## THE ABBOT'S HOUSE AND DEANERY OF WESTMINSTER ABBEY

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I. THE ABBOT'S HOUSE AND THE DEANERY

THE Abbot's house or lodgings,¹ now the Deanery, of Westminster Abbey occupy a site to the west of the Cloister which was not unusual in Benedictine monasteries.² The Abbot of Westminster was a great personage often involved in matters of state and it was convenient that his lodgings, to which there was much coming and going, should be not only close to the church but also near to the Great Gate of the monastery.

At Westminster, until the 14th century, the Cellarium, or place where the Cellarer kept his stores, adjoined the west walk of the Cloister with a guest-hall above it, and the washing place (Lavatorium) at its southern end. Adjoining the Lavatorium and in line with the south walk of the Cloister to which it formed the entrance. as it does today, was the outer parlour or Locutorium where the monks could speak with visitors. It was over the Locutorium that the Abbot's lodgings were placed. They seem to have consisted of a hall or dining place in the centre with a kitchen to the west and a camera to the east. Although much altered in later times it seems likely that the greater part of these Norman lodgings remain embedded in the Langham and Litlyngton rooms and in the drawing room of the present Deanery. To the same date appears to belong the curious Norman chequer work now embodied in the Langham room. This wall, which is composed of coloured stones and tiles, was not apparently part of the Abbot's camera but seems to have belonged to a chamber adjoining it which was subsequently pulled down although part of it, including the chequer work, survived until recent alterations as a long narrow room, some 4 feet wide,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For a more detailed account see *The Abbot's House at Westminster* by (Dean) J. Armitage Robinson (Cambridge U.P. 1911), from which many of the facts in this article have been taken.

e.g., St. Augustine's Canterbury, Chester, Sherborne, etc.

between the Dean's library and the adjoining house in Dean's Yard.1 Towards the end of the 14th century Abbot Litlyngton (1362-1386) embarked on a great scheme of re-building. He was enabled to do this through the munificence of his immediate predecessor, Simon Langham, who provided funds towards the re-building of the nave. Relieved of this anxiety, Litlyngton was free to turn his attention to re-building the monastic buildings and he determined to undertake the reconstruction of the Abbot's lodgings at his own personal expense. The Abbot's new lodgings were on a more imposing scale than the old ones and occupied most of the ground covered by the present Deanery together with a garden to the west. The garden stretched to the Abbey Gatehouse, which stood between the modern Crimean Memorial and Gt. Smith Street, and covered the ground now occupied by the Gateway to Dean's Yard and the adjoining houses built by Sir G. Scott in the 1860s. The most important buildings in the new Abbot's House were the Abbot's Hall (College Hall) with a new camera to the north (Jerusalem Chamber) and a kitchen to the south. He remodelled the original Abbot's lodgings over the Locutorium and built a right-angled Gallery between these rooms and the Jerusalem Chamber, thus surrounding the present Deanery Courtyard. A new Cellarium was built, with guest rooms above it, along the east side of what is now Dean's Yard. These buildings still remain, converted into dwellinghouses for the Abbey clergy and for the headmaster of Westminster School. But the old Cellarium was not, as has often been said, pulled down at that time but was incorporated and made part of the new Abbot's lodgings.2

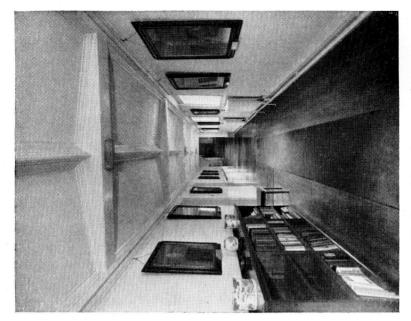
The present entrance to the Cloister from Dean's Yard with the Locutorium beyond and doubtless the Abbot's rooms above were in process of reconstruction between 1362 and 1365. There is a persistent tradition, although it does not seem capable of proof, that the easternmost of these rooms, opening on to the leads above

the Cloister, was made into the Abbot's private chapel.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> It was re-discovered in 1864 on the removal of a partition. It was then quite unknown but was supposed to have been used by Dean Atterbury who was involved in Jacobite plots. A wooden staircase led up to a small bed-chamber above. (See Stanley, Memorials of Westminster Abbey, 5th ed., p. 459).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Such was the opinion of the late Sir Harold Brakespeare (see *The Abbot's House at Battle* in Archaeologia, Vol. LXXXIII, p. 142 (1933)) and his opinion is confirmed by references in the Cellarers Account Rolls among the Abbey Muniments, e.g., in 1392-3, "Reigate stone for one door and window in the old Cellarium" (W.A.M. 18877 and again in 1398-9 W.A.M. 18881). It was probably pulled down eventually in the 17th century.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> It had a tiled floor of the 14th century, some of which has survived, and in Dean Bradley's time stones were discovered under the window which were thought to have been the foundations for an altar (Miss Bradley in the Ladies Field, October 11th, 1902 (The Abbot's Lodgings at Westminster)). Some of these tiles have now been re-set in the window-sills.



The Long Gallery after restoration,



The main staircase,

By 1372 the Jerusalem Chamber had been completed, and shortly afterwards work was started on the new Abbot's Hall. In 1375-6 it was nearing completion, for a payment of f,8 was made to John Payable, the glasier, for glass for the Hall—some of which, with the Abbot's initials, N.L., is still in place. The Hall remains substantially unaltered and was fortunately undamaged in 1941. The fine roof, with its lantern or louvre, probably designed by Hugh Herland,1 who later made the roof of Westminster Hall, springs from corbels with angels holding shields with the arms of the Abbot and of the Abbey of Westminster. At the dissolution of the monastery in 1540 it became the College Hall and it is still used by the Queen's Scholars and other boys of Westminster School for their meals. The screen at the south end and the tables are of late Elizabethan or early Jacobean date, but the side panelling was unfortunately renewed in 1733. The old open fireplace in the middle of the Hall was one of the last to survive in use and only finally disappeared in 1847.

The Jerusalem Chamber seems to have taken its name from the original tapestries which hung on its walls. It retains its original roof. The room was restored by Sir Gilbert Scott in Dean Stanley's time (1865-81) who repanelled it with cedar wood. The fireplace is of 15th century date<sup>2</sup> and has an elaborate overmantel which was added by Dean Williams in 1624 to commemorate the fact that he had entertained there the ambassadors who came over to arrange the marriage of Charles I with Henrietta Maria. It was in front of this fireplace that King Henry IV was laid on March 20th, 1413, after he had had a stroke when praying at the Shrine of the Confessor, and there took place the scene of his death which has been immortalized by Shakespeare.3 The Chamber was used by those engaged on the Authorised Version of the Bible in 1611, and on the Revised Version of 1885, and from time to time it has been the meeting place of the Upper House of Convocation. In the 18th century, when funerals in the Abbey usually took place at night, many famous persons lay in state beforehand in the Jerusalem Chamber, including Addison and Newton. Such are some of the

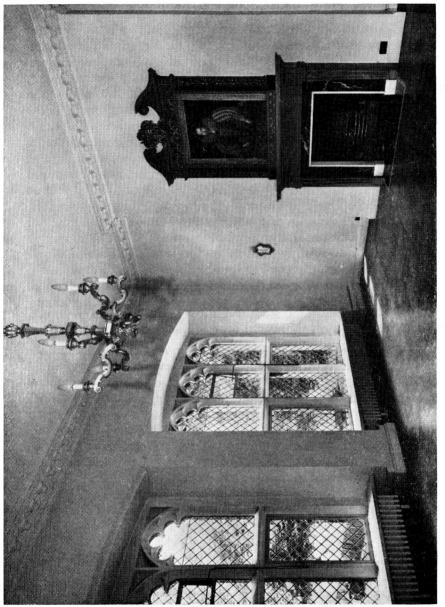
memories which cluster round this historic room.

Abbot Litlyngton had thus provided an imposing residence for

3 Henry IV, Pt. II, Act IV, 2 and 3. The contemporary accounts of the King's death are the

first known references to the Chamber as "Jerusalem."

W. R. Lethaby, Westminster Abbey Re-examined, p. 144.
 In 1928 a Victorian fireplace was removed and the earlier fireplace was discovered behind it. The lintel was missing but was replaced by a new one on which have been carved the Arms of Litlyngton, the Abbey of Westminster, King Edward III, and Dean Foxley Norris (1925-37).



The Great Drawing Room after restoration,

himself and his successors, and for over a hundred years it remained unaltered. Either at the time of its building or shortly afterwards it became known as the Manor of Cheynygates.<sup>1</sup> The origin and meaning of the name is something of a puzzle. But the solution would seem to be that the name is derived from the French word chêne (i.e., an oak) and that it means the manor with the oak gates<sup>2</sup>. As "Cheynegatis" it was leased in 1486 to Elizabeth Wydville, the widowed Queen of Edward IV3. Although it is doubtful if the Queen lived there for more than a few months she was no stranger to the precincts. Twice in the troublous times she had taken sanctuary at Westminster. On the first occasion, in 1470, she had given birth to the future Edward V, who a few days later was christened in the Abbey with the Abbot (Millyng) as his godfather. Twelve years later the Queen again took sanctuary but this time within the Manor of Cheynygates, and either there or in her former place of refuge within the sanctuary, she was persuaded to allow her younger son, Richard, to join his brother in the Tower of London, from which neither was ever again to emerge alive.

From 1500 to 1532 John Islip, the last of the great Abbots of Westminster, occupied the Manor of Cheynygates. He reconstructed the entrance gateway to the Abbot's Courtyard with its curious flat bosses in the roof which can be lifted out from the room above. The object apparently was to enable water to be poured from above should an hostile attempt be made to set fire to brushwood piled against the inner gateway.<sup>4</sup> To him, also, was due the reconstruction of the buildings on the north side of the Abbot's Courtyard. The Jericho Parlour, with its fine linenfold panelling, is part of his work, together with the rooms above. The panelling in the room immediately above the Jericho Parlour was put there by Dean Lancelot Andrewes in 1605.<sup>5</sup> Dean Bradley (1881–1902) used these rooms as his private study and bedroom, and they have been used by later Deans since the bombing in 1941. Abbot Islip also made a new private chapel on this floor with a gallery (now

<sup>1</sup> The earliest reference to the name seems to be in 1447-8. W.A. Muniments 24275 "le Cheyngats."

3 W.A. Muniments Register Book I, f.9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The arms of the Cheynduth or Chenduyt family were an oak tree (cf- The Ancestor I, p. 214). At Winchester a house still known as Cheyney Court almost abuts on the Prior's Gate to the Close (Hants. Field Club and Arch. Soc., XV, Pt. I, p. 24 (1941)).

Similar bosses are sometimes found in other entrance gateways of this date.
 W.A.M. 33659 f.5.

known as the Abbot's Pew)<sup>1</sup> looking down into the church. It was near this chapel that a small secret chamber approached through an *oubliette* was discovered in Dean Buckland's time (1845-56). "In this chamber were a truckle bedstead, a chair, and a candle, all of which crumbled away at once upon exposure to the air, and the

hole was securely boarded over."2

Soon after Islip became Abbot his steward noted that "the Kingis grace (Henry VII) dyned at Cheynygate." Henry VII was a good friend to Islip and so at first was Henry VIII but as the Abbot's reign drew to a close the clouds were already gathering. In 1534 Sir Thomas More was committed to the custody of Islip's successor for four days, and it was from Cheyngates that he was taken by river to the Tower and to his execution. Six years later the monastery was dissolved.

After the dissolution the Abbot's House became the residence of the first and only Bishop of Westminster, Thomas Thirleby, and the last Abbot, William Boston or Benson, who became the first Dean, moved into the Prior's house, much of which is incorporated in the later Ashburnham House. The Bishopric came to an end ten years later, and the house was then granted to Lord Wentworth and, after his death, to his son the 2nd Lord Wentworth, who was res-

ponsible for the surrender of Calais in 1558.

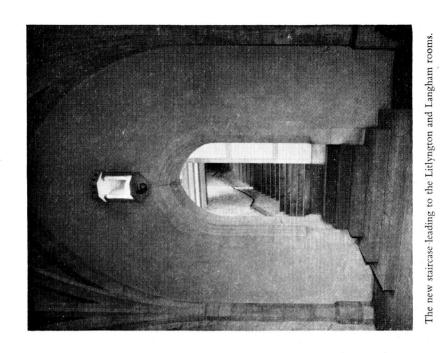
With the establishment of the Elizabethan foundation the Abbot's House became the Deanery and so it has remained. Few structural alterations, however, seem to have been made, and it was not until 1606 that Dean Neile added some rooms leading out of the Islip rooms, of which the small room with its picturesque oriel window over the Gallery still remains. A few years later Dean Williams (1620-44) reconstructed the bedrooms over the S.W. angle of the Cloister, traditionally known as the Tudor rooms, which were completely destroyed in 1941.

The Commonwealth saw the Deanery again in lay occupation. The Dean and Prebendáries, with one exception, had fled and John Bradshaw, who had presided at the trial of Charles I was granted the Deanery and remained there until his death in 1659. He made

There are some slight indications of a similar "pew" at Mottisfont Abbey, near Romsey, Hants. Queen Victoria and three of the Princesses were seated in the Abbot's Pew at the funeral of Lady Augusta Stanley (wife of Dean Stanley) on March 2nd, 1876. Some years before, on March 4th, 1869, Lady Augusta had invited Carlyle, Browning, Lyell and Grote to meet Queen Victoria at tea at the Deanery. (See Letters of Queen Victoria (1862-78), Vol. I, p. 586.)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Miss Bradley op. cit; cf- Life of Wm. Buckland by his daughter Mrs. Gordon, pp. 222-3, and W.A.M. 59276c.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> W.A.M. 33320. <sup>4</sup> Stanley op. cit, p. 361.





Remains of vaulted bays back to back with the Cloister,

very considerable alterations and additions to the house, of which practically nothing now remains except the curious room in the South Tower which still bears his name. At that time the Towers were still unfinished and did not rise above the Triforium level. Bradshaw's room which can be reached by a circular stair from the Deanery, has lost its floor but the fireplace remains. A door from it opens into the south Triforium, which is said to be haunted by his ghost.

In 1683 Dean Sprat added the southernmost room off the Gallery and either he or his successor, Dean Atterbury, who added the adjoining room to the north,1 panelled the Langham room over the Cloister which was thereafter used by successive Deans as their library and study until 1941.2 Dean Wilcocks (1731-56) added some decorative work and marble fireplaces and he also gave the picture of Queen Elizabeth I<sup>3</sup> which hangs over the drawing room fireplace.

In 1925 the late Professor Lethaby wrote "The Abbot's House at Westminster is the most perfect, indeed the only approximately complete medieval house now existing in London, and it has special beauties which must always have been exceptional."4 Almost every room in it had its memories and it is not too much to say that there are few whose names are famous who have not at some time been within its walls. Some of these memories have already been mentioned. In later days it was a centre of Jacobite plotting under Atterbury; of scholarship under Zachary Pearce (1756-68), Vincent (1802-18), Bradley (1881-1902), and Armitage Robinson (1902-11): of scientific research under Buckland (1845-56); and of social life under Stanley (1865-81) and Ryle (1911-25).

On the night of May 10th, 1941, disaster fell upon this historic house. Incendiary bombs set fire to the roof and in the conflagration which followed the entrance hall, staircase, Tudor and Stanley rooms and the dining room were totally destroyed. The library and the "Abbot's chapel" over the Cloisters and the drawing room were gutted and only the stone walls remained.<sup>5</sup> Fortunately the College Hall, Jersalem, Jericho, the Islip rooms and part of the Gallery with the Sprat and Atterbury rooms off it were undamaged. Thus the

These two rooms were formerly known as "the Red rooms."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The only exception was Dean Armitage Robinson who used the great drawing room as his library and turned the library into a temporary private chapel.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> By a contemporary but unknown artist. Until recently it was supposed that it had hung at the Deanery since Elizabethan times.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Re-examined, p. 147.
<sup>5</sup> The picture of Queen Elizabeth I, the Canaletto of the Procession of the Knights of the Bath (painted for Dean Wilcocks in 1747), and the portraits of former Deans, which hung in the Gallery and dining room, were saved. But the marble bust of Dean Wilcocks at the head of the staircase and much else perished in the fire.

most historic part of the old Abbot's House was saved and has been skilfully incorporated in the reconstruction of the Deanery.

## II. THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE DEANERY

Although before the war the Deanery was extremely interesting and attractive from an architectural point of view, it was from the purely domestic angle the reverse of convenient. The building, or rather the series of buildings, which it comprised was long and rambling; the different parts were on different levels necessitating a number of awkward flights of stairs (indeed it is said—although no plans survive to confirm this—that there were in all eleven staircases).

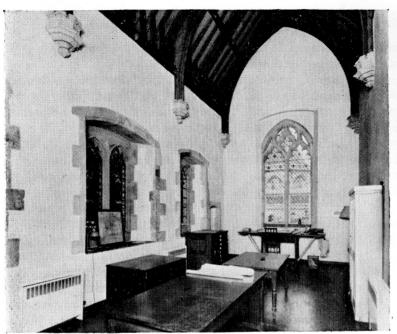
After the complete destruction of the greater part of the building two major problems had to be considered. Everything of architectural value had to be retained, preserved and made secure, while at the same time a new dwellinghouse had to be constructed within the ruins which would be comfortable and as easy as possible to run under present day conditions. These two requirements naturally militated against each other, as will be seen from the following description of the ruins after the debris of the devastating fire had

been cleared away.

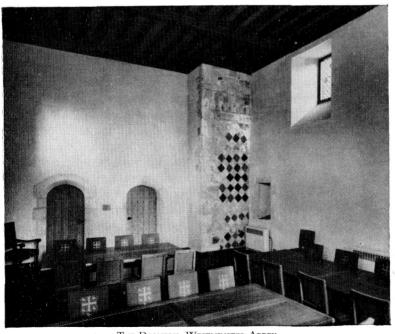
Starting at the north end adjoining the Abbey there survived intact the wing over the Jericho Parlour which consists of three charming 16th century rooms and a bathroom reached by a small staircase. Halfway up this staircase a door leads to the long gallery running north and south and resting on walls of late 14th century date. This gallery, and the 18th century wing adjoining it, was destroyed for the greater part of its length. Continuing towards the south across a wide breach of total destruction we come to a surviving remnant of the 12th century Abbot's lodging in the shape of a sturdy stone wall showing a portion of the well of a circular staircase with a small iron barred window opening in it. In this area nothing of a later date survived the heat of the fire, though it had previously been completely built over, including a tall early 17th century block which extended over the west walk of the cloisters.1 To the west of this area of devastation stood the roofless walls of the great drawing room with a fragment of the 18th century cornice and a charred but otherwise intact carved chimneypiece of that period. On a higher level and further to the south over the southwest entry to the Cloister, rose the enclosing walls2 of two fine 14th

1 The so-called "Tudor Rooms."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> One curious result of the fire was to expose the original exterior north wall of these 14th century rooms which had previously been completely encased within the later Deanery.



THE DEANERY, WESTMINSTER ABBEY



THE DEANERY, WESTMINSTER ABBEY

century rooms, more than 120 feet distant from the point at which

we started this description of the ruins.

From this short account it is clear that very careful thought would be needed if a coherent plan for a convenient dwellinghouse were to be evolved out of the scattered remains—all of which, on historical and architectural grounds, were most worthy of preservation. After a careful survey of the ruins had been made and before plans for the rebuilding could be worked out, the principles which were to govern the reconstruction of the Deanery had to be decided in consultation with the Dean and Chapter.

It was at once apparent, on grounds of economy and convenience, quite apart from the fact that no detailed plans of the old building survived, that a complete and faithful reconstruction of the whole of the pre-war Deanery would be impracticable. It was therefore decided that the large but completely destroyed early 17th century wing which previously extended over two and a half bays of the west walk of the Cloister should not be rebuilt, and that the permanent living quarters should be concentrated as far as possible around and adjoining the surviving portion nearest to the Abbey. As the Deanery is an official residence provision has to be made for entertaining on a fairly large scale, but it was felt that if possible the large rooms that would be required for this purpose should not be integral with the living quarters but treated as a separate unit. This has been achieved by a replanning of the main staircase to serve with equal convenience the domestic accommodation lying to the north, and southward the ante-room and great drawing room which extend in a westerly direction with windows overlooking Dean's Yard. There remained the further problem of recovering to appropriate and convenient use the two large and fine 14th century rooms previously mentioned which lie beyond the main staircase to the south over the archway leading from Dean's Yard to the Cloisters and now known as the Litlyngton and Langham rooms. Although these two communicating rooms might on occasion be used for Deanery functions, they would only rarely be needed for such purposes in addition to the drawing room and ante-room. On the other hand, the surviving—albeit roofless—structure of these two rooms is the only unaltered portion of the 14th century Abbot's lodging, and it was therefore unthinkable that they should be left derelict or entirely divorced from the Deanery to which they originally belonged. It was therefore decided to build an entirely new staircase to reach them from the Cloister without having to go through the Deanery, but with a doorway half way up leading into the Deanery, so that they can in future be used for a variety of purposes; some connected with the private house of the Dean and some with the work and functions of the Abbey. This arrangement has already proved to be extremely useful in practice as the rooms and their staircase were rebuilt well before the Coronation and in time to be used by Sir William McKie as the centre of the organisation required for the musical setting of the Coronation service. Since that time the rooms were used for the Dean's reception at the launching of the Abbey appeal, and subsequently they became the offices from which the work of the appeal was conducted until it reached its successful conclusion.

The Deanery, therefore, as now reconstructed, consists of three separate or nearly separate parts, yet all communicating; each section

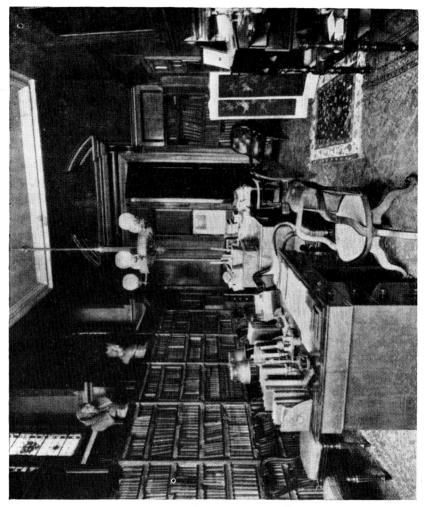
contains some interesting features, old or new.

If we start again from the north adjoining the Abbey and look first at the domestic portion of the Deanery, we shall note with pleasure that the panelled sitting room above the Jericho Parlour, built by Abbot Islip, and the charming little oriel window in the south gable built by Dean Neile in 1606, survived the fire, as did also a portion of the 18th century bedroom wing¹ running southwards. Adjoining the principal bedroom in this wing is a genuine example of a powder closet which still retains the small hatch in the wall between the bedroom and the closet through which the "patient" thrust his or her head during the powdering operation.

The long gallery, of which only the most northern portion adjoining the above-mentioned bedroom survived, has now been completed to its original length and upon its walls now hang again the interesting series of portraits of Deans of Westminster. At the south end of this gallery, which connects the living quarters with the reception rooms, is the new principal staircase. On one wall of the staircase hall is a semicircular recess which is all that remains of the circular turret stair of the 12th century, mentioned earlier in this article. The narrow iron barred window is a reconstruction of the original one which was too far decayed and crumbling to be preserved, but it now serves a very useful purpose as by opening the oak shutter the Dean's secretary in the room behind can look down into the entrance hall and warn the Dean in his adjoining study of the approach of visitors.

At the head of the new staircase a pair of doors leads into the ante-room and beyond it to the great drawing room, in the north wall of which was found one half of a built-up window of 14th

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Traditionally known as "the Red rooms."



The Dean's Library from the Langham Room looking east and showing the door between it and the Litlyngton Room, From a photograph taken in 1902 at the end of Dean Bradley's time (1881-1902),

century date. This window has been opened up and the missing half replaced, and two much smaller blocked windows of the same date have been similarly treated. The small surviving fragment of the 18th century cornice which surrounded the room afforded sufficient evidence to enable it to be reproduced.1 A delightful feature of the very fine chimneypiece in carved pine which adorns the room and which luckily survived almost intact, is the delicate carving on the underside of the cornice which can only be seen and appreciated from the eye-level of those who may be seated round the fire.

Before we come to the third part of the reconstructed Deanery which consists of the two rooms above the Cloister entry previously referred to, let us pause and look at the new staircase which has been built to gain access to these rooms. There is a doorway in the entry to the Cloisters which formerly led into the back premises of the Deancry. When the fire had destroyed all but the stoutest and strongest walls it was possible to see that what had been latterly used as a scullery was in fact the remains of a vaulted apartment with the springing of the stone vault still in place.2 It seems that this apartment, which is the same size and shape as one bay of the Cloisters, was contemporary with it and originally extended northwards in a series of vaulted bays running back-to-back with the Cloister.3 It was decided that in the replanned Deanery, with its concentration of domestic offices to the north, this apartment which had once been a beautiful stone-vaulted room or hall might again be put to worthy use and become the entrance to the new staircase leading up to the Langham and Litlyngton rooms above the Cloister entry. Through an archway, therefore, in the west wall of this newly vaulted hall rises the staircase; the beautiful stonework of the south windows has been repaired, and in the new ones which face the Deanery garden have been inserted some floral designs in stained glass by Mr. Hugh Easton with an inscription which records the destruction of the Deanery and its subsequent rebuilding. The central boss in the new vault has been carved by Mr. Michael Groser with a device representing man in the hands of God with the Latin inscription "Thy hands have made and fashioned me."

As we ascend the new staircase we pass on the right the door which leads to the Deanery, and at the top we arrive at the entrance

This was probably orginally put up by Dean Wilcocks (1731-56).
 This vaulted apartment was probably part of the 14th century Lavatorium, and the vaulted bays beyond all that now remains of the old Cellarium.

It was in this area also that there was discovered, in a small brick-lined pit just below ground level, a hoard of early to mid 16th century earthen pottery.

to the Langham and Litlyngton rooms. It is here that much work had to be done to strengthen the ancient walls, repair the damaged windows and make ready to receive the new oak roofs. All this has been accomplished and the rooms now more nearly present the appearance they must once have had when they were a part of the Abbot's lodging. Under the modern floor of the further room was found during the repair work a quantity of medieval floor tiles, and these have been reset upon the window-sills. There are also in the window a few remaining traces of a painted decoration in a pattern of green foliage. In the first room the new flat roof has moulded beams with plain oak panels between, upon one of which are carved the names of all the craftsmen who were concerned with its rebuilding, and on the cornice of the lofty open timber roof in the further room will be found small heads carved by the general foreman, Mr. Markham, to represent the Dean and Canons, the Abbey Surveyor, the Keeper of the Muniments, the Clerk of Works, the Architects, Builder and others connected with the work of reconstruction.

## **BOOK REVIEW**

English Mediaeval Architects by John Harvey. Quarto. 412 pp. Batsford Ltd. 1954. 75/-.

The sub-title of this work is "A biographical dictionary down to 1550," and we are also told that it includes "master masons, carpenters, carvers and building

contractors and others responsible for design."

In several of his well-known and authoritative books on mediaeval architecture, Mr. Harvey has given careful consideration to those persons who were responsible for the various works of building, and in this latest work he clearly and finally refutes the "gratuitous assumption" that the mediaeval architecture of England was anonymous—the work of a spontaneously inspired group of craftsmen. Drawing extensively on material hitherto unpublished, biographical notes are given of almost fifteen hundred mediaeval architects and craftsmen, the notices varying in length from a few lines to eight pages. There is extensive cross-referencing to assist identification by Christian and surnames, etc., whilst those persons of proven architectural status are clearly distinguished by the use of a bolder type. All references are fully stated, and the work is completed by an extensive bibliography. A number of useful indices are included, giving further sub-division by places, counties and buildings, to further assist the reader.

Mr. Harvey's scholarly and absorbing book fulfills a long-felt need, and will surely become the standard work of reference on this subject—an invaluable acquisition for all those interested in the study of the architecture or history of

mediaeval England.