

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

BULLETIN

Number 187

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OBITUARIES

UVEDALE HENRY HOARE LAMBERT, 1909-1983

The death of Uvedale Lambert of South Park, Blechingley, marks the passing of a well loved and respected member of the Society, which he joined in 1932. According to him the family originated in Banstead in the early 16th century and established a line in Blechingley in the 18th century. The Uvedales, who were connected to the Lamberts by marriage, have lived in Surrey since the 14th century. Land-owning and management and caring for people were some of the characteristics of this horse-riding, farming, history-loving, teacher who was High Sheriff of Surrey 1961-2, Master of the Old Surrey Hounds 1950-74, Governor of local schools and Lord of the Manor of Blechingley since 1969/70. He served with the Kings Royal Rifle Corps in the Middle East during the last war. His sincere interest in religion led to the setting up of the Southwark Diocesan Training Centre in Blechingley in 1961. He was also a Guardian of the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham (Norfolk) from about 1952.

Uvedale Lambert will be greatly missed by the local people amongst whom he spent so much of his life and who owe so much to him and to his father for their scholarly work on local history.

L. Ketteringham

HERBERT W. EAMES, MBE, MA, LLB

It is with great regret that we record the death of Herbert Eames on August 28th at the age of 64. He joined the Society in 1978 and served as Joint Honorary Secretary with Mrs. Eames from 1980 until 1982 when he was compelled to resign because of illness.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Elizabeth Eames and the family in their sad loss. He will be greatly missed by all those who knew him.

Marian Gower

**SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING,
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
AND ANNUAL LECTURE**

Members are reminded that a Special General Meeting of the Incorporated Surrey Archaeological Society will be held at 2.00 p.m. on **Saturday, 26th November** in the Lecture Theatre Block at the University of Surrey, Guildford. There is an adjacent car park (No. 1 East). The Special General Meeting will be followed by the Annual General Meeting and a lecture entitled "Medieval Settlement in South East Surrey" given by Mr. D. J. Turner, BSc, FSA, FSAScot. For full details see *Bulletin* 186.

Hon. Secretaries

NOTES AND QUERIES

Chipstead: A flint axe (TQ 27365621)

In August this year, a flint axe, presumed to be neolithic, was found by the writer on a footpath which runs beside Porters Wood, Shabden, Chipstead. It is 140mm long, 55mm wide, 35mm thick, weighs 358g, and is somewhat rolled. The flint is patinated cream white with some patches of grey and is cherty in places, characteristic of that available locally. Areas of iron staining are present. One piece of cortex remains but covers only 2 per cent of the total surface. A chip reveals a grey-coloured centre. There is no indication of polishing, however, its worked edges are fairly straight, and edge trimming flakes seem to have been removed first down one side, then the other – typically neolithic. The worked edges are almost parallel and surface flaking scars are shallow. Unfortunately the method of end sharpening has been obscured by apparently later chips and flakes. In the last few years the writer has found many rough, thick, waste flakes around the surrounding fields but no axes or axe pieces. The axe remains with the finder. A drawing will be deposited at Castle Arch.

Christopher Taylor

Kingston upon Thames, Warren Park, Warren Road (TQ 204706)

In late May and early June, 1983, a small excavation was carried out in the garden of a private house in Warren Park. It was hoped that this would yield information about the gravels of the 'Kingston Leaf' terrace (J. S. Penn and J. D. Rolls, *Trans. L.A.M.A.S.* Vol. 32, 1981) which on this site were at probably their highest point. It was also hoped that some further evidence of the considerable prehistoric human presence in the Coombe and Kingston Hill area might be found. After initial clearance of dense undergrowth, a trench 5 metres by 4 metres was opened, and the topsoil removed to a depth averaging 77 cm., when the gravel surface was exposed. Three patches of dark soil appearing on this surface were investigated. They proved to be natural, probably the results of tree-root disturbance; the area of this site contained many mature deciduous trees.

The only finds were eight flint flakes from the topsoil. These are almost certainly waste from flint knapping, but have no marked diagnostic features and cannot be assigned to any definite prehistoric period.

In late June, when the house foundation trenches had been excavated by JCB to a depth of c. 1.50 metres (c. 1 metre into the gravel), some trench sections were inspected and photographed; pebble samples were taken for examination by Dr. John Penn of the School of Geology, Kingston Polytechnic, whose advice during the excavation was most helpful.

We are very grateful to Mr. Barry Anderson, the owner of the site, for permitting the work to be carried out.

David Field and Pat Nicolaysen

Witley: Witley Church (SU 948380)

The Haslemere Group has recently carried out a small excavation of part of the south side of the nave of Witley church. No trace of a previous church or any alteration to the present structure was found although restrictions imposed on the excavation prevented the footing of the south wall, to which a Saxon date has been attributed, from being exposed. The wall contains a Norman doorway and carries frescoes which have been dated to the first third of the twelfth century (*SAS Collections* Vol 74, pp. 157-167). Upper layers of the floor area had been destroyed by the imposition of a rubble base to a Victorian concrete and wood block floor but a series of greensand floors, some lime-washed and all of them broken and interrupted, was revealed. The few pottery sherds that were found give a tentative dating range of twelfth to mid-thirteenth century.

J. R. Turner

Woking: Sutton Park, Near St. Edward's Church (TQ 004538)

The sixth season of excavation at Sutton Park has now been completed. It may be of interest to note that so far some 65 people have taken part, between them making the equivalent of four people working full-time, six days a week, for one year. It is entirely due to their efforts that so much has been achieved.

The 1983 excavation concentrated on the area of the medieval building found last year. The results of these two years may be summed up as follows: two walls of a building have been identified, one composed of chalk blocks and the other, at right angles to it, of spaced out sandstone blocks, presumably supporting posts or a beam. They seem to be the south and east walls of a room probably some six metres square, but west and north walls have proved elusive so far. Within the room, probably at the centre, is a hearth constructed of roof tiles on edge, measuring around two metres by one metre. Traces of a yellow clay floor survive, especially near the hearth, where they sealed the probable remains of an earlier hearth. Another, certain, earlier hearth was sealed beneath the latest hearth. This three-phase sequence of hearths could not be matched by identifiable floor levels except possibly in the area nearest the hearths themselves. Nor was it clear how the earlier hearths related to the walls, although no other evidence for walls was found.

South of the building two separate areas of burnt clay were found. The largest was over three metres long and about one metre wide. It was composed of more than one layer of yellow clay burnt red and hard on top. The second area was only about 75 by 50 cm and apparently only of one layer of clay. It sealed a medieval penny, probably of Edward I.

The larger area overlay the top fill of a ditch cut well into the natural sand, running east-west and possibly joining a similar ditch located originally in 1978, giving an overall length so far of around 40 metres. The ditch proper contained relatively few finds, yet to be examined properly but probably no earlier than the 13th century. Spread across the top of the ditch was a considerable amount of pottery rubbish, with relatively little bone. The south wall of the building appeared to overlie this rubbish spread. If the ditch continues to the east as expected, it will certainly underlie a second building, a corner of which was located in 1983. It was made of large flints and some sandstone blocks, partly mortared together with roof tile fragments. This building was not parallel to the one first discovered, but it is thought to be medieval also on present evidence. Both buildings had been roofed with tiles, to judge by the very large number of fragments recovered from their general area.

The latest features identified on the site were two 'drains' made of re-used bricks and roof tiles, joining at right angles after cutting through the chalk wall. Their purpose is currently not understood; the field does not need drainage, rather the reverse, and it may well be that they were constructed to irrigate the area where a 17th century Sir Richard Weston, a known agricultural improver, is said to have grown special crops.

Permission for the excavation was kindly given by the Sutton Place Heritage Trust, and thanks are due to Mr. George Croudace of the Trust for his assistance over such matters as tools storage and to Father John Stapleton of St. Edward's Church for again putting up with a large number of archaeologists on his door-step.

D. G. Bird

Can anybody help?

"Hatchments in Britain" (ed. Peter Summers, FSA, Phillimore)

A detailed survey of all the surviving funeral hatchments in Britain has been in progress for many years and four volumes have already been published. The next volume will include all the hatchments in Surrey. A list of those already recorded follows and I shall be very grateful if incumbents and others will let me know of any that have been overlooked. This can easily happen in the case of hatchments in locked vestries, ringing chambers of towers, etc. The great majority are in churches but others, which also need to be recorded, may be in private houses, museums or other secular buildings.

1984

LECTURE SERIES ON THE ROMANESQUE IN SOUTH EAST BRITAIN.
A lecture series sponsored jointly by the Surrey Archaeological Society and the Department of Educational Studies, University of Surrey has been organised. Lectures will be on Tuesday evenings at the University of Surrey beginning on March 27th, 1984, and continuing until May 22nd (no lecture on 24th April – Easter holiday). The lectures are timed to coincide with a major exhibition on the Romanesque to be held at the Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London from April to July 1984.

A provisional programme includes lectures on the Background and Development of the Church, British Castles, Castles in France, the Winchester Bible, Abbeys, the Wall Paintings of Sigema, Surrey Churches and Sussex Churches. Full details including the final programme, location, times and cost will be printed in the next *Bulletin*.

Rosamond Hanworth
John L. Gower

Next Bulletin: January/February, for which copy is required by 26th November (see below).

Following Bulletin: March/April, for which copy is required by 6th February.

Please note: The date by which copy is required for Bulletin 188 is being delayed until after the new policy for issuing Bulletins has been decided at the AGM. The March/April Bulletin may also be changed.

This list is of hatchments I have personally surveyed since 1981. Albury, Old (1) Ash (1) Bermondsey (4) Betchworth (4) Bookham, Little (5) Bramley (1) Chelsham (1) Chiddingfold (2) Chobham (1) Clandon, East (6) Clandon Park (3) Egham (2) Esher (4) Farnham (11) Gatton (4) Guildford (1) Guildford Abbot's Hospital (1) Ham (2) Horsley, East (1) Kew (11) Kingston-upon-Thames (1) Kingston Vale (1) Leigh (2) Lingfield (1) Merton (6) Mickleham (8) Morden (13) Mortlake (4) Petersham (1) Seal (4) Shalford (4) Southwark Cathedral (3) Tatsfield (1) Walton-on-the-Hill (3) Womersley (4) + Titsey (1).

M. R. Froggatt (Mrs.)
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The diamond-shaped hatchment, which originated in the Low Countries, is a debased form of the medieval achievement. In this country it was customary for the hatchment to be hung outside the house during the period of mourning, and thereafter be placed in the church. This practice, begun in the early 17th century, is by no means entirely obsolete, for about 80 examples have so far been recorded for the present century.

Royalties on the book will be going to the Ockenden Venture for Help for Children in the Third World.

Local Secretary

Mr. Michael Wilkinson, 17 Oakwood Avenue, Purley CR2 1AR, has recently been appointed the Hon. Local Secretary for Coulsdon, Purley, Sanderstead and Farleigh.

Microfiche Reader

The Library has acquired a desk-top microfiche reader for a six-month trial period. Members wishing to use the reader when the Librarian is not on duty are requested to inform Mrs. Ashworth beforehand. If there is sufficient interest the Society will consider the purchase of a desk-top reader.

The Margary Award

Members are reminded that entries are now due for the 1984 Margary Award. John Gower would be pleased to receive indications that entries are to be expected if they are not yet ready.

Local Museums Displays

The Editor would be pleased to publish forthcoming displays of local interest in Surrey Museums. Would curators please give dates, subjects and admission charges, if any, and a short description of the exhibit.

Croydon: Masonic Almshouses

The Masonic Almshouses, Freemasons Road (backing on to the Brighton Line just north of East Croydon Station) were built in mock-Tudor style in 1852 by the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution of Croydon as an "Asylum for Worthy, Aged & Decayed Freemasons". Spot-listed Grade II in the mid 1970s in the face of a demolition threat, they are now being converted (according to *Building Design* May 20th) into self contained flats and maisonettes for the elderly under a £760,000 contract let to Mansell by the London Borough of Croydon. Observation from the train suggests that the sadly missing pinnacles of this attractive building are not being restored.

(D. J. Turner)

Ewell: Three Sites in the Town (TQ215625)

Three small sites have been investigated recently in the village, all in advance of building work and two of which have revealed features of Roman date.

1. To the rear of 24/26 High Street, a c. 4m length of flint rubble foundation (c. .40m wide) was exposed running roughly east/west. A cross wall ran off at right angles to the north and two tegulae lying flat formed a post pad offset slightly to the south. The site lies some 50m off the accepted line of Stane Street near the centre of the presumed Roman settlement.
2. A small trial excavation and site watching of builder's trenches to the rear of Barn House, Church Street near to the 1977 excavation by Dick Temple revealed no features of Roman date and only a handful of Roman sherds.
3. At No. 2 Church Street, a trial excavation behind the old engine house, exposed a small (c. 3m x 2m) patch of rammed flint cobbling about .25m thick resting evenly on Thanet Sand. This is off the published line of Stane Street and may represent a hardstanding surface rather than the road itself. Material beneath included Roman sherds apparently later than the accepted date of construction of Stane Street. A similar sequence was noted on the Church Meadow site in 1973 (cf F. Pemberton, SAS Colls Vol. LXIX 1973).

S. Nelson

MEETINGS AND LECTURES

OCTOBER

Saturday 29th

A meeting of the LITHIC TOOL RESEARCH GROUP will be held at Glyn Hall, Ewell, at 1.00 p.m. For map see *Bulletin* 184. Enquiries to Chris Taylor, 20 Pine Walk, Woodmansterne, Surrey SM7 3PY

NOVEMBER

Friday, 11th

"ROMAN NEATHAM". A lecture by David Graham to the Surrey Roman Villa Study Group at the Christian Centre (near St. Martins Church) Dorking at 7.30 p.m. Charge 30p (including coffee).

Saturday 12th

LOCAL HISTORY SYMPOSIUM. Subject: Schools in Surrey. To be held at Ashcombe School, Dorking (nearly opposite Dorking B.R. Station) from 10.30 a.m. Exhibitors' entrance from 9.15 a.m.

Saturday, 26th

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY. See page 1.