

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
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BULLETIN

November, 1970

Edited by Rosamond Hanworth, Folly Hill, Ewhurst, Surrey.

EXCAVATION NOTICES

CHURCH MEADOWS, MERSTHAM
(TQ 288536)

Director: MRS. M. N. TRIER

This excavation will continue every Saturday and Sunday afternoon until the Spring. Enquiries to the director at The Drift, Manor Road, Reigate. Tel.: Reigate 46475.

BROOKLANDS, WEYBRIDGE
(TQ 068632)

Director: THE VISCOUNTESS HANWORTH

This excavation will start on 31st October and continue every weekend in November. Enquiries to the director at Folly Hill, Ewhurst, Surrey. Tel.: Ewhurst 420.

NOTES

Manning and Bray's History of Surrey

The Society has offered to sell on behalf of the next-of-kin of a deceased member a copy of Manning and Bray's *History of Surrey* in excellent condition, bound in stiff boards. Offers in the region of £40 should be sent to the Hon. Librarian at Castle Arch.

(R. A. Christophers).

Sussex Archaeological Society Newsletter.

The first issue of this new publication appeared in September, 1970. Writing in the *Introduction*, its editor said: "This first issue of S.A.S. Newsletter is the first manifestation of a revision of the Society's publication policy. It will appear biannually until March, 1972 and thereafter quarterly. *Sussex Notes and Queries* will continue as an independent publication until (probably) the issue of November 1971.

and then cease, while provision will be made in *Sussex Archaeological Collections* for short articles of the type which have appeared in SNQ." The *Newsletter* is edited by John Farrant, 27 Bloomsbury Place, Brighton, BN2 1DB and published by the Sussex Archaeological Society at Barbican House, Lewes.

(Editor).

Local Societies.

Mrs. D. B. Carey, Lob's Wood, Cedar Grove, Weybridge, Tel.: 47875 has succeeded Mrs. Eedle as Secretary of the Walton & Weybridge L.H.S.

In *Bulletin 67* Miss H. K. B. Clarke was stated to be a former Hon. Treasurer of the Beddington, Carshalton and Wallington Archaeological Society. This is not accurate, as Miss Clarke is the very active present one. The error is regretted.

(Editor).

Excavations in Old Town, Croydon.

A third season of excavation by the Archaeological Section of the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society investigated three sites prior to redevelopment.

1. 2, Rectory Grove (TQ 318655). Further investigations on this site (See *Bulletin 52*) revealed a former alignment of the River Wandle silted up during the Romano-British period. In the silt were over fifty tiles and some Romano-British pottery. Cut into the silt was a late Saxon rubbish pit containing a dog burial. The pit was dug from the late Saxon/early Medieval plough soil. From about the fourteenth century to the nineteenth century the east end of Rectory Grove was occupied by domestic structures which were constantly altered and rebuilt. A complete sequence of late Saxon to twentieth century pottery was found.

2. Site of Parish Church Primary School (TQ 320655). Excavations proved that this site was within the Great Courtyard of the Archbishopal Palace complex. Little late Saxon or early Medieval material was found but enough to suggest a settlement to the west. From the late fourteenth century to the sale of the Palace in 1780 the area excavated consisted of laid gravel paths and gardens within the courtyard. Excavation of the stable block showed several rebuildings from the fourteenth century onwards and the interior floors of crushed chalk and greensand were often relaid. The large amount of eighteenth and nineteenth century rubbish found in the courtyard is consistent with the documentary evidence for the decline of the Palace.

3. 28, Church Road (TQ 320655). A small site beside the former canal from Lords Pond to the Archbishops' fish-ponds was investigated. Ample seventeenth to nineteenth century rubbish was found but medieval material was lacking. A layer of packed chalk and flints indicated the proximity of a structure possibly of Medieval date. Several struck flint flakes, possibly of an Upper Paleolithic industry, were found on the top of the natural Taplow gravels.

It is hoped that all the excavations to date will be published in the *Surrey Archaeological Collections* LXVIII, 1972. Meanwhile a short report will appear in *The London Archaeologist*, 1, 9.

(P. L. Drewett).

Sefton Street, Putney. (TQ 232760).

The second phase of this excavation by the Wandsworth Historical Society is now completed and the findings prove last year's theory that there was Neolithic occupation on this site.

A cutting has been investigated down to the top of the natural river alluvial soil, approximately 3 ft. 6 in. below the modern ground surface. Old maps indicate that this land had always been under cultivation before the present houses were built, and our findings agreed with this. One group of pottery covers the periods Medieval to Modern, there are a few Romano-British potsherds, and in the remaining ten Neolithic specimens three different fabric types can be recognised.

More than 1,300 worked flints have been recovered, of which about half are waste flakes. Owing to the absence of natural flint, large pebbles from the river gravel formed most of the raw material. A wide variety of tools are represented and include both single and composite sickle blades, skin scrapers of various types, knife blades, arrowheads, hammerstones, small chopping tools, and some very delicate micro-blades and fine toothed saws. There are also many snapped butts and points from prepared blades far in excess of the number of blades found, indicating transport of finished articles for use elsewhere in the neighbourhood. The site appears to have been a manufacturing area only, as no signs of actual settlement have been found, the only features being a natural drainage channel and some small post hole marks which could indicate a temporary lean-to shelter.

A cursory examination of the artefacts seems to indicate a date not earlier than mid-Neolithic, at about 2,000 B.C.

The Borough Council gave the Wandsworth H.S. the opportunity to carry out the excavation, and the Borough Architect's department gave help and interest.

(S. E. Warren).

Godalming Publications.

The following publications have been issued as part of Godalming Museum activities:

A. GODALMING MUSEUM PUBLICATIONS. A series of printed leaflets with titles as follows:—

1. The Old Town Hall. Prepared by the late J. F. Nichols (1947) and revised by S. C. Dedman (1964).
2. The Historical Background to the Godalming Borough Arms. Prepared by the late J. F. Nichols and expanded by S. C. Dedman (1968).
3. Westbrook and the Oglethorpes, by S. C. Dedman (1968).

B. GROWTH OF A TOWN. Typescripts of a series of six lectures sponsored by the local Further Education Officer and delivered in 1968, together with a Diploma Thesis written in 1944 and edited for the series. Issued by Surrey County Branch Library, Bridge Street, Godalming (1969).

1. Geology and traces of Early Man in the Area. (In preparation).
2. The early History of Godalming from Saxon Times, by S. C. Dedman.

DECEMBER

Tuesday, 1st. 7 p.m.

LAMBETH RIVERSIDE IN THE 19TH CENTURY. Talk by MR. J. COX to Southwark & Lambeth Archaeological Society at the Cuming Museum, Walworth Road.

Thursday, 3rd. 7.30 p.m.

CLIMATES OF THE PAST. Talk by DR. D. SCHÖVE to Croydon N.H.S.S. as 17th November.

Thursday, 3rd. 8 p.m.

DOMESDAY BOOK AND ITS APPLICATION TO OUR DISTRICT. Talk by MR. R. E. LATHAM to Oxted & District Historical Society, at Oxted County School, Blue House Lane.

Monday, 7th. 8 p.m.

A.G.M. of Mayford History Society at the Village Hall, Saunders Lane, Mayford, Woking.

Friday, 11th. 6.30 p.m.

LONDON BRIDGE FROM ROMAN TIMES TO THE PRESENT DAY. Talk by MISS M. B. HONEYBOURNE to the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society, at Bishopsgate Institute, Bishopsgate, E.C.2.

STOP PRESS

Monumental Brasses in Surrey, by Mill Stephenson

A facsimile reprint of this work which originally appeared in the *Collections*, XXV - XXXIII has been published with preface and up-dating appendix by Kingsmead Reprints of Bath. The book costs £4 through booksellers but members of the Society may obtain copies for £3. 5s. 0d. post free on application to Dr. J. M. Blatchly, Brookdene, Hurtmore Road, Godalming, enclosing a cheque made out to him.

(John Blatchly).

3. **Godalming: An Historical Sketch of the town during the sixteenth to nineteenth centuries**, by W. C. Palmer.
4. **The Countryside of Godalming and District and its Natural Features**, by F. H. Hughes.
5. **Buildings and their Background in the Godalming Area**, by the late J. H. Betteridge, revised by S. C. Dedman.
6. **Some Personalities of Godalming's History**, by S. C. Dedman.
7. **A Survey of the Industrial Development of Godalming** by H. C. Withers.

(S. C. Dedman).

Recent Publications.

GREATER LONDON COUNCIL (1970). Do You Care About Historic Buildings ? Cartoons by OSBERT LANCASTER, Poem by JOHN BETJEMAN, 80 photographs, full-colour centre pages. Histories of famous and lesser known houses. 14 sections on Grants, Blue Plaques, Amenity Societies, Listing and Survey of London. 10s. (50p), plus postage and packing at 1s. 3d. (6p), from Greater London Council Information Centre, South Block, County Hall, London S.E.1.

NEWBURY, K. M. (1970) Our Oldest Inhabitants ? (Two oak trees, officially estimated to be 750 and 500 years old respectively, conjecturally linked to the place-name Roke first recorded in 1328. As a result of the author's active interest they have been made the subject of a Tree Preservation Order). *Bourne Society Bulletin* 61, 3-4.

POLLOCK, D. R. (1970) From Nine Elms to Barn Elms — V. Wandsworth *H.S. News Sheet* 89, 2-3.

PENNER, A. G. (1970) The White Lion, Warlingham. *Bourne Society Bulletin* 61, 7.

STEVENS, CHRISTINE L. (1970) Some Memories. (Local History) *Farnham Mus. Soc. News Letter* II, 6, 21-3.

SOWAN, P. W. (1970) Local Source Material in Print. Croydon and Dist. Regional Survey Papers for Schools No. 2. 2nd, Revised Edition. (A very comprehensive bibliography with much new material).

SOWAN, P. (1970) Reading List on Civic and Biological Conservation and Planning. Croydon and Dist. Regional Survey Bibliography No. 7 (Material available in Croydon and Dist. N.H.S. Library).

STONEBANKS, J. (1970) A Late Canal Project. Walton and Weybridge L.H.S. *Dialstone*, 34, 3.

TURNER, D. J. (1969) Stane Street. (Its possible course through Merton). Correspondence in *The London Archaeologist* I, 5, 119.

TAY, GLADYS (1970) A Medieval Bridge in Kent Street, S.E.1. (TQ 329791). *Southwark and Lambeth A.S. Newsletter* 25, 3.

WALKER, T. E. C. (1970) Milbourne and Claremont. (Notes from the Delaval (Waterford) MSS at the Northumberland Record Office). *Esher District L.H.S. Local History News* 9, 39-41.

CONFERENCE

5th-7th March, 1971.

THE IRON AGE AND ITS HILLFORTS, 1971. A conference on the Southern British Iron Age and its content dedicated to SIR MORTIMER WHEELER and chaired by MR. A. L. F. RIVET. Apply to: The Publicity Officer, Hillfort Conference, Dept. of Archaeology, The University, Southampton, SO9 5NH.

MEETINGS

NOVEMBER.

Wednesday, 4th. 8 p.m.

THE HISTORY OF LIMPSFIELD CHURCH. Talk by the REV. R. C. GAUNT to Oxted & District Historical Society, in Limpsfield Church.

Friday, 6th. 7.45 p.m.

FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY: SOME ENIGMATIC EARTHWORKS IN HAMPSHIRE AND SURREY. Talk by Mr. C. F. Wardale to Farnham Museum Society at The Lecture Hall, Farnham School of Art. (The Hart).

Saturday, 7th. 11 a.m.

THE SOUTH DOWNS AND COASTAL PLAIN, THE PATTERN OF EARLY SETTLEMENT. C.B.A. Group 11B Conference. Details were given in *Bulletin* 67.

Saturday, 14th. 11 a.m.

SURREY LOCAL HISTORY SYMPOSIUM. Details were enclosed with *Bulletin* 70.

Saturday, 14th. 2.30 p.m.

A.G.M. of the Merton Historical Society, followed by SOME WIMBLEDON WORTHIES A CENTURY AGO. Talk by MR. C. G. PARSLOE, at Morden Library, London Road, Morden.

Saturday, 14th, Sunday, 15th.

ENGLISH TIN-GLAZED EARTHENWARE (DELFTWARE). A two-day seminar devoted to this subject, organised by Morley College Ceramic Circle. Cost £5 per person, including lunchboxes. Free Car Parking. Further details from The Organising Secretary, M.C.C.C., Morley College, 61 Westminster Bridge Road, London, S.E.1.

Tuesday, 17th. 7.30 p.m.

ANIMAL BONES IN ARCHAEOLOGY. Talk by MR. S. A. BALDWIN to Croydon N.H.S.S. at the Unitarian Church, next to the Friends' Meeting House, Park Lane, Croydon.

Tuesday, 17th. 8 p.m.

NUMISMATICS AND LOCAL HISTORY. Talk by MR. L. B. YATES to Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society at the Lecture Hall, New Malden Branch Library, Kingston Road, New Malden.

Saturday, 28th. 11.15 a.m.

SOUTH-EASTERN ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE SEA. C.B.A. Group 11A. Conference. Details were enclosed with *Bulletin* 68.