

## CASTLE STUDIES: RECENT PUBLICATIONS – 18

By John R. Kenyon

### Introduction

As far as I am concerned, the cumulative bibliography (1945-2005) is on track to be submitted to Shaun Tyas of Paul Watkins Ltd in the late summer/autumn of 2006, as reported in the last issue of our *Bulletin* (p. 75). The author index has been compiled and is now being computerized, so it is now a case of adding new material as it appears, and hoping that Shaun will still be interested in publishing it upon submission. We are planning a week's holiday in Dublin in June next year, and I am being allowed a couple of days in which to update Irish material in the library of the Royal Irish Academy!!

So, I am cautiously optimistic that what is basically my life's work in castle studies, apart from the occasional other publication, will appear in hard copy. I am not sure whether there will be an electronic version.

So, with the end now in sight it becomes doubly important that members send me details of any publications that they come across, to ensure that the bibliography is as full as possible; a full reference should enable me to trace a copy, although having offprints or photocopies of articles is extremely useful. Those who have assisted me in the last twelve months or so are acknowledged below.

With reference to the first paragraph in last year's compilation, the same thing happened this year – even Homer nods! It was not until I was mentioning some of the non-British and Irish material in the latest volume of *Château Gaillard* that I realized that I had forgotten to extract the British and Irish papers by Oliver Creighton, Sarah Speight and others.

There have been a number of important books published recently, although, as usual, I have not had time to read them all from beginning to end; reviews of some of them will appear in our new format *Journal* at the end of this year. I am often asked, particularly at home where shelves are virtually full, how the subject of medieval fortifications can still attract more titles! The best response is to cite such books as Abigail Wheatley's *The idea of the castle*, Robert Liddiard's *Castles in context*, and *Medieval town walls* by Oliver Creighton and Bob Higham.

Another highlight has been the appearance in May of the first in the new series of English Heritage guidebooks, although a castle is just a small part of this particular publication; more on this in the relevant section below.

I am very conscious that there is much information related to castle studies which is grey literature, mainly internal reports by archaeological units involved in a range of projects. I do not tend to cite these, as I cannot do this literature justice. For example, John Newman of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service sent me two reports relating to Framlingham and Haughley. All I can suggest is that people working on sites in any given area should always be in contact with the relevant sites and monuments records etc.

A number of publications appeared, or at least reached me in the NMGW, just as the text of this compilation was being finalized, and it has not been possible to comment in detail on these publications in the relevant sections below. For example Oliver Creighton and Bob Higham's joint paper in *Landscape History* and the collection of essays on *St George's Chapel Windsor in the fourteenth century*, edited by Nigel Saul.

As in all previous issues of this review-cum-bibliography, the views expressed here are entirely my own, and do not necessarily represent those of the Castle Studies Group.

## **General Monographs**

The following new books are examined in alphabetical order by author/editor.

The first item (Anon.) is hardly a book, but best mentioned here. It is in English Heritage's folded 'Z Guides' series, and called *English Castles*. When unfolded, one side consists of a map and gazetteer, whilst the reverse has such features as castle terms, changes in style, forms of attack, etc. Not all the sites in the gazetteer are in the care of English Heritage, and one sectional feature 'The "king" of the castle' features the work of Edward I in Wales.

Tempus has published an English language version of Günter Binding's study of building techniques as shown through images in medieval manuscripts (*Medieval building techniques*), a study that has its origins as far back as 1972. Translated by Alex Cameron and with a foreword by Glyn Coppack of English Heritage, it is an extremely useful resource. There is a section on tools and equipment, but the core of the book is an alphabetical list by place and then institution of where the illustrations (reproduced as line drawings) can be found. Readers should note that certain places, for example Cologne, appear under the English version of the name, but within the original alphabetical sequence in the German form. Thus Cologne (Köln) appears between Klosterneuburg and Kraków, as does Copenhagen. Another trap for the unwary, and one which really should have been rectified by Tempus, is that under London the British Library's manuscripts are cited as being in the British Museum, which is, of course, where they were in 1972, but have not been since the later 1970s.

The re-issue of Allen Brown's 1976 edition of *English castles* has now appeared at last; there was a time when publication with the Boydell Press was in doubt. The introduction has been written by Jonathan Coad of English Heritage, and an up-to-date 'Guide to further reading' appears at the end, with reference being made to the CSG bibliographies. The map of sites mentioned in the text has been re-drawn, although some sites are still located incorrectly – Hopton in Shropshire, for example. The introduction stresses the importance of Brown's book, from the original edition in 1954, and also emphasizes why a reprint of the book today is an important contribution to castle studies. In spite of the wealth of sound academic volumes on the subject since the 1970s, there is, as Coad writes, 'a need for an authoritative and readable general introduction to the subject', especially from the pen of one who was so at home with the documentary evidence. I still have my copy of the paperback edition of the book, inscribed and given to me by the author in 1970.

A new edition of David Cook's *Castles of Wales and the Welsh Marches* was published in 2001 by Pitkin, seemingly a revised edition of the 1984 booklet. Oliver Creighton's *Castles and landscapes* has now appeared in paperback, and with a subtitle – *Power, community and fortification in medieval England*. We were all disappointed with the quality of reproduction of the photographs in Continuum's hardback edition, as was the author of course, and I would urge even those who bought the original edition to acquire 'This paperback edition with enhanced photographs', as some of us did at Lewes last April; it is a book transformed.

I picked up a book on castles by Günther Endres and Graham Hobster in the Royal Armouries, Leeds, on castle ruins in England and Wales, the usual run-of-the-mill stuff. What was surprising was the total omission of Caernarfon, even from the general discussion on Edwardian castles! One wonders whether the authors considered that the castle was not a ruin.

Jane Fenlon's *Goods & chattels* is an examination of the early household inventories in Ireland. It includes transcriptions of the 1575 account for Maynooth, the Ormond Castle inventory of 1626, several for Kilkenny, and Dublin Castle in 1677 and 1678. The volume gives an insight into the fixtures and fittings of these castles and houses, as well as the rooms within these buildings, although nowadays it is not always possible to locate the actual rooms described. I debated long whether to include Elizabeth FitzPatrick's book on royal inauguration in Gaelic Ireland, but decided to add it as it looks at some sites that have been considered to be mottes, etc., and still may be in some quarters.

*Timber castles* by Bob Higham and the late Phil Barker has been re-issued by the University of Exeter Press, an initiative that is to be commended, for first published in 1992 it has been out of print for a while, and remains essential reading. Some of the images in the original edition were poor, and the opportunity has been taken to replace a few of the aerials in chapter 7 with others from RCA-HM(W), whilst others have been 'lifted' in terms of reproduction. *Timber castles* is a book that should be on the shelf of anyone who professes to be a student of castle studies. The publishers of the 2004 edition clearly recognized the importance of Bob and Philip's work in that it has been published in hardback as well as paperback.

Giampiero Gianazza's collection of aerial views of European castles includes a few UK sites. Editions in English and French appeared in 2003 (*Castles from the air* and *Châteaux forts: vue du ciel*). The original edition was published in Italy in 1978. Peter Harrington's *English Civil War archaeology* has been published by Batsford, and appears with the English Heritage logo on the cover and title page. Peter is the Curator of the Anne S. K. Brown Military Collection, Brown University Library, Rhode Island, USA, and many will be aware of his Shire publication on the Civil War. This book, coupled with Mike Osborne's (see below), makes a welcome introduction to the subject, and hopefully will encourage someone to write a more definitive work at some stage, as much additional material is coming to light every year, through fieldwork and excavation. Amongst the topics covered in the book's seven chapters are towns, castles and country houses, as well as battlefields and bridges. There are over four pages of further reading. A few of the sites in the main text and in the index are located in the wrong counties, such as Laugharne (Pembrokeshire in the text, but down correctly as being in Carmarthenshire in the index).

Members of the Fortress Study Group may recall Peter Harrison's article in *Fort 22* on fortified churches in La Thiérache, and he has also examined the churches on Gower (*Gower* 46). Now the author, a Research Associate at the Centre for Medieval Studies at the University of York, has published a book on this subject called *Castles of God*, published by Boydell, an examination of the fortified religious buildings of the world. The book is illustrated superbly, many of the photographs having been taken by the author, and his researches have led him to some very remote places in our world. The chapter on Great Britain looks at the pele towers, churches and monastic buildings on the Anglo-Scottish border, before turning to the Welsh Marches and southern Wales. This is not a subject that has received a wealth of attention as far as the British Isles are concerned, apart from Brooke's *Safe sanctuaries* published in 2000, examining the Anglo-Scottish border from 1290 until 1690. In Ireland Cashel and Kells are examined, as are the semi-fortified residences to be found attached to churches in the later Middle Ages. Harrison's wide-ranging study also encompasses the monastic foundations in the Middle East, including St Anthony's Monastery in Egypt, which was fortified in 1854, and included in the other chapters are Scandinavia, France, Russia, America and the Himalayan region. There is also a chapter on the Crusades. I refer readers to the Jones note in the 'General articles' section.

A copy of Robert Liddiard's *Castles in context: power, symbolism and landscape, 1066 to 1500* reached me just as this compilation was underway, so it has not been possible to read it from beginning to end. To quote the author, 'This book thus makes available to a wider audience the results of recent scholarship but also attempts to place castles and castle-building into the broader context of medieval society.' From my initial examination the quote rings true, and I am sure that the book will make an important, and refreshing, contribution to castle studies. The first chapter is an excellent overview of the development of castle studies from the age of G. T. Clark's great work of 1884 up to the modern day, including comment on the 'battle of Bodiam'! Of course Clark's work goes back long before 1884, as the book is basically a compendium of the papers that he had published in a number of journals in the years before (see the 1998 book edited by Brian Ll. James that was published to mark the centenary of his death). Liddiard's book then focuses on a number of important areas that have dominated castle studies recently, such as the military character of castles, how they were viewed in the Middle Ages, and the setting of castles in their landscapes. The book is both a synthesis of some of the important ideas around at the moment in castles studies and a conduit for the author's own thinking on the nature of castles. A few 'blips' did catch my eye: Hen Domen is shown as south-west of Montgomery in Figure 1, as opposed to the north; the reference to Llywelyn ap Iorwerth (d. 1240) at Ruthin dates to the early thirteenth century, not later (p. 132); the trebuchet depicted on p. 152 is in the inner ward of Dover Castle, not Caerphilly; and the destruction of the keep at Scarborough was courtesy of the English Civil War siege of 1645 (eye-witness account), not the Kaiser (p. 40, caption), although the castle, along with the town, was indeed shelled in the Great War.

Of John Norris's *Welsh castles at war* I will say no more (see our last *Bulletin*, pp. 152-53), other than mentioning the depressing fact that it has attracted favourable comment in some quarters.

Mike Osborne, who has written a number of books on Second World War defences in the eastern counties of England, has turned his attention to the Eng-

lish Civil War, although some years ago he looked at Cromwellian fortifications in Cambridgeshire (1990). The core of Partizan Press's *Sieges and fortifications of the Civil Wars in Britain* is a gazetteer of sites with entries ranging from a few lines to a couple of pages. After an introduction there comes a directory of siege techniques, although it covers more than the operations themselves, with sections on bribery, forced labour, morale and women. After this there is a list of 'Dramatis personae', mainly engineers who were involved in building fortifications or laying siege to them. The gazetteer begins with 'Abbeycwmhir' and ends with York, although I would argue that it should have begun with the motte at Aberlleiniog on Anglesey, the site of Lady Cheadle's Fort, although the masonry on the motte may well be later than the Civil War.

A new edition of Chris Tabraham's *Scotland's castles* has been published by Batsford, in association with Historic Scotland. By and large the text appears to be the same as the 1997 edition, although the bibliography has been updated considerably, and there have been some changes in the illustrations (e.g. a colour view of David Simon's reconstruction of Dunstaffnage – p. 30). To be pedantic, an error carried over from the first edition is that Conwy Castle had a gatehouse built at a cost of £125; the gatehouse in question is the Mill Gate on the town's defences, the castle just having relatively simple gateways flanked by large mural towers.

I have only read parts of Abigail Wheatley's *The idea of the castle in medieval England*, and hopefully this summer will make time to read it from beginning to end. A full review of the book, by Bob Higham, will appear in the next issue of what is to be the CSG's *Journal* (formerly our *Bulletin*). The book is based on Wheatley's doctorate undertaken at York, and it still reads like a thesis in places, but do not let that put anyone off! The fourth chapter, 'The imperial castle' is one that I have been through, with Caernarfon and the Constantinople connection forming the core of these pages. Wheatley argues that the source for Edward's Caernarfon may not have been Constantinople as such, but more the legacy of Roman Britain still evident in the late thirteenth century. Why base Caernarfon on the imperial architecture to the east when few would have been aware of the defences of Constantinople, apart from perhaps Edward and a handful of others? I would argue, however, that the fact that few would have been aware of what Constantinople looked like is irrelevant. All it needed was one man, especially if that was the monarch, to seek comparisons and the development of a myth to see such a project through. That apart, the author reminds us that the stronghold described in the Mabinogion as having large multicoloured towers is not the fortress in Wales, but lay on the coast of mainland Europe, at the point of Maxen/Macsen's departure for Britain.

## General Articles

Jeremy Ashbee has written a paper on a particular chamber in a castle known as a 'Gloriette', with an exploration of the examples to be found at Chepstow, Corfe and Leeds castles, as well as the one no longer extant in the conventual buildings of the Cathedral Priory of Canterbury. The castle examples at Corfe and Leeds have been known for some time, but the work of Rick Turner and others in connection with Cadw's presentation of Chepstow, some of it based on unpublished evidence produced by Arnold Taylor, has produced evidence for a Gloriet in the Bigod period, in the late thirteenth century. The meaning of what a Gloriet was is not easy to convey, so to cite the author: 'It has usually been assumed that the

word was generic, an earlier-medieval synonym for 'pavilion', *pleasaunce* or *spy-house*. The evidence suggests the contrary: that it was used in the 13th century only as a proper name, and only in a very restricted number of instances. Rooms were called *Gloriette* not because the word prescribed their function or because they resembled Moorish garden pavilions, but because their owners wished to invoke a particular set of associations. These meanings came not directly from travellers' tales of eastern architecture, but from literature.'

A fascinating paper on an unusual aspect of the armies of King Edward I has been written by David Bachrach for the *Journal of Medieval History*. It is concerned with the organization of military religion, the provision of pastoral care made available to those serving the king in both times of war and peace. One aspect covers royal garrisons, hence the inclusion of the article in the bibliography. Irrespective of the size of the garrisons in the strongholds of Edward I in Wales, both English- and Welsh-built castles, the position of chaplain was on the roll. There was always a chaplain on the staff of Dover Castle in Edward's reign, and the king appears to have played an active role in the appointment of garrison chaplains in the Channel Islands in the 1290s.

In the latest volume of *Château Gaillard*, the proceedings of the conference held at Maynooth in Ireland in 2002, Oliver Creighton looks at castle baileys and settlement patterns in Norman England, particularly the containment of rural communities within the outer defences. In the same volume, Sarah Speight takes the location of castle chapels as her theme, stressing the role of the chapels as a link between intra- and extra-mural communities. The role of the chapel in both local patronage and castle planning is also covered.

The latest volume of *Landscape History* appeared just as this issue of the bibliography was being finalized, and one of the papers is by Oliver Creighton and Bob Higham, on castle studies and the landscape agenda. This examines the interest there is today in castle studies in the wider settlement settings and landscape contexts. The authors stress that the study of castles in the wider landscape is not new – Ella Armitage, no less, took landscapes into account, as of course did A. H. Allcroft in his pioneering *Earthwork of England*, published in 1908. Nevertheless, with the 'militarists' holding sway for much of the twentieth century, the wider landscape contexts of castles is still to reach its full potential.

In the last volume of *Antiquaries Journal*, a good issue for the medievalist, Dai Morgan Evans has examined the role of the State in the presentation of our ruins, a far cry from Gilpin's movement of the Picturesque in the late eighteenth century. Evans examines a number of case studies briefly regarding the effects of technology on the monuments, one being Llansteffan Castle.

Also in *Antiquaries Journal* is a substantial paper by Lawrence Hoey and Malcolm Thurlby surveying Romanesque vaulting in Great Britain and Ireland, from the Conquest to about 1170. The majority of the sites in the gazetteer are, of course, churches, but a number of castles are included; for example, Bamburgh and Middleham.

Peter M. Jones has penned a note in *Gwent Local History* dismissing church towers as fortifications, based on Monmouthshire and other border exam-

ples. Should he read this compilation, I hope that he has noted the Harrison book (*Castles of God*) in the first section of this bibliographic review.

Cóilín Ó Drisceoil, in an issue of the County Louth journal, has examined the archaeological evidence for mottes being raised over pre-existing monuments, often ringforts. The available evidence is presented from fifteen sites, together with an analysis of the data, to see what factors may have influenced this re-use other than for symbolic or constructional reasons. Some of the pre-Norman sites appear to have been used up until the time of the construction of a motte, with no evidence of a 'hiatus' between the two phases. Possible reasons for this are that either the local population fully consented to the construction of the Norman castle, or that the builders may not have been Norman at all, but members of the indigenous inhabitants.

Staying with Ireland, Tadhg O'Keeffe, in a recent issue of that excellent journal *Landscapes*, looks at the evidence for designed landscapes in medieval Ireland, paying particular attention to two castles in Co. Carlow that were the subject of a paper by him a few years ago, in *Anglo-Norman Studies* 23. O'Keeffe stresses that academic study of the designed landscape and its complexities in Ireland lags behind English researches. In the author's words: 'My intention is to kick-start the study of designed landscapes in medieval Ireland, not least by an adversarial review of current scholarly trends in Irish landscape studies.' The sites selected for special comment are Ballymoon and Ballyloughan, and the case is made that the former is the unfinished work of Roger Bigod, earl of Norfolk (d. 1306), the man who transformed Chepstow in the late thirteenth century.

Matthew Johnson has contributed one of the chapters to *A companion to archaeology*, looking at archaeology and social theory and the chapter includes a section headed 'Archaeology of castles', an attempt to rethink the later medieval castle in particular. To some extent the chapter can be linked to O'Keeffe's paper in the previous paragraph, with Johnson wanting us to move away from the study of minutiae (e.g. arrowslits) to the 'context of castles' – surrounding landscape, etc.

*Arms & Armour* is the new journal stemming from the Royal Armouries, the successor to the RA's *Yearbook*. In the first issue Derek Renn examines the career of Master Jordan, maker of trebuchets. About the year 1224 Jordan was making one of these machines of siege warfare at Dover, and by 1228 had completed another at Windsor.

Sarah Speight has examined the state of British castle studies in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries in a lengthy article in *History Compass*, an electronic journal produced by Blackwell Publishing. It is not a journal of which I was aware, so I am particularly grateful to Sarah for sending me a print-out. It is an important paper on the 'whither castle studies' debate, and should be read by everyone (a 'google' search brought up the home page of the journal immediately). Sarah analyses the various approaches being made to castles studies, and these include the symbolists, those who have examined castles by structure, spatial and gender analysis, and the castle and its landscape. She goes on to mention one aspect which does indeed lie dormant at the moment, and that concerns the precise form of the first castles in Britain. In 'Revisionist militarism', the writer states, no doubt to the relief of some/many, that it is impossible to overlook the fact that a castle was a fortified building. It is well known that many a castle was

never involved in warfare, or if they were, it was not until the wars of the 1640s that they were put to the test, but the military aspect should not be ignored, and a number of avenues are postulated.

A journal that has escaped me until recently is the *Journal of Architectural Conservation*. In an issue for 2000 Caroline Stanford espouses the Wigmore approach to the presentation of our ruins, as opposed to the purely archaeological. Geoff Stell, now 'a freelance architectural historian', has written an article for *History Scotland* on various building works that were left unfinished, to varying degrees, for a variety of reasons. These include the castles of Doune, Kirby Muxloe, Llanblethian and Bothwell. The now defunct *Medieval History Magazine*, absorbed by *BBC History Magazine*, has an article on the Edwardian castles of north Wales by Chris Walton, based on an excursion that formed part of the International Medieval Congress, that great event held by the University of Leeds.

Finally in this section, we have two papers in *La fortification au temps des Croisades* on the architecture of the Crusades. Returning to trebuchets, David Nicolle examines the documentary and archaeological evidence for an early form of these machines of war based on a Middle Eastern late twelfth-century military treatise, by Murdâ al-Tarsûsî, and what may be the only example of a medieval mangonel sling extant, now in a private collection. The trebuchet in question could be operated by one man. Denys Pringle's contribution to the volume is on castle chapels, and although it concentrates on the Frankish east, comparisons are made with those in the west.

### **Regional/County Surveys**

The following items are basically in alphabetical order by historic county, starting with England.

Just as this compilation was being completed, the NMGW Library received a large number of British Archaeological Reports (British Series), overdue because of a slight hiatus with BAR and our standing order! One of the volumes was Andrew Lowerre's *Placing castles in the Conquest: landscape, lordship and local politics in the south-eastern midlands, 1066-1100*. I have had no chance to examine it other than to note that it is based on a Ph.D. thesis, and covers the counties of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire and Northamptonshire.

Another Windgather Press book is H. J. Higham's *A frontier landscape*, examining the north-west of England in the Middle Ages. This publication is one of a number of excellent titles that have appeared recently from Richard Purslow's Windgather Press, examining the history and archaeology of various landscapes. The majority cover the prehistoric to modern eras, two of the titles being on the Peak District and the Clwydian Range. The north-west in Higham's book is Cheshire and Lancashire, and a section on castles can be found in chapter 5.

A revised edition of Nicholas Johnson and Peter Rose's booklet *Cornwall's archaeological heritage* appeared in 2003, as did *Scilly's archaeological heritage*, by Jeanette Ratcliffe and Charles Johns, both produced by Cornwall County Council. Tempus has published an archaeological guide by John Beavis to Dorset's World Heritage coast, and besides fortifications of the modern era there is a mention of Rufus or Bow and Arrow castle on Portland. Logaston Press, the publisher of a number of fine books recently on aspects of the architecture of the Welsh



Marches, has published *Herefordshire past and present: an aerial view*. The text is by Ruth Richardson, with the photography by Chris Musson,, and many readers will already be familiar with the quality of Chris's work. A number of castles are included. Sites in Herefordshire and Worcestershire, such as the Herefordshire Beacon and Castlemorton, are mentioned in Mark Bowden's new book *The Malvern Hills*, published by English Heritage.

Phillimore has published *An historical atlas of Kent*, edited by Terence Lawson and David Killingray, and Alan Ward has contributed the section on castles and other defensive sites; there are also sections on later fortifications. A number of papers on earthwork castles by Oliver Creighton have appeared in county journals, and these have been listed in the previous editions of the bibliography. I picked up an additional paper that had not come my way from his *Castles and landscapes* book, a study of Rutland's castles. This county's castles have never received much attention, other than Oakham, so the article is useful for that, as well as furthering the studies of castles and their environs.

Professor J. R. L. Allen has produced a study of building stones in south-east Wales, particularly Sudbrook Sandstone and Dolomitic Conglomerate in the Monmouthshire coastal area between the rivers Usk and Wye. Chepstow and Caldicot castles are mentioned. Logaston Press has published a survey of castles and bishops' palaces in Pembrokeshire by Lise Hull, in its *Monuments in the Landscape* series.

On checking on some titles to be published by the Scottish publisher Goblinshead I came across some booklets on Fife that the firm distributes, published some years ago. These are by Graham Coe and are designed for those touring that part of Scotland. Thomas Welsh's paper on the antiquities of Renfrewshire includes mottes and tower-houses.

The final volume of Mike Salter's survey of Irish castles is now published, covering north Munster: counties Clare, Limerick and Tipperary. Four Courts Press has published earlier this year *The manor in medieval and early modern Ireland*, a collection of essays by recent graduates in archaeology, edited by James Lyttleton and Tadhg O'Keeffe, and includes an 'Afterword' by Tadhg. Other contributions include papers by Linda Shine, Mark Keegan, Matthew Seaver, William Roulston and Brian Shanahan. The volume is not a 'castle book' as such, but there is much in there for the castellologist.

Carleton Jones has explored the archaeology of the Burren (Co. Clare) and the Aran Islands (Co. Galway), and another in the long-running series on Co. Clare tower-houses in *The Other Clare* has been written by Martin Breen and Risteárd ua Cróinín. Cork University Press has published Bill Colfer's study of the Hook Peninsula in Co. Wexford.

Finally, in the latest *Château Gaillard* Colm Donnelly examines the link between the tower-house and its bawn, based on examples in Co. Limerick. He emphasizes that although tower-houses are ubiquitous, the associated bawns have often disappeared or are in a poor state of survival, and this has meant that bawns often remain neglected in tower-house studies. The bawn formed an integral part of the tower-house complex as a whole.

## Education

The English Heritage teacher's handbook to Dover Castle has now appeared. Written by Jonathan Barnes and Jennie Fordham, the 36-page booklet includes activity sheets to be photocopied, a guide to educational approaches that teachers can take when visiting, as well as a general outline of the castle's history and development.

Mike Corbishley's *Aerial photography* in English Heritage's Education on Site series includes Orford Castle as one of its case studies, and in an issue of *Heritage Learning*, EH's magazine for teachers, Ian Coulson and Chris Culpin have contributed an article on castles in context in connection with interpreting sites for secondary school history.

## Guidebooks

For some unknown reason I included a volume in English Heritage's *Heritage unlocked* series in the regional section last year, as opposed to this one, as I did two issues ago. The booklets are indeed 'regional', but they are intended as brief guides to sites in State care, so the new titles are included in this section. The highlight of this part of the bibliographic review is the first in the new series of guidebooks from English Heritage, on Belsay, of which more below.

### *Castles in the care of the State*

Four more *Heritage unlocked* booklets have been published, and with a further two due out this year, the series will have been completed with eight titles. At £5.99 the volumes are not cheap, but they make a very informative and attractive addition to the guidebook genre. Adèle Campbell has edited the booklet on Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, so the fortifications are mainly post-medieval, whilst Katy Carter has edited the other West Country sites (Devon, Dorset and Somerset), Lydford and Nunney being featured here. The booklet on Bristol, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire has been edited by Alan Endacott and Susan Kelleher; Ludgershall and St Briavel's are described here. The fourth volume, edited by Sarah Yates, covers Yorkshire and the north-east, and includes the motte at Skipsea, as well as Bowes and Hylton castles, amongst others.

Now to Belsay. I have been aware for some time that English Heritage has been planning a new series of single monument guidebooks, in a different format to the current ones, with authors from within EH itself or recognized scholars outside that organization. Two formats are planned. The first title appeared this spring and is on Belsay, mainly the early nineteenth-century house, but with a short section on the later fifteenth-century castle and its later wing, written by Roger White. Belsay is in the larger format, almost A4, some 3cm taller than the Cadw guides, but the same width. The guidebooks to appear in the other format will be the same height, but narrower.

The ancestry of EH's new guides is quite clearly Cadw's award-winning guidebooks, and this is not surprising as David Robinson, who now has EH's guides under his wing, was responsible for these initially at Cadw. Belsay (£3.99) has a titled spine, with a narrow red band down the front cover, and red on the back cover, hence 'red guides', as opposed to the old Ministry 'blue' guides. Belsay has front and rear throw-out covers, like the current Cadw guidebooks, with plans,

bird's-eye view, etc. The text inside includes a number of special features, and the whole standard of production, including the typography, is first rate. English Heritage has a slightly freer hand in the layout as the text is much shorter than is to be found in Cadw's guidebooks.

The second guidebook to be published, Joanna Story's *Lindisfarne Priory*, is also in the large format, and I have included it here as the precinct was fortified to some extent in the later Middle Ages.

The first guide to a medieval castle is Jeremy Ashbee's *Goodrich Castle*, which just came out in time for me to include here. Its external appearance is the same as the above two publications, apart from being in the narrow format (width = 16cm). On being informed of this particular format some weeks ago, I must admit I had some doubt as to whether it would work for a guidebook, but I need not have worried, as it is a very fine publication. My only criticism would be that the reproduction of some images is over-reduced, such as the cutaway reconstruction of Chepstow on page 22; this occupies over half of a wider page in the Cadw guidebook. I need to read the text through from cover to cover, but it did seem that the dating of the garderobe tower in the text did not match the phasing on the plan at the end. Nevertheless, all in all, English Heritage deserves to be congratulated on a very impressive start indeed, and I look forward to acquiring others in the series (the best way to obtain copies, besides at the sites themselves, is to phone Gillards on 01761 452966).

English Heritage hopes to publish the following guides in 2005: Birdoswald Roman Fort and Warkworth Castle in the small or narrow format, and Apsley House, Stonehenge and Rievaulx Abbey in the large size. In 2006 it is planned to publish Prudhoe Castle, Peveril Castle, Farleigh Hungerford Castle and Landguard Fort in the small format, and Old Sarum, Kenilworth Castle and Tintagel in the large. At the time of writing (May/June) I believe that Birdoswald is at the printers.

In the Cadw series, developed further superbly by Diane Williams and her team, we have new editions of Arnold Taylor's Beaumaris and Caernarfon, together with David McLees's Castell Coch. There will come a time, I am sure, when the Edwardian castles and town walls will be examined with fresh eyes, but in the meantime additional information is appearing in the Cadw guidebooks in the form of special features. Caernarfon is a case in point, for in the new edition, the sixth, Peter Brears, the food and cooking specialist, has looked at the kitchen area of the castle, and thrown new light on the surviving features, and how this area of the castle would have operated. Peter has also looked at other sites, such as Caerphilly, and will be examining the kitchen remains at a number of others this year, so we can expect to see his work incorporated into new editions of other guidebooks in due course.

Doreen Grove has written the souvenir guide to Historic Scotland's Dunstaffnage, with several reconstruction drawings by David Simon, who has also undertaken similar work in the second of English Heritage's new guides, that to Lindisfarne. Chris Tabraham's 64-page book on Edinburgh Castle looks at the castle as a place of incarceration of prisoners of war in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, the first held there being the crew of the French ship *Chevalier Barte* in 1757.

## *Castles not in State care*

The National Trust has brought out a new guide to Croft Castle in Herefordshire by Oliver Garnett, although in its existing form one hesitates to call Croft a castle, as it now is dated to the early seventeenth century. A vast, almost unmanageable, souvenir guide to Leeds in Kent appeared in 2000 (Nick McCann), and in 1999 English Life Publications published the guide to Alnwick (Colin Shrimpton). I picked up a copy of the current, undated, guide by John Robinson to Arundel at this year's CSG's conference tour, and finally in this section there is the guide to Bolton Castle in Wensleydale. This has no author, and is undated, although it would appear to have been issued about the year 2000.

### **Individual sites - England**

The arrangement of the information that follows in these sections on individual counties is in alphabetical sequence by historic county, beginning with Bedfordshire.

The results of the excavations on the possible site of the castle at Luton in Bedfordshire, built in 1139 and destroyed in 1154, have been written up by Sarah Coles. Part of the defensive ditch was revealed, probably of the bailey, assuming of course that the castle was a motte and bailey, as opposed to a ringwork. Neil Christie and others continue to report on the Wallingford Burgh Project (Berkshire), of which the castle forms a part. A possible quay to serve the castle was located. In the Riverside Meadows a low mound may mark an Anarchy siege castle, and it is hoped that further work can illuminate this hypothesis. Remaining with Berkshire, Nigel Saul has edited a collection of essays on St George's Chapel, Windsor, in the fourteenth century, basically the proceedings of a conference held in 2002. Amongst the papers to note is John Goodall on the Aerary Porch, an analysis of Edward III's building campaigns at Windsor and the employment of masons in 1346-77, by Steven Brindle and Stephen Priestley, and Julian Munby on the carpentry works undertaken for Edward III.

The British Archaeological Association's annual conference in 2001 was based in Carlisle (Cumberland), and the transactions were published last summer. John Goodall examined the great tower of Carlisle Castle, shedding light on its original form, with comparisons being made with Bamburgh (Northumberland) and Richmond (Yorkshire). Bamburgh and Carlisle were probably begun by King Henry I, with Duke Conan of Brittany responsible for Richmond in the 1160s. Bamburgh comes first in the sequence, with Carlisle great tower dating to about 1133. The author also looks briefly at the influence of these three towers on Conisbrough and Newcastle. In the same volume Abigail Wheatley examines Carlisle in the context of medieval Arthurian literature, comparing the material evidence with that for literature and legend. The Carlisle volume also contains a paper by Malcolm Thurlby on Romanesque architecture and sculpture in the diocese, and reference is made on some of the pages to Egremont Castle and its late twelfth-century gatehouse, the passage originally rib-vaulted. A final Cumberland site in the volume is Rose Castle, the main residence of the bishops of Carlisle for centuries and the subject of a paper by Tim Tatton-Brown. The castle in its present form dates to about the middle of the fourteenth century, with later modifications, and this paper is the first for many years to examine the fabric of the castle, even allowing for the publications by A. H. Emery and D. R. Perriam.

Possible evidence for Civil War alterations to Bolsover in Derbyshire has been found (R. Sheppard), and John Allan has examined a group of early seventeenth-century pottery from Sherborne Old Castle in Dorset. In a recent issue of *Archaeologia Cantiana* Derek Renn has looked at the refortification of Rochester (Kent) in the 1220s, and how much of it could be viewed as a Crown/town partnership. There is particular emphasis on what was done after the siege of 1215, with a detailed description, with possible parallels, of the work on the south corner of the castle. English Heritage is publishing through Thames House Books a series of small books (97mm x 78mm; 64 pages; hardback) on specific sites, and Colin Nutt has written the 'volume' on Dover Castle. Who exactly will buy this series at £3.99, I do not know!

The twelfth occasional paper of the Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology contains a number of articles on the early history of Lincoln Castle, edited by Phillip Lindley, and based on the papers given at a conference held in 1995. Most of the papers have not been revised since 1995, but in view of the time-lag between conference and publication, David Stocker accepted the editor's invitation to contribute an additional article. I have not itemized the individual articles in this bibliography, but may do so for the forthcoming *magnum opus*, so will detail them there. For the benefit of those who have yet to study the book, there is no general consensus of opinion on the architectural development of the castle, as the editor stresses in the foreword. David Stocker looks at the two castles built there, the first being a motte of about 1090 situated in the south-west corner of the Upper City, although the Upper City basically is the castle, along with the cathedral close. The second castle, which we see today, is a development of around the middle of the twelfth century, utilizing about a quarter of the Upper City. Michael Thompson basically sees the original castle being that which Stocker has interpreted as the later phase castle, with a second motte added to house the bishop. David Parsons's paper is on urban castles and late Anglo-Saxon towns, whilst Lisa Donel and Michael Jones look at what is known about the castle site in the period before the stronghold was built, and what light the last twenty or so years of investigations has shed on the castle, notably on the West Gate. Pamela Marshall's paper is on the architectural context of the medieval defences, and emphasizes that a thorough survey of the fabric is long overdue. Paul Dalton looks at the people who occupied the castle during the reign of Stephen, particularly in the light of the dispute over the castle control between the earls of Chester and Lincoln and the king. The final paper is by Derek Renn and is on the Cobb Hall Tower, a part defensive, part domestic structure, and of the various construction dates that the author postulates, Renn favours immediately after the French siege of 1217. He sees it as a defensive foretower with sallyports.

Robin Sanderson and Keith Garner have described a research project on Reigate stone, undertaken on behalf of Historic Royal Palaces at Hampton Court Palace and the Tower of London. It is work at the Tower that has produced what might be viewed as the book of the year in castle studies. This is Graham Keevill's report on the excavations undertaken from 1995 to 1999 in the west moat, carried out by what is now Oxford Archaeology as part of the Tower Environs Scheme. One of the more important aspects of the work was the discovery of the short-lived entrance built by Henry III in 1240, short-lived because within a year this barbican tower, possibly standing in front of a twin-tower gatehouse (conjectural), had been abandoned following two collapses. This event was recorded by Matthew Paris in his *Chronica Majora* shortly after the event, and by September 1241 the order had gone out to salvage the timber, lead and freestone.

Keevill's report is more than an account of the abortive western entrance. The first chapter examines the development of the Tower and its environs; an account of past excavations in the moat forms the second chapter; and chapter three is the archaeology in the Tower Environs Scheme. The majority of the following chapters examine six periods of history and archaeology, from the middle of the thirteenth century through to the year 2000. Information on the water depth and quality forms another chapter, and there are three appendices: pottery, clay pipes, and soil data. This is a book for everyone with a serious interest in castles.

A collection of essays on medieval Norwich (Norfolk) has been edited by Carole Rawcliffe and Richard Wilson, and staying with Norwich, Elizabeth Shepherd Popescu has examined the Castle Fee, originally a military enclave within the city, but with Fee rents continuing to be paid well into the eighteenth century. Four later medieval boundary plaques, originally defining the fee boundary, survive, and these are discussed by Steven Ashley.

CSG saw some interesting wooden gates at Arundel this spring, and a further set of castle gates, at Prudhoe in Northumberland, has been studied by Robin Dower, Jane Geddes and David Sherlock. The oak gates from the castle's gatehouse have been restored recently, and were placed back into position in 2003. The timber was analysed using dendrochronology, the dates of felling for one tree being 1459-84. David Crook has looked at fortification immediately following the English set-back at Bannockburn in 1314 through the construction of Clipstone Peel, far to the south in Nottinghamshire, in Sherwood Forest, and a residence used often by Edward II. The construction of peels well away from the Scottish border has intrigued historians for some time, especially the two in Essex, but a recent study of the original documents has shown that the Essex pair were pre-fabricated in that county before being shipped north to be stored in Hull, although one was used at an unknown northern location afterwards. This does not solve the problem as to why Clipstone was built in 1316, but it seems to have been seen as a short-term royal residence, giving the king a measure of protection in an area where the house of Lancaster occupied a strong position. The peel was decommissioned in 1328, although the gatehouse, itself of stone, was still standing in the early fifteenth century. The site has never been investigated archaeologically.

Staying with Nottinghamshire, Keith Challis has taken Laxton as a case study in the examination of settlement morphology and medieval village planning. In Simon Thurley's book of the TV series *Lost Buildings of Britain*, one of the buildings examined was Nottingham Castle – 'Of all the lost buildings of England, none has been so successfully erased from our sight as Nottingham Castle.' Trevor Foulds has looked at William Cavendish's *palazzo* that replaced Nottingham's medieval castle after the English Civil War. Pamela Marshall has examined the transformation of the bailey of Newark Castle in the twelfth century in the latest volume of *Château Gaillard*.

David Sturdy's *Historic Oxford* is one of a number of Tempus books on towns and cities of England. These titles are worth citing in the bibliography, but do not contain a wealth of information on castles etc.

In the latest issue of *Shropshire History and Archaeology* there are three papers to highlight. David Stephenson suggests a possible identification for Castell Coch/Castell Hychoet or Hithoet, a castle destroyed by Llywelyn ab Iorwerth in

1233, namely Castell Bryn Amlwg. The identification of Castell Coch was discussed by David King in *Castellarium Anglicanum* in the 'Obscure names of castles' appendix in vol. 2. Stephenson makes no mention of this reference, although it must be said that DJCK could not come up with an identification – 'This problem is at present insoluble.' Stephenson may well have the answer, and somewhat ironically Bryn Amlwg is a castle on which DJCK contributed a report after it had undergone a small-scale excavation in 1963. Stephenson has also examined Llywelyn ap Gruffudd's claim to Whittington Castle in the same issue of the Shropshire journal.

The recent work that has been undertaken on Shrawardine (pronounced 'Shraydon') Castle, just off the A5 to the north of Shrewsbury (Shropshire), has been written up by N. W. Jones. Funding for the project came through the Local Heritage Initiative, being organized by the Millennium Green Trust. Part of the 'revetment' to the mound, on the west side, has been conserved. Exactly what form the castle took in its masonry phase is difficult to postulate, as the 'Discussion' emphasizes, without further work, notably through excavation.

Peter Leach and Peter Ellis have reported on work undertaken between 1998 and 2001 on the Roman and medieval remains at Manor Farm, Castle Cary in Somerset. Part of the report is given over to a discussion by Stuart Prior on the castle ringwork and its history and development, with additional material by the main authors. Foundations for the curtain wall and evidence for the ditch were found. Staying with Somerset, Yeovil is the subject of another recent Tempus book, with mention of Montacute Castle (Brian & Moira Gittos).

A hoard of coins discovered in 1850 at Framlingham Castle in Suffolk has been discussed by Martin Cross in the *Numismatic Chronicle*. Nicholas Riall has looked at some late twelfth- or early thirteenth-century great brick at Farnham Castle in Surrey. The brick is datable to before 1208 (Pipe Roll record of building work on the shell keep), and represents the first use of great brick as a medieval building material outside East Anglia in a context other than a tile kiln. David Graham has reported on recent conservation work on the Great Gate at Farnham, where the twentieth-century pebble-dashing has been removed to expose the medieval masonry. The masonry of the twin-towered gatehouse does not match the outer curtain wall, which is not surprising if the latter is indeed twelfth century, for only a few gatehouses have been postulated as being late twelfth century (e.g. Chepstow, Pevensey, Dover).

A report on Midhurst in Sussex, a town visited by CSG this year, is the first in a new series of reports, 'Chichester District Archaeology'. Written by John Magilton and Spencer Thomas, it was published in 2001, and contains an account of the castle on St Ann's Hill and the excavations undertaken in 1994. There is also a detailed historical note on the castle by Kathleen Thompson. Herstmonceux Castle was also visited by CSG in April, where we had the benefit of John Goodall's presence, John having had an article on the castle published in that prestigious journal *Burlington Magazine*. The destruction of the interior of the castle in the eighteenth century was vandalism on a grand scale, and undertaken by Samuel, the brother of James Wyatt – Goodall mentions that it is recorded that when the duke of Norfolk visited Herstmonceux after the destruction he suggested that 'the man who caused it to be so pulled to pieces deserved to be hung drawn and quartered.'! One can sympathize with this view, as an excellent idea of the form of the interior can be obtained from James Lambert's drawings made in advance of the destruction in 1776; the drawings can be found in the V & A and the Barbican Mu-

seum, Lewes. It is because of these drawings that John Goodall has been able to reconstruct the fifteenth-century appearance of the castle. He also stressed on site in April that many of the features seen as being innovative in Tudor architecture can in fact be found much earlier, for example at Herstmonceux.

Martha Watson Brown has looked at Richard Neville's work at Warwick in *Medieval History Magazine*, whilst the fortified site at Weoley has a section to itself in Michael Hodder's Tempus volume, *Birmingham: the hidden history*. Finally under England, we return to John Goodall, who has written an excellent account of Old Wardour Castle (Wiltshire) in the April 28th issue of *Country Life*. This remarkable structure was built in the 1390s, with significant alterations made by Robert Smythson in the 1570s. I am sure that English Heritage, in whose care Old Wardour is, do not need me to leap to their defence, but in a later issue of *Country Life* (June 2nd) a correspondent bemoaned the fact that no vegetation is to be seen growing on the ruins. Those who make such comments do not seem to realize the cost to taxpayers if conservation work had to be undertaken to remedy decay through excessive vegetation, although there is of course EH's Wigmore approach. The writer does not appear to have read the article carefully, as he also bemoans the fact that there was no illustration of the handsome 1570s entrance to the main apartments, and included a pen-and-ink drawing to remedy the fact, even though the same view can be seen as John Goodall's Fig. 4!

### **Individual sites - Wales**

Cardigan Castle (Cardiganshire) featured in the second television series of *Restoration*, and also in a book by Philip Wilkinson. Spencer Smith has reported on a recent survey undertaken at Sycharth in Denbighshire, to the south and west of the motte and bailey. A possible bank and ditch, previously unknown, were located, as well as the site of a (possible) collapsed building.

In an issue of the *Journal of Architectural Conservation* for 2002 John Edwards has described the conservation of Cardiff Castle (Glamorgan), a major HLF-funded project, with much of the work concentrated on the Victorian/Burges structures and interiors. Staying in Glamorgan, Ralph Griffiths discusses the battle for Coity (Coety) Castle in 1404, during the Glyn Dŵr uprising, and having finally caught up with the publications of the Neath Antiquarian Society, there is a short piece on Hen Gastell in the volume for 1996-7 (Cliff Morgan).

Whilst preparing background work on the lesser castles of Gwynedd for the forthcoming *Buildings of Wales* volume (Yale University Press, c. 2007/8), I came across, in the file for Cynfal Castle (Merioneth) at Cadw, a copy of the *Talyllyn News* for 1995, the magazine of that railway preservation society. This particular issue had an article on Cynfal by Richard Greenough.

The main publication on a Welsh site over the past twelve months has been Rick Turner's 96-page paper on the Great Tower at Chepstow (Monmouthshire) in *Antiquaries Journal*, a paper to which a number of other people contributed, such as J. R. L. Allen and Chris Jones-Jenkins and Nicola Coldstream. To quote the abstract: 'This article gathers together the documentary, architectural and art historical evidence in an attempt to identify who was the patron of each phase of this remarkable building and what they were hoping it would



provide.' A particular feature of the study is the series of elevations and plans drawn by Rick Turner.

Keith Kissack has written about the architecture of Monmouth, another volume from Logaston Press. A summary account of Dolforwyn in Montgomeryshire appears in a recent issue of *Current Archaeology*, written by the excavator, Lawrence Butler. An aspect of the work highlighted at the end of the article is that, although the interior was fully excavated, it was decided from the start to avoid any disturbance to the fauna and flora in two areas, the town and the ditches, and a certain amount of vegetation is being allowed to return to the castle site. Staying with Montgomeryshire, Bob Higham has summarized the development of Hen Domen from around 1070 to 1270, based on the poster display at the Château Gaillard conference at Maynooth in Ireland in 2002.

I have included the short article by Sheppard Frere on the Roman fort of Colwyn in Radnorshire because of the plan which also shows the castle.

### **Individual sites - Scotland**

John Lewis has published the results of the 1990-96 excavations at Melgund Castle in Angus. The castle was begun in 1543 by Cardinal David Beaton for his mistress, and comprises a tower with hall range attached. Amongst the features excavated was the kitchen with its large fireplace. Another site featured in Philip Wilkinson's *Restoration: the story continues* is Portencross in Ayrshire, a fourteenth-century tower to which a wing was added no later than the early fifteenth century. John Orr has considered the age of the tower at Castle Campbell, Clackmannanshire, dating it to the second half of the fourteenth century, earlier than it has been viewed in the past.

The Old Castle at Caerlaverock (Dumfriesshire) underwent excavation in 1998 and 1999, a project funded by Historic Scotland, and a monograph has been published on the work by the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society. It has been written by Martin Brann plus numerous contributors. The Old Castle dates to around 1200, but was abandoned by the 1270s for the new castle just to the north. The building sequence involved the digging of the moat, followed by the first buildings, which included a masonry chamber block, together with a timber ground-floor hall. A stone curtain wall was added in phase 3, with a masonry hall added in phase 4. An L-shaped range was created through infill in phase 5, and in the final building phase corner towers were added on three sides, a fourth tower possibly having already been in existence in phase 5. Hearths in the hall produced archaeomagnetic dating for last firings of 1250-75 and 1250-1310. Amongst the finds were fragments of Islamic glass from Syria or Egypt, possibly the first examples of medieval glass from the Middle East to be found in Scotland.

James Williams and D. Shiel have written a brief report on the search for Mossknow Tower in Dumfriesshire using resistivity survey, and Jackie Cosh has a piece on Dumbarton Castle in the now defunct *Medieval History Magazine*. Athol Murray has examined the Bishop's Palace, Glasgow, in the period 1598 through to 1744, highlighting two building periods that have not been noted before, namely repairs after 1598 by the duke of Lennox and work by Archbishop Arthur Ross in 1680-86. Charles McKean has a paper on Innes House, Morayshire, a building thought to date to around 1640, although a late sixteenth-century drawing implies

a castle on the site before this. A thorough examination of the evidence has revealed a complicated building history of the structure, and that much of the earlier fabric was well disguised by the seventeenth-century rebuild.

Another report by John Lewis relates to the excavations undertaken at Crookston, Renfrewshire, by Eric Talbot from 1973 to 1975. The castle was originally a twelfth-century earth-and-timber ringwork, with a new castle, a rectangular tower-house, being built about 1400. The article has not been an easy one to write due to the loss of some of the finds, as well as some of the excavation records, so dating is problematic. However, most of the structures uncovered appear to have belonged to the tower-house phase.

In a recent issue of *Postern* Gordon Mason looks at the surviving evidence for Polnoon Castle, Renfrewshire. Douglas Scott has looked at the siege of Cocklaw, Roxburghshire, in 1403 by Henry Hotspur, and regarding Roxburgh itself, Colin Martin and Richard Oram have contributed an article to *History Scotland* on the uncovering of Scotland's lost royal burgh.

### **Individual sites - The Channel Islands**

There is just one item to mention in this section. Ian Stevenson, who has contributed a number of excellent articles over the years to *The Redan*, the magazine of the Palmerston Forts Society, has now examined Jersey's defences, so obviously castle interest here.

### **Individual sites - Ireland**

The recent issue of *Medieval Archaeology* includes Tom McNeill's report on the excavations at Dunineny Castle, Co. Antrim, a small castle built about 1600 by Sir Randall MacDonnell. Dunineny was built not as a place of residence, nor primarily as a military stronghold, but as the centre for the administration of one of MacDonnell's baronies. The castle had a ditch, and a rather ineffectual gate structure and cobbled passage were uncovered, and a number of internal features, including buildings, came to light.

In an issue of *The Other Clare* Brian Hodkinson offers a reinterpretation of the castle at Clarecastle. The castle has been seen as a thirteenth-century structure, based on an early nineteenth-century view showing, apparently, a twin-towered gatehouse. However, the towers in this view are too far apart for a conventional twin-towered gatehouse, and the author has shown that the artist, or engraver, has made an error. A fifteenth-century date for the castle is proposed, the structure being more akin to a tower-house with bawn and simple gateway.

I have only seen a review of C. O'Carroll's book on Knappogue, a restored castle in Co. Clare, published in 2002. Brian Hodkinson looks into the conversion of thirteenth-century Quin Castle into a friary in the fifteenth century. Quin has been seen as a castle that was built around 1280, but was destroyed soon after. An examination of the fabric indicates that although much of the castle is extant, including some curtain wall and the north-west tower, it was never completed following its capture c. 1285.

As part of a study of the Elizabethan colonization of Munster, Eric Klingelhöfer has been examining the home of the poet Edmund Spenser at Kilcolman Castle in Co. Cork, now a ruined tower-house and bawn. The excavations from 1993 to 1996 located the great hall and parlour in the bawn, amongst other features.

Evidence for Nicholas Bagnall's sixteenth-century castle at Newry in Co. Down was uncovered in a small excavation in 2002, and reported by John Ó Néill. An elevation and plans of this 'new Castell' are to be found in The National Archives: PRO at Kew, part of the 1609 Plantation Survey. Even with the archival and archaeological evidence, it cannot be certain whether Bagnall modified and enlarged an earlier tower-house to create a grand semi-fortified house.

In the *Europa Nostra Bulletin* for 2004 Con Manning has outlined the recent work involving the preservation and presentation of the excavated remains at Dublin Castle, particularly around the Powder Tower at the north-east corner of the stronghold. A summary of the castle's history is given, as well as an overview of what was excavated and then displayed for public viewing.

Figurative carvings (sheela-na-gigs and a carved head) on the tower-houses of Fanstown and Springfield, and others, in Co. Limerick are discussed by Rory Sherlock in an issue of the *North Munster Antiquarian Journal*. In the volume of essays on the manor in Ireland mentioned above under 'Regional', one of the chapters reports on the archaeological survey of Monasteroris in Co. Offaly. Sinéad Armstrong-Anthony's contribution covers a complex of masonry buildings and earthworks, including a church, possible hall-house, a gatehouse and a dovecote. There is a small motte with possible bailey. Monasteroris is thus much more than the site of a Franciscan friary.

## **Town Defences**

I made passing reference in the Introduction to the new book by Oliver Creighton and Bob Higham. It is the most important publication on town defences to appear for some years, but it is much more than just a book on fortifications, and so should be read not just by CSG members, but by urban archaeologists and historians too. It will be reviewed, I believe, in more detail in the next issue of our *Journal*. The main chapters cover: foundations - understanding urban defence; expansions - populations, elites and murage; interpretations - topography, architecture and archaeology; explanations - urban identity, status and defence; legacies - the fate and future of town walls; reflections. These chapters are followed by a gazetteer (see Ludlow, below), a research agenda, glossary, notes, bibliography and index. In the latter there appears to be some confusion regarding Great Yarmouth in Norfolk and Yarmouth, Isle of Wight (or Hampshire). Most of the photographs are from the collections of the authors, and a few leave a bit to be desired in terms of reproduction. These are minor points, however, and do not detract from a great book.

Stuart Blaylock kindly sent me a copy of the Exeter city wall survey undertaken in 1993 and 1994, issued in 1995, as well as a copy of the Devon Archaeological society's field guide to the walls, published in 1998. If I remember correctly, my request for these came from seeing reference to them in the Creighton and Higham book. The field guide leaflet is aimed at those wanting to

follow the evidence that exists today for the defences. The other publication is the end result of a project funded by English Heritage and Exeter City Council, a project that had a number of aims: to give an account of the fabric, to assist with the future conservation of the monument; to review the present treatment of the walls; to provide the legislative and administrative background to the procedures of maintenance and repair; and to advance the longer-term study and publication of the defences of the city.

Remaining with Devon, a report on the excavations of the northern defences of the *burh* and medieval town of Totnes has been written by Martin Dyer and John Allan. The primary organic deposit in the c. 5m-deep ditch fronting the rampart dates to the eleventh or twelfth century, and it is thought that the defences were abandoned towards the end of the Middle Ages. The article includes the results of observations made in recent years on other parts of the defensive circuit. Sheila Sweetinburgh has examined the defences of Dover in the later Middle Ages. The article is in four parts, covering the defences to around 1300, the extent and funding of the walls thereafter, construction and repair in the later Middle Ages, and the role and function of the fortifications. It is interesting to note that the prime concern for the citizens of Dover in the fourteenth century was defence against enemies, whilst in the following century it was still defence, but defence against the sea.

Derek Renn kindly supplied me with a reference to a 64-page booklet by C. J. Train on Ludlow's town defences, published in 1999, a publication unknown to me (and also Creighton and Higham); it is a good thing that I do not claim that my bibliography represents everything published on the subject! Having been able to acquire a copy on the web, it is clear that there is much more to Ludlow's fortifications than I was aware of, notably the great mural tower that illustrates the booklet's cover. The publication was the first in a new series of research papers published by the Ludlow Historical Research Group. Staying in Shropshire, Nigel Baker's booklet on archaeological discoveries from medieval Shrewsbury includes the town defences.

The Midhurst volume by John Magilton and Spencer Thomas, mentioned above, includes a section on the defences of this Sussex town. Two volumes on Winchelsea, in the same county, one by David and Barbara Martin, the other edited by David Martin and David Rudling, were published last year, important contributions to Sussex archaeology. The first examines all aspects of this medieval town, with the fifth chapter being on the defences. The second volume reports on the various excavations carried out in the town from 1974 to 2000, including the town defences. These well presented reports form the second and third volumes of the monograph series initiated by the Field Archaeology Unit of the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, and are published by Heritage Marketing and Publications Ltd at Great Dunham in Norfolk, a new publisher, I believe, of archaeological monographs.

Moving to Wales, one of the semi-circular mural towers on the line of Brecon's defences was uncovered in 2003; although it is possible that the tower formed part of a town gate, the relatively slight nature of the structure would point more to mural tower than gatehouse. The report has been written by Graham Cruse and others.

In Scotland Colin Wallace has examined the case for sixteenth-century town defences at Annan (Dumfriesshire) 'a case not yet proven'. A Scottish Archaeological Internet Report by John Lawson and David Reed reports on a project on the Flodden Wall in Edinburgh undertaken from 1998 to 2001, involving archaeological investigation and building recording. Colin Wallace and others also look at Edinburgh's defences in the sixteenth century in an issue of *History Scotland*.

The City Guides series in Ireland now has a volume on Cork, by Kieran McCarthy. The massive volume (over 700 pages) by Elizabeth FitzPatrick and others on excavations in the city of Galway from 1987 to 1998 has now been published, and I refer readers to pages 309-36 in particular, an overview of the town walls and fortifications by Paul Walsh. It covers the post-medieval defences, as well as the medieval. An account of the siege of Derry/Londonderry has been written by Carlo Gèbler.

*Decies*, the journal of the Waterford Archaeological & Historical Society, is not a publication I tend to get to see unless I visit Dublin, but fortunately a copy of No. 60 was sent to the NMGW because of a Viking-related article. In this issue there is also a paper by Ben Murtagh on the Double Tower at Waterford. This tower is situated at the southern end of the defences, and was built originally in the later Middle Ages as a free-standing structure on the remains of an earlier gateway, as the city wall butts on to the tower on either side.

### **Forthcoming Publications**

Some items mentioned in this section last year have yet to appear, but I will refrain from mentioning them again. If they are not discussed in this issue, then they have either still to appear (e.g. the Buildings of Wales volume on Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire) or I have not yet come across them.

A revised reprint of the Logaston Press book on Ludlow Castle is due to be published, as the book is out of print. The third volume of Anthony Emery's great trilogy has been advertised by Cambridge University Press. The year 2006 may see books written by John Goodall, Pamela Marshall and Tadhg O'Keefe being published. If John Goodall's book is in the traditional Yale University Press format for architectural books, then this title could well be the book of the decade! Yale are also bringing out a volume on Dublin in the *Buildings of Ireland* series, and in the equivalent series for Scotland there will soon be a volume on the Borders.

A volume on Co. Sligo in the archaeological surveys series has just appeared, according to the latest issue of *Archaeology Ireland*, but I have yet to see a copy, so I will have to leave this book until next year. Rob Poulton's report on the excavations at Guildford Castle is imminent, and a reprint of my *Medieval Fortifications* is scheduled for publication in October this year.

I have mentioned the English Heritage guidebooks due in 2005-6 above; in Wales a new edition of Chepstow is on the cards.

I have not seen recent issues of the *Société Jersiaise Annual Bulletin* to know whether Neil Rushton's examination of the sixteenth-century remodelling of Mont Orgueil Castle has been published yet.

Goblinshead are due to publish further titles on the castles of Scotland, and Geoff Stell has informed me that, at long last, *Lordship and architecture in medieval and renaissance Scotland* is due to be launched at the end of September. Finally, I believe that the Launceston Castle excavations are about to be published, presumably written by Andrew Saunders.

## **Medieval Fortifications in Europe and elsewhere**

As usual, the following items are in no particular order, the compiler simply working through the shelves beside him. The books and articles mentioned are not listed in the Bibliography below; further information can be obtained from the compiler, either through the post or by e-mail: [john.kenyon@nmgw.ac.uk](mailto:john.kenyon@nmgw.ac.uk)

Christian Corvisier has written a well illustrated booklet on certain French castles: *L'Île-de-France des châteaux forts*, published last year by Parigramme.

In the Osprey series 'Fortress', David Nicolle, in No. 21, examines Crusader castles in the Holy Land in the period 1097 to 1192, and due out later this year is the companion volume to it, the post-1192 period through to 1302, by the same author. In the same series, Stephen Turnbull has written the second part of the study of the castles of the Teutonic Knights, examining the stone castles of Latvia and Estonia from 1185 to 1560 (Fortress 19). Adam Hook has illustrated the Holy Land book, Peter Dennis the other title.

Mention has already been made of two papers in the book on fortification at the time of the Crusades, edited by Nicolas Faucherre and others (Denys Pringle on chapels and David Nicolle on trebuchets). There are some fifteen other papers, including Michael Cohen on Gybelin, Christian Corvisier on Beaufort and Nicholas Prouteau on conscription of specialists during the Crusades for both castle building and siege warfare.

The main theme of the 58th issue of the *Europe Nostra Bulletin* is the restoration and evaluation of the walled city of Istanbul (Constantinople). However, besides the Dublin Castle article mentioned above there is a variety of papers on medieval and later fortification, including Cracow and the castles of Bohemia.

The bailey was the theme of the 21st volume of *Château Gaillard*, although some authors appear to have adopted a wider approach than just this aspect of castle studies. Articles include the baileys of castles in Bohemia and in the Rhineland. The volume also includes obituaries of Arnold Taylor, by Peter Curnow and Joseph Decaëns.

## **Corrections to Bibliography 17**

The entries for Chris Tabraham's publications on page 26 should have come before D. Topen's booklet.

## **Acknowledgements**

Each year a number of people send me details of publications, and sometimes copies of the booklets or articles themselves. I would like to thank this time round Stuart Blaylock for Exeter material, Oliver Creighton for a copy of his castles in Rutland paper, John Goodall for Herstmonceux, Peter Harrison for a copy of his

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Apologies to anyone that I have omitted inadvertently!

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The bibliography may include some material not mentioned in the above review. The dates cited for periodicals are those years for which they have been issued. An author's initials appear as published, so, for example, John Goodall is down as Goodall, J., as well as Goodall, J. A. A.

**Please notify me of any omissions from, or errors in, the following listing. Also, I would welcome offprints of any papers that I have listed in this and previous issues, and please could authors note this request re. forthcoming material. Having such material to hand makes the compilation of the CSG bibliographies and the forthcoming [hopefully] "CBA4" so much easier!**

**WILL READERS PLEASE NOTE: As I am getting close to producing the bibliography for 1945 through to 2005, it is vital that I am informed of any errors and omissions that you may have spotted in the three CBA volumes and the CSG bibliographies, so that I can ensure that the cumulative volume is as infallible as humanly possible! Many thanks.**

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