Worthing Archaeological Society

Journal

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Summer 2005

Contents

Editorial

In this issue of the journal there is a varied selection of articles, hopefully something for every member whatever their interest may be.

The Society is in the process of broadening its scope of activities to include church and buildings archaeology, and this summer we are undertaking a small scale excavation at Burton church near Sutton West Sussex, together with work at Warmingshurst church, and at Sele Priory in upper Beeding

On the buildings side there is work being undertaken at Slindon House in Slindon village, together with the part medieval tower there. The house stands on the site of a Palace of the Archbishops of Canterbury. The building still contains some very interesting features, such as an early 13th century window on an interior wall, and a fine example of a Tudor door.

Over the past winter and spring recording and research work has been undertaken into the First and Second World War activities on the Slindon estate. There were two prisoner of war camps on the estate, plus a First World War airship station, from which airships were flown to patrol the English channel looking for German submarines.

In forthcoming editions of the journal there will be more detailed articles about the above work being undertaken, meanwhile if you want to become involved in any of the above activities then you will be most welcome, please contact me.

The deadline for copy of the next issue of the journal is October 1st 2005.

Rodney Gunner

Book Review

The Lost Churches and Chapels of Sussex

This book and the sister volume covering Kent are by society member Alex Vincent.

The 50 subject churches and chapels it tackles each have a page and an accompanying photograph.

All the pictures were taken by the author. Some are relevant in showing the decayed or restored remains, but others are too vaguely connected to the subject and it would have been better to use such old pictures or drawings as exist for many of the illustrations. A trawl around the local museums and the Sussex Archaeological Society's collections including the Sharpe Collection located at Michelham would provide some number of these.

The few lines of text accompanying each photograph reflects the published knowledge from various sources, only hinted at in the four lines of acknowledgements.

It is a pity that there is no bibliography for the reader whose interest is stimulated. The subject is a broad one, passing mention of the Plague or Black Death as the definitive causes of village and hence Church abandonment is not expanded on, nor is space given to alternative theories.

Being familiar with the topic, I was aware of the location of almost all sites mentioned, but there is little or no indication of where any site is, certainly most can be found on a modern map, I had to do some research for some. A map at the front showing each site would help. Given the small size of the sites, either directions or preferably an OS Grid Reference would enable the casual reader to get an idea of geography as well as being able to visit.

Overall despite the back cover hyping it as the 'definitive guide', this book should be regarded as a teasing first exposure to an extensive and fascinating topic

I am sure that while there are limitations in this book it will sell well and Alex is to be congratulated for getting it published.

The Lost Churches and Chapels of Sussex

Alex Vincent

SB Publications, Seaford, 2005

ISBN: 9 781857 703030

Price £5.50

Martin Snow

A Comparison of Historical Knowledge with a Resistance Survey.

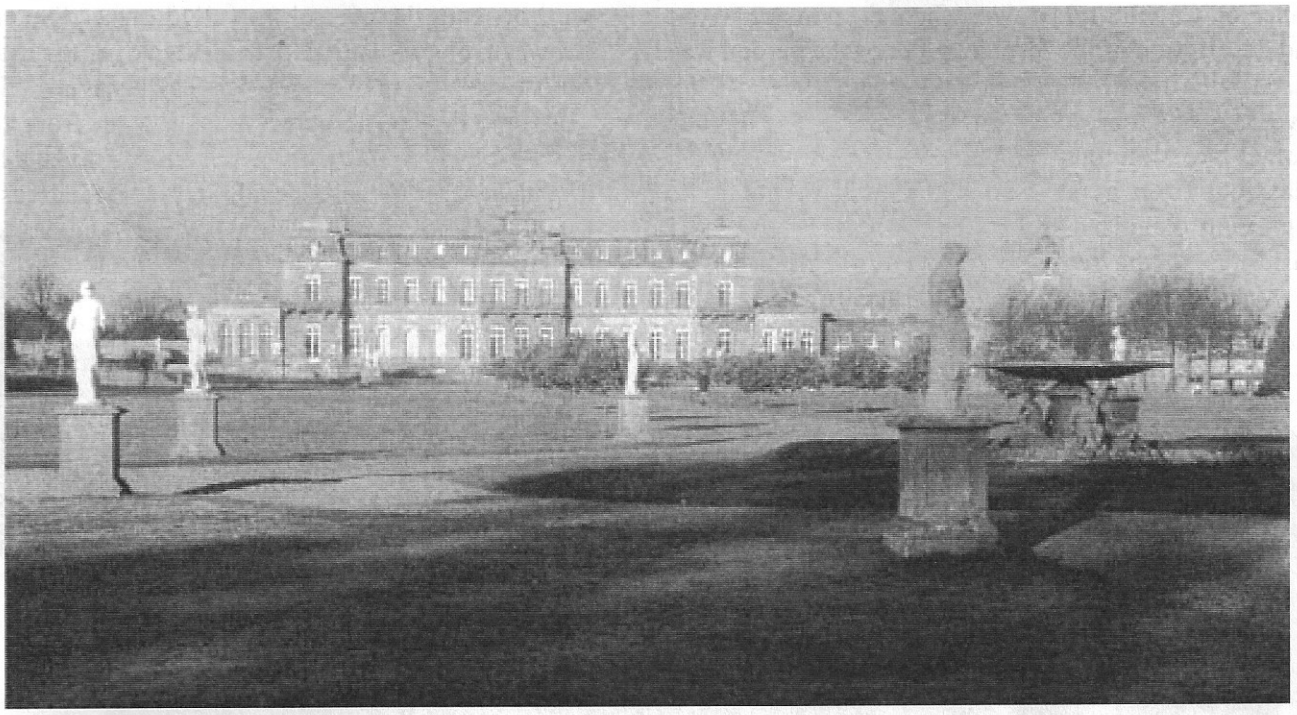

Fig. 1 Wrest Park Mansion, from the site of the Mediaeval Manor

A resistance survey is an excellent way to assist archaeologists in determining where to dig; like aerial photography however it is a graphic aid which, without other corroborating evidence, can be misleading and it is only by excavation that interpretations can be confirmed. On this occasion a resistance survey was carried out over an area where a considerable amount is known in the historical record and where excavation would not be allowed.

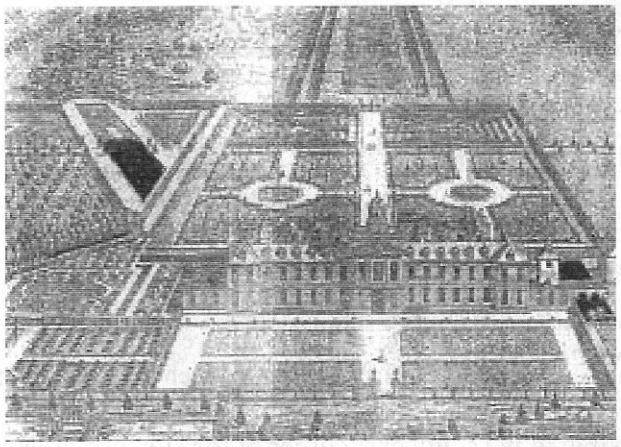

Fig. 2 Kip/Knyff Engraving looking south c. 1705

While carrying out historical research on the Wrest Park Estate at Silsoe, Bedfordshire, the Ampthill & District Archaeological & Local History Society were fortunate to have the opportunity to carry out a resistance survey over the buried foundations of a mediaeval manor house that was demolished in the 1830's.

The Estate was owned by the de Grey Family and its history is recorded in great detail, with particular attention given to the grounds and extensive garden.

The Earl de Grey replaced the manor house with a new mansion on a site some 200 yards to the North and covered the old foundations with formal lawns. In dry conditions scorch marks in the grass show up their position.

To the south of the manor site there is still a terrace which was part of the earlier garden layout. A fountain is placed to the north of the old house in a cross formed by wide gravel driveways which delineate the present garden. Statues are placed at strategic points.

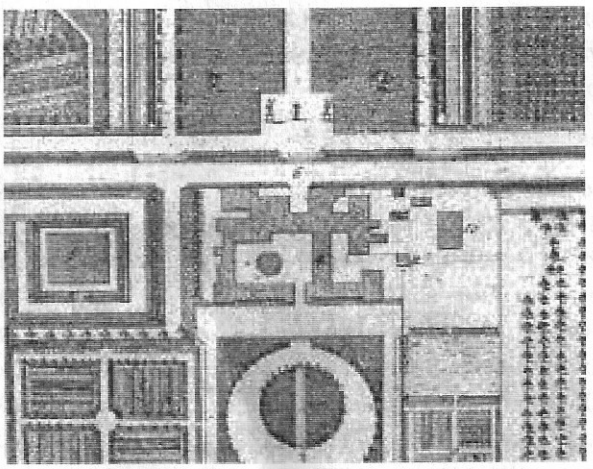

Fig. 3 Rocque Plan 1735

In the archives we have plans and engravings (figs. 2, 3 & 4) recording the many changes that have taken place over the years, including some inspired by Lancelot "Capability" Brown, when, the general layout and description of the formal layout of the garden was partially softened in line with current fashion. They give us a fair representation of what the early house looked like although it must be remembered that the Classical front as seen in the Kip/ Knyff (fig. 2) engraving disguised the mediaeval conglomerate of buildings to the rear. We also have a plan of the building drawn for the Earl de Grey after it had been demolished (fig. 4) This we believe was drawn partially from memory and may not be strictly to scale but it is invaluable for general layout and description of the rooms and chambers.

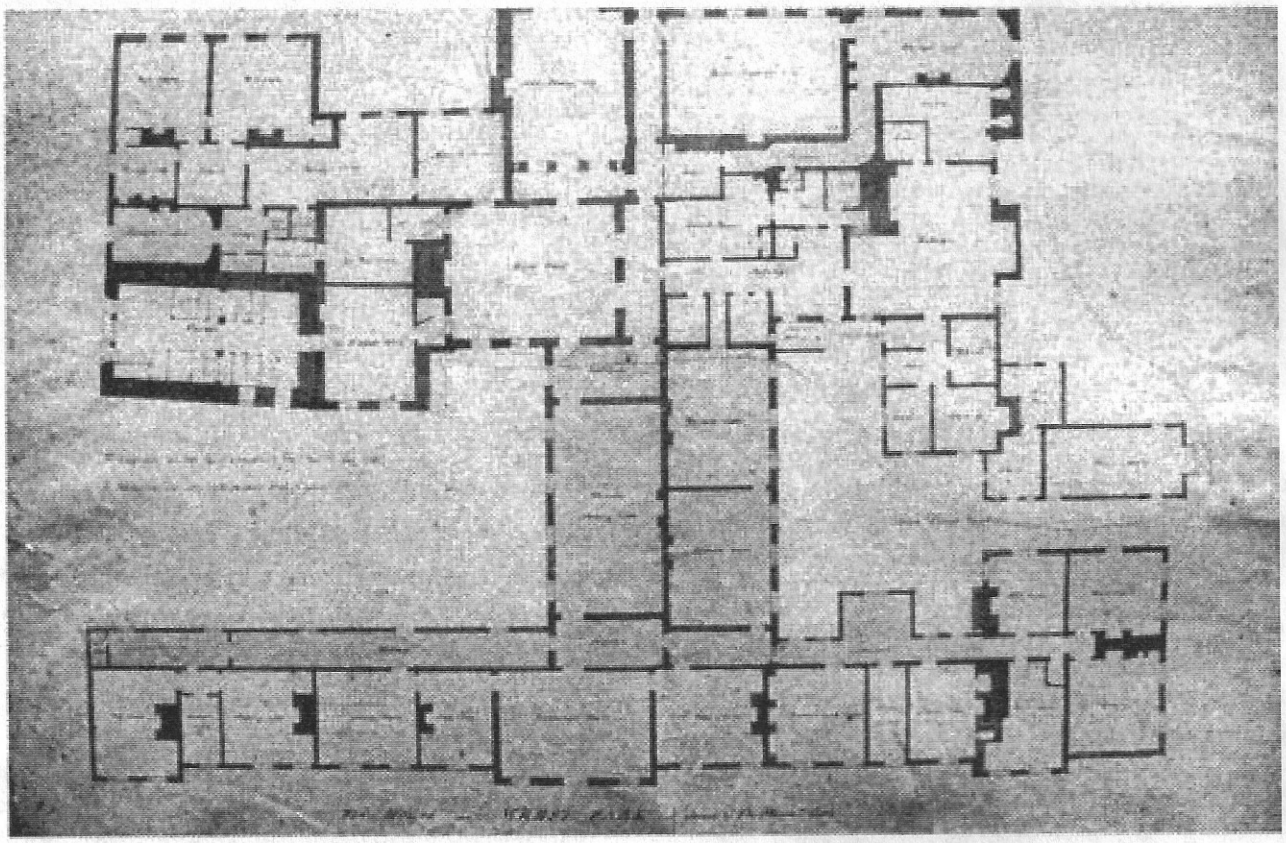

Fig. 4 Earl De. Grey Plan

Results

The survey results are shown in Fig. 5. Using a grey scale, "black" represents low resistance and "white" high resistance. Most of the completely white areas represent statues, the fountain or trees and bushes where readings could not be taken. However several anomalous readings were caused by the probe not making complete contact with the ground in the gravel areas. This problem was resolved early in the survey. The results can be compared with the house plans, (figs. 3 & 4) and the Kip/Kniff engraving (fig. 2)

The north front is relatively easy to identify with its lean-to passage on the south side. The great dining room, built c. 1760, somewhat surprisingly shows up well beneath the central gravelled drive. The chapel shows up clearly and also the bridge over the moat on the west side, see the Kip/Knyff engraving (fig. 2) The central block connecting the north front to the older part shows as a higher resistance amidst a lower resistance courtyard and surrounding floor areas. It is possible that heavy rains had caused water to accumulate in puddled areas below ground.

The buildings, Queen Anne's wing, and circular feature in the cast courtyard shows up in accordance with the details in (Fig. 3) as do the walls heading north either side of the main approach to the house. There is some evidence of the major circular features around the drive in this area. Interestingly there are other features showing up in the courtyard areas which may represent other buildings and drain runs. Other drain runs are visible in the south cast corner of the site, one at least linking up with a modern inspection pit cover. The known western section of the moat shows up as a relatively uniform clear area with a bridge and it is possible that the clear area on the east side at a similar distance from the central drive is the eastern part of the moat. The northern leg has not shown up at all. The southern leg, assuming a rectangular moat, may have lain under terrace before it was filled and

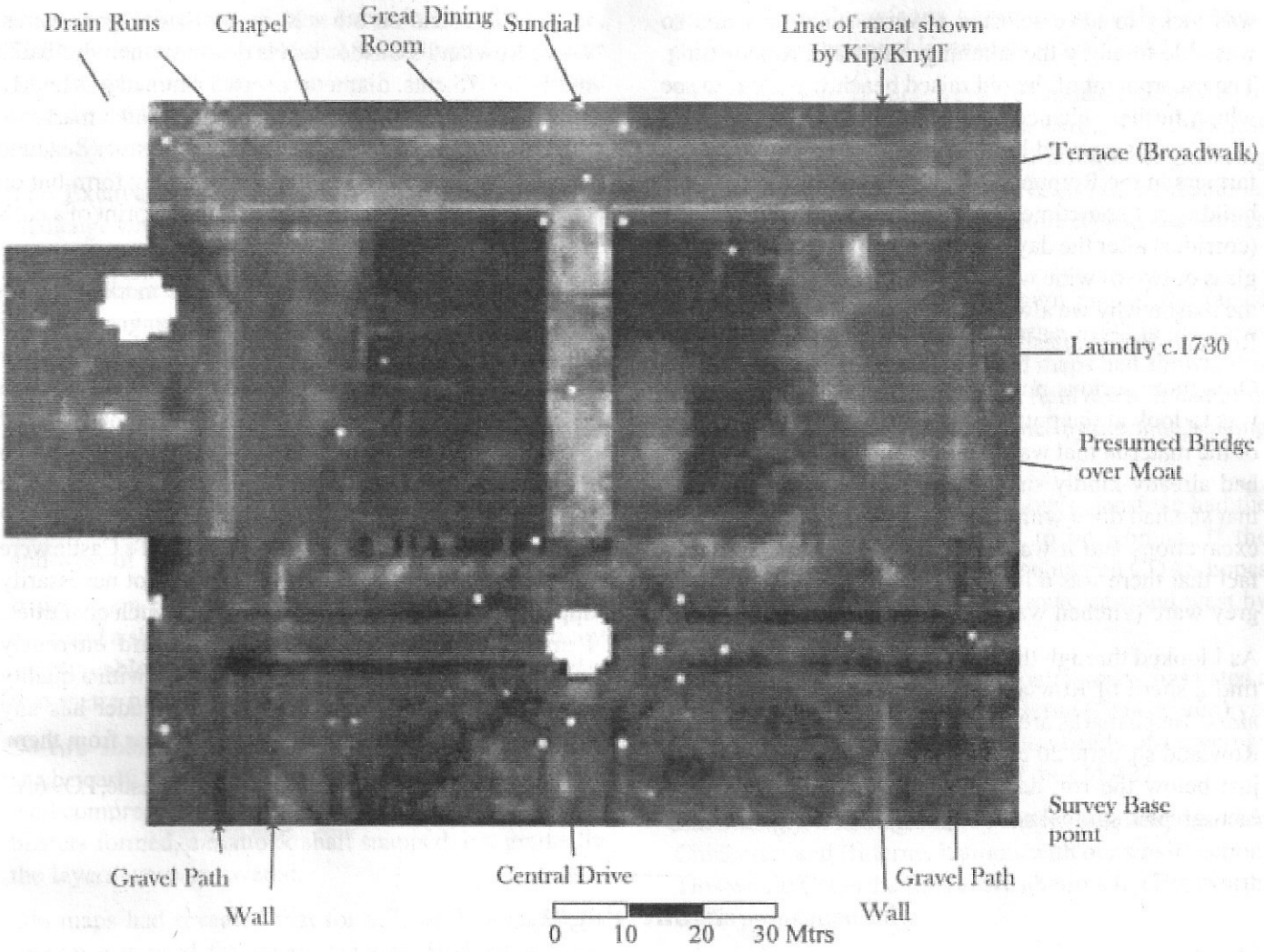

Fig. 5 Resistance Survey

gravelled to produce the present Broad Walk. The edges of this terrace showed up as high resistance areas which may represent containing walls either for the terrace or possibly the moat. The edges of the east - west gravelled drive either side of the present fountain show up as low resistance areas, suggesting earlier ditches. The south west corner of the site is rather baffling if the Earl De Grey's plan is correct. A very strong anomaly matched with crop marks showed up well to the west of the large bake ovens shown on the plan. It may however be the site of the small square building shown in (fig. 3).

Conclusions

Comparing a resistance survey with known historical facts is a fascinating exercise and certainly adds to our knowledge in a non-destructive way. For an independent society wishing to gain experience with a resistivity meter it gives confidence in what can be found and how it shows up in practice. For instance the features showing through the gravel drives which have probably have been in position and maintained for over a hundred years are remarkable and could hardly have been expected. Equally the modern east - west and central drives almost certainly started off lined with ditches which was quite a surprise.

Inevitably the resistance survey shows up a number of anomalies, the origin of which could only be ascertained by excavation.

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank Silsoe Research Institute and English Heritage for granting access to the site and to the Bedfordshire and Luton Archives and Record Service for their assistance and permission to reproduce the Kip/Knyff, Rocque and Earl de Grey plans.

Kevan Fadden & Mike Turner.
The Council for Independant Archaeology

Rowland's Castle Batch Marks

During a visit to the excavations at Slindon last year I was lucky to have selected a warm sunny day and so was able to enjoy the stunning views and rural setting. The escarpment of the old raised beach was clear to see which further enhanced the position of the farmstead. I am always surprised by the wonderful location that the farmers in the Romano-British period selected for their buildings. I sometime image them, seated on a veranda (corridor) after the day's work was complete, enjoying a glass or two of wine whilst eating oysters. This could be the reason why we always find so many oyster shells on Romano-British sites!

On a more serious note. The main purpose of my visit was to look at the pottery and obtain a first hand image of the material that was being found on site. Sue Nelson had already kindly shared with me the excellent work that she had done with the pottery from previous years' excavations and it was Sue who had alerted me to the fact that there was a large amount of Rowland's Castle grey ware (kitchen ware) in the assemblage.

As I looked through the bags of pottery I was excited to find a sherd of Rowland's Castle pottery with *a batch mark.* Batch marks are usually, but not always, found on Rowland's Castle 20 cms diameter everted rimmed jars just below the rim and take the form of an inscribed hieroglyphic symbol normally in Roman numerals. They seem to be unique to Rowland's Castle products as none have been found on other Romano-British grey wares. Other Rowland's Castle vessels that have included batch marks are 15 cms. diameter everted rimmed jars and 18 cms diameter lids. I have found several batch marks on the bases of jars as well as the rims. I was very excited recently when I thought I had found a new form but on closer inspection it turned out to be the imprint of a cat's paw!

The iconographic significance of these marks is still a mystery but several theories have been suggested. These range from ownership, to indications of the capacity or the contents of the vessels. The only similar use of batch marks that I am aware of is that used on some forms of Samian ware. The explanation for these has been given that the Samian potters used a common large kiln to fire their products and the batch marks were used to identify ownership after firing. The kilns at Rowland's Castle were never that large so this suggestion does not necessarily apply but it may be a way of identifying batch quantities. I am still researching batch marks and currently investigating if there maybe a connection with a quality mark but it is still early days. If any reader has any suggestions I would be very pleased to hear from them.

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jon-rowlands@yahoo.com

Stone Pages

Well, my wife Paola and I, we are both journalists. We are Italians (and that's why sometimes you can find grammar and spelling errors in the newsletters we are writing in English) and back in 1996 we created the "Stone Pages" (*http://www.stonepages.com*), the very first online guide to ancient European monuments ever appeared on the Web.

We created that website mainly because we are interested in megaliths - Italy is overcrowded by Etruscan, Roman, Medieval and Renaissance monuments, so we got fed up with all this and became fascinated by Prehistoric sites instead.

We started collecting information and taking pictures of ancient sites in 1989 -and seven years later we decided to share our photo archive and our (little) knowledge with the Internet community. So, the Stone Pages became a milestone for many people interested in megaliths. Many other websites followed in our footsteps, which is a clear indicator that the ancient monuments are still a fascinating subject.

In August, 1998 we started publishing the "Archaeo News", which is probably the "oldest" Internet bulletin about prehistory news. For a couple of years the bulletin was available only as a series of web pages, but soon it changed also as a free newsletter. So, today you can read the news as soon as they are published directly in our website (*http://www.stonepages.com/news/*), while those interested in receiving the same news in their e-mailboxes, they can subscribe to the weekly bulletin. The subscription is completely free and the newsletter doesn't contain any advertisement. Online visitors can also browse through our almost 1200-article archive which can be ordered by date or region.

The number of subscribers is rising steadily: now we're almost 1700 and we're having a 40% yearly average increase rate. We are also managing an online Forum with about 900 users. Each day (or whenever we can) we collect the news from a wide array of sources - all of them being duly aknowledged - and after editing the original articles, we publish them in our website. By the way, the whole news section is managed by just 3 people as there is a volunteer position available as "Archaeo News Editor", any help would be most appreciated!

You can find additional info about ourselves here:

http://www.stonepages.com/about_us.html

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you need any additional information.

Paola Arosio & Diego Meozz

Chichester & District Archaeology Society Update

When the Redstone family acquired an extra strip of land to extend the garden of their home in Blackboy Lane, Fishbourne, they were told that it had once formed part of a Roman road. Unable to verify this, Mr Redstone turned to Chichester & District Archaeology Society (CDAS) for help.

The Excavation Committee of CDAS accepted the challenge with enthusiasm, a project design was prepared and agreed by District Archaeologist Mr James Kenny, and in December last year 17 volunteers put in two trenches to test the legend.

In the garden was a 59 metre raised, east-west linear feature, approximately six metres wide. Survey and documentary research revealed this continued eastwards as Nursery Lane to Salthill Road. To the west a number of straight line field boundaries continued this alignment, and marks on aerial photographs supported the line east and west of Brooks Lane, Bosham.

It was soon clear that obstructions such as a garage, trees and a shed, limited the digging area, and electricity supply cables buried all along the south side caused a two metre no-go area there.

So two short trenches were placed across part of the road, nearly 21 metres apart. The diggers soon found the well compressed road surfaces were hard to get through, blisters formed, a mattock shaft snapped, but gradually the layers were uncovered.

Old maps had revealed that for at least 220 years this section was used for access between Bethwines Farm and Slated Barn and this was supported by finds of several post medieval surfaces common to both trenches, including a substantial layer of pounded chalk.

Beneath these layers were substantial deposits of cambered grey clay above brick earth. The thickness and extent of the clay suggested a major engineering operation, which Mr Kenny believes is much substantial than needed for a farm track and more typical of a Roman Road.

Both trenches were in the northern part of the raised feature and one was extended further north in the hopes of finding a ditch. But, as the old maps had shown, this had been in use for centuries as a field drain. It had been periodically cleaned out, at least once by machine, leaving no trace of a Roman ditch.

No Roman artefacts were found but at least we had the large spread of clay, believed to be Roman. If the permission of landowners can be obtained CDAS hopes to do further work to check the route east and west by resistivity survey.

Ivan Margary, the authority on Roman roads, has listed a road between Chichester and Bitterne (Clausentum) via Broadbridge, Bosham, skirting the heads of numerous creeks, then following the line of the old A27.

Interestingly, if a straight line is drawn on the map between Chichester and Bitterne, it aligns with our small section. This would Cross the Ems at Westbourne not Emsworth, and is postulation only.

Alan Stanley

Isle of Tiree

In 2001 I enjoyed a three day stay on the Isle of Tiree which is west of Mull. There was a small heritage centre on the island and I was lucky enough to find it open with its custodian present. I explained that I was interested in the Archaeology of the Western Islands and was shown their small exhibit of finds. I was then asked if I would like to see some old photographs of people and places on the island and an album of pictures was produced. To my complete astonishment in the front was a title page saying-

THE ISLAND OF TIREE 1941 - 1943

by

George. A. Holleyman F.S.A.

The introduction explained how Mr Holleyman was called up in January 1941 and eventually joined the R.A.F. Police, being sent to Tiree in September. He was very pleased about this as he had worked with Dr Curwen who was very interested in the Hebrides. [Dr Curwen had taught himself Gaelic and would sing Gaelic songs accompanying himself on the Clarsach or Gaelic harp]. Corporal Holleyman taught himself enough Gaelic, with the aid of a Gaelic dictionary, to be able to talk to the local people. Although the use of cameras was strictly forbidden on the island, it was not difficult to bring one in, and an RAF policeman was able to wander freely anywhere. The album was eventually produced 40 years later with the help of Linda Gowans.

I asked if I might be able to pay for a copy of the script and the custodian explained that she would have to ask Mr Holleyman first. I explained that it might help if she told him that I was a member of the Worthing Archaeological Society and a friend of Con Ainsworth! Two weeks later I received my copy.

Ann Induni

Revolution in the Record Offices

The digital revolution has reached the world of record offices. For generations researchers have tracked down their source material by scanning handwritten and typescript catalogues, largely available only in the record office holding the original documents. Now you can search thousands of catalogues for hundreds of record offices throughout England, simultaneously from a single website, Access to Archives, at www.a2a.org.uk. Enclosed is the new user's guide, written by A2A project supervisor in Sussex and SAS Vice-President John Farrant.

East and West Sussex Record Offices are at the forefront of this revolution. We have steadily climbed the monthly league table of 'hits' from A2A searches and in June were third and seventh out of 351 offices. East Sussex had seven among the top 28 places (out of 80,000!) for most requested catalogues– four of them of archives transferred by SAS and catalogued in the 1920s and 1930s by the Revd Walter Budgen. Storing documents in the Barbican, the Society did immensely valuable work in saving them from destruction or dispersal into private collections, before local authority record offices existed. Budgen prepared very detailed catalogues, thick with personal names, now being quarried by family historians.

Our showing is witness to the size and richness of our holdings, and the progress in digitising. Each office has some 40,000 pages of catalogues containing some 400,000 entries. By the end of July some 90% of West and 70% of East Sussex's catalogues will be on the website.

We have achieved this by raising grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Big Lottery (formerly New Opportunities Fund), usually in consortia with other offices, to tackle particular types of records. Copies o the catalogues are marked up to indicate the hierarchi levels and fields for the database and dispatched t Mauritius for rekeying. Backlogs are tackled: newly listed for example, are over 3000 inquests conducted by Eas Sussex coroners between 1903 and 1938. In 2004-5, *The Sussex Parish Chest* project is listing recently deposite material and upgrading the catalogues of records fo some 400 Church of England parishes, as well a converting an old manual and electronic database o 20,000 West Sussex poor law documents.

A2A enables you to identify in advance of a visit wha documents you want to see – particularly important fo ESRO as many now require several days' notice to b brought from remote stores. A2A may also produce yo finds in unexpected places. Information on an individua can be widely dispersed: my article in *SAC* 139 (2001 on the 18th-century antiquary William Burrell drew o 18 record offices. A2A found for Sue Berry letters fro the Pelham family in the Wrest Park (Lucas) papers a the Bedfordshire and Luton Record Office; these cas new light on landscaping at Stanmer near Brighton in th 1760s. With heightened historical interest in the Britis presence in the Middle East, A2A has taken scholars t Wilfred Scawen Blunt's papers in WSRO.

Over the next 12 months, the *Sussex Parish Ches* project is offering free A2A induction sessions, using clusters of computers in public libraries. If your local or family history group or continuing education class is interested, contact John Farrant, 01273 478 133, farrant@universitas.co.uk.

The Morrow-Mass

Before the Reformation the Morrow–Mass was the first service of the day, this was held throughout the country, but it was very popular in Sussex. People started work early in those days, much earlier than we do today.

The Mass only lasted about twenty minutes; in Chichester Cathedral groups of peddlers, pilgrims, and city people would have attended the Mass. They would have been standing around in groups, chiefly in the aisles, about the massive Norman pillars of the nave. Was this because perhaps they were not really that interested in attending, but their masters expected it of them?

The time of the Mass was five am in the summer months and six am from Michaelmas till Easter. In Horsham the Mass took place in the porch of the parish church, being a bleak place for a service on a winter's morning.

At Newark Morrow-Mass was said at four o'clock ever morning, winter and summer, and the bells of the churc would be rung to tell the people that the Mass was abou to start.

The last Morrow-Mass was held around 1550s i Icklesham, which was well after the Reformation, th priest bravely ringing the bell for at least some willin worshippers.

At Chichester Cathedral, up until around the 1920s occasionally the bells still rang out winter and summer t call the people to a service, which had been officiall abandoned for almost five hundred years:

Rodney Gunne

Society walks

A Sunday afternoon stroll! - Sunday 31st July

There will be a Sunday walk around the Sele Priory site in Upper Beeding, if you have not visited this most interesting and I feel forgotten site, then join me on a two hour gentle walk around the site, and a visit to the church of St. Peter part of which, is built over the Priory's remains.

There are some interesting remains to see, some hidden in the fabric of the walls surrounding the churchyard, others remains within the church fabric itself.

St Peter's Church is situated on the edge of a gravel outcrop carved by the river Adur over 1,000 years ago.

At the time of the construction of the church the river was in an estuary form, with mirrored position on the other side of the river being the similar but much taller ground outcrop of Bramber.

Saxon Background

There is reference made in Saxon documents to "Beding" in king Alfreds will. His father, Ethelwuf, died in 858 in the parish of Beeding.

Later, Beeding was a Manor of Earl Godwin, who was a great Sussex nobleman, and whose son Harold briefly became King and died at the Battle of Hastings.

It is likely that a Saxon church existed in Beeding before the Norman Conquest.

At certain times of the year, mainly during a dry summer, you can view from the tower of the church of St. Peters, a pattern in the grass of the adjacent priory, in the form of a semi circular apse and the beginnings of a nave wall. Possibly this will shortly be the subject of an investigation, in the first instance by a resistivity survey.

The Norman Conquest

In 1066 William the Conqueror invaded England and won the Battle of Hastings. One of his great Knights at the battle was William de Braose, whose name is included in the Role at Battle Abbey today. He established himself in Bramber as the Lord of the Manor:

In Bramber he began the construction of his castle, but there was not enough on the outcrop of gravels to build a Priory, so he looked for another site close by, an ideal site was found in Beeding gravel outcrop, where a church was built and completed in 1073.

It was around 1080 that the church became a priory church; the priory was a cell of St. Florent near Saumur in the Loire Valley.

Around 1090 Beeding Church was confirmed as a parish Church, and the property of the Abbey of St. Florent.

There is a mention in the Doomsday book of 1085 of there being two churches at Beeding within the parish, it is certain that one was St, Peters, the other is unclear as to its location.

The Walk will start at 2.00 pm and finish about 4.30 pm,
Meet at the church of St. Peters in Upper Beeding:
There is a small charge of £2.00 per head,
accompanied children free,
this will be donated to the church:

If you are coming, please advise Rodney Gunner : 07803 596684

An Ancient Park and Lost Houses
Warminghurst - Sunday 21st August

A stroll around the small, but history packed parish of Warminghurst. Never with a large population, but home to William Penn, Quaker, founder of Pennsylvania.

The now redundant Church of The Holy Sepulchre, a time capsule of early 18C furnishing, with what may be the oldest bell in Sussex, is worth the trip out alone. A recent study has revealed a number of features in its fabric which may have not been noted before.

At various times there has been a park which covered much of the parish, with a pond which though still detectable, was drained in the early 19C by the Norfolk Estate who by that time owned much of the area.

Another water feature was the mill pond, also drained long ago, this was used to power a mill sited near the north-south former Drove Road which forms the main (only) road through the south of the parish.

Today the ecclesiastic parish is merged with Thakeham, the two churches in sight of one another, barely ½ mile apart across the fields, but 3 to 4 miles by modern roads.

Join us for a view of the landscape and buildings, interspersed with some glimpses of the unravelling history.

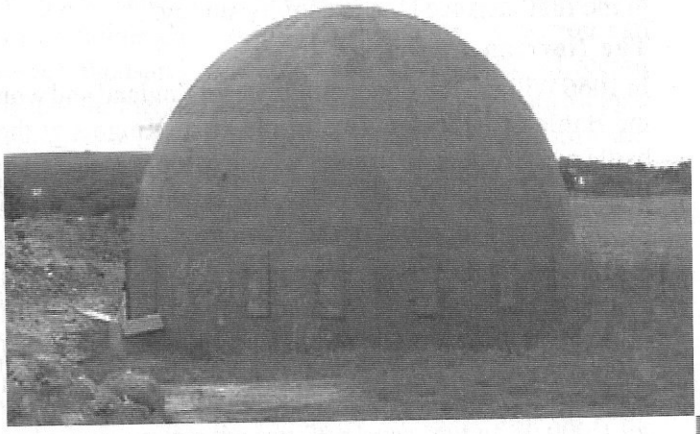
Warminghurst is signposted west from the village of Ashington, off the A24 north of Worthing.

Meet at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at 2.00 pm.
Parking is in the road, please share transport if possible.
We will be walking on footpaths as well as roads,
please have suitable footwear and be prepared
for either a sunny or damp afternoon.
No Dogs.
There is a small charge of £2.00 per head,
accompanied children free
this will be donated to the church.
Please be sure to sign the visitors book in the Church .

If you plan on coming, please advise Martin Snow : 01903 208975 email : martin@snowing.co.uk
www.warminghurst.org.uk

World War II - Dome trainer

Shoreham Airport



This building on the northern part of Shoreham Airport, is a hemispherical in shape being 12m in diameter, it has nine windows.

The building is built of concrete and metal mesh, and covered with tar, and is painted on the outside in green camouflage effect.

It has been known more locally as an astrodome, but its correct name is a dome trainer, it was used in the Second World War, it would have housed training apparatus including a projector.

The interior was laid out very simply during its period of use, in the centre on the floor area of the dome a dummy gun would have been mounted, together with a seat, this was mounted on a swivel which could turn through 180o, on the walls of the dome would be projected ,using several projectors films of moving aircraft, the gunner would then using the dummy gun fire to fire at the images, thus simulating combat duties using anti –aircraft guns during a air raid.

There are only three training domes left, this one, one at Langham airfield in Norfolk, and another on Penbrey airfield in Wales.

Please note this is not open to the public, and is on private property.

Rodney Gunner

Coach Outings Summer 2005

This Last Outing this Summer is

Sunday August 7th

Winchelsea and Rye

This visit to Winchelsea will be unusual, the guided tour is called
"Above and below the Town of Winchesea"
and covers the turbulent history of this interesting town.
The tour will last approximately two and a half hours.
Then we move on to Rye, where you will have time on your own to explore this unique town.
Do not fail to enjoy a cream tea in one of the many tea houses.

Cost £13.50

Tickets from Rodney Gunner

Please allow extra for venue admission costs and the cost of tour guides.
Every effort is made to keep these to the minimum.

Piety in Peril: The West Sussex School of Church Monuments

During twenty-five years of the mid-sixteenth century, a series of unusual tombs were erected in West Sussex churches which incorporated a heavy emphasis on religious iconography. These crudely-carved monuments emphasised the piety of those local gentry commemorated and were almost certainly made by a group of masons based in Chichester. They are all made of Caen stone, a whitish brown, easily worked sandstone imported from France, and probably landed at Dell Quay.

The masons' designs, created to satisfy the conservative taste of their West Sussex clientele, stand out starkly at a time when profound changes in religious doctrine were sweeping England. As the Reformation got into full swing, the policies of the fervently Protestant government of the young king Edward VI, with its state-sponsored destruction of any 'Popish' images, quickly put paid to their business, despite their earlier moves into secular activity like the carving of heraldic panels or wooden decorative panels now in Steyning church.

The reason for the existence of this group is simply that the West Sussex gentry also did not want to pay London prices, especially the high cost of transporting tombs, by water and the unreliable road system, from the capital. It may also be that London, as a hotbed of Protestant reform, may not have supplied such imagery to country clients. Both factors may lie behind the erection of Chichester-made tombs on the Isle of Wight, elsewhere in Hampshire, and in Kent.

Despite the very conservative tastes of those ordering these tombs, their design began to include more fashionable decorative features, producing a curious mixture of the Gothic and Renaissance.

The local gentry required monuments that both conveyed a vivid sense of their own status to the observer, and also persuaded them to regularly pray for their souls and those of their families. Many of the monuments are deliberately sited on the north wall of the chancel of the church, to be utilised during the Pre-Reformation liturgy as Easter sepulchres, piously watched over by parishioners from Good Friday through to Easter Sunday. Hence the religious iconography which was included as not only an inducement for prayer, as part of the religious duties, but for their souls as well.

The religious motifs frequently include the Resurrection and Christ in Majesty – again, emphasising the tomb's importance in the Easter ritual. There were also small figures of favourite saints. Most have been destroyed or effaced, either by Protestant reformers in the early 1550s, or later, under Parliamentary ordinances of 1644-5 forbidding such iconography in churches. Alternatively, these symbols of the old religion may have been carefully erased by succeeding generations of the family in an attempt to protect the monument from total destruction. That destruction now frequently cloaks the true meaning of the monuments and it is only in remote churches – which the reformers did not reach – that we have the original symbolism preserved, as at Racton, near Chichester, a village that does not feature on many maps today. Here we have the tomb of John Gounter and his family, erected sometime after 1527, which includes a crude figure of Christ in Majesty. In contrast, the tomb of Richard Beurre, of around the same period at Sompting, has lost its figures and religious symbolism, apart from an angel holding an heraldic shield, later set incongruously and meaninglessly at the back of the tomb.

The central religious section at Petworth, on the tomb of Sir John Dawtrey and his wife, has also been carefully cut out, with the sacred monogram 'IHS' later painted on to help make sense of the design. Note the free use of heraldry on this monument, a clear and unambiguous statement of status.

The tomb of Thomas, fifth Lord de la Warr, died 1532, at Broadwater also served as an Easter Sepulchre. The carved figures and symbols in the monument's recess have gone, and the figures of the saints in the niches of the tomb chest which have been planed flat. At Old Selsey, now called Church Norton, the monument to John Lewis and his wife Agnes, 1537, has again had its central religious feature cut out, but the figures of the couple's two favourite saints strangely remain on small corbels, left and right, in the arched recess. The martyrdom of St.Agnes is too graphic, too painful, to show a family audience.

West Wittering also escaped the attentions of the Protestant iconoclasts, as the late monument there, to William Ernley and his wife, 1545, clearly served as an Easter sepulchre and includes a figure of Christ in Majesty, and below, a depiction of the Annunciation.

Many of the up and coming merchant classes could not command the income or status that enabled them to be buried as close as possible to the high altar of a church. They went for the next best thing: the porch or near an entrance to a church, where, before the Reformation, some portions of the liturgy were regularly staged, such as baptism, funerals, weddings, again in the hope of soliciting the prayers of the faithful for their souls. There are three such tombs surviving from the output of the Chichester masons, all now sadly eroded or vandalised. Two are on the walls of the redundant church of St. Andrew Oxmarket in Chichester, both with inscriptions in raised letters, now frustratingly impossible to read, because of damage. The smaller of the two, on the south

Monument to Sarah Beard at Wiston

wall, probably shows Christ in Majesty, supported by two very active angels, with the remains of two scrolls, carrying the painted prayers of the deceased heavenwards. The kneeling figures on either side, portray those commemorated.

On the west wall of the church is a larger monument of around 1535, which almost certainly commemorates a Chichester alderman and his wife. Above the figures – their heads and those of their children have been lopped off – is another depiction of Our Lord in Majesty, probably with a figure of the Virgin Mary on the left, and a bishop, is it St. Richard? on the right. Again the inscription in raised letters is too damaged to discern the name and local records are unable to help us. Here technology may come to our assistance. A new archaeological technique to reconstruct vanished raised carving uses a laser beam to measure minute differences in height on a surface. It has been used successfully on some of the standing stones at Stonehenge. It may help us at Chichester to identify the subject of this monument – one of only two in England that commemorate an alderman. The only problem, as in much of archaeology, is one of cost.

Of the 22 surviving monuments, produced by this workshop, we have ten that were clearly used as Easter Sepulchres. Another three were sited in or around the entrance to churches. The remaining tombs may well have also served as Easter Sepulchres, but it is one of the oddities of the Church of England that parishes have had a passion, down the years, for moving fixtures and fittings around in restorations and re-ordering of the interior. Thus, we may have lost the true meaning or significance of some of these remaining tombs.

One which remains obvious is at Boxgrove, the stunning chantry chapel, erected in 1532 by Thomas, the sixth Lord de la Warr, as his burial place, where he planned to employ his own priest to say souls every day for the souls of his wife and himself. The chantry is copiously decorated with fat, self-satisfied cherubs, and some of the carvings on the pillars have been identified as being based on woodcuts from a Parisian *Book of Hours* published in 1500.

Unfortunately, the Dissolution of the Monasteries intervened and disrupted his pious plans and he sought to stave off the inevitable by writing a plea for exemption for the Priory to the rapacious Thomas Cromwell, Henry VIII's chief minister. De la Warr told him that he had a 'poor house, called Boxgrove,...whereof I am founder and there lyeth many of my ancestors and also my wife's mother and that my parish church is under the roof of the church of the said monastery. [I] have made a poor chapel to be buried in, whereof, if it might stand with the king's grace's pleasure for the poor service I have done his highness to forebear the suppressing of the same.'

It was never a good plan to come between the Tudor dynasty and a pile of cash they thought was theirs. After all, the Dissolution of the Monasteries was the greatest single act of privatisation in the history of England. Boxgrove was inevitably suppressed in 1535, but de la Warr, managed to have it granted to him at the cost of £136 13s 4d., or nearly £48,000, in today's monetary values, plus the loss of valuable estates in exchange with the king. De la Warr's chantry happily survives, but the political uncertainties of the Reformation made him look elsewhere for his burial place.

Instead he plumped for Broadwater, where his father was buried, and erected a tomb there in his lifetime. It remains today, with the central religious symbolism erased, together with those of two saints in the niches of the tomb chest. Larger figures of the Virgin Mary and St. George were turned inwards to protect them and were only uncovered in the early nineteenth century, which goes some way to explain their crisp, unworn appearance. De la Warr and the judge Sir William Shelley were both overseers of the will of Sir Richard Shelley at Wiston. As both had Chichester-made tombs made for them, it is unsurprising that they arranged for one for him too. His father had a London-made monumental brass laid down to him, but here patronage switched to Chichester.

Sadly, the restoration of Wiston church in 1862 made a nonsense of the monument. Today we see an armoured figure waving his hands in the air, as if someone has just scored a goal. His wives, left and right seem studiously to ignore him, as they both peer skywards, ignoring the wiggly stone snakes uncomfortably close to their heads. Happily, an engraving of the tomb as it was in the 1850s, and published in the *Sussex Archaeological Collections*, unravels the mystery of the Wiston tomb's iconography. Behold the importance of proper archaeological recording of a church's fixtures and fittings: we will never know what catastrophe may be visited on a church structure in the future. Although a church is most likely the most important archaeological structure within a community, it is the monument most frequently at risk.

Here we see that the three main figures are, in reality, staring at a painted image of the Holy Ghost with prayer scrolls drifting up. Sir Richard's hands are lifted in adoration and homage. Two small figures of patron saints would have been positioned on corbels within the arched recess. In the spandrels of the arch are carved faces similar to the green man of folklore.

The Victorian restoration of the church destroyed the tomb. We are left with the three figures, the front of the tomb chest with quatrefoils containing the heraldry of Sir Richard and his wives, and all rests upon a bevelled edge that once formed the top of the tomb chest. Some of the original blue paint of the monument survives behind the lower portion of Sir Richard's figure.

In passing, it's worth pointing out the helmet at the main effigy's feet. It is called a *sallet,* a visored helmet, and an important indicator, in code, of Sir Richard's pretensions to high status and long ancestry. The mark on the wall behind may be the remains of a flamboyant feathered plume. This design of helmet was used around seven decades before and has been put on the monument out of a kind of Tudor antiquarianism to suggest strong links with the past.

The client base's need for religious imagery may have led to the Chichester masons specialising in this category of monumental art. At Gouldhurst in Kent, are the fine painted wooden effigies of Sir Alexander Culpeper and his wife, made around 1540. The observant investigator will spot that the eyes of the two figures are focused on a panel in the window jamb, which is clearly all of a piece with the monument.

That panel was carved in Chichester and depicts the Culpeper family kneeling devoutly below an upper section containing Our Lord in Majesty, above an very animate St. George slaying his dragon, and another small figure, probably of the Virgin Mary.

The output of monuments was probably not enough to sustain the business for our Chichester masons. Like any other commercial concern with cashflow problems, they tried to diversify into carving other subjects, in different mediums. Around 1530 or 1540 they produced the arms of Henry VII, for the cloisters of Chichester Cathedral, with figures of the Virgin Mary and probably of the two donors beneath. They also produced carved stonework for the gateway in Canon Lane, Chichester about the same time. Slightly later, the arms of Henry VIII were carved for the entrance gateway of Hurst Castle in Hampshire, one of the new circular gun forts built along the south coast against French invasion.

They also produced a wooden screen for the new clergy house at Steyning. As I indicated earlier, the fixtures and fittings of a church are not frozen in time and this is a prime example of an important change suddenly manifesting itself. When the clergy house was sold off in the late 1980s, this wooden screen was moved into Steyning Parish church to serve as a reredos behind the altar. It employs the same Renaissance motifs in its 46 panels we find on the monuments, including our fat cherubs. It is also unrecorded archaeologically.

This paper is very much an interim report on a group of monuments that strangely has attracted very little attention. More work needs to be done in their recording and research into the wills of those commemorated, as well as an examination of the customs accounts for the port of Chichester to track down those shipments of Caen stone. I hope that I have stimulated some interest in a fascinating facet of Sussex church archaeology.

Robert Hutchinson

Museum of London
Centre for Human Bioarchaeology

The Museum of London curates one of the largest collections of stratified human remains in the world, a collection that already attracts national and international interest. It is projected to rise to nearly 20,000 individuals by the end of this decade. Such a large database represents a unique teaching collection and a resource that will support an extraordinary range of studies on, for example, palaeopathology, palaeodemography, population-based approaches to data analysis, ancient biomolecular research and forensic anthropology.

A Project Grant has been obtained from the Wellcome Trust to support the development of a multi-period *osteological research database*, to make a collection of some 5,000 individuals available to researchers in-house or on-line. It will form the essential core onto which would subsequently be added other assemblages, for example the 10,500 individuals from the recent medieval Spitalfields excavation.

The Museum's centre for human bioarchaeology would therefore comprise:

· The large managed collection of stratified human skeletal remains;

· The *Wellcome Trust Osteological Research Database* to allow on-line access to the study collection;

· Teaching facilities to allow best use of the reference collections;

· Study facilities for bona-fide researchers from universities, medical schools or other relevant institutions in Britain and abroad.

The centre for human bioarchaeology is currently housed within the Rotunda complex on the MoL's main Barbican site, but it is an essential element of the facilities maintained by the *London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre* at Mortimer Wheeler House, London N1 7ED

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Summary of project

The Museum of London curates the largest archaeological reference collection of stratified and documented human skeletal remains from a single city anywhere in the world. It is currently housed within the **Centre for Human Bioarchaeology** in the Museum of London's Barbican complex. The assemblage has no direct parallels in terms of chronological range, focussed geographical area, sample size and archaeological context and already attracts interest from researchers. However, this resource is currently under-documented and consequently access to suitable research material is restricted, difficult or often impractical. As a result, the full academic potential of this unique resource cannot be realised.

An application was made to the Wellcome Trust to address this problem by establishing a unique osteological research facility based upon a curated core collection and the development of an online database. The core assemblage identified incorporates human remains representing 4700 individuals from fifty-five sites ranging in date from the prehistoric to the post-medieval period, and includes a large mid-14th century Black Death cemetery. All of this material would be brought up to a common standard of documentation and curation, ensuring the long-term viability and accessibility of that resource for current and future research.

The creation of this on-line database, in which all the osteological material is recorded to a consistent minimum format with supporting interpretive data, will clearly be a powerful tool for furthering archaeological, historical, palaeopathological, bioarchaeological and biomolecular research.

The project team would ensure that the core collection is stored, documented and presented in accordance with agreed legal and ethical guidelines, applying the Museum of London's procedures and code of conduct as well as its Conservation Department's recommendations concerning the curation and consultation of the collection. Information on the database and the collections will be disseminated by the project team through reports, workshops and on the Museum's web site.

Bill White

The Archbishops of Canterbury, Summer Palace, at Slindon:

Little has been recorded about the Archbishops Palace at Slindon, where it once stood there is now the magnificent Slindon House, owned by the National Trust, and at present used as an independent school:

There were once many fine such Palaces around the countryside, they were spaced at distances often a days travel between important monastic sites, such as Canterbury, Winchester, and London:

A house on the site of the present mansion in the 13th century belonging to the Archbishops of Canterbury although there is very little visible remaining, of the original mansion today. but there is perhaps more than originally thought:

Slindon House is truly remarkable for two things, one its magnificent and exceptionally situation, and two its curious early history,

The Manor of Slindon was granted by King Ceadwalla, in A.D.684, to Wilfrid, the Apostle of the South Saxons, it was at that time an appendage of Pagham, which was also bestowed by Ceadwalla on Bishops Wilfrid:

Soon after Wilfrid's time the manors of Slindon and Pagham, passed to the Archbishops of Canterbury.

Slindon House as it would have appeared circa 1780

The original Palace was the residence of Bishop Stephen Langton and John Peckham:

Archbishop Steven Langton was born circa 1150-5, became Archbishop of Canterbury in 1207, and held the position until his death in 1228, he died at Slindon and is buried in Canterbury Cathedral.

Steven Langton was the first person it is believed to divide the Bible into chapters.

He studied at the University of Paris and lectured there on theology till 1206, when Pope Innocent 111, with whom he had formed a great friendship at Paris, called him to Rome and made him *cardinal-priest of St. Chrysogonus*.

His extreme piety and learning had already won him prebends (The portion of the revenues of a cathedral or collegiate church granted to a canon or member of the chapter as his stipend) at Paris and York and he was recognised as the foremost English churchman.

It was upon the death of Hubert Walter, archbishop of Canterbury in 1205: some of the younger monks elected to the see Reginald, the subprior, while another faction under great pressure from the King John, chose John de Gray, who was bishop of Norwich.

Both elections were quashed on an appeal to Rome, and sixteen monks of Christ Church, who had gone to Rome empowered to act for the whole chapter, were ordered to proceed to a new election in the presence of the pope. Langton was chosen and the pope at Viterbo consecrated him on June 17th, 1207.

Archbishop John Peckham was born in Patcham Sussex in 1223; he is without doubt one of the most renowned ecclesiastics of the thirteenth century, he was to become known as the "English Franciscan Theologian" and *Doctor Ingenious*. He received most of his early education at Lewes, and then went on to study in Paris at the faculty of arts. He was to complete his studies at Oxford where he later became a proven lecturer.

John Peckham entered the Franciscan order in around 1250, the precise date is not known.

It was around 1275 that he was elected as the Minister Provincial of England, and in 1275 he became Archbishop of Canterbury. It was in the subject of theology that he taught the absolute primacy of Christ. His famous book Perspective Communis was used as a textbook in coptics in many universities through the land.

These British friars were of very great importance to the intellectual apostolate of the entire order. It was through these friars the foundation for culture of dedication to study that has endured through the centuries to the very present day.

The Friars of the past did not spend all their time at their studies and intellectual thoughts. but we have to thank these great scholars for writing everything down, thereby preserving their work for posterity. Many went out and preached to the people generally on "vices and virtues, punishment and glory, with brevity, because Our Lord when on the earth kept His word brief ".

Over a period of time more of the secrets of this fine house are likely to be recovered.

Rodney Gunner

The Gatehouse at Slindon House, Slindon Park:

Slindon Village: west Sussex:

District: Arun:
Parish: Slindon.
Grid Ref. SU9601 0847:

Introduction:

A multi period building containing three main periods of building works and restoration, from approximately the early c1420's, to the last restoration in the1920's.

It is thought that this is all that remains of the Medieval Palace of the Archbishops of Canterbury.

Lower portion of sandstone ashlar, upper portion probably added later, of flints with brick quoins. Castellated parapet is modern.

The two massive buttresses are on first inspection thought to be original, and a part of the first phase of the building.

To the north of the tower is an 18C flint wall, which joins the tower to the lodge of the house. The lodge dates back to around the late 18th century, and appears to have been originally built as a single storey building, with a castellated parapet, this being removed I would suggest during the last restoration of the main house in the early 20th century.

Inside the gatehouse there is a ground floor and two upper floors, the ground floor is interesting as is contains an original 15C elliptical-arched fireplace, in very fine condition.

The two upper floors contain on the first floor a fireplace of around the 1920's style, and there is also another smaller fireplace on the top floor.

These two floors contain wood built bunks, used by Canadian soldiers during the 1939-45 war. On the woodwork of the bunks they left some interesting graffiti.

This building has a story to tell; there have been a lot of alterations and repairs over the period of time since it was first built, but much of the original building is left, and what remains is very substantial.

There are no records existing which can tell us much about its use over the years, except that, it started out perhaps as the gatehouse of the Summer Palace of the Archbishops of Canterbury, the main palace being built around 1150s, it is known that the first Archbishop to use the palace was, Archbishop Anselm, and it was in use as a palace till Archbishops Cranmers primacy in 1539.

There are no records to show us what the building looked like; therefore it is difficult at this stage, to tell how the gatehouse fitted into the layout of the Palace, or in fact if it started out as a gatehouse, except for the grand fireplace on the ground floor, there is little evidence to show us of any other original use.

Gatehouses:

General description:

Granges or large Manor Houses were normally entered by a gatehouse with a wide cart entry and a narrow pedestrian door, spanned by an upper chamber leading into the outer court. There was often also an inner gate linking the farmyard court with the domestic compound. The chamber above the gate was sometimes used as a courtroom.

The building Slindon knows as the gatehouse on first inspection does not seem to fall into the general description of a gatehouse, it is possible that parts of the building are now missing, so further in depth investigation is now required.

Rodney Gunner

Marlipins Museum

The new season at Marlipins Museum in Shoreham-by-Sea started this year on 30th April, with a programme of temporary exhibitions ranging from *Shoreham in Art 1800-2000* in May to *Shoreham in Nelson's Time* in September. There are new features on the Shoreham Film Industry, in conjunction with the West Sussex Record Office, and on RAF Truleigh Hill where many a National Serviceman in the 1950s learnt their trade.

Marlipins has been part of the Sussex Archaeological Society since 12th November 1925, and although the front part of the building has remained substantially unchanged in that time, the back section has changed three times. When it reopened last year after a major refurbishment, it was possible to stand in one of the oldest lay buildings in Sussex and one of the newest. The season lasted from May to September, before closing for the winter – this sadly is the only option in the old building as it is very cold. The new building has the luxury of underfloor heating, so we are able to continue with Friday Coffee Mornings and Lunchtime Lectures, not to mention the Shoreham Society's excellent Christmas Fayre.

The two-year programme of work in building two new galleries and creating new displays at Marlipins was only possible because of the massive support we received from the Heritage Lottery Fund. This allowed us to put into action plans that have been in prospect for at least 14 years. We also had substantial grants from the Landfill Trust (Viridor) and Adur District Council, the Shoreham Society, Ricardos and generous local individuals. With this funding in place, we were able to tackle the problem of the Annexe behind the old part of the Museum. It was built in 1935, replacing an earlier taller structure. Unlike its medieval neighbour, it was showing its age and in need of demolition. As we needed more space, we decided to rebuild on two floors instead of the existing one, all on the same footprint. The architect and lead consultant was Alistair Hunt, who produced a very imaginative scheme, which went through the consultation process and came out the other end in a rather different shape, not all receiving universal approval. We now have an interesting and functional building that reflects credit on those who designed it and those who built it.

English Heritage showed great interest in the Marlipins project and arranged for Dr Martin Bridge to undertake tree-ring analysis of some of the oak timbers in the old building in June 2002. The earliest are two joists on the ground floor ceiling which date to 1169-97, which could make them the oldest dated timbers in situ in Sussex. Opinions vary as to whether they are in their original setting or are reused: one option is that they are where they have always been, while the spectacular main spine beam and its Sampson posts were added later, to take the weight of the new roof, as they date to 1276-1308. The timbers in the present roof are later, after 1445 and then late Elizabethan.

We then commissioned an *Archaeological Interpretative Survey* from David Martin of Archaeology South East. He detected four main phases in the building of Marlipins, starting in the 12th century, modifying its façade and roof line around 1300, moving the north wall further south in the late 15th century and then finally inserting an upper floor into the roof space in the late 16th century. Before this last alteration, the site was described as a cellar and a loft, so the ground floor was probably always below pavement level. Since then various changes have been made, and we have done some preservation work as part of the present contract, in the hope that it will survive another 800 years or so.

The demolition of the annexe gave us an invaluable opportunity to investigate what lay beneath, which was very useful in building up awareness of medieval Shoreham. Dr Gabor Thomas undertook three test pits in 2002, ably assisted by a small team of volunteers, including Worthing representatives. At that stage we had the luxury of digging under cover, which is a curious experience, but the major excavation of the whole area after the demolition was in the open air in January 2003. The excavation provided some surprises. The first north wall was revealed as a flint structure with a rubble core, and we have retained a section of this in the new building. We have also preserved a problematic area within this old north wall, a rectangular vaulted chamber carefully constructed against the outer wall, with the only access from inside the old building. It is 2.88m deep and at the bottom the archaeologists found a skeleton of a cat and a 14th century cooking pot. It is probably a garderobe, as it compares to similar sites in Winchelsea, and happily it was very thoroughly cleaned before its change of use. We cannot dig inside the old building, but English Heritage again helped by organising a Ground Penetrating Radar survey there by Neil Linford. Sadly this failed to give us the answer, as the presence of clay and various extraneous elements combined to negate our chances of reliable evidence.

Work has also been going on in the last couple of years at St Nicolas's Church in Old Shoreham and at St Mary de Haura. Simon Stevens of Archaeology South East excavated Ropetackle, at the end of Shoreham High Street, where smart new buildings are now being erected. The extensive finds will come to Marlipins when the post excavation work is complete. At the moment we have the delightful 15th century aquamanile that was found there. This originates from Scarborough, and testifies to long trading routes, with Sussex fishermen perhaps heading north when their own season was dormant.

As with most archaeology, the excavations ask as many questions as they answer, but we do know a great deal more about medieval Shoreham than we did when the Museum was last open in September 2001. The original function of Marlipins is unknown, though a custom house or secure area for port tolls seem most likely. Behind were some fairly undistinguished buildings and much later these were replaced by a garden, which made digging a real pleasure. John Mills, the Deputy County Archaeologist for West Sussex, researched the history of the buildings on the site of the Annexe, which in the British Museum's drawing by Buckler of Marlipins in 1822 is a tall structure jutting out into the street. Our excavations found the foundations of this, which were substantial enough to require mechanical aids to dispose of them. The 1935 Annexe made less impression.

The refurbishment

When the archaeologists moved out, the builders moved in and we were lucky that the work was done by an excellent local firm, Bramber Construction Ltd. We have done our best to comply with the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act and have wheelchair access throughout, plus smart new labels in a suitably large format. The Museum takes account of modern museology, hopefully without losing its original quirky charm.

The displays include many old favourites but there is some new material to be seen as well, thanks to liaison with many local groups and organisations. My personal favourite is the little Roman bronze cockerel, on loan from Brighton Museum though from a site in our Adur collecting area. It can be seen on our Romans in Sussex website and is very similar to others in the Yorkshire Museum, Cambridge and London. Research is also in hand on the small glass tesserae from Southwick Roman Villa.

Museums as small as Marlipins rely on good friends, and we benefit from projects such as the Picture the Past West Sussex, of which Marlipins was a founding partner with Martin Hayes and his team in the West Sussex Library Service. It went live in June 2004 and includes about 600 images from our strong collection of pictures of the area, which will provide an invaluable resource for anyone interested in the history of our part of the county. We also rely heavily on local volunteers, in particular the active support of the Shoreham Society.

Marlipins has benefited throughout from a vast supply of expertise from outside sources, from the Society's own resources and from the unfailing enthusiasm and interest of the volunteers who have worked on everything from pot washing to picture identification. What is now on view is a tribute to all this hard work and we hope that people will flock to see it. The Museum is open from 30th April to 1st October, Tuesday to Saturday, 10.30 - 16.30.

Helen Poole
Senior Museums Officer, Marlipins

Marriage— It isn't always Easy, but Topical

Getting married has always been a problem all through History. Back in Roman times in the 3rd century there was a period when the Emperor forbade marriage so that there would be plenty of young men to become soldiers. There is supposed to have been a Roman priest who would marry couples in defiance of the law. He was eventually caught and sentenced to death and while in prison before he was executed, he is supposed to have written some letters asking his friends to remember "your Valentine". At an earlier time the Emperor insisted that all adult males were married in order to improve the morals of Roman society! [In the RAF before the last war you were not allowed to get married before the age of 30 without the permission of your commanding Officer. If you defied him, it marked the end of advancement in your career]

Before 1753 it was usual for couples to be married in Church but this required a payment to the Parson. It was quite common for poor couples who couldn't afford this to contract "Irregular" marriages before two witnesses, declaring that they wished to live together as Husband and Wife. Sometimes this was recorded, and as the witnesses had to be "peoples of good standing in their community" this frequently involved the local Blacksmith, hence "Anvil" weddings. In the 17th and 18th Centuries because of religious upheavals in Scotland, there was a great shortage of Church of Scotland priests and many areas saw a parson once a year, if that. Common Law marriages became more common and the Law for England which outlawed them did not apply to Scotland. From 1754 in England it was ruled illegal not to be married in Church, all marriages had to be recorded in the Parish register and no one under 21 could be married without parental consent. [Canada still has legal Common Law Marriage.]

The first village over the Scottish Border was Gretna which soon became the centre of a "Wedding Industry" where 16 year olds could be married by the Blacksmith and there were many scandals over runaway children getting married, because Gretna marriages were accepted as legal worldwide. The complaints led to an Act in 1857 saying that one of the couple must have been resident in Scotland for 21 days, but finally in 1940 pressure from the Church made Anvil Weddings illegal—but you can still get married at 16 without your Parents permission! The Church of Scotland is Presbyterian not Anglican and Scottish law also allows second marriages in Church.

Ann Induni

The History of Worthing Archaeological Society 1942 to 1952

As the War continued it was 'pleasing to report the Society has come through another year very well indeed'.

Once again summer excursions were held as near to home as possible, to ease the strain on transport. A trip to Horsham in 1942 took the members to the Parish Church of St Mary, the Museum and several other sites of local interest. On all the trips in 1942 the members were 'fortunate in having the guidance of leaders familiar with the locality visited' and at the Horsham Museum, they were given an interesting talk on the history of the Old Horsham Prison. The trips were very well attended during the year, which was 'largely due to the expert knowledge and guidance of those local gentlemen who acted as leaders, and the Society is very much indebted to them for their kindly co-operation'.

In addition to the Society's trips during the summer, the members were invited to attend lectures arranged by the Worthing Branch of the Historical Association, a 'courtesy which has been much appreciated', although neither the minutes or Annual Report state what the subjects of the lectures were, only that two were of particular interest and were given by a Sir Ronald (unable to read the surname – the Honorary Secretary has beautiful handwriting, but it is rather difficult to read, and the names were not mentioned in the Annual Report), and a Professor Niven.

1943 saw a variation of trips and lectures during the summer and for the two remaining years of the War, there were no trips at all. In 1943 Miss Margot Eates of the London Museum gave a lantern lecture entitled 'The Present Rediscovers the Past'. She had also arranged a photographic exhibition of the same title at Worthing Museum. Miss Eates returned the following year to give another lecture, choosing this time as the subject of her talk 'Archaeology and the Seeing Eye – the problem with Education'.

The Society was also honoured to be given an illustrated talk on Sutton Hoo, by Mr C.W. Phillips, who had been involved with the Sutton Hoo ship and its' treasures. 'It was a great privilege to listen to so accomplished a lecturer and the occasion will be remembered as a red-letter one by members who were present'.

Other interesting lectures during the War years were geared more towards excavation. For example, in 1944 Dr A. Wilson, who had already supervised several digs, gave a 'very practical talk and demonstration on elementary archaeological methods' under the title 'A to Z of a Dig'. He also held an informal meeting in January 1945 especially for young people and those 'anxious to learn more about practical archaeological work'. He explained methods of fieldwork, surveying and recording to a small but enthusiastic audience. Miss Eates was due to have given a lecture in 1943 on the 'Place of Archaeology in the Post-War World' but was unfortunately ill and unable to be present. And finally 'Geology and Archaeology, with Special Reference to the Worthing District' was a very interesting and 'valuable' lecture given by Mr E.C. Martin. 'He impressed upon members the importance of watching all cuttings and new sections and reporting immediately any new geological evidence which might thus become revealed'.

A lecture given in 1943 by the President was of particular reference to the national situation. It was on the subject of the 'Ancient Cities of North Africa', dealing 'particularly with those districts through which the victorious Eighth Army had passed so recently'.

No excavations organised by the Society took place during the War years, although during 1942 several members helped with the work still in progress on the Roman site at Poling. The Annual Report however does not state who was running the dig. The only other mention with regards to practical work, was that of small sherds of Roman pottery and bone having been found at Waterworks Lane, Broadwater, which was reported by scholars from the Worthing High School for Girls.

Coming now to the end of anything relevant to the War period is that during 1944 the Society reported the death of fourteen of its' members. Four of those had been original members and three of those had been Presidents. These were Colonel E.W. Margesson (the Society's first President); Mr A.D. Mackenzie (1925/26); and Sir A. Smith-Woodward (1930/31); the fourth was Mr T. Sheppard who had given the Inaugural Address at the founding of the Society. It was reported that a 'Testimonial was being raised by a number of Yorkshire Societies on behalf of Mr Sheppard...who had recently retired on a comparatively small pension, from the curatorship of the Hull Museum...Mr Sheppard was one of the founders of this Society and had upon a number of occasions, lectured to our members – always without fees'. It was unanimously agreed to give £10 to his Testimonial.

After the successful meeting on practical archaeology for young people in January 1945, the possibility of undertaking fieldwork during 1946 'largely for the

benefit of the young people' had been discussed with Dr Wilson in April 1946. He turned out to be very enthusiastic about the project and decided that if Highdown were free for the summer, he would arrange a fortnight's dig on the gateway to Highdown Camp. But the War was still causing problems. Owing to 'rationing and other difficulties', they would not have a camp, so the helpers would have to stay in the neighbourhood.

By May, the Society had still not heard from the National Trust and by the end of July the Ministry had not yet derequisitioned the site. There was also the worry that the Ministry may damage the site during the clearing operation. The matter was therefore referred to the Chief Inspector of the Ancient Monuments Department in the hope that they may take up the matter with the Ministry. At this point the excavations were abandoned for the season.

A letter was subsequently received from the Chief Inspector in August or September stating that Highdown 'would not be ready for work this season'. At a meeting in November 1946, a letter from the National Trust was read: the Ministry of Works was 'making arrangements for the reinstatement of this site to be given priority and for the work to be done under archaeological supervision'. Alderman Migeod was interested in 'retaining for the benefit of future generations, evidence of military occupation' on sites such as Highdown and Cissbury. A letter was then sent to the National Trust requesting the 'works erected by the Forces should be allowed to stand'. Like today, it was felt that military buildings, etc should be preserved: 'The Society is of the opinion that the military works are themselves of special interest as a historical memorial of the War'. The letter also stated that their removal might cause irreparable damage.

By April 1947 the 'rehabilitation' had commenced. Dr Wilson was supervising the work and he subsequently suggested the following: that a map be made by his students; as well as the gateway, a section of the main rampart which would be exposed during the works be examined; to examine the damaged southern end near the gateway; to examine the north rampart.

July 1947 saw the clearing of Highdown completed. During this work, a gun site cutting had revealed the building up of the rampart, Iron Age hearths were found near the gateway and at least two Saxon cremation burials with smashed urns and the skeleton of a six month old Saxon baby with a single bead. A full report was due to appear in a forthcoming volume of the Sussex Archaeological Collection.

Mr J Pull had completed excavations at Church Hill in Findon by June 1949 and was preparing to move to a site at Tolmere Farm which had been surveyed by Dr E.C. Curwen in 1927. Mr Pull put a trench through a ditch, proving it to be very shallow and found some flint implements and Iron Age pottery sherds. He also proved the earthwork to be more apparent than actual. A barrow further up the Hill was being opened (following the 'strip' method). By August 1949 the barrow revealed 'no major internment, only fragments of cremated bone, a good specimen of a 'Cissbury Cell', about one hundred flint implements and fragments of pottery'. The barrow did not appear to have been disturbed. The dig was completed by November and the 'band of enthusiastic volunteer workers were now anxious to open a flint mine'.

November 1950 saw Mr Pull and his band of enthusiastic workers back at Church Hill, working on a 'Stone Age flint mine'. By the time of a meeting on 22nd November, they had managed to dig down to eighteen feet and had found a deer-horn pick, two knives, antlers and a good shoulder-blade shovel. A second shaft was opened in the digging season of 1951 and further various tools and implements were found.

The more practical work that was undertaken by the Society, resulted in many more people becoming interested. Mr Pull therefore suggested that a series of lectures be held, similar to those at Brighton Technical College, the object being to 'afford a certain amount of technical training' to beginners, which would then build up a team of workers 'willing and ready to undertake excavation work...without further training'. The subjects were to be: General introduction; Recognition of archaeological sites to include air photography; Excavation of site; Efficient recording and preparation of reports. The courses were arranged and were 'most successful'. Many young people attended and were keen to get digging. This sounds familiar!

There was a problem in 1948 with unauthorised digging of archaeological sites within the Society's area. A report in the Worthing Review told of a Romano British township that had been discovered at Mayfield Nurseries in Salvington. Excavations were carried out by a Dr H.B.A. Ratcliffe Densham and a colleague Mr Frere, resulting in finding sherds of pottery and other remains, which were then stored in Dr Densham's house. Neither man had reported the matter to the Society 'in whose area the remains had been found'. The Honourable Secretary then had an interview with Dr Densham who admitted he had also been digging at Hardham.

Another site, this time a Bronze Age cornfield in Steyning was discovered in 1949, but again it was not reported to the Society. A resolution was then passed: 'The Committee of the Worthing Archaeological Society wishes to draw the attention of the Research Committee to the problems arising about control of excavations and disposal of finds in the various areas of Sussex'. But in August 1951, Mr Pull revisited a site at Cock Hill, an escarpment of the Downs between Black Patch and Harrow Hill, which he had previously noted as a possible excavation site. However on his arrival at Cock Hill, whom should he find but Dr Densham already digging there and he had made several finds of pottery and axes, etc. Dr Densham subsequently reported his finds to the Sussex Archaeological Research Committee, but again he did not report to the Society, and neither did the Research Committee. The Research Committee regretted that Dr Densham had never reported his archaeological activities to the Society so that 'some official record of them might be made'. Mr Pull undertook to see Dr Densham and to 'suggest to him the desirability of him joining this Society, but he would have to report any further archaeological activities to the Society'.

It would appear that the Dr Densham problem was solved by November 1951 when Mr Pull confirmed he had spoken with Dr Densham who was now 'desirous of becoming a member of the Society'. Mr Pull promised Dr Densham that once excavations at Church Hill had finished, he and his workers would help Dr Densham with his excavations at Cock Hill, especially as he regarded the site as very important. The Society therefore agreed not to take any further action against Dr Densham.

With the War over, summer outings resumed in 1946. There were the usual visits to reasonably local churches, but in 1948 the members were lucky enough to visit the excavations at the flint mine on Church Hill, under the guidance of Mr Pull. Unfortunately the Annual Report does not mention whether the members actually went into the mine.

A few trips went further afield; in 1949 the Society went to Guildford, visiting the Museum and Castle, the seventeenth century Hospital of Blessed Trinity and the Ancient Royal Grammar School and in 1950 they went to Knole House in Sevenoaks.

There was of course, a good selection of lectures during the winter months, but one can not normally judge what a lecture will be like by the title alone. Therefore I am sure that 'A Search for Oil in Sussex' by a vicar was fascinating, as was 'the Painted Chamber of Robert de Thorpe' (it is a unique medieval apartment near Peterborough).

The lecture in October 1947 was entitled 'the Beginnings of History' and uniquely was held in the Court Room of the Town Hall. This was because the lecture was 'an innovation in the form of a sound film'.

At previous Annual Suppers either a talk was given, or members could bring items of interest to be discussed. In 1947 however, the Society decided to hold a Quiz, which seems like fun. Perhaps we could hold quizzes now, maybe charging an entrance fee to raise funds for the Society. They held further quizzes in 1948 and 1949.

The Annual Report for 1943 told 'with much gratification' of the fact that Councillor E.R. Willoughby, who joined the Society in 1934 and was a committee member, was chosen to 'fill the Mayoralty of this town', and in 1950 Mr Migeod's booklet on the history of Cissbury had gone to press. But it was not only members who were doing well for themselves. In November 1949 it was reported that 'the Council of Archaeology now recognised the Worthing Archaeological Society to be of National Standing and was thus entitled to send two members to the main Council'.

A Late Bronze Age hoard was discovered in 1946 on agricultural land in Cokeham. It consisted of fifteen axes and portions of a very damaged and fragmented metal cauldron, which was submitted to the British Museum for advice as to the possibility of restoration. However it's condition was too 'imperfect' for satisfactory restoration, although the rim and handles were cleaned.

The Society has always been keen on the preservation of old buildings in Worthing. The next property in line for demolition in 1948 was Beach House. The Society believed it should be 'retained and repaired and put into useful service', perhaps for educational bodies. The President was to attend the inquiry in November.

Membership had increased considerably by 1951 (430 members) and the question was raised as to whether membership numbers should be limited, 'in view of the increasing size of the attendance both at the summer outings and the winter lectures'. The Committee however, were not in favour, but agreed that the matter should be placed on the agenda to be discussed at the Committee meeting prior to the next Annual General Meeting. At this meeting after a lengthy discussion it was 'decided not to impose a limitation'.

Finally, during a meeting in March 1951, the Chairman announced the death of Dr Eliot Curwen. 'The members stood in memory of Dr Curwen and his work for archaeology'.

Lesley Kenny

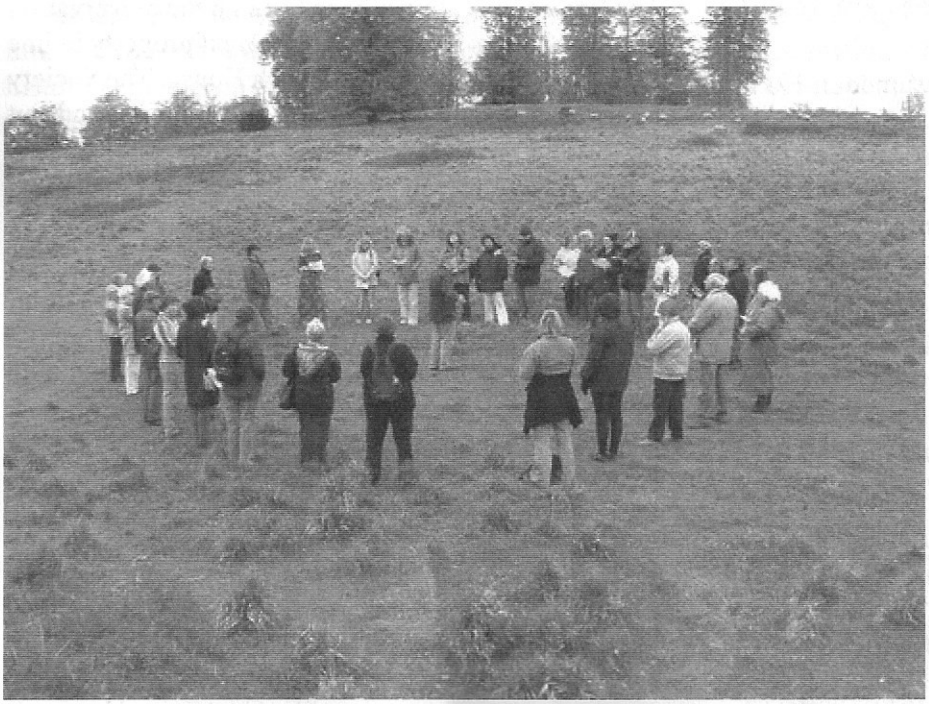
Society Outing
Danebury 8th May 2005.

Members of the society enjoyed a visit to Danebury on the 8th May this year, the weather was again kind to us, we were shown around the site by Mr. David Allen curator of Andover Museum of the Iron Age.

The excavations:

The Danebury archaeological excavations, led by Professor Barry Cunliffe of Oxford University, took place from 1969 to 1988. By this time 57% of the interior had been excavated. There is no visible trace of this work today.

The excavations showed that within the fort there was evidence for 73 roundhouses, 500 rectangular buildings. Thousands of deep storage pits were also found, perhaps ten of which were in use at any one time. The circular houses were for people, the store buildings and pits probably held their most valuable commodity – grain.



Other archaeological finds included more than 180,000 pieces of pottery, 240,000 bits of animal bone, stone objects such as querns (hand mills), bone objects used in the weaving process and many iron and bronze artefacts.

Society members are shown standing in a circle representing the size of a typical round house.

After the visit to the hill fort we went onto the Museum of the Iron age in Andover, this contains many of the finds from the excavations, and is one of the most interesting museums of its kind,

The day was completed by a visit to Winchester.

News of Members

This will be a new feature, starting in the next issue.

Please let the editor have your news, be it qualifications attained,
details of personal study, requests for assistance.

Basically □ What are you doing?

Don't forget, the journal is widely read and is an opportunity for you to publish your research.
Subject to being accepted and conforming to certain simple requirements.
Contact the editor for details.

Remember this is YOUR society's journal.

WORTHING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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Annual membership fees are due on 1st January each year.
Please contact the Membership Secretary for Gift Aid forms.

Journal

All contributions to the newsletter are very welcome
Please send these to arrive with the Secretary
by the 1st October for the next edition

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