

HENDON ACTIVITY

DURING the first half of 1971 the Society has been engaged on three research projects: recording the graves in St. Mary's Churchyard, Hendon; recording the area of Church End, Hendon; and work on the finds from the Brockley Hill digs of 1947-54.

St. Mary's Churchyard is an historic one, with decipherable graves going back to the beginning of the 18th century. As a faculty had been applied for to level the churchyard, and no detailed record of inscriptions had been made, the Society obtained the permission of the Church authorities to record throughout the past winter. It is hoped later to publish a booklet on this interesting churchyard.

The seven small streets, containing Victorian and Edwardian housing, which make up the area known as Church End, Hendon, is to be swept away soon in a development scheme. The Society decided to record the whole area on street survey sheets and by photographs. Now cassettes are being added to the survey, containing tape recordings of the older inhabitants.

The finds from the Brockley Hill excavations up to 1954 until recently were stored on the roof of Central Library, Hendon, an inaccessible spot to all except the most intrepid scholars. By kind permission of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society and the Library authorities, the Society was able to move them to less isolated surroundings where they are being worked on. An exhibition on Roman Hendon, organised by the Society, will take place from September 4th to October 10th next, using some of the Brockley Hill material.

Finally, many members of the Society spent a good part of their spare time during April helping to mount, steward and dismantle the Battle of Barnet Exhibition, held in Wood Street, Barnet, from April 10th to 30th. It marked the quincentenary of the battle in which Warwick the King-maker died and Edward IV was confirmed on the English throne. In honour of the occasion HADAS published its first Occasional Paper, on the Chroniclers of the Battle of Barnet. This sold out in the first week of the Exhibition, but has now been reprinted.



SOCIETIES COMBINE

AT THE INAUGURAL meeting on 17th May, Fulham History Society and Hammersmith Local History Group amalgamated to form the Fulham and Hammersmith Historical Society. Inquiries concerning the new society should be made to the Hon. Secretary, Miss E. J. Willson, 598 Fulham Road, S.W.6. (01-736 1127).

FURTHER WORK AT OLD FORD

A SECOND SEASON of excavations at Old Ford took place between February and April of this year on two areas of the Tower Hamlets Lefevre Road development project. At Purnell Road a site was investigated just north of the Roman London-Colchester road. Here a Roman burial had been recovered during the construction of a children's play area in October 1970. Evidence of at least one other burial and a ditch of 3rd or 4th century date was found. Only a limited part of the site was examined as much of it was being landscaped and therefore preserved.

Another section across the three-tracked Roman road was dug just east of Appian Road. Alongside and encroaching on the southern track further evidence of the late Roman settlement was found. This consisted of a mass of debris including pottery, building material and animal bones lying as a general scatter and incorporated in pits and ditches. The work was directed by Harvey Sheldon on behalf of the London Museum and financed by a grant from the Department of the Environment. It is hoped to publish a full report of the 1969/70 Lefevre Road excavations in the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society's *Transactions* for 1971.

EMERGENCY AT GODALMING

THE FIRST real test of the Surrey Archaeological Society emergency call-out scheme came in May when the site of a part of a suspected Roman villa at Binscombe near Godalming suddenly became threatened with destruction within three weeks. Despite torrential rain 70 volunteers attended the first Sunday, many of them arriving in contingents from various societies from as far afield as Croydon and Wandsworth. The excavation directed by Clare Smith produced a number of structural features.

Some of the 70 volunteers working in the pouring rain on the first Sunday of the Godalming 'dig.'