

Mosaic

HISTORIC GARDEN STUDY

RENEWED INTEREST in the house and grounds at Carshalton House, Surrey, has provided much food for thought in the past few months. Following the uncovering of foundations in the bed of the lake during the summer (see *Excavation Round-Up*), the Carshalton House Garden Study Group, primarily interested in the history of the grounds and its features, has been investigating the fact that the present garden layout is the last of at least two designed gardens¹. Each layout – the first of about 1720 and connected with Charles Bridgeman, and the second (and present) broadly dated to 1750-80 – is typical of its date. The earlier design is formal, with a rectangular lake stretching from the house to the water pavilion, or tower, while the later design is 'informal and picturesque': a winding lake has, at its north end, a sham bridge which is aligned on a section of the estate wall, almost certainly post-dating 1732². An examination of the brick and chalk conduits which feed the present lake suggest a structure of two, possibly three, phases, of which the earliest is likely to be connected with Bridgeman's design. Architectural drawings of this, a Neo-Palladian grotto (*The Hermitage*) and dismantled garden statuary are being prepared, while excavations are being carried out to answer specific questions concerning the garden layouts, especially that of Bridgeman's time.

A reassessment of the so-called *Arundel* map, probably dated to the occupancy of lands in Carshalton by the Howard family (who left in 1659), has indicated that the present lake is the third of a series of lakes in this area. Such details as can be checked (mainly property boundaries) suggest that the map is accurate, and superimposition of a modern map shows that the earliest lake lay to the south-east, and overlapped the present lake, while the Bridgeman period lake (c 1720-50/80) lay further to the north. The *Arundel* map shows 'old' West Street running to the north of the first lake – i.e. passing through the present lake – and it is firmly possible that the foundations uncovered in the present lake were aligned on it. 'Old' West Street was much in dispute between the owners and the parishioners in the 17th century, and it was absorbed into the garden by about 1720 (when much of the garden wall was built), and 'new' West Street re-aligned, running south-east rather than south-west to reach Pound Street, which formed the southern boundary to the grounds.

ANDREW SKELTON

1. B. Cherry and N. Pevsner, *The Buildings of England. London 2: South*, 1983, 646.
2. Pauline Stevens, *pers. comm.*

CHILTERN OPEN AIR MUSEUM

THE MUSEUM occupies a 44 acre site in attractive countryside adjacent to Newland Park, Chalfont St. Giles, where the Buckinghamshire College of Higher Education is situated. It is primarily a museum of buildings although relevant artefacts are also preserved. The museum upholds the principle that buildings of historic interest should be kept on their original sites, but where this is not possible it aims to preserve some of them by dismantling and re-erecting them on the museum site.

The museum is active and growing. Many buildings await restoration to add to the ten already completed. There is a nature trail, shop, static displays, refreshment facilities. Throughout the summer months extra events are arranged such as craft displays, model engines, archery, vintage cars, etc. Anyone interested in supporting the aims of the museum is invited to join the Friends of Chiltern Open Air Museum: the annual membership fee is £3.00 single, £5.00 double and £1.00 each for anyone extra at the same address, and covers three newsletters a year, free entrance to the museum and reduced rates for special events.

In 1985 the museum will be open on Wednesdays, Sundays and bank holidays from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. from Easter Sunday until the end of September. Admission is £1.00 (50p for under-14s and OAPs): Special openings for school and other parties can be arranged at other times. The address is Chiltern Open Air Museum, Newland Park, Chalfont St. Giles, Buckinghamshire, tel. Chalfont St. Giles 71117. Further information can also be obtained from George Thorogood, 36 Orchard Drive, Chorleywood, Herts WD3 5, tel. Chorleywood 2981.

BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL AWARDS 1984

THE PRESENTATION of the Awards for 1984 was made by Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, chairman of the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England, at The British Museum on 15 November. The winners were as follows:

PITT RIVERS AWARD for the best project carried out by a voluntary body or individual –

Donald Spratt for his report *The Prehistory and Roman Archaeology of North East Yorkshire*, published as British Archaeological Report 104 (1982). It comprises a gazetteer of artefacts and field monuments, with interpretations in terms of subsistence, technological and social activities of the early populations of the region in their environmental settings.

COUNTRY LIFE AWARD for a project by a professional team or unit –

Cleveland County Archaeology Section which was established in 1974 as part of Cleveland County Council's Libraries and Leisure Department, and is responsible for the recording, investigation and conservation of the archaeology of the County. County Archaeologist Blaise Vyner and his two assistants have been particularly concerned to develop the 'public' aspects of its projects by means of on-site interpretations and displays, post-excavation displays and reports and general publicity to interest the public.

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS AWARD for sponsorship of archaeology –

Ian Skipper, for the time and business expertise he has put into helping create the Jorvik Viking Centre in York. It was largely through his urging that the York Archaeological Trust embarked upon the creation of the Jorvik Centre, which opened last year.

RICHARD COLT-HOARE BOOK AWARD for the best book related to British Archaeology –

Christopher Chippindale, a mature student at Cambridge University, for his book *Stonehenge Complete*, a history of how Stonehenge has been viewed through the ages to the present day. It covers the archaeological aspects of Stonehenge and shows how ideas about it have altered over the centuries.

THE YOUNG ARCHAEOLOGIST OF THE YEAR AWARD for the best archaeological game –

Robert Waterhouse, a pupil at Kingsbridge Comprehensive School in Devon, for his game *Tamar Trader*, which is based on the Tamar Valley in the 18/19th century.

THE LEGAL AND GENERAL SILVER TROWEL AWARD for initiative and originality in British archaeology –

The Mary Rose Trust for its work in raising and restoring the famous Tudor warship. Last summer the trust opened a full exhibition in Portsmouth Dockyard, close to the ship itself, displaying many of the priceless objects recovered from the ship.

Ian Skipper for his work at the Jorvik Viking Centre, which also won him the *Illustrated London News Award*.