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NOTES ON THE MEDIEVAL CHANTRY COLLEGE AT COBHAM

By P. J. TESTER, F.S.A.

It is commonly recognized that the almshouses which lie on the south side of Cobham church occupy the site of the college founded in the fourteenth century by Sir John de Cobham for a community of chantry priests, and that certain ruins near by are remains of the medieval establishment. Although a fairly extensive literature has grown up on the history of the college,¹ little has been done to show how far the almshouses coincide with the earlier priests' dwellings or explain their relationship to the adjoining ruins.

Our member, Colonel E. T. L. Baker, O.B.E., Clerk to the Presidents of the New College, indicated to the present writer several years ago that an enquiry to settle these problems, involving a certain amount of necessary excavation, would be welcomed. Accordingly, in the spring and summer of 1962, exactly six centuries from the foundation of the Old College, a number of holes were dug at points where a previous scrutiny of the standing remains had suggested that buried footings might be encountered. In this work of excavation I was ably assisted by two of our members, Mr. A. C. Harrison and Mr. H. A. James. The results have been gratifying and the evidence obtained has helped to resolve former uncertainties and correct misconceptions. Much is still open to speculation and must in the nature of things remain so, as the area available for excavation on a site like this, permanently occupied by aged pensioners who are understandably concerned for the amenity of their home, has been limited by considerations which need not be further described. In particular, the tranquillity of the turfed quadrangle has been respected as much as possible and only the smallest amount of excavation has been attempted in this area.

HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE

Before going further it is necessary to summarize briefly the known history of the site. Fuller accounts of the church and college have appeared elsewhere and it is not intended to repeat here more than is strictly relevant to the present enquiry.

¹ *Arch. Cant.*, xi, xxvii, and xliii. Also, *Victoria County History (Kent)*, Vol. 2, 231.

The chantry founded in 1362 comprised a master and four chaplains whose duty it was to maintain the services of the church and pray for the founder and his family. Documentary records of the college building are not known, except for a licence of 1370 giving permission for it to stand on part of the churchyard south of the church.² The number of priests was eventually increased to eleven, and the college was finally dissolved in the reign of Henry VIII. Thereafter the buildings fell into dilapidation until 1596-7 when Sir William Brooke left instructions in his will for them to be 're-edified' into twenty small dwellings for the relief of the poor. Thus the 'New College' of Cobham came into existence, and it continues its charitable function at the present time.

The Elizabethan builders were apparently at pains to make their work match the older features which they retained as part of the New College, even, it seems, to the extent of copying simple medieval doorways. They used flint and ragstone on the same lines as their fourteenth-century predecessors and it is likely that they obtained much of it from demolished parts of the Old College. This accounts for the present harmonious appearance of the whole structure, and has also tended to obscure the fact that it is the result of two distinct phases of construction separated by over two centuries.

REMAINS OF THE OLD COLLEGE

The Quadrangle. The south side of the quadrangle is formed by a range of buildings containing the medieval hall with its open timber roof, traceried windows and other features which put its age beyond reasonable doubt. This, with its extension at each end, forms the most obvious survival of the medieval college and was incorporated into the New College with slight adaption. Along the north wall of this range there is a marked set-off, 9 ft. above the ground, suggesting that the roof of a lean-to structure once flanked this side. To test this, three cuttings were made in the lawn and revealed, just under the turf, a footing of flint and ragstone, 1 ft. 3 in. thick, running parallel to the hall and apparently forming one side of a pentice, or covered walk, 8 ft. 8 in. wide internally. Some pieces of glazed floor-tiles were found still in position close against the inside of the pentice wall.³

An examination of the north side of the hall range shows other significant features. At either end there are signs of disturbance or renewal of the rubble-work, suggesting that originally the east and

² *Arch. Cant.*, xxvii, 99.

³ Each tile was originally $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. square and 1 in. thick, with slightly bevelled edges. They are not decorated with patterns and are of two types, one being brown with a smudge of yellow slip, and the other dark green. Both types are glazed on the upper face, and it is likely that the light and dark tiles were laid chequer-wise in the pentice floor.

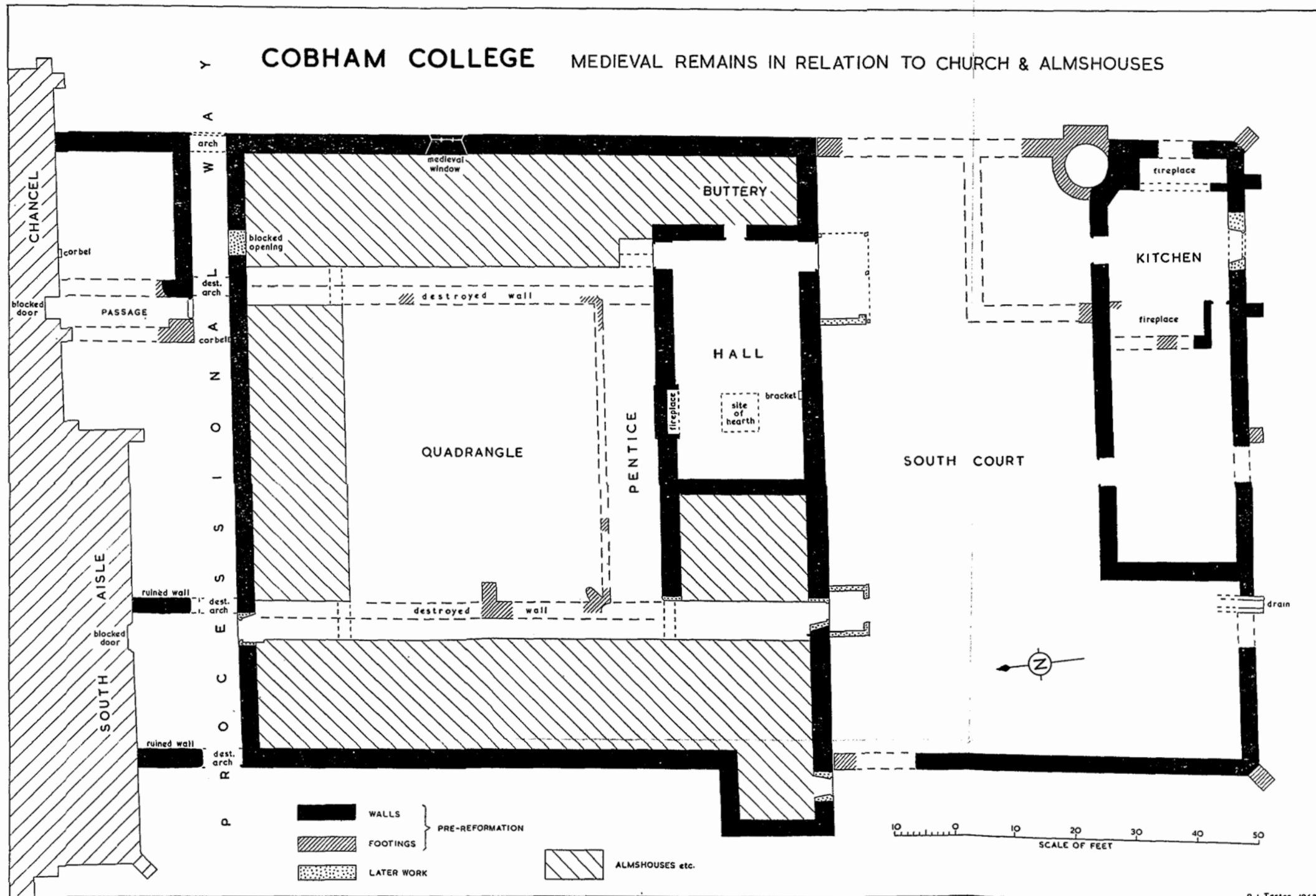


FIG. 1.

west ranges, represented by the present almshouses, were about 6 ft. wider than now, and the north side of the hall range was once covered to this extent at each end by the abutment of the adjoining buildings. A weathered string-course runs below the cill of an unaltered two-light Perpendicular window and terminates a little over 6 ft. from the almshouses on the east side. Close examination shows that it bears slight indications of having once returned along the face of a wall running parallel to the almshouses and about 6 ft. in front of them. This was confirmed by a small excavation which revealed, 1 ft. 6 in. below the turf, a substantial flint footing exactly in the estimated position. Only its west face could be uncovered as the other side lay under a flagged pathway in constant use by the almshouse inmates.

On the west side of the quadrangle a further cutting brought to light a similar footing, 3 ft. thick, extending from 10 in. to 2 ft. 10 in. below the surface, and in the same relative position to the almshouses as that on the east, together with a projection representing the remains of a buttress. At the junction of the footing with the pentice there was an irregular projection marking the site of another buttress set in the angle of the two walls.

One is thus led to the conclusion that Brooke's re-edifying of the Old College involved taking down the inner walls of the east and west ranges and setting them back about 6 ft. on each side of the enclosure. Whether there was a north range in medieval times is uncertain, but I am inclined to believe that there was not, and that the quadrangle was closed on that side simply by the wall now forming the northern limit of the New College.⁴

A difficulty arises in regard to the siting of the north door of the hall, which remains in its original condition. From normal medieval practice one would expect the hall entrance to be directly accessible from the quadrangle and not to lie within the area covered by the adjoining east range. A reasonable solution is that a cross passage, forming a functional continuation of the pentice, was carried through the east range to give access to the hall door, an arrangement possibly reflected in the way part of the almshouse frontage was set back at ground level in the Elizabethan rebuilding for the same purpose.

Processional Way and Adjoining Buildings. According to the terms of the licence of 1370, the parishioners were to have a right of way through the college buildings so that their liturgical processions might pass uninterrupted round the south side of the church.⁵ Previous writers on Cobham College have recognized correctly that the alley running east-west between the south wall of the church and the north side of the college represents this processional way. Several other features

⁴ The possibility that a pentice flanked this wall is discussed below.

⁵ *Arch. Cant.*, xxvii, 99.

in the area are important for an understanding of the medieval layout.

Attached to the south wall of the church, towards its west end, are two ruined walls that are clearly former extensions of the west range of the Old College. The processional way passed through two arched openings placed opposite each other in the ground floor while the upper storey continued up to the church where it is observable that the string-course of the parapet stops on either side of the line of this junction.⁶ The outer (western) opening is evidenced by its rebated jamb still remaining at the extreme north-west corner of the New College, and our digging revealed the rusted remains of an iron hinge-pin *in situ*, indicating that the arch was closed by doors. A few yards eastward, immediately beside the entrance leading to the quadrangle, can be clearly discerned in the flint rubble of the college wall the junction of the spandrel of the destroyed arch which pierced the inner wall represented by the other ruined fragment.

The processional way passed through the eastern range in similar manner, the outer (eastern) arch with its hinge-pins for double doors still remaining intact,⁷ while the springer of the inner arch survives in the north wall of the college. Most of the area between this point and the chancel is now occupied by modern burials but we were able to do enough digging to trace the south-west corner of a building that stood in this position.⁸ It was seemingly flanked on its west side by a passage entered at its south end through a doorway, the step and one rebated jamb (with hinge-pin) of which we uncovered. So far as could be judged, this passage aligned with the blocked south door in the chancel and was the route by which the church was entered from the eastern range of the college. At a point marked on the accompanying plan there remains a corbel on the college wall which could have supported the roof of the passage if it was continued across the line of the processional way. Further eastward in this wall there are signs of a blocked opening, the upper part of which has recently been re-opened to form a window. Our digging showed that its jambs go down well below present ground level, and the inference is that there was once a doorway here.

Some of the chancel windows must have been partly masked by the adjoining building, as one of the corbels relating to its roof can be seen on the outside of the chancel wall between the thirteenth-century lancets. The building was presumably entered by a door in its west wall opening into the passage.

⁶ The window which now occurs in the south aisle between the two ruined walls was inserted during the restoration just over a century ago.

⁷ Illustrated in *Arch. Cant.*, xliii, and Plate IA herewith.

⁸ Permission for this digging was kindly given by the Vicar of Cobham, the Rev. A. Clarke, M.A.

Communication Between Church and College. There are two blocked doorways in the south side of the church once communicating with the college. If we assume that the present north-west entrance to the college marks an opening of pre-Reformation origin, despite its later alteration,⁹ it would have been possible to pass from the west range into the church by way of the door in the south aisle. To the east, the blocked opening previously mentioned would have led from the eastern range into the covered portion of the processional way and thence along the passage and up steps (necessitated by change in level) to the south door of the chancel. It is interesting to observe that communication between church and college could be obtained by both these routes without the necessity of passing from under cover in bad weather.

A cobbled surface was found to exist below the turf at several points between the church and college, and it is probable that the whole of the open area was once paved in this manner.

There is no evidence that the central part of the processional way, between the two ranges, was ever covered, and a medieval scratch-dial occurring on the face of the buttress at the south-east corner of the aisle is fairly conclusive indication to the contrary.

The South Court. South of the hall and parallel to it, there exist considerable remains of a ruined building. To the west there is a wall aligning with the west side of the college, and excavation showed that a similar wall existed to the east, thus forming an outer courtyard. The ruined building possessed two wide fireplaces facing each other,¹⁰ the one to the west being poorly preserved, though a cutting through its hearth showed indications of burning and wood ash. A doorway existed between this fireplace and the south wall, and the building was divided into two apartments, the eastern being almost certainly a kitchen. Both rooms had doorways in the north wall. The round-headed opening in the south side of the kitchen is of late-sixteenth-century origin and has extensive brickwork in its splayed jambs and rere-arch.¹¹ Over it is the inscription recording the completion of the New College in 1598, to which date the inscription and the arch below it presumably belong. Probably this building was repaired to serve some purpose in the New College, as it is difficult to believe that Brooke's executors erected the inscription over a newly constructed arch leading into a derelict structure when it could have been more appropriately fixed to some part of the actual almshouses. Just under the turf which now covers the kitchen floor there is a brick pavement most likely dating from this Elizabethan restoration. By Thorpe's time (c. 1777) the place was

⁹ This is suggested by the way in which a short length of the almshouse wall is set back slightly as though to align with one side of an already existing opening.

¹⁰ The eastern fireplace is shown in *Arch. Cant.*, xxvii, facing p. 64.

¹¹ This is also shown in the photograph referred to in the last note.

certainly in ruins and he concluded that it had formed part of the Old College.¹²

On the north side there was an adjoining structure, its northern footing having been traced in a sewer trench dug a few years ago, and the line of the wall as shown on the plan is based on information supplied by those who saw the trench opened. We found the apparent junction of its return wall with the main building, and in its south-east corner a circular foundation probably related to a newel stair which seems to have been of timber as no trace of stone steps is observable in the standing portion of the feature at the north-east angle of the kitchen.¹³ Further excavation in this area was prevented by the presence of the road now covering much of the south court.

Cuttings were made to reveal the junction of the footings of the east and west walls of the court with the south wall of the existing college, and it was found in both cases that the flint rubble of the former did not bond into the ashlar facing of the hall range, suggesting that the south court was a secondary feature of the medieval layout.

Supporting buttresses along the south side of the enclosure were necessitated by the slope of the ground which drops away sharply along this line. A stone-lined drain was found piercing the wall just beyond the west end of the building and seems to have discharged on to this slope (Plate IIB).

USE OF THE MEDIEVAL BUILDINGS

In trying to reconstruct how the medieval buildings were used and occupied, it is essential to appreciate that a late-medieval community of chantry priests did not live according to a formal monastic rule, and the various parts of their establishment would not conform in detail to the layout of houses of the regular orders. An instance of this at Cobham is the fact that the 'low' or service end of the hall, with its opposite doorways, is to the east, whereas the equivalent feature of a monastic refectory was most frequently to the west, adjoining the cellarer's range on that side of the cloister. Chantry colleges show no uniformity of planning but certain characteristics are sufficiently consistent to act as a guide in interpreting the Cobham remains.

It was usual for the master to have separate lodgings from those of the chaplains, and there was generally a communal hall with its buttery and kitchen, the last often forming a detached structure in medieval houses both ecclesiastical and secular. The master's lodgings at Cobham might have been in the part adjoining the west end of the hall, where

¹² John Thorpe, in J. Nichols' *Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica*, quoted in *Arch. Cant.*, xxvii, 73.

¹³ The possibility that this circular feature was an oven has been considered, but there was no lining of brick, tiles or clay, and no ash or marks of burning.

they would have occupied a position analogous to the parlour and solar in a secular house. In this case one would expect to find traces of a door leading to these apartments from behind the dais at the high end of the hall, but there is no sign of this. I would suggest that more probably the master lived in part of the east range of the quadrangle, and that the door in the north end of this building with the covered way leading to the chancel were for his use. In the east wall of this range there is an unrestored, partly-blocked Perpendicular window of three lights with cusped heads, and holes for the attachment of an external grille (Plate IB). This window, the position of which is indicated in the plan, must have some special significance as all the other windows in the college, except three in the hall, are simple rectangular loops where they have not undergone enlargement in post-Reformation times. It might have formed the east window of a chapel, but the former existence of the grille suggests otherwise, as this form of protection was usually provided where the window was originally unglazed. Assuming, however, that the master's hall or parlour was located in this part of the range, the reason for the large window becomes apparent, as suited to the dignity of such an apartment.

From this we may infer that the chaplains occupied the west range, having their own entrance to the church and a pentice to enable them to reach the hall door under cover. Most likely they had separate rooms on the ground floor and sleeping quarters above, the former being connected by a passage on the side next the quadrangle. This passage would have been contained within the width of the range and did not form a lean-to pentice, as indicated by the projecting buttress found in our excavation. Some supporting evidence for there having been such a communicating passage is in the siting of the door at the north end.

The use of the building attached to the south side of the chancel is uncertain. It may have been the chapter house referred to in a document of 1389, sealed by the master and fellows of Cobham College *in domo nostra capitulari dicti collegii*.¹⁴ Alternatively its position is suitable for a sacristy such as would be needed to accommodate the large quantity of vestments and other church goods listed in an inventory of 1479.¹⁵

As in some other early colleges, there was no accentuated entrance. The great gateways one associates with the entrance to college quadrangles are mainly fifteenth-century or later. At Cambridge, Corpus Christi and Peterhouse were both 'originally approached through gateways below the galleries connecting college and adjacent church and these seemingly important, if not the main entrances, are entirely

¹⁴ *Reg. Roff.*, 234-9.

¹⁵ Reproduced in *Arch. Cant.*, xliii, 147-56.

simple'.¹⁶ At Cobham it would appear that the main entrances were the gateways at each end of the processional way, and that there was no direct opening into the quadrangle which could only be entered from the buildings forming its south, east and west sides. The south court may have had a separate entrance, and this could only have been on the east as the present gaps in the other sides are merely breaks in the ruined walls and are not indicative of original openings.

On the west wall the rectangular projection bears a superficial resemblance to a garderobe. In the hope of establishing this we made a deep cutting against its face in search of an opening like that at Old Soar, Plaxtol. No trace of this was found, however, and the identification of the feature as a garderobe is therefore only tentative.¹⁷

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

Despite opinion to the contrary, there is evidence that the medieval hall may once have possessed the customary open hearth, before the insertion of the hooded fireplace in the north wall. Beneath the wooden floor is a cellar where stands a large masonry pier which could have supported a hearth in the apartment above, and its siting towards the high end of the hall would be appropriate for this purpose.¹⁸ The fireplace previously mentioned¹⁹ has the saltire and scallop shell of the See of Rochester carved on a shield in one spandrel, suggesting that it was put in while the college was still an ecclesiastical institution, and it is significant that the chimney avoids any marked external projection which would have encroached on the medieval pentice. In the south wall opposite there is a bracket in the form of a bearded head supporting an embattled shelf. Into its upper surface is bedded an iron socket for holding a candle or taper, and there are holes where two other sockets were once located. In some chantry colleges the monastic custom was observed of reading during meals²⁰ and it is possible that this light-bracket was related to a pulpit or lectern which stood below. The door at the east end is in the position customarily occupied by an opening communicating with the buttery in medieval establishments of this type. In the south wall of the hall range, just inside the south-west entrance to the quadrangle, there remains part of the stone frame of a

¹⁶ Royal Commission on Historical Monuments. City of Cambridge, I (1959), lxxvii.

¹⁷ We observed that the ashlar facing, which covers the outside of the college, went down at this point 7 ft. to the footings. This indicates that it is not a facing applied to the walls at a later date, as might be thought possible.

¹⁸ Cf. the position of the hearth in the Joyden's Wood hall. *Arch. Cant.*, lxxii, 20-21.

¹⁹ Figured in *Arch. Cant.*, xviii, 447.

²⁰ This custom was observed at Wye (Kent), Cotterstock and Fotheringhay (Northants). See G. H. Cook, *English Collegiate Churches of the Middle Ages* (1959), 4, 117 and 143.

doorway which must have been set in a cross wall running north-south parallel to the almshouses but slightly in front of them. Near this point the irregular junction of the medieval and Elizabethan work is very obvious.

Consideration has been given to the possibility that the quadrangle originally had covered walks on all four sides, like a cloister, although it is impossible to draw any certain conclusion from the available evidence. At Aylesford Priory the cloister alleys on two sides are incorporated in the lower storeys of the south and west ranges while the other sides had pentices in the more usual way.²¹ Something similar may have existed at Cobham, where the medieval east and west ranges might have contained narrow cloister alleys in their ground storeys, with a pentice on the north (in place of the present almshouses) matching that on the south.²²

Aymer Vallance considered that the two-centred arches of the almshouse doorways are indicative of their medieval age,²³ but in the light of present evidence one can only assume that they are late sixteenth-century copies of doorways in the older buildings. In any case, the walls in which they stand are later than the accepted earliest parts of the college as they are not bonded into them at their points of junction. At the south-east corner of the quadrangle the depressed arch carrying the upper part of the almshouse wall over the short passage to the hall door is made to spring on one side from the apex of the medieval opening in an awkward manner indicating that the arch itself is not part of the original fourteenth-century construction. Three similar arches give access to passages in the other corners of the quadrangle. The passage to the north-east is now enclosed to form part of the almshouses and although Dollman showed a blocked doorway at its north end in his plan of 1861²⁴ he was apparently misled by traces of the abutment of the destroyed arch across the processional way. I am confident that there was never an opening here and the passage was simply intended to give access from the quadrangle to the doors of the almshouses flanking it. Some remarks by Thorpe in the eighteenth century may have contributed to Dollman's error, for he wrote: 'Between the north side of the College and the south side of the Church remains part of the north cloister, and the doorway from it into the Church is still visible by the fair mouldings, though it is now stopped up.'²⁵ The 'north

²¹ *Arch. Cant.*, lxiii, 50.

²² It is perhaps more than coincidence that such a reconstruction results in the enclosed area being almost exactly square.

²³ *Arch. Cant.*, xliii, 147.

²⁴ F. T. Dollman and J. R. Jobbins, *Examples of Ancient Domestic Architecture*, I (1861). The plan is reproduced in W. H. Godfrey's *The English Almshouse* (1955), 51.

²⁵ Quoted in *Arch. Cant.*, xxvii, 73.

cloister' is obviously the processional way and in my opinion the door with 'fair mouldings' is that in the south wall of the chancel, with decorative treatment on its inner side to fit the description. The passage traced by our excavation may have been represented by standing remains in Thorpe's time and have been included in his reference to the 'north cloister'. It is thus possible to interpret his description without placing the door in the actual wall of the college as Dollman has done.

Another controversial feature is the 'night stair' in the south-east corner of the chancel, reached—so it has been claimed—by an overhead bridge from the sleeping apartments of the chaplains.²⁶ An examination of the stair convinces me that it never communicated with the college. It is entered from the chancel at floor level and comes out on the north face of the south wall $6\frac{1}{2}$ ft. above, and Waller's theory that it was designed to give access to the top of a reredos is almost certainly correct.²⁷ Aymer Vallance's objection that such a screen would block the east window does not apply as the cill of the latter is $9\frac{1}{2}$ ft. above the floor. Therefore, if we assume that a gallery ran behind the upper part of the reredos, level with the opening of the stair ($6\frac{1}{2}$ ft. from the floor), and add a further 3 ft. for a parapet along the front, the whole feature would not rise high enough to mask any part of the window behind the altar. The further assertion that the location of the stair would necessitate an unlikely arrangement for the reredos, close against the east wall, takes no account of the fact that the *upper* opening from the stair is situated so as to leave at least 6 ft. between the back of the reredos and the end of the chancel. Doors through the reredos on both sides of the altar would have given access to the space behind it and also the foot of the stair by which the sacristan ascended to attend to the lights mounted on the parapet or suspended above.²⁸ At Arundel the high altar of the collegiate church stands against a stone screen some distance from the east wall, the space behind serving as a sacristy.

Judging from the sculptured fragments found in 1860, the Cobham reredos was an elaborate affair²⁹ with details similar to the sedilia and piscina still remaining and with which it probably formed a continuous structure. In the course of our digging outside the chancel we found several pieces of carved stone with gilding and painted decoration, and these may have come from the destroyed reredos. In the same situation

²⁶ *Arch. Cant.*, xliii, 136.

²⁷ *Arch. Cant.*, xi, 51. His suggestion, however, that mortices in the roof-beam above are related to this gallery is unacceptable.

²⁸ Francis Bond observes in *The Chancel of English Churches* (1916) that almost invariably detached reredoses (i.e. those standing forward of the east wall) have two side doors, either to allow the altar to be censed all round, as required by the Sarum use, or to give access to a chamber behind the altar where the elements were prepared during Mass.

²⁹ These fragments are now kept in the vestry. Their discovery in the blocked stair is described by Waller in *Arch. Cant.*, xi.

were some scattered floor-tiles with stamped designs identical with the medieval examples remaining on the chancel floor. These and the carved fragments are believed to have been thrown out of the chancel when the south door was not blocked as at present.

Chantry colleges frequently engaged in educational work,³⁰ and that this was the case at Cobham can be inferred from documentary evidence. When in 1388-9 it was proposed to increase the number of chaplains, it was also ordained that there should be two *aquabajuli*, or holy water servers, who in addition to their normal duties 'should learn in the schools with the other scholars' as far as they were able.³¹ In 1383 Robert atte Pette, a mason of Luddesdown, acknowledged receipt of forty-two shillings and sixpence for work done in *le coleque et skolehous de Cobham*.³² The schoolhouse of the college still remains as a detached building at the north-east side of the churchyard, now known as the Stone House. Medieval details are in evidence although it has suffered much alteration and is now occupied as several separate dwellings. An original moulded doorway remains on its west side and the windows above are rectangular loops like those in the oldest parts of the college. Identification of this building as the schoolhouse comes from a terrier of 1572, reproduced in *Arch. Cant.*, xxvii, where reference is made to 'the late Colledge of Cobham wythe the Stone howse sometyme a Scole howse'.

A suggestion has been made that Henry Yevele, the famous master mason and director of the king's works, had a hand in designing Cobham College.³³ This seems very reasonable in view of the fact that he was employed by Sir John de Cobham in work on Cooling Castle, Rochester Bridge, and St. Dunstan's in the East, London. They were also associated in constructing the defences of Canterbury. Among the characteristics of work done under Yevele's direction is the use of bold ashlar facing (e.g. the West Gate of Canterbury and the Abbot's Hall at Westminster) and the simple treatment of wall surfaces; indeed it has been claimed that of all English architects 'Yevele perhaps loved plain walling the most'.³⁴ The outer walls of Cobham College and the contemporary tower of the church show these characteristics to a marked degree and it is obvious that ashlar was used here for the sake of external

³⁰ The master of grammar at Wye was required to teach both rich and poor gratis. At Tong (Shropshire) it was the duty of one of the chaplains to teach reading, music and grammar to the clerks of the college and the children of Tong and neighbouring places. See G. H. Cook, *op. cit.* 4 and 136.

³¹ Thorpe, *Reg. Roff.*, 237: *Item statuimus quod ipsi ad(d)iscant in scolis cum aliis scolaribus prout possunt.*

³² Harleian Charters 48/E/46, and *Arch. Cant.*, xlvii, 52.

³³ C. Hussey, *Country Life* 4th and 11th February, 1944.

³⁴ J. H. Harvey, *Henry Yevele* (1944), 54. This work also gives details of Yevele's undertakings at Cooling, Rochester, London, Westminster, Canterbury and Arundel referred to above.

appearance, as less conspicuous parts of the buildings, such as the north side of the hall and the wall bordering the processional way, were rendered more economically in flint rubble.³⁵ According to one authority³⁶ the hall windows at Cobham College show a simple pattern of Perpendicular tracery (Plate IIA) which occurs in a more mature form in Yevele's work at Canterbury, while the plain treatment of the church tower can be matched by his Clock Tower at Westminster as shown in an engraving by Hollar. At Arundel the collegiate church is believed to show Yevele's influence, and details of the pulpit are almost identical with the Cobham sedilia described by V. J. B. Torr in *Arch. Cant.*, xliii. The canopies of the sedilia are certainly similar to those on the tomb of Edward III in Westminster Abbey, known to have been designed by Yevele in 1377. Regarding the two colleges, J. H. Harvey has stated: 'Arundel and Cobham are unquestionably works of the school of Yevele, even if carried out wholly or in part by others.'

³⁵ It is interesting to note that when the aisles of the church were extended westward to flank the tower, the work was carried out in ashlar to match the adjoining tower and college, but the blocks used are of smaller size than in the earlier work.

³⁶ J. H. Harvey, *op. cit.*, 58-9.



A. Arched opening at east end of processional way, viewed from N.E.

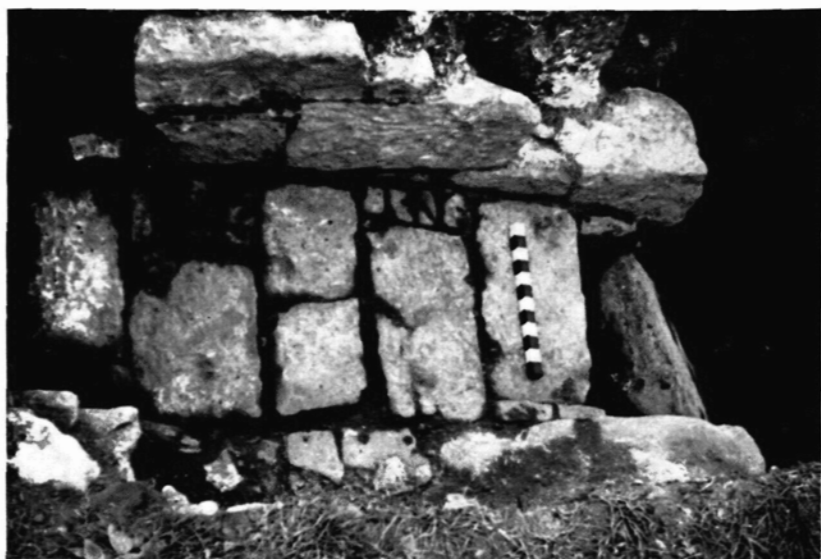


B. East side of the college showing late-medieval window with holes for attachment grille. Thirteenth-century chancel in background.

PLATE II



A. South side of hall with restored Perpendicular windows.



B. Drain discovered in south court.