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# Bulletin 468

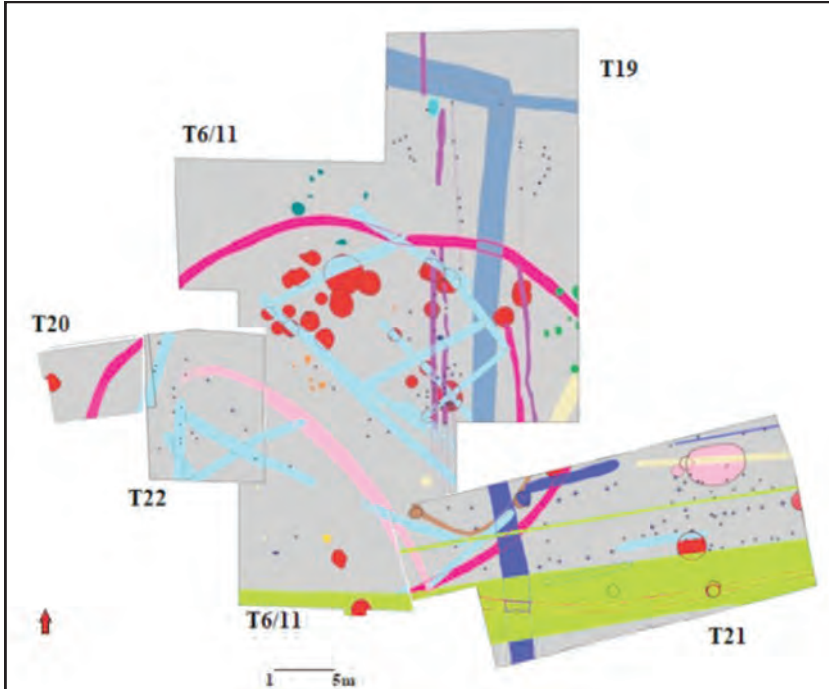
June 2018



## Cocks Farm Abinger 2017

Emma Corke

Two trenches were excavated, T21 (32x15m) and T22 (12x9.5m). T21 was to the south-east of last year's T19, while T22 joined together T6/11 and T20. Both trenches proved to contain substantial amounts of Roman archaeology (and considerable quantities of Neolithic and Mesolithic struck flint), while T21 also found Mediaeval, Iron Age and probable Bronze Age contexts.



Layout of trenches

T22 overlapped T6/11 by 2m, and T20 by about 1m. As anticipated it contained the small ditches or gullies seen elsewhere (pale blue on the plan). The intercutting of their identical fills was confusing but there proved to be five of these, all of different dates and alignments. Two contained a large quantity of ironstone, a considerable proportion of which was burnt. The surrounding soil matrix was finer-grained and darker than that in other contexts. It contained pottery, both Roman and Iron Age.

Postholes were seen within the stones, and also evenly-spaced placed objects such as pottery, a piece of quern and shaped flints. A line of postholes may represent another of these gullies.

*A number of sherds of this grog-tempered pot were found in one of these ditches. It is hand-made in a Roman-type form and has resin on its rim. More of this pot was found in 2015 nearby in the same feature.*



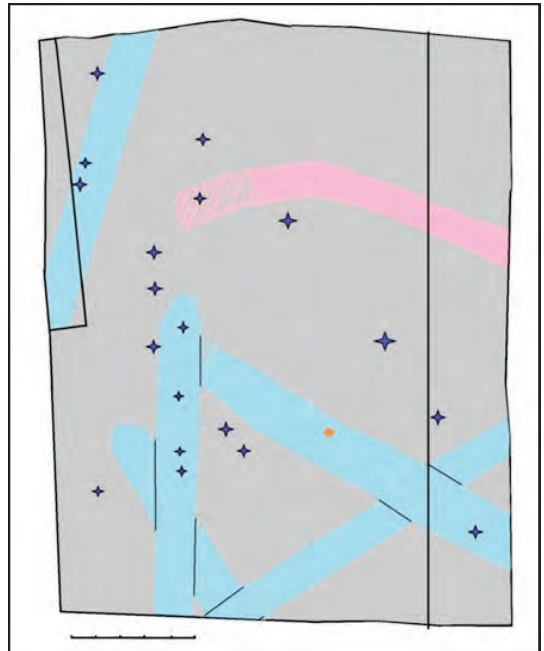


*Stones, postholes and placed deposits in a presumed vineyard trench. NB not all postholes are excavated.*

These features are interpreted as vineyard trenches, with holes for posts to support the vines and placed deposits at the planting-holes. The soil had been improved to aid growth, with the addition of ash and charcoal among other things (which would have lowered the pH of the acidic natural). The stones may have acted as frost-protection, as is seen in some modern vineyards. The many alignments may suggest either that the vineyard was long-lasting or perhaps more probably that the vines did not grow very successfully in this unsuitable soil.

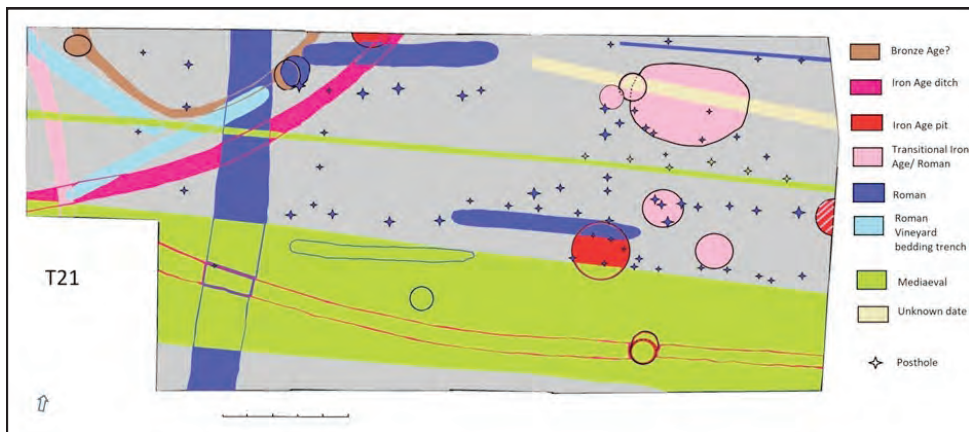
Also in T22 was part of the transitional IA/Roman curving enclosure ditch (pink on the plan). This became increasingly shallow towards the west, eventually disappearing. Interestingly, the vineyard trenches did not, suggesting that the deeper erosion of the hilltop on its western side had already occurred by the later Roman period.

The southern part of T21 contained a mediaeval lynchet 5-6m wide and up to 60cms deep, which meant that seeing any features under it involved a lot of soil-shifting. A (part) coin of Stephen was found within the lynchet; another had been found further east in the same feature in 2014. Parallel to the lynchet and about 4.5m to the north was an irregular gully with postholes along its eastern section. A sherd dated 1350-1450 found in one of these postholes dated these features.



T22

The northeastern 11x9.5m of the trench was scattered with stones, among which were Roman finds. This context proved to be 30cms+ thick, which meant that a great many people spent weeks carefully excavating it. The work was well worth-while, as it turned out to be the disturbed hard-core floor or sub-floor of an aisled building (Building B), with the gable ends to the east and west, and part of its northern aisle lying outside the trench. Among the stones were 70 pieces of window-glass, pottery and small finds such as a glass bead and some sherds of a strainer. There were enough Porchester D sherds to



T21 all periods

suggest that this building is late Roman, possibly contemporary with the north wing of the villa. It is presumed that these finds, or most of them, had been brought in with the stones, rather than from demolition of the building itself. Possibly they (especially the window glass) came from the villa building demolished to build the northern wing?

Under this sub-floor were a number of inter-cutting wide and shallow pits, apparently IA or early Roman from pottery within their fills, and thus predating the building (or at any rate the material of the sub-floor). Between the pits the level of the natural was irregular in the eastern part of the building, but flat in the western. It may be that animals were kept in the eastern section (and trampled the floor very deeply), while the western was storage or a habitation. A gully running east/west containing pieces of chalk



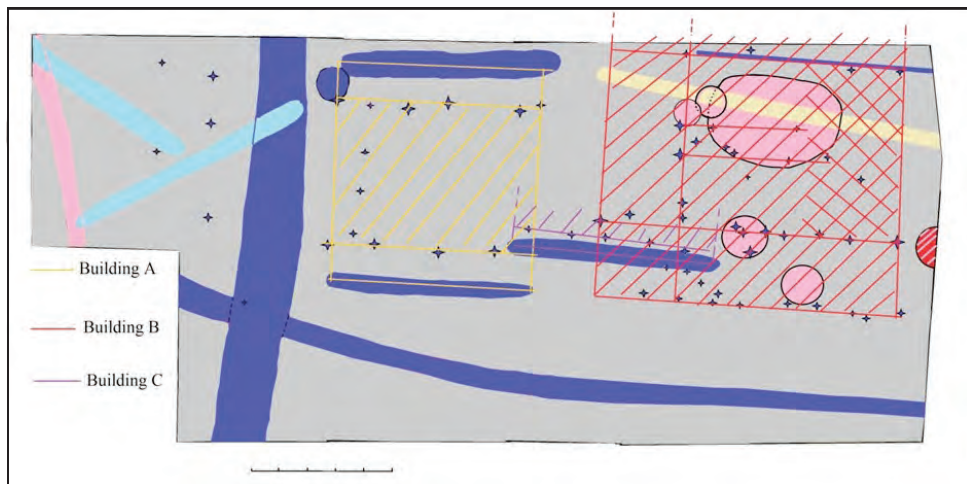
Strainer

may have been for drainage, though it is not certain that it is part of the building – it could conceivably be later. Cut into these shallow pits and the natural were a large number of postholes – in all, 85 postholes were found in the two trenches. The postholes for building B were all well-packed with pieces of either ironstone or ironpan (generally ironstone). Curving pipe-like pieces used vertically were quite frequently found, while a few actual ironstone pipes may have been placed deposits. The posts for the southern main wall and the western wall were in general about 10-15cms and up to 25cms deep, although the two end posts of the southern wall were much larger. The posts for the southern wall of the southern aisle were however very small, only about 5cms, but they were closer together. It is possible that there were two phases to the southern main wall, as the posts were unusually close together and slightly zig-zag. The northern main wall (or conceivably the north aisle wall if the plan is mistaken) was a beam-slot with posts. These differences in construction could be different phases, or a response to the quite steep (north-south) slope the building sits on. A posthole in the centre of the western wall was unusual in that the post had been placed in mortar. The stones in its packing were carefully chosen and placed, being curved ironstone.

Further west a smaller building with no aisles (Building A) was found. It had two lines of postholes, with eaves-drip gullies 1.2 m beyond them, presumably indicating that the roof was thatch (very little tile was found in the trench). The postholes for this building had little or no packing, though some posts were quite substantial. The holes were no deeper than those for building B, so this may indicate that the joinery of this building was of a more rigid construction. The natural within it was very clean (a great contrast with the very dark soil within building B), suggesting that it may have had a wooden floor. A later north-south boundary cut it. Building A is thought to predate Building B, although they could have co-existed.



*Posthole with mortar at base – possibly a doorpost?*



*Roman features: showing outlines of buildings. The cross-hatched area of building B is the possible animal section. Note that any postholes in the southwest corner of building B will have been removed by the lynchet.*

A third building (Building C) overlay Building B. It had only one line of postholes, and an eavesdrip gully. It was probably an open-sided barn type building with the other wall's posts sitting on now-vanished postpads or staddle-stones.

Running north/south were some of the boundaries seen in T19. The large ditch was if anything even larger here, and where it crossed a curving east/west ditch was cut into a band of hard ironpan. The fills proved that the north-south ditch pre-dated the east/west one.

The east-west ditch was at first thought to be Roman in date as on the magnetometry it appears to connect with the known Roman field system. However, it proved to underlie a presumed IA storage pit, so although it may well have been open in the Roman period its origins were earlier. The ditch underlay the lynchet, on the same alignment. This

boundary survived until about 1910 – is it really possible that the same boundary was in use from the Iron Age until the last century?

Three other north-south boundaries were seen, continuing south from where they were seen in T19. However, the alignment of most of these boundaries had apparently shifted through a few degrees. We should solve this puzzle this year, when we dig the gap between Ts21 and 19.

Several Iron Age features were found: part of the curving enclosure ditch, the small pit mentioned that underlay the lynchet and cut the east/west ditch, two more pits that lay partly outside the trench and were therefore not excavated, and a large storage pit that partially underlay the southwest corner of Building B.

The lip of this substantial pit (2m deep, 2.3 in diameter) had fallen in in antiquity; it may well have been bell-shaped originally, like others seen on site. This collapse is probably a reflection of the fact that here the ground is considerably less stable than in the area to the northwest where the majority of IA pits have been found. A closing deposit of the head of a horse, placed eyes-down, was found in the centre of the pit. Although the bone was very decayed, the teeth were in quite good condition and showed that the horse was 3-4 years old at death, and probably female. In the same deposit were teeth belonging to an older horse, but they were too decayed to yield any more information.



*Crossing of ditches (north to the top). The much shallower east-west ditch has a layer of hard ironpan as its base.*



*The ditch crossing seen from the side.*

*Cover image: This IA pit was only partially excavated.*

In the northwest of the trench a shallow curving ditch with two pits on its circumference was found. One pit had been badly disturbed by a sump for the northern eavesdrip gully of building A, but the other was intact. It was oval, with maximum and minimum diameters of

1.2 and 0.75m, vertical sides and a flat bottom 0.4m below plough-base.

The whole of the pit's contents were processed in the flotation tank (apart from a small sample reserved for possible other analysis). The finds were calcined flint, two small blades and two sherds of Bronze Age pottery. Unlike all other archaeological contexts there was no iron/carrstone (as opposed to ironpan). It is thought that these pits and the ditch are Bronze Age features, the pits possibly being inhumation pits where no bone has survived, while the ditch may be the last remnant of some form of barrow.

Part of a BA ceramic spindle whorl was found (about 5m from the above features) in the sub-floor of building A, while a sherd of Mortlake (Neolithic) ware was found in T22.

As usual there are too many people to thank them all, but I must mention the finds team, who coped valiantly in the absence of their usual leaders, Isabel Ellis and Lou Hays; the many diggers who patiently trowelled round innumerable stones and removed vast quantities of ditch and lynchet fill in sometimes great heat; Mairi Sargent and Dave Williams; Elvin Mullinger who not only drew many sections on site but who has now digitised them all (and is working back through earlier years); David Hartley who helped put the samples through the flotation tank; AARG members for post-ex; Roger Ellaby and his colleagues for flint identification; the late David Williams for his usual finds identification; Gillian Lachelin for help with the horse deposit; and above all Nikki Cowlard, who keeps the whole show going.



*The horse-head was block-lifted and excavated at the Research Centre. In this picture the (upper as excavated) left hand side of the head has been removed.*



*Pit and ditch (seen in section in the baulk). The ditch changes direction where it meets the pit, and on the right is above the arrow. The fills of ditch and pit were identical.*



*Finds from the possible BA inhumation.*

In late October 2014 members of the Prehistoric Group opened evaluation trenches at a site at Charlwood. This was to investigate the possibility of buried archaeological features in a field from which a group of coins and miniature objects of Late Iron Age and Early Roman date had been found. One (6x3m) trench was sited over what magnetometry suggested could be a ditch and exposed an east-west length largely filled with a burnt deposit containing large quantities of heavily burnt animal bone and pottery sherds. This deposit was sampled and wet sieved before being sent for analysis.

A report about the sampled cremated animal bone found in 2014 has now been received from Clare Rainsford. The following is an extract from the report and it should be noted that it is based on samples taken from the ditch in which it was found and is by no means the whole of the bone assemblage deposited therein.

*In summary, the calcined bone assemblage from Charlwood is characterised by consistent heavy burning, dominance of sheep/goat remains and some inclusion of pig and chicken, and almost no burnt remains of large mammals. The remains of sheep/goat and pig show evidence of dismemberment of the carcass, indicating that the animals were butchered prior to burning, but all parts of the skeleton are represented. The assemblage is moderately large, containing a minimum of eight sheep, three chickens and two pigs.*



Sieved bone samples

*While excavation and interpretation of the site are still ongoing, votive deposits of coins and miniature objects from the late Iron Age and early Roman period suggest that the site may have had a ritual function. Burnt offerings have been found from other Roman shrine sites, although infrequently in Britain (e.g. Wanborough; Verulamium (King 2005)). However, the assemblage from Charlwood does bear similarities to those from many Roman shrine sites, which are frequently tightly focused to a small range of species, most often sheep/goat, pig and chicken (King 2005). At some of these sites, there is a distinct slaughtering age for ovicaprids represented (e.g. Uley (King 2005)), which does not appear to be the case within the Charlwood assemblage, where a wider age range within sheep/goat remains seems to be represented.*

In March 2018, a trench was opened to investigate a pit and ditch formation found in 2017 to the east of the known site. However, due to the weather and soil conditions it was not possible to undertake much work safely for either the archaeology or the volunteers (who were remarkably determined in spite of the challenging conditions). We now hope to return to deal with unfinished business in the autumn.





# A Late Saxon and Early Medieval Cemetery in Godalming – Part 1 Form, size and date

Rob Poulton

Excavations by the Surrey County Archaeological Unit (directed by Nigel Randall) in 2014 and 2015 uncovered over 300 inhumations at the Priory Orchard site in Godalming. The work took place in advance of a new housing development for Waverley Borough Council, who funded the work.

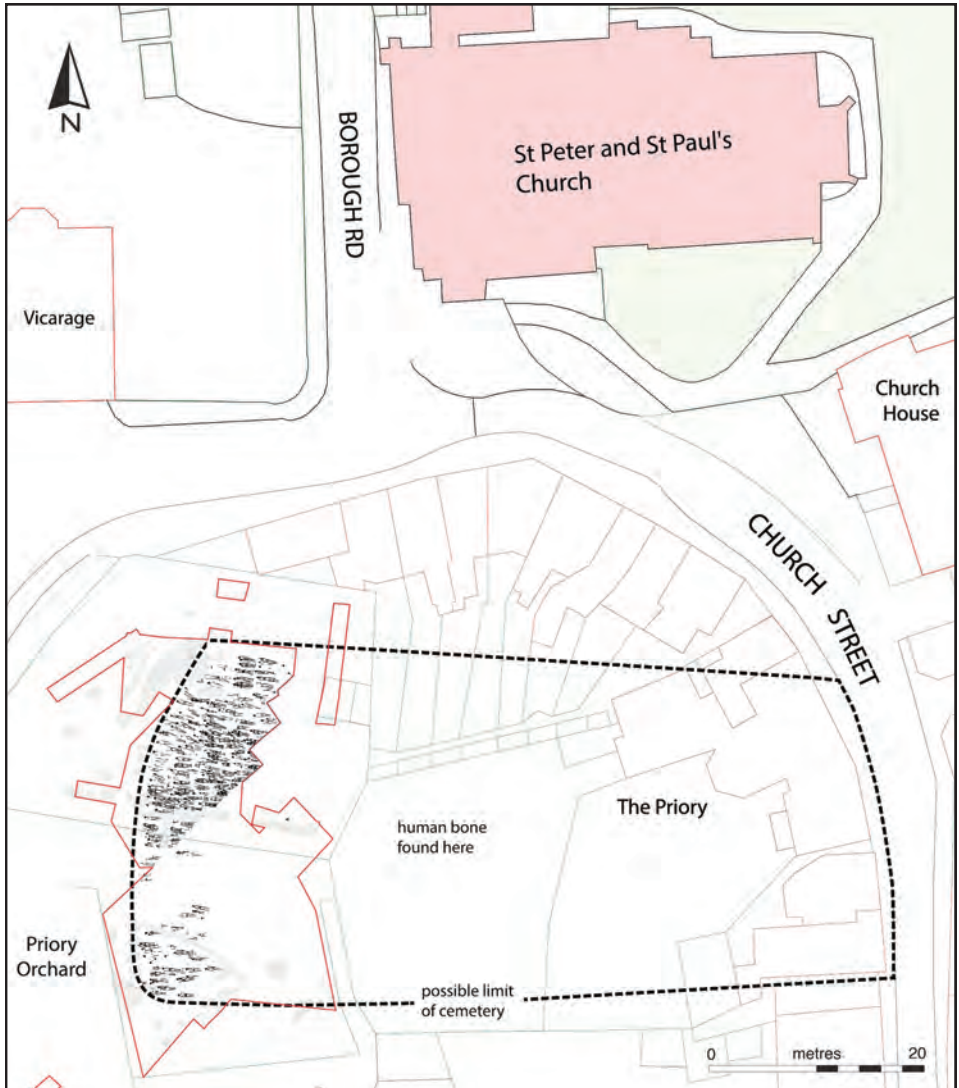


Fig 1 Priory Orchard, Godalming. Location of archaeological work on the site, indicating principal discoveries and possible limit of medieval cemetery.

The site is located on the west facing slope of a deep valley formed by the River Ock, a tributary of the River Wey, and lies, at its closest point, less than 30m to the south-west of the church of St Peter and St Paul's which has late Saxon origins (Bott 2012). The

cemetery was entirely within an area of higher ground within the site, originally part of a river terrace above the Ock but augmented by the creation of a deep burial soil as a result of the repeated digging of graves. Godalming is located on the Lower Greensand with the sands of the Hythe Beds underlying the town centre.

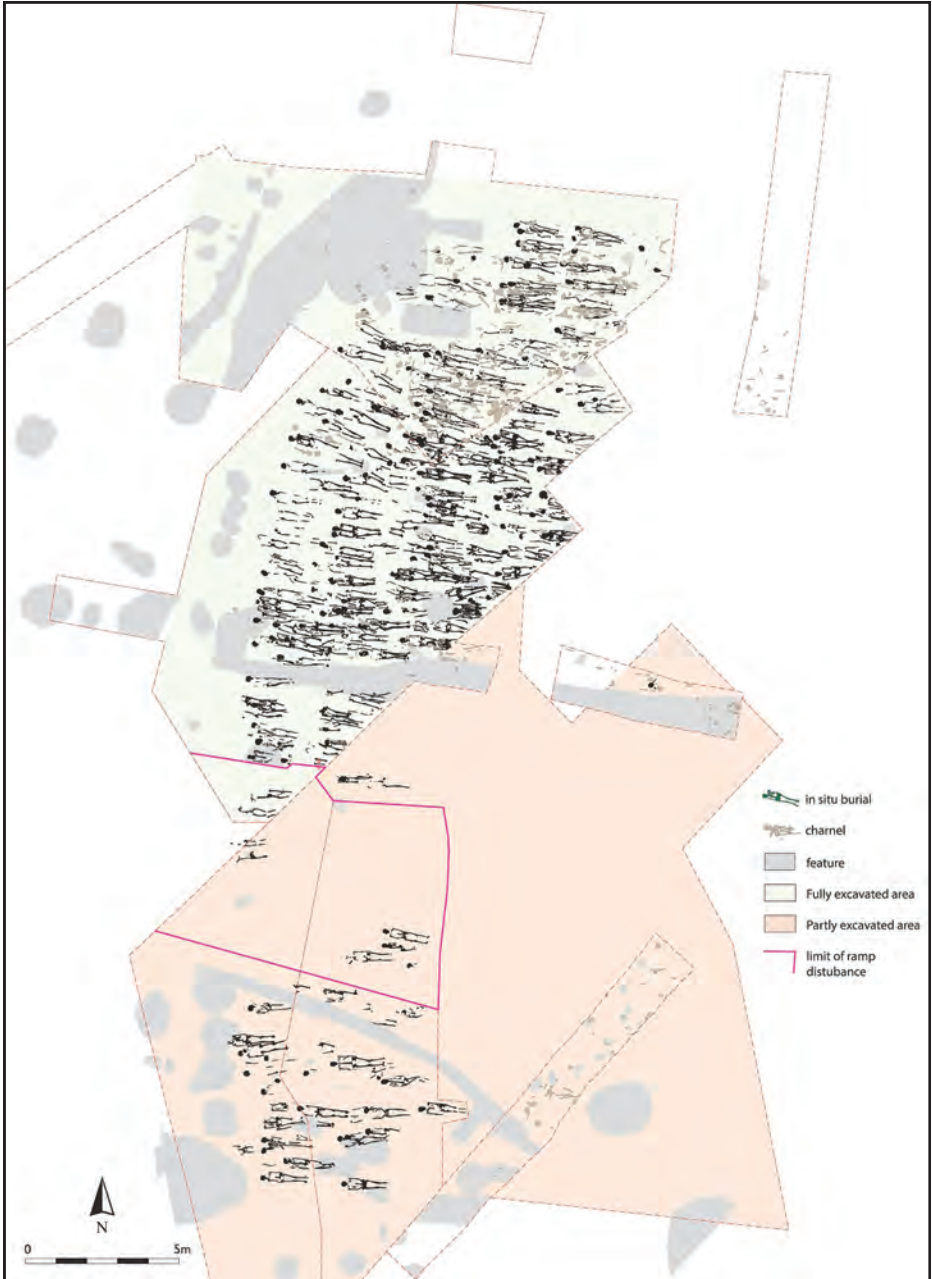


Fig 2 Overall plan of site showing all inhumations. Charnel was widespread in the excavated cemetery areas but is only shown to indicate the extent of the cemetery in the evaluation trenches

The historical context of the site will be explored in a later note but it should be said here that in the 13th century Godalming comprised two manors, the Manor of Godalming held by the Bishop of Salisbury (but formerly the royal manor from the late Saxon period onwards) and with its original centre in the Bridge Street area, and the Rectory Manor or Deansfold held by the Dean of Salisbury, focussed upon the church. Between the two manorial centres lie the High St and the medieval core of the town. The site lies within the Rectory Manor. The Rocque map of 1768 and later maps show that it lay beyond the extent of the 18th century settled area of Godalming, and outside the medieval town development, and until the 20th century it lay within gardens and orchards

There is no evidence, within the area examined, of an eastern limit to the cemetery but northern, western and southern limits are clearly apparent on the overall plan, with an almost complete absence of burials or loose bone beyond the identified limit of inhumations. Ditches at or beyond these limits seem to be of later origin and there is no direct evidence as to how the cemetery was originally defined. There must, however, have been a clear boundary to the graveyard, for which buried evidence did not survive, for the limit of the inhumations, and of charnel and the burial soil, to be so sharply defined. It seems most probable that the cemetery edge was defined by a stone wall or timber fence, with the effective deepening of the undisturbed ground surface by burial leaving the base of such a feature above the level at which evidence could survive during later ground disturbance. There is no secure basis for suggesting where the limits of the cemetery lay to the east. The garden to the east of the development has produced human bone. A suggested extent for the whole cemetery area, based partly on the boundaries of plots as shown on the Tithe and later maps, is given on the overall plan.

The excavation plan suggests that the usage of the cemetery was more intensive towards the north, but this is, at least partially, because of the more limited scope of work to the south. Some variations in the distribution and ordering of burials are evident within the fully excavated area. These include a group of burials in the north-east that seem formally arranged in two rows. The inhumations on the western side of the cemetery were, normally, single discrete inhumations with an impression of a continuous row. There are further indications of parallel rows as one moves eastwards but these gradually become less clear and with a greater amount of intercutting.



Fig 3 Intercutting graves 3041 (left) and 3049 amidst much charnel

A total of around 300 separate inhumations have been excavated, of which around 270 occur in the fully excavated area, where all such were definitely identified; it is likely that at least another 70 original burials were represented only by charnel in that area. The extent of the cemetery within the site amounts to around 650m<sup>2</sup>, while the amount of excavation (excluding locations where later development had destroyed any burials), with full exposure of burials within it, was about 150m<sup>2</sup>. The possible area of the cemetery shown on fig 2 would enclose around 2100m<sup>2</sup>. These figures can be used to calculate the number of people buried in the cemetery.

Cemetery description	Area m <sup>2</sup>	No burials	No destroyed	Total people
Fully excavated area	150	280	70	<b>350</b>
Confirmed extent	650	1213	303	<b>1517</b>
Suggested extent	2100	3920	980	<b>4900</b>



Fig 4 View of the burials neatly arranged in rows in the north-east corner of the cemetery, looking west

The pottery associated with inhumations includes sherds extending from the Late Saxon period to the early 13th century, and the earliest features cutting burials are also of early 13th century date. Eight radiocarbon dates are predominantly Late Saxon, perhaps because burials with early characteristics were chosen to date, but one date indicates use down to around 1200. In sum the evidence indicates a later Saxon and early medieval period for the use of the cemetery, with beginnings not earlier than around 800 and closure no later than 1250, and perhaps rather earlier.

Subsequent *Bulletins* will continue with discussion of the burial rites and features evidenced in the cemetery (Part 2) and a note setting it in a wider context (Part 3).

### Reference

Bott, A, 2012 *Godalming parish church: a guide to the parish church of Saint Peter & Saint Paul*

A report has now been completed for the small excavation undertaken by TVAS at 12 Guildown Avenue, Guildford. In addition to the preliminary results (Falys 2017), the isotopic analyses have now been completed, and have produced an unexpected result. Three of the skeletons, one each from the later atypical Saxon graves, were sampled for their strontium and oxygen values in order to determine the geographic origin of the men. The obtained isotope signatures indicate that the men were not local to the Guildford area or in other areas of similar chalk geology, but were from south-west England, specifically the region of Cornwall (McManus-Fry 2018).

The surprising isotope results has opened up a debate of who these men were and what they were doing in Guildford during the late Saxon period. The osteological evidence suggested that they were not greeted with aggression, as no skeletal indicators of interpersonal violence nor obvious signs of execution were recorded on the bones. While it is acknowledged that hanging does not regularly leave any marks on the skeleton, the individuals did not display signs of captivity prior to burial, which would be expected for those subjected to judicial punishment (e.g. bound hands and/or feet).

Despite being buried in an atypical manner for 8th-11th century Surrey (S-N aligned graves, irregular leg positions), these men were seemingly not buried without respect. In fact, the partially disarticulated remains of SK65 (as previously detailed in Falys 2017), which at first glance might appear to be the result of a violent act, may actually reflect an act of kindness and compassion. The absence of cut marks at the points of disarticulation suggest that the body of SK65 (a 26-35 year old man) was moved into grave 9 beside SK64 (an 18-25 year old man) weeks to months after death. This would have been a gruesome task for those who undertook it. Taking the time to reshape the body to mimic that of SK64 in both size and shape demonstrates care for the deceased, rather than the secondary burial of SK65 being a hasty disposal of decomposing remains.

In contrast to the later Saxon graves discovered at 12 Guildown Avenue being an extension of the execution cemetery excavated by Lowther in the late 1920s, the archaeological and osteological evidence suggest it is more likely that this small portion of the established burial ground was used by a subset of the Guildford population to bury their dead (i.e. non-locals, the Cornish community). Several hypotheses have been proposed for the reasons that brought these men so far from home. As their skeletons share a common theme of undertaking strenuous and habitual tasks during their younger years, and two of the men (SK65 and SK68) display fractures resulting from falls from great heights, perhaps these men were travelling apprentices (Lewis 2016). A second possibility is that they were slaves – Viking raiding and the taking of prisoners for the slave market was endemic at the time. Finally, a very much tongue-in-cheek suggestion is that these men indicate some sort of link reflecting the metal needs of the known late Saxon mint that was in use in Guildford at the time, and the rich copper, tin and silver deposits to be found in Cornwall.

The full report detailing the project will be published shortly but the draft report is in the public domain, having been deposited with the Surrey HER, and is available upon request from Thames Valley Archaeological Services ([www.tvas.co.uk](http://www.tvas.co.uk); [tvas@tvas.co.uk](mailto:tvas@tvas.co.uk)). We also welcome alternate theories why these Cornishmen were in Surrey in the 8th-11th century.

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Lewis, M, 2016, Work and the Adolescent in Medieval England AD900-1550: The Osteological Evidence, *Medieval Archaeology* **60**:138-171  
McManus-Fry, E, 2018. Isotopic Analysis, in L Lewins and C Falys

## Guildown reconsidered 5: the so-called ‘Guildown Massacre’

David Bird

This is the fifth in a series of notes (*Bulletins* 464-7) that reconsider the excavation of the Guildown cemeteries and their interpretation. Readers may need to refer to the previous notes for explanation of some details and for the plans.

At the very start of his report on the excavation, Lowther (1931, 2) suggests that many of the burials ‘represent victims of the Guildford [sic] Massacre, recorded as having taken place in AD 1036’. Later he uses the expression ‘the “Guildown Massacre” of AD 1036’ (1931, 30). It is very likely that the initial source for this idea was D C Whimster, who ‘kindly supplied’ notes for an appendix at the end of Lowther’s report (1931, 47-50), providing some of the relevant references. Whimster’s *The archaeology of Surrey* was completed before Lowther’s report was published (Whimster 1931, 229) and he probably rushed to include the new information. The book makes much of the Guildown finds, concluding that ‘the story of the Guildown massacre is made complete by the perfect cooperation of archaeology and history ...’ (Whimster 1931, 220).

A strong part of the case is the supposed extensive evidence for ‘signs of massacre’ (Whimster 1931, 220) which seems to have caused such excitement that strange mistakes are made. The remarkable errors of John Morris (1959, 141) were mentioned in the first note in this series while Whimster (1931, 219) notes that ‘at least fifteen’ of the skeletons seemed to have had their hands tied behind the back ‘as the Chronicle relates’. The context makes clear that this is the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle but the detail is not to be found there, as his own notes indicate (Lowther 1931, 49).

Following a discussion of burials 173-5, Lowther (1931, 31) goes on to note that they were over an earlier triple (170-2), which had their hands behind their backs and that ‘a large number of the skeletons were found with their wrists in this position ... while others had definite signs of injury and mutilation’. This is correct but the phraseology suggests that it was widespread, which is not the case (at least so far as evidence in the reports is concerned). Lowther gives examples, referring to burials 167-9, and to 152, 159 and 204 being buried face down, ‘the spine of the first of these being broken before burial’ (Fig 1). ‘These few examples are sufficient to illustrate the burials that may quite well be those of some of the victims of Earl Godwin’s Massacre’. This is not really correct. Although he goes on to add a few more: 27-29 ‘laid alternately head to feet and one on top of the other’, and 68 and 106 decapitated, ‘the head being found placed between their legs’ (1931, 31-2), there are still relatively few. Out of the total of around 180 later burials there are probably 23 with hands apparently tied behind the back and 16 at most mutilated or contorted, probably fewer (some of these being also among those tied – 148, 167-9, 209). They can readily be matched at other execution cemeteries and some of them could even be pagan (Reynolds 2009, 61-95 *passim*). One of the latter could be the decapitated burial 68 and it is a matter of some interest that apart from this single example all of the obviously tied or mutilated burials are to the west of the probable gallows position.

It seems very likely that the massacre theory originated from Whimster having seen the prominent row of triple burials. He obviously had some information from Lowther as in his book he notes the coin of Edward the Confessor and the evidence for three periods, clearly based on the case of burials 173-5 (but without giving the numbers: Whimster 1931, 219). In discussing the ‘massacre’, however, he says that ‘The arrangement of the graves themselves suggests a massacre. Most of the burials are shallow and usually contain three skeletons’, which can hardly refer to anything other than the long line of triple burials. The expression on the following page that ‘a whole series [of graves] is to be dated to 1036’ supports this view. Whimster may not have seen a plan or been aware of the true

location of burials 173-5, and therefore the link with the coin dated *after* 1036. In his letter of October 1931 to Lowther (see *Bulletin* 466) he adds a PS: 'Are you publishing a map of the Graveyard?', which may suggest that he had not seen one. It may also be relevant that although Whimster's book has illustrations of some finds, all are credited to 'Guildford Museum' and he has no photographs of the burials.



Fig 1: photograph of burial 159, from Lowther 1931, pl 22.

Any consideration of the documentary evidence for the 'Guildown Massacre' must result in the conclusion that there is no good reason to expect any connection with the Guildown cemetery. It is generally accepted that Alfred 'the Ætheling', son of Æthelred and Emma and therefore with some claim to the throne, came to England in 1036, apparently to visit his mother (now married to Cnut) but was intercepted by opponents whose leaders included Earl Godwin (Stenton 1943, 402-20 and 553-4). There are, however, several different versions of the story of the capture and subsequent ill treatment of Alfred and his companions, with wild variations. The place where Alfred landed in England differs, as does his onward journey (such that Guildford could be passed through in opposite directions, or not at all) and the location of the supposed 'massacre'. Guildown as such is mentioned in connection with a highly dubious story about Godwin showing Alfred his prospective kingdom from a high vantage point (which sounds suspiciously like a monk's invention, a biblical echo) and even then the 'massacre' is said to have occurred in Guildford with follow-up nastiness in Gillingham, somehow en route for Ely. Whimster himself notes that the fullest account is in the 'untrustworthy' *Encomium Emmae* (which includes a ludicrous parallel with the highly dubious story of the massacre of the so-called Theban legion, probably the source for an imagined 'decimation' of Alfred's followers), and that 'the Abingdon (C) manuscript of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle appears to be the only one whose account can be fully accepted'. That account has no mention of Guildown or Guildford (Lowther 1931, 49-50) and says that the companions were 'scattered', before adding that some were killed and others mistreated in various ways.

The likelihood that the burials on Guildown suggest any 'massacre' at all can also be questioned. As we have seen, the evidence suggests strongly that multiple phases of burial are represented, in a large number of separate graves. We might reasonably expect a 'massacre' to lead to the digging of a mass grave (or two or three) with the bodies thrown in on top of one another.

Following publication of the first note in this series, Mary Alexander kindly sent me her analysis of the evidence available about the so-called massacre. She has gone into this more thoroughly than I have done (including reference to the most recent edition of Stenton's book). Her conclusion following subsequent discussion is that 'there almost certainly was an attack. Alfred would have been travelling with quite a large group for security in troubled times and they would naturally be attacked also. There is no reason to

deny that it happened, nor that it probably happened at Guildford. Perhaps we should refer to the 'Guildford incident'.

We may agree therefore that the likelihood of any link between the cemetery on Guilddown and the 1036 event is very small indeed and we should hear no more of the 'Guilddown Massacre'. There may perhaps have been a 'Guildford Incident' and it is just possible that this can be linked in a different way to the only aspect of the Guilddown burials that does suggest a single mass event, the marked line of triple burials. It will be considered in the next note, the final one in this series.

## References

(Page references are not given for the burial list (Lowther 1931, 34-46) as it is easy to look up the individual numbers cited).

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## Annual Symposium 2018

Jan Butler

The Peace Memorial Hall at Ashted was the venue for the 2018 Symposium and delegates were presented with a range of varied and most interesting new research from across the county. The event was very well attended and the day was ably chaired by David Graham. It began with a presentation from Rob Poulton of SCAU, relating to the investigation of a Late Saxon cemetery on land being developed for housing. The subsequent excavation led to the recovery of in excess of 300 in situ burials and the disturbed remains of many more. Artefactual study and radio carbon dating were able to indicate that the site was in use from 9th to the early 13th century. This was a rare discovery and provided clear evidence of Late Saxon occupation of the area, important insights into the demography and burial practices of the period.

Rebecca Haslam from PCA then discussed excavations on the former site of the Tudor Palace of Brandon House, Borough High Street, Southwark. The investigations revealed a multi-phase archaeological sequence ranging from the Iron Age to Roman transition to the post-medieval period. Situated in what was the middle of a braided channel of the Thames during the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period, the site was subjected to ground raising and levelling to dry-out the area and jetties were constructed along the margins of the channel. Buildings were then established but by the late Roman period the site was in decline. During the Saxo-Norman period the area was back in use, with evidence of roadside pitting and boundary ditches as the suburb began to regenerate and in 1350 a major change in land use occurred with the construction of an aristocratic residence, Brandon Place. This building stood until 1510 when a new building replaced it and evidence of this earlier residence was revealed in parts of the site. The replacement mansion was demolished in the mid-16th century and the excavated demolition deposits yielded a nationally important assemblage of decorative terracotta architectural elements.

A Romano-British site on St Martha's Hill, Chilworth, was the subject of a presentation by Emma Corke of SyAS, this site being discovered in 1982 by the observation of a considerable number of Romano-British pottery sherds whilst the area was being metal detected by Bob Stonard. He went on to gradually investigate the site by a series of small trenches which revealed evidence of a 1st century cremation cemetery bordering what appeared to



be an area of Late Iron Age occupation. Although slightly damaged by ploughing the overall preservation was good and Late Iron Age and Roman pottery, including complete vessels and other artefacts were retrieved.

Hugh Baker, Tony Cox and Michael Herbert from Fetcham Industrial History Group, U3A presented a study of country house services at the Edwardian house and estate of Polesden Lacey, at Great Bookham, near Dorking, owned by the National Trust. This specifically related to three areas – the development of water engineering, the use of wells and pumps to allow water to be sourced for the property, the supply of electricity and the application of communication systems such as bell-boards in a house which had up to seventy members of staff.

From the University of Oxford, the subject of Nick Barton and Alison Roberts' paper was the new investigations at a recently discovered Late Upper Palaeolithic site in Guildford. The site is close to the River Wey and is a rare example of a well preserved open air site, considered to be of special interest due to the lack of disturbance and the fresh appearance of flint artefacts from secure contexts. Nick discussed the application of microwear analysis and the initial results, additionally presenting the value of the re-fitting of stone artefacts and how this methodology helps in understanding the nature and distribution of early human activity on the site.

David Graham of SyAS' talk was entitled 'Looking at Surrey's Heathland Barrows' and provided an interesting overview of Bronze Age barrows situated on the sandy heathlands of the area. The varied typologies of the barrows, their locations, the results of pollen analysis and overall finds preservation were discussed.

A second presentation by Rob Poulton of SCAU discussed recent Iron Age settlement discoveries in Surrey. Evidence of continuous habitation and settlement relating to this period were presented in the form of the remains of round houses, ditches, pottery and the recovery of iron slag, indicating some small scale production.

The final talk of the day was presented by Andy Margetts from ASE, the title of which was 'The Northern Weald in the Iron Age and early Romano-British period: recent evidence from sites near Horley and Horsham'. Andy presented that archaeologically, the area is one of the most under-researched and hence poorly understood in Britain, but developer-led archaeological projects are beginning to fill in some of the gaps in our knowledge. Thought to be something of a marginal landscape, evidence is now suggesting otherwise and that there were significant areas of occupation during the Middle Iron Age and the early Romano-British period.

To summarise, in addition to the fascinating talks delivered to highlight recent research in Surrey there were a number of very interesting displays and book stalls from a variety of groups and the Symposium was a very well organised, informative and highly successful event.



*Margery Award winning display*

## External Redecoration at Abinger

The Society's library at Abinger will be closed from 16 July to 10 August. The external eaves, barge boards, soffits, doors and window frames at the Society's Research Centre at Abinger will be repaired and repainted and the gutters and downpipes will be repainted or replaced over a four week period, weather permitting, between approximately 16 July and 10 August. There will be 4-6 contractors on site with scaffolding, burners and wet paint. The library shelves may have to be sheeted to protect the books. The library will be closed and Hannah and Rose will be based at Castle Arch for this period. If you need anything from the library please make arrangements to collect before 16 July.

## Membership renewal and data privacy

Following recent developments you can now renew your membership online at the Society's website [www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk](http://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk). Simply go to the membership section and click on the "Renew" option. Obviously if you pay for renewals by standing order or have already renewed for this year you should ignore this request. Additionally, new members can join online using the "Join" option.

New data privacy rules with the new GDPR regulations starting in May 2018 have required us to contact all members to ask you to opt-in to contact from the Society by email or phone. This was clearly set out in the renewal form sent out with the last Bulletin, and members on our existing email list have also received an email inviting them to re-opt-in to emails. Many renewers or existing mailable members have not completed this section or responded to the email so unless you contact us to opt-in you will no longer receive emails from the Society. Being able to email you saves the Society money and also ensures you receive important messages in a timely manner. If you want to opt-in then please email Hannah Jeffery on [info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk) to register your wish to opt-in.

## New members

*Hannah Jeffery*

I would like to welcome the following new members who have joined the Society. I have included principal interests, where they have been given on the application form. If you have any questions, queries or comments, please do not hesitate to get in contact with me on 01483 532454 or [info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk).

Name	Town	Principal Archaeological and Local History Interests
Mr Michael Gathercole	Shalford	Victorian Guildford
Ms Jessica Hodge	Ewell	Early Medieval and Local Archaeology
Ms Sarah Jones	Oxted	Industrial Heritage
Mrs Jennifer King	Woldingham	Woldingham; Roman Roads
Mr Elvin Mullinger	Horsham	Archaeological Drawing; Prehistoric Era
Mrs Julie Mullinger	Horsham	Roman Archaeology
Mr John Peters	Farnham	Local History

## Medieval Industry Day

Brian Creese

The Medieval Studies Forum met in Godalming on 14 October 2017 for a day on medieval industry, with an emphasis on building industries. **Dr David Dungworth** (formerly of Historic England) spoke on the Wealden glass industry, which has been the subject of periodic research since the late 19th century. There has been some recent archaeomagnetic dating of sites, but much more is needed. The archaeological and historical evidence is not always consistent. Chiddingfold glass was certainly being produced in the 14th century, or even earlier, but the bulk of the evidence for glassmaking is from the 16th century, with Surrey sites including those in Hambledon, Alfold and Chiddingfold. A major technological shift occurred in 1567 with the arrival of French glassmakers who took control of the industry and by the 17th century glassmaking had largely transferred away from the Weald to coalfield areas of North Staffordshire and Newcastle. Analysis of trace elements has shown that the sources of sand used to make glass changed over time.

**Doug Irvine** (civil engineer) elaborated on the construction of Gothic cathedrals as the desire for increased light and reduced masonry led to new challenges. Engineering was done by trial and error and knowledge was passed on through word of mouth through apprenticeships. The order of construction needed to be carefully managed to ensure stability of the structure. The slow setting of lime mortar meant that building could only proceed seasonally. The weakness of masonry in tension, coupled with the settling of foundations and the unbalanced lateral thrusts in, for example, church crossings, sometimes led to structural problems. Although Cathedrals have certainly passed the test of time, if you know where to look the tell-tale signs of building stresses are clearly seen!

**Ian West** talked on Surrey brickwork up to 1850. The first (post Roman) bricks in England were in East Anglia, but in Surrey, Waynflete's Tower at Farnham, with its diaper work and false machicolations, is an important 15th century example, as is Esher Place. Sutton Place of c1520-30 displays very early use of terra cotta, including for quoins and tracery. Ham House and West Horsley Place are examples of fine early 17th century brick buildings, the latter with extensive use of moulded bricks. Further down the social scale, brick came to be used for chimney stacks in timber-framed houses in the 16th century. Dorking and Godalming have interesting 17th century artisan buildings in brick. By the early 18th century, bricks sometimes displayed very fine jointing, as at Wrencote in Croydon.

**Mary Alexander** spoke on a sometimes neglected aspect of timber-framed buildings. Frames were often pre-fabricated and needed to be laid out on the ground first – which required a large amount of free space. In Guildford, “waste” belonging to the Corporation in North Street, probably near its east end, was used for this purpose. In 1593 there was a court case as the ground had been enclosed, followed by an inquiry in 1598, after which it appears that the land was returned to the borough.

**Lyn Spencer's** talk was on the medieval alabaster industry. Alabaster is a crystalline form of gypsum that is relatively soft and can be carved with small tools. Its first known use is at Tutbury Priory in Staffordshire c1160, in shafts on the elaborate west doorway. The alabaster carving industry came to be based in Nottingham, but there were relatively few alabasterers. Alabaster was used for tombs and altarpieces, and was often painted. Nottingham alabaster was also exported. Examples in Surrey of alabaster tombs from the 16th and 17th century can be found in Cheam, East Horsley and Wotton.

*Lumley Chapel  
alabaster tomb, St  
Dunstan's Cheam*



## Foragers and farmers: 10,000 years of history at Hengrove Farm, Staines. Excavations between 1997 and 2012

Rob Poulton, Graham Hayman & Nick Marples

SpoilHeap Monograph no 12 ISBN 978-0-9576509-9-2

331 pp, 176 illus, Price £25 + £3.50 p&p, Available through: [www.surreycc.gov.uk/scau](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/scau)

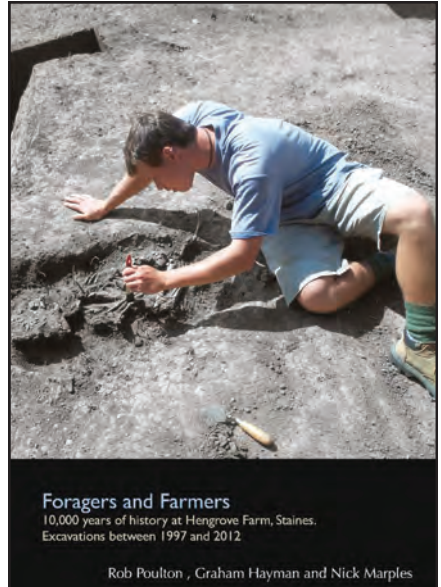
Archaeological work took place between 1997 and 2012 across an area of over 20ha at the Hengrove Farm sand and gravel quarry, near Staines. Several Mesolithic activity areas were identified, the earlier associated with low-lying ground and the later with a more elevated area. Two locations of Neolithic occupation, with waterholes, pits and tree-throws, may have been seasonally occupied in an era of shifting agriculture and complement the discovery of a large house and ring ditch at the adjacent Ashford Prison site.

From around 1500 BC rectilinear fields were imposed across most of the site, although one area remained open, and probably common, land. Three Middle Bronze Age settlements seem likely to be the centres from which the landscape was transformed. Later Bronze Age activity was more dispersed, with seven or more foci. By the Middle Iron Age occupation had become concentrated in one part of the site although just 300m away at the Ashford Prison site was another substantial settlement. The Hengrove settlement continued to develop until, either just before or soon after the conquest of AD 43, a regular complex of stock management enclosures, set within a surviving framework of the Bronze Age fields, was created. This pattern of occupation persisted until abandonment in the 4th century AD.

Two Middle Saxon occupation areas include a number of waterholes. The final period of occupation, of Saxo-Norman date, was associated with a boundary that was renewed a number of times.

Two Middle Saxon occupation areas include a number of waterholes. The final period of occupation, of Saxo-Norman date, was associated with a boundary that was renewed a number of times.

The wealth of evidence from this large tract of land provides additional detail and new insights into the development of the landscape across the Thames terraces that was so superbly explored in the work at Heathrow to the north.



**Foragers and Farmers**  
10,000 years of history at Hengrove Farm, Staines.  
Excavations between 1997 and 2012

Rob Poulton, Graham Hayman and Nick Marples



Later Bronze Age quern and rubber found in a pit

## Medieval Studies Forum Churches Study Day – 9th June

- 10:00 Meet at St Mary's, Guildford where Mary Alexander will provide an introduction and brief tour  
 11:30 Tour of St Nicholas, Compton (led by Rob Briggs)  
 12:15 Lunch  
 1:30 Old St Peter's and St Paul's, Albury (led by Anne Sassin)  
 2:30 St James', Shere (Anne Sassin)  
 3:30 St James', Wotton (Rob Briggs)  
 4:15 End of study day (approximate)



As numbers for this series of visits/study day will be limited, please book a place with Brian Creese in advance (07860 104012; [bjc@briancreese.co.uk](mailto:bjc@briancreese.co.uk)). Individuals should make their own arrangements for travel. Parking at some sites may be very limited, and we encourage participants to share lifts if possible. Please note that St Mary's will be easily accessible by public transport, with car parking very near (Millbrook, Tunsgate, Castle Car Park, etc), and those arranging lifts may wish to do so from Guildford. There is no cost for this study day, and we leave it up to individuals to make donations to the various churches visited, as they wish.

## Surrey Historic Environment Research Framework Conference

17th November 2018

Ashted Peace Memorial Hall

The Prehistoric Group has organised this event for 2018 with the keynote speaker being Julian Richards who will be talking about Stonehenge – old rocks, new ideas. A full programme has been arranged and will be on the website. Further details will be in the August Bulletin, but save the date now.



## Sally Christian Grants – Sussex Archaeological Society

Sally Christian Grants are available from Sussex Archaeological Society to support individuals starting out in archaeology as amateurs or students (including sixth formers) to assist with the costs of practical or academic training, and to enable them to gain experience in archaeological fieldwork and other forms of research in Sussex. Grants are available for short courses and dayschools, covering such subjects as surveying, excavation methods, environmental sampling, drawing and/or identifying finds; and attendance at relevant conferences or research projects. Feedback will be required from successful applicants. Further details are available from the Society's Research Officer ([research@sussexpast.co.uk](mailto:research@sussexpast.co.uk)) to whom all applications should be submitted at least five weeks before a proposed funded course or project takes place.

## CBA South East Site and Town Tour – Priory Park excavation and Georgian Chichester

**Sunday 22nd July (10:30-16:00)**

Guided by Steven Cleverley (CBA South East) and Alan Green (local historian), this tour takes in the background and final stages of the excavation of a Roman bathhouse in Priory Park, Chichester. The tour resumes after lunch with a look at the building of Georgian Chichester.

Cost: Free to all CBA-SE members, or £3 for non-members  
Contact [events@cbasouth-east.org](mailto:events@cbasouth-east.org) with any queries



## Prehistoric and early historic tracks on the Downland and Weald

**Saturday 23rd June**

Sussex Archaeological Society's post-AGM talk will be by Prof Martin Bell, who has been nominated to take over as President of the Society on the retirement of Caroline Wells. This lecture will take a critical look at the evidence for early patterns of movement on the Downs and in the Weald. It will consider to what extent the Ridgeways such as the South Downs Way served as prehistoric routes. It will be argued that there is actually rather better evidence for the early origins of routes at right angles to the escarpments, marked in places by hollow ways, these connected contrasting environmental zones and topographies. The significance of some of these routes was recognised by pioneering Sussex Archaeologists such as the Curwens in the first two decades of the 20th century but solid empirical investigation of early routeways was then eclipsed by the spurious ideas of Alfred Watkins' *Old Straight Track* in 1925. The lecture is based on a case study from a forthcoming book *Making ones Way in the World*.



Venue: Lewes

Cost: SAS members free; non-members £6

Details/tickets: <https://sussexpast.co.uk/events/tracks>; email: [members@sussexpast.co.uk](mailto:members@sussexpast.co.uk)

## Surrey History Trust AGM – London and the Livery Companies: the story of the City

**Monday 25 June (18:30 AGM and talk 19:00-21:00)**

Following the Surrey History Trust AGM at the Surrey History Centre, Heather Hawker will give a talk on London's Freemen, Guilds and their successors, the Livery Companies, whose dramatic history is documented in extraordinarily rich and varied archives.

Tickets are free and include refreshments but booking is essential. Please book online (<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/heritage-culture-and-recreation/archives-and-history/surrey-history-centre/heritage-events>), at SHC or any Surrey Library, or phone 01483 518737.

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## Lecture meetings

4th June

'St Peter's Church, Old Woking' by Anthony Morton to Woking History Society in The Gallery, Christ Church, Jubilee Square, Woking at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

6th June

'Developing a preservation strategy for the Map Room at IWM Churchill War Rooms' by Emma Coburn to Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society in St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

'May the road rise to meet you – tracing your Irish family history' by Jane Lewis to the West Surrey Family History Society in Friends (Quakers) Meeting House, Ward Street, Guildford at 19:30.

12th June

'Tongham – home of heroes' by Gill Picken to the West Surrey Family History Society in United Reform Church, South Street, Farnham at 14:00.

14th June

'The Tudor Mint at the Tower of London' by Justine Bayley to Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society at Surbiton Library Halls at 20:00.

'The secret History of a 20th Century family' by Steve Welch to the West Surrey Family History Society in Woking Methodist Church Hall, Woking at 19:50.

20th June

'Beyond the Internet' by Ian Waller to the West Surrey Family History Society in Camberley Adult Education Centre, France Hill Drive, Camberley at 14:00.

21st June

'Surrey in the Great War' by Imogen Middleton to Egham by Runnymede Historical Society in United Church, Egham at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £2

26th June

'Clues from family photographs' by Bob Brock to the West Surrey Family History Society in St Andrews United Reform Church, Hershaw Road, Walton at 19:45.

3rd July

'History of Staines Linoleum' by Nick Pollard to Addlestone Historical Society at Addlestone Community Centre at 20:00

12th July

'A Treasure Trove of Amazing Richness' by Angela Care Evans to Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society at Surbiton Library Halls at 20:00.

[Please note that lecture details may have changed from when first advertised]

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## Heritage Open Day

**Sunday 16th September (10:00-16:00)**

The Abinger Research Centre will be open to all once again for a Heritage Open Day event. Society members will be set-up with displays featuring work and artefact displays from all periods, with opportunities to observe or take part in various activities. If it is a dry day then environmental processing will take place in the grounds. The Library will also be open and available for browsing or for research queries. Refreshments will be provided.



## DATES FOR *BULLETIN* CONTRIBUTIONS

There will be three more issues of the *Bulletin* in 2018. To assist contributors relevant dates are as follows:

	<b>Copy date:</b>	<b>Approx. delivery:</b>
<b>469</b>	<b>30th June</b>	<b>1st August</b>
<b>470</b>	<b>15th September</b>	<b>17th October</b>
<b>471</b>	<b>10th November</b>	<b>12th December</b>

Articles and notes on all aspects of fieldwork and research on the history and archaeology of Surrey are very welcome. Contributors are encouraged to discuss their ideas with the editor beforehand, including on the proper format of submitted material (please do supply digital copy when possible) and possible deadline extensions.

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The Council of the Surrey Archaeological Society desires it to be known that it is not responsible for the statements or opinions expressed in the *Bulletin*.

**Next issue:** Copy required by 30th June for the August issue

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