

the traditional approach to a subject can be filled out by new knowledge. It is in fact a beautiful and useful book and does provide for the general reader, in its text and pictures a world survey of work on underwater wreck sites up to the early 1970's. Put together in proven Thames and Hudson pattern of a chapter, written by a specialist, linked to an illustrated section, it contains twelve parts. These range from Egyptian, Greek and Roman ships and installations to Byzantium, the Vikings and the ships of Medieval Italy and Northern Europe. In Chapters 10 and 11 Alexander McKee and Mendel Peterson discuss respectively *British post-medieval shipping* and the ships of the Atlantic trade. In chapter 5, Peter Marsden discusses the ships of the Roman period in Britain, and in particular those from *County Hall and Blackfriars*. In fact the colour photograph of Blackfriars Railway Bridge makes an enjoyable contrast to the harbours of Ancient Corinth! The authors make full use of drawings, reconstructions, contemporary painting and engravings and the artifacts found by underwater research.

Rather less expensive to obtain is George Bass' *Archaeology under Water* originally published in the "Ancient Peoples and Places" series in 1966. This was reissued as a Pelican a couple of years back and was 40p last time I looked. The paperback provides a short introduction to underwater archaeology based on Mediterranean work but attempts to cover a wider field. A revised edition is really needed. For current work in the British Isles reference should be made to the *International Journal of Nautical Archaeology* of which Volume 2 Part 1 appeared in March.

JOHN ASHDOWN

Recent Journals

Surrey Archaeological Collections. Volume 68 (1971)
Editor: E. E. Harrison. (Issued to members)

THIS ISSUE of Surrey's transactions has some 207 pages and contains ten articles, seven short notes and several glossy plates to enliven this volume. While certainly essential reading for those interested in ceramics, in addition the articles range over Iron Age Surrey; monumental brasses; the Inns of Croydon; the 1710 general election; vine growing in 18th century Cobham. R. T. Mason also describes the medieval timber-framed house at Greens Farm, Newdigate.

The pottery reader can start with Iron Age Surrey; work through Stephen Moorhouse's analysis of two post-medieval pit groups from Farnham Castle; consider Dennis Turner's sequence from 199 Borough High Street, Southwark, and finish with Felix Holling's important preliminary exploration of the medieval and later pottery industry of the Hampshire-Surrey borders. This latter paper illustrates examples, tied to kiln sites, of the fine white fabric, green and yellow glazed vessels so typical of Tudor and Stuart times and equally well known to London archaeologists. An excellent volume.

Post-Medieval Archaeology. Volume 6 (1972).

THIS DOES NOT contain articles of direct London interest but attention is drawn to Atkinson and Oswald's "A Brief Guide for the Identification of Dutch Clay Tobacco Pipes found in England". This is available as an offprint at 35p (post free) from W. Davey, Esq., Thatch Cottage, High Street, Chris-hall, near Royston, Herts.

JOHN ASHDOWN

Chinese Exhibition

NEXT SEPTEMBER an exhibition of nearly 400 or China's finest archaeological treasures will be on view for some four months at the Royal Academy; with one or two exceptions all of the objects have been discovered during excavations from 1949 onwards, with the majority being found since the Cultural Revolution of 1962.

The exhibition whose sponsors include *The Times*, is first of all going to Paris in May and then will later come to London where it is expected to rival the exhibition of Chinese art held in the Royal Academy in 1935. From experience of the Goya exhibition the organisers expect that with proper planning of the larger rooms in the Academy, it will be possible to absorb a constant stream of visitors and so do away with the queue problems which marred the Tutankhamun exhibition. There will be a catalogue similar to the Tutankhamun one retailing at under £1; admission prices, opening and closing times will also be similar to that exhibition.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING the London Archaeologist

THIS WILL take place at 6.15 p.m. on Friday 18th May at Church House, Dean's Yard, S.W.1.

The annual report and accounts will be presented. The proceedings will include the election of officers, and also the election to the Publishing Committee of the five local society representatives whose nominations should be made in writing not less than 14 days before the A.G.M. to the Chairman, Montague Chambers, Montague Close, S.E.1.

Local societies are invited to send one representative with voting powers to the A.G.M.; individual subscribers to the magazine and their friends will also be welcome to attend. A copy of the agenda will be circulated to all societies known to be interested in the *London Archaeologist*.

Following the A.G.M. Dr. John Alexander will give a lecture on "Bedfont and Southwark—Two Institute of Archaeology Training Excavations".