

Each year the loss of buildings of considerable historical and architectural interest causes growing concern. The Society has not the funds to give direct financial help, but members can make some contribution by reporting cases of threatened destruction, by spreading information about the work of those organisations specifically concerned with this problem and by seeking to secure more enlightened and constructive attitudes on the part of local authorities. In their 1961 report the Historic Buildings Council comments on the inadequacy of the £400,000 allowed each year for their work, which has to be strictly limited to buildings of outstanding merit. The report mentions a grant of £2,856 made towards the cost of repairing certain of the contents of Hardwick Hall, which received a grant for structural repairs in 1958; the grant for repairs at Barlborough Hall has been increased to £17,250. Norbury Manor is the other Derbyshire building referred to, but this came within a group of houses for which the Historic Buildings Bureau has been trying to find a new use.

The Tutbury Bridges.

The stumps visible in low water at Tutbury have not previously attracted much attention, but during the winter of 1960-1 many more were exposed when a considerable piece of the Derbyshire bank of the River Dove was washed away. Mr. T. L. Coxon has reported that they are of black oak, number about forty in seven rows about 2 ft. apart and have an overall width of 20 ft. There have been a number of changes in the course of the Dove, and erosion of the bank is likely to expose more of these stumps. Mr. Coxon has pointed out that they are in line with the old entrance to Tutbury Castle and suggested that they may have formed the foundations of the wooden bridge, for which an allowance of timber for repairs is recorded in 1402-3 by Oswald Mosley in his *History of Tutbury* (1832).

Roman Lead Smelting.

Mr. R. W. P. Cockerton has drawn attention to an article in the *Journal of Roman Studies* by Mr. G. Clement Whittick on "The Casting Technique of the Romano-British Lead Ingots",¹ which seeks to prove that Gowland's theory that "Roman lead smelting furnaces in Britain did not possess tap-holes, but . . . the lead . . . was taken out . . . by means of a ladle"² is suspect, and that tapping and casting in a single continuous operation is more in accord with the evidence.

The article is illustrated by much detail including references to pigs of lead inscribed and uninscribed found in Derbyshire. Plate VII, no. 1, illustrates the Roman type ingot 20 in. long from Bradwell, Derbyshire, now in the Sheffield Museum, with evidence of a slight initial pour, with some cooling intervening, followed by a full and continuous casting with fairly hot metal.

Further it is recorded that although no mould, so far as is known, has ever been discovered on any Roman lead smelting site, study of all the British

¹ *J.R.S.*, LI, parts 1-2 (1961), 105-11.

² *Archaeologia*, LVII (1901), 398.

ingots now preserved shows that half have one, two or even three or four "fellows", which have been cast in the same mould. From this it is concluded that moulds were comparatively rare items of equipment and perhaps the number of furnaces, in spite of the evidently high rate of production especially of the heavier ingots, was not after all so very large.

DERBYSHIRE RECORDS, 1961

MODERN studies in local topography have underlined the value of tithe documents. Dr. Cameron in his volumes on *The Place-Names of Derbyshire* listed field-names from this source, but the mapping of such names and the study of them in their topographical context has now been greatly assisted by the deposit in Derby Borough Library of a large collection of tithe award maps. Because of their great value to local historians, a list of the places to which they relate is given below:

Alderwasley, Alton, Ashbourne, Ashe, Ashford-in-the-water, Ashover, Aston (in the parish of Hope), Atlow, Ault Hucknall, Ballidon, Bamford, Barlborough, Barton Blount, Baslow, Belper, Brackenfield, Bradbourne, Bradley, Bradwell, Brailsford, Brampton, Breaston, Brimington, Buxton, Calow, Callow, Catton, Cauldwell, Charlesworth, Chesterfield, Church Broughton, Church Gresley, Coal Aston (in the parish of Dronfield), Codnor, Cowlow, Crich, Cromford, Cropper, Croxall, Cubley, Curbar, Dalbury, Darley Dale, Denby, Derby (St. Alkmund), Derby (St. Peter and Litchurch), Derby (St. Werburgh), Dethick, Doveridge, Draycott, Dronfield, Duffield, Edale, Egginton, Elmton, Eyam, Fairfield, Foolow, Glossop, Great Hucklow, Hassop, Hazlebadge (in the parish of Hope), Hazlewood, Heage, Holbrook, Holloway, Hope, Hopton, Hopwell in Wilne, Horsley, Hulland, Idridgehay, Kedleston, Killamarsh, Kirk Ireton, Kirk Langley, Lea, Little Hucklow, Little Rowsley, Littleover, Loscoe, Mapperley, Marston on Dove, Matlock, Mickleover, Morley, Morton, Nether Haddon, North Wingfield, Offcote and Underwood, Osleston, Osmaston, Pentrich, Pinxton, Ripley, Risley, Rosliston, Sandiacre, Sawley, Scarcliffe, Sheldon, Smerrill, Snitterton, South Normanton, South Wingfield, Stanley, Stanton by Dale, Staveley, Stenson, Stretton, Sutton on the Hill, Sudbury, Sutton cum Duckmanton, Swarkeston, Taddington and Priestcliffe, Tansley, Thornhill (in the parish of Hope), Thorpe, Thurvaston, Tibshelf, Tideswell, Totley, Trusley, Turnditch, Twyford, Underwood, Upper Langwith, Wensley, Wessington, West Hallam, Whitwell, Wilne, Wilsthorpe, Windley, Wingerworth, Wirksworth, Woolley, Wormhill and Yeldersley.

Recent accessions to the County Record Office at Matlock include deeds, estate and family papers from the following families:

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| Hallowes of Glapwell | — | Dethick, Ashover, Matlock, 1579-1785. |
| Gresley | — | Cauldwell, Stapenhill. |
| Gisborne | — | Chapel-en-le-Frith, Hope. |