

NOTES.

BUNGAY CASTLE.

1. NOTE ON EXCAVATIONS IN 1936. By HUGH BRAUN, F.S.A.

The only building date connected with Bungay Castle which is definitely known is that of the Licence to Crenellate, granted to Roger Bigod in 1294.

It seems fairly certain, from the architectural remains, that the work executed under this licence consisted in the construction of the curtain walls and gatehouses to the mound and inner bailey.

The condition of the twelfth-century keep, and the existence of twelfth-century stones in the later work around it, suggests that the upper part of the great tower was removed to provide materials for the construction of the Edwardian works.

The stones procured from the keep would need to be cleaned of their old mortar before they could be re-used. This was apparently done in the space between the tower and the west curtain, north-east of the gatehouse through which access would need to be maintained for the removal of material.

In this area was discovered a large expanse of mortar, in places two feet thick, and of unknown extent, almost certainly the result of the cleaning operations referred to above.

The mortar lay directly upon the sand forming the upper part of the mound, which was raised after the keep had been built.

A number of dressed stones from the keep were found connected with the mortar mass, as well as the remains of a chisel, presumably one of those used in the work. Other objects, such as bone whistles,* were also found.

A considerable number of potsherds were also found mixed up with the mortar, and it would thus appear that these sherds can all be dated with more than usual exactness to the date of the licence—1294.

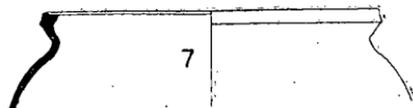
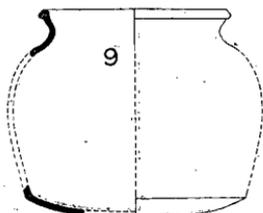
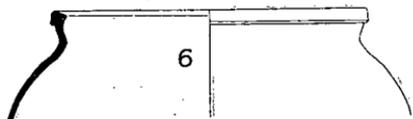
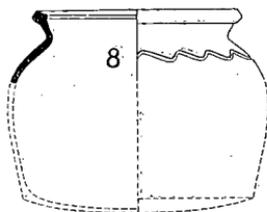
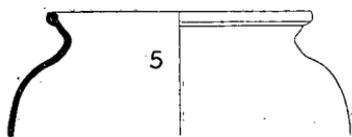
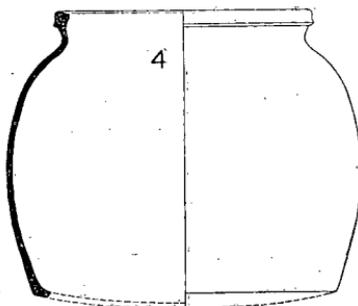
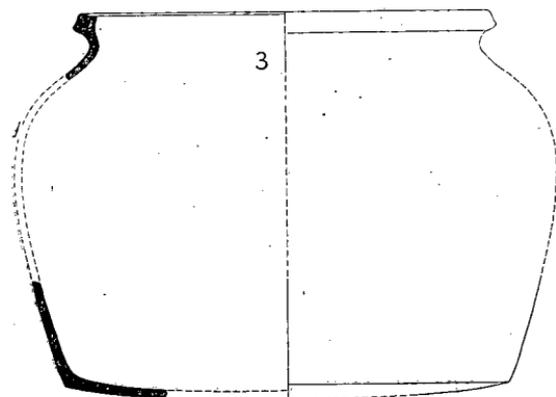
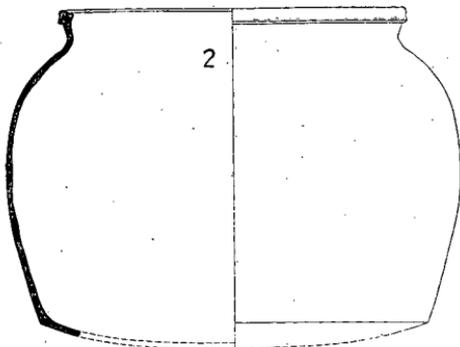
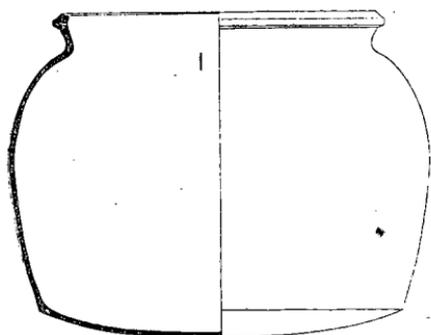
2. REPORT ON POTTERY FROM THE MORTAR LAYER.

By GERALD DUNNING, F.S.A.

COOKING-POTS. Figs. 1—9.

Cooking-pots form the bulk of the pottery and are represented by about forty different rims and a large number of fragments of sides and bases. It has been possible to reconstruct a few examples sufficiently to draw nearly complete sections and give drawings of the complete types (Figs. 1—4). The pots are skilfully turned on the wheel and have thin walls. The ware is uniformly sandy in texture, fired very hard, and has a smooth dark grey surface, without glaze. The rims are

* Similar to whistles made from bird bones, found at Castle Hill, Folkestone (*Archæologia*, XLVII, 464), Rayleigh Castle (*Trans. Essex Arch. Soc.*, N.S. XII, 170) and Lydney Castle (*Antiquaries Journal*, XI, 254).



characteristically angular and square in section. The slight internal beading usually present is possibly a wheel-turned and degenerate survival of the edge folded over by hand on twelfth-century rims at Lydney Castle† and elsewhere. The same feature has been noted on cooking-pot rims dated to the early thirteenth-century from White Castle, Monmouthshire.‡

Most of the cooking-pots are of large size. The largest (Fig. 3) is 12-in. rim diameter and about 10½-in. high, but the majority are 8-10-in. rim diameter and about 9-in. high. A few (Figs. 8-9) are much smaller, about 6-in. rim diameter and the same in height. The bases are of the normal sagging kind, and appear to be rather deeper than usual.

The cooking-pots are seldom decorated and then in a very restrained fashion by a simple incised wavy line above the shoulder (Fig. 8), or by rows of shallow finger-tip marks on the body (present on three sherds).

DISH. Fig. 10.

Large dish or pan, 23½-in. rim diameter and about 7¼-in. high. The rim is heavily moulded and angular, with an inner beading. Below the neck is a row of shallow finger-print marks. The closest parallel is a dish, 21¼-in. rim diameter and 7¼-in. high, decorated with applied finger-printed bands, from the fourteenth-century pottery kilns at Rye, Sussex.*

JUGS. Figs. 11-15.

Jugs are represented by fragments only, so that the reconstructions should be regarded as provisional. Probably all the jugs had sagging-bases with the edge thumbed down, but no bases belonging to jugs have been preserved.

11. Fragments of rim and body of jug, with lower end of handle. Fine grey ware with light red surface. On the body is a thin light green glaze, also splashed on the neck. The rim is grooved inside and has a moulding below; in section it resembles a thirteenth-century jug neck from Rayleigh Castle.1

12. Part of body of jug of fine sandy grey ware with brownish-grey surface, not glazed. On the upper part are three bands of deeply incised lines, and a wide shallow groove on the bulge. In shape and the incised lines this jug is very similar to one of about the same date from Kidwelly Castle, Carmarthenshire.2

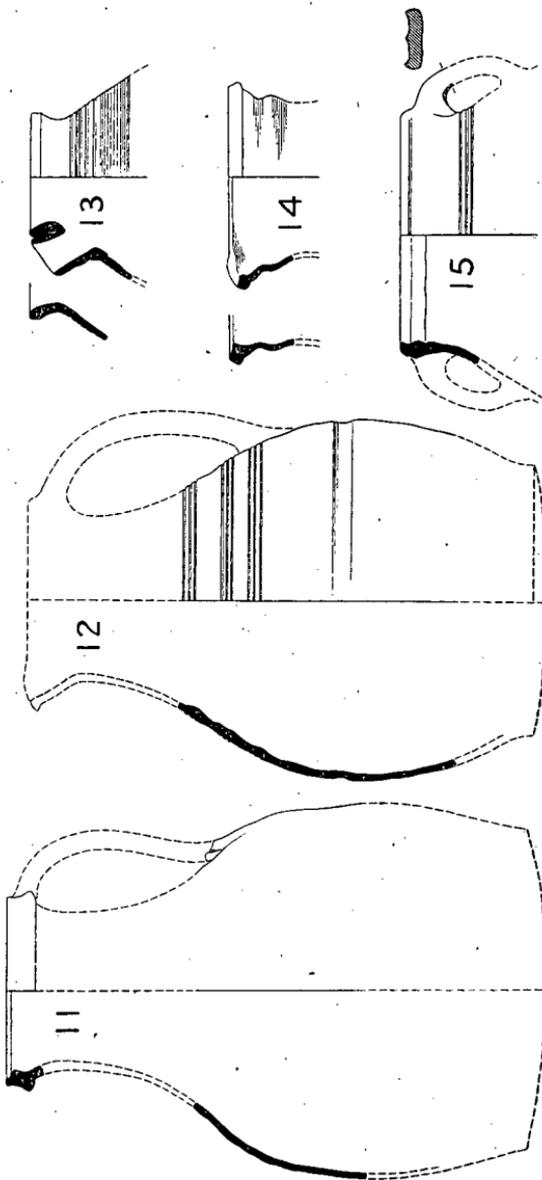
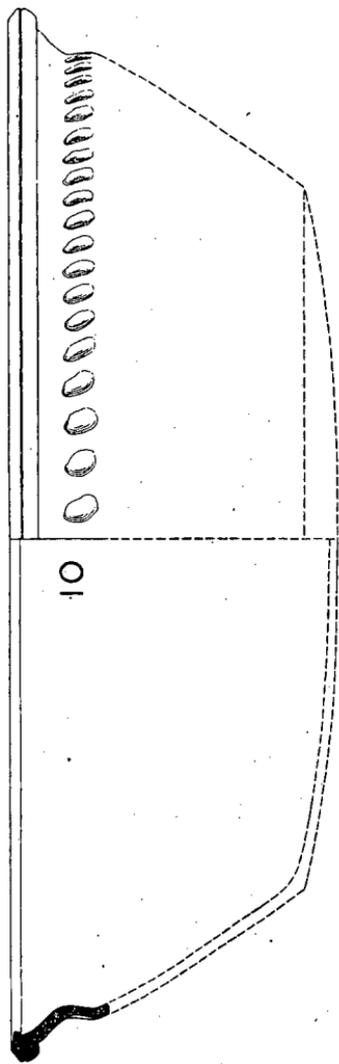
† *Antiquaries Journal*, XI, 257, fig. 6.

‡ *Ibid.* XV, 335.

* *Sussex Arch. Coll.*, LXXIV, 61, pl. XIII, 5.

1 *Trans. Essex Arch. Soc.*, N.S. XII, 183, fig. 8, No. 54.

2 *Archæologia*, LXXXIII, 113, pl. XXV, 3.



13. Upper part of small jug or pitcher of fine sandy grey ware, grooved and striated above the shoulder. The tubular spout applied against the rim is a form current in the Late Saxon period and surviving into the Norman period in East Anglia. § No parallel is yet known for the tubular spout as late as the end of the thirteenth-century.

14. Neck of jug with angular rim and rounded moulding on neck. Hard grey ware, harsh surface with splashes of dark green glaze.

15. Rim of jug or pitcher of fine grey ware with brownish grey surface. On the rim and neck are deep incised grooves. The upper end of a handle with broad grooves is present, and the vessel probably had two such handles. No parallel for this wide-mouthed vessel can be quoted.

§Cf. Pitcher from Stamford, *Antiquaries Journal*, XVI, 409, fig. 6, No. 16.