

was in close touch with those who were and was quick to see the implications of the work of others. His collection and papers reflect the discoveries and controversies of the prehistorians and geologists of his day: the Eolithic controversy, the identification and growing acceptance of the Mesolithic as a transitional period between the clearly defined Palaeolithic and Neolithic ages<sup>21</sup>.

This article has concentrated on Sadler's collecting and prehistoric interests, but his contribution in other fields must not be overlooked. Although the results of his antiquarian researches may not have stood the test of time and the subsequent discovery of documents unknown to him, Sadler's concern to collect early maps and documents relating to the west London and Middlesex area and also books of local interest (geological, historical or biographical), has created an exceptional resource, preserving in one place many things which might otherwise have been lost or dispersed.

Sadler himself was unhappy that he was obliged to sell rather than present his collection to the Borough. In a letter to King Baker dated Christmas Day 1926<sup>22</sup> he wrote

"It was my intention to present it when I retired, but circumstances have made that impossible, having regard to my health and that of my family and the uncertainty of my future prospects".

But it may be that had he given the collection to the Borough it could well have suffered the unhappy fate of the Layton Collection, which remained largely in storage for fifty years until it was taken out of Brentford and put mainly into the reserve collection of the London Museum (now the Museum of London). It was the generation of public interest in the Sadler Collection Appeal by the indefatigable Miss Susan Smee (who was to be the first curator of the Gunnersbury Park Museum from 1928 until after the Second World War) and by William King Baker, which led to 112 subscribers raising £510.13s. by 23rd January 1928, and which ensured that the collection could not be put into storage and forgotten. Thomas Layton left £20,000 in his will for the setting up of his museum; the Sadler Collection was found a home and displayed with the balance of the appeal fund after the deduction of the purchase price and expenses, a sum of £10.10s.7d.<sup>23</sup>

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The photographs are by the Audio-Visual Unit of the London Borough of Hounslow, reproduced by courtesy of the Gunnersbury Park Museum.

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## Excavations & Post-Excavation Work

**City**, by Museum of London, Department of Urban Archaeology. A series of long term excavations. Enquiries to DUA, Museum of London, London Wall, EC2Y 5HN (01-600 3699).

**Croydon & District**, processing and cataloguing of excavated and museum collections every Tuesday throughout the year. Archaeological reference collection of fabric types, domestic animal bones, clay tobacco pipes and glass ware also available for comparative work. Enquiries to Mrs Muriel Shaw, 28 Lismore Road, South Croydon, CR2 7QA (01-688 2720).

**Greater London** (except north-east and south-east London), by Museum of London, Department of Greater London Archaeology. Excavations and processing in all areas. General enquiries to DGLA, Museum of London (01-600 3699 x241).

Local enquiries to:

North London: 3-7 Ray Street, London EC1R 3DJ (01-837 8363).  
South-west London: St. Luke's House, Sandycroft Road, Kew, Surrey (01-940 5989).

Southwark and Lambeth: 6-8 Cole Street, London SE1 4YH (01-407 1989 or 403 2920 - office - and 407 1258 - warehouse).

West London: 273A Brentford High Street, Brentford, Middlesex (01-560 3880).

**Hammersmith & Fulham**, by Fulham Archaeological Rescue Group. Processing of material from Fulham Palace. Tuesdays, 7.45 p.m.-10 p.m. at Fulham Palace, Bishop's Avenue, Fulham

Palace Road, SW6. Contact Keith Whitehouse, 86 Clancarty Road, SW6 (01-731 4498).

**Kingston**, by Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society. Rescue sites in the town centre. Enquiries to Marion Shipley, Kingston Heritage Centre, Fairfield Road, Kingston (01-546 5386).

**North-east London**, by Passmore Edwards Museum. Enquiries to Pat Wilkinson, Passmore Edwards Museum, Romford Road, E15 4LW (01-534 4545).

**Surrey**, by Surrey Archaeological Unit. Enquiries to David Bird, County Archaeological Officer, Planning Department, County Hall, Kingston, Surrey (01-541 8911).

**Vauxhall Pottery**, by Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society. Processing of excavated material continues three nights a week. Enquiries to S.L.A.S., c/o Cuming Museum, 155 Walworth Road, SE17 (01-703 3324).

*The Council for British Archaeology produces a monthly British Archaeological News (9 issues a year). It gives details of conferences, extra-mural courses, summer schools, training excavations and sites where volunteers are needed. The annual subscription of £7.50 includes postage, and should be made payable to C.B.A., 112 Kennington Road, SE11 6RE (01-582 0494).*