

## REVIEWS AND NOTICES

CHRIST CHURCH, EAST SHEEN. A CENTENARY HISTORY. By R. C. Gill and F. Mattingley.  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ . Pp. 32 with 11 plates. 1963. 3s.6d. paper covers; 7s.6d. cloth.

This well written and well illustrated little book will naturally interest the congregation of the church concerned more than the general reader. The building was erected in memory of Edward Penrhyn, whose 'many public services and private virtues' in Surrey were no doubt worthier of remembrance than his earlier career as M.P. for Shaftesbury before the first Reform Act. Although the architect, Arthur William Blomfield, was then living near the site supervision of the work was so lax that the tower fell down just before the church was intended to be finished. However, it was soon set up again, and the church has never lacked loving care ever since. Short biographical notes of local residents add to the interest of this attractive publication.

T.E.C.W.

ENGLISH CHURCHYARD MEMORIALS. By Frederick Burgess.  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ . Pp. 326 with 32 plates and 65 figures. Lutterworth Press. London 1963. 50s.

It is a pleasure to welcome this distinguished and beautifully produced book by a member of our Society. It is the first comprehensive work of its kind in a hitherto neglected field, and has been liberally illustrated with the author's own photographs and drawings. Nearly every aspect of the subject has been covered, and Mr. Burgess has gathered an astonishing mass of out-of-the-way information. He begins by describing the origin and development of churchyards, and follows with an account of sepulchral monuments from prehistoric times to 1900. Next comes a chapter on design, and another on craftsmen, quarries, transport, and prices. There are three indexes, including a most valuable one of nearly 600 monumental stone carvers compiled from evidence provided by signed work and personal memorials. The topographical index mentions 27 places in Surrey, and a far higher number both in Kent and Sussex, while Wales, Scotland, and Ireland are represented. The author quotes the Rev. Leigh Richmond's ridiculous reference to 'trifling, licentious travellers, wandering about the churchyards of the different places through which they pass, in search of rude, ungrammatical, ill-spelt and absurd verses among the gravestones.' Apart from rude verses Mr. Burgess describes such things in Surrey as the cast iron slab at Crowhurst, 1591 (Fig. 40), the patent medicine advertisement on the gravestone at Godalming, and the poppy plant, symbol of sleep, on a well carved stone at Epsom. The author has studied various account books, and particularly illuminating is his notice of the Gilliam family of Dorking who worked at Deepdene for Thomas Hope. Between 1790 and 1830 Surrey marble fetched 3s.6d. a foot, while mantelpieces in Charwood marble were quoted at £4 10s.

Coming to modern times, Mr. Burgess has nothing but scorn for lawn cemeteries, such as, presumably, the reticent layout at Randalls Park, Leatherhead, where the monumental mason has little scope. One would have welcomed an opinion of the very different type of cemetery at Brookwood. Much more to the point is the state of our ancient churchyards, where we are warned of vandalism masquerading as tidiness. Valuable suggestions are made for their preservation, including liaison between local archaeological societies and diocesan officials. It is suggested that societies such as ours can also help by co-operative and co-ordinated investigation into the work of our monumental craftsmen, and the author states that the 'Surrey Archæological Society is compiling a list of the surviving grave-boards in the county.' It is surprising to learn that 'In Surrey at least, during the seventeenth century, these were the sole means of commemoration.'

One might express one or two minor criticisms or differences of opinion:—

Page 17. It was in 429 that Germanus, a bishop and not a 'former cleric' won the Alleluia victory, which may, however, have been theological rather than military.

Page 31. Stoke Poges is correctly called 'the most visited of any church-yard' since it is generally regarded as the scene of Gray's *Elegy*. But neighbouring Upton is another contender for the *Elegy*.

Page 51. Although John Evelyn mentions being taught in the porch at Wotton (not Wootton) he was probably referring to the base of the tower.

Page 134. The printer appears to have turned an Anglican into an 'Augustan.'

Page 153. Louis Philippe no longer lies at Weybridge.

Page 244. Abbots Ann, worth visiting for its maiden's garlands, is in Hampshire, not Dorset.

Pages 271–2. Can we be sure that the mediæval mason 'had a smaller working year than is customary today owing to the various holy days that were observed'? And was it all the way from 1200 to 1850 that 'A working week usually consisted of 5½ days; averaging 9 hours daily.'?

The large print and high quality paper do justice to the contents of this valuable volume.

T.E.C.W.

GUILDFORD FREEMEN'S BOOKS, 1655–1933. Edited, with an Introduction, by Hector Carter, with a Foreword by His Worship the Mayor of Guildford, Alderman Geoffrey Swayne. 8½ × 5½. Pp. 64 with 2 plates. Guildford Corporation. 1963. 6s. (6s.6d. or one dollar post free.)

Over a thousand names of Guildford freemen and apprentices appear in this book which gives in alphabetical order, with references, the essential information of the original Freeman's Books. These are briefly described in the Introduction. Names not in alphabetical sequence, mainly masters, are given in one index, another lists occupations and offices, and a third gives places mentioned other than Guildford and Stoke-next-Guildford. These are arranged under counties and it is somewhat surprising in a Surrey publication to find Clapham included under London for an entry covering the years 1807–1815. Similarly Ambersham, being in Hampshire in the text, could well have appeared under that county, as well as Sussex, in the index.

The index of occupations and the occupations of fathers and sons supplied in the body of the book will to some people be of the greatest interest and they give the book its value for social and economic history generally. It is in this sphere, rather than the genealogical which gains, that one loses much by the alphabetical arrangement, though, with the high cost of printing, one can suggest no other method of making the material available. It would, however, have added to the usefulness of the book if a section of the Introduction had been devoted to an analysis of the occupations, trades and crafts of those apprenticed, indicating the periods in which they occurred, as for example the grocers and tallow chandlers mainly between 1701 and 1764, or 'the art of an Attorney's Clerk or Writer' only from 1819 to 1848, the master generally being Jos. Hockley. Of the people who came into Guildford from a distance the son of a Manchester fustian manufacturer who was apprenticed from 1819 to mercers and drapers in the parish of St. Mary or the son of a Devon farmer apprenticed to a tin plate worker in Guildford in 1823 may be noted.

In welcoming the publication the Mayor looks back to members of his own family. William, son of William Swayne of Merrow, farmer, was apprenticed for seven years from 1792 to John Terry, senior and junior, carpenters.

It is pleasing to note references to publications of the Surrey Record Society, particularly Dr. Enid Dance's edition of *Guildford Borough Records, 1514–1546*, to which the present book, though covering a later period, is in some ways complementary.

M.G.

**COLLINS FIELD GUIDE TO ARCHÆOLOGY IN BRITAIN.** By Eric S. Wood. 7½ × 5. Pp. 384 with 58 pph. on 32 plates, 38 text figures, 5 tables and 19 maps. Collins, London, 1963. 25s.

Our Hon. Secretary has written a very extraordinary book. The age of polymathy has been considered over, and even single subjects like archæology are now broken down into specialisms in which each worker tends to be in ignorance of his colleagues' progress. But this book spans the whole of British Archæology and even protrudes at either end, for it begins with geology and ends with bygones. No one, of course, today can hope to cover all this with even expertise, but Mr. Wood has made a valiant attempt. He has acknowledged various colleagues who read the text or parts of it; we may think it a pity that the process was not carried further, and one or two surviving infelicities prevented, e.g. the attribution of Glastonbury to Cæsarian refugees (p. 69), Cæsar's visit to Wheathampstead in 55 as well as 54 (p. 70), or (Fig. 36) the labelling of a Flavian mortarium as fourth-century. No doubt there are many other detailed specialist points of this sort, and also other larger area of disagreement, such as whether cross-ploughing was really practised in Celtic agriculture (p. 107) or whether Roman villas really used open fields (p. 112). But of course there was not space for discussion of all these things.

The text is a masterpiece of compression—in places too much so, as in the section on Pottery—and appended to it will be found useful sections on the law of antiquities, local societies, sites worth visiting (with 18 regional maps), and a list for further reading. Not the least praiseworthy part of the book is the selection of plates, all of them good photographs and most of them unusual: there are also many well-drawn text-figures.

It is fascinating to dip into page after page of out-of-the-way information, and one cannot but regret the absence of detailed references in footnotes; but it is perfectly true that those who take the trouble can usually work their way back to original sources through the bibliography, and it is to be hoped that many will be inspired to do so. Perhaps the most extraordinary selection is labelled *Odds and Ends*, containing little essays on such diversities as Animal Doors, Boiling Mounds, Coracles, Follies, Ice Houses, Noosts, Plague Pits, and anti-body-snatching huts. Here we can truly marvel at the erudition which has given us such a delightful miscellany and may wish for more. The book will certainly enrich the explorations of those who use it with care, and we must hope that it will reach a wide public.

S. S. FRERE.

**PLACE-NAMES OF EDENBRIDGE.** By John Irwin. 8½ × 6½. Pp. 40 with 1 plate. 1 folding map. Edenbridge and District Historical Society. 1961. 10s.

The scope of this study is 'limited to place-names within the Parish of Edenbridge and its immediate environs and to those surviving in living memory.' It includes parts of the parishes of Lingfield and Limpsfield in Surrey.

E.E.H.

**THE STORY OF ARCHÆOLOGY IN BRITAIN.** By Ronald Jessup. 8½ × 5½. Pp. 214 with 44 pls. London: Michael Joseph Ltd., 1964. 25s.

In this book, which is intended for the interested layman and the young reader, the author aims to give a picture of archæological discovery and the growth of archæological method and ideas. The book is very readable and includes some entertaining and apposite anecdotes. The list of Surrey sites in the last chapter is strangely arbitrary and the omission of the Haslemere Educational Museum from the list of Surrey museums is unfortunate.

E.E.H.

**THE HAMPSHIRE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY TRADERS' TOKENS.** Edited by J. L. Wetton. 8½ × 5½. Pp. 37 and 22 pls. Kings of Lymington, Ltd., 1964. 15s.

This book, by one of our members, is a detailed revision of the Hampshire section of Dr. G. C. Williamson's *Trade Tokens Issued in the Seventeenth*

*Century* (Vol. I), 1889, including hitherto unrecorded issues and varieties, together with notes relating to the issuers and photographic illustrations of most of the tokens. Of particular relevance to Surrey is a reference to William Didlesfold who may have been of Farnham.

E.E.H.

CITY POSTS. By Martin Nail. Pp. 13 with map. Nonsuch and Ewell Antiquarian Society Bulletin, Series 3, Vol. I, No. 1. 1964. Typescript.

This article is a description of 'City Posts' or 'Coal Posts' and of their history and purpose. It deals with those within the present Municipal Borough of Epsom and Ewell and the Urban District of Banstead. These posts were set up in 1862 to demarcate the area within which certain duties on coal and wine were payable to the Corporation of the City of London. A map and lists of sites are included.

E.E.H.