SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD

Number 100 September, 1973

BULLETIN

Edited by Rosamond Hanworth, Folly Hill, Ewhurst, Surrey

S.A.S. VISITS

September 29th Visit to Harmondsworth, Stanwell, and parts of Surrey formerly in Middlesex.
October 13th Visit to Epsom and Ewell.
Details of these and other meetings are given elsewhere in this Bulletin.

NOTES AND QUERIES

New Members from 1.6.73
Mrs A. Francis, Lingwood Grove, Blackheath, Guildford
Mr J. C. Dove, MBKS, MITE, 33 Highfield Drive, Hurstpierpoint, Hassocks, Sussex BN6 9AU
Mr J. B. S. Worthington, Forge Cottage, Hascombe, Godalming.
Miss E. M. Jowett, MA, 12 Cranleigh Road, London, SW19 3LU
Miss R. A. Evans, 38 Church Road, Milford, Godalming GU8 5JD

New Members from 1.7.73
Miss L. Coates, 36 North Acre, Banstead
Mr J. H. Edwards, 82 Whytecliff Road, Purley CR2 2AW
Mr R. L. Burrett, 22 Cleveland Avenue, Hampton, Middx.
Mr and Mrs Stidder, 6 Effingham Road, Reigate
Mr J. A. Janaway, ALA, 58 Coopers Rise, Godalming
Mr M. A. B. Harlow, MA, MPhil, 58 Mount Ararat Road, Richmond

Recent Accessions to the Society's Library. Previous list in Bulletin 94 (Feb. 1973)

1. GENERAL

Collins (D.) and others, Background to archaeology. rev. ed. Cambridge, 1973.
Martin (S. H.) and McIntyre (S.) A bibliography of British and Irish municipal history. vol. 1. Leicester, 1972.

2. REGIONAL (EXCLUDING SURREY)

3. SURREY (GENERAL)


4. SURREY (LOCAL)

   Hicks (S. E.) Wrecclesham and its roundabouts. Farnham, 1939.
   Anon. The penny guide to Guildford Castle, Guildford, 1904.

LONDON

Mitcham B.C. Festival Week, 1951. Mitcham, 1951.
Richmond—Burt (C.) ed. The Richmond Vestry, 1614-1890. Richmond, 1890.
Church Archaeology in Surrey

It was announced in Bulletin 98 that the CBA has appointed diocesan consultants for church archaeology. The consultants for Surrey are:

- Diocese of Guildford—D. Fowler, 29 Kingsbridge Road, Morden.
- Diocese of Southwark—D. J. Turner, 21 Evesham Road, Reigate.

Threats to church archaeology do not arise only from redundancy, although this is clearly important. Church restoration, improvement and even general maintenance can do so. It is going to be impracticable for the consultants to visit all churches in their dioceses where work is going on and they would like to hear from local secretaries and other members particularly interested in this aspect of archaeology.

If any local history societies or individuals are researching their local church or churchyard, the consultants would like to be informed so that duplication of effort can be avoided.

(D Fowler, D. J. Turner).

Farnham: Park Row (SU 839471)

A limited trial trench investigation was carried out by the Farnham Museum Society Archaeological Group on the site of the New Alms Houses, behind the Andrew Windsor Alms Houses (1619 A.D.) in Park Row, off Castle Street, Farnham, Surrey.

Prior to the investigation, most of the top soil had been removed by the building contractors.

Thirteen pits were found, containing ash and pottery sherds and a fragment of wall, of brick and stone course construction, adjacent to one of the pits.

In the south of the site a Royal Farthing Token of James I (Lennox Type, 1614-1625) was discovered, and below this a pottery kiln, constructed of rough chalk blocks, clay and tile. It was of near circular shape with two flues on a north-south orientation. Both stokeholes contained pottery and ash.

The kiln-fill was ash and pottery sherds with several broken pots inverted on the floor. A mass of clay and chalk blocks over the kiln contents may indicate its collapse or deliberate destruction during firing. The pottery was mainly of white ware indicating a medieval date.

Below the layer upon which the kiln was constructed, and approximately 5 metres to the east was revealed a simple burial containing the upper portion of a human skeleton, the remainder had been destroyed by the building operations. There were no traces of a coffin or any grave goods except for bronze fragments in the vicinity of the skull.

The area investigated has now been destroyed.

(G. H. Cole).
Ockham and West Horsley: Eighteenth Century Landmarks

In the State Bedroom at Clandon Park hangs a painting by Kniff of the Elizabethan Mansion of Clandon Park in 1708.

It shows the Park and surrounding countryside as a bird’s eye view.

On the skyline to the right of the picture stands a windmill which is indicated on Bowen’s map of Surrey 1748 and the Ordnance Survey of 1816. It lies north of the Chalkpit and south of the West Horsley crossroads. There are no remains now, but a house called Windmill Hill House indicates the area.

Also the red brick mansion shown in the middle distance on the left of the picture is probably Ockham Park, built by Henry Weston in 1622, which was later enlarged by Lord King.

(Katherine Palmer).

Shepperton: Ferry Lane (TQ 078661)

There was, in Bulletin 96, a brief description of the finding of a number of rows of stakes buried in a gravel pit at Ferry Lane. It was hoped, then, that it would be possible to carry out a planned programme of excavation, but in the event the needs of the Gravel Company limited work to two weekends, after which the two exposed rows of stakes were covered by topsoil from another part of the pit, and the third row was dug out and destroyed in the continuing process of gravel extraction. The writer was able to pay frequent visits to the pit during this time to record the existence and position of the third row and a fourth which turned up, and to rescue one complete stake for detailed examination.

It is not really possible to describe the position of the various rows of stakes and their relationship to one another without the benefit of a plan nor to say here more than that the rescued stake measured 2.66 metres, was pointed at both ends and had been roughly squared along its lower half.

The main purpose of the present note is to make known the possible date of the stakes. A report has now been received from Professor F. W. Shotton of the Department of Geology of the University of Birmingham to the effect that a radio-carbon date for samples of wood taken from the wicker binding at the foot of row 1 gives a life of 1520 B.P. ± 120, suggested date 430 AD. This is of considerable interest because it was originally felt that the stakes were more likely to be medieval. It throws into prominence the finds of other Roman material from the lower gravel of the pit, including several roof tiles and a complete fourth century flagon probably from the Alice Holt Forest kilns.

Ideas as to the purpose of the stakes will be gratefully received,

(D. G. Bird).

Surrey Local History Organisations


This list was compiled for the Surrey Archaeological Society and the Surrey Local History Council and is intended to be useful to workers in local history and archaeology in the historic county of Surrey, as a guide to the societies and institutions which may be helpful in their studies and which would be interested in the results of such studies.

Women's Institutes in many parts of Surrey take an active interest in the histories of their areas and students are advised not to overlook these
societies in their work. The names and addresses of the Secretaries are obtainable from the Secretary of the Surrey Federation of Women's Institutes whose name and address are given in this list.

This list is based on a card index maintained at the Surrey County Library's Caterham Central Library, which contains details of subscriptions, interests, publications and other particulars of the societies listed within and which is available for consultation at any time that the library is open (Mondays and Saturdays 10-5, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 10-8, Wednesdays 10-1).

Each new edition of this list has contained more entries than its predecessor, reflecting the continuing growth of interest and activity in local history throughout the county and, to some extent, the growing awareness in the academic world of the seminal role of local affairs in the histories of regions and nations. The compilers hope that this fourth edition will help to ease communications and foster the spirit of goodwill and mutual help which, happily, has always been characteristic of local historians in this county.

Every entry in the list has been checked within the past few weeks but, despite this, it is still possible that there may be some errors and omissions. Secretaries who find such faults are earnestly requested to send full particulars to the address given below.

The compilers would welcome information concerning new organisations under the following headings:
- Name of society or institution,
- Name, address and telephone number of Secretary,
- Subscription rates,
- Main interests of organisation,
- Publications.

It would also be of the greatest assistance if Secretaries would notify the compilers of any important changes under any of the above headings when they occur.

The list may be obtained from, and contributions sent to: L.H.O., Central Public Library, Stafford Road, Caterham, Surrey CR3 6JG. Tel: Caterham 43580. Telex: 21116.

Walton-on-Thames: St George's Hill

The well-known hill fort on St George's Hill, south of Weybridge, has twice recently been subjected to minor disturbances. These raised hopes of adding to the somewhat meagre store of information about this important site, which is nowadays largely obscured by trees and private houses.

The first occasion was in December, 1972, when foundation trenches were opened for a new house in the interior opposite 'Hecvesta' in Camp End Road (at TQ 0850 6176). Unfortunately, all that could be done was to examine the trenches, which were nowhere more than one metre wide. No satisfactory evidence for structures was seen nor could it be expected without the careful stripping of a large area. An opportunity to do so is needed before the whole of the interior of the fort is destroyed, because at the moment nothing is known about the internal arrangements, if any.

The digging of an Electricity Board trench through the ramparts was the second occasion, at the beginning of July this year. The trench, for the laying of a cable to a small sub-station, was in the grounds of Tor Point, centred on TQ 0865 6155, at the southern end of the fort. Unfortunately it proved to be too small to provide much archaeological information.
being only about 35cm wide and 50-60cm deep. Yet even in so shallow a trench the upcast provided some information of interest.

Gardner took a few sections through the ramparts early in the century (Sy AC XXIV (1911) 40ff), and these provide the basic information about the construction of the defences. He noted on the south-eastern side a single rampart and ditch and considered that it had been provided with a counterscarp whose remains had later been thrown into the ditch to level it up and make a path. The ramparts were, for the most part, made of a sandy gravel.

The upcast from the Electricity Board’s trench in general confirmed this. The sequence from top to bottom, or west to east, along the trench, showed first dark silty soil and then dry gravelly sand at the top of the first bank and down on to the ledge below it, where there was dark silty material again. The gravel was repeated at the top and on the side of the second bank before giving way to silty material on the slope below. This shows, in the same order, silting against the inside of the inner rampart, then the rampart itself, represented by the gravelly sand of its bank. The rampart runs right along the edge of the hill at this point. Below it on the slope is the evidence for first a ditch—the silty material on the ledge—and then a second bank, Gardner’s counterscarp, made of the same material (which is, in fact, the natural subsoil) as the inner rampart. The silty material below it suggests that there may even have been a second ditch. This interpretation can only be tentative, bearing in mind the nature of the evidence, and for the same reason no accurate measurements could be taken. Again, it is to be hoped that there will be an opportunity one day for a proper investigation of the defences. Fortunately, they are scheduled, and with luck this will preserve them for future research.

Thanks are due to Messrs Ball and Godwin of Walton and Weybridge Urban District Council, who first drew the writer’s attention to the Electricity Board’s trench, and to Mrs Nicholls and Mr Hillman of the South-Eastern Electricity Board for keeping him informed of the progress of the cable-laying.

(D. G. Bird).

Woking: Black Close, Beech Hill, Mayford SU 997559

Whilst members of the Mayford History Society were field walking in advance of the proposed new stretch of the A320 Woking/Guildford road across the water meadows from the new roundabout at Mayford Green to the foot of Pyle Hill, particular attention was paid to the field called Black Close to the west of Beech Hill.

In this grass field it was noticed that there were two roughly rectangular areas, approximately 24 metres by 14 metres, where the surface was slightly smoother and less hummocky than the rest of the field; the ground was harder and retained water on the surface; moles did not tunnel although they were very active in the surrounding areas; and where, in some places, very slight banks occurred on the edges of the rectangles.

Mrs Green, the owner of the land, very kindly allowed a few trial trenches to be excavated across these banks, and into part of the rectangles, and at 40cms below the present surface, a ditch 1.3 metres wide by 1.1 metre deep, U-shaped in section and filled with very dark soil, was clearly visible cutting through the surrounding sand and iron pan.

The water table was reached at this level but in spite of the flooding it was possible to trace the ditch for 11.5 metres. It contained a number
of large rim and other sherds of different types of Romano-British coarse-ware; a quarter section of the top stone of a hand rotary quern; several pieces of what appeared to be building material, including one very large lump with a distinct groove in one side; and also evidence of fire—a number of blackened stones and crackled flints, and a few very small pieces of charred wood.

Aerial photographs received after the trial excavations had been carried out show parch marks which indicate possible foundations of buildings, and these marks are now being examined on the ground.

The writer would like to thank Lady Hanworth, Mr Holling and Mr Hampton for their help and interest. (Nancy Cox).

Wotton, Abinger and Oakwood Chapel Parish Registers

The writer is very anxious to buy a copy of the Wotton, Abinger and Oakwood Chapel Parish Registers. Since the Surrey Record Society holds no spares, he is appealing to members of the Surrey Record Society through the medium of this Bulletin. If any member has no particular need for the Parish Registers, would they get in touch with him at 43 Ferndale, Waterlooville, Hants. (M. H. Worsfold).

CONFERENCE

Council for British Archaeology, Group 11A

Advance notice

INDUSTRIAL HISTORY OF SOUTH-EAST ENGLAND

A one-day conference to be held on Saturday 17th November, 1973 at The Skinners’ School, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. Enquiries to Mrs M. P. Smith, 5 Cedar Road, Weybridge, Surrey (Weybridge 41237).

COURSES

SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY’S LECTURES

OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 1973

After the success of the Farnham lectures earlier this year, the Society has decided to repeat the venture in the winter term, this time at two centres.

In Guildford, there will be a course of ten lectures arranged in conjunction with the University of Surrey Centre for Adult Education. The lectures will be based on the theme of the Romans in south-east England, and there is already an impressive list of speakers arranged, including Rosamond Hanworth, Max Hbditch and Hugh Chapman of the Guildhall Museum, David Peacock, David Johnston and Michael Fulford of the University of Southampton, and Alec Down and Harvey Sheldon, the active excavators of Chichester and Southwark.

In Chertsey a series of lectures on the more general theme of archaeology in the south is being arranged with the help of Chertsey Museum. Many of the same lecturers as are talking in Guildford will be speaking here, but the subjects will be less concerned with the Romans and will include both pre- and post-Roman excavations.

Both sets of lectures will be held on Thursday evenings, in Guildford at the University between October 11th and December 13th, and in Chertsey at the Old Town Hall between October 4th and December 6th.
There will be a small charge to cover the payment of travelling expenses and a fee to lecturers.

Further details will be available from the University of Surrey Centre for Adult Education or David Bird at Castle Arch (Guildford lectures) and Robert Trett (Chertsey Museum) or David Bird (Chertsey lectures).

Oxted and District Historical Society

Oxted and District Historical Society is running a series of lectures under the auspices of Surrey University on Mondays from September 24th 1973 to March 4th 1974, at Oxted County School, 7.30 p.m. Director of Studies, F. Richard Wright. A very wide range of subjects covers such topics as How To Set About It and Recent Archaeology in Surrey, together with Archaeology in the Middle East, Inverness, the Minoans and Mycenaeans, etc. There are many different lecturers, all well-known in Surrey.

Further details from F. Richard Wright, OBE, MA, FSA(Scot), Midway, 13 Gresham Road, Limpsfield, Surrey.

The Bourne Society

The Bourne Society are running five different courses from September, 1973 to the end of November, 1973:

1. Our Villages, Mondays, at Gresham School, Sanderstead, beginning September 24th, 7.30-9.30 p.m.
2. Our Villages, Thursdays, at Taunton Manor, Coulsdon, beginning September 27th, 7.30-9.30 p.m.
3. The Splendour of Cities, Wednesdays, at Taunton Manor, Coulsdon, beginning September 26th.
5. Collecting for Pleasure, Thursdays, at de Stafford School, Caterham, beginning September 27th.

Enquiries to The Area Principal, East Surrey Institute of Further Education, Bletchingley, Tel. Godstone 2115 for the Caterham Lectures, and James Batley, 7a Burntwood Lane, Caterham, for the remainder.

Processing, Mary Saaler and Lesley Ketteringham are continuing their course on pottery processing and model making at Beechwood Road Centre, on Fridays, enquiries to The Bourne Society.

Dorking Institute of Further Education

FARMHOUSE & COTTAGE IN SURREY.

At Howard of Effingham Adult Centre, starting Tuesday, 25th September, 1973. Last session the Dorking Institute ran a short course under the leadership of Miss Joan Harding which traced some stages in the development of the smaller house in Surrey. Such was the interest that they are repeating the course in the Effingham area. The group will help in the project of recording local listed and other buildings for permanent records which will be handed over to the Surrey Archaeological Society.

Further information and details from the Head of Centre, Howard of Effingham School, Lower Road, Effingham (Bookham 53694 evenings only).
MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER

Monday 3rd, 8 p.m.
GILBERT WHITE'S SELBORNE. Talk by Mr A. Jollands to Mayford HS at Mayford Village Hall.

Tuesday 4th, 8 p.m.
AGM KINGSTON UPON THAMES AS and Presidential Address by Mrs R. P. Kenward. At the Lecture Hall, Kingston Museum, Fairfield West, Kingston upon Thames.

Tuesday 18th, 8 p.m.
NEOLITHIC PUTNEY. Talk by Mr S. E. Warren to Kingston upon Thames AS at the Lecture Hall, Kingston Museum, Fairfield West, Kingston upon Thames.

Friday 28th, 8 p.m.
BOW. Talk by Mr H. Sheldon to Wandsworth HS at The Friends' Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street.

Saturday 29th

SAS VISIT TO HARMONDSWORTH, STANWELL AND PARTS OF SURREY FORMERLY IN MIDDLESEX

Arranged by Mr J. C. M. Blatch

11.00 Meet at Sunbury Court. Entrance gates on main road from Sunbury to Hampton TQ 115690.

11.45 Sunbury Church (associated with Bill Sykes and Oliver Twist)

12.15 Shepperton. It is hoped to visit the Rectory which has an exquisite front of ca.1700 and a spacious hall of ca.1500. Pleasant hotels etc. for lunch.

2.30 Harmondsworth Church. TQ 056778 (owns a first edition of Authorised Version of Bible, Fine Norman South door. Tomb of Cox, Orange Pippin grower).

3.00 Tithe Barn (one of the finest in the whole country).

3.30 Stanwell, Dunmore House, Lord Knyvett's Free School 1624. Church. (Monument of Lord and Lady Knyvett, He discovered the gunpowder plotters).

Harmondsworth and Stanwell churches are normally kept locked, and are being specially opened for us.

Will members who can offer a lift please say so when applying for tickets, and give a telephone number.

Tickets (members 20p, visitors 25p, students half price and accompanied children under 16, free) from Mrs J. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton KT7 0QL.
OCTOBFR

Saturday 6th, 5.30 p.m.
ROAD TRANSPORT AND ITS RELEVANCE TO WATERWAY AND RAILWAY HISTORY. Talk by Professor T. C. Barker to the Railway and Canal HS in the Lecture Hall, Science Museum, South Kensington, SW7. Admission free, by ticket, from A. C. F. Hadfield, 93 Kempe Road, NW6 Tel. 01-969 5151 (Home) 01-723 1221 Ex. 510 (Business).

Thursday 11th, 7.30 p.m.
A SOUTH LONDON ODYSSEY. Talk by Dr Arnold Taylor to Clapham Antiquarian Society in St Luke’s Hall, Ramsden Road, London, SW12.

Friday 12th, 8.15 p.m.
THE IRON INDUSTRY IN SURREY. Talk by G. E. Buttriss to the Puttenham & Wanborough HS at the Marwick Hall, Puttenham.

Saturday 13th (Please note change of date from previous announcement)
SAS VISIT TO EPSOM AND EWEIL
Arranged by Mr D. Booker

10.30 a.m. Meet at the Clock Tower for a walk round the old buildings of Epsom, led by Mr N. Nail.
Lunch in Epsom or Nonsuch Park (Cafe or Picnic).
2.30 p.m. Walk round Ewell and visit Bourne Hall Museum.
Tea at Harts Restaurant, Ewell or Nonsuch Park.

Tickets (members 15p, visitors 20p, students half price and accompanied children free) from Mrs J. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 0QL.

Friday 26th, 8 p.m.
THE SITE AT NORTHOLT. Talk by R. Lancaster to Wandsworth HS at The Friends’ Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street.

The next issues of the Bulletin will be in October and November, there will be none in December. Copy is required by the 5th of the month previous to publication.