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SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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Detecting Survey at Ewhurst

Sayer's Croft, Ewhurst: An Archaeological Metal Detecting Survey

Roger Mintey

In *Bulletin 346*, Liz Whitbourn described an archaeological metal detecting survey held here on 4th November 2000, which was universally regarded as a great success. Many people expressed an interest in taking part in a future survey, and this duly took place on 8th July 2001.

An area adjacent to the original survey area was chosen and, as before, two recording methods were used. The 'high tech' recording was carried out by David and Audrey Graham using a Total Station accurate to 1 cm in 1 km. The 'low tech' recording consisted of dividing the area into 12 rectangles. This method may lack accuracy but has the advantage of simplicity as it only involves the use of ranging poles and tapes combined with the ability to construct 3,4,5 triangles. The 12 rectangles each measured 30m by 40m and the entire survey thus covered an area of 14,400 square metres. Each rectangle was named alphabetically from 'A' to 'L'.

At 11 am the gridding was complete and the survey began with a detectorist in each rectangle. All twelve detectorists were drawn from various Surrey clubs and had completed a five session evening course with Liz Whitbourn, which covered survey methods and the recording of finds. The 'low tech' team of Archaeology 'A' level students Shirley Richmond, Catherine Wiltshire, Mike Smith, Kate Pickering and Rachel Curtis, stood by to record each find and indicate its position within the relevant rectangle. They then called Audrey Graham over to carry out the 'high tech' recording with the Total Station. David Williams was also on hand to deal with any archaeologically significant finds. As it turned out only one such find was made: a small Roman bronze coin that the author found in rectangle E. After two hours detecting 69 finds had been recorded, but, as in the previous survey, most were modern junk.

After lunch each detectorist was allocated a different rectangle, and a further two hours detecting produced another 60 finds. Since it had been principally a training exercise - what had we learned?

From a purely archaeological point of view the finds themselves told us very little. The Roman coin was identified by the British Museum as a coin of Faustina II (wife of Marcus Aurelius) AD 161 to 176. The obverse shows a bust of Faustina facing right with the legend FAVSTINA AVGVSTA, while the reverse shows Juno with a peacock at her feet and the legend JVNO. The coin looks like a silver *denarius* but bears no trace of silver on the surface. It could be that it had been a silver plated forgery and that the silver had worn off. The current 1:2500 OS map of the area shows the course of a Roman road running through the search area, which probably explains the presence of the coin.

David Quorroll, the director of Sayer's Croft, who obtained Archaeology "A" level as one of Liz Whitbourn's students, is a botanist by training and is keen on the application of statistical analysis to archaeological finds. He admits that the data so far obtained from the two surveys is insufficient for a detailed analysis, but claims that the different types of modern finds made in the two surveys are consistent with what is known about the two sites. The 2000 survey was carried out on land owned by Sayer's Croft since 1939 when the centre was built to house wartime evacuees. Since 1945 it has been used to accommodate children engaged in various field studies and courses. The finds made on the 2000 survey included 212 coins, of which 65 were pre-decimal, as well as 44 ring pulls, rings, keys, tent pegs, knives, forks and silver paper. There were no shotgun cartridges and no horseshoes. These finds are most likely attributed to the children using the centre.

The 2001 survey was on land recently acquired by Sayer's Croft. Tithe maps describe the area as *Poor Field*, and it was overgrown for much of the time between

1930 and 1980. The survey finds include sixteen 20th century coins, horseshoes, plough shares and shotgun cartridges. These finds are consistent with agricultural use in the early part of the 20th century and limited use since then. Musket balls and an 18th century watch winder indicate activity from an earlier period. David Quorroll has built a display of both sets of finds at Sayer's Croft. The finds and the information that can be gained from them are being used as study material for children on the various courses, some of whom may be the archaeologists of tomorrow.

A number of important lessons were learned from the survey itself. Some of the grid points were a little out of line. This was almost certainly due to the gridding process being rushed. The grass was much too long, which not only made detecting very hard work, but also resulted in many finds being missed. Long grass or crops prevent the detector search coils from getting sufficiently close to the ground and as a result small or deep targets are out of range.

Comparison between the finds made in each rectangle in the morning with those made in the afternoon made it clear that some detectorists had been far more successful than others in finding metal objects. It is essential that any further survey employs only experienced and capable detectorists and that each area is searched at least twice.

On a more positive note, the survey allowed archaeology students to gain direct experience of how metal detectors work. It also gave everyone involved a general idea of how many man hours were needed to search a particular area and how many finds the recording processes could cope with.

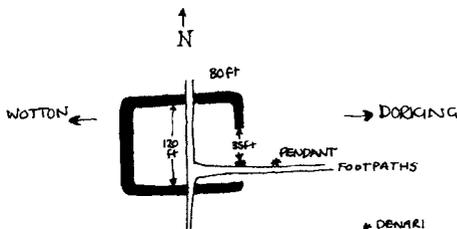
Kate Pickering and Mike Smith, who have now both passed Archaeology "A" level, are also active members of the Weald and Downland Metal Detecting Club. They have used their detecting experience and their knowledge of surveying techniques to organise a detecting survey in Sussex, and are using a gridding system similar to that used at Sayer's Croft.

The experience we all gained at Sayer's Croft is already proving useful. Many thanks to Liz Whitbourn from all who took part.

The Possible Roman Camp at Westcott

Gabby Rapson

This intriguing feature first came to my attention five years ago when I consulted the Sites and Monuments Register at County Hall regarding a flint scatter that I wanted to investigate. There was no record of the scatter but it shares the same grid reference as a crop mark of the possible remains of a Roman temporary camp. I was disappointed to find, however, that this was not now thought to be Roman. Although aerial photos show the crop mark as a rectangular enclosure with typically Roman rounded corners, it has been dismissed as being such because the entrance is too wide. This was based on two sets of photos taken on separate occasions, and each set shows one half of the enclosure.



Sketch of possible camp at Westcott and nearby finds.

I later asked a local detectorist with a long history of working the site, and with a well-catalogued collection, whether he had found anything of relevance. He produced a 1st century military pendant and a silver *denarius* of 116/115 BC (both fully recorded) found close to the crop mark.

By chance, I have since discovered that the two halves of the aerial photos were never seen together, so the

complete shape of the enclosure could not have been appreciated. Also, the detectorist's finds had been recorded with an incorrect grid reference due to a misunderstanding.

Since the enclosure looks Roman, and the two Roman finds, rare in that area, were discovered so close to it, we can't understand why the site is judged not to have been Roman. Can we re-assess the possibility that the site may be, if not a typical temporary marching camp, then perhaps a Roman enclosure with military connections; or even an enclosure related to an as yet undiscovered Roman feature.

Resistivity survey may not tell us much more than the crop marks have shown to date and if permission is granted to investigate the feature it could not be until next summer. There is time to prepare a research design so that the questions we may be able to answer by further investigation can contribute in a meaningful way to the current knowledge of the Roman period.

Even if this buried enclosure turns out not to be Roman or military, consultation and updating the information as it stands will provide a topic for discussion and remind us that the SMR is a valuable resource that is available to all.

Have you informed them of your latest find?

Thanks to Dudley Sparks and Bert Broom for their co-operation.

Mickleham Downs Excavation

Judie English

As part of continuing research into specific questions raised by our detailed landscape survey of Mickleham Downs, north of Dorking, excavation took place in late September.

One aim was to investigate the structural form and, if possible, the date, of one of the major lynchets of the prehistoric field system covering much of the top and dip slope of the Downs and extending on both sides of the River Mole. This proved similar to the ones excavated last year; there was no evidence that the fields had been divided by built structures and the present earthwork marking the boundary probably had its genesis in repeated ploughing into the slope. Plough marks cut into the chalk bedrock were very different in pattern and form from those exposed last year and considered to be either prehistoric or Romano-British (RB) - they may well have resulted from a recorded episode of ploughing in World War 2. Small amounts of prehistoric, probably Bronze Age, and RB pottery were recovered.

During survey work we had noted an area where Romano-British pottery had been kicked out onto the surface by horses hooves, probably one of the scatters noted when the Long Ride was walked after ploughing in 1943 (Frere & Hogg, 1944/5). A resistivity survey suggested a curved ditch in the same area although this was not confirmed at excavation. Considerable amounts of RB pottery were recovered from ploughsoil contexts in two trenches. Two undated post holes set into the chalk bedrock were not excavated, but their presence suggests that structural evidence is preserved.

A test pitting exercise was performed to determine the extent of the settlement area. Ploughsoil contexts only were excavated from pits 1m² on a 25m grid with intermediate points examined where appreciable amounts of pottery were recovered. Evidence of RB activity was found over an area of approximately 75 x 60m centred at TQ 18355373. Minimal amounts of building material were found.

A very preliminary examination indicates that the pottery recovered dates from the last half of the 1st to the mid 4th centuries and includes an appreciable amount of East Sussex grog-tempered ware as well as other coarse wares including Alice Holt and a single piece of central Gaulish Samian ware (Malcolm Lyne, pers comm).

In line with good archaeological practice one of the more interesting finds came up at the end of the excavation. In one of the test pits we located an as of Hadrian in relatively good condition and dated to the AD130s. The coin has a figure of Britannia on the reverse and as yet we have not been able to find an exact parallel, but full identification is being sought.

The settlement appears to have had a long life and was probably one of many farmsteads on the downland chalk possibly re-using a field system which originated in the Bronze Age.

We are grateful to Peter Creasey of the National Trust for permission to both survey and excavate on their Mickleham Downs property and I would also like to express my thanks to all those who have taken part in both the excavation and the survey work.

Frere, SS & Hogg, AHA (1944/5). An Iron Age and Roman site on Mickleham Downs. *SyAC* 49, 104-106.

The Chertsey Revitalisation Scheme

Darryl Palmer

Since 1996 archaeological work has been carried out as part of the Chertsey Revitalisation Scheme, and the two final Phases (7 and 8) of this work were



Wooden bowl from Chertsey.

completed this year by the AOC Archaeology Group. The work was centred around an area just to the north of Chertsey train station, with Phase 7 to the west and Phase 8 to the east of Guildford Street. The sites are on the southern limit of the medieval suburb of Styvington. The sites were investigated with two main research aims in mind; firstly, was there any evidence of prehistoric activity in the area, and secondly to ascertain the extent and type of medieval and post-medieval activity on the site. Trial trenching of both sites revealed evidence of medieval and post-medieval activity and further excavation was recommended.

The excavation of the Phase 7 site revealed scatters of post-medieval pits, the majority of which appeared to be planters, presumably for fruit trees. The function of the other type of pits is not so clear but they may have been for localised, small scale, gravel extraction. The most interesting feature excavated in this area was a large ditch running along the length of Guildford Street. Finds collected from the fills confirm that this roadside ditch was of medieval origin.

The excavation of the Phase 8 site also revealed a number of pits. Two particularly interesting features were recorded. The first was a pit containing a well preserved and waterlogged, sunken barrel sitting on a square timber frame, which was presumably used for water storage. Pottery collected from the lower fill of the barrel was dated to the 15th century. The second feature of note was a brick soakaway of 15th to 16th century date which contained a waterlogged, organic fill. Many of the more interesting finds were preserved within the fill, including two nearly complete wooden bowls. They were lathe-turned with a deep rounded profile and a rounded bottom and their outer surfaces were decorated with two sets of two grooves, one set near the rim and the other further down the body. Conservation work on these bowls is currently in progress.

Both sites produced a limited assemblage of prehistoric struck flints, but all were recovered from features that also contained securely dated post-medieval finds. Only one piece of struck flint was diagnostic: an edge-blunted point dated to the Mesolithic period.

The completion of these two Phases concludes all the archaeological work associated with the Revitalisation Scheme, and it is now necessary to prepare a final report which will consider all the Phases of work together, and in the wider context of Chertsey and its environs. At this stage a number of preliminary conclusions can be drawn. It appears that these two sites lie just beyond the edge of the medieval suburb of Styvington, an idea that is supported by the lack of any structural features on the sites. Instead there are a series of features associated with the type of agricultural use found on the margins of occupied areas. Even though the small group of flint was residual it does indicate some prehistoric activity on, or in the immediate vicinity of, the site.

It is anticipated that a final report will be completed in the next six months. When this is done a more complete analysis of this work will be submitted to the Bulletin.

COUNCIL NEWS

Surrey History

Members will be aware that the activities of the Surrey Local History Council are to be merged with those of the Society. These activities include the publication of the Council's publication *Surrey History* although the exact way in which this will be done has not yet been decided. This year most members of the Society will receive a copy of the current issue of *Surrey History* with their copy of *Collections*. This means that members and organisations who are also members of the Council

may receive two copies of *Surrey History* as they will have already had one through the Council's usual channels. Without going to a great deal of trouble, for which neither organisation has the resources, this duplication can not be avoided.

Richard Muir

Additions to the Society's Equipment

The Society has recently acquired eight GARMIN E-Tex g.p.s. units. They are hand-held and under favourable conditions (ie open-sky enabling good contact with orbiting satellites) give position to about +/- 5 metres in various formats including OS grid references. They are lodged with the rest of the Society's equipment at Ockham and may be borrowed by members by contacting me on 01483 283885. I can also provide further information about their use and capabilities.

Geoff Stonehouse

COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY

An Introduction to the Surrey History Centre

Mike Rubra

On October 6th twenty-two of us spent a day at the Surrey History Centre in Woking where Maggie Vaughan-Lewis, Head of Public Services, showed us around the building, including its storage, conservation and retrieval facilities.

Then, by taking the Surrey village of Chobham as an example, she described the many and various ways that research can be undertaken using the Centre's computers. She demonstrated this by locating in the archives database the written sources, including the extensive research library, deeds and papers, maps, pictures, postcards and illustrations to suit almost any level of interest.

We were also shown how to access information about records not held at the SHC, like the National Record of Archives, the Public Record Office and the Historical Manuscripts Commission. After a more detailed look at manorial documents, we then looked at map sources, including OS, Tithe and Enclosure and many others, and finished with the sources for aerial photography and listed buildings information.

It was explained that, although much of this information is retrievable from your own or your local library's computer, some is only accessible from those at the Centre. More and more material is becoming available, however, and it really is now relatively easy to find the sources from which to start your researches.

We were most grateful to Maggie for a most full and interesting day, and to the staff for their hospitality. We plan to have another Introductory Day along similar lines at the SHC in 2002.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS

A rare opportunity to acquire a complete run

The Society has recently acquired an uninterrupted run of the *Collections* from Volume 1 to Volume 63. Volume 5 part I, Volumes 31 and 33-38 excepted, they are bound, and in a good condition, although they do have a library classification mark on the spines.

As such an opportunity occurs only rarely, the Publications Committee has decided to make the collection available as a whole and to invite offers from interested members. The run could, if desired, be extended to include Volume 64 to date.

Any member wishing to make an offer should write to the Chairman of the Publications Committee, Dr G P Moss at Castle Arch, Guildford GU1 3SX.

LECTURES, SYMPOSIA and VISITS COMMITTEE

Archaeological Visits

The Committee have arranged the following series of visits to places of historical and archaeological interest for the enjoyment of Society members and their guests.

Saturday 12th January 2002 Reading Museum and Silchester Roman Town.

Saturday 16th - Sunday 17th February 2002 Weekend Field Trip to Avebury.

Saturday 23rd March 2002 Cambridge.

Saturday 20th April 2002 Winchester: Finds Liaison Officer and Town.

Sunday 19th May 2002 Badbury Ring and Kingston Lacy.

Thursday 25th - Sunday 28th July 2002 Weekend Field Trip to East Sussex and Herstmonceux Castle.

All are welcome. For more information ring **Liz Whitbourn**. Tel: 01483 – 420575; or e-mail liz.whitbourn@btinternet.com

Visit to Reading Museum and Silchester Roman Town

Saturday 12th January 2002

9.30 am The Coach will leave Farncombe Railway Station, near Godalming at 9.30 am (parking available nearby), and we will visit **Reading Museum** in the morning. This lively museum contains the most significant finds from the excavations of the Roman town of Silchester, excavated from 1860 onwards. Famous objects including the Silchester Eagle and Silchester Horse can be seen, as well as a wealth of pottery and huge mosaics lifted from the abandoned town. Another gem is the Bayeux Tapestry Gallery where Britain's Victorian copy of the 70 metre original can be seen in its entirety.

2 pm Leave Reading for **Silchester** (walking shoes / boots / wellies essential). This was an important tribal centre before the Roman occupation which was Romanised with a regular street grid, town plots, administrative structure and market buildings of timber, as well as a very early bathhouse and still extant amphitheatre. The town was extensively excavated in the 19th century, when techniques were basic and confined to recovering a plan of the town's stone foundations. This has hampered our knowledge about life in the town, as well as its eventual decline and decay, which, according to current excavations, appears to have occurred by AD 450. Unlike most other Roman towns it was never extensively built upon. Now used as farm land, the only modern buildings are the farmhouse and church of St. Mary's which stands within the still impressive town walls. Hidden underneath the churchyard are two Roman temples and Roman building materials can be seen in the western wall of the church.

4.30 pm We leave for home.

Cost, per person, inclusive of admission: £10. For more details contact: Elizabeth Whitbourn, Tel: 01483 420575, or e-mail: liz.whitbourn@btinternet.com

MISCELLANY

The Hope Theatre Discovered

Early in 2001 the Museum of London Archaeology Service, working in Bear Gardens, Southwark, uncovered what was probably a fragment of the Hope Theatre. This theatre was built at least partly as a replacement for the Globe, which had been burnt down the previous year.

The discovery comprised a pair of parallel brick walls of undoubted 17th century date. They were just 1.5m apart and turned through two angles of about 145 degrees, thus seemingly part of a large ten-sided building with an internal diameter of 16m. In terms of size and position, the archaeological evidence is persuasive and is consistent with what we know already of the Hope from its building contract (which survives in its entirety) and from panoramas that show the theatre as it was in the 1640s. On the other hand, the walls seem too closely spaced to have been the main front and back walls of the theatre. Seating galleries were normally about 4m wide. Perhaps the Hope was a more complex structure than its Tudor predecessors - and, in any case, it was a unique building designed to fulfil the dual functions of playhouse and animal baiting arena.

The practice of animal baiting was, in fact, much in evidence on the site. The skulls of several large fighting dogs were discovered but, as they were found in pre-theatre layers, they can only be associated with animal baiting on Bankside generally, rather than with this building in particular.

The Hope opened in 1614 with Ben Jonson's *Bartholomew Fair* but its later history was undistinguished. Closed at the outbreak of the Civil War in 1642, it had certainly been demolished by 1656. In the late 17th century, the site was occupied by a glasshouse, part of which was also found during the excavations.

Adapted from Museum of London, *Archaeology Matters*, 15 (September).

The Middle Saxon Minster of Southwark - A Suggestion

Graham Dawson

In Newsletter 83 of the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society I reproduced some evidence that what is now Southwark Cathedral was the site of the minster in the late Saxon period. However, this could not have been so before the burgh of Southwark was founded, probably some time around 900, so the minster must have been somewhere else in the middle Saxon period.

John Blair has suggested that it was at Bermondsey (1991, 102), based on one charter referring to a monastery there in the early 8th century, though the existence of such a monastery has been supported by the recent excavations. I have recently suggested a road pattern in the middle Saxon period, however, which leaves Bermondsey in a rather isolated position (Dawson 2000, 4-5), and it seems certainly not to be on a main route which one would expect with a church which drew its congregation from a wide area.

I would suggest, therefore, that Lambeth is a better candidate for the middle Saxon minster, partly on the basis that the main roads from Kent and Sussex all, I argued, ended up at Lambeth (*ibid*). The evidence from Domesday shows that Lambeth was a royal manor in the late Saxon period (Dawson 1976, 4) as indeed was Bermondsey, but there is some evidence that it was a royal centre too, at least in the 11th century, since Harthacnut, son of Cnut, died there. There is also some evidence for a minster at Lambeth; when Rochester Priory acquired it in the late 11th century they removed a gold and silver shrine, gospel books, rich crucifixes and other ornaments, clearly

not what an ordinary parish church would own, and it is also recorded in Domesday Book as holding the manor of Lambeth and also a manor in Gloucestershire. This may all relate to the fact that Edward the Confessor's sister Godgifu held it before the Conquest and Blair suggests that she set up a private minster, whatever that might be, but it may be the relics of its former status as a minster.

The evidence cannot be regarded as strong but certainly will never be achievable since records for that period are so rare and the evidence is certainly as strong as for Bermondsey.

References:

Blair, J 1991 *Early Medieval Surrey: landholding, church and settlement before 1300*

Dawson, G J *SLAS Newsletter* 83, September 2000

Dawson, G J 1976, *The Black Prince's Palace of Kennington*, Brit Archaeol Rep, 26

First published in the March 2001 Newsletter (no 85) of the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society, with many thanks.

INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY IN 2000: A REVIEW OF A REVIEW

Industrial Archaeology Review Volume XXIII No. 1 May 2001 Gordon Knowles

The first of four articles in this issue is the 2000 Rolt Memorial Lecture that was given at the annual conference in Manchester. It is in two parts, 'A Retrospect' by Kenneth Hudson and 'A Prospect' by Shane Gould. Kenneth Hudson unfortunately died in December 1999 but had already submitted his paper which was read at the conference by David Alderton.

Hudson suggests that Industrial Archaeology has 'lost its way'. This is refuted by Gould. Hudson quotes Crawford, who in 1953 wrote 'Archaeology is merely the past tense of anthropology. It is concerned with past phases of human culture'. The basis for culture is technology, says Hudson, A good archaeologist must be interested in every aspect of the culture he has chosen to study: its technology, its social organisation, its political system. Otherwise, he cannot interpret what he finds, he cannot talk sense. The failure to realise this is one of the main weaknesses of the subject so far. He reminds us that the term 'Industrial Archaeology' was first used in the 1950s, probably by Donald Dudley in Birmingham. It first appeared in print in 1855 in an article by Michael Rix.

To the objectors, 'Industrial Archaeology' is an impossible mongrel. 'Industry' it was said 40 years ago, and is still said today, is a recent growth little more than 200 years old. 'Archaeology' by common consent, deals with the more distant past. In the 20th century 'archaeology' has been narrowed in meaning by the excavators to refer to 'dirt archaeology' only. It is pointless to try to establish an arbitrary date which can be used to divide old industry from recent. For iron bridges, the defining period is the middle of the 18th century, for the petroleum industry it is the second half of the 19th century and for nuclear energy and most synthetic fibres it is the 1940s.

Hudson, in his book *Industrial Archaeology - An Introduction* in 1963, defined the subject as 'the discovery, recording and study of the physical remains of yesterday's industries and communications'. In 1976, in the third edition of his book, he claimed that industrial archaeology had passed through several stages over the past twenty years. First an assorted body of pioneers had devoted time and energy in stirring up the public conscience about the rapid disappearance of buildings and machinery. Stage two had seen the creation of amateur groups pursuing IA as a hobby, the beginnings of a National Register of Industrial Monuments and the belated growth of academic interest in the subject. The last point was a polite way of saying that they recognised a bandwagon when they saw one and leapt aboard with alacrity. Stage

three was reached during the mid-70s when stock was taken of what had been achieved so far and questions were asked as to 'what did it all mean'. 'How much IA do we need, having saved this mill or engine for posterity, what is the nature of such triumphs?'

Now it is no longer enough to visit sites that have already been preserved and recorded. We have been visiting the 'holy places' for twenty years, yet IA is an active pursuit, fieldwork is essential to continue a supply of fresh blood. If fieldwork fades away, the pleasure and excitement begin to go and the subject loses its point. Hudson suggests that two things need doing to restore IA to full health. One is a great extension of its field of activity and the other a change of name. He suggests 'work archaeology' would better describe the half-forgotten sources of employment which so badly need the attention of successors to the pioneers of forty years ago. He quotes as examples of widening the field, small hotels, Lyons Corner Houses, 1930s cinemas, gas and electricity showrooms, etc. (Your reviewer has quoted at length from this paper as it makes some important points and proved difficult to get over the gist of it in fewer words).

Shane Gould, in looking more positively at recent work, took as his theme, 'The Identification, Recording and Management of the More Recent Archaeological and Architectural Heritage of Essex.' He considered both standing and buried remains and the surveys initiated by the Essex County Council Archaeology Section of which Gould was until recently an officer in the Planning Division. He is now Borough Archaeologist for Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, Birmingham. His paper was essentially the one he gave to our IA class at the University last October and took a number of examples including the malt industry, Poor Law buildings, the Embassy cinema at Braintree and Saltcote Mill at Heybridge.

The application of Planning Guidelines PPG 15 and 16 were quoted. Since 1995 eight extensive surveys have been completed and 570 'new' sites have been added to the Sites and Monuments Records. Detailed reports have been produced for 16 sites as a result of planning recommendations. Essex is a progressive county in these matters, were it always the case elsewhere.

This 'joint' Rolt lecture raised many interesting important points for us all. It was also in its way a fitting tribute to both Rolt and Hudson.

From the July 2001 Newsletter (no 102) of the Surrey Industrial History Group, with many thanks.

Godalming's Titanic Radio Hero Honoured

Godalming will be the focus of a worldwide radio link-up on the 13th and 14th April 2002 - the 90th anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic, which struck an iceberg on her maiden voyage to New York and went down with the loss of 1490 lives.

The link-up is being organised in co-operation with Godalming Museum by the **Titanic Wireless Commemorative Group** - a group of 20 local amateur radio enthusiasts - to honour the memory of Jack Phillips, born and bred in Godalming and Chief Wireless Telegraphist aboard the Titanic. Jack, then 25, stayed at his post sending out SOS distress signals in morse code to alert other ships - which saved over 700 lives - before he went down with his ship two hours and 40 minutes after it struck the iceberg. It was the first time that an SOS message had been sent at sea.

An exhibition in Godalming Museum from 12th March to the 25th May next year will describe the Titanic disaster and Jack's heroic efforts in detail, and the Group plans to set up a replica of the Titanic's Wireless Room in the Wilfrid Noyce Centre, with radio aerials erected on the adjacent sports field. From there, thousands of radio

amateurs worldwide will be contacted using morse code. The plan is being supported by the Waverley Borough and Godalming Town Councils. Titanic's radio call sign - MGY - will be remembered in the special call sign for the event - GB90MGY - issued to the Group by the UK Radio Communications Agency.

Members of the Group will be on hand to explain who is being contacted, where they are, and what is being said. Visitors will have an opportunity to use a Morse key. On show at Godalming Museum will be early maritime radio equipment loaned by Marconi plc, the company which pioneered the development of radio communication and by whom Jack Phillips was employed as a telegraphist - plus a selection of Titanic memorabilia.

Introducing the wireless link up, Ralph Barrett, radio historian and broadcaster, will attend the Borough Hall, Godalming on Friday 12th April to give an illustrated presentation entitled: "Titanic and the Wireless SOS", which will include a new and more accurate perspective of the tragic events.

Coinciding with the weekend, several hundred members of the British Titanic Society from all over the world will be gathered for a convention at Southampton - and for many of them a visit to Godalming will be a top priority.

For further information please contact Michael Shortland: Tel: 01483 574996; email: msa-consult@dial.pipex.com. (GOEFO), or Derek Watson, Godalming Museum Publicity Officer, Tel: (home) 01483 414673, Museum: 01483 426510 or email: museum@godalming.ndo.co.uk

What's In Store?

Roy Edwards

Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society from its earliest days (1965) has processed the finds from its archaeological excavations. This has been done at a not too long list of venues and one of the early ones was a site at Upper Ground, where conditions were somewhat primitive. We later had the use of a school keeper's house at a Westminster Bridge Road school, which was secure and had lighting. With the accumulation of more and more finds it became necessary to have out-stores, and among the most unusual and most secure, was the Salt Tower at the Tower of London.

The workshop then moved to another school, the former Mawbey School, since demolished, where we had two former classroom huts. This site was less secure and towards the end of our tenure the second storage hut was set alight by vandals, but fortunately with minimal damage to finds. All these places were available to us in the evenings so that teams could work on the various aspects of processing.

We were relieved to leave the Mawbey site. Through the agency of Zoe Brooks, then running the Vauxhall Heritage Centre, and the kindness of Mr Winsor, former Public Relations Director of what is now Allied Distillers Ltd, we found a new home at their premises in Montford Place, Kennington. Our material had to be humped to 1st floor level, but the concrete floors were capable of withstanding any load of finds put on them. We have been looked after there by the manager, Desmond Payne, to whom we owe thanks. At this stage we were left with two out-stores, one in the basement of the Council Offices in Spa Road, and the other at - yet another school - Cobourg Primary, in Southwark.

While Allied Distillers gave us lighting and, needless to say, high security, the downside was that the premises were only open to us during normal working hours of 7 am - 5 pm. The two archaeological sites being processed were Montague Close and Albert Embankment (1977-1981), and progress on the latter slowed to a snail's pace. The crack of doom came when Allied Distillers sold to Tesco all their site on the west side of the road (now a superstore), and part of it on the east side. This latter

included a building in which the company had their offices and also housed our workshop. We were given a deadline at the end of June last year to vacate the premises. With nowhere to go the outlook seemed grim.

Our white knight came in the form of John Shepherd of the Museum of London, who is manager of a new store designed to accommodate all London's archaeological material for some years to come at Eagle Wharf Road. The rules governing acceptance of recently excavated finds into this store are strict, but tolerance can be exercised for 'older' material such as ours. John provisionally accepted our finds, subject to approval and listing by Museum staff.

Fortunately most of it was contained in standard size museum boxes, but part of the Vauxhall finds were in non-standard ones where the cardboard was very brittle, and so some re-boxing was necessary. In addition there were larger items, mostly vessel reconstructions, which did not fit into the 'standard' size. The Museum kindly provided us with some larger boxes, plus plastic crates for the very big items.

While it was easy to prepare for official listing at Kennington, the proposed visit by Museum staff to the Cobourg out-store to do that *in situ* was not practicable because the boxes were packed too tightly. Thus the whole was shipped to Kennington where re-boxing, checking and listing could be done more easily.

At the end of June the Vauxhall material was ready to go, while Graham Dawson was still coercing some of his Montague Close sherds to jump back into their boxes. Not everything has been listed, but the necessary estimate of total volume had been made to allow allocation of appropriate space at the new store. The Museum organised commercial removal, and on July 2nd two large removal vans and a team of eight men materialised to take everything down the dreaded steps, after being palletised and shrink-wrapped. The sequence of removal was supervised by a member of the Museum staff. Up to the last moment it had been feared that everything would have to go via another store at Slough because the Eagle Wharf Road premises had not been handed over to the Museum. In the end, however, the move did go straight to the new store, albeit to a holding area and not to final shelving.

To give some idea of the scale of the removal, there were some 2,500 boxes, at a conservative estimate, weighing some twenty tonnes. The material at Spa Road has yet to be moved.

Grateful thanks go to the Museum of London and its staff involved in this 'final' removal, plus anyone else in any way involved in this and previous removals. Graham Dawson and myself hope to return to processing work when the finds become accessible again and the conditions of working are determined.

From the September 2001 Newsletter (no 87) of the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society, with many thanks.

Bronze Age Waterfront at Vauxhall

Dennis Turner

During April an excavation was conducted on the Thames foreshore at Vauxhall, where Bronze Age piles with radiocarbon dates in the second millennium BC had previously been discovered by the Thames Archaeological Survey. The project team was drawn from University College London and the Museum of London.

The timbers appeared to have been part of a bridge or jetty, and comprised two rows of piles extending far out into the deep water channel of the present-day Thames. Associated finds included two copper-alloy side-looped spearheads, also of Bronze Age date. The excavation was filmed by Channel 4's 'Time Team' for a screening early in the new year.

Adapted from Museum of London, *Archaeology Matters*, 15 (September)

This Statutory Listed Building in the Mitcham Cricket Green Conservation area has been on English Heritage's Register of Buildings at Risk in Greater London since 1992 and is in a distinctly poor condition following an unhappy planning history. The building is a softwood- framed vernacular cottage of around 1800 with a coach house and stable. It is thought that the building originally served all or part of the adjoining brick-built terrace as a coach house and stable with living accommodation to the side and above. The cottage structure is of two storeys with some accommodation within the roof.

The whole building is weather-boarded over a brick plinth with a timber modillion cornice to the eaves at the front. The cottage has vertical sliding sash windows to the front and a wide horizontal sliding sash window to the rear. Above the rear doorway, leading into the stable area, is an unglazed window complete with original wooden diamond mullions. The building has a steeply-pitched roof with two brick chimney stacks, one of which is rendered. Part of the roof is a double pitch with a central 'valley' gutter. The roof was predominantly finished with clay pantiles except the front pitch, which is slated. The ridges are finished with half-round clay tiles. Much of the rear sections of the roof has now lost its tile coverings.

Houses of this type were once common but 66 Church Road now represents a rare survival. The London Borough of Merton is urgently considering a strategy for saving this important building.

Brooklands Museum Re-opens

On 17th July this year HRH Prince Michael of Kent declared the Brooklands Motoring Clubhouse re-opened after nine months of refurbishment following the devastating flood of November 2000. Prince Michael also officially opened the permanent Grand Prix Exhibition on the same evening.

The Grand Prix Exhibition, in the original Robin Jackson Shed, completes the restoration of all the historic motor racing workshops and tuning sheds gathered around the Clubhouse and Paddock. It commemorates the first ever British Grand Prix that was held at Brooklands in 1926 and follows the development of Grand Prix racing through to modern times. Examples of Grand Prix cars from 1926 to 2001 are displayed along with costume photographs, trophies and memorabilia. A reconstruction of Robin Jackson's workshop is on show, including much of his own equipment (he worked on Grand Prix cars before and after World War II).

The exhibition was originally to have been opened by Prince Michael of Kent on 8th November 2000 but while the Museum staff and designers were making final adjustments the night before, the River Wey burst its banks and work had to be abandoned in order to start rescuing as much as possible throughout the entire Motoring Village. When staff arrived at work the next morning they found the Clubhouse surrounded by a lake of water between two and three feet deep. While all the objects on display, apart from the motor vehicles, had been raised clear of the water, the furnishings and fittings were mostly damaged beyond repair. As a result, all of the displays at the Clubhouse, Malcolm Campbell Shed and in the Speed Record Exhibition have been completely renovated with the Cycling and Grand Prix Exhibitions only needing cleaning and minor repairs.

The true 'Spirit of Brooklands' has been revived and we look forward to an eventful year ahead under the new Director, Michael Phillips. The event calendar is filling up fast with 42 events already booked for next year. The Education Department has now been formed and we are expecting this to go from strength to

strength. With so many new projects underway we are expecting a fruitful 2002 for Brooklands.

J C Pulford

From the October 2001 Newsheet (no 174) of the Walton and Weybridge Local History Society, with many thanks.

APPOINTMENT

Sites & Monuments Record Officer

I am very pleased to be able to announce that the County Council has appointed Emily-Jane Brants to the above post, starting on 3 December. The post is at present only guaranteed for one year but we are working hard to find ways to make it permanent. The aim is to build on the work of Alison James by making further inroads into the backlog of archaeological information waiting to be entered on the record and to make a start on the integration of historic buildings and historic landscape data (including historic parks and gardens). The long term aim is the creation of a proper Historic Environment Record for Surrey.

Emily-Jane has an honours degree in archaeology from the University of Reading. She has been working recently with the West Berkshire SMR. I hope that she will soon be well known to archaeologists in Surrey. Her telephone number will be 020-8541 9083, but please wait until after Christmas if you wish to contact her to give her time to settle in!

David Bird

PUBLICATIONS

"Informed conservation: understanding historic buildings and their landscapes for conservation"

English Heritage 2001. A4 paperback, 124pp, illus, price £10.00. ISBN 1 873592 64 7

This book by **K Clark** has emerged from research into the quality of applications submitted for listed building consent. It provides guidelines on the use of conservation plans and conservation statements as well as an overview of different techniques for understanding sites. The guidelines introduce the term Conservation-based Research and Analysis (CoBRA) to cover the range of disciplines which contribute to understanding sites, particularly buildings archaeology and landscape archaeology, but also documentary history, specialist investigation and metric survey.

A copy is held by SyAS Library and additional copies (product code XH20171) are available from English Heritage Postal Sales, Knights of Old Kettering Parkway, Kettering NN15 6XU.

"Croydon's transport through the ages", Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society Ltd. 96pp. ISBN: 0-906047-17-X. Published 2001. Price/availability: £8.75 + £1 p/p from Croydon Natural History & Scientific Society Ltd, 96a Brighton Road, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 6AD.

This is the eighth of a series of illustrated history books on Croydon commenced by the publishing Society (to celebrate its 100th anniversary) in 1970. The earlier titles have now all been through numerous editions, and this latest one, again edited (and written) by **John Gent** fully deserves to be at least as popular.

The book contains chapters headed Early roads, Early railways and the Croydon Canal, Railways, Roads, Buses, Trams and trolleybuses, Croydon Tramlink, and Aeronautics and aviation. There are 222 illustrations, many of them in colour. These include 1st edition Ordnance Survey 25" to 1 mile plan extracts, and some exceptionally interesting 'compound' maps showing historic transport features along with modern features - the interpretation of the sequence of events in space and time at West Croydon, for example, is a most welcome essay in historical research itself. Railway maps of 1840 and the 1880s contrast with historical and modern maps of bus and tram routes. The numerous photographs inevitably include some well-known views, but there are also many not previously published. Of exceptional value are some superbly reproduced coloured illustrations of the Croydon Canal, the early (horse drawn) 'iron railways', and the cutting of the Brighton main railway line through Park Hill.

Unusually, this book does not fail to describe Croydon's road history, with substantial sections on the turnpike era, and on horse-drawn vehicles, early cycling, and private motoring.

A half-page bibliography, for suggested further reading, lists some 30 titles, the majority of which are still in print or have been recently published and of which lending copies are readily accessible in local libraries. Most of these titles provide further details, especially for the more 'popular' areas of local transport history (more railways and trams than anything!)

Croydon's transport history, it is pointed out, includes a number of 'firsts'. It claims the first 'public railway'. The first railway flyover, the first UK sodium street lighting, the first light-controlled pedestrian crossing, and others. It was the first town in the country to be served by both canal and railway, amongst the four places to experiment with atmospheric trains; it has had horse-drawn and electric trams, and trolleybuses. And its airport was arguable the birthplace of civil aviation. The town is, therefore, of more than ordinary interest to anyone interested in any aspects of getting from A to B. This work presents an excellent overview, but also conveys much (very well-presented) historical detail.

Paul W Sowan

COURSES

UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

Courses starting in January 2002

Further information from Rachel Curtis, Adult and Community Learning Unit, Tel: 01483 686172, or email: r.curtis@surrey.ac.uk

Anglo-Saxon Living: Daily Life in the Anglo-Saxon Period Guildford Institute, Ward Street

10 meetings on Mondays 2 to 4 pm, starting 7th January 2002

Tutor: Judie English

Fee: £40. Book through Guildford WEA, Tel: 01482 829423

During the "Dark Ages", England developed into a vibrant, artistically rich and well-organised entity. This course will describe and discuss the emergence of the institutions and features of the towns and countryside of Anglo-Saxon England. Students will learn about the development of manors and parishes, churches and markets, towns and villages of the period, and the ways in which the early English people lived, worked, worshipped and entertained themselves.

The Archaeology of Surrey

Maybury Centre, Board School, Woking

10 meetings on Wednesdays 2 to 4 pm, starting 9th January 2002

Tutor: Julie Wileman

Fee: £37.50. Book through Woking WEA, 104 Woodlands Avenue, West Byfleet, KT14 6AP.

An introduction to the archaeological evidence for Surrey's past from the first humans to the establishment of the towns and villages of the present. Flint tools, burial mounds, hill forts, Roman roads and villas, Saxon cemeteries, castles and abbeys all attest to the activities of humankind within the historic county.

Death and Burial in the Ancient World

Stoneleigh Library, Stoneleigh Broadway, Epsom

10 meetings on Thursdays 2.30 to 4.30 pm starting 10th January 2002

Tutor: Rita Jones

Fee: £50. Book through the SCS Adult Education Service: Tel: 01372 740085

Burial is not just about disposal of a body: it's about social organisation and human behaviour. Richness or poverty of grave goods and burial structures are not necessarily identified with rich or poor status or wealth. Is there evidence of ritual burial in the Neanderthal period? Did the Sumerians practice human sacrifice? Did the Mycenaean shaft graves reflect social organisation? What do Roman bones tell us - have archaeologists correctly identified the bones of Philip II of Macedonia? And what does Pompeii tell us about violent death?

Landscapes in Ritual

The Christian Centre, Church Street, Dorking

10 meetings on Thursdays 10.30 am to 12.30 pm starting 10th January 2002

Tutor: Julie Wileman

Fee: ? Book through Dorking WEA, Tel: 01737 842361

The shape of the land, its caves, springs, trees and the way it has been used for farming, settlement and trade has had a profound effect on the way people's beliefs have been shaped and given physical form. In this course we will examine the way landscape and ritual reflect each other in a variety of societies over time and space; from prehistoric Britain to ancient Meso-America and Egypt, and right up to modern times, with the survival of superstitions and ideas about sacred architecture.

Museums and Collecting (Q Day School)

University of Surrey, Guildford

Saturday 12th January 9.30 am to 5 pm

Tutor: Paul Hill

Fee: £35

The history of museums is a fascinating story of obsession and scholarship; this day school will provide the background for an understanding of the origins and development of a range of today's museums, and will introduce students to the nature of collecting and museums science in the modern world, as well as discussing the demands of education and entertainment in the choice and organisation of displays.

WEALD AND DOWNLAND OPEN AIR MUSEUM

COURSES IN BUILDING CONSERVATION AND THE USE OF TRADITIONAL MATERIALS AND PROCESSES

Practical workshops and seminars for surveyors, architects, craftsmen and anyone else with a keen interest in building conservation.

Recording Vernacular Buildings for Conservation.

Three linked day-schools. Leader: *Richard Harris*. Fee: £80 per day

25th January or 13th March

Observing and sketching. Improving the accuracy of rapid sketches, the geometry of construction, using string lines, drawing individual timbers, rubbing surface features, recording brickwork.

28th February or 14th March

Imposing a grid. Setting up a plan grid, setting up levels, recording a timber frame, using a grid to record complex patterns by sketching, tracing and photography.

15th March

Studio techniques. Basic equipment and materials, technical conventions, line, shade, stipple, shadows. Three dimensional visualisation. Drawing for publication.

30th January Specialist science & crafts for the conservation of historic buildings.

An introduction to the specialist scientific investigations and craft techniques used in the conservation of historic buildings. Case studies will be illustrated to explain the process, terminology and appropriate application.

Leader: *James Strike*. Fee: £90

4th February English Brickwork:Tudor to Edwardian

An introduction to the historical development, the causes of failure and the conservative repair relevant to Tudor, Jacobean, Georgian, Victorian and Edwardian periods in the history of English brick. Lectures and demonstrations.

Leader: *Gerard Lynch*. Fee: £80

History of English Domestic Architecture

Two linked day schools. Leader: *James Strike*. Fee: £90 per day.

6th February 1400-1635

The influence of social and economic status, evolution of the hall-plan, growth of settlements and their dwellings, Tudor and Jacobean houses.

20th February 1625-1830

Origins and influence of Palladian design. Baroque mansions, Georgian design and domestic life, growth of farmsteads, Regency houses.

9th February Practical and Ritual Marks on buildings.

A day-school of illustrated lectures on this fascinating subject, for professionals and interested home-owners. Opportunity to see some marks in situ in reconstructed buildings on the Museum site Leaders: *Timothy Easton & Richard Harris*. £50

Enquiries about these and other courses yet to be announced, to Diana Rowsell, Training Co-ordinator, Weald & Downland Open Air Museum, Singleton, Chichester, West Sussex, Tel: 01243 811464 or email wealddown@mistral.co.uk

LECTURE MEETINGS

12th December

"The Lost Country Houses of South London" by Brian Bloice to the Herne Hill Society at Herne Hill UC Hall, Denmark/Read Post Hill at 7.45 pm.

21st December

"Wartime Leatherhead" - members talks to the Leatherhead & District Local History Society at the Letherhead Institute, Leatherhead at 7.30 for 8 pm. Members: £1; non-members £2.

2nd January

"Ancient Egypt" by Charles Abdy to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 7.45 for 8 pm.

3rd January

"Stonehenge: Current Developments" by Kate Fielden to the Farnham and District Museum Society in the hall of the United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

12th January

"The British Redcoat of 1745" by Alan Turton to the Walton & Weybridge Local History Society in the Elm Grove Meeting Room, Walton at 3 pm.

12th January

"Exploring the Fabled Island of Crete" by Tony Fennymore to the Beddington, Carshalton & Wallington Archaeological Society in Milton Hall, Cooper Crescent, off Nightingale Road, Carshalton at 3pm.

15th January

"Tales of the Unexpected - Local History Unveiled" by Emma Rummins to the Friends of Kingston Museum at the Market House, Kingston Market Place at 8 pm.

18th January

"The Evolution of the English Manorial System" by J W Molyneux-Child to the Leatherhead & District Local History Society at the Letherhead Institute, Leatherhead at 7.30 for 8 pm. Members: £1; non-members £2.

22nd January

"Excavations at More London Bridge" by Dave Saxby to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society at Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, Lambeth North at 7 for 7.30 pm. Visitors £1.

2nd February

"Recent Finds in Roman London" by Jenny Hall to the Beddington, Carshalton & Wallington Archaeological Society in Milton Hall, Cooper Crescent, off Nightingale Road, Carshalton at 3pm.

4th February

"Building a new Utopia" by Alan Piper to the Streatham Society Local History Group at Woodlands, 16 Leigham Court Road, SW16 at 8 pm.

6th February

"Silver Mines" by Peggy Cooper to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 7.45 for 8 pm.

BULLETIN DATES FOR 2002

This year each member received ten Bulletins, but only because of an additional and special edition by Dennis Turner in March (no 347) on 'The Origins and Development of Surrey Villages'. Next year we will be back to the normal run of nine Bulletins, for which the copy dates are given below.

Remember - from the Friday copy date, when all contributions for the next Bulletin must have reached me, there is a further week of corrections, and a sorting of the running order. The text then goes to the printers, and after proof corrections, the print run of 1000 copies are collected by Elizabeth Whitbourn a fortnight later. I usually get my copy the following Wednesday, so from copy date to delivery is about 3 1/2 weeks. Now you know, there will be no excuse for late submissions.

Bulletin	Copy Date	Approximate Delivery Date
355	4th January	30th January
356	15th February	13th March
357	22nd March	24th April
358	3rd May	29th May
359	7th June	3rd July
360	26th July	21st August
361	6th September	2nd October
362	11th October	6th November
363	15th November	11th December

And it's that time of year again, to say, on behalf of Maureen Roberts, Elizabeth Whitbourn and myself, best wishes for Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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The Council of the Surrey Archaeological Society desires it to be known that it is not responsible for the statements or opinions expressed in the *Bulletin*.

Next Issue: Copy required by 4th January for the January issue.

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