

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD

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BULLETIN

December, 1969

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

HONORARY TREASURESHP

Mr. Coley has moved to Hereford on his retirement and will have to give up his post as the Society's Honorary Treasurer sooner than expected. The Council would like to hear from a suitably qualified or experienced person who would be willing to serve the Society in this capacity. The duties include supervising the Society's accounts, preparing the annual Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts and advising the Council on financial matters. Routine book-keeping is handled by the Assistant Treasurer.

Please write to the Acting Hon. Secretary at Castle Arch.

EXCAVATION NOTICE

LOWER KINGSWOOD. PALAEOLITHIC SITE
(TQ 243537)

Directors: MR. F. PEMBERTON and MRS. V. ETLINGER

Work is continuing at this site on Sundays throughout the winter. An Acheulian site on the side of a drycombe is being investigated before the area is used as a rubbish tip.

Enquiries to Mr. S. Nelson, 20 Rose Bushes, Epsom Downs.
(Tel.: Burgh Health 504744).

NOTES AND QUERIES

Post-medieval pottery : Documentary research.

To complement the excavated material from the several kilns and kiln dumps of tin-glazed pottery located in Southwark and Lambeth, several members of the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society have been examining documents relating to the history and technology of the tin-glazed earthenware pottery industry. Rhoda Edwards is compiling a detailed inventory of all the 17th century potteries and potters in London, which she hopes to have published next year.

(S.L.A.S. Newsletter).

Alfold: 16th century glasshouse at Knightons (TQ 016341).

After the interruption due to the wet autumn last year, work at Knightons was resumed (by kind permission of the Forestry Commission) at weekends from April to June. Effort was concentrated on seeking the relationship of the two contiguous working furnaces in the centre of the site (*S.A.S. An. Report for 1968*). Careful excavation of these not only enabled the positions and dimensions of the walls, flues and sieges to be determined (in spite of the almost complete robbing which had taken place), but established the unexpected fact that one furnace overlaps the other at one end by some 2 - 3 feet. In its turn one corner (of the later furnace) is overspread by the cullet heap.

It now appears therefore that there are three phases at the site, not two as had been supposed. The Oxford University Institute for Archaeology is sampling the site for remanent magnetism dating. If it turns out that a significant difference in dating occurs between the three working furnaces, then it could follow that the glasshouse was in existence with two successive furnaces, before the French annealing furnace and the third working furnace were built alongside in replacement. If not, then all three working furnaces could have replaced each other during the lifetime of the annealing furnace, which they would have kept supplied with glass products in succession.

Excavation will continue next spring, if conditions permit.

(E. S. Wood).

Cheam : Medieval Pottery Kiln (TQ 243636).

Recent building operations in Cheam have yielded evidence of pottery manufacture, and an emergency excavation was carried out near Easter by members of the Nonsuch and Ewell Antiquarian Society, by courtesy of the developers, Pierpoint and Sons (Builders) Ltd.

The site lies behind Nos. 19-23 High Street (now demolished). It is some 190 yards from the site of the kiln reported by the late C. J. Marshall in Volume XXXV of *Surrey Archaeological Collections* and very close to one of the two subsequent discoveries reported by him in Volume XLVII.

The excavation revealed a roughly oval pottery kiln of Upper Greensand ashlar having opposed flues and a divided brick pedestal. The firing chamber and one stoke pit were cleared producing a large quantity of broken and misfired pottery. The forms produced include tripod cooking pots, and large pitchers with pouring lips and bungholes. Some pottery is glazed and some is decorated with patterns executed in white slip. The fabric is red or brown and is often fired very hard.

The kiln and stoke pit cut several earlier pits containing burnt clay and wasters of green glazed jugs in off-white or cream-coloured fabric not unlike that found in association with the kiln reported in Volume XXXV; however no sign was noted during the excavation of an earlier kiln in situ.

Work on the pottery is still in the early stages. On the basis of similar material from elsewhere it seems likely that the kiln may date to the late 15th or early 16th centuries, but this date must be regarded as tentative.

Subsequent to the excavation the building operations revealed the remains of a barrel filled with clay within a few feet of the position of the kiln. However material found within the clay filling indicates that the barrel is unlikely to be earlier than the eighteenth century and it may be later. It is unrelated to the kiln.

(M. Morris).

Chertsey : Excavations at Ham Court (TQ 067654).

Mrs. Lansdell has been directing an excavation by members of the Walton and Weybridge Local History Society of the long-since demolished manor house of Ham Court on a moated site on the Chertsey side of the River Wey. Foundations of 18th or 19th century farm buildings have been found and also some footings of the house itself. These consisted of 2' thick brickwork, the bricks generally being about 2" thick, probably of 16th century date. Work will be continued next year.

(Dialstone, 30).

Coulsdon : Acheulean hand axe (TQ 298587).

An unfinished Acheulian hand axe has been found by Mr. R. T. Scott of 22 Fairdene Road, Coulsdon, in his garden and reported to the Bourne Society. It was made from a thick flake of flint and was left unfinished probably because of a flaw or because of a misdirected blow.

(Mrs. M. Saaler).

Croydon : Excavation of a late Mesolithic settlement site on Croham Hurst (TQ 338631).

The Archaeological Section of the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society concluded its detailed survey of Croham Hurst between 23rd June and 4th July, 1969. This season's work, which concentrated on the total excavation of a Mesolithic hut site, was organized as the Society's second training excavation and was financed by a grant from the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust. A description of work undertaken during 1968 may be found in S.A.S. *Bulletin* 47.

The late Mesolithic settlement site was discovered in 1968 although worked flints were found in this area in 1898 by G. Clinch and in 1962 by M. Lambourne and P. Drewett. Five hut sites are visible on the surface as very slight sub-rectangular enclosures. Hut 3 was totally excavated this year and revealed three structural phases. The earliest phase consisted of two post-holes dug into the natural pebble beds and sealed by the bank of the phase II hut. Phase II is represented by Hut 2 which overlaid the phase I post-holes but which in turn was overlaid by Hut 3. Hut 2 was found to have a small pit containing charcoal which may be tentatively interpreted as a fire-pit.

Hut 3 consisted of a sub-rectangular bank of pebbles and sandy soil which is probably the remains of a collapsed turf wall. An entrance gap was found in the northern corner of the wall. Six post-holes were found within the structure presumably indicating simple roof supports. No fire-pit was found within this structure but the distribution of 2,431 fire-cracked flints showed a high concentration just inside the entrance. This may indicate a disturbed hearth area.

Tuesday, 2nd. 7 p.m.

FAKES. Talk by MR. J. P. CUSHION to the MORLEY COLLEGE CERAMIC CIRCLE at Morley College, Westminster Bridge Road, S.E.1.

Thursday, 4th. 8 p.m.

BOURNE HALL EXCAVATIONS, 1962-64. Talk by MR. N. NAIL to the NONSUCH AND EWELL ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY at Pit House, Ewell.

Friday, 5th. 7.45 p.m.

MEDIEVAL FARNHAM HOUSES. Talk by MISS JOAN HARDING to the FARNHAM MUSEUM SOCIETY in the Committee rooms behind the Council Offices in South Street, Farnham.

Saturday, 6th. 3 p.m.

ENGLISH CASTLES. Talk by MR. D. F. RENN to the BEDDINGTON, CARSHALTON AND WALLINGTON ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY at the Darby and Joan Club, Cooper Crescent, Nightingale Road, Carshalton.

Tuesday, 9th. 6.45 p.m.

SOME RESULTS OF THE KENNINGTON PALACE EXCAVATIONS. Talk by G. DAWSON to the SOUTHWARK AND LAMBETH ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY at the Cuming Museum, Newington District Library, Walworth Road, S.E.17

Wednesday, 10th. 5 p.m.

THE TIMBER CASTLE AT HEN DOMEN. MONTGOMERY: EXCAVATIONS 1960-69. Lecture by MR. P. A. BARKER to the ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE at Burlington House.

Friday, 12th. 8 p.m.

WATERMILLS. Talk by MR. C. E. WOODROW to HOLMESDALE N. H. CLUB at The Museum, Croydon Road, Reigate.

Saturday, 13th. 3 p.m.

CHURCHES OF OUR DISTRICT. Talk by MR. J. W. LINDUS FORGE to the WALTON AND WEYBRIDGE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY at Brooklands College, Heath Road, Weybridge.

Tuesday, 16th. 7 p.m.

COMPARISON OF DRINKING VESSELS — MUGS, JUGS AND BOTTLES. Talk by MISS D. GRIFFITHS to the MORLEY COLLEGE CERAMIC CIRCLE. As 2nd December.

Wednesday, 17th. 5 p.m.

MEARE LAKE VILLAGE: THE RECENT EXCAVATIONS. Lecture by MR. M. AVERY to the PREHISTORIC SOCIETY at Burlington House.

JANUARY

Monday, 12th. 8 p.m.

THE FITZNELLS CARTULARY. Talk by MR. P. SHEARMAN to the NONSUCH AND EWELL ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY at the Fitznells School of Music, Chessington Road, Ewell.

Wednesday, 14th 5 p.m.

TIMBER CHURCH PORCHES AS A KEY TO REGIONAL PRACTICE IN CONSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES. Lecture by MR. S. E. RIGOLD to the ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE at Burlington House.

Thursday, 15th. 8 p.m.

TIMBER BELFRIES IN SOUTH ENGLAND. Talk by MR. K. W. E. GRAVETT to the OXTED AND DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY at the Oxted County School, Blue House Lane, Oxted.

The flint-work found within Hut 3 is essentially a Maglemosian assemblage. 413 pieces of worked flint were found including a tranchet axe, a transverse arrowhead, burins, awls, scrapers, retouched flakes, waisted core tools, micro-cores and micro-core rejuvenation flakes together with waste flakes and rough flint waste.

No further work is envisaged on Croham Hurst. An interim report will be published in *Archaeology in Croydon, Some Recent Advances* (a Centenary publication of the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society available from the Society in March 1970). The final report will be published in the *Surrey Archaeological Collections*, Vol. LXVII, 1971.

(P. L. Drewett).

Esher : Medieval pottery find.

Mr. C. Roberts, of Hersham, recently found a dozen or so pieces of medieval pottery near the pond in the grounds of Wayneffete School. Two pieces of buff, unglazed ware carried pie-crust decorations.

The site can be identified by the pond in Ralph Treswell's plan of Esher Place made in 1606, when a group of cottages stood hereabouts called Esher East End. These cottages occupied the land between what is now Vincent Close and the Green.

There is some reason to believe that pottery clay was dug in Esher and there may have been a potters kiln in the district.

(*Local Hist. News*, Esher District L.H.S., 5, 20).

Esher : Unidentified artists.

Information is sought about the identity of the lithographic artist who produced several drawings of Esher around 1820 and signed himself, or herself, 'M.S.' The artist's work includes *View from the Ledges* (1824); *View of Oxshott* (1824); *Wolsey's Tower* (1820); and *Claremont* (1824). Each lithograph is 266 x 166 mm.

Another possibly Esher artist about whom information is sought is Harriot Gouldsmith, an etcher, who produced some views of Claremont in 1819.

Information, please, to Mrs. A. E. Thompson, 4 Cavendish Drive, Claygate.

(*Local History News*, Esher District L.H.S., 5, 20).

Esher, Walton and Weybridge: Insurance Company Fire Plates.

Insurance Company Fire Plates are plates that were formerly fastened by Insurance Companies to properties insured with them so that such properties could be identified by the private Fire Brigades maintained by the Companies. These have become collectors' items and are rapidly vanishing. Mr. R. Baker, of 6 Molesham Close, West Molesey, is listing all the Fire Plates that he can trace within the Urban Districts of Esher, Walton and Weybridge. He would be most grateful to hear of the location of any Fire Plates within the U.Ds. Recently, as a result of representations from the Esher District L.H.S., a very fine 'County' Fire

Plate from a derelict building in Molesey has been acquired and its colouring restored. It can be seen at Molesey Public Library. (*Local History News*, Esher District L.H.S., 5, 19.)

Ockham : 'Horn Fair': A query.

The writer is endeavouring to compile a short history of Methodism in Cobham and Ockham in the 19th century.

References have been noted about Ockham's 'famed Horn Fair' which had been held from time immemorial. It appears that this fair was the scene of much 'drunkenness and debauchery' and was brought to an end in 1861 when the 'ring leader' was converted by a Methodist evangelist.

Further information about this fair is sought.

(D. C. Taylor).

Walton-upon-Thames : Survey of churchyard.

A survey is being made of the churchyard of St. Mary's, Walton-on-Thames. The position of all extant graves is being marked on a key plan and epitaphs are being copied.

(J. W. Lindus Forge in *Dialstone*, 30).

Recent Publications.

Ashdown, J., Bussell M., Carter, P. (1969) *Industrial Monuments of Greater London*. Thames Basin Archaeological Observers Group. 64pp., line drawings and map. 7/6, plus 1/- postage, from Paul Carter, 20 Chestnut Grove, Wembley, Middlesex. (A preliminary gazetteer of industrial monuments in the G.L.C. area. Over 350 significant items are listed borough by borough for easy reference. Brief descriptions and references to the literature are given and some attempt is made to draw attention to those items threatened with destruction. Between the booklet being sent to the printers and the publication date two of the 'threatened items' were demolished.)

Drugmore, Miss R. (1969) Hampton, Seale. *News Letter*, Farnham Mus. Soc., II/3, 3-6.

Drugmore, Miss R. (1969) Shoelands, Puttenham. *News Letter*, Farnham Mus. S., II/3, 6-8.

Hunot, Miss E. (1969) A Farnham coach builder's account, 1831. *News Letter*, Farnham Mus. S., II/3, 2-3.

Newman, A. G. (1969) A Steam Bus relic discovered. *Bulletin*, Bourne Soc., 57, 4.

Stonebank, J. A. (1969) *The Thames Bridges at Walton*. 3/- from Weybridge Museum or the Fountain Bookshop, Walton-upon-Thames.

MEETINGS

DECEMBER

Until January.

HIGH LODGE. An exhibition of the BRITISH MUSEUM excavation and of the earliest prehistory in East Anglia. British Museum.