

EXCURSIONS 1992

Report and notes on some findings

25 April. Philip Aitkens, David Dymond, Timothy Easton, Edward Martin, Clive Paine, Arthur Teece and Elizabeth Wigmore

Long Melford

Melford Hall (by kind permission of Sir Richard and Lady Hyde Parker). Excursion concentrated on parts of this great house not normally opened to public by National Trust. Before Reformation this was important estate of Abbots of Bury St Edmunds, who had country seat here. Melford-born lawyer William Cordell said to have had lease of Hall 1545/6, though extant Crown grant is 1554. Presumably he started building soon after acquiring property. As first built, house seems to have consisted of single range with two large bay windows on E. side and several large external chimney stacks on W. It has been stated (e.g. National Trust Guide, 1975, 9) that Cordell built on foundations of Abbots' house, drawing attention to cellar beneath 'Banqueting Hall'. Certainly that part of extensive cellars (including part under main stairs) does appear different, with walls of mortared flint on brick plinth, arched brick doorways and two obsolete two-light brick windows on W. wall. However, cellar layout relates closely to plan of ground floor of house, as recorded by John Thorpe *c.* 1606 (original now in Sir John Soane Museum, London), suggesting that they are contemporary. Brick-vaulted tunnel that connects cellar with base court on S. side may also be part of original plan. Use of flint for cellar's walls, instead of brick used elsewhere, may have been cost-cutting exercise in area not for public viewing. Cordell's will, 1580/1, appears to confirm his house not built on Abbots' foundations, for after mentioning his mansion house called Melford Hall, he refers to 'Old House, adjoining to the said capital messuage' – there must be strong presumption that 'Old House' was Abbots' house, still standing.

As Cordell 'increased in wealth and status' – Solicitor-General 1553, knighted 1555, Master of the Rolls 1557, Speaker of Commons 1558 – he seems to have enlarged his house, but not, apparently, to predetermined plan. Full sequence of building not yet clear, but N. wing an early addition, its construction blocking a side-light on one of bay windows. In a further development a narrow E. wing and two associated angle towers added, blocking one of original N. wing windows. No sign of similar blocked window in S. wing, which may indicate E. and S. wings built simultaneously. Towers on W. side of main range may also have been added at this time, as may impressive Classically-decorated stone porch – Renaissance shell motif on top of towers echoed by similar shell on top of porch.

The two large corner towers clearly enclose earlier external W. wall, preserving mid-16th-century painted brickwork on chimney stacks, as can now be seen in upper rooms and in roof. On small stack at N. end, paintwork takes form of diaper pattern of blue-black-painted bricks against ruddled (red-painted) background, double-struck pointing being emphasised by white paint – interestingly, painted decoration in places ignores actual shapes of bricks beneath it. Larger stack at S. end, originally serving kitchen, has similar decoration, but here it is also possible to see bases of chimney shafts in roofspace. An octagonal section of brickwork immediately below shafts bears black and red chequer pattern, with recessed and white-painted band above it; surmounting this are moulded bases, plastered and red-painted, of octagonal shafts. Shafts themselves ruddled, with double-struck pointing pencilled in white. Brickwork evidently painted twice in time-span that at most could have been about fifty years, but may have been as little as ten years.

Magnificent estate map, 1613, by Samuel Piers of Maidstone, Kent for Sir Thomas Savage, gives important evidence of extensive gardens that surrounded Hall – celebrated in letter written by James Howell, 1621: 'for the gardening and costly choice flowers, for ponds, for stately large walks green and gravelly, for orchards and choice fruits of all sorts, there are few like it in

England' (Dow 1954, 218–19). Map shows courtyard-plan house set within large square enclosure, partly surrounded by narrow moat. House faces away from road – access road leads along N. side of square and in from E. through an arch and separate gatehouse. Base court with service building lies on S. side of house; on W. and N. sides are formal gardens with square and circular beds, with, at N.W. corner, octagonal brick summerhouse that still exists. S. part of square enclosure taken up by line of large rectangular ponds – three on map, now amalgamated into two. On one of dividing strips cruciform building shown, but both strip and building now gone. An ill-defined structure, presumably ornament or fountain, shown in middle of central pond, but this also gone. Though doubtless also used for fish, ponds appear to have had largely decorative function; important and early example of a substantial water feature in an English garden that owed less to old moat tradition and more to Renaissance ideas of rectilinear pools, fountains and pavilions. House and gardens shown adjoining deer park, for which Sir Thomas Savage had licence 1612/3. Howell's letter of 1621 mentions that park is 'opposite to the front of the great house, whence from a gallery one may see much of the game when they are a-hunting'. Savage's park included area of earlier parkland known as Little Park – wooded area, in 1581 still separated from house by some fields. Little Park shown on map equipped with variety of lodges and tree-houses or hides. Main medieval park, known as Melford Park, some distance from house; disparked by 1581.

Holy Trinity Church. Following A.G.M. held in church by kind permission of Rector, Revd C.J. Sansbury, David Dymond and Clive Paine explained process of rebuilding church around five western bays of 14th-century nave, c.1467–97. Description of church by Roger Martin detailing its pre-Reformation ceremonies, series of churchwardens' accounts and inventories of church goods used to illustrate changes to worship and furnishing during Reformation. Rebuilding of church can be traced in detail in Paine 1983. Documents from Reformation published in Dymond and Paine 1992.

6 June. Edward Martin, Timothy Easton and Philip Aitkens
More moats in the landscape: Columbyne Hall and Crow's Hall

Two moated halls chosen as examples of development of moated sites as vehicles for display of prestige and power between late 14th and mid-16th centuries.

Stowupland, Columbyne Hall (by kind permission of Messrs A.A. and D.H. Rednall). Romantic name derived not from columbine flower but from corruption of surname of 13th-century feudal overlords – Columbers family of Nether Stowey, Somerset (originally from Colombieres, nr Bayeux, Normandy). Earlier name Thorney Columbers – Thorney being ancient name for Stowmarket, of which Stowupland part until 1844 (name survives in nearby hamlet of Thorney Green). Overlordship sold by Philip, Lord Columbers to Bishop of Norwich, 1317/8.

Although Hall bears Columbers name, family never lived there. Resident undertenants were Hotot (or Hotoft/Houtot) family, possibly from Huttoft, Lincs. Hotots held manor from at least mid-13th century until died out towards end of 15th. Most of family lived relatively obscure lives and only one individual stands out: Robert Hotot, a prominent justice in Suffolk from 1381 until death c.1402; his name figures widely in county affairs in that period; clearly a figure of some importance.

Importance reflected in house he appears to have built. Occupying one corner of moated site is L-shaped building (Fig. 24) – mortared-flint N. and W. walls (heavily repaired with brick) rising from water of moat, topped with timber-framed first floor, jettied on both sides. S. and E. walls timber-framed and unjettied. Dates from late 14th century; early example of movement of house from centre of moated platform (as seems to be norm in 13th and 14th centuries) to more dramatic siting on edge. Inspiration probably new consciously dramatic castles then being built, e.g. Wingfield Castle built by Earl of Suffolk, 1384. New siting posed constructional problems on soft clay sites, and flint walling on moat frontage a way of providing house with secure foundation.

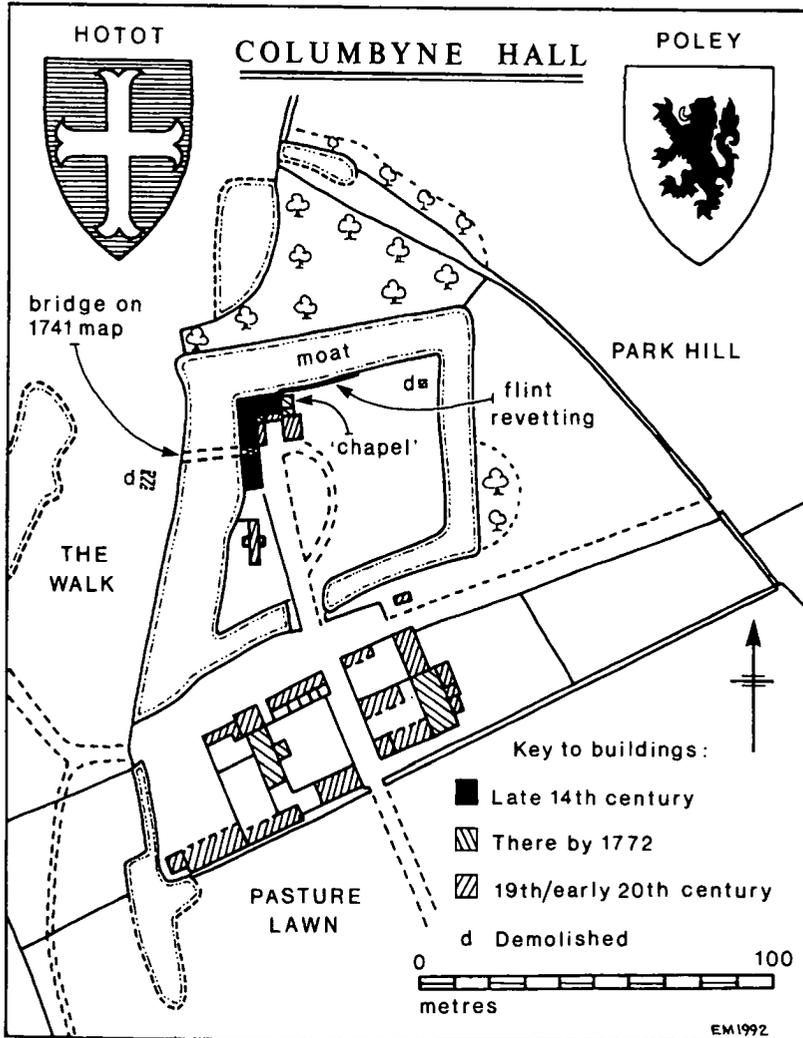


FIG. 24 – Columbyne Hall, Stowupland: map of the moated site and the early-20th-century farm buildings (the more recent ones are omitted). Several of the ponds shown have now disappeared – these are indicated by broken outlines. Field names of 1741 in capitals.

Long W. range now faces out to field, but was originally main frontage. Large blocked opening in W. side shows this once a gatehouse range – confirmed by map, 1741 (S.R.O.I., P 638) which shows bridge across moat at this point. Gatehouse passageway survives virtually unchanged in house, but blocked at either end. Originally would have led to inner courtyard with, most probably, hall range on other side; this now gone. Mortared-flint revetting along N. side of island (Fig. 24) suggests N. range once more extensive. Gatehouse range may also have been shortened at S. end.

Later owners included branch of Tyrrell family (from Gipping); London merchant John Gardiner (d. 1596/7) – his long-running disputes with Tyrrells detailed in MacCulloch 1986, 109–10; and, in early 17th century, old soldier Sir John Poley (family from Bradley Hall; d. 1634/5). Poley added a few decorative features such as staircase, carved overmantel in a bedroom and decorative plaster ceiling in a ground-floor room. Only one corner of this ceiling,

ornamented with moulded cherub, survives but was complete when described by Revd E. Farrer – occupied small room 8 x 12ft, lit by E. window, then used as larder but said to have been chapel (*E. Anglian Misc.* 1913, 9f). Room now subdivided, but can be seen to be lower part of two-storey structure originally detached by a couple of feet from main building. Two-storey porch in inner angle of building may also date from this time. Building enlarged, 19th century, by addition of brick E. wing and single-storeyed lean-to extensions on S. and E. sides of original ranges.

Debenham, Crow's Hall (by kind permission of Mr and Mrs O. Knowland). Again name misleading, referring not to bird but to late 13th-century owner John Crow. At end of 14th century manor acquired by Framlingham family, who rose to prominence in early 16th century through kinship with Henry VIII's favourite, Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. Like royal master, Brandon had chequered marital history and Sir James Framlingham married daughter of one of Brandon's ex-wives. Sir James's son, Francis, d. at siege of Boulogne, 1544, leaving under-age heir – Sir Charles (?Brandon's godson). Sir Charles, last male member of family (described as aggressive man with particular dislike of Catholicism – MacCulloch 1986, 111), buried 1595 under large monument in Debenham church.

Hall layout (Fig. 25) designed to impress: long tree-lined avenue leads to large outer courtyard – brick forebuilding (with blocked ?gun-loops), now embedded in later farm buildings, seems to mark entrance; beyond it, occupying whole of S. side, is long timber-framed and brick range incorporating large barn, manor-court-house and ancillary rooms. On N. side is large ditched enclosure which was orchard, with brick dovecote (now converted into house) on one corner. On E. side, large rectangular moat containing house. As at Columbyne Hall, buildings brought to edge of moat to maximise visual impact. Here, however, structure is brick – highly prestigious building material in 16th century. Expensive brickwork with diaper pattern lines edges of moat – but only where would be seen by influential visitors; absent on non-public sides.

Access to moated island by 16th-century bridge, which leads to single-storey gatehouse, both brick. Very worn limestone tablet over entrance once bore Framlingham arms. Gatehouse formed entrance to inner courtyard, with existing brick house on N. side, matching range (now gone) on S. side and probably hall range (?earlier and timber-framed) on E. side. Foundations of demolished ranges can still be traced. Low brick range connects gatehouse to surviving wing, which lies at right-angles to moat, gable end rising sheer from water. Gable decorated with diaper work and crowned with brick finials (however, within roof is evidence for earlier timber-framed top to gable, replaced by present brick one in late 16th century). Overall diaper pattern also present on S. side, facing inner courtyard, but not present on more private N. side. Latter bears scars where another wing, flanking edge of moat, removed – scars covered with imitation brickwork in painted mortar; evidence for demolished wing also to be seen in existing roof. At N. corner of moat frontage, foundation of small polygonal brick turret.

Inventory, 1607 (B.L. Add. Charter 16549), suggests gatehouse originally double-storeyed (mention of 'Gatehouse Chamber'). Break in diaper pattern on one corner of house makes it possible that there was high wall (possibly crowned with ornamental crenellation) linking this higher gatehouse with flanking ranges. Overall effect would have been very grand, giving house appearance of castle.

Date of building not totally clear; some aspects of planning and details suggest date before Francis Framlingham's death, 1544; other aspects, especially internal fittings such as magnificent staircase with turned wooden posts and classically-inspired wooden panelling on first floor, more likely to date after c.1560. Answer may be that much of building undertaken by Francis (perhaps in imitation of great house built by cousin Brandon at Westhorpe) but that parts were unfinished at his untimely death aged thirty-three; finishing and fitting out of house may have been by son, Sir Charles, when came of age in later 1550s or 1560s.

After Sir Charles's death, Hall passed to grandson, Sir Charles Gawdy (family from W. Harling, Norfolk). Three successive generations of Gawdys, all called Sir Charles, held estate. At

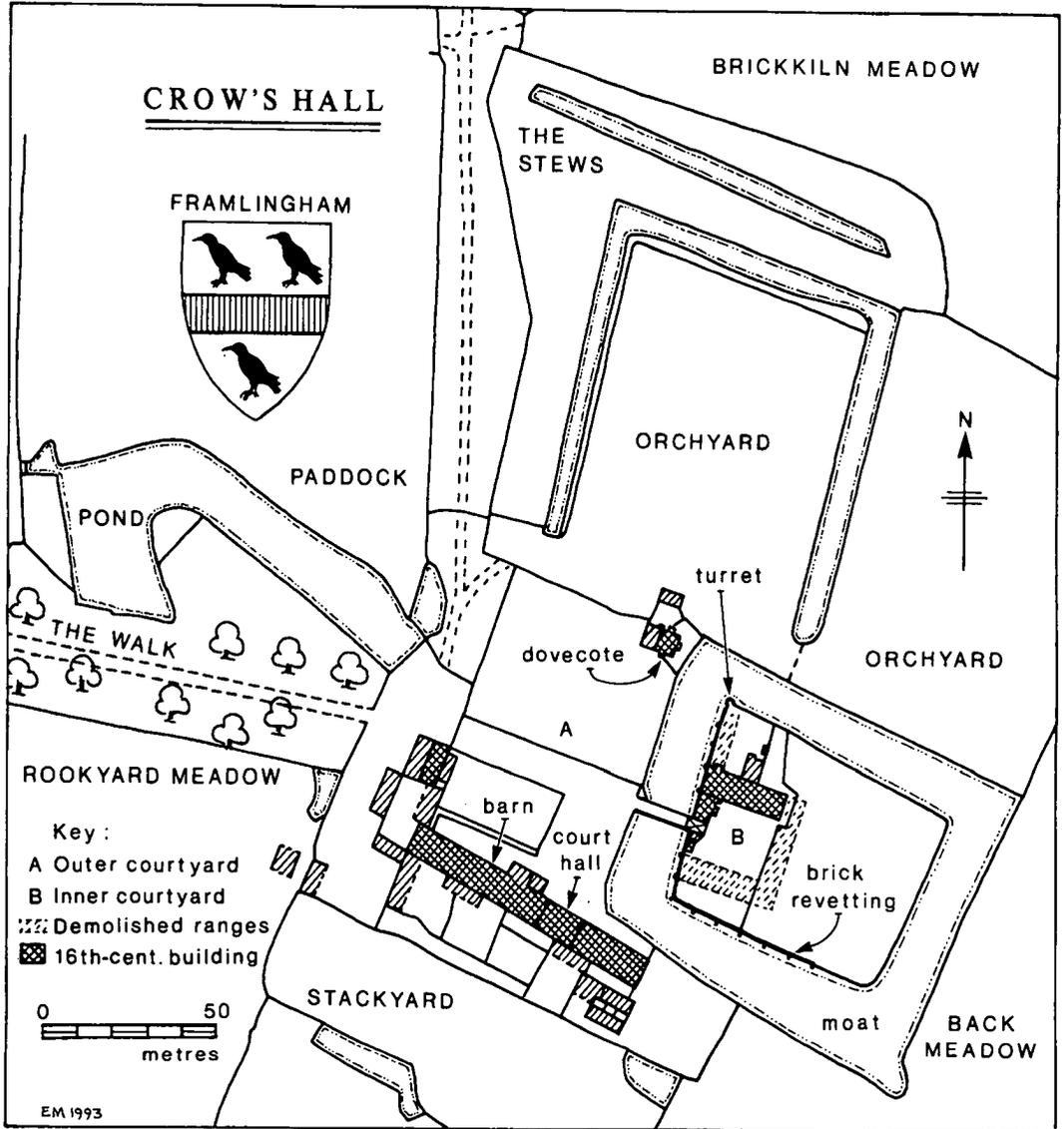


FIG. 25 – Crow's Hall, Debenham: map of the moated site and the late-19th-century farm buildings (the more recent ones have been omitted). Field names of 1818 in capitals.

marriage of last Sir Charles, 1657, house so full that his mother and 'all her family and women' had to be accommodated in 'vane rouff over the dining chamber' (Verney 1892) – this may have been attic floor of existing wing, which though now subdivided was originally open from end to end, lit by windows in each gable. Floor below, with ornate panelling, seems to have been divided into two rooms, one of which may have been dining chamber of 1657. Extravagant tastes and poor business sense of male Gawdys led to sale of estate, 1697, to John Pitt, M.P.

Pitt came from Hampshire (cousin of William Pitt, Earl of Chatham), but mother's family (Savages) had owned Long Melford Hall. Must have found new property unsuitable, for in 1710 he purchased estate at Great Bealings and moved there. Henceforth Crow's Hall occupied by tenant farmers. Pitt probably reduced size of house to make it more convenient farmhouse.

Ironically, Pitt's new house at Bealings has completely disappeared, but luckily, enough remains of Crow's Hall to give good idea of grandeur of this great 16th-century moated house with its complicated series of courtyards and decorative frontages.

20 June. Mark Barnard, Nesta Evans, Philip Aitkens, Timothy Easton and Edward Martin

Fressingfield: home parish of Archbishop William Sancroft

Visit part of programme of events to mark tercentenary of death of Archbishop Sancroft, born here and buried outside S. door of church.

Earliest reference to Sancrofts in parish, 1486. Francis Sancroft, 1585, bequeathed lately purchased manor of Ufford Hall to eldest son William. Archbishop, William's grandson, almost certainly born at Hall, 1617. After ejection from archbishopric as non-juror, retired to native village. Letter written from Fressingfield refers to house which he was having built; whereabouts not established, but certainly not Ufford Hall.

Tithe Farm (by kind permission of Mr and Mrs I. Smith). About half mile from village, on Laxfield road. Timber-framed house, largely 14th-century, comprising much-altered hall of raised-aisle form and solar cross-wing. Raised-aisle halls rare, but *c.* twenty survive in this part of Suffolk and across into Norfolk. This one plain; of modest quality compared to other known 14th-century examples. Lower bay of hall and whole of service end replaced by 17th-century work; aisles also missing. Open truss has short octagonal queen-posts with finely-moulded capitals and bases, supported on low tiebeam. Heavy, slightly curved braces to arcade plates, dowelled rather than mortised into queen-posts, implying primary function decorative rather than structural. Upper part of open truss and roof replaced. Solar wing a rare 14th-century survival: three bays, unusually large for date; knee-braced floor beams and tiebeams; intact roof with two slender moulded octagonal crown-posts; end gable with evidence for multiple fan-bracing (*cf.* Church Farm Stable, Fressingfield); 16th/17th-century internal chimney stack and one-bay extension to S.W.

Very close to house, fragments of 14th-century barn, once aisled and with passing braces. Fragmentary moat likely to be contemporary with house; barn unusual in being within projected line of moated enclosure.

Farm owned, 19th century, by lay rector, Henry Newton Heale, Esq., who took great tithes of parish – hence farm's name. As late as 1340, two rectories in Fressingfield, one of which stood on Laxfield road. Between 1395 and 1415, rectors replaced by perpetual vicar. During incumbency of John Walsingham, 1541–54, agreement between him and Willim Toppesfield to exchange old vicarage, then described as being in 'great decay and ruine', for new one, probably on site of present vicarage (built 1725). Toppesfield had 97-year lease of rectories; almost certainly first post-Reformation lay rector. Tithe Farm could be original vicarage and a rectory before that. Might explain non-standard form of house and status implied by separate solar. Closeness of barn to house could have arisen from need to safeguard and supervise tithes stored there, in view of often hostile attitude to tithe system, late 13th century onwards.

Fressingfield Hall (by kind permission of Mr J. Morris). Within earlier moated site, 1/3 mile E. of village. Large timber-framed house, apparently built in one phase, mid-17th century. Closely follows form of Ufford Hall (which may have reached present size shortly before work started here), with paired cross-wings for both parlour and service (latter partly demolished), narrow stair-wing containing dog-leg stair, plus projecting two-storey porch containing original entrance door. Main features of exterior are two fine chimneys – square, with sunk arched panels to each face and oversailing caps. Also a number of good early 18th-century windows with leaded glass. Little of structure visible inside apart from several ovolo-moulded ceiling beams with elaborate stop-chamfers typical of date. These even occur in kitchen, which was of similar size and status to hall. Some simply-moulded plasterwork and a number of good original panelled doors. Excellent

complete panelling, *c.* 1700, in parlour, with painted graining; joiner's initials, I.P., discreetly placed; painted overmantel shows part of Hall together with parish church, as if adjacent. Depiction of house on estate map, 1722 (S.R.O.B., E18/640/3), does not fully accord with physical evidence.

Ufford Hall (by kind permission of His Hon. Judge and Mrs J.D.F. Moylan). Moated site close to parish boundary, off Laxfield road. Large and impressive, with barely-projecting parlour and service wings separated by long hall range. Exterior memorable for diverse pattern of windows (many 16th-century ones opened out in 20th-century restoration) and unusually heavy but severely plain chimney stack. Inside, several phases distinguishable:

i: 15th-century (?) hall range, with wall plates some 4ft lower than present eaves and containing mortices for window mullions.

ii: Inserted floor in hall, joists with ornate stop-chamfers, probably *c.* 1560–70.

iii: Parlour wing of *c.* 1600, each floor containing main room and subsidiary room or closet behind. Fine close studding, ovolo-moulded cross-beamed ceilings.

iv: Raising of hall range, rebuilding service end, rebuilding stack with back-to-back fireplaces on both floors, dog-leg stair with turned balusters.

All dating from first half of 17th century. Two-storey N. porch and further gabled wing on same side, abutting on service wing, have disappeared: did latter 'balance' stair wing in same position to E.?

Fine panelling in parlour and room over sold in 1920s to United States – fortunately two photographs of parlour in 1911 in S.R.O.

Whittingham Hall (by kind permission of Mr M.A.J. Ward). Estate map, 1702, by Richard Arnold (S.R.O.I., HD 40: 470/6) shows long-vanished house standing within large moat and surrounded by deer park. Although Whittingham a Domesday vill and seat of knightly Brewse family in 15th century, moat probably work of Baker family, who acquired property, 1580. Moated island unusually large (2.1 ha/5.2a) with rounded corner 'bastions', reminiscent of 16th-century French designs. Series of low brick arches on N.W. corner, labelled as 'entrances to subterranean passages' on some O.S. maps, are in fact foundations of a structure, perhaps viewing-place for looking out at park. Sir Thomas Baker (d. 1625), purchaser, came from very wealthy family seated at Sissinghurst, Kent. Although he had another seat at Leyton, Essex, seems to have made Whittingham his main residence. Also probably responsible for creation of deer-park – no evidence for medieval one here and unusual rectangular shape seems to have been predetermined by existing rectilinear field pattern; positioning of house in middle of park also points to later 16th-century date. Must have been there by 1596 when will of John Aldowes of Whittingham hamlet mentions Lodge closes and Park close.

Son and successor, Thomas Baker (*c.* 1606–58), travelled extensively in 1630s and while in Italy commissioned bust of himself by Bernini (now in Victoria and Albert Museum). Active in county on Parliamentary side in Civil War; Sheriff of Suffolk 1657.

Map of 1702 shows rectangular double-storeyed house, five bays, with basement below and small pediment above, occupying central position near S. edge of moated platform; at earliest, must be mid-17th century in date. Flanking W. side of courtyard in front of moat is long brick range, now converted into house (present hall) but probably originally stable block – former non-domestic function indicated by three blocked ventilation slits on E. wall. Range has two cross-wings with rebuilt 'Dutch' gables. Late 19th-century porch has repositioned moulded brick built into it with date 1653 – could have come from house and is a likely date for both it and stable block. Well-carved wooden door-surround of porch also looks mid-17th-century and may also have come from house. House-builder must have been Thomas Baker. His widow married Charles Goring, 3rd Earl of Norwich (*c.* 1615–71) – eleven hearths at Whittingham recorded under his name, 1674.

After death of Countess, 1680, estate passed to Hanmer family, who do not seem to have lived here, having houses elsewhere. Not known when house demolished, but 18th-century date most likely.

*11 July. Pat Murrell, Alistair Robertson and Clive Paine
Bury St Edmunds*

St Mary's Church (by kind permission of Vicar, Canon M.J. Walker). One of largest parish churches in England; second to stand on site at S.W. corner of Abbey precinct. 'Church of the Blessed Mary with its tower . . .' built by sacrists Ralph and Hervey in time of Abbot Anselm (1120–48). No visible survival from Norman church in present structure. Chancel rebuilt in Decorated period and tower rebuilt or remodelled *c.* 1393–*c.* 1403, as shown by local wills. Other remaining Decorated features: re-used N. doorway and windows in Notyngnam Porch.

Modified Norman church consisted of nave with tower at N.W. corner, aisles and chancel. Nave and aisles shorter and narrower than present ones. Two westernmost piers of nave arcade mark original W. wall, in line with tower and precinct wall. N. wall of aisle probably abutted on to S.E. corner of tower.

Nave and aisles widened and lengthened *c.* 1424–*c.* 1433, resulting in tower projecting into N. aisle. Architect possibly William Layer (d. 1444), local mason: worked on rebuilding of Abbey W. tower. Local wills show progress of rebuilding and furnishing. Several sums, ranging from £10 to £20, left to 'fabric' or 'structure of the new church of St Mary', 1424, 1425. John Notyngnam left £20 for W. and S. porches, 1438 – neither built; money subsequently used for N. porch.

Decorated chancel retained; encased by side chapels and sanctuary, 1460s–70s. Jankyn Smyth, merchant and benefactor of Bury, had built N. chapel by 1463, S. chapel by 1473 and sanctuary by 1479. S. porch 'new', 1523; dismantled, 1831 and erected in grounds of Nowton Court, where remains today.

Magnificent single hammer-beam nave roof; eleven pairs of life-size angels alternate with arch-braced trusses. Wall posts with figures of forty-two saints and prophets. Cornice has double band of angels with outstretched wings, holding musical instruments and liturgical symbols. Easternmost pair of hammer-beam angels originally formed canopy of honour over Rood. Seven pairs represent procession to High Mass. Three westernmost pairs are Archangel Gabriel, Virgin Mary (or Margaret of Anjou) and Risen Christ as King of Heaven (or King Henry VI). Not unusual for carvings to have both spiritual and temporal meanings.

Figures on wall posts of canopy of honour represent Annunciation: Gabriel on N., Virgin on S. Arch-braces have mottoes 'God me gyde' and 'Grace me governe', used by John Baret (d. 1467), wealthy clothier, gentleman of Abbot's household, friend (and perhaps patron) of monk-poet John Lydgate, and recipient of much-prized Lancastrian collar of SS.

No dating evidence for roof in local wills; probably financed by one or two wealthy individuals, an organisation, or some other kind of fund-raising. Baret obvious candidate, but may only have paid for painting of canopy angels. Wills do, however, show bequests to battlements, 1442–45, one in 1444 describing them as 'newly begun'.

Baret converted former Lady Chapel into chantry; detailed instructions for its decoration in his will, 1461 (Tymms 1850, 15), including ' . . . three merours of glas to be set in the myddys of the three voytes [vaults] above my grave, the wiche be redy with four other glasys and dyverse rolls with scripture'. Six roof panels have his motto 'Grace me governe', initials, collars of SS and concave mirrors which give effect of twinkling stars in heavens. Baret's effigy made in lifetime, possibly at workshop of Simon Clerk, Abbey master mason. Effigy of decaying corpse of type known as pardon grave. Instructions left for his Papal pardon of remission of purgatory to be displayed by tomb.

Brasses to Jankyn and Ann Smyth; anniversary of Jankyn's death, 28 Jun. 1481, still commemorated with sermon; claimed to be oldest endowed service in England.

Mary Tudor, Queen of France and Duchess of Suffolk (d. 1533) reburied in sanctuary, 1539, at

Dissolution of Abbey. Tomb dismantled, Sept. 1784; lead coffin opened and embalmed body exposed. Locks of hair cut off; one remains in Moyses Hall Museum. Body reburied and tomb top, pre-Reformation *mensa* with five consecration crosses, placed over grave.

Painting of texts from Revelation near royal arms of Elizabeth I, 1582, implying Queen was Jezebel and Religious Settlement 'neither hot nor cold', a turning point in Bury Stirs, 1578–83 (Craig 1991).

United Reformed Church, Whiting Street (by kind permission of Revd J. McCullum). Original separatist Independent congregation founded 16 Aug. 1646 when Elizabeth and Samuel Chidley from London 'gathered' eight adults and six children, who signed Covenant: '. . . being convinced in conscience of the evil of the Church of England . . . and being fully separated from them . . . we resolve by the grace of God not to return . . . and also see the great need of continuing Christian fellowship and society' (S.R.O.B., FK 3: 502/1). Dec. 1648, date of church 'first sitting down'; fifteen men and six women signed second Covenant. Thomas Taylor, first minister, called in 1655; petitioned Cromwell, 1658, for permission to divide St Mary's chancel from rest of church for use as meeting house, while Presbyterians used nave.

During post-Restoration persecution, congregation met in barns and houses. Court case, 1684, records nine members convicted for attending illegal conventicle, which witnesses estimated comprised between twelve and forty people (S.R.O.B., D 8/1/1/59).

After Toleration Act, 1689, congregation must have worshipped in houses licensed for purpose. In 1704, membership twenty-seven men and thirty-five women. Earliest mention of meeting house on present site in will of John Noble, 15 Feb. 1716, '. . . sixth part of the meeting house I have in the Whiteing Street' (S.R.O.B., IC 500/2/78, f. 34). Licence, Mar. 1717, for '. . . dwelling house of Samuel Cumberland and also a house built on purpose in Whiting Street'.

Church joined, 1800, by some Presbyterians when Churchgate congregation became Unitarian; gallery extended, 1801. More space required; work carried out Apr.–Sept. 1802, and *Bury and Norwich Post* reported chapel 'rebuilt upon a much larger scale'. Burial ground opened, 1808 (closed 1856, now car park). Vestry at rear enlarged, 1809, with choir gallery above. Interior renovated, 1865–66; old seats (?box pews) replaced by deal benches but original pulpit retained (no doubt originally at higher level, with reading desk and sounding board as at Churchgate Street). New gothic facade, 1866 (architects Bacon and Bell). Single-storey hall built to N., 1851, two-storey extension at front, 1887.

Memorial in forecourt to Copping and Thacker, executed during Bury Stirs, 1583. Original intention to include them on Protestant Martyrs' Memorial in churchyard (unveiled 1903). Scaled-down design of main pillar used; unveiled Aug. 1904 by Revd Silvester Horne, prominent Congregational Minister, M.P. for Ipswich 1910–14 and father of comedian Kenneth Horne!

Presbyterian Chapel, Churchgate Street (by kind permission of Trustees of Unitarian Chapel and St Edmundsbury Borough Council). On site of smaller dwelling used as meeting house, 1690, for which no surviving visual evidence. Siting of original and present chapel bespeaks strong, influential congregation. Not only very close to town centre and direct thoroughfares to two Anglican churches, but also virtually on top of Guildhall, seat of local government.

Decision to replace existing inadequate premises taken Mar. 1711 (Chapel Book, S.R.O.B., E 5/5/2.1), during ministry of Revd Samuel Bury. Money raised by subscription; old materials to be sold or salvaged for reuse as appropriate; state of some of timber-framing in present building indicates latter option carried out. Preference given to suppliers and workmen from within own ranks. Names of those involved, including chief bricklayer or 'architect' responsible for overall conception, remain mystery. Perhaps Samuel Bury used London contacts to seek designer for what must then have been high-fashion building in town. Or did overseeing Trust employ local man of own persuasion, in keeping with general principles concerning construction work, outlined in Chapel Book?

Layout dictated by function and Presbyterian attitude to worship. Moreover, by 1711 uniform patterns emerging, with c. 500 Presbyterian meeting houses built in twenty years following 1689 Toleration Act. Bury himself familiar with Presbyterian premises built at Ipswich only eleven years earlier; known to have preached there on various occasions. Churchgate Street Chapel, however, markedly more ambitious in exterior architecture than Ipswich counterpart.

Chapel, completed in only eight months for £832 10s. 8d., exudes flair and consummate skill. Various 'dreadful fires' in town during reigns of William and Mary, and Anne, which Bury's wife Elizabeth records with great alarm in diary, may have influenced decision to build in brick. Stark contrast with surrounding timber and plaster dwellings (some still visible today) embodies and stresses social standing and supreme confidence of 1711 congregation. High profile of Chapel's location and appearance, when political climate once again posing problems for Dissenters, emphasises Bury's Presbyterians no cowed group within community.

24 September. *The late Gwen Dyke*

The Trimleys: a commemoration of Thomas Cavendish of Grimston Hall, circumnavigator (d. 1592)

Sadly, Gwen Dyke died on 3 December 1992. Details of her published works on Cavendish are included in the table of References below.

*Clive Paine,
Hon. Excursions Secretary*

REFERENCES

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LECTURES

- February 22 At Ipswich: 'Sutton Hoo: the Final Season', by Professor Martin Carver.
- March 7 At Bury St Edmunds: 'Conservatism in House Carpentry Techniques in East Anglia', by David Stenning.
- October 17 At Thornham Magna: 'Suffolk Archaeology into the 1990s', by Keith Wade and John Newman.
- October 31 At Bury St Edmunds: 'Chivalric Ideals and the Design of Orford Castle', by T.A. Heslop.
- December 5 At Ipswich: 'Recently Discovered Graves of the Belgic Aristocracy at Colchester', by Philip Crummy.

MEMBERS ELECTED DURING 1992

During the year 63 members were elected and, after taking into account resignations and lapsed members, the membership at the end of 1992 stood at 846, a net increase of 36. The total comprised 566 full members, 192 associate members and 88 institutional members.

Alston, Mr and Mrs R.E., 4 The Slade, Claydon, Ipswich, IP6 0EX.
Anderson, Mr and Mrs R., The Lodge, The Street, Troston, Bury St Edmunds, IP31 1EW.
Berry, Mr and Mrs M., 4 Hollybush Drive, Felixstowe, IP11 9TP.
Boldero, Mr and Mrs A.J., The Manor, Bosavern, St Just-in-Penwith, Penzance, Cornwall, TR19 7QZ.
Bowers, Mr J.M., Yew Tree Farm, Swefling, Saxmundham, IP17 2BU.
Brechin, Mr D.A.L., 9 Melplash Road, Ipswich, IP3 8QL.
Brooks, Mr and Mrs F.J., Flint Cottage, Ivy Barns, Redgrave, Diss, IP22 1RY.
Bryant, Miss S., Fig Tree Cottage, New Street, Stradbroke, Eye, IP21 5JJ.
Caruth, Mr and Mrs D.A., Rivendell, Livermere Road, Great Barton, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 2R2.
Clarke, Mrs J.E., Letheringham Hall, Letheringham, Woodbridge, IP13 7RE.
Cockerham, Mr P.D., Sunny Corner, Rame Cross, Penryn, Cornwall, TR10 9DX.
Cook, Mr C., 112 Waterford Road, Ipswich, IP1 5NJ.
Cracknell, Mr J., West End, Old Hall, Bressingham, Diss, Norfolk, IP22 2AG.
Davies, Mr and Mrs C.P., 87 Westerfield Road, Ipswich, IP4 2XP.
Davies, Miss L.C., 87 Westerfield Road, Ipswich, IP4 2XP.
Extra-Mural Studies Dept., Centre for Continuing Education, University of East Anglia, Norwich, Norfolk, NR4 7TJ.
Evans, Mr and Mrs I., Bridge Farm House, Chelworth, Ipswich, IP7 7HX.
Francis, Mrs P., 8 Church Street, Framlingham, Woodbridge, IP13 9BH.
Gotto, Mr and Mrs B., 2 Maltings Farm Cottages, Thorpe Morieux, Bury St Edmunds, IP30 ONG.
Heywood, Mr S., MA, FSA, 15 Church Street, Eye, IP23 7BD.
Hobbs, Mr P., 5 Avely Lane, Bridge Street, Alpheton, Sudbury, CO10 9BH.
Jewers, Mr G., 14 Beaconsfield Road, Woodbridge, IP12 1EQ.
Knights, Mr A., 11 Sorrel Close, Ipswich, IP2 0PE.
Lafin, Dr and Mrs P., 15 Coll Drive, Davyhulme, Manchester, M31 2FX.
Leech, Mr K. and Miss R., 2 Millfield Avenue, Stowmarket, IP14 1QZ.
Lloyd, Mr G.E., 4 Gatehouse, Thorpe Lane, Trimley St Martin, Ipswich, IP10 0RY.
Lockwood, Mr A., 26 Wentworth Drive, Felixstowe, IP11 9LD.
McHugh, Ms P.K., 34 York Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 3EG.
McLean, Mrs H.D., Westgate Cottage, Westgate Hill, Long Melford, Sudbury, CO10 9DS.
Mattock, Mr S.D., and Pritchard, Ms S.M., 25 Castle Street, Eye, IP23 7AW.
Maurer, Miss H., 98 Ashley Road, Newmarket, CB8 8DB.
Miller, Mrs A., Field Cottage, Helmingham Road, Otley, Ipswich, IP6 9NS.
Newman, Mr J., 9 Cardigan Street, Ipswich, IP1 3PF.
Pilkington, Mr H., RIBA, Richmond House, Gedgrave, Orford, IP12 2BU.
Plumb, Ms A., 22 Schreiber Road, Ipswich, IP4 4NG.
Randall, Mr and Mrs D.H., 20 Stradbroke Road, Southwold, IP18 6LQ.
Sandham, Mr I., 3 Westgate Terrace, Long Melford, Sudbury, CO10 9DW.
Sargeant, Mr D., 130 Westerfield Road, Ipswich, IP4 3AE.
Snelling, Mr G., 50 Earsham Street, Bungay, NR35 1AQ.
Southgate, Mr T.L., 16 Eustace Road, Ipswich, IP1 5BT.
Stainton, Mr P., Shell Cottage, Church Lane, Bucklesham, Ipswich, IP10 0DX.
Thompson, Mr and Mrs R.T.G., Culverden, New Street, Fressingfield, Eye, IP21 5PG.
Thorogood, Mr and Mrs M.R., Drakestone Farm, Semer, Ipswich, IP7 6HS.
Turvey, Mrs E.F., 98 Hardwick Lane, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 2RA.
Ward, Mr N., 92 Bridgewater Road, Ipswich, IP2 9QF.
Wright, Mr and Mrs R.R., Hill Farm, Common Lane, Bromeswell, Woodbridge, IP12 2PQ.
Wyman, Mr W.G., Gedding Hall, Gedding, Bury St Edmunds, IP30 0QB.

SUFFOLK INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1992

1991	EXPENDITURE	£	£	£	1991	INCOME	£	£
£	<i>Proceedings</i>				£	<i>Subscriptions</i>		
3918.00	Printing		4414.71		4806.35	Annual Members	5111.58	
416.48	Postage		490.48		300.00	Life Membership	-	
<u>30.00</u>	Expenses		<u>50.00</u>		243.05	Tax Refund (Covenantants)	266.55	
4364.48			4955.19		<u>10.00</u>	Donation	-	
	<i>Less</i>				5359.40			5378.03
46.40	Sales	74.35						
200.00	Grant	302.02						
<u>30.00</u>	Insert	-						
<u>(276.40)</u>			376.37					
4088.08				4578.82		<i>Dividends & Interest</i>		
						<i>General Investments</i>		
	<i>Newsletter</i>				150.12	14% Treasury Stock 1998/01	150.12	
450.25	Including postage etc.		430.99		755.01	Lloyds Premier Interest A/C	687.47	
					<u>9.66</u>	Current A/C Interest	<u>7.89</u>	845.48
					914.79			
	<i>Subscriptions & Grants</i>							
119.50	Subscriptions		131.50			<i>Life Membership Investment</i>		
<u>70.00</u>	Grants		<u>95.00</u>		167.38	9% Treasury Stock 1994		180.76
<u>189.50</u>				226.50				
	<i>General Expenses</i>							
70.00	Excursions (less receipts)		24.00			<i>Sales</i>		
119.05	Lectures (less receipts)		146.27		7.50	"Dame Alice de Bryene"	18.00	
76.95	Printing & Stationery		101.32		-	Quotation Fee	<u>63.18</u>	
140.93	Office Expenses, Postage		222.51					
50.00	Insurance		100.00		<u>7.50</u>			81.18
18.50	Bank Charges		38.50					
<u>1.00</u>	Commission on Stock Purchase		<u>1.00</u>					
<u>476.43</u>				633.60				
150.00	Purchase of Treasury Stock			150.00				
<u>1094.81</u>	Surplus for Year			<u>465.54</u>				
<u>£6449.07</u>			<u>£6485.45</u>	<u>£6449.07</u>				<u>£6485.45</u>

RESEARCH, EXCAVATION AND PUBLICATION ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1992

326.97	Surplus for Year		1417.38	326.97	Lloyds Premier Interest A/C	346.38	
				-	Publication Profit	71.00	
				-	Grant from Moncrieff Trust	<u>1000.00</u>	
<u>£326.97</u>			<u>£1417.38</u>	<u>£326.97</u>			<u>£1417.38</u>

BALANCE SHEET AT 31st DECEMBER 1992

1991	ACCUMULATED FUNDS	£	£	£	1991	CURRENT ASSETS	£	£
£	Balance brought forward				£	Cash at Bank		665.00
	1st January 1992 <i>less</i>							
7094.29	Research, Excavation and	8189.10				<i>Investments</i>		
	Publication Fund					<i>General</i>		
1094.81	<i>plus</i> Surplus 1992	465.54			1000.00	14% Treasury Stock 98/01	1000.00	
			8654.64		5088.17	Lloyds Premier Int. A/C	<u>5204.64</u>	
					6088.17			6204.64
-	<i>plus</i> Sundry Creditor		25.00			<i>Life Membership Fund</i>		
-	<i>plus</i> Purchase of Stock		150.00		1810.00	9% Treasury Stock 1994		1960.00
<u>£8189.10</u>			<u>£8829.64</u>	<u>£8189.10</u>				<u>£8829.64</u>

RESEARCH, EXCAVATION AND PUBLICATION FUND

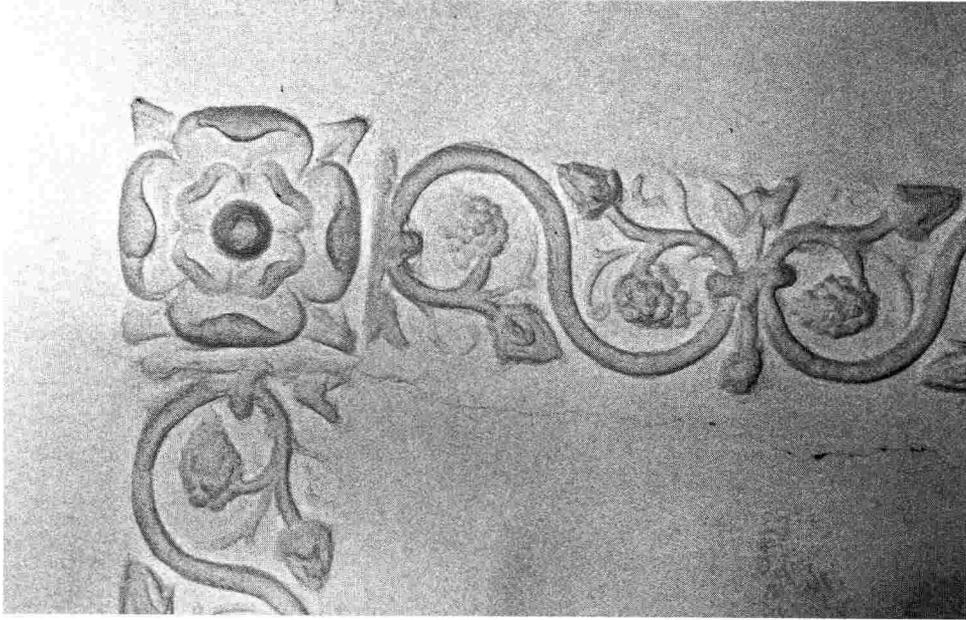
3333.84	Balance brought forward		3660.81	3660.81	Lloyds Premier Int. A/C	5078.19	
326.97	1st January 1992		1417.38				
	<i>plus</i> Surplus 1992						
<u>£3660.81</u>			<u>£5078.19</u>	<u>£3660.81</u>			<u>£5078.19</u>

Note: 35 copies (57 copies 1991) *Dame Alice de Bryene* in stock, valued at cost £220 (£228 in 1991).

I have examined the books and accounts of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History and in my opinion the Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account give a fair view of the financial position of the Institute at 31st December 1992 and of the income and expenditure for the year ended on that date.

(signed) F.G. SUTHERLAND, *Honorary Treasurer*, D.E. COLYER, S.A.T., *Honorary Auditor*.

PLATE Ia



Boundary Farm, Framsden: detail of scroll pattern and rose on the early-17th-century parlour chamber ceiling.

PLATE Ib



Boundary Farm: N.W. corner of the parlour chamber, showing the positions of the 1st phase window (mullions indicated by vertical card strips), 2nd phase door (indicated by horizontal card strip) and ceiling evidence for 3rd phase internal porch.

PLATE II



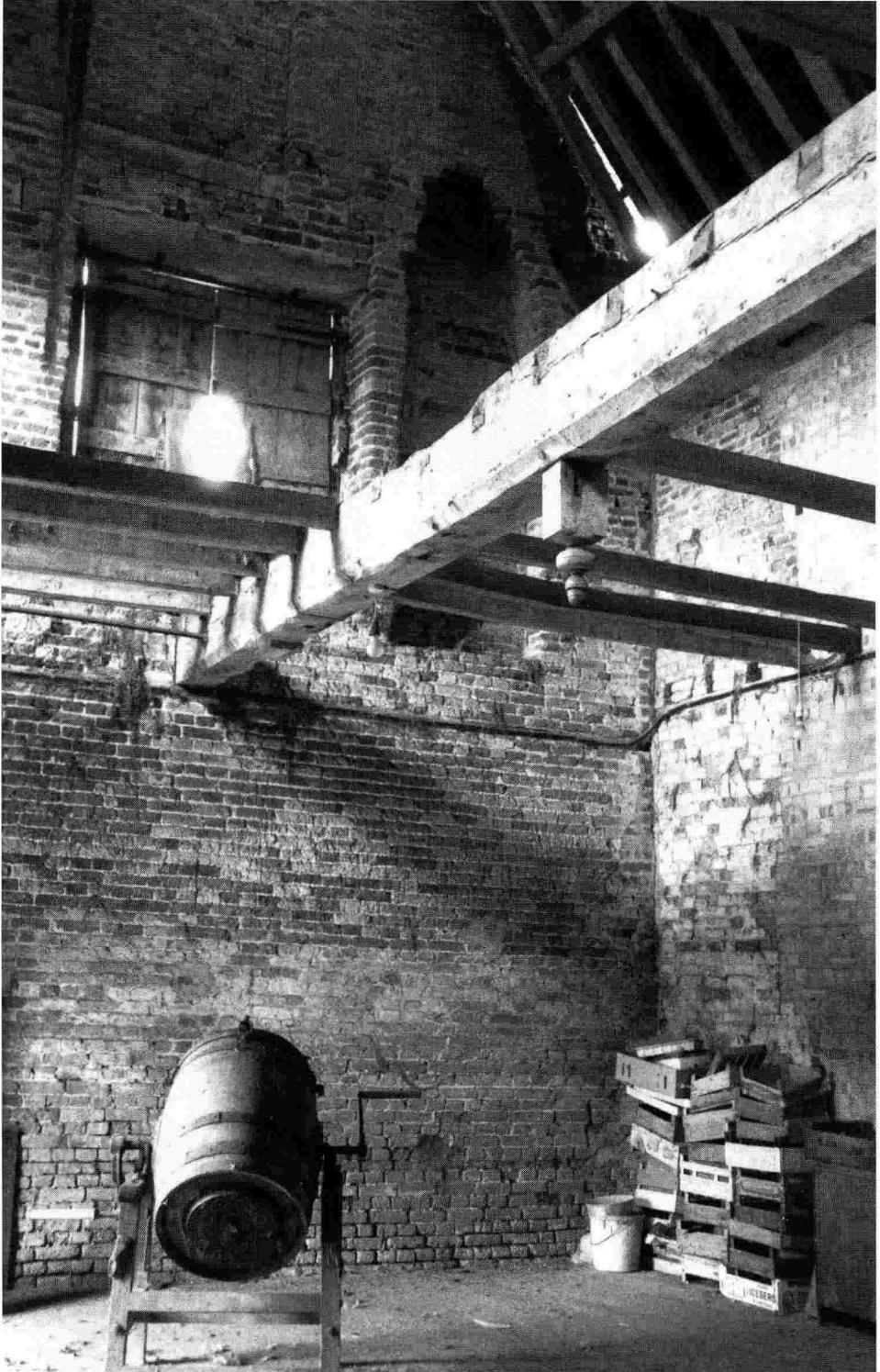
Boundary Farm: view of the north side of the stable, 1992.

E. MARTIN, T. EASTON AND I. MCKECHNIE



Boundary Farm: only known view of the south side of the stable, taken by C.P. (? C. Partridge) in 1914
(S.R.O.I., HD 78: 2671).

By permission of the Suffolk Record Office
E. MARTIN, T. EASTON AND I. MCKECHNIE



Boundary Farm: S.E. corner of stable interior, 1992, showing 1st-floor fireplace and, in the centre of the main joist, the acorn pendant. The hayrack and feeding-trough occupied the lower part of the wall.

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PLATE V



Boundary Farm: view along the ornamental canal from the east end, 1992. The stable can be seen beyond it.
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PLATE VI



Boundary Farm: the remains of the brick stair (partly overlain on right by a modern concrete stair) and brick culvert (extreme right) at the west end of the canal, 1990.
Metric scale.

E. MARTIN, T. EASTON AND I. MCKECHNIE

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 £8 for an ordinary member (or £7.50 if paid by banker's order) due in advance on 1 January. The joint subscription for a husband and wife is £9.50 (or £9 by banker's order). Students under 18 are entitled to pay at the student rate of £4.50 (or £4 by banker's order). Subscriptions should be sent to the Hon. Financial Secretary, F.G. Sutherland, Ampners, Little Green, Thrandeston, Diss, Norfolk, IP21 4BX.

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 in 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, 2 Church Road, Flixton, Bungay, NR35 1NU.

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, Vols. I-XXXIII at £3 per part to members, £5 to non-members, XXXIV-XXXVII at £3.50 per part to members, £5 to non-members, plus postage.

Articles and notes on all aspects of Suffolk archaeology and history should be sent to the Hon. Editor, David Allen, 105 Tuddenham Ave, 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 Edward Martin, Oak Tree Farm, Hitcham, Ipswich, IP7 7LS.

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