

## BERKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

### Report of the Council for 1969

1. THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society was held at Reading University on 26th April, 1969. Dr Slade took the chair, supported by the Hon. Secretary. The Annual Report and Accounts for 1968 were adopted on the proposition of Mr Wymer, seconded by Mr Over. Dr Pike seconded Dr Kaines-Thomas in proposing the re-election of Dr Slade as President, this motion being carried by acclamation. Miss Few, seconded by Mr Copsey, proposed the re-election of the Vice-Presidents with the additional names of Mr C. L. Loyd and Mr Michael St John Hornby. The other officers, being proposed and seconded, were re-elected with the addition of Mr H. Copsey as Deputy Secretary. Under Rule 5, Mr Kaines-Thomas, Mrs Feeney and Mrs Pike, due to retire from the Council, offered themselves for re-election and Mr F. Butler, Mr Murphy and Dr Dumbleton for election, and being proposed and seconded from the floor were elected to office. Miss Wood did not seek re-election to the Council and her work as an Hon. Editor of the Journal was acknowledged.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 20th April, 1968, having been circulated, were adopted and signed. Mrs Shelagh Bond, M.A., F. R. Hist. S., was elected a member of the Society; Dr H. R. Pitt (Vice-Chancellor of Reading University) and Lady Stenton were elected Honorary Members.

Dr C. F. Slade then delivered his Presidential address entitled: 'Reading in the early 17th Century'. (See Section 11).

#### 2. MEMBERSHIP

<i>Hon.</i>	<i>Corporate</i>	<i>Ordinary</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Total</i>
8	15	451	6	474

We regret to record the deaths of the following: Miss M. E. Hurst (1964); Mrs Jakeman (1959); Mr W. T. Kettleton (1966); Mrs Mary E. Knight (1967); Mr Michael Le Sueur (1946); Mrs Morley (1937). Memoirs on some of these late members are to be found in Section 14.

3. THE SOCIETY. Overall the year has been a most active one, our Meetings, Excursions and Field-work have been well supported, 36 new members were added to our numbers.

4. FIELDWORK AND EXCAVATION. The Field Research Group, in conjunction with the Maidenhead

and District Archaeological and Historical Society and under the direction of Dr C. F. Slade, completed a 4th Season on the medieval site at Spencer's Farm, Maidenhead. Members assisted at the Reading Museum's excavations at Long Wittenham, Appleford, Bray and Knowl Hill. Observation of gravel extraction at Lower Mount Farm, Cookham, by Mr Copsey and Mr Hyde resulted in the finding of palaeolithic hand-axes.

5. REPORT OF THE BERKSHIRE INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP. During the summer visits were made to several industrial monuments. The first visit was to two mills, Barton Mill, Basing, Longbridge Mill, Sherfield-on-Loddon, and to the Basingstoke Canal. The second was a walk round Newbury under the guidance of Mr Fred Roberts. Another excursion with John Gray was made to the Buscot Park Estate, which was a highly industrialised agricultural unit in the 1870s. The most ambitious day out was spent in examining the length of the Berks. and Wilts. Canal from Abingdon to Semington.

Field work is under way on many projects. One group is busy recording Newbury, another is examining the bell founding industry in Berkshire, others are recording brickworks. Some of our members are attending the W.E.A. Course on Industrial Archaeology which is aimed at techniques as well as the artefacts of various industries.

#### 6. PRESERVATION OF BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS.

The number of cases of alteration or demolition of listed buildings in the County brought to our notice by the Ministry and the County Planning Department has now become too large to mention individually. A sub-Committee of our Council was formed to deal with important cases, including the County Development Plan, and some half-dozen town and village Plans; the members met three times during the year, reporting afterwards to Council. A representative also attended the County Meeting in respect of the scheme to form a North Wessex Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; the plan of this area as it applies to our County has now been issued. Concern has been felt in many quarters over plans to extract gravel in the Thames and Kennet Valleys, particularly in respect of the construction of the M4 Motorway, and our support has been given to the proposals put forward by the Reading Forum and others.

## REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR 1969

7. FINANCE. The Society's income from subscriptions and donations has shown a satisfactory increase during the year, and once more a welcome surplus from excursions and Congress has helped us to meet rising costs. Every effort has been made to derive the maximum from investment of our funds, and this benefit is greatly assisted by the early payment of members' subscriptions each January. Gratitude is again due to those who feel able to include a donation, however modest, with their remittances.

For the first time, the accounts of the Berkshire Field Research Group are included with those of the Society.

8. PERSONAL AND OTHER SOCIETIES. The British Association of Numismatic Societies held its annual congress in Reading University from 28th-30th March. Dr Slade gave the opening address entitled 'The University and the Amateur.' Several of our members joined in the proceedings and the excursions which followed. The Annual Meeting of the C.P.R.E. was held at Windsor Castle on 12th April. Dr Fletcher resigned as Chairman of the Berkshire Branch after three years' active participation in C.P.R.E. affairs; he remains a member of their Executive Committee. Mr. John Wymer has been investigating deposits in the Clacton Channel on behalf of the University of Chicago.

Mr D. B. Connah has drawn up for the Scout Association a new syllabus for the Scout 'Archaeologist' Proficiency Badge and has written a booklet on the badge.

9. EXHIBITIONS. Mr J. J. Wymer and the Wokingham Society held a one-day display of historical material relating to that old forest town on 25th January. There was a very large attendance of visitors, and it was felt that such a collection should have been on view for a longer period, but there were problems of security.

Mr L. Over with the Maidenhead and District Archaeological and Historical Society arranged an exhibition of Roman material in Maidenhead Town Hall from 21st June until 5th July. It showed very effectively the wealth of Roman remains in East Berkshire and was backed by a number of lectures. Mr and Mrs Howse were responsible for arranging an excellent display of Stanford antiquities and local by-gones during the Stanford-in-the-Vale Festival on 7th June. Mr E. R. Manley and the Hendreds Society arranged a showing of the late Miss Lavinia Smith's remarkable collection of domestic, agricultural and other articles during a week devoted to 'The Heritage of the Hendreds' from 20th September. Mr Manley wrote an excellent descriptive account of East Hendred for the occasion.

10. PUBLICATIONS. Volume 63 of *The Berkshire Archaeological Journal* was issued to members and

other subscribers early in April. Material is in hand for the next Volume, which is to be expected in the summer of 1970. The British Committee for Historic Towns published their first volume of maps and plans of towns during June. This volume contained an important account of Reading with a main plan printed in six colours and others showing the site, situation and boundaries of wards and parishes with a 10,000 word summary by Dr C. F. Slade. Miss Jasmine Howse issued two parts of 'Hinton Waldrist through the Centuries' in her Village Record series. Mr David Disbury issued a Guide on and around White Horse Hill. The Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society devoted a whole volume of their Records (Vol. XVIII pt. 3) to a Report on the Ivinghoe Beacon Excavations, written by our Vice-President, Mrs M. A. Cotton, in collaboration with Professor S. S. Frere.

### 11. LECTURES

11th January

Mr J. G. Landels, M.A., Ph.D., on *Greek and Roman Medicine—the Practical Side*.

15th February

Mr G. de G. Sieveking, M.A., F.S.A., on *Excavations at High Lodge, Mildenhall, Suffolk*.

22nd March

Mr Cecil Farthing, O.B.E., B.A., F.S.A., on *Change in the Historic Town 1948-1968*.

26th April

Annual General Meeting of the Society: Dr C. F. Slade, F.R.Hist.S., F.S.A., on *Reading in the Early 17th Century*.

11th October

Mr Leonard A. Hackett, O.B.E., on *The English Almshouse, Its Past, Present and Future*.

1st November

Mr Frederick Sharpe, F.S.A., on *Recent Researches Amongst Ancient Church Bells*.

6th December

Mr Norman Garrard, M.A., on *Fyfield: Some Notes on the History and Buildings of the Village*.

### 12. EXCURSIONS

9th April

Whole day to little known places in London.

17th May

Whole day to the Roman Villa at Fishbourne and Chichester.

14th June

Whole day to prehistoric and historic sites in the S.E. Oxfordshire area.

12th July

Half-day to Silchester, Stratfield Mortimer, Kingsclere and Burghclere Chapel.

1st-5th September

Congress at Norwich (see report in Section 16). All the Excursions and Congress were arranged and directed by Mrs Slade.

## THE BERKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

13. **HOSPITALITY.** By courtesy of the Vice-Chancellor and Council of Reading University we continue to enjoy the use of a lecture theatre in the London Road portion of the University. The Director of Reading Museum kindly arranged accommodation for some Council and sub-Committee meetings, and we owe further thanks to Dr and Mrs Slade for allowing other sub-committee meetings to be held in their house.

### 14. OBITUARIES

*Mrs Elizabeth Morley, L.R.A.M.*, the widow of our former Hon. Secretary, Henry T. Morley, joined the Society in 1937 and assisted her husband in his many activities. After Mr Morley's death she was instrumental in our receiving much of his collections, including his brass rubbings, slides, Journals and books, which have been of very great value to us and others. Mrs Morley was made an Honorary Member and continued to interest herself in our affairs until her passing. She was an accomplished musician.

*Mr Claude Michael Le Sueur* joined the Society in 1946 and was elected to our Council the following year, being still a serving member at the time of his death on the 9th May. He was a railway engineer by profession, a member of the Jersey Society and the Fellowship of Watlington House. Very interested in railway history and travel, he did much to promote the aims of our Society both in organising lectures and at Excursions and Congresses.

15. **ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY.** The additions this year were very many. We received the usual publications by exchange with the addition of ten volumes of TOR from the Royal University Library, Uppsala, and we made a number of purchases. Gifts included:

1. *Hinton Waldrist through the Centuries, parts 1 and 2.* By Miss Jasmine Howse.
2. *House of Lords Record Office Report* (H. of L. Memorandum No. 40).
3. *A List of Representative Peers for Scotland, 1707-1963, and for Ireland, 1800-1961* (H. of L. Memorandum No. 39), from Mr M. F. Bond.
4. *Berkshire Field Research Group Bulletin No. 7.* January, 1969.

5. *Report of the Committee of Enquiry into the arrangements for the protection of Field Monuments*, H.M.S.O. From the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works.
6. *A History of the Parish of Shaw-cum-Donnington*, by Mr W. A. D. Morris.
7. *The National Association of Almshouses, Year Book for 1969*, from Mr L. A. Hackett.
8. *Numismatic Society of Ireland; Occasional Papers Nos. 5-9*, from Mr W. A. Seaby.
9. *Magna Carta in the Historiography of the 16th and 17th Centuries*, by Sir Herbert Butterfield, F.B.A., The Stenton Lecture, 1968, from the University of Reading.
10. *On and around White Horse Hill, a Guide*, by David G. Disbury.
11. *A Guide to Old Windsor*, from Mr R. A. Willis.

16. **THE CONGRESS AT NORWICH, 1ST-5TH SEPTEMBER.** The party journeyed to Ickworth Hall, Bury St Edmunds, and thence to Wymondham Abbey and to Norwich, occupying two hotels in the Thorpe Road. On Tuesday a tour was made of the City of Norwich guided by Mrs Miller and Mr Flood. An extended visit to the Cathedral was followed by a visit to the Great Hospital of St Helen. The afternoon was spent in the Bridewell and Castle Museums, ending in St Peter Mancroft Church. On Wednesday a tour of Broadland included Ranworth Church, Caister Castle and then to Blickling Hall, passing on to the north coast to see Blakeney Church, returning to Norwich via Cley, Sheringham and Cromer. On Thursday we proceeded to the ruins of the Saxon Cathedral at North Elmham and the excavations of the Saxon village then in progress. We passed on to visit Castle Acre Priory and had our picnic lunch inspecting Castle Rising. The afternoon was spent at Holkham Hall, returning via Walsingham and passing East Barsham Manor house. Before the journey home on Friday we had a further opportunity to see something of old Norwich in the market place area; then via East Dereham and Swaffham we arrived at Ely for lunch, with a visit to the Cathedral. We continued through the Fen country via Cambridge and Royston, taking tea at Baldock, where the occasion was seized to make a modest presentation to Mrs Slade as an expression of thanks for arranging such a varied and interesting tour, also to our coach driver who brought us safely along busy roads and narrow byeways.

F.M.U.

**BERKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 1969

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1968						
41 Printing and Stationery .. .. .	40	19	8			
33 Postages and Telephones .. .. .	36	15	10			
5 Purchases of Publications .. .. .	13	1	11			
<i>Subscriptions Paid:</i>						
S.P.A.B. .. .. .	2	2	0			
Friends of St Georges .. .. .	10	0	0			
English Place Name Society .. .. .	3	3	0			
Friends of Reading University .. .. .	5	5	0			
British Records Association .. .. .	1	10	0			
Berks Local History Committee .. .. .	2	2	0			
Friends of Abingdon .. .. .	2	2	0			
C.B.A. 9th Regional Group .. .. .	12	6	0			
C.B.A. .. .. .	5	0	0			
20 Lecturers' Expenses .. .. .	22	6	6			
10 Working Projector .. .. .	25	8	2			
6 Rent of Room—Watlington House .. .. .	6	0	0			
6 Rent of Lecture Room—Reading University .. .. .	25	0	0			
5 Insurance .. .. .	7	10	0			
5 Gratuities .. .. .	5	8	3			
3 Auditors Fees .. .. .	4	0	0			
— Grant—Reading Museum .. .. .	3	3	0			
— Wreath .. .. .	10	0	0			
— Cheque Book .. .. .	1	11	6			
— Secretary's Expenses C.B.A. .. .. .	10	0	0			
2 Depreciation of Typewriter .. .. .	15	0	0			
593 Balance carried forward .. .. .	2	7	6			
£756	562	11	3			
1968	767	8	7			
513 Subscriptions .. .. .				5	10	0
15 Donations .. .. .				9	0	0
<i>Dividends and Interest Received:</i>						
5½% National Development Bonds (Gross) .. .. .				5	10	0
4½% British Electricity Guaranteed Stock 1967/69 (Gross) .. .. .				9	0	0
14				14	10	0
101 Bank Interest (Gross) .. .. .				103	1	1
— Profit on Redemption of 4½% British Electricity Stock .. .. .				10	3	0
111 Profit on Excursions transferred from Excursion Account .. .. .				80	0	0
2 Sale of Publications (other than Journals) .. .. .				7	1	6
— Unpresented Cheque cancelled .. .. .				2	2	0
£756	767	8	7			
593 Balance brought down .. .. .				562	11	3
£593	562	11	3			
<i>Reserves, Approved by Council</i>						
10 Berks Historic Buildings Fund .. .. .	10	0	0			
25 Excavation Fund .. .. .	25	0	0			
200 Printing Costs, Vol. 64 Journal .. .. .	498	5	11			
Balance being Excess of Income over Expenditure and Reserves	29	5	4			
£593	562	11	3			

Excavation Fund Account

Grant to Spencers Farm Excavation .. .. .	25 0 0	Balance of Fund at 1st January, 1969 .. .. .	80 17 4
Balance of Fund at 31st December, 1969 .. .. .	80 17 4	Transfer from Income and Expenditure Account .. .. .	25 0 0
	<u>£105 17 4</u>		<u>£105 17 4</u>

Excursion Account

Printing and Stationery .. .. .	4 16 0	Profit on Excursions:	
Postages and Telephones .. .. .	4 12 9	London .. .. .	1 0 0
Cheque Book .. .. .	5 0 0	Fishbourne .. .. .	8 5 8
Profit transferred to General Account .. .. .	80 0 0	Oxfordshire .. .. .	5 12 6
		Silchester .. .. .	1 5 6
		Congress .. .. .	73 10 1
	<u>£89 13 9</u>		<u>89 13 9</u>

Journal Account

Printing Vol. 63 .. .. .	732 2 6	Balance of Account at 1st January, 1969 .. .. .	1140 6 4
Stationery .. .. .	2 0 0	Sale of Journals .. .. .	146 18 9
Postages .. .. .	15 18 0	Sale of Offprints .. .. .	1 17 0
Printing Vol. 63 Offprints .. .. .	37 7 6	Additional Provision for Printing Vol. 64 .. .. .	498 5 11
Balance of Account at 31st December, 1969 .. .. .	1000 0 0		
	<u>£1787 8 0</u>		<u>£1787 8 0</u>

Berkshire Historic Buildings Fund

Balance of Fund at 31st December, 1969 .. ..	155	13	6	Balance of Fund at 1st January, 1969 .. ..	137	13	6
				Bank Interest received .. ..	8	0	0
				Transfer from Income and Expenditure Account ..	10	0	0
	<hr/>				<hr/>		
	£155 13 6				£155 13 6		

Berkshire Field Research Group Account

Printing and Stationery .. ..	4	2	6	Balance of Account at 1st January, 1969 .. ..	52	0	4
Postage and Telephones .. ..	6	7	7	Subscriptions .. ..	19	15	0
Subscriptions paid, Berks Joint Committee for Archaeology .. ..			10				
Balance of Account at 31st December, 1969 .. ..	60	15	3				
	<hr/>				<hr/>		
	£71 15 4				£71 15 4		

