

## Norfolk Crosses.

COMMUNICATED BY

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This paper is an attempt to place on record all particulars known about crosses existing or that have once existed in the county. It does not deal with post-Reformation market crosses, gable crosses, or crosses within a church.

The crosses which are the subject of this paper can be roughly divided into three classes:—churchyard, way-side, and boundary crosses. It is often difficult to say to which of the two latter classes an example belongs, and some in each class may also be memorial crosses.

The list does not claim to be exhaustive. To make it so every churchyard in the county and every pre-Reformation will must be inspected. The writer started with about a dozen recorded crosses and has been able to swell the total to over an hundred. It is hoped that one result of this paper will be to bring to light still further examples. During the time in which this paper has been in course of preparation two have been discovered—Smeeth Cross and Southrepps.

With regard to their distribution in the county it is not easy to point to any particular density, though if a line be drawn diagonally from Thetford to Mundesley the north-west half has more instances than the south-east portion. This in a measure may be due to the greater prevalence of monasteries in the western part of the county. At any rate, it is not unusual to find that where a cross survives, the parish is one in which a monastic house owned property, or the road adjoining was on the route between two religious houses.

The simple type of Norfolk cross is one with a pedestal or socket stone into which the shaft is morticed with lead. The whole may be raised on steps. The pedestal has stop-angles and is usually a single stone. A striking example of such a one is at Westwick. The finest base is at Binham. No complete head of a cross survives, but it was probably a capital surmounted with cross. Other fine examples are at Aylmerton, Langley, Hunstanton, Pentney, Tichwell, and Wilton. Of the cross on Castle Rising Market Green it is impossible to say anything with certainty, so different is it from the ordinary form.

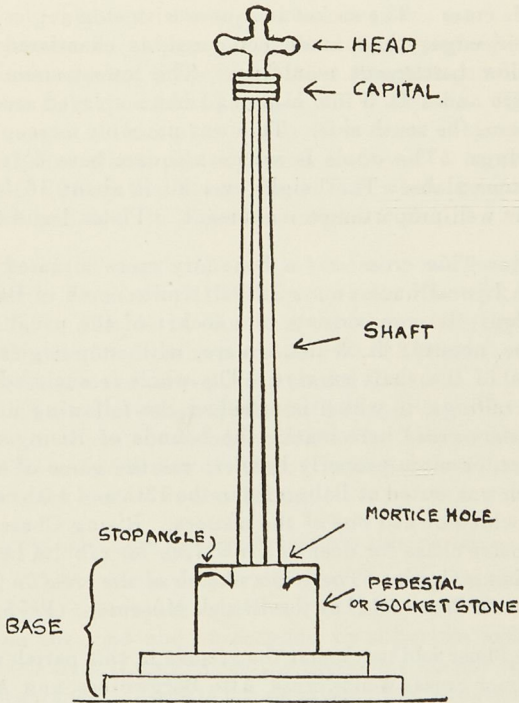
A cross was generally so exposed to the elements, and was such an easy target for the stone or the axe of the iconoclast, that it is wonderful that so many have survived. Their destruction was definitely enjoined in the latter days of Henry VIII. and again in 1641, though the destruction probably went on intermittently between these dates, and certainly in later times.

With the sacred associations of the monument, or what may be termed its cult, it is not my purpose to deal. My object is mainly to record, so that perhaps centuries hence there may be no difficulty in distinguishing ancient crosses from those erected as parish memorials of the Great War.



The following diagram will indicate the nomenclature used in this paper. The shaft starts square in the mortice hole and often becomes octagonal.

The parishes that have any association with a cross are taken in alphabetical order. The writer will be



grateful if mistakes and omissions are intimated to him. This paper will appear in two succeeding parts of our transactions, which will give an opportunity for addenda and corrigenda at the end of the second half.

AYLMERTON.—This cross is situated at a four-cross-ways on the boundary between Aylmerton and Gresham. The road leading westwards, besides acting as a perambulation way,

was probably an ancient trackway between Bromholm Priory and Walsingham. The cross would have formed a useful direction post. It was reported at a meeting of the Norfolk and Norwich Archæological Society in 1877 that the cross had been restored through the efforts of the Page family of Brinton. The finial is modern. Most of the remainder appears to be original work. The shaft is four sided with a trefoiled canopy on each side, not unlike the base of a gable cross. The socket is square with stop-angles, and its upper edge, thus made octagonal, is chamfered with a shallow battlement moulding. The lowest stone is 3 ft. square and 1 ft. 5 ins. high, and has a splayed recess 1 ft. wide on the south side. This was probably a receptacle for offerings. The whole is set on a square base 6 ft. square of stone slabs. The height over all is about 16 ft. It is a fine well-proportioned monument. (Plates 1 and 4.)

**BABINGLEY.**—This cross was a boundary cross situated on the main Lynn-Hunstanton road half a mile north of Babingley Bridge. It now consists of a socket of the usual Norfolk shape, about 2 ft. 3 ins. square, with stop-angles. Only 6 ins. of the shaft survive. The whole is enclosed within iron railings, to which is attached the following notice:—“Butlers cross here marks the bounds of Rising Chase.” Butler, or more properly Boteler, was the name of a family which was seated at Babingley in the 13th and 14th centuries and which owned one of the manors. Rising Chase was an extensive chase for deer and a warren for rabbits belonging to Rising Castle. There is a sketch of the cross in Dawson Turner's *Blomefield*<sup>1</sup> at the British Museum. (Pl. 5.)

**BANHAM.**—*Blomefield*<sup>2</sup> says that the crosses in this parish were:—Smalnor cross, White cross, Atte Borge cross, and Alforthe cross. I cannot identify the first three, but “Alforthe cross” has no doubt become “Over cross,” the name now given to the four cross ways in the northern part of the parish. No trace of the cross is to be seen now.

There are several other instances in Norfolk of the place name “White Cross,” *e.g.* Burgh-next-Aylsham and Emneth, derived probably from the whiteness of the freestone at the time of erection.

<sup>1</sup> VIII, p. 351.

<sup>2</sup> I., p. 357.



**BARNHAM.**—Primarily a boundary cross (on the Norfolk-Suffolk boundary), it takes its name from a Suffolk parish. It is situated on Barnham Cross Common, and is said to have been the franchise cross dividing the Liberty of the Abbey of St. Edmund at Bury from the Liberty of Thetford. What survives is simply the base or socket stone, 2 ft. 8 ins. square, though considerably more elaborate than the common type, which is not surprising as both the abbey and the town, which no doubt shared the cost, were well-to-do corporations. Above the lower square part which has a chamfered edge there is a further step, octagonal in shape, in which is the socket hole, about 1 ft. square. The base is no longer horizontal. It may have been subject to rough treatment when the adjoining area was a large military camp during the Great War. The whole base is of one piece and is 1 ft. 5 ins. in height. (Pl. 2.)

**BASTWICK.**—D. Turner's *Blomefield*<sup>1</sup> has two marginal sketches by Miss Turner:—(1) "Stump of a cross Bastwick March 24, 1815." This is in the form of the usual Norfolk base with chamfered corners, about 2 ft. of the shaft remaining. (2) "A piece of carved stone among the ruins of the church, which may have been the base of a ch. yd. cross—octagonal—face ornamented with quatrefoils." I have been unable (1932) to find either of these. I suspect that the latter was part of a font, if it was hollow.

**BEACHAMWELL.**—There are two crosses in this parish:—

(a) This one stands very nearly on its original site. It was knocked over by a cart about 1910 and set back a little way from the road and surrounded by suburban looking rails, which draw attention to the cross but do not improve its appearance. There is a base about  $2\frac{1}{4}$  ft. square into which is socketed a shaft of which about 5 ft. still exists. In the church there is a fragment of the arm of a cross which some without any evidence have said belonged to this cross. A great many tracks and roads converge near the point where the cross stands.

(b) This stands about 200 yards to the east of cross (a), and forms one of the boundary stones of the (late) glebe. It has a base about 2 ft. 4 ins. square with a stump of a

<sup>1</sup> XI., p. 180.

rectangular shaft (1 ft. 1 in. by 7 ins.) about 18 ins. high. It originally stood on the village green immediately in front of the inn. It is so shown on a MS. map now (1932) belonging to Mrs. Fielden of Beachamwell Hall, surveyed by Thomas Spencer of Wickhambrook in 1766. About 1920 an octogenarian villager said that it was moved from the green to its present site in his father's time. It was used as a mounting block when on the green. (Pl. 2.)

**BINHAM.**—Tom Martin, in his notes under date 1763, gives a sketch and says:

“In the middle of the street stands a fair stone cross in this manner pretty entire except the upper part, which is broken off. Memorandum to have it measured and take an exact draft on the spot, for we have very few which remain so entire.”

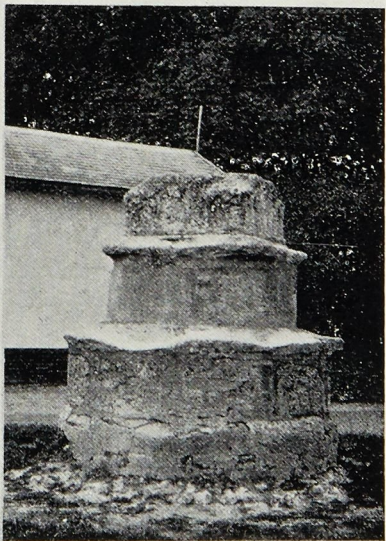
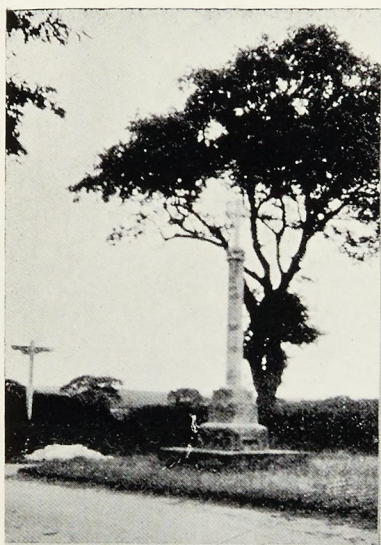
This is in some ways the finest in the county, except the problematical one at Castle Rising. It is chiefly noteworthy for the height (6 ft.) and bulk of the base, which is 9 ft. square and is climbed by seven steps. On this base there is a socket stone of the common type with a graceful monolith shaft of 12 ft., octagonal in shape and of Barnack stone. There are the remains of ornamentation half up the shaft, but the head is entirely gone. The Benedictine monks of Binham Priory no doubt caused this cross to be erected. This priory seems to have erected crosses in most of the parishes in which it owned property. (Pl. 1.)

**BLOFIELD.**—The site of this cross is marked at the cross roads at Sparrow Hill on the first Ordnance map (*circa* 1840). Nothing survives. A later Ordnance map belonging to the late Fred Johnson shows the cross as having been at the four-cross-ways on the main road half a mile beyond the village on the Yarmouth side. This is probably the same point.

**BRADESTON.**—This cross, according to the late Fred Johnson, was at the road junction 300 yards east of the church and about the same distance south of Bradeston Hall. No remains now exist.

**BRADFIELD.**—A churchyard cross, of which only the base survives. It is situate against the churchyard gate and consists of the socket stone, 2 ft. 5 ins. square with stop-angles. The



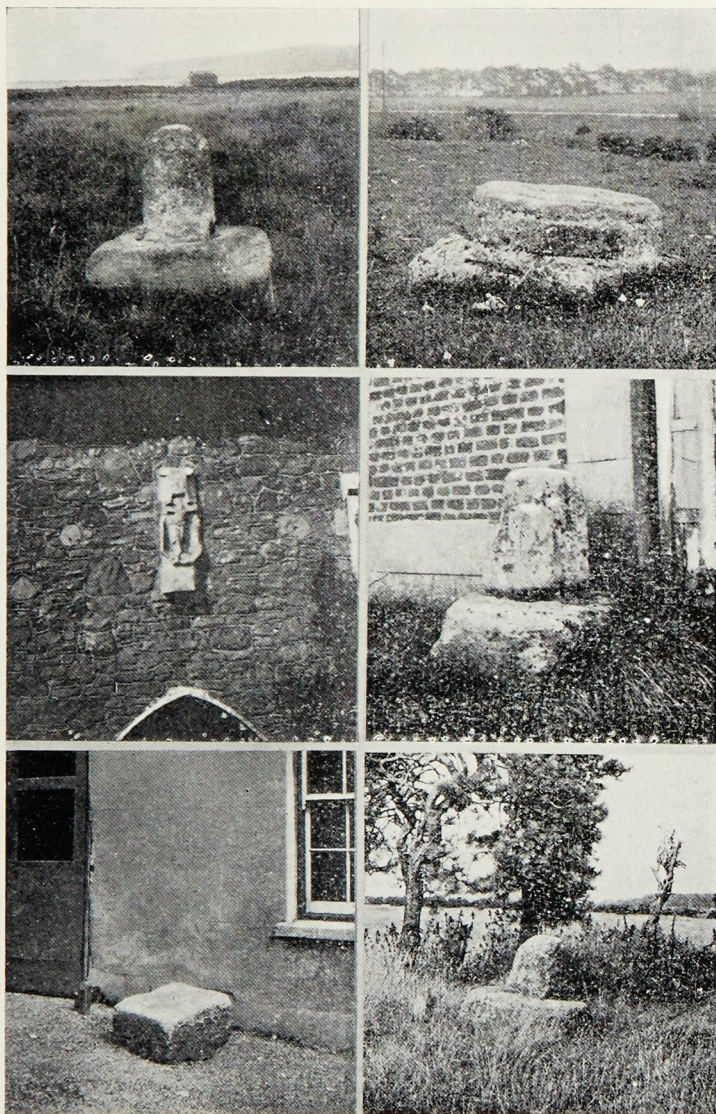


AYLMERTON.  
BURNHAM OVERY.

BINHAM. □  
CASTON.

*Plate 1.*





BEACHAMWELL.  
 DOWNHAM MARKET.  
 HOLT.

BARNHAM,  
 GUESTWICK,  
 LANGWADE.

*Plate 2.*



surface of the stone is in good condition and has not been subjected to footwear, but the stone has been broken in half horizontally. The shaft, which was square as it entered the socket hole, has been cut off level with the socket. The lead filling still exists. The socket stone was about 2 ft. high.

**BRANDISTON.**—The remains of this cross are in a parcel of waste ground on the Norwich-Cawston road, just south of Haverlingland Park. In a map of Brandiston town land of 1738 it is called "Stantlin Cross," and in another map about 100 years later it is called "Stump Cross." It was probably on the Brandiston-Haverlingland parish boundary. The pedestal is not the usual square stone with stop-angles, but octagonal shaped with moulded edges. One side is a little broken away. Six feet of a large shaft survive, octagonal in shape, but not equilateral. (Pl. 3.) A few yards from this cross is another piece of shaft fixed in the ground and not appearing to have any connection with the other one, or to be anything more than a boundary stone.

There was once a cross at Haverlingland called "Bec Cross" (see under Haverlingland), and there is a possibility that it may have been moved to Brandiston and is now represented by the former of the two above.

**BRECCLES.**—Tom Martin, in his notes,<sup>1</sup> says:—"crosse in ye churchyard." There is now on the north side what appears to be an old font, but it may be the base of a cross scooped out to form a font. It is 2 ft. 9 ins. square with stop-angles. The hollow bowl is octagonal with an outlet in the centre. (Compare Croxton.)

**BROTHERCROSS.**—The name of the Hundred which embraces the Creakes and the Burnhams. In *Domesday Book* it is spelt Brodereros. The prefix is said to be a personal name. The cross is reputed to have stood at the ford over the river at Burnham Overy near St. Clement's Church (see Burnham Overy).

**BURGH-NEXT-AYLSHAM.**—The Ordnance map has "White Cross" at a four cross ways, one mile north of Oxnead Hall, but no remains are known to exist.

<sup>1</sup> *Penes N. & N. A. S.*

BURNHAM OVERY.—This cross is situated in the centre of the village and consists of the pedestal and 2 ft. of the octagonal shaft, raised on a high base and topped with a direction post. The pedestal is about 2 ft. 2 ins. square and has sloping stop-angles with, apparently, shields on the four sides. It is not unlike the Hunstanton cross. The height from the ground to the base of the shaft is 5 ft. 6 ins. There is a drawing in Turner's *Blomefield*<sup>1</sup> where it is shown as having four stages for the base. This cross may be on the site of the one which gave the name to the Hundred. (Pl. 1.)

CALDECOTE (*see* Langwade).

CARLETON FOREHOE.—The late W. G. Clarke had a note:—The Black Cross formerly stood in the highway. I have been unable to trace anything.

CASTLE RISING.—This is called a market cross, but it has no surrounding shelter. It is situated on the village green, west of the church and is shown on a map<sup>2</sup> dated 1588 of Rising Chace. As the photograph indicates, it is unlike any other in the county. It has no doubt been altered during restorations. In style it is said to be similar to the wayside crosses and calvaries of Brittany. It is to be noted that in the 14th century the lordship belonged to John le Vaillant, Duke of Brittany. (Pl. 3.) In the church is a fragment of carved stone which is probably the head of a cross. (Pl. 3.)

The map above referred to shows a cross, called Blakely Cross, which is situated in the extreme south-west corner of Roydon Heath. There are also two other crosses indicated on the map, but these are probably not more than boundary stones.

CASTON.—This stands at the north-east corner of the green. The base, unlike any other in Norfolk, consists of three steps—in all 6 ft. high. No part of the shaft survives. The top step, which forms the socket, is square, and on each side is some blank arcading made up of two cinquefoils in the centre and two small trefoils on each side. The middle

<sup>1</sup> VII., p 19.

<sup>2</sup> *Penes* H. L. Bradfer-Lawrence.



step is octagonal and the lower is circular. Caston was on one of the ancient roads to Walsingham. On the other side of the green is a farmhouse with blocked mullioned windows, which was once a refectory for wayfaring pilgrims. (Pl. 1.)

CATTON.—Tom Martin, in his notes (c. 1730), says: "Upon the end of a house near the stocks where remains also the base of a cross." This was probably the house west of the church until recently in the occupation of Colonel Dawson. No remains appear to survive. The Prior of Norwich owned the chief manor and had a grange here.

CHEDGRAVE.—The Ordnance map has "Stumps Cross" on the Chedgrave-Thurton boundary. Nothing is visible.

COCKLEY CLEY.—Tom Martin, in some notes (c. 1740), says: "In the road from Hilborough to Swaffham in the parish of [? Cockley Cley] are two deep valleys, in the first lyes ye pedestall of a cross and on each side of the road are several tumuli." This was probably at point 136 on the 1-in. Ordnance map. Neither the cross nor the tumuli can now be seen (*see also* Langwade).

COCKTHORPE.—The pedestal of a wayside cross stands 150 yards east of the church in a driftway between two cottages and a farm. It seems probable that there was a four-cross-ways nearby and the stone may have been shifted. The driftway once led from Binham Priory to Stiffkey Channel. The pedestal is 2 ft. 9 ins. square with stop-angles making the top octagonal. The shaft has been broken off level with the top of the socket hole and the lead filling still remains. (Pl. 5.)

CREAKE, NORTH.—A cross once stood on what is still called the "Moor," though it is reduced to a small piece of open green at the junction of three roads. It is near a farm known as Cross House Farm. The remains consist of part of the rubble core of the base, rising only two or three inches above ground level. The rest has vanished.

CROSTWIGHT.—The overturned base of this cross was recently (1934) pointed out to me by Dr. C. H. W. Page. It is in the north hedge of the North Walsham-Happisburgh road,

about one-third of a mile north-east of the church. It is in danger of being covered up with earth and vegetation.

CROXTON NEAR THETFORD.—Blomefield, in a note of a visit on 25th Aug., 1726, says: "Pedestal of a cross south side yard." Near the priest's door on the south there is what may have been a pedestal. It is the ordinary shape with stop-angles, but it has been hollowed out so as to appear like a font. In the centre of each side was bored a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch hole, and there is an outlet in the bottom but not in the centre.

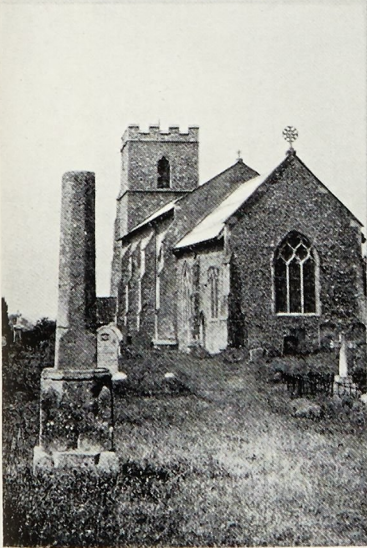
DIDLINGTON.—The 6-in. Ordnance map has stone cross on S.E. side of the church in the churchyard. The remains consist of the square lower part of the base; the next step, of which little is left, appears to be octagonal. There are no remains of the mortice hole or the shaft.

DOCKING.—The Ordnance map has St. Catherine's Cross near the railway bridge, half a mile north-west of the church. The rector in 1927 stated that on enquiry at the Manor House nearby he learnt that there was a tradition of a stone cross having once stood there, near the site of some new cottages, but that there were no remains existing to his knowledge.

DOWNHAM MARKET.—Nothing appears to remain *in situ*, but there is let into the south external wall of the chancel, above the priest's door, what is, without doubt, the top section of the octagonal shaft with the head of a cross consisting of the Saviour on a cross. This is one of the two survivals in the county of the Crucifixion depicted on the head of a cross. Dawson Turner's *Blomefield* gives a sketch of "section of a cross there in churchyard 3 ft. by one." It is the same object. (Pl. 3.)

DRAYTON.—This cross stands on the green, on presumably its original site. It was restored in 1873 by Canon Hinds-Howell, then the rector of this parish. The old parts consist of the usual square socket stone of Barnack with stop-angles. It is 2 ft. 9 ins. square. About 6 ft. of the shaft is left. It is square with the signs of roll and fillet moulding. On the north and south sides of the socket stone are slight recesses with the remains in each case of



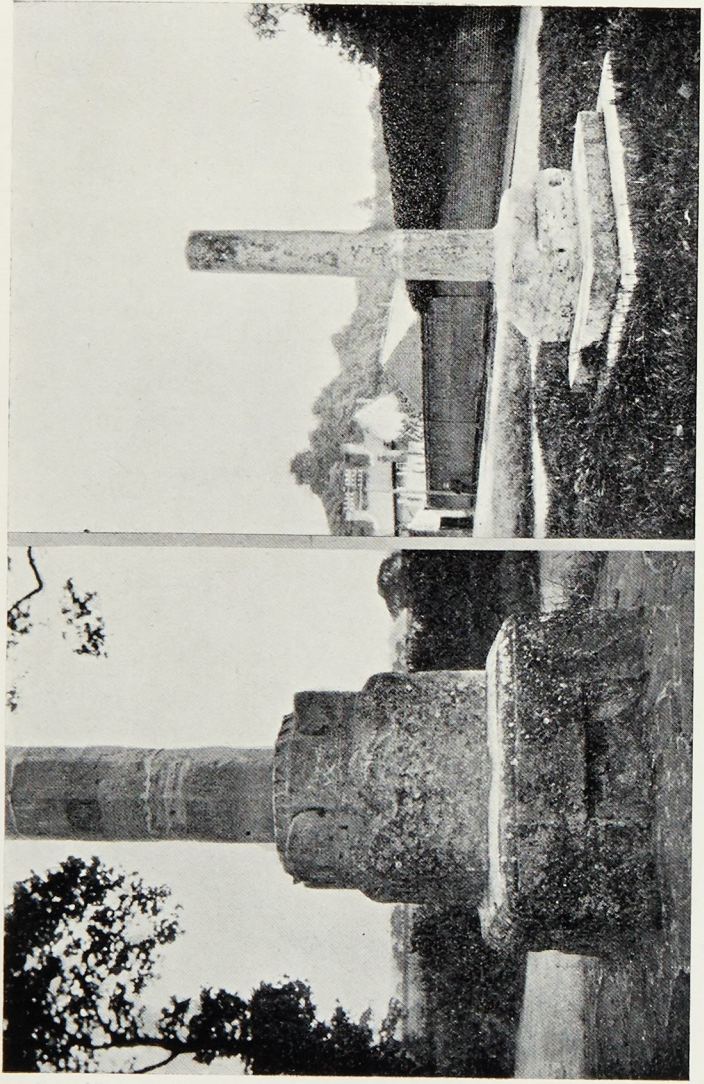


CASTLE RISING.  
FIELD DALLING.

CASTLE RISING.  
BRANDISTON.

*Plate 3.*





AYLMERTON.

DRAYTON

Plate 4.





It can then be interpreted, and translated may be :

“You who pray for the souls of William Beaumont and Joanna his wife, saying a Paternoster and an Ave Maria will earn                    days pardon.”

The Bello Monts, or Beaumonts, were sub-lords here under the Beaufoyc holding, which passed to the Barony of Rye. Wm. de Bello Mont was living 4 John (1202-3), when he was witness to the foundation of the alien Mountjoy Priory in Haverlingland, as mentioned by Dugdale, and he *may* have been the builder of the cross, though there is no evidence that his wife was the Johanna named on it. On the other hand, the builder can hardly be his son and heir, another Wm. de Beaumont, for the latter's wife was Alice. The difficulty in identifying and dating the Wm. de Bello Monte, commemorated by the cross, is that there are no records extant of the period, wills and inquisitions only beginning much later. The registers of Mountjoy Priory are said by Turner<sup>1</sup> to have once been in the possession of Clement Herne, Esq., of Haverland, and a portion of its register in the possession of W. Bladwell, of Swannington. It is very desirable that these should be traced. (Pl. 4.)

EASTON.—On a small green at the four-cross-roads, between Easton Dog and the ford, there is some ancient stonework. It looks as if it is the concrete base on which the pedestal stood, and which has been pulled over on to its side. It was on one of the routes to St. Walstan's Wells at Costessey and Bawburgh. The point on the 6-in. Ordnance map is called “The Cross,” which is a strong confirmation.

EDGEFIELD.—There is a note by Sir John Fenn, which says : “There was formerly a cross erected in this parish, for in a deed of feoffment without any date, but about the time of King John or Henry III Custancie Adam relict of Willm. son of Radulph priest of Edgefield enfeoffs her son Stephen for half a marc of silver in one piece of land lying in the field of Egefield abutting upon the way which leads from the Cross of Egefield towards Binham.” Incidentally this serves to show how in mediæval days monastic houses even when at some distance were used for direction purposes, but there was a nexus here between the parish and Binham

<sup>1</sup> *Norf. Top. Manual*, p. 260.



Priory, as the Priory owned one of the manors. No part of the cross survives, though its site was, no doubt, on what is still called "Cross Green."

EGMERE.—There is a stone in the hedge on the road leading from Little Walsingham to Egmere. It is 3 ft. high and measures 11 ins. by  $9\frac{1}{2}$  ins. It is octagonal, but not equilateral. On one side is the letter E, and on the other the letter W. Query whether ever more than a shaft.

ELMHAM, NORTH.—Bryant's map (1828) gives "Elmham High Cross" and "High Cross Grove" on the Dereham Road, south of the King's Head. The vicar informs me (1933) that the trees in the grove were mostly felled some twenty years ago, but no vestige of the cross was found thereabouts, nor in the memory of man can it be recalled.—Another cross, no longer existing, is mentioned in old evidences as standing at the north end of the parish, "Ryburgh way."

EMNETH.—Faden's map (1797) has "White Cross Lane," but no trace of a cross is known to exist.

FELMINGHAM.—In D. Turner's *Blomefield* there is a sketch of the remains of the stump of a cross in the churchyard in 1846. It is an octagonal pedestal with about 1 ft. of shaft left.<sup>1</sup> I have been unable to discover anything now existing.

FIELD DALLING.—This cross now stands a few yards within the churchyard, on the south-east of the church. The Enclosure map (1808) shows it as being at the road junction adjoining. It may therefore be a wayside rather than a churchyard cross, but its good condition would seem to point to the former. The remains consist of the lower part of an octagonal shaft and a somewhat narrow socket stone (2 ft. 2 ins. square), beneath which is a further stone with stop-angles, but nothing in the nature of steps. The whole base is in good condition, and the stone used is from Barnack. The parish is on the road to Binham and Walsingham. (Pl. 3.)

FINCHAM.—On a MS. map which goes with the *Surveye or Field Booke of the towne of Fincham*, dated 1636, the cross is shown as standing on a triangular piece of land at the west end of the village, where the road divides, and the northern

<sup>1</sup> Add. MSS. 23055, fo. 21.

branch goes to Shouldham Thorpe. It now stands in the churchyard on the south, having this inscription:—"This stone believed to be portion of a cross from St. Michael's churchyard. Church demolished 1745. Placed here Feast of St Michael 1904." The Rev. F. A. Chase, formerly rector of Fincham, states that it was moved to the churchyard through the efforts of Mrs. Barsham, a doctor's widow, during one of the long absences of the previous incumbent, and that before that it stood on a large brick base, about a quarter-mile due west of the Moat House, as marked on the Ordnance map. He believes it was moved there by a predecessor, probably Forby, so that it could be well seen from the rectory. It now consists of 4 ft. of shaft, square to semi-octagonal, on a base 2 ft. square and 1 ft. 6 ins. high with stop-angles. (Pl. 5.)

FOULDEN.—The remains of the cross consist of a square socket stone with bevelled corners or stop-angles. There is a small section of the shaft left, about 10 ins. high. The cross is now within the railings of a cottage adjoining the corner near which, in the road, an old inhabitant stated, was its original site. (Pl. 5.)

FRING.—In the Sedgeford Enclosure Award of 1797 the fourth public road is set out, called "Podders' Road [Peddars' Way], beginning in a north-westerly direction as far as the end of the rivulet near a place called Fring Cross." This spot is roughly half way between Sedgeford and Fring. This place-name more likely indicates the site of a cross now gone, than a four-cross-ways. The cross may be one of the four at the entrance to Hillington Park.

GLANDFORD.—Bryant's map (1828) has Holy Cross Hill Plantation on the high land near the Letheringsett-Langham road. There are, however, no visible remains of any cross.

GRIMSTON.—Faden's map (1797), which records very few crosses, records "Grimston Cross," but does not clearly indicate the exact site. The rector, the Rev. A. Goodall, in 1927, stated that none of his oldest people knew anything about it, and the only information that he had was provided by the Enclosure Award of 1780, where the road called the Great Massingham Road is described as beginning at the bounds of Roydon, and as then proceeding "in an east direction to



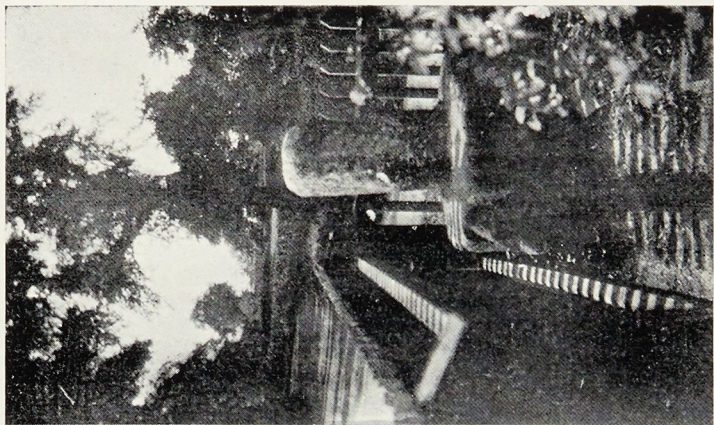
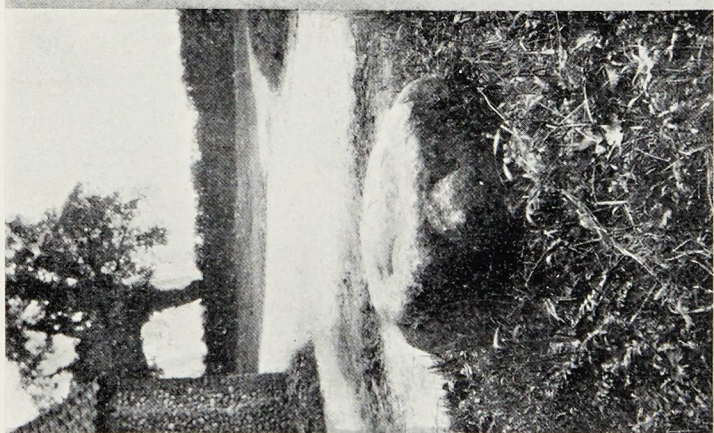
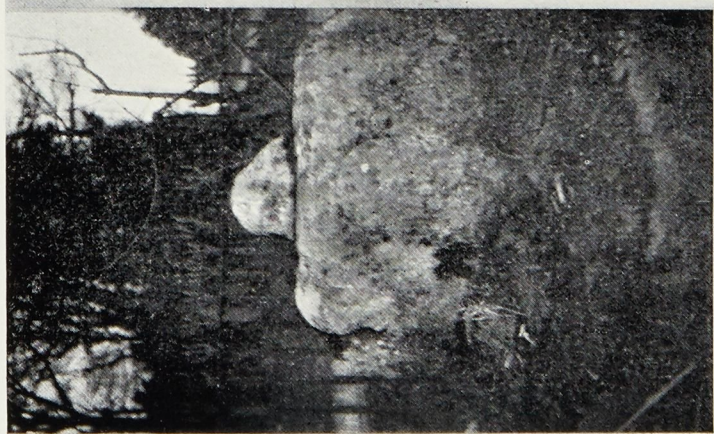


Plate 5.

FOULDEN.

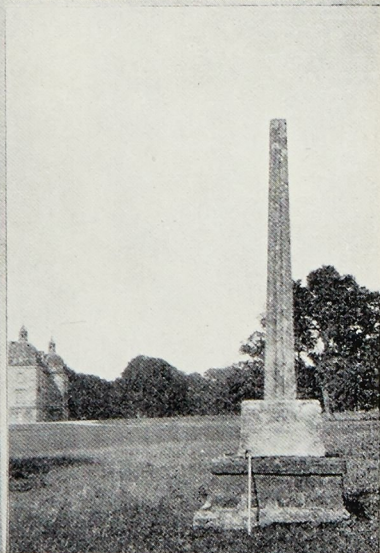
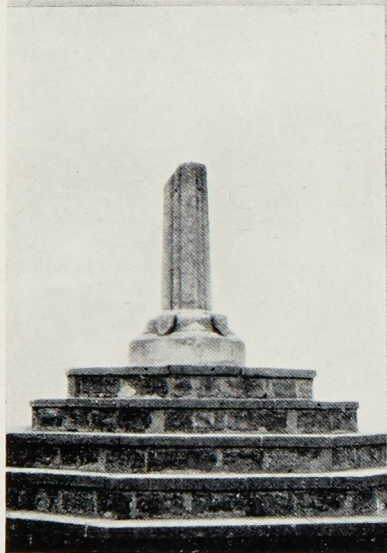
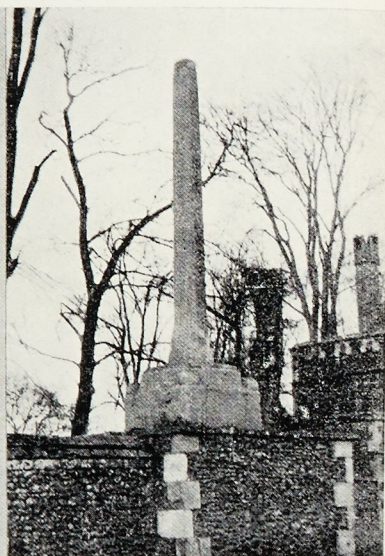


COCKTHORPE.



BABINGLEY.





FINCHAM.  
HUNSTANTON.

HILLINGTON.  
HOUGHTON.

Plate 6.



the Cross near the house of the said George Baldwin and from thence nearly in a south-east direction through part of the town of Grimston." It therefore stood near where Low Road (the old Massingham Road) is left by the present road to Massingham. No remains survive.

GUESTWICK.—This cross is at Tyby, a hamlet of a few houses on the boundary between Guestwick and Wood Dalling. It is situated on the roadside adjoining a barn. The socket stone is 2 ft. 6 ins. square with stop-angles; 1 ft. 9 ins. of the shaft remains. It is square, but with somewhat elaborate vertical mouldings. (Pl. 2.)

GUILT-CROSS.—The name of the Hundred deriving, it is thought, from a guilt cross at Roudham (*see* Roudham).

HANWORTH.—This cross, on the Norwich-Cromer main road, was erected by Colonel H. A. Barclay, of Hanworth Hall, in 1933. But it is probably on the site of an ancient cross, as it is marked "cross" on Faden's map (1797).

HARDINGHAM.—The Ordnance map has "White cross" at a road junction, quarter of a mile south of Hardingham Grove, but no remains are known to exist.

HARDLEY.—1. This cross is situated at the junction of the river Chet with the Yare. It marks the limit of the jurisdiction of the city of Norwich. When this was settled is unknown, but it was probably in the 13th century and as a result of a dispute between the city and Great Yarmouth, which claimed to stop vessels on their way up-stream. At any rate, in 1343, the city coroner held an inquest on thirty-eight persons drowned by the upsetting of a boat at Cantley, which is well on the way down-stream towards Hardley. The 9th chapter of the "Ancient Customs of Norwich" in the *Book of Pleas* states in effect that the coroner's jurisdiction extended to the "waters of Breything." Breydon is now about five miles beyond Hardley, but it is likely that in the early Middle Ages the estuary extended further inland.

Of the earliest cross we know nothing. Of the one erected in 1543 there are full details in the Chamberlain's roll for that year. It was made of wood, oiled and varnished,

at a total cost of 19s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. It was embossed with a crucifix and the city arms and was finally set up in the presence of the Chamberlain and the Sheriffs, the carpenters and labourers being given a sixpenny firkin of beer for their work at the erection. Annually the Town Clerk used to make proclamation there, directing all those who wished to "absume purfy implead or present any action for any offence done on the river of Wenson to do so at Norwich." Absume means to take up, and purfy is probably the same as purvey, one of the meanings of which is to procure.

An inscription states that the cross was repaired in 1676 in the mayoralty of Thomas Chickering. There are other inscriptions indicating that it has also been repaired in 1820, 1834, and 1899. It is now surrounded by an iron fence. The small cross at the top was blown down a few years since. There are four shields around the capital, of which one is the City Arms and another St. George's Cross. In form the shaft is like the other city crosses at Hellesdon and Mile Cross. Very likely it is the one erected in 1676. (Pl. 8.)

2. Henry Bunn, of Hardley, by will dated 1501, directed that a cross should be set up in the churchyard for the offering of boughs on Palm Sunday. Nothing survives of this.

3. The Ordnance map has "cross stone" at the road junction half a mile S.W. of Hardley Church. It is a square stone with bevelled edges, about 4 ft. appearing out of the ground. There is no base. It is probably only a boundary stone.

HARGHAM.—The cross on the turnpike at the cross-roads is said to have been removed from Old Buckenham.

There is another cross near a by-road a little to the north-east at the north end of "White Cross Drift." The drift is now planted and the cross is just inside the plantation. The socket stone which forms the base is 2 ft. 9 ins. square with stop-angles. Only 1 ft. 3 ins. of the shaft is left. It is square as it enters the mortice hole, and though tapering higher up, appears to remain square. The cross is on the parish boundary.

HAVINGERLAND.—The 1-in. Ordnance map gives "Bec Cross" at the four-cross-ways at the south entrance to the Park. The



abbey of Bec in Normandy owned a part of a lordship here and had some connection with the priory of Mountjoy in this parish. The remains of the rubble core of the base are just visible above the grass of the hillock by the roadside (*see* Brandiston).

HELLEDON.—*See under* Norwich.

HEMSBY.—There are still extant in this parish the remains of three crosses:—

(a) In the east hedge of the Yarmouth road, just south of the railway bridge on the south-east side of the village. It consists of the pedestal stone, 2 ft. 4 ins. square, with chamfered corners. There are 2 feet left of a square shaft, on the sides of which are carved in relief the evangelistic symbols—angel, lion, ox, and eagle. (Pl. 9.)

(b) In the churchyard twenty yards north of the chancel is the pedestal of another cross with a mortice hole. In shape it is similar to (a). It does not appear to be *in situ*.

(c) Beside a cottage on the other side of the road to, and west of, the church is the overturned pedestal of another cross.

In *Archæologia* (1801)<sup>1</sup> the Rev. William Gilson says that he thought he discovered a fourth pedestal on the east side of the parish. He advanced the theory that these four crosses may have had something to do with a right of sanctuary in Hemsby. This theory is unsupported by any documentary evidence.

There are sketches (1814) of crosses (a) and (b) in D. Turner's *Blomefield*.<sup>2</sup>

HILLINGTON.—There are the remains of four crosses by the entrance to Hillington Park, two on each side of the road. Three of them consist of somewhat mutilated socket stones with 1 ft. to 2 ft. of shaft. The fourth, however, is complete except for the head. The pedestal is about 2 ft. square with stop-angles in the form of a head moulding, whilst the shaft is of the square-octagonal variety.

There is a marginal sketch of the four in D. Turner's *Blomefield*<sup>3</sup> as they were in 1825. It says they (or at least

<sup>1</sup> XIV., p. 40.

<sup>2</sup> XI., p. 166.

<sup>3</sup> VIII., p. 460.

three) were brought from Lynn. The three would be the smaller ones. The tall one seems at the date of the sketch to have been by the roadside, the others by the entrance to the Hall.

Mrs. Etheldreda Birkbeck (*née* ffolkes), writing a few years ago, said that she was told that they were originally standing on the Pilgrims' Way to Walsingham, and that her grandfather removed them from there in the days when such things were not much appreciated. Her brother (Sir William ffolkes) very much regretted their removal from their original sites. It thus seems that their provenance must remain in doubt. (Pl. 6.)

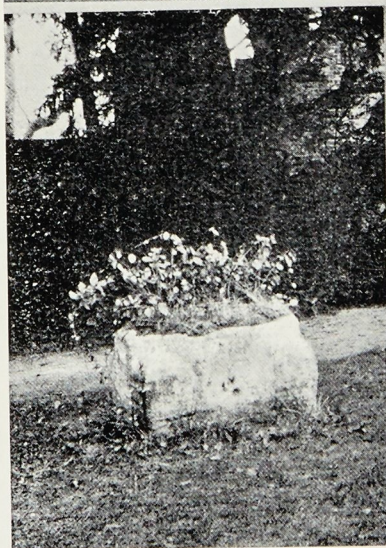
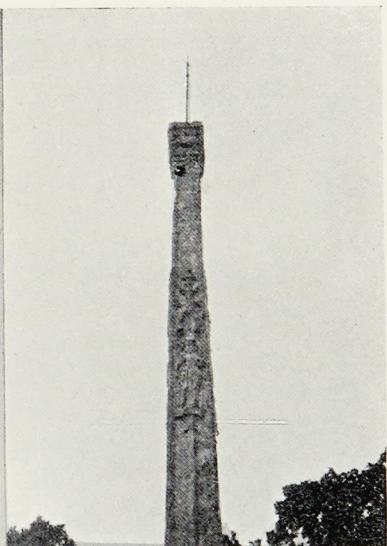
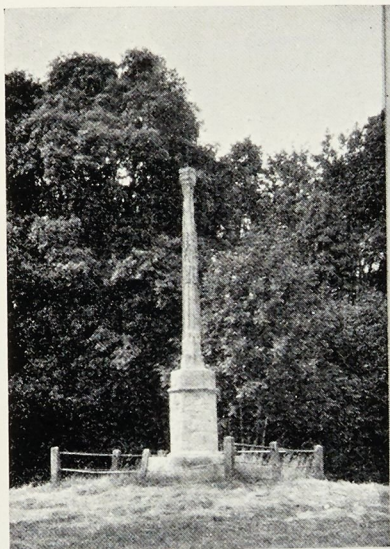
HOCKERING.—Tom Martin, in a note on 27th May, 1733, says: "A socket for a cross at going up to ye altar or mortice hole for something to be fixed in." There is nothing to be seen of this now.

HOCKWOLD.—In the garden of the Hall, about thirty yards south-west of the house, is the large pedestal of a cross of the usual form with stop-angles. It is 1 ft. 8 ins. high and 2 ft. 6 ins. square. The mortice hole is now full of earth and is used for flowers. W. G. Clarke, in the *Norfolk News* of 31st March, 1923, says that he saw there also an octagonal scooped-out stone which might have been the capital at the top of the shaft. He suggests that the cross may have been on the road to Blackdyke, which runs at the bottom of the park. (Pl. 7.)

HOLT.—There is no documentary evidence of a cross here, but one might well have stood on the plain opposite the Old School House or on the triangular piece of land where now stands the Shirehall. The horse-mounting stone next this building is in fact the upturned socket stone of a cross with the usual chamfered corners. (Pl. 2.)

HONING.—This cross stands in the west hedge of a field abutting New Barn Farm on the east. It consists of a socket stone 2 ft. 6 ins. square and 1 ft. 3 ins. high, and a shaft 1 ft. square and 3 ft. 4 ins. high. The socket stone is in the middle of the bank of the hedge, and its west side is exposed in a rather deep "holl." The square shaft shows signs of considerable carvings and mouldings. On each face there seems to have been carved a pinnacle-like



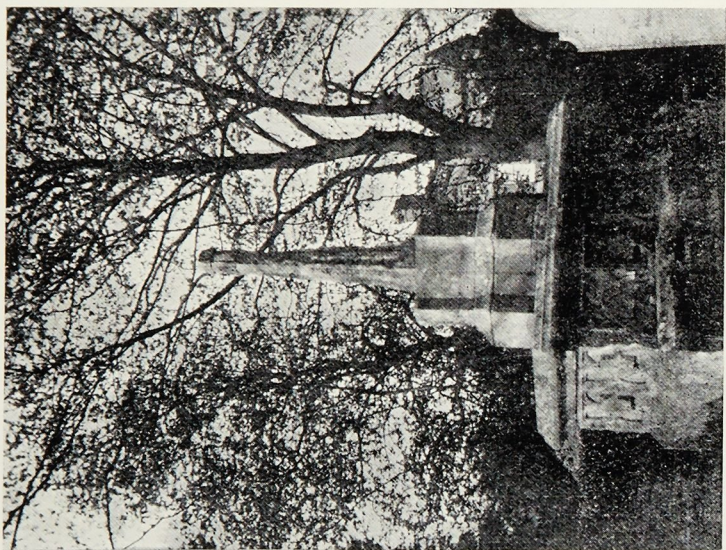


LANGLEY.  
HOCKWOLD.

LANGLEY.  
METHWOLD.

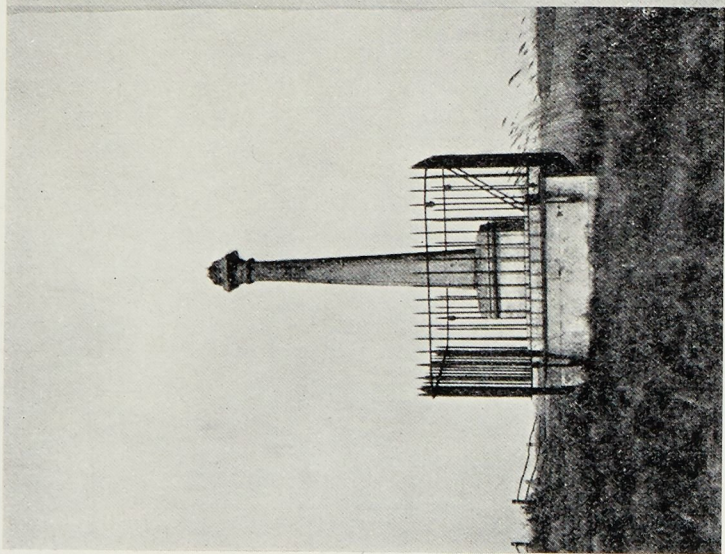
*Plate 7.*





*Plate 8.*

MILEHAM.



HARDLEY.



ornament in relief. The cross is 300 yards from the road. Faden's map (1797) shows the cross as then being at a four-cross-ways. There was no doubt an alteration of the roads at the Enclosure, and a straight fence was then thrown up, embracing the cross in its alignment. The old road led to Bromholm Priory, about five miles distant.

HORSEY.—In 1542 the Bishop of Norwich granted a 99 years' lease to Sir Henry Woodhouse of Waxham of his manors of Palling and Horsey and also the "wreke of see" that should happen upon the grounds adjoining to the sea side extending from a tree called mortree standing between Eccles and Palling and so from thence to a cross in Palling and from "the same crosse unto a certen deke called Wynkyll dike and a crosse in the grounds called hedlasse crosse by the same dike devyding the hundreds of Happyng Estflegg and Westflegge."

In a certain indenture (*temp.* Ed. I.) Oliver de Ingham and William de Agia declared that in the 7th year of Edward I. they placed a marktree with the consent of the Abbot of Hulme "in a place where the cross of Palling is situated," which was near Chuckishil.

From the above it would seem that the Palling cross was situated somewhere near the bounds of Eccles and Palling, and the Horsey cross adjacent to Wynkyll Dike, which must be what is now called the Hundred Stream. Were these two crosses sacred crosses or merely boundary marks? There is no reason to think that the Palling cross was other than a sacred one, placed there by the abbey of St. Benets, the lords of the manor. The name of Horsey cross, "Headless Cross," may signify a plain shaft set upright in the ground as a dole or boundary mark, or a cross the top of which had been broken off. No remains of these crosses have been discovered. The site of Palling cross may very well be under the sea or the sand dunes.

HORSHAM ST. FAITHS.—Helena Carter in 1521 devised to the church of St. Faiths one acre of freeland in the fields of St. Faiths to the intent that the churchwardens should repair the cross in the churchyard which she had newly edified. No remains are extant. It was probably destroyed at the time of the suppression of the neighbouring priory.

HOUGHTON *juxta* HARPLEY.—Tom Martin, in some notes, says under date 21st August, 1727: "A good cross standing near ye alehouse, the upright stone about 10 feet high." Sir Robert Walpole, when he erected the Hall about this time, removed the whole village and made his park. This graceful cross now stands about 150 yards east of the stables and near the roadway. The shaft is still 10 ft. high, a monolith wanting only the capital and head to be complete. It is square in shape with ogee moulding. The socket stone is of the ordinary square variety with stop-angles and mounted on a base of carstone which is probably modern, because a drawing by Colonel Lukin, dated 1846, in D. Turner's *Blomefield*, shows a different form of base. (Pl. 6.)

HUNSTANTON.—The cross on the green at New Hunstanton was, it is said, moved from its original site at Old Hunstanton. It is now raised on a base of several steps. The pedestal is 2 ft. 6 ins. square; 4 ft. of the shaft survives. It is considerably moulded. On the four sides of the pedestal are shields for coats of arms or evangelistic symbols. There is a sketch in D. Turner's *Blomefield*.<sup>1</sup> (Pl. 6.)

ISLINGTON.—The *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1822,<sup>2</sup> says:—A cross was found in sinking the cold bath at Sir John Oldcastle's, near Islington. It was presented by Mr. Mickleton to Lord Harley, afterwards Earl of Oxford, and was formerly in his museum at Wimpole, Cambs. The inscription is in Norman-French and runs:—

"Anure seyent, tuzi ceux ke la croys adurant amen."

Honoured be all those who worship the cross. Amen.

This note is accompanied by an illustration which shows that the inscription is carved on the vertical piece and the two arms of a plain cross, forming the head of the monument.

Lord Clifden, the present (1933) owner of Wimpole, writes that he has no knowledge of a museum at Wimpole, or of a cross there, but that there may have been a museum in the large library built about 1720 by Lord Harley for the Harleian MSS.

There is also a sketch in D. Turner's *Blomefield*.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> X., p. 324.

<sup>2</sup> I., p. 65.

<sup>3</sup> VIII., p. 468.



**KELLING.**—In the Court Book of the manor of Cley and Salt-house *ex parte* Gytingham Lancaster for 12th Sept. 1585, Margery Parr widow of Henry Parr late of Salthouse was admitted tenant to (*inter alia*)  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres lying near Kelling Crosse. There are no remains, but the site may well have been at the four-cross-ways known until recently as “Kelling Beck Corner.” Curiously, on account of the erection there of a War Memorial cross, it is resumed to the old name of “Kelling Cross” as a motor-bus stopping place.

**LANGWADE.**—This is a boundary cross between the parishes of Caldecote and Cockley Cley. The pedestal is square with bevelled angles, probably once ornamented. The shaft appears once to have been octagonal, though square in the mortice hole. Only about a foot of the shaft survives. (Pl. 2.)

**KERDISTON.**—In Faden’s map (1797) this cross is shown as being beside the road, about 400 yards south-east of Kerdiston Old Hall. I was directed by Mr. Edward Stimpson, of Sall Moor Hall, to some stonework in the south-west hedge of this road, which may very likely be the remains of the cross.

**LANGLEY.**—This cross originally stood at the road junction near the Premonstratensian abbey at Langley, but was removed about 1801 by Sir Thomas Beauchamp Proctor to a point in Langley Park, where three parishes meet. In *East Anglian Notes and Queries* it is described as “being slender in form, having a splayed base above which are statues within 4 crocketed canopies, while the four panels at the top have curious carved representations of animals,” etc. It is certainly a very graceful monument. It is the only surviving instance in Norfolk of a shaft ornamented with carved figures. From a representation in the *Gentleman’s Magazine* (1806) it is clear that the figures in the canopied niches are the four evangelists, whilst on the panels of the capital are the corresponding symbols—angel, lion, ox, and eagle. (Pl. 7.)

**LUDHAM.**—In a description in the Court Books of the Manor of Ludham, belonging to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, of the Baker’s Arms Inn in this parish the inn is mentioned as being “against the Cross in Ludham.” This would be a central point. No remains exist.

MARHAM.—In the description of the “chyrch lond” in the Black Book of Swaffham (1454) four acres in Swaffham West field are described as being “non multum distant a Marham Crosse.” It cannot be traced now.

METHWOLD.—Tom Martin, in his notes,<sup>1</sup> says:—“A cross in this church yard 1718.” This cross still stands about 20 yards south-east of the church. Of the base only the rubble core survives with two or three ashlar surrounds of the lowest step. The remains of the base, however, are sufficient to show that besides the top step, which acted as the socket, there were two steps. The whole was octagonal—base as well as shaft. The shaft is unusual. It consists of three parts, the higher in each case being smaller than and morticed into the lower. It is surmounted by a fourth part, not octagonal like the other three, but showing signs of ornamentation, probably some sacred device. There appears to be no capital proper. (Pl. 7.)

MIDDLETON.—The remains consist of a socket stone, 2 ft. 6 ins. square, with 3 ft. of the shaft left. It is square as it enters the mortice hole, while above the angles are chamfered, but not sufficiently to make it octagonal. The cross is now situated about 15 yards from the north-east corner of the chancel. Against it is a notice to this effect, “The village cross restored by Edmund le Woods Esq. A.D. 1870.” Its position in the churchyard does not indicate a churchyard cross, and the fact that it is called a village cross suggests that it was moved from the small green just south of the church, where the village pump stands.

MILEHAM.—In form and position this cross is probably unique. It consists of a pedestal and shaft placed upon the middle of a massive altar tomb in the churchyard, a few yards north-west of the church. The tomb is 4 ft. 6 ins. high. Upon it is the pedestal, which fits on to the slab in such a way as to indicate that the cross has always been part of the structure. The shaft is  $5\frac{1}{2}$  ft. high with deep mouldings and shallow canopies on each side. There are plug holes on the north and south sides of the shaft and in the north-east and south-west sides of the pedestal. There is a drawing in Tom Martin’s Church Notes. (Pl. 8.)

<sup>1</sup> *Penes the Society.*



NORTHWOLD.—This cross consists of a pedestal and a shaft with a capital surmounted by a weathercock in place of the sacred finial. The whole structure is on a brick base and is about 14 ft. high. The shaft is a monolith of Barnack stone, square with moulded edges. The pedestal is 2 ft. 6 ins. square and 2 ft. high with stop-angles. Between this and the brick base is a step of freestone. (Pl. 9.)

NORWICH.—

A. *Within the city walls:*

1. *Charing Cross*, or *Shearers' Cross*, was situated at the point where St. Andrew's Broad Street bifurcates into St. Benedict's and Westwick Streets. Nearby used to dwell the shearers, who sheared the worsteds. In Kirkpatrick's day (1720) it was known as *Sharing Cross* and still existed. The first mention of it is in 40 Edward III. It was taken down in 1732.

2. *Stump Cross* stood where Magdalen Street forks towards Botolph Street. The cross is mentioned in 15 Henry VII. It was called "Guylding Cross." "Stump" was probably its description after partial destruction. It was rebuilt in 1640. In 1644 the Assembly ordered the Chamberlain to demolish it and take the stones for the use of the city. This was not carried out, and the order was countermanded in 1661. In 1673 £20 was ordered to be given to the inhabitants of St. Saviour's to rebuild it on the ground where it formerly stood. Kirkpatrick says: "There is a piece of the lower part of the shaft of a stone cross now (1720) lying upon the top of St. Saviour's churchyard wall next the lane leading to Rotten Row which is about a yard long and I suppose is part of the old Stump Cross."

3. *Stumped Cross* stood in Calvert Street by the turning into St. George's Middle Street. In King's map of 1766 it is called "Cow Cross."

4. A cross is shown on the eastern parapet of White Friars' Bridge in the Sanctuary map of 1541.

5. A cross stood at the north-east end of Tombland near the Erpingham Gate. It was removed in 1487, according to the Chamberlains' accounts, as being in danger of falling through the pageants of the Fraternity of St. George.

This may have been the cross with an effigy of St. Michael erected by Losinga on the spot where stood St. Michael's Church, which he demolished.

6. Another cross stood at the south-west end of Tombland where was afterwards a water tower and is now the underground lavatory. It is first mentioned in 13 Richard II.

7. *St. Vedast's cross.* This sculptured stone, found on the site of St. Vedast's Church at the junction of Rose Lane and Cathedral Street, was pronounced by the Rev. William Hudson, in his description of it,<sup>1</sup> to be a pre-Norman churchyard cross of Scandinavian type. It is now in the Castle Museum.

8. The Market Cross, rebuilt in 1409 and destroyed in 1732, is outside the scope of this paper.

B. *Without the city walls:*

William of Worcester (*circa* 1480) mentions two crosses between Hellesdon and St. Augustine's Gates, and he gives the distances:—

1. A cross of marble stone "220 sexagies gressus" from the gate of Fewrechyldes (Fairchild's) manor in Hellesdon towards Norwich.

2. A wooden cross 160 paces beyond the first one and erected by Gregory Clerk, Sheriff in 1477. This cross was 140 paces from St. Augustine's Gates.

William of Worcester's pace was about 1 ft. 9 ins., but the measurements are not clear. There were, however, two crosses just outside St. Augustine's Gates, and one is mentioned later on p. 322.

There were at one time or another no less than ten crosses marking the bounds of the county of the city of Norwich. Kirkpatrick gives extracts from four manuscripts dealing with the limits of the jurisdiction of the city:—The Custom Book, a draft petition to Henry VI. to renew the charters, the draft of a charter presented to Edward IV. and a manuscript sometime Mr. Themylthorp's. The city tended to

<sup>1</sup> N.A., XIII. p. 116.



enlarge, and this renders the identification of the crosses difficult. Those mentioned in the four documents are as follow:—

1. *Trowse Bridge cross*, stated to be “in ye myddes of Trouse brigge.” Blomefield refers to it as “a tall stone cross which stood on Trowse bridge and is lately taken down.” Kirkpatrick, however, says (I think, wrongly) that this is confused with Carrow Cross next mentioned. The ancient boundary ran from the bridge up Bracondale, Carrow always having been within the liberty of the city, whilst Trowse Millgate and Lakenham were once in the hundred of Humbleyard, and it was natural that there should be a cross where the boundary left the river.

2. *Carrow cross* stood “where Carrow stocks once stood,” at the junction of Bracondale and King Street, “a little beyond Brakendale Hill at the meeting of the 2 roads leading to Trouse, viz: one from Berstreet gates, the other from Conesford gates.” In 1452 Rob. Blickling of Norwich, esquire, by his will ordered the cross between Carrow and Lakenham to be rebuilt. Blomefield says that “the foundation may still be seen at the cross-ways between Norwich and Trowse Millgate.”

3. *Malkeny's cross* or *Our Lady's cross* was probably somewhere between Hall Road and Grove Road and may have been named after John Malkyn, who in 18 Edward I. owned a messuage in St. Stephen's and resided at Newton Flotman.

4. *Needham cross* was “right south of the towne agenst Nedeham Houses.”

Nedeham Gates were St. Stephen's Gates. The houses referred to may be the Lazar houses once near the present Out-patient Department of the Hospital. This would place the cross near the Fountain.

5. *Nether Erlam cross*.

6. *Hellesdon cross* was in the highway towards Hellesdon without the Coslany Gates. This may be the predecessor of the cross restored in 1902, and now standing at the four-cross-ways on the present city boundary on the Drayton road. (Pl. 12.) Five feet of the octagonal shaft are original. There is another boundary cross standing 20 yards

north-east of the church in Hellesdon churchyard. It, too, was restored in 1902. Six feet of the shaft are original, but not necessarily mediæval. It is square with moulded corners. On the east face is carved W.H. 1803 NOR<sup>b</sup>, but this, I think, has nothing to do with the history of the cross.

7. *St. Faith's cross or the Whytecrosse* stood in the highway towards Horsham St. Faith's, and may be identified as the predecessor of the cross now standing at Mile Cross and a few years ago moved a few yards so as to be in front of the inn recently erected. The old cross is called "le Whyte Crosse" in the charter of 1556. It also seems to be the one referred to as being "against St. Augustens," and may be one of those mentioned by William of Worcester. The present cross at Mile Cross was restored in 1902. Five feet of the Barnack shaft are original. It is octagonal with alternate sides moulded vertically.

8. *Catton cross* was said to be standing in the highway towards Catton.

9. *Sprowston or Magdalen cross* was in the highway towards Sprowston on the north of the Hospital of St. Mary Magdalen (the Lazar House).

10. *Thorpe Wood cross* is described as being "in a certain way below a wood called Thorpe wode which leads from Norwich to Possewyk over the hill called 'Leonardes Hyll.'"

OUTWELL.—Dugdale says: "A stone cross formerly stood at the boundary of the parish called the stone cross of Welle near the corner where Berryal field Needham Sayers field and Cotton Common join in Outwell." (Bryant's *Clackclose*, p. 174.) Nothing now survives.

PASTON.—(1) There is a small heap of remains of the cross at the north-east side of the church, corresponding with a note by Tom Martin: "a cross on the North east end of the church yard." (2) John Arcall of Paston by will dated and proved in 1467 gave 4 marks to make a new cross of freestone to be placed near Stowe Chapel by the King's Highway. This was no doubt another cross near what is now called Stow Hill.

PALLING. See under Horsey.



PENTNEY.—This fourteenth-century cross is of unusual form. It is situated in a hedge about 20 yards south of the road leading from Pentney Church to Pentney Priory (Austin Canons). There is no reason to think that it is not *in situ*. The road was probably slightly diverted at the Enclosures. It consists of an octagonal shaft of freestone rising from a square pedestal with chamfered angles, which in turn rests on a plinth having at the corners small mortice holes for some kind of vertical ornamentation such as images. The whole is set diagonally on a four-butressed base, from which much of the ashlar has disappeared, exposing the rubble core. Between the buttresses at the top are trefoiled niches. The whole is about 16 ft. high. The foundations on the north side are worn away somewhat dangerously. (Pl. 12 and 13.)

PICKENHAM, NORTH.—Robert Fayerman of this parish by his will dated 4th July, 1428, desired his body to be buried "within the churchyard of North Pickenham next unto the Crosse ther stondyng."

REEPHAM.—There is fixed to the west end of the nave of this church the finial of a cross which is believed to have marked the meeting point of the parishes of Reepham St. Mary, Hackford St. Andrew, and Whitwell St. Michael. On the front are the figures of Our Lord, St. Mary, and St. John, and on the back those of St. Andrew, St. Michael, and St. Christopher. This is the most delicately carved finial surviving in the county. (Pl. 9.)

ROUDHAM.—*Blomefield*,<sup>1</sup> writing in about 1736, says that this parish takes its name from a remarkable rood or cross that stood in it, upon the great road leading from Thetford to Norwich. He adds, "the remaining stones of it were carried thence to Herling about five or six years ago by Mr. Wright who was then lord here."

ROYDON.—The cross believed to have been once in this churchyard has had a chequered history. It was apparently brought from Roydon to North Wootton by the Rev. Suckling when he changed livings. Thence it was moved to Congham Hall, where it is now. All that is left is the

<sup>1</sup> I., p. 433.

pedestal, socketed to receive the shaft. It is possible that it may be the Grimston cross, which was near the Roydon boundary.

RUSHFORD.—In the account of Rushford College,<sup>1</sup> the Rev. Dr. Bennet, F.S.A., in referring to the church, mentions the fragments of a churchyard cross theretofore “thriftily utilised in a hollowed and inverted condition as a font in Robert Buxton’s restoration in 1575.” An inspection a few years ago failed to reveal anything.

SALTHOUSE.—A plan of Salthouse and Kelling marshes as embanked in 1648/9 shows two crosses, one on the green near the Dun Cow Inn, and the other where the road from the church joins the main coast road. Nothing remains *in situ*. There is, however, in the garden of the Manor House adjoining the church on the east what may be the base of one of these crosses. It is 3 ft. 1 in. square with chamfered angles, and is 1 ft. 3 ins. high. It is hollowed out as a mortice for the next stone. On the west side of the green by the roadside is a long piece of dressed stone which may well have been a step to the cross which was once nearby. Binham Priory were large owners in Salthouse. (Pl. 9.)

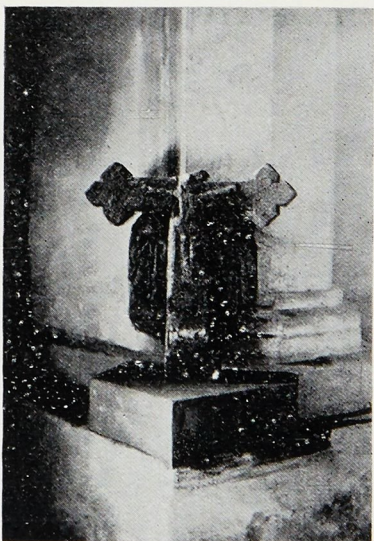
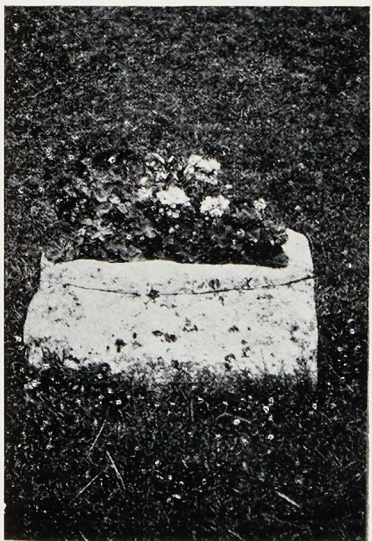
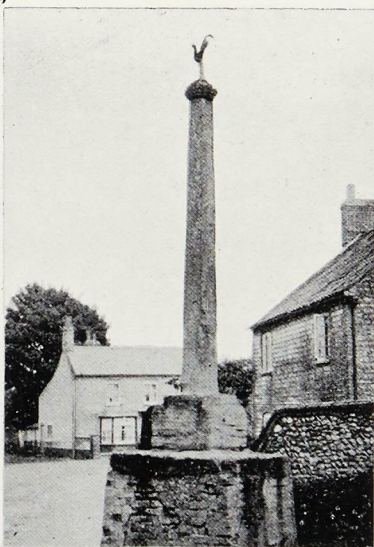
SCULTHORPE.—Bryant’s map has “Cross Green,” about a quarter-mile west of the church. This was a small common before the Enclosure. I have been unable to trace anything here.

SHARRINGTON.—This cross stands at a three-road junction 100 yards east of the church. The original parts are the square pedestal with stop-angles and about 2 ft. of the octagonal shaft. In recent years the cross has been restored by adding three further parts to the shaft and a capital. Sharrington was the seat of the Dawbeneyes, who founded several chantries there. In 1523, though the parish was never populous, there were three chantry priests doing duty at the church—more than at any other church in the hundred. Sharrington was probably on a trackway from East Norfolk to Binham and Walsingham. (Pl. 10.)

SMEETH, THE, IN MARSHLAND.—In March, 1929, labourers were filling up a pond in a field just north of Smeeth Road

<sup>1</sup> N.A., X., p. 307.



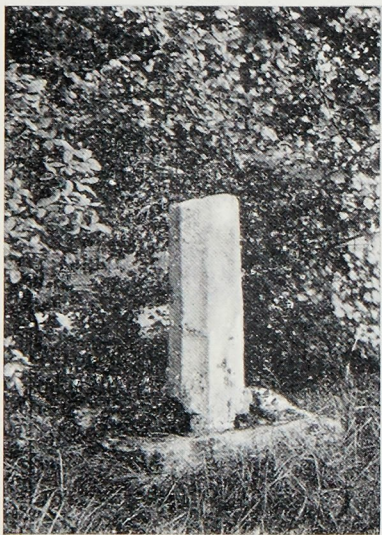
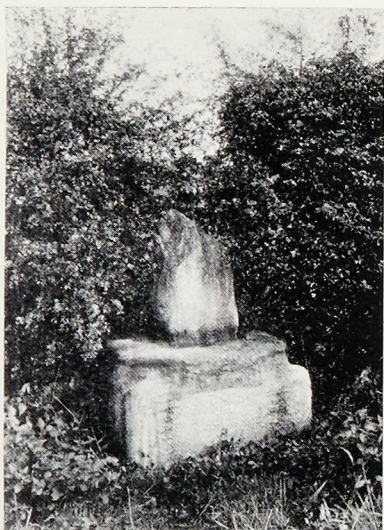
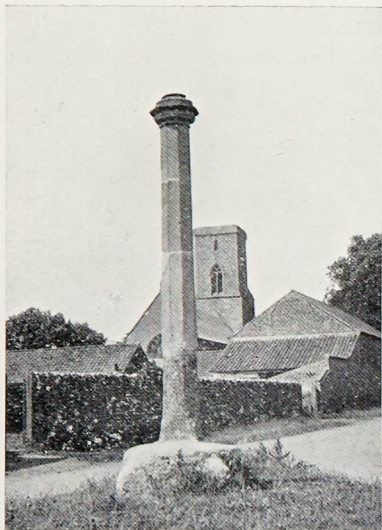


HEMSBY.  
SALTHOUSE.

NORTHWOLD.  
REEPHAM.

*Plate 9.*





*Plate 10.*

SHARRINGTON.  
SOUTHACRE.

SMEETH.  
SOUTHREPPS.



Station and known as "Hicifrics Hand Basin," It is really a Scandinavian doom ring, the meeting place for centuries of the inhabitants of the Seven Towns of Marshland, which had common rights over the 1200 acres of fine pasture land known as the Smeeth. For this filling soil was carted from a "hill" adjoining, and a large pedestal 2 ft. 9 ins. square and 1 ft. 9 ins. high with stop-angles was unearthed. Two feet of the shaft, now pointed, survive. The cross has been moved into the hedge next the main road. It was at this cross, situate as shown in Sir William Dugdale's map in the middle of the Smeeth, that the commoners met at midsummer. At Easter they congregated at St. John's Gate, one of the entrances to this extensive common pasture. The cross is situated in Terrington St. John (detached). (Pl. 10.)

SNETTISHAM.—There is a marginal sketch in Dawson Turner's *Blomefield*<sup>1</sup> showing one not of ordinary form, but with four steps as the base and the stump of a cross on top. The ground plan is not a complete circle, indicating that it was placed against something. The postmaster (1926) thought that there was once one on the green opposite the post office. No remains survive.

SNORING, GREAT.—Between the church and the rectory gate beside the path is the pedestal of a cross with mortice hole. It is not *in situ*, and if it was a churchyard cross it was probably on the east of the church by the main entrance to the graveyard.

SOUTHACRE.—A churchyard cross a few yards within the church gate. There survives the lower part of the base, in which is cut out the mortice hole for the smaller socket stone to hold the shaft itself. The socket stone itself is missing. Three feet of the original shaft is cemented into the base. (Pl. 10.)

SOUTHREPPS.—Early in 1932 road widening uncovered the base of a cross at the four-cross-ways known as "Stump Cross." Part of the shaft was found in Trunch Rectory garden. The County Council took the matter in hand, set the base on a stone plinth and replaced the shaft, and the cross is

<sup>1</sup> X., p. 380.

now an interesting monument just by its original site, which was on a route to Bromholm Priory. (Pl. 10.)

STANHOE.—This was once a large cross. The core alone survives, and there is about 4 ft. square. There were probably four steps. Several however of these are built into cottage walls in the village. In D. Turner's *Blomefield* there is a large pencil drawing by M.A.T. in 1815. It shows only the base, which is splayed and stepped and octagonal in shape. There is a background of trees, which seems to show that these stones are the ashlar casing removed from their original site at the road junction and re-erected. (Pl. 11.)

TERRINGTON ST. CLEMENT.—1. In the garden of Lovell's Hall there is a pedestal of a cross of the ordinary size and shape with about 3 ft. of the shaft left. This has probably been removed from somewhere, possibly from the point marked "Broken Cross" on the Ordnance map. Faden's map has "Broken Cross Lane." (Pl. 11.)

2. See under The Smeeth.

TERRINGTON ST. JOHN.—This cross was once in the churchyard, and was called by the inhabitants, "Hickathrift's Candlestick." Some time in the middle of the 19th century the late William Cockle, who was a churchwarden of St. John's Church, gave it to the late David Ward, who removed it to his residence in Terrington St. Clement, which subsequently became known as Hamond Lodge, and is now known as Terrington Court, where it is still. It appears to consist of the socket stone with other fragments piled upon it.

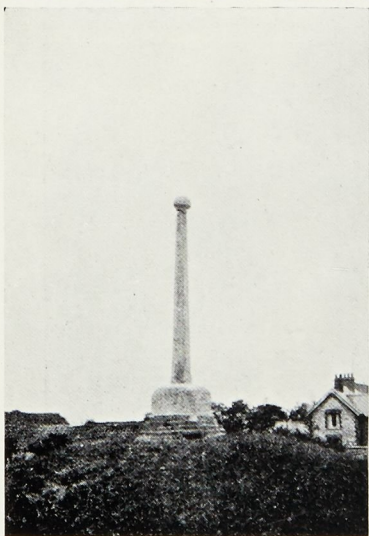
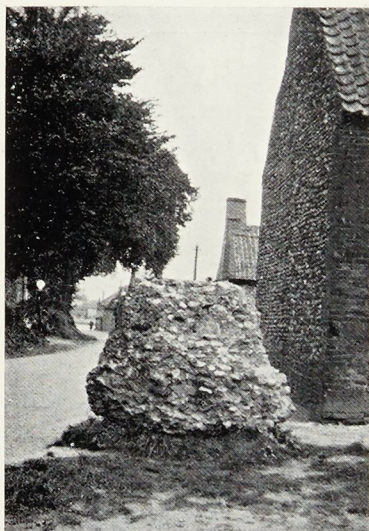
Tom Martin, in his notes, says: "Three old stones in ye churchyard with different crosses on them, and a pedestal of a cross before ye church porch." None is now visible.

THOMPSON.—Tom Martin, in his notes, says: "Crosse in Ch. yard." There were no signs of such a cross in 1927.

TILNEY ALL SAINTS.—A churchyard cross near the south porch, The socket stone is 2 ft. square and has stop-angles, and the remains of the shaft, 3 ft. in height, are let in with lead into the socket stone.

Mr. Bradfer-Lawrence tells me that there is a fragment of a shaft forming the doorstep of the barn belonging to Shore Boat Farm field buildings.





STANHOE.  
TITCHWELL.

*Plate 11.*  
TERRINGTON ST. CLEMENT.  
TOFTREES.

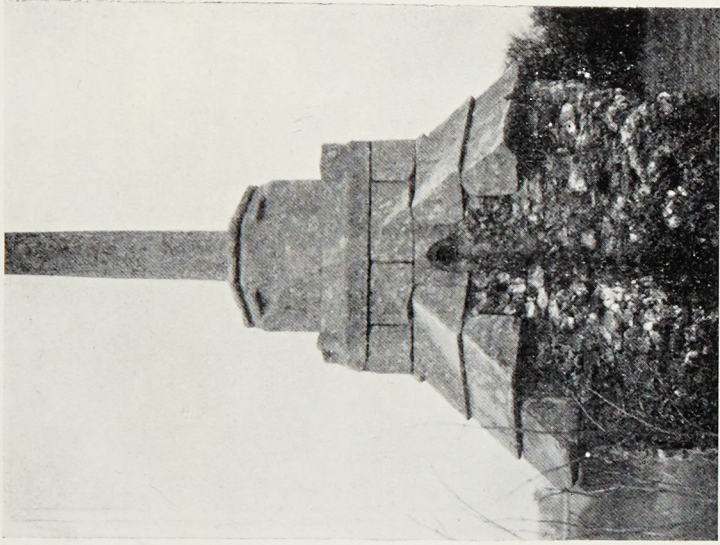
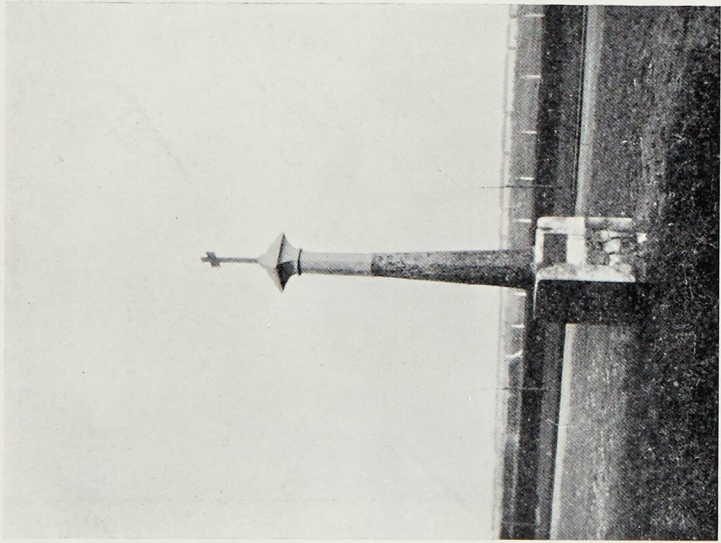


Plate 12.

PENTNEY.



NORWICH  
(Drayton Road).



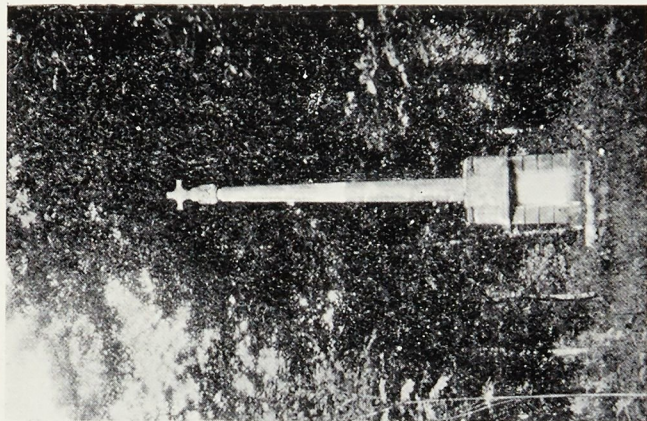
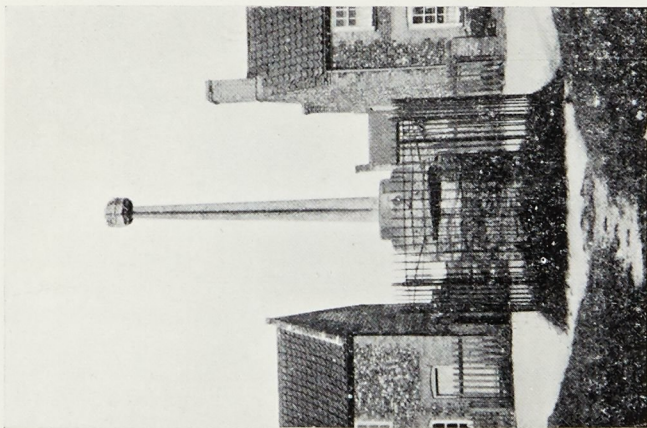
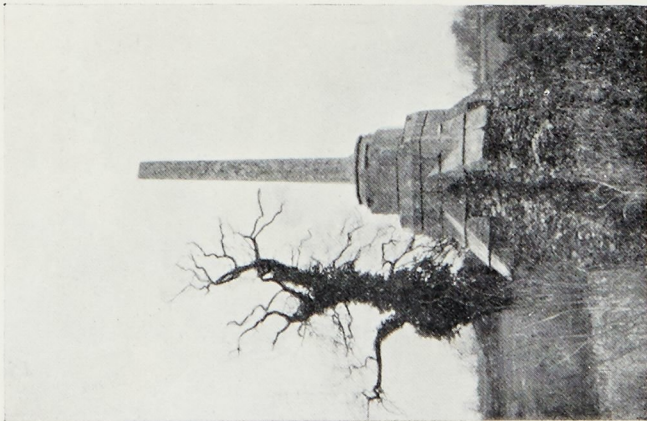


Plate 13.

WOOD DALLING.

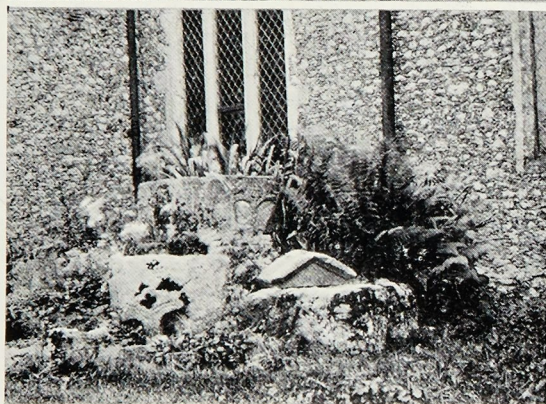
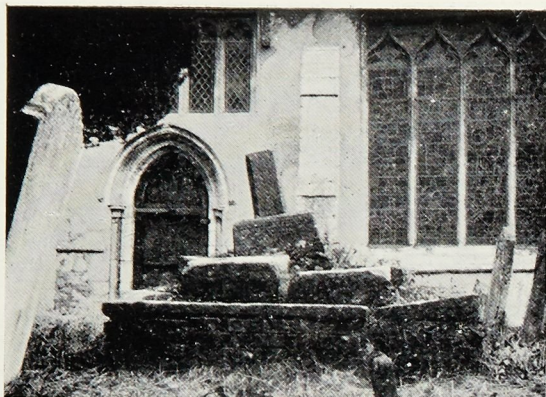


WILTON.



PENTNEY.





WALSOKEN.  
WARHAM.  
YARMOUTH.



TITCHWELL —1. This cross is finely situated on a mound against the high road. The pedestal is 2 ft. 8 ins. square, and there is a 9 ft. shaft left with a capital, which, like the shaft, is octagonal. There are sketches in Tom Martin's notes and in D. Turner's *Blomefield*. (Pl. 11.)

2. Tom Martin has also a note to the effect that there was part of a cross before the south porch of the church. No remains now are visible.

TOFTREES.—This cross is 3 yards within the church gate east of the church. There is a square pedestal with stop-angles, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ft. of the shaft with a mortice hole on top. It is made of Barnack stone and is painted red. Beside the pedestal was lying the upper piece of a tapering octagonal shaft, 2 ft. 6 ins. in length, with I.B. 1781 carved on it. There is another piece of the shaft near by. (Pl. 11.)

WALPOLE ST. ANDREW.—Faden's map (1797) has Cross Gate, a road leading north-east from the small common then existing by the church. This may imply the existence of a cross or simply a cross-road, or have reference to Cross Keys Inn, which was on the Norfolk side of the low-tide road across the Nene into Lincolnshire.

WALSHAM, NORTH.—1. This cross is now on the North Walsham-Worstead boundary a few yards from the Norwich road up a by-road to the east. Its original site is said to have been about  $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile to the west, beside a trackway. It, with No. 3 below, according to tradition, marks the place where Henry le Despencer, Bishop of Norwich, crushed in 1381 the Peasants' Revolt led by Jack Lytester. It is the most perfect of the Norfolk crosses. The base is 2 ft. 4 ins. square, and the graceful moulded shaft is about 10 ft. in height. At the top is a capital and what is left of the head. In D. Turner's *Blomefield* there is a sketch by Maria Turner, "after Miss L. Worth 1806," which shows that the existing part of the head is what remains of the figure of the Saviour. The whole is slightly out of the perpendicular. (Pl. 17.)

2. A quarter of a mile south-west of the last cross there was a shaft set up in the middle of a field to mark an angle in the parish boundary. Some time before 1926, when I inspected, it had been removed by the farmer as being

inconvenient for ploughing and was laid flat in the hedge, a few yards to the west. There was apparently no pedestal.

3. This cross, which is situated at a road junction on the main road near the Waterworks, gave the name to Stump Cross Field in a map of 1742. Until recently it was almost buried up with road material. By the enterprise of Mr. C. W. Barritt of North Walsham, it was uncovered and repaired about 1932, and the square pedestal with a few inches of shaft now stands secure on a modern plinth.

WALSINGHAM, GREAT.—There are the remains of a village cross upon the green between the church and Berry Hall. It is merely the rubble core, about a cubic yard in size. In the course of time it will be destroyed by children gradually knocking it to pieces. (Pl. 16.)

WALSINGHAM LITTLE.—Tom Martin, in his notes, 1719, says: "the pedestal of an old carved cross in ye ch. yd. over a brick vault." In another note he says it is at the north-east corner of the churchyard. I have been unable to discover it.

WALSOKEN.—This is a churchyard cross standing a few paces from the small south door of the church. At present it is in rather a ruined condition. It consists of a large base of two steps, on which is the socket stone, 2 ft. square. The shaft, 2 ft. of which survives, is four-sided, but with edges chamfered. The base requires repair as the socket stone and shaft incline badly. (Pl. 14.)

Tom Martin, in his notes (c. 1740), gives a sketch of a stone bearing a cross, and says: "This free stone lyes in ye west part of ye church."

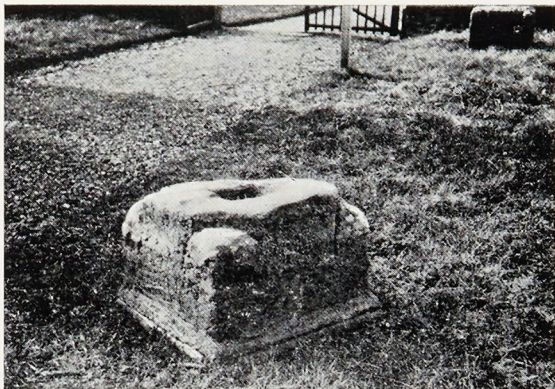
In D. Turner's *Blomefield*<sup>1</sup> there is a marginal sketch by Miss Turner of this freestone with this description: "Monumental cross at the W. end of the S. aisle of the church—43½ ins. long."

This was probably the head of the churchyard cross. It cannot now be traced.

WALTON, WEST.—In 1892 it was reported to the Committee of our Society that the bases of two crosses, one ornamented,

<sup>1</sup> IX., p. 126.

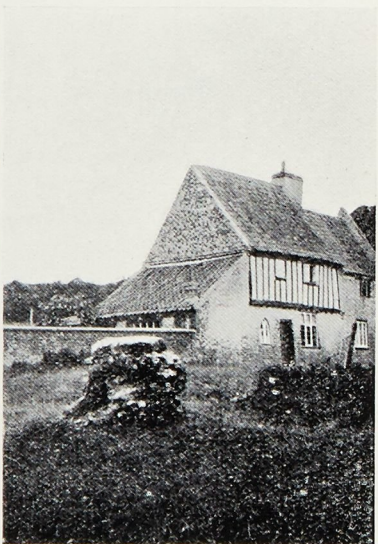
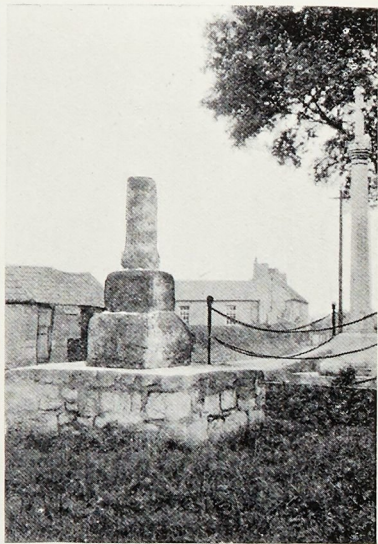
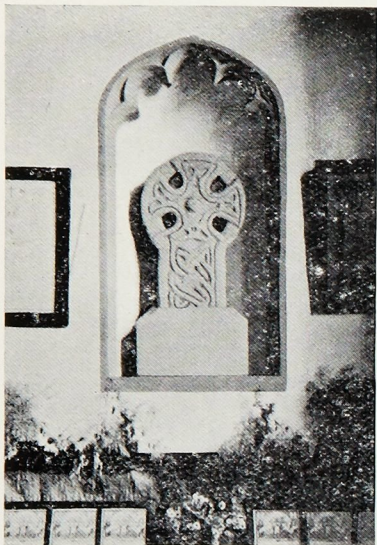




WEST WALTON.  
WEST WALTON.  
WEETING.

*Plate 15.*





WHISSONSETT.  
BASTWICK.

WORMEGAY.  
GREAT WALSINGHAM.

*Plate 16.*



had been found in a ditch in this parish. I requested the present rector, the Rev. T. E. Wilson, to make enquiries about them, and after some trouble he located them on the land of Mr. G. Batterham, still in the ditch which forms the boundary between Church Farm and Kelks Farm. The nearest lay about 200 yards from the farmhouse, and the other 200 yards further on. They were sunk below ditch bottom level. One is more ornamented by mouldings than the other, which is of the ordinary form, square with stop-angles. The former has an octagonal, and the latter a square mortice hole for the shaft. Each mortice hole is rather shallow, indicating that the shafts were not very tall. They were, no doubt, carted and thrown in the ditch as being inconvenient agriculturally. Even if their later function was boundary-marking, it is difficult to see why they should be in such proximity. It is not unlikely that they may have been used in connection with the pastoral organisation of the marshland towns. Not being *in situ*, the rector has (1935) kindly seen to their exhumation and removal to a more secure site in the churchyard. (Pl. 15.)

WARHAM ALL SAINTS.—In the churchyard there is a rockery near the north porch, in which, besides a Norman font, there is the base of a cross 2 ft. 3 ins. square. On each side there is something in the nature of a canopy with a trefoil within it. The shaft is cut off level with the surface of the pedestal, the lead filling still remaining. (Pl. 14.)

WEETING.—1. Tom Martin, in his notes (1718), speaking of St. Mary's Church in the parish, says: "Crosse in church yard," but I cannot find it.

2. Tom Martin, describing a journey from Thetford to Methwold on June 19th, 1720, says: "After you have passed Santon and Bromhill there stands part of a crosse upon a hill between Weeting and Methwold. It is broken into two pieces and set on each side of the Road for boundaryes. Mr. Gibson in his edit<sup>n</sup> to Cambden calls 'em two stump crosses set in ye way to Walsingham for direccon of Pilgrims." This cross is in a wood at Mount Ephraim, beside a drive cut through the wood. Faden's map, which was before the Enclosure, shows a road here leading from Weeting to Northwold, and the Ordnance 6-in. map marks a modern track near by as Pilgrims' Walk. The remains now (1934)

consist of a base with stop-angles, and more ornamented than usual. Lying beside it is 4 ft. of a square shaft, grooved at the corners. It looks as if it has been recently broken from the base at the mortice hole. Near by is a square flat stone, which may very well have been the capital. I could see no sign of the top half of the shaft. It is probably on its side, and overgrown with vegetation. The property is Crown land, and all around the forest is springing up. It might be wise to repair it and remove it to a less isolated spot on the same old road. For the purpose of the photograph the shaft was stood on its end. (Pl. 15.)

WEYBOURNE.—A churchyard cross, 25 ft. south-west of the south-west buttress of the tower. Only a few inches of the rubble core remain. It is marked on W. J. J. Bolding's detailed plan of the priory. It no doubt suffered demolition, like the priory, at the Suppression.

WHISSONSETT.—This pre-Norman cross of the interlaced wheel type is the only example in Norfolk. It was dug up in the churchyard about thirty years ago and is now in a niche on the south side of the chancel arch. It has unfortunately been whitewashed. It has been fully described.<sup>1</sup> (Pl. 16.)

WIGGENHALL.—Both in Faden's map (1797) and in a Survey in 1799 by Wm. West, St. Peter's Cross is shown as standing at the west end of what is called Peter's Drove on the 6-in. Ordnance map. Actually it would seem to have been in the parish of Wiggenhall St. Germans. Since those maps were drawn the middle level main drain has been constructed. The cross must have been about 150 yards west of Peter's Drove Bridge. I have been unable to discover any remains.

WILTON.—This is almost a complete cross standing on the green and surrounded by a railing. The stone pedestal stands on a brick base about 5 ft. high. The shaft is about 10 ft. high, and appears to be a monolith. It is deeply moulded and slender in appearance. Fixed on the top of the shaft is an ornamented capital. The head of the cross is unfortunately missing. (Pl. 13.)

<sup>1</sup> N.A., XV., p. 316.



WITCHINGHAM, GREAT.—This is a case where a place-name gives a clue. Field No. 86 in the Tithe Award of the parish is called Bens Cross, and is situate adjoining the four-cross-ways, between the railway bridge at Blackwater and Fiddler's Hill, and  $\frac{1}{2}$ -mile west of the church. In 1557 the churchwardens paid to the bailiff of the Hundred of Eynesford an amercement for the way leading from Bennet Cross to Booton. "Bens" is no doubt identical with "Bennet." The Abbey of St. Benet at Holm owned property in Witchingham. No remains are visible.

WITTON-NEXT-BRUNDALL.—In some notes left by the late Fred Johnson is a rough plan of "half-an-acre at Witton Cross," drawn, no doubt, from the abuttals given in some Manor Court book (possibly Bradeston). It is bounded by the "way from Norwich to Blofield" on the north, by land of John Wilton and John Bright respectively on the east and south and by a way on the west. This points to the site as being at the four-cross-ways near Witton House and the road turning south to the Rectory. There are no remains.

WOOD DALLING.—Tom Martin, on 1st Oct., 1731, in his notes,<sup>1</sup> says: "A neat cross standing by my Ld. Hobarts mannor house next westward of ye church," and he gives a fine sketch of it. For long I was unable to trace it until my attention was drawn in September, 1934, by Mrs. E. A. Bulwer, to a cross erected on a mound in a wood at Heydon known as the Deer Paddock. It is clearly not *in situ* and is much restored. It was probably removed there before the surrounding trees were planted, over a century ago. Wood Dalling and Heydon are adjoining parishes and have for long been Bulwer properties. The old parts consist of the greater part of the 10 ft. shaft, and possibly the pedestal, which is now mounted on a somewhat unnatural base. (Pl. 13.)

WORMEGAY.—This cross stands near the War Memorial cross and consists of a square octagonal shaft, 3 ft. high, let into a socket stone 2 ft. 11 ins. square and 1 ft. 9 ins. high. This in turn stands on a modern plinth, which in turn rests upon a large base 6 ft. square.

<sup>1</sup> *Penes* Norwich Public Library.

Mr. Henry Hoff of Spa Grange, Hastings, writing in May, 1927, says: "The cross was re-erected by my father on its original site, about the year 1868, and the stones were collected from various parts of the village, the principal stone being on the original site." (Pl. 16.)

YARMOUTH, GREAT.—1. The remains of this cross stand a few yards to the west of Yarmouth Racecourse, in a meadow, the property of the Corporation. The core is roughly 6ft. in height, measures 7 ft. by 6 ft. at the base.

Yarmouth had an outlet to the sea called Grubb's Haven, somewhere to the north of the town, across the Denes. This haven was considered the boundary between Yarmouth and Caister, but the outlet became choked up and eventually pasture land. Boundaries were lost and there ensued quarrels between Caister and Yarmouth, about the exact boundary line. Yarmouth claimed up to what they held was the site of Grubb's Haven, but Caister claimed south "to the cross in the sands, within Yarmouth liberties." Between these points lay a strip of land two furlongs broad. In 1522 the local bailiffs, John Palmer and John Garton, allowed Sir William Paston of Caister to remove the wreck of a vessel, "The Admiral" of Sluys, to the south of the Grubb's Haven site, and as a result the town reprimanded them the following year for so doing. Two years later Sir William incited the Caister men to take possession of the land, about 400 acres, of the disputed territory. This they did on January 20th, and a month later carried off from the same ground several pieces of ordnance, which were wreck from the sea, and the property of Yarmouth.

Similar incidents of a like character took place until 1545, when the Duke of Norfolk, who was on official business at Yarmouth, was informed of the dispute and requested to use his influence to set the matter at rest. Apparently he was successful, for Henry VIII. appointed a Commissioner to sit and give a verdict. The Commission reported on April 30th, 1546, recommending that four men be chosen, two from Caister and two from Yarmouth, who should carry a line which was to extend from the cross mentioned to the haven site, and midway between the points a ditch was to be cut 12 ft. in width, Yarmouth to maintain the east part and Caister the west part. The Commission also



ordered that crosses should be made on either side, and kept up to mark the boundaries.

Of which of these crosses this ruin is the remains it is impossible to say. But its size indicates a landmark. It was therefore probably the cross first above referred to, which acted as, what the local mariners call, a beacon to guide ships at high tide into Grubb's Haven. (Pl. 14.)

C. J. Palmer recorded that the road from Caister to Yarmouth formerly passed two wayside crosses, "the base of one, which stood at a place called 'Midsands,' remains, but the other near Caister was entirely removed in 1797."

2. Bartholomew Elys, burgess of Yarmouth, by his will dated 1424, directed his body to be buried in St. Nicholas' churchyard, "*juxta crucem ex parte aquilon' ejusdem ecclesiae.*" No remains.

3. In 1405, in an account of the Prior of Yarmouth Cell is this entry: "*De magna cruce ad hortium austral' xvj'.*" No remains.

Most of the illustrations are from photographs, which I myself have taken. I am, however, indebted to the following for permission to use their photographs:—Mr. A. R. Bishop, Miss Richenda Bland, Mr. H. L. Bradfer-Lawrence, Mr. William Buston, and Mr. E. A. Kent.

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#### ADDENDA.

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BARNHAM BROOM.—In an Extent of the Manor of Brighteves in this parish, dated 35 Henry VIII., two pieces of land are described as being near "Farthing Cross," and the public highway is said to run through the pieces of land.

BASTWICK.—My previous note that I was unable to discover the cross mentioned as existing here in Dawson Turner's *Blomefield*, brought a letter from Sir Ronald Waterhouse stating that there were the remains of crosses in his garden near the ruined church in this parish. They consist of:

1. An octagonal base of the usual size, but with the four evangelists carved on four sides. This form of base is unique in the county. It has a mortice hole, and the top surface is slightly concave. It is said to have come from Eccles. (Pl. 16.)

2. In another part of the garden are three large pieces of dressed stone piled on top of one another. The top one is the bowl of a font. The bottom one is the base of another cross of the usual shape and size—square with stop-angles. There is a piece of shaft also in the garden which belongs to this base.

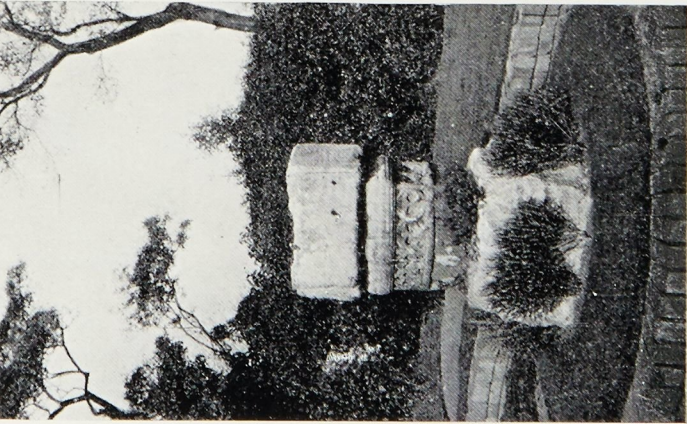
3. The middle stone is hexagonal and 1 ft. 9 ins. in diameter. It is ornamented with quatrefoils, and the top edge is of battlement moulding. It is the piece depicted by D. Turner. It has no mortice hole, and therefore must have come between the base stone and the stone which took the shaft. It is difficult to fit it in with either 1 or 2 above. (Pl. 17.)

BLAKENEY.—In Norwich Consistory Court Depositions for 15th Nov., 1518, in a case of defamation between Dns. William Richardson and — Bartholomew, a witness named Robert Cressy of Blakeney deposed that he was present "at the Cross next the Key in Blakeney" when he heard the defamatory words spoken. This was probably situated between the gildhall and the quay.

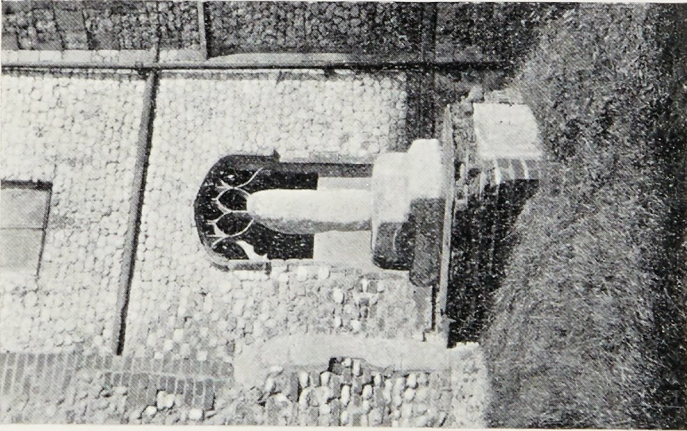
BRIDGHAM—A field about 600 yards north of the church is called "Guiltecross Close" on Tithe Award. This land seems to be the same as that described as lying "juxta crucem de Brighom super le Crouch furlong," *temp.* Edward III. (Deeds at Norfolk House, Box XI, No. 19) and is possibly the same as the Krossewong mentioned in Ely Register (Cott. Claud. C. XI., fo. 248b., *temp.* Edward I.).

The site was searched thoroughly by Mr. R. R. Clarke in 1934, but no traces of a cross were visible.





BASTWICK.



COLBY.

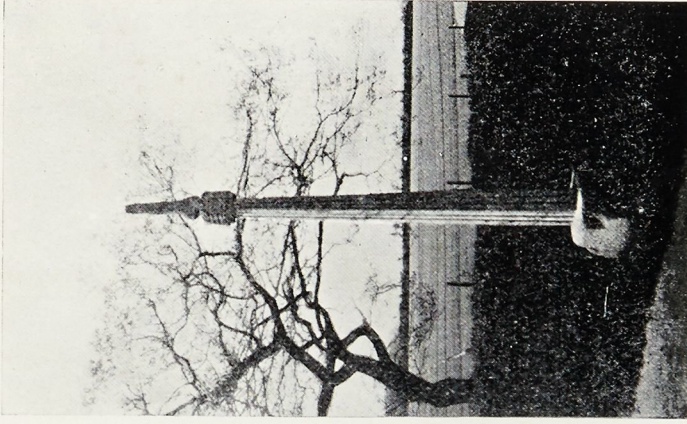


Plate 17.

NORTH WALSHAM.



COLBY.—This is a churchyard cross, now standing between the south porch and the tower. There is 2 ft. 8 ins. of shaft standing in a base 2 ft. 3 ins. square. Beneath is an inscription, now (1934) almost illegible, thus:

“This remnant of the ancient churchyard cross was restored A.D. 1900. In memoriam Richard Gurney.”

He lived at Northrepps and was a landowner in Colby. (Pl. 17.)

GUILTCROSS.—See BRIDGEM *supra*.

HORSEY.—The Rev. E. D. Stone furnishes the following additional evidence: Consistory Court, Norwich, Depositions, 1609. “The parishioners of Horsey have allwayes gone in their perambulations to the headles crosse which devideth the bounds of Horsey from Wynterton and Waxham.” This would be Waxham Parva.

HORSTEAD.—An Elizabethan Survey of Horstead, belonging to King's College, Cambridge, indicates that Largetate Cross stood at the four-cross-ways on the main Norwich-North Walsham road. Largetate is the north-west part of the parish. There are no visible remains.

KILVERSTONE.—In Martin's *History of the Town of Thetford* it is said that St. Mary Magdalen's Hospital “stood at some distance from the town near the road to Norwich. The piece of land upon which it stood is called Mawdlin Acre. Opposite to it stood Magdalen Cross, at which Shropham hundred court was sometimes kept, after it was granted from the crown.” The site of neither has been positively identified, but they were probably near the junction of the Kilverstone-Brettenham road and the Thetford-Norwich road. The base of this cross may be that now used as a mounting block outside Kilverstone Hall stables.

KING'S LYNN.—The cemetery cross of the Blackfriars was fully described by E. M. Beloe, sen., in *Norfolk Archaeology*.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> IX., p. 346.



MARSHAM.—What is evidently the core of the village cross is just within the palings of the Grove Farm, adjoining the Norwich-Aylsham turnpike at the small green. The core is about 5 ft. high and 3 ft. diameter. The local tradition is that it was a cross. Its site was probably brought within the Grove Farm at the time of the Enclosures.