

Abstract of Proceedings

ANNUAL REPORT

The Council is pleased to submit its report for the year ending 31st December, 1966.

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL

At the Annual General Meeting held on the 2nd April, 1966, the following officials were elected for the ensuing year:

Chairman	Miss A. F. Estelle Dyke, M.C.S.P.
Vice-Chairman	Mr. H. Robinson, M.A., D.P.A.
Hon. Secretary	Mr. D. Morgan Evans, T.D., LL.B.
Assistant Hon. Secretary (Lectures)	Mr. D. F. Petch, B.A., F.S.A.
Assistant Hon. Secretary (Visits)	Mr. A. G. Hamlin
Hon. Treasurer	Mr. J. S. Collicutt
Hon. Editor of Journal	Mrs. E. K. Berry, M.A.
Hon. Librarian	Mr. P. D. Pocklington, F.L.A.
Hon. Curator	Mr. W. J. Williams, M.A.
Hon. Auditors	Messrs. Walter Conway & Co.
Hon. Secretary to the Trustees of St. John's House	Mr. D. A. Nicholls
Four Members of Council	Mr. J. W. Clarke, Mr. J. D. Seys Llewellyn, Mr. F. Taylor, Mr. K. E. Jermy.

The following Representatives were elected:

Two Members of the Chester Corporation Museum Sub-Committee

Miss A. F. Estelle Dyke and Mr. D. Morgan Evans

(Mr. B. T. Williams replaced Mr. D. Morgan Evans)

Two Representatives to Group 5 Council for British Archaeology

Mr. D. F. Petch and Mr. K. E. Jermy

The Council co-opted Mr. B. T. Williams to the Council as the Representative to the Local History Committee.

PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENTS

The honorary posts of President and Vice-Presidents were reconsidered by Council. Acceptances were received from The President, The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Chester. Vice Presidents:

The Dean of Chester*

The Mayor of Chester*

The Chairman, Cheshire County Council*

The Ven. R. V. H. Burne, M.A., F.S.A., F.R.HIST.S.

F. H. Thompson, M.C., M.A., F.S.A.

* *ex officio*

LECTURES

The time for the 1966-67 series of Winter Lectures was changed from Wednesday evenings to Saturday afternoons as an experiment. The reaction has been favourable and there has been an increase in attendances.

The following lectures were given:

- 5th January: J. V. H. Eames, M.A., F.S.A. Recent Excavations on the Roman "Theatre-Like" Building in Chester.
- 2nd February: H. Robinson, M.A., D.P.A. Cheshire Waterways.
- 2nd March: A. L. Rivet, M.A., F.S.A. The Geography of Roman Britain.
- 2nd April: G. Webster, M.A., PH.D., F.S.A. The Early Roman Advance across the Midlands.
A.M.A.
- 5th November: L. Alcock, M.A., F.S.A. The Archaeology of Arthurian Britain.
- 3rd December: D. E. Hogan, F.R.C.S. British Cast Plate Manufacturers, Ravenhead 1773.

OUTINGS

7th May The Pilkington Glass Museum at St. Helens

Thirty-six members were met by the Assistant Curator Mr. Hogan. The party proceeded to the late medieval Rofford Old Hall for tea.

18th June. The Iron Bridge and Coalbrookdale

Mr. Rix of Birmingham University showed twenty-four members the bridge at Ironbridge, Coalpert, The Coalbrookdale Company's museum and the site of Abram Darby's ironworks, Leighton church and Broseley church.

16th July. Domestic Architecture in Flintshire 15th C. to 18th C.

Sixty-four members led by Mr. F. Taylor visited Tower Hall (mid 15th C.) by kind permission of Mr. J. A. Norman, Fferm (late 16th C.) by kind permission of Mr. J. Wolfe, and Leeswood Hall (18th C.) by kind permission of Mrs. Fairbairn-Eyton J.P. who entertained the members to tea.

3rd September. Waterway Connections of Chester

Forty members led by Mr. H. Robinson examined the waterway connections of Chester by canal, river and sea, including the sites of many of the abandoned parts of Chester on the eastern bank of the Dee. Tea at Thurstaston was followed by the spectacle of the Dee bore.

VISITS TO EXCAVATIONS

Little of the current excavations in Chester were suitable for organised visits. On August 27th seventeen members made a visit with Group 5 of the Council for British Archaeology to excavations by Mr. J. H. Williams at Wilderspool.

On September 1st thirty-five members were shown the progress made with the Amphitheatre by Mr. F. H. Thompson.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Council met five times. In addition to arranging the lecture and outings programmes the following actions were undertaken :

- (a) Payment of £2,500 to the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works in support of the excavation of the Amphitheatre.
- (b) Revision of the Society's Rules for an Extraordinary General Meeting.
- (c) A review of the Honorary Offices following the changes in the Society's Rules.
- (d) Co-opted Dr. R. T. Ackroyd to the Council to act as Secretary upon the death of the Hon. Secretary.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

The Society adopted the New Rules at an extraordinary general meeting on October 1st and these will be printed in the Journal.

OBITUARY

The Society lost Alderman P. H. Lawson and Mr. D. Morgan Evans.

Alderman Lawson was mourned not only as a distinguished antiquary but as a friend. His work as Editor of the Society's Journal was outstanding and his papers hold a vast store of valuable knowledge gathered over many years.

The Society had been excellently served since 1961 by Mr. D. Morgan Evans as a Secretary who gave a large part of his time to the Society. Obituaries will appear in the Journal.

LIBRARY

Borrowings from the Society's library continued at much the same level as in previous years with 21 members borrowing 180 volumes, compared with 159 volumes borrowed by 18 members in 1965. Whilst one would naturally like to see more members borrowing books, those figures do not fully indicate the actual use being made of the collections, since research work undertaken on the premises cannot be evaluated statistically. During the year the City Archivist has spent many hours working on the manuscripts, whilst Mr. Nuttall made considerable use of the book and pamphlet collections in preparing his paper on the history of Chester printers.

During the year 28 volumes were rebound at a cost of £28 14s. 0d. which brings the amount of money spent on rebinding by the Library Committee since it took over the custody of the Society's library to over one thousand pounds.

FRODSHAM STREET EXCAVATIONS, 1966

Excavations were carried out January—August in advance of re-development (since postponed). The discoveries included the identification for the first time of the Flavian ditch which accompanied the turf rampart.

HERONBRIDGE EXCAVATIONS, 1966

Members of the Society, in association with the staff of the Grosvenor Museum, carried out excavations on the west side of Watling Street with the aid of a grant from the Carnegie United Kingdom Trustees.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1966

1965			1965		
£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	Subscriptions	339 9 6		1 Rent of Lecture Room	1 0 0
	Arrears	10 10 0		Printing, Stationery	
373	Advance	9 5 0		G. R. Griffiths—	
		359 4 6		Journal	314 10 0
11	Journal—Catalogue Sales	54 11 3	29	Stationery,	
2	Repayment of Income Tax	1 9 6		Printing	36 8 7
4	Receipts from Outings	7 4 0			350 18 7
—	Unused Cheques Chester Branch	10		Postage, Petty Cash	
2	Donations			Hon. Treasurer	10 0 0
				Hon. Secretary	12 3 3
			18	Hon. Editor	12 5 0
					34 8 0
	Deficiency on Year	6 12 9		— National Trust Donation.....	5 5 0
392		£429 2 10		1 Fire Insurance Library	12 6
				8 Subscriptions to Kindred	
				Societies	8 8 0
				11 Lecturers' Expenses	10 10 6
				4 Projectionist's Fees	3 0 0
				6 Advertising.....	6 16 0
				— Book Token	2 2 0
				6 Sundries	3 7 0
				— Floral Tributes	2 15 0
			308	Surplus for Year	
			392		£429 2 10

Balance at Bank 31/12/65 805 2 2

Deficiency for year 6 12 9

Balance at Bank 31/12/66 798 9 5

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1966

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Accumulated Fund 31/12/65	1305 2 2	Library at Insurance Value	500 0 0
Loss Deficiency for Year	6 12 9	Balance at Bank	798 9 5
	£1298 9 5		£1298 9 5

We have examined the above Balance Sheet and the foregoing Statement of Receipts and Payments, and in our opinion it is correctly recorded.

(Signed) WALTER CONWAY & CO.
Chartered Accountants
Hon. Auditors

Chester. 16th February, 1967.

EXCAVATIONS ACCOUNT—YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1966

<i>Receipts</i>		£	s.	d.
Ministry of Public Buildings Works		950	0	0
Chester Corporation	200	0	0
		<hr/>		
		£1150	0	0
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<i>Payments</i>		£	s.	d.
Labour Costs	634	6	4
Hire of Machinery	89	1	10
Sundry Excavating Items	17	0	9
Travelling Expenses	57	2	10
Surplus for Year	352	8	3
		<hr/>		
		£1150	0	0
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We have examined the above receipts and payments account with the vouchers and Bank Statements and in our opinion it is correctly recorded.

(Signed) WALTER CONWAY & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Hon. Auditors

Chester, 16th February, 1967

Balance at Bank 31/12/1965	119	2	5
Surplus for year	352	8	3
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Balance at Bank 31/12/1966	£471	10	8
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SAINT JOHN'S HOUSE ACCOUNT

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31st JANUARY, 1967

		£	s.	d.
Bank Interest	143	7	3
Investment Interest	196	15	8
Repayment of Income Tax	53	4	6
Redemption of 4½% Defence Bonds	1050	0	0
Balance Carried Down	1056	12	7
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		£2500	0	0
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		£	s.	d.
Ministry of Public Buildings, Works	2500	0	0
		<hr/>		
		£2500	0	0
		<hr/> <hr/>		

We have examined the above Statement of Receipts and Payments together with the Bank Books and find it to be correctly recorded.

(Signed) WALTER CONWAY & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Hon. Auditors

Chester, 16th February, 1967

Balance 31/1/66	4453	1	0
Deficit for year	1056	12	7
		<hr/>		
		£3396	8	5
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