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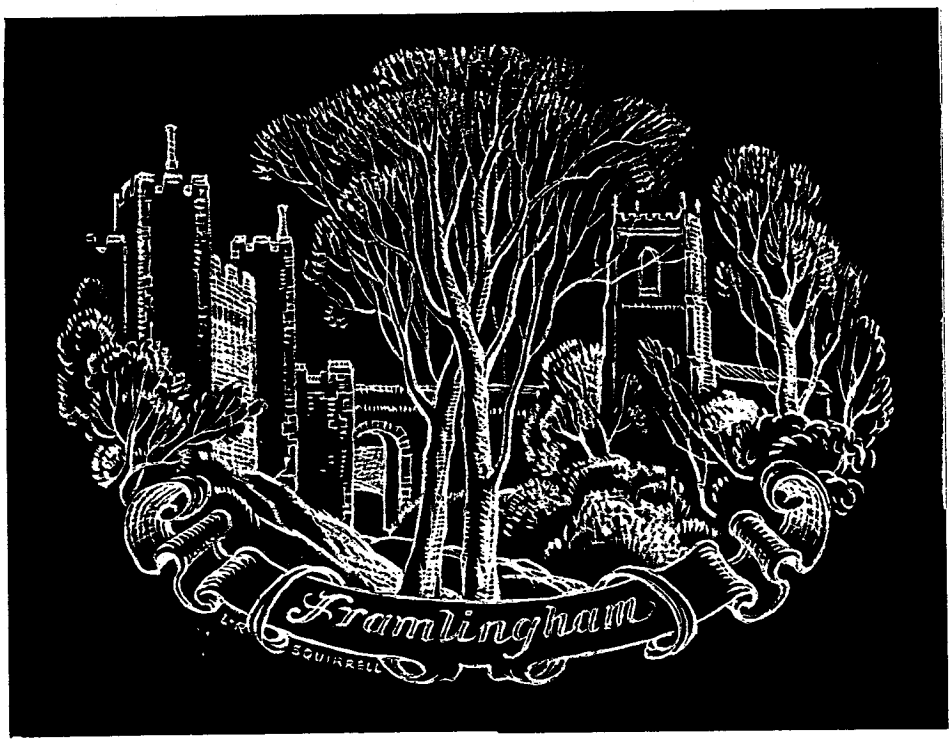

THE JOURNAL OF THE

FRAMLINGHAM AND DISTRICT

LOCAL HISTORY AND PRESERVATION SOCIETY

3rd Series Number 7

CONTENTS

ENTRANCE LINES

Our list of books presented to the Library is far in excess of what it has been for a long time, and if each successive holiday brings in its train its proper quota, we shall soon have a Library, which in quantity, if not in quality, will more fitly represent what it ought to be than it does at present. We trust that ere long we shall have a more suitable building for both Museum and Library, and if this be the case, we must surely do all we can to make the internal match the external, and always bear in mind that the latter is merely a shell, which however showy and elaborate is nothing worth, unless the kernel be sound and sweet.

From *The Framlinghamian*, June 1896

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SOCIETY NOTES

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will take place at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 20th October, at the Free Church Hall. After formal business has been completed, Society members (past, present, and potential) will be most welcome to offer comments and suggestions for our future programme. There will then be a short presentation on the history of the Framlingham Dukes of Norfolk by Arthur Kirby, Chairman of the Society's Development Sub-Committee.

All enquiries concerning membership of the Society should be referred to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Andrew A. Lovejoy, 28 Pembroke Road, Framlingham, Suffolk, IP13 9HA (telephone 01728 723214).

THIS JOURNAL HAS BEEN PRODUCED WITH GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM BRITISH ENERGY GENERATION PLC

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The Journal of the Framlingham and District Local History and Preservation Society

Registered Charity no. 274201

3rd Series Number 7
August 1999
Editor : M. V. Roberts, 43 College Road, Framlingham

In this town we are doubly blest - we need not look too far to recognise Framlingham's significance in both national and local history; and also we are well-provided with source materials enabling us, if we wish, personally to explore that history, and share other people's examination of those resources. Doctor Murphy's article in this issue places in context a defining moment in British history, when a monarch was proclaimed while living at Framlingham Castle; in contrast, we also have a microcosm of local school life, as well as an account of a bowling green pre-dating Sir Francis Drake's exploits on Plymouth Hoe.

Turning then to those source materials that enable our history to be written. The finest artefacts of all are the Castle itself and its enclosure as it has evolved over time, with Tudor chimneys, seventeenth century poor house, and a mere probably dating from times of pre-history. We have in St. Michael's church not just an imposing structure but contents that include (as the back cover of this journal continues to remind us) some of the finest carved tombs in any church in Europe. On a more modest scale, we have a homely but significant range of artefacts at the Lanman Museum, evoking community life in this locality over the past two centuries, while the Second World War is amply delineated not just at the Lanman but at Parham Airfield Museum and at the Stanley Reeve Museum at Thomas Mills High School. There is also the fascinating collection of twentieth century memorabilia at Mills Meadow.

Printed sources are, again, well provided locally. We have the early histories of Loder/Hawes, Green and Clay, and more modern histories and compilations by Miss Kilvert, Bridges and Sitwell. Aside from some quite significant collections including these titles in private hands, we have the Library at the Lanman Museum, though only accessible on a restricted basis, given that the Museum as a whole, a separate Registered Charity, is staffed by volunteers. We have also the small collection of the more important local items available for loan at the public library in Bridge Street.

For manuscript materials, by and large, the researcher must go further afield. True, Framlingham College retains its domestic archive and is currently and most commendably making it more readily accessible to accredited scholars, while a small amount of fugitive - mainly educational - material is held at the Lanman Museum, but the great bulk of archival sources relating to the town are held by Suffolk County Record Office (mainly at its Ipswich repository), and for manorial records, Pembroke College, Cambridge.

In professional terms, this is as it should be: the Record Office and the College can provide cataloguing, conservation, public access and advisory services, and not least climatically controlled environments, which one might be hard pressed to provide here in Framlingham. The Record Office is open to the public and staffed through most of the working day and most of the working week. Nevertheless, I - and I am sure other members of our Historical Society - so often hear, not just from residents but from visitors to the town, the question, "Why don't you have your own local records here in the town?".

It is an understandable question, and also, if you want to be patronizing, a simplistic one, but it does have some logic. These archives were to a large degree generated by local people conducting in this town their local affairs - business, parish administration, education etc. etc. Why should one not emulate (to quote only two examples) Harwich and Beccles, which retain locally some at least of their major local archives. Having been professionally involved with local studies resource provision over many years, I might disagree with this viewpoint, but it is very real and can have very practical effects: I have actually known people to say that they would choose to destroy their own personal and business papers, rather than have them held outside the immediate area where those papers were created. In addition, the sheer volume, potentially, of archival material generated by our forebears in their daily lives, would exceed the capacity, in terms of staffing, space and financial resources, of most public and semi-public repositories. To ensure with any confidence the preservation of and access to the full range of heritage materials for Framlingham and for many other historic towns, we may have to acknowledge, sooner rather than later, the need for training of local people to provide local access to materials, which remain, for whatever reasons, within the immediate locality.

It could be quite a steep learning curve for local people, but even more so, I suspect, for professional archivists and librarians.

MARY TUDOR - THE MIRACULOUS CIRCUMSTANCES OF HER ACCESSION

By Dr. Bev Murphy

When Mary Tudor was born on 18th February 1516, no-one expected that she would ever rule as Queen. England's one experiment with a Queen Regnant, Henry I's only legitimate issue, his daughter Matilda, had plunged the country into a civil war which decimated the land.[1] It was not an experience any Englishman was eager to repeat. The admirable example of Mary's own grandmother, Isabella, who ruled as Queen of Castile, did nothing to reassure. The English looked nervously to the example of other small kingdoms, like Burgundy, whose independence had been lost when they were left in the hands of a woman. The role of a Queen Consort, who served as wife to a King, was a distinctly different, non-political position. Although in practice she might exercise some influence, as indeed did many Tudor women in their husband's name, this was not the same as actually holding the reins.

The importance to Henry VIII of securing a legitimate male heir to follow him on the Throne cannot be overstated. It was not the sole cause of the changes wrought in England during the Reformation, but it was a significant motive in his pursuit of six wives. The Tudors' own claim to the Throne was only recent history, and the danger of a disputed succession was all too real. The custom of hereditary succession required the acceptance and support of the ruling class. Henry VIII was only too well aware that the country might easily prefer an established nobleman as their King, rather than accept his daughter as their Queen. All things being equal, Henry VII's mother, Margaret Beaufort, had in fact had the better claim to the Throne in 1485. However, in a time when Kings still led their armies into battle, such things were not equal.

Despite numerous disappointments, not least a son born in 1511 who lived only a few short weeks, Henry VIII was never prepared to settle for anything less than a legitimate Prince. At Mary's birth he roundly declared:

> if it is a girl this time, by God's grace the boys will follow[2]

Mary was well educated, as befitted a Princess of England, but she was being groomed for a destiny very different from that of Queen of England. Indeed, as a mere girl she was ineligible for any of those public offices on which a Prince might have cut his teeth. Whilst Henry VIII's lack of male issue sometimes meant that she took a more prominent part in affairs of state than might otherwise have been the case, it was never his intention to prepare her to rule. When Henry VII sent his heir, Arthur, to the Marches of Wales, his time was spent in learning statecraft. When Mary was despatched there as a figurehead in 1525, she wiled away her days

> taking open air in gardens, sweet and wholesome places and walkes which may confer unto her health, solace and comfort.[3]

Nor did Henry ever formally create his daughter Princess of Wales, as befitted the heir apparent. Instead she was actively taught that many aspects of government were outside the competence of a woman.

From her earliest childhood, Mary understood that the Throne was the birthright of the heir male. Her later insistence on her rank as Princess should not be taken as evidence of political ambition. Her destiny, she knew, did not lie in England at all. Instead she was being schooled to act as Queen Consort to some foreign Prince. Like her mother before her, her duty was to make a marriage of some material, or diplomatic, benefit to her father, and promote his interests abroad. The very idea that she might rule England at all, much less without a husband at her side, was unthinkable.

Even as time passed and there was no sign of the longed-for Prince, Henry VIII refused to give up hope.

The elevation to the peerage, as Duke of Richmond and Somerset, of his six year old illegitimate son by the Shropshire gentlewoman Elizabeth Blount, was part of a broader plan, and not in itself evidence of serious concern over the succession.[4] If this tangible evidence that he could father a male child gave some reassurance to his subjects, then that was all well and good. But as far as the King was concerned, Richmond's existence was a spur to achieving his long-held goal of a legitimate son, not a convenient solution to his problem.

By 1527 it was clear Catherine would not conceive again. But the idea that Mary might succeed was still not in the forefront of Henry VIII's mind. Instead it was mooted that Mary should be married as soon as possible, in the hope that she would produce the son needed to secure the Tudor line. Since a girl might legally marry at 12, any such son could have grown almost to manhood by the time Henry died in 1547. But Mary at 11 was considered not ready for marriage for another three years. Left with nothing more than a barren wife and a pre-pubescent daughter, Henry VIII might have resigned himself to the inevitable and accepted that his daughter would be his heir. Instead he began to consider a completely different solution.

His marriage to Anne Boleyn, which finally took place in 1533, at first had no material impact on Mary. She was still Princess of England and accorded every mark of respect and favour. If Anne's child had been a boy, this would no doubt have continued. Henry always claimed he was unaware of any impediment at the time of his marriage to Catherine. As such the crisis of conscience that had come upon him in later life need not have affected their daughter. If Henry VIII had chosen to take the position that Mary was born in good faith, then both the Church and the world would have been prepared to accept her as if she were legitimate.

Instead the birth of Elizabeth meant that Henry was required to make a distinction between his issue by Catherine and his issue by Anne. Without such steps Mary, as the elder girl, would remain the heir apparent. This would not do. The legality of this unpopular second marriage must be seen to be respected. The terms of the 1534 Succession Act were clear. Henceforth, Elizabeth was the heir apparent, until such time as the King was blessed with a son. Mary was stripped of her title of Princess, and reduced to the status of the King's natural daughter. To underline this change in her circumstances, her own household was broken up and the Lady Mary was sent to live in the splendid new household set up for the Princess Elizabeth.

To any impartial observer, the chances of Mary now ascending the Throne of England must have seemed remote. No longer was there merely her sex to count against her. In the eyes of the law, and most importantly the King, she was no longer the heir apparent. Indeed, her new-found illegitimacy meant she was automatically ineligible for the Crown. On top of this, Anne Boleyn was still a young woman and there was no reason to suppose that she would not produce at least one son. Such a *fait accompli* would have silenced all but the most die-hard critics of this second marriage. Even those who would have argued for Mary as the rightful heir over Elizabeth would have been hard-pressed to deny a Prince who had at least the semblance of legitimacy.

Nothing in the next few years made the prospect of Mary's accession seem any more likely. Her plight engendered sympathy in the populace. But for the ruling class, despite the loyalty of her friends, duty and obedience belonged to the King. A significant expression of disobedience, the Pilgrimage of Grace in 1536, was contained without serious difficulty. Even here, their desire to see Mary restored as Princess was only one of a number of demands.[5] If anything, Mary's reliance on the advice of her cousin, the Emperor Charles V and his Ambassadors, seemed to prove that a woman could not act without the advice and counsel of a man. Henry VIII rebuked the Emperor

> we think it not meet that any person should prescribe unto us how we should order our own daughter.[6]

The various plans afoot in 1535 to spirit Mary out of the country to the Continent all came to naught. If they had successfully been attempted, Mary's destiny would have been different again.

The execution of Anne Boleyn for her supposed adultery in 1536 brought Mary no closer to the Throne. Although Elizabeth was no longer the heir apparent, having been illegitimated in her turn on the grounds of her mother's infidelity, that role did not revert to Mary. Instead Henry forced her to acknowledge that her parents' marriage had been unlawful and that she was merely his natural daughter. Under the terms of the 1536 Succession Act, the Crown was vested in the issue, male and female, of Henry VIII and his third Queen, Jane Seymour. In default of such issue, the Crown was to pass to Henry's legitimate issue by any subsequent wives.

Given the efforts Henry VIII had made over the last decade to secure a legitimate heir male, it is understandable that he would be unwilling to accept any other outcome. It is true the 1536 Act was a major departure, in that it did not confine eligibility for the Throne to the legitimate or even the hereditary line, but allowed Henry the freedom to designate his heir by letters patent, or his last will. Henry VIII had recently suffered a serious fall which had brought the need for some provision in case of imminent disaster sharply into focus. But it was by no means clear that, even if Henry had died at this point, Mary would have been the preferred choice for the Throne.

Unlike Mary or Elizabeth, the Duke of Richmond, Henry VIII's son by Elizabeth Blount, was universally accepted as illegitimate. Until now this impediment had prevented him from being a candidate for the succession. But were Henry now to die without further issue, there were those who thought the 17-year-old Duke would be the ideal choice as his heir.

> Already no less a person than the Earl of Sussex, stated the other day in the Privy Council, in the King's presence, that considering that the Princess was a bastard, as well as the Duke of Richmond, it was advisable to prefer the male to the female, for the succession to the Crown. This opinion of the Earl not having been contradicted by the King, might hereafter gain ground and have adherents.[7]

Richmond's death in July 1536 meant that this proposal was never fully considered. But it did not change the fact that Henry VIII remained confident that he would leave his Crown to his heir male by Jane, or by some future wife.

Henry's concerns were not merely egotistical. Anything less than a child whose title was universally accepted could not fail to result in disorder. To recognise a child like Richmond, born not merely out of wedlock, but in adultery, was asking for trouble. The hopes of Mary's friends and supporters, that she would be restored as Princess, or otherwise officially recognised as the heir apparent also went unfulfilled.[8] Indeed, in October 1536 she was compelled to write to the Emperor, formally stating that she no longer considered herself to be England's heir.

The birth of Edward in 1537 seemed to settle the matter. The deaths of both Catherine and Anne in 1536 meant that Jane was accepted, in England at least, as Henry's lawful Queen and their issue as legitimate. It is true that in the eyes of the Catholic Church, who did not recognise Henry's marriage to Jane, Mary remained the one true heir. But the Pope's attempt to stir the Emperor into making some martial enterprise on her behalf in 1539 was met with nothing but platitudes. For Mary's part, she seems to have welcomed the heir male as much as the rest of the country, and not even her most fervent admirers would have suggested that she had the better claim now.

Certainly the expectations of foreign Ambassadors that Henry's death would result in a contested succession proved unfounded. In 1547 the nine-year-old Edward VI succeeded his father as King. Under the terms of the 1543 Succession Act and her father's last will, Mary was once more the heir apparent. But this was merely until Edward could marry and produce heirs of his own. Admittedly one small boy was not the strongest thread on which to hang a dynasty. But Henry VII had been an only child, and Henry VIII had succeeded as the only surviving son. Edward appeared to be in good health. He had weathered the usual maladies of childhood, and was robust enough to take pleasure in martial sports. There were no grounds to suspect that he would not live to marry and father sons of his own to succeed him.

Mary continued to attract a degree of attention. To her cousin, Charles V, she was now more useful than ever as an excuse to meddle in English affairs. The country was in the hands of a child, and his councillors could not tell the Holy Roman Emperor to mind his own business as Henry had done. To those who disliked the increasingly Protestant form of worship ushered in by the new regime, Mary's adherence to the mass provided hope. Since she had been well provided for by her father with an income of £3,000 p.a., her household was able to shelter some who shared her views. But this was in no sense a government in waiting. Anyone with any real political ambition had seen which way the land lay and thrown in their lot with the new regime.

This is not to suggest that Edward's council, and in particular England's *de facto* ruler, Edward Seymour, were completely unconcerned about Mary. The blatant disobedience that Mary demonstrated in her religious observances was at best a political embarrassment, at worst a dangerous encouragement to others. But Mary's quarrel was with Edward's council over the extent of their authority to act during his minority. She argued:

> "I have offended no law unless it be a late law of your own making for the altering of matters in religion, which, in my conscience is not worthy to have the name of law." [9]

However, Mary always maintained her loyalty to her brother as her King, and was careful to keep her distance from any sort of plot or political intrigue.

This was most noticeable in 1549. During a summer of rebellion, the government's attempt to link Mary with the unrest was unsuccessful. Shortly afterwards, when she was approached to lend her support to a plan to oust the increasingly unpopular Edward Seymour, she refused to become involved. In the event, the plot was perhaps little more than a smoke-screen for the ambitions of Seymour's successor, John Dudley. But even so, Mary was not being offered the Throne. The fact that the English people might accept Mary as Regent during her brother's minority was a long way from suggesting that they would be prepared to remove him to install her on the Throne, or even that they would ever readily accept a woman as their ruling Queen.

Although she had never truly expected to be Queen, Mary was sensitive to the fact that she had never married, and now seemed unlikely to. Once again, she considered leaving the country altogether to go to the protection of her cousin, the Emperor. The council were sufficiently concerned about her desire to leave to require her to exchange some of her lands in East Anglia in order to limit her access to the sea. But for his part, the Emperor was luke warm. Mary was useful to him in England, but once abroad she only had value if he could place her on the Throne, and that idea was too risky and expensive to appeal.

The Emperor's misgivings were understandable. England had weathered five years of Edward's minority, revolt, rebellion, and drastic social and religious changes, yet the government had emerged relatively unscathed. As the 16-year-old King stood on the verge of manhood, there was less reason than ever to feel that Mary would become Queen. Indeed, Edward himself actively opposed the very idea. His own provision for the succession excluded Mary and settled the succession on the heirs male of his cousin Frances Grey, daughter of Henry VIII's younger sister Mary and her husband Charles Brandon.

It was, of course, much more complicated than that. The exclusion of the issue of Henry VIII's elder sister Margaret, Queen of Scots, no doubt reflected the prevailing sentiment of the nation, and could be justified on the grounds that they were foreigners. The exclusion of Elizabeth would no doubt prove less popular, but was arguably necessary. Edward's grounds for going against his father's will was not Mary's stance in religion. As she did not advocate returning to the Papal fold, but merely religion as her father had left it, that as a reason might have proved embarrassing. Instead, he was forced to cite her illegitimacy, and this meant if Mary was to go, Elizabeth must too.

In so doing, Edward sought to overturn both statute law and the provisions of Henry VIII's last will. Yet as it stood, Edward's plan had no legal validity. It was not issued under Letters Patent and, as a minor, Edward could not make a valid will. What is more, Frances Brandon did not have any heirs male. But it was clearly not anticipated that the plan would be needed at any time soon. Also included were the

heirs male of her three daughters. Since none of these were married, and the youngest was only seven, this was obviously intended to be a long-term plan. When it transpired that Frances Grey was unable to have any more children, the document was amended, so that the heirs male of her eldest daughter Jane were first named. But the intent at this stage remained merely to ensure that Mary was no longer the heir apparent. It was still hoped that Edward would marry and beget sons.

The seriousness of Edward's last illness could not easily be hidden, but the intervals where he first rallied then declined kept everyone guessing. John Dudley, perhaps to lull her into a false sense of security, was unusually solicitous towards Mary. But as Edward took a turn for the worse, his plan for the succession was amended to settle the Throne on Jane Grey herself. In a strange echo of Henry I's attempts to get his barons to swear to uphold Matilda as their Queen, the young King compelled his councillors to put their seals to this document, despite the fact that it still had no force in law.[10]

This in a sense did not matter. When Edward finally died, only John Dudley and his allies were prepared. Dudley was well aware that he was not popular with the people. But it was not votes he needed to secure power; it was arms and money, and he had these in abundance. The armoury and the treasury were at his disposal. He could count on the support of military leaders like Edward Lord Clinton, and he also received offers of help from the French. John Dudley would have argued that he was seeking to maintain the political *status quo* and uphold the wishes of the late King. Jane herself was not especially important. Any gains made by the fact that she was at least a married woman were perhaps offset by the fact that her husband was John Dudley's son.

In contrast, Mary was by far the more popular figure. Under the terms of the 1543 succession act and her father's will, she was also the legal heir to the Throne. But she had only limited resources. Her income could not compete with the funds at Dudley's disposal, and none of her advisors had any real experience of politics. She would need a good deal of outside support before she could hope to assert her claim. Even her cousin, the Emperor Charles V, thought that this was unlikely to be forthcoming. He advised his Ambassadors to find a way to work with Dudley, whom he correctly saw as the real power in the new regime.

In the event, it was Mary herself who made the crucial stand. On 5th July 1552, Mary was summoned from Hunsdon in Hertfordshire to London. On reaching Hoddesdon, she was warned of Edward's imminent demise and immediately changed course. Such was the apparent hopelessness of her position that it was initially presumed that she intended to flee abroad. Instead she sought sanctuary in East Anglia. By 8th July, she had reached Euston Hall, near Thetford, where news of Edward's death two days earlier was broken to her. At first she was understandably sceptical. But on the following day, when Mary arrived at Kenninghall, the news was confirmed.

In the interim, the council in London had been busy. They denounced Mary and Elizabeth as illegitimate and proclaimed Jane as Queen. As a precaution, they also took steps to secure the port of Yarmouth. It seemed, barring the small inconvenience that Mary was still at large, all was progressing as planned. Then on 19th July the council in London received a letter from their Queen at Kenninghall. Mary required them in no uncertain terms to proclaim her right and title. With hindsight this can be seen as the first act of Mary's reign. Since there could not be two Queens in England, someone was now guilty of treason. Only time would tell which side it would be.

Such decisiveness was not characteristic of Mary and may well have taken Dudley by surprise. He had perhaps hoped that the sheer strength of his position would be enough to convince Mary to accept the inevitable. But he knew that a mere declaration of her title was not enough to over-throw him. She had to attract sufficient support to her cause to make a fight of it. Dudley might have been forgiven for thinking that a single, 37-year-old woman, with a history of menstrual problems, known reliance on the advice and council of foreigners, and increasingly outmoded views on religion, would not provide a very attractive proposition as Queen.

What he did not take into account was the enduring loyalty felt by many to the memory of Henry VIII. Whatever people thought of Mary, or her religion, she was the rightful heir, not by birth, but by statute

and the terms of her father's will. As such, her illegitimacy or otherwise was irrelevant, and therefore not a bar to her accession. It may be a little cynical to argue that there were those who supported Mary, gambling that she was too middle-aged and too wracked by health problems to live long or produce an heir: God willing they need only endure her for a short time before they might have Elizabeth. Perhaps it is rather less cynical to claim that there were those who would prefer any alternative to a Dudley as King.

The motives of those who flocked to fight for Mary were diverse. Some, like Edward Jeringham, who was responsible for persuading the ships sent to secure Yarmouth to declare for Mary, thus securing for her 2000 men and 100 cannon, were long-standing loyal servants. But even the most unlikely people, for example the fervent Protestant John Hooper, declared for Mary because she was the lawful heir. Sir Richard Southwell's change of heart was prompted by loyalty to the memory of Henry VIII, and the arms and money he brought to her cause did much to improve Mary's position. Others came in the hope that Mary would later reward them with offices or lands.

By the 12th July, Mary had enough men to warrant moving her forces from Kenninghall to Framlingham Castle, which was bigger and easier to defend. Each single gain brought in bigger fish. It was Henry Radcliffe who persuaded his father, the Earl of Sussex, to declare for Mary. As the momentum increased and Mary's cause seemed increasingly less hopeless and more viable, more were persuaded to join her, although the fact that Framlingham Castle was also chosen because it was nearer the coast is some indication that no-one was being over-optimistic. From here, Mary sent a message to the Emperor begging for his help, else

> She saw destruction hanging over her.[11]

But as the reinforcements continued to arrive, for the first time John Dudley realised that control of the situation had slipped from his grasp.

Whilst Dudley had been prepared to fight, he had probably hoped, perhaps even expected, to be able to avoid it. Now that appeared to be no longer possible, he nominated the Duke of Suffolk to take the field. But the young Queen Jane allegedly would not be separated from her father. That Dudley was required to lead the troops himself was a major blow, not least because he was notoriously unpopular in East Anglia, but also because he was all too aware that the resolve of the remaining councillors in London was already starting to crumble in the face of such stalwart opposition.

Some, like Cranmer, had disputed the legality of Edward's plan from the beginning. Only loyalty to Edward had swayed him, and now that Edward was dead he was free to follow his conscience. Others, like the Earl of Arundel, had a personal grudge against Dudley and had no wish to see him or his advanced in honour. Even so, if Dudley had remained in the capital, he might have been able to hold things together. In his absence, there was little hope of this. Indeed, several of the Council were already in talks with the Imperial Ambassadors. As Mary began to be proclaimed in towns across the country, their resolve to uphold Jane as Queen simply dissolved.

When the re-inforcements expected at Newmarket did not materialise, Dudley knew all was not well back in London. He pressed on as far as Bury St. Edmunds, but there received such a disconcerting reply to his complaints that he re-considered and retreated to Cambridge. As he had feared, the council now cheerfully cast him as the scapegoat, complaining that they had been compelled to do his bidding. On the 19th July they abandoned Dudley to his fate and declared for Mary.

Even now the Imperial Ambassadors feared this was a trap to lull Mary into a false sense of security, but already the Earl of Arundel and William Paget were the first of Edward's council to seek Mary's forgiveness. She had little choice but to accept them if she was going to be able to govern. That 24 hours made all the difference. When Arundel was sent the next day to arrest Dudley he was able to respond to his pleas with:

"My lord, ye should have sought for mercy sooner: I must do according to my commandment."[12]

Mary continued to exercise caution. She did not immediately disband her forces, and she stayed safely at Framlingham until she could be sure all the rebels were rounded up. However, her triumphant entry into London on 3rd August left no doubt in anyone's mind that she was now Queen of England.

The benefit of hindsight must not be allowed to obscure how incredible this was. It was something her father, Henry VIII, had spent the best part of his adult life trying to avoid. Her success depended on her being in the right place, at the right time, and on her ability to attract the English to her cause. Whilst some were no doubt loyal to the true Princess, many others were motivated by more pragmatic ideas. But even so, the fact remained that, against all the odds, Mary was not only able successfully to assert her claim to the Throne, but she was able to secure that right without bloodshed. In such circumstances she could perhaps be forgiven for seeing her elevation to the Throne as nothing less than a miracle.

Notes:

1 Chibnall, M., *The Empress Matilda* (London, 1991).
2 Loades, D., *Mary Tudor: A Life* (Oxford, 1992), p. 14.
3 British Library Cotton Vitellius C, I, f23.
4 Murphy, B., "The Life and Political Significance of Henry Fitzroy, Duke of Richmond, 1525-1536" Unpublished Ph.D. thesis, (University of Wales, 1997).
5 Dodds, M. H., and R., *The Pilgrimage of Grace and the Exeter Conspiracy* (Cambridge, 1915).
6 Brewer, J. S., *et al*, eds., *Letters and Papers Foreign and Domestic of the Reign of Henry VIII* (London, 1862-1932), VII, n. 1209.
7 Gayangos, P. de, ed., *Calendar of Letters, Despatches, and State Papers relating to the Negotiations between England and Spain ...* (London, 1862-1954). V, (ii), n. 61.
8 Levine, M., "Henry VIII's Use of his Spiritual and Temporal Jurisdictions in his Great Causes of Matrimony, Legitimacy, and Succession" *Historical Journal*, [11], (1967), p. 8.
9 Loades, D., p. 146
10 Jordan, W. K. *Edward VI: The Threshold of Power* (London, 1970).
11 Plowden, A., *Lady Jane Grey and the House of Suffolk* (London, 1985), p. 101.
12 *Ibid.*, p. 104.

This article is based upon a lecture given to the Society by Doctor Murphy on 17th February 1999.

Readers wishing to check the facts on the situation as it developed may refer to a number of biographies of Mary Tudor. Doctor Murphy cites Loades, D., *Mary Tudor: a Life* (Oxford, 1992) as being both the most recent, and generally accepted as the standard text, but adds that the following all have their own point of view!

Erickson, C., *Bloody Mary* (London, 1978)
Prescott, H. F. M., *Mary Tudor* (London, 1962)
Tittler, R., *The Reign of Mary I* (London, 1990)
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THE HEADMASTER'S BOOK, 1879-1894

Compiled by A. J. Martin

PART 1: THE FIRST YEAR

On March 10th, 1879, Edward George Warren commenced his duties as Headmaster of the Sir Robert Hitcham's Elementary Schools, Framlingham. On the title-page of the school logbook, Mr. Warren tells us that he had come from the Deeping St. James Board School (Boys Department) to take up his appointment, upon being elected by the Governors in Framlingham. The Assistant Master was Mr. Francis, late of the Carlton Board School. It is not known whether this place was near Great Yarmouth or Saxmundham.

Mr. Warren's second paragraph tells us that: "Mr. Lane, Clerk to the Governors, was present at the Opening." We can assume, therefore, that this is a record of the first opening of the newly-built Hitcham's School in College Road. This superseded the building which is now the Masonic Hall attached to the Hitcham Alms-Houses. John Bridges, in his book, *Framlingham: Portrait of a Suffolk Town*[1], shows us what the school looked like in 1924 - the same, presumably, as in 1879. The Schoolhouse, where Mr. and Mrs. Warren lived, was on the left-hand side. During the 2nd World War, the house was bombed, a person killed and the building not replaced. To its right was a two-storey building where the boys were taught downstairs and the girls above. This, too, was subsequently demolished, and the existing single-storey building replaced it.

In John Bridges' photograph[2], Mr. Warren is shown as a portly man, perhaps a little harassed - as he had cause to be - with a moustache, and his hair parted centrally in the Edwardian manner. He wears a good suit, a shirt with a soft collar, and a tie not very tightly knotted. He played his part in town affairs being, at least, Treasurer of the Bowls Club. In 1900, the Farmers' Club, Robert Lambert said, "took on a new lease of life under the Secretaryship of E. G. Warren."[3]

Mr. Warren served a long tenure in his office. Terry Gilder found that he was Head until 1916, when he retired to live in Double Street where he died a year or two later.

There were seven Governors to the school - four chosen by Pembroke College and three by the parishioners of Framlingham. On Mr. Warren's arrival, S. G. Carley was Chairman of the Governors and Mr. Lane, who had also sometimes taught at the old school was, as we have seen, their Clerk.

The school was divided into three sections: Boys, of whom Mr. Warren had charge; Girls, under Mrs. Warren; and an Infants Section. Mr. Warren recorded that 110 boys attended school on that opening day, and that between 40 and 50 of them were entitled to a free education under the terms of Sir Robert's will.

Mr. Warren was required to keep a log book of the significant or noteworthy occurrences in that part of the school under his jurisdiction, "at least once a week", according to the regulations set by the education authorities. He did far more than this, and it is hoped that a cross-section of entries taken from this first book will give a small insight into the life of a teacher - and a schoolboy - 120 years ago.

March 10th 1879
All day spent in arranging the boys in different classes. Children are painfully backward, many over 10 and 12 not even knowing their letters. Several boys sent down to the infants, not being seven years old. Out of the 108 on Admission Register, over 60 will have to be presented in [Standard] 1. Again, these boys will have to be divided into 2 Sections (1) those that do not know their letters, (2) children that can just read a little.
1 Standard I have handed over to Mr. Francis with the assistance of a Monitor from the upper class. The boys are very noisy - not being subjected to any kind of discipline. Children in total ignorance of the extra subjects *viz.* Geography, Grammar or History.

A Pupil Teacher is required to help with 2, 3, 4 and 5 Standards.
The Revd. W. W. Bird [second Headmaster at Framlingham College] visited today.

March 11th
Not able to have fires today on account of the smoke. Reported this to the Clerk.

March 12th
George Hunt, a big boy who had given a great deal of trouble on two previous days was punished and cautioned as to his future conduct. Finding that the boys are not thoroughly perfect in their tables.

March 20th
Punished and cautioned boys about fighting - the bigger lads are very rough when out at play.

March 21st
Gave first Grammar Lesson. Boys lack knowledge of the definition of a noun. This applies to boys in even 3, 4 and 5 Standards.

March 24th
Taught the boys the song: "Strive to Learn".

March 25th
Mr. Newson attended and complained that he was unable to pay the fee (3d) for his eldest boy.

March 28th
Many boys late this week owing, perhaps, to the bell being out of repair. Several boys absent this afternoon.

March 31st
Bell being repaired, rung at usual time. Average attendance for past week 107.8.

April 1st
Boys are now much quieter in their ways and movements. Jno. Howlett who had been sent home for extra 2d. on his school fee, returned this morning.

[The school closed for a week on April 10th as the 11th was Good Friday. The average attendance for the week had been 115.6.]

April 16th
Many boys absent this afternoon in order to attend the Foresters Club Feast.

April 21st
Mrs. Reeves attended upon request and was informed her boy was not one of those who came free and that she must pay the fee (2d) for the future.

April 25th
Many boys in the habit of staying away on Fridays.

April 26th
Received notice from the Governors that in the case of a family where there was a free boy, that free boy would not affect the school fees of the other children of the family, e.g. if the eldest child happened to be free, the next eldest must pay full amounts and the others according to the scale of fees.

May 2nd
Taught the boys the song, "Oh, the Glorious Month of May".

May 5th
William Newson and William Rivers sent home for their school fees - away all week.

May 8th
[Framlingham] College Athletic Sports - several boys absent with leave this afternoon.

May 12th
Received instruction that this school will be examined by H.M. Inspectors in April next.

May 14th
Sent round to the parents of absentees on this day.

May 16th
Several boys have been away through sickness this week.

May 22nd
Boys assembled at 8.45 so as to secure 2 hours secular instruction in order to attend the Parish Church at 11 a.m.

June 11th
William Newson returned with his school fees after being away some weeks.

June 16th
Several absent in the morning - sent round to their homes and found most of them sick.

June 18th
David Crawford punished and cautioned against truant-playing.

June 27th
Attendance very irregular this week. 4, 5 and 6 Standard commenced map drawing. Examined 2 and 3 this morning - a slight improvement is visible.

June 30th
Several absent in the morning owing to a circus visiting the town. Holiday given in the afternoon.

July 11th
Three [boys] admitted during the week, two of whom had been sent in from work by the School Attendance Officer for the Union. Many absentees during the week.

July 18th
Three admitted during the week. Examined the three divisions in 1st Standard. The 1st division do their work very fairly and the 2nd division has improved, but the last two divisions are far from working up to requirements. The 1st Standard must improve in their discipline. Cautioned their teacher against speaking loudly to them.

July 21st
Very wet this morning, the rain preventing many children from attending.

July 22nd
Not so many present owing to a flood rendering some of the roads impassable. Only 87 present one part of the day.

[Mr. Warren had made several references over the previous seven weeks to the wet weather].

July 30th
Cautioned William Damment as to his future behaviour. The 2nd division of 1 Standard very troublesome.

August 1st
Detained the late boys this morning till 12.30 on account of the increasing number of late boys.

August 4th
Bank Holiday. Only 82 in attendance in afternoon. A holiday ought to have been given to the boys.

August 11th
Three boys fainted during the day, partly from the warm weather and partly because of there not being sufficient ventilation. Spoke to the Governors of this.

September 22nd
Recommenced after the vacation. Owing to the late season, many boys employed in the harvest during the holidays have not returned. Sent printed notices round to the parents of the absentees requesting them to send their children not later than Wednesday.

September 24th
Several came in this morning but many still absent.

September 26th
Again sent notices to absentees. Average attendance for past week 96.1.

September 27th
Two ventilators have been fitted in the chimneys in the large room and one in the Classroom.

October 10th
Average attendance for past quarter 119.

October 13th
Very poor school this morning.

October 17th
The average attendance has improved and the remaining boys who had not returned after the holidays, came back this week. A list of children attending the three Departments from the parish of Saxtead has been sent to the School Attendance Officer for that parish.

October 22nd
The Rev. W. W. Bird visited in the afternoon informing me of a vacancy in the Free Scholarships of the Albert Memorial College and asking for half a dozen boys to be sent up to compete for the vacant scholarships.

October 27th
Admitted two from the Infants' Department, one pretty forward, the other very backward.

October 28th
Only one boy willing to compete for the "Free Scholarship" - reported this to the Rev. W. W. Bird who is not willing to admit him without competition, therefore the scholarship will be thrown open to the Town.

October 29th
As the boys are very careless and noisy at Changing of Lessons, taught them a Marching Song, which they can sing at the changing and induce them to be less noisy.

October 30th
Very few in attendance this morning, non-attendance caused by the Cottagers' Horticultural Show being held at the Castle today. Gave a holiday in the afternoon.

November 8th
Have taken the 1 Standard all week and find them very backward. Gave them a very easy examination but the result was not 60%. Three boys in this Standard are very troublesome indeed - cautioned them as to their future conduct. Mr. Francis will take these for the next month.

November 10th
The Rev. C. Prior of Pembroke Hall, Cambridge, and [the] Chairman of the Governors visited in the afternoon in company with two other gentlemen. They requested that a holiday might be given in their honour as in former years ... at ... the old school. Only half a day given on the Wednesday.

[Until the end of November, the weather was very bad and this plus sickness made for an irregular attendance. The discipline in the 2nd Division of 1 Standard did not improve. The boys were cautioned about throwing snowballs. Mr. Kefford, Assistant Inspector of West Suffolk made a private visit and to add to Mr. Warren's toils, he received notice that Robert Spall, who had hitherto been paying 2d. per week was, in fact, a "free boy".]

November 28th
Have examined the upper Standards during the week but results did not realise 65%. In reading throughout the whole school, unless a strict hand is kept, the boys are apt to sing their words - a provincialism common to Suffolk.
Edward Hammond in 1 Standard has been employed as a "half-timer" contrary to Regulations - sent word to his father complaining of this and his mother attended and stated that it should be discontinued.

December 5th
Joseph Packard has been employed all week; he being under-age, sent notice of this to his employer.
The attendance this week has been very irregular - sickness prevalent amongst the younger children and this coupled with the bad weather has pulled the average down very much.
There has been some skating on the "Meres" which has caused a few boys to stay away.
Eighteen boys have been absent all week - greatly in excess to previous weeks and besides these, four have been absent 3 days, six have been absent 2 days and thirty-two absent a day and a day and a half. Together with boys who have stayed away half a day [that makes] a total of over 330 attendances lost. Out of 154 on register, only 104 in attendance this afternoon. Average attendance for past week 117.6.

[The school broke up for the Christmas Holidays on December 18th and reassembled on January 5th, 1880].

January 14th
Children exceedingly noisy in assembly this afternoon and so disorderly when in school that I felt compelled to make them stand still for forty five minutes and to make this time up after usual school hours. The boys in 2nd division of 1 Standard are very troublesome indeed - in fact, though, under the Assistant, the discipline is worse.

January 15th
The above class were not allowed to go into the classroom today for any of their lessons being under my immediate supervision. On Tuesday afternoon January 13th only 87 boys in attendance, the remainder, with a few exceptions, attending the Band of Hope Feast.

January 19th
Admitted Alfred King - 9 years of age and not able to tell a letter.

January 21st
Examined 2nd division of 1 Standard and found that they had not improved in anything. Eight boys in this class are "Total failures" but the rest, with an extra push, may muddle through - though all are deplorably bad.

January 30th
The boys do not seem to possess any reasoning power. In arithmetic if you tell a boy that 2 from 10 leaves 8 then ask, 3 from 10, he hasn't the remotest idea. Again in Reading, if you tell them c,a,t, spells cat and then ask them what b,a,t, spells, they cannot tell you.

February 10th
Received a note from the Rector requesting that the children should attend Church on the morrow, Ash Wednesday. Application refused as no time was given in order to bring the subject before the Governors.

February 16th
Measles prevalent in the Parish. Requested those boys whose houses were infected by this disorder to remain at home till such time as their little brothers and sisters are convalescent. Attendance suffers very much through this.

February 24th
John Davy sent home ill with the measles.

February 26th
A Governors Meeting was held in the classroom this morning. It was resolved at this meeting "that the Assistant should have notice to leave and that a Pupil Teacher should be appointed in his place".
Was called into the room and acquainted with this resolution and spoke strongly against it, but the Governors would not alter their decision and intimating that with another Pupil Teacher in the place of the Assistant Master, the requirement of the Code [of teaching] would be met.
Unable to have fires today on account of the chimneys smoking. Complained of this to the Governors but nothing settled definitely to remedy it.
Average attendance even less this week owing to the epidemic.

March 11th
Received notice of the Inspection which H.M.I. proposes to hold on April 2nd at 10 a.m. and that of the Pupil Teachers at Campsea Ashe in the 20th inst.

March 15th
A Governors Meeting was held in the Classroom this morning and it was resolved "that the children should in the future buy their own slates and books."

March 18th
Master [Mr. Warren refers to himself] absent part of this week to attend the funeral of Mrs. Warren's mother. Assistant Master left in charge.

March 24th
Gave a test examination lasting all morning. Better results obtained than at any other examination.

March 29th
Easter Monday but no holiday given.

March 31st
School year ends.
Registers made up for the Inspection on April 2nd. Numbers eligible for examination - 119. Average attendance for past year = 119.5

Editor's Notes: [1] Published by the author, 1975; plate 31
[2] *Ibid.*, plate 32
[3] *Lambert's Almanac* 1901

THE ORDER OF CONSTRUCTION OF THE MOUNDS AT SUTTON HOO

By Andrew A. Lovejoy

The order of construction of the grave mounds at Sutton Hoo has been a question that has not been settled since at least the first formal excavations at the site in 1938. It is one that would, if answered, pave the way for a fuller history and description of the site, so that its position in a historical context would be established and a history of Anglo Saxons, and the Wuffingas in particular, would be highlighted.

Sutton Hoo, an Anglo Saxon royal cemetery, has been tentatively dated to 575 to 675 AD. It includes 40 or so unfurnished sand men graves, dated provisionally to the period mid-6th century to 790 AD. For the purposes of this discussion, these will not be considered.

The site has 19 recognisable mounds. Only one mound is directly dateable, Mound 1, where in 1939 a ship burial and 263 objects in a ship's burial chamber were found. The find included 42 coins (37 tremisses, 3 blanks and 2 billets) which can be dated 615-630 AD, and which indicate the earliest date that the burial chamber could have been installed. Mound 2 has a pair of drinking horn tips which are identical to a pair found in Mound 1, which possibly means that Mounds 1 and 2 are contemporary. The drinking horn tips in both mounds were made with the same dies and presumably in the same workshop.

Otherwise, it is difficult to date the finds from the mounds, though a date around 600 AD can be accepted for the finds in Mounds 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 14. They do not give much of a clue as to the order in which the mounds were constructed. The siting of the cemetery on a hill or promontory suggests that construction of the mounds centred on the crest, and as such Mounds 5, 6 and 7 may be early and Mounds 1 and 2 late.

The spatial arrangement of the mounds suggests some approaches to the problem. Mounds 5, 6, 7 and 3 are in a straight line along the crest of the site. The quarry ditch of Mounds 6 and 7 is continuous with no quarry ditch between them. Are those two mounds contemporary? The stratigraphical division between the quarry ditch of Mound 5 and Mound 6 seems to suggest that Mounds 6 and 7 are later than Mound 5. The evidence for that conclusion is slender but worth considering. There is the merest suggestion that construction of Mounds 6 and 7 proceeded from the south northwards. So we have a possibility that Mount 5 came before Mound 7 and was followed by Mound 6. Mounds 5, 6 and 7 are on the crest of the burial site, which suggests that their builders had a free hand in siting Mounds 5, 6 and 7. Are they therefore early?

All the inhumation burials (Mounds 1, 2, 14, 17 and 20) are on the periphery of the site. What is more, those mounds have produced the richest finds and are certainly of royal status. Their peripheral position suggests that mounds in the centre of the site (Mounds 5, 6 and 7 for instance) were already in place, and that therefore the constructors of Mounds 1 and 2 were not in a free position to place the mounds where they would have liked. Surely the axes of the site - Mounds 5, 6, 7 and 3 - was a starting point for the placing of further mounds.

The cremations found at Sutton Hoo are in Mounds 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 18 at the centre of the site. All the other mounds excavated - Mounds 1, 2, 14, 17 and 20 - are inhumations. Burial rites would at best appear to give some idea of the way things went at Sutton Hoo. It has been assumed that inhumation is a late burial rite. However, cremations in the Anglo Saxon context went on long after inhumations first appeared at Sutton Hoo. (It appears that cremations are a part of the burial rites devoted to Woden and inhumations to Freyr.) Some have thought that inhumations were a rite enacted by kings and their supporters to assert their high position. That may be to the point,

especially as the finds in the inhumation graves at Sutton Hoo are so rich (ships, etc.). Furthermore, the inhumations and their associated grandeur may be a demonstration by the Wuffingas (the royal house of East Anglia) and their supporters in the face of the recently arrived Christian rites, of an adherence to the traditional pagan ways. If that is so, Mounds 1 and 2 may be late additions to the site.

Has the coming of Christian practices any bearing on the geography of the mounds? Christian practices were coming in at the time King Raedwald (599-625) was buried in Mound 1. His successors - Eorpwald, Sieghbert and Ecric - were Christians and most probably were so buried. If that is so, Mound 1 represents one of the later royal pagan burial sites of East Anglia. It should be noted that, though pagan burials continued long after 700 AD, royal burials did not follow that rite, as Christianity's first adherents in this country were those people at the head of society. Mound 1 could therefore be a late addition to the site. Note that Mound 1 demonstrates that contact at a kingly level had already been made by King Raedwald before his death, with Christianizing influences (two spoons with Paulus and Saulus on them). His successors were surely not buried at Sutton Hoo with pagan rites.

Another reason for assigning a late date for Mound 1 is that that mound would probably have been placed at the centre of the site rather than on its periphery, if the mound builders had had a free hand. Where it was placed suggests that it was the only place available to take a ship conveniently. Mound 2 likewise took up a position to the north of Mounds 5 and 6, because the site was convenient and approachable from the River Deben nearby, along a gully in line with that mound.

So far we have in simple terms assessed Mounds 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7. What about the remaining Mounds 3, 4, 14, 17, 18 and 20? The inhumations 14, 17 and 20 lie at the periphery of the site and could be early or late. The position of Mound 20 on the periphery of Mound 5 suggests a date fairly early, but later than Mound 5. Mound 14 has always been assumed to be early, but it is suggested that its peripheral site suggests otherwise and that it is later than Mound 7. Because of its finds, it could be contemporary with Mounds 1 and 2. The grave goods in Mound 14 (chatelaine, etc.) have yet to be analysed by the British Museum. Perhaps the results of that analysis will be informative.

Mound 17 produced the skeleton of a man and a pony and some rich grave goods which are currently being examined by the British Museum. Some think that Mound 17's prominent position at the extreme periphery suggests an early date. The grave goods themselves suggest a late or an early date according to different authorities. Unfortunately, it appears that there is no dating material in the grave in terms of dendrochronology samples and C14 samples. The only dating material will be parts of the riding gear left to be examined.

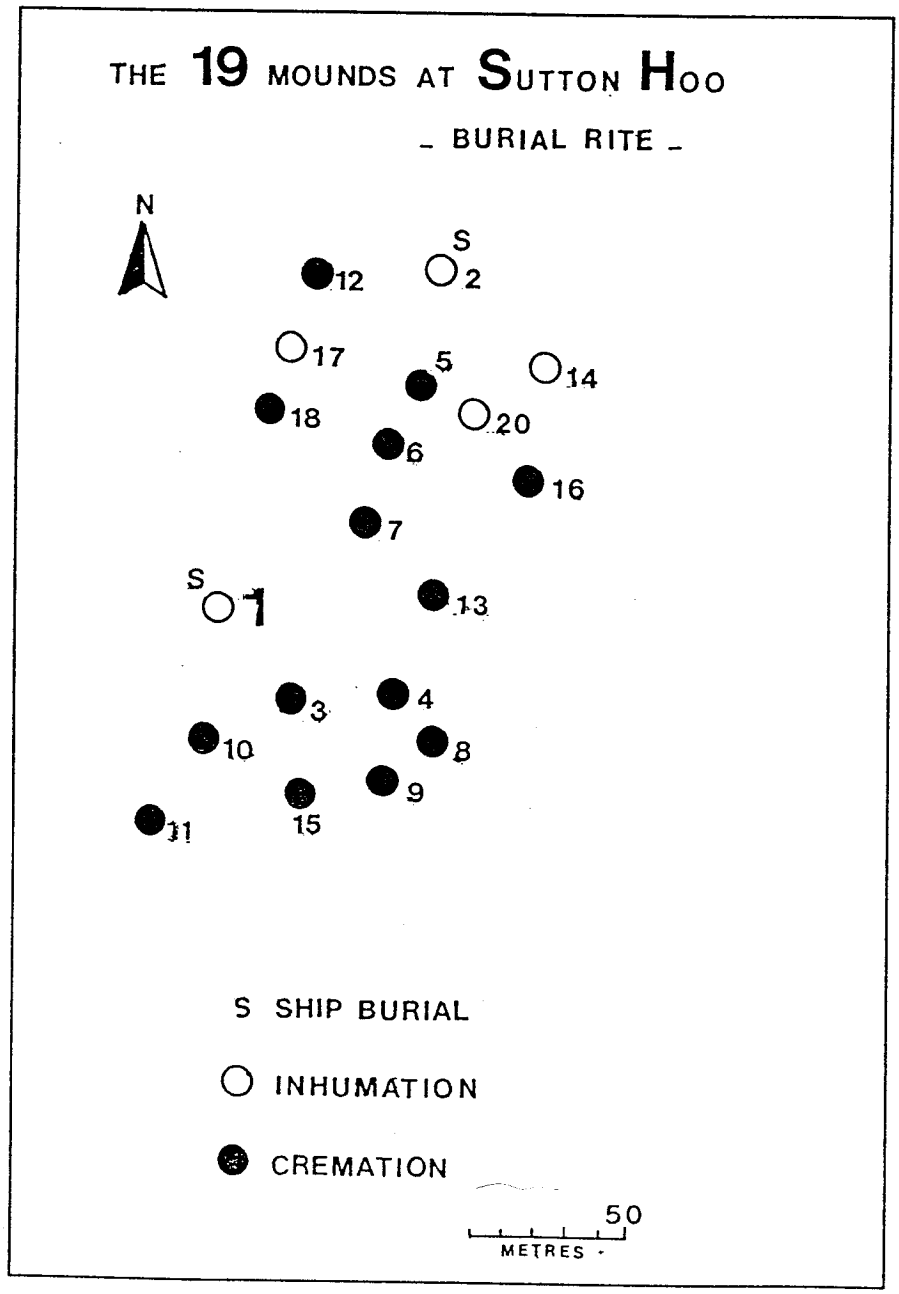
There remain the mounds to the south, east and south-east of Mound 7 (Mounds 3, 4, 8, 9 etc.). They are probably all cremations, if Mounds 3 and 4 are anything to go by. The fact that Mounds 1 and 2 are perhaps the latest on the site suggests obviously that the mounds in question are earlier. If Mounds 3 and 4 are any guide, the mounds in question are those of senior people but not of royal standard. Could Mounds 3, 4, 8, 9 and 11 have sprung up in a development south of Mound 7 at an earlier date than that mound or contemporary with it? As Sutton Hoo is a royal burial site, it would be difficult to suggest a date later than Mound 1 for those mounds, due to the Christianizing influences on burial rites in the 7th century. Many of the mounds at the southern end of the site have not been excavated. In that sector, Mounds 3 and 4 are our only guide.

We can now state a model for the possible order of construction of the mounds. Mounds 5, 6, 7 and 20 are fairly early, with Mounds 3 and 4 at the southern end earlier or contemporary with them. Mounds 1 and 2 could be late and Mound 17 cannot so far be dated. Mound 17 could be later and Mounds 18 and 12 could certainly be late, as there was nowhere else on the site available for their construction at the time the burials took place there.

An alternative model could be that Mounds 1 and 2 were very early with the rest of the mounds following. That would be difficult, though furnished graves are found in an Anglo Saxon context as late as 850 AD: King Raedwald's descendants were aware of Christian burial rites. A later date than 625 AD for the central mounds (5, 6 and 7 etc.) would pre-suppose that pagan burial rites were being accepted at royal level despite the presence of Christianity late in the 7th century. That would pose big questions as to what was happening in society in East Anglia at that late date, and seems unlikely.

The orthodox model for the site with Mounds 1 and 2 as late seems to be in accordance with the facts available. It remains to be seen if the analysis of the finds from the latest period of excavation can throw any light on the problem.

The order of construction of the mounds at Sutton Hoo will always remain unsolvable. The site therefore gives rise to an enigma which the site's original constructors would have been delighted has not been solved.



A HISTORY OF FRAMLINGHAM CASTLE BOWLS CLUB

By Douglas J. Spruce

Framlingham Castle Bowls Club is situated in the shadow of Framlingham Castle and has one of the most picturesque settings of any bowls club in the country.

In 1954, when the Ministry of Works started excavations at the castle, the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology report recorded that there had been in the 7th century an Anglian settlement, surrounded by a wooden stockade, on the site of the present bowling green, which is over a burial ground.[1] The green is very old, and was certainly here and played on by the then Duke of Norfolk in 1553. It is stated also that it was here before Sir Francis Drake played his famous game of bowls on Plymouth Hoe, while waiting for the Armada in 1588. The first written record is a lease dated 1773 to Sarah Newson along with the other gardens.[2]

Richard Green in his history of Framlingham writes of the pastimes of the town:

> In summer, there is a fine bowling green adjoining the Castle for recreation abroad. There can be but little doubt that the latter is a spot which has been from time immemorial used for the enjoyment of bowling, even among the once noble inmates of the Castle; in fact its very situation within the immediate precincts of the old walls, "where there were arbours, pleasant walks, and trees planted for profit and delight", warrants such a conclusion, more particularly as Bowling Greens were generally a necessary appendage to baronial residences, affording an amusement best calculated, as the poet Green says, "to cure the mind's wrong bias -- spleen."[3]

In 1635, Theophilus Howard, 2nd Earl of Suffolk, sold the castle, together with the manor, to Sir Robert Hitcham, who in 1636 bequeathed it to Pembroke College, Cambridge. In 1913, Pembroke College placed the castle under the guardianship of H. M. Office of Works (now English Heritage). The Green was bought in 1948 from Pembroke College by a member of the club, Ken Freeman, together with a small plot of land that was part of a garden, for £137. He sold it the same year to James Mason Martin, an Ipswich solicitor, who was keenly interested in the welfare and history of Framlingham. Martin most generously gave the Green to the club in the same year in memory of his father, John Martin, a former member of the club. From that time the club was run by Trustees who today are John Gray, Robert Taylor, Herman Kindred and John Carr.

Up to the Second World War the club was very elitist, and it is stated that:

> The Green is open from the first week in May to the first week in October, and two clubs are held, *viz.*, the Tradesmen on Wednesday and the Gentlemen on Thursday in every week in the season.

This was too much for some people, and for a short time in the forties a small club was set up in Brook Lane opposite Cherry Tree Farm, but it was short-lived. Membership to the main club was by invitation only. Young lads were employed as "pick up boys" to carry the bowls and wipe them clean. They were paid 1d, 2d, or 3d per session. Some members were better payers than others; the best was said to have been Canon Lanchester, rector of St. Michael's, Framlingham.

Rolling on the old green was done with a horse-drawn concrete roller, which is still to be seen at the club. When the green needed rolling, a lad was sent to Mr. Harry Howlett, mine host at the old Hare and Hounds public house at the corner of Double Street and Castle Street, and he returned with a horse, which was then fitted with special leather overshoes to stop the green

getting damaged. This type of shoe can still be seen in the Lanman Museum. To help protect the green further, a rule was brought in in 1923 that "rubber soled shoes should be worn on the green".

Until 1948, the green had a slope and was saucer-shaped. As a result of this, bowling followed the "Crown Green" principle, in that the "Jack", or "Cott" as it is called in Suffolk, was cast from its previous resting place to anywhere on the green, instead of up and down as at present. To help compensate for this slope, special bowls were played with, "Fram Woods", which were made solely by Norman's the gunsmith that used to be situated in Church Street. These "woods" are still used in a special competition played today.

It was decided in 1948 that the green should be relaid and levelled and six trees removed, as their roots were coming to the surface on the green. This caused a major problem, as there was no way of removing them direct. In the end, agreement was reached with the owner of one of the gardens for them to be dragged over his land, and compensation was paid for the damage caused and the inconvenience. English Bowling Association approval was gained as a result of this.[4] In 1962, it was decided that further improvements should be made, and it was dug up again and levelled on three sides, and is now recognised as one of the finest greens in the country.

At the turn of the century there was no club-house. A small open-fronted building was erected and is still there today. Such was the honesty in those days that in 1924, 28 metal lockers were purchased at 3s (15p) each, with no keys, and let out to the members at 1s (5p) each *per annum*. 1968 saw the proposal for a proper club-house to be built. Such was the red tape that it was 1973 before it was completed, with a great deal of help from many members. This consisted of a club-room, bar, changing rooms and toilets. A kitchen was added soon afterwards. 1997 saw an extension of the club-room built. The result is a very pleasant building which should serve the club for many years to come.

In the early part of the century, and in fact until the green was brought up to standard, not many matches were played, and those that were, were friendlies. Several large tournaments were held at the back of Framlingham College, the first being on August 20th 1919: 44 teams and 122 individuals entered, a total of approximately 400 people. Marquees were set up, making it a very grand competition.

Membership has remained at about the 50 to 60 mark throughout the century for men. The ladies section was founded in 1957, and is around the 20 to 25 mark today. Subscriptions for the men were 7s 6d (37½p) in 1908 compared with £30 today.[5]

Today, Framlingham is very lucky to have a superb green in a very picturesque setting. New members are made very welcome and a friendly atmosphere prevails.

Notes:

1. Knocker, G.M. "Excavations at Framlingham Castle, 1954" in Suffolk Institute of Archaeology. *Proceedings.* Vol XXVII, pt. 1 (1955) pp. 65-88
2. Archives at Pembroke College, Cambridge.
3. Green, R. *The History ... of Framlingham and Saxsted ...* (London, 1834). p. 219
4. Information gathered from taped conversations between Ken Freeman and Tony Martin and Arthur Newson and Doug Spruce. Tapes held by Framlingham Castle Bowls Club.
5. The minute books of Framlingham Castle Bowls Club.

PEMBROKE COLLEGE

By Rev. Richard Willcock

Pembroke is one of the oldest and most distinguished of Cambridge Colleges. It was founded in 1347 by Marie de St. Pol, widow of Aylmer de Valence, Earl of Pembroke. It was written of the Foundress that she was maid, wife, and widow all in one day, her husband being unhappily slain at a tilting contest at their nuptials: not quite accurate, happily for her (and for him, for that matter), but on the death of her husband, she withdrew from the world, bequeathed her soul to God, and her estate to the founding of the College of Mary of Valence in Cambridge, commonly called Pembroke Hall.

The Framlingham connection with Pembroke College began in 1636 when Sir Robert Hitcham, who had purchased the manor of Framlingham and Saxtead, left it in his will to his old college. His tomb in Framlingham Church is overshadowed by the Howard tombs, but in its simplicity ranks with them in architectural merit.

Pembroke College owns the Castle, but is no doubt relieved to have English Heritage run it. Every so often the Master and Fellows dine in the Hall of the Castle just to show who's boss. The Rector of the Parishes of Framlingham and Saxtead is appointed not by the Bishop, but by the Master and Fellows of Pembroke. Each candidate for interview is seated in isolation at one end of a large and splendid rosewood dining table in the Master's Lodge with the Master himself at the opposite end, flanked by members of the Fellowship. For the candidates this is one of life's memorable, though not necessarily most comfortable, experiences.

Some of the College's medieval buildings survive, but sadly not many. A commission into the running of the universities in Victorian times (there's nothing new about government enquiries into places of higher education) made it clear to the Master and Fellows that if they did not spend some of their money, it would be removed from them. In response, they decided to pull down the old buildings and build an entirely new college, designed by Alfred Waterhouse, in red brick. It seemed like a good idea at the time. Fortunately, they did not get too far. Amongst the buildings spared was the Old Chapel (now the Old Library) and the present Chapel, consecrated in 1665, which is the first chapel in Oxford or Cambridge in the classical style. Matthew Wren, Bishop of Ely, had given the business to his young nephew Christopher. This was his very first commission, and he never looked back. When the Fellows purchased a new organ for the Chapel in 1708, they handed down the old one by Thamar to Framlingham. Both organs still exist. Expert opinion is that Framlingham got the better deal.

On the wall of the arcade outside the chapel are the names of Pembroke men killed in the First World War. It makes sad reading, as such lists always do. Along with King's and Corpus Christi, Pembroke lost more men in proportion to its size in the Great War than any other college. No-one knows why this should have been so.

Amongst statesmen, the most famous former member of the College is William Pitt the Younger, Prime Minister at the age of 24. Pembroke is especially distinguished for its poets and bishops, though by no means deficient in its scientists and lawyers: the last Lord Chief Justice, for instance, Lord Taylor, was a member of the College.

Of the bishops the most famous was Nicholas Ridley, formerly Master of the College, martyred in the reign of Mary Tudor after being brought to Framlingham Castle in chains. He died in Oxford. It was said that Cambridge had the honour of educating him and Oxford of burning him. In his farewell letter to the College he recalled the sweet smell of the orchard - the walls, butts and trees - where he had learned the New Testament Epistles.

The College poets begin with Edmund Spenser and go right up to the present day with Ted Hughes, the late Poet Laureate. A volume, *Pembroke Poets*, published recently to celebrate the 650th anniversary of the founding of the College, is virtually a guide to English poetry through the centuries.

The College cats are named after the College poets. One of the most recent was called Thomas Gray. He (not the poet) died in extreme old age. Eye-witnesses among Pembroke undergraduates testify that they had never seen him move. He was always carried from place to place and set down. Rumour has it that he had been dead for years. The present cat incumbent is Kit Smart. Future ones may well be Peter Cook or Clive James.

Editor's Note: Our President originally drafted this article while serving as Dean of Pembroke earlier this year. It was circulated to the Friends of St. Michael's when they went on an instructive and highly enjoyable trip to Cambridge, the culmination of which was Dinner in Hall at Pembroke.

EXIT LINES

On a hill just opposite the Castle is an unfortunate edifice in red brick, the College. Its situation is good, and it is surrounded by thirty-three acres of playing fields, but as to its architecture it is enough to say that it was erected as a memorial to Prince Albert.

From D. Wallace, *East Anglia: a survey of England's eastern counties.* London, Batsford, 1939

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