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Geophysical survey and evaluation at Old Park, Farnham: part 1

Anne Sassin

This is the first in a small series of short notes on fieldwork at Old Park, Farnham. The trial trenching in 2018 and 2020 fieldwork will follow in future editions. The full report for 2018-19 work (Sassin, A., 2020, Archaeological Evaluation and Geophysical Survey Report of Old Park, Farnham 2018-19, Unpublished Report) is available with the HER and SyAS.

Part 1 describes the background of the site and provides an overview of the geophysical survey, carried out in 2018-19 by a small team of SyAS members. The fieldwork was undertaken in order to investigate cropmarks of a potential Late Iron Age or Roman-British enclosed farmstead and to define, date and characterise the site.

Site background

Old Park is situated in the parish of Farnham within the administrative area of Waverley Borough Council at the far western extent of Surrey within. The site is located in open countryside at NGR SU 8147, NE of Dippenhall and W of Farnham Castle, on the south-facing northern chalk ridge slope of the Wey valley at the junction of several geological deposits, including river gravels, Reading Beds and London Clay. 'Old Park' was the original deer park of the Bishops of Winchester, pre-dating the newer Farnham Park to its east, and is possibly 12th century in date, coinciding with the development of the castle.

The site first came to light through inked interpretation by John Hampton over cropmarks from aerial survey in 1969 (NMR128/120) and was brought to the attention of the author by David Graham. Some of these cropmarks (mainly the outer enclosure) are also apparent on imagery from Google Earth (Figure 1), taken in the dry conditions of June 2018. Assessment of historic maps, including the Tithe and First/Second Edition Ordnance Survey maps, attest to former field boundaries and sub-division of the site which can also be seen on the aerial survey.

Known archaeology within the study area is not extensive, although stray finds of Late Iron Age and Early Roman date have been recorded in the near vicinity with the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS).



Figure 1: Google Earth imagery of Old Park, taken June 2018

Research aims and potential

Although villa sites have traditionally dominated study of Romano-British rural settlement, a major gap in our knowledge in Surrey lies in the evidence for non-villa rural settlement (Allen et al. 2019; Bird 2006, 41, 43), making studies of farmsteads, such as that at Old Park, imperative in gaining a fuller picture of life in the Roman countryside.

Following desk-based assessment and analysis of the aerial photography, geophysical survey was undertaken in order to establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains and identify, characterise and plan any features and remains present.

Magnetometry survey

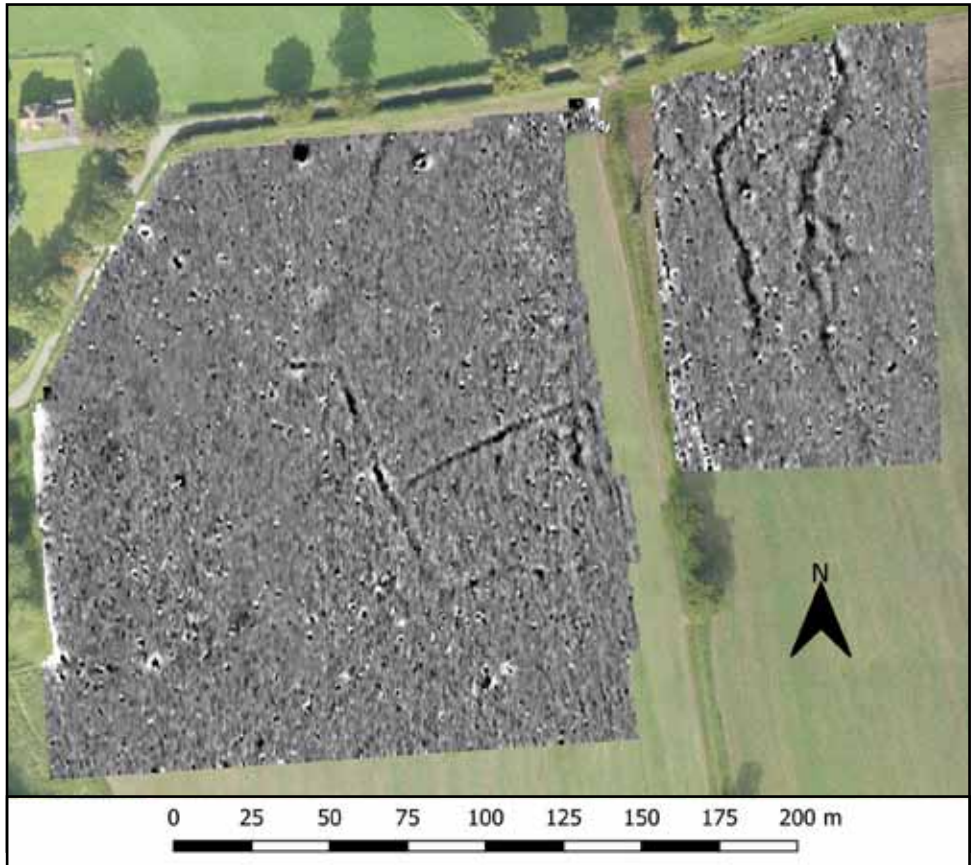


Figure 2: 2018 magnetometry survey at Old Park

The first survey, which took place in September 2018, involved flux gradiometer data across an area of c. 48,000m², extending across the northern half of the main field and a small portion of the adjacent eastern field. A Bartington Grad601 gradiometer collected data in parallel at 0.25m centres along traverses 1.0m apart, which was then processed to enhance the results for display.

A minimal amount of ferrous objects and magnetic disturbance affected the data. Several of the features visible on cropmarks were apparent as anomalies (Figure 2), including a series of positive linears comprising an outer enclosure and weak background variations suggestive of palaeo-channels extending into the northern end of both fields.

Electrical resistance survey

A smaller-scale electrical resistance survey was carried out over the main enclosed area (c. 14,000m²) in March 2019 with the Society's newly purchased RM Frobisher TAR-3 Resistance Meter. The selected sampling interval collected data every 0.5m along traverses 1.0m apart, which were then downloaded and processed in Snuffler.

Many of the same anomalies are apparent in the resistance survey (Figure 3), although several more features were revealed, including a low-resistance possibly bi-cameral structure at the southern end of the site and further enclosures, ditches and pits within the main site enclosure.

Discussion and conclusions

The combination of geophysical survey and assessment of the crop-marks has identified a large enclosure at Old Park within an area of c. 1.2ha, defined by large boundary ditches and sub-divided by shallower ditches or gullies possibly forming smaller enclosures. The dual-technique geophysical surveys were able to identify several features, although further investigation is needed to establish their date and potential function.

Categorisation of different farmsteads is not always straightforward, and though many cannot be clearly identified as one type or another, classification as a complex, rather than merely enclosed, farmstead relies on evidence of sub-division and differentiation of internal space.

Although the large external ditches and numerous smaller ditches and gullies are suggestive of a site large enough (at over 2ha) to be classified as a possible complex farmstead (Allen and Smith 2016, 17-20, 28-30), excavation is needed to determine activity zoning at the site.

The survey also successfully addressed how the methodology and skills learnt through volunteer training could be taken forward in future work. Many thanks must be made to the small and select team who helped with the geophysics, including John Peters, Neil Merryweather, Emma and Tom Sutcliffe, Jo Mansi, Pam Savage, Daryll Bewick, Angela Arathoon, Tim Wilcock and David and Audrey Graham.

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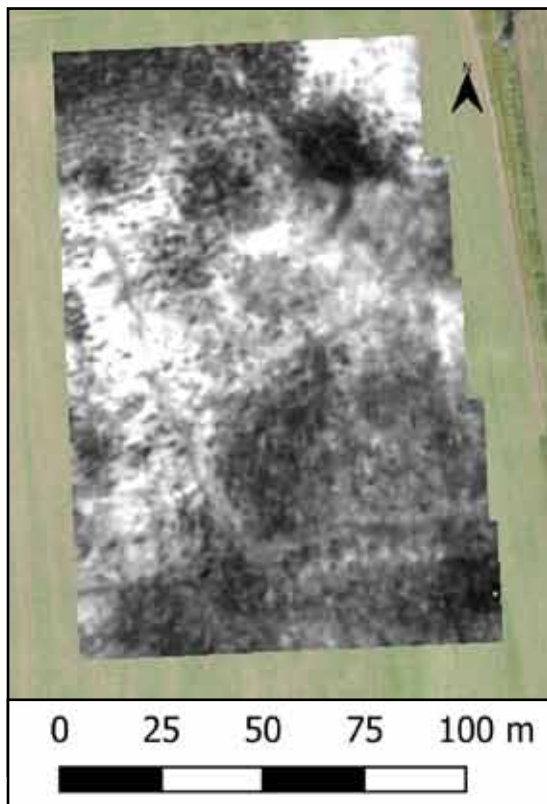
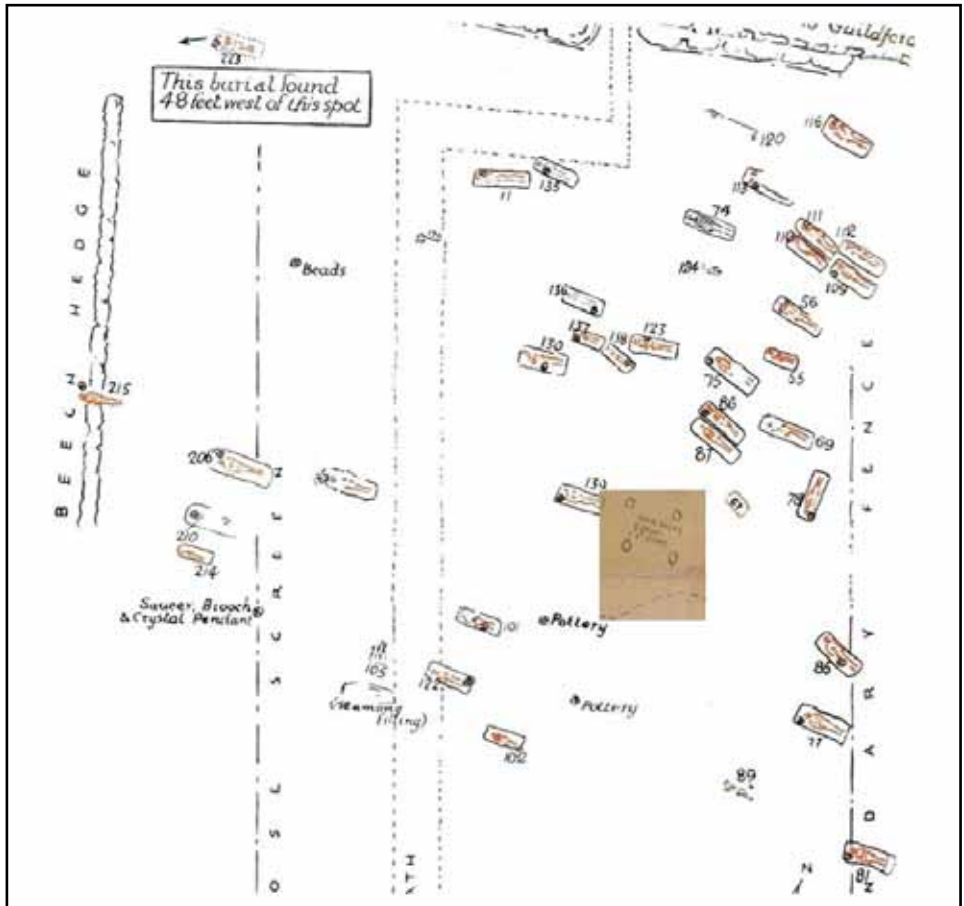


Figure 3: 2019 electrical resistance survey at Old Park

Guildown reconsidered 8: the possible mortuary house and other matters

David Bird

I had intended another note in this series after Nigel Bond kindly drew my attention to the paper by Emery and Williams on mortuary houses (2018) just in time for me to be able to mention it in my talk at last year's symposium. This and other aspects of the subject of Guildown have now been developed further by Rob Briggs in a series of notes in *Bulletins* 477-9.



The probable pagan burials extracted from Lowther 1931 foldout opp 1, with an extract from a die line copy of a plan by W J Pickering held in the Society's research material showing the possible mortuary house burials and the locations of pottery finds nearby

There can be no doubt that the mortuary house theory has its attractions to explain the nature of the limited cremation burial finds at Guildown. Of particular note are Lowther's comments: 'Fragments of a few large cinerary urns with pieces of calcined bone ...' and 'No undisturbed cremated burials have been found, from which we infer that they were few in number and that the urns were buried close to the surface' (Lowther 1931, 3 and 26). Information about the findspots of these 'urns' is not easy to come by, but what we have

places them not far from the post holes that may represent a mortuary house. Clearly if they were housed in the way suggested, then they would indeed have been 'close to the surface' but actually above it rather than just below. In these circumstances it is hardly surprising that they would survive only as scattered fragments. The failure to find any undisturbed cremation burials may be noteworthy as it seems unlikely that the site will have been the subject of ploughing deep enough to remove them completely, and North and Lowther do seem to have excavated quite carefully, using an area strip method, as the discovery of the post holes makes clear.

That there are cremations as well as inhumations is important in that it seems to be another indication of the differing origins of those buried at Guilddown in the earlier Saxon period, resulting in different burial traditions. This is presumably also indicated by the presence or absence of grave goods and raises questions about the unfurnished graves. Do the lack of brooches or grave goods as such indicate different burial rites?

This was a very fluid period where we have a late Roman mix of a variety of pagans and Christians, followed by pagan kings married to Christian wives, Arians and Catholics managing to live together and Pope Gregory the Great's famous approach to sneaking in Christianity by taking over older shrines which by definition must have been still in existence (Bede book 1, 30). The Empire (which clearly still existed in people's minds) was accustomed to a mix of religions. In Dark Age Liguria the state of the evidence is surprisingly akin to that in Britain: a few late Roman coins, scraps of pottery, even reliance on Bede for information about a Genoese bishop. But one surviving letter adds information that comes as something of a surprise: Theoderic the Ostrogoth in an exchange with the Jews of Genoa about repairs to their synagogue (Balzaretti 2013, *passim* and 91-2). If only we had one or two such letters offering some clarity for Britain!

Although the nonsense that Surrey was empty after AD 410 and that the 'Saxons' came up the rivers from Sussex still exists in the popular imagination (the 'Romans' had gone 'home'), there is now a strong movement away from the old 'invasions' model, especially where our area is concerned. This was a strong theme throughout our recent conference and is thoroughly explored by Professor Susan Oosthuizen (2019) (although I was sad to note that she places Penge in Kent (*ibid*, 110), yet another example of the way Surrey seems to vanish in general publications). The discussion of a multilingual society is particularly of interest. Her earlier book (2017) emphasising continuity of landscape exploitation in the Fenland should ring bells with those studying this period in Surrey and reinforces the need for us to continue to think in terms of the *historic* county, especially relevant at this time (cf Bird 2012).

In our own area there was surely a strong element of British continuity; indeed 'Roman', since any freeborn person will have been a citizen. As elsewhere in the western Empire, some of them are likely to have continued to form part of the elite as well as being the workers. This mix is very likely to have grown out of the late Roman system of quartering troops on landowners (see eg Bury 1928, 199; read recently and still surprisingly relevant). The system will have been applicable in late Roman Britain and there is no good reason to doubt that it will have continued in one form or another for some time after AD 410.

We can see a kind of germanisation of aspects like clothing in the late Roman period (eg Swift 2000, 119-122), and we should surely accept that Roman pottery could continue in production and use beyond the conventional 400: if 250-400 why not 250-450? We have Portchester D (or Overwey as we should call it) starting late (cf Gerrard 2014, 96, but the site is placed in Hampshire – invisible Surrey again!). The big problem is of course difficulties in dating because of the lack of coins, but there are clear signs that some use of earlier coins continued. There were probably changes in diet and eating habits also.

These changes in turn will have gradually affected the requirements for pottery vessels (including those used for transport). They relate also to how people 'see' themselves. It appears that it could take a considerable length of time for 'barbarian' incomers to become archaeologically visible, as in the case of the Visigoths in Toulouse, whose arrival we can date from texts (Esmonde Cleary 2013, 360-1, 375). As Burns notes (2003, 257), 'Even in the late fourth century, first-generation barbarian recruits more often than not abandoned their ancestral customs, hesitating to wear anything that might be regarded as appearing openly un-Roman around the camps ... Great variety was possible in Roman military dress, particularly from the late third century onwards, but it was Roman nonetheless. One might say that the newly admitted barbarians were more determined to be Roman than the Romans were.' If we transfer this approach to appearance to the earliest 'Anglo-Saxon' period in the South-East we might have a good model for closing the gap between Roman and Saxon periods.

Briggs rightly corrects aspects of my argument about burial 78. This was probably poorly expressed in my previous notes. I did not mean to suggest that those buried at Guildown were necessarily Roman 'military' but that some of those buried there were descendants. In the case of burial 78 this meant no more than that this (presumed) female had an ancestor who had been a late Roman military officer or functionary. After all, it remains the case that she was buried at a very different alignment, with a different approach to the custom of the pot and with material of 'Roman' derivation, while wearing her brooches like crossbows. Briggs notes the important paper by Paul Booth which has an excellent example of later female use of late Roman military-related objects; note also the way 'barbarian' armlets changed over time from male to female use, and changed in terms of the precious metal in use (Swift 2000, 48-52, 122, 128). All of this still seems to suggest generational links with family traditions.

In terms of the location of the pagan cemetery at Guildown we should note that particular situations may be attractive for reasons other than previous re-use of monuments. They may have been placed for similar reasons, in this case simply an outstanding topographical position, something that may also later apply to the execution cemetery and then the assumed post-medieval gallows position. There may be an element of theory driving interpretation where monument reuse is concerned. The Dorking example is a case in point; on the evidence provided (Rapson 2004) the jury must remain out on the interpretation of the nature of the possible Neolithic monument until proper publication. For Guildown itself, it remains the case that North and Lowther found nothing to suggest earlier monuments in their area strip, nor did the recent excavation (Lewins and Falys 2019). This is true also for the immediate area: other evaluations nearby have found nothing relevant.

Rob Briggs ends his third note by making clear the desirability of further research. The establishment of a project with that aim was one of the reasons for my series of Bulletin notes. With the assistance of Professor John Hines, David Calow and others, I am preparing a project design to assist work towards this end for the Guildown cemeteries. The first requirement is to complete analysis of the excavation record, already well in progress, and establish as it were a new excavation report. This will then serve as the basis for analysis of the finds by appropriate experts in the light of current understanding, together with further historical research. The forthcoming detailed study by Briggs of matters very relevant to the earlier history of the site (2020b, 6, references) should be very interesting and will no doubt help to move the arguments significantly forward.

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A bone object from Ashtead

David Bird



Bone object from Ashtead Common Roman Villa (Guildford Museum AS4532). Photograph: Alan Hall

One of the objects from Ashtead that has always intrigued me is an object described by A W G Lowther as a ‘spatulate bone object with drilled perforations’ (Lowther 1929, 8, fig 4, 5). The perforations are two round holes drilled either side of a longer slot which was made by drilling three holes close together. It is noteworthy that Lowther did not assign a

purpose to the object, which is currently held with the Society's collections in Guildford Museum (AS 4532) where it is catalogued as a 'bodkin'. My Oxford dictionary gives this as 'blunt thick needle with large eye for drawing tape etc. through hem; long pin for fastening hair; small pointed instrument for piercing cloth, removing piece of type for correction, etc.' (intriguingly, it is said to be 'Middle English perhaps from Celtic').

Unfortunately Lowther provides no context information. The only possibly relevant reference I have traced is in the *Epsom Herald* for 28 August 1925 where a short list of finds (probably provided by Lowther himself) includes a 'bone pin or stylus'. That date would place the finds with the separate bath-house. On the other hand, the object's publication in the *second* report would tend to suggest discovery in the course of work on the villa 'house', although there are examples of other finds where it is clear that publication was delayed while further research was carried out, which might have applied in this case.

Joanna Bird has recently begun detailed analysis of the special finds from Ashtead and this has led us to consider the object in more detail. A quick on-line search for parallels immediately produced another bone needle with the same triple openings, in the Metropolitan Museum in New York. There we read that 'the exact purpose for which needles with triple perforations were used has not been determined, but they have been found most commonly at Roman sites of the mid-to-late Imperial period'. This seems to have been the prevailing view. An interesting paper by Kovač (2012) catalogues many bone needles for 'sewing, knitting and embroidery', unfortunately unprovenanced, and notes possible uses suggested by others but does not reach firm conclusions. Most suggestions concentrate on aspects of sewing but use as a dress pin has also been considered (Biró 1994, cited by Kovač 185). St Clair (1996, 99) notes that 'Biró argues that examples with three perforations are dress pins and considers them the most frequent type of dress pin of the imperial age, replaced only in late antiquity by mass-produced fibulae' but feels that more research is needed. The argument does not sound very convincing.



'Bone needle 2nd-5th century A.D.' in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. See <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/246456> (on display in The Met Fifth Avenue in Gallery 171).

From material readily available to us I found similar triple-holed examples in Portugal (Conimbriga), Spain (Tiermes), France (Nîmes) and Germany (probably Xanten), while St Clair's catalogue is of material from the Palatine hill in Rome. Clearly, they were in use throughout at least the western Empire. From this very limited survey, the impression is that they were widespread, but as at Ashtead usually occur as single examples among several other more standard needles (although closer examination usually produces some with double openings). St Clair notes that in his own survey (1996, 99), those 'with rectangular or sub-rectangular holes have rounded or flat summits, and heads that are flattened in section'. It is worth noting that the Ashtead one is so far the only example we have come across with so wide a head.

These objects must have had some quite specific use, probably on an Empire-wide basis. St Clair cites a comment from Beál (1994) 'that examples with complex perforations, in particular three-holed examples, appear to be concentrated in contexts associated with the second century and later and suggests that they may indeed have had a specialized, though unknown, function because they are completely absent from certain sites.'

A very convincing answer to the question of their function is to be found in a recent paper by Janet Stephens (2008), which Nina Crummy reminded us about in discussion with Joanna. Stephens suggests that these elaborate needles and others with varying numbers of openings were used in the creation of some of the elaborate hairstyles that occurred as fashions changed from time to time in the Empire: separate braided elements of the hair were literally sewn together. Stephens is an experienced hairdresser who has experimented with the styles. She makes the point that Roman hairpins would be insufficient to hold the complex structures together (*ibid*, 119) although they would help in their creation, adding that as the styles must have been in place for some time, sleep would have been well-nigh impossible and even potentially dangerous without a sewn structure (*ibid*, 124). Stephens also points to examples of the needles being found in specific association with 'beauty cases' (*ibid*, 123). In view of the only possible reference noted to the Ashtead object as a 'pin or stylus' it is interesting to note that she also mentions a possible secondary use as a stylus (*ibid*, 117).



Hairdressing scene (although unfortunately not with one of the more elaborate hairstyles). Photograph by author of stone relief on display in The Rheinisches Landesmuseum Trier, on the occasion of the RSG legendary visit in 2012. Like many such in the Museum it comes from Neumagen (= Noviomagus Treverorum) and should presumably be seen in the same light as the Igel column, that is, representative of families who had become well-off through successful businesses.

Joanna notes that this offers a much better explanation than the conventional one of some form of needlework; the bone needles are large and usually well-finished but would be too clumsy for anything other than work on very coarse textiles. And it is difficult to explain the purpose of the carefully made triple openings, which one senses might work if one had something like a loom where it would be possible to pass two threads and a narrow band through at the same time. Obviously this would be managed differently with a loom, whereas it could make perfect sense when threading through hair. The slot seems to imply

a ribbon or braid, as Stephens notes in reference to an illustration of a triple-holed example (2008, 123 and 110, fig 2, C).

The explanation is welcomed both by Nina Crummy and John Peter Wild in correspondence. It is certainly of interest when considering the lady who must sometimes at least have been present at Ashtead. We already know that someone lost a very high quality gold earring on the site, found by chance some years after the end of Lowther's excavation and now in the British Museum. Although this could have belonged to a visitor, the accumulating evidence strongly suggests the continuing presence of people of some standing and it is reasonable to assume that we are talking of a woman who was part of a local family that profited from the early boom conditions in Roman Britain, similar to the families represented on the reliefs from Neumagen. A lady with such an earring might well have had skilled attendants capable of making very elaborate hairstyles. We even have a mirror among the finds. And John Shepherd's recently received glass report draws attention to the surprisingly large number of bottles from the site, which he says were used to transport and store liquid comestibles, cosmetics and pharmaceutical preparations, referring also to the contents as 'fine cosmetics or oils'.

At least two of the elaborate hairstyles considered by Stephens would fit with our understanding of the date of the villa: the Trajanic period 'turban' or the Antonine 'tower' (2008, 117). If a tilery, even an important one, seems to be a strange setting for such a woman, we might remember that the Tiber valley estate of Domitia Lucilla, the mother of Marcus Aurelius, produced tiles – they even had her name on them (Jones 2006, 220). More pertinently perhaps we could note the well-known stone relief of a butcher's shop, from Trastevere in Rome, now in the pre-1800 sculpture gallery of the State Museum in Dresden. On one side we see a butcher hard at work but on the other 'is a woman with an elaborately braided hairstyle sitting in a high backed chair' (Ferris 2018, 101). She has a stack of wax tablets on her knees and is evidently keeping the accounts but her hairstyle is the 'tower' type (not easily seen on Ferris 2018, plate 48, which is of a copy in the Ashmolean; very clear on the only other published version we have to hand: Dosi and Schnell 1986, 74. A Google search for 'Roman butcher's shop' will produce several views). The woman might be the butcher's wife, but Joanna points out that she might even be the proprietress. Jones makes clear how women could play an active role in business under Roman law (2006, 118-32) and we are perhaps too ready to assume that the Ashtead owner was necessarily male.

If our lady had a 'posh' hair-do, it raises the question of who it was aimed at. I have previously wondered if Surrey villa owners might have communicated using Vindolanda-style letters or indeed 'proper' wax tablets (Bird 2004, 116). It may be noted that Ashtead has both an inkpot and a stylus. Now we have another reason to suppose dinner parties similar to the famous birthday party invitation from Claudia Severa to Sulpicia Lepidina (Birley 2002, 136-7; one wonders about their hairstyles!). And of course Ashtead is within an easy day's drive of London and Southwark where our lady would presumably find acceptable company which she might want to impress. She might even gain ideas from the women in the governor's entourage. It is also worth pointing out that there were many coins in circulation with good portraits of Sabina (Hadrian's wife). A competent hairdresser already with appropriate experience might have been able to use these as a model.

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[Note: in current circumstances it has not been possible to check all of these references at first hand and some are not fully available on line]

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John Reede of Stoke, brick-maker, 1612

Mary Alexander

The Society's project to make available early 17th century wills from Surrey has many benefits: for local, family, social, economic, religious history; the study of handwriting, spelling, and many other aspects.

One will which struck me as being of general interest as I transcribed it, is that of John Reede of Stoke-next-Guildford, who died in 1612. He was a brick-maker, which was still a relatively new trade in Surrey, and the will and inventory give some indication of how he worked.

The will shows that he had a wife (un-named) and a daughter Alice who were provided for. He had two sons, John and Walter. He left them his house at Chobham and another house at Guildford. The will does not mention the property at Stoke, perhaps because it would naturally be inherited by the older boy. The parish registers for Stoke do not survive for this period, so we do not know how old any of the Reedes were, but John senior's sons must have been adults. John senior was clearly well-off.

The inventory which always accompanied a will at this period is more informative. The will was made on April 13th and the inventory on April 20th. The will was normally made on the death bed, so John died between those dates. The inventory was made by responsible local men who could value the goods. The inventory of the house is fairly standard, listing the substantial wooden furniture, the bedding, the brass and the pewter, room by room, until we come to 'the Chamber over the kitchen chamber'. This makes it clear that John Reede was a farmer as well as a brick-maker.

This chamber contained wheat, peas, and oats. As the inventory was done room by room it can give an indication of the layout of the house. Reede had two major downstairs rooms, the hall and parlour, both with chambers above them. The kitchen is listed later in

the inventory, and had a chamber over it, containing three beds of lesser quality – boarded rather than joined – perhaps for his workmen. It is not impossible that the kitchen was a separate building. The chamber over the kitchen chamber held the grain, with a pair of scales, an iron beam and two half hundred weights. In the stable loft there was another bed and ‘other lumber’ – a favourite word for odds and ends.

Then there was a milkhouse containing seventeen cheeses, tallow, grease and barrels. The bakehouse held baking equipment, a cheese press and some measures. A loft held bacon and dried beef worth the large sum of £6 13s 4d, and a cellar held vessels such as kilderkins and tubs. The furniture in the hall was only worth 30s, though the furniture, bedding, curtains and cushions in the chamber over the hall were worth over £7.

The inventory then moved outside. In a little storehouse were two new tyres for cart wheels and other items. In the yard was a store of valuable wood worth £22 with more wood ‘abroad’ worth £10. There was timber at the sawpit, at Gosden Hill, at Littlefield and at ‘Courtesse’s ground’. The whole lot was worth a staggering £43 10s. This was presumably for his brickmaking .

The inventory then lists what was in the ‘working gatt’. ‘Gatt’ is presumably the same as ‘gate’ in Guildford, now meaning an alley but probably derived from a space in the ground behind a house, presumably with gates to enclose it. Reede’s working gatt contained paving tile, gutter tile, ridge tile and hip tile, worth £8. At this date tile could also mean brick, though clearly some of these items were for roofs. There was also brick, lime and tile worth £14 6s 8d. Other equipment included a wheelbarrow, boards, lathes, a grindstone, rope, chain and bucket.

Then there was the card gatt, with two carts upon wheels, one waggon upon wheels, four dung pots, four yokes, chains, ploughs and harrows, all worth £15. Next come the cattle: five cart horses, twenty ewes each with a lamb, and various cows, bullocks and pigs, with hay in the barn and dung ‘about the house’, presumably manure heaps waiting to be taken to the fields in the dung pots, which must have been fairly large containers.

So, clearly John Reede combined brick-making with being a yeoman farmer. This was wise, since brick-making was seasonal.

The clay was dug in October and left to be weathered over winter, which would break it down. In February it was turned and in March or April brick-making could begin. Over the winter the weather was too cold and wet to handle the clay and for it to dry out and fire properly. What is missing from the inventory is the clay. As John Reede made his will in April he must have had a load of clay waiting for the year’s work, but inventories often leave out what seem like obvious items to us. There were already tiles and bricks in the yard, perhaps from this year’s work, or perhaps from the previous year. It may have been a bit soon to have made enough bricks and tiles, which would need to dry and then be fired.

Perhaps the item of most interest is a list of debts owing to the testator at the end of the inventory. This adds up to £31 5s 5d, and is followed by a second list with no heading which adds up to over £100. This list ends at the foot of the page, with no total, which suggests that there is a page missing. It seems likely that these are debts for bricks supplied by Reede. Borrowing money from wealthy tradesmen and others was common, as there was no other way of doing it, but as these sums involve odd numbers of pounds, shillings and pence, they are more likely to be unpaid bills, than loans.

The price of bricks might give us an idea of how many Reede’s customers bought, but we

do not know the transport and construction costs, nor whether Reede's men did the brick-laying. Bricks were sold at around 5 shillings per thousand in the 15th century.ⁱ The debts in the first list range from 5s 4d to £6 8s. These do not suggest large projects: perhaps a garden wall, or a pig-stye, or a repair. The second list includes two high-spenders: Sir Richard Weston owing £60, and Sir William Harman and John Harman, gent., owing £32 6s 8d. (if this is what the second list indicates). Most of the others owed less than £1.

Sir Richard Weston (1564-1613) lived at Sutton Place, which was an early example of a brick house in Surrey of the 1520s, though he also lived at Clandon House. Sir William Harman may have lived at Chobham, which again was within Reede's area.ⁱⁱ (This might be linked with Reede owning a house in Chobham.)

When Loseley House was built in the 1560s a brick clamp was set up on site, though the bricks are not generally visible in the fabric of the house. A clamp was a temporary kiln made up of the bricks themselves, covered with mud or turf.ⁱⁱⁱ This was an early way of supplying bricks. There is clay nearby. By the early 17th century brick-making was probably settling into fixed locations. Kilns are more efficient than clamps. In 1697 James Read supplied bricks for some work at Holy Trinity Guildford. Was he related to John Reede? Thomas Cobbett, brick-burner of Worplesdon, also supplied bricks for the church. There were many small brickyards throughout the country, into the 20th century.

The earliest brick structures in Surrey are probably the two towers built by Bishop Wayne-flete of Winchester around 1470 at Esher and Farnham. Another wealthy builder to use the new fashionable material was the king. Henry VIII used bricks at Woking Palace and Oatlands in the 1530s.^{iv} Brick clamps were built in the park of Woking Palace in the 15th/early 16th century, showing earlier use of brick.^v One of the later burials in Guildford Friary, dissolved in 1538, had a brick-lined monument above it.^{vi} Abbot's Hospital in Guildford was built of brick in 1619-1621. I do not know of any earlier brick buildings in the town but clearly people were using brick before this. It could be used to replace lath and plaster in timber-framed buildings, and as mentioned above, could be used for many small jobs, not just complete houses.

Notes

ⁱ Haynes, C., *Brick: A Social History* Cheltenham 2019, pp. 72-3.

ⁱⁱ Findmypast Surrey Court Cases 1604, The National Archives, accessed 23/7/20.

ⁱⁱⁱ Plumridge, A. and Meulenkamp, W. *Brickwork: Architecture & Design* London 1993, p.167.

^{iv} Savage, R.W., *Old Woking: Test-pitting and Other Work*, SyAS Bulletin 421, p. 2.

^v Savage, R.W., *Roman Ceramic Building Material*, SyAS Bulletin 481, p.10.

^{vi} Poulton R., and Woods H., *Excavations on the Site of the Dominican Friary at Guildford*, SyAS Research Volume No.9, Guildford 1984, pp.50 and 52.

Prehistoric Group e-letter

The Prehistoric Group has been sending news weblinks to members by e-mail for some time, and during lockdown this year this has become a twice weekly newsletter. It still publishes archaeological news via weblinks, and has now broadened its content to include archaeological reports of any period to YouTube presentations. The reports can range around the world wherever items of interest have been found or become topics of debate. The e-newsletter can be received by any member whatever their primary interest, and to join the e-list, please contact: rosemary.hooker@blueyonder.co.uk.

The golf course in Surrey's historic landscape

Sebastian Jones

On the common meadow of Molesey Hurst, in West Molesey in 1758 transpired what is thought to be the first recorded game of golf in England (there are numerous earlier references to the sport, but none, as far as I can tell, that spatially and temporally describe a game being played south of the Scottish border). Dr Alexander Carlyle and a group of fellow Scots were invited by the actor William Garrick to his home in Hampton, located opposite Molesey Hurst directly over the Thames. The group was told “bring golf clubs and balls that we might play at that game on Molesly [sic] Hurst. ... Immediately after we arrived, we crossed the river [presumably at the Hampton Ferry] to the golfing ground, which was very good” (Carlyle and Hill Burton 1860).

Surrey's significance to the development of golf in England goes beyond that game on Molesey Hurst in 1758. From an historical and landscape archaeological perspective, this note considers the transformation of the county's landscape and land use for the sport in the later 19th century. Following this, in Surrey at the turn of the 20th century, an experimental hole layout was conceived that would transform the practice of golf course design and architecture in England.

The emergence of the course

Comprising very little in the way of design and landscaping, the golf course would develop very little through the 18th and early 19th centuries in England. Golfers would also continue sharing – or competing for – use of the land with other land users and grazing animals. Formal golf courses would eventually be established later in the 19th century, the short courses being laid out on top of the land to best make use of natural features available. Established in 1886 and considered Surrey's oldest existing club, Guildford Golf Club remains located on the chalk downland at Merrow (Surrey HER Monument 23580; Figure 1). With a “Grant of right to make Golf Links” of the landowner the Earl of Onslow, and at an annual rent of one shilling, the six-hole course was quickly extended eastwards to make 18 (SHC BR/ME/11/2). The original club house was built in 1891 and was located to the south-west at One Tree Hill Corner (Chapman Davies 2009). The transformation of areas of common land into spaces designated for golf, increasingly with clubhouses, also demonstrated a growth in popularity of the sport in the late 19th century.



Figure 1 Guildford Golf Club. The original six-hole course was located in the rectangular area in the west, with the 18-hole course incorporating the larger area to the east. Map extract from Ordnance Survey, Surrey XXIV.SW 1897. Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland.

The divergence of the course

The types of landscapes designated for golf would transform in the late 19th century. Surrey's heathland offered large, undeveloped spaces on which to establish courses. England's first heathland golf course was established on Hook Heath in Woking in 1893 (HER 22595), on land leased from the Necropolis Company. The undulating sandy terrain of the heath provided natural ground highly suited to the game, initially negating the necessity for drastic alterations in the creation of holes. The formation of more heathland courses would follow at Puttenham (HER 23613), Reigate Heath (HER 23584), Walton Heath (HER 18107), Burhill (HER 22151), Worplesdon (HER 22150), West Hill (HER 23622), St George's Hill (HER 23623) and Wentworth (HER 23624) (Figure 2).

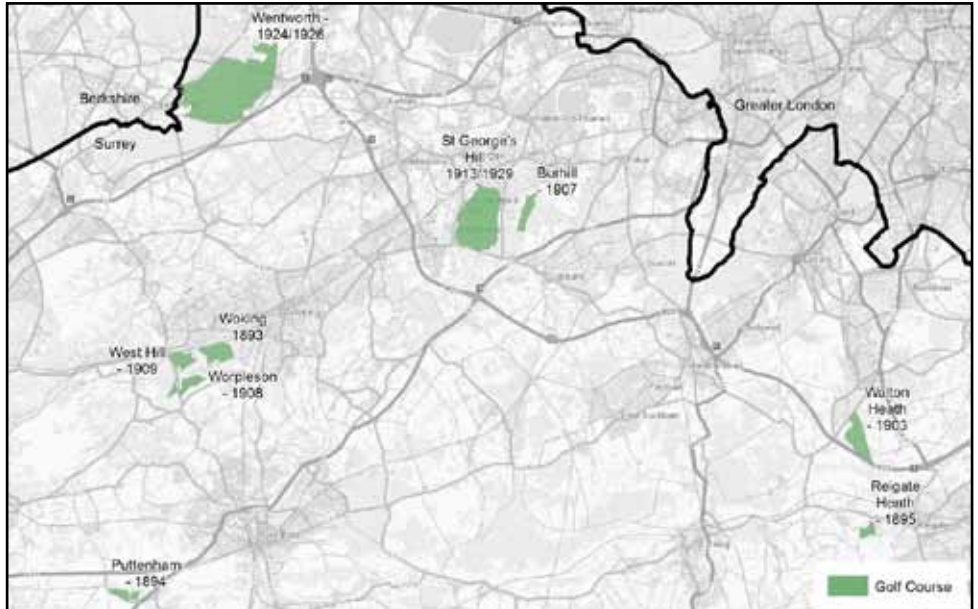


Figure 2 Surrey's early heathland golf courses and their years of opening. Map extract Ordnance Survey Open Greyscale Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right (2018).

The evolution of the course

Unlike the natural rugged terrains of the coastal 'links' courses, the inland courses on meadow, heath or parkland provided little in the way of natural obstacles or hazards besides trees, ditches and hedges to give the course a unique challenge. Features such as bunkers were designed into courses to hinder the golfer and their ball on their path from tee to hole.

The philosophy of course design at this time took a 'penal' approach, where designers aimed simply to penalise poor ground shots by placing obstacles across the direct line of play to block the route to the hole and rewarding the player capable of playing a lofted shot to clear them. Bletchingley golf course (HER 23576) opened 1901 and operated until c1940, and featured a linear bank integrated with a bunker running directly across the line of the fairway; a large rectangular terrace, most probably for a green, was also built into the slope (Figure 3). The former course is now mostly under the path of the M23.

Figure 3 Bletchingley Golf Course, 1909. Image courtesy of the Surrey History Centre ref: 7828/2/18/173.

Features typical of the penal course design were also present at a course in Manor Park, Whyteleafe (HER 5975). Two symmetrical linear features visible in LiDAR imagery look to resemble a pair of 'wing' bunkers or banks (HER 13738; Figure 4). Wing hazards were positioned either side of the fairway or green to penalise shots mishit slightly left or right of the target. The course emerged from the selling-off of parcels of the Manor Park Estate in 1896, and two years later the Warlingham Golf Club was established. Caterham Manor would also be repurposed as the club house. The Second World War brought an end to the course as troops were stationed in the park.

The development of new equipment making it easier for lesser-skilled golfers to get the ball airborne prompted a new approach to the design of courses suitable for all players – strategy. Replacing a penal-style geometric cross bunker, a new pair of bunkers installed by John Low and Stuart Paton on the 4th hole at Woking Golf Club in 1901 were positioned where a good shot would normally finish (Crosby 2010; Figure 5). This design, inspired by the Old Course at St Andrews – the Home of Golf – in Scotland, presented a choice of shots towards the green with varying amounts of risk and reward.

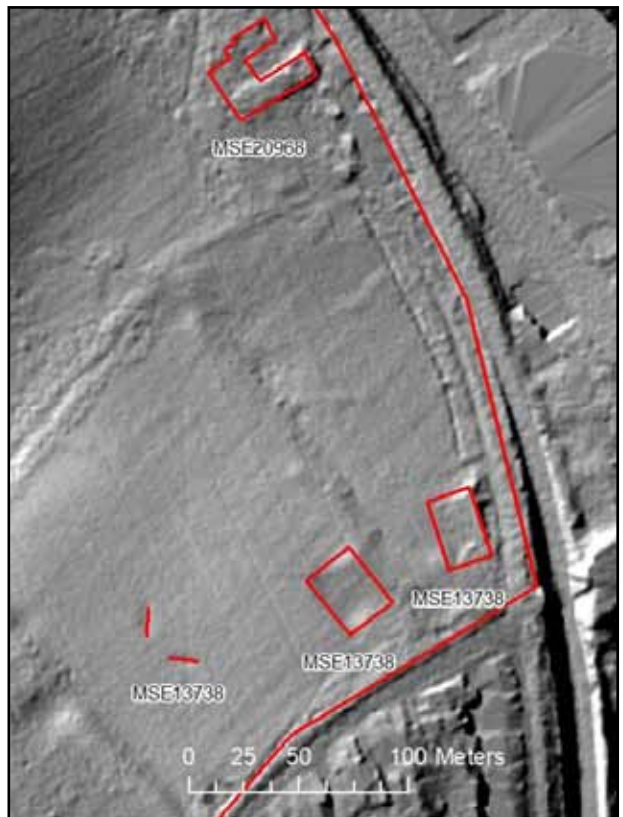
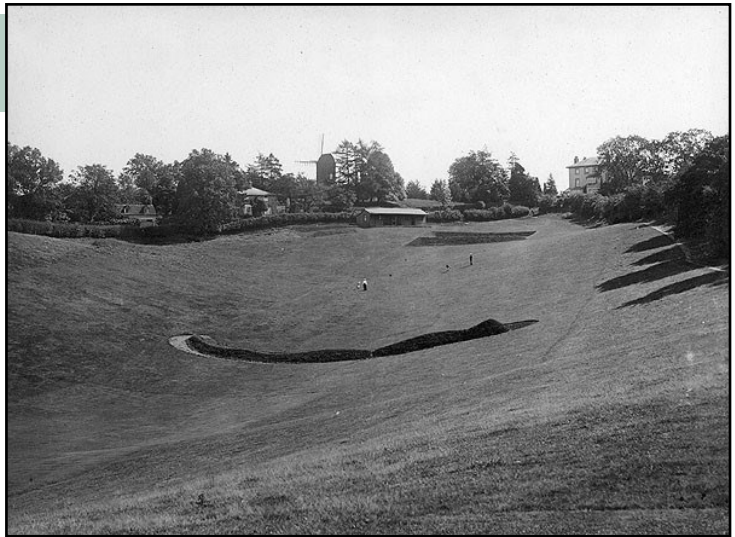


Figure 4 LiDAR 1 metre Hillshade. Overlay data depicts the park boundary, the clubhouse/Caterham Manor (MSE20968) and course features (MSE13738). © Environment Agency Lidar DTM 2015 1m.



The penal school of design also met criticism for its rather unsightly formulaic appearance in the landscape (EIGCA 2017). By incorporating more variation in features and asymmetry in their placement, the strategic philosophy created a more natural appearance in the landscape, despite being *more* designed.

Courses of historic interest

Surrey's historic golf courses not only reveal a story of the development of the county's historic landscape, but also the evolution of the sport itself. The designation of exclusive spaces for the sport in Surrey in the late-19th century would initially allow golf to grow in popularity and for more courses to emerge and expand. The development of more, wider courses on Surrey's heathland would encourage architects to experiment and evolve the practice of course design.

Thank you to Rob Briggs for his notes and suggestions.

Figure 5 The 4th hole at Woking Golf Club with the surviving bunkers that were added in 1901. Aerial photograph 2012-2013 Environment Agency Open Government License.

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Stephen Fortescue BA, FSA

David Bird

Stephen Fortescue, one of the Society's Honorary Vice-Presidents and a member for over 70 years, has died recently at the age of 99. He became a member in 1946 and was elected Honorary Legal Adviser in May 1951, holding this post until he retired in November 1987. He was then a Vice-President from 1987 to 2004, when he was elected as an Honorary Vice-President.

He was the Society's legal adviser in the momentous period when the Society became a limited company and his name appears on the 1974 Articles of Association. He will also have played an important role when the Society employed professional archaeologists for several years in the 1970s. He continued to take a close interest in the Society's affairs even after he retired, and took the trouble to send a message of support for the proposals for the new Articles of Association which we adopted recently.

Stephen took a keen interest in local history, especially that of Great Bookham where he lived for many years before retiring to Devon. He was a founder member of the Leatherhead and District Local History Society and in 1978-9 played a key role in the establishment of that Society's Museum in Leatherhead. When the Society held a 70th anniversary celebration in 2016 he was a guest of honour. I attended that meeting and was greatly surprised to realise, when he told me that he had been retired for 30 years, that this meant he was 95. He certainly did not look it and gave an interesting address to mark the occasion.

In 1980 he provided useful information about replica die 6 ('dog and stag') relief-patterned tiles from Ashted when responding to a note by Vivien Ettliger in *Bulletin* 167, where she had picked up a reference to part of one such replica turning up in Kendal Museum. *Bulletin* 168 has a copy of a letter Stephen wrote in explanation to the museum curator (for some odd reason the letter-writer's name is not given in the *Bulletin*, but it was clearly written by him, and David Hartley has confirmed for me that he was the Leatherhead Society chairman at that time). Writing 'as Chairman of the Leatherhead and District Local History Society and executor of the will of the late A W G Lowther' he explained that Lowther had five or six copy replicas made in the Ashted Potteries, using a mould made from one of the originals. One copy is apparently in the Society's collection, Stephen himself had another and one may well have gone to Colonel North, who worked on the finds from Ashted. As North retired to the north country this might explain the Kendal find (although Lowther also had connections in the area). It would be interesting to know what became of the others!



Photo of Stephen Fortescue, courtesy of Tony Matthews

As Lowther's executor, Stephen Fortescue played an important role in dealing with the fallout after his death. Archaeological and historical material was left to the Society of Antiquaries, which then gave it to this Society apart from specific categories such as relief-patterned tiles. Lowther's house was packed with archaeological finds (and other collections), as well as stores of old newspapers going back to the early 20th century and even early light bulbs. Stephen had to oversee the clearance while trying to make sure that the archaeological objects were removed in as controlled a manner as possible (no easy task as most were not marked). I can remember him telling me that he was so troubled by the thought of what might become of his own home that he went away and disposed of his collection of old postcards! This is perhaps a lesson for us all.

Stephen Fortescue played an important role in this Society's affairs for many years and we should remember him with gratitude.

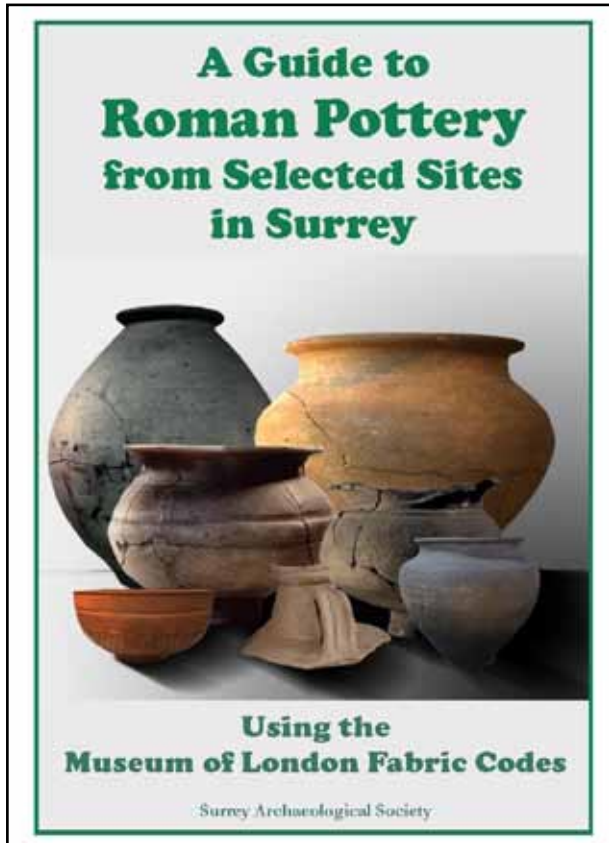
New members

Hannah Jeffery

I would like to welcome the following new members who have joined the Society. I have included principal interests, where they have been given on the application form. If you have any questions, queries or comments, please do not hesitate to get in contact with me on 01483 532454 or info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk.

Name	Town	Principal Archaeological and Local History Interests
Stephen Evans	Hindhead	Medieval History, mainly Anglo-Norman Period; Art History from Roman to Tudor Periods
John Leighton	Reigate	
Clara McShannon	Windsor	Ancient Roman history and culture, Ancient Greek history and culture, medieval era, Renaissance in Italy
Simon McShannon	Windsor	Roman, Ancient Greek, Bronze and Iron Age, Greece, Iron Age Italy, Punic (Carthage), Dark Ages (400 AD-900AD), early medieval (1066-1200)
Calum Mercer	Farnham	Wide ranging and participated in Dig Ventures
Robert Smith	Frimley	Roman
Richard Stephens	Thames Ditton	Pre-Roman, Roman and early medieval periods
J Barry Toogood	Epsom	Early medieval in England and the British Isles

A Guide to Roman Pottery from Selected Sites in Surrey: using the Museum of London Fabric Codes



This guide covers the Roman pottery found during excavations at Cocks Farm Abinger, Ashtead Roman Villa, Hopeless Moor Seale and Old Park Farnham.

This illustrated field guide has magnified images of the different pottery fabrics together with a description of their main features. Each fabric has a Museum of London date range, and typical forms for each fabric are noted. A series of photographs illustrates the different types of decoration that are applied to pottery together with their decoration codes.

The guide is useful for Members who are analysing pottery but also for anyone wanting to identify Roman pottery during excavations, fieldwalking or digging in their garden.

Another field guide in the series is the *Guide to the Saxon and Medieval Pottery Type Series of Surrey*.

The Roman pottery guide costs £5 plus £2 p&p. Please make cheques payable to the Roman Studies Group and include your name and address and send it to David Calow, 14 Beech Lane, Guildford GU2 4ES.

Later prehistoric and other discoveries in the Thames Valley and on the Surrey Greensand

Graham Hayman, John Payne, Rob Poulton and Wayne Weller

SpoilHeap Occasional Paper no 12

ISBN 978-1-912331-14-7

150 pages, 66 illustrations

Price £12 + £3.50 p&p

Available through www.surreycc.gov.uk/scau

(Please note more details available in *Bulletin* 481)

*Mercers Quarry,
Nutfield, Late Middle
Palaeolithic handaxe*



Surrey Industrial History Group Lectures Autumn 2020

The talks at Guildford and Leatherhead have been cancelled. Instead, a series of free Zoom video conferencing meetings are being held:

- 15 October 'Cross Rail' by Mel Gardner, Railway Consultant
- 29 October "'Operation Turkenkreuz" - The German Bomber Offensive against London 1917-18' by Ian Castle, Airship Heritage Trust
- 12 November 'William Morris' by John Hawks, Wandle Industrial Museum
- 26 November 'Nelson & HMS Victory: Their Lives and Times' by Colin van Geffen, Artist & historian
- 10 December 'Mulberry Harbours and Pluto pipelines' by David Williams

More information and joining instructions can be found at: <http://www.sihg.org.uk/meetings.htm>. Details will be sent to members of the mailing list. At present the list only contains SIHG members who have registered their email address. If you wish to be sent an individual copy of these details, please send Bob Bryson (SIHG Chairman and Programme Co-ordinator) an email at meetings@sihg.org.uk, stating your SyAS membership status, and you will be added to the list.

SHERF 2020: Our Heritage, Our Future – Volunteer Archaeology in Surrey and Beyond

This year's SHERF on Saturday 28 November addresses the important issue of volunteer archaeology through a variety of community archaeology projects within the south-east. A full programme is available as an insert in this *Bulletin* but includes the following talks:

- Dan Miles (Historic England), 'Supporting community archaeology in England'
- Hannah Potter (SCAU), 'Witley Camp: the Camp and the Community'
- Andrew Mayfield (KCC), 'Fifteen years of fun: community archaeology in NW Kent'
- James Brown (NT), 'Community archaeology in protected landscapes: a personal perspective'
- Helen Johnston (MOLA), 'Explorations along the Thames Foreshore'
- Anne Sassin (SyAS), 'Making volunteer archaeology sustainable in Surrey'

The conference will be held online via Zoom at a cost of £5 per household. See <https://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/content/sherf-2020> to register and for more booking info.



CBA Festival of Archaeology 2020

The second part of the 2020 Festival will take place between 24th October and 1st November with a mix of both digital and on-the-ground events which will be listed at <https://festival.archaeologyuk.org/find>.



In Surrey, Godalming Museum, Surrey County Archaeological Unit and the National Trust have been working with members of the local community to carry out investigations across the bustling military camp of Witley and Milford Common, resulting in a temporary, circular self-guided walk highlighting points of interest and including copies of photos dating back to the First World War. The map can be downloaded or taken a picture of with a phone, allowing the trail to be followed, which includes further laminated information signs. Available from 24th October (see <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/culture-and-leisure/archaeology/community-archaeology/community-archaeology-news-and-events>).

Museum of Farnham's COVID-19 project

The Museum of Farnham is running a project to work with Farnham and the surrounding villages' communities to reflect and respond to the year of 2020. It will focus on the impact of COVID-19 and also reflect upon the Black Lives Matter protests in order to capture people's stories and create a display that helps connect with one another's experiences.

The project aims to collect people's stories about their experiences during COVID-19, either through objects or recorded discussions and then bring them together in a display entitled 'Thank you Farnham'. All the stories matter, and capturing the little things that have taken place will ensure they are remembered.

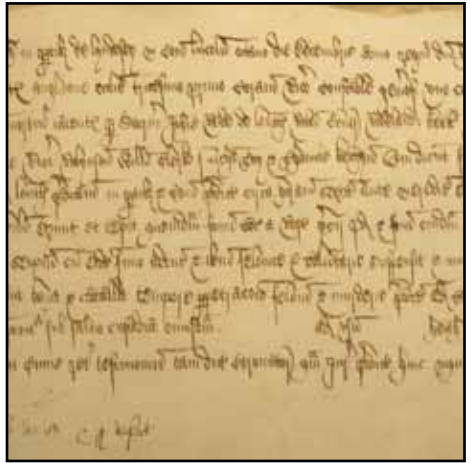
To get involved you can:

- Email in and request a one-to-one meeting with the museum staff to chat about your experiences
- Email in and register your interest to get involved in a community group discussion, with other community members who wish to participate
- Come in and add to the displays as they develop
- Loan the museum an object that represents your lockdown (example: something made from a new skill, a piece of workout equipment you found, made or used to get through lockdown, the new cookbook which became your bible, etc).

Email the museum curator (josh.godfrey@farnhammaltings.com) or ring 01252 715094.

Medieval Studies Forum Autumn Lecture 2020

The intended AGM and study day on pottery for the Society's Medieval Studies Forum on Saturday 5 December has been postponed until 2021. However, the group will be hosting a special lecture on the day by Dr Ben Jervis (Cardiff University) on 'The Material Culture of Medieval English Rural Households'. The lecture will be held on Zoom and available for all, with MSF members invited to stay and attend the AGM afterwards. MSF members will receive further information including final timings and a registration link in due course, with further details available on the Society's website.



DATES FOR *BULLETIN* CONTRIBUTIONS

There will be one more issue of the *Bulletin* in 2020. To assist contributors, relevant dates are as follows:

	Copy date:	Approx. delivery:
483	9th November	12th December

Articles and notes on all aspects of fieldwork and research on the history and archaeology of Surrey are very welcome. Contributors are encouraged to discuss their ideas with the editor beforehand, including on the proper format of submitted material (please do supply digital copy when possible) and possible deadline extensions.

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The Trustees of Surrey Archaeological Society desire it to be known that they are not responsible for the statements or opinions expressed in the *Bulletin*.

Next issue: Copy required by 9th November for the December issue

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