

Mosaic

Medieval discoveries at Hampton Court Palace

Work at Hampton Court Palace by Oxford Archaeology has unearthed the earliest surviving building ever found there. The 13th- and 14th-century remains include the largest medieval building (other than the Great Hall itself) constructed at the site. The discoveries were made during a project to represent one of Henry VIII's Tudor courtyards for the 500th anniversary of his accession to the throne in 2009.

Excavations in Base Court, the primary and largest interior courtyard of the Tudor palace, have revealed the stone foundations and walls of a substantial medieval structure. Measuring 10 m wide by at least 25 m long, it was originally constructed around the mid-14th century, making it the earliest building ever identified at Hampton Court. It was rebuilt in the late 15th century to form part of a group along with two other buildings that have been revealed.

One theory is that the larger and earlier structure might be a barn, or more tantalisingly a hall or residential building that was part of the manor of Hampton Court when the site was in the hands of Knights Hospitallers.

The later group of buildings were part of the estate of Giles Daubeney, Lord Chamberlain and favourite of King Henry VII, who acquired the manor in the 1490s. They could represent a residential wing of his medieval house where guests, including Henry VII and Elizabeth of York who (according to medieval documents) visited Hampton Court, would have been entertained. Evidence from these buildings shows that they would have been quite lavishly decorated with a decorated tiled floor and leaded windows.

The third discovery was a medieval water feature complete with 500-year-old lead plumbing still *in situ*. This sophisticated and ostentatious feature is evidence of the wealth and status of the residents of the manor estate, for whom Hampton Court provided an ideal base between Westminster and Windsor. Later the site's convenience and idyllic surroundings attracted Cardinal Wolsey and then King Henry VIII to make Hampton Court their home.

The project to represent Base Court for the 500th anniversary of King Henry VIII's accession to the throne will be complete by March 2009, heralding the beginning of a series of events to mark this anniversary at Henry's most famous royal residence.

New logo for the Museum of London

With Museum of London undergoing its largest ever redevelopment, and Museum in Docklands celebrating its fifth birthday with record visitor numbers, the Museum of London Group is re-branding, with new names and a new logo. The parts of the Museum will now be known as Museum of London (MOL – with upper case 'O'), Museum of London Docklands (MOL Docklands) and Museum of London Archaeology (MOL Archaeology – not MoLAS).

The new logo takes the conceptual form of London's thumbprint. Coloured layers map the shape of London over time, reflecting the ever-changing, diverse and dynamic make up of London and Londoners, past, present and future. It links the Museum's three venues as destinations united in a single mission to inspire a passion for London.

Heritage Lottery Fund grants

An award of £5m from the Heritage Lottery Fund will enable the National Maritime Museum to display more of the material in its archive through the creation of a new state-of-the-art gallery and exhibition spaces, with a new entrance directly from Greenwich Park, improving the way the museum relates to its surroundings and the rest of the Greenwich World Heritage Site.

The HLF will also give £1.5m to the restoration of Crossness Pumping Station, opened in 1865, and now a Grade-I-listed building described by Nikolaus Pevsner as a masterpiece of engineering; a Victorian cathedral of ironwork. Abandoned in the 1950s, when the building and engines were left to suffer considerable vandalism and decay, the pumping station is now managed by the Crossness Engines Trust. The total cost of the restoration project is £2.7m. Due to start in early 2009, it will include the creation of a new exhibition exploring the social history of public health, pollution and

the environment. English Heritage is giving £150,000 towards the repair of the buildings and pumping engines as a step towards removing the buildings from the Heritage at Risk Register. (source: Salon)

Publication on Metropolitan slipware

A new report, *The Harlow Pottery Industries*, by Wally Davey and Helen Walker, with contributions by Richard Bartlett, Mike Hughes and Alan Vince, examines four groups of Metropolitan slipware, with the aim of characterising the products and enabling Harlow Metropolitan slipware found at consumer sites to be identified and more closely examined. Covered in more summary form are the evidence for a medieval industry, a typology of the 15th- to 16th-century transitional wares and a typology of the black-glazed wares. There are also sections on technology and how the industry was organised. The discovery of a large body of documentary evidence for the Harlow potters has shed light on many aspects of the study, including the sources of raw materials.

Tebbutt Research Fund

Grants are available towards research into any aspect of the Wealden iron industry, or subjects pertaining to it. It is anticipated that some £100 plus will be available from the Fund. Applicants, who can be individuals or groups, should write a letter giving details of themselves, together with relevant information about the research envisaged, to David Brown, Hon. Sec. Wealden Iron Research Group, 2 West Street Farm Cottages, Maynards Green, Heathfield, Sussex TN21 0DG, by 31st March 2009.

Corrections

We are grateful to a sharp-eyed reader for sending us the following corrections to the *Excavation Round-up* for 2007: p. 17: Kew Bridge Road is in Hounslow, not Hammersmith and Fulham, p. 19: Hounslow – Chiswick High Road is in postal district Chiswick W4, p. 38: Balham High Road is in Wandsworth, not Waltham Forest, p. 39: it's the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, not Institute.

Diary

January

13 (7.30 p.m.) Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society. 'Excavations at Drapers Gardens' by Neil Hawkins. The Housing Co-op Hall, 106 The Cut, SE1.
13 (8 p.m.) Hendon & District Archaeological Society. 'An exploration of the Western Desert of Egypt' by Nicole Douek. Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley N3.
16 (7 p.m.) City of London Archaeological Society. 'The Archaeology of Nazareth and its hinterland from the 1st century BC to the 13th century AD' by Ken Dark. St Katharine Church Hall, Leadenhall Street, London EC3.
28 (6 p.m.) Gresham College. 'The Tudor Ports of London: Richard Hakluyt: London's role in navigation and history' by Anthony Payne. Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn, EC1.

February

4 (8 p.m.) Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society. 'The classic Post Office. The GPO from 1900 to 1969' by Paul Wood. St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell.
9 (7.45 p.m.) West Essex Archaeological Group. 'Museums and Archaeology' by Hedley Swain. Sixth Form Block, Woodford County High School, High Road, Woodford Green.
10 (7.30 p.m.) Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society. 'Industries of Southwark, Bermondsey and Rotherhithe' by Stephen Humphrey. The Housing Co-op Hall, 106 The Cut, SE1.
10 (8 p.m.) Hendon & District Archaeological Society. 'The building of the Underground' by Tony Earle. Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley N3.
12 (8 p.m.) Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society. 'Archaeology of the Bee Garden and Chobham Common' by Isobel Ellis. Mayo Hall, United Reformed Church, Union Street/Eden Street, Kingston.
13 (8 p.m.) Richmond Archaeological Society. 'Drapers Gardens: a once in a lifetime Roman site in the City of London' by Neil Hawkins. Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond.
22 (3 p.m.) Peckham Society. 'Recent archaeology in Southwark' by Christopher Constable. Goose Green Centre, St John's Church, Goose Green, East Dulwich SE22.

March

4 (8 p.m.) Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society. AGM followed by talk by Jon Cotton. St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell.
4 (8 p.m.) Orpington & District Archaeological Society. 'Excavation of an

Olympic Site' by Gary Brown. The Priory, Church Hill, Orpington.

9 (7.45 p.m.) West Essex Archaeological Group. AGM followed by Presidential Address. Sixth Form Block, Woodford County High School, High Road, Woodford Green.

10 (7.30 p.m.) Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society. Recent local archaeological and historical work by various speakers. The Housing Co-op Hall, 106 The Cut, SE1.

10 (8 p.m.) Hendon & District Archaeological Society. Subject and speaker to be announced. Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley N3.

12 (6.30 p.m.) London & Middlesex Archaeological Society. 'Forging the Railway – archaeologists investigate stations, viaducts and railway works' by Andrew Westman. Terrace Room, Museum of London.

12 (8 p.m.) Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society. 'The excavation at the Leper Hospital, St Mary Magdalene, Winchester' by Julie Wileman. Mayo Hall, United Reformed Church, Union Street/Eden Street, Kingston.

13 (8 p.m.) Richmond Archaeological Society. 'Gathering Time: towards a history of the Neolithic in southern Britain' by Alex Bayliss. Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond.

14 (8 p.m.) Hendon & District Archaeological Society. tba. Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley N3.

April

1 (8 p.m.) Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society. 'Delftware and stoneware of south London' by Brian Bloice. St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell.

3 (8 p.m.) Richmond Archaeological Society. 'A history of the Bayeux Tapestry' by Carola Hicks. Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond.

14 (7.30 p.m.) Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society. 'Excavations at a Greenwich tide mill' by Simon Davis and Andy Dakin. The Housing Co-op Hall, 106 The Cut, SE1.

14 (8 p.m.) Hendon & District Archaeological Society. tba. Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley N3.

20 (7.45 p.m.) West Essex Archaeological Group. 'The Archaeology of the Fens' by Tim Reynolds. Sixth Form Block, Woodford County High School, High Road, Woodford Green.

Conferences

LAMAS 46th Annual Conference of London Archaeologists, 11 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., Saturday 14 March at Museum of London Docklands. Lectures on recent work and

London Icons. Tickets price £8 (LAMAS members), £10 (non-members) from Jon Cotton, Early Department Museum of London, London Wall, EC2Y 5HN. Cheques should be payable to LAMAS (please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope).

The Tudor Port of London: An Archaeological Investigation, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 16 May at Museum of London Docklands. Building on the historical research presented in the lecture series at Gresham College, this conference provides an overview of the Tudor port from an archaeological perspective. It looks at the topography of the harbour, its wharves and buildings, its ships and shipping, as well as the evidence for traffic and trade. There will also be presentations on the 'Gresham Ship'. Speakers include: Jens Auer, Geoff Egan, Hazel Forsyth, Damian Goodburn, Phil Magrath, Frank Meddens, Gustav Milne, Geoff Pavitt, Jacqui Pearce and Roy Stephenson. Places are limited. Admission is by ticket only, booked in advance from Gresham College (020) 7831 0575 or by email through enquiries@gresham.ac.uk.

Membership

Individual membership of the Council for British Archaeology, which includes six issues a year of *British Archaeology*, costs £32 p.a.; joint membership with the *London Archaeologist* costs £36 (new CBA members only), full price/renewal price £40 p.a. All prices valid to 31/03/09. See p. 62 or <http://www.britarch.ac.uk/cba/membership/pricelist> for details. Payment should be sent to C.B.A., St Mary's House, Bootham, York, YO30 7BZ (01904 671 417).

Practical archaeology

AOC Archaeology Group. Contact Melissa Melikian, Post-Excavation Manager (020 8843 7380).

London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre. Contact Archive Manager, Roy Stephenson (020 7566 9317).

Croydon & District. Contact Jim Davison, 8 Brentwood Road, South Croydon, CR2 0ND.

Borough of Greenwich. Contact Greenwich Heritage Centre, Building 41, Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, SE18 6SP (020 8854 2452).

Hammersmith & Fulham. Contact Keith Whitehouse, 85 Rannoch Road, W6 9SX (020 7385 3723).

Kingston. Enquiries to 020 8546 5386.

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. Contact Finds Manager, Märit Gaimster (020 7639 9091).

Surrey. Enquiries to Rob Poulton, Archaeological Unit Manager, Surrey History Centre, 130 Goldsworth Road, Woking GU21 1ND (01483 594 634).