

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BULLETIN

Number 174

September 1981

Edited by Lesley Ketteringham, 14 Court Road, Godstone RH9 8BT
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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Incorporated Surrey Archaeological Society will be held at 2.00 p.m. on Saturday, 28th November, 1981, in the Central Lecture Theatre Block at the University of Surrey, Guildford. There is an adjacent car park (No. 1 East).

AGENDA

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To read, and if approved, to sign the Minutes of the meeting of 28th November, 1980.
3. To receive and consider the Annual Report, the Statement of Accounts, and the Auditor's Report for the period 1st April, 1980 to 31st March, 1981 and, if approved, to adopt them. (These will be distributed with the November Bulletin).
4. To elect the President for 1981-82.
5. To elect Honorary Vice-Presidents for 1981-82.
6. To elect Vice-Presidents for 1981-82.
7. To elect Honorary Officers for 1981-82.
8. To elect six Ordinary Members of Council to retire in 1985 under Article 21a.
(Nominations for election under items 4-8 should be sent to the Secretary not less than seven days before the meeting. All nominations require a proposer and seconder who must be members of the Incorporated Society and nominations must be accompanied by a signed statement by the nominee of his or her willingness to stand for election. Institutional members are not eligible for election.)
9. To appoint the Honorary Auditor for 1981-82.
10. Any other business.

LECTURE

The Annual General Meeting will be followed by a lecture entitled:

WEALDEN GLASS FURNACES

By E. S. Wood, Esq, BA, FSA

President—Surrey Archaeological Society

S.A.S. VISIT

Saturday, 19th September

VISIT TO FARINGDON AREA—arranged by J. C. M. Blatch

- 8.30 a.m. Coach departs Reigate Car Park, rear of Woolworths.
8.50 a.m. Coach calls at Dorking Hall.
9.30 a.m. Coach calls at Esher BR Station.
11.30 a.m. Faringdon Church and perambulate town.
Good lunch facilities.
2.15 p.m. Tour Claydon Pike excavations. This is one of the largest archaeological projects in the country showing development of the rural landscape from Iron Age to Roman times. We would be shown around by the co-director of the project, David Miles.
3.15 p.m. Visit Fairford Church, famous for its complete set of late 15th century stained glass.
4.15 p.m. Visit Ashdown House, probably second half of 17th century. Dutch inspired and described by Pevsner as "the perfect dolls' house". A charming property.

Price: £5.00 per head, + members 30p, visitors 40p, students half price.

Please contact Mrs. J. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton KT7 0QL.
Telephone: 01-398 5446.

New Members at end July 1981

- Miss R. E. Chadburn, 'Cassacawn', Blisland, Bodmin, Cornwall PL30 4JU.
Mr M. C. T. Elphick, 13 Riverside, Pixham, Dorking RH4 1PR.
Miss C. A. Johnson, 38 Hotham Road, Wimbledon SW19 1BS.
Mr P. M. G. Jones, Coombe Cottage, Tatling End, Gerrards Cross, Bucks.
Mr R. Page, MSc, DIC, FGS, Hunters Moon, Pitch Place, Guildford GU2 6YH.

NOTES AND QUERIES

DORKING: Restoration of Pippbrook Mill

Pippbrook Mill (Locally listed and 18th century according to the S.C.C. 1975 List of Antiquities, Grade II and 17th century according to Building Design 17.4.81) was gutted by fire in 1979 leaving little more than the brick shell. The building has been reconstructed as offices and a sound recording studio within the old walls by Paton Pitt Taylor and Associates, architects. Most of the work 'has been done on site by a local sub-contractor (S. Highland) specializing in historic buildings' and the result has been the subject of a eulogy in Building Design.

(D. J. Turner)

KINGSTON: Queens Cottages, Canbury Passage

Trial excavations were carried out between September and December 1980, at Canbury Passage in Kingston on behalf of the Kingston Heritage Unit. These were the first archaeological investigations north of the modern town centre and were designed primarily to confirm the line of the ancient river (Penn 1968 Kingston Geological Review), and investigate whether prehistoric occupation extended that far north of Eden Walk. In addition a number of proposed building developments in the area, together with the proposed ring road, make it important that the archaeological potential

was tested at an early stage, more especially since the only previous evidence of Roman occupation in Kingston has come from that area (SyAC 1929 Vol 38 p229).

The site lies at NGR TQ 181696, and is at the western end of a group of partly demolished Victorian terraced cottages assigned for redevelopment by British Rail.

A trench 5 metres x 3 metres was taken to 2 metres deep. Several modern disturbances were noted mainly associated with the occupation of the cottages. Two were burials of domestic animals. A sewer pipe trench serving the cottages and running north east to south west cut the western end of the trench to a depth of 2 metres. A fair quantity of Downs flint nodules, relatively rare in Kingston, were present in the overburden. It remains to be seen whether these were significant.

Between 0.45 metres and 1.80 metres was a layer of orange brickearth containing rootlets and apparently laid as one deposit (Penn: pers. comm.). Appearing in this level were some ninety stake hole features of circular, square, or rectangular form, one of which produced an abraded sherd of Romano-British greyware. Despite careful excavation and recording it is impossible to suggest alignments, though in some cases the holes seem to lie in pairs. To the south of the trench a small group of Romano-British ceramic material was recovered at a depth of 0.85 metres. This consists of two rim sherds of Alice Holt/Farnham greyware, one sherd of black burnished ware, together with a fragment of Romano-British tile. These effectively seal a depression or pit-like feature in the south west corner that contained a few struck flint flakes and potboilers.

Beneath the brickearth was a cambered chalk and sand feature on the same north-south alignment as the trench. This was composed of at least seven alternating layers of chalk and sand, very evenly bedded despite localised disturbance. The chalk layers consisted of small nodules packed closely and evenly, and evidently from the Downs (Penn: pers. comm.). It was certainly not brickearth derived, though many nodules are water rounded. A ditch-like feature sloped to the east and disappeared into the trench edge. To the north west the feature has been heavily disturbed in antiquity. Minor disturbance on the apex of the camber is probably the work of rodents. A number of stakeholes are present and an alignment of some of these with an extensive patch of what appears to be iron or haematite staining runs north to south just above the ditch feature. No dating evidence was discovered though the pottery in the overlying brick-earth would indicate that it is of Romano-British date or earlier.

Interpretation of this feature is at present uncertain. Geologically it seems unlikely to be a natural accumulation; and possibilities of marsh consolidation, a causeway through marshland, or riverside wall embankment, present themselves.

Two auger holes, one at the northern end and one in the centre of the trench floor, confirmed the presence of a sequence of riverine clays and sands up to 1.5 metres below the present trench floor. The ancient river course would seem to be established. Funds and permission are now being sought for machine work and controlled excavation on a larger scale to investigate further the chalk feature and river deposits.

D. Field and D. Hinton

REIGATE: Rear of 43 High Street

Between Easter and June the Holmesdale Archaeological Group excavated on land to the rear of 43 High Street in advance of redevelopment of this part of the town. Part of no.43 is a 17th century timber-framed house on a stone basement and this has been dismantled for eventual display at the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum, Singleton.

Three areas were examined. The main excavation (roughly 7 x 9m) revealed a well-preserved kiln and also a partly dismantled well, overlain by more than a metre of garden loam containing mostly 18th and 19th century material. Within this was an early 19th century deposit of rubble containing part of a millstone. The sub-circular stone well, of which only the lowest courses remained, had been filled in the 16th century. Subsequent levelling layers became necessary because of settling. Unfortunately the well was dug inexpertly during the week without supervision or permission resulting in a drastic collapse of the trench side—luckily without injury and after recording. Recovered material known to have come from the well and associated layers include a brick cresset lamp and a fragment of window glass with quatrefoil decoration.

Documentary evidence, which shows that this area had been a brewery since at least 1575, suggests that the kiln was used for malting. No product waste was identified. The kiln was demolished c.1700 but its construction date is uncertain as it was not possible to excavate it completely, but a medieval date seems possible.

The rectangular kiln, measuring 2.4m x 4.9m, consisted, in its final phase, of a circular kiln base and a rectangular ash pit or stoking room. At the east end the kiln base comprised a circular brick retaining wall, c.1.3m dia., enclosing a brick floor, all set within a rubble foundation. This was separated from the stoking room by a .75m wide brick wall on which were traces of a splayed opening leading into the kiln, and within this opening the fire was presumably lit. The stoking room, 1.9m EW x 1.4m NS internally was constructed of stone. A change from ashlar facing to rougher stone was noted mid-way along both long walls with a change from mortar to clay bonding. The west wall had been mostly robbed post-demolition. The latest floor was a 2cm thick spread of black material containing coal as well as minute fragments of clay pipe.

There was evidence of earlier arrangements of the kiln. The circular kiln base continued below ground as a cylindrical brick wall and two further brick floors were found separated from the topmost by rubble. Beneath these was a heavily burnt stone floor. Beneath the topmost floor of the stoking chamber was a levelling layer of rubble over a 15cm thick deposit of black coal ash overlying a cobbled stone floor. A trial pit dug beneath this floor disclosed further layers of black ash as well as bands of pink ash and silver sand, cut into by a layer of white, clayey material. These layers continued beneath the base of the brick wall which can be seen as a later blocking wall keyed into the cylindrical kiln wall.

The area of the demolished kiln was levelled with rubble, the sunken stoking chamber contained layers of ash and rubble and lumps of yellow clay, also a sherd of Westerwald stoneware and clay pipe bowls suggesting a demolition date c.1700.

The kiln has been preserved beneath the new access road for possible eventual display and for this reason the earlier phases could not be explored.

Part of a stone structure of 13th or 14th century date lay within the trench but its function is unknown. Among the medieval pottery found was part of a lamp and also sherds of an Earlswood-type jug with a relief scallop shell motif.

Once clearance and construction had commenced it was possible to examine an area adjacent to that excavated. This revealed a flint and chalk floor overlain with 16th century material, itself overlying sandy soil containing 13th century pottery and tile. Both these layers were noted in the main excavation. Sealed beneath the floor and cutting into the loam was a line of pottery water pipes probably dating to the 14th century, running from the High Street. To date 19 complete examples have been recovered ranging in length from 13 to 16 ins. and from 2½ to 3 ins. in diameter. They are mostly unglazed. The supply and destination are unknown.

Observation of contractors' trenches on the main area of the site behind nos. 51 and 51A revealed no ancient features or material and it seems likely that this part of the street was not built up before the 19th century.

Finally, after No. 43 was dismantled, it proved possible to excavate beneath the basement floor, expanding on the work already done by Dr Bird. The floor overlaid the natural sand into which had been laid the substantial foundation of a wall of 13th century date, possibly part of an earlier undercroft. Cleaning of the top surface of the basement walls revealed an assortment of small objects which had fallen from the floor above. These included many pins and beads as well as a miniature lead spoon, a Chinese cup, buttons and fragments of fans.

David Williams

ROTHERHITHE: Conversion of Mortuary

The Victorian mortuary at Rotherhithe has been given a new lease of life by being converted into a 'time and talents' centre for the elderly. The mortuary, built in 1895, stands in the conservation area, on the edge of a small park adjacent to the 18th century church of St. Mary. It was only used as a mortuary until the first world war and since then had been used as a store for park equipment. The conversion cost £108,800 and was largely the result of an initiative taken by Watts and Partners, a firm of building surveyors. Alterations to the exterior have been kept to a minimum.

Several schemes of useful rehabilitation have been carried out in the Rotherhithe conservation area, including the conversion of Grices Granary and Wharf into workshops, studios, etc. (*Bulletin* 139) and the conversion of the Brunel engine house into an exhibition (*Bulletin* 169).

(D. J. Turner from information in *Building Design*. 29.5.81)

WOKING: Monument Hill (around TQ023583)

Following the limited excavation carried out at Monument Hill on arable land where aerial photographs had revealed extensive crop marks (*Bulletin* No. 167) Burhill Estates Co. Ltd started work on the development of their new golf course.

Members of Mayford History Society field-walked the whole area during this construction work, but nothing of any archaeological interest was found.

Nancy Hawkins

A Surrey Archaeological Society member, Mrs J. Banks, is at present in charge of the cataloguing of the collection of books, papers, ms., pictures, etc. belonging to the Wesley Historical Society. The collection is housed at Southlands College, Wimbledon Parkside, London SW19. Tel: 01-946 2234. There is some Surrey material, including the ex-Surrey London boroughs, and some valuable material concerning the history of Methodism in this country and abroad.

Enquiries concerning the Wesley Historical Society should be addressed to the Treasurer, Mr Rowland C. Swift, By-the-Wood, Freshfield Lane, Danehill, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH17 7HE. Tel: 0825 790649. Non-members may use the Library at Southlands on application to the Hon. Librarian, Rev Kenneth B. Garlick, Wesley House, 1 Chester Road, Wanstead, London E11 2JR. Tel: 01-530 2589.

Hugh Thompson's Hillforts

Members may like to know that Hugh Thompson's report on his hillfort excavations has been published in *Antiquaries Journal* 1979 LIX; Part II, pp245-318.

MEETINGS

OCTOBER

Wednesday 7th

ROYAL DOULTON. An illustrated talk by Mr Paul Atterbury 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.

Friday 9th

THE RIVER WEY NAVIGATION. An illustrated talk by Jack Chinn to the Guildford members of the S.A.S. at the Guildford Institute, Ward St., at 8.00 p.m. Visitors welcome.

NOVEMBER

Wednesday 4th

ROMANO-BRITISH MOSAICS. Talk by James Barfoot to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St. Mary's Church Hall, Ewell, at 8.00 p.m. All welcome.

CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE ON MEDIEVAL SURREY (Bulletin No. 173)

A one-day Conference of persons interested in medieval Surrey will be held on **Saturday, 21st November, 1981.**

The Conference will take the form of a series of very short papers (some circulated in advance) reporting recent discoveries, work in progress, suggested lines of enquiry, etc., on which discussion can take place. The Conference will be organised by the Surrey Archaeological Society and the Juniper Hall Field Study Centre and held at Juniper Hall, Mickleham.

Members interested in attending should write in the first instance (enclosing an s.a.e.) to D. J. Turner, 21 Evesham Road, Reigate. The fee is around £6.00 per head, including morning coffee, lunch and afternoon tea as well as the cost of pre-circulated papers. Numbers will be limited.

COURSES

THE UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

A course of 11 lectures will be held on Tuesday evenings at the University of Surrey. Lecture Theatre L, 7.30-9.30 p.m., on:

INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY

(Organised by Francis Haveron, BA)

1981

6 October	"Michael Faraday and electricity"	Dr Brian Bowers
20 October	"Early electrical equipment"	Bob Gordon
3 November	"Magnus Volk of Brighton"	Conrad Volk
17 November	"Film making at Walton Studios"	Miss E. B. Hepworth
1 December	"Industrial Architecture of the 1930s"	Clive Aslet
15 December	"Early Days of radio"	Ralph Barrett

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12 January	"Printed ephemera"	Keith Lambeth
26 January	"Historical Motorboats"	Anthony Edwards
9 February	"Trams in Surrey"	Bryan Woodriff
23 February	"Gatwick Airport"*	John King
9 March	Members' Evening	

* It is hoped to arrange a visit shortly after the talk.

FEE FOR COURSE: £8.00 (Members of Surrey Archaeological Society and OAPs: £5.00). Cheques made payable to "University of Surrey" to: Mrs Gwen Potter, Dept. of Adult Education, University of Surrey, Guildford. (State whether member or OAP).

AMENDMENT: Please note that there is a correction in the University of London courses issues in Bulletin 173.

Human Skeletal Remains on p.7 is a Post Diploma Course.

Aspects of Local History Tuesdays from: 29th September at 7.30. ten meetings. Tutor: D. J. Turner, Reigate College, Castlefield Road, Reigate.

The Making of the Surrey Landscape Mondays from: 21st September at 7.30. 20 meetings including visits. Tutor: D. J. Turner, Reigate and Banstead Adult Education Institute, 53 High Street, Horley.

BOURNE SOCIETY COURSES

The Surrey Scene Wednesdays from: 30th September. 11 meetings. Various speakers. This course is about people, past and present and how their activities fit in with local history. At the Gresham School, Limpsfield Road, Sanderstead from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. Fee: £7.00.

Surrey People (A Surrey University Course) Wednesdays from: 23rd September. 10 meetings. Tutor: James Batley, BA. The lectures include: Surrey artists, writers, statesmen, naturalists, kings and queens, etc. At de Stafford School, Caterham, from: 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. Fee: £12.

The Colonisation of the Waste: the story of Surrey Villages Bourne Society Lectures for the Croydon Adult Education Department. Tuesdays from: 29th September. 20 meetings. Tutor: Charles E. Pringle. At Taunton Manor High School, Old Coulsdon from: 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. Enrolment at Coulsdon Centre; Croydon Adult Education Dept., or Taunton Manor High School. Further information from C. E. Pringle, 27 Hollymead Road, Chipstead CR3 3LQ. Fee: £16.

Next Bulletin: November, for which copy is required by 6th October.

Following Bulletin: January, for which copy is required by 6th December.