

THE DESERTED MEDIEVAL VILLAGE RESEARCH GROUP

16th Annual Report, 1968

Edited by P.A. Rahtz

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

PHILOSOPHY 101: INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

LECTURE 1: THE FOUNDATIONS OF PHILOSOPHY

1.1. THE NATURE OF PHILOSOPHY

1.2. THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

1.3. THE SCOPE OF PHILOSOPHY

1.4. THE METHODS OF PHILOSOPHY

1.5. THE IMPORTANCE OF PHILOSOPHY

1.6. THE CHALLENGES OF PHILOSOPHY

1.7. THE FUTURE OF PHILOSOPHY

1.8. THE VALUE OF PHILOSOPHY

1.9. THE BEAUTY OF PHILOSOPHY

1.10. THE WISDOM OF PHILOSOPHY

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2.1. METAPHYSICS

2.2. EPISTEMOLOGY

2.3. ETHICS

2.4. POLITICS

2.5. AESTHETICS

2.6. LOGIC

2.7. SCIENCE

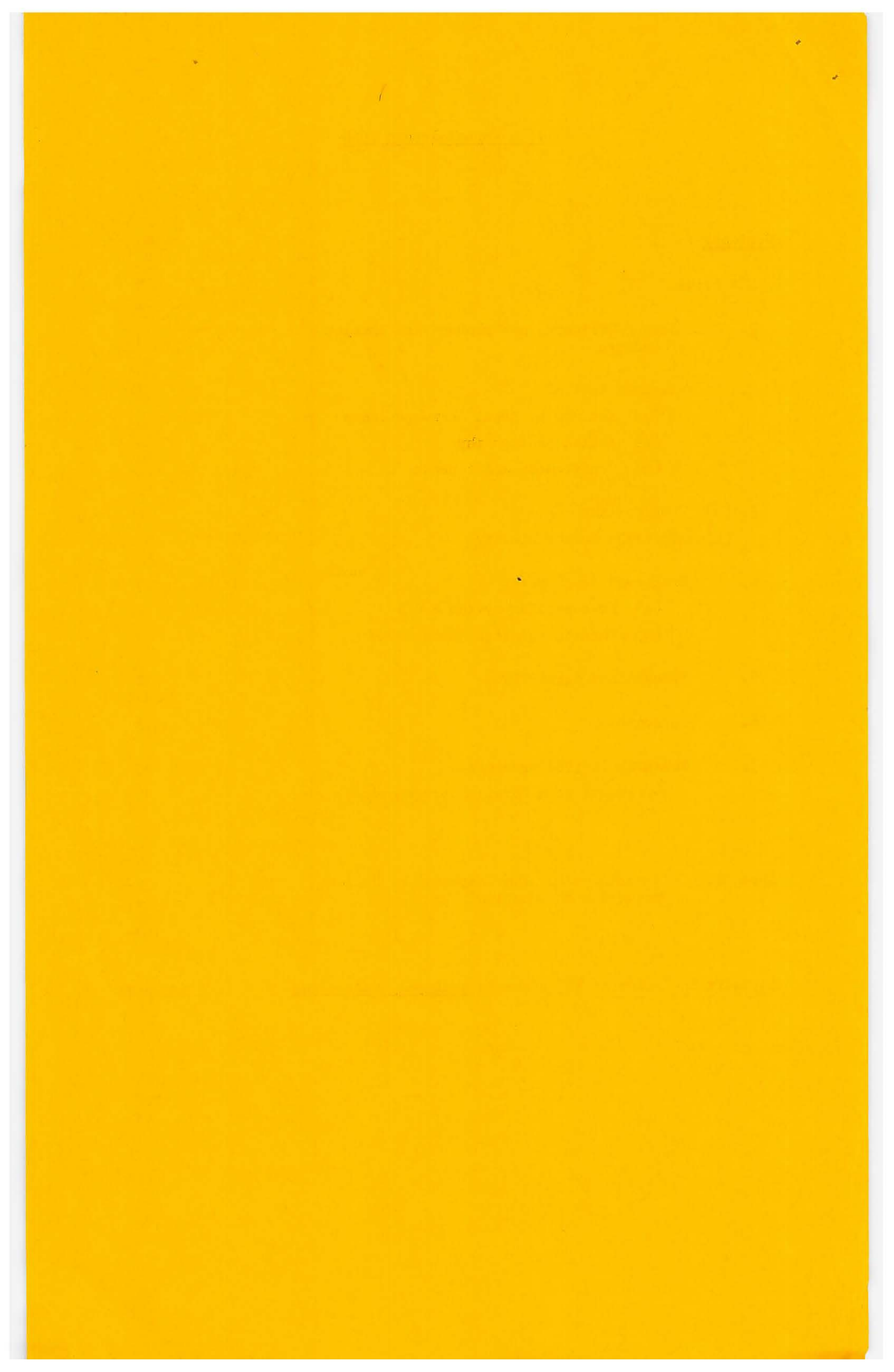
2.8. RELIGION

2.9. LAW

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16th Annual Report 1968

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Editorial

This 16th Annual Report records the continuing destruction of our villages. This loss of complete settlements seems much more serious now than it would have done 10 or 20 years ago, because our excavations have shown the range and complexity of the information that lies beneath the deceptively smooth contours of the grass or ploughsoil. Preservation, recording, and excavation are recovering only a fraction of what is being lost. The description of Ireland that travellers are now bringing back reminds us that here at least there is enough surviving to provide work for future generations; is it irreverent to look with favour on rural depopulation? But before they all go, we should all go and record and photograph not only the sites but the surviving examples of medieval life and craft, if doing so wouldn't deal them the death kiss of archaeological tourism.

Some villages are safe, others are made safer, one (p.9) by introducing lions. From Worcestershire comes an attempt at total recording of the current landscape. The questionnaire (p.3) is a step towards the automation of recording. Two of the "long-term" excavations have finished. Gomeldon has reached a stage where Mr. Musty believes that further work would show diminishing returns, and major statements on the economic development of the village can be made (p.15). Such statements were a long way away at Upton, where we have had to cease work after 10 years.

An important break-through has been made by Guy Beresford on the very unpromising-looking site of Barton Blount, where in equally unpleasant conditions he has recorded sequences of timber buildings, extending from pre-conquest to later medieval times. This kind of site is much needed to bridge the gap between 'Saxon settlements' (which oddly seem to turn up only on gravel and sand) and 'medieval villages'.

P.A. Rahtz

1.

List of Officers

Chairman :	Professor W.F. Grimes
Vice-Chairman :	Professor H.C. Darby
Secretary :	J.G. Hurst
Assistant Secretary :	Mrs. M.E. Ewins
Editor :	P.A. Rahtz
Treasurer :	M.E. Davies

Members

New Members

ABERG, A., 37, Harrow Road, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough.
ALLEN, F., Bletchley Grammar School, Bletchley, Bucks.
ATKINSON, A.T., 69, Eton Avenue, Newark, Notts.
BAILEY, Mrs. P., 130, Merton Road, London, S.W.18.
BARRY, T.B., Newman House, 29, Harrisons Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, 15.
BLACK, A.E., 76, Baldocks Lane, Melton Mowbray, Leics.
CARD, M.D., 17, Frolesworth Road, Leicester, LE3 GLN.
CARDIFF, University College, Department of Extra-Mural Studies, 38/40, Park Place, Cardiff, CF1 3BB.
CARR, R.D., Mill Dale Road, Kettering, Northants.
CLAYTON, D.G., 155, Wisden Road, Trots Hill, Stevenage, Herts.
DAVIES, M.E., 25, Burgess Wood Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks.

New Members (Cont'd)

ELLIOTT, Miss L., 88, Poplar Avenue, Hove, Sussex, BN3 8PS.
FRYER, H.G., 93, Boundary Road, Newark, Notts.
GADD, Miss F.H., 73, Heathfield Road, Hitchin, Herts.
GODWIN, J., 17, Downs Road, Epsom, Surrey.
HARRISON, B.J.D., 17, Whitby Avenue, Guisborough, North Yorks.
HASTINGS, R.P., History Department, Middleston St. George College of Education,
Nr. Darlington, Co. Durham.
HAYNES, Mrs. M.S., 14, England's Lane, London, N.W.3.
HISTORY LIBRARY, Kenton Lodge College of Education, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 3.
IRVING, R.M., 'School House', Padbury, Buckingham, Bucks.
ISSERLIN, R., 32, The Avenue, Linthorpe, Teesside.
JACKSON, G., 30, Elizabeth Street, Leeds, 12.
LISICKI, Miss R., 200, Park Road, Warley, Smethwick, Worcs.
MAHANY, Miss C., The Bath House, Bath Row, Stamford, Lincs.
MEARTENS, Miss S.E., 420, Temple Street, New Haven, Conn: 06511, U.S.A.
MOSS, G., The Old Bank House, Broad Street, Eye, Suffolk.
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WALES, The Librarian, Cardiff, CF1 3NP.
PRICE, S.J., Churston, 31, Lea Green Lane, Wythall, Nr. Birmingham.
REED, B.B., 7, Saltburn Lane, Skelton-in-Cleveland, Saltburn, N. Yorks.
RICHARDSON, C.S., Rectory Wood Cottage, Colam Lane, Lt. Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex.
RINN, I.A., Geographisches Institut Der Universität Göttingen, Herzberger,
Landstrabe 2, Germany.
ROBERTS, B., 3, Durham Moor Crescent West, Framwell Gate Moor, Durham City.
SCOTFORD, D.S., 24, St. John's Avenue, Friern Barnet, London, N.11.
SMITH, D., 6, Swansea Road, Norwich, Norfolk NOR 230G.
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES, The Library, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W1V OHS.
TAYLOR, C.C., Geography Department, Kenton Lodge College of Education, Gosforth,
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 3.
THUBRON, D., 51, Central Avenue, Billingham, Teesside.
VERHAEGHE, F.R., Lijsterbeslaan, 69, Ostende, Belgium.
WARD, Miss J., 18, Hawthorn Terrace, New Earswick, York.

Changes of Address

BLAKE, H. McK., 66, Water Street, Lavenham, Suffolk.
CLARKE, H.B., Department of Medieval History, University College, Dublin 2, Eire.
ELRINGTON, C., Tibbeston Court, Gloucester.
de FEACHEM, R.W., Archaeology Officer, Ordnance Survey, Romsey Road, Maybush,
Southampton, SO9 4OH.
KRAIG, B., 933, Division Street, Charleston, Illinois, 61920, U.S.A.
HOSKINS, W.G., 2, Lyndhurst Road, Exeter, Devon.
LEDBETTER, R.M., The City Museum, Western Park, Sheffield, S102 TP.
McCARTHY, M.R., 39, Park Road, Gloucester, GL1 1LN.
MORRIS, Mrs. B.A., 18, Queen's Park Avenue, Edinburgh, 8.
NORRIS, R.A., School of Education, University of Birmingham, P.O. Box 363,
Birmingham, 15.
ROWLEY, R.T., 75, School Road, Moseley, Birmingham, 13.
TALBOT, E., Department of Archaeology, The University, Glasgow, W.2.
THOMAS, E.A., 6, Chilton Grove, Yeovil, Somerset.
DENMARK, Professor Dr. Axel Steensberg, Caeciliavej 30, Valby, Copenhagen.

Resigned Member

JARVIS, R.C., 34, Downside Avenue, Findon Valley, Worthing, Sussex.

2.

Research in 1968

Mr. E.E. Dodd completed his examination of references to known DMVs in the British Museum Calendar of Charters and Rolls. He then examined all the entries to known DMVs in the Minister's Accounts at the Public Record Office.

In 1968, no work was done on the revision of county lists. All available time was spent on the preparation of the book, Deserted Medieval Villages. Local correspondents have continued to send in details of suggested new sites. This information has been carded and as a result the number of possible DMV sites awaiting investigation has risen from 800 to 1270 sites. This is perhaps a measure of the great interest in research on medieval villages. The Group receives about five written queries a week on DMV sites and on more general problems. This correspondence is dealt with by Mrs. M.E. Ewins.

A Fieldwork Questionnaire has been drawn up for use by local correspondents. A copy is enclosed with this Report. This was compiled by Mr. P. Wade-Martins from drafts prepared by Mr. P.A. Barker and Mr. J.G. Hurst. It is hoped that the Questionnaire will be a valuable guide and will encourage correspondents to collect information in a standard way in all parts of the country.

The Scottish sub-committee of the DMVRG has produced a Memorandum on the preservation of sites in Scotland. This has been submitted to the Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Scotland and the text is to be found in Appendix A.

As a result of the survey-work carried out by Dr. St. Joseph from the air and Dr. R.E. Glasscock from documents and fieldwork, large numbers of DMV sites are now being recognised in all parts of Ireland. In 1967, Professor M.W. Beresford and R.E. Glasscock visited a selection of sites, and in 1968 J.G. Hurst and R.E. Glasscock visited a number of other sites. In the summer of 1968, R.E. Glasscock started excavations at the DMV of Laithmore, County Tipperary (see Section 5).

An index to DMV references in Medieval Archaeology, vols. 1-X1, has been prepared by Terry Barry; a copy is enclosed with this Report as Appendix B.

(a) Reports by local correspondents

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

D. Mynard has continued routine field-work and sherd collecting.

LANCASHIRE

As reported in 1967, Mrs. P. Gilding has compiled a list of 96 possible DMV sites. The basis of their selection was a comparison of Domesday figures (as given in the VCH) and the 1334 Lay Subsidy returns (lent by Dr. Glasscock), with the 1" O.S. map, listing the places which have disappeared or now seem very small. Other printed sources have been used to provide further data for these sites, plus the Lay Subsidy returns of 1524-5 and 1543-5 lent by Dr. Sheail. The publication early in 1968, in book form, of a map of Lancashire made by Yates in 1786 showing good detail, provided a useful picture of the county before the buildings of the industrial revolution appeared.

During the summer 30 sites were superficially examined; West Derby Hundred appears to be too well cultivated, but Amounderness would seem to be more promising for fieldwork.

It is unfortunate that Lancashire has been neglected for so long. In the last decade or so the new towns of Kirkby and Skelmersdale have been built, along with a general spread of 'residential' areas, and the M6 has been constructed. At least there will be a chance to study the possible sites involved in the area of the proposed Chorley-Leyland-Preston 'new city' before it is built.

LEICESTERSHIRE

T. Pearce reports that at Knaptoft (SP 626895) the development by British Oil and Cake Mills (Report No. 15, 1967, p.7) was watched and sherds recovered. Excavation of a sewerage reservoir revealed a pit or ditch, yielding C12 to C13 sherds and bones. The large enclosure at Sysonby (SK 739211) is intact and may be scheduled. At Welby (SK 725120) excavation by unnamed persons had exposed a wall 31 x 3½ ft. on a house platform.

LINCOLNSHIRE

Scunthorpe Museum report that earthworks in pasture at Walcot (SE 879208), now a hamlet in Alkborough parish, may represent medieval settlement; a few medieval sherds have been collected from mole hills. Across the road recent ploughing of old pasture (SE 877208) revealed scatters of limestone rubble and many medieval and post medieval sherds. An estate map of 1778, now in Scunthorpe Museum, shows Normanby village (SE 884168) (Burton-on-Stather parish) as it was before partial emparkment, probably in the early C19. What is now the main drive to Normanby Hall was originally the eastern end of the village street. The map shows buildings and enclosures either side of this end of the street and a scatter of medieval and post-medieval sherds has been found recently on the south side of the drive. A rectangular area on the map seems to represent a medieval moated site and its position corresponds with that of a cemetery used over the last hundred years for family pets. The cemetery site measures approximately 50 x 75 ft. and is surrounded by a wide waterfilled ditch. Field names suggest other medieval features such as Mill Field, a low lying area beside a small stream (Domesday records a mill at Normanby) and Chapel Close.

Rex and Eleanor Russell report that at Barrow-on-Humber (TA 063222) Mr. J. Grey, the farmer, found Saxo-Norman, medieval and post-medieval sherds in an old enclosure in the West Marsh. At Brackenborough (TF 334904) Mrs. Gibson and Mr. Johnson excavated a rubbish dump; the pottery of C15 to C17 date includes Frechen Stone ware, Vesper slipware, a type II flask and local wares. At Cabourne (TD 145019) a field to the east of the village was levelled and ploughed in March 1968. The chalk foundations of a building c.30 by 75 ft. were exposed, the course of a road and croft boundaries. There was one other occupation area, but only a few medieval sherds were found. At Cabourne (TA 139020) an old close near the church was levelled and ploughed in 1965. Field-walking recovered C13 to C15 sherds and some slag. At Goxhill (TA 118241) a site on a hill in the salt marsh has been ploughed for several years. Mr. T.F. Raby, the owner, reported the ploughing up of bricks and cobbles. There was a building to the north of the site, where rubble, tile, chalk stones and cut flints were scattered thickly over an area about 30 yards square. Finds include Saxo-Norman and medieval sherds, lead, and bone. At Goxhill (TA 104211) an old close to the south of the church, with considerable earthworks, was levelled and ploughed in July 1968. There were areas of cobbles, rubble, brick, tiles and some worked stone. Sherds include late Saxon, medieval, and post-medieval sherds, and parts of two mortars. At Great Limber (TA 136086) the field next to the site of Limber Priory was ploughed up in 1967 and walked over in March 1968. There was evidence of a road running east from the Church to the Priory, one occupation area near the Priory site, and others near the church and to the north on the road side. There was worked stone in the first area and mainly medieval sherds. There were medieval and post-medieval sherds near the Church and roadside. At North Owersby (TF 062949) surface finds in an old close next to the church included Saxo-Norman, medieval and later sherds. At Waithe (TA 284007) air photographs revealed earthworks to the south and north of the church, which is isolated except for some C19 cottages.

NORFOLK

Peter Wade-Martins reports that at Caldecote (TF 745035) a scatter of pagan Saxon pottery was found to the NE of the Mount. At Bittering (TF 935178) good earthworks of a previously unrecorded DMV were found along

the whole of the north side of the present road; there is also an isolated church and a moat nearby. At North Elmham (TF 987215), the plan of earthworks of the shrunken village in the park, and an interim report on the excavations of Saxon structures, will appear in Norfolk Archaeology, forthcoming. At Godwick (TF 902220) a large-scale plan of the earthworks was made by P.W-M and Keith Wade.

NORTHANTS

Mrs. G. Brown reports that Finedon (no N.G.R.) has been partly ploughed; tile, wattle and daub and C12 sherds have been recovered near a medieval road; the C17 Dower House platforms are still visible, but are in danger of being covered by spoil; five wells have also been found. At Papley (TL 106891) the manor house site and two crofts have been destroyed by levelling for field drainage. C12 sherds, floor and roof tiles, and C14 painted glass have been recovered. At Stanford-on-Avon (no N.G.R.) a watercourse has been cut to help the drainage of an area near the river, on lower ground than the known house-platforms. At Abbotstey (no N.G.R.) the DMV site with fishponds and an occupied moated manor is threatened by a new reservoir. At Rothersthorpe Berry, a housing estate is planned very close to the DMV boundary ditch.

WARWICKSHIRE

C.J. Bond is continuing research on deserted and shrunken settlements. Destruction of earthworks by ploughing and building is a continual threat to many Warwickshire sites, and field work has therefore been the chief priority. Over 80 sites have so far been visited, and sketch plans have been made of about 50 of these. When this stage of work is completed it is intended to survey accurately a selected group of the best sites. Work is proceeding at the same time on the documentary sources, and a folio of notes is being built up for each deserted, shrunken and suspect site.

WORCS.

The Worcestershire Medieval Village Research Group, under the direction of P.A. Barker and R.T. Rowley, has continued to compile lists of suspected deserted and shrunken sites. Work has begun on the classification of these, using information from questionnaires, similar to that enclosed with this report. Probable sites and earthworks are plotted on a set of 6" O.S. maps. It is planned to introduce a punch-card index system, on which a large body of material in different categories can be stored; this will considerably help the work of interpretation. A ground survey of the earthworks at Elmley Lovett (SO 696865) has been completed and further work on the site, including magnetometer and resistivity surveys, is planned for the summer.

IRELAND, Co. TIPPERARY

R.E. Glasscock has continued the survey of medieval sites in the county. Detailed examination of the 1st edition of the O.S. 6" maps has produced a large number of possible deserted settlement sites where only a ruined church and/or a castle remain today. Field survey and air photography confirm that many such sites have surrounding earthworks. On a few sites there are clear ground plans but on the whole the earthworks are of an indeterminate nature. Hollow-ways are common but house sites rare, suggesting that houses were mainly of mud or other organic material. Visible stone foundations almost certainly imply very late building and desertion, probably in the eighteenth century.

The dearth of documentary evidence in Ireland makes it impossible to indicate the former size, status, and date of desertion of these settlements. This places an even greater role on air photography, field survey, and ultimately on archaeological excavation. (See excavation section: Liathmore-Mochoemog).

(b) Aerial photography

Obliques: J.G. Hurst has continued cataloguing Dr. St. Joseph's air photographs. Of particular importance is the fine series of photographs taken in the winter, in addition to the usual spring flights. This has led to a doubling of photographs in recent years. It is, therefore, all the more unfortunate that the Group still has no funds to purchase more than a limited number taken since 1963.

(c) Conferences and Courses

A course on DMVs was arranged by the Staffordshire County Council, in association with the Staffordshire Local History Council, at Pendrell Hall, from the 3rd to 5th May 1968. Lectures were given by M.W. Beresford and J.G. Hurst, and a number of Staffordshire sites were visited.

3. (a) Publications

The book, Deserted Medieval Villages (Studies edited by J.G. Hurst and M.W. Beresford) has now gone to press and will be published by the Lutterworth Press in 1970. The book will contain a review of historical and archaeological research to 1968, by M.W. Beresford and J.G. Hurst, with a county gazetteer of DMVs known in 1968 and a select bibliography; sections on deserted medieval settlements in Scotland, by H. Fairhurst and J.G. Dunbar, deserted medieval settlements in Wales, by L.A.S. Butler, and deserted medieval settlements in Ireland, by R.E. Glasscock.

An important study of a forest-edge parish, Whiteparish in Wiltshire has been published by Mr. C.C. Taylor. This study is a model of the kind of research needed in an area with a complex settlement history. Mr. C. Dyer, in a study of Hatton, Warwickshire, has shown that use can be made of manorial accounts and court rolls where these happen to survive for a deserted medieval village. Dr. K. Allison is writing a book on DMVs for senior school-children, to be published by Macmillan. Excavation reports were published during the year for Clopton, Lyveden and Millhouse.

(b) Additions to the Library

- J. Alexander - 'Clopton: the life-cycle of a Cambridgeshire village', in L.M. Munby, ed., East Anglian Studies (1968), 48-70.
- M.W. Beresford - 'East Layton, Co. Durham, in 1608: another cartographic representation of a deserted medieval village site', Med. Archaeol., XI (1967), 257-60.
- C. Dyer - 'Population and agriculture on a Warwickshire Manor in the late Middle Ages', Univ. Birm. Hist. Journ., XI (1968), 113-27.
- C. Dyer - 'The deserted medieval village of Woolashill', Trans. Worcs. Archaeol. Soc. 3rd ser., I (1968), 55-61.
- D.P. Dymond - 'The Suffolk landscape', in L.M. Munby, ed., East Anglian Studies (1968), 17-47.
- D. Holland - 'A note on the deserted village of West Burton', Trans. Thoroton Soc., LXXI (1967), 70-1.
- D. Gillian Hurst & J.G. Hurst - 'Excavation of moated sites, Milton, Hampshire & Ashwell, Hertfordshire', J. Brit. Archaeol. Assoc., XXX (1967), 48-86.
- G.D. Johnson - 'Pende - a lost port', Sussex Notes and Queries, XVII (1968), 46-9.

- R.A.C. Lowndes - 'A medieval site at Millhouse in the Lune Valley, Westmorland', Trans. Cumb. & West. Antiq. & Archaeol. Soc., LXVII (1967), 35-50.
- J.M. Steane - 'Excavations at Lyveden, 1965-7', J. Northampton Mus. & Art Gall., II (1967), 1-37.
- Violet Wickham Steed - 'Notes on an exhibition of maps illustrating the historical development of Wychwood Forest and north Oxfordshire' Ashmolean Museum (1968), 15 pp.
- L. Still & A. Pallister - 'West Hartburn 1965, Site C, Archaeol. Aeliana, 4th ser., XLV (1967), 139-48.
- C.C. Taylor - 'Whiteparish, a study of the development of a forest edge parish', Wilts. Archaeol. Mag., LXII (1967), 79-101.
- C.C. Taylor - 'Three deserted medieval settlements in Whiteparish', Wilts. Archaeol. Mag., LXIII (1968), 39-45.

4.

Preservation of sites

(a) Preservation by the MPBW

Difficult problems of finance and staffing have still not yet enabled the MPBW to implement the Ancient Monument Board's recommendation for the guardianship of the six best DMVs.

(b) Threats to sites during 1968

43 sites were threatened during the year. As in previous years, levelling for agriculture was the greatest single threat, accounting for 18 sites. A number of new towns are being planned to cover extensive areas, many of which contain DMVs. Five of these cases are under consideration at the present time.

BUCKS.

Burston (SP 842188) Now that the new owner has taken possession it has been discovered that she is in fact very sympathetic to the preservation of the site; it was her agent who originally objected; the site should therefore be safe. The laying of the pipeline was watched by Mr. C.N. Gowing in August. Due to the very wet weather more damage was done than had been hoped but the contractors were as careful as they could be and only a strip along the side of the pipeline, which is peripheral to the main site, has been damaged (15th Annual Report, 1967, 6).

Milton Keynes New Town (15th Annual Report, 1967, 3-4). The town plan has now been prepared and will be published early in 1969. It is of too general a character and at too small a scale to see whether in fact the sites suggested for preservation have been left as open spaces. The scheduling of sites by MPBW is going ahead but unfortunately Great Linford (SP 855417) was ploughed before the notice could be issued. This was completely unexpected since it was thought that this site, which forms an open village green, would be the safest of all the sites in the area. It appears that farmers are quickly ploughing up and improving all their land so that they will be able to sell it to the development corporation at higher prices.

DERBS.

Barton Blount (SK 209346) (15th Annual Report, 1967, 6-7). The excavation of this damaged site was only intended as a small operation. It

was thought that all the late medieval peasant houses would have been destroyed by the bulldozing and that there would not be any earlier buildings underneath as the area reserved for excavation was so far from the presumed original centre. In the event Mr. G. Beresford found most important remains of superimposed timber buildings (Section 5) with pottery going back into the late Saxon period. This site has in fact turned out to be just the type of site which has so far eluded the DMVRG in which there is a long sequence of timber buildings not disturbed in any way by later stone foundations. The DMVRG has proposed further excavations on this site in 1969.

Arleston (SK 335297). Dr. P. Strange reported the destruction of this site by ploughing. Mr. J.G. Hurst visited with him and it was felt that too much damage had been done to make any excavation worthwhile. This site may therefore be largely written off.

Sinfin (SK 342312). This site was mostly destroyed in 1955 when it was covered with many thousands of tons of waste from the Rolls Royce factory (3rd Annual Report, 1955, 8). The site is now to be built over by a large housing estate spreading out from Derby. Dr. P. Strange and Mr. J.G. Hurst visited and found that there was only a single very small area of part of a sunken road and toft which had not been covered. It was felt that excavation of this small mutilated area would not be worthwhile so this site is now written off, though in fact most of the remains are sealed under the rubbish rather than actually destroyed.

DORSET

Hemsworth (SU 970060). The excavation of a single croft had been planned for 1968 as one of the major DMVRG excavations on behalf of the MPBW. Unfortunately, the tenant farmer insisted on the payment of £1000 compensation for the sterilization of two acres of the field for the two months the excavation would cover. In view of this the excavation had to be abandoned and the site has now been scheduled by the MPBW (See Northants-Faxton).

Milton Abbas (SU 800024). As a result of the scheduling of this important site, which was emparked in C18, the MPBW received notice of the intention of the headmaster to build a new house on the NE edge of the site. It is another unfortunate anomaly in the A.M. acts that he was able to obtain planning permission for the house in between the sending of the warning letter and the actual scheduling. It is not thought that excavation would be very productive but that a watching brief on the house foundations and service trenches could provide useful information on the village.

DURHAM

Archdeacon Newton (NZ 255172). The farmer requested permission to build a new barn in a corner of the scheduled shrunken village immediately to the north of the farm. Mr. L. Still reported that this area was already much levelled and disturbed, so permission for the barn was given by the MPBW and Mr. Still will watch the work.

East Layton (NZ 377270). This is an important village with good earthworks which has not yet been scheduled. Its interest is increased by the survival of a map of 1608 marking 'the scyte of the howses' (Med. Archaeol XI (1967), 257 and fig. 74). The MPBW were informed that part of the site would be destroyed by road-widening. It was agreed to let this go ahead with a watching brief and to schedule the rest of the site.

Thrislington (NZ 306333). This site was threatened by quarrying in 1961 (9th Annual Report, 1961, 5); it was agreed that the site should be preserved and it was scheduled in 1965 (13th Annual Report, 1965, 15). Since this time the quarry company have removed their waste by road. This

has led to complaints and an order to dump this adjoining the quarry so as not to endanger road-users. Unfortunately the only possible field is that containing the village so the MPBW have reluctantly had to agree to the site being destroyed. Its whole setting and surroundings are in any case destroyed and there would be little point in trying to preserve it in such conditions.

HAMPSHIRE

Chalton (SU 732160). The earthworks of this shrunken village are being gradually destroyed by redevelopment in the village. Southampton University are planning a full survey of the village. Already the 13th and 14th century manor house has been excavated and planned and it is hoped to do further work on the growth of the village since Saxon times when it was on a different site.

The agreed line of the M.4 will pass very close to both Kemshott (SU 589460) (13th Annual Report 1965, 16) and Hatch Warren (SU 616488). Work is expected to start in 1969 and the Basingstoke Museum have agreed to watch the works for finds.

Idsworth (SU 743141). This village was first ploughed in 1962 (10th Annual Report, 1962, 5). It was hoped that a survey would be made by one of the local museums but nothing has been done. It is now hoped that Southampton University will be able to record the house sites which are still visible after ploughing.

Solent City. A large new town is planned to fill most of the land between Southampton and Portsmouth. Southampton University have arranged an archaeological survey. It is expected that many DMVs will be threatened in this area. A Committee is to be formed and it is hoped that, as with Milton Keynes, it will be possible to preserve the best sites as open spaces.

HUNTS.

Peterborough New Town. The RCHM have carried out a survey of the area of the new town (which will be published in 1969). They report that no DMV sites are threatened. The only site is at Milton (TL 145995) which will remain as an open space.

LEICS.

Knaptoft (SP 626895). Work began on rebuilding the farm during 1968 (15th Annual Report, 1967, 7-8). This was watched by Mr. T. Pearce. The only possible important part of the site to be levelled is the area immediately to the east of the church which is to be made into a car park. When the Hemsworth, Dorset, excavation was cancelled the possibility of excavating the car park area was considered. Following a visit by Dr. L.A.S. Butler it was decided that the various humps and bumps in this area might be post-medieval disturbance; and it would be unwise to have a major excavation on this site and more profitable to return to Faxton, Northants.

Stapleford (SK 813183). Lord Gretton requested permission to turn the area of the DMV into a lion reserve. Following a meeting it was agreed that the scheme should be approved and the work was carried out in the spring of 1968. A series of roads was constructed through the site to an agreed line to follow the contours. Where hollows had to be crossed these were filled in and the work was carried out with remarkably little disturbance. A car park was constructed by putting down gravel chips which will stabilise the surface and then grass over. The character of the site has certainly changed but there cannot be another site which is now so safe since no one is likely to interfere with it. The interest of the drive through the lion reserve is greatly enhanced by the humps and bumps of the DMV.

Welby (SK 725210). Half of this important site was ploughed and levelled in 1966 (14th Annual Report, 1966, 15). The site was visited in 1968 and it was found that on the other side the waste tips from the Stanton Staveley Iron Works were rapidly encroaching on the other half so that in a few years the site will be completely destroyed. It is lucky that there is a very fine series of St. Joseph oblique air photographs as these will be our only record of the site. A Local Society are carrying out trial excavations which have exposed stone walls.

LINCS.

Cabourne (TA 140019). Mr. R.C. Russell reported the ploughing of this shrunken site. Pottery was collected but it was too late to do any more.

Langton-by-Wragby (TF 150770). The farmer gave notice of his intention to level the earthworks of this shrunken village. These were of very poor quality and the work was watched by Mr. B. Whitwell who reported no finds although a visit was not possible while the work was actually in progress due to foot and mouth restrictions.

North Stoke (SK 917286). Mr. D. Kaye reported that this emparked site was ploughed. Rescue excavation located the site of the church and manor house with pottery ranging from C10 to C17. (see section 5).

Wainfleet (TF147586). The site of the old town, about two miles west of the present town covers over 100 acres. Some of the earthworks are being destroyed and pottery has been collected by Mr. Wales. An examination of the pottery by J.G. Hurst confirmed that this was the site of a C13-C14 haven for coastal trade since fragments of many Yorkshire type jugs were found. There were no French imports to suggest Continental trade which presumably went via Boston.

Walesby (TF 134925). Mr. G.F. Bryant reported the levelling of a croft on which stone foundations were observed. A small excavation revealed the plan of a small medieval building associated with C13 and C14 pottery, (see section 5).

NORFOLK

North Elmham (TF 987215). Mr. P. Wade-Martins excavated a large area of the late Saxon ecclesiastical settlement (15th Annual Report, 1967, 8). In the area to the north of the drive and east of the sunken road there were medieval pits but no medieval house sites. The medieval village is therefore in the area to the south of the drive. The DMVRG has proposed the excavation of a single croft on this site in 1969.

NORTHANTS.

Faxton (SP 785752). It was hoped that the green area of the village would remain under grass although the rest of the village was destroyed, (14th Annual Report, 1966, 16 & 13th Annual Report, 1965, 17). Early in 1968 the owner gave notice of his intention to level the rest of the site, leaving only the manor site intact. Now that all the surroundings are under the plough there was no point in objecting further. In view of the cancellation of Hemsworth, Dorset and the doubts about Knaptoft, Leics, it was decided to have a third season at Faxton which had already given such promising results (see section 5).

Northampton New Town. Northampton is one of the towns whose size is to be greatly increased over the next few years. Mrs. G. Brown reports that no DMV sites are threatened in the area. Upton (SP 717603) is already in a park which will remain an open space while Overstone (SP 810655) is just outside the area.

Papley (TL 106891). The owner asked permission to drain this scheduled site. It was agreed that the area surrounding could be drained and ploughed but the main site should remain intact. Mrs. Brown watched the work and it was unfortunate that the area scheduled did not cover one croft which was therefore destroyed. Foundations were recorded by Mrs. Brown (p. 5). This error was due to the directive in the 1950s to make the scheduled areas as small as possible. It is anyway always very difficult to draw definite lines on a 6" O.S. map of a site in the middle of a field. This fault has now been largely corrected due to the introduction during the past five years of 25" maps to record the scheduled areas.

NORTHUMB.

West Whelpington (NY 975838). After ten years of amicable relations with the quarry owner, Mr. Appleby (now the quarry manager after a takeover by Slaters), during which time the excavations have been carefully phased with the advance of the quarry, there was a disaster in 1968. When Dr. Jarrett arrived at Easter to complete his excavation of crofts 1-4 he found that these had been bulldozed. This was done by a bulldozer driver while Mr. Appleby was on holiday. It is thought that this was a genuine error but the circumstances are rather suspicious. Work was therefore started on a separate area (see section 5). The DMVRG has recommended excavation on this site in 1969 and future years.

NOTTS.

Bingham (SK 714397). The building of the school to the east of the DMV was watched by Mr. M. Dean (13th Annual Report, 1965, 17). Little of medieval interest was found, but a Roman site was discovered. The area to the south of the DMV is now to be built on thus completely enclosing the site. This estate will be on the open fields. The work will be watched.

RUTLAND

Martinsthorpe (SK 865046). The owner reported a scheme to drain the fields to the NW of the site. As these are under the plough and are in any case beyond the village it is unlikely that any damage will be done. It is hoped to watch the work.

Normanton (SK 933063). Mr. M. Dean reports that a large part of this C18 emparking, including the church, will be covered by the new Gwash valley reservoir which is to be constructed in 1969 or 1970 to provide water for the Peterborough new town. If the scheme goes ahead the DMVRG has recommended that there should be no excavation as the site is to be flooded, and not destroyed.

SOMERSET

Bineham (ST 550250). A large part of this area is ploughed and only two fields remain under grass some half mile apart. To the west are the supposed crofts of the village and to the east a large earthwork which may be the manor house. The old field boundaries and hedges are now in process of being destroyed and Miss A. Hamlin will watch to see what can be found to locate the extent of the site. The manor site may be destroyed in 1969 and it is proposed to excavate it. The main surviving crofts to the west are not at present threatened.

WARWS.

Bentley (SP 277945). Mr. C.J. Bond reports that this new DMV which he discovered and planned only in 1967 was levelled and ploughed in 1968.

Billesley Trussell (SP 146568). Mr. C.J. Bond reports that a surviving cottage on the site has been demolished and rebuilt with a new drive cutting right across the site. This disturbance was watched but little was observed.

WILTS.

Gomeldon (SU 182356). Mr. D.J. Algar reported that a new water pipe was to be laid across the lower part of the site where it might have cut through the early part of the village. Although the site is scheduled the MPEW were not informed. Mr. Algar was fortunately able to have the line diverted to the west of the hedge defining the site. The cut was observed and nothing of importance was found.

WORCS.

Redditch New Town. A survey by Mr. R.T. Rowley for the Worcs. New Towns Excavation Committee showed that several medieval industrial and moated sites were threatened together with the extensive remains of Bordesley Abbey. There is only one known DMV site in the area at Ipsley (SP 065665) and it is hoped that this may be preserved as an open space together with Bordesley Abbey. The fine DMV of Beoley, (SP 065696) with its associated castle earthworks, is just outside the designated area but will have to be watched in case the town is later extended. Excavations have already been in progress by the Committee on the Roman road, abbey, industrial sites and the Washford fishponds.

YORKS. E.R.

Rotsea (TA 065516). An American firm asked for permission to carry out a line of explosive borings across this scheduled site to prospect for oil. Approval was given since the actual damage was likely to be very small. It was requested that there should be as few vehicles as possible in the field which might disturb the earthworks. As the farmer also wanted as little disturbance as possible it was felt that this would be watched.

Southorpe (TA 198466). The army asked permission to remove a wartime pillbox as an exercise in the use of explosives. As the area was clearly destroyed during the war when the pillbox was built, this was agreed to. The removal of this eyesore would improve the appearance of the site.

YORKS. N.R.

Eryholme (NZ 323094). Mrs. J. Summerson reported that a new North Sea Gas pipeline was going through this site. Unfortunately, there is no statutory obligation for the MPEW to be informed of these lines, though they have the plans for those in the south by personal contact. Plans are now being obtained of the various grids being laid in the north and it looks as though the line will pass close to, but not actually through, various other North Yorks. and County Durham DMVs.

Solberge (SE 355891). This site has recently changed hands and the solicitors for the new owner have enquired about the importance of the site. It is hoped that the site may be scheduled and preserved.

Stainsby (NZ 465157). Mr. A. Aberg reports that a new road is planned straight across the main line of crofts of this good quality site. Attempts have been made to change the line but it looks as though the line cannot be changed. As no work has been done on Teesside DMVs an excavation here could be useful.

YORKS. W.R.

Skinthorpe (SE 544036). Mr. D. Holland reports that this site has been ploughed. The site is being observed by the local society but as sites in this area are of such poor quality a major excavation does not seem worthwhile.

5.

Excavations of 1968

CORNWALL

Tresmorn (SX 161977) G. Beresford. Croft 4, south of the sunken road, was excavated in 1967. There were three periods of occupation in the croft. The position and alignment of the earlier turf walled houses were

indicated by lines of stake-holes and hearths. There was no associated pottery with these structures. Successive periods of turf-walled houses were followed by two superimposed ones, built of cob. The internal measurements of the latest of these were 27 x 11 ft., divided into two rooms. The upper part was the living room, with a corner hearth, found under the remains of a fallen wattle and daub chimney. The entrance to the house was in the side wall of the small lower room. The house of the final period was constructed of stone. This building had been extensively damaged by modern drainage and only the size of one room (21 x 11 ft.) could be determined. The internal measurements of that room were 21 x 11 ft. Pottery associated with the last two periods of occupation was of C13.

DERBYSHIRE

Barton Blount (SK 209346), G. Beresford for DMVRG on behalf of MPBW. Much of the deserted village is threatened with destruction by deep ploughing. The seven crofts, reserved for excavation, are at a considerable distance from the Church and Barton Hall, the presumed centre of the original settlement. It was at first thought that these seven crofts were a late extension to the settlement, but excavation of two of them has shown a long sequence of superimposed timber buildings and pottery, dating from the late Saxon period to the 15th century. The position and alignment of these structures were defined by post holes, sill trenches, eaves ditches and timber slots. The absence of hearths made it difficult to determine, with certainty, the original purpose of all the buildings. Water and cess pits and an oven were found associated with them. An impressive house platform was found at the side of the street. There had been considerable change in the size and alignment of the crofts. Pottery, of C11-C15 date, included two Chesterware rims and much Stamford ware. Other finds included quern stones, lead spindle whorls and whetstones. Owing to the acidity of the soil, few bones have survived. Further excavation is planned for the Spring of 1969.

DORSET

Toller Porcorum - Whitcombe Farm (SY 555955) G.V.D. Rybot. The stone and flint foundations of a building c.47 x 17 ft., were exposed. Post-holes were found in the NE and NW corners and in the west wall where the cross-walls joined; much of the main east wall had been destroyed in subsequent disturbances including the making up of what appeared to be a road. The building appears to have been subdivided into three rooms of internal width 9, 21, and 9 ft. respectively. Pottery suggested a C12 - C14 date.

Co. DURHAM

West Hartburn (NZ 358142), L. Still and A. Pallister. A further long-house at the east end of the village was excavated. This was 65 x 18 ft. internally; it was divided into a living room with a clay floor and central hearth, and a byre floored partly of rough paving with two drains. There was a timber screen across the division and evidence for a cross passage. Walls were represented by heavy rubble footings implying a wooden superstructure. Finds include C13 - C15 sherds, some ironwork and a gaming counter.

ESSEX

Wicken Bonhunt (TL 511335) B. Hooper. Excavations around the C12 chapel of St. Helen revealed 49 burials, one with extensive sword injuries. Bulldozing nearby exposed several hut-sites with sherds of C5 (grass-tempered) - C13, spindle-whorls and iron finds. Half-a-mile away ploughing turned up a scatter of C12 - C13 sherds and a strap-end.

GLOS.

Upton (SP 152344) P. A. Rahtz, University of Birmingham School of History. Buildings AD-AF were removed, and dated to the mid C13; underneath were slight traces of two phases of earlier timber buildings with hearths, and drainage gullies and a deep sump of earlier date; the two earliest phases here were non-ceramic. On the inner side of the west boundary of the village was found a negative lynchet, indicating ploughing of the westernmost croft.

HANTS.

Netherton (SU 374578) City of London Archaeological Society. Following survey of earthworks NW of the church site, excavation exposed a circular building with flint walls 4 ft. thick, associated with C12 - C14 sherds.

LINCS.

North Stoke

At SK 917286, ploughing exposed a limestone block; excavation showed the SW corner of a building, probably the church of St. Andrew; sherds nearby ranged from C10 - C14. At SK 919282, foundations were revealed which may be that of Coney Hall, known to exist in the late C17, but absent from a map of 1796.

Walesby (TF 134925) Mrs. E. Russell. Excavation exposed a house 37 x 16 ft., divided by a cross-wall to define an internal room 16 x 10 ft. Associated sherds were of C13 - C15 date.

MONMOUTHSHIRE

Wilcrick (ST 409879) L. N. Parkes. In this shrunk village there are two enclosures in the field south of Church Farm and one in the orchard to the north. In the former probing confirmed a building 34 x 16 ft. with a small raised 6 ft. square structure projecting from its NE corner. Excavation showed this to be a cobbled floor.

NORTHANTS.

Faxton (SP 785752) L. Butler for DMVRG on behalf of MPBW. One croft, 100 ft. square, was examined in the centre of the village. This showed 6 main structural phases, which followed the sequence from mud-and-timber building to a mud-walled structure set on a substantial stone foundation course. In the first two phases the house was placed in the centre of the croft, well back from the street; in the later phases the houses were closer to the street and the village green. No hearths were found in any of the houses and little trace of interior drains.

In the later periods three barns were placed around a cobbled yard, within the house forming the fourth side. Apart from a slight Roman scatter, pottery and coin evidence commenced c. 1150 and continued in the 16th century with several jettons. This house complex was replaced by the Rectory at the back of the croft shortly after 1600.

NORTHUMBERLAND

West Whelpington (NY 974837) M. Jarrett for DMVRG on behalf of MPBW. Excavations involved three separate sites. On site 24 the excavation of 1960 was completed, revealing a house of medieval date with no internal divisions, perhaps destroyed in the 14th century. Sites 2 and 3, partly damaged by the quarry, revealed a complex sequence. A cow-byre at the west end was followed by at least three stone houses, completely robbed in the 19th century. These continued the line of the buildings of site 1, and were occupied in medieval times and in the 17th century.

A wide area of site 16 was opened, revealing that the site was a complex of medieval date, continuing into the post-medieval period as outbuildings for site 16A, some 20 metres further north. This was exclusively of the 17th century, and revealed a long house with a byre to the west. North of this, in the village green, lay site 16B, a small medieval house with a platform for a hay-rick at its east end. Examination of the pond revealed that it was in part artificial; C19 drainage had removed all earlier deposits.

SHROPSHIRE

Sutton - Sudetone (SJ 504105) W. Jenks, Shropshire Archaeological Society. Excavations revealed the following features: (1) A baking oven of C13 - 14, 16 ft. long with side flues. (2) A possible timber-fronted long-house with an external width of 12½ ft. (3) Seven other ovens, one a corn-dryer, another associated with a shed 30 x 15 ft. The ovens date from C12 to C17. (4) A palisade with upright posts 4-5 ft. apart. (5) Post-holes, pits, and a sunken floor of large stones, with C13 - 14 sherds. (6) a series of 'waterworks', consisting of a series of dams gullies, spillways, and a pond. (7) A system of deep gulleys with C14 sherds.

- (8) A C18 Furnace or kiln, consisting of an apsidal structure of large bricks.
- (9) A deeply-rutted cobbled road with a kerbed pavement and storm-water drain, of post-medieval date.

STAFFS.

Great Sandon Stone RDC (SJ 955296 and 956296) F. Celoria, University of Keele. Two areas were dug, each of 300 square metres; there were traces of cobble and pebble floors, but no buildings; sherds of C15 to C18 were found, the C18 probably from market-gardening over the site.

SURREY

Merstham (TQ 295558) Miss L. Ketteringham, Bourne Society. Excavation showed flint walls of a medieval house, with sherds of c.1200 to c. 1400.

WILTS.

Gomeldon (SU 182356) J. Musty, D. Algar, Salisbury Museum Research Committee. The 1968 excavation was devoted to an investigation of the yard area surrounding Building 6. The excavation revealed that Building 6B had replaced a building (6A) of long-house type (probably 24 x 12 ft. internally). The long-walls of 6A were only represented by raised areas of chalk and the sole remaining wall section was at the south end. A midden had been formed against this wall associated with 6A. Building 6A was probably of two bays with an overall length of 24 ft. internally, with a wall thickness of 2 ft. A novel feature of 6A was a sunken outshot 8 x 7 ft. internally and 2 ft. deep adjoining the west side at the southern end. This was originally lined with faced flints. It was entered from the building down three crude steps. Also on the west side of Building 6A were numerous stakeholes, randomly spaced, to tether animals.

The six-year programme of work at Gomeldon, completed in 1968, has led to the excavation of eleven buildings and produced evidence relating to the development of farm units in the 13th/14th century from a basic 12th century long-house plan. All buildings were constructed with low walls of unmortared knapped flints and without foundation trenches. Presumably the walls stood originally about 3 ft. high and were approximately 2 ft. thick. The houses were planned with a "bay unit" of 12-15 ft. and the length was either 2 or 3 times this unit so that no building exceeded the length of 42 ft. The width of the buildings was equal to the bay unit. A feature of three of the buildings was a sump at the down-slope end and this is taken as evidence that the down-slope ends were byres. Evidence for hearths was found in four buildings and, when a sump was present, at the opposite end to it. Some buildings also had opposed entrances and thus it is evident that characteristic long-house features are embodied in the Gomeldon buildings; later modifications may involve addition of other buildings to the basic long-house plan to form a "farm-unit" incorporating an enclosed yard. The major modifications occurred in the 13th/14th centuries. In the 12th century the conventional long-house plan was followed, possibly modified by the addition of an attached outshott.

Building 2 is of considerable interest because its roof had been supported by timbers set in deep sloping post-holes, evidence for cruck-construction. Building 2 was only 24 ft. long whereas its 13th century successor (Building 1) was 42 ft. It was possible to demonstrate, at Gomeldon, the development of a farmhouse from a basic long-house plan. Building 3, originally supplied with opposed entrances and living and byre ends, had been converted to a long-house opening up onto a yard and other buildings of the farm unit, including a barn, set around the yard. Further sophistications were observed in Complex 7. Here two long-houses (7A and 7C) built along two sides of the platform had been joined together by the insertion of a third building (7B) at the back of the platform so that a U-shaped

range of buildings was obtained enclosing three sides of a yard. Entrance to the yard was obtained through a gateway 10 ft. wide.

An interim assessment of the different building layouts which have been observed demonstrate the following features:-

- (a) Small long house of 12th to 13th century - date developing into
- (b) Long house with well-defined "byre ends" and with open yard in front of the house (13th/14th century), developing into
- (c) The farmhouse (converted long house, i.e. animals no longer "living in") forming part of a boundary of an enclosed yard with other buildings set round the yard (13th/14th century) and
- (d) the parallel development to (c) a range of buildings around an enclosed yard with the buildings forming an integral block of which one unit is a long house (14th century).

These features lead to the interesting question as to whether the basic unit of a village such as Gomeldon was the "house" with possibly some outbuildings for subsistence farming as in the 12th century or whether the village was essentially a nucleated collection of small farmsteads as in the 13th/14th century. A village such as Gomeldon must be seen not simply as a collection of houses but as a communal farming unit. An over-preoccupation with the identification of house plans may lead to a complete misunderstanding of the life of the village.

Huish (SU 145637) N.P. Thompson for MPBW. Excavation of levelled building platform cut in to greensand continued. A complex sequence of timber and chalk footing buildings, including two outbuildings. One of these contained two hearths and was possibly a forge. There was also a bread oven with a stone tile floor. Finds include C12-C14 sherds, many iron objects, and a C14 token.

YORKS. E.R.

Wharram Percy (SE 858642) J.G. Hurst for DMVRG. The 19th season was again concentrated on Area 6 and the church. To the south of Site 6 an area 85 x 30 ft. was cleared to natural, exposing a maze of postholes and slots. Because of chalk quarries, only two areas of C.20 x 15 ft. were undisturbed; no coherent pattern therefore emerged, though it is assumed that the features represent late C12 - early C13 structures. The quarries were probably for the earliest stone houses. On the Church site, the north and south walls of the Saxon church were located. At the west end a foundation trench was cut 3 ft. into natural; further east the natural dropped, and the trench was only 18 ins. deep. On a footing of chalk boulders was puddled chalk and clay as a base for sandstone foundations 3 - 3½ ft. wide, though the walls may have been narrower. The construction can be paralleled at Escomb and Jarrow, but the dating is likely to be later, possibly 10th century. On the Saxon foundations were the Norman ones of the nave east wall, and the present east nave wall end chancel arch on top of that. In the south aisle, a 26 ft. length of Norman ashlar wall was found of high quality, the work of master masons. It was built on re-used Saxon material and four fragments of limestone coffins. At the west end there was a complex series of foundations. The Norman south aisle and SE chapel was seen to be a continuous structure 50 x 7½ ft. 19 burials were found, including the first example of a grave lined with chalk blocks of pre-C12 date.

IRELAND, Co. TIPPERARY

Liathmore-Mochoemog (Irish Grid Ref. S 225577). R.E. Glasscock for Office of Public Works, Dublin. This is an important early monastic site, and the continuous rebuilding between the thirteenth and fifteenth centuries of the larger of the two ruined churches on the site suggests that there was a sizeable settlement here in the medieval period. Both churches are surrounded by earthworks. Further to the finds of seventeenth-century dwellings and associated finds by Leask and Macalister (P.R.I.A., 51, C (1946), 1-14), the site was excavated to locate medieval structures.

North of the earlier church an area 100 x 50 ft. was stripped to expose an impressive rectangular building 65 x 18 ft. internally with wall foundations $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. thick. The foundations of the gable ends and one long wall survived. There was a doorway towards the north end of the long wall and there was probably at least one in the opposite wall. Pottery found in a shallow pit outside the NW corner suggests a C18 date for the use of the building. It may be that this was a farm outbuilding and that the dwelling house lies beneath adjacent earthworks to the east. Earlier structures beneath include a small, deep pit with east-west burials.

A trial trench 100 x 5 ft. across irregular ground south of the early church revealed the edge of the monastic graveyard, C17 structures similar to those found by Leask and Macalister, and underlying post-holes and slots.

S.W. GERMANY

Zimmern, Stebbach Parish, Sinsheim District (Stuttgart-Heidelberg area). G.P. Fehring and D. Lutz. A settlement revealed by mechanical excavators in 1967 consisted of church, cemetery, and associated farmsteads, identified as Zimmern from documents, which extend from 805 to 1496.

The oldest church was a wooden building 12 x 6 m., of C8-9 date. In C10-11 this was replaced by a stone one of similar size. In C13, a choir was inserted and the west end extended by 3 m. In C14, the choir was rebuilt and a southern annexe added. 180 graves have been dug.

The settlement covers an area of 50-100 x 100-300 m. plotted by discoloration of soil. There were post-hole buildings and sunken huts; one of the latter was divided by a stone wall with a door. There were also pits and hearths.

(G.P. Fehring and D. Lutz, Archaologische Grabungen im Bereich der Dorfwüstung Zimmern auf der Gemarkung Stebbach, Kreis Sinsheim. Zeitschrift für Geschichte des Oberrheins CXVII (1969), in the press.

A Schäfer, 'Zur Identifizierung der ausgegrabenen Wüstung' Zeitschrift für Geschichte des Oberrheins CXVII (1969), in the press.)

Sindelfingen, Böblingen District (near Stuttgart), Barbara Scholkmann. The settlement was probably founded in connection with a monastery, and abandoned in 1263 for the town of Sindelfingen. A farmstead has been excavated, surrounded by a palisade with a flat ditch on the outside, entered by a double gate from an exterior metalled area. There were buildings of two periods, 1. a post building 4-5 m. long, which was burnt; 2. a multi-aisled building with walls of vertical timbers. Both had pits and a courtyard. Dating finds extend from C11-14, and there are organic remains of wooden bowls, leather, grain and seeds.

(G. Stachel, 'Die Ergebnisse der Testgrabung in Sindelfingen, Wurmbergquartier', Stadt Sindelfingen, Jahresbericht (1967), 246 ff. Barbara Scholkmann, 'Die Ergebnisse der archäologischen Ausgrabung in Sindelfingen/Wurmbergquartier 1968', Stadt Sindelfingen, Jahresbericht (1968) in the press.)

6.

Accounts

DESERTED MEDIEVAL VILLAGE RESEARCH GROUP

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 1968

RECEIPTS

EXPENDITURE

Work in progress account
Balance from 1967

£25. 0. 2.

Clerical expenses

£25. 0. 0.

Balance (to
subscriptions a/c)

2.

Air Photograph account
Balance from 1967

5.17. 6.

St. Joseph prints

2.13. 6.

Balance

3. 4. 0.

Subscriptions account

Balance from 1967

57. 2. 3.

Lantern slides

6. 5. 3.

Subscriptions and sales

100. 6. 0.

Photographs

4.14. 1.

Refund from Czech
exhibition account

13.11. 0.

Filing cabinet

11. 0. 0.

From work in progress a/c

2.

On account of books
and periodicals

34. 1. 8.

Historical research

10. 0. 0.

Cheque book

5. 0.

Balance

104.13. 5.

£201.17. 1.

£201.17. 1.

SUMMARY

Opening balance

87.19.11.

Expenditure

68.19. 6.

Income

113.17. 0.

Uncleared cheque
(clerical)

5. 0. 0.

Adjustment (Work in
progress a/c)

2.

Adjustment

2.

Closing balance

127.17. 5.

£201.17. 1.

£201.17. 1.

7.

Reports from foreign correspondents

BELGIUM - Prof. Dr. A. Verhulst

The Ghent section of the Belgian Centre for Rural History, with the Seminar for Archaeology of Ghent University, began to excavate the DMV of Roeselare, commune Ste. Margriete, in the province of East Flanders - see A. Verhulst 'Note pour servir à l'étude archaéologique des villages désertés en Belgique' in L'archaéologie du village médiéval (Belgian Centre for Rural History, Leuven-Ghent 1967, 123-132).

The village of Roeselare was founded about 1243 by a rich patrician from Ghent, who built a church and a court, which could both be located by documents of later date, after the village had been destroyed in 1376 by inundation.

The first excavation explored the central manor of the village. The plan of a brick building, measuring 9.5 x 6.5 m., and provided with eight buttresses, was recovered; it had been destroyed by inundation. Traces of a second building, almost completely destroyed by the inundation, were found SW of the first building. Excavated material dates from the C14.

In the above mentioned volume on the archaeology of the medieval village, R. Noël published a note on villages in southern Belgium, temporarily deserted during the later middle ages (Les villages disparus de Gaume à la fin du moyen âge, pp. 133-139). Their number does not seem to have been considerable. Some of them, however, may soon be excavated by the Louvain section of the Belgian Centre for Rural History.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Bohemia

Dr. Zdenek Smetánka, Archaeological Institute CSAV, Prague. The survey of DMV sites, especially in Central Bohemia continued. Four settlements are being prepared for the survey. The first among them will be "Lažany" near Stihlice. Work has begun at "Svidna" near Slaný. In collaboration with the Fondazione C.M. Lerici of Rome magnetometric research of the site has been done simultaneously with the location of metals by means of a metal-detector in one part of the village. There was also work on three other sites, including a small rescue excavation of the village-site at Běhařov (distr. Klatovy) dated to C12-C13.

Slovakia

Dr. A. Habovštiak, Archaeologica Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences at Nitra and the Slovak National Museum at Bratislava and Martin.

Excavation by the Archaeological Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences at Nitra:

Poltár: The excavation of the DMV at "Kostolisko" (Dr. I. Hrubec) continued. The plans of a "donjon" dating to C13-C15, a double-roomed house, a C16 manor-house, and a farm building were recovered as well as the remains of numerous sunken huts dating from C10-C12.

Hubiná: On a hilly promontory named "Kostoloc" there was a rescue excavation of a destroyed church and its surround. The double-rotunda plan of the church, more than 200 stone-marked graves, and the two plans of two oblong buildings of an unknown purpose were discovered. The church was built in mid C11 and was destroyed in C15. It may have served the villages Hubiná and Ducová which still exist. The excavation was directed by Dr. A. Ruttkay. A paper by A. Habovštiak, 'Stredoveké zaniknuté dediny vo svetle doterajšieho historicko-archeologického výskumu na Slovensku' (Deserted medieval villages in the light of the present historical-archaeological research in Slovakia), will appear in the journal Agrikultúra for 1969.

Excavations by the Slovak National Museum at Bratislava and Martin:

Plavecke Podhradie: Work continued on the destroyed village church, built in the second half of C13 on the slope of the hill named "Kostolná" (K. Kulášik).

Sebeslavce: Further dwelling-houses of this DMV site were discovered, dating from C15-C17 cc. (M. Slaninak). The ground-plan of the church, still in use at Sebeslavce, was also examined, and its earlier Romanesque plan recovered.

FRANCE

Central Professor G. Fournier, University of Clermont.

The work carried out by M. Charbonnier on manorial records has enabled him to identify more deserted settlements, principally in the area of Murot (Puy-de-Dôme). Aerial photography and fieldwork are undertaken simultaneously on the sites rediscovered in this way; and also on the villages which are mentioned in the Armorial de Revel (mid C15) in anticipation of the publication of this document by M. Fournier. M. Fabre has continued his excavation of the deserted village of Montchauvet in the commune of Sauges (Haute-Loire).

South-Eastern The Excavations at Rougiers (Var) by Professor G.D. D'Archimbaud, University of Aix, Department of Mediaval Archaeology.

Excavations since 1961 have studied the seccessive medieval settlements in the territory of Rougiers on the north-facing slopes of the mountains of the Sainte-Baume in the Var.

The aims of the research were twofold: (1) the history of the population growth and of the feudal structure in this small region, and (2) the layout, and the period of occupation of each of the inhabited sites: i.e. the oppidum reoccupied in the middle ages; the feudal castle (castrum); and the agglomeration at the foot of the slope and on the plain.

The study of the castle, (built in the late C12, partly abandoned in the second half of the C13, reoccupied intensively in the C14 and completely deserted by the middle of the C15) has continued in spite of the immense difficulties posed by the steepness of the terrain, the masses of building rubble, the forest vegetation which had completely covered all the ruined buildings on the plateau, and the screes of rock which followed each other at intervals on the 45 degree slope.

The work comprised the clearance of the whole area of the castle and of the major part of the village and the definition of 55 stratified levels (23 in the area of the castle and its bailey, 31 in the fortified village, and 1 at the forge outside the area of the castle).

It was possible to recover not only the general plan of the site (buildings, streets, the use of caves and rock shelters, the placing of the castle with regard to the level areas etc.), but also the development of the settlements. The large primitive houses, by far the most common buildings, were arranged to follow a plan designed to include the necessity of defence, and then progressively enclosed and modernised (hearths, living rooms, more exits) in an attempt to use every possible spot within the boundaries and to make the hard life a little more comfortable; the street pattern was modified as a result. The architectural study of these stone buildings, rising one above another with a single sloping tiled roof, has been studied, and planned on a specially large scale. Besides the plans of the whole excavation there are 16 architectural elevations, 6 detailed plans of the most complicated buildings and 126 sections, with photographs.

The discovery of 114 medieval coins in stratified levels has greatly helped the dating of the site. There are also parallels with material found on other Provençal excavations. The dating has been reinforced by the presence of imported pottery, representing the opening up of Provence to Mediterranean trade at the end of the C13. The pottery includes thousands of vessels in unglazed grey ware or a light glazed ware, and 888 vessels of a light coloured ware with tin or lead glaze and painted decoration. It was first classified into coarse and fine wares. The information gained from the worked stone, the animal bones, the bronze, iron and lead (3,500 objects altogether) which are for the most part particularly interesting for their richness, diversity and the development of form and technique, is most valuable. A number of fragments of glass have been

found which can be associated with the presence of a glasshouse a few kilometres away in the forest. Study of the charcoal from the hearths gives information about the vegetation of the countryside. Examination of the animal bones is still in progress.

The excavation can be considered as completed but work continues in the laboratory before publication can be envisaged.

FRANCE École Pratique des Hautes Études (VI^o Section)

In 1968, circumstances did not allow us to undertake excavations on more than two sites, both of them in Burgundy. In Dracy (South West of Beaune, Côte d'Or), a fourth season of excavation was conducted in May and June. The clearance of the C14 village buildings was continued. The level occupation layers in the front-rooms suggests that they were used as living rooms. This is also the place where hearths were found. The back rooms have an uneven floor, flat stones are set in it and shallow holes dug in between. They were probably used as cellars or warehouses. Occupation material and grains were found in particularly large number in these back-rooms. There are some signs that an upper room was built above the cellars. The ash layers of both buildings have provided a sickle bearing a maker's mark, an iron spade, and vine-growers hook. Other finds include an iron oil-lamp, two bronze bowls, and pottery of several types. In Villy-le-Moutier (East of Beaune, Côte d'Or) excavations were undertaken for the first time on a fortified site including two moated enclosures. Exploration inside the southern enclosure did not reveal any building but only an occupation-layer under filling layers. On the northern enclosure a trial trench revealed earthworks, a stone wall and finally stratified floors (tamped earth or tiles). The northern moat is probably the site of the fortified manor house of Villy-le-Moutier which is mentioned in C14 documents. Finds, particularly decorated pottery with applied or stamped motifs, suggest a late C13 or early C14 occupation within both moats.

GERMANY Professor Dr. H. Jäger

Publications:

Born, M.: Wüstungen und Sozialbrache. Erdkunde, Bd. XXII, 1968, S. 145-151. - Discussion of expressions referring to different kinds of desertions.

Born, M. and Seel, K. A.: Two maps of prehistoric and medieval fields in Hessen. In: Otremba, E. (Ed.), Atlas der Deutschen Agrarlandschaft IV, 3.

Goehrke, C.: Wüstungsperioden des frühen und hohen Mittelalters in Osteuropa. Jahrbücher für Geschichte Osteuropas. N.F. 16, 1968, S. 1-52. - Fundamental survey of different movements of desertion in East Europe; reference to desertions of: migration period (1st-8th century) - 10th century - 11th/12th century - 13th century (heavy desertions) - discussion of the problem of identification and of the causes.

Goehrke, C.: Die Wüstungen in der Moskauer Rus', Studien zur Siedlungs-, Bevölkerungs- und Sozialgeschichte. Quellen und Studien zur Geschichte des östlichen Europa, Bd. 1, Wiesbaden 1968. - Primary work of deserted sites in Russia - maps showing intensity of desertions in the Russian Empire for the period c. 1580-1620.

Hildebrandt, H.: Regelmäßige Siedlungsformen in Hünfelder Land. Marburger Geographische Schriften, H. 34, 1968 - Including a chapter about DMV sites and fields.

Hütteroth, W.-D.: Ländliche Siedlungen im südlichen Inneranatolien in den letzten vierhundert Jahren. Göttinger Geographische Abhandlungen, H. 46, 1968. - The first modern investigation of deserted villages in Turkey; problems of identification, sources, methods, period of desertions c. 1600.

Jäger, H.: Wüstungsforschung und Geographie. In: Geographische Zeitschrift, 56. Jg., 1968, S. 165 - 180 - Concepts of research and discussion of new publications.

Jäger, H. und Scherzer, W.: Siedlung und Wald westlich Würzburg 1400-1950. In: Otremba, E. (Ed.), Atlas der Deutschen Agrarlandschaft IV,3. Map 1: 25 000 including DMV's resettled ones, deserted medieval fields covered with woodland and recultivated ones.

Niemeier, G: Der Landschaftstest. Siedlungs - und - Agrargeschichtlicher Datem. Zeitschrift für Agrargeschichte und Agrarsoziologie, Jg. 16, 1968, S. 16-35. - Including methods of location of deserted villages and fields by research of soils.

Professor H. Quirin: The Friedrich-Meinecke-Institut of the Freien Universität, Berlin has collected documentary evidence on deserted settlements in the area of Barnim and Teltow, and is producing a map based on the interpretation of earlier maps. Current work is concentrated on field and other topographical names of places confirmed by archaeological finds.

APPENDIX A

Memorandum to the Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Scotland
prepared by the DMVRG in 1969

Although there were undoubtedly regional variations there was a degree of uniformity in medieval settlement form in the Scottish Highlands and Lowlands alike. Apart from the burghs, the castles of the great landowners, and the houses of the lesser lairds, the recurring settlement was not the village in the English sense, but a small cluster of houses and associated buildings forming a group-farm or fermtoun. Numbers within the group varied but three to eight tenants were usual. In addition there might also be several cottars to provide additional labour. After 1745 many of the Highland townships swelled in size, and then in the early C19 there commenced an era of depopulation. This type of deserted settlement site in the highlands is almost unique in Europe and many of the place-names can be traced back to medieval times. Such sites are of exceptional interest since much might be learned of earlier settlement phases which at present have left no superficial trace, because of the flimsy building materials employed.

Some of these ruinous clusters provide very impressive memorials of the Highland group-farms as they existed as anachronisms just before desertion. No doubt more extensive survey will yield other excellent examples but meanwhile some degree of preservation of selected sites is abundantly necessary. With adequate plans and notice-boards a number of these could be made attractive to the student and the tourist alike. So many foreign visitors to Scotland are of Highland descent and come with a desire to see the old home district, often remembered over several generations, these ruined deserted settlements require no embellishment to tell their story. In the Lowlands, where Anglian influence was strong, some settlements may have approached in size and organization the villages of northern England but much more study of this question is needed. Meanwhile selected sites may be suggested for Scheduling.

It is realized that the preservation of the standing remains on many of these sites could be a very costly business if they were taken into Guardianship by the MPBW. This is made more difficult by the fact that many of the walls are bonded together only with clay mortar, or are of dry-stone construction. It is suggested that sites 2, 3A, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 should be Scheduled as Ancient Monuments in the hope that a representative series of sites may be preserved in different parts of Scotland. Site 1 at Arrol is already in Guardianship and Site 3B is already being preserved and restored by local initiative. It is hoped that over a period of time it will be possible for all the other sites to be taken into Guardianship by the Ministry but for the present it is strongly recommended that a single site should be chosen as soon as possible for Guardianship, consolidation and preservation of the standing remains. There is little doubt on our present information, and as a result of the tour of sites made by members of the DMVRG in 1964 and 1966 that the best site would be TIRAI in Perthshire. This site is easy of access, lying close to a main tourist route along Loch Tay and is in a perfect setting in pasture. Consolidation would be expensive but urgent work where walls are falling could be carried out in the first instance with further consolidation over a number of years. With this experience it might then be possible to move on to other sites.

This initial programme would preserve a representative series of settlements of different types in different regions.

Roofed Buildings in (1) Lewis by the Ministry, and in (3B) Argyll by local effort.

Ruins in (2) Rhum, (3A) Kintyre, (5) Angus, (6) Perthshire, and (7B) Kirkcudbright.

Earthworks in (4) Sutherland, (7A) Kirkcudbright and (8) Peeblesshire.

There is no doubt that as well as the impressive Guardianship remains of castles and abbeys there should be preserved typical village sites so that future generations can get a better idea of how the ordinary people lived before the fundamental changes of the twentieth century.

List of Scottish Deserted Settlements Recommended for Preservation

1) OUTER HEBRIDES Lewis - Barvas, Arrol (NB 3148)

Hebridean House No. 42 is already in Ministry Guardianship. This is a good example of a typical black-house, still roofed and habitable. It stands in one of the Lewis townships listed in Category B by the Scottish Development Department under the 1947 Planning Acts.

2) INNER HEBRIDES Rhum, Kilmory (NM 3603) and Harris (NM 3395)

These sites deserted in the early C19 are under the protection of the Nature Conservancy and they have round them the distinctive narrow ridges produced by foot-plough cultivation. The whole agrarian unit could therefore here be preserved without difficulty since in most other cases modern agricultural needs will prevent the sterilization of such large areas.

Kilmory is the more interesting site of the two. It comprises a compact group of round-cornered dry-stone houses and outbuildings, with walls up to 4 ft. 6 ins. thick and sharply battered, clustered round a medieval burial-ground. There is no evidence on the ground for the medieval chapel described in the Hebridean Inventory, but this may lie beneath the township. The remains are exceptionally well-preserved and sand clearance would probably reveal further buildings.

The Topographic Science sub-section of the Geography Department of Glasgow University, under Mr. G. Petrie, have recently mapped Rhum for the Nature Conservancy. With the aid of air photographs, detailed plots have been made of the deserted settlements in such detail that each individual ridge made with the foot-plough is portrayed.

3) WEST (A) Argyll - Kintyre - BalmcVicar (NR 5909)

A site with extensive remains of buildings including a horizontal mill and a corn-drying kiln impressively situated on the coast but difficult of access.

WEST (B) Mid-Argyll - Auchindrain (NN 032033)

This village is being preserved as a Folk Museum. It shows a later stage in the desertion of multiple-tenancy farms since it was not finally abandoned till 1954. The buildings, probably of C18 and C19 century date, are mostly cruck-framed, some including gable crucks to carry hipped roofs. One shows evidence of a central hearth for which the smoke-hole still exists in the thatched roof. The evolution of the byre-dwelling into the typical two-roomed peasant dwelling of the C19 is reflected in the development of some of the buildings. See J.G. Dunbar, 'Auchindrain: A Mid-Argyll Township', Folklife, III (1965), 61-7.

Preservation and restoration work is now under way, but financial difficulties are likely to make this a long task. Nevertheless, it is hoped that in this case this unique site will be preserved by local effort.

4) NORTH - Sutherland - Strath Naver

(A) Rosal (NC 688416) Was cleared in 1814-18 and is now preserved in a 45-acre enclosure surrounded by Forestry Commission plantations. 17 families were loosely distributed in three groups of houses around the periphery. There has been limited excavation by Dr. H. Fairhurst. This is a very important site because of its long historical documentation but there are many problems of preservation and it may not be possible to preserve it in perpetuity.

(B) An alternative might be GRUMMORE which lacks such good documentation but has impressive remains including a Broch and remains of cultivation ridges between scattered remains of buildings.

5) EAST - Angus - Glen Esk - Dalforth (No. 573775)

An important site with upstanding remains situated not far from the Tarfside Folk Museum. There seems to be a sequence from early grassed-over structures, which may have been sheilings, through dry-stone walled buildings to later clay-bonded walls.

6) CENTRAL - Perthshire - Glen Lochay - Tirai (NN 528367)

A very impressive assemblage of scattered upstanding buildings on either side of a burn. Unlike other sites which are confined by trees, or obscured by rough moorland, this site stands in open pasture which makes an appreciation of its site very clear. Mr. A. Morrison, who is at present working on the Tayside and Assynt Surveys of 1769-1772, reports that he has not located any better examples in the area. There are very many sites in Upper Strathday which are being studied by the Breadalbane Society, Aberfeldy, but none of these are as impressive as Tirai, except perhaps Tomtayewen which is at present much obscured by vegetation and is rather difficult of access being some way from the road.

7) SOUTH-WEST

(A) Kirkcudbright - Galtway (NX 707487)

An impressive site more like English examples with grass-covered foundations of buildings and associated cultivation ridges. It is thought that this site was deserted in the mid C18.

(B) Kirkcudbright - Polmaddie (NX 590878)

A site on higher ground with scattered groups of dry-stone walled buildings like the main Highland sites. Both villages should be preserved if possible to show the contrast of site.

8) THE BORDERS - Peeblesshire - Lour (NT 179357)

A fermtoun occupied from the C16 to the C18 with good quality earthworks. One building has been excavated by Mr. J.G. Dunbar, see Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot., XCIV (1960-1), 195- .

There are very few other outstanding sites in the region so far identified.

1) EAST - LOSS - BAY - DELTA (No. 2272)

An important site with outstanding features situated on the eastern bank of the river. There seems to be a regular flow of water over structures, which may have been built on a high level of the delta. Buildings are in a very poor state of repair.

2) WEST - LOSS - BAY - DELTA (No. 2273)

A very important site with outstanding features situated on the eastern bank of the river. There seems to be a regular flow of water over structures, which may have been built on a high level of the delta. Buildings are in a very poor state of repair.

3) SOUTH - WEST

(A) BANGALORE - DELTA (No. 2274)

An important site with outstanding features situated on the eastern bank of the river. There seems to be a regular flow of water over structures, which may have been built on a high level of the delta. Buildings are in a very poor state of repair.



(B) BANGALORE - DELTA (No. 2275)

An important site with outstanding features situated on the eastern bank of the river. There seems to be a regular flow of water over structures, which may have been built on a high level of the delta. Buildings are in a very poor state of repair.

(C) THE BANGALORE - DELTA (No. 2276)

An important site with outstanding features situated on the eastern bank of the river. There seems to be a regular flow of water over structures, which may have been built on a high level of the delta. Buildings are in a very poor state of repair.

There are very few other outstanding sites in the region as far as is known.