

"It is people not bricks and stones, that make history" writes Mr. Mercer in the introduction to this book and it is people not buildings that make up the subject of this book. The buildings intrude, however, and some information about the three houses whose inhabitants are Mr. Mercer's main preoccupation does come to light. There are also many interesting details of how these inhabitants, influential citizens all, have modified the topography of Thames Ditton as it is seen today.

Within his brief Mr. Mercer has produced an entertaining and informative book that must have taken much work in the making. He provides, perhaps, too little information about his sources and one would have wished for more light on the lesser citizens of his village. But it is a book that everyone interested in the history of north-east Surrey should read and, in view of the modest price, own.

D.J.T.

Local Monuments in the Bourne Society Area. A map prepared by Francis Leeson and L. C. Muggerridge with explanatory text by J. C. Batley. (Reprinted from the *Croydon Advertiser*. A limited number may be available from Mrs. Muggerridge, 156 Croydon Road, Caterham, for 1/- plus s.a.f.e.)

This map was produced to publicise local antiquities in the area. Its symbolisation is deliberately "popular" and modern "antiquities", such as the Caterham telephone exchange, are included to put antiquities in perspective as part of a continuing process. The project was, apparently, well within the means of this virile society and their example could profitably be followed by other local history groups.

The map is not without its controversial aspects or misprints, but this is not of great importance. The accompanying text, intended as an introduction to the layman, is lucid, readable and accurate. This reviewer would have liked to have seen the deserted village sites (surely eight is an overestimate?) that are mentioned in the text marked on the map. The continued use of the name "Pilgrims' Way" and the attempt to retain Dr. Hope-Taylor as a local resident, hardly seem defensible.

D.J.T.

FUTURE MEETINGS

December

Thursday, 2nd. 8 p.m. *Treasure Trove* At Purley Library, Banstead Road, Purley. Joint meeting of the SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY and the BOURNE SOCIETY. Details were given in the November *Bulletin*.

Thursday, 2nd 8 p.m. ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY IN SURREY PLACE NAMES. Lecture by Dr. G. J. Copley arranged by the NONSUCH AND EWELL ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY. Members wishing to attend should contact M. Morris, 28 Seymour Road, Ewell.

Saturday, 4th. 3 p.m. AN INTRODUCTION TO LOCAL INNS AND TAVERNS. Lecture by A. G. Martin at Brooklands College, Weybridge. Arranged by the WALTON AND WEYBRIDGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. Members wishing to attend should contact J. W. Lindus Forge, 12c Bowes Road, Walton-on-Thames.

Tuesday, 14th. 6.30 p.m. THE ROMAN VILLA AT RAPSLEY, EWHURST. Lecture by the Viscountess Hanworth at the Cuming Museum, Walworth Road, S.E.17. Arranged by the LONDON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY (ARCHAEOLOGICAL SECTION). Members of the S.A.S. welcome.

January

Tuesday, 11th. 6.30 p.m. L.N.H.S. ARCHAEOLOGY SECTION MEMBERS' NIGHT. Cuming Museum, Walworth Road, S.E.17. Slides and specimens. Members of the S.A.S. welcome.

SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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BULLETIN

December, 1965

EXCAVATION NOTICES

KENNINGTON PALACE

(N.G.R.: TQ 312782)

Director: G. J. DAWSON, B.A.

Rescue excavations on an area that includes the site of the medieval palace of Kennington have been arranged by the Southwark Archaeological Excavations Committee and the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society. Work is taking place every Saturday and Sunday from 9.30 a.m. until dusk. The excavations are likely to continue until February and as many volunteers as possible are needed.

The entrance to the site is in Sancroft Street, off Kennington Road at Kennington Cross. Buses 3, 109 (Westminster), 155, 159, 163 and 172 pass the site. Kennington L.T. station is close and buses 133 and 95 pass near.

The palace was built in the 14th century by the Black Prince on the site of an earlier manor. It was demolished by Henry VIII in 1531 and replaced by a Tudor manor house which lasted until the eighteenth century.

Further information may be obtained from M. R. Maitland Muller, Hon. Sec. S.A.E.C., Cuming Museum, Walworth Road, S.E.17. (Telephone: RODney 3324, ext. 3).

WESTON WOOD, ALBURY: LATE BRONZE AGE SETTLEMENT
(N.G.R.: TQ 053485)

Director: JOAN M. HARDING.

Excavation will continue during the first two weekends of December, January, February and March. Help is urgently needed to complete this work before Easter. Details were given in the October *Bulletin*.

Enquiries to: Miss Joan M. Harding, 57 The Green, Ewell.
(Telephone: MUSEum 3644, ext. 330).

GENERAL NOTES AND NOTICES

The Surrey Archaeological Collections

The flow of material for publication has increased considerably in the last year and there is now a waiting list. This is a healthy state of affairs but it has meant that there has been a delay in the publication of certain excavation reports.

It is hoped that the next volume will appear at the beginning of January. It will be distributed to all eligible members and the following offprints of papers will also be available separately at the prices stated. Orders should be sent to Hon. Editor, Surrey Archaeological Society, Castle Arch, Guildford as soon as possible.

Prices shown in brackets applies when copy is not sent by post.

Excavation of an Iron Age Farmstead at Hawk's Hill, Leatherhead.
by F. A. Hastings. 44 pp., 2 pls. 14 figs. ... (10/-) 10/6

- A Medieval Glasshouse at Blunden's Wood, Hambledon, Surrey* by E. S. Wood. 28 pp., 11 pls., 7 figs. ... (9/6) 10/-
- The Meeting Place of Copthorne Hundred* by D. Nail. 7 pp., 1 map. ... (1/9) 2/3
- The North Downs Trackway in Surrey, some further comments* by I. D. Margary. 3 pp. ... (9d.) 1/-
- The Chase of Hampton Court* by T. E. C. Walker 5 pp. (1/6) 1/9
- The 'Big House' in Ockham Park* by R. P. Bloxham, 7 pp. (1/6) 1/9
- The Weay Navigation Claims of 1671* by H. Carter. 14 pp. (3/6) 4/-

S.A.S. Visits Committee

Recent months have seen a number of unavoidable resignations from the Society's Visits Committee and, as a result, the preparation of the programme of visits for 1966 is being delayed. Members who can help by serving on the committee or by assisting with the arrangement of one of more meetings per year are asked to contact Mrs. Chiles, 38 Court Hill, Sanderstead.

The formation of a field research group

A number of members are needed to form an archaeological field research group in Surrey. They need to be hardy and prepare to walk fair distances. Personal transport would be useful. Will anyone interested in this project please contact:

Ray Belsey,
32 Disraeli Gardens, Bective Road, Putney, S.W.15.
(Telephone: TROjan 3034)

LOCAL NOTES

Carshalton : Orchard Hill (TQ 278643)

The excavations at this site, originated by the Beddington, Carshalton and Wallington Archaeological Society and supported by the London Natural History Society (Archaeological Section) and by this society, finished in August. The work produced considerable evidence of a mesolithic occupation site and a certain amount of post mesolithic material.

The mesolithic finds consisted of tools and waste material from a working floor. The material was found over a wide area and, even allowing for much post mesolithic disturbance, the quantity found and area occupied suggest occupation over an appreciable period. Soil disturbance and acidity prevented the recovery of ecological evidence. The microlithic element of the industry is dominated by obliquely blunted points, geometric microliths are very rare but hollow based points are present. The macrolithic element of the industry shows a wide range. There is a full series of scrapers of various types, boring tools are common but the number of burins seems to be small. There is a large number of miscellaneous worked flakes that are difficult to classify. One completed transept core axe was found and portions of others, as were sharpening flakes.

The industry appears to be related to the Downton — Peacehaven — Addington (Kent) group and is thus probably late within the mesolithic period.

The post mesolithic material found ranges from two barbed and tanged arrowheads to medieval pottery of circa 1300. Romano-British tile and pottery fragments (including one sherd of Samian) seem to suggest an occupation site of this period in the vicinity. Saxon and early medieval pottery derive from the early occupation of the village of Carshalton. The fact that the latest medieval pottery found is approximately contemporary with the earliest found on the previously excavated site at Queens Well, some one hundred and fifty yards away, is interesting.

Two ditches crossed the site but these were only insecurely dated to the medieval period. There were a number of sterile pits dug through the mesolithic stratum and two medieval rubbish pits were found.

The post medieval material found includes an interesting sequence of clay pipes and some complete glass bottles. Both the pipes and the bottles date from the nineteenth century.

The site was the subject of some disquieting vandalism. In addition to the expected hooliganism (confined mainly to the school holidays) two visits were paid by private enterprise archaeologists bent, apparently, on seeking specimens for their own collections. In addition one of our spoil heaps was stolen.

(D. J. Turner).

Guildford Museum : Wealden glass industry exhibit

In Guildford Museum there is an excellent exhibit recently prepared by Mr. F. Holling. It includes glass and crucible fragments and other finds from the 14th century furnace at Blunden's Wood, Hambledon (excavated by the Society in 1960) and from other glasshouse sites, notably the crucible containing ruby glass from Lower Chaleshurst which in so far the only evidence for the manufacture of coloured glass in the Weald. Specimens of "early" and "late" glass side by side illustrate the technical revolution in English glassmaking after 1567; there are photocopies of 13th and 14th century documents relating to the industry (the originals are in the adjoining Muniment Room), distribution maps, model reconstructions of a medieval glass furnace, and a text which summarises the present state of knowledge about the methods and history of Wealden glassmaking.

(G. H. Kenyon).

Minet Library : Guide to the Surrey collection

A Short Guide to the Surrey Collection by Miss M. Y. Williams, B.A., A.L.A., has just been published by the Lambeth Public Libraries and may be obtained from the Minet Library, Knatchbull Road, S.E.5. (Post free price 1/6). It is a guide to the scope and nature of the material available for study and inspection. Miss Williams is the archivist in charge of the collection.

Weybridge : cellars and tunnels at Oatlands (TQ 079652)

The Oatlands Group of the Walton and Weybridge Historical Society has now completed a measured survey of those tunnels and cellars now at present accessible. There seems no doubt now that the tunnels came out in the cellars of Dornay House which stood by the Thames. This casts some doubt on the theory that they were only drains.

(Dial Stone No. 6 and J. W. Lundus Forge).

Weybridge : the Old School Cottage (TQ 07586475)

A survey party from the Walton and Weybridge Historical Society has made a measured survey and photographic record of this building.

The core has proved to be a half timbered cottage of the fifteenth or sixteenth century. It was probably brick clad and extended in the seventeenth century and there are later additions.

It is hoped that the cottage will become the subject of an occasional paper to be published by the society. At the time of going to press it is not known whether the cottage is to be preserved or not.

(Dial Stone No. 5 and J. W. Lindus Forge).

REVIEWS

Tales and Scandals of Old Thames Ditton by T. S. Mercer. (Published privately by the author and available from 15 Speer Road, Thames Ditton, at 5/-). 56 pp. 30 illustrations.