



SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX
Telephone: Guildford 32454

BULLETIN

Number 213

September 1986

Edited by Miss E. P. Humphreys, 41 Salisbury Road, Godstone RH9 8AA
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S.A.S. VISIT TO SELBORNE AND CHAWTON

arranged by G. Singleton

Thursday, 16th October

- 10.30 a.m. Meet in the car park at the south end of Selborne village (which is situated 4 miles south-east of Alton) Brief visit to the Zig-Zag path (constructed in 1753).
- 11.00 a.m. Visit Selborne church (c. 1180) and see its famous window on the south wall, and many other associations with Gilbert White, also the 1000 year old Yew tree.
- 12.00 noon Visit the Wakes (contains Captain Oates Memorial Library and Gilbert White Museum) where the Curator will give a short introductory talk.
- 1.15 p.m. Break for lunch. There are two old inns and a cafe in the village, or, picnic in the car park.
- 2.15 p.m. Drive to Empshott (2 miles south-east) and view the church (early C13).
Drive to Chawton (7 miles north-west).
- 3.00 p.m. Visit Jane Austen's house in Chawton, where the Curator will give a short introductory talk.
- 3.45 p.m. Tea available in Chawton village (please pay on the day).
On the way home we may have time to visit Alton, a centre for the hop industry and brewing, with a C15 church with Civil War associations, and the Curtis Museum (closes at 5.00 p.m.).

TICKETS: Members 50p, non members 60p, students half price, accompanied children free. **COSTS:** Adults £1.80, O.A.P. £1.50 to include admissions and donation. Please send cheques with s.a.e. to Mrs. Jean West, 123 Ewell By Pass, Ewell, Epsom, KT17 2PX (Tel: 01-393 8970). A map will be provided on arrival. Please send bookings by end of September to enable final arrangements to be completed.

COACH OUTING IN KENT

(Organised by Surrey Roman Villa Group)

Saturday, 20th September

The outing will include visits to Richborough Castle, Reculver Towers and Roman Fort and Stone-by-Faversham chapel. The coach will start from Guildford railway station at 8.30 a.m. with a pick-up at Dorking Halls at 9.00 a.m.

Costs to include admission and guide charges and driver's gratuity: £5.75 for Heritage members (whether or not senior citizens); £6.65 senior citizens; £7.00 others. For further details and booking forms please contact Mr. L. Le Mottee, Little Rising, Ermyn Way, Leatherhead, KT22 8TW (Ashted 74107).

SOCIETY NEWS

Honorary Local Secretaries

The following appointments have recently been made:

Beddington, Wallington & Carshalton — Miss M. P. Hayman, 27 Alma Road, Carshalton SM5 2PQ.

Epsom & Ewell — Mrs. P. Bedwell, 37 Seymour Avenue, Ewell, Epsom, KT17 2RS.

Guildford, Mewsey, Burpham, Stoke & Stoughton — Miss E. C. Clark, 41 The Greenwood, Guildford, GU1 2NE.

The Council of the Society wishes to thank the retiring Local Secretaries, Mr. K. A. Pryer, Mr. R. Temple and Miss J. A. Cowie for their many years of service as the Society's representative in their respective areas.

Mr. R. L. Ellaby, Hon. Local Secretary for Reigate, Redhill, Merstham & Gatton has moved to: 47 Priory Drive, Reigate RH2 8AF.

Surrey Archaeological Society Research Fund

This fund has been set up to support research on any aspect of the history or archaeology of the historic or administrative county of Surrey. Projects involving Surrey as part of a wider region will also be considered. The fund is available to any individual, whether or not a member of the Society and to local historical or archaeological societies or groups. The success of an application is not dependent on a proven record of research. This fund is not intended to supplant existing sources of finance, set out below. An application form and a copy of the general conditions of grants are available from the Hon. Secretary, Surrey Archaeological Society, Castle Arch, Guildford, GU1 3SX.

Existing Sources

Excavation and Fieldwork — grants are administered by the Excavations Committee. Contact Dr. D. G. Bird (Excavations Committee Secretary) at the Society's address as above.

The Publications and Editorial Committee will continue to consider requests for loans towards the cost of publication. Contact Mrs. P. C. Nicolaysen (Committee Secretary), 295 West Barnes Lane, New Malden KT3 6JE.

Advance Notice

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held at the University of Surrey on Saturday, November 22nd at 2 p.m. Details will be given later.

New Members

We welcome the following new members to the Society:

Mr. J. M. Barnett, 5 Thurilton Court, Chobham Road, Horsell, Woking GU21 4AU; Mr. G. C. Dawson, Old Swains Farmhouse, Smalls Hill Road, Leigh, Reigate RH2 8RQ; Ms. L. Rolph, 12 West Avenue, Salfords, Redhill RH1 5BA; Miss D. P. Farrar, 22 The Close, Reigate RH2 7BN; Mr. D. R. Cousins, 47 Wodeland Avenue, Guildford GU2 5JZ; Mr. R. G. Leadbeater, 19 Hurstleigh Drive, Redhill RH1 2AA; Mrs. C. Spivey, 9 Broadwater Rise, Guildford GU1 2LA; Mr. P. W. Hopkins, 11 Green Lane, Bagshot GU19 5NL; L. A. Smith, Hazeldene, Glebe Road, Ashted KT21 2NT; Mrs. R. E. Hunter, Burrow Hill House, Pirbright GU24 0JS; Mr. J. E. Ruddell, Park Corner, Park Horsley, East Horsley, Leatherhead KT24 5RZ.

Institutional Members: Dept. of History, TESIS England, Coldharbour Lane, Thorpe TW20 8TE; Getty Center Library, Serials Department, 401 Wiltshire Blvd, Suite 400, Santa Monica, CA 90401-1455, U.S.A.

Corrections to *Bulletin* 212

New Members: The first name should read Mr. P. L. Hunt. Our apologies to Mr. Hunt for the incorrect entry.

Recent Accessions to the Society's Library: Acquisitions to Research Material. The slides of Nevill drawings and houses as they are today were taken by Cecilia Green and not as stated in the *Bulletin*. Our apologies to Cecilia Green and Joan Harding.

List of Journals and Newsletters currently taken by Surrey Archaeological Society. Part I (part II will appear in the next *Bulletin*)

Addlestone History Society News
A.I.A. Bulletin
Agricultural History Review
Anglo Saxon England
Anglo Saxon Studies in Archaeology & History
Antiquaries Journal
Antiquity
Archaeologia
Archaeologia Aeliana
Archaeologia Cantiana
Archaeological Bibliography for Great Britain & Ireland
Archaeological Journal
Archaeological Reports, Universities of Durham & Newcastle
Archaeology in Britain
Archaeological Bibliography, Newsletter & Calendar
Archives
Barnes & Mortlake Historical Society Newsletter
Beddington, Carshalton & Wallington History Society Newsletter
Bedfordshire Archaeological Journal
Berkshire Archaeological Journal
Bourne Society Bulletin
Bourne Society Local History Records
Brittania
British Archaeological Abstracts
British Association for Local History
British Records Association Report
Bulletin of the Institute of Archaeology, University of London
Clapham Antiquarian Society Occasional Sheet
Commons, Open Spaces & Footpaths Preservation Society
Cornish Archaeology
C.B.A. Bulletin of Archaeology for Schools
C.B.A. Newsletter & Calendar
Derbyshire Archaeological Journal
Dialstone, Walton & Weybridge Local History Society
Domestic Buildings Research Group Newsletter
Dorking & Leith Hill Preservation Society
Durham Archaeological Journal
Egham by Runnymede Historical Society News
English Place Name Society Publications
Esher & District Local History Society News
Esher & District Local History Society Monographs
Essex Archaeology & History
Ewhurst History Society Bulletin
Farnham & District Museum Society Newsletter
Field Studies Council Annual Report
GLIAS Newsletter
Genealogists Magazine
Hampshire Field Club Newsletter
Hertfordshire Archaeology

Industrial Archaeology
Industrial Archaeology Review
Journal of Archaeological Science
Journal of British Archaeology
Journal of Chester Archaeological Society
Journal of English Place Name Society
Journal of Roman Studies
Journal of Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland

EXCAVATION: NOTICE & REPORTS

Merton Priory and Kingston Horsefair

The Museum of London, Dept. of Greater London Archaeology, is excavating at the above sites. Much of the Merton Priory site, including the church, cloisters, cellarer's range and south transept is to be investigated in advance of proposed redevelopment. Further work on the medieval Kingston bridge, associated medieval waterfront areas and medieval street frontage is planned at the Kingston Horsefair site. Volunteers are welcome at either site and excavations will continue at weekends. For further details please contact the DGLA, St. Lukes House, 270 Sandycombe Road, Kew, Richmond TW9 3NP (01-940 5989).

J. S. McCracken

Borelli Yard, Farnham, Surrey (SU 470468)

Thermo-remnant magnetism dating by Dr. A. J. Clark has produced a date of AD 1235 \pm 15 years for the firing of the tile kiln excavated at Borelli Yard, making this the earliest known medieval tile kiln. Post-excavation analysis of the data obtained from the site suggests the kiln may have been used for up to 60 years which would indicate a construction date of c.1160–c.1175. The juxtaposition of kiln associated material in the fills of the town ditch point to an early 12th century date for the cutting of this feature. This interpretation is further supported by the nature of the pottery from the lower fills of the town ditch and those fills associated with the kiln. The pottery recovered spans the period from sometime in the late 9th/10th century through to the early 13th. All of the early material is very abraded and fragmentary, the post-conquest material is in better condition but is equally fragmentary and only portions of vessels are represented. Analysis of the pottery is continuing although it is already clear that the pottery from the ditch is difficult to utilise for major interpretations of Farnham's development.

The ceramic and scientific dates from the town ditch and the tile kiln indicate that Farnham was laid out as a town considerably earlier than was previously thought. On the basis of the excavation evidence it is possible to suggest that in the 1130's Henry de Blois, Bishop of Winchester (1129–1171), had the ditch cut at the same time as laying out the street plan and burgrave plots for the town to the south of the castle. This work may have accompanied a major building phase at the castle.

Nicholas Riall

Excavations in Betchworth

From February to mid May two sites were excavated in the village on a full time basis.

The Tithe Barn

In advance of proposed house conversion, a trench (12 x 4.5m) was excavated within this partly demolished C17th barn which stands adjacent to St. Michael's Church, itself of Saxon and Norman origins. The village stands on a deposit of Taelc gravel, a variable deposit typically composed of fine chalk grits. The gravel overlies brickearth. The barn is of seven bays — the two opposing entrances occupying the 3rd and 6th bays from the south.

Uncovered within the barn, beneath a modern layer of chalk, were the remains of a somewhat rustically constructed threshing floor which comprised a series of brick pillars enclosed between low side walls. These originally supported the wooden threshing floor of which a few rotted timbers still survived. This was of mid to late 19th century date. An accumulated deposit around the pillars contained the bones of brown rat and a penny of 1874. The floor seems to have gone out of use and been dismantled around the turn of this century — doubtless with the introduction of more mechanised threshing methods. The barn had been terraced into a slight natural slope, consequently the floor of the southerly two bays was composed of the natural gravel surface. To the north of the threshing floor the central two bays had been floored with chalk which overlay a thin surface of brickearth which in turn covered a levelling layer of gravel. Many stake holes cut these layers, probably representing hurdle partitions for animal penning. None of these deposits could be dated earlier than the C19th. Coins of 1862 and 1865 were found. In contrast, none of the underlying layers could be dated later than the 14th or 15th centuries. A single C17th sherd was found in the gravel surface of the southerly bays. This could be interpreted as evidence for an earlier barn on the site, indeed the standing structure incorporates earlier timbers.

The northern half of the excavated area overlay a deep natural feature over 5m wide with a steeply sloping side. This is interpreted as a former watercourse. Above its gravel bed had been accumulated about 1m of charcoal-flecked sandy silt containing a few struck flints. Above this layer were the compactly-buried partially articulated but headless remains of an ox. A Romano British sherd was loosely associated and much C11th/12th pottery and bone overlay the skeleton in a dark green/grey silt. The resulting slight hollow was used to dump a series of layers of debris separated by clayey soils. The earliest of these layers was a patch of charcoal 0.5m wide associated with C12th pottery and the charred remains of a timber 0.83m long. Above this was a dump of burnt clay and daub mixtures, clay wall surfaces and reddened flints. Above this was a deposit of charcoal rich soil and above that part of a concentrated dump of broken roofing tiles of C13th date. The latter contained a large fragment of a shell tempered cooking pot and part of a curious pottery object with an applied face. Above the tiles was a surface of packed flint.

All the aforementioned layers had been cut by a ditch or pit some 4m wide by 1.4m deep. The green/grey clayey silt which filled this was devoid of finds other than roofing tiles. The sloping banks of this pit had been roughly revetted with flint, stone and tile. More clayey loam overlay these features and above that was the levelling layer for the barn. To the south the various intervening layers of clayey loam merged to produce an extensive deposit 1m thick which was dishearteningly unproductive of finds other than scarce pottery sherds and the skeleton of a dog of uncertain date.

The evidence from this excavation suggests that this site lies on the periphery of the early village and also suggests the presence of substantial buildings close by — although the paucity of artefactual evidence, despite a metal detector survey, might contradict this.

The Street

A small amount of work took place opposite Betchworth House on the site of cottages depicted by Edward Hassell and demolished after 1870. Buildings are shown here in a 1634 estate map. The houses proved on excavation to have been extensively demolished, and to have had no dug foundations. However the position of the northerly house was located

with some accuracy. Nothing was found to date the building earlier than c1750 and the scarcity of earlier material remains a puzzle. A shallow gully containing a surprising amount of Saxo Norman pottery was also discovered.

The excavation was supported both by this society and also by Beechams Ltd.

David Williams

NOTES

Harvesting Grain

I recently found a reference to a method of harvesting grain in common use in Ireland during the 16th to 18th centuries A.D. It was known as "burning in the straw". "The corn was cut and unthrashed, set on fire, the grain being then winnowed from the ashes and milled".

I wonder if the practice is even older. It may account for the burnt grain found on prehistoric sites, Iron Age farm sites in particular, usually explained as the result of drying the grain in ovens.

Reference: Salaman, Redcliffe (Revised and edited Hawkes, J. G.) 1949/1985. *The History and Social Influence of the Potato* page 198. Cambridge University Press.

F. A. Hastings

Book Notice

The Amateur and the Professional. Historians, Antiquarians and Archaeologists in Nineteenth-Century England, 1838-1886. By P. J. A. Levine. Published by Cambridge University Press, (1986), pp. 210, price £25.00.

"This book highlights the growing divide in nineteenth century intellectual circles between amateur and professional interest, and explores the institutional means by which professional ascendancy was achieved in the broad field of studies of the past. It is concerned with how antiquarian 'gentlemen of leisure' were, by the end of the century, relegated to the sidelines of the new university-based discipline of history." This quote from the dust jacket of the book certainly describes the content but makes it sound very dull and earnest. However, do read on and don't be put off. The emergence and early days of the many archaeological societies founded in the Victorian period makes an interesting story and the author tells it well. She has drawn on archival material from several organisations including our own S.A.S., founded in 1854.

The production of the book is to the usual high standard of C.U.P., but what a pity it costs so much.

COURSES IN ARCHAEOLOGY AND RELATED SUBJECTS

Reigate, Saturday 11th October. One-day course on *Domesday Surrey*. Tutors: A. B. E. Clark, R. Poulton and D. J. Turner. Arranged by Reigate & Banstead A.E.I., 53 High Street, Horley (Horley 785935).

Caterham Valley. "Palaeography: Latin for Beginners". Course designed for local historians to read and translate Latin manuscripts. Tutor: Mary Saaler. 20 weeks starting Wednesday evening 24th September. Tandridge A.E.I., Beechwood Road, Caterham (Caterham 45398).

Guildford. "History of Guildford". Tutor: Matthew Alexander. 20 weeks starting Tuesday morning 30th September.

Guildford W.E.A., enquiries to Guildford 39421.

"The Roman Empire". Tutor: Lady Hanworth. 20 weeks starting Tuesday evening 30th September. Guildford W.E.A.

"Local History". Tutor: Judith Hunter. 20 weeks starting Wednesday morning 1st October. Guildford W.E.A.

"How to read old documents". Tutor: Shirley Corke. 10 weeks starting Wednesday evening 1st October. Guildford W.E.A.

Haslemere (Shottermill). "Britain after the Romans". Tutor: Pat Nicolaysen. 20 weeks starting Monday evening 22nd September. Haslemere W.E.A., enquiries to Haslemere 41601.

Leatherhead. "The making of the Surrey landscape". Tutor: Denis Turner. 20 weeks starting Monday evening 6th October. Leatherhead & Ashted W.E.A., 36 Yarm Court Road, Leatherhead KT22 8PA (Leatherhead 376034).

Purley. "Local History — East Surrey". Tutor: Dr. Ron Cox. 20 weeks starting Wednesday afternoon 24th September. Sanderstead & Selsdon W.E.A. (enquiries to Dr. Cox, 01-657 6004 evenings).

Reigate (Woodhatch). "Introduction to medieval Surrey". Tutor: Denis Turner. 10 weeks (alternate) starting Tuesday evening 30th September. Reigate & Banstead A.E.I., 53 High Street, Horley (Horley 785935).

Selsdon. "Local History — East Surrey". Tutor: Dr. Ron Cox. 20 weeks starting Tuesday evening 23rd September. Sanderstead & Selsdon W.E.A. (enquiries to Dr. Cox, 01-657 6004 evenings).

MEETINGS, ETC.

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 10th, 7.45 p.m.

"THE CIVIC CENTRE OF LONDON REVEALED". Talk by John Maloney to Croydon N.H.S.S. at East Croydon U.R. Church Hall, Addiscombe Grove.

Monday 22nd, 7.45 p.m.

"THE ICEHOUSE AND THE ICE INDUSTRY". Talk by Sylvia Beamon to Croydon N.H.S.S. at East Croydon U.R. Church Hall, Addiscombe Grove.

Thursday 25th, 8.00 p.m.

"THE DOMESDAY SURVEY". Talk to Egham-by-Runnymede H.S. at the Literary Institute, Egham High Street.

Saturday 27th

S.A.S. VISIT TO LITTLE STANMORE AND HARROW ON THE HILL. Details given in *Bulletin* 212.

Saturday 18th October, 11.00-4.00

"ANGLO-NORMAN SUSSEX". One day conference at Priory Middle School, Lewes. Full details and tickets (£2.50 cheques payable to Sussex Archaeological Committee plus stamped, addressed envelope) from Mr. D. Rudling, 112 Hollingdean Terrace, Brighton BN1 7HE.

Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th October

"ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE LONDON REGION TO 1500". Conference arranged by LAMAS at The Museum of London. More details in *Bulletin* 212.

Saturday 1st November, 1986 at 2.30 p.m.

DOMESTIC BUILDINGS RESEARCH GROUP (SURREY) Lecture on "Rural Life in Tudor and Stuart Surrey" by Dr. Peter Edwards in the Harrison Room, Old Barn Hall, Church Road, Great Bookham. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Coffey Holland, Waggoners Cottage, Holmbury St. Mary. Tel: Dorking 730932.

Saturday 15th November, 2.15–5.30 p.m.

“SOME ASPECTS OF KENT IN NORMAN TIMES”. Half-day conference at Christ Church College, Canterbury, arranged by the Council for Kentish Archaeology. Tickets £1.00 from 5 Harvest Bank Road, West Wickham, Kent. (Please include a stamped addressed envelope).

Saturday, 29th November

“MEDIEVAL SURREY”. The annual conference will be held at Juniper Hall Field Centre, Mickleham, starting at 9.30 a.m. Papers have been promised on Blechingley Castle, Domesday Dorking, Borelli Yard, Farnham, documentary sources in local history, Surrey bridges and timber joints and trusses. One session will be an open forum to share (and perhaps solve) problems. Coffee, lunch and tea are included in the conference fee of £9.50. Cheques (payable to Surrey Archaeological Society) and enquiries to Dr. D. Renn, 7 Burrows Chase, Great Bookham, Leatherhead KT23 3HB.

EXHIBITIONS

“CAPITAL GAINS: ARCHAEOLOGY IN LONDON 1971–1986”. At The Museum of London from September until the end of January, 1987. Admission free.

SUTTON CENTRAL LIBRARY, St. Nicholas Way, Sutton. Exhibition of the excavations on the prehistoric and Roman site at Beddington, Level 5. 30th September until 8th November. Admission free.

STUDY TOURS

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE CONQUEROR. Study tour of Normandy. Thursday 25th–Saturday 27th September, 1986.

The Society, in conjunction with the University of Surrey, has arranged this tour to Normandy, departing from Guildford at 6.00 a.m. on 25th September. Places to be visited include Caen, Bayeux, Falaise, the D-Day Museum at Arromanches, etc. The tour will be led by Matthew and Mary Alexander. Booking forms may be obtained from Castle Arch or The Secretary (RB), Dept. of Educational Studies, University of Surrey, Guildford GU2 5XH.

Proposed Visit to Jordan and Israel

Late April–early May, 1987. (Dates not yet finalised)

An archaeological, antiquarian and geological tour visiting Amman, Madaba, Kerak, Petra, Jericho, Jerusalem, Acre, Masada, etc, etc, is being arranged by Enid and Richard Butler. Cost approx. £650. They would be pleased to hear from any member who is interested in such a visit. Please contact Mr. and Mrs. R. Butler, 205 Barnett Wood Lane, Ashted KT21 2DF. (Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope).

Next Bulletin

Material for the October issue must be with the Bulletin Editor by Saturday, 6th September. For the November issue the copy date is Saturday, 4th October.