

THE PALACE OF THE ARCHBISHOPS OF CANTERBURY  
AT CHARING, KENT,  
NOW CALLED PALACE FARM

By P. K. KIPPS

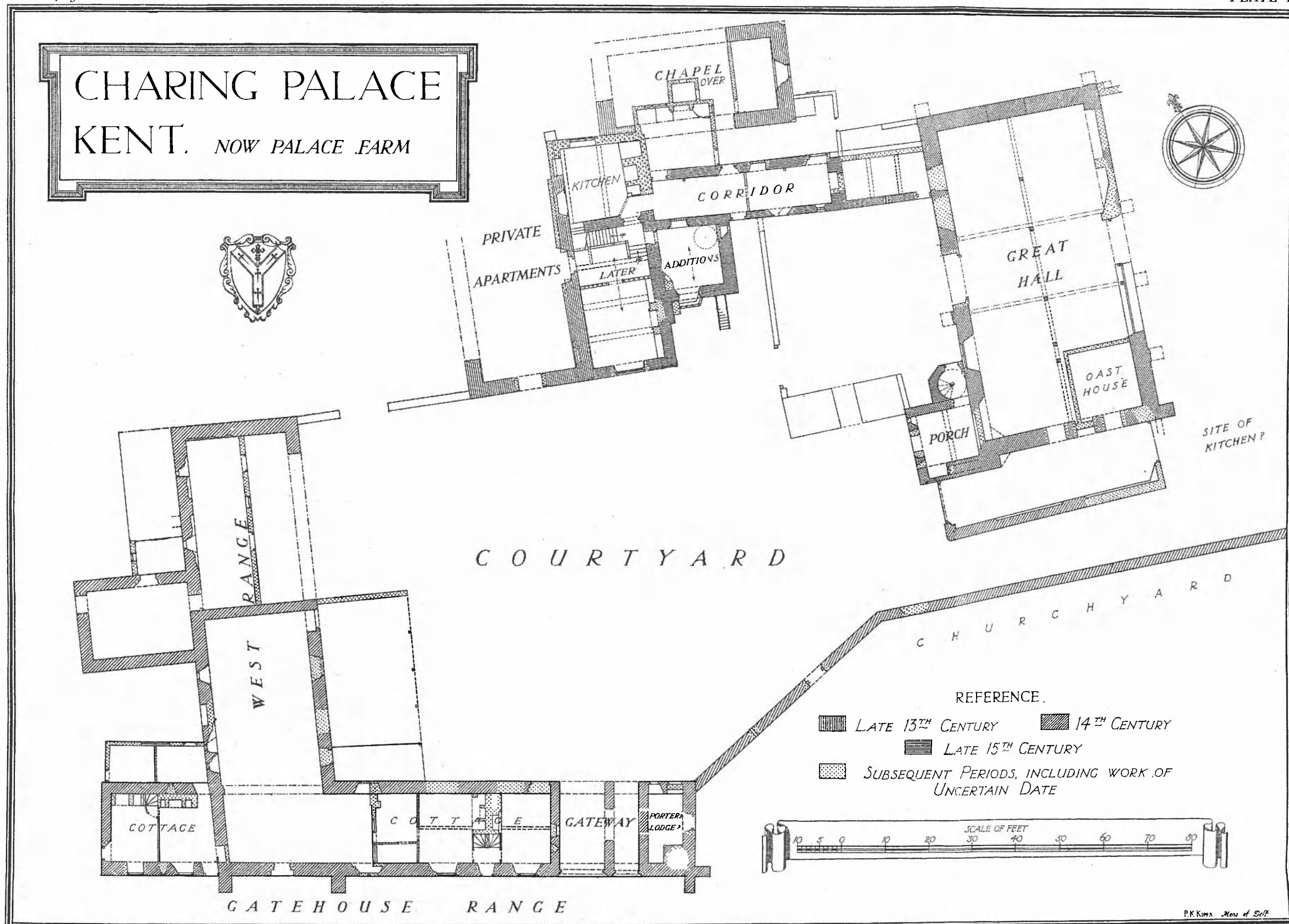
Some 14½ miles W.S.W. of the metropolitan city of Canterbury lies the still picturesque village of Charing, with its church and the remains of the Palace lying just eastwards of the main street. Its situation, roughly midway between Maidstone and Canterbury, make it a convenient halt for the archbishops and their attendants in the slow progress of medieval travel, along ways far less direct than those of this age. Apart from convenience, the position of Charing must always have had its attractions, for it is sheltered by the downs from the north winds and the gently falling ground southwards affords a pleasing and sunny prospect. The Palace became, in due course, a residence of importance and was enjoyed occasionally by successive archbishops until that fateful day when Cranmer surrendered it to Henry VIII, and the Manor became part of the Royal possessions.

*Origin and History*

The Manor was one of the earliest to be owned by the see of Canterbury.<sup>1</sup> In the eighth century it was taken by Offa, King of Mercia, but at the request of Archbishop Athelard in 799 King Coenulf returned it, to be held henceforth free from all secular services and regal tribute.<sup>2</sup>

During the time of Lanfranc (1066-1089) the revenues of his church were divided between himself and the convent, the Manor of Charing being allotted to the archbishop and his successors. The Domesday

<sup>1</sup> Hasted, *History of Kent*, vol. iii, pp. 211, 212, 213.      <sup>2</sup> Decern Script., col. 2212.



record states that it was held in demesne. It was also alluded to as 'proprium manerium archiepiscopi,' being kept by the Archbishops for their own personal use.

No documentary evidence has, so far, been found as to the actual date of the first building on the site. A house probably existed at an early period and one can suppose it to have been a dwelling of modest proportions from which the estate was administered and where the archbishops occasionally rested when making a journey. Their increasing political power combined with an establishment that included a number of servants was followed, as a matter of course, by an enlargement of their houses. The earliest work of Charing Palace is perhaps the ruined wall adjoining the present farmhouse on the W. and which was the S. front of the private apartments. It bears a moulded string course of late thirteenth-century character which suggests a date for this part of the building. The Chapel, no doubt, was built about the same time.

The Hall was probably erected during the primacy of Robert Winchelsea (1294-1313). A window on the W. side with remains of tracery of 'geometrical' character indicates that this work may be dated *circa* 1300. Some slight evidence may perhaps be inferred from circumstances occurring during the latter part of Winchelsea's career. During the earlier years of his tenure of the see, Winchelsea had been involved in disputes with Edward I, but with the accession of Edward II (1307) came changes in which the archbishop managed to find security of position and greatly increased prosperity.<sup>1</sup> It is not unlikely that building operations at Charing were one of the results of improved circumstances.

John Stratford (1333-1348) is said to have been attached to Charing. While residing here (Nov. 30th, 1340) he incurred the displeasure of Edward III and hastily withdrew to Canterbury where he took refuge with the monks of Christchurch.<sup>2</sup> It is possible that

<sup>1</sup> *Dictionary of National Biography*, vol. xxi, p. 631.

vol. lv, p. 32. See also Hook's *Lives of the Archbishops of Canterbury*, vol. iv, pp. 36, 37.

<sup>2</sup> *Dictionary of National Biography*,

the gatehouse range was built during his primacy as the details of the gateway and also of a fireplace in the room above belong to the first half of the fourteenth century.

During the reign of Henry VI a considerable amount of repair had become necessary and particulars of the work done by John Pevyngton in the years 1446-8 with charges for materials and labour are to be found in the Lambeth Court Rolls 302 and 303. (See Appendix.)

The latest archbishop to be associated with the building of Charing Palace was John Morton (1486-1500). Like some of his predecessors he grew steadily in political importance and also gained further ecclesiastical dignity by being created cardinal of St. Anastasia in 1493. These achievements were supplemented by an accumulation of wealth, some of which he expended in architectural work at his various palaces, and according to Leland,<sup>1</sup> he 'made great building at Charing.' Part of the work done at his command was, no doubt, the present farmhouse building which formed additions east of the private apartments; the 'corridor' building, and also alterations to the upper storey of the hall porch and the erection of the staircase adjoining.

Historical events in connection with the Palace appear to be few in number. Records of two, however, survive. Archbishop Warham (1503-1532) entertained Henry VII at Charing on 24th March, 1507, and later, in 1520, Henry VIII lodged here on 24th May during his progress to meet Francis I between Guisnes and Ardres.

In 1545 came the end, and Archbishop Cranmer 'by indenture 7th December, 37th year of Henry VIII, conveyed to the King, his heirs and successors, the manor, palace, rectory and advowson of the vicarage and all his estates in the parish.'<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Itinerary*, vol. vii, p. 138.

<sup>2</sup> Hasted. See footnote. He says that the exchange was confirmed by the Chapter of Canterbury on the 22nd Dec. following. The deed, now preserved at the Public Record

Office (Exchequer and Augmentation Office). Deeds of Purchase and Exchange, Henry VIII, E. 305, D. 75 refers to other properties but gives no details of the Palace buildings.

The manor and parish remained in the possession of the Crown from 1545 until 1629. The date 1586 which appears on the south side of Morton's fifteenth century additions presumably commemorates some works of reparation or changes in the building. It is stated that Sir Nicholas Gilborne kept his shrievalty for the county here in the ninth year of James I.<sup>1</sup>

Charles I in the fifth year of his reign granted the Manor and Palace in fee to William White and others to hold in free socage at the yearly rent of £72 2s. 4½d. in trust for Sir Allen Apslie. During the 150 years following it belonged to various owners of whom particulars may be found in Hasted's *History of Kent*. Hasted also refers briefly to the buildings as follows: 'the palace . . . part of which is fitted up as a dwelling house at the back of which, northward, are the remains of the chapel, the walls of which are standing entire, being built of squared stone, mixed with flints, on the side wall of it are three windows, with pointed arches, and at the east end a much larger one, of the same form.'

### *General Lay-out of Buildings*

As originally planned the buildings forming the Palace consisted of three large groups arranged round an irregularly shaped courtyard about 151 ft. E. to W. by 90 ft. N. to S. Of these the principal remaining portions are the Great Hall with its porch on the E. side of the courtyard and the Gatehouse range on the S. side which is connected to a second range, with subsidiary buildings. On the W. side, N. of the courtyard is the present farmhouse formed out of sixteenth-century additions to the original private apartments.

<sup>1</sup> Hasted. In *Archaeologia Cantiana*, vol. xxvii, pp. 136-166, is a series of letters from Edward Hasted to Thomas Astle. In letter no. 23, p. 157, Hasted refers to the '2nd vol. of my *History of the Ruins of the Ancient Archiepiscopal Palace of Charing*' for which he was anxious to procure an engraving. No trace of this work is to be found in the British Museum Library or MSS.

Department; if in existence it may be in some private collection.

The British Museum MSS. Department contains a number of interesting prints of the Palace buildings dating from the early part of the nineteenth century, and also some excellent pencil drawings. See Additional MSS. 32,358, vol. vi (ff. 210), pp. 14-21.

The latter are now fragmentary and represented only by a few pieces and lengths of walling. Pending any discoveries made by future excavation their form and extent must, for the moment, remain conjectural.

Sufficient, however, is left to indicate a two-storied building 21 feet wide extending northwards and connecting, perhaps, with a structure 37 ft. E. to W.

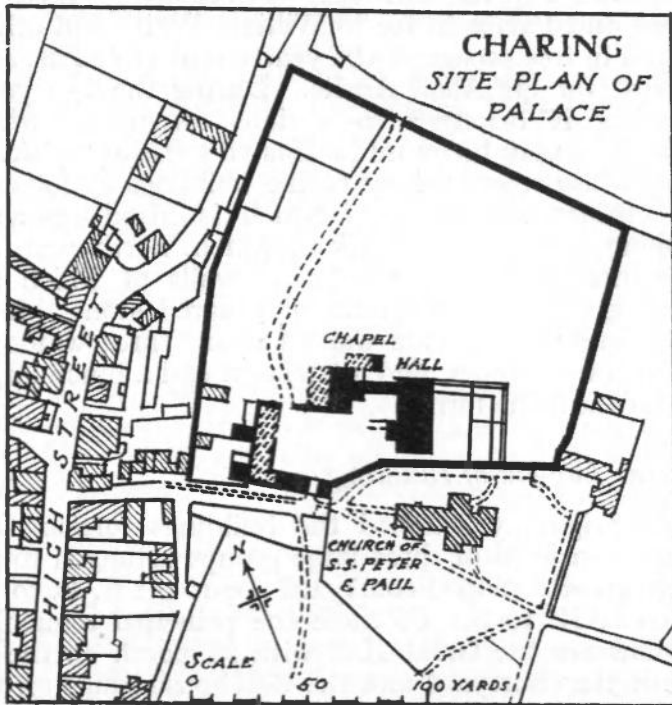


FIG. 1. SITE-PLAN

by 16 ft. N. to S. which was the Chapel. This building, also, was two-storied.

The late fifteenth-century addition is E. of the former private apartments and continues the S. frontage line. It is a three-storied building 30 ft. N. to S. by 16 ft. E. to W. with a short wing on the E. side  $13\frac{1}{2}$  ft. by  $13\frac{1}{2}$  ft. thus forming an L shaped block. North of these additions is a two-storied building of the same period  $8\frac{1}{2}$  ft. in width, extending eastwards as far as the Hall and indicated on the plan as



CHARING PALACE : THE GATEHOUSE RANGE FROM THE SOUTH-WEST, AND THE PARISH CHURCH  
(*Photograph by kind permission of "The Times"*)





A. GATEHOUSE, NORTH SIDE



B. REMAINS OF PRIVATE APARTMENTS, ETC., FROM THE NORTH-WEST



'Corridor.' It lies parallel with the chapel and with a space of  $7\frac{1}{4}$  ft. between the two buildings. West of the 'Corridor,' and also N. of the additions, is the present farmhouse kitchen, built probably in the seventeenth century. In the angle formed by the Kitchen and 'Corridor' is a scullery building added, perhaps, in the eighteenth century. It encroaches partly on the site of the Chapel.

The Great Hall which dates from the beginning of the fourteenth century is  $69\frac{1}{2}$  ft. N. to S. by 35 ft. E. to W. On the W. side and at the S. end is a porch  $12\frac{1}{2}$  ft. by  $11\frac{1}{2}$  ft. Since the time of its occupation by the archbishops the building has indeed suffered greatly; its use as a barn for a very considerable number of years has accounted largely for the almost entire disappearance of its original features, the principal exception being one window in the W. wall. The Porch is contemporary with the Hall, and the adjoining staircase turret in the angle on its N. side is a late fifteenth-century addition. Against the S. end of the Hall are the remains of a one-storey addition  $13\frac{1}{2}$  ft. in width and contemporary with the Hall. The upper part has disappeared and a lean-to roof substituted, also the eastern half of the wall has been largely rebuilt. Foundations of buildings, presumably the kitchen and other offices, are said to lie below ground E. of the Hall, but no record of their position has been kept.<sup>1</sup>

The Gatehouse range on the S. and those buildings W. of the Courtyard appear to belong to the same period as the Hall. This range is  $15\frac{1}{2}$  ft. wide and may be considered to be that part extending from the churchyard to the easternmost of the two buttresses on the S. front; a distance of 78 ft. The space between these buttresses corresponds to the internal width of the W. range. Further westward, for an average length of  $25\frac{1}{2}$  ft. is a separate building, now a cottage. It is of the same width and frontage line as the

<sup>1</sup> 'In digging near the vicarage, sewers and traces of apartments of an octagonal form have been discovered, the floors and sides being of tiles, placed similarly to those of the fire-

place over the Gateway. It has been supposed that the culinary offices were situated here; but this may be only conjecture,' *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1833, pt. ii, p. 113.

Gatehouse range. The room over the gateway was probably an apartment of some importance and on the N. side are remains of a fireplace with carved corbels adjoining.

The W. range appears, structurally, to intersect the Gatehouse range as indicated by the buttresses previously mentioned. From its southern wall it extends northwards for a length of about 95 ft. and its northernmost wall practically aligns with the S. front of the private apartments. On its W. side and  $31\frac{3}{4}$  ft. from the N. end is a two-storied building now used as a stable. It is  $22\frac{3}{4}$  feet from E. to W. by 15 ft. N. to S.

*Description of the Buildings as at present existing*

The late fifteenth-century additions to the original private apartments represent the remaining habitable parts of the structure, the main part, which is roughly L shaped, projecting southwards and eastwards. It is three-storied and the elevations facing S. and E. are built of flint rubble up to the floor level of top storey. Above this level they are of brick, relieved by vitrified headers set diagonally to form lozenge panels. The quoins are of squared stone and the window dressings, where original, are of ashlar. The roof is tiled and is hipped at the angles. Its present form is not original, and it is at a lower level with the projecting eaves cutting the heads of old windows in the top storey.

The southernmost part of the S. elevation has a window in each storey, the lowest of these is modern and the two upper, probably of eighteenth-century date, are mullioned. The middle window (to first floor) has also a transom, brick jambs and a segmental arch. The return elevation facing E. has on the first floor a blocked window with stone moulded jambs and four-centred arch under a square head, and in the storey above is a similar blocked window but with the head missing and the jambs stopped against eaves. Adjacent is a chimney projection partially corbelled. It is carried up above the eaves level, finished with a moulded brick course and surmounted by three flues grouped into one stack.

The S. elevation of the wing has in the ground storey an original doorway of stone with moulded jambs, and four-centred arch with concentric rear arch. The doorway is now covered by an eighteenth-century bay window. Above the arch is a stone tablet bearing the date 1586, which is flanked by two half-round shafts with voluted caps, the latter supporting a frieze, cornice and gabled pediment surmounted by three balls on square plinths. The two shafts stand upon shaped scrolls. On the first floor is a two-light window with moulded stone jambs and four-centred heads under square head with moulded label. In the storey above is a single-light window of similar detail; the head missing and the jambs stopped against the eaves. About level with the first floor is a plain doorway which was cut at some later date and probably when the lower part of the newel stair was removed. It is approached by a wooden step-ladder and gives access to the rooms on the top floor. The return elevation of the wing facing E. has in the ground storey at the northern end a small quatrefoil opening of stone which lighted the lower part of the former newel stair. In the upper part of the elevation are three square-headed loops with splayed edges, two of which lighted the stairway. All are now blocked with brick. On the first floor are indications of a former opening, apparently a lofty window. Internally it has plastered jambs and a roughly shaped head with wood lintel.

On the N. side of the late fifteenth-century addition is the farmhouse Kitchen with room above. It is of brickwork, the bricks being  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches in height and four courses measuring  $11\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The windows in the N. elevation are probably eighteenth-century renewals; the lower one of three lights with wood mullions and transom. The hipped tiled roof is carried back against the upper storey of the late fifteenth-century building.

The lower part of the N. front incorporates part of the chapel wall and is of flint rubble with a rough and irregular surface. Projecting northwards is a short length of broken wall which formed the W. end of the Chapel.

On the eastern side of the Kitchen is an eighteenth-century scullery addition and a small domestic office.

The W. elevation of the late fifteenth-century building and the Kitchen addition now presents a confused jumble of various constructions and periods. At the N. end is the return face of the Kitchen addition, the lower part with a thickening of brick. Continuing southwards for about half way the lower part of the wall is of rough flintwork and possibly a reconstruction as it includes two pieces of worked stone, a jamb and mullion. The upper part is of brick and contains an eighteenth-century window. Midway in the elevation is a modern door, and the wall above, which sets back slightly, is built of a mixture of brick and stone for the greater part of its height. The remainder of wall southwards and up to a short distance below the eaves is of flint rubble with irregular surface and with a set-back about 10 feet above ground level. The uppermost part of the elevation is of brick and encloses the top storey of the late fifteenth-century addition. It has a row of blocked mortices which no doubt took the ends of the roof timbers of the earlier building westwards, which has almost disappeared.

This particular building, already mentioned, formed part of the private apartments; a two-storied structure 21 feet wide. Its E. wall of flint rubble is the one just described and has, in the lower storey, the segmental head of a blocked opening with splayed and plastered soffit. At the first floor level and next to S. end wall is a recessed or blocked opening with splayed plastered jambs and ashlar quoins, a two-centred arch and relieving arch of rough stones. The back of the recess is also plastered. The S. end wall, 3 ft. thick, is of flint rubble with ashlar quoins both internally and externally. The plinth has a slight splay and at first floor level is a plain roll moulded string course with drip. The ground storey is pierced by a later round-headed doorway around which are traces of a former larger opening with two-centred head. In the wall above is part of a window with a fragment of a moulded stone jamb remaining; the internal splays are faced with brickwork of later date and below are two stone



A. GATEHOUSE RANGE, SOUTH SIDE



B. GATEHOUSE RANGE, ETC., WEST END



A. LATE FIFTEENTH-CENTURY ADDITIONS AND SOUTH SIDE OF  
"CORRIDOR" BUILDING



B. HALL AND PORCH, WEST SIDE

seats, the space between them now filled in. An old print<sup>1</sup> shows this window with a square head but this and the walling above has disappeared. Part of the W. wall remains, extending northwards for a few feet. The interior surface has remains of a coat of thin plaster.

Continuing westwards from the S.W. angle of the private apartments is part of a much thinner wall, perhaps part of a later though mediaeval building. It has two straight joints of a former opening.

The 'Corridor' building, E. and N. of the late fifteenth-century additions, is two-storied and has a hipped gabled roof. Its S. elevation is of flint rubble up to the first floor level and the upper half is of late fifteenth-century brickwork. It is entered by a doorway with chamfered stone jambs, two-centred head and wood lintel internally. A few feet eastwards is the four-centred head of a blocked window partly destroyed in forming a doorway at some later date. Further eastwards is a single-light window with moulded stone jambs and four-centred arch under a square head. The internal jambs are splayed.

In the storey above, over the doorway, is a window uniform with that just described, and eastwards, a larger window of modern date.

The N. elevation is of brick throughout. The door with window above and the window next to the E. end are later insertions, probably of eighteenth-century date. Between them, internally, is a recess or blocked opening. In the E. wall is a blocked and arched doorway with chamfered angles, and a fireplace of later date has been formed on the inner side.

The 'Corridor' extends from this doorway eastwards as a one-storey structure of the same width and with loft above. The S. wall is mostly of flint rubble and continues the adjoining work as far as a modern doorway next to the Hall. The upper part of the wall, about 3½ ft. in height, is of eighteenth-century brickwork enclosing the loft. In the western part of the wall is a low opening with an elliptical brick arch; it is now blocked and the space above is roughly

<sup>1</sup> *Gentleman's Magazine*, Oct. 1833, pl. i, p. 297.



patched with brick and stone. The lower part of the N. wall contains some old stonework but the greater part is of brick and was built probably during the eighteenth century.

Internally the house retains but few original features. The ground floor of the wing appears to have been an entrance hall, and its entrance doorway covered now by the bay window has been described. Opposite and opening into the corridor is another doorway, now blocked, and which has moulded jambs and four-centred arch. In the N.E. corner was originally a newel stair of wood, but the top part at second floor level and consisting of six solid steps with a plain circular post are the only remains. The staircase hall westwards has in its ceiling a roughly chamfered beam, and in the ceiling above the first floor are boldly splayed wall beams. The stairs are of late seventeenth- or early eighteenth-century date with massive moulded handrail and string but modern balusters.

On the top floor is an original stone fireplace with hollow chamfered angles and four-centred head, but generally the fittings are work of the late eighteenth or early nineteenth centuries.

### *The Chapel*

Of this building scarcely anything remains and it is now represented by the lower part of the E. wall and about 11 ft. of the adjoining N. and S. walls. A fragment of thick wall projecting from the N. face of the Kitchen has been taken to represent its western termination. Hasted refers to a S. wall with three windows but these no longer exist.

The Chapel was two-storied; the lower storey about 8 ft. in height. The walls are 3 ft. 3 in. in thickness and are built of flint rubble, but the dressings and quoins have disappeared except two pieces of ashlar on the S.E. angle. The internal surface retains some thin coating of plaster. The walls are set back internally at the first floor level and are morticed for large joists. In the lower part of the E. wall is a rough opening, formerly a window, with remains of a relieving

arch and splayed jambs. Above, internally, are two short lengths of splays formerly part of an E. window or recess belonging to it. An old print<sup>1</sup> shows the remains at the E. wall and a lofty opening the dressings of which had then disappeared, but the outline as depicted suggests a window with a two-centred arch. None of this now remains.

### *The Great Hall*

The Hall is remarkable for an almost complete absence of original features other than the window in the W. wall, two corbels N. of same and a few fragments of door or window jambs. The walls are  $3\frac{1}{4}$  ft. in thickness and are built of flint rubble with a few ashlar dressings remaining.

At the N.E. and N.W. angles are roughened surfaces marking, probably, the positions of former buttresses, and in the upper part of the N. wall is a comparatively modern opening for the admission of hay and straw.

The northern part of the E. wall, for a length of 27 ft., is of greatly reduced thickness and may have been rebuilt. In the lower part is a short length of a stone jamb belonging to a former window. Southwards for another 27 ft. or thereabouts is a huge gap partly refilled by framing and weather-boarding, also a lofty gateway for the passage of hay carts. From the gap to the S.E. corner the original wall remains. Some bonding stones are introduced in the flintwork. At the S.E. end is an original buttress, the lower part is built of ashlar but the upper part has been reconstructed with late fifteenth-century brickwork and stopped some distance below the eaves. A large patch of wall above and northwards has been refaced or rebuilt in the same material; 10 ft. northwards is the broken projection of a second buttress.

The northern half of the W. wall possesses no features except some worked stones indicating a former doorway and window just S. of it. Internally a large portion has been refaced with brickwork. Midway in the wall is a gap, now a doorway, for the hay carts, and

<sup>1</sup> *Gentleman's Magazine*, Aug. 1833, pl. ii, p. 113.

just southwards is a broken surface 3 ft. in width marking the position of a former buttress. Internally, on either side of the gap are two carved stone corbels, quite low down and about 10 ft. above floor level. In the wall above each corbel is a strip of brickwork marking the position of a former groove or chase. This seems to suggest that the original roof trusses were arched and stopped against a lofty wall-post which was partly set in the wall. Both the corbels are damaged and the northern one is carved to represent a small human figure with a large head and head-dress of three points, also what appears to be the hind part of an animal. South of this point is the only remaining noteworthy feature of the Hall, an original window of two lights with trefoiled heads and a large octofoil forming tracery under a two-centred moulded arch with moulded label. The jambs are moulded and the window is divided midway by a transom over two trefoiled heads. Internally are splayed jambs supporting a two-centred and chamfered rear arch. The upper heads and part of the tracery have been mostly destroyed and filled with later brickwork pierced by a modern opening. The transom and lower heads remain but the mullion has disappeared and the space blocked.

On the internal face of N. wall and centrally is a large slab of marble with decayed surface 4 ft. 5 in. high by 3 ft. 10 in. wide. The lower edge is a few inches above the present floor level. It possibly formed the back of the Archbishops' chair of state.<sup>1</sup>

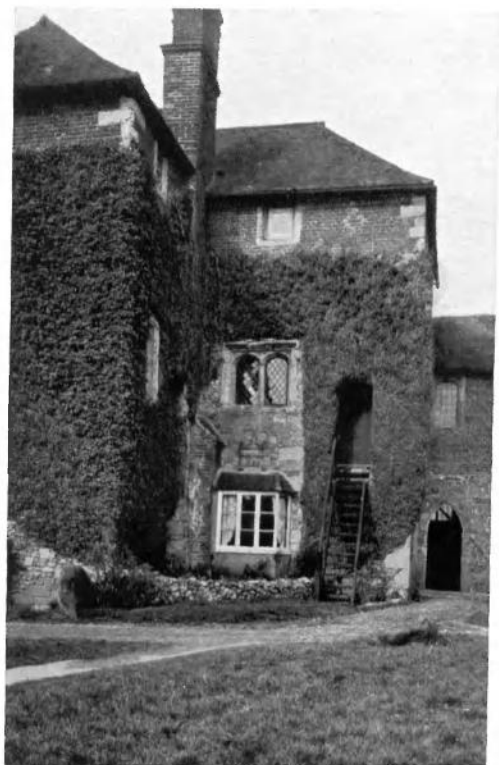
In the S. wall are three doorways closely spaced but not central; they have brick jambs and pointed arches and are of uncertain date. The westernmost of these openings occupies the position of an original door; one springer of an arch also the relieving arch still remain in the wall above. Next to the S.E. angle are traces of a blocked door with one arch stone still in position. The upper part of the S. wall has been partially rebuilt with brick, and midway is a large gap for the passage of hay, etc. The outer surface retains some old plastering.

<sup>1</sup> The slab is referred to in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1833, pt. ii, p. 113.



A. HALL AND STAIR-TURRET, WEST SIDE

*To face page 90.*



B. LATE FIFTEENTH-CENTURY ADDITIONS,  
SOUTH SIDE

PLATE VI.



The oast house in the S.W. corner of the Hall is probably of eighteenth-century date. No part of the original roof remains. The present roof, which may be work of the seventeenth century, is of double gabled form hipped at both ends. It is divided into five bays by kingpost trusses with slightly curved struts, the tie-beams being also strutted and supported midway in the length of the Hall by square posts.

### *The Porch*

This is entered on the W. side. The original doorway with chamfered jambs and two-centred arch is now blocked with brickwork through which the present doorway has been formed. On either side are two small windows with trefoil heads; one internal jamb of each is splayed and the other is flush with the side walls. On the S. side close to the S.W. angle is a narrow and blocked doorway with rebated jambs and two-centred head. Internally is a deep recess, the wall of this side being  $3\frac{3}{4}$  ft. in thickness and the doorway no doubt opened to a very narrow stair leading to a gallery over the "screens" as well as to the roof; for higher up, next to the angle of S. and W. walls of the Hall, is a diagonal projection corbelled out as if to enclose a circular stair. The doorway from the porch to the Hall has disappeared and all that now remains is a blocked opening with jagged edges.

In the W. face of the upper storey is a late fifteenth-century single-light window with moulded jambs and a four-centred arch under a segmental head with moulded label, also splayed internal jambs and a two-centred rear arch. In the N. wall is a window with two-centred head.

In the angle formed by the Porch and the Hall is a semi-octagonal turret, the upper part of which has been demolished. It formerly enclosed a circular stair which no longer remains. The turret is of brick, with ashlar quoins, and is lighted by a square-headed loop window on its N.W. side. A modern doorway has been made from the courtyard. There is still an opening from the porch to the turret but the actual doorway has disappeared.



The porch internally is now divided into three stories. The walls above are thinly coated with plaster and the stone jambs of the doorway opening to the upper part of the stairs are still in position.

The gabled roof of the porch is hipped and its northern slope is prolonged down to cover the turret. Adjoining the S. end of the Hall are the remains of a building of contemporary date. The lower part only of the S. wall exists and of this the eastern half has been rebuilt with old material. At the western end is a fragment of a return wall and next to the S.E. angle of the Hall are traces of an east end wall. The ends are now enclosed by modern gates and weatherboarding and the lean-to roof is continued down from the adjoining slope. Part of the internal wall surface is plastered.

### *The Gatehouse Range*

In the eastern part is the gateway, 10 ft. wide and with a separate foot passage  $5\frac{1}{4}$  ft. wide, east of which is an apartment  $7\frac{1}{2}$  ft. in width, possibly a porter's room. The building immediately W. of the gateway for a length of 40 ft. has been partially converted into a cottage, while the remainder is roofless and its western partition wall has disappeared. The walling is of flint rubble with ashlar dressings to the openings, etc.

The gateway openings on the S. side have two centred and low pitched arches of two orders, with the chamfers continued down the jambs. At the S.E. end of the range are restored buttresses with splayed offsets. The front of the present cottage has traces of original two-light windows and further westward is a blocked two-light window with remains of trefoil-headed lights; internally it has splayed jambs but the rear arch is gone.

On the N. side the gate openings have two centred and chamfered arches of low pitch, the larger one of two orders, and square jambs below. Immediately W. is a large blocked doorway, with two-centred arch. Continuing westward is more blocking, probably the position of a window, and close to the end of the wall

is a blocked two-light window uniform with that opposite; the rear arch is also missing. E. of the gateway is a single trefoil-headed light with one splayed and one straight jamb internally, and next to it is a blocked doorway with a two-centred and chamfered arch. These belong to the 'porter's room' which is now entered by a modern doorway from the churchyard. Above the doorway, and also in storey over, is a blocked single-light window with trefoil head.

The gateway passages are separated by a wall which is pierced by a two-centred and chamfered arch. The wall between the larger way and the cottage has a narrow blocked doorway with a two-centred and chamfered arch. Next to it is a rectangular loop light. A vault above the wide gateway appears to have been contemplated as there are corbels in the angles; these are broken and one has a grotesque head supporting the springer of a double-chamfered diagonal rib. It is doubtful whether the intended vault was built. In the N. wall above the gateway are the remains of a fireplace with projecting chamfered jambs finished by rounded corbels which formerly supported a hooded top, but this has disappeared. Adjoining the jambs are two carved corbels with foliage and moulded abaci of early fourteenth-century character. The back of the fireplace is of tiles laid herring-bone.<sup>1</sup>

In the S.E. angle of the 'porter's room' is a large square projection of sufficient size to contain a circular stair but there is no entrance visible.

The W. range of buildings appears on plan to intercept the Gatehouse range, and its southern end, flanked by two buttresses, continues the same frontage line which is carried further westward by a two-storied building, now a cottage, and which is of the same depth as the Gatehouse range.

In the upper storey, N. side, is a blocked single-light window with chamfered jambs and two-centred head, and in the storey below is a square-headed loop,

<sup>1</sup> The fireplace and corbels are illustrated in the Additional MSS. quoted in footnote on p. 81.

also blocked. The W. end and S. side have loop windows, one in each storey and all of which are blocked. The present doors and windows appear to be late eighteenth-century insertions and it was probably during this period that the one-storey wash-house on the N. side was built.

The range of buildings W. of the courtyard are now ruined and incomplete. The S. end wall, previously mentioned, is two stories in height and is flanked by two buttresses with splayed offsets. In the lower storey is an eighteenth-century or modern doorway and in the upper storey is an original loop window with splayed jambs internally. The first floor level is indicated on the inner side by a set-back. The lower part of the W. wall remains for its entire length, also parts of its superstructure. The southernmost part forms the side of the cottage at the W. end of the Gatehouse range and is set back at first floor level. Next to the S. wall is some rough blocking to a former doorway and above is a second and narrow blocked doorway with ashlar jambs and two-centred arch. Between the cottage and the building now used as a stable, for a length of  $26\frac{1}{2}$  ft. the wall has been reduced to one storey. Its internal face is much broken and retains four blocked openings, one only of which is perfect. The middle one was possibly a doorway and is now marked by a recess on the outside. Northwards is a fairly well preserved window of one light with chamfered angles, trefoiled head and splayed jambs internally. Southwards are parts of the outer jambs of two small single-light windows, also the remains of a two-centred and chamfered rear arch belonging to one of them. The northern half of the W. wall is two-storied. It contains two rough doorways opening to the 'stable' building and its loft over. Northwards is a single-light trefoil-headed window uniform with the one described. Above this are the jambs and sill of a similar window. Near to the N. end of the wall is a smaller single-light window with chamfered angles and two-centred head. Between the windows are pieces of a rough two-centred arch with patched walling below. The internal surface is much broken and

partly destroyed. This part of the range has been used as a cowshed over a long period.

The N. end wall, with broken internal surface, partly encloses the cowsheds, and the remainder eastwards together with a fragment of the E. wall is but a few feet in height. The southern half of the E. wall is left, a length of 40 ft. N. of the Gatehouse range and one storey in height. It has two blocked doorways with chamfered angles and two centred arches. Between them is a blocked two-light window with jambs remaining, also traces of what may have been another window.

The range is still divided by the lower half of a cross wall and southwards is the broken end of a cross wall that continued the northern face of the Gatehouse range.

The building on the W. side of the range now used as a stable appears to have been lighted only by loop windows; there is one in the upper storey of the S. and W. sides respectively. The present doors are of much later date.

Attached to the Palace buildings is an enclosure about 5 acres in extent, of four-sided and irregular shape. A large amount of old wall remains, built of flint rubble, and the wall adjoining the churchyard is no doubt mediaeval. In that part near the Porch of the Hall are the jambs of a former doorway which afforded ready access to the Church.

In conclusion, I must express my thanks to Mr. A. W. Clapham, F.S.A., for several valuable suggestions as well as his opinion on some doubtful points. I am also especially indebted to Miss I. J. Churchill, D.Phil., Assistant Librarian of Lambeth Palace Library, for her kindness in making the two extracts from the Lambeth Court Rolls which are appended to this article, and also to the Rev. Canon Claude Jenkins, D.D., F.S.A., for help in this connection.

## APPENDIX

## LAMBETH COURT ROLLS: EXTRACTS RELATING TO CHARING

*Lambeth Court Roll 302*

Charryng' Compotus Johannis Knyght Custodis manerii  
ibidem A Festo Sancti Michaelis Anno regni regis  
Henrici Sexti xxv<sup>to</sup> usque dictum Festum extunc  
proxim' sequens anno predicti Regis xxvj<sup>to</sup>

Custus dom'  
manerii

De quibus comput[at] soluc' Johanni Pevyntone  
& seruiente (*sic*) suo tegulat' & latamis conduct'  
per lxxviiiij dies pro diuersis defect[ibus] domorum  
et murorum infra manerium reparand[is] & faci[endes]  
vbi magis necess[itas] fuerit hoc anno ca[piendo]  
per diem xd. lxvs. Et in 1 laborar[io] cond' per  
xlvj dies ad seruendum predict' tegulat' & latam'  
ca[piendo] per diem iiijd.—xvs. iiijd. Et in xliij qr.  
calcis emptis ad idem qrs. ad viijd.—xxviij. viijd.  
Et in xv lod[is] gabuli cariad' ad dictum opus pro  
qualibet lod' iijd.—iij. ix. Et in xiiij cariag[iis] lapid'  
empt' pro muris faciend[is] & reparand[is] infra maner-  
ium cum cariag[iis] eorundem pro cariag[iis] ix.—vjs.  
Et in xxij lod[is] de flynt empt' cum car' prec' car'  
iiijd.—viij. iiijd. Et in iij<sup>m</sup> tegulis empt[is] cum  
carvag[iis] eiusdem m<sup>e</sup> ad iij. xvjs. Et in xxvj de  
Ryggetyle empt' ijs ijd. Et in L corner tiles (?)  
emptis precio pecie ob. ijs. jd. Et in 1 Carpent[ario]  
conduct' tam pro reparacione & factura Rakkes et  
Mang[er]is in stabulo domini postiis grangiarum  
[?] emendandis pro letty [lettis] fenestrall. in  
cameris domini quam in capella domini & similiter  
lettis<sup>1</sup> faciend' vt patet per parcell' super hunc  
compotum ostens' exonerat p[rou]t p[er] viij [dies] di.  
vjs. ix. ob. Et in ij Carpent[ariis] conduct' pro  
meremis prostrand' & cindend[is] in bosco domini  
pro reparacione predicta quam per x dies ca[piendo]  
per diem inter se xjd.—ixs. ijd. vt patet per parcell'  
wide ostens'. Et solut' pro ij cariag[iis] meremij de  
bosco domini xvjd. Et in ix<sup>e</sup> clauis empt[is] ad  
idem vt p[latet] in dict' parcell' ijs. ix. Et in iij<sup>m</sup>  
de prignail' empt[is] ad idem m<sup>e</sup> ad xd. ijs. vjd.  
Et in . . . & in 1 tribulo empt' pro stauro  
manerii xiiijd. Et in j sole pro latamo empt' xd.

Summa viijli. xs. xd. ob.

*Lambeth Court Roll 303.*

Charryng' Compotus Johannis Knyght Custodis manerii ibidem  
A Festo Sancti Michaelis Archangeli Anno regni  
regis Henrici vj<sup>to</sup> xxvj<sup>to</sup> usque dictum Festum Sancti  
Michaelis extunc proxim' sequens Anno Regis  
predicte xxvij<sup>mo</sup>.

Custus dom'

De quibus computat solut' Johanni Pevyngtone & seriuent[i] suo tegulator' & cement' cond' per liij dies dj. pro diuersis reparac[ionibus] super domos manerij ibidem faciend[is] hoe anno vt in tegulac[i]one earundem & murorum lapidiorum subtus diuersis dom[ibus] reparand[um] & emend[andum] ca[piendo] per diem inter se xd.—xliiij. vijd. Et in i labor[ario] cond' ad idem deseruiend[um] per xvij d[ies] ca[piendo] per diem iiij.—vjs. Et in xxij quart. calc' empt[is] pro quart. viijd.—xiijs. viijd. Et in xij lod[is] zabuli cariad' ad manerium pro reparac[ionibus] manerij le lode ad iij.—iij. Et in viij lod[is] lapid[um] empt' pro diuersis mur[is] infra manerium reparand[is] & faciend[is] cum caria[gi]o eorundem iiij.—ijs. viijd. Et in iiij<sup>m</sup> tegul' empt[is] cum caria[gi]o eorundem pro m<sup>i</sup>, iiij.—xvjs. Et in ccc ped. meremij sarrand' pro poota grangie de nouo faciend[a] pro c<sup>ma</sup> xiiij.—iij. vjd. Et in ix<sup>o</sup> ped. tabul' sarrand' c<sup>ma</sup> ad xij.—ixs. Et solut' cuidam Carpent[ario] cond' cum seriuyente suo per xxij dies pro reparacione le Tresaunce inter aulam & coquinam & dictam portam grangie de nouo faciend[am] cum reparac[i]one domus bouar[ie] ibidem ca[piendo] per diem inter se xjd.—xxs. ijd. Et in vij lod[is] meremij de bosco domini de Broke usque manerium cariad' pro j lode, vjd.—iij. vjd. Et in ij labor[ariis] cond' per i diem pro dicto meremio in caret[is] disponend' & subleuand' viijd. Et in carpent[ario] cond' cum seriuyente suo per v dies dj. pro emend[acione] Camere prioris infra manerium ca[piendo] per diem inter se xjd.—vs. iiij. Et in ijm<sup>i</sup> prygg' emptis m<sup>i</sup> ad viijd., xvjd. Et in c clau[is] emptis vd. Et in iiij<sup>o</sup> clau[is] emptis c<sup>ma</sup> ad iiij.—xvjd. Et in iiij<sup>o</sup> clau[is] emptis C<sup>ma</sup> ad iij.—xij. Et in iiij Vertinell[is] c gumph[is] emptis pro porta grang[ie] deseruiend' xij ob. Et in ij Serur[is] emptis pro hostiis de la storehouse imponend' & firmand' viijd. Et in i dawbatore cond' per ij dies pro diuersis muris defractis reparand' et emend' viijd. Et in diuersis reparacionibus dom[orum] manerii ibidem hoc anno factis per Rec[eptorem] vt in Roginaldo [sic] at hale Joynour & aliis Carpent[ariis] cond' ac pro tabul' vocat' Waynescote claus & aliis necessariis emptis et factis vt patet per billam ipsius Rec[eptoris] de parcell[is] inde ostens' exonerat' & probat' cont' vij li. xiijs. vd.

Summa xiiij li. xs. ob.