

direct evidence, but the fields in the vicinity are strewn with chipped flakes of Neolithic age. I have, however, picked out chipped flints from the fosse at Sidbury and Danebury, and within the outer circle of Old Sarum. This, I think, points to the occupation of these circles in Neolithic times and probably the camps and the ways, including the Ridgeway, were built by the same peoples, but this gives one an approximate date only, from 10000 to 2000 B.C.

Some more definite evidence might be obtained by a little judicious excavation near the entrances of the camps. A section across ditches and ramps might unearth pottery and implements which would indicate a more definite date and fix the stage of culture which the builders had reached.

At present I am inclined to think that the camps and roads and the Long Barrow belong to the same period, Neolithic and pre-Bronze, and that the White Horse and the Weyland Smith legend is much later and may belong to the Bronze or Iron age, say between 1500 B.C. and 700 A.D.

This small part of Berkshire, therefore, carries us back through a very long vista of prehistoric times, and probably still is guarding jealously many secrets which careful and persistent investigation may one day bring to light.

A Survey of Wallingford in 1550

BY THE REV. J. E. FIELD.

(Continued from Vol. 23, No. 2, page 64.)

Fish Street, east side (*continued*).

- (10) Ralph Polhampton holds there one tenement [free, 1561] with garden adjacent, called Glasiers, in length 106 ft. and in breadth 38 ft., formerly Elizabeth Polhampton's, and he pays per annum *iiij*s., *xij*d. [freely, 1561].
- (11) The same Ralph holds another tenement there, called Osgotes, with garden adjacent, in length 52 ft. and in breadth 20 ft., formerly in the tenure

of Elizabeth Polhampton, and he pays per annum, as appears in the ancient rental, *ijs.* [He refuses *xijd.* 1561].

- (12) The said Ralph holds there another tenement in the occupation of John Juelle, with curtilage adjacent, in length 120 ft. and in breadth 44 ft., and pays per annum *ijs.*

[The figures *xxvjs.* *viijd.*, *xs.*, and *xijs.* are prefixed to these three entries respectively in the hand of 1561.]

- (13) *xvs.* [now William Redyng's, *xxjs.* 1561] John Austell holds there one tenement in the tenure of William Heron with garden and curtilage adjacent, in length 160 ft. and in breadth 22 ft., formerly Elizabeth Polhampton's, and pays *vjd.*

- (14) [*xvjs.* 1561.] Thomas Keyman holds at will one tenement with garden and curtilage, in length 105 ft. and in breadth 60 ft., lately John Higgons, and pays per annum *xd.*, *iijs.*, *viijs.* *ijd.* [*xijs.* Query purchased by Thomas Mörrys for Ralph Pollyngton as shown in letters patent dated 10th May, 4 Edw. VI. added in 1561.]

- (15) *xvjs.* Ralph Polhamptone holds one tenement, with garden and curtilage adjacent, containing half an acre and abutting on the tenement held by Thomas Ceyman towards the north, and pays *nil, nil, nil, nil, iijs.* [purchased by Hatchman, 1561.]

- (16) *vs.* [*xs.*, 1561] Richard Willmot of Cholsey holds one tenement in the tenure of Hugh Holdernes with garden and curtilage adjacent, in length 45 ft. and in breadth 45 ft., lately in the tenure of the rector of St. Leonard's there, and pays *iijs.*, *nil, ijs.*

- (17) *vjs.* *viijd.* Richard Dandridge holds one tenement in the tenure of Thomas Simes with garden and curtilage adjacent, in length 55 ft. and in breadth 12 ft., formerly of the prioress of Goryng, and pays per annum, as appears in the ancient rental, *ijs.* *vjd.* [*viijd.* 1561].

- (18) *vs.* [*viijs.* 1561] The warden of the Church of St. Mary the More holds one tenement with garden

adjacent, in length 80 ft. and in breadth 50 ft., lately in the occupation of Robert Dobynson, and pays per annum ijs. iiij*d*.

- (19) Hugh Clerke holds at will a garden [customary, 1561] in length 60 ft. and in breadth 37 ft., lying in a certain lane there, and pays per annum *nil*, vjd.

Here we have a series of ten holdings from the Corn Exchange alley to this lane which we identify with what is now the New Road.¹ The present frontage between these two points is 497 ft. We may omit the garden last named (19) as being probably down the lane and towards Wood Street and not extending up to Fish Street. Then the frontages of the nine holdings (10-18) in the Survey will be found to amount altogether to 723 ft., in addition to the half-acre of which the frontage is not stated (No. 15).

The question as to the position of Hart Street arises first. It is 182 ft. from the Corn Exchange alley. In the Survey we begin with three tenements held by Ralph Polhampton. Two of them (10, 11) are 106 ft. and 52 ft., making together 24 ft. short of the present frontage; and the third is 120 ft., which brings us far beyond it. The 24 ft. may be accounted for as having been waste ground which has since been enclosed along the edges of the two lanes. We may conclude that the third tenement (12), which is 44 ft. in breadth, lies behind the others which are respectively 38 ft. and 20 ft.; this one being reckoned to Fish Street, as in other cases that have been noticed, though really belonging to Wood Street. If this be so, the whole area bounded by Fish Street, the Corn Exchange alley, Wood Street, and Hart Street, is the property of Ralph Polhampton.

When we examine the remaining tenements (13-19) we have little to guide us as to their relative positions. The present frontage from Hart Street to New Road is 315 ft. We have to compare the figures in the Survey with a view to some conjecture as to which tenements face Fish Street and which are behind them towards Wood Street. We seem to get a reasonable scheme if we take Nos. 13, 17, 18, as fronting Fish Street, their measurements being 160 ft., 55 ft. and 80 ft. (295 ft.), allowing, as before, a margin of 10 ft. for

waste ground along each of the lanes. Then we have in Wood Street Nos. 14, 15, 16, and (as already shown) 19, in which the frontage of the half-acre (15) is not stated and the three others are respectively 105 ft., 45 ft. and 60 ft., making 210 ft. besides the half-acre. Then comparing their breadths we have along Hart Street 22 ft. for No. 13 and 60 ft. for No. 14, making together 82 ft.; and along New Road we have 50 ft. for No. 18 and 37 ft. for No. 19, making 87 ft. Thus the middle space in Wood Street is occupied by the half-acre (15) which abuts, as we are told, on No. 14 northward; and south of it we have the plot of 45 ft. square, held by Richard Willmot.

There is a special interest about No. 15, for the summary at the conclusion of the Survey of this side of Fish Street shows that 4s. is due to Dorchester Abbey, and the figures in this instance, setting 4s. in the fifth place, point to this as the tenement on which it is charged. Before 1561, as the entry shows, it had been 'purchased by Hatchman'; and among the rents of assise belonging to the honor of Wallingford, on fol. 15 of the Survey, we find Roger Hacheman holding a sluice on the Thames called Hudsubttes (which was above Clapcot). He was the tenant of Overy Mill at Dorchester in 1536²; and he appears in the 'Ministers' Accounts' of that year as Surveyor and Warden of the Woods of Dorchester, Rewley and Goring.³ We find another coincidence in the fact that Thomas Polhamptonne held a messuage in Wallingford under Dorchester Abbey in 1536,⁴ and the tenement before us was held by Ralph Polhampton in 1550. We presume also that it is one of the two holdings mentioned under Wallingford in the Domesday Survey: 'Bishop Remigius holds one enclosure (*hagam*) of iiij pence': 'Bishop Remigius holds one house (*domum*) belonging to Dorchester paying xij pence.'

Under No. 16 it may be noted that the Willmots are a yeoman family of long standing in Cholsey. A brass commemorating John Willmot, who died in 1529, and Agnes his wife, formerly existed in Cholsey Church, and has been renewed in recent years by the late Mr. George Bisley Willmott.

² Addington's *Dorchester*, 170.

³ *Ibid.*, 161.

⁴ *Ibid.*, 158