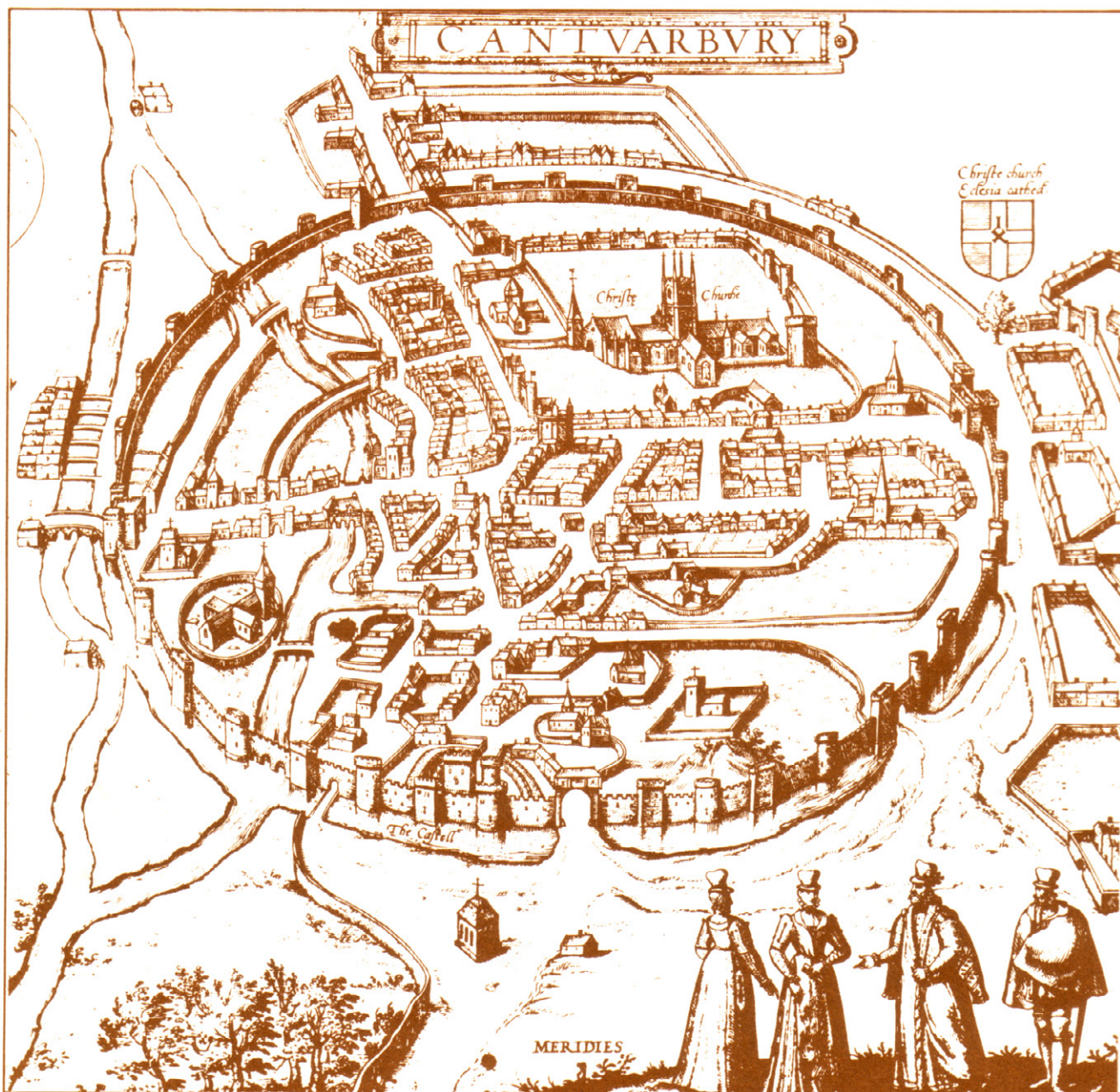
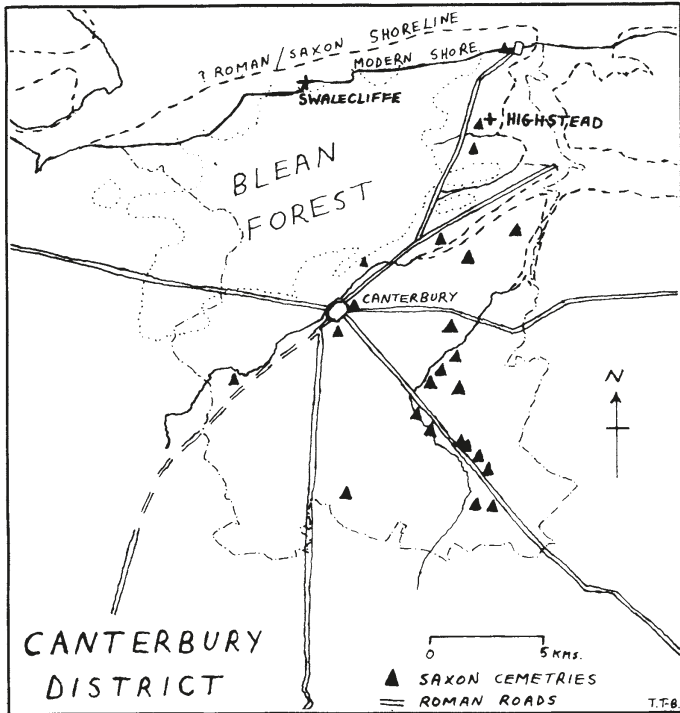


CANTERBURY ARCHAEOLOGY 1975/76



Canterbury Archaeological Society

FOUNDED 1920



- Chairman:** Frank Jenkins M.A., F.S.A.
Hon. Secretary: Lawrence Lyle M.A., 3 Queen's Avenue,
 Canterbury (65745)
Hon. Treasurer: Fred Wall, 2 Cannon Road, Ramsgate.

During the winter lectures, mostly illustrated, are given by experts on a variety of archaeological and historical subjects. Excursions take place in the summer when a week's tour based on a historic town is organised. Members can use the Library in the Society's headquarters in the Sudbury Tower, Pound Lane, and receive a free copy of this report.

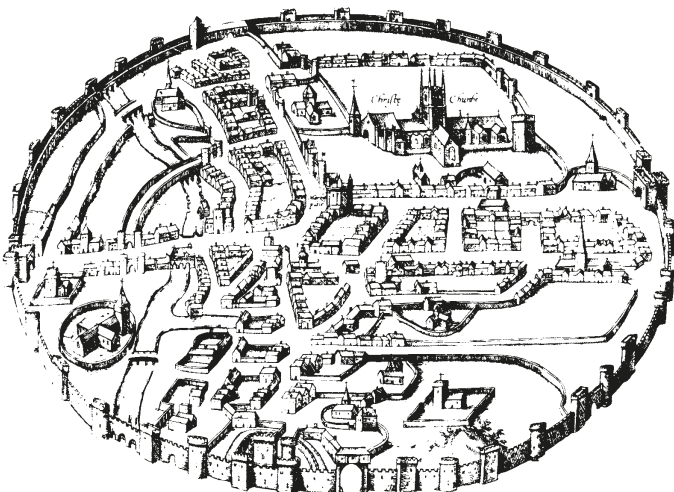
The Society aims to support active archaeology in the Canterbury District Council area and to represent informed opinion on matters of conservation. In this aspect of its work it collaborates with the Canterbury Society.

Subscription Rates

Entry Fee	25p
Adult	£1.50 (payable from 1st January)
Student (18-21)	60p
Junior (below 18)	40p Canterbury

Canterbury Archaeological Trust

FOUNDED 1976



- Patron:** Lord Astor of Hever
Chairman: The Mayor of Canterbury
Director: Tim Tatton-Brown, B.A.,
 12-15 Dane John, Canterbury (51755)
Field Officer: Paul Bennett, B.A.
Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Caroline Simpson, B.A.,
 49 Havelock Street, Canterbury (52395)
Hon. Treasurer: S. W. Capon Esq., City Treasurer,
 9-11 Dane John, Canterbury

The Trust, which is independent and has charitable status, works closely with the C.A.S. It is building up a team of full-time archaeologists to conduct excavations in the area covered by the Canterbury District Council and to publish the results.

CANTERBURY ARCHAEOLOGY 1975/76

Short reports on the excavations carried out during the year and notes on other archaeological activities

This booklet is intended to give a short summary of archaeological work that has been carried out in Canterbury – City and District – in the last year. It has been compiled by members of both the Archaeological Society and the Trust, and will be, we hope, the first of a series.

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The Trust has just launched an appeal for very urgently needed funds to finance both excavation and post-excavation work. The latter includes conservation of finds and, particularly, publications costs.

Please help us by donating NOW – covenant forms can also be provided.

Donations to:–
David C. Anning, A.C.A.,
Hill Vellacott, Chartered Accountants,
7 Dane John, Canterbury CT1 2QS.

The Formation of a Professional Unit in Canterbury

In the spring of 1975 the Excavations Committee of the C.A.S. considered a memorandum from Mrs. Caroline Simpson on this subject. A meeting of interested people was called at Christ Church College on 14 June at which the chair was taken by Professor Barry Cunliffe.

Our M.P., Mr. David Crouch, and the Mayor of Canterbury, Councillor Jim Alexander, gave the project their support. Four archaeologists then spoke. Frank Jenkins outlined what had been done in Canterbury since the war but emphasised that a full-time team was now essential if the full archaeological potential of the area was to be realised. Nicholas Brooks of the University of St. Andrews spoke about the importance of the Anglo-Saxon period in the City while Tom Hassall, chairman of the Council for British Archaeology's Urban Archaeology Committee, stressed the need for a unit in a historic town and illustrated what can be achieved from his experiences in Oxford. Martin Biddle described the remarkable programme of excavation and research he is directing at Winchester. In the discussion which followed Christopher Young, the local inspector of ancient monuments for the Department of the Environment, said that funds would be available for the appointment of a field officer during the current financial year (1975--6). Mr. Jenkins then announced the composition of the Archaeological Committee for Canterbury; apart from the archaeologists who spoke there are representatives from the C.A.S., the Dean and Chapter, the Canterbury City Council, the C.B.A. and Rescue as well as the Museums Curator, the County Museums Officer, and the University of Kent at Canterbury.

The new Committee has adopted a constitution, obtained charitable status and appointed a Management Committee. Mrs. Caroline Simpson has been elected Hon. Secretary and Mr. S. W. Capon, City Treasurer, as Treasurer. Tim Tatton-Brown, the Acting Director of the Unit spent six months preparing a report to the Department of the Environment on the archaeological potential of the whole area covered by the Canterbury District Council - the old City of Canterbury, Bridge-Blean R.D.C. and Herne Bay and Whitstable U.D.C.s.

On 1st April 1976 the A.C.C. became the Canterbury Archaeological Trust and Tim Tatton-Brown the first full-time Director of the Unit.

INTERIM REPORT ON EXCAVATIONS
BEING CARRIED OUT AT

Highstead, nr. Chislet, Kent

At the end of the summer in 1975, topsoil was stripped from a large area of arable land by Bretts, prior to the removal of gravel. This area, which is just south-east of the small hilltop village of Highstead, is one of several 'tongues' of gravel on the 100 foot terrace overlooking the Wantsum Channel from the West. Many of these gravel terraces must have been almost continuously occupied by settlers between the Bronze Age and the present day, though from late Medieval times onwards there has clearly been a falling off in the size of these settlements. For example, Chislet village is today much less populous than in the Medieval period when the manor was one of the earliest and greatest possessions of St. Augustine's Abbey. Highstead village, which still exists today with two farms and several houses, is no exception and it is quite clear that the village is only the latest in well over 3,000 years of settlements.

Before the present excavations began, indications of this earlier settlement had come from the discovery of two very fine early Bronze Age beakers (now in the British Museum) and also a Romano-British quern just to the west of the village. In the early 1960's Professor St. Joseph flew over the area and photographed four extensive areas of cropmarks (see plan), and during the summer of 1975 Mr. Frank Jenkins excavated part of a Roman building, containing a hypocaust, on the eastern side of the northern group of cropmarks.

Small scale excavation by the Canterbury Archaeological Society on the present site began in September 1975 and when I started work in October, it was quite clear, from the great number of soil marks visible, that we had a major series of sites of the 'Mucking' type. So far, however, little Saxon material has been found and it is the Iron Age enclosures covered by Romano-British fields and a small Roman inhumation cemetery that makes this a very important site for Kent.

At the present time (April 1976) excavation of an early Iron Age enclosure has been completed just before total destruction by quarrying. The enclosure is surrounded by four, roughly dug, curved ditches. Between each of these ditches there appears to have been an entrance; so, looked at as a whole, the area enclosed is nearer to a square than to a circle. At a later date, a ditch was also dug across the south-west entrance. In these ditches are a series of post-holes and many large pits and also a hearth; and it seems likely that we have the remains of some small Iron Age settlement, perhaps the homestead of a small family group.

The date of the pottery found in the pits and ditches must pre-date the so-called Belgic period of the Iron Age and therefore we tentatively date the enclosure to sometime in the last three or four centuries B.C.

Sometime after the enclosure had been abandoned (i.e. when the ditches were filled in), a whole series of roughly straight ditches were dug all over the site. These ditches contain mainly Romano-British pottery and must have been the boundaries of small Roman fields, though a series of two or three very long parallel ditches running north-east to southwest across the site may perhaps be the boundaries to a Roman road leading to the main Roman farmstead site (i.e. to the site of the building with the hypocaust). In one of the Roman fields three inhumation burials were found. These burials were in coffins (the iron nails, though not the skeleton, survive) and two of them contained nearly whole pots of a 1st-2nd century A.D. type. Because the burials are roughly parallel to the field boundaries, it seems very likely that one of the small fields was chosen as a cemetery at a later date.

No Saxon structures have yet been found and the present village of Highstead, to the north-west of our excavations, may be the site of a Saxon settlement which has been occupied ever since.

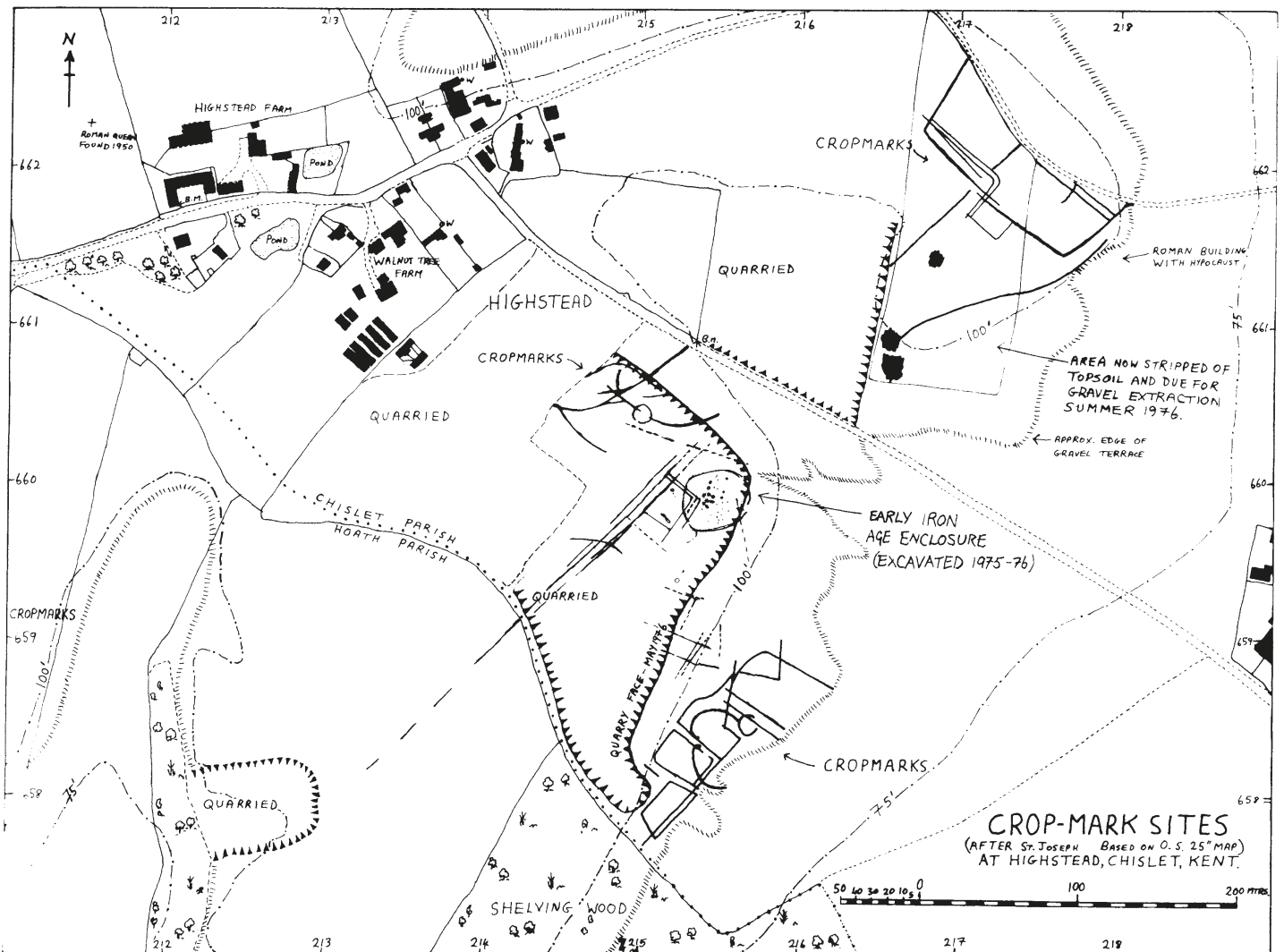
We hope excavations can continue throughout the summer in advance of gravel working at this very important site. If we can do this, it will be the first large area of early Iron Age sites to be excavated in Kent.

23rd April 1976

T.T.B.

..... STOP PRESS Late May 1976

Trial excavations have now begun in the area north-east of the road where gravel extraction is due to start this summer. A mass of Romano-British features have already been excavated as well as a series of early Iron Age pits. This new site – known as Beacon Hill, the site of an Armada Beacon – has also produced some possible Iron Age huts, and we hope excavation can continue during the summer.



INTERIM REPORT ON EXCAVATIONS
BEING CARRIED OUT AT

Highstead, nr. Chislet, Kent

Having completed the third season's excavations at the Church of St. Pancras we are now in a position to suggest the tentative structural sequence set forth below:—

Pre-Church deposits

A normal build-up of occupation soil on the natural surface yielded pottery ranging from native Belgic to Roman, i.e., from the mid 1st to not later than the early 3rd century. This area seems to have been an open space and remained as such until the end of the Roman period and possibly into much later times.

The Church

Period I

The first church, built of re-used Roman bricks rarely complete, laid in regular courses in a yellow mortar, consisted of a rectangular nave and a chancel in the form of a stilted apse. The latter was divided off from the nave by a single arched opening. Access to the nave from outside was through a west door between external square pilaster buttresses. The angles of the nave were clasped by similar buttresses and there were also two intermediate ones symmetrically placed along the north and south sides of the nave. The floor was of clay laid directly on the surface of the underlying Roman deposits. The interior faces of the nave walls were rendered over with smooth white plaster. The foundations throughout were of flints laid in courses without mortar, capped by a footings course of Roman bricks to form external and internal offsets at the original ground level. At that level close to the base of the outer face of the south wall of the nave lay a coin of the House of Constantine I., the only dateable object found in a stratified context relating to the building.

The apse was brick-built, polygonal above ground and rested on similar flint foundations laid in a trench which was semicircular on plan.

Period II

The length of time the earliest church was in use is not clear, but enough time had elapsed for a depth of about 9ins. of soil to accumulate on the contemporary ground level, before the building underwent extensive alterations. The work was carried out in re-used Roman bricks rarely complete, laid in fairly regular courses in white mortar, and rested on the walls of the original building which had been reduced in height in places to only a few courses. The irregular heights of the earlier walls suggests that the church had either stood in a ruinous state for some time, or had been deliberately demolished by the builders preparatory to carrying out the structural alterations.

An external porticus was built against the south wall of the nave and another was provided in the same position on the north wall. A porticus was also built against the south wall of the chancel, access to which was provided by a door through that

wall close to the south west corner of the chancel. New brick-built jambs were inserted in the west door of the nave to reduce the width, and a west porch was added with an external door of the same width as the other. A bed of concrete was laid in the nave to raise the floor level by about 6 ins., thus effectively concealing the plaster facing on the lowest parts of the Period I walls. The walls which had flanked the original chancel arch were now built up to a higher level to support a triple arcade, of which the base and the lower part of one of the columns still survive in situ.

While this version of the church was in use, burials were inserted in the chancel, and the area along the outside of the building to the south was in use as a cemetery, where at least three graves appear to belong to the late 7th-8th century.

When the remains of the arcade were examined in 1900 it was suggested that soon after it was built it developed a structural weakness so that it became necessary to wall up the outer arches. Today the brickwork in the space between the southernmost arch is less complete but it still stands to a height of eight courses above that on which the surviving column is based. It is also noteworthy that the bricks are laid in the same kind of white mortar. Also in 1900, a large fragment of a wall containing a segment of an arch turned in Roman bricks was found where it had fallen across the east end of the nave. It was identified at the time as that part of the east wall which contained the chancel arch. 1

There seems to be no valid reason for disputing this, but it is rather odd that the brickwork was laid in yellow mortar, which implies that it belonged to the Period I work. It is reasonable to think that if the arch was replaced by a tripartite arcade then the whole structure would have been built with white mortar, but clearly it was not. The only possible explanation for this variation in the type of mortar seems to be that the builders were skilled enough to remove much of the Period I work, namely, the piers of the arch and the flanking walls, but left the gable in situ supported by heavy timbers until the four columns were set up. It is therefore possible that in adopting this method of construction the builders inadvertently weakened the structure, and eventually due to the weight of the gable, settlement cracks revealed the fault which had to be remedied by walling up the outer arches of the arcade.

Period III

In this structural phase building alterations seem to have been confined mainly to the chancel. The brick-built walls of the Period II structure, including the apse, were now incorporated in the walls of the new chancel. These were built of flint, stone and mortar, within those of the earlier structure so that the chancel was slightly narrower than before. The south door was blocked up and presumably at this time the porticus to which it gave access was demolished.

It was found that the foundations of the new south wall had been sunk into the south side of one of the graves in the chancel. The skull was surrounded by large flints which seems to have been a later Saxon custom. Others were found in the cemetery. 2 As the grave clearly antedates the chancel wall it is possible that the latter was built in late Saxon times. On the other hand if this work was carried out when new masonry jambs were inserted in the west door of the nave, and as they are carved in 12th century style it is possible that the rebuilding could have taken place in early Norman times.

1 *Archaeologia Cantiana XXV (1902) p. 231 and plate between pp 232-3*

2 *For similar burials thought to be mid-Saxon at Rivenhall, Essex, cf. Antiquaries Journal LIII (1973) p. 231*

Period IV

The last structural phase belongs to the late 14th century. The apsidal east end of the chancel was demolished to allow for the building to be extended a few feet further east to where it terminated in the square end which still stands today. A large arched recess was provided in the new south wall of the chancel. This has previously been regarded as a *sedilia* but as the three sides are carefully rendered over with smooth plaster to some feet below the floor level, it is more likely a tomb. Unfortunately this cannot be proved because here badly cut trenches and pits dug at the beginning of the present century had been most destructive.

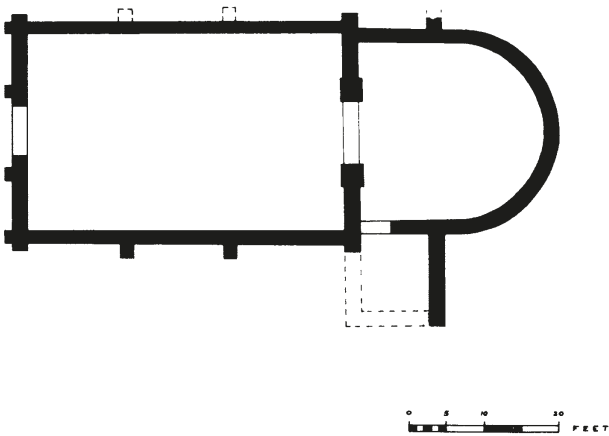
Probably at the time that this work was carried out a very large and deep pit was dug through the remains of the demolished Period II porticus. The contents of this pit included a number of pieces of lead derived from windows, and much burnt material which suggests that it was dug for the disposal of waste and rubbish when the site was tidied up after the completion of the building work.

The provision of buttresses of some size and projection against each end of the east gable of the nave may be an indication of the inherent weakness of the structure, which, as we have suggested, had manifested itself at a much earlier date, and made it necessary for the outer arches of the triple-arcade to be walled up. (Period 2 A *supra*)

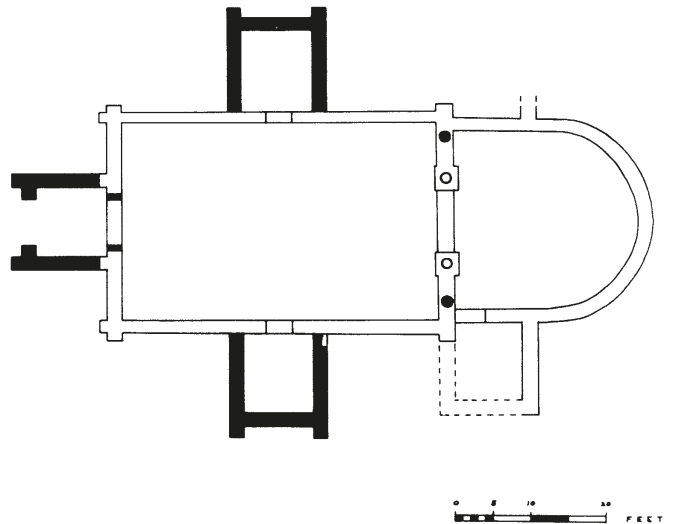
F. J.

The Church of St. Pancras

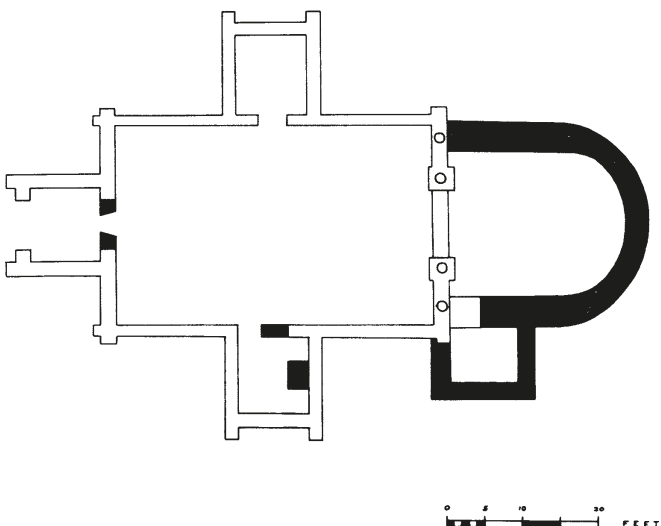
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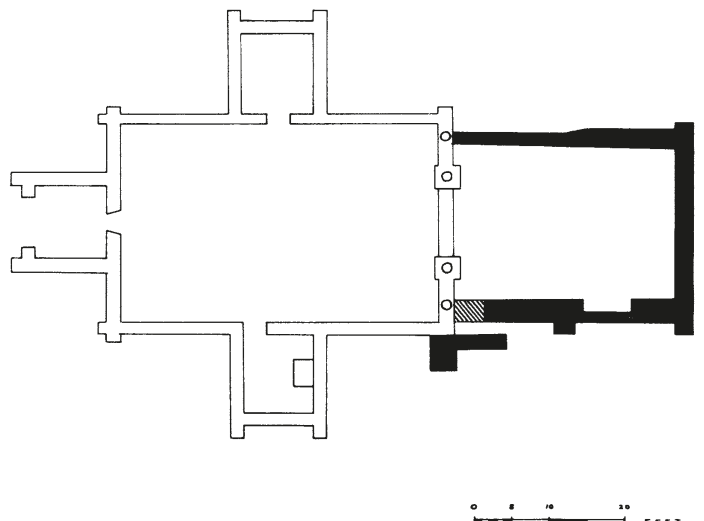
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PERIOD 4

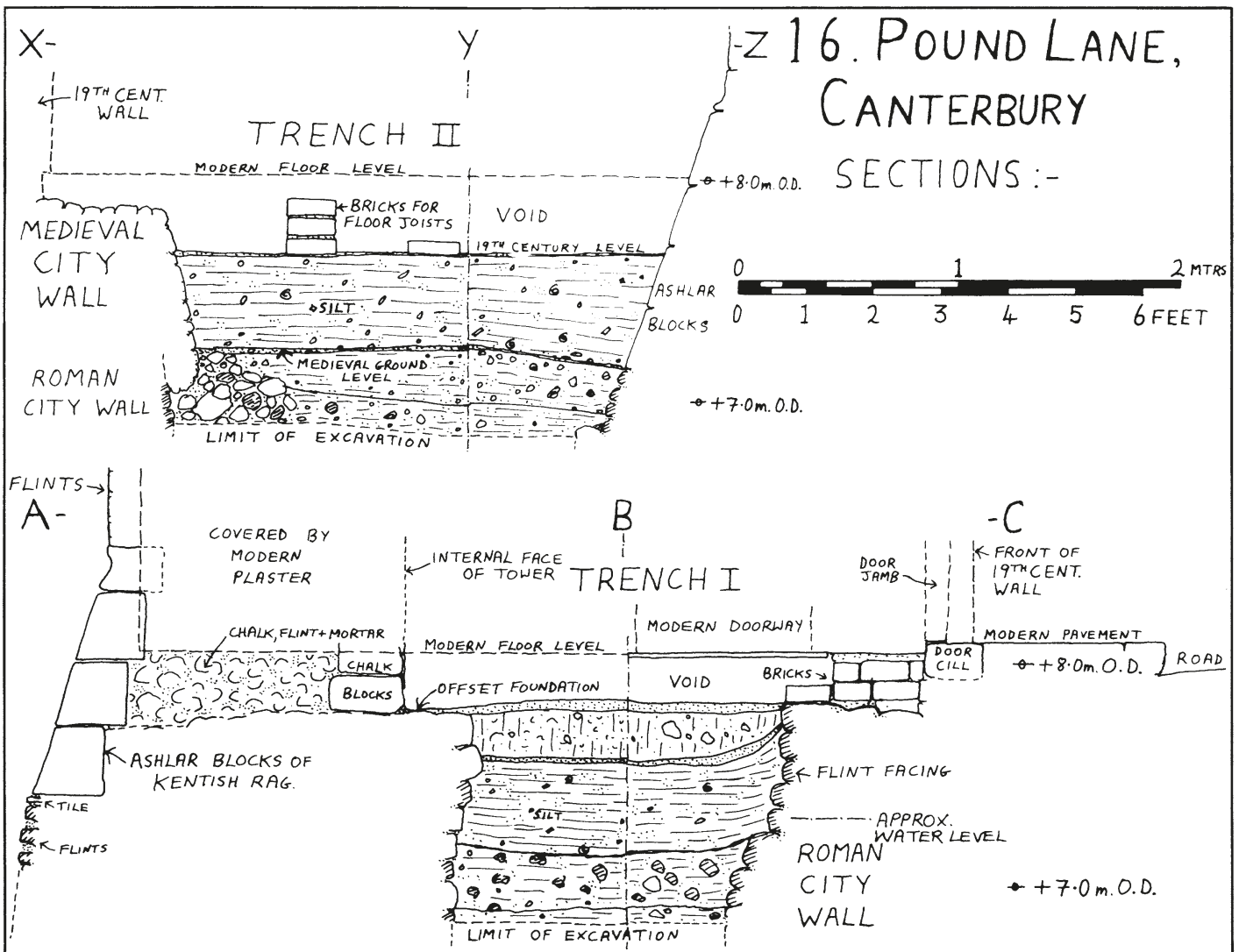


EXCAVATIONS CARRIED OUT AT

16 Pound Lane, Canterbury

Towards the end of January, 1976, a small three day excavation was undertaken inside No. 16, Pound Lane before the concreting in of the floors. The undertaking of this excavation was considered to be of great importance because it was thought likely that for the first time the relationship between the Roman and Medieval City Walls could be examined in conjunction with the foundations of one of Canterbury's semi-circular towers. This was only possible because the west wall of the tower here had been cut through and the city wall itself demolished. In the event, excavation was fully justified and an excellent sequence was examined, despite the high present-day water table (above +7.4m O.D. at times).

As soon as the 19th Century timber floor had been removed, the area beneath was thoroughly cleaned. This revealed the top of the curving medieval city wall outside the tower (to the west) and the Roman City Wall inside it. The South Wall of No. 16, Pound Lane is entirely a 19th century rebuilding, and this 19th century wall sits directly on top of the demolished and much wider city wall (see plan and sections). Two very small trenches were dug between the City Wall and the Tower (on the outside and inside of the Western Wall). These showed clearly the ground level associated with the building of the tower and the refacing and widening of the city wall. This ground level is at +7.2m O.D. and above it is a layer of black silt which is clearly a result of flooding. This is to be expected because the site is close to the river Stour and we know that due to a relative rise in sea-level in the South East, the mean level of the river near Canterbury is constantly rising. This can be seen very clearly in other parts of Canterbury: for example, the 13th century arch over the river at Greyfriars has water nearly up to the capitals.



Also at the Westgate only the very top of the battered plinth is visible above the modern road level, and it is likely that this plinth carried down a long way, as on the towers on the east side of the Cathedral precinct near the Queningate. The semi-circular tower at No. 16 Pound Lane is just the same, and our excavations revealed the battered plinth, which is made of fine ashlar blocks of Kentish Rag, carrying on down to a great depth and buried in later silt. The medieval ground level sloped down as one got further and further away from the City Wall, and so the number of courses of ashlar blocks increase as one gets further round the tower. This was very clear in the present excavation, and it can also be seen on all the other semi-circular towers in Canterbury which have battered plinths. These plinths allow the towers to extend out into the City ditch without there being any fear of their being undermined. The upper part of the tower wall is over 1.3 metres (c. 4 1/2 ft.) thick and is made with flint on the outside and chalk blocks inside, while the core is filled with very strongly mortared chalk and flint. (See section A-B).

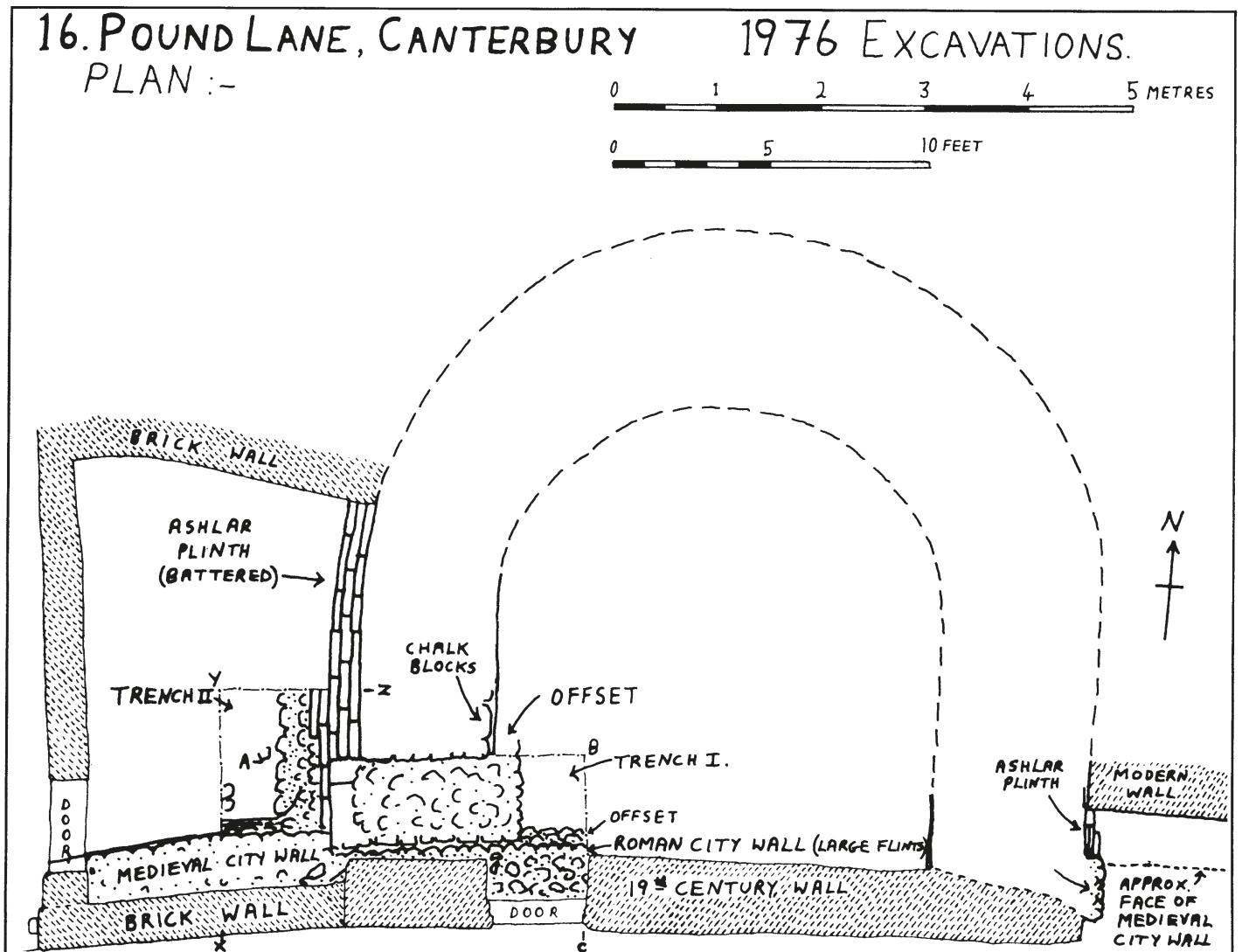
We also found that below the modern floor there was an offset to the foundation on the inside making it nearly 2 metres (over 6 ft.) wide. These very strong foundations were to stop sapping by an enemy.

Below the layer of mortar, which marked the medieval ground level, was more silt going on down to an as yet undetermined depth. Unfortunately, no dating material was obtained from this lower level so no 'archaeological' date was possible for the tower and widened City Wall. However, we know that the West Gate and the 'longwall' to the north was being rebuilt in

the years following 1379 (perhaps under the direction of Henry Yevele, the greatest of all English Medieval architects who also designed the incomparable Nave of Canterbury Cathedral), and because the present tower is very similar architecturally, to the Westgate, it seems likely that it too dates from the late 14th century when many Kentish towns and castles were renewing their defences because of the fear of invasion by the French. One of the new bits of evidence coming from our present excavation is that the city wall running west from the tower is definitely a refacing of the Roman wall contemporaneous with the building of the semi-circular tower. (The mortar used is identical in both cases). It seems likely (though as yet unproven) that the rectangular "Sudbury" tower and the tower at No. 19 Pound Lane may be little later (possibly 15th century in date).

We were only able to examine a small section of the Roman city wall (on the inside of the tower where it had not been refaced) and this was made of the characteristic courses of large flints that are found elsewhere along the circuit of the wall. A single Roman brick was found at one point in the face of the wall, and lower down an offset was visible (see Section B-C). In the post-Roman period, the face had been buried in silt and then later the wall of the medieval tower was straight-jointed against it. (See plan). The base of the Roman city wall was, of course, not able to be examined as it probably extended down several metres. Further work in this part of the Roman city wall at a future date will be of great importance.

T. T.B.



EXCAVATIONS AT THE Cakebread Robey Site, 78–79 Castle Street

Excavations started in mid-January 1976 and were undertaken in advance of the construction of a new office block for London and Manchester Securities Ltd.

The earliest medieval buildings on the site date to the 13th-14th centuries. These were set up against the road frontage. One of the structures had a hall parallel to the street, with a centrally-positioned 'pitched-tile' hearth, and a side passage leading from the rear of the hall along the north-east side of the property.

The building to the north of this was indicated solely by a road frontage cellar, and would probably have been a small structure with its longest axis set at right angles to the street. These medieval building frontages were gradually extended and adapted in the post medieval period. The smaller of the two properties eventually became a public house called 'The Globe' of which documentary evidence survives from 1591. ¹ The larger building seems to have been converted into a bakery at about the same time and was later converted back into shop and domestic dwellings, and finally into a builder's yard in the 19th century.

The corner of the Roman Theatre, probably constructed in the late second or early third centuries A.D., and in places located by the excavations conducted by Professor S.S. Frere and Mr. Frank Jenkins, is being excavated at the time of writing. This structure, one of the largest in Britain, was a rebuild of a

smaller, late first century timber theatre 2 and was constructed on a massive scale with two large circular retaining walls set deep into the natural brickearth. These walls would have held the highest 'banked' seats at the rear of the theatre. At the very corner of the theatre was found a huge robber trench (over 10 ft. deep). This may have been the foundations of a monumental structure, possibly an arch.

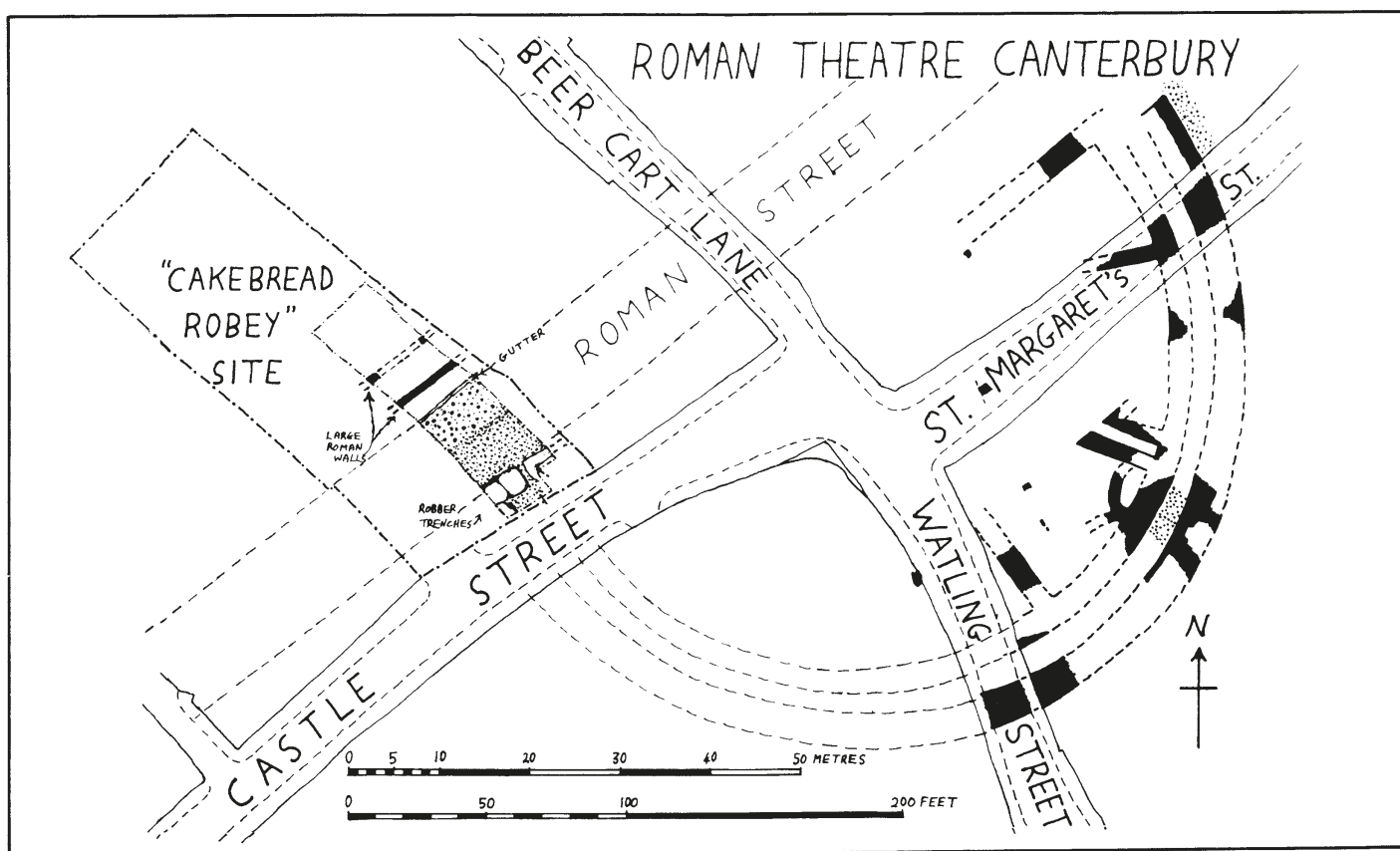
The main north-east/south-west Roman road runs behind the theatre. Layer upon layer of road metalling is present to a depth of five feet. On the opposite side of this street and still in process of excavation (June 1976) are the remains of two large Roman walls running parallel to the street. Beyond this is part of a large open courtyard surfaced with rammed brick and flint. This courtyard probably had a stone gutter running along its south-west side, and the two Roman walls may be the foundations of a colonnade. If this is the case, we have clearly located one of the monumental insulae of Roman Canterbury and this colonnade would perhaps run around the edge of a large temple precinct or event possibly the Roman forum. Overlying the latest Roman levels were a large quantity of late Roman coins and quite a lot of "Anglo-Frisian" pottery.

We also anticipate that the complex of metalling located on the site may indicate an intersection just to the south-east between the main north-east/south-west road and the road leading from the Riding Gate to the Lower West Gate ("London" Gate).

The pre-Roman period is indicated by random Belgic sherds, and a "Potin" coin found in the fill of medieval pits and some Belgic pits appearing in the sides of the medieval pits below the Roman street metalling. We anticipate that under the earliest Roman levels we shall find Belgic layers.
P.B. & T.T.B.

¹ Bunce C.R. (Alderman) *Extracts from Canterbury Records* (unpublished)

² Frere S.S. "The Roman Theatre at Canterbury" *Britannia* 1 (1970) pp. 83-113.



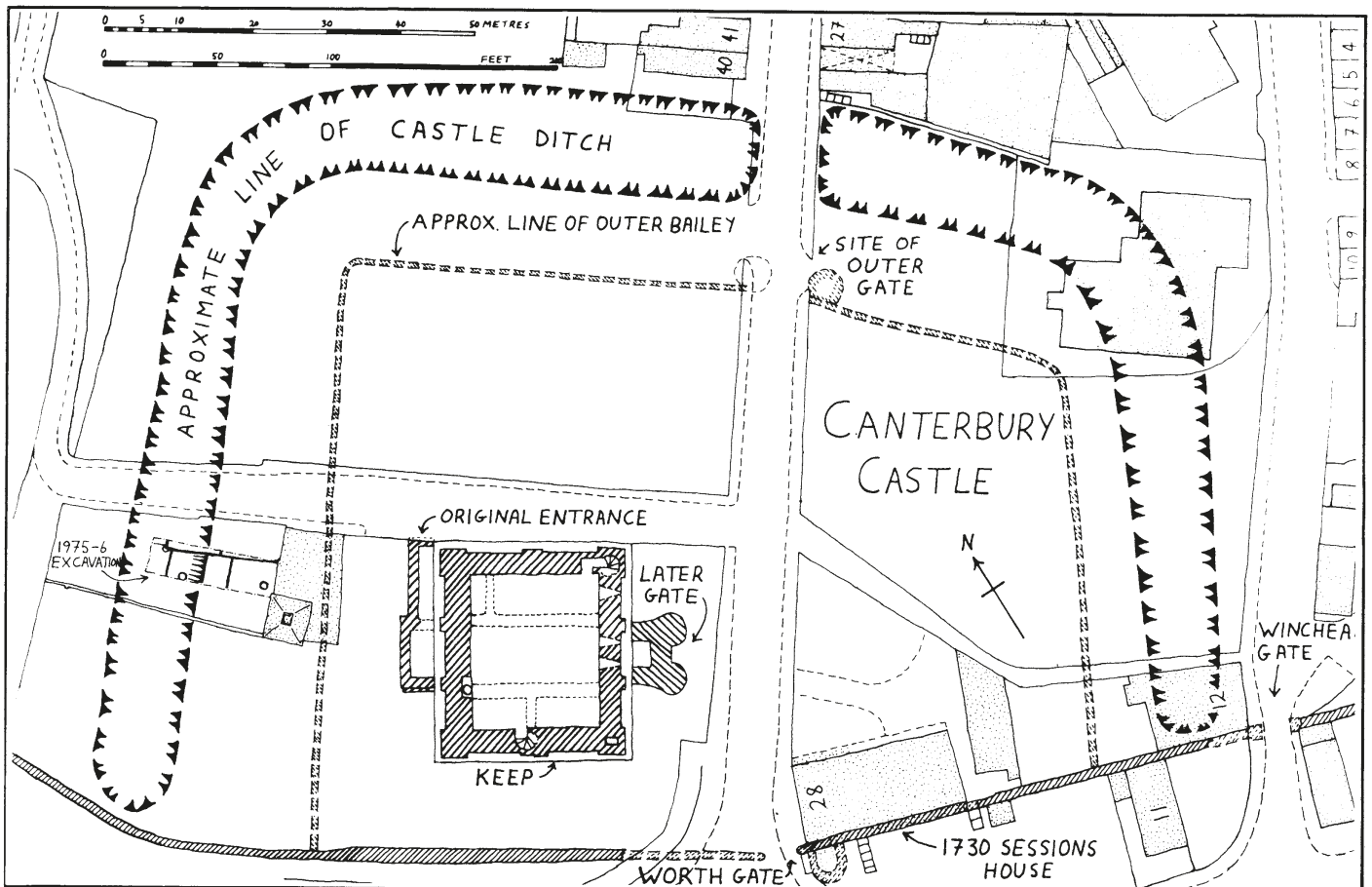
EXCAVATIONS AT
Canterbury Castle,
 1975/76

Excavations have been taking place on the site of the now demolished houses at 1 and 2 Gas Street. A single long trench has been dug westwards from the Oast House in order to locate the exact position of the Castle Ditch, and to find the actual depth of stratified deposits remaining on the site. The excavations have been conducted entirely with volunteers (mainly boys from the King's School on Thursday afternoons), under the supervision of Mrs. P. Garrard, and are due to end in mid-April 1976 when an extension to the Oast House is due to be erected on the site. So far our excavations have failed to locate the edge of the ditch, but part of a Roman building was found (see plan).

The excavation itself is of particular importance as a trial trench for the large scale excavations which are due to start in June 1976, on the other side of Gas Street in the northern part of the outer bailey.

Canterbury Castle, which was one of the great royal castles of England, has long been neglected. Unlike Kent's other Royal Castles of Dover and Rochester which have thousands of pounds a year spent on them by the Department of the Environment, Canterbury's keep is a dangerous ruin, not open to the public, needing urgent repair work on its upper walls. Apart from the keep, nothing now survives of the Castle above ground though as late as the end of the 18th century (see the engraving on the back of this booklet) much of the outer bailey wall and ditch survived, as did the blocked Roman gate (Worthgate) in its south wall. Now, with the removal of the Gas Works after a century and a half, and with redevelopment imminent, we may have our last chance to examine the rest of the Castle.

T.T.B.



St. George's Street – The Parade

AUGUST 1975 & APRIL 1976

In November 1952 a trench dug across the south-west end of Canterbury Lane where it joined St. George's Street, exposed a length of a Roman wall built of flints laid in courses in a yellow mortar, capped by a single course of tiles. The top of this wall lay at a depth of 2 ft. 6ins. below the modern street level. It was 1 ft. 6ins. wide and was traced for a distance of 16ft. in a north-west to south-east direction. The surviving height of the wall was 1ft. 3ins. and it stood on off-set foundations which were 2ft. 6ins. wide. Resting on the off-set the south-west side was the edge of a concrete floor which extended beyond the modern trench under St. George's Street.

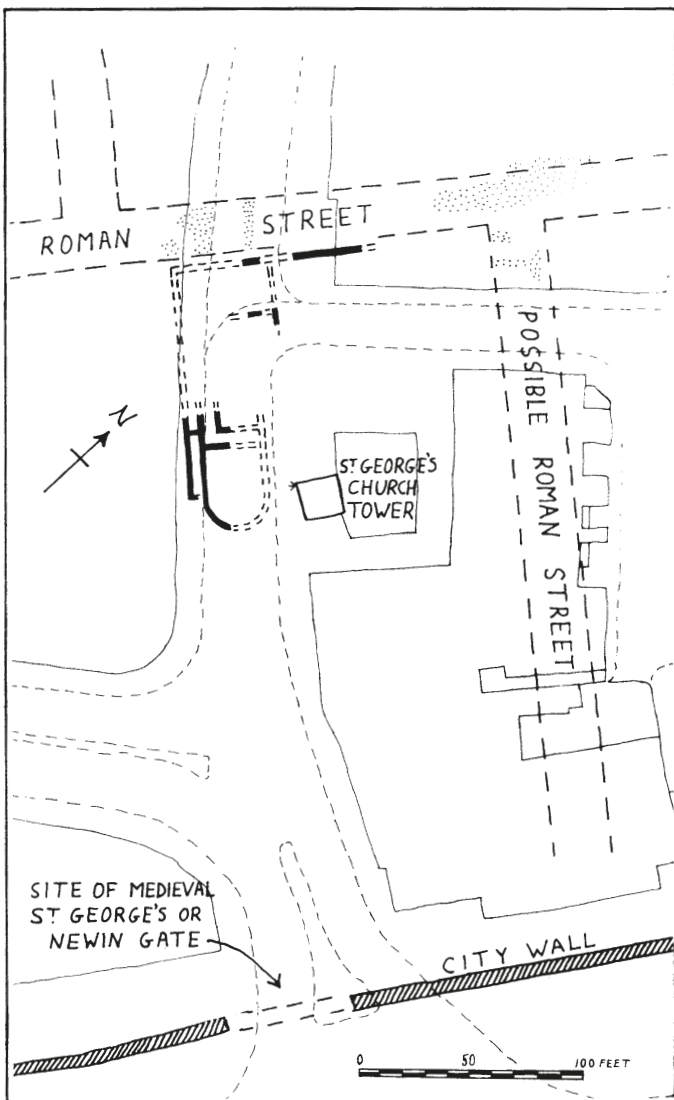
In 1946 Sheppard Frere carried out excavations on the site of No. 23 St. George's Street and found a Roman footing was running north-south and seen to front on to the south-west side of the Roman street which has been proved by excavation along its route to go direct from about the site of the Church of St. Thomas to the point where it joins the Roman version of Watling Street a few yards within the Riding Gate.

A substantial part of the same building, evidently the south wing terminating in an apse at the easterly end, was also excavated by Frere in 1949, on the site of the premises which, prior to the bombing of that part of the city, fronted on to the south-west side of St. George's Street. Today, as the result of the widening and re-alignment of that street the remains of this part of the building now lie under it.

In August 1975, further remains of the same building were found during deep trenching for telephone cable ducts along St. George's Street. The trench cut through two walls each 2ft. wide lying parallel to each other and spaced 24ft. apart, and lying in a north-east to south-west direction. As seen on plan it is clear that they lie at right-angles to the wall found in 1952 described above. The tops of both lay at a depth of c. 3ft. below modern ground level. They were built of flints laid in courses in a yellow mortar. The wall to the north-west was capped with a single course of tiles, and a similar course was seen at a lower level. The ground immediately to the north-west of wall A had been much disturbed by later pits dug from a higher level, but it is certain that it had fronted on to the same Roman street mentioned above, for a substantial cross-section of the thick make-up of rammed gravel on its alignment was seen to tail off to a point 26ft to the north-west of it.

F. J.

Two further walls were observed cut through by the trench. The first outside Dolcis at the west junction of St. George's Street with Iron Bar Lane where the trench was 9 feet from the shop front. It was 5 feet below ground and some 4 feet wide, of flint and yellow mortar. The second was outside National Westminster Bank, just before the junction of St. George's with the Longmarket, and was also 5 feet below ground, 2 feet wide



and of heavily mortared tile and flints based in orange clay. A fragment of amphora was found in the wall face. The whole stretch of this part was greatly disturbed by the pre-war shop cellarage, and by the many pipe trenches.

K.G.H.R.

(St. George's Street - The Parade, continued)

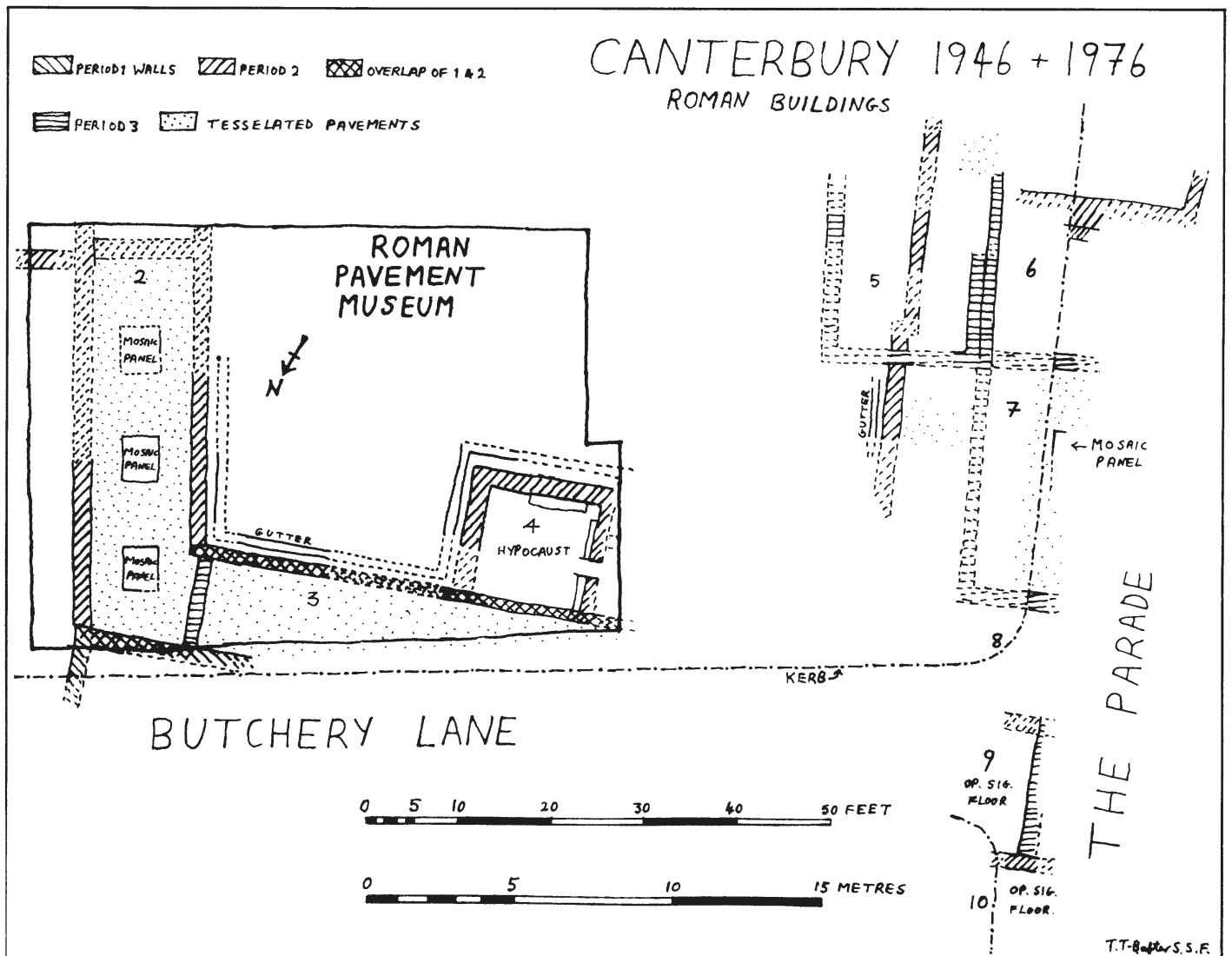
During the last two days of March and throughout April 1976 G.P.O. trenching was resumed in the Parade and almost immediately Roman walls and floors were cut through. The rooms revealed in section were clearly part of the west wing of the house found by Professor Frere in 1946 south of Butchery Lane (see plan), and several opus signinum floors were found. Of particular importance was the discovery of another tessellated pavement with a fine central mosaic panel. This panel had the guilloche and lozenge motifs which were also found in the 'Butchery Lane' pavement and the decoration was also generally very similar to the previously found mosaic.

The rest of the room was taken up with coarse grey tesserae (again similar to those in the 'Roman Pavement' Museum) and, if this border was of roughly equal width around three sides one can perhaps postulate the west wall of the room being a continuation of a 'period 3' wall found by Professor Frere (see plan).

Further north-west along the Parade, the G.P.O. trench cut through parts of the graveyard and walls of St. Andrews Church. This church, which was perhaps built in 1090, was in the middle of the street and had a western tower (see, for example, the 1663 map called 'The Groundplott of Canterbury'). It was demolished in 1763 and rebuilt on the south side of the street in 1774. The 18th century church survived until 1956 on a site now occupied by the National Westminster Bank.

Work continues on this trench and may well reveal more walls, floors, etc. in its next length down the High Street.

T.T-B

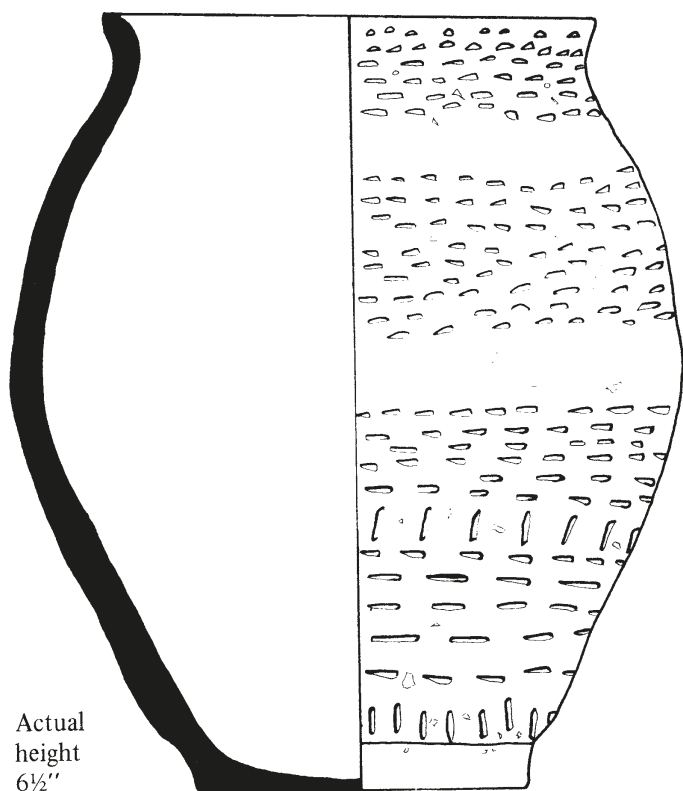


A
Beaker from Swalecliffe
 (FOUND BY MR. G.H. WILBY IN OCTOBER 1975)

Dr. D. L. Clarke writes from the Department of Archaeology at Cambridge:—

The beaker from Swalecliffe is a characteristic East Anglian beaker, to be dated c. 1800 B.C. The centre of distribution of this beaker group is focussed in East Anglia and its littoral, but stretches in a significant way across the Thames Estuary and along the coast of Kent and Sussex. By implication it is clear that this beaker group was to some extent interested in the coastal resources of this area and inter-communication must have been maintained by coastal canoe traffic. Several other finds of East Anglian beakers have been made from various parts of the Kent coast and its hinterland – Barham, Bromley, Dover etc.

The location of the beaker finds in situ and complete, at the foot of the Swalecliffe cliffs, just where the small stream opens out onto the Long Rock mussel beds, is very reminiscent of the beaker settlement location at the Eastbourne cliffs in Sussex at Belle Tote. In fact, the local beaker strongly suggests a peripheral burial immediately adjacent to similar East Anglian beaker settlement exploiting the marine resources and the sand and mud flats, tidal ponds and mussel beds. The settlement thus follows the earlier occupations of the same general area indicated by the Mesolithic pick and flints, the Neolithic working floors and the Late Bronze Age hoard.



The Activities of the Canterbury Archaeological Society

Lectures – Winter 1974–5

1975 started with the customary Christmas Lecture in which Frank Jenkins described the progress he had made with his excavations at St. Pancras Church (supported by a grant from the D. of E.). Later in January Mrs. Ann Shirley, Custodian of the Manuscripts at the National Maritime Museum, talked about the search for the North-West Passage. On 8th February Dr. Margaret Gibson of the University of Liverpool lectured on Lanfranc: Scholar and Archbishop.

The Annual Meeting was held at the Postgraduate Medical Centre on 22nd February. The Chair was taken by the Mayor, Cllr. Tom Castle, and the formal business was followed by tea and a film about York.

The season finished with three contrasting lectures. James Bradshaw and Christopher Young described their excavations at Ickham which included a Roman water mill, Dr. Raymond Page of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, lectured on Viking and Anglo-Saxon, and Mr. E. W. Parkin showed slides of a number of interesting timber-framed houses in the East Kent which he has been investigating.

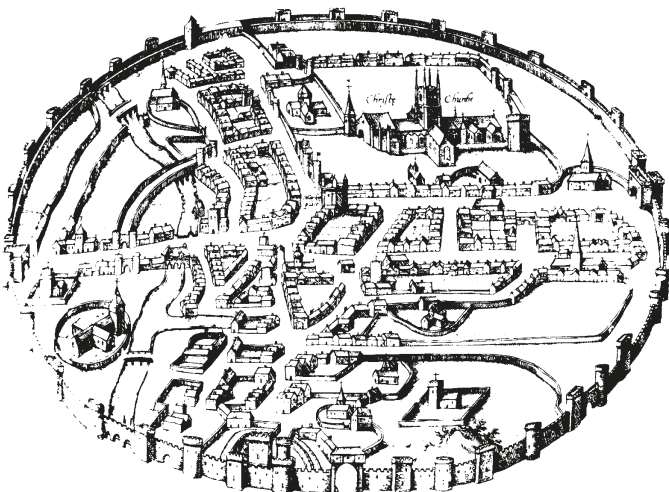
Excursions 1975

Only four excursions were organised last summer. Mr. Lyle took a party to walk round Lewes on 10th May. Colonel Dunbar of Kilconzie organised an expedition to the Houses of Parliament and St. Paul's Cathedral later in May. The Rev. G. E. T. Brooks took a party to the ruins of the Cistercian Abbey at Bayham, Sussex, in June and Mr. Harwood was responsible for the last excursion, to Knole, in September.

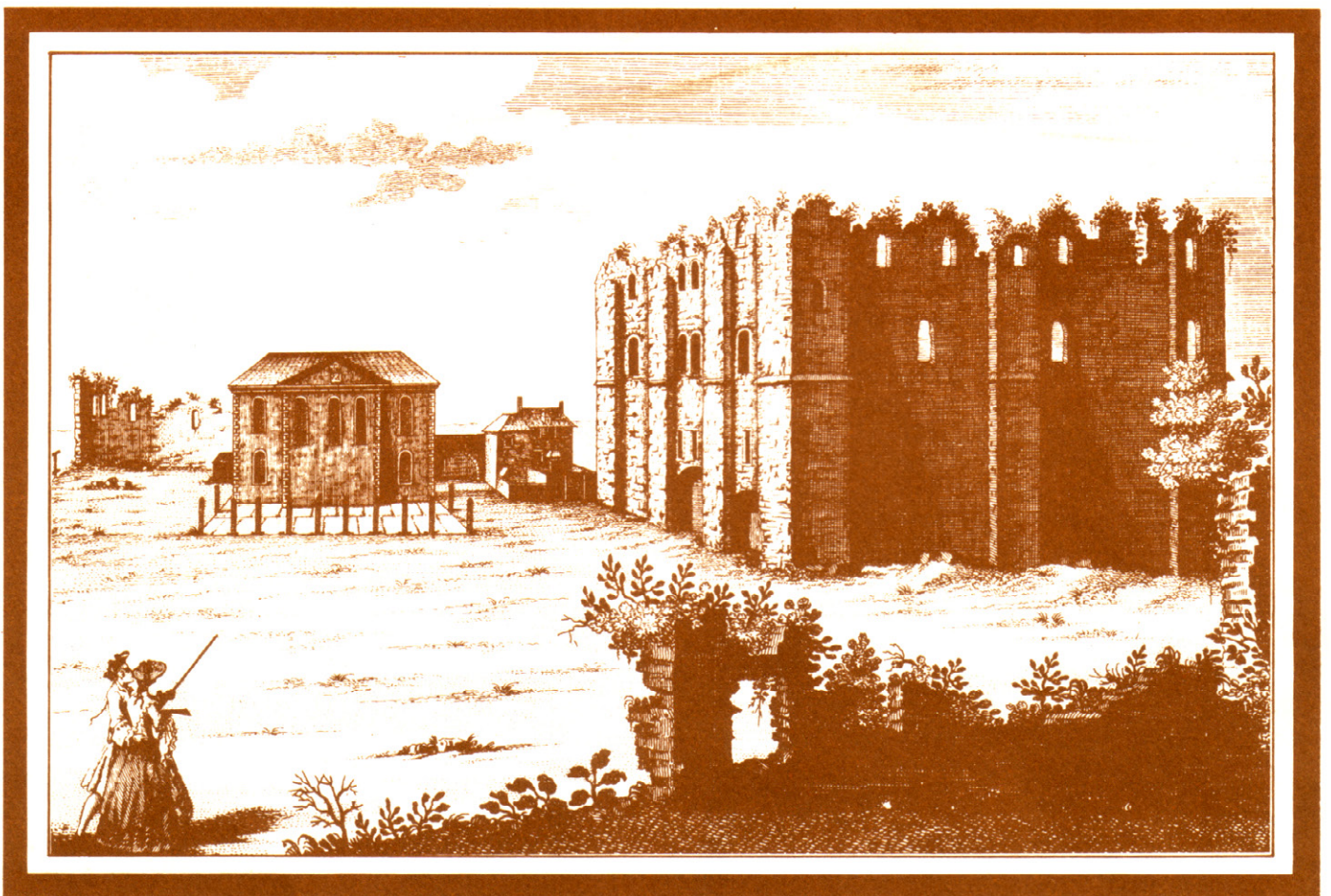
York was the centre for the Society's week's tour at the end of August, organised by Mr. Lyle, assisted by Miss Lillian Smith and Mrs. Garrard. Apart from tours of the City and the Minster, visits were paid to Castle Howard and Harewood House, to Beverley and all-day trips to Rievaulx, Byland Abbeys and the moors, and to Ripon Cathedral, Fountains Abbey and Harrogate. The accommodation in the College of Ripon and St. John, close to the centre, was excellent and the weather fine.

Lectures 1975-6

The season opened with a lecture about the Hospitals of Medieval England by Mr. Bruce Webster. Later in October Miss Oakley, the City and Cathedral Archivist, invited members to view an exhibition of the City Charters in the Cathedral Library. The first meeting in the Sidney Cooper Centre was a Fork Supper attended by the Mayor and Mayoress. Later in November Mr. Glyn Jones talked about the Mills of Kent. Two contrasting subjects then followed, Douglas Reeman (Alexander Kent) on the eighteenth century navy and Nicholas Brooks on 'Anglo-Saxon Canterbury' (a joint lecture with the Kent Archaeological Society). The usual annual symposium consisted of Mr. Jenkins describing his latest season's work at St. Pancras, Mr. Lyle on the establishment of the A.C.C. and Mr. Tatton-Brown on the excavations at Highstead. Mr. Alec Down then spoke about Rescue Archaeology in Chichester. The Annual Meeting was held in the Sidney Cooper Centre and was followed by a bicentennial talk by Mr. Hayes on "1776 and all that" The season finished in March with a talk by Dr. Stephen Bann on Kentish Churchyard Monuments, another by Mr. Andrew Butcher on life in fifteenth century Canterbury (a joint meeting with the Canterbury Branch of the Historical Association) and a tour of the Cakebread Robey Site by Mr. Paul Bennett.



A mid-18th century view of Canterbury Castle showing the keep before the upper storey was removed. In the background is the Roman arch of Worthgate (demolished in 1792) and the Sessions House (which still stands). Note the outer-bailey wall of the castle which is in the foreground.



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