

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD

BULLETIN

Number 134

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Edited by Nancy Cox, "Karm" 108 Westfield Road,
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SAS VISIT

Wednesday, 20th April

THE CITY OF LONDON

Organised by Captain M. A. Wilson, RNR

10.30 a.m. Assemble at the Museum of London, 150 London Wall, for a guided tour of the recently opened museum. Nearest Underground Station: Barbican.

2.30 p.m. Assemble at the Threadneedle Street entrance of the Bank of England for a guided tour. The party is limited to the first fifteen applicants. Photography is not permitted in the Bank.

The remainder of the party will proceed to the Stock Exchange (entrance at corner of Threadneedle Street and Old Broad Street).

5.30 p.m. Assemble at the College of Arms, Victoria Street for a tour led by the Lancaster Herald of Arms. Party limited to the first twenty applicants.

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

When applying please indicate which of the afternoon visits are required so that places may be allocated.

NOTES AND QUERIES

Kingston upon Thames: Excavations in 1976
1. 1a Fairfield West (TQ 182691)

Trial trenches were excavated on a small site opposite the Fairfield. As expected, underlying the foundations of the house built in 1906 and recently burnt down, a fairly even layer of plough soil lay over the site to a depth of c. 1m. This contained a small amount of pottery, glass and clay pipes of post-medieval date together with a few very small sherds of fourteenth and fifteenth century pottery and indicated purely agricultural usage of the area until a quite recent date.

A 2m x 6m straight sided trench of late nineteenth century date and unknown purpose cut through all deposits at the rear of the site. At a depth of c. 1m brickearth was found to extend fairly evenly over the site. A random scatter of struck flints, a few small and battered sherds of dark, handmade pottery and a quantity of burnt flints—'pot-boilers'—were

recovered just above and within this deposit. Apart from a small pit, which contained pieces of brick as well as flint, and may be later in date, no features were stratified at this level but the upper levels of the brickearth at least may be considered to contain a sparse, random scatter of variable prehistoric material possibly spreading from a settlement nearby. In 1967 excavation, by the Museum, in Fairfield Road to the rear of the Castle Public House, a site some 400 yards away, revealed Iron Age pottery stratified in a ditch (SAS Bulletin No 32, August 1967 and SAC Vol 65, 1968, p. 124).

These finds are beginning to point, tentatively, to some prehistoric occupation somewhere along this higher, better drained gravel ground skirting the lower lying areas of the town nearer the river.

(S. Nelson, for Kingston Museum)

2. Guildhall Extension (TQ 180691)

Rescue excavations on a redevelopment site situated close to the known medieval town produced evidence of medieval and post-medieval occupation. Owing to a general scarping of the site in the eighteenth century (possibly the result of an aborted industrial venture) only features cut into the natural brick-earth survived. Two series of post-holes indicate the presence of one, or possibly two, timber buildings in the fourteenth century. A number of pits also attested to this period. Late medieval and post-medieval activity was represented by sporadic post-holes and pitting.

(G. Parnell, for Kingston Museum)

3. Eden Walk (TQ 180691)

Following the trial excavation in 1974 (SAS Bulletin No. 112, December 1974) a further season of excavation took place in advance of urban redevelopment. Water-deposited brickearth on the site produced abraded Roman and Saxon material, and two ditches of late Saxon or Saxo-Norman date may represent an early attempt to drain the area. In the medieval period a series of rubbish and cess pits containing domestic assemblages suggest tenement plots along the Union Street frontage. Further East and South the finding of the edge of a pond and frequent frog bones indicate a generally damp area not conducive to domestic occupation. Here the evidence, including a deposit of oak bark—perhaps indicative of tanning—concentrations of horn cores, ash, shallow pits and post-holes, rather points to an industrial usage in the form of workshops and working areas for those engaged in preparing skins. Around 1500 this industrial usage seems to have ceased but a drainage channel was cut which remained open till the eighteenth century. No further major activity is apparent until the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

(Lee Gillibrand, for Kingston Museum)

4. Thames Street (TQ 178693)

Rescue excavation is in progress on the site of No. 29 Thames Street, and has produced many post-medieval features including several eighteenth century cess pits which contained large groups of fine table wares, all substantially intact. One pit also contained a hoard of about 80 early nineteenth century counterfeit coins. There are four hearths or ovens of various periods. A pit 1.5m square and 2.28m deep of chalk block and tile coursing construction contained much stratified material. A brick boundary wall overlay two phases of flint walling which in turn followed the line of a recut ditch. The fill of the latter is producing pottery of eighth-tenth

century date. The probability is therefore that the boundary has been in existence for a thousand years.

Excavation continues.

(Derek Hinton, for Kingston Museum)

Full reports on these excavations are in preparation. All the material is at present housed at Kingston Museum. Enquiries to Marion Smith (01-546 5386).

Wallington: Bandon Hill modern cemetery (TQ 299647)

Romano-British finds (further to Bulletin 116):

1. In October 1976, Mr Turnbull found, in a new grave, at a depth of about 3 feet, a rim sherd of a large, heavy jar and, at a depth of 6 feet 2 inches, slightly less than half of a cordoned jar with an angled shoulder.

These finds were shown to Mr Clive Orton and Mr Harvey Sheldon. On account of retained Iron Age characteristics they consider the remains to be those of Romano-British vessels of not later than AD 70.

In view of the first find and of the types of vessel involved, previous pottery in the Bandon Hill series has hitherto been thought to be of funerary origin. The depth at which the present cordoned jar was found poses problems.

The fragments of the jar, anciently broken, were in assembly in the wall of the modern grave, in undisturbed strata. It could be that the jar lay at the bottom of an irregular pit, in the baulk between the new and the adjacent occupied modern grave and in a projection of the pit bottom just shaved by the new grave. Alternatively, it could have lain in the fill of a ditch, the bottom of which lies sufficiently below that of the modern grave for its sides not to be reflected in the revealed strata. Thus the jar could be debris from early R-B occupation or early R-B funerary material disturbed by late or post-RB settlement.

It follows that Bandon Hill may well have remains of some form of settlement in addition to those of an R-B cemetery.

2. In November a further jar, used as a cinerary urn, and with its contents complete, was found in a grave being dug about 100 yds north-west of finds at (1) above. It lay 2 feet 8½ ins below the surface, well within the depth expected for interments here and less than half as deep as the fragmented, early jar in (1).

The jar had been broken by the gravedigger, without spillage of contents, but most of the pieces were found in the grave. The search for these did not reveal the missing portions of a small votive vessel, of which fragments occurred in the digger's spoil heap but, when the contents of the jar were removed, other pieces of this vessel and some of the jar itself were found deep in the fill.

Complete reconstruction of the jar may be possible but only a minor fraction of the smaller vessel is represented by the pieces found. It seems that both pots were broken at the time of burial, the jar probably to insert some bone fragments too large to pass its neck, and the smaller ritually.

The other contents of the jar were soil; quantities of burnt human bones; one bent nail; some flakes of tile, and vestigial remains of other substances which await identification. The only marked distinction from the contents of the Bulletin 116 find was a complete absence of identifiable teeth.

The jar is of the narrow mouthed type and of a poor, probably early post-conquest fabric, but further opinions on this are awaited.

(K. A. Pryer)

Wednesday 9th, 8 p.m.

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH. Talk by H. Green to Wandsworth HS in West Hill Library.

Thursday 10th, 8 p.m.

THE EARLY FABIANS. Talk by N. A. Pease to Oxted & District HS in the Lecture Room, Oxted Library, Gresham Road, Oxted.

Thursday 17th, 8 p.m.

THE PARADISE OF PAINS HILL. Talk by Michael Symes to Esher District LHS in King George's Hall, Esher.

Friday 18th, 8 p.m.

THE HISTORY OF STOKE D'ABERNON. Talk by the Rev. H. L. Waterson to Leatherhead & District LHS at the Red Cross Hall, Oaks Close, Leatherhead.

Saturday 19th, 3 p.m.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF FARMHOUSE AND COTTAGE IN SURREY. Talk by Miss Joan Harding to Walton & Weybridge LHS at Weybridge Library Lecture Hall.

Thursday 24th, 8 p.m.

CONSERVATION AREAS IN OXTED AND LIMPSFIELD. Talk by Mrs. Kay Percy to Oxted & District HS in the Lecture Room, Oxted Library, Gresham Road, Oxted.

MARCH

Wednesday 2nd, 8 p.m.

TUDOR MONUMENTS. Talk by B. Barrell to Nonsuch AS in St. Mary's Hall, Ewell.

Friday 4th, 7.45 p.m.

URBAN ARCHAEOLOGY — LONDON. Talk by J. Maloney to the Farnham & District MS in the Council Chamber, Farnham Locality Office, South Street, Farnham.

Saturday 5th, 3 p.m.

CROYDON AIRPORT. Talk by C. V. Lane to Beddington, Carshalton & Wallington AS in the Darby & Joan Club, Cooper Crescent, Nightingale Road, Carshalton.

Thursday 10th, 7.45 p.m.

THE NEOLITHIC PERIOD, ITS ORIGINS AND ACHIEVEMENTS. Talk by Mrs Eve Boer to Croydon NH & SS in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon.

Thursday 10th, 8 p.m.

EARLY MAPS OF KENT, SURREY AND SUSSEX. Talk by Dr Helen Wallis to Oxted & District HS in the Lecture Room, Oxted Library, Gresham Road, Oxted.

The next issue of the *Bulletin* will be in March. Copy is required by the 5th February.

Recent Publications

- Brigham, A. (1976)** Methodism in Dorking 1851-1973. Dorking & Leith Hill District Preservation Society Historical Group Newsletter 5, 1-3.
- Blackman, M. E. (1976)** Marriage Licences 1673-1770 (Walton-on-Thames). Walton & Weybridge LHS Monograph 25.
- Bourne Society: Local History Records XVI (25p post free from 17 Manor Avenue, Caterham).** Includes articles on the Sanderstead Murals; Leigh Mill: Godstone; Taunton Manor, Coulsdon; Living Memories, etc.
- Clew, Kenneth R. Tadworth: An Illustrated History (2nd Edition).** 30p post free from R. J. Chappell Ltd., 26-28 Cross Road, Tadworth
- Dorking (1976) (Victoria Houghton, Beryl Higgins, Vivien Ettlinger).** Notes on 47 High Street, (late Timpson's), previously "The George". Dorking & Leith Hill District Preservation Society Historical Group Newsletter 5, 3-4.
- Greenwood, J. (1976)** History of Woldingham and Marden Park. Coloured cover showing the first mansion of Marden Park from a painting recently discovered in the Bank of England's vaults. Maps and 20 illustrations. Published by the Bourne Society. £1 or £1.10 incl. postage from 17 Manor Avenue, Caterham.
- Lowther, A. W. G. (1976)** Romano-British Chimney Pots and Finials. *Ant.J.* 56, 35-48. (Illustrations include Ashtead examples).
- Merson, R. A. (1976)** Material for the study of Seventeenth century Farnham—The Bailiffs' Accounts Books 1604-1778. Farnham & District MS Newsletter Vol. IV 8, 149-153.
- Millett, M. (1976)** Neatham—2nd Interim Report. Farnham & District MS Newsletter Vol. IV 8, 155-156.
- Pike, E. Royston (1977)** The Elmbridge Story. Esher LHS Monograph No. 3.
- Walker, T. E. C. (1976)** Cobham Spas. Esher LHS News-sheet 34, 260-261.
- Walton & Weybridge Local History Society: "Memories of old Walton and Weybridge."** Authors: Misses V. E. Connolly, G. Emery, E. Higgins, H. M. Tilley, G. Ward. Cover by J. W. Lindus Forge and Preface by J. S. L. Pulford. 45pp, 12 illustrations. 60p from the Fountain Bookshop or Weybridge Museum. (1st edition sold out but another 200 copies are being printed).
- Ware, Gwen (1976)** The White Monks of Waverley. Farnham & District MS. Price £1.

Surrey Record Office publication: Accessions of Records 1975

This 27 page list describes briefly the historical records deposited in County Hall, Kingston, and Guildford Muniment Room during 1975. Copies are being circulated to local history societies, libraries and museums within the County (including the Society's Library) and are also available for purchase at either Office or by post from the Kingston Office only (25p plus 13p postage and packing). If there is a favourable response it is hoped to produce a similar list each year.

The Record Office has also produced a leaflet describing its work and

services. This is available free of charge in either Office or by post (please send A4 stamped addressed envelope)

Addresses: Surrey Record Office, County Hall, Penrhyn Road, Kingston-upon-Thames, KT1 2DN. Guildford Muniment Room, Castle Arch, Guildford GU1 3SX.

(Dr D. B. Robinson, County Archivist)

SEMINAR

KILNS OF THE POTTERIES

Organised by the London Kiln Study Group

Saturday/Sunday 23rd/24th April

Gladstone Pottery Museum, Stoke-on-Trent

The following have already agreed to participate:

Paul Atterbury	Chairman
Brian Bloice	Historic Kiln Sources
Dr F. Celoria	Terminology
John Cherry	"Longton Hall" Porcelain Kilns
Sally Coles	Newcastle-under-Lyme Kilns
Gordon Elliott	'Technology'
Joy Greaves	Chairman
James Kelly	Medieval Kilns
Terry Lockett	Chairman
Arnold Mountford	Chairman
Lorna Weatherill	Social and Economic Background
Dr J. D. Wilcock	Ceramics and the Computer

Fee: £7.00 which includes £1.00 non-returnable Registration Fee, teas and coffees, but not meals.

Cheques payable to the London Kiln Study Group, c/o The Cuming Museum, 155 Walworth Road, SE17.

EXHIBITION

featuring archaeological finds from excavations at Kennington Palace
Cuming Museum (in Newington District Library)

Walworth Road, SE17

Open until 31st March. Admission free

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays	10 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.
Thursdays	10 a.m. - 7.00 p.m.
Fridays	10 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.
Saturdays	10 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

MEETINGS

FEBRUARY

Monday 7th, 8 p.m.

EXCAVATIONS AT BINScombe. Talk by Miss C. Smith to Mayford HS in Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, Mayford, Woking.