

REPORT OF THE SUMMER MEETING OF THE ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE AT BRIGHTON IN 1959

The Summer Meeting of 1959 was held at Brighton from Monday, 6th July, to Saturday, 11th July, in association with the Sussex Archaeological Society, the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society and the Regency Society of Brighton and Hove.

Brighton has not before been visited by the Institute. The last meeting in East Sussex was held at Lewes in 1883, and is reported in Volume XLI of the *Archaeological Journal*. Some of the places visited from Brighton were included in the programmes of the meetings at Tunbridge Wells in 1905 (*Arch. J.* Vol. LXII) and Chichester in 1935 (*Arch. J.* Vol. XCII).

The Patrons of the Meeting were the Archdeacon of Chichester, The Venerable L. Mason, M.A. (President, Sussex Archaeological Society); The Lord Lieutenant, His Grace The Duke of Norfolk; Mrs. Evelyn Emmett, J.P., M.P.; The Right Worshipful The Mayor of Brighton; Lieut. Colonel L. G. M. Keevil (President, Brighton & Hove Archaeological Society); J. L. Denman, Esq., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., J.P. (Chairman, The Regency Society of Brighton & Hove); and I. D. Margary, Esq., F.S.A.

The Local Committee for the Meeting was formed by Mr. Margary, and Dr. A. E. Wilson, F.S.A. The Institute is indebted to them, and to Dr. E. Cecil Curwen, O.B.E., F.S.A., Mr. Antony Dale, B.Litt., F.S.A., and Mr. L. F. Salzman, C.B.E., M.A., F.S.A. for their introductory articles and for their services as guides.

For their generous hospitality we would wish to thank the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Brighton for the Reception in the Pavilion, and Mr. Margary for his invitation to luncheon at East Grinstead. We are also particularly indebted to Mr. Margary for his help in preliminary arrangements for the Meeting, his work on the programme, and his guidance during the week.

The President, Professor W. F. Grimes, C.B.E., M.A., F.S.A., F.M.A., was present throughout the Meeting, which was attended by 116 members and their guests.

The following report of the Meeting follows the order of events given in the synopsis of the programme¹ below:

MONDAY, 6th JULY. The Devil's Dyke, Clayton Church, Hollingbury Camp.

Evening: Reception by the Rt. Worshipful the Mayor of Brighton, and tour of the Royal Pavilion.

TUESDAY, 7th JULY. West Dean Rectory and Church, Pevensey Castle, Martello Tower No. 60 at Pevensey Bay, Herstmonceux Castle, Wilmington Priory and Church, Firl Place and Church.

WEDNESDAY, 8th JULY. Lindfield Village, Worth Church, Sackville College at East Grinstead, Withyham Church, Bayham Abbey, Ashdown Forest.

THURSDAY, 9th JULY. Old Shoreham Church, Sompting Church, Arundel Church and Fitzalan Chapel, Amberley Castle; and either Cissbury Ring or Parham House, and New Shoreham Church.

FRIDAY, 10th JULY. Etchingam Church, Bodiam Castle, Rye Church and town, the medieval town of Winchelsea, Alfriston Church and Priest's House.

SATURDAY, 11th JULY. Tour of Regency Brighton, Anne of Cleves House Museum at Lewes, Lewes Priory, Southover Church, Lewes Castle, and Barbican House Museum, Lewes.

¹ Reference to the 1-inch Ordnance Survey Map (New Popular Edition); Sheet 182: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday. Sheet 183: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday. Sheet 184: Friday.

The Council thanks all those who acted as guides or prepared the programme notes: Viscount Gage, K.C.V.O., Mr. Baillie Reynolds, Dr. Peter Eden, Mr. Christopher Emmett, J.P., Mr. W. E. Godfrey, Mr. W. H. Godfrey, Mr. Rupert Gunnis, Mr. Clifford Musgrave, the Hon. Clive Pearson, Mr. S. E. Rigold, Mr. E. Clive Rouse, Mr. R. S. Simms, Mr. J. T. Smith, Mr. F. W. Steer, Col. T. Sutton and Dr. A. E. Wilson.

For permission to visit the various monuments we are grateful to His Grace the Duke of Norfolk (The Fitzalan Chapel at Arundel), the Marquess of Camden (Bayham Abbey), Viscount Gage (Firle Place), the Astronomer Royal (Herstmonceux Castle), Mrs. Evelyn Emmett (Amberley Castle), Mrs. Florence Hamilton (West Dean Rectory), the Hon. Clive Pearson (Parham House), the Ministry of Works (Herstmonceux and Pevensey Castles), the National Trust (the Clergy House at Alfriston, and Bodiam Castle), the Sussex Archaeological Society (Anne of Cleves House and Barbican House, Lewes, and Wilmington Priory), and the incumbents of the churches visited.

The following abbreviations are used in the Programme:—

- Arch. J.* Archaeological Journal.
- S.A.C.* Sussex Archaeological Collections.
- S.N.Q.* Sussex Notes and Queries.

THE GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY OF SUSSEX

By I. D. MARGARY

The area known as the Weald covers a large part of Sussex, west Kent and southern Surrey, being bounded by ridges of chalk on the north, west and south (the well-known North and South Downs), and by the sea, or marshes formerly under sea, on the east. Geologically, it is in effect a huge layered dome whose centre has been pressed upward and then sliced off horizontally (by gradual denudation and weathering), so that the truncated layers come to the surface in regular sequence as one crosses it from south to north, thus:—Chalk (South Downs), the most recent layer; Gault Clay (near Clayton); Greensand (Hassocks); Weald Clay (Burgess Hill—Haywards Heath); Forest Beds or Tunbridge Wells Sand, the oldest layer (the high central ridge of the Weald pierced by Balcombe Tunnel); and then, in reverse order again, Weald Clay (Three Bridges—Gatwick); Greensand (Redhill); Gault Clay (near Merstham); and finally, Chalk again (North Downs). The harder layers thus tend to have steep escarpments (the cut-off surfaces) facing inwards toward the Weald, as is well known with the Downs but less well known with the Greensand. The Gault Clay is usually a very narrow belt, sometimes only a few hundred yards across, just beyond the foot of the Chalk and easily overlooked, but it was important through causing springs to break out below the Downs so that the early villages were placed there.

It is important to keep these geological features in mind when travelling through the South-eastern Counties, for they cause very distinctive differences in the scenery and in the historical development of the land.

Sussex itself is a very long county, almost 90 miles along the south coast, and includes the entire southern half of the Wealden Dome, save for a tiny bit of the western end near Petersfield, and extends northward beyond the summit of the dome to include the central Forest Ridge with the fine scenic areas of St. Leonard's, Tilgate, Worth, Ashdown and Broadwater Forests. This central ridge with its drier sandy soil shows some occupation by early Man, especially in St. Leonard's Forest where mesolithic flints have been found, and the vegetation was probably always fairly open, as we see it on Ashdown Forest, but it was isolated by wide belts of the Weald Clay on north and south which carried a dense and tangled growth on a wet and heavy soil that defied much clearance until the introduction of heavier ploughs, probably late in the Roman period but mostly by the Saxons. The Greensand belt though fertile is quite narrow, and thus it was the Chalk that mainly attracted early Man by its accessibility, openness and easily-worked soil.

The denudation of the Wealden Dome was an extremely gradual process, so that the rivers draining it continued to cut through the resistant layers while the central area was worn down. This is why the Sussex rivers cut clean through the South Downs (as the Medway and others do too in the North Downs), dividing them into neatly isolated blocks, and this made travel right along the line of these Downs much more difficult for early Man than it was along the North Downs where all the rivers save the Medway are much smaller and quite easy to cross.

Besides the Weald and South Downs, there is from Brighton westward a gradually widening belt of flat country with a fertile soil, usually known as the Coastal Plain, extending from the foot of the Downs to the sea, but this too was originally forested and did not attract early settlement.

These soil differences were responsible for the common tendency of the Saxon parishes to run in long strips from south to north, thus providing a share of the lighter and heavier soils. Good examples can be seen in the layout of the parishes around Ditchling, but the effect is found widely.

THE PREHISTORY OF SUSSEX

By E. CECIL CURWEN

Sussex offers certain peculiar advantages in the study of prehistory, for three reasons: (1) it was an area delimited by natural features, being more or less isolated on the north and east by forest and on the south by the sea; (2) geologically it is divided into a series of parallel zones, providing both light and heavy soils, and these, supporting different kinds of vegetation, favoured different activities at different periods; and (3) until the recent war the chalk downs, which had attracted most of the settled populations, remained largely uncultivated and unenclosed, preserving in visible form abundant traces of settlement in and before the Roman period. Fortunately, much of this had been studied and recorded before the era of modern intensive ploughing arrived to blot out all but the most important sites. The scheduling of such as ancient monuments has proved to be a valuable safeguard.

Of the prehistoric periods the mesolithic, the neolithic, the Late Bronze Age and the Iron Age are very well represented, but the palaeolithic and the Early and Middle Bronze Age have left comparatively meagre traces.

Now that the Piltdown enigma has mercifully been eliminated, the palaeolithic is represented by a few finds of hand-axes of the Drift; these have come (a) from Slindon on the '100-ft.' raised beach of West Sussex; (b) from a few places on the '15-ft.' raised beach which is exposed at various places between Selsey and Brighton; (c) from the river gravels of the River Arun; and (d) from the surface of the Downs round Beachy Head.

Abundant relics of the mesolithic food-gatherers have been found on the surface of the sandy ridges of the Weald which carried light forest cover, as well as in a few limited areas on the Downs, such as Peacehaven. The best areas have been St. Leonard's Forest (near Horsham) and the Lower Greensand ridge; at Selveston on the latter ridge Dr. Grahame Clark excavated the site of a mesolithic settlement.

With the neolithic period we enter the phase of food-production, and meet for the first time with evidence for agriculture and pastoralism, as well as for the rudimentary industrialism that is implicit in the flint mines.

Two major and two minor causewayed camps—characteristic neolithic pastoral encampments—have been located on the Downs: the two larger ones, Whitehawk on the Brighton race-course, and the earlier site at the Trundle (Trundle I) beside the Goodwood race-course, have each yielded plentiful evidence of neolithic occupation in pottery, implements of stone, bone and antler, human skeletons and quantities of broken bones of domestic animals and roe-deer. Whitehawk has also yielded evidence suggestive of cannibalism, and of the sacrifice of a roe-deer and a human infant, each of which was buried in a hole that may have held a tall wooden post. The practice of agriculture is proved by the occurrence of grain-rubbers and of the impressions of a few grains of barley on a sherd from Whitehawk. The two smaller causewayed camps, Barkhale (Bignor Hill) and Combe Hill (near Eastbourne) have so far yielded little or no evidence of occupation, though each has produced Secondary Neolithic pottery of Ebbsfleet type.

A few characteristic neolithic long barrows are found on the Downs to the east of Whitehawk Camp and to the west of the Trundle, but none has so far been scientifically excavated.

The principal flint-mines are found in the Worthing district, about mid-way between Whitehawk and the Trundle. Of these four sites, those at Cissbury and on Harrow Hill are fairly certainly neolithic, while those on Blackpatch Hill and on Church Hill (Findon) are probably Early or even Middle Bronze Age. At each site large numbers of shafts were sunk in close proximity to one another, each being from 10 to 40 or more feet in depth, and from 6 to 20 or more feet wide. A suitable seam of flint nodules having been encountered at the base of each shaft, galleries were usually cut, radiating out from the shaft, and these often communicated with galleries from neighbouring shafts. In this way the seam was worked to the best effect, pillars of chalk being left to support the roof. The cutting of the galleries

was done with the help of picks of red deer's antler, and shovels made from the shoulder-blades of oxen, and sometimes worn-out specimens of these tools have been found in the shafts or galleries. The walls and roofs of these galleries bear many marks left by the points of these picks, and occasionally patches of soot are found, left by the miners' lamps. The flint which was mined was shaped into axes on the spot—chiefly on flaking-floors on the surface near the shafts, and to a much less extent in the shafts themselves. The grinding of the axes was done elsewhere.

The Early Bronze Age is represented by about a dozen beakers, and a few bronze implements. The Blackpatch and Church Hill flint-mines are assigned to this period, but its most noteworthy monument was the large barrow which formerly stood in Hove, and which yielded the famous amber cup, a stone axe-hammer, a bronze dagger and a small whetstone.

The Middle Bronze Age is very poorly represented by a small number of characteristic cinerary urns.

The Late Bronze Age, on the other hand, has left us many settlement sites which are visible and identifiable on the surface, being characterized by multiple small embanked enclosures which contained round huts, each supported by a ring of posts. We now get the first evidence of settled agriculture, and can even trace the contemporary fields by means of the lynchets formed by prolonged ploughing of the same plots. Excavations have been carried out at such settlement sites on Plumpton Plain (near Brighton), New Barn Down, Cock Hill and Highdown Hill (all near Worthing), and Itford Hill (near Lewes). Hoards of bronze implements belonging to this period are fairly numerous.

The earliest Iron Age immigrants (about 500 B.C.) may have merged with the Late Bronze Age natives and formed a hybrid culture, as is suggested by some of their pottery. It was the former who built the small fort on High Down Hill, near Worthing. A new wave of immigrants bringing with them the La Tene culture arrived about 250 B.C., and appear to have been responsible, directly or indirectly, for the erection of most of the large hill-forts on the Downs. From this point onwards a difference appears between the occupation of East Sussex and that of West Sussex, the dividing line being the River Adur that flows out at Shoreham. West of the Adur a chain of large and strong hill-forts was built, stretching away westwards into Hampshire; though their areas vary considerably their 'architecture' is uniform, and each one that has been examined has yielded evidence of permanent occupation, with store-pits and characteristic pottery. The Sussex members of this chain of forts include Cissbury, the Trundle (Trundle II), and Torberry (near Petersfield). East of the River Adur, on the other hand, we have six hill-forts which are heterogeneous in every respect; moreover only two of them were permanently occupied, the Caburn (near Lewes) and Castle Hill (Newhaven). The Caburn came into existence later than the rest, and survived till the Roman conquest, living in the meantime an independent life, and using pottery which was different from that used at Castle Hill, only five miles away. With the exception of these two hill-forts practically no pottery has been found in East Sussex belonging to the period in which the West Sussex forts flourished. During the last century or so before the Roman conquest West Sussex came under the influence of the western Belgae, its hill-forts were abandoned, and a Belgic capital may have been established near Selsey. East Sussex did not, however, fall to the Belgae of Kent, but was taken over by the 'South-Eastern B' people whose characteristic pottery spread northwards through the Wealden forests into parts of West Kent. One of their pottery works was found in the Weald between Horsted Keynes and Danehill.

Iron Age farm sites have been found at Park Brow (Sompting) and Muntham Down (Findon), both near Worthing, which is in West Sussex. A farm of the 'South-Eastern B' people has been identified on Charleston Brow (near Seaford) in East Sussex. The farm sites continued to be occupied during the Roman period, and so apparently was the hill-fort on Castle Hill (Newhaven), but the Caburn appears to have resisted the Romans and to have been captured and destroyed by them, for it was abandoned for perhaps 300 years, to be fortified once more, like Cissbury and Highdown Hill, against the raiding Saxons.

ROMAN SUSSEX

By I. D. MARGARY

Apart from excavated places such as Bignor villa, only two sites, Chichester town walls and Pevensey fort, and parts of one road, Stane Street, are notably visible Roman features in Sussex. Chichester lies beyond the district visited at the Meeting (as also the villa at Bignor with its interesting mosaic floors) but its town walls follow the Roman lines and have Roman masonry in them, although refaced in medieval and modern times. Stane Street, too, lay beyond our range, and thus Pevensey fort, the Roman Anderida, was the only striking relic of the period that we saw. Built in the late 3rd century as one of the series of Saxon Shore forts, its walls enclose an oval area of 8 acres, adapted to the shape of the little promontory as it then was, and they still stand to a height of some 20 feet along the northern half of the perimeter but are more ruinous, through subsidence, on the south. With their zones of tile bonding-courses, their bastions and the imposing west gate flanked by bastions, the whole towering above (and uncomfortably near) the busy modern coast-road, the walls of Pevensey are indeed an impressive relic. In the south-east part of the enclosure a Norman castle was later inserted, using the fort enclosure for its outer bailey. Much later again, in 1940, one of the bastions was actually refortified as a machine-gun post during the invasion scare, and this work has been left untouched to illustrate yet another chapter in Pevensey's history.

Save Stane Street (the London—Chichester road) on the Downs far to the west where it is a magnificent embankment, the other Roman roads in Sussex are not readily visible although their courses have now been traced: London—Brighton, London—Lewes, Barcombe Mills—Hassocks—Hardham, Chichester—Silchester, Chichester—Brighton, and Glynde—Pevensey, as well as many local branches. Part of the first can be seen as a terrace on the Downs between Clayton and Pyecombe (west of the present road), and part of the second on Ashdown Forest, but both these sections have been overlaid by later and now derelict roads. Many of their local terraceways can, however, be clearly seen, slanting up the steep faces of the Downs—above the Long Man are two examples.

There were a number of villas near the coast; at Eastbourne (one just at the shore end of the pier), Brighton (east of Preston Road and close to the north side of the big railway viaduct), Southwick, Angmering, Sidlesham, several around Pulborough, and famous Bignor. Peasant farms occupied most of the Downs, and corn was produced for market and export—one of the needs for good roads, the other being iron-working in the Weald. Iron sites were large and numerous inland from Hastings, also near Maresfield, East Grinstead, Ticehurst and elsewhere. At Ripe, five miles east of Lewes, there is an area where roads and field boundaries show a rectangular layout in Roman land units which is probably a small example of their method of land division known as 'centuriation', for the boundaries are of ancient origin. Nowhere else in Britain has this remained so clearly marked in precise units.

This Romano-British population seems to have been largely scattered and rural for, apart from Chichester, no concentrated occupation has as yet been traced. Yet at Hassocks quite an extensive cremation cemetery was found, placed there no doubt because it adjoined the crossing of the London—Brighton road with that from Barcombe Mills to Hardham, for no settlement exists nearby. Another cemetery of some size was found on Seaford Head, east of the town, with a road and small settlement near it.

The Long Man of Wilmington must be briefly mentioned here. He is unique, the tallest human figure ever depicted in Britain, 230 feet high, but we know absolutely nothing of his period or meaning. The Dorset Cerne Giant is the nearest analogy but is a figure of very different character. Our Man holds two straight wands or staves, and a Roman coin of Constantius does show a similar figure with upright headed staves of some sort and standing in an identical posture, though the connection is doubtful. Otherwise the figure is considered to be most probably prehistoric, perhaps Bronze Age. The grooves in the turf marking his outline were set with bricks in 1873 to ensure their permanence and visibility.

SUSSEX IN THE MIDDLE AGES

By L. F. SALZMAN

When William of Normandy had established himself as King of England he secured his communications between Normandy and London by dividing Sussex into 'Rapes'. These were districts running from the coast to the northern border of the county, each containing a harbour, a road towards London, and a castle. Originally he seems to have given the whole of Sussex west of the River Adur to Earl Roger of Montgomery as the Rape of Arundel; east of that river were formed the Rapes of Lewes, Pevensey and Hastings. A few years later, probably about 1075, a new Rape was made for William de Braose out of adjacent parts of Arundel and Lewes and centred upon the castle of Bramber. The castle was the essential feature of the Rape (often Latinized as *castellaria*), and considerable architectural remains of these early castles still exist, as well as the motte of a short-lived castle at Chichester, which city gave its name to a Rape formed out of that of Arundel about 1250. It was to Chichester that, in about 1075, the seat of the county Diocese was removed from Selsey; the earliest part of the Cathedral dates from the first quarter of the 12th century, with renovations and additions after the fabric had been badly damaged by fire in 1187. The Norman conquerors expended a good deal of the wealth which they had acquired in this island in laying up treasure in the world to come by the building and endowing of churches and the founding of monasteries. In Sussex at least eighty churches date from or contain features of the hundred years following the Conquest. Among these may be noted the fine churches of Old and New Shoreham, Steyning, Rye, Westham, and at Lewes St. Anne's, Westout. At Lewes William de Warenne had rebuilt in stone the Saxon wooden church of St. Pancras in Southover, below his castle; and this he gave in 1076 to the Burgundian Abbey of Cluny for the establishment of the Priory of Lewes, which became the chief house of the Cluniac Order in England. It seems very likely that the so-called 'Infirmery Chapel' in the Priory ruins is de Warenne's church, replaced as the priory rapidly grew wealthy by the magnificent church across whose site the railway runs. The Conqueror himself founded the Abbey of the Place of Battle, with its high altar, preserved in the crypt of the later church, on the spot where Harold fell. Most, however, of the surviving architectural remains at Battle belong to the 13th century and later. Other 13th-century work is to be found at Robertsbridge Abbey (Cistercian), Bayham Abbey (Premonstratensian, founded 1208), Michelham Priory (Augustinian, 1229), and Wilmington Priory, a non-conventual cell of Grestain Abbey. That century was a period of great architectural activity in the county, and Early English may be called the prevalent style of Sussex churches, many in particular of Kipling's 'Little, lost Down churches' being in that style. During this century, also the collegiate church of St. Mary in the castle of Hastings, where a miraculous crucifix was a centre of pilgrimage, was largely rebuilt. This work may have been due to Peter of Savoy, who was for some years in charge of the defences of the coast of eastern Sussex. He was responsible for the building of a castle at Rye, later known (from a 15th-century tenant) as 'Ypres Tower'; and about 1250 he rebuilt his own castle of Pevensey, enclosing the Norman keep within the fine existing towered walls and moat. This castle successfully resisted the troops of Simon de Montfort after his victory over Henry III at the Battle of Lewes in 1264; during the siege Pevensey church was so badly damaged that it had to be rebuilt. Whether John de Warenne, earl of Surrey, had strengthened the shell keep of Lewes Castle with towers before the Battle of Lewes or did so afterwards, perhaps in 1266 when the town was protected with masonry walls, is uncertain; but anyway the castle was surrendered without a siege when the king was captured. The most important piece of building, however, was in the last quarter of the century when Edward I founded the town of New Winchelsea to replace the old town, which had been suffering from inroads of the sea which finally destroyed it in 1288. The new town was laid out on the ancient Roman (and modern American) plan of rectangular blocks by the intersection of streets crossing at right angles. The scheme was too ambitious; many blocks were never occupied, the port silted up, the town dwindled and was badly damaged by French raids during the Hundred Years' War; but there are still about forty medieval stone vaulted cellars, built mainly for the anticipated wine trade.

The 14th century was not on the whole a happy period in the history of Sussex. The sea continued to make inroads in the west and to silt up the harbours in the east; the outbreak of the futile Hundred Years' War led to raids by the French; the Black Death of 1348-9 swept away about a third of the population and, with two later epidemics, led to the disappearance of several villages, probably including Hangleton, where the lost village has recently been excavated. Religious life, stimulated by the friars and the example of St. Richard (Bishop of Chichester from 1245 to 1253), lost its fervour and the monasteries showed a fall in the numbers and moral standards of their inmates. Of churches built completely in the 'Decorated' style the most important is that at Etchingham (c. 1363), with contemporary woodwork, glass, brasses and vane. The unfinished church at Winchelsea, with its fine tombs, and the chapel of the Austin Friars at Rye may also be mentioned. The last quarter of the century was disastrous for Sussex, the French sacking the famous Cinque Ports of Hastings, Rye and Winchelsea and threatening Lewes. As a result orders were given to strengthen the walls of Chichester (on the lines of the Roman walls) and Rye, and in 1385 Sir Edward Dalingridge built the lovely moated castle of Bodiam specifically as a defence against raids. The same consideration may have influenced Bishop William Rede in 1377 to convert the episcopal manor of Amberley into a castle—of very amateurish design; but it is possible that he was more concerned with local unrest, which culminated in 1381 in the Peasants' Rising. Sussex played a large part in this rebellion, but few details have survived. The chief objects of enmity were monasteries and the unpopular Duke of Lancaster, who held the Honour of Pevensey; so it seems likely that the fine gateway tower, defending the bridge across the moat at Michelham Priory, was built by John Leem, who was not only prior but also receiver of the Honour.

With the 15th century came a general rise in living standards, the decay of villein tenure, and the emergence of the yeomanry and lesser gentry. There was in Sussex no growth of industrial wealth such as occurred in the wool and cloth areas of East Anglia and the Cotswolds, leading to rivalry in the building of magnificent churches in the 'Perpendicular' style. Very many Sussex churches did acquire towers, windows and other features in this style, but almost the only noteworthy complete rebuildings are the churches of Alfriston, Poynings and Hastings. On the secular side the outstanding example is Herstmonceux Castle (now housing the Royal Observatory), built in 1440 and one of the finest brick buildings in England. More significant is the great number of 15th-century timber-framed houses still surviving, particularly in the Weald. These range from important manors, such as Great Dixter, in Northiam, with its splendid hall, to the town houses of East Grinstead and the innumerable smaller homes of the yeomanry. The county was little affected by the Wars of the Roses, and although the mismanagement of home and foreign affairs, leading to renewed raids by the French on the coast, made Sussex a strong centre of Jack Cade's rebellion in 1450, the results were negligible.

The Tudors introduced a century of pomp and ostentation among the nobles and great landowners, which reached its highest point at Cowdray near Midhurst, begun by Sir David Owen and continued by Sir William Fitzwilliam, earl of Southampton, where Henry VIII, Edward VI and Elizabeth I were entertained, and of which the ruins show that it was worthy of comparison with Hampton Court. Luxurious in their lives, they were splendid in death, as shown by many fine monuments, such as those at Herstmonceux, Battle, Firl, and Petworth, and the de la Warre chantry cenotaph at Boxgrove. This last belongs to an interesting group of the gothic-renaissance overlap, of which other examples are at West Wittering and Racton. This overlap may be said to typify the beginning of the break with the old tradition of the Roman Church, which was shown in the dissolution of the monasteries. This seems to have caused little trouble in Sussex. Out of more than forty members of the smaller houses suppressed in 1536 only two desired to 'continue in religion', the others all preferring to become secular priests, as did many of those from the large houses. The Brownes, Viscounts Montague, and the Gages remained for generations fervent Roman Catholics, but had no scruples about acquiring the estates of the dissolved monasteries. But the artistic loss was terrible in the destruction of plate, manuscripts and buildings. The only Sussex monastic church of which even part was retained in use was that of Boxgrove Priory; of the great church of Lewes Priory even the ruins perished, and only the richly carved stones (now preserved in Anne of Cleves

Museum) attest its splendour. The struggle between the two Faiths continued under Edward VI and Mary, and the burning of some twenty-five Protestants, mostly at Lewes, during that queen's reign gave Sussex a strong Puritan trend. Under the tolerant wisdom of Elizabeth I the county settled down. By this time the iron industry in Sussex was developing rapidly, farming was becoming more progressive, and a moderately wealthy middle class was building the pleasant comfortable houses of which so many remain in the county.

NOTE ON IRON-WORKING IN SUSSEX

By I. D. MARGARY

It is convenient to mention here that great industrial enterprise of iron-working which left its mark on so many of the Sussex valleys, or gills as they are locally called, especially in the Tudor and subsequent periods, yet has afterwards vanished so utterly that it requires a vivid imagination to people them again with the noise and clamour of heavy industry.

Water-power was used to work the furnace bellows and the forge hammers, and to this end the streams were securely dammed, often to form a series of ponds so that the water was stored against dry periods; hence the term 'hammer-pond' by which they are still widely known. Traces of the open pits from which the ore was dug, and sometimes sandpits or caves from which sand for the moulds was dug, can still be found, usually overgrown in thick woodland. Of associated buildings there is almost no trace, and no doubt these were mostly of a temporary nature. Larger houses such as those of the iron-masters are in some cases known.

The industry reached its zenith here with the demand for armaments, but fell away when the development of coal in the Midlands enabled iron to be worked more cheaply there, and it was dead by about 1750. The fuel used here was charcoal, usually known as 'cole' locally, for which the Wealden forest provided a large supply, although latterly it was becoming inadequate to meet the huge demand.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TOWN OF BRIGHTON

By ANTONY DALE

Until the middle of the 18th century the old town of Brighthelmston was confined within the rectangle bounded by East, North and West Streets and the sea on the south. Within this were a number of narrow streets some of which survive today and are collectively known as the LANES. Most of the buildings within them have been reconstructed in the 18th or 19th centuries, but they remain interesting examples of a surviving medieval street pattern.

The medieval CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS stood outside this rectangle on the hill to the north-west. It is a 14th-century building but was so much restored by R. C. Carpenter in 1853 that only the arcades of the nave, the chancel arch and the tower are really medieval work. The clerestory was added by G. Somers Clarke in 1890. The church's great treasure is the magnificent Norman font, with carved panels representing the Baptism of Christ, the Last Supper and two scenes from the life of St. Nicholas. The church is also interesting for its memorials, both inside the building and in the churchyard. It is the only surviving medieval building in Brighton as the town was burned by the French in 1514.

In 1750 Doctor Richard Russell of Lewes published his book *De tabe glandulari* which led to the development of Brighton as a fashionable resort and spa. The first expansion was to the east round the open space known as the STEINE. Doctor Russell's own house, built in 1753, stood on the site of the Royal Albion Hotel. The blocks of houses on the east side,

originally known as North and South Parade, were built about 1780 but have been very much altered since. The finest individual house in the town is MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, now the Education Offices, on the west side of the Steine. This was originally built by the fourth Duke of Marlborough in 1769 but was enlarged and reconstructed by Robert Adam for Single-Speech Hamilton in 1786. Its interior is a good example of the simpler Adam style, and the octagonal room has recently been restored by the Corporation with the advice of the Regency Society. Adjoining Marlborough House is STEINE HOUSE, now occupied by the Y.M.C.A. It was built by William Porden in 1804 for Mrs. Fitzherbert, who inhabited the house until her death in 1837. It was disastrously refronted in 1884 but behind the facade contains most of its original features including the cast iron staircase of imitation bamboo pattern.

To the north of the Valley Gardens adjoining the Steine is ST. PETER'S CHURCH. Built between 1824-28 to the design of Sir Charles Barry, it is one of the finest early Gothic revival churches in England. It has been the Parish Church of Brighton since 1873. The Chancel was added by G. Somers Clarke in 1896-1902.

The first group of buildings to be built facing the sea was ROYAL CRESCENT on the East Cliff. This dates from 1799-1807 and is faced with black mathematical tiles, which are a special feature of seaside architecture.

The succeeding architectural estate was REGENCY SQUARE on the West Cliff, which was laid out in 1818. The architect is unknown but was probably Amon Wilds. ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH adjoining (since demolished on the grounds of redundancy) was the chapel of ease for this estate and was designed by Mr. Clark of London in 1824.

The great building boom in Brighton occurred between 1822 and 1828, and almost all the squares and streets then built are the work of the partnership of Amon Wilds and Charles Augustus Busby and of the former's son, Amon Henry Wilds. Foremost among them is KEMP TOWN (Sussex Square, Lewes Crescent, and Arundel and Chichester Terraces) on the East Cliff, which was called after its proprietor, Thomas Read Kemp. This is remarkable for the scale of the layout, the span of the Crescent being 200 feet wider than that of the Royal Crescent at Bath.

Balancing Kemp Town and exactly contemporaneous with it are BRUNSWICK SQUARE AND TERRACE, which are just within the Borough of Hove. They are distinguished by the fact that, under their own special Act of Parliament, the houses are still painted a uniform colour every three years. The chapel of ease for this estate was ST. ANDREW'S, Waterloo Street (1827-1828). This was designed by Sir Charles Barry at exactly the same date that he was building St. Peter's Brighton and is the earliest piece of Italianate architecture in England.

A number of lesser streets were built by Wilds and Busby at this period. ORIENTAL PLACE is a good example in which they used capitals derived from the geological fossil, the ammonite.

Beyond Brunswick Terrace in Hove is ADELAIDE CRESCENT. The original design was made by Decimus Burton in 1830, but only ten houses on the east side were built at that date. The remainder of the east side and the whole of the west side were not completed until twenty years later to an inferior design.

The Regency style continued to be used in Brighton long after this had gone out of fashion in most other places, and quite good examples of it can be found as late as 1845 in MONTPELIER VILLAS and 1850-1855 in CLIFTON TERRACE.

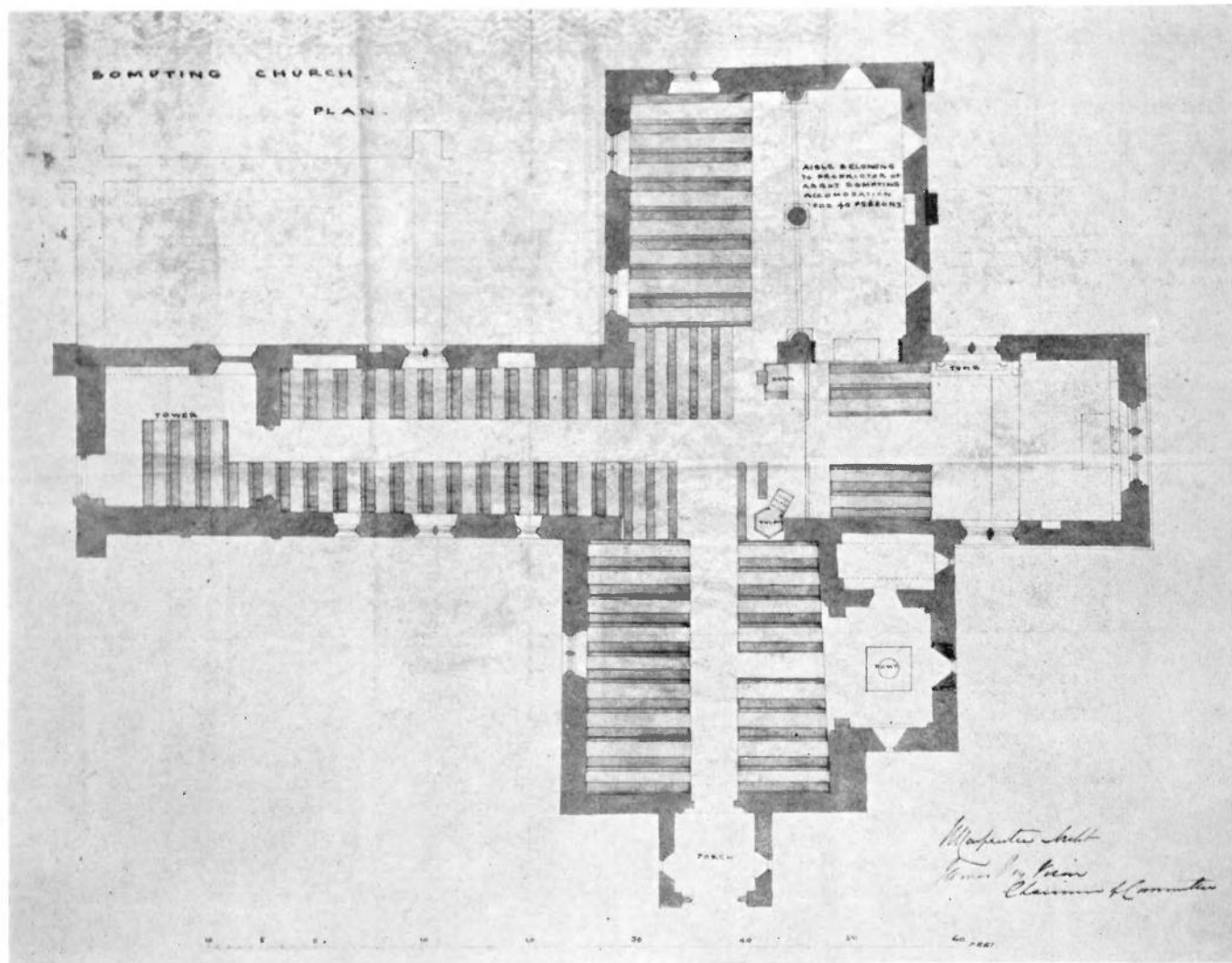


A. Photograph taken before the 1871 restoration, from the north



B. The chancel before 1871, from a watercolour preserved in the church

THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS, WORTH



The Church of St. Mary Sompting. Plan drawn for a faculty in 1854

PROCEEDINGS

MONDAY, 6TH JULY

BRIGHTON

The morning was free for independent inspection of the town. Members visited THE ART GALLERY and MUSEUM.

These are housed in buildings that were once part of the stables belonging to the Royal Pavilion, and were rebuilt in their present form in 1902. The principal picture gallery was originally intended as an indoor tennis court for King George IV, and was later turned into coach houses. The main collections of pictures were formed by private individuals and subsequently acquired for the Art Gallery; consequently they possess a character which derives from the exercise of individual taste and judgment. In addition there are important collections of pottery and porcelain, and of musical instruments.

WHITEHAWK NEOLITHIC CAMP

Whitehawk Camp, situated on Brighton Racecourse, is one of the comparatively rare neolithic causewayed camps. It lies on a saddle between two slight eminences, on a ridge on the eastern edge of the town, and consists of four concentric oval rings of interrupted ditches, comparatively widely spaced. The outermost ring disappears on the east, where the slope is steepest, and much of all the rings has been damaged or obliterated by the racecourse, or allotment gardens. Traces of a fragmentary fifth ditch outside the others have been revealed in air-photographs.

Excavations by Mr. R. P. Ross Williamson and Dr. E. Cecil Curwen in 1929-33 suggested that the camp was constructed at some time before 2,000 B.C. No clue to the purpose of the ditches was found.

In the afternoon the following were visited:—

THE DEVILS DYKE. BY A. E. WILSON

The Devils Dyke is a large Iron Age Camp providing a splendid view point on top of the Downs behind Brighton. From it can be seen the 'layout' of the Sussex countryside—coastal plain, downland, the scarp face, the greensand ridge and the weald. It is thus possible to point out Chanctonbury Ring with its camp and Romano-Celtic temple site, the ridgeway flanked with barrows, the line of the Roman roads, the sites of a number of Early Saxon settlements at the spring-heads at the foot of the scarp, the boundary of the Lewes Rape and the site of the motte and bailey castle guarding it.

CLAYTON: CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST. BY E. CLIVE ROUSE

The church consists of a tall, narrow nave and chancel, with a porch on the north, and modern vestry on the south. Foundations of north and south chapels were excavated in 1918. The walls of the nave are of pre-Conquest date, probably 11th century, as is the western portion of the chancel; and the chancel arch, with three attached shafts to each respond which project from the inner and outer faces and from the reveal, is especially noted by A. W. Clapham. The eastern portion of the chancel was rebuilt in the 13th century, and other windows inserted. No Saxon windows remain in the nave, as they were replaced in the 14th century, though the stonework is modern. The belfry at the west end is carried on timbers. There are few monuments of note except the brass of a priest on the south wall of the chancel, holding chalice and wafer (1523). One bell is pre-Reformation.

The wall paintings, the earliest in this country, representing a very unusual treatment of the Doom or Last Judgment and possibly other subjects, are described by Dr. Audrey Baker as forming one of the most complete and interesting series in England. Not only are they unique in style and iconography, but their artistic quality is of an unusually high order.

Controversy about their date and interpretation has raged almost ever since their discovery in 1893. The only indisputable fact is that they belong to a group of similar paintings in this area of Sussex, found at Plumpton, Westmeston (destroyed), Hardham and Coombes. The source of their inspiration has been thought to be the Cluniac Priory of St. Pancras at Lewes, and their date possibly in the late 11th century. Others have suggested dates from then to as late as the early 13th century. It is certain that the Church of Clayton (*Clactuna*) was given as endowment to the Priory by the founder, William de Warenne, before his death in 1089. But another school of thought sees in them more of the influence of St. Omer, especially in the borders to the illuminations of the Evangelists in B.M.Add.MS. 11850, f. 138 v. etc., which are almost identical with the scroll in the window discovered at Plumpton.

The paintings at Coombes are perhaps closest in style and date though not by the same hand; while those recently found in the nave at Plumpton are remarkably similar in subject matter, though probably a little later. That Cluniac influence is present is certain. For the subject of St. Peter receiving the keys, and St. Paul the book from our Lord, is or was present in four out of the five churches here concerned, and it occurs nowhere else in England. The Cluniacs had a particular devotion to SS. Peter and Paul.

Apart from the purely stylistic evidence of the scrolls, borders and costume, the early date of these paintings is further emphasised by the iconographic sources for the treatment of the Apocalyptic scenes of the Fall of Anti-Christ, the Heavenly Jerusalem, and the Four Horsemen.

Audrey Baker, 'Lewes Priory and the early group of wall paintings in Sussex', *Walpole Soc.*, XXXI.

Clive Bell, *Twelfth Century Paintings at Hardham and Clayton*. Lewes, 1947.

E. W. Tristram, *English Medieval Wall Painting, the 12th Century*, 113-115. Oxford 1944.

C. E. Keyser, *Arch. J.* LIII (1896), 166; and *P.S.A.* XXX (1918), 90.

P. M. Johnston, *Memorials of Old Sussex* (1909), 256. *Sussex Arch. Coll.* XLIV, 115. *Brit. Arch. Ass. Journ.* N.S. (1917), 156. *Arch. J.* XCII (1935), 417.

V.C.H., Sussex, Vol. VII, 142-144.

HOLLINGBURY CAMP. BY E. CECIL CURWEN

This camp lies about 2½ miles north of the centre of Brighton on the summit of a prominent hill. Its defences consist of a single bank, some 8-10 ft. high, and outer ditch, enclosing an irregular area of about 9 acres. On the south side there are traces of a small counterscarp bank outside the ditch. There are two original entrances, one to the east and one to the west, both of simple design.

Excavations carried out by Mr. E. C. Curwen for the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society in 1931 revealed traces of occupation on the hill in the late Hallstatt period (*c.* 450 B.C.) and showed that the existing ramparts were added about 250 B.C. Not only were the gate post-holes of the east gate found, but under the rampart were disclosed two parallel rows of post-holes which had held the uprights of a timber framework built to contain the chalk rubble of the rampart and present a vertical face of timber towards the exterior. No evidence was found that the hill-fort had been occupied after its construction.

THE ROYAL PAVILION. BY CLIFFORD MUSGRAVE

The Marine Palace of the Prince Regent. First built in 1787 by Henry Holland as a classical villa, it was rebuilt by John Nash between 1815 and 1822 as a romantic re-creation of the Moghul architecture of India. It was used by the King and later sovereigns until 1846.

The State and Private Apartments are decorated throughout in the Chinese Taste, and form a uniquely magnificent example of this style; they have been restored almost completely to their appearance in the time of George IV.

The rooms were arranged in readiness for the special summer Regency Exhibition.

TUESDAY, 7TH JULY

WEST DEAN RECTORY

The following note is supplied by Dr. Kaines-Thomas:

The Rectory provides a good example of the smaller 13th-century flint house, with the main room or hall on the upper floor, over a basement with narrower windows, much restored, and, as the ground slopes, a cellar under the lower end. It may be dated c. 1270-80. The hall, still raised to a defensive level, could have had larger windows, and an original one remains to E. and W., each of two trefoil-headed lights. The fireplace has a chalk hood.

The house was entered through the pointed doorway in the N. wall of the basement, whence there is access to the hall, by two more original doorways and a newel staircase in the NE. angle. At the SW. a garderobe projection has been made into a second staircase.

G. M. Cooper, 'An ancient rectory house in the parish of West Dean', *J.A.C.* iii (1850), 13.

Turner and Parker, *Domestic Architecture of the Middle Ages*, i (1851), 168.

A. Hussey, 'Notice of an architectural relic at West Dean', *Arch. J.*, IV (1847), 260. *V.C.H. Sussex*, ii (1907), 383.

Horsefield, *Sussex* i (1835), 282.

M. E. Wood, 'Thirteenth Century Domestic Architecture in England', *Arch. J.* CX, Supplement, 90, with plan.

WEST DEAN: THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS

This church has an aisleless nave of the 12th century and a later chancel of the same width, with no structural division. It is probable that the latter was built by Sir John Heringod (d. 1329), with whose wife Isabella we may associate the beautiful tomb, the eastern of the two against the north wall. The western oblong tower space was at one time included under the nave roof, but it seems to represent an original feature. The present superstructure and buttresses are not earlier than the 14th century, to which the moulded part of the tower arch belongs. There are interesting monuments to William Thomas (d. 1639) and Susannah Tirrey, a daughter of William Thomas (d. 1637).

S.N.Q. IV, 236.

PARISH CHURCH of ALL SAINTS
WEST DEAN
Near SEAFORD

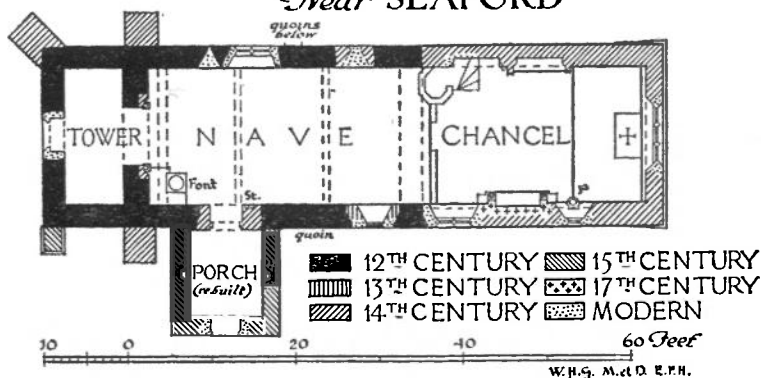


Fig. 1. Plan of West Dean church

PEVENSEY CASTLE. BY S. E. RIGOLD

Pevensey is exceptional among the Saxon Shore forts. Its irregular oval plan, with bastions variously spaced to cover all salient curves, may be partly dictated by a restricted site, washed by the sea on the south and east; but in contrast with the beautiful rectilinearity of the other forts, particularly Portchester, it seems to lack *Disciplina Augusta* and to revert to barbarism. The great gate was to the west, the east gate gave onto the haven and a postern on the north is contrived so as to allow no view of the interior. The enclosure contained miscellaneous wooden hutments. The walls are of sandstone with bonding courses of contrasting stone and brick. Perhaps late in the series, it was repaired under Honorius, late in the 4th century. Traditionally the scene of a massacre by South Saxons in 491, it later contained some sort of Saxon township but Pevensey only became a proper borough after the Conquest.

The Conqueror granted it to his half-brother, Robert earl of Mortain, who kept the Roman enceinte as an outer bailey to the castle he founded in the south-east corner—again compare Portchester. The keep, overlying the Roman walls, is an ugly anomaly among Norman great towers, with deep bastions parodying the Roman ones, and originally a solid earth-filled base instead of the usual undercroft.

The Roman walls withstood a siege by Stephen in 1147. Thereafter it remained in royal hands, frequently neglected, and unlike Portchester not adorned with fine buildings, except during the occupation of Peter of Savoy, uncle of Queen Eleanor, in the mid-13th century. To this period belongs the splendid inner curtain with rounded towers and gatehouse, an advanced work for its date; each tower is finely finished, with vaults, fireplaces and a postern to the moat. The castle was a refuge for the King's party after the battle of Lewes.

J. Rom. Studies XXVII (1937), pt. 2, 245.

MARTELLO TOWER No. 60, PEVENSEY BAY. BY S. E. RIGOLD

Martello Tower No. 60 is part of a system of coastal defence, dating from the Napoleonic wars, and comparable with Henry VIII's castles.

The name derives from a small tower, mounting two guns, at Cape Mortella (corrupted to Martello) in Corsica, which impressed the British forces by beating off two battleships in 1794, was afterwards taken from the landward side, and ultimately demolished on the evacuation of the Island in 1796. Though relatively taller, this tower became the general prototype for a system of 'bomb-proof towers' projected in 1804 against the threat of French invasion. Towers were to be spaced along low-lying stretches of coast and supplemented by larger redoubts. The first chain, from Folkestone to Seaford, was constructed between 1805 and 1810—too late, of course, since the risk of invasion was much less after Trafalgar. A second line, from Aldeburgh to Brightlingsea, followed in 1810 to 1812. There was a third in the vicinity of Dublin, finished by 1806, and others in the Channel Islands.

The South Coast towers are circular in plan, with a circular terre-plein on top, and a single staircase in the (thicker) seaward wall. The East Coast plan is a curvilinear triangle, the terre-plein trefoil-shaped, and a stair on both landward walls, the towers being larger, and better provided with wall-recesses. Both series comprise two types: those with a ditch, counterscarp and drawbridge; and unmoated towers entered by a retractable ladder. All the towers are of brick, rendered externally, with non-local stone dressings, including York stone and Millstone Grit. A thick, central brick pillar supports an umbrella-vault and rises from a similar inverted vault on the ground. The entrance is on the first floor, where the garrison was lodged. The ground floor, containing magazine and cistern, was vaulted in the seaward segment only, the rest ceiled with oak. The armament comprised one long 24-pounder, revolving on rails round a central pivot, and one or two smaller guns.

Cmdr. H. P. Mead, R.N., 'The Martello Towers of England', *Mariner's Mirror*, Vol. 34 (1948), 205.

S. G. P. Ward, 'Defence Works in Britain, 1803-1805', *J. of Army Historical Research*, XXVIII (1949), 18.

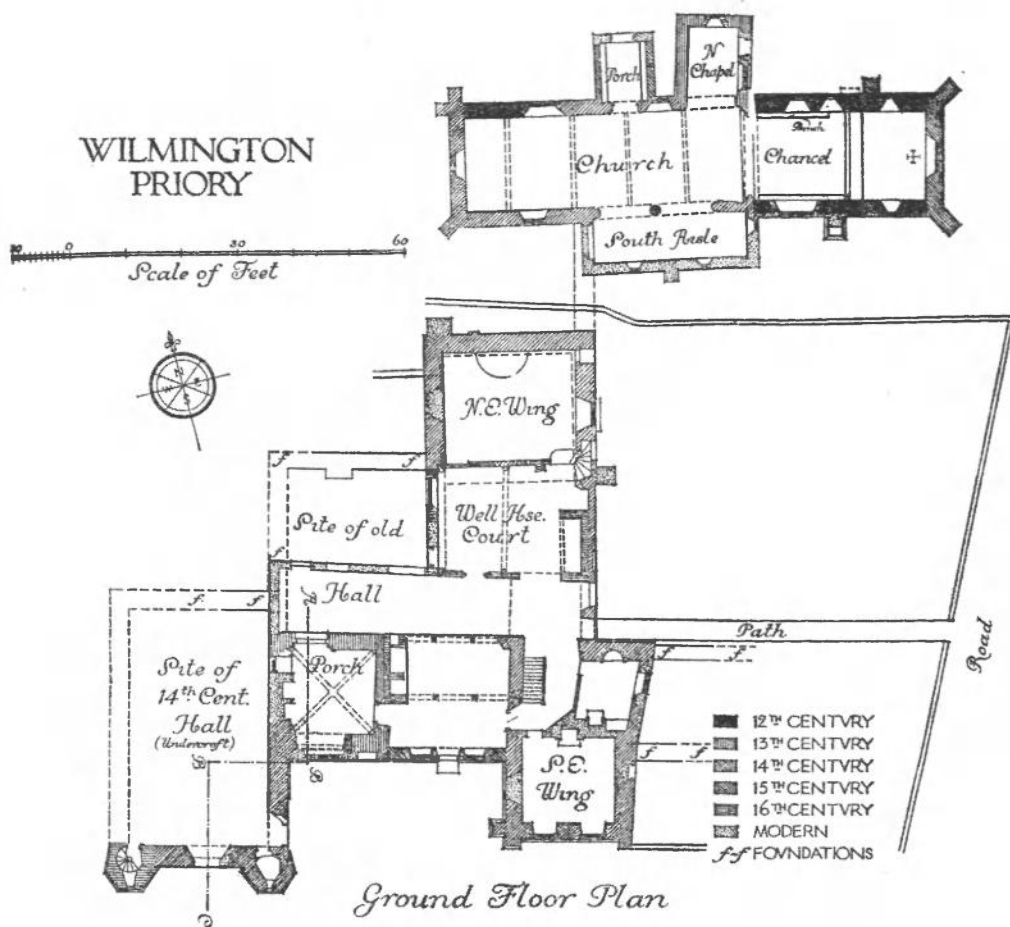


Fig. 2. Plan of Wilmington Priory

WILMINGTON PRIORY. By W. E. GODFREY

Wilmington was a part of the gift of Robert de Mortain to his father's foundation, the Benedictine Abbey of Grestain. It was from the Priory built here that the Abbey's English lands were administered. After a reduction in importance due to loss of lands by exchange and repeated sequestrations during the 14th century it was eventually suppressed in 1413 and granted, with the rest of the Abbey's Sussex property, to the Dean and Chapter of Chichester, in whose possession it remained till 1565. The Priory, together with the downland containing the 'Long Man', was given to the Sussex Archaeological Trust by the Duke of Devonshire in 1925. The roofed portions of the buildings provide custodian's quarters and accommodation for the beginning of a museum of agricultural implements.

The remains of the Priory are fragmentary, consisting mainly of a good vaulted cellar of about 1300, the moulded doorway of the 13th-century hall and a porch before it with 14th-century vaulting. Over this, and of the same date, was the Prior's Chapel and adjoining it his new hall, of which the south wall and angle turrets still stand.

Wilmington Church, immediately to the north of the Priory, is basically of 12th-century date and its long chancel is evidence of its connection with the Priory.

HERSTMONCEUX CASTLE. BY P. K. BAILLIE REYNOLDS

At the time of the Norman Conquest the manor of Herst was given to Robert, Count of Eu, but early in the 13th century it was in the possession of another Norman family, de Monceux, and thereafter was known by the hybrid name of Herstmonceux. Before 1331 it passed by marriage to Sir John de Fienes, whose fourth successor, Sir Roger Fienes, a veteran of the French wars, obtained a licence to crenellate in 1441. It was he who erected the castle of which the outer wall still stands, and it is his arms that are displayed over the Great Gate. In the first half of the 18th century the castle was the residence of Bishop Hare, and on his death in 1740 it fell into neglect; in 1777, on the recommendation of Wyatt, the interior was gutted, and the materials used to build Herstmonceux Place. Restoration was begun in 1911 by Col. Claude Lowther, and completed in the 1930's for Sir Paul Latham by Mr. Walter Godfrey.

The Castle stands square to the points of the compass. It is built throughout of brick with stone dressings of Greensand. At each angle there is an octagonal tower, and on each side there are three semi-octagonal towers, save on the south, where the great gate takes the place of the central tower. The central tower on the north side contains a postern gate; that on the east side is the east end of the chapel. Originally the interior was divided into four unsymmetrical courtyards, with the Great Hall at the eastern end of the central east-west range. In the modern restoration the old plan has been completely abandoned, and the interior forms one large courtyard with the Great Hall lying north and south in the west range.

In 1946 the Admiralty acquired the Castle and transferred to it the establishment of the Royal Observatory. The north-eastern part is occupied by the Astronomer Royal. The outer wall is maintained by the Ancient Monuments branch of the Ministry of Works.

W. Douglas Simpson, *Arch J.* XCIX (1942), 110.

FIRLE PLACE. BY I. D. MARGARY

The Gages were a Gloucestershire family having lands near Cirencester in the time of Henry IV, and John Gage (who was knighted by Edward IV) married Eleanor, one of the three daughters of Thomas St. Clere whose Sussex manors included Heighton St. Clere in what is now the eastern part of Firle Park. On Sir John Gage's death in 1475 the estate passed to his son William and then to his son, the second Sir John, in 1497. It was he who built the Tudor house at Firle, though it is uncertain whether the earlier house stood on the same site or was in a more easterly position in the park near Heighton Street. All four ranges of the house round the inner courtyard are of 16th-century or earlier date, despite later alterations which obscure this, and the west gable of the south front still shows its Tudor features unaltered. At the west end of the north range, the Old Kitchen has in the outer face of its south wall part of a blocked doorway with a pointed and chamfered arch looking much older than the 16th-century, and this may be part of an earlier house. The hall range, between the two courts, still has its hammer-beam roof above the 18th century plaster ceiling; the hammer-beams have moulded and curved braces. The screens passage and buttery were at the north end where there is now a minor staircase. In the east wall of the main staircase hall there is a blocked Tudor doorway with carved spandrels, proving that there was a Tudor range on the south side of the outer court. It might have contained the chapel, of which mention is made in a detailed inventory attached to Sir John Gage's will.

As staunch Catholics the Gages suffered severely under the Reformation but managed to retain their position, and in James I's reign a later Sir John was created a baronet. Conditions in England were still difficult from them, however, but members of the family living abroad had distinguished careers. After the Act of Settlement in 1701, greater religious toleration enabled the family at Firle to conform to the Church of England without loss of prestige and to hold public office again. Sir William Gage owned Firle from 1713 to 1744, becoming K.B. and member for Seaford, and it was under him, or his successor the first

Viscount (1744-54), that the Georgian alterations to the house were made which gave it the distinctive appearance we now see. Different treatment of the windows on the south front, which have no surrounds except outside the staircase hall, suggests that this part may have been remodelled first, perhaps under Sir William. Some features of the east entrance-front—the hipped roofs and eaves cornices (somewhat old-fashioned by 1744), and the cornice over the central Venetian window—suggest the work of a local builder rather than an architect, though the result is bold and effective. The principal rooms and staircase, however, are finely conceived, probably by an architect of the Burlington group, and the addition of a long gallery in the mid-18th century is unusual.

The house has very fine contents and pictures, some of which have always been in it. The pictures include some from the celebrated Cowper family collection at Panshanger brought by the Viscountess Gage. There is a 15th-century Book of Hours, and also a Sarum Missal printed in 1520 which belonged to Sir John Gage and was no doubt used in the chapel.

(Based upon *Firle Place, Sussex*, 1955, by Arthur Oswald, with plan).

WEST FIRLE: ST. PETER'S CHURCH

The church has been heavily restored, but is mainly Early English, with the nave enlarged in the Perpendicular period. The north chancel aisle was added in the 16th century and contains the Gage family monuments which are fine and interesting: at the east end an altar tomb to Sir John Gage and his wife; in a recess in the north wall another to Sir Edward Gage and his wife, the effigies in brass; another to his son John Gage and his two wives; also several brasses. A feature of exceptional interest is that the working drawings for these tombs, when they were commissioned from the elder Gerard Janssen (or Johnson) of Amsterdam in 1595, are preserved in the house, and include marginal comments and instructions by John Gage which provide a fascinating commentary on his disapproval of the ladies' hair-style and fashions as depicted in the original designs, which were duly altered.

WEDNESDAY, 8TH JULY

THE VILLAGE OF LINDFIELD. BY I. D. MARGARY

The church at Lindfield, All Saints', belonged to the very ancient college of canons at South Malling (close to Lewes) and was one of a series of holdings reaching far up into the Weald. It has unfortunately been heavily restored, but the massive tower stands finely at the top of the street. Approaching from the truly suburban Haywards Heath, we first skirt the attractive village green (or Common) and then a large pond backed by pleasant though modern houses. In the main street are many old houses of 15th or 16th-century date, some with later fronts. Halfway up on the left is one, Everydens, dated 1680 but having two interesting Ionic pilasters and a little balustrade above, apparently Georgian. On the right, next the churchyard, is the Tiger, formerly an inn, with an uninteresting frontage; but behind this is a medieval timber building and at the back again a stone block of ecclesiastical character, suggesting association with the old College, perhaps the quarters of the Dean who was expressly allowed to reside here for three months in the year. The road curves around the church past a number of old houses that form a striking group. On the right beyond the churchyard is a fine timbered house with thatched roof, and just behind it the red-brick and timbered Chaloners (now part of the fine stone house Old Place, out of sight at the back), which belonged to the Chaloners in the 16th and 17th centuries. Just beyond these is Lindfield House, a good example from the reign of Queen Anne. Down the hill beyond the houses a gate on the right just before crossing the Ouse leads to Dean's Mill, another indication of the old College.

PARISH CHURCH *of* ST. NICHOLAS WORTH

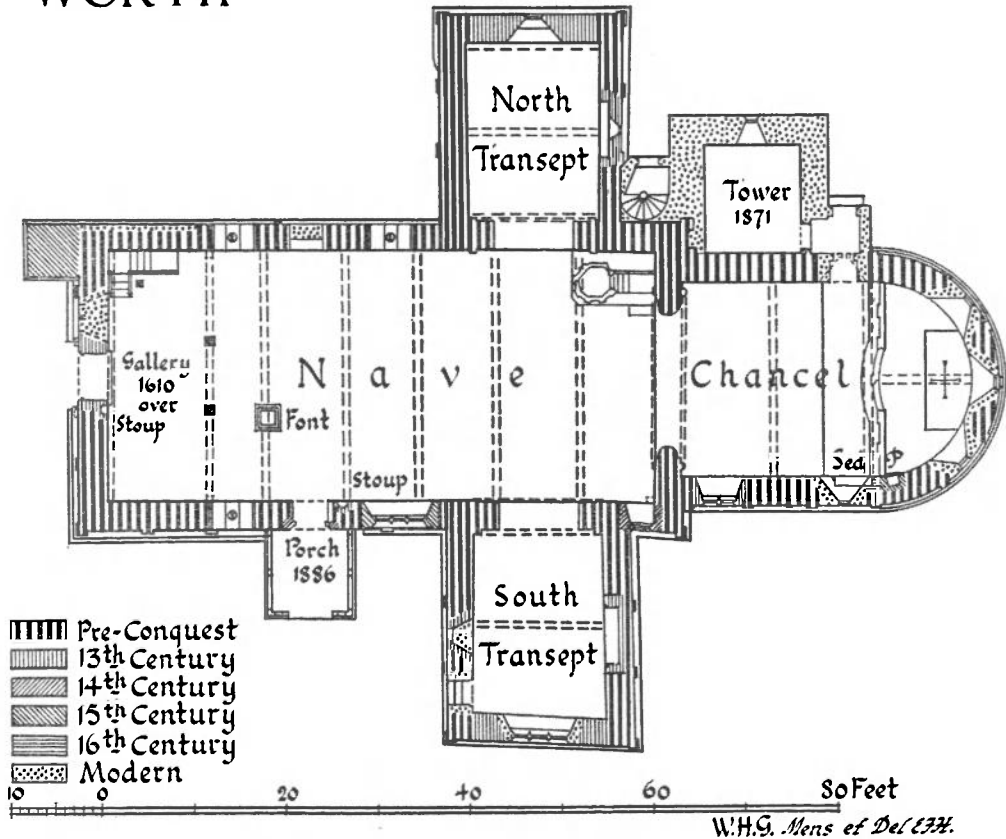


Fig. 3. Plan of Worth church

WORTH: CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS. By PETER EDEN

The church of St. Nicholas, Worth, consisting of apsidal chancel, nave with transepts, and a tower in the NE. angle between them, is (except for the tower) substantially of one date. What that date is has been a matter of some disagreement. Domesday does not mention a church, although it has quite a lot of information about the place otherwise. Nevertheless a pre-Conquest ascription is generally and perhaps rightly taken for granted. Sir Alfred Clapham opted for 10th century, with which W. H. Godfrey agrees. Baldwin Brown, followed more recently by Fletcher and Jackson, favoured the 11th century. The fact that Worth forest was a remote area in Saxo-Norman times and is likely in consequence to have been something of a cultural backwater speaks in support of later dating. Typologically, too, the building is significantly advanced, with fully developed transepts which have quite left behind the lateral porches from which they evolved. It is interesting to compare Worth in this respect with the 12th and 13th-century transeptal churches of Sussex—Sompting, Climping and Oving for example: buildings which are in the national context among the earliest of their kind.

A considerable number of original features survive, especially in the nave where three of a probable total of four two-light windows remain, as well as the north and south doors. The windows are of the mid-wall shaft type characteristic of the belfry stage of late Saxon towers, the shaft carrying a through-stone which supports the twin round-headed arches. Externally the nave, like the chancel, has a continuous string at window-sill level below which the wall is divided into short bays by pilaster strips. There are signs of a lost corbel table at the eaves. No surviving door or window in the transepts is of Saxon character.

The stopping off of the pilaster strips above the window sills is a feature which seems never to have been satisfactorily explained. The anomalous facing of semi-ashlar on the N. wall of the nave is another puzzle. This facing does on balance seem to be original, although it has not always been accepted as such. It may have been an attempt to give extra dignity to the N. elevation, or to make it match up with adjacent buildings.

The restoration of 1871 was a heavy one and involved the destruction of a picturesque wooden turret over the N. transept in favour of the existing tower, which itself has obliterated much interesting detail. Plate XXI XA is from a photograph preserved in the church which was taken before this change was made. In addition to this unhappy innovation the renewal of detail has in places been over-enthusiastic. Plate XXI XB indicates how little there was to go on as far as the S. transept arch was concerned; the heavy impost now to be seen would appear to have been an invention of the restorers [cf. engraving in *S.A.C.* VIII, 1856, facing p. 24.] In the E. wall of the same transept is an arch, visible internally, which appears to be an original feature [it was accepted as such by J. W. Bloe in *V.C.H. Sussex*, VII, 198] or was at least an early innovation. It may have led into an E. apse or small chapel. Unfortunately the pilaster strips outside have been carried over the later blocking, for which there can have been no warrant. [A drawing of 1805 in the Sharpe Collection reproduced in the *V.C.H.* shows that these strips were in fact confined to the upper part of the wall. Cf. engraving 'after a photograph' in *S.A.C.* VIII, 1856, facing p. 235].

SACKVILLE COLLEGE, EAST GRINSTEAD. BY W. E. GODFREY

Sackville College was built between the years 1609 and 1619 under the will of Robert 2nd Earl of Dorset with the object of housing thirty-one unmarried pensioners, twenty-one of whom, including a Warden, were to be men and ten women. The pensioners' rooms were arranged with a staircase to each block of four rooms around the three sides of a quadrangle. The main entrance was in the centre of the southern range. The eastern range contained the Chapel (enlarged and altered in the last century) and the western the Hall or Common Room of the Pensioners. The north side of the quadrangle was planned for the use of the Patron's family on occasions and is known as the Dorset Lodgings. It has a fine hall two storeys in height, since rebuilt, though on the same plan. In later years the whole of the building north of the Chapel as far as the Banqueting Hall came to be used as quarters for the Warden. Various other alterations have been made and the accommodation which the College is now able to provide is for a Warden, a Matron, seventeen pensioners and a porter.

The College, standing on practically the highest ground in East Grinstead, is built of local sandstone with roofs of Horsham stone. The colour of these materials and its simple and orderly design make it one of the outstanding examples of Jacobean architecture in the country, having a serenity which is so often lacking in the more ornate buildings of the period.

BAYHAM ABBEY. BY P. K. BAILLIE REYNOLDS

This house of Premonstratensian canons was founded at the beginning of the 13th century by the transfer and amalgamation of two smaller houses at Brockley, Kent, and Otham, Sussex. After the vicissitudes common to many similar foundations it was dissolved by Cardinal Wolsey in 1525, before the main group of suppressions in 1536 and 1539.

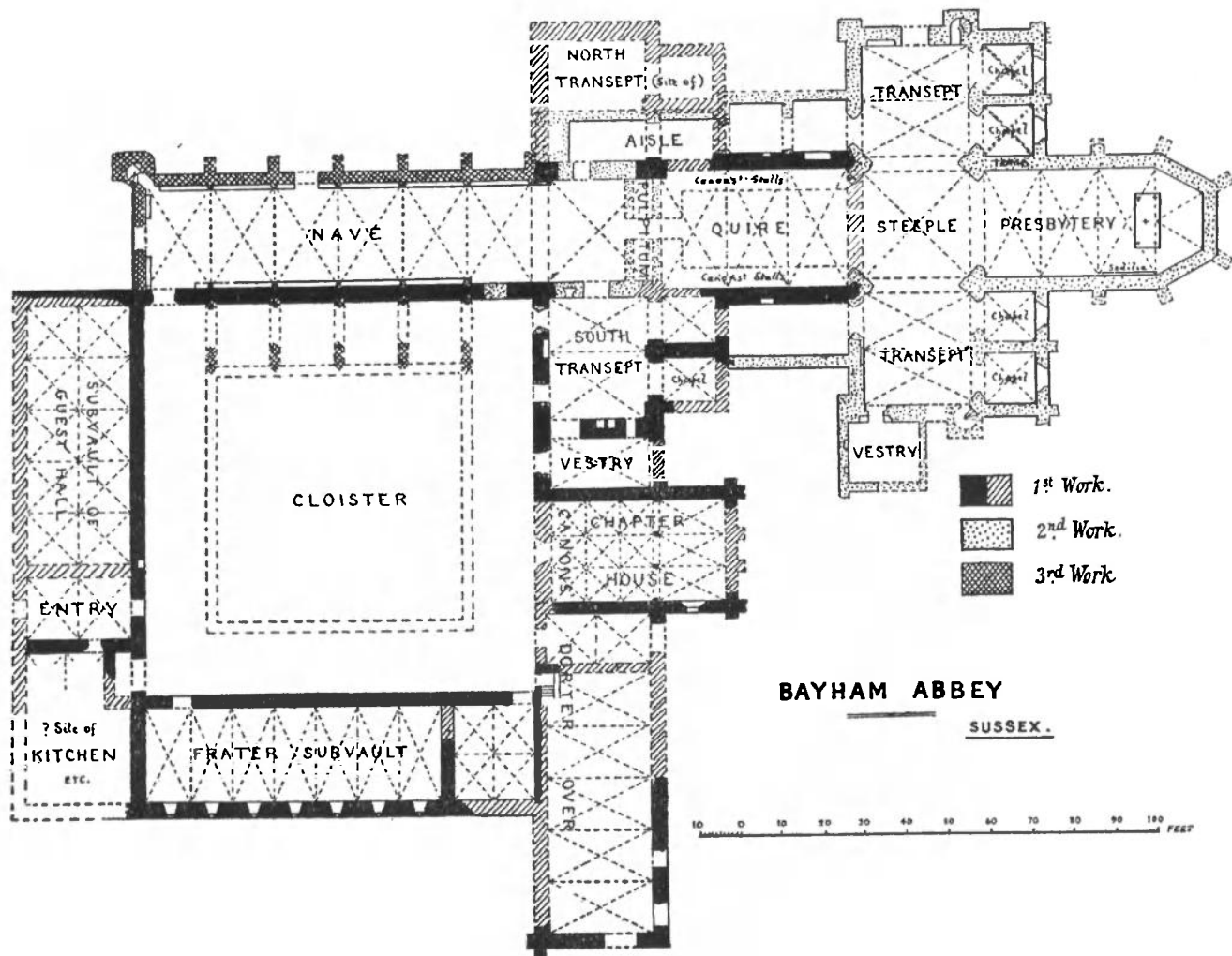


Fig. 5. Plan of Bayham Abbey

The remains consist of the church, all three ranges of claustral buildings and the gatehouse. The church, which originally had an aisleless nave, transepts with chapels and a short aisleless choir, of a markedly Cistercian pattern, was extended in the second half of the 13th century to almost double its original length, by the addition of an aisled choir, eastern transepts, and an aisleless presbytery with three-sided apse. The plan of this later work is unusual and its quality excellent—particularly the foliage and figure sculpture. In the later Middle Ages the nave was refenestrated and vaulted in stone.

Of the claustral buildings the sacristy, vestibule and chapter house, and most of the south and west ranges stand to first floor level. The gatehouse is apparently 14th-century work, but was made into a landscape feature in the late 18th or early 19th century.

ASHDOWN FOREST. BY I. D. MARGARY

Ashdown Forest occupies some 14,000 acres in the highest part of the central ridge of the Weald, on the stratum known as Tunbridge Wells Sand, which gives it the distinctive character hereabouts of a mainly open sandy heath. Its greatest extent is seven miles from near West Hoathly in the west to Crowborough in the east, and from the southern outskirts of Hartfield in the Medway valley on the north for four miles to near Maresfield in the south. Its open character affords particularly fine views.

It was royal property associated with the lordship of Pevensey soon after the Norman Conquest, and in 1372 was granted by Edward III to his son John of Gaunt in exchange for the earldom of Richmond, being then called the Free-chase of Ashdon, showing that it was then unenclosed. Later it became known as Lancaster Great Park and remained an enclosed hunting forest until the time of Charles II. Its bounds and the positions and names of the numerous gates are accurately known, as also its interior divisions into Wards and Walks.

From one of its highest points, known as King's Standing, on the Hartfield-Maresfield road, a number of interesting features can be seen, some only distantly. These are:—(a) KING'S STANDING itself, now a square embanked enclosure planted with firs, but containing a mound which may well be the original Standing past which the deer would have been driven (many broken roofing tiles lie buried around it, suggesting a roofed shelter there); (b) part of the London-Lewes ROMAN ROAD, here overlaid by a derelict modern road which has been replaced by the present one nearby, but still showing one of the Roman side-ditches undisturbed, for they were 62 feet apart there; in the distance, (c) the position of the ancient enclosure in the Forest called the VETCHERY (Norman *vacherie* = dairy-farm), traditionally the site of the royal hunting-lodge; (d) in the valley below, the site of 'THE THREE WARDS' (at the junction of South, West and Costlye Wards), the spot where meetings of the Forest officers were customarily held; (e) CAMP HILL and its fir clump (the origin of its name unknown)—the fir clumps were planted in 1816 as cover for black-game and aroused much ill-feeling with the commoners at that time owing to a fear of widespread enclosure; (f) a curious series of aligned MOUNDS (like tumuli but at measured distances apart), 27 below Camp Hill and 10 on Stone Hill beyond, whose meaning is quite unexplained. (These distances include multiples of 100 feet, 40 × 40 (= 80), three 30's (= 90), four 25's (= 100), three 22's (= 66). The mounds look just like tumuli, either truly bowl-shaped or with a dimple in the top. The three easternmost are 30 feet across (to outer lip of ditch), the rest mostly 12-20 feet across, but two are 50 foot embanked circles. But whoever heard of tumuli so arranged!).

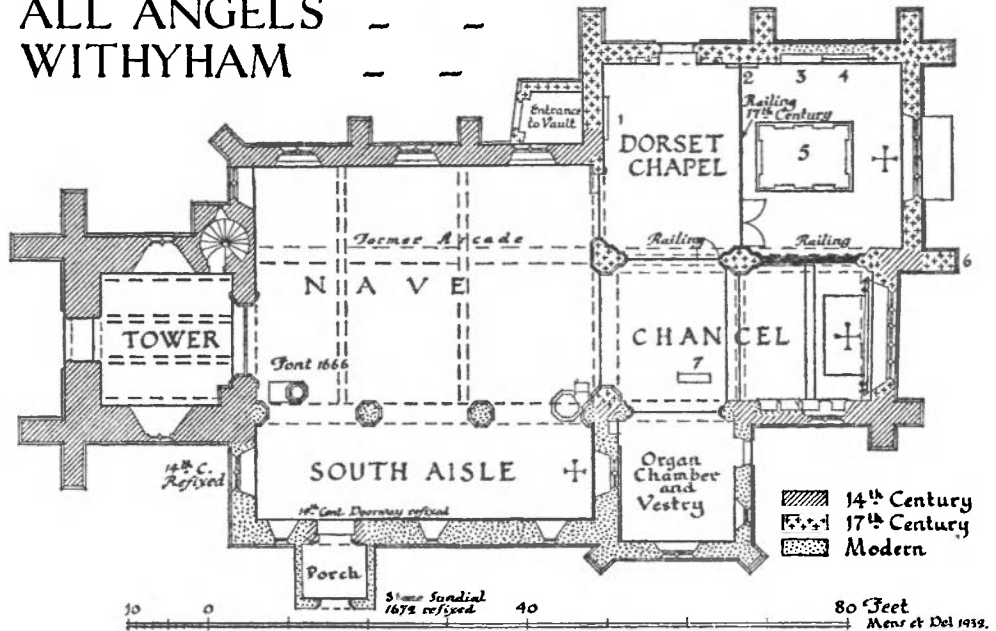
Rev. E. Turner, 'Ashdown Forest', *J.A.C.* XIV, 35.

Parliamentary Surveys (1650-56), (full transcripts), *J.A.C.* XXIII, 294 and XXIV, 190.

E. Straker, 'Inclosures of the Forest', *J.A.C.* LXXXI, 121.

I. D. Margary, 'Topographical Details', *J.A.C.* LXXXI, 137; King's Standing, *J.N.O.* III, 72; Roman Road, *J.A.C.* LXXXIII, 33, also *Guide*; Mounds, *J.N.O.* III, 101.

PARISH CHURCH of ST. MICHAEL and ALL ANGELS - - - WITHYHAM - - -



1 George John West, 5th
Earl de la Warr, 1869
2 John Frederick Sackville
3rd Duke 1745-1799
(Nollekens)

3 Arabella Diana Cope
Duchess of Dorset 1825
(Chantrey)
4 George John Frederick
Sackville, 4th Duke
1794-1815 (Flaxman)

5 Thomas, son of Richard Sackville
5th Earl 1622-1677 (Cibber)
6 Iron Grave Slab
William Alfrey 1610
7 Iron Grave Slab

Fig. 4. Plan of Withyham church

WITHYHAM: CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS. BY RUPERT GUNNIS

It is probable that the church was entirely rebuilt in the 14th century, and at that time presented a regular plan of nave, with north and south aisles, chancel and west tower. The north aisle was known as the Lady Aisle and at its east end was the chapel of the Sackville family. Early in the 17th century this Dorset Chapel (the Sackville family were Earls, and later Dukes, of Dorset) was rebuilt on a larger scale, and in 1663 the whole church was seriously damaged by lightning and the subsequent fire. The existing remains of the 14th-century church are the north wall of the nave, south wall of the chancel and the lower part of the tower. The arcade of the north aisle has been removed, and the south aisle is modern. The arches separating the chancel from the nave and the Dorset Chapel are interesting examples of 17th-century Gothic. The Chapel possesses notable monuments by Cibber, Nollekens, Flaxman and Chantrey. There are two iron grave slabs and some fine 17th-century wrought iron railings. The font is dated 1666 and the sundial on the south porch 1672.

S.N.Q. IV, 113.

THURSDAY, 9TH JULY

OLD SHOREHAM CHURCH. By W. E. GODFREY

The church of St. Nicholas, Shoreham, is of cruciform plan without aisles, dating from the middle of the 12th century. The apses of choir and transepts have disappeared. The elaborately carved arches of the crossing and the arcaded stonework of the tower are good examples of the period. The west and north walls of the nave are however survivals from the pre-Conquest church and its west tower. There is a tie-beam, carved with a billet mould, preserved adjacent to its original position at the east end of the nave. The chancel screen is *c.* 1300.

PARISH CHURCH of ST. NICHOLAS
OLD SHOREHAM

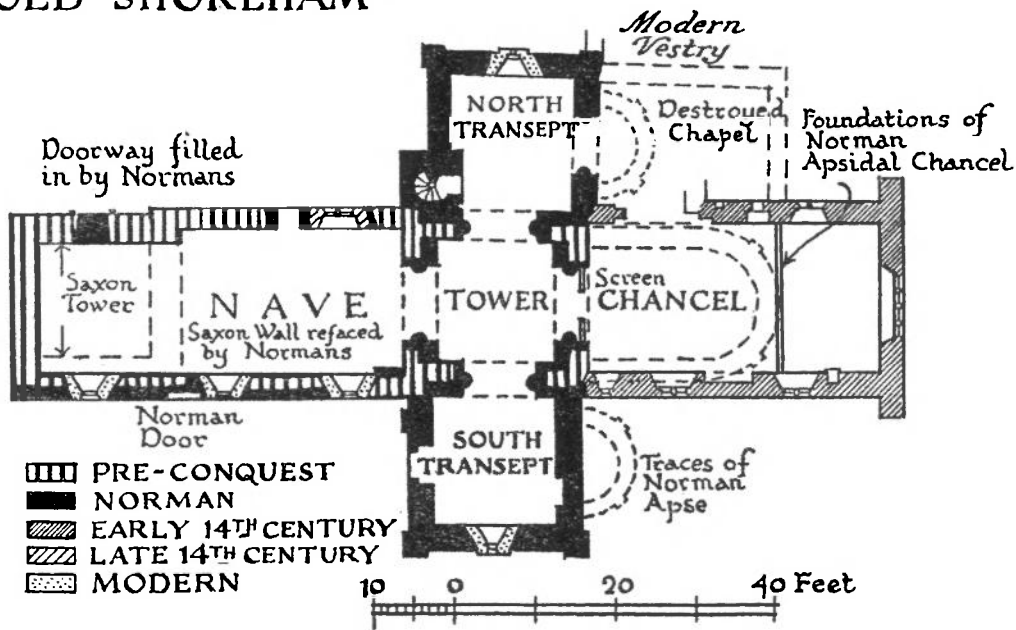


Fig. 6. Plan of Old Shoreham church

SOMPTING : CHURCH OF ST. MARY. By PETER EDEN

The church of St. Mary, Sompting, consists of nave and chancel, continuous and with no structural division; two transepts, the N. one with an E. aisle, and the S. one with a projecting sanctuary and small sacristy; and W. tower. The last is capped by a helm spire, the only example remaining in England, though St. Benet's, Cambridge, and possibly St. Mary's, Bedford, may have had spires approximating to it. The tower is generally ascribed to the first half or middle of the 11th century; the remainder is ostensibly of the second half of the 12th century. (Caen stone occurs as dressings throughout). The tower has been interpreted as a remainder from the church which stood on the site prior to the grant of it to the Knights

Templar in 1154. W. H. Godfrey has suggested that this early church may have resembled the existing building in outline; indeed the side walls of the nave could in part at least be co-eval with the tower. They are in line externally with those of the tower and they are thin for Norman work; while the rather curious arrangement of pilaster strips on the ground stage of the tower is perhaps best explained as part of an overall design embracing the nave also. The two main arches into the transepts are of a rudimentary kind often favoured where breaches in an existing wall are involved.

The sculptured stones surviving loose or built into the fabric were ascribed by A. W. Clapham on the occasion of a previous visit of the Institute [reported in *Arch. J.* XCII (1935), 405] to the first half of the 11th century, not without some reservations. Subsequent opinion has inclined to a somewhat later dating [e.g., Dr. Zarnecki in an unpublished thesis on English Romanesque Sculpture. In an amplifying letter he has suggested a date for these carvings around 1060. I am much indebted to him for his help]. If it is accepted, the dating of the fabric of the tower should perhaps be involved in this revision.

Previous writers have been inclined to accept the present fabric as that of a monastic church on the assumption that there was a small community here. Godfrey and Clapham agree in equating the S. transept with the Templars' chapel. A case can perhaps be made for identifying it as parochial. The village lies to the S. of the church, as it no doubt has always done; but there is no trace of a S. door to the nave, only one into the transept. The font, though clearly out of place at the E. end of the transept, has been there for more than a hundred years. It is rather unlikely to have been moved there from the nave. The lower level of the transept if parochial would have a functional explanation in terms of the usual steps up to the choir. The N. transept on the other hand has a provision for side altars more suitable to a religious house than to a small village. Its aisle is shown on faculty documents of 1854 as 'aisle belonging to proprietor of Abbot Sompting . . .' (Pl. XXX); an arrangement which may well reflect rights made over at the Dissolution. An odd feature is the blocked arch or door (seemingly original) in the south end of the W. wall of this transept, particularly as there is no trace of a contemporary N. nave aisle. It could be explained by positing a timber-built cloister, but the evidence has been obscured by the addition of a (13th/14th century) chapel, ruins of which still survive to the N. of the nave and tower. Cumulatively these small indications weaken, even if they do not reverse previous assumptions as to the functional dispositions in the building.

A word may be added about the mid-19th century restoration already alluded to. Specifications and drawings in the Diocesan Registry at Chichester show that these were heavier than is sometimes supposed, and would apparently have been heavier still if the architect, Mr. R. C. Carpenter, had had his way. (There was one scheme for Normanising the entire fenestration). Features introduced at that time include the pilaster buttresses on the E. face of the N. transept together with the string-course and both gables; the arch at the S. end of its E. aisle (there seems to have been solid wall here); and the E. window of the S. transept. [These innovations are shown on a plan 'marked B' here illustrated. They are shown on further drawings in section and elevation.] There was also a good deal of renovation throughout: the semi-vault over the sanctuary of the S. transept for example is a complete rebuilding.

ARUNDEL: THE FITZALAN CHAPEL. BY F. W. STEER

The Fitzalan Chapel and its north aisle, the Lady Chapel, form the eastern half of the church of St. Nicholas (see plan). This church formed part of a college of secular canons founded in the place of a suppressed alien priory by Richard, Earl of Arundel in 1380. In 1544 the college was surrendered to the Crown, and granted to Henry Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel. The western half of the church which had been used as the parish church of Arundel, continued to serve this purpose, but the eastern half has remained the private property of the Earls of Arundel and their successors in title, the Dukes of Norfolk, ever since, and is walled off from the remainder of the church.

PARISH CHURCH of ST. NICHOLAS and COLLEGIATE CHAPEL
of the BLESSED TRINITY ARUNDEL

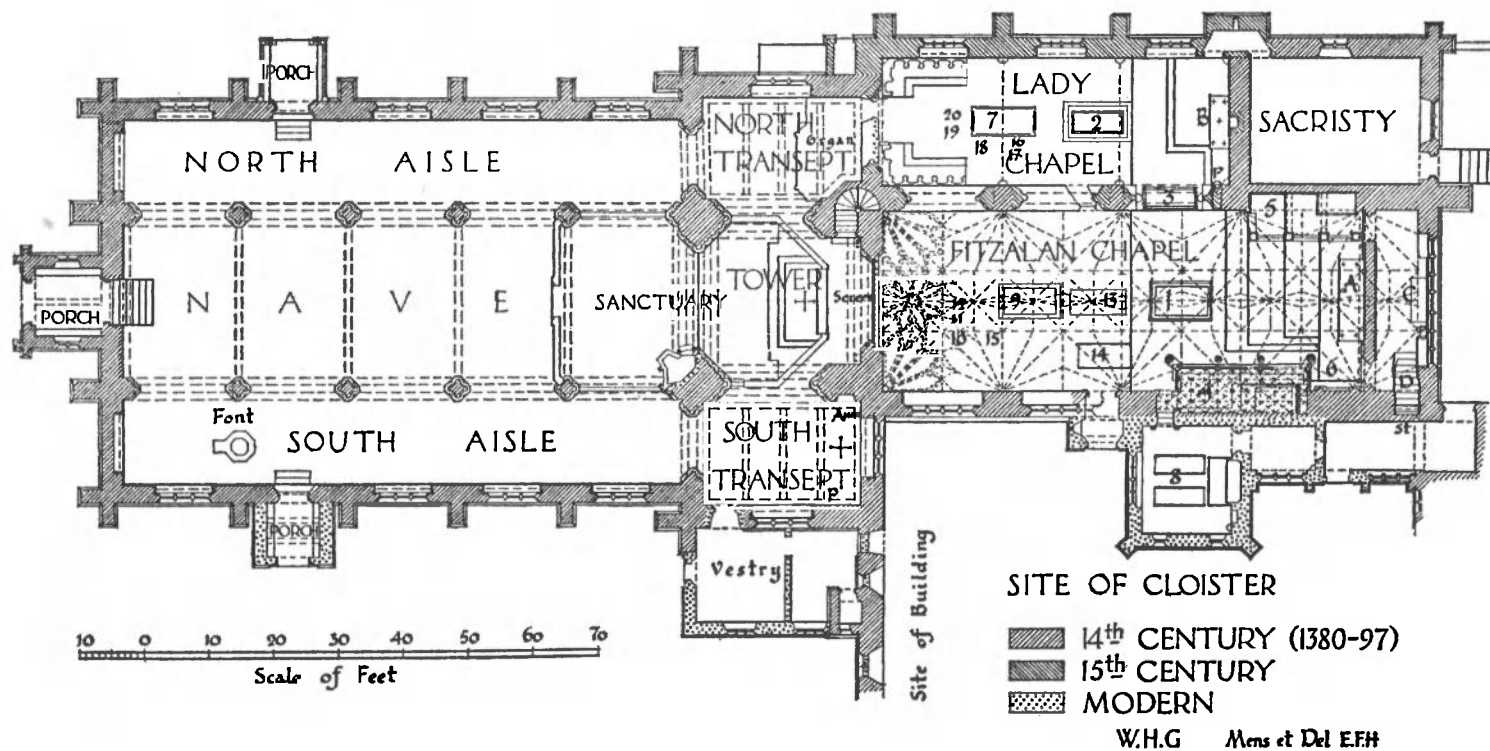


Fig. 7. Plan of Arundel church

The Fitzalan Chapel proper forms the eastern arm of Earl Richard's church; its north aisle, the Lady Chapel, was originally separated from it by a solid wall, filling the arcade to within three feet of the top of the columns, and capped by an embattled moulding. This wall was removed to accommodate the tomb of John, 7th Earl of Arundel who died in 1435.

The fine series of tombs include the following (numbered on plan):—

1. Thomas Fitzalan, 5th Earl of Arundel, K.G., son of the Founder, d. 1415, and Beatrice, his wife, daughter of John I, King of Portugal, d. 1439.
2. John Fitzalan, 6th Earl of Arundel (d. 1421) and his wife Eleanor.
3. John Fitzalan, 7th Earl of Arundel, K.G. (d. 1435), who distinguished himself in the French Wars, and who died of wounds at Beauvais.
4. Chantry and Tomb of William Fitzalan, 9th Earl of Arundel (d. 1487), and his wife Joan, sister of Warwick 'the Kingmaker'.
5. Chantry and Tombs of Thomas, 10th Earl (d. 1524), William, 11th Earl, (d. 1544) and Henry, 12th Earl, (d. 1580). This Chantry was erected in 1596.

ARUNDEL: PARISH CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

As explained above, this is the nave, crossing and transepts of the collegiate church founded by Richard, Earl of Arundel in 1380. Apart from the modern south porch and vestry, the present structure was completed within twenty years of this date.

AMBERLEY CASTLE

Amberley Castle was built in 1377 by William Rede, Bishop of Chichester, and is therefore nearly contemporary with Bodiam and was probably fortified for similar reasons. The plan of a quadrangle with square towers at the angles is one common at the period, and may be compared with that of such castles in the north of England as Bolton, built in the same year. The gateway, on the north side, is flanked by two round towers. The dwelling-house within the castle was built by Bishop Sherborne (1508-1536) who was the last bishop to live at Amberley: the panel paintings which it contained, of the Nine Heroines of Antiquity by Lambert Barnard, were discussed in a paper by Edward Croft-Murray in *Arch. J.* CXIII (1956).

CISSBURY RING. BY E. CECIL CURWEN

One of the best known of the hill-forts of the southern chalk downlands, Cissbury lies on the top of a hill some 600 ft. above sea level, with strong natural defences on all except the east and south sides, in which are situated the two original entrances of the camp. The camp consists of a large elongated area of about 60 acres enclosed by an inner bank rising 20-30 ft. above an outer ditch and a small outer bank beyond the ditch. The entrances are simple breaches in the ramparts, but at some period after their construction the outer bank flanking the entrances was removed, the ditches widened, and the material thus obtained used to heighten the inner bank.

Notable features of the camp are the flint mines dotted about the interior, which have been investigated by a number of archaeologists in the past century including Pitt-Rivers, and the field systems.

Excavations in 1930, carried out by Mr. E. C. Curwen for the Worthing Archaeological Society, suggested that the camp was originally constructed about 250 B.C., and was in use as a fortress up to perhaps 50 B.C. Subsequently it came into agricultural use, and this phase continued well into the Roman period; finally, late in the Roman period and no doubt in connection with the raids of Saxon pirates, it was re-fortified.

PARHAM HOUSE

Parham appears in Domesday Book as two separate holdings, one held by the Abbot of Westminster and the other by Robert of Mortain, half-brother of the Conqueror, and subsequently by the family of Tregoz. In 1540, at the Dissolution, Henry VIII granted the monastic portion to Robert Palmer, and his son Sir Thomas Palmer built the E-shaped portion of the present house. It seems probable that during his lifetime the Tregoz holding had been added to the estate. The Palmers held the property till 1601, when it was sold to Sir Thomas Bysshopp, and it remained with that family's descendants until sold by them to the present owner in 1922. In 1816 Sir Cecil Bishop, the 8th Baronet, who had laid claim to the ancient barony of Zouche, took his seat in the Lords as the 12th Baron, and the title thus became associated with Parham.

The house built by Sir Thomas Palmer in 1577 faces south, but there is reason to think that the eastern range is earlier, and this includes the Old Kitchen in the north-east corner. This range may have formed the house owned by the monastery. Various alterations to the windows and chimneys have been made in the past, but careful restoration has brought the house back as nearly as possible to its early state. The south front is handsome although only the tall windows of the Great Hall are original. The central porch, once the main entrance, almost certainly had only one floor above, the second being a later addition. It gives access to the screens-passage at the east end of the hall. The screen is fine with interesting transitional details, but the painted panelling in the hall is later, save in the recess to the Great Parlour door and the pilasters round the fireplace and frieze over it, which may however be re-used or copied contemporary work. The wooden benches round the hall are mostly original. The main staircase is in position as built, although with the treads and landings renewed, but a secondary stair east of the screens-passage still has its original solid oak treads. The Long Gallery runs the full length of the south range, 158 feet, passing over the Great Hall (which cannot therefore ever have had an open roof), and is known to have had very rich and elaborate ceilings which were most unfortunately destroyed in 1832 owing to dilapidation.

To the north of the house the laundry or office quadrangle was added by Sir Cecil Bishop in 1778-79, and *c.* 1800 the main entrance was transferred to this side. Further additions and alterations were again made here between 1830 and 1870, culminating in the north entrance with its Gothic revival characteristics.

There are very fine contents and pictures, including a Zucchero of Elizabeth I. An unusual archaeological relic is a Roman lead cistern with raised cable decoration and including the Chi-rho monogram, found at Lickfold, north of Parham and near the east-west Roman road.

(I.D.M., based on *Parham*, edited by J. W-F.)

PARHAM: ST. PETER'S CHURCH

The church, about 130 yards from the house, was almost entirely rebuilt about 1800-20 and the tower then added or rebuilt, but the vestry, formerly a lady chapel or chantry chapel at the south-east corner, was probably built about 1545 under the will of Robert Palmer. The feature of greatest interest is the lead font, impressed with the arms of Andrew Peveral, Knight of the Shire in 1351, and inscribed I.H.S. NAZAR. in Lombardic lettering. The barrel ceiling of the nave and the box pews are of 19th-century origin, the oak altar-rails 18th century, and the pulpit and reading-desk 18th with 19th-century additions. There is a fine example of a squire's pew with private entrance and fireplace.

(I.D.M. based on *Parham*, edited by J. W-F.)

PARHAM SUSSEX

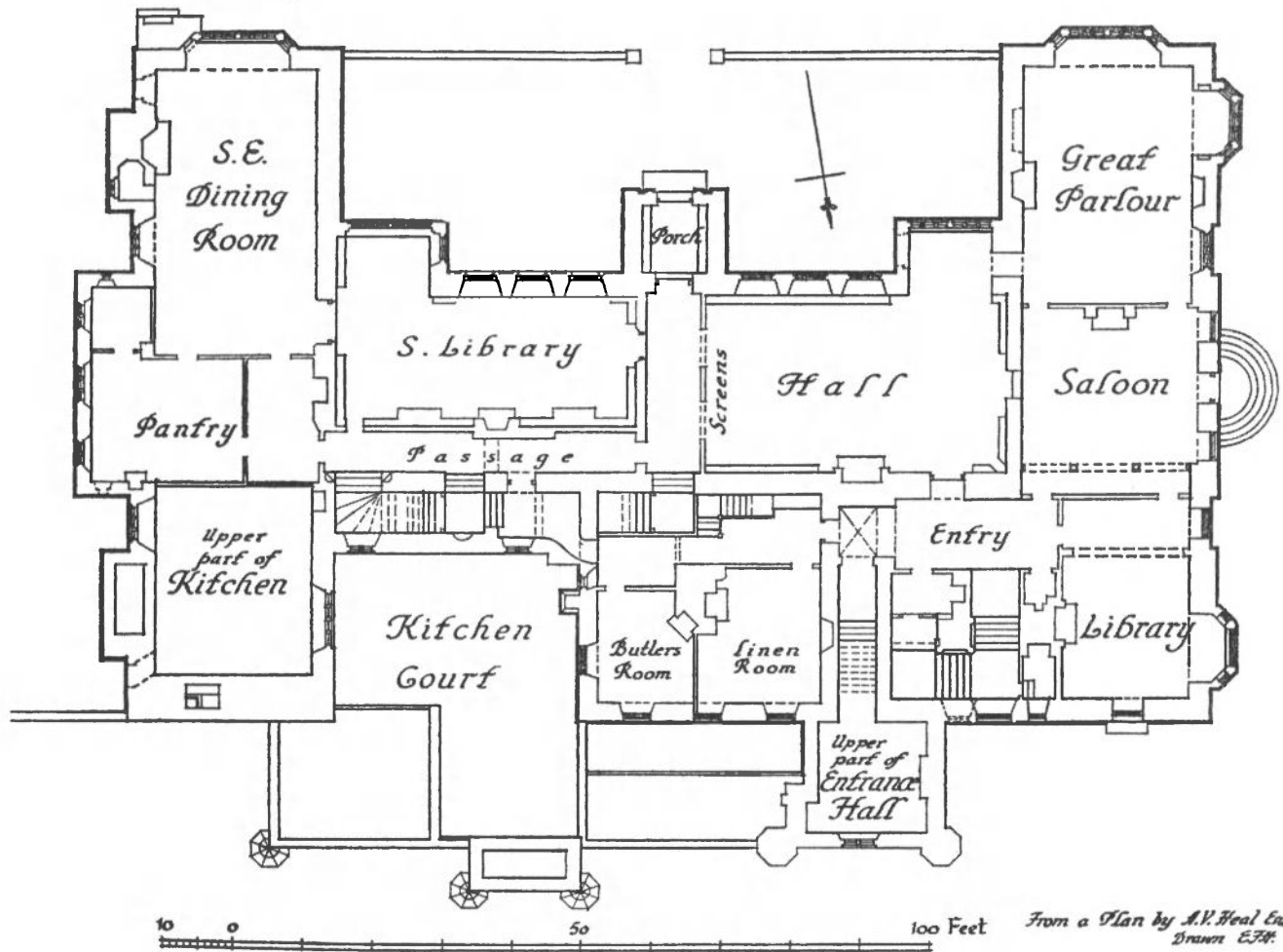


Fig. 8. Plan of Parham House

NEW SHOREHAM CHURCH. BY W. E. GODFREY

The church of St. Mary de Haura, Shoreham, consists only of the transepts, tower and eastern arm of the great parish church which previously stood here. The original church of the first half of the 12th century had a nave of six bays, an apsidal choir, and transepts with eastern chapels, probably also apsidal. But excepting one eastern bay of its arcades, now forming a porch to the church, the whole of the nave has been demolished.

The vaulted eastern arm of the church contains a fine variety of carving and ornament displaying the progress of its building from about 1175 to 1210. Though truncated, the church forms an imposing composition even externally, with its triforium and clerestory, flying buttresses and central tower of 12th and 13th-century date.

Most remarkable among its fittings is the 12th-century font with square carved bowl on a central drum with four free-standing angle shafts.

FRIDAY, 10TH JULY

ETCHINGHAM: CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ST. NICHOLAS. BY R. S. SIMMS

The church of St. Mary and St. Nicholas, Etchingham, is notable as a good example of a 14th-century plan, and also for the fine treatment of the tracery in the windows.

PARISH CHURCH of S.S. MARY & NICHOLAS ETCHINGHAM

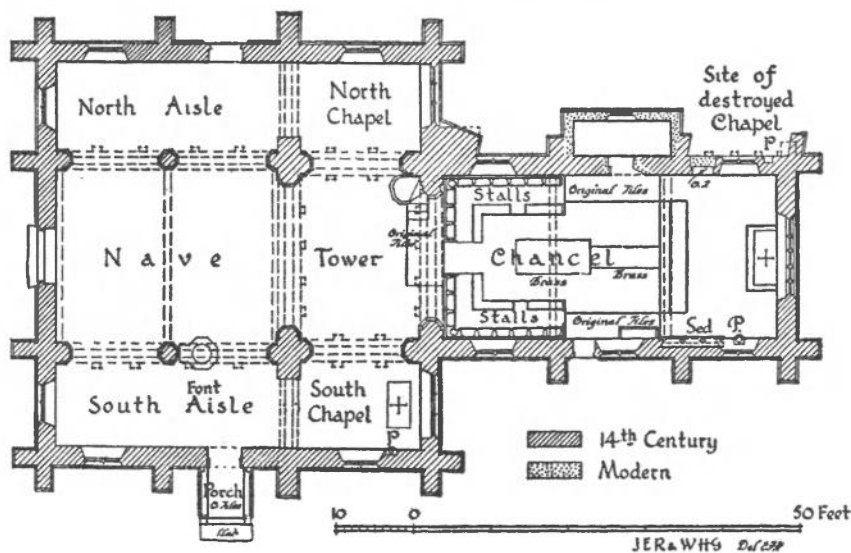


Fig. 10. Plan of Etchingham church

It was built by Sir William de Echyngham, who died in 1388-9. The central tower is of plain design, and the aisled nave has a clerestory which may be an addition, but otherwise there are no later structural alterations except for a modern vestry, and the remaining old fittings are contemporary with the fabric. A chapel stood to the north of the chancel, and its piscina can be seen in the external wall. The original stalls and screen survive, the stalls retaining their carved misericords. Medieval glass of 14th-century date still remains in many

PARISH CHURCH *of* ST. MARY DE HAURA NEW SHOREHAM

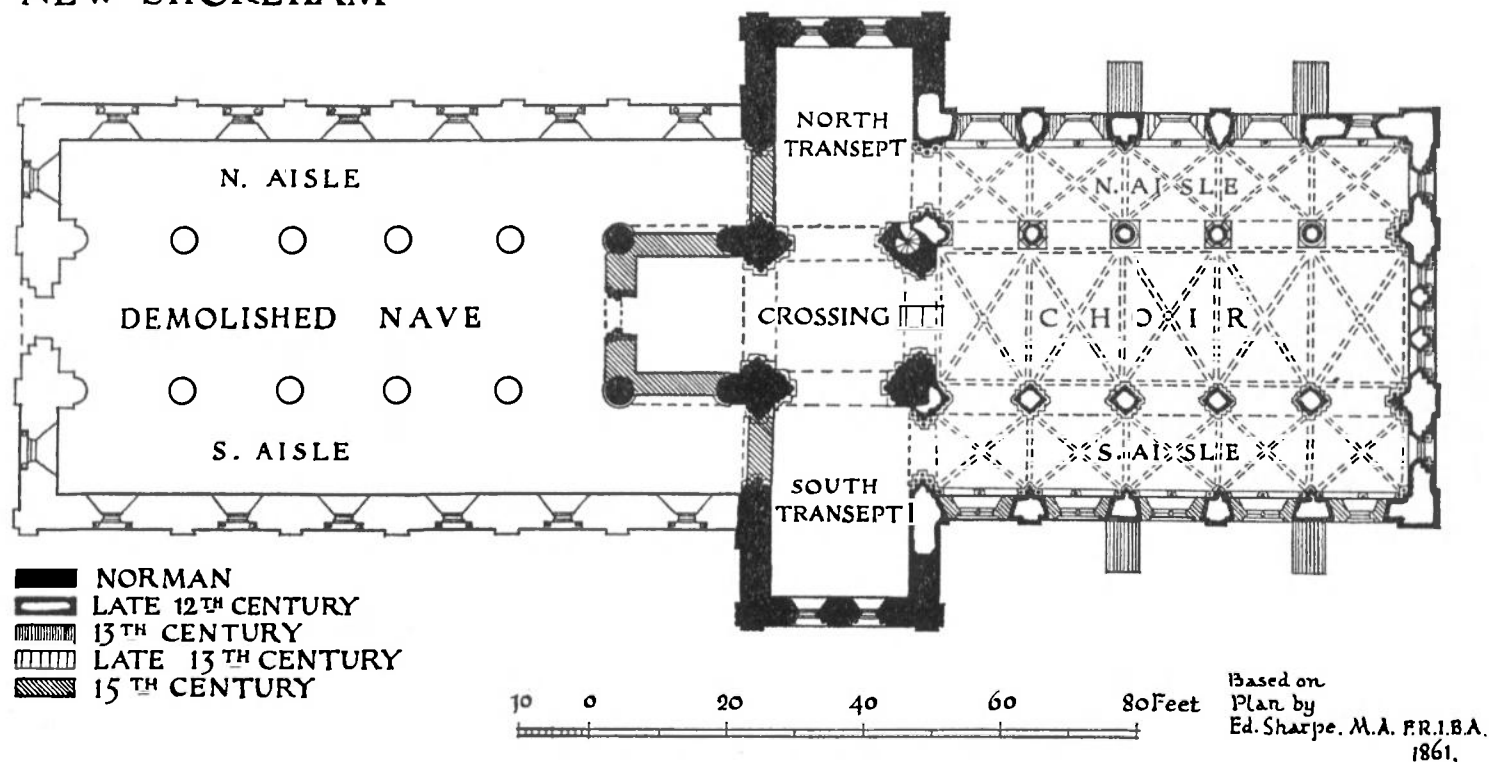


Fig. 9. Plan of New Shoreham church

of the windows, with, among others, shields of arms of Edward III and the Black Prince. A fine brass to Sir William de Echyngnam lies on the chancel floor with inscriptions in Latin and Norman French; also another brass, with three figures, to a later Sir William with his wife and son, dating from the beginning of the 15th century. In the south aisle are two late 15th-century brasses. Original tiles remain in the chancel and under the tower, and there is a fine triple sedilia with piscina in the chancel.

BODIAM CASTLE. BY W. E. GODFREY

In 1385 Sir Edward Dalingridge, who had acquired the property by his marriage to Elizabeth Wardedieu, was granted a licence to crenellate his manor house of Bodyham and to make a castle thereof in defence of the adjacent country against the King's enemies. There was a continuous threat of French depredation on this coast and the site chosen commanded the then navigable River Rother. The castle has an uneventful story however and since some time in the 17th century has not been inhabited. In 1919 it was bought by Lord Curzon, who carried out a thorough repair and investigation of the castle and its moat and who bequeathed it to the National Trust.

Bodiam represents the last stage in the development of the castle plan, where curtain wall and living accommodation form one continuous range round an inner quadrangle. Across a full moat, though bridges and barbican have gone, its sandstone walls and towers present an impressively unaltered appearance. Within the courtyard the buildings have been dismantled, but sufficient are left to display their arrangement. The hall and kitchen were to the south, the chapel and solar range to the east and the servants' and other accommodation to the west and north. The large number of individual fireplaces and garderobes, even to the tower rooms, shows the scale of comfort attained.

RYE CHURCH. BY W. E. GODFREY

The church of St. Mary at Rye has a beautiful close-like setting and its size is evidence of the port's prosperity in the 12th and 13th centuries. The present church was built on cruciform plan between the middle and end of the 12th century, with the exception of the choir aisles which were added during the following fifty years. There are two original aumbries in the east wall. In the transepts the aisle arches and parts of the wall-arcading and of the south doorway survive, as does the north door, though moved and restored. The nave with its aisles and fine arcade was the last to be completed. It has been much restored and when the later clerestory windows were replaced with those of Norman type the level of the original wall passage was dropped. North and south porches of two storeys were added in the 14th century and the latter is still vaulted. Another south porch was built in the 15th century.

The north chancel chapel of St. Nicholas was built about 1220 and has a good eastern pier and two pairs of lancets, revealing the wall passage, of that date. The south chapel of St. Clere followed some 30 years later.

It is probably in repair of damage sustained in the French raids, particularly after the sacking of 1377, that the west and north arches of the crossing and the tower were rebuilt in the 14th century, together with a new flying buttress at the south-east corner and new aisle windows to the nave. In the following century, resulting from the same cause no doubt, the remaining arches of the crossing, the east arch of the transepts, and the chancel arcades had to be rebuilt, the southern being supported by a new elaborate flying buttress. The east window of the chancel is of the 15th century as are the rear arches of the chapel windows at this end. The north and south transept windows were inserted in the early 16th century.

There is some 15th-century screenwork between chapels and transepts; and also two brasses with effigies, one of about 1490 and the other of 1607, an elaborate early 18th-century Spanish altar table, and a peal of eight bells dated 1775. The clock was made in Winchelsea in 1560 and its face, quarterboys and surround above the north transept are of about 1760.

PARISH CHURCH of ST. MARY R Y E

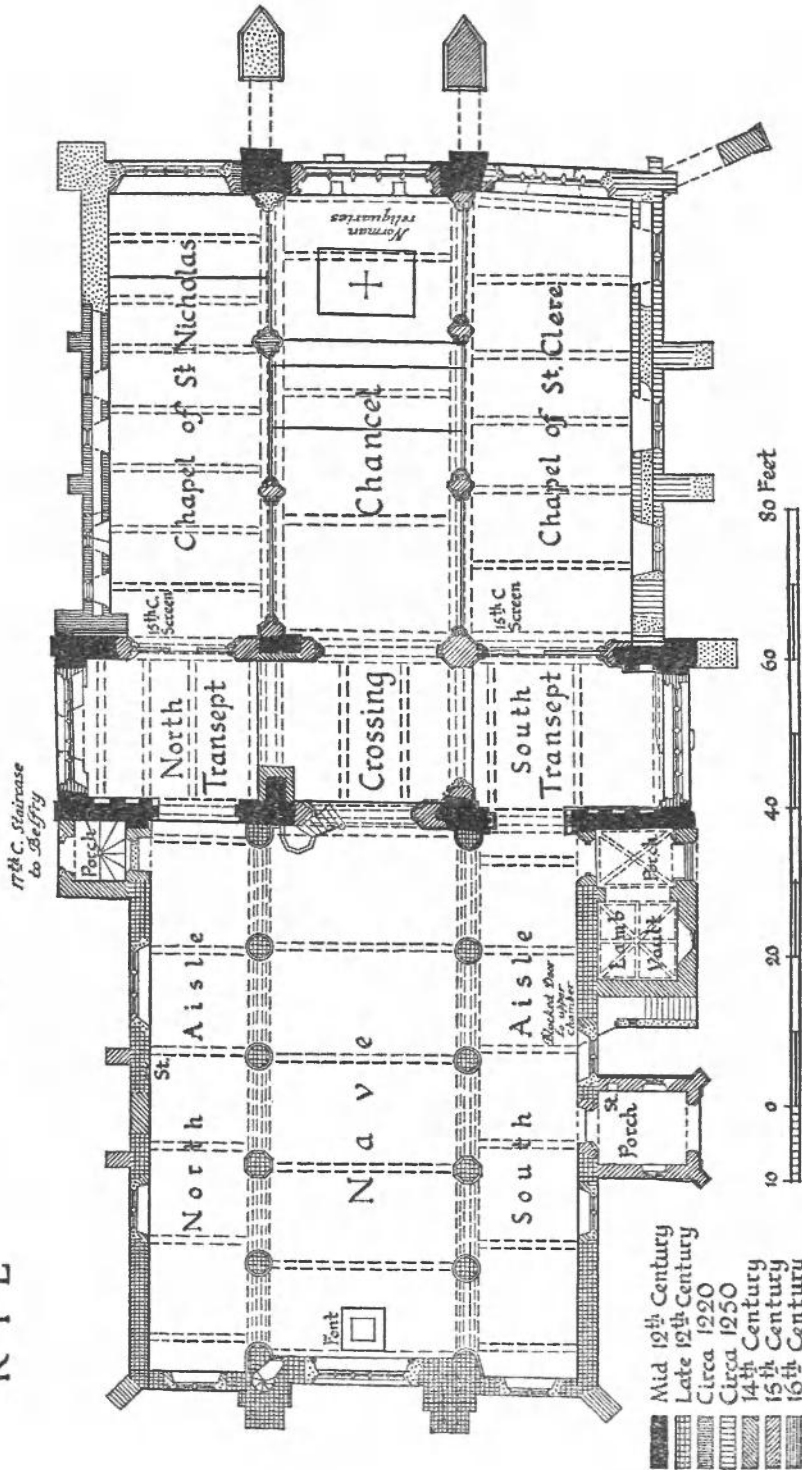


Fig. 11. Plan of Rye church

RYE. NOTES BY BRIGADIER GARDHAM

MERMAID HOTEL: First mentioned as an 'Inn' in 1634. Has some interesting features, but has not been improved by modern wall paintings.

TOWER HOUSE: Converted from two Tudor cottages c. 1760. Has fine carved porch of an earlier date. In the garden is a remarkably high Gazebo built in 1768.

HOUSE OF 'FRIARS OF THE SACK': This small Order came to Rye about 1260. Much of the original building is incorporated in the present house, which was the home of the Rye historian, the late Mr. Leopold Amon Vidler.

YPRES CASTLE: Built c. 1250. Its name derives from the fact that, during a time of depression in 1430 the City Fathers sold it, as a priest's residence, to a citizen called John de Iprys. In 1518 it was re-purchased by the Town under its older name of Baddings Tower. For many years it served as the town gaol until it was condemned by the Inspector of Prisons in 1891. It now houses the Rye Museum—and the mortuary.

THE TOWN HALL: Built about 1743. The Council Chamber records the names of Mayors from 1289.

FLUSHING INN: There is an interesting wall painting (c. 1550) in one of the rooms. It was discovered in 1905 and is now being renovated.

THE OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL: This is a fine example of 17th-century brickwork. It is now occupied by a Club and the interior is of no particular interest.

THE MONASTERY: The remains of St. Austin's Friary, built 1380 suppressed 1538. Now the Church Hall.

THE LANDGATE: The only remaining town gate (there were once four). Built c. 1329.

THE BOROUGH OF WINCHELSEA. BY J. T. SMITH

Winchelsea is of interest for two main reasons. Firstly, it was planned and built in the great age of medieval town-planning, the reign of Edward I, and is the best English example of its kind; secondly, its numerous vaulted cellars characteristic of the period constitute an important body of evidence for the study of medieval town houses that has not yet been adequately undertaken.

The original site of Winchelsea was about three miles south-east of Rye. Coastal erosion was sufficiently serious by 1281 for Edward I to start preparations for moving the town to its present site, but not until 1292 were the building plots finally allocated. From then onwards building must have proceeded rapidly; thirty vaulted cellars of c. 1300 have been recorded and the whereabouts of ten more are known. Work on the church seems to have continued through at least the first quarter of the 14th century. The walls are an integral part of the town layout along with the gridiron pattern of streets, not all of which can now be seen because New Winchelsea seems not to have prospered to the extent envisaged by its planners. Rather strangely, the original market-place has not survived, and only after some argument has modern research established its position. Surprisingly, it was not planned as a rectangular open space in the manner usual in continental 'bastides', but as a widening of a street in the traditional English fashion; it was sited in the field called 'Monday's Market' near the Greyfriars.

The remains of the Edwardian town are interesting but not impressive by comparison with the French 'bastides'. They include a much-restored Town Hall north-west of the churchyard and the many vaulted cellars, the finest of which is under the former Salutation Inn. The arrangement of their vaulting is generally similar to that found in Chester, where recent research has shown that many of the cellars of c. 1280-1320 were only part of large store houses. The account in the Victoria County History contains hints that the same may have been true of Winchelsea, or at least that the houses were not entirely timber-framed.

The remains of the Dominican and Franciscan houses in Winchelsea are not important; of the three town gates, Strand Gate is the best preserved.

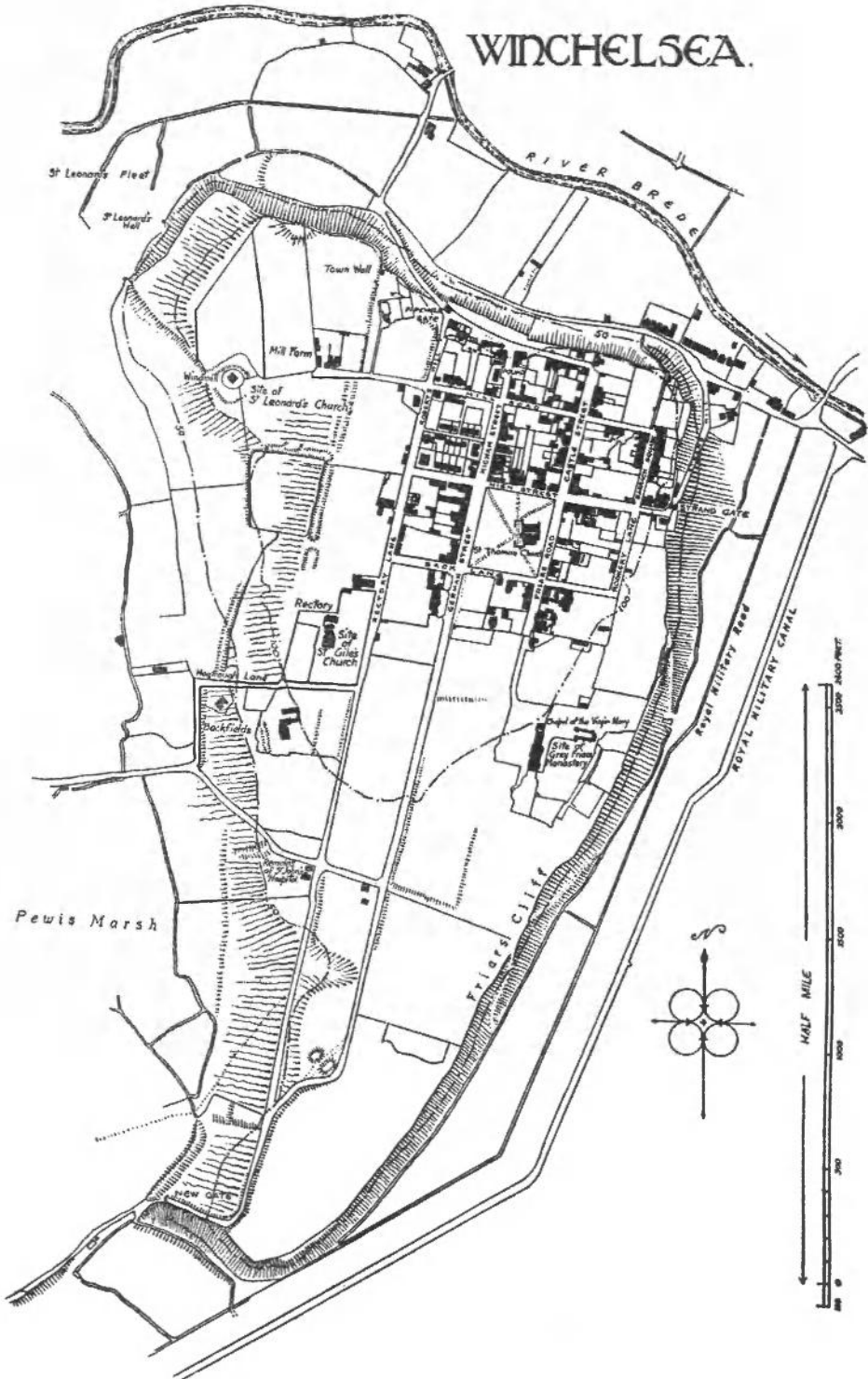


Fig. 12. Plan of the town of Winchelsea

ALFRISTON: THE CLERGY HOUSE. BY J. T. SMITH

The Clergy House is a timber-framed building of about the middle of the 14th century. Architecturally it belongs to the 'Wealden' type of house both in plan and structure, the distinctive feature of which is the projection of the hall roof beyond the wall and flush with the first-floor walls of the wings. It has the distinction of being the first building to be taken over by the National Trust in 1896.

ALFRISTON: THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW. BY W. H. GODFREY

The church of St. Andrew, Alfriston, is notable as an important example of a regular cruciform plan, without aisles, the whole fabric being built at one time. The date given by the Victoria County History of Sussex is *c.* 1360, and it can be compared with the rather later church of Holy Trinity, Poyning. The faces of the wall piers that carry the central tower are concave in plan, and the bases and moulded caps are similarly hollowed. The tower is covered by a shingled broach spire. The church was granted to Michelham Priory at the end of the 14th century.

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~ The PARISH CHURCH of ST. ANDREW
ALFRISTON

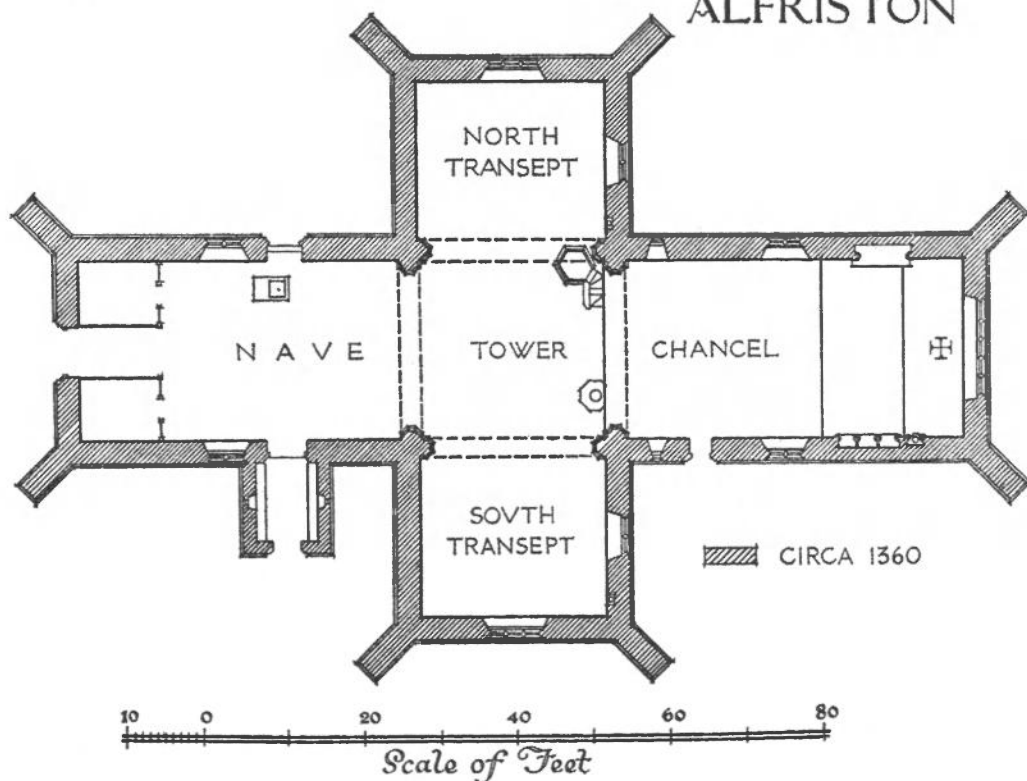


Fig. 13. Plan of Alfriston church

SATURDAY, 11TH JULY

LEWES: ANNE OF CLEVES HOUSE, SOUTHOVER. BY COLONEL T. SUTTON

The so-called Anne of Cleves House was part of the property of the suppressed Priory of Lewes and it was given to the divorced wife of Henry VIII. It is a very attractive building both internally and externally. The best preserved portion, which faces over Southover High Street, was built in c. 1500. The dated porch was added in 1599, and this is probably the same date as the west wing. The large hall occupies the full height of the building and contains much of the original timber work.

Vicissitudes have affected the house but the restorations have been well carried out, and the building is now a most attractive example of English domestic architecture of the 16th to 18th centuries.

Recently two fine exhibition rooms have been formed inside the shell of an old barn at the rear of the building to house the Every Collection of Sussex ironwork, the most important exhibit of its kind outside London. The rest of the house contains a good collection of old furniture and by-gones. There is a lapidarium of carved stones from the nearby Lewes Priory, which have been rescued from re-use elsewhere, mainly by Mr. W. H. Godfrey's efforts.

LEWES: THE PRIORY OF ST. PANCRAS. BY W. E. GODFREY

The Priory was founded by William de Warenne in 1077 and became the parent house of the Cluniac order in England. The design of its church, nearly 450 feet long, was based on the plan of the new church about to be built at Cluny. Only a fragment of its south-west tower remains, but its plan, with double transepts and eastern chevet of chapels, was revealed and recorded when the Lewes to Brighton railway cutting was dug across its site. Remains of early 12th-century date are a part of the frater wall, with herringbone flint and stonework and double splayed windows, and the reredorter. Of the late 12th century there are parts of the undercroft of the greatly enlarged dormitory and its great reredorter of 60 places. The bases of the walls of the infirmary chapel, which was triple ended as at Cluny, still stand, but the undercroft of the infirmary hall, though previously excavated, now lies below ground. The domed chamber survives which was below the cloister lavatory. Many carved stones from this and from the rest of the Priory can be seen in Anne of Cleves House Lapidary Room, while others are built into the south wall of the reredorter. A part of the great gate, with features of Sussex marble, remains next to the east end of St. John's Church and its side gate has been re-erected in a new position nearby. There is an artificial mound about 45 feet high to the east of the Priory, about the date or purpose of which there is no definite evidence.

The Priory was of great importance until after the Battle of Lewes and later, in the 14th century, it shared the difficulties of other monastic houses with foreign allegiance. At the Dissolution it was granted to Thomas Cromwell, and the method of his thorough destruction of the buildings is recorded in the report of John Portinari, the Italian engineer to whom he entrusted the work.

SOUTHOVER CHURCH. BY W. E. GODFREY

The church of St. John the Baptist, Southover has an early 12th-century arcade which may have divided the men's and women's wards when it was the *hospitium* outside the gate of the Priory. This is probably the original purpose for which it was built. It appears to have been converted to the parish church when the church of St. John within the Priory became too small for parochial needs and a new hospital of St. James was built close by. The present north wall of the church is 14th century, that of the south aisle is 16th, and the beautiful brick tower with its cupola and vane is of the early 18th century.

In this church is the fine carved and inscribed black marble grave slab of Gundrada who with her husband William de Warenne founded the Priory. This was recovered from the site of the great church where she was buried.

PRIORY OF ST. PANCRAS LEWES

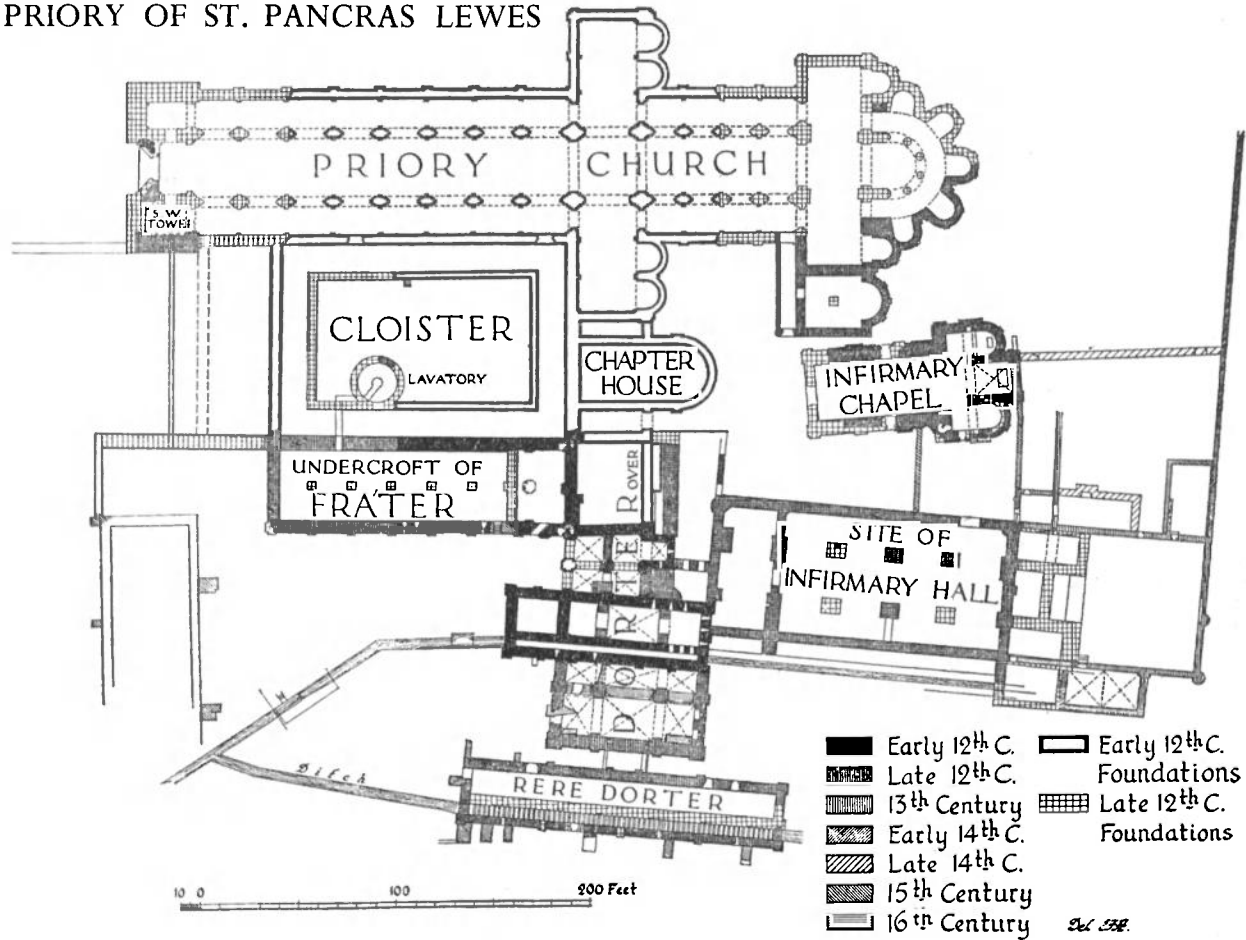


Fig. 14. Plan of Lewes Priory

LEWES CASTLE. BY L. F. SALZMAN

Lewes Castle is remarkable for possessing two mottes, apparently contemporary. The eastern, Brack Mount, about 45 feet high, overlooked the river valley; the other, 65 feet, commanded the town and its western approaches. Both were originally crowned with shell keeps; all trace of masonry has gone from Brack Mount, but the main motte retains much of the early Norman (herringbone) masonry, and two of the semi-octagonal towers added in the 13th century. The bailey, measuring some 450 by 300 feet, was surrounded by massive walls, still standing in parts, which coincided with the (later) town wall on the north, where there is a steep natural escarpment. On the south was a dry ditch and bank, and a gate-house, of which the south wall, with a fine Norman archway, remains. In front of this arch was built early in the 14th century the striking Barbican, which, although much restored, retains many of its ancient features, such as the two portcullis grooves and the bold machicolations over the entrance; the building now houses some 40,000 manorial and other documents deposited with the Sussex Archaeological Trust.

LEWES: BARBICAN HOUSE. BY COL. T. SUTTON

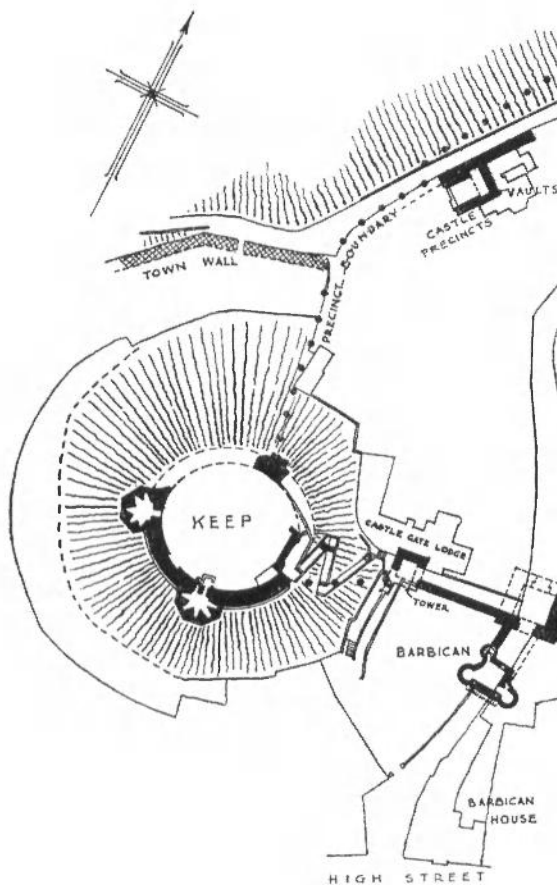
Barbican House, which takes its name from the barbican of the Norman castle which overshadows Lewes, still retains some 16th-century features, and probably medieval masonry in its basement. It was completely remodelled in the first half of the 18th century. It is an interesting and dignified example of a Lewes town house, and exhibits three distinct periods of architecture.

Its early history is somewhat obscure. The vicissitudes of an ancient building have taken place, and at one time it was divided into several tenements. To Thomas Friend has been ascribed the Georgian remodelling of the house in about 1726, and the interesting feature of a large wool loft which was served by the external door at roof level, on the Castle Gate front of the house, should be noted. During much of its existence it has been a business house of leading wool merchants, and its general history has been prosperous and peaceful. It was bought by the Sussex Archaeological Society in 1908 after much negotiation, and now contains the library and the principal museum of that Society.

On the ground floor are fine prehistoric collections. In the room next the Stone Age room is some interesting Sussex pottery including an Early English aquamanile found not far from the house. Upstairs in the Saxon and Roman rooms are the collections of Saxon grave goods from the cemeteries at Alfriston and near Lewes, and from the Roman cemetery at Hassocks. Here, too, are displayed some of the Lambert and Earp water-colours of Sussex churches, etc. In the Council Room and elsewhere there are good Soho tapestries with designs in the Chinese taste.

W. H. Godfrey, *S.A.C.*, LXXXII (1942).

LEWES CASTLE



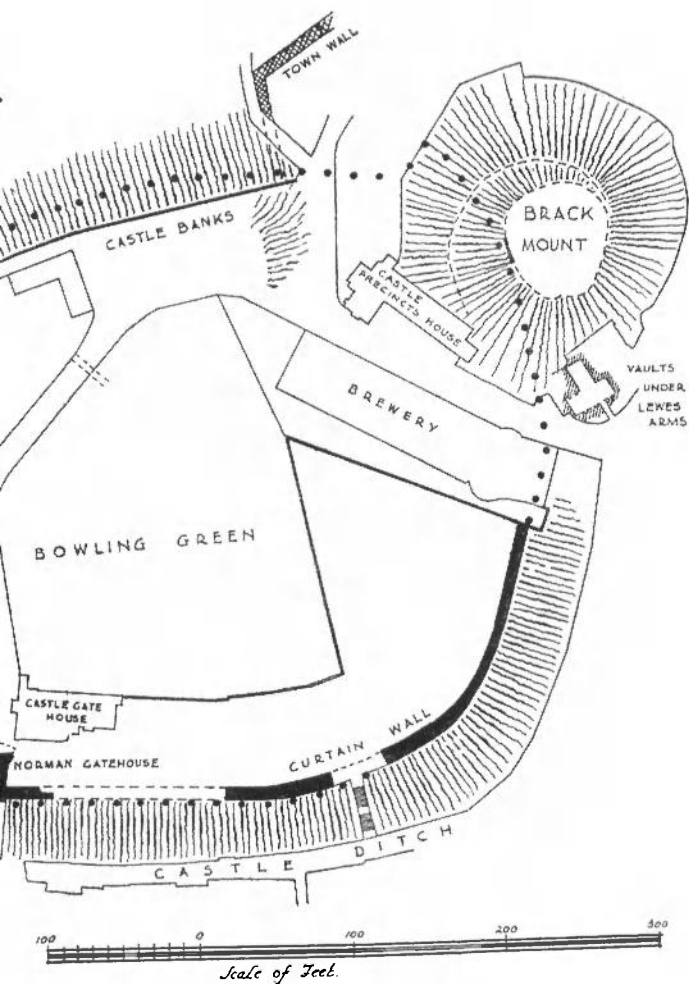


Fig. 15. Plan of Lewes Castle