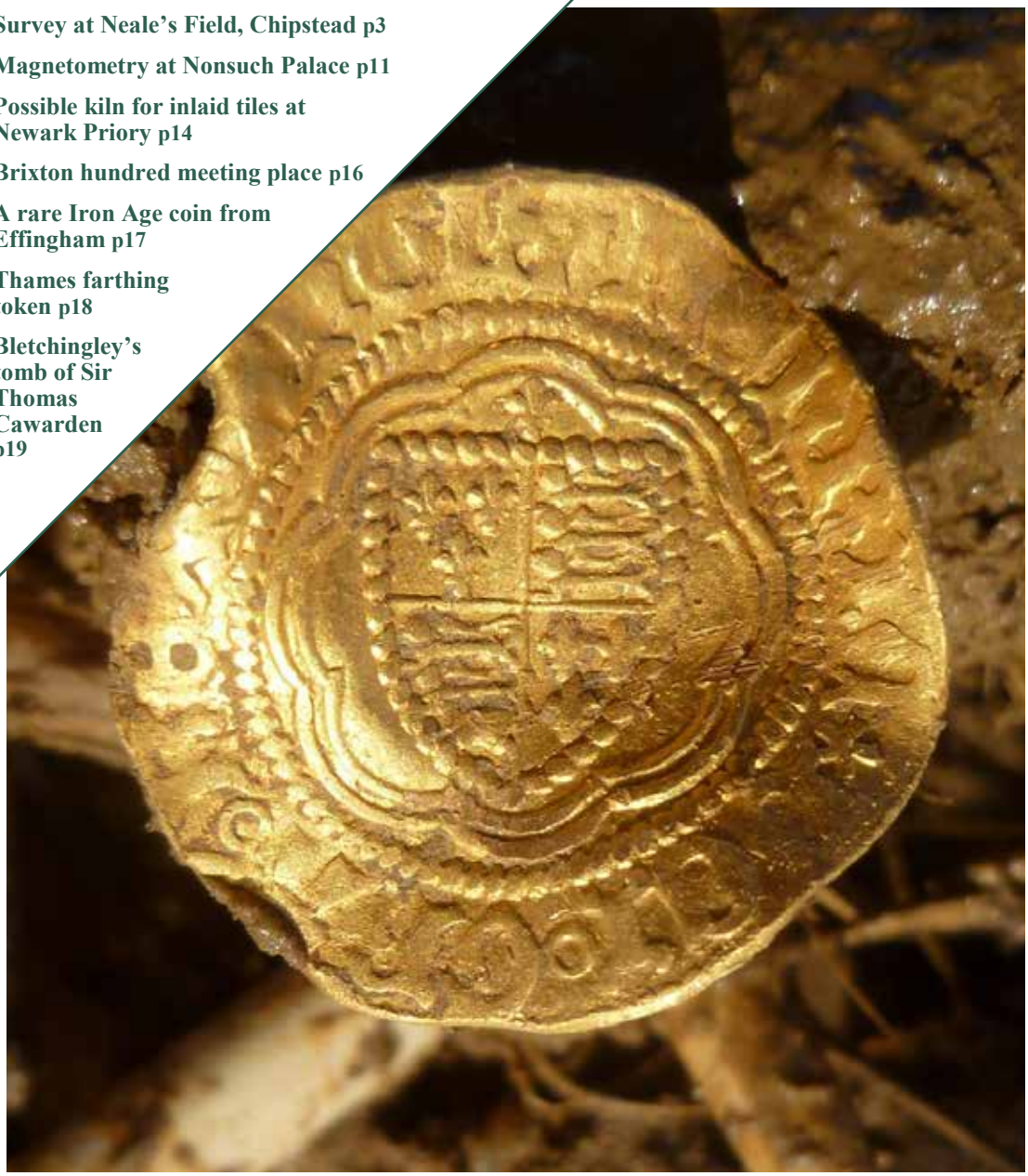
Surrey's Past



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ISSN 0585-9980

Issue no 493
February 2023

Note from the Editor

By Anne Sassin

Welcome to the Winter edition of *Surrey's Past*, now a year old in its new and updated format. This is the first issue which members will receive digitally, in advance of the paper copy, which we hope might entice some to choose an electronic version going forward, thereby helping to reduce the Society's carbon footprint.

As usual, this publication features research pieces and key news from the Society, with select events highlighted at the end. For more on upcoming events and fieldwork 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
Robert Bentley	Cranleigh	Industrial and Roman Archaeology
Christopher Brain	New Malden	Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society
Andrew Broadbent	Oxshott	Roman and Early Medieval Archaeology
Peter Clifford	Chertsey	Roman, Late Medieval and Tudor periods; computer based analysis; practical
Jean Jenkins	New Malden	Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society
Paul Lang	Epsom	Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society
Stefano Maglio	Fetcham	Pre-History
James Millhouse	Banstead	Ancient History
Darius Rafter	Romsey	Early Medieval and Medieval periods, public archaeology, history of archaeology
Susan Rhodes	Surbiton	Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society
Colin Rodger	Surbiton	Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society
Chris Seymour	Feltham	Roman to Medieval Archaeology
Patricia Smith	New Malden	Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society
Tom Streatfeild	Farncombe	Archaeology

There will be two further issues of *Surrey's Past* this year. Next issue: copy required by **15 May** for the June issue.

Issue no:	Copy date:	Approx. delivery:
494 June	**15 May**	**12 June**
495 October	**18 September**	**16 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).

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Geophysics and fieldwalking at Neale's Field, Chipstead

By **Anne Sassin** (with flint report by Chris Taylor)

Summary

In February 2022, a small team of volunteers from Surrey Archaeological Society carried out a geophysical survey and fieldwalking exercise on Neale's Field, Chipstead (TQ 2816 5784) as part of a small community project. This work was undertaken in order to investigate an unusual concentration of early metal-detecting finds, most notably a number of rare 15th-century coins, which led to speculation of the site being the possible location of a medieval fair which was recorded at Chipstead from the 13th century, and to define, date and characterise the site.

Time restrictions resulted in only the southern half of the field being surveyed. Finds uncovered from fieldwalking were mostly modern in date, though included worked flint dating from the late Neolithic to Bronze Age and a small number of Roman pottery sherds. Few features of note were identified from the geophysics to suggest use of the field beyond agricultural or pastural purposes, although excavation would be needed to substantiate this.

A full report can be accessed on the Society's website, under 'Recent fieldwork reports'.

Background

Neale's Field is a large 24-acre arable field situated in the parish of Chipstead and owned and managed by the Chipstead Village Preservation Society. The site is located at the highest point of the narrow Chipstead ridge and, at an elevation of *c*160m OD, sits prominently within the landscape. Situated at the junction of Chipstead, Woodmansterne and Coulsdon parishes, the field is bordered by Coulsdon Lane, which would have been the main direct route between Croydon and Reigate, How Lane, which leads to Woodmansterne and Banstead, and the modern Hollymead Road.

Geologically, the field is Clay-with-flints, a Pleistocene deposit which caps the ridge and high ground and sits on top of the Chalk which is exposed *c*500m to the east and west. It was formed from Eocene beds, subsequently much sorted and mixed, and consists of a reddish-brown clay, containing angular and rounded flint pebbles, whose thickness varies from 5m to 10m (Ellison 2004, 55). Some sods of brighter, orange-brown clay were seen on the field and had been brought to the surface by the recent ploughing.

The earliest map of the site is John Rocque's survey of 1768, which shows a tripartite field division, as well as a farmhouse along its southern side which has disappeared by the time of Colonel Mudge's 1819 map. At the time of the Tithe Apportionment of 1839, the field was still split into three: *The twelve acres* to the NW, *Yew tree field* to the SW and *Portnall's Lissoms Field* in the east. Only the curving N-S boundary is in place at the time of the first edition OS map (1871), and this boundary was no longer extant by the time of the second edition (1897), remaining open from this point onwards.

Known archaeology within the local area is not extensive, limited to possible Late Iron Age and Roman occupation sites at Wapole Avenue and Brighton Road. The name Chipstead (OE **Ceapstede*) in effect means 'market place' or 'place where a market existed' (Gover *et al* 1934, 290). In 675 Frithuwald , *subregulus* of Surrey, is said to have given 5 hides of land in Chipstead to the abbey

Fig 1 Location of Neale's Field, Chipstead (OS Open Data)

of Chertsey. At the time of Domesday, the manor of Chipstead was in the possession of Richard de Tonbridge, part of the honour of Clare, whose descendants held it in chief until the 16th century (Malden 1911, 189-96).

Although the earliest date given for the inception of a fair at Chipstead is 1279 (Letters 2005), reference in the rolls of the 1258-59 Special Eyre of Surrey and Kent may suggest an earlier date, as it records a fair at Chipstead ('*Nundinas de Chepsted*') held on the feast of St Margaret from which the manorial bailiff 'collected the toll from all who bought or sold there'. It was said by the jurors that 'at the time when the manor was in the hands of Odo Damaroy [n] and Alice there was no toll', apart from the one collected by the king's bailiff for amend to the assize of bread and ale (Hershey 2004, 41-2, SESK/70). Odo Damaroyn, whose father was Odo, is of the Danmartin family, who held the manor in subfee from the Clares. 'Odo…son of Odo de Dan Martin' gifted half a virgate in Chipstead to Lewes Priory in an undated grant and was deceased by 1230, per reference to his widow Margery (Malden 1911, 189-96), suggesting a fair was in existence at Chipstead by at least the first quarter of the 13th century (Rob Briggs pers comm).

Detecting finds

Thanks to the site's thorough coverage via local metal detectorist Greg Wales, who recorded all finds in detail on the Portable Antiquities Scheme database, the unusual concentration and array of finds from the field raised speculation as to the field's former history. Most notable were the 35 objects of medieval date, including 15 pieces of silver and gold coinage spanning Henry II to Henry VI. The later 14th and 15th-century coins (a Henry IV penny, two groats and gold quarter noble of Henry V, and half-groat and four groats of Henry VI) were of particular interest, especially when associated with a copper alloy purse bar dated *c*1450-1550. The assemblage also included a range of jewellery and riding gear, alongside over 60 post-medieval objects (e.g. a dozen 16th or 17th-century lead uniface tokens).

The distribution and high number of late medieval finds from Neale's Field suggests an unusual concentration of activity. Was the reason possibly because the field was the former location of Chipstead's medieval fair?

Fig 2 Distribution of metal detecting finds from Neale's Field, as reported to the PAS

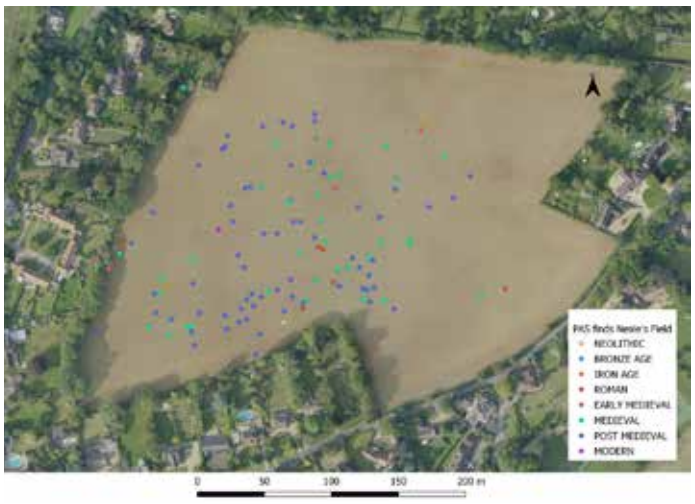


Fig 3 Late Medieval cast copper alloy purse bar, c1450-1550 (PUBLIC-A633B2 © Gregory Wales)

Fig 4 Medieval silver halfgroat of Henry VI, dating to 1422-3, minted at Calais (PUBLIC-C0E678 © Gregory Wales)

Cover image Gold quarter noble of Henry V, 1413-22 (SUR-7630F3 © Gregory Wales)

Geophysics results

A geophysical magnetometry survey was conducted over the concentration area of metal detecting finds in order to detect possible archaeology and define any features. The survey covered an area of 24,300m² (approximately one third of the total area of the field), extending across much of the field's southern half, using 30m² grids and collecting data along traverses 1m apart.

The amount of ferrous objects affecting the data was minimal, reflecting the extensive detecting which has taken place, and overall few anomalies and potential features were revealed. Changes in the geological make-up moving west to east, including patches of heavier clay, are apparent within the survey, and faint NE-SW linears running parallel in the eastern half, which align with the direction of ploughing as seen on the Rocque map, may indicate the remains of a ridge and furrow system.

The most suggestive anomaly is in the field's current centre, an area of disturbance *c*60m^2 in size and situated across the former N-S field boundary. With faint traces of a rectilinear shape and possible circular outline, it may represent a former enclosure, though this is by no means a clear interpretation.

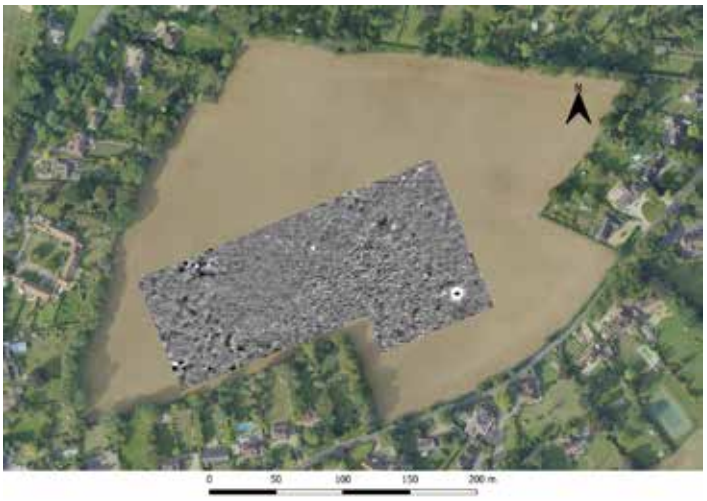


Fig 5 Magnetometry survey from Neale's Field

Fieldwalking

Fieldwalking also took place in the hopes of obtaining further artefacts and material which might help characterize activity, approximately five weeks after the field had been ploughed and in challenging winter conditions. The survey followed the same 30m^2 grid pattern, though due to time constraints, the most northern row was not covered, with only 19 grids walked over. Transects were established at 2m intervals, with each participant covering 1m either side. Every artefact of possible archaeological significance was collected from the ground surface and marked by grid number. Finds were taken to the base at Chipstead Rugby Club, where each piece was identified by type, weight and quantity and spotdated for their potential period. Early pottery and worked flint were retained for further assessment, whilst all other material was returned to its respective grid in the field.

Fig 6 Grid numbering for fieldwalking

The overall number of artefacts uncovered was small, comprising over 25kg of material, and was generally undiagnostic or of modern date. Six sherds of Roman pottery were identified: four SAND, one OXRC (270-400) and one possible Portchester D ware (350-400), with only one single medieval sherd, which was WW1B (*c*1240-1400). However, the prehistoric flint was more numerous, and the lithics finds are described in more detail below.

Flint assessment (by Chris Taylor)

The flint, including prehistorically worked pieces, is mostly a light grey to black. Only a tiny percentage have a white patination and a few are a light brown, which is to be expected on a Clay-with-flints site. The flint is generally of fairly good quality with a few cherty inclusions.

Flint is very densely scattered over the field and most pieces examined had some degree of battering, probably from other flints and hits by agricultural machinery. This is an important aspect to bear in mind with any field collection where there can be a blur between, on the one hand, machine damage

and natural field battering, and on the other, prehistoric working of edges and utilisation. Waste flakes have been divided into edge-battered pieces and those showing utilisation effects (Table 1).

The collection is, of course, a tiny fraction of what probably remains and cannot be statistically significant, as the field walk was over what was turned up by the last few ploughings, and not all grids were walked. So far, only Holocene, i.e. post ice age, finds have been made.

The finds distribution will have been materially affected by weathering, soil creep and agricultural activity so that flints will be some metres from where they were first dropped. However, the field is very flat so soil creep will be minimal.

Artefact type	Number
Waste flakes & chips – most field battered (Fig 16)	30
Waste flakes – with varying degrees of utilisation, mostly also field battered (Fig 16)	16
Possible projectile point or knife, Grid 11	1
Blades, Grids 6 & 13	2
Discoidal core, Grid 15	1
Core trimmings/rejuvenation flakes (Fig 17)	12
Scrapers, including notched & 'hollow' pieces, Grids 6, 8 & 15 (x3)	5
Hammerstone, Grid 15	1
Possible loom weight, Grid 3	1
Awl, Grid 15	1
Bashed lump	1
Total	**71**

Table 1 Flint finds summary

Waste flakes and blades

As shown by Table 1, most finds were of waste flakes, with only one blade. The flakes are generally broad and squat in shape (Fig 7), and flake dimensions give a general indication of date. Butler (2005, 179-86) mentions several Bronze Age sites (for example Black Patch, Sussex and Micheldever Wood barrow, Hampshire) where flakes were found to be mostly broad and squat. On this site the average breadth:length ratio of flakes is 2.5:3.0. This is very similar to the ratios calculated at Durrington Walls in middle and late Neolithic levels (Wainwright & Longworth 1971, 160-3).

The lack of blades is significant. Blades are defined as having a length of at least twice their breadth, and only one piece met this criterion. Blades are a well-known characteristic of Mesolithic assemblages (Rankine 1956, 10) although they continued to be produced in numbers into the early Neolithic (Butler 2005, 121). Blades got squatter through the Neolithic (Malone 2001, 217) and were rare by the end of the period (Butler 2005, 157).

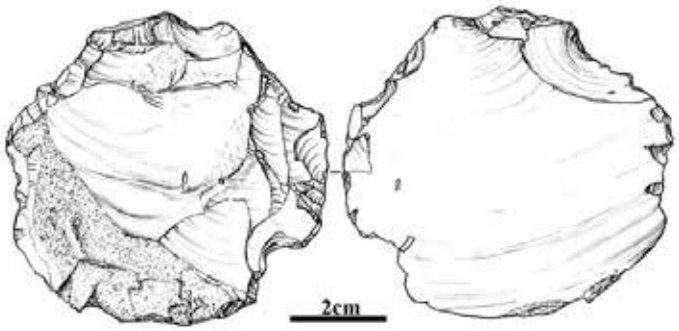


Fig 7 An example of a broad, squat flint flake, from Grid 15 (drawings by Chris Taylor)

Scrapers including notched pieces

Five scrapers were found. These are the only tool type (as distinguished from debitage/waste flakes and blades) represented in the collection. The low ratio of tools found to the total number of finds (in this case five scrapers to a total count of just over 70 pieces) is not unusual. Very commonly only a few percent of assemblages and collections are of tools.

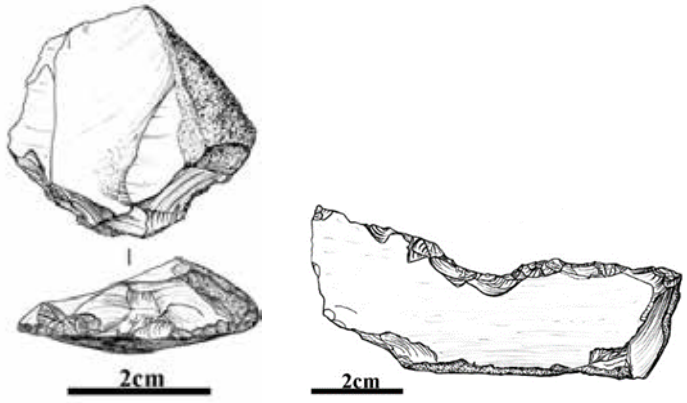
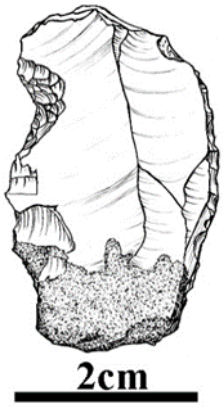


Fig 8 Squat round end scraper from Grid 15, steeply retouched (*left*)

Fig 9 'Hollow' scraper showing utilisation of an edge and an end point, from Grid 8 (*right*)

Scrapers tend to be squatter as time progresses. In the early Mesolithic end-scrapers are often on narrow blades, although scrapers on flakes were also common and continued into the Neolithic. Scrapers were no longer manufactured on blades in the later Neolithic and from then on tended to be on squat

flakes (Butler 2005, 166). At the Neolithic site at Hurst Fen, for example, the average ratio of breadth to length of a sample of many hundreds of scrapers was 30mm:40mm (Clark 1960, 219). The example at Fig 8 is Breadth 40mm: Length 38mm. Bronze Age scrapers are very common and also tend to be on broad flakes with rounded scraping edges achieved by steep retouch. Individual scraper finds are difficult to date, but a late Neolithic or Bronze Age date is suggested for the example in Fig 8.



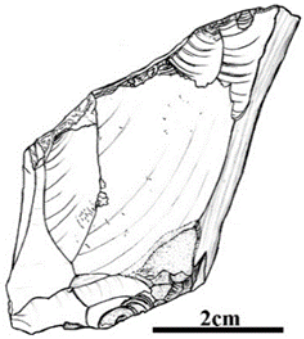


Fig 10 Flake with notch showing utilisation, Grid 15 (*left*)

Fig 11 Core rejuvenation, from Grid 15 (*right*)

Notched flakes (Figs 9 & 10) are very frequently found on later Neolithic and Bronze Age sites (Butler 2005, 170). The extent of notching on pieces varies from significant micro-flaking to the presence of a few micro flakes which may be difficult to distinguish from field battering.

Core, core trimmings and core rejuvenation flakes

A significant number of core trimmings were found. These are relatively squat, thick flakes often with cortex, removed from a core during the initial stages of its preparation to arrive at the optimum core shape before the desired final flakes and blades are struck off. Core trimmings finds are not unexpected given the number of flakes collected. Two core rejuvenation flakes were found, one a core tablet, the second a large plunging flake (Fig 11). The discoidal core and thick, broad core trimmings fit well with the characteristically squat, broad flakes.

Possible projectile point or knife

Fig 12 is of a small flake which has been bifacially worked, quite extensively on its dorsal surface. Its general shape is indicative of it being some sort of projectile point. However, it is larger than most arrowhead forms. Neolithic forms of arrowhead are the leaf and transverse types. In the Bronze Age, barbed and tanged arrowheads predominate (Green 1984). This example does not fit neatly into a specific category, and may be a large form of leaf arrowhead, minimally worked or possibly a form of knife. Bifacial working was common in the Neolithic and Bronze Age.

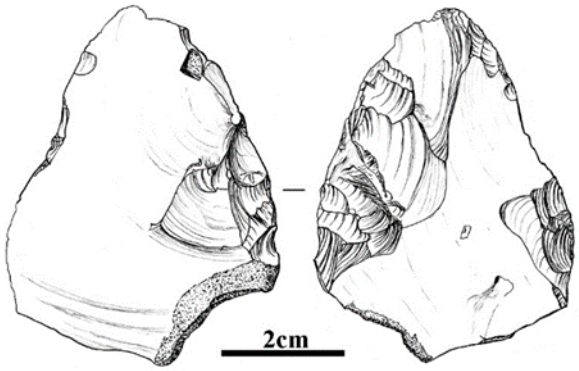


Fig 12 Possible projectile point or knife from Grid 11. The ventral surface (*left*) shows the point of percussion and bulb. Both surfaces have been worked.

Weight or spindle whorl?

Grid 3 produced a piece of flint that has been deliberately and purposely knapped to produce a fairly regular shape around a natural cortex-lined hole. This may be a weight or spindle whorl (Fig 13). A similar piece discovered at the Bronze Age monument at Crowlink, Sussex (Greatorex 2001, Fig 17, 68) was interpreted as a weight.

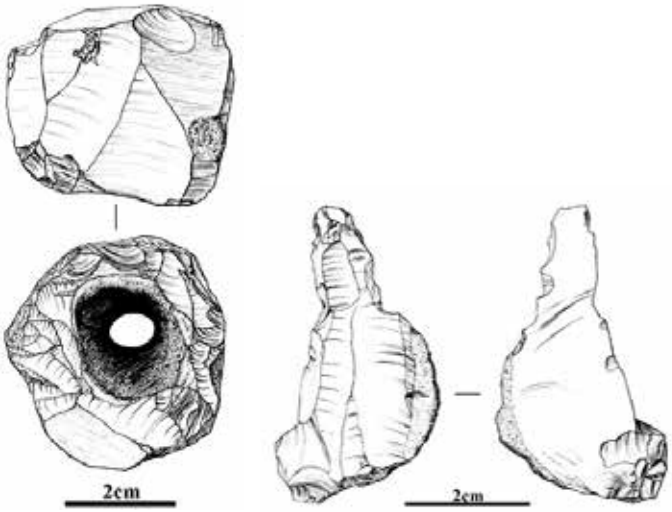


Fig 13 Possible spindle whorl or weight, from Grid 3 (*left*)

Fig 14 Awl, from Grid 15 (*right*)

Distribution of flint finds

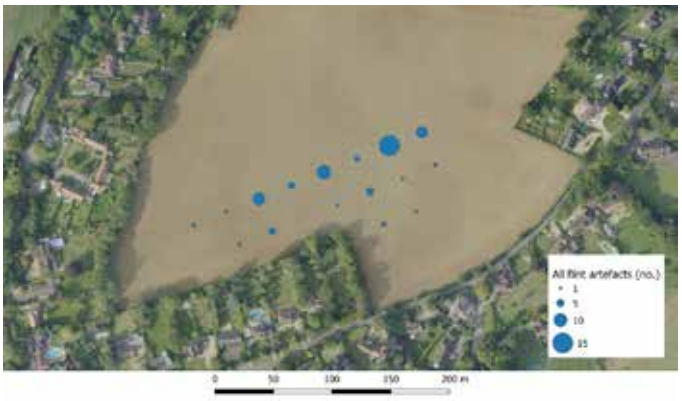


Fig 15 Distribution of all flint artefact finds (excludes burnt flint), with the circle area in proportion to number of flints

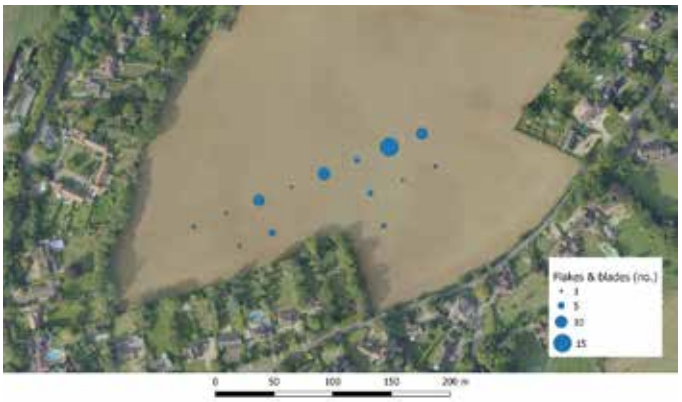


Fig 16 Distribution of flint flakes and blade finds (by count)

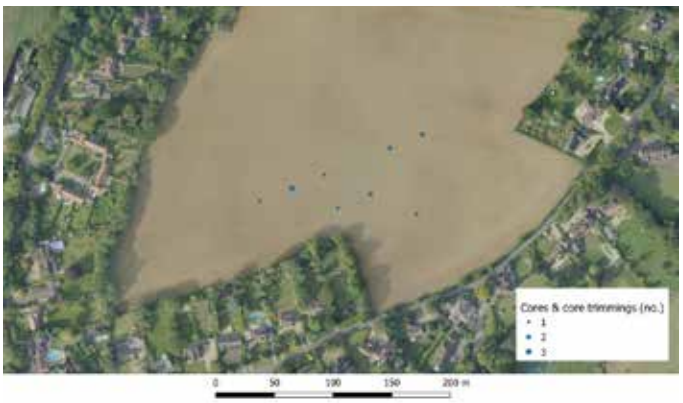


Fig 17 Distribution of finds of flint cores and core trimmings (by count)

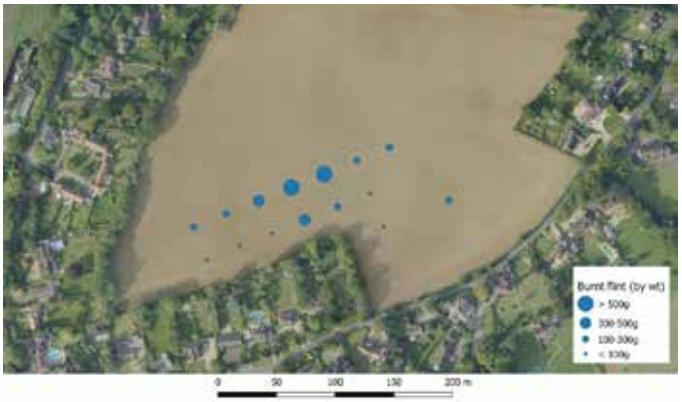


Fig 18 Distribution of burnt flint by weight per grid

As shown by Figs 15-18, most finds have been from the row of Grids 9-16. The concentration pattern of finds in grids needs further work in the field to establish its wider significance, if any. The pattern may reflect concentrations of lithic debitage from habitation and or a knapping site. It should be borne in mind that the concentrations are of a relatively evenly distributed and low absolute number of finds per square metre and do not represent close scatters.

The concentrations of burnt flint (also referred to as calcined) seems to occur in a pattern in that there is a gradual increase as the row progresses to the east from Grid 9 (Fig 18), increasing to maximum density in Grid 12 and then diminishing to zero in Grid 16. The incidence of burnt flint is similar in concentration along this row to that of worked flint.

Burnt flint arises from a number of agencies and is a material which is not always reported in excavation reports. It was used as a grog in pottery, as exampled in Beaker sherds from Selmeston (Clark 1934, 139), and is usually found in association with hearths and charcoal and sometimes interpreted as a method of heating water (for example at Neolithic Hurst Fen; Clark 1960, 207). Its association with hearths and concentrations of worked flint is well exampled at the Mesolithic sites at North Park Farm (Jones 2013, Fig 2.1, 10 & Fig 5.13, 43) and Thatcham (Healy *et al* 1992, 49). Burnt flint is also found in Bronze Age cremation pits (Greatorex 2001, 69). It can of course arise from a more mundane, incidental association with fairly intense fires, for example to clear forest ('slash and burn'), although this is often questioned because of the general lack of intense heat during such events. Its interpretation here is uncertain until more is known overall on the field's archaeology.

Discussion

This site is away from water and on a heavy clay soil and is unlikely to have been favoured during the Mesolithic when river bank and sandy soils sites predominate (Simmonds *et al* 2019, 52-4; Wymer 1991, 22). This explains the noticeable lack of blades. The dating of the artefacts is problematical because these are surface finds, i.e. not an assemblage or from a close scatter. However, as indicated above, the material is likely to be late Neolithic to Bronze Age and may indicate the first agricultural use of the land.

Future research could focus on the likelihood of at least some Lower Palaeolithic material being present, as no Palaeolithic material was recovered or is known from the site. At the nearby Clay-with-flint site at Rookery Farm, Kingswood (Harp 2005; Walls & Cotton 1980) palaeoliths have been dragged up to the surface by the plough from the Clay-with-flints layer below the sub-soil. This and other Clay-with-flints sites (see especially Winton 2004) are recognised to be important 'traps' of Palaeolithic material which is nearly *in situ* (Wymer 1987, 24).

Despite the large number of finds previously recovered from metal detecting, the fieldwalking survey over an area of *c*1.7ha did not identify any concentrations of artefacts which would indicate that a site of particular archaeological interest is located within the field. Much of the material is most likely from manuring undertaken during later periods. The survey also did not result in convincing evidence of significant medieval activity at the site. Although the geophysics did identify a possible feature which might relate to a former animal or stock enclosure, this identification is by no means certain.

Neale's Field is a site which, positionally, is ideal for attracting considerable activity, such as a market-place or fair. If it had once been the location of Chipstead's fair, a larger number of coins might be expected, and it may be that a portion of the finds assemblage was merely the contents of a dropped purse, later dispersed through ploughing. The origins of the name Chipstead (OE **Ceapstede*, meaning 'market place') would suggest possible earlier origins for the fair than its first record in the 13th century, although the lack of early medieval finds from Neale's Field might argue against its location there at this early period. As the church of St Margaret, a patronal dedication which the fair shares, is largely 13th century in date, it is possible that the fair was relocated at this time, accounting for the increased number of later medieval finds from the site. However, this is merely one possible interpretation, and not one which is well supported by the limited evidence available.

Overall, the main activity identified at the site is agricultural use of the land, originating as far back as the late Neolithic and continuing, not necessarily uninterrupted, to the present day. Another possible interpretation of the limited fieldwork results, taking into account the potential enclosure identified, is a sheep enclosure or pen associated with the farm-house last apparent on the 18th-century Rocque map. Pastoral activity would certainly befit the site's high downland location, and 13th-16th century late medieval sheepcotes, with their rectilinear ditches and enclosures (see Dyer 1995), may have suggestive parallels in form with those from the field. Further fieldwork, including an investigatory trench across one of the ditches, would be needed to investigate this theory.

The site of Neale's Field, Chipstead attests to the value of assessing concentrations of finds reported to the Portable Antiquities Scheme, as well as responsible and meticulous detecting from finders. The added advantage and value of a local society who can carry out large-scale geophysical or field-walking surveys supports the need for continued resources and expenditure into training and outreach.

Acknowledgements

The fieldwork at Neale's Field relied on the dedication of a small volunteer team, all of whom were invaluable to the work undertaken. Special thanks must first be made to the Chipstead Village Preservation Society, including Iris Spooner, Jon Grant and Simon Kolesar, for their kind permission and access to the site, as well as Richard Kent of Crossways Farm. We are also very grateful to Peter Quiney and the Chipstead Rugby Club for the use of their facilities as a base.

Thanks are extended to Rob Briggs and team at the HER for the additional research and access to data; Dr Simon Maslin (Surrey FLO) for advice and first bringing the site to the attention of SyAS; and the fieldwork and finds team, including Tim Wilcock for helping to lay out the grids, Ann Morrison and Irene Goring for recording the finds, Emma Corke and the Roman Pottery Group for assessment of the Roman and Medieval sherds, and Lyn Spencer, Mairi Sargent, Daryll Bewick, Helen Kemp, Tony McLaughlin, Roger Hunt, David Wilkinson, Sarah Blumire, Ray Cocks and Barry Hayter for their hard work in conducting the survey.

A final acknowledgement and special thanks must be made to Greg Wales for his help and enthusiasm throughout, local knowledge and careful recording through metal detecting, which highlighted the site as one worthy of further study.

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Figs 19-20 Fieldwalking (*left*) and magnetometry (*right*) undertaken in the field by the team of SyAS volunteers

A magnetometry survey at Nonsuch Palace

By **Nikki Cowlard**

In January 2018 a small scale magnetometry survey was carried out by members of Surrey Archaeological Society (SyAS) and Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society (EEHAS) in the scheduled area of Nonsuch Palace, Ewell. The author was asked by Epsom and Ewell Borough Council to carry out a geophysical survey of Nonsuch Palace as a non-invasive technique to ascertain the exact position of the palace walls. In the long term it is hoped to apply to Historic England to outline the palace on the ground, as part of improving the visitor experience. As Nonsuch Palace is a scheduled site (Monument no. 1017998) Historic England was consulted and a Section 42 licence was granted to carry out a geophysical survey. Historic England expressed interest in how magnetometry over an already excavated site would react.

The site is located in Nonsuch Park on the boundaries of the Borough of Epsom and Ewell in Surrey and the London Borough of Sutton. It is managed and maintained by a Joint Management Committee, comprising of councillors from both authorities. The Palace site lies on Thanet Sands, with chalk to the east, and the surface geology is predominantly of mixed gravels and clay. It is sited on a level area of ground at about 45m OD, with the land rising gradually to 60m OD to the south and west and dropping slowly to the north and east.

Nonsuch Palace was built for King Henry VIII originally as a hunting lodge, set within the Great and Little Parks which were, in turn, enclosed by a park pale. The manor and village of Cuddington were demolished to facilitate the building of the palace, which was completed in 1547; Henry VIII died early that year and never saw the project completed. The estate continued to be owned by the crown until Queen Mary sold it to Henry Fitzalan, 12th Earl of Arundel in 1556. In 1592 Queen Elizabeth took the property back into royal ownership and it continued to be used until the Commonwealth (1648-60), when it was seized and began to fall into repair. Charles II eventually re-gained the throne and in 1670 granted the palace to his mistress, Barbara Villiers. She demolished the palace in 1682-3, selling the building materials; the parks were broken up and the once-great palace disappeared into obscurity. For a history of Nonsuch Palace see Dent's *The Quest for Nonsuch* (1970).

In 1933 the site of the palace was located when a sewer trench was cut along the avenue south of Cherry Orchard Farm. Martin Biddle led excavations over two seasons, 1959-60, which uncovered much of the plan of the main palace and of the banqueting house. As well as defining the outline of the palace,

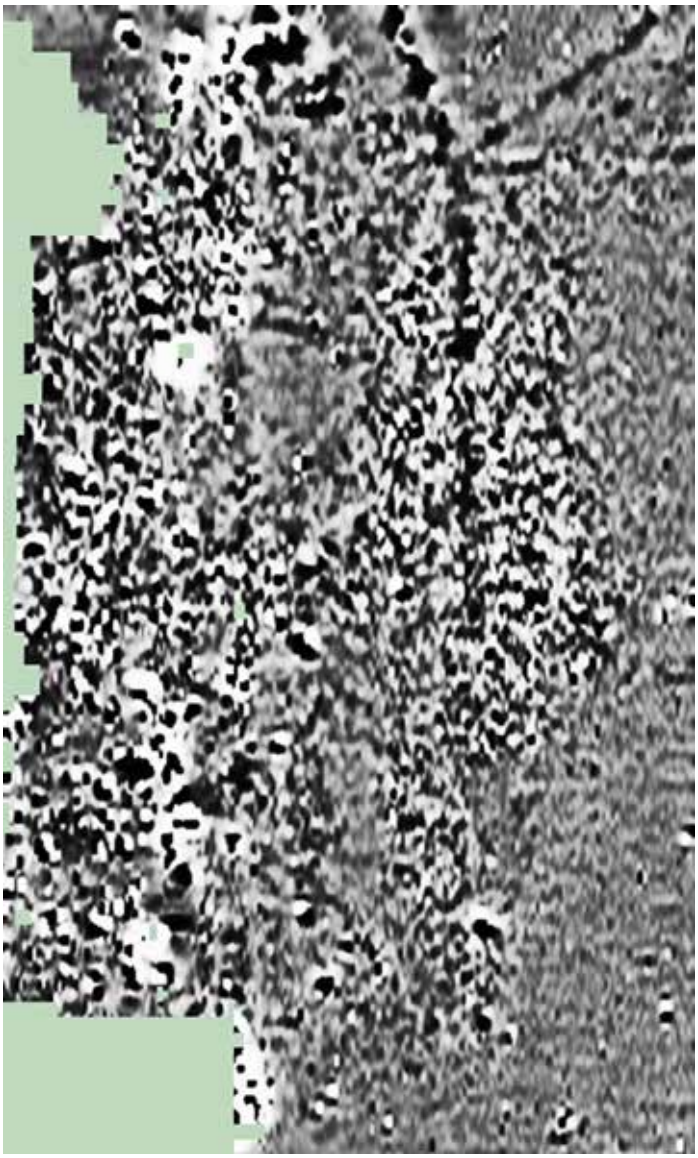

Fig 1 Processed magnetometry image (readings: black high; white low)

evidence for the earlier manor buildings that had been demolished or incorporated into the palace was uncovered. The Inner Court was sited directly over the parish church and graveyard, and 113 burials were excavated in 1959 (Biddle 2005, 14). Both the palace and the banqueting house are now listed and the sites scheduled.

At the end of January 2018 a small team surveyed 15 30m x 30m grid squares over two days. The survey area covered most of the excavated palace area, which mainly comprised mown grass, a tarmac path (The Avenue) and a number of mature trees. The western edge of the palace lay under scrub vegetation, a wildlife habitat which could not be accessed. The survey was undertaken using SyAS' Bartington Grad601-2 dual fluxgate gradiometer, which is used to measure minute variations in the magnetic field that are caused by hidden anomalies in the ground such as archaeological features, geophysical features, pipes and other signs of human activity. The base line was aligned to three concrete posts which mark the entrances to the Outer Court, the Inner Court and the Privy Gardens.

The survey was georeferenced using SyAS' Leica GS07 GPS antenna, identifying the NE corner of the northern marker at TQ 22742.999 63186.84 OD height 43.425m. Unfortunately the Leica was unable to ascertain readings for the other two markers due to tree cover, but further survey work in the park using a total station located the NE corner of the middle marker (representing the entrance to the Inner Court) at TQ 22760.448, 63140.566 OD height 44.454m, and the NE corner of the southern-most marker (representing the entrance to the Privy Garden) at TQ 22780.722 63087.229 OD height 45.639m. Raw survey data was downloaded, processed and the grids were meshed together into a composite map of the survey (Fig 1).

Modern features

A sewer was dug through the palace foundations in 1933 but surprisingly this did not show up in the magnetometry (plastic pipes did not come into use until at least 1936). However the line of the sewer could be projected between the two visible metal manhole covers. The siting of a metal rubbish bin and trees are evident in gaps in the readings.

Archaeological features (Fig 2)

The magnetometry mainly shows the disturbance caused by the 1959 excavations. The redeposited earth and demolition rubble camouflage the chalk foundations and robber trenches (from the 17th-century removal of materials) beneath. This disturbance is concentrated mainly within the confines of the palace walls, and contrasts with the less 'noisy' exterior to the east and south.

The most prominent feature noted is the kitchen sewer, which was excavated in 1959. This is described as 'a brick and stone lined tunnel 2ft. 6 in. high' (Dent 1970, 88). During excavation it was found that the vault of the tunnel had been broken into near the cellar, leaving just the floor. The brick construction likely accounts for the sewer's strong magnetometry reading as compared to the chalk and stone foundations, where it is difficult to differentiate between them and the demolition rubble of the same fabric. Alongside the eastern side of the external drain can be seen a linear feature of low reading, which may represent a foundation trench for the drain or a 1959 excavation trench plotting the drain's course. Another line running at a right angle to the main drain, north of the kitchen courtyard, may represent a further brick drain/sewer which does not appear on the 1959 excavation plan. The conjectured front wall of the kitchen court and its continuation to the east can be seen.

Conclusions and future work

Results of the magnetometry survey suggest that there is little to be gained from further geophysics over the palace site due to the high concentration of building rubble and disturbance, both from the demolition of the buildings in the 17th century and the 1959 excavation.

The survey added minimal information as to the position of the walls of the palace, already indicated by the concrete markers.

It may be appropriate at some stage in the future to trace the palace drains and identify their route north to the boundary of the park less than 300m away. The direction of the unexcavated possible drain, identified during the survey, points to the east end of Diana's Dyke (also known as Long Ditch) which is thought to be contemporary with the Tudor palace.

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Acknowledgements

Thanks to Emma Corke and David Hartley for their assistance in carrying out the survey. Thanks must also go to Historic England and Nonsuch Park Joint Management Committee for the permissions necessary to proceed with this project.

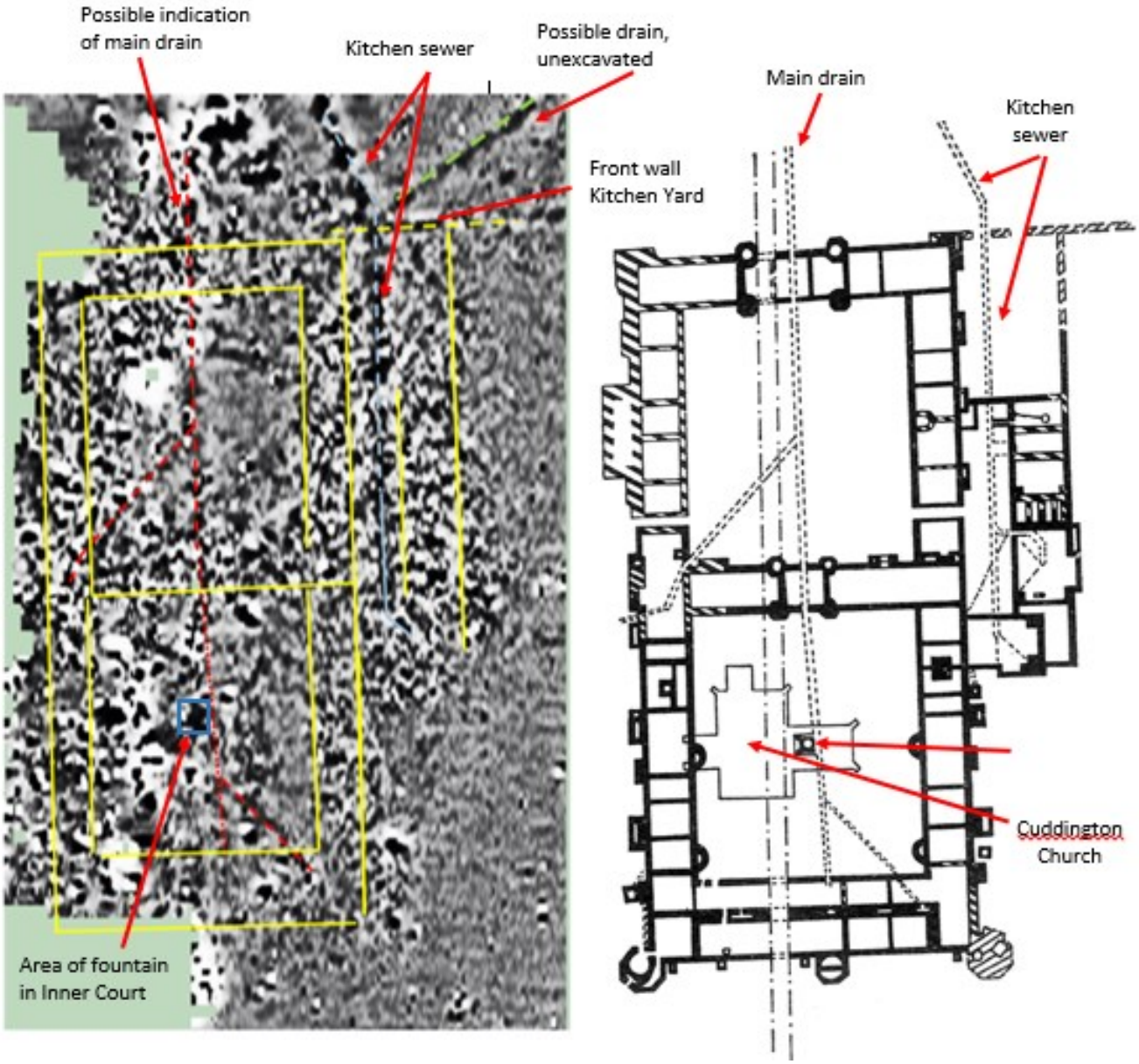


Fig 2 (*Left*) magnetometry with possible archaeological features annotated: sewers/drains (red), possible unexcavated drain (green), area of fountain (blue) with outline of Palace walls for reference (yellow); (*right*) plan of Palace for comparison (Dent 1970, 247)

A possible kiln for making inlaid tiles at Newark Priory, Ripley

By Jeanette Hicks & Judie English

Background

The report in the last *Surrey's Past* of an inlaid tile from Newark Priory (Maslin 2022) describes an example found on site some 50 years ago, and its similarity to those found during excavation of Newark (Pearce 1932) and at Waverley Abbey (Brakspear 1905).

Some years ago, fragments of two tiles stuck together by vitrified glaze were recovered by a diver from the river at Newark Priory (Fig 1). During extensive work on the site, primarily by Jeanette Hicks, we were told that further tiles had been found close-by in the roots of a tree felled by gales (Fig 2). We were unable either to track these down or to find any more but it seems unlikely that waste tile would have been transported any distance, and thus there may have been a kiln in the immediate vicinity (Send and Ripley History Society n.d., 31-6).

Documentary evidence

Production of inlaid tiles would have necessitated access to both white firing and red firing clays; these could have come from clays of the Lambeth Group (Reading Beds), with outcrops some 6km to the south of Newark, and London Clay found 2km from Newark, respectively.

Fig 1 (*Left*) tile excavated by Pearce; (*right*) 'waster' retrieved from the river

There are two references to a marl pit – which in the medieval period was more generally a term for a clay pit – belonging to Newark Priory in the Chertsey Abbey Cartularies. In the first record Chertsey Abbey appears to have granted Newark a licence to access their marl pit in 1262, for Brother Richard, Prior of Newark, says '*know all of you that we claim nor ever will claim no right or claim to pass through the land of the Abbot and Convent of Chertsey which is called Hachesham to our marl pit* [marlarium] *in Est Clandon except of the special licence of the said Abbott and Convent granted to us of their grace from the Translation of the Blessed Thomas Martyr* [7th July] *in the fourth year of the reign of King Henry son of King John* [1220] *until the Feast of the Blessed Apostles Simon and Jude* [28th October] *at the end of the said year*' (Surrey Record Society 1958, 873). In 1348, Newark still held the marl pit since Chertsey Abbey was recorded as holding a parcel of land '*lying in the field called Middle next the marl pit of the Prior of Newark in East Clandene*' (*ibid*, 872).

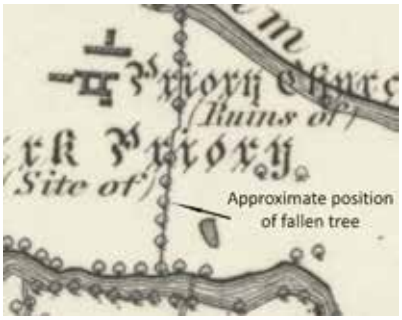
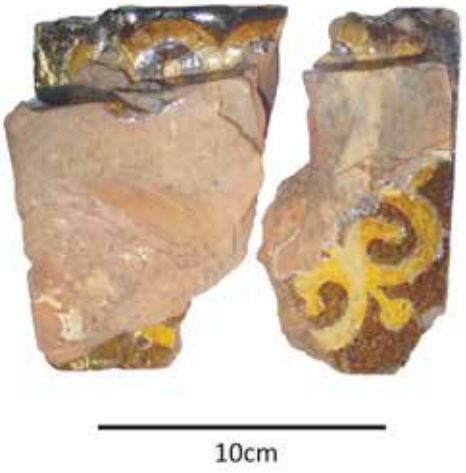


Fig 2 Location of fallen tree where further tiles were reputedly found



The late Phil Jones undertook extensive research into pottery production in west and central Surrey including the Clandon area and described the relative position of *Middle*, the marl pit and surrounding landholdings, but the information is insufficient to place the area within the present landscape (Jones 2017, Fig 3). He also identified two ponds as possible sites for the marl pit, one on London Clay at TQ 057 532 and the other on clays of the Lambeth Group (Reading Formation) at TQ 063 520 (*ibid*, Fig 2). The manor of East Clandon was held by Chertsey Abbey before 1086 and they continued to hold until 1537; any access to either of the potential sites would have necessitated passing through their land. The pond on the white-firing clay is within the medieval park of Hatchlands and it is tempting (if risky) to link the name *Hachesham* either with Hatchlands itself or another gate into the park. Such a linkage would suggest that this was the *marlarium* belonging to the Prior of Newark.

Inlaid tiles from Newark Priory

Pearce has little to say about the tiles he found, noting only that they came from various parts of the excavations, although he does note that the pattern on one also appeared at Merton (presumably Merton Priory) (Fig 3). A selection of these tiles is held by Guildford Museum and among them is one with an identical design to that on the waster (Fig 1). The design does not appear among those which have been published at either Woking Palace (Poulton 2015) or Waverley Abbey (Brakspear 1905). Among the tiles is a design replicated at Woking Palace (Poulton 2015, Fig 5.4, no 10; Fig 3) and described as a Westminster type.

Does a single waster mean a tile kiln? Of course not! But, it has been suggested (Eames 2010, 138) that inlaid tiles could be made locally with the designs moving between production sites, and Newark's access to the clays necessary would make manufacture on site good commercial sense.

Acknowledgement

The tiles from Pearce's excavations and held by Guildford Museum were made available for study by Dr Mary Alexander.

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Fig 3 (*Left*) 'Westminster' tile from Newark Priory which can be matched by an example from Woking Palace; (*middle*) tile from Newark Priory excavated by Pearce; (*right*) that tile together with the portion found at Merton Priory (as published by Pearce 1932, plate IX)

Note on the Brixton Hundred meeting place

By **Graham Dawson**

I would like to make a few comments on Rob Briggs' note on Brixton, 'On Brixton Hill: searching for the site of "Beorhtsige's Stone"' in *SyAS Bulletin* **488** October 2021.

I would start by saying that I think Rob is correct in locating the Brixton Hundred meeting place where he does, but I would point out that Graham Gower located it there in a pamphlet he published in 1996 'Brixges Stane' (Local History Publications, 316 Green Lane, Streatham, SW16 3AS) and earlier in Wandsworth Society's Journal.

The estate whose bounds Rob discussed was not Stockwell, which did not exist in the late Saxon period, but what was later called Vauxhall or South Lambeth. The estate was granted to Waltham Abbey by Tovi the Proud in the 1040s (see 'Tovi the Proud & Lambeth', *Southwark & Lambeth Archaeological Society News,* **95** (Sept 2003), 6-7), and he had probably been granted it by Cnut for whom he was a *huscarl*, but his biographer in DNB says he was given it by his fellow *huscarl* Osgod Clapa as a wedding present when he married his daughter in 1042, but I do not know what source for that was; we know of the marriage because King Harthacnut died at it. Osgod and Tovi were long established colleagues, and Osgod's daughter must have been much younger than Tovi, so it was probably a 'political' marriage and it was Tovi's second.

Waltham Abbey, which Tovi founded, lost Vauxhall for some reason almost immediately, for which the Waltham chronicler blamed his son. In 1046, Osgod was exiled by Edward the Confessor for reason unknown and, like any good Viking, he raised a fleet and attacked England presumably hoping to force Edward to have him back (as happened with Godwin four years later), but it was a disaster and nothing more is heard of Osgod. Since he was so close to Osgod, Tovi may well have been involved (he may even have been killed) and this would explain the loss to Waltham and how Harold, presumably as a gift from Edward, was able to grant it back to Waltham *c*1062. However, it is equally possible that he died a natural death, since he must have been very old by then. His grandson was adult during Edward's reign and was sheriff of Middlesex, so the family was in favour shortly after Osgod's revolt, and allowing only twenty years per generation, it would mean that Tovi was at least sixty and probably somewhat older, and would have been born in 980 or earlier, long before Cnut became king of England.

The eastern boundary of the estate was certainly Brixton Road/Hill, since this was later the boundary of Stockwell which was carved out of Vauxhall, probably *c*1193-1210 (though it remained in Vauxhall manorially). Thus the eastern boundary was a Roman road which supports the idea, though it does not prove it, that Beorhtsige's stone was a Roman milestone. However, whatever it was, it had been imported, because the local geology does not have large stones. What concerns me a little is was a milestone a significant enough feature?

The western boundary would follow the boundary of the later Vauxhall manor and one place on this can be identified. (*to, fram*) *hyse* was a small area later known as Stockwell Mede, because it was in Stockwell but surrounded by Vauxhall, but it was also known as Hethe or sometimes as Hese.

Image looking down Brixton Hill from the likely meeting-place site (photo by Rob Briggs 2021)

Commios or Tincomarus? An Iron Age coin quandry

By **Simon Maslin**

Of all the finds recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme, the one specific group which probably has the potential to contribute to archaeological and historical knowledge more than any other are Iron Age coins. These date from a period when the only extant written records were those of Roman writers who often viewed the peoples of Britain disparagingly as barbarians and, frequently, the enemy. Consequently their histories provide only latinised names for the tribes and rulers of the time and are contradictory and frequently pejorative. The coins issued by the peoples of Britain on the other hand often record the names and dynastic claims of rulers ignored or mis-named by these histories. By recording the incidence and distribution of the various types, we can plot the extent of territories and the waxing and waning of the power of the British polities and their rulers in the decades prior to the Roman invasion.

A recent discovery recorded by the PAS is this small silver unit from Effingham (SUR-7E7764), which was issued by a local tribe in the late Iron Age, either the Atrebates (north-east Hampshire) or the Regini (west Sussex). The obverse shows a head with a characteristically 'celtic' lentoid eye, a curved ladder for hair and a stylised face in front. The reverse depicts a horse left, with unclear letter(s) above and an unclear animal below.

A feature of coins from this period, amply demonstrated by this specimen, is that the designs on the dies were often slightly larger than the actual struck flans, which often consequently display only part of the complete whole. In this case, the precise identity of the coin is dependent on elements which are not included in this strike: specifically letters above the horse on the reverse which on this example are off of the area of the flan. A letter 'E' would signify a type issued by Commios (50-25 BC; cf. Cottam *et al* 2010, 67, nos. 1037 or 1040). If however the lettering was 'TIN', then the type could be a near identical type of Tincomarus (*c*20 BC-AD 10: cf. *ibid*, 68, no. 1097). The latter is listed as 'potentially unique' in the references, so if this were the case, this coin would be a very significant thing indeed! The condition and location of the reverse strike makes this a difficult question to satisfactorily resolve, but other similarities in the dies suggest that this may possibly be a second recorded example for the Tincomarus type.

Recorded metal detecting finds are constantly adding to the variety and quantity of types of Iron Age coins that we know of. Alongside this progress, the number which are also dug up but go unrecorded and are sadly lost is difficult to estimate. Such is the impact of the hobby on this particular area of numismatics, however the one thing you can safely say about it is that the rare types get less rare every year and 'unique' types are unlikely to stay unique for long.

Iron Age silver unit from Surrey (SUR-7E7764)

Reference

Cottam, E, de Jersey, P, Rudd, C & Sills, J, 2010 *Ancient British Coins,* Aylsham: Chris Rudd

Portable Antiquities Scheme
www.finds.org.uk

A unique farthing token from the Thames

By **Simon Maslin**

Newly discovered 17th century farthing token of the Ship Carpenters Arms, Rotherhithe Wall, SUR-7B4C77 © Surrey County Council

The third quarter of the 17th century saw a serious deficit of circulating copper small change caused in part by the English civil wars of the 1640s and the cessation of the royal (rose) farthing coinage of Charles I. With everyday transactions desperately in need of usable currency, local and regional traders, craftsmen, civic corporations and hostelries stepped in to address the problem by issuing their own individual token farthings and halfpennies. Primarily functioning at a very local level, these tokens would be given out and exchanged by the issuers and those who trusted their business. Over 14,000 varieties are recorded as having been produced before they were banned by order of Charles II in 1672, whose government then issued an official copper coinage in the same recognisable form as persisted until decimalisation, some three hundred years later.

The distribution patterns and imagery of these tokens can tell us much about the activities of the issuers, many of whom were prominent characters with civic offices and roles who are named in historical documents of the period. Despite the huge recorded diversity, new issues come to light every so often, perhaps now more so than ever through the work of the PAS which provides an easy channel for new discoveries to be documented and shared.

This particular token, recorded as SUR-7B4C77, is a previously undocumented variant and also a very well preserved example. It names a tavern or inn called the Ship Carpenter's (or Shipwright's) arms in Rotherhithe Wall, Southwark. On the obverse it has the arms of the name, on the reverse are the issuers' initials 'I' & 'T W', most likely for the tavern's proprietor and his wife. Both the identity of the owner and the precise location of this establishment are apparently not now known.

Surrey benefits from having an extremely comprehensive and up-to-date study of these tokens (Tim Everson's 2015 *Seventeenth Century Trading Tokens of Surrey and Southwark*), but even so only one other example was previously known of a token issued by this particular establishment, itself also known from a unique specimen, but with a different design to this latest find. Consequently this variant becomes a new addition to the corpus of tokens for the historic county of Surrey and Southwark and is now the reference example for its type, Surrey 284B.

Stones in the tower: reconstructing the tomb of Sir Thomas Cawarden at Bletchingley

By **Rob Briggs**

In December 2019, two members of Surrey County Council's Historic Environment Planning (HEP) team had the great pleasure of being given access to the upper levels of the west tower of the church of St Mary the Virgin, Bletchingley. The original purpose of the visit (which will form the subject of a future *Surrey's Past* piece) became overshadowed after the bell captain pointed out to us a remarkable and hitherto unexplained group of carved stones set into the internal face of the west wall of the bell chamber. The following article rises to the challenge we were set of identifying the date and original purpose of these stones, based upon subsequent research and a second site visit in November 2021.

Descriptions of the stones

The group of stones first pointed out to us (Fig 1) is in a roughly vertical arrangement, situated towards the northern end of the west wall. Apparently of local Reigate Stone, three of the blocks (the largest of which is 55cm in breadth) bear elements of the same distinctive design, and so are highly likely to have come from the same source, even if they do not form part of an obvious continuous pattern. A stone to one side of these blocks bears a number of bits of graffiti, one of which includes the date 1870. This of course does not indicate the stones were inserted into the adjacent walling in that year, but may signify a *terminus ante quem*.

Wider examination of the walls of the bell chamber and clock chamber below it revealed a surprising number of other dressed and/or carved stone blocks and fragments built into the walls. Large squared blocks, of a different stone-type to the above-mentioned, are regularly spaced at low level along the west and east walls of the bell chamber above square openings now filled with cement. These features supported the timber bell-frame that was replaced by the present steel one in the 1980s. Most of the blocks are of good quality stone. Some have corners missing and one (situated closest to the blocks that first drew our attention) bears several thin carved lines, looking like decoration that would be unnecessary if its original purpose was simply to define the top of a hole for a beam (Fig 2). There is also an area of comparable dressed blocks in the south wall of the clock chamber; two bear simple, rectilinear carvings (Fig 3). Here again, there is no practical reason for this modest surface elaboration, thereby pointing to reuse of earlier pieces of carved stonework.

Fig 1 Cluster of carved Reigate Stone blocks in the west wall of the bell chamber (*left*)

Fig 2 Carved block over former bell frame hole (*above*)

Fig 3 Cluster of blocks in south wall of clock chamber

Detective work and strapwork

The cluster of distinctively carved stonework shown in Fig 1 had defied explanation by the bell captain and others who had examined it. And, for the record, nor did the HEP team have an immediate answer. Initial thoughts were that the carvings did not look medieval but nor did they seem especially recent. It took a bit of concerted research to find that the decorative carving on three of the blocks can be classified as strapwork, typical of the 16th century onwards. Most of the identified examples were from secular contexts, which added weight to an initial idea that the Bletchingley blocks originated in a non-ecclesiastical built environment. Bletchingley parish was the site of more than one elite residence in this period: Bletchingley Place (now Place Farm; Surrey HER Monuments 1226 and 3091), largely demolished *c*1670; and Hextalls, demolished in the 1550s and excavated by Surrey County Archaeological Unit in the 1980s (Poulton 1998).

It was when attention turned to considering alternative derivations of the stones from elsewhere in the church building that the tomb of Sir Thomas Cawarden (pronounced *Carden*) – who demolished Hextalls and was holder of Bletchingley Place following the death of its previous occupant, Anne of Cleeves, in 1557 until his own death in 1559 – entered the equation (Fig 4). It is located at the opposite end of the church, to the south of the high altar in the eastern bay of the arcade between chancel and south chapel. The tomb is noteworthy not just in terms of those within Bletchingley church; to the authors of Surrey's Buildings of England volume, it constitutes the county's only Tudor-era church monument of note, designed 'in the plain up-to-date style of the 1560s […] with restrained classical decoration around the sides' (O' Brien *et al* 2022, 43).

Fig 4 The tomb of Sir Thomas Cawarden seen from north-west

Sir Thomas Cawarden was a man of no little importance in the court of Henry VIII, holding the posts of Master of the Tents and Master of the Revels, as well as being steward of Nonsuch Palace (Kempe 1836, 15-18; Leveson-Gower 1871a, 206-08). We know a remarkable amount about his life and the arrangements made following his death as a result of the preservation of many relevant documents associated in the Loseley archive (Sir William More of Loseley being one of the executors of his will). Passages from an account of his funeral charges have been published more than once (Kempe 1836, 179-80; Leveson-Gower 1871b, 236) but never the full text. It includes the following items:

'…to the cherche wardens for breking the grounde in the churche for the grave 7s 8d'

'…to John Broke and Wyll'm Asted, for dyging the grave, &c. 2s 2d'

'…for his tombe the free masons worke xx [pounds]'

'…for the brasse wherein his Epitaphe must be graven and the gravyng thereof 53s 4d'

There are grounds for doubting whether the epitaph brass ('a small brass plate with exquisite Italic writing'; O'Brien *et al* 2022, 141) made it to Bletchingley in the 16th century, since it was found in 'an old chest' at Loseley House at some point before 1836, whereafter it was gifted to St Mary's church and affixed to the top of Sir Thomas' tomb (Kempe 1836, 18).

Piecing the tomb back together

In addition to the question mark over the epitaph plate, the Cawarden tomb's present state makes it conceivable that it was never finished. The top looks bare and its east end positively scrappy, in marked contrast to the fine carvings on its sides. There is, however, one piece of evidence that there was once more to the monument than exists today. This is published in Volume 3 of John Aubrey's *The Natural History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey* (1719, 74) as part of its account of Bletchingley church:

'In the Chancel is a handsom Free-stone Monument, supported by some *Ionick* Pillars, said to belong to Sir *Thomas Carwarden*, Kt, […] but without any sort of Inscription remaining.'

The date and source of this testimony is an interesting question. Aubrey's manuscript was based on a survey commenced in 1673, that he added to until a few years before his death in 1697. Richard Rawlinson added to the manuscript to bring it to publication, in part using information gathered during a tour of Surrey in 1717 that included a visit to Bletchingley on 26 September (Enright 1954, 130). The manuscript, housed in the Bodleian Library, Oxford, would need to be consulted to be certain of whether the above words are those of Aubrey or Rawlinson. That the adjacent monument to Sir Robert Clayton (d. 1707), his wife Dame Martha and a number of their children is mentioned immediately after the Cawarden tomb (Aubrey 1719, 75–78) strongly suggests either Rawlinson was the author or saw no reason to change Aubrey's words.

The brief first description of the Cawarden tomb has had a mixed reception by later authors. Some have been satisfied to accept the words of Aubrey/Rawlinson, such as Manning and Bray, who wrote of the tomb 'there was formerly a stone canopy' (1809, 310). Others have been inclined to take its present form as authentic and cast doubt on the former presence of any form of superstructure. Uvedale Lambert called it an 'erroneous idea', arguing that the description of the tomb Rawlinson published in 1719 'suggests a stilted post-renaissance erection, but it would be more accurate to say that it is a severely simple table-tomb decorated only with Ionic pilasters' (Lambert 1921, 360). Charles O'Brien has recently rowed back on this scepticism, positing it was originally an elaborate 'Easter sepulchre'-type canopied structure comparable on some level to the mid-16th-century tomb (probably that of the Forde family) at Thames Ditton (O'Brien *et al* 2022, 43, 675).

This is where the stones in the tower come into play. We can be sure the ones that bear strapwork decoration at least date from the same period as the tomb; strapwork of fundamentally comparable form occurs on the undersides of contemporary tomb canopies, e.g. the tomb of Robert Oxenbridge at Hurstbourne Priors, Hampshire (d. 1574; Pevsner & Lloyd 1985, 747). The presence of simple strapwork designs in panels of the celebrated wooden fireplace at Reigate Priory, almost certainly made for Sir Thomas Cawarden and installed at Bletchingley Place until its relocation prior to 1655, is also noteworthy (O'Brien *et al* 2022, 608 & plate 39). The simple but well-cut mouldings of some of the other stonework in the tower walls, are not unlike – but also not identical to – others on the extant tomb. Such resemblances on their own are suggestive but certainly not probative of a common origin.

Two small pieces of carved stonework in the tower (one being sufficiently inconspicuous as to be overlooked on our first visit!) provide a good deal more insight and, arguably, demonstrate the words of Aubrey or Rawlinson can be taken at face value. To do this requires reference to elements of another, more complete tomb, that of Richard Norton and his wife at East Tisted, Hampshire. Richard died before 1564, meaning his monument is broadly contemporary with Cawarden's at Bletchingley. The tombs are similar in some respects – based on a

chest, carved panels featuring strapwork – but significantly different in others; the Norton tomb is built into a recess, for instance (Fig 5).

Fig 5 Norton tomb, East Tisted church (*left*)

Fig 6 Hollow fluted shaft and Ionic capital, Norton tomb (*below, middle*)

Fig 7 Hollow fluted shaft fragment, Bletchingley church tower (*bottom*)

The Norton tomb retains a superstructure ('a concave-sided gable capped by an achievement': Pevsner & Lloyd 1985, 203) supported by two Ionic columns that terminate on stylobates or bases which rest directly on the slab capping the tomb chest. Two details of these columns are matched by stones built into the same bit of tower wall at Bletchingley as the strapwork-decorated blocks. The first is the hollow fluting of the shafts, a characteristic of Ionic columns, which finds a parallel at Bletchingley in a column shaft fragment exposed in section in the bell chamber wall (Figs 6 & 7 respectively). The second is the finely-carved foliated decoration along the sides of the volutes, which almost exactly matches a piece immured immediately below the hollow-fluted shaft fragment (Figs 8 & 9).

Fig 8 Foliated scroll of Ionic capital, Norton tomb

Fig 9 Foliated scroll fragment, Bletchingley church tower

Taken together, these two pieces surely serve to prove that Sir Thomas Cawarden's tomb did incorporate Ionic columns, as Aubrey/Rawlinson described, and that these supported a stone canopy of some form – they might even permit the Norton monument at East Tisted to be identified as the work of the same mason. The Cawarden tomb has only one short side touching a wall, which would make it in its original form a tester tomb, one considerably more open and unabashedly Classical in nature than what has been postulated recently by O'Brien (the Norton tomb is a half-tester; see Cocke *et al* 2007, 27, 28, Fig 30c-d). The size of the lost superstructure is moot. The tomb of Bishop Paul Bush (d. 1558) in Bristol Cathedral has six Ionic columns supporting a flat tester (Barnett 2015, Fig 1). The Norton tomb and others of the period, by contrast, admit the possibility of a very lofty superstructure, which could account for several other carved blocks in the tower at Bletchingley. Perhaps the strapwork-decorated blocks comprised elements of the underside of the canopy, and those of finer quality stone elements the surrounding entablature or alternatively a slab atop the tomb chest (the lack of any obvious fragments of a figurative sculpture makes it doubtful the tomb featured an effigy of Sir Thomas).

A sub-standard superstructure?

If Rawlinson's visit in 1717 provides one dating limit and Manning and Bray's insights published at the start of the 19th century the other, speculations can be made regarding the loss of the stone superstructure. It appears the Cawarden tomb remained intact for a while despite the construction of the Clayton monument hard up against it (Fig 10), which may have spelled the end for any above-ground monuments to Sir Thomas' wife, possibly named Elizabeth, and nephew William, both of whom are known to have been buried close to his grave inside the church (Lambert 1921, 271; Kempe 1836, 17). Conceivably, therefore, it became unstable and for safety reasons its upper portions were dismantled – the lack of clear evidence for serious damage on the surviving tomb points to it having not collapsed. A parallel is the Finch tomb of *c*1630, originally in Eastwell church, Kent and now housed in the V&A Museum. It had a riotously elaborate canopy supported on eight columns until 1756, when they were removed as a result of fears over its stability (Victoria & Albert Museum 2002).

Fig 10 Cawarden tomb with Clayton tomb immediately behind

Architectural fragments from previous phases of the building have been found repurposed as rubble in the walls of Bletchingley church more than once before (Baker King 1906, 204, noting a possible late 18th-century instance; Kent 1955, 66-8). If the spolia from the Cawarden tomb lacked any obvious means of 'quality' reuse, they may have ended up being used in the tower walls. It is known the tower suffered serious damage caused by a lightning strike and ensuing fire in 1606 (e.g. Aubrey 1719, 74), although this seems an incredibly long period of time in which to have gaping holes its fabric if they were not filled until the Cawarden tomb was reduced in size. Instead, it might be envisaged that later deterioration of the condition of the tower and/or insertion of a new bell frame required sizeable stones, met to a significant extent by material taken from the Cawarden tomb at the time or that had been reserved following its previous partial dismantlement. Bletchingley acquired a new peal of bells in 1780 (Leveson-Gower 1871b, 228), a date which does accord with the above-mentioned timeframe defined by the historical testimony regarding the Cawarden tomb canopy.

In conclusion, a good proportion of the many pieces of carved and/or dressed stonework in the upper portions of the tower at Bletchingley church can be understood as deriving from lost elements of the tomb of Sir Thomas Cawarden, erected in the early 1560s and very much at the vanguard of tomb design of the time. This tester tomb survived intact until at least the early 18th century, when its form was recorded sparingly but accurately. Its subsequent fragmentation is not able to be explained conclusively at the present time. Even in its present reduced form, the tomb is quite unlike anything else of its date in the county. It is hoped that the discoveries presented here can serve to elevate it even further in scholarly and popular consciousness, and allow greater appreciation of its significance on a national level.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Ed Muller, Nick Stogdon and Richard Fowler for providing access to St Mary's church as well as information and opinions; to Chris Reynolds for accompanying me on the first visit; and to Angie Briggs for transport to and company at East Tisted. This article is based on a presentation given to the joint SyAS-CBA South-East conference in November 2021; I am grateful to Dr Anne Sassin for the opportunity to be a part of that event.

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The Roman Studies Group celebrates its XXth anniversary MMXXII

By **David Calow**

Members of the Roman Studies Group of the Society celebrated their twentieth anniversary in style with a wonderful summer picnic at the Abinger excavations. Society President Nikki Cowlard presented Dr David Bird, the chairman of the Roman Studies Group, with a welcome assortment of beers, wines and spirits all produced in Surrey to thank him for leading the group since it was founded. Everyone brought something for the meal to create a very friendly occasion and a mouth-watering array of different dishes.

Highlights of the event were displays of discoveries from the site and a tour of the excavations led by Emma Corke. Volunteers had once again trowelled in the summer sun to reveal more intriguing features from the Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age and of course Roman surfaces, pits and postholes on this endlessly fascinating multi-period site and were pleased to come along in their everyday outfits to see and hear about the results of their hard work.

This was the last of hundreds of Roman Studies events for David Bird as chairman of the Group. Twenty years is plenty and Emma Corke took his place as chair at the following AGM. David continues as a member of the RSG committee and, as a Vice-President of the Society, promoting high standards of evidence, the importance of Surrey's archaeology and especially of Roman Surrey.

Dr David Bird was presented with drinks produced locally in Surrey to thank him for XX years as RSG Chairman

RSG members tour the Abinger excavation and celebrate their XXth anniversary at a summer picnic

Neolithic and Bronze Age lithics study day

By **Ann Morrison**

The Prehistoric Group organised an excellent Study Day on 29 October 2022 in the Garden Gallery of the Farnham Museum. Tom Lawrence, a field archaeologist specialising in Neolithic and Mesolithic archaeology from Oxford Archaeology, led the day.

Tom began with a quick overview of the Neolithic period, giving us a handy framework for considering such a long period: the Early Neolithic covers roughly the period 4000-3300 BC (featuring long barrows, courtyard enclosures and long houses); Middle Neolithic, *c*3300-2900BC (featuring chambered tombs, early stone circles and monuments such as cursuses), and Late Neolithic, *c*2900-2200 BC (featuring sarsens at Stonehenge and Silbury Hill). Tom emphasised that these dates cannot be regarded as absolute and, in addition, there are challenges in assessing and dating finds and structures from the transitional periods.

Tom also briefly recapped what we needed to consider when examining flints: the skills required by the knappers who produced them, their purpose (e.g. scrapers, knives, arrowheads, adzes, axes and maceheads); the raw material from which they were fashioned (e.g. Greensand chert, Langdale Tuff, Portland chert); identifying features to look for, and their possible date. He set one or two exercises for us to identify types of flints (e.g. different Bronze Age arrowheads) by comparing them to particular typologies – challenging and fun! The rest of the day was a great opportunity for both the experienced and novices to get hands-on and examine all kinds of flints in small groups. Tom circled round to help us understand what we were looking at and answered endless questions about flint identification, methods of production and possible dating. Martin and Rose had brought many bags of material for us to work with, so there was plenty to do and the day flew by. It was a very enjoyable Study Day.

November's Prehistoric Group flint study day in the Garden Gallery, Museum of Farnham

Lecture meetings

Please note that lecture details, in particular venues and format (ie online or in-person), 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.

13 February

'Raving upon Thames: Richmond's music scene in the 1960s' by Andrew Humphreys to Richmond Local History Society, Duke Street Church, Richmond at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

'People and families of the Wandle Valley' by Mick Taylor to Croydon Natural History & Scientific Society via Zoom at 19:45. Visitors welcome.

16 February

'WAAC's in the 1st World War' by Bianca Taubert-Bailey to Farnham & District Museum Society at Farnham Maltings, Bridge Square, Farnham at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £3

20 February

'Dutch Raids on the Medway' by Toni Mount to Dorking Local History Group via Zoom at 19:30.

23 February

'The past, present and future of theatre archaeology in London' by Heather Knight to Egham by Runnymede Historical Society in United Church, Egham at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £2

1 March

AGM & 'Little Woodcote: a Late Bronze Age "Treasure" in context' by Jon Cotton to Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society in St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

4 March

'RAF Kenley' by Linda Duffield to Croydon Natural History & Scientific Society in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 14:00. Visitors welcome: £3

6 March

'Dorking & the Mayflower' by Randal Charlton to Dorking Local History Group in the Crossways Community Baptist Church, Dorking at 19:30. Visitors welcome.

'Portrait of a Surrey town between the wars: the photographic archive of Sidney Francis' by Jill Hyams & Jane Lewis to Woking History Society via Zoom at 20:00.

7 March

'Boatyards of Sunbury & Shepperton' by Nick Pollard to Addlestone Historical Society at Addlestone Community Centre, Garfield Road, Addlestone at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

9 March

'Commonwealth War Graves Commission – Architecture and Conservation' by Paul Iverson to Farnham & District Museum Society at Farnham Maltings, Bridge Square, Farnham at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £3

11 March

'The Salvation Army history in Merton' by Richard Smart to Merton Historical Society at St James' Church Hall, Merton at 14:30. Visitors welcome: £2

13 March

'The Manor House of Ham' by Gordon Elsden to Richmond Local History Society, Duke Street Church, Richmond at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

20 March

'Special Operations Executive at Winterfold in WWII' by Paul McCue to Dorking Local History Group via Zoom at 19:30.

21 March

AGM & 'Monopoly – a conducted tour' by Roger Mendham to Albury History Society at Albury Village Hall, Albury at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

22 March

'Business at the Minster' by David Morgan to Croydon Natural History & Scientific Society in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

23 March

'LiDAR' by Anne Sassin to Farnham & District Museum Society at Farnham Maltings, Bridge Square, Farnham at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £3

3 April

'The Downton era: the start of modern Britain' by Katherine Collett to Dorking Local History Group in the Crossways Community Baptist Church, Dorking at 19:30. Visitors welcome.

'Kirtles and corsets' by Sarah Slater to Woking History Society in Hall 2, The Maybury Centre, Board School Rd, Woking at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

'Darwin's Plant Experiments at Down House and more' by Ray Heaton to Croydon Natural History & Scientific Society in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

4 April

'The History of the Allotment Movement in England' by Judy Hill to Addlestone Historical Society at Addlestone Community Centre, Garfield Road, Addlestone at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

8 April

'Worcester Park Gunpowder Mill Site' by Matt Nichol to Merton Historical Society at St James' Church Hall, Merton at 14:30. Visitors welcome: £2

17 April

'Surrey Villages, Then & Now' by David Rose to Dorking Local History Group via Zoom at 19:30.

18 April

'Evelyn in Surrey' by Isabel Sullivan to Albury History Society at Albury Village Hall, Albury at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

24 April

'The Panorama of the Thames: how the river has changed over nearly 200 years' by Jill Sanders to Richmond Local History Society, Duke Street Church, Richmond at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

26 April

'Story of Epsom's Horton Cemetery Research Project' to Croydon Natural History & Scientific Society in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

2 May

'"Style Bodies", the 1930's fashion exhibition at Chertsey Museum' by Grace Evans to Addlestone Historical Society at Addlestone Community Centre, Garfield Road, Addlestone at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

8 May

'Way House: Brockham's Pioneering Orphanage' by Tony Hines to Dorking Local History Group in the Crossways Community Baptist Church, Dorking at 19:30. Visitors welcome.

'The Venetian connection' by Paul Whittle to Woking History Society via Zoom at 20:00.

16 May

'Tunsgate Arch and the Cornmarket' by Hugh Anscombe to Albury History Society at Albury Village Hall, Albury at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

22 May

'The restoration of the Way & Arun Canal' by Richard Shenton to Dorking Local History Group via Zoom at 19:30.

AGM & 'Housing the Workers – the birth of council housing in London 1890 -1925' by Martin Stilwell to Richmond Local History Society, Duke Street Church, Richmond at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

5 June

'Surrey Friendly Societies' by Sean Creighton to Dorking Local History Group in the Crossways Community Baptist Church, Dorking at 19:30. Visitors welcome.

'Gypsies' by David Rose & Geoff Burch to Woking History Society in Hall 2, The Maybury Centre, Board School Rd, Woking at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

Annual symposium

The Annual Symposium, focusing on 'Recent Work in Surrey', will take place on **Saturday 18 March** (10:00-17:00) at Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall. Tickets are £12 and can be booked online on the Society's website. Speakers include:

Simon Maslin (Surrey FLO): 'Recent finds from Surrey'

James Brown (National Trust): 'The National Trust in Surrey'

Becky Haslam (AOC Archaeology): 'Mercer's Farm – a multi period site'

Andy Hood (Foundations Archaeology): 'Prehistoric and later activity at Spelthorne Leisure Centre'

Ian Goode (SyAS): 'Frensham Mesolithic points'

Martin Higgins (DBRG): 'The Surrey Dendro Publication'

Jessica Bryan & Helen Chittock (MoLA): 'Investigating a Saxon cemetery in Coulsdon'

Emma Corke (SyAS): 'Cocks Farm, Abinger – an update'

The Margary Award for displays will also be taking place. To book a space (or volunteer for the day), please contact rosemary.hooker@blueyonder.co.uk.

Surrey Local History Committee meetings

The SLHC spring meeting 'Music in Surrey' will take place on **Saturday 22 April** (9:30-15:30) at Surrey History Centre. Tickets are £15 and can be booked online. Speakers include:

Stephen Rose (Royal Holloway): 'Music in the Surrey History Centre: parish church and family collections'

Catherine Ferguson (SyAS): '"Fight the Good Fight": hymn writing in Surrey'

David Taylor (SyAS): 'Hubert Parry and his Surrey connections'

Irene Shettle: 'Lucy Broadwood and English Folk Song'

Chris Wiley (Univ of Surrey): 'Dame Ethel Smyth: composer, musician and Surrey resident'

Ges Ray: 'Leith Hill Music Festival'

SLHC is planning a meeting for **Spring 2024** on 'Surrey Eccentrics'. Do you have a local example that could be highlighted? If so, please let Gerry Moss know (g.p.moss@qmul.ac.uk), or even better, if you, or someone else, would be able to talk about this person.

Disposal of the dead in Roman SE England conference

The Roman Studies Group will hold its bi-annual conference at Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall on **Sunday 21 May** (9:30-17:00). Tickets are £15 and can be booked online. Speakers include:

John Pearce (King's College London): 'The general character of the funerary world'

David Calow (SyAS): 'Looking for the dead in Roman SE England – with help from Northern Gaul'

Timothy Champion (Univ of Southampton): 'Rethinking burial and disposal practices in the Iron Age SE'

Ellen Green (Univ of Reading): 'Fragmented stories: the potential of disarticulated remains for investigating Roman mortuary practices'

Tony King (Univ of Winchester): 'Human remains found at temple sites in Britain and Gaul'

David Ruding (Sussex School of Archaeology): 'Roman burial practices in SE England'

Sadie Watson (MoLA): 'Roman burial in London: a review of the evidence from the City and Southwark'

Claire Hodson (Univ of Reading): 'From roundhouse to villa: exploring revised perspectives of infant death and burial'

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