

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD

BULLETIN

Number 132

Nov. Dec. 1976

Edited by Nancy Cox, "Karm" 108 Westfield Road,
Mayford, Woking GU22 9QP

EXCAVATION NOTICES

EGHAM AREA

Help is urgently needed. Please contact David Bird at Castle Arch (Guildford 32454) for up to date details.

MERTON PRIORY (TQ 265699)

Director: Scott McCracken

Excavation is continuing, and volunteers are urgently required, both during the week and at week-ends. Please contact Scott McCracken, Flat 3, 32 Creffield Road, Ealing W5 3RP. (01-992 1737).

Excavation Site Codes

A list of all site codes given to excavations carried out by anyone within the Greater London area is currently in preparation. This list is to be held with the Inner London Archaeological Unit (01-242 6620). Any local society group, etc. which has excavated within the G.L.C. area is asked to send details of the site code used in each particular case to J. S. McCracken, Flat 3, 32 Creffield Road, Ealing W5 3RP (01-992 1737). Anyone excavating in the future is asked to contact the I.L.A.U. prior to the excavation to avoid duplication of site codes.

(J. S. McCracken)

NOTES AND QUERIES

New Members from 1.9.76

Miss G. S. Olden, Braughing, Ockham Road North, West Horsley, Leatherhead.

Miss E. C. Brewer, 16 Northampton Road, Croydon CR0 7HA.

F. H. Fielder, 20 Chinthurst Park, Shalford, Guildford.

M. J. Townsend, Ivy Cottage, Coldharbour, Dorking RH5 6HB.

D. A. Bartram, 31 Queenshead Avenue, Ewell, Epsom KT17 3EQ.

P. W. Sowan, BSc, FGS, 96a Brighton Road, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 6AD.

M. Turner, Peden Thorn, College Lane, Woking GU22 0EW.

Mrs R. E. J. Chapman, 141 Lower Road, Great Bookham KT23 4AH.

K. H. Ball, BSc, Tudor Oaks, Tudor Close, Smallfield, Horley.

Miss S. L. J. Youngman, Hillcote, Tower Hill, Dorking.

A. R. Bishop, Chadburst Farm, Coldharbour Lane, Dorking.

R. M. Skinner, Longfield, Rowe Lane, Pirbright, Woking.

National Maritime Museum, Greenwich: Archaeological Research and Conservation facilities

1. General

Research facilities are available into all aspects of maritime history. Written applications to use these facilities should be made to the Heads of the following departments, stating the particular field of interest.

- a. Department of Pictures—Illustrative material.
 - b. Department of Printed Books and Manuscripts—Documentary evidence.
 - c. Department of Navigation and Astronomy—Instruments and charts.
 - d. Department of Weapons and Antiquities—Weapons and equipment post c.1500 AD.
 - e. Department of Ships—Ships, boats and associated equipment post c.1500 AD.
 - f. Archaeological Research Centre—Ships, boats and associated equipment of prehistoric, Roman Britain and medieval periods.
- ### 2. Archaeological Research Centre

The ARC's principal area of research at present is into the history of boat building and boat operations in North West Europe from prehistoric times to the Medieval period. One of their main tasks therefore is the recording and interpretation of the remains of boats and ships dated to this period.

3. Archaeological Conservation Facilities

The ARC is currently increasing its capacity to conserve waterlogged wood and other objects recovered from a watery environment. Boat timber from the ARC's own excavations are the first priority; but a small and increasing capacity to treat important timber from other excavations, should become available in the future. Conservation facilities for other artefacts are being developed. Advice on conservation techniques may be obtained by writing to the Chief Archaeologist, Archaeological Research Centre, National Maritime Museum, London SE10 9NF.

Clandon Park Waterwheel: TQ 0401 5145

Until August 1976 a waterwheel stood in a half-collapsed brick vault in the dam of the ornamental lake at Clandon Park. It has now been dismantled and removed for restoration, and is remarkably well preserved beneath a layer of scale.

It is 7ft 6in in diameter and a foot wide, with eight wrought-iron spokes and eight corresponding sections of cast-iron buckets. These sections are bolted to one another and to the flanges of the spokes, similar to the way in which felloes make up the rim of a cartwheel. Cast into one of these sections are the words "Filmer & Mason — Guildford — Makers". They owned the foundry at Millmead, on the site of the present Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, from the 1850s until 1883 and the wheel is a fine example of the work of a very small iron foundry. It is not known exactly when the wheel was made, but a date in the late 1860s or early 1870s seems likely.

At the moment it is at the home of Mr Peter Knee at Mellow, and it is hoped to clean it by shot or sand-blasting. The ultimate destination of the wheel is yet to be arranged—doubtless it would be a relevant exhibit for a local museum of industrial archaeology.

(Matthew Alexander,
Asst. Curator of Local History, Guildford Museum)

Farnham: Palaeolithic

D. A. Roe's *Gazetteer of British Lower and Middle Palaeolithic Sites* gives a site named as Falkner's Pit at SU 847458 (page 285). It should be noted that this is clearly the same as the Great Austins gravel pit of record card SU84 NW41, as the total number of finds, the sources of information and the grid reference all tally with Roe. The duplication probably arose from the use of the landowner's name. The present whereabouts of the Harold Falkner collection which contained the finds is unknown. It is worth noting that on the same page Roe attributes five other handaxes to Great Austins Pit, ("now dispersed in private collections"), making a total of 75 palaeolithic implements from this pit. (Iris Mayhew)

Guildford: Millmead. Interim Report on excavations 1975/76

Three threatened sites on the West bank of the River Wey were investigated with the object of recovering evidence of earlier settlement and land use.

The sites lie in an area bounded by Millmead to the East; St. Nicholas' Church, adjacent to the High Street, to the North; Bury Fields to the West; and Porridge Pot Alley to the South. All are within the Borough Boundary shown on the Ichnography of 1739. The frontage of the Millmead properties averages 20-25 metres from the Wey, which was canalised between Guildford and Weybridge in 1653.

All three sites produced medieval pottery, including forms datable to the twelfth century, and features containing thirteenth century pottery. The quantity of medieval pottery and associated building material recovered from the second site suggested a building nearby, probably fronting Millmead. Pottery of the later fifteenth and sixteenth centuries has not yet been certainly identified, but pottery and other material from the seventeenth century on indicated extensive subsequent use to the present day.

1. 35 Bury Fields (SU 99474915) Rear garden of one of a pair of semi-detached houses built in 1838. This site is the most westerly of the three and slopes gently East towards the river. An area approximately 15m from Bury Fields contained no identifiable features and silty sand was reached at approximately 1m. The disturbed soil produced pottery dating from the thirteenth century, and other occupation debris including glass, pins and clay pipes. Also recovered were two seventeenth century trade tokens, one from Guildford (John Smallpece, Grocer) and the other from Godalming (Henerie Chitten); a Charles I farthing; and two small pointed tools, approx. 70mm long, formed of sheet bronze or copper, rolled tight to a point at one end and 3mm dia. at the other, which could possibly have been used for leather working.

Excavation 6 metres east of the above area revealed parts of two rectangular pits, approx. 1.25m deep, of unknown purpose but containing modern building debris at the bottom. No other features were found. A small quantity of thirteenth and fourteenth century sherds were found immediately above the silty sand which was met at 1.05m; the upper levels were otherwise disturbed throughout and contained mixed occupation debris, including a cut halfpenny, short cross issue, Class Va, dated to c. 1205+ and minted by Thomas of Canterbury, and a seventeenth century Guildford token (Thomas Wilmot, postman).

In excavations 9m further to the East and 60m from the river frontage, sand was met at approx. 1m; the upper levels were disturbed and con-

tained mixed occupation debris. Cut into the sand was a shallow band of dark soil, running approximately N-S, c. 50cm wide and 15-20cm deep, containing thirteenth century pottery. Beneath and to either side of this feature a spread of large flints rested on the sand.

6.5m to the North, but on a different alignment, a similar linear feature and associated flints was noted at the same depth running N-S. The purpose of these features could not be discerned.

2. 5 & 6 Millmead (SU 99484921)

These seventeenth century cottages had been recorded by the Group prior to renovation and alteration and the opportunity was also taken to excavate a limited area in the rear garden which is common to both properties.

The site lies 50m to the North of the Bury Fields site and approximately 30m from the river frontage.

Immediately below the modern surface debris, the remains of a garden boundary wall between the two cottages was revealed standing to a height of c. 35cm. The wall, apparently built in the late nineteenth century, was constructed of re-used 2in bricks on a foundation of irregular chalk lumps and flint. Tenuous remains of a second wall were also uncovered 2.5m to the North, probably of similar date.

Beneath the walls a disturbed layer c. 50cm deep was found containing mixed occupation debris with pottery dating from the early seventeenth to late nineteenth century, together with residual sherds of medieval pottery. Two coins were also found, one unidentifiable and the other a George III halfpenny 1777. Cut into this layer were several pits, approximately 40-45cm deep, containing mortar debris and pottery of the eighteenth/nineteenth century.

At a depth of approximately 1m, a "trampled surface" of compacted clayey/silt and chalk and flint fragments was evident over most of the area, of varying thickness up to 20cm. Where most concentrated, this contained pieces of tile and small sherds of medieval pottery, dated mainly to the thirteenth and fourteenth century. Beneath this was a layer of darkish soil with pottery and other occupation debris, and four small pieces of bronze/copper, two of which appeared to be waste and two which had been fashioned.

At the East end of the excavation at a depth of approx. 1.35m, a further compacted area of mortar debris was uncovered c. 25cm thick which tapered off towards the Western end of the trench. This also contained chalk and flint fragments and many large tile fragments as well as some almost complete tiles; pottery associated is dated to the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries.

At a depth of 1.65m, a small burnt area was revealed in the S.E. corner of the trench and running out to both South and East. The area within the trench was semi-circular, c. 1.30m x 1.20m. and an average depth of 25-30cm. Large quantities of burnt daub were recovered from this area together with a considerable quantity of pottery of the late twelfth/thirteenth century. Much of the pottery was over-fired and one waster was noted, together with a small piece of bronze, probably waste. This burnt area overlay and cut into a shallow depression, possibly a gully, 30-40cm wide and 10-14cm deep, running SSW-NNE which produced a little pottery of similar date. Silty sand was reached overall at approximately 2m.

3. Land below Bow Cottages and the Britannia Inn, Millmead (SU99514914)

This site is the most southerly of the three and just within the Borough boundary shown on the Ichnography. The quantity of medieval pottery recovered from the rear of nos. 5 and 6 Millmead, together with the building material, suggested that further evidence of buildings might be found on this site, together with the foundations of buildings shown on the Ichnography.

The upper levels of an area on the Millmead frontage 26m from the river were much disturbed to a depth of c. 50cm by late nineteenth/twentieth century buildings, the foundations of which were uncovered, together with a related and extensive drainage system.

Beneath this was a light loam, some 25cm deep at the east and 75cm at the west, still in parts disturbed by service pipes and containing considerable quantities of occupation debris. Three postholes parallel to the frontage, all cut by later features, were noted together with some possibly associated building material, which may relate to the buildings shown on the Ichnography. The upper levels of this layer produced mainly seventeenth-twentieth century pottery; the lower level mainly late thirteenth and fourteenth century pottery and, also, a sherd of second or third century R-B coarseware; a bronze pin also believed to be of R-B origin; and a barbed and tanged Bronze-age arrowhead.

Beneath this, at a depth of c. 70cm to the east a layer of sand was encountered, some 25cm thick, again sloping away from the river and tapering to c. 10cm thick.

From this layer a quantity of worked flint was recovered including 3 scrapers, 2 cores, a core scraper and burnt flint.

Cut into this layer and running out to the NE was a wide depression, c. 35cm deep, containing pottery of the thirteenth century and fragments of bone and tile.

At a depth of approx. 95cm at the east end of the trench and falling away from the river by 45cm at the western end, large flints were encountered, associated with reddish clay and concentrations of clayey silt and small chalk pieces. This chalky deposit was found in apparently irregular patches over most of the trench to a depth of approx. 2m. No finds were associated with this layer. River gravel was reached at c. 2.25m.

The Group is grateful to Guildford Borough Council for their kind cooperation and permission to excavate sites 1 and 3, and, also, to Messrs Osentons, the agents acting for the estate of the deceased owner of site 2. The Group would also like to acknowledge with thanks the help received through the Community Service scheme which provided one worker during part of the excavation of site 3 and a team under supervision to help with filling in.

A detailed report will be prepared and deposited at Castle Arch.

(Barbara Blatchford and Audrey Monk,
for SAS Guildford Group)

Industrial Archaeology Symposium: 27 November

In the announcement of this Symposium in Bulletin 131 it was erroneously stated that the Chairman would be Mr David Shepherd. The Chair will, in fact, be taken by Mr Eric Wood, but it is hoped that Mr Shepherd will be able to be present for part of the day. Apologies are due to Mr Shepherd for this error.

CONFERENCE

ROMAN SHIPPING AND TRADE: BRITAIN AND THE RHINE PROVINCES

7th-9th January, 1977, at the University of Kent, Canterbury

An international conference organised by the Council for British Archaeology and the Nautical Archaeology Trust

Fee: £25 (residential); £10 (non-residential)

For further details apply to CBA, 7 Marylebone Road, NW1 5HA, not later than 17.12.76.

MUSEUMS

HOLMESDALE NATURAL HISTORY CLUB MUSEUM, 14 Croydon Road, Reigate

Open Days—Saturday 13th to Sunday 21st November, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Displays include finds from this year's excavations in Reigate

WEALD AND DOWNLAND OPEN AIR MUSEUM

As an experiment, the Museum will be open this year on:

Sunday, 26th December (Boxing day)

Monday, 27th December

Tuesday, 28th December

} from 2-5 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

RICHMOND BRIDGE BI-CENTENARY

Organised by the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames

Orleans House Gallery, Riverside, Twickenham

Until April, 1977

Tuesdays-Saturdays 1-4.30 p.m.

Sundays 2-4.30 p.m.

Admission free

Catalogue (48pp and 7 plates) includes a useful short history of Richmond Ferry and Bridge and other Thames Crossings between Hampton and Barnes. (75p plus p. and p.).

"OUR LOCAL PAST"

Organised by the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society
Bourne Hall Museum, Ewell

Wednesday 1st December — Thursday 30th December

Exhibits will include excavation material from the North Looe, "King William IV", Banstead and Cheam sites.

POMPEII AD 79

The Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, W.1

20th November, 1976 — 27th February, 1977

(closed on 25th/26th December, 1976)

Opening hours—Monday - Friday (except as shown below) 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Mondays 29th November - 13th December
and 17th January - 21st February 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Tuesdays 23rd November - 21st December 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Tuesdays 28th December - 22nd February 10 a.m. - 7.30 p.m.
Last admission on all days: one hour before closing.
Admission (inclusive of VAT) — Adults £1, Children and OAPs 60p,
Students (on production of current NUS or ISU card) 60p,
Pre-booked school parties 50p per pupil
Reduced admission — On Sunday mornings between 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. there
will be a reduced admission charge of 75p for adults and 40p for
children, students and OAPs.

MEETINGS

NOVEMBER

Friday 26th, 7.45 p.m.

ATLANTIS AND AFTER. Talk by K. Clark to Farnham & District MS.

Saturday 27th, 3 p.m.

THE HISTORY OF PYRFORD AND WISLEY. Talk by Mrs. S. Lewin to
Walton & Weybridge LHS at Weybridge Library Lecture Hall.

DECEMBER

Thursday 2nd, 8 p.m.

POMPEII AND HERCULANEUM. Talk by Mrs B. Withers to Oxted
& District HS.

Friday 3rd, 7.45 p.m.

SURREY HILL FORTS. Talk by F. H. Thompson to Farnham & District
MS.

Wednesday 8th, 8 p.m.

HISTORY IN GEMS OF CHURCH ARCHITECTURE. Talk by H. J.
Millerchip to Wandsworth HS in West Hill Library.

Thursday 9th, 7.45 p.m.

SOME ASPECTS OF CHIDDINGFOLD HISTORY. Talk by A. C. Robin-
son to Farnham & District MS.

Thursday 16th, 7.30 p.m.

CLASSICAL GREECE. Talk by Allan Rigden to Clapham AS in St. Luke's Hall, Ramsden Road, SW12.

Thursday 16th, 8 p.m.

THE SOCIAL SCENE IN ENGLAND, 1860-1870. Talks by members to Oxted & District HS.

JANUARY, 1977

Monday 3rd, 8 p.m.

THE HISTORY OF JERSEY. Talk by Mrs Bayliss to Mayford HS in Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, Mayford, Woking.

Friday 7th, 7.45 p.m.

THE WORK OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP DURING 1976. Speakers from the Group. Farnham & District MS.

Excavations Committee

Miss L. L. Ketteringham and Mr J. A. Janaway have recently been appointed to the Excavations Committee. Mr R. J. Webber has resigned from the position of Secretary, but remains on the Committee, and Mr Janaway has been appointed Secretary in his place.

Dover Roman Painted House Trust

The Trust is still urgently needing funds "to protect the oldest and best-preserved Roman wall-paintings in Britain, by means of a permanent cover-building; to display the many new finds from Roman Dover, and to open to the public." Work on the project started in April, 1976, and anyone wishing to contribute to the balance needed, should write to the Treasurer, Dover Roman Painted House Trust, National Westminster Bank Ltd., Market Square, Dover, Kent.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Excavation at Petters Sports Ground, Egham

The excavation now in progress has just produced a major late Bronze Age hoard in two groups, comprising a total at time of going to press of 78 pieces including 11 complete axes and many fragments of others, sword hilts and pieces of blades, knives, spear heads, pieces of the handles of a cauldron, gouges, part of a sickle, pieces of casting material and several other objects of interest.

The find was made in a securely stratified context at the bottom of what is currently thought to be a ditch.

More details will be given in future Bulletins.

(D. G. Bird)