



SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX

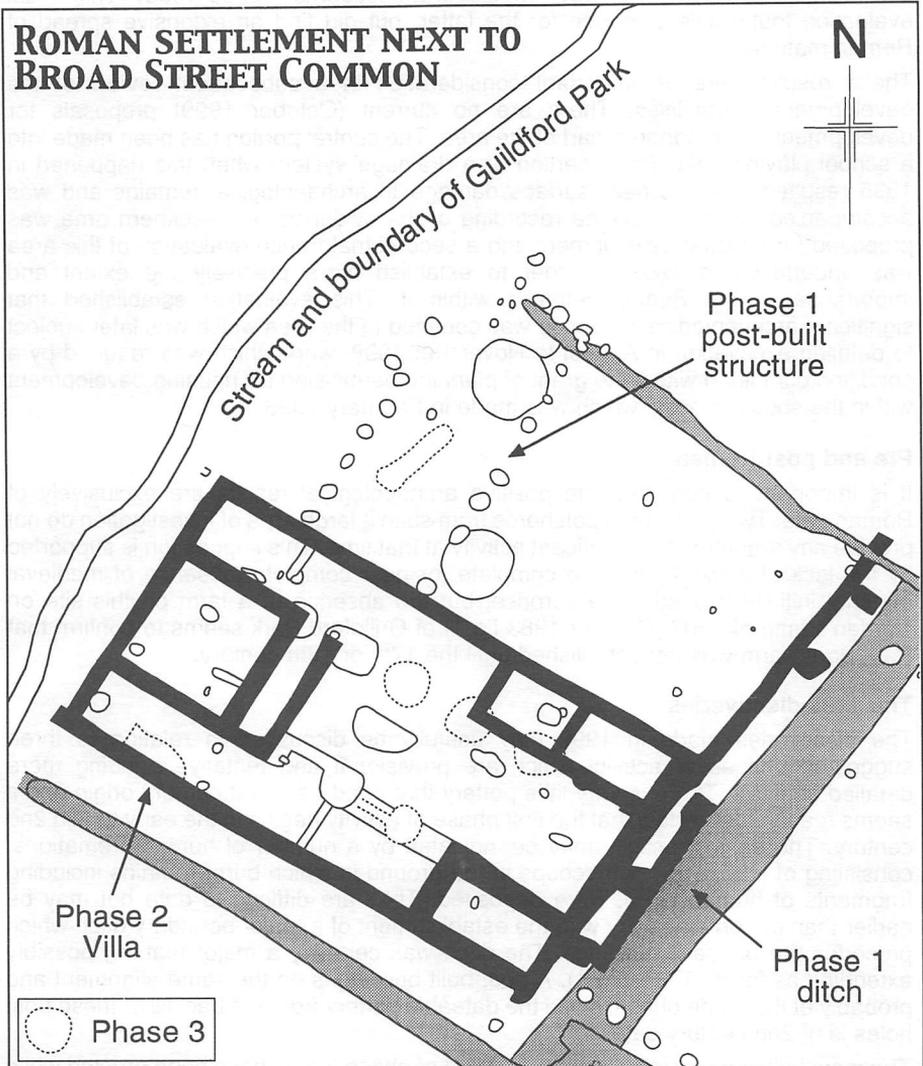
Tel/ Fax: 01483 532454

E-mail: surreyarch@compuserve.com

Website: ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/surreyarch

Bulletin 334

November 1999



Guildford Park Villa

The Excavation of a Roman Settlement Site Adjacent to Broad Street Common, Worplesdon, Surrey

Rob Poulton

Introduction

The excavation near Barnwood School in the summer and autumn of 1998 was the culmination of two previous seasons of trial archaeological work. The first of these, in 1994, was arranged when consideration was being given by Surrey County Council to the possibility of redevelopment of all or part of the area shown as sampled on fig 1. The area was believed to be of high archaeological potential because of the known presence of a major Roman building on the common just to the west (Sibthorpe 1829) and the presence of an 18th century farm at the north end of the site, which was believed to have medieval antecedents (Jones 1995). This initial evaluation found little evidence for the latter, but did find an extensive spread of Roman material.

These results were an important consideration in a subsequent review of the development possibilities. There are no current (October 1999) proposals for development of the northern part of the area. The central portion has been made into a school playing field. The insertion of a drainage system when this happened in 1995 resulted in some near surface damage to archaeological remains and was accompanied by some salvage recording of the evidence. The southern area was proposed for housing development and a second trial trench evaluation of this area was undertaken in 1997 in order to establish more precisely the extent and importance of the Roman remains within it. This evaluation established that significant archaeological evidence was confined to the area which was later subject to detailed excavation in August to November 1998, work which was required by a condition contained within the grant of planning permission for housing development within the southern area, which was made in February 1998.

Pre and post Roman

It is important to note that the positive archaeological results are exclusively of Roman date. Two prehistoric potsherds from such a large area of investigation do not provide any argument for significant activity at that time. This suggestion is supported by the lack of worked flint. The complete, or near complete, absence of medieval material initially caused more surprise, but the absence of a farm on this site on Norden's map of 1607 (Crocker 1983 fig 1) of Guildford Park seems to confirm that Park Barn Farm was not established until the 17th or 18th century.

The 1998 discoveries

The discoveries made in 1998 may usefully be discussed in relation to three suggested phases of activity which are provisional and tentative pending more detailed analysis. There is very little pottery that need be of 1st century origin and it seems reasonably certain that the first phase of activity begins in the early to mid 2nd century. The earliest activity may be indicated by a number of human cremations, consisting of little more than scoops in the ground in which burnt remains including fragments of human bone, were deposited. They are difficult to date but may be earlier than or contemporary with the establishment of a major boundary ditch which precedes the phase 2 buildings. The ditch was certainly a major feature, possibly extending as far as TT14 (fig 1). A post-built building is on the same alignment and probably of the same phase, since the dateable pottery from the backfill of these post holes is of 2nd century date.

The main building (hereafter called the villa) of phase 2 may have been erected while the post-built structure still stood since the south-west end of the latter is exactly aligned with the main north-east wall of the former. Indeed the possibility that the

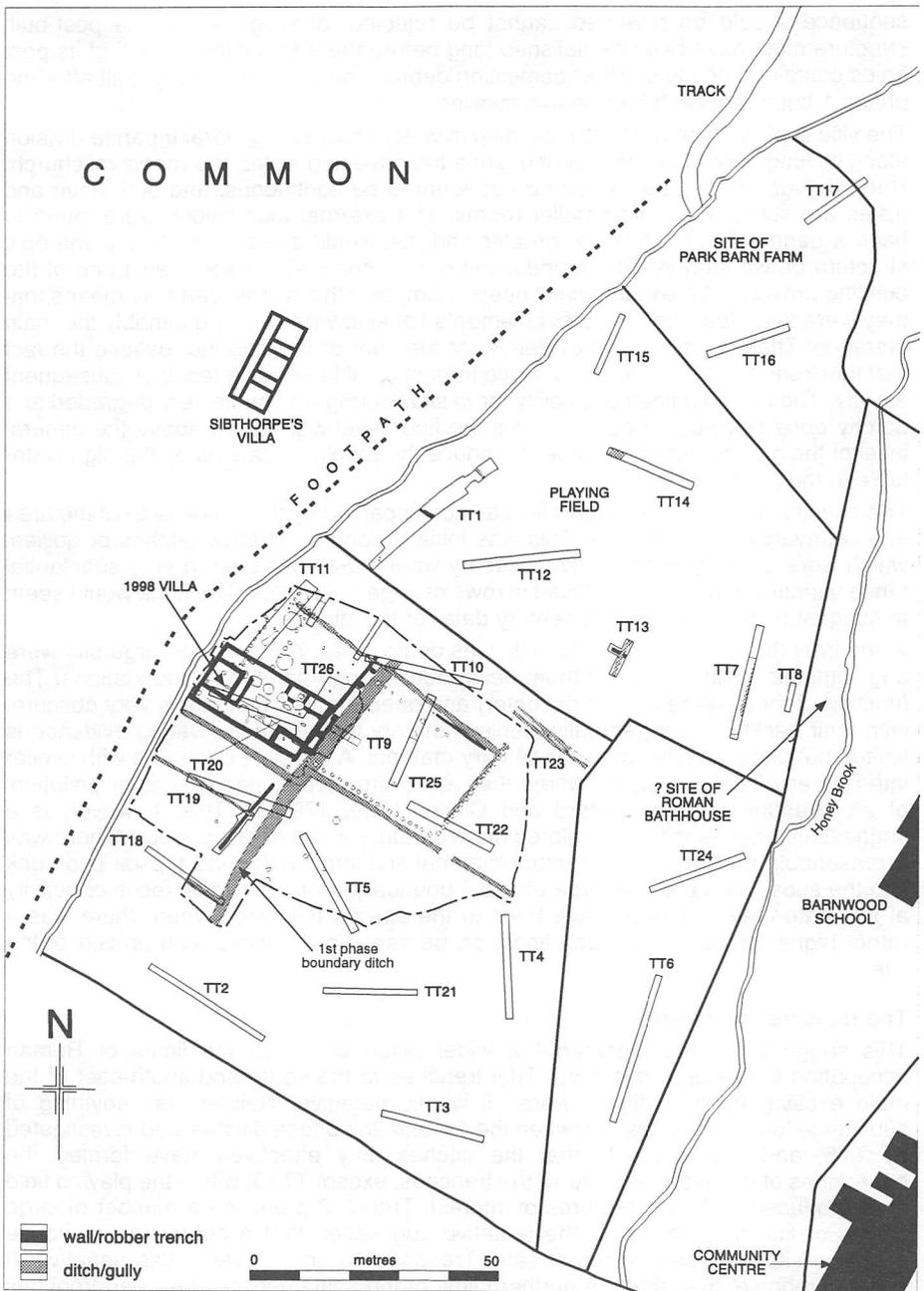


Fig 1 Broad Street, Worpleston: plan showing the location of all archaeological investigations. The location of Sibthorpe's Villa is based on that of the Ordnance Survey. Its plan and orientation are based on Sibthorpe 1829, although the precise alignment has been adjusted to agree broadly with that of the walls in the 1998 investigations, as Sibthorpe gives only a broad north-south orientation.

sequence should be reversed cannot be rejected, although, if so, the post-built structure must have been demolished long before the villa, as the backfill of its post holes contained no tile or other demolition debris. The villa was clearly built after the phase 1 boundary ditch had been backfilled.

The villa is of the type of Roman building in which there is a general tripartite division along its length, resembling in broad terms the nave and aisles of a medieval church. Here, though, the long divisions do not seem to be continuous, and both nave and aisles are sub-divided into smaller rooms. The external foundations were found to have a general depth of 1m or greater and this would seem to imply a stone-built structure of two storeys. The foundations of the rooms at the south-east end of the building proved to be exceptionally deep (1.5m) and this almost certainly means that they were taller (perhaps 3 storey) elements flanking what was presumably the main entrance. There was minimal evidence for the floor of the building, despite the fact that there seems to have been very little truncation of levels as a result of subsequent activity. The only identified possibility for *in situ* flooring was some very degraded and patchy *opus signinum*. It could be that the floor level was raised above the general level of the ground outside in order to reduce the problems caused by the high water table in the London Clay.

The construction and use of the villa was accompanied by the subdivision of the area into courtyards or enclosures. This was initially done by shallow ditches or gullies, which were later replaced on two sides by what must have been a very substantial fence supported by uprights placed in rows of large post holes. The finds would seem to suggest a later 2nd and 3rd century date for this phase.

In the later 3rd or 4th century the villa was demolished. A number of large pits were dug within its footprint, two of them being dug through parts of its foundations. The function of these large (c1.3m diameter) and deep (up to 1.6m) pits is very obscure, with their backfill being generally sterile with very few artefacts. Dating evidence is limited but does include some 4th century material. A possible parallel is with similar late Roman pits at Silchester, where they are interpreted as part of a ritual 'pollution' of an abandoned area (Fulford and Clarke 1999, 179-80). This, however, is a suggestion that needs to be explored more carefully in the detailed report. There was a reasonable quantity of 4th century material scattered within the topsoil and sunk into the subsided top of the large phase 1 boundary ditch. The main focus of activity at this date may, however, have been in the playing field area where there was a rather higher proportion of such finds, or, perhaps, in an unexplored portion of the site.

The features in context

This suggestion brings forward the wider issue of where the limits of Roman occupation in this area might be. Trial trenches to the south and south-east of the main excavation area (fig 1) were all wholly negative. Neither was anything of substance found in the area between the 1st and 2nd phase ditches also investigated by TT5, and this suggests that the ditches may effectively have formed the boundaries of the settlement. All of the trenches, except TT15, within the playing field area produced finds and features of interest. Trench 8 produced a number of large pieces of flue tile, leading to the tentative suggestion that a detached bathhouse might be sited adjacent to the stream. Trenches 16 and 17 were also negative. It seems probable, then that the northern limit of the settlement ran between trenches 14 and 15, possibly then passing just to the north of Sibthorpe's villa.

There is no direct evidence for the eastern limits. There is a possibility that the 1998 villa and Sibthorpe's villa represent two separate complexes, separated by the stream which now divides the common from the fields, perhaps in a similar fashion to that recently identified at Titsey (Davies 1997). The stream is a boundary of

considerable antiquity as it represents the limits of Guildford Park which was established in the 12th century. Its almost straight course, in contrast with the sinuous course of the Honey Brook on the eastern side of the site, suggests that was created at that time.

Sibthorpe's villa was discovered in 1829 and included some well preserved mosaic floors (these were apparently taken by the Earl of Onslow to Clandon Park, but

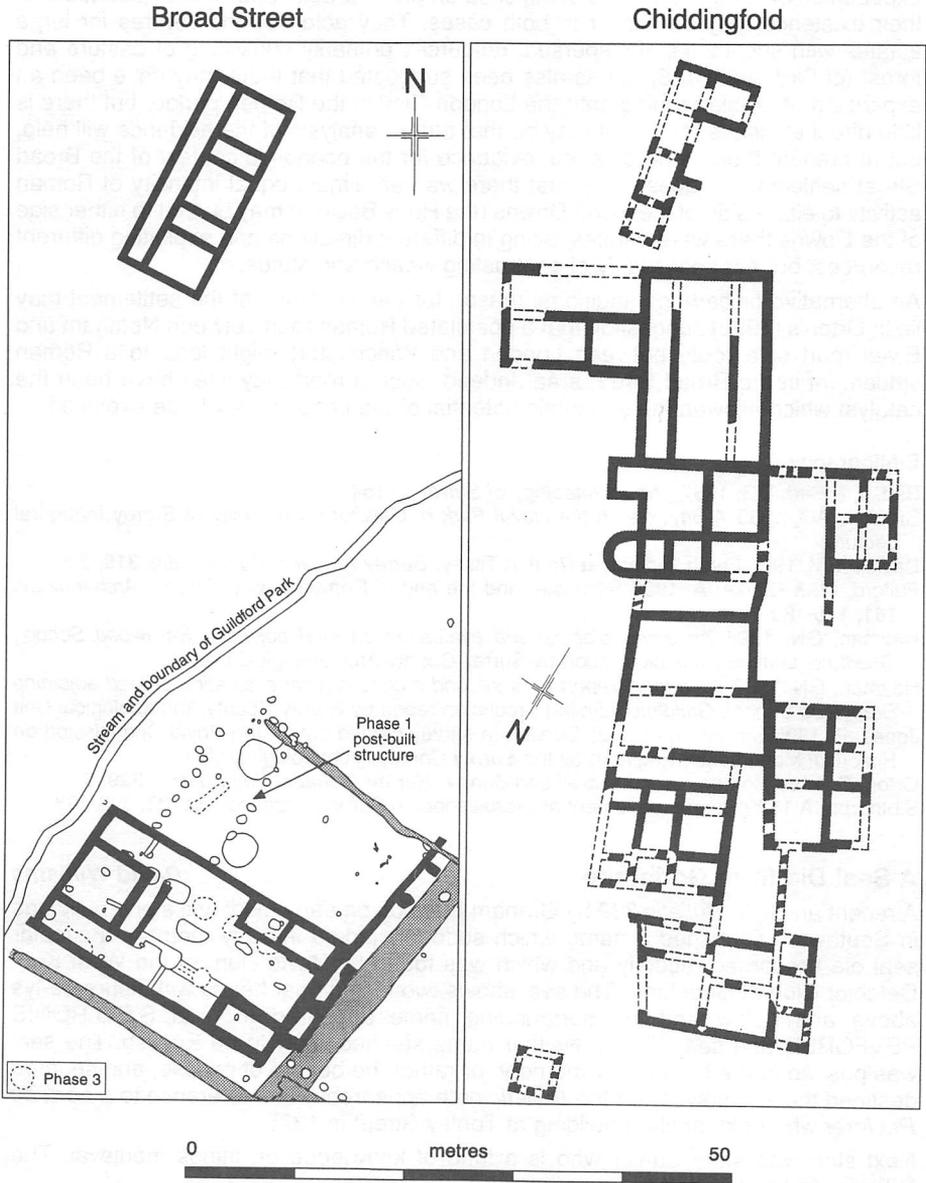


Fig 2 Broad Street, Worplesdon: comparative plans of the building complexes at Broad Street and Chiddingfold.

nothing more is known of them). It may have been a wholly separate structure but, as fig 2 indicates, a single complex of buildings could have covered the entire area, without it being wholly exceptional, even within Surrey.

The parallel with the Chiddingfold villa may be an apt one as the siting of both is somewhat unexpected, with Broad Street on the London Clay and Chiddingfold on an isolated patch of gravel within the Wealden Clay, rather than the customary expectation of such residences being sited on prime arable land. The explanation for their existence may be similar in both cases. They acted as the centres for large estates with substantial, if dispersed, resources primarily consisting of pasture and forest (cf Bird 1987, 178). It has also been suggested that there may have been an expansion of arable farming onto the London Clay in the Roman period, but there is little direct evidence for this. It may be that further analysis of the evidence will help, but at present there is no clear cut evidence for the economic context of the Broad Street settlement. It does seem that there was an almost equal intensity of Roman activity to either side of the North Downs (the Hogs Back). It may be that to either side of the Downs there were estates facing in different directions and exploiting different resources, but not necessarily of contrasting wealth and status.

An alternative or perhaps additional reason for the existence of the settlement may lie in Orton's (1999) suggestion that a postulated Roman road between Neatham and Ewell (part of a route between London and Winchester) might lead to a Roman settlement in the Broad Street area. Indeed, such a road may itself have been the catalyst which allowed the economic potential of the London Clay to be exploited.

Bibliography

- Bird, J, & Bird, DG, 1987 *The archaeology of Surrey to 1540*
Crocker, AG, 1983 *A physicist in the Royal Park of Guildford* (University of Surrey Inaugural Lecture)
Davies, EM, 1997 Fresh findings at Roman Titsey, *Surrey Archaeol Soc Bulletin*, **315**, 2-5
Fulford, M, & Clarke, A, 1999 Silchester and the end of Roman towns, *Current Archaeology*, **161**, 176-180
Hayman, GN, 1994 *An archaeological site evaluation on land adjoining Barnwood School, Guildford*, Limited circulation report by Surrey County Archaeological Unit
Hayman, GN, 1997 *An interim report on a second archaeological evaluation of land adjoining Barnwood School, Guildford*, Limited circulation report by Surrey County Archaeological Unit
Jones, P, 1995 Surrey Heathlands Survey, (a survey carried out for the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England) by the Surrey County Archaeological Unit)
Orton, C, 1999 Roman roads in Ewell and Surrey, *Surrey Archaeol Soc Bulletin*, **329**, 3
Sibthorpe, A 1829 Roman pavement at Worplesdon, in Surrey, *Archaeologia*, **23**, 398-403

A Seal Die from Godstone

David Williams

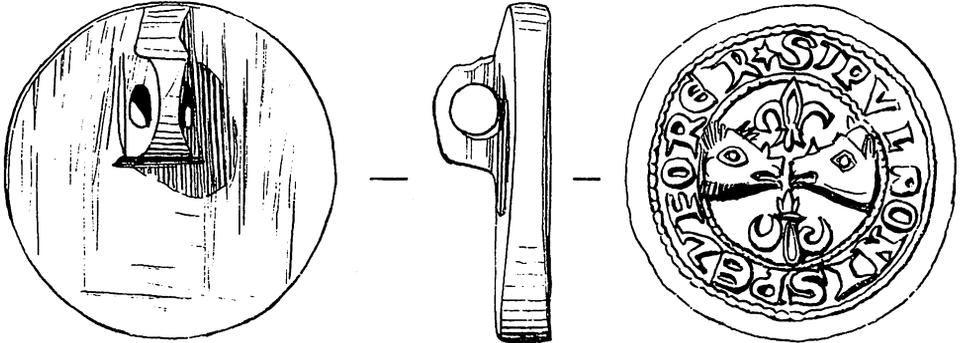
A recent article in *Bulletin* **330** by Graham Dawson on early medieval stone buildings in Southwark contained a name which suddenly jerked into my memory a circular seal die I recorded recently and which was found by David Hunt of the West Kent Detector Club at Godstone. The seal shows two facing boar heads with fleurs-de-lys above and below and the surrounding name appeared to read S'PVLRONIS PEVFORER (the seal of P...). Neither name seemed likely to be English. The seal was pushed to the back of my memory, or rather the bottom of my pile, and seemed destined there to stay. Then the *Bulletin* note appeared with a reference to a *Lora de Peyforer* who held for life a building at Tooley Street in 1325.

Next stop was Mary Saaler who is a fund of knowledge on things medieval. The following is the result of her researches:

The *Peyforer*, or *Paisforire*, *Paynforer* or *Peyfrer* family – the name was spelt in a variety of ways – held property in Kent from 1086 until at least 1373. The earliest

reference so far found occurs in Domesday when *Osbert Paisforire* was holding lands in Kent at Lullingstone, Buckland in Woodnesborough, Marshborough (near Deal) and Harty (near Sheerness). In 1264 the family held lands at Charing, and in 1373 they had lands at Wichling, south of Sittingbourne. In addition there was a manor known as '*Peyforer in Eynsford*'.

The first name, Mary suggests, is misread and should be FULCONIS, that is the seal of Fulco Peyforer.



Seal Die from Godstone. Scale 2:1.

It would be interesting to know whether this individual appears in surviving documents and whether the boars and fleurs-de-lys is the family crest. Further research for someone out there.

Wimbledon: A Surrey Village over the centuries

Cyril Maidment

From a presentation at the Millennium Project Workshop held at Womersley on Saturday 18 September 1999

The Millennium project has called for data collection and assembly, and the preparation of period maps on a common scale to facilitate overlays. In Wimbledon the local history museum was opened in 1916 and data collections have been available for many years. In the 1990s the databases have been computerised to assist searches. Many histories have been written and the most recent complete narrative history, *Wimbledon Past* by Richard Milward, was published in October 1998. It was considered that it would be of limited value to duplicate this work and that the best course of action was to concentrate on the regressive map analysis. The first large-scale, twenty-five inches to the mile Ordnance Survey map of 1865 was taken as the datum.

At first the work was prepared as a companion to *Wimbledon Past*. However, Richard Milward has provided such a comprehensive commentary on each of the maps that the work can now stand on its own.

To make the results available to the general public it has been decided to produce a book at A4 size, and so making an A3 map possible over two pages. Seven main historical maps of the village at 1:4000 scale will follow each other with no textual interruptions, so that one will be able to flick from one page to another to see the changes. The text describing these maps will appear after the last of these maps. Overlays of the maps will be provided for the Society in accordance with project requirements.

It had to be decided what constituted the village. Parish and village are closely interwoven and there are no other villages in the parish and only the one manor. The project deals with the village not the parish, however, and the church is almost a

kilometre from the High Street and the manor further beyond the church. In the other direction it was thought necessary to include the workhouse and the National School as well as part of the common. All these are on a large plateau, some 50m above the surrounding area. Wimbledon is not as compact as Shapwick in Somerset (*Current Archaeology*, February 1997) but by using a large base map we have provided more detail. It has also been necessary to give the village centre special treatment by way of detailed studies at a larger scale.

The following historic maps are to be included:

1890	Stanford
1865	Ordnance Survey
1838	Poor Rate Valuation
1800	Milne Land Utilisation
1787	John Corris
1772/1776	Hopkins, fieldnames and Spencer, the Sketch
1746	John Rocque

Other maps have been prepared for the parish, village centre, earlier surveys of 1585 and 1617, a special map of the church area in 1720 and the Wimbledon sections of early maps going back to 1579. It is hoped to include a modern map in order to complete the series and highlight old buildings still to be seen. The matter of copyright has been taken up with the Ordnance Survey.

Sections will include population growth, geology, archaeology and topography. The significance of the twelve-acre Iron Age fort and the proximity of Stane Street will be discussed together with possible reasons for the site of the village.

A3 maps are too large for the *SyAS Bulletin*, but the revised 1720 map (see fig on centre pages) gives some idea of what can be achieved by regressive map analysis. To make it more useful the following changes have been made with respect to the original "Exact Survey":

1. The map has been redrawn so that the features are in the correct place according to the triangulated 1865 map.
2. It has been turned through ninety degrees to make the orientation closer to the conventional.
3. Details that were in a table have been transferred to the map.

Perhaps some thought should be given to the idea that, in addition to overlays, there is another, possibly better, means of observing the changes from one map to another. It is possible to arrange the maps in a computer presentation slowly fading one map and then bringing up another. The Society might wish to consider producing a CD-ROM to include all the contributing villages. It need not be an expensive exercise. Additions to the *SyAS* web site would be possible..

The approximate population of Wimbledon between 1300 and 1750 rose from 100 to 500, trebled by 1800 and then raced away to c55,000 by 1911. Few areas grew so rapidly as Wimbledon in the nineteenth century. Its appeal is as strong as ever; the reduced birth-rate being counterbalanced by new apartment houses being squeezed in everywhere. We still have a "village" and a Village Club and Lecture Hall, but the long serving village shops are now cafes, restaurants, wine bars and boutiques

COUNCIL MATTERS

Annual General Meeting

Members are reminded that the Annual General Meeting of the Society will take place on Sunday, 21st November at 2.00 pm at Kingston Museum and Heritage Service. Full details, including directions in *Bulletin 333*.

New Members

The Society is pleased to welcome the following new members:

Appleford, Miss J A, 35 Elmside, Onslow Village, Guildford, GU2 5SH
Balfour, Mrs D M, 33 Danes Way, Oxshott, KT22 0LU
Boxall, Mr K J, 37c Sycamore Grove, New Malden, KT3 3DH
Duff, Mr P C, 135 Upper Weybourne Lane, Farnham, GU9 9DD
Everson, Mr R F, 40 Woodlands Avenue, New Malden, KT3 3UQ
Harman, Mr E A, 9 Ashcroft, Shalford, Guildford, GU4 8JT
Maidment, Mr C E, 33 Dennis Park Crescent, London SW20 8QH
Partridge, Dr & Mrs R H, Lantau, Maddox Lane, Little Bookham, KT23 3BT
Peterson, Mr M, 10 Eastwood Road, Bramley, GU5 0DS
Reynolds, Mrs P R, 65 Wentworth Crescent, Ash Vale, GU12 5LF
Webster, Mrs S E, Shoelands, Seale, Farnham, GU10 1HL
Williams, Miss R L, 79 Farnham Road, Guildford, GU2 5PF

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Finds Processing

Judie English

Processing the finds from the Society's excavation at Puttenham is taking place at Salters in Guildford from 7.30 each Tuesday evening. No experience is needed – anyone who wishes to help is welcome to come along.

A small group of us, led by Geoff Stonehouse, spent a day cleaning and sorting the Society's equipment store and preparing an up-to-date inventory. One find was a pair of green and yellow secateurs in a black pouch which are probably not ours – if any of this summer's diggers recognises the description, please give me a call on 01483 276724.

COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT

Chris Currie

The project continues to run well and we are now embarking on some serious fieldwork with a ditch section recorded and some new barrows to be measured. The dates for our next meetings are as follows. Chris Currie or Judie English will lead as required. The meeting place remains Cockshot Cottage Car Park (TQ 18903355) at 11 am. The meetings are to be:

Sunday 31st October, barrow measuring
Saturday 6th November, more walkover
Sunday 14th November, Judie English only will lead this one
Saturday 20th November
Sunday 28th November
Sunday 12th December

Judie English will be leading Sunday fieldwork from hereon every other Sunday.

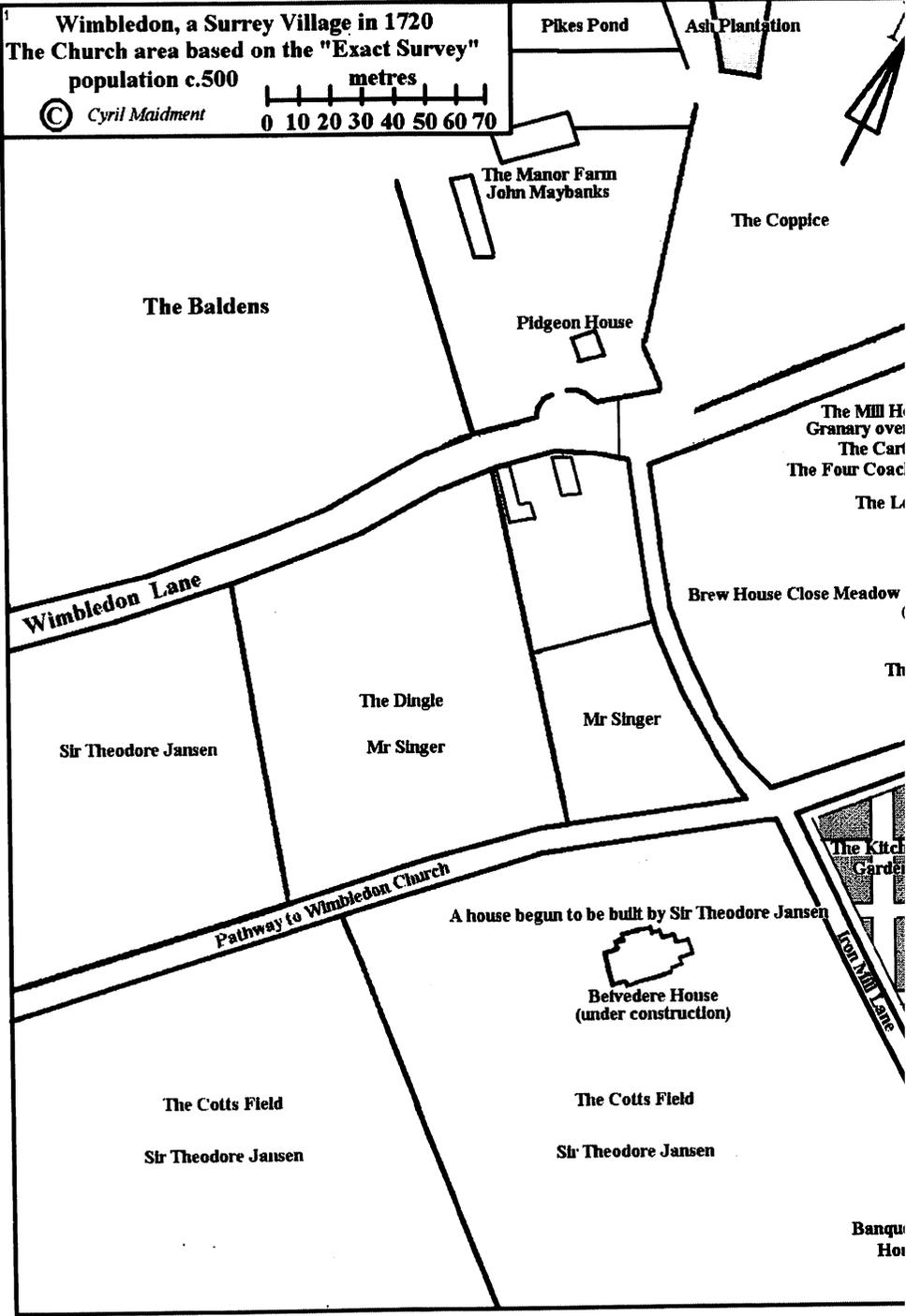
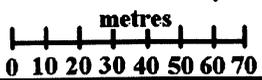
There will be a progress meeting on Thursday 2nd December 1999 at 7.30 pm, either at Castle Arch or at Salters. Judie English will be finalising these arrangements. All interested please try and attend this important meeting.

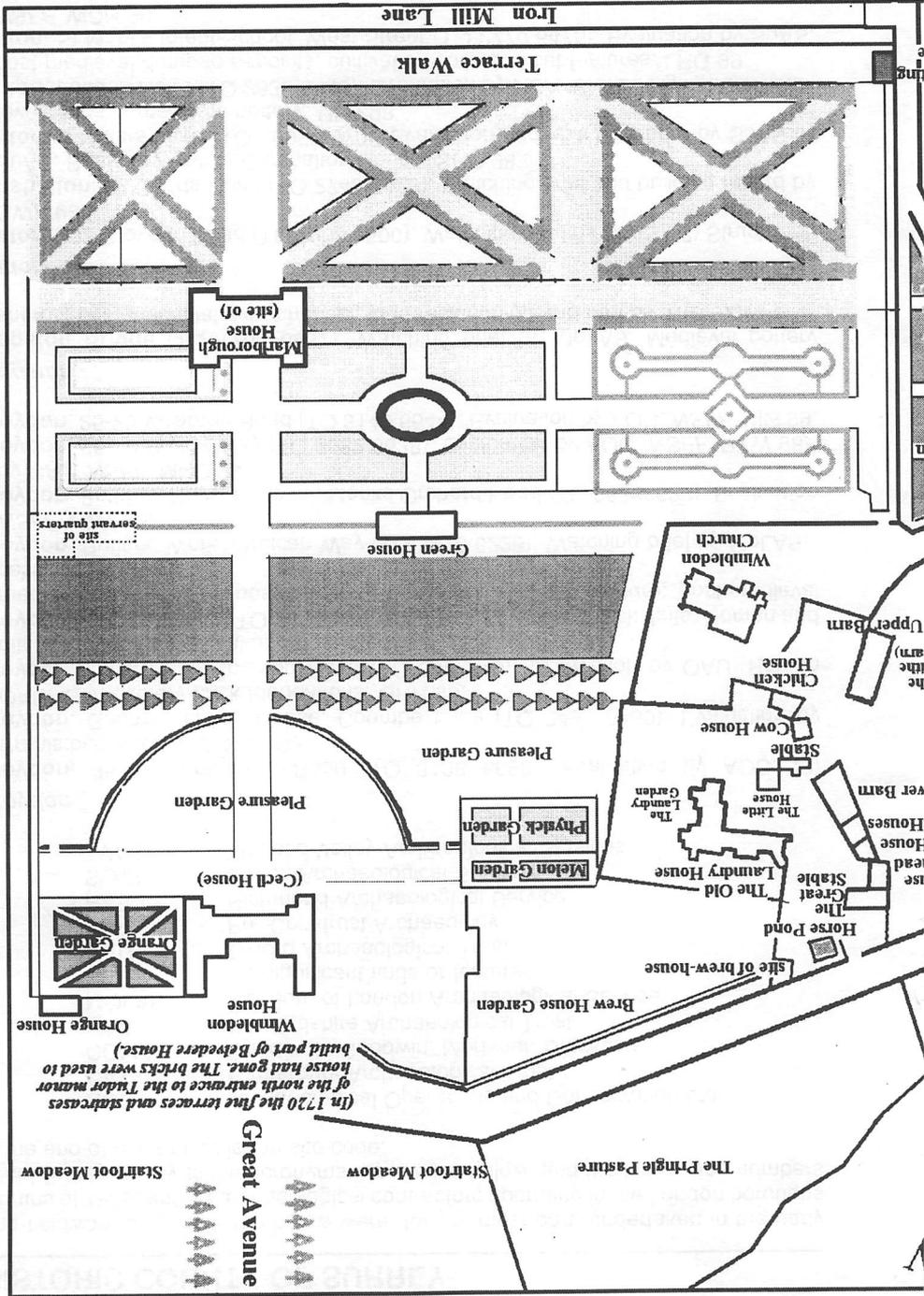
Anyone proposing to visit the Record Office can do so at any time. If they wish to have myself in attendance for advice, please phone me on 01703 696232 to find out when he will be visiting next.

Thanks for the support to date!

Wimbledon, a Surrey Village in 1720
The Church area based on the "Exact Survey"
 population c.500

© Cyril Maidment





Iron Mill Lane

Terrace Walk

Marborough House (site of)

Green House

Whibleton Church

Chicken House

Cow House

The Little House

The Old Laundry House

The Great Stable

The Horse Pond

site of brew-house

Brew House Garden

Pleasure Garden

Physick Garden

Melon Garden

(Cell House)

Orange Garden

Whibleton House

Orange House

(In 1720 the fine terraces and staircases of the north entrance to the Tudor manor house had gone. The bricks were used to build part of Bebedere House.)

Great Avenue

Stafffoot Meadow

The Pringle Pasture

Stafffoot Meadow

RECENT FIELDWORK BY UNITS WORKING IN THE HISTORIC COUNTY OF SURREY

The fieldwork projects listed below were, for the most part, undertaken in the early months of 1999, and by archaeological contractors operating in the London boroughs of old Surrey. A key to the acronyms is provided below, and the letters and numbers at the end of each entry is the site code.

AOC	Archaeological Operations and Conservation Ltd
CAT	Canterbury Archaeological Trust
CGMS	Chadwick, Goodwin, Mortimer, Stockdale
HAT	Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust
MOLAS	Museum of London Archaeological Service
NSFF	No significant finds or features
OAU	Oxford Archaeological Trust
PCA	Pre-Construst Archaeology
RAS	Richmond Archaeological Service
SuAS	Sutton Archaeological Services
TVAS	Thames Valley Archaeological Services

Croydon

- Croydon**, 35-43 Canterbury Road (TQ 3136 6690). Evaluation by AOC. (?) Prehistoric woodland. CBU 99.
- Croydon**, Geoffrey Harris House, Coombe Lane (TQ 3435 6450). Evaluation by OAU. 16th century brick foundations. GHH 98.
- Croydon**, Lloyd Park, Coombe Road (TQ 340 646). Excavation by OAU. Roman ditches, cremation burial and post-medieval ditches. LPK 98.
- Croydon**, 2-8 Park Lane (TQ 325 656). Evaluation by PCA. Struck flints, Roman and medieval sherds from post-medieval ploughsoil; Roman feature; post-medieval cess-pit. PKE 99.
- Croydon**, Rutland Works, Vulcan Way (TQ 3918 6228). Watching brief by MoLAS. NSFF VCW 96.
- Croydon**, Bethlem Royal Hospital, Monks Orchard Road (TQ 36866637). Evaluation by CAT. NSFF. MKO 99.
- Croydon**, 76-78 Purley Way (TQ 3082 6638). Evaluation by AOC. NSFF. PYW 98.
- Croydon**, 25-29 Vicarage Road (TQ 3140 6544). Evaluation by AOC. NSFF. VIG 99.

Kingston

- Kingston Bridge** (TQ 1765 6937). Watching brief by MoLAS. Medieval pottery sherds; post-medieval river channel, land reclamation and dumps. KIB 97.

Sutton

- Sutton**, 303 Croydon Road (TQ 2908 6500). Watching brief by SuAS. (?) Struck flint. CWA 99.
- Carshalton**, 24 Shorts Road (TQ 2749 6429). Watching brief and building record by SuAS. Boundary wall of Carshalton House. SHD 98.
- Sutton**, 6 Hilliers Lane (TQ 3007 6570). Evaluation and watching brief by SuAS. A few sherds of medieval pottery. HLR 98.
- Sutton**, London Road (TQ 2835 6643). Evaluation by PCA. Bronze Age struck flints; post-medieval dumped deposits, cultivation soils and cut features. LRG 99.
- Sutton**, St Mary's Infant School, West Street (TQ 2770 6475). Evaluation by SuAS. NSFF. WCN 99.

Sutton, Holy Cross Church Annexe, 46 North Street (TQ 2784 6460). Evaluation by SuAS "Post-medieval structures". NHT 99.

Wallington, Wallington Mill, London Road (TQ 2908 6500). Watching brief by SuAS. NSFF WWN 99.

Lambeth

Lambeth, Coin Street (TQ 3118 5030). Evaluation by HAT. (?) Bronze Age/Iron Age alluvial clays and peat deposits. CIE 98.

Lambeth, 271-75 Kennington Road (TQ 309 781). Evaluation by OAU NSFF. KNN 98.

Lambeth, 1-3 Pilgrim Hill (TQ 3215 7200). Watching brief by PCA. Prehistoric struck and burnt flints; medieval cut feature. PRM 99.

Lambeth, Stockwell Green (TQ 3076 7594). Evaluation by MoLAS. Medieval pottery sherds; post-medieval pits and ditches; foundations of 19th century brewery. SKG 99.

Tooting Bec, St Leonard's Church, Tooting Bec Gardens (TQ 2995 7172). Watching brief by SuAS. Post-medieval tomb, wall and human remains. SLM 99.

Merton

Wimbledon, 15-19 The Broadway (TQ 2496 7044). Watching brief by CGMS in early 1999. NSFF. BDA 99.

Merton, Merton College, London Road (TQ 25006764). Evaluation by MoLAS in NSFF. LNO 98.

Merton, Woodhayes Road (TQ 2324 7037). Watching brief by MoLAS. Prehistoric struck and burnt flints; post-medieval pottery sherds. RGW 97.

Merton, Turle Road (TQ 2990 6970). Evaluation by PCA. NSFF. TUR 99.

Richmond-upon-Thames

Richmond, Pie Crust, Eel Pie Island (TQ 1633 7340). Watching brief by RAS. NSFF, EPI 97.

Kew, Sewage Treatment Works (TQ 1980 7680). Evaluation by TVAS. Post-medieval drainage features. KSW 98.

Richmond, Queens Road (TQ 1550 7050). Evaluation and excavation by PCA. Later prehistoric finds and features, possibly representing settlement. NPL 98.

Southwark

Southwark, Colechurch House, Duke Street Hill (TQ 3380 8030). Watching brief by PCA. Facing for the 19th century London Bridge. DSL 98.

Southwark, 8 London Bridge Street (TQ 3276 8022). Excavations and watching brief by MoLAS. Roman buildings and a furnace or oven; Saxon finds; medieval pits; post-medieval walls and dumping. LOB 98.

Southwark, Lambeth College, Queen Elizabeth Street and Tower Bridge Road (TQ 3355 8001). Watching brief by PCA. Post-medieval water channel or drain, dumped earth, basements, culvert and pits. QET 99.

Southwark, Millennium Footbridge, Bankside Gardens (TQ 3205 8054). Evaluation by MoLAS. Post-medieval dump, river wall, cobbled surface and alluvial deposits. MFB 98.

Southwark, 47-67 Hopton Street (TQ 3182 8045). Excavation by PCA. Neolithic/Bronze Age land surface with ard marks and pits; alluvial deposits; medieval and post-medieval water mill and mill pond; post-medieval buildings. HNT 94.

Peckham, 46 Peckham High Street and Sumner Road (TQ 3386 7687). Evaluation by AOC. Undated pit; post-medieval rubbish pit and garden features. LSF 99.

Southwark, Wells Way/Coleman Road (TQ 3306 7750). Evaluation by PCA. 18th century gullies; 19th century rubbish pits and dumping. WWP 98.

Southwark, Risborough Street (TQ 3196 79975). Evaluation by MoLAS. NSFF. RIS 98.

SURREY INDUSTRIAL HISTORY GROUP

1999 Conservation Award

Alan Thomas

The London Bus Preservation Trust received our annual Conservation Award in recognition of their work of preservation and restoration of former London Transport vehicles carried out for many years at the Cobham Bus Museum. The award, in the form of a decorative plaque, was presented to Peter Plummer, Chairman of the London Bus Preservation Trust, by Alan Crocker, President of the Surrey Archaeological Society and of the SIHG, at the Group's Annual General Meeting on 4th September.

This award is the 17th in the series, of which previous awards have gone to a wide variety of conservation and restoration projects throughout the county, including wind and water mills, canals and railways, communications and museums. The presentation was followed by a short illustrated talk given by Mr Plummer describing the work of the Museum and the most interesting items in the collection. SIHG members were then conveyed over the three miles between the meeting room and the Museum in the oldest vehicle in the collection, which dates from 1925 and consists of an open-top horse-bus type of body on a Dennis chassis. This and the subsequent tour of the Museum demonstrated that the objective is not merely to restore vehicles to a condition suitable for display, but to make them roadworthy to the standard needed to obtain licences to carry passengers.

Repair and restoration of both mechanical and chassis components and of bodywork is carried out mainly by the volunteer members of the Trust, although some of the more complex work may be done under contract, supported by grants from such sources as the Science Museum 'Prism' fund, the Transport Trust and Surrey County Council. The work of restoration of a bus may take several years. Bodywork in particular, being of wood or wood and metal construction and susceptible to rot, may call for very extensive reconstruction.

The London Bus Preservation Trust was founded in 1973 by the late Alan Allmey as the London Bus Preservation Group to preserve and restore historic London buses. It was retitled the Trust on becoming a registered charity in 1986, and now has almost 600 members. The Cobham Bus Museum was established in a former aircraft factory building near the Silvermere Lake and at present holds about 35 buses in various states of preservation – some fully roadworthy, others under restoration and some waiting their turn. 17 of them are owned by the Trust, and the remainder belong to individual members. They include examples of many of the different classes of London buses used since motor vehicles were introduced, in some cases of types of which the London Transport Museum itself does not have a specimen.

The Trust has an active programme of events at Cobham and elsewhere. Notable among these is the annual Open Day held each April at Brooklands. In 1999 some 150 visiting vehicles from other preservation societies were present in addition to those of the Museum's own fleet.

The Museum's building is itself of archaeological interest, being one of the very few still standing which belonged to the Vickers works at Brooklands, and is furthermore of somewhat unusual construction. It was last used by Vickers in about 1958 to construct parts of the V1000, the civil derivative of the Valiant bomber.

The Museum is located at the junction of Redhill Road and Byfleet Road (A245) between Cobham and Byfleet. It is open to the public on the first Sunday in each month from May to September and the last Sunday in October, plus the Open Day and certain bank holidays. Telephone the Museum on 01932 868665 (week-ends only) for further details, or consult their web-site www.geocities.com/MotorCity/Downs/9026/lbpt/html

RECENT ACCESSIONS TO THE SOCIETY'S LIBRARY

In order to help members find books in the Library, additional information is now included in the listings below. Thus each entry identifies the author, title, publisher and date of publication, followed now by a four-digit accession number (eg 8180) and classification number (eg K2), which indicates the location of the book on the shelf.

As before this list excludes reports by archaeological units working within the county, which are, from time to time, listed elsewhere in the *Bulletin*.

GENERAL

- Adkins, Lesley *The Handbook of British Archaeology*. Constable 1998 8263 E
Airs, Malcolm *The Tudor and Jacobean Country House: a building history*. Sutton Publishing Ltd 1995 8225 X3
Allen, Denise *Roman glass in Britain*. Shire Publications Ltd 1998 8181 K2
Bedoyere, Guy de la *English Heritage Book of Roman villas and the countryside*. Batsford 1993 8196 K2
Berendsen, Anne *Tiles: a general history*. Collector's Book Club 1973 S3
Bird, Joanna *Form and Fabric: studies in Rome's material past in honour of B R Hartley*. Oxbow Books 1998 8189 K
Bristow, Peter H.W. *Attitudes to disposal of the dead in Southern Britain, 3500 BC-AD43. Vols. 1, 2 & 3*. John & Erica Hedges 1998 8234 G2
Brown, G.I. *The big bang: a history of explosives*. Sutton Publishing Ltd 1998 8242 S7
Clark, Anthony J. *Archaeological detection by resistivity*. 1980 8252 E5
Crocker, Alan *The diaries of James Simmons: paper maker of Haslemere 1831-1868*. Tabard Private Press 1990 8200 ZB SIM
Darvill, Timothy *MARS: the monuments at risk survey of England, 1995. Main Report*. Bournemouth University and English Heritage 1998 8261 C
Dickinson, Tania *The Making of Kingdoms: papers from the 47th Sachsensymposium York, September 1996*. Oxford University Committee 1999 8183 L2
Everson, Paul *The archaeology of landscape: studies presented to Christopher Taylor*. Manchester University Press 1998 8184 E7
Filmer, Richard *Hops and Hop Picking*. Shire Publications Ltd 1982 8214 T1
Gibson, Alex *Neolithic and Early Bronze Age pottery*. Shire Publications Ltd 1986 8216 H2
Grenville, Jane *Medieval housing*. Leicester University Press 1999 8178 X1
Hindle, Brian *Medieval roads*. Shire Publications Ltd 1989 8220 V3
Hunter, John *The Archaeology of Britain: an introduction from the Upper Palaeolithic to the Industrial Revolution*. Routledge 1999 8180 F2
Jessel, Christopher *The Law of the Manor*. Barry Rose Law Publishers Ltd 1998 MB6
Massingham, Betty *Gertrude Jekyll: an illustrated life of Gertrude Jekyll 1843-1932*. Shire Publications Ltd 1975 8219 ZA2 JEK
Meadows, Cecil *The Victorian ironmonger*. Shire Publications Ltd 1984 8267 S8
Montague of Beaulieu, Lord *The Brighton Run*. Shire Publications Ltd 1990 8222 V3
North east Hampshire Historical and Archaeological Society, *Roman Road Abstracts*. NEHHAS 1999 8247 K2

- Pickles, Christopher *Texts and monuments: a study of ten Anglo-Saxon churches of the pre-Viking period*. Archaeopress 1999 8233 X5
- Price, Jennifer *Romano-British glass vessels: a handbook*. CBA 1998 8182 K2
- Riden, Philip *A gazetteer of charcoal-fired blast furnaces in Great Britain in use since 1660*. Philip Riden 1987 8246 S2
- Riden, Philip *Local History: a handbook for beginners*. Merton Priory Press 1998 8244 N1
- Roberts, Brian *Village Plans*. Shire Publications Ltd 1982 8221 MB1
- Taylor, Christopher *Parks and Gardens of Britain: a landscape history from the air*. Edinburgh University Press 1998 8168 X36
- Thacker, Christopher *The genius of gardening: the history of gardens in Britain and Ireland*. Weidenfeld and Nicolson 1994 8264 X36
- Tomber, Roberta *The national Roman fabric reference collection: a handbook*. MoLAS 1998 8188 K
- Walker, Philip *The Victorian catalogue of tools for trades and crafts*. Studio Editions Ltd 1994 8223 S
- Wells, Roger *Southern History: a review of the history of Southern England*. Southern History Society 1999 8207 MB
- Whitelaw, Jeffery W. *Follies*. Shire Publications Ltd 8228 X1
- Wright, Geoffrey *Turnpike Roads*. Shire Publications Ltd 1992 8215 V3

SURREY – GENERAL

- Gray, Peter *Farmsteads and farmbuildings in Surrey: a preliminary survey*. SCC 1998 8243 T3
- Jackson, Alan A. *The Railway in Surrey*. Atlantic Transport Publishers 1999 8262 V4
(To be continued)

MISCELLANY

Blame the Gorgeous Wrecks

John D Matthews

The much maligned Canadians stationed here in the Second World War cannot be blamed - despite local myths to the contrary – for many of the trenches and holes that pockmark Surrey. For another cause we must look closer to home and at a different war.

During the First World War several defensive trench lines were prepared between London and the coast to protect the capital in the event of a German invasion. The line of London's Outer Defences was to encircle the city some distance out from the centre. Part of this fortification at least was constructed and the Imperial War Museum has photographs (but little other information) of trenches being dug at Epping in Essex, Otford in Kent and Woldingham in Surrey (IWM photo refs 023,545 to 023,555). These all show the United Arts Volunteer Rifles (part of the Volunteer Training Corps) hard at work during 1916, digging trenches deeper than a man's height and revetting the sides with wooden stakes and interlaced hurdle-type fencing.

A published history of the site describes the Woldingham section as "being constructed on an elaborate system, with dug-outs and revetment throughout", and one of the photographs shows two parallel lines of complicated trenches apparently linked with zigzagging communication trenches. The Volunteers also held several camps at Churt, on the estate of Mr Bryan Hook "in the picturesque Frensham district" where they indulged in "bridge building, trench digging and shooting at Mr Hook's ingenious 100 yards range".

Other sources for the Outer London Defences are tucked away in the records of the various Volunteer units involved, in locally published books recounting the part a

particular town or village played in the war, and probably at the PRO at Kew. Examples are:

- a) The published records of the 21st London Regiment (First Surrey Rifles) which describe the trench digging (and flooding) on the top of Merstham Hill, giving the men "first time practice in the use of the spade – an implement which is often, in war, second only in value to the rifle".
- b) "*Croydon and the Great War*" edited by H Keatley-Moore, which describes the work of the 1st Battalion (Croydon) Surrey Volunteer Training Corps in completing "the construction of a portion of the Outer London Defences at Willey Farm, Caterham and Aldercombe". They had spent 90,000 hours on the task, between 20th September 1915 and 16th December 1917. The work included yet deeper digging – in one place in the Caterham section a drain nine feet deep was constructed.

In addition to actual defensive positions a large number of First World War military camps involved trench-digging practice, one example being at Warlingham Court Farm.

There were also purpose built training areas - a map dated June 1917, of the Godstone School of Bombing, suggests that an entire trench system set out like a portion of the Western Front had been constructed there. The only other reference I have found to it is the record of a fatal accident there referred to in "*Croydon and the Great War*".

Until March 1917 members of the Volunteer Training Corps had to provide all their own equipment – all the Government issued them with was a red brassard bearing the letters "G.R." for *Georgius Rex* – which led inevitably to the nickname of "Gorgeous Wrecks".

Copies of the Imperial War Museum photographs can be found in *The Way We Were: a Bourne Society Books of Days* by the author (price £4.00 including postage). Copies from: 18 Farnet Close, Purley CR8 2DX.

The above was from the Spring/Summer 1999 Newsletter no. 15 of Surrey Historic Landscape Studies. Julie Wileman, editor of the Newsletter, added a footnote:

I am also informed that damage to roads in Frimley area was caused by my father, who, whilst attached to the Canadian Army (3rd Canadian Army Royal Armoured Corps – 3 CARAC – Reinforcement Unit) about 1943, used to take Canadian troops and tanks on "test runs", inevitably ending up in local pubs! Stationed around Blackdown/Deepcut, training took place around Chobham Ridges and surrounding area.

My thanks to Julie. If you would like to receive the Newsletter, write to her at 48 Bond Road, Tolworth, Surrey KT6 7SH.

Battle Bridge, London Bridge, Southwark

A twelve week excavation undertaken earlier this year by the Museum of London Archaeology Service discovered important archaeology in two areas of the site.

The western area revealed a Roman timber revetment, a medieval chalk building with tiled hearths and other buildings dating through to the 19th century, and some Tudor fishponds.

Some of the ponds, around six in total, were simply holes dug in the ground, but three were linear chalk-lined features over 10m long by 1.5m deep. Behind the walls of one of these was the broken-up remains of a 13th or 14th century clinker-built galley (rowed ship) with timbers of oak 5.5 m long by over 1m high. One of the most important features of the remains is the survival of the beechwood gunwale (top plank) which includes three oar ports and cut-outs for the benches where the

oarsmen had sat. These are the first remains of such an early galley with surviving oar ports to have been found within the British Isles. The ship showed signs of having been repaired many times and at some point had been rebuilt with the addition of the beech gunwale timber.

Tudor artefacts from the fill of the ponds includes pieces of armour, chainmail, knight's spurs, bowling balls, leather saddle bags, c500 leather shoes, and, last but not least for both national and international media, the earliest surviving banana skin in Britain.

Two evaluation trenches in the eastern area of the site showed that this low-lying part of the Southwark waterfront had not been reclaimed until the 17th century. Probably in the early 18th century, a large pit was dug for seven or more horse carcasses without skulls or limbs, and this was then backfilled with lime. Associated with this probable knacker's pit were three sunken barrels containing several horse long bones.

Beneath earlier reclamation dumps, a thick layer of alluvium was found that had buried a palaeosol rich in pot sherds, burnt flints and flint implements including scrapers.

The other evaluation trench in the eastern area closer to the waterfront revealed part of an early 19th century warehouse building floored with a thick layer of tar reinforced with timber off-cuts. The tar and lumps of horsehair found in the dumps below suggest that caulking of boat planking may have occurred in the area.

Also revealed were timbers from an enigmatic timber structure previously partially excavated in 1992. More information was gleaned about its construction methods. It is currently interpreted as part of a tidal mill that used the moat of the 15th century Fastolf's Palace as its reservoir.

LECTURE MEETINGS

16th November

"Giving Meaning to the Millennium: the Growth of Celebration and Identity in Kingston AD 1000-2000" by Shaan Butters to the Friends of Kingston Museum and Heritage Service in the Market House, Market Place, Kingston at 8.00 pm. Visitors: £1.50.

16th November

"Art in Action: the Propaganda Poster" by Margaret Timmers of the Victoria and Albert Museum to the West Surrey Branch of the Historical Association at the Friends' Meeting House, North Street, Guildford at 7.30 pm.

16th November

"Resources from the Surrey landscape" by Judie English to the Surrey Industrial History Group in Lecture Theatre F University of Surrey, Guildford at 7.30 pm.

18th November

"Farnham and The Battle of Shere, 1258" by Susan Stewart to the Farnham & District Museum Society at the United Reformed Church Hall, South Street, Farnham at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

18th November

"A Walk round Farnham from an Armchair – the Richard Buss Memorial Lecture" by John Parrett to the Esher District Local History Society at St Andrew's Church Hall, Oakshade Road, Oxshott at 7.30 pm.

19th November

"Guildford Castle and Royal Palace" by Rob Poulton to the Leatherhead & District Local History Society at the Dixon Hall of the Letherhead Institute at 7.30 for 8.00 pm. £2 for non-members, coffee included.

18th November

"A height scarcely equalled – The Onslows and Guildford Borough Politics 1660-1714 by Peter le Fevre at the Guildhall, Guildford at 7.30 pm Tickets £5 available from Guildford Museum.

20th November

"John Belcher, Architect" by Tony Wilson to the Friends of West Norwood Cemetery at Chatsworth Baptists Church, Chatsworth Way, SE27, at 2.20 pm.

23rd November

"Archaeology of the Jubilee Line in Southwark" by James Drummond-Murray to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society at Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road opposite Lambeth North Underground station at 7 for 7.30 pm. The lecture will be preceded by the AGM of the Society at 7.15 pm.

24th November

"Southwark's Victorian Nunhead Cemetery" to the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in the Small Hall of the United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon at 7.45 pm.

25th November

"A History of the Automobile Association" by Michael Passmore to the Farnham & District Museum Society at the United Reformed Church Hall, South Street, Farnham at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

25th November

"Aspects of Addlestone" by David Barker to the Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society at the Literary Institute, Egham High Street at 8.00 pm.

28th November

"Learning from Bones" by Brian Connell to the Peckham Society and the Friends of Nunhead Cemetery at St John's Church Vestry, East Dulwich Road at 8.00 pm.

30th November

"The Rise of the Gas Industry in South-East England" by Brian Sturt to the Surrey Industrial History Group in Lecture Theatre F University of Surrey, Guildford at 7.30 pm.

1st December

"The St Nicholas Crozier in the Victoria and Albert Museum" by Dr Pamela Tudor-Craig to the British Archaeological Association at the Society of Antiquaries of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London. Tea is served from 4.30 pm and the Chair is taken at 5.00 pm. Non-members are welcome, but are asked to make themselves known to the Hon Director on arrival, and to sign the visitors' book.

1st December

"Brick and Tile in Surrey up to 1850" by Ian West to the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in the Small Hall of the United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon at 7.45 pm.

2nd December

"The Bayeux Tapestry" by David Davis to the Farnham & District Museum Society at the United Reformed Church Hall, South Street, Farnham at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

3rd December

"History of Blindley Heath and South Godstone" to the East Grinstead Museum Society at East Court, East Grinstead at 8.00 pm. Non-members £1.

4th December

"The Palace at Addington" by Yvonne Walker to the Beddington, Carshalton and Wallington Archaeological Society at Milton Hall, Cooper Crescent, off Nightingale Road, Carshalton at 3.00 pm.

4th December

"Daughter Houses of Merton Priory" by Lionel Green to the Merton Historical Society at Snuff Mill Environmental Centre, Morden Hall Park at 2.30 pm.

4th December

"Barrow Hills" by Hugh Mackintosh to the Woking History Society at Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, Mayford at 7.45 pm. Visitors £2.

6th December

"Martynside of Brooklands and Woking" by Ray Sanger to the Woking History Society at Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, Mayford at 7.45 pm. Visitors £2.

9th December

"A History of Birds in Surrey" by Jeffery Wheatley to the Farnham & District Museum Society at the United Reformed Church Hall, South Street, Farnham at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

10th December

"Petra and the Nabateans" by Julian Bowsher to the Richmond Archaeological Society at the Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond at 8.00 pm.

17th December

"People and Places" a Christmas miscellany by members of the Leatherhead & District LHS in the Dixon Hall of the Letherhead Institute at 7.30 for 8.00 pm. £2 for non-members, coffee included.

17th December

"Christmas Customs – Older Than You Think" by Pat Elliot to the Byfleet Heritage Society at Byfleet Village Hall, Room A, at 8.15 pm. Guests £1.

Advance Notice

26th February 2000

The Archaeological Research Committee Symposium will be held in the Dorking Halls. Details in next Bulletin.

Copy Dates for the *Bulletin* through 2000

Regular contributors and Events Organisers please note: get out your diaries and write both sets of dates down now. Remember, there's a 3½ week gap between copy date and when the Bulletin gets delivered. By the way, where's all those Heritage Day experiences?

No.	Copy Deadline	Publication Date (approx.)
335	10th December (1999)	5th January
336	21st January	16th February
337	3rd March	29th March
338	7th April	3rd May
339	19th May	14th June
340	23rd June	19th July
341	28th July	23rd August
342	8th September	4th October
343	20th October	15th November
344	8th December	3rd January

Next Issue: Copy required by 10th December for the December/January issue.

Editor: Phil Jones, 5, Hampton Road, Newbury, Berks RG14 6DB. Tel/Fax: 01635 581182.