SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD

BULLETIN

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Edited by Rosamond Hanworth, Folly Hill, Ewhurst, Surrey

S.A.S. VISITS

July 17th. Visit to Old Woking.

Details were given in Bulletin 78.

August 21st. Visit to Putney.

Details of this and other Meetings are given elsewhere in this Bulletin.

EXCAVATION NOTICE

FARNBOROUGH HILL, HANTS.: MEDIEVAL AND POST-MEDIEVAL POTTERY SITE (SU 876566)

Directors: Mr. F. Holling and Mr. J. Ashdown

Further excavation on this site in the grounds of Farnborough Hill Convent School will take place from 24th July to 8th August inclusive, from 10 a.m. daily. It is proposed to continue excavation of the possible workshop floor found last year overlying a destroyed kiln, and to extend into the adjoining area. Volunteers will be welcome. Please bring personal excavation tools.

Access by road: approaching from Frimley on A325, turn left along Ship Lane 100 yards beyond roundabout junction with A327. The site is ¼ mile along on the right in field adjoining the road. By rail: the site is within ¼ mile of Farnborough North station, and less than 1 mile from Farnborough and Frimley stations.

Enquiries to: Felix Holling, Guildford Museum, Castle Arch, Guildford.

Telephone: Guildford 66551.

NOTES AND QUERIES

Motorway Rescue

The Society's Council have agreed that special measures must be taken to deal with the urgent archaeological challenge afforded by the construction of the M23 and M25 motorways. The measures approved fall under two heads: firstly, the challenge of the immediate problem of the work that is to start later this year and, secondly, the overall direction of rescue work in advance of subsequent construction—including stretches of associated motorway outside the County.

In respect of the first problem, Council have been greatly helped by Dr. Brian Kirsop, who has offered to act as co-ordinator of work in progress and planned on those sections of the motorways where construction is due to start later this year or early next. Several individuals and groups have already come forward and are taking part (the first excavation actually started last autumn) but more help is needed and volunteers

should contact Dr. Kirsop at The Rookery, Kings Cross Lane, South Nutfield, Redhill.

In the broader field, the Society is taking the initiative in setting up a Committee, which will include representatives from bodies outside the County, to supervise activities and to raise support, both financial and physical.

A generous subvention from Society funds is being devoted to the initial phases of both aspects of the work. (D. J. Turner).

Binscombe: Emergency Excavation of a Romano-British Site (SU 970455)

An emergency situation arose on 17th May, when it was discovered that

the site reported by the late Dr. J. F. Nichols in S.A.C. LVII, 42-71 had already been partly built over and that building on the remainder was imminent.

A call was sent under the Rescue Excavation Scheme to 14 local societies. All responded immediately except one, which was already fully committed in another rescue.

Thanks to the co-operation of the contractors, Messrs. Marshal-Andrew & Co. Ltd., and of Godalming Corporation, the date of development has been put back to 14th June. As a result of this goodwill and help from all sides there is a good prospect of recovering substantial evidence from what appears to be an industrial area. A further note will be published when the excavation is completed. (Clare Smith).

G.L.J.A.S. Wins the B.B.C. "Chronicle" Industrial Archaeology Competition

Greater London Archaeological Society was awarded the first prize of £250 in the B.B.C.-2 archaeology programme "Chronicle" transmitted on 20th February. Second and third prizes of £75 and £50 were awarded to two other groups out of the eight short-listed finalists, who included a team undertaking the restoration of Faversham Gunpowder Mill in Kent and the Great Western Society which is keeping alive both the spirit of the G.W.R. and the steam locomotive from headquarters in Didoot. Another scheme, setting a welcome precedent, was the restoration of a Scottish engine house aided by the local council.

(G.L.I.A.S. Newsletter 12).

Ewell: Excavation at St. Mary's Churchyard (TO 222631)

Members of the Nonsuch and Ewell Antiquarian Society having now completed several months' work on this site, a few preliminary observations and results can be given.

Stane Street itself has been located in the centre of the area under investigation at a depth of 20in. A large area has been uncovered, measuring 40ft. x 15ft, and this revealed a surface of closely packed flint nodules and pebbles. In one place the surface is worn through, showing that the upper surface is embedded in a yellow gravel beneath. The width of the road is difficult to gauge, as the eastern ditch is covered by a feature comprising building material embedded in charcoal.

Further evidence of occupation came to light at the beginning of the project, when slip trenches across the area revealed cobbled surfaces. These cobbled surfaces are either made of flint nodules or, alternatively, pebbles; in either case tile and bone is incorporated.

Romano-British pottery was found strewn across the road surface with several 3rd and 4th century coins. While sherds from the road were generally abraded, pottery from the building and cobbled features seems stratified with clean breakage. Among pottery partially assembled from these features are a black burnished platter, red rosetted 4th century imitation Samian ware and the base of a "latticed" bowl.

(Frank Pemberton).

Esher: The Fullinga Dic

You can trace the Cobham-Esher parish boundary bank and ditch across the common from the Portsmouth Road at Spa Bottom to the source of the Rythe at the western end of the grounds of Copesham Rise. In the first half of the 11th century, when Esher belonged to Eynsham Abbey, the boundary ran by the "wyrtwala", perhaps edge of a wood, to the "red holt" (wood), thence to the "old dic", and from there to the "alor broc" now called the Rythe, the "alder brook" from which Arbrook Common gets its name. "Old dic" seems to imply an obstruction which the parish boundary crossed, perhaps at right angles, and might even yet be traceable climbing from the low ground to the east of the Black Pond towards Esher village, It might even be the "Fullinga dic" (ditch of the tribe of Fullingas) which formed the eastern boundary of the foundation grant of Chertsey Abbey about the year 675, having been constructed previously to delimit an early tribal territory of the invading Saxons, Later it might have been used as a boundary between the manors of Esher Episcopi and Milbourne, and there is reference to a Bound Post parting these manors in the Cobham bounds of 1815. Significantly the Bounds of Milbourne, 1781, refer to a post "marked E.M. to denote the junction of the two manors. And from thence Eastward along an old ditch to an old post upon an Antient Road crossing the said Ditch or Mound which is called Greenway . . . "

Can somebody find traces of the ditch before the new road cuts across the common? (T. E. C. Walker).

Merstham: M25 Survey

During the later stages of the archaeological survey along the route of the M25 motorway between Merstham and Godstone to find any sites which might be destroyed by its construction, a possible site was found at Warwick Wold (TQ 318528) Merstham. Here was a distinct earth platform about 70 yards square and about 2–3 feet high situated on level ground below the edge of the Upper Greensand. One corner was due to be removed during the motorway construction. A small excavation was carried out for four weekends beginning 16th March under the auspices of the Surrey Archaeological Society, directed by Dr. Brian Kirsop and Mrs. Mary Saaler with the help of the Bourne Society's archaeological group. It was also run as an introductory training excavation for students who have been taking courses in archaelogy at local Adult Education Centres. Work is not yet completed, so a fuller report will be given when the finds have been evaluated.

(Bourne Society Bulletin 64).

TOURS

Croydon Palace

Conducted tours of the Old Palace are available from 16th-24th July (not Sunday); 18th, 25th September, and 9th and 23rd October, from 2 p.m.—5 p.m. If you have not yet visited the Palace, here is an opportunity to do so. It is very worthwhile. Admission: Adults 20p, Children 10p.

AUGUST

Tuesday 17th, 8 p.m.

Kingston Fifty Years Ago. Talk by Mr. R. T. Balcomb to Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society at the Lecture Hall, Central Library, Fairfield West, Kingston upon Thames. (Mrs. Bilefield's talk is postponed).

Saturday 21st

S.A.S. VISIT TO PUTNEY Arranged by Mrs. J. Banks

11.00 a.m. Meet at Wimbledon war memorial (TQ 237712) on triangular island western end of Wimbledon High Street.

Drive to Caesar's Camp (Iron Age Hillfort), then ½ mile walk to Caesar's Well (Springpound Well), and interesting earthworks. Drive 1½ miles to the Windmill (associations with Baden-Powell).

Lunch, coffee and snacks obtainable at the Windmill. Pub, The Crooked Billet, with restaurant, in the vicinity.

2.30 p.m. Meet at Putney parish church by Putney Bridge for guided tour, followed by riverside walk, visiting excavations in progress.

4.30 p.m. Cup of tea and biscuit at Church Hall.

Tickets: (Members 15p, visitors 20p, students half price, children under 16 accompanied by an adult, free), from Mrs. J. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton.

When booking please say if car lift required, or spare seats available.

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Recent Publications

- Alexander, J. (1970) The Directing of Archaeological Excavations, John Baker, £4.50.
- Anon (1971) Hog's Back Hedge. (Formerly the South boundary of Windsor Forest, almost wholly destroyed in road works). Farnham Mus. Soc. Newsletter II, 9, 17.
- Anon (1971) Roman Coins Found. (Denarius of Septimus Severus at TQ 228753, and a follis, attributed to the London Mint, at TQ 267756). Wandsworth H.S. News Sheet, 93, 2,
- Anon (1971) Closure of the Grand Surrey Canal. G.L.I.A.S. Newsletter, 11, 3.
- Anon (1971) Future of the Royal Mint Site at Tower Hill, G.L.I.A.S. Newsletter, 11, 3.
- Anon (1971) Limehouse Winch. G.L.I.A.S. Newsletters 11, 3 and 12, 4.
- Anon (1971) Roman Staines. (Wattle-and-daub wall and pottery found by workmen on the site of the Conservative Club, Market Square, and reported by them.) Egham-by-Runnymede H.S. Newsletter, 37, 4.
- Anon (1971) Clapham Common? (Comments on inaccuracies in an article published in Country Life, 10th December, 1970). Clapham A.S. Occasional Sheet, 275, 1.
- Anon (1971) Clapham Parochial Schools. Clapham A.S. Occasional Sheet, 275, 1-2.
- Anon (1971) A Chemist's Shop in Nightingale Lane. (Order books, account books, invoices and catalogues of the 19th century.) Clapham A.S. Occasional Sheet, 277, 2.
- Clark, Cristine (1971) Farnham Maltings. (Reported by A. Parker.) Farnham Mus. Soc. Newsletter, II, 9, 20-21.
- Carter, P. (1971) Industrial Monuments Survey. (Scheme to compile a London index, with mention of a similar scheme in the S.A.S.) The London Archaelogist, I, 10, 225-227.
- Dawson, G. J. (1971) Some Methodological Problems raised by "A suggested sequence of Fabric Associations . . . in North East Surrey and South East Middlesex". S.L.A.S. Newsletter, 27, 3-4.
- Dawson, G. J. (1971) London Bridge—a rejoinder. The London Archaeologist I, 10, 224.
- Dawson, G. J. (1971) Two Delftware Kilns at Montague Close, Southwark, Part I. The London Archaelogist, I, 10, 228-231.
- Hughes, A. M. (1970) The Adventures of an Advowson. (Great Bookham.) Leatherhead & District L.H.S. Proceedings, III, 4, 108-114.
- Haynes, R. (1971) Jacob Bright and Ursula Mellor. Esher District Local History News, 12, 56-59.
- Hall, D. and Hall, Angela (1971) Farnham and the Civil Wars of 1642-1648, a progress report. (Scheme to write a general history of the town in this period, from reliable secondary sources, supported by addenda compiled from original sources.) Farnham Mus. Soc. Newsletter, II, 9, 12-15.
- Hanger, Sarah (undated) Sir Joseph Mawbey and Botleys Park. (Extracts from a paper by her.) Egham-by-Runnymede H.S. Newsletter, 37, 3-4.
- Haslam, J. (1971) An Archaeological Research Centre for the London Region. (Suggestion that one be formed.) The London Archaeologist, I, 10. 222-223.

CONFERENCE

24th-26th September

C.B.A. Residential Conference, Field Survey in British Archaeology, Connaught Hall of Residence, University of Southampton. Themes: Organisation of Fieldwork in the State and Private Sectors, Panel of Speakers representing the State Sector, and visit to the Headquarters of the Ordnance Survey; Results, Implications and Analysis of Field Survey, Speakers, Mr. J. Wymer, Mr. P. J. Fowler, Mr. H. C. Bowen, Professor R. J. C. Atkinson.

An audience of only 200 can be accommodated so early reservation is advised. Full details from C.B.A., 8, St. Andrew's Place, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1.

COURSES

ADVANCE NOTICE

A three-year course, leading to the London University Extra-Mural Department's Certificate in Field Archaeology, is being organised to start at Haslemere in the autumn. Subject: First year: (24 lectures) Field Archaeology and the Prehistory of South East England, Second year: Field Archaeology and the Romano-British Period in South East England, Third year: Field Archaeology and the Post-Roman Period in South East England.

In order to ensure the successful continuation of this course it is important to keep the numbers in the class high, and for at least 12 of the students to sit for the yearly examinations. Further details will be published in Bulletin 80, but in the meantime, enquiries to: Miss Norma T. Frost, 17, Weysprings, Haslemere, Surrey.

TRAINING WALK

Field Workers Training Walk in Southwark

Sunday August 15th. Meet 2.30 p.m. outside the George Inn, Borough High Street (5 mins. walk from London Bridge main line and underground stations). Duration two hours. This walk is planned to show the problems facing archaeologists working in an urban environment where there are 600,000 sq. ft. of land waiting for development, Architectural and Historical details of existing buildings will be described and a current excavation will be visited.

MEETINGS

JULY

Monday 5th, 8 p.m.

The Story of Pyrford. Talk by Mrs. S. Lewin to Mayford History Society at the Village Hall, Saunders Lane, Mayford, Woking.

Tuesday 20th, 8 p.m.

Rediscovering the Stone Workings of Merstham. Talk by K. Bean, to Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society at the Lecture Hall, Central Library, Fairfield West, Kingston upon Thames.

Thursday 22nd, 7.30 p.m.

Crete. Talk by Clayton Masham to the Croydon N.H. & S.S. at The Studio, Edridge Road, Croydon.