

Bibliographical Notes.

The following publications have items of local interest :

Oxoniensia, VIII & IX (1943-44), pp. 1-18. W. J. Arkell contributes "Palaeoliths from the Wallingford Fan-Gravels" in which he describes the accessions to the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford from Rumbold's Copse north of Ewelme, and Blenheim Farm in Newnham Murren. He gives drawings of most of the specimens, compares them with other material from the same neighbourhood in the Ashmolean and Pitt-Rivers Museums and provides a distribution map. Chronologically the finds fit in with the European glacial sequences of the Lower, Middle and Upper Acheulian periods.

Yorkshire Archaeological Journal, XXXVI (part 143, 1946), pp. 349-356. John Salmon discusses "Beakhead Ornament in Norman Architecture" in which he describes over 120 examples including those in Berkshire at Avington, Catmore, Compton Beauchamp, Reading Abbey, Shellingford and Wantage. It appears that this type of Norman decorative carving is very largely confined to the two districts of York (40 examples) and Oxford (33 examples), with a minor concentration in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. Beakhead ornament he divides into the following: 1. true beakhead; 2. wide beakhead; 3. grotesque, and 4. conventional beakhead. The Avington example is considered to show both the "true" and the "wide" type in the chancel arch and on the unfinished vaulting of the chancel. The example from Reading Abbey, however, is too worn to identify its type with certainty.

Transactions of the Newbury District Field Club, VIII (1945), pp. 237-300, includes articles on medieval roads between Abingdon, Newbury and Hungerford and between Newbury and Beedon; on stone hammers in the Newbury Museum and on Berkshire place names. There are also printed a series of addresses delivered to the Club by the late Mr. H. J. E. Peake, President, on folklore of some prehistoric remains, on ecological surveys, on recent developments at the Newbury Museum, on archaeological planning and on the earliest inhabitants of Newbury.

Proceedings of the Geologists' Association, LVI (1945), pp. 228-230. Description of the sites visited during a field meeting at Pangbourne and Sulham, May 5th, 1945.

Ib., LVII (1946), pp. 164-171. Description of the sites visited during a field meeting at Reading on May 4th, 1946, and a discussion on the genesis of the Reading Beds near Reading.

The Archaeological Journal, CI (1944), pp. 1-16. The Technique of Air Archaeology. D. N. Riley records his experience during wartime flying and the advantages gained by archaeology from the study of air photographs. He discusses the geological and agricultural factors which tend to limit the terrain favourable for aerial study. Air-archaeology must be used intelligently when it is of the greatest value but it is misleading to expect too much of it; the results do not in any way diminish the importance of sound field-work and excavation which are not superseded. The author acknowledges the classification of O. G. S. Crawford of the types of sites, according to the means by which they were revealed and supplements this classification in this paper with diagrams and 13 aerial photographs; the latter include 7 in Oxon and one of a shadow-site on Green Down, Childrey.