

BECKET'S BARN, PAGHAM

(Pagham Rectory)

BY A. H. COLLINS, M.A., AND LINDSAY FLEMING, F.S.A.

THE HISTORICAL RECORD

It would seem that a romantic statement by Dallaway —“ Archbishop Thomas à Becket was frequently established here with a large retinue ”¹—is the origin of the ascription of Becket's revered name to a site, occupied now by a Barn and walls, about 70 yards to the south-east of Pagham Church (Plan 1.). On the Ordnance Survey Map² these are noted as the Remains of an Archiepiscopal Palace. Pagham belonged to the Archbishops of Canterbury till the Reformation and several famous Primates came to Pagham in the Middle Ages, but the only documentary evidence yet found of Becket's actual presence in Pagham is afforded by a deed issued there by him, transcribed in the Boxgrove Cartulary.³

The Barn is known to-day as Becket's Barn, but is given no name on the Tithe Award of 1849. As noted below, it was called in the seventeenth century the Parsonage Barn, and it seems indisputable that the buildings at Pagham to be described are the humbler, but still interesting, relics of Pagham Rectory, where the fruits of this rich living were garnered and where the farmer of the Rectory once lived. The farm buildings, yard and adjoining land, comprising the Rectory, are thus described in a Survey of 1854:⁴ “ Pagham Rectory otherwise Pagham Parsonage, situate in the

¹ James Dallaway, *A History of the Western Division of the County of Sussex*, vol. I (1815), Parochial Topography, p. 36. The myth of a Palace of Vespasian at Bosham was exploded by Miss G. M. White, *S.A.C.* LXXVI. 193-200. Pottery discovered would seem to have affinity with some of that described on p. 148.

² Sussex (West) Sheet LXXIII. 12 and 16, Revision of 1933, Scale 1/2,500, enclosure 456.

³ Cott. MS. Claud. A. VI, fol. 145 v.

⁴ Belonging to Mr. A. W. Rusbridge.

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PLAN 1.

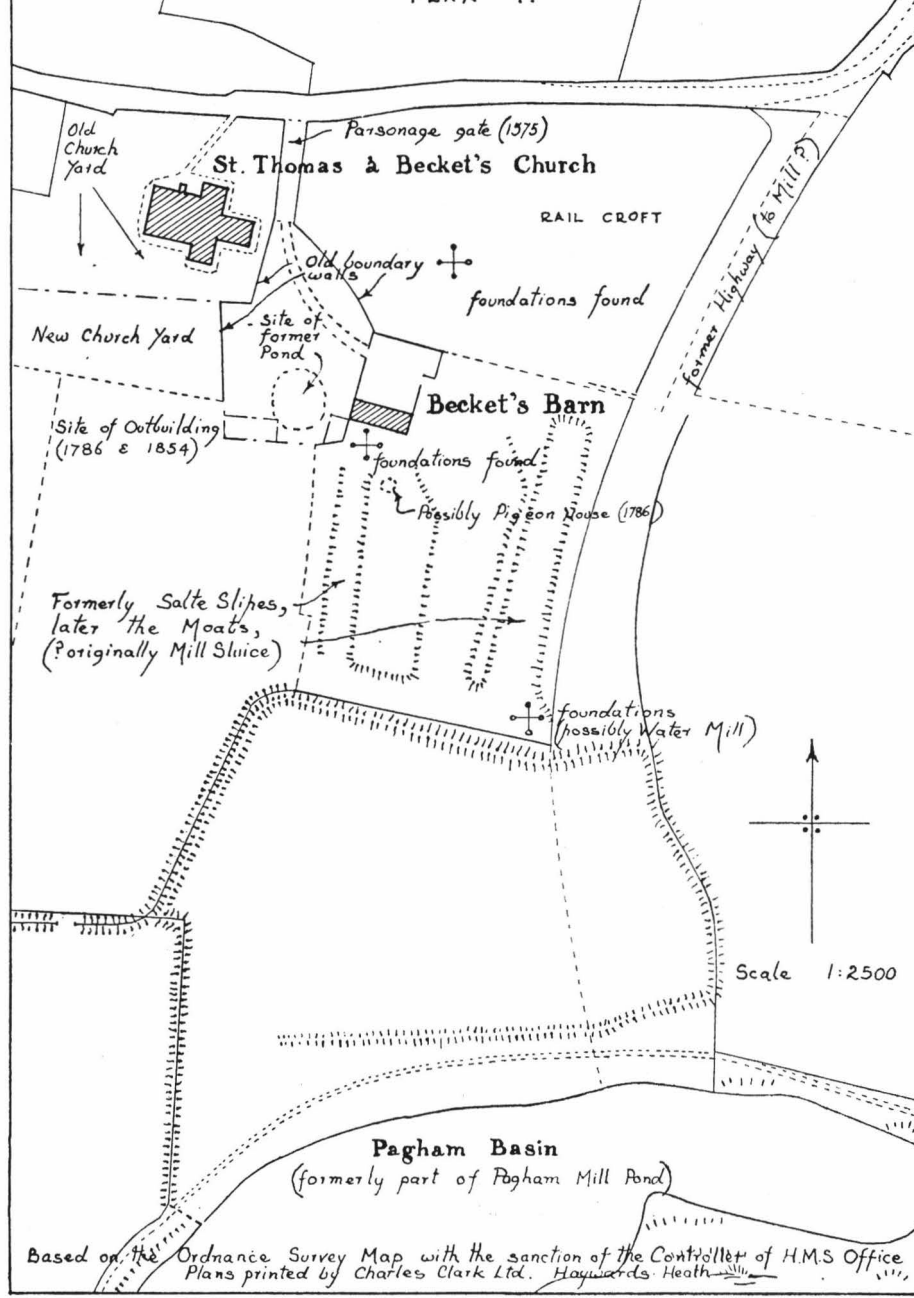




PLATE I. BECKET'S BARN AND PAGHAM CHURCH, early 20th century



PLATE II. BECKET'S BARN, from the south-west, July, 1956



PLATE III. DOUBLE WINDOW OPENING in north wall of Becket's Barn, August, 1956

Parish of Pagham in the Hundred of Aldwick and Tithing of Pagham and Nytimber and County of Sussex; is reputed to be a Manor of itself and formerly containing by estimation about Forty four statute acres, but on account of encroachments made by the Sea these last few years a considerable part of the Lord's Land south of Pagham Church is now destroyed."¹

In the Survey of the Manor of Aldwick, made in 1786, there is similar reference to Pagham Parsonage, "reputed to be a Lordship or Manor of itself." The site of our investigation is no. 452, Barns and Fold, given no name.

The earliest reference in documents to the site would appear to be of the year 1299. In course of the dispute between Edward I and Archbishop Winchelsey it is recorded that in October 1299 some sons of evil in great number invaded the houses of the rectory of Pagham; and again the same month a gathering with banners displayed besieged the church and the houses thereof; they prevented the rector's men from going out or from receiving victuals, and carried away and consumed the rector's corn.²

Other, more detailed, references to the buildings are to be found in the documents of Canterbury College, Oxford, in course of publication by the Oxford Historical Society.³ The costs of the repairs of the rectory are entered from about 1380 to 1444. A stone wall was made about 1380 from the granary to the door of the court (*ad portam curie*) with another portion of mud wall from the granary by the cemetery to the end of the barn.⁴ There is record of repairs done around the great hall (*magnam aulam*) and rooms (*cameras*) with some fencing (*clausuris*), 1382.⁵ In the Warden's account, 1443-1444, are records of various expenses at Pagham, for repair of the granary, for ten loads of

¹ This has now been recovered.

² Lindsay Fleming, *History of Pagham*, i, p. 74.

³ W. A. Pantin, *Canterbury College Oxford* (Oxford Historical Society, New Series, Vols. VI, VII, VIII), Vols. I, II and III, especially II, 127-175 and III, 207-226. Vol. IV has not yet been published.

⁴ *Ibid.* II, 127.

⁵ *Ibid.* II, 131.

“fryth” for enclosing pasture on the west part, for making a ditch from the same part, for repair of the dove-cot (*columbarii*), for two padlocks (*ceris pendul*) for doors of the barns (*orriorum*), for two locks (*ceris*) to the door of the granary and the outside gate of the rectory, in repair of roofing of barns, for “sparres” and “wythes” for the same, for repair of doors of the northern barn, for two “sley-gates” newly made, and for small hooks with rides or hinges (*hamunculis cum vertinellis*) for the same.¹

To the south of the Barn are mounds and depressions, shown in more regular shape than at present on the 1786 Manorial Map and called the Moat or Moats in 1786 and 1854. They appear to have no relation to the present buildings and were, it is advanced, vivaries or fish ponds, such as were frequent in association with monasteries² or manor houses,³ or perhaps sluices for Pagham water-mill. Masonry in the south-east corner of the Moats meadow may be the remains of this mill. Its construction, namely with the use of fine shingle in the mortar, suggests that it is of the same period as the Barn. A rental of lands belonging to the parsonage of Pagham, 1575, gives the name “salte slipes” or “the slipe grounde” to the Moats meadow, as termed later, and is described: “One piece of ‘salte slipes’ by estimation 6 ac., adjoining the highway on the east, the ‘mill pon’ aforesaid on the south, the great field and ‘Foure Acres’ on the west, and the stone barn of the parsonage on the north.” The document continues: “A croft called ‘the Rail crofte’⁴ by estimation 2 acres, adjoining the highway on the north and east, the ‘slipes’ aforesaid on the south, and the parsonage gate on the west. . . .”⁵

¹ *Ibid.* II, 166. The latter word should be *vertivellis*. (L. F. Salzman, *Building in England* (1952), p. 296).

² See David Knowles and J. K. St. Joseph, *Monastic Sites from the Air*, (1952), e.g., p. 172, where the same alternative explanation of similar excavations is suggested.

³ For example, at Bowley in this neighbourhood. See Fleming, *op. cit.*, i, p. 160.

⁴ See p. 144.

⁵ Lambeth Library. *Chartae Miscellaneæ*, Vol. XIII (1), No. 8.

A survey of the rectory of Pagham in 1650 refers to: "all that the parsonage and rectory of Pagham consisting of a parsonage house commonly called the Chantry House, being a little tenement, the great barns and other outhouses, two barns, a little stone house for fodder and a large yard, commonly called the Parsonage Barn Yard."¹ "A Survey of the Sussex Estates of the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury," taken in 1671, records at Pagham: "There is no howse nor sign of a howse but neere the Churchyarde are 2 barnes neither small nor greate. The one is boarded on the sides and thatched above, The other of stoan walls and tyled on the cover, neere them standeth a good rounde stoan pigeon howse well stored, and in good repayre, except a graynery that wanteth mending."²

THE BUILDINGS (Plan 2.)

The erections to be seen above ground now are the Barn, with walls about 2ft. 6in. thick built of stone rubble; retaining walls of a yard adjoining to the north; thick walls of another building once in the north-east corner of the yard, and walls of a building to the south-west of the Barn shown roofed and thatched in a photograph of the early 20th century (Plate I).³ The present aspect of the Barn from the south-west is shown in Plate II. The stone used is principally from the Bognor and Barn Rocks, off the neighbouring sea shore, with some glacier boulders from the same, and the Mixen Rock from the Selsey shore. There are also some worked stones perhaps from Caen resembling stone in the tower of Clymping church; most of these form part of the north-west quoin of the Barn (Plate II).

In the north wall of the Barn to the west, 4ft. 6in. to sill from the ground, is a blocked two-light window with plain chamfered jambs and matching square heads and sills. On the left may be seen part of a wide

¹ Fleming, *op. cit.* i, pp. 259-60.

² S.A.C. LIII. 196-7.

³ See p. 144.

internal splay and in the left jamb trace of a socket perhaps for a hinged shutter (Plate III). The window is not visible inside. It is difficult to date this window, and it may be a re-build. To east of it, at ground level, are the plinths, slightly chamfered, and the sill, of a blocked doorway, also not visible inside. At the east end of the north wall is a broken corbel stone, 12ft. from the ground.

High up externally on the north wall, approximately over the western side of the blocked doorway, mentioned in the last paragraph, are the remains, about 28ft. from the west end, of an offset and there are corresponding remains internally on the north side of the south wall. The internal remains might indicate the east end of an undercroft, with solar over, of a mediaeval hall, but it is difficult to see the purpose of the external offset.

In the gable of the west wall are the jambs of two square blocked lights, and, below these, two holes with remains of timber (Plate II). In the north and south walls are central openings. These may have been made when the building was converted to agricultural use. The east wall is a rebuild on the original footings. The south wall is supported by two modern buttresses not shown in the photograph (Plate I).

Inside, in the south-west corner at first floor level is a segmental-headed blocked doorway, with one plain chamfered jamb (Plate IV). This feature is in the style of the first half of the thirteenth century.¹ At a higher level than this doorway, on the inside of the west wall, was an opening, now blocked, with remains of jambs formed of chamfered stones similar to those of the doorway. In the south wall to the west, the base 2ft. 6in. from the floor, is a recess in the wall with remains of jambs., that might have been a cupboard rather than a window. To a height of about 8ft. from the floor the masonry on three sides at the west

¹ Miss Margaret E. Wood, M.A., D.LIT., F.S.A., confidently ascribes this date to the door, but cannot be positive regarding date of the two-light window mentioned above.

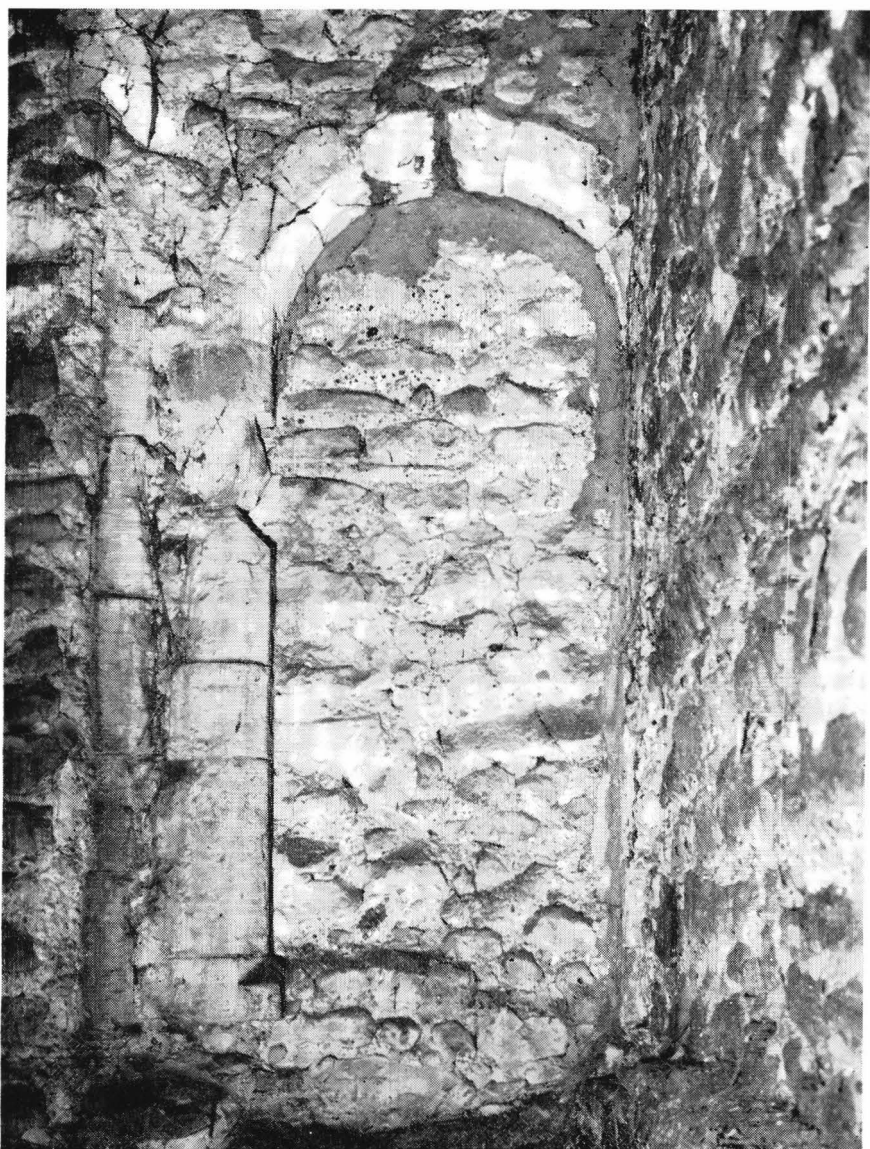


PLATE IV. DOORWAY AT FIRST-FLOOR LEVEL in south-west corner, inside Becket's Barn, May, 1957 (*Chichester Photographic Service Ltd.*)

end of the Barn has a slight projection compared with the upper part of these walls, suggesting existence once of a floor at this height; or the projection may be the top of a re-lining of the interior, thus covering the door and window seen externally on the north wall, when the large openings were made for use of the building as a barn. Towards the east end of the north wall the stones are arranged in a manner suggesting that there might have been a large hooded fireplace.

THE EXCAVATIONS

In the Barn, excavations afforded no evidence as to domestic use of the building. There appeared to have been a succession of packed floors. At 12in. to 16in. below the present floor was a white mortar layer in which were some blue roughly triangular slates, of the type from Devon and Cornish quarries that have been traced on south coast sites as early as the 12th and 13th centuries.¹ Another layer of shingle with mortar on clay occurred at 17in. to 19in. down. If the original floor was at the level of the external plinth and sill of the blocked door, this has now been entirely lost. Nothing was found at base of the supposed fireplace to confirm that such had existed.

Excavations disclosed, from continuity of footings, that the wall projecting southwards from the south-west corner of the Barn is coterminous with the Barn. This suggested that there was another contemporary building to the south. The wall projecting from the north-west corner is not part of the original plan. The wall projecting northwards from the north-east corner of the Barn is on footings coterminous with the Barn. But the wall finishes at the present field-gate which therefore represents an original entrance. It was found that the present eastern end of the Barn, though modern, is on the original footings, so that the Barn did not extend further eastwards.²

An interesting feature on the north side of the Barn was a stretch of packed large cobble with some pieces of building stone; it was about 5ft. wide against the Barn wall and ran back for at least 28ft. north across the yard at a depth of approximately 3ft. to 3ft. 9in. At the Barn wall it was not quite in alignment with the sides of the blocked doorway, but projected towards the west. Moreover, it appeared to run through under the foundations of the Barn wall; and, when we searched for it internally, we found with the probe

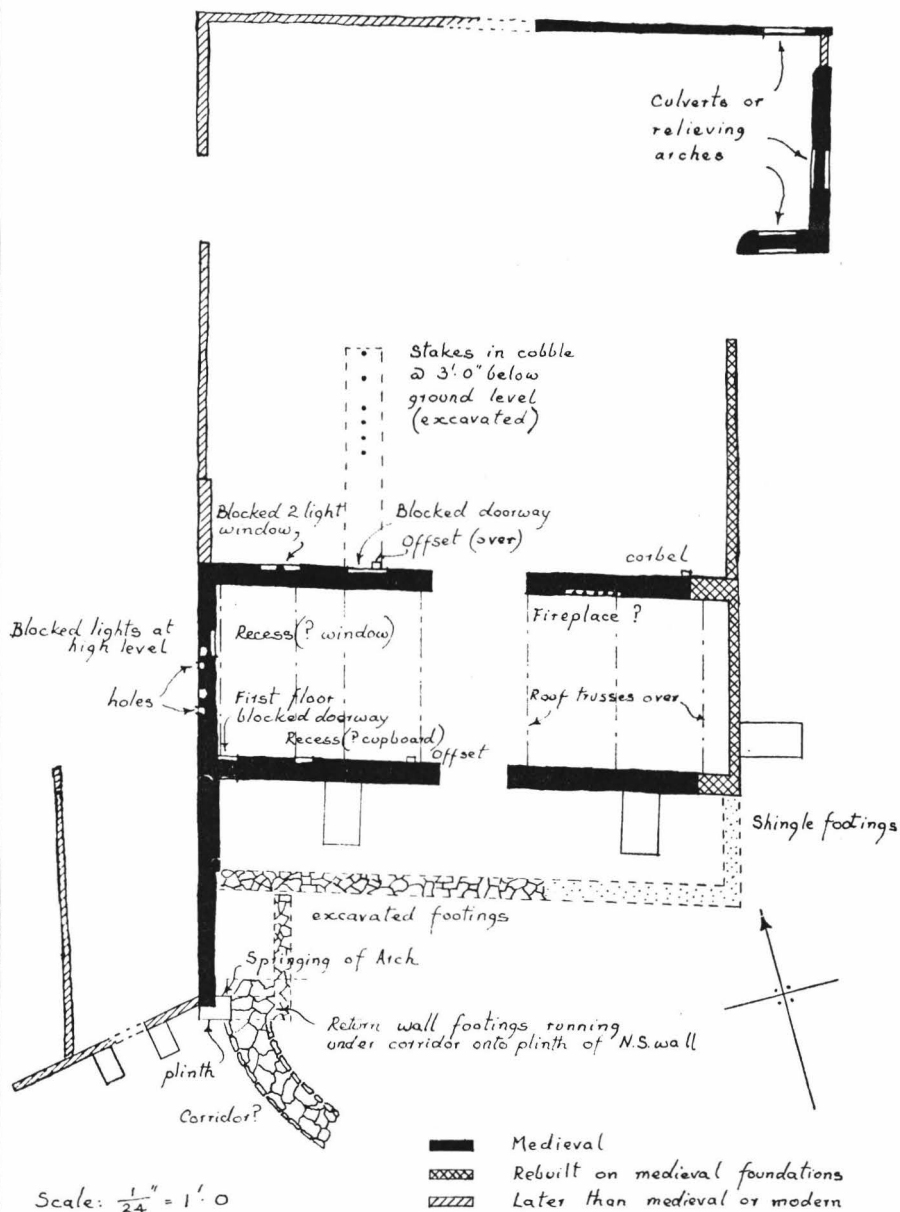
¹ See E. M. Jope and G. C. Dunning, *Antiquaries Journal*, XXXIV (1954), pp. 209-17.

² As we thought previous to our excavations and as stated, *V.C.H. Sussex*, IV, (1953), p. 227.

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PLAN 2



what may have been its eastern edge at the anticipated line and depth, although conditions were too wet for us to expose the surface for complete verification. The conclusion that this cobble is unrelated to the present building, but has survived from an earlier structure is confirmed by the pottery found in occupation material lying directly on it.¹ The stumps of a row of stakes remained embedded in the cobble at irregular intervals—15ft. 4in., 17ft. 2in., 18ft., 19ft. 7in. and 28ft. from the north wall of the Barn. Considering the wet, silty material that covered them, these stumps may well have survived from the period of the cobble itself.

Plate V, besides showing the eastern edge of the cobble, also illustrates a characteristic of the construction of the foundations of the present walls of the Barn—the lowest stone course of the footings having the stones on edge, the courses above being laid flat.

We next explored the area to the south of the Barn in the hope of finding foundations of a building that we assumed was approached from the doorway at the west end of the south wall of the Barn at solar level.²

At the southern end of the wall projecting south from the south-west corner of the Barn were foundations of a wall curving south-eastwards, and, inside, flagstones with slighter wall foundations beyond, forming a corridor. This was found to have a clear edge at about 15ft. to the south (Plate VI). A heavy tumble lay beyond the clear edge with an admixture of the blue, sometimes roughly triangular slates also found in cuts inside the Barn.³ To the north the flags of the corridor continued over the return footings between the two north-south walls to form what looked like a porch, and with the offset still visible (Plates VI and I) at the top end, on its east face, of the standing north-south wall, one can visualise an arched entrance here, with, perhaps, a stone stair leading into the main building by the doorway mentioned above.⁴ The boundary wall on the west side of the corridor seems to have been more solid than that on the east, forming perhaps a wind break on the weather side. Economy in the use of stone would be a consideration.

The other foundations discovered were of the eastern retaining wall of the supposed porch (Plate VI), and of a substantial wall running west to east parallel with the south wall of the Barn at an interval of about 10ft. (Plate VII).

The former, the short north-south wall, returned at its southern end to bond into the southern end of the standing north-south wall; but its northern end was not bonded into the long east-west wall, the slight gap between the two being covered by a single large flat

¹ See p. 147.

² See p. 140.

³ See pp. 141 and 148.

⁴ For particulars of such stairways, for example at Stokesay Castle, see Margaret E. Wood, 'Thirteenth Century Domestic Architecture in England,' pub. by the Royal Archaeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland as a Supplement to Vol. cv (1950) of *The Archaeological Journal*. Swanborough Manor House may have had an exterior staircase, *S.A.C.* LXXVII. 7.

stone, as excavated. Possibly this "porch" rectangle together with the corridor represents a slightly later addition to the original plan. This would be confirmed by what appeared to be a difference between shingle packing to the footings of the standing north-south wall on the north side of the junction with the long east-west wall, and a mortaring of the footings on the south side of the junction. The western end of the east-west wall, for some 40ft., is made up of unmortared stones with small shingle packing, and is bonded into the wall projecting south from the south-west corner of the Barn. The eastern end, for some 23ft., consists of a trench of shingle of the same width, 2ft. 3in., as the run of stone; and this returns, still as a shingle trench, to meet the south wall of the Barn almost at its extreme eastern end, where the stone footings of the Barn wall are projected into the shingle trench, and so established that the two were contemporary. No offsets or flooring were found on the north side of this wall, between wall and barn. The wall presumably supported a lean-to outhouse against the Barn, or was the back of a separate lean-to building. Attempt was made to find a further wall parallel to and south of the wall last described, but only scattered building stones were uncovered.

There are walls to the north of the Barn, those to the east apparently once enclosing a nearly square-shaped, substantial building, and judging from the style of construction, contemporary with the Barn (Plate I). Erections here are indicated on the Plan of 1786 and that of 1854. In them are three culvert heads—or, perhaps relieving arches—two opposite each other at the base of the north and south walls, and one in the base of the east wall. Excavations inside the western and outside the southern arches have revealed no channel or ditch outline nor given any clue to their purpose. A similar arch, here very likely a culvert head, is in the base of the south wall of the building, south-west of the Barn, used in modern times as a cattle shed. This building, now ruinous, is shown on Plate I and retained a thatched roof till about 1930.¹ It was undoubtedly of later date than the Barn.

We could find no trace of the building shown as in the south-west corner of the yard, then containing a pond, on the maps mentioned, nor of the round pigeon house recorded in 1671 and perhaps indicated by a circular mark to the south of the Barn on the 1786 Map.

Finally were discovered foundations of a substantial wall in the field, called Rail Croft² on the 1854 Map, to the west of the pond shown thereon and about 95ft. from a position in the wall to the north of the yard, adjoining the Barn, taken on an alignment with the east end of the Barn. These foundations extended west to east for about 25ft., being 2ft. 4in. wide and 21in. deep, to support a single solidly constructed wall. The stones were mortared. The

¹ See p. 139.

² See p. 138.



PLATE V. CUTTING ON NORTH SIDE OF BARN showing cobble floor, possibly late Saxon in date, December, 1956



PLATE VI. CORRIDOR AND "PORCH" on south side of Barn, July, 1956

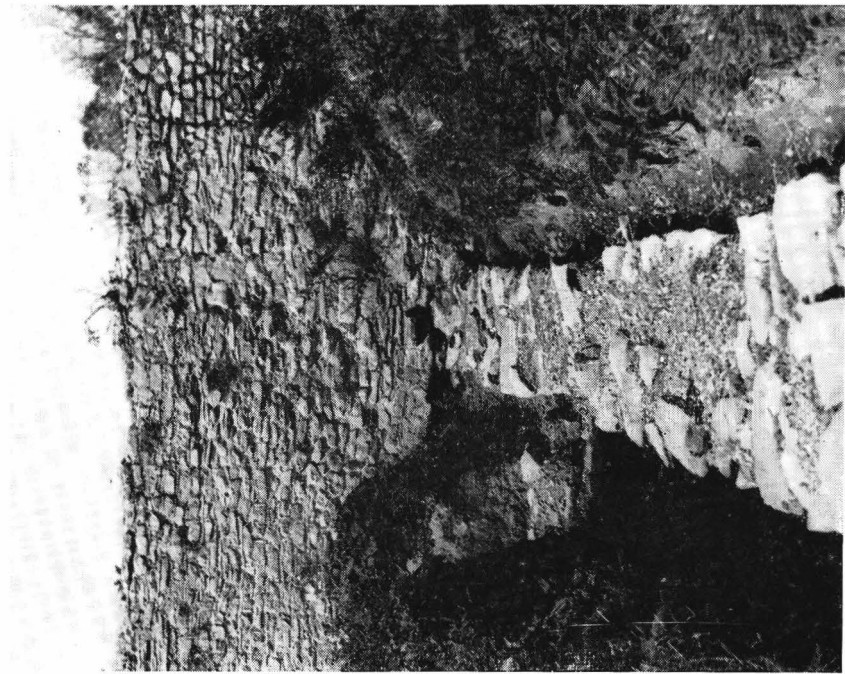


PLATE VII. EAST-WEST WALL on south side of Barn, August, 1956



PLATE VIII. NORTH-SOUTH WALL IN RAIL CROFT FIELD, with west end of mortared wall, and, beyond, the "oven" stones, February, 1957

lowest course, as in the case of the Barn, consisted of stones on edge. At right angles to this wall were large stones forming foundations of a slightly curved wall, but these stones were free, in a single flat layer only (Plate VIII). A piece of worked stone was among them, the first stone, in shadow, to be seen in Plate VIII. At the north end the stones were grouped irregularly, some being burnt as though they had formed sides of an oven. There were thus two completely different styles, and perhaps dates, of construction. That there was a domestic building here was evidenced by the discovery of pottery fragments and of a few glazed triangular and rectangular floor tiles. The pottery range indicates domestic use over much the same period as the Barn.¹

Our grateful acknowledgement is extended to Dr. A. E. Wilson, F.S.A., Mr. G. C. Dunning, F.S.A., and Mr. A. E. Smith for assistance in identifying the pottery; also to the last for making drawings of this. For help on the site we are grateful to many, especially to Miss M. Willis, Mr. A. E. Smith, Mr. A. E. and Adrian Sewell, also to A. R. Combes and other Chichester High School boys. Mr. F. B. B. Hender kindly gave permission and every facility for the site to be examined. Thanks are extended to the Editor for his encouragement of the exploration and to Mr. Francis W. Steer, F.S.A., for his help in final preparation of the report; also to Mr. MacLeod Wallace, F.R.I.B.A., and Mr. John B. Morton, A.R.I.B.A., for drawing the plans.

THE POTTERY

BY A. H. COLLINS, M.A.

The present Barn has been ascribed to the 14th century,² but the interior blocked doorway (Plate IV), unless it be a re-used feature, would take the date of construction back to the first half of the 13th century.³ Documentary references begin between these two dates, 1299,⁴ but it is possible that buildings, associated with the church, had stood on the site since Saxon times, as is suggested by the Saxon sherds found on the cobble running under and so earlier than the present building,⁵ and found, also, in occupation layers cut through by foundations of walls, contemporary with the Barn, excavated on the south side of the Barn. The greater proportion of the pottery found is assignable to the 12th and 13th centuries, pre-dating, it would seem, to some extent the present buildings, while other is ascribable to the 14th century. That none was found near the Barn typical of any later century confirms the documentary evidence that the buildings went out of domestic occupation not long after Archbishop Islep appropriated the Rectory to found Canterbury College.⁶

¹ See p. 148.

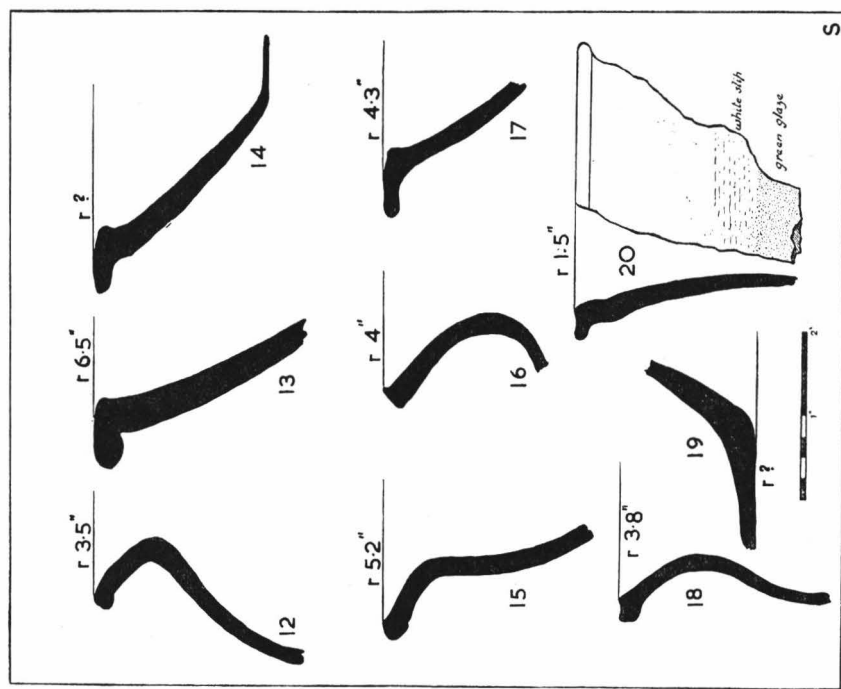
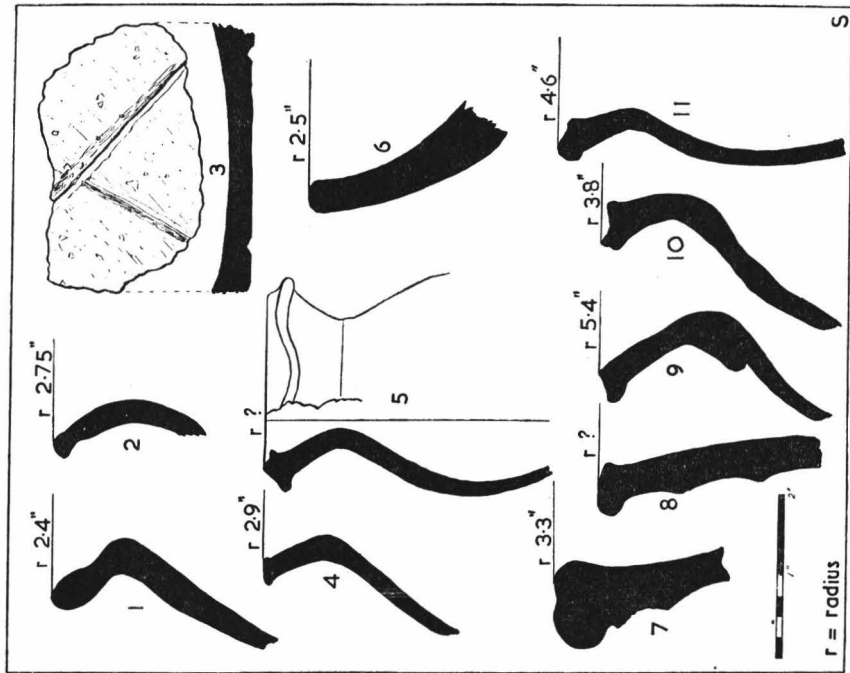
² *V.C.H. Sussex*, IV, (1953), p. 227.

³ See p. 140.

⁴ See p. 137.

⁵ See p. 141.

⁶ Fleming, *op. cit.* i, p. 80.



Pottery from excavations at Becket's Barn

The material has been deposited in the Chichester Museum.

1. (a) The earliest group of sherds came from the black occupation layer lying on, and to the sides of, the run of cobble on the north side of the Barn, and from a corresponding black occupation layer on the south side of the Barn cut through by the footings of the short north-south wall, and abutting on the south side of the footings of the long east-west wall parallel with the Barn.

The layer over the cobble yielded (besides two fragments of coarse Romano-British pot, and two of "Samian") some typical pieces (Nos. 1 and 3) of Late Saxon-Medmerry (Selsey) ware, described in the *Antiquaries Journal* (1934), XIV, p. 393, and in *S.A.C.* XCI. 144, and dated by coin evidence at "Hamwih" (*Southampton*) to between the 8th and 11th centuries.¹ The cruder wares have a black flaky paste with some grit, the surface a smooth black "tarmac," the rims simply everted, the pot hand-made with an irregular lumpy thickness. One base (No. 3) is of particular interest as still bearing the marks of a cross which E. Cecil Curwen² traces in native pottery from the Bronze Age through to occasional examples in the Roman period; this piece would carry the tradition into the Late Saxon period.

The layer cut through by footings on the south side yielded similar sherds, and a piece of a shallow dish with flattened rim (No. 6), hand-made in a crude gritted paste of the same period, together with other types (Nos. 2 and 4) still with grit in the paste, but burnt harder to a pinky colour, at least on the surface, and with rims more upstanding, corresponding to the Late Saxon types from East Pallant House, Chichester (*S.A.C.* XCI. 146 and 151, fig. 3).

(b) The group of sherds from over the corridor on the south side of the Barn as well as from floor rubble inside the Barn were of the 12th to 14th centuries. They included a coarse-gritted buff-coloured piece (No. 18) with a narrow grooved rim of the 12th century, a dish (No. 14) with a squeezed flange over an external groove and some rilling, of the same century, and sherds with no grit in the paste and an internal green glaze probably of the early 13th century. A series of dishes and pots (Nos. 15, 16 and 17) with simple outcurving rims, becoming flattened on top, in a hard smooth buff-to-blackish paste and with some splashes of glaze inside and out, are of mid-13th century date; while sherds of overall but patchy green glazes over white bands in similar hard smooth pastes may be dateable still later in that century. Some of these types may well have continued into the 14th century, but this is the latest period to which any sherds recovered can be attributed.

2. The pottery associated with the walling in the field to the north of the Barn suggested that buildings on this site were occupied from

¹ Pagan Saxon occupation of the neighbourhood is attested by the cremation urn recovered from the churchyard in 1954 (*S.N.Q.* xiv, 7 and 8, 123-5 and xiv, 9 and 10, Frontispiece). None of our pieces has any pagan stamped ornament.

² *The Archaeology of Sussex* (1937), p. 278.

the early 12th into the 13th and even 14th or 15th centuries, similar dates, continuing perhaps a little later, to those indicated by the pottery found near the Barn, except that no Saxon forms were found. The following were the main types represented:

(a) Nos. 5 and 12, early 12th century, of a rough paste, buff burnt to black on the outside, gritted with perhaps crushed shell and with a harsh irregular surface, the rims bevelled and squeezed (*S.A.C.* LXXVI. 197, figs. 3 and 5).

(b) Nos. 10, 11, 13 and 19, later in the 12th century, in which the paste is finer and the surface smoother, the rims grooved, and a shoulder has developed with the first suggestion of a step (*S.A.C.* XCI. 152-3, figs. 4 and 5, and LXXVI. 197, fig 4).

(c) A strap handle in a similar paste to (a) type above, broad, rounded at the sides and pricked (G. C. Dunning, *Archaeological News Letter*, May 1949, p. 4), and Nos. 7 and 8, that have applied strapwork on heavy, almost straight-sided dishes with heavy flat rims, would normally be dated to about the year 1200, but the rough paste and harsh surfaces so much resemble our earliest 12th-century ware that I should be inclined to date these between types (a) and (b) above. (H. F. Poole and G. C. Dunning, "Twelfth-Century Middens in the Isle of Wight," *Proceedings of the Isle of Wight Natural History and Archaeological Society*, (1937), vol. II, part viii).

(d) Of the 13th century is portion of a vessel (No. 9) very like one illustrated in *S.A.C.* XCI. 159, fig. 15, No. 2, and fragments of green-glazed jug-ware with incised wavy ornament. Certain pieces of jug (No. 20) in a very hard paste and very even glaze, some with raised ridges and a raised chain-link design, may well be of the 14th century, or even later.

3. (a) The earlier roofing tiles recovered were similar to the earlier 12th-century pots in their coarsely-gritted pastes and harsh irregular surfaces. A patchy yellowish green glaze appears on some even of the coarsest tiles, and more evenly on tiles in a smoother paste with less grit. Later in the 13th century, perhaps, were tiles with no grit in the clay at all, pale buff on the surface, with a slight double curve, and the edge irregularly raised on one side. On the south side of the main wall in the field to the north of the Barn were found some small inch-thick tiles glazed green all over on one side and patchily on the others—the triangular ones 5in. by 2½in., and the rectangular 4in. by 2in.

(b) From off the end of the corridor on the south side came many small blue slates of the Devon and Cornish series which have been traced all along the south coast from the 12th century onwards. One small rectangular one—4½in. by 3in.—is pierced by two nail or peg holes; most are of a blunt triangular shape, the largest being about 5½in. high by 4½in. wide. Inside the Barn about 15in. down in the south-west corner came a layer of these slates, the largest triangular one being 7in. high by 5in. wide.