

consideration was sunk in the upper portion of the Thanet Sand.

A date of 1671 appears with a carefully carved floral design in the eastern gallery. If the mine was dug for the glass industry, a date from the 17th century would not be out of place. It is very improbable, however, that a genuine graffiti cut into the relatively soft sand walls would survive in such good condition in a part of the mine that was used as a shelter, and therefore had the possibility of many people brushing against it. Indeed, some of the graffiti from the Second World War have not lasted as well and are in very poor condition in comparison.

It is impossible to date the mine from the structure itself as, unlike in a chalk or sandstone mine, original tool marks decay and disappear, and the

mine is too small to effectively analyse the techniques employed. More research is needed on the local area and its industries before a definite date can be assigned to the excavation.

From the little evidence available at present, it seems probable that the mine was dug to provide sand for a local glasshouse to produce cheap green bottle glass. The size of the mine would indicate that this was a small venture or that it was a new mine sunk to replace an older set of workings. A date of 17th or 18th century is possible, although it could be as late as mid 19th century.

It can be seen that the early description of "... a perfect maze of tunnels..." does not fit the plan of the surveyed workings. This suggests that there is another, more extensive, mine somewhere in the vicinity. Research in the area is continuing.

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## Local Society Bookshop

THIS IS THE ninth supplement to the list of local publications given in Vol. 3, no. 15, 431-2. Publications are listed alphabetically by their sponsoring Society or Authority. Those received for review are indicated by an asterisk, and may be reviewed at a later date. Prices do not include postage, which is shown separately if known.

'A Fire in the House', by Brian Wright. An account of the fire which destroyed the House of Parliament in 1834. Price 90p plus 18p postage, from Brian Wright, 317 Reigate Road, Epsom Downs, Surrey KT17 3LT.\*

'Old Ordnance Survey Maps'. Price £1.00 from Alan Godfrey, 57-58 Spoor Street, Dunston, Gateshead, NE11 9BD.\*

### Acton History Group

Publications available from Dr T. Harper Smith, 48 Perryon Road, London W3 7NA.

'Acton, past and present'. Series. Price 50p each plus postage.\*

### Dartford District Archaeological Group

Publication available from G. S. Mitchell, 42 Milestone Road, Dartford, Kent DA2 6DN.

'Rediscovering Dartford'. 50pp., many pl. and figs. £3.50 plus 37p postage.\*

### East London History Society

Publication available from 20 Puteaux House, Cranbrook Estate, London E2 0RF.

'East London Record', no. 9 (1986). 50pp, 7pl., £1.55 including postage.

### London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Publication available from Central Library, Bancroft Road, London E1 4DQ.

'Bow Then and Now', by Anne Cunningham and Christopher Lloyd. 42pp., 42pl., map. £1.95.\*

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## Local Societies – amendments

THE SEVENTH SET of amendments to the list of local societies (Vol. 4, no. 15, 403-4) is below. Secretaries of local societies are asked to help us by telling us of any errors in or changes to this list.

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**Stanmore & Harrow Hist. Soc.** Sec. Mrs. M. Tufnell, 4 Whitefriars Drive, Harrow Weald, HA3 5HN.

**Twickenham Local Hist. Soc.** Sec. R. S. Knight, 14a Enmore Gardens, SW14.