

**SURREY  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD**

Number 58

**BULLETIN**

October, 1969

*Edited by Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Turner, 21 Evesham Road, Reigate.*

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**EXCAVATION NOTICE**

**LOWER KINGSWOOD: PALAEOLITHIC SITE**

(TQ 243537)

Directors: MR. F. PEMBERTON and MRS. V. ETLINGER

By permission of the Banstead U.D.C., excavation will continue on this site every weekend throughout the winter. Work will start at 10 a.m.

It is hoped to trace a known Acheulian working floor and investigate the prehistoric activity in an area surrounding a dry coombe before the area is used as a refuse tip.

Enquiries to Mr. S. Nelson, 20 Rose Bushes, Epsom Downs.  
(Tel.: Burgh Heath 50744).

**NOTES**

**Local History organisations.**

It is hoped to print a revised version of the *List of Local History Organisations* in time for the Local History Symposium at Dorking on 29th November. Would the Secretary of any organisation which has changed in any important particular, or has come into existence, since September 1967 send information of name of Society, address of Secretary, subscription, main interests and publications. The information should be sent to L.H.O., Central Library, Stafford Road, Caterham, CR3 6JG, as soon as possible.

(J. C. Batley).

**Hassell Pictures.**

With the discovery in the last few weeks of substantial collections of drawings of the Epsom and Guildford areas, the first phase of the compilation of a card index of watercolour drawings by John and Edward Hassell may be said to be complete. The compiler has found representative pictures of every place of any size in historic Surrey except Sutton, Cheam and the embryo military complex in the N.W. corner. Some villages (e.g. Blechingley and Coulsdon) are obviously incomplete and most of the leading mansions, like Sutton Place, Loseley, Claremont and Reigate Priory, have not turned up. The compiler would like to thank the many librarians and private collectors who have generously

allowed him to photograph their Hassells, and would still be interested to hear of others which have escaped the vigilance of S.A.S. members. Please send a postcard in the first instance to 7A Burntwood Lane, Caterham, CR3 5UN.

(J. C. Batley).

#### **Monumental Brasses.**

The brass of Elizabeth Slyfield, 1478, at Great Bookham, has been taken up and cleaned. It will be relaid shortly.

The brass of Bishop John Bowthe, 1478, at East Horsley, has been cemented in by a local workman and its crozier covered with cement: it has been partially cleaned.

(A. S. Gilbert).

#### **Chobham: Hookstone Farm (SU 946618).**

Hookstone Farmhouse, Hookstone Green, is basically timber framed and of two storeys. Careful examination shows that it is in four separate sections, each of which is independently framed. The oldest part is the cross-wing to the east (right hand side of the main front, which faces south). This has a massive, plain, crown-post and collar-purlin roof and, in north-west Surrey, must date from before 1450, perhaps before 1400. It was floored in the beginning, as is proved by the chamfer stops just above the floor on the uprights of the main truss and also by the absence of smoke blackening. It represents a solar and parlour end to a hall which has been replaced by the present central section of the house.

At the west end is a smaller cross-wing which has a side purlin and windbrace roof and most probably dates from the end of the 15th century. An interesting feature is that half the floor is recent and the roof is smoke-blackened. It thus represents the detached kitchen of the vanished hall.

Sometime before 1550, the open hall was replaced by the present central section of the house. This was built with a smoke bay from the beginning, the eastern part representing the hall and the western part the service rooms. Neither of these sections showed smoke-blackening on the side-purlin roof, although smoke on the west face of the partition at the west end proves that the kitchen continued in use at this period. A little later the staircase block was added at the back, the timbering being infilled with brick from the beginning.

About 1600, the smoke bay was filled by a large, inserted, brick chimney and the main downstairs room to the east became the farm kitchen. The main front was covered in brick about 1700, when a bacon loft was added to the chimney between it and the brick front. At various times the timberwork has been infilled with brick.

The house is at present empty. It is of such interest and value that its preservation is highly desirable.

(J. Oliver and K. W. Gravett).

#### **Couldson : Excavations at Netherne (TQ 293559).**

Excavations continued at weekends throughout the summer. They revealed the outline of a medieval manor house with a stone-built solar, a large main hall, and separate kitchen quarters. The solar has been

almost completely excavated and one of the most interesting finds was a bronze toilet instrument consisting of a pair of tweezers and a so-called ear scoop. Two hearths, partly superimposed, have been found in the main hall. They are made of large blocks of Merstham stone which are very blackened and have patches of burnt earth around them.

Finds from the kitchen area include pottery and a large number of mussel shells, a shell of a hen's egg, burnt hazel nuts and various animal bones. Many metal objects have been found, including a large number of nails, a bronze snaffle-bit, a sickle, and belt decorations. The pottery extends from the 13th century to the early 15th century, with the main bulk dating from the earthly 14th.

There is very little documentary evidence for the site, which may be the manor house of the manor of Neddard.

(Mrs. M. Saaler in *Bourne Soc. Bulletin*, 57, 1-2).

#### Hersham: Excavations at Southwood Manor Farm (TQ 120627).

The trial excavation on this riverside sand site, in a bend of the River Mole, produced scattered sherds of rough, gritted, undecorated pottery, with some rims, at 18" below the surface. This pottery was similar to that from the L.B.A. settlement in Weston Wood, Albury. A hearth was also found at the same level.

In all, ten trenches, 12' by 12', were put down on a wide grid over the area where most worked flints had previously been found on the surface. Help was given by members of the S.A.S., Leatherhead and Farnham W.E.A., and boys from the Ottershaw School, Chertsey.

(Joan M. Harding).

The Walton and Weybridge L.H.S. have also been excavating near Southwood Manor Farm, in the vicinity of the farmhouse itself. This excavation unexpectedly turned up several pieces of early R-B pottery. Excavations has been temporarily suspended.

(*Dialstone*, 29, 2).

#### Limpsfield: Documentary evidence for medieval potters.

The following list of potters may be helpful in dating Limpsfield pottery. They are taken from a series of rentals, a tithing list, and from two assize rolls when the assize was held in Limpsfield 'being within the liberty of the abbot of Battle for the enforcement of the Statute of Labourers (25 and 27, Edward III).'

By comparing the rentals with the survey of the manor in 1312, two distinct sites emerge, one at or near Watts Hill, the other on Limpsfield Chart. The name Roger Vigor, which in later records occurs as Vigers, Vickers, and finally, in modern form, as Vicars Haw, not only indicates the origin of the modern name but locates Roger's pottery as that reported in *S.A.C.*, *LII*, 112, etc.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Watts Hill</i>	<i>The Chart</i>
c.1266 (not later)	Rental	Adam Pottarius	Gunnildis relicta Testelini
c.1300	Tithing list	Gervasious le potterer	Gilbert Tesselyn Roger } sons of William } Gilbert

Saturday, 18th

**S.A.S. VISIT TO MERTON AND MORDEN**

Arranged by the MERTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY and led by Mr. A. M. Turner, Mr. W. N. Black and Mr. L. Green.

10.45 a.m. Morden Parish Church (St. Lawrence) by kind invitation of the Rev. Peter Dawson, who will lead this part of the visit.

The church is on the A24 at the top of George Hill. There is a large free car park in Morden Park (by the Swimming Bath almost adjoining the church. Bus: 93 from either Wimbledon or Epsom Stations (10 min. service); Greenline: 713 from Dorking (10.08). Underground: Northern Line to Morden Stn. (10 mins. walk). B.R.:  $\frac{1}{2}$  hourly service from West Croydon.

12.30 p.m. The Snuff Mill, Morden Hall Park.

Lunch: Picnic facilities in either Morden Park or Morden Hall Park (N.T.) Sandwiches and drinks at *The Crown* P.H., Morden, or *The Old Leather Bottel* P.H., Kingston Road. No restaurants closer than Wimbledon (2 miles).

2.30 p.m. Merton Priory site, Station Road, Merton Abbey.

3.00 p.m. Merton Abbey Printworks (associated with Wm. Morris).

4.15 p.m. Merton Parish Church (St. Mary the Virgin) by kind permission of Canon S. H. Heaton-Renshaw, who will describe the church.

5.30 p.m. Tea at Merton Parish Hall (next to the church) organised by Mrs. A. M. Turner and friends. Only available to members booking by 11th October and if paid for in advance.

Tickets (members 3/-, non-members 4/-, tea 5/-) from Miss C. Smith, *Elyots*, Minster Road, Godalming.

Tuesday, 21st, 7.30 p.m.

COMPILING A LOCAL HISTORY. Talk by MRS. U. BROADBENT to the BOURNE SOCIETY. As 7th October.

Wednesday, 22nd, 5.0 p.m.

RECENT WORK ON THE FRENCH MOUSTERIAN. Lecture by DR. P. A. MELLARS to the PREHISTORIC SOCIETY at Burlington House.

Tuesday, 28th, 7.30 p.m.

RESOURCES OF LOCAL LIBRARIES. Talk by MR. K. M. NEWBURY to the BOURNE SOCIETY. As 7th October.

**NOVEMBER**

Tuesday, 4th, 7.30 p.m.

HERALDRY AND HOW TO FIND OUT! Talk by MR. M. OUSELEY to the BOURNE SOCIETY. As 7th October.

Saturday, 22nd, 11.15 a.m.

C.B.A. Group 11A Conference. ARCHAEOLOGY ABOVE GROUND, at Tunbridge Wells. Details were circulated to members with a previous issue of the *Bulletin*.

Saturday, 29th

Surrey Local History Symposium. See leaflet enclosed with this *Bulletin*.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Watts Hill</i>	<i>The Chart</i>
1312	Rental	Agnes (widow) pottere Radulphus le Pottere	Matilda f. Roger le Potter Geoffrey pottere Gervasius Testalyn William son of Gilbert Testalyn
1322	Rental	Robert f. Roger le pottere Agnete pottere	Juliana f. Roger le pottere Gervasius Testalyn William Testalyn
1352	Ass. Roll.	Robert Terselyn pottere for overcharging (no district given)	
1354	Ass. Roll.	Robert and Richard Terselyn potters fined (no district given)	
1398	Rental	Alexander pottere	Mabil Potterus Roger Vigorus

In the rental of 1424, John atte Wode held 'two cottages formerly potters and vigors' and from then on there is no indication that potters exist. A late mention in the parish register for November 1656 notes 'Thomas ffield of the towne potter' but it seems unlikely that an industry would continue for more than 200 years without any reference. The indication is that the industry ceased between 1398 and 1424, a period when there was much change and reorganisation within this manor.

(Mrs. K. Percy).

The importance of Mrs. Percy's note needs no underlining. The entries provide written evidence of the date of two of the three principal known medieval pottery manufacturing complexes at Limpsfield — Vicars Haw/Scearn Bank; Watts Hill/Loampit Field; and Moorhouse sandpit. The 1260 rental shows that the pottery industry was in existence by that date; the archaeological evidence from Eynsford suggests, perhaps, that in 1260 it would have been comparatively young. There may be, in the rentals, some suggestion that the industry was established first at Watts Hill and spread after a few decades to the Chart.

It is the suggestion that the industry survived until the end of the 14th century that is the most surprising, from the archaeological point of view. Until now there has been little evidence that the industry survived beyond the middle of the century and this new factor must mean that the archaeological evidence should be re-examined. Fortunately, Mr. M. D. Prendergast, of Red Cottage, Chapel Road, Oxted, is carrying out a comprehensive review of the material and hopes to publish in the near future.

The evidence for a 17th century industry is also surprising. The writer would like to hear of anyone who has found, or knows of someone else who has found, 17th century wasters in the Limpsfield district.

(D. J. Turner).

#### **Wandsworth: Excavations at Stimson's Buildings.**

By kind permission of the contractors and the Wandsworth Borough Council, the Wandsworth Historical Society have been excavating on the site of Stimson's Buildings, Wandsworth High Street, approximately on

the line of the old ford across the Wandle. The earliest known mention of the crossing comes when Queen Elizabeth ordered a bridge to be built there. The Wandle is shortly to be culverted at this spot.

The medieval river bed was found at very much the same depth as the present one — about 6' below present street level. Rushes and fresh water shells were plentiful, and the river gravel was reached at about 8'.

Elsewhere on the site material which seems to have been part of a late medieval/Tudor rubbish dump has been found. This included soles of shoes, some with the uppers still attached, buckles for various purposes, a spur, and other metal objects.

An interesting range of pottery has also been found, representative of that same medieval/Tudor period, including part of a chafing dish imported from France, of which there are thought to be only fifteen other examples in the country.

(Wandsworth H.S., *News Sheet*, 1969/3 and 1969/4).

## COURSES AND MEETINGS

### W.E.A. Courses at Guildford.

All these courses began in the last week of September but it is possible that late enrolments will be accepted.

**ARCHITECTURE: EVERYDAY LIFE IN ENGLAND.** University Tutorial Class by Mr. J. W. L. Forge. 24 meetings, Tuesdays 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. at Royal Grammar School New Building.

**BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGY.** University Tutorial Class by Mrs. M. P. Canham. 24 meetings, Thursdays 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. at Royal Grammar School New Building.

**HISTORY OF LONDON AND CONNECTIONS WITH THE COUNTY OF SURREY.** University Sessional Class by Dr. F. A. Toufar. 24 meetings, Wednesdays 2.30 - 4.30 p.m. at the Brew House, North Street.

### OCTOBER

Tuesday, 7th. 7.30 p.m.

**RAILWAYS.** A talk by MR. W. G. THARBY to the BOURNE SOCIETY in the series "A new look at local history". At Warlingham County Secondary School.

Saturday, 11th October

**C.B.A. Conference, The Future of Industrial Archaeology,** at the Institute of Archaeology, Gordon Square, W.C.1. No charge is to be made for admission but those wishing to attend are asked to forward their names to the C.B.A. (8 St. Andrew's Place, Regent's Park, N.W.1) so that tickets may be sent to them.

Tuesday, 14th, 7.30 p.m.

**LOCAL FAMILIES AND CHURCHES IN THE CATERHAM DISTRICT.** A talk by MR. J. G. SPENCE to the BOURNE SOCIETY. As 7th October.