



View of Society.

*Society Psychological meeting at Caesar's Camp
Wimbledon Surrey 1873*

A MEETING OF THE SOCIETY AT CAESAR'S CAMP ON WIMBLEDON COMMON, 1873

Frontispiece

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SOCIETY

BY

A. W. G. LOWTHER, F.S.A., Honorary Secretary.

IN the *Gentleman's Magazine* for July 1793, there is a letter which it seems appropriate to quote here as it expresses the original stirring throughout the country which led to the formation of County Archæological Societies, although it was a further sixty years before our Society came into being.

The letter reads: “. . . But in the country few instances exist of societies formed for co-operation in scientific or literary pursuits . . . With respect to History and Antiquities particularly, it is impossible that any considerable progress can be made, unless such as are devoted to the study of either, associate themselves for mutual information and investigation.”

The formation of the Surrey Archæological Society owes much to those who founded the Sussex Archæological Society a few years earlier (in June 1846), since when it was decided, in 1852, to form a similar Society for Surrey, much help and advice was obtained from the officers of that body, and a close co-operation has existed between the two Societies to the present day.

A detailed account of the inaugural meeting at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, on Wednesday, May 12, 1854, is in Vol. I of our *Collections* where, as we read, “The Chair was taken by Henry Drummond, Esq., M.P., F.R.S., Vice-President.” Of the “back-stage” negotiations before this meeting was arranged we now have little record, but a footnote to the First Report of Proceedings states: “It will not, perhaps, be deemed out of place to mention that the Society was originated by Mr. George Bish Webb,¹ the present Honorary Secretary, by whom the first circular proposing its establishment was issued in August 1852.² No great progress was made until October 1853, when the Provisional Committee (since become the Council) commenced their periodical meetings.

¹ F.R.I.B.A. It is regretted that it has not been possible to obtain a portrait, if such existed, of this the Society's first Hon. Secretary and originator.

² The Society possesses a copy of this circular, and it is worthy of reproduction overleaf as it gives the names of those who were the first organizers and officers of the Society for the period prior to its public inauguration.

The kindness of Mr. Hesketh in allowing these Meetings to be held at his private residence, deserves special mention."¹ In facsimile, the circular begins thus:—

The Surrey Archaeological Society.

Established in 1852, for the Investigation of subjects connected with the History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey.

PRESIDENT.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

The RIGHT HON. the LORD VISCOUNT DOWNE, Bookham Grove, Leatherhead.
 WILLIAM JOHN EVELYN, Esq., M.P., F.S.A., Wotton Park, Surrey.
 APSLEY PELLATT, Esq., M.P., Southwark.
 REAR-ADMIRAL SIR CHARLES SULLIVAN, Bart., Ember Court, Surrey.
 T. SOMERS COCKS, Jun., Esq. M.P.
 JAMES BELL, Esq., M.P., F.R.I.B.A.
 THOMAS GRISSELL, Esq., F.S.A., M.R.S.L., High Sheriff, Norbury Park.

COMMITTEE.

CHARLES BRIDGER, Esq., F.S.A., 3, Keppel Street, Russell Square.
 W. DOWNING BRUCE, Esq., K.C.S., F.S.A., 9, Victoria Square, Pimlico.
 REV. JOHN CHANDLER, M.A., Vicar of Witley.
 REV. H. CHRISTMAS, M.A., F.R.S., F.S.A., F.R.G.S., Minister of Verulam Chapel, Lambeth, &c. &c., 30, Manor Street, Clapham.
 JAMES CROSBY, Esq., F.S.A., Harewood Lodge, Streatham Hill.
 ROBERT PHIPPS DOD, Esq., Foxley Road, North Brixton.
 J. GREENE JONES GREENE, Esq., M.A., Hall Place, near Guildford.
 GEORGE GWILT, Esq., F.S.A., Union Street, Southwark.
 THOMAS HART, Esq., Reigate.
 ROBERT HESKETH, Esq., F.R.I.B.A., 95, Wimpole Street.
 REV. JOHN JESSOPP, M.A., Chaplain to H. M. the King of the Belgians, Morning Preacher to the Female Orphan Asylum, Lambeth.
 MARMADUKE ROBERT LANGDALE, Esq., F.R.A.S., F.R.B.S., Gower Street, Bedford Square, and Garston House, Godstone, Surrey.
 COLONEL THE HON. MAINWARING ELLERKER ONSLOW, Woodbridge House, Guildford.
 GEORGE ROOTS, Esq., 1, Tanfield Court, Temple, and Kingston-on-Thames.
 WILLIAM ROOTS, Esq., M.D., F.S.A., Surbiton, Kingston-on-Thames.
 SUDLOW ROOTS, Esq., F.R.C.S., F.L.S., Canbury House, Kingston.
 MARTIN F. TUPPER, Esq., D.C.L., F.R.S., Albury, near Guildford.
 GEORGE BISH WEBB, Esq., F.R.I.B.A., HONORARY SECRETARY, 46, Addison Road North, Notting Hill, near London.
 SECRETARY—CHARLES P. CAMPBELL WEBB, Esq., St. Thomas Street, Southwark.

¹ The architect, Robert Hesketh, F.R.I.B.A., lived at 95, Wimpole Street, Cavendish Square, so it is in that part of London, an area closely connected with the Medical profession, that our Society may be said to have originated.

The leaflet continues as follows:—

“The Committee invite the attention of the Nobility, Clergy, and Gentry resident in or connected with Surrey to the establishment of this Society, in the hope that it will meet with their support and encouragement.

“It is not a little strange that up to the present time, when the study of Archæology has made so great an advance in public estimation, and has been so extensively cultivated, Surrey, which can vie with almost any County in England in the number and interest of its antiquarian relics, has been without any representative in the long list of Societies devoted to Architecture and Archæology.

“Sussex, with but one half the population, and with fewer objects of interest to the antiquary, has an Archæological Society numbering from six to seven hundred members who annually publish a very interesting volume of transactions, and hold a Congress in the county numerously attended.

“It is to be hoped that the gentlemen of Surrey will not be slow to follow this good example of their neighbours, and show that they feel some pride in their interesting and beautiful county.

“Merely to enumerate the varied mementoes of the past contained in Surrey would occupy more space than we can here afford; let us, however, point out a few of its remarkable localities.”

Then, after mentioning various places of interest in Surrey, it continues:

“A glance at the elaborate and most valuable county history of Messrs. Manning and Bray, and that more recently published by Messrs. Brayley and Britton, will show how ample are the materials for observation, but it is to be regretted that the bulk and high price of these works are such as to confine their circulation to a very small number of readers. To remedy this, the Committee propose issuing a Quarterly Journal, devoted to subjects of antiquarian interest connected with Surrey. This Journal, which will be handsomely printed and illustrated, will be given, free of charge, to the members.

“An annual Meeting will be held at some place in the county, and at this, as well as at six monthly Meetings in London, the Subscribers will be invited to attend.

“It is also proposed to establish a Library and Reading

Room to be maintained by voluntary contributions, aided by occasional grants from the funds of the Society.

TERMS—For Annual Subscribers	. £0.	10.	0
For Life Members	. . .	£5.	0. 0

“Gentlemen desirous of forwarding the objects of the Society and of enrolling themselves as Members, are requested to communicate with the Secretaries.

By order of the Committee,

GEO. BISH WEBB, Honorary Secretary,*
46, Addison Road, North, Notting Hill,
London.

CHAS. P. C. WEBB, Secretary,
9, St. Thomas Street East, Southwark.

*TREASURER, pro tem, by whom Subscriptions and Compositions, (payable by Post Office Order on Bayswater) will be received.

Donations of Books, Drawings, Prints, Etc., towards the proposed Library of the Society will be thankfully received and acknowledged by the Secretaries.”

(On the last page is a list of members, ninety-three in all, of whom eight are Life Members.)

As stated, it appears from the leaflet and the published Report of the inaugural meeting, as well as from some minutes for meetings held in 1853, that the Society had been in “unofficial” existence for over a year before the date of its inauguration. At the latter there were, we read, two meetings; one in the morning for members only, for official business, and one in the evening, at seven o’clock, for members and others—probably mostly the same persons at each meeting, for we read that “nearly two hundred again assembled.”

At the morning meeting the Report read to the members stated: “The present being the first General Meeting of this Society, the Council take this opportunity of briefly stating the progress that has been made since its formation, and request the sanction of the Members at large to such steps as have been taken to insure its permanent welfare.

“Although less than a year has elapsed since the formation

of this Society, it already numbers 365 members; and the increasing attention paid to Archæological research justifies the belief that, when its utility becomes thoroughly known, a considerable addition may be confidently expected."

Then there follows a financial statement:

"With regard to the state of our finances, as the balance sheet will not be presented until the first Annual General Meeting, the Council beg to state that—

The Capital of the Society consists of

the Composition of thirty-eight Life Members. £190. 0. 0

And the following Donations:

The Earl of Lovelace . . . £15. 0. 0

Robert Gosling, Esq. . . . 15. 10. 0

G. R. Smith, Esq. 5. 0. 0

£ 35. 10. 0

Making a Total of £225. 10. 0

and the income of the Society derivable from the Annual Subscriptions of 327 Members, with the addition of interest on invested capital.

"The Council have to acknowledge the liberal donations of books, drawings, and prints, a list of which will be prepared and printed in the first annual volume of the Society's Transactions.

"The Rules for the regulation of the Society, which have been prepared with great care, are now submitted for sanction and confirmation.

"The Council beg to resign into the hands of the Society the trust reposed in them, and to express their willingness to resume their duties if re-elected."

We learn that the Adoption of the Report was "moved by J. C. W. Lever, Esq., M.D., seconded by Thomas Clark, Esq., and unanimously carried." The Proposed Rules were then "read, revised and adopted" and, after election of the "Office-bearers," the meeting was adjourned to the evening.

As regards the Rules as they existed originally and, with little alteration, until 1950 (when the amount of the Annual Subscription and of the Composition for Life was increased for the first time since the Society was founded) these bear little resemblance to those of the Sussex Archæological Society on

which they were based, as is described by Mr. Salzman in the Centenary (1946) Volume of that Society (on p. 7, where he states: "and although not so publicly expressed (as the Kent Archaeological Society, which adopted the Sussex Rules *in toto*) it is clear from letters of Mr. George Bish Webb, the moving spirit in the formation of the Surrey Archaeological Society and its first Secretary, to Mr. Blaauw, that the rules of that Society were also based on ours.")

The original Rules, which, in these days of an entirely altered state of society, read somewhat quaintly in places, were as follows:

R U L E S.

- I. The Society shall be called the Surrey Archaeological Society.¹
- II. The objects of the Society shall be—
 1. To collect and publish the best information on the Ancient Arts and Monuments of the County; including Primeval Antiquities; Architecture, Civil, Ecclesiastical, and Military; Sculpture; Paintings on Walls, Wood or Glass; Civil History and Antiquities, comprising Manors, Manorial Rights, Privileges and Customs; Heraldry and Genealogy; Costume; Numismatics; Ecclesiastical History and Endowments, and Charitable Foundations, Records, etc., and all other matters comprised under the head of Archaeology.
 2. To procure careful observation and preservation of antiquities discovered in the progress of works, such as Railways, Foundations of Buildings, etc.
 3. To encourage individuals or public bodies in making researches and excavations, and afford them suggestions and co-operation.
 4. To oppose and prevent, as far as may be practicable, any injuries with which Monuments of every description may, from time to time, be threatened; and to collect accurate drawings, plans and descriptions thereof.

¹ It appears that there was originally some intention of including Middlesex and making it the "Surrey and Middlesex Archaeological Society" and there is, in this connection, the following entry in the minutes for the Council Meeting of Thursday, September 6, 1855: (Report by the Hon. Secretary).

"I have to report that the two following gentlemen who joined the Society under the impression that it would be extended to Middlesex, have retired in consequence of that plan being rejected." (Two names follow.)

- III. The subjects of all communications received, together with the names of the authors, shall be registered in a book kept for the purpose by the Honorary Secretary, which book shall be open to the inspection of the Members of the Society.
- IV. The Society shall consist of Members and Honorary Members.
- V. Each Member shall pay an Annual Subscription of Ten Shillings, to be due on the 1st of January in each year, in advance, or £5 in lieu thereof, as a Composition for Life; and on and after the 1st of January 1854, an entrance fee of Ten Shillings shall be paid by each New Member, whether Annual or Life Subscriber.
- VI. All payments to be made to the Treasurer, to the account of the Society, at such Banking-house in the Metropolis as the Society may direct; and no cheque shall be drawn except by order of the Council; and every cheque shall be signed by two Members thereof, and the Honorary Secretary.
- VII. The Subscriptions of Members shall entitle them to one copy of all publications issued by direction of the Council during their Membership; and no publication shall be issued to Members whose Subscriptions are in arrear.
- VIII. Every person desirous of being admitted a Member, must be proposed agreeably to the form annexed to these Rules; and this form must be subscribed by him and by a Member of the Society, and addressed to the Honorary Secretary, to be submitted to the Council, who will ballot for his election,—one black ball in five to exclude.
- IX. Ladies desirous of becoming Members will be expected to conform to Rule 8, so far as relates to their nomination, but will be admitted without ballot.
- X. Persons eminent for their works or scientific acquirements shall be eligible to be associated to the Society as Honorary Members, and be elected at a General Meeting; and no person shall be nominated to this class without the sanction of the Council.
- XI. The Lord-Lieutenant of the County, all Members of the House of Peers residing in, or who are Landed Proprietors in the County; also all Members of the House of Commons representing the County or its Boroughs; the High Sheriff of the County for the time being, and such other persons as the Council may determine, shall be invited to become Vice-Presidents, if Members of the Society.

- XII. The affairs of the Society shall be conducted by a Council of Management, to consist of a President, Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, an Honorary Secretary, and Twenty-four Members, eight of whom shall go out annually, by rotation, but be eligible for re-election. Three Members of the Council (exclusive of the Honorary Secretary) shall form a quorum.
- XIII. An Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of June, at such time and place as the Council shall appoint, to receive and consider the Report of the Council on the state of the Society, and to elect the Officers for the ensuing twelve months.
- XIV. There shall be also such other General Meetings in each year for the reading of papers and other business, to be held at such times and places as the Council may direct.
- XV. The Council may at any time call a Special General Meeting, and they shall at all times be bound to do so on the written requisition of Ten Members, specifying the nature of the business to be transacted. Notice of the time and place of such Meeting shall be sent to the Members at least fourteen days previously, mentioning the subject to be brought forward; and no other subject shall be discussed at such Meeting.
- XVI. The Council shall meet for the transaction of business connected with the Management of the Society on the first Thursday in each Month.
- XVII. At every Meeting of the Society, or of the Council, the resolutions of the majority present shall be binding, and at such Meetings the Chairman shall have a casting vote, independently of his vote as a Member of the Society or of the Council, as the case may be.
- XVIII. The Council shall be empowered to appoint Local Secretaries in such places in the County as may appear desirable.
- XIX. Honorary Members and Local Secretaries shall have all the privileges of Members except that of voting.
- XX. The whole effects and property of the Society shall be under the control and management of the Council, who shall be at liberty to purchase books, casts, or other articles, or to exchange or dispose of duplicates thereof.
- XXI. The Council shall have the power of publishing such papers and engravings as may be deemed worthy of being printed, together with a Report of the proceedings of the Society, to be issued in the form of an Annual Volume.

- XXII. The composition of each Life Member, less his entrance-fee, and so much of the surplus of the income as the Council may direct (after providing for the current expenses, printing the Annual Volume, etc.) shall be invested in Government Securities, as the Council may deem most expedient; the interest only to be available for the current disbursements; and no portion shall be withdrawn without the sanction of a General Meeting.
- XXIII. Two Members shall be annually appointed to audit the accounts of the Society, and to report thereon at the Annual General Meeting.
- XXIV. No religious or political discussions shall be permitted at Meetings of the Society, nor topics of a similar nature admitted in the Society's publications.
- XXV. No change shall be made in the Rules of the Society except at a Special General Meeting.

It is interesting to note that there were, at the start, fifteen Societies "in Union" with the Surrey Archæological Society. These, as well as the County Archæological Societies of Sussex, Essex, Suffolk, Bucks, Warwickshire and Somersetshire, consisted of:

"The Architectural Society of the Archdeaconry of Northampton,
 The Kilkenny Archæological Society,
 The Ossianic Society,
 The Liverpool Architectural and Archæological Society,
 The Ecclesiological (late Cambridge Camden) Society,
 The St. Albans Architectural and Archæological Society,
 The Irish Archæological and Celtic Society,
 The London and Middlesex Archæological Society, and
 The Cambrian Institute."

Several of these Societies are no longer in existence, or have changed their names. At the present day there are forty-three Societies with which an exchange of publications is in force, and with which we are in Union.

A matter which caused some stir throughout the Society took place in 1854, as is shown by the following extracts from the minutes of the Council Meeting held on September 7, 1854.

It may perhaps be termed the "Bridger Affair" and, in those days of Victorian ultra-respectability, was no doubt a severe shock to the Society and to its officers in particular:

At a Council Meeting of Sept. 7, 1854.

(Statement by the Hon. Sec., Mr. Geo. Bish Webb).

“It is with great regret that I have to call the attention of the Council to the following statement:

“It will be remembered that when the Kingston Meeting was being arranged, a grant of £30, subsequently increased to £35 was made to the Committee for the necessary expenses. That sum was paid by two cheques, for £20 and £15—the latter paid on the 6th July when the Council held an ordinary meeting.

“On that day I handed to Mr. Bridger the cheque for £15—and £4. 10. 0 in gold—together £19. 10. 0 which sum he undertook to pay to Mr. Williams the Innkeeper at Kingston on the following day—as well as other debts incurred there for which he had previously received funds—On the 1st August I received with much surprise a letter from Mr. Williams requesting me to pay the balance of his bill—amounting to £15. 1. 7, and when he called upon me a few days afterwards, I explained to him that I considered that the only sum due to him from the Society had been £19. 10. 0 the amount of Contract for the dinner—but that I had sent him that sum by Mr. Bridger to whom I referred him. Although I have repeatedly applied to Mr. Bridger for the vouchers for Williams and Phillipson (the printers) accounts and he has frequently promised them—he has not forwarded them.

“Mr. Williams, after many applications to Mr. Bridger, took proceedings in the County Court against me—and on the 25th Sept. I received a Summons accompanied by his bill by which he made me a debtor to him for £11. 15. 0—with £1. 1. 4 costs.

“I consulted with Mr. Roots and Mr. Bruce as to the course to be pursued—and by their advice went down to Kingston on Wednesday in last week to enquire into the nature of this claim. I found that Mr. Williams had, by advice of his Solicitor, paid himself from the £15 (all that he had received) the amount of Mr. Bridger’s private bill for accommodation and for carriage hire, while staying at the Griffin—and had given the Society credit for £7 only—the balance remaining after doing so.

“On the following day Mr. Roots, Mr. Bruce and I met, and it was agreed that as many erroneous versions of the transaction

were (as I had ascertained) being circulated, to the discredit of the Society—so much so that members were refusing to pay their subscriptions in consequence—and two of our local secretaries had determined to resign—it would be advisable at once to put a stop to the matter by paying the amount claimed, and I accordingly went down to Kingston that afternoon and discharged both Williams's and Phillipson's bills.

“Mr. Bridger has written to me expressing his deep regret for these occurrences, and expressing his wish to retire from the Council.

“I place before you all the papers I have relating to this matter, and request your instructions thereon.

“Since the foregoing was written I have received Mr. Bridger's statement addressed to the Council.”

A sub-committee was appointed to go into the matter and Mr. Bridger's resignation was accepted. Other money was found to be claimed (wages for employing men for the excavations at Teddington) and that he had never paid his fee as a Life Member. Proceedings to be taken against him at Kingston are referred to, but nothing appears to have been done and the defalcations were made good and no more is heard of Mr. Bridger.

Of interest is the statement of accounts between the Society and Mr. Bridger as ascertained by the investigating sub-committee, and which is set out as follows:

	Vouched			
Williams	15.	0.	0	Pd. for Mr. Bridger—his tavern expenses
				4. 9. 7
Mason	2.	0.	0	Law expenses— Pd. for Mr. Bridger
				1. 1. 4
Gratuity to Hall- Keeper	1.	0.	0	Carriages, to Williams
				1. 17. 0
Ditto Steers	1.	0.	0	Cash paid to Mr. Bridger
Bill sticking	4.	6		25. 0. 0
Stationery	1.	6		22 Tickets 7/6
Beer account	3.	13.	3	Subscriptions received
Expenses to Kingston	1.	18.	6	2. 0. 0
Balance—	17.	18.	2	Mr. Tripp's subscription
				10. 0
	<u>£43.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>11</u>	
				<u>£43. 2. 11</u>

After this small upset, the Society continued in tranquillity but, within a decade, it had to face some further financial difficulties though nothing of a very serious nature. We read in the financial statement for 1863:

“Owing principally to the neglect of the Annual Audit, it has been found (as, indeed, the Report just read shows) that several pecuniary liabilities of considerable aggregate amount remained undischarged on the 31st of December last (1862). It must be observed that some of these liabilities are of as long standing as 1860, while the heaviest item, £156, consists of the Printer’s account for the last part of the Transactions, 1862. It is right to notice here, that in consideration of the pressing claims on the Society’s funds, Mr. Sass has liberally proposed to forego his regular allowance for Clerks, etc., as from Christmas last.” As had to be done in recent years, we read: “The Council have now resolved to recommend that fresh powers be now given to them to sell a sum not exceeding £150 out of the Stock (amounting to nearly £400), in order to enable them to discharge the expense incurred by the publication of the Transactions, which the ordinary income has proved insufficient to bear.” Membership then stood at over 500 (having risen from 365 with which it began in 1854) though, it is stated, only some 300 of the subscriptions were being paid, and the Council hoped it would be possible “to adopt some plan by which a more systematic collection of Subscriptions can be made for the future, as also of the many arrears.”

The Society was in a sound and flourishing condition by 1865 in which year Vol. III, one complete and exceptionally thick volume, appeared, and, except for Vol. X of 1891, the thickest volume of the series. The cost of this, however, proved too great a strain and the next volume did not appear until 1869.

From the start the Society was under the patronage of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of Buccleuch was President, and there were thirty-two Vice-Presidents, a number which was soon realized to be out of proportion to the size of the Society and which has been reduced steadily to about a third of this figure.

The Lord Lieutenant for Surrey, The Earl of Lovelace, headed the list which included the Bishop of Winchester, the Earl of Cottenham, Lord Abinger, an Admiral and a Vice-

Admiral (Sir Charles Napier and Sir Charles Sullivan) and three Colonels of whom one, Sir Henry Rawlinson, is probably best known on account of his work on Babylonian sites in Northern Iraq. Only three of the Vice-Presidents were Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries at that date, but there were a number, both on the Council and amongst the members, who belonged to that Society as well as many who were Fellows of the Royal Society or who were Fellows or Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Council Meetings of the Society were, until the move to Guildford in 1898, always held in London. In the first instance, apart from the initial gatherings at Mr. Hesketh's house already mentioned, these were at the address of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Bish Webb, at 6, Southampton Street, Covent Garden, a short road which connects Covent Garden with the Strand.

As this was the first headquarters of the Society, the following extract from the minutes of a Council Meeting held (place not stated but, presumably, at Mr. Hesketh's house) on April 6, 1854, is of some interest:

“Report of the Honorary Secretary.

I have to acquaint you that, since the last meeting I have removed from Notting Hill to apartments in Southampton Street, Covent Garden, and that in doing so I have been chiefly actuated by the expressed wishes of several of your members that accommodation for our meetings and a place of depositing our books and other property, should be combined with my private residence, in a Central Situation and near the termini of the Surrey Railways. The premises I have taken appeared to be so well adapted for our purpose and time not being allowed to await your decision collectively, I have, after consulting and obtaining the approval of 3 or 4 members individually, engaged the apartments for three months certain, with option of continuing, at £70 per annum, and I leave it to you to decide, should the arrangement be sanctioned by you, what proportion of this sum should be defrayed by the Society.”

The following resolutions then follow:

“Resolved:—That the arrangement made by the Hon. Secretary for taking the premises in Southampton Street, Covent Garden, be confirmed.

“That the proportion of expense to be borne by the Society be at the rate of Twenty Six Pounds per ann. for 3 months certain.

“That the next meeting of the Council be held at Southampton Street.

“That the Inaugural General Meeting be held on Wednesday the 10th (*sic* Wednesday, May 12 appears to be correct.—A.L.) at the Bridge House Hotel, provided that the large room there be disengaged for that day, and if not, that the Hon. Secy. be requested to secure it for the 17th May.”

Council Meetings continued to be held at 6, Southampton Street until Mr. Webb's death in 1859. They then moved to 7, St. Mildred's Court, Poultry, where Mr. Sass the new Hon. Secretary had his office and where he had (*Sy.A.C.*, Vol. II) “placed a room at the Society's disposal,” and were here until 1864.

It seems that Mr. Sass was unable to give adequate time to the Society's affairs (which were at this date in somewhat of a muddle, and the accounts had not been audited for some time) and that his resignation was accepted with some relief by the Council! We read in the minutes for this Meeting of July 22, 1863, held at St. Mildred's Court: “On terminating the connection with the present Honorary Secretary, it becomes necessary to provide a new locality for the reception of the Museum and Library of the Society, and for the transaction of its business. Negotiations based on a liberal offer, made by another Member of Council, are now on foot, which it is hoped may result in satisfactorily attaining this object.”

Mr. Edward Vaughan Austin, M.R.C.S., was the member referred to and he, then elected Hon. Secretary, arranged the move to 8, Danes Inn, in the Strand, where he had rooms and where they remained until the move in 1898 to the present headquarters at Castle Arch, Guildford.

As the Society did not until then, have any fixed centre in Surrey, its General and Special Meetings were held in various of the main Surrey towns, more or less in rotation, and, for the duration of each meeting it was usual to form what was termed a “Temporary Local Museum.” This consisted of a collection of antiquities, manuscripts, drawings, etc. (often rather an odd assortment of material), lent by members, or others, as the

following typical circular notice (from a copy in the writer's possession) explains:

SURREY ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY

RICHMOND MEETING,

JULY, 1859.

TEMPORARY LOCAL MUSEUM.

COMMITTEE of MANAGEMENT

The Rev. William Bashall, M.A.	John Wickham Flower, Esq.,
The Rev. Richard Burgh Byam, M.A.	W. H. Hart, Esq., F.S.A.
Henry G. Bohn, Esq.	J. J. Howard, Esq., F.S.A.
William Chapman, Esq.,	J. R. Daniel Tyssen, Esq., F.S.A.
Thomas Meadows Clarke, Esq.	Geo. Bish Webb, Esq.,
R. H. Clutterbuck, Esq.,	F.R.I.B.A.,
	Hon. Secretary.

THE MUSEUM will be formed in the Lecture Hall of THE CAVALRY COLLEGE, Richmond Green, by the kind permission of CAPTAIN BARROW, the Commandant of that Institution.

It will be opened at Three o'Clock on Tuesday, the 5th July, to the Members and Visitors attending the Annual General Meeting of the Society on that day, and will close at Half-past Five.

On WEDNESDAY the 6th and on THURSDAY the 7th, it will be open from Eleven A.M. to Five P.M., and from Seven to Ten in the Evening.

All Articles lent for Exhibition should be sent, not later than Thursday, the 30th instant, addressed to

“Mr. GEO BISH WEBB, Hon. Secretary,
SURREY ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY,
6, Southampton Street, Covent Garden, London,
W.C.

or to

“Mr. T. MEADOWS CLARKE, Local Hon. Secretary,
George Street, Richmond, Surrey, S.W.

All Articles will be returned in the early part of the ensuing week, the expense of carriage, both ways, being defrayed by the Society. Great care will be taken of contributions lent for exhibition, and, where requisite, glass cases will be provided.

Arrangement will be made for placing the whole contents of the Museum *under the guardianship of the Metropolitan Police.*

The admission to the Museum will be by cards only. On the first day it will be limited to Members and their Friends attending the Meeting; on Wednesday and Thursday it will be open to the inhabitants of Richmond and its vicinity. In order to prevent the attendance being of too indiscriminate a character, which might be the case were the admission *entirely* free, cards will be issued by the Local Secretaries at a small charge, the proceeds of which will be given to a Local Charity.

All communications with reference to the Museum to be made to

GEO. BISH WEBB, Hon. Secretary,

OFFICE OF THE SOCIETY,

6, Southampton Street, Covent Garden,

London, W.C.

JUNE, 1859

It is interesting to examine a list of the exhibits at one of these early exhibitions. The temporary "Museum" assembled for the first Annual General Meeting—that held at Kingston on June 30, 1854—is summarized as regards the main exhibits in *Sy.A.C.*, Vol. I. It is interesting to note that the list is headed by six of the early Kingston Charters—those granted to the town by King John, Henry I¹, Henry III, Philip and Mary, Henry VIII and Queen Elizabeth—which were on view recently (July 1951) at a special exhibition of Kingston Borough Muniments to mark the Festival of Britain. There were other Kingston antiquities, lent by the corporation, but most of the exhibits have no bearing on "Surrey," or even "British" archæology in any shape or form. They are somewhat reminiscent of the contents of the Tradescants' Museum at Lambeth in the 1640-50 period and which (known familiarly as "Tradescant's Arks") became, after passing to Elias Ashmole, the origin of the Ashmolean Museum. "An Extensive Collection of Roman and Etruscan Pottery, Egyptian Mummies and Household Gods, with various other Interesting Objects of Antiquity. Exhibited by Henry Christy, Esq.," is fairly typical. Many of the objects were, however, of considerable interest and several of them dug up in London or recovered

¹ *sic.* A mis-statement, as the town has no Charter of Henry I or II, but three of Henry III.

from the Thames. Martin Tupper, the famous poet of the day, of Albury and excavator of the Farley Heath Roman Temple, is mentioned in a list of those who lent material (unspecified).

The very first excavation with which the Society was connected is mentioned in connection with this meeting, in the following passage:

“After partaking of a collation provided at the Griffin Hotel, the company proceeded to view the excavations which had been in progress during the day in Sandy-lane, Teddington. A large barrow, or tumulus, situated on the land attached to Udney House, and which had long been an object of curiosity to antiquaries, was opened by the kind permission of Charles D. Mackenzie, Esq., the owner of the property and under the able direction of J. Y. Akerman, Esq., various interesting relics were discovered. A detailed account of them is given at page 74. The operation was viewed by the members and visitors with considerable interest.” The operation was, as the account shows, on a par with the country-wide barrow digging (or “wrecking”) that was going on at that date, and so well described by R. F. Jessup in the case of a Kentish barrow (*Arch. Cant.*, LVIII, 68. Excavated in 1843, it is at Snodland and is known as “Holborough Knob.” A contemporary engraving shows the ragged and undercut trench, 20 feet in depth, which the “excavators” had dug through the mound, and which partly fell in, while they were enjoying their pic-nic lunch).

No doubt the Teddington excavation was less of a “fiasco,” as it was, we learn, “under the direction and superintendence of Mr. Akerman, Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries.” Though the first day’s work showed that: “This mound had clearly been previously assailed” and the excavators found “brick and tiles, carelessly thrown in by the former investigators,” yet they persisted and found at the bottom “a small heap of calcined human bones” and, lying upon them, a dagger-blade of the Middle Bronze Age date as we now know. Work was continued on the following day, and the broken pieces of a large urn, smashed by the previous diggers, was found but is not described or figured, though the dagger is well illustrated. It is interesting to note that the calcined bones were submitted to “Mr. Quelsett, of the Royal College of Surgeons,” who stated

that they were "the remains of an adult." No plan or section drawings accompany this earliest Report, but the barrow is described as being about 12 feet high, 52¹ feet from north to south and 96 feet from east to west and to have been "formed entirely of the surrounding soil, consisting chiefly of a compact sand, and was singularly free from large flints and stones . . ." (A flint "hatchet-head, or celt,"—presumably a polished axe—was found, and a secondary inhumation burial. Some flint flakes—possibly actual implements—were encountered but, like the remnants of an urn, not described and probably were discarded.) A good drawing of the dagger-blade is in the Report.

It is perhaps as well that this initial excavation took place both outside the county and on a barrow that had not only been already disturbed, but had had a large portion of its mound removed during road-widening.

The next year, 1855, a more ambitious excavation was undertaken—*viz.*, that at the site of Chertsey Abbey—and a prompt Report on this work with, for those days, good description and illustration of structural remains and finds was published, with an article on the history of the Abbey, and another on the Saxon charters of Chertsey, occupying pp. 77–115 of *Sy.A.C.*, Vol. I. This excavation took place at a period when mediæval studies, ecclesiology and gothic architecture were to the fore in the interests of archæological societies and it is most fortunate that this work was undertaken at a date when the site was still available, and when the fragmentary foundations could still be uncovered and give a tentative plan of the Abbey. In addition, some interesting carved stone architectural fragments and a fine series of encaustic tiles were found.

Though certain members of the Society assisted with the work and one, Captain Oakes, took photographs of which he presented copies to the Society, the excavation was not organized by the Society or done in its name (as with the excavation of Waverley Abbey, 1898–1902) but by the owner of the site and, apparently, at his expense. Mr. M. Shurlock, the Society's Local Hon. Secretary for Chertsey, seems to have been in charge of the work and the Report is a joint production of Mr. W. Pocock, F.R.I.B.A., and M. Shurlock.

Further excavations at Chertsey Abbey, uncovering remains

¹ The report explains that a large part of the mound had been removed by road-widening so, presumably, the diameter had been about 96 feet.

of the Chapter House, and some more burials, took place in 1861, though apparently not undertaken by the Society or its members and there is no mention of the work in *Sy.A.C.* Photographs showing what was uncovered are in the possession of the Society.

In this year, there was some trouble being experienced in getting members to pay their subscriptions. In the Report read and adopted at the Eighth Annual General Meeting (held at Loseley Park, on Tuesday, August 6, 1861) we read: "Three years since your Council felt themselves most reluctantly compelled to remove from the list of members some gentlemen who were in arrear with their subscriptions; and, although they do not intend to adopt the same course this year, they cannot refrain from alluding to the fact, as the expenditure for the collection of subscriptions is very large. In addition to the repeated applications of the collector, over 2,000 letters are annually sent to persons in arrear." (at this date the membership stood at 555.)

Preoccupation with Gothic architecture, pilgrims and romanticism in general at this date is exemplified by the following quotation from the account of a meeting held at Chilworth on Thursday, July 23, 1863:

"Following the ancient pilgrims' way to Albury Park, within which the Church is situated, the Rev. Geo. Portal described the beautiful mortuary chapel of the Drummond family, erected under the immediate superintendence of the late Mr. Pugin, the eminent architect, Charles Baily, Esq., following with a description of the church itself and the period of its erection." The party also visited, and all in the same day, St. Martha's Chapel, where they inspected "numerous finely executed drawings of the building," the gardens of Albury; Shere Church, where they had two more papers read to them, the one on the brasses and monuments and the other on "the architecture of the period in which the church was erected."

In 1865, Edward V. Austin, M.R.C.S., was Hon. Secretary and at this date the Society had an "Honorary Palæographer" (in the person of W. H. Hart, F.S.A.) amongst its officers.

The most important archæological undertaking in the county in 1864 and 1865 was the excavation by the owner Mr. Leveson-Gower, a Vice-President, assisted by C. S. Perceval, LL.D.

F.S.A., a member of the Society, of the Roman building in Titsey Park of which the first indications came to light during drainage operations in 1847.

These excavations are described in detail, with plans and drawings (of which two are the first illustrations "in colour" to appear in *Sy.A.C.*) in Mr. Leveson-Gower's Report on the excavations, and the finds, in Vol. IV.

The building, apparently a dwelling of "basilican" type with one large, aisled dwelling hall running east and west, had several small rooms at either end—those to the west forming a typical bath series with hypocausts, plunge-bath with drain, etc., but including some tank-like compartments which, it is thought, were connected with a fulling industry.

The building, unfortunately for its survival, was allowed to remain uncovered until just recently, when the few remains of foundations were covered over (by the present owner, Mr. R. H. G. Leveson-Gower) in order to ensure the survival of some remnant of this unusual little structure of, apparently, the 3rd and 4th centuries A.D. The finds were deposited with the Society and are in Guildford Museum.

In 1870 a small excavation, useful for the "negative evidence" which it produced, was carried out by the Society and is briefly reported thus, in Vol. V of the *Collections*:

"Barrow Green, Godstone, the residence of Charles Hoskyns Master, Esq., is supposed to take its name from a large mound, or barrow, on the estate, near the mansion. The large size of this mound seemed to militate against this commonly received opinion; but it was resolved to submit it to the test. Accordingly, in October of the last year (Mr. Master's permission having been obtained), and under the supervision of some members of the Council, several trial pits were dug in the circumference, and a large and deep trench cut through the centre. In all these openings the sandstone rock, forming the natural soil, was come to at a depth of from three to six feet.

"The result of this investigation is, that the tumulus is a natural elevation, composed of the sandstone of the neighbourhood, covered by a coating of artificial soil about three feet in thickness; that it has never been used as a place of interment; and that the name BARROW GREEN must have been derived from some other source."

A useful bit of work but, in view of the "method" adopted, one can only be glad that the mound was not actually a barrow. As to their final conclusion, the writer of the report evidently overlooked the fact that the mound may possibly have brought about the name "*Barrow Green*" even though it was a natural mound, and not what was then commonly referred to as a "sepulchral edifice" or "tumulus."

One other item of importance for Surrey archaeology in the year 1870 was the discovery at Chaldon Church of the remarkable wall-painting of early mediæval date, which was carefully uncovered and preserved and is still to be seen. (It has since been re-published with greater accuracy than it appears on the coloured folder-lithograph which is in Vol. V.)

In 1871 some excavation took place on Farthing Down, Coulsdon, where some barrows of Saxon date were opened, and a number of finds (including the important little "bucket-beaker" with interlace-ornamented gilt-bronze bands securing its wooden staves—unfortunately no longer in existence) were unearthed. The work was carried out by John Wickham Flower, F.G.S., an eminent member of the Society; G. Leveson-Gower, F.S.A., Vice-President, and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Austin. A report on the work, with illustrations of the finds (but none of the site nor any plans, sections, etc.) was published in *Sy.A.C.*, VI.

Also in this year the small Roman (?bath) building at Beddington was found and unearthed (by Mr. John Addy—not a member of the Society) and a brief report on this find was re-published in *Sy.A.C.*, VI (a more detailed report having appeared in *B.A.A. Journ.*, Vol. 27).

The Society appears not to have been directly concerned with excavations in the county for quite an interval of years, though work (carefully recorded in MS. Journals—which are in Derby Public Library, but have not, as yet been published by this Society) was being done on the site known as "*Hillbury*," on Puttenham Common, in 1869, 1870 and 1875 (by the Rev. C. Kerry¹ and others assisting him) when much material showing a Late Roman occupation of the site was discovered. (He also excavated on Wanborough Common, where he records, but

¹ Mr. Kerry addressed the Society at their General Meeting in August 1876, at Godalming, Thursley and Elstead, but he spoke on certain barrows which he opened in 1870, and on Elstead Church.

less satisfactorily, in his *Journal*—Vol. III, p. 33—finding “a cist of Bargate Stone, containing two urns filled with charred and calcined bones. One of the urns was removed whole to the Priory and is now in the possⁿ of Mr. (Morton) Sumner, the other was broken when discovered—The Stones were dug up and removed before any survey cd. be made.”)

Again, in 1883, when the Rev. T. S. Cooper, M.A., F.S.A., assisted by his gardener, uncovered extensive Roman foundations at Chiddingfold (and of which he made a careful survey, and written account of his work, and finds) the Society appears not to have been aware of this work, for they make no mention of it at the time, though the finds were eventually deposited with them. Interest in churches, brasses and monuments, and early documents, etc., seems still at this date to have formed the main interest of the Society, and articles on these and kindred subjects fill the stout volumes of the eighties.

Following a visit by the Society in July 1898 to the ruins of Waverley Abbey excavations were carried out at this site from 1898 to 1902, and form one of the major works of this kind which the Society has undertaken.

Down to 1885, when some additional “Evening Meetings” started to be held, the Society met only twice in the year—apart from an occasional Special General Meeting such as that held on April 28, 1883, in the Archbishop’s Palace at Croydon, with the object of trying to bring about the preservation of the doomed remains of that Palace. The first of the two yearly meetings was styled “The (Eleventh, Twelfth, etc., as it happened to be) Annual General Meeting, in accordance with Rule XIII” and was purely for business purposes, to consider and adopt the Report of the Council and transact other business, and was held in London in July and in the Council Room of Danes Inn, in the Strand.

Later in the year, generally in August, took place the second or “General Meeting of the Society” (sometimes, and misleadingly, referred to as the “Annual General Meeting of the Society”)—which was in the nature of an excursion, and later on (and down to the nineteen-twenties) was termed the “Annual Excursion.” It lasted for one whole (and very full) day and took place at some centre of interest from which a number of other places were visited, and at each a paper, or papers, were read to the members. For long these two arrangements were

the only two regular annual fixtures, and such a thing as a programme of visits and lectures throughout the year was not attempted (or, apparently, required by the members) before 1923, though by that date two extra "Afternoon Meetings," sometimes only one, were usually held on Saturday afternoons and in the winter or spring.

In 1923, as an innovation, four or five excursions took place, and the next year a regular programme of visits was arranged, and from 1925 a regular "Excursions Secretary" was appointed. Down to this period, "Lectures" were not provided as separate items, but were left to be arranged by the various Local Secretaries each in his own area of the county. As, however, the subject of excursions and lectures is being dealt with elsewhere in this volume, it will suffice to mention here that it was clearly the advent of motor car and char-a-banc that enabled the holding of extended excursions and visits such as began to take place just before the first world war. Today, with monthly visits and lectures rightly expected as a matter of course, it seems quite astonishing that for so long (seventy years out of the century) so little was provided for members in this direction.

In 1880, the list of officials of the Society included a "Collector" (Mr. W. P. Ivatts) and a "Bookbinder" (Mr. I. Potter) neither acting in an honorary capacity. By this date, the post of "Honorary Paleographer", existing in 1868, had disappeared apparently on the death, about 1874, of W. H. Hart, F.S.A., the last holder of this office. In 1871-73 an "Honorary Photographer" (Edwin Debenham of Reigate) is numbered amongst the officers of the Society but the post was not continued after this period.

Also in 1880, the Society had its Museum or exhibition in the Public Hall, Croydon, where at least some of it (*e.g.*, Saxon objects found in Croydon and on Farthing Down) remained until the Society moved to permanent quarters at Castle Arch, Guildford.

The Library and other possessions of the Society were preserved at the Danes Inn headquarters until the move to Guildford and the Council's Minutes at this period contain some interesting particulars of the negotiations and final agreement with Guildford Corporation and of the work which was necessary before the cottages at Castle Arch could be transformed into the Society's Library and Museum, a process spread over several years.

As the later history of the Society is dealt with by the writers of other sections of this volume, I will close with a brief mention of the Society's publications.

The first volume of *Surrey Archaeological Collections* (the name of which was adopted from the *Sussex Archaeological Collections*) came out in separate parts, and the whole volume, containing the "Proceedings" for 1854 and 1855, only appeared in 1858. Similarly with the second and most of the succeeding volumes, down to that for 1930 (Vol. XXXVIII), yearly half-volume parts were usual but not invariable, several of the volumes (as Vol. III) appearing in full as is the present custom.

There was from the beginning some difficulty in getting out the volumes as, then as now, its expense was the main item to be met by the Society though the cost of printing was considerably less than it is today. As was the case with other archaeological Societies of about a hundred years ago, the bulk of the articles published were concerned with brasses, church architecture and monuments, wall paintings, mediæval documents, and similar subjects and it is not until the present century that prehistoric and Roman archaeology, with the advancing technique and extent of excavations, came to the fore. At the present time, and since the first world war, it has been the policy of the Society (though the credit is mainly due to its Hon. Editors) to cater for varied interests as far as possible, especially as between "mediævalists" and "prehistorians," so as to avoid the complaint (sometimes uttered in the past) that "potsherds and flint implements" obtained more space than was their due.

The production by the Society of "Extra Volumes" on special subjects, uniform in appearance with the volumes of *Collections*, commenced in 1894 with a volume on the *Feet of Fines* for the county of Surrey, and was followed, in subsequent years, by volumes entitled:

The Church Plate of Surrey (1902);

Waverley Abbey (1906); a detailed account by Harold Brakspear, F.S.A., of its history and of the Society's important excavations at this site from 1898 to 1902;

Ancient Stained and Painted Glass in the Churches of Surrey (1930);

A Survey of the Prehistory of the Farnham District (1939).

In addition to these, a reduced facsimile reproduction of all the sheets of *Rocque's Map of Surrey*, of 1762, was issued in a portfolio in 1931, and proved so popular that it has been hard to procure copies of it of recent years and the Society's stock has been exhausted for some time.

More recently, and with the object of relieving the pressure on the space available in *Collections* as well as providing a publication capable of taking larger-sized illustrations than is possible without employing "folders," a series of "Research Papers," of crown quarto size in paper covers and of intermittent appearance (as finance, and appropriate subject matter may dictate) has been undertaken. Three of these Research Papers have been published and a further is in preparation.

(No. 1, *A Study of the Patterns on Roman Flue-tiles and their Distribution*; No. 2, *A Mesolithic Survey of the West Surrey Greensand*; No. 3, *Preliminary Excavations of a Mesolithic Site at Abinger Common, Surrey*.¹

The Society published in 1906 a *Catalogue of Books in the Library*, a work that is now much out of date and in course of revision.

In a series of "Local Histories," produced under a special Local Histories Committee of the Society, two works have so far appeared, the one a *History of Reigate* by the late Dr. Hooper, and the other a *History of Blechingley* by the late Mr. Uvedale Lambert.

Finally, mention must be made of the Society's publication, in 1913, of *A Schedule of Antiquities in the County of Surrey*, a work (by P. M. Johnston, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., Ralph Nevill, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., H. E. Malden, M.A. and others) of great importance as the first of its kind and the basis of the later schedules prepared by the Surrey County Council.

¹ Grants towards the cost of publication of Nos. 1 and 2 were made by the Council for British Archaeology.

APPENDIX

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
at the
INAUGURAL MEETING
of the
SURREY ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY

*Held at the Bridge House Hotel
on Wednesday Eveng, May 10th, 1854*

under the Presidency of
HENRY DRUMMOND, ESQ^R, M.P., F.R.S. V.P.

*Transcript from the Shorthand Notes of Mr. T. E. Wilmot
Knight, 118, Chancery Lane, London.*

The Chairman.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I take it for granted that all who are here present are members of this Archæological Society, or at least interested in Archæological research. Now this being our first meeting a very great deal depends on how we start. I dare say you all remember the old joke in one of Foote's farces, where he ridiculed this kind of thing by saying that they were trying to get a complete collection of Tyburn turn-pike tickets; and if your researches are of that sort, why of course this Society will be exposed to great and deserved ridicule. If on the other hand your exertions are directed towards worthy objects, you may be of very considerable use, and the way in which you may be of use I will endeavour to show you. There are in all things great principles and subsidiary things. Thus for example in all the arts—take a poem, take a piece of music, take a picture—there is the great subject, and then there are all the details; and if the attention and if the labour of the Artist is devoted to the details it will make a bad picture; if the details are subsidiary to the principal idea of the picture it will make a good picture. And so it will be with your Society. If you are devoted to collecting all the pieces of broken old pots you can find (*laughter*) if you are

hunting after pieces of old iron and so on, you will come to no good at all; and you ought not. Now the first thing which is very difficult is to define what you mean by old. What is old? Ladies never are to begin with (*laughter*). Then what is old? It has been said of Horace that he said 2000 years ago people objected to a poet, he asked why, "oh" said one person, "I do not like novel poets. I am for ancient poets." "Very well," said Horace, "what is an ancient poet? Will a man do who has been dead a hundred years?" said he, and the answer was "yes." "Very well, suppose he has only been dead ninety-nine years?" "Well, I won't stick much about a year." "Very well," said Horace, "if you won't stick about a year, I will take away year by year and you will have no antiquity left." (*laughter*). Everything is old in point of fact in antiquity, so you will increase the objects of your research continually if you are to take in things merely because they are old. Suppose—what I hope never will happen—your Fleet in the Baltic is lost in a storm, or by the Russian Fleet, and the Russians were to come over and burn London, well, the Archæological Society a couple of years hence would have a vast number of articles, which they had succeeded in picking up; but I don't know that they would be of much value. Still antiquarians they say may dig amongst the rubbish and find what they value; but it does not follow that because you find the thing in the ruins of an old Roman house or Roman habitation that it is worth picking up. All these things are of value to the well instructed mind; they are of value according to the associations with which they are connected. Every man who knows nothing in the world but that so many bits of trumpery and misshapen vases belong to an old Greek or an old Roman, puts no value whatever upon them. But if on the other hand they are connected in the mind with the history and transactions of those people they have an advantage which otherwise they could not have. (*hear, hear*).

Now let us however in all things remember that the pursuit is much more gratifying than the possession. I have been a great collector all my life of coins and all sorts of things, and I assure you that the pleasure of collecting them was far greater than the pleasure of possessing them. Now I think the strongest instance that I can give of that is in the case of things as to which Englishmen are most mad after and that is "fox-hunting." They run to enormous expense, they run the risk of

breaking their necks, and when they have done, and have got the nasty stinking beast it is not worth having (*laughter*). Now that shows the difference between the pleasure of the pursuit, and the pleasure of possession. Now I am sorry to say there is no country in Europe that has taken such bad care of its historical possessions as Great Britain, as I will show you very shortly. In Ireland there was no such thing for a great number of years, as a single parish register. There is no proof of the marriage, birth, or death of any person to be found. Now there are a great many reasons assigned for this, not one of which do I believe. The Scotch say "Oh, but that is your English Edward; he came and seized all the valuable documents, and the ship was lost when she was going to London." Now, I don't believe a single word of it. I don't believe that Edward the III cared a straw about all the documents in Scotland. I say again that I do not believe one word of it. In Ireland they tell you the Danes in the first place came and did all the mischief, and then the Cromwellians came and completed what they had begun. Now I do not believe a word of that. It was either the Danes or the Cromwellians. (*laughter*). Why the Cromwellians had not been there for a couple of hundred years, and the same thing has taken place within the last century; and the same thing goes on now. You cannot find an authentic document anywhere. That which has most affected the Scotch, particularly preventing your getting at any authentic document relating to them, is the Attorneys. They have told the Scotch gentlemen, that if they once allowed any deeds to go out of their charter chests, they would lose their property, and the consequence is, that you cannot get at any Scotch deeds at all. It is only from the charter chests that you can get any information and the difficulty of getting these documents is so great that no authentic history can be compiled. You have compilers under the title of historians such as Hume—for he was a mere compiler—and they are all inaccurate. I remember very well Mr. Bruce who was the first person I believe in the Record Office telling me that after Hume had written his history he showed him some documents in the Record Office, and he said to Mr. Hume, "you had better read this." Hume looked them over and said, "no, if I were to begin to read these documents I should have to re-write my history for it is all wrong." (*laughter*).

Of all the histories of England that I have had occasion to

search, I must say that the two most accurate that I know are the History of England by Dr. Lingard and the next I think is called the pictorial history of England. I have had occasion to refer to these, and I must say I certainly think them the most authentic histories we have, that is to say as compilers. I am speaking of the times before they lived. Now you should endeavour I think to remedy this evil. That is a great and good end for antiquarian research. The instruction for the million, for which everybody is mad in these days must necessarily be superficial. They can look to nothing but what are called popular works, such as Mr. Macaulay's, or it may be anybody else's. They have not time to search into old musty records, and they must take them from persons like that—the most eloquent, and the most plainly written and so forth. But still, as far as positive knowledge goes, they trust entirely, and must necessarily, to the researches of other people. The persons who first began to force you to think and to go to the true foundation of historical research were the learned Dr. Chalmers and Mr. Riddle, a lawyer, who is still alive in Scotland and their works are most valuable works. You have in this country Sir Francis Palgrave, and he has perhaps gone more extensively into historical facts than any body else. And I must say that the Scotch have followed up this very well. I have here some specimens of their works. There are two or three particular Societies to which I belong—the Bannatine, the Spalding and the Maitland clubs—and I have here specimens of their works. They have a few subscribers and they select some book of historical value, and then they print it and give a copy to each one of their subscribers. In Ireland they have a very valuable writer Mr. Petrie whose work on the "Round Towers of Ireland" has settled a very difficult question, in a very pleasing and admirable manner. And they have lately, I am happy to say, also commenced publishing other works on their own antiquities, and there is no part of Great Britain where they have so many. I have also here a volume of what is called "the Annals of the four Masters." This which I hold in my hand is one volume, but there are seven or eight I believe. The Gaelic, the original, is given on the one side and the English on the other, in parallel columns. It is a Journal kept by the heads of the monasteries and it tells you what passed every day, from day to day. Now I have read a great part of this

account and I cannot say that it is very amusing but you may try a page or two if you please. (*a laugh*). I do not think it will repay any person much trouble in going through it. This is very remarkable that it tells you from the very earliest period down to the present day exactly the same history. That history is nothing, from the beginning to the end, but of some great savage whom they call a King murdering some other great savage, and generally with cruelty and treachery. That is the whole early history of Ireland in this enormous book. There are a great many other works; and I have one here by the Duke of Buckingham, it is a very valuable labour of the kind. Many documents have got into the British Museum, but still there does remain in Ireland a very large amount of valuable material for a search. Now it is very remarkable that during the French revolution the French destroyed no public documents whatever. They robbed all the monasteries it is true and all the cathedrals and they robbed everybody else, but they destroyed nothing; they transferred all the public documents they found into the prefecture. I do not know exactly how they would designate it in England but it is a sort of Sheriff's Office. The consequence of this is a very remarkable book which I hold in my hand by a French friend of the Count De Crouy. Some years ago he went to settle in Hungary and when he had established himself there he asked the Hungarian Diet to grant him what is called indigenate that is, to consider himself a native, because if they did not he could not acquire property and so forth. He then produced every single document which was necessary to prove him a lineal male descendent from the second King of Hungary, and at the time when the country about Grenoble belonged to the Hungarians, and when he produced this work they said we cannot grant you indigenate because you have proved yourself to be indigenate. Now I do not believe that that would be done in any country in Europe but France, and it is a very remarkable volume of that kind. There is also an admirable society of this kind in Normandy. And I hold in my hand a work called "The Memorials of the Royal Society of Antiquarians in Normandy," and another is called "The Anglo Norman Chronicles," and another is called "Unedited documents relating to the History of France"; and these are of great importance as tracing the origin of all those families, of which there are vast numbers, who came to this country at

the time of William the Conqueror. Mr. Stapleton, the brother of Lord Beaumont who died not long ago, was well versed in these records, and the last work which he published is the "Pipe Rolls of Normandy," and that work he wrote solely with reference to English History and he shows what value there is for English history in all the early records of Normandy. Now I think these are good models for you to consider, and follow as much as you can. Now you know nothing whatever of the internal manners, the early family manner of the people, from ordinary history. Now, for instance, you know if a man has got some £2000 a year and has got four sons, what does he do with them? He places one in the army, another in the navy, another he makes a lawyer, and another goes to the church. What do you think he did in Henry the second's time and Edward the third's time? Except a man had a good opportunity of being made a bishop or a fat friar, nobody would turn parson and that was not a trade at all that they liked. As to Law there was no such thing, for they could not read nor write, any one of them. What could they do then with these young gentlemen, for of course they must be able to get eating and drinking. What they did was this, they generally gave them a farm. If he was an idle fellow he went to live at this farm just like the peasants and fed his pigs in the neighbouring woods, because a great part of the country was uninhabited, in fact, he lived in a leather smock frock and so he spent his life. But if he had somewhat more ambition in him then he went and pawned his farm to a Jew in order to enable him to buy a suit of armour, which of all others in the world I believe is the most expensive, and when he had bought this suit of armour he bound himself apprentice to some great man in the neighbourhood, by what is called a bond of man rent, and I have here one or two of these bonds of man rent. Here is one—"In 1368 Sir John Neville eldest son of Ralph, who had some time before succeeded to the Earldom, was bound to the Earl of Lancaster." That is how one of the bonds runs. Here is another "In 5th Edward III, Ralph, second son of Ralph Neville Lord of Raby was retained by Lord Percy by Indenture to serve him in peace and war for the term of his life. The terms of this Indenture were to serve Lord Percy with 20 men at arms, against all men except the King, whereof 5 to be Knights receiving £100 sterling out of his Lordships of Topcliffe and Pocklington, as also robes

and wages for himself, with those knights and all the rest: and in time of war to have diet for himself, his gentlemen, and six grooms; likewise hay, oats, shoes and nails for 59 horses, and wages for 53 inferior servants with harness for his own body. And when he should be required to come to a Tournament, then to have four Knights with himself and their attendants; likewise diet in his hall for them and for 5 grooms, with hay, oats, horseshoes, and nails for 36 horses with wages for 32 servants as also harness for his own body. Moreover if he should be required to attend him in time of Parliament or otherwise, to come himself with six gentlemen and nine horses, having diet for three men in his hall; with hay, oats, horseshoes and nails for the number of horses last specified, and wages for 6 servants." Now you observe the "harness" is mentioned twice, and for this reason—old gentlemen in these days were a little bigger round the waist than young ones, pretty much the same as they are now. You could not let out your armour and therefore you were obliged to have a new suit, and it was on this account that so great an expense attended the arming for those warriors. Then there is a third one; this is in the year 1415,¹ something later:—Ralph Neville, Earl of Westmorland, in 1415 retained by indenture Sir John de Thorpe to serve him for life "per an du did Conte, en temps de pees quarrant souldz par an pur son fee," it is bargained that he shall take in war time "autielx gages come le dit Conte donera as autres de son degree, rebatuz toutesfoiz lafferant de son dit fee pur le temps de guerre: et serra le dit Johan bien et convenablement montez, armez, et arraiez, et prest toutdiz chivaucher avec le dit Conte, ou son depute, a toutes les foiz quil serra garny a ce faire; et le dit Conte avera les tierces de guerre, gaignez par le dit Johan, ou par sez gentz quelx il avera as gages ou coust du dit Conte; et saucune Capitayn, ou home destat soit pris par le did Johan . . . le dit Conte lavera, faisant al pernour resonable regarde pour lui."²

It was very common to say that these people should have all the prisoners up to a certain rank; that is to say they should have them unless they got a ransom. If a man was of very high rank, a Baron for instance, then the man who took him did not have him, but he belonged to the Lord to whom he was

¹ Actually 1406 [24 April 7 Henry IV].

² Printed in T. Madox: *Formulare Anglicanum* (1702), p. 97.

bound. Now this last is from Maddox's Formularies and the first is from Raines Durham and you may get at these from such old family histories and it is only by them that you can really learn what the manners and customs of our ancestors were. There is also in the history of the Bruce family a very interesting document—a letter written by Lord Elgin of Kincardine. It is written while he was in Holland before he went to join Charles in Scotland. It is a letter written to his son when he was going to engage in what he knew was a failing cause and which he knew would cost him his title and his estate, and he wrote to apologise to his children for doing this. He says "I know it is my duty to leave to you the estate, and rank, and title as I have inherited them, but I have a higher duty still which is due to my lawful sovereign to whom I have sworn allegiance" etc., then he gives his reasons in a very long letter why he thinks it is right to go and serve the King and give up all these advantages. It certainly is an instance of a straightforward sense of duty and it is highly creditable to him. You are exceedingly rich in this County of Surrey in objects of Archæological research. I believe there is no county in England which contains so many ancient palaces. In the first place you have the palace of Guildford, which I believe is the oldest in the kingdom. I understand even older than Winchester. Then you have Kingston, which from its name is the stone on which kings were formerly crowned. You have also several most important abbeys. There are the abbeys of Bermondsey and Lambeth and so on. I believe you could not do a greater service to history than to publish the whole of the charteries of Bermondsey Abbey. All these Scotch Societies to which I have alluded have for some years past been publishing charteries and I think by this means they have done more service to ancient Scotch history than anything which has been done. I however never knew anybody who had such a knowledge of Bermondsey charteries as Mr. Stapleton. I have often written to him in the morning and asked him a question, and he has sent me by return of post two charteries all copied out. Where he got them from I really don't know. There are also several very valuable mansions such as at Great Esher, the famous one of Cardinal Wolsey, Wimbledon, Sutton, and many more. You have to choose what sort of Society you will adopt, I know you will follow it up. Your English societies in general commence with

great pomp, great parade, and enormous expense. The Scotch societies have no parade, no pomp, and great utility. Of course I cannot say much about your utility, because you have not yet begun, but I find no matter where it is in England but you begin with a patron and vice patrons, a quantity of publications, and then this and that meeting, and then secretaries and treasurers, I know not what; but when I look at these books I find nothing of the sort. Gentlemen subscribe; they meet once a year. Some gentleman selects a volume of the kind I have alluded to which he puts into the hands of the treasurers and secretaries which is printed, and then it is distributed amongst the members. Now, gentlemen, I have pointed out to you the different ways in which to manage these things. I have pointed out the ways in which I think you can proceed with most profit. It is in your hands and it is for you to do as you think best (*cheers*).



HENRY DRUMMOND, M.P., F.R.S.

Vice-President, 1854. Chairman at the two inaugural meetings held at Southwark, May 12, 1854.



THE RT. HON. AND RT. REV. CHARLES RICHARD SUMNER, D.D.
Lord Bishop of Winchester, 1827-60. Vice-President, 1854.



GRANVILLE LEVESON-GOWER, M.P.
Vice-President, 1860.



WILLIAM JOHN EVELYN, F.S.A.
Vice-President, 1854.



RALPH NEVILL, F.S.A.
Member of Council for 42 years.



THE RT. HON. VISCOUNT MIDDLETON, M.A.,
LORD LIEUTENANT OF SURREY
President 1884-1907.



M. S. GUSEPP, F. S. A.

Hon. Secretary, 1867-1900, Vice-President, 1900.

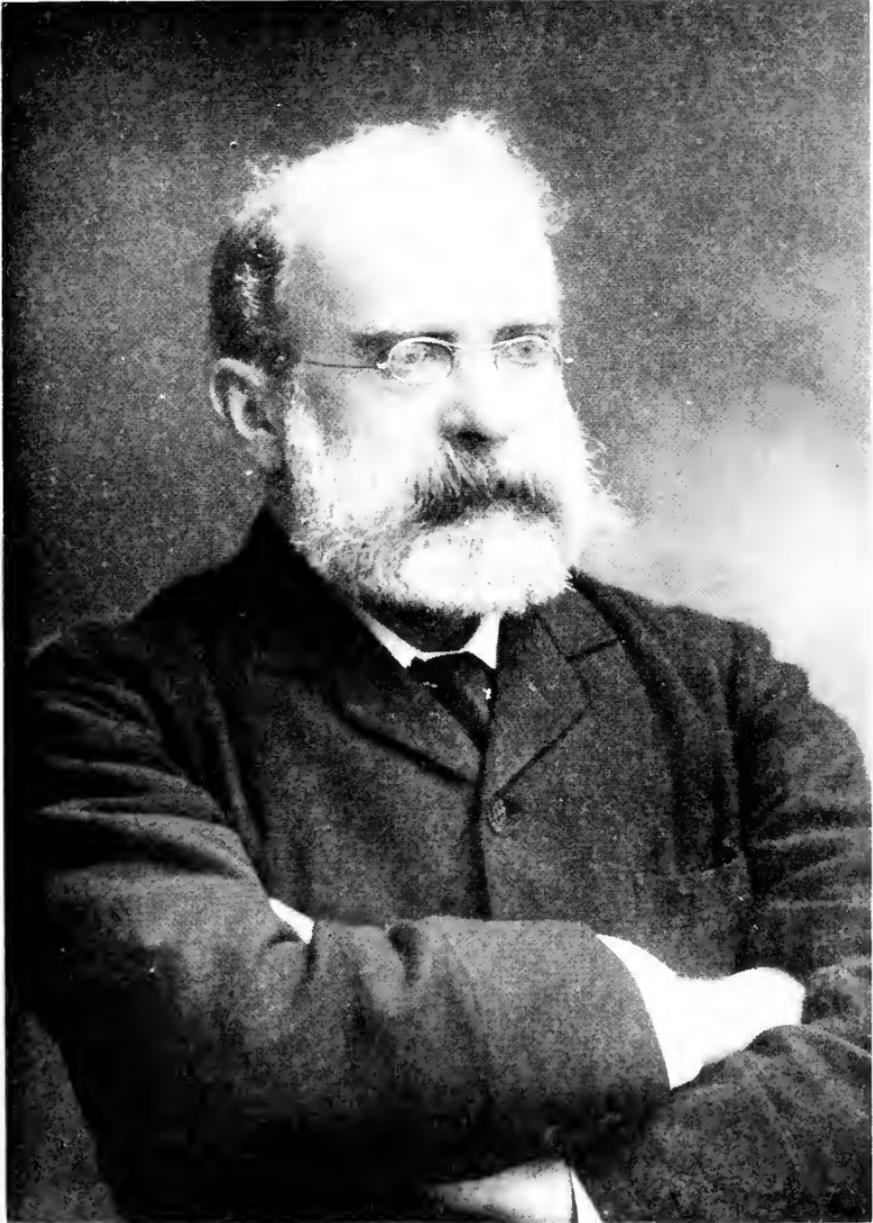
M. S. SUBINSSON, F. S. A.

Hon. Secretary, 1880-97; Vice-President, 1900.



Photo-Navyana Varshik Ltd.

SIR HILARY JENKINSON, C.B.E., F.S.A.
Hon. Secretary, 1908-19, 1920-24. President, 1954.



H. F. MALDEN, M.A.
Hon. Secretary, 1919-20.



Photo The Times

RT. HON. THE EARL OF ONSLOW, P.C., F.S.A.

President, 1921-43. This photograph was taken at the meeting of the Corporation Claims Committee, November, 1930.



By permission Sussex Archaeological Society

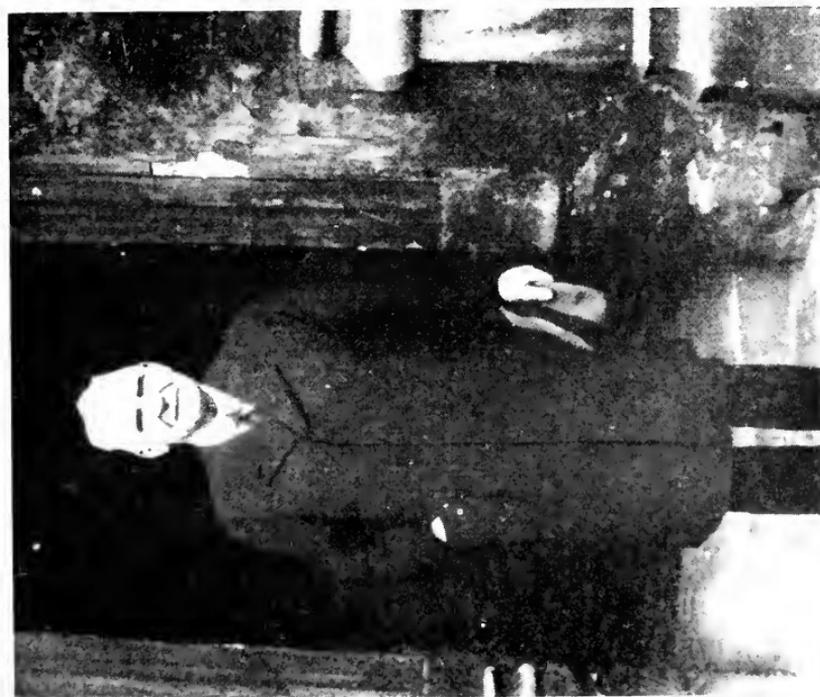
P. M. JOHNSTON, F.S.A.
Vice-President, 1930.



SIR HENRY LAMBERT, C.M., K.C.M.G., C.B., F.S.A.
Vice-President, 1934—Chairman of Executive Committee, 1939.



DR. ERIC GARDNER, F.S.A.
Vice-President, 1944.



DR. W. E. ST. LAWRENCE FINNY, F.S.A.
Vice-President, 1941.



Photo Russell & Sons

SIR FREDERIC KENYON, G.B.E., K.C.B., F.S.A.
President, 1944-50.



EXCAVATIONS AT ASHTEAD.

A. W. G. LOWTHER, F.S.A.
Hon. Secretary.

A. R. COTTON, F.S.A.
Hon. Treasurer, 1939-43.



SITE OF STANE STREET, REDLANDS WOOD.

S. E. WINBOLT and A. W. G. LOWTHER.



WILLIAM BRAY. DIED 1832.
Co-editor of Manning and Bray's *History of Surrey*.

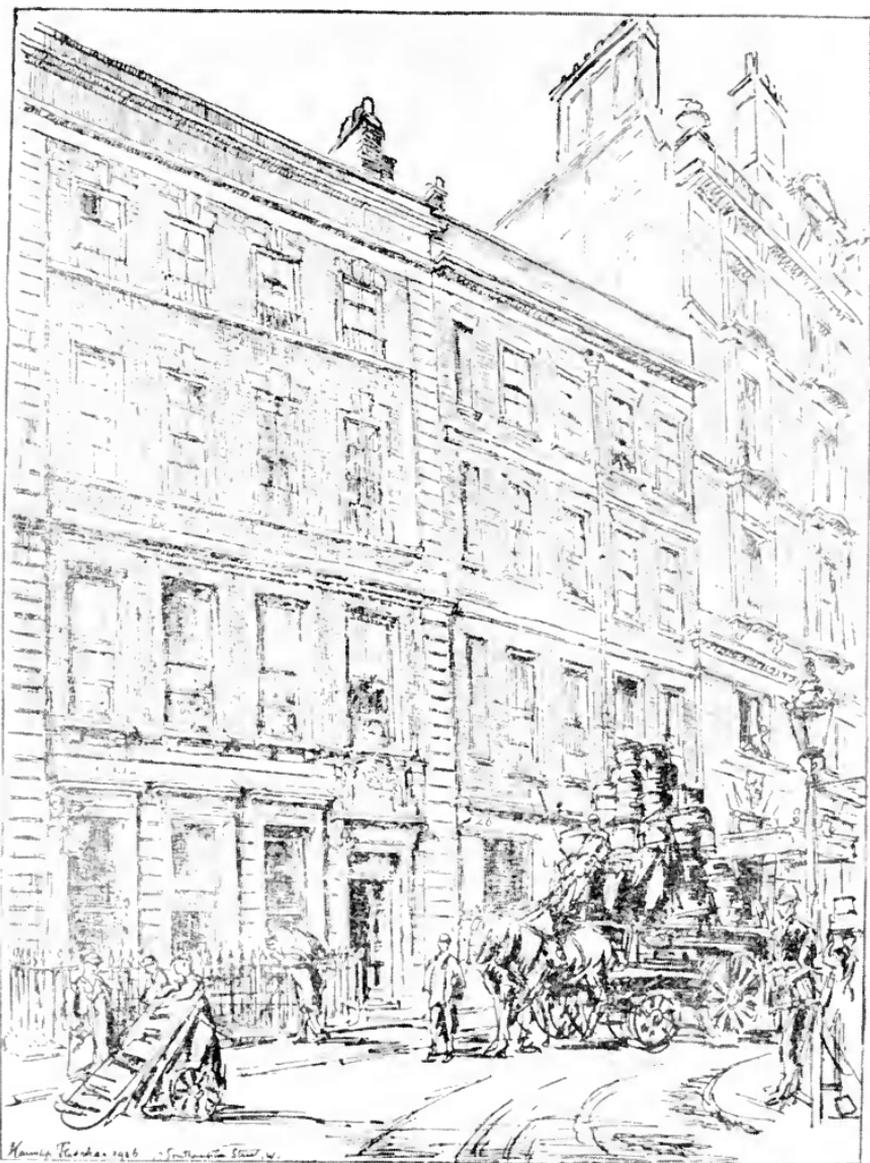


VIEW OF GUILDFORD HIGH STREET, 1877.



EXTERIOR OF CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD.

Photographs by permission of Guildford Museum



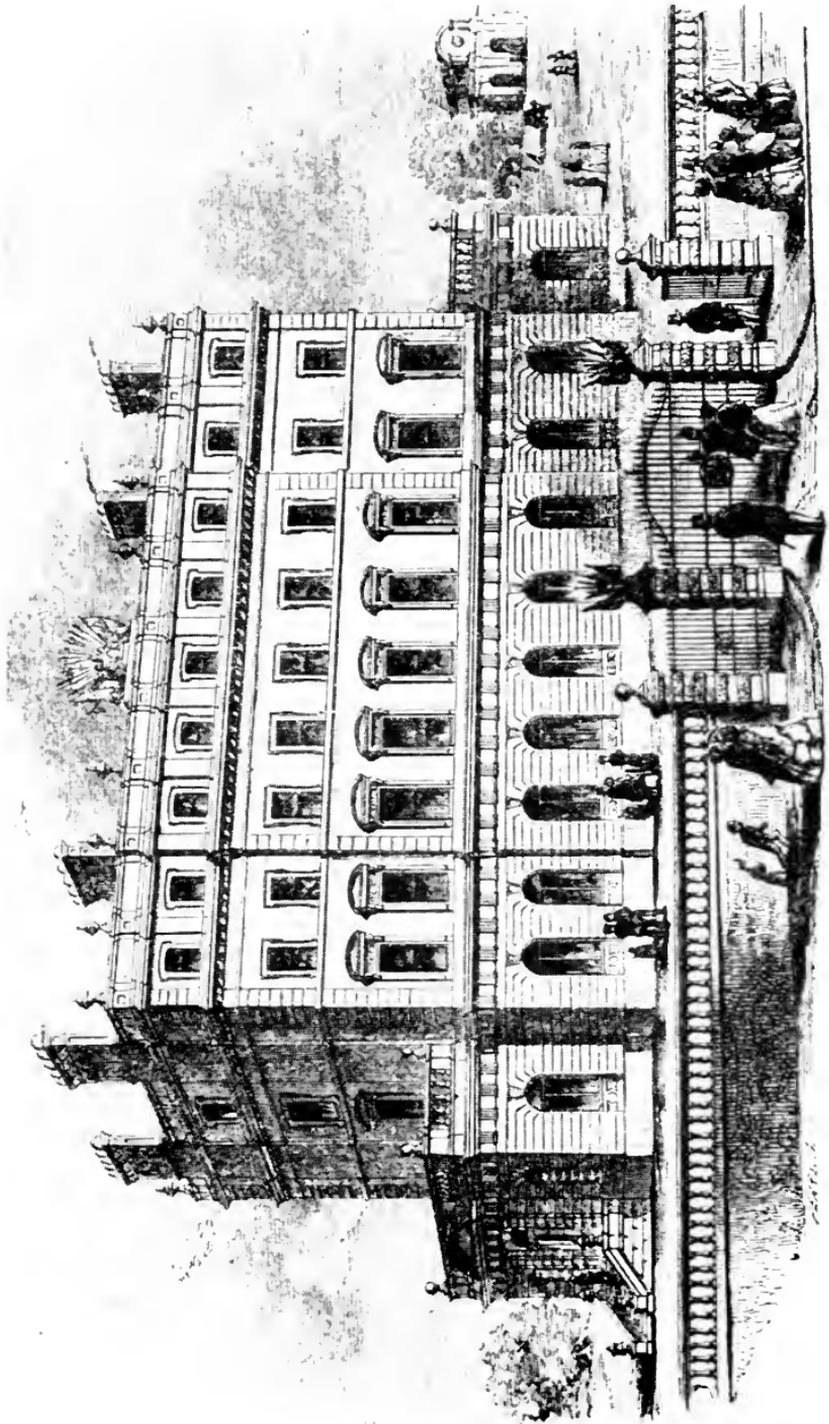
SOUTHAMPTON STREET.

Temporary headquarters of the Society before 8, Danes Inn.

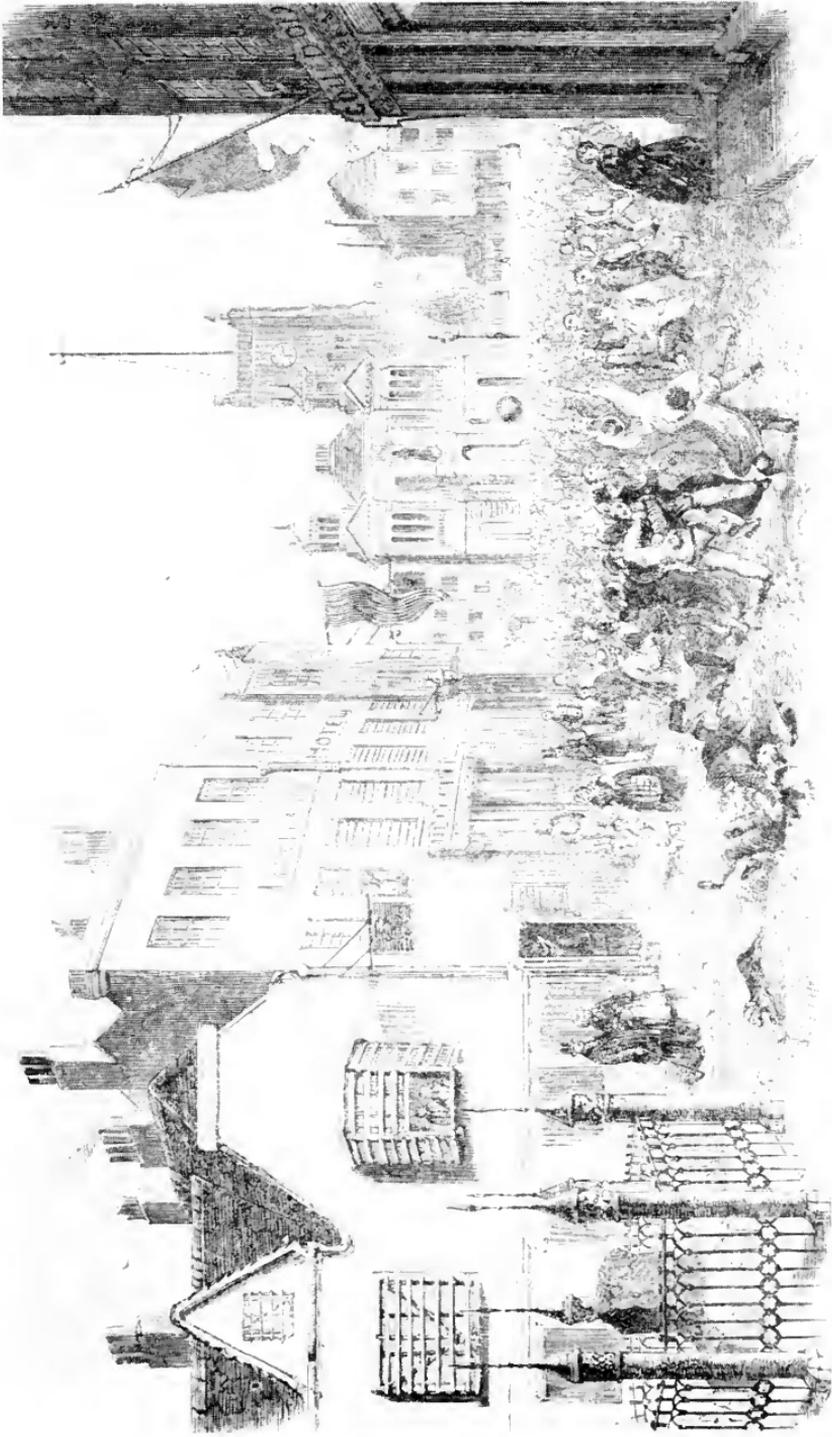


Photo by permission London County Council

NO. 8, DANES INN FROM THE SOUTH END.



CAVALRY COLLEGE, RICHMOND, 1857-60.

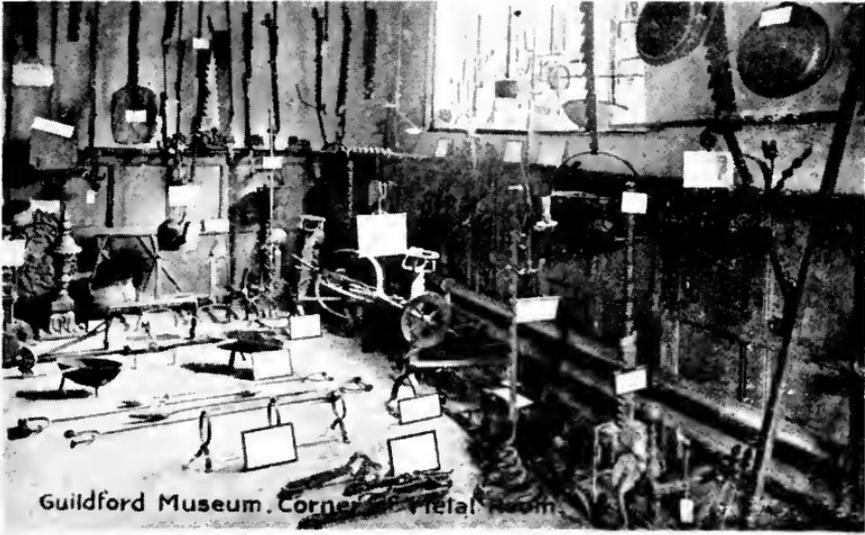


THE GRIFFIN HOTEL, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
(The picture shows football being played on Shrove Tuesday.)



CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM, KENT, c. 1851.

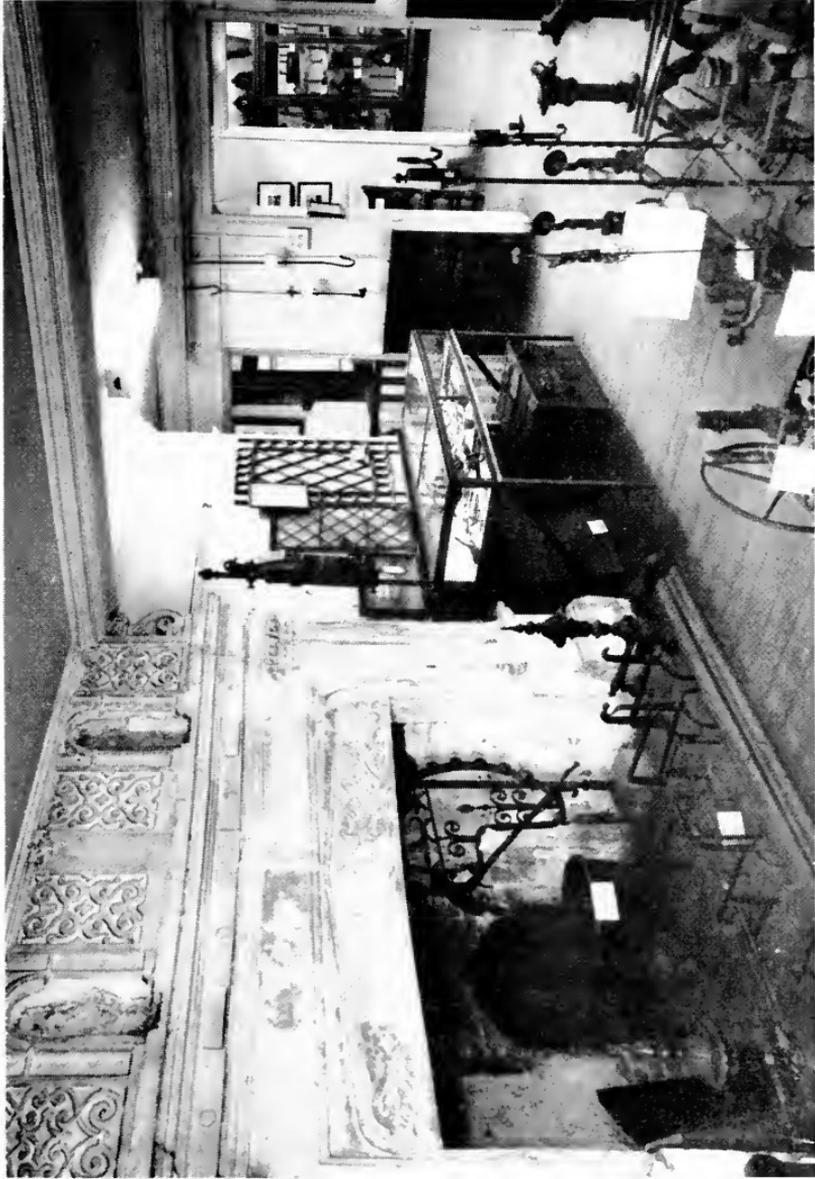
The subject of a paper read at the meeting held at Kingston on June 30, 1851



GUILDFORD MUSEUM, 1911.



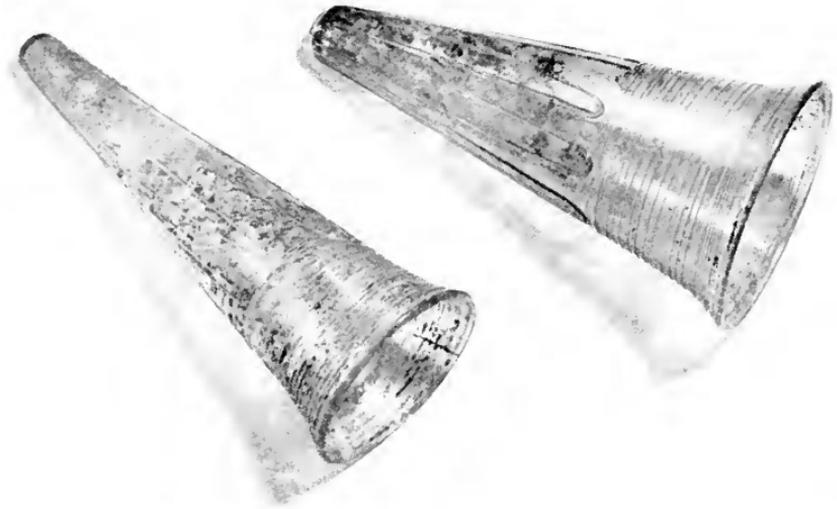
THE SOCIETY'S LIBRARY, CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD, 1954.



GUILDFORD MUSEUM, 1954.



GUILD FORD MUSEUM, 1951.



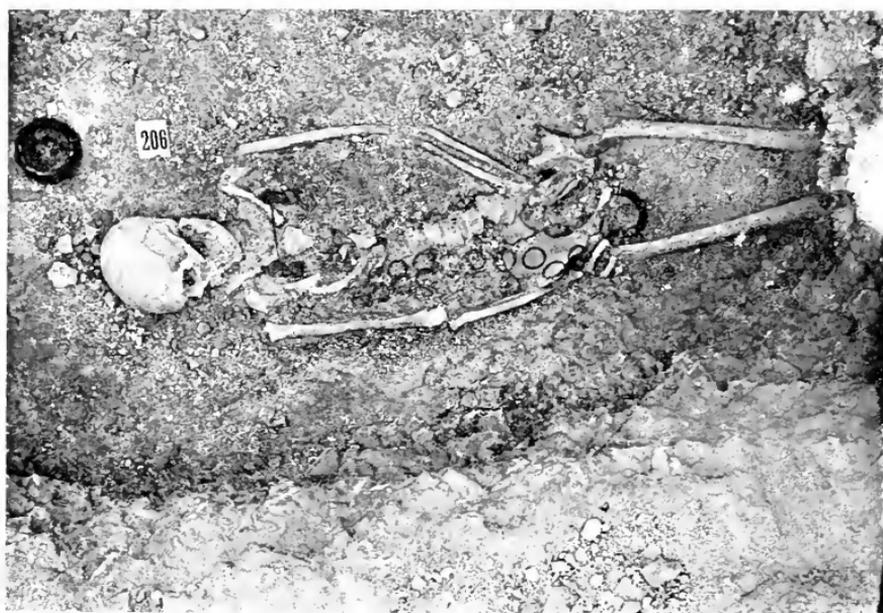
SAXON CEMETERY AT GUILDOWN.

Above: Glass Beakers (*left*) from grave 100, $9\frac{3}{4}$ in. long; (*right*) from grave 50, $9\frac{1}{4}$ in. long.

Below: Grave 100, showing beaker in position as found.

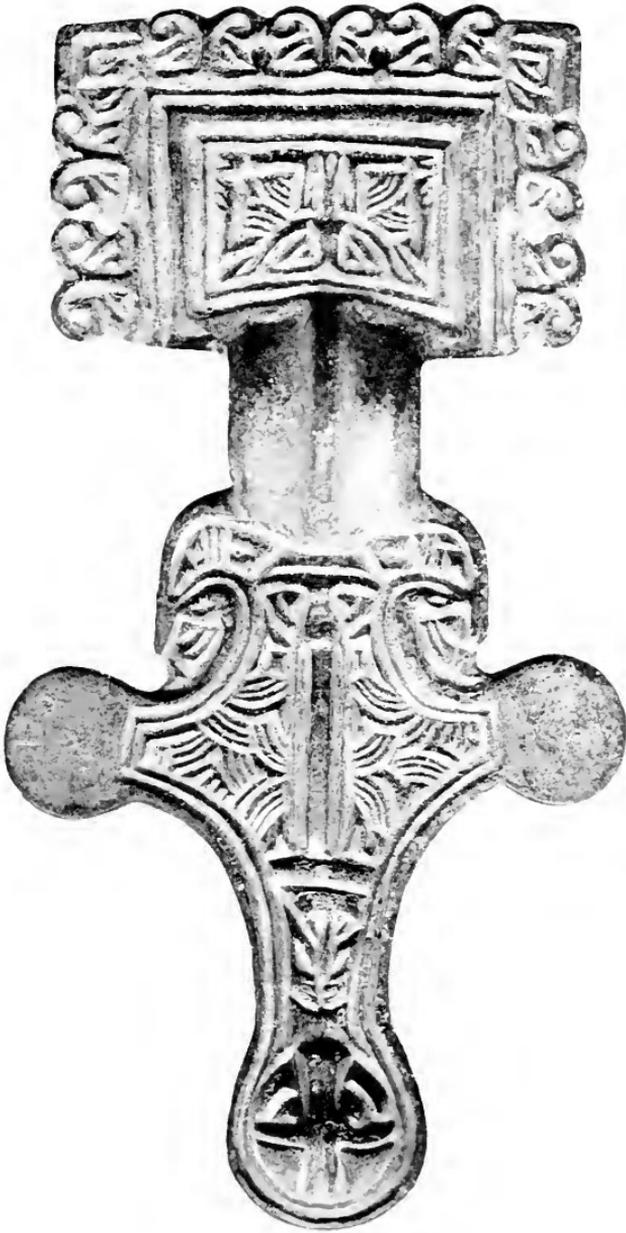


Spindle Whorl. Deep-blue glass; inlaid design in white glass.



Grave 206 (urn; bronze brooches, pin and graded rings; silver finger ring; beads).

SAXON CEMETERY AT GILDOWN.



SAXON CEMETERY AT GUILDOWN.
Large square-headed brooch (length $4\frac{3}{4}$ in.).



1



a



b

2



3

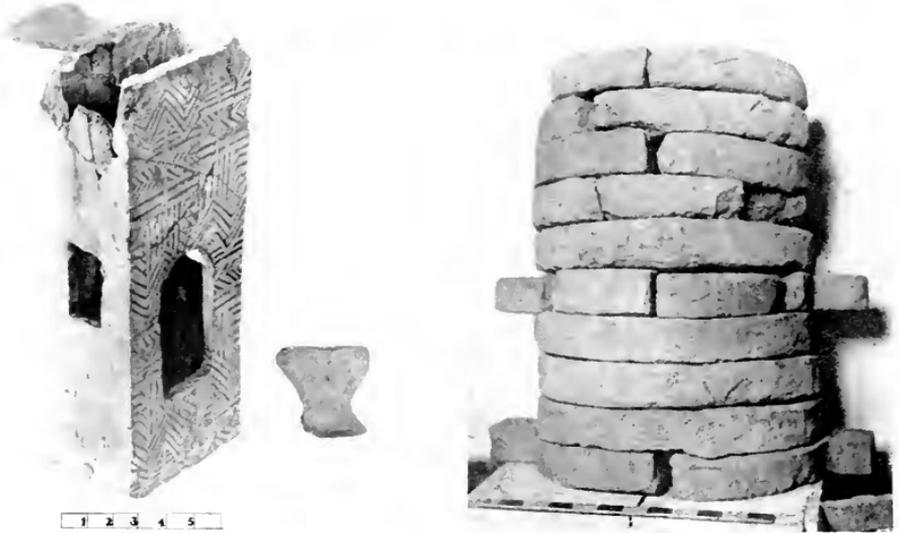
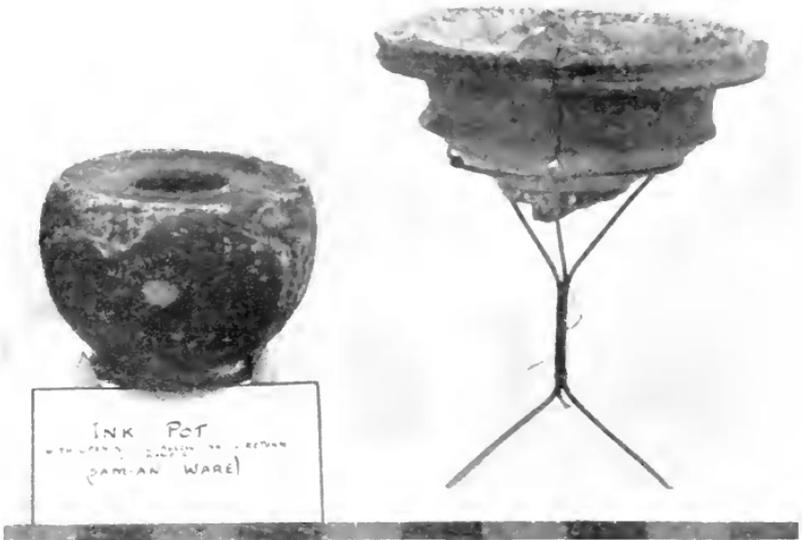
SAXON CEMETERY AT GUILDOWN.
Applied brooches (full size).



ASHTEAD ROMAN VILLA.

Above: Vessels of Light Grey Ware.

Below: (Left) Vase of Soft Brown Ware with remains of thick Cream Slip.
(Right) Olla with lid.



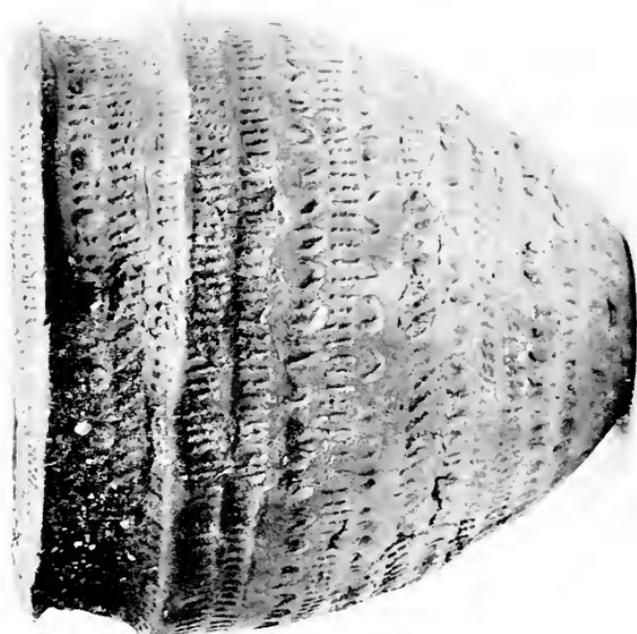
ASSTEAD ROMAN VILLA.

Above: Inkpot and Tazza Form Incense Cup.

Below: (left) Flue Tile. (right) Semi- and quarter-circle Tiles from engaged half column in corridor.



ASHHEAD ROMAN VILLA
Box tile tiles of keyed variety in hypocaust of Room 6.

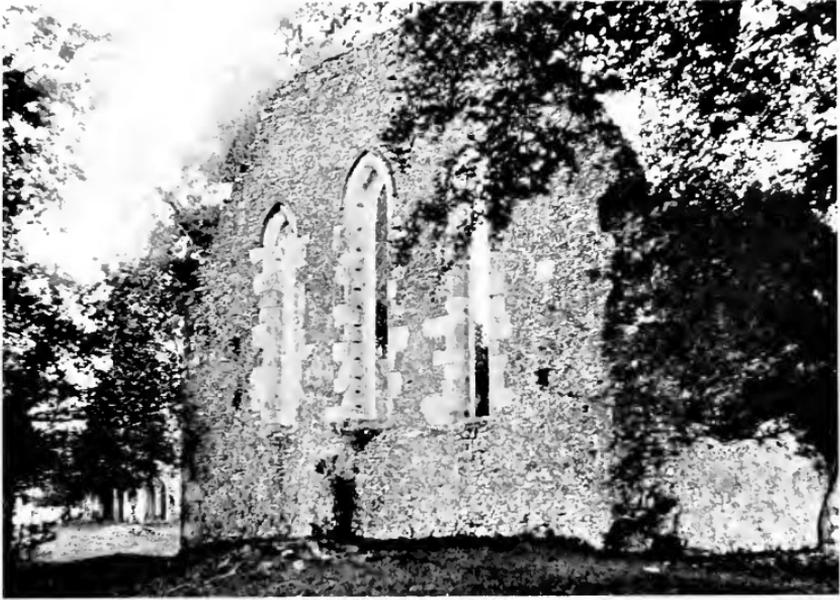


NEOLITHIC BOWL (RESTORED) FROM
BADSHOT LEA LONG BARROW,
NEAR FARNHAM.

By permission of Guildford Museum



URN FROM WILTMORE COMMON, WORPIESDON.
Height, 153 m.



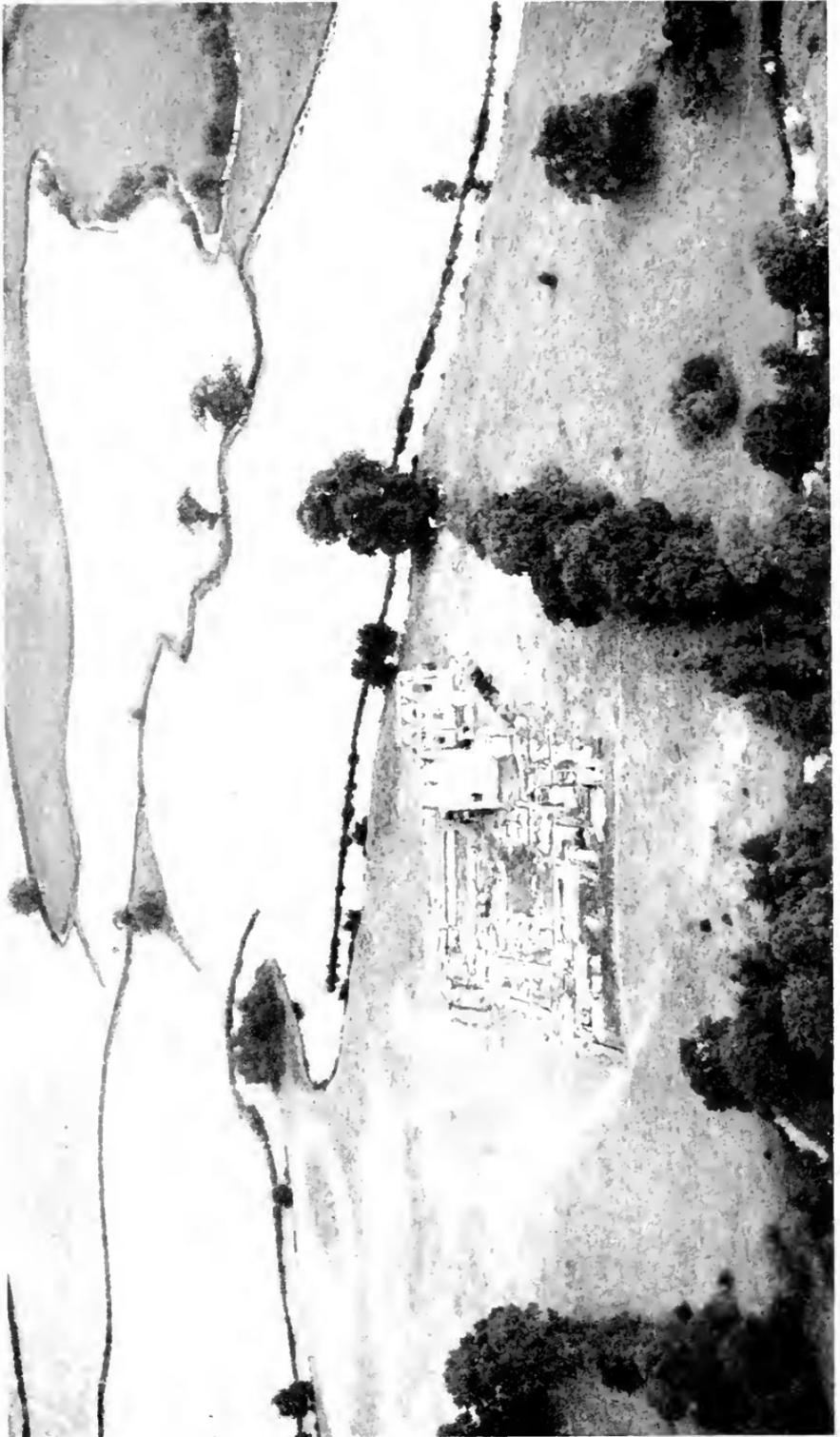
WAVERLEY ABBEY.
Exterior of S. Gable.



MERTON PRIORY.
Norman arch found in 1914.



WAVERLEY ABBEY.
Cellarer's building. Interior of lay brothers' Frater.



NEWARK PRIORY AND EXCAVATIONS, FROM THE AIR, JULY, 1928.



CHERTSEY ABBEY THE CHAPTER HOUSE
Discovered during the excavations made in August, 1861



ARCHIVES OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.
Some Surrey Subsidies: 14th to 17th century (Public Record Office).



St. Christopher of ...
... ..
Painting of St. Christopher

From a drawing by P. M. Johnston, F.S.A.

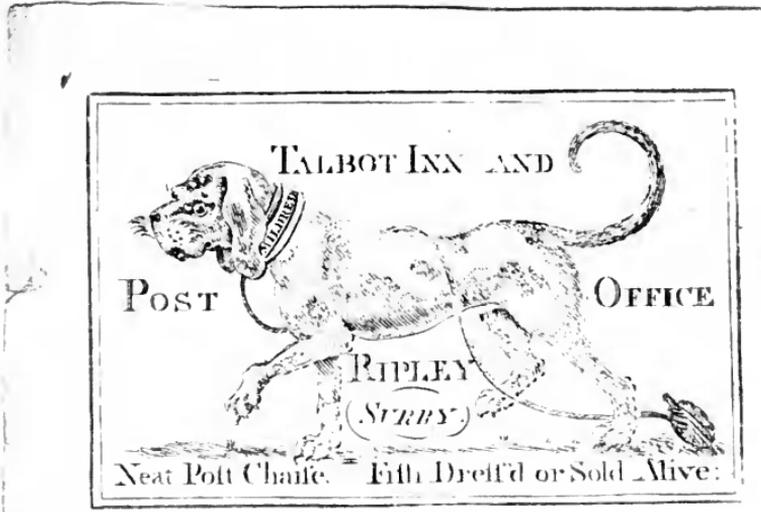
ALBURY OLD CHURCH.
Painting of St. Christopher on S. wall of aisle.



BRASS OF SIR JOHN D'AUBERNOUN, 1277.
In Stoke D'Abernon Church.



MEDIAEVAL WOOD CARVING FROM LEATHERHEAD.



1765
 Oct 19. 62 horses hay etc

THE TALBOT, RIPLEY



THE HOUND, SUTTON.
 SURREY BILL HEADINGS