

point to a significant building on an E–W. axis in D5–6 extending to and beyond the E–W. ‘boundary’ of D, E6.

The immediate environs of the building complex reveal considerable variations. To the S. and W. are the large resistance contrasts emphasised in the ridge and furrow and the adjacent scarp edge of Cayton Gill. To the N. and E., however, resistivity levels, typically 30 ohm metre, are generally low. Superimposed on this background appear simple linear features running generally N–S. and E–W. suggesting division of the land into simple plots which may be interpreted as garden areas. Thus the combined survey reveals the presence of a significant rural establishment with its own industrial support, overlooking the fish-farming activity of Cayton Gill to the W. and the agricultural environment of the presumed Cayton village to the S. and E. Further surveys of the area will be undertaken in 1993 in an attempt to elucidate these links.

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#### NOTES

<sup>1</sup> But see A. Bartlett and A. David, ‘Geophysical Prospecting’, in P. D. Catherall, M. Bennett and H. McClean (eds.), *The Southern Feeder: The archaeology of a gas pipeline* (London, 1988), 197–208; A. Aspinall and J. A. Pocock, ‘Geophysical surveys in Eastern Yorkshire’, in T. G. Manby (ed.), *Archaeology in Eastern Yorkshire: Essays in honour of T. C. M. Breuster* (Sheffield, 1988), 12–24.

<sup>2</sup> C. Platt, *The Monastic Grange in Medieval England* (London, 1969), 88–90, 196–97.

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### DONALD HARDEN 1901–1994 (Pl. xv, A)

#### OBITUARY

Donald Benjamin Harden, C.B.E., M.A., Ph.D, Hon. F.B.A., F.S.A. was born in Dublin on 8 July 1901 and died on 13 April 1994 at the age of 92. He was educated at Westminster and Trinity College, Cambridge. From 1926 to 1928 he was a Commonwealth Fund Fellow at Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he worked on Romano-Egyptian glass from Karanis. This led to his lifelong interest in glass, culminating in his three Presidential addresses to the Royal Archaeological Institute (1966–69) and the Glass of the Caesars exhibition (1987). He became Assistant Keeper of Antiquities at the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford in 1929 and Keeper (1945–56) when, providentially for medieval studies, he moved to be Director of the London Museum. On retirement, in 1970, he continued working on glass in the British Museum for nearly twenty years. Most obituaries have concentrated on his major contribution to glass studies, and his museum work, but Donald’s crucial role in the advancement of medieval archaeology has not been so widely reported. That we now have a flourishing Society for Medieval Archaeology, and a journal with an international reputation, stems largely from his expertise, enthusiasm and dedication over the years.

I first met Donald at the British Association in 1948 when I was about to go up to Cambridge. From this point he was the main mentor in my career. He was generous in support and advice, as he was to many students. When I was becoming rather bored with prehistory at Cambridge he encouraged me to branch out to take up medieval research and was instrumental in my joining the then Ministry of Works. In asking me to lecture on Deserted Medieval Villages in 1952 he concentrated my thoughts on the subject, and its possibilities, which led to the formation of the Deserted Medieval Village Research Group and 40 years’ excavation at Wharram Percy. Although Donald’s main interests were in glass he became interested in Saxon sites near Oxford from his work in the Ashmolean. In 1956 he edited *Dark-Age Britain*, a series of fourteen essays dedicated to E. T. Leeds. This was in effect a prerun of a volume of *Medieval Archaeology*, demonstrating Donald’s clear editorial

expertise. So, when David Wilson and I were discussing the possible formation of a medieval society, it seemed natural to turn to Donald for help as the member of the establishment who might best assist two rather brash young graduates to further their ideas. Donald was immediately enthusiastic and wrote, on 11 November 1956, 'I have long had it in mind that a new periodical covering the later British fields of archaeology is necessary and was thinking of raising the matter after I got to London' (his move to the London Museum). A meeting was arranged within a week and consultations took place with a widening circle of archaeologists. Donald was able to obtain the support of the establishment, getting the approval of the Society of Antiquaries. He persuaded its President, Sir Mortimer Wheeler, to chair the initial meetings, enabling the Society for Medieval Archaeology to be formed in a period of less than six months.

Donald's experience and influence was the main reason that the Society took off. His Editorship of *Medieval Archaeology* for seventeen volumes created a journal of international stature. He was our President from 1975 to 1977 and then became an Honorary Vice-President. The Society therefore owes Donald a great debt. He was a wise and generous counsellor, as I know from personal experience over nearly 50 years. His jovial personality, with his distinctive white hair and bow tie, will be long remembered by members of this Society.

JOHN HURST

#### THE NORTHERN IRELAND CONFERENCE 1994

The 1994 Annual Residential Conference was held in Northern Ireland and was hosted by the Environment Service of the Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland. It was based in Belfast, and Ken Neill acted as Local Secretary.

The conference began on Tuesday 5 April with a lecture by Dr Tom McNeill on what he argued to be the Three Ages of medieval archaeology in Northern Ireland, followed by a reception at the School of Geosciences, Queen's University. On Wednesday visits were made to Grey Abbey where Marion Meek acted as a guide to the tower houses at Portaferry, Strangford, and Kilclief, to the Mound of Down, Inch Abbey, and to Nendrum, where Dr Ann Hamlin conducted the Society around the site. In the evening there was a lecture by Dr Chris Lynn on his excavations at Greencastle.

On Thursday 7 April conference visited sites in south and west Down: the castles at Clough, Dundrum, Dromore, Narrow Water and Greencastle where at the last Dr Lynn acted as guide, Drumena cashel and souterrain and Lisnagade Rath. In the evening there was a private viewing of the St Patrick exhibition and a wine reception at the Ulster Museum. On Friday sites were visited in Antrim including Antrim round tower, Dunluce castle, Bonamargy Friary, Balleygalley tower house and Carrickfergus Castle. At Carrickfergus a collation was provided by the Environment Service within the refurbished keep. This provided the President of the Society with the opportunity to thank both the Environment Service, and especially Mr Neill, who acted as guide and host on all three days, for organizing such a smoothly run and enjoyable conference.

PAUL STAMPER