



SURREY'S PAST

Archaeology at West Horsley Place p3

Finding Roman roads p8

Response to possible Romano-British temple site at Caterham p12

Medieval padlock from Beomond's Farm p15

Historic graffiti at St Andrew's, Cobham p16

Zoomorphic medieval object from Surrey p19

Possible barrow and tree-clump circle at Seale p20

SCAU round-up p25



Note from the Editor

By Anne Sassin

Welcome to the Autumn edition of *Surrey's Past*, which we are pleased to say is an edition full of interesting fieldwork and research pieces from both Society members and colleagues within the county, as well as select events highlighted at the end. We look forward to receiving even more excellent contributions in the forthcoming Winter publication. For more on other updates, upcoming events and opportunities, do subscribe to our monthly e-newsletters, emailing Hannah (info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk) with any queries.

Welcome to new members

By Hannah Jeffery

I would like to welcome the following new members who have joined the Society. I have included principal interests, where they have been given on the membership form. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to get in contact with me on 01306 731275 or info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk.

| Name | Town | Principal Archaeological and Local History Interests |
|-----------------------|----------------|--|
| Sofia Ali-Shah | Godalming | LiDAR, GIS, Classical Roman Archaeology, Pagan Archaeology |
| Ella Allison | Farnham | Prehistoric Archaeology and the Roman occupation of Britain |
| Hilary Barnes | Blindley Heath | Bronze Age and Roman Era |
| Peter Brown | Kew | Roman Archaeology |
| Norma Cox | London | Archaeology |
| Anthony Elliott | East Horsley | Geophysics and Surrey History |
| Rebecca Haslam | Catford | Iron Age to Early Medieval Periods and Landscape Archaeology |
| Geoff Keen | Weybridge | Archaeology |
| Veronica Keywood | Farncombe | Most aspects of archaeological and historical interest including Roman and Local History |
| John Richard Lonergan | Pulborough | Prehistoric and Roman Archaeology in Europe, UK Southern England and Sussex |
| Anne McLaughlin | Oxted | Archaeological Digs and Finds, History of Sites, Lithics, Pottery |
| Tony McLaughlin | Oxted | Archaeological Digs, History of Sites, Lithics |
| David Stretch | Gomshall | Romano-British Period, Medieval and Post-Medieval Periods, Coinage and Estate Structure |
| Philip Wragg | Addlestone | All Archaeology |

There will be three issues of *Surrey's Past* in 2024. Next issue: copy required by **16 January** for the February issue.

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Issue no: | Copy date: | Approx. delivery: |
| 496 February | 15 January | 12 February |
| 497 June | 13 May | 10 June |
| 498 October | 16 September | 14 October |

Articles and notes on all aspects of fieldwork and research on the history and archaeology of Surrey are very welcome. Contributors are encouraged to discuss their ideas with the editor beforehand, including possible deadline extensions and the proper format of submitted material (please supply digital copy when possible and images in JPEG or similar image file format).

© **Surrey Archaeological Society 2023** The Trustees of Surrey Archaeological Society desire it to be known that they are not responsible for the statements or opinions expressed in *Surrey's Past*.

Editor: Dr Anne Sassin, 101 St Peter's Gardens, Wrecclesham, Farnham, Surrey GU10 4QZ, Email: asassinallen@gmail.com

Assistant Editor: Rob Briggs, Email: surreymedieval.blog@gmail.com

Archaeology at West Horsley Place

By **Rob Poulton**

Introduction

In 2014 Bamber Gascoigne was astonished to discover that he had inherited West Horsley Place from his 99-year-old aunt, Mary, Duchess of Roxburghe. The Grade I-listed house was recognised as a building of exceptional interest and importance by architectural historians, its elegant early 17th-century façade known to conceal a house with a complex earlier development. Its condition did, however, give rise to much concern and it had been placed on the Historic England ‘Buildings at Risk’ Register. Ownership of the house was soon passed to a new charity (now known as the West Horsley Place Trust) with the twin aims of restoring and conserving the house and making it into a public asset. The first aim has led to the identification of much important new information about the history of the house through condition surveys and works to conserve and modernise facilities, while the second aim has been a stimulus to new research involving the community. All the archaeological work undertaken by the Surrey County Archaeological Unit was made possible through funding from the West Horsley Place Trust.

The focus of the present note is on how much history is concealed below ground and its implications for understanding the development of the house. This is based on the reports produced on archaeological work in association with development work in 2018 (Poulton & Pattison 2018) and the community archaeological project undertaken in 2022 (Weller *et al* 2023). It will, however, include information from significant discoveries regarding the standing fabric, notably by the work of Martin Smith, the project architect, and Martin Higgins (Higgins 2022), as well as from the commentary in the Conservation Management Plan (CMP 2017).

The dating of different stages in the evolution of the building is rarely exact even when the sequence is clear, and the dates given in what follows are generally approximate. Assignment of construction work to individuals associated with West Horsley

Place has the potential to offer more precision, but the evidence needs to be used with caution since it almost never provides a precise correlation.



Fig 1 2022 trench 1 under excavation (looking north-west), with the mid 17th-century frontage of the house behind

Medieval origins

There must have been a manor house on this site in the 13th century by which time a deer park had been established around the site of the present building (Turner 2004). Nothing of that date survives above ground, but four foundations, lacking direct dating, composed of flint nodules have been identified by archaeological work. They are, perhaps, more likely to have formed the supports for timber-framed buildings than the bases of solid walls. Two in the south in 2022 trench 1 are aligned roughly east-west at an angle to later structures, and the distance between them of circa 6m would be typical for a medieval building or range. A ditch parallel with the southernmost might be a boundary feature. A further linear feature also formed of unbonded flint nodules cuts this ditch but is on the same orientation as the principal walls of the standing structure. It might be contemporary with the earliest parts of that or it could represent another earlier phase. The northern foundation in 2018 trench 1 is obviously not coeval with the 15th-century range to its west. Foundations of this type are frequently associated with high status medieval buildings of 14th century and earlier date, and their discovery in widely separated locations is suggestive of much building activity

across the area before the first of the surviving structures was erected. Medieval manorial residences commonly had a spread of separate buildings, including hall, chamber, kitchen and gate-house.

The oldest parts of the house

Dendrochronological (tree-ring) dating of the timbers of the Great Hall show that it was created in 1500 or a few years later. However, detailed inspection of the fabric by Martin Higgins and others has shown that this replaced a Great Hall of similar dimensions that itself was older than a north-south range to its east that was also disturbed by the work of c1500. In other words, there were two

substantial phases of development of the building before the end of the 15th century. In the earliest phase the original Great Hall probably joined with a range on the west (clearly early but not directly dated), extending to the north, so that together they formed an L-shaped block. This is a classic medieval arrangement of a hall and chamber block (albeit on a relatively large scale; cf Blair 1993) and, with the detached square kitchen to the east, the plan would be at home at any point in the period c1200-1450.

Martin Higgins has suggested that the next phase was the development of a courtyard house by the building of ranges to the south of the great hall. The surviving timbers of the east range (within the present building, the range has otherwise been

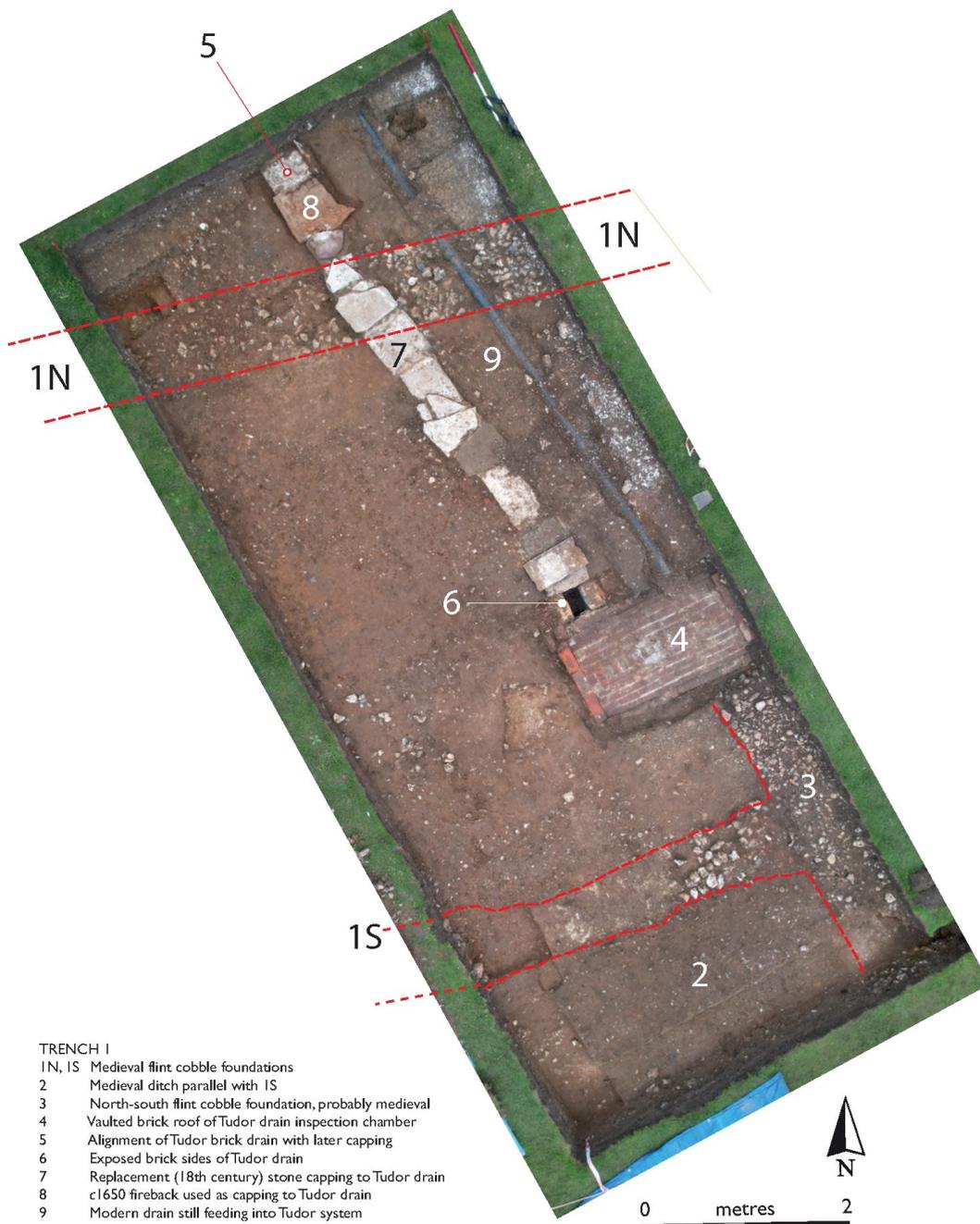


Fig 2 2022 trench 1, overhead view at end of excavation

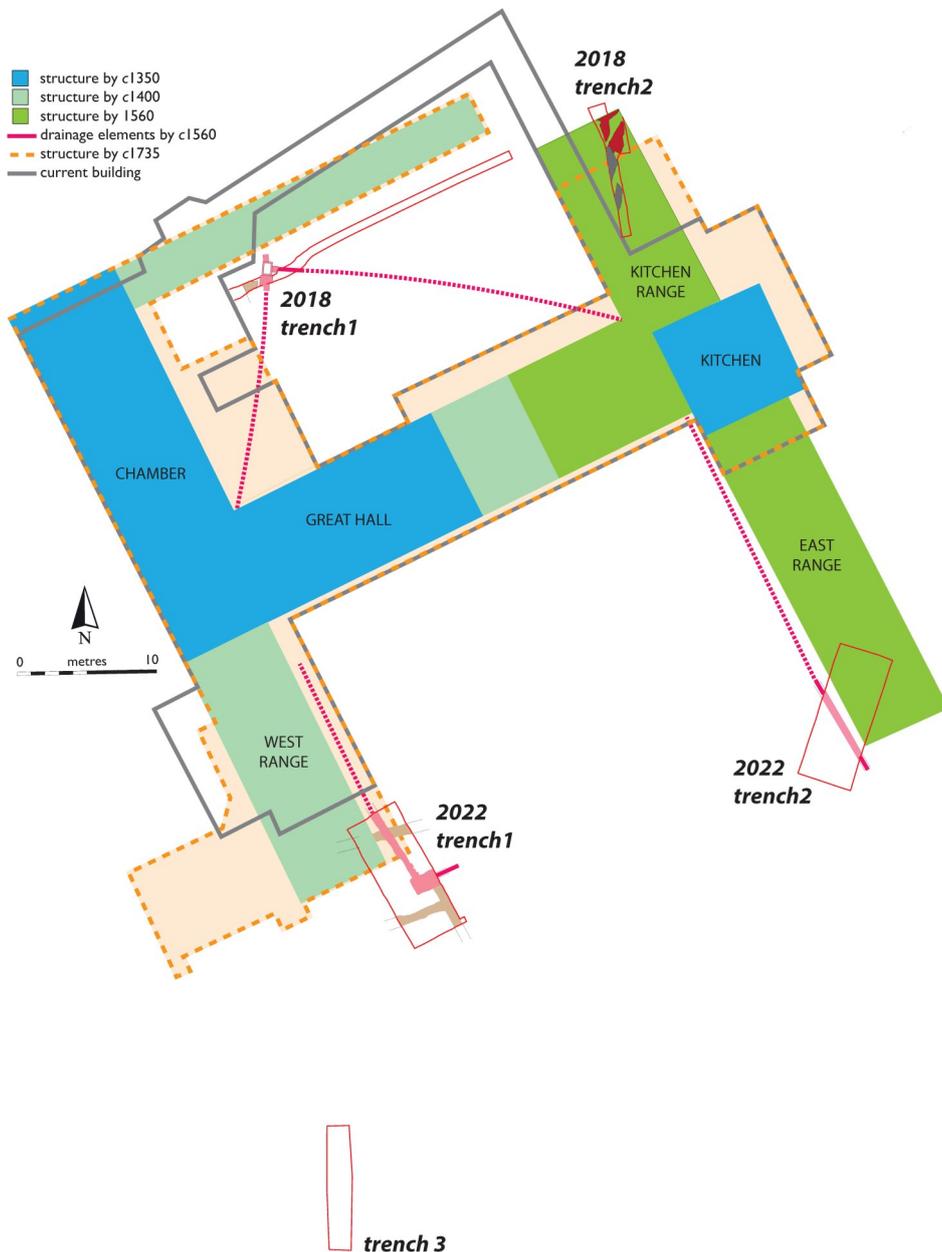


Fig 3 Plan showing location of principal archaeological discoveries relative to key stages in the development of the ground plan of the house

wholly removed) have now been dated by dendrochronology to indicate construction in 1382 or soon after (Moir 2023). Part of the west range still survives, although shortened at some time after the 1735 estate plan was drawn. The courtyard house became very fashionable in the early Tudor period (e.g. Howard 1987) but, as here, its emergence was rather earlier. The manor was in the possession of James de Berners (1361-1388), who was a close companion of Richard II and was made a knight of the chamber in 1381. He did not live long to enjoy the modern and grander residence that he created as he was beheaded for treason in 1388 (see the fascinating details in <https://www.westhorsleyplace.org/news/a-fatal-friendship-richard-ii-and-sir-james-de-bernars-lord-of-west-horsley-manor>).



Fig 4 2022 trench 2, the Tudor brick drain revealed below brick rubble from demolition of the former Tudor east wing that ran parallel with it (also see cover image for excavation of trench 2)

Developments in the 16th century

By the 1530s West Horsley manor belonged to the Marquis of Exeter who hosted a dinner for the King there (Malden 1911). When he was executed for treason in 1538 it was forfeited to the Crown and alterations and repairs were carried out for Henry VIII. In 1547 he granted the manor to Sir Anthony Browne who is known to have refashioned the Great Hall. Later the manor was held by Edward, 9th Lord Clinton (from 1572 the Earl of Lincoln), Lord High Admiral to Elizabeth I. She visited the house five times, including for a whole week in 1559 (Calthorpe 2017).

Royal visits to prominent courtiers required lavish facilities and, importantly, archaeology has shown that a lot of building and other works, mostly now only apparent below ground, occurred at this period. The presence of primary brick demolition rubble and an adjacent brick drain demonstrate that a north-south range of early-mid 16th-century date formerly extended to the vicinity of 2022 trench 2. Time did not allow the full removal of the brick debris so its exact length is uncertain. The 15th century west wing was retained and the overall plan was now that of a large winged hall house. At around the same time the former detached kitchen was incorporated into the body of the house and a new kitchen area, revealed in 2018 trench 2, added to the north. This had tile-on-edge hearths with greensand surrounds within wide brick walls, probably incorporating the bases of brick chimneys, with an exterior Reigate stone plinth. This was clearly high quality work and the elaborate drainage arrangements (royal houses of the era (e.g. Oatlands Palace, Weybridge, Poulton 2010, esp 170) provide interesting parallels), evident in three of the four trenches, also show that there was considerable expenditure on upgrading the house. This was a major expansion which, together with the internal works, turned it from a well provided gentry house into a courtier residence able to host royalty. The subsequent removal of much of the new building suggests that it soon reverted to its former status when these elements would have become a burden rather than an asset.

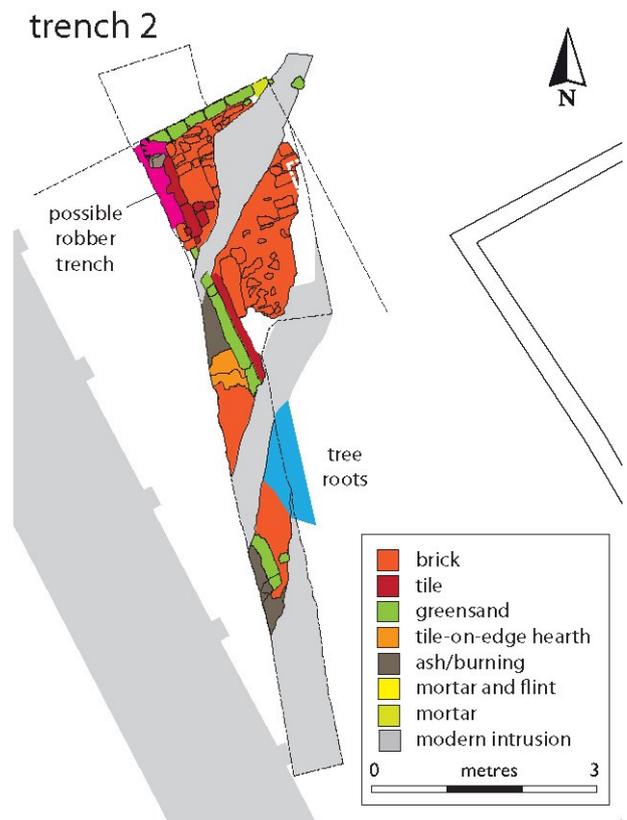
Fig 5 2018 trench 2, plan of the Tudor walls and hearth(s) revealed

The 17th and 18th centuries

An estate plan of 1735 shows that the east range had been demolished and the kitchen extension to the rear replaced by a shorter and wider structure. A number of other modifications, some quite substantial, had also occurred. The most important of these was the refronting of the house. The Historic England listing entry (no 1188949) summarises it thus:

refronted in early C17 by 2nd Viscount Montagu, further altered in mid C18 by Henry Weston who ordered the wings be shortened

Neither statement seems to have clear evidence, the first is based on the style (to which O'Brien *et al* (2022, 722-3) assign a general early-mid 17th-century date) and the second an inference from Manning & Bray's (1801-14, 41) statement that Weston made 'some alterations'. However, the second statement cannot be correct with regard to the east wing, which was demolished before 1735, although it could well apply to the west wing which was certainly shortened after 1735. This, however, seems problematic for the dating of the refronting since the west gable end must be later than 1735, although its style is consistent with the rest of the frontage; the probable explanation is that the gable



end to the longer range was taken down and reused, as O'Brien *et al* (2022, 723) suggest. The work in trench 1 in 2022 showed that when the west wing was shortened after 1735 the ground level had been reduced (perhaps because the original range had stepped up with rising ground in this direction and hence lowering was necessary to allow the transposed gable end to work), removing the evidence for its foundations and the original top of the Tudor brick drain. The latter was replaced by stone slabs from a former fireplace as well as most of a cast iron fireback of around 1650. It includes the City of London coat of arms, and the explanation of its presence in the house might be that Edward Nichols, the owner of West Horsley from 1664, was married to Jane Jay, a daughter of Henry Jay, an alderman of London.



Fig 6 2018 trench 1 showing the Tudor brick inspection chamber with vaulted drain heading north and the inserted later ceramic drain on the west side

References

Blair, J, 1993 Hall and chamber: English domestic planning 1000-1250, in Meirion-Jones, G & Jones, M (eds), *Manorial domestic buildings in England and France*, London: Society of Antiquaries, 1-21

Calthorpe, M, 2017 The Elizabethan court day by day, http://folgerpedia.folger.edu/The_Elizabethan_Court_Day_by_Day

Turner, D, 2004 Manors and other settlements, in Cotton, J, Crocker, G & Graham, A (eds), 2004 *Aspects of archaeology and history in Surrey: towards a research framework for the County*, Guildford: Surrey Archaeological Society, 133-46

CMP 2017 Conservation Management Plan for West Horsley Place, Stables, Barns & Curtilage Buildings

Higgins, M, 2022 Interim report on the roof of the central section of West Horsley Place, unpublished circulated text

Howard, M, 1987 *The early Tudor country house, architecture and politics 1490-1550*, London: Hamlyn

Weller, W, Payne, J & Poulton, R, 2023 West Horsley Place, Guildford Road, West Horsley, Surrey. An archaeological excavation in association with West Horsley Place Trust, SCAU unpublished report

Malden, H E (ed), 1911 *The Victoria history of the county of Surrey*, 3, London: VCH

Manning, O & Bray, W, 1801-14 *The History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey*, 3 vols, London: John White & Co.

Moir, A, 2023 *Dendrochronological analysis of oak timbers from a hidden south range at West Horsley Place, Guildford, Surrey, England*, Tree-Ring Services Report: KTHP/37/23

O'Brien, C, Nairn, I & Cherry, B, 2022 *Surrey (Pevsner Architectural Guides: Buildings of England)*, New Haven: Yale University Press

Poulton, R, 2010 *Excavations at Oatlands Palace 1968-73 and 1983-4*, SpoilHeap Publications Monograph, 3

Poulton, R & Pattison, G, 2018 Excavation of pipe trenches associated with a proposed new boiler room at West Horsley Place, Guildford Road, West Horsley, Surrey. An archaeological watching brief, SCAU unpublished report

Fig 7 2022 trench 1 under excavation, with the Tudor drain, concealed by the 18th-century stone capping, leading to the Tudor brick inspection chamber. On the left the modern iron replacement drain is being revealed (looking south-east)



If you're looking for Roman settlements, first find the roads!

By Chris Gibson

A group from the Roman Rural Settlements Project (RRSP) have been working in the Waverley area trying to identify possible settlements.

The RRSP kept moving during lockdown in 2020-21 with David Calow organising regular Zoom meetings of the Roman Studies Group with the aim of discussing and identifying possible settlement sites around the county. In Waverley borough we identified the Ewhurst area as having the potential for a settlement, in the light of the presence of the 1960s excavated Rapsley Roman villa and bathhouse site and the road (RR151 on the Margary road

numbering system) that branched off Stane Street at Rowhook and was believed to run eight miles up to the Roman temple site at Farley Heath.

The excavation of the Rapsley villa was well documented (Hanworth 1968) but the excavation involved limited numbers of volunteers, was conducted over short time periods over several years, and was understandably confined to the immediate area of the villa and bathhouse. Consequently, there was little evidence of the activities relating to the villa, the communities that might surround it or its communications network.

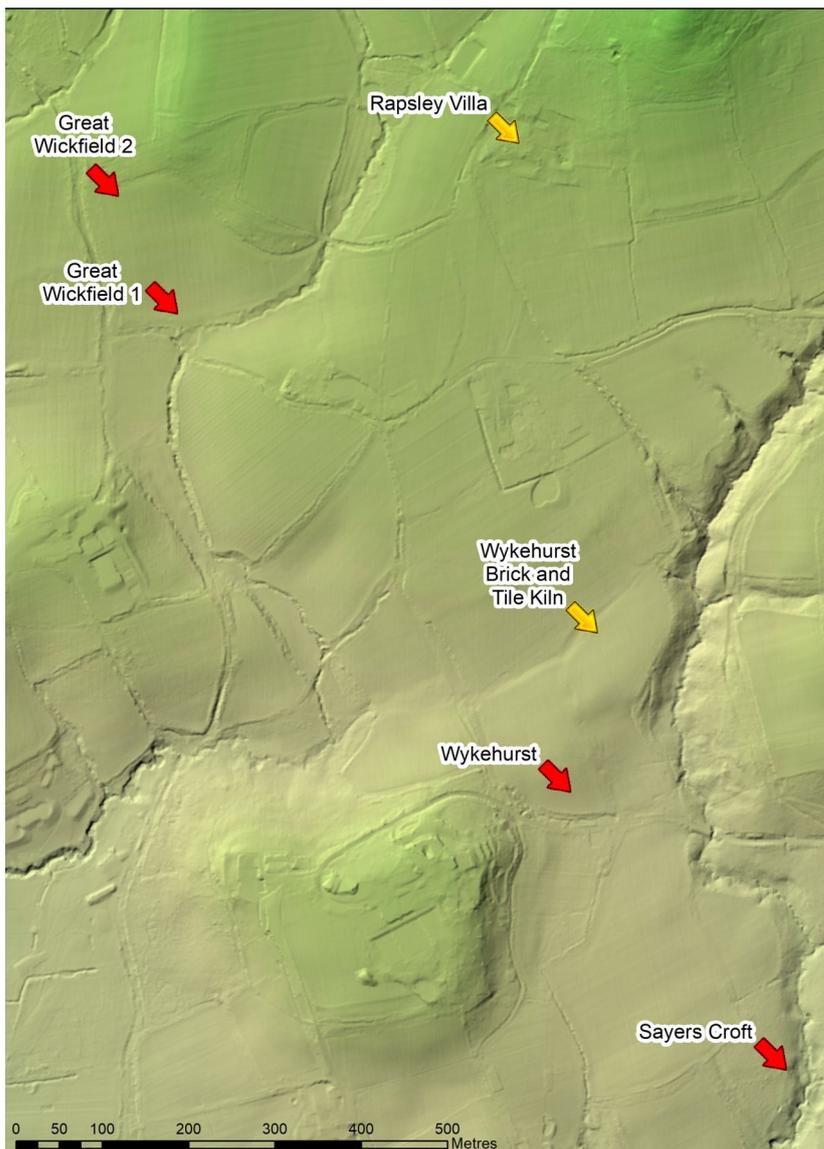


Fig 1 Map of locations where RR151 has been traced by probing and digging (yellow arrows) and nearby excavated Roman sites (red arrows). Map kindly prepared by Jazmin Sexton of the Surrey Historic Environment Record (HER@surreycc.gov.uk), using Environment Agency LiDAR Composite Digital Terrain Model 1m 2022 data.

Further, a number of papers had been written about the road over the years since the one by Harrison published as far back as 1872 (yes, really, and we're still looking! This was reprinted two years later in *Surrey Archaeological Collections* volume 6; see also Winbolt 1924 and Hall & English 2004). There was, however, little useful detail north-west of the Sayers Croft educational centre in lower Ewhurst. It is quite an interesting coincidence that we were exploring the road on both the 150th and 100th anniversary respectively of earlier work and the road still has much to tell us.

The Royal Engineers worked on the Ordnance Survey in the Ewhurst area around 1870 prior to Harrison's work. They had apparently identified several sections of road during their work and had sent him drawings of their work including a projected line of the road which has proved to be roughly correct but insufficiently accurate for our work. However, we reckoned that there was enough information from these works to provide us with a foothold to attempt the settlement work in that area.

So, we had a villa with no clear purpose for its existence and a Roman road apparently passing about half a mile away but unproven and no known location for any local community beyond the villa.

But we had clues! Lots of them – or were they red herrings?! Afficionados of whodunnits would relish having such a rich list of giveaway names to help us on our way (plus a length of rare lead pipe from the villa!). From 1840s' tithe maps we had Wick Coppice surrounded by Great Wickfield and Little Wickfield, all of which appear to derive from Old English *wīc* and so in turn Latin *vicus*, possibly pointing the way to a settlement. A quarter of a mile away lay The Green, a triangular field around which lanes from several directions meet, surely making it somewhere around which people would have lived. More clues included another field intriguingly named Devil's Oven, a concentration of circular depressions in a wood, possibly reminiscent of roundhouse foundations and two very large oval shaped, stone-lined sunken features (Fig 2).

The priority, we decided, was to get some certainty over the road network around Ewhurst as best we could as settlements would need roads and tracks to flourish. Those of us involved had no experience of geophysics and as it was mid-lockdown we had to

operate singly. LiDAR was available and the Roman road was clearly evident on it but, sadly, not beyond the area previously documented. So we decided to buy some probe bars. These are 120cm long pointed steel bars, 2cm thick with a handlebar to apply pressure, pushing it into the ground. Though only available from the United States, they eventually arrived, enabling our search to get underway.



Fig 2 Still a puzzle after three years! How did this oval feature fit into Ewhurst's long history and there's another one 1/3 mile away?

Depending on the state of the ground you can get the probe bar in the ground up to 60cm, although most of the road sections were only around 25cm below the surface, so quite easy to probe for. Clay soil during the hot summers were extremely hard work though. As a side benefit, probing has exceptionally good work-out characteristics and can save you a trip to the gym! We acquired a good ear for the sound when it hit an object underground; a good "clank" when it hit a stone and a duller one, for example a tree root or gravel, that told us to look elsewhere!

When a promising sound was heard, there is a technique to validate it either as a random stone or one that is part of something worth exploring. We would walk across areas of a field systematically, probing in the ground every 50cm (closer together if the area is quite stoney), planting a red flag on a good sound and a blue flag for a bad or no sound. You could then look across your chosen area and assess whether there was a promising pattern of red flags. A nice long line could suggest a road or track surface or some other hardstanding.



Fig 3 Cause for hope! A row of red flags worth testing!

Some spadework would follow to sample check if the stone looked like a natural feature or was part of an assemblage resulting from human activity. If it was human activity we would do enough work to satisfy ourselves that this was a sufficiently important surface to warrant opening up a trench.

There's a wonderful sense of triumph when, having relied only on the sound of the probe bar hitting stone and looking at the pattern of red flags, you can peel back the centuries of accumulated earth and gaze on a surface last used nearly 2,000 years ago. As far as we can see, none of RR151 from Rowhook exists as a footpath, track or road nowadays, unlike Stane Street's A29 presence, which makes one wonder about the utility of the road, even then.

Using this technique we found all four of the sections of Roman road along about one mile, the last one leaving the north-western end of Ewhurst heading for Barhatch Lane. These will be the subject of a report in a forthcoming *Surrey Archaeological Collections* volume.



Fig 4 Let's check what's down there! Volunteers investigate a red flag potential feature



Fig 5 Success! David Calow is happy that the stones in the test trench look hopeful as road stones. This turned out to be the site of the major section of road found in Great Wickfield.



Fig 6 Result! Yes, our searches have revealed some excellent examples of road sections. This was at Sayers Croft Outdoor Learning Centre, Ewhurst.

We have just completed formally recording the fourth section of the road. The road, in terms of construction of the agger, the gravelled "pavements" and the side ditches suggests more of a quality, longer distance type than a track up to the temple on top of the Lower Greensand escarpment at Farley Heath and merits more work to determine its purpose and destination.

We are, therefore, sub-dividing our work now into: (1) establishing the potential for the road going beyond Farley Heath, and (2) the continued search for settlement evidence in the Ewhurst area with the benefit of the additional knowledge about the road.

And what about the settlements? We still need to establish what physical connection the villa had with the road network that we now know more about and the activities that took place at the villa, e.g. pastoral

and/or arable farming, and the potential for a settlement to accommodate folk involved in those activities. Might there also be roadside settlements if it is a longer distance road, so we have to be awake to that possibility as the road discovery work progresses?

However, it is difficult to get a feel for what an area's population and activities in the area might have been. One has to consider the natural resources of the locality (timber, iron ore, quarry stone, strong water flows) to help focus on what might have taken place and the clues that might still exist to build a picture of life in the area at the time.



Fig 7 Looking for clues and investigating a possible feature that might indicate activity along the Coneyhurst Gill

A very important feature in our searches has been contact with, and help from, local history societies, with Ewhurst History Society (EHS) being a stand-out exemplar. There is not only a wealth of local knowledge but also the contacts to open doors to the landowners for that vital access to land and a great source of local volunteers.

So, three years on from David's initiative to get the wheels of the settlement project rolling during lockdown, I believe we have made some decent progress. The successes have been principally on the road network although, as noted earlier, it is a necessary precursor to identifying settlements. I accept that that probing for a 12 *pedes* wide road surface is much easier than locating the more ephemeral and less predictable evidence of rural settlements, but with LiDAR, geophysics, observation in the field and local knowledge of lumps and bumps in the ground, I am hopeful of achieving some success on the settlements front over the next 12 months.

As novices to this fieldwork, we are greatly indebted to the senior members of the Society for their technical input to our work. Geolocation, drawings and photographic recording of sites and their professional authentication are all indispensable for the completion of our work and we have learnt a great deal over this time. We have been remarkably fortunate to find that all of the landowners we have approached have more than willingly allowed us to search and excavate on their land. We should never take this for granted, and maintaining regular communication with them is important for continued acceptance.

And finally, an enormous "thank you" to all our volunteers from SyAS and EHS who have braved some extremes of weather to keep the show moving forward. We have kept going on a few days per week for pretty well the whole of the three years and managed to field sufficient numbers on each occasion.

If you want to join the team working on the road destination and the Ewhurst-centred search for settlement activities, please contact me on chrisgibson01@btinternet.com or phone 01428 661462.

References

- Hall, A & English, J, 2004 The Rowhook—Farley Heath branch road: excavations by I D Margary and A J Clark and further field observations, *SyAC*, **91**, 280-4
- Hanworth, R, 1968 The Roman villa at Rapsley, Surrey, *SyAC*, **45**, 1-70
- Harrison, J P, 1874 On a Vicinal Road which formerly ran through the Parish of Ewhurst, Surrey, from the Stane Street at Rowhook towards the Old Town or Station at Farley, near Albury, *SyAC*, **6**, 1-10
- Winbolt, S E, 1924 The Rowhook—Farley Heath branch of Stane Street, *SyAC*, **35**, 49-67

A response to ‘Possible Romano-British temple site south of Caterham’

By **Matt Sparkes**

After reading Jan Burbridge’s article in issue **494** of *Surrey’s Past* I felt it might be useful to present some evidence which runs contrary to the proposition put forward there. The article suggested the existence of an ancient religious site in the vicinity of The Harrow, a rather isolated pub, close to the edge of the North Downs between Caterham and Chaldon. The suggestion was based primarily on inferences from the examination of place-name evidence. The idea that a Roman road may once have run very close to the site was also mentioned. After addressing these points I have included some brief comments on the aerial photograph shown in Jan’s article.

Roman road

If we look at the Roman road evidence first, the article states that the area near to The Harrow pub ‘appears to have had links to the wider Roman road network [according to] various online commentators’. The important issue here is that although suggestions have appeared in print that a Roman road may have run somewhere through the area in question, it is necessary to go back a long way to find them. The first reference to such a road is in Manning and Bray (1809, vol 2, 434). While trying to trace the route through Caterham of the Roman road that we now know as RR150 (London-

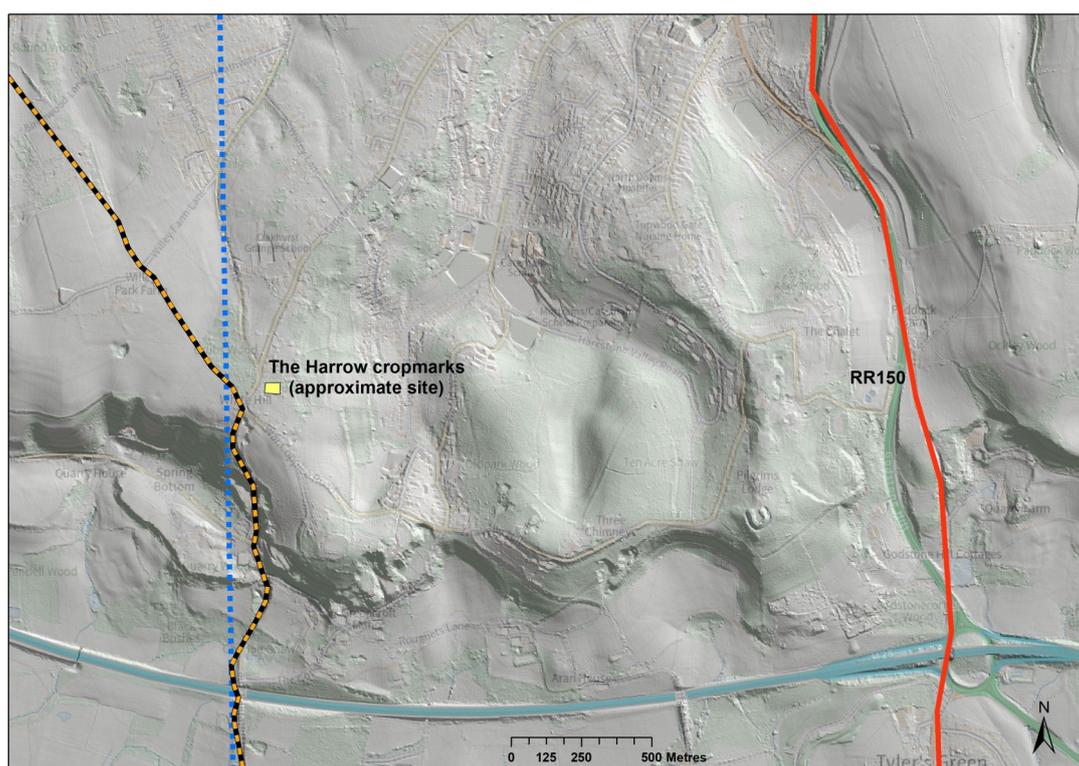


Fig 1 Map showing the area discussed in the article. The approximate courses of the Roman roads published by Manning and Bray in 1814 (blue dotted line) and Johnson and Wright in 1903 (orange and black line) appear running close to the site of the cropmarks near The Harrow Pub evident on the 1945 aerial photograph, and hence the other landscape features and place-names noted by Jan Burbridge. The established route of Roman Road 150, as determined by Margary, is also shown (red line), around 2.5km to the east of the two lines mentioned above. As can be seen from the underlying LiDAR hillshade model, RR150 passes through the notably flat Godstone Gap and shadows the current course of the A22/Caterham Bypass, whereas the earlier suggested routes would have had to ascend up a particularly steep part of the North Downs escarpment, a route taken by modern Whitehill Lane. Map produced by Rob Briggs of the Surrey Historic Environment Record (HER@surreycc.gov.uk), using Environment Agency 2015 1m DTM LiDAR Composite hillshade model (at 45 degree azimuth) and Ordnance Survey base mapping (Crown copyright, reproduced under licence no. 100019613, 2010).

Hassocks) Manning and Bray noted the existence of two ‘street’ related place-names in the Chaldon area and postulated that the road had gone that way:

‘The Roman Road which came out of Sussex by Godstone [...] passed through [Caterham] parish; the name is preserved in *Stane-street* or *Stansted-heath*, which is the first common after ascending Whitehill and passing a public-house called the Harrow. This house and a small piece of land belonging to it is called in the title deeds *Stone-street* (generally called *Stoney-street*).’ (much the same information also appears in Manning and Bray 1814, vol 3, xlv – the author and editors are grateful to David Bate for highlighting this reference).

Manning and Bray’s county history was, of course, a very influential work, so it comes as no surprise that their suggestion on this point was later repeated in sources such as Johnson and Wright (1903, pull-out map at front of book). It is worth noting, however, that these texts relate to a period when the route of RR150 was not properly understood. The suggestion that the road passed somewhere in the area of The Harrow was made in the absence of any physical evidence and was no more than an antiquarian guess – based on a factor (the ‘street’ related minor place-names cited above) that is now known not to be a reliable indicator of the presence of a Roman road in the absence of any other evidence.

The route that RR150 took through Caterham was established beyond doubt by Margary (1937, 125, 130-2) who showed that the physical evidence indicated that it crossed the North Downs by the path of least resistance, i.e. through the Godstone Gap, and not via Chaldon. Subsequent finds have confirmed this (e.g. Ketteringham 1974). By comparison, if the road had gone near The Harrow in Chaldon it would have needed to scale the North Downs at the steepest point possible, a decision which would have been very much contrary to the practice of Roman-era engineers: see for example Stane Street, RR15 (London-Chichester), which passes the Downs in similar fashion via Mickleham Gap. The main purpose of RR150 is believed to have been to link the iron-producing areas of the Weald to London. Volumes of heavily laden wagons can thus be expected to have travelled north along the route. The idea that a very steep (and unnecessary) gradient would have been a feature of the road can be seen to have been highly unlikely.

While it is now an established fact that RR150 did not pass through Chaldon, it might be argued that a branch road could have passed through the area. To believe this, however, one would need to look beyond both the very steep gradient to the top of the North Downs and the level of Roman activity recorded in Chaldon being very low indeed (two facts which I’d suggest are not unrelated). Margary (1937, 122) did in fact note that the current road in this area may be of some age. However, he omitted all mention of it in *Roman Ways of the Weald* (1956) which remains the definitive text on Roman roads in Surrey, Kent and Sussex, and covers even the most minor Romano-British routes (and possible Roman branch roads, including from RR150). It is thus reasonable to assume that Margary rejected Manning and Bray’s theory. No physical evidence has come to light since Margary’s time to support the idea that a Roman road passed through Chaldon.

If, as the recent article states, there are ‘various online commentators’ suggesting that the Harrow route is a valid alternative version of RR150, or a branch road, then that seems rather unfortunate. Presumably it results from those commentators not applying sufficient scrutiny to the antiquarian speculation in the early sources when compared to the well-regarded evidence-based scholarship of Margary. Jan mentions the existence of another article, said to have appeared about 15 years ago, which suggested that such a road had existed. I cannot find such an article either in SyAS sources or in the many publications of the local history society that covers the area in question (The Bourne Society). I’m thus unsure of where else it might have appeared, but I suspect it is unlikely to alter the position outlined in the above few paragraphs.

Place-names

The main part of Jan’s theory is related to place-name evidence, specifically in relation to the name elements Pratt, Willey, and Pepper, all of which were suggested to possibly be indicative of religious sites or paganism generally.

The article notes the presence of Pratts Green, close to The Harrow on the c1768 Rocque map of Surrey, with the element ‘Pratt’ being noted to possibly derive from OE *praett* (craft, wile, trick) and thus to represent a rather tenuous link to a possible ancient pagan site). The entry for this location in *The Place*

Names of Surrey (p398) gives a rather different impression, however, as the name is given there as ‘Plats Green’, and the earliest usage, dating to 1617, is ‘Platts’. In addition, ‘Plat Green’ and nearby ‘Plat Bottom’ are the versions given on the 1736 Rowed Map of Caterham, which gives a wealth of place-names down to field-name level and would thus appear to be more trustworthy on local detail than the somewhat later Rocque map which covers all of Surrey and only very rarely gives minor place-names (see Fookes 1997, VIII-IX, also Batley 1967; modern copies of the map are held at Surrey History Centre, reference numbers M/185/1-2). All of the credible place-name evidence thus suggests that the location has always been known as ‘Platts Green’ (or similar) rather than ‘Pratts Green’.

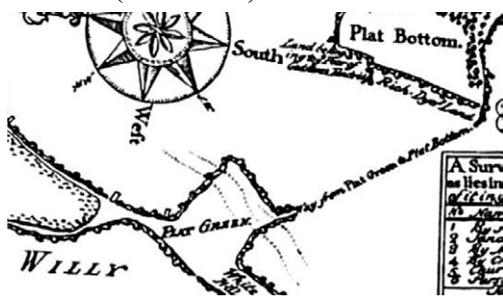


Fig 2 Detail from the 1736 Rowed map showing Plat Green and Plat Bottom, plus the ‘Way’ between the two of them. Reproduced courtesy of the Bourne Society.

Similarly, in relation to ‘Pepper’ (and possible derivation from OE *pipere*, ‘piper’), the article suggests that the Victorian era house called ‘Pepper Alley’ might record the original name of the road through the area, which it is claimed was also a Roman road. However, there is no evidence that the road in question was ever called Pepper Alley and there are no other instances of the place-name ‘Pepper’ (or ‘Piper’, etc.) elsewhere in the surrounding area. Similarly, there is no evidence to suggest that a Roman road ran through this location.

So, while the argument put forward in the article is thought provoking, it seems as though there are no place-names in the Chaldon area that can be linked to the supposed existence of an early religious site. That being the case, I see no reason to assume anything other than the standard origin for the name of the Harrow pub in Chaldon which, as with many other similarly titled rural pubs, derives from the farming implement of that name and not from OE *hearg* (‘heathen temple’). The fact that there are no other locations in the vicinity with ‘harrow’ type names only reinforces this impression.

Aerial photograph

This still leaves the interesting question of the aerial photograph shown in Jan’s article. I discussed this with Gwyneth Fookes of the Bourne Society, who informed me that the broader area (being close to the edge of the North Downs) was the site of a great deal of military activity during the Second World War. That was, in her opinion, the most likely explanation for the cropmark. Alternatively, it could represent some kind of farming activity, e.g. a paddock or enclosure of some kind.

The cropmark seems to represent two squares, slightly interlocking as though one post-dates the other (i.e. as though they are two different iterations of the same feature, covering adjacent areas). If the feature represented a temple precinct (as suggested by Jan) I think one would have to wonder why the first and second iterations of that precinct appear to have covered almost entirely separate areas, when there might reasonably be expected to have been a strong degree of continuity of the area denoted as sacred from one iteration to another. That being the case, the cropmark would seem to represent the remains of a feature with a non-sacred purpose where simple functionality was more important than the sense of a specific space.

References

- Batley, J C, 1967, Caterham: The Rowed Map of 1736, *SyAS Bulletin*, **30**
- Fookes, G, ed, 1997, *The Bourne Society Village Histories*, **2**, Caterham
- Gover, J E B *et al*, 1934, *The Place-Names of Surrey*, Cambridge: University Press
- Johnson, W & Wright, W, 1903, *Neolithic Man in North-East Surrey*, London: Elliot Stock
- Ketteringham, L, 1974, The Roman Road, Godstone, *SyAC*, **70**
- Manning, O & Bray, W, 1809-14, *The History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey*, vols 2 and 3
- Margary, I D, 1937, The London-Croydon-Portslade Roman Road, *SyAC*, **45**
- Margary, I D, 1956, *Roman Ways in the Weald* (revised 3rd edition)

A medieval padlock from Beomond's Farm, Chertsey found by the late Phil Jones

By Judie English

Among the archive left by Phil Jones is a small bronze padlock which has been identified and described by Simon Maslin and added to the Portable Antiquities Scheme record as [SUR-82CF19](#). The following is taken from that record. The piece is an incomplete copper alloy barrel padlock dating to c1150-1500, and is hollow and cylindrical with faceted sides, giving it an octagonal cross-section. The underside of the case has decoration comprising incised zig-zag decoration along the length of the case with three transverse lines running in a band around each end.

One end of the lock has a flat projecting arm, 11.1mm wide, with two drilled holes and incised line decoration; this terminates in a tapering bar running parallel to the case. In the open end of the case is a central metal division creating two rectangular apertures for the spring barbs on the bolt. The other end of the case has a plate with four square apertures arranged around a central hole; these were to take a sliding key to release the spring barbs. The other part of the padlock, which would have held the iron spring barbs and a projecting arm and circular collar to hold the locking bar, has now been lost.

These small padlocks were generally used on caskets and date to before c1300. A similar octagonal example, which was decorated with sinuous double lines of opposed triangles, was excavated at Billingsgate Lorry Park in London in 1982; others come from Oxford and Winchester, and

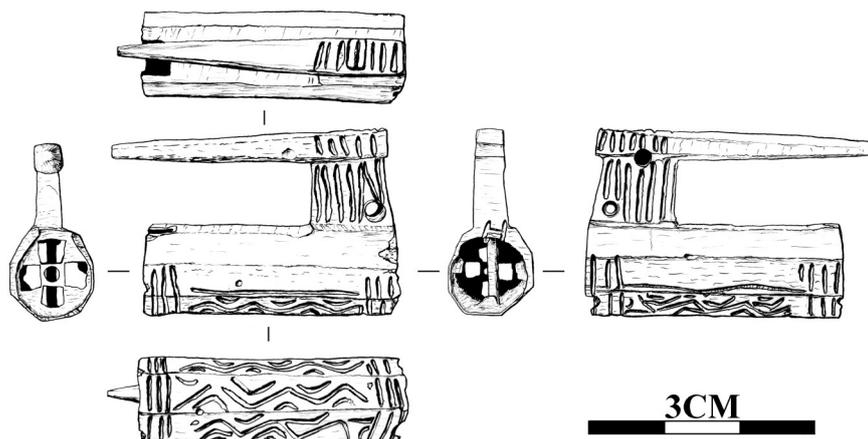
from Århus in Denmark (Egan 2010, 92-3).

The site of the buildings of Beomond's Farm, as they are given on the OS 25" map dated 1934, are now occupied by LDR Wakeschool and much of the land of the farm has been lost to gravel extraction. The buildings are on Shepperton Gravel Member alluvium and gravels, at an altitude of 6m AOD.

Chertsey Beomond was the main manor attached to Chertsey Abbey and the land appears to have been held by the Abbey since its foundation in the 7th century. The Norman French element is not mentioned until the late 13th century but may well have been attached after the Conquest. For a short period Beomond became separated from Chertsey and was held by Walter of Gloucester in 1306 before being placed in trust for the Abbey by his son, also Walter, in 1320 and returned by Hawisia, widow of Walter of Gloucester senior to the then abbot, John Rutherwyk. After the Dissolution the manor reverted to the king and the site of the manor house was granted by Elizabeth I to Thomas Holte some time before 1580 (Malden 1911, 403-13). It seems at least possible that Beomond's Farm represented the manor house for Chertsey Beomond and the padlock described here dates to the period of its holding by Chertsey Abbey.

Egan, G, 2010 *The Medieval Household Daily Living c.1150 – 1450*, Woodbridge: Boydell Press

Malden, H E, 1911 *A History of the County of Surrey*, 3, London: Victoria County History



The padlock from Beomond's Farm, Chertsey, drawn by Chris Taylor

Recording historic graffiti in St Andrew's church, Cobham

By Rob Briggs

Following a popular online event held in February 2021, the Medieval Studies Forum committee resolved to begin a project to record the medieval and post-medieval graffiti that can be found in Surrey's historic churches, with a particular focus on the ones not covered by the work of the now-defunct Surrey Medieval Graffiti Survey or by Abi Coskun in her 2020 University of Durham BA dissertation (available to read via the Research and Fieldwork Reports page of the Society's website).

Nevertheless, when a church was required to serve as a training-cum-proving ground for the recording methodology, it was one that had already been surveyed which was chosen: St Andrew's, Cobham. This choice was guided not so much by past results as by the level of understanding of the church building, thanks primarily to the published research of Dr David Taylor (e.g. Taylor 2022). Even so, a precursory visit was undertaken by the author and Dr Anne Sassin along with Dr Taylor in June 2022 to confirm the presence of sufficient graffiti as to sustain the majority of a day's recording exercise.

Methodology

The recording day began with an illustrated talk by Dr Taylor setting out the history of the church from the 11th century through to modern times. Afterwards, the eight participants divided into two groups. The pathfinder visit in June had identified a limited number of locations through the church in which obviously historic graffiti could be found: external face of south doorway, tower arch (both features of mid-12th-century date), the middle pier of the chancel arcade (13th century) and internal side of tower doorway (15th century; all dates as per Taylor 2022). The groups focused on different locations to begin with so as to ensure as much of this fabric could be examined for signs of graffiti and all identifiable examples recorded.

In common with all modern church graffiti surveys, the method employed for identifying graffiti at Cobham was the use of a raking light source, i.e. one

shone across the surface of the stonework to cast the maximum amount of shadows within incised features – on this occasion provided by an LED lamp as well as phone and battery-powered torches (Fig 1). To ensure clarity of possible graffiti, the light followed, for example, visible masonry courses from floor level upwards in a set direction, e.g. anti-clockwise around the chancel arcade pier.



Fig 1 Shining a light

Results were written down in a recording sheet based on those used by other graffiti surveys, alongside notes on the weather conditions at the time (grey and sometimes rainy), and the nature of the surfaces examined (mostly bare stone but some painted) and their state (portions of a few graffiti were obscured by plaster). A generous interpretation of what counted as graffiti – as opposed to accidental scratches and chips – was used. To support written descriptions of each identified example, colour digital photographs were taken, with a plastic scale bar being held in close proximity (not stuck to the stonework, a big no-no in graffiti surveying nowadays!) to enable the size to be understood accurately.

Results

For a recording exercise instigated by the Medieval Studies Forum, very few obviously medieval graffiti were identified. Aside from the likely scratch dial on

one jamb of the south doorway (long known about and discussed in Taylor 2022, 6), probable examples were limited to a handful of small, plain crosses (Fig 2), and some VV symbols (Fig 3). The latter are often thought to stand for *Virgo Virginum*, ‘Virgin of Virgins’, but perhaps are better interpreted as a ritual protection mark of earlier origin and long-term usage (a single initial W may not be out of the question either, particularly in view of what follows below). A possible numerical string 1361 was also recorded low on the north-west face of the chancel pier, as part of a larger but difficult to interpret set of inscribed features (Fig 4). If the sequence was to stand for a year, it seems dubious that something other than Roman numerals were used, and so it seems more likely that it is an alphanumerical pairing like “IB 61”.



Figs 2 & 3 Cross (left) and VV symbol (right)



Fig 4 Inscription

The most striking finding of the exercise was the number of examples of what must surely represent dated 18th-century graffiti. These are present on the tower doorway and the chancel arcade pier, and mostly follow a letters + numbers format: sometimes one above the other (e.g. TK 1712 on the north jamb of the tower doorway (Fig 5)), other times with everything on the same level (e.g. I W 1743 on the

the western side of the chancel arcade pier). Logically, these must stand for a person’s initials and the date of inscription respectively. They are found in greatest quantity and density on the north-western quarter of the chancel arcade pier, although further examples are without doubt obscured by a choir stall dating from the 1860s (Taylor 2022, 15). One example in this location (Fig 6) is much clearer, being a full name – William Walls or Wells – inscribed above 1767 and what very much looks like an abbreviation of the word “Born” followed by 17, clearly the first half of another year of which the remainder is obscured. William’s true identity and dates seem well within reach through consultation of the parish registers and other early modern sources (Taylor 2022, 16 notes the north chapel into which the graffiti face was at this period a manorial chapel – could this be a valid connection to the people behind the initials?).



Fig 5 18th-century TK 1712 inscription

Discussion and conclusions

The recording exercise served to demonstrate to those who participated in it the value of really scrutinising the fabric of an historic church building, even one as supposedly well understood as Cobham.

Dr Taylor was pleasantly surprised by the results from the day with many more instances of graffiti being found that he had been aware of. He had been concerned that the extensive restoration and enlargement of the church in the 19th century might have obliterated any early graffiti. He now hopes that he, or other members of the church, might be able to follow up the results of the survey and try to identify some of the post 18th-century initials from the church through the use of church records. The social history encoded in the many 18th-century initials and years represents an exciting new avenue of research, one that had not been countenanced before the recording day.

The limited nature of the exercise means it is hard to draw many meaningful conclusions. One significant insight (with potential applicability to other, similarly heavily “restored” Surrey churches) is how the graffiti were found to not be distributed across the surfaces of surviving early stonework in an even way, instead being clustered in limited portions of the doorways and archways of the church. Other parts of these features are devoid of graffiti, despite not being renewed in the 19th and early 20th centuries. This can be read as indicating such rebuilding and remodelling work did not necessarily result in the destruction of large amounts of graffiti, whether they were medieval or post-medieval.



Fig 6 The William Walls/Wells inscription

Feeling inspired?

Further discoveries such as those presented here are dependent on someone coming forward who is prepared to lead the work necessary to prepare and undertake graffiti recording exercises and ensure the results are properly documented and archived. The Medieval Studies Forum committee is prepared to offer support and advice, but none of its members has the capacity to take on this role. For this reason we are putting a call out for expressions of interest to take the reins and drive the proposed project forward. In other counties, it has often been one energetic person who has led the survey project – could this be you for Surrey? If so, please contact outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Dr Anne Sassin for all her work in organising the event, Sally Jenkinson for assisting with its smooth running, and of course Dr David Taylor for arranging access and being such an important part of the day. My thanks also to those who also participated in the recording: Gillian Lachelin, Andrew Broadbent, Tim Clay and Cynthia Watson.

Reference

Taylor, D, 2022 *St Andrew's Church, Cobham: A History and Guide*, revised version, Cobham: St Andrew's Church

A zoomorphic medieval object from Surrey

By **Simon Maslin**

From an art historical perspective, the transition from the “Early Medieval” to the “High Medieval” – broadly centred on the years following the Norman Conquest in England – shows a complex mixture of influences. This period contains the final gasp of Scandinavian Urnes and Ringerike styles co-existing with insular Anglo-Saxon developments of similar themes (the Winchester style) all mixing with incoming continental interpretations from the Romanesque style. As a result, ornamental metalwork of the later 11th and 12th centuries can be both striking as well as somewhat enigmatic in form and composition.

This small find from near Bookham ([SUR-74414C](#)) is a good example of a decorative fitting from this period. It has a central convex plate cast in the form of a prominent beast mask, defined by deeply incised lines with lenticular eyes, ridged brows and protruding snout all clearly visible. From the top of the head projects a loop with a strap bar, from the snout a small rounded attachment or suspension loop

and in the middle is a hole. This could perhaps be for a rivet, or to fix onto a peg or perhaps hold another component. This combination of features suggests that it was clearly intended to connect a small leather strap (attached at the bar) to another element, perhaps forming part of a book clasp.

With its distinctive combination of features this object joins a small corpus of similar items recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme (www.finds.org.uk), including SUR-B6ED40, DOR-B9F6C9, WAW-BC817E, CORN-0AF153 and SUR-61A772. The zoomorphic design, together with framing tendrils and other elements, represent the final flourishing of a diverse and widespread north west European artistic tradition stretching back to the end of the Roman empire. These forms were also to find variations of expression in later medieval stone carving and manuscript art, but would never be quite so distinctive on metalwork again as they were in this 11th-12th century period.



SUR-74414C: A medieval cast copper alloy strap zoomorphic strap fitting, possibly a strap link or suspension mount
© Surrey County Council



Preliminary recording of possible barrow earthworks and a tree-clump circle in Seale parish

By **Rob Briggs**

On 10 May 2022, the Surrey Historic Environment Record (HER) team along with an Historic Environment Planning team colleague undertook a morning of non-invasive earthwork surveying and photographic recording as part of a day of team bonding and activities to enhance our knowledge of Surrey's (pre)historic environment. The work was focused on a mound resembling the denuded remnant of a round barrow, first identified by the author long before he became HER Officer; indeed, half a lifetime ago in his late teens! The site lies in publicly accessible woodland in Seale parish, south of Seale village and east of The Sands – the precise location is not given here so as to afford it a measure of protection at this point in time, although sufficient information is provided for the reader to be able to understand its setting and landscape context. The feature in question has been added to the Surrey HER database as Monument 24386.

Background

The site was first identified by the author in 2003 as a result of a very rudimentary map-based predictive exercise, focusing on the locations of accepted or probable round barrows in the locality. Almost all these barrows occupy elevated positions that would have been conspicuous (from some directions) in the local landscape before the advent of modern forestry plantations and private housing development. Consequently, other, topographically comparable sites in the vicinity were identified from map contours and then visited to ascertain if there were any visible traces of a barrow present. The surveyed site was the one which did appear to take the form of an upstanding, if also modest and ambiguous, mounded earthwork, enclosed by a much more distinct bank and ditch. The circumference of the latter was far in excess of what would be expected to be required for any form of round barrow ring ditch, and so appeared more likely to represent a separate,

presumably later feature such as the bank and ditch created to encircle and protect an ornamental tree clump.

2022 fieldwork methodology and results

Without the luxury of a preparatory visit, the team had to adapt to the site conditions as we found them upon arrival. Unfortunately, these were not altogether favourable, particularly regarding the most prominent portion of the putative barrow earthworks. Not only does a small oak tree grow out of the top of the mound, but we also found a wooden memorial bench had been inserted into the west side at some date subsequent to 2003 and a (surprisingly robust!) structure formed of logs and branches had been constructed against the east side at some point perhaps not all that long prior to our visit (Fig 1). Notwithstanding these obstacles, the team was able to use a dumpy level to produce two (or more accurately one-and-a-half) profiles of the earthwork (Figs 2 & 3), which confirm the existence of a distinct mound-like feature, around 1m in height and between 4-5m wide in its east-west dimension. No surrounding ring ditch-type feature was identified.



Fig 1 View of possible barrow earthwork, looking north. Note the bench, tree and bivouac-like structure, all impediments to accurate measurements! The yellow tape measure represents the C-D section line (see Fig 3).

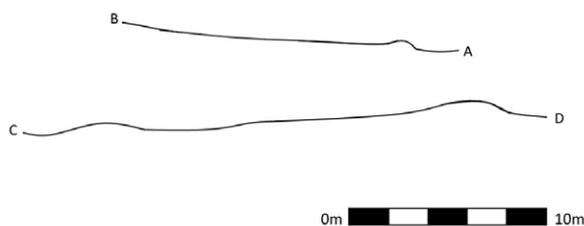


Fig 2 Scale profiles of the possible barrow earthwork and surrounding tree-clump ring, drawn by Matt Saywood

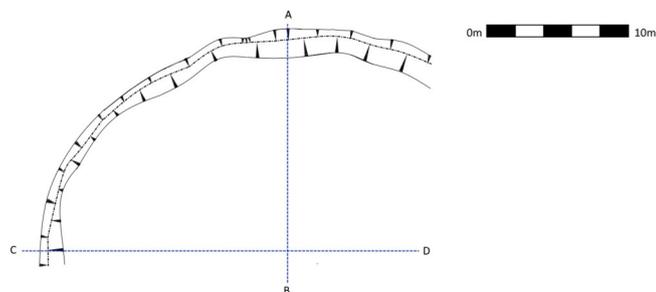


Fig 3 Analytical survey of the northern half of the tree-clump circle earthworks, drawn by Matt Saywood

Stretches of the north and west sides of the surrounding tree-clump circle were also the subject of recording, proving the easier (and, for some of the team, more interesting!) earthworks to survey. The results (Fig 3) show good survival of the bank and ditch, despite the planting of conifers across and around the clump site within the past few decades that must have entailed the removal of any older trees present. Perambulation of the site by the author also identified a trench-like feature just within the easternmost part of the bank and ditch, possibly the remains of a sawpit (Bannister 1996, 21-22) or else a wartime slit trench.

While most of the team was focused on earthwork surveying, the author went crashing through the trees to see how the site fitted into the wider landscape. The land falls away from the site in all directions but most steeply to the west, north and east (Fig 4). It was noted the putative barrow earthworks are situated close to some of the steepest slopes, in a way that, without tree cover, would make them especially visible from the north and west, such as from the Hog's Back and possibly the Blackwater Valley. A monument here (and a tree clump likewise) would also be apparent at closer quarters when seen from other directions, notably the south-east along the axis of a long dry valley. Viewshed analysis of this and other local barrow sites would be a most interesting future exercise!



Fig 4 View looking south towards the study site, located at the top of the visible slopes

The team had reached the survey site via Littleworth Clump (Fig 5), a Scheduled Monument that consists of a pair of bowl barrows surrounded by a later bank and ditch (National Heritage List for England (NHLE) entry number 1008885; HER Monuments 1729 & 2151). It was agreed that the earthworks we surveyed and photographed exhibit commonalities with Littleworth Clump, albeit the possible barrow(s) and to a lesser extent the surrounding bank and ditch do not survive as well (but may not have been as substantial in the first place).



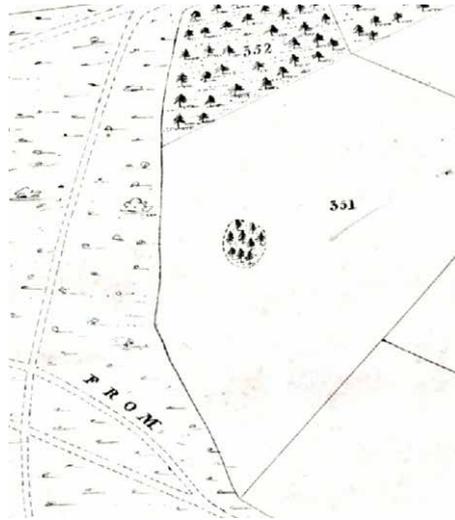
Fig 5 Panoramic view of Littleworth Clump from the north, with bank and ditch defining the tree clump more clearly visible than the barrows within

Historic maps and field-names

Prior consultation of the HER's go-to digitised historic maps meant it was known that the study site appeared as a predominantly coniferous enclosed tree clump on Ordnance Survey (OS) maps of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, although none of these attributes a name to it, in contrast to Littleworth Clump, which is not only depicted in the same manner but also named thus on maps

beginning with the First Edition of the 1870s (the clumps are HER Monuments 24134 and 2151 respectively). The clump that was the locus of the survey work is also marked on the Seale and Tongham tithe map of 1839 (Fig 6; Surrey History Centre (SHC) reference 864/1/109), and the corresponding tithe apportionment gives the field-name as ‘Mount Piece’, owned and occupied by John Wood. Littleworth Clump also appears on the map though not by name, this time forming part of ‘Great Littleworths’.

Fig 6 Detail from 1839 Seale and Tongham tithe map, showing clump within Mount Piece (parcel number 351). Note roads crossing unenclosed common land to west and south of clump (Surrey HER)



Further research revealed that historic cartographic representations of the locality occur with such frequency that a date for the creation of the tree clump under discussion can be suggested with an unusual degree of precision. It is absent from all 18th-century county maps consulted, as well as, more tellingly, from the 1809 OS cartographic drawing of the area west of Godalming (Budgen 1809) and from the resultant OS Old Series map published by Colonel Mudge in 1816 (Ravenhill 1974, sheet 24).

The first depiction of the tree clump consulted by the author is on William Newland’s 1819 map of the -then combined parish of Seale and Tongham (SHC reference 5143/2); a note in the contemporaneous counterpart reference book (SHC reference 5143/3) reveals this to be an accurate copy of a map also made by William Newland in 1811 (for anyone interested, a photocopy of the original is in the British Library, reference Maps 5300.(41.)). The clump, situated in the western half of ‘Littleworth Field or Mount Pleasant’, has a solid outline and near-circular shape, enclosing what are very clearly coniferous trees. At the time it was owned and

occupied by ‘Mr Wood’ (as per the reference book; he is styled ‘Mr Woods’ on the map, evidently for a possessive “Wood’s”), who appears to have resided at what is now Manor Farm at the heart of the small village of Seale. Wood owned much land in the parish, including several parcels contiguous to or otherwise near the possible barrow site. Among these was Great Littleworth, at the southern edge of which the more egg-shaped and slightly larger Littleworth Clump appears, again for the first time. A pencil note added to the reference book indicates Henry Lawes Long of Hampton Lodge acquired these fields in or after 1819 (Fig 7). The ‘Mount Pleasant’ tree clump appears to be shown again on the Greenwoods’ county map surveyed in 1822-23 (Ravenhill 1974, sheet 28), although the depiction of the area does not appear to be the result of a measured survey and thus there is some doubt about pinning down the true locations of the features marked hereabouts.

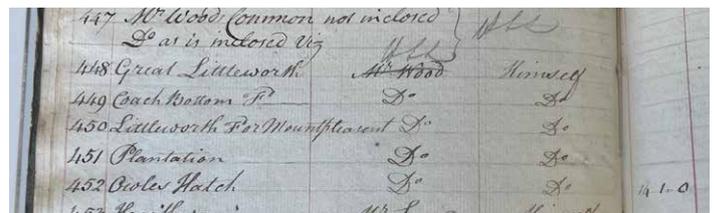


Fig 7 Detail from page of 1819 reference book, including line for ‘Littleworth F[ield] or Mountpleasant’ (parcel number 450). Pencil additions ‘HLL’ are for Henry Lawes Long of Hampton Lodge. Reproduced by permission of Surrey History Centre (reference 5143/3).

Mount Pleasant/Mount Piece is of potentially greater interest than Littleworth Field as a name because it suggests a distinct physical eminence. In English field-names, a name like Mount Piece may simply denote ‘Hilly land, a piece of land on a slope’, whereas Mount Pleasant is one whose ‘apparently complimentary meaning is often belied in its ironic application to unattractive places’ (Cavill 2018, 288). Whatever the ‘Mount’ in question was in this instance, neither field-name has the appearance of an early creation. They can be compared to The Mount, attached to the large mound of uncertain origin at Barrow Court, Oxted, that Grinsell conjectured had been modified – and perhaps renamed? – in the ‘landscaping period’ of the 18th and 19th centuries (Grinsell 1934, 53-54 and Plate X; Grinsell 1987, 34). Certainly, while its use is not confirmation of a barrow here, ‘Mount’ could have denoted something more distinctive than the natural eminence on which the clump stood.

From the available information, it seems permissible to infer that the 'Mount Pleasant' clump and likewise Littleworth Clump were established sometime in the period 1809-1811, the creations of Mr Wood of Manor Farm, not the Hampton Lodge estate. (Intriguingly, Newland's 1819 map marks three rounded tree clumps, two of comparable size to the aforementioned and the third more than twice their combined extent, west of the Hampton Lodge mansion.) This makes them analogous in date to clumps on Reigate Heath, which were established on four round barrows in 1809 (Newell & English 2018, 161-62; cf. Grinsell 1987, 11). The dual identity of the surrounding field recorded in 1819 could be consistent with a recent change of name to commemorate the creation of "Mount Pleasant" within an area of hitherto little-utilised land; Littleworth is (for once!) a straightforward, self-explanatory name (Cavill 2018, 256). The 1819 map also attributes to Mr Wood the tract of common land to the south, within which stood a bowl barrow first identified in 1979 that was recently designated as a Scheduled Monument, in part as a result of input from the HER and HEP (NHLE entry 1480568; HER Monument 3796). Somewhat curiously in view of the size of the barrow, Newland provides no hint of a tree clump there. This may be because it lay within unenclosed common rather than fields; alternatively, it was because it could not be viewed and enjoyed at close quarters in the same way as the two clumps, which stood close to roads to their south and west (as well as no doubt being visible from further afield in other directions).

Conclusions

The results of the exercise were, perhaps inevitably, rather inconclusive, although all participants in the recording exercise agreed that the mound looked to be an artificial creation. An origin as a Bronze Age round barrow would not be out of the question. It is important to recognise, however, that not all mounds planted with trees in this period originated as prehistoric or later burial mounds. Purpose-built tree mounds are known to have been formed as part of designed landscapes, 'often adjacent to parkland' (Bannister 1996, 27), and the phase of activity for which we possess the strongest evidence is the establishment of an embanked tree clump in the early 19th century. On the other hand, the non-

central location of the possible barrow(s) within the clump may denote antecedence, and the morphologies of the Littleworth Clump barrows and others nearby are consistent with Bronze Age bowl barrows. The existence of another such monument in this area, therefore, is well within the bounds of possibility.

For the author, being able to have a host of professional archaeologists to examine and undertake some recording of an historic landscape feature he first saw and got excited about almost two decades earlier was something of a dream come true (that said, it is always much better if you don't wait so long to bring such discoveries to the attention of the likes of the Surrey HER so the knowledge can be shared and interpretations refined!). He would like to thank his HER team colleagues Emily Brants, Jazmin Sexton and Shân Mughal for their enthusiastic participation in the day, and to Matt Saywood for leading the survey work so superbly. Thanks are also due to the staff at the Surrey History Centre who helped me to access the 1819 map and reference book.

Published references

- Bannister, N R, 1996 *Woodland Archaeology: Its Recognition and Management*, Kingston upon Thames: Surrey County Council
- Budgen, T, 1809 Ordnance Survey Drawing: Godalming, 1809, digitised copy online at [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ordnance_Survey_Drawings_-_Godalming_\(OSD_87\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ordnance_Survey_Drawings_-_Godalming_(OSD_87).jpg) [accessed 11th October 2023]
- Cavill, P, with Gregory, R, 2018 *A New Dictionary of English Field-Names*, Nottingham: English Place-Name Society
- Grinsell, L V, 1934 An analysis and list of Surrey barrows, *SyAC*, **42**, 26-60
- Grinsell, L, 1987 Surrey barrows 1934-1986: a reappraisal, *SyAC*, **78**, 1-41
- Newell, J & English, J, 2018 Analytical survey of prehistoric barrows and other mounds on Reigate Heath, *SyAC*, **101**, 159-72
- Ravenhill, W, ed., 1974 *Two Hundred and Fifty Years of Map-making in the County of Surrey*, Lympne: Harry Margary

Surrey's Archaeological Planning Designations: five year refresh

By Alex Egginton

The timetabled review of Surrey's Archaeological Planning areas has now been completed. These County Sites of Archaeological Importance (CSAIs) and Areas of High Archaeological Potential (AHAPs) form an integral role in the application of planning policy which requires consultation on development proposals within any such area. An introductory note and call for proposals was previously published in SyAS e-newsletter 024, (Dec 2022). The Historic Planning Team would like to thank those who subsequently sent in submissions and those who kindly shared their ongoing research with the team.

As a result of the review, 61 new Archaeological Areas have been added to the dataset including five new County Sites of Archaeological Importance. A further 31 existing sites were subject to boundary amendments where additional information enabled more accurate mapping. Two of the former Areas of High Archaeological Potential were removed following extensive archaeological investigation and their subsequent redevelopment.

A detailed explanation and discussion of the Archaeological Area criteria and review methodology is in preparation and due to be published in the forthcoming *Surrey Archaeological Collections* (volume 105). An interactive map of the revised dataset can be reviewed online on the SCC website (www.surreycc.gov.uk/land-planning-and-development/heritage-and-planning/archaeological-areas-in-surrey).

Finally, as the conclusion of this project marks my departure from SCC, I would like to take this opportunity to thank those SyAS members who I have encountered professionally over the last 12 years, who have been continuously generous with their time and knowledge to assist in varied matters.

Remains of a Norman ringwork and bailey were discovered during routine archaeological work ahead of development. The newly created County Site of Archaeological Importance (WA223) and Area of High Archaeological Potential (WA224) will ensure that the archaeological implications are taken into account and any future development impact is appropriately managed (Ordnance Survey Crown copyright, reproduced under licence no. 100019613, 2010).



Surrey County Archaeological Unit

Recent work

By **Rob Poulton**

The SCAU team have been busy during 2023. Development-led projects have been the major part of the work but, as they are generally not at a stage where public presentation is appropriate, the focus of this note will be on community archaeology.

Fieldwork events for volunteers are invariably over-subscribed. Hundreds of families joined SCAU for the Caterham Festival test pitting event and the West Horsley excavations were also very popular (see report on page 3). The National Trust's National Heritage Lottery Funded (NHLF) Runnymede Explored Project (<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/surrey/runnymede-and-ankerwycke/runnymede-explored-project>) aims to enhance understanding and public accessibility of the areas it owns at Runnymede and Ankerwycke to either side of the Thames. The archaeological elements of the REx Project, coordinated by SCAU, have provided public engagement and training in archaeological techniques, and produced some important new knowledge. At Runnymede a large area that was the subject of geophysical survey (Hutt 2022) produced evidence that has been suggested (*ibid*, 28) as the location of a Roman enclosure with

a variety of other anomalies of significance probably associated with it, and a metal detector survey produced coins that support that interpretation. Even more intriguing is an area where there are a number of roughly circular anomalies that result from heavy burning. Could they be the result of cooking and other activities that would have occurred in 1215 while the Barons were camped there prior to the sealing of Magna Carta? Analysis of map evidence and a borehole survey by QUEST (2023) suggest they are within the only likely area, effectively a small island raised above the general level of the floodplain, for a camp at Runnymede. The possibility of fieldwork to test the hypothesis is being considered.

The REx excavations, involving many volunteers, Family Dig Days and organised tours, at Ankerwycke nunnery (Scheduled Monument no 1007943) have also produced important results. For the first time, the cloistral layout and the way in which the priory, founded in 1160, was organised in relation to the Thames floodplain can be properly understood. It is now clear that the scant surviving medieval remains (which recently underwent



Fig 1 Ankerwycke Priory: a 3D image of trench 3, adjacent to the standing walls, excavated in 2023. The numbered elements are: 1 – medieval wall; 2 – foundations; 3 – Upstanding medieval wall; 4, 5 not visible; 6 – Tudor cellar steps; 7 – Tudor underpinning to medieval wall; 8 – post-Tudor doorway infill using medieval stone and Tudor bricks; 9 – post-Tudor brickwork (fireplace); 10 – medieval cellar west of upstanding ruins; 11 – 20th-century conservation work (chalk stuck to cement core to make an above ground wall). This is an extract from a fully rotatable 3D model produced by James Brown, National Trust (see it and others of the excavation trenches at <https://sketchfab.com/nationaltrustarchaeology> (look for the Surrey Landscapes model Collection)).



Fig 2 View Ankerwycke Priory: trench 1 being excavated in 2022. The red arrows are placed just inside walls surrounding the cloister garth with most of the trench occupied by the cloister walks. In the foreground a wall of the church is beginning to be uncovered while in the background the standing walls can be seen.

conservations and consolidation by Cliveden Conservation) were once part of the refectory range before being incorporated into the mansion created in the mid 16th century. This was itself demolished in the early 19th century, with these walls retained as a ‘romantic ruin’. The Digging for Britain team filmed throughout the excavations, and it is hoped the site will feature in the 2024 series, while the results will underpin discussions with Reading University about the development of larger project. They have also stimulated work by the National Trust with Phil Kenning to produce a number of reconstruction illustrations which will be used on new interpretation boards being installed on site in November.

SCAU run weekly volunteering sessions in the office where participants have many and varied roles, including sorting archaeological finds, processing environmental samples, marking pottery and a range of archival support tasks. An excellent example is the work on the Oatlands Palace archive, begun in 2020, halted by the Covid pandemic, and now reaching fruition. The Elmbridge Museum hold a large archive, including many boxes of finds, card index records, other paper records and numerous maps and plans, relating to the excavations carried out intermittently between 1968 and 1984. The

archive was badly in need of bringing up to current museum standards, including reboxing and rebagging and digitising the index cards and catalogue. The excavations produced a remarkable collection of finds, which the excavation report (Poulton 2010) acknowledged were not always fully analysed. Two aspects of this might be emphasised. The pottery, glass and small finds from garderobes all filled in the 1640s could provide a superb snapshot of the material culture in use by a royal household, but the publication only considered them as separate categories. The potential of such work has been excellently demonstrated by Biddle (2005) in his analysis of a similar but later group of finds,



Fig 3 Treasures being excavated from a garderobe at Oatlands Palace in 1968

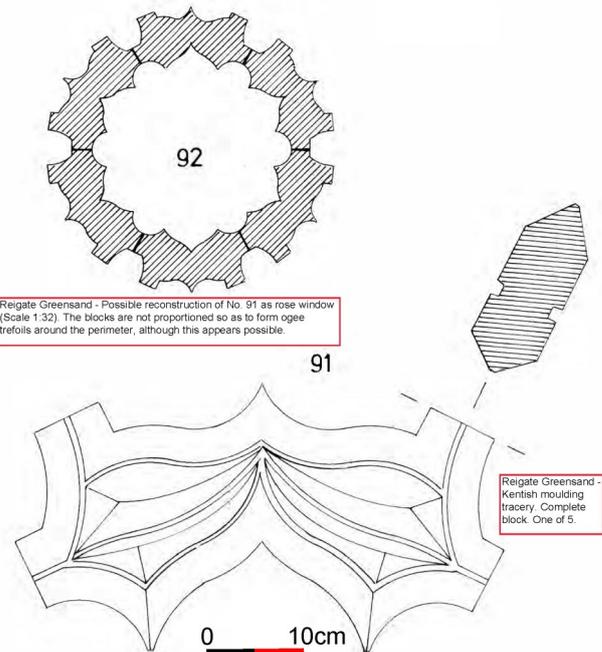


Fig 4 Drawing of masonry excavated from Oatlands Palace that had been brought from the demolished church of Chertsey Abbey in 1537-8

| Date | Item | Details |
|---------------|----------|--|
| Sept/Oct 1537 | Chimneys | 1,600 eightcantes hewn for 'certain chimneys' |
| Oct/Nov 1537 | Hearths | 4 hearths paved by bricklayer |
| Sept/Oct 1537 | Windows | 1 painter for one week 'painting windows with timber coloured and bars of the same' (fine spruce ocre, red lead and spanish black applied – cf painting imitation brickwork, Queens Works 1558-1603) |
| Nov/Dec 1537 | Windows | 20 of King's Arms @ 4/- each * |
| Nov/Dec 1537 | Windows | 25 badges of King & Queen at 3/- each * |
| Nov/Dec 1537 | Windows | (** Must have been paid some time after glazing was done as Queen – Jane Seymour – died on 24th October after the birth of Ed VI on Oct 12th) |

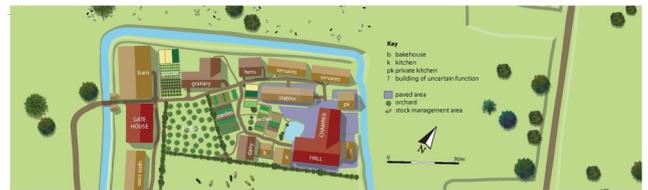
Fig 5 Extract from analysis of Oatlands Palace Building Accounts (TNA E36/237) linking references to individual structures, in this case the royal apartments

belonging to a noble household from Nonsuch Palace. Large amounts of the material used to build the Palace came from the demolition of nearby Chertsey Abbey and the volunteers have been able to integrate descriptions and illustrations of that material which did not feature in the excavation report. It would repay more detailed study. Also unpublished, and generally existing only in messy handwritten form, were a series of analyses of the immensely detailed 1537-8 records of the construction of Henry VIII's palace. Painstaking transcription has made these enormously interesting details available for future researchers. It is also pleasing to note that the project has contributed to the production of a new interpretation board that Elmbridge Museum have erected on the site.

Meanwhile, another community archaeology project that involved a very similar range of work has led to the publication of an important monograph. In 2008 a local group of volunteers began the Preston Community Archaeology Project (PCAP), a Heritage Lottery Funded project, coordinated by Surrey County Archaeological Unit and Raven Housing Trust. Its primary purpose was to piece together the 1950s archive of Brian Hope-Taylor's work at Preston Hawe into a coherent framework that could form a basis for developing a full report on the work (see *Bulletin* 483). The work extended over far longer than anticipated but, with the support of Historic England, the report is now in print. Its details are:

A Norman chapel and a later 12th and 13th century manorial enclosure at Preston Hawe, Tadworth, Surrey, by Rob Poulton with Brian Hope-Taylor, SpoilHeap Monograph no 27, (ISBN 978-1-912331-35-2, 113 pages, 96 illustrations, available through www.surreycc.gov.uk/scau at £20 + £4 p&p).

Pleasingly, there may be more to come as discussions are in progress for further initiatives, again involving the local community, including updating the local display, a leaflet, pop ups, a guided audio walk, and a loan box for local schools.



Between 1952 and 1954 Brian Hope-Taylor investigated a site that was to be developed as a new housing estate. He showed that a lordly residence was established in the early 12th century and that it was complemented by a nearby stone-built chapel, surrounded by a wall that defined a cemetery area. The burials included at least two of priests, one interred with a glass chalice and paten that are the first examples of such vessels found in Britain. They are also exceptionally early evidence for glass manufactured in the Weald or Normandy. The buildings were entirely replaced just 50 or so years later (c1170), by a new centre set within a rectangular enclosure defined by a bank and ditch, whose remains were still well-preserved in 1952. The stone foundations of a large gatehouse were identified on the opposite side of the enclosure to a hall and chamber complex. Remarkably, despite their apparent solidity, the residential buildings were replaced by ones of very similar character by around 1215. At the same period an industrial site (perhaps for iron smithing), probably associated with a lower status settlement, was developed around 75m to the north-east. The manorial site was almost entirely deserted by c1260 and the industrial centre by around 1300. It is argued that this type of enclosure is a variant of the better-known class of moated earthworks. The arrangement of its features and the buildings within at Preston Hawe are shown to be a carefully considered means of emphasising the status and separation of the lord. This was an important site in Hope-Taylor's professional development. The scope and quality of the work was unrivalled at the time for medieval manorial sites and they enhance his reputation as one of the greatest archaeologists of the 20th century.



Fig 6 Back cover of SpoilHeap Monograph no 27

If you want to know more about SCAU and volunteering check out our Facebook page, Digging Surrey's Past. We also now have an Instagram page and you can find us by searching for 'Surrey County Archaeological Unit'.

References

- Hutt, A, 2022 Report of the geophysics survey of Council Meadow, Runnymede 2022, unpublished report by Berkshire Archaeological Society for the National Trust REx project
- Quest, 2023 Langham Ponds, Runnymede, Surrey. Geoarchaeological and Palaeoenvironmental Assessment Report, unpublished report produced for the National Trust REx project
- Poulton, R, 2010 *Excavations at Oatlands Palace 1968-73 and 1983-4*, SpoilHeap Publications Monograph, 3

The 2023 RSG visit to the Stancheater Roman Villa excavation

By David Graham

Last year members of the Roman Studies Group had a very interesting and enjoyable visit to the Basingstoke Archaeological Society's excavations on a Roman villa in the countryside south of Basingstoke itself (*Surrey's Past* 492). This year we were given the chance to revisit the site to see what the 2023 dig had revealed.

Unfortunately late on the day before the visit, the Basingstoke team sent an email to say that the local weather forecast was predicting rain and thunderstorms for Saturday afternoon, and as a result they warned that access was likely to be restricted to 4x4 vehicles given the slippery state of the farm tracks, and that the site, being on the highest ground in the area, was also at risk of lightning strike. As an afternoon spent rescuing bogged vehicles while avoiding lightning bolts lacked appeal, we followed the Basingstoke team's advice and spent Saturday morning contacting as many people as possible to explain the situation and cancelling the visit. Audrey and I then went out to the agreed meeting point to speak to those members whom we had been unable to contact during the morning. However at 14:00 it appeared that the weather was not nearly as threatening as forecast and, on phoning them, we discovered that the Basingstoke diggers were still on site. Fortunately, one of our group had brought his 4x4 which, together with my Landrover, allowed us to drive everyone present up 2km of farm tracks to reach this isolated site.

We were met by Mark Peryer and Ginny Pringle, the site and deputy director respectively. This year the area opened by trenching was fairly restricted with much of the effort being concentrated on the strange sunken-floored room at one end of this corridor villa. The photo (Fig 1) shows Mark explaining the stratigraphy of the backfill with the lowest layer consisting of a 10cm band of soil lying directly on the chalk floor. Above this a pile of ash and CBM (ceramic building material) had been dumped, in turn overlain by a thick and varied infill layer of soil and chalk. These deposits presumably reflect phases

of the abandonment of at least this part of the building. The upper band of soil, visible in the photo, is the result of modern ploughing.

Part of the 'cellar' wall survives in good condition and can be seen near the bottom left of the picture. The black plastic sheeting shows the area opened last year. Mark pointed out that, assuming the original floor level was roughly equivalent to the current ground surface, then the 'cellar' would have required someone of Mark's size to bend nearly in half in order to move in it. What was clear this year was that this structure is not part of any heating system, which was suggested last year, but otherwise its function remains a mystery.



Figs 1 & 2 Cellar and 'barn' at Stancheater

The second trench opened this season exposed what appeared to be a well-built rectangular building close to the villa (Fig 2). Its function is unclear but it may well have been used as a barn.

Two further and much smaller trenches can be seen in the background, but at this point the heavens opened and we beat a hasty retreat to the site tent where we were shown some of the season's finds.

Once the rain had eased off we thanked Mark and the Basingstoke team for their kindness and beat an incident-free retreat down the farm track to the main car park.

In conclusion I would like to apologise to those who missed the visit and hope they can visit next year as the excavation is planned to continue in 2024.

Margary Award 2024

The Research Committee has agreed that a new approach to the Margary Award will be trialled in 2024 with the following guidelines.

- i) The award is a recognition of a new contribution to the knowledge of the past of the historic county of Surrey.
- ii) The research or its demonstration should have taken place within the previous year, and not previously made public.
- iii) Any individual or group may enter provided there is no professional input.
- iv) Submissions for the award could take a variety of forms such as illustrations, PowerPoint displays, videos, short reports and traditional displays.
- v) Nominations should be received by the committee by **31 December 2023**, with completed entries submitted at least one month before the date of the Symposium.

- vi) The judging panel will be the choice of the Research Committee, and may still be formed by the Chair of the Research Committee, the President of the Society and an invited third party.
- vii) There will be one award of £300. There will be runner-up if the number of entries justifies it.

The committee would like to invite all members to consider nominations and submissions by **31 December 2023**. This is an opportunity for community activities, youth groups and individuals to be creative in how they approach publicising their work. Nominations can be made at any time by contacting the Secretary of the Research Committee via info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk.

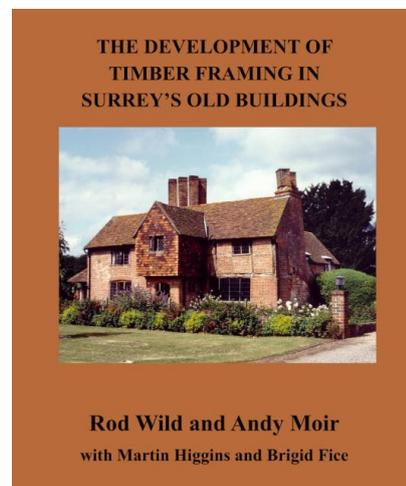
The Development of Timber Framing in Surrey's Old Buildings

This publication is the result of a joint project between Surrey Archaeological Society and the Domestic Buildings Research Group (Surrey), supported by Surrey County Council and a generous grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The objective was to map the development of timber-framed buildings, century by century, area by area, across the county, using tree-ring dating.

The Project has confirmed the sequence and development of many architectural features, often attributing earlier dates than had been previously understood.

The report of the findings has now been published in a 200 page, fully illustrated book, providing a clear, accurate picture of how the vernacular architecture of Surrey has evolved.

Visitors to the Society's headquarters at Abinger can purchase a copy at £20 or copies can be obtained by post from www.dbrg.org.uk/surrey-dendrochronology-project.



Lecture meetings

Please note that lecture details, in particular venues and format, are subject to change. It is recommended that up-to-date information be obtained from the individual organisations before attending. If you would like your programme included in future editions, please contact the editors.

26 June

‘Historic commodity and livestock fairs’ by Trevor James to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

26 October

‘St Ann’s Hill’ by Emma Warren to Egham by Runnymede Historical Society in United Church, Egham at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £2

1 November

‘Preserving the past for the future’ by Julian Pooley to Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society in St Mary’s Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

2 November

‘Old photos of Stanwell’ by Nick Pollard to Spelthorne Local History and Archaeology Group at Lord Knyvett Hall, 112 High Street, Stanwell at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £2. See website for details: www.spelthornemuseum.org

‘Trouble at Mill: life in the Victorian factories’ by Richard Mark to Surrey Industrial History Group via Zoom at 10:00. For joining info, contact meetings@sihg.org.uk

6 November

‘The Doods Road Great Pigeon Loft’ by John Griffiths-Colby to Dorking Local History Group in the Crossways Community Baptist Church, Dorking at 19:30. Visitors welcome.

‘Wanborough Manor: a school for secret agents’ by Paul McCue to Woking History Society via Zoom at 20:00.

7 November

‘Weybridge’s Wandering Windmill and other renewable energy sites in N.W. Surrey: Part 2’ by David Barker to Addlestone Historical Society at Addlestone Community Centre, Garfield Road, Addlestone at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

8 November

‘The Bridge collapse at Millmead’ by Chris Shaw to Send and Ripley History Society at Ripley Bowls Club, Rose Lane, Ripley at 19:30.

13 November

‘The Priory Estate in Kew’ by Stephen Bartlett to Richmond Local History Society, Duke Street Church, Richmond at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

16 November

‘Mills on the River Wandle’ by Mick Taylor to Surrey Industrial History Group via Zoom at 10:00. For joining info, contact meetings@sihg.org.uk

17 November

‘The life and times of Bishop Charles Sumner (1790-1874)’ by Rt Revd Dr Christopher Herbert to Farnham & District Museum Society at The Garden Gallery, Museum of Farnham, West Street, Farnham at 14:30. Visitors welcome: £3

20 November

‘Arts and Crafts Gardens’ by Cherrill Sands to Dorking Local History Group via Zoom at 19:30.

21 November

‘Brook and Little London history’ by Trevor Brook to Albury History Society at Albury Village Hall, Albury at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

30 November

‘Nov Changing Garden Styles – a local view’ by Jill Williams to Egham by Runnymede Historical Society in United Church, Egham at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £2

‘The History and Evolution of Motor Vehicle Registration in the UK’ by Nicholas Young to Surrey Industrial History Group via Zoom at 10:00. For joining info, contact meetings@sihg.org.uk

4 December

‘Oh no it isn’t – a history of Pantomime’ by Pete Allen to Dorking Local History Group in the Crossways Community Baptist Church, Dorking at 19:30. Visitors welcome.

8 December

‘Readings from George Sturt’s work’ by Rosemary Wisbey to Farnham & District Museum Society at The Garden Gallery, Museum of Farnham, West Street, Farnham at 14:30. Visitors welcome: £3

11 December

‘How the British fell in love with tea’ by Simon Ritchie to Dorking Local History Group via Zoom at 19:30.

‘Kate Webster: a Richmond murderess’ by Vicky McGrath to Richmond Local History Society, Duke Street Church, Richmond at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

14 December

‘The Time Ball at Greenwich’ by Doug Bateman to Surrey Industrial History Group via Zoom at 10:00. For joining info, contact meetings@sihg.org.uk

8 January

‘The Post-medieval iron industry in the Weald’ by Jeremy Hodgkinson to Dorking Local History Group in the Crossways Community Baptist Church, Dorking at 19:30. Visitors welcome.

‘Kirtles, Corsets and Curtains’: the costumes of Georgian England’ by Sarah Slater to Richmond Local History Society, Duke Street Church, Richmond at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

22 January

‘Guildford’s lost shops’ by David Rose to Dorking Local History Group via Zoom at 19:30.

5 February

‘Ashted pottery post-WWI’ by Anne Andersen to Dorking Local History Group in the Crossways Community Baptist Church, Dorking at 19:30. Visitors welcome.

12 February

'The extraordinary history of 21 Ennerdale Road, Kew or, how I became a Modernist house detective' by Hilary Thomson to Richmond Local History Society, Duke Street Church, Richmond at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

Surrey Heritage Talks and Events

The autumn programme of Surrey Heritage events continues with the following talks:

Wednesday 25 October (Online, 17:30-18:45), Jane Lewis (Surrey Heritage): 'Life and labour in a county village – or learn to love your Ag Labs!'

Wednesday 8 November (Online, 17:30-18:45), Isabel Sullivan (Surrey Heritage): 'The secret marriage of John Donne, and connected lives in Jacobean Surrey and beyond'

Wednesday 22 November (Online, 17:30-18:45), Dr Simon Jarrett: 'Scenes from Surrey in the history of learning disability'

Times and ticket prices vary for each event. For further information and to book please see the [Surrey Heritage Events page](#).

Surrey Local History Symposium

This year's Surrey Local History Committee autumn symposium will be held on **Saturday 11 November** at Surrey History Centre and focus on the theme of maps, with the following talks included:

Jane Lewis (Surrey Heritage): 'Maps for local and family historians'

Anne Sassin (SyAS): 'The Surrey LiDAR Portal: citizen science on a county scale'

Justin Colson (Institute of Historical Research): 'Layers of London: recording the layers of London's rich heritage'

Martin Stilwell (SHC): 'The World War Two Bomb Maps Project at SHC'

Mary Alexander (SyAS): 'Mapping a county town: Guildford Depicted'

Tickets are £15. Please visit www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk for full programme and to book.

CBA South-East annual conference

This year's annual conference will be run jointly with the Sussex School of Archaeology and History on **Saturday 18 November** in person at Kings Church, Lewes, East Sussex, with an online option also available. The theme will be 'What is new from Commercial Archaeology in the South-East?' and includes the following talks:

Andy Hood (Foundation Archaeology): 'Excavation of a rather fine pair of funerary barrows at Spelthorne Leisure Centre in late 2021-early 2022'

Hayley Nicholls (Archaeology South-East): 'A new lowland hillfort at Chichester'

Jon Baczkowski (Chris Butler Archaeological Services): 'Investigation of multiperiod site near Pevensey with complicated superficial geology/geoarchaeology'

Paul Wilkinson (Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey): 'Watling Street – the corridor (or conduit) for Roman Sacred and Secular power'

Odile Rouard (Thames Valley Archaeological Services): 'A new take on a site at Water Lane, Angmering'

Diccon Hart (HB Archaeology and Conservation): 'Buildings archaeology and survey'

Mike Allen (Allen Environmental Archaeology): 'Environmental archaeology at Isle of Sheppey, Ouse Valley at Lewes'

Letty Ingrey (Archaeology South-East): 'Post-excavation of some Palaeolithic sites, including the 'giant handaxe' from the Maritime Academy site'

Tickets are priced £25 for the in-person conference fee, £20 for CBA-SE members and Sussex School Friends and full-time students; online viewing will be £13. The link for tickets is now available on Eventbrite (see www.cbasouth-east.org).

SHERF 2023

This year's Surrey Historic Environment Research Framework conference on **Saturday 25 November**, 'Pills, Potions and Poisons', will consider aspects of the history and archaeology of medical practice. This will be an online event held via Zoom (10:00-15:00). The Society AGM will take place during the lunch break. The day includes the following talks:

Lorna Webb (UCL): 'The 9 herb charm – an archaeological approach'

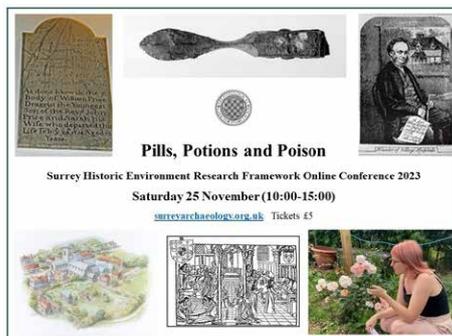
Martin Huggon (Bishop Grossteste): 'Communities of the living, communities of the dead: hospitals in medieval social life'

Judie English (SyAS): 'Cranleigh Village Hospital – a revolution in bringing advanced medical care to a rural community'

Mary Alexander (SyAS): 'Guildford medics 1600 to 1800'

Dr Patty Baker (Dept of History, Virginia Tech): 'The Multifunctionality and Meanings of Medical Tools in Ancient Rome'

Tickets are £5. Please visit www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk for full programme and to book.



Prehistoric Group talk by Matt Pope

On **Thursday 16 November** at 19:00, the PG will be hosting an online Zoom talk by Dr Matt Pope on 'Neanderthal People of La Mancheland: Exploring the Earliest Prehistory of the English Channel Region'. To register your interest, contact martintrose@aol.com.

Medieval Studies Forum Lecture/ AGM and Members Day

On **Thursday 16 November** at 18:00, the MSF will be hosting their annual lecture online via Zoom. This year's talk will be by Dr Gabor Thomas of the University of Reading, who will be speaking on 'Anglo-Saxon monasteries of the Middle Thames: new archaeological perspectives from Cookham, Berkshire'. Dr Thomas has been leading excavations at Cookham, close to the parish church and the river which has been producing new insights into the Middle Saxon period.

This will be followed at 19:00 by the group's AGM. The lecture is free but registration is required in advance. Please visit the event page at www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk.



An in-person Members Day meeting will also be held by the group on **Saturday 2 December** at East Horsley Village Hall. This will provide a chance for members to meet and socialise ahead of the festive season. Members are invited to offer short presentations to the group about research they have been carrying out in recent times or indeed to bring small displays. Please contact medforum@hotmail.co.uk with offers of contributions.



Roman Studies Group lectures

The next of this year's RSG lectures will take place on **Tuesday 7 November** at 19:30 on Zoom, featuring Professor Tony King on 'Meonstoke – temple or villa?'. Other talks this year include Dr Tim Young on 'Iron ores and smelting in Surrey and the SE', Emma Corke on 'Cocks Farm Abinger excavations in 2023' and Philip Smither on 'Reinvestigating Richborough: a new story for an old site'.

Whilst attendance is restricted to RSG members, if you are already a SyAS member you are welcome to join the group at a cost of £5 per year. Many of the lectures are also recorded and available on the Society's YouTube channel. For more details on joining RSG, visit their webpage (www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/content/roman-studies-group).



2024 Sussex Archaeological Society Conference

This year's Sussex Archaeological Society Conference, held on **Saturday 17 February** at the University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton, is focusing on its recent 175th anniversary. Confirmed speakers include Mike Pitts, Sue Hamilton, Emma O'Connor, Dan Robertson, Richard Bradley, Harriet Tait, Martin Hayes, Miles Russell, Judie English, Matthew Pope, James Sainsbury, Kayt Hawkins, Janet Pennington and John Adams.

Tickets £30. See sussexpast.co.uk/event/conference-2024 for the full programme and to book.

St Mary's Guildford excavations lecture

A meeting to publicise the recent archaeological findings at St Mary's Church, Guildford will take place on **Saturday 18 November** at 10:30 in the church. This follows the underfloor excavations undertaken by UCL/ Archaeology South East at St Mary's. The main speaker will be Dr Mary Alexander, with questions and comments from the floor afterwards. All are welcome. On Saturday 4 November at 11:00 there will be a formal reburial of the excavated bones at the church.

Annual Symposium

The Annual Symposium of the Society, which features a round-up of recent fieldwork and research over the past year, will take place on **Saturday 9 March 2024** at East Horsley Village Hall. It is planned to be a hybrid event and further information will be available in early 2024, but for now, please save the date.

The Research Committee is responsible for organising the Symposium and the Secretary of the committee has been dealing with it for many years. It seems appropriate that the change of venue should be combined with a change in this arrangement. While the Symposium is arranged on behalf of the RC, a new conference organiser does not need to belong to the committee but merely report to it and receive some recommendations. The present organiser remains in place to set up the event in 2024 but will stand down after that, so we are asking for volunteers to support the work now taking place with a view to take over the position in 2024.

If any Society member is interested in helping with this event please contact rosemary.hooker@blueyonder.co.uk or info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk.

For further events taking place around the region, please follow the Society's monthly e-newsletters. To be placed on the mailing list, email info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk.