

E1. APR 1980

MOATED SITE RESEARCH GROUP



edited by
C. J. Bond

The Moated Sites Research Group,
Report No. 7 1980

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Secretary. A. Aberg, 29 Pine Walk, Liss GU33 7AT. Hants



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ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Membership costs £1.50 a year, payable to Moated Sites Research Group, c/o Alan Aberg, 29 Pine Walk, Liss, Hants., GU33 7AT

ANNUAL REPORT

Contributions for next year's Moated Sites Research Group Annual Report should be sent at any time during the year up to December 1st, 1980, to:-

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Oxfordshire County Council Dept. of Museum Services
Fletcher's House
Woodstock
Oxon. OX7 1SN

COVER ILLUSTRATION

From an eighteenth-century plan of Fen Ditton, Cambridgeshire (Y.A.S. DD 5/xxviii)

I am grateful to David Michelmore for supplying this illustration

I. LIST OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

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Mr. D.J. Turner, 21 Evesham Road, Reigate, Surrey RH2 9DL.

II. LOCAL REPORTS AND EXCAVATIONS

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Stapleford (TL.472518)

Mrs. V.J. Whittaker reports that the Cambridge Archaeology Field Group have undertaken a preliminary survey of a moated site at Stapleford as part of a detailed survey of the parish. The platform is an approximately square (35m x 35m) enclosure surrounded by a wet moat (5m wide) fed by a stream and a spring. The platform is tree-covered, apparently due to C.19 landscape gardening and the surrounding area much altered by building development and levelling for a recreation ground. The moated site appears on the Enclosure Map of 1812 but otherwise there are few documentary references to the site. The site has been surveyed and further documentary research is being undertaken.

Dry Drayton (TL.381619)

Michael Sekulla reports that an area of 10 acres on the E. edge of the village contains a series of earthworks suggesting a moated site and post-medieval Manor House and farm complex. Following a soil phosphate survey a limited trial excavation was conducted during 1979 in the area of highest phosphate readings to the W. of the moated site.

A C.12 or C.13 gravel pit filled by domestic refuse had been used as the foundation for a C.16 outhouse. This structure was incorporated into the C.17 Manor House which itself was extensively reconstructed in the 1670's. The whole building was demolished in 1817 and extensively robbed soon after.

Several fragments of worked limestone of medieval date had been incorporated into the C.17 structure and the presence in the associated construction debris of pieces of C.15 painted glass clearly point to an earlier building elsewhere, probably located in the moated area.

CHESHIRE

In 1979, the N.E. Cheshire Moated Sites Research Group completed its initial survey of Hough Hall (M.S.R.G. Report No. 6 pp. 8-9) and began checking all the possible moated sites in its area suggested from the Cheshire Women's Institute project of 1977 on 'Moats and Thatches'. Most of the suggested sites have so far proved negative, but one was positively identified as a moat: Whitehall, S. of Wilmslow (Wilmslow parish, SJ. 843796). The moat is now completely filled in and the site used as a council tip, but the previous occupant of the site was able to indicate where it had been. He also described the house as he remembered it, and the bridge over the moat, which was of solid black oak. The White Hall was a manorial hall of the de Trafford family, who had held the property since 1421. Three more suggested sites on the W.I. list await investigation in 1980.

Northwood Farm, Didcott-cum-Wilkesley (SJ.647402)

David Wilson reports that a moated platform at Northwood Farm has been selected for an annual training excavation for the University of Keele Department of Adult Education over the next six years, by which time it should have become the first totally-excavated moat in Cheshire.

DERBYSHIRE

Melbourne, The Moat (SK.392241)

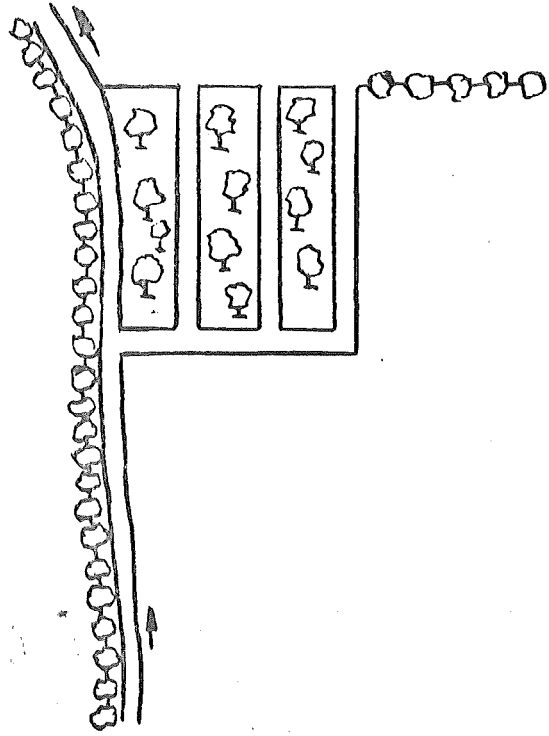
Howard Usher reports on a water feature marked by the O.S. as a 'Moat' in a small plantation S. of Melbourne. At first sight this looks like a standard medieval moat with an island c.30m wide and 50m long. There are, however, some curious extensions to the arms of the moat, which, with the evidence of earlier maps (see fig.), suggest a different interpretation. In 1734, a map of Melbourne Parks (Derby R.O. 369G/ZP17), shows the site as a grid of water channels. The map of 1804 is from a copy of the Parish map in the Lothian collection. The date seems to be a mistake for 1840. Here the grid of water channels is increased in size. The two O.S. maps of 1887 and 1920 represent the moat as it appears today, and show recent changes with the silting up of various arms.

The plantation is called Moat Wood, the field to the S. is Moats or Motts Meadow, and the pasture field to the N.E. is called Fishpond Hill on the 1804 (1840) map. The fishpond name could refer to the site, as there is nothing else in the vicinity resembling a fishpond. Indeed, its layout is somewhat reminiscent of fishponds recorded elsewhere, e.g. Rolleston, Notts. (H. Allcroft "Earthwork of England", p. 490).

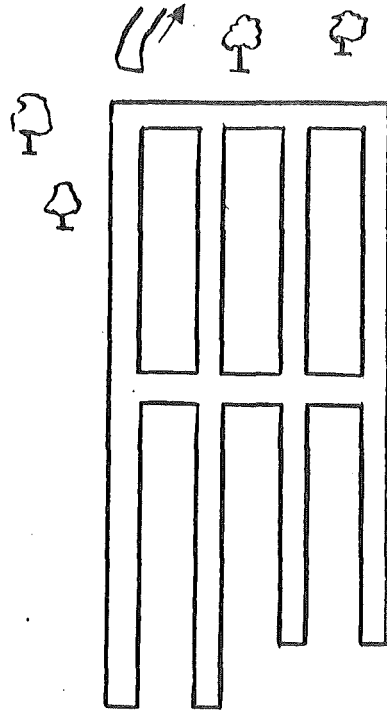
The site is not fully accessible as part of it is fenced off as a game preserve, but enough can be seen to show that it is basically the same as the recent map. There is no sign of the footbridge to the island marked in 1887. The stream flows in from the S.W. corner, then flows round the E. side of the island and leaves the feature midway along the N. arm, by a sluice and drain pipe. In the N.W. corner is a weir built of large well-dressed stone blocks, with an overflow channel, now dry. These large stone blocks are similar to the exposed stone foundations of Melbourne Castle (Crenellation licence, 1311). The water level in the moat is well below the level of the weir. Due to the lowering of the water level, an irregularly shaped island has appeared in the wide, E. water-channel, thus restoring the appearance more to that of the 1804 (1840) map. There is no indication that the island was ever bisected as shown on the early maps. It may be that the 1734 grid represents the southern part of the site, and the island is missing, as suggested by the kink in the line of the stream. The 1804 (1840) map seems to be a highly stylised version.

It is suggested that the site should be considered in the context of Melbourne Park, which was a Royal Park, and therefore has no charter of emparkment, though it is known that King John hunted here at least five times. The boundary bank on which the park pale was erected is still visible for fairly long stretches. Field names containing the word 'Park' confirm its extent. Residual ridge-and-furrow in such fields as Fishpond Hill show that these fields were outside the pale.

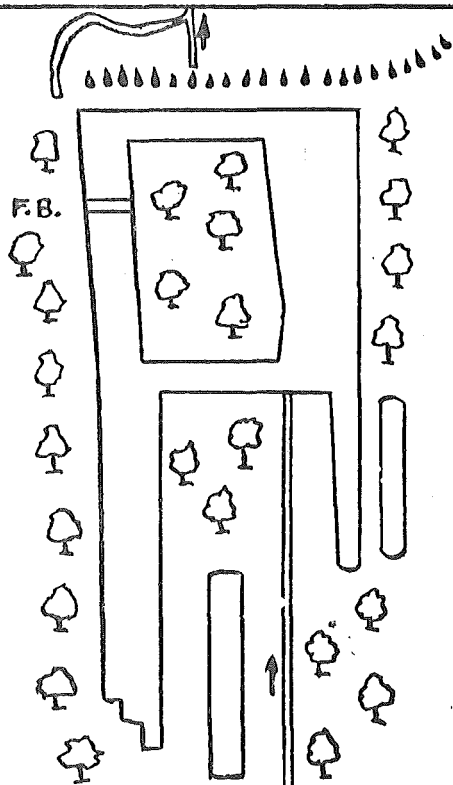
The Duchy of Lancaster Ministers' Accounts for the 14/15th centuries reveal the continual work of repairing the hedge (haie) around the park. In 1402/3 much work was carried out on the repair and thatching of the Lodge, presumably the forerunner of the present farm on the same site. In 1404/5 two new gates were made in the park, and in the same year 2s. was spent on making and improving the chief pond within the park. In 1392/3, the fishery of the Trent was valued at 18s. and the fishery of Karebrok (Carr Brook) was valued at 18d. The brook flowing through the park is today called Blackwell Brook, but the name changes to Carr Brook in its lower reaches. But there is no further evidence to connect our moat with either the 'chief pond' or the Carr Brook fishery.



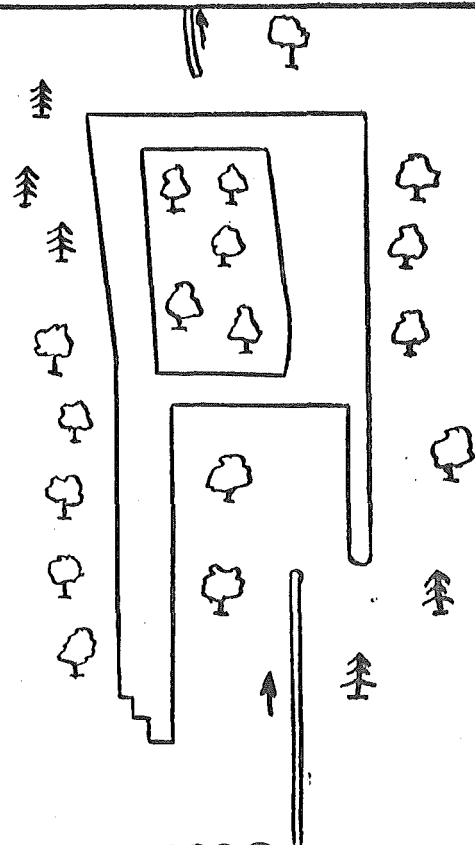
1734



1804

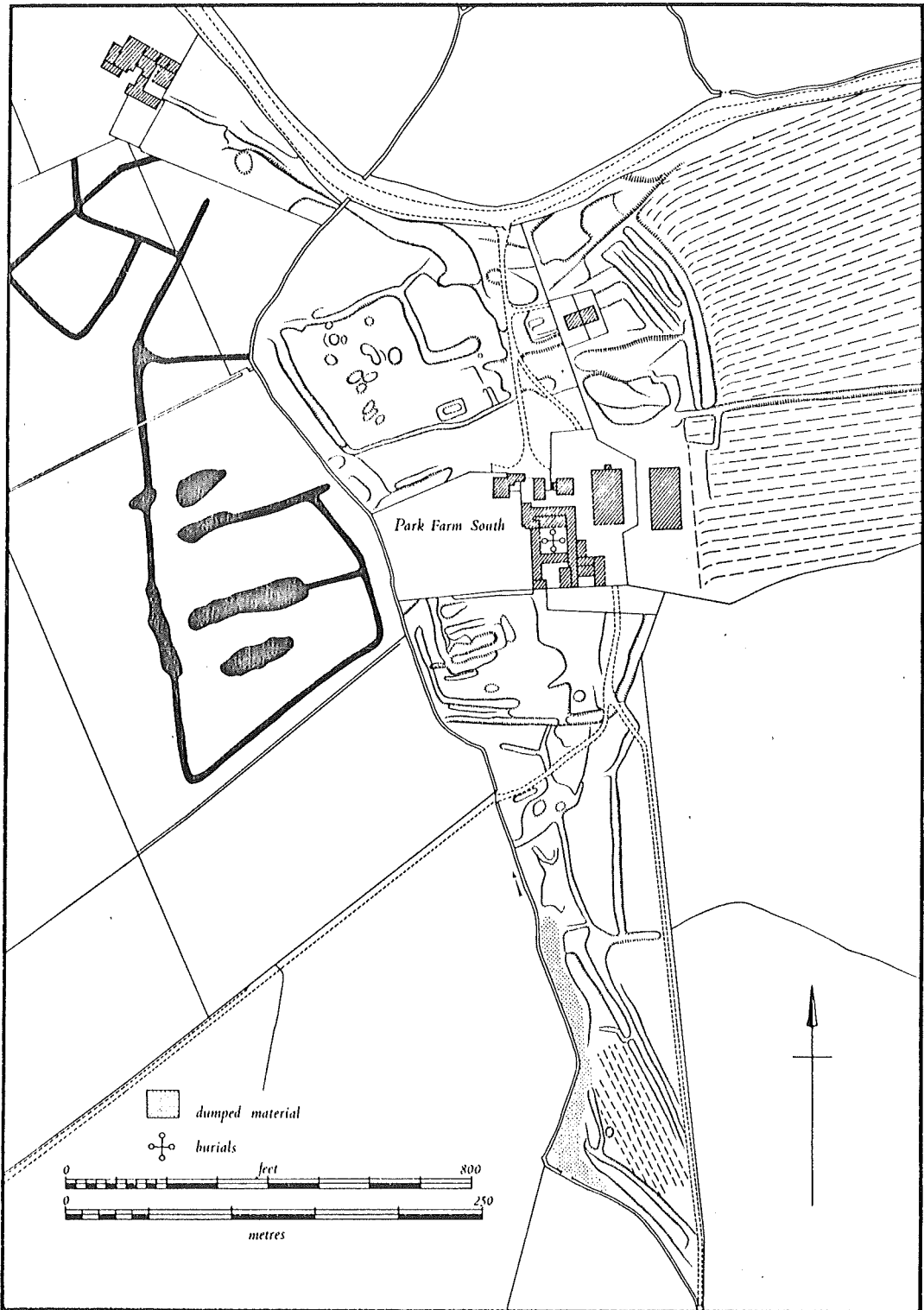


1887



1920

MELBOURNE, Derbyshire: 'The Moat'



(Melbourne, Derbys. - cont.)

Several recently-discovered references in the muniment room at Melbourne Hall indicate that the site was in use as a fishpond in the late 18th - early 19th centuries:-

'Memo 17th Dec. 1777: Turn'd 30 brace of store Carp into the Motts'

1808: Valuation book of estate of Lord Melbourne includes the entry '283: The Moats: Some pits for Fish', which the accompanying map identifies with the site in question.

ESSEX

Kenningtons, Aveley (TQ.563817)

M.R. Eddy, for Essex County Council Planning Department, reports that extensions to the existing house allowed the moated enclosure to be examined. The trenches revealed some evidence of C. 16 and C. 19 brick outbuildings. A N.-S. moat was identified dividing the existing rectangular moated enclosure into two halves. Observations of the ploughed fields adjacent demonstrated that the N. moat originally continued further to the E., whilst the W. moat had reached further S. A quantity of C. 17 pottery was recovered from a depression S. of the house.

The existing house has been surveyed by E.C.C.'s Listed Buildings Section and C. 14 pottery recovered from below some floors.

Full publication will appear in "The Work of Essex County Council Archaeology Section, 1979", which appears annually in Essex Archaeology and History.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Mick Aston reports that field work in the Forest of Dean, together with an examination of the O.S. air photographs and a re-examination of the 1608 Map of the Forest of Dean (P.R.O. MR. 879), have resulted in the location of several new moated sites:-

Castle Balye, English Bicknor (SO. 582157)

The 1608 map seems to show a large concentric square keep surrounded by a circular moat on the site of the castle S. of the church. On the ground the site is clearly a motte and bailey castle with the church in an outer earthen bailey. The situation makes it unlikely that there were ever waterfilled ditches.

Spout Farm, Newland (SO. 553098)

There is now no sign of this moated site as there are farm buildings and yards all over the area. However its situation at the head of a valley suggests that it would have been spring-fed. The 1608 map clearly shows a roughly rectangular moated enclosure surrounding a small building.

Breckness Court, Coleford (SO. 568088)

The present group of buildings labelled Breckness Court on the 1:250,000 map is made up of a barn, a yard and a derelict probably C. 18 house of no pretensions. Below in the valley adjacent to Stank Barn there is a roughly rectangular mound with ditches on 3 sides.

Adjacent are at least 2 fishponds, now dry but with dams intact. It seems that this was a moated site although considerable later alteration may have taken place. The 1608 map shows "Brecknocks Coort" in this area rather than the area of the present buildings; a small building is shown but there is no clear evidence of a moat (there is a crack in the map). Nearby, labelled but not shown as water, are the "ould fish pooles". The O.S. vertical air photograph (flight 76/156 No. 021) shows parchmarks in the drought of 1976. There appears to be a long rectangular building occupying most of the moated island. Breckness Court is referred to as a holding leased from the Crown since at least the C. 13. (Appendix on Exempted Lands in C.E. Hart The Free Miners of the Royal Forest of Dean Gloucester 1952).

GREATER MANCHESTER

Buttery House Lane, Davenport Green, Hale Barns (SJ. 801866)

David Wilson reports on the first three seasons' work on this site, which was unrecognised until the remains of the moat were discovered by chance in 1977. Only parts of two sides remained, the rest having been filled in before the beginning of C. 20. The platform with its existing buildings had been bulldozed in 1952 (which effectively destroyed much of the stratification) and immediately prior to excavation the platform and the existing parts of the moat were being used as rubbish tips and the whole site was in danger of disappearing unrecorded. It was decided, therefore, to carry out a total excavation over four seasons. So far, slightly less than three-quarters of the total area of c.80m x 40m has been excavated, and evidence of several phases of building has been found.

On the E. side of the platform the lower courses and foundation trenches of the walls of a C. 19 building were exposed, together with its rough paved yard. External and parallel to the N. wall of this building was a back-filled saw-pit c.7.40m long, 1.20m wide and 0.80m deep. It had planks on its floor, and along each side there were three post bases and one post hole. The trench was filled with soil and clay and contained numerous sherds of mainly C. 18 pottery.

On the N. side of the site a causeway ran from the platform, across the moat, to the adjoining field, and this was excavated. Dating evidence in the form of two pennies of the 1940s found low down in the causeway, which consisted mainly of rubble and clay, showed clearly that it was of recent construction. The excavation was taken through the silt of the moat, overlain by the causeway, down to natural clay, and the earliest finds dated from the C. 18, which would indicate that this part of the moat had probably been cleaned out prior to the C. 18, but not since.

A number of unassociated post bases and post holes were disclosed on the E. half of the site, but at least two of these were shown to be relatively modern by the presence beneath the bases of small brick fragments and Buckley ware sherds.

During the 1979 season work was concentrated on the W. half of the site. The first feature to be exposed was a ditch, c.13.50m long, 2.20m wide and 1.20m at its deepest, running from the centre of the platform into the N. side of the moat. Much of the ditch had silted up, and it had been finally filled in when the N. side of the platform, which had originally sloped away towards the moat, was levelled in the C. 18/early C. 19. The lowest layer of silt contained Midland purple and Cistercian ware, but the ditch itself was dated by medieval sherds found in its sides.

At the W. end of the platform were the remains of a building c.850m x 510m, last used as a small dairy in the early C. 20. The floor was quarry-tiled on a concrete base, and two or three courses of brick walls remained above ground. A number of faced sandstone blocks were also found in the wall remains, and whilst some were clearly re-used, two could well have been stylobates in situ deriving from an earlier phase. The quarry tiles and concrete base were taken up and the area was excavated to natural clay. In addition, part of what had been the garden area immediately adjacent to the building was excavated to natural.

In these two areas a number of substantial post holes were exposed, and at least three were in association with each other, two being linked by a shallow gully, perhaps a sleeper-beam slot. The complex of postholes and the existing wall lines indicated a number of changes of alignment during building phases, but the overall picture will not be arrived at until the end of next season, when the excavation area of the western end of the platform will be extended.

The present pottery evidence suggests an earliest phase of C. 14 date; in fact, from the site as a whole, there is an unbroken pottery sequence from at least the C. 14 to the C. 20.

Radcliffe Tower (SD. 79580751)

Mr. N. Tyson has sent in a detailed preliminary report of excavations carried out on this site in September 1979. This has been filed with the M.S.R.G.'s records, and a summary is included here:-

Radcliffe Tower is situated on the first terrace above the flood plain of the river Irwell, close to the Parish Church and about three quarters of a mile E. of the modern town centre. There was probably a house on the site from an early period, but the surviving ruin dates from about 1403 when James de Radcliffe, was granted a license to rebuild his manor house '... with walls of stone and lime, to enclose anew and within those walls erect a hall and towers ...' The site of the second tower is unknown, but the dimensions and position of the hall and wing were recorded by Whittaker, before eventually being demolished in about 1840.

The main purpose of the excavation, since there had been farm buildings and a row of cottages on the site, was to determine its archaeological potential in advance of proposed landscaping.

An area of about 50 sq. m. to the W. of the hall was examined and revealed a shallow stratigraphy, with medieval levels occurring only 20cm. below the present surface. The main feature here was a layer of consolidated sandstone scapplings over an area 2m wide by at least 3.5m. long, apparently used to fill surface depressions. The half dozen sherds of medieval pottery recovered from the excavation were found in this area, lying immediately above or adjacent to the sandstone layer.

The second area investigated was a section 20m by 3m, running S. from the present N. boundary wall to within perhaps 2m of the postulated position of a timber framed wing from the hall. Half-way along at right angles to the section were the foundations of a C. 17 rubble wall 60cm wide and 70cm high at its N. face, a slight scarp projected 2m beyond the N. face before levelling out to give a total depth of 1.2m below the present surface. The depression thus formed remained open for an undetermined period, before being backfilled with sandy loam and gravel from about the mid C. 17.

Clearly this was a revetment wall, which showed on further examination to be built on an earlier foundation 1.3m wide. About 5m inside the wall a second layer of compacted scapplings 20cm deep filled a silted depression containing charcoal and burnt clay in its upper levels. This feature emerged not as simply a surface hollow, but the top of a silted-up ditch 5m wide by 1.6m deep, with 45cm of black organic silt at its base. Unfortunately no artefacts were recovered from the ditch since it was only discovered on the last day of the excavation, which allowed only a limited examination.

A tentative interpretation of the excavation results would suggest the earlier house was enclosed at least in part by a ditch, and probably a wall which still awaits discovery. By the beginning of the C. 15 the ditch had silted up and was sealed with waste material from the rebuilding. A new enclosing wall was built outside the old ditch, but was modified as a boundary wall some time prior to c. 1650. By the late C. 18 or early C. 19 the wall was still sufficiently in evidence for it to be incorporated in the foundations of a barn.

Ordsall Hall, Salford (SJ. 970817)

Investigation of the area of the demesne farm immediately outside the moat of Ordsall Hall took place during November 1978 - May 1979 under the supervision of Dr. N.J. Higham of Manchester University and Mr. P. Reynolds, following the demolition of the late Victorian dwellings which formerly covered the site. Full interim reports have been sent for the M.S.R.G.'s records and are summarised here.

Preliminary trenching identified the outer edge of the moat at three points on the S.W. side and ascertained that the majority of it there underlies the late C. 19 street system. The area outside the moat was then machine-stripped of building rubble.

The latest phase of the SW. entrance to the Hall was represented by a well-made cobbled roadway, replaced by asphalt, crossing the line of the moat. Drawings of 1875 and the O.S. of 1850 provide evidence of brick buildings fronting this road. Red brick floors and substantial brick foundations incorporating re-used hand-cut sandstone blocks were uncovered. From the evidence of the building materials, this structure appears roughly contemporary with the brick cladding of the SW wing of the Hall itself, probably carried out in the early C. 17. Its size and complexity shows that it incorporated more than just residential accommodation, including cart access, first and ground-floor storage space, and a small sunken-floored doorless room in the S. corner provisionally interpreted as a grain drying-room or cold store. A contemporary brick-lined well underlying the pump which survived till 1850 was excavated to a depth of 3m at which the brickwork ceased.

The removal of the brick walls and floors revealed an earlier phase of building using massive sandstone walls with masoned slots on top serving as supporting bases for large structural timbers. Sandstone flag flooring was contemporary with this building phase. An aisled barn probably built in the early years of the C. 17 was identified. The central aisle, floored with hard-packed clay, sandstone and brick debris, was flanked by stylobate sandstone bases of two forms, one obelisk-shaped with a flat top, the other octagonal, laid in segments with mortar bonding.

The side aisles contained several brick features, including possible grain bins and a hearth filled with fragments of coal, burnt bone and metal slag, also evidence for a wooden plank wall division.

The barn stood mostly on the natural sandy clay, but at its S. end a sandstone wall relating to an earlier structure was located; there was no opportunity to explore this feature further.

In the yard N. of the farm buildings the cobble and sand build-up was removed to reveal a compact layer of sandstone, brick rubble and gravel hardcore which appears to represent a levelling operation to raise the ground level. The original land surface below the sandstone/timber building phase was seen in a sewer trench to be of an uneven and undulating nature.

At the E. end of the site a rubble-core causeway faced on either side with dressed sandstone blocks was found to be only a little over 1 metre wide, providing a foot access over the moat to the Hall. A substantial sandstone wall ran N-S along the edge of the moat.

HAMPSHIRE

Wickham Glebe (SU.576114)

Richard Whinney reports on further investigation of the medieval and post-medieval manor house complex undertaken in 1979. The broad outline of development, recovered in previous work, was confirmed, and important new information was added.

The earliest phase of activity on the site dated to the C. 11 - C. 12. The general directions and dimensions of previously-located boundary ditches and drainage gullies were confirmed; a newly-discovered fence line and associated farmyard surface were found to be contemporary with the ditches. Very slight evidence, in the form of post-holes, for a timber structure were recovered. A cess-pit of similar date has yielded quantities of environmental information. Further information about the main occupation of the site, the medieval buildings, was also obtained. The S. end of the C. 13 aisled hall was fully investigated; evidence for a raised dais was found. A contemporary cross-wing or parlour joining the S. end of the hall was located and partially excavated, as were foundations relating to other adjoining structures.

Major alterations in the C. 16 saw the demolition and removal of the cross-wing, thereby facilitating the insertion of a large gable chimney through the S. wall of the hall. The whole medieval complex was replaced in the mid-C. 17 by a completely new and remodelled brick building. Information relating to this post-medieval phase of activity was forthcoming, mainly in the form of a large, square rubbish- or cess-pit; this feature produced a fine series of C. 18 ceramics - Chinese and German imports included - and glass vessels.

KENT

Ashford, Parsonage Barn Farm (TR.013434)

Peter Keller and Brian Philp report on the Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit's work on this site: Rescue excavation ahead of housing development located the site of this medieval moated farmstead, the enclosed area being 80 x 31m. Work within the limits imposed by the pending development located the wet moat on all four sides and a central, W. causewayed entrance. The low internal platform contained slight traces of two possible buildings. One was represented by a small stone sill and quoined W. corners, some 5m wide and possibly 14m in length. The second structure appears to be represented by a tiled hearth and an extensive tile-fall. The few finds from the site are C. 13 - C. 15 in date. Two areas of burnt brick, one cutting through the stone-silled building, seem to represent a post-medieval industrial process. The site was largely filled and levelled in the C. 19 or early C. 20.

Tim Tatton-Brown has added the following sites to the checklist which appeared in M.S.R.G. Report No. 6 pp. 46-8:

PARISH	SITE	N.G.R.	COMMENTS
Ash	Brooke House	TR.301593	
Charing	Tramhatch	TQ.923475	Partly filled in, Oct. 1979
Elmstone	Elmstone Court	TR.259604	
Lympne	Bellavue	TR.110352	Now Lympne Airport

The total number of moats now known in Kent stands at 125

During 1979 Miss Rebecca Payne prepared and presented a Durham University undergraduate thesis on 'Five Moated Sites in the parish of Headcorn, a village in the Weald of Kent' (Copy in Durham University Library).

LANCASHIRE

The West Lancashire Archaeological Society is carrying out a series of parish surveys examining landscape and settlement development, which has included examinations of three moated sites in Lancashire (see also Merseyside):

Rufford, Longshaw Wood (S.D. 458172)

Ann Hallam reports that mid-C. 13 documents indicate that Rufford was divided into three manorial units, re-organised as two by the C. 14. The foci of these two were Rufford Old Hall (SD.463160) and Holmeswood Hall (SD.422174). At both, buildings of medieval origin are sited where the former presence of moats cannot be dismissed. Longshaw Wood, where the sole evidence for buildings is one late plan reference, fits with this scheme as the undeveloped manorial focus of the township's northerly third.

All three, at about 25ft O.D., backing on former wetlands, lie at the limits of medieval arable. The 1979 survey shows a platform c. 27m by 24m with exterior banks covering a total area of c. 60m by 52m. The water level of the moat, generally 5m wide, is up to 3m below the sloping land surface. A causeway is indicated on the upslope side. The low, narrow barrier between the downslope quarter of the moat and the leat is discontinuous, suggesting a sluice about 0.75m wide. To-day surface drainage and a small spring in the moat supply the water, the flow in the leat apparently having been affected by more recent land drainage.

Much Hoole, Manor House (SD.472222)

Ann Hallam describes work in this parish: A ring of early hamlets is possibly the best interpretation of Hoole's obscure medieval settlement pattern. One vill in 1135, farmed in selions before the C. 13, Hoole later separated into Much Hoole (3 carucates) and Little Hoole (1½ carucates). An extensive area of broad rig and furrow survives. The hamlet at Town Lane, at about 30ft. O.D., lies 2 furlongs from the original vill's S. limits of arable. Its S. tenements back onto a croft system defined by ditches. The moat, cutting into this system on the W. and N. is clearly secondary to it. For about 50m. on the S. side of the moat, the adjacent headland is smoothed over; but here the chronological sequence is less secure.

The moated site, occupying an overall area of 120 by 75m. consists of:- (a) a rectangular platform, c.33 by 40m., standing 1m. above the general land surface. The platform is drained by furrows 3.5m apart. (b) a pair of filled-in parallel fishponds, c.20 by 40m. and 15 by 35m., apparently formerly fed by the moat. (c) a rectangular moat c.7m wide, water-bearing on the W., where it is part of the croft drainage system.

Aughton, Welsh Hall (SD. 381061)

Janet Withersby reports on this site: By the C.13 considerable manorial division of the central lands of Aughton had resulted from partible inheritance. A ring of greens had developed in these central lands. Colonisation of the marginal lands by the estates of Walsh Hall and Moor Hall, both formerly moated, appears to be of C. 13 origin. At Walsh Hall, part of the W. ditch has been retained but the remainder of the moat was filled in at an unknown date. The position of a post-medieval hall site to the W. of the moated enclosure suggests that the infilling is contemporary with the hall's construction. The line of the moat has only been visible since the land reverted to pasture and in places is only highlighted by plant growth in the spring months. Under these conditions a survey was conducted which produced a sub-rectangular 'wedge-shaped' moat, not uncommon in Lancashire. Adjacent field boundaries, tracks and ditches suggest the possibility of a second moat. No building evidence remains on the enclosure.

Manorial division and assarting of marginal lands appear to be key factors in the siting of moats in Lancashire.

LEICESTERSHIRE

Martin J. Winter of Leicestershire Museums Survey Team reports on current work for the County Sites and Monuments Record. An attempt is being made to record and survey earthworks throughout the County. The following moated sites have been investigated:

Whissendine (SK.839151)

This large moated site is situated in the NE. of the parish, just over $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from Whissendine village, on the Lower Lias between the 325 and 300 ft contours, and is overlooked by Thomas Hill which rises to nearly 450ft on the SE. The large rectangular central island is scheduled, but the subsidiary earthworks outside were not, and these were being filled in. Whissendine possessed two manors in the medieval period, and this site at Moor Lane is possibly the manor of Moorhall referred to in documents from 1306 (VCHR 2, 159-160). The site of the other manor is at the E. end of the present village, marked by a set of fishponds, enclosures and an earthwork bank NE. of the Manor house. At Moor Lane the moat is c. 20m wide surrounding a central island 85 by 60m which is approached by a causeway on the S. side. A narrow bank surrounds the whole site except on the S. side (see plan).

Gilmorton (SP.568879)

Earthworks E. of the church consist of a motte, and remains of a moat and a fishpond to the NW. The moat has been badly damaged, and now exists as a shallow ditch with a slightly raised central platform. The bailey ditch was supposed to have been NW. of the motte, but little trace remains. Other earthworks include house platforms S. of the motte, and a ditched feature which appears too regular to be quarrying. A short cross penny (A.D. 1180-1247) was found near the motte in 1971. (see plan).

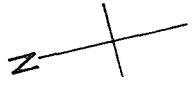
Other moated sites which have received measured surveys include Nether Broughton (SK.697260) and Spinney Farm (SK.762219), in conjunction with Trent Valley Archaeological Research Committee.

Peter Liddle has subsequently reported on the following sites:

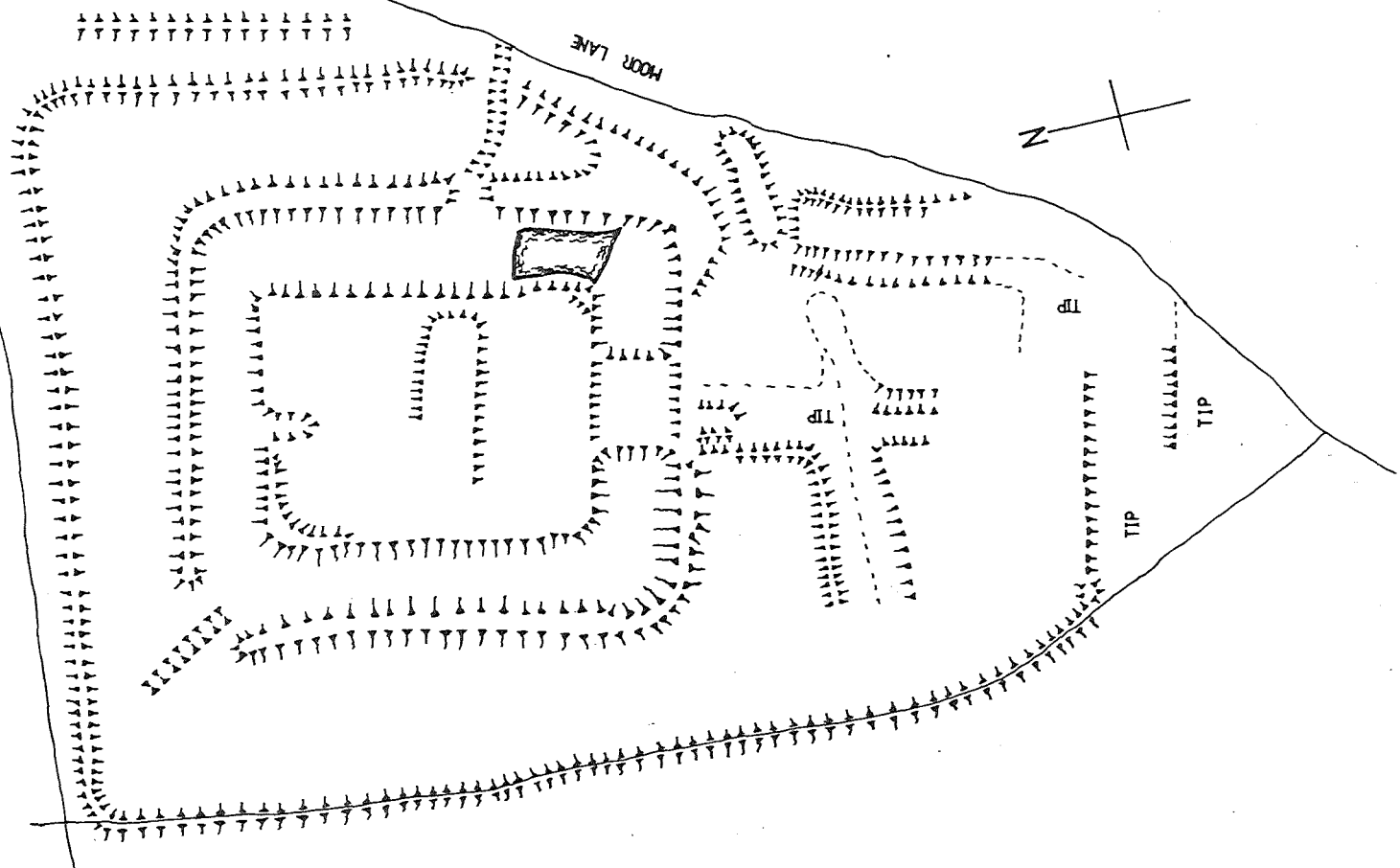
Evington, Leicester (SK.626027)

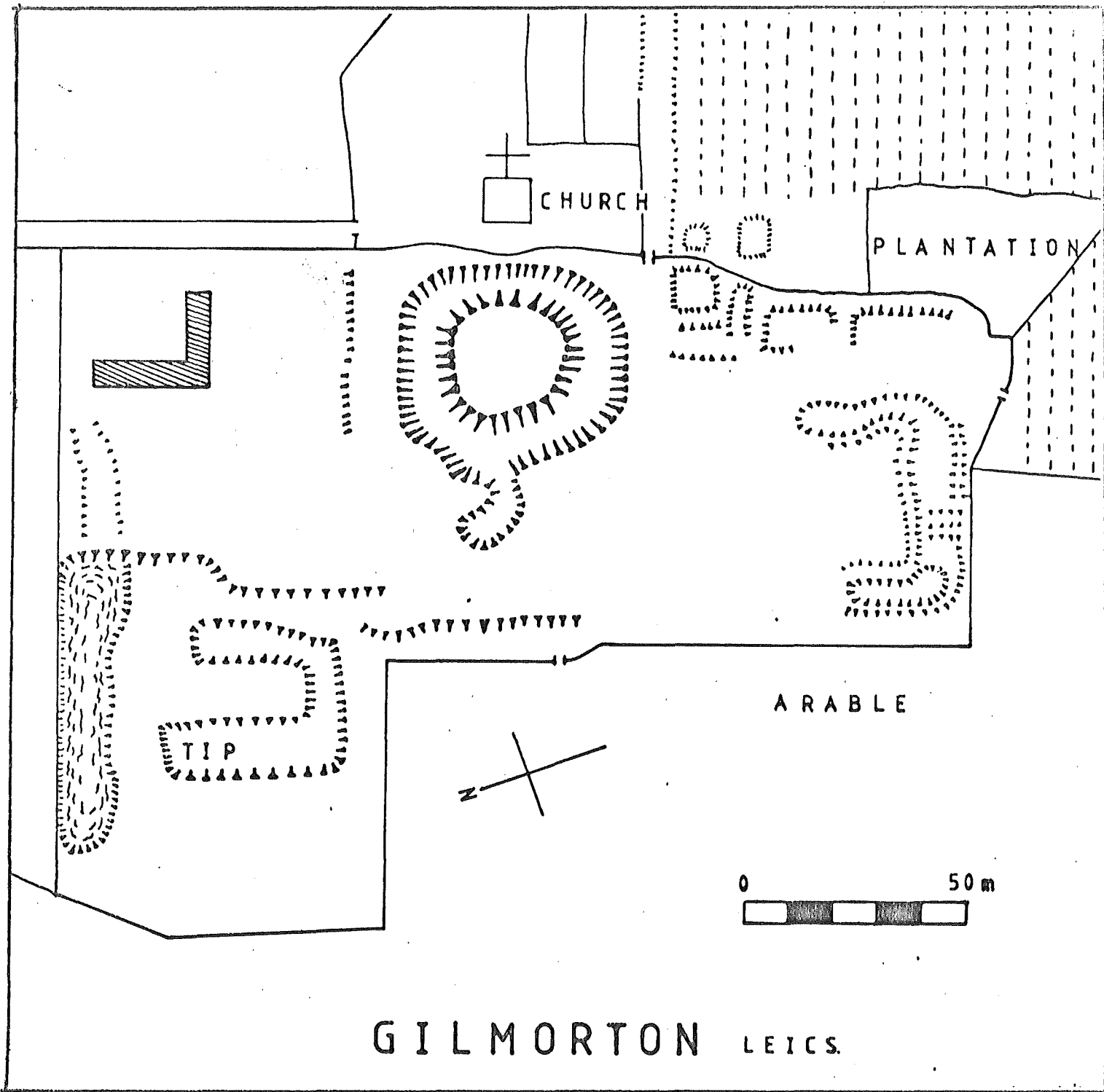
The manorial complex adjacent to St. Denys's Church was surveyed by Leicestershire Museum's Archaeological Survey Team. The moat is large (the island being some 80m x 25m) and was fed by a spring to the N. To the W. of the moat is a fine series of fishponds, the largest of which has slight ridges on its bed, resulting perhaps from cultivation while it was drained. Another feature lies to the S. but has been largely destroyed by the golf course. To the S. again is a large dam crossing the valley of the Evington Brook marking the site of the water-mill. There is considerable documentary evidence relating to this site, which was owned by the Greys of Codnore for most of the medieval period. In a manorial extent of 1308 the complex is described: "there is a capital messuage in Evington worth, with the easements of the houses and the gardens, 40s yearly; a dove house worth 2s yearly; 2 ponds worth half a mark; a watermill worth 20s; and a windmill worth 10s".

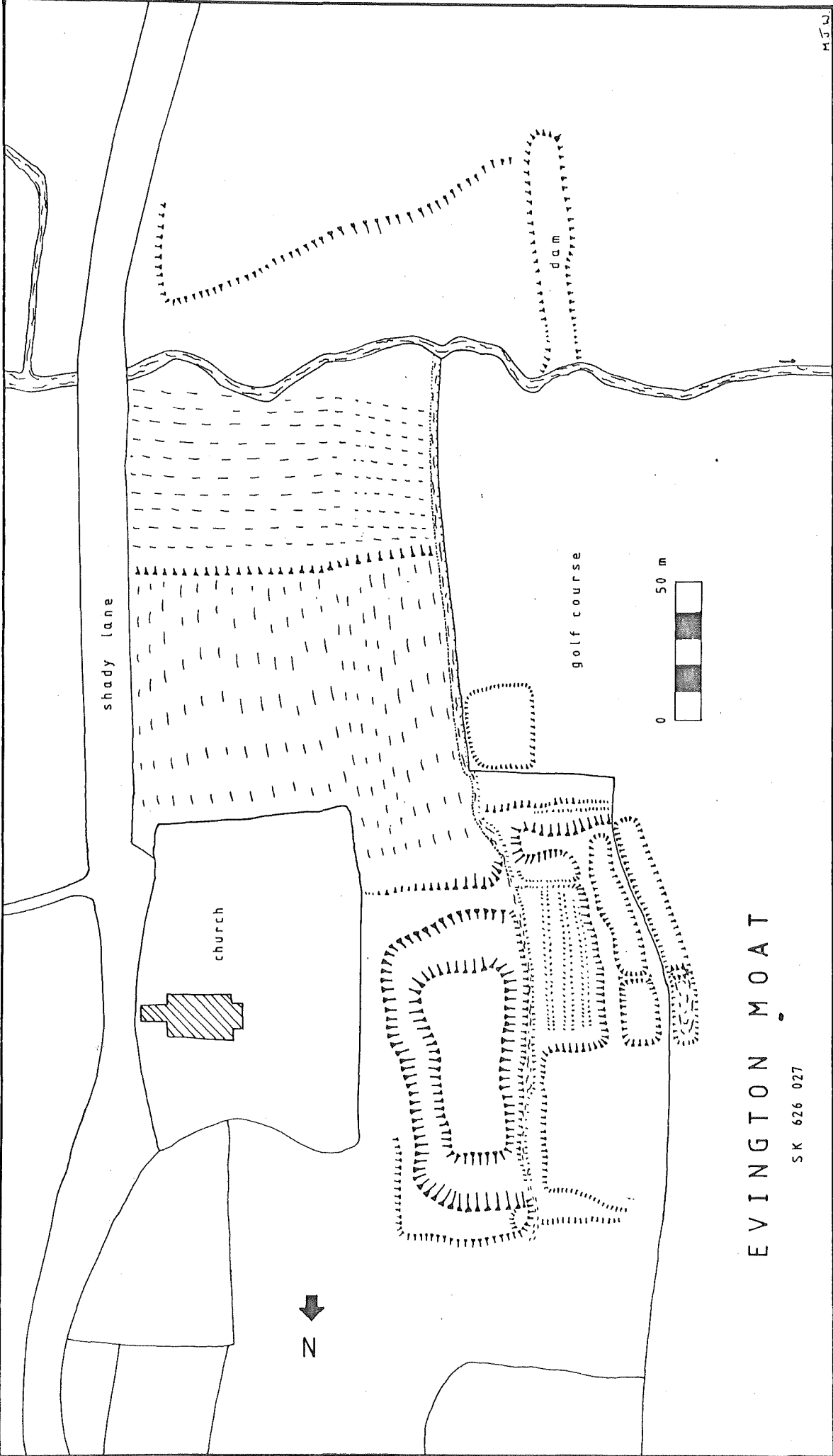
WHISSENDINE MOATED SITE



MOOR LANE



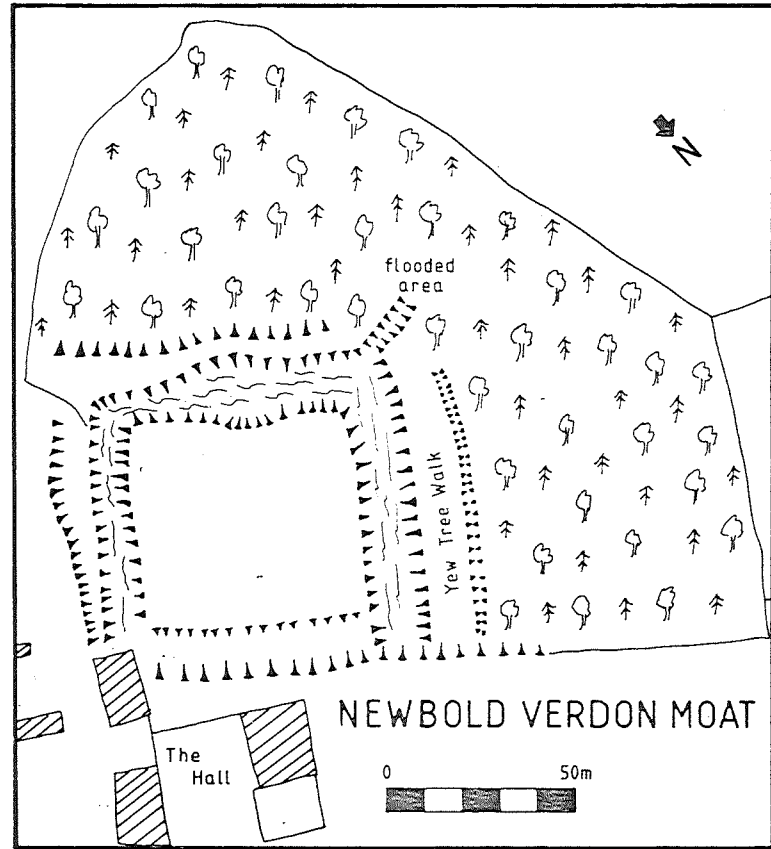
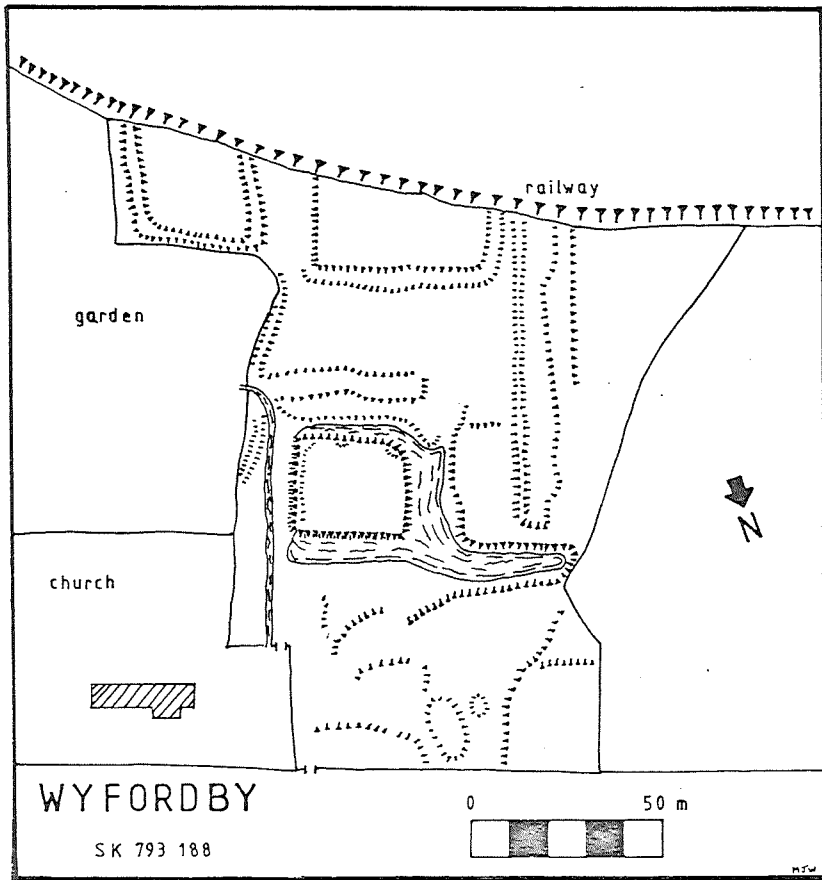




M53

EVINGTON MOAT

SK 626 027



Frisby (SK.717145)

A moat sited on the very edge of the parish has been located by the Melton Archaeological Fieldwork Group. The shape of the principal enclosure is rectangular and measures 48.79m x 33.5m. The moat is still water-filled, fed by a spring. No documentary evidence has yet been located.

Newbold Verdon (SK.441037)

The moated site was surveyed by P. Liddle and the Leicestershire Museums Fieldwork Group. It lies adjacent to the Hall and as only three sides are visible it has been suggested that this is a garden landscaping feature rather than a true moat. It was noted however that a shallow depression ran along the NE. side and probably marked the fourth side of the moat. A resistivity survey followed by a trial excavation by M. Harding several years ago found layers sloping down as if into a ditch and recovered some C. 14 ridge tile. Old reports speak of much stone from the island.

Wyfordby, Freeby (SK.793188)

The complex of earthworks adjacent to the Church was surveyed by the Leicestershire Museums Archaeological Survey Team. The moat is small and well-defined with shallow water still in the ditches. Adjacent earthworks include fishponds and enclosures.

LINCOLNSHIRE

Paul Everson reports that measured field surveys of medieval and later earthworks in N. Lincolnshire on behalf of RCHM(E) have included a number of moated sites, normally in association with village earthworks. In a different category several of the smaller monastic sites in the area have also been planned, including the Benedictine alien houses at Winghale and Willoughton, and the preceptory of the Knights Templars at Willoughton.

Park Farm South, Knaith (SK.846853)

A moated site at Park Farm South with extensive associated earthworks seems to be the site of the Cistercian nunnery of Heynings. The location of this house has hitherto been in some doubt. Earlier antiquarian opinion identified it with the moated site in the adjacent parish of Lea known as Hermit Dam. More recently the parish church of Knaith has been held to be a remaining fragment of the monastic church, while amorphous earthworks by the Trent bank some distance S. of the church have also been suggested as monastic remains.

The earthworks at Park Farm South (see plan) include a well-marked moat S. of the farm with an associated group of fishponds, and stretching S. extensive and complex leats evidently for the management of the water supply. N. of the farm the earthworks are more confused, though the foundations of at least two buildings are visible and there is an area of holes and spoil mounds evidently from stone robbing. To the W. cropmarks in arable land appear to be further ponds and dykes.

Hilary Healey reports on the work of the South Lincolnshire Archaeological Unit. As a bonus to documentary research on the Bicker Haven area of Holland, two new moated sites have been recorded at Sutterton (TF.292334) (Dowdyke Hall) and at Gosberton (TF.215294) (as yet unidentified). In Kesteven a new site was discovered as part of the DMV of Little Lavington, located from the air. The moated site, formerly known as Lenton Lodge, lies to the W. of the settlement at TF. 055312. It was filled in and levelled in 1978. Field walking produced only C. 16 or later pottery, in addition to a good deal of rough stone, roof tile and plain glazed floor tile in greenish-black or yellow (clear glaze over a white slip).

A total of 28 moats have now been surveyed by Vic Ancliffe with the possibility of two or three more being completed before the end of the present MSC STEP scheme in December 1979. As yet no detailed documentary work has been done on any one of these sites and there seems little likelihood of any in the near future.

Osgodby Manor Farm (TF.068929)

R. & E. Russell report that in the garden E. of this previously unrecorded site one sherd of hand-made middle Saxon pottery was found and several sherds of medieval wares of C. 12 to C. 15.

MERSEYSIDE

The West Lancashire Archaeological Society is carrying out a series of parish surveys, which has included examination of two moated sites now within Merseyside (see also under Lancashire):

Maghull, Manor House (SD.366020)

Audrey Coney reports that:

The Township of Maghull contains two moated sites, Peel (SD.363026) and Maghull Manor (SD.366020), both situated on low-lying land near the parish boundary. The moat at the Manor House would appear to be, from its situation and documentary evidence, a medieval assart, the home of the Maghull family until the C. 18. The present Manor House, built c. 1780, lies to the SW. of the site. Landscaping has effectively removed almost two arms of the moat. However, survey of the remains reveals a level enclosure containing a stone building dated '1667', situated on the extreme E. edge. This would appear to be a folly, perhaps contemporary with the C. 18 building, but using material from an earlier construction.

Kirkdale, Bank Hall (SD.341934)

Dilys Firn reports that:

Bank Hall was a moated site totally destroyed by C. 19 development of canal, railway, docks and warehouses. Despite destruction a documentary study was made in view of its marginal position in the township. The family of Moor, of the Old Hall in Liverpool, acquired the manor of Kirkdale from the Irelands of Hale, Cheshire in 1396 and built the Bank House overlooking the River Mersey. The house was rebuilt in the C. 16 and enlarged at various times until the family, having fallen into serious impecunity, sold it to the Earl of Derby who pulled down the house in 1772 and built a farmhouse from the materials and on the same site.

The existence of a moat is attested by paintings made in the C. 18 by a letter written in the C. 17 and by field names in the tithe apportionment award.

Bromborough Court House, Bebington, Wirral (SJ.34568419)

David Freke reports that a trial excavation was carried out by the Liverpool University Rescue Archaeology Unit in advance of redevelopment adjacent to the moated site (M.S.R.G. Report 6,16). The excavation showed that there was no medieval occupation outside the SW. corner of the enclosure, and probably not within this corner either. The moat proved to have been thoroughly cleaned in the late C. 19. The material derived from the original excavation of the moat was thrown up outside the enclosure, but no dating evidence for this activity was found.

St. Helen's District Survey

Gill Chitty, Survey Archaeologist for the Archaeological Survey of Merseyside, reports that detailed field survey is being carried out in the St. Helens District of the county following completion of work in Wirral. A contrasting pattern of moated sites is being revealed in the two areas. Most of the sites identified in Wirral were situated centrally within the medieval township and almost all were in monastic ownership, each township containing a single site. In St. Helens the pattern revealed so far is one of several (up to five) moated sites in each township, of small size and often situated around the perimeter of the township. None of them appears to have been under monastic control. This appears to be part of a general picture of very dispersed medieval settlement in the St. Helens area as compared with the numerous small nucleated villages of Wirral. It is intended to produce a more detailed report with maps and plans for the next report.

Measured Surveys Programme

A programme of measured surveys is under way to provide detailed contour plans of all surviving moated sites in the county, together with their associated earthworks. These will be published as a series of comparative plans in the Journal of the Merseyside Archaeological Society.

NORTH HUMBERSIDE (formerly East Riding of Yorkshire)

S.R. Harrison reports on:

Nunnery Hill, Kelk (TA. 095601)

The site, situated on a slight, well-drained gravel prominence above the surrounding boulder clay plain (10m OD), lies E. of Kelk Beck and 1km N. of the much-shrunken settlement of Little Kelk, and occupies a relatively isolated position on the N. boundary of the parish. The moat is on the W. side of the hill. In recent years deep-ploughing has obliterated all surface indications, and the moat is only traceable as a very slight and intermittent stain in the ploughsoil.

The position of internal structures is delineated by concentrations of building material and surface finds, and by an experimental soil phosphate survey.

On the evidence available it would appear that the site can be ascribed to Le Patourel's A1 (a) classification: a simple, square moat with rounded corners surrounding a single island (1). The moat varies in width from 5 - 10m, with a possible causewayed entrance on the W., and encloses an area of c. 0.75 hectares. There is no evidence of a bank to the moat. Its shape appears to have been dictated by geological considerations. There is no indication of a leat or associated features connecting the moat with the nearby Kelk Beck. Sampling with an auger revealed that the moat was 'U'-shaped. A terminal end to the moat on the NW. side of the causeway is just visible.

The interior of the enclosure (c. 150m x 150m) contains no surface indications of underlying structures. However, much scattered chalk, cobble, tile (floor and roof) and occasional brick was plotted - thus giving, to a certain extent, the internal building arrangement. In the SE. corner an area measuring c. 3m x 5m containing much burnt tile, daub, chalk blocks and cobbles, probably represents the kitchen, a presumption re-inforced by the large concentration of animal bones (many exhibiting cut marks) and domestic rubbish in this area. From the scatter of rubble, it would seem that the central area of the enclosure was occupied by the principal range of buildings (based on the superior quality of the worked chalk blocks and decorated floor tiles), measuring at least 25m x 10m. This structure is orientated NW - SE. Surrounding this range on three sides (N., E., and W.) were the remaining farmstead buildings.

Externally, S. and E. of the enclosure is evidence of ridge and furrow associated with the site. Here again, it has been affected by deep ploughing and is only visible as slight soil staining.

At TA.094596 (E. bank of Kelk Beck) a scatter of building debris and surface finds represents the possible site of a watermill associated with the grange, mentioned in documents of the C. 13 - C. 16 (2).

Many surface finds following ploughing operations during the winter 1978/79 were collected and recorded by the author, all indicative of a prosperous settlement. The following pottery series has been identified: Humber basin wares; Scarborough wares; Stoneware (? Siegburg); Dutch Red ware and French Monochrome wares. All sherds so far recovered are from the period c. 1200 - 1600. Three complete inlaid floor tiles and many broken examples were collected. From the design and fabric it is probable that they are from the Nottingham kilns and dateable to 1350-1450. Inferior locally-produced roof tiles are also common, as well as 'U'-shaped ridge tiles. Ironwork is also very prevalent.

Documentary evidence indicates that Nunnery Hill was a small grange of the Augustinian priory of Bridlington. It was established in 1271 during the priorship of Geoffrey de Nafferton, when the entire manor of Little Kelk was granted to Bridlington by Joan Talun on her marriage to William de Boyville (3). The grange became the focal point of the manor and was predominantly agrarian in character (4). The grange continued as the capital messuage of the estate until the Dissolution, when it was valued at £20 (5). References to the grange seem to cease at the Dissolution.

There is no evidence of occupation prior to the construction of the main grange site. In form the moat is typical of those constructed during the C. 13 and C. 14. The W. causewayed entrance and the dimensions of the ditch do not give a sufficient military barrier and, therefore, represented a status symbol and a drainage network. The absence of any associated drainage features may represent (a) a higher water table during the period of occupation and that the moat was self-filling or (b) the destruction of such features by modern agricultural methods.

The establishment of the grange represented a deliberate policy on the part of Bridlington Priory at rationalising the manorial economy.

References:

- (1) Le Patourel, J. The Moated Sites of Yorkshire, S.M.A. (1973), 3-5.
- (2) E.g. Brid. Charty. 164-8.
- (3) P.R.O. Justice Itinerant 1/1050m.58.
- (4) Kelk Accts., Fuller Collection, University of London Library. Throughout the C. 14 sales of corn = half the cash receipts and produced from 2x - 4x as much revenue as livestock.
- (5) Valor Eccl. (Rec. Com.) v. 120.

NORTH YORKSHIRE (formerly Yorkshire North Riding)

Gargrave, Higher Land (SD. 931544)

This site has been investigated by D.J. Williams for Craven Museum: It lies 112-114m above sea level on the terrace N. of the River Aire at Gargrave at a junction of gravel and boulder clay. In the E. section is a rectangular platform C. 30m by 20 m. aligned approximately N - S (Site 2). This is separated by ridge and furrow from a slight rise (Site 1) in the NW. of the field. The field is enclosed to the N. by the Leeds-Liverpool Canal, to the S. by Old Hall, a C. 17 farm house, and to the S. by steeply-sloping land.

No definite documentation has been found for the site prior to C. 1780. However Gargrave consisted of two knights' fees from at least 1284 onwards. The site at Higher Land may have belonged to the Nevilles, who held the fee belonging to the honour of Skipton, as the land to the N. of the river is traditionally associated with them. A known moated site to the S. of the river may represent the other fee.

In 1977 and 1979 a contour survey was prepared taking readings on a horizontal grid at 2-m. intervals. This revealed that the platform and rise are in alignment with Old Hall and indicated that Site 2 was entered by a causeway at its NW corner. A resistivity survey was undertaken in 1978 by the University of Bradford but the results were indeterminate.

Excavations: Foundation trenches for a housing estate revealed much iron slag and C. 13 pottery on Site 1. Trial trenches were undertaken by the Craven Museum in 1977 and, as development was postponed, more extensive trenches were excavated in 1978-9. The field was laid out in 5-m. grid squares and Sites 1 and 2 partially excavated. No structures have been entirely uncovered, therefore their plan and function can only be suggested:-

Thirteenth Century:-

Phase 1: Site 1: A timber-framed building, probably aisled, approximately 9m wide with a clay floor and entrance in the S. wall, was constructed. To the W. of the entrance the clay floor is heavily iron-stained.

Site 2: A moat (probably rectangular with rounded corners), 5m. wide by 2½m deep, enclosed an area of c. 500 - 600 sq. m. One post-built structure in the NE. corner has been partially uncovered. A thick layer of gravel overlying boulder clay was utilised to give a well-drained surface for the island.

Phase 2: Site 1: The aisled building continued to be used.

Site 2: The moat was cleaned out and the fill deposited on the island covering the Phase 1 structure. No buildings are associated with this phase, as yet, and the island may have been utilised as a garden.

Late Thirteenth - Early Fourteenth Century:-

Phase 3 : Site 1 : At least the S. wall of the building was replaced. The sleeper-beam was removed and the trench filled with soil with pebbles laid on top. An ox was inserted into the trench and a mortared stone wall, one course thick, was laid over it and the pebbles.

Site 2 : The moat was recut and a stone drum, almost certainly a bridge pier and possibly one of a pair of supports for a timber gatehouse, was inserted into the NW. corner. On the island a mortared stone wall was constructed parallel to the drum and the ground was built up on either side using soil from the recut. At least one timber structure was built on the island and both it and the drum were destroyed by fire. The soil on the island was impregnated with charcoal and large amounts were deposited in the moat section. At the end of Phase 3 or early in Phase 4 an earth bank was laid E. - W. across the island.

Fourteenth - Fifteenth Century:-

Phase 5: Site 1: Field drains were laid and a stone wall was constructed to the S. of the Phase 1-3 building. The wall, robbed by the late C. 17, may have been the farmyard wall of Old Hall Fold.

Site 2: A cobbled yard up to 60 cms thick was laid raising the height of the island to that of the Phase 3/4 bank. Two parallel dry stone walls enclose the yard on its E. and W. sides and a third wall runs at right-angles to them across the SE. corner of the filled-up moat. There was an entrance in the E. wall large enough to allow sheep to enter, so it may have been a stock compound.

Eighteenth Century - Present Day:-

Phase 6 : Site 1: A timber building was constructed over the remains of the Phase 1-3 building. It was demolished in the C. 19.

Site 2: The yard ceased to be used and a post hole is cut into it.

NORTHUMBERLAND

S.R. Harrison has communicated the following interim statement on moated sites in Northumberland:

Archaeological fieldworkers in Northumberland have generally tended to concentrate on prehistoric and Roman antiquities, and with several exceptions, notably the R.C.H.M.'s survey of shielings and bastles (1) and Jarrett and Wrathmell's excavation of the West Whelpington D.M.V. (2), the rural earthworks of the period 1066-1600 have largely been ignored. However, during 1979 the present author commenced a study of the medieval moated sites in the county. Previously, this group of monuments have been recognised through isolated references in Archaeologia Aeliana and the volumes of the Northumberland County History Committee only. No systematic survey had been attempted. The information in the present paper has been gathered almost entirely from published sources, together with aerial photography and field observations; this has been supplemented by a certain amount of documentary research (3). What follows must be regarded as an interim statement, preceding full publication.

To date, 20 moated sites have been recognised, plus 1 possible or doubtful site. The number of sites will undoubtedly be increased as fieldwork proceeds, especially on other classes of medieval earthworks. All examples noted are simple quadrangular moated enclosures, with islands averaging 40m square. Beyond the moated island many sites have associated earthworks, the most common being ridge and furrow. Elaborate outworks at the most interesting site at The Fawns (No. 16) include an embanked leat, possible fishponds and trackways, all surrounded by ridge and furrow. The site at South Heddon Moor (No. 6) has extra-mural toft sites (? date) as well as an outer enclosure. Evidence for embanked and ditched outer enclosures lying in association with moated sites is widespread throughout the county. This last-mentioned phenomenon is perhaps indicative of a pastoral economy - these being similar in function to the kraals noted on native British sites. Some sites also contain internal divisions, possibly representing stock yards and / or garden areas, as at Newtown East (No. 12) and The Fawns.

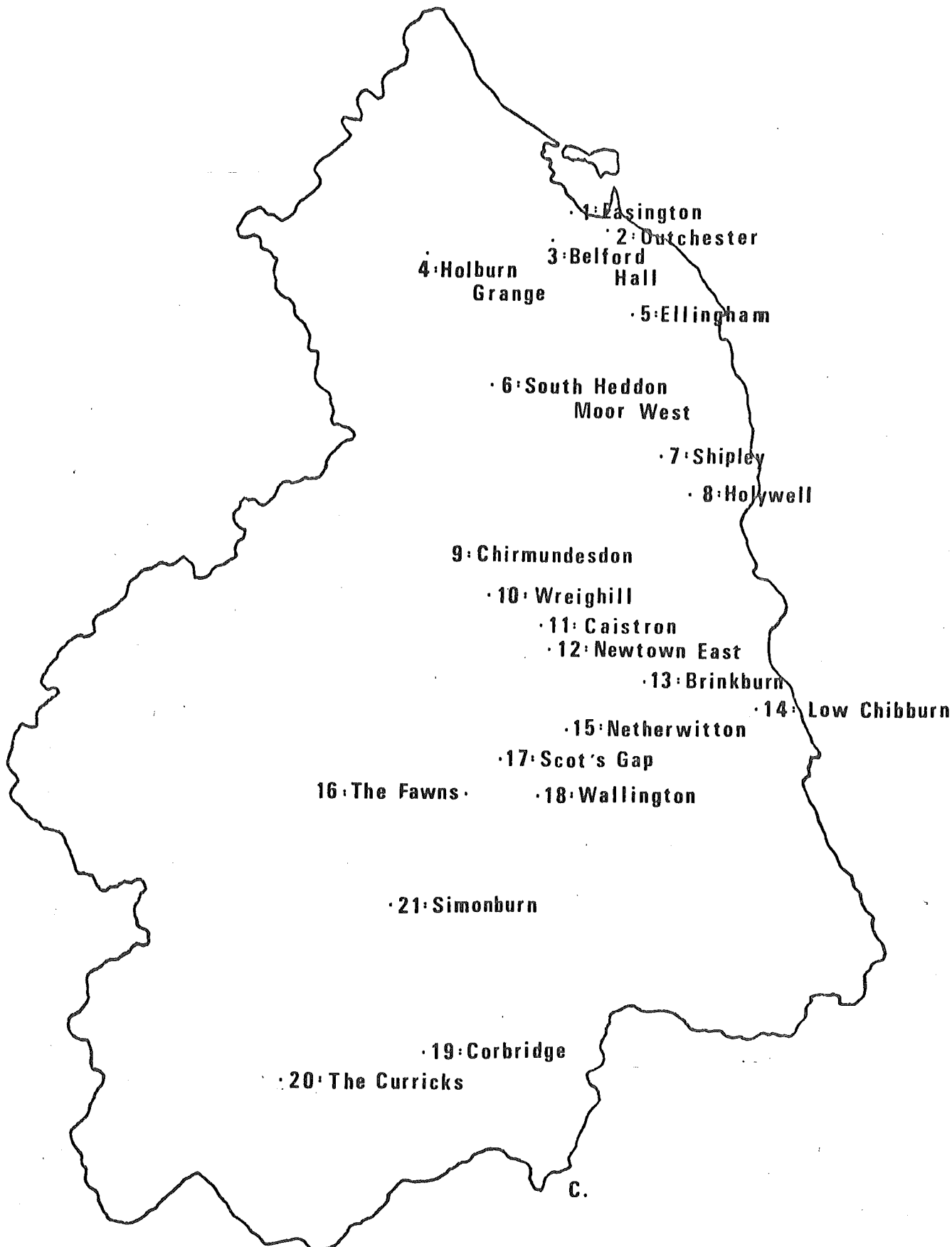
The distribution of Northumberland moats is shown on the accompanying map, which has, inevitably, limited value, but serves to indicate the emerging county pattern. The distribution reveals several groups:- (1) The fertile coastal plain, extending for the entire length of the county, predictably contains the main concentration of sites; (2) The Tyne corridor, also a rich agricultural area; (3) Marginal sites the lower reaches of the Border Dales - Glendale, Coquetdale, Tynedale etc. No sites have been recognised on the moorlands proper.

In general, the question of dates cannot be readily ascertained. The only Northumberland site so far excavated, Outchester, produced no conclusive occupation date (4). Documentary research on several sites tentatively suggests a C. 12 - C. 13 date for their first appearance, corresponding with Le Patourel's "innovatory phase" (5). This would also be borne out by the disturbed political condition existing between England and Scotland, manifesting itself in Border warfare.

Turning to the function of the Northumberland sites, it would not be presumptive to suppose that the vast majority housed the administrative centre of a feudal or ecclesiastical estate. Very few retain traces of a medieval hall/building within the confines of the moat (eg. as at Low Chibburn, No. 14), although some contain houses belonging to the C. 16 - 17, possibly incorporating or replacing an earlier fabric - as at Belford Hall (No. 3), where an earlier structure is documented (6). However, indirect evidence may be brought to bear: the close proximity of such sites to a known medieval village, church or castle suggests a role in manorial administration. The site at Low Chibburn is known to have been a preceptory of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, founded c. 1313 (7). Other sites when taken in their geographical context must represent no more than fortified farmsteads in an exposed frontier position, for example Easington (No. 1), Holburn Grange (No. 4) and Outchester. A minority may also represent moated parsonages and hunting lodges, although there is no evidence at present to substantiate this.

In concluding these preliminary remarks it may be said that the small number of moated sites in Northumberland can perhaps be attributed to the proximity of the Anglo-Scottish border. The construction of peles and bastles, close military parallels but much more effective than moats, took precedence. These structures, designed for passive defence against Scottish raiders, are common throughout the county.

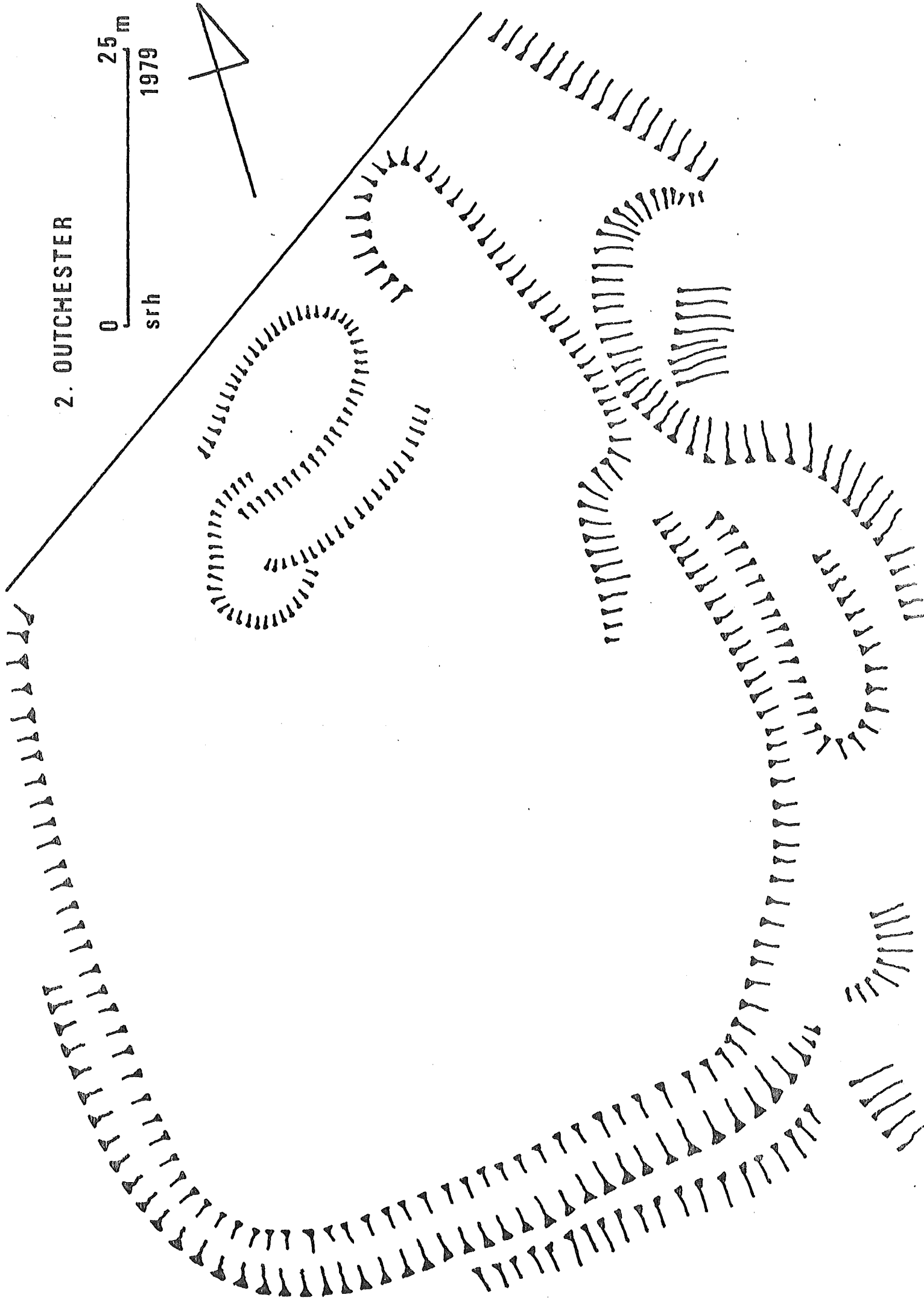
NOTE: The illustrations accompanying this report are the author's drafts and not the final drawings for publication.



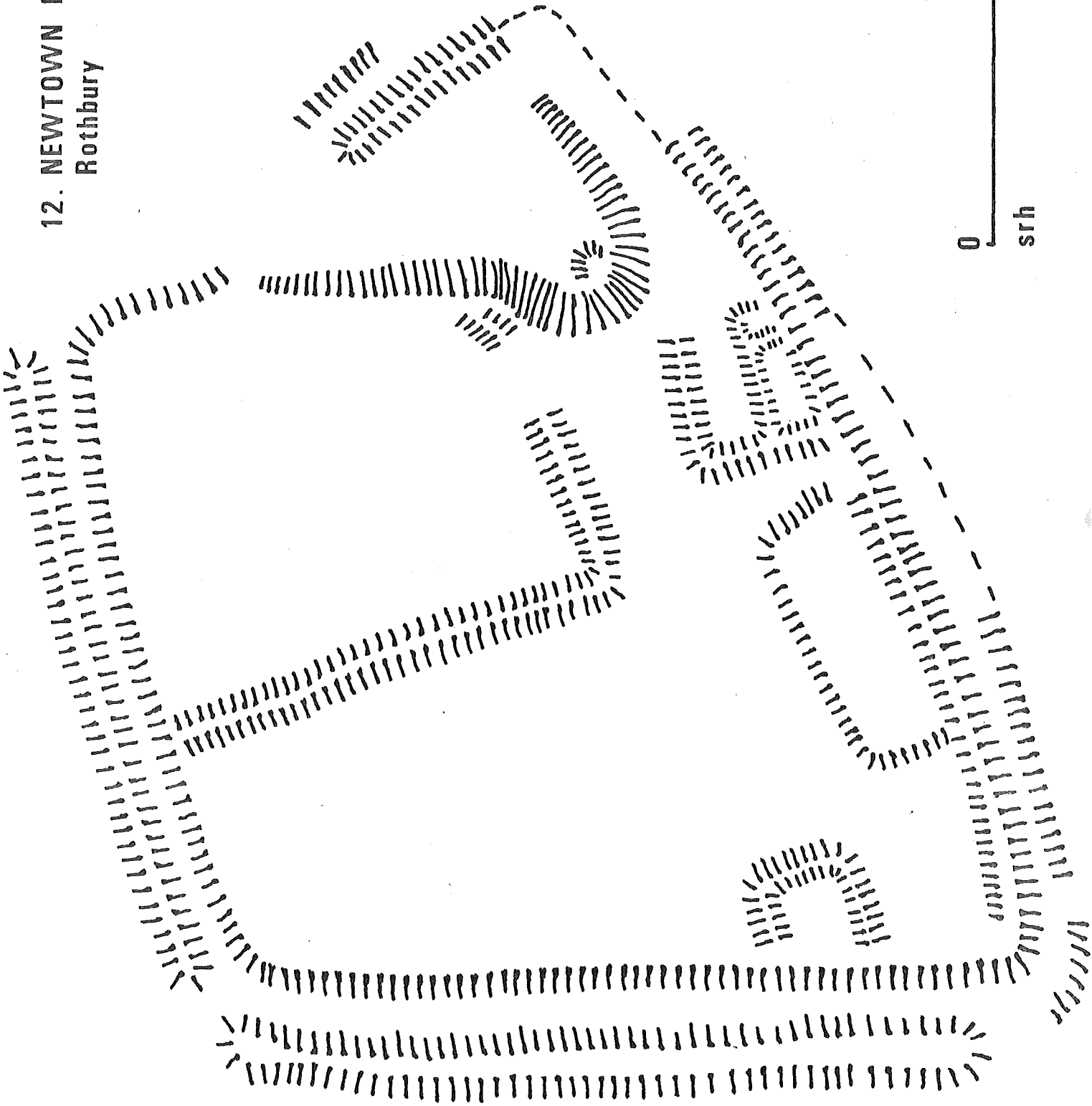
THE MOATED SITES
OF
NORTHUMBRELAND

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2. OUTCHESTER



12. NEWTOWN EAST
Rothbury

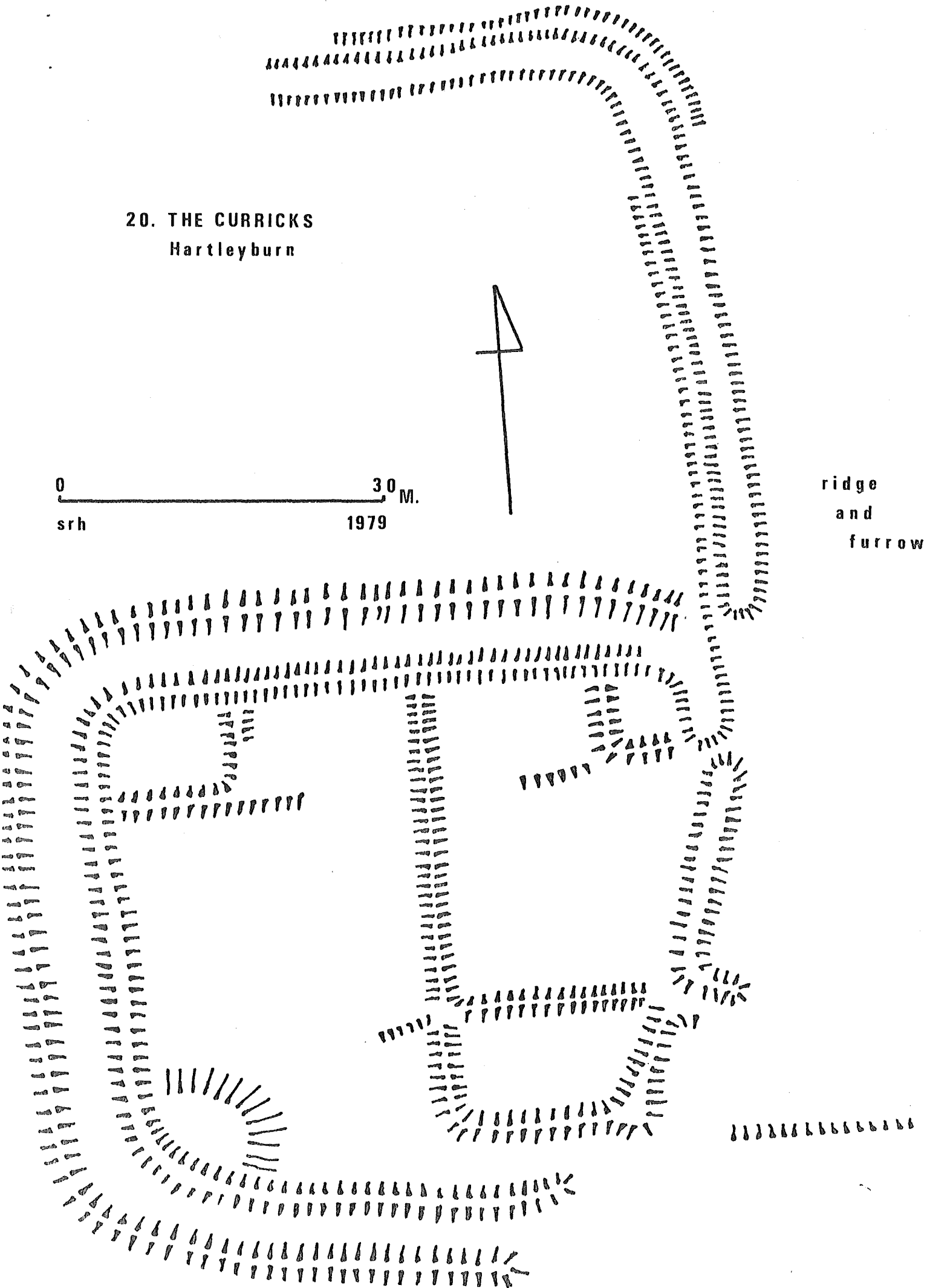


20. THE CURRICKS
Hartleyburn

0 30 M.
srh 1979



ridge
and
furrow



References:-

- (1) Ramm, H.G., McDowall, R.W. and Mercer, E. Shielings and Bastles, R.C.H.M. (1970).
- (2) Jarrett, M.G. A(rchaeologia) A(eliana). 4th Series, 40 (1962), 189 - 225; A.A. 4th Series, 48 (1970), 183-302.
- (3) I should like to thank Mr. Allaker, Department of Geography, University of Newcastle-Upon-Tyne for facilities to examine aerial photographs housed in the department. I would also like to thank the various landowners and tenant farmers for permission granted to examine sites on the ground.
- (4) Harbottle, B. and McCord, N. An Excavation at Outchester, Northumberland, A.A. 4th Series, 43 (1965), 235-42.
- (5) Le Patourel, J. and Roberts, B.K. The Significance of Moated Sites. In Medieval Moated Sites, Aberg, A. (ed), C.B.A. Research Paper 17 (1978), 46 - 55.
- (6) Northumberland County History, 1 (1893), 363-4.
- (7) Knowles, D. and Hadcock, R.N. Medieval Religious Houses: England and Wales. London (1971), 300, 302.

OXFORDSHIRE

Chalgrove, Hardings Field Moated Site (PRN. 4486 : SU.635969)

A second major season of excavation took place at Chalgrove in July - November 1979, under the direction of Phil Page for the Oxfordshire Archaeological Unit (for previous work see M.S.R.G. Report No. 6 pp. 18-20). Finance was provided by the M.S.C., the D.o.E., Oxfordshire County Council, Oxford University Dept., for External Studies and the Amey Roadstone Corporation Ltd. During the autumn agreement was reached that the site should be preserved by burial beneath layers of gravel and topsoil, and so further excavation was then confined to elucidating the chronology of the latest phases of the site.

The results of this year's excavation have meant that considerable alterations have occurred to the interim phase plan published in M.S.R.G. Report No. 6, and an updated version is now included (see plan):-

Phase I : Slight remains of cob-walled structures have been partially traced in sections and in the sides of robber trenches.

Buildings P and R both have chalk floors : P has a large hearth, and R may be cut by the E. moat. Part of another structure with at least one stone wall, Building S, has been noted, while another building, Q, was defined only by its chalk floor. Whether these buildings represent the remains of an earlier manorial complex or scattered peasants' houses is difficult to tell without further excavation; all appear to date from the late C. 12 or early C. 13. In the late C. 13 to early C. 14 these structures were levelled and the moats dug.

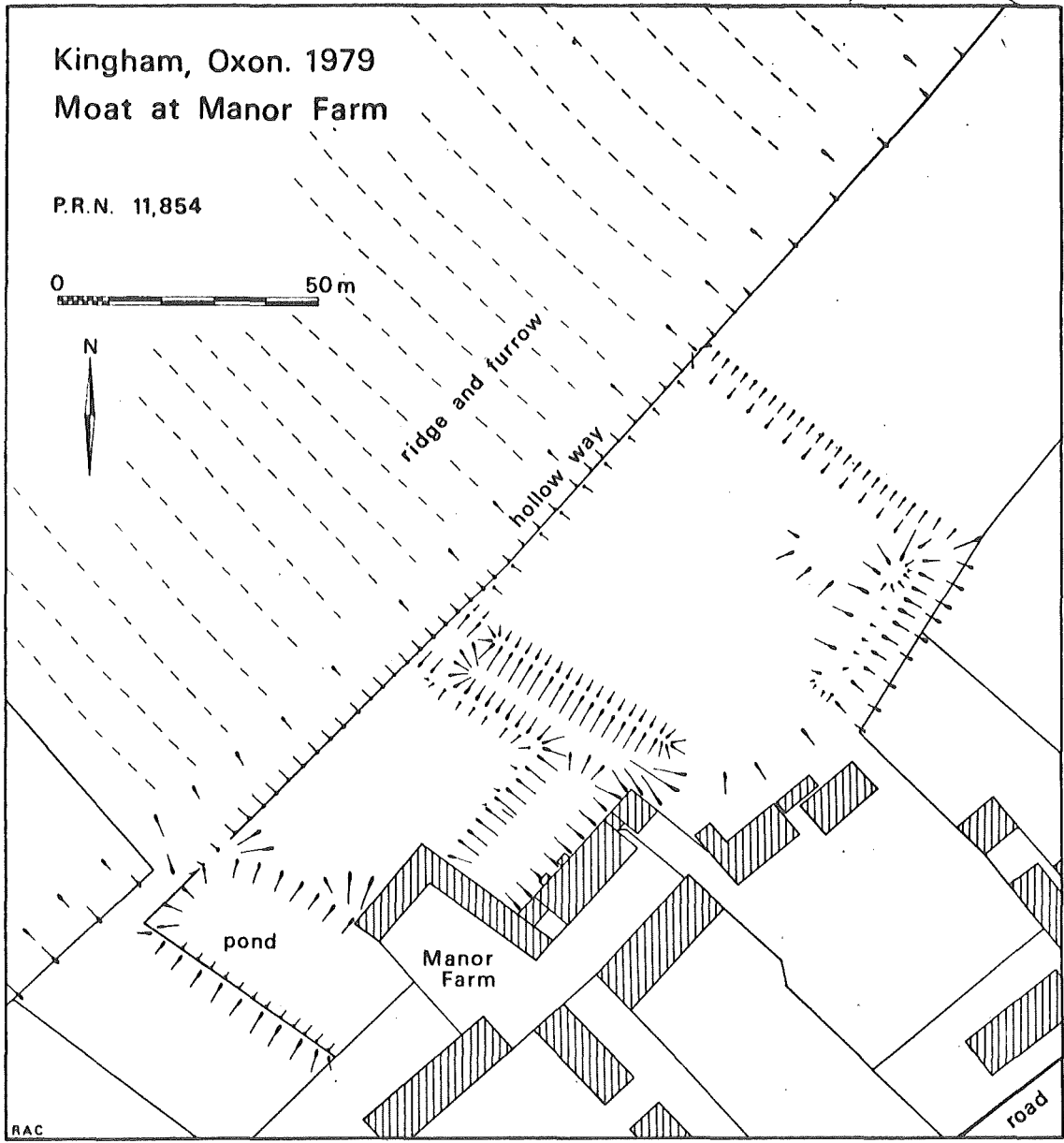
Phase II: A rectangular stone hall, Building A, was constructed, along with buildings D and E to the N., which were at first thought to predate it but now appear to have been contemporary. From its plan, E appears to be a dovecote, while D, which contains at least one oven, is interpreted as a kitchen. Access to the site was over a bridge near the dovecote. Building A was a fairly simple structure, divided by a cross-passage. Its W. end contained a central hearth of tiles on edge, while the E. part comprised another room, probably with a first floor above it. Not long after it was constructed the hall was extended to the W. A gap of c.4.5 metres was knocked out of the middle of the wall between hall and extension. This extension, like the hall, was open to the roof. Again not long afterwards, a second long, narrow extension was added to the W. At the E. end of Building A was an isolated 7-m. length of wall whose function is unclear. On the S. of the island a few scattered remains of farm buildings belonging to this phase could be seen, appearing through a later courtyard. The large aisled barn, C, was built during the second phase and remained in use thereafter.

Phase III: No earlier than the second quarter of the C. 14, a two-storey cross-wing was added at the E. end of Building A, running northwards.

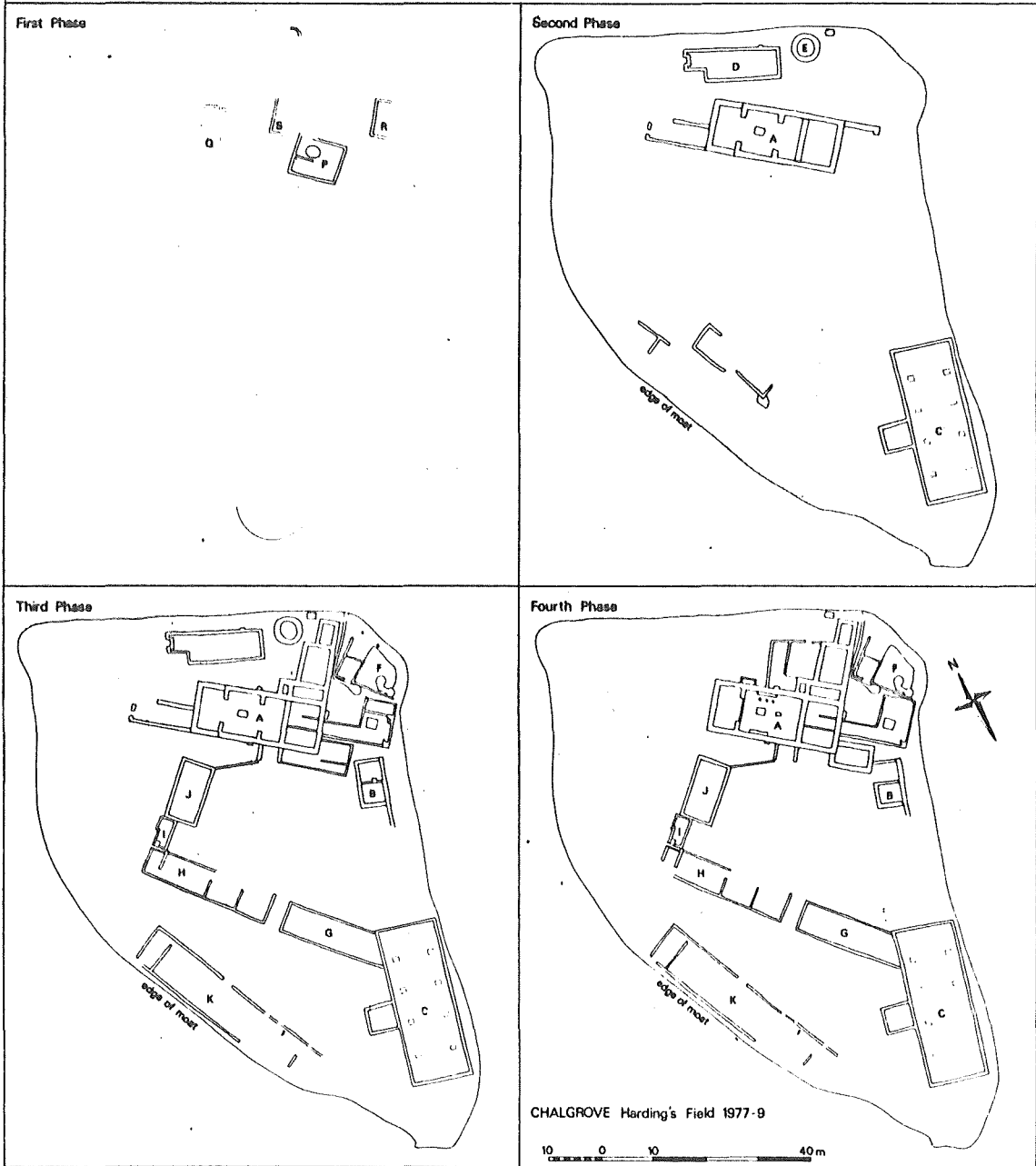
Kingham, Oxon. 1979
Moat at Manor Farm

P.R.N. 11,854

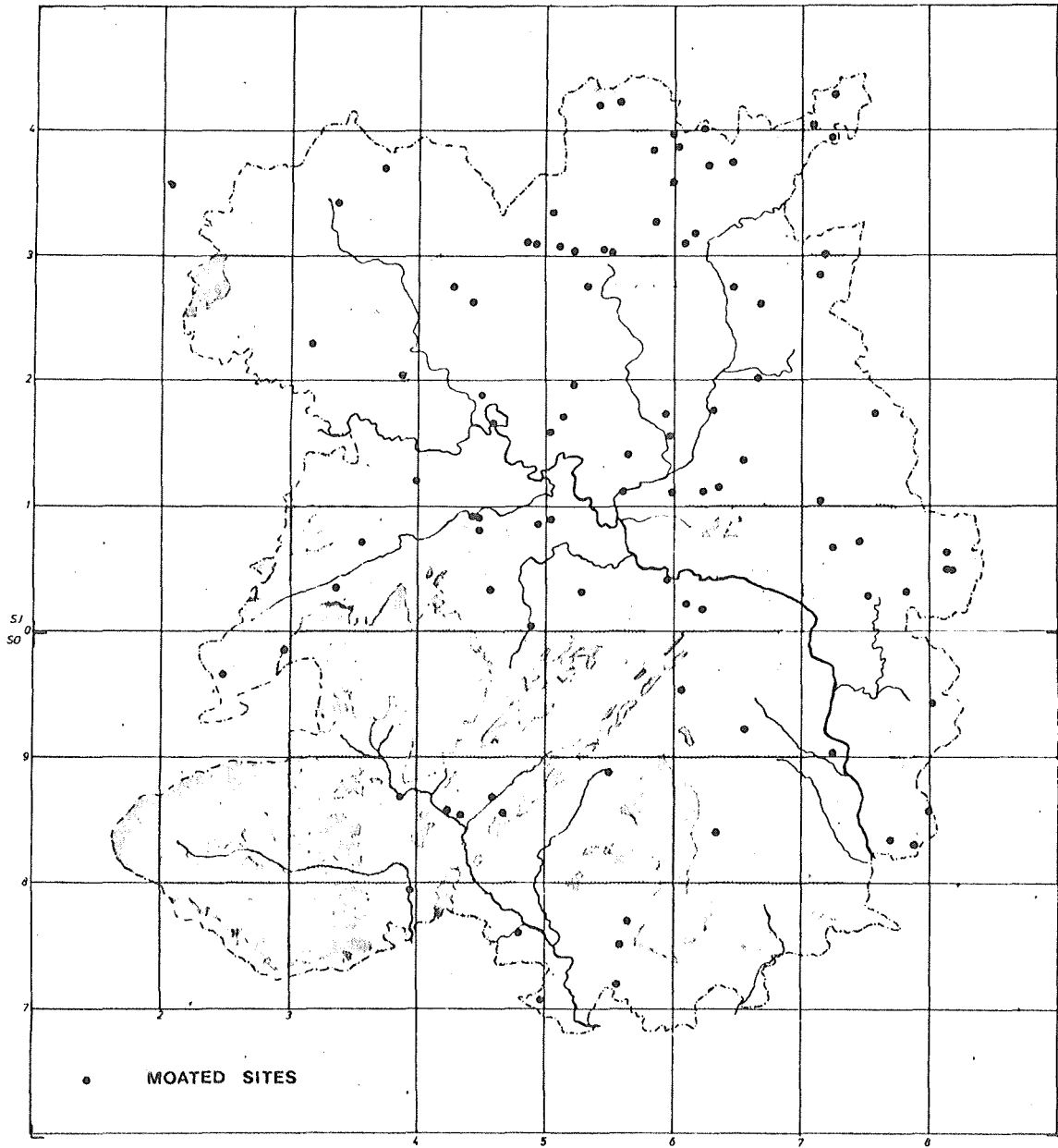
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RAC



SHROPSHIRE



● MOATED SITES



Land over 800ft
" " 400ft

The S. chamber of the cross-wing was divided by a corridor, perhaps into a buttery and pantry. A further room to the N. had a garderobe at its far end. In the angle between the hall and cross-wing was another chamber which was probably also a garderobe. A new kitchen, contemporary with the cross-wing, was built to the E. and linked to the service end of the hall by a corridor. It was divided into two unequal bays by an E-W. wall. Its S. bay contained a large tile-on-edge hearth with two ovens in its E. corners. Building F was an ephemeral structure containing two ovens, which was enclosed by the cross-wing, kitchen and moat. A porch was constructed on the S. side of Building A, possibly reflecting a change in status of this entrance. A building with dwarf stone walls was butted on to the SE corner of the house : it contained the remains of a mortar floor and fragments of decorated floor tiles, and it is suggested that this building was the chapel. Another insubstantial building, B, to the SE, was of two bays and contained a small tile-on-edge hearth. The alterations to the house during this phase were complemented by the re-organisation of the farmyard, which became a planned unit enclosing a courtyard. Between barns H and G was a well-metalled track giving access into the yard. The long barn K was also contemporary with the new farm buildings.

Phase IV : No earlier than the late C. 14, the westernmost extension to the hall went out of use and was demolished. The first extension W. of the hall was once more divided from it by a wall. Within the hall considerable changes were made. The stone spur walls were demolished and stone benches built along the N. and S. walls. The floor over the presumed buttery and pantry was extended over the cross-passage. Three well-packed post-holes were set in front of the bench on the N. side, possibly supporting a gallery. Buildings D and E were demolished. To the N. of the hall a pentice now ran out, forming one side of a courtyard to its E. The room on the SE side of Building A was rebuilt on much the same lines, but with walls which suggest a two-storey structure. As a result of its construction the N. bay of Building B went out of use. The N. bay of the kitchen was demolished and rebuilt without a dividing wall.

Kidlington, Moat Cottage (PRN. 9219 : SP.488135)

The summer of 1979 saw a further excavation (CF. M.S.R.G. Report No. 5, pp. 13-14) under the direction of R.A. Chambers for the Oxfordshire Archaeological Unit in order to obtain a better understanding of the entire site and to assess the extent, nature and date-range of the medieval buildings. Some twenty trial trenches and pits were dug by local volunteers in the garden on the E. side of the present Moat Cottage. Many of the trenches revealed a limestone rubble spread across the E. half of the garden but this gave way towards the cottage to a much deeper stratification, which revealed the medieval coursed rubble wall foundations and associated gravelly clay floors which contained only mid-medieval pottery. It is now clear that it is beneath the W. half of the garden E. of Moat Cottage that substantial medieval buildings lie, sealed by dumped soil.

A 2.3 m deep trench inside the N. garden wall revealed the edge of a heavily silted water course (moat ?) which was later purposely infilled during the creation of the present garden. It is now clear that the whole shape of the present landscape is the result of post-medieval re-planning, belonging almost wholly to the C. 18. It is hoped that future work will clarify the morphology of the medieval establishment.

Kingham, Manor Farm (PRN.11,854 : SP. 259242)

A previously unknown moated site reported by Mr. N. Snell has been examined and surveyed by R.A. Chambers for the Oxfordshire Archaeological Unit (see plan). The moat is three-sided with a rectangular interior raised about 1 metre above the bottom of the ditch. The NW side is demarcated by a hollow way. Differential grass growth in the interior may reflect building foundations. Beyond the NE arm is a prominent external bank rising some 2 metres above the bottom of the moat and delimiting the SW side of a larger rectangular enclosure surrounded by smaller ditches, with a mound in the E. corner - perhaps a garden area.

SHROPSHIRE

Ian Burrow has prepared the following interim notes, based on data abstracted from the county Sites and Monuments Record: About half the known surviving sites have been investigated as part of the Record survey programme, but data on the remainder is normally at least ten years old (mainly derived from the Ordnance Survey). Many more sites undoubtedly remain to be identified, and these notes are intended only to present the current state of knowledge and to highlight inadequacies.

- (1) Number: 114 sites are currently known (cf. 117 cited by Aberg in CBA Res. Rep 17 table I p.3) although 8 are dubious. 86 sites survive as upstanding features, though the state of preservation varies widely. 22 sites are scheduled (19% of the total, or 29% of the surviving examples). 11 sites have been excavated, on however small a scale (cf. Le Patourel CBA Res Rep 17 table III, p.39). 42 sites have been investigated since 1975, and a small number have been surveyed on a large scale.
- (2) Distribution (see map). It is not yet possible to comment in detail on the distribution in relation to parish boundaries, settlements or soil type. The concentration observable N. of the Severn may sustain the hypothesis that the majority of moats represent settlement expansion into woodland and other 'marginal' lands in the C. 13 - 14, but only detailed work can finally resolve this question.
- (3) Morphology:- All but 9 sites appear to be simple rectangles. 4 circular moats are known and one is triangular (Baschurch). 2 sites are of Le Patourel's class A3 (Moated sites of Yorks, 4) - Rushbury and Wem Rural 1. Additional features seem largely confined to fishponds (at 11 sites) but this will doubtless be altered by future work.

Buildings remain (or did until recently) at 28 sites.

- (4) Status:- At least 26 sites are thought to have been of manorial status, a number which will also probably be increased as documentary work takes place. 5 sites appear to have ecclesiastical connexions of various kinds (Friary, Hospital, Grange, Rectory).
- (5) Preservation:- Despite the relatively high percentage of scheduled sites (19% of known moats), it is clear, even at this stage, that a number of sites which should be categorised as of Grades 1 and 2 under the Moated Sites Research Group Policy Statement are not protected in any way.

Of 37 sites complete, 16 are scheduled.

Of the 21 remaining sites, 12 have been investigated as part of the sites and monuments survey and can be assessed as follows:

Grade 1 (all to be scheduled)

3235 Bitterley 1	Subsidiary enclosure to N.
1129 Petton	Fishpond
633 Rushbury	Concentric enclosures, fishponds

Grade 2

616 Donington 1	Circular - to be destroyed by M54
1030 Ightfield 1	Well-preserved in open ground (Recommended for scheduling)
1031 Ightfield 2	Somewhat disturbed by later garden features
1025 Ightfield 4	Well-preserved in woodland (Recommended for scheduling)
1032 Moreton Say	Well-preserved in woodland (Recommended for scheduling)
2508 Oswestry Rural 3 sides	only, but well-preserved (Recommended for scheduling)

Grade 3

Longnor 1	C 14 manor house and buildings on island
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Grade 4

3204 Munslow	Circular moat. Damaged; buildings.
1058 Pontesbury 1	Circular moat. Damaged; buildings

Manor Farm, Cleeton, St. Mary (SO.607791)

Peter Hewitt reports on his continuing investigations of this site on the ground and in the records. Several new facts have emerged. On the E. side of the D.M.V. associated with the moated site house platforms appeared to be aligned without reference to the main trackway. R.A.F. aerial photographs make it clear that the platforms are aligned gable-end on to two well-defined subsidiary tracks which link with the main trackway.

In the 1689 Will of John Pardoe, one of the squires of Cleeton, a list of fields includes 'a piece of land St. Margaret's Chapel'; it is not possible to identify this parcel, but it is listed with other fields which lie adjacent to the D.M.V. area. An embanked area containing many old trees known as the 'Coppo' bears many of the hallmarks of an old coppice wood. On the W. of the moat, just outside the fence, a D-shaped hollow fed by a water leat has been noted. There is a fall of 1.75m on the outflow which is revetted. The site appears to be a small mill. Close by is a large platform, bigger than any of the house sites, which it is conjectured might represent a grain store.

SOMERSET

Ian Burrow reports that a county survey of Somerset moated sites has begun as part of the work of the Somerset County Planning Department. Based on earlier work by Pam Lake (undergraduate thesis, University College, Cardiff, 1975) and M. Aston (M.S.R.G. Report No. 4, pp. 10-11, 20-21), this is designed both to study moats as an element in the medieval landscape, and also to check their condition and propose measures for selective conservation. It is also felt that moats may be a useful general indicator of field monument survival in agricultural areas. 53 possible sites are known at present, but some examples are certainly post-medieval. Attention has so far largely been confined to fieldwork. 13 sites have been recorded to M.S.R.G. standards and three (Marston Magna, ST. 594233, Hinton, ST. 575207 and Merryfield, ST. 340178) have been surveyed in detail.

SUFFOLK

Mr. B. Charge reports that the Haverhill and District Archaeological Group are currently engaged in a study of the hundred or so moated sites which lie within a 7-mile radius of Haverhill on the Suffolk-Essex-Cambridgeshire border. In conjunction with the Suffolk Archaeological Unit a simple survey form was drawn up for use in the rapid preliminary examination of all sites, in order to determine which were of sufficient interest to warrant detailed mapping. To date some 70% of the sites have been examined. About 20% of the sites shown on the most recent editions of the O.S. 1:10,000 maps are no longer extant; infilling and 'landscaping' of these features is increasing in this area, and much damage was done during the drought years of 1975-6. Of the sites examined so far, about 10% reveal associated earthworks not detailed even on the 1:2500 O.S. plans. Plane-table surveys of these are in preparation, together with hedgerow surveys and fieldwalking on adjacent cultivated land where relevant. All results of the initial survey are fed to the appropriate County Archaeological Unit and/or Planning Department, who have undertaken to forward copies to the M.S.R.G. when complete.

SUSSEX

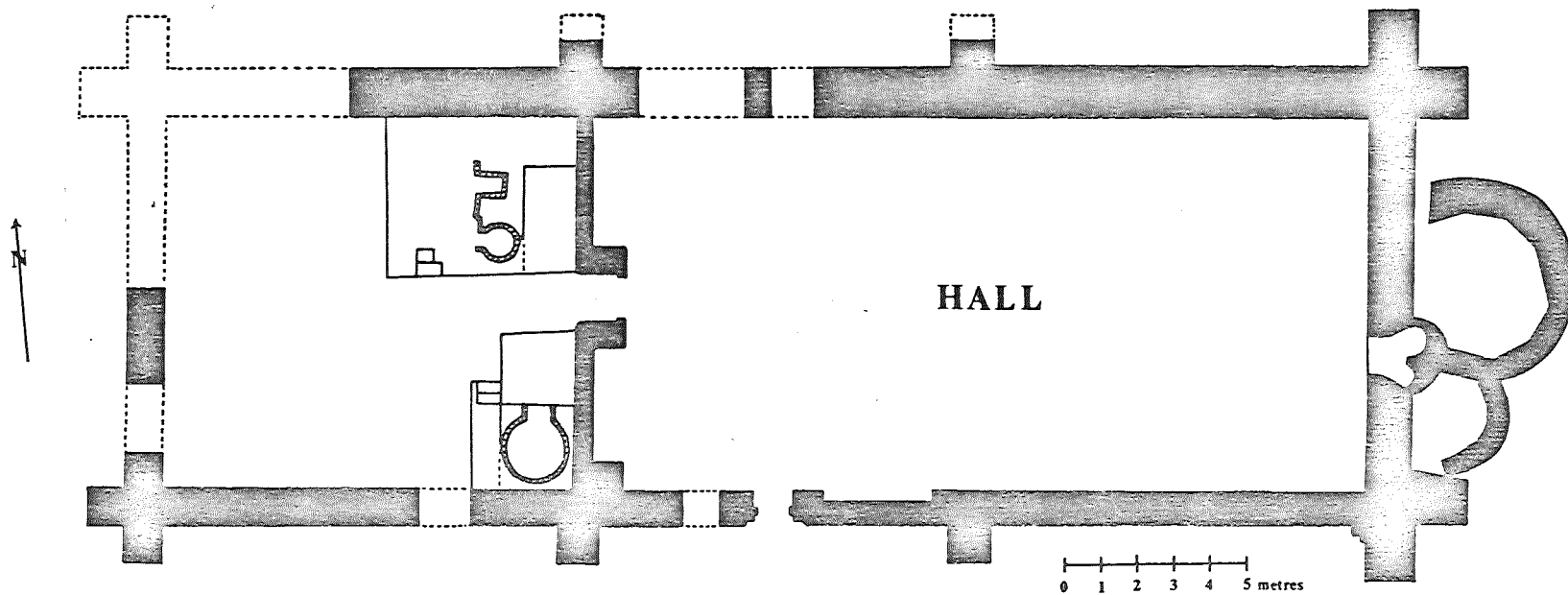
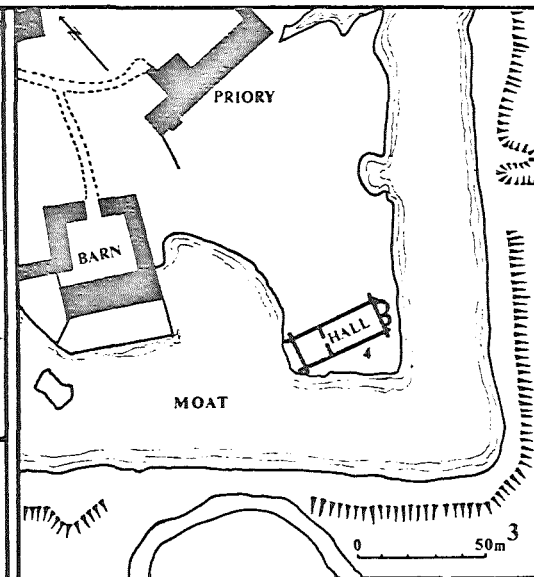
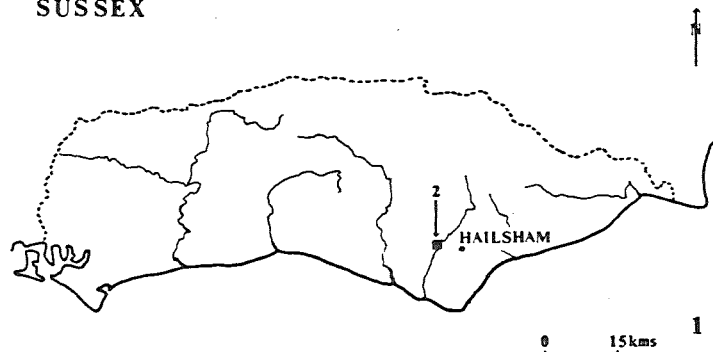
Michelham Priory, Arlington (TQ.558093)

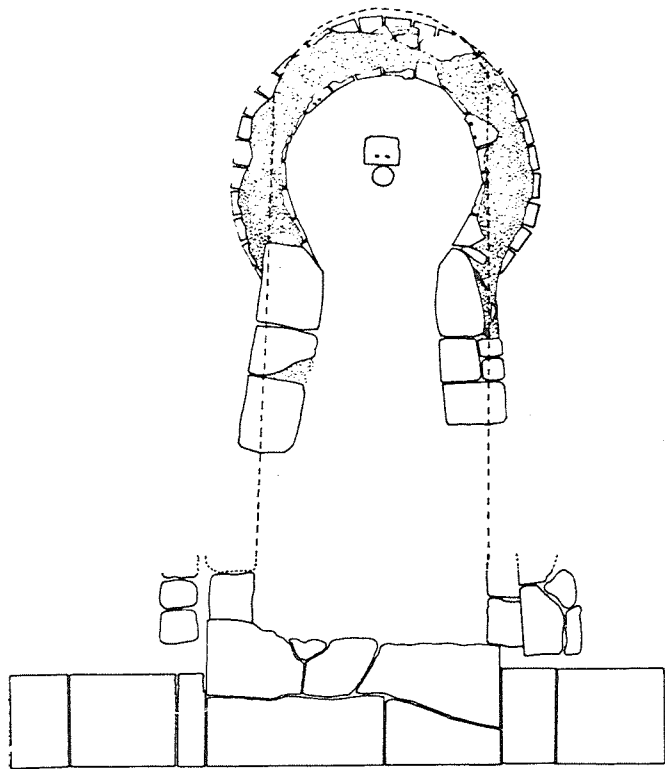
Lawrence Stevens reports on this site, which stands below the 15m contour on a low spur projecting into the Cuckmere valley. The priory now stands within a sub-rectangular moat, over which stands a gatehouse. The topsoil is largely alluvial, lying on yellow clay, below which there is a thick deposit of blue clay. Much of the ground within the moat has been made up with numerous clean and debris layers. The medieval hall stood to the S. of the southern range, close to the water's edge.

LOCATION PLANS

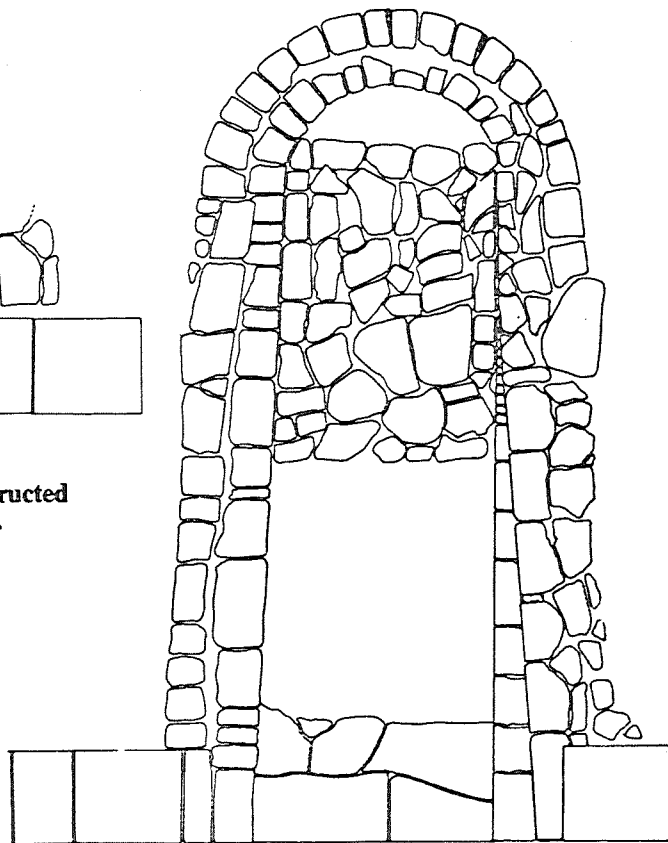
MEDIEVAL HALL MICHELHAM PRIORY
ARLINGTON SUSSEX

SUSSEX

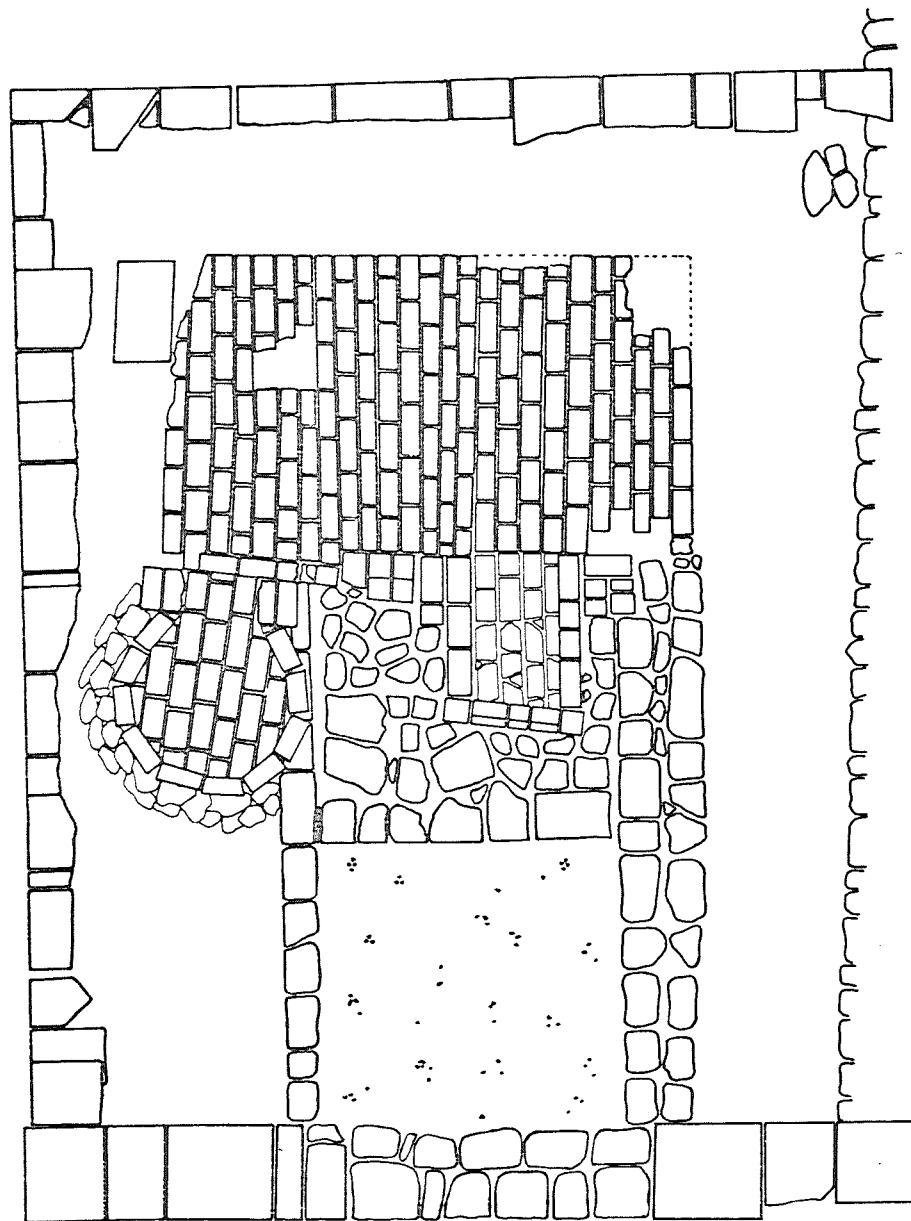




FEATURE XXI - Keyhole hearth constructed of re-used roof tiles and sandstone.



FEATURES XII AND XIII - Two U-shaped hearths built one above the other

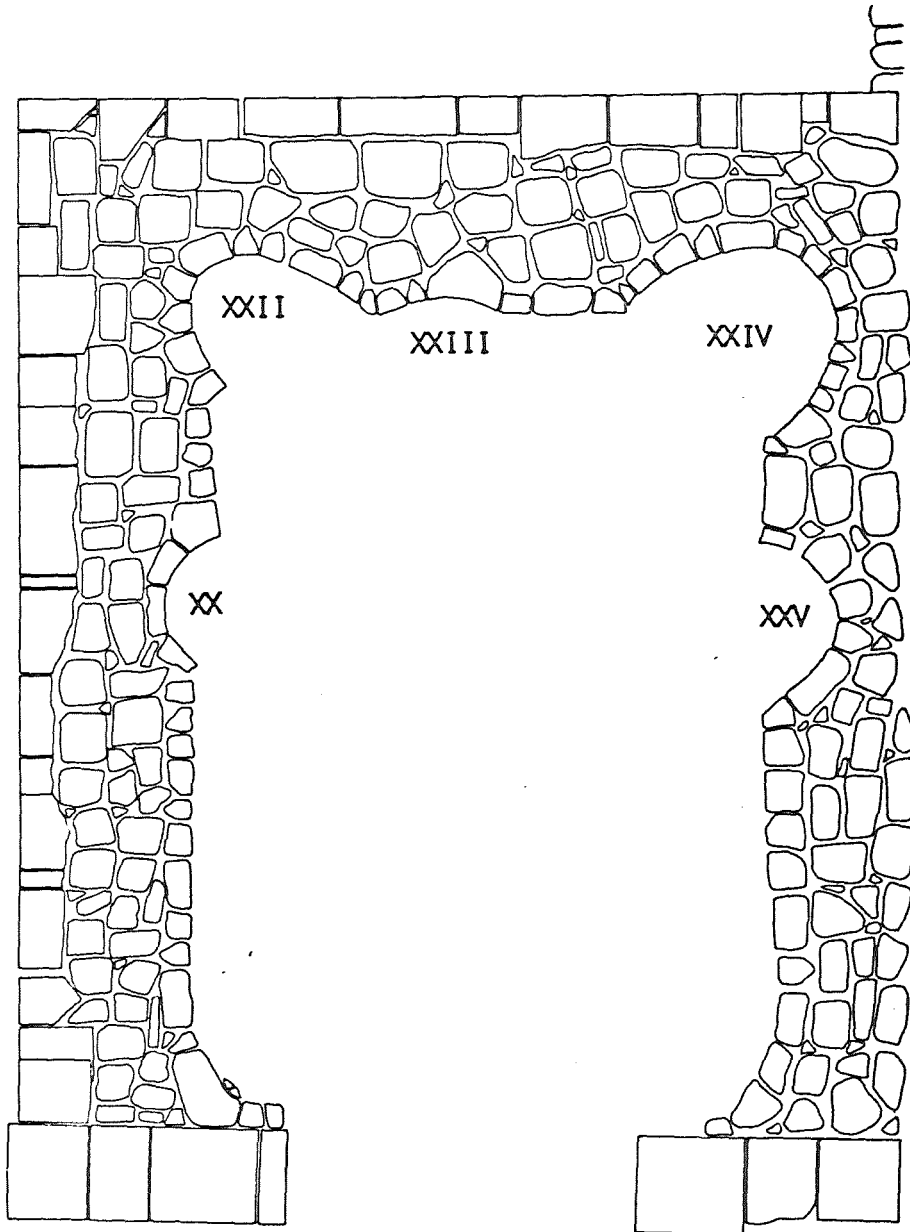


FEATURE X - Circular hearth (South)

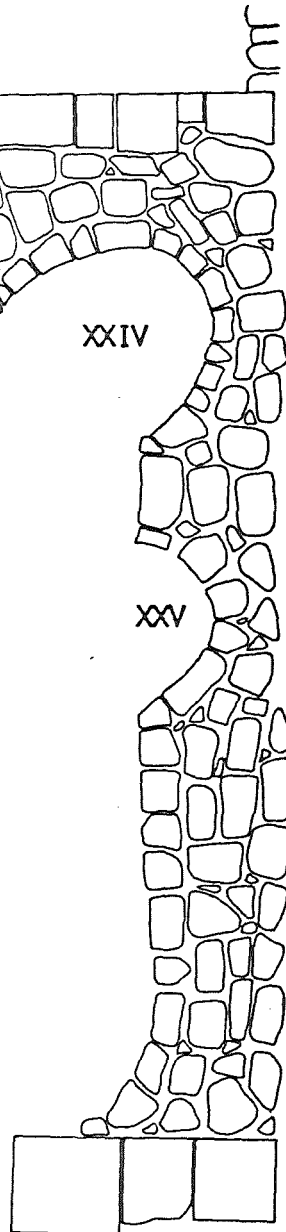
FEATURE XI - Open ended rectangular hearth (North)

**MICELHAM PRIORY
NORTH SERVICE AREA**

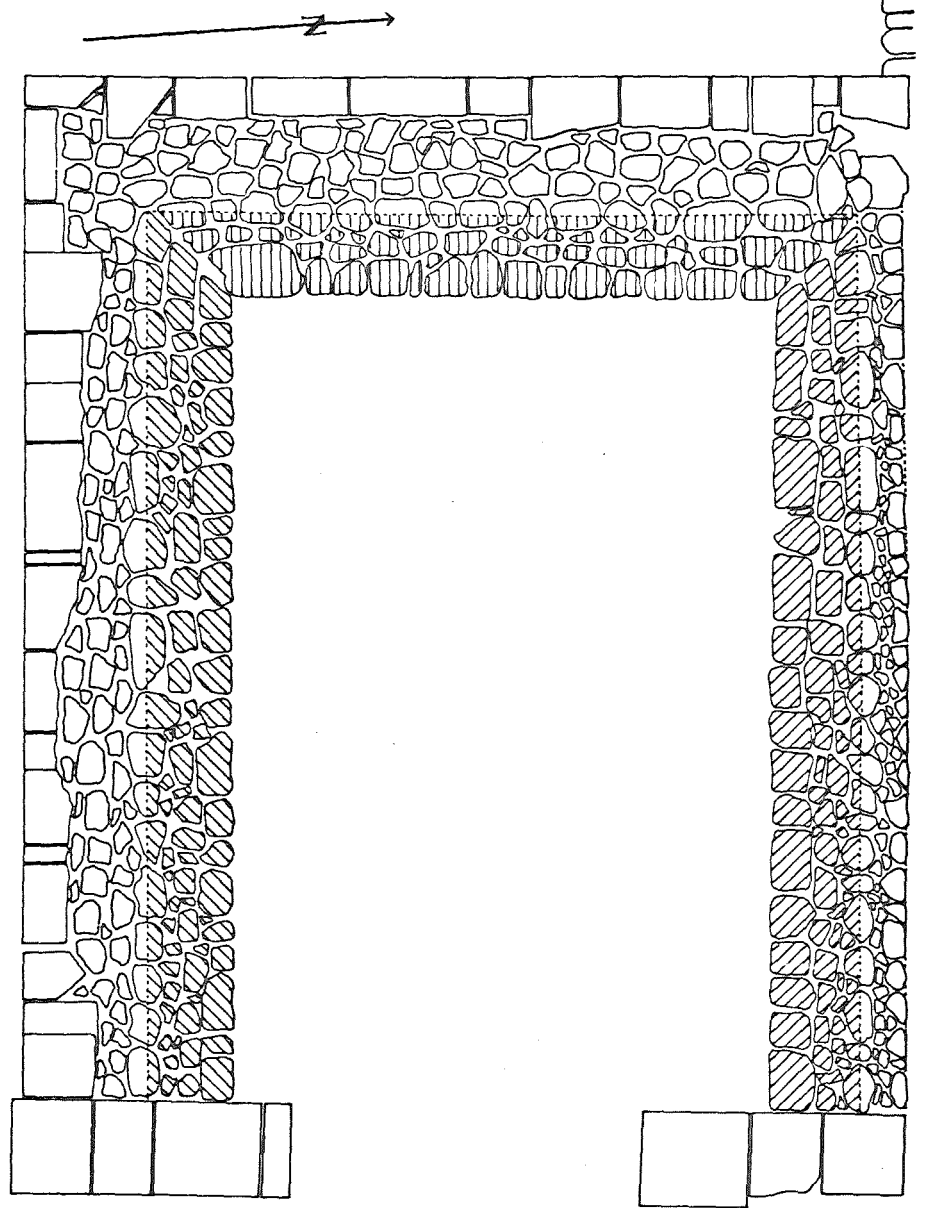
0  1m



FEATURE XLIV
Open ended rectangular structure composed of sandstone rubble with five arcs in its sides.

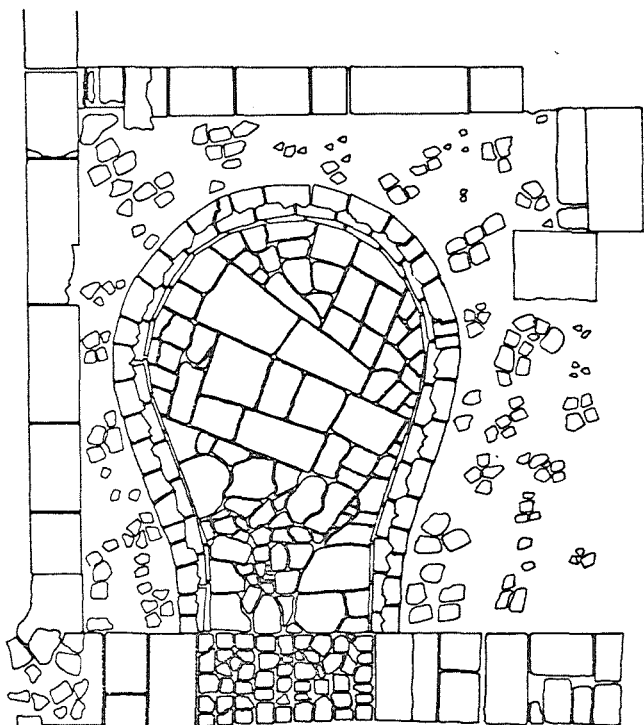


MICHELHAM PRIORY
NORTH SERVICE AREA

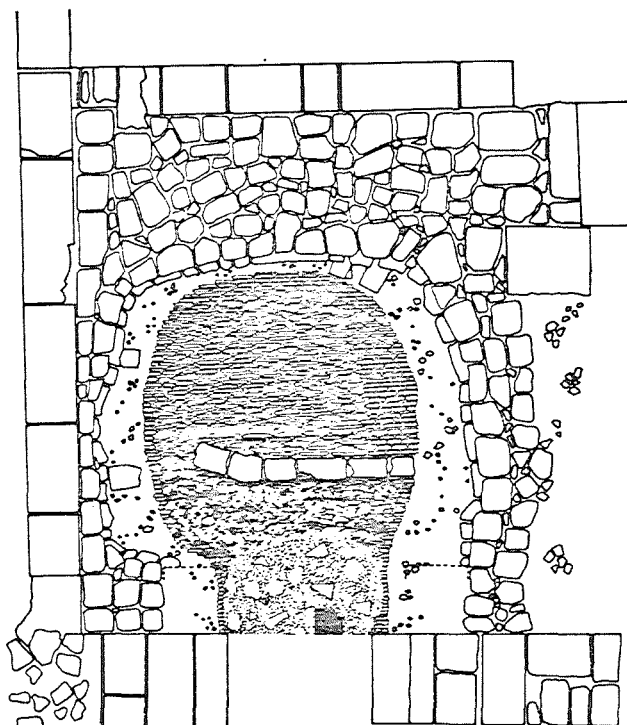


FEATURE XIV
Rectangular kiln with battered sides constructed of sandstone rubble.

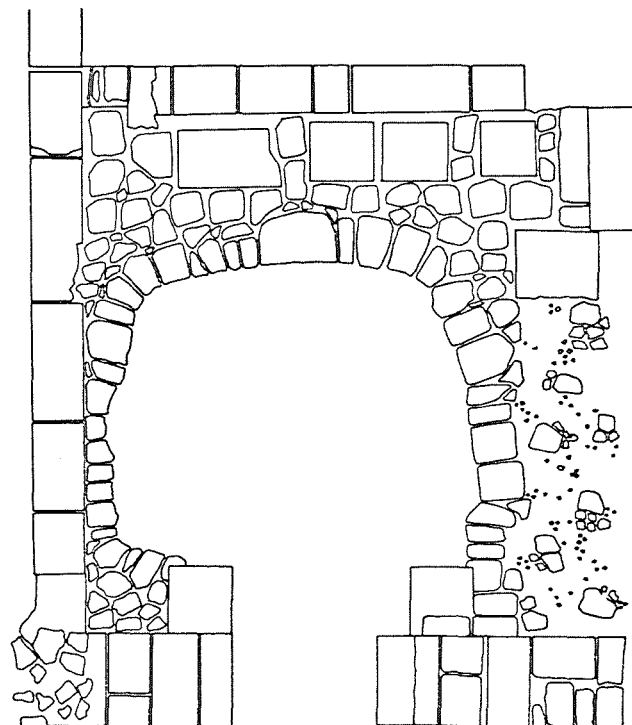
0 1m



FEATURE XXX - Hour glass oven constructed of sandstone with tile wall.



FEATURE XXVI - Oven with floor of sandstone and tile set on edge. The wall of which had been removed in antiquity.



FEATURE XLIII - Sub-rectangular hearth with sandstone wall. The floor was removed prior to the construction of Feature XIX.

**MICHELHAM PRIORY
SOUTH SERVICE AREA**



Little documentary evidence exists for the priory which was probably built in 1229. No record exists for the construction of the moat, nor for the gatehouse which L.F. Salzman (1) considered to be C. 14. There is no written evidence for the building of the medieval hall. The foundations of the hall were accidentally discovered during conservation work in 1970 and excavation was carried out to determine their extent, origin and purpose. A box-type grid was adopted, so that the water seepage was controllable and did not exceed the outflow rate of the water pump.

Archaeological evidence suggests that there were two broad phases. Phase I includes the erection of the building and its early ? domestic use. Phase II begins when that use comes to an end and the building appears to become semi-industrial.

Phase 1 : The Medieval Hall:

The Hall building, aligned E-W was \approx 30m long and 10m wide. Double external buttresses supported the four corners and the N. and S. walls were each supported by two lateral buttresses. The foundations, composed of mortared chalk and sandstone rubble were 2m deep and rested on the blue clay and narrowed from 1.59m in three offsets to the upper wall width of 0.99m. The upper walls were constructed of well-finished greensand ashlar with double diagonal tooling. A number of stone cutter's marks of Roman numerals were recorded. No upper walls existed on the N. side which had been robbed. The cross wall, constructed of well-dressed ashlar, was pierced by three entrances. The centre one, with stopped claw chamfers and door rebate, gave access to the area behind the service areas. The N. and S. entrances gave access to these areas and were much mutilated by alterations. The stone walls of the service areas may have replaced earlier wooden structures. The S. entrance was 1.08 m wide and finished with bull-nose chamfers and splayed stops. There was an ironstone path which turned to the W. and faded out. It would seem that this was the only entrance to the building. To the E. of the S. entrance was a recess in the S. wall which probably accommodated a lavatorium. In the floor, at the E. end of this recess was a small sandstone hopper which conducted water, through the S. wall, via an oak conduit, S. to the moat, where it had been allowed to trickle out over the contemporary land surface, which was more than 2m below the level of the moat. No pillar bases were found in the hall area and no fire-place was located.

Phase II:

Phase II is probably a pre-dissolution change to a semi-industrial use which continued into the C. 18, during which time 14 kilns and ovens were constructed.

Some time during the second phase, a bifid hearth was inserted in a thickened apse in the E. wall. Behind this were two arcs of different sizes, with floors of sandstone blocks. The stonework was not reused as they were curved and cut for the purpose. The structure is interpreted as a drying kiln with the indirect heat ducted through the bifid flues into the kilns. During Phase II, six hearths were built in the N. service area, one above the other. Access to all of them was through the entrance in the passage wall.

The first structure of this series was rectangular (Feature XLIV) and had five arcs built into three of its sides, marked on the plan as XX and XXII-XXV. The mortaring suggested that they had been built around curved objects that may have stood on the ground. Pieces of burnt wood were found in the clay floor but there was no evidence of a hearth associated with this feature. As yet, no explanation of this feature has been forthcoming. Later, the arcs of Feature XLIV were filled in and a rectangular area was built with battered sides (Feature XIV). The arcs were filled in with worked stone rubble and the sides were battered to 48°. Similar, smaller structures have been found at Brixworth, (Northants). (malt drying kiln (2) and at Barrow (Rutland) (3). The battered kiln was superseded by a keyhole hearth (Feature XXI), constructed of re-used roof tiles and with sandstone cheeks. In the centre of the 1m diameter head was an eroded polished shaft of Sussex marble which had presumably supported a domed roof. Its function is obscure, but the absence of a stone floor suggests that it was not an oven. A U-shaped hearth (Feature XIII) was later built over the keyhole hearth. It was 3.89m long and constructed of sandstone and tile with its open end towards the doorway. An ironstone platform (Feature XII) above the structure suggested a second phase to this hearth, a point supported by the presence of a poorly defined U-shaped wall on a different alignment from the structure upon which it partly rested. Lastly, the area was bricked over and two hearths were built, of which only one brick course of each remained. The southern circular hearth (Feature X) was 0.8m in diameter with access from the W. The northern rectangular hearth (Feature XI) measured 0.45m by 0.5m, and had its access from the W. A platform of ironstone to the E. of these features may be the remnants of a hearth.

Another six hearths or ovens were built one above the other during the second phase in the S. service area. Firstly, an hour-glass oven (Feature XXX), was constructed with a squared sandstone block floor containing three pieces of fossiliferous stone. The floor sloped to the centre, having sunk in the wet clay and the stones nearest the entrance were much broken. Access was through the passage wall. Immediately above the floor of this oven, a second floor was built of tile and thin pieces of sandstone set on edge (Feature XXVI). There was a line of sandstone blocks across the width of the floor and the W. portion was less tightly packed than the E. The floor was set in yellow clay which had been reddened with heat. Some of the roof tiles, including ridge tiles were green glazed fragments.

A third hearth (Feature XLIII) was indicated by the presence of a sub-rectangular foundation structure of sandstone, whose floor had been robbed but three ash layers of this feature had been trapped in the entrance which was blocked when the fourth oven was built. This fourth oven was again constructed of sandstone blocks (Feature XIX), cut to size and set in yellow clay which had been reddened with heat. The fifth oven (Feature XVII - not illustrated) was constructed of bricks measuring 18 x 10 x 5 cm, and the floor was made of bricks laid flat in yellow clay. Its entrance was from the N. unlike the earlier structures whose access was from the E. The last oven in this series shared its predecessor's un-mortared brick wall and the floor was constructed of bricks set on edge (Feature VII). The bricks measured 21 x 12.5 x 6cm.

Preliminary conclusions:

Clearly, the relationship between the water level of the moat and the floor of the medieval building demonstrate that the two are incompatible, and that the building must have been constructed before the moat. Thus the suggestions that the moat is Norman is without foundation. Architecturally, the building can be dated between 1280 and 1350 and on this basis, Salzman's C. 14 date for the erection of the gatehouse may indicate a date for the construction of the moat. This would explain the apparently short period of phase I and the change to industrial use, concurrent with the raising of the floor level.

It is hoped that the final report will appear in due course in Sussex Archaeological Collections.

References:

- (1) L.F. Salzman, History of Hailsham, (1901), p. 221.
- (2) D.M. Wilson & D.G. Hurst, 'Brixworth Malt Kiln', Med. Arch. Vol XIV (1970) p. 206.
- (3) E.G. Bolton, 'Excavation of a House and Malt Kiln at Barrow, Rutland', Med. Arch. Vol. IV (1960) p. 128.

WARWICKSHIRE

Hunningham (SP. 371680)

Fabian Radcliffe, with the Trinity School Archaeologists and the Leamington Archaeology Group, has examined a moated site lying in pasture c. 170m. SW of Hunningham church, close to the R. Leam and on the edge of the village. Half of the moat has been filled in recent times; the rest is considerably silted. The enclosed platform, c.25m square, has a nearly level surface with no signs of buildings, and is raised 1.5 - 2.5m above the surrounding field, which slopes gently down to the river. There are indications of a bank round the outside of the moat, inlet and outlet channels and other earthworks, all of which are being surveyed. Ridge and furrow comes close to the site on the W. In the nearby vicarage garden 'nearly 2 cwt' of medieval and Roman pottery was found from 1925 onwards (Trans. Birmingham Archaeol. Soc. 65 (1943-4) 144 and pottery was also found within the moat-enclosed area'. Some of this material is now in Warwick Museum, and is of C. 12 - C. 14 date.

Excavation began in autumn, 1977. So far about two-thirds of the platform has been stripped of topsoil; but the underlying layer, a gravelly soil, has no clear evidence of building plans. There is, however, a quantity of building material - fragments of red sandstone, clearly distinguishable from the gravel, as well as clay tile and nails - and there are groups of worked red sandstone blocks which may be stylobates for a timber building. More work will have to be done before this can be confirmed; but the presence of a small quantity of medieval pottery and a very little oyster shell as well as the building material, does suggest that there were buildings of some sort on the platform. The finds all occur either on or just below the surface of this gravel layer, which does not itself appear to have been disturbed by the removal of any foundations. The structures must therefore have been almost entirely of timber, and laid on the gravel surface.

A section has also been cut across the moat, showing that it was shallow and flat-bottomed, nearly 9m wide and c. 1.60m deep. There was no evidence of a re-cut. A small amount of cooking pot of probable C. 13 date was recovered from the primary silt. The moat trench has now been extended some 6m into the sloping edge of the platform. This confirms that the platform is composed of the natural sands and gravels dug out of the moat. Underlying the platform material is a layer of grey clayey soil, the sealed ground surface, which is being examined for pre-platform occupation and/or cultivation. It is possible that the site was laid out over earlier ridge and furrow.

Excavation is continuing linked with investigation of the settlement and topography of the village.

WEST MIDLANDS

Sydenhams Moat, Monkspath, Solihull (SP. 144757)

Jeff Perry, reports on the progress of excavation by the Solihull Archaeological Group:-

Further examination of the large pit in the SW. corner of the platform has shown that the black lining is in fact turf, rather than a staining as was thought at first. Below the pit there appears to be a turf level that could be the pre-platform surface. This shows that here the depth of deposited material used in the construction of the platform is about 1 - 1½m. Work on the clay levels on the W. of the site and below the courtyard has revealed more details of the early "timber phase", but we are still far from understanding many of them.

In the SE. corner the tile level has been removed to reveal a continuation of the courtyard below. Traces of an extension to the main E. building have been identified, which contain an area of burning. A further drain has also been found between the extension and the main building, with a side channel along one edge of the extension. The drain is curved at its W. end and appears to lead off from an area of cobbles and sandstone. This type of arrangement is similar to that found in the W. range of buildings and may also be a water-tank base, although in this case it is inside a building rather than outside one.

WALES

Editorial note: Jack Spurgeon has drawn my attention to two unfortunate typing errors which occurred in his discussion paper on Medieval Moated Sites in Wales, published in M.S.R.G. Report No. 6 (1979). My apologies to him, and may I ask readers to note the following corrections:-

Page 37: Paragraph numbered 2, line 11 of that paragraph: Should read "...was not rebuilt after destruction in 1263...", not "construction" as given.

Page 42: Paragraph introducing Bibliography, lines 5-6 of that paragraph: Should read "...for eventual publication in Volume 3 of the Glamorgan Inventory. Brief notes on individual discoveries..."

EIRE

Dr. Terry Barry reports from Trinity College, Dublin:

Co. WICKLOW

A field survey of all known moated sites in this county was undertaken by the author and two students, Miss Virginia Davis and Mr. John McLoughlin, in October 1979. Originally it had been intended to survey Co. Waterford (M.S.R.G. Report No. 6 (1979) p. 31) but this has now been postponed.

A search through the first and succeeding editions of the O.S. 1:10,560 maps and other secondary sources identified a total of 29 possible moated sites. The field survey eliminated 10 sites in all, of which 4 turned out to be various types of earthwork castles, 3 were ringforts, and 3 were other post-medieval earthworks. Of the remaining 19 moated sites, only 6 were found to be still in existence, under one-third of those mapped in the 1840's. This rate of destruction is even higher than that recorded in the early 1970's for the nearby counties of Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary and Wexford. (M.S.R.G. Report No. 5 (1978) pp. 19-22) and highlights the urgent necessity for effective legislative protection of earthworks in Ireland.

The thirteen destroyed sites are:

(TOWNLAND)	(IRISH GRID REFERENCE)
Ballinamona	(19T 186780)
Ballybeg	(19T 055761)
Ballyraine Middle	(19T 227741)

A very fine single rectangular moated site with remains of a building in its interior. The O.S. shows an entrance to the W. Internal area of 3,422 sq.m. Aerial photograph: Geological Survey V258/26-27 (taken 24.7.59). Site bull-dozed March 1971. For further information see Journal of the Royal Soc. of Antiq. of Ireland Vol. 6 (1936), 46, Vol. 11 (1941), 26-27.

Brittas	(16T 306847)
Ballygahan Upper	(19T 192806)
Ballylion Lower	(16S 914968)
Holdenstown Upper	(16S 888853)
Kelsha	(16S 931877)
Killinure	(19S 928709)
Kilmurry	(19T 238682)
Rampere	(16S 873912)
Timullin	(16T 203865)
Trooperstown	(16T 187974)

The six surviving sites are:

Ballina Park (16T 279978)

Low-lying site, 1 km NE of Ballinalea. This large rectangular moated enclosure, C. 40m x 32m, is half hidden by a heavily-wooded copse. The moat is 9.60m wide and 2m deep.

Ballyconnell (19S 914752)

A small rectangular moated site, 28.50m x 22.50m, with internal enclosure banks and narrow moat.

Ballynagran (19T 279914)

This low-lying rectangular moated site, C. 30m x 30m in area, is located 4 km SW of Rathnew. It is known locally as 'MacDermot's Castle' and has a wet moat which is 10.70m wide.

Coolross (19S 950656)

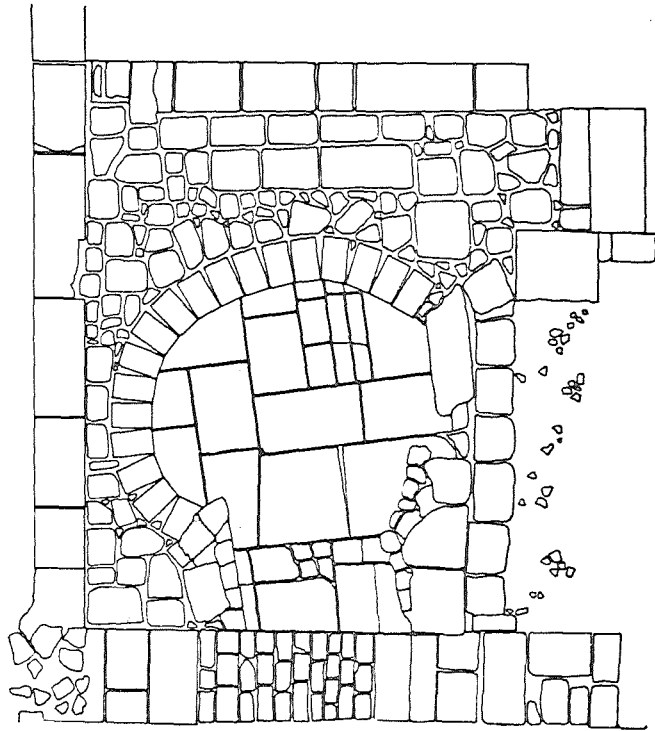
This concentric rectangular moated site is located at 216m O.D. on an E-facing steep slope, some 4km SW of Shillelagh. This rare triple enclosure, with an internal area of 959sq.m. has been severely eroded by cattle. The moat is 5.30m wide and 2m deep.

Courtfoyle (160 271006)

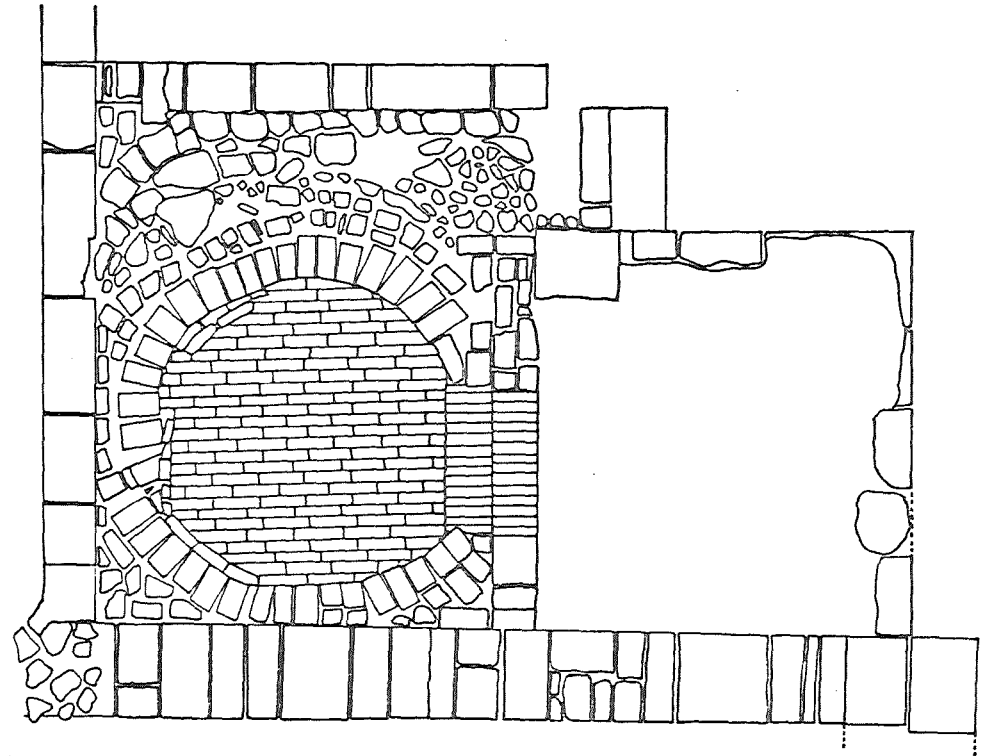
This rectangular moated site is located 5km SW of Newcastle. Part of its moat has been filled in with field stones.

Talbotstown Upper (16S 920873)

This large rectangular moated site, 5Km SE of Baltinglass, has an internal area of 2,214sq m. The moat is stone-lined and is 9.90m wide and 3m deep. There are stone towers at each of the four corners, and there is also a gate tower to the E.



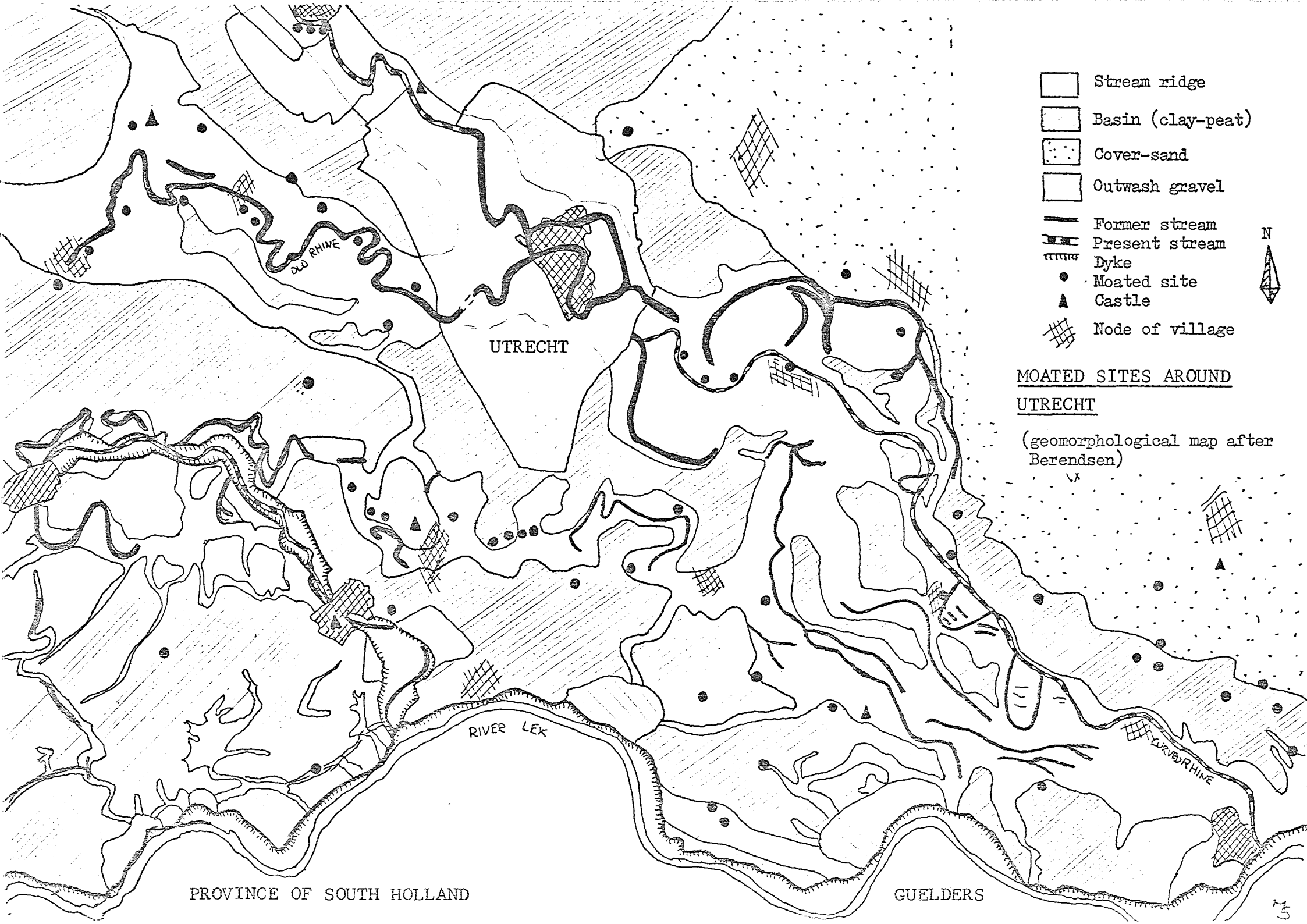
**FEATURE XIX - Oven with sandstone floor
and brick wall.**













**FEATURE VII - Brick oven - The floor of which is constructed
of bricks set on edge with a brick wall.**



**MICHELHAM PRIORY
SOUTH SERVICE AREA**



-  Stream ridge
-  Basin (clay-peat)
-  Cover-sand
-  Outwash gravel
-  Former stream
-  Present stream
-  Dyke
-  Moated site
-  Castle
-  Node of village



MOATED SITES AROUND
UTRECHT

(geomorphological map after Berendsen)

PROVINCE OF SOUTH HOLLAND

GUELDERS

III. MOATED SITES IN THE NETHERLANDS

By Drs. Judith Schuyf

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Introduction

Apart from publications by Rotterdam town archaeologist C. Hoek, almost nothing is known about moated sites in the Netherlands. This article will therefore contain what is of necessity only a very preliminary survey of moated sites, particularly in the northern half of the country.

One has to start from scratch by first looking at different descriptions currently in use for moated sites:-

- 1) In purely morphological terms a moated site can be defined as any site surrounded by a moat visible in the field. The island may be (a) empty or (b) built up, either with the original house or farm or with later replacements. By such a definition there is no distinction between moated site and castle.
- 2) A moated site may be defined as a site with a wide ditch around it, usually 5 metres or over, which is nonetheless of a non-defensive nature. This definition rules out castles but includes farmsteads, though in practice the distinction between castle and moated site is not always very easy to discern.
- 3) Moated sites may be seen as representing the remains of houses belonging to a certain social class, the class between the nobility and farmers.
- 4) Moated sites can usually only be recognised by excavation, because they belong to a period and class long since disappeared. They may be seen as a product of just one stage in the formation of early feudal society, and the sites have often either disappeared or have been rebuilt into something else, e.g. a motte-and-bailey castle. Although this is an attractive hypothesis, it would be reliant upon evidence from numerous archaeological excavations, which have not so far been carried out.

Functions

Theoretically it should not be very difficult to distinguish between a castle and a moated site, but in practice it is not so easy. Of course, a castle was built primarily for defence (1), whereas a moated site was meant primarily as a residence. There was always some overlap between the two types of site, however. Some castles were built entirely for defence, such as the border-castles of the counts of Holland and Guelders and the bishop of Utrecht, which were usually held by a castellanus or borgman. In addition to these, however, there is a very large number of castles built by higher and lesser nobility and knights, given to the lord at various times and later returned as fiefs - sometimes directly taken into his estates. The nature of the defences of such houses was primarily dependent upon the financial resources of their former owners. Apart from that, one must be very careful about the period one is talking about. One widely-held hypothesis is that the moat was primarily a symbol of status.

This may be perfectly true for the period after the sixteenth century, but it was certainly not the case during the Middle Ages with their incessant local wars. In medieval law the difference between a castle and a moated site lay in the thickness of their walls (usually two bricks, making about 40-60 cm) and the width of the moat (2). In the documents, however, all castles and moated sites are called simply 'house' or 'stone house'. Most sites have been rebuilt and changed beyond recognition, especially in the eighteenth century. Few drawings exist to show their original state.

An attempt to make a distinction has to be made, however. We have mapped as moated sites all structures which are still visible, or for which good evidence for their location and exterior appearance survives despite their destruction, as long as they are not castles belonging to the lord of the land or do not look primarily defensive on the oldest available illustrations (e.g. by having or consisting only of a donjon or having a curtain wall without windows). In the waterlogged Low Countries few sites were not moated at all.

Social Status

In order to understand the social status of moated sites it is necessary to examine the social structure of the Low Countries during the Middle Ages, which differs considerably from that in England. No up-to-date survey of this problem is available (3). The Low Countries were not unified until the 16th century, and the situation differs from county to county and from period to period. Almost nothing is known about the period prior to 1200. At that time we have four main classes, the serfs, the serjeants ministriales, the free and the nobility. The mass of the people was unfree, although this too could differ from county to county. Particularly in the areas adjacent to the sea, i.e. Holland and Friesland, the majority of the peasants were free by the 12th century. At the top of the pyramid we find a few noble families. In most cases nothing is known about their origins. The serjeants were the descendents of unfree servi and liti of the Carolingian period, who rose to power by service to the feudal lord, and eventually to knighthood as they took over military duties from the nobility. They formed the main part of the knighthood of the Middle Ages, and proved in the end to be much more resilient than the 'real' nobility. In parts of the Netherlands, e.g. the Duchy of Guelders, the free consisted only of the nobility and the so-called 'King's Freed' - the descendents of people settled in border regions by the Frankish king in the 8th century to protect those regions after the Frankish conquest. It could be that they intermingled with the remains of the local thanes - the ingenui - in any case, they were able to remain free as long as the region, which was remote, was not feudalised. In the 14th and 15th centuries we encounter them as 'free knights', and they are particularly common in the riverine area.

The owners of moated sites may, therefore, belong to several classes:-

- i) The nobility, usually younger sons who did not inherit the family castle.
- ii) The serjeants, who held the site either as an allodium, as a now-enfeoffed allodium or as a fief for services rendered.
- iii) The free, usually free knights or, more commonly, landed gentry. Considering the origins of this class, some of the sites they held could be very old indeed. In those cases excavation will be necessary to prove this.

A comment must be made on the manorial system. It has been common in England to see many moated sites as the centre of a manor. Especially in the western part of the Netherlands, nothing much is known about the manorial system. Niermeier and Hoek have demonstrated that a large part of the present province of South-Holland was reclaimed by means of a manorial organisation belonging to the Count. These manors disappeared, however, during the 12th and 13th centuries, leaving almost no trace of what they looked like. From the time when one can gain some insight into the tenurial organisation of the Middle Ages, one is struck by the dispersion of all landed estates. The amount of land held together with the house by the vassal is seldom more than 10 acres, so that we can discount seeing moated sites as the centre of manors, at least from the 12th century onwards.

Documentary evidence

There are few sources pertaining to the occurrence of moats. The period before 1200 is especially poor in sources, and after that one can only depend on the court rolls. Unfortunately these do not generally register allodia. Even when the house is mentioned in the rolls, its moat seldom is. In the rolls of the Bishopric of Utrecht over 40 houses are mentioned which were held as fiefs of the bishopric, but only 3 moats are among them. Later sources are much more useful. Foremost amongst them are 18th century topographical descriptions, culminating in A.J. van der Aa's Aardrijkskundig Woordenboek rond 1850. In this 'Geographical Dictionary' hundreds of moats are mentioned all over the country.

The Distribution of Moated Sites

Some examination of the distribution of moated sites has been carried out. Two regions on the sand, i.e. The E. and S. of the country, revealed a situation too complex for summary here, and it is hoped to examine these in more detail in later articles.

Groningen and Friesland: These counties were not feudalised before the 16th century. There was no count, only a class of free peasants and, from the 12th century onwards, a class of local warrior-chiefs or 'hoofdelingen' who built themselves small defensible houses or 'steenhuizen'. These only lost their military value after 1536 when the region came under control of the central state: the houses were then sometimes rebuilt into more prestigious abodes with moats for status. From the 15th century onwards some of the headmen became enfeoffed nobility under the influence of external contacts with feudalised states such as the County of Holland or Italy, but feudalism was only effectively imposed after 1536. This meant the end of the Frisian nobility and the rise of the Groningen nobility. After 1600 there were about 110 moated borgen in Groningen (4).

Apart from that there are quite a number of moated farms in the region - really the only part of the Netherlands in which moated farms can be seen in any number. On one of the topographical sheets near the town of Groningen one can count 87 such moats within an area of 125 sq. km. Further investigation of these farms, which can be quite early, is required.

Drenthe: The situation here is quite unclear. This most backward of all medieval regions had no nobility to speak of, and therefore no castles. Up to now only three or four sites are known, one of which was a grange.

Gelderland (except for the Betuwe) and Overijssel will be treated separately, Utrecht and part of the riverine area commonly called the Neder-Betuwe in the last part of this article.

Holland has been examined by C. Hoek (forthcoming).

Zeeland contains a quite remarkable number of mottes built by the local lords in the 12th - 13th century. These local magnates, living in a watery area quite beyond the control of its two overlords, the Counts of Holland and Flanders, were numerous and independent. The most powerful were able to build themselves large modern water-defended castles from the 13th century onwards. In the villages where a large number of the lower lords could be found enclosed farms were built next to the mottes instead (5).

Brabant and Limburg, finally, will receive separate treatment.

Moated sites in Utrecht and the Betuwe

These two regions in the middle of the country were selected as test areas for studying the distribution of moated sites. They were chosen firstly because it was known that quite a large number of moats existed in the region and secondly because there were inventory lists of all the 'houses' available. One was a book on all the houses of the province of Utrecht, compiled mostly from literary sources, while the other was a field survey of part of the riverine area undertaken by the Department of Geography of the University of Utrecht (6). Much of this data has yet to be checked extensively in the documentary sources.

Number of sites: Bardet lists over 200 houses, of which 122 can be examined (for the remainder nothing more than the name is known). Of this 122 sites, 26 are not moated sites (comprising 18 castles, 5 towers and 3 unmoated sites). The status of 6 sites is uncertain, the other 90 sites are all almost certainly or certainly moated; in 30 examples however the house has disappeared or been substantially rebuilt since. There are three ways of computing the density of moated sites in the province. The density of all sites (122 per 1,339 sq.km) is 1:11 sq. km.; density of moated sites (90 per 1,339 sq. km.) is 1:15 sq.km. Large tracts of the county, however, consisted of peat and did not become habitable until the 12th century. Here we find no moated sites. The number of moated sites per habitable sq.km. then = 90 per 900 sq.km. = 1:10sq.km. In the Betuwe we found a total of 52 houses, among which were 7 castles and 3 motte and bailey earthworks. The other 42 were probably moated sites. Of the overall total of 52 sites, 38 are still visible, the others are known to have existed from documentary sources. This area is 350 sq.km., of which only 30 sq.km. is not inhabitable. One of the earliest castles, probably a third motte, is situated here. The range here is 1:6.7, 1:8.3 and 1:7.6 sq. km., so the overall density is somewhat greater.

Position of moated sites: The first map shows the location of moated sites in the S. part of the province of Utrecht in relation to the geomorphology of the area and the villages. Most of the moated sites are located on the levee-ridges of the old rivers. In one case, NW of Utrecht, they are quite closely connected with an old branch of the Rhine silted up before 1065 (7).

Only four sites, and all the sites along the Langbroekerwetering, are situated on a wetter soil-type. A number of sites can be found on the cover-sand in the E. of the province, but by and large most sites occur on the sandy-clay ridges. This picture can be augmented by data from the Betuwe area, where all the sites are located on the levee-ridges, either of the small river Linge or of the large river Waal.

In the Betuwe most sites occur in the villages, though they are usually peripheral to the village centre itself. Of 32 settlements in the Betuwe, 3 have no sites, 15 have one, 10 have two, 1 has three, 1 has 4 and 2 settlements (one of which is a double village) have 5 sites. The more sites occurring within a settlement naturally the greater the chance that some will lie on the periphery.

In Utrecht more sites tend to be located in a string along the stream-ridges. Here almost none of them occur actually within the settlement. This may perhaps be explained by the usual reclamation pattern, which here was linear while the villages tended to be nodal, in contrast to the Betuwe where the reclamation pattern was nodal while the villages tended to be linear. Here some settlements have a large number of moated sites, but all strung along the rivers.

Date and tenurial position: It is very difficult to put a date on most of the sites. Virtually none have been excavated, and at the present preliminary stage of research there has so far been little opportunity to carry out field-walking on the sites themselves. Most of the sites are only recorded once they have been enfeoffed, and the earliest court rolls are mostly lost. In Utrecht 8 castles were first mentioned in the 13th century and 5 in the 14th; of the moated sites, most were first mentioned in the 14th century. As we have seen, however, a number of sites to the NW of the city of Utrecht were located along a stream which had silted up in the 11th century. A number of sites are reputedly quite early such as the moat of Aldenaaf in Kapel-Avezaath in the Betuwe, which is said to have been the centre of the 9th century district of Teisterbant.

The tenurial position of the sites (8) reflects the differences in tenurial pattern between the two regions. Much more is known in this respect of the castles than the moats. Of the Utrecht castles, 6 belong to the bishop and church, 5 to the Count of Holland (after the Count was murdered in 1296 by some Utrecht serjeants, their castles went over to Holland), 3 are fiefs of other families and 3 are allodia (one till 1258, one till 1311). Of the moats, 30 are fiefs of bishop and church, 8 belong to Holland, 6 to the noble family of Van Gaasbeek, 7 to other families and 4 are allodia (one till 1250, one till 1390). It is quite probable that the 27 sites whose tenurial status is unknown include a number of allodia. Finally one castle and two moats were presented to the Count of Guelders after 1250, reflecting his growing power.

In the Betuwe, of 52 sites, 17 belonged in the 14th century to the then Duchy of Guelders. The others were probably allodia. Of the castles which were fiefs of Guelders, most of them are known to have become so between the second half of the 13th century and the first half of the 15th. Thus almost all sites here were originally allodia. An exception can be made for four sites in the possession of younger branches of the family of the Counts of Holland (9). This suggests the intriguing possibility that these sites were once part of the allodia of the 9th-century Counts.

The tenurial pattern is reflected in the social stratification of the people who built these sites. In Utrecht they were usually built by serjeant families who took their name from the site. Only in very few cases, particularly with castles, do we find the nobility involved, such nobility as there was living on the outskirts of the bishopric. Three families owned more than one or two sites : the Van Gaasbeek family, who were very powerful for a short period at the end of the 14th century and probably then acquired a number of older sites, the Van Zuylen family, who were involved in the foundation of a number of sites in the second half of the 13th century, and, most intriguing of all, the Van Wulven family, who built and owned 9 sites for a very short period in the later part of the 13th century and then disappeared forever. Of the origins of the latter, nothing is known : they were probably local magnates, whereas the other two families were nobility from elsewhere. The picture in the Betuwe is very different. Here we have a number of castles built by younger branches of a great noble family, the Van Arkels. The owners of the other sites were almost all 'free knights', i.e. the descendents of the 'King's freed' of the early medieval period. They were only feudalised with the increasing power of the ducal house of Guelders in the 14th-15th centuries. Probably a number of these sites were built on estates which had been in the hands of those families for many years.

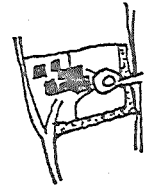
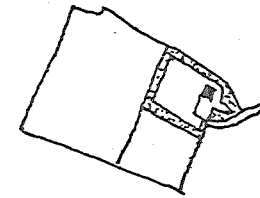
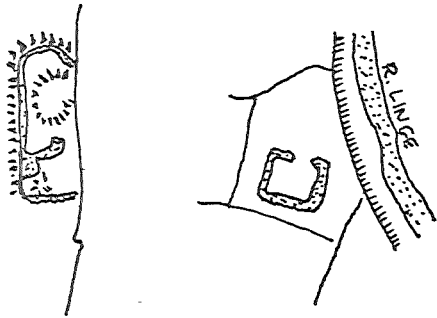
The structure of the sites: The second plan shows some sites in the Betuwe, based upon the 1:10,000 topographical map. In the very near future it will be necessary to produce similar plans for the other sites in Utrecht and to sort out their architectural history. Most plans in Utrecht seem to have belonged to Rigold's Class C. i.e. they filled most of their islands - at least this was the situation during the 17th century.

Future work

The work described here represents only the beginning of work on a very complex problem. The next steps to be taken have now, however, emerged more clearly. An inventory is required of the sites in the sandy part of the country (apparently much fewer than in the clay area). Field-walking on the mapped sites in Utrecht and the Betuwe is needed. Proper drawings must be made, and further investigations carried out into the tenurial position of the 'free knights'. Perhaps we'll know more in a few years ! (10).

Notes and references

- (1) Contrary to R. Allen Brown's English Castles, where a dual function is seen as most important. Most nobles preferred not to live on their damp brickwork, but had a house in the bailey, and of course most territorial castles were for defence only.
- (2) J.G.N. Renaud : Varieties op het thema kasteel (Inaugural lecture, Utrecht, 1966, p.15). The wellknown story of Heer Coen van Foreest, who was not thought noble because he worked the land, is cited by Hoes, Moated Sites in the County of Holland.

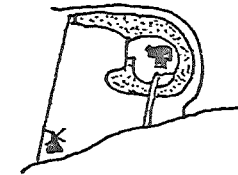
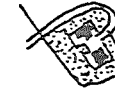
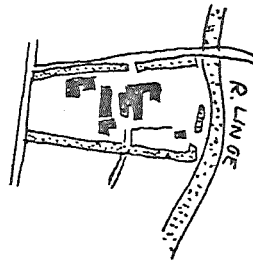
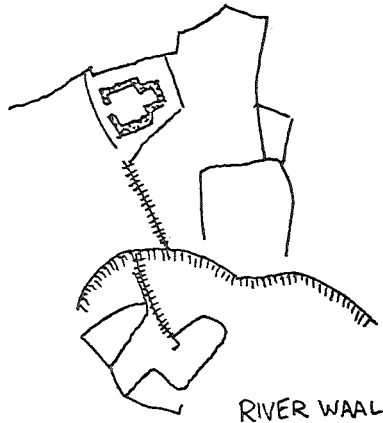


1. Bulkestein DEIL
2. Palmestein

3. Groenendaal DRUMPT
4. Aldenaaf AVEZAATH

5. Opijnen OPIJNEN

6. Craijestein TRICHT
7. Reigersvoort
8. Teisterbant AVEZAATH



9. Engelenburg & Frissestein HERWIJNEN

10. Thedingsweert AVEZAATH

11. Aldenhaag ZOELLEN
12. Zoelen

13. Ophemert

14. Waardenburg

15. Neerijnen

VISIBLE SITES IN THE BETUWE AREA

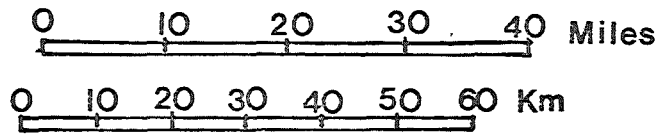
No.s 1-6 & 9: Moats only
No.s 7, 10: Present farms
No.8: 18th-century house

No.11: Remains of motte
No.s 12-15: 18th-century houses
No.14: 14th-century castle

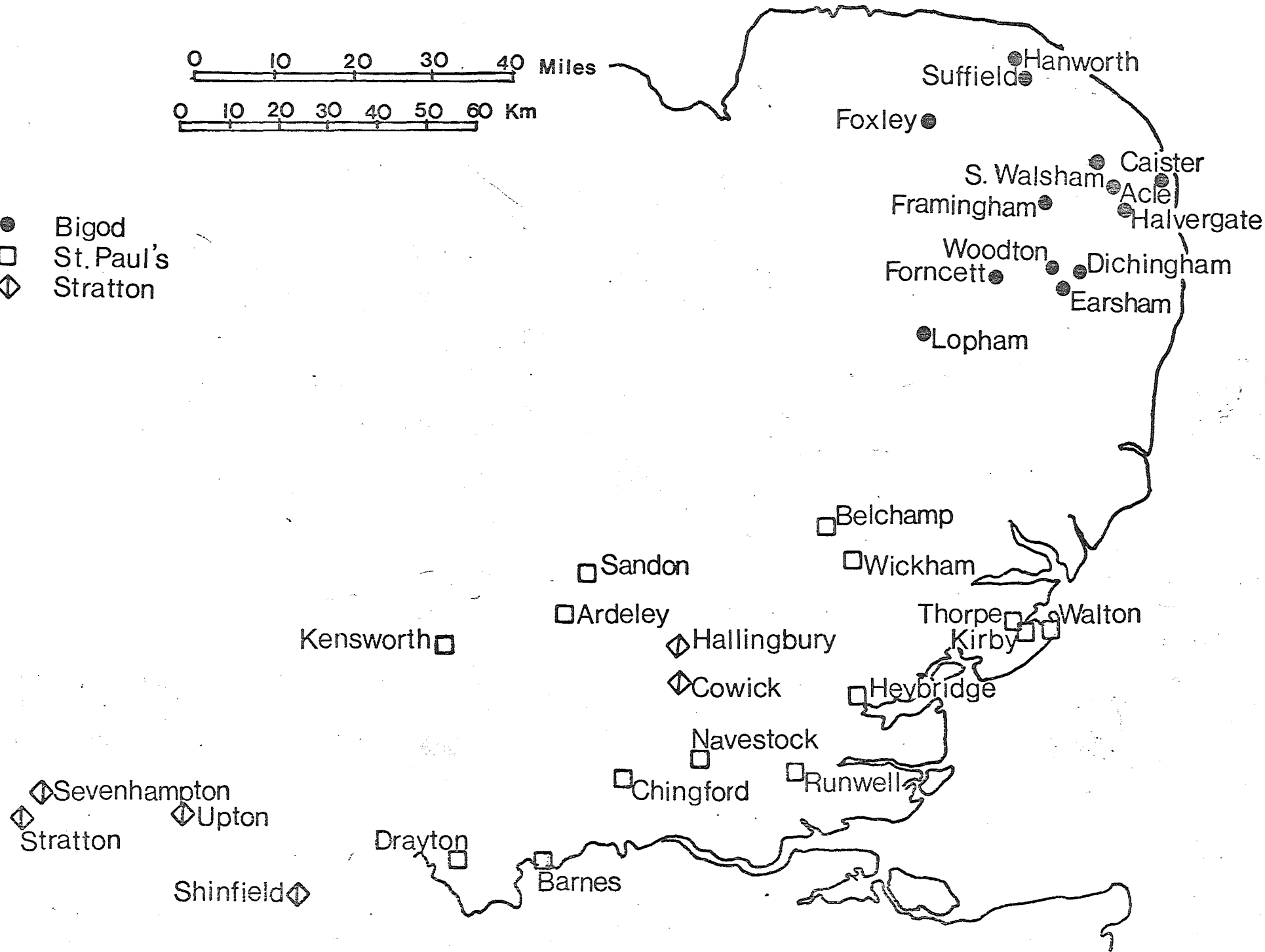


SCALE 1:10,000

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- Bigod
- St. Paul's
- ◊ Stratton



- (3) Cf. J.M. van Winter: Ministerialiteit en Ridderschap in Gelre en Zutphen (Groningen, 1962), and cited literature.
- (4) A description of all the sites will be found in W.J. Formsma, R.A. Luitjens-Stol & A. Pathuis: De Ommelander Borgen en Steenhuizen (Assen, 1973).
- (5) Cf. C. Dekker: Zuid-Beveland (Assen, 1971, p. 500-1)
- (6) J.D.M. Bardet: Kastelenboek Provincie Utrecht (Bussum, 1975). The information given is not always completely accurate. and should be supplemented by: E.B.F.F. Wittert van Hoogland: Bijdragen tot de geschiedenis der Utrechtse Ridderhofsteden en Heerlijkheden, in Genealogische en Heraldische Bladen 2-4 (1907-9). Our own survey is in the press and includes maps of all visible features of the historic landscape: Cf. J.Schuyf: The recording and management of Historic Landscapes in the Netherlands, in P.F. Brandon & R.N.Millman (ed.s) Historic Landscapes (London, 1978).
- (7) Pers.comm. H.J.A. Berendsen, Dept. of Geography, Utrecht.
- (8) Data taken from Bardet, Wittert van Hoogland and van Winter, ops. cit., as well as from the published rolls of the Utrecht court.
- (9) Cf. C. Hoek : De heren van Voorne en hun heerlijkheid, in Van Westvoorne tot St. Adolfsland (Middelharnis, 1979, p. 137-8).
- (10) I wish to thank P. Zoetbrood, H. Janssen and A. Blauw for various help they have given me, and especially H. Berendsen for the geomorphological map and C. Hoek for showing me his article Moated Sites in the County of Holland in advance of publication.

IV. DISCUSSION PAPERS

WITHIN THE MOATS OR BEYOND

by Jean le Patourel

During the 13th and 14th centuries domestic and agricultural buildings could be intermingled to a quite surprising extent, with buildings normally thought to belong properly to a farm located in close proximity to hall and chamber. To see how often this sort of intermingling occurred I have looked at documentary evidence from 3 groups of manors, 13 belonging to St. Paul's Cathedral Chapter, spanning the period between the mid-12th and the late 15th century (1), a group of 13 in Norfolk forming part of the Bigod estate for which a discontinuous series of accounts survive from 1270 to 1305 (2), and a smaller group of 6 manors assembled by Adam de Stratton (3) (see plan).

The manors concerned usually have 2 or more enclosures; these are surrounded sometimes by moats, sometimes by a hedge and deep ditch, often simply by a cob wall. In this note I am concerned with one building only, the dairy, which as far as I know, has not yet been recognised by archaeologists. I have considered the evidence for the frequency with which it occurs, its nature, its position in relation to other buildings and to the enclosures, its furnishings and the possibility of recognising it within the context of the excavation of moated sites.

We must remember that during the 13th and 14th centuries both cows' milk and ewes' milk were in general use. Most of the milk went into cheese-making, much less into butter - which was used for treating sheep-scab and for feeding up ailing livestock as much as for human consumption - with comparatively little left over for sale as unprocessed milk. Where cows and ewes were kept on the same manor the milks were dealt with separately during the greater part of the summer; only near the end of the season, when the supply of each was diminishing, were they mixed together.

As to numbers, 11 of the 13 Norfolk manors had dairies, recognisable either because the building needed repair or because there was a detailed dairy account. Of the exceptions, the documentation of one, at Foxley, was inadequate for certainty. Three of the Stratton manors had dairies; of the remainder, one had no buildings at all during the period of the accounts and another, Upton, was in process of being built up from nothing. The St. Paul's manors must be considered in more detail because the evidence comes from leases and inquisitions which, though they cover a longer period and often give good detail, are more intermittent than the annual accounts.

As far as location is concerned, it will be appreciated that precise description is very rare in any document. The St. Paul's group is the only one that gives the necessary information with any frequency, apart from a single Bigod account which shows the Hallingbury dairy at some distance from the manor house.

Seven dairies were within the inner enclosure, in one case, Navestock, 'at the end of the hall'. But the situation was more complex than this. Because both cows and ewes were used, some manors, such as Heybridge, had 2 separate dairies, both in the inner enclosure in 1301, but with the cow dairy still there in 1476 while a sheephouse' in the field' was used as a sheep dairy in the summer. At Chingford again the dairy was in the inner enclosure in the 13th century and beyond the moat in the 15th. Sandon is another example of this sort of movement, though it cannot be so precisely dated. It is likely that some dairies were always remote from the manor-house buildings, but again there is no precise evidence for this.

In many cases we have to envisage a free-standing building, sometimes 'divided' by an internal partition, probably for the different sorts of milk; it could even be in 3 parts, each separately roofed, as at Hanworth in 1278. Not infrequently however the dairy was incorporated in another building - the bake-house in 13th century Belchamp and Navestock, the larder at Navestock and the oxhouse at Belchamp at a later date. Quite frequently it was situated in what might be called a 'servants' hall'. A Belchamp jury in 1334 reported that the building for dairy and farm servants (famuli) stood in the middle of the court and needed to be rebuilt 'on a good foundation, with walls 12 feet high'. At Barnes it occupied part of a building 'once called a hall', whose other rooms were given over to bake-house and brew-house, a documentary example of the change of function so often reported on excavations. Even when a similar combination is not explicitly stated, the frequency with which roof repairs to dairy and servants' quarters are included in the same item of account suggests that it is a common arrangement, due no doubt to the fact that the dairymaid often had to double up as supervisor of the poultry, as general domestic round the buildings (ancilla domorum) and as maker of pottage for the farm servants. A slight tendency for the dairy to be moved from the main enclosure may be detected in the course of the 14th century, a tendency in line with the growing separation of house and farm at that time.

On the Norfolk manors the dairy was constructed largely by the peasantry as part of the work owed to the manor, though framing was done by a carpenter. The walls were of clay on wattle, the roofs straw-thatched, doors and windows framed with boards. The peasants prepared the site by clearing and ramming the earth, dug and rendered the clay, collected and carried the wattle and straw and finally constructed the cob walls and assisted with the roof. The St. Paul's dairies were probably fully framed, for we hear of foundations and groundsills and construction was in the hands of specialists. None of the Stratton accounts give evidence of an independent dairy though the comprehensive lists of products bought for dairy use show that it must have been present in some form. Possibly it was attached to cowshed or sheephouse for these manors did not have specific accommodation for farm servants. Only at Sandon is there any indication of size, 21½ feet by 12 feet in 1273. As a comparison 13th century Essex halls, either surviving examples or those described in documents, varied between 28 by 26 feet and 40 by 30 feet.

The equipment of the dairy can be deduced from manorial accounts. Tables, shelving, brass and wooden containers, cheese forms, sieves, butter-churns and tubs, together with lochurdles to restrain the ewes while they were milked, were all occasional purchases; salt, rennet and cloth were needed annually; all these are perishable and not likely to show up in excavations save in very exceptional circumstances. One item however was more durable. Nearly every year anything up to half a dozen clay pots were bought. Of these the olla, our ubiquitous cooking pots, were used for butter, the patellae were used for cooling milk. The latter were large, since they cost $\frac{1}{2}$ d each for the most part, at a time when earthen pots could be bought for 10 a penny. They must surely be the big open bowls so often found by excavation, their rim diameters anything up to 30 inches and more (762 mm). It would be worth considering their presence in any numbers on moated manorial sites as a possible clue to the existence and whereabouts of a dairy.

I must end on a note of caution. The manors considered here are all units in important estates and they lie in a restricted geographical area. The evidence is also heavily weighted for the century between 1260 and 1340. Possibly there may be differences on smaller estates, in other parts of England and in other periods. As ever, further investigation is needed both in archaeological and documentary contexts.

	12th c.	13th c.	14th c.	15th c.
Ardeley	o		D	
Barnes		D inner	D own enclosure	D outer
Belchamp		D (2) inner and away	D inner	
Chingford		D inner		D outer
Drayton		D	D	
Heybridge		D (2) inner		D (2) inner and outer
Kensworth	o			
Kirby			D	
Navestock	o	D inner	D	
Runwell		D inner	D	
Sandon	o	D inner	D	
Thorpe	D	D (2)	D	D
Walton		D (2) probably inner	o	

Where a document survives which might be expected to itemize a dairy had one existed the symbol o is given. Where there is no document of appropriate date a blank is left. D on its own indicates dairy, but no evidence of whereabouts.

- (1) St. Paul's Cathedral Library, Boxes 29-38, Box 63, Liber H and Liber I.
- (2) PRO List and Index V, List of Minister's Accounts, Part 1. The Bigod manors are indexed by name in vol VIII.
- (3) PRO, as in note 2.

BARTON BLOUNT: CLIMATIC OR ECONOMIC CHANGE: AN ADDENDUM

by Paul Stamper

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In her paper in Medieval Archaeology (1) Wright clearly showed the danger of archaeologists' all too general unfamiliarity with the complex and intermeshed social, economic and political changes of the medieval period, an unfamiliarity which often leads to the adoption of simple monocausal explanations for archaeologically detectable changes. The instance which prompted her note was Guy Beresford's statement in his Barton Blount report that 'the climatic changes of the medieval period affected not only the building of houses, but the entire ecology of settlements', (2) more specifically a shift away from arable cultivation of the heavy claylands, and the introduction of cobbled yards and paths, eaves trenches and substantial boundary ditches. Wright demonstrated though that not only is the nature and extent of the later medieval climatic deterioration still a subject of contention amongst climatologists, but also that Beresford's own case is damaged by the early dating of these features in his report (3).

However, if Beresford was perhaps wrong in his attribution of climate as a major causative factor he certainly redirected attention to several geographically widespread changes in the archaeological record, not the least interesting of these being the appearance of more, and better boundary ditches on sites. Unfortunately, the ubiquity of ditches and gullies on sites of all periods and status, and their general lack of structural interest, means that they attract relatively little attention either on site or in the final report. Nevertheless, their importance should be appreciated, as they provide frequently the only horizontal linking between separate areas of large sites such as medieval villages, often survive when little of the structures they surrounded do and, of course, are generally the repository of the bulk of the dating and socio-economic indicative evidence.

In several cases though excavators have commented on changes in the alignment, size and frequency of boundary ditches, as well as the buildings within (4). At Goltho and Barton Blount themselves (in Lincs. and Derbyshire respectively) the early 13th century saw the introduction of substantial boundary ditches 6 to 8 ft. wide and 3 ft. deep, and ditched subdivisions to the tofts; the earth from these was spread along the sides of the ditches (5) and not across the whole plot to form a raised platform (6). Much the same thing was noted at Holworth (Dorset), where, when Rahtz excavated one of a series of seven or eight apparently regular tofts and crofts, he found that at sometime between the 13th and 15th centuries the whole toft was surrounded by a complex of ditches, frequently redug (7). He concluded, 'It is thus apparent that the contours of the toft, and indeed possibly the appearance of the entire complex of earthworks are ... the result of gradual accumulation of soil around predetermined boundaries, in this case the boundary ditches of the 13th century' (8). At Broadfield (Herts.) period II (c. 1220 -) again saw the churchyard boundary ditches being better defined (9).

Climatic deterioration as an all-embracing explanatory model for these changes is, as Wright has shown, unsupported by the evidence and academically simplistic (10), although it may have been an additional inducement in some cases to improve boundaries. Perhaps more often though the increasing emphasis on well-determined property divisions is a reflection of contemporary population pressures.

That, by the end of the 13th century at the latest, most of England was too highly populated in terms of the resources available has long been realised, and both the documentary and archaeological evidence shows the extension of settlement both within individual townships and over wider general areas onto land totally unsuited to worthwhile agricultural exploitation. The level of population growth was perhaps felt most keenly in the existing nucleated settlements, and this is one of the great periods of urban growth, many towns developing from what were previously no more than well-sited villages (11). In places which retained their agricultural basis contemporaries sought to prevent a dangerous dilution and subdivision of resources and strove to make better use of existing ones, these expressions of corporate concern being most clearly visible in the village by-laws which increase in response to the greater pressure on the communities' lands (12). This concern is again apparent in the removal of villein holdings from those too feeble to till them, and the speedy re-entry into marriage advocated for young widows to prevent their holdings (and associated villein duties) lying idle (13).

The documents show that this concern over land apportionment ran right to the heart of nucleated settlements, to the tofts and crofts, and work such as that of Titow's on Taunton (14) and Hallam's on the fenland (15) show that this was not misplaced. Only by a judicious tilling of the croft could a villager, whether freeman, villein or cottar, generally hope to provide basic subsistence for his family, and even if Miller and Hatcher are erring on the gloomy side when they say that 'in some of the more populous and old settled parts of the country ... famine conditions had become almost endemic by the early 14th century' (16) no doubt few never went hungry towards the end of the agricultural year. In such circumstances encroachment onto the family holding was to be guarded against, and a substantial boundary ditch defined it more effectively and closely than a wooden fence, tradition, or even statement on the court roll. Lords, as well as peasants, were marking their property with new, deeper ditches, and it was surely the danger of encroachment, rather than a display of ostentation, that led the lord of Walton (Bucks) to act with 'boldness' when delineating his manor court (17).

Even the unproductive toft area of yard and buildings was a valuable asset, if a shortage of land meant there were no holdings to move onto, or waste to bring into cultivation. Family and social obligations often led to a budding of the extended family on the original holding, and although these sub-tenants rarely appear in manorial records, when they do it is perhaps possible to see the personal minutae behind the archaeological record of multiplied dwellings and subdivided holdings. At Sevenhampton (Wilts) in 1287 Reginald Damemable entered into his holding, and made provision for his brother Walter in the form of a house and annual quarter of wheat 'so long as he remains without a wife and on this domain' (18). On the manor of Sutton (Cambs) similar arrangements were made for a daughter and her husband, and by an ageing father when he handed the message over to his son (19). At Halesowen (Worc) a widow stipulated that her eldest son was to build for her a house of stated dimensions, evidently because he was to move into the main domus. Famuli, wage labourers, were increasingly used by the wealthier peasantry, and might well be housed in separate dwellings on the main toft, rather than in the main house. Hence a holding could remain undivided, as often required by law or custom, and continue to be run as a family concern, whilst presenting to the excavator the appearance of subdivided and separate small holdings.

The burgeoning medieval population, and contemporary provision for it is thus very much a factor to be borne in mind when seeking to explain the appearance of both more, and deeper ditches on rural sites of the 13th and 14th centuries (21). It is not the only answer, any more than is that of climatic deterioration, and it is indeed doubtful if one simple factor by itself ever stimulated such action. Nevertheless, it is general trends such as these that must be isolated and examined. In so doing Beresford was right, even if his final conclusion disregarded the complexity of medieval society.

Notes and References

- (1) S.M. Wright 'Barton Blount: Climatic or Economic Change'. Medieval Archaeology XX (1976), 148-52.
- (2) G. Beresford The Medieval Clay-land Village: Excavations at Goltho and Barton Blount. (Soc. for Medieval Archaeol., monograph series, VI, London 1975), 50.
- (3) Wright, op. cit. in note 1, 151. For a cogent summary of the role of climate in settlement studies, see M.L. Parry, Climatic Change, Agriculture and Settlement (Chatham, 1978).
- (4) Areas 6 and 10 at Wharram Percy are, of course, the classic case of the fluidity of medieval buildings' siting. (Soc. for Medieval Archaeol. monograph, forthcoming.)
- (5) Beresford, op. cit. in note 2, 7.
- (6) As is generally the case with medieval moated sites.
- (7) P.A. Rahtz 'Holworth, Medieval Village Excavations 1958'. Proc. Dorset Nat. Hist. and Archaeol. Soc. 81, for 1959, (1960), 127-47.
- (8) Ibid., 137.
- (9) E. Klingelhöfer Broadfield (B.A.R. 2, 1974).
- (10) As Beresford himself realised, (Beresford, op. cit. note 2, 50), though others have been less cautious.
- (11) For a useful brief summary see S. Reynold's An Introduction to the History of English Medieval Towns (Clarendon Press, Oxford 1977), 52-6.
- (12) E. Miller and J. Hatcher Medieval England: Rural Society and Economic Change 1066-1348, (Longmans, London 1978), 104-6.
- (13) Ibid., 136.
- (14) J.Z. Titow 'Some Evidence of the 13th Century Population Increase' Econ. Hist. Rev. 2nd. ser. XIV, (1961), 218-23.

- (15) H.E. Hallam 'Population Density in Medieval Fenland' Econ. Hist. Rev. 2nd ser. XIV, (1961), 71-81.
- (16) Miller and Hatcher, op. cit. note 11, 58.
- (17) M. Farley 'Saxon and Medieval Aylesbury : Excavations 1973-4'. Records of Bucks, XX, part 2, (1976), 153-29.
- (18) G.C. Homans English Villagers of the Thirteenth Century (Russell and Russell, New York 1941; re-issued 1960), 137.
- (19) Miller and Hatcher, op. cit. in note 11, 137.
- (20) Ibid. where other similar cases are cited.
- (21) The situation in towns, with generally more confined and regular burgage plots, not utilised for crop production, is obviously slightly different. The use of Ditches rather than fences in laying out plots at Cestover and Chelmsford suggests though a desire for a greater permanence of boundary than a fence can give. (C.P.S. Platt Medieval England (Routledge and Kegan Paul, London 1978), 32.)

V. ADDITIONS TO BIBLIOGRAPHY, 1979

by H.C. Mytum

Few members have written to me giving information about items that I have missed from last year's bibliography, nor notified me of new items that might otherwise be overlooked. Once again I ask you all to inform me of any articles which would be of interest to the members of the Group. H.C.M.

SECTION I

Spurgeon, C.J. 'Medieval Moated Sites in Wales : Present Knowledge and Future Prospects.'
Archaeology in Wales 18 (1978) 18-29.

SECTION II

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Brown, A.E. & Taylor, C.C. 'Cambridgeshire Earthwork Surveys III'
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Rawes, B. 'A preliminary check-list of moated sites in Gloucestershire' Glevensis 12 (1978).

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Trans. London Middlesex Archaeol. Soc. 29 (1976) 45-72.

HUMBERSIDE

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Humberside Joint Archaeological Committee 1979.

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Proudfoot, W.F. 'The Manor and Chantry of Scotgrove'.
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McWhirr, A. 'Archaeology in Leicestershire and Rutland'
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82-102, esp pp. 95-7.

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Healey, R.H. 'Moated Sites in South Lincolnshire'
South Lincs. Archaeology 8 (1977) 28-9.

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Brown, A.E. 'Archaeology in Northamptonshire 1977 :
Medieval'. Northants. Archaeol. 13 (1978)
186-189.

Upex, S. 'Three Medieval Sites from the Air'.
Durobrivae 6 (1978) 19-20.

SOMERSET

Aston, M.A. & Murless, B.J. 'Somerset Archaeology 1977'
Somerset Archaeol. & Nat. Hist. 122 (1978).
117-152, esp pp 133.

WARWICKSHIRE

Roberts, B. 'The Historical Geography of Moated Homesteads
in the Forest of Arden'.
Trans. Birmingham Archaeol. Soc. 88 (1976-7)
61-70.

YORKSHIRE

Forster, G.C.G. 'The Yorkshire Archaeological Register: 1977,
Medieval'.
Yorks. Archaeol. J. 50 (1978) 12-17.

VI. AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Ian Burrow has contributed the following addenda and corrigendum to the list published in M.S.R.G. Report no. 3 (1976) 25-30:

SHROPSHIRE

CPAT - Clwyd/Powys Archaeological Trust (Copies with Salop Sites and Monuments record).

NMR - National Monuments record.

UCCAP - University of Cambridge Committee for Aerial Photography.

Addenda:

Adderley (SA 2279)	SJ.645386	CPAT 78/4/5
Cheswardine (SA 1581)	SJ. 713287	NMR SJ7129/1
Cheswardine (SA 1151)	SJ. 730297	NMR SJ 7329/1
Great Ness (SA 859)	SJ. 388205	UCCAP P176;CT 81
Hodnet (SA 1028)	SJ.625319	NMR SJ 6231
Ightfield (SA 1025)	SJ. 598359	NMR SJ 5935/1
Ightfield (SA 1030)	SJ. 602377	NMR SJ 6037/1
Oswestry Rural (SA 2508)	SJ. 322235	CPAT 78/3/13,14
Romsley (SA 1307)	SJ. 789832	Private Possession
Rushbury (SA 633)	SO. 517948	UCCAP E066
Shifnal (SA 747)	SJ. 723086	NMR SJ 7208/=,2
Woore (SA 1034)	SJ.723395	NMR SJ 7239/1

Corrigendum

Kinlet SO. 708812 UCCAP A2X25

There is no known moat at this location, though a DMV lies around the hall

VII. COUNTY CHECKLISTS

MOATED SITES IN NORTHUMBERLAND

Checklist compiled by S.R. Harrison

PARISH	SITE	GRID REF
1. Easington	Easington	NU132348
2. Easington	Outchester	NU147334
3. Belford	Belford West Hall	NU104340
4. Holburn	Holburn Grange	NU050350
5. Ellingham	Ellingham	NU176258
6. Ilderton	South Heddon Moor West	NZ994211
7. Shipley	Shipley	NZ149171
8. Denwick	Holywell	NZ181177
9. Shaperton	Chirmundesdon	NT950063
10. Hepple	Wreighill	NT976013
11. Hepple	Caistron	NT969019
12. Rothbury	Newtown East	NZ032000
13. Brinkburn	Brinkburn	NZ116984
14. Widdrington	Low Chibburn	NZ267965
15. Netherwitton	Netherwitton	NZ104904
16. Fawns	The Fawns	NZ007853
17. Wallington	Scot's Gap	NZ045860
18. Wallington	Wallington	NZ044846
19. Corbridge	Corbridge, Hall Garths	NY995649
20. Hartley Burn	The Curricks	NY637613

Doubtful site:-

21. Simonburn	Fewsey Bog	NY. 817706
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MOATED SITES IN SHROPSHIRE

Based on Shropshire Sites and Monuments Record December 1978

PARISH	GRID REF	CONDITION	MORPHOLOGY	DETAILS	SCHEDULED	PRN
Acton Burnell	SJ.529021	Des.		Excavation	No	288
*Acton Scott	SO.459870	Rems.		Manorial Bldgs.	No	172
Adderley	SJ.646386	Dubious			No	2279
Alberbury 1	SJ.397122	Rems.			No	3340
Alberbury 2	SJ.338128	Des.			No	3425
Alberbury 3	SJ.297107	Des.		DMV adjacent Bldgs	No	3426
Alveley 1	SO.768837	Rems		Fishpond	No	1641
Alveley 2	SO.798859	Comp.		Earthworks	No	3229
Aston Botterell	SO.631841	Comp.		Bridge	No	1200
*Baschurch	SJ.427276	Comp.	Triangular	Manorial	Yes	1128
*Bayston Hill 1	SJ.452096	Comp.			Yes	58
*Bayston Hill 2	SJ.455093	Rems. Dubious			No	61
Berrington	SJ.505090	Rems.		Fishponds DMV	No	56
Bicton	SJ.457167	Comp.		Manorial Stonework	No	1104
*Bitterley 1	SO.608791	Comp.	Circular	Manorial	No	3235
Bitterley 2	SO.563773	Rems.		Bldgs.	No	3296
Bitterley 3	SO.557754	Rems.			No	3298
*Bromfield	SO.479768	Comp.			Yes	1171
Cherrington	SJ.666202	Rems.		Bldgs	No	1554
*Cheswardine 1	SJ.719301	Comp.		Manorial Earthworks	Yes	1037
Cheswardine 2	SJ.730297	Rems.			No	1151
Cheswardine 3	SJ.713287	Rems.			No	1581
Chetwynd Aston	SJ.756176	Rems.		Bldgs	No	1729
Child's Ercall	SJ.669262	Des.		Bldgs	No	1150
Chirbury 1	SO.296987	Comp.		Excavation Fishponds	Yes	1217
Chirbury 2	SO.247968	Des.		Manorial Bldgs	No	1857
Church Pulverbatch	SJ.425045	Des.		Bldgs	No	3424
Claverley	SO.800945				No	1939
Clunbury	SO.392798	Rems.			No	3312
Condover 1	SJ.457035	Rems		Bldgs Manorial	No	827
Condover 2	SJ.503071	Des.		Manorial	No	3430
*Cressage 1	SJ.608023	Comp.		Manorial ? Rubble	No	301
*Cressage 2	SJ.592042	Dubious Des.			No	1751
*Diddlebury	SO.467859	Comp.		Excavation Fishponds	Yes	166

PARISH	GRID REF	CONDITION	MORPHOLOGY	DETAILS	SCHEDULED	PRN	
*Donington 1	SJ.811064	Comp.	Circular	Excavation	No	616	
*Donington 2	SJ.814050	Comp.			Yes	1075	
Dorrington	SJ.817050	Des.		Bldgs	No	1076	
Ellesmere	SJ.339345	Comp.			No	868	
Rural 1							
Ellesmere	SJ.372371	Comp.			Yes	1403	
Rural 2				Oval	Ridge & Furrow	Yes	142
*Ercall Magna 1	SJ.594158	Comp.				No	140
*Ercall Magna 2	SJ.594174	Rems.			Manorial Bldgs	No	1721
Ercall Magna 3	SJ.629177	Rems.				No	404
Eardington	SO.722905	?	No			3379	
East Hamlet	SO.526763	Rems.	Manorial Bldgs			No	859
Great Ness	SJ.388206	Rems.	Manorial Bldgs		No	415	
Greete	SJ.555722	Rems.			No	696	
*Hadley	SJ.655132	Rems.			Yes	115	
*Hadnall	SJ.522198	Comp.			Yes	1026	
Hodnet 1	SJ.609310	Comp.	Irregular	No	1028		
Hodnet 2	SJ.625319	Rems.		No	1184		
Hopton	SO.647771	Rems.		Friary site Buildings	No	1030	
Wafers					No	1031	
*Ightfield 1	SJ.602377	Comp.		Manorial Bldgs	No	1023	
*Ightfield 2	SJ.611372	Comp.			No	1025	
Ightfield 3	SJ.599393	Rems.			No	733	
*Ightfield 3	SJ.598359	Comp.			Excavation	No	743
Lilleshall	SJ.722113	Des.		Circular	Bldgs	No	832
Longnor 1	SJ.493002	Comp.				No	2519
Longnor 2	SJ.488004	Dubious	Hilltop		No	3184	
Lydbury	SO.352860	?			No	1032	
North					No	1033	
Lydbury	SO.385871	Dubious			Grange ?	Yes	1041
North			Excavation Bldgs		No	327	
*Moreton	SJ.627373	Comp.			No	3204	
Say 1					No	3232	
*Moreton	SJ.642375	Rems.			No	812	
Say 2			SMR Survey	No	3120		
*Moreton	SJ.623402	Rems.		No	2508		
Say 3							
Much Wenlock	SJ.606954	Rems.					
*Munslow	SO.549890	Comp.					
Neen Sollars	SO.645725	Rems.					
Newport	SJ.746186	Des.					
*Oakengates	SJ.711108	Rems.					
*Oswestry Rural	SJ.322235	Rems.					

PARISH	GRID REF	CONDITION	MORPHOLOGY	DETAILS	SCHEDULED	PRN
*Petton	SJ.443265	Comp.		Fishponds	No	1129
Pimhill	SJ.448191	Comp.			No	1102
*Pontesbury 1	SJ.448093	Comp.	Circular	Manorial Bldgs	No	1058
Pontesbury 2	SJ.449082	Rems.	Circular	Bldgs	Yes	1059
Prees 1	SJ.586327	Comp.		Bldgs	No	1019
Prees 2	SJ.545303	Rems.			No	1428
Richards Castle	SO.496710	Dubious Des			No	305
Romsley	SO.789832	Rems.		Excavation	No	1307
Ruckley & Longley	SJ.540002	Comp.		Bldgs	Yes	1060
*Rushbury	SO.517948	Comp.	Concentric Enclosure	Fishponds	No	633
Ryton	SJ.750030	Des. Dubious			No	1809
*Shawbury	SJ.560211	Comp.		Manorial ?	Yes	1132
Sheinton	SJ.623018	Comp.			No	304
Shifnal 1	SJ.723087	Des.			No	747
Shifnal 2	SJ.746073	Des.		Manorial Excavation	Yes	1070
Shrewsbury 1	SJ.502160	Rems.		Excavation Bldgs	Yes	114
*Shrewsbury 2(Battle- field)	SJ.513172	Rems.		Fishponds Ecclesias- tical	No	981
*Stoke-U- Tern 1	SJ.646276	Rems.		Bldgs	No	1147
*Stoke-U- Tern 2	SJ.637279	Rems.			No	3377
*Upton Cressett	SJ.656924	Rems.		Manorial Bldgs	No	608
*Upton Magna	SJ.565140	Rems.		Manorial	No	1468
*Wem Rural 1	SJ.493310	Comp.	Concentric Moats	Fishponds	Yes	1010
Wem Rural 2	SJ.487313	Rems.			No	1011
Wem Rural 3	SJ.521305	Comp.			No	1013
Wem Rural 4	SJ.535304	Des.		Bldgs	No	1014
Wem Rural 5	SJ.546303	Rems.		Manorial	No	1015
Wem Rural 6	SJ.510308	Comp.			No	1016
Wem Rural 7	SJ.504336	Comp.			No	1017
Wem Rural 8	SJ.532276	Rems.			No	1137
Westbury	SJ.383084	Rems.		Bldgs	No	3428
Westbury	SJ.322072	Des.		Manorial	No	3427

PARISH	GRID REF	CONDITION	MORPHOLOGY	DETAILS	SCHEDULED	PRN
Wheathill	SO.620798	Rems.		Manorial Fishponds	No	3233
Whitchurch R.	SJ.582385	Rems.			No	1022
*Whitchurch U1	SJ.541420	Rems.		Bldgs Med Hospital	No	905
*Whitchurch U2	SJ.559424	Rems.		Manorial ? Castle	Yes	1040
*Wistanstow 1	SO.422861	Comp.			Yes	174
Wistanstow 2	SO.433855	Des. Dubious		Rectory ?	No	255
Woore 1	SJ.723395	Des.			Yes	1034
Woore 2	SJ.725427	Rems.		Fishponds	No	1043
Woore 3	SJ.709405	Des.		Manorial ?	No	1595
*Worthen 1	SJ.333036	Rems.		Excavation Surrey Manorial	No	1611
*Worthen 2	SJ.301041	Dubious Rems.		Bldgs	No	1621
Worthen 3	SJ.355073	Dubious			No	1737
*Wrock- wardine 1	SJ.597112	Comp.		Fishpond Manorial	Yes	37
Wrock- wardine 2	SJ.635113	Rems.		Bldgs	No	715

Key to Gazetteer:

Condition:

- Des = Destroyed
- Rems = Earthworks still visible, but less than 75% of enclosure remaining.
- Comp = Complete - enclosure intact or virtually intact.
- Dubious = Sites whose identity as moats is in question.

Details:

- Bldgs = Buildings at present standing or known to have stood on island.
- DMV = Deserted Medieval Village adjacent.
- SMR Survey = Large scale survey by Salop sites and Monuments Record.
- PRN = Sites and Monuments Primary Record Number.
- * = Investigated as part of Sites and Monuments Survey

MOATED SITES IN SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE: HOLLAND AREA

Compiled by South Lincolnshire Archaeological Unit

PARISH	SITE	GRID REF.	REMARKS
Algarkirk	Hill Six Acres	TF 304356	Destroyed, mound only.
Boston	Wyberton West Road	TF 321428	Pasture. Scheduled.
Cowbit/Weston	Goll Grange	TF 269168	Destroyed. Field systems survive.
Donington	Wykes Manor	TF 231354	Not very distinct.
Fishtoft	Rochford Tower	TF 351444	Listed building, most destroyed.
Fishtoft	Fishtoft Grange	TF 358433	Partly visible.
Fishtoft	Fishtoft Manor	TF 363423	Partly visible.
Fishtoft	Riceprize Manor	TF 357433	Mound still visible.
Frampton	Roads Farm	TF 349389	Destroyed. May have been former creeks.
Frampton	Multon Hall	TF 339379	Ploughed, slight mound.
Frampton	Coupledyeke Hall	TF 323388	Ploughed, slight mound.
Frampton	Stone Hall	TF 326391	Ploughed, mound and slight moat.
Gedney	Abbots Manor	TF 423244	Destroyed.
Gedney	Manor	TF 410232	Destroyed.
Gosberton	Cressy Hall	TF 225304	Pasture, slight moat.
Gosberton	Doubledyke	TF 237307	Destroyed.
Gosberton	Rigbolt House	TF 194282	Pasture, good.
Gosberton	Monks Hall	TF 236325	Partly visible, bank and pond.
Gosberton		TF 215294	Destroyed.
Holbeach	Barrington House	TF 351217	Destroyed.
Kirton	Bozon Hall	TF 312383	Obliterated by lorry depot.
Kirton	Orme Hall	TF 299392	Destroyed.
Old Leake	Moat House	TF 419491	Now part of garden.
Leverton	Leverton Grange	TF 418473	Not visited.
Moulton	Kings Hall	TF 312212	Godd. Centre scheduled.
Moulton	Snake Hall	TF 300172	Filled in, destroyed.
Pinchbeck	Money Bridge	TF 216255	Pasture. Filled in.
Pinchbeck	New Hall Grange	TF 195270	Pasture. Complex site excellent condition.

PARISH	SITE	GRID REF.	REMARKS
Pinchbeck	Otway House	TF 245255	Converted to ha-ha
Pinchbeck	Vicarage	TF 242254	Partly pond, partly built over.
Spalding	Castle	TF 249230	Destroyed.
Surfleet	Carrowpier Hall	TF 215289	Destroyed.
Sutterton	Dowdyke Grange	TF 276332	Pond extant, maybe moat.
Sutterton	Dowdyke Hall	TF 292334	Not visited.
Sutterton	Struggs Hall	TF 299367	Destroyed.
Sutton S. Edmund	Guanock House	TF 377147	Destroyed.
Swineshead	Manwarings	TF 243419	Good, but top ploughed at times. Scheduled.
Swineshead	Estevening Hall	TF 231398	Destroyed.
Swineshead	Hardwick Grange	TF 254420	Slightly visible.
Weston	Wykeham Grange	TF 276263	Partly visible in garden.
Whaplode	Aswick Grange	TF 313140	Filled in. Slight depression in garden.
Whaplode	Irby Hall	TF 325226	Not visited.
Wrangle	Kings Hill	TF 414531	Pasture, good. Scheduled.
Wyberton	Wyberts Castle	TF 335410	Pasture, excellent.
Wyberton	Wyberton Hall	TF 329407	Partly surviving in park.
Wyberton	Tytton Hall	TF 328418	Possible DMV also. Good moat.

Correction to checklist of Kesteven moats (M.S.R.G. Report no. 6 (1979) p.50):-

Scredington	Thorny Close	TF 097412	This site is <u>not</u> scheduled
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VIII. NEW SCHEDULED SITES, 1979

BEDFORDSHIRE

Great Barford	Birchfield Manor House	TL.121541
Roxton	Wyboston	TL.159568

CESHIRE

Elton	Moated site	SJ.455748
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CUMBRIA

Greystokes	Hallsteads Moat	NY.393343
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ESSEX

Widdington	Prior's Hall Barn & Moat	TL.537
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HAMPSHIRE

Fordingbridge	Parsonage Farm	SU.145140
Romsey Extra	Moorcourt	SU.342170

HUMBERSIDE

Leven	Hayholm Moat	TA.089467
Ousefleet	Halls Garth	SE.825229
Woodmansey	S.of Beverley Minster	TA.038391

SHROPSHIRE

Calverhall	Moated site	SJ.598360
Ightfield	Upper Kimpby Wood	SJ.602378
Moreton Say	Moat Plantation	SJ.627374

SOUTH YORKSHIRE

Thorpe in Balne	Moated site & chapel	SE.599111
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SUFFOLK

Occold	Occold Hall	TM.150708
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SURREY

Horley	Scotchman's Copse	TQ.296444
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WARWICKSHIRE

Baxterley	Church Moat	SP.257970
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IX. ACCOUNTS, 1979

<u>Expenditure</u>				<u>Income</u>	
	£	p		£	p
Report	216	91		Subscription	161 00
Postage & telephone	40	90		Subs.in advance	11 50
Stationery	14	39		Sales	18 03
Secretarial costs	10	35 ¹		Bank repayment	23 45 ²
Subscription refunds	2	50		1978 subs. paid in arrears	12 00
	<hr/>				
	285	25			225 98
				Committee Loan	45 00 ³
	285	25			<hr/>
					270 98
	<hr/>			Deficit	14 27
	285	25			<hr/>
					285 25

BALANCES

	£	p		£	p
In hand 31.12.78	59	22	Current A/c.31.12.79	30	71
Deficit 31.12.79	14	27	Deposit A/c.31.12.79	5	54
			Petty Cash.31.12.79	8	70
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	44	95		44	95

Balance in Hand £44.95.

1. Refund on subscriptions in advance
2. Bank charges made in error in 1977 and 1978
3. Loan from committee members at the time when payment for the report caused cash flow problems