

# Archaeology in Surrey 1987

Compiled by D G BIRD, GLENYS CROCKER and J S McCRACKEN

The purpose of these notes is to record chance finds and the results of organised work (including excavation, fieldwalking and observation of development sites), even where this is negative. New information relating to earlier finds may also be included. The notes are based largely upon the Society's *Bulletins*, the Industrial History Group's newsletter and (in the case of Greater London) the *London Archaeologist*. Where a number appears at the end of a note it is that of the relevant *Bulletin*; if there is no reference the information comes from the compiler's personal knowledge, but no attempt is made to give all possible references.

Notes are divided into sections for each District or Borough, and therein ordered by national grid reference firstly by kilometre squares (four figure references) and then within those squares. Only six figure grid references are given as some measure of protection against 'treasure hunters'; more detailed information, if available, may be obtained by bona fide enquirers from the relevant County or Borough sites and monuments records. Responsibility for the administrative county is taken by Dr Bird, and for Greater London by Mr McCracken, except that extra industrial archaeology material has been gathered by Mrs Crocker.

The compilers are aware that there may be omissions or errors, and would be grateful to receive details so that they can be corrected in future issues, for which new information and illustrative material would also be welcomed by the relevant compiler.

## The Administrative County

### GENERAL

Survey being undertaken by Surrey County Council of old-style K6 telephone kiosks, most of which are being replaced by new model. (SIHG 41)

### GUILDFORD

SU 914 508 Follyhatch, West Wyke

Scatter of 13th/14th century pottery and roof tile found in field walking by P M G Jones. Also noted were a large area of calcined flints centred SU 912 510 and a large mound with brick debris at SU 911 512. These may be associated with post-medieval brick and tile production. (226)

SU 946 496 Pond Hill, Flexford

Scatter of 13th/14th century pottery and roof tile found in field walking by P M G Jones. A second similar concentration, with blocks of Bargate stone, was located some 80m to the south-east at SU 946 495. (226)

SU 956 479 Compton

Geophysical survey by A J Clark in advance of road construction located features near the RB villa. These were tested by excavation and found to be relatively recent.

SU 997 493 Guildford Castle

Small-scale excavation by R J Poulton for SCC and Guildford Borough Council in advance of floodlighting by the keep. No features were noted but medieval pottery was the first to be recovered from the motte.

SU 997 508 Ladymead, Stoke, Guildford

Report by R A Shettle of fieldwork and observation over a number of years in Ladymead. 65 worked Mesolithic flints were recovered from a site on the edge of the Wey flood plain, including six cores, seven scrapers, blades, saws, and waste material. A late Neolithic or EBA flint arrowhead was also found. (223)

SU 999 494 Sydenham Road, Guildford

Two hand-operated fly punches made by Gosling & Gatensbury, Hanley, Staffordshire, in yard of Adult Education Institute, noted by Francis Haveron. (SIHG 41)

TQ 032 476 Chilworth

Survey of gunpowder mills continued at site of late 19th century mixing house. (Reported by Joy Goddard)

TQ 057 602 Broad Ditch, Wisley

Many pieces of waterlogged wood of various shapes and sizes found in deep sewer trench by Ann Watson. They were apparently sealed by a clay layer which also sealed probably prehistoric iron working sites recorded on the trench line further south at c TQ 058 599. One very large piece of wood was carefully shaped with cut rectangular holes. Preliminary dendrochronological analysis by I G Tyers suggests that C-14 dating would be of value.

TQ 063 526 Crockery Lane, East Clandon

Scatter of 13th/14th century pottery and tile with blocks of Lower Greensand, Bargate and Chalk found by P M G Jones in field walking. More pottery and large amounts of medieval and post-medieval tile and brick were found at TQ 063 524. No good evidence for pottery manufacture was found but Crockery Lane may be linked in some way to a family of potters recorded in the Chertsey Abbey cartularies. (226)

MOLE VALLEY

Around TQ 10 47 Abinger area

Field walking by LTRG continued, with many finds of Mesolithic material. The RB villa site produced only a scatter of sandstone blocks and a few sherds and roof tile fragments.

Around TQ 112 483 Abinger

Eight prehistoric pot sherds, probably late Neolithic or BA, found in random field walking in one field by K Winsor. (220)

TQ 238 408 Charlwood

Site of Quaker burial ground identified by Jean Shelley. There were at least 111 burials between 1661 and 1807. (226)

REIGATE AND BANSTEAD

TQ 236 572 Preston Hawe, Banstead

Excavation by R J Poulton for SCC and McAlpine Homes South Ltd in advance of development affecting the south-west corner of the enclosure identified by B Hope-Taylor. The ditch on the south side was found to be no more than a gully and no signs of occupation were noted. A number of mostly Mesolithic flints were found, not in contemporary contexts; they included a tranchet axe. (224)

## TQ 25 50 Reigate

Note by D W Williams to draw attention to a seal, of tin, found in excavations in London and dated c1270. The seal bore the legend S'WALTERI [DE] REIGATE around a lion rampant. (221)

## TQ 254 502 31 Bell Street, Reigate

Rescue and salvage excavation by D W Williams for HAG was the first examination of the archaeology of the east side of Bell Street. Three medieval features were found, all containing similar pottery suggesting a date in the second half of the 12th century. This was further confirmed by a cut halfpenny of Henry II (1158-80) found in the fill of a sub-rectangular pit, possibly a cess-pit, above its base, which was formed by a group of blackened stones. The other features were a large irregular hollow and a rough tapering platform of ironstone blocks overlain by a spread of mortar, itself covered by a layer of clay with signs of burning. Below the platform were large fragments of the upper stone of a Lower Greensand rotary quern. (223)

## TQ 256 503 Old Vicarage, Church Street, Reigate

Observation by D W Williams and HAG of redevelopment located further features of archaeological interest. Two oxen were found buried in a pit probably of 18th century date or later. A medieval rectangular rubbish pit and a deep circular feature interpreted as a cess-pit of c1400 were also found. Many finds were made, some with the assistance of metal detector users, including the first RB coin noted from Reigate. (224)

## TQ 258 501 Chart Lane, Reigate

D W Williams reported that a medieval penny had been found in a metal detector survey of a site before redevelopment.

## REIGATE AND BANSTEAD and TANDRIDGE

Between TQ 290 540 and TQ 320 536 Merstham and Chaldon stone quarries. Following completion of survey, study being made of the influence of rock jointing on the layout and development of 'pillar and stall' workings. (Reported by P W Sowen)

## RUNNYMEDE

## TQ 013 712 Manor Farm, Egham

Trial trenches by S Dyer for SAFG in advance of redevelopment. J Chapman noted that some post-medieval pottery and possible kiln wasters and fragments of kiln furniture were found.

## TQ 015 715 The Avenue, Egham

Excavation by S Dyer for SAFG in advance of redevelopment on a site adjacent to Petters Sports Field. BA pottery and worked flint and the possible RB road line were located.

## TQ 026 674 St Ann's Hill, Chertsey

Fieldwork by P M G Jones located BA pottery eroding from an old quarry face.

## TQ 041 682 Abbey Meads, Chertsey

Fieldwork by P M G Jones and R J Poulton for SCC and HMBC located and recorded a section through a BA occupation site revealed in gravel working. Finds included pottery, a barbed and tanged arrowhead and a human skull. A ground stone axe was previously discovered by workmen.

## SPELTHORNE

TQ 035 741 Lower Mill Farm, Stanwell

Site watching and rescue excavation by R J Poulton and P M G Jones for SCC and Greenham Construction Materials Ltd revealed some prehistoric features and scattered medieval pottery. In one area three interlinked ring gullies were planned and sampled and several sherds of associated pottery were recovered. This appears to have been a MIA settlement site.

TQ 070 662 Shepperton Ranges

Site watching by R J Poulton and P M G Jones for SCC and Tarmac Roadstone Ltd located some prehistoric features. Two sets of important finds were made during extraction, apparently coming from a buried river channel. They were five complete 3rd/4th century RB pewter plates (fig 1) and three iron swords, one without its hilt, one with a bone handle of uncertain date, and one considered to be of Petersen type L, dated AD 840–90.

## SURREY HEATH

SU 912 634 48–54, High Street, Bagshot

Further work on site was carried out by G H Cole for Surrey Heath Group of SyAS. A further length of a ditch seen in 1983 was located; it contained several sherds of grass or chaff-tempered pottery. Also found was evidence for a well-preserved timber post and plank building of AD 1250–1350 replaced by a late 14th century post-built structure (partially seen in 1984/85). A complete wooden barrel, set in puddled clay, was thought to underlie the levels dated 1250–1350, and beneath it was found a complete wooden bowl. More information was gained about the 17th century tavern (? The Red Lion) first located in 1983; it is now thought that there were at least two phases starting in the late 16th century and finishing before 1650. Finds from the first phase included a leather-bound wooden dagger sheath and a mass of chain mail. The 18th century New Red Lion was also further studied and a pier or column base of an underlying 15th century building was found. (223)

SU 927 626 South Farm, Lightwater

Third season of excavation by G H Cole for Surrey Heath Group of SyAS. Discoveries included several 1st and 2nd century ditches and IA and RB pottery.

## TANDRIDGE

TQ 336 521 Place Farm, Bletchingley

Excavation by M Russell for BSAG continued.

Around TQ 35 53 Godstone stone quarries

'Pillar and stall' methods of quarrying studied. Plateway junction and branch terminus surveyed and further underground plateway systems discovered. (Reported by P W Sowen)

Around TQ 422 524 Ridlands Farm, Limpsfield

Field walking by LTRG recovered two Palaeolithic hand axes and some flakes.

## WAVERLEY

SU 837 472 Farnham Castle

Resistivity survey by FDMS, reported by K D Graham. Results seemed to indicate an 8m wide ditch running east to west to the south of the south front of the Castle and turning north round its east side (fig 2). It is probably the dry ditch referred to in medieval documents. Three possible structures were also located: one east of Fox's Tower; one possibly a turret on the curtain wall and one near the existing gatehouse. (224)



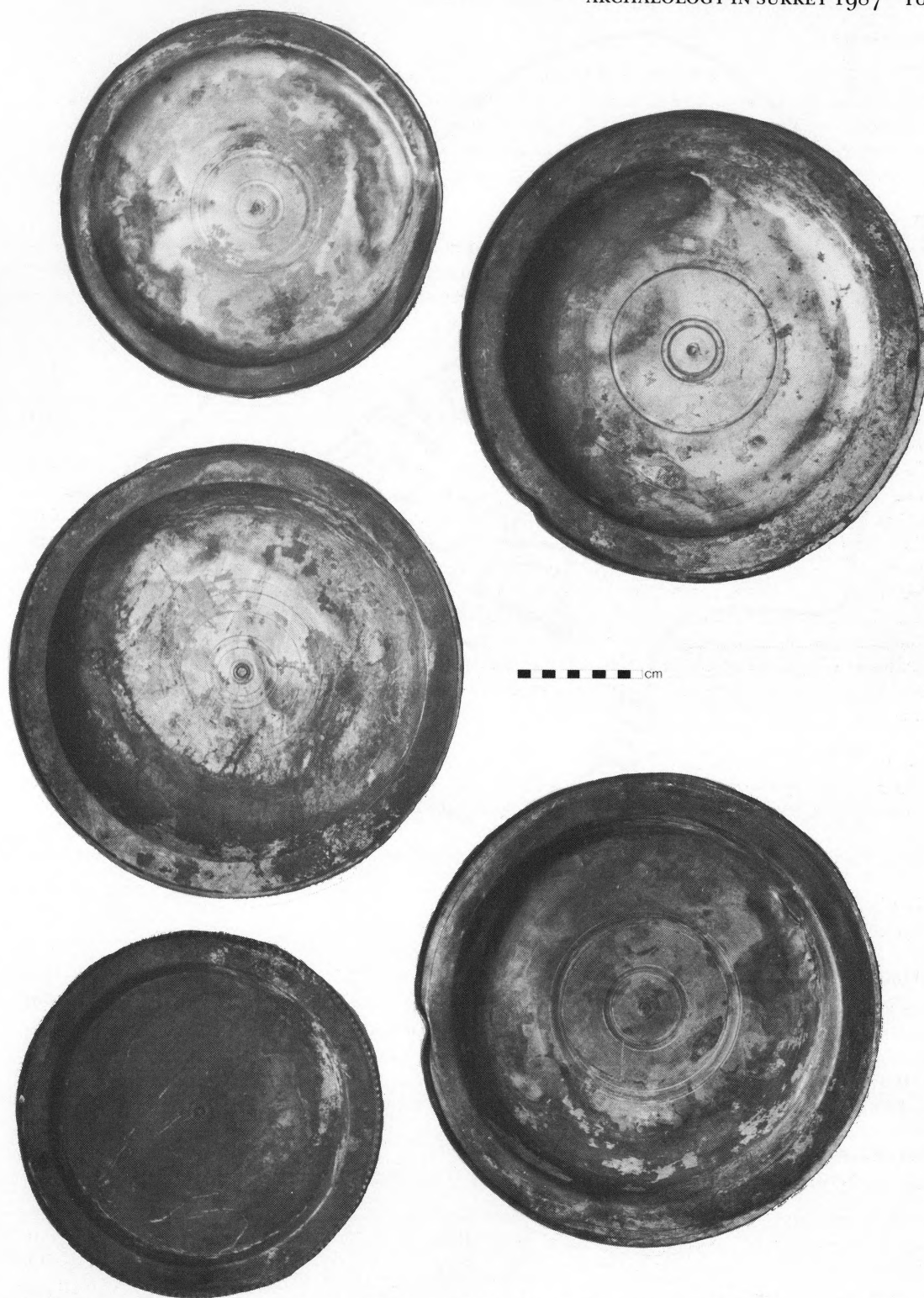


Fig 1. Shepperton Ranges: 3rd/4th century RB pewter plates. (Photograph by courtesy of Surrey County Council)

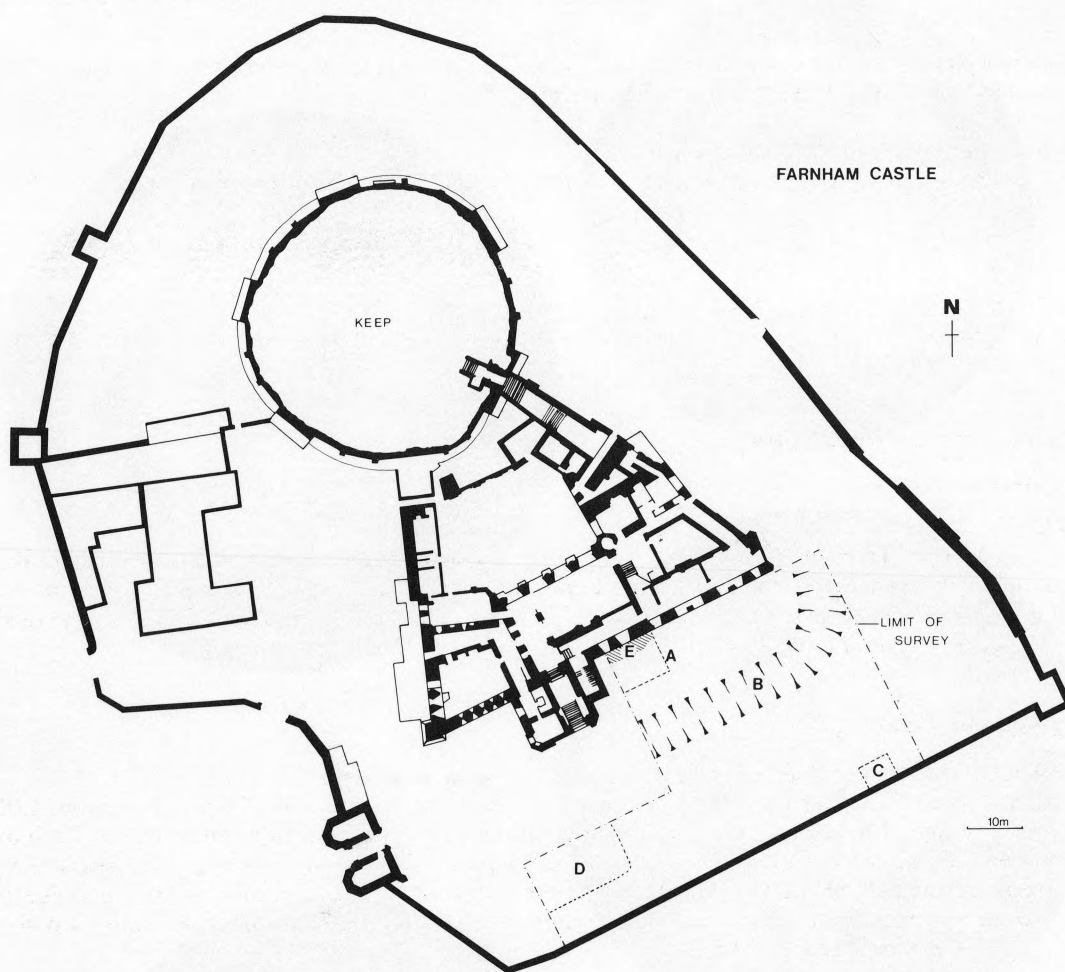


Fig 2. Farnham Castle: suggested line of ditch and sites of possible structures identified by resistivity survey. (Drawing by K D Graham)

SU 838 470 16, Long Garden Walk East, Farnham

Excavation and observation by K D Graham for FDMS in advance of redevelopment. A few RB and medieval sherds were found in trial trenching, and several pits and ditches of late to post-medieval date were observed in development. One large ditch running north-west-south-east may be part of hastily-erected Civil War defences. It had apparently been rapidly backfilled, and contained pottery consistent with a mid-17th century date. (227)

SU 857 481 Green Lane Farm, Farnham

EBA axe found by T Pickard and reported by K D Graham. (225; see note in this volume)

SU 972 438 Brighton Road, Godalming

Excavation by Judie English and K D Graham for WAAC in advance of the construction of the relief road indicated that the land in this area was under cultivation prior to the 19th century. Finds included medieval and later sherds and a trade token issued by Thomas Lusher of Chiddingfold in 1668. (224)

TQ 048 357 Stony Copse, Alfold

Shallow pits tentatively suggested by Richard Williams to be filled-in bell pits from which ore was extracted for nearby Vachery iron working site. (227)

Around TQ 060 425 Winterfold Heath

A flint dagger found by chance early this century has now been recorded by D J Field.

#### WOKING

TQ 020 568 Parish church, Old Woking

P M G Jones noted Tudor pottery from a site adjacent to the church.

### South-West London Boroughs

#### CROYDON

TQ 322 652 14 Whitgift Street, Croydon

Excavation by J Davison for CNHSS resulted in a succession of finds from prehistoric through RB, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval to modern. Over 40 Roman coins were found mostly of the 3rd and 4th centuries AD close to the spot where 3800 Roman coins were found in 1903. No structures were located although tile and brick were recovered. (*London Archaeol*, 5 No 15)

#### KINGSTON UPON THAMES

TQ 178 694 Kingston Horsefair, Kingston

Excavation by G Potter for DGLA, following on from the completion of the work on the 12th century bridge, revealed a series of timber waterfronts adjoining the bridge and extending both up and downstream of it (fig 3). One waterfront was constructed from parts of a large boat, most likely a merchant craft of cAD 1250–1300 while segments of two other boats of similar date were built into a second revetment. The boats were clinker-built of oak with internal frames fastened by wooden pegs. (219; *London Archaeol*, 5 No 15)

TQ 180 695 The Bentall Centre, Kingston

Site watching by G Potter for DGLA located a prehistoric river channel already known to lie to the south from a Kingston Museum excavation. Bordering the channel were foreshore areas which produced RB material sealed below thick silt deposits. (*London Archaeol*, 5 No 15)

TQ 201 706 Cambridge House, Renfrew Road, Kingston

Excavation by D Field for KUTAS and Kingston Heritage Centre revealed fragments of a LBA land surface and a shallow gully, a short length of ?palisade trench, a pit and a number of stake or post holes. This elaborates on a reported 19th century discovery of pits and scoops with BA pottery and metalwork from this area. (220; *London Archaeol*, 5 No 15)

#### LAMBETH

TQ 304 784 38–46 Albert Embankment, SE11

Small-scale trial excavation by D Seeley for DGLA in the vicinity of a pottery recorded on maps of 1746 indicated major development of the site in the 17th–18th centuries, most likely associated with the pottery. Large quantities of discarded kiln furniture and wasters were found; the earlier levels contained delftware, the later stoneware. Some porcelain was also found indicating early manufacture on site. (*London Archaeol*, 5 No 15)



Fig 3. Kingston Horsefair 1987: detail of waterfront of c1300 made up of re-used boat timbers, adjoining the downstream side of the medieval bridge. (Photograph by courtesy of the Museum of London)

#### MERTON

TQ 265 699 Merton Priory, Station Road, SW19

Excavation by J S McCracken for DGLA of the SAM revealed the entire northern half (approx 300ft) of the priory church, including the north transept with three end chapels, the choir and the lady chapel. Approximately 160 burials were located within and close to the church. A number of construction phases have been identified, although the major periods of building appear to be early 12th century for much of the nave and mid 13th century for the choir and lady chapel extension. North of the choir large spreads of Reigate stone chippings suggest this may have been the masons' yard used during the construction of the priory. (219; *London Archaeol*, 5 No 15)

#### SOUTHWARK

TQ 316 804 245 Blackfriars Road, SE1

Excavation by N Shepherd for DGLA located the edge of a gravel island where the sands and gravels were overlain by agricultural soil containing burnt flints and IA and RB pottery. A late 16th century channel was excavated and timber base plates (two phases) which would have supported a small trestled bridge were found in the silts. A timber revetment along the west side of the channel contained planking from a 16th/17th century boat. Evidence of 18th century road surfaces was also found. (*London Archaeol*, 5 No 15)

TQ 324 797 237 Borough High Street, SE1

Excavation by C Cowan and H Swain for DGLA in the basement of the Post Office discovered a large RB feature containing waterlaid and dumped fills. (*London Archaeol*, 5 No 15)

## TQ 321 805 37-46 Bankside, SE1

Excavation by P Thompson for DGLA on the site of the reconstructed Globe Theatre located a series of timber revetments. Incorporated into the timberwork were parts of Tudor wheelbarrows. (*London Archaeol*, 5 No 15)

## TQ 324 802 Park Street, Old Courage Brewery, SE1

Excavation by J Dillon for DGLA discovered below RB levels an arc of six postholes thought to be part of a round-house. Three other postholes containing IA pottery may have been part of a second structure. Flint flakes including late Neolithic tools and half of a stone axe were recovered. RB levels included two 1st century ditches sealed by a road which was associated with 1st century timber buildings cut by large cess-pits. North of the road were industrial dumps sealed by a 3rd century mortar floored building. The site was then sealed by 'dark earth'. (*London Archaeol*, 5 No 15)

## TQ 324 804 5-15 Bankside, SE1

Excavation by J Bowsher for DGLA within an area of flooded and reclaimed marshland revealed medieval drainage channels. The development of the 14th century riverbank and an associated property were recorded. A timber revetment incorporating planking from a medieval clinker-built boat was located 10m south of the present river bank. The line of the 14th century river wall was also traced. (*London Archaeol*, 5 No 15)

## TQ 338 785 Bricklayers Arms Railway Depot, SE1

Excavation by H Jones for DGLA produced topographic evidence including Tilbury IV peat layers. A prehistoric platform of interlaced wood, flint flakes and two Neolithic stone axes were found. (*London Archaeol*, 5 No 15)

## TQ 333 798 Whites Grounds, SE1

Excavation by T Catchpole recovered Neolithic flint tools and pottery in sandy soil, which is possibly part of Horsleydown Island. A RB ditch and flood levels were revealed. (*London Archaeol*, 5 No 15)

## TQ 334 793 Abbey Buildings, Abbey St, SE1

Continued excavation of Bermondsey Abbey by D Beard for DGLA indicated Middle Saxon activity although no major structures were found. The northern section of the pre-monastic boundary ditch was excavated and the area enclosed by this ditch found to contain a smaller ditch with stake holes (?fence) and a large drain. The drain, which showed evidence of recutting, was probably constructed with wattle sides. Environmental samples from the ditch suggest human sewage. Pottery recovered indicates an 11th century date, predating the Cluniac priory. Three phases of an infirmary chapel have been revealed, beginning with an apsed building of the late 11th century, an extension in the late 12th or early 13th century, and a final structure forming the north side to a second cloister. A small apse was found in the extreme northern portion of the site. This is likely to be the SE chapel of the conventual church. Excavation of the available area of the monks' cemetery was completed, producing approximately 200 burials. Evidence of the 16th century demolition of the abbey, when parts of the monastic remains were built into Sir Thomas Pope's Bermondsey House, continued to be found. (*London Archaeol*, 5 No 15)

## TQ 335 796 Tanner Street, SE1

Excavation by K Heard for DGLA revealed alluvial clays and peats of unknown date which were overlain by further clays containing post-medieval pottery. A small natural channel contained large quantities of 18th century pottery, building material and leather. The channel was cut by a pit in which were four upright barrels and a second pit with large quantities of horn cores and sheep metapodials. Evidence of 19th century tanning pits. (*London Archaeol*, 5 No 15)



**TQ 332 802 Morgans Lane, SE1**

Excavation by A Thompson for DGLA uncovered the remains of a substantial moated building including external masonry walls, wooden revetments and internal buildings. The site is most likely Fastolf Place, built by Sir John Fastolf in the mid-15th century. (*London Archaeol*, **5 No 15**)

**TQ 333 802 Abbots Lane, SE1**

Excavation by J Hunter for DGLA revealed a medieval channel with several phases of revetments built of reused timbers including sections of a clinker-built boat. (*London Archaeol*, **5 No 15**)

**TQ 345 796 Cherry Garden Pier, SE16**

Excavation by R Flook and D Seeley for DGLA recovered IA pottery and flint flakes from pits and deposits lying on the surface of natural sands and gravels. Three RB cremation burials, a ditch and other features were found concentrated on a high area of ground. A clay-filled channel containing a Saxon timber, resting against a wattle structure (?revetment), was found. (*London Archaeol*, **5 No 15**)

**TQ 351 796 Rupack Street, SE16**

Trial work by S Blatherwick for DGLA found a flint blade and flint-tempered pottery below waterlaid clays. A possible RB ditch contained a coin of Constantine I. (*London Archaeol*, **5 No 15**)

**SUTTON****TQ 295 654 Beddington Park Cottages**

Site watching by J Phillips for the Carew Manor Group of the late 15th or 16th century buildings continued. A substantial record has been made of the surviving parts of the timber frame. (*London Archaeol*, **5 No 15**)

**TQ 297 658 Beddington Sewage Works, Beddington Lane**

Final phase of excavations by R and L Adkins for DGLA. Excavation was completed on some areas opened in 1981–3 and in an area south of the villa. Evidence was found for a number of round-houses dating from the LBA to LIA. Linear ditches, most likely part of field and enclosure boundaries were traced. The RB outbuildings in the south-east corner of the site were excavated. This may be a series of barns, the earliest consisting of two parallel rows of postholes aligned E–W while the second lay N–S. The third barn had two lines of internal posts and a wall with masonry footings. A RB well with leather shoes, pottery and a horse's skull was found east of the barn. (219; 225; *London Archaeol*, **5 No 15**)

**WANDSWORTH****TQ 261 744 St Anne's Crescent, SW18**

Trial excavation by P Bruce for DGLA failed to locate the Levalloisian working floor from which c3000 flint flakes and implements were collected by G F Lawrence in 1890. (*London Archaeol*, **5 No 15**)

**Abbreviations** (see also list at beginning of volume)

BA	Bronze Age (E=Early, etc)
BSAG	Bourne Society Archaeological Group
CNHSS	Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society Ltd
DGLA	Department of Greater London Archaeology (Museum of London)
FDMS	Farnham & District Museum Society (Archaeological Group)
HAG	Holmesdale Archaeological Group

HBMC	Historic Buildings & Monuments Commission for England
IA	Iron Age
KUTAS	Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society
LTRG	Lithic Tools Research Group (Surrey)
RB	Romano-British
SAFG	Spelthorne Archaeological Field Group
SyAS	Surrey Archaeological Society
SCC	Surrey County Council (Conservation & Archaeology Section, Planning Department)
SIHG	Surrey Industrial History Group (newsletter)
WAAC	Waverley Archaeological Advisory Committee