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*Heir of Antiquity! - fair castle Town,
Rare spot of beauty, grandeur, and renown,
Seat of East-Anglian kings! - proud child of fame,
Hallowed by time, illustrious Framlingham!*

From: *Framlingham: a Narrative of the Castle*,
by James Bird (1831)

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L. R. Squirrell's pastel drawing of the *Castle Gateway* in 1924 is held in a private collection. Permission to reproduce free of Artists Rights has been generously granted by the artist's daughter, Mrs Annette Kenny

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Intellectual Property Rights and a Request

‘Intellectual Property Rights’ – an intimidating phrase and it becomes even worse when amplified as ‘written, printed, visual images, digital’. For a scholarly journal, which *FRAM* seeks to be, copyright is an issue that has to be seriously addressed. *Oxford English Reference Dictionary* (2nd edition (1996) page 319) states “In Britain copyright generally subsists for the author’s lifetime plus fifty years.”

As the editor of *FRAM* I have two items that I feel confident are well worthy of publication but I lack the authorisation from their respective authors to do so. One is a history of the Mid-Suffolk Railway by Ben Kilburn, the other a demographic analysis of Framlingham parish registers by E, A, Wrigley. Can any reader of the journal provide me with contact details for these individuals or their immediate descendants?

The issue tht this editorial seeks to address is one that I came across more than once during my eleven years as editor of *Guildhall Studies in London History*, a peer reviewed journal that circulated widely both in the UK and abroad. I therefore sought guidance from the Corporation of London’s solicitor’s department. Their advice was that. Provided every effort had been made to contact , copyright holder and that the actions could be substantiated , then subsequent publication of the paper concerned would not be an offence.

Hence, therefore, the appeal for information contained in this editorial.

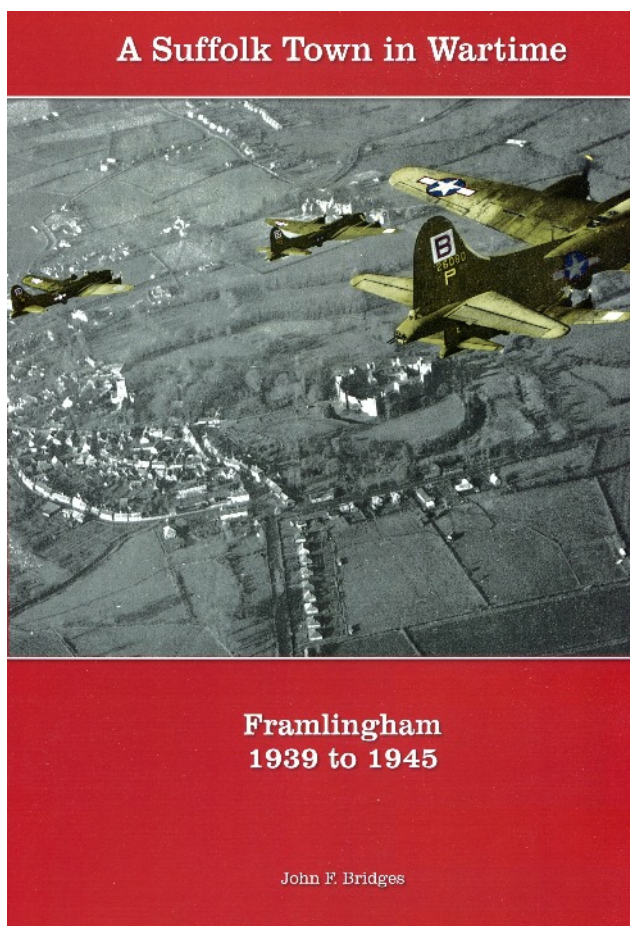
Bob Roberts



Dressed up for dancing around the Maypole, c. 1908
<http://framlinghamarchive.org.uk>

A Review by John Lilley of John F. Bridges' book *A Suffolk Town in Wartime - Framlingham 1939 to 1945* published in 2018.

I was delighted to be asked to review the book by John Bridges *A Suffolk Town in Wartime - Framlingham 1939 to 1945*. As a soldier with 34 years' service, albeit as a part-timer in the Territorial Army, I thought I knew quite a lot about warfare and particularly about the Second World War. How wrong I was! This book records the trials and tribulations of local people and the life changing nature of what was required on the Home Front to protect themselves from the onslaught of a violent enemy. My interest in warfare previously had been more to do with the conduct of war on the military fronts all over the world involving strategic decisions made by Military High Commands and Government Directives.



This book, as its title suggests, is about local people in our town of Framlingham and its surrounding districts. It is full of fascinating facts of how life had to change in order to deal with the threat of a German land invasion and the incessant German bombing raids in the skies over our country.

The build-up to the war is dealt with in the opening chapter. Starting as early as 1935, preparations were being made for the possibility of war. The need for a Drill Hall to begin the training of new soldiers and Air Raid Precautions is dealt with in the summarised chronology which is the first chapter and which records events up to 1945. The chapter gives details of many local men who were killed, some of whom were serving in France, some on returning aircraft, and some dealing with unexploded bombs around Framlingham. At the end of the chapter there is a tribute to all the gallant men folk who made possible the victory celebrations at the end of the war and especially to those who had made the supreme sacrifice.

The later chapters are full of information about how local people gave up their hobbies and interests in order to defend our town from an invading enemy. A myriad of defence works were built to slow up or prevent the German

Army from penetrating further westwards having landed on the east coast. Pill-boxes sprang up in many parts of the town and some are still visible today. Before any actual invasion, air raid precautions had to be devised and then continued throughout the war. There were different forms of shelter including blast walls and Morrison Table Shelters. Anderson Shelters were set up in some private gardens. Some public shelters were unpopular because of sanitation problems. There was a great fear of the possibility of gas attacks and gas masks were issued and decontamination facilities set up.

The Fire Service needed to change and so the new Auxiliary Fire Service was set up to deal with bombings and aircraft crashes. Policing had to change also to cope with the expanding range of duties and deal with contraventions of new lighting directives. Imagine the darkness of the town with no street lighting and cars only using sidelights.

Of course, the book deals with an invasion of a different sort - a Friendly Invasion as it is described - namely the coming of the Americans into the airfield at Parham where there is a museum today. The Americans were popular and generous and a number of marriages resulted from wartime friendships.

Farming had to change although the changes were not always popular with farmers. Before the war, 70% of our food was imported but the German naval presence placed the reliance on imports at risk. So officials appointed by the Ministry of Agriculture visited farms to order, in effect, farmers what to grow. The Women's Land Army was formed in 1939 and assisted in jobs which had traditionally been a male preserve. Italian and German prisoners of war were used to work on the farms.



Royal Engineers on the Castle Meadow

The later chapters of the book deal with the bombings on College Road and Albert Road. The College Road bombing caused much destruction and the death of the Infant School Headmistress, Miss Caroline Harvey. The Albert Road bombing resulted in the death of Mrs Maria Stannard and her two sons, Leslie aged 13 and Neville aged 5.

It is often said, and I agree, that war brings out the best and the worst in mankind. This book portrays that sentiment insofar as it describes what good and decent people will do for their fellow human beings, especially those in need of help. But it also displays the utter carnage that results from warfare.

I thoroughly recommend this book to everyone. Amongst its many values, it can be quite emotional at times.

DANIEL DICKERSON'S PARLIAMENT CLOCK?

By John F. Bridges

The Lanman Museum is proud to have on display a clock made by Framlingham clockmaker Daniel Dickerson. It has been described as a 'Parliament Clock' but this term may not be correct, and this article looks into its background. George Cooper took a great interest in this clock and owned it for some time. He was much involved with our Society, and an editor of the early Newsletters. Reference is made to the clock in the following Newsletters:

June 1969. In Framlingham one [Parliament Clock] was put into the cupola building which used to stand opposite [the present site of] Barclays Bank on Market Hill. The tax only lasted one year, 1796-7. When the building was demolished in 1813 the clock was sold and eventually Mr Geo. Cooper purchased it. He has put it in working order. The clock, termed an 'Act of parliament' clock is in a black wooden case and has a square face. This name is sometimes applied incorrectly to clocks of similar style but with round face. [This was written by E. C. Shanks, but presumably based on information provided by George Cooper].

April 1974. He [Dickerson] made the Framlingham Act of Parliament clock which has his name on it... The clock hung in the Cupola on the Market Hill. When this was pulled down the clock was sold to Mr S K Barker, another well-known maker of watches and long case clocks. The clock passed to his daughter who married Mr Thomas Wright, a much loved church organist for 50 years. For a long time the clock hung in the Old School (now the Masonic Hall) [in New Road]; it was lent to the Crown Hotel, where it hung in the old Corn Hall and when that was converted into more hotel accommodation, the Editor [G W Cooper] bought it from the Wright family and still has it in his home. It is worth pointing out that public spirited places such as Framlingham, Woodbridge and Ipswich bought these clocks by public subscription. [This was written by George Cooper].



It was William Pitt who introduced the tax in 1797, with 5/- (25p) being due on clocks, 2/6 (12.5p) on pocket watches of silver or other metal, and 10/- (50p) on gold cased watches. It was a very unpopular tax, and caused much loss of trade to the industry, and was repealed after only nine months. This was such a short period of time that few clocks could have been produced in that period for general public use. There is inevitably uncertainty about whether this is an Act of Parliament clock or not, as similar ones, commonly called 'Tavern Clocks', were made from around 1715¹. This is a bit of a conundrum, as there is much conflicting evidence. The first Newsletter article refers to the 'cupola building', and that it was demolished in 1813. Close inspection of the clock actually shows a much faded painting of a cupola type building on the lower door. However, there are no obvious records in relation to a building of that name on the Market Hill at that time, but there is reference to the school in the Market Cross, which was on the Market Hill, and demolished around 1789. *Green's History*² refers:

The Dickerson Tavern Clock in the Lanman Museum.
© Simon Garrett

The school was originally kept in an upper room belonging to the Market-Cross, a large building formerly standing upon the Market-Hill, but the College [Pembroke College, Cambridge] having, in 1788, ordered it to be taken down, a new and more commodious School-House was erected contiguous to Sir Robert Hitcham's Almshouse, standing at the western extremity of the mere.



Detail on clock door showing outline of cupola type building. This could be the only depiction of The Market Hill Cross which was demolished c.1789. © Simon Garrett

In the *Framlingham Weekly News* articles in 1893, which refer back to a time some 65 years before then, we find an interesting entry in article No V111.

The Market Hill Cross was pulled down about the year 1789. It was an open building, with small shops in the outer circle. The Free Schoolroom was the chamber of the Cross, with broad heavy steps outside leading up to it. At this time a more commodious school room was erected adjoining Sir Robert Hitcham's almshouses.

This accords with Green's History and also provides some additional detail. The painting on the clock case is in line with the above description, from which it can be reasonably concluded that this clock was in the Market Cross prior to it being demolished around 1789. It also ties up with Cooper's description of it being a Cupola. The new Hitcham School (now the Masonic Hall in New Road) was built onto the end of the almshouses at the same time, and was in use until 1879. Cooper refers to the clock being in this school. S K Barker was born in 1800, so he would not have acquired it until a much later date. Cooper was essentially recording information that had been passed down, but over such a long period of time it is not surprising if all the information does not tie up neatly. In *Suffolk Clocks and Clockmakers*³ the authors refer to *Clocks and Watches*⁴ by Eric Bruton, and state that the Dickerson clock 'probably dates from c.1760'.

What do we know of the life of Daniel Dickerson? He was born around 1720, but his place of birth is currently unknown. His family may have been in Framlingham here at some time for reasons that will become clear. In 1740 he married Priscilla Drake of Wortham, in Norwich. Their children are recorded in the Diss parish records, with Priscilla baptised in 1744, John in 1746 but he only lived for about 18 months. Nicholas was baptised in 1750 but he only survived just over a year. A daughter Sarah died in 1753, and Elizabeth was baptised in 1755. In 1753, there is a record of Daniel being apprenticed to Thomas French of Norwich⁵.

A significant document⁶ is a Framlingham Settlement certificate for the family dated 14th July, 1755, from Diss. This indicates that the family had applied for Poor Relief in Diss. Parishes did not want such families to



be a financial burden to them, and the family would be required to provide a certificate stating their place of origin, which in this case was Framlingham. The certificate refers to Daniel, his wife Priscilla, children William, Ann, Priscilla, Elizabeth and Sarah. There are clearly more children on the certificate than in the above list.

One can imagine that even in July, the journey to Framlingham over poor roads, perhaps in some form of cart with five very small children, would have been very difficult. Priscilla was also pregnant at the time. We do not know whether he had any family remaining in Framlingham who could put them up. We do know that further children were born here, with baptisms of Rosanna in December 1755, James in 1758, Samuel in 1760 (around the time our Tavern Clock was made), Charles in 1761, Daniel in 1762, Bridget and Eleanor, twin daughters in 1763 and Frances on 23rd August 1765.

Sadly, we see that Priscilla was buried on the same date that her daughter was baptised, presumably she had died in childbirth. It was common for men to remarry quickly, and Daniel married Jane Doughty of Framlingham by licence dated 11th June, 1767, which stated he was a watchmaker.

In 1772 he is recorded as having an apprentice Samuel Aldous. There is no doubt that Daniel was making some fine clocks around this period, and his long-case clock, also in the Lanman Museum, is from around 1775. Soon after this, he seems to have moved to Eye and is noted as a 'principal inhabitant' there in 1778, with clocks recording his name and that location. His financial position had significantly improved as he bought the established clock and watch business of Edward Moore in Brook Street, Ipswich, in 1789⁷. He was 69 years old at this time.

However, he was not there long, as he placed an advert in December 1790 stating that he had opened a shop in Market Place, Framlingham, where he 'makes, mends and sells all sorts of clocks and watches'.⁸ A deed of 28th March, 1794 describes him as a 'clock and watchmaker of Framlingham.'

Dickerson long case clock of c.1775, also in the Lanman Museum.

© Simon Garrett

His wife Jane died in 1800 and was buried on 4th July in Framlingham. Daniel died the next year, aged 81, in the parish of Redenhall with Harleston. His premises in Framlingham were sold, as noted in the *Ipswich Journal* in 1801. 'Samuel Taylor, watchmaker, silversmith, bookseller etc. respectfully informs friends and customers that he is removed to the house and shop lately occupied by Mr Dickerson on the Market Hill, where he hopes to merit continuance of those favours which have been so liberally conferred on him for the last 15 years'.⁹ Samuel Taylor had been an apprentice clock and watchmaker, and had previously opened a shop near the Griffin on the Market Hill in 1785.¹⁰

Daniel's son, also called Daniel, followed the same trade, opening a shop in Harleston, Norfolk in 1791, but he later got into difficulties. *The Norfolk Chronicle and Gazette*, 17 January, 1807 recorded, 'Daniel Dickerson has been committed to the Castle for swindling several persons out of their watches under pretence of mending them.'

Weighing up the evidence regarding the Tavern/Parliament clock, my thoughts are that the clock was in the Market Cross prior to the time when it was demolished around 1789, and therefore cannot be an Act of

Parliament clock, for which it would have to be eight years later. Our clock would normally be described as a 'Tavern Clock'.

The likely course of events is that following demolition of the Market Cross, the clock was then hung in the new school. At some later date Samuel K Barker acquired it, and then his daughter, before eventually finding its way into the Corn Hall in the Crown Hotel. When that was converted into more hotel space in 1952, George Cooper acquired it. The clock was donated to the Lanman Museum in 1985. The faded painting on the clock could be the only pictorial record of the Market Cross.

There are also long-case clocks on display by Dickerson, Barker and Percy, all Framlingham makers. One of many good reasons to visit the Lanman Museum in the castle.

Notes

¹ Martin Gatto, *The Tavern Clock*, Tavernicus Publishing, 2010, p. 8. Clocks still referred to as 'Tavern' and 'Act of Parliament'. Apart from an inaccurate association with an Act of Parliament, the term Tavern is used for clocks which have never been hung in a hotel, inn or pub.

² R. Green, *The History, Topography and Antiquities of Framlingham and Saxted*, 1834, p. 183

³ Arthur L. Haggard and Leonard F. Miller, *Suffolk Clocks and Clockmakers*, 1974

⁴ Eric Bruton, *Clocks and Watches*, Hamlyn Publishing Group, 1968

⁵ Brian Loomes, *Watch and Clockmakers of the World*, NAG Press, 2006

⁶ Suffolk Record Office (SROI), Ipswich, FC 101/G/9/1/54

⁷ SROI, *Ipswich Journal*, 2 May, 1789

⁸ *Ibid*, 4 December, 1790

⁹ *Ibid*, 18 April, 1801

¹⁰ *Ibid*, 18 June, 1785



Alfred (Bo) Kerridge in his postal uniform 1915. He delivered the post to Badingham for a year, before joining the army to fight in France (see photograph on p. 12) <http://framlinghamarchive.org.uk>

THE EARL SOHAM BIER

By Jo Rothery

The bier, on prominent display in the Lanman Museum, was made by Frank Baldry, a general builder, undertaker and proprietor of The Falcon Inn in Earl Soham. The Falcon closed in the 1990s having been in existence for over 200 years. The bier used to be stored on Little Green on the right hand side of Swynford Cottage. The door for the shed is to be found as a gate in my garden, given to me by Swin Rogers who at the time owned the cottage. This was just before he retired to Framlingham in the early 1990s.



The bier had shafts so that it could be pulled by a horse. There was also a small bier for children that could be carried. I believe that it was customary to line the bier with turf.

So far as I can discover the bier was last used for Florence Crickmere (*entry 138 and 229 in Burial Register*). The fee for usage on 24th July 1960 was nine shillings and the officiating minister was Rev. Foster (Earl Soham Cemetery receipt book). There are no further entries for the use of the hearse in the book that ends 29th November 1963 and use seems to have petered out around 1960.

It was the usual practise to charge double fees for people living outside of the parish and was still the case when I was parish clerk. The first entry in the book showed the cost of the use of the hearse on 18th January 1941 at four shillings & six pence. The rate seems to have remained unaltered for some while as a funeral in Ashfield-cum-Thorpe on 24th February 1954 was charged at nine shillings (Earl Soham receipt book entry 102). Double charge was also made for H. Osborne who was residing at Hartismere Hospital, Eye (i.e. out of parish) who is buried on the Chapel side of the Cemetery.

The Earl Soham Bier in the Lanman Museum © Simon Garrett



It may be useful to differentiate between the Cemetery, the graveyard and the Garden of Remembrance (still available for ashes today). The Cemetery is run by the Parish Council and the graveyard by the Church. When the graveyard was full it was a requirement that the Parish started the Cemetery,

THE END OF THE GREAT WAR

FRAMLINGHAM

By John F. Bridges

Following the signing of the Armistice on November 11, 1918 it could take a long time before those in the armed services would get back to their homes. Morgan Watts, who had been involved with motor transport and driving an anti-aircraft gun lorry to the front lines, was soon sent to the ASC camp near the Rhine, where he had to work on the Four Wheel Drive vehicles. In January he got his first leave and returned to England. He was keen to start work again with A.G. Potter the Framlingham Ford sub-dealer. Before he could do that he had to attend Ipswich Labour Exchange to get his papers endorsed, then go to Woolwich Arsenal for his release papers, before reporting to the dispersal camp in Thetford.



The Comrades of The Great War was founded in 1917, and later amalgamated with several other associations to become the British Legion.

A 'Welcome Back' tea party was held in Framlingham on the 18 January for thirty-six wounded and discharged soldiers who had been prisoners of war. Soon after, a 'Welcome Home and Celebration Committee' was formed with Reverend Lanchester as chairman and Aubrey Wicks as secretary. They were planning a main day of celebration for the 19 July. Proceedings started at 11 am with a parade through the streets led by 'Comrades of the Great War' carrying a large banner. They were followed by the brass band and then the wounded soldiers along with a Red Cross nurse who were in a horse-drawn open carriage. Many more servicemen then followed, along with the College OTC, College boys and motor cars with senior citizens, plus all the schoolchildren each carrying a flag.

Returning to the Market Hill, speeches were given by the Rector and W.T. Brunger (secretary of the College, whose son Robert was awarded the DSO. He was killed on October 8, 1918). A *feu de joie* (each soldier fires his rifle in succession to make a continuous sound!) by the College OTC was followed by Major Ling calling

for three rousing cheers for the King. One hundred elderly people later sat down to a meal at the Crown Hotel. The day was completed by dancing, a form of military tattoo, a bonfire and fireworks.



Troops marching up Bridge Street on Peace day, July 19th 1919. Seated in the back of the wagon is Bo Kerridge. On his nineteenth birthday, just two months before the end of the war, he lost his arm when a shell exploded nearby

The programme of events for that day was so full that it did not include a meal for the homecoming soldiers. They were later treated to a dinner on the 14th August, when some 150 men representing the fighting forces on all battle fronts sat down for a splendid meal on tables in the Crown Hotel yard, with music provided by the Framlingham string band, followed by a smoking concert.



The unveiling of the war memorial on 30th March 1921.

Lieutenant Colonel Brettell had proposed that there should be some form of war memorial in May 1917. At that time, he had established that there were 265 men serving in the armed forces from Framlingham and Saxtead. He wrote to the *Framlingham Weekly News (FWN)* suggesting that a suitable memorial or 'war shrine' could be placed on the Market Hill. He felt this would "give no offence to anyone, as it will be a memorial to all men irrespective of creed or politics".

A committee was formed, and it was announced in *FWN* on 17 December 1918 that the proposal for the memorial would be:

A monument of polished granite to be placed on the Market Hill with rough hewn steps and an obelisk in marble and bronze with a gas lamp thereon and the names of all men who had lost their lives in the war from the parish to be inscribed on the pedestal.

In 1919 the Council applied for war trophies, and received a German machine gun which was put in the custody of the Territorials. In addition a German field gun was also allocated to the town, and was soon located in the castle, as the Market Hill was not considered a suitable position.



PARISH OF FRAMLINGHAM.

Peace Celebrations

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME

OF THE

Day's Proceedings

AT THE

CASTLE MEADOW

SATURDAY, JULY 19th, 1919.

PRICE SIXPENCE

Maulden Printer

By early 1920 the mood had changed, and it was finally determined that the memorial would be in the churchyard. It would be 18 feet high and made of Portland stone. The cost of the work by local stonemason George Dale (Junior) was £320, with the total including architect's expenses etc. being £417. The sum of £438 had been raised, and the surplus went to providing a book of remembrance in the church.

The unveiling ceremony was held on Wednesday 30 March 1921. The service was conducted by Reverend Lanchester aided by Reverend W.H. Sands (Unitarian) and Mr W. Edmunds. Lieutenant Colonel F.W. Turner unveiled the memorial, which was dedicated by Canon Abbay of Earl Soham. The last post and reveille were played by a bugler of the College OTC, and funeral tributes laid by members of the organising committee, and relatives of the fallen.

There are 101 names on the Suffolk Roll of Honour for Framlingham. The war had the most profound effect on the country and all its towns and villages. From our perspective 100 years later, it is difficult to comprehend how our small town could come to terms with such devastating changes to its social fabric.

THE RED HOUSE PART 3

This is the third of a series of extracts from a report produced on the Red House in Framlingham Castle by Historic England.

*Framlingham Castle, Suffolk The Red House, formerly Framlingham Workhouse
by Emily Cole and Kathryn Morrison (2016)*

Medieval and Tudor Structures in the Inner Court

At the time of Hitcham's death in 1636, a number of buildings remained standing in the Inner Court of Framlingham Castle. He requested in his will that they all be demolished except 'the stone building'.³⁵ This was the north range (Fig. 13), which contained the Great (or Dining) Chamber.

With the exception of the north range, in accordance with Hitcham's expressed wishes, the existing buildings were demolished before the Red House was built in 1664. Writing around 1730, Robert Hawes (1665-1731), the one-time Steward of Framlingham and a Trustee of Hitcham's Estate, described the demolished buildings as: *'The chapple, Great hall, the buttry, pantry, skullery, the Inner Kitchin, prevy Kitchin, pastry, porter's lodge, with the Chambers over them, the wine-seller, beerseller, the Brewhouse and Millhouse'*.³⁶

The Chapel is known to have been demolished in 1657.³⁷

A guidebook of 1865 claimed that the 'dining room', meaning the castle's Great Hall, was levelled in 1658 and the materials sold to Southwold to repair buildings following a devastating town fire of 1659.³⁸ It is clear that the demolition of the Great Hall must have pre-dated the construction of the Red House, which was positioned to its immediate south.



Fig. 13 Robert Hawes's drawing of the north range of Framlingham Castle, as it stood prior to its demolition in 1700, with the Red House to the left. From Pembroke College N5. (By permission of the Master and Fellows of Pembroke College, Cambridge.)

The north elevation of the Red House is built of the same brickwork, and in the same style, as the rest of the building: it would have been visible, and never abutted an earlier structure (unlike the east side, which abuts the curtain wall). A date of 1658 for the demolition of the Great Hall accords with this evidence. The north block was at the high end of the medieval Great Hall, running between the curtain wall (on the west) and the Chapel (on the east). In its present form, the block is believed to have been built or heavily remodelled in c.1585-86, based on dendrochronological analysis of timbers on both ground and first floors.³⁹ The large brick stack and internal fire surround certainly date from around that period. The north range contained the Great Chamber, or Dining Room, and was described by Robert Hawes in 1712 as follows:

*Between the Hall and Chapell fronting the Great Castle-Gate, was a large chamber, with several Rooms and a Cloyster under it, pulled down in the year of our Lord, One Thousand and seven hundred; for which, when standing in the reign of King Henry the Eighth, there was a suit of Hangings of the story of Hercules.*⁴⁰

Around 1730, Hawes described the part of the castle which was retained after Hitcham's death more fully as: *'The Dyning-Room, & the Great or Common Kitchin, with the Chambers and low Rooms to them belonging'*.⁴¹ Nothing more is known about the Great Kitchen: possibly, Hawes had mistakenly identified a room which earlier served as the Great Parlour.

Documents in the Archives of Pembroke College reveal that the bulk of the north range was demolished in early 1700. In 1697 representatives of the town of Framlingham, in a letter from the Steward Richard Porter, requested the range for use as a workhouse (see below).⁴² They argued that they had desperate need of this due to the high rate of unemployment amongst men who could not spin. The Trustees initially agreed, but then decided to sell the building for the value of its demolition materials, a total of £70, to Porter's great disappointment.⁴³

The only known illustration of the north range of the castle was included by Robert Hawes in a critical account of Hitcham's Charity, written around 30 years after its demolition (see Fig. 13).⁴⁴ According to this sketch it stood two storeys high, was lit on the south by two canted bay windows with diamond-pane glazing, and had a red tile roof with a single stack. All that survived the demolition of 1700 was the west end of the range, today housing the bakehouse and, above it since 1984, the Lanman Museum (Fig. 14).



Fig. 14 The Lanman Museum on the first floor of the north range or White House. This was formerly the school chamber. (© English Heritage, Properties Historians)

In addition to these rooms, the lower part of the rear wall was retained to serve as a boundary around a garden occupying the northern part of the Inner Court: this area was leased in 1693 to John Browne.⁴⁵ The wall and trees beyond can be seen in early engravings of the castle, such as that by Samuel Hooper of 1785 (Fig. 15).

Setting up the School and Workhouse, 1664-66

As has been noted, some years passed between the death of Sir Robert Hitcham and the creation of buildings for either the workhouse or the school set up in Framlingham under the terms of his will. The institution of the school seems to have come first, for a schoolmaster, Zaccheus Leverland (d. 1677), was appointed in 1653. In 1654 –the same year that the Hitcham's almshouses were built in the town –the school began to meet in



Fig. 15 An engraving by Samuel Hooper, showing Framlingham Castle after the demolition of most of the north range. Part of its rear wall was retained to enclose a garden on the north. Compare Fig. 13. (Historic England Archive)

the late 16th-century Guildhall on Market Hill.⁴⁶

By 1663, however, there was clear activity at the castle site, as is shown by two letters from Robert Goltý or Goultie (c.1594-1678), rector of Framlingham and seemingly a Trustee of Hitcham's Estate.⁴⁷ According to these documents, by 1663 Leverland had a room on the ground floor of the north range within the castle walls; meanwhile, a chamber above this was then in the process of being partitioned for use as a school room. This probably concerned the west end of the range –the area that survives today. Also resident within the castle was a John Kilbourne, 'workemaster': for his room, he had, '*for the present*', the grand setting of the castle's Great Chamber.⁴⁸ However, Kilbourne desired '*a more convenient habitation to be built him towardes which wee have now all materials in readines*'.⁴⁹ Meanwhile, the rooms above and below his temporary accommodation were repaired, and two stairs were installed in the range: one serving the school chamber and another leading up to the roof over the Great Chamber.

At this time, it is clear that there were poor people being put to work on the castle site, presumably in rooms within the Great Chamber range and in outdoor areas also. As well as paying Kilbourne £100 for stock to employ the poor, additional sums were given to workers and employers outside the workhouse '*to set themselves & others on worke*' (that is, weaving and spinning).⁵⁰ Goltý explained to Pembroke Hall on 4 July 1663 that '*wee have provided wheeles for diverse poore children whoe now begin to fall to worke*'. For '*their encouragement*', these poor children were paid a penny a day '*& what they earne*', while the women teaching them received 3d. Per week. A different method of payment was followed '*for such as spin hempe*', 'such weavers as weave the linen cloth' and 'such as spin wool'.⁵¹ Goltý and others were busy amassing materials for the building of '*the workehouse & scholehouse*', as well as a house for Mr Kilbourne.⁵² Bricks were being made, for example, and the sum of £30 was spent on buying a house from Sir Nicholas Bacon at Dennington, a village north of Framlingham. This was used as a source of further building materials; Goltý reported in July 1663 that part of it had been taken down and the materials used to build a partition for the school chamber.⁵³ He urged Pembroke Hall to consider that if '*wee might be allowed as much money*' for the building work and relief of the poor as had been spent in the construction of Hitcham's almshouses in 1654, '*this would tend to the releife of hundreds*'.⁵⁴ Shortly after this, Goltý wrote to Pembroke as follows:

*wee humblie desire . . . to know yr further pleasure for the building of the workehouse having now all the cheife materials in a readines & the season fitting wee conceive it needful to build with speed & should be glad if some of the fellowes would please to come over to see it set out & to countenance the worke that noe more may be done at present but what necessarie & you approve of: Hoping that the workehouse & a substantial stock being the first thing in the will that should take place you wilbe pleased yt it may accordingly be performed.*⁵⁵

Work clearly moved forward reasonably fast, for in a letter of 17 May 1664 Goltý stated:

*the masons . . . have now raised the workehouse all of brick to the first flooring of jices [joists] & have framed another building to be raised up to the chimneys in the wale for a Combing house & to set up loomes.*⁵⁶

Nothing more is known about this combing and weaving house; it might conveniently have been located on the site of the castle's Great Hall, between the Red House and the north range, but no buildings are shown in this location in Robert Hawes's drawing of the site of c.1730 (that is, as it was 30 years earlier, according to his remembrance; see Fig. 13).

According to the same letter of 1664, Kilbourne had complained about the attitude of the poor, who had become used to treating as dole the relief given to help set them up in work. Goltý explained that this attitude could not be rectified:

*. . . til the workehouse be finished, & roome made yt such as are Lazie & unwilling to work & careles of following their worke when put into their hands to bring it home in time but keepe yt at home for a month or more which if diligent might be dispatched in two or three dayes may be brought to worke at the workehouse & only such as are careful & diligent have liberty of carrying home worke to their owne houses.*⁵⁷

This usefully clarifies that it was the lazy and indigent elements of society in Framlingham that would be expected to work in the workhouse to earn their dole ('collection'). The industrious poor would be allowed to take stock and implements home, where they were trusted to work. The same letter reveals that Mrs Kilbourne was employed in a similar capacity as her husband, and was eager to teach children:

*'if parents were as willing to have their children taught as Mrs Kilburn & others are to learne them many more might have been taught . . .'*⁵⁸ This probably relates to the teaching of spinning and other processes of wool/cloth manufacture, but might also have referred to reading.

The completion of the Red House (Fig. 16) and the opening of the new workhouse building probably coincided with an agreement of 19 November 1664, drawn up between the Pembroke Trustees and John Kilbourne.⁵⁹ This confirms that the workhouse was being set up as a textile manufactory on a commercial basis. Kilbourne was to provide a sufficient stock of wool to employ *'three hundred poore people of fframlingham ... or more, if there be soe many in spinning'*. Financial losses would be borne by Kilbourne, and he was also responsible for maintaining the quality of the work:

*The said Wooll being Spunn in such manner as it ought to be in the Judgement of one or more of ye commissioners concerning the premises or whome they shall appoint And what is not soe done an abatement to be made according to the custome of the trade for Norwich yarne.*⁶⁰

In return, the Trustees agreed that a new house would be erected *'for his dwelling'* within the castle. Kilbourne was to *'have the use of the workehouse newly there erected for his trade'*. He would hold *'the said dwelling house and workehouse'* for three years, so long as he continued to

'provide a stock as aforesaid and imploy the number of poore aforementoed [aforementioned] and manage the business in imploying the said poore according to ye true intent and meaning of the last Will and Testament of Sr Robert Hitcham'.⁶¹

His salary was £40 per annum.

No new dwelling house, in addition to the Red House, is known to have been built. This does not mean that one was not provided: after all, no corroborative evidence survives concerning the combing and weaving house, which was certainly erected (see above). It is possible that the workmaster continued to inhabit the rooms in and around the Great Chamber of the north range for some time. It is equally possible that the entire enterprise collapsed before long. Unfortunately, contemporary documentation is scant during these

crucial years, between 1664 and the 1690s, and Kilbourne disappears from the historical record. Our knowledge of the site in this period is dependent on the accounts of later stewards of the estate, who might have held personal biases or learned about the early history of the workhouse through hearsay.



Fig. 16 The Red House from the south. (© Historic England, K. Morrison)

The assignment of the rental of the demesne land (the manors of Framlingham and Saxtead) left to Pembroke Hall by Hitcham was not settled until August 1666, when an agreement was drawn up between the college, Framlingham, Debenham and Coggeshall.⁶² This allowed for an annual payment of £158 to Framlingham 'workhouse' –which was, therefore, operational at this time. Framlingham disputed this sum, and took the other parishes to court to have their portion reduced in 1682.⁶³

The Late 17th Century: the Workhouse in Abeyance

The use of the Red House changed in the later 17th century. According to a document of 1708, it was used as a pest house during the plague in 1666, and one of the governors – possibly John Kilbourne – ran off with the stock, which would have had considerable value:

Whereas Sr Robert Hitcham by his last will ... Enjoyn'd a Workhouse to be built at Framlingham presently after his Decease for the Employmt of Poor Impotent Persons, which Bequest was not perform'd till near 30 years after ... and within a year or two [it] was laid down & Converted to other uses, partly because ye Plague then raging in ye Town, & being conveniently scituated for a pesthouse, was made up for that purposes & partly by reason of ye Governor going off with ye Stock that was intrusted in his hands for ye Employmt of ye Poor, which hapned about ye year 1666. After that ye Town was again without a Workhouse above 30 years,

without any regard to Sr Robt Hitchams Will ⁶⁴ Castle in c.1700, showing the Red House. From *Pembroke College N5*. (By permission of the Master and Fellows of Pembroke College,)



Around 1730, Robert Hawes wrote of the workhouse as follows: ‘indeed a brick house was built in the castle called a workhouse, containing but three rooms on a floor, not capable for that purpose’. ⁶⁵ This description is useful in confirming that the plan of the Red House –with three main rooms on the ground and first floors –remains largely as built. Alongside this text, Hawes set out a sketch of the buildings in the castle’s Inner Court, and this constitutes the earliest known view of the Red House (Fig. 17, and see Fig. 13). It shows the building from the south. The Great Hall to its rear had clearly been demolished, but the north range is shown still standing –as it did until 1700 –with a red tile roof and central stack. Part of this range was used as the school (see above). The Red House itself is shown with the pattern of fenestration that survives in the building today, and with a single central chimney stack. The ground and first floors are depicted with single mullion, two-light windows with diamond-pattern glazing: these are probably to be treated as schematic rather than accurate depictions of the windows.

Hawes’s document of c.1730 refers to the fact that the workhouse was ‘defeated’ in the late 17th century, but without providing dates. ⁶⁶ He claimed that ‘John Earl, a Bailiff, got possession of the Brick house in the Castle, sold ale there, & paid no rent for the many years he dwelt therein . . .’. ⁶⁷ Little documentation survives relating to John Earl, save for a letter of 17 June 1692, referring to a debt to Pembroke Hall:

perhaps unpaid rent. ⁶⁸ Thus, the Red House seems to have been given a different use for a period of around three decades –though poor people are known to have been resident in the building by April 1699 (see below). In the meantime, Hitcham’s school seems to have continued to be based within the castle walls, in the north range.

1699-1729: The Revival of the Workhouse

As has been noted, Richard Porter – Framlingham’s Steward – wrote to the Pembroke Trustees in 1697, asking them to lease the town the north range of the castle for conversion into a workhouse. The building was then in poor repair, but Porter assured Pembroke that ‘we will take upon us, not only the present Reparation [reparation] of it, but the keeping it in repayre, so long as we shall use it’. ⁶⁹

In 1698, the north range was being valued – by Porter and others interested in leasing it – but by

spring 1699, Pembroke had entered into an agreement with a John Corrance, whereby he paid £70 for the materials of the dining room, *'being 56 foot long & 26 foot wide, vizt ye walls timber, lead, glasse tiles &c'*.⁷⁰ Corrance was given until 1700 to *'carry away' the materials, though he was to leave 'so much of ye wall next ye garden now in ye possession of Mrs Browne standing as may be a sufficient fence to ye same'*. In a letter of 6 February 1700, Porter made reference to *'the great building now taken down'*; it had probably been demolished very shortly before.⁷¹ By this time, the Trustees of Hitcham's Estate had come up with an alternative proposal, set out in a document entitled *'Conclusions about ye workehouse'*. On account of its significance to the story of the workhouse, and its level of detail, the document is quoted here in full:

A Method Concluded upon by the Trustees deputed formannagemt of the Revenue's of the late Sr Robt Hitcham's Estate at fframlingham at their General Meeting this 3d day of April 1699 as followeth

- 1. That the School Chamber be Ceiled, Glazed & trimed up fit for use forthwith.*
 - 2. That the School Master attend there dayly unles Sundays holy days Saturdays in the afternoon four hours in the forenoon, and four hours in the after-noon to learn such children as the Trustee's shall appoint, to Read, Write & Case Accompts there, & the children to come to hear praiers one Sundays & holy days*
 - 3. That the Room under the Schoole be extended in breadth and length as farr as the wall of the Great Chamber and to be paved with Brick, for the Children to work in, and to be Glazed and trimed up for the use forth with, and the stayers removed*
 - 4. That the Poor people in the Red house be forthwith turned out and the house to be repaired And a Copper and an Iron pott, to be hanged there to boil with Coal's*
 - 5. That Beds, Huts, Rugs, Coverlets, Sheets Matts & c be pvided for the Children by the Trustees as soon as the Houses be trimed up, and to be inventoried and remain theirs for that use for ever as the Town's Goods marked with Sr Roberts Armes and the Governor to Answer and make good such as are imbesselled*
 - 6. The Governour shall have the free use of all the houses within the Castle belonging to the Towne (except the School Chamber & Libraīn) And the Castle yard, Mrs Brown's part onely excepted*
 - 7. The Governour shall have fifteen pounds p Annum salary. And he shall have 5 Chalders of Coale two loades of wood and five loads of Broom delivered him yearly.*
 - 8. He shall find the Children with necessary & convenient Meat, Drink, Washing, Lodging & c, And mend their clothes and Linen, And his wife to learn the Girles to Read*
 - 9. He shall every day give leave to each child two hours either in the forenoon between seven & eleven of the clock or in the afternoon between one & five of the clock to Read write or cast accompt as the school master think fittest*
 - 10. The Children sent thither shall be three years old and upwards And for each Child He shall have one shilling p head paid him weekly, And have necessary linen & woollen & shoes pvided by the Trustees, who are to pvide also for them. Wheels and Reels to work with and pay for their shoes mending.*
 - 11. That the Children be Clothed in Blew with Bonnetts & c as at Christ Church hospitall _ & have Sr Roberts Arms upon their Coat's*
 - 12. That three Trustee's be appointed by the Rest at the General meeting to inspect weekly the work house and School, And monthly the Almshouse and report the abuses happening in any of the aforesaid places that the same may be rectified at their next general meeting*
 - 13. That the Almespeople repair daily to praiers according to Sr Roberts Will otherwise their salary to be detained by the Treasurer for the time being.*
 - 14. That ffive pounds _ per Annum be allowed to the Governess for threads, yarn, tape, laces, pins _ for the mending the Childrens Clothes linen & c*
- This method wee have Concluded upon with the Amendmts & will forthwith have the same put in execution under our hands ...* ⁷²

In a separate document, the reasons behind the proposals were set out, including various statements concerning the positive benefits of workhouses. Taking children to live in the workhouse was justified as follows:

For by this means Those who have many Children by putting some into Workhouse may better maintain the rest & themselues who now liue upon ye Collection given them to maintain their Children &c. And

*3dly in respect of their Clothing. For at the Workhouse their Clothes will last ye longer then when with their Parents whereby they are Rent & torne wth stealing wood & Idleing at play &c and never mended.*⁷³

The proposals were agreed in principle by Pembroke Hall in 1699, but before proceeding they checked that there were no objections to the scheme. It seems that some were against it, including Richard Porter, advocator of the alternative workhouse plan of a few years before. Porter felt that the limitation to children only was misguided – that they were better off with their families, and that there was a greater need for employment (in spinning, etc.) among adults.⁷⁴ Pembroke was concerned that there was not ‘unanimous consent’ for the scheme among the town’s ‘chief inhabitants’, but they did not receive any formal objections and formally agreed to the proposals on 22 January 1700.⁷⁵

End Notes

36. Pembroke College Archives: Framlingham N.5
37. Henry Sampson, handwritten document of c.1663 in Suffolk Record Office.
38. Green 1865, 33. Hawes’s document of c. 1730 had noted that ‘The Buildings pulled down in the Castle, were sold to the Inhabitants of Southwold, their Town being abt that time burnt’ (Pembroke College Archives: Framlingham N.5).
39. See: Dr Martin Bridges, ‘Framlingham Castle, Suffolk: Tree-Ring Analysis of Timbers from the Poorhouse and Gates’ (English Heritage Scientific Dating Report, Research Department Report Series no. 40-2008). The report is available online via: <http://research.historicengland.org.uk/>.
40. Robert Hawes, ‘History of Framlingham and Loes Hundred’ (BL Add MS 33247 [1712])
41. Pembroke College Archives: Framlingham N.5.
42. Ibid, Framlingham K.3 (letter dated 10 October 1697).
43. Ibid (letter dated 6 February 1699).
44. An engraving was included in Green 1865, 35
45. Pembroke College Archives: Framlingham S.1. The garden was in use by Mrs Browne by 1699 (Framlingham, K.3 bundle 2).
46. <http://www.hitchams.suffolk.sch.uk/History-of-School/> (acc. 7 June 2016).
47. Pembroke College Archives: Framlingham K.2 a1 and K.2 a2. These letters were written to Pembroke Hall. The former (K.2 a1) is undated, but was probably written around August 1663, while the latter (K.2 a2) is dated 4 July 1663.
48. Ibid, Framlingham K.2 a1.
49. Ibid, Framlingham K.2 a2.
50. Ibid, Framlingham K.2 a1.
51. Ibid, Framlingham K.2 a2.
52. Ibid.
53. Ibid.
54. Ibid. According to Robert Hawes, the final cost of building the Red House was £223: Pembroke College Archives: Framlingham N.5.
55. Ibid, Framlingham K.2 a1.
56. Ibid, Framlingham K.2 a3.
57. Ibid.
58. Ibid.
59. Ibid, Framlingham K.6.
60. Ibid.
61. Ibid.
62. Ibid, Framlingham N.5.
63. Ibid.
64. Ibid, Framlingham K.2 a6.
65. Ibid, Framlingham N.5.
66. Ibid.
67. Ibid. Note that the text following mention of John Earl does not report that Mr Alpe and other tenants succeeded Earl; the text relating to Alpe and other tenants relates to the estate, and Alpe succeeding Richard Porter.
68. Ibid, Framlingham K.3 (letter from Henry Hudson, 17 June 1692).
69. Ibid, Framlingham K.3 (bundle 3).
70. Ibid, Framlingham K.3 (bundle 2).
71. Ibid, Framlingham K.3 (bundle 3). Hawes confirmed this date in a document of 1712, stating that the Great Chamber block had been ‘pulled down in the year of our Lord. One Thousand and seven hundred’: (BL Add MS 33247, 6).
72. Pembroke College Archives: Framlingham K.2 a4.
73. Ibid, Framlingham K.2 a5, 3.
74. Ibid, Framlingham K.3 (bundle 3).
75. Ibid, Framlingham K.2 a5. In this document, Thomas Crouch made reference to his having communicated the ‘propossalls’ concerning the new workhouse ‘to the Society [ie: Pembroke Hall] in Octor last’. This probably explains the existence of a separate ‘Method’ document, duplicating that of April 1699 but dated October 1699 (see note 70).