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SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX
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Bulletin

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COUNCIL NEWS

Guildford Castle and Royal Palace Research/Training Excavation 1994



The fifth season of excavation at Guildford Castle will take place between 22nd August and 11th September (inclusive). Those interested in receiving details should complete the form enclosed with this issue of the Bulletin and return it to the Society together with an sae. Early application is advisable as there are limited places available, especially on the training courses.

There will be guided tours on most days with a special members visit as in previous years — further details in later issues of the Bulletin. A report on the Guildford Castle and Royal Palace Excavations in 1993 (including a review of the project 1990-1993) by Rob Poulton, is on sale at Guildford Museum and copies can also be obtained by post from: Mrs M Roberts, Surrey Archaeological Society, Castle Arch, Guildford GU1 3SX, price £2.50 including p & p.

Treasure Bill

As reported in the last issue of the Bulletin the Treasure Bill was introduced into the House of Lords on 7th February by Lord Perth. Since then it has successfully passed its Second Reading and the Committee Stage.

The measure has received overwhelming support in the Lords and we are pleased to note that the Dept. of National Heritage is taking a positive and helpful approach to this much needed reform of the law.

The Wetton Collection

David Graham/Matthew Alexander

The Society recently acquired the J L Wetton Collection of Surrey 17th century traders tokens, with the help of a generous grant from Surrey County Council.

Tokens of base metal, or 'pledges of value' as they were sometimes known, were issued at various times by corporations or individual tradesmen to supplement the shortage of small change in a largely silver currency. The 'classic' period of these tokens in England was the third quarter of the 17th century, between the execution of Charles I, with the consequent loss of royal prerogative, and their suppression by Charles II in 1672. Usually made of copper alloy, they were accepted as worth a farthing or a halfpenny, but strictly speaking redeemable only with the trader who had issued them. In consequence, many different tradesmen in many towns and even villages had these struck for local circulation.

The J L Wetton Collection belongs to this 'classic' period, and consists of 230+ tokens, all from the county of Surrey as it was at that time. Some are very rare, including at least three previously unpublished examples. In particular, there is a good collection of Rotherhithe tokens, which are poorly represented in the Penfold Collection.

The Penfold Collection, now at Guildford Museum, is on permanent loan to the Surrey Archaeological Society. There is a good deal of overlap between the two collections, but there are nearly thirty tokens in the Penfold Collection not in the Wetton, and over forty in the Wetton and not in the Penfold. It was highly desirable that the two should be brought together. Placed with the much smaller collection held directly by Guildford Museum, they constitute the most complete assemblage of Surrey tokens anywhere, and in effect, form the national reference collection for the county.

In view of the widespread interest in the Collection, a selection of the tokens have been put on display in Guildford museum and will also, in due course, be made available to other museums in the County. Members, of course, are welcome to inspect the tokens directly, by prior appointment with the Curator of Guildford Museum or the Society's Librarian. It is hoped that, in due course, a fuller note will be produced for the Collections.

Surrey Historic Landscape Studies

Steve Dyer

After a summer not conducive to landscape survey, the winter season has seen the field survey team busy on two projects: the majority of the outstanding areas of Norbury Park have been completed offering further evidence of the medieval and post-medieval field patterns in this area. Effort will now be concentrated on compiling all the available material in order that a report can be prepared.

At Telegraph Hill, Claygate a number of earthworks have been surveyed, some of these representing field boundaries, with a number of larger features having a defensive appearance; further work is necessary to ascertain the use of these. On top of the hill faint traces of ridge and furrow can be seen, with at least two phases of use

shown by differing orientation. A more detailed account of this survey will appear in a future edition of the *Bulletin*. This survey was possible through the permission of the landowner, Elmbridge Borough Council, and the assistance of many volunteers both from KuTAS and further afield.

Initial, rapid, survey of land in the ownership of Surrey County Council has been conducted by the author with a view to recommendations for further work in the next year. Further details will be available in May.

The proposed survey at Pyrford has been delayed, but is now due to begin in April/May. Further information from Steve Dyer — 081-541-8091 (office) or 081-890-0305 (home).

Walks

Wey and Godalming Navigations between Guildford and Godalming

Saturday 25th June 1994

Leader Steve Dyer

This walk will look at the history and archaeology of this waterway between Guildford and Godalming and the immediate vicinity. The walk will be in two sections: the morning following the towpath to Godalming and the afternoon taking in other elements of the area. Participants may join either or both sections, lunch being taken at Godalming.

Further details from Steve Dyer, 115 Raleigh Road, Feltham, Middx TW13 4LW (please enclose an sae) or telephone 081-541-8091 (office) or 081-890-0305 (home). Prior booking is essential as the group size is limited.

New Members

The Society is pleased to welcome the following new members:

Adams, N, 114 Gander Green Lane, Sutton, SM1 7HH

Bartlett, R F, Markham Cottage, Wheelers Lane, Brockham, Betchworth, RH3 7LE

Beasley, Mrs M, 65 Langham Road, Teddington, Middx. TW11 9HF

Clegg, M. 68 Aarons Hill, Godalming, GU7 2LJ

Gudge, B M, 10 John Cobb Road, Weybridge, KT13 OTE

Lewis, R, 55 Legge Crescent, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 3NT

Mayes, Miss S, Kingswood Hall, Royal Holloway, University of London, Coopers Hill Lane, Englefield Green, Egham, TW20 0LG

Quinlan, Miss L, 2 Burford Lodge, Elstead, Godalming, GU8 6HU

Shearman, N, The Hollies, Avenue Road, Cranleigh, GU6 7LE

Strutt, Mr & Mrs R, 36 Rosebery Crescent, Woking, GU22 9BL

Wood, Mrs M-E, Knowle Grange, Hound House Road, Shere, GU5 9JH

Archaeological Research Committee

Annual Symposium 1994

David Graham

The Archaeological Research Committee's Annual Symposium held on 12th February in Dorking was, by general consent, one of the most enjoyable for many years. The event was chaired by Dennis Turner, the Society's President, and concentrated on the theme of the work of local societies in the county.

After a talk by Rob Poulton on the recent work of the County Unit, Michael Russell described his excavations at Place Farm, Blechingley and Helen Davies brought us up-to-date with her survey of Guildford Royal Park. This was followed by Muriel Shaw reporting on research on the Croydon Saxon Cemetery. Unfortunately, Greta Turner, the final speaker of the morning had an accident (happily not serious) en route and we were not, therefore, able to hear directly about the progress of renovation work on the Society's moated site at South Park.

During the lunch break, the audience enjoyed the numerous displays mounted by various groups. These were again of an extremely high standard, which made the Margary Award judges' task very difficult. However, after much deliberation, the First Prize was awarded to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society, for their display on the Croydon Saxon cemetery and Second Prize to Anne Knee and the Guildford Group, for their display on the history of Merrow.

The afternoon session was very varied with reports on recent work by the Godalming Group by Pam Pearson, Historic Research in Wanborough by Gillian Drew and Recording Metal Detector Finds by David Williams. After tea, Francis Haveron gave a description of the Surrey Industrial History Group's Annual Plaque scheme, David Graham gave a brief report on the work at South Park and went on to describe recent excavations at Farnham Museum. The afternoon was completed by an update on the Surrey Historic Landscape Survey by Steve Dyer.

The day was a great success and there is no doubt that amateur activity by both individuals and societies is alive and well in the county. Thanks are due to the organisers for their hard work and in particular to Dennis Turner for providing the sound system and to Ann Watson and her Bosnian helper for the catering arrangements.

CONSERVATION MATTERS

'New' Listed Buildings in Reigate and Banstead

D J Turner

A number of buildings in the Borough of Reigate and Banstead have been added to the Statutory List, all at Grade II:

Lodge to Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Holly Lane, Banstead: 1884 by R Norman Shaw (23.12.93).

April Cottage, Brighton Road, Burgh Heath: E. 19th century (23.12.93).

Ruffets Cottage, High Road, Chipstead: House, c.1680 and later (23.12.93).

Kitchen garden walls (including gates), Gatton Park: E-M.18th century (1.3.93).

Viaduct, Gatton Park: possibly 1761x74 by Capability Brown (1.3.93).

Birchwood Cottage, 142 Victoria Road, Horley: 17th century and later (18.2.93).

Oakley, Radstock Way, Merstham: Large house in gothic style, 1866 (2.3.93).

Quarry Hill, 48-52 Gatton Road, Reigate: Large house, 1865 by Field and Hilton (8.6.92).

Dutch Barn, Hartswood Farm, Slipshatch Road, Reigate (originally Buckland detached): c.1830 (1.3.94).

The Hoppety, Meare Close, Tadworth: House and stable, now house, c.1600 and later (23.12.93).

Frith Park Farmhouse, Sturts Lane, Walton-on-the-Hill: 16th century and later (23.12.93).

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Open Day

Gillian Drew

An advance date for your Diary. The Society's Library will be holding another Open Day on Saturday, 3rd September from 10.30 am to 3.30 pm. This is your chance to see what the Library has to offer on any subject relating to local history or archaeology, including some of the very important material from the research collection, not normally available on open access. All members and prospective members are welcome.

Come and talk to the Librarians about how the Library can help you and enjoy some of our tea, coffee and splendid cake.

Recent Accessions to the Society's Library

SURREY — GENERAL

Bulletin of Fountain Group of Hospitals. "The Fountain". Special edition on the future. Fountain Hosp.

Burns, David, The Sheriffs of Surrey. Surrey Local History Council & PJ Westwood. Phillimore.

Surrey County Council, Surrey countryside strategy 1994-96. SCC.

Surrey County Council, Surrey heritage strategy: key issues and proposals. SCC.

Webb, Cliff, Guide to Surrey bishop's transcripts, marriage licences, allegations and probate records. Research Aid 11. 3rd ed (rev). WSFHS.

Webb, Cliff, A Guide to Surrey manorial records. Research Aid 35. WSFHS.

SURREY — LOCAL

Askew, Portia, Land rear of 8-52 Brayburne Ave, Clapham SW4. An arch evaluation. MOLAS.

Askew, Portia, Odeon Cinema, Camberwell: an archaeological investigation. MOLAS.

Blatherwick, Simon, 74-76 Spa Road/1-9 Alscot Road, Bermondsey SE1. LB Southwark. MOLAS.

Blatherwick, Simon, 16-18 Bellenden Road, Peckham SE15: an archaeological evaluation. LB Southwark. MOLAS.

The Borough of Guildford 1257-1957. Catalogue of an exhibition of the borough plate and the borough records at the Guildhall, June 29th-July 6th 1957.

Botleys Bulletin, In Memoriam number of the late KCL Paddle. Vol III (2). Pamphlet. Botleys Staff Club.

Bowley, Pam, The Story of West Horsley Manor and its church. St Mary's PCC W Horsley.

Brooking, Valerie, Shepperton story. Sunbury & Shepperton LHS.

Bruce, Penny, Evelyn Way, Beddington. LB Sutton. An arch investigation. MOLAS.

Burgess, Frank, Cheam, Belmont and Worcester Park. Phillimore.

Burgess, Frank, Sutton: a pictorial history. Phillimore.

Croydon NH&SSoc, Yew Tree Cottage, 247 Limpsfield Rd, Sanderstead: an arch evaluation. CNHSS.

Cunningham, Margaret, The Oaks and Oaks Park. Sutton Leisure S.

Drew, Gillian, Wanborough, from white barrow to world war. Peter Knee, Guildford Group, SAS.

Dyer, Steve, An arch evaluation at Midgarth, Steels Lane, Oxshott. SCAU.

Dyer, Steve, An arch evaluation on part of the Oatlands Park Hotel, Weybridge. SCAU.

Dyer, Steve, An arch evaluation at the future Homebase store, Walton on Thames. SCAU

Dyer, Steve, An arch evaluation & watching brief at Fleetwood Close, Tadworth. SCAU.

Dyer, Steve, An arch watching brief on part of the former Dorking Bus Garage. SCAU.

Dyer, Steve, An arch watching brief on part of the Reigate town centre redevelopment. SCAU.

Dyer, Steve, An arch watching brief at Sutton Green Golf Course, Woking. SCAU.

Dyer, Steve, An arch watching brief at the future Homebase store, Walton on Thames. SCAU.

Dyer, Steve, An arch watching brief at 98-102 South Street, Dorking. SCAU.

Dyer, Steve, An arch evaluation at the future Goldsworth County Primary School. SCAU.

Dyer, Steve, An arch evaluation at the future Sainsbury's store, Brookwood. SCAU.

Francis, Tom, (Ed Eric Montague), Old Mitcham. Phillimore.

Freeman, Leslie, Going to the parish — Mortlake & the Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin. Barnes & Mortlake History Society.

The Guildford Society (Kenneth Dean), The lost listed buildings of Guildford. Guildford Society.

Harding, Joan & Banks, Joyce, Newdigate, its history & houses. A Surrey wealden parish.

Heard, Kieron A, 86-87 Grange Road, London SE1. LB Southwark. An archaeological evaluation. MOLAS.

Janaway, John, Godalming: a short history. 1993 edition. Ammonite Books.

Jones, P, Archaeological work at the Town Hall, Staines. SCAU.

Jones, P, Excavation and site watching on the site of Reigate Priory. SCAU.

Lees, Duncan, Glebelands, Love Lane, Mitcham. A photographic survey. MOLAS.

Mettam, JD, Fetcham Church. 3 essays on the history of St Mary's Church. Pamphlet.

Mills, John, A Guide to the industrial history of Spelthorne. SIHG.

Philo, C, Swan, A, Preparation of artwork for publication. Inst of Field Archaeologists.

Philp, Brian, An outline archaeological evaluation report on Downs Court Road, Purley, Surrey. SELAU.

Saaler, Mary, Taunton Farm. An archaeological evaluation. CNHSS.

Sankey, Anne, Stoughton, Guildford, people and places.

Saxby, David, 283 Tooley Street, London, SE1. An archaeological evaluation. MOLAS.

Shamley Green History Society, Shamley Green. A history of the village. SGHS.

Sparey-Green, Christopher, Humphrey Street, SE1. LB Southwark. MOLAS.

Stock, Peter, From workhouse to workbook. The story of education at Moss Lane since 1843.

Taylor, J Graham, Restoring a church after fire (abridged edition). An account of the experience of St John's Church, Dormansland.

Thompson, Peter, 2-16 Pearman Street, Lambeth, SE1. An archaeological evaluation. MOLAS.

Thompson, Peter, Site of proposed Tesco store, Old Kent Road, London SE1. An archaeological evaluation. MOLAS.

Thursley Today. 1965. Tucker, Steve, Bunces Meadow, Mitcham. An archaeological evaluation. MOLAS.

Tucker, Steve, 14 Progress Way & 222 Purley Way, Croydon. An archaeological evaluation. MOLAS.

Tucker, Steve, The corner of Scarbrook Road & Charles Road, Croydon. An archaeological evaluation. MOLAS.

Tucker, Steve, Woodfield Hill, Brighton Road, Coulsdon. LB Croydon. An archaeological watching brief. MOLAS.
Wandle Heritage. The Wandle strategy. LB Merton. Wandle Heritage.

VISITS COMMITTEE

Our apologies to Josephine Carter who was inadvertently referred to as “Secretary” in Bulletin 282. Josephine was, of course, Chairman of the Committee for many years; her patient advice and experience will be sorely missed.

NOTES

What Price a ‘Worth’?

D J Turner

The place-name element — *worth* is one of several probably habitative names, the precise meaning of which — or difference between — is still not understood. More than thirty years ago, the late John Dodgson (following Gover, JEB *et al* 1934, 43) identified the site of Tunel’s worth (TQ 306 533), recorded in the boundary clause of the 10th century Merstham charter (Rumble 1971, 14), with an earthwork of low profile — a rectangular raised site and adjacent pond — on the crest of the North Downs. This earthwork stood within a small hedged field immediately on the Chaldon side of the Merstham-Chaldon parish boundary, 130m or so south of Tollsworth Manor. The present house contains a crown post roof and its origins can be reasonably seen to lie in the fourteenth or fifteenth century. It is likely that its predecessor stood within the earthwork which was thus possibly occupied for at least five centuries.

This site, although well-known since at least 1933 (Hart 1933, 20-1) and noted on the county SMR, has not been identified by the English Heritage Monument Protection Programme or earlier exercises as worthy of scheduling and one wonders just how many precisely located *worth-sites* there are that this one should have been ignored. At some unknown time in the last fifteen years the hedges on two sides of the site, one of which followed a parish and estate boundary recorded in 947, have been removed and the site has been ploughed, possibly several times. There is now little trace of the rectangular mound.

Gover, JEB *et al* 1934, *Place-Names of Surrey*

Hart, E 1933 The Pilgrims’ Way from Shere to Titsey, *SyAC* 41, 1-33

Rumble AR 1971 The Merstham (Surrey) charter bounds, AD 947, *English Place-Names Society Journal* 3 (1970-71), 6-31

The Chertsey Shield

D J Turner

The unique Chertsey Shield — the only shield known from the Celtic world made entirely of Bronze — was found by a drag-line operator in 1985. It was reported briefly and illustrated by Dr IM Stead of the British Museum in *Collections* 78 (1987), 181-3. A detailed account of the shield has now been published by Dr Stead, under the title ‘Many more Iron Age shields from Britain’, in *The Antiquaries Journal* LXXI (1991), 1-35. The journal was issued in March and bears a publication date of 1993. The article also contains an account of the ‘Salisbury’ collection of miniature shields, a note on shield bindings, a report by DR Hook on metal analyses, a general discussion and a schedule of La Tene shields in Britain.

Brockham Limeworks

Peter Tarplee

The site of Brockham Limeworks was bought by Surrey County Council in 1977 and is managed by them as part of their Countryside Estate. The 110 acres contain old chalk quarries as well as two batteries of lime kilns which are listed structures.

Recently the County Council, in conjunction with other bodies including SIHG, has been improving the interpretation of the site as well as its accessibility to the public. About a year ago they issued leaflets describing a self-guided trail around the site which, among other things, explains some of the post industrial activities. Copies of these leaflets may be obtained from County Hall (081 541 9454), the Countryside Ranger (0372 378476) or the information centre on Box Hill. There are at least four points from which the walk may start — St Andrews Church CP, Betchworth Station, Betchworth Quarry CP (weekends only) and Box Hill CPs.

Interpretation boards are being made which will give details of the wildlife and the industrial history; the first of these will be installed this Spring.

The lime kilns are not in a good state of repair as maintenance has been very difficult for two reasons: firstly access is only available during the summer as bats are in occupation during the winter months and secondly the structures are unsafe and are becoming more so due to the trees and shrubs growing from them which cannot be removed because of the lack of safe access.

Now the county council has let a contract for the installation of temporary scaffolding during April around the eastern battery of kilns which will both shore up the structure and allow safe access to it. Once this is in place there will be an opportunity (until the bats return in the Autumn) for the kilns to be tidied up, photographed, drawn and recorded.

Following this a specification can be prepared for the conservation of these listed structures; possibly the whole battery being made safe with the most northerly kiln, which is substantially complete, restored. Thus, if funds are available, the conservation and/or restoration could be put in hand and one example of the patent "Brockham" kilns would be able to be seen in its complete form.

The County Council are to hold a meeting at 7.30 on Wednesday 29 June in Brockham Village Hall for all members of the public who are interested in the site, with the object of forming the "Friends of Brockham Limeworks". It is hoped that a number of members will attend this meeting and perhaps be willing to help with some of the work.

In the meantime, however, it is hoped to get the initial recording done once the scaffolding is in place. We would welcome a number of members to take part in this and those who would like to help in recording this important Surrey industrial site are asked to contact Lisa Creaye, Countryside Management Division, SCC, West House (Annexe), Mellow Lane, Guildford, GU4 7BQ, tel: 0483 517593.

South Hill, Guildford: Gas pipe Line

**John Boas and
Mary Alexander**

The new gas pipe line mentioned in Bulletin 281 along Castle Hill was continued along South Hill from the junction with Castle Hill, but no archaeological features were seen until the north, downhill, end of South Hill was reached. In a trench outside Orlando's jeweller's shop (1, Sydenham Road) a chalk wall was discovered running diagonally across the trench. It was recorded by Guildford Museum's Excavation Unit.

The wall was about 0.5m high and 1.25m wide. Although it was substantial it was built on black chalky fill, in the same way as walls found on the Castle dig were built on made-up soil. After this discovery the contractors realised that they had picked up a chalk wall on the other (western) side of the road, but because the trench there was smaller and narrower they had not realised that it was a wall. They thought that it was the same wall as this, on the same alignment. The wall was seen by contractors on the east side of the road 6 or 7 years ago when a gas pipe was laid, cutting through the wall.

The chalk wall is puzzling. This part of South Hill leading to Pewley Hill was the road eastwards from Guildford, towards Dorking. Is the wall part of the bailey wall of Guildford Castle, further uphill than we thought, with the Dorking road passing around it? Or is the wall later, perhaps connected with the reservoir and its house of 1701, which is now Orlando's and the carpark behind it?

South Hall, Castle Hill, Guildford

**John Boas,
Mary Alexander, Kevin Fryer**

In November 1993 a swimming pool was being constructed in the garden of South Hall. Guildford Museum's Excavation Unit visited the site and discovered a large ditch in the sections of the long sides of the hole dug for the pool. The ditch was about 18 feet across and over 10 feet deep: the pool had been dug out to 10 feet but the ditch could be seen to be going slightly deeper.

It is very likely that it is the ditch of the bailey of Guildford Castle, presumably a continuation of the ditch discovered in 1990 in Castle Cliffe Gardens. South Hall is the governor's house of the House of Correction opened in 1822 but the ditch does not correspond with any part of this, and in any case runs underneath South Hall.

The ditch runs within 10 feet of the cliff face of Racks Close chalk quarry. It had been suspected from property and parish boundaries that this area was within the medieval castle bailey, and this ditch seems to prove it. It may also explain an odd corner in the road now called South Hill, seen on the ichnography of 1739. The corner is now the turn into Castle Hill, which was not built until the 1850s; was it perhaps a corner of the bailey defences in the Middle Ages? A possible ditch was seen in the gas pipe trench at this corner but the soil was so disturbed by trenches for other services that it was impossible to be certain.

1, Castle Hill, Guildford: Garden Wall

**John Boas,
Mary Alexander, Kevin Fryer**

In November 1993 the garden wall on the south side of the drive to 1, Castle Hill (now an Abbeyfield home), was demolished, to be rebuilt using the same materials. The wall was leaning and a brick arch built over the roots of a chestnut tree needed enlarging. The demolition was watched by Guildford Museum's Excavation Unit, and the features revealed in the foundation trench were recorded.

The wall was probably built in 1860 when the two houses, no. 1 and "The Chestnuts" were built. The wall, leading originally to the coach house and stables, forms part of a roughly triangular area filled with soil to about 6 feet above ground level. It can be seen on the 1:500 OS map of 1871.

As the wall was removed it was clear that the soil was garden soil put in when the triangular area was built. When the brick arch was removed part of a cigarette packet

with "Dec 14 1905" written on it was found built into it. This is presumably when the arch was built or altered. The packet is now in the Museum.

At the lower end of the wall, nearest to its junction with Castle Hill, a section of chalk block wall was uncovered, c2 feet wide and 18 inches deep. This corresponds with a wall found in the gas pipe trench a short distance away in Castle Hill. (See Bulletin 281, Feb 1994.) On the upper side of the chestnut tree an area of soft earth 18 feet wide was found. This corresponds with the large ditch seen in the gas pipe trench and must be the continuation of the ditch found during the Castle dig in Castle Cliffe Gardens.

Two post holes were found on either side of the ditch, c 15 inches across and 2 feet deep. No artefacts were found in the fill, only dark black soil. The post holes are not thought to be related to the ditch: they are more likely to be connected with 18th or 19th century agricultural or horticultural work in this area. The builders noticed a gravel road surface in the section, as if Castle Hill had met the drive at right angles.

As the wall was taken down to its foundations several sherds of pottery were found, mostly 18th and 19th century, but with an early clay pipe of c 1610-40.

When the builders rebuilt the brick pillar at the end of the wall they put a "Time-capsule" dating their work into it.

A Brief Report of the Fieldwork undertaken by South Eastern Archaeological Services (University College, London, Institute of Archaeology) (SEAS)

Earthfast Post-built Structures

D J Turner

It has been asserted that, in the 13th century, the use of earthfast posts in the construction of buildings was superseded during a logical progression to box-frame construction using continuous cill beams on stone or brick sleeper walls (eg Steane 1984, 190; Chapelot and Fossier 1985, 247-50; Beresford 1987, 125-6). However, although there was clearly a general trend towards the construction of buildings in continuous cills, earthfast post construction was by no means eradicated by that trend. Earthfast posts were more durable than is often supposed and their use continued as an alternative to box-frame carpentry for the dwellings of the poor and for ancillary buildings in Normandy, England and North America. RA Meeson and CM Welch (1993) have recently published four buildings — one in Essex, two in Staffordshire and one in Normandy — to illustrate the proposition that such alternative techniques for construction persisted even until the 19th century.

Meeson and Welch have further argued that most framed buildings in Europe derive from a tradition in which the transverse frame was the primary structure, whereas in England the longitudinal frame was normally built first. Some assembly techniques found in timber-framed buildings were probably first used in primitive building systems and Meeson and Welch argue that the longitudinal assembly system arose in England during the development of box-frame construction.

Beresford, G 1987, *Goltho: the development of an Early Medieval Manor, c 850-1150*.

Chapelot, J and Fossier, R (trans H Cleere) 1985, *The Village and House in the Middle Ages*.

Meeson, RA and Welch, CM 1993, Earthfast posts: the persistence of alternative building techniques. *Vernacular Architecture*, 24, 1-17.

Steane, JM 1984, *The Archaeology of Medieval England and Wales*.

Rethinking the Great Rebuilding

D J Turner

Under this title, a paper by MH Johnson in Issue 12/1 of the *Oxford Journal of Archaeology* (March 1993) traces the history of the debate over the 'Great Rebuilding' of rural England argued by WG Hoskins (1953) to date between 1570 and 1640. It examines Hoskins' original thesis and subsequent revisions by R Machin (1977) and C Currie (1988) from both an empirical and an historiographical point of view. Johnson argues that the rise and fall of the 'Great Rebuilding' thesis was partly due to wider intellectual currents in the study of early modern history and vernacular architectural studies. In conclusion, Johnson sketches an alternative approach to rethinking the Great Rebuilding in cultural rather than economic terms. (The *Oxford Journal of Archaeology* is held in the Society's library at Castle Arch.)

- Hoskins, WG 1953 The rebuilding of rural England,
Past & Present 4, 44-59.
- Machin, R 1977 The Great Rebuilding — a reassessment,
Past & Present 77, 33-56.
- Currie, C 1988 Time & Chance: modelling the attrition of old houses,
Vernacular Architecture 19, 1-9.

KINGSTON UPON THAMES

Chessington — Worcester Park Gas Pipeline (British Gas South Eastern plc)

A watching brief, conducted on behalf of British Gas during topsoil stripping and trench excavation, has been completed by SEAS. Several flint cores, with evidence for blade removals, and blades were recovered from one location within the topsoil. Whilst the absence of tools makes unequivocal dating impossible, it is likely that this debitage is Mesolithic. No archaeological features were observed, though one section across the alluvial deposits of a tributary of the R Hogsmill was recorded.

SUTTON

19 Park Road, Cheam (Rushmon Ltd)

Following field evaluation and excavation by the Museum of London Archaeological Service within the curtilage of a late c19th house at 19 Park Road, Cheam in 1990, SEAS have completed a small additional excavation in advance of development. Two small prehistoric features were recorded, both truncated by c19th/c20th development. One of the features, a small pit, contained flint debitage, fire cracked flint and charcoal. The flint is probably early Neolithic. The charcoal awaits analysis and possible C14 age determination.

EXCAVATIONS

Surrey Heath Archaeological and Heritage Trust

Excavations of a 17th century Tannery site, with underlying earlier features, will take place in Bagshot, Surrey from the end of July until mid September, under the direction of GH Cole. For further information contact GH Cole, The Archaeology Centre, 4-10 London Road, Bagshot, Surrey GU19 5HN.

Bignor Roman Villa Excavations 1994. 25th July – 5th August

Two five-day training courses will take place as part of the excavations, including excavation techniques, recording plans and sections, photography, sieving and flotation, finds processing, on-site surveying and geophysical techniques. Suitable for beginners or those with some experience.

Course fee £90. Application forms and further details from Natalie Tompsett, The Field Archaeology Unit, Tunner Dumbrell Workshops North End, Ditchling Hassocks, Sussex BN6 8TG.

MISCELLANY

Surrey Pride of Place Awards. Surrey Pride of Place Awards have been established by Surrey County Council and Toshiba to help local people, community groups and schools develop projects which improve their local surroundings. Projects can cover historic buildings, landscape — in fact any aspect of the environment which deserves attention. Projects must be about to start or already under way and you must be able to demonstrate how any awards will be spent to develop the project further. Members will recall that the Society's project at South Park Farm won Silver prize in last year's competition. Entries to be returned by 27th May. Full details and application forms from Nikki Hills, Pride of Place Awards, Environment Unit, County Planning Department, Surrey County Council, County Hall, Kingston upon Thames KT1 2DT. Telephone 081-541-9454.

Wandle Heritage Ltd

This new group, under the presidency of Dr David Bellamy, has been set up with the backing of Merton Council to promote the improvement of the landscape and ecology of the River Wandle. Old photographs and recollections of this neglected but historically important asset are sought by the Wimbledon Society (64 Marryat Road, SW19 5BN). — (M Harman in *The Wimbledon Society Newsletter*, October 1993.)

National Muniments Record

The NMR is part of the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England and is the most comprehensive archive of the archaeology and architecture of England in existence. Starting in April 1994, the bulk of the collection will be moved to the new Swindon office of the Commission while the material which relates to Greater London, a complete set of the Inventory of Listed Buildings, a photo of every listed building, a set of basic reference books and the Survey of London team will remain in London. It is also hoped that there will be computerised indexes, a bookshop and an exhibiton space. Access to the bulk of the collection in Swindon will be by personal visit, by letter or by telephone. It is likely that staff will be expressly dedicated to deal with enquiries in Swindon and in London. The Commission hopes that the new building, expressly designed to house the NMR and the rest of the collections, will be representative of the latest 'state of the art' thinking on the storage, conservation and display of archives. — (*Ancient Monuments Society Newsletter*, Autumn 1993.)

Centre for British Culture and Heritage

Sir Norman Foster has been approached to coordinate the transformation of Somerset House to provide a Centre for British Culture and Heritage. Sir Norman has been brought in by Trevor Osborne, the developer, who was asked in 1992 by the DoE to prepare detailed proposals for the building once the Inland Revenue had left.

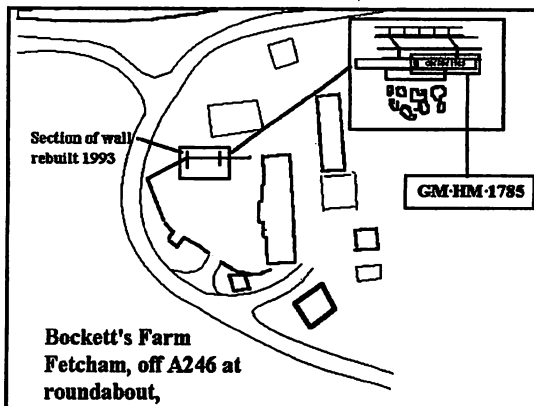
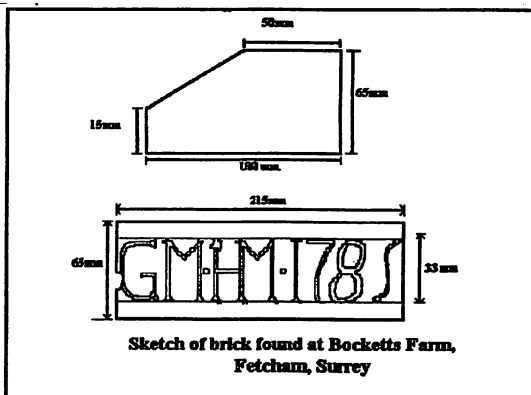
Foster will work with the architects, Green Lloyd, who carried out the conversion within the section facing the Strand for the Courtauld Gallery. The scheme, ambitious, perhaps even grandiose, looks to a variety of tenants and equity sharers to turn this great building into a place of education, art and culture. — (Ancient Monuments Society *Newsletter*, Autumn 1993.)

Bockett's Farm Mystery — inscribed brick found in flint wall

The need to rebuild a stretch of flint wall at Bockett's Farm, Fetcham, revealed an interesting brick. The brick complete with two sets of initials and the date 1785 had been set into the first course of bricks below the coping facing into the yard. Moss had covered the inscription so that no one, as far as we are aware, knew of its existence.

I should be interested in any observations anyone may have as to the type of brick, the style of inscription and whether GM and HM were builders or farm workers. The brick may give a date for the wall, it tallies with the estimated age of the wall and the date of 1786 for the barn, but it is a shaped coping brick found in a course of bricks below the coping. Was it relocated after a previous repair, were too many bricks shaped and therefore not needed for the coping or does it come from another site?

If anyone can help with information, please contact Lisa Creaye, Countryside Management Division, Surrey County Council, West House (Annexe), Merrow Lane, Guildford, GU4 7BQ — 0483 517593. — (Reprinted from *SIHG Newsletter*.)



First Performance of a Work dedicated to Sylvia, Ronald and Desmond Lewin

Members may remember the late Ronald Lewin and his wife Sylvia of East Horsley, who were members of the Society. Their daughter Miss Rosemary Lewin commissioned a work *Laudamus* from the composer Ronald Corp. The first performance was in St John's, Smith Square, London on 24th February 1994, in the 80th year of Ronald and Sylvia's births. I was able to attend and so was Mr Mervyn Blatch. We heard a superb programme conducted by Ronald Corp. After the interval he conducted *Laudamus*. It was a lovely and appropriate memorial to Ronald and Sylvia Lewin.

Josephine Carter

PUBLICATIONS

Newdigate: its history and houses, by Joan Harding and Joyce Banks. Further to the review in Bulletin 282: this book, though privately printed has the ISBN 0 9522748 0 9 and is available either from Ferney Field, Parkgate Road, Newdigate, Dorking RH5 5AH (cheques to 'Newdigate Book Account') or from Guildford Museum Bookshop, price £9.95 (p + p £1).

LECTURES

Guildford Museum Lecture Series 1994

The Guildford Museum Volunteer Excavation Unit has organised a monthly series of lectures in order to stimulate public interest in archaeology, and to raise funds for the unit.

The first of these lectures will be held in the Guildhall on Thursday 26th May. It is being given by Dr Barbara Bender, from University College London, on **Stonehenge Past and Present**: examining how people's views of Stonehenge have changed over time. This lecture is being accompanied by her travelling exhibition which is being held in Salters from 21st May to 4th June.

For further details of the series and how to book tickets, please contact **Andrea Selley, GMVEU, Guildford Museum, Castle Arch, Guildford GU1 3SX (tel: 0483 444752)**.

COURSES

The following day-schools are organised by the CCE, University of Sussex in association with the Sussex Archaeological Society. Full details from CCE, University of Sussex. Telephone 0273-678527.

"An Introduction to Archaeological Conservation". 7th May 10.00 am – 5.00 pm. Tutor: Adrian Tribe, a professional archaeological conservator working for English Heritage. Please note, although conservation methods and materials will be discussed, this is not a practical hands-on course.

"Death in Prehistoric Sussex". 21st May 10.00 am – 5.00 pm. Tutor: Peter Drewett. Discussion of the monument in the context of developing burial rites and

practices in prehistory, followed by an afternoon visit to some of the monuments.

“The Archaeology of Lewes Priory”. 18th June 10.00 am – 5.00 pm. Tutor: Malcolm Lyne. Lectures and discussion on the history and archaeology of Lewes Priory, including a visit to the Priory.

Training Workshops

Adult Technical Training Workshops are being organised by the Surrey Heath Archaeological and Heritage Trust at 4-10 London Road, Bagshot:

22nd May “Archaeological Illustration”

17th July “Medieval Pottery and other Ceramics”

Tuition fee for each workshop — £10.00. Details from: Director of Technical Training, The Archaeology Centre, 4-10 London Road, Bagshot.

MEETINGS

28th April

“The History of Wanborough”. A lecture by Gillian Drew, in the Assembly Room, Guildford Institute, Ward Street, Guildford at 8.00 pm.

3rd May

“History and archaeology of Pain’s Hill Gardens”. A lecture by Mavis Collier to KuTAS in the Lower Hall, Friends Meeting House, Eden Street, Kingston upon Thames at 8.00 pm.

4th May

Lunchtime Lecture Series “The Work of the Guildford Museum Volunteer Excavations Unit” by Andrea Selley at the Guildford Institute, Ward Street at 12.45 pm.

4th May

“Croydon Old Palace”. A lecture by Yvonne Walker to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St. Mary’s Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 8.00 pm.

4th May

SAS Lecture Series. “Richmond”. 7.30 pm (See Bulletin 282 for details.)

11th May

SAS Lecture Series. “Kingston upon Thames”. 7.30 pm. (See Bulletin 282 for details.)

11th May

Lunchtime Lecture Series. “Stoughton People and Places” by Anne Sankey at the Guildford Institute, Ward Street, at 12.45 pm.

11th May

AGM of the Esher District LHS at Esher Church of England School, Milbourne Lane, Claygate at 7.30 pm, followed by a talk by Julian Pooley, archivist with the Surrey Record Office.

13th May

“The Oxus Treasure”. A lecture by Dr J Curtis to the Richmond Archaeological Society in the Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond at 8.00 pm.

14th May

Historic Churches Preservation Trust — Tour of Surrey Churches. Fee £16.00. Details from Robin Millerchip, 14 Manor Place, King Street, Cambridge (0223-462279).

18th May

Lunchtime Lecture Series "Excavations at Guildford Castle" by Rob Poulton at the Guildford Institute, Ward Street at 12.45 pm.

18th May

SAS Lecture Series. "Weybridge". 7.30 pm. (See Bulletin 282 for details.)

20th May

"A Walk along Hadrian's Wall". A lecture by Ernest Crossland to the Leatherhead & District LHS in the Dixon Hall, Leatherhead Institute at 7.30 for 8.00 pm. Members 50p; non-members £1.00.

21st May

AGM of the Walton & Weybridge LHS in the Weybridge Library Lecture Hall at 3.00 pm, followed by Chairman's Afternoon commemorating the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Society.

25th May

Lunchtime Lecture Series. "The History and growth of Merrow" by Anne and Peter Knee at the Guildford Institute, Ward Street at 12.45 pm.

25th May

"Ham House". A lecture by Robert & Christine Pritchard to the Friends of Kingston Museum & Heritage Service in the Baptist Hall, Union Street, Kingston at 8.00 pm.

25th May

SAS Lecture Series. "Egham". 7.30 pm (See Bulletin 282 for details.)

1st June

"The Roman Army". A lecture by Nicholas Fuentes to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St. Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 8.00 pm.

7th June

"Monasteries in Surrey". A lecture by Mary Alexander to KuTAS in the Lower Hall, Friends Meeting House, Eden Street, Kingston upon Thames at 8.00 pm.

ADVANCE NOTICE**1st October**

All-day Conference. "Archaeology in Sussex 1974-1994". Details to follow.