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SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX
Guildford 32454

Bulletin

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COUNCIL NEWS

EXCAVATION NOTICE — Guildford Castle

The fourth season of excavation at Guildford Castle will be held from 5th to 25th July, 9 am – 5 pm, full-time except for Monday 12th and 19th July. No previous experience is necessary as training will be given on site. Volunteers are welcome at any time, subject to space being available, but it is strongly recommended that advance application is made to the Society's office at Castle Arch, Guildford GU1 3SX (Tel. Guildford 32454).

SURREY HISTORIC LANDSCAPE STUDIES

Hindhead Commons

Steve Dyer

Work on this project, results of which have been outlined in previous *Bulletins*, has continued through the winter revealing more evidence of past land use. A few small areas remain to be surveyed; these have shown a number of features of interest during walk overs.

Future projects for study are now being finalised, probably at Claygate and Pyrford. Volunteers interested in participating in these should contact Steve Dyer 081-541-8091 (office) or 081-890-0305 (home).

As this *Bulletin* goes to press we hear that the Department of Transport are now "minded to adopt" a tunnel scheme for the A3 improvements across Hindhead Commons. Exact details are not known at this time of the nature of this tunnel: details will be published in a later *Bulletin*. One of the reasons given, in small print, for this change of route is damage to the historic environment: it would be heartening to think that this may have arisen from the many hours of hard work by volunteers on this study.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Annual Symposium 1993

Julie Wileman

Once again the Archaeological Research Committee Annual Symposium, held on 20th February 1993 at Dorking, was a great success. This year's special theme was the relationship between documentary research and field archaeological studies. Well over 100 people attended the day.

Dr Derek Renn chaired the Symposium, which began with reports on recent work; the excavation at Guildford Castle and the work of the Surrey County Archaeological Unit were described by Giles Pattison and Rob Poulton, followed by a report on World War II defence recording by Chris Shephard and an update on the Historic Landscape Survey at Hindhead by Steve Dyer.

The special theme talks were varied and extremely interesting for documentary researchers and archaeologists alike. Mary Butts spoke on the relationship between historic building research and documents in Guildford, and Judie English discussed the role of documentary research in historic landscape studies. Mary Saaler related the excavations at Little Pickle, Blechingley to documentary study, and Brenda Lewis brought the day to a fine conclusion with a talk on documents and historic garden recording.

A record number of displays was mounted, all of a very high standard, creating a real problem for the Margary Award judges. Special note was made of the Spelthorne Archaeological Field Group's Civil War display and the display of the newly formed Historic Settlements Group. This year's winners were:

First Prize: Guildford Group — work led by Helen Davies on The Royal Park at Guildford.

Second Prize: Godalming Group — the history and recording of buildings in Godalming High Street.

The organisers are to be congratulated on a most successful and varied day. It seems that the ARC Annual Symposium goes from strength to strength.

SURREY INDUSTRIAL HISTORY GROUP

The Group has recently published its latest guide:-

“A GUIDE TO THE INDUSTRIAL HISTORY OF GUILDFORD AND ITS BOROUGH”
by Francis Haveron.

Copies of the book will shortly be available from bookshops, museums etc at £3.95, but they may also be obtained, post free, from SIHG, “Donard”, East Street, Bookham, Leatherhead, Surrey KT23 4QX.

SIHG is pleased to acknowledge financial help for this book from Guildford Borough Council and also from Surrey Archaeological Society and Surrey County Council towards the cost of this and future guides which are in preparation.

The Group prepared the publicity leaflet for Industrial Heritage Year '93 which was distributed with Newsletter No: 272 and this listed other SIHG publications which are available. Members are reminded that all the events listed on that leaflet are open to all, not just SIHG members.

NOTES

Site Evaluation (Stage 1): Beddington Sewage Farm (TQ 290660)

As a result of Conditional Planning permission for mineral extraction, Thames Water appointed Wessex Archaeology to undertake a field evaluation. The site is within an area of known archaeological potential being adjacent to the site of Beddington Roman Villa and prehistoric activity has been recorded within the Sewage Farm complex.

Gas Plc to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the laying of an 8 inch gas pipe between Gotwick and Felcourt. The pipeline, which is 3.5 km long, involved topsoil stripping to a width of 10m. Apart from ditches at field boundaries, drains and electricity cable trenches, the watching brief revealed no other cut features, and only small quantities of post-medieval finds. The absence of prehistoric flintwork is notable. Previously very few finds have been recorded from this area, although in the 19th century a number of undated cremation burials in urns were found at TQ 393399.

Both the fieldwork and the production of an Assessment Report (a copy of which has been sent to the County Archaeologist) were undertaken by Penny Hasler MA, BSc.

MUSEUM OF LONDON ARCHAEOLOGY SERVICE

Fieldwork

LB Lambeth

ODEON CINEMA, DENMARK HILL/COLDHARBOUR LANE, SE5 (Tony Thomas) — Evaluation trenches and watching brief on engineers' test pits within the standing building produced evidence of post-medieval foundations, and several possible prehistoric features. E H have requested further work in the form of a watching brief when construction starts.

LB Southwark

BRAMCOTE GROVE, SE16 (Chris Thomas) — Excavation of the trackway uncovered three oak trunks, worked with a palstave, laid on a corduroy of bark. Stake-holes along one side of the trackway suggest the presence of marker posts or handholds. Provisional dendrochronological results indicate a Bronze Age date.

Post-excavation work begins shortly, aimed at producing a publication by June 1994. A sedimentologist/palynologist is being recruited to work on material from the site.

The excavation resulted in stories in the local and national press, and caused considerable interest in local schools. School visits were arranged.

LONG WALK/TOWER BRIDGE ROAD/GRANGE WALK, SE1 (Helen Jones) — Evaluation preceding development by Wandle Housing Association Ltd on the site of the Cluniac Priory produced further evidence of the Frater and part of the Cloister Walk. The foundations of a circular Lavatorium, similar to the one surviving at the sister house of Much Wenlock, were also revealed.

80-5 GRANGE ROAD, SE1 (Peter Thompson) — A field evaluation revealed a cut feature of unknown date, Roman pits and ploughsoil containing Roman sherds. The ploughsoil had been truncated in the later medieval period. No further work will take place on this site.

MAYOR SWORDER'S ARCHES, JOINER STREET, SE1 (Peter Thompson) — Underpinning pits for works by London Underground Limited were dug archaeologically, demonstrating the presence of extensive Roman stratigraphy. Evidence for both masonry and clay and timber buildings was found, including opus signinum and painted wall plaster. Full excavation is scheduled for later this year or early next year.

MEADOW PLACE, SE1 (Julian Bowsher) — Evaluation adjacent to a findspot of Roman glass and suspected cremation. Undated ditch cutting ?Roman surface.

OLD JAMAICA ROAD, SE16 (Ken Pitt) — Medieval and late ploughsoil overlying brickearth capped natural gravels. The presence of this deposit indicates an eyot with potential for occupation of prehistoric and later date.

108 TOOLEY STREET, SE1 (James Drummond-Murray) — Test pits revealed fill of channel — presumably that shown on 1563 map.

DOCTORS' SURGERY, CAMBERWELL GREEN, SE5 (Steve Tucker) — Watching brief revealed a dump of tin-glazed ware, including wasters and kiln furniture. The material is currently being examined to try to determine its origin.

WREN ROAD, CAMBERWELL, SE5 (Steve Tucker) — Watching brief uncovered foundations for walls and stairway of house known to have existed in 1714: late C16th bricks present.

INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE YEAR



MAY

Saturday 1st, 1400 Old Railways and Industries of Merstham. A walk to see the remains of the extension to the Surrey Iron Railway, the Croydon, Merstham and Godstone Railway and other industrial archaeology of Merstham led by Dr Gerry Moss. Meet at the display opposite "The Feathers", 36 High Street, Merstham. Ring 0737 765508 for details.

Saturday 1st, Sunday 2nd, Monday 3rd. Brooklands Transport Festival in association with Trafalgar Business Parks. A special Brooklands event with something for everyone interested in any form of transport. Brooklands Museum, normal admission prices and times.

Sunday 9th. Jaguar Drivers Club. Brooklands Museum, normal admission prices and times.

Sunday 9th. National Mills Day 1000-1700. Open Day at Cobham Mill. Mill Road, Cobham. It is hoped that the restoration of this watermill will be complete and there will be the first demonstration of corn grinding since the mill closed in 1928.

1030. Chilworth Gunpowder Mills. A two-hour guided walk around the site led by Prof Alan Crocker. These mills were in operation from 1626 until 1920 and many remains still exist and will be explained. Meet at Chilworth and Albury Railway Station. Ring 0483 65821 for details.

1400-1800. Open Day at Lowfield Heath Windmill. Russ Hill Road, Charlwood.

Sunday 16th, 0800-0930. Start of the MG Regency Run. Lawyers Flying Association and Vintage Aircraft Fly-ins. (Weather permitting). Brooklands Museum, normal admission prices.

Sunday 23rd. Fiat Sports Car Day. Brooklands Museum, normal admission prices and times.

Sunday 30th, 0800-1100. Norwich Union RAC Classic Car Run — Start. Brooklands Museum, normal admission prices.

CBA SOUTH-EAST REGION

The Annual CBA Beatrice de Cardi Lecture will be given in the Hall of Reigate Grammar School, Reigate Road, Reigate, on Saturday, 1st May 1993. (Reigate Road is part of the A25 and Reigate Grammar School is on the south side of the road, at the summit of the hill leading eastward out of Reigate. Car parking at the rear of the school.)

At 2.00 pm there will be three short talks on regional projects. Tea will be provided at 3.00 pm, to be followed at 3.30 by the Beatrice de Cardi lecture by Dr David Breeze, who will speak to the title **FOR LOVE, NOT MONEY — The Role of the Amateur in Archaeology.**

All are welcome to this lecture on a very topical subject. There is no charge.

MISCELLANY

Queen's Own Surrey Yeomanry. The Hon Secretary of the Clapham Antiquarian Society is aware of research being undertaken on this subject and would welcome details of any soldier serving in this regiment during World War I, to be sent to him: Nicholas Long, 58 Crescent Lane, SW4 9PU.

PUBLICATIONS

A Short history of the parish of Blindley Heath, East Surrey. Blindley Heath is a small settlement half way between the ancient mother village of Godstone on the greensand ridge and the county boundary deep in the Weald. Such villages tend to be 19th century creations and thus are usually ill served by the older parish histories.

This well produced little book is a good attempt to make up for such past deficiencies. It was written to mark the 150th anniversary of the building of the Church of St John the Evangelist. Although largely relying on secondary sources it has brought together much of the readily available information which helps to explain what makes the local community what it is. The written sources have been supported by old postcards and documentary evidence. It includes a fairly comprehensive appendix about the buildings. The notes about the more recent (Victorian and later) houses are good but of the older buildings the information is less reliable. That however is the fault of the reviewer who has yet to publish!

A good buy for those interested in the little villages of Surrey.

Copies may be obtained from The Vicarage, Church of St John the Evangelist, Blindley Heath, Lingfield, Surrey RH7 6JR, price £3.84 post paid. Cheques made out to "Blindley Heath PCC". P J Gray

"Post-Medieval Pottery in London, 1500-1700 Vol. 1: Border Wares", by Jacqueline Pearce. Museum of London; HMSO; ISBN 0 11 290494 7 £30.00

This new series follows on from the Medieval type-series of pottery found during excavation in London. Further volumes on Redwares and Tin Glazed Wares are planned.

The Tudor and Stuart periods were times of technological and manufacturing innovation, which combined with an improvement in communications led to an increasing rate of change in fashion and market demand for ceramic wares. The

Border pottery industries of Surrey and Hampshire were the successors to a long-established tradition of white and red ware production in the area, and continued to supply the London market until the early 18th century.

This book concentrates its research on examples of the wares recovered from excavations in London, or where not otherwise represented, on examples from the Museum of London reserve collection. Ms Pearce (co-author with Alan Vince on "Surrey Whitewares" which examined the medieval industry) does not therefore attempt to consider the distribution or significance of the Border ware industry elsewhere than in the capital.

A summary of the data on kiln sites so far available, together with the relationships of clay sources and a note on fabrics associated with the industry is followed by a detailed description of the forms produced by the Border ware industry divided into groups: dishes and bowls; cooking vessels; drinking vessels, and other forms.

There are clear drawings of the range of each form, usefully accompanied by reference numbers and a code letter indicating the fabric and glaze of each example. A good series of colour plates further illustrates the range of material. Sections of manufacturing techniques and the chronological perspective of the industry are well-presented, followed by appendices giving full details of the study material range and provenance.

Overall, this book is very readable and provides a clearly arranged reference volume that will be of great help to volunteer archaeologists. Identification of forms and fabrics is made simple and uncomplicated, and the discussions of chronological development and manufactural techniques are brief but well judged. The quality of illustration is excellent, and although the volume is expensive, it would be of great value to anyone engaged in the processing and identification of post-medieval wares in the region. (Julie Wileman)

MEETINGS

4th May

"The London Carrying Trade". A talk by Dorian Gerhold to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society at Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, SE1, at 7.00 for 7.30 pm.

4th May

"The Surrey Defences Survey" — concentrating on World War II — a talk by Chris Shephard to the KuTAS at the Lower Hall, Friends Meeting House, Kingston upon Thames at 8.00 pm.

5th May

Jac Cowie Memorial Lecture: "The Romano-Celtic Temple at Wanborough" by Dr David Bird, Principal Archaeologist, Surrey County Council at the Guildford Institute, Ward Street, Guildford, at 12.45-1.45 pm.

6th May

SAS Lecture Series "Church and Chapel". See *Bulletin 273* for details.

12th May

Jac Cowie Memorial Lecture: "How we record old buildings" by Mary Butts, SAS Conservation Committee and DBRG, at the Guildford Institute, at 12.45-1.45pm.

SAS Lecture Series: Gardens (see *Bulletin 273* for details).

15th May

Watts' Gallery & Great Studio Visit, including lunch, lecture and tour of the Watts' Gallery — an insight into G F Watts, described as a "Painter and Sculptor of grandiose allegorical themes". Organised by Friends of Godalming Museum, commencing 12 noon. Tickets £5.50 from Godalming Museum.

17th May

"A Roman in your road, a Greek at your gate" A talk by Mrs Mary Morgan to the Mayford and Woking District HS in the Mayford Village Hall at 8.00 pm.

19th May

Jac Cowie Memorial Lecture: "Damnable Inventions: Gunpowder and Banknotes" by Prof Alan Crocker, Chairman Guildford Institute and Vice-President SAS, at the Guildford Institute, at 12.45-1.45 pm.

20th May

SAS Lecture Series: Houses (see *Bulletin 273* for details).

26th May

Jac Cowie Memorial Lecture: "Deciphering the landscape" by Judie English, SAS Archaeological Research Committee, at the Guildford Institute, at 12.45-1.45 pm.

27th May

SAS Lecture Series: The Literary Scene (see *Bulletin 273* for details).

28th May

"From Gnomes to Neutrons". A light-hearted study of ancient pottery from the 15th century to the present by Clive Orton to the Wandsworth Historical Society at the Friends' Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street at 8.00 pm.

1st June

Monuments and Statues. An evening walk led by Brian Bloice for the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society. Meet at the south approach of Westminster Bridge at 7.00 pm.

1st June

"Textile processing in Merton". A talk by Eric Montague to KuTAS at the Lower Hall, Friends' Meeting House, Kingston upon Thames at 8.00 pm.

FUTURE EVENTS

13th November

Annual Symposium of the Surrey Local History Council. "1000 Years of Royalty in Surrey".

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Next Issue: Copy to the Editor required by 1st May 1993 for June/July issue.