

## NOTES.

[Under this heading the Editor will be pleased to insert notes and short articles relative to discoveries and other matters of interest to the history and archæology of the county. All communications intended for this section should be addressed to Castle Arch, Guildford.]

### **An Early Iron Age Oven at St. Martha's Hill, near Guildford.**

—To the list of sites where the destruction of a find of archæological importance has taken place before any adequate record of it could be made, must be added yet another.

In 1933, during the building of the garage of a new house (named "St. Martha's Priory", though no Priory appears to have existed anywhere near the site) in a field at the foot of the western slope of St. Martha's Hill, certain evidence of Early Iron Age occupation was discovered. The find apparently consisted of an oven, built into the sand that here constitutes the subsoil, and at a maximum depth of about six feet from the present surface, but all trace of it was destroyed before news of it was reported and an inspection could be made. Thanks to the energetic measures taken by Miss Heath, when news of the discovery at length reached this Society, some of the objects found have been salvaged and certain particulars obtained from the workmen employed at the site.

The find consisted, apparently, of a circular oven of about 4 ft. diameter, and with a vaulted horizontal flue leading into it. The flue is reported to have been about 18 in. wide and of about the same height. Part of the vaulting of the flue was found *in situ*, and was formed of triangular loom-weights, some sixteen of which were dug out and a few of them have been preserved. In the flue, which, like the circular chamber, contained a great amount of charcoal, was found one complete vessel of hand-made pottery. This was subsequently smashed and thrown away, but Miss Heath was able to recover some of the fragments, and Fig. 1 shows its probable appearance (the pieces required to link the base with the remainder of the vessel were not recovered, so that the height is conjectural).

Among the pieces recovered are two fragments of another vessel of similar, but more heavily gritted, ware.

The loom-weights had been employed as *voussoirs* to construct

the vault, but, being of too sharp an angle to fit the required curve, appear to have been packed with mud to fill the gaps between each of them. Traces of this mud, baked to the hardness of a mortar, are still to be seen adhering in places to the one loom-weight examined (Pl. XIII). The loom-weights are pierced for suspension at all three corners, and have the unusual feature of a four-petal rosette ornament on each triangular face. This decoration appears to have been formed with the thumb, by pressing it into the wet clay when the objects were being made. One angle of each weight is heavily blackened, bearing out the statement of the workmen as to the position in which they were found. They are of two sizes, that figured being one of the larger and measuring 6 in.  $\times$  6 in.  $\times$  6 in., the corners being rounded off.

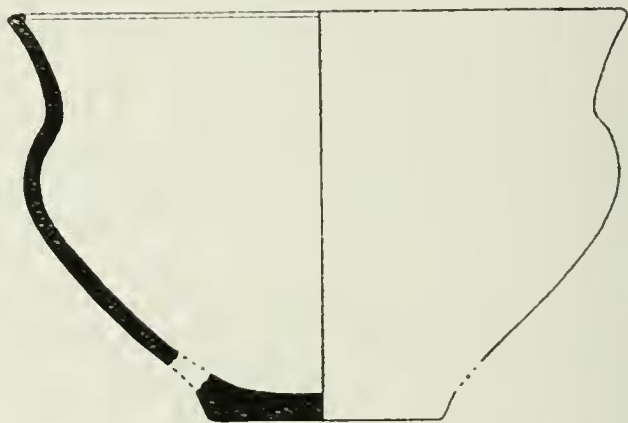


FIG. 1.—EARLY IRON AGE POT FROM ST. MARTHA'S HILL, OVEN SITE.  
( $\frac{1}{4}$  actual size)

*Pottery ; Fig. 1.*

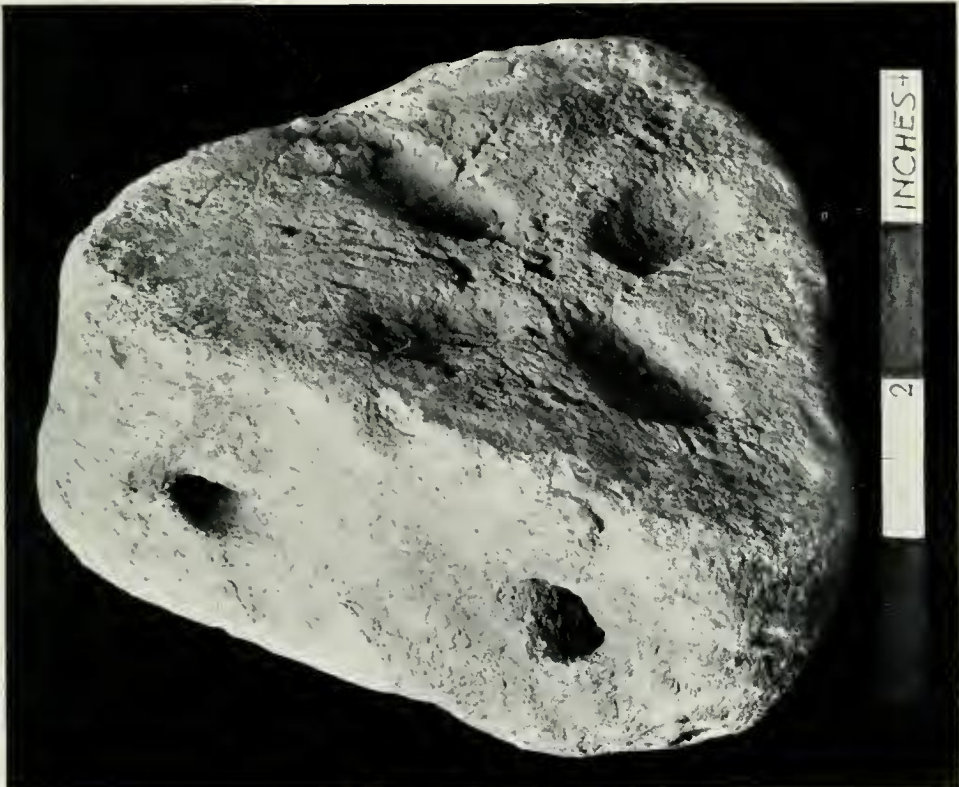
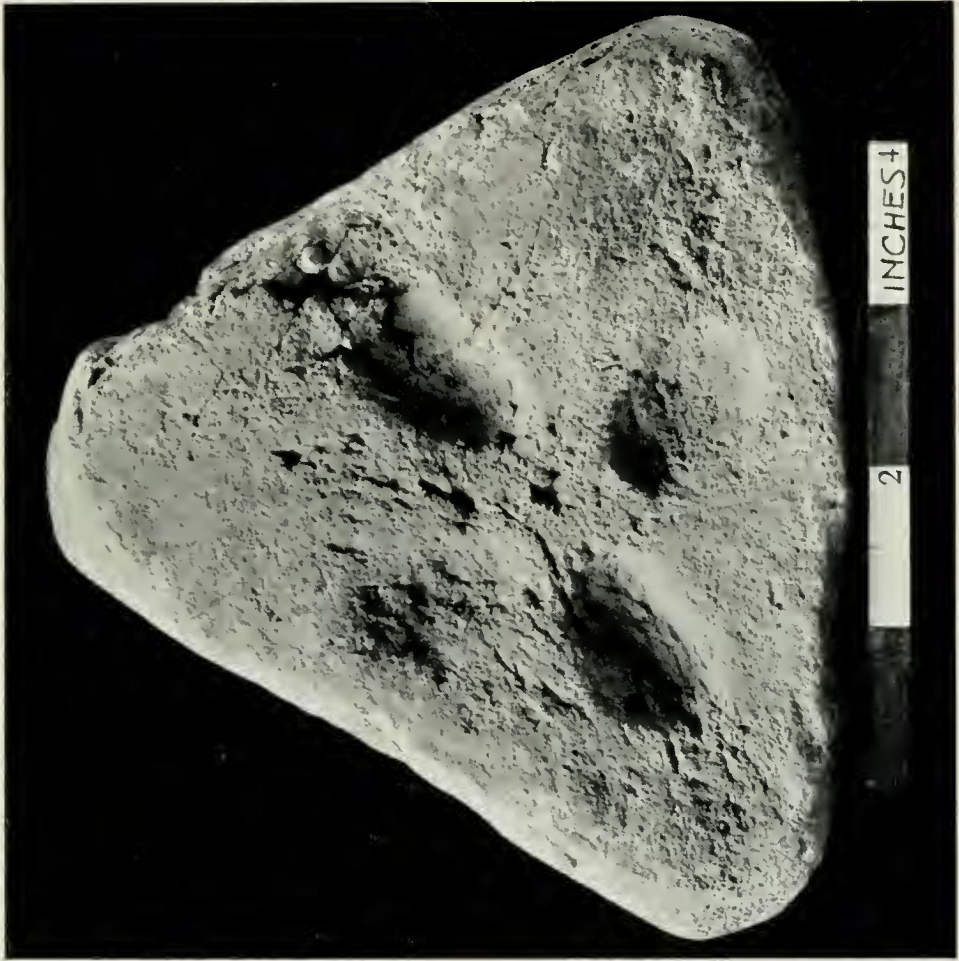
This vessel is of a greyish, slightly gritted ware, with a red-brown surfacing inside and out, the surfaces being of smooth "soapy" texture. It is hand-made.

[The two separate fragments, not figured, are redder in colour, and without the smooth surface. Also, more heavily gritted.]

In form and ware this vessel is similar to some from Park Brow, Sussex, in the British Museum, but the shoulder below the tall rim is not so pronounced as it is with those from Park Brow, which have a sharp angle at the junction of rim and shoulder.

Apparently the find registers a new site of Iron Age A occupation for this part of Surrey, and suggests the advisability of some further, more scientific, investigations being undertaken in this vicinity.

Since writing the above note, I have been able to inspect the fragmentary urn shown on Fig. 2. This urn, now in private possession, was found within a few yards of the oven described above.



EARLY IRON AGE LOOM-WEIGHT.  
From site on St. Martha's Hill.



*Fig. 2.*

The upper part of a large hand-made urn of coarse grey ware, with reddish surfacing (similar to the two fragments found with the oven, and possibly part of the same vessel).

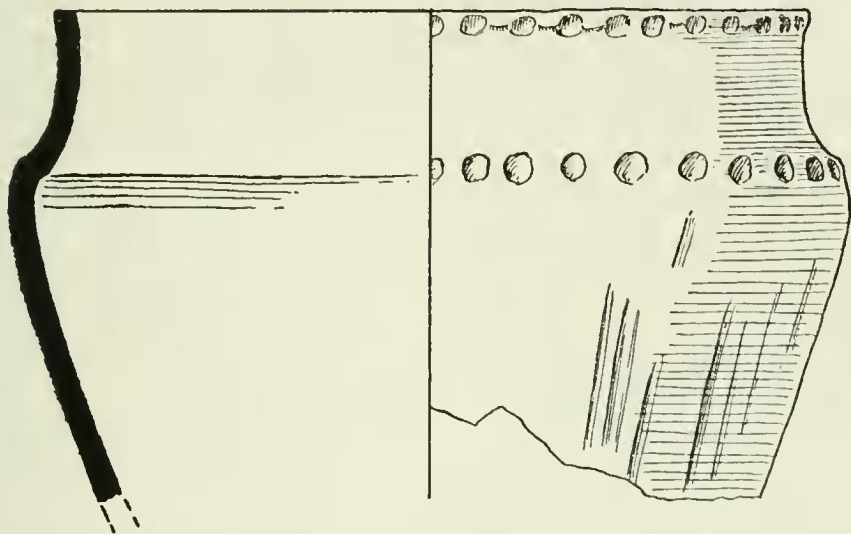


FIG. 2.—COARSE GREY WARE WITH RED BROWN SURFACING NOT GRITTED.  
(PARK BROW TYPE.)  
( $\frac{1}{4}$  actual size)

The decoration consists of "finger-tip" indentations round the rim and along the shoulder.

Similar vessels were found in the excavation of the Iron Age A Settlement at Park Brow, Sussex. This additional urn serves to strengthen the comparisons already drawn between these two Early Iron Age sites.

A. W. G. LOWTHER.

**The London-Lewes Roman Road.**—In March 1935 two sections were dug on the Titsey-Tatsfield parish boundary.

*Section No. 1.* One mile east of Titsey Church, and 60 yards south of the Pilgrims' Way.

The *agger* is very conspicuous at this point, standing 4 to 5 feet high on its western side, though practically level with the existing ground surface on the eastern, owing to the conformation of the ground, which slopes from east to west.

To dig a full-width section would have entailed cutting through the boundary hedge between two farms. This hedge, which is also the parish boundary, is situate about 2 to 3 feet inside the eastern edge of the metalled road, which fact was ascertained by a number of borings. As it was necessary to leave the hedge intact the eastern 5 or 6 feet of the *agger* had to be left undug.

The *agger* is covered, westward of the hedge, by a thick growth of bushes, and there is an accumulation of 10 to 12 inches of soil over the metal.

The road is constructed of unbroken flint, mixed with gravel, presumably for binding purposes. This gravel occurs right down to the bottom of the flint bed, which is 15 inches thick in the centre, thinning off towards the sides. The full width of the flint bed is 22 feet. The surface is in very good condition, with a pronounced camber.

Below the flint there is a chalky layer, considerably lighter in colour than the natural subsoil. Whether this is an artificial foundation, or merely soil washed down from the chalk slopes to the north is a matter of opinion. It might be either.

This section was inspected by a party of members of the S.A.S., conducted by Mr. E. Hart, on March 23, 1935.

*Section No. 2.*—About half a mile north of No. 1, on a narrow terrace just below the modern road from Botley Hill to Westerham, a few yards S.E. from the corner of Church Hill.

The parish boundary at this point is carried by the modern road, but both eastward and westward it coincides with the Roman road.

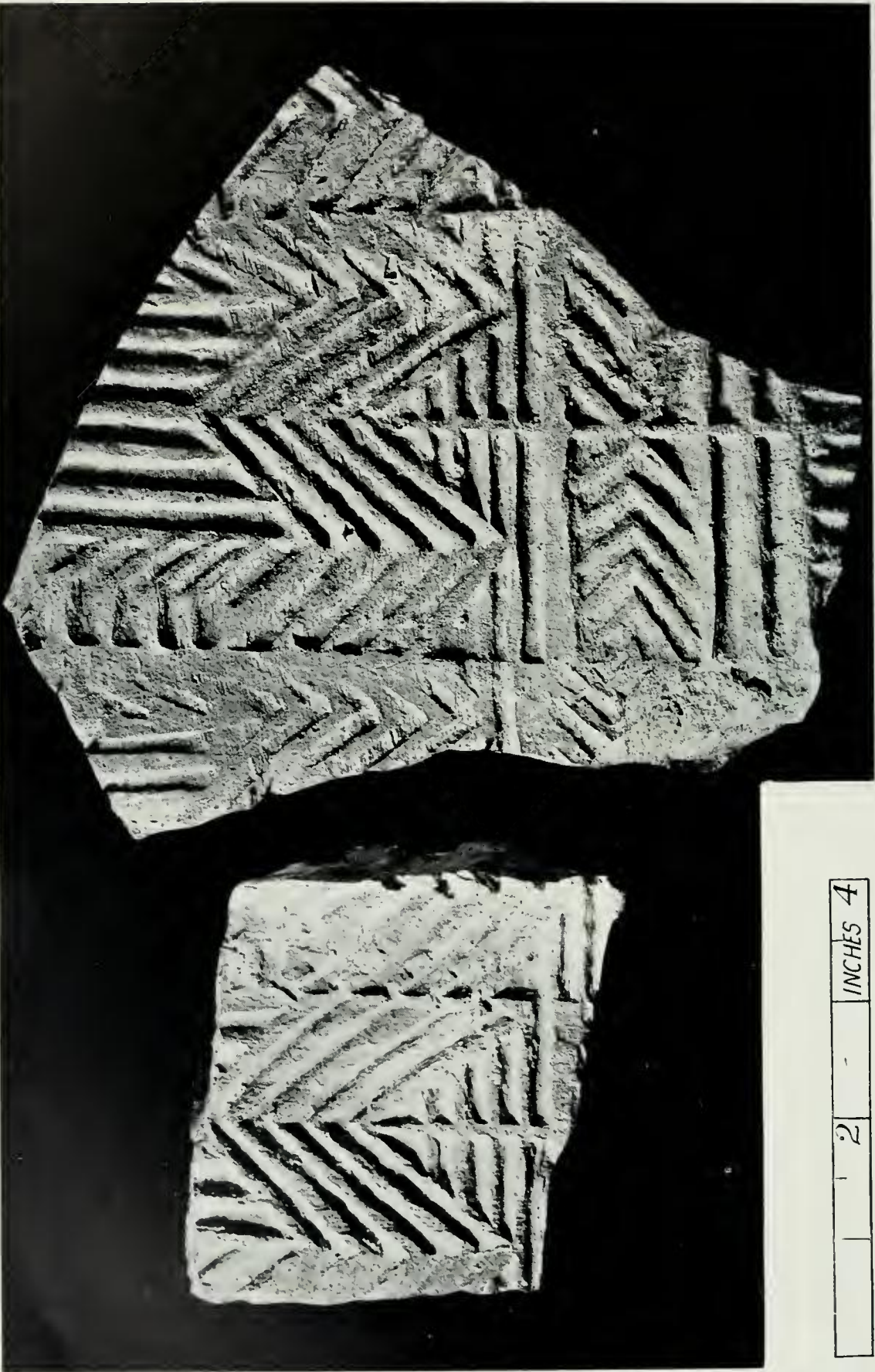
This section is on the oblique descent of the face of the North Downs, here very steep. The terrace is partly cut in the solid chalk, and partly built up with the excavated material. It is to-day not more than 12 feet wide, but the outer (southern) edge may have crumbled away to some extent.

As might be expected in such a situation the condition of the road is not as good as at Section No. 1. The metal, again unbroken flint, with gravel, exists over a width of 10 feet, and is 6-7 inches thick in the centre. The surface is much broken up, rough and uneven. Over it there is 6-7 inches of soil, containing many unbroken flints similar in all respects to those in the solid roadbed. These may have been detached from the surface by the action of water or tree roots. There are several large yew trees growing actually on the road, and their roots have spread over the metal without penetrating it to any great extent. They would, however, tend to break up the surface.

Along the upper (north) edge of the flint bed there is a small ditch or gutter, cut in the solid chalk, no doubt to carry off storm water.

JAMES GRAHAM.

**Stane Street in Redlands Wood, the Holmwood.**—*Preliminary Note.*—From May 27 to June 15 three weeks' work in locating and reconditioning a stretch of Stane Street in Redlands Wood has been done by Mr. S. E. Winbolt and Mr. A. W. G. Lowther with funds



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PIECES OF BOX FLUE TILE.

On left from Verulamium.

On right from Ashtead.



raised by the Society's appeal. Three men were employed for two weeks, and two men for a further week. Stane Street here was carried as a terrace along the lower part of the eastern slope of the hill. It was almost unrecognizable, because overgrown with brambles and small trees, and the hauling of tree trunks along it had scored it with a deep and broad rut (in some places with more than one) not aligned with the road. The clearance of a width of 50 ft. along the line has revealed the terrace, and two cuts across it showed what was left of the metal, generally 4-6 in. deep. A length of 35 yd., 23 ft. wide, has been turfed, as the best method of preserving the terrace, and 130 yd. in all has been cleared, so that a view of the line of the road can be had either way from the turfed portion. It was found that on the west side, owing to the steep slope of the hill, the road had been covered in places for a half or even two-thirds of its width, by soil which had silted down, and on the east side much of the dislodged metal had gone down the slope. On the Dorking road just S. of the Norfolk Arms on the west side a signpost will show the footpath to Stane Street, and a strong metal notice will be erected by the side of the turfed terrace with the words—Stane Street, Roman Road. Mr. C. E. Heath, of Anstie Grange, who is the owner of the land, through which passes a public footpath parallel with Stane Street, has given every facility for the work ; and it is hoped that members of the Society will make an opportunity of visiting the restoration. It is proposed in the near future, if funds are available, to extend the clearance both ways. It seems highly probable that the Roman road kept a straighter course in the wood than that indicated on the 6-in. O.S. map.

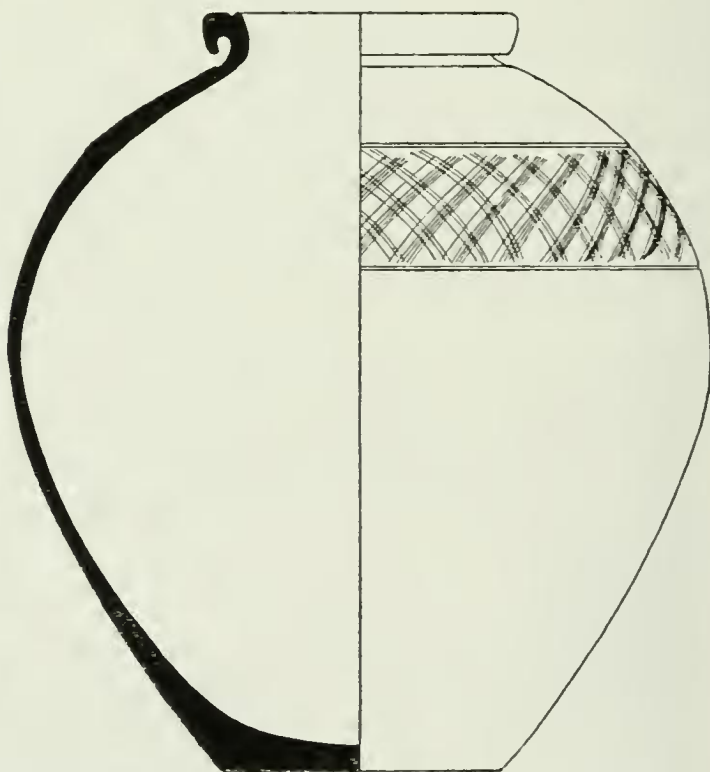
**An "Ashtead" Flue-tile found at Verulamium.**—During the excavations at Verulamium last year (1934) a fragment of box flue-tile (the smaller of the two pieces shown on Pl. XIV) was unearthed which appears to have been manufactured at the Roman brickworks at Ashtead. A piece of one of the Ashtead tiles has been photographed beside it for comparison. Not only has the same roller been employed to produce the impressed design on both pieces (collectors of postage stamps will have no difficulty in picking out the salient points which prove them to be both from the same "die") but the actual clay of which they are made is identical, as is their thickness and degree of baking. Unfortunately the Verulamium fragment does not bear any clear finger-prints, as are to be seen on many of the Ashtead tiles, so that it is not possible to use this method (advocated in *Antiquity*, June 1935, p. 226) to prove that they were actually made by the same worker, as seems probable.

Other "Ashtead made" flue-tiles have been found in London

(now in the Guildhall Museum) and at Reigate, these also bearing designs produced from the same roller. At Chelmsford, Essex (*Essex Arch. Soc. Trans.*, I, 1885, 60), pieces of flue-tile stamped with one of the other "dies" which were used at Ashted (that with the "dog and stag" design) were found associated with the foundations of a Roman building. Unfortunately the present whereabouts of these fragments cannot now be traced.

A. W. G. LOWTHER.

**A Roman Store-jar from Farnham.**—The Roman pot, a large "store-jar," shown on the accompanying figure, has now been repaired and is in the Guildford Museum. It was found *in situ* in the face of a gravel pit at Farnham in 1932 and is recorded as being found lying on its side on top of two Roman tiles (an imbrex and



STORE-JAR FROM A ROMAN KILN AT FARNHAM.  
( $\frac{1}{3}$  actual size)

an ordinary building tile) half-way along the subsidiary flue of a pottery kiln. It appears to have served as a partial blocking to reduce the draught along the flue and had been carefully set in position.

*Description.*

A globular store-jar of dark brownish grey ware. Ornamented



with a band of lattice just above the maximum girth. The sharply down-bent rim is flattened above and has a groove in this flattened surface.

Height, 12 in. ; Girth, 11.1 in. ; Base, 4.3 in. ; Rim, 5 in. Probably late II<sup>nd</sup> or early III<sup>rd</sup> c. date. Three rim fragments of similar vessels have been found at Farley Heath (S.A.C., Vol. XLII, 1934. Fig. 5, Nos. 22, 29, and 30.)

A Roman kiln, containing similar vessels, found at Farnham and excavated by Major Wade, F.S.A., is described in *Ant. Journal*, VIII, Jan. 1921.

A. W. G. LOWTHER.

**A Betchworth Compotus of 1300.**—In the Muniment Room of Norfolk House in London there is a Compotus of the Reeve of the Manor of East Betchworth, John ate Wode, for the year from Michaelmas 1299 to Michaelmas 1300. A roll of five membranes contains the accounts of the Manors of . . . [blank], Reigate, Dorking, Nywodegate and Estbechworth. The Betchworth Compotus may well be the oldest document extant which refers to the purely local affairs of the manor. Its existence is noted in Number XXVIII of the Surrey Record Society (p. 18), but I do not know that anyone has examined it except Miss D. L. Powell, who copied it for me, and myself. It follows the ordinary lines of such accounts. A comparison with the very detailed description of the Compotus of the Manor of Cuxham (Oxon), for 1316–1317, given by Prof. Thorold Rogers in his *Six Centuries of Work and Wages*, (p. 48 ff.), shows that the arrangement of the various items is almost the same. An entry under Customary Payments throws some light on the population of the manor. It records the receipt of 21*d.* for Romescot, which at the rate of a penny per household, means 21 houses. Probably there were more, as it was usual to exempt some of the poorer households from the tax. If half a dozen houses were exempt the total of houses would be 27 with a population of round about 140. Such a figure is no guide to the total population of the *parish* of Betchworth, in which there were two other manors, Wonham and Brockham, about which I have no information. That the 21*d.* represents more or less an average payment for Romescot may, I think, be inferred from a Betchworth Compotus of 1373, when the amount paid was 2*s.* 1*d.*

*The Victoria County History of Surrey*, which in its article on Betchworth makes no reference to the Compotus of 1300, says (Vol. III, p. 166) that “the tenants did villein service in Reigate mowing a mead called Friday’s Mead.” This is confirmed incident-

ally by the Compotus which records the receipt of 15*d.*, "for the mowing of frydays mede." A like entry occurs in the Compotus of 1373.

Among other items of information which may be gleaned from the Compotus are, that the Manorial Court was held six times in the year, that there was a fulling-mill, as well as a water-mill on the manor, and that the Vicar of Betchworth (one William de Mersteham) received in tithe seven fleeces and twelve cheeses. The livestock of the manor consisted of one horse "Veniens de Scotia," three mares, one filly, one bull, sixteen oxen, twenty-five cows, two rams and about a hundred and twenty sheep. Disease was rife among cattle in the later years of the 13th century and the Compotus notes the death of twenty-five animals "de morina." The Reeve used the approved remedy of the time, a mixture of quicksilver, verdigris and copperas. It occurs to me that the arrival of a horse from Scotland may possibly be connected with the fact that the Lord of the Manor, William de Warenne, accompanied Edward I on his Scottish campaigns and that the battle of Falkirk (1298) was fought in the year before the Compotus begins. Among many field and place names which have vanished the Compotus refers to the Common Field, Gadbrook and Medley. All names which are still in use. Gadbrook is written Gatebrok, a confirmation of its derivation from "gat," the old English word for goat. (Cf. *The Place Names of Surrey*, 1934, p. 283.)

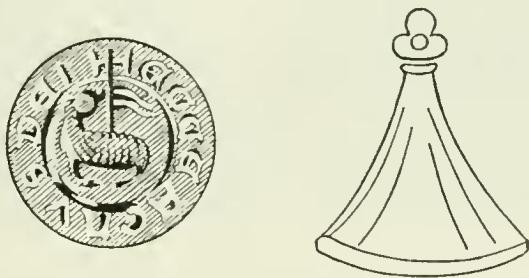
One of the most interesting entries is that which refers to the purchase of a new millstone for the manorial mill. To buy it the Reeve and the Miller proceed to London, and, after presumably interminable discussion, purchase one for 6*s.* "Beverage," doubtless on the conclusion of the transaction, 4*d.* The stone is left on the wharf (wharfage, 1½*d.*) until the tide serves, then it is taken out of the warehouse (6*d.*) and placed in a boat to be transported to Kingston (16*d.*); here it is removed from the boat and loaded on a cart (9*d.*), specially sent from Betchworth to take it home by road ("for forage bought for the oxen fetching the said millstone from Kyngestone, 4*d.*"). Then there is the business of perforating the stone (6*d.*), of repairing the woodwork of the mill (16*d.*), of raising the stone by means of billets and logs of wood (3*d.*), of cutting the sides of the mill dam (2*s.*) and of making a new spindle (3*s.* 1*d.*). Finally there is the claim of the Reeve for his and the miller's expenses in going to London (12*d.*), which does not seem excessive. The reference number of the Compotus in the Muniment Room is Box XI, Cage 3, Bundle B. No. 1.

E. H. KENNEDY.

**Kingston-upon-Thames : a 13th-Century Agnus Dei Seal.**—During the excavations for the foundations of the new Guildhall near the Hogs Mill River in Kingston, a small bronze seal measuring 1 inch high was found some 10 feet below the present level of the ground.

There is a round hole through the top of the seal for a cord or small chain, and the sides, which are slightly curved and octagonal, slope downwards and outwards to the base which is round, and measures three-quarters of an inch in diameter. On the base there is engraved a lamb bearing a flag, and the inscription ECCE AGNUS DEI.

This device and motto were used by the members of the Order of Knights Templar, and are still used by the Middle Temple of London ; their use, however, was not confined to the Templars only as they were used by other religiously minded people also.



SEAL FOUND AT KINGSTON, WITH IMPRESSION.

This seal was submitted to the Seal Department of the British Museum, where it was declared to be 13th-century date and to have been a personal rather than an official seal.

There is no evidence to show to whom this seal belonged, but there was a family named le Templar at Kingston in the 13th and 14th centuries. In 1314 Thomas le Templar and Edward Lovekyn witnessed deeds of gifts by Roger Adam to the Common Lamp in Kyngeston Church, and by Baldwin Buscarius to the Chapel of St. Mary adjoining the Parish Church.

W. E. ST. LAWRENCE FINNY.

**Kingston-upon-Thames : Old Well.**—During the excavations for the foundations of new houses on the site of an old house known as "The Chestnuts," 43 High Street—which stood near "King John's Dairy," and was recently demolished, an old well was discovered some 10 feet below the present level of the ground. The well walls were of red brick, circular in shape, domed at the top (Plate XV).



The well, which was dry, was about 20 feet deep and 4 feet in diameter inside. It was no sooner found than it was destroyed to make place for the foundations of a new house.

Another red brick well, similar in size, shape and construction, was found shortly afterwards below the foundations of an old house which was demolished and rebuilt at 20 Eden, formerly Heathen, Street in June, 1935. This well was dry also. In the bottom of it were found four 16th- or 17th-century druggists' ointment jars, one of them having an inscription in French upon it. Dr. Finny has put them in Kingston Museum, but the old well was destroyed.

These wells were exactly similar in size and appearance to a well found on Kingston Hill in 1901 when Dr. W. E. St. L. Finny was digging out the foundations for his house named "Tamesa." He had his well cleaned out and preserved. There appear to have been several of these wells in use in Kingston before the days of the Water Board.

**Kingston-upon-Thames : The Site of St. Mary's Church.—***The Churchyard Alterations.* Arrangements having been made for the sale of a portion of the churchyard, for the purpose of widening Clarence Street which is along its north side, the occasion has been taken to take up most of the old grave-stones and place them around the border, and also to level the surface and sow it with grass seed, at the same time the pathways and their borders have been re-made.

At the suggestion of Dr. W. E. St. Lawrence Finny, F.S.A., the Church Council has decided to mark the site of the pre-Conquest Church known as "the Chapel of St. Mary" which formerly stood on the south side of the church adjoining the present south transept wall, and was discovered in 1927 by Mr. George Freeman and Dr. Finny [see S.A.S., *Collections*, Vol. XXXVII, p. 111]. This has been done by placing flat square stones in the ground over the site of the corners at which the east and west walls formerly met the south wall of the Chapel, but the Council declined to allow the site of the altar to be marked by a slab.

The Church Council has also given Dr. Finny permission to remove some of the Roman cement from the projection outside the north wall, and from the quatrefoil window high up in the gable of the east wall of the Trinity Chapel and to examine what is beneath it.

This was done in consultation with Mr. Philip M. Johnston.

Dr. Finny has also recovered a number of floor-tiles, some of which were identified by Mr. P. M. Johnston as of 10th-century date, and also a considerable number of the stones which formed



BRICK TOP OF WELL DISCOVERED AT "THE CHESTNUTS," HIGH STREET, KINGSTON, 1935.



13TH CENTURY SEAL FOUND AT COMPTON.  
*Slightly enlarged.*



BRONZE FIGURE FOUND IN SHERE.  
*Slightly enlarged.*



the east wall of the Chapel. He hopes to have them rebuilt above ground as a wall on the site below which they were found, and to have the floor-tiles preserved within the Parish Church.

**13th Century Seal.**—A small latten seal dug up in 1932 in the garden of the Dykeries, Compton, is here reproduced (Plate XVI) by the courtesy of Miss Brunskill, the present owner. It is of pointed oval shape,  $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4}$  inches, bearing the device of a seated figure of Our Lady holding the infant Christ on her knee, with the legend \*AVE MARIA GRATIA PLENA D in gothic lettering. The final D may be expanded into "dominus tecum" completing the salutation by Gabriel to the B.V. Mary (Luke i. 26). The workmanship is crude and the seal may be dated to the 13th century. It is plain at the back with a hook at the top, presumably for fastening to a chain.

**Bronze Figure found in Shere.**—The following information has been kindly supplied by a member of the Society:

A small bronze figure has only recently come into the possession of a member of the Society, Mrs. Barclay, of Bury Hill, Dorking, who has kindly allowed us to reproduce it here (Plate XVI). The figure, which is slightly over 2 inches high, was found in 1880 by Mrs. Oliver, of Shere village, when a girl, buried under a beech tree on the edge of the Downs up Combe Bottom Lane.

There is an almost exactly similar figure at the British Museum, which is shown in a case containing various bronze objects of early date, including Pilgrim badges, etc., but it is not labelled. The original use of the figure is not certain, but as it is hollow at the back it was probably attached to some larger object. It is very like some of the small figures which sometimes form part of the decoration of a crosier top, but being hollow on one side is not likely to have been used in this way. The date is said to be 13th century.

**Ancient Monuments scheduled in Surrey.**—The following is the official list of Ancient Monuments scheduled in Surrey, from the List of Monuments prepared by the Commissioners of Works (to December 31st, 1934) which is reprinted here by permission of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office.

Abinger, the Mound, west of the Church,	Ashted Forest, Roman Villa.
Anstiebury Camp, Capel.	Banstead Heath, three quadrangular earthworks on,
Artington, St. Catherine's Chapel,	Botany Hill, earthwork S.W. of
Ashted, earthworks near St. Giles's Church,	Crooksbury, Farnham.
Ashted Forest, camp in.	Caesar's Camp, Wimbledon Common.
	Caterham, camp at War Coppice,

- Chertsey, barrow 120 yards N.N.W. of Flutter Hill House,  
 Chessington, Castle Hill earthwork, near Epsom.  
 Chobham, earthwork on Albury Bottom,  
 Compton, Roman villa N. of "Limnerslease," near Down Lane,  
 Crooksbury Common, barrow N. of Turner's Hill, Scale.  
 Crooksbury Common, three barrows in intrenchment, N.E. of Heatherdene, Elstead.  
 Deerleap Wood, mound in, Wotton.  
 Dry Hill Camp, Lingfield.  
 Eashing Bridge, Lower Eashing.  
 Esher, Waynflete's Tower,  
 Farley Heath, Roman-British enclosure on, Albury.  
 Farnham Castle, the Keep.  
 Frensham Common, group of four barrows W. of Lowicks,  
 Frowbury Mound, Puttenham Heath.  
 "Galy Hills," four barrows, Banstead Downs.  
 Godstone, earthwork in Castle Hill Wood,  
 Guildford Castle.  
 Guildford, the Guildhall,  
 Hascombe Hill Camp.  
 Hillbury Camp, Puttenham Common.  
 Holmbury Hill Camp, Abinger.  
 Horsell Common, two barrows at S.E. of,  
 Kingston on Thames, Lovekyns' Chantry Chapel (or St. Mary Magdalen's Chapel).  
 Lagham Park earthworks, South Godstone.  
 Leatherhead Downs, tumulus N.E. of Cherkley Court,  
 Milton Heath, barrow on, Dorking.  
 Newark Priory, Ripley.  
 Patchesham earthwork in "The Mounts," Leatherhead.  
 Reigate Heath, group of seven barrows on,  
 St. Martha's Hill, earth circles on, St. Martha.  
 "Soldiers Ring" tumuli, Crooksbury, near Farnham.  
 Thunderfield Castle, Horley.  
 Thursley Common, barrow 1,250 yards E.N.E. of Truxford,  
 Titsey Park, remains of a Roman villa, Titsey.  
 Tumble Beacon, Banstead.  
 Tyting Farm, barrow near, St. Martha.  
 Walton on the Hill, the Mound, Walton Place,  
 Waverley Abbey, Farnham.  
 Whitmoor Common, barrow W. of Mount Pleasant, Worplesdon.  
 Wisley Common, two barrows at Cockcrow Hill,