SUPPLEMENTARY NOTE TO THE EXCAVATION OF COULL CASTLE, 

In Flores Historiarum, ed. H. R. Luard, vol. iii. pp. 133-4, the 
fate of Sir Herbert de Morham is related. Described as vir cunctis 
Scotis formosior et statura eminentior, he is alleged to have thrice played 
traitor to the English king. Having twice been pardoned, on the third 
occaision when captured he was lodged with his father and squire under 
irons in the Tower. Thence he sent a message to King Edward offering 
his own head on the day when Sir Simon Fraser should be taken: “for 
the Scots nobles lying in prison used to say that Sir Simon was invincible 
and not to be captured, and that so long as he lived Scotland would 
never be conquered.” Fraser having been caught was cast into the 
Tower, and on the day following (September 7, 1306) Sir Herbert de 
Morham and his squire, Thomas de Boys, were led forth to the block.

Morham is the smallest parish in East Lothian. Its lords were 
descended from a family named Malherbe, who are found in possession 
of the manor under William the Lyon, and took the name de Morham 
from their estate—G. Chalmers, Caledonia, ed. 1889, vol. iv. p. 537, with 
authorities cited. In the old Statistical Account, 1792, vol. ii. p. 334, it 
is stated that the Castle of Morham stood on an eminence near the 
church, and was “of considerable magnitude and strength,” but at that 
date all masonry had disappeared. Chalmers, op. cit., says that “the 
patronage of the church has always belonged to the lord of the manor.” 
We have here a distinct case, as at Coull, of a parish formed out of the 
manor of an immigrant Norman baron, its castle and church standing 
side by side as the civil and ecclesiastical centres of the parish.

1 Scots Money.