

Proceedings of the
SUFFOLK INSTITUTE
OF ARCHÆOLOGY

For 1956



VOLUME XXVII, PART 2

(published 1957)

PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY BY
W. E. HARRISON & SONS, LTD., THE ANCIENT HOUSE, IPSWICH.

PLATE XXVII



Inner Moat and Curtain Wall, looking East from Bridge

EXCAVATIONS AT FRAMLINGHAM CASTLE, 1954

By GROUP CAPTAIN G. M. KNOCKER

Framlingham Castle consists of a massive curtain wall of Norman stonework with a Tudor gatehouse and bridge, enclosing an inner ward which contains Norman, Tudor and 17th and 18th century remains (Fig. 4). The curtain wall is surrounded by a deep ditch, outside which is an outer bailey, itself surrounded by a deep outer moat, now partly filled in (Plate XXVII). Outside the outer moat is the north-east corner of the Town Ditch. All these works stand on the highest point of land and lie to the north of the present town of Framlingham. The Parish Church stands to the south of the entrance to the outer bailey. The outer moat has a bank on its inner side but there is no trace of a motte nor any visible indication of where the spoil from the inner ditch was dumped.

Whilst a drainage trench was being dug in March 1954 across the inner ward of the castle and along the path leading from the main gateway southwards across the outer bailey, a number of skeletons were found between the inner and outer moats at depths varying between 2 feet 6 inches and 5 feet. All the skeletons lay west to east and evidently formed part of a burial ground.

The writer was instructed by the Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Ministry of Works, to investigate and if possible date these burials. Work was started on 30 March and completed on 13 April 1954. The writer received the greatest assistance from Mr. C. F. Leech, the Ministry of Works' Charge-hand on the site, who had already logged, tabulated and collected many of the skeletons as well as a quantity of pottery and small finds.

HISTORY

Etymological evidence suggests that Framlingham was a settlement of Framela's people in Saxon times.¹ Legend asserts that a Saxon stronghold existed in the days of St. Edmund, who, it is related, was besieged there by the Danes shortly before his martyrdom.

The earliest historical record refers to a grant of land in 1100-1 by Henry I to Roger Bigod I who erected the first buildings on the

¹ Ekwall, *Oxford Dictionary of English Place Names*—Framalingaham, Fram(e)-lingaham (D.B.).

site, consisting of a dwelling house of timber protected by a ditch and palisade. By *c.* 1150, Hugh Bigod, son of Roger, had reconstructed some of the more important timber buildings in stone. Henry II ordered the Castle to be dismantled but it appears that only the defences were struck down, the domestic buildings being left standing. Part of Hugh's great hall survives in the east wall. Between 1189 and 1213 Roger Bigod II rebuilt the Castle and set up the existing massive walls and towers.

This concluded the two periods of Norman building on the site.

In 1375 the Castle passed into the hands of the Mowbrays, John Mowbray becoming the first Duke of Norfolk in 1397. Through marriage the Norfolk title descended to the Howards and around 1483 the Castle was 'modernised'. This was the first period of Tudor reconstruction.

Finally, from the structural point of view, the present bridge, replacing the old drawbridge, was built by the third Howard, Duke of Norfolk, between 1524 and 1547. Mary Tudor was granted the Castle in 1553 and it was during her residence there that she learned that she was Queen of England.

During excavation evidence was uncovered of these four periods of building, in addition to the burials which, as will be shown later, belong to the earlier pre-Conquest occupation of the site.

THE PRESENT EXCAVATIONS (Plate XXVIII and Fig. 5)

Plate XXVIII and Fig. 5 show the trench and area to the east of it where burials were found. It is understood that some years ago, during levelling operations on the bowling green, which lies some fifty yards west of the entrance pathway, a number of burials were found.

A section was drawn of the trench between the bridge over the inner moat and a point 253 feet south of the southern face of the Castle gateway. This is shown in Figs. 6 (i)-(iv). It may be divided into three main stretches:—

- (a) From 31 South to 99 South
- (b) From 99 South to 137 South
- (c) From 137 South to 253 South

Stretch (a)—31 South to 99 South

Between the outer lip of the inner moat, at about 55 South, and the centre of the bridge, the filling consisted of abutments for the bridge, the lower 4 feet being flint septaria and mortar rubble, presumably Norman, and the upper 2 feet 6 inches being a mixture of sand, clay, chalk and brick rubble, of Tudor date.

At a depth of some 5 feet below present ground level ran a roughly level stratum of dark soil and gravel, apparently natural.

Three burials H.1, H.2, H.3 (Fig. 6 (i)) were found in this 'natural' at a depth of about 5 feet 6 inches.

Above this was a band of darker soil and gravel which did not appear to be natural. At 55 South it was 9 inches in thickness, gradually rising and thickening until at 99 South it was 2 feet 3 inches thick. In this band, just above its junction with 'natural', were found burials H.4-H.8. It is suggested that this band of darker soil and gravel, in which many of the burials were found, was spoil thrown up from an original inner ditch perhaps associated with an early Saxon stronghold and subsequently levelled by the Norman builders. It is, however, remarkable that there was no indication of what happened to the vast quantity of spoil which must have come from the existing inner moat, there being no trace either of motte or bank in its vicinity. If, as will be shown later, it is almost certain that the burials were pre-Conquest, it is impossible that they could have been buried in Norman moat spoil, but it is possible that they could have been buried in pre-Conquest ditch spoil. The crucial question of the nature of this darker soil and gravel, which for convenience will be called the burial layer, is further discussed when dealing with the stretches south of 151 South, later in the paper.

Immediately above the burial layer, throughout the length of the Stretch (a), was a layer of coarse mortar varying in thickness between 3 and 6 inches, marked (I) on Figs. 6 (i) and (ii). It is considered to be either the 'banker' where the builders of the gateway of Hugh Bigod's Castle mixed their mortar or the footings for the first Castle entrance road. Above mortar layer (I) as far as 73 South was a 3 inch layer of dark soil, perhaps caused by folk walking about on the mortar.

Above this again was a layer of chalk and gravel, 1 foot thick at the northern end and thinning to 3 inches at 96 South. Then another 3 inch layer of coarse mortar marked (II), slightly overlapping the end of layer (I) at 99 South, with a corresponding layer of dark soil above it. This has been taken to be Roger Bigod II's banker layer.

Immediately above this was a layer of mortar of finer texture about 6 inches thick, stretching as far as 72 South where it merged into the dark soil layer which lay above it. This dark soil layer extended as far as 111 South where it disappeared.

This third mortar layer is marked (3) on Figs. 6 (i) and (ii) and is taken to be the 15th century Tudor banker.

Above the dark soil layer, capping banker (3), was a fourth layer of fine mortar marked (4), some 6 inches thick, which extended as far as 76 South where the dark soil layer below it broadened out and occupied the levels which, further north, had included the third and fourth mortar layers. Layer (4) has been taken to

be the last Tudor banker, associated with the building of the present bridge and gateway.

Both the Norman bankers were interrupted by a 1 foot gap between 67 and 68 South on the West side of the trench. This may represent a post hole for a wooden gatehouse on the South lip of the inner moat (see Figs. 5 and 6 (i)).

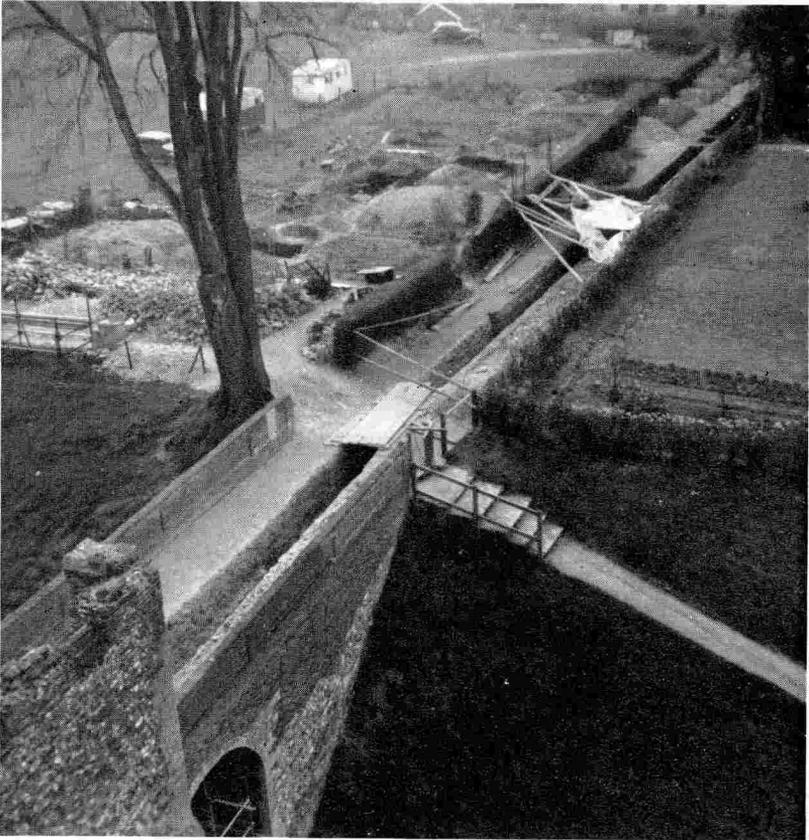
The uppermost 6 inches of the stretch, immediately below the present path surface, was made up of brick rubble and is either Tudor or recent.

Stretch (b)—99 South to 137 South

At about 105 South, the 'natural' soil and gravel rose till it stood at 4 feet below ground level and the burial layer correspondingly decreased in thickness. Burials H.9–H.12 lay at the junction of this layer with natural gravel. At 105 South at a depth of 2 feet 5 inches, in association with fragmentary bird bones in the west bank of the trench, was found a short length of bronze strip .25 inches wide with oval holes in it forming a series of figures of eight. (F1 on Fig. 6 (ii) and Fig. 11.3). Exactly similar bronze strips have been found recently during private, and as yet unpublished, excavations in the presumed Norman ring motte known as 'The Crump' at Berden, Hertfordshire, 7 miles north of Bishop's Stortford.

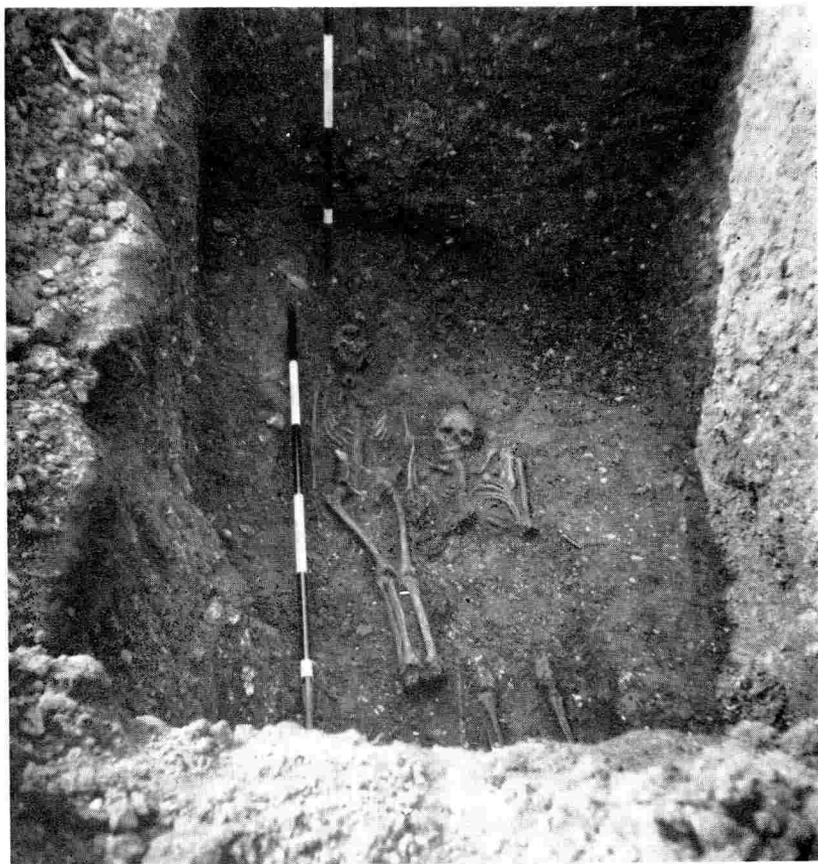
Between 107 and 137 South was what was either a pit descending to 12 feet below modern ground level or part of a smaller and later curved ditch outside the inner moat. This great pit or ditch started at a depth of 1 foot 9 inches cutting through the burial layer and descending in a filling of homogeneous dark soil, charged with fragments of brick, to a depth of 12 feet. The lowest foot contained lighter soil and more gravel. Bones and oyster shells were found in the filling with greatest density at around 8 feet. A little pottery was found at this depth, including a base in red gritty ware with brown glaze on the inside. Close to it was found a brass or bronze pin, 1.3/16 inches long, with a blob head, exactly like a larger version of a modern glassheaded pin and no doubt an early domestic pin. (F.9 on Fig. 6 (ii) and Fig. 11.2). At 7 feet 3 inches was a strap handle with stab marks and a fragment of a base in reddish ware with greenish glaze inside. These were found near the northern lip of the pit and may have been contained in an earlier stratum which had slipped. At 5 feet in the centre of the pit was a human jaw only (H.12D), almost certainly part of an earlier and disturbed burial. Burial H.12C lay at 4 feet 9 inches, just clear of the northern edge of the pit and H.12A and H.12B at 4 feet, just on or beyond the southern edge. Across the top of the pit at 15 inches lay a 5 inch layer of dark soil and flints.

PLATE XXVIII



Entrance Path and Drainage Trench, looking SSE from above
Gate-House. Test Holes 1-3 at top centre

PLATE XXIX



Test Hole 1, showing Burials H.32 and H.33, looking West

It was apparent that this hole was a one-period excavation which, to judge by the quantity of red brick found in it, as well as by the level at which it started, has been assigned to the Tudor period.

It is difficult to see the purpose of this large hole. If it was a rubbish pit, what was it doing straight in front of the main gateway and cutting through the probable entrance path, unless this deviated in some other direction? If it was part of a curved ditch, what purpose could such a ditch fulfil in view of the great inner moat? It should however be observed that between 1524 and 1547, the drawbridge was abolished and the present fixed stone bridge built. It is possible that a ditch, equipped with a temporary drawbridge to guard the new permanent bridge, was dug in the troubled days before Mary I was made Queen.

Stretch (c)—137 South to 253 South

At 144 South the burial layer gave place to a sandy loamy-clay with little gravel. The top of this, between 144 and 151 South, was at 18 inches below ground level. It then dipped to 2 feet 9 inches, rising at 193 South in a peak to 1 foot 6 inches. At 245 South it dipped sharply and disappeared below the bottom of the trench. Burials H.13-H.15 were in the burial layer at 142, 143 and 144 South at depths of 3 feet 9 inches to 4 feet. H.16-H.19 were in the loamy-clay between 144 and 152 South at similar depths. A Saxon cooking-pot, which Mr. G. C. Dunning has assigned to the 8th century (Fig. 10.1), was found at 153 South at a depth of 4 feet, close to burials H.17-H.19. Near burial H.13 at 4 feet was an open-work disc ornament with a central raised boss. (Fig. 11.1). This is Frankish in design and has been dated to the 7th century. Notes on the pot and bronze object have kindly been written by Mr. Dunning and will be found at Figs. 10 and 11. Above these lower layers was a 1 foot band of chalk and gravel, which persisted at a depth of between 1 foot and 6 inches as far as 189 South where it faded out.

The burial layer, which had merged into the loamy-clay, resumed its appearance at 151 South where it formed a band, varying in thickness between 1 foot 6 inches and 6 inches, above the loamy-clay which was by now the lowest layer. The burial layer continued throughout the whole stretch. Its top remained roughly level, although the gradual fall in the ground level reduced the amount of over-burden from 1 foot 6 inches at 151 South to only 3 inches at 250 South. After the disappearance of the bank of chalk and gravel mentioned above, at 189 South, the burial layer formed the immediate subsoil. As described later, a small fire

hole, at 207 South at the *base* of this layer at a depth of 2 feet 9 inches, proves conclusively that the burial layer must have been deposited by human agency. This fire hole must have been made on the then turf line, i.e., below the burial layer.

Between 157 South and 163 South were five burials. H.20 in the loamy-clay lowest stratum at a depth of 3 feet 6 inches, and H.21, H.22, H.23 and H.23A in the burial layer above the loamy-clay at a depth of about 2 feet 6 inches.

Between 170 and 173 South was another agglomeration of burials, H.24, H.25 and H.25A being in loamy-clay at 3 feet 6 inches and a doubtful H.24A at 2 feet. In association with these was found a sherd of iron gray ware and a sherd in red shelly ware decorated with wavy comb scrawls, of the late 13th century. A curved iron rod was found at the same level (Fig. 11.7). H.26 and H.27 were at 4 feet at 179 South and 185 South in the loamy-clay.

A band of gravel, 2 inches thick, ran between 188 South and 206 South, except for the interruption of a peak of the clayey loam between 192 and 198 South, and a 4 foot gap from 200 to 205 South. A small patch of burnt sand occurred at 18 inches at 188 South, in the burial layer. Burial H.28 was found in the loamy-clay at 3 feet 6 inches at 195 South. The trench being cut deeper south of 200 South, it was apparent that clayey-loam lighter in colour occurred at a depth of 4 feet. A patch of mortar was found near the upper limit of the burial layer at 1 foot between 201 South and 204 South, with a sprinkling of charcoal below it.

Between 207 and 209 South was found the little fire pit already mentioned, at a depth of 2 feet 9 inches in its centre. Charcoal was found lining its base and at 1 foot 9 inches, above the centre of the hole, was a shoulder sherd of a cooking-pot in dark gray ware with slight rilling, associated with charcoal. (F.2 on Fig. 6 (iii)).

Between 216 and 220 South occurred a small pit, estimated to start in the burial layer at 1 foot 6 inches and descending to 3 feet 3 inches, cutting 1 foot 6 inches into natural loamy-clay and also cutting the band of gravel, a short length of which re-occurred at 220 South. A cooking-pot sherd (F.3) was found in this pit at 2 feet 6 inches. Its character was similar to F.2 and F.13.

Burial H.29 occurred at 3 feet 9 inches in the loamy clay at 228 South. Just above it, in the clay, was a late 13th century cooking-pot rim, associated with some much later medieval glazed ware (F.21). (Fig. 10.6). Above this, in the burial layer at 2 feet 3 inches, were bases and neck sherds of the same pot. These later vessels, coupled with a curved line of charcoal just south of them starting at 18 inches and rising to 9 inches, give evidence of later disturbance.

Burial H.29A, occurring at 3 feet 6 inches at 233 South, lay in

a depression in the loamy clay, filled with the dark soil and gravel mixture. This was the only indication of a grave.

H.30 and H.31, the most southerly of the series of burials, occurred near the top of the loamy clay, here charged with lumps of chalk, at 238 and 240 South at a depth of 2 feet 9 inches.

At 245 South the loamy 'natural' dipped sharply, with an overburden of dark loam flecked with iron stone, capped at 2 feet by band of gravel 6 inches thick. Some ox bones occurred below the northern end of this gravel at the junction of the burial layer with the iron stone loam at 245 South at 2 feet 3 inches.

There being no more burials to be seen, the drawing of the section of the trench was discontinued at 253 South.

EXCAVATIONS EAST OF THE ENTRANCE PATHWAY (Fig. 5)

With the object of finding further burials and of deciding whether the mortar spreads found in the main trench were builders' 'bankers' or footings for a roadway, Test Holes 1, 2 and 3 were dug in the garden plot east of the pathway, with the following results.

Test Hole 1 (Figs. 7 (i)-(v) and Plate XXIX)

A rectangular pit measuring 6 feet by 9 feet was dug 34 feet east of point 120 South. Two more or less complete burials H.32² and H.33, lying extended on their backs with heads to the west, were found at 4 feet and 4 feet 6 inches respectively. The remains of another burial, H.36, protruded from the north bank of the excavations at a depth of 4 feet. The leg bones of two more, H.34 and H.35, were found at 5 feet and 5 feet 2 inches in the west wall, but these may have been of fragmentary burials. Along this west wall (Fig. 7 (v)) natural gravel was found at the south-west corner at 5 feet 9 inches, above it being a 9 inch layer of clayey loam and gravel, capped by a 1 foot 6 inch layer of dark loam and chalk. Between the top of this layer and top soil were 2 feet 3 inches of dark filling containing brick and tile and therefore presumably Tudor. This Tudor filling cut through the layers below it and descended to the lowest point of the test hole at 6 feet 6 inches in the north-west corner. Along the north wall (Fig. 7 (iii)) the Tudor fill sloped upwards from 6 feet 6 inches at the west to 2 feet 9 inches at the east, cutting through natural gravel at 4 feet 6 inches about halfway along the wall, and a band of dark soil and clay 18 inches thick, above the natural gravel, further east. Burial H.36 lay on natural gravel and at the foot of the dark soil and clay band above it. The Tudor fill skimmed the skull of this burial. Along the east wall (Fig. 7 (iv)), a patch of gravel

² Associated with H.32 were some fragments of ash charcoal (*Fraxinus* sp.).

was found at 4 feet 9 inches in the north-east corner, dipping below 5 feet and rising again to 4 feet at the south-east corner. Bands of dark yellow clay, loamy clay and chalk and gravel mixture occurred above this, reaching Tudor fill at about 2 feet, which stretched across this wall below top soil. Along the south wall (Fig. 7 (ii)), an indistinct edge of gravel occurred at 4 feet in the south-east corner, with a 2 feet band of clay, chalk and soil above it, capped by a 9 inch band of light gravel, sand and chalk. Above this was a 6 inch band of Tudor fill. In the south-west corner of a patch of dark clayey loam, apparently burnt, occurred between 5 feet and 4 feet, this patch also appearing in the west wall. The base of the Tudor fill band at the south-west corner was at 3 feet. A fragment of red pottery with a smear of brown glaze was found at 5 feet 5 inches in Tudor filling. Some red brick and charcoal twigs occurred at 6 feet 6 inches,³ 1 foot 4 inches east of the west wall of the excavation. A lead musket-ball was found at 2 feet near the centre (Fig. 11.5) and a 16th century Nuremberg jetton at 2 feet 6 inches near the north-west corner in Tudor filling.⁴

A study of the plan and sections of this test hole make it apparent that a Tudor disturbance ran diagonally across the area from the south-west to the north-east corner, cutting through earlier strata. This disturbance was either another pit, similar to that found in the main trench or the outer lip of a curved ditch, running around the main gateway with a radius of approximately 120 feet, as already suggested earlier in this paper. Deepest at the northern side of Test Hole 1, this pit or ditch just missed burials H.32, H.33 and H.36 and apparently disturbed burials H.34 and H.35. No trace of mortar layers were found in this excavation.

Test Hole 2 (Figs. 8 (i)-(vii))

Test Hole 2 took the form of a trench 18 feet 9 inches long and 4 feet wide at the north end, widening to 6 feet 9 inches at the south end. It was dug parallel to the main trench at a distance of 38 feet east of it. Its northern end lay 26 feet south of Test Hole 1.

Five feet 3 inches from the northern end, a length of stone wall, 3 feet 6 inches wide, ran across the trench from west to east (Fig. 8 (i)). Two courses of this wall were visible, the top being 1 foot below ground level and the bottom at 1 foot 9 inches. Below the bottom course were 1 foot of mortar and flint footings (Figs. 8 (ii) and (iii)). The footings were set in dark brown soil, clay and chalk, almost certainly not natural. North of the wall, along the

³ Burnt twig and red brick—the vegetable material is root, and probably modern; the rest of the sample is a fragment of somewhat sandy and ferruginous clay which has been fired to a high temperature.

⁴ Nuremberg jetton, Lombardic lettering—early 16th century. Traces of tinning, pierced.

obv: 3 lis. and 3 crowns. LEOB repeated.
rev: Reichsapfel in trilobe, ELOB repeated.

west side of the excavation, a mortar layer, 6 inches thick, at the same level as the footings, covered the dark brown soil and clay.

South of the wall, in what was evidently the inside of a building, a band of dark soil containing many fragments of red tile, extended above the dark brown subsoil, as high as the top of the wall. Four feet south of the wall, at a depth of 18 inches, was a roughly circular clay-lined basin about 2 feet 6 inches in diameter containing a large quantity of lead oxide and twisted and burnt sheet lead. The clay of the basin was burnt red and it is supposed that this feature represents a lead melting 'retort'. Charcoal⁵ was found associated with the lead and a layer of charcoal, appearing on the eastern wall of the excavation at 2 feet (Fig. 8 (iv)), may have been the throw-out from the 'retort'. A similar 'retort' was found in the extreme south-western corner of the excavation (Fig. 8 (vii)).

The skull of burial H.41 was visible at a depth of 4 feet, 2 feet north-east of the first lead 'retort' but at a lower level (Figs. 8 (i) and (iv)).

Pottery found in Test Hole 2 included the rim of a cooking-pot in light gray ware, probably of the 13th century. This was found at 3 feet 6 inches just south of the first mentioned lead 'retort'. Another 13th century rim sherd (Fig. 10.2) was found in the same vicinity at 2 feet. Much of a rectangular piece of pottery in red ware, the interior being semi-cylindrical in section, glazed olive-green, with dot and chevron decoration on the rim, was found at a depth of 2 feet just south of retort No. 1, see Fig. 10.8. This object is Elizabethan in date and may have been a wall-niche for a candle. Some fragments of glass (F.23 on Fig. 8.1) were found at 1 foot south of retort No. 1 and some pieces of lead window-framing in association with retort No. 2. A white metal button (F.20 on Fig. 8.1) was found at 2 feet between the two retorts. Mrs. F. Russell-Smith has kindly examined this button and is of the opinion that it is an 18th century knee-breeches button. A 16th century Nuremberg jetton (Roman lettering) was found in top soil at 9 inches.

Test Hole 3 (Fig. 5 and Figs. 9 (i)-(iii))

A third test hole was excavated south-west of Test Hole 2 in an attempt to pick up the return of the wall found in Test Hole 2. Natural gravel was found at between 5 feet and 5 feet 6 inches. Above this was a band of dark clay with chalk 3 feet 6 inches in thickness, meeting top soil at a depth of about 1 foot.

⁵ Two fragments analysed, (a) Ash (*Fraxinus* sp.) diameter of twig about .3 inches; (b) Hazel (*Corylus* sp.) diameter $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

⁶ Nuremberg jetton, Roman lettering—mid-late 16th century.
obv: 3 lis and 3 crowns, + HANS SHULTES IN NUREMBERG st.
rev: Reichsapfel in trilobe, GLVK KVMPT. VON GOT DEM NER.

Two low level burials were found just above natural, H.42, the pelvis of a woman, at 5 feet 3 inches and the feet and lower leg bones of H.43 at 5 feet.

Running north and south, the footings of a wall, 3 feet wide, were found at 9 inches in the northern bank of the excavation. These footings extended to a depth of 4 feet, the lower levels being composed of flint septaria and mortar. Burial H.42 lay below them (Figs. 9 (i) and (ii)). This wall was evidently the north-south return of the wall found in Test Hole 2. Its builders had evidently disturbed three earlier burials, for just west of the wall, at a depth of 2 feet, were found an assembly of three skulls and various long bones. These had apparently been reburied by the wall-builder and have been called burials H.38–H.40.

Just south of the centre of the eastern bank of the area excavated, (Fig. 9 (iii)), was found a 3 feet 6 inch wide vertical band of flint and mortar rubble, starting at a depth of 1 foot 6 inches and descending to 5 feet. South of this was a horizontal band of flint and mortar spread at 2 feet 9 inches, running south, with a 6 inch layer of gravel above it. These may possibly have represented another wall and attendant mortar banker but this is considered unlikely. A skull (H.37), evidently from a disturbed burial, was found at 1 foot 9 inches just above the gravel band. East of the true wall footings and between them and the doubtful footings, shown on Fig. 9 (iii), there were two layers of burnt clay, at 2 feet and 2 feet 6 inches, with gravel and chalk between them. Above this was a thin mortar spread with a band of dark filling and tile fragments above the mortar and immediately below top soil. (Fig. 9 (ii)).

It appears therefore that the excavations in Test Holes 2 and 3 revealed two walls of a stone building roofed at one time with red tiles. The stone walls may have been part of the Norman out-buildings in the outer bailey re-used and re-roofed in Tudor times or they may have been part of a Tudor building constructed from Norman stonework, gathered from the debris of dismantled Norman buildings.

Pottery from Test Hole 4 included some sherds with dark green glaze found in the Tudor filling and one sherd, with brown glaze inside, also in Tudor filling. A Charles I farthing was found at 1 foot 9 inches in the flint and mortar rubble of the doubtful wall footings near the east bank of the excavations (F.16 on Fig. 9 (1)).⁷

⁷ Charles I farthing issued by the Duchess of Richmond—1625-34.
mm. Leopard. Harp on rev.; inscr.—CARO: D:G: MAG: BRI, etc.

TRENCHING OPERATIONS IN THE MAIN OUTER MOAT

During the work of carrying the drainage trench out of the Castle grounds and through the filled-in portion of the main outer moat, opposite the Castle Hotel, which stands on the filled-in moat, workmen discovered several pieces of medieval pottery. One of these, a glazed skillet, is shown on Fig. 10.7.

SUMMARY

The excavations have established the fact that the outer bailey of Framlingham Castle was on the site of a Middle Saxon cemetery, dated by pottery and the bronze openwork disc to the 7th or 8th century. The extent of the cemetery was some 180 feet from north to south. Its width from east to west is uncertain but it appears to have extended at least between the present bowling-green and a point 45 feet east of the Castle entrance path. The occupants of this cemetery were buried in or below a layer of soil which may have been spoil from a pre-Norman earthwork. The fact that some of the burials lay in the layer of spoil and, as in the case of burials H.24, 25 and 25A, were associated with post-Conquest pottery, make it possible that this cemetery extended into the early post-Conquest period. It is, however, extremely unlikely that the Normans would have continued to bury their dead within their outer bailey and in a direct line between the entrance to the latter and the main Castle gateway.

In the drainage trench, where most of the burials were found, were four layers of mortar, two presumably Norman and two presumably Tudor. It is possible that these were foundations for successive approach roads, but it is more likely that they were the builders' 'bankers' where they mixed the mortar for the construction of and additions to the Castle gatehouse. These successive mortar layers were not found in trial holes east of the entrance path but it is not to be expected that bankers for the main walls would be found outside the inner moat. It is reasonable to suppose that such bankers would be found within the Castle inner bailey. An analysis of the mortar from the four bankers in the main trench, from the banker and from the wall in Test Hole 2 and from the make-up of the masonry inside the Castle of the periods of Hugh and Roger II has been carried out at the Ancient Monuments Laboratory. Somewhat surprisingly, these samples fall into the following groups, which presumably indicate that the builders in each group obtained their materials from the same general area or even pits:

- Group 1: Banker 4; wall in Test Hole 2;
 Group 2: Banker II; banker in Test Hole 2; Hugh's and
 Roger II's walls;
 Group 3: Banker 3;
 Group 4: Banker I.

It is remarkable to observe that the latest Tudor and earliest Norman mortars are very similar, but the distinction between them is clear enough.

Test Hole 1, together with the large depression filled with Tudor filling in the main trench, appear to indicate that the Castle entrance was strengthened in Tudor times by the construction of a subsidiary ditch half-encircling the main gate, whose drawbridge had been replaced by a permanent bridge, less easy to defend.

Test Holes 2 and 3 proved the existence of a stone building in the outer bailey roofed with red tiles and certainly occupied in Tudor times.

Dr. F. C. Trevor, Director of the Duckworth Laboratory of Physical Anthropology, Cambridge, has kindly examined the skeletal remains and his notes form Appendix B.

POTTERY SCHEDULE

- F.1 Reddish brown coarse ware charged with grit. Too small for identification. (Fig. 6 (iii)).
- F.2 Dark gray brown cooking-pot sherd in close gritty ware. 13th century. (Fig. 6 (iii)).
- F.3 Gray cooking-pot sherd, close gritty ware. 13th/14th centuries. (Fig. 6 (iii)).
- F.4 (Fig. 10.3 and 4). Twisted jug handle fragment in red gritty ware and rim fragment in grayish, gritty ware with flange below rim, possibly matching. 13th/14th centuries. (Fig. 6 (ii)).
- F.5 Stabbed handle in iron gray close gritty ware. 14th/15th centuries. Cooking-pot sagging base in reddish gritty ware, sparse green glaze inside. Late medieval. (Fig. 6 (ii)).
- F.6 Red ware sherds including one basal fragment with brown glaze inside. Probably 17th century. (Fig. 6 (ii)).
- F.8 (Fig. 10.2). Rim sherd of cooking-pot in iron gray gritty ware. Probably 13th century. From Test Hole 2 at 2 feet near Retort No. 1.

- F.10 (Fig. 10.7). Unstratified pottery from trench across the filled-in outer moat. Includes rim and handle of a 16th/17th century skillet in red ware with yellow brown glaze inside and an unglazed strap handle. 16th/17th century.
- F.11 Unglazed red ware basal sherd and body sherd in close brown ware with brown glaze. Probably 16th century. (Fig. 7 (v)).
- F.13 Cooking-pot sherd body similar to F.2 and F.3. 13th century. (Fig. 6 (iii)).
- F.14 Rim sherd of large cooking-pot in hard red ware charged with crushed shell. Wavy scrawl on rim top and multiple wavy comb scrawl below rim on inside. 13th century. Similar rims found at Thetford at high levels. (Fig. 6 (iii)).
- F.15 Body sherd of jug, reddish paste with dark green mottled glaze on both sides. 15th century. (Fig. 9 (i)).
- F.16 Body sherd in close smooth brown paste with brownish red glaze inside. 16th/17th centuries. (Fig. 9 (i)).
- F.17 (Fig. 10.1). Middle Saxon cooking-pot. (Fig. 6 (ii)).
- F.18 Sagging base fragments of 13th century cooking-pot in close reddish brown ware. (Fig. 6 (iv)).
- F.19 (Fig. 10.9). Rim of cooking-pot, reddish brown paste, dark brown glaze inside rim. 17th century. (Fig. 6 (ii)).
- F.20 Unstratified pottery from trench across outer moat. Includes (a) Cooking-pot rim of late 13th century with outside flange in gray brown close gritty ware, (b) Bowl rim of late 13th century in similar ware, (c) Fragment of jug rim and handle in pinkish ware with sparse brown glaze, 14th century and (d) Fragment of brown beer mug dated 172 .. or 173 ..
- F.21 (Fig. 10.6). Rim of cooking-pot in close dark red ware. 13th century. Associated with this sherd were a number of sherds of later intrusive pottery. (Fig. 6 (iv)).
- F.22 (Fig. 10.8). Rectangular vessel with rounded base and flat ends, $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches wide and approximately 11 inches long with a depth of $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches. A rim 1 inch wide decorated with applied zig zag and dots runs round the vessel, the inside being ridged. The vessel is made of close red paste, with ends and base unglazed. The rim and inside carry dark olive-green glaze of good quality. This object is probably an Elizabethan wall tile meant to hold a candle. (Fig. 8 (i)).⁸
- F.25 (Fig. 10.5). Rim sherd of 13th century cooking-pot in iron gray close ware. (Fig. 8 (iii)).

⁸ cf. R. L. Hobson, *Catalogue of English Pottery at the British Museum* (London 1903) p.89 and Pl. IX; also Lincs. Architectural and Archaeological Society *Reports and Papers*, Vol. 6, Part I, New Series (1955), Fig. 2, 12 and pp. 12, 13.

POTTERY (Fig. 10)

1. Middle-Saxon cooking-pot in 'Ipswich-Ware'. (F.17 in Fig. 6 (ii)). The cooking-pot is of hard gray ware, thick walled and roughly wheel-turned. It is globular in shape, with rim rounded on top, and a sagging base. A wide zone of shallow girth grooves covers the body from the neck to the bulge. Cooking-pots of this type have been found at a number of sites in eastern England, ranging from near King's Lynn to Dover,¹ but only a few discoveries need be mentioned here in order to define the origin and dating of the Framlingham pot. A large number of these cooking-pots were found in Carr Street, Ipswich; some of the pots are wasters distorted in firing, and many were found in a pit suggesting that they had been thrown there from a pottery kiln nearby. The Framlingham pot agrees so closely in ware and character with the Ipswich pots that it may be accepted with certainty as a product of the same kiln. Dating evidence is forthcoming from two other sites on the coasts of Essex and Norfolk. At Bradwell-on-Sea part of a cooking-pot was found in the upper filling of the ditch of the Roman Shore Fort, and is probably to be associated with the building of the nearby Chapel of St. Cedd in 654. The other site is at Caister-on-Sea, where fragments of several cooking-pots have been found in Saxon huts and occupation deposits in association with a bronze stylus and other objects datable to the 7th or 8th century. The evidence is thus consistent for referring the Framlingham cooking-pot to the Middle Saxon period and dating it to the late 7th or 8th century. This dating is to some extent confirmed by the absence of the type from the late Saxon town of Thetford, which was occupied from the late 9th century onwards.
2. Rim of cooking-pot in iron gray gritty ware. 13th Century. Test Hole 2 near 'Retort' No. 1. (F.8).
3. Jug rim in grayish gritty ware with neck flange. 13th-14th century. (F.4 on Fig. 6 (ii)).
4. Twisted jug handle fragment in red gritty ware with patches of green glaze. 13th-14th century. (F.4 on Fig. 6 (ii)).
5. Cooking-pot rim in close iron gray ware. 13th century. (F.25 on Fig. 8 (iii)).
6. Rim of cooking-pot in close dark red ware. 13th century. (F.21 on Fig. 6 (iii)).

¹ For distribution of Middle Saxon pottery in East Anglia, see J. G. Hurst and S. E. West, *Saxo-Norman Pottery in East Anglia*, Part II. *Proc. Camb. Antiq. Soc.*, vol. 50 (1956), 29-42.

7. Skillet in brick red ware, bright orange glaze inside. Handle unglazed. 16th-17th century. From filled-in outer moat. (F.10).
8. Rectangular dish shaped tile with flat ends, close brick red ware. Top of rim and interior covered in dark olive green glaze; ends and base unglazed. Chevron and dot ornament embossed on rim and inside of tile rilled. Probably an Elizabethan wall tile meant to hold a candle. (F.22 on Fig. 8 (i))
9. Cooking-pot rim in brown ware with dark brown glaze inside rim. 17th century. (F.19 on Fig. 6 (ii)).

SMALL FINDS (Fig. 11)

1. A bronze open-work disc, found at S.139 at 4 feet, near burial H.13. Diameter 1.65 inches, with a central hollow boss. The boss is connected to the ring by six radial strips, which join the boss in an enlargement shaped like a step or keystone.

The object belongs to a large class of openwork discs of the Frankish period in the Rhineland, Low Countries and northern France. Usually the discs have a central ring, connected to the outer ring by from four to eight strips, sometimes with step pattern at one end, as on the Framlingham example, or animal-head ornament.¹ A type less frequently found has the central ring replaced by a hollow boss or dome, precisely as on the Framlingham disc.²

A few examples of these wheel-shaped discs have been found in Saxon graves in England, where they appear to be late in the pagan period (7th century). Instances may be quoted from Kempston, Beds.; Burwell, Cambs.;³ Shrewton⁴ and Winkelbury,⁵ Wilts.

The discs appear to be connected with the accessories of women's dress. In some instances from them were suspended girdle-hangers or keys, and in other cases they were fastened or sewn to the front of a purse or pouch hanging from the belt.⁶ The second explanation is the more likely for the Framlingham disc, which is small in size. (F.26 on Fig. 6 (ii)).

¹ G. Behrens, *Merowingerzeit* (Zent. Mus. Mainz, Katalog 13, 1947), p. 48, Figs. 108-111.

² F. Fremersdorf, *Goldschmuck der Völkerwanderungszeit* (Rom.-Germ. Mus. Köln, 1953), taf. 19.

³ T. C. Lethbridge, *Recent Excavations in Anglo-Saxon Cemeteries in Cambs. and Suffolk* (1931), p. 59, fig. 29, p. 67, fig. 36 and notes p. 86.

⁴ *Devizes Museum Catalogue*, I, 26, No. 93.

⁵ Pitt-Rivers, *Excavations in Cranbourne Chase*, II, 266, text fig. 2 and pl. CL, 31-32.

⁶ G. Baldwin Brown, *The Arts and Crafts of our Teutonic Forefathers*, p. 153, fig. 75.

2. Brass or bronze pin, from pit or ditch at S.124 at 8 feet 6 inches. The head consists of wound wire, soldered on to the shank. Probably Tudor. (F.9 on Fig. 6 (ii)).
3. Pierced bronze strip with evidence of gilding, perhaps once part of a circlet, found at S.105 at 18 inches. Exactly similar strips have been found in the presumed Norman ring-motte known as 'The Crump' at Berden in Hertfordshire, seven miles north of Bishop's Stortford. This find is as yet unpublished. The Framlingham strip may thus be Norman. (F.1 on Fig. 6 (ii)).
4. Bronze patch for mending metal vessels. From filled-in outer moat. (F.12).
5. Lead musket ball. Found in Test Hole 1 at 2 feet in Tudor filling. (F.2).
6. Clipped lead triangle. From south end of Test Hole 2 at 2 feet. (F.19).
7. Curved iron rod. Found at S.172 opposite burial H.24 at 3 feet. Probably Middle Saxon. (F.15 on Fig. 6 (iii)).
- 8 and 9. Two iron nails from Test Hole 2 at 2 feet. The colour and texture of one of these nails suggests that it has been in a fire. Probably Tudor.
- 10 and 11. Two iron nails from Test Hole 1, at 4 feet 6 inches in Tudor fill. (F.13).
12. Iron object from Test Hole 1 at 3 feet 6 inches. X-ray examination of this object showed that it consisted of 3 layers, the outer two being flat plates and the central one part of a sheath-like structure probably of bronze or brass. There are two rivet holes, the rivet remaining in one of which does not appear to penetrate right through the section. The rivet, however, nearest the curved end does penetrate right through. Fig. 12A shows a sketch of the X-ray. The curved portion was probably originally symmetrical. The object may have been the tip of a dagger sheath. (F.4).
13. Part of an iron horseshoe with calkin, wavy edge and oval nail holes, perhaps for frost nails. Found below path opposite burial H.25 at S.173 at 2 feet 2 inches. (F.14 on Fig. 6 (iii)).