

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
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BULLETIN

Edited by Rosamond Hanworth. Folly Hill, Ewhurst, Surrey

Advance Notice

S.A.S. SYMPOSIUM

Saturday 3rd April, 2.15 p.m. at The University of Surrey, Guildford.

Theme—Focus on Industrial Archaeology

Retirement of Miss Enid Dance

It is with great regret that we record the early retirement of Guildford Corporation's Curator-Archivist, Miss E. M. Dance, because of failing eyesight, on 1st January, 1971.

She was devoted to Guildford Museum; yet at the same time she managed to render invaluable service to the Surrey Archaeological Society, maintaining a constant flow of the Society's business at Castle Arch.

Her hope was to see the Guildford Museum elevated to a higher and wider status, so that it could serve the County with greater efficiency. She also wanted to see it physically expanded so that there were proper facilities for display and study. She was ever conscious of the relationship between the Society and the Corporation and worked constantly and loyally to further the agreement between us.

Mr. Felix Holling succeeds Miss Dance as Curator of Guildford Museum, and we extend every good wish to him.

NOTES

Urban Archaeology

A well-attended conference organised by the C.B.A. on "Urban History: Archaeological Work in Progress" was held at Nottingham University from 1st to 3rd January. A wide range of topics was discussed and there was ample time for discussion under the benevolent chairmanship of Dr. Maurice Barley.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Martin Biddle stressed two principal factors: the need to treat urban studies on an interdisciplinary basis and the urgency of these studies in the face of ever increasing threats of destruction brought about by the rate of redevelopment in town centres. Neither of these factors seemed to be fully appreciated by all workers in the field at present.

The way ahead for interdisciplinary studies would probably best be found by means of small working parties meeting to discuss previously circulated papers on specific topics (e.g. the ranking of towns, urban regions, development of houses, etc.). The conclusions of these working parties would have to be widely distributed.

The Urban Research Committee of the C.B.A. was studying the rate at which archaeological evidence was being destroyed. It could show that in most major historic towns the majority of archaeological evidence would disappear within the next decade. Salvaging this evidence would be a political as well as a physical problem and there was a need to improve the legal and financial framework in which archaeological research was carried out in the face of destruction. Developers were destroying much that was part of the public heritage and pressure should be exerted to ensure that they contributed to the cost of examining and recording the heritage that they were destroying.

During the body of the conference, speakers gave accounts of what was being done to recover urban evidence from towns ranging from Southampton to Elgin. Many speakers had sorry tales of unco-operative local authorities, obstructionist developers, restricted resources and petty jealousies among archaeologists. Here and there there were hopeful signs of co-operation and the picture was a varied one ranging from towns where the local authority employed a field archaeologist (or subscribed substantially towards his employment) to towns that offered only the minimum possible co-operation to a well-constituted local research committee.

A pre-conference document circulated by Mr. S. E. West of Suffolk was of special interest to Surrey. The East and West Suffolk County Councils jointly employed Mr. West as a part-time archaeological consultant to their planning department and he was preparing an index of sites similar to that maintained by the S.A.S. The main Suffolk index was being arranged on a parish basis with a subsidiary cross-referenced period index.

Unfortunately, the place of the amateur in urban studies was given little attention, during the conference, but in the closing discussion Mr. Biddle expressed the view that the amateur could do useful work in watching building sites. The role of the amateur in encouraging a helpful climate of public opinion and his place in towns where there was no professional archaeological activity at all was virtually ignored.

It was ironic, on the day after the conference closed, to read the Minister for the Environment's decision regarding the provision of government finance towards the conservation of historic town centres. One was reminded of the contribution of a Norwegian delegate who told the conference about the Norwegian law which protected cultural levels buried in the ground as effectively as only the most outstanding monuments in this country are protected.

(D. J. Turner).

The Charlwood Society

This Society was formed in March, 1970 with three active groups—History and Information, Countryside, and Gatwick Airport; provision

being made for keeping an eye on planning applications in the parish.

During the summer the Countryside and History groups organised various outings to places of interest both inside and outside the parish. By the autumn it became obvious that the question of the expansion of the airport was so all-pervading that other interests had better soft-pedal and leave the field to the Gatwick Airport group. This has been extremely active right up to the time of the Ministerial Enquiry

But other activities have gone on behind the scenes. Charlwood possesses a 'cage' of which there are it is believed, four in the county, in which illdoers were confined for short periods until they could be dealt with by what police force existed in the eighteenth century. This cage is badly neglected, and the society is negotiating with the County and Parish Councils in order that it shall be preserved. A pictorial map of the parish is being prepared on the lines of that produced by the Reigate Society of their Borough. The map and pictures of many old or interesting buildings are being drawn. It is hoped to have this ready for sale at the A.G.M. in June. Slowly the footpaths are being walked and conditions reported. Great encouragement is being given by Miss Joan Harding and Mr. Gray of the Surrey Domestic Buildings Research Group with their interest in our houses. They hope to have full records made of any that have to be demolished on account of airport development.

We now await the Ministerial Report on the airport development, and have arranged an interesting series of lectures in all groups to take place in the New Year.
(Marjorie Farrer).

Archaeological Fieldwork

Members of The Bourne Society have surveyed parts of the gas pipeline that runs from Tatsfield to Merstham, in the hope of recording new archaeological material. At Tatsfield the pipeline unfortunately missed by a few yards the reputed site of the deserted medieval village of Goldhurd. Flint tools were found along the line at Woldingham, and have been sent to the Surrey Archaeological Society for a report.

In the parishes of Godstone and Betchingley part of the pipeline runs close to the proposed route of the M.25 motorway, and both were examined from Godstone Wood to Workhouse Lane. It was very interesting to be able to see the surface route of the motorway in conjunction with a below-ground view of the topography in the pipeline trench. The latter had cut a section through a large ditch in Fosterdown Wood, which forms the boundary between Godstone and Betchingley. It is thought to date from a period when the Roman road had fallen into disuse and no longer formed an easily recognised landmark that could be used as a boundary. The pipeline also cut sections through long disused tracks that had probably linked up originally with the 'Pilgrims' Way'. Flint tools were again found along the route, and one piece of pottery of Tudor date was found near North Park Farm.

The survey is not yet completed, and dense patches of woodland are to be examined in the winter, when the undergrowth has died down.

(Mary Saaler, in *Bourne Society Bulletin* 62).

Hamm Court Farm, Chertsey. (TQ 067655)

Excavations were carried out by Weybridge Museum during June, July and September, 1970. Initially work consisted of investigation of the structures reported in Bulletin 60. Various walls were uncovered, plus a quantity of rubble, which made excavation difficult. At a late stage the remains of another building at a much deeper level was found. This lower building would appear to be the Tudor house, which seems roughly to follow the E-shaped plan shown on a map of 1732. Aquarry tile floor was discovered and in it what appeared to be a neatly wrought sump, at the bottom of which were found two unbroken glass bottles and the fragments of others. It is regrettable that work had to close down at this stage, but all that has been found is now being recorded. Later comparisons with maps from the County Record Office and documents held at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, may clear up some of the mysteries presented by the (Avril Lansdell).

Coulsdon: Saxon Knives from Cane Hill cemetery.

During December the second writer was informed that Mrs. G. V. Clarke of Catford had four Saxon knives from Cane Hill Hospital, which had come into her possession. They measure 4½ in., 5 in., 5½ in. and 7 in. and were still wrapped in the paper on which Sir James Moody, once Superintendent to the hospital, had mounted them. The paper bore the title Cane Hill printed on it and was dated in his handwriting Feb. 2nd, 1914. Moody, who was a member of the Surrey Archaeological Society, reported in 1912 that several skeletons facing east and a knife with each were found in a field near his residence and on the opposite side of the valley from Farthing Downs (S.A.C. XXVI, 139-140), on L.C.C. Land, which must have been the grounds of Cane Hill Hospital. From this particular find, a skull is now on display in Horniman Museum, and parts of five skeletons, (originally in the Royal College of Surgeons' collection) are now in the Natural History Museum.

Before this, however, since the building of Cane Hill Asylum and from 1873 onwards, there were reports of skeletons found with knives, swords, spears and beads, and it seems that there was a Saxon inhumation cemetery of some size at Cane Hill, found scappily at various times, with no surviving material apart from that recorded by Moody. As it is, the existence of the four knives was hitherto unknown, and we are accordingly most grateful to the people responsible for saving these,—the relatives of the late Sir James Moody, Mr. C. H. C. Marvin, of Forest Hill, and to Mrs. Clarke for presenting them to the Croydon N.H. & S. Society.

(Muriel Shaw and Lilian Thornhill).

Croydon: Two flint implements

During 1970 two flint tools were found on separate occasions in Shirley, Croydon. A flint axe was found by the writer in her garden, (TQ 36316578). It has been shown to several experts. Mr. Desmond Collins writes: 'it is fairly surely a Mesolithic axe, but it has an unusually strong patina.' It is of river gravel, roughly flaked and stained brown, but has some finer pressure flaking at one end. Another axe was reported by Mrs. Edwards, of Palace View, Shirley, (TQ 36686506), whose husband

found it while gardening. She has placed it in the custody of the Croydon Natural History & Scientific Society until they achieve a local museum. It is a beautiful object, an Acheulean ovate, four inches by three inches. One face has a creamy patina and the other shows a blue-grey flint, streaked with white. It has been shown to Mr. Collins, who writes: 'the hand-axe should probably be classified a Cordiform. It could be Mousterian of Acheulean tradition, or belong to an Acheulean stage of about "Riss" age.'

(Lilian Thornhill).

Recent Publications

- Budd, M.** (1970) Sutherland Grove, S.W.18. Wandsworth H.S. News Sheet, 91, 3.
- Clark, Barbara** (1970) Snippets from Egham's Past. Egham-by-Runnymede H.S. Newsletter 33, 2—3.
- Collins D.** (1970) Some Recent Palaeolithic Research. (Excavation at Acton). *The London Archaeologist*, 1, 8, 184—5.
- Davis, R.** (1970) The Hearth Tax and Egham. (cont'd.) Egham-by-Runnymede H.S. Newsletter, 33, 1—2.
- Hurst, R.** (1970) Recent Fieldwork in Wandsworth. (Culverting the River Wandle at TQ 256746 and 255746). Wandsworth H.S. News Sheet, 91, 2.
- Lansdell, Avril**, (1970) Hamm Court Farm. Walton & Weybridge L.H.S. *Dialstone*, 35, 2.
- Merrifield, R.** (1970) Roman London Bridge. Further Observations on its Site. *The London Archaeologist*, 1, 8, 186—7.
- Montague, E. N.** (1970) The Windmill and Mill House, Mitcham Common. Published by Merton H.S. 4 pp. 1 photograph, 1s.6d. or 1s.10d. by post, from Mrs. L. Buse, Brampton, 3 Cricket Green, Mitcham, or Mrs. E. A. Crisp, 55 Upper Green East, Mitcham, or the author, at 9 Devonshire Road, Sutton.
- Pardoe, B. F. J.** (1970) Some Lesser Local Houses. (Nineteenth century). Walton & Weybridge L.H.S. *Dialstone*, 35, 3—4.
- Stonebanks, J. A.** (1970) The Engine River. Walton & Weybridge L.H.S. *Dialstone*, 35, 2.

COURSES

Archaeology in Wessex—Progress report for 1970. A series of six lectures on Mondays at 7.30 p.m. in Lecture Room 'A' Arts I Building, University of Southampton.

Speakers: Prof. B. W. Cunliffe, Mr. Colin Bowen, Dr. E. A. Course, Mr. K. J. Barton, Mr. M. Biddle. Fee 20/-. Tickets in advance from Mrs. I. Candy, Dept. of Extra Mural Studies, The University, Southampton SO9 5NH. Tel. 56331 Ext. 833.

MEETINGS

FEBRUARY

Tuesday 2nd, 7 p.m.

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF PREHISTORY. Talk by Mr. John Cresswell to Southwark & Lambeth A.S. at the Cuming Museum, Walworth Road.

Thursday 4th, 8 p.m.

THE GEOLOGY OF THE DISTRICT. Talk by Mr. B. Price to Oxted & District Historical Society, at Oxted County School, Blue House Lane.

Friday 5th, 7.45 p.m.

MUSEUMS AND ARCHAEOLOGY. Talk by Mrs. B. Applin to the Farnham Museum Society at Willmer House, 38 West Street, Farnham.

Friday 12th, 8.15 p.m.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK OF THE WANDSWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY with particular reference to Roman Putney and Wimbledon Common. Talk by Mr. N. Farrant to Merton Historical Society at the Lecture Hall, Morden Library, Morden Road, Morden.

Tuesday 16th, 8 p.m.

SURREY BELLS, THEIR CUSTOMS AND USAGE. Talk by Mr. T. S. Jennings to Kingston upon Thames A.S. at the Lecture Hall, Central Library, Fairfield West, Kingston upon Thames.

Wednesday 17th, 6.30 p.m.

CONSERVATION AND THE PHOTOGRAPHER. Talk by Mr. S. Jeeves to the Geology & Archaeology Section, London Natural History Society, at Holborn Public Library, Theobalds Road, W.C.1.

Wednesday 17th, 8.15 p.m.

SIR JOHN VANBRUGH. Talk by Sir Nikolaus Pevsner to Walton & Weybridge Local History Society at Weybridge Library Lecture Hall.

Thursday 18th, 7.30 p.m.

EAST LONDON. Talk by Mr. C. Truman to Clapham Antiquarian Society at St. Luke's Hall, Ramsden Road, S.W.12.

Thursday 18th, 8 p.m.

LOCAL PICTURES WITH COMMENTS. Talk by Mr. B. Withers and Mrs. K. Percy to Oxted & District Historical Society, as 4th February.

Friday 19th, 7.45 p.m.

LOCKS THROUGH THE AGES. Talk by Mr. A. A. Briant to the Farnham Museum Society at Willmer House, 38 West Street, Farnham.

Saturday 20th, 2.30 p.m.

SCULPTURE FROM THE ROYAL PALACES OF ASSYRIA. Demonstration by a Guide Lecturer to the Geology & Archaeology Section, London Natural History Society, at the British Museum, Bloomsbury. (New Galleries).

Thursday 25th, 8 p.m.

ROYAL ESHER. Talk by Mr. E. Royston Pike to Esher District Local History Society at King George's Hall, Esher.

Friday 26th, 8 p.m.

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY. Talk by Mr. J. Hampton to Wandsworth Historical Society at Wandsworth Town Hall.

Friday 26th. 8 p.m. to Sunday 28th. 1 p.m.

SOME RECENT WORK ON MEDIEVAL CERAMICS. A week-end conference organised by the Department of Extra-Mural Studies, Southampton University. At The Solent Hotel. Clarence Parade, Portsmouth. Speakers: Mr. K. J. Barton, Mr. J. G. Hurst, Mr. M. Biddle, Mr. B. Hopkins, Mr. P. Addyman, Mr. R. Thompson. Members to arrange their own accommodation. Fee £1.5s. (Students 12s.6d.). Enrolment through Miss A. Collas, Dept. of Extra Mural Studies, The University, Southampton, before 7th February.

Saturday 27th.

A.G.M. of The Bourne Society at Soper Hall, Caterham.

MARCH

Monday 1st. 8 p.m.

FAIRS—OLD AND NEW. Talk by Mr. J. Hobbs to Mayford History Society, at Mayford Village Hall.

Tuesday 2nd. 7 p.m.

RECENT WORK IN SOUTHWARK AND LAMBETH. Review of 1970 Excavations of Southwark & Lambeth A.S. at North Peckham Civic Centre, Canal Bridge, Old Kent Road.

Tuesday 2nd. 8 p.m.

G.L.I.A.S. Workshop, at Hendon Central Library.

Friday 5th. 7.45 p.m.

THE POST-EXCAVATION PROCESSING OF POTTERY AND SMALL FINDS. Talk by Mrs. S. V. Keen to Farnham Museum Society at Willmer House, 38 West Street, Farnham.

Friday 12th. 8.15 p.m.

TIMBER FRAMED HOUSES. Talk by Mrs. Kay Percy to the Merton Historical Society at the Lecture Hall, Morden Library, Morden Road, Morden.

Tuesday 16th. 8 p.m.

INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE G.L.I.A.S. Talk by Mr. P. Carter to Kingston upon Thames A.S. as February 16th.

Thursday 18th. 7.30 p.m.

CLAPHAM AND THE THORNTONS. Talk by Mr. E. E. F. Smith to the Clapham Antiquarian Society as February 18th.

Friday 19th. 7.45 p.m.

THE FARNHAM RECORDS IN WINCHESTER. Talk by Mrs. M. E. Cash to the Farnham Museum Society at The Institute of Further Education, Potters Gate, West Street, Farnham.

Wednesday 24th. 8.15 p.m.

POSTAL HISTORY. Talk by Mr. W. Hamlyn to Walton & Weybridge Local History Society at Weybridge Library Lecture Hall.

Friday 26th. 8 p.m.

NETHERNE MEDIEVAL MANOR HOUSE. Talk by Miss Lesley Ketteringham to Wandsworth Historical Society at Wandsworth Town Hall.

FARNHAM MUSEUM SOCIETY

The OBJECTS of the Society are:

- (a) To stimulate interest in and secure objects for the Museum.
- (b) To organise activities in the fields of Local History, Archaeology, Natural History, Art and other subjects connected with the work of the Museum.
- (b) To publish memoranda (studies and reports on the work of the Society).

Annual SUBSCRIPTION rates:

Ordinary 75p
Family £1
Junior 25p
Patron £2
Life membership £10

Subscriptions cover lectures, outings and a quarterly Newsletter.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. M. E. Wood, 61 West Street, Farnham.

Farnham Museum is in

Willmer House, 38 West Street

an unaltered early Georgian town house (1718)

The local history exhibits include drawings, paintings and personalia of **William Cobbett**, **George Sturt**, (author of *The Wheelwright's Shop*, etc.) **Harold Falkner**, **John Henry Knight**, whose inventions included the first English two seater motor tricycle.

Hours of opening: Tuesdays to Saturdays 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sundays 2.30 to 5 p.m. Mondays closed.