

NOTES.

THETFORD MUSEUM.

The "Ancient House" in White Hart Street so generously presented to the Corporation by H. H. Prince Frederick Duleep Singh, M.V.O., F.S.A., a Vice-President of the Society, in 1921, has been thoroughly restored under the direction of Mr. A. R. Powys, A.R.I.B.A., the Secretary of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, and was opened as a Museum by Her Grace the Duchess of Grafton on December 11th, 1924. Already there is an interesting collection of local antiquities on view and it is hoped that many things now in private possession may be handed over, now there is a permanent place to show them.

The building dates from the reign of King Edward IV., and is half timbered, the nogging between the oak uprights being mainly "clay-lump," or narrow bricks inserted herring-bone fashion. The large room on the ground floor is divided from the passage by a finely panelled and richly moulded screen, open at the top, where it is divided by fifteen moulded mullions; it has one of the finest fifteenth century ceilings in the county. The main oak beams are beautifully carved, while the smaller ones are also moulded and carved in diverse patterns; the three other rooms also have carved oak ceilings, but not so elaborate as that of the first. There are many exhibits from Suffolk. Palæolithic implements from Santon Downham, Warren Hill, Mildenhall, etc., Neolithic implements from Santon Downham, Wangford, Barrow Hill, and Banham. Bronze Age pottery from Knettishall, early Iron Age pottery from Barnham Common, and Barrow Hill Thetford, Romano-British brooches, etc., from Wangford, pottery from Santon Downham, Anglo-Saxon necklaces, fibulæ, etc., from West Stow Heath, mediæval pottery from Newtown, Thetford.

The original grant of the Nunnery Thetford to Sir Richard Fulmerstone, dated 1538 A.D., together with old keys, etc., from the Nunnery.

The original seal of the Borough of Thetford given by Earl Warren in 1148 A.D. There are a number of cases of East Anglian birds, among them, one containing a Great Bustard shot at Cavenham Heath, Suffolk, 1820, and given by H.H. Prince F. Duleep Singh. A case of modern products of the Brandon flintknappers art are also worthy of notice.

Besides the gift of the building Prince Duleep Singh has been a most generous contributor to the repair fund and has given many objects of interest, including several paintings and a chair made in Mendlesham in 1782 A.D.

Contributed by Rev. H. TYRRELL GREEN.