

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BULLETIN

Number 165

March 1980

Edited by Lesley Ketteringham, 14 Court Road, Godstone
Tel: Godstone 842534

EXCAVATION NOTICE

REIGATE: OLD VICARAGE SITE (TQ 25705036)

(Director: David Williams)

Excavation is still continuing but will have to finish shortly. Help is still needed to extract as much information from this interesting site as possible. Please contact David Williams during the day on 01-223 3431.

A REMINDER

A number of members who pay by standing order have not up-dated their instructions to their banks and have paid only £4 for the year 1979/80. Members are reminded that publications will be supplied free only where subscriptions have been fully paid which, in the case of ordinary members, is £6.00. Would those members who have not yet done so, please take urgent steps to bring themselves into credit?

New arrangements for the Bulletin—see Editorial

VISITS

Saturday 12th April 1980

ALBURY

Arranged by Miss Josephine Carter

- 10.15 a.m. Meet at the Old Parish Church, TQ 063478
Drive into Albury Park and fork left where indicated to the Church. Continue past a left turn to some houses. Park along the track which is returning to the main drive. It is requested that only two wheels should be on the grass. As there are sheep in the Park, please do not bring dogs.
Mr. R. Charles Walmsley, F.R.I.C.S. will show us the Church and tell us the history of the Mansion.
Mr. F. M. Dadswell is the guide to the gardens originally designed by John Evelyn about 1660.
- Lunch The Drummond Arms, TQ 050479, on the A248 in the centre of Albury village, has a restaurant and supplies good bar meals. Tel: Shere 2039.
- 2.00 p.m. Assemble in Albury village, formerly called Weston Street. Messrs. Livesey & Henderson have kindly given us permission to use their Car Park at Albury House, TQ 052479 on the A248.

From this Car Park, we will explore the village with the help and guidance of Dr Maurice Burton and members of the Albury History Society.

Tickets Members 30p, visitors 40p, students half price and accompanied children free, from Mrs Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 0QL.

Saturday 10th May

Twickenham and Strawberry Hill

Arranged by Mr F. E. Manning

10.30 a.m. Meet outside St. Mary's Church, on Twickenham Water front where there are adjacent car parks.

Mr Donald Simpson, one of the churchwardens, will take us around St. Mary's and York House and its charming gardens. There will be time to visit the water front and Eel Pie Island. Lunch can be taken at the Barmy Inn or picnic by the Thames.

2.15 p.m. Assemble at Queen Mary College, Waldegrave Road, for a conducted tour of Walpole's Strawberry Hill and of Waldegrave House now part of the modern College.

It is possible that members will have to be restricted for this visit.

Tickets Members 30p, visitors 40p, students half-price from Mrs J. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 0QL.

New Members from January 1980

Miss S. C. Hall, Flat 1B, 6 Oakhill, Surbiton, KT6 6DY.

Mr C. H. Kammann, 47 Higher Drive, Banstead, SM7 1PW.

Mr J. D. Matthews, 18 Famet Close, Purley, CR2 2DX.

Mr J. M. Purkiss, 4 Lime Close, West Clandon, GU4 7UL.

Mr H. E. Robinson, 42 Pine Tree Hill, Pyrford, Woking, GU22 8LY.

Mr L. J. Simmons, Meadow Cottage, Lane End, Hambledon, GU8 4HD.

Mrs M. Vaughan-Lewis, 12 Rural Way, Redhill, RH1 4BT.

NOTES AND QUERIES

Local Secretary for Blechingley, Burstow and Nutfield

Following the resignation of Dr B. Kirsop, who has moved from the County, Mr P. F. Finch, 3 Ridge Green, South Nutfield, Redhill, RH1 5RN has been appointed in his place.

Honorary Secretary

SWLAU

The South-west London Archaeological Unit can be contacted on the following telephone numbers at most times of the day: 01-223 2478, 01-878 0479 or 01-679 7054.

Ditton; Linear Earthwork Boundary. TQ 166671-TQ 167647

This note is to record the existence of a linear earthwork boundary of Ditton, which has long been known to local archaeologists but is hitherto unpublished.

The boundary, evidently a ditch of large dimensions, runs from the Thames at TQ 166671 to Surbiton Golf Club at TQ 167647, in a straight N-S direction, for a distance of some 1½ miles. Today it represents the Thames Ditton—Long Ditton Parish boundary and appears variously as a modern roadway, a sunken track, a single hedgerow, and in places a double hedgerow up to 20 feet wide. The boundary also shadows a geological change, with the separation of the Gravel Flood Plain Terrace of Thames Ditton from the brickearth flood plain of the Kingston loop, running parallel some 100 yards to the west. Placenames along its length argue its authenticity as a monument. Bankside Drive although a 20th

century estate runs parallel for some distance at TQ 166659 and may indicate the presence of a bank in the not too distant past. A number of fields on both sides of the earthwork bear the name Farnborough. These cluster around TQ 167657 and may have some bearing on the function.

Without excavation, dating of the boundary is impossible. The straightness of the earthwork may suggest a Roman date though a function as a Prehistoric land boundary seems more likely. Certainly, if this is the long ditch referred to in the name 'Long Ditton', and the name itself be accepted as Saxon, then by inference it must be of pre-Saxon construction.

David Field

The Hassell Project

This enterprise, sponsored by the Surrey Archaeological Society, to Photograph some 1700 watercolour drawings by John Hassell (1767-1825) and his son Edward Hassell (d. 1852), is nearing completion. The 820 drawings in the British Library collection are safely 'in the can', thanks to the sympathetic co-operation of the North Library staff. The recording of Hassells in some thirty other public and private collections has been more difficult for legal, technical and geographical reasons, but some 900 other drawings have been photographed with the active help of almost all holders.

The final result will be two reels of microfilm covering virtually every parish (except Sutton) in historic Surrey; and it is hoped that every major collection of local material (including the relevant London Boroughs) will take a copy either of the microfilm or of en-prints in card index form. The coverage of the County by some 1750 Hassell pictures is such as few counties can match in the pre-Gothic Revival era. Students of individual parish histories, of Surrey churches or domestic architecture will continue to find the Hassell drawings an essential tool of research.

It would help the Society to make practical arrangements for the reproduction and marketing of this comprehensive record if libraries or individuals interested would let me know now. In the meanwhile, an enquiry of your local parson or occupant of an 'Old Rectory' may disclose yet more Hassells. If so, please let me know.

James Batley, 7A Burntwood Lane, Caterham, CR3 5UN.

"PETRIE REGAINED"

Query

The Minet Library is to be congratulated in acquiring an almost complete collection of Petrie drawings of Surrey Churches. I have discovered two others at Titsey and one at Caterham. Has any member come across (or acquired) any other Petries?

James Batley

Woking: Sutton Place. TQ 011535

By courtesy of the Sutton Place Property Company Limited and the generously given time and interest of the Estate Manager we have been able to inspect the interior of Sutton Place including the roofs.

The house is well recorded elsewhere* but information on the construction of the present roofs is lacking.

We found the hall roof to be of hard wood and of massive scale. The tiebeams are cambered and at least two feet deep. They appear to be older than the other timbers in the roof which consists of two tiers of butted side purlins placed in line. The common rafters are butted into the lower purlins but ride over the upper line. There are no windbraces. Fragmentary single wall plates remain within the brickwork on each side. There is no evidence of ashlar-pieces.

The roof over the east wing has two tiers of butted purlins both in line, and not in line, without pattern. Common rafters are butted to the upper purlins but ride over the lower line.

The roof over the west wing was not inspected throughout its entire length, but so far as it was seen it followed the form of the roof over the east wing and contained butted purlins both in line and not in line.

Some members in the hall roof, notably common rafters, may be replacements. Over the wings the roofs contain several members which are re-used timber, but appear to be original to the builds.

Weathering was noted on the eastern face of the last tie-beam at the eastern end of the hall. The upper face of this beam carries a groove—presumably to take studding that once closed the end of the hall.

A tower-like block situated at the south-west corner of the old house, outside the line of the west wing, has a roof with through purlins, curved windbraces, raking struts and reducing principal rafters. This building is joined on its west side by another block that has a roof of similar type but differs in detail in that it is framed with collars and queen struts.

The brickwork of these two builds is continuous with the Tudor mansion although they are now components of the seventeenth century kitchen complex. We believe these builds, together with their roofs, to be sixteenth century work.

We suggest that the reducing rafter construction found in these two roofs was, in fact, the form used originally to roof the entire house of the 1520s.

We submit that the roofs over the hall, the east and the west wings, are not of sixteenth century date. The absence of windbraces, and the method of common rafters butting into the purlins, indicates that these roofs were rebuilt in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. This corresponds with the period covered by the marriage of John Weston to Mary Copley in 1637 to the inheritance of Sutton Place by their great grand-daughter Melior Mary Weston in 1730.

The roof over the hall was last overhauled and strengthened in 1978.

Jim Oliver and John L. Baker

*"The Annals of an old Manor House", Frederic Harrison

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

"The Wakes" (at Selborne)—a short architectural guide by Dr G. Meirion Jones. Available from The Gilbert White Museum, The Wakes, Selborne, Alton, Hants, GU34 3JH. Price 20p (incl. postage).

"The Industrial Archaeology of Reigate and Banstead District" compiled by Derek Stidder.

This is the first publication of the Surrey Industrial History Group. It is hoped to produce similar booklets covering each District Council in turn, and eventually to combine them into a revised volume covering the whole county. The booklet lists 109 sites under the headings of Mills, Transport, Public Services, Mineral Extraction, Brewing and Miscellaneous sites, with a further reading list. It is available at the introductory price of 75p at SIHG functions and Guildford Museum, or by post (90p) from Derek Stidder, 59 Hitchings Way, Woodhatch, Reigate.

"Roman Neatham" by David Graham and Martin Millet

A Roman Town and its setting, including illustrations from excavations, plans, maps, etc. Price 65p (incl. p & p) from Farnham & District Museum Society, Farnham Museum, Farnham.

Review

"The Free Men of Charlwood" by Ruth Sewill and Elisabeth Lane. 2nd ed (1980) 235pp + index + two end paper maps. Available from Brendon Sewill, Charlwood, Surrey. Price £6.50 + p & p £1.

This well produced book is a pleasure to handle and to read. From careful research of documents, both local and national, the authors have drawn an affectionate portrait of a wealden village from Saxon times to the present day. This 1980 edition has a postscript written by Brendon Sewill to cover the period 1950-1980. The addition shows that recent history can be as interesting as events long past.

The book is obviously written for the Charlwood resident but many of the events and people described in the text have connections with neighbouring villages and areas so the book will appeal to a wider readership.

The list of literature sources given at the end of the book is extensive but it is a pity that details have not been included in the references. Such details would make the volume of greater value to readers who wish to follow up any particular point.

Ruth Sewill was the daughter of Ernest Straker, author of the classic book "Wealdon Iron", so it is particularly surprising to read in the chapter on "The Iron Industry 1396-1700" that "Iron had probably been smelted in Sussex since Neolithic times". Either this sentence has been added to this new edition or Homer was nodding!

But these are minor criticisms of a fascinating book which deserves to be read by anyone who is interested in local history.

Elvey Humphries

The first edition of this book was reviewed in S.A.C. LII.

MEETINGS

MARCH

Wednesday 5th

A Programme of short films prepared by the Department of the Environment entitled "Caring for History", "The Conservation Game" and "The Craftsmen of Dinoric" to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at Bourne Hall, Ewell, at 7.30 p.m. Admission 20p including refreshments. All welcome.

Friday 7th

"Activities at Cowdrey's Down, a Saxon village at Basingstoke during 1979". Talk by Martin Millett to the Farnham & District Museum Society at the Council Chamber of the Farnham Locality Office in South Street at 7.45 p.m.

Friday 7th

"Local History of Tooting". Talk by Tony Shaw to the Merton Historical Society at Morden Library, S.W.19 at 8.00 p.m.

Saturday 8th

"Industrial Archaeology". A programme of talks illustrated by colour slides by leading industrial archaeologists describing some major industrial monuments and recent works.

Introduction

The Ironbridge Project

The Industrial Archaeologist in Greater London

Industrial Archaeology in Sussex

Industrial Archaeology in East Kent

Industry in the Medway Area

Industrial Archaeology in Faversham

Roger Moate, M.P.

Neil Cossons, M.A., F.S.A., F.M.A.

Dr Dennis Smith, PH.D., M.SC.,
D.I.C.CENG.

E. J. Upton, B.A.

R. B. Matkin, M.A., CENG., F.I.G.ASE.

J. M. Preston (C.K.A. Industrial
Archaeological Officer)

Arthur Percival, M.B.E., B.A. F.S.A.

The C.K.A. Annual Young Archaeologist Awards will be presented by Miss P. E. Thesiger, Chairman, K.C.C. Amenities and Countryside Committee.

Presented by the Council for Kentish Archaeology in conjunction with Kent County Council at Queen Elizabeth's School, Abbey Place, Faversham, Kent, 11.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Price 50p (payable C.K.A.) 5, Harvest Bank Road, West Wickham, Kent (with S.A.E.) or at the door. Please bring packed lunch.

Friday 14th

"Meandering in Morocco". Talk by Lennox Manton to Guildford members of the S.A.S. at The Guildford Institute in Ward Street, Guildford at 8.00 p.m. Visitors welcome.

Saturday 22nd

The Excavation Committee Workshop—FLINTS—at Committee Room 2, Central Library, St. Nicholas Way, Sutton, 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Following requests from members of the Society interested particularly in lithic industries, this workshop will be concerned with the recognition, collection and recording of flints. Participants are asked if possible to bring implements from their own excavations or field walking and to be prepared to discuss their method and problems. All local societies are invited to send representatives and any member of SAS is welcome.

Further details from David Bird, County Planning Department, County Hall, Kingston-upon-Thames, Tel: 546 1050 or J. S. McCracken, 399a Upper Richmond Road, Putney, SW15 5QZ. Tel: 878 0479.

APRIL

Friday 18th

"Archaeology of Cheam (and Whitehall)". Talk by Norman Nail to the Merton Historical Society at Morden Library SW19., at 8.00 p.m.

MAY

Saturday and Sunday 10th and 11th

A London Kiln Study Group Seminar "Kilns in their contexts". Speakers: C. J. Young, M. Lune, J. P. Wild, J. Musty, C. Green, R. Edwards, P. C. D. Brears, P. J. Harris. A Wine and Cheese Party on Saturday evening and Tea Coffee will be included in the cost which is £8.00 for members and £8.50 for non-members. Cheques to the Secretary, L. K. S. G., 155 Walworth Road, London, SE17 or O. H. J. Percy, 48 Westville Road, London W.12., Tel: 01-212 4111 (daytime) or 01-749 2793 (evenings) from whom further information may be obtained. Venue: The Museum of London.

Saturday 17th

SAS Excavation Committee Symposium at Dorking Halls, Dorking.

Provisional Programme:—

- 10.30 Roman Southwark—Harvey Sheldon.
Recent discoveries in the Godalming Area—John Jannaway.
Blechingley Castle—Denis Turner.
Excavations in Staines—Kevin Crouch.
- 12.30 Lunch.
- 2.00 The Old Vicarage, Reigate—Rob Poulton and David Williams.
Excavations at Stanwell—Martin O'Connell.
Place Names in Surrey—J. McNeal Dodgson.
- 4.00 Tea.
- 4.45 Exhibitions Close.
Chairman: Hugh Thompson.

In addition to the formal programme there will be exhibitions of local work by groups throughout the County and the extended length of tea breaks are designed to allow people to inspect these. Coffee and tea will be available during both breaks at a small charge. Afternoon teas at 50p may be ordered in advance. The charge for admittance will be £1 at the door and tickets may be bought in advance for 70p. Applications for tickets, with afternoon teas should be made to Mrs K. Needham, Castle Arch, Guildford, GU13 3FX and should be accompanied by a SAE. Cheques should be made payable to the Surrey Archaeological Society. There is ample car-parking space adjacent to the Dorking Halls.

Tuesday 13th

"The History of Inn Signs". Talk by R. J. Webber to the Egham by Runnymede Historical Society at Room 2 of the Literary Institute, High Street, Egham at 8.00 p.m. All welcome.

Editorial Note—Important!

As mentioned in the last Bulletin (No 164) the rising costs of publication and postage necessitated consideration of ways and means to keep the cost of the Bulletin within reasonable proportion to the cost of subscriptions. The Council decided that in future there would be only 6 Bulletins per year instead of the present 10. This means that all members wishing to announce meetings and talks should try to obtain their information and pass it to the Editor of the Bulletin at least 3 months in advance, except for August and September, so that they can be sure of space. For instance the May Bulletin should cover meetings, etc. for May, June, **July and August** as the following Bulletin will not appear until August. There will, however, be an August Bulletin which should carry notices of the Autumn courses. The programme will be as follows:

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

Following Bulletin **August**, for which copy is required by 6th July.

Following Bulletin **September**, for which copy is required by 6th August.

Following Bulletin **November**, for which copy is required by 6th October.

Following Bulletin **January 1981**, for which copy is required by 6th December.

This cut-back is regretted, but the Bulletins will probably be larger and though more expensive to produce the saving on postage will be considerable. I will notify you of any change.

Hon. Bulletin Editor