

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BULLETIN

Number 162

November/December 1979

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New Members from 1st August, 1979

Mrs H. E. Davies-Akgunduz, 68 Great Goodwin Drive, Merrow, Guildford, GU21 2TZ.

Miss F. M. Oliver, 7 Coltsfoot Drive, Burpham, Guildford, GU1 1YH.

Mr J. R. W. Prosser, 8 Stocklund Square, High Street, Cranleigh, GU6 8RG

New Members from 1st September, 1979

Mr A. L. Craig, Roadmede Cottage, Hurtmore Road, Godalming, GU7 2RB.

Mr R. A. Merson, ACA, FRNS, 2 Vine Close, Wrecclesham, Farnham GU10 4TE.

Miss S. Milliken, 12 Ennismore Avenue, Guildford, GU1 1SP.

Miss N. A. Ridgeway, 57 Southwood Close, Worcester Park, KT3 8QH.

Mr D. W. Ryder, 5 Ash Grove, Guildford, GU2 5UT.

Mr. J. M. Slatford, 15 Kevan Drive, Woking, GU23 7BU.

Mr & Mrs S. W. Sutton, 12 Cranstoun Close, Guildford, GU3 3HL.

Mr S. J. Wingate, 1 The Street, Tongham, Nr. Farnham, GU10 1DG.

New Members from 1st October, 1979

Mr J. R. Bignall, 8 Engliff Lane, Pyrford, Woking, GU22 8SU.

Mr J. A. Morfett, 9 Oakdene Road, Peasmarsh, Guildford, GU3 1ND.

Mr. R. J. Poulton, BA, MA, 55 Shackstead Lane, Godalming, GU7 1RL.

Miss M. A. Tidy, 78 The Planes, Lower Court, Lower Road, Beeston, Nottingham.

Miss D. M. Turley, 26 Guildford Park Avenue, Guildford, GU2 5NJ.
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NOTES AND QUERIES

Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act

Most members of the Society are probably already aware that the above Act was one of the last measures to be passed in the life of the last government. It replaces and strengthens existing legislation.

The Act is in three parts. The first deals with scheduled ancient monuments, whose protection is greatly improved. In future scheduled monu-

ment consent will be required for any disturbance of a monument. The second part establishes the concept of Areas of Archaeological Importance. Once designated it would be an offence to disturb the ground in such an area. The main aim is to provide 'investigating authorities', appointed by the Secretary of State, with sufficient time to investigate an archaeological site threatened by development, especially in such difficult areas as historic town centres. The final part of the Act deals with miscellaneous related matters; for archaeologists the most encouraging point is that it would be an offence to use a metal detector on a scheduled monument or in an area of archaeological importance.

The Act is obviously potentially of great value. It is expected that parts one and three will be implemented early next year, but the second part may not come into use for a year or more. It is by no means clear how many areas will be designated as of archaeological importance and it is possible that they will be few and far between. Nevertheless, the Act outlines the ideal situation to be established in such areas as Surrey's historic town centres, and it is to be hoped that its aims may be achieved even without formal designation.

D. G. Bird, CAO

County Sites and Monuments Record

Now that the administrative county unit has been transferred to the County Council, active work on the sites and Monuments Record for Surrey takes place at County Hall. This record is of particular use for overall planning considerations and for research workers, and it is clearly important that it should be kept up to date. Information about new archaeological finds, of whatever date and importance, or additional information about known sites, should therefore be sent to the County Planning Department (County Hall, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey, KT1 2DT, marked for the attention of Dr Bird, the County Archaeological Officer). Society members may like to note that it is intended to provide copies of cards of 'new' sites and finds for the research material at Castle Arch. General enquirers are, however, recommended to consult the record at Kingston if possible, where qualified archaeological advice can be given by previous arrangement, in the week.

It may be necessary to add that the above remarks apply to the administrative County of Surrey (including the District of Spelthorne, ex-Middlesex). Workers in historic Surrey now within the GLC area are recommended to contact Mr J. S. McCracken of the South-West London Team, in the first instance.

D. G. Bird

County Archaeological Unit

A technical advisory panel has been established for the County Archaeological Unit to act as a formal means of contact with archaeologists in Surrey now that the Unit has been transferred to the County Council Planning Department. The panel includes representatives of the Society, the DOE and Surrey Museums.

Two meetings of the panel have been held, in May and October. The unit's activities and future plans were reported and discussed before reporting to the County Planning Committee. Most of the Unit's work will

be known to members through other notes in these pages, but the production of a model of Guildford Friary may be mentioned here as of general interest. It will be displayed at Guildford Museum in the near future. Further models will be made as part of the unit's aim to popularise its activities.

D. G. Bird

Greater London Record Office — Temporary Closure

Because of the sale of 1 Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, Dartmouth Street, London, SW1 the Search Room of the Middlesex section of the Greater London Record Office was closed finally on Friday, 29 June, 1979. The two sections of the office will subsequently be united, with one Search Room, in Room B21 at the County Hall, London, SE1.

As it is necessary to enlarge the existing Search Room at the County Hall, carry out a major rearrangement of strong rooms, move many collections to an out-repository and integrate and up-date the finding aids and systems of the two record offices, the Search Room at the County Hall was closed on Friday, 31 August 1979 and will re-open on Wednesday, 2 January, 1980. After the reorganisation a large proportion of the records will be stored in an out-repository and will have to be ordered at least three working days in advance of a visit. It will be essential to make appointments.

Searches in parish registers for official purposes will be continued, for example confirmation of a baptism entry needed for pension purposes. Please telephone 01-633 6851 or 01-633 5465 or write to the Head Archivist as usual. It is regretted that it will not be possible to help enquirers who are making family trees.

The inconvenience this temporary closure will cause is regretted but it is hoped that this will be compensated when the office is re-opened with improved facilities and a major source for the history of the metropolitan area available in one place. The archivist is sorry that it has not been possible to give longer notice, public spending cuts and rationalisations have meant that the Greater London Council has had to reduce the amount of accommodation it holds.

Time-Table

Middlesex section of GLRO closed Friday, 29 June 1979

London section of GLRO closed Friday, 31 August 1979

United Greater London Record Office re-opens Wednesday, 2 January, 1980

Miss J. Coburn

Head Archivist

Beddington: Carew Manor School (TQ 296652)

Medieval or Post-Medieval Manor House

On Thursday, 27 September, 1979 pipe-layers of the Sutton District Water Company engaged in laying a new main, south to north across the grass playing field to the rear of Carew Manor, 5m (6 yards) east of the dwarf wall which delimits the "terrace" of the house, cut a large brick culvert running east-west. Immediately to the north their trench encountered a massive foundation raft, mainly of mortared flint. The site was visited by the author and Mr D. Cluett of Sutton Libraries and Arts Services on Friday 28th, when the SDWC agreed not to backfill their trench until the

following Monday, to allow archaeological observation and recording to be carried out over the weekend. The following features were recorded.

1. The culvert: this was about 2.7m (9ft) wide internally and 1.2m (4ft) deep from crown of arch to the water level. It was followed for an estimated 70m (75 yards) westwards to a T-junction: one branch apparently ran northwards across the west front of the house, and the other southwards just to the east of Beddington Church. About 1m (3ft) to the east of the water-main trench the culvert was blocked off by a brick wall, into which ran a much smaller culvert, only about 0.8m (2½ft) wide internally. This could be followed for about 5m (6 yards) eastwards, where it turned roughly south-east. A second smaller culvert was found leading into the main culvert from the south-east, about 20m (22 yards) west of the water-main trench. Finds recovered from the mud at the bottom of the culvert have been dated to the 18th century, the earliest being of c. 1680-1710.

2. The foundation: this consisted of a lower layer of flint, chalk and stone blocks set in a soft creamy mortar, and an upper layer of flints set in a very hard off-white mortar. The total thickness was at least 1m (over 3ft) but the water-main trench did not reach the bottom of the foundation. The southern edge, which was parallel to the culvert and about 0.4m (1ft 4in) from it, was revetted with large blocks of faced stone, probably Reigate stone (positive identification is awaited). The water-main trench cut through this foundation raft at a slight angle, and emerged from the eastern edge, which was followed to a point about 20m (22 yards) north of the southern edge. Part of the eastern edge had been patched with brick, of the same sort as used for the culvert. The facing of the southern edge was also seen about 20m along the main culvert, where it formed the back of a recessed vertical shaft. It would here have been beneath the south wall of the Great Hall. There were no finds which could date the foundation.

Interpretation: the foundation raft appears to be of similar construction to the supposed "infilling" seen in some parts of the old cellars at the southern end of the Great Hall, and is thought to be the foundation raft of the Tudor or preceding house. It was presumably needed to counteract the marshy nature of the site. The stone facing to the foundation suggests the presence of a moat on the east and south sides of the house, fed from the River Wandle to the east. The culvert probably dates to the documented rebuilding of c. 1709, and seems to have covered over the southern part of the moat, although the eastern part remained as an ornamental pond. A corresponding canal-like lake to the west of the house leading back to the Wandle (now dry) suggests that the moat also followed this side of the building.

Much work remains to be done in tracing the extent of the foundation and following the courses of the various culverts, and indeed in elucidating the history of the manor houses on this site.

(Clive Orton)

Cobham: Chatley Farm. Roman site. TQ 088596

A late Roman bath-house was excavated here in 1942 and reported in SAC 50 pp 73-98 (1946/7). The excavation was carried out under war-

time limitations. A recent inspection of the site suggests that there may be considerably more remains to be found. The matter is being reviewed by the County Council's Archaeological Unit and a resistivity survey has been requested.

(Esher District Local History Soc.)

Sutton Park, near St Edward's Church. TQ 0045 5380

The second season of excavation on the supposed manor house site in Sutton Park took place in August this year. Work was directed by the writer for Surrey County Council and the Society, with the kind permission of Canon Albion.. The DOE made a small grant.

Excavation concentrated on the brick building and ditch systems discovered in 1978. Preliminary analysis of the finds suggests that the building was constructed in the sixteenth century and demolished in the seventeenth; some of the many finds indicated the likelihood of a link with Sutton Place. The purpose of the building is as yet unknown. The ditches found in 1978 proved not to continue in the way anticipated, and it now seems possible that excavation has so far been **outside** the main ditch system. Finds continue to be consistent with a thirteenth century or earlier date for construction of these ditches.

The backbone of the excavation team was provided by members of Mayford History Society but it was also possible to train several newcomers. It is intended to continue this pattern of work in 1980.

(D. G. Bird)

The Vauxhall Pottery (TQ303781)

About sixty percent of the accessible factory area has been excavated in over two years continuous weekend work by the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society. A Public Inquiry is being held concerning the future of the site.

Kiln Group 1 has been completely excavated (see Bulletin 153) and the Singer (1835-65) circular stoneware kiln 1B found to be preceded by one with six fireboxes, this being dated by the presence of mosaic tesserae (1839 Patent) in its structure. Immediately to the NW of Kiln 1A (Wisker 1812-34) lay a rubble filled circular area (K9) with virtually no structure in situ, but of the same diameter as a Wisker kiln. If it was a kiln, it never seems to have been completed, and certainly never used. One reason for this may have been that part was over the soft fill of a large late 17th century pit, which however had been extensively probed and timber piled to support the intended structure.

The tin-glaze type kiln (K5) below Kiln Group 2 is of standard late type; buttressed externally (at least on the W and N sides), with three arches and four vents, and a single fireplace at the S end. Internally at 'firebox' lining base the kiln is about 3m square. Built onto the N side of K5, and below Kiln Group 1, is another rectangular kiln, K6, about 2.5m square internally. The remains of the internal firebrick base is divided by an axial self-glazed strip about 1m wide, which, at the E end drops vertically into the single fireplace below. There is no confirmation that this was a pottery kiln. Kiln 5 overlays on its E side another tin-glaze type kiln, K10, largely destroyed by it. This kiln, unlike K5, has closely spaced (0.35m) vents in a wide lining; and primary rubble at vent bases, and material fused onto the

'firebox' floor, again show it to have been making stoneware. Map evidence would still seem to place this kiln in the second half, and K5 very late in, the 18th century.

Evidence for E-W pre-pottery boundaries has consolidated. At the N end of the main workshop, a multiphase fence, partly replaced by a wall, was finally moved c.2m northwards as the main Singer workshop wall; this move being confirmed by map evidence. To the S, purely as a pottery boundary, three successive rows of pillar bases on nearly the same line, are indicative. A major documentary find has been the Albert Embankment Development Plans (1862-3), which show every plot of land on the riverside, accompanied by details of owners, lessees, and occupiers, together with plot function. This has not only given a complete plan of the Vauxhall Pottery, but is also a primary key for any study of the 18th and 19th century riverside. For example all the buildings on contemporary photographs can now be identified. Excavation and documentary research continues.

R. Edwards

Recent Publications

Index to Leatherhead Census, 1871. Published by the Leatherhead & District Local History Society, obtainable from D. Bruce, 7 Fox Lane, Little Bookham, Surrey. Price £3.00 plus 50p postage.

The Archaeology of the London Borough of Merton by L. Adkins. 36 pages bound with slide binders including 8 maps, text, gazetteer and bibliography. Price £1.25.

The Archaeology of the London Borough of Sutton by L. Adkins. 46 pages bound with slide binders including 9 maps, text, gazetteer and bibliography. Price £1.25.

Both publications are available from the SW London Archaeological Unit at 25 Union Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 2XU.

Please note the new address of Mr and Mrs Adkins, SWLAU.

MEETINGS

NOVEMBER

Thursday 29th

"Medieval Moated Sites in England". Illustrated talk to CNHSS by Dennis Turner, FSA of the Moated Sites Research Group at East Room, Friends' Meeting House, Park Lane, Croydon at 19.45 Parking in Edridge Road.

Friday 30th

"Excavations at Runnymede Bridge". Talk by S. Needham to the Richmond Society at The Sun Inn, Parkshot, Richmond (opposite Richmond Adult Education College) at 20.00.

JANUARY

Thursday 10th

"Recent Excavations at Runnymede" — a unique Bronze Age river site. Illustrated talk to CNHSS by S. Needham at East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon at 19.45.

Wednesday 23rd

"Recent Excavations in Kingston". Talk by Marion Smith to Guildford members of the S.A.S. at the Brew House, Guildford, at 8 p.m. Visitors welcome.

COURSE

"Archaeology of the Peak"

A course of 10 meetings starting **15th January 1980**, including a weekend in Derbyshire to visit sites, by Mrs S. M. Elsdon. Classes will be held at room 11, Teaching Block, University of Surrey on Tuesdays from 19.30 to 21.30 and will cost £5.00. The cost of the weekend in Derbyshire will be kept as low as possible.

Applications to the Dept. of Adult Education, University of Surrey, Guildford GU2 5XH or Mrs S. M. Elsdon. Tel: Runfold 2146.

Correction

In the first paragraph under Specialist Courses of Bulletin No 161, 'Kingston' should read 'Knuston'.

Editorial Note

Information for the Bulletin is still scarce, which is why there is a combined November/December issue this time. In these days of expensive postage people may be thinking twice before sending snippets of interest and there has been a falling off of Bulletins and Newsletters from the Local Societies. Please continue to send in material of you possibly can as this is the only way for members to learn what is currently going on in the county.

May I wish you all a Happy Christmas and good hunting in the New Year.

L. Ketteringham
Hon Bulletin Editor

The next Bulletin will be January, for which copy is required by 6th December. The following Bulletin will be February, usually a 'thin' month. Please send copy by 6th January.