

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



VOL. 1

No. 6

1952

OCCASIONAL NOTES

Knights Banneret

At the Society's March meeting some discussion arose as to the true significance of the term "Knight Banneret." The following extract from "Elizabethan England" by E. M. Tenison—a book of the highest authority—states:—

"A Knight Bachelor was one who performed deeds of individual gallantry: but a Knight Banneret not only was conspicuous for personal bravery but had served his country by recruiting and arming at his own expense troops which followed him voluntarily". (*E.E.*, p. 217, note 3).

In "The Welsh Wars of Edward I" (John E. Morris, 1901) it is said at page 71:—

"The captain of a paid squadron was usually a man of some status That 'banneret' was purely a military title is proved by the promotion of many a successful soldier from the rank of Knight bachelor, the steps being clear from entries in the pay-rolls But there was a prejudice . . . in favour of the prominent soldier being a landowner. So we find Edward granting a landed status to Eustace de Hacche, to (others named)."

Evidently the rank implied not only great patriotism but considerable wealth and gives a valuable hint as to the social standing of the recipient.

Wooden Waterpipes at Fetcham

IN March, 1953 while digging in the N.E. corner of Fetcham Millpond two wooden waterpipes were uncovered, leading in a N.E. direction from the side of the pond situate just above the remains of the waterwheels. These pipes were of an outside diameter of 9 in. the bore being of 5—6 in. diameter. At this point the eastern side of the pond had been walled with bricks, in alternate courses of header and stretcher. The wall had been built at the same time as the wood pipes had been laid since the bricks had been carefully built round and underneath them. The excavation was not deep enough to disclose the bottom of the wall but the wall continued, with a level top, to 24 in. above the more northerly pipe and 8 in. above the second. The former projected 2—3 in. beyond the wall into the pond but the latter had no such projection and had partially rotted away inside the cavity among the bricks. (Above the old brickwork is an additional modern wall). It is probable that these pipes are a continuation of some found about 1930 near the same site.

In the same wall lying near the first pipe and on the same level was a lead pipe of a 4 in. outside diameter and containing a wooden plug.

A.T.R.

Sixth Annual General Meeting

Held at the Council Offices, Leatherhead, 7th November, 1952

THE large attendance at this meeting was very gratifying. The Report of the Executive Committee for 1951-2, which is summarised in Secretarial Notes, and the Accounts to 30th September, 1952, reproduced elsewhere, were duly adopted as presented. The members of the Executive Committee, the officers and the Hon. Auditor were re-elected *en bloc*. A discussion on the question of increasing the subscription resulted in a decision to postpone the matter until next year pending the result of an intensive drive for an increased membership.

After formal business the members listened to a talk by the Chairman on "A Survey of Roman and pre-Roman Sites in the Society's Area." The many slides exhibited by the lecturer added great enjoyment to a fascinating talk.

Briefly the OBJECTS of the Society are:—

To institute, promote and encourage the study of local history, architecture, archaeology, natural history, folklore and similar subjects appertaining to Leatherhead and surrounding districts; including the search for, recording, and preservation of, historical records and other material; a library for members' use; lectures, debates, exhibitions and tours; fieldwork; photography of historic features; and (as a long term objective) the compilation and publication of a history of the Leatherhead district.

A real interest in the locality is the only necessary qualification for membership; those with any specialised knowledge are, of course, doubly welcome, but this is not essential. The Society hopes to help those who have little or no special knowledge to improve or acquire it. Provision is also made for Junior Members at a nominal fee.

Persons who would like to keep in touch with local history but have no time to take an active part can join as Non-Active Members. They have all the other privileges of full membership.

The yearly membership fee for all adult Members (to include one copy of the Society's Proceedings) is seven shillings and sixpence. Apply to the Hon. Treasurer: Mr. S. E. D. FORTESCUE, Englands, High Street, Gt. Bookham.

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Vol. 1, No. 6
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OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR
1952-53

Chairman: Capt. A. W. G. LOWTHER, F.S.A., A.R.I.B.A.

Hon. Secretary: A. T. RUBY, M.B.E.
(53 Nutcroft Grove, Fetcham. Tel. : Leatherhead 3127).

Hon. Asst. Secretary: P. G. SHELLEY
(Beechcroft, Hawks Hill, Fetcham. Tel. : Leatherhead 2696).

Hon. Treasurer: S. E. D. FORTESCUE
(Englands, High Street, Great Bookham).

Hon. Programme Secretary: C. T. FISHER
("Silver Birches," Leatherhead Road, Great Bookham. Tel. : Bookham 2232).

Committee Members: F. B. BENDER
S. N. GRIMES

Hon. Auditor: W. H. TAYLOR

Hon. Librarian: Vacant.

Hon. Editor of the "Proceedings" : C. J. SONGHURST.

SECRETARIAL NOTES

I have pleasure in reporting that during 1952 interest in the Society and its work showed no sign of abatement either inside or outside the locality. Requests for lecturers, articles for local publication and historical information and other inquiries continued to reach us in a steady flow.

The acquisition of new members resulted, after allowing for losses, in a small increase of membership which stood in October, 1952, at 178.

The following fixtures were arranged during 1951-52:—

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| December 15th | A talk by Mr. F. B. Benger on "A Leatherhead Worthy—Edmund Tylney, Master of the Revels to Queen Elizabeth." |
| January 23rd | A lantern lecture by Mr. W. H. E. Rivett on "The Geological Period of the Dinosaurs." |
| February 13th | A lantern lecture by Professor F. Jane on "British Trees and their Timber." |
| March 12th | A lantern lecture by Mr. J. E. S. Dallas on "Anglo-Saxon Remains in our Churches." |
| April 19th | A conducted visit to Slyfield House, Stoke d'Abernon (Messrs. F. B. Benger and R. Foster Elliott). |
| May 17th | A nature ramble conducted by Dr. M. P. Topping. |
| June 7th | A visit by coach to Leith Hill Place. |
| July 5th | A visit by coach to Parham Park, Sussex. |
| August 16th | A conducted visit to "Thorncroft" (Mr. F. B. Benger). |
| September 20th | A fungus foray to Box Hill (conducted by Dr. M. P. Topping). |

For the first time the coach visits were not fully booked up, resulting in a loss on the financial arrangements which it is hoped will not be repeated in 1953.

It is believed that all who attended have thoroughly enjoyed these fixtures and suggestions in connexion with them are always welcome.

The work of the Groups is recorded in later pages.

The fifth number of the "Proceedings" has not, it is thought, shown any sign of falling below the standard of its predecessors. The Committee tender their very grateful thanks to Mr. S. G. Blaxland Stubbs, O.B.E., who—in the unavoidable absence of your Hon. Editor—undertook, at what is known to have been considerable inconvenience to himself, to see the issue through the press. Copies of all five numbers are available for purchase by members and non-members, price 3/6 each.

The appointment of an Asst. Hon. Secretary has been a complete success. To him has been assigned the task of membership records and inquiries; circulars; tickets, etc., for fixtures, and similar duties. Your Hon. Secretary deals with inquiries for information, lectures, articles, etc.; the accessions, and as archivist; general organisation and other matters concerning the Society and its work. Mr. Shelley has, it will be agreed by all members, carried out the duties of his office most capably; and your Hon. Secretary has thus been enabled to deal with the many general matters which remain and, at the same time, supervise a heavy excavation programme as well as carrying out some historical research required for early publication.

The Accounts, of which a copy appears elsewhere, show that at 30th September, 1951, there was a balance in hand (excluding £2 1s. 0d. for subscriptions paid in advance) of £74 5s. 0d. To this should be added £15 being a grant from the Surrey County Council for 1950-51 but not then received, and from the resultant sum of £89 5s. 0d. must be deducted the amount of £49 6s. 1d. then owing for No. 4 of the "Proceedings." The Society thus started the current year 1951-2 with a net sum in hand of £39 18s. 11d. Receipts from all sources for the year, including the 1952 grant by the Council, but excluding £3 7s. 6d. for fees paid in advance for 1952-3, totalled £92 1s. 5d. and payments (including £52 15s. 5d. for No. 5 of the "Proceedings") amounted to £84 7s. 7d. There was thus an excess of receipts over expenditure for the actual year 1951-2 of £7 13s. 10d.

Satisfactory as this may be, the result has only been achieved by much cheeseparing and cannot be regarded as in any way alleviating anxiety over the Society's financial position and the difficulties of any expansion of its activities.

In accordance with the members' views at the general meeting the Committee have decided not to recommend any increase of subscription at present but to intensify the drive for new members. Everyone is asked to help in this effort.

Donations of any size to either the Library or General Funds will always be most gratefully received. Subscriptions and donations can be paid by banker's order and any member who wishes to employ this method should get into touch with the Hon. Treasurer who will gladly forward the necessary form.

Accessions continue to arrive but in a more steady stream and in more manageable quantities. At the time of writing, Indexing is up to date, though at the first opportunity some checking and re-classification is called for.

A. T. RUBY, *Hon. Secretary.*

Reports of the Separate Groups

GROUPS AND LEADERS

- “ A ”: *Historical Records, MSS and Other Written Records.*
Dr. A. K. R. Kiralfy, LL.M., Ph.D., 168 Cobham Road, Fetcham.
- “ B ”: *Architecture, Buildings, Surveying, etc.*
Mr. R. Foster Elliott, A.R.I.B.A., Bridge Cottage, Dorking Road, Leatherhead.
- “ C ”: *Photography.*
Mr. A. Day, Tudor Villa, Hawks Hill, Leatherhead.
- “ D ”: *Archaeology.*
Capt. A. W. G. Lowther, F.S.A., A.R.I.B.A., The Old Quarry, The Warren, Ashtead.
- “ E ”: *Natural History.*
Mrs. M. P. Topping, Ph.D., Angroban, Fir Tree Road, Leatherhead.
- “ F ”: *Arts, Crafts, Folklore, Dialect, etc.*

REPORT OF GROUP “ A ” : MSS., Historical and Other Records

Another busy year enables considerable advancement to be recorded.

For **Ashtead** the year has been spent in dealing with items from Special Collections, in many cases following up and obtaining all available evidence on matters arising from earlier work.

The following matters were collected and recorded:—

- (i) Complaint of Henry de Montford that his bailiff Bysshop has failed to furnish accounts of his stewardship—Plea Rolls, 1328.
- (ii) Land Dispute between the Abbot of Chertsey, Lord of Epsom Manor and John Aston of Ashtead Manor, 1493.
- (iii) Documents regarding the purchase of Ashtead Manor by King Henry VIII from Edward Aston,* 1542-3.
- (iv) Court of Request proceedings—Mathew and Westwood v. Newdigate and Duchess of Somerset, 1561.
- (v) Full Report on Dispute—Otweys and Glassingtons, 1573-1603.
- (vi) Chancery Decrees (Earl and Countess of Arundel v. Turner, Otweys et al.)—1621.
- (vii) Chancery Report on Manor Customs and Decree thereon, 1622.

Work has been done on the histories of the following Ashtead families, and information about them has been collected from various sources:—

- (a) The Aubreys, 1272-1409
- (b) The Swallows, c. 1380-1450
- (c) The Bradshaws, c. 1682-1706
- (d) The Beckfords (of Neustead House), 1730-1780
- (e) Nathaniel Smith, Esq., M.P., and family, 1760 onwards.

Photostatic copies of all documents concerning all the items (i) to (vii) above have been obtained and transcripts and typescript copies prepared from them.

Further work was done on the Estate Account Book of 1693-1701 during the year, and information extracted from it regarding the fields, and their yield, and cost of farming of each individual field and other matters which throw light on the agriculture of the period.

The work in **Fetcham** has also been very varied. The tasks undertaken comprise:—

- (i) Investigation of and recording of Church Records—nearly complete.
- (ii) Reduction of the tracing of the 1791 map in the Church to 6 in. to 1 mile (Scale of original is 1 barley corn = 1 chain or 26 2/3 in. to 1 mile—thereafter comparison with Ordnance Survey 6 in. map) (in course of preparation).
Copy of key to this map (completed).
- (iii) Extractions of Fetcham Wills.
- (iv) Extractions relating to Fetcham in
 - (a) Dictionary of Natural Biography,
 - (b) Surrey Place-names (Place name Society).(These are being done and collated as opportunity permits.)
- (v) Investigation of parish records in the possession of the solicitors to the family of the late Lord of the Manor, whose permission for this is gratefully recorded. (In progress).

The work on the Lords of **Pachenesham** (a brief account of which is recorded elsewhere in this issue) has thrown fresh light on the history of the Manor. The gap of some eighty-five years of the XVth century in our knowledge of its ownership has been narrowed by at least fifteen years and hopes run high of success in a further reduction of that period.

Work on the military history continues.

It is hoped that work will now be resumed, by another member, on the history of the local government of the area.

* Survey, Rentals, Minister's Accounts, etc.

REPORT OF GROUP " B " : Architecture, Buildings, Surveying, etc.

THE main task carried out by Group " B " this year was the survey of the suspected site of the old Lee Manor at Lee Wood, Effingham. In very similar circumstances to The Mounts, the site is thickly covered with trees and undergrowth, but the position of the moat is very clearly defined.

Many members will recall that at The Mounts, Leatherhead, after much clearance, a grid of forty feet was pegged down on the site and carefully levelled, but within a few weeks nearly all the pegs had been uprooted by mischievous children making the survey of the trenches and excavations very difficult to record accurately.

It was therefore decided in this case to adopt a different method to counter such unfortunate occurrences.

At Lee Wood there is a long glade or path through the Wood which cuts across the site of the manor; therefore two pegs or stations were placed on this path within the moat and sighted by the telescope to be in direct line with the first station placed on the perimeter of the wood, i.e., the beginning of the path. These stations were then measured to at least three marked trees, and although the pegs were left in, it will be possible to re-establish accurately these three points at any future time. Intervals of forty feet were marked between the stations within the moat and the clearance parties then set off on either side, and at approximate right angles to the path, travelling through the undergrowth, passing over the moat and down the back at the far side. In addition, further clearances at suitable angles were made in order easily to record the contours of the site.

Then the director was in turn placed over each station in the centre glade, set in zero to the first station on the perimeter of the wood and the angles of each clearance path accurately measured. Starting from the director and laying the chain on the ground, levels were then taken at suitable measured distances in accordance with the contours of the ground, i.e., close together on steep slopes and further apart over fairly level ground.

We have therefore a complete record of the position of all stations, the angle of all clearance paths and levels at defined positions in each clearance path; the main stations are also fixed and thus, when the season reopens in 1953, it will be very easy to re-establish any particular point and so record accurately new information required.

Grateful thanks are extended to all the many helpers of both sexes and all ages who gave their services so willingly and cheerfully carried out the quite heavy and tiring work demanded of them.

REPORT OF GROUP " C " : Photography

A NUMBER of visits were made during the year 1952 to the excavations at Bell Lane, Fetcham, and at Lee Wood, Effingham, to take photographs for record purposes. Enlarged prints of photographs taken by members of Group " D " were also made. Some of the Bell Lane photographs were on view at the Exhibition held in November of that year.

Copies for the use of the donors were made of photographs and other illustrations presented to the Society for its archives. The photographic survey of scheduled buildings in this area has continued and most of the negatives have now been made. It is hoped that a further batch of prints will be ready for the County Records before fieldwork recommences next season.

REPORT OF GROUP " D " : Archaeology

DURING 1952 there were, apart from the lectures on archaeological subjects during the winter months, three outdoor activities of main concern to Group " D." First, there was the preliminary work, carried out under Mr. Ruby's guidance, of excavation at the " Effingham La Lee " moated Manor-house site.

This work, following as it did the full contour-survey of the site by Group " B ", under their leader, Mr. Foster Elliott, was intentionally restricted to one section-trench dug through the moat at a selected point. Even so, it was not possible to complete this section, through the wetness of the site and the shortness of the time available, though, as far as it went some useful pottery for dating purposes was obtained from the upper levels of silt contained by the moat. A Report on this work will be published after a further season's excavation at this interesting site has been carried out.

The second to be mentioned is that excavation, which was also under Mr. Ruby's direction, on a site in Bell Lane, Fetcham where, on one small site a very interesting sequence of occupation, from medieval to recent times, could be followed in some detail, as the report shows.

The third activity resulted from the discovery by Mr. L. W. Carpenter, that the diversion channel for the river Mole (which was being cut by the Surrey County Council, at a point south of Leatherhead and beside the Young Street bridge) was being cut through a prehistoric site, of the Mesolithic period (about 4,000 B.C.). From this site, and especially from the clay silt (or " loess ") which was being thrown out in forming the channel, a number of flint implements and waste flakes were recovered both by Mr. Carpenter and by members of this Society who assisted in recovering what they could while the opportunity lasted.

The finest implement from this site was found by one of the workmen, after the main search, and consists of a chipped flint adze (of a so-called "tranchet" type*, distinctive of the Mesolithic period) and is figured here at the end of Mr. Carpenter's report on this unusual site and on the implements found there.

The finds from this site (which were on view to the Society at its winter meeting at the Bull Hotel), have been retained by the County Council, as owners of the site, but it is understood that they will be deposited in Kingston Museum. Of the adze, the writer has made a plaster-cast reproduction as a permanent-record for our Society.



A Mesolithic Site near Leatherhead—Report by L. W. Carpenter

On Whit Monday, June 2nd, 1952, the writer noticed some mesolithic cores and flakes lying along the sides of the new cutting which was then being excavated to straighten the course of the River Mole where it passes under the Young Street bridge. The site is exactly one mile due south of Leatherhead station and the O.S. map reference is 51 162551. Further visits were made to the site during the same week and permission was obtained from the foreman in charge of the digging operation to examine the new channel for the river and the spoil heaps thrown up by the bulldozers and mechanical scrapers. Struck flint was observed over the whole of the area and interesting samples were collected for further examination. At a depth of some four to five feet below the original field level, as far as one could judge owing to the disturbed state of the ground, the remains of three hearths were discovered each one containing calcined flint, charcoal and burnt soil. Careful scraping near one of these hearths produced several mesolithic blades and a well-made scraper. As these blades were in a horizontal position it appeared that they and the hearth were contemporary and marked the site of a mesolithic camping ground. Such a site situated, as it must have been in the river flood plain does not fit in at all with what is known of these folk who, although they liked encampments adjacent to rivers and lakes, always chose them on ground which was essentially dry and comfortable. Mr. Rankine visited the site shortly afterwards and was convinced that most if not all, of the material found there had either slipped, or been washed, down from the adjacent hillsides, since he and other searchers found flint blades and flakes which were in a vertical position, and others which lay in inclined planes. The deepening of the new river bed soon produced evidence which tends to confirm that all of this material and the soil had been swept down

* So called from the special method of sharpening and re-sharpening these implements by means of a *transverse* blow which detached a flake, along the cutting edge, at right-angles to their main length.

into the river valley, by heavy rains, in past ages. At a depth of only two feet below the lowest levels which produced worked flint, the bulldozers came upon a shallow layer of "chalky marl" overlaying a bed of peat. This peat contained numerous tree trunks; in fact much of it consisted of the remains of trees and compressed sedges and grasses. It was impossible to ascertain the depth of these peat and vegetable remains as the whole mass was water logged and any excavation into it quickly filled with water. Careful investigation of this layer failed to reveal any traces of animal remains, bones or flints, but the small amount which could be examined was not sufficient for one to be able to state that these are entirely absent. One could however assume with safety that no mesolithic settlers were likely to have encamped upon two or three feet of soil which would be covering such an unstable foundation and this discovery alone would rule out any possibility that the worked flints actually lay upon the Mesolithic encampment sites. It is probable that in those very early times much of the Mole valley had very steep sides such as still exist in the Mickleham area and parts of Norbury Park today. Torrential rains and undercutting by flood water could have produced landslides from the hill sides thus bringing flints, hearths and other debris down into the Mole flood plain, bringing trees and undergrowth and depositing the flint bearing soil on top. Examination of the river banks and bed below the Priory, some three-quarters of a mile south of the Young Street site, will show the observer that the same sort of thing on a much smaller scale is going on today.

Capt. Lowther who has examined specimens of the peat and buried wood, states that the tree remains are those of birch trees and, as these were one of the predominant features of Mesolithic times in this country, it is fairly certain that the peat bed is contemporary with the flint implements.

On the assumption that the main Mesolithic occupation site lay higher up upon the hill side, the writer made a somewhat cursory survey of the ploughed land lying between the Priory tunnel and the Bocketts Farm and Hawks Hill areas. Somewhat large rough flakes thickly patinated white can be picked up in fields and from rabbit scrapes in the Priory tunnel area, but they are very similar to the same kind of flakes which can be picked up at Mickleham Downs on the opposite side of the valley. Many smaller patinated flakes occur in the oak and hazel wood, just above the Young Street site near the railway line. A round, rough scraper probably of Neolithic or Early Bronze Age origin was picked up from the edge of a ploughed field on Bocketts Farm. Several pieces of worked flint with the Mesolithic trimming and blunting were found on ploughed land in the Hawks Hill area. These are figured later.

To sum up we have sufficient evidence to say that Mesolithic sites existed in and along the Mole valley but that at the moment there is no evidence which can directly locate any particular site. No definite concentration of worked flint debris has been found which is sufficiently thick to warrant time and energy being spent on excavation, likely to lead to the unearthing of a Mesolithic working floor. It is hoped however that members of the Society will keep a watchful eye for any such site which should be reported so that permission may be sought for a proper excavation.

The Finds. It was hoped to draw these in some classified order but as fresh finds have come to light since the drawings were started and as the writer cannot claim to be an expert in any sense of the word it is hoped that the reader and particularly the expert will pardon the irregularities which may occur.

General impression from the Finds. Most of the flints figured do not show the very fine technique and skill in working which one always associates with the workmanship of the S.W. Surrey Mesolithic cultures. Some of the flints are very fresh and impatinated while others show thick patination. In view of the vagaries of patination it would be unsafe to assume that the patinated flints were much older or even older than the unpatinated ones. Samples do occur however where patinated flints have been retouched and reworked showing fresh impatinated flint. Here it is obvious that a considerable lapse of time must have occurred between the original fabrication of such implements and their adaptation by later folk.

Figure 1 depicts a selection of the cores found. No. 1 is a keeled core with two striking platforms of mottled grey flint. No. 2 is a conical core with flakes removed half way round; it is a surface find and is somewhat plough battered and iron stained. No. 3 is a conical core which has either been split in half or made on part of a very thick primary flake. It is patinated bluish white and the flint is black. No. 4 and also Fig. 2 (No. 4) are core re-juvenating flakes of which a number were found on the site. No. 5 is a cylindrical core of grey flint with two striking platforms and No. 6 one with one striking platform and of greyish brown flint. Nos. 7, 8 and 9 are probably roughened and side scrapers made from cores with two striking platforms as is also Fig. 3 (No. 12). No. 9 (Fig. 1) has been used both as an end (concave) scraper and a side scraper. No. 10, of blue grey flint is a rough core which has also been worked as a scraper at the striking platform end. Nos. 11 and 12 are of pale grey speckled flint while No. 13 of dark grey flint bears a high gloss—the small cores 9, 16, 18 and 19 are all highly glossy and of dark grey flint. No. 20 is of almost black flint and of unorthodox shape. Nos. 14 and 15 and a very large core not figured here are not of the usual Mesolithic types. No. 14 and the large one not figured are thickly patinated white while No. 15 is of unpatinated brownish grey flint. Only short, squat flakes could have been struck from these three cores.

Fig. 2 (No. 1) is a core of brown flint with two striking platforms and this specimen has been sent to Mr. Rankine who is engaged in research work on the Mesolithic use of brown flint. No. 2 is a core of brownish grey flint with dark grey cortex while No. 3 is of the same kind of flint. No. 5 is a small pick-like tool roughly made and with a small sharpening flake struck off one end. Suitably hafted, it could have been used for grubbing roots. No. 6, thickly patinated white, is the hafting end of a tranchet axe which was probably some two or three inches longer. The break is old and as thickly patinated as the rest. Pieces of two other axes have also been discovered. Many pieces of flint found on the site

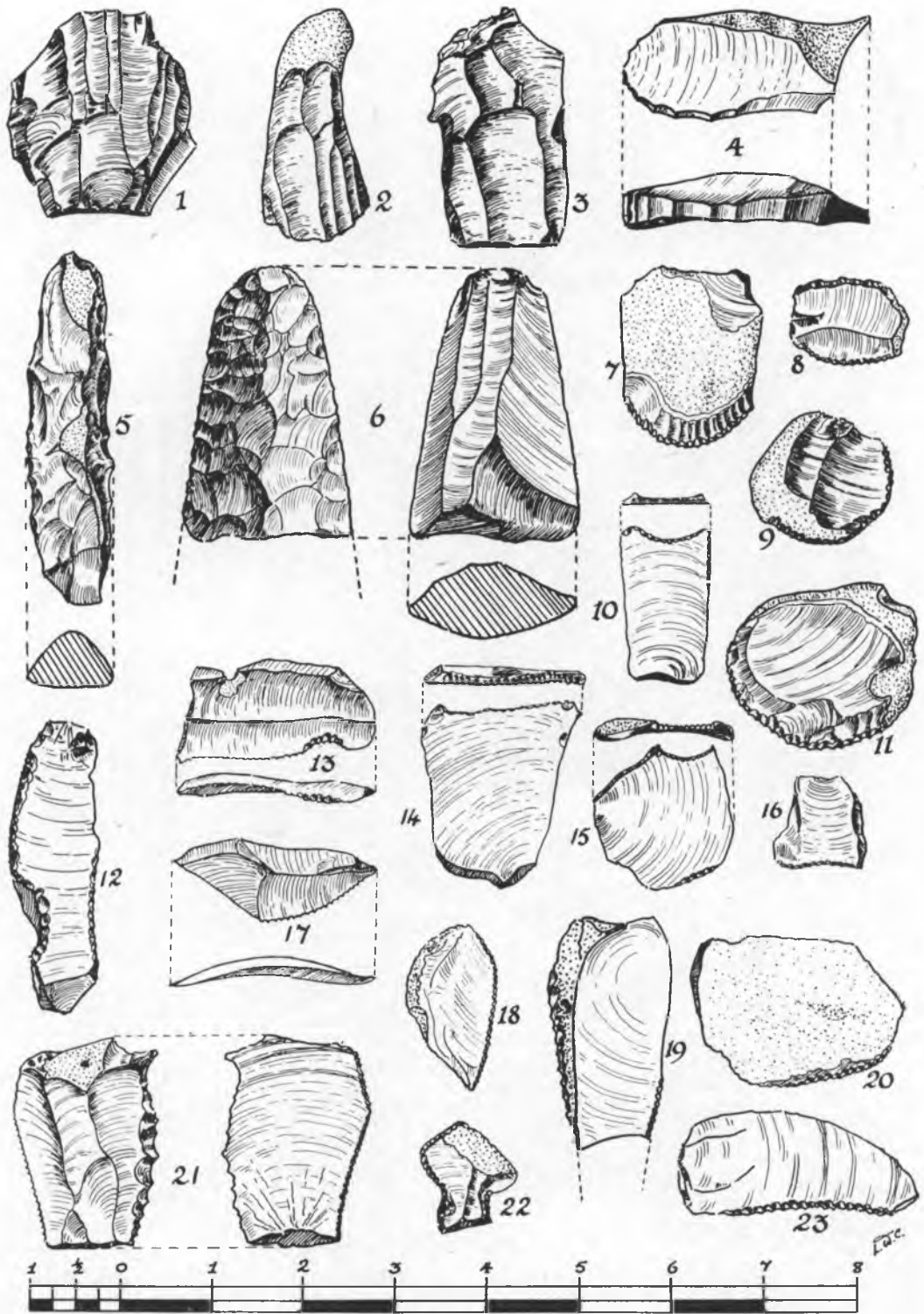


Fig. 1

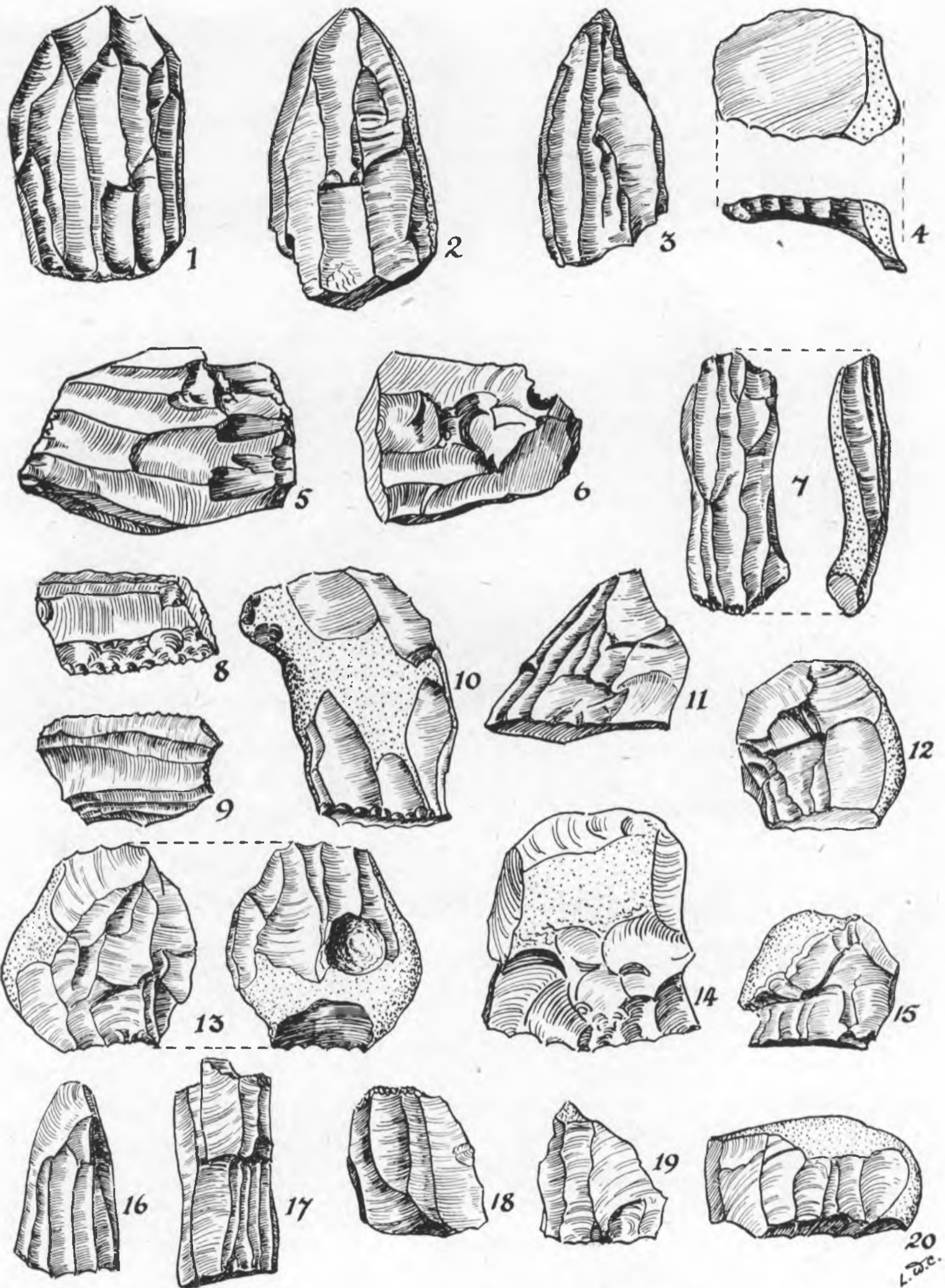


Fig. 2

INCHES

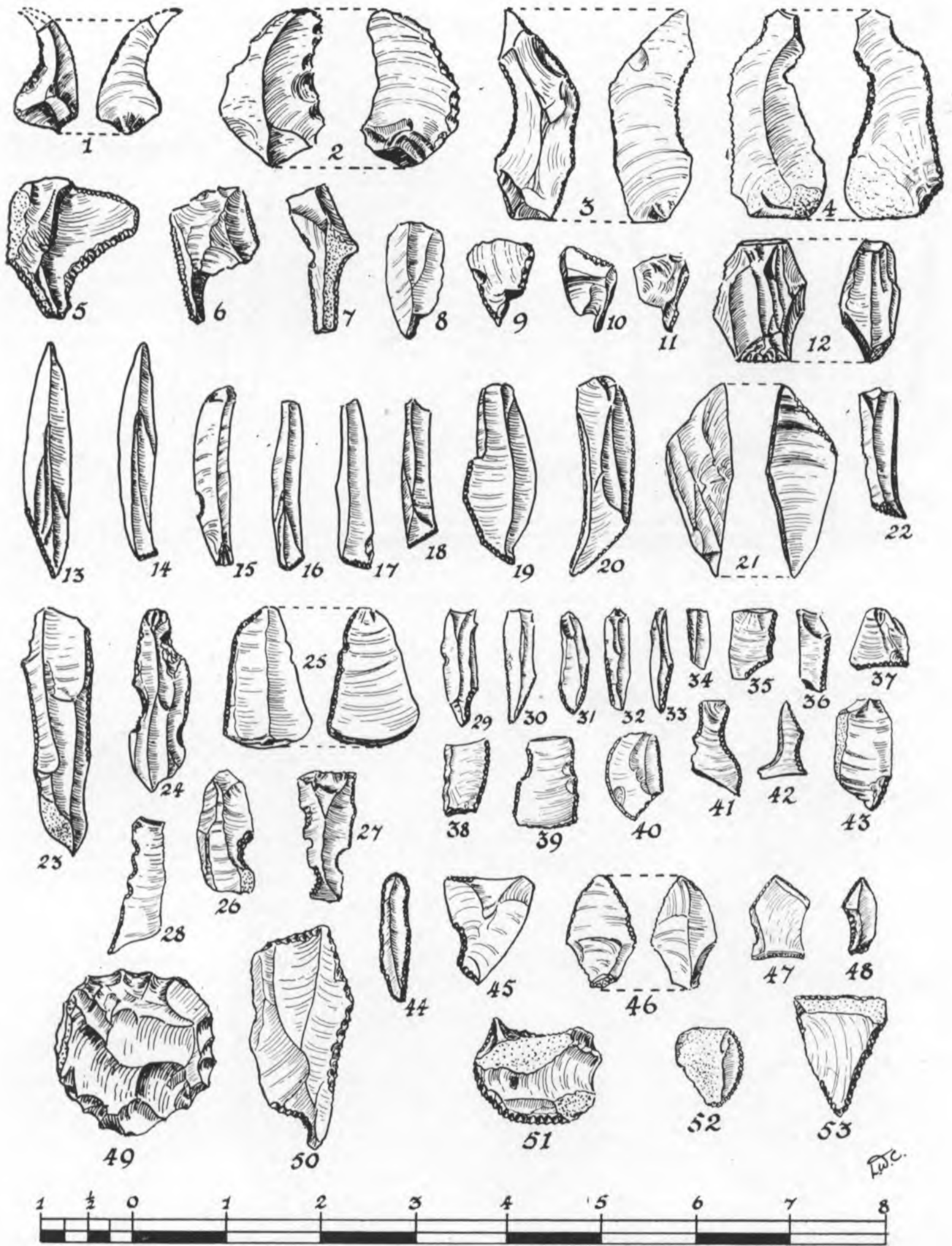
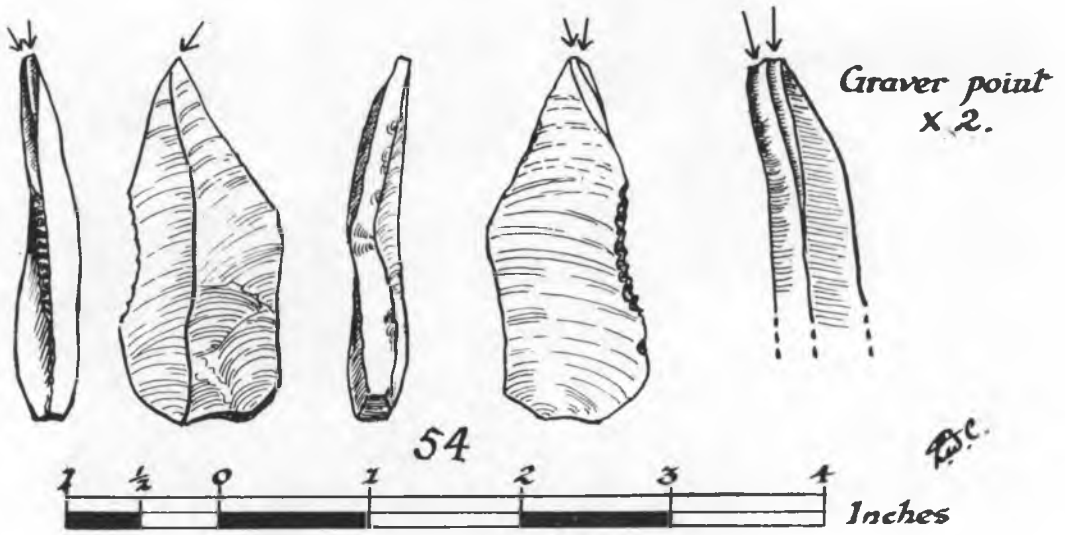
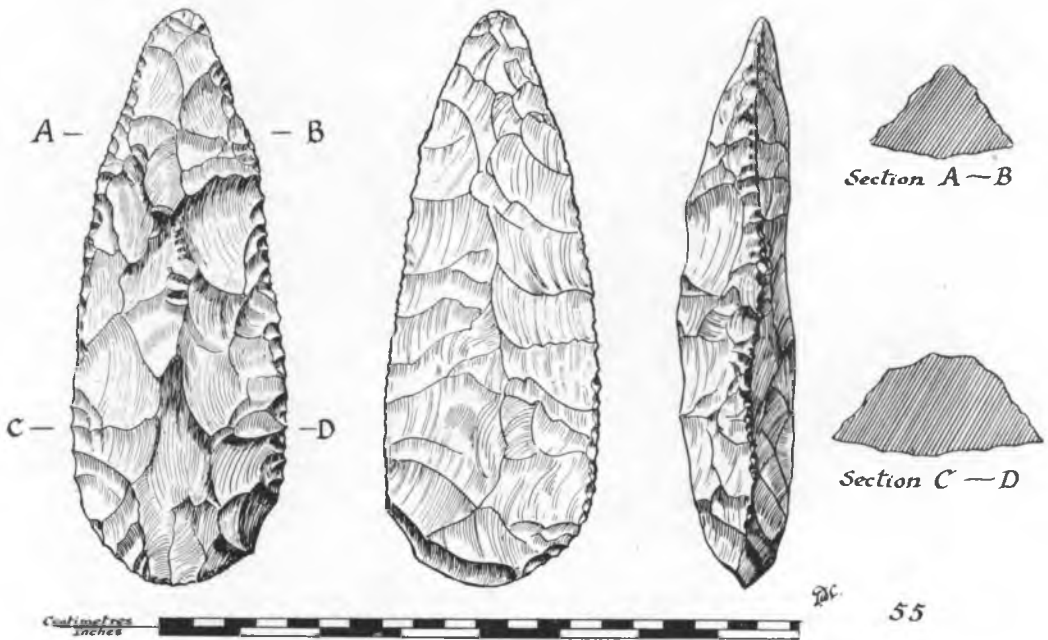


Fig. 3

Graver ~ Surface find from Hawk's Hill



Tranchet Axe from Leatherhead



appear to have been used as scrapers and some pieces were found to be very well worn. No. 7 (Fig. 2) is a very good example of Mesolithic convex scraper and Nos. 8, 9 and 11 also belong to the convex type. No. 10 is an end concave scraper on a blade and No. 14 is made on a rather thin flake both these are of the "raclette" type. No. 15 is a small concave scraper made on the side of a flake. These scrapers are of black, dark grey and translucent flint with no patination. Serrated blades, probably used for sawing bone or small articles of hardwood, occur. No. 13 of pale grey brown flint and No. 17 of dark lustrous caramel-coloured flint, are both made on twisted blades. The writer has three other saw blades of similar type all also on twisted blades, two from Malden and one from Shepperton and it would be interesting to know whether any more such types have been found and what is the significance of the twisted blade. No. 18, 19 and 21 are also knife flakes which have serrated edges. No. 21 is of a brownish flint and has a well developed point on one side so that it may be said to be a dual purpose tool. No. 23 is probably a flake used as a knife blade or scraper and No. 20 is a scraper made on the cortex side of a thin flake. Perhaps the most interesting specimen is No. 12 which is a knife blade worked on an old already patinated blade of triangular section. The trimming on the right is the original trimming and is patinated like the rest of the blade but that on the left is fresh trimming and shows us unpatinated translucent flint. No. 22 is a small flint of rather thick triangular section which has been included because of its curious shape.

Fig. 3 depicts points and blades found on the site and includes a few borers and piercers. No. 1 is a curved point of the Frensham type (see S.A.C. Vol. XLIX and the article by Mr. W. F. Rankine) and is of lustrous black flint. No. 2 is also a battered specimen of curved point and is interesting because like some of the Frensham points it has had the bulb removed. No. 3 and No. 4 also have a tendency to the same type. Nos. 5 to 11 are probably borers and piercers, the two doubtful specimens being No. 7 and No. 8. Quite a number of blades and truncated blades have been found on the site, many examples being fresh and unpatinated and others patinated from blue-grey to white. Only those which bear signs of secondary working have been figured although no doubt many of the others were used for various purposes. No. 13 and 14 are both of pale honey coloured flint while Nos. 15 to 23 are of several shades of mottled grey and translucent flint. No. 25 is a hinged flake of translucent flint with thin white patination which has been carefully trimmed along one edge and then turned over and carefully trimmed along the other edge on the reverse side. Nos. 24, 26, 27 and 28 are small blades which display various types of notching although the typical "micro-burin" which usually remains after the blade has been cut through by this notching is not evident on the site. The microlithic forms displayed in Nos. 29 to 43 do not appear to belong to any conventional patterns. No. 44 is carefully blunted all the way round with steep trimming. No. 45 would appear to be a derivation of the transverse arrowhead and No. 46 also has possibilities as an arrow point or fish-spear point, as have also Nos. 47 and 48.

No. 49 is the round scraper from the Bocketts Farm area. No. 50 is a boring or piercing tool from the Hawks Hill region; No. 51 is a small scraper with a well developed point from the same district, while Nos. 52 and 53 were also picked up from the edge of ploughed lands in that area.

No. 54, from a nearby site on Hawks Hill is described thus:—"Graver", of brownish flint with a bluish-white patina and with later re-chipping along one edge. A surface find from a ploughed field on Hawks Hill. No. 55, the tranchet axe or adze, previously mentioned is of honey-coloured flint, with patches of cream-coloured and bluish-white patina. Weight: 16½ ozs. It was found, in the yellow clay silt, at a depth of seven feet, and close to the bridge and in the west bank of the new river channel. Mr. W. F. Rankine comments:—"This specimen is a fine example of the 'pointed butt adze' which, undoubtedly, was hafted and may have been used for digging (pits, for instance). I have two good specimens—both excavated—one 7¼ ins. long and the other 8 ins. (v. 'Prehistory of Farnham,' p. 122, Fig. 16, No. 1). The 7¼ in. adze came from 'Snailsynch,' Farnham, and has not been published; it has a flat underside, as was attempted in the making of your implement. For symmetry I think your adze is the finest yet brought to light."

EXCAVATIONS AT LITTLE BOOKHAM CHURCH

(A CORRECTION)

IN our last number was included a report of the excavations here which, as indicated, were very inconclusive and only resulted in a suggestion that the line of the south wall of the aisle might be found some eleven feet from the existing south wall.

During 1952 Mrs. Joan Blair, daughter of the Rev. A. L. Drinkwater, and her husband carried out a further and, this time, successful excavation. Armed by a further faculty—which enabled digging to be made in ground which the 1951 party had undertaken to avoid—the remains of the actual wall were uncovered. A very brief report by Mrs. Blair states "Acting on the assumption that the W. wall of the aisle would have formed a continuation of the existing W. wall we dug a trial trench close to the S.W. corner of the church. Nine inches below the surface the foundations of a substantial flint and mortar wall were encountered, measuring 2 ft. 9 in. across by approximately 18 in. deep. Further digging revealed that these extend southward for 7 ft. and then turn at right-angles to run a further 12 ft. eastward before joining the present porch. We intend this year to excavate on the East side of the porch in the hope of being able to establish the complete ground-plan of the aisle."

It is much to be hoped that the rest of the ground-plan will now be recovered though one of the 1951 trenches extended to less than seven feet from the wall without exposing any foundations on the east side. It is understood that the finds corresponded with those recorded by the earlier party and a full publication of the completed operation is awaited with great interest.

A.T.R.

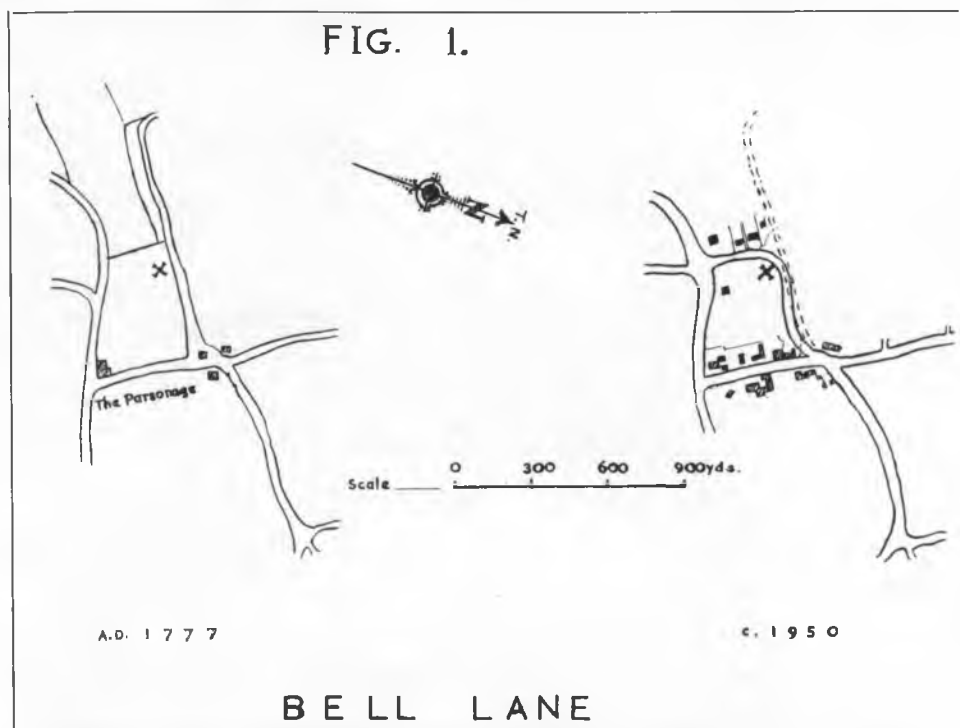
NOTE ON THE EXCAVATIONS IN BELL LANE, FETCHAM, 1952.

By A. T. RUBY

WE are indebted to Mr. S. Nash of this Society for the discovery—due to his vigilance in inspecting builders' trenches, noticed as he passed by which resulted in the finding of old bricks below the surface of the soil and pottery sherds of various dates (Fig. 1).

Owing to the kindness of the owner of this site—Mr. L. J. Fairweather—we were allowed to excavate as much as was possible without interfering with building operations, and a number of our members spent several weeks of evenings and Saturday afternoons on the site. It is rather an unfair return for Mr. Fairweather's kindness that he had to be shown that much of his ground had, as a subsoil, an almost unbroken sheet of flints and rubble!

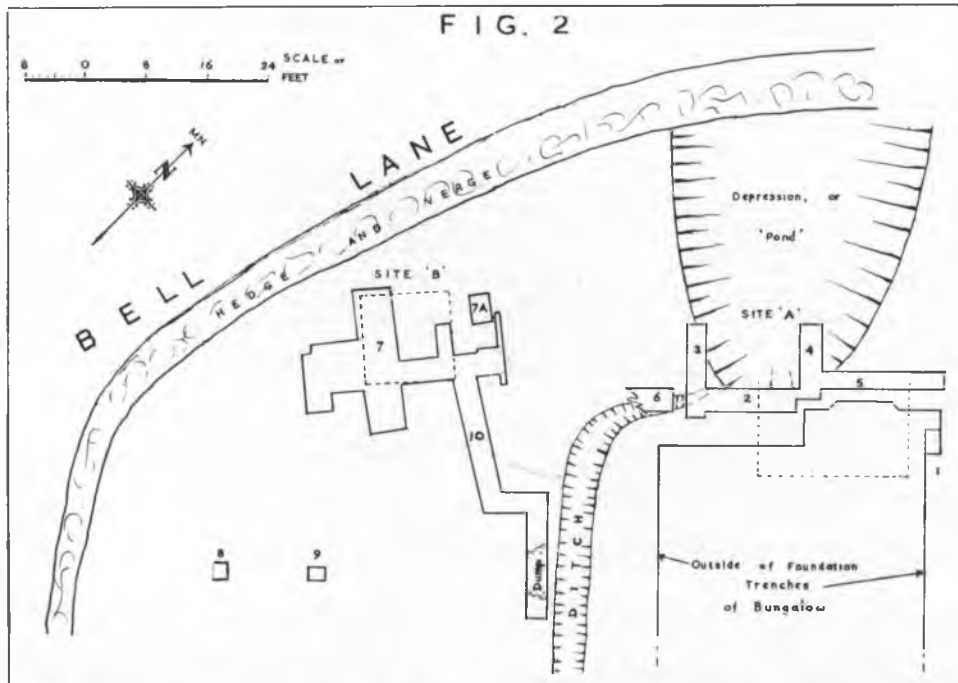
Digging was undertaken in two places—see Fig. 2. The first site, where the bricks were *in situ*, was partially under the new construction, and this fact coupled with the piles of bricks and other builders' materials made the task very restricted. Nevertheless, the work—necessarily hurried—enabled an idea of the site to emerge, though a hasty end, due to building operations, prevented a thorough examination of the site and its problems.



The second site was in open ground and was allowed to continue until the house was about to be occupied. It took a long time to find any indication of the second building—indeed, not until, in despair of finding any limits to the scatter of flints and mortar, etc., “wrecking” operations were started. This led to the finding of three corners of this building but the trenches had to be filled in before the fourth could be proved. It was unfortunate that a week's work at Lee Wood, previously arranged for, was sufficient to prevent the establishment of this proof.

It appears as a result of the excavation that two ancient buildings were uncovered, the first being twice as large as the other and possibly representing two cottages, but more probably a brewhouse or similar outbuilding belonging to the second. From the finds it is clear that the site as a whole was occupied from at least the 13th century, the buildings found—constructed with flints and bricks with tiled roofs—dating from the 16th or very late 15th centuries. The few bricks found undisturbed show apparent English bond—in only one place in the second building were bricks still bonded together but not enough to show the bond definitely. Pottery finds indicate an end to the first and larger building in the early 18th century while the other went on to about 1760 A.D. Another indication that the second outlasted the first is that a layer of chalk spread over the field after the second cottage was demolished has several inches of silt between it and the debris of the first: suggesting that the ruins of the first had been exposed to the elements for some time.

The history of the site is under examination, but so far little has been found beyond the fact that the field was barren of buildings by 1777 A.D. It is clear, from the large quantity of pieces of beermugs,

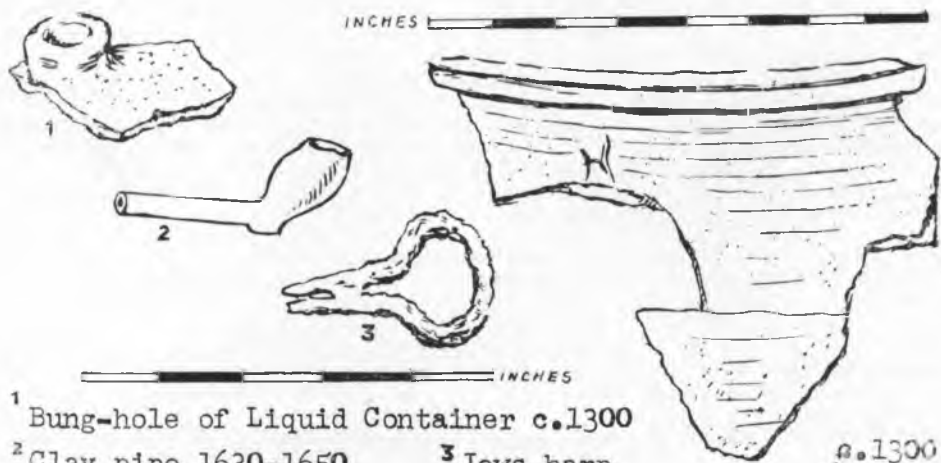


bottles and pipes found, that the second building—if not the first also—was an alehouse and may well have been the Bell Inn before it was moved to the other end of the Lane. At the N.W. side of the second building was a lean-to outhouse, probably under the main roof of the building, used evidently as a harness room or general storeroom.

As regards the Finds, which covered from c. 1250 to c. 1750 A.D., many of the more common utensils were in use for very long periods. Indeed some are difficult to distinguish from quite modern "crocks." We are indebted to Mr. F. J. Collins of the L.C.C. for obtaining dates from the Guildhall and the Victoria and Albert Museums of some of the later more difficult items among the many varieties, particularly in pottery, of which fragments were found. Regrettably, "fragments" is the correct word to use in most cases, due, perhaps, to the fact that the broken sherds were levelled out with the building rubble and thus made even smaller. Patient work, mostly due to Mr. Nash, has enabled many of the recovered fragments to be put together to show at least the form and size of the original vessel.

Full publication of the excavation will appear in *S.A.C.* One or two of the outstanding finds are illustrated in the accompanying drawings on pp. 13 and 24.

Among the other Finds is a portion of a beermug which has been subjected to great heat. Perhaps one winter night someone, in a rage, flung his pot at another and it landed in the blazing fire!



1 Bung-hole of Liquid Container c.1300

2 Clay pipe 1630-1650

3 Jews harp

c.1300

REPORT OF GROUP " E " : Natural History

THERE is not a great deal to report for the year 1952-3. The activities of the group have been confined to making the annual survey of the vegetation on the two special areas of Mickleham Down and White Hill. It is too soon after the full report published in the last preceding issue of these "Proceedings" to record any change of interest beyond noting that many chalk annuals such as *Blackstonia perfoliata* were particularly abundant last summer. In the autumn a successful fungus foray was held in the woods behind Box Hill. The specimens collected were afterwards displayed at Juniper Hall where the members of the party gathered for tea. It is hoped to hold a fungus foray annually and that it will attract not only naturalists but members interested in edible fungi.

Advancing age and other causes take a severe toll of our active fieldworkers. If the Society is to maintain the interesting surveys and research on which the group is engaged some new active members are essential. I would therefore appeal to all the younger members of the Society who are interested in natural history to get into touch with me if they are prepared to assist actively. If sufficient members come forward similar surveys, etc., can be started in other parts of the area more convenient to some of the members. Junior members will also be welcomed.

BIRDS IN MY GARDEN

(EDITORIAL NOTE.—The death last November of Mr. J. E. S. Dalls was a sad loss to the Society who were deprived not only of a charming personality but a tireless fieldworker and a much appreciated lecturer on many aspects of the Society's work. We are glad to publish *in memoriam* this short Article prepared by Mr. Dallas last summer.)

SINCE October 1945 I have kept a note of all birds observed within about 200 yards of my house in Clinton Road on the S.E. edge of Leatherhead and so far the record has reached 67 species.

The short road, a cul-de-sac for vehicles, has gardens backing on to allotments and rough ground with open, thinly wooded country beyond, and so it is not surprising that my list includes all common members of the Crow family and all the common Finches and Tits. All the migrant warblers (except the Wood Warbler) visit us in the Summer, as do the Swallow, House Martin, Swift and Cuckoo. The Thrush tribe are well represented; Green and Great Spotted Woodpeckers are often in evidence, and so are Wood Pigeons and, in summer, Turtle Doves. Pheasants and Partridges are occasionally observed in the rough ground behind the house. A few species are only seen flying over the area, among them, Heron, Lapwing, two species of Gull, and, one April evening, a party of Golden Plover on migration, identified by their distinctive call.

Two birds, well authenticated by near neighbours as coming to their gardens, are the Hawfinch and Kingfisher. These do not come in my total of 67; but among the kinds less frequently seen by myself must be mentioned the Grey Wagtail which came to a small pond in the garden in October, 1945. Tree Creepers occasionally climb the bark of the apple trees, and Goldcrests and Lesser Redpolls are seen or heard now and then.

There have been a few real ornithological thrills. For example, early one November a grand Short-eared Owl (the largest of our owls) got up from the allotment; it was at once chased by sparrows, and soon blackbirds and starlings took over, driving the poor owl up higher. Then, out of a nearby copse came dozens of rooks and jackdaws which inhospitably chased the Owl up until it was a mere speck in the sky and disappeared in the direction of Bookham.

One warm Sunday in May, 1950 a Nightingale sang to us the whole day in a tiny shrubbery at the end of the garden, but by next morning he was gone. Later in the year a Sparrow Hawk, the first I had seen in the area, chased a small bird through that shrubbery, then among trees in our garden and so down on to the lawn. In a few moments it rose with the victim in its talons.

In 1947 and again in 1951 a pair of Red Backed Shrikes brought off four young in the rough ground behind the house. The young were often seen being fed by their parents.

One species which has greatly diminished in numbers in Surrey, if not in England, since the first war, still visits us each year. This is the Wryneck, whose distinctive cry "Peh, peh, peh, peh" is constantly heard from late April until early July. It can often be seen at the top of a tall tree, or sometimes on a telegraph post, calling loudly and justifying its name by its queer habit of raising its head and twisting it round to peer in all directions.

Nesting species

Rook	Spotted Flycatcher
Starling	Song Thrush
Bullfinch	Blackbird
Sparrow	Robin
Red backed Shrike	House Martin

and probably a number of others for which I have no direct evidence.

J.E.S.D.

LORDS OF PACHENESHAM IN THE XIVth CENTURY

By A. T. RUBY

(This is an abridgement of a talk given to members in March, 1953. A full publication will take place later.—Ed.)

THIS account is, in a way, a continuation of the story of Sir Eustace de Hacche. The exact date when Eustace surrendered the manor of Pachenesham is not clear. Brayley in his "History of Surrey" (Vol IV, pp. 426/7) says that in 1307 the manor was held by Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, whose sister and co-heiress married Peter de Gaveston. In 1308 Avice, the widow of Eustace, was granted a manor in Northamptonshire in exchange for Pachenesham and the grant refers to Eustace having granted the manor to the King by a charter (which cannot now be traced). The grant to the King was probably to take effect on Eustace's death in 1306; but certainly King Edward II granted the manor to Peter de Gaveston in the first year of his reign. The notorious Gaveston is too well known to require an account of his activities and in any case he sold the manor in December 1309 to Robert Darcy and Joan his wife. It is therefore with this Robert that the story will begin.

ROBERT DARCY

Robert Darcy was a descendant of that Norman d'Arcy (Arcie a hamlet in the Avranchin) who—or his son—was living in 1115 and is shown as the Domesday lord of lands in Lincoln. Robert was a younger son of a Norman d'Arcy and Julian his first wife. Robert's brothers were Philip (the heir) and John. This John should not be confused with a cousin, John, son of Roger, who later carried on the family after the extinction of Philip's line. Incidentally, Philip had, in 1277, been a co-executor with Eustace de Hacche of the will of a John Wauton.

The first mention of Robert is in 1288 when he granted lands in Dunston Marsh to the church at Barlings, Lincolnshire.

Between 1291 and 1306 there are several references to journeys by Robert to Scotland and Wales, to difficulties over certain transfers of land to him by his father without the King's licence, and other minor matters. Robert obtained a grant of free warren in his Lincolnshire estates in 1299.

In 1306 King Edward I conducted his first campaign against Robert the Bruce and it was in that year that Eustace de Hacche died prior to 20th September, probably on the field of battle. On October 18th an order was issued to the several sheriffs to seize all land and goods of twenty-one persons who had deserted the King and his son during the campaign "in contempt of the King and to the retarding of the King's business there." The persons of these rebels were also to be seized and held for the King. Among them were Peter de Gaveston and Robert Darcy.

Unfortunately we have no further details of this desertion and do not know whether in fact the order was ever carried out. In July of the next year Edward I suddenly died and was succeeded by his son. Gaveston was, as is well known, a special favourite of Edward II and evidently obtained a pardon for his actions both for himself and his followers, for in October 1307 Robert was appointed as attorney for the King to receive seisin of some property granted to him by Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, and was sent overseas on the royal service in 1308. In March 1309 Robert went to Ireland and in October complained that evildoers had carried off some timber which the King had given him. In December of that year he obtained Pachenesham Manor from Peter de Gaveston at the nominal yearly rent of one penny.

From this date to Robert's death in 1343 references to him are so numerous that they can only be summarised.

Until 1313 he was apparently a member of the King's household, probably in the service of Peter de Gaveston, and it is likely that he then lived at the convenient manor at Pachenesham, as had Eustace de Hacche before him. In 1310 there is a reference to Robert as "King's clerk" and one in 1313 when he was named as one of twelve "household Knights."

In 1310 Robert had been appointed constable of Chepstow Castle (Mon.), assigned by the King for the benefit of his two brothers, Thomas and Edmund. There are several orders for the repair and provisioning of the castle and a reminder in 1311 to pay the ferm of the castle but a further order in December 1312 for Robert to deliver over the castle to the royal brother Thomas led to a strange discovery. This is best described in a Commission of Oyer et Terminer granted in the following month on the complaint of Robert "that John de Pateshulle, appointed to be his lieutenant while Robert was in the King's service, not only caused great loss to the King and the men of the neighbourhood (a previous commission of inquiry mentioned a loss of £1,000 by the removal of armour, victuals and deadstock from the castle) but, on hearing of Robert coming to inspect the castle, John de Pateshulle carried off the King's goods as well as those of the complainant, with the commission as Keeper, and escaped into Wales. Further, before his absconding, he bribed with robes and otherwise conspired with many (named) tenants of the livery that they should not attend Robert on his arrival or answer to him; in consequence whereof the named tenants were not, and the other tenants dared not to be, attendant to him or pay their rents, dues, services, etc., to his resultant great financial loss." The commission went on to order an inquiry and the seizure of the said John by the bailiffs of the Marcher earls if John were found in their bailiwicks. Whether John de Pateshulle was ever caught or punished is not known.

Robert probably left the Royal Household when Peter de Gaveston was seized by the enraged barons and executed in June 1312. From April 1313 to Michaelmas 1314 Robert was sheriff of Gloucester.

In 1315 Robert went to Scotland presumably in the train of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster appointed as C. in C. there after the disaster of Bannockburn in the previous year. From 1317 to 1321 we hear little of Robert who seems to have retired to the comparative obscurity of his Lincolnshire estates. The grant to him in 1311 of free warren at Pachenesham is the only Surrey reference.

In 1322, however, occurred the revolt of the Earl of Lancaster against the activities of the two Dispensers, the King's new favourites, ending in the Earl's defeat at Boroughbridge and his execution. The King was evidently mindful of Robert's past services for it was a busy year for the Knight to whom was committed for the King the holding and care of the castle of Sleaford, Lincs., and who was appointed, with others, to a number of commissions to raise forces against the rebels and seize their lands. In addition he was appointed by commissions to raise some 5,000 footmen from Lincolnshire to proceed against the Scots who were doing much damage in the Border countries. It is of interest to note that Robert, with his brother John and cousin John, were accepted as mainpernors for the eldest brother Philip and the latter's son Norman who had joined the rebels and had been taken prisoners at York.

Evidently Robert accomplished all his many tasks to the King's satisfaction since in 1323 he was granted 80 marks out of the issues of Sleaford castle and manor for "his good service."

The years 1324 to 1327 were ones of great unrest, culminating in the return from France of Queen Isabella, the deposition of Edward II and the accession of Edward III. It is not surprising therefore that Robert became the joint recipient of many commissions to array armed forces, to try and maintain the King's peace and to hear and determine complaints both general and particular.

Apart from these many references there is one of especial interest where, in 1325, Robert obtained the marriage of John de Argentein, or Dargentein, then seven years old, and married him off to his (Robert's) daughter Margaret, who was at least five years older.

Since, possibly 1313 Pachenesham had been occupied by tenants. At any rate in 1325 there is a Memorandum of the land and buildings forming the heritage of John and Margery the son and daughter and heirs of John of Leatherhead. This included the capital messuage at Pachenesham with two acres of garden and a dovecote valued at 42s. 4d. and an income (including 8/- from Robert Darcy for the mill) of 46s. 10d.

After the accession of Edward III Robert continued to receive various commissions appropriate to a Knight of the Shire and showing the increasing extent to which the landed gentry were being utilised as unpaid tax assessors and collectors, assistants to the travelling justices, to raise armed forces, to hold inquiries, etc.

In 1328 he was granted view of frankpledge in his manor of Pachenesham and Leddrede and evidently paid a visit here, for in October of that year it was alleged that he seized certain draught beasts belonging to Robert de Hoton, the vicar of Leatherhead, for having failed to fulfil thrice-weekly chantry services at the chapel of St. Margaret at Pachenesham. The vicar responded with an action against Robert for unlawful distraint which was heard in 1330 though the result is, unfortunately, unknown. Probably the tenants of the manorship had allowed the service to fall into disuse.

Undeterred by this clerical dereliction of duty, and perhaps influenced by advancing age (he must have been at least sixty-six) Robert in 1333 obtained a licence to transfer certain lands to the abbot and convent of Topholm towards the support of a chaplain to celebrate divine service daily in the convent church for the souls of Robert and Joan, their ancestors and heirs. This was an early example of what, during the next century and a half, became an increasingly popular practice.

In 1331 he was granted a weekly market at Leatherhead which continued to be held until about 1600, and an annual fair which continued to the close of the XIXth century.

Robert died at the beginning of 1343 leaving a widow, Joan, and a daughter Margaret, aged 30 years or more, the wife of Sir John Dargentein. It is interesting to note that Joan must have been of comparatively humble origin, being described in a document of 1332 simply as "daughter of Thomas, son of Eustace." The Manor of Pachenesham was left to Joan and eventually came, through the daughter Margaret, to the latter's husband, John Dargentein.

JOHN DARGENTEIN

John Dargentein or de Argentein was born in 1318, the son of Sir John Dargentein and the latter's second wife Agnes, daughter of Wm. Bereford of Burton, co. Leicester. Sir John (senior) was the son of Reynold and grandson of Giles d'Argentein and died when his son was only six months old. The infant's mother afterwards married again firstly Sir John Nerford who died in 1328/9 and secondly (as his second wife) Sir John Mautravers the elder. She had no children other than John Dargentein and died in July 1375 aged at least seventy and the survivor of three husbands! The boy's wardship was granted to his maternal grandfather and, as previously recounted, his marriage, when he was seven years old, was granted to Robert Darcy in 1325.

Nothing more is heard of John until 1338 when he was allowed to have seisin of his father's land although still a minor (20 years old) since, as the order to the escheator states, "the King wishes to do favour to him." The order naively adds "because John has freely granted £100 for the King's affairs and has given homage."

During the remainder of the reign of Edward III very little is known of John. He went overseas in 1351, 1358, 1360 and 1369 but for what purpose, and to where, is not stated. In 1372 his eldest daughter Maud who was then the widow of Richard de Merton was granted a licence to marry Ivo FitzWaryn. In the following year John was appointed with others to the custody against the enemy of all ports in the county of Suffolk. The brilliant episodes of the early part of the Hundred Years War had, now the

King was in his dotage, sunk to a wearisome effort to defend this island against the guerilla tactics of the French and Spaniards.

The King died, a disappointed and deserted man, in 1377 and his grandson came to the throne as Richard II. John Dargentein, by virtue of the grand serjeantry attached to the manor of Wilmondelee (Wymondley) co. Herts. of which he was tenant in chief, was granted the right to serve the King with his first cup of wine after the coronation. John duly performed the service and received the cup of white silver as a fee. It is interesting to note that, according to G. W. Wollaston's "Coronation Claims," the owner of this property has performed this service at every subsequent coronation of which a record of the claims is in existence up to and including that of George IV with the exception of that of Henry V when no claim was submitted and James I at which there were two claimants and no adjudication between them was given. No claim was made at the coronation of William IV and Queen Victoria and since then the banquet has been dispensed with and the occasion has not arisen. This dispensation has not, however, deprived the owner of this property of his right as is shown by the proclamation of Her Majesty Elizabeth II, dated 10 June, 1952, which dispenses with the services of persons claiming to perform services in Westminster Hall (the banquet) and the procession but adds "such Dispensation shall not interfere with the Rights and Privileges of any of Our loving Subjects to claim the Performance of such several Services or any of them at any future Coronation."

In 1382 John was appointed to the Commission of the Peace for Suffolk and at the end of that year was commissioned with others to take, if necessary, the posse comitatus both Knights and esquires, and lead them against and seize the rebels (the Peasants' Rising) and do justice upon them without delay.

At some time in the first two months of 1383, John died aged 65, his death giving rise to some interesting incidents. His only heirs were three daughters, viz., (i) Maud (or Matilda) who had married Ivo FitzWaryn as her second husband, (ii) Elizabeth who had married Sir Baldwin Seyntgeorge and (iii) Joan who had married Sir Bartholomew Naunton. There was however a William Dargentein who appears to have been John's natural son and the apple of his eye, since, before he died, John transferred a considerable portion of his real estate to this William; a transaction which appears to have caused much domestic friction. According to a complaint by Ivo made in March 1383 John Dargentein had delivered certain muniments concerning his lands in a locked and sealed chest to the prior of Wymondley for safe custody. While the prior was coming to Halesworth to conduct John's funeral he was seized on Newmarket Heath by "certain evildoers" who forced him to send for the deeds and deliver them to William Dargentein. It was added that the said evildoers afterwards assaulted Ivo and Margaret, John's widow, and their friends "so that they could not do what was honourably due in oblations, etc., for his decent burial."

The cause of this unseemly wrangle was evidently a dispute over the ownership of certain lands. An inquiry was ordered and eventually decided (as was clear from existing documents) in William's favour. As holder of Wymondley manor William performed, at the coronation of Henry IV, the same service as his father had carried out at the coronation of Richard II. The remainder of John's property was divided among John's legal heirs, the manor of Pachenesham coming to Matilda and her husband Ivo FitzWaryn. It might be mentioned that in 1347 the tenant of Pachenesham had been a Roger de Aperdele.

IVO FITZWARYN

Ivo FitzWaryn was born at Blountesdon St. Andrew on 30 November 1347. He was the son, probably the second son, of Sir William FitzWaryn, a Westcountry Knight who died in 1361.

This **William FitzWaryn** had a very colourful life and was evidently of some considerable importance in his time, and probably a connection of the main Fitzwaryn family of which the heir was always named Fulk.

There are a number of William FitzWaryns mentioned (including one who in 1297 threw himself into Stirling Castle after the Constable and the greater part of the garrison had been slain at the bridge and held it against the Scots until forced to surrender for want of victuals). Possibility places him as that William, son of Peter or son of Warin who rebelled against Edward II in 1322 and whose lands were forfeited therefore but restored by Edward III; or again he may have been the son of the hero of Stirling. In 1335 William (described then and frequently afterwards as "le frere") was "for long service" granted the marriage of Elizabeth, late wife of Wm. Latymer, "if she will marry him and, if not, of any fine for her marriage elsewhere or forfeiture if married without the King's licence." This record proved decidedly puzzling because only some fifteen months later another lady is mentioned as William's wife, but it was later discovered that the Lady Elizabeth did *not* desire to marry William—she married the son of the Earl of Suffolk instead. In fact the Earl's son and Elizabeth obtained, in August 1337, a pardon for inter-marrying without the King's licence so that William got neither the girl nor any forfeiture penalty in lieu! However William had, before March of that year, married Amice, daughter of Henry and Eleanor de Haddon, and then about thirteen or fourteen. In 1355 there is a reference to a John, son of William FitzWaryn, being granted an annuity of £20 towards the maintenance of the state of Knight taken at the King's command, with another reference to John in 1357 but, as Ivo is shown as the heir four years later, John must have predeceased his father.

It must however be clearly stated that Sir William's actual descent is quite uncertain so far as my researches go.

Apart, however, from these domestic puzzles Sir William had a most interesting life. He was

Constable of the castles of Montgomery and of Knaresburgh, Yorks, as well, for a time, of Whittington. He was sent on many ambassadorial missions regarding the making of alliances so necessary to Edward III in his conduct of the war with France, and as to the making of royal marriage alliances with Spain and Austria and, in 1341, for arranging a truce or peace with Philip of Valois after the battle of Sluys. He made other journeys in the King's service and held many other posts including that of being associated, with others, in the Stewardship of the Royal Household while the King went on pilgrimage in 1333. There are many grants of land and issues for his good services and he was made a banneret in 1347.

It is however necessary to return to Ivo FitzWaryn, William's son and heir.

As the boy was only fourteen when his father died his wardship and marriage were granted to Queen Philippa who however conveyed such issues to an Edmund Chelrey and a Robert Cox. Until his proof of age, there is only one reference to Ivo but one which is of interest if only to show there is nothing new under the sun! This is a licence to Ivo in 1367, when he was 19-20 years old, under the secret seal, to cross the channel from Dover with an esquire, five yeomen, six horses and £100 for expenses; with a proviso that he shall cross once only and not again within one month or else the present licence shall be void. There are a number of these licences in favour of various persons—including one for John Falstaff, esq.—all limiting the amount of money which may be taken abroad and, in some cases, the value of the horses and other articles to accompany the licencees. So currency restrictions are not the inventions of a diabolical modern government!

In 1369 when Ivo was twenty-two years old he took his proof of age and was granted seisin of his father's lands in the following year. Two years later, as above stated, he married Maud, widow of Richard de Merton and eldest daughter of Sir John Dargentein.

Apart from one year's service in Aquitaine when the French war broke out again in 1369 and a visit to Brittany in 1381 in the service of the new King, Richard II, Ivo appears to have spent his life as a knight of the shires. His start as such was not auspicious. As early as 1377 he quarrelled violently with John Umfray, parson of Lymington, co. Somerset, who obtained an order for a Commission of Oyer et Terminer on his complaint that Ivo and a number of others "broke his close and houses, carried away his goods, depastured, trod down and consumed with their cattle his crops and grass and assaulted and wounded his men and servants." The parson apparently appealed also to his spiritual superiors since the Bishop of Salisbury, after finding that the offenders refused to accept the "ecclesiastical censures" imposed, finally excommunicated them. The sheriff was then ordered by the King's writ to "justify them by their bodies according to the custom of England until holy church should be contented for the contempt and wrong done by them," but this writ was suspended because Ivo and the others appealed to Rome from the Church's sentence as being unjust. What happened on the appeal is not known but no less than ten years later Ivo and the Bishop were both, in modern parlance, bound over in the huge sum of 4,000 marks to keep the peace towards each other and in the next year Ivo was bound over in 500 marks to keep the peace towards John Umfrey the "parson of Marnhulle." Evidently in the long interim the sentence of excommunication must have been annulled, or at least suspended, since Ivo received many commissions and appointments which presumably would not have been granted to an excommunicated person.

Indeed references to him in the years from 1378 onwards are too numerous to set out in detail. He attended Parliament as one of the representatives for Somerset and/or Dorset in 1378, 1383, 1397, 1406 and 1407. The outstanding attendance was that in 1397 when Richard II felt strong enough to defeat the Duke of Gloucester and the Earls of Arundel and Warwick (who had seized the reins of government at the "Merciless Parliament" of 1388) and achieve a political victory—to be flung away at once by the banishment of Lancaster.

Ivo was also appointed to numerous Commissions of the Peace, and to deal with malefactors, particularly, as regards the latter, in connection with the Peasants' Revolt of 1381. He also had many appointments to Commissions to hear and determine causes and to conduct enquiries as well as one to what would now be called a drainage and catchment board including coast erosion in Somerset (which apparently he—with others—failed to carry out) and another in the same county regarding mills and weirs. He was on several occasions a Commissioner to array and equip all men at arms in Somerset and/or Dorset (including one in 1385 against a projected French invasion when he was also ordered to set up "Bekins" to warn the people of the coming of the enemy) and another in 1402 when again the King's enemies intended invasion—at a time when the rising of Owen Glendower in Wales was proving a formidable menace.

He was granted custody for life of Meer Castle in Wiltshire and in 1399 was appointed Keeper and governor of Southampton, though the length of his tenure of office is not known. In 1394 he had committed to him the castle and manor of Whittington in the Welsh Marches during the minority of Fulk FitzWaryn, the grandson of that Fulk during whose minority Ivo's father had also held the castle. During the Welsh rising at the beginning of the XVth century the inhabitants of the castle and surrounding district evidently suffered as much from the depredations of the English forces crossing into Wales as from the enemy. So much so that in 1404 Ivo was acquitted of paying the rent for the castle in consideration of the wasting of the manor by the rebels, the great expenses in the safe custody of the castle and the losses of the tenants and residents of the manor through the carrying off of their victuals and goods, without payment, by the men of the Marches.

The difficulties of King Henry IV, faced as he was by the Welsh rebellion and the French expedition in its support, plus the renewed activities in Aquitaine, are clearly set out in a Commission of 4 September 1405 in which Ivo was joined. It deserves to be quoted at length. It was a Commission to those

appointed to cause to come before them certain of the richest and most sufficient of the lay persons of the hundreds, cities and towns of the county who will be able to pay the tenth and fifteenth granted to the King in the last Parliament and payable next Martinmas (November 11th):—" to induce them to pay without delay: and deliver all monies to the Treasurer of the Wars on 26 September next without excuse for the King's enemies of France have lately landed in Wales to assist the rebels and information has been received that the Duchy of Aquitaine is in great peril from besiegers of his castles there and liable to be lost to the Crown; but as the King has no sufficient money left to pay his men at arms and archers either in Wales or those required for Aquitaine, and as he cannot wait until after Martinmas for payment, he must, in his present necessity, borrow at once the amount of the tenth and fifteenth as assessed."

No account of Ivo FitzWaryn would, of course, be complete without reference to his action against William Wymeldon in 1398, related by Mr. John Harvey, F.S.A., in Number 2 of this Society's "Proceedings" at page 10. As owner of Pachenesham Manor, Ivo and Maud, his wife, had let the manor in 1386 to William Wymeldon but, twelve years later, instituted proceedings against him for serious waste, sale and destruction of the houses, woods and gardens within the manor, the damage amounting to £300. William denied that he had committed any waste before Ivo and Matilda re-entered in 1393 and when the View was taken (at which William appeared in person) it was adjudged that William had indeed committed waste but to the extent of £1 only, for which the plaintiffs were awarded triple damages totalling £3 but were to be in mercy for their false claim against William in respect of the remaining damage. As Mr. Harvey has said, who was responsible for the practically complete destruction of the manorial buildings, timber and grounds cannot now be established but somehow between 1386 and 1414, when Sir Ivo died, the manorhouse and its grounds became valueless and eventually passed from living memory until their relics were brought to light in the excavation of 1947-49.

An item which requires some explanation is a grant to Ivo in 1395 of 40 marks a year from the issues of Whittington castle and manor because Ivo is "retained for life to stay with the King." Perhaps he intended after his wife's death to become a "household Knight," an intention which expired after the King's abdication four years later, when Ivo clearly returned to the west country.

Ivo died on 5 September 1414 his heir being his daughter Eleanor, who since 1390, or earlier, had been married to a Sir John Chedioc. Her husband died between March and November the following year (1415)—was it at Agincourt?—and by February of the next year Eleanor had been married again, to a Ralphe Busshe, a Dorset gentleman. This second marriage was not only hasty but was performed without the King's licence and the newly wedded couple only received a pardon for it on the payment of the quite savage fine of 400 marks.

Pachenesham passed to Eleanor and through her to Ralph Busshe and they sold it in 1419-20 to a William Massey. William died in 1428 and in the same year a John Massey is returned in "Feudal Aids" in respect of a half fee in Pachenesham. Exactly what this John's position was is not clear and we know nothing sure of the manorship until the story is taken up in Brayley's "Surrey" from the beginning of the sixteenth century when the manor became again the property of an owner occupier after two hundred years of absentee ownership. A curious feature is that for over one hundred years no owner had had a male heir to survive him. Leaving apart Piers Gaveston, who scarcely counts, the owner's heir had been, in each case, a daughter, from Juliana of Sir Eustace de Hacche to Eleanor of Sir Ivo FitzWaryn.

PEN SKETCHES OF OLD HOUSES IN THIS DISTRICT

By F. B. BENDER

1.—SLYFIELD MANOR

THIS noble fragment of a once great house lies within the parish of Great Bookham. In Great Bookham Church is the Slyfield chapel, last resting place of some of the members of the family named Slyfield which held the manor of Slyfield from very early times, certainly from 1330, until 1614. The Slyfield family, true to English tradition, seems to have risen in the course of centuries from the status of small copyholders of the main manor of Great Bookham, property of the Abbey of Chertsey, to that of gentlemen of coat-armour. Edmund Slyfield (born 1520, died 1591) was Sheriff of Surrey in 1582; and in his Will, dated 1590, he directed his executors "not to pull down or deface any manner of wainscot or glass in or about my house of Slifeilde." The authorities upon such matters are not agreed as to whether the present house dates from the sixteenth century or from the first quarter of the seventeenth, and so we do not know whether we see Edmund Slyfield's house or its successor; but we do know that Queen Elizabeth I visited a house upon this site during one of her summer progresses. The last of the Slyfield family to own the property was Edmund Slyfield, grandson of the Edmund beforementioned, who succeeded to it in 1598 and sold it in March 1614 to Henry Breton for £2,000. In November of the same year Breton sold it to George Shiers, who paid £3,080 for it. The Shiers appear to have been a local family, but the new owner had made his money in London, probably as a merchant, and had a house in Westminster. Little more is known of him except the date of his death, which took place in 1642. In his Will he left this property (with a life interest to his widow) to his second son Robert, a barrister of the Inner Temple. In 1648 Robert and his elder brother drew up an elaborate indenture by which, for a consideration of £2,100, the elder brother renounced his rights and interest in Slyfield, which is described as "now in the tenure and occupation of Mary Shiers their mother." This seems to



suggest that in making his Will, George Shiers had overlooked the fact that his property was held of the superior manor of Great Bookham, where the custom of primogeniture had obtained since 1339, and thus the elder son was able to establish a monetary claim against his younger brother. Robert Shiers died in 1668. His son, George, who was created a baronet in 1684 when only 24 years of age, died in 1685, leaving all his lands to his mother Elizabeth, who lived on in the house until her death in 1700. One authority and one only alleges that Elizabeth Shiers married Dr. Hugh Shortrudge, Rector of Fetcham and Vicar of Great Bookham. Whether this be so or not, when she died Elizabeth Shiers left this and other estates to him, charging him with the duty of carrying out her intention to create a Trust for the benefit of Exeter College, Oxford, where her son had been educated; and for the incumbents of Effingham, Great Bookham, Leatherhead and Shalford. Dr. Shortrudge appears to have lived at Slyfield from 1700 until his death in 1720. He found that Elizabeth Shiers' Will was not a good one; but he loyally set about carrying out her intentions, and in 1715 he formed a Trust which was to carry out the provisions of her Will upon his own death. One clause directs that the timber upon the estate was to be left standing for forty years and then felled to provide funds for buying books for Exeter College library. Shortrudge also empowered his Trustees to pull down Slyfield house, but fortunately this clause was ignored for roughly a century and then only part was demolished and the remainder converted into a farmhouse. Though the consequent loss to posterity was severe, this may be considered a fortunate occurrence; for at the commencement of the worst period of architectural taste in England the house became of modest size and utilitarian use, so that what remained was left exactly as it had always been, and did not suffer from the hands of the "improver." And so, in the altered but nevertheless honorable status of farmhouse, Slyfield remained in the hands of the Shortrudge Trustees until the seventies of the 19th century, when it was brought by the Rowan Hamilton family, who owned it until it was disposed of a few years ago to Mr. and Mrs. R. J. B. Anderson.

Slyfield is a notable and early example of renaissance domestic architecture in England. Built in mellow red brick, with moulded brick columns to the garden front, it exemplifies the kindly English "twist" which our architects so soon gave to the new style of architecture which arrived in England *circa* 1600 (and in a few isolated cases somewhat before). Within the house are several exquisite plaster-work ceilings, those to the upper floor being decorated with beautifully conceived designs which appear to be of an earlier period than those upon the ground floor; but all can be attributed with certainty to the period of ownership of the Shiers family. The woodwork and panelling of the house is also notable, and of similar period except that in the present dining-room which is of Queen Anne style and was probably installed by Dr. Shortrudge. The fenestration was no doubt originally all in lead-lights, of which some survive, but the ubiquitous Georgian paned sash of wood is to be found in most. In the courtyard to the north of the house are outbuildings which, indubitably, originally formed part of the main structure of the house before its symmetry was destroyed by the demolitions already mentioned.

Consult:—*Country Life*, April, 1938 (Articles by Mr. Arthur Oswald).

Proceedings of this Society, Vol. 1, No. 4, 1950 (Article, *The Shiers of Slyfield* by the late G. H. Smith).

Drinkwater-Bethune (Miss), *The River Mole or Emlyn Stream*. 1839. (Notes by W. Cotton at end).

2.—THORNCROFT MANOR

THE name of Leatherhead will not be found in the Domesday Survey, and to clarify our ideas of the place in Norman times we must turn to the entries of two manors in Copthorne Hundred—Pachenesham and Thornecrost. Of these Pachenesham was then and always remained the superior manor, but, throughout the permutations of the Middle Ages and later periods adhering to the feudal system of land tenure and the formation of splinter or minor manors, Thornecrost ran very close to Pachenesham in importance. We learn from Domesday that in the time of Edward the Confessor the manor of Thornecrost had been held by one Cola, and that under the first Norman King it was held by Richard of Tonbridge, Lord of Clare. There is no need here to recite the Domesday description (which is readily available both in facsimile and translation to the curious reader); its most interesting points are, perhaps, the mention of the mill (without doubt a water-mill on the site of that near Leatherhead Bridge) and of attached lands in Betchworth of which it is noted that the tenants were so free that they might go where they pleased, surely a remarkable exception to the rules of early feudal tenure. One of these Betchworth tenants was Coleman the Hunter, whose very name gives us a glimpse of the nature of the country south of the Downs before the great forests began to feed the smelting furnaces of the Sussex iron-workers. One must suppose that this Coleman, at any rate, declined to be mustered.

Thornecrost continued to be held of the Honour of Clare (a sort of Trust aggregation of properties held of the Tonbridge family in chief without claim by the king as final overlord) and in November 1266 Philip Basset and Ela Countess of Warwick his wife gave the interest in the manor which they had acquired from the mesne tenant John of Chereburg to Walter de Merton for the support of the College which Walter had lately founded at Oxford, and which was administered from a semi-religious foundation at Malden. In the following year this grant received the confirmation of Gilbert of Clare (the overlord), and between 1268 and 1270 Walter de Merton made over his interest to the college; only reserving to himself certain rights in the supply of corn, which later seem to have become customary, for similar reservations are found in 17th century leases.

Thus Thornecrost Manor passed to Merton College, Oxford; and, though the house has become a separate freehold, most of the manor lands remained with the College until they were enfranchised in the mid 19th century, while Merton College still owns part of the demesne lands and retains certain rights over the bridge and road by which the house is approached. We have no complete lists of tenants, but we do know the names of some of them. In 1303 one Simon Borforde of Leatherhead was granted a three-year tenancy of the manor at a yearly rent of £20. In 1348 the Warden and Scholars of Merton College were found to hold the Manor as parcel of the Earldom of Gloucester (in which no doubt the Honour of Clare had become merged) by Knight's Service, free of all dues to the King or others, excepting only the Church. From now onwards therefore we shall be concerned more with tenants than with owners, though our knowledge is largely gained from the Merton College archives (that is to say from the landlords' accounts). To the year 1443, 1444 belongs an intensely interesting account of repairs made in the manor of Thornecrost by Isabel Wymeldon, whom we may suppose was then tenant. The Wymeldons were a Mickleham family which later petered out to a female line and became allied thus with the Stydolph family, which in the 16th and 17th centuries developed great possessions in this part of Surrey, holding the manors of Mickleham, Headley, and Pachenesham in Leatherhead. The repairs carried out on the occasion mentioned cost £4 7s. 1d. (perhaps to be compared with £1,000 of present currency) and they included the making of a bridge, dividing the great hall of the manor-house from the chamber, hooks (that is to say, hinges) for the great gate, putting windows and doors to the barn, the digging of a well, daubing the wattle-walls of the rooms, thatching and tiling (including 8d. for a bushel of tile-pins) and all kinds of attendant expenses, with the names of the workmen responsible. I am indebted to Mr. John Harvey for a translation of the original which is in Latin.

Quite likely these major repairs were sufficient to bring the house up to the standards of the day, and lasted for the next fifty years; for our next notice of Thornecrost is an account drawn up in 1497 to show the expense (£37) "upon the new building of the Manor of Thornecrost" by Richard FitzJames, Bishop of Rochester and Warden of Merton College. This appears to have been a major operation, as timber was brought from Newdigate, Chessington, Leigh, Ockley, Little Bookham, and other places. The actual work is not detailed so fully as in the previous account, but it appears that a chimney was constructed, possibly the first in the house—for chimneys were coming into use about this time. Amongst the workmen named in the account is Nicholas Romyng, no doubt a relative of Eleanor Rummyng of Skelton's famous poem. These two building accounts of 1443 and 1497 should prove a mine of information to the local historian when the social history comes under closer examination than it has yet done.

In 1522 Thornecrost Manor was leased to John Richardson of Leatherhead for 21 years. Whether he renewed his lease in 1543 we do not know, but in 1545 Robert Gardiner was in possession and presumably remained there until his death in 1571. Robert Gardiner was Serjeant of the Wine Cellar to Queen Elizabeth I, and no doubt carried on business as a wine merchant too. His funeral helm, with a brass below, is to be seen in Leatherhead Church. The brass bears verses by the poet Thomas Churchyard which begin:—

" Here fryndly Robartt Gardnar lyes, well borne of ryghte good race
Who served in cowrtt wyth credyt styll, in worthi rowlme and place
Cheef Sargantt of the Sellar longe, wheer he dyd duetty shoe
With good regard to all degrees, as far as powre myghtt goe."



To the time of Robert Gardiner's tenancy belongs a rental roll of copyholders and freeholders in the manor, by which we see that there were then nine freeholders and eight copyholders, which suggests that either the land was in large parcels or that a great deal was in demesne and was being farmed by the tenant, for the manor lands were extensive. I ought to mention here that there is one such roll of an earlier date (around 1300) but this does not distinguish between freeholders and copyholders. It has, however, an interesting note that the Brothers of Reigate Priory held a tenement of the manor.

In 1595 Margaret Gardiner, widow of Richard Gardiner (probably Robert's son) was the tenant, and in 1629 another Richard was tenant, very possibly the grandson of the Serjeant of the Wine Cellar. It may be mentioned here that the cellars of the present house are extensive and appear to belong at least in part to an earlier building. They may well have been used by Robert Gardiner for storing wine intended for the use of the Court at Hampton Court.

A Survey of the Manor with a map dated 1629 has survived, and Mr. John Harvey has identified most of the holdings listed in it.

In 1640 Edmund West of Marsworth, Buckinghamshire, was granted a lease of 21 years; but this evidently lapsed, for in 1649 Walter Rogers of Leatherhead was granted a similar lease. He surrendered this lease in 1654 and was granted a fresh one on similar terms, but probably with power to alienate for a day or two later he received licence to do so. It seems possible that he disposed of his interest to Thomas Bludworth, for our next note, in January 1660, finds Bludworth in possession and himself receiving a licence to alienate his interest in the manor. This was the Thomas Bludworth who later lived at The Mansion in Church Street, and who was Lord Mayor of London in the year of the Great Fire, when he first boasted that he would quench it as Gulliver quenched the fire in Lilliput, and later finding the Fire quite out of his control, strode up and down exclaiming "Lord, what can I do? I am spent; people will not obey me." Pepys refers to him contemptuously as "a silly man." His daughter Anne married the famous Judge Jeffreys.

We may wonder whether Bludworth disposed of his interest in this manor to Richard Dalton, Serjeant of the Wine Cellar to King Charles II. Dallaway, the first Leatherhead historian, tells us that several generations of the Dalton family lived there. It is curious that two Serjeants of the Cellar, divided in time by about a century, should occupy the same house. I know of no connection between them, but Dallaway tells us that the Dalton family were by patent Serjeants of the Cellar, which rather infers that there might be some link between the Gardiner and Dalton families through which the office came to Richard Dalton. He has more than a local interest for us. It will be remembered that when Pepys commenced his Diary in 1660 he was living in Axe Yard, Westminster; but that upon his appointment to the office of Clerk of the Acts to the Commissioners of the Navy he was enabled to take up

residence in the Navy Office in Seething Lane. He therefore no longer needed the little house in Axe Yard and set about disposing of the lease. *Diary*, Aug. 31st, 1660: "This afternoon I agreed to let my house quite out of my hands to Mr. Dalton (one of the wine sellers to the King, with whom I had drunk in the old wine cellar two or three times) for £41." The agreement was finally sealed on September 17th 1660, when Pepys went to the Whitehall Wine Cellar to receive his money. In January 1663 Pepys went again to the Wine Cellar to drink with Dalton, whom he now calls Serjeant Dalton.

Richard Dalton died in October 1681, aged 65; and his son, also Richard Dalton (who, according to Dallaway, also lived at Thorncroft), died in November 1731, aged 84. There was probably a third Richard, for Manning and Bray quote a memorial in the church to "William Dalton of the Inner Temple, Esq., grandson of Richard Dalton buried in the Chancel, and son to Richard Dalton, now living to lament his loss, deprived of life in the vigour of health, in the flower of youth, on 23rd May, 1751, at the age of 25 years." Dallaway says "Mr. Dalton, the youthful heir to ancestors who had long held the Manor of Thorncroft, and were by patent Serjeants of the king's wine cellar, was killed in a duel in 1751; and, as it has been said, unfairly." So ends the Dalton family, which from these evidences we may assume to have held the manor from about 1660 to some time after 1750.

All these people no doubt lived in the house "new built" in 1497, for Dallaway speaks of "a large manorial house of timber frame in which residence several generations of the Daltons passed away." We may imagine the early Tudor house, gradually modified by each new tenant, until the later Daltons inserted the wooden sash windows so beloved by 18th century Englishmen. It was perhaps when the last Richard Dalton died that Henry Crabb Boulton, who had been M.P. for Worcester and had made a fortune in the East India trade, acquired the lease from Merton College. To such a man an old half-timbered manor house was a most undesirable residence, and he set about providing himself with something more in keeping with his position, for the 18th century indicated its success through houses like the 20th does through automobiles. Between 1766 and 1770 he built, from the designs of Sir Robert Taylor, the architect of the Bank of England, the house which substantially we see today; in which, I regret to say, we see no trace of its predecessor excepting in some part of the cellars. He also remodelled the grounds, and provided a new channel for the river Mole according to a design of "Capability" Brown, an early work of that landscape artist before he attained celebrity. Crabb Boulton died without issue, and his interest in Thorncroft passed to his nephew Henry Boulton who had acquired considerable estates in this neighbourhood including the Manor of Headley. It was this second Henry Boulton who, as Lord of the manor of Pachenesham, employed Joseph Gwilt to survey Leatherhead and produce the map of 1782 which still survives and has proved so useful to this Society.

The last of the individual tenants of Thorncroft whom we shall notice was John Drinkwater, who occupied it from 1836 to 1844. As a young man he was present at the siege of Gibraltar, 1782-1783, and wrote an account of it published in 1786 which became a military classic. Drinkwater designed and built the pleasant little lodge on the east side of the Mole; his daughter published in 1839 a poem upon the Mole, delightfully illustrated with engravings, which has been described as reminiscent of Wordsworth at his worst, but to which are appended valuable historical notes by William Cotton of The Priory in which is found occasional information on both local and natural history hard to find elsewhere.

The present house is a typical gentleman's residence of its period; except for its lovely main staircase, so airily mounting in a graceful curve, undistinguished by unusual features, but nevertheless belonging to a period of good architectural taste and standards, a happy survival into this age of shoddy and ill-conceived design, well worthy of preservation and care; sitting quietly in its meadows beside the river where for at least 900 years a manor house of Thorncroft has been.

Consult: Merton College Estate Muniments, Manning and Bray. *History of Surrey*. 1804-14.

The Times, Jan. 10, 1939 (Article *Pepysian Figures* [by F. B. Benger]).

(EDITORIAL NOTE.—It is hoped that articles on other buildings will be prepared by Mr. Benger for subsequent issues.)

ASHTREAD AND ITS HISTORY (A.D. 1066–1400)—IV.

By A. W. G. LOWTHER, F.S.A., A.R.I.B.A.

IT is not intended, in these brief articles, to include a study of the successive owners of Ashtread Manor. This is a subject which would require considerable space and one upon which a good deal of information is now being compiled by the Leatherhead and District Local History Society. It is known, moreover, that quite often the owners of mediaeval manors sub-let their less important estates and as they themselves lived elsewhere they were interested only in the income to be derived from these properties. We are more concerned with happenings affecting the ordinary people of those bygone days; the villagers, their lives and occupations wherein the real local history is to be found.

The Manorial Courts—meetings held at regular intervals—were the occasions upon which all the business of the manor was transacted. Payment for the rent of land or dwellings, of "pannage" (payments for the feeding of pigs in the lord's woods), and "heriots" (payments, usually in kind and sometimes consisting of a calf, or two cockerels, made on the death of a tenant), of fines for such misdemeanours as cutting timber or brushwood without permission, allowing cattle to stray or the non-

repair of cottages, fences, roads or footpaths. All these items and many others were dealt with at the Courts and the records of the proceedings were written down on long parchments known as "Court Rolls."

These Rolls and the accounts which were kept by the stewards of the Manor, beadles, collectors, reeves, &c., form one of our main sources of information. Unfortunately, the records for Ashtead Manor are very incomplete; none of them is earlier than 1381, many are torn and fragmentary, and there are numerous gaps in the series (*e.g.*, 1381 to 1384, and 1387 exist, but there follows a gap until 1400).

Names, both of villagers and of fields, which survived in the district for many centuries are to be obtained from these records. To mention a few names, the families of Rolf, Otway, King, Duke, Carter, Constable and Mathew occur most frequently. Of many of those mentioned we know very little, but of one, Henry the Tyler (or Henry Tyler), a maker of roof tiles and apparently with a flourishing business, we have gathered more information than usual. We can, with some certainty, identify the site, then called "Tyleres-place" where he worked, since the traces of a tile and pottery works of this period (*circa* 1290-1390) were found in 1939, when building took place in Newton Wood Road. Excavations carried out at this site by Mr. S. S. Frere, F.S.A., are fully described in volume 47 of Surrey Archaeological Collections.

Probably, as was the custom in early days these works remained in the family, passing from father to son. It may well be that it was from here that in 1291-1292, the roof tiles were obtained for Sir Eustace de Hacche's manor of "Pachenesham Magna" (now known as "The Mounts," near Leatherhead). At this site, as both documents and the recent excavations have shown, de Hacche rebuilt completely the hall, chapel and other buildings, and roofed them with tiles of the same type as those made in this Ashtead tileworks.

The early accounts of Banstead Manor tells us that "Henry the Tyler of Asshstede" supplied 10,500 roof tiles for use there in 1372-1373, and for which he was paid £2.7.3. Also that they were carted there in ten loads.

In 1381-1382 he is mentioned as paying a rent of 13s. 4d. for Tyleresplace, and in 1384 he supplied the lord of the manor of Ashtead with roof tiles for "The Lord's Kitchen," for which he received the sum of thirty shillings.

Exactly when he died we do not know, but it was probably about 1399 for we know that in 1400 the works were no longer in use as we find the following entry in an account for that year: "A deficit for 13s. 4d. in respect of Tyleresplace late of Henry Tyler, which was this year on the hands of the lord of the manor for lack of a tenant, and has now been let out in separate plots (*parcellis*)."
The entry also records that the two plots so formed "are let to one John Mathew for a total sum of 3s. 6d."

Though others named Tyler, or Tiler, were still living at Ashtead, and for long afterwards, none of them appear to have carried on the industry of tile-making. The name had then become an established surname for them and their sons. Thus, for some reason which we shall probably never know, a long established Ashtead industry came to an end with consequent loss of revenue both to the lord of the manor and to those engaged on this work.

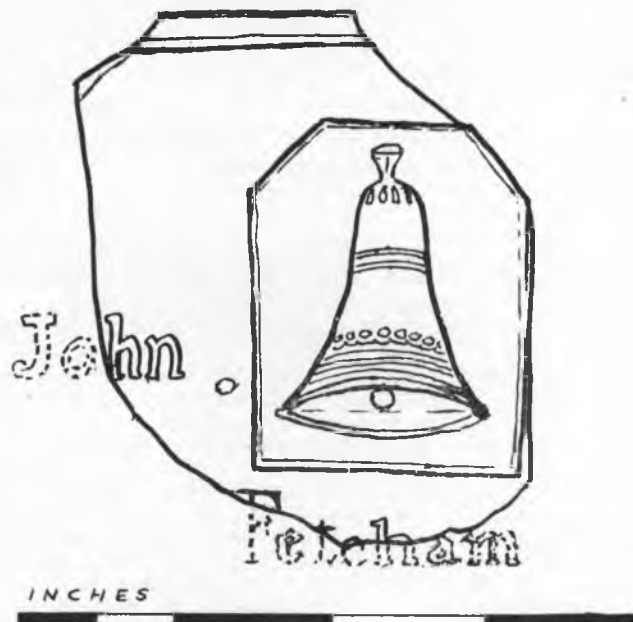
Reprinted from the ASHTEAD RESIDENT.

ENGLISH BEER MUG

1700—1750 A.D.

Showing Inn sign, place and name of innkeeper.

Cf. specimens in Guildford Museum.



LEATHERHEAD AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Account for the Year ended 30th September, 1952

<i>Dr.</i>	£	s.	d.
To Balance at 30.9.51—			
General	£53	9	10
Library Fund	20	15	2
	74	5	0
„ Subscriptions—			
159 at 7/6d. (including £2 1s. 0d. received in 1951)	59	12	6
17 at 1/- (Junior Members)	17	0	0
	60	9	6
„ Subscriptions paid in advance for 1953	3	7	6
„ Surrey County Council—Grant 1951	15	0	0
—Grant 1952	15	0	0
„ Sale of Society's "Proceedings"	4	1	0
„ Sale of Christmas Cards for 1951	2	3	5
„ Donations	3	14	3
„ Surrey County Council—Photographs supplied	5	7	9
„ Interest on Bank Account	1	5	6
N.B.—The accounts do not include items for unsold "Proceedings," library, equipment and archives.			
	£184	13	11

<i>Cr.</i>	£	s.	d.
By "Proceedings" for 1950	49	6	1
„ "Proceedings" for 1951	52	15	5
„ Printing and Duplicating (general)	17	0	4
„ Cheque Book, Postages, Stationery and Sundry Disbursements	8	8	10
„ Subscriptions and Affiliation Fees—			
Surrey Record Society	£1	0	0
South Eastern Union of Scientific Societies	7	6	
Council for Promotion of Field Studies (for two years)	2	2	0
	3	9	6
„ Purchases—Library Fund	1	15	0
„ Visits—Payments	31	16	6
Receipts	30	18	0
	18	6	
„ Balance at Banks—			
General	32	0	1
Library Fund	19	0	2
	51	0	3
	£184	13	11

Library Fund

<i>Dr.</i>	£	s.	d.
To Balance brought forward	20	15	2
	£20	15	2

<i>Cr.</i>	£	s.	d.
By Purchase of Dallaway's History of Leatherhead	1	15	0
„ Balance brought forward	19	0	2
	£20	15	2

S. E. D. FORTESCUE, *Hon. Treasurer.*

Audited and found correct.

W. H. TAYLOR, *Hon. Auditor.*



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