

Notes

TOMBSTONES IN FELBRIGG CHURCH

On page 428 of Volume XXVII of *Norfolk Archæology*, there is mention of the brasses in Felbrigg Church to the memory of Thomas Windham (*d.* 1599) and his sister Mrs. Jane Coningsby (*d.* 1608). The inscriptions below these brasses state that they were set up by Sir John Wyndham of Orchard in Somerset, the "cosin and heire" of the persons whom they commemorate. In the accounts of John Blinman, the steward of Sir John Wyndham's Norfolk property, under the year 1612, I lately came upon some details of the expenses of the transportation of these memorials from London to Norfolk. Unfortunately, there is no mention of the craftsman who made them, and no record of their cost; but it may be of interest to reproduce the details of the journey by sea, river and road, of the ponderous slabs of Purbeck marble to which the brasses are attached, from London to their eventual destination in Felbrigg Church.

Toombstones for Mr Tho: Windham & Mrs Conisbie laid in ffelbrigge Church.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Imp[ri]mis paid Thomas ffermage for bringing them by water fro[m] Londo[n] to Yarmouth	1	10	0
To the waterbayliff there for loading them into a long boate	0	2	0
This accomptante expenses at Yarmoth two dayes & a night to p[ro]vide a bote to carry them to Colshill [Coltishall] Bridge	0	5	0
More j night at Norwich the same time	0	3	0
Paid Symons & his men for bringing them in a bote fro[m] Yarmoth to Colshill & unloading them ffor two Cartes to bring them by land fro[m] Colshill to ffelb[rigg] being xi mile	1	0	0
ffor helpe to put them into the Church	0	1	6
To two masons j day for laying them in & for paving the Church about the same stones	0	1	8
A quarter of pavem[en]t tile for the same purpose & a sacke of lime	0	5	9

Summa 3*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.*

R. W. KETTON-CREMER

MOUNDS AT HETHEL, NEAR WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK

Before their destruction in 1941 two mounds were examined at Hethel (O.S. 6-in. sheet, Norfolk 74 S.E.), seven miles south-west of Norwich and two miles east of Wymondham. The work was carried out by the Ancient Monuments Department of the Ministry of Works.

Surface appearance suggested that the larger mound might be a possible addition to the few known long barrows of the area. It was wedge-shaped and higher and wider at the east end than the west. It measured 90 ft. long, 25 ft. wide, and 4 ft. 6 in. high at its maximum. Against this long barrow character had to be set the fact that the angle between the mound and the present ground surface was suspiciously sharp; little or no "smoothing-out" had taken place.

Sections were cut along both axes of the mound. Beneath 6 in. of top-soil lay a compact mass of light brown clay containing nodules of flint and chalk (derived from the normal glacial deposit overlying the chalk) interspersed with decayed turves, blackish sticky patches of various lengths set at various angles. Iron brought down in solution through the clay of the mound had formed a thin band of iron-pan over the impervious natural clay below. Removal of the south-east quadrant to the old ground surface revealed no structural features. On the undisturbed clay toward the centre of the mound lay fragments of the upper part of a bellarmine. From a higher level at the east end a William and Mary halfpenny (1692) was brought out in a rabbit-scrape.

The second site was a round mound bearing well-grown trees in a copse called St. Thomas Belt half a mile north-east of the long mound. It had a diameter of 30 ft. and a height of 4 ft. 6 in. The description given of the sections through the first mound applies also to a north-south cutting here.

The date of the long mound cannot be earlier than the late seventeenth century; it may be even later. The round mound is undated. The purpose of these mounds, while doubtless agricultural, remains uncertain despite inquiries made locally. They can hardly be accepted as variants of the pillow-mound rabbit-waren on account of the unsuitability of the material used in their construction. Possibly they result from clearance of surrounding field-boundary ditches though such spoil can generally be seen spread on either side of the ditches.

The negative results of the excavation may be of cautionary interest to field-workers in this part of Norfolk.

AUDREY WILLIAMS

Editorial Note: The exact location of these mounds may be ascertained by reference to maps deposited at the Castle Museum, Norwich.