



CASTLE STUDIES GROUP

Newsletter Number 5
Autumn 1991

Dear Member

The Group continues with its rather informal management, and this fifth issue of the *Newsletter* comes to you again from Exeter. But there have been two important changes. At the 1991 AGM Mr. Anthony Burt was elected treasurer, and we look forward to the benefit of his considerable expertise in financial matters. Second, Dr. Lawrence Butler retired from the committee, having served from its creation. We are grateful to him for all his efforts, especially the excellent conference which he organized at Leeds in 1988. He is replaced by Mr. Andrew Saunders, who, despite not having previously been a committee member has always been one of CSG's most active participants.

You will find the usual synopsis of members' activities, but we are still lacking in *general* items of news! I'm in your hands on this matter - please get in touch!

CASTLE STUDIES GROUP STEERING COMMITTEE

1. Dr. R.A. Higham (Secretary), Department of History & Archaeology, University of Exeter, Exeter EX4 4QH.
2. Mr. J. Kenyon, National Museum of Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff. CF1 3NO
3. Dr. D. Pringle, [REDACTED]
4. Dr. T. McNeill, The Queen's University of Belfast, School of Geography, Department of Archaeology, Belfast. BT7 1NN.
5. Mr. D. Johnson, [REDACTED]
6. Mr. A.D. Saunders, [REDACTED]
7. Mr. A. Burt (Treasurer), [REDACTED]

CONFERENCES

Fifth Annual Conference

THE CASTLES OF THE SOUTH WEST: EXETER 12-14 APRIL 1991.

Thirty five members gathered at the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, where they were welcomed at a drinks reception by Hilary McGowen, the Museum Director and John Allan, Curator of Antiquities. Michael Rouillard, of the Department of History & Archaeology, Exeter University, provided a bookstall on behalf of the University Press and Devon Archaeological Society, which attracted healthy business.

The weekend started with the Group's AGM, whose discussions are reported elsewhere in this Newsletter. There followed two short talks by Bob Higham. The first was an introduction to the medieval archaeology of Exeter, illustrated with slides generously provided by Christopher Henderson, Director of the Museum Archaeological Field Unit. The second was an illustrated preview of the conference itineraries, in which the main points about each of the sites to be visited were emphasised.

The conference was blessed with the splendid weather which has now become customary, almost mandatory, for C.S.G. meetings. Bob Higham and Andrew Saunders addressed the Group at most of the sites, but in some cases were joined by other guides whose services were much appreciated. Mr. Beric Morley of English Heritage kindly arranged free access to those castles in that body's care.

On the first day, the itinerary included Okehampton, Lydford, Launceston and Winkleigh. At Okehampton, the Norman motte castle of the sheriffs of Devon was rebuilt as a more extensive stately home in the fourteenth century by the Courtenays. Patrick Hynes, mason in charge for English Heritage, explained the conservation in progress. At Lydford, the rich archaeological sequence started in the dark ages, and included a late Saxon burh and two successive medieval castles, of which the later was the administrative centre of the stannary law and the royal forest of Dartmoor. At Launceston, founded before 1086 by Robert of Mortain, most of the visible remains reflect a major development of the site by Richard, earl of Cornwall, in the mid thirteenth century. Winkleigh has mutilated remains of two timber and earth castles, only a few hundred yards apart. The tenurial history of this small medieval borough reveals the former existence of two rural manors, whose residences the castle sites provided.

On the Saturday evening, Bob Higham gave a general lecture at the Museum on the development of castles in the region from the eleventh to the sixteenth centuries. The second itinerary took in Exeter castle, Totnes, Loddiswell and Plympton. At Exeter, the Group was met by Stuart Blaylock, of the Exeter Archaeological Field Unit, who has carried out a detailed survey of the Norman gatehouse. At Totnes, the Group perambulated part of the late Saxon burh perimeter and visited the castle founded by Judhael, the Breton lord installed in south Devon by William the Conqueror. Now famous for its shell-keep of c. 1300, the site poses interesting problems of interpretation which were discussed at length. At Loddiswell, the Group was met by Christopher Dunn, of the Exeter Office of the Royal Commission on Historic Monuments, who explained the recent clearance of the site at Blackdown Rings by the Arundell Charity of Loddiswell and the new survey of these complicated earthworks which this had made possible. The site, an iron age fort with a motte and bailey at one end, is due for a general programme of enhancement for public education, involving various local bodies. At Plympton, the motte and bailey established by the de Redvers early in the twelfth century is also undergoing a programme of improvement. Part of this had included a new survey of the fragmentary shell keep, which was of timber reinforced construction. Interpreting the remains in the light of fourteenth and sixteenth century illustrations of the castle gave the Group a meaty subject for discussion at the end of two very enjoyable days' castling.

Sixth Annual Conference

C.S.G. has been planning a trip to the Republic of Ireland, and the efforts of David Johnson, David Sweetman and Con Manning have now borne fruit. Below is a provisional programme for 1992.

Accommodation at preferential rates can be arranged at the Club House Hotel, Kilkenny (licensed), mainly in shared, twin-bedded rooms. Information on this and other

accommodation as well as further details of the conference itself, can be acquired in due course from David Johnson, 32 FitzWilliam Place, Dublin 2, Ireland. Consideration is being given to running a coach from England and Wales, though this is not yet certain.

Castles Studies Group - Kilkenny Conference 1992

CASTLES OF SOUTH-EAST IRELAND

Provisional Programme

THURSDAY APRIL 30

- 6.00-7.00 pm Registration, Kilkenny Castle.
- 7.00 Opening reception by Office of Public Works.
- 7.30 Introductory lectures on medieval history of the region and castles of the region (D.Johnson).

FRIDAY MAY 1

- 9.00-1.00 pm Lectures at Kilkenny Castle
Kilkenny Castle: P.Friel and B.Murtagh.
Dublin Castle: C.Manning.
Limerick Castle: K.Wiggins or C. O'Rahilly.
Ferns Castle: D.Sweetman.
Moated Sites: T.Barry.
- 1.00-2.00 pm Lunch.
- 2.00-3.00 pm Tower Houses: D.Johnson
Town Walls: J.Bradley.
- 3.00-5.30 pm Tour of Kilkenny Castle followed by tour of town walls and St. Canice's Cathedral.
- 5.30 pm Reception at Smithwick's Brewery.
- 9.00 pm A.G.M. of Castle Studies Group.

SATURDAY MAY 2

- 9.00-7.00 pm Coach tour: Ballybur Castle., Callan Motte. Cahir Castle. Knockgraffon Motte. Cashel. Fethard town walls. Knockkelly Castle.
- 8.30 pm Visit to Rothe House (built in 1594), headquarters of the Kilkenny Archaeological Society, and lecture on Earthwork Castles of Leinster by K. O'Connor.

SUNDAY MAY 3

- 9.00-7.00 pm Bus Tour. Roscrea Castle. Aghaboe Motte. Dunamase Castle.
- 8.30 pm Reception and Tour of Shee Alms House (Built in 1582, now local tourist office).

MONDAY MAY 4

- 9.00am Bus Tour. Clara Castle. Castletewarren Moated site. Ballymoon Castle. Ferns Castle. Kells Priory.

Joint Meeting with Society for Landscape Studies

As announced in the 1990 Newsletter, this event will take place on Saturday 14 November 1992. The day will consist of a series of talks on recent research in areas where problems of castle studies and settlement studies have converged. The provisional programme includes:-

David Austin - on County Durham

Robert Higham - on south west England

Charles Hill - on the castles and boroughs of Stafford.

Michael Hughes - on Hampshire

Paul Stamper - on Shropshire.

Further details from Archaeology Course Secretary, Department of Continuing Education, Oxford University, Rewley House, 1 Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JA.

DORSET NATURAL HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE

The Dorset society has organized a one-day conference in the Dorset County Museum, Dorchester, entitled "Castles in Dorset and Beyond", on Saturday 14 March 1992, and has asked us to bring it to your attention. A full programme is enclosed, together with a booking form.

CASTLES IN DORSET AND BEYOND

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|-------------|--|
| 10.00 | <i>Coffee</i> |
| 10.30 | Dr. P. Dixon, University of Nottingham 'Castles as Seigneurial Symbols' |
| 11.15 | Mr. L.J. Keen, Dorset County Council 'Dorset Castles a review' |
| 12.00 | Dr. R.A. Higham, University of Exeter 'Castles of the South-West Peninsula' |
| 12.45 | Discussion |
| 13.15-14.30 | <i>Lunch (make own arrangements)</i> |
| 14.30 | Mr. D. Greenhalf, English Heritage 'Building Recording at Lulworth Castle' |
| 14.50 | Dr. P.V. Addyman, York Archaeological Trust 'Ludgershall Castle, Wiltshire: Excavations at a Royal Hunting Castle' |
| 15.35 | <i>Tea</i> |
| 16.00 | Dr. C.J. Young, English Heritage 'Carisbrooke Castle, Isle of Wight' |
| 16.45 | Discussion |
| 17.00 | End of Conference. |

Applications should be made to: The Curator and Secretary, Dorset County Museum High West Street, Dorchester Dorset, DT1 1XA.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1991

The A.G.M. at Exeter took place at the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, on the evening of Friday, 12 April. It was attended by thirty-five members. An agenda was tabled, and the discussion minuted as follows:-

1. Apologies were received from Dr. L. Butler, Mr. & Mrs. B. & O. Sherratt, Mr. C. Holstein, Mr. R. Stirling-Brown.
2. Minutes of the 1990 Belfast A.G.M. were approved. The highlights of the Ulster site visits were illustrated with slides.
3. Matters arising:-
 - a) Mr. A.Burt was nominated as Treasurer by R.A.Higham, seconded by J.R.Kenyon, duly approved.
 - b) The new style and costing of the Newsletter met with approval.
 - c) 1992 Conference - venue to be Kilkenny, Ireland.
 - d) Mike Hughes spoke briefly on the Society for Landscape studies meeting to be held jointly with the CSG in Oxford on 14/11/92.
 - e) Little development had occurred regarding non-regional meetings, but the idea was still alive. A day to discuss castle terminology/definitions had been suggested.
 - f) Headed notepaper. David Johnson circulated a proposed design.
4. The 1992 Dorset Archaeological & Natural History Society conference on castles was announced. Details would be circulated in 1991 Newsletter.
5. HBMC Liaison Committee. Nothing to add (see 1990 Newsletter) to earlier accounts, though CSG was still involved.
6. Mr. Andrew Saunders mentioned that the International Castles Institute (IBI) together with Europea Nostra will be meeting in Dublin in September 1991 and this will be followed by a meeting of IBI's Scientific Council at Chirk Castle in the same month.
7. Regional Conferences. The possibility of going abroad was mentioned, possibly to Normandy through Mr. M. Hughes' contacts. Andrew Saunders said CSG should consider trips on the Fortress Study Group pattern, to examine comparative material abroad. Dr. D.Pringle raised the Middle East as a possibility.
8. Financial statement. A healthy balance of £1,668 was announced, although the costs of the Exeter conference had still to be deducted. The Statement of account, ending 31 March, was approved.
9. Any other business:-
 - a) Mr. A.D. Saunders was elected to replace Dr. L. Butler on the steering committee.
 - b) A request had been received by Mr. R. Stirling Brown for the annual conference in 1993 to take place in Herefordshire. It was decided to defer a CSG meeting in

that area because the Château Gaillard Conference would take place in Hereford in 1994.

- c) Andrew Saunders had been asked by the Fortress Study Group Committee to see whether CSG wanted to link with FSG in publishing material in *Fort*. Members would consider the suggestion during the weekend and following months.

PROGRESS IN CSG FINANCES

To the Secretary's relief, CSG now has a full-time treasurer. Mr. Anthony Burt (whose profession is with Customs and Excise) has had considerable experience handling the funds of other Societies. Enquiries on subscriptions and membership should be sent directly to him. His own words are his best introduction:-

INTRODUCING YOUR NEW TREASURER

My admiration for all things Roman lead to my first dig, a cavalry fort in the North of England. Until 1975 I dug almost exclusively on Roman sites, including those at Chester, Wroxeter, York and London.

Whilst digging in London, I used a pneumatic drill for the first time. This was in order to remove Victorian cellar floors sealing remains of what was suspected to be the Roman Governor's palace. Working in a confined space, and without ear protectors, I was rendered completely deaf for the best part of an hour!

1976 was the year I succumbed to the lure of the castle. It started the first of ten seasons excavating at Beeston in Cheshire. Since then I have had the good fortune to work on a variety of castle sites in both England and Wales. It is with some satisfaction that at least seven of the directors, under whom I have toiled, are today fully paid-up members of the Castle Studies Group!

Yours sincerely

Anthony Burt

20 Milbourne Close

Upton

Chester CH2 1HH

Membership and Financial Summary

Anthony Burt, our new treasurer, has arranged banking facilities in Chester, and new forms are enclosed. All existing Standing Orders will have to be replaced. We apologise to members for this inconvenience. Our main accounting period will continue to run from spring to spring, for presentation at the AGM. The following summary covers the period since the 1991 AGM.

Period 1st April - 30 September 1991

<i>Income</i>		<i>Expenditure</i>	
Subscriptions	£244.00	Conference:	£893.12
Conference Fees	£83.00	Postage:	£20.38
Sale of Publications	£69.85		
Bank Interest	£22.60		
	<hr/> £419.45		<hr/> £913.50

Balance: b/f 1.4.91 - £1,706.00

Less excess of expenditure over income - £494.05

Balance at 30.9.91 - £1,211.95p

FIELDWORK ON HEREFORDSHIRE CASTLES

In the last two Newsletters, recent excavations at Edinburgh and Windsor were described. In this issue news of a different sort of research is reported.

Roger Stirling-Brown has been leading an informal group in the pursuit of further fieldwork on the castles of Herefordshire. Their work, combining field observations and recording with documentary research, has added to knowledge of this important border area in a number of ways:-

Numbers of Sites. Earlier published lists varied in their totals from 90 to 115. So far, the new list contains 103 classifiable sites, with a further 60-odd potential sites yet to be examined.

Masonry Remains. Sites with some evidence of masonry construction have increased in number from 26 to 79. Obviously, the true relationship of timber and stone construction is complicated, since only excavation can reveal a full structural sequence. Shell-keeps were a favoured form.

Destroyed Sites. At least 6 sites have disappeared and another 4 known from documentary sources have yet to be located.

Types of Site. An interesting observation is that within some Domesday manors (and sometimes elsewhere) the usual form was not the classic motte but an oval or circular moated mound of fairly low in profile. In many cases these received masonry structures in later periods.

In the more hilly areas, a favoured site location was the ridge end, whose natural defences meant that only a cross bank and ditch need be built to create an enclosure.

Herefordshire, like the rest of the English-Welsh border, was a sensitive area in medieval times, both before and after the Norman Conquest. Those controversial "castles" of the early 1050s, referred to in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, were also a Herefordshire phenomenon. Adding to and refining the work of earlier researchers in this county (RCHM, Robinson, D.J.C. King, Tonkin and others), this recent field work illustrates what can be achieved on a local or regional basis.

The results of this work continue to be publicised in Herefordshire Archaeological News and the Newsletter of the Woolhope Club Archaeological Research Section. Copies are available at £2 (or £1.50 for CSG members) from Roger Stirling-Brown, Gravel Hill, Stretford Bridge, Leominster, Herefordshire (please include large s.a.e.). Mr. Stirling-Brown is also anxious to receive information on the castles of this region from CSG members who may have carried out any research there but who are no longer resident.

CSG ABROAD

Though an organization concerned mainly with British research, C.S.G. also has wider interests, in two senses. First, and very welcome, is the gradual recruitment of subscribing members abroad. There is now support scattered among several European countries, and one or two members from further afield still. Second, some British C.S.G. members have non-British research interests (and quite right, too!). Since John Kenyon's bibliographical section is concerned with publications about the British Isles, readers might be interested to learn of recent work elsewhere reported by members:-

Peter Harrison continues his research on fortified religious buildings, especially fortified churches of middle Europe. He recently published an article on "The fortified and fortress churches of Transylvania" in *Fortress*, vol. 5 (May, 1990).

Denys Pringle continues his research on the crusader castles of the Kingdom of Jerusalem. He has recently published a "Survey of castles in the crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem, 1099-1187. Preliminary Report" in *Levant*, 23 (1991), 87-91; and "Crusader Jerusalem" in *Bulletin of the Anglo-Israel Archaeological Society* (1991), 105-113. He is also preparing a gazetteer of all secular buildings in the Crusader Kingdom, and will shortly publish an article on Krak des Chevaliers in *Lexicon des Mittelalters* (Munich). His *Churches of the Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem: a corpus* (vol.1, Cambridge Univ. Press, 1992 forthcoming) will contain a discussion of castle chapels.

Johnny de Meulemeester, archaeologist with the Service des Sites et Monuments in Belgium and Luxembourg, continues research in those areas on the archaeology of mottes and ringworks, especially those in urban locations. He has recently published "Les castra carolingiens comme élément de développement urbain" in *Château Gaillard*, XIV (Caen 1990), 95-119, and "Structures défensives et résidences princières: châteaux à motte du comté de Loos au XI^e siècle", in H.W. Böhme (ed.), *Die Salier und ihr Reich* (1990), 281-289. He is about to publish "La fortification de terre et son influence sur le développement urbain de quelques villes des Pays-Bas Méridionaux", in *Revue du Nord* (1991).

Dieter Barz continues his excavations at Schlössel castle, Palatina, Germany, and his

fieldwork on masonry castles of the 11th - 13th centuries in south-west Germany. He has recently published "Hebewerkzeugspuren an Burgen mit Buckelquadermauerwerk im Elsass und in der Pfalz", *Etudes Médiévales* 4 (1988), [Pays d'Alsace, No. hors series 145 bis; Saverne], 127-157; and Bernhard, Helmut und Barz, Dieter "Frühe Burgen in der Pfalz. Ausgewählte Beispiele salischer Wehranlagen", in H.W. Böhme (ed.), *Burgen der Salierzeit/ Teil 2*, Sigmaringen 1991, 125-175.

SHORT REVIEWS

Recent publications are given in John Kenyon's invaluable list.

Among them are some general works which members will find of great interest, which are noted as follows:-

N.J.G. Pounds, *The Medieval Castle in England and Wales* (Cambridge Univ. Press 1990; £30). The sub-title of this volume - "A social and political history" puts it in the category of monograph rather than general book. And this is a major strength, for in 350 pages we are given a full discussion of matters which in the more general books are skipped over quickly: Castles of the Conquest; The castle in politics and war; A pattern of castles; The royal castle and public administration; The castle in peace and war; The baronial castle; The frontier regions of medieval England; Castle and community; Castle and church; The changing role of the castle; Tower-house, pele and bastle. Although a work about castles, for reasons obvious from these chapter headings, this is also an important contribution to medieval history generally. It would take far more space than is available here to draw attention to the many points of interest which emerge. There are also points with which, in a full review, one might argue. Nevertheless, this must be acknowledged as a major work. It is fully supported by a system of references which themselves constitute a considerable source of research data.

In *The Rise of the Castle* (Cambridge Univ. Press, 1991; £19.95), M.W. Thompson continues his analysis of Castellology, begun in *The Decline of the Castle* (1988). Examining first the background of France and Germany, the author then proceeds to a more British-based analysis of development of timber castles, stone towers, the relationship of the defensive and domestic aspects, the relationship of castles with monasteries and towns. Interesting comparisons of British and continental sites figure, and there are plentiful illustrations many of which will be new to readers. The book is very readable, and owes much to the author's personal experience, drawn from his own career in studying monuments in his care. The title barely does justice to its contents, which extend to the fourteenth century. Together with its predecessor, this book provides an analysis of value both for newcomers to the subject and to those already well-versed in it. Its contribution to the study of domestic matters is particularly valuable.

The Royal Commission of Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales has published *An Inventory of the Ancient Monuments in Glamorgan, vol.III- Part 1a: Medieval Secular Monuments: the Early Castles, from the Norman Conquest to 1217* (HMSO 1991 £75). This substantial work (of about 400 pages) incorporates the result of many years of effort, and the staff of the Commission deserve every congratulation on both the thoroughness of its data and the

skill with which it is presented. We are given a general discussion of the geographical and historical background, an inventory of sites, a parish index, glossary (English and Welsh), and much else. The text is supported by maps, plans, photographs (some in colour) and artists reconstructions. Full justice to a work of this sort cannot be done in a brief notice. Suffice it to say that the volume represents a major contribution to castle studies in Wales, whose contents will also provide castellologists elsewhere with much to think about.

Finally, members should note two volumes of the multi-volume publication of the exhibition, *Die Salier und ihr Reich*, held at Speyer. Edited by H.W. Böhme, these two volumes, entitled *Burgen der Salierzeit*, cover respectively the northern and southern areas of medieval Germany. Each volume contains contributions by a series of authors, sometimes dealing with an aspect of the whole subject, sometimes with a particular region, sometimes with a particular site. The volumes are lavishly produced, and extensively illustrated with maps, plans, photographs, artists' reconstructions and details from various medieval sources.

CASTLE STUDIES: RECENT PUBLICATIONS

John Kenyon continues to supply invaluable information on published research:-

This is the fifth survey of recent publications, and although over 300 new items have appeared since the last *Newsletter* I have once again only listed publications of note that have come to my attention; a large proportion of new references each year is taken up by brief summaries of work, such as those which appear in the "Medieval Britain and Ireland" section in *Medieval Archaeology*. I would welcome full details of any items not listed in the bibliography in case I do not have them on file already.

Amongst the new monographs pride of place must go to a further two castle books from Cambridge University Press, namely those by Pounds and Thompson. The latter's *Rise of the Castle*, which really grew out of Thompson's interest in the medieval hall, concentrates on this domestic side of the castle, and although other aspects of the castle are discussed, it is his examination of castle halls which makes this volume, along with its companion *Decline* (1987), interesting reading. The book by Pounds, *The Medieval Castle in England and Wales: a Social and Political History*, will rank as one of the most important contributions to castle studies, although it is not without its faults. It is not an architectural study as the subtitle makes clear, and amongst its chapters are studies on the royal castle and public administration, the castle in peace and war, and the castle and the community. Both are reviewed briefly elsewhere in this issue.

Gaunt's *A Nation under Siege*, published by HMSO for Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments, examines Wales in the English Civil War, and includes sections on castles. A paperback edition of King's *The Castle in England and Wales* has been issued which includes the paragraphs missing from the end of chapter 13 in the original edition. Also now in paperback is the writer's *Medieval Fortifications* (see the last *Newsletter*, p.13), the cloth edition now being out-of-print. As well as allowing some minor mis-spellings to be corrected, the paperback edition has an extended preface highlighting key items published

whilst the original edition was in press and since publication, covering material published before the end of February 1991.

Other books to note are Platt's sumptuous *The Architecture of Medieval Britain* and Mallory and McNeill's *The Archaeology of Ulster*.

Amongst more regional castle studies are the collection of essays on the castle on north-east Scotland, edited by J.S. Smith, a further two booklets by Salter, one covering the castles in Glamorgan and Gwent, the other those in mid Wales, Fitzgerald on Pembrokeshire strongholds, and an examination in Welsh of the castles of Ceredigion by ab Alun. As I penned this paragraph a copy of the RCAHM (Wales)'s first volume on the castles of Glamorgan (*Early Castles, to 1217*) landed on my desk; a cursory glance reveals that it fulfills all expectations! Although the cut-off date is 1217, a castle founded by that date but with later masonry is treated in full. For example, the entry on Cardiff, a castle founded c. 1081, includes a thorough examination of the 19th-century apartments.

A number of guidebooks to monuments in the care of the State have been published. Those emanating from English Heritage include Austin on Barnard, Platt on Dover, Weaver on Richmond and Port on Scarborough, not previously listed, and Munby on Portchester. The guide to Barnard includes several conjectural reconstructions by Terry Ball. Sites not covered previously by a detailed guide are Peveril (Morley) and Berry Pomeroy (Gordon Slade). There is also a new guide to Helmsley written by Coppack. English Heritage have continued to produce the A4 teachers' handbooks to various sites; recent castle examples are Old Sarum (Planel), Pevensey (Meades), Goodrich (Hancock), Dover (Barnes) and Helmsley (Hassid). Cadw has published a new guide to Carreg Cennen written by the author of the original "blue" guide (Lewis), and there is a pamphlet guide for Cilgerran (Turner). Cadw has also just produced a handsome booklet by Kightly on Caernarfon as a royal palace and its links with the royal family. Historic Scotland has published its first castle guide under its own imprint (i.e. not HMSO). This is Tabraham and Stewart's *Urquhart Castle*. In full colour, it has a useful cut-away through the tower-house showing how the internal arrangements might have been, as well as a view of the castle as it might have appeared in the 16th century. The other reconstructions are not so effective, and "Nessie" at the end is a slight anomaly.

Guidebooks to other monuments include Dinas Bran (Grenter) and Whittington (Collins). However, the best guide to a castle not in State care is Thackray's *Bodiam Castle*. The author's interpretation may differ from the one recently proposed by Coulson in *Fortress*, but it is a fine addition to the National Trust's "Book of the House" series.

More detailed than a guidebook is Butler's recently published account of Sandal Castle. Many readers will be familiar with the report published on 1983 of one of the most detailed and thorough castle excavations that have taken place on a British castle, undertaken from 1964 to 1973. This new publication is a 130-page summary of the report, primarily aimed at the non-specialist but invaluable for anyone requiring easy access to information on this site. A number of reconstruction drawings are included, as well as other illustrations which did not appear in the 1983 report. Descriptions of the pottery and other finds are included also. The book includes two indices (persons, places) which are most helpful, and there are suggestions for further reading (the title and date for the Thompson entry are incorrect).

Amongst the papers on specific themes which have been published one should note Pounds on castle chapels, a much neglected subject, but one that receives fuller treatment in his own book cited above, and also Ruckley on water supply. This is a topic which the last author has made his own with regard to fortresses of all periods, and hopefully he will go on to cover castles in even greater depth. An examination by Eales of the role of the Crown in castle building in the Norman period is an example of the growing number of papers being written on castles by medieval historians, as opposed to architectural historians and archaeologists, and is to be recommended.

The castles in Wales have been examined in various papers. Kenyon has evaluated the role of David King and his publications in the furtherance of this subject, whilst Hughes has examined the fire-power of the Edwardian castles. Clwyd County Council has published the papers given at a conference held in the early 1980s on the archaeology of that county, the two on castles being Spurgeon on mottes and King on stone buildings.

Stell has produced three papers on various aspects of Scottish castles, and the other general survey to note is the first part of Zeune's article on tower-houses in Scotland (part 2 to appear later). Those who can read German might like to follow up the references cited in this paper. For Ireland we have Mac Curtain's survey of Geraldine castles and tower-houses and O'Keeffe's short introduction to Norman castles, published in two parts. Particularly useful are the papers by Graham assessing early earthwork castles and McNeill's contribution to the recent *Château Gaillard* volume. Graham suggests that some Irish earthworks, the "platform raths", were built by the Irish as feudal fortresses before the arrival of the Normans in 1169; we should not be surprised to learn that the Irish also built conical mottes in the Norman fashion, for after all the Welsh did likewise.

There are, of course, a large number of articles on individual sites, and a selection are highlighted below, with others appearing in the bibliography itself. Several of the more detailed publications relate to castles in Wales.

Atkin has given an account in *Fortress* of the rediscovery of Gloucester's Norman castle, built in a corner of the Roman defences; evidence points to it having been a motte and bailey. The early fourteenth-century keep at Knaresborough is examined by Dixon in the recent *Château Gaillard* volume where it is argued that the builder included in its design a "deliberate element of theatrical propaganda". In the same volume is the latest report by Caple on the excavations at Dryslwyn. One of the discoveries during the excavations at Caergwrle was a large bread oven which overlay a mortar-mixing feature, and the report on the oven has published for the first time a reference in the PRO to the construction of a bakehouse in 1282 (Manley).

The first report on Dolforwyn, on the keep, has been published by Butler, whilst a paper by the same author in *Fortress* includes the recent work done on the circular tower and courtyard. This second article on Dolforwyn also examines the castles of the princes of North Wales, but I would question the usual interpretation of the intricate entrance arrangement at Castell-y-Bere as being Welsh build. Spurgeon has produced a study of Dolbadarn in connection with the pictorial exhibition on this site and adjacent area, and Knight has given us a detailed history and description of the remains of the castle at Newport in Gwent. The report by Dowdell on the

excavations at Sully in Glamorgan in the 1960s has now been published, and the report includes an analysis of the keep by Spurgeon.

Ludlow's account of the development of Pembroke, which includes some reconstructions, challenges some aspects of David King's account of this great castle (I have always thought that King assigned too much of the castle to William Marshal). Avent has examined the development of three coastal castles in South Wales, Laugharne, Llansteffan and Kidwelly, and has suggested that part of the inner face of the outer curtain at Kidwelly represents the earliest masonry on the site, dating to the late twelfth or early thirteenth century.

Finally, I draw readers' attention to the detailed survey of the round keep of Cloghoughter castle in Cavan, a 40-page report by Manning.

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POSTSCRIPT: I suppose that with being both a librarian and a bibliographer I always expect or like to see 100 per cent accuracy in footnotes and bibliographies. However, I have noticed that over the last few years there is a growing tendency for people, including several "academics", to write words incorrectly from a bibliographic point of view, although there is no difference in the pronunciation. One error which is often made is spelling B.H.St J.O'Neil's name "O'Neill" (and it is Bryan O'Neil, not "Brian"). The other frequent error is in the use of the word "medieval". In several books which are often cited in castle studies, e.,g. Clark's *Mediaeval Military Architecture*, Neaverson's *Mediaeval Castles in North Wales*, and Wood's *English Mediaeval House*, note the addition of the first "a". This may seem very pedantic to some, but I do dislike sloppy references; nor do I hold myself free from error!

Another mistake which is still very common, surprisingly, concerns the manuscripts in the British Library, e.g. the Cottonian and Harleian collections. The British Library has

been in operation since 1973, following the 1972 Act of Parliament. Although the collections are still housed in the building known as the British Museum (they will move shortly), authors can still be found citing "British Museum Harley Manuscript ..." as opposed to "British Library". Authors and editors please note!

NEW INFORMATION ON MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

The following have submitted information. For addresses, see the original list in *Newsletter* No.2 (1988) and the New Members lists given in subsequent issues. Recent subscribers not in possession of the 1988 list may write to the Secretary for a copy.

Submission of information does not guarantee any member's willingness to enter into correspondence about it.

Members wishing to submit information for the next Newsletter should return the enclosed form to the Secretary, University of Exeter, Department of History & Archaeology, Queen's Building, Queen's Drive, Exeter, EX4 4QH, not later than October 1st 1992.

Christopher J. Arnold continues survey work at Chirk Castle (Clwyd) and Powis Castle (Powys) and excavations at Symon's Castle (Powys).

David Austin continues the excavation and landscape study project at Carew Castle (Pembrokeshire).

Richard Avent continues excavation at Laugharne Castle (Dyfed) as well as general research on the castles of the Welsh princes.

Bryan Ayers continues excavation of the Castle Mall site in Norwich.

Philip Barker continues excavation at Hen Domen (Powys) with Robert Higham, and includes work at Stafford and Dudley Castles among various consultancies.

David Browne continues survey of castles in West Radnorshire for RCAHM (Wales).

Lawrence Butler is carrying out survey and documentary research on castles in the Richmond area (Yorkshire).

Anthony Burt is carrying out documentary research on Hope Castle (Clwyd).

Chris Caple continues excavation at Dryslwyn Castle (Dyfed).

Joan Counihan continues research on castle studies circa 1900, on which an article will appear in a forthcoming issue of *Fortress*.

Philip Dixon continues his research on castles of the east Midlands and the Anglo-Scottish border.

Colm Donnelly is carrying out a study (with M.R. Maclean) of the Cromwellian period Ireton's Castle (Co.Tipperary), and will shortly publish

"A distribution map of the Tower Houses of Co. Limerick" (Archaeology Ireland, Wordwell Ltd.).

John Dunbar is writing a report on Tulliallan Castle (Fife).

Robert Higham continues excavation at Hen Domen (Powys) with **Philip Barker**, and building survey at Okehampton (Devon). An overview of the castles of Devon and Cornwall will be published in *An Historical Atlas of South West England* (Exeter University Press).

Charles Hill and **John Darlington** are writing up the results of excavations at Stafford Castle.

P.Holland is conducting research on castles of the Anglo-Norman period in Co. Galway, and will shortly publish various articles in the North Munster Archaeological Journal and the Tipperary Journal.

Malcolm Hislop is researching into the late 14th century Durham master mason, John Lewyn, and will shortly be publishing "The date of Warkworth Donjon" in *Archaeologia Aeliana*.

John Hunt continues his archaeological and documentary study of the lordship of Dudley, and will shortly be publishing "Land Tenure and lordship - 10th and 11th century Staffordshire" in *Staffordshire Studies*, vol. IV.

David Johnson continues survey and conservation at Drinnagh and Dundrum Castles, nr. Dublin, and is preparing a publication on Lynches Castle, Galway city.

Paul Kerrigan's work on Ireland will shortly be published as *The Defences of Ireland: an illustrated history of castles and fortifications 1485-1945* (Glendale Press, Dublin).

Kieran O'Connor continues his work on early castles in Leinster, and will shortly publish articles on this in *Journal Kildare Archaeological Society* and in *Fortress*.

Nigel Ruckley continues his compilation of computer data on the water supply of medieval castles. A comparable exercise on the geomorphology and geology of sites including the identification of building stones has just begun.

Norman Redhead continues his research into geophysical survey on castles and will shortly publish "Wigmore Castle: a resistivity survey of the outer bailey" in the *Transactions of the Woolhope Naturalist Field Club*.

Peter Scholefield includes much work on castles in his archaeological reconstruction illustrations for HBMC and other bodies.

Ron Shoesmith is conducting survey work at Ludlow and Clun Castles (Shropshire), and is preparing an article on Kilpeck Castle and DMV for the *Transactions of the Woolhope Naturalist Field Club*.

Jack Spurgeon is writing the architectural and historical parts of an excavation report on

Aberystwyth Castle, and working on vol.III of RCAHM (Wales) Glamorgan - castles from 1217.

Roger Stirling-Brown continues fieldwork in Herefordshire which is reported more fully elsewhere in this issue.

David Sweetman continues work on Office of Public Works inventories for the counties Carlow, Kildare, Wexford and Kilkenny. An article on 13th century castles in Leinster will appear in a future volume of *Château Gaillard*.

Jason Wood continues building surveys for the Archaeological Unit at Lancaster University, including the castles of Brougham and Piel (Cumbria) and Bolton (N. Yorkshire). A photographic survey at Lancaster Castle has also been undertaken.

Bruce Watson is completing the excavation report on Montfichet's Tower, London. An article on this subject will appear in a future volume of *Château Gaillard*.

Peter Yeoman has prepared the report on excavations at Edinburgh Castle as a monograph to be published by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

Christopher Young continues post-excavation work on Carisbrooke Castle (Isle of Wight). A programme up until 1993 is envisaged.

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