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SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX

Tel/Fax: 01483 532454

E-mail: Surreyarch@compuserve.com

Bulletin

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BRONZE AGE HUT FOUND AT LALEHAM

Post-built round house, looking north-west through its entrance. Preliminary work on the finds suggest a date in the late 2nd millennium BC.

Ranging Rods marked in 0.20m divisions, but the director, Graham Hayman, provides a human scale whilst demonstrating his understanding of contemporary folk-dancing.

Excavations at Home Farm, Laleham in 1997

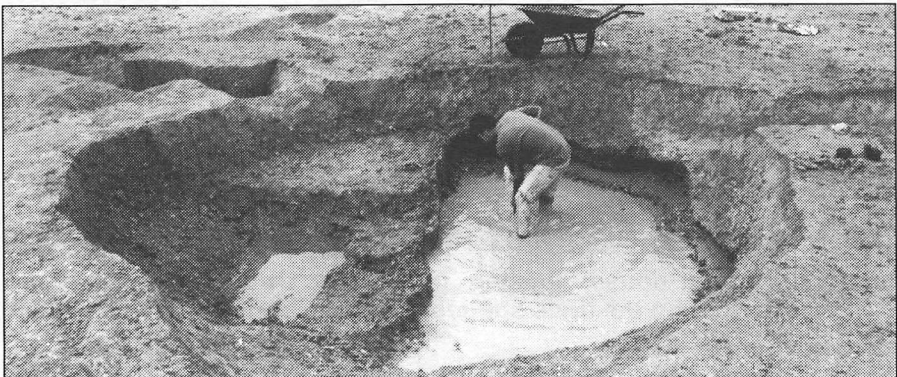
Graham Hayman

In May and June of last year the Surrey County Archaeological Unit undertook excavations at Home Farm, Laleham, for Greenham Construction Materials Ltd, as part of an archaeological scheme of work approved to comply with the conditions of a Planning Permission for the extraction of gravel. Home Farm Quarry is being worked in phases over several years, with each phase area being restored to its agricultural purposes once quarrying is completed. Work in 1997 was in the Phase 6 area and proceeded as a result of discoveries made during an evaluation by trenching in March 1997. Five areas A to E were excavated.

Areas A to C in the south revealed occasional small pits and post-holes, two large water-holes, various ditches, and at least two cremation burials. Most features were sparsely distributed, however, with no significant concentrations; and produced only a few pot sherds and/or pieces of struck flint. Such a paucity of finds made it difficult to date some features, but a provisional assessment is that most were of Bronze Age date, some may be Neolithic, and at least one ditch was probably Roman. A more precise chronology may be forthcoming once the finds have been processed.

One of the most interesting features of Areas A to C was a large water-hole in A (see photo) which produced few finds, although enough to date it to the Bronze Age. Its primary fill was a dark water-logged layer containing mollusc shells and organic debris including nuts, seeds and charcoal. Bulk samples and a controlled column sample were retrieved for processing by macro-plant and pollen specialists, which will provide important environmental information about the site and its surroundings. Wood fragments with tool marks were also recovered from this layer and five shaped wooden stakes had been driven into a small hollow in the gravel floor of the feature. A similar water-hole was found 36m to the north-east during a previous season of archaeological work, and a smaller and less productive example was found in Area B.

Areas D and E lay at the northern end of the permission and produced more finds than Areas A to C. Area D was difficult to excavate because a substantial tree-lined field boundary that had been removed in preparation for quarrying left much of the site extremely dry and riddled with roots. Nevertheless, a ditch, several pits, a large water-logged feature and a cremation burial were discovered. The water-logged feature, which may represent one or more water-holes, produced two large antlers from mature red deer stags, and one appears to have been modified for use as a pick. This is particularly interesting because antler picks are not known in southern Britain after the Late Neolithic, and the pot sherds from the feature are of Bronze Age types. Three of the several pits in Area D contained numerous calcined flint pot boilers for food preparation or some industrial purpose.



Home Farm, Laleham : Excavation in progress of the Bronze Age waterhole in Area A.

Area E lay adjacent to an important Bronze Age site excavated by the Unit in 1995. Several pits, post-holes and cremation burials were found in the new area, and, at least, one of the pits seems also to have been used for funerary purposes since it contained a substantial fragment from a human skull. Most important of all, perhaps, was the discovery of a post-built round house of c9m diameter and with a doorway facing south-east (frontispiece). Most features in Areas D and E were probably of Late Bronze Age date, but some may belong to the Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age, and others may be of Middle Bronze Age date. The post-built round house is a rare find for the county, but a provisional assessment of its associated pottery assemblage suggests that it is also a rare find for southern Britain since it seems to belong to the Middle Bronze Age.

A ditch and more pits east of Area A, and a ditch and more cremation burials west of Areas D and E, were located during subsequent monitoring.

Barge Traffic on the Godalming Navigation — an update

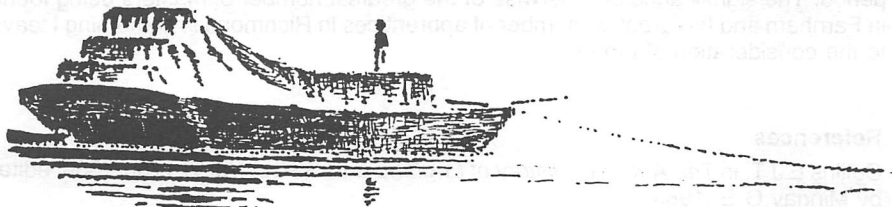
Graham Berton

Originally written for a local audience, the article republished in *Bulletin* 318 was intended partly and unashamedly as a reminder of questions for which I did not expect to obtain early answers and which have been largely ignored ever since as my attention turned towards a study of events leading to the opening of this navigation. Nevertheless, partial answers to some of the questions have, in one way or another, come to my notice.

My biggest mistake was to assume that hoops would be of iron, a point made to me independently by both Alan Wardle and Stephen Davies. I am now aware of an early Surrey reference that tells of hoops, chiefly of hazelwood, being carried on the Wey Navigation from Ockham, some bent and ready for use, but others only pared fit to bend '*and carried to London streight*' (Salmon 1736, 143) while a more recent study of coppice and underwood trades covering the period under consideration reveals that hazel was the favoured material for hoops, with ash, willow and birch also used. Between four and six hoops were required per cask, renewed after each journey, and it would appear from the quantities transported on the Wey Navigation that the demand reached its peak as late as the 1850s (Collins 1989, 484-501).

Wollen rags were in late Stuart times used by a named farmer, though not in Surrey, who purchased them in London, had them cut up, sowed them broadcast on his land and ploughed them in at the second ploughing (Fussell, 1985, 67). Though I have yet to explore the matter further I do now know that the man for whom vast quantities of wollen rags were brought to Godalming bore the same name as a farmer from Witley.

The accounts for the construction of the Godalming Navigation (GMR 142/3/1) record the purchase of a number of sugar hogsheads at 1s 6d each and, later, some 'empty casks for the Masons' at the same price, all presumably for scaffolding purposes, for in the days of timber scaffolding the main vertical components were stood upright in such vessels and embedded in with sand. Though the wording of the first of these



Laden barge approaching Guildford, from a contemporary painting of 1842. Drawing by G Berton.

items offers some support to the idea that there may have been different sized vessels each called hogsheads, there being no items in the same accounts showing the word hogshead linked to some other commodity and at a different price, this question must, from this source, remain unanswered.

In these accounts are found the names of nearly one hundred suppliers and tradesmen involved in the construction of the navigation, from the major players down to the grocer who supplied the empty vessels. While a majority of the surnames can be found in the Godalming parish registers, an interesting minority that are conspicuously absent from these registers are borne by individuals associated with work away from the immediate locality of the town. In pursuit of more satisfactory evidence than 'it stands to reason' that local people would probably be employed wherever possible, limited examination has been made of two indexes of Surrey apprenticeship records for the periods 1711 to 1731 (Surrey Record Society Vol. X, 1929) and 1731 to 1749 (West Surrey Family History Society Record Series No. 6, 1985). These have been used in a broad brush manner ignoring, for example, that in some occupations many were apprenticed to masters in London and a few even further afield, for I wanted only to know how common and widely spread some particular trades might be across Surrey alone and hence the probability or not of them being represented in communities where I hoped to find them. The following figures, given in round numbers because of the method used in their accumulation, might be of some interest:

	Communities	masters	apprentices
Carpenters	80	170	230
Blacksmiths	50	90	110
Wheelwrights	50	70	80
Tailors	40	80	100
Bricklayers	30	50	60

Of particular interest in the context for which the records were examined is the discovery that the greatest number of carpenters, both masters and apprentices, were to be found in Godalming with Guildford a close second, and that Godalming was also top of the list for blacksmiths, albeit jointly with Ockley and Reigate. Of equal interest for a study of the use of the navigations, particularly when considering the destinations of much bark and timber sent downstream, was the support these records offer to the significance claimed for Bermondsey and Rotherhithe as centres of tanning and shipbuilding respectively. It is of no immediate concern to the study being undertaken that Farnham, sometimes jointly with other communities, proved top of the list for the three remaining trades detailed above, though, aware of the existence of a later abortive petition to extend the navigation from Godalming further upstream to that town, this might be another point for my future attention.

One last point of personal interest on a 'stands to reason' level was the realisation of the comparatively small number of bricklayers recorded in the earlier Georgian period. The significance or otherwise of the greatest number of masters being found in Farnham and the greatest number of apprentices in Richmond is something I leave to the consideration of others.

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Excavations at Cocks Farm, Abinger in 1997

Steve Dyer

The third and final season of excavations on the Romano-British villa complex at Cocks Farm, Abinger Hammer took place during a three-week period in July and August 1997. As with the work carried out on this site during 1995 and 1996, the excavations were a research and training exercise organised by Surrey Archaeological Society aimed at elucidating the scale and scope of the villa complex to aid the designation of the site as a Scheduled Ancient Monument by English Heritage.

Eight trenches were opened at various locations across the site, each with their own aims previously agreed by English Heritage within a Project design intended to meet the requirements of this part of the excavations.

Two trenches were dug in the orchard to the south of the north building range of the villa complex to clarify whether an eastern wall continued beyond an alignment recorded in 1996. No evidence for the continuation of this wall was encountered during the excavations, but it is possible that all trace of it might have been destroyed earlier this century when the area was levelled for a tennis court. The southern of these two trenches revealed a rectangular, straight-sided clay lump of unknown purpose, possibly representing a post-medieval garden feature. (I would welcome any suggestions as to the purpose of this.)

In the former garden one trench was positioned to clarify the likely location of the 19th century excavations (based on a projection of walls from the 1996 season), Apart from late post-medieval garden soils the only archaeology encountered was a stone-packed posthole of probable Romano-British date. Given the total absence of archaeological stratigraphy it is felt that this might represent the location of the 1877 dig, from which it is known that stone was removed and later used to build a garden wall. Perhaps we can now say "Darwin was here" (*see back page*).

A second trench within the former garden had the aim of confirming the alignment and possible junction of two walls recorded in 1995 and 1996, which it was felt probably represented the north-west corner of the building complex. Intensive gardening activities in the recent past had destroyed much of the archaeological stratigraphy, but enough evidence survived to allow a partial interpretation of this part of the site. A heavily disturbed continuation of the east-west wall recorded in 1995 was seen to be present, met at right angles by the robbed out foundation trench of a north- south wall forming a continuation of a wall revealed in 1996. However, these walls did not form a corner as a further robbed out foundation trench was seen to continue westwards the alignment of the east-west wall.

To the east of the main site a trench opened along the public footpath confirmed that the villa complex did not continue beyond it. The section of the trench revealed significant quantities of stone rubble, similar to that used in the villa construction, which had been used to form the path during various repairs. It was not possible to investigate this further without causing damage to this right of way. A *sondage* cut through the soils below this building rubble showed that a considerable levelling-up of the side of this now dry valley had taken place in the Romano-British period, possibly creating a terrace at the side of the villa complex.

A trench to the south of the public footpath revealed that apparently intact archaeological deposits were present, indicating that the villa complex continues to the south. The power cables of the former private electricity supply to Abinger Hall were recorded running through this trench allowing for the recording of some industrial archaeology on this site.

The Young Archaeologists Club trench was situated away from the main area of investigation and was aimed partly at investigating the colluvial deposits to the north

of the site. No dating evidence for these was recovered unfortunately, but the information gained has added to the work previously conducted on this sequence of soils and sands.

To the east of the north building range a trench was excavated across a linear anomaly recorded on a magnetometer survey of the area in 1995 (but not recorded on a resistivity survey carried out at the same time). When finally revealed, below a buried soil horizon, this proved to be a ditch of Romano-British date, possibly representing the enclosing ditch for the villa complex. It did not show on the resistivity survey due to the depth at which it was buried, and suggests that perhaps other areas ought to be re-surveyed in order to confirm the geophysical results.

Although the results of this season's excavation are not as spectacular as those of 1995, they have aided greatly the understanding of the nature of this villa complex. Certainly it has proved over the last three years to be much larger than previously envisaged, and although in places badly disturbed by gardening activities is of a quality sufficient for designation as a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

Thanks must go to the Corke family for their hospitality during the excavation, and to all those participants, especially the supervisors, whose hard work has led to the results gained from these investigations.

A plan of the results of all seasons' results will be published in a future edition of the *Bulletin* as will updates on the progress of post-excavation studies.

The Tumble Beacon (TQ 24325902) A new survey and superficial excavations

Peter Harp

Introduction

The Tumble Beacon is a large, sub-circular earthen mound near the crest of the chalk escarpment of the North Downs in Banstead, commanding a fine view over the London Basin to the north. It is currently situated within a private garden. A survey by E A Downman in 1903 recorded it as being 45.7m in diameter and 4.1m high. It was scheduled as an Ancient Monument in 1924 and truncated at about the same time by a private driveway, but in recent years the earthwork has become overgrown, mainly with rhododendron, and it was decided to clear the scrub with the owner's permission. This allowed a new survey to take place and some minor excavation in the summer of 1997.

Although the earthwork is scheduled as both a post-medieval beacon and as a prehistoric round barrow, it has never been excavated and is only a *possible* barrow. If it is a barrow, then it is one of the largest in Surrey. Its use as a beacon is apparent from documentary sources.

The Beacon is illustrated as the frontispiece of Johnson and Wright's '*Neolithic Man in North-East Surrey*' (1903). They describe finding many neolithic flint tools '*in a field not far distant from the Tumble Beacon tumulus, on a spot which was evidently the camp or working site of the Neolithic inhabitants of this district*', although correspondence in the British Museum suggests they actually found most of their flint implements some considerable distance away above the Chipstead Valley. The *Victoria County History* records flint tools from Great Burgh, which is somewhat nearer, and a chipped flint axe was found in a garden several hundred metres to the north-east by Tom Walls. A number of fairly nondescript flint tools have been recently found in gardens adjoining the Tumble Beacon, although the low proportion of waste flakes and cores suggest that the tools were probably made elsewhere. There is also a large lithic scatter several hundred metres from the Beacon which has produced mainly Late Neolithic and Bronze Age implements, including a Beaker thumbnail scraper, and some Mesolithic material including two microliths.

Tumble Beacon, Banstead, Surrey

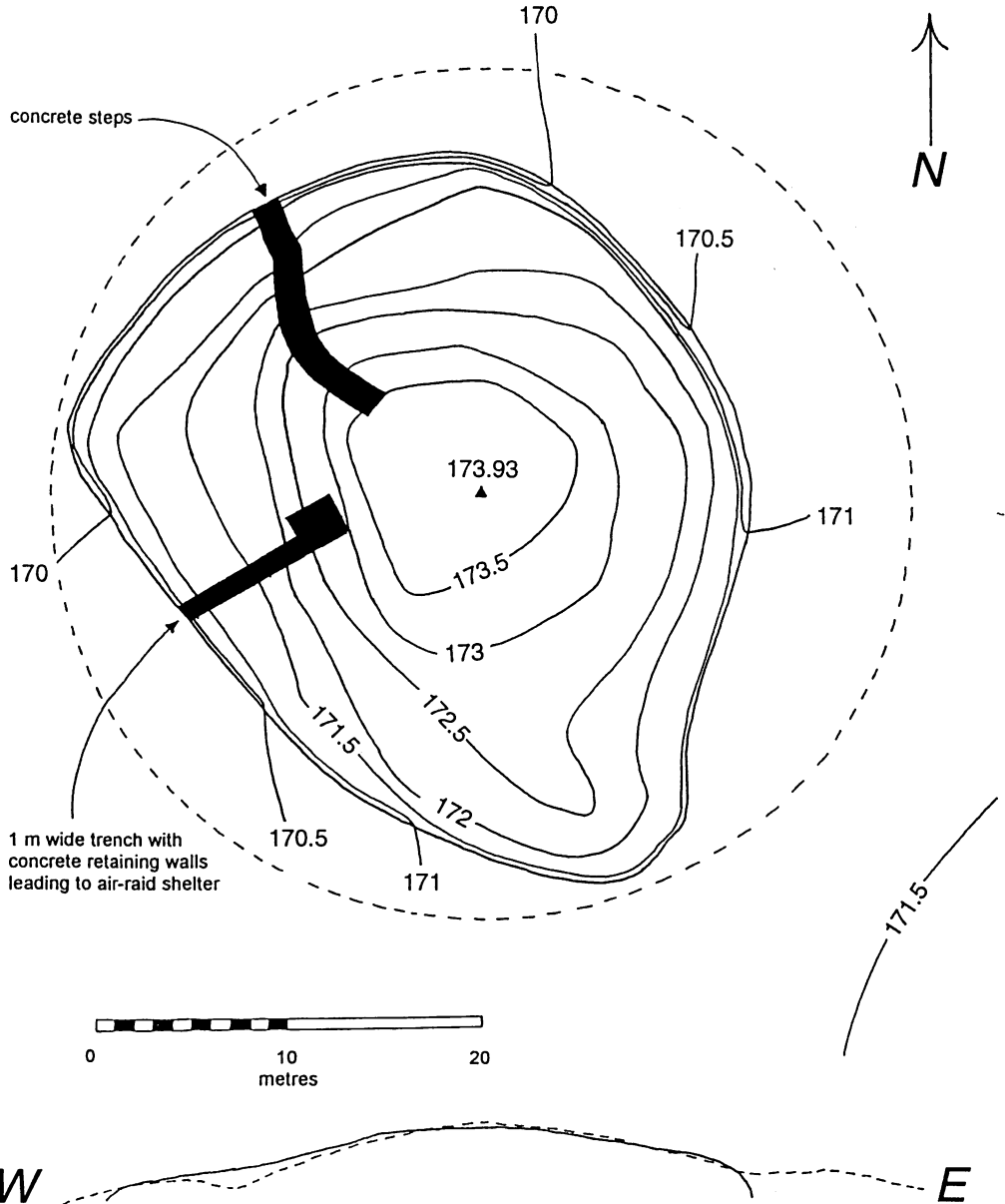
Pringle and Harp Survey, Nov 1996

Spot height at TQ 243202 590214

Dotted line shows extent of barrow in Downman's 1903 survey

Profile is through the centre of the barrow

Contour heights in metres



It is highly likely that Great Burgh manor, which encompasses the earthwork, was named after it. In historical documents for the manor 'Burgh' and 'Barowe' were interchangeable, hence *Bergh* 1332, *Westberghe* and *Litelberwe (the neighbouring manor)* 1432, *Great Barowe* c1520, *Borowe alias Westburgh alias Westborough* 1615. This seems to imply that the earthwork already existed prior to its use as a beacon. The manor of Great Burgh is interesting in that it was clearly important in the Saxon period as the manor boundary was marked by three barrows at each point where three manors met. There was also a row of barrows delineating the boundary between the manors of Great Burgh and Ewell. Although we cannot be certain whether these barrows were intended as boundary markers in the Saxon period or were adopted as such later in the medieval period, it is conceivable that the Tumble Beacon, being near to Great Burgh manor house, is an unusually large Saxon barrow. The Gally Hills barrows to the north were assumed to be probably Bronze Age on account of their size until excavation revealed a primary Saxon burial in one of them. The Tumble Beacon, however, is considerably larger.

William Merland was paid 40/ for wages for persons to watch the beacon in 1594 (Manning and Bray, 1809), and a beacon tower is shown on the maps of John Norden (1594), John Seller (1690) and Herman Moll (1724). The Tumble Beacon is the only beacon site in Surrey which can be precisely located. It is also noteworthy that the section of the A217 that crosses Banstead Downs to the north is aligned on it, as is Church Lane which would connect the earthwork with Great Burgh to the west.

In 1740 the owner of Great Burgh built another large residence nearer the Beacon called Nork House, with the earthwork in a field very near its main drive. This is likely to have protected it from the attentions of barrow-diggers. There is no evidence that any of the owners of Nork House ever excavated the earthwork. Nearby Tumble Farm was probably also built at this time; its name probably being a corruption of the adjoining 'Timber Field'. The earthwork was probably planted with pine trees in this period, with another clump planted on the opposite side of the main drive to complement it. On Bryant's map of 1823 the earthwork is shown tree-covered and called 'Beacon Clump'. The earliest reference I have found to 'Tumble Beacon' dates from 1912. In 1924 the beacon was included within the three acres of the grounds of a new house that was called Tumble Beacon, and at the time it was erroneously reported that the earthwork had been purchased by the National Trust. The driveway to the new house seriously truncated the eastern side of the earthwork, and it appears that the beacon was scheduled in something of an emergency as a result of this development. Between 1924 and 1940 a flight of concrete steps was placed up the northern side of the earthwork, and an air-raid shelter cut into the western side. Since the war the western half of the beacon was raised in height and rows of bushes planted. Whereas the eastern side is retained by a five foot high concrete and brick-bat rubble wall which probably dates to about 1946. The earthwork had several hedges planted on it, and much bulb planting as well as the Rhododendron already mentioned. In 1997 there were also about fifty deep fox-holes on the earthwork. Although Downman's survey (1903) showed a shelf or terrace running around the barrow, there is now only a shelf on the west side which may be due to post-war landscaping.

Contour Survey 1996

A survey of the earthwork was undertaken over two days in November 1996 by K Pringle and the author, in which c300 spot-heights were recorded and then simplified into a contour map (see fig). The initial scrub clearance took several months, and was partly funded by English Heritage and Reigate and Banstead Borough Council.

Excavation 1997

A section of the rubble retaining wall on the eastern side, c1.2m wide by 1.3m high, was dismantled. The backfill, which appeared to be material derived from the truncation of the earthwork, was sieved, and several retouched pieces of flint and a burnt flint were recovered. About an inch of the deposits of the barrow were excavated, and a flint scraper was recovered at a depth from its surface of 0.93m. The exposed section was comprised of soft sand and there was no obvious stratigraphy. The exposure was then deepened, in part, to 0.3m beneath the level of the driveway, but no buried soil horizon was noticed. A minor black line found 0.15m beneath the level of the driveway proved to be an oil stain from the laying of the tarmac.

On the western side of the earthwork part of the low retaining wall was dismantled to reveal two parallel concrete retaining walls containing a basically level 1m wide cut, surfaced with compacted soil and ash. The passage proceeded 8.7m into the earthwork before entering an air-raid shelter c2.4m by 2.7m. As the structure had been built by cutting horizontally into the earthwork, the depth of disturbance to the barrow at the far wall of the shelter, some 11.35m into the earthwork, was 2.85m. The roof of the shelter had been broken up prior to being filled in the post-war period. The fill comprised mainly domestic ash, clay, plate-glass and rubble. A flint scraper was recovered from under the end of one of the retaining walls, and a sherd of medieval Surrey whiteware pottery was recovered from the fill. The cinder path was partially removed and the excavation deepened by 0.1m near the edge of the earthwork but no buried soil was noted. Whereas the soil on the east side of the barrow is Thanet Sand, the soil on the western edge of the earthwork is clay. The fact that the top of the concrete retaining walls to the entrance passage to the shelter sloped down at the edge of the barrow to the current driveway level suggests that the west side of the earthwork has not been truncated since c1939, if at all, and the retaining wall on the west side is to retain soil deposited onto the barrow and not to support a truncation into it.

A full report is in preparation. All the sites and finds mentioned in the text have been reported to the SMR.

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Prehistoric Finds from the Surrey Foreshore of the Thames

Jonathan Cotton

Members may be interested to know that the latest *Transactions of the London & Middlesex Archaeological Society* (volume 47 for 1996) contains a round-up of prehistoric finds from Greater London reported to the Museum of London, including a number recovered from the modern foreshore of the Thames.

Over half of these come from the Surrey side, from localities between Barn Elms and Bermondsey, and range in date from a Palaeolithic flint biface to a cache of late Iron Age potin coins. Most notable perhaps are the Bronze Age finds. These include part of a Middle Bronze Age gold composite ring from Wandsworth (the subject of a Coroner's Inquest), described by Stuart Needham, and two small copper alloy

metalwork hoards — one of Middle Bronze Age date from Vauxhall, comprising a pair of side-looped spearheads, and the second a Late Bronze Age 'founder's hoard' from Wandsworth, comprising a complete socketed gouge and fragments of knobbed sickle, sword and copper ingot.

Although it has proved possible for the Museum to add a number of the finds to its collections, the majority remain in private possession.

The Surrey finds are as follows (Museum of London Accession Numbers in brackets):

Barn Elms reach

Pointed Palaeolithic flint biface found 1976/7 (MoL 95.533/1)

Cache of twelve Late Iron Age Class I potin coins found 1976/7; rumours of a second cache comprising 'upwards of a hundred coins' found adjacent

Late Iron Age Class II potin coins found 1976

Putney/Wandsworth reach

Butt of Neolithic partially-ground flint chisel found February 1995

Early Bronze Age barbed-and-tanged flint arrowhead reported October 1992

Fragment of Middle Bronze Age gold composite ring found February 1992 (see above)

Middle Bronze Age copper alloy rapier found in three pieces in 1995

Small Late Bronze Age copper alloy founder's hoard found on two separate occasions in 1990 and 1991 (see above)

Late Iron Age annular glass bead with white whirls on a blue ground reported October 1992

Late Iron Age dagger found 1990 (MoL 91.166)

Battersea reach

Mesolithic/Neolithic worked red deer antler-beam found August 1996

Blade of a Neolithic ground stone axe found early 1997

Incomplete Late Iron Age Class II potin coin reported 1980

Vauxhall reach

Palaeolithic flint side scraper found August 1993 (MoL 95.290/1)

Single-platform Mesolithic flint core found August 1993 (MoL 95.290/2)

Mesolithic/Neolithic worked red deer antler-base found August 1993 (MoL 95.290/3)

Pair of Middle Bronze Age copper alloy side-looped spearheads found summer 1994 (MoL 94.215/1-2) (see above)

Sherd of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age weakly-shouldered pottery jar found August 1993 (MoL 95.290/6)

Bermondsey reach

Large Mesolithic single platform flint core reported March 1995

Naturally perforated flint nodule worked into a ?Neolithic/Bronze Age 'macehead' found 1989

Sherd of Earlier Neolithic decorated open pottery bowl found July 1995

Part of Late Bronze Age long tongue-shaped copper alloy chape found 1993

Reference

Jonathan Cotton and Barbara Wood (with contributions from Caroline Cartwright & Stuart Needham) 'Recent prehistoric finds from the Thames foreshore and beyond in Greater London' *Trans London Middx Archaeol Soc* **47** (1996), 1-33.

COUNCIL MATTERS

At recent meetings, Mr Peter Gray, Chairman of the Conservation Committee reported on the wall paintings found in Bagshot (see *Bulletin* 317) and on the work taken to stabilise and protect the paintings to date. Council approved a loan of up to £4,700 to cover the cost of this emergency work, together with a grant of up to £1,000 to ensure their proper recording. The paintings have been inspected by English Heritage who, it is hoped, will recommend Grade II* listing: further work to conserve the paintings will depend on the outcome of their recommendations.

Council has also approved a grant of £1,900 as a contribution towards the cost of preparing illustrations for publication of sixty artefacts, forming part of the late Bronze Age metalwork hoard found at Little Woodcote. (London Borough of Sutton).

A grant of £750 was also agreed towards the Training Excavation organised by Birkbeck College in South West London.

The Museum of London, under its new director Dr Simon Thurley, is endeavouring to set up an Archive and Research Centre for London Archaeology; a lottery grant has been applied for and all appropriate organisations and Societies have been asked for financial support to provide matching funds for the lottery bid. The President has written on behalf of this Society endorsing the need for such a Centre and Council approved a donation of £1,000 towards the fund, which will be returnable in the event of the lottery bid failing.

Council has approved the setting up of a Grants & Special Projects Committee as a Standing Committee of Council under the chairmanship of Professor Alan Crocker. The purpose of the committee is to consider all applications for grants or funding for special projects, prior to submission to Council. The Committee will seek an appropriate independent opinion where necessary, make recommendations to Council, and monitor the proper expenditure of moneys allocated.

It is intended that the Committee will make written recommendations to Council twice yearly, and will shortly be publicising the procedures and dates for the submission of applications. Meanwhile, all applications for grants should be submitted to the Honorary Secretary at Castle Arch as at present.

Council is pleased to report the formation of a new Group of the Society, the North Downs Plateau Archaeology Research Group, *Plateau*. The Group is primarily intended as a research group, holding monthly forums where members can bring in artefacts for identification and discuss current research. As reported in *Bulletin* 319 the Group is investigating more fully an area near the tranchet axe knapping site in Banstead.

Insurance

The Society has been advised that members expressing opinions on planning matters, and specifically the architectural merit or age of a building or streetscape, or the archaeological potential of a development site, may lay themselves open to a claim from a litigious complainant who may seek to recover damages, if the opinion expressed can subsequently be proved to be ill-founded.

Council has considered the matter and suggests that in any written opinion, it is made clear that it is based solely on the writer's knowledge and experience and upon the information made available at the time.

Furthermore, the Society's letterhead may not be used for such purposes by ordinary members of the Society without the specific and written authority of the Society's Honorary Officers.

VISITS COMMITTEE

Visit to the Historic Flagship Trust — Important Notice

Members are reminded that bookings for the visit on 5th September (see *Bulletin* 318 for details) must be made by 30th June at the very latest.

MISCELLANY

Millennium Project Workshop 21 March 1998

Peggy Bedwell

This meeting at Limpsfield was attended by representatives of fourteen local groups who had an interesting and helpful day.

It began with a contribution from Peter Hopkins of Merton who described the use of computers in collecting and presenting local history data. Some of this was unfamiliar to many of the audience who were grateful for the offer of an opportunity to visit the Runnymede Centre at Chertsey to see the systems in action.

Then Dennis Turner described the use of enclosure award maps, tithe maps and, if lucky, estate maps in understanding the growth of villages. Comparisons may reveal discordances which should be investigated further.

Peter Gray showed the use of bar charts and graphs illustrating the population changes in Limpsfield between 1066 and 1901, and discussed the possible reasons for their variance. In the afternoon he escorted half of the group around Limpsfield, while Dennis Turner described to the other half some published village plans in composite or polyfocal settlements. The presence of a church does not necessarily indicate a village.

After the groups changed roles and reassembled, a general discussion took place, revealing that there is a great dissimilarity in the participating villages. A display by the Shere group showed the use of maps of all sizes which led to the question of what was needed for eventual publication.

The use of an overhead projector provided clear illustrations for all speakers and was particularly suitable for this type of workshop.

To date, individuals or groups from the following villages are participating, or have expressed interest, in the Project:

Blechingley, Bookham, Bramley, Capel, Caterham, Charlwood, Claygate, Cranleigh, Dunsfold, Ewell, Ewhurst, Godstone, Hambledon, Horley, Limpsfield, Lingfield, Merton, Mitcham, Nuffield, Old Woking, Oxted, Pyrford, Sanderstead, Shalford, Shamley Green, Shere, Tatsfield, Thorpe, Wimledon, Witley, West Horsley and Wonersh.

Inevitably some are well advanced, and others are still in the early stages of research, but the project is always open to anyone or any group, who would like to become involved.

It is perhaps worth restating the aims of the project, which are to encourage study of the historical geography of Surrey villages as a way of bringing together the diverse strands which make up the Society's range of interests and, as a result, begin to explain why and when people chose to live in villages. The historical geographer, whose task it is to synthesise the topographical, social and demographic results of the

work of archaeologists, local historians *et al*, is interested in both the broad outline and in the details of anything historical that can be mapped. This was an approach advocated in Surrey nearly half a century ago, and which the **Millennium Project** seeks to encourage.

For further details contact Audrey Monk at Castle Arch.

“Hands-on” Discovery Room in Chertsey Museum

This Room is being launched in May and will focus on three main areas related to the National Curriculum: Time, Archaeology and the Victorians. It is designed to meet the needs of visiting school groups as well as general Museum visitors. The Time display will show how it has been measured in different ways through history, from sand timers to sundials to longcase clocks. The Victorian section will focus on domestic life in the 19th century, from a kitchen fireplace with range to a working mangle and children’s toys. The Archaeology area will explore early man’s environment and how different materials were utilised in the various periods, developing from Stone Age, through Bronze Age to Iron Age. The Room will be further developed over the next three years and we would welcome suggestions on how we could do this to best meet teachers’ needs.

A Letter from Peter Harp

Did you ever get any feedback on your plea in *Bulletin* 314 for opinions on the reburial of human remains? What about doing a note on the implications of the Judge’s ruling in the case of the artist convicted of stealing body parts, that bodies that have had ‘skilled work’ done on them and which have ‘scientific value’ can now be regarded as property — could this apply to archaeologists as well as surgeons, and, if so, would archaeologically excavated bodies be the property of the landowner, the excavating archaeologist/group, or the bones specialist?

No letters were received concerning the re-burial of human remains at Ewell and elsewhere, which I regret since several issues were raised by the precedent which remain unresolved. I confess to not having considered the implications for archaeology of the recent case and invite comments from members, most especially those with knowledge of the law.

Henry Smith’s Charity

H A Crossland

In 1996 the parishes covered by Esher District Local History Society received well over £10,000 from Henry Smith’s Charity to distribute to needy people who had lived in the parish for at least five years. Esher itself had £1,800. For more than 300 years over 180 parishes throughout England, from Somerset to Durham, Radnorshire to Suffolk, have had help from the same source. Every parish in Surrey, except the three small ones of St Martha’s (Chilworth), Tatsfield and Wanborough has benefited. But who was Henry Smith and where does the money come from?

Henry Smith was an Elizabethan silversmith who died on 30th January 1628. Being a childless widower he had made two deeds appointing a body of some thirty prominent people as Trustees to whom he transferred his whole fortune (he was one of the richest men of his day) to be used to help people in need. This was confirmed by a decree in the Court of Chancery and by his will.

During his lifetime Henry Smith had bought farms and other properties in various parts of the country and his Trustees continued to do so, the income generated by each being allocated to groups of parishes. As a result Esher, Stoke d’Abernon and the Dittons together with seven others derive their benefit from a farmhouse and land in Southwick in Sussex. Cobham, East and West Molesey and a group around

Leatherhead have theirs from another Sussex estate — Iwood in Warbleton near Heathfield. Over the years the properties have become extremely valuable (in particular one in Kensington now covered by Onslow Square) so that the Trustees' investments now amount to thousands of millions of pounds. With the passage of time some of the original objects enunciated in Smith's will, such as the ransoming of English sailors held as slaves in Turkey, have become obsolete and the Charity Commissioners have revised the condition to make them more compatible with the present. This has enabled the Trustees to make grants to projects that are within the spirit of Smith's purpose.

In addition to providing for the rents of the properties to be applied to the relief of the poor of the various parishes, Henry Smith had given to the market towns of Surrey £1,000 each, requiring their officials to invest the money in lands and to apply the rents to the relief of their poor. One of the towns was Kingston upon Thames which received £1,000 in a settlement dated 11 June 1824 between "Mr Smith and the Bailiffs and Freemen of Kingston upon Thames". They used the money to buy the Manor of Weateville (*alias* Milburn) and certain lands in Esher from Robert Hatton, then the Recorder of Kingston. In 1718, by an Act of Parliament, the property was sold to the Duke of Newcastle in consideration for an annuity of £95.

Throughout the time these large sums have been helping the needy a scurrilous story has been current that Smith wandered around Surrey posing as a beggar followed by a dog and so was known as "Dog Smith". This is entirely false and was categorically disproved as long ago as 1809 by William Bray the co-author of "*The History of the Antiquities of Surrey*". Bray knew the true facts since he had been the Clerk to the Trustees for many years. Even so, the silly story is still being repeated.

When in 1760 Emmanuel Bowen published his "*Map of Surrey divided into its Hundreds*" he added a note which included this story, adding that Mitcham was excluded from sharing Smith's bounty because there he was whipped as a Vagrant. In fact Mitcham was allotted £4 when the Trustees made their allocations which was the general level, and Mitcham still benefits today. Surrey County Council included a copy of Bowen's Map with the book when it published the "*List of Antiquities in the Administrative County of Surrey*". As a result many writers of Surrey history have assumed that the tale is true and have repeated it. This is a poor tribute to the man whose generosity has helped thousands upon thousands of Surrey's needy people. Surrey County Council might consider inserting an *erratum* slip or amendment slip in every copy of the "List" in its libraries and its unsold stock with a warning that Bowen's comment is extremely doubtful. Any future editions should be amended likewise.

First published in the Spring Newsheet (no. 111) of the Esher District Local History Society. Many Thanks

SLAS News Returns

The Newsletter of the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society reappeared after an absence of seven years with no.72 last December, looking full of promise and including a review of the activities of the Society since it was first formed in 1965. I have their permission to re-publish that account, and for a future Bulletin to re-print a report on some excavations at Crystal Palace that appeared in the March Newsletter (no. 73). My thanks and the best of luck, especially in nagging copy out of your members, to the new editor Judy Harris, who hopes to publish quarterly.

Excavations in Southwark and Lambeth — the first 25 Years

Roman and Medieval Southwark

The study of the Roman and medieval settlements around the southern end of London Bridge, together with the ribbon development along the roads emanating from the bridgehead, has occupied historians as long as the study of the City, but only since 1945 has it been possible to test theory with scientific excavation.

Prior to 1945 only isolated finds from building operations had been noted but the war-time bombing enabled excavations to be carried out by Kathleen Kenyon for the Southwark Excavation Committee from 1945-1947. Following this, Peter Marsden of the Guildhall Museum undertook a considerable amount of fieldwork in north Southwark, including the excavation of a Roman boat in 1958. In 1962 the Southwark Archaeological Excavation Committee, was formed to carry out excavations. By 1965 a considerable burden was carried by SAEC due to the problem of storing and processing of material recovered from excavation and fieldwork; also a regular corps of Southwark diggers existed. As a result of these two facts the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society was formed organising jointly with SAEC the archaeological work in Southwark and Lambeth.

Thus over a period of 25 years scientific excavations gradually built up a picture of Roman and medieval Southwark and subsequent work undertaken by SAEC and SLAS enabled a reassessment of all previous work to be made.

Roman Road Research

As a result of extending the above work to the whole area of Southwark and Lambeth a Roman Road research group was set up within the Society in 1965 under the leadership of Donald Imber. This group carried out several excavations and the results of its work are available as a research report.

Post-Medieval Archaeology and Pottery Sites

SLAS has been in the forefront of the development of this branch of archaeology. Research has established the wealth of potteries that existed in Southwark and Lambeth from the 15th-20th centuries. In 1965 our president Dr Francis Celoria excavated an important 17th early century tinglazed (delftware) pottery dump near Potters Fields in Southwark. Excavations in Lambeth have revealed both stoneware and tinglazed pottery dumps, while in 1968 the first tinglazed pottery kiln to be discovered in Great Britain was excavated in Lambeth. A second kiln was found in Montague Close in Southwark in 1969. As an essential complement to the fieldwork a great deal of documentary work has been carried out.

Kennington Palace Excavation

The formation of SLAS in 1965 coincided with the start of the most extensive excavation the Society had undertaken. Directed by our present chairman Dr Graham Dawson, the site was open for nearly two years. The recovery of the ground plan of the Black Prince's palace (c1346-1521) together with the knowledge acquired from the artefacts shed important light on the life of a medieval royal household (Dawson, G J, 1976 *The Black Prince's Palace of Kennington*, Brit Archaeol Rep, 25).

Archaeology Today

Times have changed. In the 1970s archaeology became an increasingly professional activity because of a substantial increase in funding. Government guidelines, changes in local organisation and the involvement of planning departments played their part. By 1983 the Museum of London Archaeology Service (MOLAS) was

responsible for most projects within Greater London, a service funded by English Heritage and individual developers. Recent funding cutbacks and developers' contracts present an uncertain future, especially for long-term projects. The professional archaeologists, sometimes with experienced volunteers, took over from the weekend amateur.

Today, aided by modern technology, many exciting projects are undertaken at a greater speed and with more publicity but I know those early SLAS members retain happy memories (and their trowels!) of the past.

SLAS Today

Graham Dawson and Roy Edwards continue to process their more recent excavations at Montague Close and the Vauxhall Pottery respectively. Their reports will appear in future issues of *SLAS News*. Until recent cutbacks this activity was carried out as an evening class within adult education but it is now restricted to office hours at a workshop kindly provided in the Burroughs gin factory at the Oval by Beefeater Gin (*Lucky them — how do they get any work done?*).

Our programme of events runs from September to July, consisting of a monthly lecture then culminating in an evening walk and a coach trip. Regular reports of these will appear in the newsletter.

A number of individual members continue to work on their own projects with the emphasis on archaeology, local and family history. Reports on these will also be published in *SLAS News*.

Anyone wishing to join SLAS and receive their Newsletter should contact Judy Harris clo 220 Woodmansterne Road, Streatham SW16 5UA.

An Extract from the President's Anniversary Address to the Society of Antiquaries in 1997

"...The main public issue of the last year has been Treasure Trove. In my last Address I risked enunciating a 'realistic hope' that the reform of the law relating to this subject might at long last be achieved. It is a relief and a matter of celebration to be able to report that the Act was passed on 4 July 1996. However, its commencement as a piece of active legislation depended on the passing of an agreed Code of Conduct. This Code went out for consideration and there was an anxious period during which it was feared that the necessary 'affirmative resolution' might not be passed before the dissolution of Parliament. Thanks to the determination of our Fellow, Lord Perth, the matter was dealt with, and the Act will take force with the Code of Practice in place on 24 September of this year. Even better news is that the Government is establishing and paying for a two-year programme of pilot schemes for the recording of archaeological finds. This may involve the creation of three or four posts in selected areas of the country, and should give a far better basis for estimating the resources needed to extend the scheme across the whole of England and Wales.

The Society has long been interested in Treasure Trove. In 1850 we set up a committee on the subject. This was a period when our Fellow Thomas Joseph Pettigrew contended that 'the Society of Antiquaries have been grossly negligent of their duty — they have on no occasion stepped forward to prevent demolition or desecration of antiquities'. It was said of Pettigrew that '*Petulance, captiousness and jealousy are ... among his characteristics. The concoction of intrigues, the packing of meetings, and the confusion of congresses are his delight. The fomenting of suspicions by misrepresenting to each of his colleagues what the rest are alleged to say in their disparagement ... is ... his constant habit.*' The type may not be quite extinct, but it is sure that the reform of the Treasure Trove law would have made no

progress if pursued by such stratagems. The Surrey Archaeological Society must take great credit for giving impetus to the campaign. Many have been involved, including many notable Fellows, and it is invidious to name names, but I cannot forbear to mention, as well as Lord Perth, our Fellows Lady Hanworth, David Graham, and Roger Bland. The latter's crucial contribution was, I am glad to say, publicly acknowledged in the House of Commons".

COURSES

University of Sussex

Ancient Crafts and Technology (course no. 25297)

Very much a practical 'hands-on' course covering pottery, metal and wood working, textiles, building technologies and boat-building.

Tutors: Tristan Bareham and Christabel Shelley.

Monday 27th July to Friday 31st July 1998, 10 am to 5 pm.

Iron Age Activity Centre, Michelham Priory.

Full fee: £120. Less £10 for SAS and SyAS members.

For further details contact Lisa Templeton at the Centre for Continuing Education, Education department Building, University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton, BN1 9RG; or Tel: 01273 678527.

Bignor Roman Villa Training Courses

Surveying for Archaeologists 11th & 12th July, 25th & 25th July

Introduction to various methods including practical sessions. Fee: £50.

Timber-framed Buildings 18th & 19th July

Introduction to medieval and early post-medieval buildings in Sussex. One day at Bignor, the other at the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum.

Tutor: David Martin.

Fee: £60.

Planning and Section Drawing 1st & 2nd August. Fee: £45

For further information on the above courses contact Sheila Maltby, The Field Archaeology Unit, 1 West Street, Ditchling, Hassocks, West Sussex, BN6 8TS or Tel: 01273 845497. Fax: 01273 844187

Email: tcrndrr@ucl.ac.uk

CONFERENCE

ASPECTS OF PREHISTORY IN SOUTH-EAST ENGLAND

Council for Kentish Archaeology

Saturday 14th November 1998 2.00 pm to 5.30 pm
Christ Church College, Canterbury

Retrieving London's Prehistory Jonathan Cotton
The Butser Ancient Farm Project Peter Reynolds
The earliest occupation of Britain Matthew Pope

Tickets: £3 (payable to Council for Kentish Archaeology) from CKA, Angle Kin, 7 Sandy Ridge, Borough Green, Kent, TN15 8HP
Enclose SAE.

EXHIBITION

Invaders and Settlers

2nd May to 11th July 1998-04-21

This exhibition at Chertsey Museum tells the story of the Romans, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings: how they invaded Britain and made it their home. It shows how they lived in words, pictures and hands-on exploration. Initiated jointly by the West London Museums Group and the West London Archaeological Field Group, this exhibition is a must for all budding archaeologists and those who just want to know more about this chapter in our history. See the Museum's amazing Viking sword and write on replica Roman wax tablets and much more.

LECTURE MEETINGS

26th May

"An Overview of recent work on Prehistoric London" by Hedley Swain to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society at Hawkestone Hall, the Lambeth North end of Kennington Road, at 7.00 for 7.30 pm.

1st June

"The Wandsworth Museum and the Streatham Connection" by Pat Ashley-Cooper to the Streatham Society at 'Woodlawns', 16 Leigham Court Road, at 8.00 pm.

2nd June

"Inchtutil — the Visit" by Peter Brunning to the Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society at the Friends Meeting House, Eden Street, Kingston at 8.00 pm.

3rd June

"Was Ewell a Roman Posting Station?" by Clive Orton to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell, at 7.45 for 8.00 pm.

1st July

"Surrey Churches after Waterloo" by Charles Abdy to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St Mary's Church, London Road, Ewell, at 7.45 for 8.00 pm.

6th July

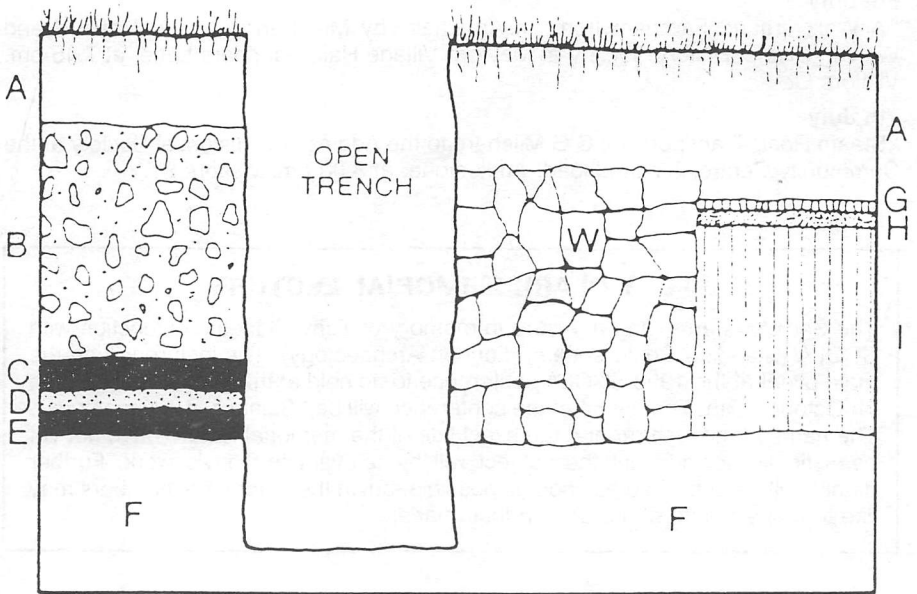
"A Walk around Farnham from an Armchair" by Mrs Parratt to the Mayford and Woking District History Society at Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, at 7.45 pm. Visitors £2.

7th July

"Steam Road Transport" by C G Mileham to the Addlestone Historical Society at the Community Centre, Station Road, Addlestone, at 8.00 pm. Visitors £1.

TONY CLARK MEMORIAL LECTURE

The Society is arranging a lecture in memory of Tony Clark in conjunction with SCOLA (Standing Conference on London Archaeology). The lecture will be the main event at the 1998 SCOLA conference to be held at the Museum of London on October 17th. The theme of the conference will be "Science in Archaeology". The name of the lecturer and the exact title of the memorial lecture have not yet been finally decided but the subject will be relevant to Tony's work. Further details will be published as soon as possible, but in the meantime members may like to make a note of the date in their diaries.



Darwin's trench at Abinger Roman villa (from Darwin, C 1888 *The formation of vegetable mould through the action of worms with observations on their habits*)

Next Issue: Copy required by 5th June for the July issue.

Editor: Phil Jones, 15 Grove Crescent, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 2DD. Tel: 0181 549 5244.