



SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX

BULLETIN

Number 196

November 1984

Edited by Miss E. P. Humphreys, 41 Salisbury Road, Godstone RH9 8AA
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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2.00 Saturday, 24th November

Central Lecture Theatre Block, University of Surrey, Guildford

The full agenda is given on the front page of the Sept/Oct *Bulletin*. After the business meeting The Viscountess Hanworth, FSA, will give a talk on "Roman Diet".

Margary Award, 1985

To encourage more entries for this award two changes have been made to the rules. Prize money has been increased to £100; with a first prize of £70 and a second prize of £30. The requirement that a talk describing the project has to be made at the Excavation Symposium has been dropped.

Copies of the amended rules can be obtained from the Hon. Secretaries, Castle Arch, Guildford, GU1 3SX, or from Dr. David Bird. See note in August *Bulletin*, page 2. Entries must be in by 1st February, 1985.

List of Volunteers for Archaeological Work in Surrey

I have been asked by the Excavations Committee to prepare and maintain a list of people prepared to help with different aspects of archaeological work in the County, especially during normal working hours. The list will be open to Directors to call on if they need extra help. I shall circulate the Archaeological Societies and Groups in the County, but if anyone would like to be included in the list who thinks that they are unlikely to be known to local organisations, I should be glad to hear from them. (Correspondence to County Planning Department, County Hall, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 2DT, marked "for the attention of Dr. D. G. Bird"). Information required is as follows: name/address/telephone number(s)/when available (e.g. weekends only; every Tuesday; one day a week; afternoons)/area of availability (e.g. Epsom only; 10 mile radius of Godalming; need for lift? travel expenses? (outside certain area only?))/type of work (e.g. excavation; fieldwalking; initial processing — pottery, etc., washing, marking, cataloguing; drawing of finds, plans, etc.)/experience (brief note only)/ other comments (e.g. unable to carry out heavy work).

D. G. Bird

New Members

We welcome to the Society the following new members: Mr. P. J. Higgins, Dominies, Hatton Hill, Windlesham, GU20 6AB; Mr. L. T. Green, 1 Endway, Surbiton, KT5 9BU; Mr. P. Butterworth, History Dept., Bishop Reindorp School, Larch Avenue, Guildford; Mr. D.

Blackburn, 80 Sheepfold Road, Guildford, GU2 6TU; Mr. and Mrs. M. Tadd, 65 Trindles Road, South Nutfield, Redhill, RH1 4JL; Mrs. G. E. Songhurst, Flat D, 47 Alexandra Road, Wimbledon, SW19 7JZ; Miss K. Knee, 29 Hall Dene Close, Merrow, Guildford; Miss J. V. Wood, 95 Brantwood Gardens, West Byfleet, KT14 6BS; Miss L. H. Goatley, c/o St. Catherines School, Bramley, GU5 0DE; Miss P. A. Harman, 8 Boxgrove Avenue, Guildford, GU1 1XG; Mrs. M. L. Campbell, 109 Connaught Road, Brookwood, Woking, GU24 0EU; Miss K. T. Bosley, 67 Pewley Way, Guildford, GU1 3PZ; M. R. Webb, 1 Lindfield Gardens, London Road, Guildford, GU1 1TR; Mrs. P. M. Earp, 35 Watchetts Drive, Camberley, GU15 2PQ.

PUBLICATIONS

“Chilworth Gunpowder” by **Glenys Crocker**. Published by the Surrey Industrial History Group of the S.A.S. 32 pages. Price £1.50.

This newly produced booklet gives the history of the manufacture of gunpowder in Britain and in particular the history of the important Chilworth site. It is also a site guide for visitors to the surviving remains of the industry.

It will be on sale at the SIHG display stand at the Local History Symposium at Guildford on 10th November. Some shops in the Guildford-Chilworth area have it in stock. It is also available by post, price £1.75 inc. p.&p. from Mrs. Crocker, 6 Burwood Close, Merrow, GU1 2SB.

Southern History

Future issues of this annual journal are to be published by the newly formed Southern History Society. The Society wishes to attract new subscribers to ensure the continuance of this useful publication. Anyone interested in receiving further details about the Society and the journal should write to Dr. P. Jeffries, 62 Elmhurst Road, Reading, RG1 5HY.

Domestic Buildings Research Group (Surrey)

The reports on barns and other agricultural buildings are now being deposited with the Society and may be consulted by prior appointment with the Librarian at Castle Arch.

Joan Harding,
Chairman, DBRG (Surrey)

SAS Research Volume 9: Excavations on the Site of the Dominican Friary at Guildford in 1974 and 1978 by Rob Poulton and Humphrey Woods.

All paid-up members should have received their copy of the above publication in early September, either by post or by hand. Will any member who has not received a copy please inform Mrs. Susan Janaway at Castle Arch. Additional copies are available from Castle Arch at £5 to personal callers or £6.20 to include postage and packing.

Hand Delivery of Society Publications

Most members within the county will have received the latest Society publication (*Research Volume 9*) by hand, and this has resulted in a saving of about £600 on postage and packing costs. The hand-delivery of publications has only been made possible by the hard work of over 30 volunteers who have given freely of their time, and the Council is most grateful to them for their efforts. A list of volunteers will be published in the next *Bulletin*, after the next delivery of publications has taken place. At the time of writing, it is anticipated that Volume 75 of the *Collections*

and the Joint SyAS/LAMAS Research Report on the Quaker Burial Ground, Staines will be delivered in late October.

In order to make the hand-deliverer's task as easy as possible, members are urged to inform Mrs. Susan Janaway (in advance if possible) of any change of address or if they intend to resign their membership. Volunteers are still required for the Godalming, Leatherhead and Effingham areas, and any members wishing to help in these areas, or in any other capacity, should contact the Hon. Secretaries. Also, if any member would like to take over as co-ordinator of the scheme, the Hon. Secretaries would be very pleased to provide more information on the work involved.

EXCAVATIONS — BRIEF REPORTS

Excavations at Merton Priory 1983: The Infirmary (TQ 265699)

During the summer of 1983 further excavations took place at Merton Priory in advance of the proposed redevelopment of the former BR coal yard. The area investigated lay to the south-east of the chapter house, itself excavated from 1976–1978 (*Bull.* 135). Preservation of priory levels was extremely good and although only c.100 square metres were actually excavated, a number of important features were revealed.

A north-south passageway approximately 2.80m in width and 8.20m in length (the limit of excavation) was found along the western edge of the area excavated. Only the western wall of the passageway survived as the eastern wall had been completely robbed. This passage appears to link with a similar one found in 1978 running east-west from the domestic range along the south side of the chapter house. No floor levels survived within the passage.

Immediately adjoining the 1983 passage on its eastern side was a north-south 'hall' again some 2.80m wide and at least 8.20m long. The 'hall' was divided into three small rooms by partition walls of Reigate stone and the rooms were floored with roof tiles, a considerable number of which were recovered intact. Opening from the 'hall' to the east was a single large room at least 3.0m by 8.20m in size. This room had a floor of proper floor tiles (late 15th c.?) some of which had been set upside down in a mortar bed. Earlier floor levels survived beneath the roof and floor tiles as spreads of mortar. Considerable numbers of fish bones were found in one of the make-up layers between these earlier floors. A large pitched tiled hearth was discovered sealed beneath the floor tiles and this has been dated by the Ancient Monuments Laboratory by thermoremanent magnetism to c. 1220 ± 20.

The earliest features were four large pits approximately 1.00m square by 90cm deep forming a roughly rectangular area 4.00m north-south by 6.20m east-west. Three of these pits contained flints set in orange sand which seem to be footings for pillars or columns of a large infirmary hall later modified by the construction of the passageway, the 'hall' with the small rooms and the larger single room. There is no doubt that the large pits belong to an early building phase as one pit was completely sealed below the west wall of the passage.

The 1983 trial excavations revealed a substantial complex of rooms located south-east of the chapter house. The most likely interpretation is that the rooms belong to the infirmary, more particularly the west end of the infirmary hall. Further excavation would be required to confirm this as floors and walls revealed in 1983 continued north, south and east of the area excavated. Only on the western edge of the excavation was open ground found and this is likely to have been open land between the east range of the priory and the infirmary.

Scott McCracken

**Akerman Road/Evandale Road/Loughborough Road, Lambeth, S.W.9.
(TQ 315764)**

Post-medieval

This triangular site was examined by trial trenches during the summer of 1983, in advance of redevelopment. Documentary evidence suggested that a medieval manor house 'le Wyke' and its post-medieval successor, Loughborough House, may have existed in the area. No evidence was found of any medieval activity, but a few brick wall footings were recorded. These were probably part of outbuildings, and a garden wall, of Loughborough House which itself lay beyond the site.

(Robin Densem for the Department of Greater London Archaeology,
Museum of London)

Campbell Buildings Site, Baylis Road/Frazier Street/Burdet Street, Lambeth, S.E.1 (TQ313795)

The site was examined by trial trenches in advance of redevelopment. It lies on or close to a projected alignment of the Roman road thought to link London Bridge and a Lambeth/Westminster ford across the Thames. No trace of any Roman activity was discovered. The site was low lying and subject to flooding. A number of streams were traced. These, where dated, had silted-up in the medieval and later period. The site had been open ground until the nineteenth century when it was developed for housing and industrial use.

(Robin Densem, John Dillon and Mike Hutchinson for the Department
of Greater London Archaeology, Museum of London)

Sutton Park, Woking, near St. Edward's Church: TQ 004538

The seventh season of excavation at Sutton Park has now been completed. Work was again concentrated in the area of the two buildings known from the 1982 and 1983 seasons.

It was established that the first building discovered (A) had survived only as a corner formed by the remains of two walls, with traces of yellow clay flooring especially around a complex of hearths which was further examined this year. There seems little doubt that there were at least three hearths in sequence, each formed of tiles on edge. The first was about 90cm square, succeeded by a second which was probably much larger, but had been smashed and flattened, presumably to clear the way for the third hearth. Tiles on edge assumed to be part of the second hearth covered a wide area, and may well represent more than one structure. The final hearth overlay the first but was much bigger, probably originally around 2m by 1m although one end had been reduced by ploughing. Dr. Tony Clark has sampled this and the first hearth, and one of the areas of burnt clay located in 1983 outside the building and overlying the ditch (whose upper layers contained a great deal of pottery). The dates arising from his work will be of particular interest and usefulness.

The second building (B) was also examined further, and another corner located which had a curious buttress-like feature associated with it. Proper examination of its interior is reserved for next year. The building is certainly later than the ditch found in 1983 which continues on a line to meet a section found in the churchyard in 1978, and must therefore be late medieval at the earliest. A further length of the drain (first found cutting

the wall of building A in 1982) was located; it turned to meet the lower wall of building B but unfortunately their junction was lost to plough damage, so the true relationship is not clear. The change in direction also meant that the drain headed straight for the site well, so that the irrigation theory remains just possible.

On general grounds the sequence appears to be ditch, building A (with three hearth periods), building B, drain (possibly serving building B many years after it was originally constructed). It is now clear that there is virtually no stratigraphy on this site, except where major features coincide. In the areas of sandy subsoil it seems that a layer around 20cm thick has developed over the natural sand, created largely by natural processes but containing a great deal of archaeological material. It is also now apparent that the plough has destroyed most of the site except where it is protected by the 'shadow' created by the point of the churchyard wall sticking out into the field. If this is the case then the damage has occurred after 1959 when the wall was built.

Other discoveries in 1984 included another ditch apparently running parallel to the one underlying building B and about 15m to the north. One theory is that the two might define a driveway. A promising crop mark along the crest of the ridge on which the site sits and about 40m from the excavation area was also tested. It proved indeed to be another ditch, but the nature of its backfill suggested that it had not been open for long and had been quickly refilled with the material dug from it. It is likely to be relatively modern, but its purpose is unknown.

It is hoped that excavation in 1985 will answer some of the outstanding questions about the site. Work in 1984 gave training to several newcomers, but as usual relied heavily on the backbone of experienced excavators from the Mayford & Woking District Historical Society. It was made possible by the kind co-operation and assistance of Father John Stapleton and the Sutton Place Heritage Trust.

D. G. Bird

The Lodge, Honeywood Walk, Carshalton (TQ 278646)

Trial excavations were carried out in July-August 1984 in an area which has been threatened by development in the past and may be again. Two small trenches (9m x 2m and 4m x 2m) were dug in the northern part of the site, near the West Street Lane frontage, to test the idea that West Street Lane may have formed part of the medieval village.

A thin spread of flint pebbles, thickening to the south, overlay the natural sands. A number of shallow cuts, some containing prehistoric flints or pottery, may be the surviving bases of more substantial features. The sandy soil above contained prehistoric flints and pottery of prehistoric, Roman and medieval date, in small and generally abraded fragments. Patterns of flint pebbles recorded within this soil may be traces of insubstantial buildings, but equally well may have been dislodged from the underlying stratum of gravel, possibly by agricultural activity. The top 0.5m of stratigraphy appeared to consist of dumped soil, possibly derived from the Ponds to the south. It had been seriously disturbed by use as allotment beds, which ended in 1980.

The results are thus inconclusive, and only excavation on a larger scale is likely to make sense of the features found. Given the depth of overburden, excavations will probably only be resumed if the threat to the area is revived.

Clive Orton
for Beddington, Carshalton and Wallington Archaeological Society

A Bronze Age Burial Urn from Merrow, Guildford, currently in the Powell-Cotton Museum, Birchington, Kent

Excavations in 1982 of a round barrow at Hill Road, Wouldham, Kent (TQ 7245 6445) produced a bronze age 'Wessex' biconical urn. In discussing parallels for this urn Cruse and Harrison have reported a previously unpublished biconical urn currently on display at the Powell-Cotton Museum, Birchington, Kent (Cruse & Harrison 1983). It was evidently acquired by the Museum in 1938 from a Mr. A. Hemming (Acc. no. 160/1938) and a museum record card suggests that it was probably found during General Pitt Rivers' 'excavations' of a round barrow at Merrow, Guildford. The urn contains some bone fragments which are possibly the remains of a child burial.

The description of the urn published by Cruse and Harrison was based on information from the curator of the Powell-Cotton Museum, Mr. D. R. Howlett, and is as follows:

Guildford Urn 160/1938 (Fig 1)

Medium coarse sandy grit with rounded quartz grains and some larger angular and rounded flint fragments, some breaking the surface in places. Very fine mica dust. No apparent evidence of straw, grass or other organic grog. Inner surface smoothed; outside possibly slipped and showing vertical wipe-marks and moulding irregularities. 'Eyebrows' clearly applied separately (as opposed to being drawn up from the pot surface) and well bonded and smoothed to surface. Base shows impressions of probable organic material and of small stones or pebbles as well as smaller grits.

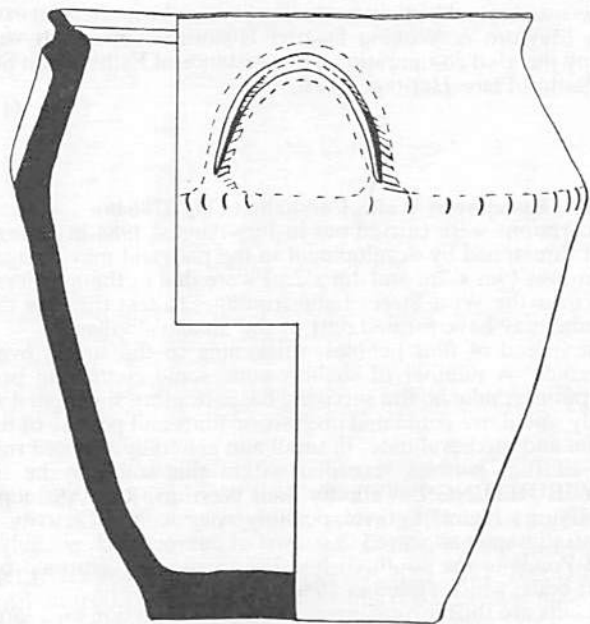


Fig 1

The barrow at Merrow is included in the published list of Surrey Barrows (Grinsell 1934). It was probably situated on Merrow Downs south-east of Levylsdene (on the golf course) and was opened by Pitt-Rivers sometime before 1873. A 'British Urn' was found in the barrow.

I would like to thank Mr. R. J. Cruse, Mr. A. C. Harrison and Mr. D. R. Howlett for permission to reproduce the note on the Merrow Urn from their paper and also to Mr. R. J. Cruse for supplying the illustration.

References

Cruse, R. J. & Harrison, A. C., 1983. Excavations at Cant Hill Road, Wouldham. *Arch. Cant.*, **99**, 81-108.

Grinsell, L. V., 1934. An analysis and list of Surrey Barrows, *SyAC* **42**, 27-60.

John Leveson Gower

Evening Classes in Archaeology

Information which was received after the last *Bulletin* had gone to press. It is not too late to sign-on for classes which continue into 1985.

Guildford WEA (Guildford 577309). *Roman History*. Tutor: Mr. J. Burn.
18th Century London. Tutor: Mr. P. Street.

Architecture of the Western World: Tutor: Mrs. Doreen Yarwood.

Streatham & Tooting AEI (01-764 6414) *South London Local History*. Tutor: Brian Bloice.

Kingston & Surbiton AEI (Surbiton Hill School) *Archaeology of Mesopotamia*. Tutor: Michael Shea.

Malden WEA (AE Centre) *Archaeology of the Biblical Lands*. Tutor: Michael Shea.

Dorking AEI (Ashcombe School) *Archaeology of the Biblical Lands*. Tutor: Michael Shea.

MEETINGS

NOVEMBER

Tuesday, 13th

DATING DOMESTIC BUILDINGS. Talk by J. Lindus Forge to Egham HS. 8.00 p.m. Literary Institute, High Street, Egham.

Wednesday, 14th

HISTORY OF UNDERGROUND SURREY. Talk by Paul Sowan to Esher LHS. 8.00 p.m., U.R. Church Hall, Speer Road, Thames Ditton.

Thursday, 15th

TANYARD: A 15th CENTURY HOUSE IN FARNHAM. Talk by A. R. Dufty to Farnham & District MS. 8.00 p.m. U.R. Church, South Street, Farnham.

Tuesday, 20th

SURREY BUILDINGS. Talk by Ian West to KUTAS. 8.00 p.m. Surbiton Library Hall, Ewell Road, Surbiton.

Saturday, 24th.

THE WORK OF THE LOCAL STUDIES LIBRARY, GUILDFORD. A talk by John Janaway to Walton & Weybridge HS. 3.00 p.m. Elmgrove, Walton.

Friday, 30th

GENERAL LAMBERT AND THE WIMBLEDON AREA AT THE TIME OF THE CIVIL WAR. A talk by Richard Milward to Wandsworth HS. 8.00 p.m. Friends Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street.

DECEMBER

Friday, 7th

THE ESKMEALS PROJECT: Current Research on the Mesolithic Settlement of N.W. England. Lecture by Clive Bonsall to Richmond AS. 8.00 p.m. Sun Inn, Parkshot, Richmond.

Wednesday, 12th

HISTORY & CUSTOMS OF THE BOROUGH (Reigate & Banstead). A talk by Eric Bullimore to Holmesdale NHC. 8.15 p.m. The Museum, 14 Croydon Road, Reigate.

Saturday, 15th

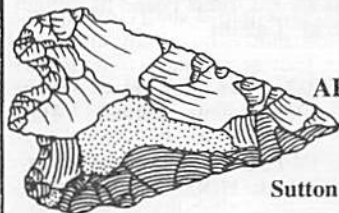
"BEST OF THE YEAR". Illustrated reports by all sections of the Croydon NHSS. 3.30-7.30 p.m. East Croydon U.R. Church, Addiscombe Grove. Visitors very welcome — refreshments available.

Next Bulletin will cover December, 1984 – January, 1985. The Editor requires copy by Saturday, 10th November.

'THE STUCCOES OF NONSUCH'

by Martin Biddle

The Society has acquired offprints of this article published in the *Burlington Magazine*, July 1984. The article is well-illustrated, including one colour plate, various b/w photographs and line drawings, and is on sale for £1 + 20p p&p from Mrs Maureen Roberts at Castle Arch. Personal callers may obtain a copy at the Museum Desk or from the Society's Librarian.



ARCHAEOLOGICAL ILLUSTRATION

A one-day Symposium

Sutton Library Saturday, 19th January, 1985

All archaeological research and publication relies heavily on various types of illustration. If you are involved in archaeology, you can't afford to miss this symposium. Even if you think you can't draw, or have never tried, come along and listen to lectures on the principles and methods of illustration, and watch demonstrations of illustration techniques. If you are an illustrator or draughtsman, come along and see how others do it, and if you only wish to look at illustrations and not draw them, why not come along and get a better understanding of illustrations and what lies behind them.

L. & R. Adkins