EXCAVATIONS COMMITTEE ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

28 April 1984 in the Martineau Hall, Dorking Halls, Dorking

The programme for the 1984 Symposium organised by the Society's Excavations Committee for all Surrey archaeologists is now largely complete. As usual, the talks will start at 10.30 a.m. and close around 4.00 p.m., with a break for lunch from 12.30 to 2.00 p.m. and afternoon tea at 4.00 p.m. The following have agreed to speak (not necessarily in this order):

Julia Arthur: excavations at Wesibury House, Guildford, and other recent work in the town centre (including a 13th century lime-kiln at Westbury House).

Scott McCracken: Merton Priory (based on the results of all the recent excavations, including very recent work).


Michael Russell: excavations at Sliners Oaks (a mesolithic site near Warlingham).

David Graham: archaeological sites recognised from recent aerial photographic work around Farnham.

Completion of this programme will depend on whether or not time needs to be allowed for the Margary Award, for which entries would still be welcome.

A major part of the Symposium will be, as usual, the exhibits of current work by local groups, and the opportunity to meet like-minded people and discuss mutual problems and interests. Forms for the booking of display space will be circulated in the usual way, or simply contact the writer (at County Hall on 01-546 1050 ext. 3665).

Coffee and tea will be available at a small charge at the breaks, and afternoon teas may be ordered in advance (at a cost of 75p). Admittance will be £2 at the door, but tickets may be bought in advance for £1.50 including postage. Applications for tickets and afternoon teas should be made to Mrs. Kathleen Needham at Castle Arch, Guildford. Cheques should be made payable to Surrey Archaeological Society. There is ample car parking space adjacent to the Dorking Halls.

D. G. Bird
NOTES AND QUERIES

Excavations at Little Pickle Earthwork, Bletchingley (TQ 335521)
The earthwork at Little Pickle is a rectangular enclosure consisting of a
ditch with a bank inside, with apparently a single entrance through the
south side. It will eventually be destroyed as a result of sand extraction,
and British Industrial Sand therefore generously agreed to finance a
preliminary excavation by the County Archaeological Unit.

A section through the bank and ditch revealed that it had probably been
constructed in the late 15th century. During the early 16th century the
bank either collapsed or was thrown into the ditch. It has previously been
suggested that the earthwork served as a deer pound, within the North
Park (U. Lambert, Godstone, 81) and the discovery of several fallow deer
antlers, identically cut, indicated that deer antler was being worked on the
site, and lent credence to the suggestion. However, two small trenches in
the interior of Little Pickle revealed very large quantities of roofing tile
and pointed to the presence of building(s) within. Excavation some 50m
south of the earthwork also produced building foundations, apparently
demolished in the 16th century. These may be associated with two lines of
15th or 16th century water pipes discovered outside the earthwork.
Considerable quantities of building debris forming the final fill of the ditch
were almost certainly derived from the building to the south. Finds
included fragments of leaded windows and moulded brick mullions which,
together with the water pipes, suggest a residence of some status.

It is hoped that further excavation will take place in an attempt to
answer the unresolved problems concerning the function of Little Pickle
and the organisation of settlement in this area in the 15th and 16th
centuries.

Rob Poulton

Conservation Committee
Mr. John Hampton recently resigned from Chairmanship of the
Committee after eight years service. A letter from Miss Joan Harding
expressing appreciation of Mr. Hampton’s wise and courteous
chairmanship was read out and the Committee endorsed her views and
thanked Mr. Hampton. The new Chairman of the Committee is Mr.
Dennis Turner.

Katherine Kay

Antiquities and Conservation Areas of Surrey
A complete list of Addenda and Corrigenda since the last edition of this
Volume was published has been prepared by Miss Mary Butts of the
Conservation Committee. It occupies 42 pages of typescript. Copies of the
whole or (perhaps more usefully) sections relating to particular areas or
individual buildings can be made available at the cost of photocopying.
Please contact Katherine Kay (Secretary, Conservation Committee), 1
Beech Lawn, Epsom Road, Guildford GU1 3PE (Phone Guildford
570464). A copy is also available for reference in the Library at Castle
Arch.
Lithics reported in 1940’s church newsletters

Three interesting articles on discoveries of Surrey lithics have come to my notice. They were included in Sanderstead church newsletters of 1942 and 1945. Brief details are: Newsletter October 1942, 6, (10) Report of microliths (a scalene triangle is illustrated) found in sandy soil around the church and Sanderstead pond by S. S. Frere.

Newsletter April 1945, 9, (4) Two reports (i) the tip of a palaeolithic handaxe (illustrated) found on Riddlesdown by N. C. Frere (reported by S. S. Frere) (ii) a polished neolithic axe (unbroken) found near Hamsey Green (finder unnamed, reported by A. B. Frere).

These articles were kindly brought to notice by Professor Frere and Rosamond Hanworth. A photocopy of the combined articles is available from me at the address below. A copy will be lodged at Castle Arch.

Christopher Taylor, 20 Pine Walk, Woodmansterne SM7 3PY.

Business Archives Council

This organisation will shortly be celebrating its 50th anniversary. Its purpose is to preserve commercial and industrial records. Many researchers working in industrial archaeology have had cause to thank the BAC for its pioneering work in persuading companies to preserve their records carefully, preferably by donating them to the BAC.

One interesting project is a survey of the archives of the thousand oldest companies still in the Register of Companies. So far 376 have been examined and these have a further 1176 subsidiary and associated companies. The range of businesses includes warehouse, property, water, brewing, insurance, dairy, etc. “Business Archives” is the annual journal of BAC; this contains, amongst much other information, a list of business records deposited in county record offices during the previous year.

(Taken from a note by Francis Haveron in the Surrey Industrial History Group Newsletter, November, 1983)

Virginia Water: site of the final Boudiccan battle?
The currently acceptable site for the battle in which the Roman Army under Suetonius Paulinus crushed the Boudiccan rebels is Mancetter in Warwickshire, some 100 miles north of London. A recent paper suggests the site could have been south of the Thames, in Surrey. Nicholas Fuentes, in the Autumn issue of The London Archaeologist, casts doubt on the Mancetter concept and offers persuasive arguments for this decisive encounter to have taken place in the valley of the Bourne, between Callow Hill and Knowlehill, Virginia Water.

Pigs, Pannage, Pestilence and Pipe Rolls

At the S.A.S. Excavations Committee Symposium in May, 1983, one of the lecturers, Philip Brooks, spoke about the amount of information that can be gathered from a study of the Winchester Pipe Rolls of the 13th and 14th centuries. Such information was particularly interesting since much of it concerned the life-style of the “ordinary man in the field”. Mr. Brooks has expanded his remarks in an article with the above title which appeared in the December, 1983, issue of the Farnham & District Museum Society Newsletter. Close examination of the accounts for the Manors of Farnham and Bentley shows that the concept of the medieval peasant driving his pigs into the woods to fatten on acorns is “a load of rubbish”. Using figures given in the accounts for pannage dues, births and deaths of livestock, etc., it was possible to calculate an approximate figure
for the total size of the pig herds in the manors. From these the quantity of pork and bacon produced could be inferred and therefore how much and how frequently pig meat could appear in the medieval man's diet. Disease caused a disastrous decline in pig numbers which coincided with famine years due to bad or indifferent corn harvests.

The Farnham & District Museum Society Newsletter can be seen in the S.A.S. Library at Castle Arch, or can be purchased from Farnham Museum, price 50p.

Recent Accessions to the Society's Library

1. GENERAL
Association for Industrial Archaeology. Directory of local societies and kindred organisations. 1982.
Civic Trust for the North East. Directory of grants and loans for conservation. [Current issue].
Cox, J., & Padfield, T. Tracing your ancestors in the Public Record Office. 2nd ed. 1983.
Frank, S. Glass and archaeology. 1982.
Hodder, I. The present past. 1982.
Holmes, T. W. The semaphore. 1983.
Lawson, D. Hand to the plough: old farm tools and machinery in pictures. 1982.
Shackley, M. Environmental archaeology. 1981.
Wymer, J. Lower palaeolithic archaeology in Britain. 1968.

2. LOCAL EXCLUDING SURREY

3. SURREY GENERAL
Surrey Record Society. The 1235 Surrey eyre Vol. II. 1983.

4. SURREY LOCAL
Crawley, G. F. A guide to Oxted Parish Church, Surrey. 1966.
Fetcham Church. Guide. 3rd ed. [1972].
Knee, A. The church of St. John the Evangelist, Merrow. 1983.
Lambert, U. South Park, Blechingley, Surrey: farm and nature walks. [n.d.]
McDowall, R. W. The church of St. George, Crowhurst, Surrey. [n.d.]
Mercer, D. A corner of West Street, Dorking. 1983.
Sankey, J. About Juniper Hall. [n.d.]

Members are reminded that most books may be borrowed by post. For members residing more than 20 miles from Guildford, the Society will bear the outward cost of postage but in all other instances, members are responsible for refunding postage and paying to return the books.

Issues of periodicals are also available for loan as above, or a photocopy of a single article can be supplied subject to copyright. A short-title list of the periodicals and newsletters currently received by the library is available and will be sent on receipt of a s.a.e.

MEETINGS

FEBRUARY

Tuesday, 14th

Thursday 16th
"ROMAN SOUTHWARK". Lecture by Harvey Sheldon to Croydon N.H.S.S. 7.45 p.m. East Croydon U.R. Church, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon.
Thursday, 16th
"THE RIVER MOLE". Talk by Mr. L. W. Lloyd to Esher & District L.H.S. 8.00 p.m. Catholic Church Hall, Downside, Bridge Road, Cobham.

Friday, 17th
"STURT'S AND BETTESWORTH'S BOURNE". Talk by Michael Leishman to Farnham & District Museum Society. 7.45 p.m. Small Hall, U.R. Church, South Street, Farnham.

Tuesday, 21st
"THE WORK OF THE SURREY HISTORIC BUILDINGS TRUST". Lecture by Geoffrey Pink to KUTAS. 8.00 p.m. Surbiton Library Hall, Ewell Road, Surbiton.

Friday, 24th
"THE WORK OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE". Lecture by Dr. M. J. Jubb, Assistant Keeper, to Wandsworth H.S. 8.00 p.m. Friends Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street.

MARCH

Friday, 2nd
"ALICE HOLT AND THE MANOR OF ALTON WESTBROOK". Lecture by Malcolm Lines to Farnham & District M.S. 7.45 p.m. Small Hall, U.R. Church, South Street, Farnham.

Friday, 9th
"HUMAN BONES IN ARCHAEOLOGY". Lecture by Janet Henderson, DoE, to Richmond A.S. 8.00 p.m. Sun Inn, Parkshot, Richmond.

Tuesday, 13th
"RECENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL WORK IN SOUTHWARK & LAMBETH". Southwark & Lambeth A.S. 7.30 p.m. John Harvard Library Hall, Borough High Street.

Friday, 16th
"THE HISTORY OF THE TWO FARNHAM PARKS". Talk by Mrs. Elfrida Manning to Farnham & District M.S. 7.45 p.m. Small Hall, U.R. Church, South Street, Farnham.

Thursday, 22nd
"STREET FURNITURE". Talk by Tony Newman to Croydon N.H.S.S. 7.45 p.m. East Croydon U.R. Church, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon.

Tuesday, 27th
"THE BACKGROUND & DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHURCH". First lecture in The Romanesque in Southeast England course at University of Surrey, Guildford. See Bulletin 188 for details.
The S.A.S. Bulletin in 1984

In addition to the January and February issues already distributed and the March issue in preparation it is hoped to publish the following Bulletins:

April/May — copy required by Saturday, 10th March.
June — copy required by Saturday, 5th May.
July — copy required by Saturday, 2nd June.
August — copy required by Saturday, 7th July.
September/October — copy required by Saturday, 11th August.
November — copy required by Saturday, 6th October.
December/January, 1985 — copy required by Saturday, 10th November.

The size and frequency will of course depend on the amount of copy received by the Bulletin editor. Members are invited to contribute notes or brief articles. The restriction of not more than 250 words has been removed, but this does not mean that long articles can be accepted.