

NOTES

Medieval Pottery Roof Ventilator from Weybread. Part of a pottery ventilator found with pottery wasters which indicate a kiln in the vicinity at Fonnereau Farm, Weybread, two miles south of Harleston. The pottery has a possible range in date from the late 13th to the mid 14th century.

The fragment is made of coarse gritty ware, grey in the core and light reddish-brown on the surface. The whole of the outside and the perforations are covered by dark green glaze. The inside shows wheel-marks which enable the fragment to be given its approximate slope. The diameter outside is about 13 inches (Plate XLVI, a).

The fragment shows the pointed heads of a series of apertures, each enclosed by a canopy projecting about three-quarters of an inch beyond the side. Inside the apex of each canopy are radiating incised lines. The canopies probably joined at a lower level, thus forming a continuous series of arches above the apertures, and extended downwards as a rib or fillet between the lower parts of the apertures. As restored in the drawing (Plate XLVI, b), each aperture is about 2 inches wide and may have been 6-8 inches in height. The number of apertures round the circumference of the structure can be estimated at twelve or fourteen.

Each canopy was surmounted by a cross in high relief with expanded arms. Deeply incised lines follow the margins of each arm of the cross. The greater part of one cross is preserved, and the base of the cross above the adjoining canopy. In the angles between the arms of the cross are half-inch holes piercing the side of the structure.

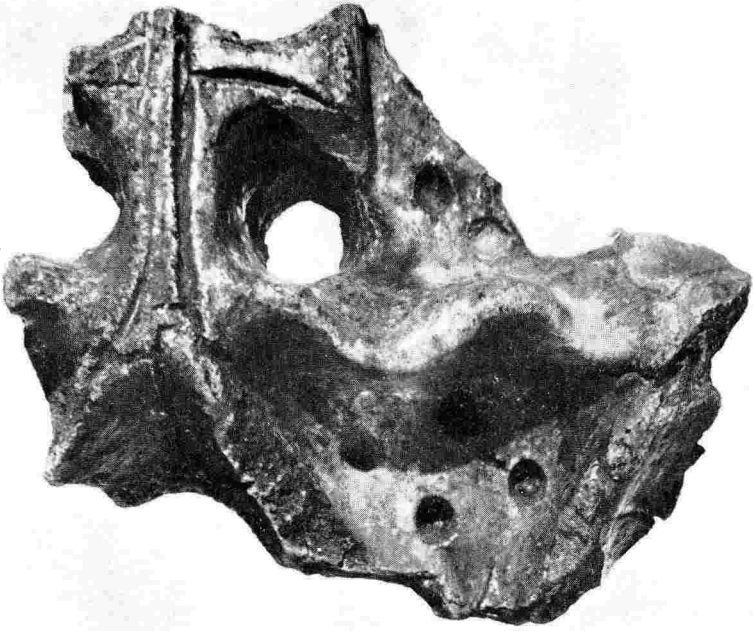
Connecting the tops of the canopies is an applied wavy band, which ran horizontally round the ventilator and divided the vertically-sided lower part from the incurved or conical summit. In the spaces between the canopies and also between the crosses are deep stab-marks, made by a blunt-ended tool.

The ventilator is clearly architectural in character. In fact it is an elaborate version in pottery of the capping of a stone chimney shaft; the analogies in stone belong to the late 13th and 14th centuries.¹ These chimneys, polygonal in plan, were provided with gabled window-vents, sometimes of lancet type as on the Weybread ventilator, for the exit of smoke.

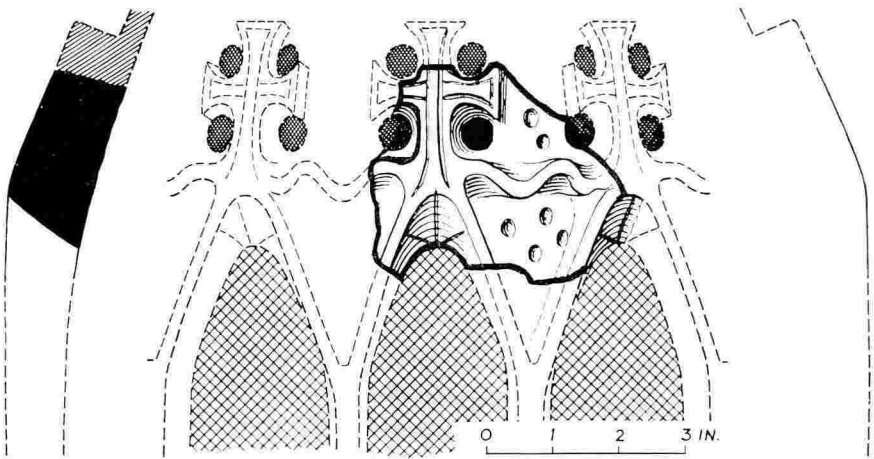
In view of the fragmentary nature of the evidence, the question of the complete form of the Weybread ventilator remains open

¹ Margaret Wood, *The English Medieval House* (1965), pp. 283-4, fig. 84 and pl. 22, D-E.

PLATE XLVI



a, Weybread, fragment of roof ventilator ($\frac{1}{3}$).



b, Reconstruction of ventilator ($\frac{1}{3}$).

between two alternatives. (1) A separate structure fitted on the roof, and thus classed as a louver,² and (2) the capping for a stone chimney shaft or smoke-vent, for the existence of which in Essex in the 14th century there is documentary evidence.³

G. C. DUNNING, F.S.A.

Beccles, No. 14 Northgate. In 1963 it was necessary to install a new water and drainage system in this house, built probably in the early eighteenth century and lying on the east side of the street. A trench four feet deep was dug under the house from Northgate.

About twelve feet back from the road and running parallel to it, a five feet thick wall made of small flints was found. From the sand and shingle found on the river side of the wall and the dark earth on the other side, this must surely have been the harbour wall of a very much earlier settlement at Beccles than is recorded in our history.

JOAN PHILPS.

Two Token Finds in Suffolk. A year or so ago, Mr. R. P. Mander of The Elms, Hitcham, was kind enough to send me a $\frac{1}{4}$ d. token of John Culpicke of Bildeston (Williamson 18; Golding 17), the obverse of which, IOHN . CVLPICKE . OF = The Mercers' Arms, is from a different die from those specimens of this token which I have hitherto seen. In one die the top of the shield in the field is level with the O of OF, in the other level with the F.

In March 1967 Mrs. Nancy Crozier dug up in her garden at Church Field Cottage, Great Glemham, a London $\frac{1}{4}$ d. token (Williamson, London 19):

Obverse: IOHN . ANDREWES . AT . YE = A bull's head

Reverse: IN . ALDERSGATE . STREET = I.A. 1666

CRANBROOK

² *Medieval Archaeology*, x (1966), p. 74, Fig. 26 and Plate II.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 80.