

## NOTES

**Mesolithic Flint Axe from Cobham.**—The flint axe figured here (Fig. 1) was found in 1965 by a boy, Paul Wynne Mason, in whose possession it remains. The axe was lying on a spit of land in the river Mole near Cobham village<sup>1</sup> but seems unlikely to have been in the water for any considerable period as it retains its natural black and grey patchy colouring. An unusual feature is the obliquely squared-off butt, which was evidently formed during manufacture and is not due to subsequent damage. To form this butt a hinge-fractured flake was removed by a blow directed approximately from the centre of the underside, or flatter face, of the axe.

F. HOLLING.

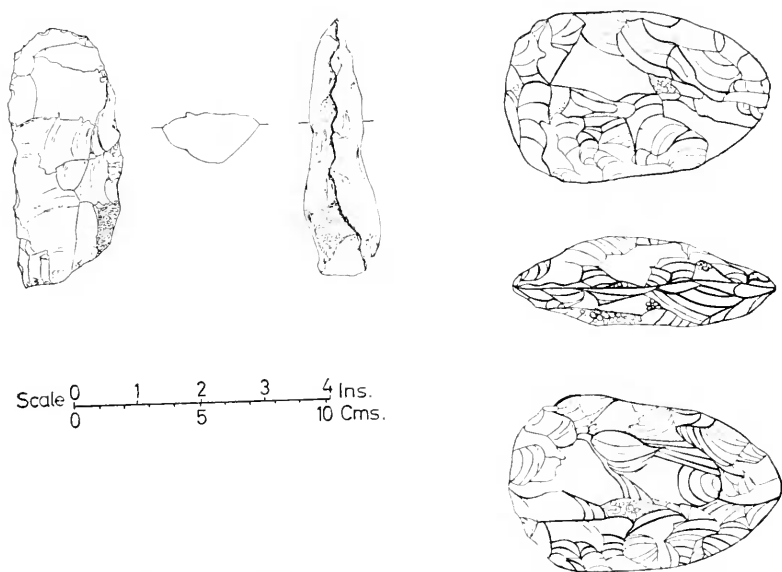


FIG. 1.—FLINT AXES FROM COBHAM (*left*) AND REIGATE HEATH (*right*). (1/3.)

**Flint Implement from Reigate Heath.**—The implement illustrated in Fig. 1 was found by Mr. J. Scanlon in a rabbit burrow<sup>2</sup> to the west of the bowl barrow<sup>3</sup> which lies immediately north of the Reigate-Leigh road. It is made from good quality black flint, is unpatinated and presents a remarkably fresh appearance. Dr. I. H. Longworth, of the British Museum, writes:

This is a Neolithic flint axe which shows deliberate blunting round the sides achieved by polishing, no doubt to assist in the hafting. The slight damage and blunting to the cutting edge is probably due to use.

Mr. Scanlon has given the implement to the Society's collection at Guildford Museum.

D. J. TURNER.

<sup>1</sup> Nat. Grid Ref. TQ 106594.

<sup>2</sup> N.G.R. TQ 237502.

<sup>3</sup> *Surrey A.C.* XLII (1934), 52.

**Bronze Sword from Limpsfield.**—The sword illustrated in Fig. 2 and Plate XII was found in a pocket of pure sand in a garden at West Heath, Limpsfield,<sup>1</sup> by Mr. R. Dudley Ryder. It is 49.0 cms. long and 3.5 cms. broad at the widest point. The rectangular tang has a short ridge down the centre between two pairs of rivets, three of which are still in place. There is a slight groove parallel to the edge the full length of the blade. The condition is excellent.

It resembles most closely a sword from the Thames at Kingston and now in the Kingston Museum.<sup>2</sup> A sword from the Thames at Lambeth is similar<sup>3</sup> and

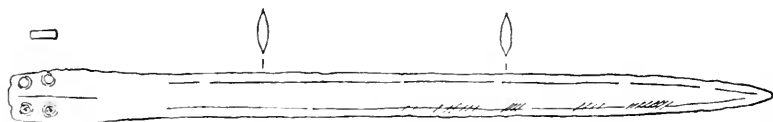


FIG 2.—BRONZE SWORD FROM LIMPSFIELD. (1/5.)

this was classed with the Ballintober swords by Miss B. A. V. Trump but it does not resemble the swords so named by Hodges.<sup>4</sup> These are leaf-shaped, with a V-shaped hilt and a rectangular tang, which has a short ridge running down the centre between the pairs of rivets. Devenish<sup>5</sup> has suggested that the Kingston sword is a type of rapier and resembles the Rixheim swords and adds that Burgess classifies this type in Britain as Lambeth swords, developed from the Rixheim ones and related to the French Rosnoën group.<sup>6</sup>

Giot<sup>7</sup> features a close parallel from Pennavern, Rosnoën, saying that these appear during the Late Bronze Age in France. Variations include slight rims at the edges of the tangs, there are no ricassi in the earlier examples and the blades are decorated by parallel grooves. These French swords are also noted by Miss Sandars<sup>8</sup> and Dechelette.<sup>9</sup> Rixheim swords have been regarded as the counterparts of the solid-hilted Riegsee swords with a Western origin for the characteristic hilt shape. In France Rixheim swords were the dominant type until the first appearance of Cowen's Hemigkofen and Erbenheim types west of the Rhine stimulated new forms in competition.<sup>10</sup>

Sandars says that Rixheim swords are not found in Britain<sup>11</sup> but a sword from Eriswell, Suffolk, and found with a Group III Lisburn rapier,<sup>12</sup> would seem to have a Rixheim type blade with ricasso and only slight variations in the hilt. The Lisburn Class rapiers have been dated by Miss Trump to the eleventh century<sup>13</sup> and this would suggest that the swords were arriving in Britain while the rapiers were still being made in the Thames basin (28 were found there) as well as in Ireland.

<sup>1</sup> Nat. Grid Ref. TQ 40385231.

<sup>2</sup> Devenish, D. C., *Surrey A.C.*, LXI (1964), 3 and Pl. II. Kingston Mus. No. 748.

<sup>3</sup> Trump, B. A. V., *P.P.S.*, XXVII (1962), 90, Fig. 17; Wheeler, R. E. M., *A.J.*, VII (1927), 294–8; London Mus. A. 19785.

<sup>4</sup> Hodges, H. W. M., *U.J.A.*, XIX (1956), 37 and Fig. 3.

<sup>5</sup> Devenish, D. C., *op. cit.*, 3.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, 4.

<sup>7</sup> Giot, P. R., *Brittany* (1960), 155, and Fig. 46.

<sup>8</sup> Sandars, N. K., *Bronze Age Cultures in France* (1957): Gugney-sous-Vaudemont, Fig. 19, 1 (Musée Lorrain); Courtavant, Fig. 20, 1 (British Mus. M.L. 2851); Prepoux Pl. V.

<sup>9</sup> Dechelette, J., *Manuel II*, 1924. Dredged from the Seine, Fig. 62, 5; Saxon-Sion, Fig. 62, 1.

<sup>10</sup> Cowen, J. D., *P.P.S.*, XVII (1951), 195–213.

<sup>11</sup> Sandars, N. K., *op. cit.*, 113.

<sup>12</sup> Briscoe, Lady, and Furness, A., *A.J.*, XXXV (1955), 218–9, Fig. 1, and Pl. XXXIII.

<sup>13</sup> Trump, B. A. V., *op. cit.*, 91.



BRONZE SWORD FROM LIMPSFIELD, (Length 50 cm.)

Parker Brewis<sup>1</sup> indeed took these Rixheim swords for a transitional form between rapiers and the full leaf-shaped swords and assigned them to the beginning of the Late Bronze Age, while the hafting methods of rapiers were still remembered, and before the foreign hilts of Hemigkofen and Erbenheim types were copied.

It would seem that the name Rixheim/Lambeth<sup>2</sup> would be more appropriate for swords of this type in Britain and it is possible that a re-examination of those listed in Trump<sup>3</sup> may show that they are not all Rixheim/Ballintober swords.

The Limsfield sword remains in private hands and I am indebted to the owner for permission to publish it in these Collections together with the photograph. I would also like to thank Mr. E. Harrison for the drawing in Fig. 2.

WINIFRED PHILLIPS.

**Three Early Iron Age Sherds from Beddington, Surrey.**—These sherds (Fig. 3) form part of a collection of pottery found in 1920, or soon after, on a presumed settlement site in the Aldwyk Road area of the hamlet of Wadden in the parish of Beddington, near Croydon.<sup>4</sup> It is situated on a rising chalk spur, overlooking the headwaters of the River Wandle. Several accounts were published in the five years following their discovery.<sup>5</sup> The pottery was described as of various periods from Neolithic to Roman, though only two 'late La Tene' sherds were illustrated at that time. The whereabouts of the main collection has been lost sight of,<sup>6</sup> but Nos. 1 and 2 illustrated here are in

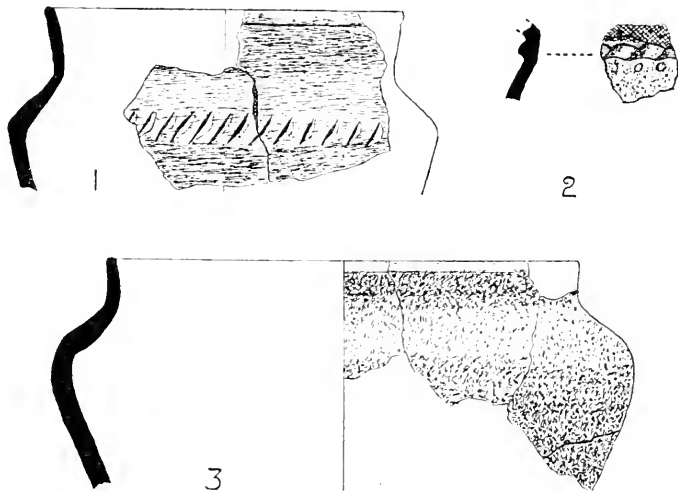


FIG. 3.—POTTERY FROM BEDDINGTON. ( $\frac{1}{4}$ .)

<sup>1</sup> Parker Brewis, *Arch.*, LXXIII (1923), 256-7.

<sup>2</sup> Devenish, D. C., *op. cit.*, 3.

<sup>3</sup> Trump, B. A. V., *ibid.*, between pages 98-100 (17 listed in all).

<sup>4</sup> N.G.R. TQ 30776510.

<sup>5</sup> A.J., III (1923), 147-8. *Surrey A.C.*, XXXVI (1925), 112. *Surrey A.C.*, XXXVII (1926), 59-63 (a reprint from *Proc. Prehist. Soc. East Anglia*, V (1925), 80-2).

<sup>6</sup> The Hon. Editor kindly informs me that there is a possibility that at least part of the collection may prove to be found with that from the site referred to below (*Surrey A.C.*, XXXVI (1925), 113-4).

the possession of Professor Frere of the Institute of Archaeology, University of London, and No. 3 is in the museum of the Carshalton Municipal Offices. Another sherd from the same collection is from a 'Patch Grove' vessel of the later Pre-Roman period, figured in *Arch. J.*, CI (1944), 59, Fig. 7.

The site is not isolated; within a mile of it are situated a site with similar remains (*Surrey A.C.*, XXXVI (1925), 113-4, the pottery from which is unillustrated and is at present in the custody of the Carshalton Urban District Council)<sup>1</sup> and the well-known Iron Age camp at the Queen Mary Hospital, Carshalton (*Surrey A.C.*, XLIX (1946), 56-74.)

In view of the loss of the collection as a whole, the value of these three vessels to Iron Age studies is much diminished, yet it was felt that they should be put on record, which is the purpose of this note.

1. Part of a coarse, hand-made jar with carinated shoulder, constricted neck and out-turned rim (19 cm. diam.). Hard dark grey paste with small and occasional large flint grit. Carefully modelled and smoothed on the exterior to an even, matt surface. On the shoulder is a row of neatly cut, parallel oblique slashes 1½-2 cm. in length. The semi-circular rim has a very slight external swelling demarcated by a narrow tooled groove.

This stilted vessel belongs to a type found abundantly on sites of the Upper Thames Valley<sup>2</sup> where, however, finger tip impressions are the dominant decorative feature and slashes do not occur. Sandown Park, Surrey, only eleven or twelve miles distant from the site, provides the closest parallel both in profile and decoration.<sup>3</sup> The only difference is in the rim; flattened rims predominate on coarse pottery at Sandown. On the other hand, Fig. 16, 2 shows a fine jar with the same treatment of rim as here.

2. Neck fragment of a jar of similar, though slightly browner, paste. Not orientated with confidence. Has a constricted neck to which is applied a square-sectioned band of cabling. Just below the band is a barely perceptible row of three shallow, oval depressions, 5 by 7 cm. The size of this vessel would probably be intermediate between that of Nos. 1 and 2.

Although made of fairly typical Early Iron Age paste, this vessel is of a form which reveals its Late Bronze Age ancestry. Raised bands on constricted necks have a wide geographical distribution; they are found from East Yorkshire to Sussex. In the Thames Valley they occur at Allen's Pit, Dorchester,<sup>4</sup> Blewburton,<sup>5</sup> Bray,<sup>6</sup> and further east at Minnis Bay, Birchington, Kent.<sup>7</sup> What makes the Beddington sherd of special interest is the treatment of its decoration. The method of cabling by twisting a square-sectioned strip is, to my knowledge, unparalleled in this country, though it is fair to admit that in some cases published illustrations are ambiguous and detailed descriptions lacking. Raised bands so far known are applied without twisting and are often finished off with a row of finger impressions. Preshute, N. Wilts.,<sup>8</sup> and Queen Mary's Hospital, Carshalton,<sup>9</sup> both have sherds with an angle similar to that of the Beddington one, but in both cases the very shallow band is probably not applied and the cabling differs from that on the Beddington sherd. Neither is the search for continental parallels very fruitful. I have found no certain examples from the Low Countries in the literature available to me and N. K. Sandars,<sup>10</sup> figures only one—from St. Bernard, Lower Saone, which she attributes to the Late Bronze Age III.

<sup>1</sup> N.G.R. TQ 28876509.

<sup>2</sup> See Long Wittenham, *Oxon.*, II (1937), 5, Fig. 2, 3; Allen's Pit, Dorchester, *Oxon.*, VII (1942), 43, Fig. 8; Standlake, *A.J.*, XXII (1942), 212, Fig. 4.

<sup>3</sup> *A.J.*, XXVII (1947), 40, Fig. 17, 17; see also Fig. 17, 18.

<sup>4</sup> *Oxon.*, VII (1942), 45, Fig. 10, 5.

<sup>5</sup> *Berks. A.J.*, XLVI (1942), 99, Fig. 1, 4.

<sup>6</sup> Unpublished, Reading Museum.

<sup>7</sup> *P.P.S.*, IX (1943), 38, Fig. 8, 3.

<sup>8</sup> *P.P.S.*, VIII (1942), 55, Fig. 5, 6.

<sup>9</sup> *Surrey A.C.*, XLIX (1944-5), 66, Fig. 7, C14.

<sup>10</sup> *Bronze Age Cultures in France* (1957), 230, Fig. 61.

3. Part of a large vessel with bulging shoulder, upright neck and flattish rim. The black paste, fired red-to-black on external surface, is finer than that of Nos. 1 and 2, but less hard and unskilfully modelled. Minute and occasional large flint grit.

In spite of its finer paste, this vessel is probably to be interpreted, in its lack of decoration and its slackened profile, as a devolution from the potting tradition represented by No. 1 and needs no outside influence to account for its presence here.

LOUIE GALLANT.

### **Early Romano-British Pottery from High Billingham, Dunsfold.—**

The existence of several Romano-British rubbish pits containing pottery was reported in February 1965 to Mr. G. F. Howard, a member of the Surrey Archaeological Society, by Mr. Hickman of Hall Place Farm on whose land they were discovered. The pits were originally disclosed in ditch-digging with a mechanical excavator at High Billingham, just inside the southern boundary of Dunsfold parish to the north of Dunsfold airfield.<sup>1</sup> Unfortunately this had occurred about two years previously, and the subsequent slipping of soil from the sides of the ditch had masked the location of the pits, which were all found on the south side of the ditch where the ground was formerly wooded and is now overgrown. At various times several members of the Society—Lady Hanworth, Mr. Howard, Mrs. Machin and Richard Tilling—helped the writer to remove the contents of the only pit that could be re-discovered. This proved to have been cut through completely by the ditch, the remaining portion being irregular in shape with a maximum width of 4 ft. 9 in. and depth of 2 ft. 6 in. It extended into the south bank of the ditch for approximately 4 feet.

The pit was cut into the solid Weald clay and contained a mixture of sticky clay with small fragments of charcoal, a few lumps of daub, and a burnt piece of large-Paludina limestone, the 'winklestone' or Sussex marble which occurs in the vicinity as a thin seam about a foot below the surface. Apart from small shreds of bone and two ox teeth, the only finds were of pottery, comprising the fragmentary pots and sherds figured below and parts of possibly about six more pots of very similar character to Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 6.

#### *The Pottery (Fig. 4)*

The surface of the pottery has suffered from contact with the moist clay filling of the pit, and its rough and patchy appearance in part may be due to this rather than to poor finishing. Some of the pots were certainly hand-made and none retain undoubted signs of wheel manufacture. Decoration was only found on the two figured sherds, Nos. 9 and 10, except for traces of burnished lines spaced about one inch apart on a jar too fragmentary to be figured.

- No. 1. Cordoned bowl of sandy grey paste with black outer surface, grey to light red inside.
- No. 2. Jar with very slightly raised cordon defined by burnished lines: similar paste and exterior to No. 1, dark grey inside.
- No. 3. Jar of clayey grey paste with soapy surface: orange slip on exterior.
- No. 4. Hand-made jar of grey-black gritty paste with smoothed outer surface (the form of this jar is restored from fragments).
- No. 5. Bead-rimmed jar with rough, gritty paste incorporating sand grains and angular flint particles up to 5 mm. long: colour light red to light brown.
- No. 6. Hand-made jar of black sandy paste with black interior, black to brown external surface: rim and upper part of shoulder burnished.
- No. 7. Hand-made base of small jar, brownish-black gritty paste. Surface of same colour, not smoothed.
- No. 8. Hand-made base of jar similar to No. 7 but with smoothed outer surface.

<sup>1</sup> Nat. Grid Ref. TQ 023368.

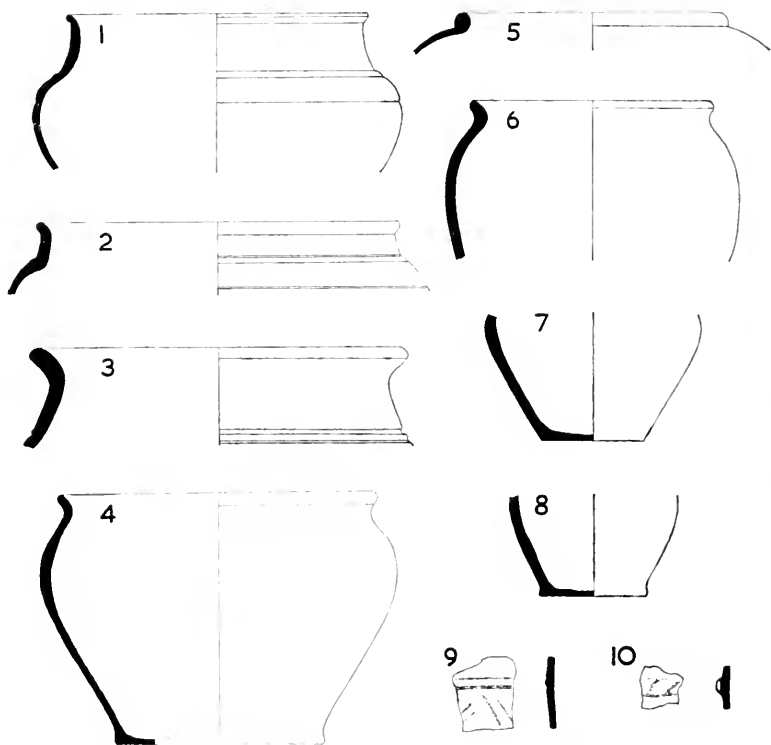


FIG. 4.—POTTERY FROM HIGH BILLINGHURST, DUNSFOLD. (¼.)

No. 9. Sherd of grey sandy ware with black smoothed surface, probably from the shoulder of a cordoned jar. Decoration consists of shallow burnished lines.

No. 10. Rope-pattern cordoned sherd of light buff soapy paste similar to No. 3, with pale reddish-brown slipped surface.

The cordoned jars Nos. 1 and 2, and the bead-rimmed jar No. 5, are common types in West Surrey. There are numerous parallels to these, together with No. 9, in papers on Romano-British cemeteries and occupation in this area.<sup>1</sup> Nos. 4 and 6 share a form of Iron Age origin which was represented in an early Romano-British burial at Haslemere dated mid-first century.<sup>2</sup>

No. 3 is of particular interest. It belongs to the 'Patch Grove' type, and the decorated sherd No. 10 almost certainly comes from this jar, being flaked off the surface so that its thinness is misleading. Professor Frere's discussion of Patch Grove and allied wares and the accompanying distribution map<sup>3</sup> make it clear that raised cordons with cabled or finger-impressed decoration are a distinctive Sussex feature, in contrast to the normal Surrey decoration on

<sup>1</sup> Holmes, 'Romano-British Cemeteries at Haslemere and Charterhouse,' *Surrey A.C.*, LI (1950), 17, Fig. 4; 21, Fig. 5; 24, Fig. 6. Clark and Nichols, 'Romano-British Farms South of the Hog's Back,' *Surrey A.C.*, LVII (1960), 52, Fig. 2. Harrison, 'A Pre-Roman and Romano-British Site at Charterhouse, Godalming,' *Surrey A.C.*, LVIII (1961), 29, Fig. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Holmes, *op. cit.*, 9, Fig. 2.

<sup>3</sup> *Arch. J.*, CI (1944), 57-66.

Patch Grove ware which consists of stabbed impressions or finger indentations applied directly on to the surface of the pot. The cordon here suggests the infiltration of Sussex influence through the Weald.

As a whole this group of pottery would appear to cover a fairly short period in the mid-first century A.D. The Belgic ancestry of the cordoned jars is well known, and Nos. 1 and 2 are probably earlier versions of the type than those ascribed by Holmes to the Flavian period.<sup>1</sup> In this connection it may be significant that the rims of Nos. 1 and 2 are less strongly developed and everted than any of those figured by Holmes.

F. HOLLING.

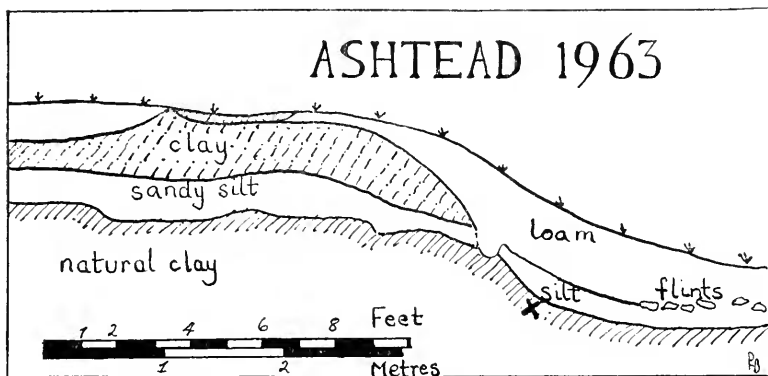


FIG. 5.—SECTION CUT IN NORTH-WEST CORNER OF CHURCHYARD.

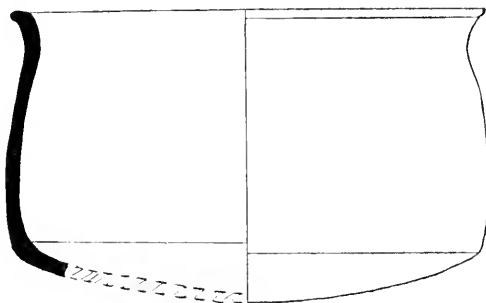


FIG. 6.—TWELFTH-CENTURY COOKING POT FROM ASHTEAD. (4.)

**Excavation in Ashtead Churchyard.**—During May and June 1963 a short excavation took place in the churchyard of St. Giles's Church, Ashtead,<sup>2</sup> by kind co-operation of the vicar, the Rev. G. Halsey, and the consent of the Ministry of Works. The work was done by members of St. John's School, Leatherhead, as a training project, since the main part of the history of the site is known from the excavations of Mr. A. W. G. Lowther.<sup>3</sup> Two new points, however, were found.

The section, Fig. 5, cut in the north-west corner of the churchyard, shows the shallow ditch and layer of flints found previously, but also suggests a bank

<sup>1</sup> Holmes, *op. cit.*, 20, Type 19.

<sup>2</sup> N.G.R. TQ 193581.

<sup>3</sup> *Surrey A.C.*, XLII (1934), 77-84.

of clay constructed on the inside (east) of the ditch with possibly a small timber revetement. Several trenches in the bottom of the wide, flat ditch showed that the flints are not a uniform layer, and this, together with the bank, seems to be against the explanation of the feature as a medieval sunken trackway.

The pot, Fig. 6, which, from its simple shape and shell-gritted fabric, fits well in the local class of twelfth-century cooking pots, must give a fairly close date for the digging of the ditch and the construction of the bank. It was found at X (Fig. 1) in the top of the natural clay on the side of the ditch into which it must have been trodden before any silting took place. This would place the earthwork at the end of the twelfth century.

RICHARD REECE.

**'Nova Legenda Angliae.'**—A book in the chained library of the Royal Grammar School, Guildford, will be 450 years old in 1966. It is the *Nova Legenda Angliae*, published by Wynken de Worde in 1516. Through the courtesy of the School Authorities I have been permitted to examine it and members may like to have the following information.

The *Nova Legenda Angliae* is one of the earliest works of a historical character printed in England. It is medieval abbreviated Latin type and is a compilation of 168 lives of saints of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales made by John Capgrave, a monk, who was born in 1393 and died in 1464.

The book is in black letter with a representation of the Blessed Trinity enthroned, surrounded by angels, with a band of saints in the several costumes of kings, popes and bishops, priests and virgins. In addition to the well-known saints such as Saint Edward the Confessor, 'pater orphanorum, iudex viduarum,' and Saints Dunstan and Cuthbert, there are the lives of little-known saints, such as Saints Ermentilda, Fridswida<sup>1</sup> (the patron saint of Oxford) and Ebba.

The *Nova Legenda Angliae* has never been reprinted but certain lives have been extracted from it and are to be found in the Bollandist *Acta Sanctorum* in unabbreviated Latin, namely Saints Wulsinus, Henry the Hermit, Richard of Chichester, Adrian, William of Norwich, Erconwald and Mildred.

In the Rolls Series of another of Capgrave's works *de Illustribus Henricis*, written for the edification of King Henry VI, the 'Prologus' of the *Nova Legenda Angliae* is printed out in full in unabbreviated Latin. Hingeston says that it is considered that Capgrave wrote the 'Prologus' except for the sentence 'Et quia' to the end, which was added when the book was printed.

Versions of other lives from the *Nova Legenda Angliae* have been published by the Early English Text Society.

I am indebted for this information to Father Richard Stewart who showed me the *Acta Sanctorum* and *De Illustribus Henricis* at the library of St. John's Seminary, Wonersh.

A MS. of the *Nova Legenda Angliae* is preserved in the Bedleian Library, MS. XX Capgrave, but it differs in some respects from the text published by Wynken de Worde.

M. O'CONNOR.

**A Note on the Advowson of East Horsley.**—The parish of East Horsley was a peculiar of the Archbishop of Canterbury, in the Deanery of Croydon, until 1876, when it was transferred to the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury; in 1845, with the rest of the Deanery of Croydon, it was transferred to the diocese of Winchester; in 1927 it was transferred to the new diocese of Guildford.<sup>2</sup>

Thus the advowson belonged to the Archbishop; it did not, as was so often the case, follow the descent of either of the two East Horsley manors, neither the Canterbury manor (the property of the Cathedral Priory, Canterbury), nor the Bishop's manor (which belonged to the successive Bishops of Exeter, till

<sup>1</sup> Anglicized into Frideswide.

<sup>2</sup> *V.C.H., Surrey*, III, 352.

*temp.* Henry VIII, the bishop leased the manor to Henry, Marquis of Exeter).<sup>1</sup>

The archiepiscopal Registers record the collation of successive incumbents from 1282/3<sup>2</sup> to 1896,<sup>3</sup> with two exceptions: in 1349 the King presented through 'voidance of the Archbishopric,' and in 1554, when the Queen, for the same reason, presented; in 1643, during the Commonwealth, Parliament presented.<sup>4</sup> These facts are now readily accessible and verifiable, yet *V.C.H.*<sup>5</sup> says that from 1551 to 1876 it went with the Bishop's Manor. This conclusion is based on a misunderstanding of a series of deeds concerning the Bishops' Manor dating from 1536-8 in which the advowson is included with other appurtenances of the manor. Taken at their face value these deeds suggest that the advowson had been transferred from the Archbishops to the Bishops of Exeter; taken in conjunction with the Archiepiscopal Registers, they are seen to be meaningless, in so far as they refer to the advowson. It is clear that the conveyancer, wishing to leave nothing to chance, included in the conveyances all the items that normally, or frequently, accompany the transfer of a manor. In fact, in the deed of 1551 the manor and advowson of Tyting are included, although Tyting of course was never a parish and never had a church, only a chapel attached to a house that was formerly the Bishop's, and is now a farm-house. Again, another deed of 1550 includes the advowson of East Horsley in a conveyance of the Canterbury manor, which at the dissolution had passed into the possession of John Agmondisham of Rowbarns, East Horsley.<sup>6</sup>

R. N. BLOXAM.

**Bures Manor, Horley.**—The records of the Courts Baron of Bures Manor, Horley, came to light in 1964, and the owner, Mr. C. N. Charrington (postal address Bures Manor, Leigh, Reigate, Surrey) who still lives at the manor will readily make them available to students. They consist of records of the proceedings of twenty-nine courts in the period 1545-1809; an eighteenth-century abstract of the Court Rolls with a rental; rent rolls for 1669 and 1681, and a schedule of deeds and notes on the Charrington family.

Names mentioned in the documents are: Arnold, Barnes, Bathurst, Best, Blundell, Bonwicke, Bradfield, Bragge, Bray, Broughton, Brown(e), Bryant, Budgen, Caffey, C(h)arlton, Cawston, Charlwood, Charrington, Chatfield, Cheesman, Clutton, Cooper, Crawley, Cuddington, Drummond, Drury, Elliott, Freeman, Ge(a)le, Hale, Harrison, Hatcher, Hervey, Hesketh, Howard, Letchford, Lugford, Marden, Marten, Matthew, Meggott, Miles, Moore, More, Moyes, Nixon, Noste, Pearson, Pendleton, Peyto, Risbridger, Rodes, Sampton, Sanders, Saires (Sarys), Scawen, Shove, Skinner, Stirling, Thurland, Towns(h)end, Tyrrell, Whitmore, Wilson, Wimburn, Wood.

H. CARTER.

**Dovecotes and Gunpowder.**—Having recently read two authoritative articles on the origins and uses of dovecotes, I feel it as well to draw attention to one important fact omitted on each occasion.

As *V.C.H., Surrey*, II, 306-8 points out, the production of gunpowder was almost a monopoly in the hands of Surrey men from c. 1554. Aubrey states that c. 1673 there were 16-18 powder mills at Chilworth.

<sup>1</sup> *M. & B.*, III, 30.

<sup>2</sup> This is the earliest recorded collation; it is, however, reasonable to suppose that the Archbishop had held the advowson of East Horsley at least since 1036, in which year a Saxon thane, called Thored, gave his 'land at Horslege' to the monks of the priory of Christchurch, Canterbury (B.M., Cott. Claud. A.III, f. 5; Kemble's, *Codex Diplomaticus*). But in *D.B.* it is stated that 'The Archbishop holds Horsley for the sustenance of the monks.'

<sup>3</sup> *Some notes on East Horsley church and Parish*, by the Rev. C. R. S. Elvin [Rector of East Horsley 1896-1912].

<sup>4</sup> Malden, H. E., *Surrey A.C.*, XXVII (1914), 98.

<sup>5</sup> *V.C.H., Surrey*, II, 352.

<sup>6</sup> *Pat*, 2 Eliz., pt. v.

The most important ingredient of gunpowder is saltpetre, produced naturally only in Persia and the East. However, it could be produced artificially by processing a mixture of earth, lime, ashes and animal excrement. The latter could be dug in stables, outhouses, etc., and especially in pigeon-houses, described in 1604 as 'the chiefest nurses of saltpetre of the kingdom.' At this time the powder contractors were prepared to confine their operations to half-an-hour a day, and to compensate the owners for any pairs of pigeons or eggs lost. In 1625 a proclamation issued by Charles I set the duration of digging at two hours a day, but only at convenient times. The owners were forbidden to pave any pigeon-houses, stables and the like with stone or brick, or floor them with anything other than good mellow earth.

N. SUFFIELD-JONES.