



Colchester Archaeological Group

Registered Charity No. 1028434

ANNUAL BULLETIN VOL. 32 1989

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NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

This year should see the publication of the Salt book and all members will be pleased when they finally have it in their hands.

We must thank Ida McMaster for another list of excellent speakers, Pat Adkins for working the projector and Harry Palmer for producing the weekly summaries of the lectures. Sadly we have another death to report Alf Doorne died last summer and we have an obituary of him. We also have an article by him in this issue.

I must also thank Kath Evans, for the entering the text of this Bulletin onto a word-processor, and Andrew Roper for producing the layout as he did last year.

RED HILLS BOOK.

Our project for the publication of this book has received generous support and we are very grateful for the grants of £500 from Colchester Borough Council, £300 from the Robert Kiln Charitable Trust and £200 from the Lloyds Bank Fund for Independent Archaeologists.

D P Tripp, Hon Sec, Kay de Brisay Memorial Fund.

OUTINGS 1989

Slough House Farm. Heybridge, 17th April 1989.

Pat Adkins arranged a trip to the dig at Slough House Farm. Mr Stephen Wallace of the County Planning Department showed us round the dig which is in a gravel quarry. About 25 people braved the cold damp evening to look at the wide range of features visible. These included Neolithic, Bronze Age and Romano-British features. We were particularly impressed by the large wooden planks of a Roman well.

Raunds, 13 May 1989.

About 25 people visited Raunds Area Project, Northamptonshire. Two sites were visited:

Stanwick: This is a large Roman complex. At first it was thought to be just a villa, but it now seems to be a Roman village with a villa at one end.

West Cotton: This is a multi-period site with Bronze Age mounds overlain with Saxon and medieval buildings. The party was shown round by Mr Alan Hannan.

Thorrington Hall, Stoke-by-Nayland, 5th June 1989.

About 30 people travelled by cars to Thorrington Hall. We were shown round by Mr Wollaston. It is a timber framed house of c AD 1600, extended about 1700. The tall Tudor chimneys with their spikelets are very impressive. The main staircase with its carved decoration and simple limewash treatment was good to look at. There is an interesting semi-underground room which may have been a cheese store.

Valley House, Langham, 4th September 1989.

This was an evening visit to a notable house. It is a 16th century timber framed, plastered house with early C 7th century stacks, mullion windows and a fine staircase. Mr and Mrs Stewart who have thoroughly renovated the house kindly allowed us to visit.

"What's in a trench"

by Pat Adkins

In 1987 British gas started to lay pipelines to supply gas to the village of Tiptree. An opportunity arose to look at underground sections across nearly every road in the village.

The high pressure main was laid about five feet (1.5 metres) deep, with a reducing supply pipeline immediately above at about two foot six inches (0.75 metres) below the road surface. Where no HP mains were required, much of the smaller diameter pipe was placed beneath the roadside pavements and footpaths.

At every opportunity I inspected the trenches and recorded almost 30 feature sections. The sectioned features ranged from possible prehistoric shallow scoops in the ground - through early field boundary ditches - to modern sewer trenches.

The three most interesting features (see 1, 2 and 3 in fig 1, below) are described here.

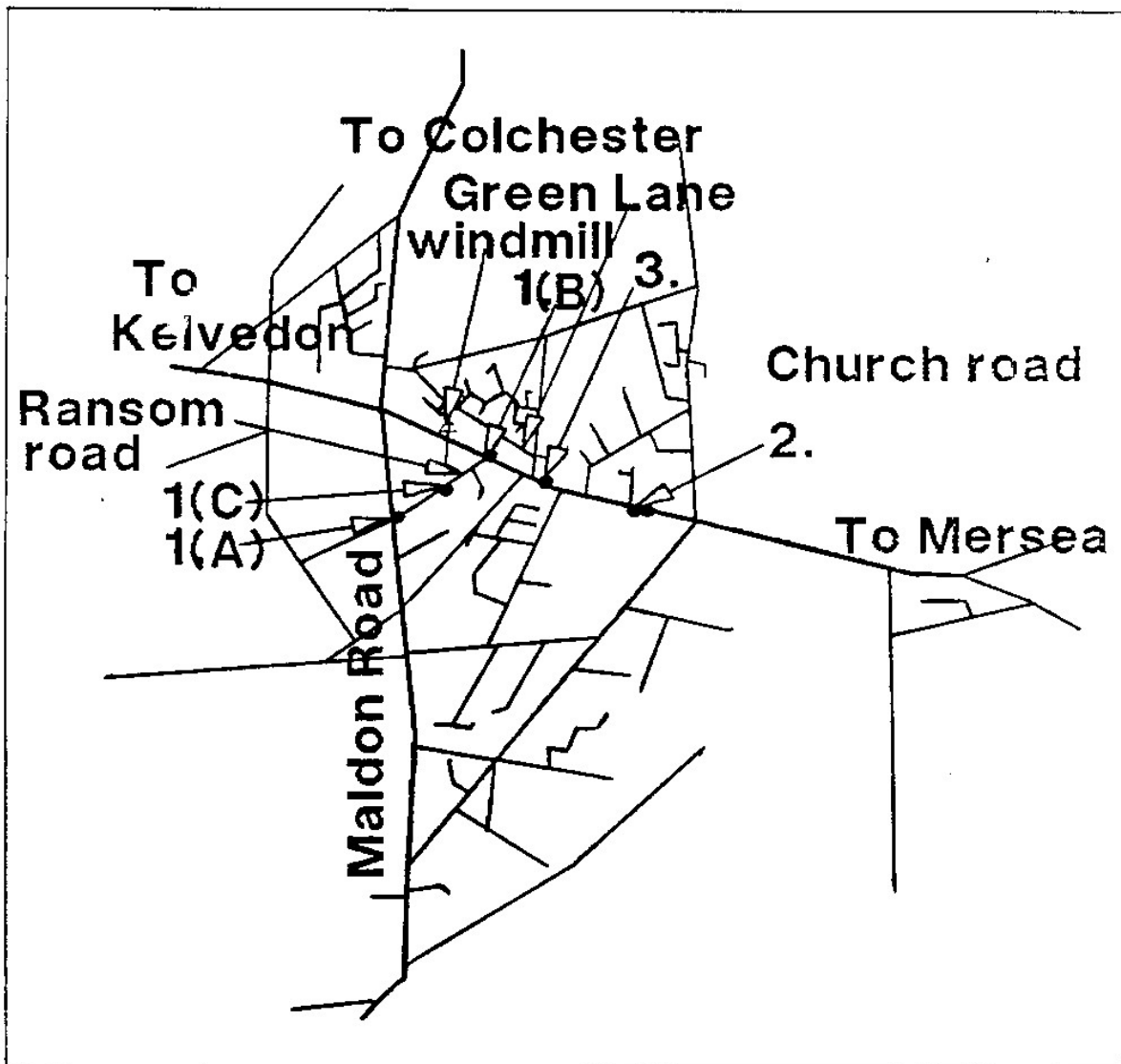


Fig 1. Map of Tiptree showing location of features 1, 2, & 3.

Feature 1

This consisted of three separate trenches. The first trench (1 a), situated at the junction of Ransom Road, exposed sections of two ditches, each 1.75 metres wide by 1.0 metres deep.

Between the two ditches were four smaller features containing black stone and silt fill. These were in pairs, nine inches apart, with a space of approximately three feet six inches (1.07 metres) between pairs. They appeared to be the remains of deep ruts created by horse-drawn carts.

The two ditches were probably the surface water drains each side of the original trackway crossing Tiptree Heath, as shown on Andre & Chapman's 18th century map of Essex. The road has widened considerably since.

Inspection of a similar trench (1b) at the other end of Ransom Road, at the junction with Church Road, revealed one ditch continuing across Church Road in direction towards Green Lane.

A third trench (1c) on the north side of Ransom Road, outside the rear entrance to "Mildene", exposed two ditches turning towards the the present windmill, which is a further 250 metres north east, beyond Church Road.

I did not get the chance to inspect the trench where it might have shown this trackway crossing Church Road. The evidence, however, indicates that it probably did cross Church Road, in which case it must have pre-dated the Church Road, and was likely to have been the original route to the mill.

This points towards Green Lane being the original major trunk route crossing Tiptree Heath east-west from Feering to the River Blackwater estuary.

Feature 2

When the trench for the HP main was dug along Church Road between the junction of Morley Road and No. 100 (Century Office Equipment Ltd). I noticed that the original metalling (which had previously been visible as approximately four inches of gravel below the modern hoggins and tarmac surface) suddenly deepened to about 12-15 inches (0.3-0.4 metres). This indicates that the road had at some time subsided over that 30 metre stretch, or had deteriorated into a boggy quagmire, and had been "made up" with gravel to level out the surface.

Recent enquiries reveal that there had been a shallow pond in that area until it was drained and filled-in during the 1950's. It is possible that the pond was dug to drain the road before it could be repaired, or perhaps, to extract the gravel to use for the repair work.

Feature 3

The third interesting feature recorded during these trench excavations was also in Church Road opposite the Budgens store. A JCB digging machine exposed huge "shoring timbers", which were used to shore up the twelve foot deep (3.5 metre) sewer trench when the main sewer was first laid in Tiptree in 1936.

Apparently the firm digging the sewers "went bust" because the soil at the sides of their trenches was so unstable that they had to leave the shoring timbers in to prevent the road from collapsing.

A ROMAN GOLD INTAGLIO RING OF THE 2nd-3rd CENTURY

C R Behn

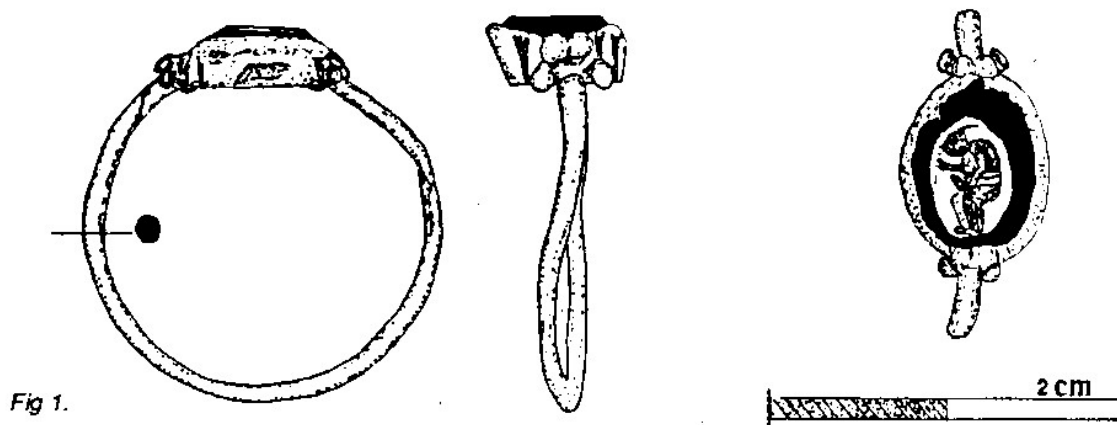
Metal detectors! Welcomed by some archaeologists, detested by others! Some 180,000 people have at some time owned one, most begin collecting dust shortly after purchase, as the illusion of 'get rich quick' fades from reality. None the less, more than 100,000 individual finds, reported directly as a result of metal detecting, have been made to museums up and down the country, many of them profoundly changing our knowledge of history. In the hands of a skilled and knowledgeable amateur, the metal detector can readily recover artefacts from the plough soil often neglected by conventional archaeology. Linking this type of search to the harshness of modern agricultural methods and the corrosive nature of agro-chemicals, is I believe, a sound argument in favour of recovery by metal detector in preference to the possible destruction and total loss to the record of artefacts. Below is an account of one such find.

The Roman gold intaglio ring was found in the village of Fingringhoe in 1087, the exact find spot recorded is in the Colchester and Essex Museum. The ring was examined by Catherine Johns at the British Museum, having been passed on to her via Dr Clark, the Colchester Coroner, and photographs of the gem were passed on to Martin Henig, Oxford Institute of Archaeology, for his opinion also. This is a summary of their findings.

The ring is a difficult type to date closely, as the style was used from the first century onwards. The given probable of 2nd/3rd century is the midway point of its chronological evolution. The gold content of the metal is 93.4 per cent which is normal; the gold setting may be of local manufacture as its workmanship is poor in relation to that of the intaglio which is probably of earlier date and an import which has been reset, a not uncommon practice at that time.

The gem is nicolo, a stone which naturally contains bands of different colours, like many forms of agate. The gem cutter would engrave the stone in such a way as to exploit the colour contrast of the light blue and dark blue/black, as in the case of this example, to emphasise the engraved motif. This type of stone was frequently used in the Roman period for such a purpose. The motif on the gem is not known to me (Catherine Johns) and would appear to depict a crouching monkey; a wax impression suggests phallic symbolism as part of the motif.

The ring itself has a raised oval bezel with circular section hoop 18mm diameter, with four applied gold globules on each shoulder. The ring exhibits signs of significant wear before its loss in antiquity and its small size, though not conclusive, suggests that the wearer was female.



COLCHESTER CASTLE CHAPEL

David D-T Clarke

The presence of the remains of the castle chapel has always been known; indeed, there was a hatch in the roof which allowed the internal buttresses to be seen, though to see it, as Geoffrey Martin wrote, 'the permission of the Curator and a tolerance of pigeons is necessary'. Long ago it occurred to me that there might still be traces of internal columns, and, suitably clad and masked, I spent some time crawling in the recesses of the roof but found nothing. Maybe if I had known how much the timbers had perished, I should not have been so intrepid.

However, when the castle restoration reached the eastern end and the apse, the opportunity arose to do something positive. John Burton, the consultant architect from Purcell, Miller, Tritton and Partners, was very interested, and produced suggestions for a new low roof, coupled with a flying staircase to the East Gallery and the prisons below. Thus fortified, I submitted a report to the Principal Officers Committee, but they were not attracted by the idea, preferring to devote about five times as much money to the provision of corrugated paving in Culver Street.

Luckily the idea leaked, and thanks to the representations of three interested Councillors, the project was later approved. Councillor Paul Spendlove obtained a promise of a generous sum from Kent Blaxhill and Company, who were celebrating the firm's 150th anniversary, and in what has always seemed to me to be a flash of divine inspiration (for I am convinced that the angels are on the side of museums), I remembered that there were Government grants through the Association of Business Sponsorship of the Arts for first-time sponsors, so the sum was doubled.

Thus the chapel went ahead. The removal of the 18th century roof revealed a floor but not the original one, and, alas, no trace of column bases. Philip Crummy will be writing this up, for it is interesting in itself, and we can turn our attention to the problems of what the chapel originally may have looked like.

Since Colchester is similar in plan to the White Tower in the Tower of London, and hence generally thought to have been designed by the same architect, Gundulph of Bec, later Bishop of Rochester, it is reasonable to assume that the chapels may have been similar. The White Tower, St John's Chapel is intact, so I fought my way through the tourists and went to look at it.

In the Tower, which is smaller and probably slightly later than Colchester, a passage runs in the thickness of the walls around the top storey, using the triforium-cum-clerestory which the chapel has, and the whole is integrated with the external walls. The chapel has a stone vault which is 32ft above the floor.

Now the floors of Colchester are some 17ft apart, so if we allow another 17ft for the height of the missing second floor, before adding the roof, as is very reasonably postulated by Paul Drury in his proposed reconstruction of the castle, we are left with some 15ft short if our chapel is to be of the same height as St John's in the White Tower. Furthermore, the passage in the thickness of our castle walls runs at the second floor level, i.e. at the level of the chapel floor, and it seems most unlikely that there could be a further storey; for all practical purposes the castle was quite big enough. The passage would therefore have had to run round the chapel ambulatory.

Paul Drury's reconstructed drawing neatly avoids the chapel problem by being a west-east section. since he suggested that the chapel might have had a simple barrel vault, much as is the case in Copford church.

The ground plan of our chapel is very similar to that of the White Tower, and there seems to be little point in constructing the internal buttresses which our chapel has, unless they were intended to relate to internal columns.

The restoration by Paul Sealey and Bob Moyes which is currently displayed shows columns, but carries up the wall above them with a clerestory only, set back from the perimeter wall, much like a little church placed on the top of the building. I, respectfully, find this unconvincing. I do not know of any parallels, but it must be remembered that we are dealing with a castle which was in some degree experimental, at least so far as Britain is concerned.

I feel, therefore, that we must consider a structure wholly integrated with the outside walls, which would be just possible if the columns were not too high and the triforium-clerestory was also of limited size. The roof could have been of timber, for there was plenty of that in Essex at the time, but a stone vault would make more sense for defensive reasons, and there are several others in the castle still.

There matter must rest until, as I hope one day may happen, a good drawing of the castle turns up; it is by no means impossible. We can all agree, however, that the new roof is most sensitively designed, and gives an excellent 'feel' to the space, while returning for public edification a part of the castle which was integral to the life of its garrison.

THE TRAVELS OF THE ROCHFORD BEADS

David T-D Clarke

The group of gold and amber beads from Rochford is of particular interest as being the only objects from the Wessex Culture which have so far been found in Essex. Felix Erith had recognised their importance and published them in this Bulletin.¹

A few years after my appointment I received a letter from my friend and colleague, Nicholas Thomas, then Keeper of Antiquities in Birmingham Museum. He had just acquired some gold beads, and as the Rochford beads were the only parallel, could he please have permission to publish them all together. I went up to the showcase in the Castle, and, to my horror the beads were not there. They had been kept in cotton-wool in a glass-topped box, and examination showed that the other beads in it had been rearranged. It was further clear that the case door had been levered out and back again.

Nicholas had enclosed drawings, and comparison with those done by Felix Erith left no doubt that they were the same. So I broke the news as gently as possible. It transpired that Birmingham Museum had acquired them from a reputable private collector who had obtained them from a dealer, who had got them from another.....the usual story. The chain is invariably impossible to trace.

So I sent Gareth Davies, then Assistant Curator, to Birmingham with authority to negotiate, though reminding him of the injunction of the Spartan women before a battle, 'Come back with your shield or on it (dead)'. True to his Celtic ancestors, he returned with the beads, and there should be a proper note of gratitude too to Nicholas for his generosity.

But that is not quite the end of the story. A few years later a Harwich docker was sentenced for theft, and he asked for various other offences to be taken into consideration. This was one of them.

Reference

- | | | |
|---|------------------------|---|
| 1 | Erith F H, 1963 | 'The Rochford Gold Necklace and the Middle Bronze Age in Essex',
<i>CAG Bull</i> 6, 5. |
|---|------------------------|---|

The Grove, Wormingford

R. Shackle

The Grove looks today like a classical Georgian style house with sash windows, but the building conceals within it an ancient timber frame.

In their book *'Wormingford, history of an English village'*, Winifred Beaumont and Ann Taylor say pre 1914 Thomas Eustace-Smith bought the house and farm. He enlarged and restored the house into a quality residence.

In 1987 the house changed ownership and was extensively renovated. This exposed the ancient timber frame which I was able to examine and record.

It consists of a four bay building (Fig 1) made with large good quality timbers and elaborate moulded window bars. The jetty is on all four bays and faces north away from the road. This is unusual as one would expect the jetty to face the road where passers-by could admire it.

The Ground floor

Little remains of the ground floor because the jetty was underbuilt; that is, the lower jetty beam and wall were moved outwards, so the rooms could be widened to the same width as the rooms above. Part of the wall A-E can be seen or reconstructed from peg holes and mortices (Fig 2). The studs were all double pegged to the mid-plate. There is an interesting opening in this wall. It consists of a small piece of wood nine inches long, tenoned into the studs on either side of it, with a slot eleven inches wide it below it. It is difficult to think of a function for this, but it could be some sort of rubbish chute.

The Upper floor

The upper floor (Fig 3) is much more complete. It consists of one large room AB-BF, and an equal area EF-IJ which may have been one or two rooms, the section G-H is hidden and could be either open or a framed wall. Running along the back of wall A-J is a passage. The passage is no longer there but can be reconstructed from the pegged mortices in the tie-beams (Figs 4-6). Off the passage to the south in wall A-C is a small door which probably led to a wardrobe.

The large room AB-EF has in its north wall two windows and a door. The window in wall A-D still has two elaborately moulded window bars (Fig 7). The other window, in wall D-F, can only be deduced from the square mortices on the underside of the top plate, and a mortice from the sill in post 'F'. The window bars here were probably moulded also. The door opened out over the jetty and must have had an outside staircase leading to it.

The window in wall F-H, only survives as mortices for a window sill and a window bar. The window in wall H-J was an elaborate oriel window (Fig 8). The mortices for the projecting posts of the window can be seen in the top plate. The empty mortices for the bottom of the oriel window can be seen just above the ordinary window sill. Next to the oriel is a section of walling which appears to have no framing in it; although at present it contains an ancient reused door jamb. The final part of wall H-J is a well made moulded doorway (Fig. 9). This doorway like the one in wall A-D, also opens over the jetty and must have lead to an outside staircase.

The Roof

The roof is a plain crown post roof with braces to the collar purlins.

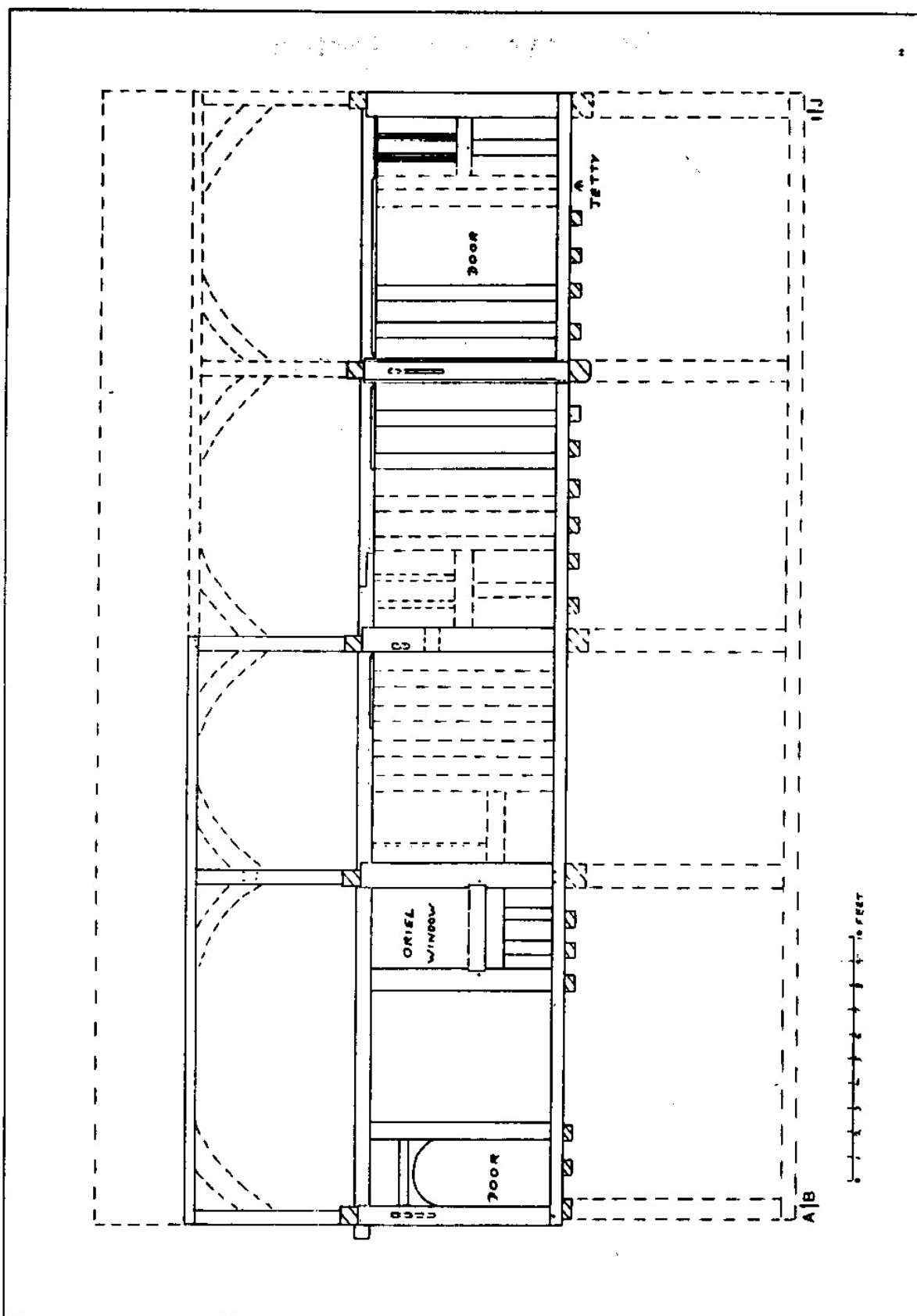


Fig 1. Section AB — JJ. THE GROVE, WORMINGFORD.

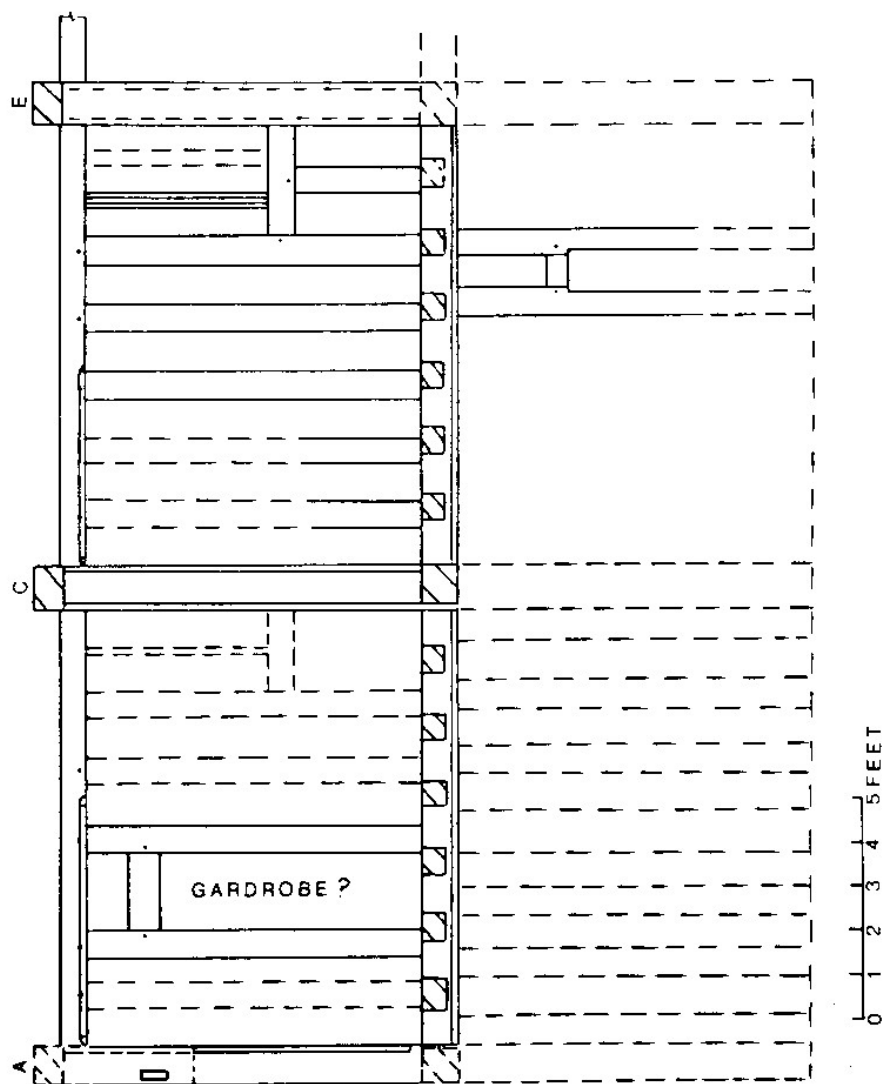


Fig 2. Section along wall A—E. THE GROVE, WORMINGFORD.

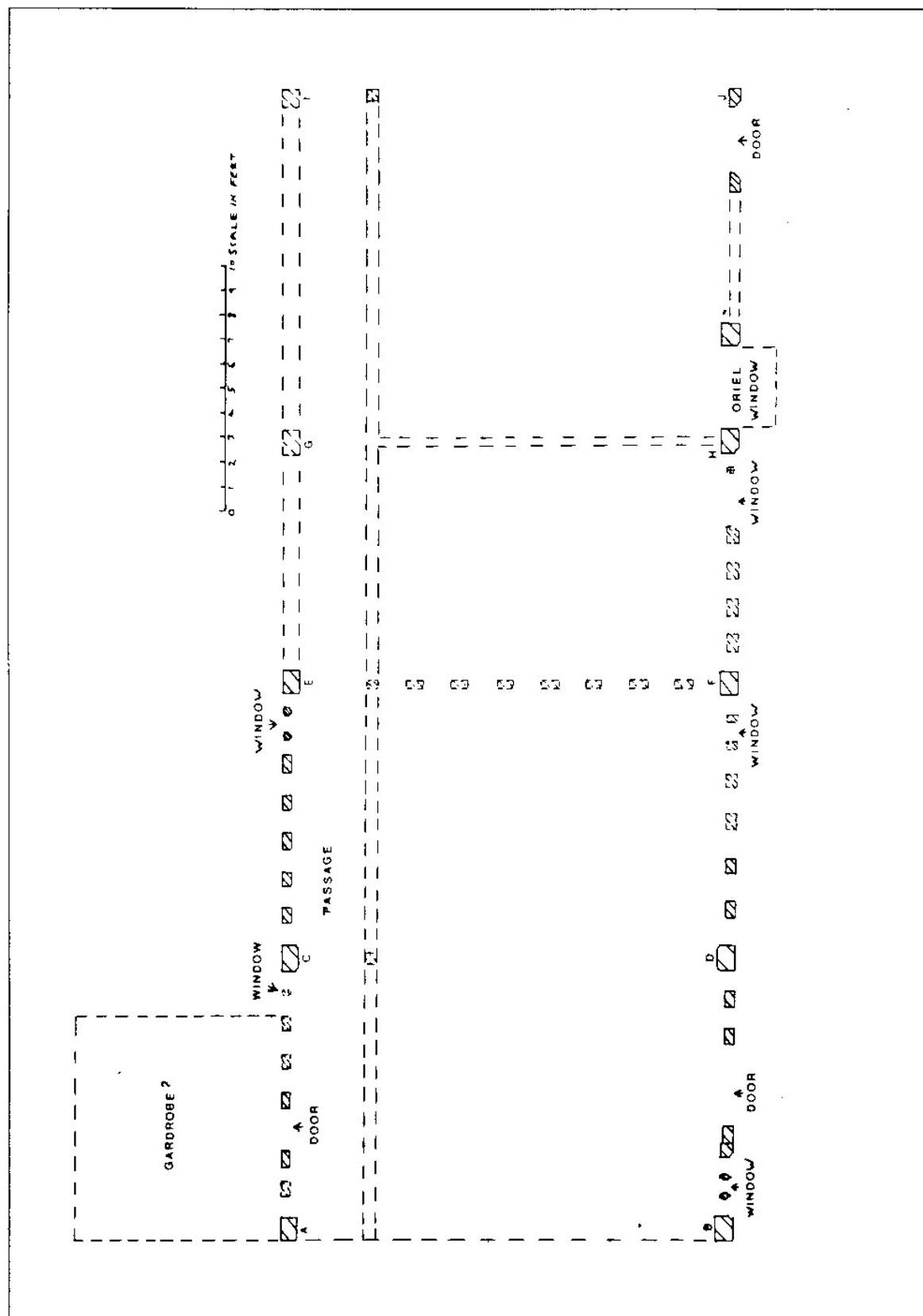


Fig 3. Plan of first floor.

THE GROVE, WORMINGFORD.

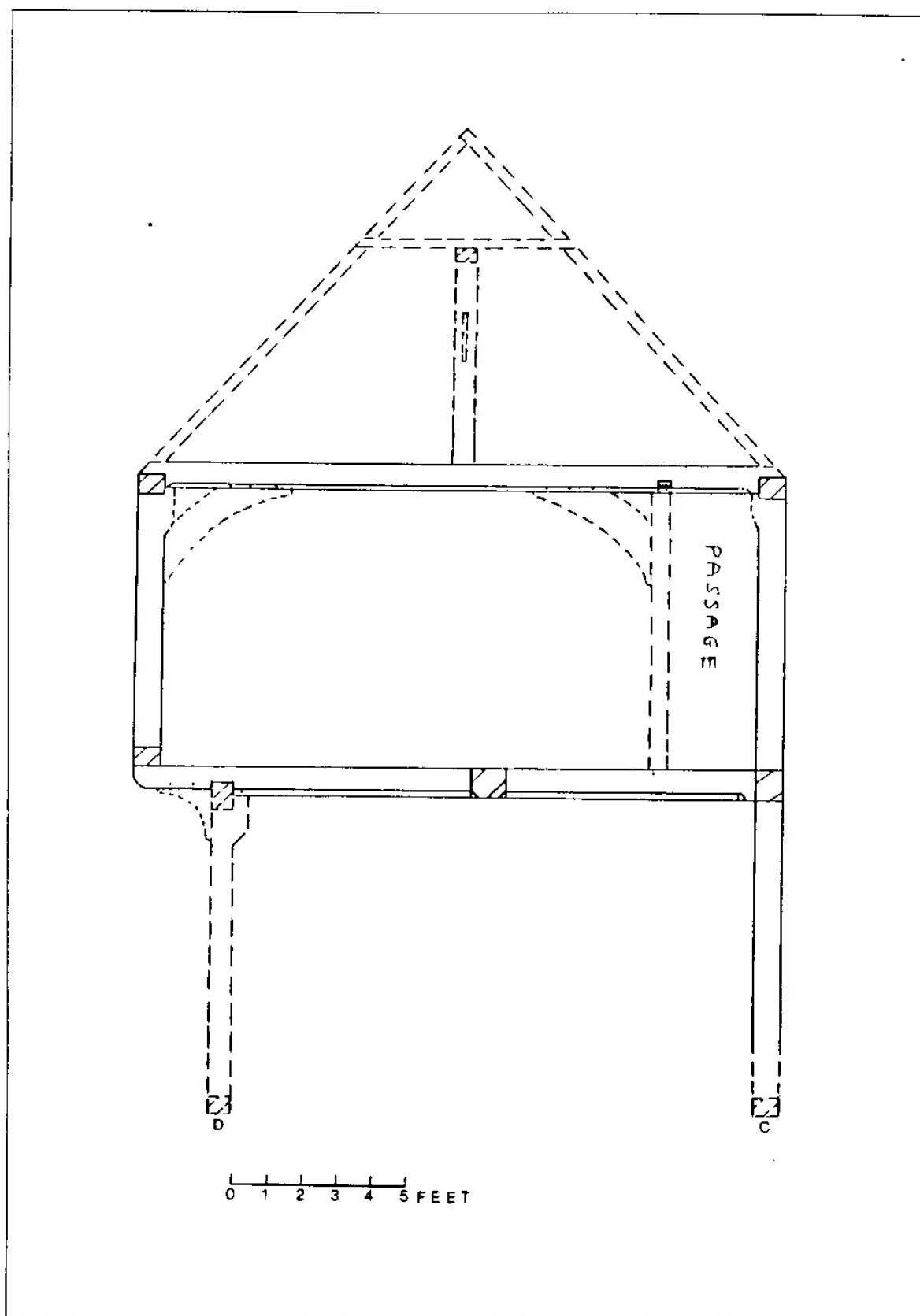


Fig 4. Section C — D. THE GROVE, WORMINGFORD.

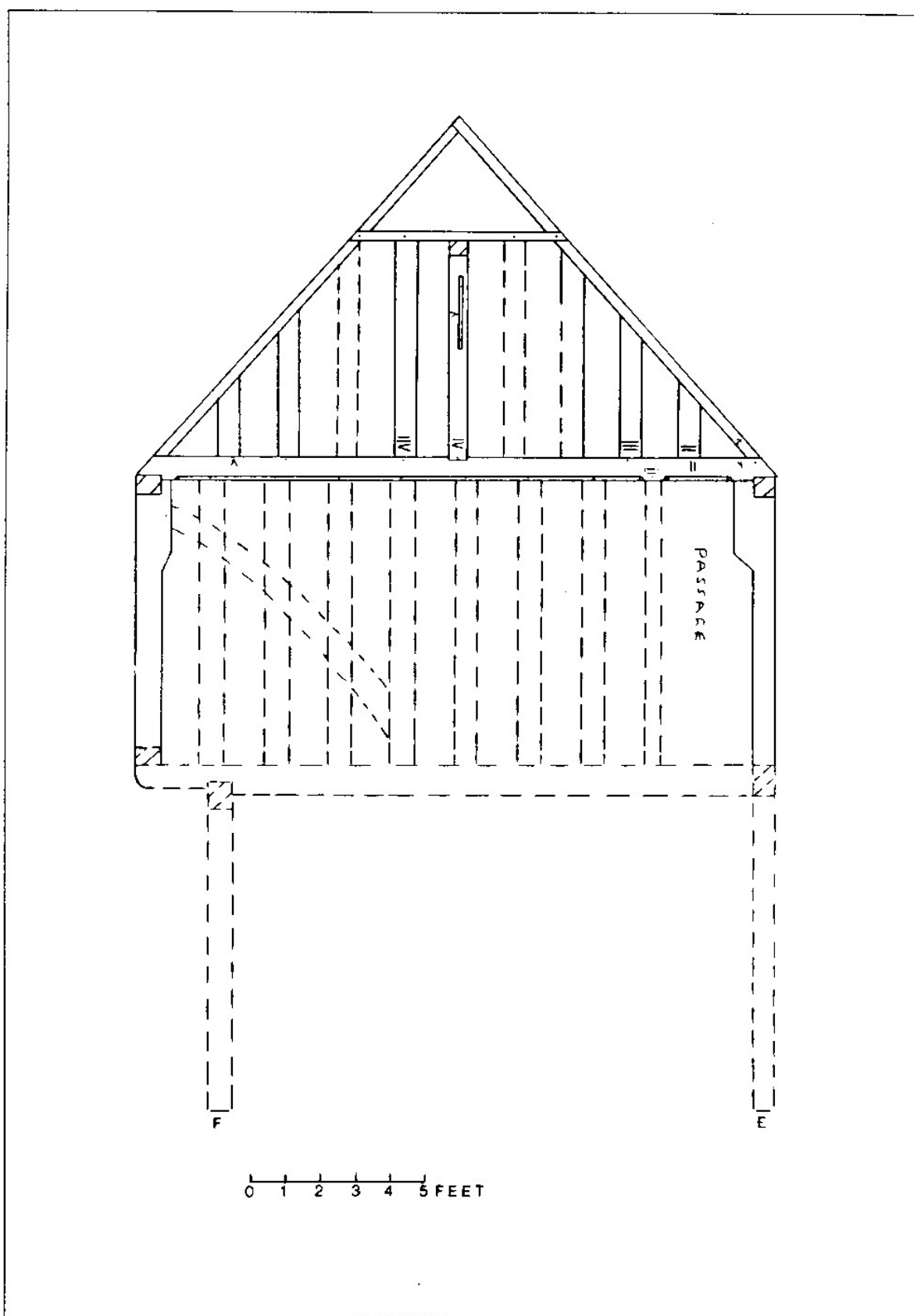


Fig 5. Section E — F. THE GROVE, WORMINGFORD.

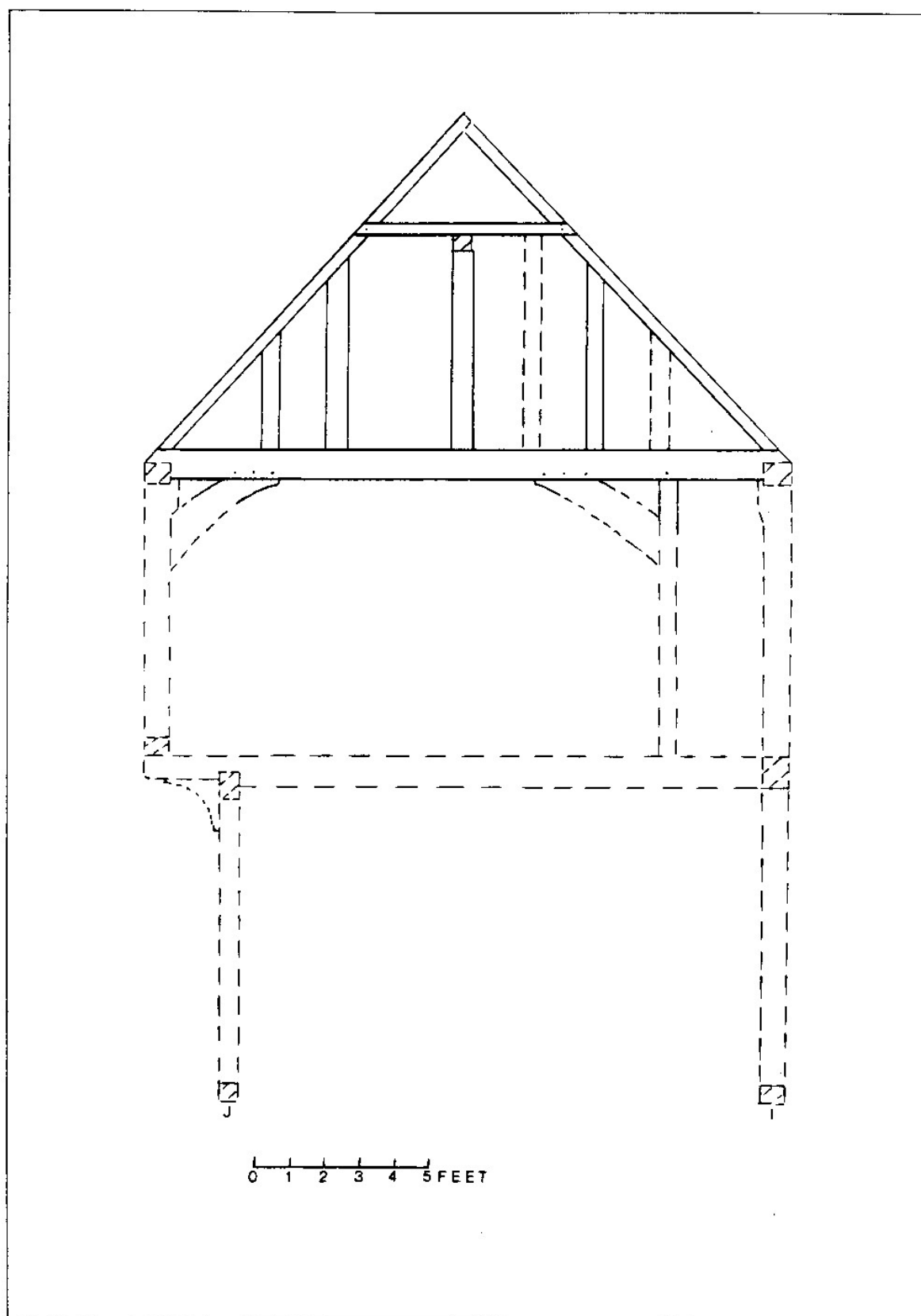


Fig 6. Section I—J.

THE GROVE, WORMINGFORD.

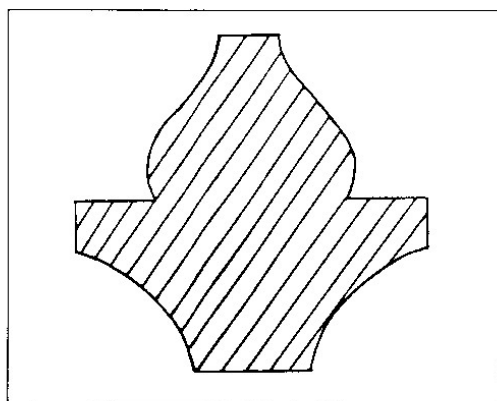


Fig 7. Approximate shape of moulded window bar (not to scale).

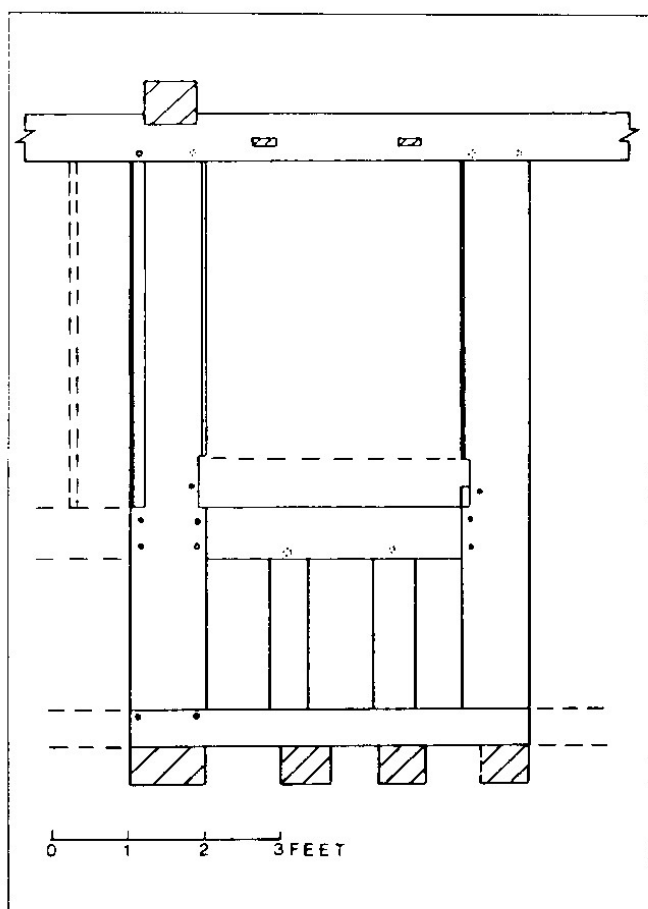


Fig 8. Oriel Window.

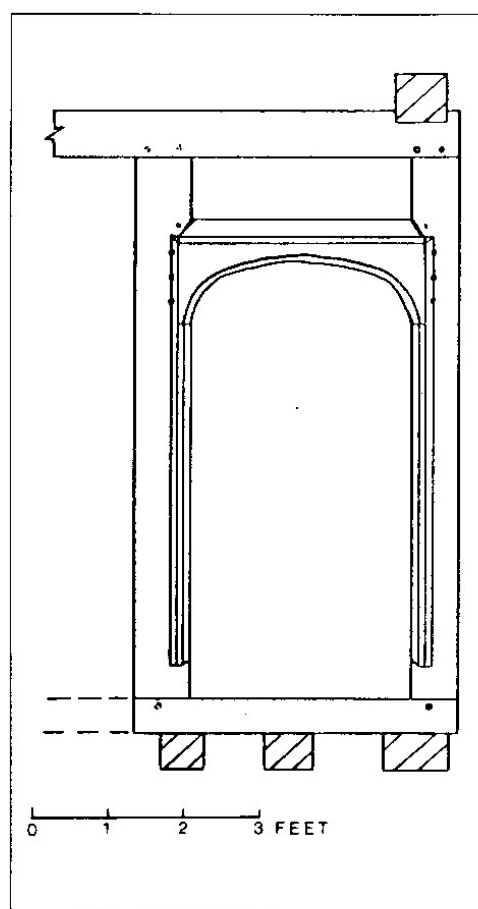


Fig 9. Moulded doorway.

THE GROVE, WORMINGFORD.

Date

The building is well built with substantial timbers and good mouldings. The style is very similar to that of the Red Lion, Colchester, which is thought to date from about 1470-1520 AD.

Discussion

This four bay building, which was probably part of a larger complex, has the appearance of a medieval lodging; that is, a series of separate apartments for retainers etc.

The cartulary of St John's Abbey, Colchester, contains entries for several parcels of land in Wormingford. It may be that the monks had some sort of rest house for worn-out or sick brethren.

Acknowledgements

I should like to thank the owners; Architect - R M Welton, FRIBA, Dip Arch; and the Site agent, Mr Ken Davies.

ANCIENT HORSE BRASS FROM PETE TYE COMMON -(TM006182)

A Doorne

The object was shown to me by the father-in-law of Mrs D. May of Red Roofs, Langenhoe. It was a surface find in a meadow where horses had churned up the ground it is probably made of brass or a similar alloy (Fig 1), is, on average 3mm thick, and weighs 26gm.

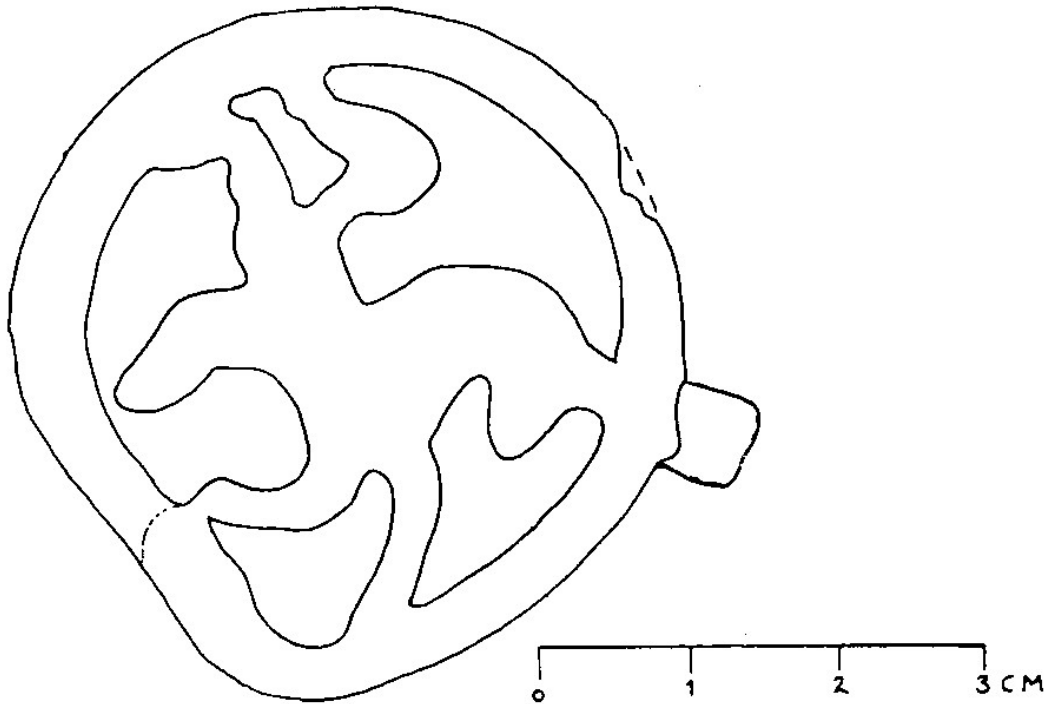


Fig 1.

At Colchester and Essex Museum it was thought to be a horse brass of either early 17th or early 18th century.

I subsequently showed the object to a medievalist ² who did not think it was a horse brass for the following reasons:

- a) Horse brasses, even early ones were cast, that is, the reverse side was flat.
- b) This brass had been made in a mould and had a rib which must have been part of the suspension ring.

On the basis of this I think there are three possibilities:

- 1) A 'Knights medallion'.
- 2) A Pilgrims medallion.
- 3) A Horse Brass.

1) Knights' Medallions

I have been unable to discover what these medallions were ³, or why they were produced.

2) Pilgrims' Medallions

Pilgrims would buy a medallion after visiting a holy shrine. There are three possible pilgrims shrines near the find spot.

- a) A shrine on Mersea Island, said to have been dedicated to the sister of St Osyth (Osith).⁴
- b) A possible shrine to St Margaret of Antioch at Fingringhoe church, where quite possibly relics were held.
- c) A shrine at Sigheric's church which stood at what is now the corner of Southway and Mersea Road, Colchester, but at that time stood on top of the wall of St John's Abbey. This was the spot where pilgrims gathered to be cured of many ills, as legend had it that many miraculous cures had been effected on the site. This belief continued into the 17th century.

3) Horse Brasses

George Ewart Evans in his book 'The Horse in the Furrow' ⁵, has a chapter on horse brasses. Apparently the common explanation of the early use of brass decorations and ornaments was that it was believed that the horse was susceptible to evil influences, particularly that of witches. By using these decorations and ornaments animals were protected from the evil eye. He draws attention to the fact that such amulets were known in pre-Roman times. In Nubia horse trappings have been found bearing what are obviously amulets. His general view is that brasses as horse decorations were probably an indication of wealth. He cites the discovery at Parc-y-Meirch (Park of the Horses)⁶ in Denbighshire, sometime before 1868, of a hoard containing ninety-six pieces of horse trappings, some of which were obviously horse brasses. The hoard was said to date from the Late Bronze Age 750-400 BC. Apparently they were suspended by small loops through which were threaded small rings. These would jingle of course and as the rider would probably be a man of wealth, it probably signalled the arrival of someone of importance, a prelate or Lord of the Manor, or, more likely, a King's man. It seems these horse brasses could be divided into two classes of design, abstract or geometrical and figure objects such as the horse. He goes even further to say that it may all be linked to the cult of the horse, which has left its traces in the horses cut into the chalk hillsides of Southern England. He quotes from the book by H S Richards 'The Book of the Horse' ⁷, where it states that few brasses were made commercially before 1800 and old hand-made brasses are extremely rare.

If it is a horse brass it may date to the Cromwellian era. In 1648 several Roundhead forts were erected around Colchester and there were barracks in Mersea Road. This was the base for Needham's Horse. On Wednesday 14th June 1648, Fairfax, who had established his headquarters at Lexden, dispatched a party of horse to Mersea to secure the fort. On 20th June 1648 a force went out of the town to Mersea and faked an attack on the garrison⁸. From another source I have been told that Cromwell's officers were billeted at what we know today as Pete Tye Hill. This suggests that the brass may have a military connection.

References

- 1 Report of Colchester and Essex Museum.
- 2 John Cotter also expressed an opinion that it may not be a horse brass.
- 3 Knights' Medallion, a verbal report from an acquaintance in West Mersea.
- 4 CBA Res. Rpt. 35 (Colchester Archaeological Report 1). 1981
- 5 Evans, G E, 1967, 'Horse in the Furrow', Faber.
- 6 Shepperd, T, 1941, 'The Parc-y-Meirch Hoard, Archaeologia Cambrensis, XCVI, Pt 1.
- 7 Richards, H S, 1943, 'All About Horse Brasses', Wilds Green.
- 8 Wood, D & Cockerell, C, 1979, 'Siege of Colchester

A History of The Old House at Mount Bures, Essex

Ida McMaster and Richard Shackle.

After more than a century in the possession of one family, the picturesque cottage now known as Old House in the parish of Mount Bures was sold at auction in 1989. The appreciative new owner, Mr William Lucking of the same village, thereby achieved a long-standing wish to own this most attractive 16th century property.

The Architect's Interpretation

When subsequent large scale renovations commenced they were to reveal totally unexpected features which placed the building in a fresh category, one of non-domestic use in fact. It was clearly a public building contracted along the typical lines of a manor Court House or perhaps a small Guild Hall. When the plaster was removed from the inner side of the long jettied front wall, two original arched doorways were revealed. In addition, when outside plaster was removed from the same front wall, a third, rectangular-headed, door frame was seen to lie between the two arched doors.

These features are shown here in the fine illustration provided by David Stenning of the County Planning Department (see fig 1 below). During the course of his work of listed building supervision he very soon uncovered the true origin of the timber-framed structure. His enthusiastic appreciation of the importance of the features attracted various helpers. One of the authors (RS) has surveyed and drawn the whole framework and his plans are shown here also. Others have pursued the documentary evidence with some useful results but as yet no visible references to a specific Guild Hall or manor Court House.

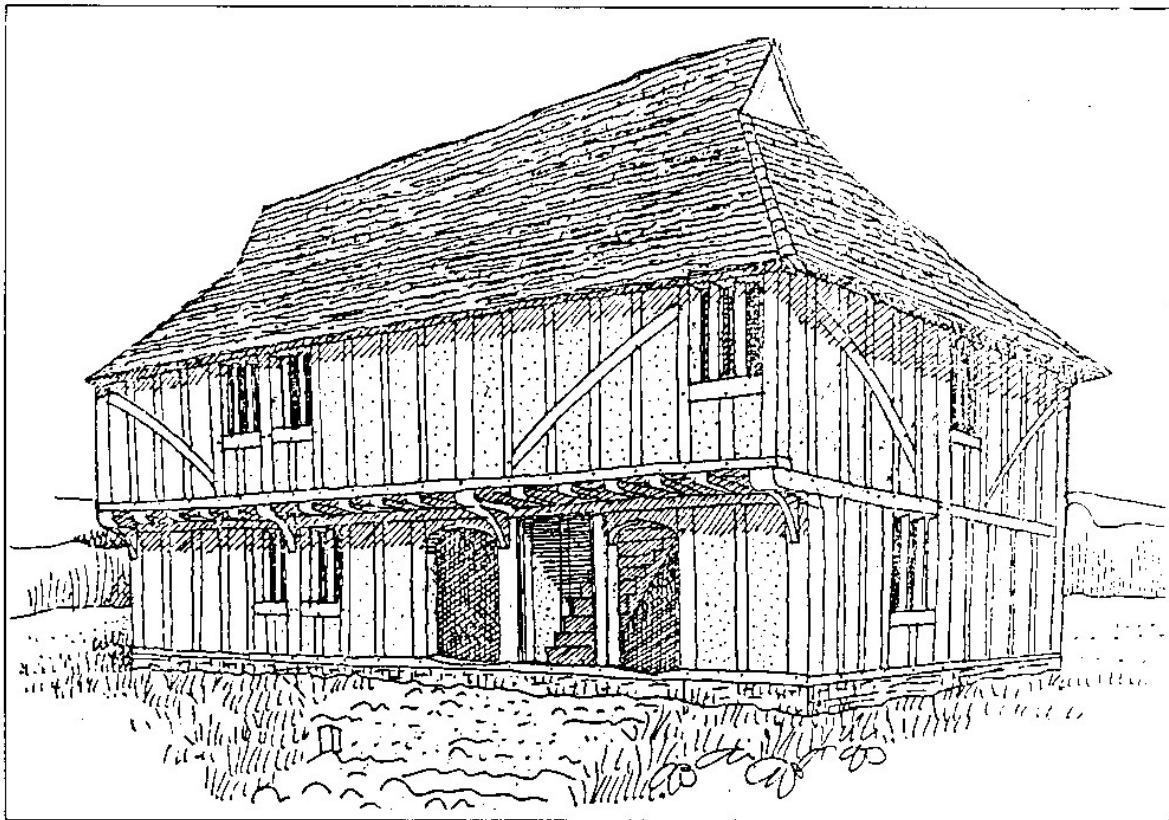


Fig 1. Illustration of The Old House, Mount Bures by David Stenning (Essex County Planning Dept.).

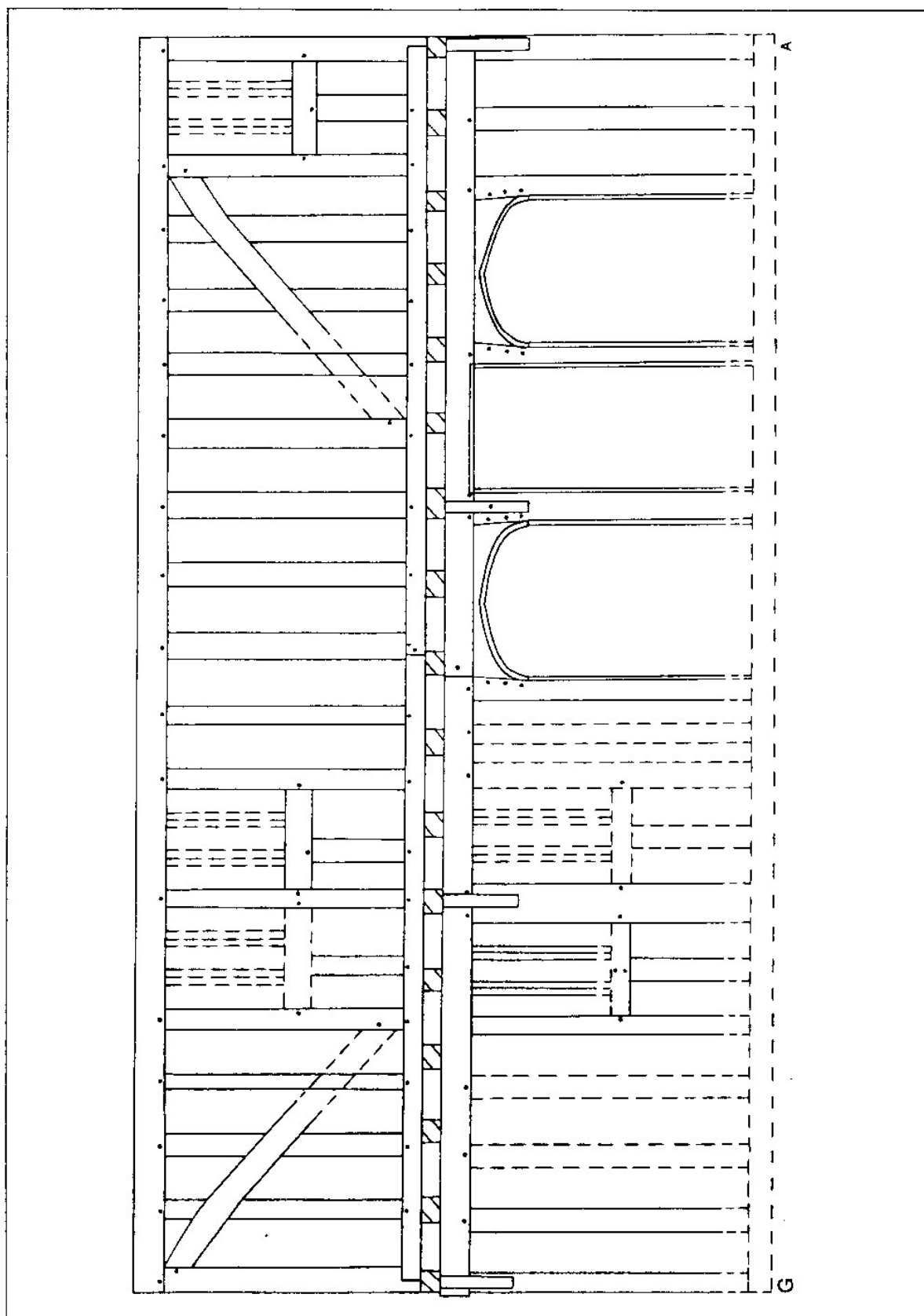


Fig 2 Section along wall A—G. THE OLD HOUSE, MOUNT BURES.

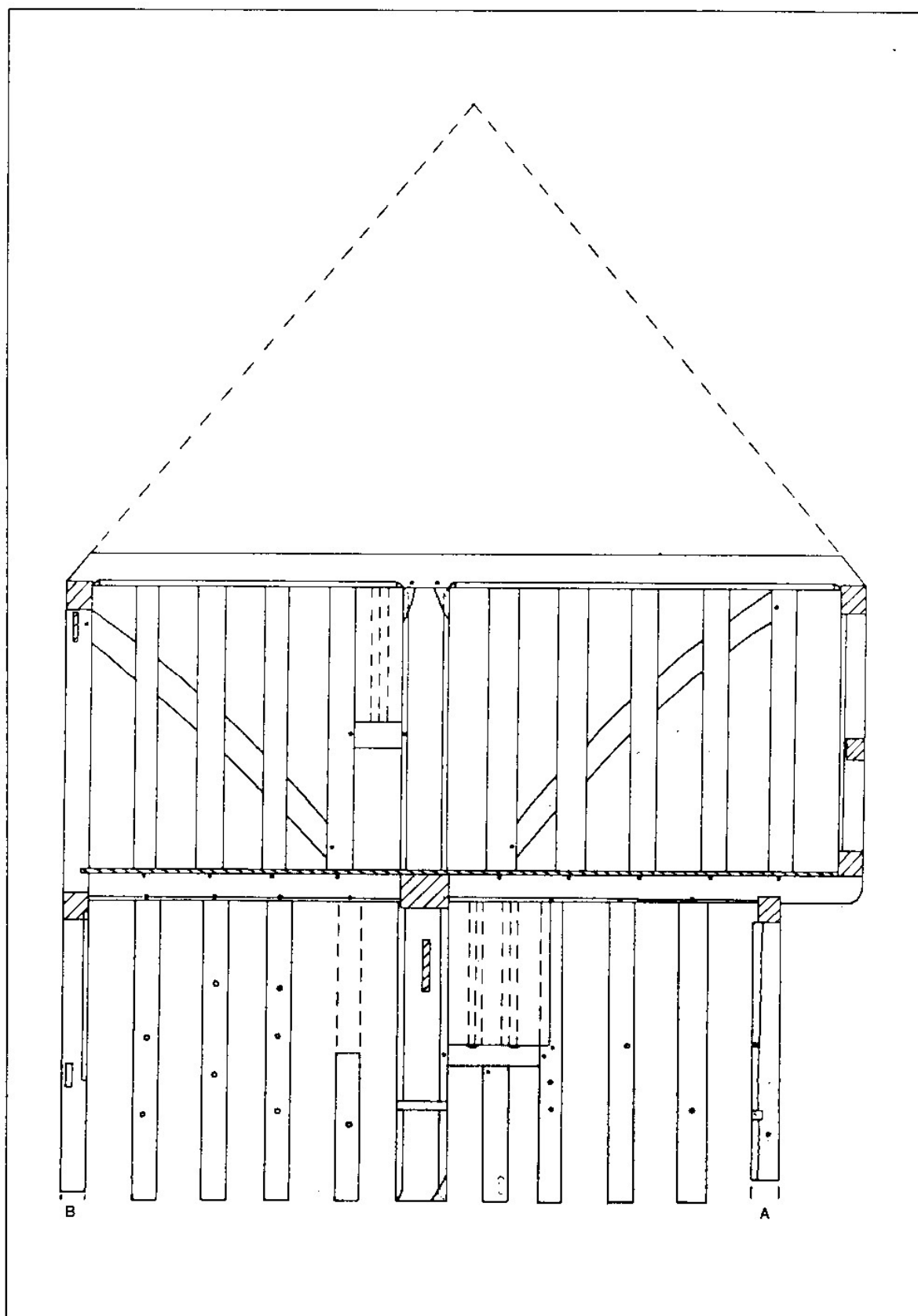


Fig 3. End wall A—B. THE OLD HOUSE, MOUNT BURES.

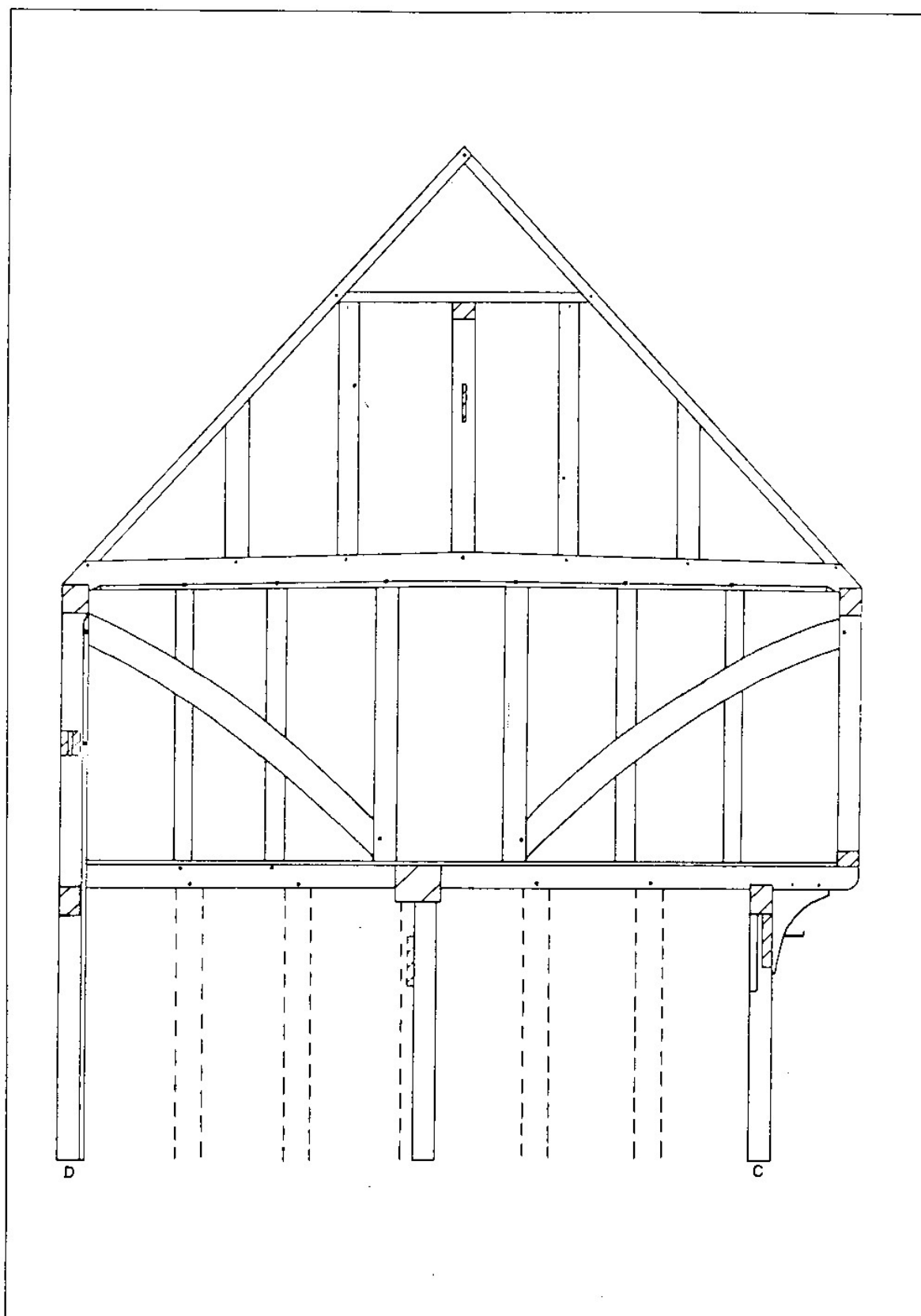


Fig 4. Section C—D. THE OLD HOUSE, MOUNT BURES.

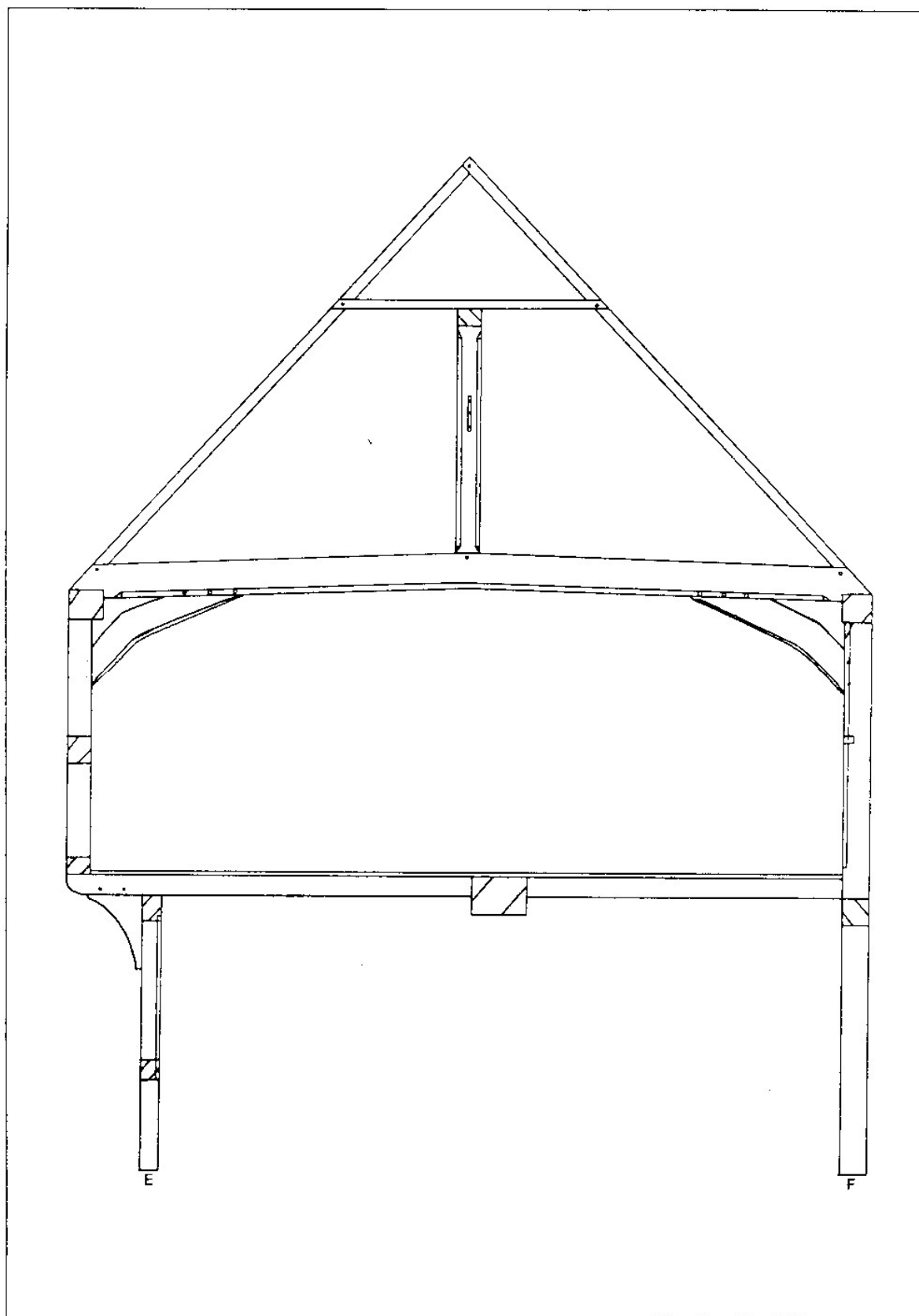


Fig 5. Section E—F. THE OLD HOUSE, MOUNT BURES.

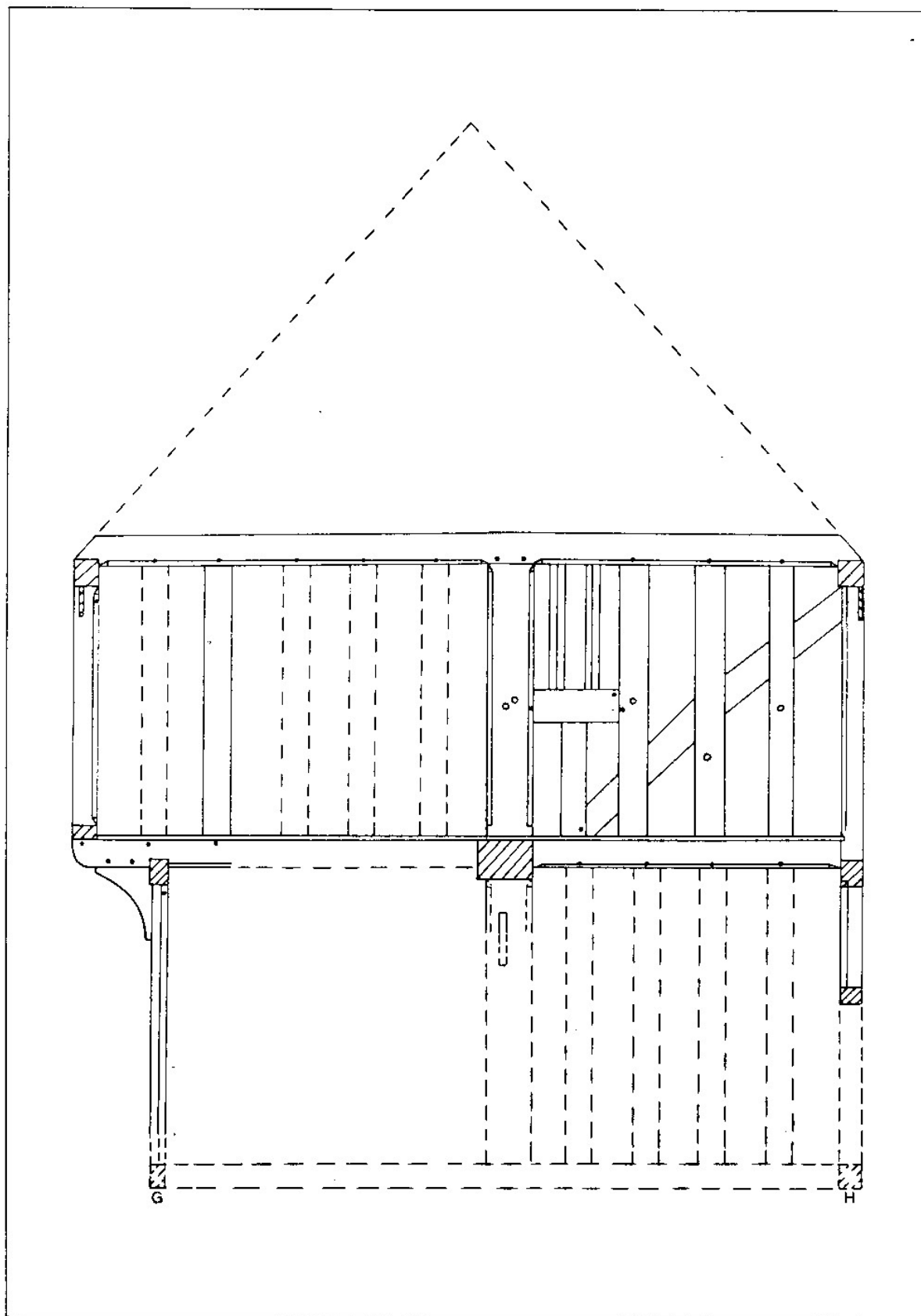


Fig 6. End wall G—H.

THE OLD HOUSE, MOUNT BURES.

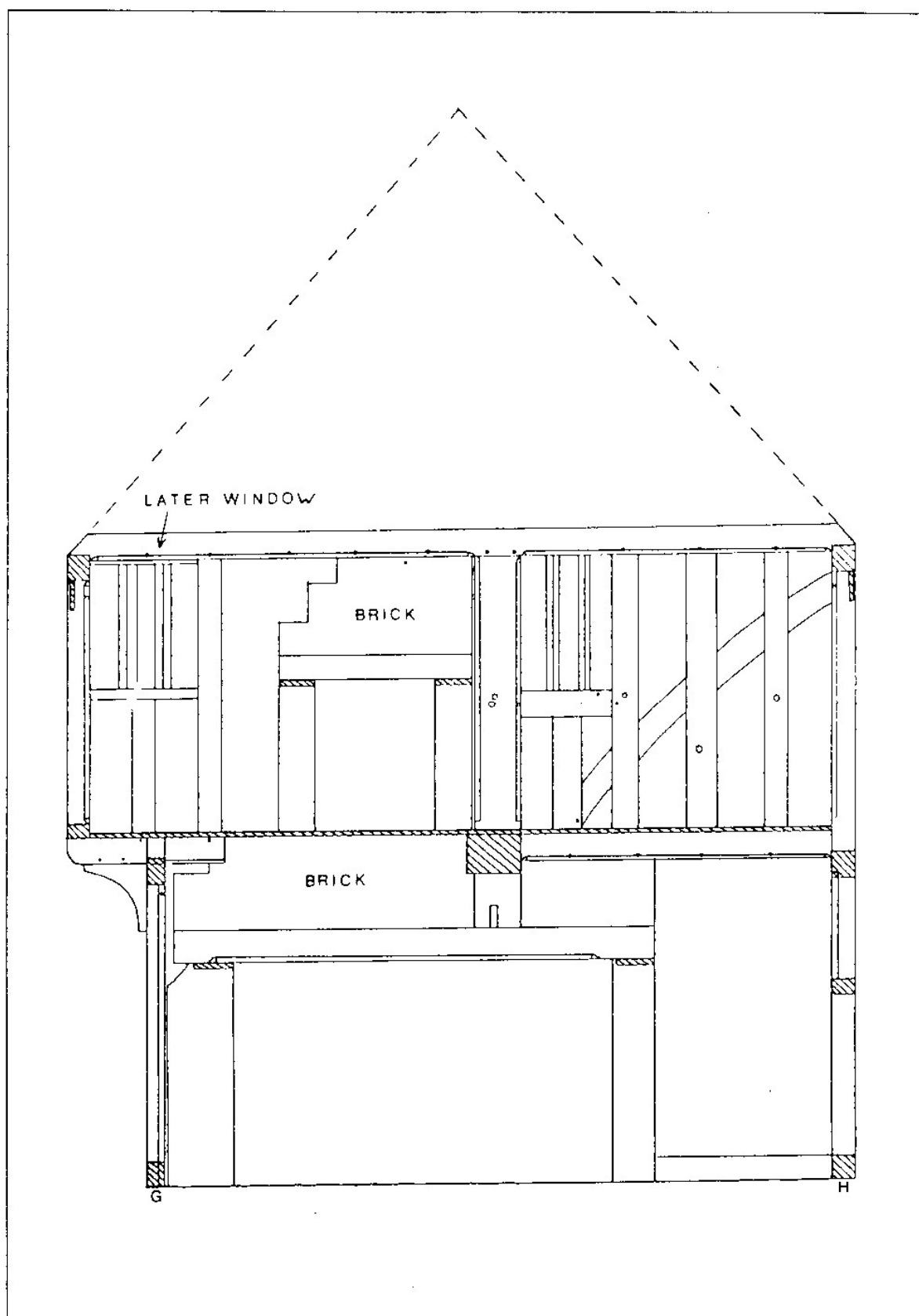


Fig 7. End wall G—H, after insertion of brick chimney and extra window.

THE OLD HOUSE, MOUNT BURES.

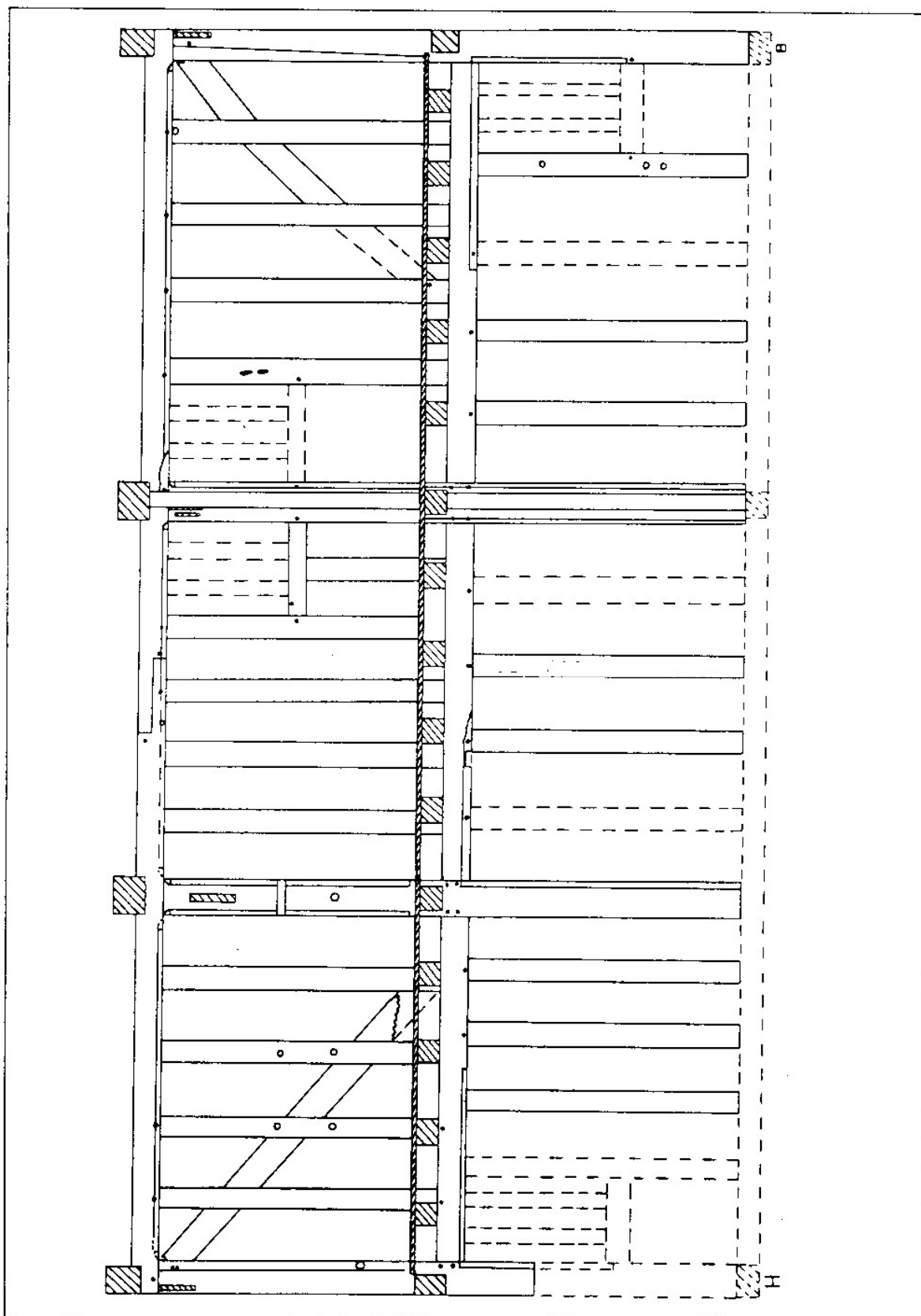


Fig 8. Section along wall B—H. THE OLD HOUSE, MOUNT BURES.

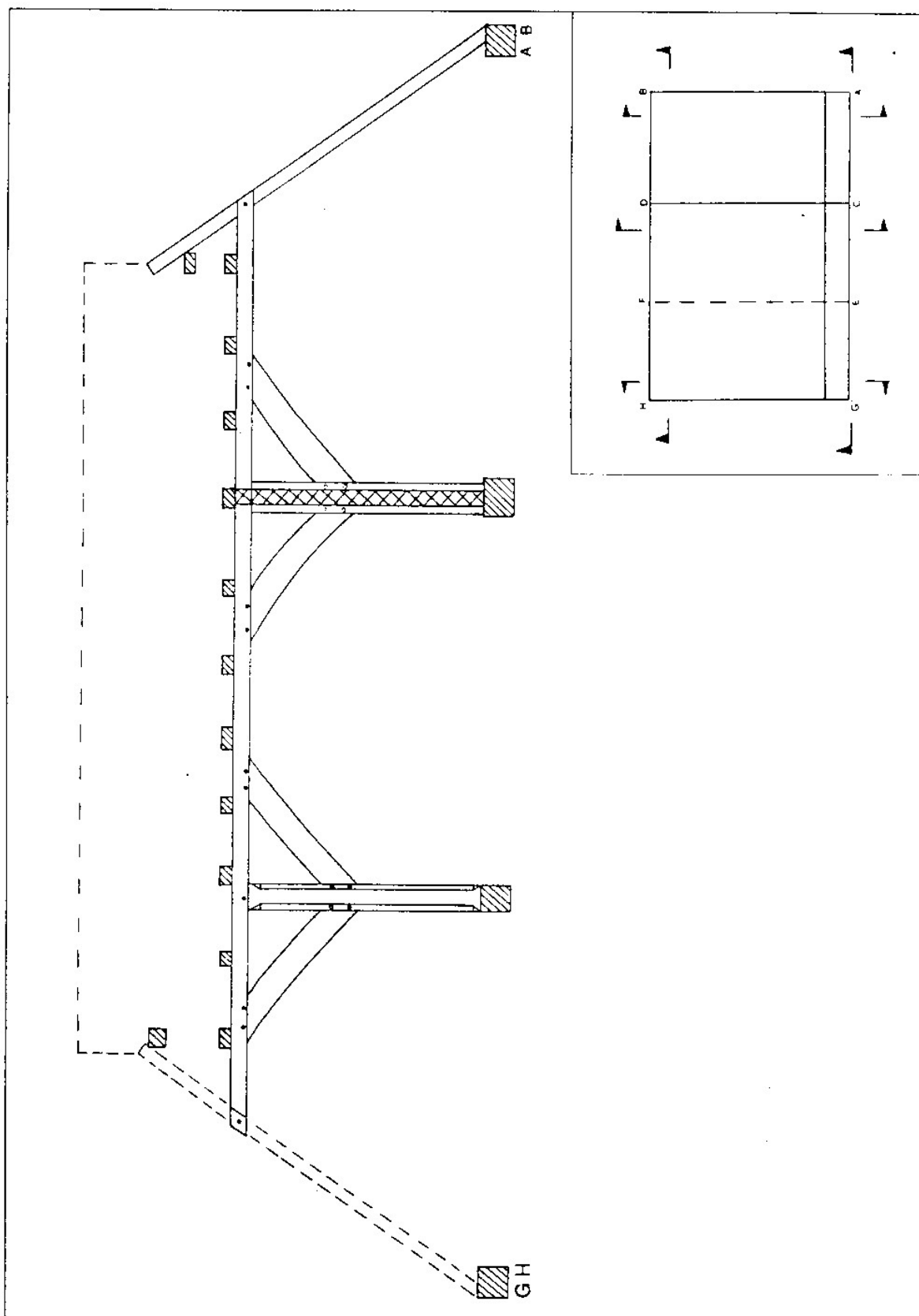


Fig 9. Roof section AB—GH. (Inset shows points at which sections were taken).

THE OLD HOUSE, MOUNT BURES.

Mr Stenning considers that there are no signs of the building having been re-erected if brought from elsewhere; therefore his estimated date for its construction, c 1500-1550, must mean that the manorial officials were in need of a public meeting place sometime during that eventful period covering the reign of Henry VIII and his dissolution campaign aimed at the Catholic establishment. The manor court rolls show diligent recording and likewise the church registers. The village has always been small with land holding conveniently passing from generation to generation of the same family sometimes for two centuries. A great boon to researchers!

The public Court room would have been on the first floor with stairs leading straight from the central square-headed doorway which opened outwards as shown by the rebated frame. The roof space was included in the Court room and it boasted a fine crown post visible to the assemblies. However the area to the east of the crown post was partitioned off as a small waiting room it appears, since the roof space of this room had an inserted ceiling no doubt for privacy required by the Court. The two ground floor rooms with separate entrances through the arched doorways would have served as storage room and possible ante-chamber for private interrogation purposes such as is evinced in many documents where wives were separately questioned as to their dowry rights of inherited property, and so on, which had come before the manor Court.

Documentary Research

The 1838 Tithe map for Mount Bures indicates that only three cottages then existed in the area which is now the centre of the village (see fig 10, below).

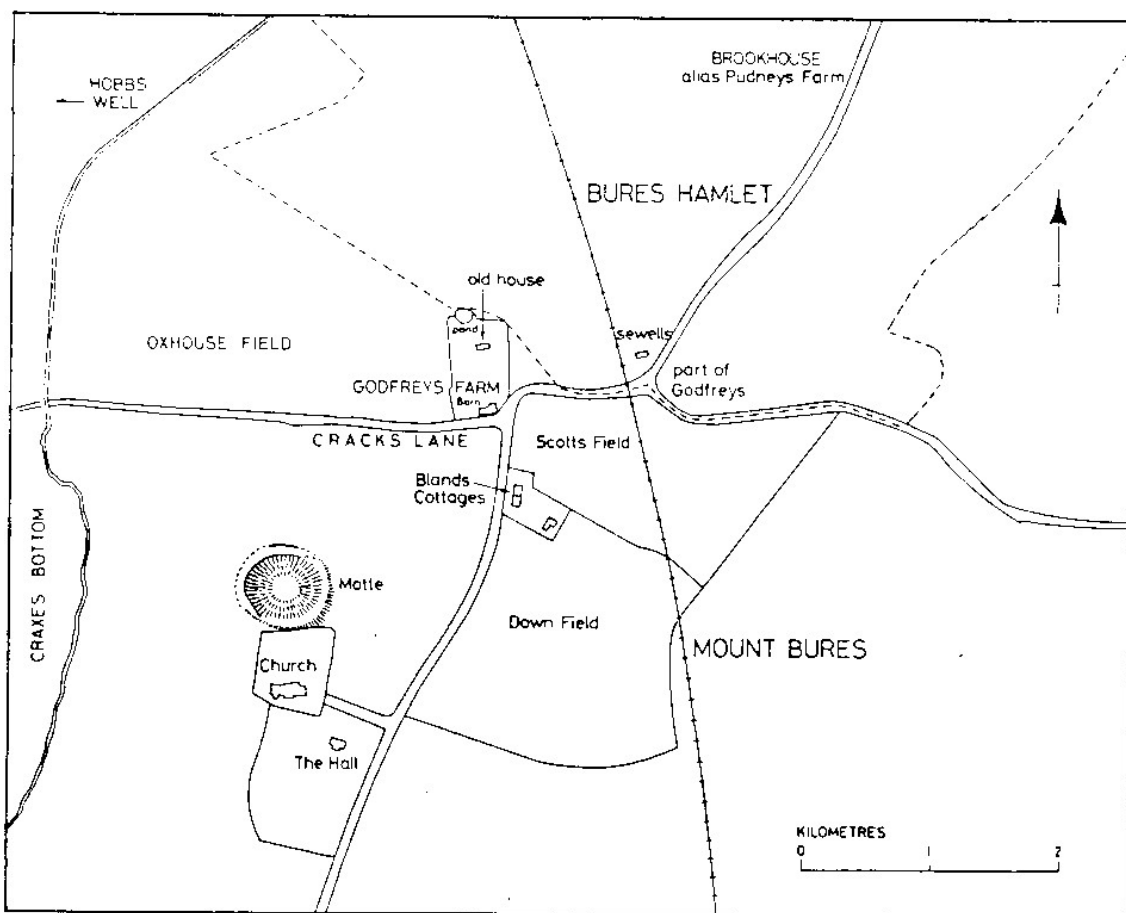


Fig 10. Map showing Mount Bures village centre as it would have appeared during the period 1750-1850. Details from an estate map (c 1800 — Peter LeNeve), and from the Tithe map of 1838 have been included. The railway line, completed 1849, has also been included.

One of them was Old House; another nearby called Sewells was just over the boundary in Bures Hamlet parish. This Sewells property with nine acres of land has a very explicit series of deeds covering some two and a half centuries. These deeds and those of Pudneys Farm to the north are within the estate papers of the well-known Garrad family of Bures St Mary and Bures Hamlet. Alas, Mr George Garrad the last member to live in these villages died in 1978, but other descendants remain. One of them, Anne Carter of Norwich, has produced a most comprehensive family history which showed that the Garrad ancestors had lived and worked in the three Bures parishes for at least four and a half centuries. The assistance given by Mrs Carter has been much appreciated. Old House had been the family property since 1862.

Sewells was demolished to make way for the railway line in 1849 and its nine acres went into Pudneys farm thereafter. The third cottage on the map, then only recorded as John Baker's cottage with five acres of land and a shop or barn, has for a century been known as Blands cottages. Several generations of Blands were tenants of this semi-detached pair which have remained with Mount Bures Hall estate and farm since General Bouchier, lord of the Manor, purchased them freehold from John Baker, the fourth of that name in 1858. They were sold only in 1976 and recently suffered fire damage.

Mount Bures Hall lies to the south of the above cottages and for many centuries there has been no resident Lord of the Manor. Always the Hall and its same nucleus of demesne fields were occupied by a succession of tenant farmers right up to 1919. Apparently the Hall was 'mean, low and damp and not at all the type of edifice for the principal house of the village' so complained the wife of a tenant farmer in 1854. The above lord of the Manor succumbed to her criticisms and duly built on the more imposing present front and side extensions of the Hall. From this one might deduce that there had been no space for any public meetings in the Hall itself from early times. Whatever the circumstances the new meeting place at Old House apparently materialised; perhaps local politics played a part if, alternatively, a Guild was involved in its establishment. Of course an older structure may have stood on the site or elsewhere.

It has always been known that Old House with a now demolished barn at one time operated as a wheelwrights premises and, as such, it was recorded on the 1838 Tithe Award Schedule for Mount Bures. Sir John Rolt, whose lands lay mainly in Bures Hamlet, was the landowner with his tenant Joseph Hayward, blacksmith, occupying the house, barn and garden area as it appears today. Subsequently a Joseph Hayward also rebuilt a blacksmiths premises by the bridge in Bures Hamlet, on the Essex side, in 1858.

Otherwise Godfreys Farm

An estate map of 1830, copied from an earlier one of 1800 by Peter Le Neve, showed that Godfreys Farm was superimposed across the area of Old House (see map). Also the conveyance document for Blands cottages and land, mentioned above, (John Baker 4th) produced evidence that the tenant in 1858, Nathaniel Bland, had been preceded there by Thomas Scott, late Thomas Godfrey, wheelwright. So Godfrey's property had, at some previous period, included both Old House and Blands cottages with the lands attached. This man was not far to seek, for in the church registers of Mount Bures appeared 'Thomas Godfrey, many years churchwarden died 1786'. He is first recorded as a witness at a marriage in 1761. During that century however no records of baptisms or burials appear for any Godfrey children, which is in sharp contrast to the previous one, when between 1581-1650 his presumed forbears mostly had eight children per couple. Apart from Robert Godfrey, also a churchwarden in 1770, there was only reference to the burial of Mary Godfrey in 1793, probably Thomas's wife. It might appear that the family were absent from the village from shortly after 1650 until Thomas the wheelwright returned in the following century. After his death they disappear from the various records again.

The subsequent history of modest Godfreys Farm with its 29 acres of land is clearly documented up to the 20th century and outlined later. Prior to Godfrey's death in 1786 there is a convenient manor Rental dated 1769-1848 which provides details of the land he held in the village.

Late Meadows	rent	7s 0d
A tenement & lands owned by the widow of John		
Josselyn, she now the wife of Mr Cutbert	rent	13s 11d.
Land late Scotts	rent	7s 4d
A tenement and 9 acres of land called Crapes; Cowfen - 10 acres; a parcel of pondland - 2 acres; a hollow way and half acre meadow in Broad Meadow, the Down Field - 4acres		
	rent	£1 2s 6d

This Rental shows that the only land (freehold) actually owned by Thomas Godfrey himself was Land late Scotts and, as the dues were next paid by Baker, this was obviously the five acres attached to Blands cottages and identifiable on the Tithe map. Godfrey was the tenant of the other properties under various owners. All were subject to the manor jurisdiction however, whether freehold or copyhold.

The tenement and lands of widow Josselyn, not important here, were on the east side of the village and attached to their main farm called Josselyns, shortly to be purchased by General Bouchier. Her extra tenement was probably hired as a labourer's premises and any land surplus farmed for Godfrey's benefit.

Crapes with the land appertaining was however, undoubtedly synonymous with the main block of Godfreys Farm, otherwise Old House, since it was soon apparent that the spelling was incorrect. The name was in fact, CRAXSES tenement in all earlier documents, thus indicating the name origin of the road passing Old House today - Cracks Lane. Descriptions of the fields attached also assisted in the identification.

The 9 acres plus the two acres of Pondland accord well with Oxhouse field on the Tithe map, which stretches from Old House westward to the brook. The position given for Pondland appropriately describes the vicinity of the pond lying behind Old House today. The Hollow Way lay partly against the road leading from that stream called Craxses Brook, and against land called Hobbes at the Well on the other part. The Downe field lay partly facing the churchyard and partly towards the Mount as on the Tithe map. Finally 10 acres of Cowfen is probably represented by the line of meadows west of the brook and still called Craxses Bottom on the Tithe. These meadows once formed part of a mill dam complex.¹

Otherwise Craxses Tenement

Between 1612-1683 three generations of a family called Dyer were copyhold tenants of Craxses tenement and the unchanging block of lands described above. The field names stayed happily constant. Commencing with the death of William Dyer in 1612 the property was next passed on to two Daniels, one admitted by the manor Court in 1645 and the second in 1683. Daniel (2) and Sarah his wife two years later baptised Daniel, a son, followed in quick succession by six other children all recorded in Mount Bures register up to the last one in 1697. Presumably they retained Craxses for a little longer. They also had Hobbes Well up to 1712, nearby land then in Mount Bures but now in Bures Hamlet, lying to the north-west and still so named on the present day maps. The burials of Daniel and Sarah were also in the register for 1731 but they were 'of Bures St Mary' by that time. They were almost certainly parents of those seven children and thereafter the name is absent in Mount Bures.

So far there has been no evidence to suggest that Craxses tenement was anything other than a yeoman farmer's abode. If the Court house of the manor functioned only as such in the first century of its life, perhaps becoming disused towards the end of the 16th century and undergoing transformation into domestic use, surely the officials would record this. There is a chance yet. The 16th century court rolls are extremely difficult to read and need expert transcription. This may be possible in the near future. On the other hand it does appear that all was not well within the village during the latter part of that century when, according to the Archdeaconry Visitations of 1588 and on other occasions, 'the church and rectory of Mount Bures are in decay as to tiling and glazing and likely to fall down.'

The acreage of Craxses premises totals a little over 25 acres not quite equating with Godfreys Farm holding of 29 acres mentioned on all subsequent deeds. The estate map shows that Godfrey had land to the east of the road to Bures which is not specifically identifiable within Craxses acreage but could be Late Meadows on the Rental.

19th-20th Century history

The situation is more satisfactory after the death of Thomas Godfrey in 1786 with his small farm well traceable up to the 20th century. Anne Carter, mentioned earlier, whose uncle George Garrad died in 1778, subsequently deposited the family estate documents, four large boxes of them, in the Essex Record Office. Laudably she first made a catalogue of the contents.

From this list and other records it was evident that c 1790 the lord of the Manor of Mount Bures, namely Abraham Newman, a wealthy grocer of Fenchurch Street, London, elder son of tenant farmer Thomas Newman at the Hall, had returned to acquire the lordship in his later years. He could be seen adding to his vast estate by purchasing several extra farms in the vicinity. Notably in 1785 he granted a Lease for a mortgage to the tenant of Pudneys Farm which adjoined Godfreys property. Lands appertaining to Pudneys were mentioned in the Lease in connection with tithes and tenths arising therefrom and Thomas Godfrey's premises were among these.

Abraham Newman died in 1799 and through his daughter Anne Caswall, lady of Mount Bures in her turn, his vast wealth passed in 1829 to his four grand-daughters. Two of these are irrelevant here, but of the other two, one was Maria, married to Gen. Bouchier (see above), they received the manor and lands of Mount Bures. The other sister Anne, was married to Sir John Rolt, also figuring above, and they received as their share all the lands in Bures Hamlet, which included Pudneys Farm of 90 acres and also Godfreys Farm with the vital 29 acres. The above mortgage and lease had been renewed in 1805 with money from a different source but the Rolts remained landlords of these properties until 1862 when John Grad purchased the Bures Hamlet lands and this family retained many of them for over a century.

The Garrads rebuilt Pudneys abode almost immediately, renaming it Brook House. They have made it their family home ever since, with great numbers of Garrad children growing up there. In 1862 their farmlands purchased from the Rolts totalled around 500 acres; repeated there within the schedule was the all important Godfreys Farm of 29 acres; now finally lost in the modern large-scale farming of the 20th century.

So Thomas Godfrey has been forgotten, and in his place has arisen the recent, but aptly named Old House. It remained a blacksmiths until 1902 when James Sawyer was the last recorded craftsman there ².

Finally it is of interest to record that the late Mr Claude Newman, occupant of Old House for many years up to 1989, was himself a direct descendant of a milling and farming family which almost 200 years ago built one of the two windmills in Mount Bures. Both are now demolished. It is even possible that he may be a descendant of the Robert Newman, miller of Boxted, who came in 1705 and became tenant farmer of Mount Bures Hall and farmland. His son Thomas was also tenant at the Hall for many years dying at the good age of 88 in 1790. Abraham Newman, lord of the Manor, was Robert's grandson and therefore spent his childhood in the Hall and surrounding countryside before going off to London to amass the fortune which enabled him to return and become lord of Mount Bures, despite the fact that he lived elsewhere.

Essex Record Office Sources

Papers about compensation from the Stour Valley Railway Company for land in Mount Bures 1847, *D/DOp, B92/2*

Letters relating to property at Mount Hall, 1827-1864. *D/DOp B123/483- 521*.

Tithe map and Award for Mount Bures, 1838. *D/CT 60 A & B*.

Tithe Map for Bures Hamlet, 1838. *D/DSm P5 & D/CT 61 A*
Court Rolls and Rentals of the Manor of Mount Bures, 1549-1696. *D/DU 103, 1-9.*
Rental of the Manor of Mount Bures, 1716-1848. *D/DEt T77*
Parish Registers for the Church of St John at Mount Bures 1540-1837. *DIP 2811111-5.*
Parish Registers for the Church of St John at Mount Bures (Marriages), 1813-1886. *C345, Colchester & NE Essex Branch.*
Manor of Bures St Mary with the Rectory, 1498-1856. *D/DB M212.*
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Archdeaconry Visitations of Colchester and Lexden Deanery, 1586-88. *D/AZ1/3, D/ACV1.*

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- 1 **Holbert P R, 1973** 'The Investigation of a Mound at Mount Bures, Essex, 1972', *CAG Bull* 16, 3.
- 2 **Kelly's Directory 1902.**

Obituary - Alfred Doorne

It is with great sorrow that we report that Alf Doorne died suddenly in June this year. He was at the History Fair on the 6th taking his usual keen interest in local affairs, and only a few days later he collapsed and was admitted to hospital where he soon died. He was 66 and had not long been retired.

Alf was educated at the Royal Liberty School, Havering, though he often spoke of a favourite teacher at his Junior school in Dagenham who first inspired him to take an interest in local history. Alf served as a signals operator in World War 2 and settled in Langenhoe in 1952. For 47 years he had worked in the Civil Service and was for many years assistant Collector of Taxes at Colchester. In the 1987 New Year Honours List he was awarded the MBE for his long civil service career and his services to the Community. For 20 years he was parish clerk to Abberton and Langenhoe. He was a founder member of the Roman River Valley Trust and immediately prior to his death was its Secretary.

Alf was along-standing member of the Group and served several spells on the Committee. He was an assiduous recorder of local history and it is particularly pleasing that we have a contribution from him for this issue of the Bulletin. He never relaxed his enthusiasm for local affairs and his local knowledge was prodigious. We shall all miss him.

Alf's wife died about a year before him and he seemed not to recover completely from her death. Our sincere condolences go to his two sons.

The funeral took place on a hot sunny day in the tiny church at Abberton. The grave looks out over the reservoir and across the fields that Alf walked and studied for so many years. The church was full to overflowing with family and friends, the service very personal and a most moving occasion for those present. The Group have lost a good friend and supporter.

(KAE)

Winter Lectures (1988/89)

The first thousand years AD: Comparative events and discoveries world-wide - 10th October 1988

Mrs Maureen Dunn.

After the A.G.M. of the Group Mrs Dunn gave a talk on the chart she has had published showing in tabular form the historical events of the first Millennium AD. It records in columns, each covering a century and each divided into five squares, the historic happenings.

Row (A) records the Roman period and successive occurrences in Europe.

Row (B) shows the history of Christianity from the persecutions through its establishment as official religion to the Great Schism between Orthodox and Catholicism at the end of the Millennium and the rise of Islam.

Row (C) shows changes in Britain from the Late Iron Age, with events in Northern Europe. During the 'Dark Ages' Britain was the richest country in Europe according to some historians.

Row (D) shows world achievements by Arabs, India and China.

Row (E) deals with China in its 'golden age' of the Han dynasty - paper- making, the Silk Trade and shows the main events in Japan and the Americas. (In the latter Peru and Mexico with their civilizations towards the end of the period).

The chart also has illustrations and a bibliography at the sides. Mrs Dunn took several years in her spare time on the work and acknowledged the assistance she had received from various specialists, including those heard at CAG lectures.

Recent excavations in the Medway Valley - 17th October, 1988.

Albert Daniels BA, Chairman, Maidstone Archaeological Group.

The Group was founded in 1969 and recent excavations include the following:

1) Wouldham - The site is at 600ft overlooking the Medway valley. It consists of a penannular ditch of 13ft diameter with a central burial. This is a Bronze Age bi-conical urn covered with flints. The urn has horse-shoe handles which suggests the vestiges of an earlier tradition. The urn was inverted and surrounded by post-holes. The bones appear to be female and date from 1500-2000 BC. The ditch was narrow with steep sides, as if for a palisade. There was no primary silt and it appeared to have been back-filled some time after construction. Near the ditch was the inhumation of a male aged about 19 years. There were no grave goods and the skeleton could not be dated.

2) Cuxton, 15 Rochester Road - The dig was on the driveway of a house. Across the road was a known palaeolithic site where a great many hand axes had been found. This site was a gravel terrace on chalk. Here were found several stone axes, horse teeth, bison bone and a young elephant's hip. These fauna) remains were dated to c 100,000 BC. It seems that the axes had been washed there by a former stream from a nearby campsite. The axes were associated with the burial of a beheaded body, the axes are now in the British Museum store.

3) Snodland, Church Field Site - This was a known Romano-British villa site, partly covered until recently by a gas works and a factory. Previous excavations had revealed, by the Medway, a range of buildings with a hypocaust and part of a separate bath-house. The demolition of a Baptist chapel enabled the Medway group to excavate a further building. This showed an aisled building which later had its walls thickened and a series of rooms built round it. It has been called a barn but Mr Daniels considered it more likely to have been connected with the keeping of animals. The bath-house was further excavated after 35 tons of concrete were removed. Fragments of painted wall plaster with lotus pattern were found and a 4th century bronze founder's crucible. At the barn a silver seal box was found.

4) Upper Halting - A cement factory with a blue lagoon in a flooded chalk pit. This was a rescue dig after

much of the higher layers had been machined off into the lagoon. A double ring ditch had been there and two knee caps were left.

5) Kent Rural Life Museum, Maidstone - A resistivity survey showed a big ditch existed. A 2ft wide ditch was dug to explore the site and an antler pick was found but is not yet dated. The big ditch and bank was masked from aerial photographs by deposits washed down from higher ground. The site is believed to have been a neolithic campsite.

Dendrochronology - Past, present & future - 24th October, 1988

Jennifer Hillam, BSc, MIFA. Dendrochronology Laboratory, Dept. Archaeology & Prehistory, Sheffield University.

The study originated in USA and derived much of its information from the very long-lived bristle pines. The widths of growth rings vary from year to year because (mainly) of rainfall variations so cross-matchings from different overlapping ages of trees can give a very long chronology for the ring patterns. A E Douglas in Arizona applied this in his study of the sun-spot cycle and its effect on weather. He went on, in the 1920's, to date American Indian artefacts.

In Western Europe the study drew its material from oak remains, ranging from timber buildings back to bog oak, and there are now two independent chronologies - German and Irish.

In 1975 the Sheffield laboratory was set up to study timber from archaeological sites so as to date them, and a chronology from English annual tree ring patterns is being established. Specimens which show less than 50 years growth are of little use in providing patterns. From standing buildings the cores from bores may help in finding their patterns, though splits in the pillars etc. cause difficulty. Rescue sites which can provide complete sections are the most helpful. The lecturer showed a slide in which three pieces of timber, from different sources, showed identical ring patterns, though this was exceptionally fortunate.

Experiments are being made to get X-ray photos of the patterns by using a body scanner.

If a specimen shows the sapwood rings this is most useful as it can tell when the tree was felled. Good photos can be obtained from water-logged specimens by freezing and cleaning the surface.

Modern methods use a microscope linked with a computer. The ring sizes are then plotted, logarithmically, to emphasise the differences between ring sizes.

These methods are slower than carbon dating but where they can be used are more accurate, as felling dates can be found to exact years, or else not at all. Where 'error dates' are given this is because the sapwood is missing, not because the method itself is defective.

Timber-framed buildings normally used timber cut within a short period, though cathedrals and prestige buildings took some time to assemble the wood.

The speaker then instanced some sites which gave a good supply of specimens - the Neolithic Sweet Track in Somerset, Fiskerton, Lincs where the patterns showed a more complex history than would otherwise appear. This latter could be dated by linkage with the Hasholme Log boat.

In London the Billingsgate waterfront with its successive revetments provided 600 specimens and showed that some of the timbers had been reused. Where timber buildings can be precisely dated light is thrown on the dates of building styles. In the future, developments in computer use will make specimens with a small number of rings more useful and so increase the value of specimens from alders, ash etc.

Bronze Age Mining & Metallurgy in Britain - 31st October, 1988

Paul T Craddock, PhD, BSc, FSA, The British Museum.

Early miners on copper bearing sites in the 18th and 19th centuries discovered vast numbers of stone hammers and axes often coated with travertine or similar incrustation and

realised that they were of great age - prior to the use of iron. But, later archaeologists ignored this and ascribed all ancient copper or tin workings to the Roman or Medieval period, or even to the Victorian examples quoted by the speaker which were tin workings on Dartmoor, near a large BA defended settlement and copper workings, near two large BA barrows in Staffordshire. Both having been regarded as Elizabethan until now.

An important copper mining area in the 19th century was Parys Mountain, Anglesea and it was known that this had been exploited in antiquity. The ancient workings were described as Roman in the standard work on the subject, though no Roman roads or sherds were found there. In recent years Dr Craddock has emptied out trenches made by Professor Oliver David and investigated the adjacent area with the Early Mines Research Group; carbon 14 dates gave Bronze Age origins.

Other sites for copper mining were Alderly Edge, Cwmystwyth, and Mt. Gabriel (Ireland). All these, and other sites, produce vast numbers of mauls (stone hammers) of hard rock such as diorite river pebbles. Those from Alderly Edge had grooves cut round, apparently to take a rope so they could be swung in the confined space where the BA miners worked. Elsewhere the stones had two nicks to take wooden handles. Some were far too big to use as hand tools and must have been swung against the rock face.

It seems that by the end of the Bronze Age these methods were abandoned. With the advent of iron the demand for bronze could probably be met by recycling the large amount already in use.

These BA miners could identify copper sites by looking for quartz dykes carrying the metal, and by areas which carried vegetation tolerant of such metals.

The ore was made more easily available by lighting fires against it and then throwing water on the hot rock, though elsewhere the copper was borne in clay and could be scraped out. Many antlers and bones used in the process have been found.

No smelting sites have been found but experiments have shown that the metal can be recovered by using small amounts which would leave no structures behind.

In the 18th century waste was often flushed away by releasing water from dams higher up the hillsides and a BA spread of lead bearing waste at Cwmystwyth was found to cover a water channel(c 1600 BC) which may well have been used for this purpose. A large 19th century mine at Great Orme Head reveals the BA copper workings which were on a very large scale. Now dated 1000-1300 BC they are much more sophisticated than the others mentioned. They went deeply into the hillside and were full of old stone tools. Hut circles are nearby.

The BA date of the stone hammers is confirmed by their absence from early IA iron mines. Fifth century millennium BC hammers have been found in Yugoslavia and their use in battering (not cutting) a rock face is shown in copper mines in Israel and also Alderley Edge.

CAP AND APRON - 7th November, 1988

Sam Mullins

Sam Mullins travelled in foggy conditions to give us a most interesting talk on the history of domestic service from Victorian to present times. He made his fine collection on all aspects of the subject because St Albans had a new museum with not enough space to exhibit at the time.

Amazingly 80 per cent of domestic workers were in small households of 1-2 people and not in large country houses. The highest numbers of servants registered was in 1871, with 44 per cent of all working women then in domestic service.

Many slides showed advertisements of nostalgic memory for the senior citizens amongst us. One poster of a fair also proved to be advertising for employers and servants who wished to hire or be hired. A 1920 photograph showed a training school for maids, each one with broom and pan at the ready. All the older advertisements illustrated a domestic servant using the product whereas today it is always the housewife.

A Market Harborough factory in 1908 made the first liberty bodices which all the older ladies

will remember were a vital childhood item of apparel. The factory girls looked charming in their uniforms and surprisingly happy.

Polish at 3d a tin, rising at 6 am and the necessity for a knife cleaning machine certainly made one think in our luxurious day and age.

The Raunds Area Project (Saxon & Medieval Period) - 14th November, 1988

Alan Hannan BA, MIFA, Northants County Archaeologist.

The project is an attempt to understand the landscape changes in an extensive area from the Iron Age onwards.

Raunds is on gravel terraces now being exploited, but much of the district has its 'archaeology' undisturbed. In the 1970s David Hall put in a trench and found a fine Late Anglo-Saxon grave slab and other finds.

More recent excavations have uncovered an early manor overlying a church site of late Saxon date which occupied the site of an earlier Saxon church. The graveyard had some 380 graves - the first graveyard found for an entire Saxon rural community, 98-99 per cent of graves relating to the earlier church. Only one grave was in the church, it was a child's. Each grave was packed with large stones. Remains of timber buildings including an aisled hall were found round the churchyard.

The publication of the RCHM inventory of sites in the 1970s was followed up by the County Council deciding to have thorough excavations of the more promising sites in the County, and Raunds; with four lesser nearby parishes was one.

At the Norman conquest Raunds had two manors. The site of the known one had much Ipswich ware, little or none being found elsewhere in the district. The site of the other manor, which had belonged to the Duchy of Lancaster, is still unknown.

West Cotton, one of the subsidiary sites, is a deserted medieval village. Now the area has been excavated it is seen that the DMV succeeded an Anglo-Saxon village built on Bronze Age barrows, and a neolithic long mound. The round barrows arranged in a straight line suggest a ritual centre. Saxon and Medieval mills were found together with stone buildings - not like peasants' huts.

Stanwick, another site in the Raunds area, has a Roman villa with quite well-preserved mosaics. The villa was the centre of Roman settlement with ditches stretching like spokes from the hub, i.e. the villa.

Nearby a hillfort overlooks the villa site. When the gravel extraction is completed the site will become a RSBP preserve to a great extent but part will be used as a 'Heritage site' with reconstructions of some of the buildings found at excavation.

NB. 'Current Archaeology' Nos 75, 97 & 106 carry well illustrated articles on the excavations.

Settlement & Economy of the later Bronze Age in Essex - 21st November, 1988

Nigel Brown BA, Essex CC Planning Dept., Archaeology Section, Chelmsford.

The Middle Bronze Age urns in Essex and nearby areas fall into two classes:

- a) North Essex, with finger tipping and 'horseshoe' handles.
- b) South Essex, North Kent etc, where well decorated bowls are found.

Habitations in Essex are rarely found. A good example is at South Shoebury where round huts and pits have been located. The give evidence of a mixed farming economy, loom weights are common, and diet included shell fish.

Cemeteries seem always to be close to settlements and on the edge of family holdings which were mainly self-sufficient but evidence of exchange is given by bronzes (mostly from the Continent), including fine rapiers, signs of social ranking.

Circular enclosures with huts also were found at Mucking and Springfield. At the latter bronze casting moulds for prestigious articles (rapiers) were recovered from ditch silt.

Later, from c 900 BC, the characteristics of the Late Bronze Age include pyramid loom weights, cups, bowls, jars with everted rims and shouldered jars. The diet now included beans but few bones are found. The pottery suggests continental influences but no longer two areas differing in style.

Wood was important for house building, firing and tool handles. Flat based pots suggest that tables were used. Small saws were used for fine work but there is no sign of saws suitable for heavy work.

The Middle Bronze Age sites are all on gravel but in the Late Bronze Age settlement began to extend to the edges of boulder clay deposits and burials now seem to take place in settlements and are often accompanied with the deposit of bronze swords and other prestige articles.

An interesting site at Lofts Farm, Maldon, had large 'burnt flint' deposits which may have been used as pot boilers or even for use in steam baths, as has been suggested. Occupation of the large gravel terraces in the Maldon area was very dense at this time.

Salt-making, detected at Mucking in the MBA is attested in the Maldon area at the end of the Bronze Age. Salt was probably used as an article in exchange as well as for cattle.

The information on this period has mainly been gathered in the last ten years. Before then nearly all information related to Bronze working.

The Stansted Project: Excavations at London's new airport - 28th November, 1988

Howard Brooks, BA, MIFA, Essex CC Planning Dept, Archaeology Section, Chelmsford.

The new airport, which will cater for 8 million passengers a year and cover 6 square kilometers, has during excavations revealed over 20 archaeological sites.

Previously known sites included Colchester Hall, probably a Domesday site. Here slots of a 16th century building were found and worked stones of late 11th century date from a building which was not discovered. Great Coopers Farm, an impressive timbered building was removed by the developers for re-erection elsewhere. Excavation revealed little.

Bassingbourne Hall, also mentioned in Domesday was also but the early building was not found. However remains of substantial early medieval buildings, one with two hearths and another, probably a barn with evidence of massive timbers, was found at Round Wood. This was probably the site of the original Hall.

Extensive field-walking on a 20m grid squares showed some concentrations of medieval sherds.

When these were dug one site (with 12-13th century sherds) revealed a moat and ramshackle buildings suggesting a peasant farm.

The ceramics and environmental evidence indicated a dairy site. Contractors machinery revealed elsewhere natural mounds of septaria.

The Airport Catering Site had a late Iron Age village with round houses in a ditched enclosure all surrounding a rectangular building where there were no signs of habitation such as the round houses had. Nearby this structure were two pits with Roman bronzes, altogether suggesting a shrine. Other finds here were a hoard of IA potin coins minted c 40 BC, and a Roman ring depicting a man with a palladium. The coins were made of continental metal and the designs on them were remotely derived from Greek originals.

The site for the Social Club had late BA and early IA pottery and a long late BA enclosure. Nearby was a Roman erection with pottery.

A car park site at Duck End Farm had a late IA farmstead and field system with Roman cremation burials in what appear to be family groups. In the Middle Ages buildings were put up on this site, but the most interesting thing here was a rich Roman burial with a samian dinner service, skillets, bronze bowls, flagons etc, similar to the grave goods at Bartlow Hills. The samian was early 2nd century.

The dates of the various farms get progressively later from west to east across the site showing a pressure on land use from the better land to the heavy boulder clay. In the late 14th and early 15th centuries several farms were abandoned - probably an effect of the Black Death.

SS Great Britain: First Propellor-driven iron built Atlantic liner - 5th December, 1988

Mr David van Lennep, Member of the 'Great Britain Project'.

The erection of the GWR to Bristol inspired the idea of extending the activities by steamship to New York and so the Great Western Steamship Co. was formed. Wm. Paterson's Bristol built wooden paddle ship (1838) and the SS Rainbow, an iron built paddle ship, led the new company to start building an iron paddle ship for the Atlantic crossing, but they scrapped the work at an early stage when they discovered the success of the new screw steamer 'Archimedes'. No ship builder would contract to build a ship of the type and size they required so the company decided to employ I K Brunel to design and build at Bristol for them a suitable vessel.

His ship had many new features, it was immensely larger than the Rainbow etc, it had iron wire rigging, a balanced rudder and included an iron casting of a size never made before. By 1884 it was on an exhibition run to the Thames where Queen Victoria came to visit it.

Brunel had provided the ship with six masts as well as a huge cylinder steam engine. The second mast was square rigged, the others fore-and-aft to economise in man power, but in 1846 the captain (Hoskins) persuaded the company to have two masts removed and a second square rigged one installed. This proved of doubtful advantage. Hoskins had already had accidents to the ship and in 1846, after a party on board, he succeeded in running it well aground in Ireland. Brunel was called in to see what could be done to protect the ship from storms, he had a screen of trees made and everything removed that could lighten her. The following year gangs of labourers dug out a channel and with aid from a frigate she was dragged into the sea, but was in bad shape. It was not till 1850 that after expensive repairs, and with a new John Penn engine installed was she at sea again, and left Liverpool. Brunel's six bladed propeller was replaced by a three bladed one and new owners put her on the run to Australia. The propeller was fitted with a hoist so it would not act as a drag in high winds such as the Roaring Forties.

She had excellent yacht-like lines and made a passage to Australia on one occasion in 54 days. She could carry 600 passengers.

During the Californian gold rush she was put on the London-San Francisco run via Cape Horn. The Crimean War saw her employed as a troop carrier to the Black Sea.

Eventually the new owners had the engines removed and with new rigging she was used as a cargo ship mainly in the Australian grain trade, though in 1886 she took a month in a vain effort to round Cape Horn with a coal cargo - here she lost her top mast. At this time she was given a wooden sheathing to protect her from bumps by lighters. In old age she served in the Falklands as a store ship and then lay off, uselessly until 1964 when US interest was aroused. She had now a 10 inch crack and was in a very bad way. Interest in Britain was now aroused and Sir Jack Hayward gave £150,000 so she could be patched up, floated on to a great sunken barge and after a long tow brought back to the Bristol berth she had been built in. Since then piece by piece she has been carefully restored and is gradually resuming the appearance she had when Brunel built her. The work is expected to be finished in two or three years time.

The Ancient city of Athens - 23rd January, 1989

Arthur Brown PhD, Chairman, Essex Federation of Workers' Educational Association Branches.

Dr Brown began by giving an illustrated account of the chief surviving buildings at Athens -

the Parthenon, the Nike Temple, the Propylaea, the nearby picture gallery on the west and south of the Acropolis, and on the north, to balance them, the Erechtheum. On the lower ground were the Temple of Dionysius, which held 20,000 people, the Agora, and the Stoa now faithfully rebuilt by the Americans. Beyond were the pottery works, shoemakers workshops, smithies, and the well-preserved temple of the smith's god, Hephaestus. Further still is the port area of Pireaus with its three harbours and its street plan of classical times still existing.

The speaker then turned to the social conditions of the 5th century BC in the city. It had been destroyed in the Persian wars, when the population had evacuated it. When they returned they first built huts to live in and workshops. There was a considerable artisan element in the population and a trading element. With great energy an export trade in pottery, bronzes and other craft products paid for imports of food, especially grain from the Black Sea area.

When this was achieved Pericles urged, against considerable opposition, the building of the temples. These were built with the finest materials, mainly marble. The Parthenon, begun in 447 BC was completed in 438 BC, with the help of all available craftsmen. Many of the workers brought their skills to a high degree by learning from each other as the work went on. The citizens took great pride in the beautiful buildings they saw being erected, and would walk up the hill in the evenings to watch progress.

It is estimated that the population of Athens rose to about 60,000, including the port and suburbs. While the total population of Attica would have been about 360,000. The material standard of living was not high and fairly egalitarian, though there was a comfortably well-off middle class with a small very prosperous element. About 300 families constituted a 'supertax' class.

The artisans and the navy constituted the back bone of democracy in the city; the peasantry were worse off and could not easily leave their holdings to attend citizen meetings on the Pnyx, the hill in Athens where such meetings were held. Women took no part in public life.

This small, not very affluent, state produced drama (Euripides, Aeschylus, Sophocles), philosophy (Socrates), Comedy (Aristophanes) and great works of art in vases and sculpture. Its great days came to an end with its conquest by Alexander in 404 BC, though it continued as a cultural centre well into the Roman period.

New work on the site of Snape Anglo-Saxon Cemetery and Ship Burial - 30th January, 1989

William Filmer-Sankey MA, MIFA, Snape Historical Trust.

Three contemporary accounts of a good quality dig in 1862 tell of there still remaining nine or ten burial mounds, of which the largest three were excavated on the site which was then heathland.

The largest revealed a ship burial, the ship being 50ft long and 14ft beam, with iron rivets very similar to the Sutton Hoo ship. A valuable Germanic ring of c 525 AD suggests the burial dated from c 525 or later, a little earlier than Sutton Hoo. Nearby a large number of Anglo-Saxon burial urns were found - cremations round an inhumation.

The speaker's dig there has covered four years and found a number of burials - more inhumations than cremations, but dating from the same period. The extent of the cemetery has not yet been determined but appears to date from the second half of the 6th century. Perhaps the graves cluster round the ship burial.

The soil is extremely light and sandy and of the inhumations, as at Sutton Hoo, only 'sandmen' remains are found. Some burials were in coffins, some on boards, some in lined graves or in a sort of chest. Formerly links with Swedish sites were considered likely, but the discovery of one grave where an inhumation occurred in a boat with a pointed bow now suggests a relationship with the large Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Slusegard on the Danish island of Bornholm in the Baltic. There is, however, a difference in the dating. The Snape boat grave goods consisted of an iron dagger, two iron studs and, the only article of high status, two bone horns placed at the feet. The speaker suggests that the boat burials, both Danish and here, may represent a cult of a

god with a magic boat for a journey to the next world.

The site is in some danger as the light soil is gradually being blown away and so the plough is disturbing the burial layers more and more. Some of the womens' graves have produced good quality grave goods such as brooches, beads of amber, and pieces of textiles.

It is possible that boat burials may have taken place in other Anglo-Saxon cemeteries but the traces left in the sandy soils not observed. Future excavators on such sites will be on the look-out for them. The mingling of inhumations with cremations may reflect the mingling of Christian and other religious beliefs evidenced at Sutton Hoo. The earlier excavation in 1862 had not found inhumations apart from the ship burial so they had considered the other graves in the cemetery to be entirely pagan.

Recent developments at Sutton Hoo - 6th February, 1989

Cathy Royle, Post-excavation and Remote Sensing Supervisor to the Sutton Hoo Research Trust.

The speaker began by recapitulating the history of the earlier excavations at the site by Basil Brown and then by a well-qualified team of archaeologists just before the war. These digs were all well done and resulted in recovering the type of ship in the largest mound and a rich collection of grave goods which suggested an interment date of c 625.

In 1983 the Sutton Hoo Research Project did a careful field walk to try to establish the boundary of the prehistoric features known to be on the site and dug a trial trench revealing burials, one of a person buried back upwards. The burials left very little bone material but were identified by sand figures. Further excavations in the area brought many more burials to light. Half the persons were contorted, or had their hands tied behind them, or showed signs of having been executed. These were all flat burials near the mounds; grave goods were few but the dates seem to be 7th-8th centuries AD.

After consent to dig had been given, an area excavation of part of the mound showed that two-thirds of the material had not been quarried from the surrounding ditches and has since been spread over an area beyond the ditch, giving an estimated original height of 3m.

The mounds, or some of them, were apparently robbed in the 19th century but fragments of grave goods were of the same high quality as those recovered from pre-war excavation. One smaller mound containing a small spearhead suggested the burial of a prince; another had undoubtedly been the burial of a female. All suggesting strongly a kingly family.

Where the original ground surface was preserved under the mounds prehistoric material from neolithic to late Iron Age was found, also some samian ware and a Roman coin. Other such features found were a fence line, a hearth, a round house and perhaps traces of Celtic fields.

Mounds 6 and 7, so far unexcavated, provide surface finds which were of a rich nature so these mounds too must have been high status burials. Beads suggests that one was of a woman. Some mounds had numerous ship rivets so they too must have been over ship burials but the boat which Basil Brown found is now seen to have been part of a large wooden burial chamber.

Elginhaugh: A Roman Fort and its environs - 13th February, 1989

William Hanson PhD, Lecturer, Dept of Archaeology, University of Glasgow.

This 3 acre fort in Midlothian known from aerial photographs is bisected by Dere St at its most northerly point. The dig was a Rescue one, financed by the Scottish Development Dept, 1986. At that time later photographs revealed the bath house by the nearby river crossing.

Modern technology was used to expedite excavation after field walking and scanning by metal detectors. Electronic distance measuring with walkie-talkie radio, a video camera, computer plotting of finds and features and photography from a hot air balloon assisted the excavators.

A hoard of 40 coins (Republican to Vespasian), a foundation deposit, makes the fort fit into a series dated 79 to 80 AD relating to Agricola's 3rd and 4th campaigns when he consolidated his hold

on the Lowlands. The complete plan of the fort was recovered, showing one phase only of construction. Later finds showed demolition c 87 AD, agreeing with the demolition of other forts in the series.

The buildings were those normally found in a fort, two granaries, Commander's house, barrack blocks, principia, and more unusually, a workshop building with at least some stone courses set into the back of the rampart. This had evidence of metal-working.

It has been suggested that yellow staining in some of the barrack blocks is evidence that they were really stables but Dr Hanson discounts this idea. However, he thinks that the accommodation, for 800 men, was not appropriate for any known Roman army unit so it is likely some cavalry men were accommodated with the infantry in the very crowded fort.

Along the ramparts interval towers were found between the four gateways and the timber posts which went below the sandy soil into the damp clay, a metre down, were there, preserved, and identified as aspen. No oak was found anywhere. As pollen analysis shows the trees in this area were aspen and willow, no doubt the wood was obtained locally. A vast amount of wattling, also of aspen, was used in the walls of buildings and in lining wells. This is evidence that the indigenous population had been practicing coppicing. Evidence of agriculture before the Roman occupation was found under the camp roadways. Some neolithic pottery was found but no trace of Iron Age settlements.

An annex to the fort had several ovens and corn dryers. The grain found in the fort was largely barley but in the annex it was corn. Evidence of diet included fig seeds, fish bones, olive oil and wine, in amphorae. No animal bones remain in the acid soil.

The abandonment of the forts in this series seems linked with trouble on the Danube about 87 AD. The northerly fort at Inchtuthil was abandoned before completion. At Elgin only the rampart was left standing but the gateway into the fort from the annex with its ditch filled in suggests a Roman presence may well have continued and the annex and fort used for cattle rearing. Much pottery was found in the ditches.

See *'A Roman Fort and its Environs'* Hanson & Yeoman, Scottish Development Dept. *'Agricola & the Conquest of the North'*, Hanson.

Fakes and Forgeries - 20th February, 1989

Professor Michael Tite MA, D.Phil, FSA, Research Laboratory, British Museum.

The rise in prices paid for antiquities has brought an increase in faking which the BM counters by employing modern scientific methods.

Metal objects are examined for their composition, construction and decoration, and corrosion.

For example a figure 'found' at Colchester of a classical nature was found to be made of zinc with 'corrosion' of Portland cement, (metallic zinc was unknown in Roman times). A bronze head 'from the Tiber' was based on a marble model, with too much zinc in the alloy, too little corrosion and nylon filling.

An alleged 11 BC bronze vessel when radiographed showed it had been upgraded from a broken one with holes and cracks covered with a false patina.

To increase the value of a chinese vessel an inscription had been added. Examination showed this to be cut through the patina. For a similar reason a bronze bear, allegedly Han period, had been electro-plated instead of gilded by a gold amalgam.

Gold objects from antiquity had been made from 'placer' gold and so contained specks of rare metal such as osmium and platinum not found in modern deep mined gold; though ancient scrap gold may be used to produce modern fakes to avoid detection.

Ancient gold wire was made by twisting and shows spiral striation whereas modern wire is made by drawing and shows straight striations. Counterfeiters in antiquity used base metal covered with gold or silver foil to produce fakes, though these are of interest today.

An interesting subject is a Renaissance copy of a Roman statue, now lost. The copy, from Austria, was detected by analysis of the metal revealing too much lead.

Similarly, many stamps used in samian ware have been found to be fakes.

Thermal luminescence is a complicated method for measuring radio- activity for dating ceramic material. Now fakers try to overcome detection by irradiating their frauds and recently some 47 of 66 Turkish 'neolithic' pots were found to be frauds as were 20 of 75 Mexican '5th century AD' vessels.

For organic materials the C14 test is used and modern instruments require only tiny specimens for dating. The speaker had been concerned in the recent investigation into the date of the Turin shroud. This is of some antiquity, it was installed in Turin Cathedral in 1694 and its history for some years previously was known. Photography in 1898 showed it contained 'negative' figure remarkably like one depicting a crucified person and NASA recently produced a computerised photograph seeming to validate this. It had been suggested that this could have been Christ's shroud. A modern investigation was proposed and found acceptable to the Vatican and Turin Cathedral and in 1978 investigations were carried out.

Small specimens and control specimens from another historic textile were handed, in steel containers, to scientists from Oxford, Zurich and Arizona. The shroud material is of 3:1 weave known to have been used at the time of Christ and up to the 15th century, though few examples exist.

After some time results were calibrated to real dates derived from dendrochronology suggesting dates 1260-1390. This date for the textile, if not for the image found on it, is now generally acceptable.

It is interesting that the Bishop of Troyes told the Pope in the Middle Ages that the shroud was a contrivance. The speaker suggested that the Crusades were conducted with great savagery and the image on the shroud may be that of a Christian crucified by Saracens, but this is just a possibility to account for the image.

Pakenham: Roman Fort and small Town - 27th February, 1989

Judith Plouviez, Archaeology Section, Suffolk C C Planning Dept.

This site, known from chance finds in the mid 19th century, is situated on the edge of the boulder clay just south of Ixworth, at a crossing of the small river Black Bourn. In 1976 an air photograph revealed the SE part of a triple ditched fort and a considerable occupation site. The part in cultivated land was scheduled and an excavation for the County Council was later authorised in the area required for the Ixworth bypass. This was a strip running NE-SW in the SE part of the fort and showed that the fort was 1st century AD in date and the size indicated that it was for an auxiliary unit. Occupation had been short-lived for the inner ditch had few finds and had been quickly back filled but the central part of the excavation had deposits 1 metre deep.

The earliest post-military feature was a semi-circular indication of a round house. The entrance was surviving.

In the 1970s and 80s rectangular features of stake and post holes showed settlement, and some house sites were found, including one with a large oven. A large amount of clay and gravel had been dumped on the site and in the early 2nd century a large single-aisled building with huge post holes was erected. This building had a clay floor.

In the area of a road-crossing in the Roman settlement a substantial 4m square building with foundations cut into the boulder clay and with a pipe trench leading to a hypocausted building, the only some so far found not timber built, was recognised. This must have been a water tower.

To the west was a complex of rubbish pits and a large pottery kiln, partly sunk in the ground, and a small surface kiln were found, apparently, from the huge number of waster, of 3rd century date. The vessels were mainly colour coated table ware suitable for beer drinking.

The rubbish pits produced samian and other imported pottery, brooches, bones, fish bones, coins etc. The 1400 coins recovered, some by using metal detectors, ran from the Iron Age to the end of the Roman Occupation, the largest number of coins being late in that period.

A particularly interesting find was a bronze mask-type head with two holes for attachments.

The speaker emphasised that the site was of considerably greater size than the part excavated and it showed the existence of a large urban settlement, a marketing place for the district around.

Ancient monuments - their care and protection - 6th March, 1989

Helen Patterson, AIFA, Field Monument Warden, English Heritage.

The first Act of Parliament for the scheduling of Ancient Monuments, passed in 1882, was followed by later Acts, the most recent providing for scheduling of complete areas of historic towns. English Heritage proposes monuments to the Secretary of State who has to agree before they can be scheduled.

English Heritage manages many sites, often through making grants to owners who agree to care for, and improve their presentation. A much smaller number of sites are owned by English Heritage.

All such sites are supposed to be visited by wardens every three years, at least, to ensure owners know of the monuments on their land. The personal touch is most important and the most difficult sites for arousing interest of owners are those visible only from the air.

The speaker showed slides of many Essex sites, which included:

- a) Barrows - Sturmer, Mersea and Bartlow.
- b) Fortifications - Amesbury Banks and Layer Marney Ditch.
- c) Moated Sites - there are more of these in Essex than in any other County, the finest, Killigrews, at Margaretting.
- d) Other sites -Saffron Walden Maze and Tillingham Duck Decoy.

Deserted villages and ridge and furrow ploughing are poorly represented in the county. Scheduled buildings include Hedingham Castle, Colchester Castle, Hadleigh Castle, and Mountfitchet Motte.

Inhabited houses include Hill Hall, now being restored by English Heritage. When work is completed it will be leased for use as flats or similar. Thaxted Guild Hall, Cressing Barn (now being repaired) Mistley Towers, Little Birch Church ruins, are some of the other buildings mentioned by the speaker.

Problems often arise. Trees grow on earthworks and if they blow over in a storm great damage may be caused; sometimes there is ill-advised tree planting; invasion by scrub which kills off grass cover, so allowing erosion. There can also be erosion by cattle or too many visitors and often damage by treasure hunters with metal detectors. Moats may be regarded as suitable places to dump farm rubbish.

The speaker concluded that the best way to prevent damage to ancient monuments is to arouse the interest of the owners and the visiting general public. Good relations with both are essential.

Colchester recalled - The Oral History Project - 13th March, 1989

Andrew Phillips, BA, B.Ed, Colchester Institute of Higher Education.

Mr Phillips began by saying that as we grow older we look back and see our life as a progression. Women, in general, seem to be better at recollecting the past than men and women are usually very willing to recall their younger days. Dr Henry Laver recorded in writing peoples'

recollections going back to the 1820s - now such can be preserved on tape. Until recently this had been done mainly in the north of England, though George Ewart Evans had done so in Suffolk.

Conducting interviews properly entails avoiding the banal; some old folk have a splendid gift for narrative. The present Project developed from a WEA course and was then supported by the late Harvey Benham to provide a body of skilled interviewers. The Project now has a record of about 100 interviews, incorporating some made by an earlier effort in the 1970s, and comprises about 150 hours of interviewing.

Much detailed knowledge of Victorian Colchester can be gathered from local papers, business records, council and other minutes of the period, but now-a-days such records become less useful and more reliance is placed on oral interviewing.

Until the 1950s Colchester was a smallish town. Most people in Victorian times, and even much later, were very poor but did enjoy a feeling of community, and many were part of extended families. The improvements in the school system provided a way for a considerable number to obtain jobs of better esteem.

The speaker concluded by playing parts of some of the tapes including a fascinating one recalling the production of the Essex County Standard early in this century recorded by the late Harvey Benham.

In the discussion which followed Mr Phillips spoke of an elderly lady who remembered evacuees from S Africa during the Boer War. Others remembered 40,000 troops being in the town during World War 1, many being billeted on townsfolk.

The Project had a part time Project Research Officer, Mr Bob Little, and Mr Phillips thinks such an appointment is essential for a successful venture.

Group Activities: Reports from members - 20th March, 1989

Mark Davies gave a talk on the Castle and recent work thereon. Speed's map (1610) has an illustration showing the four corners but in 1683 Weeley began to demolish a great deal of it. In 1727 Charles Grey built the cupola and roofed part in. Then, just three centuries after Weeley's destructive efforts, scaffolding was erected, extensive repairs started and a stone by stone survey made of the exterior. When the three stretches of roof put up by Grey were removed the remains of a Norman Chapel were discovered, similar in many respects to the chapel in the White Tower of the Tower of London.

The original stone pillars have been replaced by timber and the chapel given a modern roof. The work was financed in part by Messrs Kent & Blaxill and a Government grant.

Pat Adkins showed slides of places visited by group parties to Flag Fen, the Wall paintings, which include a dodo, in the tower at Peterborough, Barnack Saxon church, Kelvedon & Rivenhall churches.

He also showed slides of many crop-marks on gravel land at Stanway, now being rapidly quarried away, and sites in the Heybridge area. Chigborough Farm has produced neolithic flints, a large flint-working area, pottery and Saxon loom weights. At Rook Hall Farm he had excavated furnaces where Iron Age iron working had been carried on.

James Fawn gave a resume of earlier digs at Mount Bures in the field near the bridge under the railway where Iron Age pottery had been found and a Bronze Age barrow was known.

Anglia Water has been laying a pipe line from the bridge diagonally across the field and there was a possibility it might expose the site of a rich Romano-British grave partly excavated when the railway was built. This was not found but the JCB did expose a pit about 1 m diameter with Bronze Age pottery.

Richard Shackle described the measuring and recording of a timber-framed building, the house is Cobham Oak Cottage, Feering. It is an early aisled hall which was later altered by having its front aisle removed and a new extension built. At the same an inserted floor was put in giving rooms upstairs. Two high chimneys were built at the same time. The building is important because the aisle posts of the first build have Romanesque mouldings.