INTERIM REPORT ON WORK IN 1984 BY THE CANTERBURY ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Once again, and despite many financial problems, quite a large number of excavations were undertaken by the Trust in 1984, and interim reports on all these sites appear below. As well as this, a whole series of other sites was monitored during redevelopment work and some important discoveries were made. The most important discoveries were perhaps those at no. 9 High Street where a Roman paved area (probably a stylobate) and stone gutter were discovered. This may well be part of the edge of Canterbury's Roman forum courtyard. Early in the year more important discoveries were made in the outer court of St. Augustine's Abbey (particularly finds of the middle Saxon period) and in the Cathedral Precincts (a late medieval stone drain at Meister Omers). A fragment of the main gate to the Blackfriars was also discovered as well as part of a Roman road flanking St. Dunstan's churchyard. Outside Canterbury, a hitherto unknown medieval cemetery was discovered at Bossington House, Adisham. All of the above sites were recorded at short notice without prior warning.

Of the excavations carried out by the Trust, those at Church Lane/Knott's Lane (completed early in January 1984) had the added bonus of uncovering a large part of one of the medieval archbishops' stone stable blocks, though this excavation only took place for two days after the end of the main excavation while the new foundations were being dug. The excavations at no. 46 North Lane were also of great importance for the light they threw on the late medieval and seventeenth-century tanneries in the area. On three nearby sites, three areas of the northern Roman and late fourteenth-century city wall were uncovered using our Manpower Services Commission team, and this will now allow a much more detailed study of the northern city wall between Westgate and Northgate. Outside Canterbury, an important ridge-top site was discovered and briefly excavated on Trimworth Downs, Crundale.

On the building recording side there has been a very great increase

in work during the year and John Bowen has managed to carry out a whole variety of surveys. Perhaps the most important group of buildings to be examined was the 900-year-old masonry buildings at St. John's Hospital which were fully recorded during the year after clearance and cleaning work by the M.S.C. team. Several other very important buildings were also examined, however, including the Eastbridge Hospital (thirteenth-century chapel roof), the large late medieval inns in central Canterbury ('The Bull', 'The Sun', and the 'Chequers of Hope'), and the exceptionally interesting pair of buildings at the Maiden's Head, Wincheap (which is fully described here). Outside Canterbury, a full survey of the late medieval Beverley Farm at the University of Kent was carried out. Once again copies of these surveys can be obtained from the Trust at 92a Broad Street.

TIM TATTON-BROWN

1. CHURCH LANE, ST. RADIGUND'S

Excavations along the south side of Church Lane, on the site of a public car park, commenced at the end of October 1983 and were completed in early January 1984 in advance of the construction of warden-assisted housing. In the absence of a grant from the developers, Messrs. McCarthy and Stone, the excavation was able to proceed only with an emergency grant from the Department of the Environment.

The excavation focussed on the street frontage with the aim of examining medieval structures and the tail of the Roman rampart. A lack of finance prevented a larger area from being stripped. Due to the nature of the proposed building operations, the excavation could not proceed below a depth greater than *c.* 1 m. so that earlier stratigraphy was only recorded over small areas of the site.

The earliest stratigraphy was represented by natural gravel at a depth of *c.* 2.6 m. below the present ground level. This was overlaid by deposits of flints and gravel with lenses of white mortar which may be part of a Roman intra-mural street running around the base of the rampart. The Roman city wall lay *c.* 12 m. (37 ft.) to the north of the excavation, along the north side of St. Radigund's Street. Substantial deposits of dark brown clayey loam overlying the possible 'street' levels are interpreted as the remains of the levelled rampart which were noted over the entire excavated area. However, no rampart levels were noted *in situ.*

These levels were cut by a series of twelfth-century pits, some of

which contained large quantities of flint and mortar rubble which can only have been associated with a reconstruction of the city wall. It is likely that either the existing crenellations were repaired or the wall was heightened and the crenellations rebuilt (see *The Archaeology of Canterbury*, iii, fig. 45, p. 21). An oven and hearth base, also dated to the twelfth century, were located. It is possible that fragments of glass-working crucibles and glass waste were associated with these features.

Church Lane appears to have been laid out during the Saxo-Norman period (see *The Archaeology of Canterbury*, ii, fig. 34 and p. 88) so that these pits would have lain along the south edge of the lane. The earliest timber buildings on the street frontage were constructed during the thirteenth century. They were of an 'industrial' nature. The best preserved example consisted of a structure 9.2 m. by 5.8 m. (30 ft. 3 in. by 19 ft.) with a timber-frame, based on foundations of flint nodules bonded in clay. Within the building were several ovens and hearths, post bases and wattle partitions. No evidence was recovered to suggest a likely function for the building. These structures survived into the late fourteenth century when they were replaced by a row of slightly more substantial timber-framed dwellings.

The 'Radigund's Restaurant' building (3, Church Lane) to the east of the excavated area would have been contemporary with these late fourteenth-century buildings. The best preserved structure measured 9.0 by 5.5 m. (29 ft. 6 in. by 18 ft.) with two 2.8 m. (9 ft. 2 in.) wings extending to the rear (Fig. 1). The internal arrangements of this domestic building conformed to those of a standard medieval 'open hall' with service, screens passage, hall (with centrally placed pitched-tile fireplace) and solar. The dwarf walls of flints and mortar survived to their full height of *c.* 80 cm. (2 ft. 8 in.). Above this level the structure would have been of timber-framed form. The floors of clay and internal hearths were extraordinarily well preserved. Pottery from the destruction and levelling layers within these buildings suggests that their occupation continued into the late sixteenth century.

During the early seventeenth century two new structures were built on the west end of the street frontage whilst the medieval structures to the east were rebuilt. These buildings were brick-built at ground-floor level, but may have been timber-framed at first-floor level. The floors were of brick, as were the internal back-to-back fireplaces. In the case of the best preserved structure, the dimensions were 6.5 by 4.6 m. (21 ft. 4 in. by 15 ft.). By the early eighteenth century these buildings had been re-floored and they were eventually demolished in the late nineteenth century.

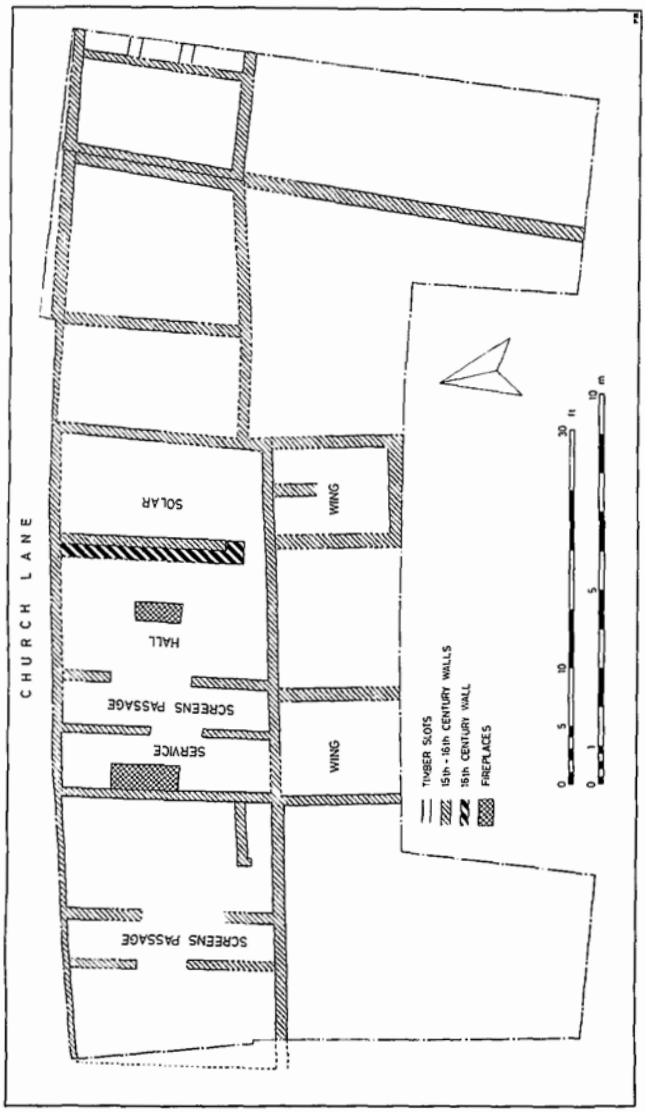


Fig. 1. Church Lane Site: Fifteenth–sixteenth Century Buildings.

A brief period of abandonment was followed by the construction of two blocks of terraced houses. New Church Cottages were built at the west end of the frontage before 1907, whilst those to the east were in existence by 1873. Some of these buildings stood until the 1960s.

At the close of the excavation, work by the developers revealed the stone foundations of one range of the Archbishop's Stable blocks at the south end of the area to be redeveloped (Fig. 5 inset). A brief rescue excavation was mounted so that a plan and sections of the stable block could be drawn, but little excavation was possible.

A 1912 Goad insurance map and the 1873 Ordnance Survey 1:500 map of the area show that the arrangement of tenements mirrored the stables beneath, so that the layout of the Staplegate Place/ Cobden Place/Goulden's Buildings probably reflects the arrangement of the Archbishop's Stables. The buildings were demolished as slums in the 1930s.

PAUL BLOCKLEY

2. A STONE BUILDING IN THE OLD PARK, STURRY ROAD

An enigmatic stone building first discovered by Dr. F. Jenkins and briefly investigated by Professor S.S. Frere in the summer of 1952, was re-surveyed by members of the Trust[1] in February 1984. Considerable disturbance to the area surrounding the structure has taken place in the years following Professor Frere's excavation. Trenches cut around the outside of the building, probably by the military, have led to the erosion of a large part of the structure and the complete collapse of the north-east end and the north corner. The ground surface inside the building has also been reduced and a number of depressions showing at the present time indicate that holes may have been dug within the structure itself. The north-west wall of the building, exposed to the base of its footings, is badly weathered and will probably collapse in the near future.

The building, aligned with its long axis north-east to south-west, measures internally 13.65 by 6.65 m. (*c.* 45 ft. by *c.* 22 ft.), with walls on average 1–1.10 m. thick (*c.* 3 ft. 6 in.). Internal stone quoins were observed in all four corners of the structure.

The collapsed portion of wall enabled an evaluation of construction method. A large construction pit with vertical sides was cut and the walls built up from the base of the cutting. Flints were laid, defining

[1] The survey was conducted by Messrs. J. Bowen, J. Rady and the writer. A full report will be published in *The Archaeology of Canterbury*, viii (forthcoming).

the internal face of the wall and the wall core of small flints and pebbles set in a hard mortar deposited behind the flintwork, up against the faces of the cutting. Approximately four internal face-flint courses were laid at each stage of foundation construction.

The surviving fabric of the building represents only foundation work (no external face or external quoins survive), probably for a rectangular stone house of which only the cellar or undercroft survives. The considerable disturbances to the area surrounding the building have severely weakened the structure, and it is hoped a complete excavation of this curious building will take place in the near future.

PAUL BENNETT

3. 9 HIGH STREET

On 14th February, 1984, workmen cutting a small foundation pit in the road frontage basement of these premises (now a travel agents) revealed the well preserved remains of a Roman portico.

The portico foundation was aligned north-east to south-west and consisted of a 'buried' stylobate wall surmounted by bedding deposits and large paving blocks, flanked to the north-west by gutter blocks. No trace of a column base was observed on any of the large blocks overlying the wall. A number of paving slabs found flanking the north-west side of the gutter blocks indicated that paving possibly for an elaborate courtyard extended some way beyond the line of the portico. The portico floor-slabs showed considerable signs of wear (some of the blocks were 'polished' smooth, others were slightly concave and stones that projected slightly above the level of the floor had rounded edges), and in one small area a gap between two paving slabs was infilled with *opus signinum*-type mortar.

A thin lens of sticky black carbon sealed the portico floor and gutter groove, and this was capped by a thick demolition layer of *tegulae* and *imbrices* mixed with mortar and loam and carbon. These deposits may have derived from the destruction of the portico roof, perhaps by fire. A considerable deposit of dark brown loam, from which two medieval pits were cut, sealed the Roman levels. A sequence of layers perhaps associated with cellar construction capped the brown loam and were in turn sealed by hard core and concrete associated with the present ground floor of no. 9 High Street.

The extremely well-preserved portico, which probably extends relatively intact under the remaining cellared area of the property, may well be associated with a number of substantial Roman walls

found during the digging of the sewer tunnel under the High Street in 1982 and with discoveries made in the County Hotel area by Professor S.S. Frere and others. Taken together, all these discoveries indicate the presence of major public buildings, possibly the Roman Forum complex (see *The Archaeology of Canterbury*, viii, forthcoming). It is hoped that more work in nearby cellars will perhaps add sufficient information to tie together the random elements and form a more coherent picture of this intriguing area of the Roman town.

PAUL BENNETT

4. BLACKFRIARS' GATE

On 20th February, 1984, the main southern gate to the Blackfriars[2] was cut through during the laying of a new mains water-pipe. This part of the gate foundation, located close to the intersection of St. Peter's Street and The Friars and east of no. 11 St. Peter's Street, had previously been extensively disturbed by numerous service trenches including the mains sewer installed when James Pilbrow was the City Engineer in 1868.[3]

The 1.32 m. (4 ft. 4 in.) wide wall foundation, located 0.30 m. (*c.* 1 ft.) below the present pavement, was constructed of roughly-coursed chalk rubble, faced front and back with a mixture of small Greensand blocks and knapped flint. The wall, standing to a height of 0.55 m. (*c.* 1 ft. 10 in.) overlay a 1.68 m. (5 ft. 6 in.) wide foundation, which projected 0.30 m. (*c.* 1 ft.) in front of the wall face. The foundation cut a sequence of earlier street metallings and was sealed by construction of débris of spent mortar and chalk rubble. Extensive dumps of gravel capped the débris and abutted against the face of the wall. The contemporary levels east of the wall had been severely truncated by recent service trenches and by a large pit cut against the back face of the wall. Traces of compact gravel and mortar, cut by these disturbances, may have been associated with a lane running though the gate to the friars' buildings.

The gate, built by 1356,[4] was demolished in 1787. Information

[2] See The *Blackfriars in Canterbury* (1984), by Margaret Sparks with Tim Tatton-Brown, for a recent account of the history and topography of the Dominican friary in Canterbury. For a full report of the excavation, see *The Archaeology of Canterbury*, viii (forthcoming).

[3] *Archaeologia*, xliii (1871), 153.

[4] A.R. Martin, 'The Dominican Priory at Canterbury', *Arch. Journ.*, lxxxvi (1929), 157.

taken from an engraving showing the gate shortly before 1787 and from the First Edition Ordnance Survey 1:500 map of 1873 has allowed the tentative location of the gateway itself. The wall foundation, initially considered to be part of the western abutment of the gate, was thought more likely to be a foundation spanning the gate jambs, set below contemporary ground level. The present opening from St. Peter's Street to The Friars probably bears no relation to the original width of the gate. Indeed, it is quite likely that the boundary between nos. 11 and 11a St. Peter's Street represents the western end of the gate. The gate shown on the late eighteenth-century engravings is undoubtedly of some size and covers a greater area than that surviving today between nos. 10 and 11 St. Peter's Street.

Corroborative evidence for this exists in the form of a bird's eye view map of the Blackfriars area originally drawn in 1595[5] which shows The Friars as a wide curving road of unchanging width. The 1873 Ordnance Survey plan of the area therefore suggests that no. 11 St. Peter's Street was built partly over the original wide street leading into the Blackfriars and partly over the demolished gate. If one accepts that no. 11 St. Peter's Street was built over the gate foundations, then a total gate width of 10.98 m. (36 ft.) is indicated. If the foundation did represent the western abutment of the gate, an opening no more than 2.13 m. (*c.* 7 ft.) wide would be indicated. Given that this gate was one of the main points of access into the Blackfriars, such a width does not seem plausible. A comparison with other Canterbury gates (e.g. The Fyndon Gate at St. Augustine's, Parker's Gate on Palace Street and the Mint Yard Gate) indicates a much wider opening, certainly in excess of 7 ft. and perhaps as much as *c.* 10 ft. (3.05 m.) wide.

PAUL BENNETT

5. ST. DUNSTAN'S CHURCHYARD

A service trench, cut along the west side of St. Dunstan's churchyard in March 1984, exposed a thick deposit of compacted Roman street metalling immediately south of and partly under the present London Road. The service trench, cut to connect the New Church Hall (presently under construction) with the main sewer under London Road, was excavated on a sloping gradient from the new Church Hall

[5] Bird's-eye view map of the Blackfriars by T. Langdon (1595), now lost but engraved in *c.* 1790 by J. Robson of Bond Street, London, and an engraving, also by Robson, of the gate 'lately taken down'.

to a maximum depth of 3 m. (10 ft.) below the present ground surface, at the intersection with the main sewer under London Road. The northern end of the trench was cut in unstable ground and closely-set shuttering, erected for reasons of safety, made it impossible to draw a detailed section through the truncated archaeological deposits.[6]

The Roman street was located at the north end of the service trench and consisted of compacted and banded gravels 1.20 m (*c.* 4 ft.) thick. The primary metalling, a mixture of fist-sized, water-rounded cobbles capped by rammed gravel, had been set into a terrace, cut approximately 0.30 m. (*c.* 1 ft.) below the surface of the natural Thanet sands. The edge of the terrace was located 1 m. (3 ft.) north of the present cemetery wall, on the line of the southern kerb of the London Road. This first street was approximately 5.5 m. (*c.* 19 ft.) wide; the south edge of the street was defined by a V-shaped road gutter (which was only partially visible). A complex sequence of metallings extended over the early terrace, increasing the street width to at least 8 m. (*c.* 25 ft.). The final road surface was located 0.60 m. (*c.* 2 ft.) below present ground level.

PAUL BENNETT

6. CRUNDALE LIMEWORKS (N.G.R. TR 074489, Fig. 2.)

On Friday 25th May, 1984, during topsoil stripping immediately south of Crundale Limeworks, workmen extending the area shortly to be quarried, uncovered two Roman cremation burials. The Canterbury Archaeological Trust was informed the following Monday by Mr. W. Moon, the owner of the site, and a visit took place that day.

An extensive deep chalk quarry, worked since the 1930s, exists close to and south of the Godmersham to Crundale road. This original quarry, flanked on the west by a well-defined ancient bank (lynchet) was considerably extended to the south two years ago and surface quarrying with disc-harrow and heavy machinery is currently taking place. Early this year planning permission was granted for a further extension south of the quarry and topsoil stripping commenced a few months ago and has been temporarily halted. A considerable area of exposed chalk, flanked to the south and east by large topsoil mounds, now exists south of the old quarry.

[6] The writer was assisted by Messrs. P. Blockley, J. Rady and M. Herdman, and Miss J. Curtis. Full report in *The Archaeology of Canterbury*, viii (forthcoming).

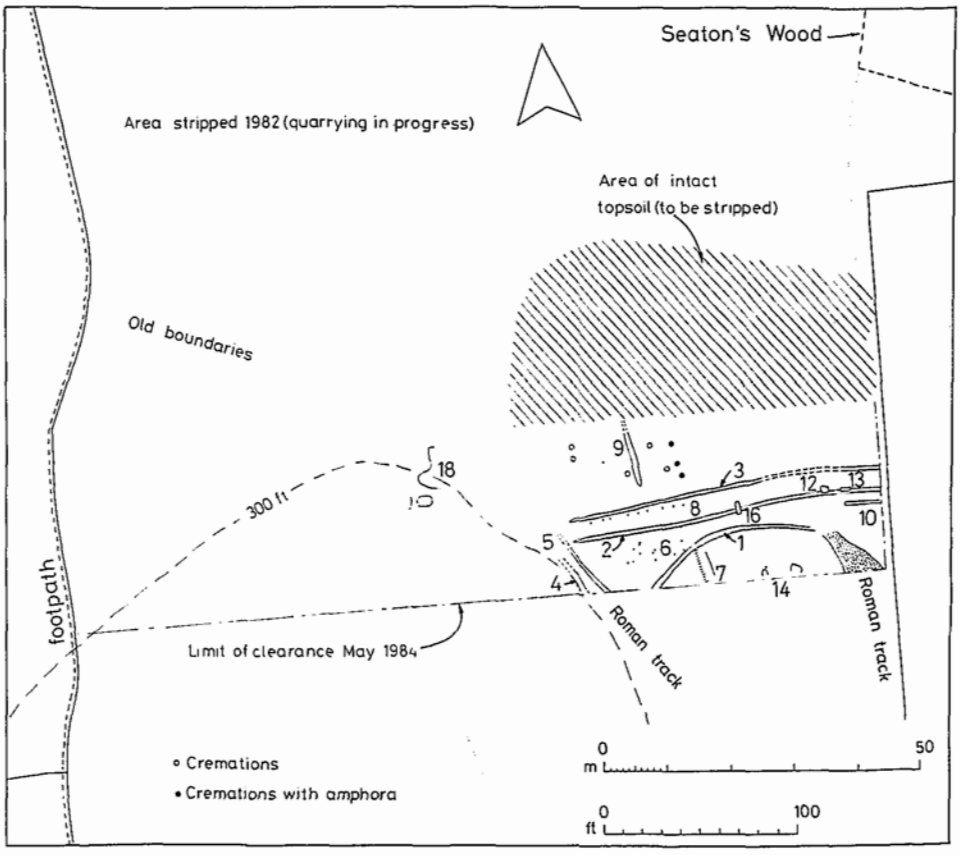


Fig. 2. Crundale Limeworks Site: Excavated Features.

Although nothing is known to have been recovered from the limeworks site in the past, the chalk ridge to the south into which the quarry is being cut has produced Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman and Saxon remains including the well-known Crundale Roman and Saxon Cemetery located some 400 m. south-west of the quarry in the eighteenth century ((Ed.) C. Roach Smith, *Inventorium Sepulchrale* (1856) 177–97).

The initial site visit not only confirmed the existence of Roman cremation burials in the newly-cleared area, but extensive scatters of later Iron Age, Belgic and Roman pottery recovered from the topsoil mounds indicated the presence of an extensive settlement site. Pottery scatters were also noted in ploughsoil associated wth the

earlier 1982 extension to the quarry, perhaps suggesting that the occupation extended from the flatter area on top of the chalk ridge above the 300 ft. contour, downslope to the edge of the deep quarry. A number of features currently visible in the chalk exposed two years ago have yet to be examined.

The work began with a small team spending three days clearing part of the site to evaluate the extent and date-range of features exposed by the machine. Five Roman cremation burials, a number of ditch-shaped features and at least one house platform were exposed during this operation. The features contained pottery and small finds dating from the early first to the late fourth centuries A.D. and covered an area 75 m. east to west by 30 m. north to south.

Clearance of the main area by a Manpower Services team led by Nick Elsden was executed for a further two weeks.

The earliest feature located to date is a semi-circular ditch (marked 1 on Fig. 2.), situated in the south-east corner of the cleared area. The ditch, containing only a handful of early Roman potsherds in the upper backfill, may be of considerable antiquity and may prove to be part of an earlier settlement boundary.

A number of linear ditches exposed in the chalk may prove to be contemporary. These ditches (Fig. 2: 2, 3, 4, 5 and 9) probably demarcate the boundary of an early Roman settlement which exists higher up on the ridge south of the quarry. Ditch 2 was probably the principal boundary ditch; it was V-shaped and fairly shallow. Even allowing for erosion of the hilltop, the ditch was probably not of defensive character, but may have served to mark the 'political' boundary of the enclave and to keep animals out of the inhabited area. The ditch terminated just short of two parallel ditches (4 and 5) aligned roughly north-west to south-east. These parallel ditches were probably side drains for a road or track leading out of the settlement. The western of the two ditches can presently be seen extending out into the quarry for a further 30 m. The principal boundary ditch can also be seen as a soil stain west of the cleared area and the track extending across the area currently being quarried to at least the line of the western quarry boundary. North of the principal ditch is a second ditch (3). This shallow and narrow feature, also terminates south of the trench and may conceivably have been cut as a bedding trench for a hedge. Between the two parallel ditches, a number of post-holes (8) has been located; these post-holes may have been cut either to complement or maintain the settlement boundary. A second group of post-holes (6) indicates the existence of a timber building contemporary with, and just inside, the settlement boundary. A second rectangular structure (7) is indicated by a terrace cut into the chalk, forming a level platform flanked to the east by a small narrow

slot, perhaps for a wall line. To date, four small stake-holes have been located cutting the floor of this structure. A third possible structure may be indicated by a ditch (10) or 'sleeper-beam' trench located in the south-east corner of the site. Also associated with the settlement boundary, but set at right angles to it (aligned north–south) was a possible field ditch (9). This feature which survived best at its southern end had almost been entirely removed by ploughing or machine disturbance.

By the mid-second century, the settlement boundaries were perhaps in partial disrepair. A new flint-paved track aligned north-west to south-east was laid across a filled-in section of the boundary ditches, possibly to give access to a small cremation cemetery which was established at this time. The cremation burials were well preserved and consisted of at least three amphora burials each with a fine collection of ancillary vessels, and to date six other cremations also with grave goods have been recovered. By the late second century or slightly later the settlement boundaries were infilled and at least two rubbish pits (12 and 13) were cut into the old principal ditch. Other rubbish pits (13, 14, 18) possibly associated with this late phase of activity, have yet to be excavated. One final deeply-cut feature (16), which contained no finds, but was cut through the old principal boundary ditch, may have been dug for an inhumation burial, but was not used. Work is still in progress.

PAUL BENNETT

Documentary Evidence

The present parish of Crundale consists of two ancient (pre-Norman) estates – Crundale (and the manor of Vannes or Fannes) with Solestreet and Hunt Street on the east and Trimworth on the west. The latter is based on the moated medieval manor of Trimworth in the north-west corner of the parish, which was the most important manor in the parish. It is close to the Stour and had its own medieval chapel (demolished in the eighteenth century). The earlier (i.e. Iron Age, Roman and early Anglo-Saxon) site of Trimworth (O.E. Dreamworth) – the name is first mentioned in the early Norman bounds to a Godmersham charter of A.D. 824 – may however have been on the top of the shoulder of the ridge to the east, i.e. on Trimworth Downs where the present site is situated. It was perhaps abandoned in the late Saxon or early Norman period and Trimworth then moved north-west to a new moated site beside the Great Stour. In the eastern half of the parish there is another ridge (Crundale Downs) on top of which is situated the completely isolated Norman

and later medieval parish church of St. Mary. When this church was originally built, it, too, must have been in the centre of another hill-top settlement, though here again the later population have chosen to move downhill mainly to Danord (Danewood) Street on the north-west, which has only very recently been called "Crundale village". The one other substantial hamlet in the area is Solestreet, which takes its name from an old dewpond (sole) situated at 485 ft. above sea level on the edge of the flat top of the high downs in the north-east corner of the parish.

TIM TATTON-BROWN

7. 46 NORTH LANE (Figs. 3 and 5)

Excavations on this site were conducted during two months in the late summer of 1984 before the construction of new housing. As with Church Lane and the sites on the northern city wall, most of the workforce was provided by the Community Programme. Financial assistance was given by the Friends of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust.

The nature of the proposed building operations dictated that the excavation could only proceed to a depth of *c.* 1 m. It was only possible to sample pre-medieval levels over a limited area. These

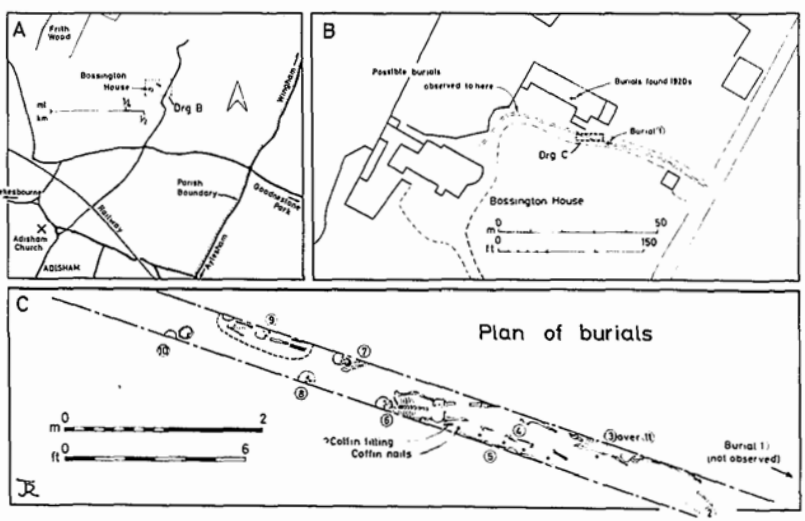


Fig. 3. 46 North Lane: Late medieval and seventeenth-century Tannery Features.

early levels of river-lain gravels, sands and clays were examined up to 3 m. below the present ground level, but natural deposits were not encountered. The levels appear to represent the channel or flood-plain of the river during the Roman period and suggest that the river, which still runs along the north side of the city wall, may have been wider or meandered over a broad flood-plain, which extended to the ridge along which North Lane is situated. The backfilled river channel was overlain by clay and organic levelling layers.

The earliest structural evidence, located along the North Lane frontage, consisted of a building with large flint and mortar foundations. The structure, which was surrounded to the south and east by a courtyard, was almost certainly a tannery dating to the late fourteenth century. Fig. 3 shows the arrangement of this structure and the barrels located in its courtyard. The lower parts of the barrels were well preserved in the waterlogged levels: slaked lime in some of the barrels is indicative of the liming of skins. A total rebuilding of this structure took place during the fifteenth century and it was eventually demolished in the early seventeenth century. A new structure was then built with flimsy flint and mortar dwarf walls. The frontage of this building was on line with the modern street frontage, whereas its predecessor was set 1 m. back.

Around the mid-seventeenth century, a series of very large rectangular tanning pits were cut through the demolished structure (Fig. 3). Parts of two of these plank-lined pits were excavated. Their lower fill was comprised of silver birch and oak bark. They were backfilled early in the eighteenth century and contained many fragments of worked leather, shoes and boots which had been discarded from a leather-worker's shop. The upper fill contained large quantities of oyster-shells and rubble.

A period of abandonment may have followed. The latest structure on the site is represented by a late eighteenth–early nineteenth-century building which may have been a foundry. The walls were of brick-and-mortar construction with chalk floors. This structure appears on the 1:500 map of 1873. Trade directories show that by the late nineteenth century a row of six cottages known as 'Foundry Cottages' lay along the front of the site, presumably in the foundry building. These structures were later employed in the Tune-In Garage which stood on the site until early 1984. It is interesting to note that the site boundaries remained on the same lines from at least the late fourteenth century to the present day, excepting the moving forward of the street frontage in the late sixteenth or early seventeenth century.

PAUL BLOCKLEY

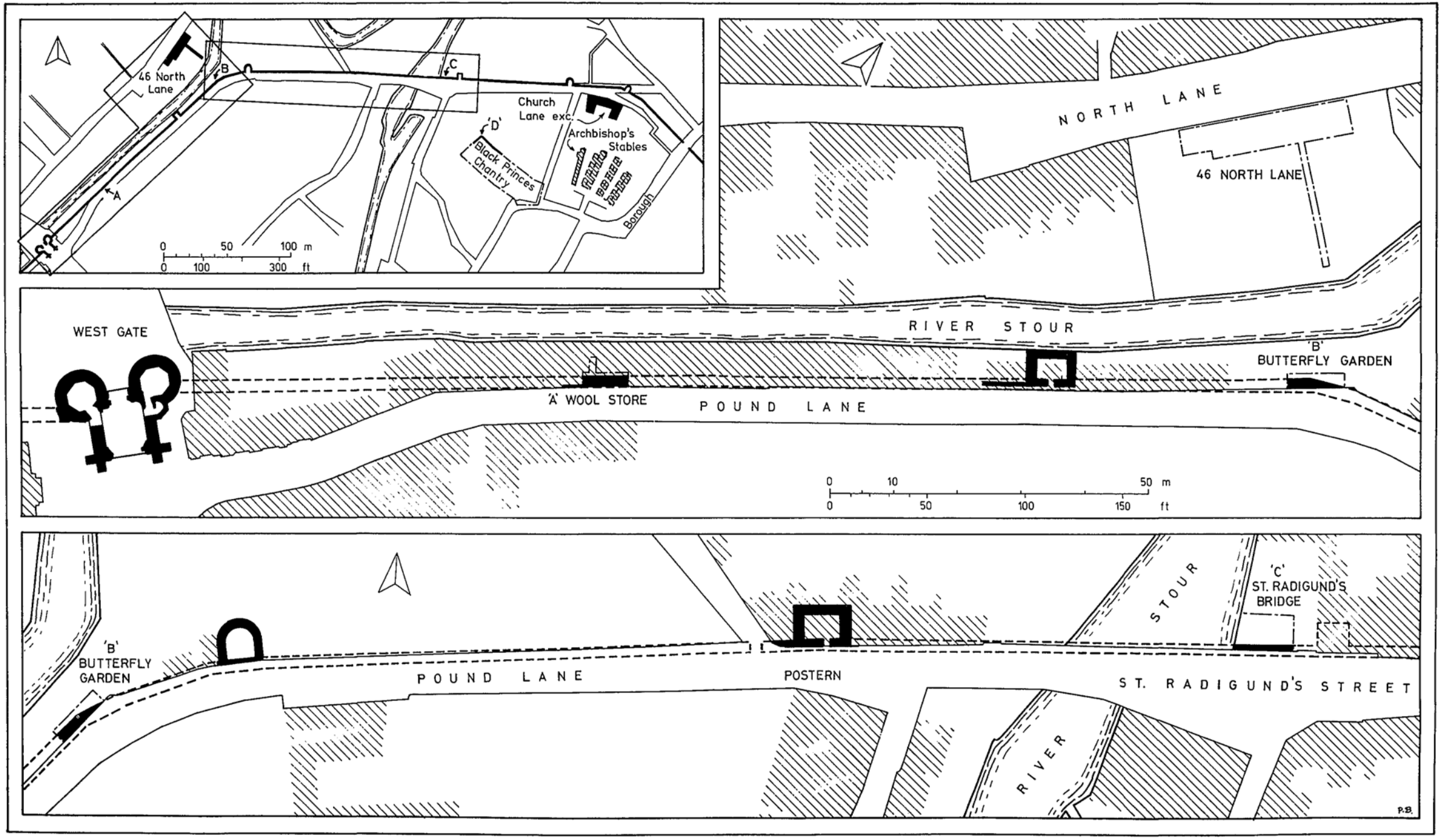


Fig. 5. Sites on or near to northern City Wall excavated in 1983–84.

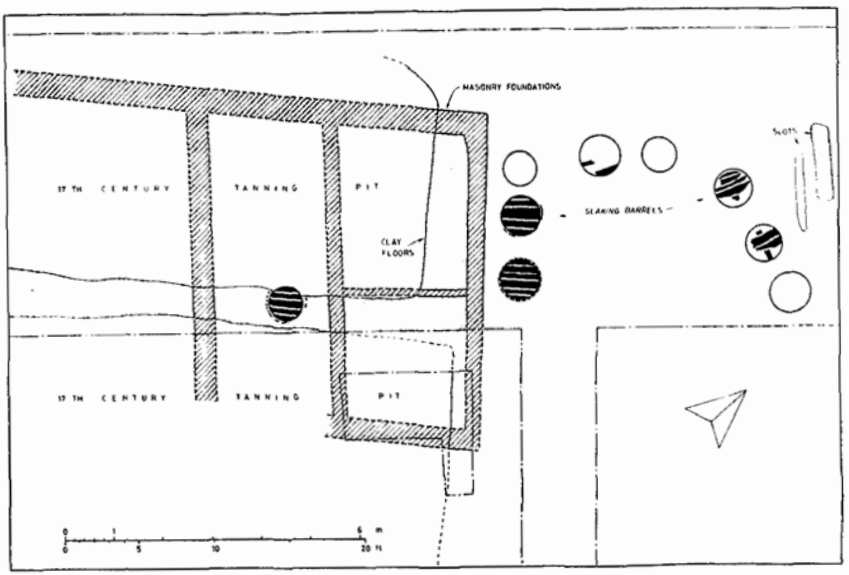


Fig. 4. Bossington House, Adisham: Medieval Burials.

8. THE BURIALS FROM BOSSINGTON HOUSE, ADISHAM (Fig. 4.)

On the 4th of July, during the cutting of a trench for a new water-main at Bossington House, Adisham, a number of human bones was uncovered. The find was reported to the local police and a large bag of human bones, the constituent parts of perhaps two individuals, was collected by P.C. Prendergast for analysis by the police pathologist. P.C. Prendergast informed the Canterbury City Coroner's officer, P.C. Potter, who suggested that the Canterbury Archaeological Trust should be informed and the site was visited by the writer and Mr J. Rady. A further two skeletons had by that time been exposed by the workmen and arrangements were made to continue the investigation of the site on the following day.

A total of at least ten inhumations was recovered from the service trench, together with numerous other human bones, displaced when the burials were interred. All the burials were from individual graves set very closely together, some cutting one another and all aligned roughly east–west. At least two burials were coffined, with the remains of coffin nails and iron fixtures found *in situ* around the skeleton. All but two skeletons were young adults and at least two burials were children. A small number of abraded medieval pot-

sherds found in grave backfills and topsoil indicated that the interments dated from the twelfth to the fourteenth century or slightly later.

The burials found at Bossington House are consistent with the use of at least part of the grounds as a cemetery. The burials, laid east to west, set closely together, with some intercutting graves, suggest continuity of use as a cemetery for a protracted period. This is further indicated by the large number of human bone recovered from the grave backfills, suggesting that earlier burials were disturbed when the excavated inhumations were first interred. Further still, two burials were found in the 1920s when workmen were excavating an inspection pit in the nearby garage for the former owner of the premises, Viscount Hawarden. The presence of these burials suggests that the cemetery could extend over a fairly large area.

Curiously, no documentary evidence appears to exist for a cemetery in this area. The site lies 1 km. ($\frac{5}{8}$ mile) north-east of Adisham Church and village and too far from the occupied centre for any direct relationship to be made. The site of Bossington House is of some antiquity and the manor house probably existed here in the medieval period. Though many manors had their own chapel, very few had burial rights, and no records exist indicating either a chapel or cemetery here.

It has been suggested that the burials found at Bossington House may have been victims of the infamous Black Death that so severely affected both rural and urban communities in the mid-fourteenth century. Plague cemeteries, however, tend to consist of one or more large pits containing numerous individuals, often summarily and hastily dumped rather than laid out in a formal manner. The finds recorded above do not suggest the presence of a plague cemetery, but this possibility cannot be entirely rejected. Overall the presence of an undocumented cemetery in this area is perplexing, and it is hoped that future research of documentary evidence will eventually solve this intriguing mystery.

PAUL BENNETT

9. OBSERVATIONS AT LINACRE GARDENS

In early May 1984, a fortuitous observation by the Trust's Director revealed that work by the King's School on the construction of an extension to Linacre House was in progress. The Trust had been informed of the intention to build the extension, but in the event not only did the King's School fail to get the necessary 'scheduled monument consent' for the work, but the Trust was not told of its

commencement. By this time the foundations of the new extension had been laid with the extensive disturbance of the archaeological levels and the destruction of all but a 2 m. length of a well-preserved fifteenth-century drain. The surviving portion of this structure was excavated and recorded by the writer and Mr Paul Blockley.

The site lies between Linacre House and the recent Luxmore House development (excavated by the Trust in 1979–80), in an area known as 'The Homors'. To the south, the area is bounded by Meister Omers (the present fine building was erected during the late fourteenth and early fifteenth centuries as accommodation for Cardinal Beaufort) and to the east and south by the twelfth-century Priory boundary wall. The drain ran approximately south-west to north-east across the east side of the building site, and pierced the Priory wall under an inserted relieving arch, obviously contemporary with the drain. This feature was previously visible above ground level, but up till now its function was unknown.

The drain itself was of substantial construction, about 0.9 m. wide, and with an invert of very large ragstone blocks each about 4 ft. (*c.* 1.25 m.) long. These had a semicircular channel carved into their upper surface. The side walls of the drain were built of three courses of Caen blocks, and the whole was capped by large slabs. The only one of these to survive was of Purbeck marble. The drain is almost certainly of fifteenth-century date, and it is likely that its prime function was to remove effluent from the kitcchen of Meister Omers (situated at the far west end of the building). From here the drain runs into the Deanery Garden, but its eventual exit must remain conjectural. It is possible, however, that it discharged directly into the city ditch (only 30 m. away) in a similar fashion to the well known twelfth-century Great Drain.

Discharging into the large drain near the Priory wall were two brick-vaulted conduits, probably late eighteenth-century in date. One ran from the east and almost certainly relates to the wash-house established before *c.* 1816 at the north end of late fifteenth-century chambers built up against the Priory wall. The other drain, which ran from the west, probably replaced an earlier conduit, which may have served a range of buildings parts of which are now incorporated into Linacre House.

Parts of the Priory boundary wall, previously below ground, were also exposed by the building work. The examination and recording of this fabric has provided some more evidence for a range of buildings, possibly stables, that once existed along the north side of 'The Homors'.

JONATHAN RADY

10. THE OUTER COURT OF ST. AUGUSTINE'S ABBEY

In November 1983, the first stage of a hectic salvage operation was mounted by the Trust to record the substantial foundations of a major medieval building exposed during the construction of a new Students' Union for Christchurch College, Canterbury. During an 'action-packed' fortnight the foundations of the building, part of the cellarer's range flanking the south side of the outer court of St. Augustine's Abbey, together with an impressive sequence of outer court metallings, medieval drains, early medieval pits and Anglo-Saxon features, were recorded.

Early in 1984, a decision was taken to terrace areas on either side of the Union building in preparation for extensions to be built north and south of the finished structure. A number of main service trenches and two large soakaways were also cut at this time. Following the machine clearance of these areas, time was given to the Trust by the developers to investigate the area south of the Union building. Here a small island of intact undercroft floors was examined together with parts of the south wall and through-passage of the cellarer's range. A number of early medieval rubbish pits and a large V-shaped medieval ditch – possibly a boundary ditch separating the Abbey from an area then called the North Holmes – were also located. The cutting of a large soakaway south of the Union building exposed a small group of pits containing Anglo-Saxon pottery. One of these pits contained an interesting group of ninth-century pottery, including imported Ipswich wares and a coin of Ethelbert of Wessex and Kent (A.D. 858–66).

A brief investigation of the cleared area north of the Union building exposed a long section of the Great Drain previously discovered in 1983 together with at least two intersecting drains feeding foul water from the service range north of the outer court. A well-preserved section of *terra cotta* water-pipe, presumably designed to feed fresh water from the Abbey to the service buildings was also located. A complex sequence of outer court metallings, medieval pits and ditches and a thick deposit of 'ploughsoil', containing residual Roman, Anglo-Saxon and early medieval pottery, were found here.

Overall, the earliest traces of occupation, represented by a small corpus of Roman sherds, indicate that this site was perhaps on the fringes of a Roman cemetery. A number of inhumation and cremation burials has been found both in the Abbey grounds and in Lady Wootton's Green. The thick deposit of 'turned over' loam overlying natural brickearth containing Anglo-Saxon, late-Saxon and early medieval pottery, indicates a long tradition of agriculture in this area, ending perhaps with a period of industrial use, perhaps both iron- and

bronze-working. Nearby habitation is also intimated by the number of rubbish pits located during the progress of the development. These pits may belong to the 'North Holmes' situated north of the early medieval Abbey. Domestic and industrial occupation terminates in the early fourteenth century with the construction of the cellarer's range and the establishment of an outer court. The outer court buildings were mainly demolished after the Dissolution of the Abbey in the mid-sixteenth century.

Regrettably, the speed of this development did not allow for a thorough investigation of the stratified deposits, and only the well-preserved foundations of the cellarer's range and a number of other more obvious features were excavated. A conflict of interests certainly existed on this site and our presence here was considered a hindrance by the developers. Nevertheless, despite this, assistance and sufficient time was given by them for a superficial record to be made. In the final analysis, an opportunity to examine a complex and important archaeological site was lost. Should any new development in the area of the outer court occur in the future, thorough archaeological excavation must precede it.

PAUL BENNETT

Summary of the Pottery

If the quantities of pottery (per period) are representative of the adjacent unexcavated area, the following occupation is suggested:

1. Sparse Roman activity from the first to the third or fourth centuries A.D.
2. Saxon occcupation or activity beginning in the seventh century with a modest quantity of organic-tempered pottery.
3. If current dating of later Saxon wares is correct, a slight hiatus may have followed the seventh-century activity, followed by definite occupation during the later eighth and into the ninth centuries, represented by a pit containing purely mid-to-late Saxon pottery, a coin of Ethelbert of Wessex and Kent (858–66) and imported Ipswich wares. Further levels also produced local wares of the same period and both 'pimply' and fine Ipswich wares.
4. Fabric quantities suggest a decrease in occupation during the late-Saxon period, lasting until approximately mid to later eleventh century.
5. The bulk of the pottery from this excavation is of early medieval date, and from the late eleventh/early twelfth centuries occupa-

tion seems intensive, possibly peaking mid to late twelfth.
6. From the twelfth century occupation appears continuous throughout the thirteenth century, though with a possible decrease in the first half.
7. Definite late thirteenth-century occupation is represented by a floor, broadly dated by documentary evidence to between 1283–1300, a date independently confirmed by the pottery immediately sealed by it.
8. Occupation continues through into the mid- to late-fifteenth century, probably terminating in the early sixteenth century.

For its size this excavation produced some particularly useful assemblages. When calibration with other (City) groups is complete, the mid- to late-Saxon pit, with its boss-decorated local wares, coin and Ipswich sherds, will be an important key addition to the local ceramic sequence, and of considerable value in defining the starting point of the later Saxon Canterbury pottery industry. Of greater import, are the Ipswich sherds from both the pit and other levels. Between six to ten individual vessels are represented. Though similar quantities were recorded from the Marlowe sites (collectively), this is a singularly high proportion considering the size of the St. Augustine's site, and a clear indication of the potential of the unexcavated area. These sherds add considerable weight to the only recently recognised likelihood – that Canterbury had strong ties with East Anglia during the mid-Saxon period.

NIGEL MACPHERSON-GRANT

11. SITES ALONG THE NORTHERN CITY WALL (Fig. 5)

During the spring and summer of 1984 a series of three small excavations and one area of above-ground clearance was undertaken by the Trust's Community Programme team under the supervision of Nicholas Elsden.

(a) *The Wool Store, 2 Pound Lane*

Clearance work and excavations in the half-cellar of the burnt out south-west end of the Wool Store were carried out at the request of the Canterbury City Council (the site owners). A 7 m. (23 ft.) length of medieval city wall (probably built in the 1380s) of chalk block in orange sandy mortar was stripped and cleaned. The ragstone blockwork (for the plinth) and flint facing of the wall had unfortunately been completely removed. It was presumably re-used in the founda-

tions for the Wool Store and the river bank and must have been carried out in the mid-nineteenth century. Earlier drawings, etc., (including a Turner watercolour) still show the wall intact here.

At the extreme south-west end of the building, a plank-lined pit was partially emptied. This was found to have two inlets from the river, and an outlet channel into the main drain beneath Pound Lane. The exact function of this 'tank' remains obscure, but it is hoped that the excavation of the lower levels will, at a future date, explain its use.

(b) *"Butterfly" Garden, next to 16 Pound Lane*

Small-scale excavations on the site of now demolished nineteenth-century cottages (12–14 Pound Lane) revealed the well-defined angle of the extreme north-western corner of the Roman and medieval city wall. The medieval wall, with its battered ashlar and flint face still partly intact, survived over the Roman core. A series of medieval and post-medieval dump layers against the outside face of the wall was excavated down to the level of the medieval berm.

The City Council, who own the site, now hope to display the medieval city wall here and to make the rest of the area into a small public garden which will attract butterflies. On the north-west, the site fronts onto the river and is directly opposite the 46 North Lane excavation.

(c) *St. Radigund's Bridge*

Another small excavation at the east end of the bridge on the north side was carried out in advance of the construction of a new landing-stage for boats and canoes. This site is just to the east of the triple portcullised arches on the northern city wall (over the river), which were built in the late fourteenth century and demolished in 1769. As at the "Butterfly" Garden site, the medieval wall and remnants of the Roman core were uncovered. A small amount of battered ashlar (Kentish Rag) plinth survived at the base over a little Roman flint core. A series of dump levels, some of a water-lain nature, of medieval and later date was also examined against the outer face of the wall. The medieval core of the wall survives at its highest against the pavement edge in St. Radigund Street.

(d) *Black Prince's Chantry Land Boundary Wall*

A 70 m. (230 ft.) length of the surviving, but much battered, late fourteenth-century wall of this precinct on its northern side was stripped of vegetation and cleaned. Unfortunately, the wall is in very poor condition. Much of the face has gone and it is well-patched with

later materials, including some very ugly breeze-blocks. The wall, which is now a Scheduled Ancient Monument, is to be conserved by Canterbury City Council.

PAUL BLOCKLEY

12. 44 BURGATE

During renovation work in June 1984 at no. 44 Burgate, a number of trenches dug in the cellar exposed stratified deposits indicating the presence of a major north-west to south-east aligned Roman street and a Roman timber building. Masonry walls associated with earlier cellars dating from the late-twelfth to the fifteenth centuries were also exposed. The present part brick and part late-medieval chalk-block cellar underlies a substantially intact fifteenth-century timber-framed building, the Bull Inn, which was surveyed by Mr John Bowen (see below).

A large trench dug in the cellar at the south-western end of the building (under no. 3 Butchery Lane) exposed a thick deposit of layered rammed gravel for a major north-west to south-east aligned Roman street. The metalling, disturbed in places by later activity, extended into the adjoining basement, where it was cut through by the chalk-block walls of the fifteenth-century cellar. The road gravels were not completely cut through by the new foundation trenches and a total depth for the metallings was not established.

A sequence of clay floors, two post-holes, and a possible beam-slot, associated with an extensive Roman timber building, was found in developer's trenches in the central road frontage cellars of no. 44 Burgate and in a large foundation pit dug outside the road frontage cellar in Burgate Street. Many of these clay floors were burnt, and quantities of carbon and some metal-working waste were recovered in banded deposits separating the floors. Considerable subsidence had occurred during the life of this building, perhaps suggesting that early Roman rubbish pits or clay quarries exist under the timber building.

Parts of a sequence of at least four cellars dating from the twelfth century were examined during the trenching. Cutting the surface of a deposit of black loam, which sealed the Roman levels, was the construction trench for the rear wall (south wall) of the earliest cellar. The wall, constructed entirely of well-coursed small fresh flints, was built on an offset foundation and the construction trench was capped by a beaten earth-and-clay floor. The cellar wall was plaster-faced above the level of the floor. The road frontage wall of this early cellar

was exposed during the cutting of a foundation pit in Burgate Street. The entire cellar had apparently been constructed in a single large construction pit with the walls of the cellar built free-standing within the pit. A number of late eleventh-century potsherds and two fine loom-weights were recovered from a rubbish pit cut by the cellar.

The original twelfth-century cellar probably extended under adjacent buildings fronting onto Burgate and is best preseved under no. 43 Burgate. Here, the fragmentary remains of a twelfth-century string-course survive in the north-east and south-west walls of the cellar. The nature of the fabric surviving above string-course level suggests the former presence of a barrel vault which had been subsequently cut back.

The presence of a second cellar, flanking the Butchery Lane frontage, was indicated by a wall of small well-coursed fresh flints and a few lumps of chalk built over and at right angles to the offset foundation of the south wall of the twelfth-century cellar. This wall was bonded into the twelfth-century wall superstructure, indicating that at least part of the earlier wall was demolished to offset level, prior to the construction of the new cellar. Three other fragments of the same cellar located during the trenching indicated that, sometime between the late-twelfth and fifteenth centuries, an L-shaped cellar plan was established on the corner of Burgate Street and Butchery Lane.

The existence of a third cellar was indicated when a large chalk-block wall was located in the small holes dug in the north-west and south-east corners of the present central cellar. This wall was undoubtedly part of the fifteenth-century cellar, which was eventually modified in brick in more recent times (at least two phases of brick were observed).

In October 1984, the foundations of the fifteenth-century cellar (at street level on the Butchery frontage) were exposed. Two windows (one badly damaged), which originally lighted the fifteenth-century cellar, were recorded, together with fragments of intact walling (of re-used Caen stone *voussoirs*, possibly from the original twelfth-century cellar), which supported ragstone blockwork on which rested the timber plate and frame of the fifteenth-century building (see below).

The earliest reference to stone houses on the site of no. 44 Burgate dates back to *c.* 1180.[7] By *c.* 1200 a "great stone house"[8] existed on the site paying a rental of 20*d.* per annum to Christ Church Priory by

[7] W. Urry, *Canterbury under the Angevin Kings* (1967), Rental C24 and Map 1, Sheet 5.

[8] Urry, *op. cit.*, Rental D107 and Map 2, Sheet 6.

1370[9] (and by then called 'The Bull' or 'The White Bull'). During the priorate of Goldstone I (1449–68)[10] the present timber-framed building (which also includes nos. 40–42 and 43 Burgate and 1–3 Butchery Lane), also called 'The Bull' was erected around three sides of a courtyard as lodgings, divided into at least ten and possibly twelve separate units with stairs up to each from the ground floor. Shops (over the stone cellars) may have existed on the ground floor, with lodgings above.[11]

PAUL BENNETT

13. THE MAIDEN'S HEAD

Early in July, during the refitting of the Maiden's Head, Wincheap, a public house which consists of two well-preserved medieval timber-framed buildings (see below), a small section of the existing sprung floor was removed in the west corner of the rear of the two buildings (possibly a re-used court hall), revealing a sequence of intact beaten earth and clay floors. These floors were apparently undisturbed, and may have been protected until more recent times by a brick floor which no longer survives. Traces of a compact dirty sand bedding, possibly for a floor, sealed the earlier deposits to the level of the *in situ* ground plates. The uppermost floor lay approximately 1.5 cm. below the top of the plates, indicating that a sequence of floors had accumulated over a protracted period, with the primary floor presumably existing at the base of the plates. No attempt to section the intact floors was made, but a recent service cable, cut into the deposits, indicated that a good sequence of floors survives. During the building work, the exposed floors were sealed and protected by a flagstone pavement and the difference in present and past floor levels has been tastefully exhibited in the finished building.

PAUL BENNETT

14. ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL, NORTHGATE

The ruins of St. John's Hospital (the north dormitory and reredorter blocks) were cleared of vegetation and rubble and carefully cleaned

[9] Canterbury Library and Archives, Canterbury, Rental 71.

[10] H. Wharton, *Anglia Sacra* (1691), 145. The obituary of Prior Goldstone I (1449–68).

[11] My thanks to J.A. Bowen and T. Tatton-Brown for this information.

by the Community Programme in advance of a full survey by the draughtsmen of the Trust. The area is now to be conserved and laid out as a garden to mark the 900th anniversary of the hospital's foundation. The north end of the rere-dorter was emptied of rubbish and rubble to its base *c.* 2 m. below present ground level and the original Norman arches on the west side of the building (together with fourteenth-century underpinnings) were exposed. When the job was completed, a vast amount of ivy and rubble had been cleared and some unique late eleventh-century structures were once again visible.

We are grateful to the Clerk to the Trustees (Mr Geoffrey Pike), the Prior (Canon Derek Ingram Hill), the Chaplain (Rev. Henry Voller) and all the inhabitants of the hospital for all their help and co-operation.

PAUL BLOCKLEY

15. BUILDING RECORDING WORK

Once again a large number of buildings in and around Canterbury were recorded in advance of, and during, restoration work. The following notes record some of the more important and interesting buildings that were examined during the year.

(a) *The Hospital of St. John the Baptist, Northgate* (10)[12]

Just outside the northern city walls of Canterbury lie the largely forgotten and neglected remains of one of a pair of uniquely early almshouses. The Hospital of St. John was founded (together with the Leper Hospital of St. Nicholas at Harbledown) by Archbishop Lanfranc in 1084 or early in 1085 and is therefore almost exactly 900 years old. Apart from the Hospital of St. Bartholomew at Chatham, near Rochester, which was founded at about the same time by Lanfranc's assistant and friend, Gundulf (Bishop of Rochester), no other hospital in Britain has such an early documented foundation date.

St. John's Hospital, however, is not just a hospital with a very early foundation date, but also a hospital which still has the surviving remains of buildings (albeit now largely in ruins) going back to its foundation date. At the Hospitals of St. Nicholas and St. Bartholomew are only the scanty remains of the original late eleventh-

[12] Numbers in brackets are the Canterbury Archaeological Trust file reference number.

century apsidal chapels, but at St. John's there are surviving ruins of a huge (200 ft. long) dormitory block with a double chapel at right angles to it as well as the ruins of two (one still largely intact) unique late eleventh-century 'rere-dorters' (*necessaria*, i.e. multi-seat privies). The double nature of the buildings at St. John's Hospital reflects the original wishes of the founder that it should be for both thirty men and thirty women.

After surviving for almost exactly 600 years, the medieval buildings were unfortunately largely demolished in 1684 and since then the inhabitants have lived in little houses (rebuilt again in the nineteenth century) around a courtyard. Only part of one aisle of the chapel and parts of the original dormitory and privy walls on the south (now the kitchen and refectory) apparently survived in use from the original buildings. Recent work, however, has shown that two-thirds of the northern privy block survived and was divided up to combine both the male and female privies in one building, presumably in the late-seventeenth or eighteenth century when the hospital had far fewer inhabitants.

For the last three hundred years the ruins of Lanfranc's buildings on the north have been largely neglected and forgotten about. Lean-to sheds were built up against them and gradually the ivy took over. In 1983, the ruins were in very poor condition and heavily overgrown with vegetation. Unsightly sheds and garages encumbered them on the outside as well as rubbish and compost heaps, and an "Anderson" shelter. Amazingly, the northern privy building despite being largely buried in ivy, was still intact and housed two sheds (the uncovered northern end was a bottle and rubbish dump). A brief survey of this building in January 1984 showed that it still had elements of its medieval roof and floor joists, as well as all its original windows with wooden lintels (also *c.* 900 years old) and the seating for the floor above the original drain. This drain, which still has four round-headed arches for it on the west side, appears to have run into the River Stour (channels from both privy buildings survived until the late nineteenth century and are shown on the 1874 Ordnance Survey 1:500 map of Canterbury). It was imperative that this unique building should be preserved before the roof fell in (many tiles were falling in and collapse was perhaps imminent), and the Trust was commissioned by the Trustees of the Hospital to remove the ivy and clean the ruins as well as to make a detailed survey of all the surviving Norman walls.

The ruins of the great first-floor dormitory building also survive on the north (the floor was inserted in the later medieval period) and here, too, uniquely early features survive including a corner spiral stair-turret with remains of a window, one complete (first floor)

window and an original doorway (also containing original timber lintels that support a 'tympanum' area). Despite the recent killing of the ivy on this portion of the ruins in 1983, the walls were urgently in need of conservation and consolidation, if they are not to collapse. Many flints and sandstone boulders have fallen out in recent years and much of the mortar is very loose, so the Trust was also asked to clean and record these walls.

A programme of repair and consolidation has now been agreed by the Trustees (with Ancient Monuments Inspectorate advice – the ruins have recently been made County Ancient Monument no. 382), and this should start shortly. After this the Trustees hope to lay out new gardens in the ruins. The initial work was carried out by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust with help from a group of people employed by the Trust under an M.S.C. scheme.

(b) *Eastbridge Hospital* (11) (Fig. 6.)

After an initial survey of the thirteenth-century king-strut roof in the chapel, a return visit was made to study the remains of the co-eval spirelet base, resulting in an explanatory perspective drawing commissioned by the Master of the Hospital for use in the recent exhibition (July 1984).

The king-strut and scissor-braced roof over the chapel of the Eastbridge Hospital is one of only a handful of very important thirteenth-century roofs surviving in south-east England. Remarkably, Canterbury has several other roofs of this type (notably the Table Hall in the Cathedral Precincts and the Guest Hall at St. Augustine's Abbey).

This roof has only recently been recognised as one of this group because subsequent ceiling-in at collar level had obscured the diagnostic 'king-strut' (i.e. a post rising up from the tie beam to the ridge into the sides of which at the apex the rafters are tenoned). Below collar level this type of roof has the appearance of a 'crown-post' roof, in which the post only extends up to (and not beyond) the collars. The 'crown-post' roof was used almost universally from *c.* 1300 to *c.* 1500 and is a direct heir to this, earlier, king-strut type.

The scissor-bracing used on the common trusses comes from an older tradition and disappears with the appearance of the 'crown-post'. Four bays survive, but work done to date suggests that the roof may originally have been longer both to the east and possibly to the west.

Certainly the most interesting feature of the roof is the survival of the lower part of a contemporary spirelet base (second surviving bay from the west) which has additional timber work and bracing (from corbels) below. Its octagonal plan is clearly visible from beneath. The

opposing posts have scissor-bracing and external tension-bracing. Pegged mortice and tenon joints are used on abutting members together with half-lap joints on crossing timbers. The most notable joint occurs at the bases of the king-struts and spirelet posts. Here, the tenon has been notched and held tight by a wedge driven in by its side (opposite the notch) effectively suspending the tie beam and thereby relieving it from some of its load.

The timber and carpentry in the roof is still mostly in good condition and clearly demonstrates the skill and ingenuity of those responsible for its construction.

(c) *Cathedral Gate Hotel, 36–8 Burgate* (6)

Re-tiling of the roof and vertical surfaces at the rear has exposed much original timber-work of the early fifteenth-century building which extends from the Christchurch Gate eastwards and was originally 'The Sun Inn' built in 1437–38 and well-documented in the Cathedral Archives. Presently occupied and leased to the 'Cathedral Gate' hotel and G. Cornell and Sons, the jewellers, the owners are in fact the Dean and Chapter. The timber used in the building is of the largest scantling to be seen is Canterbury. Notable features include two well-preserved windows at the rear and a unique twin crown plate roof. The upper part of the building above the jewellers' was destroyed by fire in the early nineteenth century and rebuilt. The original upper jetty survives only in the western part. The survey is currently under way, and much more work is envisaged here.

(d) *Chequers of Hope, Mercery Lane* (7)

Provisional sketch elevations have been made to supplement and locate previous detailed work of this famous medieval courtyard inn built in 1392–95 and partially destroyed (on its west and northern sides) in a fire in 1865. The total cost of this remarkable building in the late fourteenth century is recorded as £867 14*s*. 4*d*.[13] The whole of the east range of the building still survives and has double jetties fronting onto Mercery Lane.

(e) *19 Stour Street* (23)

A detailed 1:50 survey was produced in advance of the building's refurbishment and incorporation into the adjacent Canterbury Heritage Museum (Poor Priests' Hospital) in Stour Street. It is a relatively late seventeenth-century jettied timber-frame with a double pile roof.

[13] *Arch. Cant.*, xxix (1911), 65 and 84.

On the whole, the vertical framing has been completely removed leaving 'floating' floors substantially intact. Two re-used timbers, presumably from the original building, were recorded; a piece of barge board (or jetty board) with egg-and-dart type enrichment and the head of a window with fine ovolo mouldings.

(f) *17 Palace Street* (24)

A detailed survey in advance of necessary structural work afforded the opportunity for a reappraisal of this building commony known as 'Conquest House'.[14] Heavy 'restoration' earlier this century made the job all the more difficult as it had included the insertion of many 'period' timbers brought from elsewhere. The use of Mersham stone in the cellar fabric has brought the postulated twelfth-century date forward to *c.* 1200 or a little later. The one-and-a-half storey timber-framing above (probably originally late fourteenth-century) extended beyond the cellar to the street frontage. The front part of this frame was replaced in the seventeenth century by the existing two-and-a-half storey frame. The apparent third storey is twentieth-century 'fake', as is much, but not all, of the façade. The rear part of the interrupted tie-beam roof here is extant and, overall, its seventeenth-century appearance cannot have been dissimilar to that of nos. 1 and 2 The Borough.

(g) *Beverley Farm, University of Kent* (25)

A full 1:50 measured survey and written report was produced during December and January 1983–84 for the surveyor at the University in advance of proposed major structural and general refurbishment of this fine old farmhouse. The earliest fabric, dating to the late fifteenth century, consisted mainly of the largely intact crown-post roof occupying the site of the hall of a 'Wealden' house. Good *c.* 1600 details (close studding, ovolo mouldings, projecting windows), associated with the later flooring over of the hall, survive. Both ends of the 'Wealden' house were subsequently replaced; at one end by a seventeenth-century box-framed and brick-noggined cross-wing and, at the other, in the nineteenth century by a large three-storey brick extension complete with steeply-pitched gables and gablets.

(h) *41–4 Burgate and 1–3 Butchery Lane (formerly the Bull Inn)* (26)

Work has continued (September–October 1984) on recording the timber-framing of this large courtyard inn during the restoration and

[14] See E.W. Parkin, in *Arch. Cant.*, lxxxvii (1972), 183–90.

conversion of no. 44 Burgate. Due to an almost complete gutting of the building, many new features have been discovered, particularly at ground-floor level where the remains of the tops of the doors and windows of the medieval shops have been uncovered. Many more details of the medieval cellars (including some fine windows) have also come to light (see above p. 299), and work will continue here until at least Christmas 1984.

(i) *The Maiden's Head, Wincheap* (27) (Figs. 7–10).

The building is situated about 200 yds. outside the southern city walls of Canterbury toward the north-east end of Wincheap, a large suburb of Canterbury, on the main street to Wye and Ashford, which originally had a central street market. The building consists of two main steep-roofed and separate units one parallel to the street and the other extending back from it.

An inspection of the three-bay roof of the former confirmed the presence of a medieval 'open-hall' house. The 'recessed' hall being located in the southern bay and the northern bays each containing a chamber at first-floor level (jettied front and back). The original north hip, for which the 'little' collar and birds' mouths survive, was replaced sometime during the seventeenth century by a clasp side-purlin roof, forming a continuous pitch. Apart from this renewal, the remaining roof is in remarkably good condition with a fine moulded crown-post and ashlar pieces in the hall itself. The details observed here suggest a date of early fifteenth-century. The form and quality of the roof suggest the original continuation of the building south-ward which is confirmed by the framing of the hall's south wall, indicating a two-storeyed construction, jettied at least front and back. We are, therefore, dealing with a building commonly known as a 'Wealden' house, despite the fact that as Stuart Rigold wrote,[15] 'It is hard to escape the conclusion that the "Wealden" house originated not in the Weald, still less in London or Canterbury, but in the heart of Kent of secondary settlement, around Maidstone'.

The northern frame of the hall incorporates a fine moulded beam (in character with the crown-post) at first-floor level extending only the eastern three-quarters width of the hall to tenon into a post (moulded up to it) which extends right up to the tie beam. The remaining space is spanned by a '¼ width' beam at the same level. The entire frame below the moulding was originally filled in and the lack of stud or lathe mortices below the '¼ width' beam suggests the

[15] S.E. Rigold, 'The Distribution of the Wealden House', in (Eds.) I. Foster and L. Alcock, *Culture and Environment* (1963), 351–4.

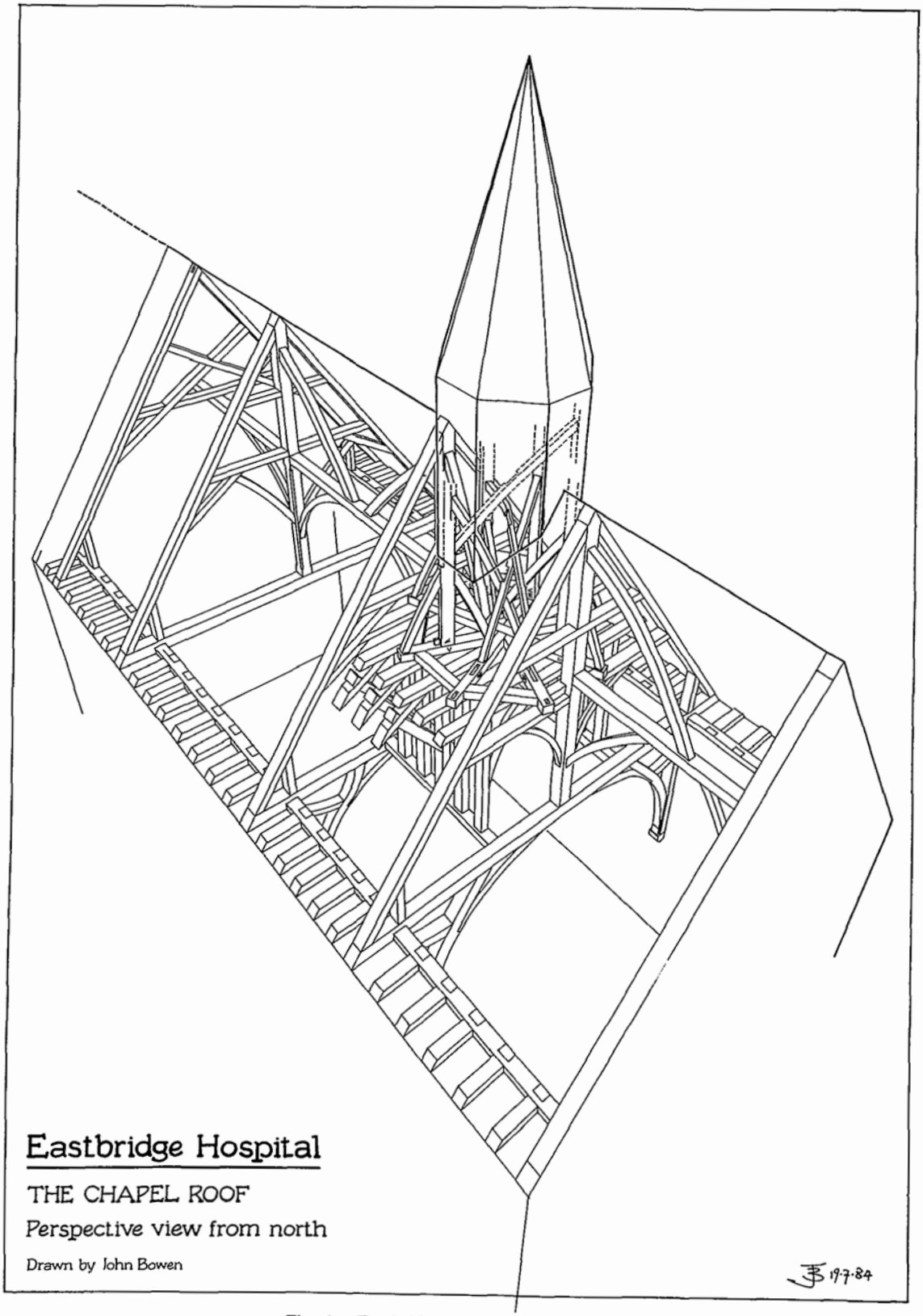
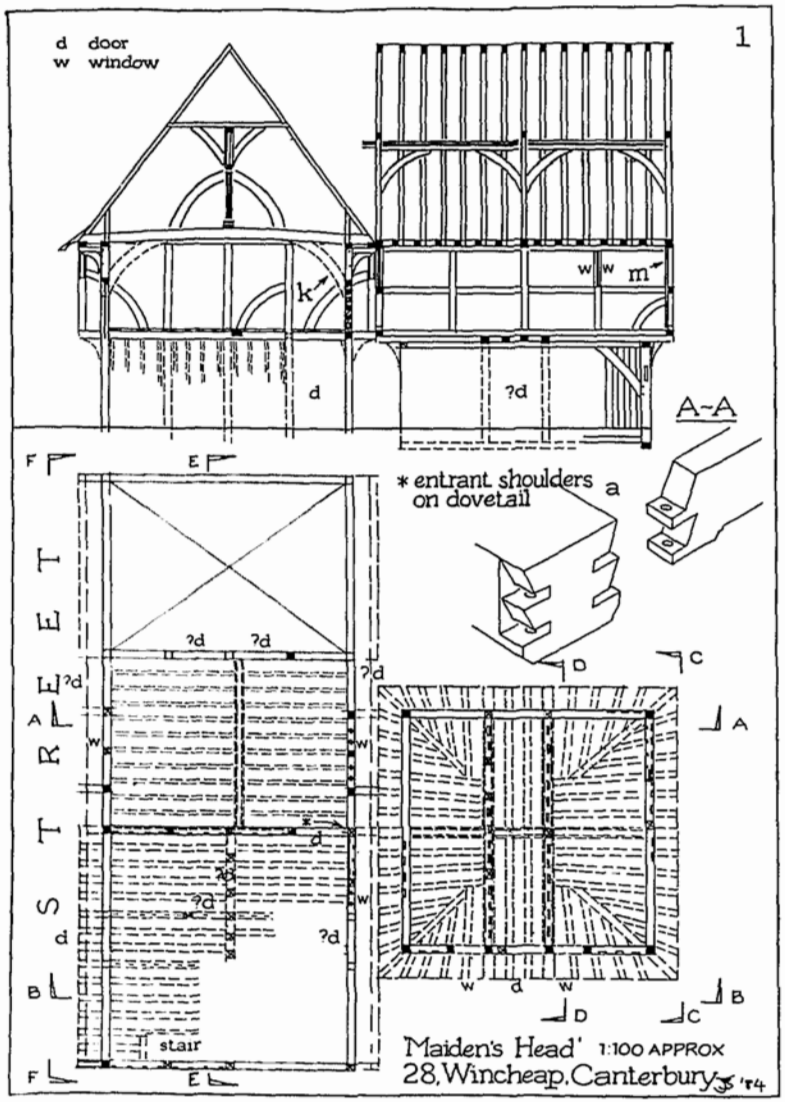
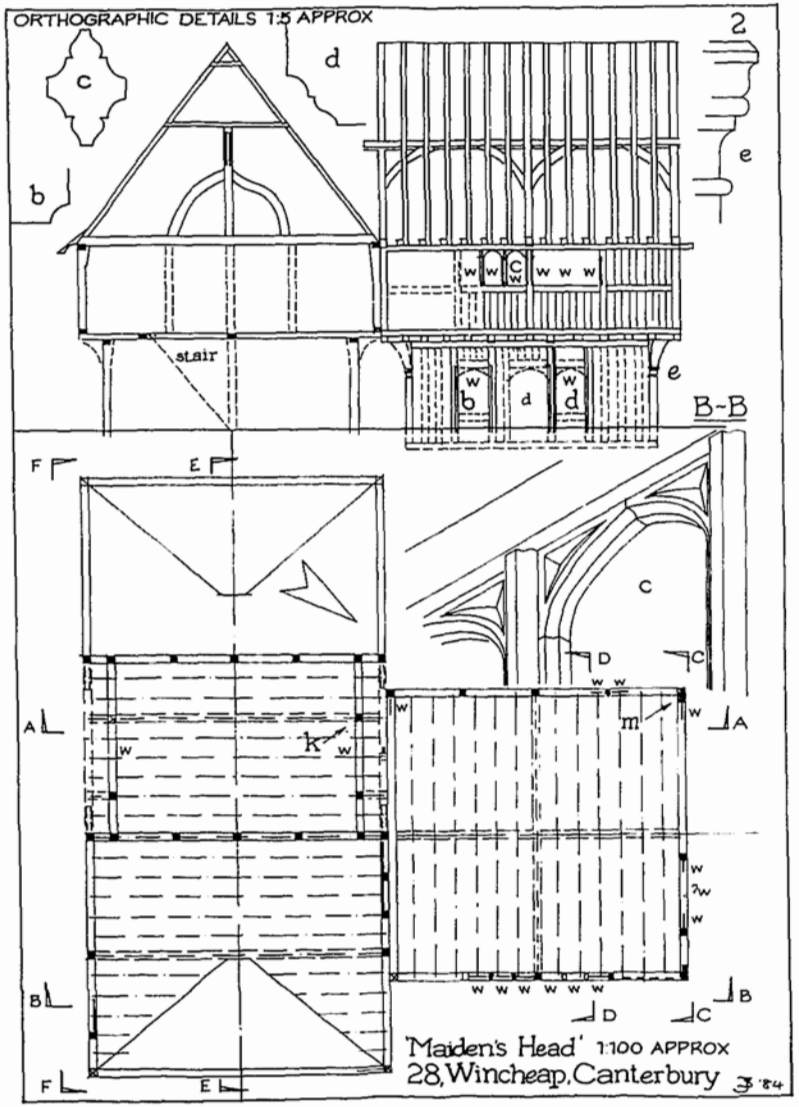


Fig. 6. Eastbridge Hospital Chapel Roof.





Figs. 7–8. The Maiden's Head, Wincheap. (Published scales: 1:200 and 1:10.)

presence of a doorway. What little is visible of the south wall displays the same three-quarter and quarter-width beam arrangement but lacking the mouldings.

Both the position of the northern door and the convenient space to the south of the large hall window[16] suggest a southern location for the screens passage and therefore a demolished service end.

The solar end of the building, which can now be allocated the opposite (north) end of the building, presents more of a problem. Much of the north-western part of the first-floor joists has been renewed and those remaining display evidence for much more partitioning than is usually encountered. The arrangement seems to indicate the presence of a shop (or shops), which may explain the comparative length of the solar end. These are accessible not only from the street, but from the hall also. A stair in the north-east gave access to the chambers over.

The two-bay building at the rear, nearly square, is a completely separate frame and most surprisingly jettied on all four sides with its eastern tie-beam right up against the 'flying' eaves-plate of the hall. It is set slightly north of the centre, almost entirely obscuring the 'recessed' hall and with the northern part of its eastern jetty right up against the back jetty of the main building. On the ground floor, there are in the north wall remains of three spandrelled openings, the central one a door, leading originally to a close-studded cross-passage indicated by mortices in the principal joists. Mortices in the jambs of the flanking openings suggest the former presence of low-cilled windows. The eastern ground-floor chamber was accessible from the passage. No position for an internal stair has yet been found. The roof here has butt side-purlins-in-the-line with windbraces tenoned into the underside of the chamfered purlins. Mortices on the underside of the central collar indicate the former presence of queen-posts removed when the existing floorboards were laid. The close-stud infill of the western gable is intact and mortices in the eastern truss conform to this pattern. No infill exists in the eastern truss at present and the pitch is taken over to the crown-post roof with a series of notched-lap collar trusses, possibly re-used. An interesting feature in the eastern truss is the lapping of the purlins over the principal rafters and extending about 15 in. Returning to the western truss, we find the northern eaves-plate extending a similar distance. Both features are indicative of a jettied gable at each end.

[16] Immediately prior to the completion of the restoration work in July 1984, the head of the rear hall window was exposed. Mortices for diamond mullions here display a contrast between this simple form of hall window and the more elaborate spandrelled window to the street.

The fact that this building is not only jettied on all four sides, but also has evidence of jettied gables, clearly shows that, even if it were not taken from elsewhere and re-erected, it was certainly not designed to be built on its present site, but as a free-standing structure. The carpentry and detailing on ground- and first-floors are late-medieval in character and suggest a date of around 1500. However, the type of roof construction, and to a certain extent the flooring at eaves-level, is more characteristic of the later sixteenth century. There is no evidence that these parts are not co-eval, which may suggest the discovery of a very early roof of this type.

At some time in the seventeenth century a first floor was inserted in the hall, and the vertically set joists and the double tenons (both with diminished haunches) suggest a relatively late date for this updating of an 'open hall' house. Quite often, this would include the removal of the upper parts of the hall's side walls to form a continuous jetty. Here, however, this was not done and the building retained its 'recessed' central part. Subsequently, at the front a bay window was formed at the first floor in the same position as the hall window. The two flanking recesses thus formed have since been filled, one incorporated into the room, the other just a void (accessible only from the roof), giving the building its 'continuous jetty' appearance.

The building has been an inn since at least the early seventeenth century, and it is just possible that the timber-frame at the back was re-erected there at this time as a brew-house (a brick chimney-stack was later added to the north end). Later still (perhaps in the eighteenth century) a malt-house was added beyond this. The malt-house has now been demolished though its north and west walls still survive as car park walls. The malt-house is shown at its fullest extent on the 1874 Ordnance Survey 1:500 map. The southern end of the original 'Wealden' house was probably demolished in *c.* 1810 when the area to the south was developed as Simmond's Row.

(j) *74 Wincheap* (28)

This early seventeenth-century Grade II* building is substantially intact and prior to its recent conversion to a restaurant a very brief visit was made to inspect the original brick fire-place, which had unfortunately collapsed due to the damp condition of the brickwork.

The fire-place had been arched (four-centred) in brick with ovolo mouldings. The coarser treatment above the timber lintel (just above the arch) suggests the original presence of a very fine overmantel, judging from the profuse and novel use of ovolo elsewhere in the house. Several original doors survive including the front door, with ovoloed panels, which has recently been stripped of its paint.

The building is roofed in two pitches of butt-side purlin construction at right angles to the street, and access between these roofs is afforded by another roof parallel to the street. This connecting roof, together with the jetties at first-floor and eaves-level, gives the building the appearance of being structurally parallel to the street. The roof ends are half-hipped, the windows under both jetties are a bay type and the brackets are finely and richly carved. A 'squinted bridling with over-lipped face' scarf joint was observed in the ground cill.

(k) *31–33 Burgate*

After some unfortunate fire damage at the rear of no. 32, a brief visit was made to these properties presently annexed to the Cathedral Gate Hotel. Behind the regular parapetted nineteenth-century façades, fabric dating back to the late medieval period was observed. This earliest (late-medieval) fabric took the form of roof trusses surviving upwards from just below collar level, these extended along the entire length of no. 32. It is interesting to note that all the box-framing observed below these 'floating' roof-timbers appears to be of a late sixteenth- to early seventeenth-century date.

(l) *'The Weavers', 1–3 St. Peter's Street* (35)

Some provisional work on the framing here has been used in a recent topographical survey of the King's Bridge area and to supplement work on the original shop-fronts of no. 44 Burgate, formerly Burgate Restaurant (see (h) The Bull Inn, above). Structurally, it appears that there are two medieval buildings, no. 3 and nos. 1 and 2.

Many of the ceiling joists in nos. 1 and 2 are exposed and display clear evidence for the original partitioning, morticing for twin (diamond mullioned) windows can be seen under the jetty-plate toward the river. The present shop-front of no. 3 is set back behind the original ground-floor frame and, consequently, the main posts and underside of the jetty-plate are visible; unfortunately, only the central joists are visible, back to the bridging joist. Although none of the rear joists are exposed, the absence of pegs in the bridging beam may indicate the presence of a hall, suggesting a similar arrangement of chambers as in the medieval houses at nos. 26–27 St. Peter's Street.

The frame at the front originally consisted of three spandrelled openings, the narrower one (toward no. 2) being the doorway presumably leading to a passage giving access to the ?hall at the rear. The main post, which forms one of the door jambs, still retains, in a slightly mutilated form, its double cavetto moulding. The remaining,

wider, window openings are divided by central studs, and their form indicates the presence of a shop.

(m) *5–8 Turnagain Lane* (46) (Fig. 11)

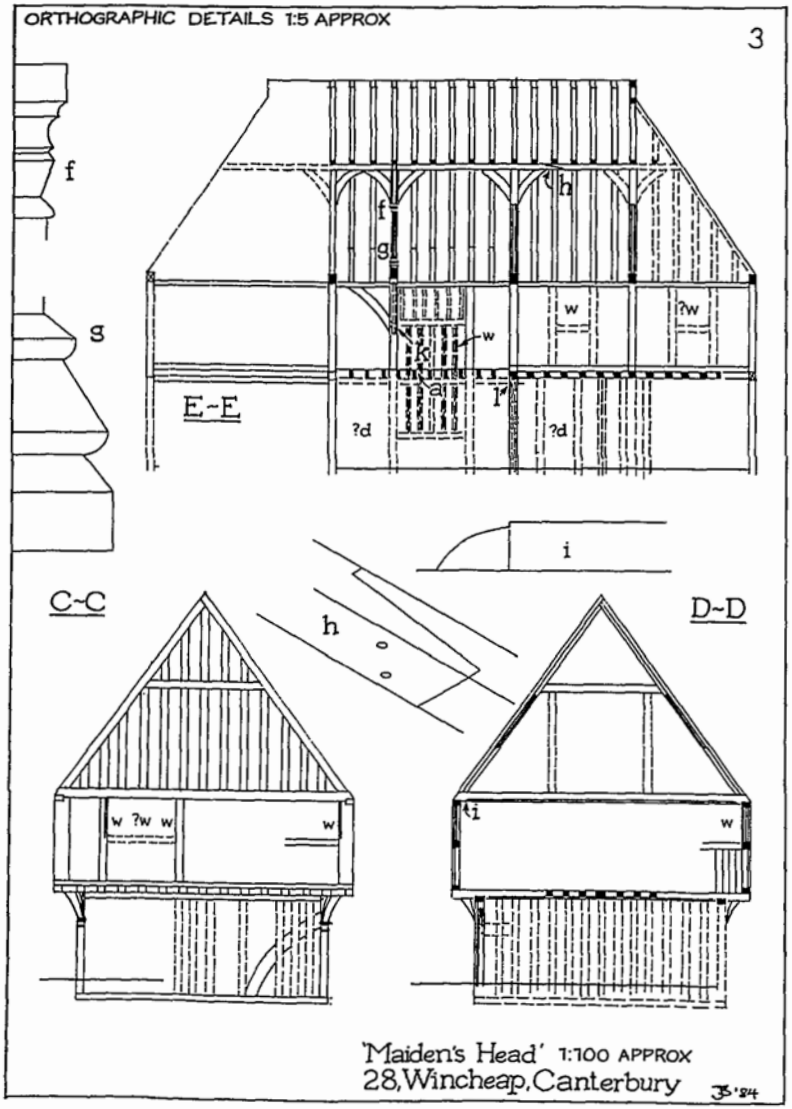
As a result of the proposed refurbishment of these properties the Trust was commissioned to produce a detailed survey of the medieval fabric. The result was the discovery of a row of two-storeyed medieval tenements, which may have originally extended further to the west. The present second floor was added at a later date and, consequently, no roof members survive *in situ*. It appears, however, that much of the roof scantling was used to 'beef up' the lath infill of the first floor walls and they exhibit evidence for notched collars. It is unclear whether or not the roof was of crown-post construction. The only detail surviving which may be diagnostic of its date is a lap dovetail with re-entrant shoulders. Elsewhere, this has been seen in conjunction with early fifteenth-century mouldings.

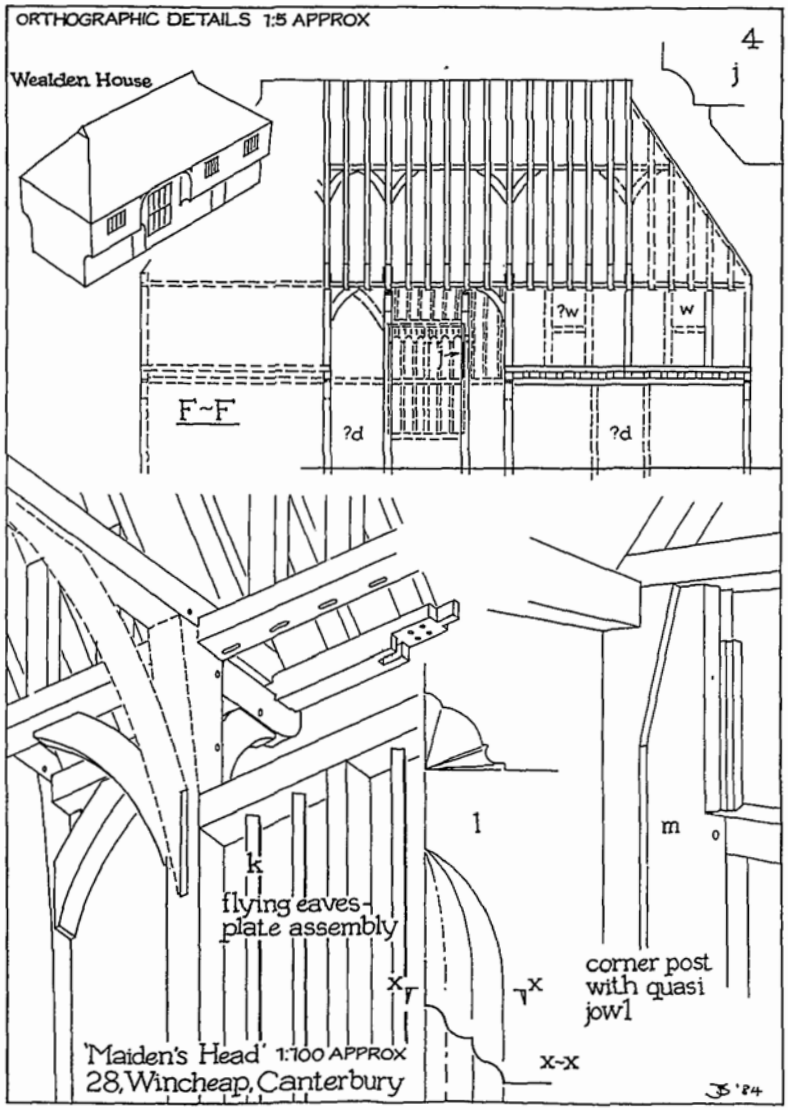
A topographical study was produced, and it seems possible that the row represents a property speculation on church land belonging to, and south of, St. Alphege's Church.

(n) *3 Church Street St. Paul's* (47)

Conversion of this building to a restaurant enabled observation of many interesting details previously obscured. The detail surviving seems to suggest a late-medieval two-storey wing (at right angles to the street) altered in the seventeenth century. A chimney was inserted near the middle and intrudes into what had originally been a fine medieval chamber in the rear of the two bays, judging from the moulded principal and bridging joists. The end walls were modified and morticing for loose tenons indicates the presence of projecting windows. As only the trusses over the middle part of the wing appear to be medieval (notched-lap joint collars of the same scantling as the rafters), it would be reasonable to suppose that the existing butt side purlin roof at the front is a replacement of a hip when the garret floor and jettied gable were added. Brackets at the rear indicate a similar hip replacement, but this has subsequently been replaced by another hip. The high camber of the medieval tie-beam (arch-braced from the jowled posts) has been reduced across the width of the later door.

The quality of the medieval detailing is not consistent with a building of this size, and it seems likely that it only represents part of the original structures. Devastation of this area during the war has, unfortunately, divorced this building from adjacent properties, and it is therefore impossible to study any related upstanding fabric.





Figs. 9–10. The Maiden's Head, Wincheap. (Published scales: 1:200 and 1:10.)

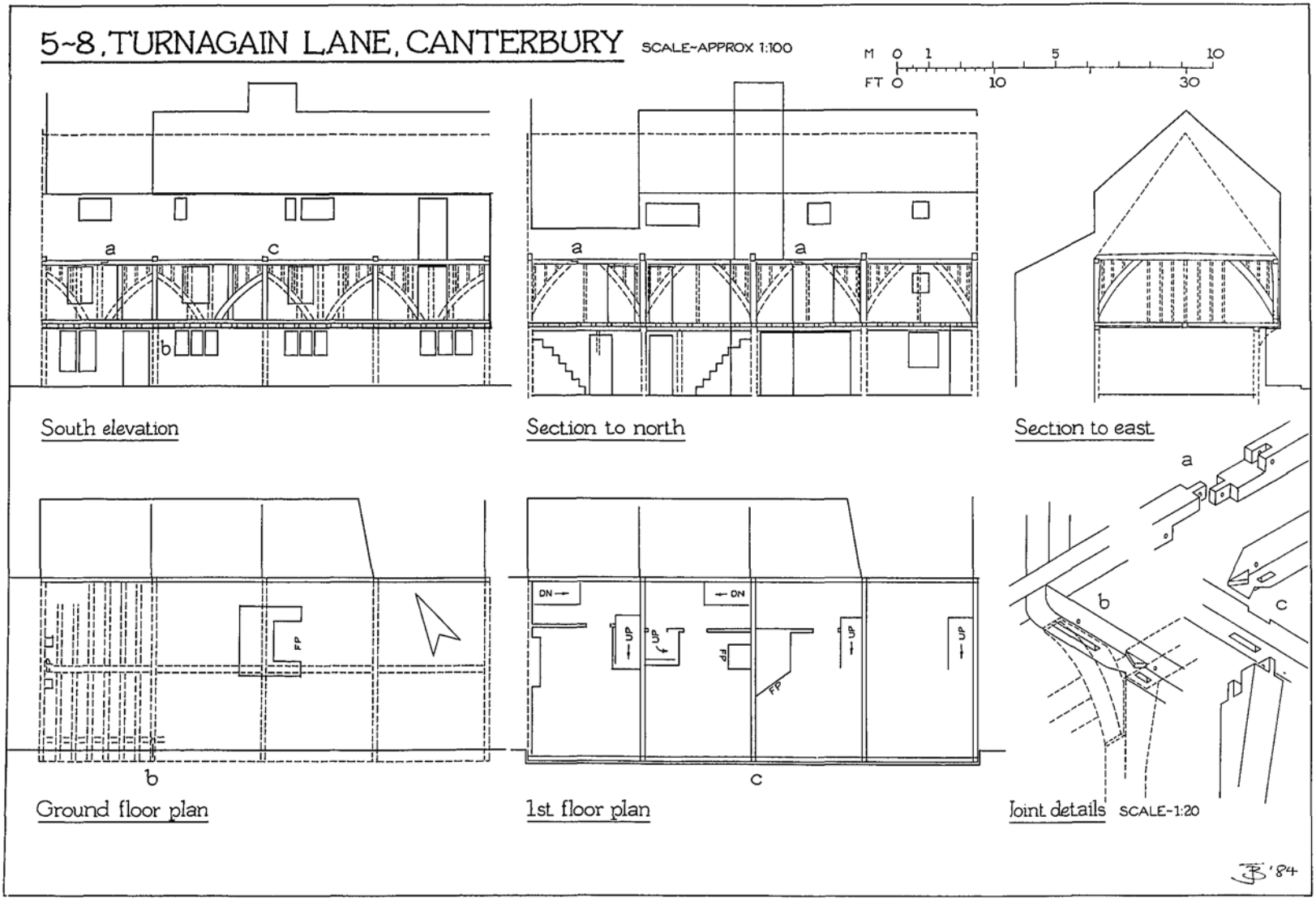


Fig. 11. 5–8 Turnagain Lane. (Published scale: 1:200.)

(o) *36–37 High Street* (48)

Shop refurbishment at no. 37 High Street enabled the front part of the twelfth-century stone cellar to be studied. The twelfth-century rib-vaulted undercroft originally extended across no. 36 to White Horse Lane and the central piers of the vaulting represent the existing party wall between these properties and extend back four bays from the street. The separate frames above are jettied at first-floor level with projecting gables and appear to be seventeenth-century. This fabric above both nos. 37 and 36 extends back for only one bay, beyond which it has been replaced by a complete rebuild earlier this century. Access was gained to the garett at the front of no. 37, and it seems possible that the ?seventeenth-century work may incorporate some medieval fabric. No. 36 has only been observed externally.

(p) *Miscellaneous*

Besides those buildings dealt with above, many other buildings in Canterbury and the surrounding area have been looked at in the last twelve months, and this has usually resulted in the production of sketch drawings to add to an ever-increasing body of material.

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