

# The Berkshire Archæological Journal.

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## Berkshire Archæological Society.

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### ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Berkshire Archæological Society was held at Reading University on Saturday, the 16th April, 1932, when the President, the Rev. Dr. B. H. B. Attlee, presided.

The following members and officers of the Council were elected :—

*Patron :*

H.M. THE KING.

*Vice-Patrons :*

J. H. BENYON, Esq., LORD LIEUTENANT OF BERKSHIRE.

THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF OXFORD.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD ALDENHAM.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD WYFOLD.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD MESTON OF AGRA.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD MAYO.

THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR OF READING.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR OF READING UNIVERSITY.

*President :*

THE REV. B. H. B. ATTLEE, D.D., F.R.Hist.S.

*Vice-Presidents :*

THE VERY REV. THE DEAN OF WINDSOR.

THE VEN. THE ARCHDEACON OF BERKSHIRE.

THE RIGHT HON. THE MARQUIS OF DOWNSHIRE.

## BERKSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

*Vice-Presidents (contd.):*

THE RIGHT HON. GERALD LORD WELLESLEY.

SIR EDWARD BARRY, Bart., F.S.A.

A. E. PRESTON, Esq., F.S.A.

THE PROVOST OF ETON,

THE MASTER OF WELLINGTON.

SIR EDWARD ILIFFE, K.B.

*Hon. Secretary and Treasurer :*

H. T. MORLEY, B.Sc. (Arch.), F.R.Hist.S., F.S.A. (Scot.)

*Editor of the Society's Journal :*

ERNEST W. DORMER.

*Librarian :*

FRANCIS M. BUNCE.

*Council :*

H. G. W. D'ALMAINE, F.S.A.

MISS BAILY.

J. HAUTENVILLE COPE, M.A., F.R.Hist.S.

J. W. DODGSON, B.Sc.

F. N. A. GARRY, M.A.

A. J. HEELAS.

H. J. HEWITT.

MRS. HOLDEN.

J. E. MORRIS, D. Litt. (Oxon.), F.R.Hist.S.

LIEUT.-COL. C. NOEL RIVERS-MOORE.

W. A. SMALLCOMBE, B.Sc.

LL. TREACHER, F.G.S.

FREDERIC TURNER.

J. W. WALKER, O.B.E., F.S.A.

LIEUT.-COL. C. J. WEST, O.B.E., M.D.

REV. H. C. WILDER, M.A.

C. B. WILLCOCKS, F.R.I.B.A.

P. WILLIAMS, M.A.

The Council presented the following report :—

“ Your Council are pleased to report that the past year has been one of steady growth and continued interest in matters relating to the archæology of the County. Despite the difficult times through which the nation has been passing ; a time when many might be excused for neglecting for a while the claims and interests of learned societies ; our membership has not suffered a decline, and when normal times return we are confident that there will be a gratifying increase.

We have to record the loss by death of several valued members including Mrs. Murdock, Dr. J. A. P. Price, Mr. W. Wing, and Mr. St. George R. Littledale, all of whom brought a keen interest and willing help to our affairs.

We are happy to announce that the excavation side of our labours has not been neglected. Lt.-Col. Rivers-Moore, with praiseworthy enthusiasm, has been doing yeoman work in finding what lies beneath the soil at his home, Ladye Place, Hurley, and we hope soon to be able to give a record of what he has discovered. At Knowl Hill, the foundations of a Roman building have been located, and in the present number of the Journal will be found an account of the excavations as far as they have proceeded.

The following lectures were given during the year and we are grateful to those who have at the cost of considerable time and labour given us the benefit of their knowledge. We are also indebted to the following ladies and gentlemen who generously provided tea on the occasion of the lectures :

#### TEAS.

In 1931 :—The Misses de Chaumont, Mrs. Cabot and Miss Williams, Miss Lawes, Miss Bailey, the Rev. and Mrs. H. C. Wilder, Mrs. Eddington and Miss Fraser-Duff. In 1932 :—Mrs. Ditchfield and Miss Monk-Smith, Mrs. and Miss Carleton Williams, Col. and Miss Beach, Mrs. Salway.

## LECTURES.

1931.

- October 17. "A Visit to Pompeii," by Mr. E. J. B. Fox.  
(Illus.).
- October 31. "An Outline of Yorkshire Archæology," by  
Mr. R. L. P. Jowitt. (Illus.).
- December 12. "The Recent Discoveries at Ur," by Miss Emily  
Armistead. (Illus.).
- November 14. "A forgotten College of Oxford," by Mr.  
Reginald W. Jeffery, M.A., F.S.A.

1932.

- January 16. "Thirteenth-century Glass of England and  
France," by Miss E. M. Jackson-Mason.  
(Illus.).
- February 13. Owing to the sudden illness of the lecturer other  
arrangements for this date had to be hurriedly  
made and Mr. F. M. Underhill gave a short  
account of the excavations at Knowl Hill and  
the Hon. Secretary exhibited some slides of  
misericords and old woodwork in England  
and France.
- March 12. The Annual meeting of the Berkshire Local  
History Recording Society was held, after  
which an illustrated lecture was given by  
Mr. C. B. Willcocks, F.R.I.B.A., on "The  
Local History Recording Scheme."
- April 18. "The Romance of Heraldry," by the President.  
(Illus.).

EXCURSIONS. On the 21st May about sixty members  
visited Greys Court, the ruined church at Bix, Harpsden Church  
and Harpsden Court, Henley Church, Hambledon Manor and  
Museum, Medmenham and Bisham Abbey. Papers were read  
by the President, Mr. Heelas, Mr. C. B. Willcocks and Lt.-Col.  
Rivers-Moore.

On the 8th July a visit was made to Stanton Harcourt Manor House, and the Moat House, Stanton Harcourt, the latter with its wonderful array of ancient furniture and *objets d'art*. The journey was continued via Witney, Burford and Chipping Norton to the Rollrich or Rollright Stones. The President had thoughtfully arranged for Dr. Raven Hill to meet the party who were thus enabled to hear a most interesting and valuable account of what has been termed the Stonehenge of Oxfordshire from one who is competent to speak upon these fascinating relics. The party proceeded via Hook Norton and Sibford Ferris to the wonderful manor house of Compton Wynyates, where the members were able to inspect under pleasant conditions one of the most delightful and historic examples of domestic architecture in the country.

On the 17th September, by the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. H. Benyon, sixty-five members and friends visited Ufton Court, which, though a familiar landmark of the county and known to most of our members, never fails to unfold new charms at each visit. Padworth House was also visited by the kindness of Major Darby-Griffith and Mr. Frederick Turner read a paper on the history of the manor and its former owners. After viewing the church, an exquisite and unspoiled example of Norman work, the party proceeded to Pamber Priory where a paper was read by the Hon. Secretary upon its story. A welcome tea was taken at Sherborne St. John and Reading was reached about 7 p.m.

#### ARCHITECTURAL PRIZES.

In accordance with its usual practice the Society have presented prizes to architectural students. The first prize was won by Mr. W. A. L. Hopkins for measured drawings of Basildon House, Berks, the second by Mr. R. A. Lambourn for measured drawings of the Cloth Hall, Newbury.

**BALANCE SHEET.** The balance sheet submitted for your approval discloses a deficit for the year ended 31st December, 1931, of £7 5s. 5d. There are two points that can be made in

explanation of this adverse balance. It was necessary, in the year in question, to print three numbers of the Journal, as the lamented illness and death of our former President had prevented the Journal being issued at its proper time. In addition to this we have now to pay for the whole of the blocks for the illustrations which accompany the articles; in past years the late Mr. C. E. Keyser, a former President, was very generous in this respect and the cost of the illustrations for the series of articles on Berkshire Churches which he wrote did not fall upon the Society. And this brings us generally to the cost of the Journal. We have, within the last few months, been able to obtain a lower price for its printing and publication which will save several pounds. Notwithstanding this, however, its production continues to exercise the minds of the Hon. Treasurer and the Editor, who are both anxious that its interest and usefulness shall not be curtailed by pecuniary considerations. The publications of a Society such as ours may usually be regarded as one of the symptoms of its vigour; but it is not always easy to reconcile the warring elements of financial embarrassment with a generous output of literary and historic matter connected with the county. It would relieve all those who have the interests of the Society at heart—and they are of course many—if means could be found by which donations could be made for the printing and publication of the Journal. An income of £25 a year, specially allocated to this purpose, would, with the present membership, suffice to clear the horizon of the clouds which occasionally darken it.

The Editor is indebted to those members who have generously assisted him by contributions since he undertook the duty ably performed for so many years by his predecessor, our late President, the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield. There is a vast mass of unrecorded material concerning the county still awaiting the assault of the local archæologist and it is to this cairn of the past that our energies must continue to be directed. Meanwhile we have every reason to be satisfied with the progress the Society is making. The Hon. Secretary is always glad to receive sugges-

tions as to excursions to places of interest, especially when these suggestions are accompanied by the names of owners of historic estates, and the more practical details of hotel accommodation, etc.

We congratulate our Hon. Secretary upon his new book, "Old and Curious Playing Cards of many Countries and Periods," which has received a generous measure of praise from all parts of the country. The volume is admirably produced by the house of Batsford of London and represents the completion of a lengthy task involving much labour and application.

As a Society we are indebted to the Vice-Chancellor and the Council of Reading University for the use of the rooms in which our meetings are held and we have requested the Hon. Secretary to convey our thanks to the Vice-Chancellor accordingly.

B. H. B. ATTLEE,

*President.*

The Council's report and the balance sheet were approved and adopted.