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SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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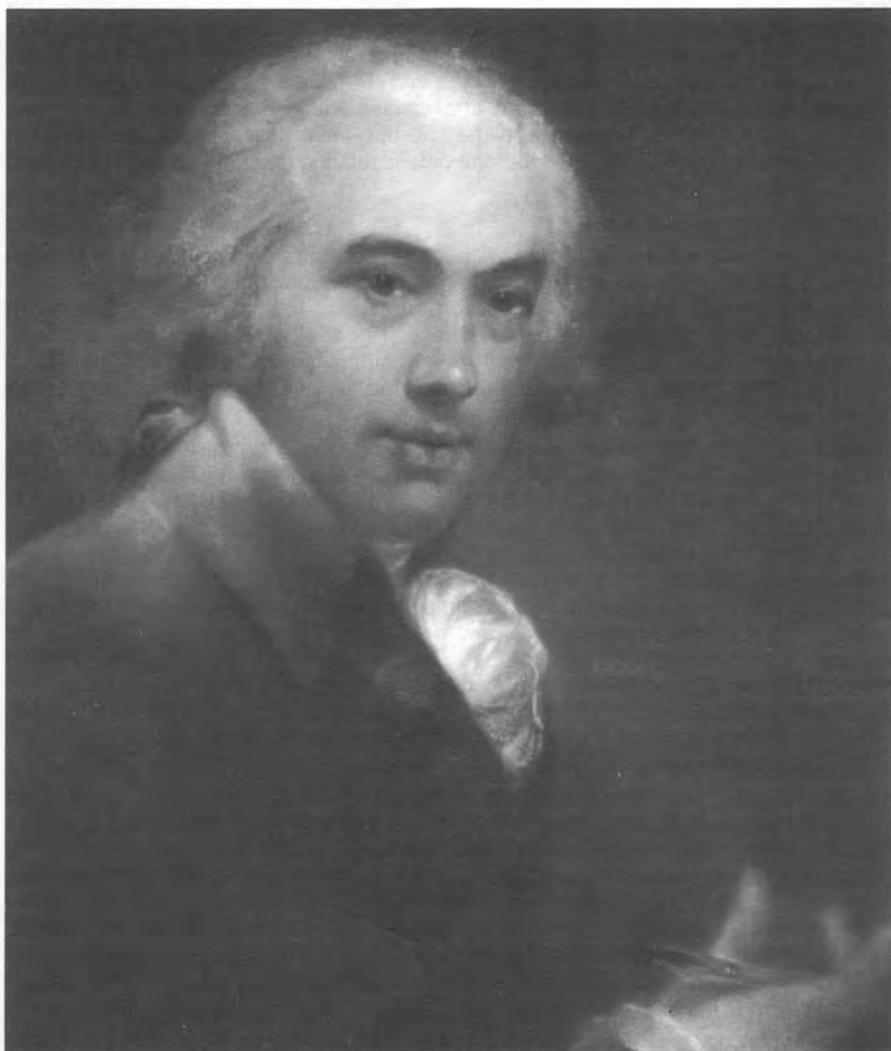
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Bulletin 345

February 2001



John Russell R.A. Self-portrait of 1794, aged 49

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned to carry out a programme of archaeological work at 137-143 High Street, Guildford, following the granting of planning permission for redevelopment. Excavation, building recording and documentary research undertaken between 1998 and 2000 have provided complementary evidence for a sequence of occupation beginning in the late 12th century. The principal discoveries were parts of two medieval undercrofts and the substantial remains of a late 16th century jettied timber-framed building hidden behind an early 18th century façade. This building (at 137/139 High Street) contains traces of wall painting and was later occupied by two of Guildford's most prominent families – the Parson's who were wealthy drapers and the Russell's who were cutlers and booksellers. The documentary research has indicated that John Russell, Guildford's most famous watercolourist, was not born at 137-139 High Street in 1745, as is popularly believed, but probably moved there with his parents in 1752 when he was seven years old. Research suggests that he was born at premises within the Bull's Head Inn, now 123-125 High Street. A full report on the site has been prepared for publication in *Surrey Archaeological Collections*, but the details relating to John Russell's birthplace are presented here.

The Documentary Research

Research undertaken in connection with the recent archaeological work at Russell House, 137/139 High Street, Guildford, has cast doubts on the claim, frequently made, and commemorated by a plaque on the house, that it was the birthplace on 29th March 1745 of the artist John Russell (Rhodes 1986). This note presents evidence to suggest that a much more likely birthplace is part of the complex of buildings which formerly comprised the Bull Head, or Bull's Head Inn, now 123/125 High Street.

The research included an examination of surviving ratebooks for the parish of Holy Trinity, Guildford, which exist, with negligible breaks, from 1725 to 1846 (SHC BR/HT/3/1, for 1725-61; BR/HT/3/2, for 1765-86; GU/HT/16/1, for 1790-1; GU/HT/16/2, for 1792-1846). Because parish rates were collected quarterly at a set rate for each household, and because collectors tended to record each payment in similar, topographically arranged lists, it is a relatively simple, if time-consuming, task to discover changes in occupancy by comparing one list with the next. The usual procedure, adopted in this case, is to record a string of neighbouring households and their assessments, centred on the property whose history is being explored. Working backwards from a period when map evidence is available to locate each household (in this case the Guildford Holy Trinity tithe map and apportionment, 1849; SHC 864/1/73-4), it is theoretically possible to discover the occupant of each property back to the earliest date in the first available ratebook.

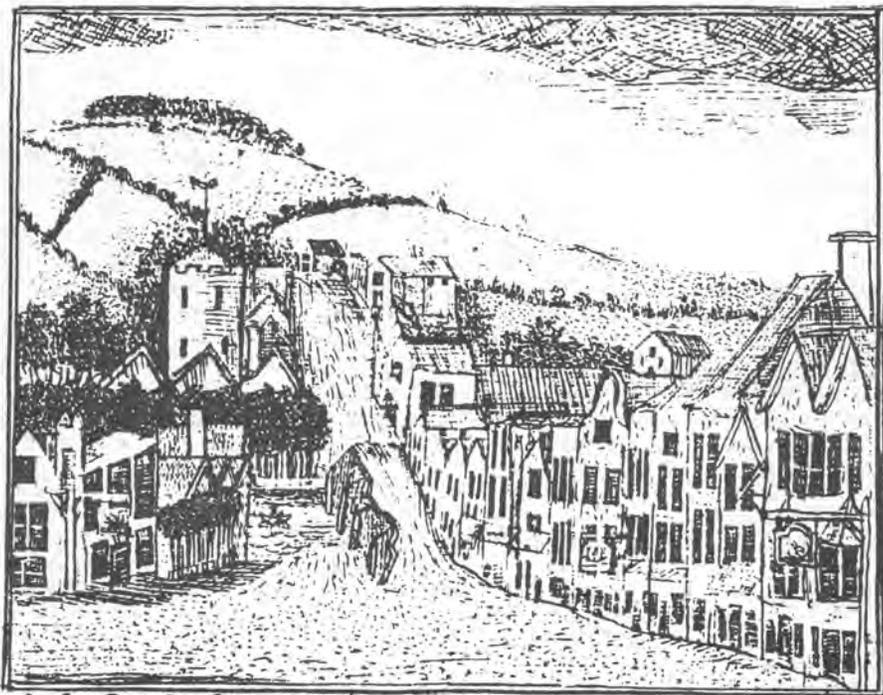
By adopting this technique it was discovered that the Russell family had indeed occupied the premises which bears their name, but only from 1752 onwards. John Russell senior (the artist's father) and Samuel Parvish (the artist's maternal grandfather) were first rated as occupants there for the quarter to Midsummer, 1752, the premises having been vacated by a widow, Mrs Clarke, at, or shortly before, the beginning of that year. Earlier occupants can be traced, from ratebooks and deeds, back to c1700, including William Parson, who left in 1740, and Richard Clarke, Mrs Clarke's former husband, who was still alive and living there at the time of the artist's birth in 1745.

No connection has been discovered between the Clarke and Russell families, and there is no reason for thinking, in the light of this evidence, that the artist was born in the house claimed as his birthplace. He would in fact have been seven years old

when the family moved there. But the same source tells us where his parents were living in 1745, and so reveals his probable birthplace. From mid-1728 (in the case of Samuel Parvish), and from spring 1741 (in the case of John Russell senior, which was the year of his marriage to Samuel's daughter Ann), the two men are listed as ratepayers in separate properties a few doors away from 137/139 High Street (Russell House), further west along the north side of Guildford High Street. They disappear from these addresses after the Lady Day (25 March) assessment, 1752, and appear in Russell House by Midsummer.

Samuel Parvish, at Michaelmas 1728, had replaced Widow Milford in premises valued at £8 between those of Mr Fish (valued at £56) and Thomas Stevens (valued at £5). The valuable premises of Mr Fish, Parvish's western neighbour, can be traced through subsequent occupiers, notably Mr Spooner, William Savage, Edward Ginger, and Richard Walford, until about 1784. There is ample evidence for believing that this was the Red Lion Inn, which finally disappeared c1910, and which occupied the corner site, now 121 High Street, on the western side of what has become Market Street. The Red Lion was offered for sale in 1774 in consequence of Edward Ginger's bankruptcy (Sturley 1990, 99-106); and the sale in 1788 of one moiety of the Red Lion described it as late in the tenancy of Richard Walford (SHC 1229/46/3-5). Parvish's eastern neighbour, Thomas Stevens, was the victualler at the Bull's Head (123/125 High Street) in 1725, when he took out a fire insurance policy (Sturley 1990, 133). On the face of it, therefore, Samuel Parvish appears to have occupied premises between or behind the Red Lion and Bull's Head Inns.

Mr Russell (ie John Russell senior) first appears in the Midsummer 1741 list, and thereafter until the move in spring 1752 his name always appears, adjacent to or



John Russell fecit 12.1758
Guildford High Street in 1758: a drawing by John Russell, aged 13.

nearly adjacent to Samuel Parvish, between the tenant of the Red Lion on the west, and premises occupied by Joseph, Elizabeth, and later George Benbrick on the east. Joseph Benbrick was mayor of Guildford in 1740. Also between the Red Lion and Benbrick's house one and sometimes two other householders are listed – William Berry, Widow Wilkins, William Snelling, Widow Snelling – but the sequence of names varies from list to list. The Benbrick family continues to appear in the ratebooks until 1759; thereafter their premises passes to Thomas Brass (until 1765) and Charles and Elizabeth Martin until 1783. In 1790 premises rated at the same value (£13) and in the right position relative to its neighbours, is occupied by Widow Boyce, in 1798 to James Smith, in 1813 to Andrew Hooke, and from 1821 to William Carter ('late Hooke'). Between 1844 and 1846 William Carter is replaced by Thomas Pollard, who occurs on the tithe map and apportionment in 1849 at what is now 127/129 High Street. If this chain of deduction is correct, therefore, Parvish, Russell and their neighbours were all residing between the Red Lion (121 High Street) and 127/129 High Street, in other words in (or behind) the double-fronted house, now 123/125 High Street which was formerly the Bull's Head.

John Russell's immediate predecessor, in 1740, at the premises he moved into in 1741 was John Brooks, but from 1725 (when the ratebooks begin), or earlier, until his death in 1738 the occupant was John Punter. In December 1719 Robert Berry in his will (SHC 1229/46/10) bequeathed his '*messuage or tenement and corn chambers, gardens and backsides ... called or known by the name or sign of the Bull Head ... now or late in the several tenures of William Baker, John Punter and Thomas Stevens ... and all that messuage or premises ... in the yard of the Bull Head now in the occupation of William Berry ...*'. Thomas Stevens, it will be recalled, was licensee of the Bull's Head in 1725, and William Berry was listed alongside Stevens and Punter in many ratebooks, and alongside Parvish and Russell between 1743 and 1748.

The Guildford town plan ('Ichnography') of 1739 by John Harris marks 'Bull Head Gate' as the entrance to an alleyway which ran between the present 125 and 127/129 High Street, ie on the eastern side of the Bull's Head Inn, with buildings and gardens lining what was presumably the Bull's Head Yard. On architectural grounds it was suggested in the 1950s (Lloyd-Taylor 1956,15) that considerable alterations were made to, and in the courtyard behind, the Bull's Head during the 18th century. The evidence of the ratebooks, which suggest from the assessments that premises in this area were often subdivided and amalgamated, coupled with the fluctuation in the order of names between the Red Lion and Benbrick's house, and the clear statement in Robert Berry's will that the Bull's Head was in several tenancy, all suggest that John Russell senior, upon his marriage to Ann Parvish in 1741, moved into premises within the Bull's Head. This was close to those of his father-in-law, Samuel Parvish, where his bride had perhaps lived with her father since 1728. There the newly-married couple remained until 1752, when they all moved to 37/138 High Street, now Russell House. During their period at the Bull's Head John Russell junior, the artist, was born in 1745.

Bibliography

- Harris, John, *The Ichnography or ground plan of Guildford, the county town of Surrey, Anno Dom. 1739*
Lloyd-Taylor, A, 1956 *The Bull's Head, Guildford: portrait of an ancient inn*
Rhodes, I C, 1986 *John Russell RA*
Sturley, M, 1990 *The breweries and public houses of Guildford with some notes on the Temperance Movement, Guildford*

UNPUBLISHED SOURCES (SHC= Surrey History Centre)

- SHC 864/1/73-4: Guildford Holy Trinity and St Mary's Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1849
SHC 1229/46/3-5: Grantley estate deed, 1788, relating to the Red Lion Inn, Guildford

SHC 1229/46/10: Will of Robert Berry, 1719

SHC BR/HT/3/1: Guildford Holy Trinity ratebook, 1725-64

SHC BR/HT/3/2: Guildford Holy Trinity ratebook, 1764-1786

SHC GU/HT/16/1-2: Holy Trinity Guildford, churchwardens' accounts, including church rates 1790-1846

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to acknowledge the assistance provided by Mailer Associates, and in particular Michael Mailer, on behalf of their client Scottish Widows. The archaeological work was made possible by the generous financial backing of Scottish Widows who funded the documentary research and preparation of this report. The collaborative role of the Archaeology Section of Surrey County Council and particularly Dinah Saich, is also acknowledged. The friendly co-operation and expertise of the staff at the Surrey History Centre, Woking and the National Monuments Record Centre Library, Swindon is warmly acknowledged.

Surrey Heathlands Project – Ash Ranges Survey

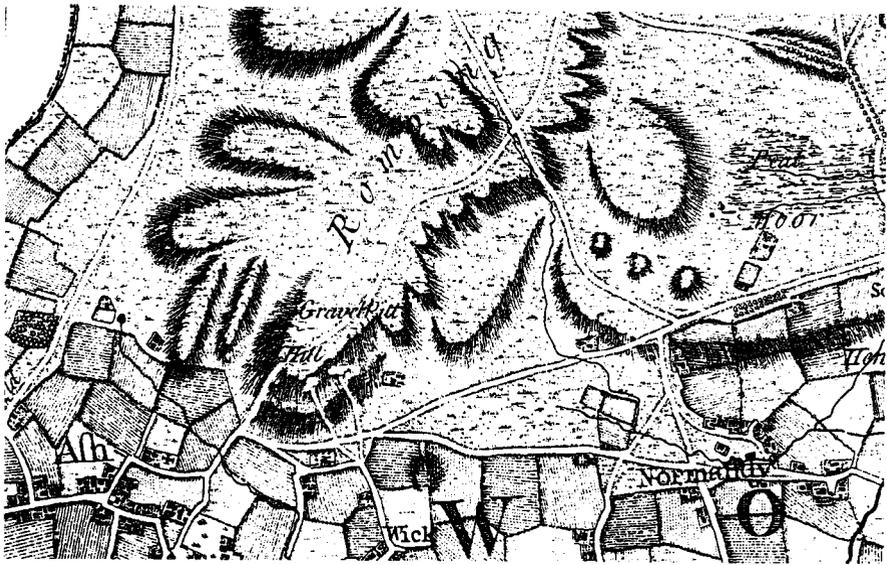
Judie English and Steve Dyer

Surrey County Council's Heathlands Project is undertaking the restoration and regeneration of large areas of heath in the north-west of the county and we are undertaking rapid "walk-over" surveys prior to, and during, this work to provide information on archaeologically sensitive areas not already included in the SMR and to assist in formulating a sympathetic strategy for clearance and restoration work. Previous surveys on heathland, particularly Whitmoor Common (*Bulletin 342*), have shown that ephemeral archaeological features may survive on these sandy geologies which are vulnerable to damage by techniques commonly used to clear scrub and woodland.

Ash Ranges is a live fire range with limited access but on Armistice weekend we were invited to walk over portions of the range which are to undergo restoration work. The higher areas of land are covered with plateau gravels and the remainder is variably Barton Sand, Bracklesham and Bagshot Beds. The result is a mixture of ferro-humic podzols where the land is well drained and stagnogley podzols where there is underlying, less permeable clay.

Until the early 19th century the area, in common with most of the heathland in north-west Surrey, was unproductive and only sparsely inhabited. However, the removal of the Royal Military College, founded by Frederick, Duke of York, to Sandhurst in Berkshire in 1812 started a link with the army which now dominates the area. Aldershot Camp, although itself in Hampshire, established ranges in Ash in the late 19th century and it is these that form the area within which two small portions were surveyed.

One such area was Wyke Common (centre SU 912522). Wyke is mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as a holding of Burpham manor and at that date was assessed as a single hide with a hall and both arable and woodland for grazing. The name derives from the Old English *wic* which, in this context, indicates settlement with a primarily stock based economy, probably a dairy farm. The manor of Burpham was part of Worplesdon parish and Wyke was a detached part and a tithing of that parish. Wyke Common was enclosed by private act in 1803. Wyke still fell within Worplesdon parish at the time of the compilation of the Tithe Award in 1841 but was added to Ash parish in. The Tithe Apportionment accords tithe-free status to the heathland enclosures and, since there is no indication of ecclesiastical ownership, this may be seen as an encouragement to utilise unfavourable land. Gravel extraction took place in several places on the southern side of Ash Ranges – Gravelpit Hill lies to the north-west of Wyke and between 1886 and 1895 a gravel pit was opened on Normandy Hill (SU 91355215) but had gone out of use by 1913. Sand was also being



Part of the Survey Area, from Rocque's map of 1790.

extracted in the area in 1886 and the OS 25"/mile map of 1895 shows a brickyard situated on Pinewood Road.

The survey of Wyke Common located a number of small quarries, presumably for gravel, and several banks which appear to relate to the enclosure of 1803. However, the overwhelming impression, as with the remainder of the area, was of generations of military usage – deserted and present day ranges, dugouts, foxholes, shelter pits and slit trenches abound. More surprising was a “mini-hillfort” – a major ditch and rampart surrounding an area c80m in diameter on top of a small, steep-sided hill, Normandy Hill (SU 90785184). This shown on the OS 25"/mile map of 1915 (see figure) but not on that of 1897 and is presumably early 20th century and military in origin.

The northern survey area lies mainly within the present parish of Normandy with small areas in Ash to the west and Pirbright to the east. None of these settlements were separately assessed by the Domesday surveyors in 1086 but Henley, one of the manors of Ash and now remaining as Henleypark Farm is mentioned; at that time it had its own church and was in the possession of Chertsey Abbey. Ash became a large parish which included the present parishes of Frimley, separated in 1866, and Normandy. The survey area comprises primarily part of the waste of Ash manor with small portions also of Pirbright, Henley, Claygate and Wyke manors. Much of the common heathland in Ash parish was enclosed in 1801, with the commoners retaining the right to take turf for fuel and a further enclosure took place in 1856.

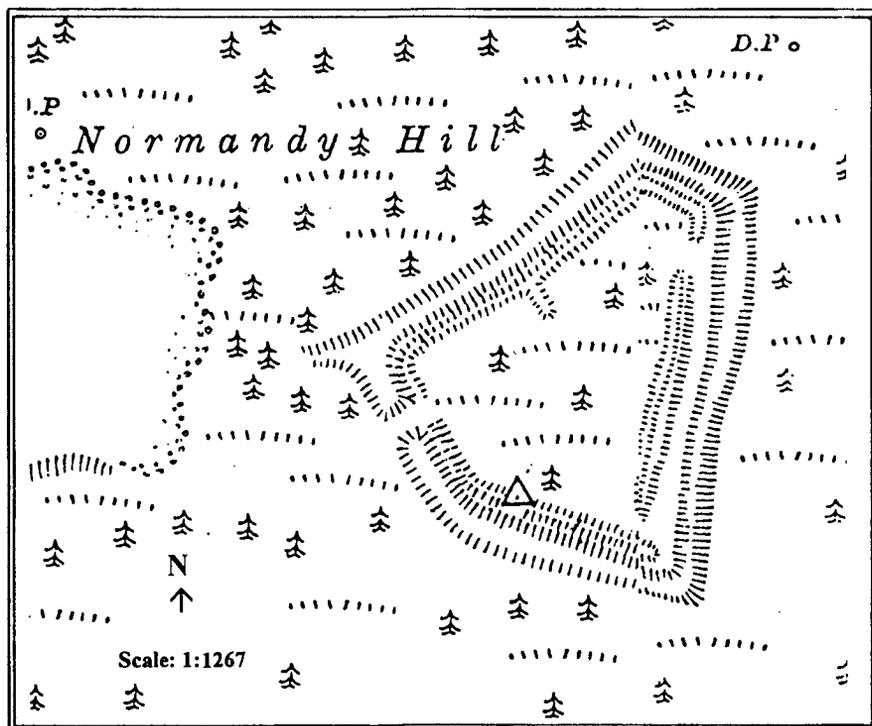
Various banks were located which relate to enclosure of the Common as were one, and a possible second, tree rings – decorative plantings to provide a focus to the view from a major house. A perambulation of the bounds of Pirbright Manor (SRO 2924/1/4) provided information on the “old roads” across in Common in 1805 and a description of “an ancient road called the Malt Road”, for the track entering the ranges at Tunnel Gate (SU 91055516) and now known as Frimley Ridges. The track appears to be coming from the direction of Coleford Bridge and was presumably a route of

some age and importance but further research would be required to elucidate this point.

The major finding within this area is a series of very slight banks close to the trig point on Romping Downs (SU 91065371) which may represent the remains of a field system. The banks stand less than 10cm high but several were visible for distances of over 100m where the vegetation had very recently been reduced to ground level by fire. The time available did not permit a full survey of these earthworks and it is clear that to the south at least they continue into areas now covered by deep heather. No date can be given for this putative field system but there is no suggestion in the admittedly incomplete historical research that it belongs to the early modern period. Medieval or post-medieval activity is possible but given the present marginal nature of the land in agricultural terms it is conceivable that it is of considerable age and may be prehistoric or Romano-British in origin. We hope to survey this field system in greater detail if access can be arranged.

This finding emphasises the value of surveying heathland, and indeed any other location, when the vegetation is at its lowest. The field system would certainly not have been found had the heather not been burned and it would seem apposite to suggest that any heathland subjected to fire, either accidentally or as a management technique, should be surveyed as a matter of course.

This survey has been the subject of a fuller report, a copy of which is available at Castle Arch. Thanks are due to all who took part and to Dr Rob McGibbon of the Surrey Heathlands Project and Major (retd) Tom Whyte, Range Officer, for facilitating access.



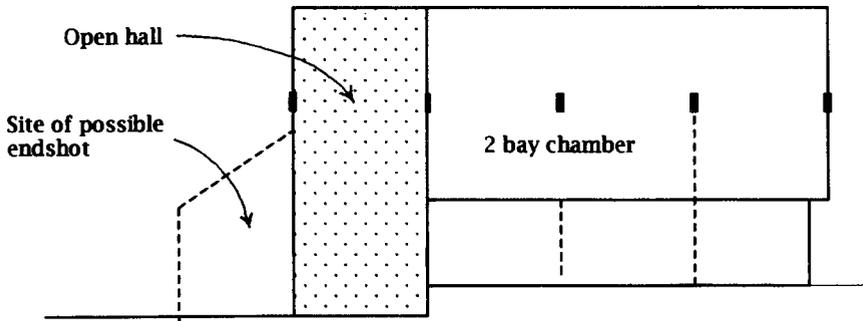
The Earthwork on Normandy Hill: from the OS 250/mile map of 1913.

Old Bell, High Street, Oxted (TQ 3849 5222)

Peter Gray and Annabelle Hughes

The opportunity recently occurred to re-examine The Old Bell prior to building works, and a description and interpretation previously published (*Buildings of historic interest in Oxted and Crowhurst*, Peter Gray 1999) was consequently found to need some amendment. The discovery and subsequent interpretation is an important addition to our knowledge of the origins of the village.

The building occupies an important site in Oxted village on the junction of the medieval road over the North Downs to London and the main east-west road on the Greensand ridge into Kent. From a construction viewpoint, however, the site was very difficult, being on a steep slope. It has long been recognised as non-domestic with the suggestion, to account for a fine 1st floor 2-bay room, that it might have been some kind of community building such as a court room or guildhall although there was no known documentary evidence to support this. Physically, it was thought to comprise only the obvious 3-bay jettied timber-framed range. The cottages to the north seemed to be a later unjettied extension.



Old Bell, Oxted: North/south section.

Recent building works have revealed a very significant addition to the known extent of the original building. It has been discovered that one bay of the cottages originated as an open hall forming an unjettied part of the jettied main range (judging by the continuation of the crown post roof and the smoke-blackened rafters). A partial aisle at the back of the open hall overlaps the first bay of jettied range and may have provided a stair access between the open hall and the main first floor room. The steepness of the site is such that the floor of the open hall is about a metre below that of the jettied range.

The general arrangement of the rooms is shown in the section. The jettied ground floor is divided into three separate units (two of which could have been shops with the middle one providing stair access to the main room above). The first floor, which has notably good headroom (2.7m) indicating its status, has a single room occupying the south bay that is connected to the main two bay room.

The existence of the end bay that contained an open hearth, and hence possibly cooking facilities, may be an indication of service use as a tavern. There is a close parallel of this building to one in Henfield, West Sussex, where the George Inn has some very similar features. Although taverns were not bound to provide accommodation, they were (in theory and later in law) restricted to selling wine. They could be substantial establishments, probably selling some food. It was not unusual for taverns to have upper rooms, sometimes above a shop. Their customers were generally the middling to upper ranks of society.¹

The existence of this building and another inn, The George, of similar late medieval (c1500) date in Oxted village provides important evidence about the origins and importance of the village at this period.

¹ Based on *The English Alehouse*, Peter Clark 1983 and personal communication with Janet Pennington who is concluding her doctoral thesis on late medieval and early modern inns in Sussex.

COUNCIL NEWS

Millennium Project – Village Study Group

The Conference held on 25th/26th November, reported in *Bulletin 344*, marked the completion of the Society's Millennium Project – (and will, we promise, be the last mention of the word!). The study into the evolution of village settlements will, however, continue as the Village Study Group, and we very much hope that other individuals or groups will be encouraged to join in.

Dennis Turner has expanded the paper given at the Conference, and this will be published as a special additional issue of the *Bulletin* in March.

The weekend sparked off many ideas and dialogue between members, including amongst those not previously involved, and we are planning to hold further workshops to facilitate further discussion.

The first will be held on Saturday 31st March at Bramley Village Hall from 10.30 am–4.30 pm.

Further details will be published in the next *Bulletin*, but it is planned to look at the village itself and discuss other aspects of settlement raised by presentations at the Conference, and in particular a possible correspondence between paths and the tenement boundaries.

Everyone is welcome. You don't have to be actively involved in studying an area. If you would like further details, contact Audrey Monk, Tel: 01428 682258 or Castle Arch, to be put on the mailing list.

New Members

The Society is delighted to welcome the following new members, who have joined over the past few months:

Attewill, Mr I N, 24 Post House Lane, Great Bookham, KT23 3EA
Bagnall, Mr C A, 40 Cliff End, Purley, CR8 1BN
Briggs, Mr R J, 96 The Street, Puttenham, Guildford, GU3 1AU
Brixey, Mr A P, Flat 2, 38 Agraria Road, Guildford, GU2 5LF
Bryant, Miss R E, 5 Coombe Lane, Worplesdon, GU3 3PF
Clark, Miss A, 23 Bladon Close, Guildford, GU1 1TY
Clark, Mrs H E, 15 High Street, Caterham, CR3 5UE
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Cozens, Mr O J, 136 Station Road, Hampton, Middx. TW12 2AP
Day, Mrs J, 33 Worples Road, Staines, Middx. TW18 1LQ
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Dearling, Mr J, 233 Worplesdon Road, Guildford, GU2 6XJ
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Evans, Miss N M, 33 Fenwick Close, Woking, GU21 3BY
Fry, Mrs S, 24 Giffard Drive, Farnborough, Hants. GU14 8PU
Howarth, Mr P, 186 Craddocks Avenue, Ashtead, KT21 1NX
Izzard, Miss L G, 14 Ashley Road, Westcott, RH4 3QJ

Johnstone, Mr R J, 61 Ardmore House, Manor Road, Stoughton, GU2 6NL
 Keen, Miss T, 1 Warren Way, Weybridge, KT13 0DL
 Knowles, Mr F J, Katz Castle, Redhill Road, Cobham, KT11 1EG
 Lunnon, Miss M J, 32 Queensway, Cranleigh, GU6 7JJ
 Murphy, Mrs M D, Candles Copse, Dunsfold Road, Cranleigh, GU6 8LG
 Norman, Miss A, Candles Copse, Dunsfold Road, Cranleigh, GU6 8LG
 Northfield, Professor T C, Hazelwood Farm, Doghurst Lane, Chipstead, CR5 3PL
 Pile, J S, 22 Parkside, Bedhampton, Havant, Hampshire, PO9 3PL
 Pollard, Miss E J, Summersdale, Charterhouse Road, Godalming, GU7 2AL
 Redrup, Mr K J, Rigi House, 69 Oriental Road, Woking, GU22 7AL
 Richmond, Mr & Mrs M, Halcyon House, Hurt Hill, Haslemere, GU27 1AL
 Ripley, Miss J E, 3 Alpine Road, Walton on Thames, KT12 2NH
 Sanders, Miss B, Chalkpit Stables, Headley Road, Epsom, KT18 6BW
 Saul, Professor N E, Gresham House, Egham Hill, Egham, TW20 0ER
 Searby, Ms D E, 5 Austin Cotts, Pottersgate Road, Farnham, GU9 7BA
 Sellars, Mr C, 9 Southcroft, Englefield Green, Egham, TW20 0QG
 Shepherd, Mrs J W, 7 Heathcote Road, Epsom, KT18 5DX
 Truscott, Dr P R, 30B Cold Harbour Lane, Cove, Farnborough, GU14 9AJ
 Viner, Miss J J, 12 St Andrews Court, 47 Dukes Avenue, New Malden, KT3 4JF
 Walsh, Mr Z C, Farm View, Upper House Lane, Shamley Green, GU5 0SX
 Wharton, Miss S, 6 Old Museum Court, Museum Hill, Haslemere, GU27 2JR
 White, Miss J C, 27 Holm Court, Twycross Road, Godalming, GU7 2QT
 Wilcock, Mr T, 48 Badshot Park, Badshot Lea, Farnham, GU9 9JZ

Subscriptions Increase and Gift Aid Donations

Susan Janaway

As you will have read in the last *Bulletin*, new subscription rates were approved at the AGM in November. To remind you – these are as follows:

Ordinary Member	£25
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Institutional Member (U.K.)	£30
Institutional Member (Overseas)	£40

These rates come into force on 1st April 2001. Members who currently pay their subscription by bankers' order will need to contact their bank to cancel their existing bankers' order and complete the mandate which is enclosed with this *Bulletin*. Please return your completed mandate to me at Castle Arch, so that I can note the details on my database. I will then forward it to your bank.

We strongly urge you to consider pledging your subscription under the Gift Aid scheme. Under this scheme, the Society will be able to reclaim 28p for each £1 of your subscription. All you need to do is to complete the Gift Aid declaration enclosed with this *Bulletin* and return it to the address on the top of the form. Please keep the following notes for future reference:

- Please notify immediately any change of address whilst this declaration is in force.
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- You can cancel the declaration at any time or from any future date. Payments made after the dates specified in the cancellation will not qualify.
- You should cancel your declaration if at any time you cease to pay the tax noted above.
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- You can pay your subscription by bankers' order, cheque or cash.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Grants

The Committee welcomes applications from members for individual grants of up to £600 to assist archaeological and historical research within the county. A wide variety of projects could benefit, such as landscape surveys, excavations and documentary research, and grants may also be given towards the costs of environmental analyses, scientific dating, geophysical surveys and other specialist services that would aid such projects.

Application forms are available on request from Castle Arch and decisions are usually made at the committee meeting following receipt of the form.

COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY

Two surveys were commissioned jointly by Surrey County Council and SyAS as part of the Community Archaeology Project. The purpose of the projects was to assess whether the study areas were suitable for designation as Areas of Special Historic Landscape Value (ASHLV). The work was undertaken under the direction of C K Currie between September 1999 and March 2000.

Chelsham Survey (centred on TQ 387 595)

There are elements within the study area that are of great interest. The Roman villa near the southern boundary is notable as being one of the few sites of its kind that has not been disturbed by antiquarian diggings in the 19th and early 20th century. As a relatively undisturbed site, it has great potential to enhance our knowledge of the period using modern methods. In particular it would lend itself to a landscape study to try to determine how the villa fitted into the overall landscape. This would involve non-intrusive methods. Unfortunately the landscape relating to the villa is as much outside the proposed ASHLV boundary as within it, and any such study would need to be wider ranging than that given here.

In the western part of the study area there are three earthwork enclosures, all thought to be of medieval origin, that are of exceptional interest. Two of these, in Henley and Holt Wood, have been proven by archaeological excavation to contain medieval structures. The Henley site seemed to be of sufficiently high status to be a manorial complex of some sort. It is suggested that this represents the location of the lost manor of Chelsham Wateville, last mentioned in the documentary record in the mid 16th century. Both the Henley and Holt Wood sites represent rare non-moated medieval enclosures. Not only are such sites rare in Surrey and nationally, but to find two such sites in close proximity is exceptional, and suggests Chelsham may be a parish where unusual conditions applied.

The Ledgers Park enclosure has not yet been proven for certain to be medieval, but this seems the most likely date. This was once considered to be a moated site, but recent opinion has swung against that interpretation, on the grounds that it is on ground that is too high to be a moat, such sites usually being associated with low-lying areas. This research disputes the new interpretation, and argues that the ability to hold water is the deciding factor not the height above sea level. As this site can clearly be shown to hold water, it is argued that it may have been dug as a moat, only to be later abandoned in a possibly unfinished state. Regardless of the final interpretation of this site, its location, close to the other two medieval enclosures, makes it part of a possible group of medieval sites of exceptional high interest. The scheduling of the Ledgers Park site is recommended on its group interest.

Historical research at Chelsham was hampered by a lack of surviving documents, a situation commented on by early 19th century land agents. Using the little information that is available, there appears to be some unusual elements in the medieval and later history of the area. Starting with what seems to be a relatively high Domesday population, the parish seems to have declined in later centuries. It is suggested that the high downland location and scarcity of easily obtained water may have been a factor in this decline. This may have been particularly acute in the 12th and 13th centuries when a climate optimum is thought to have occurred. This may have increased the problems caused by water shortage, and caused land use changes as a reaction to this. It is suggested that arable production may have fallen to the benefit of pasture and woodland land use. Both the latter were probably less labour intensive, and may have led to a population fall in the area at a time when most other parts of the country were experiencing rapid increases. Casualties of this decline may be the abandoned medieval sites at Henley and Holt Woods. This perceived drop in population does not appear to have made good after the 14th century when temperatures fell and rainfall increased. Chelsham continued to be a sparsely populated parish of dispersed farms and large areas of woodland well into the 19th century, and this largely continues to this day.

Besides the sites discussed above, there are few other archaeological sites within the study area. This may be a reflection of the fieldwork undertaken in the area rather than an accurate reflection of the situation. Nevertheless fieldwork undertaken during this project failed to locate any significant flint scatters. The only new site of significance was previously unnoticed ridge and furrow earthworks under pasture in Ledgers Park. This abandonment of arable for pasture land use may help support the contention given above for land use changes in the medieval period.

Mickleham and Leatherhead Downs Survey (centred on NGR: TQ 1820 5400)

The area proposed for ASHLV status comprises former common downland pasture within the parishes of Mickleham and Leatherhead, and a mix of former common pasture (now woodland) and farmland within the section in Headley. Areas of both Mickleham and Leatherhead Downs can be shown to have once been covered by former prehistoric field systems. Both systems are largely aligned NW-SE and are possibly part of the same system. The Leatherhead fields can now only be recognised from marks on air photographs. Although the Mickleham field system was briefly ploughed in the early 1940s, faint earthworks can still be traced in places.

The central part of this area, near where the three parishes boundaries meet, contains a number of enigmatic mounds. There are five of these situated in an area cleared of woodland since 1987. Although they have the appearance of being barrows, a test trench cut into the largest proved it to be a rubbish mound thrown up during recent clearance. However, four further mounds thought to be Bronze Age barrows were located near the north lodge of Cherkley Court. These have disappeared since the 1930s.

Another important feature of the study area is the Roman Stane Street, which passes through it on a NE-SW alignment. Where this road passes through the Leatherhead portion of the study area, it is well defined by a raised causeway for the most part. Medieval documents record the road as 'Port Way', an important through road from London to Dorking. Fieldwork in the Mickleham section has found a number of linear sections of old trackways that may be part of the Roman road.

There is little evidence at present for Saxon activity in the study area. Medieval documents suggest that a small settlement called Poneshurst may have existed close to Stane Street near the present Tyrrell's Wood golf course club house. Elsewhere medieval documents and place-names suggest that a sheepcote may have existed on Leatherhead Downs, and that the woodland in Nower Wood and

Cherkley Court was once common pasture of some description. Documents further indicate that much of the Headley part of the study area was a large common field called Headley Field. Subdivision may be suggested by field names such as West Field that occur in the early 14th century. The large Leatherhead common field also extended into the far northern part of the study area.

Both common fields survived into the 19th century. The title map for Headley shows surviving strips from the old systems amongst other areas where they had been amalgamated into larger enclosures. The entire area was known as 'Headley Field' in the 1840s, but shortly after this the remaining strips were enclosed without any documentary record. To the south of Nower Wood some of the former strip divisions can still be recognised by lynchets on the hill side. Some of these are of moderately large size, up to 2m high. The Leatherhead common field was enclosed following an Act of Parliament in 1859. The survival of lynchet boundaries, plus title map evidence, shows that the strips of both common fields within the study area were on roughly the same alignments as the earlier prehistoric field systems. Whether this is purely coincidence, or evidence for continuity of field boundaries, remains to be proven.

From the later 19th century a number of important changes occurred in the study area. This began with the creation of a small designed landscape around the newly constructed Juniper Hill in the 1780s. In the later 19th century the landscape was further altered to accommodate other country houses at Tyrrell's Wood, Mickleham Downs (formerly Birch Grove) House and Cherkley Court. The latter had a particularly strong influence, taking in nearly all of the former Leatherhead Common Downs as a designed landscape. The frequently occurring tree clumps, many of which still survive, must have had a considerable impact on any surviving earthworks of the former prehistoric fields. Later on, in the 20th century, this designed landscape was ploughed up, obliterating surface traces of the former fields. This landscape was subjected to large-scale dumping in the 1980s, causing further damage to the archaeological evidence. During this activity a scheduled barrow near the north lodge of Cherkley Court was destroyed.

Despite this widespread destruction, there is still considerable archaeological interest within the proposed ASHLV. The potential for relationships between possible barrows and prehistoric and medieval field systems makes the area one of exceptional high interest for an understanding of landscape evolution.

SURREY INDUSTRIAL HISTORY GROUP

FRANCIS HAVERON COMMEMORATION MEETING: ASPECTS OF SURREY'S INDUSTRIAL PAST

Busbridge Village Hall

Saturday 3rd March 2001

A meeting organised by SIHG in association with the Friends of Godalming Museum to commemorate the contributions made by Francis Haveron who died on 19th August 2000, to our understanding of Surrey's past.

Chairman: Gerry Moss, Chairman, SIHG

2.15 pm "An Appreciation of Francis Haveron" *Alan Crocker, President of SIHG*

2.30 "Motoring in Surrey" *Gordon Knowles, Past-Chairman of SIHG*

3.30 Refreshments

4.00 "Photographing Surrey's Lesser-Known Industrial Archaeology"
Chris Shepheard, Past-Chairman of SIHG

5.00 Close

The Hall is at SU 979429 on the Brighton Road (B2130). If approaching from Godalming town centre, it is on the left just past Busbridge church (which has a spire) but on the opposite side of the road. There is ample parking space at the Hall and there will be no charge for the meeting. Members of SIHG and all others who would like to attend will be welcome. Free admission.

MISCELLANY

Sites and Monuments Record Officer

David Bird

I am very sorry to have to announce that Alison James is to leave us for family reasons after just over a year. In that time Alison has made great progress in putting the SMR onto a much better footing. She will leave most of the basic record in proper order on the new computerised system and that system itself with most of its glitches ironed out. We now have an established system for dealing with enquiries, entering new material from units and so on. There is still a great deal to do and Alison's work has made very clear how much we need a permanent SMR Officer. For the present we shall take steps to find a way of completing the entry of the core record and will be developing projects designed to give the SMR much-needed enhancement. In the interim enquiries regarding the SMR should be made to Gary Jackson or Tony Howe (contact details as in *Bulletin* 344). This is the appropriate place to note that my own telephone number was given incorrectly in **Bulletin** 344; it should be 020-8541 8991.

Alison has achieved a great deal in a short time: she has only been able to give us three-fifths of her time as she has been job sharing with the English Heritage Field Monument Warden post for Surrey and Sussex. She will not be giving up this latter role and we can therefore look forward to continuing to work with her where our scheduled monuments are concerned.

TEBBUTT RESEARCH FUND

This fund was established as a tribute to the life and work of the late C F Tebbutt, OBE, FSA, and applications are invited, from individuals and groups, for grants towards research, including associated expenses, into any aspect of the Wealden Iron Industry.

It is anticipated that approximately £100 plus will be available from the fund and any interested person should write a suitable letter of application giving details of themselves together with relevant information concerning the research envisaged. Please bring this fund to the notice of your tutors and lecturers concerned with archaeology/history as we are anxious that the money available should be used fully. Applications should be sent not later than 31st March 2001 to Shiela Broomfield, 8 Woodview Crescent, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9HD, for consideration by the Panel.

London Borough of Sutton Archives

The new Archive and Local Studies Searchroom at Sutton Central Library will be open the following hours:

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	2-5 pm
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	9.30-7.30 pm
Friday	9.30-12.30 pm

Corrections and Omissions

*I am surprised no-one has commented on my mistaken caption on the front page of the last **Bulletin**. 1890 was a guess of mine for the date of the page from 'The Graphic Illustrator' and I was to get Maureen to seek out the correct one – which I then forgot to do. Unfortunately, however, the computer entry for the date of the cutting in the Castle Arch archive says only 'c.1830' so we are none the wiser except that I was out by about 60 years.*

*Also, the notes about SCOLA should have stated that they were originally prepared by Dennis Turner for the **London Archaeologist**, in which they will soon appear. Apologies to Clive Orton.*

VISITS

Fort Cumberland and English Heritage Centre for Archaeology, Portsmouth Wednesday 14th March 2001

First constructed by the Duke of Cumberland in 1746, the massive star-shaped fortress was subsequently strengthened in the early 19th century to withstand the anticipated Napoleonic invasion. It has been home for the last 24 years to the Central Archaeology Service: English Heritage's archaeological and excavation headquarters. Last year this department was integrated with the former London-based Ancient Monuments Laboratory to form the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology. The aim of the reorganisation is to bring field archaeologists and research scientists together, providing space and refurbished laboratories for the increasingly high-tech research carried out today. These include the Environmental, Geophysics, Conservation sections, who benefit from the electron microscope, an X-ray scanner and other increasingly sophisticated equipment, all concentrated in this centre of excellence.

This is a specially arranged tour of English Heritage's new research laboratory in action. It is not open to the general public, although one priority is to open a Learning Laboratory: a study centre where professionals, students, and members of the public can come and access the Centre's archaeological resources.

Walking shoes needed, as there are some unavoidable slopes and stairs.

Coach, to leave from The College of Richard Collyer, Hurst Road, Horsham at 9 am. There will also be a coach departing from Farncombe railway station.

Lunch: please bring sandwiches and hot/cold drinks. We will leave Fort Cumberland at around 2 p.m Cost: £10, inclusive of admission. All welcome.

For more information contact Elizabeth Whitbourn, Tel: 01483 420575, e-mail jaw@telinco.co.uk mobile Tel: 07790 451110

CONFERENCES

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE SYMPOSIUM 2001

**Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall, Woodfield Lane
Saturday 17th February 10 am to 5 pm.**

A full programme of talks is being arranged and will comprise updates on a number of recent projects in the county including Ewell, Farnham, Frensham, Mickleham, Tolworth and the Saxon cemetery at Croydon. Other papers will look at aspects of the archaeology and history of Surrey from a variety of viewpoints.

An important part of the day will be a series of displays of other work by groups and individuals and the Margary Award will be made to the best of those eligible. Anyone who wishes to mount a display and has not received an application form should contact Mrs Rose Hooker, 59 Thornton Place, Horley, Surrey, RH6 8RZ. Tel: 01293 411176.

Tickets: £3 in advance or £3.50 on the door.

For further details see flyer enclosed with this *Bulletin* or contact Sue Janaway at Castle Arch. Tel: 01483 532454.

38th ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF LONDON ARCHAEOLOGISTS

Saturday 31st March 2001

Museum of London Lecture Theatre

Morning session: Recent Work

- 11 am Chairman's opening remarks and presentation of the Ralph Merrifield award
Harvey Sheldon, Chair Archaeological Committee
- 11.10 Recent excavations at Plantation Place, Fenchurch Street, City
Phil Treveil, MoLAS
(Roman and medieval structures and sequences)
- 11.40 Recent excavations at Dollis Hill, LB Brent
Dave Sankey, MoLAS
(Roman rural settlement activity)
- 11.55 Excavations at Floral Street and Long Acre, Covent Garden
Ron Humphrey, AOC Archaeology
(Middle Saxon Lundenwic)
- 12.10 pm Excavations at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich
Rob Kinchen-Smith, Oxford Archaeological Unit
(Roman cemetery and industrial archaeology)
- 12.40 Recent excavations at Narrow Street, Tower Hamlets
Douglas Killock, Pre-Construct Archaeology
(Post-medieval structures and sequences)
- 1.05 LUNCH

Afternoon session: Archaeology in the landscape

This has yet to be finalised. Speakers confirmed so far include:

Jane Sidell, UCL The topography and natural resources of Greater London

John Barrett, University of Sheffield The inhabited landscapes of London's later prehistory

John Schofield, MoLAS A view of the City of London from the north, c1600

Please note that titles are preliminary; a final programme will be available on the day of the conference. There will also be displays of recent publications in the Museum's Interpretation Department.

Cost (inclusive of afternoon tea): LAMAS members £3, non-members £4. Affiliated societies may send *two* members at the reduced rate; others will be welcome at the non-members' rate.

Ticket applications and general enquiries should be addressed to Jon Cotton, Early Department, Museum of London, 150 London Wall, EC2Y 5HN.

21st WEST LONDON LOCAL HISTORY CONFERENCE

IMAGES OF WEST LONDON

Saturday 17th March 2001

Montague Hall, Hounslow

9.30 am Doors open for viewing of societies' stalls

- 10.00 **Welcome and introduction to the theme**
Val Bott, chairman of the organising committee
- 10.15 **West London People**
John Cooper, Head of Education, National Portrait Gallery
- 11.10 COFFEE
- 11.40 **Wandsworth watercolours and paintings**
Pat Astley Cooper, Curator, Wandsworth Museum
- 12.25 pm **A Fulham and Hammersmith Collection**
Keith Whitehouse, Chairman, Fulham & Hammersmith Local History Society
- 1.00 LUNCH
- 2.00 **What the photographer saw: "reading" old photographs**
James Wisdom, Chairman, Brentford & Chiswick Local History Society
- 2.30 **Brentford & Cranford in the 1890s: the work of two local photographers**
Andrea Cameron, Vice-President, Hounslow & District History Society
- 3.10 TEA
- 3.35 **A personal choice: the collections of Lady Isabel Burton and Nellie Ionides**
Rachel Tranter, Curator and Mark De Novellis, Assistant Curator, Orleans House Gallery
- 4.20 **Summary** and conference ends at 4.30

Tickets: £7.50 only in advance from J McNamara, 31B Brook Road South, Brentford TW8 0NN, or from the sponsoring local history societies of Acton, Barnes and Mortlake, Brentford and Chiswick, Hammersmith and Fulham, Hounslow, Richmond, Shepherds Bush, Twickenham and Wandsworth, and the West Middlesex Family History Society.

THE ROMAN INVASION OF AD43: KENT OR SUSSEX?

Saturday 7th April 2001, 1.45 to 5.30 pm

Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Faversham, Kent

The Case for Sussex *David Bird, Surrey County Archaeologist*

Fishbourne and AD43: before and after *John Manley, Sussex Archaeological Society*

The Case for Kent *Nigel Nicolson, Author and archaeologist*

The Roman Landings: how and where *John Smith, Field archaeologist*

The case for Richborough *Brian Philp, Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit*

Tickets: £3 from the Council for Kentish Archaeology, 7 Sandy Ridge, Borough Green, Kent TN15 8HP (payable CKA and sae please).

For further information Tel: 0208 462 4737.

SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SYMPOSIUM 2001

Saturday 10th March

Chichester Lecture Theatre, University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton

9.20 am Registration

10.00 Welcome

10.05 Later Bronze Age Sussex: Flints and Metal

David Dunkin, Archaeology South-East

Keith Watson, University of Portsmouth

10.30 Recent Developments in Wealden Iron Research

Jeremy Hodgkinson, Wealden Iron Research Group

11.00 COFFEE

- 11.30 The SMR: Recent Developments and Technology
Andrew Woodcock, East Sussex County Council
- 11.50 PPG 16: Success or Failure?
Mark Taylor, West Sussex County Council
- 12.30 pm PPG 16: Success or Failure?
Paul Barker, Wealden District Council
- 1.0 LUNCH
- 2.10 Roman Pulborough
Caroline Wells, Freelance Archaeologist
- 2.35 Roman Villas in Mid Sussex
Chris Butler, Mid Sussex Field Archaeology Team
- 3.00 romans-in-sussex.co.uk: the new educational web site
Alex Smith and Gareth Roeloffe, Sussex Archaeological Society
- 3.30 TEA
- 4.00 Clay Hill, Ringmer: The Final Season
Naomi Sykes, Sussex Archaeological Society
- 4.20 The Setting of Bodiam Castle
Casper Johnson, Archaeology South-East
- 4.50 Medieval Crawley Revealed
Simon Stevens, Archaeology South-East
- 5.15 Disperse

Fee: £20 (SAS, SyAS and CBA members £18), students/unemployed £12. Lunch (optional) £8.25.

For further details write to the Centre for Continuing Education, University of Sussex, Brighton BN1 9RG or Tel: 01273 678040.

COURSES

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT COURSES AT BARCOMBE ROMAN VILLA, EAST SUSSEX *July/August 2001*

Excavation Techniques, Timber-framed Buildings, Surveying for Archaeologists, Archaeological Planning & Section Drawing and On-site Conservation. For further details please visit web site at <http://www.archaeologysc.co.uk> or send SAE (DL size) to Miss H Dixey, UCL Field Archaeology Unit, 1 West Street, Ditchling, Hassocks, West Sussex BN6 8TS. Tel: 01273 845497; Fax: 01273 844187; E-mail: fau@ulc.ac.uk

WEALD & DOWNLAND OPEN AIR MUSEUM

Historic Building Conservation

Day Schools

- 10th February Practical and Ritual Marks on Buildings. *Timothy Easton and Richard Harris*. £80
- 21st February Specialist Science and Crafts for Building Conservation. *Jim Strike*. £80
- 29th March Design and Specification of Leadwork. *Nigel Johnston*. £80

Linked Day Schools

Recording Vernacular Buildings for Conservation. *Richard Harris*.

- 15th March Imposing a Grid. £70
- 26th April Studio Techniques. £70

Historic Jointing and Pointing of Brickwork. *Gerard Lynch*.

12th-14th March £200

Dealing with Change in Historic Buildings. *Jim Strike.*

7th March Design and Town Planning. £80

28th March Building Works. £80

For further information Tel: 01243 811363.

LECTURE MEETINGS

14th February

"Old Cinemas" by Tony Moss to the Sunbury and Shepperton Local History Society at the Assembly Hall, Halliford School, Russell Road, Shepperton at 8 pm. Non-members £1. For further information Tel: 01932 564585.

15th February

"The Development of Badshot Lea" by Maurice Hewins to the Farnham & District Museum Society in the hall of the United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

16th February

"The History of Chessington" by Mark Baker to the Leatherhead and District Local History Society in the Dixon Hall, Letherhead Institute, 67 High Street at 7.30 for 8 pm. Non-member £2 including coffee.

17th February

"Commander Worsley DSE, OBE: Shackleton's Captain, Navigator and Adventurer 1914-1916" by Pat Bamford to Esher District Local History Society at The Mansion, Claremont at 2.30 pm. For further information Tel: 01372 464759.

19th February

"The Great Steam Ferry at Greenwich" by Clive Chambers to the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society at the United Reformed Church Small Hall, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon at 7.45 pm.

20th February

"Industrial Archaeology of the Medway Valley" by Bob Ratcliffe in Lecture Theatre F, University of Surrey, Guildford at 7.30 pm. Cost: £5. For further details contact Tony Stevens Tel: 01483 565375.

22nd February

"A Short History of Livery Companies and how they might fit into 21st century London" by Christopher Towson to Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society, in the Main Hall, Literary Institute, High Street, Egham at 8 pm.

27th February

"The History of Croydon Airport – London's First" by a speaker from the Croydon Airport Society to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society at Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road at 7 pm. Visitors £1.

1st March

"Excavations at Spitalfields" by Chris Thomas to the Spelthorne Archaeological Field Group at the Methodist Church, Thames Street, Staines at 8 pm.

1st March

"Archaeological illustration: reconstructing the past" by Giles Pattison to the Farnham & District Museum Society in the hall of the United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

3rd March

"Documenting the Past for the Future: New Directions for Sites and Monuments Records" by John Williams, County Archaeologist of Kent, to the Kent Archaeological

Society at Ramsey Lecture Theatre, Christ Church University College, North Holmes Road, Canterbury at 2.30 pm. Tickets £3. For further details Tel: 01227 455600.

5th March

"A Further Look at Edwardian Streatham" by John Brown to the Streatham Society Local History Group at "Woodlawns", 16 Leigham Court Road, Streatham at 8pm.

6th March

"The Pottery Industry of Medieval Surrey" by Phil Jones in Lecture Theatre F, University of Surrey, Guildford, from 7.30 to 8.30 pm. Cost £5. For further details contact Tony Stevens Tel: 01483 565375.

5th March

"Gunpowder Mills in Surrey" by Alan Crocker to Unisearch and the Guildford Group at Salters, Castle Street, Guildford at 7.30 pm.

5th March

"The History of St Andrew's URC Church, Woking" by Bob Carruthers to the Woking History Society at Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, Mayford, at 8 pm. Visitors £2. For further information Tel: 01483 763600.

12th March

"A History of Reinforced Concrete in Britain" by Michael of the Concrete Society to the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society at the United Reformed Church Small Hall, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon at 7.45 pm.

16th March

"Leatherhead in 1851 – a Study of the Surrey Census" by Ron Cox to the Leatherhead and District Local History Society in the Dixon Hall, Letherhead Institute, 67 High Street at 7.30 for 8 pm. Non-member £2 including coffee.

15th March

"The Grammar School's Effect on Farnham Business" by Cyril Trust to the Farnham & District Museum Society in the hall of the United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

20th March

"Literary Kingston" by June Sampson to the Friends of Kingston Museum at the Market House, Market Place, Kingston at 8 pm. For further information Tel: 01362 453794.

21st March

"Strawberry Hill" by Anna Chalcraft to the Sunbury and Shepperton Local History Society at the Assembly Hall, Halliford School, Russell Road, Shepperton at 8 pm. Non-members £1. For further information Tel: 01932 564585.

Next Issue: Copy required by 16th February for the March issue.

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