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Welcome to this edition of the journal, I apologise for its late arrival, due to many factors, but it is now hoped that we are back on course.

Some of you will be for the first time getting as an email attachment. (as a download).

Your comments on this are most welcome, the decision to send the journal out like this is a cost saving exercise, in these times of pressure our funds are being hit, interest on investments, which used to be used towards funding printing etc. are now almost none existent.

Some of you will continue to receive your copy through the post, and printed copies will still be sent out to library's etc.

This has been a very mixed Summer, weather wise and sadly illness wise, Peter Brannlund, suffered a heart attack in the early part of the summer, but is now taking it easy and slowly recovering. We send him our best wishes for a speedy and successful full recovery.

Keith Bolton was unwell in the Summer but now well on the mend.

On this point more members of the society, and of the field unit need to come forward to help run the society, after digs have stopped the real work begins of post excavation work.

Finds cleaning, making, cataloguing, and the real big task of writing the reports. Too few are doing too much, we need to lighten the load, otherwise we will all fall to bits !!.

So step forward if you can lend a few hours each month to these tasks, I know Gill needs help with finds processing, mainly on Thursdays, but possible in the winter months on a Saturday as well.

Finally I would like on behalf of the Society to thank Jo Thornton for all her hard work over the years as membership secretary, Jo is staying on the committee.

Rodney Gunner - *Editor*

*Please supply articles in .pdf format if possible and photos as separate .jpegs.
Articles from members own research are most welcome.*

Bronze Age Site

Keith Bolton

26th April to
5th May 2011

Since September 2008, WAS have been involved in a joint project with Chichester College (Brinsbury Campus) investigating a previously unknown Bronze Age site. This part of the project involved the excavation of two evaluation trenches on the site.



Trench A

The weather could have been worse, not much, but it could have been worse. The dry March and April had dried the ground out, the underlying geology is Wealden Clay, so this was going to be fun. Thankfully the College had a digger available, and a driver, so we were able to open the trenches by machine. Trench C was a whooper, planned to be 75m by 2m, the temptation of the digger was too much and is soon became 100m in length. Trench D was small by comparison, only 50m by 2m. Unfortunately, the ground conditions were such that it was impossible to work Trench D and we soon abandoned it.



The first job was to go through the spoil from the trenches. WAS members and college students set to with a vengeance, and the arrowhead fact count grew steadily larger. We had plenty of other artefacts, from daggers to debitage, as well. Then it was down to the really hard work, cleaning and excavating Trench C.

The first few days were spent looking at a series of thin, linear features. Thankfully we solved these when the ploughman stopped by for a chat. Recent

agricultural features resulting from machines such as the shakaerator (I love that name, it does what it says on the bottle, 18 inch prongs shake and aerate the soil at depth). It is almost certain that it is such activity, which started in spring 2008 when the field was cultivated for the first time in many a year, that has brought the artefacts to surface.

Sundays have been good to us this year (see Parham report) and Brinsbury was no exception. Pat and David had been beavering away on the one good feature we'd uncovered, an area of burning that had baked the clay. It appeared to have been sealed with clay, within which we'd found 3 broken arrowheads and micro-debitage. On Sunday morning another, similar area was found, and then, just as we were cleaning up the loose for break, Jim shouted that he might have a third. I went to look, and as I knelt down I glanced down the trench. Damn me if the three didn't line up! Word was passed as it does on site, and everybody returned after break full of excitement. We extrapolated the line, and by lunch had a fourth burnt area. They seemed to be roughly evenly spaced, with a 'double-spacing' between the southernmost two. The centre of this latter had a big dip in it where the digger had caught on the hard clay. A careful examination of this area recovered small amounts of charcoal, fire cracked flint, baked clay and micro-debitage, so there may well have been a fifth burnt area. John Mills visited that afternoon, and left with a big grin on his face.



Burnt area

By Thursday Trench C was looking immaculate, sun baked and cracked all over the place but clean and tidy. About 20 people responded to our invitation to attend our 'Open Day', hosted by our consultant, David McOmish of English Heritage. Paul Foskett kicked it off, welcoming our guests and outlining how the project had started.

I followed with a precise of the project to date and report on the current excavation. Brinsbury then treated our visitors to a cracking buffet lunch before they visited the site itself. The day was rounded off with a very fruitful discussion, with lots of observations, suggestions and offers of help.

It really had been a splendid ten days. Trench C had come up trumps with a possible pit alignment and lots of new artefacts had been recovered, the final count of arrowheads being 72.

Thanks to everybody who participated, WAS members demonstrated yet again how professional the unit is becoming and the students did their college proud. Special thanks to Bob for the display.

So where do we go from here. Plans are already afoot to continue our relationship with Brinsbury, both the site and the college. We are seeking funding to obtain carbon dates for the burnt areas (believe it or not the cheapest quote I've seen is from a lab in New Zealand!). Matt Pope has volunteered to do a full

geoarchaeological survey (though that will have to wait till the autumn, you couldn't get the augur in the ground at the moment), we've had several offers to do the flint report gratis (there is a surprise!) and Paul is hoping the College will fund a course on archaeology (which would need to demonstrate how a magnetometry survey is done, so he'll hire one, wonder where the survey will be done?).

Oh and we identified a need for the Field Unit. We need to run a course on reconstructing artefacts. Any volunteers?

STOP PRESS Knew he couldn't resist it. Since the excavation Paul Foskett has increased the arrowhead count to 74!

Parham Report

Keith Bolton

May 2011

Over the Whit bank holiday we were back at Parham, the aim being to further investigate the archaeology below the chalk yard surface of the parsonage. This was originally found last year, when a sondage, sunk to ascertain the thickness of the chalk layer, revealed archaeological layers where we had expected natural. Only a last minute digging frenzy had showed that this extended to c.1.8m, though we had no idea what it was. The favourite theory was we'd found a cesspit, i.e. we were in the s**t again!

To be honest, after the excitement of Brinsbury, there seemed to be little enthusiasm for the Parham dig. Two years digging chalk surface can do that to you, and there was a general feeling that we'd found all there was to find. This years trench was located over part of last years, so we knew that we were faced with the task of removing several tons of last years backfill. However, we'd committed ourselves, indeed it had been advertised and we were one of one attractions. The first day was pretty tedious as we dug out the backfill from 2010. At least we found our tarp!

On the Sunday we needed to widen the area dug in 2010 in order to give ourselves room to dig at depth. We seemed to be excavating a fill material. Lots of organic material in a clay matrix with lots of large pot sherds, bone and oysters galore. There were plenty of void spaces, suggesting that the feature, whatever it was, had been filled in over a relatively short period of time. A line of stones appeared on the northern side of the trench, so we decided to leave them and widen the working space to the south. Whilst the diggers toiled, one of the site directors jumped in the trench to poke around the line of stones. A small amount of cleaning revealed the stones sat on another set, so the site director dug deeper. A third set appeared, and John Green, standing watching, summed it up succinctly, "ah, that looks awfully like a wall". The atmosphere on site changed in an instant, from bored resignation to excitement, at long last a decent structure at Parham.

And so it proved. The wall extends to a depth of just under 2m, was faced to the south, the Lower Chalk blocks being bonded by a clay packing. The wall appears to be just under a metre wide, the northern side abutting the sandstone natural, and runs roughly east-west. John Mills was a happy bunny when he visited that afternoon.

John returned to look at progress on the Monday. By that time a series of pieces had fallen into place and we were beginning to think we know what was going on. We found another possible wall running north-south, and now believe that the pile of stone found in 2010 may represent a third wall. If so, then we have 3 walls of a subterranean structure. But what was it. There are two possibilities, either it's the cellar of an earlier rectory or it's the undercroft of the Monastic Grange. The material used to fill the structure appears to date to the period 1450-1520, the latter end of that range fits in nicely with the reformation when the estate was taken away from the church.

Tuesday was backfilling, a bit depressing to think that we have to remove it yet again!

More details regarding this excavation will be available in the report currently being prepared.

Downstairs at Parham House

Cheryl Hutchins



(1)

Diggers at Parham are aware of the impressive mansion that is Parham House if they lift their heads above the edge of their trench, and it is certainly worth looking at. And I being one, on a warm spring day when the house is hung with wisteria and I've needed a break, have thought about the people who lived there: the family and those who serviced its way of life. I am not Sussex-born but my family comes from the "those who serve" class so that's where I shall start.

Servants' wages seem low to us although they generally received board and keep in addition.

An account book kept at West Sussex Record Office (WSRO) states that in 1780, under Sir Cecil Bisshopp, 6th Baronet, annual wages were agreed as follows:

Name	Position	£	s	d
Female				
Mrs Harrison	Housekeeper	15	0	0
Mary Burry	House Maid	5	0	0
Mary Short	Cook Maid	8	0	0
Sally Night	Dairy Maid	6	0	0
Male				
Richard Williams	Bailiff	23	0	0
William Woods	Park & Gamekeeper	35	0	0
Thos Burgess	Footman	21	0	0
Wm Nailer	First Groom	12	0	0
John Button	Postillion	12	0	0
Coachman	(name crossed out and illegible)	25	0	0
John Fogden	Gardener	30	0	0
Total		£203	0	0

(2)

In 1783 the difference in male and female wages is demonstrated by the entry headed

"Establishment from the First January". Housekeepers held great responsibility although the steward or butler held the top hierarchical position but this was not reflected in their wages. A good cook could ask for a high wage as they were indispensable and often temperamental, but in the accounts shown below the lady's maid (often the confidante of her mistress) received little more than the laundry maid.

		£	s	d
Men Servants at Parham				
Bailiff		30	0	0
Park Keeper		35	0	0
Game Keeper		15	0	0
Gardener		30	0	0
Carvell Carpenter		54	10	0
Total		164	10	0
House Men Servants				
Butler		31	10	0
Sir Cecil's Servant		22	0	0
Footman		18	0	0
Coachman		25	0	0
Postillion		18	0	0
Groom		12	12	0
Total		127	2	0
Women Servants				
House Keeper		15	15	0
Cook		20	0	0
Ladys Maid		10	10	0
Laundry ditto		9	9	0
House ditto		8	0	0
Under House ditto		6	0	0
Dairy Maid		7	0	0
Kitchen ditto		7	0	0
Total		83	14	0
Total amount of the Servants Yearly Wages		374	6	0

(3)

A sad later entry in the accounts book reads: "John Joplin came to live in Sir Cecil Bisshopp's Family November 1791 - as House Steward & Butler to have 35 Guineas per year, finds his own Clothes etc - came November 21st 1791 - died at Parham January 1795." (4) He died in harness.

On 29th November 1783 an agreement to sell venison from the Park was made between Sir Cecil Bisshopp and Stephen Wright of Charing Cross - "20 brace of Paddock deer for £12 per brace for corn-fed deer and £10 per brace for grass-fed deer" (5). This venison came from the deer that William Woods cared for as part of his highly paid Park Keeper's duties, agreed at £35 a year three years earlier.

On 4th August 1823 Jeremiah S Hemingway wrote to the Hon. R Curzon "The large Bog is now nearly complete a great many thousands barrows of sand have been laid upon it. The Ground is so extremely false owing to the Peat and Turf Dug out all over it. It is now perfectly level and promises to come into Pasture, the Seeds sown are come up very well." This refers to 2 bogs near the Fighting Cocks - an inn on the Rackham side of the estate which is no longer there. Three men (Clement Smith, Thomas Smith and Daniel Smith) worked 297½ days for a total of £15 13s 11d. (6) The Society's diggers at Parham can surely appreciate their effort.

Some winters ago members used the Linen Room to lay out Roman and Medieval finds kept at Parham, and it is probable that linen listed in the notebook dated 1831 "Household Linen at Parham House belonging to the Honble Robert Curzon" was kept here. The title page comments "The Linen belonging to Parham House (to be) all marked with a P", and includes:

"2 Table Cloths for 18 2

24 Napkins to match Bunches of flowers
 2 Table Cloths 8
 12 napkins to match Fox Hunt
 6 Breakfast Cloths A goose in Bushes "

And a separate slip of paper dated November 1861
 "Sent to Brighton Hospital 5 Housekeeper Table Cloth
 12 Towels marked 36 R.C." (7)

It is heartening to read that in 1835 The Hon. Robert Curzon paid to Chas Andrew £2. 0s 0d. on December 26th for "Labourers Suppers" which included "5 Gallons of % Beer at 2d. a gallon"(8). And entries in his grandson's Wine Cellar Book show that on Christmas Day 1896 the then Lord Zouche arranged for 9 bottles of 1880 vintage champagne to go to the servants. The family abstemiously consumed 3 bottles that day.(9)

The gardening staff produced flowers, vegetables and fruit for the house. And the gardens must have been as beautiful in 1844 as they are now, judging from an account from Highbury Nursery which lists flowering plants ordered by The Honble Robt Curzon and settled by his gardener Edward Moodie as follows:

1844		£	s	d
	To Goods as per Bills delivered	7	10	9
March 27	2 Verbena Speciosa 2/-, 2 ditto Atropanginea 2/-		4	0
	1 Mimilus Moodicana 2/6, Basket Packing 1/-		3	6
May 14	18 Verbena Mixed 6/-, 12 Mimilus 6/-		12	0
	1 Cobea Scandens 1/-, 18 Petunias 6/-		7	0
	1 Minettia Cordata 3/-, 4 Fuchsias 4/6		7	6
	1 Salvia -/6, Basket Packing 1/6		2	0
July 18	24 Plants in Bloom	1	10	0
	1 Petunia Punctata 3/6, 1 ditto Prince Albert 2/6		6	0
	Basket Packing		1	6
Sept 28	12 Plants in Bloom	1	1	0
	Basket Packing		1	6
Dec 4	6 Superior Named Carnations		7	6
	18 Fine Mixed ditto & Piccotus		9	0
	Basket Packing		1	0
	Total	£13	4	3

(10)

In the same year the Hon R Curzon gave his gardener "money advanced upon Garden account 1844" for such delights as:

" 2 boxes of caps 2 lbs Soft Soap one Sive (sic) Envelopes & 2 Mouse traps £ 0 8 8 "

" 6 Fruit Baskets & 7 Pounds Morella Cherries" £ 0 16 3 "and " Beer and Suger for Feeding and taking of Bees and Sulpher £ 0 11 6 "

(see copy below of original for more delights):

Fortunes fell to a low on the estate in the 1860's in the time of the Hon Robert Curzon , 1st Viscount Curzon, and his wife Harriet-Anne who had been unconcerned about non-payment of labourers and creditors for some time, to the extent that trees were cut at Parham to pay off their younger son Edward's debts. Their steward Daniel Greere seized his chance and caused a scandal by misappropriating estate income. There were rumours of his building a yacht at Littlehampton and filling his cellars with wine, and this scandal came to light when Elizabeth Francis, loyal housekeeper of many years, tried to cash a wage cheque at a shop and the cheque was returned by the bank. Greere was arrested in the process of emigrating to Canada, was certified and transferred from St Margaret's workhouse in London to an asylum. (12)

An interesting sidelight on the family's opinion of the serving class comes from a letter written during the stewardship of Robert 15th Lord Zouche who lived away from Parham and let the house to a succession of tenants. (The family's finances were in a bad way by the end of the nineteenth century and an inventory of 1888 describes a sadly deteriorating house (13)). Zouche writes, in a letter dated February 7th 1885, from a St James's Street address regarding complaints made by Mr Newton the current tenant about the drains, "What can occasion the smells at the Dining Room door? There is no WC near. Have you reason to suspect the servants of carelessness?"(14) It appears recently completed work on the drainage system may not have been successful, and Zouche is concerned that Mr Newton has a lease until Midsummer 1886 and cannot terminate it unless he proves culpable negligence on the estate's part. Mr Charles Newton was a retired merchant, born in Hexham, Northumberland, and listed as resident at Parham House in the 1881 census return.

The fortunes of the family may have fluctuated but the house and estate functioned as usual for a country house before World War 1. On 13th June 1910 the kitchen garden sent to 114 Eaton Square:

½ Peck Peas @ -/4d

3 Cucumbers @ -/3d and 4 Lettuces @ -/2d

2 lbs New Potatoes @ -/3d, ½ Bundle Asparagus @ -/6d

Totalling 1/6d

Howd R Curzon to E Moodie Money advanced upon garden account 1844

	£	s	d
5 lb and half of Powder for garden and taking of wasps and the Pig shot	0	16	9
2 lb Writing Paper 1/2 of Pools cap 1/2 of Whiter Brown	0	9	6
3 Mops 3 Balls of String 5 Bushel of Salt for the House	0	11	11
1/2 Bree Sives 7 lb Vermorella 1/2 lb of Sunf 3 Botles of Ink	1	15	9
2 Boxes of caps 1/2 lb Soft Soap one Sive Envelopes 2 Mouse traps	0	8	8
Men Pulling Ice house twice 1/2 and donkey to coach	2	1	0
6 Fruit Baskets and 7 Pounds Morella Cherries	0	16	3
Carriage of Seeds and Plants by Coach	0	17	5
5 Packing Baskets Post Stamps Celling wax and matches	0	8	1
Beer and Suger for Feeding and taking of Bees and Sulpher	0	11	6
8 Pounds of Tobacco and 3 Scrubbing Brushes	1	13	10 1/2

(11)

and on the same day to 46 Eaton Square 2 lbs Strawberries @ 1/4d.

On 15th June the garden supplied the house with:

½ Peck Peas @ -/4d., 2 gal Potatoes @ -/6d.

Carrots -/2d., ¼ lb Mushrooms @ -/2d.

½ lb Tomatoes @ -/2d., 1 lb Cherries @ -/2d.

2 lbs Strawberries @ 1/-, Cucumber and Lettuce @ -/3d.

Totalling 3/-d

On 17th June the garden sold to Mitchell 3 lbs Strawberries @ 1/6 and ½ Bushel Peas at 2/-.

And on 18th June 3 gals Peas @ 1/6d., 3 lbs Strawberries @ 1/6d were sold to Mr Waller, and 2 gals Peas @ 1/-d. and 3 Cucumbers @ -/3d., and 1 gal Potatoes @ -/6d. were sold to Smith, as well as supplying Peas, Potatoes, Carrots, Spinach and Strawberries to the house. Parham strawberries must have been in abundance as on 20th June Mrs Anson Horton bought 6 lbs for 3/-d. And there were still enough strawberries for a hamper to go to 32 Eaton Place on 27th June containing:

½ Bushel Peas @ 2/-d., ½ Bushel Potatoes @ 2/-d.,

And Cabbage -/8d., ½ b Mushrooms @ -/4d.

½ dozen Cucumbers @ -/6d., 1 dozen Lettuce @ 1/-d

1½ dozen Turnips (for the staff?) @ -/4d., 2 Bunches Onions @ -/4d.

2 Marrows @ -/2d., 2 gal. Strawberries @ 1/4d.

Totalling 8/8d. (15)

I would like to finish this short look at life below stairs at Parham by dwelling on the abundance of cherries, strawberries, peas and cucumbers ripened behind the protective walls of the kitchen garden, and surely presented to the cook with pride, as well as respecting the long hours worked by those outside and downstairs staff. A look at upstairs will be the subject of a further article.

With many thanks to West Sussex Record Office and its staff.

(1) *Parham House drawing by Edward Lear WSRO Parham MS 1/5/6/16*

(2) *Parham MS 1/4/1/1/14*

(3) *Parham MS 1/4/1/1/14*

(4) *Parham MS 1/4/1/1/14*

(5) *Parham MS 1/3/8/15*

(6) *Parham MS 2/3/2/25*

(7) *Parham MS 1/4/1/1/16*

(8) *Parham MS 1/4/1/1/16*

(9) *Parham MS 1/5/3/26*

(10) *Parham MS 1/4/1/1/22*

(11) *Parham MS 1/4/1/1/22*

(12) *Fraser Ian, 1986, The Heir of Parham Robert Curzon 14th Baron Zouche, Paradigm Press, Norfolk*

(13) *Kirk J, 2009, Parham an Elizabethan house and its restoration, Phillimore & Co. Ltd., Chichester*

(14) *Parham MS 1/4/5/27*

(15) *Parham MS 1/4/1/3/3*

- June 2011

Ice Houses

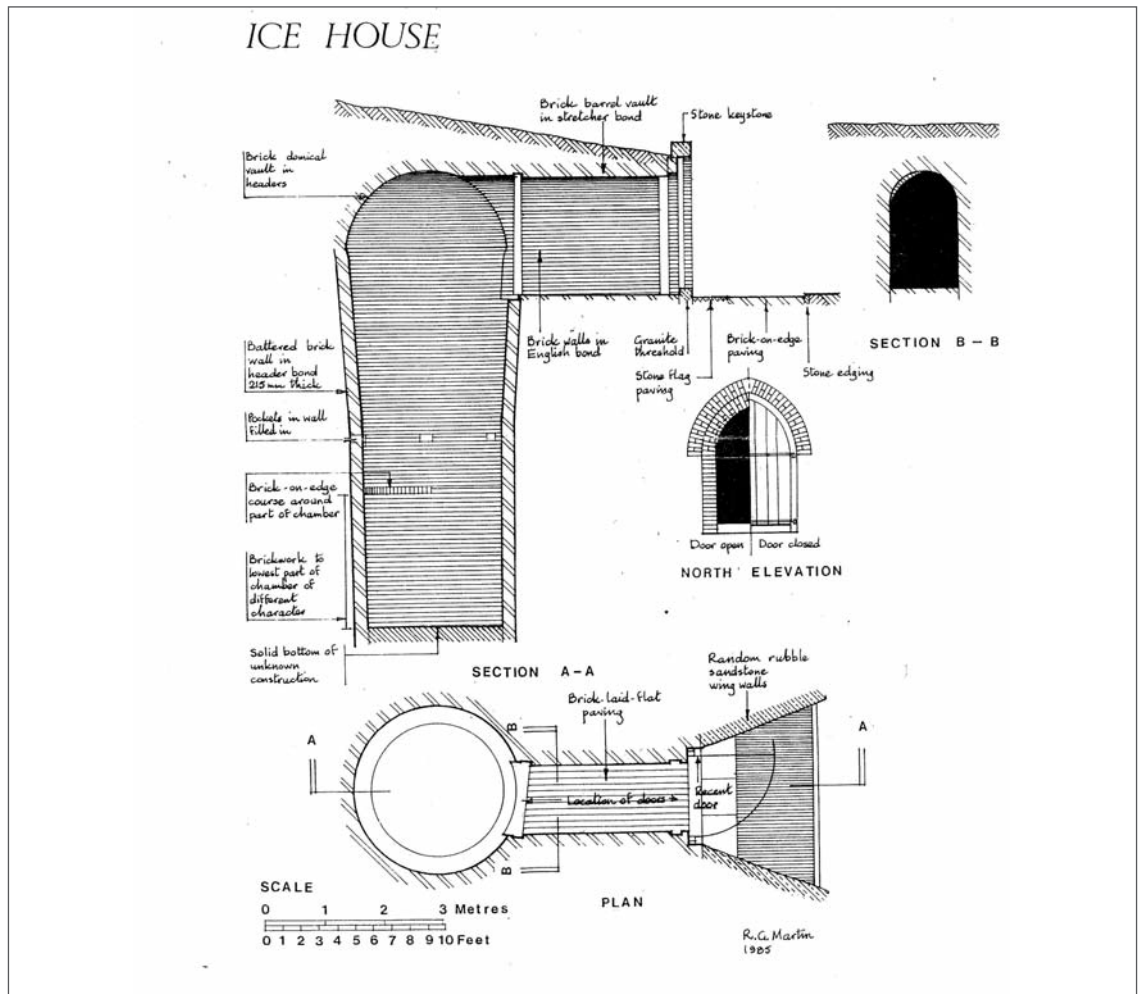
Cheryl Hutchins

At Parham and elsewhere



This is for those of you who have visited Parham House either for the purposes of pleasure or, in the case of the Field Unit, toiling tirelessly in the sun and rain. If you approach the house from the Storrington Road, you will notice a small secretive door in the hillside. This isn't a doorway into a hobgoblin world but, equally, delightful, into a facility which enabled such confections as Georgian ices and Victorian bombes, as well as cool drinks, to be served in the dining room at Parham House. It is the entrance to the ice house.

Ices were known in Italy and France in the seventeenth century, and the first ice cream recorded in England was served at a feast for the Knights of the Garter held in St George's Chapel, Windsor, in 1671. And, of course, ice cream could not be made without ice. So ice houses for the aristocracy appeared during the latter half of the seventeenth century. These were built on country estates a century later and that at Parham was built in the second half of the eighteenth century at a time when the park was improved generally.



Behind the north-facing hillside door is a barrel-vaulted, brick-paved 3.12 meter long corridor leading to an inner door, and beyond that a circular, domed, brick-lined ice storage chamber 2.82 meters in diameter and about 6 meters deep. At the bottom there should be a drain which is obscured at present by debris. Parham estate office kindly gave permission for a detailed plan drawn by Ron Martin in 1985 to be made available to the Society (see end of article). Parham ice house benefits from being constructed into a free-draining sandy hillside as it was necessary for an ice house to be dry. Those on other estates were either covered by a mound of earth or a thatched timber-frame stood directly over the ice chamber.

The ice came from the pleasure ground lake and Woodmill Pond and was gathered by sieves as soon as it was at least ½ inch deep. The fact that winters were colder a couple of hundred years ago would have aided the formation of ice. The following are excerpts from the Parham records at West Sussex County Council Record Office:

On 30th December 1837 Parham's garden accounts note: "Filling the Ice House £1. 0. 0d." (WSSC Parham MS 1/4/1/3/1). In 1844 the Hon Robert Curzon paid to E Moodie the sum of £0. 14. 11d. in that year's garden account for "3 Mops 3 Balls of String 5 Bushel of Salt for Ice House" (WSSC Parham MS 1/4/1/1/22) And on 30th June 1916 Parham Sawyard Records note the following timber was used for the Ice House door:

"2 pieces of oak 8 ft 4 ½ x 3 ½

1 piece of oak 4 ft 4 ½ x 3 ½
 2 pieces of oak 3 ft
 10 firboards 7 ft 6 ins 8 x 1"
 (WSSC Parham MS 1/4/1/5/1)

Filling the ice house at £1 0 0d in 1837 doesn't even begin to suggest the hard work involved by the garden staff. But there are contemporary accounts describing how workmen were revived after filling an ice house with bread and cheese, heated beer, brandy and rum.

Initially ice houses were used only for storing ice to be used in creating confections in the kitchen. They were not used for food preservation/storage. Food was stored on country estates in separate buildings: venison was hung in the venison house; fruit in the fruit house; and pigeons in the dove cote. But in 1819 the architect John Papworth stated that "the ice house forms an excellent larder for the preservation of every kind of food liable to be injured by heat in summer". But the main use was for supplying ice for confections. Ice cream is made by adding egg yolks and sugar to milk, boiling the mixture, then cooling, and adding whipped cream. An ice maker is prepared with ice in the outer compartment and the cooled mixture is poured into the middle. The handle is turned vigorously for 20-30 minutes until the mixture is stiff. Different flavours can be achieved by straining fruit and adding the syrup. The Court and Country Confectioner of 1772 gives recipes for ices made with elderberries, jasmine, white coffee, tea, pineapple, and barberries as well as brown bread and pistachios.

Ice cream was pressed into pewter fruit-shaped moulds, the seams sealed with lard, wrapped in brown paper, and plunged into an ice and salt mixture to freeze hard. Later copper moulds were used to form exotic Victorian "bombes" in the shape of anarchists' bombs, or grenades with flames made from spun sugar.

During the nineteenth century ice was imported from America initially only costing 2d per pound, and later from Norway. This ice had the advantage of being clean as ice from local ponds was contaminated by twigs and other debris. Ice was even shipped to Madras in India to British-built ice houses.

Large commercial ice houses (ice wells) were built in London, and Carlo Gatti an ice importer introduced the penny ice cream to ordinary working people. Norwegian ice was shipped to Limehouse Basin in the London docks and then transferred to canal barges. These barges travelled the Regent Canal and brought ice to Mr Gatti's ice wells at Battlebridge Basin. These ice wells are situated in a building dating to the 1860s in King's Cross which now houses the London Canal Museum, where there is a small sunny terrace overlooking residential narrowboats moored in the basin, which is still surrounded by warehouse buildings. The museum holds an oral history recording of Joseph Assirati, born 1905, talking about his father Guiseppe Assirati who was born in 1883 and started work at 16 in 1899 taking ice loads to hotels, etc., and commenting on how hard the work was.

Other commercial ice houses were built for the fishing industry to preserve hauls when the fleet came in, particularly on the north-east coast when the herring industry was at its peak. Domestically ice placed in a bucket in a draught effectively cooled a room (this method was used up until the 1920s at Buckingham Palace). And ice was sold for use in domestic ice boxes to preserve food before refrigeration.

Ice houses on country estates add another chapter to our knowledge of country house life, and commercial ice houses reflect the growing need to preserve food to feed an expanding population.

References

1837 Parham Garden Accounts, WSCC Parham MS 1/4/1/3/1

1844 Parham Garden Accounts, WSCC Parham MS 1/4/1/1/22

1916 Parham Sawyard Records, WSCC Parham MS 1/4/1/5/1

A Map of Parham Park, 1780's, WSCC MS 1/4/6/1/5

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Iron Age Hill Fort

Niall Sharples, Cardiff University,

The Ham Hill Iron Age hill fort site, in Somerset (England), spreads over 80 hectares - making it the largest in Britain and dwarfing better-known sites from the same period such as Maiden Castle, in Dorset, or Danebury in Hampshire. A major excavation is under way to explore its unclear history and researchers are now hoping to gain a deeper insight into life 2,000 years ago. Work is due to continue until September 2013 by which time the joint team from the universities of Cambridge and Cardiff hope to have a clearer map of its interior.

Niall Sharples, from Cardiff University, said: "It's a bit of an enigma. Ham Hill is so big that no archaeologist has ever really been able to get a handle on it. People think of these places as defensive structures, but it is inconceivable that such a place could have been defended. Thousands of people would have been required; militarily, it would have been a nightmare. Clearly it was a special place for people in the Iron Age - but when did it become special, why, and how long did it stay that way?"

Researchers believe the site may have been a monument and was somehow meant to create a sense of community, collective identity, or prestige. "We don't know if the site's development was prompted by trade, defence or communal identity needs," Christopher

Evans, from the Cambridge archaeological unit, said. "Equally, should we be thinking of it as a great, centralised settlement place - almost proto-urban in its layout and community size?"

One of the key aims of the current excavation will be to pin down the rough date of the hill fort's construction. Although there have been Bronze Age finds from an earlier era, it is still not known when the hill was occupied and the ramparts built. The current excavation has already thrown up a number of finds. The initial dig uncovered human remains - one full skeleton and the partial remnants of perhaps two others - as well as the skeleton of a dog. All are still being studied and dated. The team also found more signs of domestic life - the remains of a house, pottery, iron sickles, quern stones, bill hooks and other objects dating back to before the Roman invasion.

The Durotriges tribe, which lived on the hill, was subdued in 45 CE by soldiers of the 2nd Legion under the command of the future emperor Vespasian, but what the Romans found there: a street system lined with houses on their own plots of land, is what archaeologists hope to uncover more fully in excavations over the next three summers. "There was a main road going through and regular enclosures with round houses in them - it looks rather like suburbia," added Christopher Evans.

At the moment archaeologists are focusing on a rectangular enclosure which was surrounded by a ditch, measuring about 100m by 60m. Several such paddocks appear to have existed, as well as at least one main thoroughfare and a scattering of roundhouses and grain storage pits. It is still unclear what the rectangular spaces were meant for. "Enclosures are not normally found inside hill forts of the Iron Age and it may be that this has a special place in its layout," Sharples concluded.

Stonehenge Quarry Tomb

Louise Ord, Assistant producer, Digging for Britain

The tomb for the original builders of Stonehenge could have been unearthed by an excavation at a site in Wales. The Carn Menyn site in the Preseli Hills is where the bluestones used to construct the first stone phase of the henge were quarried in 2300 BCE.

The remains of a ceremonial monument were found with a bank that appears to have a pair of standing stones embedded in it. The bluestones at the earliest phase of Stonehenge - also set in pairs - give a direct architectural link from the iconic site to this newly discovered henge-like monument in Wales.

The tomb, which is a passage cairn - a style typical of Neolithic burial monument - was placed over this henge. The central site had already been disturbed so archaeologists chose to excavate around the edges. Organic material from the site will be radiocarbon dated, but it is thought any remains have already been removed.

Two of the leading experts on Stonehenge, Prof Geoff Wainwright and Prof Timothy Darvill, have been leading the project at Carn Menyn. The area has many springs, which may have been associated with ritual healing in prehistoric times - and their existence may be the reason why these particular stones were quarried for another monument so far away.

Prof Wainwright said: "The important thing is that we have a ceremonial monument here that is earlier than the passage grave. "We have obviously got a very important person who may have been responsible for the impetus for these stones to be transported. It can be compared directly with the first Stonehenge, so for the first time we have a direct link between Carn Menyn - where the bluestones came from - and Stonehenge, in the form of this ceremonial monument."

STOP PRESS

5000-year-old arrowhead unearthed in Scotland

Archaeologists on the site of the Kilwinning mediaeval abbey in Scotland believe the flint leaf arrowhead dates from the early Neolithic, circa 3500 BCE.

Tom Rees, of Rathmell Archaeology, said: "While this may be a stray loss by a prehistoric hunter, Neolithic flint arrowheads during the mediaeval period were termed elf-shot and used as amulets to protect the wearer, giving a more intriguing process for bringing the arrowhead onto our site."

Already a range of medieval and post-medieval finds have been recovered including slate carved as gaming boards.

Edited from The Irvine Herald and Kilwinning Chronicle.

Winter Talks

Talks usually take place over the winter/spring months in the Lecture theatre at Worthing library and normally start at 7.30 p.m., unless otherwise stated below.

11 October 2011

David McOmish - Senior Archaeological Investigator - English Heritage
'Arundel and the end of Prehistory' - Con Ainsworth Memorial Lecture
Glass of wine or cup of coffee afterwards.

5 November 2011 (1.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.)

Lesley Voice has kindly agreed to hold a talk on the results of her (and Tony's) work on Parham in the small meeting room in the basement of Worthing Library.

The room holds about 20 people and we will be serving light refreshments.
To cover the costs of room hire etc, there will be a small charge of £2 a head.
The talk is open to members and non-members alike.

As space is limited, please e-mail contact@worthingarch.co.uk to book a space.

8 November 2011

Diccon Hart - Senior Archaeologist - Archaeology South-East
The Archaeology of a chalk downland site: 4000BC to AD100

18 November 2011

Autumn Social - Sure to be even more successful than last year
New and Improved Venue, tickets nearer the time.

13 December 2011

Bob Turner - Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society and
Member of the British Astronomical Association
Where Archaeology meets Astronomy

10 January 2012

David Butcher - University of Sussex and CDAS
The Evolution of a Medieval Village: Eartham to AD 1550

14 February 2012

David Rudling - Senior Lecturer in Archaeology - Centre for Community Engagement
Roman settlement and land-use in the Sussex Ouse valley - John Pull Lecture
Glass of wine or cup of coffee afterwards.

13 March 2012

AGM plus Keith Bolton will talk about the work of the field unit in last 12 months.

10 April 2012

Rodney Gunner
A Continuation of the History of the Gumber during WW1 and WW2.

Round up

Rescue Archaeology is almost at a standstill, with lack of new developments taking place, there is little to report.

Our Society has just completed another season of digging at the Roman site at Walberton, an interesting find being a well, it was perfectly preserved, and of skilful construction, it was not possible to excavate to any depth this season, due to its closeness to the bulk.

Next year hopefully will see it reveille any secrets it may have.

The rest of the site was of interest, but at this point it has not revealed a great deal, except that we know that it will have a story to tell, there is a ditch that appears to be running around the site, the site being a square does throw up many interpretations as to what it may have been, one thing being certain is that at some point it was demolished and well robbed out.

More to come later when this year's site report comes out, so watch the web site.

Work has carried on at Brinsbury and Walberton nursery's, reports are being written up and in due course will be published.

This winter there will be some surveying work on the Slindon Estate, this will involve the surveying of the WW1 Airship Station, and the WW1 prisoner of War camp.

It is planned that a walk will be arranged for members to look at theses sites over the winter months.

Winter being the best time to see what is left on the ground.

The Gumber ww1decoy airfield will be included in the sites visited, this site has major importance to the defence of Tangmere airfield in the early years of WW2 in Sussex.

In addition to the survey work of the P.O.W.camp, a field walk of the area will be arranged, or should I say a woodland and scrub walk !!, it will be different, there are finds there, it will be interesting to see what we can unearth.

A reminder to you if you have the internet to look on a regular basis at our web site, there you find a host of information about the society and what it is doing.

List of sites worth a visit.

<http://www.worthingarch.co.uk>

<http://slindonatwarmyblog.wordpress.com>

<http://sussexthegreatwar.wordpress.com>

<http://binstedtilekilns.wordpress.com>

<http://www.sussexpast.co.uk>

<http://www.westsussexpast.org/gateway>

Rodney Gunner - *Editor*



GRAND QUIZ

GRAND SOCIAL

18th November 7.30pm

Gardeners Arms Sompting Village

£10.00 per head

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Book tickets now, many already sold in advance

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Journal

All contributions to the newsletter are very welcome!
Please supply in pdf format if possible, and photos as separate .jpegs. to
Secretary, Rodney Gunner.

Any views and/or opinions expressed in this newsletter are not
necessarily those of the Society nor it's membership

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