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SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
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Bulletin

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COUNCIL NEWS

New Members

We are delighted to welcome the following new members to the Society:

- Abbitt, Ms J A, 9 Hillside, 161-163 Carshalton Road, Sutton, SM1 4NG
Allen, Dr L, Fishponds House, Fishponds Park, Ewell Road, Surbiton, KT6 6BE
Beard, Mr V D, 4 Willow Cottages, Watermead Lane, Carshalton, SM5 1HZ
Chalkley, Mr R O, Fishers Hill Cottage, Saunders Lane, Mayford, Woking, GU22 0NU
Coopers, Victoria J, 79 Weston Road, Guildford, GU2 6AS
Copping, Miss L J, 20 Mandeville Close, Robinsmead, Guildford, GU2 6YA
Dawe, Ms H N, 10 St Mary's Gardens, Bagshot, GU19 5JX
Douglas, Mr R A, 54 Hillcrest, Boxhill Road, Tadworth, KT20 7JW
Guildford Institute, Ward Street, Guildford, GU1 4LH
Hall, Mr A R, 3 Gayton Close, Ashtead, KT21 2QJ
Hayward, Mr C C, 14 Hollycombe Close, Liphook, Hants GU30 7HR
Hembrey, Ms N, Flat 7, 47 Alma Road, Reigate, RH2 0DN
Hooker, Mrs R J, 59 Thornton Place, Horley, RH6 8RZ
Leppard, Mr M J, 20 St George's Court, London Road, East Grinstead, Sussex, RH19 1QP
Littler, Mrs A R, 11 Richards Road, Stoke d'Abernon, Cobham, KT11 2SX
Lynch, Mrs J D, 19 Melville Court, Guilddown Road, Guildford, GU2 5ER
Milton-Worssell, Mrs A E, 62 Harriotts Lane, Ashtead, KT21 2QP
Moore, Mr K C, 3 Ridge Green Close, South Nutfield, Redhill, RH1 5RW
Parker, Ms R M, 5 Birch Terrace, Hangingbirch Lane, Waldron, Heathfield, East Sussex TN21 0PA
Ryan, Miss R, 111 Alexandra Road, Farnborough, Hants GU14 6RR
Saunders, Mr G M, 8 St Pauls Road West, Dorking, RH4 2HU
Scrivener, Mr D, Beech Holt, 10 Doran Drive, Redhill, RH1 6AX
Shaw, Mr P J, 70 Whyteleafe Road, Caterham, CR3 5EF
Smith, Ms J, 29 Bray Road, Guildford, GU2 5LH
Somner, Mr & Mrs D E, 18 Abbot Road, Guildford, GU1 3TA
Trotter, Mr A M, Lorien, Common Lane, Claygate, Esher, KT10 0HY
Van der Lande, Mr C J, Folly Farm, South Holmwood, Dorking, RH5 4NH
Woodhouse, Elisabeth A, The White House, Burpham, Arundel, West Sussex, BN18 9RH
Yearley, Mr A J, 37 Jersey Close, Little Green Lane, Chertsey, KT16 9PA

CONSERVATION MATTERS

Kinnersley Manor, Horley

Dennis Turner

The Manor House and South Bank, Kinnersley Manor, Reigate Road, Reigate and Banstead (currently in Salfords and Sidlow civil parish, anciently Horley parish), has been added to the 'Statutory List'. These are the two surviving wings of a courtyard mansion house, allegedly built in 1579, partially refronted and re fenestrated in the 18th century and with late 19th century alterations and extensive additions which overlie the site of the courtyard. The original building was timber framed with close-studded panels. The original building was briefly described by Manning and Bray (2, 196) and considerable details of the surviving wings are given in the listing schedule and in DBRG Report No 2469 of September 1980.

Restoration of Kew Palace

Dennis Turner

Kew Palace is at once one of the least known and most charming of the historic royal palaces. Otherwise known as 'the 'Dutch House', it is located in Kew Gardens and is now a scheduled ancient monument. The house was built in 1631 as a country house by Samuel Fortrey, a City merchant of Dutch extraction, on the site of a Tudor brick building of which remnants survive in the basement.

The Dutch House is one of a small group of similar contemporary buildings found mainly in the London area. These houses are 'characterised by a combination of the Jacobean tradition of curved gables and mullion-and-transomed windows with skilful exploitation of carved brick for a display of fanciful details, among which plasters, often in several orders, and eared architraves were especially popular' (Cherry and Pevsner 1983 *London South*, 33). The group shares a degree of virtuosity in brickwork and this is well illustrated in Kew Palace which is also notable as one of the first recognised examples of 'Flemish bond'.

The house was first leased by the Crown in 1728 and finally bought in 1781. King George III and Queen Charlotte lived there between 1902 and 1818. Recently, the Palace has been open to the public as a museum under the care of the Historic Royal Palaces, who have now commissioned restoration by Donald Insall Associates.

Investigations carried out by the Historic Royal Palaces and Donald Insall Associates' design team in advance of restoration are said to have led to a new understanding of the construction of the building and of various changes that have occurred since it was first built. This has assisted the preparation of a repair strategy addressed precisely to the needs of this important building.

The first phase of the work will include repairs to the roof and to the main external walls. Careful repair to the brickwork is needed in some areas, elsewhere walls need to be tied together to preserve their structural integrity. Donald Insall Associates are employing as consultants structural engineers Alan Baxter Associates and mechanical and electrical engineers Peter Lawson-Smith Associates. Higgs and Hill Special Contracts (who are also working with Donald Insall Associates at Windsor Castle) have been appointed principal contractor.

NOTES

Antiquities from Surrey in West Midlands Museums

PJ Watson, DJ Symons, PJ Wise and T Bridges

A survey of archaeological collections in West Midlands museums has recently been carried out by the West Midlands Archaeological Collections Research Unit under the auspices of the West Midlands Area Museums Service. All museums in the counties of Herefordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands and Worcestershire were included in the survey, but not private collections or material currently under study at Field Units. One of the aims of the project was to make the collections more widely known, especially artefacts of non-local origin, through short notes in relevant county and specialist journals. This was thought preferable to the compilation of a single catalogue which would be so disparate as to be of little appeal to the researchers we are trying to reach.

Six West Midlands museums have antiquities from Surrey (post 1974 boundaries). Many do not have a precise provenance and the four figure grid references in brackets are given merely as an aid for locating sites; where further details about findspots or circumstances of discovery are known these are noted, together with a fuller grid reference if available. Resources have not allowed the compilation of full catalogue details, the commissioning of professional drawings or photographs, or extensive trawls through documentation and literature. As the primary intention of the listing is to give researchers an idea of the type and quantity of material held in West Midlands museums it is hoped that this brevity will be forgiven.

The following abbreviations have been used when citing museum accession numbers: Bir = Birmingham City Museums and Art Gallery; Cov = Coventry, Herbert Museum and Art Gallery; Lap = Birmingham University, School of Earth Sciences, Lapworth Museum; Nun = Nuneaton Museum and Art Gallery; Stk = Stoke-on-Trent City Museum and Art Gallery; War = Warwickshire Museum.

PJ: The catalogue was passed to the Bulletin by the editors of the Collections as prompt publication seemed warranted. This will be in three parts. The worked flints are listed below, and some stolen coins from Wanborough and some ceramic material will follow in forthcoming issues.

Struck Flint — PJ Watson

Ashtead (TQ 1858) Eight Neolithic or later flint flakes (Bir 1991A259).

Churt, Devil's Jump (SU 865396) Group of Mesolithic flints including cores and blade flakes (Bir1935A51).

Compton (SU 9547) Three Neolithic flint scrapers (War A690, 691, 693). Note that A693 is supposedly from Compton but is marked Hindhead [SU 8736].

Dorking (TQ 1649) Flint flake (Lap W44).

Farnham, Paine's Pit (SU 838455) Palaeolithic cordate handaxe (Bir 1991A18).

Farnham, Shortheath (SU 831447) Palaeolithic pointed handaxe (Bir 1991A17).

Farnham, no exact provenance (SU 8446) Three palaeolithic handaxes: one cordate, one sub-cordate (Sept.1912) and one fragment (Bir 1948A17.6, 1973A30, 991A20). A palaeolithic sub-cordate handaxe with cortex on much of butt; ex Lord Avebury collection (Stk 31'1958). A cordate handaxe (Cov A836/18). A Palaeolithic handaxe (Lap B89). A flint fabricator of triangular section; 103mm. (Bir 1948A17.28).

Godstone (TQ 3551) Two Mesolithic flints: a blade/flake and a retouched flake (Bir 1991A263).

Hindhead see under Compton above.

Horley (TQ 2843) Flint adze; predominantly pale brown flint with some fawn and grey patches and cortex on convex face. One side straight, the other uneven, both tapering to a thin, narrow, straight butt. Cutting edge very rounded. Plano-convex section. Some grinding at blade end and on flat face. 140mm long, 55mm wide, and 19mm thick (Bir 1988A10) Fragment of flint axe/chisel; grey flint. Straight, almost parallel sides. Slightly curved cutting edge. Butt lost. Some grinding. 64mm (Bir 1988A11). Fragment of flint axe; pale grey and pale brown flint. Broad butt and tapering flattened sides. Cutting edge lost. Ground all over. 50mm (Bir 1988A12). Two fabricators and a core (Bir 1991A253-254).

Leatherhead (TQ 1656) Palaeolithic flints: a sub-cordate handaxe and three flakes (Bir 1991A95). Nineteen later flints (Bir 1991A258).

Limpsfield (TQ 4152) Eight Mesolithic flakes marked "Nimpsfield" Common?. (Bir 1991A307)

Millfield (not located — possibly near Little Bookham cTQ 1354?) Retouched blade flake and a flake (Bir 1991A262).

Oxted, Chicele Road allotments (TQ 3951) c10 Mesolithic flints (Bir 1991A255).

Oxted, no exact provenance TQ 3952) Mesolithic flint assemblage (Bir 991A256).

Peaslake (near) (TQ 0844) Five later flint flakes and a scraper (Lap B30, B64).

Redhill (TQ2750) Mesolithic blade flake (Lap B55).

Reigate, no exact provenance (TQ 2550) Sixteen Mesolithic flints; blade flakes and waste (Bir1991A260).

Sidlow (near Horley) (TQ 2546) A Mesolithic tranchet axe in orange brown flint; parallel sides. 120mm. (Bir 1991A251). A worked flake (Bir 1991A252).

Tandridge (TQ 3750) Group of Mesolithic flints (Bir 1991A257).

Further Archaeological Work at Home Farm, Laleham (TQ 059691) Graham Hayman, SCAU

Between 23rd-29th July, 1996, staff of the Surrey County Archaeological Unit carried out a field evaluation at Home Farm, Laleham. The work was undertaken on behalf of Greenham Construction Materials Ltd and was a condition of planning permission granted to allow them to extract gravel from the site. The quarry is being worked in phases over a number of years and previous work by SCAU has led to the excavation of four small prehistoric sites. The recent evaluation led to the discovery of another small site which was excavated between 30th July and 9th August, 1996.

An area measuring approximately 50m by 30m was cleared to the level of the natural brickearth to reveal a variety of features cut into it — all were sealed by an overlying subsoil deposit of orange/brown clay loam. The features consisted of a clay gully, two ditches, a number of small pits and post holes and a substantial pit believed to be a waterhole. These features were fairly evenly distributed throughout the site area and it is possible that continued soil stripping may have revealed a few more. There was no obvious direction to follow, however, and considering the absence of features in the surrounding trial trenches this was not a practical option. Many of the features produced fragments of calcined flint-gritted pottery, pieces of struck flint and/or pieces of burnt flint, and all provisionally would appear to be of Late Bronze Age date.

Probably the most interesting of the features discovered were the two ditches and the waterhole. The ditches ran diagonally across the site in a NE/SW direction and were roughly parallel to each other lying about 6m apart. Without knowing more about the course of these features beyond the site area it is impossible to be certain of their function — they might be no more than ancient field boundaries, but their parallel alignment suggests that they might be of greater significance with one possibility

being that they might even mark the position of a trackway. The discovery of such an ancient line of communication would be of considerable archaeological importance and it is hoped that this question will be resolved in the future during subsequent monitoring and evaluation work. The waterhole measured approximately 3.5m long by 2.35m wide by 1.6m deep, and had been cut through natural brickearth and then gravel to below the level of the water table. The feature contained a variety of fill deposits and these yielded a reasonable number of pottery sherds with quantities of well preserved (small) animal bone being recovered from the waterlogged basal deposits. The pottery has been identified as being of Late Bronze Age date. It is hoped that the bone recovered from this feature will form the basis of an interesting specialist report, and it is anticipated that soil samples taken will provide sufficient charcoal for radiocarbon dating.

Riddlesdown: Traffic Ruts

Dennis Turner

An examination of Riddlesdown by Mrs Gwyneth Foulkes of the Bourne Society, Peter Gray and the writer in 1995 showed that there are a series of roughly parallel hollow-ways rising round the south-western shoulder of the Down above the low ground around Purley Cross Roads. The traffic ruts rise from the Whiteleaf Valley and, over much of the Down, seem to cross faint traces of a field system. The assessment of the field system must await a full survey of the Down but the impression was gained that both rectangular and narrow strip-shaped elements were present. The traffic ruts also appeared to be later than the well-known but enigmatic earthwork along the western boundary of the commonland (Manning and Bray, 2, 448; *Surrey Archaeological Collections*, 1, 212; 50, 65-6).

Buckland Mill, near Reigate, Surrey

Dr Duncan Ferns

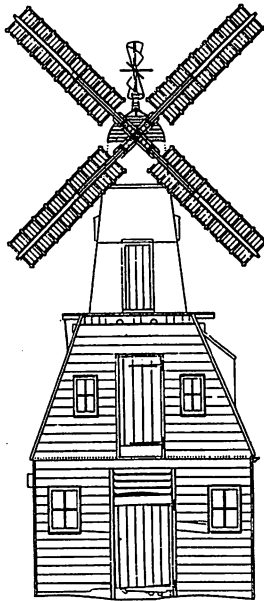
Yewdells

Yewdells is a late-17th century timber-framed cottage, listed as Grade II. It is within the old boundary of the Buckland Court Estate, 2 miles west of Reigate. The Estate owned the house until 1924. Early tenants of the house were three generations of the Udall's family (c.1690-1740), after whom the house is now named. John Udall (1688-1782) is recorded as a carpenter who trained apprentices.

The 1841 census is the first record of the Sanders family being the tenants of Yewdells, since when five successive generations have occupied the house through to 1985. The first four generations were each carpenters for the Buckland Court Estate. James Sanders (1762-1839), his son James (1801-1868), his son Thomas (1835-1917), and his son Francis (1867-1955) who purchased the house from the Estate in 1924.

Discovering the Windmill

In the garden of Yewdells is a windmill which for many years was not well maintained, and used as a coal and wood store. It was largely hidden from view of the road by a mature yew tree, whose trunk was only one foot from the mill. Many components of the mill, including the four shuttered sails, fantail and several cog patterns are stored and in good condition. There is no surviving evidence of millstones or other machinery which the mill might have powered.



Buckland Mill.

In January 1995, the new owners of Yewdells contacted the Society for Protection of Ancient Buildings (Wind and Watermills Section) asking for an opinion on the windmill. We were visited by several windmill experts during 1995, and all were surprised by its existence. This is not least because Surrey and Inner London were subject to one of the most comprehensive studies of windmills ever published, by Farries & Mason in 1966. Buckland Mill was not mentioned in their book.

The experts were of the view that it was 'designed to work', but the components showed so little sign of wear that they may never even have been assembled. In other words, the project may have been abandoned before completion.

Sawmill Workshop

Three elements of circumstantial evidence point to the Buckland mill being designed as a sawmill and workshop. Firstly, the size and structure is smaller than a grain mill, but similar to a limited number of wind-powered sawmill workshops around the UK, including Punnett's Town (Sussex), Freckleton (Lancashire) and Horsell (Surrey). Although documented, none of these small sawmills now survive. Typically, they would have powered a circular saw bench (perhaps outside to allow access for long timbers), drilling and morticing machines and grindstones for tool sharpening.

Secondly, is the fact that Yewdells has been the home of the estate carpenters for generations, creating the need for powered saws and giving access to materials and building skills.

Thirdly, Yewdells was the site of an operational, outdoor steam sawmill from c1920 to 1938, and Francis Sanders is described in directories of the time as 'Steam Sawyer'.

Buckland Mill is therefore probably the only wind-powered sawmill workshop surviving in the UK.

Date of Construction & Millwright

The yew tree growing just one foot from the mill was felled in 1995, with permission. It had 120 rings, and as the mill almost certainly pre-dated the tree, this suggests a construction date of pre-1875. The 1846 Tithe Map and Ordnance Survey maps of 1869 and 1914 all show outbuildings in the approximate location of the windmill, but there is no windmill symbol, and thus the maps offer no particular dating evidence.

Inside the mill is a cast-iron plaque naming "W Cooper, Engineer, Henfield". William Cooper was a millwright, working from Henfield, Sussex, who probably designed the workings of the mill. His company was most active from 1860 to 1876 when he died. Thus the best indicative date of the Yewdells windmill is c1860-1876.

Construction

Standing on a shallow brick foundation, the mill is a 12 x 12 foot, two-storey structure with a flat lead roof, from which rises a tapered round tower to a height of 9 feet.

The small (2 ft) cap sits on top of the tower, enabling the 9 foot shuttered sails to rotate above the flat roof. The overall structure height, including sails, is 28 feet.

Some of the structural timbers are 'adzed' rather than sawn and are probably significantly older than the date of construction. The village church of St Mary the Virgin was rebuilt in 1860, and as this date is contemporary with the likely build-date, some of the timbers used in the mill may be from the old church. The internal structural timbers are arranged in X-patterned panels, with timbers up to about 8" x 6". It is clad in black coal tar-stained weatherboard, with new riven oak shingles on the steeply pitched rooves and tower. The first floor is reached by a ladder staircase, and further steps give access to the turret above.

Restoration

In May 1995, an architect experienced in windmill restoration, Howard Jones (of West Clandon, Surrey), was employed to produce scale drawings of the mill *and* the 30 or so loose components. Using his knowledge, he produced drawings of the reconstructed windmill. A local carpenter and lead-roofing craftsman were employed to rebuild the flat roof and tower sections, and repair windows, doors and weatherboarding. Adding oak shingles to the tower and pitched roofs will be completed in 1996, and the mill will again be clean and weather proof.

A fixed, temporary cap frame will enable the replacement of the restored, weather-boarded cap and finial to be replaced in late 1996.

Re-building a working cap frame and erecting the sails is a more complex issue, involving the casting of numerous cogs and fittings. We target the year 2000 to complete this, subject to planning permission and grant aid.

If the sails are ever persuaded to turn, the ultimate goal is to install a sawbench, driven from the windshaft, to demonstrate that this mill really could work, albeit on occasions when the wind blew.

The Medieval Chamber at Guildford

D G Bird

In *Bulletin* 309 Mary Alexander continues to argue strongly for the interpretation of the recently discovered 12th century room as a synagogue. Yet it remains the case that there is, in Joe Hillaby's words, only circumstantial evidence to favour this theory, and in fact this evidence is weak.

Hillaby's case is set out in a note for the *University of Bristol Newsletter* (Vol 26 no 10, p2, 29 February 1996) and in the letter to *British Archaeology* republished in *Bulletin* 309. In the first he says that "three characteristics of synagogue sites stand out: foundation (they are associated with the rich and powerful); location (often on back street sites); and protection (Jews favoured towns with sheriffs and royal castles). Guildford ... conforms to all three characteristics." Other points have been made in support of the synagogue theory, in particular the nature and date of the destruction of the room. With the exception of protection, all may be challenged.

Foundation. The only evidence Hillaby can offer for a 'rich and powerful' Jew in Guildford is the reference for Isaac of Southwark's house in 1272. There is no evidence for the 12th century. Isaac's house can easily be explained as conveniently situated between his main centres of interest, London/Southwark and Winchester. There is no reason to suppose that Guildford was his primary place. Nothing suggests a Jewish *community* in the town; this is important because, as I understand it, there would be no point in having a synagogue unless there were ten adult males (ie over the age of 13 to make it possible to hold services (see also David Stern's note in *Bulletin* 310). In a major paper about medieval synagogues ('Beth Miqdash Me'at: the synagogues of medieval England', *Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 44, 2, 1993, 182-198) Hillaby notes that there is very good evidence for the English Jews in the 13th century. Using this evidence he produces a map of Jewish communities in late 12th and 13th century England (185) and a table of documentary evidence for synagogues (186). Guildford figures on neither of them.

The quality of the building has been taken as supporting the theory that it had a Jewish owner. Obviously the Guildford room was part of a structure built for a rich person but there is no reason to suppose that this person was Jewish. In this respect it is as well to take note of the conclusions reached by Margaret Wood (*The English Mediaeval House*, 1965), when discussing 12th century town houses: "To sum up: there is no doubt that the Jews had stone houses for reasons of defence, wealth and importance, but it is unwise to consider that every surviving Norman town house necessarily had a Jewish owner. There were other persons of wealth in the 12th century besides Jew and baron: people who could afford to build a substantial house, and especially in districts where stone was abundant... The question of defence concerned the merchant less than it did the Jew, but he also had valuable stores to protect from fire and theft, and money to build a stone basement for that purpose, with a pleasant hall above to live in." (1965, 6). Wood does not rule out the possibility of a timber superstructure to a stone basement in 12th century town houses (surely logical in areas with poor building stone): "The sub-vault that remains in St Thomas Street, Winchester (dated to the 12th century, Wood 1965, 14), may have carried an upper storey of timber; also the London crypt, now destroyed, at Corbet Court, and that of the Priors of Lewes at Southwark" (1965, 21). (For a convenient outline plan of the house at Corbet Court see P Marsden, *The Roman Forum site in London. Discoveries before 1985, 1987*, fig 57; note the remnants of a rear porch, about 3.3m square).

The building itself cannot help us. It remains unlikely that the so-called benches were intended to be used as such: why were they not made level if they were to be used as seats? No evidence, documentary or otherwise, has been offered to support the contention that the size, layout and decoration of the Guildford room fit in with what we know of medieval synagogues, at least in the sense that these things would enable us to distinguish a synagogue from any other contemporary structure. Hillaby does not suggest that we can use this kind of evidence to prove that a structure is a synagogue. In fact he says that: "Any room in any house could serve as a meeting place" (1993, 197).

Location. It is clear that the information available to Hillaby was incomplete when he first elaborated the synagogue theory. He originally thought that the room was 20m (not 10m) behind the High Street and describes it as backing “directly onto the royal castle” (1996). This explains his emphasis on “back street sites” (echoed in the letter in *Bulletin* 309 by the phrase “on its backland site”). As John Schofield notes, the Guildford room is in fact obviously attached to a larger room on the street frontage. This is hardly a backland or back street site. It is also in a position where it must be unlikely that there was any access to the castle from the rear of the property, even in the 12th century. Much has also been made of the below-ground aspect of the Guildford room, but at least one synagogue is specifically described as *above* a cellar (Nottingham: Hillaby 1993, 195) and in any case when constructed the Guildford building was probably not even below ground level on the downhill side.

Protection. Obviously Guildford had a royal castle to offer protection, but this does not prove the presence of a Jewish community or that the Guildford room was Jewish. In fact Isaac in 1272 would have been better advised to have a house opposite Castle Arch: the Quarry Street house with the 13th century arch comes to mind.

Destruction. Mary Alexander states that “the chamber was demolished deliberately, and apparently with the intention of obliterating it, at the time of the expulsion of the Jews” (*Bulletin* 309). It is difficult to see how this could be supported by archaeological evidence, especially under the circumstances in which the room’s fill was dug out (from the side, with difficult access and lighting conditions). Obviously the room was demolished and backfilled by those who no longer had a use for it, but how can there be evidence for their reasons? To date the destruction as anything other than late 13th/early 14th century would be difficult from normal archaeological evidence such as pottery, and even this might be challenged. According to *Bulletin* 300 “the only find from the room itself is a ... penny ... dated 1251-1272 ...” but coins are notoriously poor dating evidence for archaeological contexts. The importance attached to the destruction is made explicit in *Bulletin* 300: “The fact that the room was demolished and sealed over for 700 years suggests that it may have been a synagogue which no medieval Christian would have a use for.” This is not correct. There are several examples of the reuse of synagogues for other purposes (see Hillaby 1993, 185-7, and in particular 197: “Not only was the London community synagogue handed over to the Friars of the Sack but, more than thirty years earlier, Henry III had converted another *scola* into the chapel of St Mary in the Minor Jewry. Under Philip Augustus the synagogues at Orléans and Etampes became churches...”

To sum up: there is no evidence that the Guildford room was constructed for a Jewish owner or that this is likely. Even if the room was part of a building in Jewish ownership there is no reason to suppose that it was a synagogue. On the basis of the currently available evidence the best explanation of the room remains that of John Schofield (who has presented parallels): it was a porch to a larger building on the street frontage (letter reprinted in *Bulletin* 309). He knew the layout of the room’s doors when he made his porch suggestion and the decoration is irrelevant: no-one supposes that the building will have been owned by anyone other than a rich person. It is important to avoid the mistake of equating unusual *survival* with unusual *purpose*. This is akin to the archaeologist’s tendency to interpret any mysterious object or site as ‘ritual’. Overmuch concentration on the synagogue theory as a result of the media-led speculation has had at least two unfortunate effects: in Guildford it seems already accepted as fact by the general public; more important perhaps, it has distracted attention from a proper debate about this rare survival of a 12th century town house.

Reports from Archaeological Units

There is a growing number of archaeological interventions in the Surrey London boroughs and the rest of the historic county, as the full implications of PPG 16 (a package of planning policy guidelines recommended by Whitehall to local government in 1990) become more familiar to front-line Borough officers. A new aim for the Bulletin is to publish brief notes of every archaeological fieldwork intervention within six months of its completion, and in a common data format, but this will only be possible if contractors respond quickly. I also hope that they will always include grid references with their copy.

A key to the Units and Consultants involved precedes a list of some of the professional fieldwork undertaken in Surrey during 1996 that has not previously been noted in the Bulletin. The remainder of the backlog will appear in the next Bulletin.

AS-E	Archaeology South-East (formerly South-Eastern Archaeological Services)
AOC	Archaeological Operations and Conservation Ltd
L-P	Lawson-Price
MOLAS	Museum of London Archaeological Service
PCA	Pre-Construct Archaeology
SAS	Sutton Archaeological Services
SCAU	Surrey County Archaeological Unit

Carshalton, Westcroft House: Evaluation by PCA and L-P, September 1996. Later prehistoric features and finds.

Colliers Wood, 38 High Street (TQ 26957075): Watching Brief by SAS. No significant finds or features.

Croydon, Gloucester Road: Evaluation by MOLAS, late 1996. No features or finds.

Dorking, grounds of Burford Lodge, London Road (TQ 173515): Walk-over survey by AS-E in February 1996 identified a number of features of minor importance associated with the house.

Kingston, East Lane: Evaluation by PCA & L-P, August 1996. Residual Saxon sherds and large 17/18th century feature with much ceramics.

Kingston, South Lane: Excavation by PCA & L-P, August 1996. Saxon features, including a ditch and extensive concentration of stakeholes; much Saxon pottery.

Kingston, 1 Grange Road: (TQ 18226898) Evaluation by AS-E in September 1996. Much modern disturbance; single sherd of medieval pottery.

Kingston, 82-84 London Road (TQ187693): Excavation by AS-E in the Autumn of 1996, following the identification of the site as part of a Quaker Burial Ground in an assessment by MOLAS in 1983. The cemetery was in use from 1664 to 1814, and two-thirds of it was excavated, yielding 361 graves. *From a short report prepared by AS-E:* The land was to be cleared of human remains prior to redevelopment. This occasioned the first major archaeological excavation of a Quaker cemetery in the country, and has provided an invaluable insight into the early Quaker community in Kingston. The cemetery remains were deeply buried below 19th and 20th century deposits, and very little intrusion had occurred. Spatial pressure had necessitated the truncation of many of the burials by later ones, with disturbed remains being placed in small charnel pits. The majority of graves contained decayed wooden coffins, sometimes decorated with bronze studs arranged to indicate biographical data on the individual buried within. Sixteen lead coffins were found, nine of which were contained in a brick burial vault known from Quaker records to have been constructed by Thomas Barnard in 1743. Enough biographical data has therefore been recovered from coffin inscriptions to enable osteological traits of one family to be studied.

Post-excavation work on the cemetery is currently in progress, with a final analysis of the cemetery, osteology and historical data to be published in the near future.

Louise Bashford

Kingston, Acre Road: Evaluation by MOLAS in late 1996. No features or finds.

Kingston, Turks Boatyard: Watching brief by MOLAS, late 1996, on development over the Thames foreshore. No features or finds of archaeological significance.

Kingston, Warren Cuttings: Watching brief by MOLAS, late 1996. Prehistoric ditch discovered.

Lambeth, Effra Road: Evaluation by MOLAS in last quarter of 1996. No features or finds of archaeological significance.

Lambeth, 11-13 Hillyard Road (TQ 31107670): Watching Brief by SAS. No features or finds.

Limpsfield, Brassey Road (TQ402526): Walk-over survey by AS-E in March 1996. Little observed, but further assessment was recommended.

Merton, Deer Park Road (TQ 26126944): Evaluation by SAS. No features or finds. Alluvium in all trenches.

Mitcham, 21 Church Road: Evaluation by TVAS, August 1996. Late Saxon or early medieval ditches, medieval pit, and an undated horse burial.

Mitcham, 80-82 Church Road: Evaluation by AOC, September 1996. Medieval pit.

Mitcham, 21 Cricket Green (TQ 27726849): Evaluation by AS-E in October 1995. No features; single sherd of medieval pottery.

North Cheam, St Anthony's Hospital (TQ 23806590): Watching Brief by SAS. No features or finds.

Oxted, Home Farm (TQ 40305180): Evaluation by SAS, a year-long programme ending in July 1996. Casual finds of struck flints, Roman and medieval sherds, and an unidentifiable bronze coin; and a small ditch, gully and post-hole in the north of the site. The post-hole contained a medieval sherd.

Putney, Lytton Grove: Evaluation by PCA & L-P, June 1996. No features or finds.

Putney, Imperial College Boat Club: Evaluation by MOLAS, late 1996. Deposits of a marsh shown on an 1865 map and of an earlier foreshore were uncovered.

Putney, 2-4 Lower Richmond Road (TQ 24087557): Excavation and Watching Brief by SAS. 18th century and later Thames foreshore deposits were removed by machine, and an underlying metre of deposits was removed by hand excavation and carefully supervised machining. At least three timber waterfronts were revealed, the first dating from the latter part of the 16th century and the third probably from the latter part of the 17th or early 18th century. There is as yet no firm date for the second waterfront, but it probably dates to the 17th century. Traces of other, incomplete, timbers were also recovered, but it is not known to what structures or dates they belonged. The site was stripped down to the natural river gravels and alluvial clay. Coins, pottery and other finds from the Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods were recovered.

Richmond, Bute Avenue, Petersham Parsonage (TQ 18357295): Evaluation by SAS. Casual finds of late medieval and post-medieval material, but earliest feature was 19th century.

Selsdon, 18-19 Woodland Gardens (TQ 35476197): Evaluation by AS-E in November 1996. No features or finds.

Southwark, 53 George Row: Evaluation by PCA, October 1996. Post-medieval dumps overlay fluvial deposits. No features or finds from the latter.

Southwark, 51-53 Southwark Street: Excavation by PCA over six weeks in late 1996, following an earlier evaluation. From a summary prepared by John Dillon, Archaeology Officer of Southwark Council:- "A sand island was uncovered cut by two channels. The eastern channel appears to have been infilled early and stakes driven through the alluvium. The west channel remains open with further substantial squared oak timbers and a two phase box revetment. The driven timbers and the larger squared ones are aligned roughly NE-SW and may form the base of some form of causeway across the channels and sand islands. Possibly contemporary with the use of the revetment was a fragment of mortar flooring with a number of in situ floor tiles. This was sealed by extensive dumps which contained large amounts of high quality decorated wall plaster and mosaic fragments, with a polychrome floral design. Cutting these dumps was a series of post-holes likely to have formed part of a timber building, with one double row of post-holes. This was sealed by further late Roman dumping which had been truncated by 18/19th century activity."

Southwark, Storcks Road south of Jamaica Road: Evaluation by PCA in the third quarter of 1996. Fluvial deposits found below 19th century stratigraphy. Some calcined flints, two struck flints and three sherds were recovered from the lower alluvial horizon of one of the machined trenches.

Southwark, Dockmasters Quay — Greenland Dock: Evaluation and Watching Brief by PCA in the third quarter of 1996, No features or finds.

Southwark, Spice Quay — Shad Thames: Evaluation by PCA. 17th — 19th century riverside buildings and timber revetment to the Thames, 18th/19th century dock/inlet. Much disturbance, and archaeological survival was fragmentary.

Southwark, West Courtyard — Curlew Street: Evaluation by PCA. At 5m depth, much calcined flint and some struck were located "on or just above a sand horizon, which is likely to form part of the north edge of Horseleydown" (*PJ: one of the many 'palaeo-islands' of Southwark*). This is "tentatively dated" either Mesolithic or Neolithic. Three metres of alluvium accumulated until 17th or 18th century land reclamation.

NB: Spice Quay and West Courtyard form part of the Butlers Estate re-development site, and the above are the first accounts of an on-going programme of field evaluations following a desk-top assessment by L-P.

Southwark, Rotherhithe, East London Line: Evaluation by MOLAS in last quarter of 1996, of two shafts sunk adjacent to the Thames. A sequence of 18th and 19th century dumps sealed three phases of revetments, the earliest dating to pre-1620. The revetments were constructed of timbers from earlier clinker and carvel vessels and are proving to be of great significance.

Southwark, Great Dover Street: Excavation by MOLAS (Tony Mackinder) in last quarter of 1996. The southern edge of a Roman road (possibly Watling Street) and its associated ditches crossed the site, one of which produced several fragments of moulded stone, including a head identified as a river god. Alongside were the foundations of a walled enclosure around a central concrete plinth, and several inhumations. Excavation has also revealed another Roman walled enclosure containing a slightly off-centre robbed foundation, two inhumations, half an amphora buried upright and containing an organic fill and 52 nails, and several fragments of moulded stone including one in the shape of a large pine cone. Several other inhumations including plaster burials, and cremations in pots, are located to the south of these structures. Other Roman features include a pit containing whole pots and lamps, and a timber-lined well.

Tadworth, Shelve's Green (TQ 23105690): Evaluation by SAS, January 1997. Casual finds of struck flints and burnt flints, but no archaeological features. Alluvium in all trenches suggests prehistoric occupation was on higher ground.

Tooting, 120-4 High Street (TQ 27257150): Watching Brief by SAS. No significant features or finds.

Walton-on-the-Hill, 44/46 Walton Street (TQ 22515522): Evaluation by AS-E in September 1995. No features or finds.

Wandsworth, Prospect House, Point Pleasant: Survey of foreshore by SAS, 1996. Extensive area of prehistoric peat found beneath more recent deposits.

GUILDFORD ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP

Ancient Hedges

A hedge in the Chase, part of Henry II's hunting park at Guildford, has been cut down because it was deemed to be dangerous. It did contain dead and diseased elms, but as the hedge is thought to date from about 1630 when James I sold the land, Helen Davies has written a letter of protest to Surrey County Council. The local councillor has also protested to SCC and Guildford Borough Council.

The hedge may regenerate from the stumps and there is also a possibility that it may be replanted behind the current line. In the latter case it is suggested that SCC bear the cost.

The Buckingham Collection from Newark Priory in Guildford Museum

Mary Alexander

At the end of March 1997 a display of about 450 objects found near Newark Priory opened at Guildford Museum. They were found by John Buckingham of Guildford and his son Paul, using metal detectors on the then unscheduled area beyond Newark Priory. What they have found is so interesting that English Heritage has extended the scheduling to include a much larger area. The finds may have implications for other monastic sites, as they show that there was some sort of activity over a wider area than was expected.

Mr Buckingham had the permission of the landowner, and divided the area into squares so he could record each find. This makes it possible to plot the finds, which are concentrated in particular areas. He has very generously given the whole collection to the Museum, and it is all on display except for five objects which need conservation.

Nearly all the objects are of bronze (the ones which need conservation are of iron, with one of (?) pewter. They fall into five main groups — coins and jettons, personal objects, horse harness, fittings and objects connected with the Priory. The coins and jettons are about a quarter of the total, probably because they are easy to lose. The coins are of silver (though a few copper farthings of James I and Charles I have crept in) and most are pennies. The coins reflect the length of reign of the various kings — for example, Richard I has one or two coins, Henry III has about a dozen. The jettons have not yet been fully identified but they seem to cover the full range from the late 13th century English series to the 16th century Nuremberg jettons.

The personal objects are mostly belt fittings, with some seal matrices, rings, a brooch etc. The horse harness includes some very nice harness pendants — two with the same heraldic device, and one with the royal arms. The fittings are a large group of items, not all of which have been identified. They are basically parts of other objects,

usually decorative parts but sometimes functional. The objects which may be associated with the Priory are a small group, which includes book clasps, bronze letters once set into stone tombs and a fragment of a Limoges enamel cross.

The collection raises all sorts of questions about how the objects got into the ground. The finds were concentrated to the east and west of the Priory, but the metal-detecting was conditioned by non-archaeological factors such as the state of the ground. A recent trial excavation by English Heritage showed that in the past ploughing had gone down to the natural subsoil, and from Mr Buckingham's observations it seems clear that the ground is very disturbed here by ploughing, worm and animal action. The finds will be published eventually and the report will include observations on how, when and why the objects may have been deposited. In the meantime it is worth considering studying a much larger area than normal around any religious house, castle or manor house as containing potential evidence for the life of that place. The objects from Newark Priory are interesting in themselves and also suggest many avenues of thought and analysis.

PUBLICATIONS

The Taxman Cometh to Epsom and Ewell, by Charles Abdy. Occasional Paper No. 32 published by the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society, 1997. 27 pages. 75p.

Despite an attractively quirky title, a paper about historical taxes may not be everyone's idea of "a good read". Charles Abdy has, however, made this subject interesting by describing and illustrating, with several examples from records from Epsom and Ewell, some of the taxes which he has come across.

As always, his material has been painstakingly collected, and he states what he is setting out to do — namely, to record information about a selection of these taxes, so readers should be clear about what to expect. He also comments on the origins of some of the taxes whose names are familiar, a bonus for anyone who has not, so far, thought about them.

The general descriptions may be a little long before Epsom and Ewell are reached, as promised in the title of the Paper, but they make worthwhile reading. Students of Latin may disapprove of the "£" sign before Roman numerals for pounds instead of the abbreviation "li." after them — ie for the plural of "libra" = pound (in money) — and, if the intention was to assist those unfamiliar with early accounting conventions, it might have been shown differently; although all would depend on what was written in the original tax return.

This is the latest in the series of Occasional Papers published by the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society, and is on sale in the Museum Shop in Bourne Hall, Ewell Village.

E M Myatt-Price

EXCAVATIONS

Training Excavations at Bagshot 10th – 30th August

Research excavations under the direction of Geoffrey Cole, will be undertaken at one of the medieval/post-medieval Inn sites in the centre of Bagshot. Training will be provided in excavation techniques, recording methods including surveying, plan and section drawing and the identification of artefacts.

Excavations are suitable for all abilities including those with little or no experience. Camp site, showers and lunch provided.

Training Excavations at Farnborough, Hampshire 13th July – 2nd August

Research excavations under the direction of Geoffrey Cole, will be undertaken at the Farnborough Hill medieval and later Border Ware pottery production site. Training will be provided in excavation techniques, recording methods including level surveying, plan and section drawing and the identification of ceramics. Excavations are suitable for all abilities including those with little or no experience. Camp site, showers and lunch provided.

Further details of both above from: G H Cole, The Archaeology Centre, 4-10 London Road, Bagshot, GU19 5HN.

COURSES

Archaeology Centre Education Department

Half day schools: Coarse Border wares (5th July), post-medieval Border wares (8th July), archaeology of ritual and magic (26th July), Bagshot's Inns and Taverns (23rd August), civil war archaeology (6th September).

Surrey Youth and Adult Education Service

Weekly: Stone Age to Iron Age (24th September), post-excavation archaeology (25th September), GCSE archaeology (25th September), 'A' level archaeology (25th September).

Centre for Continuing Education, University of Surrey

Weekly: archaeology of the Stone Ages in Britain (23rd September), Romano-British archaeology (26th September).

Further details of the above courses from: The Archaeology Centre, 4-10 London Road, Bagshot, Surrey GU19 5HN.

Introduction to Archaeology: the techniques an Archaeologist Uses

Two-week course at the Adult Education Centre at Godalming (Thursdays 12th June and 19th June, 7.30 — 9.30pm).

Further details of this, and of forthcoming GCSE and 'A' level archaeology courses can be obtained from the tutor, Elizabeth Whitbourn, BA. Tel: 01483 420575.

DAY SCHOOLS

Please note that the date of the course on "Archaeological Textiles", organised by the Centre for Continuing Education, University of Sussex, has been changed from 19th July to the 20th July. Tel: 01273 606755 for details.

LECTURE MEETINGS

3rd June

“Town of King’s Gallery” by Paul Hill to the Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society, at the Lower Hall, Friends Meeting House, Eden Street, Kingston, at 8.00pm.

3rd June

“Some Local Pubs” by Jocelyn Barker after the AGM of the Addlestone Historical Society, at Addlestone Community Centre, at 8.00 pm.

26th June

“Higher Education for Victorian Women” by Sophie Badham to the Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society at the Literary Institute, Egham High Street at 8.00 pm.

30th June

“The History of Lurgashall Winery”. A lecture by J P Schooter to the Mayford and Woking District History Society, at Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, at 7.45 pm.

1st July

“Some Unusual Chertsey Industries” by David Barker to the Addlestone Historical Society, at Addlestone Community Centre, at 8.00pm.

31st July

“The History and Development of Brookwood Cemetery” by John Clarke to the Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society at the Literary Institute, Egham High Street at 8.00pm.

1st September

“The History of the Salvation Army at Woking”. A lecture by J P Schooter to the Mayford and District History Society, at Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, at 7.45 pm.

2nd September

“Runnymede” by Richard Williams to the Addlestone Historical Society, at Addlestone Community Centre, at 9.00pm.

10th September

“Bridleways and Commons”. A talk by Janet Miller to the Esher District Local History Society, at Claygate Day Centre, Claygate at 7.30pm.

16th September

“The Story of Chislehurst Caves” by Dr Eric Inman to the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society, at the United Reformed Church Hall, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon. 7.45 pm.

24th September

“Tramlink and its historical background” by John Gent to the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society, at the United Reformed Church Hall, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon. 7.45 pm.

25th September

“Steam on the River — the Story of Salter’s Steamers” by Keith French to the Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society at the Literary Institute, Egham High Street at 8.00pm.

Next Issue: Copy required by 6th June for the July/August issue.

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