

# Mosaic

## WHITE TOWER ORIGINAL ENTRANCE REOPENED

LAST MAY H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh inaugurated the timber staircase newly constructed against the south wall of the White Tower, enabling the original entrance on the first floor of the great keep built by William the Conqueror and his son, William Rufus, to be reopened (see front cover).

Prince Philip also opened the Sixteenth Century Gallery and Sporting Gallery; the opening of these two galleries is part of a major reorganisation begun in 1963. The Sixteenth Century Gallery demonstrates a vast range of decorative styles occurring on the arms and armour of Renaissance Europe. It also shows the equipment used by both the nobility and the common soldier. The Sporting Gallery, as the name implies, displays a great variety of weapons used in the past for hunting and shooting, and the development of sporting firearms.

## TRIG LANE EXCAVATIONS

MORE INFORMATION about London's Roman and Medieval waterfront has been revealed in excavations at Trig Lane. The site, between Blackfriars and Southwark bridges, is at the eastern end of the massive Thames Street development.

The timber waterfront so far excavated is nearer the mouth of the Walbrook, with its Roman commercial activity than is the Custom House site (see *London Archaeol.* 2 No. 6 and 7).

At Trig Lane the natural river bank has been cut back and revetted. The area immediately south was filled with rubble to provide a level platform for the base-plates of the main structure. Vertical planks were keyed into the southern ends of the base plates, and large, slanting braces jointed into their northern ends, forming a triangular brace behind the vertical planks. The entire space was then backfilled, and finally huge horizontal beams were slotted into joints on the vertical planks, holding the structure rigid.

The excavation has also found a fifteenth century ashlar waterfront and behind it two contemporary building phases; and a seventeenth century building with an associated cobbled courtyard.

## CITY TRUST FUND ESTABLISHED

AT THE END of July the City Corporation set up an excavation and publication fund to aid archaeological research in the City of London. Redevelopment in the City present an unrivalled opportunity for research which must be completed before foundations of new buildings destroy this vital evidence. The cost of delay to the developer is often considerable, but this can be minimised by an increase in professional expertise and time-tabling to excavate, and publish sites, which the fund will finance.

This year's contribution from the Corporation will form the basis of the fund. In addition the D.O.E. is making regular contributions, and it is hoped institutions and individuals will support this valuable project.

## OLD MACHINERY GAINS A VOICE

BRIAN JEWELL, of the Broadwater Collection Trust, is collecting information for a new specialist journal, *Veteran Machinery*. Growing interest in industrial archaeology and very early machinery such as sewing machines, cameras, vacuum cleaners and typewriters, has prompted the launching of *Veteran Machinery*. The Trust maintains the Broad-

water Collection of machinery and a world-wide register at its museum in Tunbridge Wells.

Mr. Jewell is keeper of the Collection and author of several books on industrial and social history. He broadcasts and lectures regularly on both subjects, and was formerly editor of *Bygone & Veteran Journal*. Contributions and information, particularly with illustrations, will be welcomed.

*Veteran Machinery* will appear bi-monthly from November and is available on an annual subscription of £2.40 from the publishers for the Trust, Grade Magazines, Sheldon Wav, Larkfield, Maidstone, Kent ME20 6SE.

## GRANT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

FOR A LONG TIME Southwark archaeologists have been worried by the lack of funds available for research both on the geological aspects of early Southwark and on many of the botanical and zoological remains found in recent excavations.

Fortunately Gabriel Harrison's Amalgamated Property and Investment Co. Ltd., which is involved in much local redevelopment, has offered a grant of £3,000 for 1974/75 for these purposes. Hopefully this grant will be awarded annually.

Currently, effort is also underway, with D.O.E. backing, to set up a centralized system providing environmental aid to archaeologists in Greater London.

It is possible to envisage that, with funds emanating from the D.O.E., Southwark and the City, a central organization will soon be at work offering the skills of specialist researchers which can be applied to the problems and materials arising from the increasing number of excavations in Greater London.

## CITY PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

BEFORE this great City consists entirely of great billets of concrete and six lane highways, an effort is being made to record how it looked before the planners utterly destroy it. The Guildhall Museum, in association with the City of London Archaeological Society are making a photographic survey of the City and are looking for volunteers to help with this ambitious project. Two types of workers are needed; one group to take the photographs and another to carry out simple background research on the subjects taken. The survey is to be as competitive as possible in human and physical material, quite open-ended and limited only by the availability of volunteers.

John Wellsman, Prospect Cottage, The Common, Flackwell Heath, Bucks (phone day 01-734 3314, week-end 06-285 22201) will be very pleased to hear from anyone interested.

## TESSERA E

**For the dirty archaeologist**—a coloured print (20ins. by 13ins.) showing a most life-like reconstruction of the latrines at Housesteads Fort has recently been published. Peep'd tastefully by six Roman soldiers, this remarkable print is obtainable for only 60p (inc. postage) from the Museum of Antiquities, The Quadrangle, University of Newcastle NE1 7RU.

**L. A. Exhibition in Moorgate**—for the month of August was staged by courtesy of the Leek, Westbourne and Eastern Counties Building Society at their City Office. The display which proved very popular, included pots, tools, a 'drawing office,' a 'mini-dig'—and, of course, copies of *The London Archaeologist*.