

artifacts of Creswellian type, which include three beautiful microliths, similar to those found in the lowest Creswellian horizon of Whaley Cave; also a number of microlithic flakes exhibiting no secondary flaking, and a small bone awl.

The yellow cave earth, of Mousterian age, has been examined to a depth of one foot in a central cross section of the cave, upon which work is now in progress. This has yielded evidence of occasional, but not extensive, occupation by man indicated by the presence of charcoal, flaked quartzite pebbles and a large pebble poulder bearing traces of bruising at the ends; also fragments of split bones. The bones are heavily mineralized and the evidence of water-logging of the cave earth is conspicuous throughout. From this section teeth of *Hyaena*, Horse, Bison and Reindeer have been removed. The total depth of the deposit has not yet been ascertained.

EXCAVATIONS AT CASTLE WOOD, PINXTON.

By G. E. MONK.

EXCAVATIONS have been in progress during 1950 and 1951 on the site of the earthwork — figured on the Ordnance Survey sheets as “Moat” — known as Pinxton Castle. A somewhat inconclusive description of this motte and bailey type defence work appeared in Vol. XL for 1918 by William Stevenson.

After several trial digs in 1950 it was decided to concentrate on a trench, running roughly 30° West of North on the westerly side of the inner bailey. This trench revealed a wall of bonded stone, no trace of cement being found. A corner stone at the north end of the trench was located and excavations proceeded at right angles until conditions stopped operations.

Post holes at intervals along the wall suggest a timber-framed building.

Owing to the ground on this side of the building being

unsuitable for digging in the early Summer of 1951 it was thought advisable to locate and excavate the opposite side of the building, and trenches have located this eastern wall. Here the wall is by no means as well defined as on the westerly side but it is hoped to join the various trenches and complete the outside excavations in 1952.

Although the walls are not complete the evidence tends to show that the building was approximately 30 ft. x 23 ft.

During the trench excavations an abundance of roofing stone, glazed and unglazed roofing tiles, has been found. The glazed ridge tiles are serrated. The glaze varies in colour being nigger brown, reddish brown and grey-green.

Fragments of pottery were found in all the trenches but no complete pots have been found. The pottery varies in texture and size, some of the pots having the glaze inside and some outside. One of the larger pieces of tile, having a very interesting series of finger and thumb patterns, appears to be a 'louvre'. Both the pottery and the tiles have been identified as late 14th century.

One interesting feature was the discovery of a stone platform — 7 ft. 6 ins. x 5 ft. — on the North-East corner of the inner bailey. This "platform" consists of bevelled stones neatly laid on three sides, there being no defined boundary on the fourth side. Here again the trenchwork revealed roofing tiles and pottery, together with a sandstone capital the age of which has been estimated at 1150.

It has not been possible to fix strata levels during the excavations as the site is wooded and tree roots make it impossible to apply the finer points of field archæology. Roughly speaking the pottery has been found at the same levels. The roofing tiles are found at varying depths both inside and outside the wall.

It has not yet been possible to locate the floor level, and it is realised that many seasons' digging will be necessary before a very clear picture of the original layout can be obtained.

The excavations have been carried out by members of the Pinxton Archæological Society.