

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD

Number 38

BULLETIN

February, 1968

Edited by Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Turner, 21 Evesham Road, Reigate.

S.A.S. MEETINGS

24th February: Visit to Middle Temple and Fleet Street.

23rd March: Visit to Shulbrede Priory and Aldworth House.

Details of these and other meetings are given elsewhere in this *Bulletin*.

EXCAVATION NOTICES

KING WILLIAM IV, EWELL HIGH STREET: R-B SITE
(TQ 220626)

Director: ROGER CAWS

Excavations have been resumed on the site behind the King William IVth public house, 23/25 High Street, Ewell, where R-B remains have been found. The dig, arranged by the Nonsuch and Ewell Antiquarian Society, is taking place every weekend.

Enquiries to Mr. G. T. Wignall, 105 Kingston Road, Ewell.

NOTES AND QUERIES

The Wealden Iron Research Group

In the later Iron Age and early R-B period, and again in the Middle Ages and in the early modern period, the Weald was the major iron-producing region in the British Isles. There is abundant evidence of this fact on the ground — slag heaps, hammer ponds and bays — and from maps in the form of place names such as Furnace Farm, Forge Field, Cinder Mead, etc. This is complementary to information from the study of the records of the old works, such as accounts, contracts, etc.

The only major study of the industrial past of the Weald has been that of the late Ernest Straker, who published the results of a lifetime's work in 1931 in his book *Wealden Iron*. Straker's book, which is recognised as a classic of its kind, has been out of print for many years. Since its publication, a good deal of additional exploration and excavation has been carried out, and some of Straker's judgements require re-interpretation in the light of modern knowledge. The need for a revised *Wealden Iron* is very pressing.

To assist in the preparation of a new survey of the Wealden iron industry, a Wealden Iron Research Group has been set up, with the support of the Iron and Steel Institute and the Historical Metallurgy Group. The joint conveners of the Group are Mr. H. F. Cleere (General Assistant Secretary, The Iron and Steel Institute) and Mr. D. W. Crossley (Lecturer in Economic History, University of Sheffield).

The first objective of the Group will be to review all the known ironworking sites and to evaluate them in the light of modern knowledge. At the same time, it is hoped to obtain information about sites as yet unknown, by systematic field work.

The second phase will be devoted to the excavation of selected sites. Excavations are already in progress at the 2nd century R-B site at Bardown, near Wadhurst, and at the 16th century Panningridge works near Robertsbridge. At least three further excavations are contemplated: one of them at a site to be submerged when the Bewl Valley reservoir is completed.

It is hoped to be able in due course to publish a complete gazetteer of sites, accompanied by a technological and economic history of the industry to replace *Wealden Iron*.

Those wishing to take part in the work of the Group should write to Mr. H. F. Cleere at 4 Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1, or at Little Bardown, Stonegate, Wadhurst. The joint conveners would be glad to hear from anyone interested in the subject, since the projected work will require a wide range of skills and interests.

(H. F. Cleere).

Surrey Record Society : Reprinting.

Many volumes in the Surrey Record Society series are out of stock and the Society has therefore arranged for them to be commercially reprinted in stages. Volumes VII (*Surrey Pipe Rolls 1295*), XV (*Surrey manorial Accounts*), and XIX (*Surrey Fines 1509-1558*) will be obtainable in April, 1968, from Messrs. Wm. Dawson and Sons Ltd., 16 West Street, Farnham, at £5 per volume, or \$12, postage extra (approx. 1/6 inland, 2/- or 25c. overseas).

(Miss E. M. Dance).

The Hassell Portfolio.

The disclosure of a portfolio of some 85 drawings, the majority by John Hassell, at Tandridge, has considerably added to our knowledge of the appearance of the Godstone — Oxted — Lingfield area in the 1820's. The subjects of the pictures are more or less equally divided between church and domestic architecture in Godstone (17 drawings), Oxted (22), Tandridge (17) and Lingfield (9), besides such outlying spots as Lagham, Marden Park, Barrow Green and one or two as yet unidentified buildings.

The portfolio belongs to Mrs. Pearson, Vicarage Close, Tandridge. It has been indexed (with titles where identifiable) by the Vicar and photographed by Mr. Peter Hawkins of the Bourne Society. A set of 85 good en-prints may be obtained from Mr. Hawkins at 8 Burntwood Lane, Caterham, for the cost price of two guineas.

The Marden Park pictures are of particular interest since they show the mansion (described by Evelyn) before the 1872 fire, Marden Castle (a Regency(?) sham castle, the subject of an extensive Bourne Society search) and a possibly late-Tudor doorway.

There seems to be a case for some research into, or at least an index of, Hassell drawings. There are collections at the British Museum, the Minet Library, Croydon Public Library, the Guildhall Library, and Guildford, at least.

(J. C. Batley).

Farnham : Willmer House Museum.

One of the most interesting new exhibits to be seen in the Museum's archaeological gallery is a small model of a bull carried out in coarse, low-fired, black pottery. This came to light in a box of sherds of R-B coarse ware, labelled 'Stoneyfields', presented to the museum by Mrs. Wade. The model is about 3" long and 2½" high, but the hindquarters are missing. It is not possible to say at the moment whether it represents a European bison or a fighting bull, but the hump at the shoulders suggests that it was not the modeller's intention to portray a domestic animal. The late Major Wade dug at the Stoneyfields kiln in 1936.

Mr. H. L. Ward has presented to the Museum a collection of by-gones which he has saved from destruction during his fifty years in the building trade. The articles include some impressive iron hinges and a brass-cased lock, c. 1700. The latter has an interior lovingly worked and decorated for the benefit solely of the locksmith for no one else would see the ornament. This came from Poyle Park, Tongham.

(Farnham Museum Society *Newsletter*).

Farnham : Earliest road in West Street (SU 83684675).

A deep trench was cut in West Street to accommodate a surface water drain. The section ran from the E. corner of Vernon House to the Hart Junction. The trench cut through the deposits here to a depth of 16' and provided a section through previous road surfaces and the river gravels of Terrace E, penetrating several feet into the Lower Greensand. Natural deposits are replaced at a depth of about 40" by a black layer containing abraded flints, pieces of wood and animal bones. The layer is approximately 5" thick and is topped in some places with 3" rounded cobbles. A metatarsal of a juvenile red deer was found in the deposit. Above the black layer were seen many indeterminate brownish gravel layers before the modern road foundation begins at a depth of approximately 8". No finds useful for dating have been recovered.

In the writer's opinion, the depth and strikingly different colour of this layer compared with the later road surfaces suggest that it may well be of R-B date.

(H. G. A. Booth).

Southwark : Excavations at Guy's Hospital (TQ 32868009).

The excavation consisted of two trenches approximately 17' by 8' in the two corners fronting St. Thomas St. in the car park in front of New Guy's House. The earliest feature in both trenches were shallow R-B ditches or gullies, one in the western trench (T1) and probably two parallel ones in the eastern one (T2). In T2, overlying the gullies were several layers of clay into the top of which a 16th century ditch had been cut. All layers above this had been destroyed by a 19th century cellar floor.

In T1, inserted in the clay into which the gully was cut, were three rows of post holes. The front row were contiguous and regular while the rear rows were irregular and had gaps between them. The purpose of this feature is at present unknown, as is its date. It was demolished in the late 15th century and a massive stone wall was built over it and finished in brick on top. Against this wall was heaped a mass of domestic refuse of the late 15th to 16th centuries consisting of large amounts of pottery, bone and shell. Later, in the 18th century, the wall was demolished and a rubbish pit dug. Two periods of 19th century cellar building were also found.

Much work has still to be done on the large amounts of material

Thursday, 7th. 8.0 p.m.

FIRE MARKS. A talk by MR. J. J. WILLIAMSON to the NONSUCH AND EWELL ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY at Pit House, Cheam Road, Ewell. Members of the S.A.S. welcome.

Friday, 8th. 2.30 - 5.30 p.m.

READING OLD DOCUMENTS. This half-day crash course by Mrs. Cottrill, which had to be postponed owing to the snowfall on 8th December, will be given at the temporary Council Meeting Hall behind the Council Offices, South Street, Farnham. A fee of 2/6 will be charged to non-members of the Farnham Museum Society. Apply to Mrs. W. A. Manning, 18 Upper South View, Farnham (4061).

Friday, 8th. 8.0 p.m.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE, MAINLY POTTERY, FOR MEDIEVAL TRADE BETWEEN ENGLAND AND THE CONTINENT. A talk by MR. G. C. DUNNING to the HOLMESDALE NATURAL HISTORY CLUB. Members of the S.A.S. welcome. Enquiries to Mrs. Trier, The Drift, Manor Road, Reigate (46475).

Friday, 15th. 7.45 p.m.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, FARNHAM. A talk by MR. A. N. DUFTY to the FARNHAM MUSEUM SOCIETY to be given in the temporary building behind the Council Offices in South Street, Farnham. Members of the S.A.S. welcome.

Saturday, 23rd.

S.A.S. VISIT TO ALDWORTH HOUSE AND SHULBREDE PRIORY

11.00 a.m. Aldworth House, Tennyson's Lane, Blackdown.

The owner, Mr. T. Surén, will talk about the house and Lord Tennyson's associations with it.

From Guildford, turn left at Haslemere Town Hall on to B 2131. After about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile turn right into Haste Hill (leading to Blackdown). Haste Hill leads into Tennyson's Lane and Aldworth House is at the end of the lane. Lunch may be taken in Haslemere.

3.0 p.m. Shulbrede Priory, Fenhurst, where Lord Ponsonby will be our host. The priory has some interesting wall paintings.

It may be approached either from A286 at Fenhurst, or from B2131 (turn right at Haslemere Town Hall). Follow signposts to Linchmere.

Haslemere station is on the Waterloo-Portsmouth line and there is a bus service from Guildford. Lifts might be arranged from Haslemere Station (or bus stop) if members without transport will apply in good time.

Tickets: Members 3/-, visitors 4/-, from Miss C. Smith, Elyots, Minster Road, Godalming, Surrey.

Thursday, 28th. 8.15 p.m.

THE ROMAN VILLA AT RAPSLEY. A talk by LADY HANWORTH to the MERTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY at the Morden Library, London Road, S.W.19.

Saturday, 23rd. 3.0 p.m.

THE REGIONAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL SUB-CULTURES OF THE BEAKER CULTURE. A lecture by DR. D. L. CLARKE to the PREHISTORIC SOCIETY at the University of London Institute of Archaeology.

recovered from the excavation, but two observations have already suggested themselves. The changeover from a predominance of Surrey produced pottery to local and East Anglian/Essex wares, noted at Northolt, seems to occur here in the late 15th century, though Surrey ware dominance has hitherto been thought to continue into the 16th century (and indeed at Kennington Palace Surrey wares comprise about 80% of the pottery). The evidence from this site would also suggest that the Lambeth coarse wares are produced as early as the beginning of the 16th century if not in the 15th.

(G. J. Dawson).

Walton and Weybridge : Ice houses.

The Mount Felix ice house has been located in the gardens of *Hill Rise*, Manor Road (TQ 098667). Only a 10' fragment remains, but as this is curved in two planes a reconstruction has been possible, revealing that its dimensions were similar to those of the Burhill ice house. Information is sought as to whether its destruction was deliberate or as a result of bombing.

Information is also sought about the following ice houses :

(a) Brooklands: shown on early O.S. maps but presumably demolished when the race track was made.

(b) Portmore Park: believed to have been in the neighbourhood of St. Albans Avenue.

(c) Oatlands House: shown on old estate plans south of the east end of the Broadwater.

Communications should be sent to Mr. J. W. Lindus Forge, 12c Bower Road, Walton-on-Thames.

According to Lady Smallpiece, the upper part of the Claremont ice house has been blown off, presumably by the same vandals who have badly damaged the Claremont Belvedere.

(*Dial Stone*).

MEETINGS

FEBRUARY

Thursday, 8th. 8.0 p.m.

THE ROMAN VILLA AT RAPSLEY. A talk by LADY HANWORTH to the NONSUCH AND EWELL ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY at Pit House, Cheam Road, Ewell. Members of the S.A.S. welcome.

Friday, 9th. 8.0 p.m.

ETRUSCAN TOMBS. A talk by MR. J. C. GATES to the HOLMESDALE NATURAL HISTORY CLUB. Members of the S.A.S. welcome. Enquiries to Mrs. Trier, The Drift, Manor Road, Reigate (46475).

Wednesday, 14th. 5.0 p.m.

ANGLO-SAXON MINSTER CHURCHES. A lecture by DR. C. A. RALEGH RADFORD to the ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly.

Thursday, 15th. 8.0 p.m.

BARROW GREEN ESTATE PAPERS AND THE HOSKINS FAMILY. A lecture by MISS L. M. SMITH, Assistant County Archivist, to the OXTED AND DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY at the County School, Blue House Lane, Oxted. Members of the S.A.S. welcome.

Wednesday, 21st. 5.0 p.m.

THE EARLIEST WHEELED VEHICLES AND THE CAUCASIAN EVIDENCE. A lecture by PROF. S. PIGGOTT to the PREHISTORIC SOCIETY in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House.

Wednesday, 21st. 6.30 p.m.

THE PRESERVATION OF BUILDINGS BY THE G.L.C. A talk by MR. J. ASHDOWN to the L.N.H.S. (ARCHAEOLOGICAL SECTION) at the Cuming Museum, Southwark Town Hall, Walworth Road, S.E.17. Members of the S.A.S. welcome.

Friday, 23rd. 8.15 p.m.

WINDMILLS AND WATERMILLS. A talk by MR. N. BLACK to the MERTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY at the Morden Library, London Road, S.W.19.

Saturday, 24th.

S.A.S. VISIT TO FLEET STREET AND THE MIDDLE TEMPLE

Led by Capt. Wilson and Mrs. Chiles.

10.15 a.m. Assemble at St. Bride's Church, Fleet Street.

11.30 a.m. Middle Temple Great Hall and Temple Church.

2.15 p.m. Dr. Johnson's House, 17 Gough Square (Admission 2/-).

3.30 p.m. Prince Henry's Room, 17 Fleet Street.

Tickets: Members 3/-, visitors 4/-, from Miss C. Smith, Elyots, Minster Road, Godalming.

Saturday, 24th. 2.30 - 5.0 p.m.

C.B.A. GROUP IIA : ARCHAEOLOGICAL FILMS

An afternoon of international archaeological films including a Swedish film on the raising of the *Wasa*; a Danish film, *The Viking Ships of Roskilde*; and a Polish film about the prehistoric lake settlement at Biskupin. Amongst other films that may be shown are two French films, *Carbone 14 et Archeologie*; and *Les tres riches heures de l'Afrique Romaine*, and British films about Stonehenge and the deserted medieval village of Wharram Percy.

To be held at the Holborn Library Hall, 32-38 Theobalds Road, W.C.1. (On the north side of Theobalds Road, opposite the west end of Grays' Inn). Tickets (4/-) from Mr. A. J. Clark, 19 The Crossways, Onslow Village, or at the door.

Saturday, 24th. 7.0 p.m.

THE STUDY OF MEDIEVAL POTTERY. A talk by Mr. J. Hurst to the S.L.A.S., at New Peckham Cine Centre, Old Kent Road. Visitors welcome.

Thursday, 29th. 8.0 p.m.

Local history quiz arranged by the OXTED AND DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY at the County School, Blue House Lane, Oxted. This quiz will cover a wide area including Caterham, Reigate, Lingfield, etc. Members of the S.A.S. welcome.

MARCH

Friday, 1st. 7.45 p.m.

THE ROMAN VILLA AT RAPSLEY. A talk by LADY HANWORTH to the FARNHAM MUSEUM SOCIETY to be given in the temporary building behind the Council Offices in South Street, Farnham. Members of the S.A.S. welcome.

Saturday, 2nd. 3.0 p.m.

OLD CARSHALTON. A talk by MR. W. P. ROBERTS to the BEDDINGTON, CARSHALTON AND WALLINGTON ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY at the Darby and Joan Club, Cooper Cres., Nightingale Road, Carshalton. Visitors fee 1/-.