

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BULLETIN

Number 167

August 1980

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EXCAVATION NOTICES

SUTTON PARK (TQ 00455380). TRAINING EXCAVATION

A third season of work will be possible on the supposed Saxo-Norman—13th century manorial site. Excavation will be directed by Dr. D. G. Bird for the Society's Excavations Committee, Surrey County Council Planning Department and the DOE.

Training will be given in basic excavation techniques and trainees will only be accepted if they can guarantee to attend for at least six days. The excavation will be for two weeks (Monday to Saturday), 28th July to 9th August.

Further details from David Bird on 01-546 1050 ext. 3665, or from the County Planning Officer, Surrey County Council, County Hall, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 2DT, marking the letter for the attention of Dr. D. G. Bird.

Heathrow Terminal No. 4 Site

British Airports Authority will soon be starting work on this extensive site. Steve Dyer will need all the help he can get on Saturdays for site-watching. Most likely material to emerge will be Bronze Age, Neolithic and earlier. **ALL** help will be welcome, experienced or not. Please contact Steve Dyer, tel: 01-890 0305 for details.

OBITUARY

Sid Ridgers

The death occurred in March of Sid Ridgers, a member of the Surrey Industrial History Group Committee and a founder member of its predecessor the SAS Industrial Archaeology Committee. Mr. Ridgers was an electronics engineer who had developed many devices including an early transistorised forecourt petrol dispenser, the prototype of which he donated to the Society. A few years ago he acted as the Secretary of the Working Party which investigated the possibility of converting Catteshall Mill, Godalming, into an IA Museum. Recently, despite the ill-health he had suffered for many years, he had been preparing a lecture on ancient technology for next winter's course. We shall all miss his enthusiasm for the history of the industrial past of our area.

A. G. Crocker

S.A.S. VISITS

SEPTEMBER

Saturday 13th

East London

Arranged by Mr. J. C. M. Blatch in association with Mr H. A. French, President of the East London Society, and Mr. J. Chesshyre of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings.

- 11.00 a.m. Meet at St. Dunstan's Church, Stepney, which for many years was the only parish church in the vast area of Stepney and still retains much of its mediaeval character, including a beautiful rood of C.1000 A.D.

This is reached via Mile End Road, turning right down White Horse Lane and continuing into Stepney High Street. For those preferring to travel by public transport, Stepney Green Station, on the Underground District Line, is opposite White Horse Lane.

- 11.45 a.m. Perambulate Stepney visiting Trinity Almshouses and Stepney Green.

Lunch. Packed lunch is recommended as the popular East End pubs are likely to be crowded on a Saturday.

- 2.00 p.m. Reassemble at Christ Church, Spitalfields, Nicholas Hawksmoor 1714-1729.

Perambulate Spitalfields to view the restored old Huguenot Weavers' Houses and other interesting developments.

- Tickets: Members 25p, Visitors 35p, students half-price and accompanied children free, from Mrs. J. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 0QL.

OCTOBER

The proposed visit to the B.B.C. Written Archives Centre at Caversham has had to be cancelled owing to the illness of the organiser. It is hoped to include this in the 1981 programme.

NOTES AND QUERIES

REGISTER OF SURREY EXCAVATIONS

Archaeologists and local historians in Surrey will be aware that a great deal of attention has been devoted in recent years to the problems of unpublished excavations. The subject has been frequently discussed by the Society's Excavations Committee, and some time ago it was decided that, while it might be difficult to encourage publication by reluctant site directors, at least some record should be established containing a bare minimum of the necessary information.

Further discussion produced an agreed form and suggested that the ideal would be to establish a register using this form which would be a convenient record of all excavations undertaken in the county, whether or not they were published. In future, hopefully it should be possible to establish an automatic use of these forms by excavation directors after their initial assessment of the results.

Obtaining information about past excavations may be more difficult, and this is the main purpose of this note. In the next few months an attempt will be made to send forms to directors of such excavations (or the relevant Society where a director is not known). Some may go to the wrong place, others may be missed out.

The co-operation of all concerned is clearly vital to the success of the exercise and it is hoped that people will respond as helpfully as possible.

The exercise will be co-ordinated by the County Archaeological Officer and the register based with the County Sites and Monuments Records of which, of course, the information will form an important part.

D. G. Bird

Young Members

The Society's Excavations Committee has been concerned for some time about the need to provide better facilities for young people in the county interested in archaeology and local history. A paper produced by Alan Crocker and David Bird put forward a number of suggestions, and the basic idea of a young members' section has been sympathetically received by the Society's Council.

For any scheme to be effective, however, a number of enthusiastic people are needed who are prepared to consider the ideas, co-ordinate efforts and provide the administration of any section which may be established. It is hoped that such people are to be found within the Society's membership. Anyone who is interested is invited to write to the undersigned at Castle Arch, and they will be sent a copy of the paper by Drs. Crocker and Bird. Suggestions and offers of help will be gratefully received, and after consideration by the Excavations Committee a Working Party will be set up if the response is encouraging.

D. G. Bird

Barnes: St. Mary's Parish Church (TQ 220765)

The SWLT carried out further investigations of the surviving medieval fabric of the parish church of St. Mary, Barnes, Richmond upon Thames, during the spring and summer of 1979. The original medieval walls survive on the south and east sides, the northern wall having been removed during rebuilding in 1777-86 and the east wall during construction of the present brick tower C.1500. The interior and exterior surfaces of the medieval walls were carefully cleaned of recent plaster and then measured drawings were made of the actual fabric. A study of the materials used in the construction of the walls suggests there were at least three main building phases:

- 1) a rectangular building 10.7m E-W by 6.0m N-S with walls made mostly of flints set in regular courses. A filled-in door arch was discovered in the south wall of this building and it has been dated by R. Halsey, DOE, to C.1100. Excavation below the present ground surface disclosed that this building rested on slightly expanded footings of stone;
- 2) some time later the church was extended 7.6m to the east forming a chancel to the original nave. There are three lancet windows surviving in the east end and these suggest a date C.1200 for the extension. This would also accord with the local belief that St. Mary's was dedicated by Stephan Langton returning from Runnymede in 1215. The walls of this portion of the church are not quite in

line with the flint walls but turn inwards slightly to the north-east. There are no footings to these walls which are composed of large chalk blocks on the interior faces;

- 3) an extension of some 3.6m to the west may have occurred at the same time as the chancel was constructed, as these walls are also of chalk. The foundations of the western portion extend slightly deeper than those of the flint building.

Excavations within the area of the original medieval nave revealed extensive disturbance caused by the digging of graves and the construction of brick burial vaults. No medieval floor levels remained but short stretches of the north wall in the eastern and western extensions were uncovered. Both stretches were composed almost entirely of chalk blocks resting on the natural sand and gravel.

An intact inhumation burial was discovered below the segment of the north wall of the western extension, providing proof that the church was extended out over the original burial ground. There were no grave goods as the burial was Christian and the burial cannot be precisely dated.

It is intended to excavate selected areas outside the church in an attempt to locate building levels and the old ground surface. Some recording of the fabric remains to be completed, and it is hoped to finish all finds processing on site during 1980.

There are plans to rebuild the church retaining the medieval portion and demolishing the 1906 addition. The nave will be turned 90° with the altar then being placed on the north wall. Rebuilding will not begin, however, until early 1981.

J. Scott McCracken

Epsom: 41 South Street (TQ 07767446)

A short excavation has just been completed on the site of 41 South Street, Epsom, a small house demolished in 1969. We were able to clear modern rubble from the foundations over most of the structure which was a timber framed, central chimney stack house built gable-end to the street. Material from construction deposits connected with the foundations (clay pipes, pottery etc.) would seem to indicate a late 17th century date a little at variance with the stylistic dating of the structure to about 1650. However, one side wall had been completely replaced by the late 17th century early 18th century brick building next door and a certain amount of reconstruction may have occurred at that time. It would be surprising if the structurally much simpler timber building to one side of the quite sophisticated late 17th century town house was of the same date. A sequence of gradual narrowing of the fireplaces was clearly shown. Finds were sparse but included some clay pipes (two stamped by a Guildford maker), some fragmentary pottery of 17th century date and also many small medieval sherds from beneath the walls. Also recovered were parts of a large 17th century wine glass. We were pleased to be able to undertake this investigation of a specific site, probably the only archaeologically significant area on this large development. It is also expected that recording of the existing 47/51 South Street will be undertaken before reconstruction.

S. Dyer

Kingston upon Thames: rear of 76 Eden Street (TQ 182692)

Early in January, 1978, work commenced on a site behind 76 Eden Street, alongside the wall of the Society of Friends' old burial ground. The site lies on the rising ground above the ancient river valley between Eden Street and the River Thames, to the east of the centre of medieval Kingston, and is c.50 metres from the site of a pottery kiln known to have produced Surrey White Ware.

Two trenches were opened, one measuring 12m by 6m and the other 8m by 1.5m; their size and extent were dictated by the dimensions and present use of the site itself. Beneath a layer of horticultural topsoil varying in thickness from 40 to 80cm several rubbish pits were found. These date from a modern deposition of rubbish about 30 or 40 years old in a trench dug as an air-raid shelter in 1940, to pits certainly of the 16th and 17th centuries, and possibly earlier. Artefacts from these latter included Surrey White Ware sherds, and fragments of a wine bottle bearing the seal of the Burchett coat of arms. This family is known to have built and occupied a house on the site in the late 17th century. The largest pit, estimating from the quadrant-shaped portion excavated, might have had a diameter of 9 or 10m. It is possible that this pit was dug to obtain the underlying mixture of gravel and orange-coloured rootlet clay for use as road make-up. All the pit fills were disturbed, and pottery fragments were on average small; a few apparently worked flints and an early 14th century jeton were found in the topsoil of Trench I. The underlying strata of these two trenches were examined as far as possible, but due to the position of the site, trench depth had to be limited to little more than 1m.

In July a third trench, 12m by 2.5m, was opened by machine in an adjacent car park, on the same east-west axis as the first two trenches. The upper levels of this trench proved to contain the same types of pottery as Trenches I and II. Investigation of the deeper levels was carried down through a layer of the orange-coloured clay (from 50cm to 1m thick) to the surface of the underlying gravel, revealing a short length of bank of a possible ditch in the gravel. A sherd of hand-made pottery, of corky fabric, chaff-tempered, was found in the clay just above the gravel, together with a disc made from the base of a greyish-black vessel, possibly of Roman manufacture. Also in the clay nearby, another piece of hand-made pottery was found; this was dark grey, of moderately fine fabric, heavily tempered with calcined flint. Its rim was eroded, and there was a patch of carbonised deposit on the concave surface, presumably the inside of the vessel. Both these sherds are considered to be of mid-Saxon date, 7th or 8th centuries. At the west end of this trench, in the south section, appeared a semi-circular feature, which contained an homogeneous fill mixed with mainly 19th century pottery fragments.

Digging ended for the year in December, 1978, but in March, 1979, Mrs. Hinton, the Assistant Curator of Kingston Museum, was able to carry out a further month's full-time excavation with a team of five diggers. The third trench was extended by machine, almost doubling its width; in this extension the soil was removed down to the surface of the gravel. It became apparent that the channel in the gravel ran diagonally across the trench from south-east to north-west, and that it had parallel but very irregular edges. It has so far been impossible to determine whether this channel is natural, being perhaps the remains of an old

watercourse, or whether it was man-made. A section cut across its fill at the east end of the trench revealed a complex series of deposits which has not yet been fully interpreted. In the clay of the trench extension was found a dark grey, possibly wheel-made, pottery fragment with a narrow rim; this sherd could be of pre-Roman Iron Age origin. Three worked flints of truncated blade form were also found in the clay. The semi-circular feature mentioned in the preceding paragraph was completely exposed by the widening of the trench and proved to be a pit of probable 19th century construction, possibly a well. It was not excavated to its complete depth, but several courses of unmortared brick lining were found with traces of wood scaffolding between some of the courses. Its deeper fill still contained mainly 19th century pottery and fragments of glass bottles, with some earlier pottery.

Although there was no opportunity on this site to investigate the deep stratification or to ascertain the nature of the underlying gravels, it is hoped that there will be a chance to do this, at least in part, by site-watching when the area is redeveloped in 1981-82.

Pat Nicolaysen

Reigate: Wray Common Windmill (TQ 269511)

This well-known tower mill was constructed by Thomas Hunt of Soham in 1824 and contains several unusual features. It was fully described by Farries and Mason (*Windmills of Surrey and Inner London*, 1966).

There has been active concern for the preservation of this mill since 1961 when a proposal for use as a builder's office received an outline planning permission subject to satisfactory details of alterations. Another prospective purchaser, the present occupant, submitted details for residential use including the conversion of the adjacent granary as ancillary accommodation.

The then Reigate Corporation subsequently included a condition in the permission to the applicant issued in May 1965 that:

"The sails, cap and gallery of the Windmill shall be restored concurrently with the proposed development and shall thereafter be maintained in a satisfactory condition to the reasonable requirements of the local planning authority".

The mill duly changed hands. Reigate Corporation granted £150 and the Records, Historic Buildings and Antiquities Committee of the County Council agreed to contribute £400 towards the cost of restoration.

Although then apparently restored to a reasonable standard including the provision of two new dummy sweeps, it is now clear that the owner did not have sufficient finance to maintain the situation over the coming years. On many occasions the Reigate Society approached the owner expressing concern about the deteriorating condition of the mill. In April 1975 a neighbour complained that the condition of the sweeps was causing local concern. The mill's condition was also known to the Borough Council who undertook several inspections. The owner claimed that more money was needed to carry out repairs than he could afford.

Three more years of negotiation and deterioration followed and in June 1978 the Historic Buildings Council was approached for grant assistance based on a millwright's estimate of nearly £10,000 and drawing attention to the Grade II Star Listing but the Historic Buildings Council was

unable to assist. In January and February 1980, gales caused collapse of much of the sweeps and fantail and the owner took emergency action, reputed to have cost £1,500.

It is believed that the Borough Council propose to take certain enforcement action to achieve the Mill's restoration but the future of the Mill is uncertain.

D. J. Turner

Woking: Monument Hill (around TQ 023583)

Aerial photographs taken during the dry summer of 1976 showed extensive crop marks on arable land which has been the subject of a series of planning applications for development as a golf course.

At the request of Mr. John Hampton, and with permission from the Burhill Estates Co. Ltd., the Mayford History Society carried out trial excavations in the hope of finding evidence to date what appeared to be a field system and possible occupation area.

Two sections cut across parallel crop marks running north/south for 37 metres revealed, at 0.6 metres below the surface, a clearly cut U-shaped ditch 1.8 metres wide x 0.6 metres deep; and approximately 1.6 metres to the east, a much less well defined gully 1 metre wide x 0.3 metres deep. A thin band of clay followed the outline of the ditch between the fill of dark brown sandy soil and the natural yellow sand; but beneath the shallower dark brown fill of the gully, the clay was much more concentrated.

On the western edge of the gully, an indeterminate mixture of sticky yellow clay and light brown sandy soil formed a gradual incline, which then levelled out as it merged with the firm light brown sandy soil on the edge of the ditch 1.6 metres to the west.

Twelfth/fourteenth century pottery was found in the upper fill and to either side of the top of the ditch and gully, but these features remain undated, as unfortunately no finds were made in the primary silt.

At the moment the finds are retained by the writer.

Nancy Cox

The following extract from volume 1 of the *Bulletin of Experimental Archaeology* should be of interest to Surrey archaeologists:

"Roman relief-patterned flue-tiles

A replica of part of the Dog and Stag impression (Lowther 1948 die 6) has come to light among authentic specimens in Kendal Borough Museum. A stamp on the reverse reads 'Ashted Pottery' and it appears to represent an unrecorded experiment by A. W. G. Lowther (c.1930) in using a roller to produce the impression.

Reference: Johnston, D. and Williams, D. F. 1979, 376.

Source: J. Anstee, Museum of Lakeland Life and Industry, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 5AL".

V. Ettlinger

B.B.C. 'Chronicle' Award 1980

The Domestic Buildings Research Group (Surrey) is one of the six finalists in this national event. We entered, as this year we had completed ten years of recording Surrey's older farmhouses, cottages and farm buildings. Over 1,800 buildings have been recorded in detail, and more than 1,325 reports have been completed. Surrey has, at present, more 'measured up' smaller buildings than any other county. We have also a complete system for recording storing and retrieving information on these buildings.

Joan Harding

Kingston Museum Processing Centre

Members may wish to note that the Kingston Museum archaeological processing centre and store, known locally as St. Andrew's Archaeological Centre, is now closed.

New accommodation has been provided at St. Phillip's School, Chessington. This is an unused Victorian mansion, set back from the Leatherhead Road, and adjacent to the Harrow public house. Bus services 65, 265, and 714, run close to the new centre and Chessington South railway station is five minutes' walk away. Opening times will be:

Saturday 10.00 a.m.- 5.00 p.m.

Wednesday 8.00 p.m.-10.00 p.m.

Other times, for study, by arrangement. For further details please ring Marion Hinton at Kingston Museum, Telephone number 546-5386.

David Field

LITERARY SECTION

S.A.S. Publications

Research Volume No. 7, which was distributed to members in May, is available to the public at £4.00 per copy. Offprints of the two papers may be purchased at the following prices:

199 Borough High Street: excavations in 1962, by D. J. Turner and C. R. Orton, £1.75; Excavations at Guy's Hospital, 1967, by G. J. Dawson, £2.75.

All the above prices include the accompanying microfiches, but exclude postage and packing. The microfiche versions are available separately. Prices: 199 Borough High Street, 50p (two fiches); Guy's Hospital, £1.00 (four fiches); complete £1.50.

Microfiches. It has come to our notice that, through an error beyond our control, some of the distributed copies of **Research Volume 7** did not contain the correct fiches. Each copy should have six fiches, i.e. 199 Borough High Street: fiches 1-2; Guy's Hospital fiches 1-4. Members who find that they have an incomplete or incorrect set should inform Mrs. Needham at Castle Arch, returning any duplicates, and the missing fiches will be supplied.

Copies of the **General Index to Volumes 61 to 70 of the Collections**, which has also been distributed to members, may be purchased at £3.00, plus postage and packing. It was not possible to supply hard-bound copies at a price that it was thought would be acceptable to members.

Research Volume No. 6, the report on the excavation at Runnymede Bridge in 1976, by David Longley, has been unavoidably delayed and will not be ready until later in the year.

Research Volume No. 8, a history and survey of Catteshall Mill, Godalming, by Alan and Glenys Crocker, and the second LAMAS/SAS Joint Publication, a report of the excavation at the Quaker Burial Ground, Staines, by Kevin Crouch, are now being prepared for the press.

Volume 72 of the **Collections** is now in galley proof and should be distributed before the end of the year.

Delays in publication have meant that distributions have been unevenly spaced throughout the last few years and members may like to know how these relate to subscriptions years, which is as follows:

1978/9 RV 5 and Joint Publ. 1; 1979/80 RV 7, Index; and RV 6
1980/81 Collections Vol. 72

LAMAS/SAS Joint Publication No. 1

There are still many members who opted to receive this publication but have not collected their copies. These are taking up much needed space at Castle Arch and unless they are collected by the end of September 1980 they will be returned to store. It is regretted that it is not possible to post them, as staff time is not available for packing and carrying to the post.

Honorary Editor

LIBRARY NOTES

(It is hoped that this will be the first of a regular series, which, taken with the lists of new additions to stock, will keep members up to date with developments in the library)

We do regret the inconvenience to members caused by the need to close the library recently, while central heating was installed at Castle Arch. We had very little warning of the event, and as the floor boards had to be taken up, it really was impossible to admit people. I am sorry to say, that though we will now be warm, we have, as a result of this, lost thirty feet from our already terribly overcrowded shelves. This means that more material has been removed from open access, and members planning to visit the library when the Assistant Librarian is not on duty, i.e. basically afternoons, are advised to check beforehand that the material they want is still available.

We are continuing to publicise the library's fine collection of prints, maps and watercolours as much as possible. There was an exhibition of material on "Surrey Waterways" in Guildford Public Library throughout February, which resulted in several new members coming forward. We also mounted an exhibition entitled "Surrey's Heritage of Buildings" at the weekend conference on Conservation, organised recently at Charterhouse by the C.B.A. and S.A.S. jointly. There will be a second chance for members to see this at the Society's own Symposium, at the Dorking Halls, on May 17th. There will be an exhibition on "The Valley of the Tillingbourne" of related material to accompany the weekend conference on the Tillingbourne Valley, to be held at Surrey University, on May 10th-11th. Watch out also for our series of notelets, which we hope to have on sale in Guildford shops by the end of this year. The first series will be reproductions of four different Guildford scenes from items in our collection. If these are a success, we hope to go on to include other places.

The library has a continuing problem to keep abreast of the flood of publications, pamphlets, church guides, newsletters etc. produced by local groups throughout the County. Some of these are well publicised, and find their way to Castle Arch through the good offices of local secretaries and other members; others, we never hear of at all.

I hope members will agree with me, that as the County Society, it is very important that our Library should maintain as complete a collection as possible of all local material, and may I appeal to all local secretaries, and indeed all members, to keep your eyes and ears, open? Can you check that your local history society sends a copy of its newsletters and publications to Castle Arch? Has your local church produced a new guidebook recently?

The Society does not necessarily expect donations in these inflation-ridden days! We are more than happy to reimburse members, and local societies, for all publications they care to send us.

As Honorary Librarian I cannot possibly be active right across the County. You, the members, are my real hope. Please will you help?

Gillian Drew
Honorary Librarian

MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 3rd

"New Life For Old Churches", an illustrated talk by Miss Pamela Cunningham, R.I.B.A., the Historic Buildings Officer for Dorset County Council, to be given to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St. Mary's Church Hall, Ewell, at 8.00 p.m. Admission 20p, including refreshments. All welcome.

Sunday 4th

Animal Bones. A visit to the Cotswold Farm Park (Rare Breeds Survival Trust) is being organised by the Spelthorne Group. The Trust maintains many examples of domestic animals as they were before modern livestock production trends began. Members who would like to join the expedition should contact John Chapman, 8 Caseldon Close, Addlestone, for further information.

Tuesday 16th

Excavations Committee Liaison Meeting for North Surrey at the Civic Offices, St. Nicholas Way, Sutton, a 8.00 p.m. Will all local groups please try to send representatives. Enquiries to Lesley Adkins, Tel: 01-679 7054.

Saturday 27th

Surrey Local History Symposium, Dorking Halls. "Sports in Surrey". (See enclosed leaflet.)

Sunday 28th

There will be an informal gathering of bone workers (potential bone workers also welcome) at the Blue Anchor, Market Square, Staines (saloon bar) from 8 p.m. The Spelthorne Group's workroom nearby will be open.

COURSES

Surrey in Tudor and Early Modern Times

At Tillingbourne Middle School, Chilworth. Mondays, 7.30-9.30 p.m., starting September 16th. Tutor: D. J. Turner. Sponsored by Reigate and Banstead Adult Education Institute. Contact: Principal, Miss A. Wright, 53 High Street, Horley, RH6 7BN (tel: Horley 5935).

Surrey in Tudor and Early Modern Times

At Tillingbourne Middle School, Chilworth. Mondays, 7.30-9.30 p.m., starting September 22nd. Tutor: D. J. Turner. Sponsored by Guildford W.E.A. Contact: Secretary, Mrs. C. Lester, New House, Old Kiln Close, Churt, Farnham (tel: Headley Down 712060).

W.E.A. Courses at Woking

"The Smaller Houses of Surrey", given by John L. Baker, on Wednesday mornings in Woking, starting October 1st. £15 for 20 classes (£10 O.A.P.s).
"Industrial Archaeology", given by David H. Jones, on Thursday evenings in Woking, starting October 9th. £15 for 20 classes (£10 O.A.P.s).
Enquiries to Secretary, W.E.A., Woking, tel: Woking 63949.

Next Bulletin will be September for which copy is required by August 6th. It is hoped to include the 1980/81 Winter Courses in time for enrolment. Following Bulletin November for which copy is required by October 6th.