THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT of medieval field-work, excavation and chance finds could not have been completed without the cooperation of many people who have answered the compilers' questions with great patience. The compilers acknowledge this help with gratitude and ask that in future years all new finds of relevance be reported to them so that these annual surveys may be the more complete. Part I has been compiled by D. M. Wilson and Part II by J. G. Hurst.

I. PRE-CONQUEST

ENGLAND

BERKSHIRE: LONG WITTENHAM. A silver bracelet of Viking type and of tenth-century date, formed of two twisted strands of wire with soldered spherical terminals, was found by Miss Y. M. Ward in her garden between Lammas Eyot and the village street (see Oxoniensia, xxiii, forthcoming).

UPTON (SU/514866). An Anglo-Saxon grave, containing a fragmentary iron knife and shield-boss, was recorded by Mrs. M. Chitty. The contents are now in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford (see Oxoniensia, xxiii, forthcoming).

CAMBRIDGESHIRE: BARTON. A group of Saxe-Norman sherds were found S. of the church, opposite the smithy.

ESSEX: WENDENS AMBO (510365). Some pottery was discovered while constructing a bungalow in a field sloping gently S. some 200 yds. ENE. of the vicarage. A trench, 4 ft. wide, for laying pipes along the N. side of the bungalow, yielded, at about 1 ft. below the surface of the chalk (which is itself about 1 ft. below modern ground level), a small complete pot of late-Saxon St. Neots ware, of probably 10th-11th-century date (Fig. 101, b). N. of this two possible post-holes were visible in the face of the cutting. With the approval of Mr. Cook, the contractor, a test trench, 7 ft. long and 4 ft. wide, was dug by G. M. Knocker, running N. from the S. face of the existing trench.

This excavation revealed two slots, suggesting beds for sleeper planks, and two post-holes, suggesting a wall, so that a building was clearly present, though work was

1 Cf. H. Shetelig, Viking Antiquities in Great Britain and Ireland, pt. iv (Oslo, 1940), fig. 23.
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not extended far enough to reveal its nature. In the filling of one of the slots just above its chalk bottom, was a rim-sherd ([FIG. 101, a]) of a typical late-Saxon St. Neots ware cooking-pot (form as Thetford, group II A.10) of 10th-11th-century date. In the filling above the slot, which consisted of light chalky loam below top-soil, were animal bones and some pieces of red tile, possibly medieval.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: BECKFORD. During August and September, 1958, a Saxon cemetery, henceforward to be known as Beckford B, was excavated, first by Miss P. M. Hill and later by Miss V. I. Evison, in a large gravel-pit. Some 10-20 graves on the W. side of the cemetery had been lost before the excavation began.

Four cremations at a depth of about 1½ ft., without associated objects, lay at the N. end of the cemetery. The pots were undecorated and all were crushed. There were 107 inhumations orientated roughly S.-N. and lying an average of 2½ ft. below the topsoil. On the whole the graves were meanly furnished; 18 had no furniture at all, and both bone and other objects were in very poor condition. Judging from the general character of the objects the graves belonged to a rather poor Saxon community of the 6th century. The brooches, which include examples of the disc, saucer, applied, penannular, small-long and square-headed types, have not yet been cleaned and as yet reveal too little decoration to allow more precise dating. The excavation was completed by Miss P. M. Hill in January 1959.

HAMPSHIRE: WINNALL (SU/494302). Excavation by Dr. Audrey Savill continued on the site of the Anglo-Saxon cemetery discovered in 1957.

On Bull Bros. property 7 graves were found, widely spaced out. The N. limit of this (E.) side of the cemetery has now been established, as was the S. limit last year. Probably the E. edge has also been found, but since one grave adjoined the gravel roadway, which was the limit of exploration, the cemetery may have extended a bit further there.

To the W., in Cambell & McGill's property, the graves were much closer together. Here too the northern limit of the cemetery was probably reached, but a gravel roadway, running along the edge of the cemetery, may still cover a grave or two. The only direction in which there may be any real extension of the cemetery is to the W., where lack of time and the difficulty of shifting heavy machinery prevented further investigation. Fortunately, the site is not likely to be disturbed in the immediate future.

14 new graves were discovered on Cambell & McGill's land, bringing the total for this part of the cemetery up to 91; and the total for the whole cemetery to about 45. As in 1957, the graves were aligned E.-W., dug into the solid chalk subsoil, and, for the most part, of regular shape. Skeletons of all ages and both sexes were found, and there was some indication that the state of preservation of the skeletons varied with different kinds of grave-filling. Two graves had been disturbed, and in one of these were many large flint stones. Bones of small animals which it may be possible to identify were found in some graves. One adult's grave had a small child on a shelf, as it were, by its side; here and in certain small groups of graves (usually with two or three adults and two or three children) there may be evidence of family burials.

Apart from a small headless bronze pin, a clay spindle-whorl and small fragments of pottery, brick and charcoal, etc., the only finds in 1958 were of iron. There were several knives, many of them with the angled back indicative of late date; one of a larger size than usual was found with a stout skeleton with club feet. There were also buckles, mostly broken and corroded, and a long-handled spatulate object which has not yet been identified.

HERTFORDSHIRE: BARLEY. A number of Saxo-Norman sherds were found in a field NW. of the village.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE: WATER NEWTON (TL/168969). Excavation by C. Green revealed
a late Saxon stockade and ditch, possibly of a hall, and a series of 13th-century drystone walls of sheepfolds with gates, ditches, ovens and small pits.

LEICESTERSHIRE: BIRSTALL (596103). Three Anglo-Saxon pots, two decorated, were found during the building of a new school. They did not contain cremations and are perhaps the remains of a settlement. The site will be further investigated.

LINCOLNSHIRE: BARROWBY (SK/872360). A sherd of stamped Anglo-Saxon pottery (now in the Lincoln Museum) was found at Casthorpe Hills on a site which has yielded a scatter of Romano-British pottery.

BRANSTON (TF/025682). An Anglo-Saxon spear-head (now in the Lincoln Museum) was found on this site.

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---: Norwich (TG/234091). Excavations for the new See House in the garden of the bishop's palace revealed 8 late-Saxon refuse-pits with much pottery, including two sherds of pagan-Saxon hand-made ware (now in the Norwich Museum).

---: Sedgeford (TL/711363). A small field at West Hall Farm has been known to archaeologists for some time as yielding Saxon pottery sherds. To local farm labourers it is the 'bone field' from the number of human bones that turned up in past ploughing. Excavation by Dr. P. Jewell revealed an extensive burial-ground at the E. end and part of a settlement-site at the W. end. The settlement-site was indicated by midden refuse and by a number of structural features. Gulleys were cut into the gravel subsoil, and so placed as to take away run-off water from the hill side. Down-slope from one of these protective gulleys a platform had been levelled out in the gravel, but no evidence could be found for any building erected there during this phase. Later, after these gulleys had silted up, new activity occurred, including the erection of a long building. A footing-trench, forming two sides of a rectangle, was uncovered—the long side running roughly E.-W. across the earlier site. This side was 50 ft. long and the trench was capped by a spread of burnt daub. A gap in the trench and daub marked the entrance to the building, and packing stones were found in the rounded expansions of the trench that flanked the entrance. Otherwise only the most tantalizing traces of structure were found. Parallel to the long trench, and at a distance of 20 ft. from it, there was a line of daub fragments, but no further evidence on which to delimit the building. There was no hearth or post-holes, but a flint pavement, that may have been a hut floor, survived in parts. The position on a rather steep valley side, the porous nature of the gravel subsoil, and past tilling have resulted in this severe denudation. Amongst the finer artefacts are a carved bone comb-handle and a bone knife-handle. Whetstones are numerous and show needle scratches as well as broad wear. Sherds were extremely numerous, the dominant type being middle-Saxon Ipswich ware, but there were some sherds of Thetford ware too.

In the cemetery two bronze pins were found, one well-made with faceted head and ring-and-dot decoration, the other with slightly faceted biconical head, as if in poor imitation of the former. Sherds of Ipswich ware lay below some of the skeletons, all of which were laid E.-W. and were without burial goods. There was no evidence to suggest that the cemetery was not contemporary with the settlement. Some 30 skeletons were recovered.

---: Thetford (TL/864830). During the summer of 1958, further excavations were carried out by G. M. Knocker, on behalf of the Ministry of Works, in the Red Castle area at Thetford. Late-Saxon and early-medieval occupation was found as far as 450 ft. W. of the earthwork, in the southern half of Red Castle plantation. The northern half of the plantation was sterile.

Some 20 ft. W. of the main ditch, on the W. side of the earthwork, was an outer ditch, c. 6 ft. deep and 15 ft. wide at the top. It was picked up in five places, but a test trench, dug on the east side, showed that it did not extend all round the castle. The filling contained mainly middle-Saxon sherds, but a 12th-century sherd, found in primary silt near the bottom, indicates an early-medieval date for this very unusual feature. It is possible that it was used as a kind of cover trench during the digging of the main ditch. It certainly preceded the latter, for the deepest part of the outer trench was marked on the ground by a slight ridge, representing, no doubt, throw-out from the main ditch. It is almost certain that the town ditch followed the line of Scots pines, which runs from London Road, opposite St. Margaret's cemetery, as far as Red Castle, for it was found during drainage works late in 1958 where it crosses the London Road. The deep ditch, found in 1957 on the east side of Red Castle, is probably the town ditch, against which the Red Castle ditches abutted, but further excavation is contemplated.

On the site of the church inside the castle, the wall construction was studied, two superimposed coffined burials were revealed S. of the chancel, and a small vestry, with chancel walls only 1 ft. wide, was found against the N. side of the chancel. A pile of masonry overlay the junction of the vestry and chancel walls, possibly the remains of a
stair leading to a roof chamber. The vestry was almost certainly a later addition.
St. Martin's Church, which for various good reasons is most likely to be the Red Castle
church, is not mentioned in an inventory of church goods dated about 1369, and this
confirms Mr. A. B. Whittingham's opinion that the church was abandoned before the
Dissolution.
—: LONDON ROAD (TL/868830). Late-Saxon Thetford ware and animal
bones (now in Thetford Museum) were found in the garden of the headmaster's house
at Thetford Boys' Grammar School.

OXFORDSHIRE: OXFORD (SP/512090). An Anglo-Saxon angon was found near
Marston Ferry Road (see *Oxoniensia*, xxiii, forthcoming).
—: SWINBROOK (SP/374143). An Anglo-Saxon spearhead with diamond-shaped
blade was found (see *Oxoniensia*, xxiii, forthcoming).
—: WITNEY (SP/352094). Work on a housing estate which straddled the 'line
of Saxon Rampart' on the 1:2500 O.S. map revealed no trace of a rampart or ditch,
and a survey of the supposed line of this earthwork showed no signs of its existence except
for a low mound along the southern edge of the churchyard. The possibility that Witney,
an important centre in late-Saxon times, was a fortified village before Oxford was
founded as the military centre of the district in c. 900 may be discounted.

SUFFOLK: BURGH CASTLE (TG/471045). Deep ploughing exposed painted wall-
plaster and small clay floor-tiles (middle-Saxon), and Roman remains. Excavations by
C. Green on behalf of the Ministry of Works revealed Roman buildings and over 100
4th-century coins, as well as later work presumed to belong to St. Fursey's monastery
(6th century).
—: CODDENDON (TM/115527). While investigating a number of pits with
Romano-British material on a water-main trench on Baylham House Farm, two small
pits were exposed, one of which contained a pagan-Saxon bowl with incised decoration,
and fragments of a human skull.
—: IPSWICH (TM/145428). Sherds of middle-Saxon Ipswich ware and fragments
of a loom-weight and of a lava quern were found in making a new road near Birkfield
Lane on the Chantry Estate.
—: IPSWICH (TM/160447). A flint-lined well at the corner of Blackhorse Lane
and Westgate Street produced Thetford ware and other sherds (12th century), with
human and animal remains.
—: IPSWICH (TL/162445). Thetford ware and later material up to the 17th
century were found during excavations for a cellar on the premises of John Pratt & Co.,
drapers, Queen Street.
—: IPSWICH (TM/167446). The 1958 season enlarged the area excavated in 1957
in the open car-park of the Ipswich Co-operative Society, close to the site of the middle-
and late-Saxon kilns recorded in the 1920's and 30's.

A further series of five rubbish-pits, three containing Ipswich ware and two Thetford
ware, were excavated by S. E. West. The two pits with Thetford ware encroached upon
an area of post-holes, partially destroying two. This, and the absence of pits with
Ipswich ware near by, makes a middle-Saxon date for this building reasonable.
Unfortunately the post-holes ran underneath a road where investigation of them was
impossible. Associated with the post-holes was a shallow sleeper trench, again inter-
rupted by a pit with Thetford ware. The rubbish-pits were all sub-rectangular with
vertical sides. A considerable quantity of Ipswich and Thetford ware was recovered,
together with a large fragment of a relief-band amphora and two red-painted sherds,
all of imported Badorf ware. G. C. Dunning assigns these sherds to Tischler's second
group of Badorf ware c. 820-860. As one of the sherds occurred in a pit with Ipswich
ware and the other in a pit with Thetford ware, it would seem that firm evidence has
now been established for the transition to Thetford ware, at least at Ipswich.
A complete kiln-waster pot of Ipswich ware and fragments of kiln wall and furniture confirm the previous evidence for kilns in this area.

The defensive ditch found in 1957 was shown to have a right-angled bend and to have been partially recut in the 12th or 13th century. The recut portion was immediately refilled with gravel and fragments of masonry. Two large, clay-packed post-holes supporting rectangular timbers, and stratigraphically of 12th-century date, indicate a large building lying beyond the limits of the excavation.

---: (TM/171443). Excavations on the site for the Civic College produced Thetford ware, a 17th-century Bellarmine which had been used as a witch-bottle, and later material including coins of George II and III.

---: Lakenheath (TL/729829). A bronze plate brooch of S-shaped form with stylized animal-head finals (6th century) found during deep ploughing and now in Mildenhall Museum, is comparable to one from Sleaford.2

---: Pakenham (TL/936693). Quarrying operations on the prolific site at Grimstone End have again produced sherds of Anglo-Saxon date, in addition to much material of Romano-British origin.

---: West Stow (TL/797714). Excavations intended to test the extent of the Anglo-Saxon and iron-age settlements, undertaken by Miss V. Evison on behalf of the Ministry of Works, revealed extensive Anglo-Saxon occupation, with pagan-Saxon stamped sherds, Ipswich ware, and evidence of a number of buildings.

Sussex: Woodingdean, Brighton (TQ/365054). Emergency excavation by R. A. Kennedy revealed a cemetery containing five burials, four forming a crooked line running SE.-NW. across a spur of the Downs, and another about 6 yds. to the S., all just above where the slope increases. All the graves had been disturbed before inspection.

Burial 1 (uncovered by the mechanical excavator) was a small man about 25 years old. Burial 2 was a lightly built, tall man about 25-30 years old, dolichocephalic (with very short jaw), extended, head to NW., hands resting on pelvis; no grave goods. Burial 3 was probably a young man, extended, head to NW., with carefully-laid covering of large flint nodules, the largest towards the head, conforming in plan to the ovoid hole of the grave; bones reduced to a few fragments of spongy consistency; no grave goods. Burial 4 was a man of medium height about 25 years old, extended, head to SE., hands resting on pelvis; no grave goods. Burial 5 was a broad and heavily-built man of medium height, aged 55-60, orientated SE./NW. Grave-goods included a bronze buckle, an iron knife, and (by r. shoulder) a fine split-socketed iron spearhead with traces of oak shaft in socket. The grave was probably lined with cut grass, or perhaps hay, since traces of this are clearly discernible in the accretion on the spearhead. A fibrous accretion on the knife suggests a leather sheath. The spearhead was very much honed away and bent about the middle of the blade, which may, in the absence of anything heavy in the filling, suggest a ritual 'killing'. A small blue glass bead was found, 18 in. deep, 5 yds. farther up the spur.

Warwickshire: Gibbett Hall. During some recent alterations to the Watling Street just north of Gibbett Hall, parts of three skeletons discovered immediately below the metalling of the modern road were thought to be Anglo-Saxon in date, although no objects were found with them. A little later a further skeleton was found, W. of the road, where a lay-by was being constructed, and this was accompanied by an iron sword, a bronze ring and a bronze Anglo-Saxon annular brooch. Presumably these remains come from a cemetery similar to the one found on the Watling Street at Bensford Bridge early in the 19th century (finds now in the County Museum at Warwick).

2 G. W. Thomas, 'Excavations in an Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Sleaford in Lincolnshire', Archaeologia, l. (1887), pl. 25.
WALES

GLAMORGANSHIRE: DINAS POWIS (ST/148722). The final session of excavation has necessitated a radical reinterpretation of the history of the defences. Apparently stratified in the make-up of the inner bank were a small number of sherds which cannot be earlier than the Norman conquest of Glamorgan. These imply that the main defence is a ring-work of the late 11th or 12th century. Two further banks and ditches, linked to the first by a built causeway, were added, perhaps in the face of some acute danger. All these banks are relatively massive (up to 30 ft. wide and 6 ft. high) and have well-built revetments. By contrast, the earthenwork which appears to be associated with the rich occupation-deposits of the 5th to the 7th centuries is a weak bank of simple dump construction. Other features of the early occupation include traces of two stone houses, with parallel sides and rounded ends, and stone-built hearths which seem to be industrial rather than domestic. No buildings or traces of occupation could be discovered in association with the later defences.

SCOTLAND

ARGYLLSHIRE: EILEAN DA MHEINN, CRINNAN. A bead (9th century) of blue and white glass was found here.

IONA. The excavation work initiated by Charles Thomas (cf. Med. Archaeol., 1 (1957), 150) was continued by Miss E. Burley and P. J. Fowler for the Russell Trust. Two projects were undertaken: to investigate the report made by Skene in 1876 (Proc. Soc. Antiqu. Scot., xxi (1876)) that foundations of round cells were seen on the W. of the abbey garth, and to follow up the preliminary work of 1957 on the small hill-top fort of Dun Bhuirg on the W. coast.

A N.-S. cutting, immediately E. of the west-cloister walk, revealed a complex of massive stone-built drains with cover slabs, running W.-E. through the cloisters. These are probably the foundations reported by Skene. A few sherds of green-glazed pottery were associated with these drains, which must be connected with some phase of the Benedictine monastery. Earlier levels were found below the drains, but contained no evidence of any earlier occupation, and no ‘round stone foundations’ were seen.

On Dun Bhuirg the work concentrated on two of the four possible hut sites. On a plateau on the S. side of the fort a small hut, probably a lean-to against the rock face, was cleared. On the NE. side of the fort, just inside the entrance, a larger, roughly circular hut was examined. This had a central, stone-built, hearth; the wall footings of stone rubble were built between outcrops of rock and probably had turf piled on top to make the wall. The roof was possibly of bundles of heather resting on poles bedded in the walls. This method of hut construction is analogous to that used for St. Columba’s cell on Tor Abb. Quantities of pottery in good condition were found in the occupation-layers of both huts; the profiles showed straight or flattened rims, while many sherds had applied plastic ornament. This pottery is related to wheelhouse and broch pottery and implies a pre-Columban occupation of Dun Bhuirg, but at the moment it is difficult to say when it began and whether it lasted after 563.

ISLAY (NR/307544). Fragments of two Viking-period tortoise brooches were found in a bunker site in Laggan Bay amidst a scatter of bronze-age pottery and other antiquities.

KIRKAPOLL, TIREE (NM/043475). Two crosses were found engraved on the surface of an outcrop of rock 70 yds. N. of the smaller church. Both were similar, the short arms being near the top of the long shaft.

ORKNEY: BROUGH OF BIRSAY. Excavation undertaken by the Ministry of Works was continued, directed by S. Cruden and C. A. Ralegh Radford. Trenches W. of the Norse cemetery brought to light the W. side of the Pictish enclosure. This now appears as an approximately circular area, about 150 ft. across; two opposite segments, totalling about three-eighths of the whole, have now been traced. Two Norse farmhouses, dating
from the 9th and 10th centuries, were exhaustively explored, revealing the plans of the roof posts and other structural details. One of the houses had been shortened and completely rebuilt after the collapse of one of the longer walls. The buildings shewed close affinities with earlier Scandinavian farms, such as those at Vallhagar. Further sections in the earl’s palace confirmed the structural sequence already put forward. An Official Guide outlining the discoveries down to 1957 is in the press.

PEEBLESHIRE: NETHERURD MAINS (NT/108440). A cross-shaped stone of 10th- or 11th-century date, bearing relief decoration and an incised swastika, came to light during the routine survey of the county by the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments (Scotland). It is now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

SHETLAND: ST. NINIAN’S ISLE (NU/367207). The excavation of the chapel on St. Ninian’s Isle (see p. 307) by members of Aberdeen University under the leadership of A. C. O’Dell, produced one of the most important treasures ever found in British soil. All the objects, with the exception of the jawbone of a porpoise, are silver. There were 12 penannular brooches decorated with animal and interlace ornament, and in some cases set with blue or brown glass, 7 shallow bowls decorated in a pointillé technique with animal and geometric ornament, a silver hanging-bowl, three thimble-shaped objects decorated with running spiral or animal and interlace ornament, two U-shaped strap-ends (one of which bears an inscription in Latin), a sword pommel, a spoon and a strange hook-like object.

The quality of certain of the objects in this hoard is of the highest and the ornament is in many cases paralleled in the illuminations of the Lindisfarne Gospels, dated to about the year 700. The brooches, which belong to a Scottish group, can probably be dated to the second half of the 8th century. The deposition of the hoard must be dated to the late 8th century and it is most likely that it was buried as a result of one of the first Viking raids on Shetland, which probably started during the last two decades of that century. It is not clear whether the hoard formed part of the treasure of a local chieftain, or of the church in which it was found, or whether it was buried by a Viking raider who had obtained it elsewhere in Scotland.

The hoard has not yet been exhaustively studied but certain preliminary conclusions have been reached. First, it is practically certain that the objects were all made in Scotland. Secondly, certain of the ornamental features are elsewhere only found in Irish metalwork of the same period; for example, the thin impressed silver sheet on the base of the hanging bowl is best paralleled on the Moylough belt-shrine, now in the National Museum of Ireland. This Irish-Scots connexion underlines the fact that the Celtic world in the 8th century was very closely bound together. Thirdly, it can now be deduced that certain objects, found in the Viking graves in Scandinavia, may have been made in Scotland, instead of in Ireland, as had previously been thought. Lastly, the hanging-bowl, with its close similarities to Anglo-Saxon ornament and metal techniques, demonstrates clearly the interrelation of the English and Scots areas in the 8th century in the sphere of art and metalwork. A preliminary publication of the hoard appeared in Antiquity, xxxiii.

II. POST-CONQUEST

A. MONASTIC SITES

ENGLAND

CHESHIRE: VALE ROYAL (SJ/638699). Excavations were carried out on the site of the Cistercian abbey of Vale Royal by the Grosvenor Museum, Chester, in consultation with H. M. Colvin and A. J. Taylor, and received the full support and collaboration of the present owners of the site, I.C.I. Salt Division.
The church was founded in 1277 by Edward I, and the plan of the nave and transepts was determined by excavation in 1911-1912. Despite wholesale robbing of the walls to foundation-level and lower, the 1958 excavation recovered the plan of the 1359 additions to the original structure, built with money supplied by the Black Prince. The E. end was apparently in the form of a chevet consisting of 7 radiating polygonal chapels and 6 three-sided interspaces, a total of 13 chapels. As the original building contract stipulates that the 12 chapels are to be built on the pattern of one already erected, this would no doubt explain the discrepancy, Fig. 102. The apsidal sleeper-wall separating ambulatory and sanctuary was also located and it is probable that the original E. end was apsidal also. The total length of the reconstructed church was some 420 ft., making it the longest Cistercian church in the country. Large numbers of burials were also noted within the area of the later extension. Finds included architectural fragments in sandstone and Purbeck marble.

DEVON: PLYMPTON ST. MARY PRIORY (SX/562538). Excavation by Miss V. B. Ledger (cf. Med. Archaeol., ii (1958), 190) revealed the base of the main W. doorway. This was
deeply recessed, and was probably the second W. doorway to the church, date c. 1180. The sleeper wall of the S. aisle has also been revealed, with ashlar blocks for piers, in the W. end, and the robbed sleeper wall of the N. aisle. Further excavation near the S. transept produced evidence of 13th-century rebuilding, including the E. entrance to the cloister, and the addition of new pilasters along the S. wall. Following this, there was a fire in the area of the S. transept, and further rebuilding after the fire included the alteration of the line of part of the S. wall, and a re-flooring of the S. aisle. At this stage, side-chapels were built in the S. aisle, one 12th-century pilaster being cut to receive a screen. The altar-table and much 15th-century gilded moulding probably belong to this same period.

Adjoining the SW. end of the church a covered drain from the cloister and the much-robbed foundation of a floor have been revealed. These may be part of the outer parlour.

Hampshire: Selborne Priory (SU/755345). The Rev. G. E. C. Knapp (cf. Med. Archaeol., II (1958), 190) found at the E. end of the priory church, 23 ft. from the E. wall, 2 sets of Petworth marble bases of Early English shafts. One set was in 4 pieces, the other complete and in situ, 8 ft. from the inner line of the foundations of the N. wall, and standing on a sleeper wall running N.-S. across the church. The base found in situ (consisting of the base of a central column and 4 detached shafts) had the lead jointing attached to the tops of the bases. These bases may be those of a screen arcade between the choir and an E. lady-chapel. Excavation of the N. wall of the nave showed that the foundations had been completely grubbed out, except for one complete length of about 10 ft., where the foundations went down 2½ ft. below the floor level to the virgin clay underlying the site. The line of the foundation-trench was clearly identified where the stone had been robbed.

Hereford: Blackfriars (SO/513405). The only surviving buildings of the Dominican friary are the preaching cross of the late 14th century, and the ruined W. range, originally of early-14th-century date but considerably altered in the 17th century. The excavation by L. A. S. Butler, for the Ministry of Works, was made necessary by the proposed erection of a new dining hall at Bluecoat Secondary School, on the site of the cloister. A N.-S. trench was cut to investigate the cloister buildings. The post-medieval layer was 2 ft. deep and contained a slight amount of 17th-century pottery and clay pipes of local manufacture (c. 1660-1700). Under this five walls were isolated in a rubble level representing the decay of the friary buildings. The southernmost wall, 39 in. thick, was directly in line with the S. termination of the W. range and can be identified as the N. wall of the church. 18 ft. N. of this was a roughly constructed sandstone wall probably representing the S. walk of the cloister. The N. walk of the cloister was not well defined, nor was the division between the N. walk and the rooms of the N. range. The internal width of the N. range was probably 36 ft., since the lowest 2 courses of a substantially-built sandstone wall set on a rubble base were found and no other dividing wall could be traced.

The friary buildings were placed on built-up ground. This layer varied from 15 in. within the church to 31 in. at the N. end of the trench and contained over 300 sherds, mostly of late-13th-century to early-14th-century date (i.e. the half century previous to the friary's establishment on this site). The accumulation of soil lay upon the natural gravel which sloped from 3½ ft. below the turf-line at the S. end of the trench down to 10 ft. 2 in. below it at the N. end. Inside the S. cloister walk a 4-ft.-deep pit had been sunk into the gravel (apparently in the 13th century to obtain building material). In the N. section of the trench the gravel was overlaid by silt and mud indicating the waterlogged condition of Wide Marsh.

Huntingdonshire: St. Neots Priory (TL/182263). Emergency excavations by C. F. Tebbutt revealed the S. and E. foundation walls and 4 central octagonal moulded
piller bases of a building 30 ft. by 50 ft. running N.-S. This would appear to be the undercroft of the dorter forming the E. side of the cloister. The pillar bases belong to the early or middle 13th century. Finds include medieval pottery and glass and a rare imitation of a 15th-century groat in lead depicting the head of the 'Boy Bishop'.

KENT: Canterbury, St. Gregory's Priory (TR/150590). A wall 19 ft. long was found by F. Jenkins during the building of a new post office. It was built of flints and lay roughly N.-S. with a return wall at the S. end. Only one face was exposed. At the S. corner was what appeared to be the base of a pilaster of Caen stone. The sharp edges of this stone showed that it had not been exposed to weathering. A few encaustic tiles were found in situ on the floor level, and it would seem that a corridor enclosed it, and was possibly part of the cloister. A few pieces of architectural mouldings in Caen stone bore traces of red paint. The base of a small column and pieces of the shaft, all in Sussex marble and in good condition were also found.

NORFOLK: Norwich, St. Thomas Becket's Chapel (TG/232088). The first church (c. 1310) of the Dominican house, later replaced by the great Perpendicular church still standing, was finally destroyed, after use for various purposes, in the 19th century and the undercroft filled with the debris. Because of proposed municipal building on the site, it was partly excavated by C. Green for the Ministry of Works. Enough was cleared to enable a full plan to be reconstructed. The detailed structure of the brick arches, shown to be similar to that of the adjoining and still extant crypt, was recorded. On the N. side test trenches were taken down to the hard chalk rock, here sloping steeply down to the river Wensum. A short length of a narrow trench, some 6 ft. deep in the chalk, was exposed. From this came quantities of Saxo-Norman Thetford ware.

NORWICH, Carmelite Friary, Cowgate (TG/234092). Digging by D. R. Howlett uncovered footings of the monastic buildings, a brick ossuary and numerous burials including two in oak coffins, probably 14th-century, one of which has been preserved in St. Peter Hungate Church Museum.

SHROPSHIRE: Haughmond Abbey (SJ/542152). Excavations by Ministry of Works (R. Robertson-Mackay) were undertaken immediately W. of the infirmary hall. An interesting stratified series was recovered from a kitchen and from remains of a building partly underlying the infirmary hall.

The kitchen series dated from the early 13th century to the 16th century with a gap during the late 13th century and early 14th century. The earlier building was aisled, as was proved by a stone plinth found in situ, and yielded an interesting stratification from the 14th century to the 16th century, including organic material from the 14th-century occupation-layer.


SUFFOLK: Bury St. Edmunds (TL/857642). Trial trenches were cut for the Society of Antiquaries of London by A. R. Dufty and C. A. Ralegh Radford to establish whether medieval remains were likely to be affected by the proposed E. extension of the cathedral (the medieval church of St. James). The W. wall of the basilica of St. Denis, built c. 1080 and demolished c. 1140, was located S. of the proposed extension and about 30 ft. in front of the porticus of St. Faith, which formed the N. end of the Romanesque W. front. The basilica must originally have extended under the site of this chapel.

The Ministry of Works has finished clearing the post-dissolution overburden from the transepts and crossing of the abbey church (cf. Med. Archaeol., n (1958), 191). Each transept is of 5 bays, with a pier-arcade and E. aisle, beyond which chapels projected from alternate bays. Only the northernmost chapel (St. Martin) has so far been
cleared, and it is shown to have a slightly stilted apse. An entrance to the crypt with remains of painted wall-plaster, sealed in later alterations, has been found in the second bay N. from the crossing.

In scale and plan the transepts are comparable to those of the great pilgrimage churches of Santiago de Compostela and S. Sernin de Toulouse, although Bury lacks the N., S. and W. aisles of the fully developed plan. The total internal length across the transepts and crossing is approximately 212 ft., as compared with 210 ft. at Santiago and 184 ft. at S. Sernin.

---: Kersey Priory (TL/999445). P. G. M. Dickinson recovered the plan of the church and discovered the W. range to have been an early-13th-century wooden hospital, converted into the prior's house when the priory was founded.

Yorkshire, North Riding: Mount Grace Priory (SE/450985). Consolidation of the E. precinct wall by the Ministry of Works (cf. Med. Archaeol., II (1958), 193) has revealed a stone-built aqueduct leading from the garden of cell no. 4 to a spring on the hillside to the E. The spring is enclosed in a small rectangular building of fine ashlar with a gabled roof of stone and an arched opening in its W. wall. There is a diminutive walled forecourt to the W., from which steps lead S. up the hillside. Building, forecourt, and aqueduct had been buried by hill-slip. They formed the main fresh-water supply of the charterhouse, water for flushing the drains being drawn from a separate spring further N. After leaving the garden of cell no. 4, the aqueduct crosses the great cloister diagonally to the site of the distributing conduit discovered by Sir W. H. St.J. Hope. From there drains led the surplus water to the fishponds W. of the charterhouse.

---, West Riding: Kirkstall Abbey (SE/259360) (cf. Med. Archaeol., II (1958), 193). Work continued on the complex of walls and drains to the S. of the meat kitchen under the direction of C. V. Bellamy. The wall running S. ended in a firm corner 80 ft. to the S. of the present road and then was traced for 30 ft. eastwards. It is thought that these were boundary walls rather than buildings, and that the river may have extended to the E.-W. wall at the time of its construction.

An area to the W. of the circular building was uncovered under the direction of C. M. Mitchell, revealing a doorway, a paved area, and flimsy walls, again probably boundary walls of a late date.

Working on the pottery Mrs. Le Patourel has now established that the hard smooth fabric of 15th-century date called Kirkstall Ware 'B' was made at the abbey.

---, ---: Pontefract Priory (SE/463226). Digging on the site of the Cluniac priory, C. V. Bellamy defined the outlines of the main claustral buildings round a garth approximately 60 ft. square. The E. range includes a decagonal chapter-house set back from the main range. The warming-house and frater occupy the S. range and various small rooms on the W. side.

Part of the outline of the church has been explored, and it shows a S. transept about 20 ft. by 40 ft. with 2 apsidal chapels on its E. side. Walling further E. suggests a second transept. The church is ailed on the S. side of the nave. An aggregation of wall foundations to the SE. seems to represent part of the infirmary buildings.

B. Cathedrals and Ecclesiastical Palaces

Wales

Anglesey: Aberffraw (SH/348686). Several trenches were cut by D. B. Hague in search for the site of the bishop's palace. A newly suspected site proved to be negative, but on the site shown on the ordnance-survey map a curious rock-cut water conduit was revealed. Further exploration is being considered (Trans. Anglesey Antiq. Soc., 1957, pp. 1-4).
ENGLAND


Scotland

Aberdeenshire: Sands of Forvie (NK/022265). Excavations by W. Kirk were restricted to further work on the medieval church located and partially cleared of sand in 1957 (cf. Med. Archaeol., II (1958), 194). Most of the work consisted of the removal of baulks left from the previous season and clearance of the E. and W. gables. Further intrusive burials were uncovered and finds in undisturbed strata comprised 13th- and 14th-century pottery, coins and metal-work.

Ross and Cromarty: North Rona (HW/809323). A party from Glasgow University carried out a detailed ground survey of the ecclesiastical and domestic structures. St. Ronan’s cell and chapel stand in the SE. corner of a roughly oval enclosure bounded by a heavy turf and stone wall. The small rectangular cell, almost certainly built before 900, is well preserved, while the medieval chapel which was added to form a nave is of more elaborate design and inferior execution (see p. 324).

 Roxburghshire: Dinlabyre or Kiloley Chapel, Liddesdale (NY/537914). R. E. Scott examined this site which is omitted from the Inventory of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments (Scotland). A section of the wall in the NE. corner of the building was uncovered, revealing the rubble core of the wall, many of the facing stones of which had been robbed. The size of the chapel is 35 ft. by 20 ft. A reddish-coloured beaten clay floor was found at a depth of 18 in. A 5-ft.-wide ditch, and another wall, enclosed the entire building.

Shetland: St. Ninian’s Isle (HU/367207). Excavation by A. C. O’Dell (cf. Med. Archaeol., II (1958), 194), was continued at a number of points outside the walls of the medieval church. To the N. a wall parallel to the church, which was traced over a length of 30 ft., may have been a garth wall. Underneath the church, pagan burials and iron-age occupation were discovered at depths of 6 ft. and 14 ft. (see further, p. 302).

D. Castles

England

Devon: Lydford (SX/510848). Excavation within the keep was continued by the Ministry of Works (A. D. Saunders). It showed that the lowest story had been filled in during the 17th or early 18th century and the internal area of the keep reduced by about a third. The removal of the filling revealed that the ground floor had been lit by 3 loops subsequently blocked when a mound had been thrown up around the base of the keep to about first floor level, probably in the late 13th century. Also in the ground floor was a well 33 ft. deep and about 9 ft. in diameter, which had been filled in shortly after its completion.

Hertfordshire: Therfield (TL/35373). Because the site was to be bull-dozed for agriculture, M. Biddle excavated, for the Ministry of Works, the mound and surrounding bank and ditch. The site proved to have been a very small motte-and-bailey castle. The mound, surrounded by its own ditch, was only 7 ft. high and 25 ft. in diameter. The body of the mound and a small ditch running below it contained a few sherds compatible with a mid-12th-century date.

The documentary evidence shows that between 1130 and 1160 part of the manor
of Therfield, which belonged to the abbey of Ramsey, was alienated to Ralph of Therfield, Kt. This may well refer to the present site and suggests that it was an adulterine castle of Stephen’s reign. The castle did not appear to have been finished. On the other hand, the posts of the palisade discovered along the bank of the bailey appeared to have been deliberately pulled out and the bank thrown down into the ditch. From this evidence it seems reasonable to suggest that the castle was built, but never finished, late in the Anarchy and destroyed some time soon after 1154.

Below the NE. entrance, sealed by the bank and cut by the ditch of the later castle, was a small, but complete, Saxo-Norman living area. This included what seems to be a dwelling-pit and other features, surrounded by a fence, and protected from surface water by drainage gullies, and yielded much St. Neots and Stamford ware. Except that it lies below the banks of the castle there is no other dating evidence. The position of the castle entrance road directly over the very soft filling of the dwelling-pit, suggests that the position of the earlier structure was not then known.

Rutland: Oakham Castle (SK/363087). Exploration of the kitchen was continued by J. L. Barber (cf. Med. Archaeol., II (1958), 195). All 4 walls were identified. Two baking ovens were found in the SW. corner, one succeeding the other within the same building.

Surrey: Farnham Castle (SU/837474). Excavations in the keep were started by M. W. Thompson in April to establish the medieval level in the interior of the keep before it is restored to this level by the Ministry of Works. A trench across the centre revealed the vast foundations of a stone tower about 50 ft. square. This had stood on top of a conical mound with a flat top 90 ft. in diameter. The evidence suggests that the tower and mound were built together. In the centre of the foundation a shaft 13 ft. square went down to 32 ft. below the present surface to what is presumed to be old ground level. Below this another 12 ft. had been roughly faced with stone at a later date, and below this there is what appears to be the circular head of a well cut in the marl and presumably lower down through the chalk. A collapse of the lower part of the masonry has hindered further work here. The present keep has an inner vertical face built on a ledge about 22 ft. below the present surface. Tentatively the original square keep and motte have been referred to the Winchester Annalist’s date of 1138, the round keep to later in the same century after Henry II’s slighting (1155) but possibly still Henry of Blois (d. 1171). The filling in between the motte side and the new keep wall took place in the course of the next century. In the 13th century the evidence of the Winchester Pipe Rolls shows that the square keep had been demolished but that the well was kept open under a wooden house. In the 14th century the same source records the construction of a number of other buildings (chapel 1339, hall 1351-1353), and these remained in active use certainly in Tudor times and possibly until the Civil War. The filling in of the well in the square keep indicates that it went out of use and was filled up in early Tudor times.

Yorkshire, West Riding: Sheffield Castle (SK/357976). Builders’ excavations watched by L. Butcher have allowed re-examination of the moat and gatehouse first revealed in 1927 (A. L. Armstrong, ‘Sheffield Castle,’ Trans. Hunter Archaeol. Soc., IV (1929-1930), 7-27). A SW. angle and N. return in the moat (not observed 1927) have been defined. The moat, perhaps 35 ft. wide at original ground level, splay(s) inwards to 18 ft. in the first 10-20 ft. of depth; below, vertical rock-cut walls carry it to depths between 30 ft. and 40 ft. Pottery and small finds of the 13th to the 17th century confirm the documented military occupation of the site; a few sherds of coarse heavily shell-gritted ware of the late 11th century (Armstrong’s ‘Saxon’) indicate earlier occupation.

Scotland

Aberdeenshire: Kilrummy (NJ/455164). The Ministry of Works continued trenching to investigate the outer defences in front of the gate-house.
DUMFRIESSHIRE: CAERLAVEROCK (NY/025656). The Ministry of Works continued investigations in the moat which showed that, while the twin-towered gate-house was erected upon a rocky outcrop, much of the castle rests upon an extensive artificial platform of clay built over the rock which falls away from this outcrop.

PEEBLESSHIRE: NEIDPATH CASTLE (NT/236404). The removal of some 17th-century panelling in the hall by the owner, the Earl of Wemyss, led to the discovery of the original hall fireplace which measures some 10 ft. in width and more than 8 ft. in height. The Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments (Scotland) took this opportunity to make a fresh survey of the castle.

STIRLINGSHIRE: MUGDOCK CASTLE (NS/550772). Excavation was carried out by G. D. Hay and J. G. Dunbar of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments (Scotland) with the object of tracing the full extent of the inner enceinte of the castle. It seems likely that the existing W. curtain and its angle towers were originally balanced by corresponding structures on the E. side of the courtyard, but excavation showed that the ground had been much disturbed in this area and its level substantially raised before the Victorian mansion, that now occupies this part of the site, was built; consequently no traces of the E. curtain or of associated angle-towers were found. The line of the N. curtain, however, was proved at two points. It evidently ran eastwards from the NE. angle of the NW. tower. The line of the E. portion of the S. curtain was also proved at two points and was found to run E. from the E. return wall of the gatehouse.

SLAMANNAN MOTTE (NS/856734). The N. half of the top of the mound was stripped by Miss D. M. Hunter, but no clear evidence of any structure was found; two sections were cut across the ditch.

TORWOOD (NS/835844). G. Millar uncovered a number of structural features—gateway, door and window openings—at the castle, and fallen stones, where they have been identified, are being replaced. Small finds include late medieval pottery and a fine plated key.

WALES

CARDIGANSHIRE: TAN-Y-BWLCH (SN/585790). Excavation by the Aberystwyth Archaeological Society, begun in 1956 (cf. Med. Archaeol., i (1957), 158), has continued at this ring-motte and bailey. Historical evidence, given in the Brut y Tywysogion, provides a chronological framework of two periods of occupation—by the Normans (1110-1135) and by the Welsh (1136-1143). No evidence has been found of later occupation. Much Norman domestic pottery has been found, mostly of good quality and of normal Western character; but there is also some of poorer quality, evidently owing much to a native Welsh tradition. Ironwork recovered includes a prisoner's manacle, horseshoes, and a key. There were also several spindle-whorls, a rotary quern, oat and wheat grains, a bronze horse-pendant, and a lady's silver finger-ring. Most finds came from a well in the interior.

ENGLAND

BRISTOL: THE BACK HALL, BALDWIN STREET. Digging to the W. of the supposed site of the Back Hall, K. J. Barton revealed the footings of a large medieval building some 60 ft. by 20 ft., the rear portion of which appears to have faced on to Baldwin Street. This building is believed to date from the late 13th or early 14th century.

On the W. side of the area, excavations revealed the foundations of buildings of two periods, facing Queen Charlotte Street (formerly Back Street). The first was represented by a row of mean wattle-and-daub buildings probably of the early 13th
century; the second by 3 (possibly 4) large houses which had been built over the foundations of these earlier structures. Between these houses and the L-shaped building, there was no evidence of occupation, either in medieval or later times; and the inference is that the area was occupied by a right-of-way, or at any rate by a passage, from the Back Hall to Baldwin Street.

HAMPSHIRE: SOUTHAMPTON (SU/419116). Excavations were carried out by J. S. Wacher, for the Friends of Old Southampton, with the aid of a grant from the Ministry of Works. The main area covered was at Bargate Street, where remains of early Norman timber buildings had been found in 1957 (cf. Med. Archaeol., xi (1958), 198). A little work was done in the Brewhouse Lane area and some useful confirmatory evidence obtained. A trench was also dug behind the town wall in Mayes' Car Park.

The area uncovered last year at Bargate Street was considerably extended (FIG. 103). The main building found in 1957 extended to the S. of the area then uncovered, and all traces were lost at the point where the ground was terraced in the 19th century. To the W. there were a complicated series of reconstructions, the building being extended westwards until it finally engulfed its neighbour on that side. To the E. another building was encountered, which must have been contemporary with it, so that we get a picture of several buildings close together in this area during the late 11th and early 12th centuries. The earliest structure, a small sub-rectangular hut constructed on individual posts, yielded none of the abundant imported Norman wares found in later levels, and since the kilns in Normandy began producing these wares in the last quarter of the 11th century, this hut must be earlier than that. The final destruction of the buildings in this area was closely linked with the digging of a drainage gully across the whole site, and this gully contained pottery which need not be later than the first quarter of the 13th century. Since, however, no fragments of brush-marked cooking-pots were associated with any phase of the buildings' existence, it appears that the buildings were probably pulled down by about 1150 because this brush-marked pottery is usually associated with late-12th-century layers elsewhere in the town. The life of these buildings was probably not more than 50 or 75 years in all, but during that time much alteration and enlargement took place.

The trench on the inside of the town wall yielded little. Undisturbed soil was found almost immediately, presumably because much soil had been removed to make the car park. However, the foundations of the wall were examined, and the bottom proved to be only 2 ft. below the modern surface. Near Brewhouse Lane useful confirmation was obtained from the burnt layers near French Street. These are undoubtedly of 14th-century date, and the extent of the burning in this area suggests an association with the French raid in 1338.

HEREFORD: KING'S DITCH (SO/509398). Two excavations were made by Hereford Museum in an attempt to locate and date King's Ditch, a feature known only by name and surmise. One section dug in Broad Street revealed a ditch 5 ft. deep by 10-12 ft. wide narrowing to about 5 ft., in the bottom of which was a 12th-century cooking-pot. Stratification showed that the ditch was still extant in the 17th century. Immediately W. of the ditch was a wall 4½ ft. thick. Its close proximity to the ditch led to its partial subsidence, and it had been buttressed in the 13th century. This presumably is King's Ditch, but its dimensions suggest a boundary (perhaps for the cathedral precincts) rather than a defence.

A second section dug in Bridge Street (SO/508997) did not confirm the ditch line. Regularly stratified deposits to a depth of 15 ft. yielded 13th-century sherds and evidence of marshy conditions, but if the ditch existed so close to the river it is probably further E. (Trans. Woolhope Field Club, xxxvi (1958), 117-125).

NORWICH (TG/234091). Trenches for foundations of a new See House in the garden of the bishop's palace revealed an early medieval burial (11th-13th centuries), a
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FIG. 103

BARGATE, SOUTHAMPTON

Plan showing the five periods of eleventh- and twelfth-century timber buildings (p. 310)

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OXFORD. Ashmolean Museum New Cast Gallery. Pits dating from the 13th to the 17th centuries were excavated by R. E. Linington (Pembroke College) at the rear of medieval tenements of St. Giles's Street. Human Anatomy Department Extension. A section of the 1644 Main Ditch of the Civil War fortifications was recorded by J. May (New College). Christ Church. In the cloisters of the Priory of St. Frideswide a section was opened by
D. Sturdy against the puzzling stone foundation in the shape of a cross of Lorraine, that occupies the centre of the cloister. It was proved to be 6 ft. 8 in. deep, cut through medieval graves and containing re-used late medieval masonry. A date in the 16th or 17th century is now certain. *Corpus Christi College*. In the rebuilding of the president’s lodging the cellars of the early-17th-century lodging were observed and a partial section cut by D. Sturdy through the medieval road which ran from Oriel Street southward to the city wall, where some remains of an early stone-built gateway possibly survive as the anomalous Bastion 21. *Queen’s College*. On the site of the new provost’s lodge the Oxford University Archaeological Society obtained medieval and later sherds but no sign of occupation. Further E. a new soakaway cut into a large mid-13th-century pit containing both fully developed double-shelled lamps and a substantial quantity of large sherds of very large thick-walled cooking-pots developed from the local 12th-century types. *St. John’s College New Building*. Records were made of 12th- and 13th-century pits.

**SHROPSHIRE: SHREWSBURY (SJ/905260).** Two houses in Roushill were demolished and, since they were seen to be on the probable line of the town wall, the opportunity was taken by members of the Shrewsbury and Ludlow Research Groups to confirm its existence here. A valuable pottery series from the 13th to the 18th centuries was found, together with some well-preserved leather, and a sample of peat which has provided an interesting analysis.

There is ample documentary evidence for the dating of the stone wall of Shrewsbury to the second quarter of the 13th century, with subsequent repairs down to the 17th century. The existence of an earlier rampart of earth and timber is known, but its extent and position have not been determined. The area outside the Pride Hill and Roushill Walls is known to have been a marsh until drained in the 18th century. The house inside and on the wall was a half-timber building of the 15th or 16th century, whereas that on the outside was a brick house of the 18th century.

The excavation showed clearly (fig. 104) that the area had been stripped down to the natural clay before the building of the wall began, and the clay piled into a great bank extending for at least 30 ft. behind the wall, which had been built against a vertical face cut in this bank and into the natural clay below. The wall itself had a rubble core, faced on the outside with coursed, dressed red sandstone, and on the inside with coursed sandstone rubble. The front face had a stepped, chamfered plinth. The footings were laid on a slight bank of natural clay, with a bank of mixed clay and earth piled against them. In the clay bank behind the wall was a deep pit, lined and partly filled with decayed lime, which was presumably used for slaking lime for the building of the wall, since the pottery from its filling was similar to that from the wall foundations. A small timber structure with a cobbled floor had been built over the pit immediately after it had been filled.

A very compact pebble surface had been laid on the natural clay in front of the wall, presumably for the transport of materials and for ease of working on the construction of the wall. On the outside of this pebble surface the clay had been cut to form a low bank with a vertical outer face. Beyond this the clay had been cut in a slope of some 35°, an angle which seems too shallow for a town ditch, but which may represent the deliberate scarping of the bank in order to allow the marsh to flood up to the wall. Whatever the explanation of this gently sloping scarp, it is clear that it had always been waterlogged, since there was a layer, 5 ft. thick at its deepest, of organic mud, capped by a layer of peat.

The peat consisted of a compressed and stratified mass of plant remains, among which over 30 specimens have been identified, mostly from their seeds. They suggest a sedge-filled hollow or ditch in moist pasture, with some plants of drier ground and a few field weeds. In and under the peat layer considerable quantities of leather had been preserved. There was an almost complete shoe of medieval type, an adult sole, and the soles of 2 shoes of young children, together with a great many thongs, points and offcuts. The shoes and leather debris were associated with pottery of the mid-14th century.
ROUSHILL, SHREWSBURY

Section along S. side of trench 2, outside the town wall (p. 312)
Above the silt and peat layers were layers of filling deposited between the 14th and 17th centuries, which raised the level of the ground well above the level of the marsh. In the 17th century a cobbled road had been laid outside the wall. At the N. end the wall had been taken to pieces and rebuilt in a projecting bastion-like structure which was connected with sandstone foundations stretching away from the wall at this point, and dated by pottery to the late 18th century. A number of large post-holes, one full of the ash of its post, were associated with this late building, and the face of the wall had been blackened when it was burnt down.

About 250 pieces of pottery, ranging from the period of the building of the wall to the 18th century, have been preserved. The fabrics and glazes are those commonly met with locally and in the west midlands, though it is notable that there were no parallels with the material of the same period from Weoley castle, Warwicks., indicating the independence of Shrewsbury pottery from that of the more central midlands, at least until the 15th century.

WILTSHIRE: OLD SARUM (SU/141325). Excavations for the Ministry of Works under the direction of P. A. Rahtz, took place in the E. suburb. Here was found the confluence of 3 medieval roads, from Wilton, Salisbury, and Bishopdown, all deeply worn into the chalk. They merge here and turn into the E. gate of the castle, through the S. side of the barbican. There are also medieval buildings, in the angle of the Salisbury and Wilton roads, aligned on the latter. These consist of timber slots, post-holes and flint and chalk foundations, with many deep cess-pits. The buildings and roads were all in use from the 12th to 14th century.

YORK: PETERGATE. In a trench 30 ft. by 6 ft. and 16 ft. deep dug by L. P. Wenham a few feet from that reported on last year (cf. Med. Archaeol., ii (1958), 200), 8 superimposed structures were encountered, 3 Roman, 4 medieval and 1 modern. The medieval ones consisted of stone foundations (probably intended to support a timber-framed building) of Saxo-Norman date and the remains of 3 timber-framed buildings of the 13th to the 16th century, one of which, of the middle and late 14th century, contained parts of hearths, kilns and furnaces clearly belonging to some manufactory—possibly bronze-working, to be associated with the horners’ workshop, deduced from the previous year’s excavation.

Among the large quantity of medieval pottery were sherds of Saxo-Norman ware. There were also medieval tiles, hundreds of animal bones, shells, etc., 2 human skulls, parts of the skeletons of 2 horses, some 50 leather soles of shoes and boots, a leather sheath, a nearly complete stone mortar with the fragment of another, a wooden bowl and other wooden and metal objects.

F. ROYAL PALACES

G. MANORS AND MOATS

ENGLAND

BEDFORDSHIRE: HARLINGTON (TL/041310). Excavations were carried out by P. Savage for the Ministry of Works, in view of the impending destruction of remains on this site by farming activities. 3 moated and embanked enclosures were visible on the surface. Two were of large size and lay side by side, E. and W. respectively. The third, to the N., was smaller. The W. large enclosure yielded chalk and stone foundations of a substantial medieval building, its main axis aligned N. and S., flanked by lesser buildings of the same period, of which one lay to the W. and two to the E.

The main building was a hall, 64 ft. long and 22 ft. wide, with a partition or screen 12 ft. from each end. Its chalk foundations were low walls which originally carried
horizontal beams on which the sturdy timber framework of the building was based. Blocks of sandstone were set at regular intervals along these low walls to receive the main vertical members. The framework of the walls was filled in and encased with cob. The floor, which had been kept reasonably clean during the life of the building, was of puddled chalk 6 in. thick. In the centre of the hall was a hearth made of tiles set on edge.

While the smaller building to the W. had similar foundations and floor, it was orientated E. to W. Extensive marks of burning and a thick midden deposit containing large quantities of shells (including oysters, mussels and limpets) indicated that this was the normal detached kitchen block of the period. A greater width of foundation was the main characteristic of the other two small domestic buildings, which also lay N. to S. In the NE. corner of the second large enclosure the chalk foundation of a building 32 ft. long and 16 ft. wide was revealed. This was probably a farm building, perhaps a stable. In the centre of the same enclosure was the rubble foundation of a cattle- or sheep-pen, adjacent to a small pond.

The pottery found during the excavations indicates that the site was in occupation from late in the 13th to the end of the 15th century. Among the other medieval objects found were fragments of bronze cauldrons, 2 iron arrowheads, a rowel-spur, a number of knives, several ox-shoes, a flesh-hook and a silver penny of Edward I or II, minted in London.

**Cornwall:** Gwithian, Crane Godrevy (SW/591425). Charles Thomas and J. May cleared more of the medieval manor (cf. Med. Archaeol., II (1958), 201). It would now seem that the manor represents continuous development from some small 11th- or 12th-century cottage, through a building of long-house type to a small structure of open-E form, a plan not uncommon in W. Cornwall (FIG. 105). A wide range of domestic pottery and a valuable series of iron tools and implements, mostly in good condition, are being studied. Coins and clay pipes suggest a revised date of c. 1680 for final abandonment. The discovery of semicircular buttress chimneys against outer walls was of interest: this type is sparsely known in Cornwall and appears now to be of (at least) late-medieval origin. (See p. 324, s.v. West Whelpington.)


1. 1414—central rectangular block, massive brickwork, outer wall with bastions and buttresses. Surrounded by moat.
2. c. 1450—small W. wing extension over moat, larger E. wing, all in brick.
3. 1570-1590—complete reconstruction in detail following basic plan of 1450. The greater part of the plan of the house has now been recovered.

**Herefordshire:** Wallingstones (SO/503222). N. P. Bridgewater excavated on a moated site comprising a roughly circular mound 180 ft. in diameter surrounded by a low-lying marshy area. A wall has been located 2½ ft. thick built of thin flags. Finds include 13th-century pottery and a coin of Edward I.

**Leicestershire:** Sapcote (SP/486934). A large rectangular earthwork 350 ft. by 450 ft. was excavated by P. Addyman for the Ministry of Works before being levelled for a playing field. It was found to be a late medieval enclosure with fishponds overlying medieval ridge and furrow. The sites of the medieval manor and castle are further to the SE.

**Middlesex:** Northolt (TQ/133841). Excavation by J. G. Hurst and C. Keene continued (cf. Med. Archaeol., II (1958), 204). Trenches were cut across the Tudor buildings outside the main moated area to the NE. Extensive brick foundations of the 16th, 17th and early 18th centuries were uncovered, but no coherent plan was obtained. It is assumed that these buildings replace those inside the moat which went out of use in
CRANE GODREVY
GWITHIAN, CORNWALL.

dwelling-house complex
14th–15th centuries

FIG. 105
CRANE GODREVY, CORNWALL
Plan of the medieval buildings (p. 315)
Elizabethan times. A single 30-ft. trench was dug down to natural subsoil in this area. Instead of being sterile underneath, as was expected, 2 ditches, a pebble floor and 6 post-holes were found with late Saxon and early medieval pottery. It is clear therefore that, before the earlier moat was dug on the line of the present one in the late 13th century, the site extended much further to the NE.

**Norfolk:** West Bilney (TF/725156). Excavation of part of this moated homestead site was undertaken by E. P. V. Whitaker. 13th-century occupation was attested by pottery and a penny of Henry III (minted 1223–1242).

———: West Harling (TL/969854). An oval moated site with a rectangular annexe on S. was located by R. R. Clarke.

———: Great Snoring (TF/930330). R. R. Clarke reports that a large ditch-enclosed house was revealed by air-photographs on the hill E. of Hook’s Moor.

**Oxfordshire:** Ambrosden (SP/603193). 13th- and 14th-century sherds were collected by D. Sturdy from a housing site immediately S. of the scanty ruins of the manor. No structures were observed.

**Shropshire:** Longnor Moat House (SJ/493002). The site is a large polygonal enclosure surrounded by a moat, largely water-filled, with a fishpond lying to the E. The NE corner of the enclosure is occupied by a fine half-timber house of the 15th century with stonework which may be earlier on its S. side. A section cut across the inner edge of the moat on the N. side by P. A. Barker revealed a stone bank, but no post-holes in a length of 8 ft. Exploratory trenches in the NW. quarter of the enclosure failed to find any trace of buildings, though one revealed a section of cobbled which petered out towards the moat edge. There were no finds in these trenches. Another section was cut across about a third of the width of the moat, from the inner edge, at a point close to the present entrance, the only point where it appeared to be dry enough for excavation. The moat had been filled in here during the 19th century with boulder clay dug locally. Below this was black silty earth lying on the primary silting of black clay, silt and sand. In this primary silt below the clay, and therefore deposited before the first flooding of the moat had deposited its finest particles, were a number of pieces of wood, all adze cut, which almost certainly represent some debris from the construction of a palisade or of the bridge across the moat.

**Somerset:** English Combe (barewe) (ST/729620). J. Bolwell continued excavating the building adjoining the dovecote (cf. Med. Archaeol., II (1958), 205). This proved to be a 2-room structure with a floor of cobbles pressed into clay. One room had 2 hearths, one with evidence of metal working; the whole appears to overlie the destruction-level of an earlier building. The pottery is mainly 13th century.

**Sussex:** Streatham (TQ/199137). A number of exploratory cuttings were made by A. Barr-Hamilton. The remains of 2 buildings were encountered, adjoining the N. and W. sections of the perimeter respectively; these had been constructed of water-worn flints and blocks of ferruginous sandstone and of local Sussex marble, and roofed with heavy slate and large tiles. Many broken floor tiles of a small, square type were found. A small area of the N. building was excavated and was found to have a floor of red clay covered to a depth of several inches by ash. The building appeared to date from the 14th century.

**Warwickshire:** Hawksley (SP/017776). This was a moated site of about 6 acres on high ground with a causewayed entrance on the E. It had in its centre an 18th-century farmhouse resting on 17th-century footings. As a result of the discovery of timber structures in the initial building operations for blocks of flats (cf. Med. Archaeol., II (1958), 205), a grant was made by the Ministry of Works for a detailed excavation by A. H. Oswald.
The documentary history of the site starts in the year 1280 and continues to the time of the Civil War. The area for excavation was restricted by building operations but nevertheless it revealed an initial occupation marked by ditches which were filled in by the end of the 13th century. In the 14th century a long rectangular timber building with an inner room was erected. This possessed rough stone floors and probably was occupied until some time in the 15th century; its nature suggested an agricultural structure. In the 16th century a wooden hut or screen surrounding a hearth was built in this area and revealed an interior belt of stone paving with an apparent post-hole. In the builders’ sections across the moat no trace of this stone bank was observed.

Small finds included sufficient stratified pottery for dating purposes, a portion of a pottery ventilator of the 14th century, decorated 14th-century roofing tiles, a 17th-century knife and spoon and some fragments of 17th-century glass.

WORCESTERSHIRE: UPTON WARREN, DURRANCE FARM MOAT (SO/902712). Excavation of this moated site has been undertaken by A. H. Oswald and financed by the Birmingham City Museum and the Rowley Regis Archaeological Society with a grant from the Council for British Archaeology.

A first settlement in the 12th century consisted of a V-shaped ditch with a revetted bank and interior wooden buildings; in the same century what appears to have been a defensive structure was erected, consisting of a bank of clay in which were set upright timbers with what was apparently a rampart-walk behind. Similar use of clay on sandy subsoil occurs in the 13th-century castle at Farringdon Clump, Berkshire (Ant. J., xvi (1936), 165), and the plan of the timber structures greatly resembles the 12th-century defences at the Husterknupp in Germany recently published by A. Herrnbrodt (see p. 332 for review). This second occupation, which seems to have lasted into the 13th century, had interior buildings with wood, with perhaps sandstone footings and some tiled roofs. It was apparently destroyed by fire.

There was a complete reconstruction of the site probably in the 14th century, when the interior area was enlarged and the moat greatly widened and water filled, fed by two artificial ponds up the valley and one below the site; elaborate overflow channels were created to avoid flooding. No trace of interior buildings has yet been found, but there is abundant roofing tile of this period.

YORKSHIRE, EAST RIDING: SHERBURN (SE/957769) (cf. Med. Archaeol., II (1958), 205). T. C. M. Brewster continued excavating for the Ministry of Works (cf. Med. Archaeol., II (1958), 205). A large building, with walls 2 ft. wide made of chalk blocks, was uncovered to the NW. of the 1957 excavation. The occupation-levels contained Staxton ware of the 13th and 14th centuries. A structure to the S. contained a cesspit, and the building to the E. is thought to have been the kitchen.

---, ---: WHARRAM PERCY (SE/858646). In 1957 (cf. Med. Archaeol., II (1958), 206), it was found that the undercroft of the 12th-century manor-house was entered at its SW. corner from a courtyard at the same low level, 6 ft. down. This courtyard was excavated in 1958 by J. G. Hurst and M. W. Beresford in an attempt to find out how large it was and how it was entered from ground level. The search was frustrated by the fact that during the 13th century two quarries, each about 6 ft. across and 15 ft. deep, had been dug into the chalk, and these almost completely destroyed any evidence as to what the 12th-century courtyard was like. It is hard to see why these quarries were dug in this position at that time because the manor-house was apparently still standing. After the quarries had been dug, and filled in to the level of the courtyard, a revetment wall was built to hold up the chalk on either side. It seems unlikely that the courtyard was in use when the undercroft had fallen in, for there was no sign of the door being blocked. In view of the extra work involved in clearing out these quarries it was only possible to investigate two of the other depressions. These appear to be similar, smaller
quarries filled with 13th-century rubbish from the area of house 9. For this site see also p. 324. The length of the undercroft, given as 33 ft. in last year’s note, is 38 ft.

**SCOTLAND**

DUMFRIESSHIRE: DINWOODIEGREEN, ANNANDALE (NY/107884). B. Blake and Miss K. Hodgson in conjunction with the Ministry of Works and the Lockerbie extra-mural class, excavating a crop-mark site discovered by J. K. S. St. Joseph just SW. of Dinwoodiegreen Farm, found the remains of a timber hall and an area of cobbled flooring, several bases of rubble walls, and rubbish-pits containing pottery of the beginning of the 14th century.

---: UNTHANK, EWES (NY/390948). The site of a substantial medieval manor-house, probably a seat of the Lovel family of Hawick, has been discovered near the ruined medieval church. It comprises a large rectangular foundation within a bank and ditch enclosure, with a smaller enclosure on the uphill side having, from the fresh condition of its bank and ditch, been used as a cattle pound when the main site was abandoned. On the uphill side of the site the old field system and ridge and furrow are clearly visible. On the holm beside the Ewes water and on the far side of it from the site, is a particularly clear stretch of medieval furlong, each furrow showing the characteristic curve at the end. The furrows run down stream from the medieval road and are interrupted by the modern road to Unthank.

**ENGLAND**


OXFORDSHIRE: SWALCLIFFE (SP/387384). The Oxford University Archaeological Society excavated the substantial remains of a large medieval structure. The walls were still standing up to 3 courses high, were 3 ft. thick, faced with ashlar and showed two phases of building. An open paved hearth, 5 ft. square and with moulded footings, was surrounded by an uneven clay floor.

A large number of small finds suggested an occupation beginning in the 14th century and continuing till the 17th century. There were also several sherds of Saxon pottery. The remains are those of the predecessor of the present farm of Swalcliffe Lea, which itself dates from the 17th century.

**ISLE OF MAN**

BLOCK EARY, LAZAYRE (SC/400896). 5 of some 35 hut-sites lying in a mountain valley close to the 1,000 ft. contour were partly excavated by P. S. Gelling. Each hut-site was marked by a considerable mound which proved to have been formed by the constant building and collapse of slight wattled huts. One mound contained a stratified coin of Stephen. The remains suggested temporary summer occupation, probably a shieling.

**WALES**

MONMOUTHSHIRE: ABERGAVENNY (SO/296141). Several 16th-century houses in Tudor Street were investigated by D. M. D. Thacker. They have since been demolished under the borough slum-clearance scheme. Two houses were surveyed and some of the more interesting features were removed for preservation. An important mural decoration was uncovered, cleaned and photographed by the Ministry of Works.
ENGLAND

I. VILLAGES

EXTRACT FROM THE 6TH ANNUAL REPORT (1958) OF THE DESERTED MEDIEVAL VILLAGE RESEARCH GROUP:

General Notes. M. W. Beresford and J. G. Hurst prepared revised lists of deserted villages for Rutland and Warwickshire. A classification according to the historical and archaeological information available was given to each site.

Air-Photographs. It was not possible to add to the collection of R.A.F. prints as the library was closed down during the year. Dr. St. Joseph reports that he was not able to take more than a very few oblique photographs of deserted villages during 1958. The excellent series taken in 1957 was catalogued by J. G. Hurst. 38 sites were photographed for the first time and better quality views were obtained of sites poorly photographed before. 8 new sites were discovered. Prints are not yet available for study.

Visits to Deserted Villages. R. Hilton in Gloucestershire, Mrs. V. Steed in Oxfordshire, S. Roberts in Staffordshire, Miss J. Morris in Warwickshire and J. Musty in Wiltshire have added valuable information about new sites in their areas and have helped with visits and the gathering of general information.

In an attempt to speed up the archaeological classification of sites an intensive programme of visits was carried out during the year. 400 sites were visited making a total of 1,000 (out of 1,668) deserted villages visited by members of the group during the past 5 years.

Scheduling. 22 sites were scheduled by the Ministry of Works during the year but the Ancient Monuments Board has recommended that no more should be scheduled for some years. A strong protest is being made by the group at this disruption of the scheduling programme, which has been very much held up over the past few years by the requirement of a personal visit to each owner before scheduling takes place.

Threatened Sites

Lincolnshire: Maltby (TF 314844). The eastern part of this extensive site was bull-dozed to make a market garden just as negotiations were started to schedule the site.

Staffordshire: Croxall (SK 198136), Warwickshire: Wormleighton (SP 448540), Yorkshire, North Riding: Howgrave (SE 315793) and East Tanfield (SE 289779) were all threatened with levelling during the year but it is hoped that the owners have been persuaded by the Ministry of Works to preserve them.

Yorkshire, East Riding: Cawthorpe (SE 770305). When J. G. Hurst visited this site it was found that the site had recently been bull-dozed, again to make a market garden.

Excavations

Berkshire: Seacourt (SP 486075). Excavation in advance of road construction was undertaken by M. Biddle for the Ministry of Works. A large area on the W. and N. of the site, which lies on an eastward facing slope, was threatened, but in the time available it was only possible to test the area by trenching and to open 3 house sites extensively. These proved to be in an area of late-12th- or early-13th-century expansion and the original nucleus must lie to the SE. in the area where some pits were found during the 1939 excavations (Oxoniensia, v (1940), 31 ff.).

The first buildings were of wood and a large area containing one was completely stripped. It was about 60 ft. in length and consisted of a long barn-like building with a living annexe at the slightly lower S. end. This annexe had a clay hearth which sealed an earlier pit containing some late-12th- or early-13th-century pottery, but material from the midden of this building was similar and the structure probably dates to the early 13th century. It is not a true long-house but has affinities with that type of structure.

The wooden buildings were replaced about the middle of the 13th century, or
somewhat later, by stone constructions, dry-built of the local rag. At the time the extensive ditch drainage system of the earlier period, which in places utilized natural lines of drainage, was in part discarded and in part replaced by a stone-built drain running from N. to S. through the village, down the centre of a very solidly made, and well laid, stone road. This road, which was traced in 1939 for over 700 ft., was laid over one of the earlier ditches containing pottery types of the late 12th and early 13th centuries.

A complete plan was obtained of a stone house (FIG. 106) barely 15 ft. square internally, with thick dry-built walls, in one of which, near the doorway on the E. side, were traces of a baking oven nearly at floor level. In the centre of the house was a very well-made stone-bordered hearth, several times replaced and a single stone-packed post-hole. The occupation of this house lasted to the late 14th century, and this seems, from the new evidence as a whole, to have been the date of the desertion of the village, indicating that it had taken place well before a letter, dated 1439, was written which describes the church as then collapsed and only two houses, far distant from the church and each other, as occupied. Further study of the pottery is, however, needed to settle this point.

A small area opened to the W. of the church discovered in 1939, showed that none of it would be destroyed by the new road and revealed the foundations of a well-built churchyard wall.

DORSET: HOLWORTH (SY/770833). Excavation by the Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society directed by P. A. Rahtz was of part of a toft, of which there are 7 well-defined examples, each of 1/5th acre. Two buildings were found with a connecting wall enclosing a cobbled yard between them, the whole forming a complex 70 ft. by 16 ft. The eastern building was subdivided into two with a hearth in one part. The other had more substantial foundations and a gravel floor. Footings were mostly of flint, with a few dressed blocks of other local rocks. The timber superstructure was roofed by Cornish blue slates. These structures were in use during the 14th and 15th centuries, and beneath them were ditches and pits associated with burnt daub, and pottery of the 12th to 13th centuries. The documentary evidence suggests a pre-conquest foundation, but no sherds need be earlier than the 12th century, though some could be. The largest mound on the toft turned out to be composed entirely of silt and spoil from repeated ditch-cutting and clearing, and it was demonstrated that the platform and banks comprising the toft were similarly derived from ditch-cutting and from gradual accumulation of soil against the mounds thus formed. Over 14,000 sherds were found, including about 3 per cent. of glazed sherds, and many small objects of iron and bronze.

DURHAM: SWAINSTON (NZ/418284). Excavation by the Stockton/Billingham Technical College continued under the direction of J. Booth (cf. Med. Archaeol., II (1958), 210). It was concentrated on house 2, which was progressively trenched down to the natural subsoil, beginning at the E. end and continuing for about half its length. Intermittent lengths of wall were found, consisting of large stones loosely bonded in clay. It is significant that there were signs of rebuilding on different alignments with walls surviving at different depths on top of and across each other. Pottery was mainly of the 14th and 15th centuries.

HEREFORDSHIRE: HAMPTON WAFER (SO/577570). The plan of a 14th-century house was recovered on site II at the E. end of the settlement by S. Stanford (cf. Med. Archaeol., II (1958), 210). The building consisted of a living room, 21 ft. by 17 ft., with clay floor and central stone hearth, and an attached animal(?)-quarter, 94 ft. by 15 ft., at the W. end. The pottery confirms the 14th-century date of abandonment and the absence of the 12th-century sherds which have been found on site I implies an extension of the built-up area during the last 100 years of the settlement's history.
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FIG. 106
SEACOURT, BERKSHIRE
Plan of the fourteenth-century stone-built house (p. 321)
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HUNTINGDONSHIRE: UPTHORPE (TL/127721). The site was trenched by D. Corbett for the Ministry of Works before levelling for agricultural purposes. Heavily pebbled areas and a group of post-holes were revealed, with pottery from the 13th to the 17th centuries, but no structures could be interpreted.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: MUSCOTT (SP/627633). Excavations were carried out by P. Savage for the Ministry of Works in view of the impending destruction of the site for farming purposes. The part of the site available for excavation consisted of three enclosures on the southern boundary. Trial trenches in two of the enclosures produced no significant evidence, but in the third three buildings of a 12th- to 13th-century date were discovered. The main building was a three-roomed structure, 50 ft. by 25 ft. The walls, which were of sandstone blocks, survived, in places, to a height of 2½ ft. The clay floor was covered by a thin occupation layer 1 in. in depth. In the main chamber there was a central hearth of clay surrounded by sandstone blocks similar to those used in the construction of the walls. There were many signs of fire in this building, particularly at the S. end where the stone was blackened, and reddened by excessive heat. There was also a large quantity of charcoal, which appeared to be the remains of a thatched roof. A broken bone tablet, bearing an ecclesiastical Latin text, was discovered in the surround of the hearth.

The foundations of the second building were partly destroyed. It was 40 ft. long and a width of 20 ft. is inferred from the position of a row of presumed central post-holes. A double row of stake-holes on the opposite side of the post-holes gave evidence of a raised wooden floor. There was no occupation-layer.

The third building was the smallest, being 22 ft. by 16 ft. Modern levelling of the medieval boundary-ditch with a bull-dozer had almost totally destroyed this building and part of the second building. Pottery and other small finds indicate that the site was occupied from the late 12th century to the end of the 13th or the beginning of the 14th century.

NORTHUMBERLAND: WEST WHELPINGTON (NX/975838). This site is to be quarried and, at the request of the Ministry of Works, W. W. Taylor of the Durham Colleges Board for Extra-Mural Studies, has undertaken to examine as much of the site as possible between 1958 and 1960. The first season’s work included a survey of the whole village and excavation on two ‘house’ sites. The survey has shown that West Whelpington, like so many northern villages, was basically a series of houses together with their crofts enclosing on all sides a village green. Twenty-five ‘house’ sites have been identified and recorded.

John Hodgson in his History of Northumberland (1827) has given the only firm documentary evidence for the date of desertion:

‘The village of West Whelpington stood . . . on an elevated plain, which slopes gently towards the E. and is defended on all sides and especially on the S. by a whinstone precipice. It was of oblong form, about 440 yds. long, and consisted of 2 rows of houses including a town green . . . Its name occurs in the parish register up to 1715 in connection, among other names, with those of Harle . . . and Stote, 1 of which family, when he took the whole of it to rent, “put out 15 farmers” here, according to the phrase and account of a person who was his servant, and is still living at the age of 86 . . .’

Nothing in the finds from the two sites excavated contradicts this early 18th century date of desertion.

Of the two sites excavated, nos. 19 and 20, only the latter was sufficiently examined to warrant any conclusions being drawn. It is thought that only the E. part has been exposed, and this, excavated to bed-rock, has disclosed a room with internal measurements of 22 ft. by 18 ft. The three outside walls, which are of uncut whinstone together with a little freestone and a rubble core, are 3 ft. wide and in much of their length stand
to a height of 2½ ft. The amount of fallen stone indicates that these walls were of stone and rubble to roof level. The fourth wall (2 ft. wide) would seem to be a partition-wall incorporating a doorway at the NW. corner, and centrally situated in this wall was a substantial fireplace with evidence of major reconstruction. On the other side of this wall and immediately behind the fireplace is a semicircular apse of stone forming the base of a chimney-stack. For a similar chimney in Cornwall see p. 315 and fig. 105.

This substantial building clearly had a life-span much longer than that of many medieval peasant houses and could have withstood many destructions of the roof. One interesting feature was the discovery of window-glass in the tumble of the S. wall. Pottery fragments were small and most are of the 16th and 17th centuries. Some pottery from the lowest level is clearly earlier, but no firm dating is yet possible. Other finds included pieces of horse harness, a key, knife blade, scissors and pitchfork, and enough coal to suggest that at least in the later periods of occupation this was being used for domestic purposes. A considerable number of pieces of clay pipes were found, 2 of them bearing the maker’s trade-mark.

Yorkshire, East Riding: Wharram Percy (SE/858646). The 1958 excavation by J. G. Hurst and M. W. Beresford had two main objects: (1) to excavate the courtyard of the 12th-century manor undercroft and the neighbouring depressions (see p. 319); and (2) to follow up the various walls of the peasant buildings of the later 14th and 15th century which continued beyond the edge of the original grid excavated between 1953 and 1955 (cf. Med. Archaeol., i (1957), 166-8).

In the area nearest to house 9, it was found that at least five of the periods of this house extended almost as far as house 10, and that building B2 was in fact part of the house-9, and not the house-10 complex. Three different alignments were found for the house-9 and house-10 toft wall, thus confirming the previous evidence that toft walls were not permanent but were frequently changed. Between house 10 and house 12, where a bump suggested buildings, several structures were uncovered but more work will be needed on these. From the evidence of toft-boundary changes two possibilities emerge: either that there were changing numbers of peasant houses in a particular part of the village at different times; or that houses when rebuilt had not just slightly altered alignments but entirely separate positions from century to century. This is most important and clearly more work is required in the house-10 area to check this.

—-—, North Riding: Lazenby (SE/340985). Excavation was continued by the Northallerton Grammar School under the direction of Miss I. Telford (cf. Med. Archaeol., ii (1958), 211). Another alignment of stones was uncovered together with pottery of the 14th and 15th century. It is not yet possible to make these stones into the plan of a building.

Scotland

Dumfriesshire: Kirkconnel, Springkell (NY/250755). The site of a large medieval village has been found in a park-land field adjoining Kirkconnel ruined church and churchyard. It covers a considerable area, the line of the street and the outlines of the crofts and tofts are quite clear. The village had completely disappeared by the 16th century. A complete survey is being undertaken.

Ross and Cromarty: North Rona (HW/809323). A party from Glasgow University carried out a detailed ground survey of the ecclesiastical and domestic structures. The village is situated towards the NW. corner of an infield of about 20 acres, cultivated in large lazybeds. The pattern of domestic architecture is of a central rectangular courtyard of about 30 ft. by 10 ft., surrounded by a variable arrangement of low covered passages and small circular or oval corbelled cells. Two such steadings are built close against the outside of the chapel enclosure wall, on the S. side; a third stands apart, a little to the S.

The houses were occupied at least as late as 1683, and all show signs of reconstruction. A lower limit for the date of human settlement has not been established (see p. 307).
MEDIEVAL BRITAIN IN 1958

J. OTHER SITES: MILLS

ENGLAND

NORFOLK: SWAFFHAM (TF/815093). A mound in Mount Close Field, excavated by E. P. V. Whitaker, yielded material from neolithic to 17th century. It was probably a medieval mill-mound.

WALES

MONMOUTHSHIRE: LLANTILIO CROSSENNY (SO/374175). Excavations at Great Tre-rhew farm by D. M. D. Thacker revealed foundations of what is believed to be the water-mill of the lordship of White castle. Although a corner fireplace has been revealed, it has not yet been possible to date the building. Fragments of French mill-stones indicate that the mill was in use during the 19th century.

K. INDUSTRY

ENGLAND

DERBYSHIRE: BURLEY HILL, DUFFIELD (SK/348412). R. G. Hughes has re-located the kiln sites excavated by L. Jewitt in 1862. Waste heaps have been found but no actual structures (J. Derbys. Archaeol. and Nat. Hist. Soc., xxxi (1958), 57-60).

ESSEX: SOUTHEY GREEN (TL/781318). Three more kiln sites have been found by J. Lindsay. One was producing late-13th-century jugs and the other two mainly cooking-pots. The structure of the second one was of the double stoke-hole type, with a flint-lined flue. The kiln floor had three burnt levels. The other two kilns have not yet been found, only a scatter of wasters.

LINC]SHIRE: TOYNTON (TF/395634). Mrs. E. H. Rudkin and N. Whitaker excavated a 13th-century kiln with walls of grey, hard-baked clay, 18 in. high; it had a floor of local stone with clay reinforcement in the centre, a diameter of 10 ft., and 5 fire-holes. There were no indications of supports for an upper floor, although large lumps of hard red clay with glazing on one surface were present. 4 jugs had been thrown away whole, though cracked by frost as they were just beneath the turf; 3 had a design of three pairs of parallel strips with a bib of green glaze, the other had an elaborate scroll-work pattern; the rest were badly broken and scattered over the whole area. Other products recovered are jugs of varying sizes, from 6 to 16 in. high; some plain, some with lines running round them, some with lines and a single scroll pattern under the lip; others with billets, or scroll-work and billets. Tiles, fitted water-pipes, butter-pots, pancheons and cooking-pots are all represented.

SUFFOLK: GISLINGHAM (TM/084723). Medieval sherds from two apparent clamp-kiln floors were exposed by ploughing at Ivy House farm. The pottery is now in the Ipswich Museum (958/224).

HINDERCLAY (TM/025767). A waste heap with large quantities of pottery of 15th-century date and fragments of collapsed kiln-roof structure was found by A. Scott.

YORKSHIRE, EAST RIDING: NORTH GRANGE, MEAUX (TA/099405). In September 1957 members of a research team from Cambridge Geophysical Laboratory wished to take samples from a mid-13th-century kiln-site discovered by G. K. Beaulah in 1930, and it was known that the mosaic tiles with which the abbey church was paved had been made there, but it had not been fully explored. G. K. Beaulah and Mrs. E. Eames re-opened the site at the point dug in 1930 and found the hard baked clay floor of the stoke-hole and the front of the furnaces of a kiln. A complete excavation undertaken by Mrs. E. Eames in 1958 showed that the furnace structure found in 1957 was that of a roof-tile
kiln, which appeared to have been constructed over the site of a floor-tile kiln immediately after that went out of use.

Only two other 13th-century floor-tile kilns have been fully excavated: that at Meaux is the first to be found where mosaic tiles were produced, and no other roof-tile kiln of this date is known. A full report on the site will appear in Med. Archaeol., v (1961).

WILTSHIRE: LAVERSTOCK (SU/160298). Excavation of the kiln site by J. W. G. Musty for the Salisbury Museum Excavation Sub-Committee with a grant from the Ministry of Works has now been completed. Since the previous note (Med. Archaeol., ii (1958), 213) approximately 1 1/4 acres have been explored by trenching, and features discovered (including those already reported) are 6 kilns, 3 buildings and 24 pits.

The kilns were all of double stoke-pit type, and one part-loaded kiln was discovered which provided evidence of loading by a self-stacking method and explains why no internal structure was found in any of the kilns. In this instance, the lowest level of the stack consisted of jugs which had been fired in an inverted position with their necks resting directly on the oven floor; the second layer would then have been stacked on the bases of the first, and, if necessary, small pieces of tile or sherds used to level up.

A surprisingly large variety of wares were being produced by these kilns, possibly because they were supplying the royal palace of Clarendon. The pottery recovered includes jugs of various types; face jugs; bottles; aquamaniles; glazed bowls, dishes and pans of various forms; pottery money-boxes; lamps; lids; finials; drain-pipes; chimneys; ridge-tiles, including decorated types; corner tiles, but not apparently flat roof tiles; unglazed floor tiles, but not decorated floor tiles; pottery mortars; and unglazed cooking-pots. This pottery is provisionally dated to the last quarter of the 13th century.

The face jugs are of particular interest and approximately a dozen examples were obtained, including types with tubular spouts in which the spout protrudes from the face and is held by hands, and others in which the faces have been formed round bridge spouts. In some the face is merely a decoration on the rim.

Other noteworthy items are a group of 12 decorated jugs from the part-loaded kiln, and the mortars which are copies of the conventional stone types, and the first examples of this type to be found.

Of the three buildings, Building 1 was undoubtedly associated with the kilns. The exact relationship of the others can only be determined after the pottery has been fully studied, but Building 2 was earlier than at least one of the kilns.

A number of the pits contained pottery which was made in the kilns, but others yielded material which appears to be earlier. These pit-groups may belong to an earlier 13th-century phase before the kilns existed. A puzzling feature of them is that the glazed ware is of conventional 13th-century form whilst the coarse ware which accompanies it is of 12th-century type. However, the survival of the characteristic 12th-century 'scratchware' in a developed form in the late-13th-century pit- and kiln-groups has already been demonstrated at Laverstock, so the other pit-groups may represent earlier, and therefore more intensive, examples of the same kind of survival.

OLD SARUM, EAST SUBURB. J. W. G. Musty obtained evidence for a lime-burning industry when examining a pipe-line. Structures included two lime-kilns, and a large chalk pit. A scale beam was obtained from a cess-pit. The industry is dated to the 12th century (Wilts. Archaeol. Mag., lvi (1958), 12).