SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD

BULLETIN

Number 116 April 1975

Edited by Rosamond Hanworth, Folly Hill, Ewhurst, Surrey

SAS VISITS
April 19th. Visit to Abinger and Effingham. Full details were given in Bulletin 115.
May 10th. Visit to Chiddingfold.
June 7th. Visit to Romney Marsh.
Details of these and other visits are given elsewhere in this Bulletin.

EXCAVATION NOTICES

STAINES HIGH STREET
(Director: Kevin Crouch)
Excavation is taking place seven days a week until May 31st on the Elmsleigh Site, High Street, Staines (behind Barclays Bank). The site contains Roman, Saxon and Medieval phases. Volunteers welcome. A note on the earlier season at the site appeared in Bulletin 112.

PETTERS SPORTS FIELD, EGHAM TO 017718
(Director: David Barker)
Work is continuing on this site, and volunteers will be welcome. Contact David Barker at Egham 3873.

NOTES AND QUERIES

New members from 1.2.75
Miss S. V. Rausell, 6 Coppersmead, Sycamore Grove, New Malden.
Mr P. J. Newell, 109 Farnham Road, Guildford GU2 5PP.
Miss V. C. Smithson, 94 Park Road, Camberley GU15 2LN.
Mr M. A. Groves, 25 Austen Road, Guildford.
Mr C. R. Elms, Sixth Form Centre, Cranleigh School, Cranleigh.
Dr David B. Robinson, County Archivist, Surrey Record Office, County Hall, Kingston upon Thames KT1 2DN.

Recent accessions to the Society's Library (Previous list in Bulletin 112, December, 1974).
In this and future lists details of publishers will be given only for local publications which we have been asked to notice in the Bulletin. The library is very grateful to donors of books, whose names appear in brackets after the titles of the items they have presented.
(a) GENERAL

Alsp, T. From the silent earth. 1970 (Mrs A. Knee).
British archaeological reports. 1974—Volumes received:
Dickinson, T. M. Cuddesdon and Dorchester on Thames.
Klingelhofer, E. C. Broadfield deserted medieval village.
Hardaker, R. A corpus of early bronze age dagger pommels.
Casey, J. and Reece, R. Coins and the archaeologist.
Rowley, T. Anglo-Saxon settlement and landscape.
Harbison, D. and Laing, L. R. Some iron age medieval imports in England.
Swanton, M. J. A corpus of pagan Anglo-Saxon spear types.
Henig, H. A corpus of Roman engraved gem stones from British sites.
Davison, C. The Hereford earthquake of 1896. 1899. (Mrs G. M. Done).
De Zouche Hall, Sir R. A bibliography on vernacular architecture. 1972.
Gibson, J. S. W. Wills and where to find them. 1974.
Harvey, J. Early nurserymen. 1974.
Pryor, F. M. M. Earthmoving on open archaeological sites. 1974.
Pyddocke, E. What is archaeology? 1964.
Rescue and CBA. Archaeology and government. 1974.
Steel, D. Sources for Roman Catholic and Jewish genealogy and family history. (National index of parish registers, vol 3). 1974.
(Awarded the SAS prize for work in scientific archaeology at the University of Surrey. Donated by the Physics Dept of the University).
Vernacular archaeology. Vol 1, 2. 1970.
Wells, C. Bones, bodies and disease. 1965.

(b) SURREY
Tatsfield. St Mary's Church guide. 1971. (Mr G. H. Underwood).
Thompson, W. History and antiquities of St Saviour's Southwark. 1904. (Miss M. Christie).
Walmsley, R. C. A description of Albury Park and Church, 1974. (The author).

Town Trails in Surrey
At the SAS Symposium on European Architectural Heritage Year, held on 1st February, Lord Sandford suggested that each town and village should plan its own Trail, along the lines already established for Nature Trails, touring past its buildings of particular architectural or historic interest. The Editor has been asked to state that some enterprising areas have already followed up this suggestion and are planning their Town Trails. It is hoped that this will encourage others to do the same.
Industrial Archaeology and Surrey

Regrettably little has been achieved, it would appear, for the cause of Industrial Archaeology in Surrey. What has been done is due to the efforts of a few individual members who have collected information about their special interests or like Ralph Hall—who grappled with problems on a wide basis at much personal sacrifice. Helped by Ralph’s encouragement and knowledge, the writer has been trying to give him support in this weighty task. My students at Guildford Technical College have aided me on various projects in this area by using their engineering and other skills in, for example, producing excellent working drawings of machinery, or investigating a (private) reservoir—from the inside—or descending into the precipitous depths of a derelict icehouse.

However, the really essential task is to complete a list of what we have in the County that comes under the heading of Industrial Archaeology—a subject that is extraordinarily flexible in time and subject scope. To this end information has been amassed for some three years now, in the hope that publication might be possible by this summer but those hopes have now receded. West Surrey has been reasonably well covered and, thanks to members of the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society, and the Bourne Society, East Surrey is probably catered for, but the South-East corner and the North (Egham-Staines) seems inadequately covered. Any information would be appreciated.

There still remains the larger problem of how to cope with the crises, great and small, of Industrial Archaeology in Surrey in the future. It would seem that some more formal organisation is required and the Society has recently set up a Working Party to investigate how our needs can best be catered for. At the time of writing, it has not yet met. Meantime, it is encouraging to note that an enthusiastic crowd of 150 people has been meeting every Thursday evening during the Spring Term to hear a series of talks by experts on diverse Industrial Archaeology themes. That augurs well for the future. My only hope is that this awakened interest in the County’s industrial and commercial past has not come too late to save much from the demolition man and the scrap merchant.

(Francis Haveron, Guildford Technical College)

Vernacular Architecture, a query

As one who has taken a supercilious attitude to Mopck Tudor Buildings from youth up, the writer has realised that the best examples have, after some fifty years, become Period Architecture—with some historic, even aesthetic, merit. A sunny afternoon photographing Station Approach West, New Oxted, revealed some interesting buildings with structural timbers, individually carved barge-boarding, grotesques and doorways, hand-wrought signs, herring-bone brickwork and pargetting. The names of builders and carvers have been traced. Are there other worthwhile examples of this Surrey vernacular style awaiting recording?

(J. C. Batley)

Guildford: The Friary Site

Further excavation is not likely until July/August of this year, and the road-widening scheme is postponed, probably until November.

(J. A. Cowie)
London Borough of Sutton: Romano-British Cinerary Urn and other Vessels, in Modern Cemetery, Bandon Hill, Wallington (TQ 299647)

While digging a grave at the above cemetery, on 30th October 1974, Mr Andrew Turnbull unearthed, at a depth of 3 to 3½ feet and at the southern shoulder of the coffin-shaped grave, a large jar filled with earth and bones. Shortly afterwards, near the northern foot of the grave, he found two small pottery vessels. All three items were unavoidably broken in the finding. Burial in the new grave being imminent, the finds were removed to safe storage by the Cemetery Superintendent, who notified the Borough Librarian, who, in turn, notified the writer, and they were subsequently taken to Mr D. Bird, at Guildford, for detailed examination.

The jar had been used as a cremation urn and contained burnt human bones and teeth, in quantity, a bent nail, tile and pottery fragments. The smaller vessels had no contents. They were unquestionably buried as funerary accessories but, on account of their distance from the urn, they possibly relate to another burial. Hence, more may remain buried, just outside the southern edge of the new grave. Search for them is impracticable, involving disturbance of the stone kerb of an earlier grave.

The pottery was examined by Joanna Bird, who describes the jar as being hand made, coarse grey fabric with inclusions of grey grog and chalk, the fawn surfaces roughly smoothed and decorated with overlapping arcs. It is probably of the 3rd century A.D. but is of a type difficult to date closely.

The smaller vessels are both incomplete, new breaks imply that missing portions were lost in the fill of the modern grave. They are (a) A single-handled flagon, of hard fired grey ware, with a coarse cream slip on the exterior and distorted where the handle was applied, probably datable to the second half of the 3rd century AD.

(b) A small grey ware beaker with panels of applied dots and two crosses, scratched on the exterior after manufacture, probable production date circa 100-130 AD but, from the wearing off of the dot pattern, it may have been old when buried.

Bandon Hill is adjacent to the old Beddington village and the importance of this find lies in its proximity to the following earlier ones made on the outskirts of that village.

1. At TQ 298659, north of the Wandle, a Roman villa.
2. At TQ 296654, south of the Wandle, a Roman lead coffin.
3. At TQ 296652, south of the Wandle, a Romano-British stone coffin, with skeleton and grave goods.
4. At TQ 299651, south of the Wandle, two small Romano-British pottery vessels, almost certainly funerary. No burial found.

In addition, a long post factum report has been seen stating that, when the Beddington National School was built in the 1840s, at TQ 293650, Samian pottery was found in the foundation trenches but this must rank as questionable, as observers of the demolition and rebuilding of the school over the past few years failed to notice any Roman material in trenches or spoil heaps. But observation was not continuous at all times.

All these burials are within a comparatively small area, south of the Wandle and, while they may have been related to the villa, they are somewhat remote therefrom and could equally well relate to some further, undiscovered, centre of Roman occupation in Beddington.

Bandon Hill Cemetery is administered jointly by the boroughs of Sutton
and Croydon. It remains to be determined if the joint authority will grant leave to excavate on vacant plots. This is desirable as, although this is the first known find from many hundreds of graves, it comes from the edge of a small area of unbroken ground. Regular spacing of modern graves could lead to all of them just missing possibly regular Roman burials, and might have happened already. The finds were made only when broken by revetting pegs, having previously been hidden in the walls of the grave.

Thanks are due to Sutton's Borough Librarian and his staff, for the prompt notification of this find and for dealing with its packing and transport to our Archaeological Officer. There is a pattern of co-operation between Sutton libraries and local archaeologists and historians which some other boroughs may envy.

(K. A. Pryer)

COURSES

FIELD STUDIES COUNCIL

Juniper Hall Field Centre, Dorking, Surrey RH5 6DA
Telephone Dorking 3849

30th July-6th August. Recording Old Farmhouses and Cottages in Surrey
Tutor: Joan Harding.

27th August-3rd September. Roman Roads and How to Study Them
Tutor: Rosamond Hanworth.

A course consists of field excursions followed by study and discussion. The day to day programme will be announced at the beginning of each course which starts at 20.00 hours (8 p.m.) on a Wednesday preceded by dinner at 18.30 (6.30 p.m.). Courses end on the Tuesday night; departure is after breakfast on the Wednesday morning. The Centre has good laboratories and libraries.

The fee for each course is £29.50. For details of the Centre and places on courses please write or telephone.
April 26th-27th, 10.30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SYMPOSIUM

FIELD SURVEY IN SURREY

An intensive week-end symposium. Lecture Theatre B, University of Surrey, Guildford. Emphasis on the first day will be on 'How to do it', followed by practical demonstration in the field on the second day. Seven speakers, and walks led and organised by well-known field workers. Details were given in Bulletin 115.

Fees: Non Members £1, Members 75p, Junior Members 40p.

Luncheon: Those attending are advised to bring picnic luncheons. The course is limited to 40. This number, and the fees, are geared to the need for a coach to transport people to and from sites in the field. Please apply before 16th April to D. Bird, Castle Arch, Guildford, or Rosamond Hanworth, Folly Hill, Ewhurst.
MEETINGS

MAY
Saturday 10th

SAS VISIT TO A LATE 13th CENTURY CHURCH AND THREE TIMBER FRAMED HOUSES IN THE CHIDDINGFOLD AREA

Arranged by Mr R. McDowall

10.45 a.m. Dunsfold Church SU 998363
11.30 a.m. Lower Vann SU 982375
   Lunch at Chiddingfold. Picnic on the Green or if wet in the
   Cedar Hall adjoining the Village Hall, Coxcombe Lane.
   Snacks available at The Swan Inn or a more expensive lunch
   at The Crown.
1.45 p.m. Mr Clare Robinson will speak on the History of Chiddingfold,
   in the Cedar Hall.
2.30 p.m. Hawlands, West Lane SU 942349
3.15 p.m. Roppeleighs, West End Lane SU 936340

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

JUNE
Saturday 7th

SAS VISIT TO ROMNEY MARSH AND SOME OF ITS OUTSTANDBLY INTERESTING CHURCHES

To be led by Miss Anne Roper,

President of the SE Branch of the Historical Association

8.00 a.m. Coach departs Guildford, rear of BR Station, Guildford Park
   Road.
8.20 a.m. Dorking Post Office
8.35 a.m. Reigate, opposite Red Cross Public House
11.15 a.m. New Hall, Dymchurch. Welcome by the Bailiff of Romney
   Marsh, Alderman W. B. Smith. Short talk on Romney Marsh
   and its ancient Corporation, in the Elizabethan Court Room.
   Picnic lunch at Dymchurch
2.00 p.m. St Nicholas Church, New Romney (magnificent Norman
tower and Norman nave)
2.45 p.m. St Clements Church, Old Romney (small church of Norman
   foundation, minstrels gallery, 14th century font, 17th century
   needlework)
3.40 p.m. St Augustine’s Church, Brookland (detached timber belfry,
   pine box pews, 3-decker pulpit, famous lead font)
4.30 p.m. Tea at the Royal Oak, Brookland, 40p.
   If time and weather permit, a walk along a causeway across a
   field to the isolated church at Fairfield, an ancient timber-framed
   building now preserved in a brick casing

Tickets (members 20p, visitors 25p, students half price and accompanied
children free; Coach £1.65) from Mrs J. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames
Ditton KT7 0QL. Please say if tea is required.

The next issue of the Bulletin will be in May. There will be none in June.
WE ARE REPRINTING

JOHN AUBREY'S
HISTORY OF SURREY

Aubrey's famous and entertaining "Natural History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey" was first published in 5 volumes in 1718/19. We are now publishing an exact facsimile of the 5 volumes, complete with the 12 plates and folding map. A new introduction has been specially written for this new limited edition by Mr John Nevinson, FSA, the President of the Surrey Archaeological Society. Publication March 1975. Price for the 5 volume set £40 after 31st May.

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