzoek*, 25 (1975), 167-75; E. Hollstein: a summary and bibliography of his work is given in J. M. Fletcher (ed.), *Dendrochronology in Europe* (Oxford, B.A.R., International Series no. 51, 1978), 33 ff.

<sup>27</sup> For the useful floating chronology of Portchester, see J. M. Fletcher and A. Dabrowska, 'Tree-ring examination of timbers from the sixth-century well at Portchester Castle', *Archaeometry*, 18 (1976), 92-99.

<sup>28</sup> Op. cit. note 25, Table 8.

<sup>29</sup> Schove, op. cit. note 1.

<sup>30</sup> J. M. Fletcher and R. Switsur, 'North Elmham — the Dating', *Current Archaeol.*, 36 (January 1973), 25-27.

<sup>31</sup> J. M. Fletcher in V. Fenwick (ed.), *The Graveney Boat* (Oxford, B.A.R., 53, 1978), 123.

<sup>32</sup> D. J. Schove, 'Varve Teleconnections across the Baltic', *Geografiska Annaler*, Ser. A. 53 (1971), 214-34.

<sup>33</sup> Compare, V. Siebenlist-Kerner, D. J. Schove and J. M. Fletcher, 'The Barn at Great Coxwell, Berkshire', Fletcher (ed.), op. cit. note 26, 295-302.

<sup>34</sup> In Fletcher (ed.), op. cit. note 26, 238.

<sup>35</sup> D. J. Schove, 'Tree-ring and Varve Scales Combined c.1350 B.C. to A.D. 1977', *Palaeogeography, Palaeoecology, Palaeoclimatology*, 25 (1978), 209-33.

<sup>36</sup> Schove and Lowther, op. cit. note 23.

<sup>37</sup> Schove, op. cit. note 24, 166 note 10.

<sup>38</sup> Fletcher, op. cit. note 25, 247 ref. 1.

<sup>39</sup> *Ibid.*, 347, Table 6.

<sup>40</sup> WA/3 in Schove and Lowther, op. cit. note 23.

## THE CHAPEL AT HARLOWBURY, HARLOW, ESSEX (Figs. 3 and 4)

The chapel at Harlowbury appears at first sight to be wholly of Norman and later date, on the evidence of its windows and doorway which would suit a date in the last quarter of the 12th century. But we believe that these Norman features of dressed stone are later insertions into an earlier unbuttressed rectangular building of rough rubble and tile. The evidence for this belief needs further investigation in better weather. Meantime we set down the evidence provided by the roof itself. The whole extent of the original building was covered by a single ridged roof whose rafters were set in inclined trenches in the tops of the side-walls as shown in Figs. 3 and 4. At a later date, about 1300, the roof was drastically reconstructed, as its crown-post capitals and collar-purlin scarf indicate. At this time the upper arrisses of the walls were cut down to a level plane surface on which wall-plates could be laid, and the inclined trenches for the rafters' feet were filled with rubble and mortar. At both E. and W. gables, however, the embedded mid-wall rafter-couples were left *in situ* and their collars lowered to the height of the new

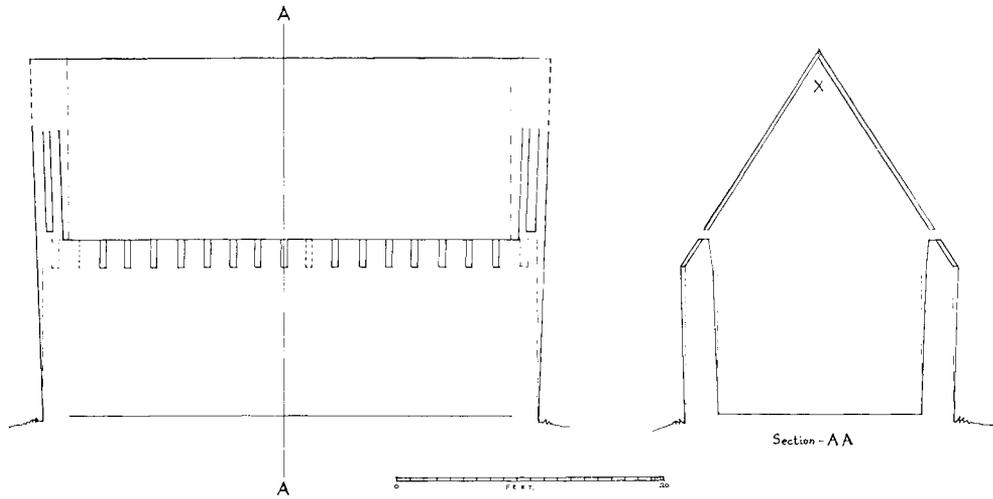


FIG. 3

## HARLOWBURY CHAPEL, HARLOW, ESSEX

- (a) Elevation of N. wall with rafter trenches in both gables and along the canted upper wall surface;  
 (b) Cross-section at A-A on Fig. 1. Original vertical lines drawn in chain, present variations actually shown. Original roof-pitch  $57^\circ$ ; 'X' shows existing apex position

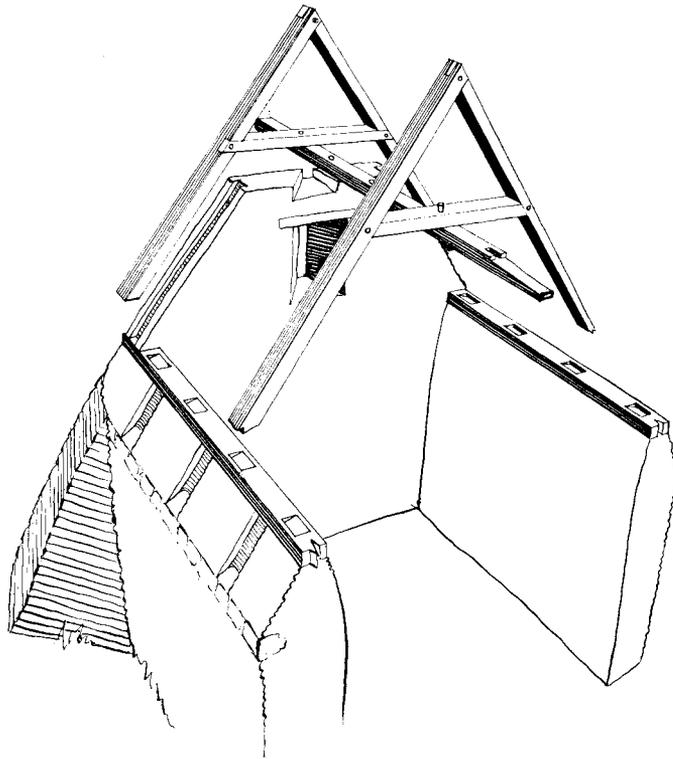


FIG. 4

## HARLOWBURY CHAPEL, HARLOW, ESSEX

Perspective, showing original wall and gable trenches for the receipt of the rafters and the later wall-plate with original gable-couple and one later common-couple. Both couples and their collar-purlin shown lifted clear of their seatings

collars. The marked difference of patination between the gable-couples and the later ones is supported by entirely contrasting assembly joints. The gable-couples are halved at their apexes and squint-trenched for their collars, the newer couples bridled at their apexes and with chase-tenoned collars; in addition all the later rafters' feet fit accurately into diminished butt-coggings, whilst the gable-couples were truncated to admit the insertion of the plates sidewise in the level plane.

The fabric, as it has survived, presents many unresolved complexities, but overall, provides the most complete evidence yet available for the ridged roofing in timber of stone buildings during the late Saxon period. The similarity of this roofing method to that surviving over the nave of St Martin's church, Canterbury, and to the Rhenish helm at Sompting, Sussex, is probably conclusive evidence for a widespread use of this type of eaves assembly.

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#### 14 ST PAUL'S STREET, STAMFORD (Figs. 5 and 6)

No. 14 St Paul's Street was investigated in 1973, when it appeared to have been an aisled hall of the 13th century.<sup>41</sup> Sufficient evidence for a satisfactory understanding of the building was not available, and it had been possible in the past to propose other interpretations of the visible features.<sup>42</sup> Extensive alterations in 1976-77 showed that substantial portions of the 13th-century hall survived within the present house.

The 13th-century house, of which only the hall survives, was of two distinct phases. The first, early 13th-century, hall was of stone, parallel to the road, on the N. side of St Paul's Street, and had a two-bay wall-arcade on the E. gable wall. There is nothing to indicate the number or arrangement of other rooms in this or the next phase. Later in the 13th century the hall, and presumably the rest of the house, was remodelled. The insertion of a three-bay arcade created an aisled hall with a single aisle on the N. side. In the 17th and early 18th centuries this hall was again remodelled to form the present house.

Of the first, early 13th century, phase of the hall only the N. end of the E. gable wall is identifiable, having the N. half of a wall arch which can be reconstructed as part of a two-bay wall-arcade occupying the width of a hall roofed in a single span (Fig. 5, where the later 13th-century roof pitch and eaves level of the front wall have been adopted for the reconstruction). The wall arch was semicircular and of a single chamfered order with a hollow-moulded hood-mould enriched with floral paterae. It springs from an abacus (Fig. 5) which rests on a head corbel with tall foliated top.<sup>43</sup> Below this the jamb of the recess is set back slightly, but it is not clear whether this is original or a later alteration. The surviving part of the wall arcade ends abruptly on the line of the later 13th-century arcade, and S. of this point the wall face has been rebuilt a little further E. thus destroying any other evidence of the wall arches. The date of this rebuilding is earlier than the 17th century, when a fireplace was added against the wall, and could be medieval.

Phase 2, the late 13th-century remodelling, accounts for all of the remaining medieval features of the house. At the W. end of the S. wall is a door with two-centred head, 9 ft 4 in. high. Externally there is a hood-mould, now cut back and plastered over, and a keel-moulded arch rising from shafts with undecorated capitals; internally similar shafts, now mutilated, rose to the rear-arch which is now concealed. To the W. is a short length of external string-course, at springing level, possibly reset. Part of the two-centred rear-arch of a window was found, with chamfered arris and roll-moulded internal hood-mould. This was placed so far to the E. end of the S. wall as to suggest that originally there were two windows lighting the hall on this side. The N. wall, which was lower than in phase 1, had no early features save the E. jamb of a large door directly opposite the door in the S. wall.