

NEOLITHIC BONES—SUNBURY LOCK.

## PREHISTORIC NOTES.

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**Primitive Man at Sunbury.**—During the excavations undertaken in the summer of 1926 by the Thames Conservancy for the construction of the new and larger lock on the Thames, on the Surrey side of the older lock at Sunbury, a quantity of bones of different kinds were found lying close together, embedded in the gravel and river shingle just above the level of the blue clay, and about 20 feet below the present surface of the ground.

At the time they were found no special notice was taken of the position in which they were lying, and no implements or pottery were noticed by the workmen who found the bones, several of which were scattered and lost and the rest put in a sack and removed to a hut close by.

When I examined these bones I saw that they were those of both animals and human beings, and that the long bones of the latter had the typical flattening of primitive man; I therefore obtained permission from the Thames Conservancy to submit them to Sir Arthur Keith at the Royal College of Surgeons. In his opinion the human bones are those of Lake or Pile dwellers of the Celtic pre-Roman race, either of the late Neolithic or the early Bronze Age, dating approximately 2000 B.C.

The human bones consisted of:

1. A typical "River Bed" female skull, having a cephalic index of 77·2; the supra-orbital ridges are well, but not excessively, marked, the lower jaw is missing.
2. A right flattened thigh-bone, of the Neolithic Age type, from a woman who stood about 5 feet 1 inch high.
3. A left male tibia or shin-bone, of the Neolithic or the Bronze Age type, flattened and showing the "Squatter's facet," indicating that the man and his ancestors for many generations had spent much of their time in the semi-erect or squatter's position.
4. A right male humerus, or arm bone.

The animal bones consisted of:

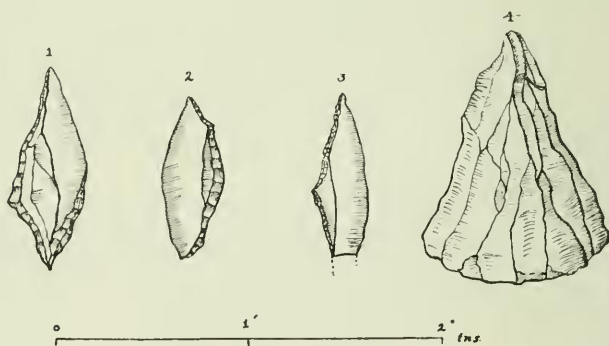
Forty ox bones, 11 horse bones, 3 pig bones, and a pig's skull, 3 dog bones, 6 bones of red deer and 6 antlers, but there were no sheep or goat bones.

Although there were no flint or bronze implements found with the bones, the antlers show signs of having been used as pickaxes, or tools of that nature, and one of them belongs to an exceptionally large species of red deer, which was common in the Neolithic Age but has since become rare.

All the bones have been labelled and classified by Sir Arthur Keith, and were given by the Thames Conservancy to the Museum at Kingston-upon-Thames, where they may be seen exhibited in a case by themselves.

W. E. ST. LAWRENCE FINNY, M.D.

**Pygmy Flints from Reigate.**—Of the barrows<sup>1</sup> on Reigate Heath four crown the tops of a group of natural mounds or hillocks lying close to the main Reigate-Dorking Road at the point where it has recently been diverted before turning Buckland Corner. Flint flakes of pygmy size occur on the surface of all this group, and in considerable numbers on the barrow farthest from the road. Search is difficult owing to the very limited area of exposed ground and to the close similarity in colour between the flakes and the white surface sand. During this summer (1927) I have found a few implements—the majority of them broken—three of which are here figured.



PYGMY FLINTS FROM REIGATE.

No. 1 is carefully worked along the thick side and brought to a fine point below the shoulder; No. 2 is a crescent and No. 3 a point.

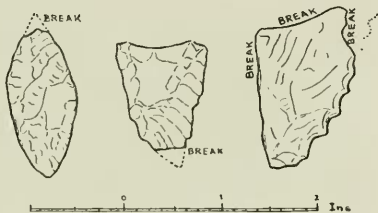
<sup>1</sup> *The Victoria County History* gives the number as seven, but there are in fact nine, including one on the extreme south which is obscured by bushes (see *S.A.C.*, Vol. XXXV, p. 12).

I have also found a few similar flakes, two of them worked, in the neighbourhood of the two barrows on the south side of the Heath. Ordinary neolithic flakes are to be found on most parts of the Heath, but the microliths, if not confined to the barrows and their vicinity, seem to occur there most freely.

The pygmy cone-scraper (No. 4) was found early this year near the Smoke Lane Housing Site of the Reigate Corporation. It is of dark grey flint with a flat, oval base, and is narrowly flaked all round from base to apex.

WILFRID HOOPER.

**Flint Sites in Chiddingfold.**—As has been notified already (Vol. 36, p. 122), worked flints, cores, and flakes have been found at Goldhorde Field, Chiddingfold. Other sites where flint flakes, cores, and worked implements have been found are at Prestwick Manor Farm and Riddingsfield, Chiddingfold, where a Roman villa site was excavated by the Rev. T. S. Cooper in 1895. Yet another site is the garden of Old Pickhurst, Chiddingfold, in which various worked flints and one core have been found, and drawings of the three best are shown.



No. 1 is an almost perfect leaf-shaped arrow-head, beautifully chipped on both sides. No. 2 is an unfinished wedge-shaped arrow-head, chipped on one side, and partly chipped on the other. No. 3 is a broken saw-blade, chipped on one side only.

On all the four sites, which are on hills, light soil outcrops above the local clay.

B. C. HALAHAN.

**Redhill and Reigate.**—I should be very glad of any information respecting the present or last known whereabouts of the collection of local flints formed by the late Mr. John Shelley of Redhill. The Report of the Annual General Meeting for 1872 (*S.A.C.*, Vol. VI, p. xix) stated that his daughter presented his collection to the Society and that "this will be deposited and arranged in the museum at Croydon." I have failed to learn so far whether this Museum was ever actually established, and what became of the Shelley Collection.

WILFRID HOOPER.

## ROMAN NOTES.

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**Stane Street.**—I have been able to define a part of the course of Stane Street, north of Ockley, between Buckinghill Farm and Bearehurst House. Mr. Hilaire Belloc rightly says that after passing Buckinghill Farm it “runs in a very slight curve up the spinney along the side of a ravine.” His next definite *datum* is: “It is most clearly marked by a partial cutting just behind (to the west) of Bearehurst House.”

This information is true so far as it goes, but anyone who relies only on it to walk over the line between the farm and Bearehurst will soon find himself befogged.

My attention having been called to a hollow in the pheasantry of the Broomhall estate north of the spinney, and Captain W. A. Grant's map having shown me that this hollow is exactly on the ideal line from Todhurst Farm (S. of Billingshurst) to Anstie Grange (E. of Leith Hill)—close to which on the east the actual Roman road runs in its well-known course through Ockley, diverging a little wider up Mr. Belloc's “slight curve”—I concluded that the curve at this point came again into the straight. The trench which I dug in the pheasantry across the conjectured line in the cutting has been completely successful. Not only is there a “partial cutting” at Bearehurst, but here also (as at Ashurst, S. of Pulborough) the Romans made a cutting through the crest of the hill.

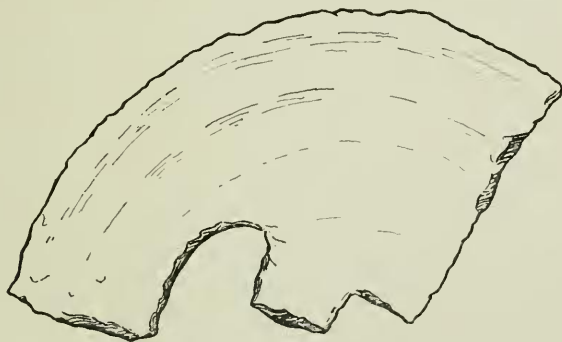
Stane Street in this pheasantry cutting is 22 feet wide, 1 foot down in the centre and 2 feet to 2 feet 6 inches down on the west side, where much of the side of the cutting has washed down on to the road. Contrary to expectation, I found the subsoil to be stiff yellow clay, much reddened on the top by rain washing through the ironstone rubble of which the metal is largely composed. For the rest the metal is big flints, sandstone, chert, and some pebbles; and there remains, on the average, some 5 inches of this. I found a big shaped sandstone which was part of the west kerbing.

The line of the road, then, from Buckinghill Farm gate to Bearehurst cutting is: through the west end of the barn, along the west of the hedge (where the ploughed field is full of road metal), into the spinney by the gate and along the curved cart track to the east of the

stream (up which the ideal line would have taken it), continuing to curve slightly east till the top of the spinney is reached so as to get round a deep east-west gully, and then swinging back west into the straight at the fence of the pheasantry. The metal has been located both in the cart track and in the open ground north of the spinney. The pheasantry cutting is about 50 yards long. At its top the Roman road crosses the Broomhall drive to the Bearehurst cutting, being here slightly west of the ideal line to Anstie Grange, though it is slightly east of it again up the yew-tree cutting to Minnickwood Farm. The whole of this section well shows how Roman engineers departed from their ideal line in order to accommodate themselves to natural obstacles.

S. E. WINBOLT.

**Roman Nether Millstone from Bramley.**—The Hambledon District Council has presented a fragment of stone (figured below) to the Society, which was found by the Clerk of the Works engaged in superintending the new Bramley and Wonerish Sewage Works in January, 1926. It was lying in a sand-pit,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet below the surface, in a field between Westlands Farm in Shamley Green parish and the Bramley and Cranleigh Railroad where it passes to the west of Birtley Manor Farm.



ROMAN NETHER MILLSTONE FROM BRAMLEY.

The fragment, the dimensions of which are 19 inches by 22 inches and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 inches in thickness, is apparently of ordinary Bargate stone, its concentric grooves giving it the appearance of a millstone. It was obviously a quarter of a circular stone, but the precise use of the half-moon apertures was not clear.

A photograph was sent to Mr. R. G. Collingwood, who states that in his opinion it forms part of a Roman Nether Millstone.

"The size, the shape and the material, the square hole in the centre (to hold an iron fitting which would carry a pin on which the upper stone would revolve), and above all, the concentric grooves or scratches, would fit in with this explanation. The complete stone would somewhat resemble the accompanying diagram (Fig. 1.), and the queer shaped wings with which the central hole is provided would hold wings wrought on to the iron centre-piece to keep the stone together after it had cracked along the line A-B. Dovetailed iron centre-pieces for this purpose are quite common in Roman Millstones, although they are generally the shape indicated by Fig. 2. The shape suggested by this example is new to me, but it is not inconceivable, and the stone resembles otherwise an ordinary Roman millstone."

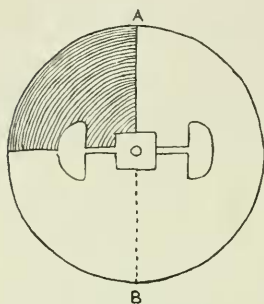


FIG. 1.



FIG. 2.

A glance at the map of the Roman Roads in Britain, brought out by the Ordnance Survey in 1924, will show that a Roman road from Chichester to London passed by Bramley and Alfold, sending out a short arm to Farley Heath, and the Bramley stream was no doubt used for turning the wheel of a mill near the spot where this fragment was found.

W. F. RAWNSLEY.

**Discovery of a Roman Skeleton near Banstead.**—Whilst engaged in the construction of a bunker for the new golf course on part of what used to be Cuddington Court Farm, between Sandy Lane and the road connecting Banstead and Ewell Railway Stations, the workmen unearthed a skeleton and some ancient pottery which were lying on a bed of flint about 2 feet below the surface. Unfortunately the workmen did not appreciate the value of the finds, which were badly broken and scattered before they were examined by Mr. C. J. Marshall.

The remains consist of a jawbone, containing teeth in a perfect state of preservation; two thigh-bones, the right and the left; a fragment of a pelvis; a small piece of the back of a cranium, and another jawbone. One jaw was probably that of a man, the other that of a woman.



There were quantities of Roman flue tiles, covered with a basket-work pattern; pieces of Roman roofing tiles; a fragment of a fairly large dish which had obviously been made with a potter's wheel, and a number of pieces of metal and stone, the purpose of which could not be identified.

The Coroner was notified of the find, and by his order the bones have been re-interred on the same spot.

Mr. Marshall considers that the tiles and pottery indicate the presence of a Roman villa near by, which was in ruins at the time of the burial. The authorities at the British Museum suggest that the flue tiles were used to cover the bodies. The date of the burial was probably between A.D. 250 and A.D. 400. It is thought probable that the remains of the villa from which the flue tiles came still exist under the soil near the burial, and it would be of great interest if careful excavation of the site could be undertaken.

**Third-Century Coin from Farnham.**—In March, 1926, there was brought to me for identification a coin which had been found by a workman engaged in laying an electric cable up Gong Hill, on the Old Frensham Road near Farnham: it was stated to have been at a depth of 2 or 3 feet, and from its appearance had evidently lain in clean sand. It was an Alexandrian tetrachm of Carinus (*Brit. Mus. Cat.*, p. 317, No. 2448) struck in A.D. 282/3, and so may be regarded as a casual wanderer among coins. A few other instances of Alexandrian coins of the third century being found in England have been recorded; one of the reign of Probus from Manchester is the farthest north that I remember, and the latest in date one of Diocletian sent to me from Essex: but they are always found singly, as is natural in view of economic considerations. The Alexandrian coinage was primarily a local currency for the Roman province of Egypt; and though it had technically an exchange value against the imperial currency, in the third century it was depreciating so rapidly that probably no money-changer outside Egypt would have cared to touch Alexandrian tetrachms in the way of business, and they would have been quite useless commercially in England. Those that have been found here were presumably brought over as curiosities or souvenirs, and either dropped accidentally or thrown away when their owners felt no further interest in them.

J. G. MILNE.

**Roman Kiln at Farnham.**—Another Roman kiln has been found during the building of a new house close to Waverley Road, Farnham, about half a mile due south of the kiln which was discovered in January, 1926. This new find is of much interest, because not only



has the kiln itself been unearthed, but also the ashpits, and the tiled floor of the potter's drying and store hut, the tiles used being discarded roofing tiles.

The floor and side walls are in excellent condition, the walls being built of ironstone slabs laid horizontally, cemented together with mortar, and the crevices filled with pieces of discarded pots. Many of the tiles and potsherds have elaborate incised patterns. The floor consists of 6 inches of clay laid on a bed of burnt sand and flint. The roof of the kiln, as at Snailslynch, had fallen in. It had been made of curved tiles for the inner lining and the whole covered on the outside with some 6 inches of burnt mortar and clay. Most of the tiles and bricks are bright red ochre. The system of heating the kiln was through its centre from end flues. The pottery recovered from the store hut is chiefly biscuit colour and light red extensively ribbed, with a few pots of a dark grey colour. This collection was apparently the result of a previous baking, as inside the kiln itself are pots similar in technique and colour to the Snailslynch pots, the necks, both inside and outside, being painted with the white slip.

Some interesting working accessories of the present kiln have been recovered. They include a small lead slab and lumps of pipe-clay (*figlina creta*), both used for dyeing purposes. The "wiping" on the lead is interesting, as it corresponds to the wiping on the bottom of the jars and also on a very fine specimen of a pot-lid (*operculum*).

The kiln, as at Snailslynch, belongs to the late first or early second century A.D.





MEDIEVAL JUG FROM EARLSWOOD.

HEIGHT 12 $\frac{1}{4}$  INS.

## MEDIÆVAL AND GENERAL NOTES.

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**Mediæval Jug from Earlswood.**—The jug shown in the accompanying Plate was found at Earlswood some thirty years ago by Mr. J. H. Nice, a local resident, in the garden of premises now occupied by the Golf House, situated between the Common and the railway line at a spot known as “The Knob.” It was discovered about 3 feet below the surface at the base of a hole paved with ironstone. Several fragments of pottery were turned up at the same time in the adjacent soil.

Mr. Bernard Rackham, Keeper of the Department of Ceramics at the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, who kindly examined the jug, assigns it to the fourteenth century and furnishes the following description: “Jug, buff earthenware with decoration produced partly with a roulette in the form of vertical stripes and trellis-work, and partly with a circular stamp applied in rows between the stripes. The greater part of the surface is covered with a mottled yellow lead glaze, which in one patch has been fired to a blood-red colour. The edge of the base has been prolonged downwards to form a series of lobes or feet, so as to give a more secure stand. The jug is a ‘Waster,’ having burst during the firing, as is shown by the fact that the glaze has run over the edges of the wide break in the neck.” The height to the top of rim is  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The condition and situation of the jug, and the finding of shards round about, suggest that a mediæval pottery existed here. In support of this view, it is of interest to note that the old field-name of the land on or near to which this find was made was Kiln Field. A short distance to the south came Kiln Brow Farm, where there was a brickfield worked within living memory. Earlswood Common lies on the Atherfield clay; and on the confines of the Common at the New Pond a brickfield is still carried on, while there are modern brick and pottery works at Meadvale, on its northern edge.

WILFRID HOOPER.

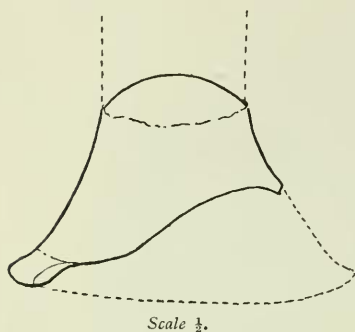
**Base of Glass Goblet from Chiddingfold.**—A portion of the base of a glass goblet was found on the surface at Glasshouse Fields, Pickhurst, Chiddingfold.

A similar base, though a much larger fragment, was found some

years ago at Killinghurst, Chiddingfold, and is to be seen at the Surrey Archæological Museum, Guildford.

Several bases of the same type were found by the Rev. F. W. Cobb, on the site of a glasshouse in Sidney Wood, between Dunsfold and Alfold, where the French glassmakers, Carré and Tyzack, are known to have worked during the latter half of the sixteenth century.

In *Glassmaking in England* (Fig. 20, No. 2, p. 22) Mr. Powell has a photograph of this type of base, found at Buckhold Glasshouse, near Salisbury, and states that a similar base was found at Woodchester, in Gloucestershire.



It seems probable that this Chiddingfold fragment was made under the influence of these foreign glassmakers; but it is not likely that a foreigner actually worked the kiln, for the land belonged to members of the Peyk family, who had worked in Chiddingfold as glassmakers from 1435-1617.

The blowing of this goblet was an extremely skilful piece of work, for it is blown in one piece—the upper part is not made separately and welded on to the foot. The glass is very thin except in the upper part of the base toward the “kick.” It was blown thin to the bottom edge of the base, when it was turned under, leaving a hollow “hem,” and blown into a dome forming the “kick.” The double thickness of glass is perfectly welded together, except at the “hem.”

B. C. HALAHAN.

**St. Mary's Parish Church, Merton.**—In rebuilding the vestry on the south side of Merton Church, as mentioned in the Society's Report for 1925, a small opening through the chancel wall, about 3 feet to the east of the old priest's door, has been uncovered. The wall is 2 feet thick, the opening  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches square, and the top of it 3 feet 5 inches from the present chancel floor. This opening is lined at the top and sides with dressed stone, the same stone as was used in the chancel generally; the bottom being of rough flints. There is some appearance of its being an ancient reconstruction of a larger opening; for blocks of stone, of dimensions similar to those of the existing jambs and lintel, are built into the wall, in an irregular way, close by. Although nearly 30 feet from the east end of the church, it may perhaps have been for passing an arm through to ring the sanctus bell.

FRANK T. BAGGALLAY.

**Discoveries at Chertsey Abbey.**—During excavations for drainage purposes at the Abbey House, Chertsey, the Rev. R. T. Gardner has uncovered certain remains that are worth noting.

The foundations of a massive stone wall have been discovered, running approximately north and south, and nearly parallel to, and just inside, the wall bounding the front of his garden. Further digging has revealed what appears to be an oven showing evidence



TILE FROM CHERTSEY,

*Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$ .*

of having been subjected to heat. Like the kiln used for firing the Abbey tiles which was discovered recently near by, it is constructed of roofing tiles. There is no evidence that this oven was in the nature of a kiln, and it was almost certainly used for domestic purposes.

Many fragments of tiles of all periods have been found wherever the ground has been disturbed. One fragment is here illustrated, and any further discoveries of consequence will be noted in due course.

ERIC GARDNER,  
*February, 1928.*



**Surrey Iron Railway.**—*The Croydon Natural History Society* has carried out a very thorough survey of the old Iron Road and photographed practically the whole route.

H. CROSS.

**Croydon Parish Church.**—Prints have been made for the *Photographic Survey and Record of Surrey* from negatives taken after the fire of January 5, 1867. The prints, which are twenty-six in number, make a complete survey of both the interior and exterior appearance of the Church immediately after the fire.

H. CROSS.

**A bundle of Surrey Deeds**, carefully indexed, has been presented to the Society by Mr. Herbert W. Knocker, of Sevenoaks. Five of the earlier deeds are noted below:

- 1666, June 7.—Gift of property in Sutton by Anne Collins to James Collins, her son.
- 1694, October 8.—Steward's Copy Admittance of Maria Gyles to copyhold land in the Manor of Woking.
- 1698, October 9.—Sale of house and land in parish of Thorpe by Thomas Joanes to Morris Baily of Thorpe.
- 1702, May 7.—Conveyance of land in Chobham from George Rempnant to his son.
- 1725, September 2.—Steward's Copy Surrender by Stephen Hunt by way of marriage settlement of land in the Manor of Crondall (by Farnham).

**Portrait Identified.**—In Vol. III of *S.A.C.*, at page 133, the late Mr. Granville Leveson-Gower, in an article dealing with the family of Uvedale, writes as follows: "I am informed by the Hon. Charles Howard, M.P., that there is a full-length portrait of her (Elizabeth, widow of Edward, 2nd Earl of Carlisle) at Castle Howard, but that it is of no merit, and the name of the artist is not known." The portrait is reproduced in Vol. XI of the *East Riding Antiquarian Society's Transactions* (1903) at page 73, and is there stated to have been painted by Sir Peter Lely. The inscription on the canvas itself (which measures  $87\frac{3}{4}$  inches  $\times$   $55\frac{1}{2}$  inches) is "Elizh. Uvedale, Wife to Edwd. Earl of Carlisle." In view of the Countess's connection with Surrey it is probably well to have this fact on record.

J. W. FARLEY.