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BULLETIN

June, 1970

Edited by Rosamond Hanworth, Folly Hill, Ewhurst, Surrey.

S.A.S. VISITS

June 6th Visit to Porchester Castle, Tichfield Abbey and Fareham.

Details were given in *Bulletin* 65.

June 19th Walk from Puttenham to Shere.

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

EXCAVATION NOTICES

NEATHAM, Nr. HOLYBOURNE, HANTS.
SU 742412)

Director: MR. D. GRAHAM

The Farnham Museum Society in conjunction with the Ministry of Works is carrying out excavation of an extensive Romano-British site. There is a time limit of two months; work will continue every week-end from 11 a.m. — 6 p.m. Car parking at Neatham Mill Lane. Enquiries to the Director at Dromore, Old Frensham Road, Farnham. (Tel. Frensham 2104).

OLD TOWN, CROYDON.
(TQ 318655)

Director: MR. P. L. DREWETT.

This excavation will be resumed from 1st to 16th August, 1970. Details were given in *Bulletin* 65.

BROOKLANDS, WEYBRIDGE.
(TQ 068632)

Director: THE VISCOUNTESS HANWORTH.

This excavation will be resumed from 17th August to 6th September, 1970. Details were given in *Bulletin* 64.

NOTES

Annual General Meeting.

Over 70 Members were present at the Society's Annual General Meeting at the Guildhall, Guildford, on Saturday, 25th April. The Following officers were elected:— Honorary Secretary, Mr. D. J. Turner, B.Sc., F.C.A. Honorary Treasurer, Mr. A. C. Sargent, B.A., F.C.A. Honorary Librarian, Mr. R. A. Christophers, M.A., F.L.A. The nominees for the Council were elected, and the remaining officers and Council members were re-elected.

To commemorate her 10-year tenure as President of the Society, Miss K. M. Kenyon was presented with a replica of one of the L.B.A. pottery vessels from Weston Wood. Among matters discussed by the President, Mr. R. A. Skelton, was the problem of maintaining effective records both of existing antiquities and of those threatened by development.

Conservation Committee.

A new Committee has been set up to deal with all matters concerning conservation of field monuments, of buildings of architectural and historical interest, of industrial monuments, and other sites of architectural value, and their environment.

It is intended that the Committee shall serve as the Society's primary channel of communication on conservation matters with Government departments, planning authorities and amenity groups. The Committee will of course be actively concerned with threats to sites and monuments and their environment, but it is intended also to originate constructive policy for conservation on behalf of the Society. It will carry out its duties in liaison with the Excavation Committee and with the Society's Local Secretaries.

The Chairman is Mr. B. F. J. Pardoe and the Secretary is Mr. G. A. Gouly.

(B. F. J. Pardoe).

Annual Report, 1969: Corrections.

In the list of Council members due to retire in 1972, (p. 2) for R. Uvedale Lambert read Uvedale Lambert.

In the list of speakers at the Symposium (p. 8) Mr. Alan Gilbert's talk on 'The excavation of a threshing floor at Carshalton' was unfortunately omitted.

(D. J. Turner).

Surrey Record Society Publications.

The Library Committee is hoping to add another set of these most important publications to the Library, for reference use only. If any member has any volumes for disposal, the Hon. Librarian would be very pleased to receive details.

(R. A. Christophers).

Surrey Domestic Buildings Research Group.

The group was formed originally in May, 1969, from W.E.A. members. An appeal in the *Bulletin* attracted further members. It is essentially a practical group, whose main function is to record threatened buildings and to deposit copies of the measured plans with the Royal Commission for Historic Monuments and the County Council. During their first year the group has recorded eight houses, and they are assisting in surveying in Surrey and Hampshire for a national record of cruck buildings.

(Joan Harding).

Banstead: Clay Tobacco Pipes. (TQ 269599 to TJ 272599).

A profusion of fragments of pipes from the Croydon maker, Robert Corney, High Street, have been turned up at Woodmansterne Street from both topsoil and deeper digging, during part of the recent gas-pipe excavation. Far fewer are some by Henshaw of Woodside, with his name on the stems, but none with bowls or portions of bowls attached so that spur-marks or bowl designs could be checked.

Bowl designs found here (not necessarily from either maker) are R.A.O.B. (Atkinson & Oswald, London Clay Tobacco Pipes, Arch.J., 1969, xiii 3,) but with no spurs, masonic (*op. cit.* xiii 6), heart in hand (*op. cit.* xiii 8), but with hour-glass instead of anchor, giraffe and tree (*op. cit.* vii 44), and parts of Prince of Wales feathers. One type which the writer has not seen elsewhere or described is both bowl and stem decorated with numerous knobbly protuberances, but with no clue to maker.

One stem marked CORK on both sides might be from a type-mould supplied to certain makers (*vide op. cit.* p. 79) or dropped by an itinerant Irish labourer. None of the above products are among the pipes found in the writer's garden, near the Banstead — Woodmansterne border, so it seems that the Croydon trade with the other makers common to Woodmansterne did not extend from there westwards.

(E. A. Baxter).

Dorking: Stane Street. (TQ 164488).

The exact course of Stane Street through Dorking is uncertain. Margary indicates two possible routes (Roman Ways in the Weald, p. 69), but quotes the exposure of an 18 foot wide road a few inches under the surface by Tower Hill (TQ 167483). An old road of flint and pebbles was exposed 4 ft. 6 in. beneath the surface opposite No. 28 Horsham Road (TQ 164488) on the west side and again in a garden of a house where the present bus garage stands (TQ 163489).

Excavations for a storm drain along Horsham Road, Dorking, in 1968, produced further evidence that Stane Street followed Horsham Road.

JULY

A.G.M. of the Greater London Industrial Archaeological Society at The Institute of Archaeology, Gordon Square, W.C.1, followed by BRUNEL'S 'GREAT EASTERN'. Talk by Mr. L. T. C. ROET.

Monday, 6th. 8 p.m.

SOURCES OF LOCAL HISTORY. Talk by Miss E. M. DANCE to the MAYFORD HISTORY SOCIETY at the Village Hall, Saunders Lane, Mayford.

Sunday 19th.

S.A.S. Walk from Puttenham to Shere,

(Following the route of the ancient trackway popularly called the 'Pilgrim's Way' for ten miles).

Arranged by Miss J. CARTER and led by Mr. M. STURLEY.

10.00 a.m. Coach for Puttenham Church leaves Millmead Car Park, calling at Guildford Railway Station main entrance.

12.30 p.m. Packed lunches will be eaten on St. Catherine's Hill. Snacks and drinks available at the Ship Inn.

5.00 p.m. The coach will come to The Square, Shere, near the bridge over the Tillingbourne, for the return journey to Guildford where members should be able to obtain tea.

Ordnance Survey Maps Sheets 169 and 170 will be helpful. Numbers limited to 30 and tickets must be obtained in advance from Mrs. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton. Members 3/-, visitors 4/-, Coach 7/-. Please state where you wish to be picked up.

Similar arrangements have been made for the W.E.A., Guildford Branch on Saturday, 5th July, and members unable to come on 19th July are invited to join that party. Application to Mr. C. Wilcox, Blythburgh, 57 Pewley Hill, Guildford.

ADVANCE NOTICE

NOVEMBER

Saturday, 14th.

Annual Symposium of The Surrey Local History Council at Dorking Halls, Dorking.

A trench approximately followed the line of a metalled road about 4 feet beneath the surface of the present road. This metalling contained pieces of iron slag. Where visible the road was cut through by both walls of the trench, exposing a section 7 to 10 inches thick. The road was traced for about 300 yards from opposite St. Paul's Road to Hampstead Road (TQ 163489 to 165486). Although no firm dating evidence was obtained for the Roman period, the considerable distance between the two road surfaces implies a corresponding large chronological separation.

(G. P. Moss and R. A. Shettle).

Staines: Excavation at 69/71 High Street.

Emergency excavation was carried out by members of the Egham-by-Runnymere Historical Society and the West London Archaeological Field Group on behalf of the London Museum during November and December 1969.

The earliest feature was a road running east-west across the front of the site. It was cambered with a ditch on either side. Metalling consisted of compact gravel mixed with iron slag rusted together to form one solid layer 11 feet wide. The road rested on natural sand and gravel and the ditches were cut into this. It is situated on the projected alignment of the London to Silchester Roman Road (4a). A thin layer of mud covering the road surface suggests that it was in use for a limited period of time and a black burnt layer immediately above, suggestive of a major disaster, bears this out.

Immediately above the burnt layer two buildings were superimposed one above the other. Phase I building could not be recorded in detail because of the advancing redevelopment, but occupation dated to the late 1st century. Phase II Building was constructed on a much larger scale than its predecessor. It covered an area of nearly 1,000 square feet. The plan recorded was of the rear portion of a timbered building which extended out beneath the present High Street. It had a timber superstructure with wattle and daub walls, one of which had carried a decorated plaster panel in red with a central floral design in various colours. It probably had a tiled roof and floors were of clay, chalk, or compacted gravel. Both buildings had been destroyed by fire.

Two wells, one on the east and one on the south of the building, were 8 ft. 6 ins. deep and 2 feet square. They were revetted at the base with oak planks.

A cremation burial was found under the floor of one of the rooms of Phase II building, the remains of skulls of an adult and an infant were recovered from one of the four refuse pits found. Occupation appeared to cease in Phase II building some time towards the end of the 2nd century though it was clear from coin and pottery evidence that it continued until the late 4th century in other parts of the town. No evidence of post-Roman occupation was found and the site appeared to have remained deserted until the 19th century when Thomas Ashby built his bank there.

(Maureen Rendell).

Mitcham: Excavation at Upper Green (TQ 278689).

The proposed demolition of an 18th century building at 29 Upper (or Fair) Green, Mitcham, until recently the shop of Messrs. P. Gutteridge & Son, provided an opportunity last summer for exploratory excavation by Merton Historical Society. Since the site is located at the centre of the former village and at the junction of the old highways, it was hoped that evidence of pre-Conquest settlement would be forthcoming.

Waste flakes and blades of flint, possibly of Mesolithic origin, were the earliest artifacts found and Romano-British occupation was indicated by a few sherds of dark grey coarse ware of the late 2nd century, but nothing has been recognised from the Saxon period.

The medieval assemblage found in a 13th-14th century refuse pit included several hundred sherds of underdecorated dark grey cooking pots and coarse-textured pinkish-buff unglazed ware from a round-bellied pitcher with an off-set pricked strap handle, also glazed and unglazed sherds from pitchers and jugs of off-white sandy ware, food animal bones, a small bronze needle and various ferrous objects.

No remains of any structure of medieval or early post-medieval date were found although it is known from documentary evidence that at least one substantial house of the late 15th or early 16th century stood within a hundred yards of the site.

Building and occupation debris of the late 17th or early 18th century was found, including, in a refuse pit, an interesting collection of what could have been sick-room objects; chamber pots, a set of three matching glazed earthenware bowls, plates and dishes, clay pipes, and an unusual group of nine unbroken and several broken glass medicine bottles and vials of various kinds. The site is shortly to be redeveloped and will be kept under observation.

(E. N. Montague).

EXHIBITIONS

Glass in London. An exhibition presenting a survey of the glass used by Londoners since its introduction by the Roman founders of the city. At the London Museum, Kensington Gardens, W.8. 15th May to 31st August.

Farnham Museum Society exhibit at the Farnham Town Show, Farnham Park. Entrance 2/6d. 29th — 31st August.

MEETINGS

JUNE

Saturday, 6th. 8.30 a.m.

S.A.S. Visit to Porchester Castle, Titchfield Abbey, and Fareham.

Tuesday, 16th. 8 p.m.

CONSERVATION AREAS AND REDEVELOPMENT IN KINGSTON. Talk by Mr. K. N. BEER, Borough Planning Officer, to KINGSTON UPON THAMES ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY at the Lecture Hall, Central Library, Fairfield West, Kingston upon Thames.