

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL DEANERY

By JOHN CROOK

ABSTRACT

Winchester Cathedral Deanery comprises many different builds. The house is the successor to the medieval prior's house, much of which is known only from documentary evidence, analysed in this paper. Of the medieval building the porch (mid thirteenth century) and the Prior's Hall (1459) are the most substantial surviving portions; but the fabric of the Deanery contains some remnants of earlier construction. The roof of the Prior's Hall is discussed in detail, as is that of the porch block (a roof re-built c 1500). The domestic wing of the Deanery was largely demolished between 1649-60 and its rebuilding in 1660-8 and 1672-3 is reasonably well documented.

INTRODUCTION

Although studies of individual aspects of the architecture of Winchester Cathedral Deanery have from time to time been published, the entire building has never formed the subject of a full investigation. No doubt this is largely the consequence of the curious double privacy that it enjoys. To the outsider the Deanery seems a dauntingly private residence, concealed behind high walls of stone and brick, in an enclave whose seclusion from the rest of the City of Winchester is symbolised by the nightly locking of the gates of the Cathedral Close. It is, however, a building that holds much of interest for the architectural historian. Its thirteenth-century porch, for example, is one of the most frequently photographed features of the Close (Fig 1), but few visitors realise that it is covered by a fine clasped purlin roof, probably dating from the early sixteenth century. The spectacular roof of the adjoining Prior's Hall is rather better known, and at night, when the second-floor windows are lit, passers-by enjoy a tantalising glimpse of its finely-decorated timbers. This roof was illustrated in the *Proceedings* of the

Archaeological Institute's Winchester meeting of 1845, and is briefly described in that paper. More recently it has been mentioned in a study of medieval timber construction in Winchester Cathedral Close (Munby & Fletcher 1980, 108). And yet the roof has never been described in the detail it deserves. The main, private wing of the Deanery, dating from the 1660s, has excellent examples of contemporary panelling and other interior decorative features, with the added interest that the names of the workmen responsible and the cost of their work are recorded in the Dean and Chapter archives (Crook 1984a, 2-18). Despite the abundance of documentary material relating to the Deanery during the past three centuries, the fullest attempt at an over-all history is a single chapter in Canon John Vaughan's *Winchester Cathedral Close* (1914, 33-40), a charmingly anecdotal but heavily derivative account, dependent on unproven tradition and doubtful sources. The Deanery figured briefly in two articles by Dean Hutton in *Country Life* (25 March 1922, 2 April 1922). Since that date the only attempt at a general history of the Deanery is a little booklet produced in c 1971 after the completion of restoration work on the roof of the Prior's Hall.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Winchester Deanery is the direct descendant of the prior's house of the Benedictine Priory of St Swithun, and it embodies some remains of its medieval predecessor (Fig 2). St Swithun's monastery was a 'cathedral priory', an arrangement unique to England whereby the bishop of the diocese was titular abbot, while the running of the monastery was delegated to a prior. Eight such cathedral priories were in



Fig 1. Winchester Deanery. Prior's Hall and porch from SE. *Photo: John Crook.*

existence before their dissolution in 1539–40. In these monasteries the prior, who normally occupied second place in the monastic hierarchy, was a considerable personage in his own right: head of the religious house and responsible for its internal economy, its policy towards the outside world, its estates, its legal and fiscal dealings. The original intention of St Benedict that the head of a monastery should live, eat and sleep with the monks in his charge was gradually abandoned, to such an extent that prelates who actually shared the daily life of the brethren were singled out as rare exceptions. It became accepted practice for abbots and priors to live apart, in a separate residence complete with chapel, hall and dependencies, rather along the lines of a manor house. Here the prior could receive distinguished guests in appropriate style.

St Swithun's Priory was dissolved in 1539, and the last prior, William Basing, took office two years later as the first Dean of Winchester under his family name of William Kingsmill. The statutory twelve canons or 'prebendaries' forming the Chapter of what was now a cathedral of the 'new foundation' appear to have been recruited partly from the brethren and partly from talented religious from other dissolved houses (Carpenter Turner 1986, 39). Accommodation was created for them from the monastic buildings; but for Kingsmill no new housing arrangements were needed – the prior's house simply became known as the Deanery. The probate inventory of the contents of his house, discussed later in this paper, gives no indication that Kingsmill's altered status involved a great upheaval in his domestic arrangements.

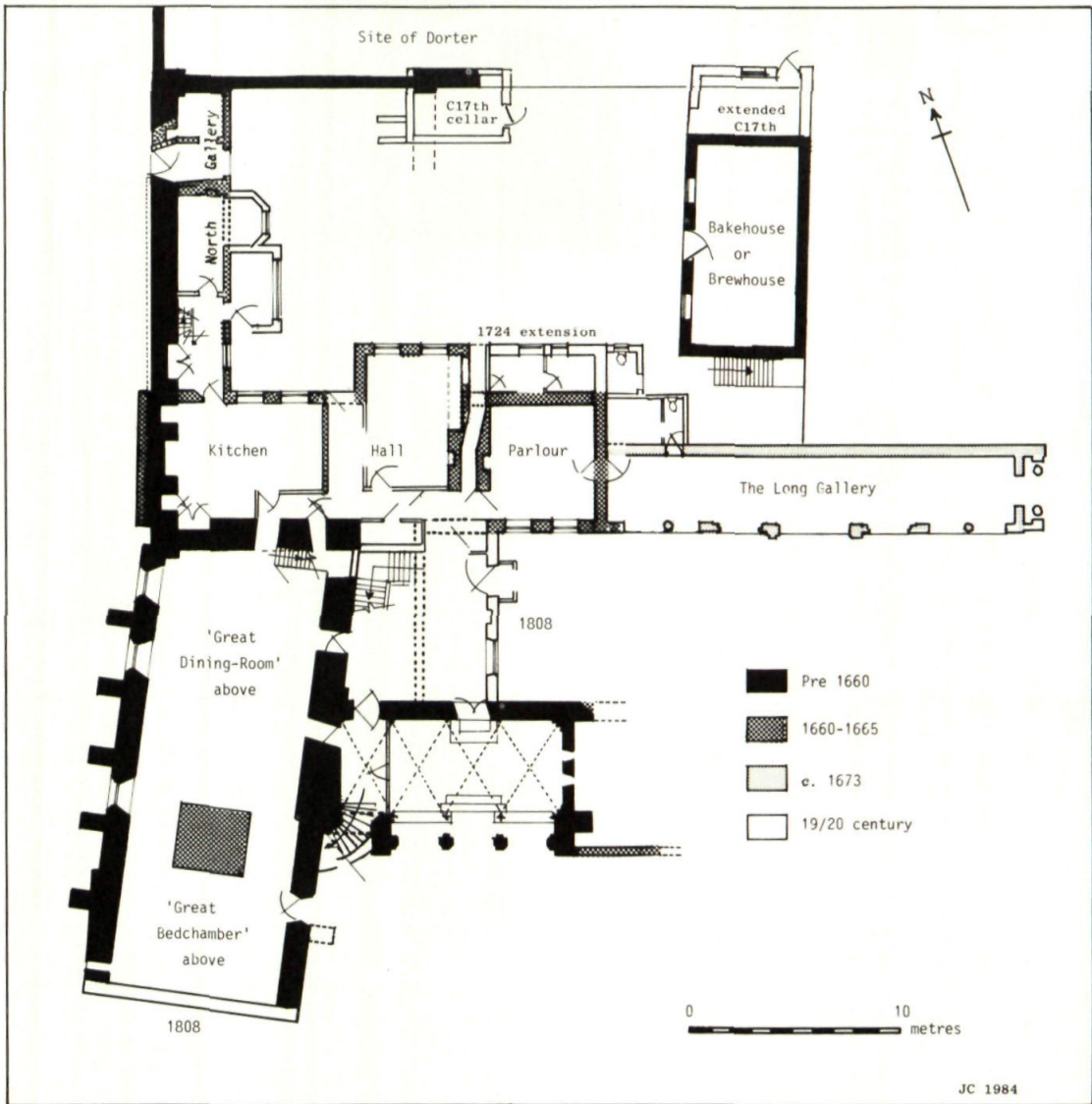


Fig 2. Plan of Winchester Cathedral Deanery.

There is evidence, however, that one part of Kingsmill's house, the Prior's Hall, took on a new function, that of the Common Hall of the Dean and Chapter. Previous researchers into the history of the Cathedral Close, encountering references to this building, have usually identified it with the refectory or 'frater', which they assume remained standing at the

Dissolution. The Augmentation Office Certificate of Surrender for Winchester (*PRO E315/494*, fo 8) shows, however, that in 1539 the frater, like the dorter, was deemed a 'superfluous' building, and its lead roof was valued with a view to its removal. The Common Hall may in fact be identified from documents in the Chapter archives. In 1592 a certain William

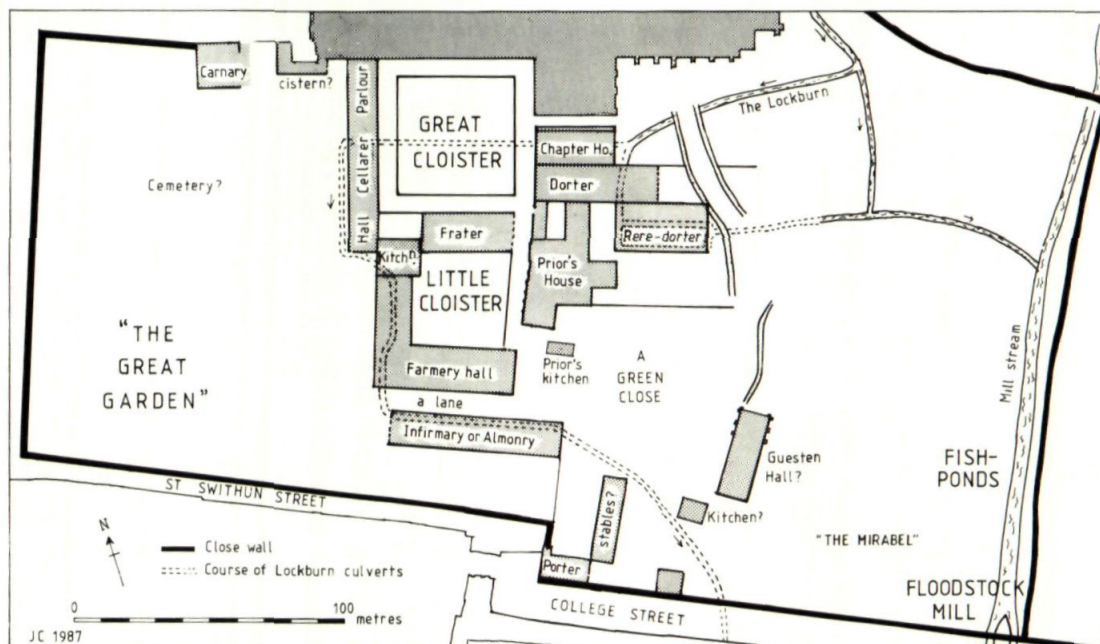


Fig 3. Conjectural plan of the monastic buildings of St Swithun's Priory.

Hacke took the lease of 'one rome vawted lyinge underneathe the Audite House . . . and Sellar lyinge under the greate hall of the saide Deane' (*LB VII*, 61v). In a calendar of leases drawn up early the following century the chapter clerk, John Chase, summarised the relevant entry in the ledger books as *Indentura pro domo dicto le Audit Howse & Common Hall* . . . (*Chase* 59b), thereby showing that he understood the 'Prior's Hall' and 'Common Hall' to be one and the same. Furthermore, in 1582 Canon Thomas Bilson was granted the use of the Common Hall, which was said to stand 'nere unto his prebende [house]' (*CA* 25 Nov 1582), and a similar agreement was made with Canon Robert Bennett in 1596 (*CA* 10 May 1596). It may be shown (Crook 1984a, 50–1) that these two canons' houses stood close to the south end of the Prior's Hall. They certainly could not be described as 'nere unto' the former frater; several other canonry houses were closer to that site than theirs. By the 1630s the Common Hall was redundant. In reply to the exhaustive enquiries pursued by Archbishop Laud when the Cathedral statutes

were to be revised the Dean and Chapter replied that 'The common tables mentioned in our Statutes have long since bin discontinued, and are not likely to be used again' (Stephens & Madge 1897, 21). The Prior's Hall became assimilated to the Deanery.

Major changes to the fabric of the Deanery occurred after the overthrow of the monarchy in the mid seventeenth century. The properties of the abolished Dean and Chapter were allotted to Parliamentary officials from the county; the Deanery was assigned to Nicholas Love MP. The building was described and valued in the important *Parliamentary Survey* of 1649, which is a key text for the history of the Cathedral Close. By the Restoration of Charles II in 1660 the Deanery was said to have been 'demolished', and the domestic part of the house was rebuilt during the following three years, then further enlarged in the 1670s. The Prior's Hall and the porch, however, had survived the Commonwealth devastation and became the most important reception rooms in the post-Restoration reconstruction of the Deanery.

LOCATION OF THE PRIOR'S HOUSE

Though it is a commonplace to state that all Benedictine monasteries were built to a standard lay-out, the notion is meaningful only in the broadest sense, applying mainly to the buildings grouped around their central cloister (such as the chapter house, dormitory, reredorter and refectory). Even in this respect there was much variation. One might suppose that the concept of standard planning was especially inapplicable to 'prior's houses' precisely because St Benedict never intended that priors should live apart from their brethren. And yet an abbot's house, with separate kitchen, cellar and bath-house, is clearly depicted in that most significant document from the age of monastic reform, the early ninth-century Saint-Gall Plan (Horn & Born 1979). In this idealised monastery plan the abbot's house is shown on the north side of the church, far from the monks' sleeping-quarters. Such, too, was to be the actual arrangement, three hundred years later, at the cathedral priories of Canterbury and Worcester, where the priors' houses were built well away from the buildings grouped around the cloister. At Ely, too, which has one of the best surviving prior's house complexes, now forming part of the King's School, the prior's domain was separated somewhat from the cloister. In these monasteries the position of the priors' houses seems indicative of a desire for remoteness from the fraternity. At Norwich and Durham, on the other hand, as at Winchester, the prior's house and dependent buildings consisted of a series of wings built off the south-east corner of the cloister and actually contiguous with the dormer. The monks' dormitory at Durham was, however, later transferred to the west side of the cloister. In short, there was little uniformity, and tradition seems to have played a minor role in determining the position of the residence of the head of a monastery within the precincts.

Though at Winchester only two major portions of the prior's house still stand – the hall and the porch – there is sufficient archaeological and documentary evidence to show

that the boundaries of the present Deanery are in the main co-extensive with the medieval building that it replaced. The *Parliamentary Survey* of 1649 provides much information about this. The western limit of the property consisted of the west wall of the Prior's Hall and its extension northwards. We have shown (Crook 1984a, 49–50; Crook & Qualmann forthcoming) that the monastic buildings at Winchester were grouped around two cloisters: the 'great cloister' in the traditional position, south of the cathedral nave, and a second cloister, known in the late sixteenth century as the 'little cloister' and subsequently simply as 'the cloister', which adjoined the south side of the main cloister (Fig 3). The west walls of the prior's house rose above the east sides of these two cloisters.

The northern boundary is still defined by the retaining wall of the supposed dormer site, on the north side of the Deanery kitchen yard. Soon after the Dissolution, however, the site of the dormer and of the chapter house were added to the Deanery garden. The eastern boundary of the prior's house is less well defined, but in the seventeenth century a substantial dwelling identified in the *Parliamentary Survey* of 1649 as 'The House of Dr Alexander' stood immediately east of the Deanery. Canon Francis Alexander's house did not survive the Commonwealth; its site also became part of the Deanery garden in 1663.

The *Survey* implies that the southern boundary of the prior's house survives unchanged today; the land south of the Deanery is variously described as 'a very faire Court' and 'a fair greene'. This green remains undeveloped, and is now (erroneously) known as Mirabel Close. The area south of the Prior's Hall, however, seems to have been more built up in the seventeenth century than now. A sizeable property, whose history is closely linked to that of the Deanery, stood on this site; it is discussed in detail later in this paper.

PRE-COMMONWEALTH DOCUMENTARY SOURCES

Regrettably few records of any significance

have survived relating to the prior's house before the dissolution of St Swithun's Priory. Some details may be gleaned from the small number of surviving obedientiary rolls, the accounts kept by the various monastic officials. These enabled Dean Kitchin to paint a colourful picture of monastic life in his edition of the rolls (G W Kitchin 1892, 33ff). Certainly, the account rolls confirm that by the end of the thirteenth century the prior had an extensive private household. Various corrodies, also published by Kitchin (*ibid* 19ff), make specific mention of the prior's retinue of clerks and esquires known as his *famuli*, and refer to his private hall or *aula*, predecessor of the present Prior's Hall. The Receiver's roll of 1280, not available to Kitchin, mentions a fuel called 'bykm' (thought to be bitumen or tar) and coal sent to the prior's hall and rooms (Watkin 1946, 102). Other rolls list expenses occasioned in furnishing the prior's rooms in 1337 (G W Kitchin 1892, 248), when a total sum of £7 14s 3½d was laid out *pro camera, capella et Elemosynaria Domini Prioris*. The detailed entries are indicative of a life-style far removed from the material self-denial of early monastic ideals. It is unfortunate that the group of obedientiary rolls that might have provided most information about the actual fabric of the monastery buildings, those of the *Custos Operum* (Clerk of Works), are represented by just two rather late examples; and we may be permitted to echo Dean Kitchin's heart-felt lament: 'How many interesting facts about the Cathedral Church and other edifices should we have learnt had the Custos been as well represented as the Hordarian or Almoner!' (*ibid* 55).

The Inventory of October 1548

The only document that provides some evidence for the lay-out and rooms of the prior's house, though in fact compiled after the Dissolution, is a probate inventory taken in October 1548 following the death of William Kingsmill, last Prior and first Dean of Winchester (HRO B Wills 1548). Barbara

Carpenter Turner (1973, 12–21) has published a summary of the inventory and discussed in detail its interesting lists of sixteenth-century movables. It is, however, the lay-out of the building that concerns us here; Table 1 lists the rooms in the order in which they appear in the inventory.

The inventory is of limited value in the present study, for the appraisers' task was to itemise movable property, and the actual lay-out of the Deanery did not concern them, provided their inventory showed that they had visited the entire building and its out-houses and offices. One may assume that the rooms were inspected in the order in which they appear in the document, but even so the inventory offers few indications of the plan of the house in the sixteenth century. It seems that the valuers began their tour on the ground floor, looking at rooms that had predominantly a service function; that they continued with an inspection of the various out-houses, including the stable; and that they ended up in the most prestigious rooms. These included the 'great parlour', by far the grandest room of the house, to judge from the list of contents; a chapel, apparently adjoining the parlour; and several chambers. All these appear to have been on the first or second storey.

It has sometimes been supposed that the 'great parlour' was the room now known as the Prior's Hall, and that the chapel mentioned next in the inventory was located on the first storey of the porch block. Some serious objections must be raised to this identification. The first and most obvious reservation is that the term 'parlour' is an improbable one to apply to a great hall measuring some sixty feet by thirty, with an open timber roof, central open hearth, external stone staircase and wooden shuttered windows. The 'great parlour' described in the inventory seems rather to have been a comfortably furnished living room; it had a fireplace and contained a quantity of furniture, some of it the most expensive in the house, clothing and two beds. Secondly, we have already shown that for several years after the Dissolution the Prior's Hall served much the same purpose as during the days of the monas-

Table 1. List of rooms in the order in which they appear in the probate inventory of William Kingsmill, Dean of Winchester, 1548.

<i>Ground floor rooms</i>	<i>Outhouses</i>	<i>First-floor rooms</i>
The Dining Chamber	The Garden House	The Great Parlour
The rooms over the Coope House	The Store House	The Chapel
The Cowpe House	The Barn	The King's Chamber
The Pantry	The Stable	The side Chamber
The Lamp Chamber	The Garner House	The Wardrobe
The Hall		'His own' Chamber
The Kitchen		Homeden's Chamber
The Larder		The Prior's Chamber
		'Under the Dean's Chamber'

tery. It had formerly been the hall in which the prior's *generosi* dined, together with those retainers and beneficiaries of corrodies fortunate enough to enjoy the prelate's hospitality. At the Dissolution it became the Common Hall of the newly established Dean and Chapter of Winchester: a dining hall for those canons and others whose income was insufficient to run a private household, and who preferred to continue the communal, somewhat collegiate, way of life to which they were accustomed.

The Prior's Hall cannot, therefore, have been the 'parlour' of Dean Kingsmill. Similar reservations must be expressed about the identification of the first floor of the porch block as the Dean's chapel of 1548. True, it is possible that this storey may originally have served as the prior's private chapel, and this possibility is discussed in due course. But the chapel later became redundant (possibly when the Prior's Hall was rebuilt in 1459), and in around 1500 was sub-divided into two storeys. Good documentary evidence shows that by the end of the sixteenth century the first floor was in use as the audit house of the Dean and Chapter of Winchester.

The inventory could be taken to imply that the Dean's great parlour and his private chapel were contiguous. Having disposed of the Prior's Hall and porch block, we must now seek an alternative site for parlour and chapel. It seems likely that they were located in the private wing of the Deanery, north and east of

the Prior's Hall. A local tradition maintains that the Dean's chapel was once located on the site of the north gallery, and this conjecture is not implausible.

Documents Relating to the Tenement South of the Deanery

Apart from this early inventory, the Deanery is regrettably thinly documented between the two key events in the post-medieval history of the Close: the Dissolution and the Commonwealth. A few indications, however, occur in the text of the successive leases of a tenement which grew up at the south end of the Prior's Hall in the late 1500s and developed into a sizeable property during the following century. The history and very structure of this building remained closely linked to that of the Deanery itself. The first lease, taken by William Hacke in 1592, has already been mentioned in our discussion of the site of the Common Hall. In consideration of the sum of 40 marks laid out by Hacke 'in the building, repairinge and amendinge of the ruinous and decayed romes and edifices hereafter mentioned' the Dean and Chapter agreed to the lease of:

'One rome vawted lyinge underneathe the Audite Howse of the saide Deane and Chapter, one Sellor lyinge under the great hall of the said Deane and one other Sellor thereunto adioyninge, one courte or yarde contayninge in lengthe fiftie foote by estim-

ation be it more or lesse extendinge from the said vawted rome in Lenghte under nethe the steres that ascende up to the saide grete hall unto a certaine rome heretofore called the Bakehowse, And also one chamber adioyninge to the South ende of the saide grete hall; And also one litle olde kitchinge lyinge at the foote of the steres that leade up to the saide chamber, And also . . . all the parlor latelic newe builded by the saide William Hacke and nowe also in the tenure or occupation of the said William Hacke and the rome or chamber over the same parlor lying in the Close aforesaide.' (*LB VII fo 61v*, dated Dec 1592)

It is possible to identify with reasonable certainty several parts of the Deanery mentioned in this text. Other documents confirm that the audit house of the Dean and Chapter was situated on the first floor of the Deanery porch; it was here that the accounts submitted by the stewards of the widespread properties of the Dean and Chapter (and probably of the prior and monks of St Swithun's before the Dissolution) were received. The 'rome vawted' under the audit house was the vaulted porch itself, whose arches had been blocked to form cellars; the side bays remained filled in until the mid nineteenth century (Fig 7). Hacke's lease also included some, if not all, of the cellars under the Prior's Hall; and this became the subject of a prolonged argument between his successor and the Dean at the Restoration.

One of the most interesting aspects of the lease is the light it sheds on the original access to the first-floor Prior's Hall. The *Parliamentary Survey* mentions a fine stone staircase leading to the hall, but does not locate it. The text of Hacke's indenture indicates that the stairs were situated on one side of a courtyard extending about fifty feet from the porch, but it is not made clear whether the yard lay north or south of the porch. The archaeological evidence gives equal support to both possibilities. The remains of an original entrance have been discovered at the north end of the east wall of the Prior's Hall, and are described

later in this paper. The outline and a portion of the arch of a large doorway at first-floor level are visible in the masonry of the south bay of the hall on the east side, to the left of the scar of a demolished buttress (Fig 1). The infill of this opening consists of rounded fragments of Quarr and Caen stone, and is quite unlike the facing material of the other external walls of the Prior's Hall. One would indeed expect that the Hall would have enjoyed two entrances: one from the Deanery at the high end to the north, and a service entrance at the south end. This could have been improved as the 'public' entrance to the building when it became the Common Hall at the Reformation. No doubt much valuable archaeological evidence was destroyed when the south gable of the Prior's Hall was rebuilt in 1807–8.

The key to the problem of the location of Hacke's yard is the reference to the 'Bakehowse'. The text specifies that the building was 'heretofore' (i.e. formerly) known by that name, which implies that it was probably a monastic building. It cannot be the same as the Deanery bakehouse itemised in the *Parliamentary Survey* of 1649: this may be identified with reasonable certainty as the long stone building still standing north of the Long Gallery (Fig 2). The fortunes of the old bakehouse are well documented, though some confusion is caused by the fact that the building comprised two parts: the 'bakehouse' proper and an adjoining 'old kitchen'. A distinction is made between the components in the text of Hacke's lease. In the *Survey* of 1649 the entire building is referred to as 'an old Howse commonly called the bake-howse'. By this time it was shared as a stable by Canons Hinton and Crooke (Stephens & Madge 1897, 83–4). After the Restoration Canon Hinton continued to have as his stable that part of the building known as the 'old kitchen' (*CA* 26 Sept 1663) or the 'old Kitchin of the Pryory' (Stephens & Madge 1897, 138). In 1676 the kitchen was examined by the Chapter's Clerk of Works, who, in a letter to Dean Clarke dated 15 January 1675/6, mentioned its 'great oven', still surviving at that date (*MS, WCL*). All these references

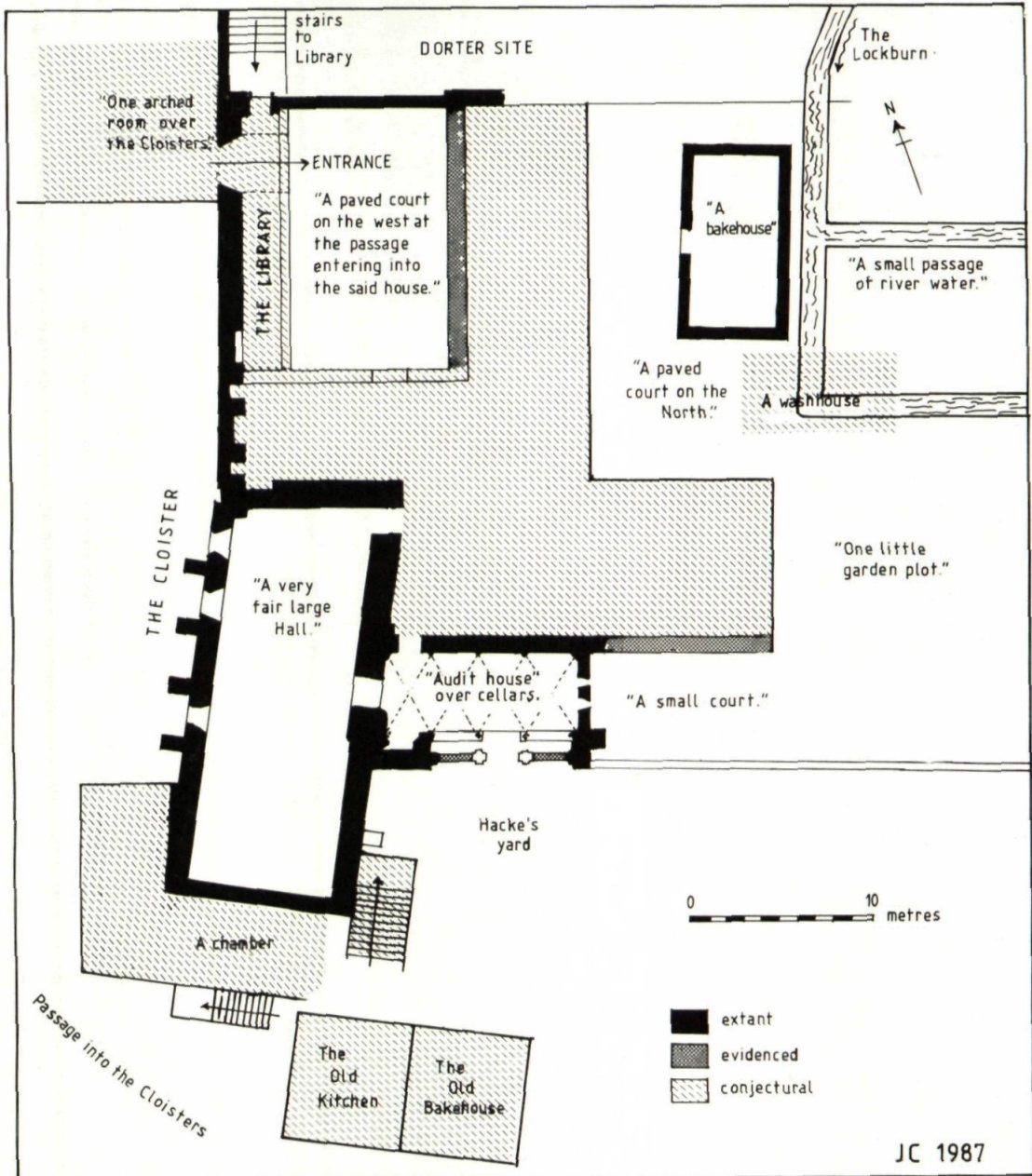


Fig 4. Conjectural plan of the Deanery before the Commonwealth. Titles in quotation marks are from the Parliamentary Survey of 1649.

make it clear that the building was the former detached kitchen of the Prior's Hall, situated in the usual position at the lower end of the hall. The prior's kitchen is mentioned in numerous corrodies recorded in the *Register of the Common Seal* of St Swithun's Priory, dating from 1345–1497 (Greatrex, 1978).

It would seem therefore that the yard leased to Hacke extended southwards from the porch to the kitchen/bakehouse block, an area now represented by the sloping forecourt of the Deanery. The alternative interpretation, that the yard lay north of the porch, severely restricts the conjectural prior's house site, and is inconsistent with the evidence afforded by the Parliamentary surveyors' description of that house (Fig 4).

The other rooms of Hacke's house consisted of the new parlour that he had built and a 'chamber' adjoining the south end of the Prior's Hall, at the head of a flight of stairs leading from the old kitchen. This suggests a service stair to the hall. Hacke's tenement seems to have been accessible from parts of the Deanery, for in 1611, when his successor, Arthur Harmer, took a new lease, a further chamber, said to be 'in the occupation of the Deane', was added to the premises (*LB XI* fo 9, dated 15 Nov 1611).

Three years later the lease was renewed by William Browne, a respected member of the cathedral lay community, who became a singing-man in 1596 (*CA* 29 Mar 1596), was promoted Janitor in 1617 (*LB XI* fo 25v), and later became Clerk of Works to the Dean and Chapter. As Dean Young's near neighbour his wife was entrusted with looking after various pieces of decanal silverware in 1626 (Goodman 1928, 78–9). An indication of the size and status of the house is provided by Browne's surviving Will and probate inventory (*HRO B Wills* 1642); the appraisers listed the contents of 'the Hall', 'the Parler', 'the chamber over the Parler', 'the Chamber over the Hall', 'the Chamber over the kitchen', 'the kitchen little chamber', 'a little closett', 'the kitchen', 'the woodhouse' and 'the cellar'.

Soon after William Browne's death, on 6 July 1642, the property passed to the steward

to the Dean and Chapter, Henry Foyle. A copy of the indenture of lease was duly entered in the Chapter's ledger books (*LB XII* fo 161v, dated 9 Jan 1642/3). Foyle's lease also included a stable, at the south end of the priory stabling block, which today forms part of the house called Cheyney Court, and a garden at the north-west corner of the great cloister.

Finally, on 29 November 1645, this spacious and well-appointed dwelling-house was taken by the Parliamentary Solicitor for Sequestrations, John Woodman. He was responsible for the confiscated properties of the abolished Dean and Chapter, and the Parliamentary Committee for Hampshire ordered that he should 'have the house in the Close, late in possession of Henry Foyle, delinquent, during pleasure, for laying up and preserving sequestered goods of Papists and delinquents' (Stephens & Madge 1897, 71). The Parliamentary surveyors noted that the house consisted of 'one Hall wainscotted, a parlour wainscotted with a Closett and Cellers thereunto belonging, A large Kitchin, Five Chambers, twoe of them wainscotted, one other Closett and a large Garrett'.

The Parliamentary Survey of 1649

It will already have been appreciated that the *Parliamentary Survey* is the most important text for the interpretation of the history of the Cathedral Close in the seventeenth century. It was first published by Stephens and Madge in their edition of 'Winchester Cathedral Documents' (1897, 75–93), but as that anthology is no longer readily available we present here the complete text relating to the Deanery:

THE DEANERY

Assigned by the Committee of this County to Nicholas Love, Esq.

The Deanes house consistinge of a very faire large Hall contayninge by Estimacion twentye yeards in length and Tenn in breadth with a very faire staircase of stone.

The Roofe of very good Tymber covered

with Tyle, the walls of the said Hall beinge of stone, the windowes well barred with iron halfe glazed, the other halfe shutters of wood, the floore thereof beinge supported with extraordinary good Tymber, Twoe roomes adioyninge formerly called the Audite-house, one other faire Hall wainscotted and wainscott Ceeling, One faire dyninge Roome wainscotted and ceeled with plaine Wainscott, A little parlour with a Closett both wainscotted, Twoe faire Kitchens, Twoe Larders, a Bakehouse with other severall necessary Offices, two Buttereys, one Arched roome over the Cloysters, five large Cellars one of them arched with stone, A Wash house with Conduict water running through A pype of lead into itt, Fowerteene lodginge Chambers, one faire studye wainscotted with many draw boxes of Wainscott, Fower other Closetts, Six Garretts, the greatest part of the windowes of the said house beinge well barred with Iron, One Woodhouse, one faire double Stable with severall Stalls for horses and a hay-loft over itt well tymbred covered with tyle, A large Dovehouse.

The said Deanes house beinge parte of itt covered with Lead the rest with Tyle. Twoe Courtyards paved, one of them lyeing on[e] the North the other on[e] the West at the passage entringe into the said house. One Garden adioyninge on[e] the Northside of the said house with a small passage of River Water runninge through itt for clensinge the severall Offices belonginge to the said house, One little Garden plott lyeinge on the Eastside of the said house and a small Court on the Southside thereof, the grounds conteyninge by Estimacion One Acre, one other out Garden and a little Garden house out of repaire and a small Orchard with a peece of Meadowe planted with some fruit, Willow and Ash Trees, lyeinge on[e] the Southside of the said Garden with three small fishponds, a Rivulett running through; the said Garden, Orchard and Meadow inclosed, partlye walled and partlye paled, which said Garden, Orchard and Meadowe contayneinge by Estimacion Twoe Acres

more or lesse, valued to be 02 A[cre] 00 R[oods] ivl., worth Five pounds *per Annum*.

The house and Gardens adioyninge to the said house valued att Twenty pounds *per Annum*. 01A[cre]. 00R[ood]. xxl.

Now for as much as the said house beinge large and haveinge very good Materialls we have thought fitt to put an estimate on[e] the Severall Materialls (beinge as we conceive) most advantageous to the State.

The Lead thereof contayneinge by Estimacion Six Tunns Eight Hundred and Five pounds weight att Fowerteene shillings per hundred amounts to Eighty Nyne pounds Seaventeene Shillings seaven pence halfpenny *de claro*. lxxxixli. xvij. s. vijd. ob.

The Tymber thereof contayneinge by estimacion Twoe Hundred Tunn and Twelve foote att Thiretene shillings fower pence per tunn amounts to One Hundred Thirty three pounds Tenn shillings eight pence.

cxxxiiijli. xs. vijd.

The Wainscott belonginge to the said house wrought and plaine contayneinge by estimacion Seaven Hundred Eighty Nyne Yards at Nyne pence per Yard amounts to Twenty three pounds Fifeteen shillings and a penny.

xxiiijli. xvs. jd.

The Glasse thereof contayneinge by estimacion Five Hundred Thirety three Foote att three pence per foote amounts to six pounds Thireteen shillings and three pence.

vjli. xiijs. iijd.

The Iron thereto belonginge contayneinge by estimacion One thousand sixtye Fower pound weight att one penny halfe penny per pound amounts to Six pounds Thiretene shillings and three pence *de claro*.

vjli. xiijs. iijd.

Tyle belonginge to the said House contayneinge by estimacion one Hundred Twenty Six thousand att Tenn Shillings per thousand amount to Sixty three pounds *de claro*.

lxiiijli.

The severall Gardens about the House

and the Ground whereon the house stands by estimacion one Acre of ground (in case the said house bee taken doune) valued att three pounds per Acre.

iiijli.

The said Deans house is built with strong stone walls and is for the most part in very good repaire very pleasantly scituated neere the said Cathedrall Church, the passage leadinge thither through the Cloysters: on the south part therof is a very faire Court adorned with Nyne very faire Trees, the ground on[e] which the said house stands is very sound, the Gardens, Orchards, and Meadow arc of a Fruitfull mould with three small Fish ponds, all contayneinge by estimation as before specified.

Memorandum all these particulars above mencioned arc valued *de claro*, all Charges being deducted.

Analysis of 1649 Survey Extract

It is interesting to attempt to compare the two fullest documents dealing with the Deanery, the inventory of 1548 and the *Survey* of 1649, separated as they are by 100 years. They were, however, compiled for very different reasons, and few of the rooms listed in the two texts may be matched up with certainty. The requirements of married men, like Dean Young, were obviously different from those of the ex-monk, William Kingsmill; no doubt the nomenclature of the rooms changed accordingly.

The surveyors began their investigation of the Deanery in the Prior's Hall. The 'common tables' of the Dean and Chapter had been abandoned more than twenty years previously, and the hall was now considered to form part of the Dean's property. No objections were raised at the Restoration when Dean Hyde had the hall subdivided into a dining room and great bedchamber for his personal use. The surveyors' estimate of the internal dimensions of the hall is reasonably accurate: in fact it measures 20.40m (on the west side) by 8.60m (22.3yds by 9.4yds). It was a first-floor hall, with a timber floor rather than a stone

undercroft. There was an entrance from outside, at the head of a flight of stone stairs that were judged 'very faire' by the surveyors. The feature they admired most was the timber roof, still open in 1649 (the present inserted floor dates from the 1660s). The windows were only part-glazed, and were otherwise closed by wooden shutters, an interesting survival of the original system (Wood 1965, 352). Though no mention is made of heating, the archaeological evidence suggests that the hall retained its central hearth, supported, presumably, on a masonry pier in the cellarage.

The *Survey* confirms that the first-floor rooms over the Deanery porch served as the Dean and Chapter's audit house, as they had done since the late sixteenth century or earlier. The audit house is described as 'adjoining' the Prior's Hall, which could imply that there was access between them; perhaps a short flight of stairs from the lower floor level of the hall. The panelling covering both sides of the wall between the buildings conceals possible evidence.

The rooms next enumerated seem to have formed the private side of the Deanery, the part that suffered most during the Commonwealth. The order of the text suggests that the surveyors began on the ground floor, examining the reception and service rooms before proceeding to the upper storey. It is not possible to determine the plan of the house from the *Survey*, but some of the outbuildings can be identified, notably the bakehouse. It is significant that the 'necessary offices' (probably a euphemism for privies), served by a channel of running water, are listed in the same sentence as the bakehouse, for a branch of the medieval drain called the Lockburn runs under the east side of that surviving building (Crook 1985, 14-16).

The 'Arched roome over the Cloysters' is puzzling. Other references in the *Survey* and elsewhere show that at this date the term 'the Cloisters' referred to the east walk of the former great and little cloisters (Crook & Qualmann forthcoming). It is possible that the frater range south of the great cloister abutted the west wall of the Deanery at first floor level,

and that a passage beneath led from the south-east corner of the great cloister into the little cloister. There is some evidence for a first-floor structure: the masonry of the upper wall of the east range above the present Deanery back door is pared back in a series of wide vertical chases similar to those that exist on the south wall of the cathedral. Both probably received the wall-posts of rafter trusses. In the parlance of the *Survey* the term 'arched' generally means vaulted. In this case it may indicate that the room stood over an arched structure rather than that it was itself vaulted.

It seems likely that the cellars enumerated included those under the Prior's Hall and audit house, which formed part of Hacke's lease of 1592. It is clear from the *Survey* that the floor of the Prior's Hall was supported by a timber floor, not a stone vault; and the cellar 'arched with stone' may have been the vaulted ground storey of the Deanery porch itself.

The Priory of St Swithun enjoyed a sophisticated supply of fresh water, which was brought on a stone aqueduct from Easton to a 'conduit house' in Water Lane, and thereafter in lead pipes to the Close. The system was inherited by the Dean and Chapter of Winchester and is described elsewhere in the *Survey*. The Dean's wash-house had a piped water supply, and one would expect that for drainage purposes the wash-house would be situated on the course of the Lockburn. Possibly it stood at one end of the bakehouse.

About the fourteen lodging chambers and other upper floor rooms little can be deduced from the text. The reference to the fitted drawers of the study is, however, of interest in the history of interior design.

Next, the surveyors inspected structures that stood apart from the Deanery itself. The site of the woodhouse is unknown, but the Dean's 'faire double stable' may be identified with certainty as the southernmost bay of the late thirteenth-century Pilgrims' Hall (Crook 1981, 110–11). It has been argued (Crook 1981, 122) that the Dean's dovehouse was the late medieval building, south-west of the Pilgrims' Hall, that was incorporated into No 3, The Close, in the early eighteenth century.

The details of the various courtyards and gardens around the Deanery help to locate its precise site (Fig 4). The *Survey* confirms what is known from other evidence, that until the house was reconstructed in the 1660s its main entrance was from the south-east corner of the great cloister, a survival of the monastic arrangement. The present doorway there is a seventeenth-century replacement of an earlier entrance. The archaeological and documentary evidence suggests that the pre-Commonwealth doorway led into a passage under a long north-south building used as the cathedral library. The library, which seems to have been established in the 1560s (*TR* 1565–6) and whose location is unambiguously described in the *Survey*, was partially demolished during the Commonwealth, and the Deanery north gallery was constructed in brick on the same site in 1663. The rebuilding of the doorway, passage and north gallery did not substantially change the access arrangements in this part of the Close. In 1649 the tunnel under the library opened out into a 'courtyard paved', said to lie west of the Deanery, 'at the passage entring into the said house'. This area is represented by one end of the Deanery kitchen yard. Important evidence survives in the existing coal-shed. It is probable that the remains of a north-south wall abutting the dormer retaining wall derive from a demolished wing linking the main body of the Deanery to the dormer site. To the west of this wing was the Deanery entrance yard; to the east lay a smaller yard between the wing and the bakehouse, presumably the other 'paved courtyard', which the *Survey* locates north of the main part of the house. The demolition of the wing during the Commonwealth produced the present extensive Deanery kitchen yard.

This interpretation is consistent with the documentary evidence and standing remains. It is particularly interesting to note how closely the rebuilt Deanery of 1663 appears to have kept to the site of its predecessor. A similar reluctance to alter pre-existing boundaries during the rebuilding of the 1660s has been noted elsewhere in the Close: the 'stone house' called No 9, The Close, is a good



Fig 5. Deanery porch. Detail of arcade. *Photo: John Crook.*

example (Crook 1984a, 94). The prior's house, which became the first Deanery, appears to have been a rather rambling building, occupying the approximate site of its mid seventeenth century successor.

The garden to the east of the house was presumably situated where the Long Gallery now stands. The other garden plot, 'adjoining on the north side of the house', must have been the dorter site and its extension eastwards, identified by the reference to the 'passage of river water', the branch of the Lockburn that flows south from the end of the chapter house. Other references in the *Survey* prove that the Dean's 'outgarden' consisted of much of the south-east corner of the Cathedral Close. The 'rivulett' running through it was the stream flowing south from Abbey Mill (Crook 1984b). The three small fish-ponds in the Dean's 'great garden' have not been located. They were probably monastic in origin. Fish played an important part in the diet of the monks (G W Kitchen 1892, 307ff), and a fish-stew would have been a necessary feature of the monastery precincts.

The valuation of the building materials contained in the Deanery sounds an ominous note. The Deanery appears to have been demolished during the Commonwealth for the value of its building materials; and the phrase 'in case the said house bee taken doune' suggests that in 1649 consideration had already been given to this possibility.

THE DEANERY PORCH

Thirteenth-century Work

The entrance porch to the Deanery (Figs 1, 5) is rightly one of the most admired architectural features of the Cathedral Close. For Margaret Wood (1965, 149) it is one of the earliest surviving examples of a medieval domestic porch. She draws a parallel between this building and a vanished porch at Westminster, known only from documentary evidence. Of somewhat earlier date (1209–35) is the porch to the West Hall of the Bishop's

Palace, Lincoln, ascribed to Hugh of Wells (Barley 1986, 61).

The scaffolding of the porch for repairs since this paper first went to press has made possible a detailed petrological survey of the building. Different stone types were used, depending on their situation and function. The main stone used both inside the porch and for the facing of the south elevation is a fine-grained, calcareous, micaceous, glauconitic sandstone, identified as greensand, probably Green Ventnor. Blocks of Caen and other stones are also used in the exterior walls, but these probably result from periodic re-facing. The considerable amount of re-used Quarr 'featherbed' limestone in the upper parts of the elevation is certainly secondary, probably contemporary with the insertion of the second-floor windows in c 1500. The crenellated brick parapet is of the same date. The pilaster buttresses, the piers and the responds of the front arches are of Portland. Though this stone did not achieve its present popularity until the seventeenth century, it was occasionally used in the middle ages; for the pilaster buttresses of Wymond's Tower, at Wolvesey, Winchester, for example. The impost blocks of the porch arches are of oolitic limestone. The few surviving fragments of original hood moulding of the porch arcade are of Quarr.

The structure consists of four almost equal bays. There is no visible evidence that the vaulting continued further northwards as indicated by Parker (illustration republished in M Wood 1965, 149). Three of the bays measure 2.57m between centres but the central, entrance bay is slightly wider, at 2.60m. The west bay now forms a corridor at the foot of the nineteenth-century stairs leading to the Prior's Hall, and is separated from the rest of the porch by a modern, glazed partition. There is no evidence of further bays to the west, and the west bay was probably originally enclosed on the south side. The other three bays are open to the Close to the south with three steeply-pointed arches (Fig 5). These are symmetrically disposed between two pilaster buttresses. The east buttress rises nearly to the



Fig 6. Interior of porch, facing east. *Photo: John Crook.*

head of the wall; the west buttress only to the present first-floor window sills. The latter buttress could have been reduced in height; the insertion of windows and refacing of this part of the elevation has removed the evidence. But there are other differences. The east buttress enclosed a niche 190cm high, 53cm wide and 22 cm deep; this has subsequently been blocked, but its head and parts of its chamfered sides survive. During the refacing operation it was seen that the ashlar at the back of the niche was of Green Ventnor. The hood-mould at the head of the buttress, now cut back flush with the face of the buttress, was of Caen. No such niche existed in the west buttress. There are two similar, surviving niches

in the spandrels between the porch arches; these are of the same height as the buttress niche but are slightly wider, 58cm internally. The corbels at the feet of these niches are thought to have supported statuary. A statue of the appropriate dimensions and period survives in the Cathedral (Atkinson 1936, 161–2).

The treatment of the three arches is effectively conceived, making imaginative use of contrasting materials. The front arches spring from Portland piers. Set well back from the face of the outer wall are inner arches of the same profile as the front arches. These are supported on compound Purbeck piers, with integral Purbeck caps and bases, resting on a low wall. This Purbeck work, a material unsuited to



Fig 7. Prior's Hall and porch from SE in the 19th century. Note blocked arches of porch and conjectural 'window' feature of porch east gable.

external use, is protected from the elements by being thus set back behind the front arches. The gap between outer and inner piers is bridged by flattened trefoil arches; an eclectic use of the 'shouldered lintel' with important implications for the date of the structure. The soffits between outer and inner arches have single, chamfered ribs, springing from corbels in the form of stylised, trumpet-shaped flower buds.

The plain-chamfered ribbed vaulting of the

porch springs from the inner piers. The bosses at the intersection of the diagonal ribs are decorated with foliate rosettes, in very weathered condition. The vault itself is constructed of chalk blocks, many of which have recently been replaced. The work revealed that the blocks merely rested on the upper surface of the ribs; there was no retaining flange or 'web'.

The east wall of the porch has three lancet windows incorporated in a decorative scheme consisting of two pairs of pointed arches each



Fig 8. Porch east gable wall. Horizontal lines indicate first and second floor levels. *Photo: John Crook.*

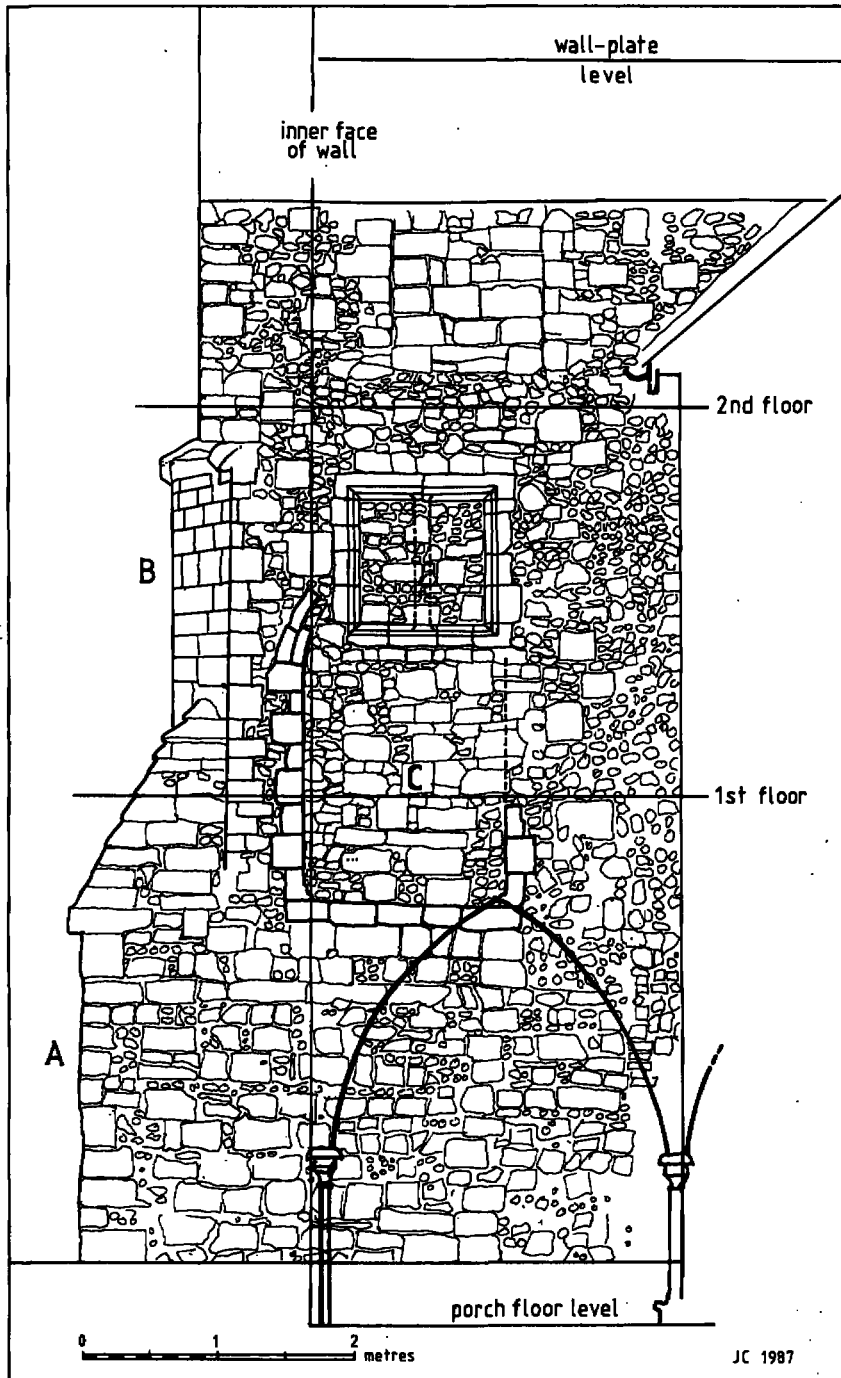


Fig 9. North elevation of porch block showing Features A-C.

enclosed by a lobed trefoil (Fig 6). All evidence for the original scheme of the west wall has been removed by subsequent developments. The rear or north wall of the porch shows few original features internally. The present Deanery front doorway is an early nineteenth-century replacement, and it is not clear where the original door out of the porch was located. A pair of doorways in the west and north walls of the east bay seems most probable. The only surviving internal feature of the north wall is the ambry in the east bay. For G W Kitchin (1892, 11) this was literally a cupboard for alms. In a fanciful passage he describes how pilgrims were met in the porch by the prior's servants, 'who distributed to them broken victuals from my Lord's table, and perhaps a few pence from out of the aumbry still visible in the wall'.

Date of the Porch

The date traditionally ascribed to this work is c 1250, on stylistic grounds. For Parker (1845, 2) the porch dated from 'the time of Henry III'; for Lloyd (1931, 297), from 'c 1250'. The detail of the Purbeck work could however be acceptably placed somewhat earlier in the thirteenth century, and good parallels for the profiles both of the capitals and bases may be found in Bishop de Lucy's Lady chapel in Winchester Cathedral, dating from the second quarter of the thirteenth century. The upper level of the Lady chapel also provides a close parallel for the unusual scheme of the east wall of the porch. The vaulting of the porch does not permit precise dating, but it is worth noting that plain chamfered ribs are also found in the central vault of the de Lucy retrochoir (not later than 1240) and in the Holy Sepulchre Chapel, dated on the evidence of the wall-paintings to 'the first years of the thirteenth century' (Oakeshott 1981, 11). The bosses are a better dating criterion than the ribs, however, and these, though weathered, appear to be of mid thirteenth century type.

The most significant dating feature of the porch is the use of shouldered lintels between the outer and inner arches of the entrance

arcade, and also in the window in the east elevation described below. Shouldered lintels, or 'flat-headed trefoils', make their appearance in the 1240s, the earliest dated example being at Clifford's Tower, York (c 1245).

When all the features of the Deanery porch are taken into consideration, a date of c 1250 seems acceptable. At this date the first phase of the remodelling of the east end of the Cathedral had been completed. The construction of the porch appears to be contemporary with a mid thirteenth century building campaign on the monastic buildings of the Close, including the undercroft and first-floor hall on the west side of the great cloister, and an adjoining building possibly related to the refectory (Crook and Qualmann forthcoming).

Features of the External Walls

Several early features survive in the east and north walls of the porch block (Figs 8, 9). According to G H Kitchin (1940, 10) the outline of a large window was formerly visible in the east gable wall. There is no evidence for original fenestration in the south elevation of the porch block, and one might reasonably expect a window in the east wall. The insertion of a second-floor window in c 1960 has destroyed much of the evidence, which must now be assessed mainly from photographs, such as the nineteenth-century view reproduced in Fig 7. Kitchin's conjecture seems to have relied on a stack of four or five ashlar blocks resembling the shoulder of an arch; these have since been removed. A course of masonry that could derive from a sill runs just below the level of the present first-floor window (a modern replacement of a probable sixteenth-century insertion). The level of this sill is consistent with the floor level over the vaulted porch. However, the features plotted by Kitchin are not as symmetrical as they appear in his oblique and heavily retouched illustration, and in any case the profile depicted is inconsistent with the mid thirteenth century date proposed for the porch.

In fact, Kitchin overlooked an apparently original feature that is actually within the area

of his supposed window. Externally it consists of a shouldered lintel at the head of a blocked, rectangular opening (Fig 8). The lintel is of shelly limestone, probably 'Purbeck featherbed', and the one surviving corbel is of Quarr. In May 1987 defective masonry around this feature was removed, and the reveals and obtuse two-centred arched head of a large, blocked window splay were discovered. The removal of plaster from the inner wall face disclosed the chamfered quoins of the right-hand reveal and three surviving voussoirs of a plain chamfered rere-arch (which has subsequently been re-set at a shallower angle) springing from a corbel of shouldered profile. This matched the external corbel, and was set at the same height. The pointed arch profile of the opening was always invisible from outside, the apex being blocked with a facing skin of masonry to the same depth as the supporting lintel. The junction between this vertical skin and the soffit of the window splay apex was modified to a smooth curve by rendering, and all the faces of the splay were plastered and lime-washed. The jambs of the rectangular outer opening were rebated for shutters or glazing, as were the backs of the corbels. The window splay widened to ≈ 132 cm internally. Evidence for the height of the opening has been destroyed by a modern window; but a 3:1 external aspect ratio would be consistent with first-floor level, and on this basis the total internal height of the feature would be ≈ 290 cm. The profile and chamfer of the external lintel and corbel are identical to those of the shouldered lintels of the main porch arches. The repetition of the shouldered lintel motif in this different context suggests that the feature is primary, as does the use of greensand for all the dressed masonry of the window apart from the exterior corbelled lintel. The head of the arch, concealed within the walls, included two fragments of greensand rib, similar to those of the porch vaulting, and one fragment of Quarr hood-mould similar to that of the porch arcade. These could have derived from waste-fragments occurring during the construction of the porch, though the hood-mould showed some traces of mortar

suggesting that it had actually been used. It will be seen from Fig 8 that the level of the inserted second floor of ≈ 1500 cuts across the window; and it was presumably at that date that the opening was blocked with rubble and mortar.

A close examination of the masonry suggests that the pitch of the thirteenth-century gable was very slightly lower than at present. The walls of the porch block still rise to their original height, however. This is shown by four redundant corbels, of thirteenth-century type, on the inner face of the north wall of the building, just under the present wall-plate. Their position is unrelated to the bay-lengths of the present roof; they are spaced at intervals of 160 cm, and the westernmost corbel is 82 cm from the outer wall of the Prior's Hall, which cuts through the north wall of the earlier structure.

The gable and roof evidence implies that the porch block was originally designed as a two-storey building. At ground level was the vaulted porch itself. Above it was a chamber open to the roof. Kitchin (1940, 10) suggested that this room formed the prior's private chapel, which he believed to have been lit by the large east window already discussed. Medieval private chapels were frequently placed over the porch. Margaret Wood (1965, 230) has shown that the porch was sometimes placed near the upper end of the first-floor hall, a block facing east, and cites the example of the Prebendal House, Thame, dated ≈ 1240 . In other examples the chapel led off the lower end of the hall: this is more likely to have been the arrangement at Winchester, where the upper end of the original prior's hall was probably at the north, next to the prior's house.

Like the east gable, the north wall of the porch is rich in evidence. It has long been suspected (G H Kitchin 1940, 10) that the prior's house included a range of buildings extending eastwards from immediately behind the porch, on the site of the lawn south of the Long Gallery. This is a conjecture that might best be verified by excavation, but it is supported by details at the north-east corner of the porch block. Feature A (Fig 9) is a large

buttress, 1m wide, aligned to the north wall of the porch. The masonry of the body of the buttress is coursed with that of the wall, but the tapering courses at the head of the buttress have a straight joint to a splayed first-floor feature (B), at the corner of the porch, that will be discussed presently. The quoins of the south-east angle of the buttress are of Caen stone, and have an integral roll-moulding, visible in Fig 8. This is capped by a very weathered, flat block of Purbeck or Petworth 'marble'. As Kitchin correctly recognised (1940, 10), these details could indicate that the buttress was formed from the jamb of an earlier doorway. The Purbeck feature might derive from an impost block with integral capital. The conjecture is further supported by the fact that the opening appears to have been splayed on plan; the north-east corner of the 'buttress' was subsequently squared up using blocks of re-used Quarr stone, flint and other fragments, a modification that appears to have been contemporary with the refacing of much of the lower part of the north wall of the porch block.

Above the remains of this former opening, and off-set slightly to the west, is a second splayed feature (B), plausibly identified by G H Kitchin as one side of a window embrasure. Like Feature A, it has an identical roll-moulding at the south-east angle (Fig 8). The lower part of the splay is concealed by the masonry of the tapering head of the buttress, and there is evidence that this conceals a sloping sill to the conjectural window. While the stone capping at the top of Feature B may represent the original height of the window, the jointing of the overlying masonry suggests that the two adjacent walls were built together above this level.

These two features imply that the north wall of the porch formerly extended eastwards as the south wall of an earlier building north and east of the porch. When the wall was demolished the short length between the jamb of the ground floor door (Feature A) and the masonry associated with the window (Feature B) were retained to form buttresses. Excavation of the lawn south of the Long Gallery would provide useful confirmation of this conjecture.

Related to these features is the large blocked opening, Feature C, in the north elevation of the porch, approximately at first-floor level (Fig 9). The jambs, which have a plain chamfer, are of fine-jointed Caen stone, with vertical tooling. The apex of the opening is cut through by a mullioned window similar to those of the mid seventeenth century part of the Deanery. The infill material of Feature C includes fragments of brick, suggesting that it may have been blocked as late as the 1660s, when the mullioned window was inserted. The latter window was in turn filled in, presumably in the eighteenth century, when the elevation appears to have been stuccoed.

The position of Feature C is significant, for its base is well below the apex of the porch vaulting: had it been a window it would have cut across the first floor of the porch. This immediately confirms that the feature pre-dates the vaulting of the porch. The similarity of the masonry of Features B and C, and the fact that the features are approximately coursed together, could suggest that they are of the same build. The roll-mouldings of Features A and B could comfortably date from the end of the twelfth century (as could the use of Caen stone and the Purbeck capital); indeed, such mouldings would be distinctly archaic at the mid thirteenth century date proposed for the rest of the porch. But the main evidence that the rear wall of the porch pre-dates the rest of the block is the relationship between the masonry of the east and north walls of the building. The rough coursing of the north wall of the porch continues into the body of the buttress, Feature A, but the masonry of the tapering head of the buttress is obviously subsequent. The masonry of the angle between the east wall of the porch and the buttress is coursed and bonded, but comparison of this masonry with that of the other pilaster buttress of this elevation suggests that it was inserted during repairs to the corner of the porch, possibly during the seventeenth century. At higher level it is evident that the east wall of the porch merely abuts the north wall, with no true bonding.

The fact that the rear wall of the porch is

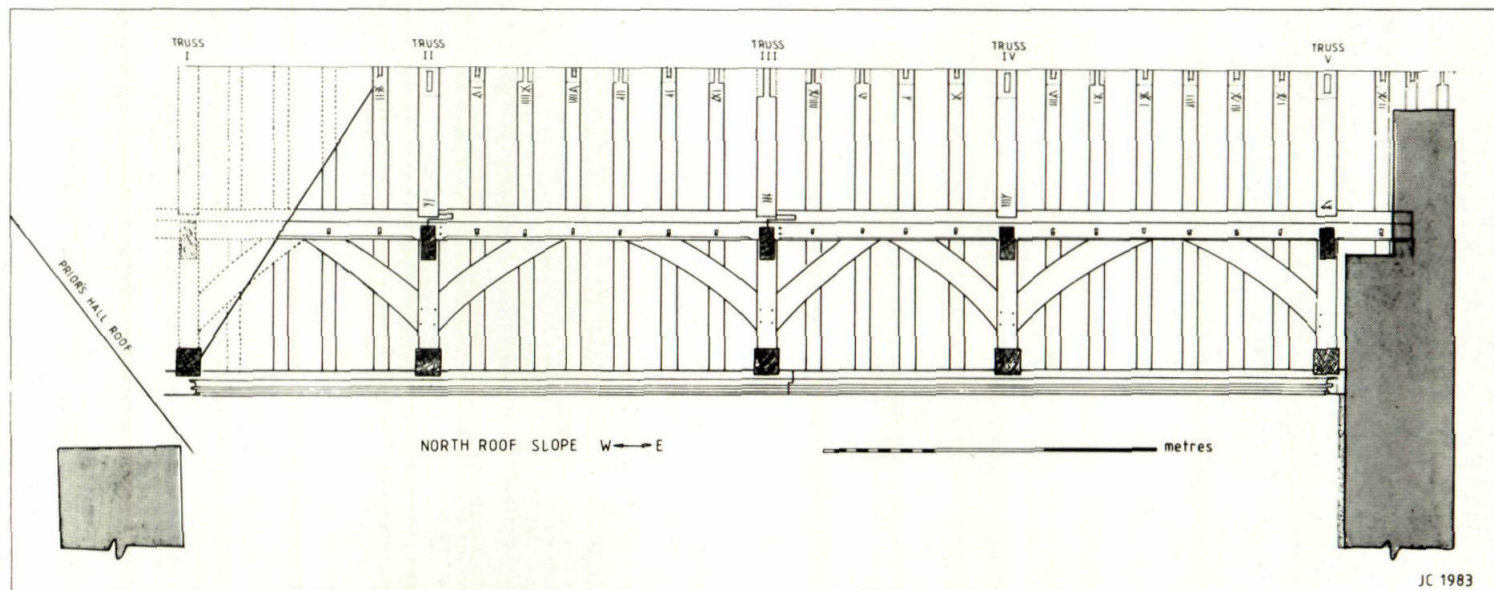


Fig 10. Porch roof. Longitudinal elevation of north roof slope.

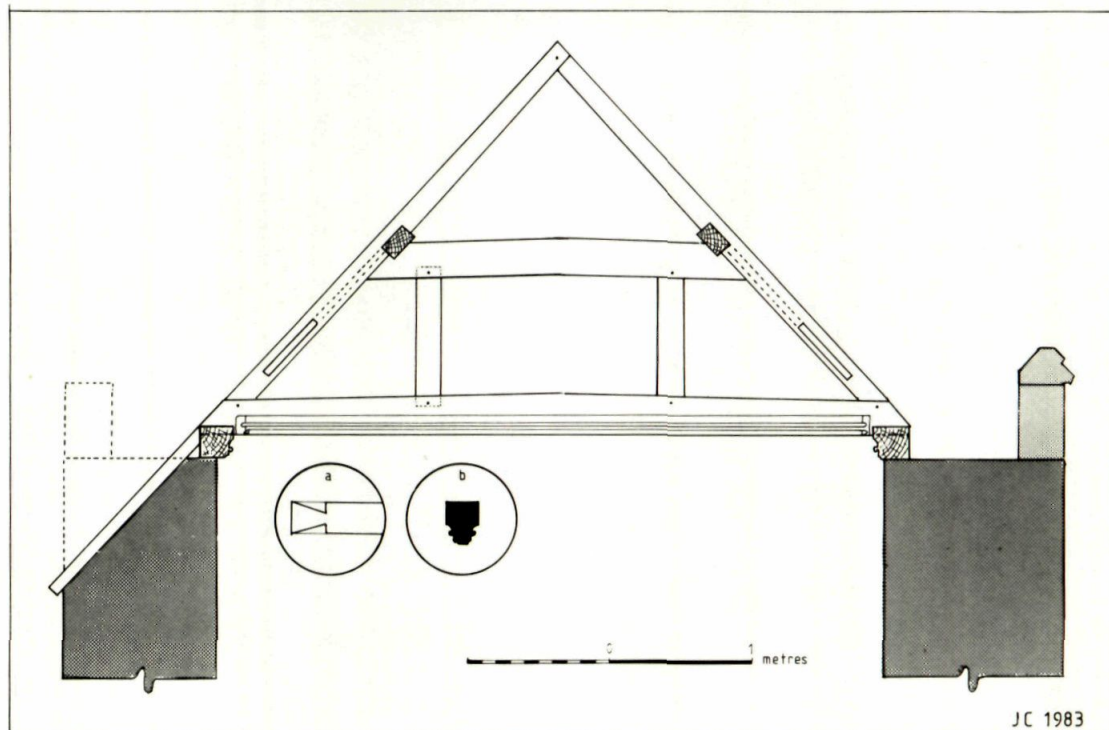


Fig 11. Porch roof. West elevation of Truss II.

older than the rest of the structure explains the apparently incompatible levels of Feature C and the porch vaulting. The late character of the infill could, however, indicate that Feature C was retained as a doorway with two, possibly three steps within the thickness of the wall, so that the top of the flight cleared the apex of the porch vaulting. This could be determined by excavation of the infill. If, as suggested, Feature C was not blocked until the seventeenth century, then an arrangement of this sort seems indicated. An external staircase seems a possibility. But the limited evidence afforded by features A-C does not permit any satisfactory conclusions to be drawn as to whether the area immediately north of the porch remained a covered building after the porch was constructed.

Post-medieval Roof and Floors

The roof covering the Deanery porch is a

well-preserved example of a queen-post roof with clasped purlins and undiminished principal rafters. It covers an area approximately 11m long by 4.2m wide. The east end of the roof terminates in a gable, and the hipped west end is undoubtedly a later modification. The longitudinal elevation (Fig 10) shows that four principal trusses have survived intact; one more is represented by its surviving tie-beam. Hereafter we refer to the main trusses by the assembly marks in roman numerals scored on the soffits of the principal rafters, just above the purlin, and on the side of each queen post.

The spacing of the main trusses is irregular, so that the bays are alternately 'short' (approximately 2.2m) and 'long' (approximately 3.0m). Truss III, which is atypical in its construction, is exactly central. It seems likely that before the west end of the roof was rather clumsily altered to its present hipped form the roof continued westwards to meet the slope of the roof of the Prior's Hall, a conjecture

supported by the fact that the purlins are scarf-jointed at truss II. Had the purlins stopped at truss I it would have been possible to form them from two equal lengths of timber, each spanning two bays. The actual arrangement is more logical if the purlins continued westwards to join the Prior's Hall roof. The restoration work done on the hall roof in the 1960s has destroyed any possible indications of how the junction of the two roofs was achieved.

The wind-braces are lap-jointed and nailed to the back of the purlins. Such insubstantial jointing, which is normal practice in this type of roof, cannot have afforded much protection against 'racking' of the transverse members, and suggests perhaps that wind-braces were decorative rather than important structural features in this roof type.

The construction of a typical principal truss (II) is shown in Fig 11. The tie-beam is lap-jointed by means of a full lap dovetail (inset a) to a single wall-plate which slightly overhangs the face of the wall. The brick parapet on the south side could be contemporary with the roof, but on the north side the wall has been cut away at an angle and the roof slope lengthened by means of extension common rafters nailed to the wall-plate. This modification dates from the mid seventeenth century; for the length of wall covered by the first phase of the entrance hall roof (built in 1663) remains unaltered.

Truss III is atypical in that it has a king post from collar to ridge. This post is tenoned into both principal rafters at the apex, which suggests it is an original feature. The truss also has an additional queen post, off-set slightly to the north of the centre of the truss. These two extra posts are fully tenoned, but only the foot of the king post is pegged. They show no assembly marks; this does not necessarily indicate that they were added as an afterthought, as the king post is a unique feature, but the extra timbers could not be subsequent to the construction of the truss unless it has been dismantled and reassembled.

Truss III also shows evidence of partition

infilling extending to the apex of the roof; there are holes for studs and some surviving studwork. The infilling appears to be contemporary with the division of the second storey of the porch block into two rooms.

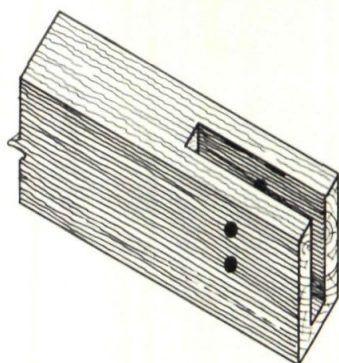
The common rafters are notched into the top of the wall-plate near the outer edge, tenoned and pegged at their apex, and face-pegged with the usual square peg in a round hole to the purlins half-way down the roof slope. The assembly marks of the rafters of the north roof slope include 'tags' to distinguish them from those of the south slope. No clear pattern emerges as to whether the northern rafter of each couple is tenoned into the southern or vice versa. This variation is shown in Fig 10. In fifteen out of twenty-two cases the south slope rafter has the tenon and the north slope rafter the mortice. The assembly marks were apparently made to ensure a match of apex tenon and mortice, but they bear no logical relation to the position of each rafter couple in the roof. From east to west the rafters are numbered as follows:

?	I	?	?	?	22	II	6	14	9	3	2	16
III	19	5	1	10	IV	8	11	21	4	18		
12	V	17										

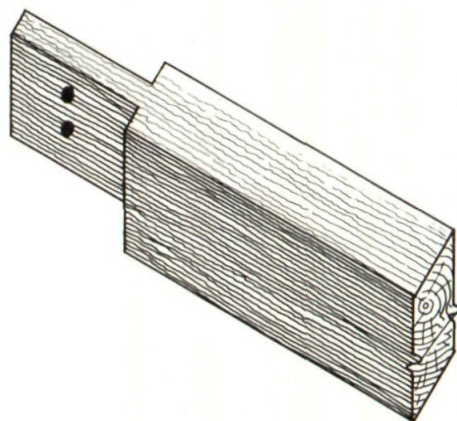
It will be noted that the missing rafter couples, represented in the table by question marks, are 7, 13, 15 and 20.

The most obvious decorative features of this roof are the mouldings of the soffit of the tie-beam and of the inner face of the wall-plate (Fig 11). The lowest arris of each purlin has a chamfer 25cm wide ending in a plain stop 5cm from the face of each truss. The roof was originally open, which explains the care the carpenters took in joining purlins by scarf joints of a type invisible from below (Fig 12). Even the assembly marks were out of sight.

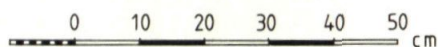
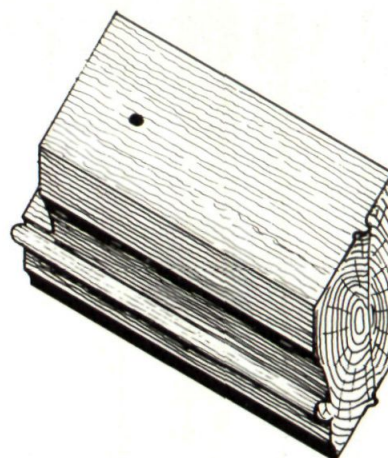
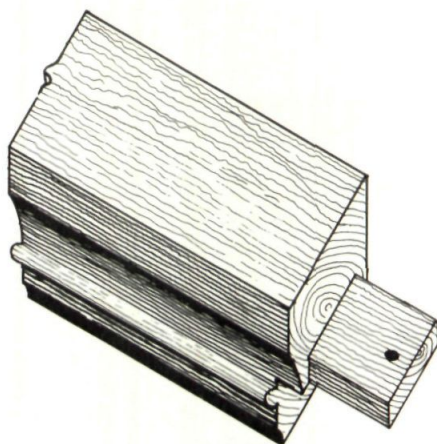
The floor of the second storey is supported by wall-plates and girding beams with mouldings identical to those of the roof tie-beams and wall-plates. This proves that the re-roofing of the porch block, the insertion of the upper floor, and the provision of casement windows, were contemporary. The division of the second-storey space into two rooms, by a partition wall under truss III, appears to be a



PURLIN SCARF JOINT



WALL-PLATE SCARF JOINT



JC 1983

Fig 12. Isometric views of scarf joints used in framing Porch roof.



Fig 13. Reconstruction of the Prior's Hall attributed to J B Colson, c. 1885.

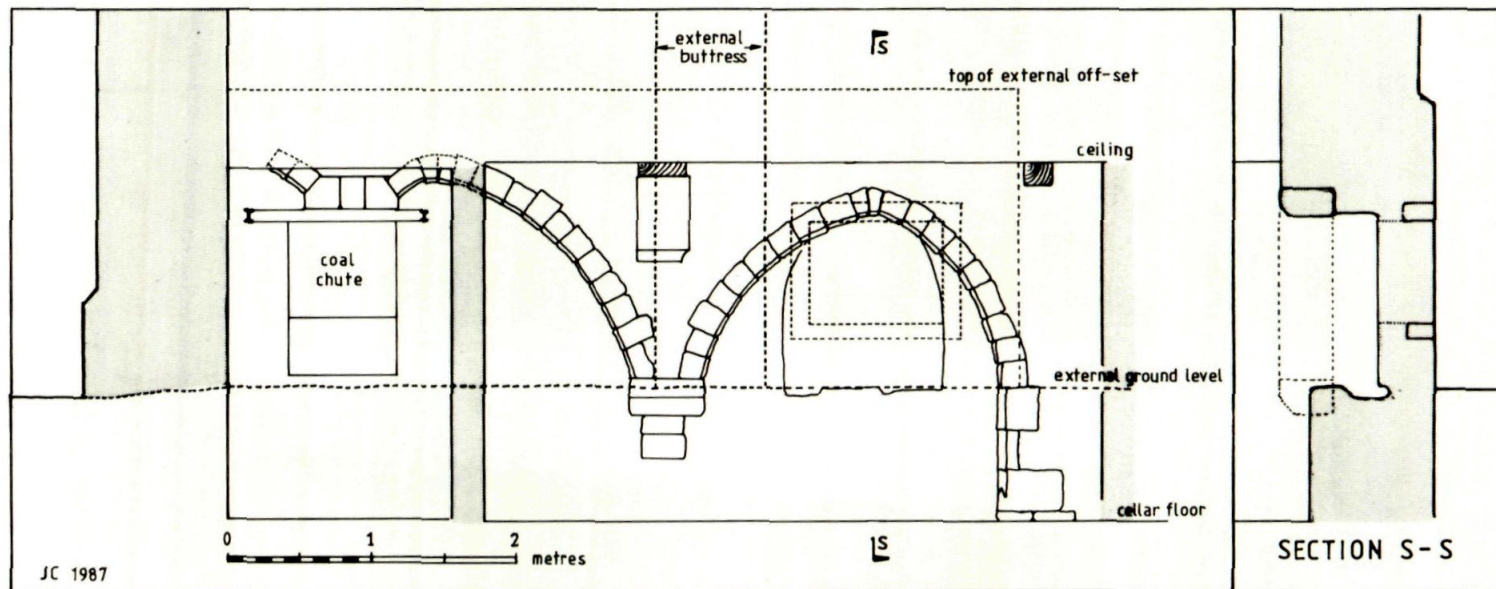


Fig 14. East elevation and section of arcading at south end of west wall of Prior's Hall. Pecked lines on elevation indicate position of external features.

later modification. A panelled timber ceiling, supported by joists housed in the top of the tie-beams, was inserted into the east room thus formed. The ceiling of the west room is clumsily supported on joists wedged into the hollows of the tie-beam mouldings, and seems to be of much later date. For some time after the storey was divided the west room must have remained open to the roof, which explains the studding in the roof triangle above truss III.

There is no evidence for the means of access to the upper floor. The present entrance from the Prior's Hall cannot date from earlier than the 1660s, when the second storey floor was inserted into the hall. One must therefore postulate an independent staircase within the porch block itself.

Some of the features we have described help to date the roof. A consideration of its typology is perhaps the least helpful approach. Clasped-purlin construction was successful and long-lasting, flourishing in southern England during the late fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. There are good local parallels in Winchester: the priory stabling block in the Cathedral Close, God-Begot House in the High Street, Nicholas Wallar's house (the Elizabethan Restaurant) in Jewry Street. We have dated the priory stabling to c 1520 on the evidence of the joints used in its construction (Crook 1981, 127ff); and God-Begot House is thought to have been built in 1460–71 (Keene, 1985, 490). The roof of Wallar's house is dated to 1509 by an inscription over the fireplace. Amongst other recently-studied Hampshire examples one might mention the roof at The Wakes, Selborne, which Meirion-Jones (1983, 166) dates to 'c 1500–1525'.

The mouldings of the Deanery porch roof are a better guide and are consistent with an early sixteenth-century date. The fenestration, with depressed four-centered lights grouped in twos and fours, is also typical of that period. It is interesting to note that the windows at the north end of the priory stabling (much restored, but to the original design) reproduce, in timber, the form of the stone windows of the Deanery porch block.

THE PRIOR'S HALL

Introduction

The high, buttressed walls of the Prior's Hall, overlooking the east side of the little cloister site, are a dominant feature of the Cathedral Close. The description given by the Parliamentary surveyors implies that they, too, were impressed by this 'very faire' hall, and especially by its superb open timber roof. It is regrettable that owing to the insertion of a second floor in the 1660s the effect of the medieval timberwork may be appreciated only through reconstructions, such as the late nineteenth-century watercolour drawing attributed to J B Colson (Fig 13).

Surviving Medieval Features

i. Features at the South-west Corner of the Hall

The early Winchester antiquary, John Milner (1797 II, 139), observed the 'great gothic windows' of the west elevation and noted that 'There are evident traces in the building of a much higher antiquity than the age which these windows denote'. It seems probable that he was referring to features visible inside the building at the south-west corner. The west wall incorporates a length of walling which clearly predates the present Prior's Hall; it seems likely that it survived because it was protected by, or formed part of, a pre-existing structure. This could have been part of the infirmary complex, which is known to have stood on the south side of the little cloister (Crook & Qualmann forthcoming).

Externally, this length of wall is represented only by a modest projection, capped by an off-set. However, the orientation of the feature is important. The present Prior's Hall is not aligned with the Cathedral and the monastic buildings of the Close (including the Deanery porch) but is skewed clockwise by 6°. The short length of pre-existing wall, on the other hand, follows the earlier orientation.

It is, however, inside the building that the most interesting aspects of the feature occur. The inner face of the fragment of wall has two



Fig 15. Jamb of first-floor door at NE corner of Prior's Hall, showing rebate (with iron fitting) and external roll-moulded corner. Photo: John Crook.

and a half bays of pointed blind arcading, which seems to be graduated so that the apexes rise towards the south (Fig 14). As externally, the face of the feature is aligned to the earlier orientation of the monastic buildings, and it dies into the face of the wall of the later Prior's Hall. The lower courses of the north end of the arcade have evidently been reset. An opening to the outside, subsequently blocked, was pierced through the northernmost bay of the arcading. Externally the surrounding masonry of a square opening now blocked with stone is visible; on the inside the opening is bricked up.

The voussoirs of the arcade consist of finely-jointed limestone, probably Caen, and have a plain chamfer. The profile of the arches could be consistent with a thirteenth-century date; more significantly, perhaps, the mortar of the core of the wall in the spandrels of the arcade consists of a very yellow, sandy mortar with flecks of unburnt chalk, of a type usually associated with early thirteenth-century work in Winchester (Qualmann, pers comm).

There is no reason to suppose that this fragment of wall necessarily derives from the earlier prior's hall as Milner supposed. The size of the earlier hall is unknown, and, even if it occupied approximately the site of its successor, it may not have extended further south than the front of the porch. What the feature does demonstrate is the substantial amount of building work that took place in the Close during the thirteenth century: the Cathedral Lady chapel and retroquire, the Deanery porch, the first-floor hall on the west side of the great cloister.

ii. Features at the North End of the Prior's Hall

The north wall of the Prior's Hall is still represented by a massive thickness of flint and chalk rubble core rising to first-floor level, parts of which are exposed in underfloor spaces. This wall certainly pre-dates the fifteenth-century elevations of the rest of the hall, and is oriented to the Cathedral and other monastic buildings.

If, as seems likely, the earlier prior's hall occupied the site of its fifteenth-century successor, then these remains probably derive from its north wall. Some evidence has recently been discovered which seems to confirm this hypothesis. The north-east angle of the present hall may be examined at ground level in an understair space, and the southward return of the east wall of the hall is visible; like the north wall, it consists of massive chalk rubble and flint. At a higher level, corresponding with the present first-floor of the hall, a feature in the return wall is visible in a cupboard half-way up the back stairs leading from the cellarage (Fig 15). This may be identified with certainty as a door jamb. It is formed of well-coursed blocks of Quarr 'featherbed' limestone with vertical tooling. The rebate is clearly defined, complete with the iron fitting to retain the latch. The east or external angle of the jamb has a roll-moulding; the inner angle has a plain chamfer. The masonry on the outer side of the door is somewhat weathered, and there is an indecipherable *graffito*. The jamb is 130cm from the inner face of the north wall, which, allowing for

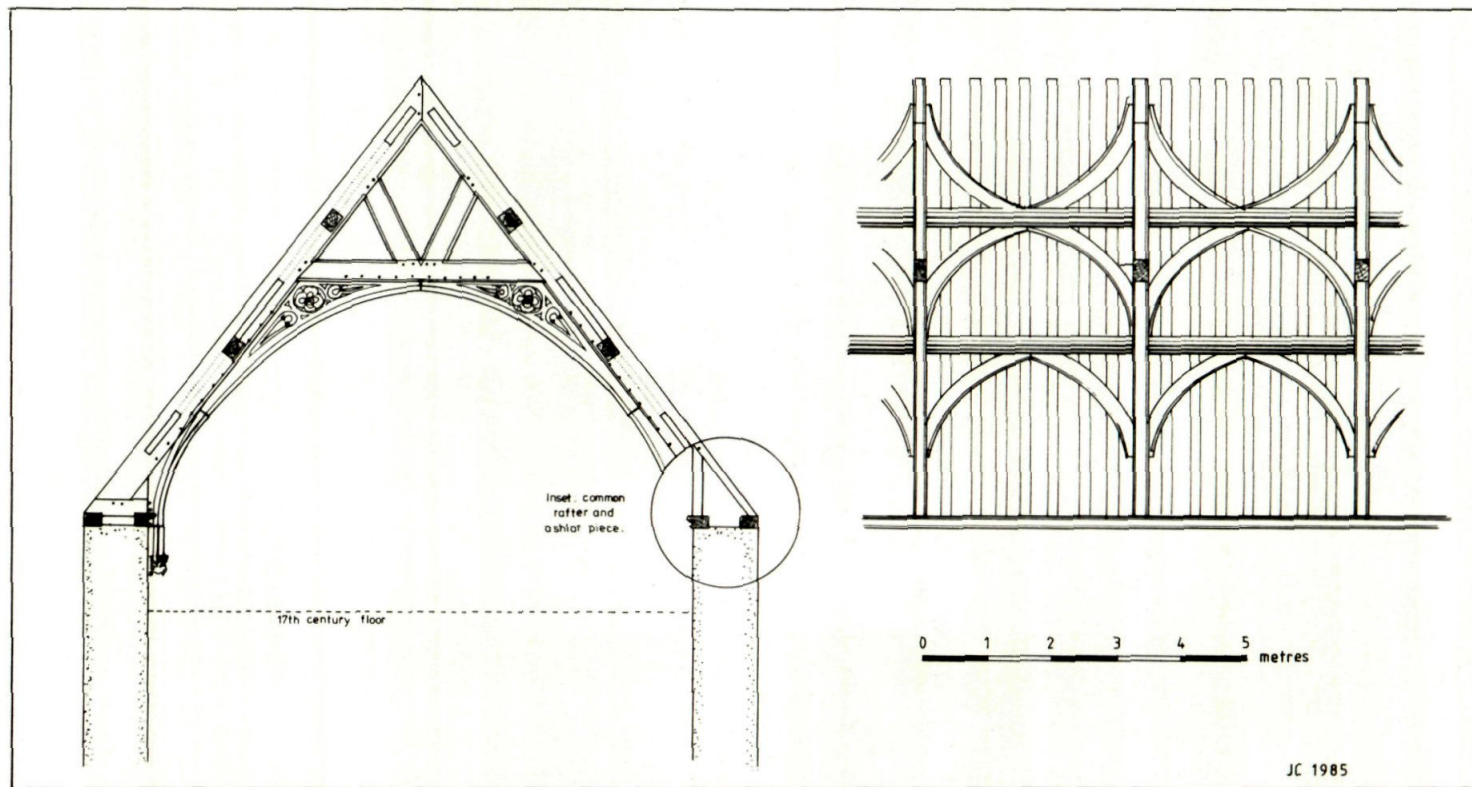


Fig 16. Elevation of typical truss of Prior's Hall roof (Truss III from N) and longitudinal elevation of two bays.



Fig 17. General view of roof of Prior's Hall in second-floor bedroom at south end of hall. *Photo: John Crook.*

the left-hand jamb, would be consistent with a door in the very corner of the hall. The position of the base of the feature may be estimated, and corresponds with the floor level of the present Prior's Hall. The door is not oriented to the fifteenth-century building, however, but to the earlier monastic buildings.

The type of stone, mortar, tooling and mouldings of this feature all indicate a twelfth-century date. The iron-work is probably later, possibly fifteenth century. We therefore suggest that the doorway evidenced by these remains formed part of the original Prior's Hall, and that the doorway was retained when the hall was rebuilt in the mid fifteenth century. The rather clumsy infilling of re-used romanesque masonry to east and west of the jamb probably dates from that period. The door presumably became redundant in the 1660s, when the internal staircase was built within the new entrance hall. The feature fortunately survived on the east side of the wedge-shaped dead space formed when the north end of the 'great dining-room' was squared off by a lath-and-plaster partition.

The Walls of the Present Prior's Hall

It is our conjecture that the present Prior's Hall replaced an earlier building on the same site. The *aula* mentioned in medieval documents may well have been a smaller building than its successor; the remains of the door suggest that it was also a first-floor hall, and that, like the dorter range to the north, it dated from the twelfth century. The porch was added in the thirteenth century; and one would expect the porch to have been constructed at one end of the building, rather than half-way along its length. The purpose of the fifteenth-century rebuilding of the Prior's Hall may well have been to provide a hall of greater size; and as the north end was predetermined by the existing prior's house, the new hall had to extend south of the porch. The fact that the new Prior's Hall was built at a slight angle to the other monastic buildings was probably also a consequence of the constraints of the site. There was a need to avoid demolishing

more of the porch than was necessary, and to preserve the east walk of the little cloister. The remains of thirteenth-century arcading incorporated into the south-west corner of the hall may have derived from a building which also played a part in determining the site of the new hall.

The walls of the fifteenth-century Prior's Hall appear to have been subject to much refacing, and it is difficult to find a typical area. The south gable is a nineteenth-century replacement. The original walls appear to have been built of roughly-coursed, re-used masonry (much of which may have derived from the earlier building) together with some flint.

The buttresses along the west elevation, consisting mainly of re-used Quarr 'featherbed' stone, were probably rebuilt at the Restoration. They show no sign of any lean-to roof to the adjacent little cloister walk. Reference is made in a Chapter Order of 1675 (CO 17 Aug 1675) to work at the 'Great Hall' including 'making good the peeres', which seems to refer to the buttresses of the Prior's Hall. Buttresses answering to the roof trusses would be expected. A similar buttress, removed from the south end of the east wall of the Prior's Hall, has left an evident scar.

Windows survive only in the west wall of the Prior's Hall. The outline of a similar window, now blocked, may, however, be seen in the east wall of the hall, south of the porch (Fig 1). There were no windows in the side walls of the south bay of the hall, but we have already noted the evidence for a probable doorway on the east side of this bay. The surviving windows consist of four lights each: two upper and two lower cinquefoil lights (the cinquefoils with rounded upper leaves), with a hexafoil above the top pair; the whole under an obtuse, two-centred arch. The label stops had curved heads but these have mostly weathered to amorphous lumps. One of them survives in a more complete state on the south of the blocked window of the east wall. The windows are typical of large late Perpendicular domestic windows of the first half of the fifteenth century (Wood 1965, 359). There can be little



Fig 18. Roof of Prior's Hall from NE corner of hall. *Photo: John Crook.*

doubt that the walls and windows are contemporary with the roof, whose bay structure they reflect. The profile and tracery of the windows may have been influenced by the nearby windows of Wykeham's recently remodelled nave. The *Parliamentary Survey* shows that in the mid seventeenth century the hall windows were still not totally glazed; they were 'halfe glazed, the other halfe shutters of wood. . . '.

THE ROOF OF THE PRIOR'S HALL

The roof of the Prior's Hall is exceptional in the quality of its carpentry, its superb decoration and its proportions. Though the full effect of the roof can no longer be appreciated, owing to the insertion of a seventeenth-century floor a few feet below wall-plate level, two bays at the south end of the building are relatively unencumbered (Fig 17). The later modifications and flooring undoubtedly facilitate the study of the roof detail.

The Prior's Hall measures 20.40m in length on the west side (internal measurement) by 8.60m wide, a figure which agrees tolerably with the 'twentye yeards in length and Tenn in breadth' of the *Parliamentary Survey*. The roof is divided into six equal bays measuring approximately 3.40m between centres (Fig 16). However, the north end truss does not lie at right-angles to the axis of the roof, but is aligned to the north end wall of the building. Consequently the east side of the northernmost bay measures 4.27m between trusses I and II.

A typical truss (III, as defined below) is shown in Fig 16. The principal rafters are linked by a straight collar supporting a pair of raking struts to the rafters. The arch-braces below the collars completely fill the spandrels, and are richly decorated. They abut lower braces, which continue the same curve, and these lower braces are supported on moulded stone wall-shafts which are integral with carved corbels, 70cm below the wall-plate. Arch-braces, lower braces and wall-shafts all have the same moulding.

There are seven common rafter couples

between each truss, which permits a symmetrical disposition. The feet of each rafter couple are braced by ashlar-pieces from the inner wall-plates (Fig 16, inset).

The longitudinal elevation shows two tiers of normal wind-braces, forming two-centred arches, and one set of inverted wind-braces.

The carpentry of the roof thus described is simple but structurally effective. There are, for example, no scarf joints; the butt-purlins are never longer than a bay length, and are tenoned into the principal rafters. Carefully scribed setting-out lines are visible on the various components; for example, those indicating the collar/principal rafter joint.

The components of this roof have two systems of assembly marks. Each truss is numbered consecutively from truss I at the north end to truss VII at the south. In addition, the visible faces of all trusses are marked from north to south. Truss II is marked II on its north face and III on its south; truss II bears the additional marks IIII and V; and so on. All faces are marked in this way. Lateral distinction (between east and west components) is provided by a scribed circle on one of the digits of each assembly number.

A wooden corbel is tenoned into the south face of truss III (Fig 19), and this seems to relate to a vanished louvre. This feature is evidently original, for its retaining pegs, driven in from underneath, are half covered by the arch-braces; it was therefore fixed before the truss was completely assembled. Other timbers indicative of a louvre survive in the apex of the roof; though differences in the quality of the carpentry suggest that the louvre may have been altered during the long period of its use. Some sooting is apparent on the roof timbers, though much of it was scraped away in the restoration of the roof in the 1960s.

The louvre suggests that the Prior's Hall had an open hearth beneath truss III, about a third of the way from the north gable of the hall. The re-flooring of the Prior's Hall in the 1660s has concealed all evidence of how the open hearth was supported. It seems likely that it was supported on a substantial masonry pier which was removed when the hall was



Fig 19. Roof of Prior's Hall. Detail of Truss III and louvre from SW. *Photo: John Crook.*

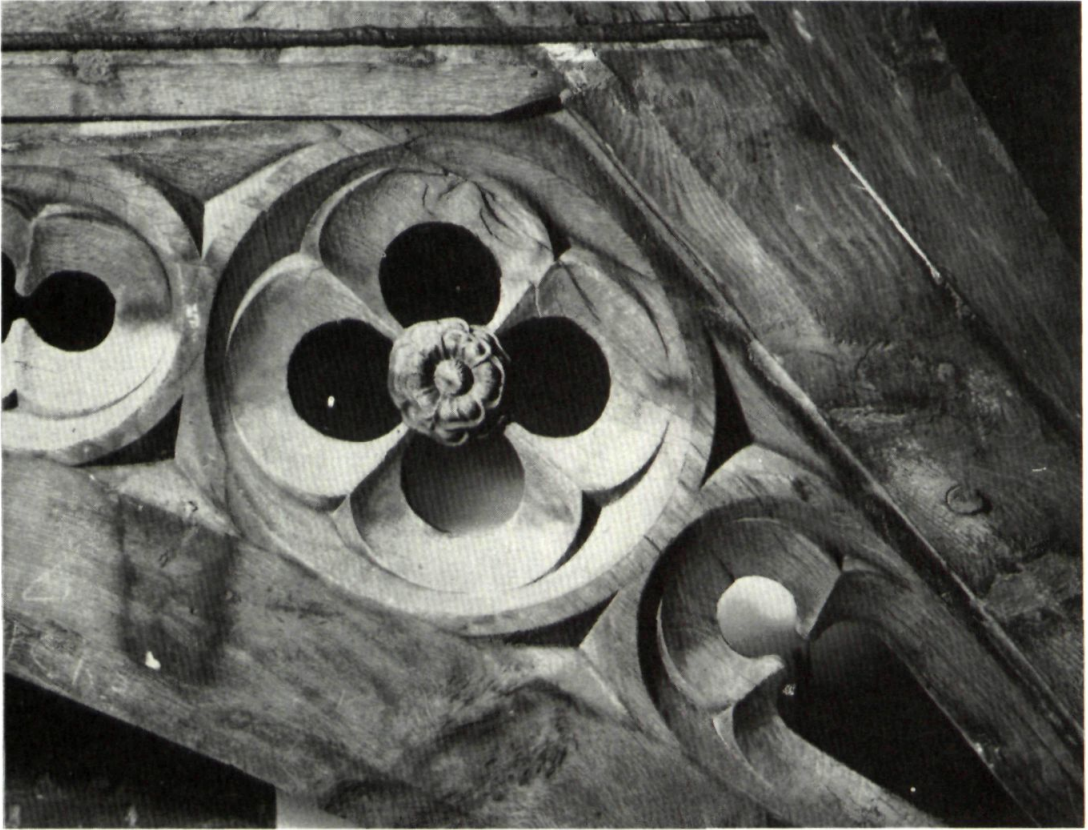


Fig 20. Roof of Prior's Hall. Spandrel detail (Truss IV, West, from N). *Photo: John Crook.*

subdivided and the brick chimneys built. Parallels for the original arrangement occur in the hall at Ludlow Castle, where the foundations of a pier 6ft square have been discovered (Wood 1965, 70). The position of the hearth of the Prior's Hall shows that the upper or dais end of the hall was at the north end of the hall. This is consistent with the site of the private part of the prior's house, and with the position both of the entry stairs and of the prior's kitchen at the lower, service end.

The decorative features of this roof are noteworthy. The principal rafters, collars, struts and arch-braces are chamfered. The purlins are moulded. But the main ornamental feature is the spandrel decoration of the arch-braces, which are pierced so as to leave flowers, mainly roses, barely attached in the centre

of large, chamfered quatrefoils. Either side of these are opposed cusped daggers, similarly pierced and chamfered (Fig 20). The same treatment is given to both sides of the trusses, and no distinction can be made on decorative or on structural grounds between 'upper' and 'lower' faces. The end trusses are not completely pierced, but bear similar decoration on their inner faces; the plain outer faces were embedded in the masonry of the gables.

The corbels terminating the lower braces are finely carved (Figs 21–22). They alternately represent bishops and old men, perhaps biblical patriarchs and prophets, and are carved in a fine-grained, white limestone that is probably Caen stone. It cannot be ascertained whether they are intended as portraits of particular bishops. If this roof dates from



Fig 21. Roof of Prior's Hall. Corbel head of a bishop. Truss IV East. *Photo: John Crook.*



Fig 22. Roof of Prior's Hall. Corbel head. Truss III East. *Photo: John Crook.*

1459, as has been proposed, then one would expect that at least one of the corbels might be intended as a portrait of William of Waynflete (1447–86).

The decorative detail of the roof of the Prior's Hall suggests a mid fifteenth century date, and this is confirmed by a single reference in the rolls relating to the monastery's manor of Manydown. Dean G W Kitchin (1895, 8), who edited the rolls, noted that 'In 1459, three huge oaks, felled at Manydown, were sent to the Prior of St. Swithun's for the roof of the great hall of the Priory, which is still the main part of the Deanery; this entry gives the date of the construction of that fine chamber.'

THE DEANERY DURING THE COMMONWEALTH

While the house at the south end of the Prior's

Hall was taken over by John Woodman, the local Parliamentary Committee assigned the Deanery itself to Nicholas Love, MP for Winchester and regicide. He was the son of a former Warden of Winchester College, Canon Nicholas Love, who had occupied No. 1, The Close from 1612–30 (Crook 1984a, 22). Like many of the other Parliamentary occupants of the Close during the Commonwealth Love appears to have had most, if not all, of the domestic part of the old Deanery taken down for the value of its building materials. The extent of the destruction of this house and of the other buildings of the Close was recorded in a *Narrative* drawn up by the cathedral canons in 1675 to enable Bishop Morley to arbitrate in a dispute with one of their number, Thomas Gumble (Crook 1983a, 5–16). According to this text the canons returned to the Close in 1660 to discover that the Deanery had been 'totally demolished'.

Nicholas Love appears to have had no personal need of the Deanery, having built himself a house elsewhere in the cathedral precincts. In their answer to a question put during the Visitation of Archbishop Juxon in 1662, the Chapter replied 'That Nicholas Love in the tyme of the late Troubles caused an house to be erected in the churchyard which the Deane and Chapter have ordered to be pulled downe' (Stephens & Madge 1897, 114).

Fortunately the Prior's Hall escaped destruction. A fascinating piece of evidence for the appearance of the Deanery in the years immediately following the Commonwealth is the drawing of Winchester from St Giles' Hill by Willem Schellinks, dated 1662 (reproduced in Keene 1985, Pl II). Inevitably, the wide scope of this picture means that the Deanery is depicted only as a tiny detail, but it is possible to identify the porch block and the north end of the Prior's Hall, represented with a gable and two lancet windows. This is plausible enough, but as the gable was taken down as part of the rebuilding of the domestic wing of the Deanery, Schellinks' accuracy in this particular cannot be verified.

THE RESTORATION 1660

At the Restoration of 1660 and the return of the Chapter to a devastated Close the urgent priority was the reconstruction of the Deanery and canons' houses. In October the Dean and Chapter petitioned the King 'for a grant towards rebuilding and repairing of the Cathedral and of the Dean and Prebendaries houses of which 4 out of 13 only are standing' (Stephens & Madge 1897, 104). It was immediately ordered that the Parliamentary intruders should 'vacate their said residences' in the Close (*ibid* 105). On December 14 1660 the Dean and Chapter resolved that the proceeds of several bonds made to them for leases should be 'wholly employed and bestowed in reparacions of the Fabricke of the Cathedrall Church aforesaide and rebuilding of the howses belonging to the Deane & Prebendaries' (CA 14 Dec 1660). A year later

Richard Frampton, of Kingsgate Street, Winchester, was appointed 'to oversee & order in all things in repaying & building the said Deanes howse and other buildings necessary thereto' (CA 7 Dec 1661). Details of the building works carried out under Frampton's supervision are found in several documents in the Chapter archives, the most important of which are the surviving account rolls, kept by a succession of Canon Treasurers; and the *Account Book of William Fletcher, Clerk of Works* (MS, WCL), in which detailed building costs were itemised on a weekly basis during the period 1661-2. A third source, the *Wainscot Book* (Crook 1984a), is mainly concerned with the panelling and interior fittings of the Deanery and canons' houses; it also contains valuable information about the date of the various phases in the reconstruction of the Deanery in the late seventeenth century.

The first phase, which took place during the decanate of Dean Alexander Hyde (1660-5), involved rebuilding the northern part of the complex, the site of the demolished domestic quarters of the original Deanery. The new building was constructed of brick on stone footings. William Fletcher's accounts show numerous payments for carting away rubble and bringing to the site loads of lime and timber used in 'the Dean's building'. The bricks were almost certainly burnt in the Close, like those used for the new 'brick houses' in Dome Alley (Crook 1983a, 62-3). A certain John Smith appears to have been foreman in charge of the project, and both Fletcher's accounts and the *Treasurer's Roll* for 1662/3 show that he was paid in instalments during the rebuilding operation.

As work progressed on his new Deanery, Alexander Hyde lived in the house now traditionally remembered as 'The House of Thomas Ken', whose site occupied part of the present Deanery garden (Crook 1983a). According to the *Narrative* of 1675 the Dean 'therein kept very good hospitalitie in the yeares of our lord 1661 & 1662 ... whilst the Deanery was rebuilding'.

Meanwhile Henry Foyle and his wife Christian had moved, for a time, back into

their tenement at the south end of the Prior's Hall; the house seems to have been preserved from destruction by John Woodman. From the Dean's point of view this was highly inconvenient, for Foyle's lease still included the cellars under the old audit house and the Priors' Hall itself, and Dean Hyde intended to convert the Prior's Hall into two grand reception rooms for his new Deanery. Several documents in the Chapter archives record the enquiries made by the anxious Dean and Chapter into the question of whether Foyle could be compelled to relinquish his cellars. In June 1663 it was ordered in Chapter 'That the posterne doore of Henry Foyle Esq made out of his house in the Close of the saide Church into the Walke where lately was a cloyster be forthwith stopped & made up with a wall of stone or bricke' (CA 30 June 1663). It is conceivable that the door referred to was the low opening at the north end of the thirteenth-century arcading in the south-west corner of the Prior's Hall cellarage, whose infill answers to this description. More drastically still, it was agreed in Chapter three months later 'That Henry Foyle doe forthwith resigne unto the Deane to the use of him & his successors the Cellers & Cellering that is & are under the great hall, Auditt house or any parts of the Deanes lodgings in the Close' (CA 26 Sept 1663). In exchange he was allowed the 'old kitchen' that two canons had shared as a stable or woodhouse; it was described in the Chapter Act as 'the old Woodhouse that was Doctor Hinton called the old Kitchen and also ... the woodhouse which is now Mr Haswells both adioyning on the south part of the Messuage or Tenemt. that Mr Foyle now dwelleth in' (CA 26 Sept 1663). It was some time before an alternative woodhouse could be found for the dispossessed Canon Halswell; consequently Foyle was temporarily relieved of his obligation to reside in the Close, an arrangement which no doubt suited the Dean well enough.

Foyle quickly perceived that the Dean's expansionist plans threatened his own property in the Close, and he subsequently addressed a vigorous 'Protest' to the Dean and Chapter (Stephens & Madge 1897, 138-9). Far

from acknowledging the recent surrender of his cellars under the Prior's Hall, he made out that he had been dispensed from residing in Winchester 'untill the Deane hath made an end of re-edifying his roomes in the pryors great Hall being over divers roomes of my house which I cannot make use of without danger'. Foyle's wife, Christian, backed up his protest with an even more strongly-worded petition addressed to Bishop Morley. She urged the Bishop to remind the Dean that 'the tenth Commandmt. Exod. xxth; 17th: is not Repealed; and that the coveting your Petitioners house or anie part of it is a breach of the Law!' (*ibid* 139-41).

Partly because of this dispute and partly for want of money the conversion of the Prior's Hall was not completed during the time that Alexander Hyde was Dean. Evidently the work was started, for Henry Foyle's protest makes specific mention of 'the Deanes new erected chimneys', constructed on the south side of the cellar he had agreed to relinquish. This cellar is described as extending from the great double chimney 'to the Deanes new built Kitchin on the North'. Work under Hyde's successor, Dean Clarke, was further delayed by the outbreak of plague in Winchester, which compelled the Chapter to evacuate to Hursley in 1666-7.

THE NEW DEANERY

1660-1665

The first stage in the rebuilding of the Deanery consisted of the construction of a kitchen, hall and parlour on the ground floor, with three bed-chambers above. Part of the courtyard north of the porch block was roofed over. A 'north gallery' was constructed on the site of the demolished library, with pantries and larders on the ground floor and a gallery on the floor above. A new door, now bricked up, replaced the former library door at the top of the flight of steps from the thirteenth-century cloister doorway (Crook & Qualmann forthcoming). This short-cut from the Deanery to the Cathedral was mentioned in a Chapter



Fig 23. Roofs of Deanery from South Transept of Cathedral. *Photo: John Crook.*

Order of 1668 as 'the outer Stayrecase leading into the gallery' (CO 17 Aug 1668).

The full extent of the rebuilding of the Deanery is best seen from the south transept gable (Fig 23). The walls are built of a dark red, rather coarse brick, laid in English bond. The only decorative feature is a string-course at first floor level. Comparison should be made with the contemporary 'brick houses' in Dome Alley (Crook 1984a, 60–67), which display more elaborate detailing.

The four-light stone transomed and mullioned windows of the Deanery were dated by Lloyd (1931, 337) as 'early seventeenth century, King James I'; but he did not have access to the documentation proving that the

Deanery was rebuilt at the Restoration. There is no reason to suppose that the windows were re-used. The windows of the north gallery are of oak rather than stone; their frames, transoms and mullions have ovolo mouldings typical of the period and similar to those of the windows of the Dome Alley houses. The door formerly leading into the 'hall', and still in place, is a good example of its period, and its furniture appears to be original.

The best guide to the constructional phases of a building is often its roof structure. This is certainly true of the Deanery. The rafter plan clearly shows how the rebuilt Deanery was roofed. The first stage was the long east-west roof over the domestic wing comprising the

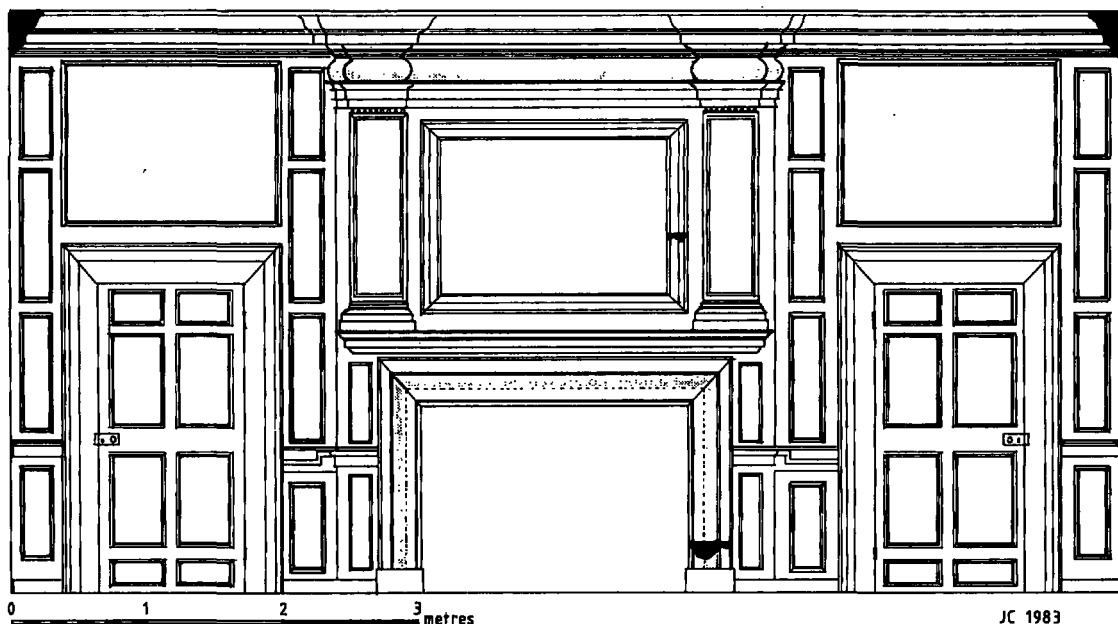


Fig 24. Panelling and chimney-piece dated 1666–70 by London joiners Whetstone, Lewis and Oke, at south end of 'Great Dining-Room' in the Prior's Hall.

kitchen, hall and parlour. Then the north gable of the Prior's Hall was demolished to wall-plate level, and the ridge of the hall roof was extended northwards for a short distance, past the new chimney at the north end of the hall. This extension to the Prior's Hall roof was terminated by a hipped end, arranged so as to match exactly the north slope of the east-west ridge covering the domestic wing. The roof over the new entrance hall was constructed at the same time as the hall roof extension; the feet of the adjacent rafters of the adjacent roof are tenoned into the same valley plate. Finally, the north-south roofs of the north gallery and the ridge over the projecting bay formed by the hall and its first-floor chamber were added, abutting the main east-west ridge.

This precisely-dated complex of roofs is an interesting example of seventeenth-century carpentry. Some of the constructional treatment is crude; notably the way in which the roof of the Prior's Hall was made to link up with the seventeenth-century work; and

carpentry techniques had undoubtedly deteriorated since the late medieval roof over the Deanery porch was framed. The carpenters who constructed the post-Restoration roof over the new domestic wing of the Deanery were practical in their approach; but they lacked that loving attention to design which distinguishes the craftsman from the mere builder.

1667–1673

A Chapter Act of December 1667 allotted anticipated receipts from leases first towards the repair of the Cathedral, and then 'to the building and finishing the Deane's howses [and] appurtenances' (CA 9 Dec 1667). The following year the sum of £400 was granted to Dean Clarke for 'the Finishing of the worke in the Great [Prior's] Hall' (CO 17 Aug 1668). Four months later the Chapter ordered that a 'survey' of the Deanery and other houses should be made so that a sum of £900, which had been ear-marked for building operations, should be wisely spent (CA 9 Dec 1668).



Fig 25. Seventeenth-century staircase in Deanery entrance hall. *Photo: John Crook.*



Fig 26. The Long Gallery, Winchester Deanery, dated 1673. Photo: John Crook.

The 'finishing' of the Deanery involved, above all, the completion of the 'Great Dining-Room' formed out of the Prior's Hall, and the construction of the adjoining 'Great Bed-Chamber' at the south end of the medieval building. Joiners were engaged in London for the most prestigious work, notably the huge fireplaces and over-mantels found in these rooms (Fig 24). The *Wainscot Book* (Crook 1984a) records in full the details of the decorative scheme.

Contemporary with the completion of the conversion of the Prior's Hall was the construction of the staircase in what is now the Deanery entrance hall (Fig 25). These stairs have been much altered since the seventeenth

century. The entrance hall was widened to almost twice its original width in the early nineteenth century, when the side wall was demolished and rebuilt several metres to the east; the staircase was then enlarged to fit the greater space available. Now that both seventeenth- and nineteenth-century work has been stripped down to bare wood, it is easier to distinguish the original from the later components of this staircase, which has suffered much re-piecing and alteration. There is evidence, in the form of surviving peg-holes in the older portions, that the original design of the staircase included applied motifs, which were subsequently removed.

The Long Gallery

The Deanery designed for Alexander Hyde was a modest affair, but his successor, Dean Clarke, had more ambitious ideas. It was he who was responsible for the addition of the elegant 'Long Gallery' on the east side of the Deanery: an extension equal in length to Hyde's original house (Fig 26). The Long Gallery is traditionally said to have been built so that Charles II could be received in appropriate style during his frequent sojourns in the city that he intended to make a rival to Versailles. The *Narrative* of 1675 shows that the Dean paid for the work himself; and for this reason its cost was not set down in Chapter records. The *Wainscot Book*, however, includes some references to incidental building work associated with the construction of the Long Gallery, notably the creation of doors from the older part of the building into the new addition.

The Long Gallery is built of red brick laid in Flemish bond, with Portland stone dressings. The ground storey consists of an open colonnade at either end, supported on Doric columns, and a projecting central arch. The columns have capitals bearing the arms of the See of Winchester at the west end and of Dean Clarke at the east. The brickwork of the piers of the central arch is laid in convex, rusticated bands.

The main feature of the Long Gallery is a Perpendicular window set under a pediment. This is an incongruous element in an otherwise classical building, and it is thought to have been re-used. According to Le Couteur (1920, 51), it came from the prior's chapel; for Vaughan (1914, 37) it came from the south gable of the Prior's Hall. There is no evidence to justify either suggestion. The chapel mentioned in the inventory of Dean Kingsmill (1548) no longer existed by the time of the *Parliamentary Survey*, and it is hardly likely that its window was put in store until a convenient use could be found for it in the 1670s. The south gable window of the Prior's Hall, on the other hand, appears to have remained in place until 1808; in 1773 the author of the any-

mous *History and Antiquities of Winchester* noted that: 'Five windows on the west side of this Hall still remain, with its end-window on the south' (Wavell 1773, I, 79).

The other windows of the Long Gallery have stone frames, mullions and transoms and differ little from the seventeenth-century windows in the domestic wing built ten years earlier by Dean Hyde. They contain interesting fragments of stained glass, inserted at different periods; these form the subject of a detailed analysis by J D Le Couteur (1920, 51-8).

The timber roof of the Long Gallery is typical of the poor-quality carpentry found in buildings of this period throughout Winchester. It may be described as a butt-purlin roof with raking queen struts. Many of its timbers appear to have been re-used.

The addition of the Long Gallery created a lengthy promenade at first-floor level, from the extremity of the north gallery to the east end of the Long Gallery. This was a feature of the Deanery much admired by Celia Fiennes, who visited Winchester towards the end of the seventeenth century. She noted that 'a long gallery runs through the house and opens into the garden by a descent of several stone steps' (Morris 1982, 66). She was also full of admiration for the 'dineing drawing room and bed chamber, very good' of the Dean's 'good old house'; these were the large rooms that had been created out of the Prior's Hall.

It seems likely that the long brick wall in front of the Long Gallery is contemporary with it. Its entrance gateway, now bricked up and concealed behind bushes, is exactly aligned with the central pediment of the Long Gallery. A carriage drive formerly led directly from the Priory Gate to this gate, which seems to have been the principal entrance to the Deanery until the porch was unblocked and a doorway created from the porch into the entrance hall.

THE TENEMENT SOUTH OF THE DEANERY - CONTINUED

By the mid 1670s Henry Foyle's house at the

south end of the Prior's Hall was reported to be in a poor state of repair. In January 1675/6 the Clerk of Works, John Baskerville, and the Canon Treasurer for that year, Henry Beeston, inspected the property. By happy chance both their subsequent letters to the Dean have been preserved in the Chapter archives. Beeston's letter is more detailed:

'Mr Foyle was with me & desires leave to pull it down, which I pray consider of, Sir, in what form it is to be granted him & with what conditions; he desires it speedily. The roome next the Deanery is very infirm & rotten, & if we should reserve it for a lime-house – first it is his – & then it will be a nuisance to the Deanery, & an Eysore to that, & to the fayresh passage we have toward the Church. . .'

The expert opinion of the Clerk of Works was that 'The part Next the Deanry . . . is so Crasy that it will hardly stand when the a[dj]acent building is puld downe. . .'

As a result of this official inspection the tenement at the south end of the Prior's Hall, together with the old prior's kitchen, was pulled down, and replaced by a brick building. This building was later known as 'Nell Gwyn', and is said to have been built for the famous mistress of Charles II. The story is well-known. The royal official responsible for lodging the royal retenue approached Canon Thomas Ken, occupant of No 2, The Close (Crook 1983a), requesting that his house should be made available to Mrs Eleanor Gwyn. He was met with a firm refusal. 'A woman of ill-repute', he was told, 'ought not to be endured in the house of a clergyman, least of all in that of the King's chaplain' (Plumptre 1889, I, 158). According to local tradition Dean Clarke was less scrupulous, and a suite of rooms was hurriedly built for Nell at the south end of the Prior's Hall.

The block was certainly still standing in 1797, when it was observed by Milner, who noted: 'At the south end of this ancient hall is a brick building, said to have been added by Charles II, when he resided at the deanery, for the accommodation of Mrs. Ellinor Gwynn' (Milner 1798, II, 139, footnote). The extension must have been low enough for the south

window observed in 1773 by the author of the *Anonymous History* to rise above it. It was finally taken down in 1807–8.

The construction of the Long Gallery and the tidying up of the ancient buildings at the south end of the Prior's Hall virtually completed the development of the Deanery as it remained until 1808. But in the early years of the eighteenth century a new passage was built, leading from the 'hall' to the 'parlour' (Fig 2). The north wall of the parlour was brought forward to the line of the projecting bay of the hall. The stone plinth is well matched, but the brickwork of this minor extension is distinctly different from the older work. The *Wainscot Book* suggests that this work took place in 1724, and the surviving panelling is thus precisely dated (Crook 1984a, 14).

THE NOTEBOOK OF DEAN PEARCE

Valuable confirmation of the use of the various rooms of the Deanery in the first half of the eighteenth century is provided by a document in the Chapter archives known as the *Notebook of Dean Zachary Pearce*. Pearce was Dean of Winchester from 1739–47, and his notebook, perhaps compiled for the guidance of his successor, contains useful facts about the Cathedral and its Close, including various historical jottings. He wrote, for example, that 'The building over the Gate-way into the Deanry was anciently called the Audit House, & the two Great Rooms of the Deanry were made out of the old Hall. The Dean's Stable was formerly the Great Brewhouse [now known as the Pilgrims' Hall].' Most useful of all are the dimensions of the rooms of the Deanery, for this provides the names by which they were known at that time. The Long Gallery, for example, was known as the 'south gallery'; the north gallery was described as 'The Gallery running from South to North'. The passage from the 'Hall' to the 'Parlour' is mentioned, showing that it had been built by 1747; and the document also confirms that the bakehouse in the Deanery kitchen yard was in active use as a brewhouse in the eighteenth

century. Most interesting of all are the references to the rooms at the south end of the Prior's Hall, the extension known as 'Nell Gwyn'.

Having noted the dimensions of the 'great bedchamber' (now the Deanery drawing-room), Pearce continued: 'The small rooms adjoining to that bed chamber are 10-3 by 10, & 18-3 by 10. The height of both is 10-6. The room, on the Staircase, going out of those 2 closets, is 12ft. by 10, & the height 7 feet.'

The measurements suggest that 'Nell Gwyn' consisted simply of a ten-foot extension to the south end of the Prior's Hall. This interpretation would accord with the limited evidence of the plan of the Deanery as it appears in Godson's map of Winchester of c 1750, where the outline of this part of the building appears little different from its present plan.

THE BUILDING WORKS OF 1807-8

Important building works were carried out at the Deanery in 1807-8, when a programme of repair and alteration was agreed in Chapter:

'The Roof of the high Building [Prior's Hall] to be stripped on the West Side, the Timbers repaired and firred & a new oak plate put in, new lathed and retiled - the low building to the north of it, stripped lathed and retiled. Put new fillet guttering round the House. The Building called Nell Gwynn to be taken down and the South Gable End [of the Prior's Hall] to be taken down & rebuilt with two Sash Windows to the Drawing Room [the former 'Great Bed-chamber'].

'The Stair case wall to be taken down & rebuilt on the other side the porch, the Roof to be refitted & the Stair Case &c replaced. A passage to be made through one of the vaulted Cellars to a new Staircase built out in the Corner to lead to the Drawing Room. A new Floor to the [Long] Gallery & open the East End to the Garden, stopping up the North Door. Furr to a level the Floor of the passage over the large Room [2nd floor passage of porch block?] & lay a new Floor.

Build a new Facing to the North Wall of the Great [Dining] Room. Repair the Plaistering & Ceilings of the Kitchen, Offices & Garrets. Repair the outside Walls & roofing of the House where wanting. New lead the Gutters where wanting. New paint both inside & outside Wood work.' (CA 23 March 1807)

Some of the alterations itemised here have already been noted: such as the construction of the curved staircase leading from the porch to the first floor of the Prior's Hall, and the demolition of the extension known as 'Nell Gwyn'. Most interesting of all is the specification for changes affecting the entrance hall. The Chapter minute confirms what is already apparent from structural detail in the roof space above the entrance hall: that the east wall of the hall was actually taken down and rebuilt 3.70m to the east. This is shown by the surviving rafters of the south slope of the roof over the former 'hall' and 'parlour' (Fig 2), which show nails for former tiling battens, weathering, and evidence of a cornice; and also by the fact that the section of the porch north wall now covered by the roof extension is rendered and scored to simulate blockwork. This rendering was stripped off outside the building, revealing the various blocked windows shown in Fig 9. The extension to the roof of the enlarged entrance hall was achieved by replacing the former wall plate by a new valley plate supported on squat early nineteenth-century king-post trusses of simple but effective design.

As a result of these changes the ceiling over the enlarged entrance hall was lowered by 90cm. The original entrance hall must have seemed tall and narrow. One consequence of the enlargement of the entrance hall was that a tiny servants' room in the roof-space, which had formerly been plastered out in a rudimentary way, was done away with.

The rebuilding of the south gable of the Prior's Hall is a more obvious feature. As we have noted, the extension known as 'Nell Gwyn' adjoined the south end of the hall, and this was demolished. The old gable wall was

completely taken down and rebuilt. A date-stone near the apex of the gable formerly bore the date 1808, but is now illegible. Much useful archaeological evidence relating to the buildings adjoining the south end of the Prior's Hall must have been obliterated. It is unfortunate that no drawings of the hall before 1808 are known to survive.

From the years 1807–8 dates the fine Gothick porch (in twelfth-century style) of the newly-sited east wall of the entrance hall. A similar Gothick summer-house survives in ruinous condition in the garden; it must formerly have adorned the garden of No 2, The Close. The site of No 2 and its garden were added to the Deanery garden when that house was demolished in 1855 (Crook 1983a).

RECENT ALTERATIONS

From the early nineteenth century to the present day the Deanery has suffered few changes. Such alterations as have taken place are evident from the plan (Fig 2). Many alterations have been made to the internal lay-out

of the building in recent years, as a result of the reduction in size of the Deanery household. Space has been provided for virgers' flats and the offices of the Friends of Winchester Cathedral.

Reference should be made to the skilful restoration of the Prior's Hall in 1970–71. It was felt that better use should be made of the attic roof space; and extra rooms were imaginatively inserted in such a way that the open timber roof remained visible and formed part of the decorative scheme of the conversion (Fig 18). At the same time the opportunity was taken of renewing much decayed timber and tying defective trusses with carefully concealed cables.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am indebted above all to the late Dean of Winchester, the Very Revd Michael Stancliffe, and to Mrs Stancliffe, for permitting numerous invasions of their privacy in the cause of historical research; and to the Administrator to the Dean and Chapter, Mr John Lamplugh, for facilitating my on-going study of the Cathedral and its Close.

REFERENCES

Abbreviations for MS Sources and other References

- CA. Chapter Minute Books of the Dean and Chapter of Winchester. MS, WCL.
 Chase. The Book of John Chase, Chapter Clerk. MS, WCL.
 CO. Chapter Order Book. A book in which Winchester Cathedral Chapter Orders were recorded from 1666–1737. MS, WCL.
 HRO. Hampshire Record Office.
 Fletcher. Account Book of William Fletcher, Clerk of Works, 1662–3. MS, WCL.
 Narrative. 'A Narrative of the Proceedings of the D & C of Winchester in their buildings and reparations with respect more particularly to the house . . . of Dr Thomas Gumble, 20th Feb 1674/5.' MS, WCL. An earlier draft, dated 4 Feb 1674/5, and differing in some respects from this final version, was transcribed rather inaccurately by Stephens and Madge (1897, 158–70).

- The Notebook of Zachary Pearce, Dean of Winchester 1739–48*, MS, WCL.
Parliamentary Survey of 1649. 'The Parliamentary Survey of Winchester Cathedral Close', MS, WCL. Transcribed by Stephens and Madge (1897, 75–93). Another extant MS version of complete Survey at HRO, ref. D & C 59492–3 (2 vols). For Cathedral Close see Vol. I, fos. 4–19.
Record. Winchester Cathedral Record, published annually by the Friends of Winchester Cathedral.
 TR. Treasurers' Account Rolls and Books, MSS, WCL.
 WCL. Library and Archives of the Dean and Chapter of Winchester.

Published Sources

- Atkinson, T D 1934 *The Lockbourne Record* 3 15–16.

- 1936 Medieval Figure Sculpture in Winchester Cathedral *Archaeologia* **85** 159–167.
- Barley, M W 1986 *Houses and History*, London.
- Carpenter Turner, B 1973 1548: The Last Prior and the First Deanery *Record* **42** 12–21.
- 1986 Seint Swithins nigh Winchester, late monastery *Record* **55** 35–40.
- Crook, J 1981 *A History of the Pilgrims' School, Winchester*, Chichester.
- 1983a The 'Gumble Affair' and the House of Thomas Ken *Record* **52** 5–16.
- 1983b The Roof of the Deanery Porch, Winchester, *HFC Hist Buildings Sect Newsletter* **1** 6–10.
- (ed) 1984a *The Wainscot Book of Winchester Cathedral*, Hampshire Record Series.
- 1984b Winchester's Cleansing Streams; Part I, 'Ethelwold and the Conduits' *Record* **53** 26–34.
- 1985 Winchester's Cleansing Streams; Part II, 'The Lockburn' *Record* **54** 14–25.
- Crook, J & Qualmann, K, forthcoming *The Monastic Buildings of St Swithun's Priory* Hants Field Club Monograph Series.
- Goodman, F R (ed) 1928 *The Diary of John Young S.T.P.*, London.
- Greatrex, J (ed) 1978 *The Register of the Common Seal*, Hampshire Record Series.
- Horn, W & Born, E 1979 *The Plan of Saint-Gall*, Berkeley, California.
- Keene, D 1985 *Survey of Medieval Winchester*, Oxford University Press (Winchester Studies Series **2**).
- Kitchin, G H 1940 Winchester Cathedral Cloisters, Part I *Record* **9** 8–11.
- 1941 *ibid*, Part II *Record* **10** 5–8.
- Kitchin, G W 1892 *The Obedientiary Rolls of St Swithun's Priory*, Hampshire Record Society.
- 1895 *The Manor of Manydown, Hampshire*, Hampshire Record Society.
- Le Couteur, J D 1920 *Ancient Glass in Winchester*, Winchester.
- Lloyd, N 1931 *A History of the English House* (reprinted 1976), Architectural Press.
- Meirion-Jones, G I 1983 The Wakes, Selborne *Proc Hants Field Club Archaeol Soc* **39**, 145–169.
- Milner, J 1798 *History and Survey of the Antiquities of Winchester*, Winchester (page refs to 3rd edn, 1838).
- Morris, C (ed) 1982 *The Illustrated Journeys of Celia Fiennes*, London.
- Munby, J & Fletcher, J 1983 Carpentry in the Cathedral and Close at Winchester *BAA Transactions for 1980 (Winchester)* 101–111.
- Oakeshott, W 1981 The Paintings of the Holy Sepulchre Chapel *Record* **50** 10–16.
- Parker, J H 1845 Architectural Notes . . . of the City of Winchester *Proceedings of the Archaeol Institute* (no page Nos).
- Plumptre, E H 1889 *The Life of Thomas Ken*, London.
- Stephens, W R W & Madge F T 1897 *Winchester Cathedral Documents II (1636–1683)*, Hampshire Record Society.
- Vaughan, J 1914 *Winchester Cathedral Close*, London.
- Watkin, A 1946 Fragment of a Thirteenth-Century Receiver's Roll from Winchester Cathedral Priory *English Historical Review* 89–105.
- Wavell, R (attrib.) 1773 *History and Antiquities of Winchester*, Winchester.
- Willis, R 1845 The Architectural History of Winchester Cathedral *Proceedings of the Archaeol Institute* (no page Nos).
- Wood, M 1965 *The English Medieval House*, London.
- Woodward, B c 1859 *History of Hampshire*, Winchester.

Author: John Crook, 52 Canon St, Winchester, Hants SO23 9JW

© Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society.