

## EXCURSIONS 1997

### *Report and notes on some findings*

*19 April. Philip Aitkens*

*Ixworth, Garboldisham and North Lopham*

The towers of these three churches are believed to have been built by the 15th-century workshop of master masons, Aldrich of North Lopham, Norfolk. A contract was drawn up in 1486 between the churchwardens of Helmingham and Thomas Aldrich of North Lopham to construct their tower; today, it has a fine inscription at the base. North Lopham tower is believed, from evidence in wills, to have been commenced in 1479; an inscription by the same hand as that at Helmingham appears at mid-height on the north side, but at the base is a band of stone devices, flushwork-filled. Inscriptions dated *c.* 1480–1500 are also found, for example, at Brockley (on the tower), Botesdale (over the north door) and Garboldisham (north porch), all by the same hand. Similar devices in flushwork are to be found on many other churches *c.* 1460–80, especially at the bases of towers: those at Ixworth, Badwell Ash and Elmswell form a notable group. See also Garboldisham, Northwold, Fincham, New Buckenham, Kenninghall and Mendlesham. Other architectural features closely match, clear evidence of a common designer. These are mostly datable by wills to *c.* 1460–80. It is believed that a new generation at the Aldrich workshop commences *c.* 1486, favouring inscriptions instead of flushwork devices. A contract was made with Thomas Aldrich to rebuild the east wall of Thetford Priory, 1505–07.

*Ixworth, St Mary's Church.* The annual general meeting was held here by kind permission of the Revd P. Oliver. The tower was begun *c.* 1472, as evidenced by the 'Thomas Vyal' tile, commemorating the bequest of six marks by a prosperous local carpenter in December that year, for work on the new 'stepyl', and two tiles inscribed with the name of William Densy, Prior of the Augustinian house at Ixworth, 1467–84, one of them also dated 1472. On the south-east tower buttress the crown and arrows saltire device of St Edmund and the inscription 'Mast Rbt Schot Abot' add weight to the conclusion that the tower was begun in the early 1470s. Robert Scot *alias* Ixworth was Abbot of Bury (which held the advowson of Ixworth church) from 1469 or 1470 to 1474 (Colman 1989).

*Garboldisham, St John the Baptist's Church* (by kind permission of the Revd Ann Hedges). The tower was begun in the 1460s (will evidence). It is large, with flushwork devices on base, buttresses and parapets. Above the former west porch is a window matching that at Ixworth. The north porch was given by William Pece, chaplain, *c.* 1500; an inscription (cf Helmingham and North Lopham) commemorates him.

*North Lopham, St Nicholas's Church* (by kind permission of the churchwarden, Richard Vere). The tower was begun *c.* 1479. There are devices at the base, and an inscription midway, perhaps indicating a second building phase, begun in the 1480s or 1490s.

The barrel organ acquired by the church in the middle years of the present century was demonstrated by the churchwarden, and members were able to try their hands at the instrument. Council member Dr Steven Plunkett sang a solo, accompanied by the President on the harmonium, and the excursion ended with tea and cakes very kindly provided by Mr and Mrs Vere.

17 May. Stephen Heywood, Edward Martin, Andrew Rogerson and Kate Sussams

*Thetford: former capital of East Anglia (combined meeting with Council for British Archaeology, East Anglia)*

*The Town of Thetford.* At the Norman Conquest Thetford was amongst the ten largest towns in England, covering an area of at least 75 hectares (185 acres), most of which lay on the Suffolk side of the Little Ouse River at its junction with the Thet (and remained outside Norfolk until the 19th century). Three fords carried the Icknield Way over the river. The central ford, later a bridge, acted as the main way across the river in Late Saxon times, and it was around this crossing point that the town was to grow. The first documentary reference to Thetford occurs in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle for 869, at the final moment of the East Anglian kingdom, when the Danish army, having come into East Anglia from Mercia, over-wintered there.

An important focus in the Roman period (Gregory 1992), the Thetford region witnessed considerable activity in the Early Saxon period, with a number of cemeteries and settlements being known along the sides of the river valley. Chance discoveries and a limited amount of archaeological excavation have shown that a dispersed late-5th- to early-7th-century settlement was strung out along the south bank of the Little Ouse within and outside the north-west end of the Late Saxon town (Penn 1993). This was succeeded by a large Middle Saxon site which flourished until the middle or late 9th century. Although the status and function of this settlement are at present uncertain and could only be understood by large-scale excavation, it does seem to have been the precursor of the Late Saxon, or more accurately, Anglo-Scandinavian town.

This town grew up with terrific speed on a 'green field site' in the decades around 900 to become a major regional manufacturing and commercial centre. A network of streets, set out in at least a partly planned scheme, was soon surrounded by a defensive bank and ditch 1.5km in length which was matched by a shorter, and less well-known circuit to the north of the river. Expansion was rapid and several suburbs and extra-mural churches appeared during the 10th century. Some areas of the town were given over to industries, with the production of pottery now being the best known, and others to residential use. A mint had been established by the reign of Eadgar (959-75), but this may have begun in the early 10th century for the striking of the 'St Edmund Memorial Coinage'. By 1066 the town contained twelve churches and one monastery. One church, St Mary the Great, acted as a cathedral in the period 1071-94, before the move to Norwich.

In the later 11th century Thetford felt the effects of its successful rivals Norwich and Bury, and began to decline rapidly in importance. By the end of the 12th, perhaps further provoked by the emergence of King's Lynn, it had become of little more than local significance as a market town (Crosby 1986). Most of the medieval population lived on the north side of the river and the greater part of the 10th- and 11th-century town lay abandoned on the Suffolk side.

Since the end of the 1940s a series of major excavation campaigns have managed to take advantage of this shift of site to examine wide tracts of the deserted town (Dunmore with Carr 1976; Rogerson and Dallas 1984; Dallas 1993; Andrews 1995). A general absence of overlying medieval and post-medieval deposits has made the uncovering of relatively undisturbed Late Saxon archaeology much easier than is the case in towns which have continued to flourish. Until 1989 the north side of the river had seen no formal excavation apart from the Norman castle (Davies and Gregory 1992), but work on several sites has since shown a picture of 10th-century expansion similar to that on the south side (Andrews and Penn forthcoming).

After half a century of fieldwork Thetford is amongst the most comprehensively explored (and indeed published) English pre-Conquest towns. This is far from the end of the story, for further archaeological work will need to be carried out during the next few years on both sides of the river, as well as the examination of any sites which become available in the several sectors of the town where no or little exploration has taken place so far. Certain key areas of

uncertainty need to be tackled. These include the precise nature and date of the Middle Saxon settlement to the north-west of the later town, the chronology of the shift from this site to the later one which perhaps began around the central river crossing, the development of the river-front in the pre- and post-Conquest periods, and the date and conformation of the defences north of the river.

*Abbey Farm Barn and Cottage* (by special permission of Breckland District Council) (Fig. 62). Farm buildings in the north-west corner of the precinct of the Cluniac priory. The *barn* is now encased in flint with white brick dressings, but inside it is timber-framed, two-storeyed, eight bays long and with a crown-post roof. The eastern four bays are a mid-16th-century addition to the original structure. The western four bays belonged to an independent building of c. 1400, two-storeyed, with a jetty on the south side (the direction of the priory). The first floor accommodation consisted of a probable stair bay, a two-bay 'hall' and a one bay 'chamber', all unheated. It is suggested that it might have been a courthouse belonging to the priory (Heywood and Smith 1992a). The *cottage* appears from the outside to be a 19th-century brick and flint structure, but has a medieval flint and ashlar buttress on the north-west corner. Inside, it is clear that it was originally an aisled barn with two phases of construction. The first phase is represented only by a fragment of a truss; the later phase is more complete and represents an extension or partial replacement of the earlier barn by a structure with a queen-post roof. The dating can only be given as between 1200 and 1400 (Heywood and Smith 1992b).

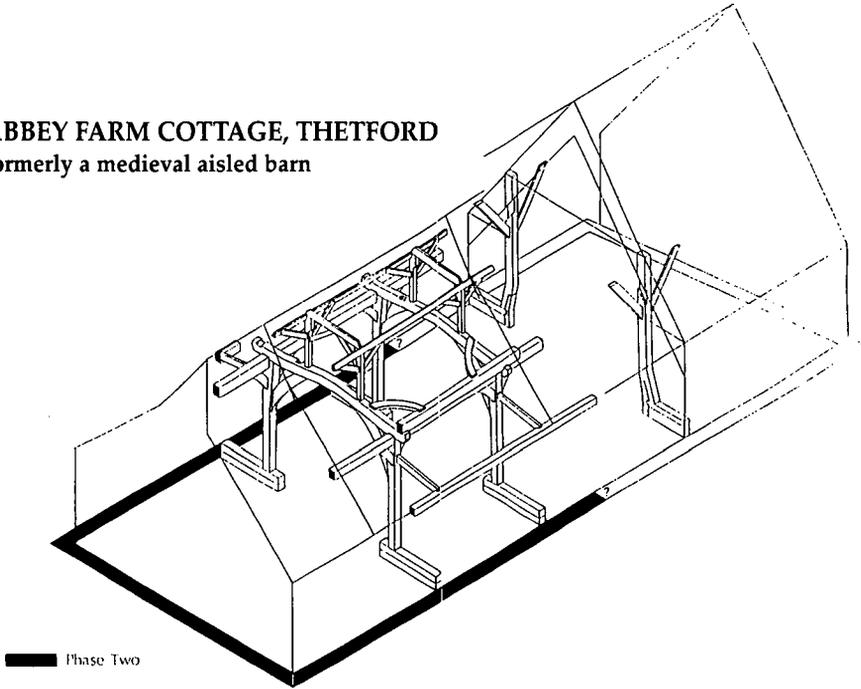
*Cluniac Priory of Our Lady* (English Heritage) (Fig. 63). A 14th-century gatehouse to the priory complex. Extensive ruins of the Cluniac priory founded on this site in 1107 by Roger Bigod (Raby and Reynolds 1979, 1–16; Dymond 1995 and 1996). It was the burial place of the earls and dukes of Norfolk until its dissolution in 1540 (Marks 1984).

*Church of the Canons of the Holy Sepulchre* (English Heritage). A small priory founded c. 1148 by William de Warenne, Earl of Surrey, now the only surviving remains in England of the small order of the Canons of the Holy Sepulchre. It was dissolved in 1536 (Sherlock 1979).

*Red Castle* (Breckland District Council). On the western margin of Thetford, on the south side of the river, this is a Norman 'ringwork'. It consists of a roughly circular bank and ditch, approximately 120m in diameter, with an attached smaller enclosure on its east side. It lies close to a crossing of the Little Ouse River (formerly known as *Ditchingford*) and overlies the western end of the infilled Late Saxon town ditch. Partial excavation has revealed the remains of an early church, thought to be St Martin's, in the northern part of the ringwork (Knocker 1967). The most recent examination of the dating evidence for the enclosure ditch implies a date of the mid-to-late 12th century for its construction (Andrews 1995, 862–63). This suggests that the ringwork dates from the civil war of the reign of King Stephen (1135–54) and was erected by the then lord of Thetford, William de Warenne, Earl of Surrey (d. 1148) or his son-in-law and successor, William (the second son of King Stephen).

*Thetford Castle* (Breckland District Council). A huge earthen motte set within the ramparts of a possible Iron Age fort. Despite its immense size (the motte, 25m high and 90m in diameter, is one of the largest in England) the castle is very poorly documented. It lies within a loop of the River Thet, enclosed to the north by a curving double bank and ditch that may be Iron Age in origin, though the dating evidence so far is not conclusive (Davies and Gregory 1992, 29). However the motte, with a bailey on its eastern side, is certainly Norman. The castle is not mentioned in Domesday Book, but castles, somewhat surprisingly, are frequently not directly mentioned in that source, so it cannot be assumed that it was not in existence by 1086.

**ABBEY FARM COTTAGE, THETFORD**  
formerly a medieval aisled barn



**ABBEY FARM BARN, THETFORD**  
showing the western 4-bay structure, thought  
to be a two-storeyed courthouse (?) of c.1400

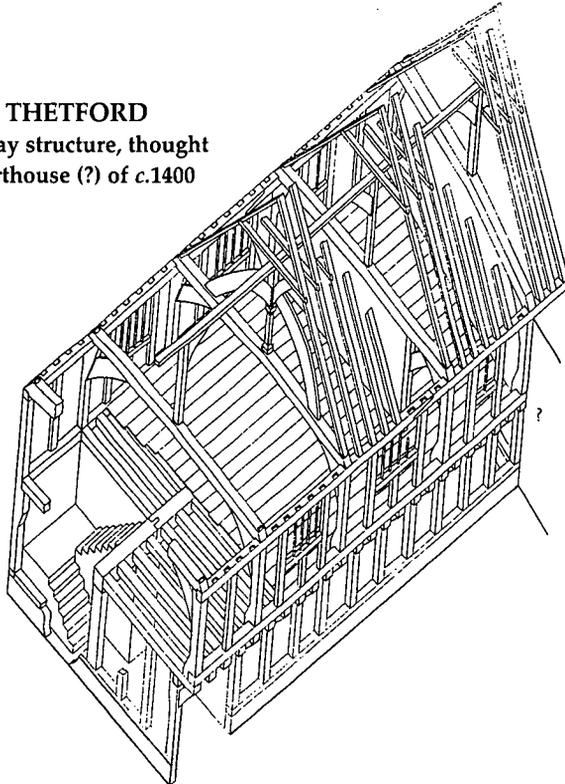


FIG. 62 – Thetford, Abbey Farm Cottage and Abbey Farm Barn: interpretative drawings (at different scales) by Robert Smith and Stephen Heywood.

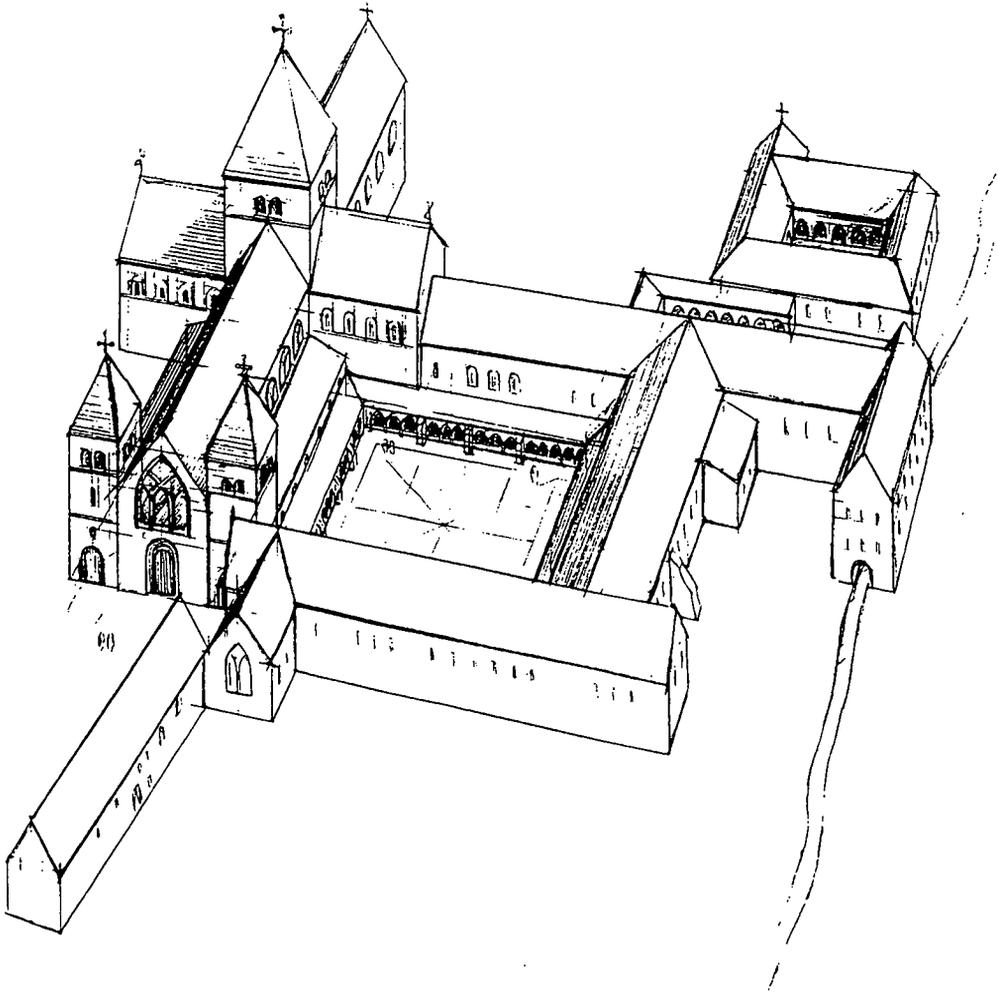


FIG. 63 – Thetford, Cluniac Priory of Our Lady: reconstruction (viewed from the west) by Steven Ashley and Stephen Heywood.

Domesday Book does, however, record land belonging to the earldom of Norfolk in Thetford and the most likely explanation for the castle is that it was erected by Ralph Guader (or de Gael), soon after he became earl in or about 1070. The castle probably only had a very short life because it was almost certainly dismantled in the aftermath of the failure of Earl Ralph's rebellion in 1075. It was probably re-occupied at the time of the Earl of Leicester's revolt in 1173, most probably by Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, who joined Leicester's uprising. The *Pipe Rolls* record the destruction of a castle at Thetford in 1173, probably after the defeat of Leicester at the Battle of Fornham in Suffolk in the October of that year.

*Thetford Warren Lodge* (English Heritage). A late-medieval flint tower-house that served as the lodge for the Prior of Thetford's extensive Westwick rabbit warren (one of five warrens belonging to the priory). Repairs at *Westwyk logge* are recorded in 1514/5 (Dymond 1995, 324). It is rectangular (6 x 10m), with living accommodation on the first floor (Rigold 1979). The

well-appointed nature of this upper room, with a large and well-built fireplace on the rear wall and a garderobe in a corner, do raise questions about whether this was intended solely for the use of a humble warrener, or whether it may also have served as a hunting retreat for the prior and his friends. Old photographs show that flint-walled wings were added to two sides of the lodge in the 19th century, which have now been demolished (Sussams 1996, 96–98). Though now shrouded by trees, a mid-19th-century drawing of the warren shows the lodge in splendid isolation on top of a slight hill in open Breckland countryside (Stevenson 1866, 11, plate between pp 56 and 57).

*26 June. Rachel Lawrence, Simon Loftus, Graham Denny and Felicity Griffin  
Southwold*

*Swan Hotel and Sole Bay Brewery* (by kind permission of Simon Loftus). The Brewery claims the longest unbroken tradition of any brewery in England, and the *Swan*, which began as a medieval tavern, has been the town's principal inn from at least the 17th century. In 1659 Southwold was engulfed by fire, but by 1660 the *Swan* was rebuilt and, probably at this same date, as a fire precaution, the brewhouse was moved away from the inn to its site at the rear of the *Swan* yard. Parts of the cellar beneath there can be dated to the 17th century.

Throughout the 18th century the *Swan* was owned by the Thompson family, people of great importance in the town, who served as Bailiffs and Chamberlains and also as Churchwardens. They owned ships and traded in coal, grain and fish, but were predominantly brewers who acquired a string of alehouses in the vicinity. The town's business was always conducted at the *Swan*, including the annual feast on St Nicholas's Day for the Bailiffs' coming-in.

In 1818 the *Swan* was sold to Thomas Bokenham, who made expensive alterations to the hotel and sold off the brewhouse at the back to William Crisp, maltster and brewer, for £350. The Sole Bay Brewery was now therefore a separate concern and Crisp, who erected a new building, achieved a reputation for 'Crisp's Ales', which benefited from the springs of good water available.

On Crisp's death in 1844 the brewery was sold at auction for £410 and it then passed through a succession of owners till the Adnams brothers bought it in 1872. Under Ernest Adnams the brewery prospered, helped by the increasing popularity of Southwold as a seaside resort with visitors arriving by the Southwold Railway (opened 1879) and also by the Belle steamers from London, which called at the pier (built 1900).

In 1890 Adnams became a public company, but a heavy programme of development brought financial difficulties. In 1902 Piers Loftus, trained as a brewer in Copenhagen and South Africa, acquired a stake in the company and subsequently, despite the difficult economic conditions, there was again a gradual expansion. Piers Loftus remained as Chairman until his death in 1956, and was able to see the start of the steady growth and success brought by the post-war years.

*Buckenham House, High Street* (by kind permission of Graham Denny). The house, which stands just off the market place, has a Georgian façade of mellow red brick with small-panelled sash windows and an impressive doorway. But Sylvia Colman, who researched its history when it was restored by the present owners, has shown that it can be dated to Tudor times and that indications of its earlier history are present.

For about two and a half centuries the house was owned by Southwold merchants with a particular interest in brewing and malting. Originally timber-framed, it was almost certainly built by Richard Buckenham, a Tudor merchant, and the overall size in his day is indicated by the area of the cellar (now the coffee house) which ran the whole length of the building. Its walls are lined with Tudor brickwork and some of the load-bearing timbers in the ceiling are original. The present picture gallery on the ground floor has ceiling beams, uncovered in 1930, with details suggesting a date in the mid-16th century.

In 1608 it was purchased by Thomas Warren, an established merchant, who enlarged the house, adding another room, a fine brick gable at the north end and a wing at the back. Members of the Warren family owned the house till the early 18th century, and it seems to have escaped Southwold's fire of 1659 without serious harm. An inventory of 1685 shows a parlour, pantry and kitchen with bedrooms and attics above. The roof must have been raised to make the attics, where the roof-structure now visible can be dated to the late 17th century.

In 1705 the house was sold to John Thompson, and remained with the Thompson family throughout the 18th century. Their varied enterprises have been described above, since among other things they owned the *Swan* and its brewery. The wealthy Thompsons updated the house, probably in mid-century. It was fronted with brick, using two shades to create a panelled effect (now only visible on the upper storey). Inside, exposed timbers were covered in plaster and panelling and Tudor fireplaces were infilled. One of the rooms was converted to a spacious panelled entrance hall with a handsome stair – still the house's finest feature.

When the last John Thompson died in 1806 the house's tradition of mercantile prosperity came to an end. In 1829 the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty bought it to provide a Vicarage for the town, and it continued as the Vicarage into the 20th century. In 1929 it was sold and ceased to be occupied as a home. Between 1930 and 1971 it was divided into a series of shops with a gentlemen's club occupying the first floor. There were radical alterations to the front, with four shop windows and additional doors replacing the sash windows. Happily the fine Georgian door and doorcase survived.

In 1971 William Denny and Sons purchased the house and, as the tenants gradually moved out, began its restoration, including the reinstatement of sash windows and brickwork along the ground floor frontage, so that the house today looks very much as it would have done in the 18th century.

*St Edmund's Church* (by kind permission of the Revd Barry Naylor). The excellent church guide completed in 1991 by the local historian, the late Alan Bottomley, M.A., was commended to members. A rapid chronological account of the story of St Edmund's followed, noting the tangible evidence both from records and from the fabric of the church itself.

In 1202 John de Grey, Bishop of Norwich, on papal instructions, decreed that Southwold should have a chapel of ease. The Abbey of Bury St Edmunds held the manor, and it was to that saint that the chapel was to be dedicated. Direct oversight was awarded to the Cluniac Priory of Thetford, whose cell at Wangford was already responsible for St Margaret's, Reydon, the mother church of Southwold. Domesday Book records an annual rent of 25,000 herrings.

Sometime early in the 15th century the first chapel was burnt down, and by 1430 plans had been made to rebuild on a magnificent scale. By now Dunwich haven was unusable, while Southwold was becoming increasingly prosperous. The profits of its cod and herring trade contributed to the church 'of one build' in the Perpendicular style, seen today.

Alan Bottomley proposes that the heraldic carvings on the south sanctuary window, together with the crowned leopard label stops of the north door, represent the badges of King Henry IV. The *rose-en-soleil* of the north door and in the west spandrel of the tower arch are the badges of Edward IV. Both Kings acquired the manor of Southwold during the time of building.

Thetford Priory donated more land for the church in 1458, in return for the annual rent of a rose, payable on St John's Day. St Edmund's may well have received royal and ecclesiastical patronage, but it was the inhabitants of the town itself who contributed to the cost of the building. Bequests were made to the main fabric, 1444–82, and thereafter for interior furnishings. Bequests, 1488–93, are for building the south porch.

In 1488/9 King Henry VII gave the town a charter of incorporation, including in the grant the lordship and manor of Southwold. A charter of confirmation in 1504 included a detailed constitution for the town which held good until the reforms of the 19th century.

The Southwold Jack dates from the same period. His clothing indicates a Yorkist soldier from the Wars of the Roses. He was once a Jack-smite-the-clock, but his movement has long since disappeared.

There are no records to date the destruction of the order and beauty of this once great Catholic church, but one can speculate that Cromwell's orders, early in 1535, to all churches to make returns of their possessions (drawn together in a general report, the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*), marked the beginning. Soon afterwards came orders to replace the roods with the Royal Arms. From that time the wood of the upper storey of the screen in St Edmund's has been left damaged. In the reign of Edward VI money raised from the sale of church furnishings was used to repair the harbour on the river Blyth.

William Dowsing, Parliamentary Commissioner for East Anglia, rode into Southwold, accompanied by Francis Verdon, on 8 April 1643. He recorded that his men 'broke down one hundred and thirty superstitious pictures, St Andrew and four crosses on the four corners of the vestry and gave orders to take down 13 cherubims and to take down 20 angels and to take down the cover of the font'.

Also obliterated were the representations of the Seven Sacraments which would have been carved on the octagonal font. The furnishings of the chancel and the Trinity and Lady Chapels had perhaps already gone. The exterior niches over west and south doors were left empty. Fortunately some superb examples of flint flushwork escaped damage. Over the great west window of the tower the crowned capitals of SA[NC]T EDMUND ORA P NOBIS and round the base of the south porch the monograms of M[ARY] still remain.

The carved stalls backing on to the screen on the chancel side were removed to face west, concealing the painted angels, apostles and prophets whose faces had been scratched out. These seats were adopted by the Burgesses and Bailiffs of the town, a tradition which was to be the cause of much trouble in the 19th century when they were returned to their rightful places in the chancel.

The nave of the church became a 'preaching box'. Box pews filled the floor; galleries filled the west end; and the windows were bricked up, some for part of their height, others entirely. An Elizabethan dining table was used for the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

The Restoration of Charles II in 1660 was celebrated with the purchase of a handsome chalice and patten, dated 1661.

An early Southwold historian, Thomas Gardner, Salt Officer in the early 18th century, writes vividly of the state of the church building and deplores the 'blind zeal' of the iconoclasts. He claims that he had the stairs to the rood loft 'opened', and records that the chamber over the porch was then the 'arsenal for the warlike stores of the town' (Gardner 1754, 204, 207, 209).

The 19th century saw the beginning of what was to be a thorough restoration of St Edmund's. In 1829, with the appointment of Henry William Rous Birch as vicar and first resident incumbent, work began with the renovation and repainting of the roof. (After Birch's death in 1873 the livings of Reydon and Southwold were separated, with the patronage of the latter allotted to the Simeon Trust.)

By the end of the century, in spite of opposition from townsfolk resistant to any change, the interior was restored to its traditional order. Benches replaced box pews, galleries were demolished and windows replaced. The roofs were substantially repaired and the angels returned. The present flèche on the nave roof was devised to replace the one-time sanctus bell turret. The chancel was re-established and the covered stalls returned to their rightful position. The screen, now exposed for the first time in decades, was cleaned, the faces of Isaiah and David being experimentally restored by George Richmond, R.A. in 1874. An expert medievalist, E.L. Blackburne, F.S.A., advised on another repainting of the chancel ceiling in 1857. The west windows were restored with painted glass as memorials to the Remnant family in 1878. In 1887 a new organ built by J. Wallace was provided in the chancel.

The present century has seen the continued care and adornment of the church. The screen was cleaned once more by Professor Tristram in 1930. The presiding genius of the decoration throughout was F.E. Howard of Oxford, a pupil and associate of Sir Ninian Comper. His work can be seen in the restoration and decoration of the two chapels, the reredos, altar furnishings and frontals, the font cover and base, pulpit, reading desk, lectern and hymn boards. 'Jack' was cleaned and his base designed.

World War II brought much damage to the town. A bomb falling near the churchyard gate shattered all the glass in the windows with the sole exception of the central west window. The lost tinted glass of the Victorian restoration has been replaced by clear glass. The roof covering was replaced with copper in 1947. The great east window, representing St Edmund, King and Martyr, was designed by Sir Ninian Comper and unveiled by H.R.H. The Princess Royal in 1954. In the window in the north side of the chancel is another St Edmund pictured in incised glass, made by John Hutton. It was commissioned by Sir Charles Tennyson to celebrate his ninetieth year and in memory of his wife and two sons. A third St Edmund figure, sculpted by Andrew Swinley in 1989, now occupies the niche over the south porch.

The choir vestry screen was installed in 1961 in memory of the Collett and Alexander families. The organ was electrified in 1966, and a modern detached console behind the pulpit replaced the earlier one in the chancel.

The considerable restoration of St Edmund's is thus complete, though the work of maintenance is of course never ending. Southwold's great church is fortunate to have attracted the affection and gratitude of so many people in recent years, who have donated generously to its continued upkeep.

*12 July. Edward Martin*

*Shelley Hall and Church: the Buildings of Sir Philip Tilney (d. 1533)*

*Shelley Hall* (by kind permission of Mr and Mrs A.H. Scott): the substantial, but much altered, remains of a brick mansion built for Sir Philip Tilney between his acquisition of the property in 1517 and his death in 1533. Tilney belonged to an ancient gentry family of Lincolnshire and Norfolk origin which greatly increased its status through the marriages of Thomas Howard, 2nd Duke of Norfolk, to Sir Philip's cousin Elizabeth Tilney and then to his sister Agnes. Sir Philip was steward of the Duke's manor of Framlingham Castle from 1495 until his death. He was treasurer of Henry VIII's expedition to Scotland in 1513 and was present at the Battle of Flodden. In his will, dated 8 December 1532 (proved 1533, P.C.C., 5 Hogen), he mentions his 'mansion place . . . called Shelley Hall . . . with all the gardeynes, orchardes, pondes . . . also the parke with . . . the deer'.

A manuscript book,<sup>1</sup> entitled on the cover 'Extent or rental of Thomas Tyllney Esq, of Shelley, 1556' contains a survey of the manor 'taken and made by the commaundment of Syr Phillip Tylney' 12 June 1519, which his son Thomas caused to be 'engrosyd in thys booke not mynysshynge or addyng eny thyng . . . therunto butt resyting the newe names of tenaunts and declaryng certeyn other names unto sundry & dyvers tenements which before hade no names' 14 June 1533. This contains a description of the setting of the mansion (see Fig. 64):

The sight [site] of the maner of Shelleigh as yt ys byldyd sett and lyeth in Shelleigh wythin the p[ar]ke of Shelleigh That is to say in the easte parte of the same p[ar]ke wyth a gardeyn on the este syde of the same sight of the maner whiche gardeyn ys bylded wyth stywes and ponds And also it is motyd on ev[er]y syde And a duffe [dove] hous ys byldyd on the south syde of the seyd stywes & ponds And so all thes p[re]misses as they lye togeder wythin the bounds of the seid sight of the man[er] of Shelleigh wythin the seyd p[ar]ke conteyneth by the pole mette of xvi foote & half a foote of the rule v acres & vii perches and half a perche.

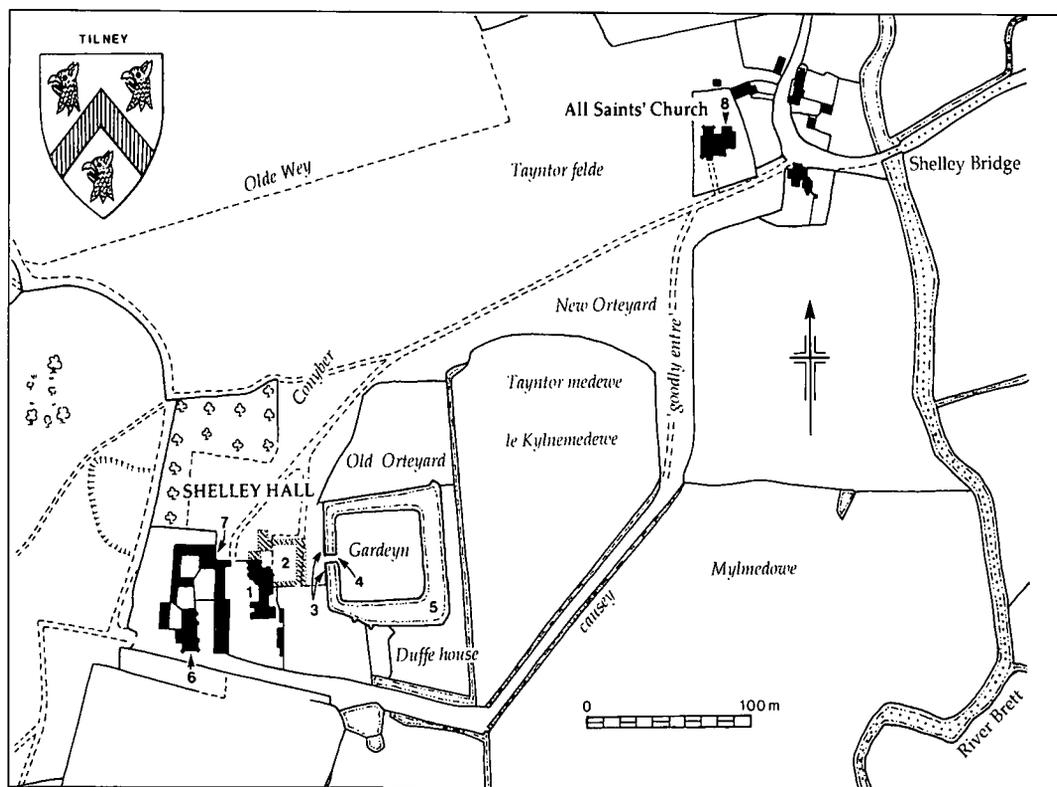


FIG. 64 – Map of Shelley with field names etc. taken from the 1519/1533 survey. Key: 1. Surviving part of Shelley Hall; 2. Probable outline of demolished part (oblique shading); 3. brick revetting to outer edge of moat; 4. brick bridge; 5. moat; 6. 16th-century brick barn; 7. remains of 16th-century brick building; 8. Tilney Chapel in Shelley Church.

Also ther ys a p[ar]cell of grounde on the north side of the seyd gardeyn that is callyd the olde orteyard the which lyeth betwyxte the mote of the seid gardeyn And the entre of the conybere ledyng owte of the sight of the man[er] in to the newe orteyard toward the churche of Shelleigh in the which p[ar]cell of grounde ys byldyd a long ponde the which p[ar]cell of grounde ys callyd the olde orteyard & yt conteynyth by the seyd mesure 1 acre 1 rode & half a rode.

Also ther is an other p[ar]cell of ground takyn oute of the teyntor felde which is callyd the newe orteyard with a goodly entre ledyng thurgh the same toward Shelleigh churche which newe orteyard lyeth on the north ende of tenyntor medewe at le kylnemedewe and the said new orchard contains 1 acre 3 rods and a half and 12 perches.

This description makes it clear that the rectangular moated site to the east of the house was a garden. When David Elisha Davy, the antiquarian, visited on the 15 August 1828 he noted the 'moated garden, which is part of the marshes' (Farrer 1925). The regular shape of the moat suggests that it was created specifically as a moated garden by Sir Philip Tilney, rather than being just the reused site of an earlier house.<sup>2</sup> In addition, the bridge across the moat aligns with an imposing Early Tudor brick doorway at the north end of the house, adding weight to the view that the house and moat were linked parts of the original builder's plan.

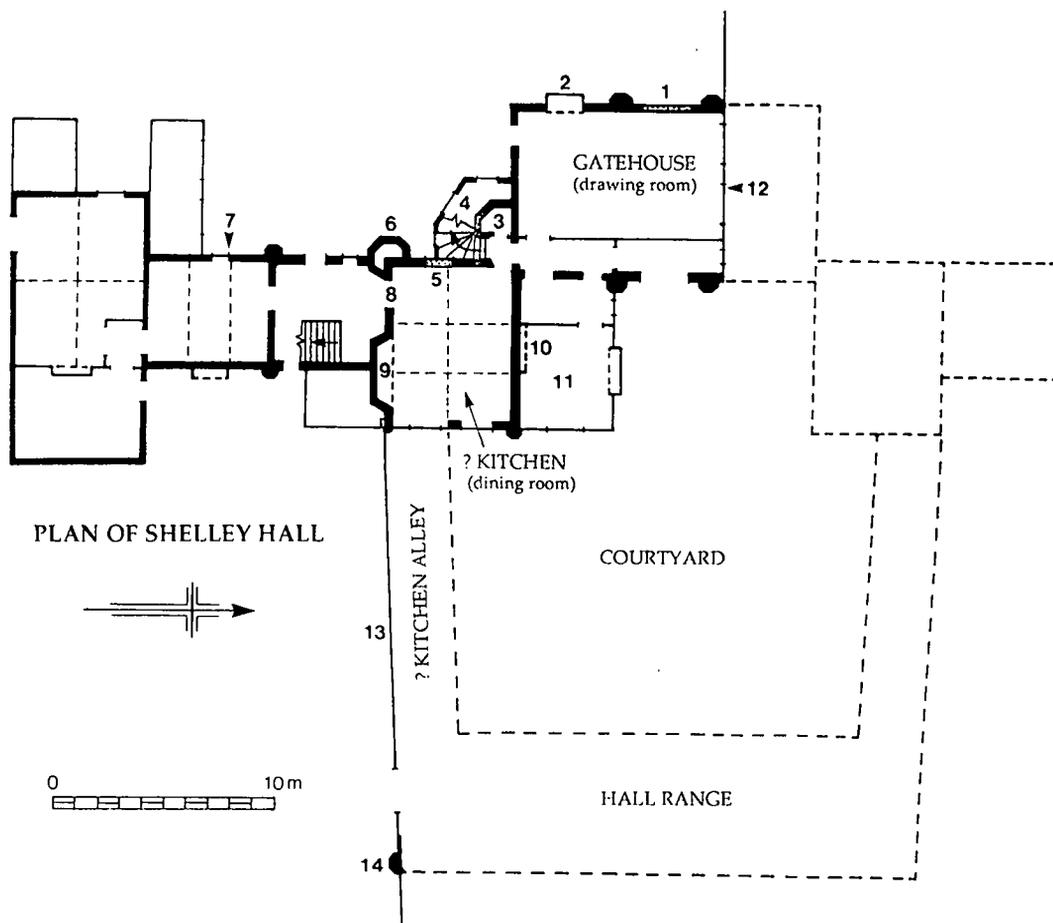


FIG. 65 – Plan of Shelley Hall. Key: thick lines indicate 16th–17th-century walls; thin lines indicate 18th–20th-century walls; dashed lines around the courtyard indicate the conjectural outline of the demolished parts of the house (elsewhere shorter dashed lines indicate suspended features (ceiling and fireplace beams, first-floor chimneys). Numbers indicate: 1. blocked doorway in gatehouse; 2. 18th/19th-century fireplace; 3. original stair turret; 4. stair turret of c. 1600; 5. blocked Tudor window; 6. disused Tudor stair turret; 7. brick and terracotta coat-of-arms; 8. doorway with armorial spandrels; 9. Tudor fireplace with two flues; 10. base of Tudor chimney stack serving first-floor room; 11. room added in 1813; 12. stone coat-of-arms; 13. brick garden wall on line of Tudor wall; 14. Tudor polygonal buttress.

Previous commentators have had difficulty in interpreting what survives of Tilney's mansion (Farrer 1925; Sandon 1977, 200–01), but it is clear that this Tudor doorway formed part of a gatehouse range. The doorway is in fact one of a pair, on opposed sides of the building. The one on the west side is now blocked (Fig. 65,1), but originally the two doorways must have been linked by a passageway. In the spandrels of both doorways are small terracotta plaques, each with the Tilney armorial device of a griffin's head. Flanking the doorways are polygonal brick buttresses with three tiers of trefoil-headed niches reaching up to first-floor level. The interiors of the niches still bear the remains of white plaster linings. The tops of the buttresses appear to be truncated, suggesting that the walls were once higher, possibly with battlemented tops and a flat roof, instead of the present pitched one. The north wall of this range is not original and terracing on the adjacent lawn indicates that the building once extended further to the

north. This makes it clear that the doorways were originally centrally placed in a long range, of which only the southern half survives. A stone plaque (12) with a very fine carving of the Tilney coat-of-arms that is set into the north wall of the house is clearly not in its original position. Armorial carvings by the same hand are in the Tilney Chapel in the church and Farrer (1925) states that this plaque was said to have come from that chapel.

The surviving part of the long range has a complex plan. The gatehouse projects eastward from the main line and was only attached to the rest of the building at its south-west corner. On the western side of the angle between the two ranges there is an original brick stair turret (3), encased within a larger stair turret (4) of early 17th-century date. At the bottom of the stairs is a fine wooden dog-gate of *c.* 1600 (Sandon 1977, pl. 119). The ground floor of the gatehouse has been converted into an Adam-style drawing room (with an added fireplace (2)) and a flanking narrow passage. The original exterior wall has been breached by two archways leading to a lobby and morning room (11) that were added in 1813.<sup>3</sup> South of this is the present dining room. This has a large fireplace (9) in its south wall, served by a massive chimney stack. This is an original feature and the shaped base of the stack projects into the room to the south. The bridging beams of the ceiling indicate that this has always been one room, but curiously, a drawing of the east side of the house, based on an illustration on an estate map of 1786 (Fig. 66)<sup>4</sup> shows that two-thirds of this room were part of a three-storeyed range with a crow-stepped gable, whilst a third was part of a projecting two-storey range with a flat roof. Examination of the exterior east wall of this room shows that the northern half has brickwork with an original diaper pattern (possibly cut off at the top), terminating in a polygonal buttress at its north-east corner, but that the southern half has clearly been rebuilt. In 1937 Charles Partridge noted that there was a blocked doorway in this part of the wall, visible within the first floor room.<sup>5</sup> A stub of walling projects eastward at the south-east corner and has been joined to a later garden wall (13). All this strongly indicates that a narrow range, of at least two storeys, originally extended eastward from the present building. This finds confirmation in the fact that a Tudor polygonal corner buttress (14) and a short length of contemporary walling are imbedded in the garden wall 19m to the east. One explanation for this could be that the dining room was originally a kitchen and that a narrow kitchen alley connected it to a now-disappeared hall range on the east side of a square courtyard.

At the south-west corner of the dining room there is a polygonal turret (6) that probably originally contained a staircase. This may have been the main access to the chamber above the dining room. Partridge records<sup>6</sup> that there was formerly no access at first floor level between this room and the southern part of the house (however he did also note a blocked door in the south wall of the room). This room has an original fireplace in its north wall and the base of its corbelled-out chimney stack (10) can be seen near the ceiling of the morning room (the stack can also be seen in the 1786 drawing). This room has panelling of *c.* 1700 and earlier this century there were three carved wooden panels above the fireplace. Partridge records that in 1897 he was told that 'these panels formed parts of a door discovered by my late granduncle Charles in an attic at the Hall, and that he had them framed and placed in their present position'.<sup>7</sup> These panels have now been removed and two are loose in the house. Both are Early Tudor in date and have been cut down from larger originals and reset in later wooden frames, which accords with Partridge's information. The large square panel bears a very fine carving of the Tilney coat-of-arms, crest and griffin supporters, surrounded by flowing foliage tendrils, within which are seven smaller shields repeating the arms shown in the quarterings on the large shield. A narrow panel bears the head of a woman in 'Romaine' style within a roundel, with foliage tendrils, animal masks and armour above and below. The third panel was obviously a pair to the narrow one and bore a man's head in a roundel, with foliage, armour and winged cherubs above and below.

The head of the doorway (8) on the south side of the dining room has carved wooden

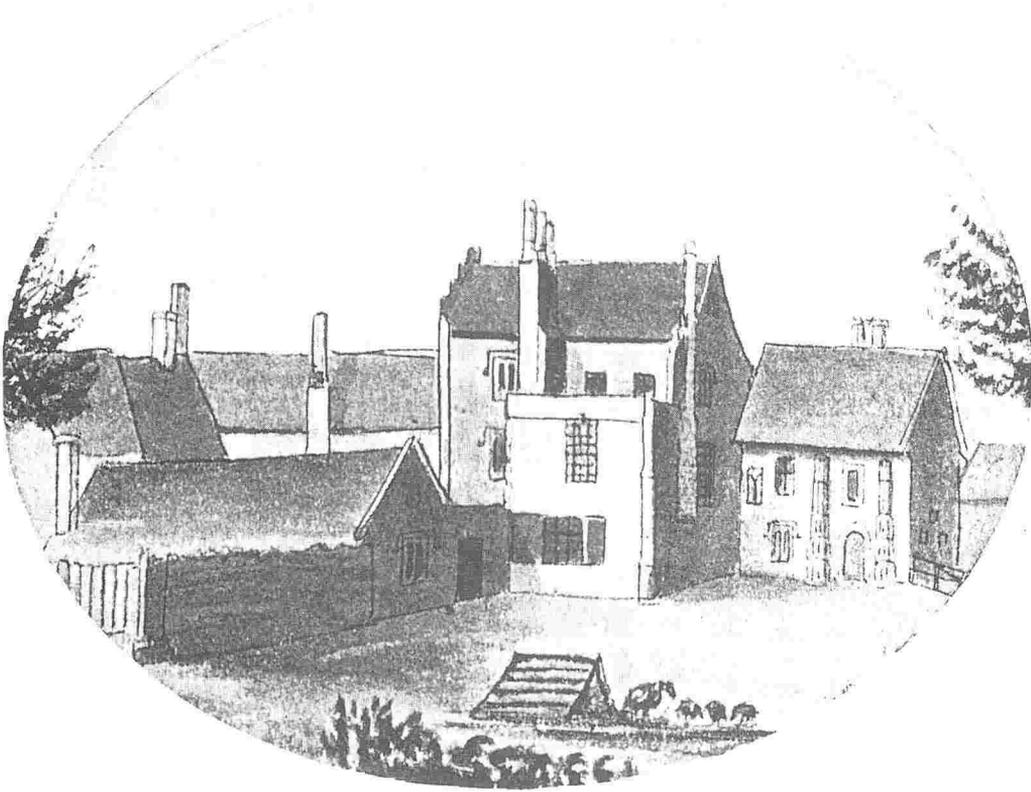


FIG. 66 – View of east side of Shelley Hall, copied from an estate map of 1786 (S.R.O.I., HD 78: 2671 – see note 4).

spandrels. These bear shields with griffins' heads, the armorial device of the Tilneys. Charles Partridge records that these were removed by his granduncle Charles when he left Shelley Hall in 1875, but were returned by Partridge to the Hall in 1933. This doorway leads to a room that formed the southernmost part of the three-storey block already mentioned. The upper part of this block was removed sometime after 1786 (possibly at the same time as the 1813 alterations), leaving the top floor as an attic. The block now has a continuous roof line with the originally lower block to the south. The end of the former three-storey block is marked externally by polygonal buttresses (now truncated). This block also has an overall diaper pattern and original brick two-light windows with arched heads and hood mouldings; in contrast the adjoining block only has vestiges of a diaper pattern on the lower third of the wall (the upper part has a regular English bond, which may represent a second stage of building or rebuilding). Set into the upper part of the wall is a representation of the Tilney coat-of-arms, constructed out of bricks and three terracotta plaques, each bearing a griffin's head; the whole set within a rectangular brick frame (7). The windows in this part have more modern wooden frames without hood moulds.

The southern cross-wing has a lower roof-line than the adjoining block, but otherwise has a similar plain appearance. A photograph of the west side of the Hall, taken by the Revd Edmund Farrer in 1905, shows a doorway at first-floor level in the centre of the gable-end of this wing, reached by an external ladder-like wooden staircase (the blocked outline of this door

can still be seen); towards the top of the gable three tiers of pigeon boxes can be seen. Farrer refers to the doorway as leading to a 'loft' and Partridge mentions that the southern part of the house was 'servants' quarters' in the recollection of his father. The general impression of this part of the house is that it was originally service or storage accommodation.

A large brick barn (Fig. 65, 6) at the south-west corner of the farmyard is probably contemporary with the house and must have delineated part of the west side of a large courtyard (or base court) in front of the house. The east wall of the barn (the side facing the house) has an overall diamond diaper pattern (now feint). There is a large central opening, with modern boarding and doors, and a blocked Tudor doorway at the north end of the east side. Along the sides are square ventilation holes (now mostly blocked). The roof has two rows of side purlins, tenoned into the principal rafters above and below the collars. At the north-east corner of the farm buildings complex, there are fragments of a Tudor doorway and flanking walls on the east side of a much altered brick building (Fig. 65, 7).

The Tilneys were cousins of Queen Elizabeth (her great-grandmother was Elizabeth Tilney) and on 11 August 1561 the Queen paid a visit to Shelley Hall (Nichols 1788, 3). Despite this family connection, Sir Philip's great-great-grandson, Charles Tilney, was involved in the Babington Conspiracy and was executed in 1586. The Tilney family remained at Shelley until about 1627, when Philip Tilney sold the estate to Thomas Kerridge (c. 1583–1657) a sea-captain who had voyaged to India. His son Samuel (1645–1678) was assessed on eighteen hearths here in 1674, suggesting that the whole of the Tilney house was still standing. Although his son Thomas (d. 1743) is styled 'of Shelley Hall' on his widow's monument in Framlingham church, there are suggestions that the Hall was rented out in his time. It was certainly occupied by tenants during the time it was owned by the Folkes and Rush families. John Spells, a farmer, was the tenant by 1748, and he was followed in 1759 by Arthur Partridge (d. 1789). It was for his son Robert (1773–1854) that the alterations and additions of 1813 were carried out. His son Charles continued as the tenant until 1875. The historian Charles Partridge, M.A., F.S.A., F.R.G.S (d. 1955) was Charles's nephew. He records that the 'ornamental caps' to the chimneys and perhaps the 'Adam mantelpiece in the parlour' were added by 'Lawyer Robinson of Hadleigh' (John Frederick Robinson of The Hall, Hadleigh, fl. 1840s–70s) after 1876. An early photograph of the Hall (Fig. 67) shows the chimneys without caps, but they can be seen in Farrer's photographs of 1905. The Hall was purchased early this century by James Winter Brittain (1824–1910) of Giffords Hall, Stoke-by-Nayland, and his son, Russell Kendall Brittain (1865–1954), lived at Shelley Hall from around 1910 to 1943. In 1923 Farrer revisited the house and noted 'It seemed to me that much was altered in appearance – some things had been moved, and small additions to the house had been made' (Farrer 1925). Since 1947 the Hall has been owned successively by the Buxton and Scott families.

*Shelley, All Saints' Church* (by kind permission of the Very Revd Canon S. Morris). A small church, originally entered from the north through an early-14th-century porch tower. The south aisle has a window with intersecting tracery and mask-like stops on the hoodmould, which resembles windows of c. 1300 at nearby Little Wenham, Great Wenham and Raydon (Martin 1998). At the base of the walls several large sarsen stones can be seen.<sup>8</sup> The north side is dominated by the brick Tilney Chapel (bricks measure 9.75 x 4.75 x 2.5in.). In his will, dated 8 December 1532, Sir Philip Tilney requested burial 'in my newe chappell in Shelley church'. His son Thomas, in 1557, asked to be buried 'in Shelleighe Church Chappell called Tylney Chappell by my father' and gave 40s. to the 'coveringe upp agayne of Shelleigh church steple' (will proved 1559, P.C.C., 27 Chaynay). The north wall of the chapel has two two-light windows, both originally plastered to resemble stone. The brick hoodmoulds have small carved stone heads as terminals. Between the windows is a small stone plaque with the Tilney arms. Above this, in the upper part of the gable, is the outline of a blocked or dummy window



FIG. 67 – Shelley Hall from the south-west, pre-1905, showing the gatehouse range and the stair turret  
(*photograph kindly supplied by Dr J.M. Blatchly*).

with a hoodmould. The side walls have similar three-light brick windows. At the corners of the chapel are small polygonal buttresses surmounted by small male heads carved in stone.

Inside, beneath the north nave window, is the tomb of Dame Margaret Tilney (d. 1597; widow of Frederick/Frery Tilney, d. 1541), and of John Smyth (d. 1578) with a painted stone effigy. The upper part of the monument has been removed, but three coloured heraldic shields that must have crowned its top have been reset on an earlier Tilney tomb on the north wall of the chancel. This tomb has a frontage consisting of three arched panels, each with a shield: Tilney, Tilney impaling Teye, and Teye. These arms indicate that the tomb was commissioned for Sir Philip Tilney (d. 1533) and his second wife Jane Teye. Jane was still alive in 1517 but probably died not long afterwards, as Sir Philip married as his third wife Elizabeth Jeffery, by whom he had three daughters. The Tudor choir stalls have carved griffins holding shields with the Tilney arms.

The entrance to the Tilney Chapel lies immediately to the west of Sir Philip's tomb, which may have been conceived as an Easter Sepulchre in the wall between the chapel and the chancel. The opening is lined with wooden panelling, some of which may not be in its original position. At the top of the east side are three panels with shields of the Tilney arms. In the middle of the west side are three panels of 'parchemin' panelling enriched with flowers and bunches of grapes, with linenfold panels above and beneath. The ceiling is subdivided by moulded wooden ribs into six-pointed stars, lozenges and triangles in a way that is strongly reminiscent of the geometric patterns on the ceilings of Hampton Court, dated to the 1520s and 1530s (Thurley 1993, 97–98 and 122). On the north wall of the chapel is a stone plaque bearing a finely carved achievement of the Tilney arms, with the helm and crest being supported by two griffins. A moulded ten-foot wooden pole, with a T-bracket at the end,

which projects from near the top of the west wall, was probably intended for the display of a heraldic tabard and could be original.

Hatchments within the church commemorate Mary, the widow of Samuel Kerridge (he d. 1678) and Thomas Kerridge (d. 1743). There are floorstones to Thomas Kerridge (d. 1657), Dame Mary Lomley (d. 1650, mother-in-law of Thomas Kerridge; Farrer records seeing a hatchment for her in a loft or granary in Shelley Hall at the end of the 19th century, which had been moved to a smoking-room in the gatehouse by 1905), John Kerridge (d. 1661), Samuel Kerridge (d. 1678). A stained glass window by William Warrington of London commemorates his apprentice Henry Partridge (d. 1864, aged twenty-one). In the churchyard is the grave of the historian Charles Partridge (d. 1955, aged eighty-three).

*13 September. Clive Paine*

*Little Whelmetham and Rushbrooke*

*Little Whelmetham, St Mary's Church* (by kind permission of the Revd John Swain). A church with twenty acres of land is mentioned in Domesday. The nave has 12th- or 13th-century quoins and a Norman pillar piscina in the south well. The Norman chancel has a 12th-century piscina and 13th-century aumbry. A low-side window on the south side has an iron grille, and a deep splay on the inside. The pre-Reformation stone *mensa* now forms part of the floor under the communion table.

The chancel had an image of St Mary Magdalen; £5 was left in 1539 for painting the image and the tabernacle. The Decorated-period chancel arch is surmounted by a sexfoiled circular window of the same date. The dado of the rood screen remains, and some of the tracery is re-used in the tower screen. A bequest of £9 for painting the rood screen was made in 1539.

The south door of the nave is late Perpendicular, with an angel holding a scroll in the apex of the arch. The south porch is of Tudor red bricks, similar to those used at Rushbrooke Hall and church in the 1550s. The large, late Perpendicular north and south windows were inserted when the roof was constructed. The single hammer-beam roof has the rare construction of two arch-braced bays between each hammer-beam bay, probably owing to the position of the windows and doors in the nave walls. The crowned hammer-beam figures are large, and the pairs at the east and west ends turn inward to look along the nave. J.W. Darby records the restoration of the roof in 1842, including the carving of new hands and heads. The bases of the wall posts have grotesque heads, including a green man.

In the churchyard to the east of the church is a circular ruin 26ft in diameter, with walls 3ft thick standing to a height of 3ft. There is an entrance on the west and a buttress on the north and south sides. The walls seem too narrow for a tower; the structure is not on the same axis as the church; and there is no documentary evidence to indicate its use. The County Sites and Monuments Record dates the structure to the 11th century.

*Rushbrooke.* The Jermyn family held the manor, through marriage with the Rushbrooke family, from c. 1230 until 1703, when it passed to the Davers family, who held it until 1806. In 1808 it was purchased by Robert Rushbrooke, who claimed to be descended from the 13th-century lords. The Rushbrookes sold the estate in 1919. In 1938 the Hall and village were purchased by Lord Rothschild, and the estate was gradually re-acquired. The village was demolished and rebuilt in two phases: 'mock Tudor' houses designed by Willam Mitchell of Bury St Edmunds in 1939 and modern houses by Sir Richard Llewelyn Davies and John Weeks between 1955 and 1963. The farm buildings also date from 1938-39.

*Rushbrooke, St Nicholas's Church* (by kind permission of the churchwarden, Mr W.C. Bellingier). The church is mentioned in Domesday, and the present structure consists of chancel, nave, south chancel chapel, south aisle, Tudor brick south porch and unbuttressed 14th-century tower. In 1496 Sir Thomas Jermyn gave the massive sum of £66 3s. 4d. to repair the church

and have the south chapel extended. The three-bay south aisle has been divided into two sections: the eastern bay has a raised floor and was the pew of the manorial family; the other two bays have become an inner hall or entrance from the porch.

The chancel contained four tomb chests to four Sir Thomas Jermyns, 1504, 1552, 1645 and 1659. These were all removed or lowered to floor level during the 1885 restoration. Among the remaining monuments is that of Henry Jermyn, Earl St Albans (d. 1684), secretary to Queen Henrietta Maria. The south chapel contains a range of Jermyn and Davers monuments, 1692–1806, the insertion of which has resulted in the blocking of the east window and south door.

In the early 19th century the entire interior of the nave was re-ordered by Col. Robert Rushbrooke, M.P. The nave is arranged in collegiate style with inward-facing benches with canopied and gabled backs, and family seats at the west end. The west gallery contains a wooden organ case. At the east end are the mock Royal Arms of Henry VII or Henry VIII, and in the aisle is a wooden font. All of these works had been completed by 1827 using medieval timber and the panelling from at least two rooms at Rushbrooke Hall. In this church every piece of wood carving has to be suspect as Col. Rushbrooke's work rather than medieval! But the rood beam with its canopied supports, the south aisle and chancel roof *appear* to be mainly original.

In the 16th century substantial repairs were carried out in red brick. Many of the windows have moulded brick mullions and tracery, and the south porch, nave and chancel all have brick stepped gables. It is tempting to link this work, and the porch at Little Whelnetham, with the alterations at Rushbrooke Hall in the 1550s.

*Rushbrooke Hall* (by kind permission of Mrs Anita Rothschild). The Hall was demolished in 1961 and only the moated site remains. The building was similar in plan to nearby Kentwell and Melford Halls, with a back hall range and long projecting wings. The hall range formed the core of the medieval house, with a screens passage and service rooms beyond.

In his will of 1552 Sir Thomas Jermyn mentions 'chambers in the newe works and the chambers above and those that be beneth next the ground', the hall, parlour, chapel and chamber and the bell chamber. It is probable that the 'new work' was the addition of the two wings. The courtyard had eight coats of arms including those of de Vere, Ufford, Rushbrooke, Jermyn and Heveningham. This last, for Sir Ambrose Jermyn and Ann Heveningham (she d. 1567) also appeared on the stone porch with Tuscan columns.

When Queen Elizabeth was on progress in 1578 the French ambassadors stayed at Rushbrooke and Sir Robert Jermyn was knighted at Bury St Edmunds. He placed a bell, dated 1579, by Stephen Tonni of Bury in the bell chamber; this is now in Christchurch Mansion, Ipswich.

*Clive Paine,  
Hon. Excursions Secretary*

#### NOTES

- 1 S.R.O.I., HD 12: 51/3/6.
- 2 The medieval lords of Shelley were largely non-resident: the Tatteshalls of Tatteshall, Lincs. and Buckenham Castle, Norfolk, and their co-heirs (Cailys, Cliftons, Dribys, Orbys, Bernakes, Cromwells). The manor seems to have been sold after the death of Sir John Clifton of Buckenham in 1447 (perhaps coincidentally, his wife, Joane Thorpe, was Sir Philip Tilney's great-aunt). The manor was then held by Robert Harleston (attainted 1462) and was granted to Richard, Duke of Gloucester in 1471. Towards the end of the 15th century it belonged to John King, Citizen and Draper of London. His widow Alice married John Timperley of Ipswich and died in 1485 (her will proved 1487, P.C.C., 5 Milles). John King's son William was dead by 1485 and the heir to Shelley was William's son John, then aged under twenty-four.

This John King married Rose, the daughter of Sir Edmund Jenney of Knodishall. She later married Thomas Aylmer of Polstead and together they sold Shelley in 1517, though Rose retained a life annuity payable out of the manor (mentioned in Sir Philip Tilney's will).

- 3 Notes by Charles Partridge, 1937, S.R.O.I., HA 126: 8396/6–12.
- 4 This drawing (S.R.O.I., HD 78: 2671) was given to the Revd Edmund Farrer by Charles Partridge. A redrawn version was published in Copinger 1910, 82.
- 5 S.R.O.I., HA 126: 8396/6–12.
- 6 *Ibid.*
- 7 *Ibid.*
- 8 For the occurrence of 'sarsens' – blocks of hard, silica cemented sandstones (quartz arenites) – in south Suffolk, see Boswell 1929, 22 and fig. 3, and Pattison *et al.* 1993, 28.

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*Abbreviations*

- E.A.M.*            *East Anglian Miscellany*.  
*P.C.C.*            Prerogative Court of Canterbury.  
*S.R.O.I.*          Suffolk Record Office, Ipswich Branch.

## JOHN FRERE BICENTENARY MEETING

TO COMMEMORATE the reading of John Frere's famous paper to the Society of Antiquaries of London on 22 June 1797, a small party met at Hoxne on 22 June 1997. The President, Dr J.M. Blatchly and Secretary, Mr E.A. Martin attended the gathering, which was organized by Dr J.J. Wymer, Vice-President.

The brilliant observations made by John Frere can be considered as the beginning of Palaeolithic archaeology for, contrary to accepted views of the time, he reasoned that the flint tools he saw being dug from a brickyard at Hoxne had been made by people 'who had not the use of metals' and belonged to a very remote period 'even beyond that of the present world'. His letter was published in *Archaeologia* volume 13 for the year 1800, but it was to be nearly sixty years before the profundity of his observations was realized.

The party of twenty-two persons was formed by a select company of those with special interests in the archaeology of the county, the Palaeolithic period in particular, and the



FIG. 68 – The John Frere bicentenary meeting: the party at the rear of the Hoxne 'Swan', Sunday 22 June 1997. Left to right: Mr Andrew Lawson (Director, Wessex Archaeology), Mrs Annabel Lawson (Andante Travels), Mrs Amy Mellars, Mr Jack Banham (ex-Manager, Hoxne Brickyard), Mr E.A. Martin (Hon. General Secretary), Mr Tim Holt-Wilson (Curator, Diss Museum), Professor Paul Mellars (Reader in Archaeology, University of Cambridge), Professor Clive Gamble (Dept of Archaeology, University of Southampton), Dr Paul Ashbee (Centre of East Anglian Studies), Mrs Mollie Wymer, Mrs Richmal Ashbee, Miss Sarah Frere (great-great-great-great-granddaughter of John Frere), Miss Jill Cook (Quaternary Section, British Museum), Dr Stanley West (ex-Director, Suffolk Archaeological Unit), Mr Bryan Addison, Mrs Irene West, Dr D.R. Bridgland (Dept of Geography, University of Durham), Professor R.G. West (Botany School, University of Cambridge), Professor D.A. Roe (Baden-Powell Quaternary Research Centre, University of Oxford), Dr John Blatchly (President), Dr Steven Plunkett (Ipswich Museum). (Photo: J.J. Wymer).

Quaternary geology of East Anglia. The photograph (Fig. 68) shows all those attending. The party met and took lunch at the Hoxne 'Swan' and a visit was made to the place beside the brickyard on the road to Eye where Frere witnessed the workmen finding so many flint tools that they were using them for filling ruts in the road. The site has a long history of excavation from the British Association in 1896, Reid Moir in the 1930s, West and MacBurney 1951–52 and the University of Chicago 1971–74 and 1978. A summary of this work and the University of Chicago excavations can be found in the Institute's *Proceedings* (Wymer 1983), and an account of the life of John Frere and the illustrious Frere family in the *East Anglian Monthly Magazine* (Ashbee 1981).

The party proceeded to St Bartholomew's Church at Finningham where John Frere and other members of the family are buried. Walking to the church, the elegant house of Green Farm was passed, where John Frere lived, although he later was at Roydon Hall, near Diss. Various memorials to the family were inspected in the nave and floor of the church. None specifically referred to John Frere and it was the general assent of the party that it would be very fitting if one could be placed there. The President advised on the form of such a tablet and it was agreed that the Diocese should be contacted in the hope that it could be sanctioned.

An excellent and substantial tea was very kindly given to the party by the churchwarden, Mr A. Strickland, and his wife.

J.J. Wymer,  
Vice-President

#### REFERENCES

- Ashbee, P., 1981. 'Hoxne, John Frere of Roydon and the Old Stone Age', *East Anglian Monthly Magazine*, Jun., 32–35, 43.
- Frere, J., 1800. 'Account of Flint Weapons Discovered at Hoxne in Suffolk, in a letter to the Rev. John Brand, Secretary', *Archaeologia*, 13, 204–05.
- Wymer, J.J., 1983. 'The Lower Palaeolithic Site at Hoxne', *Proc. Suffolk Inst. Archaeol.*, XXXV, 169–89.

## LECTURES

- March 1            At Ipswich: 'On the Trail of William Dowsing', by Trevor Cooper.
- March 22          At Bury St Edmunds: 'Monasticism and Society in Twelfth-Century Suffolk',  
by Professor Christopher Harper-Bill.
- October 25        At Ipswich: 'The Disguise of Historic Brickwork Rediscovered', by Timothy  
Easton.
- November 15      At Bury St Edmunds: 'A Re-assessment of the Neolithic Flint Mines in  
England with Special Reference to Grimes Graves', by Peter Topping.
- December 6        At Ipswich: short contributions by the Institute's members:-  
    'The Lakenheath Anglo-Saxon Cemetery', by Edward Martin.  
    'Gilding Methods', by Dr Philip Pantelis.  
    'The Journal of Miss Agnes Porter', by Dr Joanna Martin.

## MEMBERS ELECTED DURING 1997

DURING THE year 46 members were elected and, after taking into account resignations and lapsed members, the membership at the end of 1997 stood at 815, a net decrease of two. The total comprised 550 full members, 180 associate members, and 85 institutions and societies.

Bell, Mr & Mrs D. le M., 64 Corder Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP4 2XB.  
Blow, Mr & Mrs J., 21a Parklands, Ufford, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP13 6ES.  
Bowden-Smith, Miss R.I., Chestnuts, Hacheston, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP13 0DR.  
Burd, Mrs J., 13 Sale Court, Old Market Green, Loddon, Norwich, Norfolk, NR14 6QF.  
Burton, Mrs K.J.A., 109 Gardeners Road, Debenham, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 6RZ.  
Chapman, Mrs A.M., 8 Pembroke Road, Framlingham, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP13 9HA.  
Cliffe, Mr D.J., 64 Trinity Close, Kesgrave, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP5 1JB.  
Cobb, Mrs B.-L., 166 Henniker Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 5HQ.  
Donaghey, Mr A., 4 Long Row, Framlingham Road, Hacheston, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP13 0DU.  
Durrant, Mrs D.L., 3 Griffin Court, Brickfield Close, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP2 8EP.  
Gowlett, Mr & Mrs M., 60 Barlows Reach, Chelmer Village, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 6SN.  
Hearn, Mr T.P., Felton House, Liston, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 7HR.  
Hill, Mr M.W., Lowlands, The Street, Witnessham, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP6 9HG.  
Hodge, Miss M.E., Allen Bank, 22 Hasketon Road, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 4JS.  
James, Mr G. & Dr J., 1 The Mews, Pytches Road, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 1EX.  
Kunz, Elizabeth, 21 Olde Coach Road, Diamond Point, NY 12824, USA.  
Lidstone, Mr D., 31 Dawson Drive, Trimley St Mary, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP10 0YN.  
Longe, Mr N., Grange Farm, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP13 6HN.  
Mather, Mr G.A., 12 Highbury Way, Great Cornard, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 0HE.  
Norton, Revd A., The Vicarage, Spexhall, Halesworth, Suffolk, IP19 0RQ.  
Nuthall, Mr T.P., 7 Rectory Court, Elm Grove Lane, Norwich, NR3 3LH.  
Page, Mr C., 10 Morley Road, Lewisham, London, SE13 6DQ.  
Plunkett, Dr S.J., 3 Henley Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 3SE.  
Pratt, Mr & Mrs R.W., 36 Chequers Rise, Great Blakenham, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP6 0LT.  
Richardson, Mr & Mrs C.P., Corner Cottage, Church Lane, Whatfield, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP7 6QR.  
Richardson, Ms P., 18 Bulwer Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 2JT.  
Salmond, Mr J.S.R., Tailor's House, Bawdsey, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 3AJ.  
Sheerin, Mrs H.S. & Miss S., Kingshall Farmhouse, Rougham, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP30 9LG.  
Stocks, Miss M.Y., 16 Ringsfield Road, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 9PF.  
Sutton, Dr A.F., 44 Guildhall Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 1QF.  
Thorpe, Mrs J.E., Acorns, Park Road, Combs, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 2JS.  
Todd, Mrs D., Beechwood, Monewden, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP13 7BZ.  
Tyler, Mr & Mrs L.J., Church Cottage, Capel St Mary, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP9 2EL.  
Van Zwanenberg, Mrs A., 6 Cumberland Mews, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 4JF.  
Von Känel, Mrs P.J., 10 Turnstile Lane, Bungay, Suffolk, NR35 1DA.  
Ware, Mr & Mrs A.W., 1 Westgarth Gardens, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 3LB.  
Wells-Furby, Dr B.R., St Edmunds Farm, Brundish, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP13 8BL.

SUFFOLK INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

(The following is a condensed version of the full accounts presented to the Annual General Meeting of the Institute on 25 April 1998)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997

	1997 £	1996 £
Voluntary Income		
Donations, etc.	28.00	39
Investment Income	969.41	780
Surplus on Income and Expenditure Account	1,035.19	1,140
Surplus for the year	2,032.60	1,959
Add: Balance on Accumulated Fund at 1 January 1997	9,071.21	9,112
	<u>11,103.81</u>	<u>11,071</u>
Transfer to Research, Excavation and Publication Fund	2,000.00	2,000
Balance on Accumulated Fund at 31 December 1997	<u>9,103.81</u>	<u>9,071</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1997

	1997 £	1996 £
INVESTMENTS	9,147.26	9,147
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at bank	25,166.26	1,662
Debtors	1,447.00	15,400
	<u>35,760.52</u>	<u>26,209</u>
Less: Subscriptions in Advance Creditor	(460.00) (7,665.00)	(442) -
	<u>27,635.52</u>	<u>25,767</u>
<i>Represented by</i>		
Gwen Dyke Bequest	7,221.66	6,722
Research, Excavation and Publication Fund	11,310.05	9,974
Accumulated Fund	9,103.81	9,071
	<u>27,635.52</u>	<u>25,767</u>

A.B. PARRY *Hon. Treasurer*

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997

	1997 £	1996 £
INCOME		
Subscriptions	8,003.85	7,857
EXPENDITURE – GENERAL		
Administrative	1,529.72	1,531
Excursions	160.00	140
Lectures	181.10	150
Grants	150.00	-
	<u>2,020.82</u>	<u>1,821</u>
	5,983.03	6,036
EXPENDITURE – PROCEEDINGS		
Costs including postage	6,458.24	
Less: Sales and Grants	1,510.40	
	<u>4,947.84</u>	<u>4,896</u>
SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	<u>1,035.19</u>	<u>1,140</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997

	<i>Market Value</i>	<i>1997</i>	<i>1996</i>
	£	£	£
1 INVESTMENTS			
14% Treasury Stock 1998–2001			
£1,072.38 Nominal	1,100	1,000.00	1,000
8% Treasury Stock, 2003			
£2,256.48 Nominal	2,411	2,183.50	2,184
8% Treasury Stock, 2009			
£6,244.78 Nominal	<u>7,111</u>	<u>5,963.76</u>	<u>5,963</u>
	<u>10,622</u>	<u>9,147.26</u>	<u>9,147</u>
2 GWEN DYKE BEQUEST			
Balance at 1 January 1997		6,722.08	6,223
Add: 8% Treasury Stock Interest		<u>499.58</u>	<u>499</u>
Balance at 31 December 1997		<u>7,221.66</u>	<u>6,722</u>
3 RESEARCH, EXCAVATION AND PUBLICATION FUND			
Balance at 1 January 1997		9,973.96	7,628
Add: Lloyds Premier Interest		341.59	297
Sales – Suffolk Arcades		217.00	37
– Dame Alice		7.50	12
Transfer from Accumulated Fund		<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>2,000</u>
		12,540.05	9,974
Less: Cost of Index to Volume XXXVIII		<u>1,230.00</u>	<u>–</u>
Balance at 31 December 1997		<u>11,310.05</u>	<u>9,974</u>
4 INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS			
14% Treasury Stock 1998–2001		150.10	150
8% Treasury Stock 2003		<u>180.50</u>	<u>181</u>
		<u>330.60</u>	<u>331</u>
5 INTEREST ON BANK DEPOSIT ACCOUNT			
Lloyds Premier Interest		610.48	382
Lloyds Treasurers Interest		<u>28.31</u>	<u>67</u>
		<u>638.79</u>	<u>449</u>

REPORT OF THE HON. AUDITOR

I have examined the books and accounts of the *Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*. The Balance Sheet, the Statement of Financial Activities and the Income and Expenditure Account have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 1995 and follow the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting for Charities.

Although my appointment as Honorary Auditor is not subject to the requirements of the Charities Act 1993 Section 43 I have, however, conducted my audit in accordance with Practice Note 11 dated October 1996 and issued by the Auditing Practices Board.

In my opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the *Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History* as at 31 December 1997 and of its incoming resources and application of resources in the year then ended.

(Signed) Douglas E. Colyer, *Honorary Auditor*.

## SUFFOLK INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

**Membership.** – Application forms for membership are obtainable from the Hon. Membership Secretary, Dr. J.O. Martin, Oak Tree Farm, Hitcham, Ipswich, IP7 7LS. Present members are urged to support the Institute by enrolling new members.

**Subscriptions.** – The annual subscription is £12.50 for an ordinary member due in advance on 1 January. The joint subscription for a husband and wife is £15. Students under 21 are entitled to pay at the student rate of £8. Subscriptions should be sent to the Hon. Financial Secretary, A.B. Parry, 23 Vermont Crescent, Ipswich, IP4 2ST.

**Privileges.** – The annual subscription entitles members to a copy of the Institute's journal, the *Proceedings*, which contains articles by national and local scholars on the archaeology and history of Suffolk. They will also receive the twice-yearly *Newsletter*, giving details of forthcoming events, short notes and book reviews. The Institute organises a number of excursions in the summer to places of interest in and around Suffolk. In the winter it has a programme of lectures, held alternately at Bury St Edmunds and Ipswich. Members may also use and borrow books from the Institute's Library, housed in the Suffolk Record Office, Raingate Street, Bury St Edmunds. Finally, members who wish to take an active part in archaeological fieldwork may join the Institute's Field Group, which has close links with the County Archaeological Unit and local museums. Enquiries respecting the Field Group should be addressed to the Hon. Field Group Secretary, M.J. Hardy, 29 High Road, Wortwell, Harleston, Norfolk, IP20 0HG.

**Publications.** – Indexes of the articles in past volumes of the *Proceedings* are to be found in volumes X (1900), XXIV (1948) and XXX (1966). Back numbers of *Proceedings* and other publications are available from Mrs S. Muldoon, Ipswich Museum, High Street, Ipswich, IP1 3QH, at £10 per Part to members, £12 to non-members (volumes XXXVIII and XXXIX), and £8 per Part to members, £10 to non-members (earlier volumes), plus postage.

**Articles** and notes on all aspects of Suffolk archaeology and history should be sent to the Hon. Editor, Dr David Allen, 105 Tuddenham Avenue, Ipswich, IP4 2HG, from whom copies of Notes for Contributors may be obtained. Items for inclusion in the *Newsletter*, published in March and September, should be sent to Dr J. Middleton-Stewart, St Peter's House, Spexhall, Halesworth, IP19 0RG.

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*If undelivered, please return to:*

**DR J.O. MARTIN, OAK TREE FARM, HITCHAM, SUFFOLK, IP7 7LS**