

## CHAPTER XII

### Blakeney Point, Norfolk, from an Engineering Point of View

It is proposed in this chapter to select a suitable demonstration area on the coast, and to describe its structure in relation to the dynamic phenomena which have determined and are still modifying its relief. The method pursued will be that of the guide-book, and the features recorded those with which the maritime engineer has concern.

Whilst there are many localities that would serve our purpose, we have decided on Blakeney Point, Norfolk, as our area, for two reasons. Firstly, Blakeney Point is comprehensive, including within reasonable compass the three great systems of the shore, namely, sand dunes, shingle beaches, and salt marshes. In this respect it is unrivalled.

The second reason for its selection is that Blakeney Point is a Nature Reserve under the National Trust, and hence will be available permanently for purposes of study.

As a consequence of these advantages the area is much resorted to by naturalists, whilst a convenient laboratory has recently sprung up, more particularly for investigations in maritime plant ecology.

Blakeney Point consists of a finger or spit of shingle some eight miles in length, which leaves the mainland near Weybourne on the coast road leading west from Sheringham to Wells. From the point of its departure the spit runs a trifle north of west almost parallel to the coast, and ends in the sea beyond Blakeney opposite the hamlet of Morston, from which the tip of the spit is distant about a mile and a half. The eastern part of the narrow area thus enclosed has been reclaimed