

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BULLETIN

Number 155

March 1979

Edited by Lesley Ketteringham, 14 Court Road, Godstone

Tel: GODSTONE 842534
(Please note new number)

EXCAVATION NOTICE

REIGATE: OLD VICARAGE SITE (TQ 25705036)

(Director: David Williams)

Excavation is now taking place on Sundays. Further details from David Williams, who can be contacted during the day on 01-223 3431.

SAS VISITS 1979

Wednesday, 4th April

RICHMOND PARK AND TWICKENHAM RIVERSIDE

Arranged by Mr F. E. Manning

- 10.30 a.m. Meet in Spanker's Hill car park in Richmond Park, close to the Robin Hood Gate at the foot of Kingston Hill. Walk by Old Lodge site to White Lodge, the early Palladian royal hunting lodge, later home of the Tecks, and now Royal Ballet Lower School and museum.
- 12.30 p.m. Pembroke Lodge, home of Lord John Russell, where refreshments can be obtained or picnic lunch taken in the grounds.
- 2.00 p.m. Re-assemble in Marble Hill car park and visit Marble Hill, another early Palladian house, the home of Henrietta Howard, later Countess of Suffolk, mistress of George II.
- 3.00 p.m. Proceed to Orleans House, where Miss P. Astley Cooper will show the Octagon Room and the major loan exhibition devoted to the paintings, sculptures and other works of Charles Ricketts and Charles Shannon, 1885-1930.

Tickets (members 25p, visitors 35p, students half price and accompanied children free) from Mrs J. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 0QL.

Saturday, 12th May

WINCHESTER AREA

Arranged by Mr A. J. McIntosh

- 8.00 a.m. Coach departs Reigate car park, rear of Woolworths.
- 8.15 a.m. Dorking Halls.
- 8.50 a.m. Guildford, rear of BR Station in Guildford Park Road.
- 10.30 a.m. Visit East Meon Court House by kind permission of Arthur D. Gill, Esq. Proceed to Winchester for free time and lunch.
- 2.00 p.m. Guided tour of Winchester College and Chapel. Admission 25p.
- 3.00 p.m. House of Godbegot.

4.15 p.m. Avington Park, described by William Cobbett as one of the prettiest places in the county. Admission 40p, children under 10, 20p. It is hoped that tea will be available.

Tickets (members 25p, visitors 35p, students half price and accompanied children free). Coach £2.50; (admission fees payable on the day) from Mrs J. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 0QL.

New Members from 1.11.78

P. J. F. Taylor, 19 Iveagh Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 5PU

Miss D. J. J. Dodds, Heathdene, Haslemere Road, Milford, Godalming, Surrey, GU8 5BP

T. J. Manning, 99 Holecroft House, Ingrave Street, Battersea, London, SW11 2SQ

R. K. Briscoe, Maple House, Higher Combe Road, Haslemere, Surrey, GU27 2LQ

The Librarian, Serials Dept., Edinburgh University Library, George Square, Edinburgh, EH8 9LJ.

NOTES AND QUERIES

Publicity and Public Relations

The Council of the Society have resolved to establish a committee with the special responsibility of promoting the activities of the Society on every suitable occasion.

Two areas of operation are envisaged, static displays which will have to be maintained, updated and rotated and regular dialogue with the county press and local radio.

Two distinct sub-committees will be responsible for these operations but assistance will be needed from as many members as possible, particularly in connection with the static displays.

Particularly valuable will be members with past or present experience in Exhibition and Display work, design, graphics, journalism, information or public relations work and press photography.

Would members who would like to become involved in this important activity please write for further information to: Mr R. J. Webber, 8 Kelvin Grove, Hook, Chessington, Surrey.

Burpham (TQ 010521)

A series of trenches were opened by machine in March 1978 on the proposed route of the A3 (Burpham-Ladymead Division) at Prospect Farm. On the basis of the finds two areas were selected for excavation and work continued into July of the same year. Other methods of site detection— aerial photography, geophysical surveying and field walking—had produced inconclusive results although Romano-British burials had been discovered close to the site at the end of the last century. As a result of these excavations it seems possible that some form of settlement dating to the Late Bronze or Early Iron Age existed on the hilltop above the site and that material from the settlement had been washed down the hillside by the processes of weathering and soil drift, accelerated by plough action. The existence of such an occupation site is so far the only explanation that can be offered for the place-name Burpham, which should mean "settlement by the fort" or "meadow by the fort". Quarrying for sand and clay in the late

nineteenth and early twentieth centuries would have destroyed most of any existing hilltop settlement, however, and accounts for the present undulating character of the terrain. Some limited evidence of occupation in the Late Bronze or Early Iron Age was recovered from the site itself but most of the features discovered had been produced by the downward slumping of the natural clay subsoil.

(Martin O'Connell)

Dorking: North Street

A trial excavation in September behind the Malthouse in North Street produced a quantity of pottery dating from Romano-British through Medieval to recent and included a good series of clay tobacco pipes. A detailed report will be available later.

(V. Ettlinger)

Ewell: Roman Vessel from "Garbrand Hall" (Bourne Hall)

The writer's attention was recently drawn to a Roman coarseware jar with a Ewell provenance, which was offered for sale in the January number of a London auction catalogue.¹ Inspection of the vessel at the viewing prior to the sale confirmed the attribution, as a handwritten label on its side read: "Roman. Dug up in the garden of Garbrand Hall, Ewell, Surrey: circa 1890".

Measuring 13 cm. in height, and complete save for a portion missing from its rim and neck, the vessel is a wide-mouthed, round-bellied, pedestal-based jar of smooth black ware, and can be dated to the early second century AD. It was originally published more than 65 years ago by H. E. Malden,² as part of a collection of miscellaneous antiquities found in the grounds of Garbrand Hall—since renamed Bourne Hall. According to Malden's account, these finds were made in 1912 or 1913, and after initial discoveries in 1903—dates which apparently conflict with that given on the label accompanying the vessel. However, the imprecise nature of the date "circa 1890" suggests that a later writer, perhaps Malden himself, was using local knowledge to ascribe a find-date to a vessel discovered some years before, and which for the sake of convenience was published as having been found with the other material in 1912/1913.

Bourne Hall is situated on low-lying ground close to the springs which provide one source of the Hogsmill river, in an area which has hitherto produced little in the way of Roman settlement debris. In view of the vessel's findspot, its relative completeness, and the recent discovery of a single cremation burial nearby,³ it may itself form part of a burial group, and if so, assumes new significance, as few Roman burials have been recorded from the area around Ewell.

1. Phillips of Blenstock House, Sale No. 22,075 (Tuesday, 16th January, 1979), Lot 6.
2. Malden, H. E. "Discoveries at Garbrand Hall, Ewell", *Sy. AC* 26 (1913) 148 and No. 6 on accompanying plate.
3. Sheldon, H. and Schaaf, L. "A survey of Roman sites in Greater London" Fig. 7, *Gazeteer* No. 143 in *Collectanea Londiniensis* (LAMAS Special Paper No. 2, 1978).

(Jonathan Cotton)

London Borough of Richmond: 47 Kew Green (TQ 18857746 centre)

Redevelopment on the site of 47 Kew Green revealed the remains of six soakaways and an underground chamber built of brick. No dating evidence was recovered but the same type of brick had been used for all the structures; the bricks and the brickwork suggest an early nineteenth century date. A more detailed report and plans are held by the SW London Unit.

(Roy and Lesley Adkins,
Field Officers of the SW London Unit)

Wisley (TQ 069598)

On the basis of documentary evidence, prehistoric and Roman material found in the neighbourhood and the results of excavations carried out by Ann Watson in 1977, a larger area of the site was excavated between 21st August and 3rd October, 1978. The area examined is under threat from a scheme to divert the course of the River Wey as part of the programme of construction of the M25 motorway. A continuation of the twelfth century ditch identified by Ann Watson was discovered running parallel with a shallow gully that may have served as the bedding for a small fence or palisade. Enclosed by the ditch and gully was a small occupation area which contained a twelfth century rubbish pit and a hearth composed of stone and baked clay. The only structural evidence consisted of an isolated posthole. The area investigated was shown as "Mill land" on the Tithe map of Wisley (1842) suggesting that the mill belonging to Wisley at the time of the Domesday survey (1086) probably stood within the vicinity and may have been related to the small twelfth century habitation site excavated.

(Martin O'Connell)

Roman Coins Found at Wisley

1. Bronze dupondius of Gordian III (diameter 2.3 cms.) 4th issue AD 241-3, Rome mint, in good condition.
obv. IMP GORDIANUS-PIUS FEL AUG.
rev. VIRTUTI AUGUSTI I (Hercules standing).

Found by the sewage works on the surface of the path, TQ 061599, by Mr J. Francis, 1 Sanway Close, Byfleet. Coin retained by finder.

2. Billon Tetradrachm of late third century AD (diameter 1.9 cms.) from Alexandria, Egypt.
obv. Emperor's name illegible.
rev. Eagle with wreath in beak.

Found on the bank of River Wey, TQ 064599, by Mr Woodruff, Sanway Road, Byfleet. Coin retained by finder.

(A. Watson)

Wisley Dug-out Canoe

This canoe, found in 1907, is reported by Mr Howard in the SAS Collections XXIV (and illustrated in XXV). It is on view at Weybridge Museum and the find spot on the River Wey is marked on OS maps at TQ 064599.

However, local legend has it that this canoe was found further downstream. Mrs Nash, Suffolk Cottage, Sanway Close, Byfleet, says that her father, Mr Denby, was one of the boys who found it in the deep pool by Byfleet Manor House (TQ 071602) while diving off the wooden bridge which

used to cross the river at this point. Apparently there were two canoes found, the other canoe being burnt as firewood before anyone realised what it was. Mrs Nash does not remember where that canoe was found.

(A. Watson)

Excavation Committee Symposium: 1979

The programme for the Symposium, 26th May at the Dorking Halls, has now been arranged. The pattern will be the same as last year concentrating on recent work in and around the county. In the morning there will be several short talks, and in the afternoon rather more attention will be given to important new Bronze Age finds from Runnymede Bridge, near Egham, and the work being carried out in Alice Holt Forest which has recently won the **Chronicle Award**. It is hoped that there will be several exhibitions of recent work by groups throughout the county and publications will be on sale.

The meeting will be chaired by Mr J. L. Nevinson, FSA. The following titles are provisional:

- 10.30 G. Hewlett: Hedge dating in the Chelsham area
N. Frost: Fieldwork carried out by the Haslemere Group
R. Ellaby: Mesolithic sites on the Upper Mole
R. Hanworth: Excavations on the line of Stane Street
- 12.30 LUNCH
- 2.00 J. McCracken: Barnes Church
S. Needham: Runnymede Bridge 1978
- 3.00 AFTERNOON TEA
- 3.45 R. Poulton: Guildford Friary
M. Lyne: The Romano-British pottery in Alice Holt Forest: recent experiments
- 4.45 SUMMING UP

It is hoped that the lunch and tea breaks will be adequate to allow people to view the exhibitions. It may be possible for coffee to be available in the lunch break and tea (the drink) in the afternoon without the need to order, at a probable cost of 10p.

Afternoon teas may be ordered in advance at a cost of 50p. Orders must be received by 18th May and should be sent to Mrs K. Needham, at Castle Arch.

Applications for tickets should also be sent to Mrs Needham. Admission will be 70p for tickets bought in advance and £1 at the door. All orders for tea and tickets should be accompanied by s.a.e. and all cheques, etc., made payable to Surrey Archaeological Society.

There is ample car parking available alongside the Dorking Halls.

(D. G. Bird, Secretary: Excavations Committee)

An Appeal

We are looking for a 1/2 bedroomed unfurnished flat in or near SW London to rent or buy. Offers or suggestions from members of SAS would be much appreciated.

(Roy and Lesley Adkins, SW London Unit,
21 Harbut Road, Battersea, London, SW11)

MEETINGS

MARCH

Thursday 15th at 8 p.m.

THE WEY AND ARUN CANAL. Talk by Peter Beresford to the Walton and Weybridge Local History Society at the Weybridge Library Lecture Hall.

Thursday 15th at 8 p.m.

ESHER OLD CHURCH. Talk by Royston Pike to the Esher District Local History Society at King George's Hall, Esher.

Thursday 15th at 1 p.m.

ARCHBISHOP ABBOT. Talk by Matthew Alexander at the Guildford Institute, Ward Street, Guildford.

Wednesday 21st at 8 p.m.

THE WALL PAINTINGS IN THE ROCK-HEWN CHURCHES OF CAPPADOCIA AND THE MAUSOLEUM OF ANTIOCHUS I IN CENTRAL ANATOLIA. Talk by Lennox Manton to Guildford members of the SAS at the Brew House, Guildford. Visitors welcome.

Saturday 31st at 2 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.

CAVALCADE OF COSTUME at Dorking Halls in aid of Dorking and Reigate NSPCC.

This is a historic fashion shown of genuine period costumes dating back to 1690. This unique collection, owned and presented by Mrs Penny of Blandford Forum, Dorset, is modelled by a voluntary team of personal friends. Over the past 18 years individuals from all over the West Country have given their family heirlooms to Mrs Penny making it possible for her to raise many thousands of pounds for charity. Mrs Penny is an authority on Social History and this, combined with the beauty of the costumes her models wear, brings to life two and a half centuries of fashion.

There will be two performances—2 p.m. and 7.30 p.m., each lasting approximately three hours including an interval when refreshments will be on sale.

It is hoped that schools will bring parties to the afternoon performance and for this reason the charge will only be 75p per ticket. Tickets for the evening performance will be £1.30. Cheques payable to NSPCC should be sent to Mrs S. Pemberton, Coles Hill Farm, Betchworth, Surrey.

APRIL

Tuesday 10th at 8 p.m.

EXCAVATIONS AT HENDON. Talk by Mr Simmes of the Maidenhead Historical Society to the Egham by Runnymede History Society at the Literary Institute (1st Floor). Visitors 30p.

Thursday 19th at 8 p.m.

SOME ASPECTS OF OLD FARM BUILDINGS. Talk by J. Oliver to the Send History Society at Church Room, Send.

Friday 20th at 7.45 p.m.

THE EXCAVATION OF SILCHESTER. Talk by M. G. Fulford to the Richmond Society at Richmond Adult College, Parkshot, Richmond.

(A visit to the site and to see the finds in Reading Museum will be arranged shortly after this talk.)

Saturday 21st at 2 p.m.

A Specialised Tutorial on **BRICKWORK**, by the Surrey Local History Council. At The Brewhouse, Guildford. Details from your local Society.

MAY

Tuesday 1st at 8.15 p.m.

THE VAUXHALL POTTERY EXCAVATIONS. Talk by R. Edwards, Director, to the Southwark & Lambeth Archaeological Society at the Durning Library, Kennington Cross.

Tuesday 8th at 8 p.m.

INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY WITH EMPHASIS ON SURREY. Talk by Dr Crocker to the Egham by Runnymede Historical Society at the Literary Institute (1st Floor). Visitors 30p.

Next **Bulletin** April for which copy is required by 6th March. Following **Bulletin** May.