

EXCURSIONS

Report and notes on some findings

11 May

Woolverstone Hall: see page 59. A.G.M. and lecture on John Johnson by Miss N. Briggs, Essex Record Office.

Erwarton Hall: Usual difficulty, without documentary evidence, of dating this type of East Anglian brick house (English bond) to anywhere closer than *c.* 1550–1625. Arms, Morley impaling Calthorpe, over north entrance suggest time of Elizabeth Calthorpe who married Sir Henry Parker, K.B., son and heir of Lord Morley; or of their son, High Sheriff in 1578. Plaster ceiling upstairs seems to be of his or next generation. Drawing room, present east end of house, has fine, tall, panelled overmantel, *temp.* 1st Parker baronet (created 13 Chas. II), remodelled to make fireplace of *c.* 1700–20, perhaps by 3rd bart., who presumably remodelled staircase-hall with painting, in Thornhill manner, of Moses and (?) St John. Grose drawing (S.R.O. Ipswich, HD 480/1) (Pl VII) shows much of east end pulled down since his day.

Chapman's map of Erwarton, 1770 (S.R.O. Ipswich, HE 3:424) clearly shows site of old watermill about 400 yds S. of Hall (TM/224348). (It also marks 'Holy Well' 100 yds N.E. of this point). B.L., Add. MS. 19113, f. 65, records that John Kirby (author of *The Suffolk Traveller*) 'once occupied a small overshot mill at the bottom of Erwarton Park'.

Shotley church: S. H. A. Hervey, *Shotley Parish Records* (Suffolk Green Books), 1912, p. 330, records that the Hon. and Rev. Henry Hervey rebuilt the chancel in 1745. He quotes the antiquary Davy: 'The report in the parish is that he forgot nothing to make the church very neat and handsome, but he forgot to pay for the making it so'. N.S.

1 June

Hopton All Saints church: It was noticed that some of the angels with spread wings, in the cornice of the vividly coloured hammerbeam roof, had become birds of prey in the course, presumably, of the Victorian restoration.

South Lopham church, Norfolk: Members crossed the county boundary to visit the church, which has the finest Norman central tower in East Anglia.

Garboldisham windmill: The last post-mill in Norfolk, built in the 18th century, now under restoration.

Palgrave church: The President read a paper on the East Anglian antiquary, 'Honest' Tom Martin of Palgrave. N.S., S.C.

1 July

Haughley: Hugh de Montfort's castle-site (see page 65), and Haughley Park, the house datable to *c.* 1625.

Adulterine castles: three further earthworks, identified as adulterine castles, were visited. William of Ambli's castle-site at Offton is unusual in being rectangular, with a wide, continuous water-filled moat surrounding an interior mound or platform about 3m high. The County Archaeologist suggested a possible origin for such a plan in northern France. Lindsey castle earthworks well-preserved, though ramparts and mound are covered with trees. Mound is a wide, low, circular platform with a very flat surface. Plan and size of the ramparts and ditches suggested possible re-use of remains of a prehistoric *oppidum*. Plan in V.C.H. is inadequate; a detailed survey justified. Party also examined low earthworks in the open field between castle and road marked on O.S. map as *Manorial banks*. At Milden castle, only a grass-covered and accessible mound remains. Gravel quarrying appears to have removed other features. J.W.