

# Framlingham Castle

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*The cover design is based on the arms of the Howard Dukes of Norfolk, from the panel of c. 1520-30 over the entrance gate of the Castle.*

Department of the Environment  
Ancient Monuments and Historic Buildings

# Framlingham Castle

SUFFOLK

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# Contents

PAGE	4	PLAN
	5	SUMMARY
	8	HISTORY
	17	DESCRIPTION
	17	Site and plan
	17	Building periods
	21	The south side
	23	The east side
	27	The north side
	28	The west side
	31	The wall-walk
	32	The lower court
	36	The outer bailey
	37	GLOSSARY

Hugh Bigod. 1150-1160

Roger Bigod II. 1190-1200

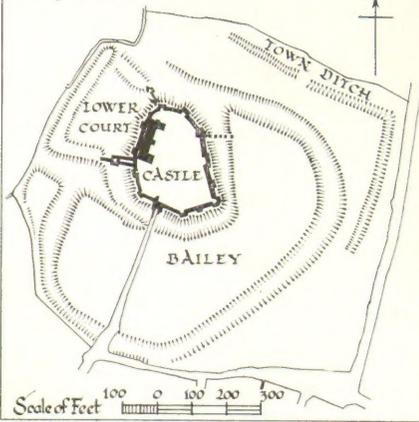
The Howards. 16th Century

17th and 18th Centuries

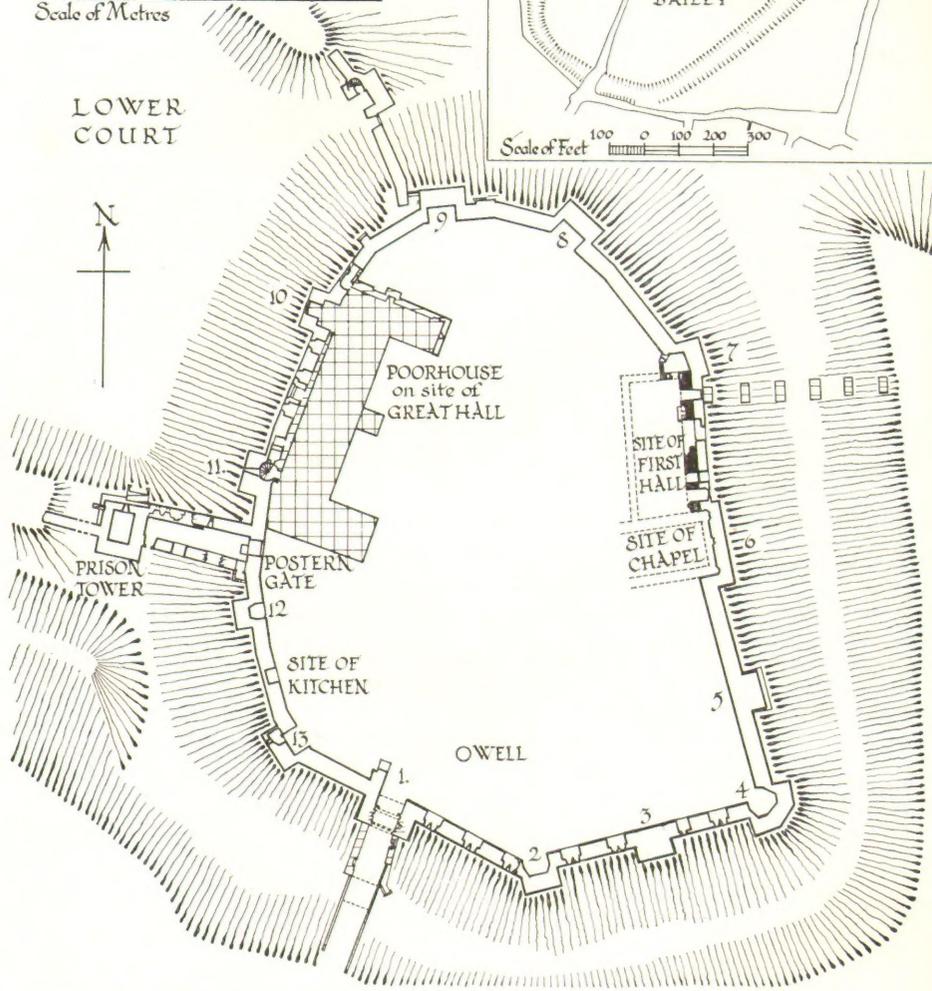
Scale of Feet



### Key Plan



### LOWER COURT



# Framlingham Castle

# Summary

THE story that Framlingham Castle was originally a Saxon stronghold is unsupported by any reliable evidence. The first definite record of the site is that it was given by Henry I to Roger Bigod in 1100 or 1101. Bigod erected the first buildings on the site, almost certainly consisting of a small motte, or mound, with an outer courtyard or bailey protected on three sides by a palisade and ditch, and by an artificial mere on the west. The defences were dismantled by the order of Henry II in 1175–1177, but in about 1190 Roger, the second Earl, built a strong castle with stone walls and towers, incorporating the domestic buildings of his father.

On the death of the fifth Earl, another Roger, in 1306, Framlingham came into the hands of the King, and in 1312 Edward II gave it to his half-brother, Thomas de Brotherton, who was created Earl of Norfolk. From him the estates passed eventually through the female line in 1375 to Thomas Mowbray, who was created first Duke of Norfolk by Richard II in 1397. For a hundred years Framlingham remained the principal seat of the Mowbray dukes, who effected considerable changes in the internal buildings of the castle, though practically nothing of their work survives.

In 1476 Framlingham passed once more through the female line to John Howard, grandson of the first Mowbray Duke and ancestor of the present holder of the title. He was created Duke of Norfolk by Richard III in 1483, but was killed fighting for him at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485. His son Thomas was taken prisoner, but before long was pardoned by Henry VII and restored to his dukedom and estates, and in 1513 he won great fame by his defeat of the Scots at Flodden. In his time the castle underwent considerable 'modernisation' and work of this date is easily distinguishable by the copious use of brick.

The third Howard Duke lost the favour of Henry VIII and Framlingham was forfeited to the Crown. Edward VI gave it to his sister Mary I, and it was here that her supporters rallied to her in 1553 when the attempt was made to set Lady Jane Grey on the throne.

Though Mary restored his estates to the third Duke, he did not live at Framlingham, and his grandson, the fourth Duke, was executed for treason by Elizabeth I. The castle was once more forfeited to the Crown, and was used during the latter part of Elizabeth's reign as a prison for recusant priests.

James I restored it again to the Howards, but in 1635 it was sold to Sir Robert Hitcham, who in 1636 bequeathed it to Pembroke College,

Cambridge, with the stipulation that it should be pulled down and a poor-house erected on its site. The outer walls were left standing, but all the internal buildings were gradually demolished, and the poor-house ceased to be used as such in 1837. In 1913 Pembroke College placed the castle under the guardianship of H.M. Office of Works (now the Department of the Environment).

The castle consists of an outer court or bailey and an inner court – the castle proper – with a third enclosure known as the Lower Court on its western side. The outer and inner courts are still surrounded by the ditches dug by the first Roger Bigod early in the twelfth century. The circuit of wall with thirteen towers is that erected by the second Roger Bigod in about 1190, and the Lower Court is of the same date.

The arch of the entrance gateway was rebuilt by the third Howard Duke 1530–40 and the bridge is contemporary with it, and the ornamental brick chimneys on the towers are additions of the same period.

On the north-east side of the inner court the remains of Hugh Bigod's first stone hall and chapel, erected about 1140–60, can be seen incorporated in the wall of 1190. These remains consist of the outer wall of the hall, with two chimneys, and the east end of the chapel, which was at right angles to the hall. All the rest of these buildings have disappeared, but traces can still be seen of alterations effected to the chapel roof in the fifteenth century by the Mowbrays.

On the opposite side stands Sir Robert Hitcham's poor-house, on the site of the Great Hall of Roger Bigod's castle. The windows of his hall, some fragments of medieval walling and more considerable lengths of timber-framed walling from the time of the Howards survive at the north end. The building at the south end, now used as the custodian's residence, is of the early seventeenth century, and the central block of the poor-house was built in 1729.

Between the Great Hall and the chapel there was a range of buildings extending across the court, but this and all the buildings which abutted against the curtain wall all the way round were gradually destroyed during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Some fragmentary foundations of some of these buildings can be seen to the south of the poor-house where there is also an original postern gate in the curtain wall.

The Lower Court has earthworks on three sides, connected with the castle by short lengths of stone wall. That on the south side constituted

an elaborately defended approach to the postern gate, and had at its foot a tower, the basement of which was a dungeon. In the sixteenth century this court was converted into a garden, and foundations of walls of that period can be seen. At its north-east corner there was a gateway leading to the mere.

# History

THE history of the Castle of Framlingham begins with the first Norman Kings of England. It has been asserted that some kind of stronghold existed here in the days of King Edmund, and that the royal saint before his martyrdom in 870 at the hands of the heathen Danes was besieged at Framlingham, escaping hence to Hoxne, where he was taken and killed. But there appears to be no reliable evidence to support such a statement. The first definite record of Framlingham is that Roger Bigod (d. 1107) received it from Henry I in 1100 or 1101, and he most probably began the construction of a fortified dwelling-house, consisting of timber structures protected by a ditch and palisade.

His eldest son, William, was lost in the White Ship (1120) and so the succession went to Hugh Bigod, the second son, whom King Stephen created Earl of Norfolk in 1140 (one among many such creations which drained the power of the Crown). His long career was marked by continual treachery and rebellion until his death in 1177. He had helped, by perjury (it was said), to deprive Matilda of her rights and supported Stephen in his usurpation. He was not long in rebelling against his new master, but was pardoned, though he appears soon to have taken up arms again. In 1148, when Stephen and Archbishop Theobald of Canterbury were at variance, Bigod entertained the latter at Framlingham, and thither came also the Bishops of London, Chichester and Norwich with a number of nobles. The issue of this meeting was peace between the King and the Archbishop, and the latter returned to Canterbury.

Bigod deserted Stephen for the young Henry, who, becoming King in 1154, confirmed him in his earldom of Norfolk and in the royal stewardship which he had held with it. But the King soon had trouble with his powerful subject. Though he crushed him in 1157, he was ready in 1173 to help the King's rebellious sons. Robert de Beaumont, Earl of Leicester, joined forces with Bigod at Framlingham; but Henry was now determined on putting an end to the rebellion, and, although the rebels had some initial success, Leicester was defeated and taken, and Bigod, who had attacked and plundered Norwich, thought it best to anticipate the King's march on Framlingham by making a complete submission. This he did, and Framlingham, along with other castles, was ordered to be dismantled. Sometime during his tenure of the site, Hugh had probably reconstructed some of the more important of the timber buildings in stone, and it seems that the dismantling did not extend to these, in spite of the facts recorded in the Pipe Rolls that in

1175 'Alnodus the engineer with the carpenters and masons whom he brought with him' were paid £14 15s. 11d. for demolishing the castle, and that other sums were expended for this purpose in the two following years. The dismantling seems to have affected only the defences.

Hugh Bigod died in 1178, and his son Roger, the second Earl, seems to have begun immediately to reconstruct the castle in solid masonry. It was certainly he who built the existing massive walls with their thirteen towers, and gave the castle something like its present appearance. It must have been completed before 1213, when Earl Roger entertained King John within its walls, but in spite of its apparent strength it was besieged and captured by the King's foreign mercenaries in the civil war of 1215.

The next noteworthy owner of Framlingham was Roger Bigod, the fourth Earl (called Earl of Norfolk and Suffolk). He was a minor when his father died in 1225; so the King took possession of Framlingham Castle and put it in the custody of Thomas de Blundeville on his behalf. Blundeville was a clerk of the royal Treasury and became Bishop of Norwich in 1226. In that year the King restored the castle to Roger, with Hubert de Burgh, the justiciar, as guardian until he should come of age. His wardship was granted, after this, to William, Earl of Salisbury, and afterwards to Alexander II, King of Scots, whose sister Isabella he married. In 1233 he was knighted by Henry III and in 1234 took possession of the castle of Framlingham from the King. In 1246 he was made Earl Marshal. He is well known for his association with the baronial resistance to Henry III, though he did not always support the party of Simon de Montfort. He died in 1270 and was buried in Thetford Priory, which had been founded about 1103 by the first Roger Bigod.

Roger, the fifth Earl (1245-1306) and the last of the Bigods, was a nephew of the fourth Earl, and was, like him, a man of energy and ability. He was a moving spirit in the resistance of the Barons to the forceful government of Edward I, but in the great Plantagenet he had met his match. Bigod had refused in 1297 to go to Gascony while the King went to Flanders, maintaining that he was not bound to such service unless the King was there in person. 'By God, Sir Earl,' said the King, 'you shall go or hang'. 'By God, O King,' said the Earl, 'I will neither go nor hang.' Bigod was deprived of his office of marshal and finally he made the King heir to all his estates. On 12th April, 1302, he formally surrendered his lands to Edward, receiving them again in tail a few months later. When in 1306 he died and was buried at Thetford



the whole of his vast possessions passed to the Crown. In his time considerable repairs were carried out to the castle, and from the accounts of that period, we learn various details of buildings within the castle, most of which have now disappeared.

Framlingham Castle was now under the direct control of the King, who administered it through a constable. In 1307 we find the King issuing instructions for the fortification and secure keeping of the castle, in view of his intention to proceed oversea, and in 1308 a similar injunction was made.

In 1312 Framlingham had a new master in the person of Thomas de Brotherton, half-brother of Edward II, who, although Thomas was only twelve years old, made him Earl of Norfolk and bestowed upon him all the Bigod estates. On 10th February, 1316, Brotherton was made Earl Marshal and so enjoyed the whole of the Bigod dignities. The castle was placed under the control of a constable appointed by

and answerable to the Earl. In 1332 Edward III confirmed the Earl's grant for life of the office of constable to Geoffrey Quyne, who was to receive 'one robe yearly of the suit of the Earl's esquires, 5s. weekly for wages, pay for two horses and half a bushel of oats every night'. In 1338, the year of his death, Earl Thomas received back from the King 'the Castle, town and Manor of Framlingham and the Castle and the Manor of Walton . . . which the Earl lately surrendered to the King and his heirs'.

After Thomas's death the castle and estates passed to his wife Mary (who held Framlingham until her death in 1362 and was styled Countess Marshal), but in 1375, on the death of her grand-daughter Joan, all the property came to Margaret her aunt, who was known as Countess of Norfolk and Countess Marshal.\* Her daughter Elizabeth married John, Lord Mowbray (d. 1368), and their son, Thomas Mowbray, became the first Duke of Norfolk (c. 1366-99). Richard II showed him great favour, bestowing upon him the Garter, the earldom of Northampton, and the office of Earl Marshal, and though for a time there was conflict between them, he regained the King's confidence. In 1397 Richard made the Earl Marshalship hereditary in his house. On 29th September of the same year the King created him Duke of Norfolk, and his grandmother, Margaret, Duchess of Norfolk for life.† The subsequent career of the Duke, ending in his banishment and death in exile (22nd September, 1399) is well known. The King put the castle in the charge of a constable, and Henry IV when he became King decided to keep it in his own hands during the minority of the heir, Thomas Mowbray (1386-1405), Sir Thomas Erpingham being constable and keeper of the park.

But Framlingham was eventually given back, and Thomas Mowbray, although he did not bear the title of Duke, was allowed the style of Earl Marshal and Earl of Nottingham. He rebelled against Henry IV, and with Archbishop Scrope was executed near York.

In 1405 the King granted the castle to his son, Henry, Prince of Wales, for life or for so long as it should remain in the hands of the Crown by reason of forfeiture.

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\* The castle was in 1384 in the charge of William atte Lee of Suffolk, as constable; he was also chief parker of the great park of Framlingham and other parks; and had under him a porter of the castle and three under-parkers.

† Margaret lived constantly at Framlingham until her death in March, 1399. William Woodford, a Franciscan friar and a man of some note in his day, who was involved in controversy with Wyclif, lived at Framlingham as her chaplain.

The dead Earl's brother, John Mowbray (1392-1432), was a minor when he succeeded, and although he at once became Earl Marshal and Earl of Nottingham, he was not recognized as Duke of Norfolk until 1425. In the same year his mother died and he began to reside at Framlingham. In the reigns of Henry V and Henry VI he took a prominent part in the French wars.

John Mowbray (1415-61), his son, was likewise a minor at his accession and until 1436 his estates were in the custody of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester. John Mowbray joined the Yorkist side in the troublous days of Henry VI, and in August, 1450, Framlingham Castle was the scene of a remarkable assembly. From a letter of the Earl of Oxford to the 'ryght high and myghty Prynce' the Duke of Norfolk, included in the Paston Papers, we learn that the Duke had invited there 'certayn notable knyghtis and squyers of this counte (Norfolk) theer to have comonyngs (communings) with youre good Lordshep for the sad rule and governaunce of this counte, wych standyth ryght indisposed'. Framlingham appears in the Paston Letters as the chief seat of the Dukes of Norfolk, who moved about in their possessions with almost royal state.

After his share with the Duke of York in the opposition to Somerset and the King's government, Mowbray obtained a pardon in 1452, and four years later he made a pilgrimage from Framlingham to the shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, for Sir John Fastolf writes thus to John Paston from Caister: 'My Lord of Norfolk is remeid from Framlingham on foote to goo to Walsyngham, and daily I wayte that he wolde come hidre (hither).' He escaped from the second battle of St Albans (1461), fought at Towton on Edward's side, and on 5th June of the same year was again at Framlingham. On the 28th he acted as Earl Marshal at Edward's coronation. He died in 1461 and was buried at Thetford. His son John (1444-76) became the fourth Mowbray Duke, succeeding his father at the age of seventeen. He lived for a time at his castle of Holt in Denbighshire, but in August, 1463, he was certainly at Framlingham, for he writes from there to John Paston, the elder, in these terms:

'Right trusty and entierly welbelovid servaunt, we grete you hertily well, and specially praying you that ye will be with us at Framlyngham on Sondag next comyng, that we may comon with you there, and have youre sadde advise in suche

matiers as concernyth grety to oure weel, whiche shall be mynestred unto you at youre comyng. Praying you that ye fayle not herof, as our speciall trust is in you.

And our Lord preserve you in His keeping.

Written at Framlyngham the xxxj day of August.

Norff.'

And in October, 1465, the Duke was likewise in residence, as we learn from the Paston Letters. In 1472 William Waynflete, Bishop of Winchester, came to Framlingham to christen the Duke's daughter Anne. 'The Byshop cam to Framlyngham,' writes John Paston to his father, 'on Wednysday at nyght, and on Thursday by X of the clok befor noon, my yong Lady was kyrstend, and namyd Anne. The Byshop crystened it and was godfather bothe, and with in ij owyrs and lesse aftyr the crystenyng was do, my Lord of Wynchester departed towards Waltham.'

The Duke died in 1476 and as he left no male issue,\* the estates finally passed, through Margaret (daughter of Thomas Mowbray the first Duke), who married Sir Robert Howard, to their son John Howard, the first Duke of Norfolk of the Howard house.

We reach now the era of the great and powerful Howard Dukes. In the time of the first of these Dukes, John Howard (c. 1420-85), the castle was repaired, and it continued to be the principal residence of its owner who, in 1483, was created Duke of Norfolk and given the title of Earl Marshal by Richard III. He led the front line in the Battle of Bosworth and fell in the support of Richard's cause on 22nd August, 1485. Brave like his father, the eldest son, Thomas, Earl of Surrey (1443-1524), distinguished himself at Bosworth, and, being taken prisoner, was sent to the Tower. Framlingham passed for a time to John Vere, Earl of Oxford, but before long Thomas was restored to favour and regained his estates. Henry VIII in 1510 made him Earl Marshal, and in 1514, after the Earl had won the decisive victory over the Scots at Flodden, the King invested him with the dukedom of Norfolk and granted him and his heirs male the celebrated 'Flodden augmentation' to his arms. In his old age the Duke retired to Framling-

\* Anne was the heiress, and Edward IV took charge of the castle through John of Sudbury, who in 1478 was given the 'office of porter and the custody of the castle of Framlingham, co. Suffolk, during the minority of Anne,' etc. In that year, at the age of six, she was married to Richard, Duke of York, an infant of like age. Richard was murdered in the Tower and Anne died in 1481.

ham, where he lived in great honour and splendour until his death in 1524. In his will he leaves to his son and heir 'our great hangede bedde, palyd with cloth of golde, whyte damask and black velvet and bordered with these two letters T.A.\* and our hangyng of the story of Hercules made for our great chamber at Framlyngham'. The ducal household in these days was large and included a governor, an auditor, a collector, a treasurer and an armour-keeper.

Thomas Howard, the third Duke (1473-1554), distinguished in his youth for military service by land and sea, was Lord Deputy of Ireland and also commanded the English forces against the Scots. In 1524 he took possession of his estates and became such a firm supporter of Henry VIII in the matter of the divorce of Catherine that in 1533 he was made Earl Marshal and, once more, Lord Deputy of Ireland. He contributed to the fall of Wolsey and of Cromwell, but himself lost the King's favour. His son, the Earl of Surrey, was executed on a charge of treason and only the death of Henry on 28th January, 1547, saved the Duke from the scaffold.

The castle of Framlingham was forfeited to the King, and Edward VI kept it in his possession until May, 1553, when he granted it to his sister Mary. It was here that Mary stayed after the death of Edward in the same year, during those days of July when the succession was still uncertain. Her standard flew over the gateway tower, and it was not long before thousands of her supporters were encamped about the Castle. The Earls of Sussex and Bath joined her with an armed following, and lastly the Earl of Arundel came to inform her that she was Queen of England. To Framlingham also in the same month came Bishop Ridley on a vain mission to obtain the Queen's mercy; he was burned at the stake at Oxford in 1555.

The Duke of Norfolk was now set free and his attainder removed. He died in 1554 at Kenninghall in Norfolk, a more modern and comfortable house than the castle of Framlingham, which for so many centuries and with successive adaptations had been the chief seat of Bigods, Mowbrays, and Howards. The glory of Framlingham was over; the castle had a governor until 1572, but after this time it formed merely a more or less insignificant part of the Norfolk possession.

The fourth Duke (1536-72) Thomas, son of the gifted Earl of Surrey, was a minor, and the Crown administered the estates until he came of

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\* Thomas and Agnes (his wife).

*The main gateway*



age in 1557. He was a supporter of Elizabeth's accession, but in 1572 he was tried for treason and executed. In 1595 his son Philip, Earl of Arundel (1557-72), died in the Tower under sentence of death for his adherence to the Roman Church and for praying for the success of the Armada. The castle had now been leased to tenants for some years. From a survey of 18th August, 1589, we learn that the buildings were badly in need of repair, and the responsibility for them rested with the Crown, in whose hands the castle and manor were. During the last years of Elizabeth's reign the castle was used as a prison for recusant priests, but in 1613 James I restored it to the Howards. On 14th May, 1635, Theophilus Howard, Earl of Suffolk (1584-1640), sold it along with other property to Sir Robert Hitcham, who in 1636 bequeathed it to the Master, Fellows and Scholars of Pembroke College in Cambridge, the famous and learned foundation of Marie de Valence, Countess of Pembroke, of which he, like Bishop Ridley, had been a member. By his will Sir Robert directed that 'all the Castle, saving the stone building, be pulled down' and that among other things the college should build a poor-house. So the Great Hall was converted into a poor-house, and all the other buildings except the circuit of walls, gatehouse, and towers, were gradually demolished. Externally the castle still keeps something of its ancient impressiveness and splendour; but the great mere which protected its western side has long vanished, and gone, too, is the famous park which since the time of the Bigods had provided sport and recreation for its noble owners. The chapel which stood against the eastern side of the court was demolished in 1657; in the reign of Henry VIII it was richly adorned; being hung 'with cloth of arras, of the History of Christ's Passion, and a lamp of the value of seven shillings was usually burnt before the Altar there.'

The Great Chamber and its adjacent rooms were not demolished until 1700, and the Great Hall itself may have survived until 1729.

The poor-house ceased to be used as such in 1837, and has since served as a county court and a drill hall.

On 19th September, 1913, the Master and Fellows of Pembroke College constituted the Commissioners of Works (now the Department of the Environment) guardians of the Castle under the Ancient Monuments Consolidation and Amendment Act, passed in the same year.

# Description

## SITE AND PLAN

THE castle stands on a small bluff, rather over 100 ft above sea level, on the east or left bank of the River Ore, and its site is not much more conspicuous than that of the college on the other side of the stream. On the north-west the ground falls steeply some 40 ft to the valley floor, which is here nearly 300 yards wide; on the south-west and south sides the town of Framlingham stretches down the slopes to the river. On the north-east and east sides the land extends for miles on much the same level as the castle. Immediately below the castle and above the town the valley was dammed to form a mere, which constituted the main defence on that side. On the other sides considerable ditches were dug, and it is probable that much of the material excavated from them went to form the dam; the level of the bluff on which the present castle stands owes part of its height to the levelling of the motte of the early castle. On the east side lay the deer-park.

The castle now consists of three fortified enclosures. The inmost enclosure, referred to in the accounts as 'The Castle' is roughly oval in shape, with its longer axis lying north and south, and is now surrounded by a ditch and curtain wall. It lies in the north-west angle of a larger enclosure, referred to always as 'The Bailey', also surrounded by a ditch, which joins that of the castle on the north and originally at the south-west also. This ditch is now represented by a considerable pond on the east side and by a smaller pond on the right of the approach to the castle, and a good piece of it can be seen by crossing the stile opposite the latter pond and taking the footpath through the trees. Attached to the north-west side of the castle there is a third enclosure fortified with a bank. This enclosure is called 'The Lower Court' in the accounts, and has a ditch on its north and south sides, while the west side is protected by the mere.

A further ditch, some 30 yards beyond the bailey ditch on the north and east sides, is known as the Town Ditch, and may well have enclosed the whole of the ancient town; its whole course is not now traceable.

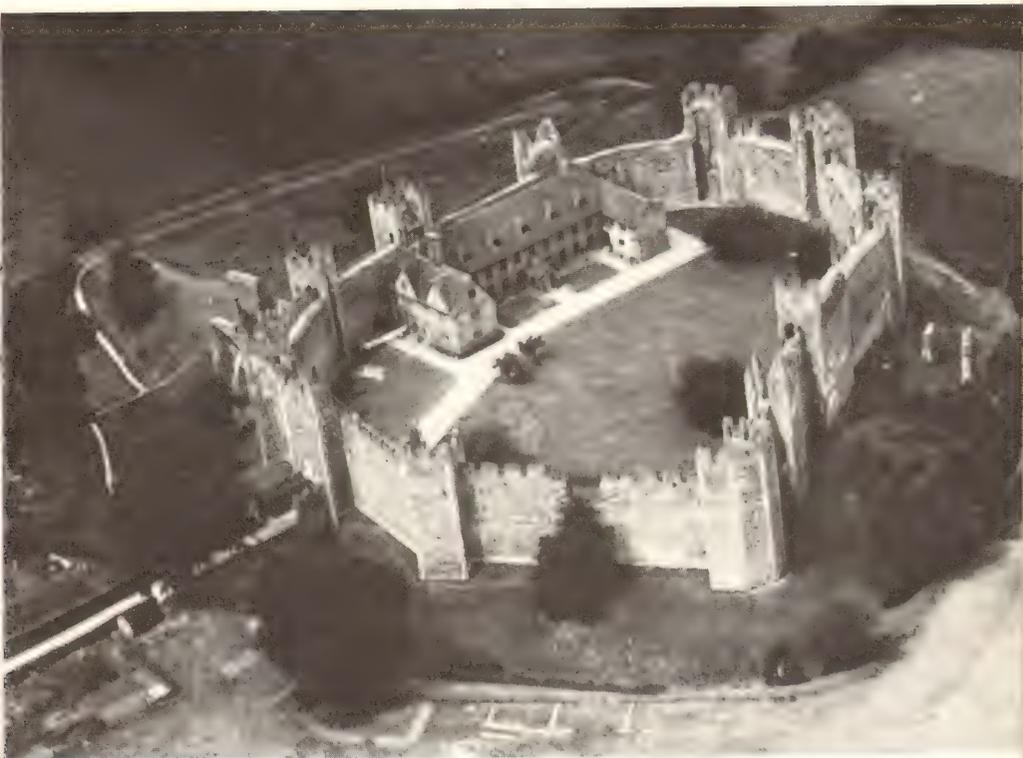
## BUILDING PERIODS

It seems fairly certain that the structure erected by Roger Bigod early in the twelfth century was a typical motte and bailey castle of the type built in large numbers all over England at this time. This would have taken the form of a conical mound capped with a wooden palisade or

possibly a stone wall. This, the most heavily defended part of the castle, would have been used intensively only in times of danger. The normal life of such a castle would have been centred within the bailey. There, in the larger area protected by a bank and ditch, would have been found the quarters for the retainers, the great hall, the barns, stables and such like. It is reasonable to suppose that Hugh Bigod, the first Earl, reconstructed the main buildings in stone, and probably also strengthened the defences, perhaps during Stephen's reign, or early in that of Henry II. When the castle was dismantled by order of Henry II in 1175-77 it is likely that only structures of a purely domestic nature were left intact. All the defensive works would have been razed to the ground. The present curtain wall with its thirteen towers, is the work of Roger, the second Earl, and dates from the reign of Richard I and the early years of John. The Lower Court is also of this period, though perhaps a year or two later than the main walls. Little is left of the alterations effected by the Mowbrays during their tenure of the castle, but there are abundant traces of the work of the Howard Dukes, which is characterized by the copious use of the thin Tudor bricks, the most conspicuous surviving feature of this period being the ornamental chimneys added to most of the towers.

### **The Main Entrance**

It is possible that the main entrance to Roger Bigod's inner bailey was on the same site as the present gateway, which for the most part is the work of Roger, the second Earl, though with later alterations. The twelfth-century gate must have been protected by a drawbridge, which was probably pivoted immediately outside the main arch, in the fashion of that time. But at some later date it was moved forward, and the existing abutments which carry the present permanent bridge were built for the altered drawbridge. This may have been done as early as 1274, under the last of the Bigods, for there are entries in the accounts for that year and for 1278 for stone, lime and timber for 'the bridge facing the Castle'; it may, however, have been done under de Brotherton. Traces of the slots for the counter-weights of the later drawbridge can be seen under the existing arch in the face of the inner abutment. The present bridge, of brick and stone, was built by the third Howard Duke (1524-47) on the old abutments, the northern of which was at that time partly fallen and had to be strengthened with a diagonal



buttress on the east side. The base of the buttress, carefully faced with Tudor brick, still survives, and its base line shows to what an extent the ditch had silted up by the middle of the sixteenth century. The parapets of the bridge are of the late eighteenth century.

It is recorded that the gate was defended by a half-moon outwork of stone, which was still standing in 1657. This must have been of the same date as the present bridge. It has entirely disappeared, though the ditch belonging to it was traced by excavation in 1954 and some slight traces of masonry at the top of the outer bank of the main ditch on the right-hand side of the bridge may be part of it.

Between the bridge and the gate the entrance is flanked by two wing-walls of unequal length, which are of the same date as the arch of the gate, though the brick recesses in them are of the period of the poor-house.

### The Gate Tower

Though the Gate Tower is in the main the work of Earl Roger Bigod, of the end of the twelfth century, it was altered in the second quarter of the sixteenth century by the third Howard Duke, who built the existing four-centred arch set within a square label. In the spandrels are coats of arms\* and above the arch is a rectangular panel with the arms of the Howards elaborately carved.† The gates themselves are contemporary with the arch, and so too is the four-centred vault immediately within. The recess on the left is contemporary with the original Gate Tower, but that on the right is of the period of the poor-house.

The original form of the outer arch of the gate is not known, since it was replaced by the existing arch in the sixteenth century, but the next arch within the entrance is original. It is of 'triangular' form with 'joggled' voussoirs, and has a segmental relieving arch above. Immediately behind this arch there was originally another of the same form, and between the two was the portcullis, the grooves for which survive. The section of barrel-vault which comes next is part of the sixteenth-century reconstruction and blocks the portcullis chase. It is on a higher level than the original first floor, which was of wood at a level indicated by a blocked beam-hole in the side walls. The north end of the east wall of the Gate Tower has perished, but the west wall stands to its full length, and in part to second-floor level; it has, however, been badly re-faced, probably during the nineteenth century, and this re-facing has destroyed all evidence of the springing of the inside arch of the gate, which has thus completely disappeared.

Within the thickness of the west wall at first-floor level is a short passage leading to a garderobe, the outlet of which can be seen on the outside. Towards the north end of this passage a door led into the room over the gate, and another led to an external stair which gave access to the tower. Parts of the jambs of this latter door remain. A small loop in the north end of this passage served to light it, and was set askew because of the buttress which still stands at this angle. At some later period weakness at this point led to the addition of another buttress outside the former. The roll-mouldings on the angles of this later buttress seem to

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\* On the left Howard quartered with de Brotherton, Mowbray and Seagrave, and on the right de Brotherton quartered with Warenne, Seagrave and Brews.

† The six quarterings are those of the families already mentioned. The panel is reproduced on the cover of the guide.

be re-used material from the earlier hall and chapel (see pp. 24, 25), and indicate that this buttress was added in the latter half of the fifteenth century, when those buildings were remodelled. The straight joint between the two buttresses can easily be seen, though at intervals there has been some attempt at bonding; when the later buttress was added the loop in the wall—passage was blocked. In the sixteenth century a brick building was added abutting on to the north-west angle of the buttress. Beam-holes in the walls show that the Gate Tower had originally three floors. In the scanty remains of the east wall, at ground level, there is one jamb of a doorway cut in the sixteenth century and lined with brick, to give access to the range of buildings which here abutted on to the curtain.

### **The well**

The castle well lies nearly opposite to the gate. It must date from the earliest origins of the structure and it is still the source of supply for the Custodian's house. A seventeenth-century record states that it was 'compassed with carved pillars, which supported its leaden roof, and though out of repair was in being in the year 1651'. No illustrations of this well-head have survived, but the description suggests sixteenth-century work, probably of the Howards. The present well-head is modern.

### **THE SOUTH SIDE**

The description follows round the castle wall from right to left. On the right of the Gate Tower there were buildings against the curtain wall. Between the Gate Tower and the Second Tower at first-floor level there are three original semicircular-headed openings in the curtain, each containing two arrow-slits. Originally these buildings were probably of two floors only. The first floor, with its loop-holes, must have been designed for defence, and it may be noted that apart from the windows of the two halls (see below, pp. 23, 28), these slits, on the side flanking the main gate, are the only original openings through the curtain. This suggests that these buildings were the 'Soldiers' Rooms' referred to in the accounts for 1295 as being re-thatched. In the sixteenth century the floors of these buildings were raised. A brick fireplace, inserted at this period, can be seen close to the Gate Tower, and the level of its hearth shows that the first floor of that date only just cleared the tops of the earlier windows.



### **The Second Tower**

This tower stands at the south angle of the curtain. Like nine of the other towers it is 'open-gorged', i.e. with no stone back wall. The upper part has the settings for a timber-framed wall, but the lower part of the recess would have been included in the buildings abutting against the curtain. Above the level of the wall-walk all the towers were closed on the inside with timber-framed walls, and the wall-walk was carried over the roofs of the attached buildings on a wooden floor (see below, p. 31.) The holes for the beams which carried the inner walls are visible in this and in other towers, and here there are in addition beam-holes at a lower level and two arrow-slits which show that there was also a floor below the wall-walk. Between this and the Third Tower are two more double arrow-slits similar to those already mentioned, but with straight wooden lintels instead of semicircular rear-arches.

### **The Third Tower**

Built on a straight length of wall, the Third Tower is now fallen above first-floor level, up to which it was solid. It was standing in 1772, and the wall which now closes the gap is modern. Between this and the

Fourth Tower there is one single arrow-slit (not in the centre of its embrasure) and one more double, both of which had wooden lintels.

### **The Fourth Tower**

Standing at the south-east angle of the curtain, which is a right-angle, this tower alone of the thirteen is not rectangular in plan. It has a sixteenth-century brick fireplace inserted at the first-floor level of that period, and there is an original arrow-slit on the level of the floor below the wall-walk.

## **THE EAST SIDE**

Along the east side there was also a range of rooms, but these had no openings through the curtain. The only traces of them which survive are some rather irregular beam-holes and patches of sixteenth-century plaster on the walls.

### **The Fifth Tower**

The Fifth Tower stands on this straight stretch of wall, and is solid up to the wall-walk.

### **The Sixth Tower**

Larger than the others, the Sixth Tower contained the east end of the chapel, and here the first traces are found of the original stone buildings erected in the later part of the twelfth century. The remains of these early buildings extend from the Sixth to the Seventh Tower, incorporated in the later work.

### **The first stone buildings**

Examination of the curtain wall north of the Chapel Tower will show that it was built in two sections, and has a straight joint running vertically up the middle of it to above first-floor level. This straight joint can be clearly seen in three of the four window embrasures which exist in the section of wall between the Sixth and Seventh Towers. The inner part of this wall, with the stone portion of the two tall cylindrical chimneys, is all that now survives of the first stone hall, and was the outer (east) wall of that building. The outer part is Earl Roger Bigod's curtain wall of 1190-1200, which was built against the outside of the then existing hall and chapel.

The first stone building must have consisted of a two-storey block running north and south, with a single-storey chapel running east and west at its south end, and with kitchen and offices of timber at the north. Buildings of this character usually had the hall on the first floor and cellars below, but in this case the ground floor was provided with a fine fireplace in the outer (east) wall, the chimney of which is the northern (left-hand) of the two. This fireplace, with its kerb and the bases of the attached shafts which flanked it, still remains\* and seems to be of too ornamental a character to have belonged merely to a cellar, nor is it of a type for a kitchen, so that it is possible that the hall was on the ground floor, with no windows in its outer wall, and that the first-floor room was the solar.

The beam-holes of the first floor can clearly be seen, stretching along the whole length of the building. In the middle of the outer wall of the first-floor room was a fireplace (now mostly obliterated by later alterations), to which the southern (right-hand) chimney belongs; this chimney, now crowned with ornamental Tudor brickwork, is well preserved and the original smoke-vents still survive. At equal distances on either side of the fireplace there were two semicircular-headed windows, which, when the curtain was added in 1190-1200, were extended through the new wall. The southern window was altered in the sixteenth century, but the form of the original embrasure remains, and the northern window still retains unaltered its twelfth-century moulded rear-arch, though the sill was lowered in the sixteenth century to convert it into a door (see below, p. 27). The roof-line of the original buildings is given by the base of the chimneys and by the curiously shaped recesses in the wall at that level. These recesses show that when the curtain wall was added in 1190-1200 it slightly overlapped the sloping roof of the existing building, in order to widen out above it to its full thickness. In later times, when the roof of the old hall building was altered, this recess was filled up, but some of the filling has since fallen away, thus revealing what actually happened, and proving that the first stone hall was still standing with its roof intact in 1190. Fragmentary foundations indicate that the width of this hall was about 24 ft, but the only piece now visible is a short length of the north wall, with a doorway inserted in 1190-1200. At right-angles to this is another short piece of wall, ending in an ashlar quoin which is of the same period.

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\* The ground level here is over a foot above the original floor.



### **The chapel**

Similarly in the case of the chapel, the curtain of 1190–1200 was built round and against the east end of the then existing chapel, thus forming the Chapel Tower, which is the widest of the thirteen. Here, however, the early wall has not survived and what can be seen on the ground floor is the inner face of the later curtain, which abutted against the outer face of the early chapel wall, which has since been destroyed. This face, however, preserves, as it were, a mould of the early chapel wall against which it was built, and thus reveals that this wall had three pilaster buttresses, one in the middle and one at each end. In the recesses which these buttresses once filled some fragments of the earlier masonry still adhere to the later face.\*

It seems that when the curtain was added in 1190–1200 the height of the chapel was raised; the original gable was taken down to a more or less level line, and the curtain wall was then thickened out above the

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\* The shapes assumed by these fragments are purely fortuitous.

remaining east wall to the line of its inner face. The removal of the earlier wall has left the upper part of the later wall overhanging instead of supported on the original wall. The chapel thus altered had a semi-circular-headed east window, which still survives flanked by two smaller arched recesses. The roof was of a high pitch, and the line of it can be clearly seen on the end wall of the tower; there are also fragments of the weathering on the side walls. Between the roof and the side walls there was a lead gutter, and in 1274 the accounts record the expenditure of £1 6s. 4d. on its repair. At the level of the wall-walk, and somewhat obscured from below by the modern bridge, there are traces of an arcade of alternate small and large arches on the inner face of the tower wall. These arches are an original feature of the tower, and it is possible that they were put there to remind men on the wall-walk that they were passing over the altar of the chapel, it being contrary to the usual medieval rule to have any building above a chapel save another chapel. There is some documentary evidence for the timber construction at the top of this tower (see above, p. 24), for the accounts for the year 1274 record the expenditure of £8 on the wages of six carpenters employed on 'mending the tops of the walls next the chapel', and of 2s. 8d. for 800 nails used for the work. The chapel itself has completely disappeared and it is recorded that it was demolished in 1657 and 'transported into the highway'.

### The Seventh Tower

Entirely of Earl Roger's building, both on the ground and on the first floor, it contains a chamber covered with a barrel vault, and on the first floor is a two-light window in the north wall. Though the floor of the upper chamber is higher than that of the upper room of the first building, this tower was clearly planned to fit on to the existing structure. The only surviving piece of its back wall contains a small window set askew to avoid the wall of the earlier building against which it abuts. Access between the ground-floor rooms was provided by a door cut through the north wall of Hugh Bigod's building.

### Later additions to the early buildings

In the latter half of the fifteenth century the height of the chapel was increased by giving it a low-pitched roof springing from higher up the walls of the tower. Two carved corbels which supported the brackets of the end truss of the roof of this period still exist in the angles

of the tower, and holes for three of the rafters can be seen in the south wall. It was the chapel thus modified which contained the rich tapestry referred to on p. 16.

Hugh Bigod's building was superseded by a new hall in about 1200 (see p. 28) and was converted into 'lodgings'; and several alterations were carried out at later dates. It was probably in the fifteenth century that the old roof was altered and its recess filled up (see p. 24), and at the same time the window south of the fireplace was converted into two lights with cusped heads under a square label. An extra window was cut between this and the fireplace, probably in the sixteenth century, and the fireplace itself was curtailed to make room for yet another window, which seems to have been made originally in the fifteenth century, and to have been enlarged in the sixteenth, when its embrasure was widened out into the existing recess lined with brick, which shows traces of having carried wood panelling. At the latter date the northern window was converted into a doorway leading to a bridge over the ditch; the piers of this bridge still stand. According to local tradition it was this lodging which was occupied by Queen Mary I in 1553.

## THE NORTH SIDE

Between the Seventh and Eighth Towers there is now a blank wall, against which there were more buildings, probably other 'lodgings'.

### The Eighth Tower

The Eighth Tower has sixteenth-century fireplaces inserted at first- and second-floor levels.

### The Ninth Tower

This tower is similar to the eighth, with a Tudor fireplace inserted on the first floor, and there were also 'lodgings' against this section of the wall. A drawing of 1785 shows a ruined wall running across the court from the poor-house to the Seventh Tower and this must have been the inner wall of this range of lodgings. A small brick doorway in the curtain wall at first-floor level was cut in the sixteenth century to give access from the upper floor of these lodgings to an original garderobe approached from the adjacent buildings. At some later date when the lodgings were in ruins, the garderobe was altered so as to discharge inwards.

## THE WEST SIDE

### The poor-house

Just north of the Tenth Tower the buildings of Sir Robert Hitcham's poor-house abut on to the curtain. This building is in plan the shape of a capital E with its back to the outer wall. The north wing is based upon buildings of the castle period, but assumed its present form during the eighteenth century. The middle block was built or rebuilt in 1729. It is of random masonry, with brick jambs and heads to the windows, with a porch of the same materials. There are five carved heads from the older structure built into its east wall. The south wing is of brick, with windows having wooden mullions and transoms. It was erected shortly before or after Sir Robert's death (1636) on the site of a sixteenth-century brick wing of similar dimensions but with a lower floor-level, some remains of which survive beneath the present floor of the eastern room. With its gables and chimney-stack it forms a pleasing example of the style of its period. It is now used as the custodian's residence.

### The Great Hall

The poor-house stands on the site, and apparently even partly follows the lines, of the Great Hall of Earl Roger Bigod and of subsequent owners of the castle. Although the original stone hall on the east side of the courtyard was incorporated into Earl Roger's building, it was not intended to remain the Great Hall of the castle, and it probably only continued to be so used while the curtain wall and the new hall were being built. The new hall on the west side was an original feature of Earl Roger's plan, as is proved by the windows in the Tenth Tower and in the curtain south of it, which are of his date.\* The position of these windows suggests that this new hall itself was a single-storey structure, but it must have had a solar attached to it, probably at the north end, where fragments of masonry of this period exist incorporated in the later walls. Earl Roger's hall must have been completed about 1200, but his buildings were certainly altered and added to by later owners of Framlingham. An eighteenth-century account of the castle describes the chapel on the east side of the courtyard and the hall on the west, and says that between the two 'fronting

\*Excavations in the Great Hall in 1968-70 revealed that there is at least 22 ft of made-up ground in the western half. This can probably be accounted for by the demolition of a motte.

the castle gate, there was a large chamber, with several rooms, and a cloyster under it, pulled down in the year of Our Lord 1700'. This once impressive range of buildings has now been so completely destroyed that it is impossible to recover their plan or to say when they were built, for it is unlikely that the whole of this group was of Roger Bigod's building. There is a record that the arms of de Brotherton were over the door of the hall, which suggests that some alterations were carried out during his ownership (1312-38), but the carved heads which survive in the poor-house wall are more consistent with a fifteenth-century date and suggest that in the hall, as in the chapel, rebuilding was done by the Mowbrays (1425-76). It is possible that the hall continued in use as the main room of the poor-house, and was not pulled down until the existing middle block replaced it in 1729.

### **The north wing of the poor-house**

This wing incorporates older work. Its north wall is on a foundation of Earl Roger's work of about 1200, but the wall itself is of various dates, preserving a stretch of sixteenth-century close-studded framing on the upper floor, besides some feebler, later framing and eighteenth-century brickwork. The great projecting chimney-breast is also of the sixteenth century up to the base of the stack. The east wall is nearly all of Bigod's work, and the small loop on the ground floor is an original feature, and suggests a cellar beneath a solar on the first floor.

Inside on the ground floor there is a good sixteenth-century fireplace in the north wall, and a large oven of the poor-house period inserted in the west end. This wing incorporates the Tenth Tower, which is known as the Library Tower, on what evidence is uncertain. It has an original window with a semicircular head on the outside (with a square label moulding added later above it) and a pointed rear-arch. The tower now contains the staircase of the poor-house.

(On the first floor, which is not at present open to the public, in the north wall there is another good sixteenth-century fireplace of which the hearth has been lowered to accommodate it to the existing floor-level. In the north-west corner is a small door of the same period leading to the garderobe already referred to (see p. 27). The lowest courses of the original late twelfth-century doorway can be seen below the later jambs. This shows that the floor-level of that period was lower than it is now, while the fireplace shows that in the sixteenth century it was higher. The existing floor is of the eighteenth century.

In the south end of the east wall is the moulded jamb of a large fifteenth-century window, the other side of which has been destroyed. This shows that at that period the first-floor room was a chamber of some consequence, and that the wing extended further south than it does now. The south wall also incorporates substantial sixteenth-century framing, interrupted at the west end by an eighteenth-century chimney breast from the poor-house and inferior framing at the east. The roof is a rough patchwork, re-using some sixteenth-century members.

### **The middle block**

The middle block, or poor-house, which occupies the site of the Great Hall between the Tenth and Eleventh Towers, is a typical early eighteenth century institutional building, in its symmetry and good massing, but hardly in its detail which lacks the plain, austere yet architectural quality of such buildings, being rather a homely makeshift of re-used materials, including some fourteenth-century heads. It may have a touch of deliberate romanticism. The porch is central, with double doors, automatically closed by falling weights. Slightly outside the east wall of the poor-house and parallel to it there is a line of foundations under the turf, which must mark the site of the east wall of the hall. The west wall was formed by the curtain itself, which is pierced by three windows with pointed heads outside, and semicircular rear-arches, which are original features of the construction. What now appears to be a fourth window embrasure was originally a doorway opening into a recess from which a short straight flight of steps led up in the thickness of the curtain wall to the main spiral stair which ascends in the Eleventh Tower to the wall-walk. In the sixteenth century the hall was considerably altered. An inner wall was built against the inside of the curtain, blocking the three windows and the doorway to the staircase. In 1729 a new window with a semicircular head was cut in the middle of the wall, and in recent years the blocking wall has been cut away again to show the original windows, but in the sixteenth century this wall of the hall was left with no windows at all. At the same time the whole of the spiral staircase was re-made with brick treads, and its twist was altered so that it came right down to the floor-level of the hall, where a new doorway was constructed in the inner wall. Another door of the same date leads from the stair and indicates the position of the screens of the hall at that period. The short, straight flight of stairs was destroyed and its recess was converted into a small chamber approached from the foot of the

spiral staircase by another Tudor doorway. Between the great south fireplace of the hall and the doorway to the staircase, the poor-house serving hatch can be seen, communicating with the south wing.

(The upper floor of the poor-house, not at present open to the public, which is lit by dormers, was originally one large dormitory, with a fireplace at each end. At a later date it was sub-divided into cubicles.)

### **The postern gate**

Between the Eleventh and Twelfth Towers, the postern gate is an original feature of the curtain; it has a semicircular head and its draw-bar hole still survives on the north side. It led to the Lower Court (see p. 32), and just north of it there is a way through the curtain at first-floor level giving access to the wall-walk of the Lower Court from a room over the gate by three steps in the thickness of the wall. This doorway may be contemporary with the Lower Court, but if so, its form was altered and it was lined with brick in the sixteenth century.

### **The Twelfth Tower**

This is the smallest of the thirteen. The buildings which abutted against it were almost certainly the kitchens, and among the various indeterminate foundations which remain two fireplaces back to back are all that can be distinguished with certainty. Just south of this tower is a semicircular-headed recess in the wall, at first-floor level, which looks like a blocked two-light window, but actually contains two garderobe shoots, the outlets of which can be seen on the outside. Immediately below them a drain passes out through the curtain at ground level. There are more indeterminate foundations of buildings here, amongst which another hearth is distinguishable, and the holes for the beams of the first floor show clearly in the curtain.

### **The Thirteenth Tower**

The last tower contains garderobes on the ground and first floors and at wall-walk level. The curtain runs straight from it to the west side of the Gate Tower, thus completing the circuit.

### **THE WALL-WALK**

The only way up to the wall-walk now remaining is the spiral stair in the Eleventh Tower. The top of this tower is still closed on the inside by a timber-framed wall of sixteenth-century date. It has been explained above that the other towers had similar timber back-walls (p. 22), and

that the wall-walk crossed the towers on wooden floors. Every tower had a doorway in each side-wall through which the wall-walk passed, and many of these doorways have semicircular heads and are original features, while others have been reconstructed in the time of the Howards. In the Thirteenth Tower the end of the lead covering of the roof of the chamber at wall-walk level can be seen still embedded in the tower wall, and this tower and the Gate Tower have garderobes at this level. The fighting platforms on the tops of the towers can only have been reached by ladders from the wall-walk level. The elaborate brick chimneys on the tops of the towers, which are such a conspicuous feature of the castle, were added by the Howards merely for ornament for they are nearly all dummies. Only three were genuine chimneys, namely those on the Eighth and Ninth Towers – now vanished – which served fireplaces in the rooms below (see p. 27) and that on the Sixth or Chapel Tower, which has a considerable chamber at its top, provided with a large brick fireplace, much restored early in the present century. This room is approached by short spiral staircases leading up from the wall-walk at each side of the tower. The battlements of the curtain wall have arrow-slits down at floor-level in each merlon, and appear to have been raised in height and to have been provided with their brick coping by the Howards. From all but the south side they have for the most part disappeared, and it is not now possible for visitors to follow the wall-walk beyond the Ninth Tower.

## THE LOWER COURT

This appears to be an addition to the early plan of much the same period as the curtain wall. It consists of an oblong enclosure defended by a large earth bank on the west side, and on half of the north and south sides, these two sides being completed by stone walls across the line of the earlier ditch, to meet the curtain. The ditch on the north side is in continuation of the earlier ditch, but that on the south leaves the earlier with an abrupt change both of direction and of level: both ditches run down fairly steeply to the mere, which completes the defences on the west. The levels of this ditch system show that it could not normally have held water, yet in the accounts for the year 1289/90 there is an item of 2s. 8d. 'for flooding the ditch within the great gate and for raising it'. It is not clear to what point this refers or what precisely was done, but it does indicate that the flooding of the ditch was not normal

*View on wall-walk*



and necessitated some special action. The earthwork was crowned with a palisade, and the accounts of the year 1295 contain an item of 3*s.* 9*d.* 'for renewing 15 perches of the fence round the Lower Court'.

### The south side of the Lower Court

The masonry structure on the south side consists of a tower known as the Prison Tower standing in the bottom of the original ditch, connected on its west side with the earthwork by a short stretch of curtain wall, and on its east side with the main wall of the castle by two walls which form a passage to the postern gate.

These two walls abut against the main curtain on either side of the postern, and although roughly bonded into it, are obviously additional to the original plan. The features which survive in them, however, show that they cannot be much later in date.

In the short piece of curtain wall between the tower and the earthwork there is a gap which may perhaps have been made as early as Tudor times.

### The Prison Tower

The base of the tower has no entrance from outside to its ground floor and the only access must have been through a trap-door in the floor above. The ground floor was also lit only by a small loop, with a round head on the outside and a timber lintel inside set high up in the north wall, and it is clear that the base of this tower was used as a dungeon. There is also documentary evidence for this, for the seventeenth-century description already referred to speaks of 'a passage on the west side to a dungeon', and the accounts for the year 1302 refer to 'the Prison Gate'.

At first-floor level there was a door in the west wall of the tower leading out on to the wall-walk of the short length of curtain on that side; the lower parts of this door and draw-bar hole survive; the north wall of the tower has perished above first-floor level. There must have been some way down on this side to the ground inside the Lower Court, or it would have been inaccessible from the castle, and the Tudor brick structure against this wall perhaps represents the base of a flight of steps of that period. The south wall of the tower stands very nearly to its full height, and in the south-east corner there are traces of a spiral staircase leading up to the second floor and to the roof.

To the east of the tower at ground level is the original doorway leading to the passage to the postern gate. It had a semicircular head and its draw-bar hole survives. In the opposite wall at first-floor level are two original arrow-slits which have semicircular rear-arches, and are now blocked. Opposite to this on a higher level is a large window-opening, lined with Tudor brick, which may possibly be a sixteenth-century enlargement of another pair of arrow-slits, and next to it a single unaltered arrow-slit remains. In the south wall, at a still higher level, is another large opening lined with Tudor brick in which traces of the window-seats of the sixteenth century can still be seen, and next to this, at the level of the threshold of the postern gate, there is a small original doorway giving access to the berm; in the sixteenth century a garderobe was built immediately against this doorway on the outside.

It seems that originally this elaborately protected approach must have had a wooden staircase against its south wall, rising direct (perhaps with a landing at the arrow-slits) from the door at the bottom to the postern at the top, while a gallery against the north wall descended by short flights to the level of the first floor of the Prison Tower. There are off-sets on this wall which indicate where the changes of level occurred. The accounts for 1302 refer to 'the bridge opposite the prison' and to 'the bridge outside the prison gate', and these entries must refer to some such arrangement as has been suggested. Under the Howards the entrance at the bottom seems to have been disused, and the passage between the walls was floored right across and roofed, and the addition of the large windows indicates that it was converted into a gallery in the fashion of the period. This gallery, descending by easy stages, would have provided a pleasant approach to the gardens which at that time occupied the Lower Court.

### **The north side of the Lower Court**

The north wall of the Lower Court also includes a tower in the bottom of the early ditch, with lengths of curtain wall connecting it with the earthwork on the west and with the castle wall on the east. The tower is very ruinous, but it is clear that it consisted merely of a solid rectangular projection from the curtain with a stair-case turret at the back of it.

Immediately to the south-east of the tower is a simple postern gate through the curtain, which runs on up the bank as if to meet the

Ninth Tower of the castle wall. Actually, it bends slightly when just short of the tower, and does not meet the castle wall at all, but stops abruptly with a finished end five feet from it. The postern thus formed was apparently at one time closed by a door, and was later blocked with masonry. On top of the earthworks of the Lower Court there are now traces of slight walls, and at the south-west corner is the foundation of a small structure. All these most probably belong to the period of the Howards, when this court appears to have been laid out as a garden. At the north angle there are considerable remains of a more solid structure. The seventeenth-century description mentions a way 'forth to the mere' on the west side, and the accounts for 1302 refer to 'the castle harbour' and 'the gate towards the fishery'. There can be little doubt that there was a gate here, from which there was access to the mere, and there may have been a bridge over the ditch, for what appears to be an old track approaches the castle at this point.

### THE OUTER BAILEY

There are no indications of there ever having been a stone wall round the outer bailey. In 1295 the accounts record the expenditure of 9s. on 'mending the fence round the bailey', and it is most probable that the 'fence' or palisade, with its ditch, continued to be the only defence till the advent of artillery rendered it useless – when the half-moon was erected to take its place as a protection to the main gate of the Castle (see p. 19). The bailey had a gate on the east side, with a bridge leading to the park, and the two double gates with wooden gables and thatched roofs which were repaired in 1281/82 would probably be this gate to the park and the main gate of the outer bailey, for none of the surviving gates can be referred to. 'The gate towards the park' is specifically mentioned in the accounts for 1293, and the 'bridge towards the park' occurs in those for 1295.\*

Other buildings in the bailey are referred to under various dates, and most of them seem to have been of wood with thatched roofs. 'The chapel in the bailey' and 'the Sergeant's Chamber in the bailey' were both re-thatched in 1295, and other buildings mentioned in the same connection, though not definitely stated to be 'in the bailey', are 'the other Knights' Chamber', 'the great Stable', 'the Barns' and 'the

\* This, of course, does not refer to the bridge of which the brick piers now remain: that is some 200 years later in date.

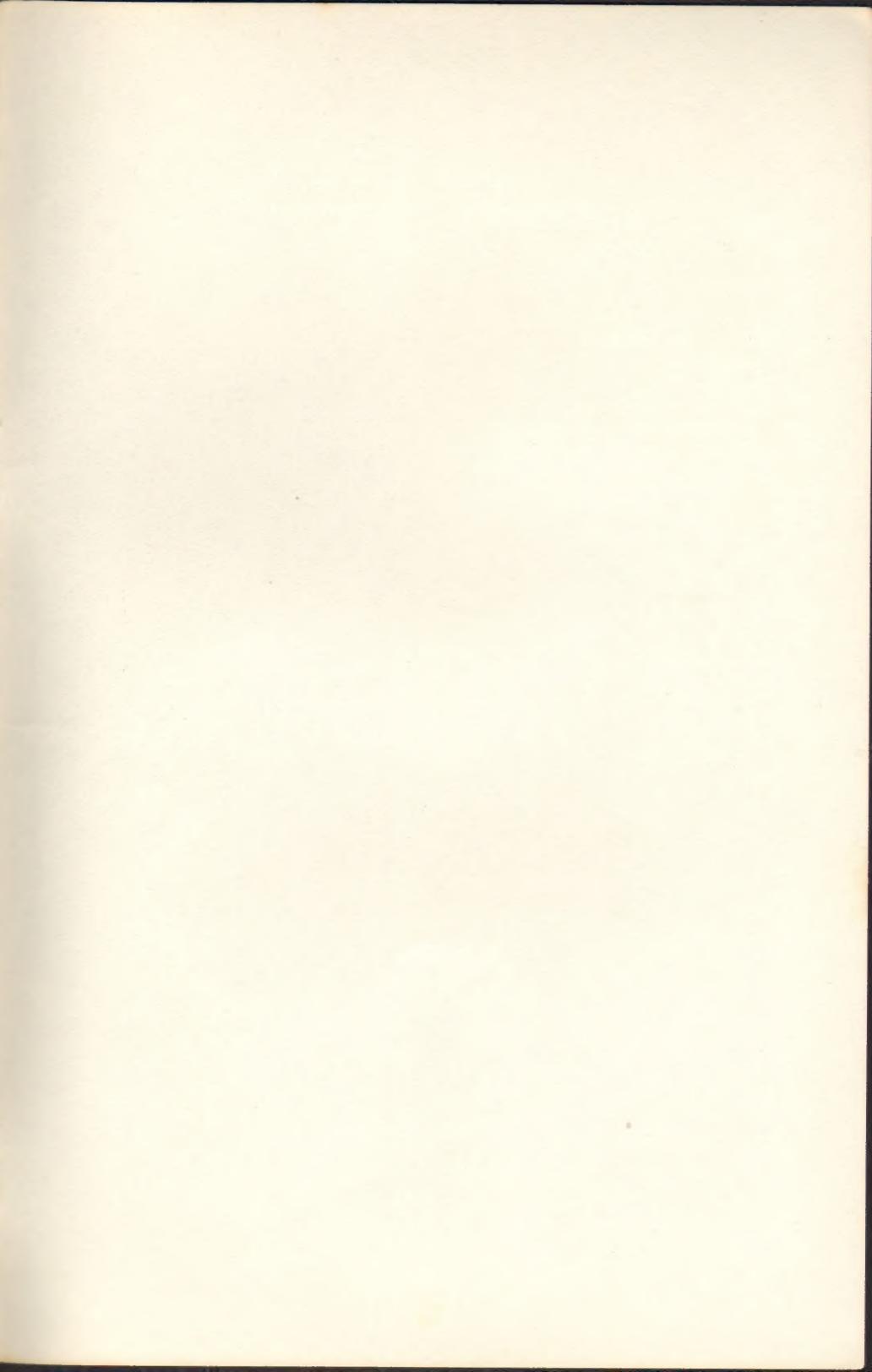
Granary' or 'Grange'. This last seems to have been included in an extensive walled enclosure, for the entries for the year 1281/82 include 8s. 6d. 'for mending in places 52 perches of the old wall round the granger's court'. All these buildings however have perished, and no trace of them now survives above ground, although remains of a stone building occupied as late as Tudor times were found by excavation in 1954 some 50 yards south of the main entrance. These excavations also showed that, before the building of the castle, a considerable area of the outer bailey south of the main entrance had been used as a Middle Saxon burial ground. An openwork disc ornament of seventh- or eighth-century date was found associated with one of the burials.

# Glossary

ASHLAR	Squared blocks of stone.
BAILEY	Courtyard or ward of a castle.
BUTTRESS	Masonry built against a wall to give it additional strength.
CORBEL	Stone projecting from a wall, intended to support a weight.
CURTAIN WALL	Wall enclosing a courtyard.
CUSP	Projecting point between small arcs in Gothic tracery.
FOUR-CENTRED	An arch composed of two pairs of arcs of different radii.
GARDEROBE	Latrine or privy.
JAMB	Side post or doorway or window.
JOGGLED	Irregular jointing to provide a key.
MOTTE	Castle mound of earth or turf.
MULLION	Stone bar dividing a window vertically.
PALISADE	Palings of strong timber.
QUOINS	Squared stones used to finish the corner of a building.
SOLAR	A private room of the owner and his family, adjacent to the hall.
SPRINGER	Lowest stone of an arch or vaulting rib.
TRANSOME	Horizontal stone bar dividing a window.
VOUSSOIR	Each of the wedge-shaped stones forming an arch.







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