

THE ROMANO-BRITISH SETTLEMENT AT SPRINGHEAD

By W. S. PENN, B.Sc.

THE existence of a Romano-British settlement at Springhead, Southfleet, near Gravesend, has been known for many years, and One Tree Field at Springhead is marked on the Ordnance Survey Map as the site of Vagniacæ,¹ mentioned in the *Itinerary of Antonine, Iter II*. In spite of this, no systematic investigation of the site seems to have been conducted, although there must have been sporadic excavations (mainly unrecorded) at intervals over the past fifty years.² A full discussion of the contention that the site is Vagniacæ (and the evidence is not conclusive³) and of other finds in the district does not belong to this summarizing report, but will be considered in the detailed report of the recent excavations to be published later.

The Excavations Committee of the Gravesend Historical Society decided to conduct a series of investigations on the site and several trial pits were dug in One Tree Field during the autumn of 1950. Coins, pottery and other finds, including flint footings, indicated a fairly intensive fourth-century occupation so that it was decided to carry out as systematic an investigation as possible, considering the limited time available on agricultural land. After much work of this nature it became possible to excavate fully during the 1952 season, through the courtesy of the Tenant, Mr. Bartholomew.

The relatively limited amount of work so far completed has indicated several well-defined features of the occupation, but it should be stressed that any conclusions are only tentative since a vast area requires to be excavated. Briefly, the site was first occupied during the first century (coarse ware and Samian ware) an extensive flood occurring soon afterwards (c. A.D. 100) this probably having been caused by the creek near which the settlement is reputed to have been situated. The second century site was built over the first-century site from about A.D. 110-200 and was intensively occupied during this period (pottery and coins, etc.). There was an apparent period of inactivity during the third century, but during the fourth century there is evidence of extensive occupation. The settlement was occupied until the end of the fourth century and perhaps for a little time afterwards, but there is no evidence of a violent destruction of the site at the end of this time.

¹ Nat. Grid. Ref. 617725. The site stands about 40 feet above N.O.D.

² A. J. Philip, *History of Gravesend*, Vol. I, Stanley Paul, 1914.

³ G. M. Hughes, *Roman Roads in South East Britain*, George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., 1936.

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The structural remains, although not yet extensive, show considerable promise for the future. At the first-century level a large rectangular building has been found (although its exact purpose has not yet been ascertained) with an estimated size of 74 ft. by 22 ft., the walls being 22 in. thick and 40 in. thick at the buttresses, of which two have so far been found 22 ft. apart and each one 40 in. long. The walls are built in trenches on concrete foundations, being 2-3 ft. high above the foundations (on average) with a 3 in. offset about 12 in. above the foundations. The building is apparently divided into two rooms by a similar wall, the one room being about 35 ft. by 22 ft. The remains of a small chalk apse were found near one wall in the first century level, associated with three large tiles set in mortar at the end of a baked clay floor. This seems to have been a hearth of some type. All the walls are flint, set in mortar and well faced, the long axis of the building being orientated almost east-west.

The structural remains belonging to the second-century level are very few. Traces of a poor chalk wall were found and one of the walls of the first-century building was over built with heavy chalk and flint blocks, covered with a floor of gravel set in mortar. These heavy blocks may have been to support the floor over the clay layer (this was deposited over the first-century building by the flood) but at the moment this is only conjecture. A fine second-century road or trackway was also found in the area (orientated north-south), 12 ft. wide, 9 in. thick, with a pronounced camber and composed of a gravel surface cemented with clay and laid on chalk blocks. This may be a branch of the Watling Street or simply a track in the settlement, and crop marks have indicated the position of other roads in the vicinity. Floors of concrete, rammed chalk and flint, the first with a few tesserae have also been found.

A few trial pits established the existence of a larger number of flint footings in the fourth-century area. The evidence at the moment indicates that this is by the side of the earlier sites and that the latter were robbed to provide building materials for the fourth-century buildings. The fact that the fields have been under cultivation has so far prevented closer study of these footings.

As far as smaller finds are concerned, these have been numerous. First-century finds included much coarse ware, a little Samian ware (Drag. 18, 27, 29 and 42) and a Dupondius of Antonia. Second-century finds included large amounts of coarse ware and Samian ware (Drag. 18, 18/31, 24/25, 30, 31, 33, 35 or 36, 37 and 38, Walters Form 79 and Ludowici Type T_n1), although no complete pots have been found, levels also being considerably mixed, probably through ploughing. There have been many bone pins and needles, several bronze pins, four fibulae, two keys (one a padlock type) an iron spoon and several coins (Trajan,

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Hadrian, Antoninus Pius, Marcus Aurelius and Septimius Severus) and a few fragments of glass, including part of a burial urn with a leaf design. Large numbers of oyster shells and bones have also been found, illustrating the intensive occupation of the site.

Very little was found to represent a third-century occupation, but during the fourth century the finds included coins (Constantine the Great, Valens, Valentinian I and II and Arcadius) a bronze spoon, a double toothed comb, many nails, fragments of roofing tiles and many sherds of coarse ware.

It is not possible in this summarizing report to comment on the finds or to list them all in detail, but a few of the more interesting ones may be mentioned. The initials of four individuals were scratched on sherds of pottery (three Samian and one coarse) these being NVA, PA, VA and DMR, and several potters' marks have been found namely Atiliani. M, Elvillus, Pavli. M., O Frontinus, Cracuna. F., Micciomi. M. and Masculus. In one section of the room of the building, painted wall plaster was found, the main body of the plaster being buff-coloured or cream, with simple line designs in signal red, Vandyke brown and orange. A large cluster of carbonized seeds was also found at the second-century level, these having been identified as *Atriplex patula*, or the common orache. This is a member of the spinach family and may have been grown for fodder or even human consumption. It may also be noted that it normally grows on sea shores or salty marshes which is interesting in view of the theory that the settlement was situated by the side of a creek. Evidence of smelting on the site has also been found in fragments of furnace wall with flux still adhering to it, parts of the brick furnace base with slag adhering to it and the presence of considerable amounts of iron slag and ore.

There have been many other miscellaneous finds, all of which indicate an extensive occupation, particularly during the Antonine period and the fourth century. Much work remains to be done, however, to establish the extent of the site, to determine its history and whether or not it is Vagniacæ. It is hoped to make considerable progress during the course of the next few years.

The writer wishes to acknowledge the considerable help so willingly given by his colleagues Mr. E. Tilley and Mr. W. Gee, all other helpers, and the Council of the Gravesend Historical Society.

on the site. There is not the slightest trace of post-Roman occupation of the area so far examined.

Valuable help is being given by some members of the recently formed Bexley Local History and Antiquarian Group and it is hoped to continue selective excavation until a more definite opinion can be formed as to the extent and nature of the settlement.

It is intended to publish a fuller report of the evidence at a later date.

P. J. TESTER.

J. E. L. CAIGER.

BROMLEY DISTRICT

Excavations at Warbank, Keston

The Warbank site was first excavated by T. Crofton Croker, F.S.A., and A. J. Kempe, F.S.A., in 1828 when the well-known circular structure and adjoining inhumation burials in stone coffins were discovered (*Archæologia*, XXII). The Lower Warbank Field which adjoins the cemetery was examined by C. R. Corner in 1854 when foundations of Roman buildings were discovered and walls recorded running under the hedge into the next field called Eight Acres (*Gentleman's Magazine*, 1855, and *V.C.H., Kent*, I, pp. 119-21). Permission was given to the writer in the summer of 1951 to excavate in the Eight Acre Field and the results of the first season's work on the site which was found to have been extensively robbed were :

1. A floor of heavy construction originally made up of two layers of tiles set on cement was uncovered and on the floor two fourth-century coins were found.
2. Around the floor the wall foundations survive in part and in the best preserved section the wall is constructed of sandstone blocks and a little painted wall plaster remains *in situ* on the face of the wall.
3. The filling of a gully cut in the chalk parallel to one wall contained an interesting collection of first-century pottery, including plain and decorated Terra Sigillata.
4. Pits cut in the chalk were found and will be examined during the next season's work on the site.

Urn from Warbank

An interesting discovery in a lumber room in Keston was of a burial urn carefully preserved on a stand under a glass case containing pieces of bone, pottery and coins and bearing a label in faded handwriting "Roman Remains found in the War Bank and neighbourhood of Keston in 1861." The Urn is second-century and the coins range from Claudius to Constantine I, each century being represented.

The Iron Age Camp in Holwood Park, Keston

Following the sale of Holwood Park by the Stanley family in 1951 to a syndicate interested in development representations were made to the Ministry of Works regarding Holwood Camp. An assurance has been received from the Ministry that the whole area of the Camp, and not just the existing ramparts, is scheduled under the Ancient Monuments Acts. In the case of Holwood Camp, the Ministry does not consider that a Preservation Order, involving the payment of compensation should be issued.

N. PIERCY FOX.

TWO EARLY BRONZE AGE AXES

Recently L. V. Grinsell called attention to a flanged axe from Ashford (Kent), preserved in the Avalon Museum, Glastonbury.¹ More recently L. R. A. Grove and W. N. Terry illustrated and described this flanged axe, pointing out that it has a much damaged dark green patina.² A subsequent re-examination of this axe revealed that the sides of the flanges may have been ornamented. The remaining portions of the original surface suggest that this ornament may have been a debased version of the "cable" motif as defined by Megaw and Hardy³, produced, possibly, as far as can be seen, by grinding.

In addition part of the original surface of the lower portion of one of the faces of this axe, bears three oblique lines, made, as the patina suggests, in antiquity. These lines are continuous incisions, made with a fine "chisel ended" point. It may well be that these lines are accidental, but it is of interest to note that Maryon⁴ observes that, while the 'tracer' was the normal method of producing ornamentation upon Early Bronze Age metalwork, a few examples of lines scraped by a flint point or a compass point are known. (The true compass is an Early Iron Age invention, so this is a comparative term.) The sides of this axe are more or less straight and the flanges are quite well developed, and would appear to have been cast. Some grinding for ornamentation would, whilst enhancing the appearance of the piece, serve the practical purpose of removal of the casting "seams". A longitudinal section shows that medially this axe may have a slight protuberance of the nature that has caused many axes of this form to be classified as palstaves. This medial protuberance if it ever existed upon this specimen would appear to have been non-functional from the viewpoint of hafting, but should pertain, as is shown by the flattened lozenge longitudinal section, to the concentration of medial weight in relation to the cutting edge.

¹ *Arch. Cant.*, LXI, p. 185.

² *Ibid.*, LXII, p. 143 ff.

³ *Proc. Preh. Soc.*, IV, p. 277.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 279.

The cutting edge seems to have been quite widely splayed in relation to the size of the tool. The splay springs from immediately below the termination of the flanges, and may well have been formed by hammering. If this Ashford axe was decorated, as it might have been, its characteristics place it in Group III of Megaw and Hardy's scheme.¹

A fine decorated bronze axe of early type has been in the collections of the Kent Archæological Society for many years.² It bears a label indicating that it was from "Mr. Battely, Medway Brass Works, Oct. 1883." It can be immediately argued that it is a collector's piece of no known provenance, as is indeed the case with regard to the provenance. On the other hand it must be remembered that the latter decades of the last century were the period of optimum activity on the part of the private collectors, and as a collection was broken up, it was usually acquired in part or as an entity by a fellow collector. Therefore upon these grounds the possibility that this axe was found locally and sold for its metallic value to the Brass Works in question cannot entirely be eliminated. In view of its superb workmanship, and in the hope that one of our members (if it were a collector's piece) may know something of its history, a description has been embarked upon.

The axe (Fig. 3) has a flattened lozenge longitudinal section, a widely splayed cutting edge and a thin rounded butt. There are slight side flanges, formed, it would appear, by hammering, as indeed is the splayed cutting edge. The sides bear a version of the "lozenge"³ pattern, but the sides of these lozenges are delicately curved, forming what can be better described as a willow leaf pattern. By far the best parallel to this distinctive ornamentation is that of the side flanges of the decorated (Irish ?) axe from the famous Gallemsøse (Jylland)⁴ hoard. Both faces are decorated with closely juxtaposed rows of vertical strokes produced with a blunted punch; they are tastefully arranged in a panel bounded at the top by the medial point of the axe, which by hammering has been given a semblance of concavity in relation to the cutting edge. The bottom of this panel terminates in a point directed upon the middle of the cutting edge. The wide splay of the cutting edge has been produced by hammering and is boldly demarcated. It bears a number of scratches, which appear to have been produced by a file, and were perhaps made to test "the worth of the brass" when the implement was taken in the first instance to the Medway Brass Works.

The face ornament of this axe is particularly well-known in Megaw and Hardy's decorated axe series; it is seen perhaps at its simplest

¹ *Proc. Preh. Soc.*, IV, p. 276.

² G. Payne, *Cat. K.A.S. Coll.*, 1892, pp. 5, 27.

³ *P.P.S.*, IV, p. 277.

⁴ *Ibid.*, Pl. LV(b); *Real.*, IX, taf. 106.

upon a flat axe from Co. Tyrone, Ireland,¹ or in a more sophisticated manner upon three of the axes from the Willerby Wold barrow.² It is also of interest to note that the face decoration upon the British axe from the famous Dieskau, Saalkreis,³ hoard corresponds quite closely with our axe.

In 1938 besides the Buckland, Dover, hoard⁴ one other decorated axe from the Thames at Swanscombe was known. To these might tentatively be added the Ashford axe, while pending further informa-

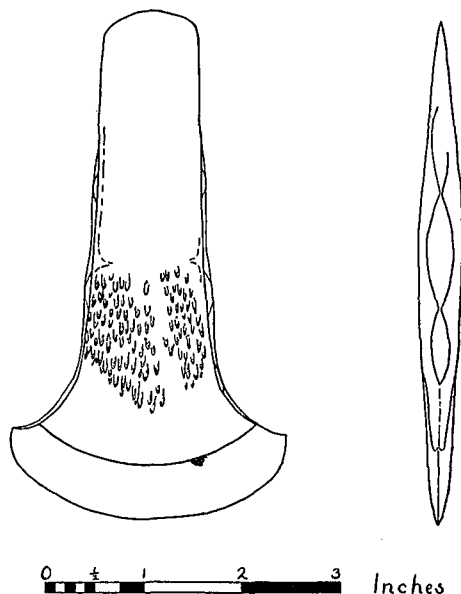


FIG. 3. The Battely Axe

tion, the "Battely axe" must be appended to the list "Britain or Ireland, County unknown"⁴.

In connection with this flat and flanged Early Bronze Age axe series, an example illustrated by Jessup⁵ from Wye Down and described as a "sort of chisel" is of especial interest. Its general appearance betrays it to be an example of, or closely allied to, the Northern axe series of Northern Germany and Scandinavia. Good comparative examples

¹ *Supra.*, Fig. 2a.

² *Arch.*, LII, p. 3.

³ *J.S.T.*, IV, 1905, p. 3; *Arch.*, LXXXVI, p. 211.

⁴ *P.P.S.*, IV, p. 300.

⁵ *Arch. Kent*, p. 37, Pl. V, 14.

are a specimen from the Fjälkinge, Schonen,¹ hoard, and one illustrated by Forssander from Schonen.²

The notes above show the importance of analysis of local bronzes and their comparison with the general British and European series. As has been shown recently by Professor Stuart Piggott³ our British flanged axes with pointed butts⁴ are related to the Central European series; the Central European type in question is illustrated particularly well by axes in the well-known Sobochleby hoard.⁵

Standing in contradistinction to this series is a Western flat or flanged axe, characterized by an extremely well splayed cutting edge. This form while common in Brittany⁶ is exemplified by axes from the Killaha hoard⁷ and the flat axe from Aylesford.⁸ It has been suggested⁹ that pending a more precise definition of the groups, "Aylesford type" would be a precise connotation for many of the Western axes.

These axes have been described by kind permission of Mr. L. R. A. Grove, Director of the Maidstone Museum, for the former, and the Council of the Kent Archaeological Society for the latter. Professor V. G. Childe drew the writer's attention to the decoration upon the "Battely axe".

P. ASHBEE.

A THIRTEENTH-CENTURY KILN SITE AT ASHFORD

This note is in the nature of a preliminary report, to put on record as soon as possible the main pottery types from what is probably a kiln site at Potters Corner, Ashford.¹⁰

In early February, 1952, Messrs. J. Sinden and E. Croucher, working for Messrs. Earl and Company, builders, of Willesborough, came across pottery whilst laying the foundation for a house. Mr. Sinden reported the find to the Ashford District Surveyor who in turn notified Mr. Kenneth R. Geering, of Ashford. On the 12th February Mr. Sinden found an almost complete pot and left it undisturbed *in situ*. Mr.

¹ Forss. Ost. Skand. Nord., *Taf.*, XXXVIII.

² *Ibid.*, *Taf.*, XLIV.

³ Prehistoric Society Meeting, 15th March, 1952.

⁴ E.g. Bush Barrow, Plymstock Hoard, Tolland Hoard.

⁵ *Richly.*, *Die Bronzezeit in Böhmen*.

⁶ P.P.S., IV. *Of Breton Bronze Age*.

⁷ *J.R.A.I.*, 1939, p. 116.

⁸ *Proc. Soc. Antiq.*, XVII, p. 376, Fig.

⁹ *A. Apsimon*, to be published.

¹⁰ O.S. 6-in. *Kent Sheet*, LXIV N.E. The pottery was found on the north side of the Maidstone-Ashford road on a property belonging to Mrs. Gilman. This building-plot lies between two houses called "Ardlui" and "Plumstead" and is approximately 150 yds. to the south-east of the Hare and Hounds Public House and Sandyhurst Lane.

Geering thought the discovery important enough to ask for the services of the Maidstone Museum staff in excavating it.¹ This was done on the 13th February and the opportunity was also used to collect as many pottery fragments as possible from the soil thrown up in digging the foundations.

At this stage it is only necessary to state that the pottery, of thirteenth-century date, occurs in sandy soil and that many of the sherds are obviously portions of wasters thrown away as useless by the potters.² Clay is found at a short distance away and occurs in thin seams near the banks of the branch of the Great Stour which flows by Hothfield Mill.³

THE FINDS

Fig. 4

1. Large bowl. The size is difficult to judge exactly as it was probably a waster. Hard, sandy, pinkish-buff paste with grey core. Decorated by scoring with a pointed stick or something similar—it appears to have slipped in places for the dissatisfied potter has tried to rectify his mistakes.
2. Fragment of a long-necked jug bearing shallow incisions for decoration. Paste as in 1.
3. Fragment bearing shallow incisions for decoration. Paste as in 1.
4. Ditto.
5. Cooking-pot. Hard, pinkish-buff paste incorporating pieces of angular grit up to $\frac{1}{8}$ in. in length. A row of thumbing below the neck.
6. Bowl. Paste as in 1 but also incorporating a few pieces of grit. The top of the rim was probably decorated by stabbings from a notched stick.
7. Sagging, thumbed base, probably of a pitcher or jug. Paste as in 1 but it has weathered badly and shows signs of flaking.
8. Cooking-pot. Paste as in 1 and incorporating grit as in 5. Applied strips running downwards, not quite vertically, from the shoulder.
9. Cooking-pot. Hard, pinkish-buff paste with dark grey core with grit as in 5. Applied strips as in 8.
10. Cooking-pot. Hard, sandy, pinkish-buff paste incorporating a few particles of grit. Some scoring on the interior.

¹ The writers of this note are much indebted to Mr. K. R. Geering for his help and to Mr. E. T. Mortimore, Headmaster of Ashford Grammar School, for acting as an intermediary.

² No kiln structure was found but there was much charcoal on the site.

³ W. Topley, *The Geology of the Weald*, 1875, p. 139. Topley says that thin seams of clay are found in the sand and that good sections of this feature could be seen in his time at Potters Corner and Hothfield Common.

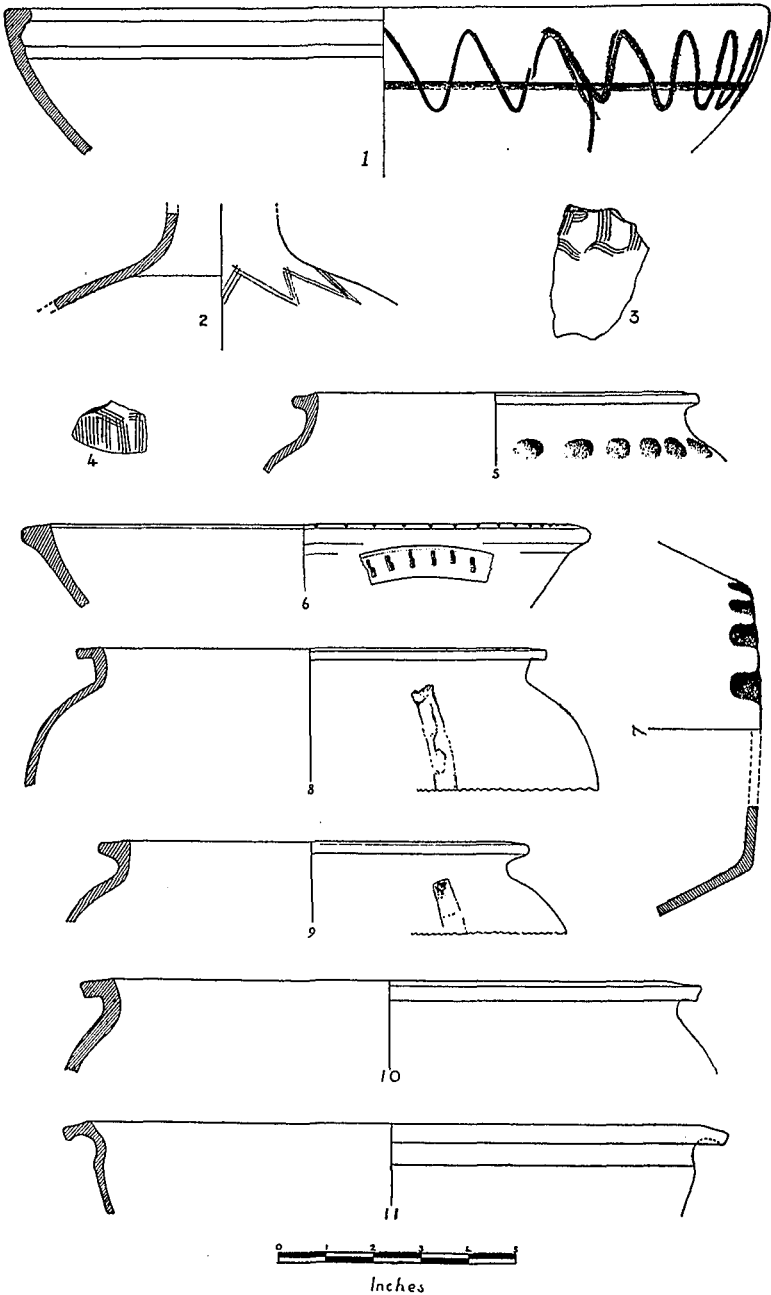


FIG. 4. Mediaeval Pottery from Ashford

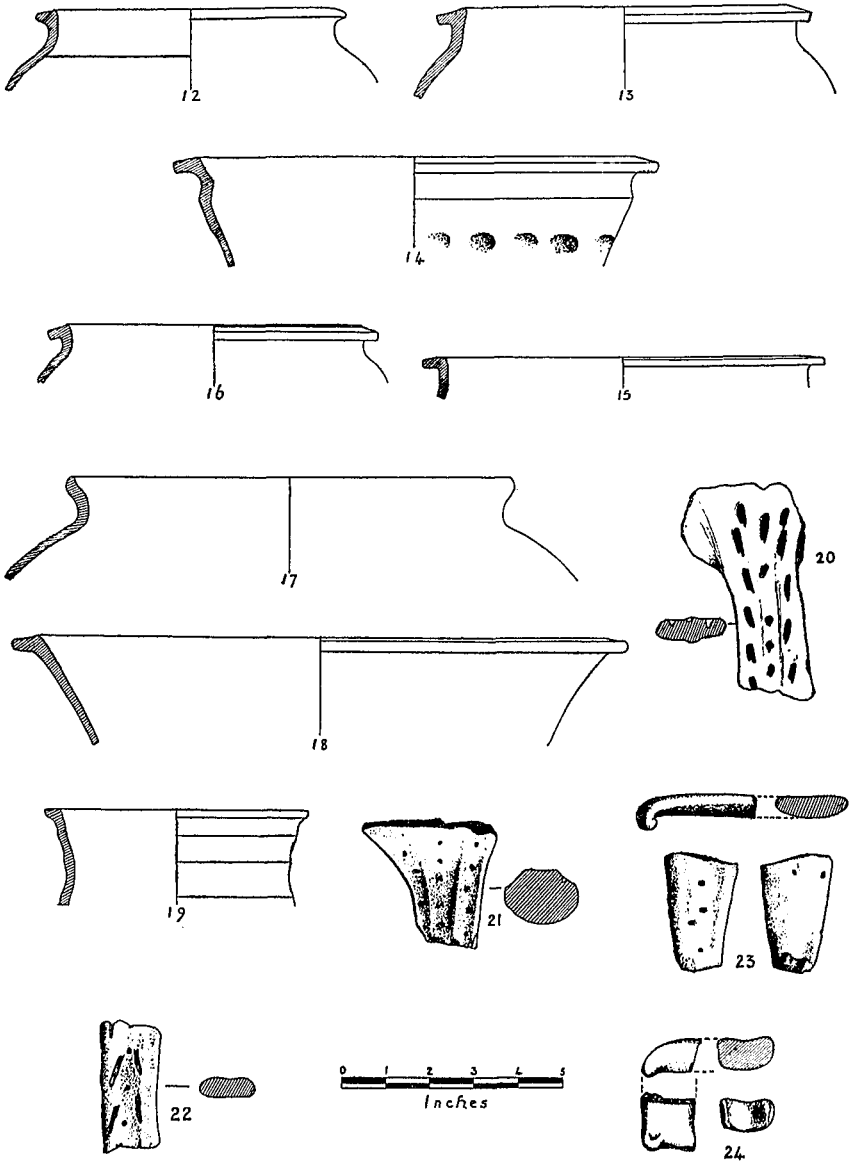


FIG. 5. Mediaeval Pottery from Ashford

11. Cooking-pot. Paste and grit as in 5, grey core. On the shoulder are some depressions, shallow and irregular, which may be intended as decoration. They are only obvious to the touch and, being dubious, have not been shown in the drawing.

Fig. 5

12. Cooking-pot. Paste as in 5 and incorporating a few pieces of grit.
 13. Cooking-pot. Hard, sandy paste. Exterior pinkish-buff, interior brownish-buff. Core grey. Incorporating angular grit.
 14. Bowl. Hard, sandy, reddish-buff paste with grey core. Crude thumb-marking on the exterior side.
 15. Cooking-pot. Hard, sandy, light grey paste with brown core.
 16. Cooking-pot. Hard, pinkish-buff paste with light grey core.
 17. Cooking-pot. Hard, sandy, light grey paste with a core composed of a grey layer sandwiched between two layers of light red.
 18. Bowl. Hard, sandy, pinkish-buff paste with grey core, incorporating grit.
 19. Jug or pitcher. Hard, sandy, pinkish-buff paste with grey core.
 20. Jug handle. Paste as in 19. Stabbed decoration. On the middle line of the lower side the handle is decorated with rounded knobs caused through deep stabbing from above.
 21. Jug handle. Hard paste, light brick-red exterior and grey core. Some traces of lead glaze on the side which was part of the interior of the jug. Decoration of stabbed holes.
 22. Jug handle. Hard, dark red ware with a dark grey core. Decoration probably done with a stick.
 23. Portion of a handle-like lug. Hard, brick-red paste with a dark grey core. *Cf. Trans. Essex Arch. Soc., N.S., XII, p. 180, item Gi, and Pl. G, letter i.* This lug, from Rayleigh Castle, occurs on the neck of an "unglazed black pot".
 24. Portion of a handle-like lug. Hard, light brownish-grey paste with a darker core. See 23 for a parallel.

L. R. A. GROVE.
 A. WARHURST.

AN ALABASTER ST. JOHN'S HEAD FROM WOULDHAM

A recent spring-cleaning at Maidstone Museum has brought to light a medieval object which is worthy of some notice, especially as it is a rarity for Kent. It is a slightly mutilated alabaster St. John's Head or Image of St. John the Baptist of fifteenth-century date, dug up in the garden of Starkey Castle, Wouldham.¹

The alabaster consists of the head of St. John the Baptist on a charger, beneath which is a lamb lying on a pedestal between two

¹ Accession number 32.1919. Given 12th October, 1896, by Mrs. Pearce to Miss E. A. Taylor of Wouldham Rectory who in turn gave it to the Museum.

human figures. On the sinistral side the figure is of an archbishop holding a cross-staff in his left hand whilst his right is held up in the attitude of blessing. The other, on the dexter side, is dressed in the robe of an ecclesiastic and holds a book in his left hand. The right hand is missing, but probably it once held a key. The face of St. John bears a long drooping moustache and a forked beard such as are fairly commonly represented on early fifteenth-century misericords.

The alabaster retains a good proportion of its original colouring. Behind the figures and below the head the background is painted black and has a decoration of greenish white leaves and of cinquefoils, with white petals and a red centre. The Agnus with its pedestal, the head of St. John and the two supporting figures are all gilded. The disk or charger is painted blue and clumsy workmanship has resulted in splashes of blue on St. John's beard and on St. Peter. Damage to the head and to the two supporting saints reveals that their gilding is over a red undercoat.

The back of St. John's head is hollowed out and there are also two side depressions, probably intended to be used for keying. Behind the Agnus is a fixing hole fitted with a lead plug which still shows two ends of latten wire.

The present measurements of the alabaster are height $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. and width $5\frac{3}{8}$ in.

The late W. H. St. John Hope has dealt very thoroughly with the whole subject of St. John's Heads.¹ He has classified them under four classes and our example comes in class B in which the head is flanked by two saints and has an accessory in the base.² The figures at the sides are deemed to be St. Thomas Becket, who is usually shown in the act of benediction with his cross-staff in his left hand,³ and St. Peter. Because the figures were produced in Nottinghamshire in the diocese of York and because St. Peter was the York patronal saint, some authorities have considered that the archbishop's figure represents St. William of York.⁴ A magnificent St. John's Head in Leicester Museum is contained in its original wooden case which is painted with the white rose and sun-in-splendour devices of the House of York.⁵ These accumulated circumstances would almost clinch the argument in favour of St. William of York were it not for the fact that St. John Hope quotes a Bury St. Edmunds will of 1522 in which is mentioned "a Seynt Johannis hede of alabaster with Seynt Peter and Seynt Thomas".⁶

¹ *Archæologia*, LII, pp. 669-708.

² *Ibid.*, p. 680.

³ Tancred Borenius, *St. Thomas Becket in Art*, 1932, p. 25.

⁴ A St. John's Head in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, is at present labelled as being "flanked by figures of St. Peter and St. William of York."

⁵ St. John Hope, *op. cit.*, p. 693 and Pl. XXIV.

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 678. See also Borenius, *op. cit.*, pp. 25-6.

Hasted gives a fairly full descent of the manor of Starkeys, Lyttlyhall or Littlehall in Little Wouldham¹ and says that Humphrey Starkey, chief baron of the Exchequer under Richard III, built a good house there, together with a handsome chapel.² The manor had from early times been a property of the Bishop of Rochester³ and it is curious that at Sellers, another property of the Bishop in the same parish, a certain John atte Celere was allowed to have an oratory in his house, with a priest to celebrate mass, because of its distance from the parish church.⁴ The same reason was doubtless used for the erection of the Starkeys Chapel and it is extremely probable that Humphrey Starkey provided as a furnishing thereof this alabaster St. John's Head which was found so near it.

L. R. A. GROVE.

MAIDSTONE TREASURE TROVE

On Monday, 4th February, 1952, a pot containing 4 gold and 499 silver coins was found by a workman during road widening operations undertaken by Maidstone Corporation in Lower Stone Street, opposite the Granada Cinema and adjoining the new Maidstone and District Bus Station. The find spot was unfortunately destroyed, but it may be assumed that the coins were laid down under the floor of No. 18 one of a row of Tudor houses, nos. 12-20, Lower Stone Street, which existed on this site until their demolition in 1939. These houses had no cellars and their foundations were much disturbed by building since 1939, but it was not until the whole surface of the area was lowered about 18 in. that the find was made.

At the Coroner's Inquest the workman concerned, Mr. E. J. Bradford, was found to be the finder of the hoard and, after its examination at the British Museum, was rewarded with a sum equal to the full market value of the coins. The hoard was subsequently purchased by the Maidstone Museum and a portion of it is displayed there in the case of the Kent Numismatic Society. The coins which range from those of Henry V to the second issue of Henry VIII are fully reported and listed in the forthcoming issue of *The British Numismatic Journal* by Messrs. R. H. Dolley and E. J. Winstanley. It is there suggested that the

¹ *Kent*, 8vo edition, IV, pp. 403-4.

² Illustrated in *Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica*, 1782, no. VI, Part I, opposite p. 21.

³ See Hasted, *op. cit.*, pp. 400-1. Palgrave, *Parliamentary Writs*, II, Part III, sub 1316—"Ville Woldham . . . Episcopus Roffensis". The tithes had been granted to the Abbess of Malling (Thorpe, *Registrum Roffense*, pp. 482 and 694).

⁴ *Kent Records*, IV, *Register Hamo Hethe*, p. 699, sub 1342. As an addition to Hasted's account of Sellers manor (*Kent*, IV, pp. 404-5) it may be noted that John at Celere, who gave his name to the property, was heir to Thomas de Wouldham, Bishop of Rochester, and that he was second serjeant of the Rochester Priory Brewery until his death when he was succeeded, on the 29th March, 1349, by Adam Tendre. *Register Hamo Hethe*, pp. 562 and 859.

hoard is connected with the Dissolution of the Monasteries and very probably with the surrender of Aylesford Friary or Boxley Abbey.

The pot in which the hoard was contained was apparently complete when the coins were found. It was particularly unfortunate that the fragments were deported to the rubbish tip at Allington, but enough were recovered to reconstruct the size and shape (see Fig. 6). As this

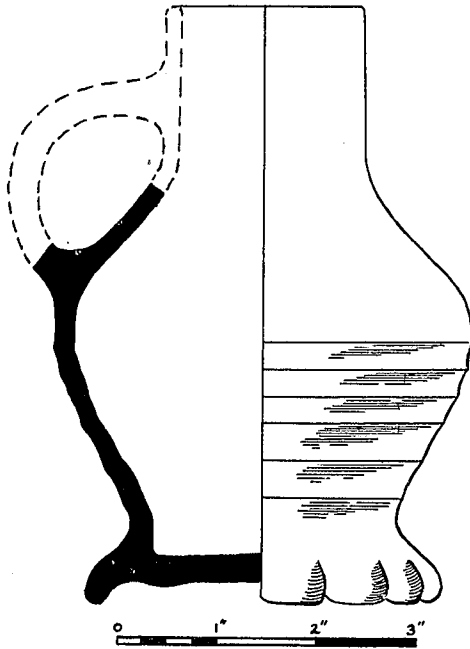


FIG. 6. The Maidstone Pot

is a pottery type which may occur frequently on sixteenth-century sites its description is worth recording in detail. The approximate height must have been 6 in. and the fabric is grey stoneware with a buff-brown surface on the inside of the pot. The exterior is salt-glazed, producing a mottled metallic lustre varying from rich brown to brown-green. The base which was either hand made or roughly torn from the wheel exhibits the crimping, characteristic of handled jugs of Siegburg ware. In the Maidstone pot this crimping is achieved by tooling as opposed to the more usual thumb impressions. The underside of the base shows a series of closely spaced impressions, $\frac{3}{8}$ in. apart and $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, at an angle of about 70 degrees to the edge. It is impossible to

say whether the pot had the double cordon around the neck which is a common feature of these Siegburg jugs.

The dating of the Maidstone pot to about 1538 should be of great value in achieving a dateable series of these early stoneware jugs.

ALAN WARHURST.

MEDIEVAL POTTERY FROM BROOKLAND

Through the kindness of Mr. B. H. St. John O'Neil, F.S.A., Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments, I have recently received a collection of medieval pottery from Brookland which has escaped publication because of the necessity for official secrecy at the time of its finding.

At Brookland in July, 1943, the J. L. Eve Construction Company cut a trench to receive oil pipes in connection with PLUTO. The section which concerns this note was made near the southern boundary of a field lying between the Railway Station and Carter House and to the north of Oldhouse Lane.¹

Mr. H. Middleton was on the site at the time. He noticed no signs of any building and judged the place to be a medieval rubbish heap, especially as there were animal jawbones therein. Fragments of pottery and bones which he collected were unfortunately lost. Later, from the spoil of this trench, Mr. O'Neil recovered several pieces of pottery, mostly of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, some of it glazed. Two pieces, however, are earlier and to be attributed to the late thirteenth century.

1. Part of the sagging base of a cooking-pot. The base is approximately 10 in. in diameter. Hard, reddish-buff paste with a grey core and with a slight trace of olive green glaze on the bottom. Brushed surface.
2. Hammer-head rim, everted neck and shoulder of a cooking pot. Hard, pinkish-buff paste, sandy with a grey core. Diameter at rim approximately 9 in. Cf. *Canterbury Excavations*, 1944, Fig. 7, No. 6.²

They merit attention as giving some indication of date for the reclamation of the marshland, inned gradually under successive Archbishops of Canterbury, beginning with St. Thomas Becket in the twelfth century.³ According to Hall and Russell⁴ the land round Brookland was inned between 1240 and 1270.

L. R. A. GROVE.

¹ Kent 1/2500 Ordnance Sheet LXXX, 16, field 43.

² *Arch. Cant.*, LIX, p. 78, No. 6.

³ See R. A. L. Smith, *Canterbury Cathedral Priory*, passim.

⁴ Hall and Russell, *A Report on the Agriculture and Soils of Kent, Surrey and Sussex*, 1911, map, Fig. 26.

FLINT IMPLEMENT FROM CRANBROOK

A flint implement (Fig. 7) worthy of note has been given to the Maidstone Museum by Mr. R. Moxham of Golford Cottage, Golford, near Cranbrook, through our Local Secretary, Mr. C. C. R. Pile. Found in his garden (Kent 6-in. map LXX N.E., long. 0 degrees 33 minutes 48 seconds, lat. 51 degrees 51 minutes 49 seconds) the implement was lying

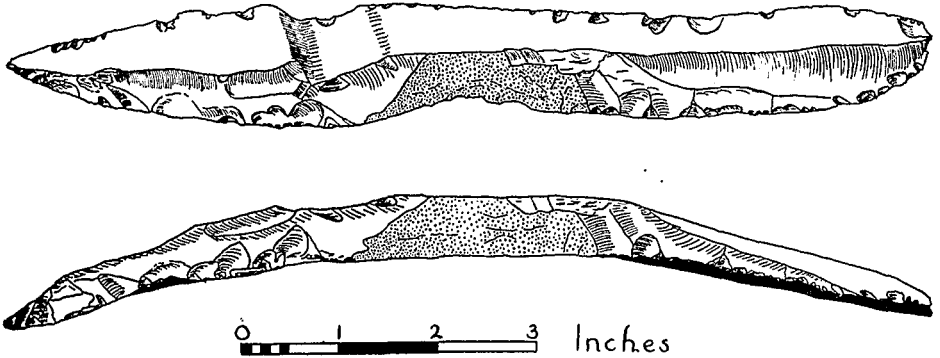


FIG. 7. Flint Implement from Cranbrook

below the topsoil on the surface of the natural clay. This magnificently struck blade, with a battered back and traces of secondary working on the edge, is unpatinated on the bulbar face but shows a blue-white patination on the reverse side. The implement, which seems to exhibit some Upper Palaeolithic tradition of flint working, may be assigned to the Mesolithic period.

ALAN WARHURST.

EXCAVATIONS ON HOLBOROUGH HILL

Quarrying by the Associated Portland Cement Company has revealed the existence of a cemetery of the Anglo-Saxon period on the crest of Holborough Hill near Snodland (Kent 6-in. map XXX N.E.), about 150 yds. S.W. of the Roman Tumulus.¹ Finds of bones and objects have been made in this area for a number of years² and the Ministry of Works has undertaken the task of excavating the site. The excavations for 1952, under the direction of Miss V. Evison, are concerned with the area scheduled for destruction during the year by quarrying operations.

ALAN WARHURST.

¹ T. Wright, *Wanderings of an Antiquary*, 1854, pp. 183-9.

R. F. Jessup, *Arch. Cant.*, LVIII, 1945, pp. 68-72.

² G. Payne, *Coll. Cant.*, 1893, p. 137, and reports of workmen employed by the Associated Portland Cement Company.

COINS FROM THE MAIDSTONE DISTRICT

The following coins have been brought to Maidstone Museum for identification during the period 1951-2.

1. A Roman "radiate" antoninianus of the third century. It was found by Mr. G. R. Dann whilst digging on Ringlestone Farm, Maidstone, on the 10th November, 1951. The coin possesses a fine olive-green patina. It remains with the finder.

Mr. Colin M. Kraay, of the Heberden Coin Room, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, has kindly given me the following parallel and information :

Antoninianus of Tetricus I (A.D. 268-73). Mattingly and Sydenham, *Roman Imperial Coinage*, V, part 2, no. 135.

Obverse Head r. radiate.

(IMP. C.C. P. ESV ?) TETRICVS(S PF AVG ?)

Reverse Spes left.

(SPES PVBLI)CA

2. A sixth century Byzantine "Brass". It was recently found at "Lowarai", a property near Kits Coty House, by the owner, Mr. C. A. Bodiam. The coin has the appearance of being burnt, but Mr. Bodiam assures me that no clinker has been dumped on the site and that there was no sign of any burning operations where the coin was dug up. The finder retains possession.

I am again indebted to Mr. Kraay for the following note :

The coin is Byzantine, of Justin II, A.D. 565-78. The mint mark appears to be NIKO, i.e. Nicomedia and the year η is 572/3.

Reference, *British Museum Coins (Byzantine)* I, p. 87, No. 140.

L. R. A. GROVE.

CUXTON

While building his bungalow and laying out his gardens on Church Hill, Cuxton, Mr. H. H. Martin came upon quantities of Roman potsherds, and two small urns of coarse pottery were recovered intact. Date, second century, Nat. Grid. Ref. 712665. Church Hill has long been known as a Roman site. Refs. *A.C.*, XXV, lxvii, *Coll. Cant.*, 132.

JOHN H. EVANS.

LOWER HALSTOW

In December, 1950, Mr. Burrows, of 62, Salisbury Road, Rainham, uncovered a cremation group in the east bank of Halstow Creek. The vase, urn and platter (the latter used as a lid to the cinerary urn) of coarse ware, belong to the first half of the second century. The urn contained charred human bones which Surg-Commander P. Gray has determined were those of a young adult female. Nat. Grid Ref. 864678. The site is, of course, within the prolific Upchurch area of Roman remains.

R. A. BALDWIN.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

KENT'S CHANTRY, HEADCORN, 1565

Maidstone Museum has recently purchased a document which serves to round off the items concerning Headcorn Chantry quoted by the late Mr. Arthur Hussey in his *Kent Chantries*.¹ The document is really twofold for at the end of the 1565 document a piece of paper concerning later details is sewn on.

“ A Booke of the yearely Revenewes of Warham St. Leger Esq^r
Written by me Robert Stephenson Anno Dm̄. 1565

Lands in Hedcorne Chauntry

Imp ^r mis the rent of Assise there of Divers persons upon the Deā: of Thornhirst by the yeare	xvijs x ^d
Item for a farme of certaine lands let to John Homershem by the yeare	xiiij ^{li}
Item for a farme of certaine lands let to Tho: Little by y ^e yeere	x ^{li}
Item for a farme of certaine Lands let to Robert Hopper by yeer	ijj ^{li} vjs viij ^d
Item of M ^r Cullpepper of Aylesford for rent or Fee farme for certaine lands belonging to the Chantry By the yeere	xx ^s
Item for a little house standing in the towne of hedcorne let to a Basket maker by the yeere	x ^s
Item for a farme of certaine lands let to Stephen Goldwell belonging to the same Chantry by y ^e yeere	xl ^s
Item Christopher Kellsham for the rent of certeine lands of the Chantrey of Hedcorne w ^h he bought of me by y ^e yeere	vjs iij ^d
Item Ralfe Homershame for the rente of certaine lands of y ^e Chauntry of Hedcorne w ^{ch} he bought of me by y ^e yeere	xvj ^d
Item Edward Newenden for such lands as he bought of me belonging to the Chauntry of Hedcorne by yeere	xvj ^d

(Join in paper)

¹ *Kent Records*, XII, 1936, pp. 144-6.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

The office for Feefarme rent for Kent is Kept at M^r Younges on the backside of Fether Taverne in Deane Court neare to Paules Church yard John Weston & John Troute Rec. Pay to either of them for Tenthes due to his Ma^{ist}: for one yeare ending at Micha: last for Landes in Hedcorne late M^r Beresford now W^m. Belcher two pounds one shilling five pence—02^u.01-05

Due for ye Acquitt more	ij ^d
Altering his name	iijs iiij ^d
Messenger	ijs

L. R. A. GROVE.

KENTISH FAIRS AND PREHISTORY

Readers of Hughes's *The Scouring of the White Horse* (1859) will remember the description of the two-day fair held within the prehistoric earthwork of Uffington Castle, Berkshire, and the sports which took place there. Amongst the prizes given at the Scouring of 1776 were mentioned :

1. A cheese to be run for down the White Horse Manger.
 2. A flich of Bacon to be run for by asses
- and 3. A good Hat to be run for by men in sacks, every man to bring his own sack.¹

It was reported that at the Scouring of 1785² " John Morse of Uffington, a queerish sort of a man, grinned agin another chap droo' hos collars, but John got beaat—a fine bit of spwoort to be shure, Sir, and made the folks laaf. Another geaam wur to bowl a cheese down the Mainger, and the first as could catch 'un had 'un. The cheese was a tough 'un and held together. . . . There wur running for a peg³ too, and they as could ketch 'un and hang 'un up by the tayl⁴ had 'un. The girls, too, run races for smocks. . . . There wur climmin' a grasy pole for a leg of mutton, too."

The games at Uffington have a long history and some authors hint at a prehistoric origin for them.⁵ It is well known that ceremonies concerning wheels have a connection with ancient fertility rites. "Wheels wrapped in straw or wooden discs which were trundled flaming over the fields to ensure their fertility continued to figure in the fire festivals of Europe until recent times."⁶ Barnabe Googe in

¹ *The Scouring of the White Horse*, p. 108.

² *Ibid.*, p. 111.

³ =pig.

⁴ See Frazer's *The Golden Bough* (1890 two volume edition), II, p. 42. "The virtue of the corn-spirit, embodied in animal form, is sometimes supposed to reside in the tail."

⁵ See R. Whitlock, "Cleaning up the White Horse" in *The Field*, 12th January, 1952. Also Stuart Piggott, *Antiquity*, V, no. 17, pp. 44-46.

⁶ M. D. Anderson, *Looking for History in British Churches*, 1951, p. 15. Frazer, *op. cit.*, II, pp. 273 ff.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

The Popish Kingdome, 1570, has a relevant section on the customs associated with the Feast of St. John the Baptist (24th June) :

“ Some others get a rotten wheele all worne and caste aside,
Which covered round about with straw and tow they closely hide,
And caryed to some mountain top, being all with fire light,
They hurle it down with violence, when darke appears the night
Resembling much the Sunne that from the heavens down should fall,
A strange and monstrous sight it seems and fearful to them all,
But they suppose their mischiefs all are likewise thrown to Hell,
And that from harmes and dangers now in safetie here they dwell.”¹

The present writer has been so fortunate as to be able to collect together at Maidstone Museum several handbills which illustrate the Kentish connections of traditional games with prehistoric antiquities. The first advertisement concerns Kits Coty House :

MIDSUMMER
ANNUAL FAIR,
WILL BE HELD
AT KITTS COTTY HOUSE, the 24th of JUNE, 1809,
AT WHICH WILL BE EXHIBITED THE FOLLOWING
DIVERSIONS.

.

A DONKEY RACE
For a CHEESE.

A CHEMISE
To be Run for by YOUNG LADIES

A POUND OF TOBACCO
To be SMOKED for.

GRINNING through a HORSE COLLAR
For Two Gallons of ALE.

A HOT HASTY PUDDING
To be Eat by Boys, for a NEW HAT.

.

FROM THE PRESS OF J. BLAKE.”

Quoted by Anderson, *op. cit.*, footnote to p. 15.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

From the same Maidstone press were issued two bills about the Branbridge Annual Fairs, held respectively on the 30th May, 1808, and the 29th May, 1809. Amongst the "diversions" were a jingling match, jumping in sacks for a good cheese, a holland smock to be run for by Ladies, a Donkey Race, and a pound of tobacco to be smoked for, "with several other *rational* Amusements, the whole to conclude with a Grand Ball." These fairs were held in the neighbourhood of The Rose and Crown, Branbridge,¹ at a short distance south of Milbays Wood hill-top camp, Nettlestead.²

Finally, from the Dunkin Press at Dartford come two bills dated the 23rd April, 1844, and the 23rd and 24th April, 1847. These concern the Fair held at the Cock Inn, Wilmington. The second bill is the more comprehensive and amongst the sports mentioned are Climbing the Greasy Pole for a Leg of Mutton (NB. The Ladies are respectfully informed that they cannot be admitted Competitors for this Prize), a Gingling Match, a Wheelbarrow Race, Jumping in Sacks, Grinning through Horse Collars (No Candidate will be allowed to open his mouth wider than Six Inches) and a Donkey Race. "A Grand Ball will take place in the Evening." Those who know the Dartford district will not need to be reminded that if a person at Wilmington looks to the west he will see Joyden's Wood.

L. R. A. GROVE.

A STONE HOUSE IN BURGATE LANE, CANTERBURY

Recent researches among the records of the Consistory Court under Queen Elizabeth I. have brought to light some interesting facts about an old stone building standing (the last on that side to escape the blitz) on the west side of Burgate Lane, opposite that bastion of the city wall formerly in use as a chapel.

This solid building was, it seems, erected between 1550 and 1560 by Mr. Stephen Thornhurst, familiarly known as "Mr. Thorney", and described as a "yeoman" or a "gentleman". The building was designed to be let for "romes"—as we should say for apartments or lodgings. One of the tenants was a Mr. William Morbred, who wedded in 1565 Mr. Thorney's widow, Agnes. Two ladies who married in succession Thornhurst's son and namesake, Sir Stephen Kt., have elaborate monuments in the Warriors' Chapel of the Cathedral, as well as his distinguished grandson, Sir Thomas Thornhurst, a gallant soldier, the captor, so his epitaph relates, of the Ile de Rè "till the Day of Doom."

¹ Now Brandbridges, on the River Medway a mile to the north-west of Beltring Halt.

² See Jessup's *Archæology of Kent*, pp. 159 and 260, and *V.C.H., Kent*, I, p. 399.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

The elder of Sir Stephen's wives had previously been married to Sir Richard Baker, uncle of the Chronicler, and secondly to Richard Fletcher, Bishop of London; Sir Stephen was her third husband. They had two daughters, who appear at the base of their mother's monument, Grisogon, Lady Dacre of Hurstmonceaux and Cecilia, Lady Blunt.

In the wall of the Thornhurst building may still be seen a stone marking the parish boundary of St. George's and St. Mary Magdalen's—evidence given in the court tells us there was formerly an "iron ringle" at this spot, always visited by the parishioners of St. Mary's when they made their yearly circuit of the bounds—Thornhurst's "great house" replaced an older building (possibly the monkish St. Dunstan's Hall) which he demolished, but he took care to insert the correct boundary mark in his new wall.

His family, and that of Morbred, resided for several generations in St. George's parish.

One of the witnesses in the Consistory Court was Christiana Castreet, an old lady of 99 who had lived in Burgate Lane "these sixty years last past at the least", and lived on there till her death at 102.

As the pulling down of the west side of Burgate Lane (the watchman's lane beneath the city wall) is forecast in the new plan for the blitzed area, with considerable widening to follow, it seems well to place on record the history of Mr. Thorney's Elizabethan "rooming-house".

DOROTHY GARDINER.

Since the above description was written the "rooming house" has been completely demolished, as, in the opinion of the City authorities, it was unsafe.
D.G., July, 1952.

A FURTHER NOTE ON THE BRONZE SPEAR-HEAD FROM CHARTHAM

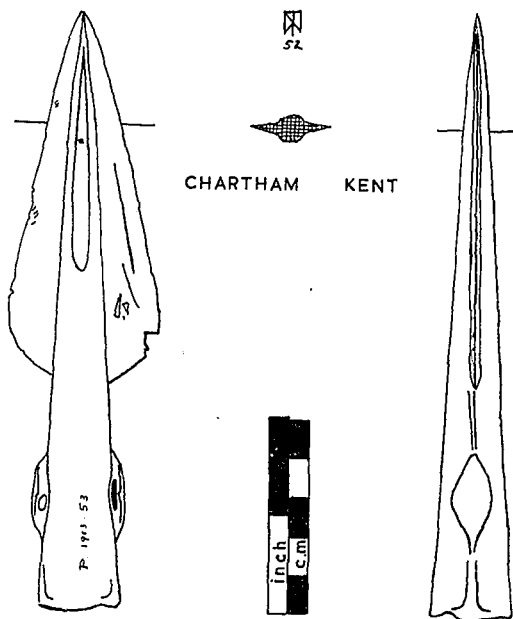
In Volume LXIII (1950) of *Arch. Cant.* it was noted (p. 148) by Mr. L. V. Grinsell that there is a socketed and looped spear-head of bronze from Chartham, Kent, in Cheltenham Museum. The following additional information has come to light from the examination of Museum records and other sources, and, as no illustration seems to have been published so far, a drawing is included, which, it is hoped, will be more eloquent than much detailed description.

The spear-head is leaf-shaped and has been cast in yellow bronze. It is exactly 6 in. long. The socket is $\frac{11}{16}$ in. in diameter at the base, extends up the middle of the blade, and, as the drawing shows, has two lateral loops. It is, therefore, one of that type attributed to peculiarly British workmanship which is generally associated with the first phase of the Late Bronze Age. It was found in 1861 at Chartham Paper Mill, and, as Mr. Grinsell says, is more or less free from patina. Mr.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

Grinsell's inference, moreover, that "it might have come from a stream or river" is borne out, as it was in fact discovered while deepening the furrow of the water-wheel.

From this description it is obvious that this is the specimen which was exhibited by Mr. Cecil Brent at the meeting of the British Archæological Association on the 11th December, 1861 (*Journal of the British Archæological Association*, XVII, p. 334). It is, therefore, difficult to understand how it came to leave the County, for nothing



In CHELTENHAM Museum.

FIG. 1. Spear Head from Chartham.

further is known of it until it turned up in the large collection of bronze implements, weapons and ornaments purchased in 1913 by the authorities of Cheltenham Museum from the late A. J. de Havilland Bushnell, an antiquarian collector of that town. There is no information as to whether Mr. Brent actually made the find, or whether he ever even owned the spear-head. Likewise, nothing is known of how it came into the possession of Mr. Bushnell. By exercising the imagination, however, it is possible to make a conjecture at the probable course of events. It was probably found by a labourer who took it to Mr. Brent, the local authority, for an opinion. Mr. Brent probably borrowed it

for exhibition at the British Archæological Association meeting, and then, when it had been returned to him, the finder probably sold it to a local dealer. After probably changing hands several more times, it eventually found a home in Mr. Bushnell's cabinet, from whence it came to its present location in Cheltenham Museum.

This specimen is also listed in George Clinch's Topographical List of Prehistoric Antiquities in Kent (*V.C.H., Kent*, I p. 335) and in Sir John Evans's *Ancient Bronze Implements of the British Isles* (p. 322). Such lists and subsequent records show that very few socketed spear-heads with loops have been found in Kent. In fact, R. F. Jessup could only record three, *Archæology of Kent* (p. 103), including this one from Chartham.

Nearly a year after having written the above, the writer has been struck by the strong similarity between his conjectured history of the Chartham specimen and the actual fate of a bronze spear-head, of slightly different type, which was dredged up recently (1952) in Gloucestershire.

W. NEVILLE TERRY.

THE MID-THIRTEENTH-CENTURY STEELYARD WEIGHT FROM SUNDRIDGE,
AND A SUGGESTED EXPLANATION OF ITS PRESENCE THERE

The publication by Mr. L. R. A. Grove (in *Arch. Cant.*, LXIV, pp. 166-8, Fig. 7) of a thirteenth-century steelyard weight found at Sundridge in 1930, and the suggestion made by Dr. Curwen that it was connected with the "Teutonic Hanse merchants of the Steelyard", has prompted the writing of this note. A deed in the writer's possession, and which was, in 1918, amongst a number of documents which he managed to save after they had been turned out of a London office, may have some bearing on the matter. It measures 7 in. by 4 in., and is dated to the 6th January, 1262. Its text shows that there was a fulling mill, with associated buildings, at Sundridge at this date and that the industry was carried on by one, Richard the Fuller. By this deed, the mill, together with land and another dwelling, all held by service from Merton Priory, passed to a Henry de Apeldrefeld.¹ A further reference to this property in Sundridge is contained in the Merton Cartulary (Cotton MS. Cleopatra, C., vii) and is quoted here (as "Appendix B").

As it has seemed to the writer to be possible, or most likely, that such a steelyard weight as that mentioned would have been used in the

¹ I am indebted to Mr. J. H. Evans for kindly drawing my attention to the fact that the Apeldrefeld family bought up rents and services in "Sundrish" in the late XIIIth century, and for the ref. *Arch. Cant.* XLIV, 201.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

weighing of bales of cloth, and that such a steelyard might well have been required at a fulling mill, the evidence that a mill of this type existed at Sundridge, and at the very date to which the weight is assigned, appeared to him to be of some consequence. It is a pity that it was not possible to excavate the mediaeval foundations which are recorded as being at the site at which the weight was found, but that they were destroyed, by the erection of bungalows, without any proper investigation.

A. W. G. LOWTHER.

APPENDIX A. TRANSLATION OF THE SUNDRIDGE DEED

To all faithful Christians . . . (etc.). I, Bartholomew de Oveneye send greetings. Know that I have, in return for the rent of two shillings, conceded to the lord Henry de Apeldreferd (*sic*) the premises which the same lord Henry held of Geoffrey Olyver namely a fulling mill and the dwelling of Richard the fuller, in Sunderess. To have and to hold . . . (etc.). Similarly also with that remaining tenement which belonged to the aforesaid Geoffrey and which that Geoffrey sold to me and which is in Sunderess. Let him hold it in perpetuity for the rent of two shillings. Defending and acquiting me as regards the Court of la Merton [i.e. Merton Priory] in accordance with that which is contained in the charter which the same lord Henry has in this matter with the aforesaid Geoffrey. And I concede and agree, for myself and my heirs and assigns, unto the aforesaid Henry and his heirs or assigns . . . (etc. etc.). In witness of all which matters I have affixed my seal to these present writings.

Witnesses—Ralph de Herreforde, moront (?), Henry le feutres, Luca le ocse, Reginald pygun (? Pigeon) Gilbert de Icus, Gilbert le Wrig, William le stoyl, Sym(on) Ysely, Henry de Fedes, cleric, and many others. Given at the feast of Epiphany in the forty-sixth year of the reign of king Henry son of king John.

APPENDIX B. EXTRACT FROM "RECORDS OF MERTON PRIORY, SURREY", BY MAJOR ALFRED HEALES—1898

p. 143 : "1265, or 6. Gilbert, prior, and Convent, granted to Henry de Apeldresfeld in perpetuity, all returns, customs, suits and services, with reliefs, heriots, escheats, and all things pertaining to the tenement which he otherwise held of them in Sunderess." (It goes on to state that, for this concession, Henry granted the priory all his lands and tenements in "Apeldresfeld and Losted").

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

MURAL PAINTING AND MEMORIAL RESTORED IN THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, FAWKHAM

Work of restoration and preservation has recently been carried out in Fawkham Church on two most interesting works of art.

The Mural painting, depicting Our Lord seated in Glory with hands raised, is enclosed by an elliptical border or Vesica piscis, and occurs on the North wall of the Nave. This is the only surviving painting of what must have been a splendid series of paintings which, no doubt, covered a large part or the whole of the north wall. The painting which is of thirteenth century date had become very faded and unless treatment had been carried out was in danger of being completely lost as the colour was in a very powdery condition.

Restoration has now been carried out, and treatment with a preservative has not only saved it from becoming a total loss, but has put back into the colour much of the richness it had lost through time. It is almost unbelievable that no new colour whatever has been added.

THE MEMORIAL TO JOHN WALTER (DIED 1625) SITUATED ON THE EAST WALL OF THE CHANCEL

The Memorial which is a very fine example of early seventeenth-century workmanship represents John Walter and his wife kneeling facing each other at a prie Dieu, their hands clasped in prayer.

The construction is mainly of cream-coloured alabaster with inlaid marble panels of various other colours. The figures and much of the ornamentation were richly coloured and gilded; this work, however, suffered under Victorian hands being repainted at that time in a very inexperienced manner.

The Monument has been carefully cleaned and repaired and where necessary adjustments have been made to the colouring where it departed from the original scheme. The work as it appears now is essentially the same as when it was completed in the early seventeenth century, which is a rich and pleasing piece of colour, adorning the east wall, as indeed those who placed it there intended it to be.

M. E. KEEVIL.

PROTESTANT REFUGEES AT MAIDSTONE IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY

Miss Valerie Morant has written in *The Economic History Review*, Second Series, IV, No. 2, 1951, a most interesting paper describing the settlement approved by Queen Elizabeth's Letters Patent of 1567 in the borough of Wyke close by the thirteenth-century chapel of St. Faith which in 1572 was granted for the use of the Flemings. Most of the refugees were engaged in the making of fine woollen and silk cloths of such quality that both directly and indirectly the new settlement

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

made for prosperity in the town. By 1620, the community was engaged almost solely in the manufacture of linen thread, and "grogreyn, mockadoes, sackcloth and woollen cloth" were no longer of such importance, the town in fact having the English monopoly of thread manufacture until about 1860 when a rival industry was set up in the west country. The settlement was dispersed, as were the others in England, by Laud's Act of Uniformity, and Miss Morant tells us that two hundred years after the foundation, all that was left of the Maidstone settlement were "a few Dutch surnames among the townfolk, and the survival of the name 'Dutch work' for the thread manufacture."

R.F.J.

DARTFORD DISTRICT NOTES

Among the most interesting items of archæological history in the Dartford District are the following:

DARTFORD PRIORY

Another important link in the history of this interesting building has been revealed this year. Mr. J. W. Kirby, B.A., has transcribed from the State Papers in the Bodleian Library a detailed account of the progress and cost of altering the Priory Buildings by Henry VIII into a residence for Anne of Cleves. This has been done for Messrs. J. and E. Hall, Engineers, part of whose works now cover the Priory site, though where possible portions of the early walling have been preserved.

DARTFORD PARISH CHURCH

It is particularly pleasurable to announce that this church has joined the band of churches which provide guide books to assist the visitor. In addition throughout the summer a rota of guides attended to help visitors to appreciate this fine old building.

DARTFORD BRIDGE HOUSE

Dartford Borough Council has bought this imposing mid-eighteenth-century house and suitably restored it for use as public offices.

CRAYFORD

A very useful addition to Kent local histories has been made in the publication by the Crayford Urban District Council of a short history of Crayford by Mr. W. Carr.

SUTTON-AT-HONE CHURCH

This church suffered severely from enemy action in the war and a somewhat dark church was made even darker when the broken windows had to be boarded up. This year the war damage has been repaired and the new windows make the church considerably lighter.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN

To celebrate the Festival of Britain a series of tableaux depicting episodes in local history was shown on an open air stage in the Central Park, Dartford. Each episode was separately produced by a local firm.

A. CUMBERLAND.

SIDNEY BERNARD, SURGEON, R.N.

Surg.-Capt. R. W. Mussen, R.N., tells the story of the ill-fated steam sloop H.M.S. *Eclair* in a paper published in the *Journal of the Royal Naval Medical Service*, XXXVII, No. 3, pp. 125-133, and incidentally pays a tribute to the memory of a very brave man whose lonely grave is fast disappearing from sight beneath the tidal mud at Burntwick Island in the mouth of the Medway.

In 1845 the *Eclair* was engaged in anti-slavery duties in West African waters, where certain of the crew contracted what is now recognized as a very virulent form of yellow fever. Before the ship left these waters her Captain, Surgeon and Assistant Surgeon had died, as well as another Naval surgeon, Dr. G. M. McClure, who had volunteered his services from another ship. At Madeira Mr. Sidney Bernard, who was returning to England on the *Rolla*, similarly volunteered to serve on the *Eclair* and was so appointed her Surgeon *pro tempore*. The fever-ridden ship sailed for England and arrived at the Quarantine Station, Burntwick Island, on the 2nd of October, 1845. Mr. Bernard, worn out with work and anxiety, fell sick on the 3rd and died on the 9th, by which time 74 officers and men out of a complement of 146 had died.

Bernard's grave was originally marked by an upright inscribed stone, which afterwards fell and was broken; it was then set in concrete horizontally over the grave, and iron railings erected around it. A bronze memorial tablet set in oak was apparently fixed to the railings, and was found recently lying in the mud. It is now in the Royal Naval Hospital, Chatham, but the grave itself will soon be lost for ever under the silt of this marsh island. In order to preserve the name of this brave officer, Kent Oil Refinery, Ltd., have named one of their launches, now serving in the Medway, the *Sidney Bernard*.

C.S.C.

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The Cinque Ports. By Ronald and Frank Jessup. $7\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{3}{4}$. Pp. x + 128, Figs. 52. London, Batsford, 1952. 9s. 6d.

One of the exhibits at the 1952 Antique Dealers' Fair was a tankard inscribed: "This pott was made from ye silver of ye canopie when Charles ye 2nd was crowned, April 23rd 1661."

This year, at the coronation, the representatives of the Cinque Ports, the "coronation barons", will not actually carry a canopy (with silver staves and bells) as did their predecessors in unbroken line from the coronation of Richard I in 1189 up to the crowning of George IV. For one thing the Queen will not proceed from the Palace to the Abbey on foot and for another, things went a little astray at the fourth George's ceremony. But they will line the west side of the screen in the Abbey and they will receive for custody the standards borne before her Majesty.

So a privilege lives on and with it, as with the inscription on the "silver pott", sounds a clear echo from a most curious and interesting chapter of English history—the rise, the hey-day and the decline of the Cinque Ports, of the Two Ancient Towns and of the Corporate and Non-Corporate Members.

Read the first chapter of Ronald and Frank Jessup's book, and the story will come vividly alive, a story touching significantly on most of the elements which seem to crop up inevitably in any chapter of English history: geography and geology (and seldom can changes in the face of the land and in the line of the sea coast have affected the fortunes of a group of towns more decisively); the provision of fighting men and equipment (in this instance nothing less than the provision of the entire Royal Navy); constitutional bargaining; the winning of practical privileges in the shape of courts and markets; the clash between local autonomy and the Crown; and, with the victory of the central authority, the survival up to the present day of ancient forms and customs. I beg leave to doubt whether, in the space of a single short chapter, such a tangled story has ever been told with greater authority, concision and clarity. It is a masterly and most attractive performance.

In succeeding chapters, linking the present with the past, the five Head Ports and the Two Ancient Towns are described as they exist to-day.

The authors make very modest claims for their book, and it is left to Miss Elizabeth Bowen, in her Foreword, to point out that they have

done a great deal more than to give "a short account" of these places of historic and of present interest. "As topographers and archæologists", she writes, "(they) could have kept to being no more than informative. It is a gain, however, that they do also address themselves to feeling (though never to sentiment) and to the visual imagination."

Informative they certainly are. No visitors to these towns—Hastings, where new jostles old; New Romney, in, but not of, the Marsh; Hythe on its hillside; the busy port of Dover; land-locked, wall-encircled Sandwich; Rye with its pebble-cobbled streets; and the "new town" of Winchelsea—could ask for a better guide-book than this. It tells you what you should look for and it tells you, sensibly and often amusingly, about the things that you will see. But for myself (and I suspect also for Miss Bowen) it is the authors' gift for getting down on paper the present-day atmosphere—the feel—of these places which is so wholly captivating. It is achieved by sensitive observation, a great knowledge of the past, lightly worn, and a prose style which is at once muscular and elegant. These qualities are "a gain" indeed.

It fell to my lot constantly to visit the Cinque Ports and the Two Ancient Towns during the critical summer and autumn of 1940, when invasion threatened once again from across the Channel. One was living then very much in the present. Anything might happen any day. And yet I was conscious, always, of that sense of the past which Ronald and Frank Jessup describe so well. I wish that I had had this little book which would have slipped so comfortably into my tunic pocket.

RALPH ARNOLD.

Timber Building in England from Early Times to the End of the Seventeenth Century. By Fred. H. Crossley. 10¼ × 6½. Pp. 168. London, Batsford, 1951. 30s.

It is rather surprising that this subject has not previously been dealt with so fully when as a structural material timber was so obvious and so adaptable. Certainly there was the need for such a conspectus of the subject and Messrs. Batsford were the natural publishers, but still the second edition of 1905 of Sidney Addy's *The Evolution of the English House* and C. F. Innocent's *The Development of English Building Construction* of 1916 have not been superseded. It is unfortunate that printing costs have risen to such an extent that the author has had to suffer such compression of type, and such insufficient paragraphing, that the make-up is unattractive. A further point is that as a specialist's book more drawings should have been included; and the scale of several plans is too small.

Reviewing the book from the Kentish aspect the Index only lists

17 references to examples in the county, and only two—Brookland and Eltham Hall—of note ; and with a barge board at Tonbridge.

The book is in two sections, Part I, Structures devoted to religious purposes and Part II, Secular building. In them chapters one and eight—recapitulations—could have been dispensed with and so allowed a more lively treatment of mediæval construction which is the be-all and end-all of timber—that early primitive satisfaction of massiveness or the later reduction to framework. Here there would seem to be a need for more small prototypes where the craftsman is evident.

Treating of details the greater part of the interest attaches to such subjects as Bridges, Wind and Watermills, Timber-framing, and the joinery which ignored iron work. We rejoice in those buildings which have survived damp, and the insect pests of hundreds of years. Wood absorbs moisture, and weathering, both above and below, is all important. If roofs leak and walls are not rain-repelling damp can start decay in vulnerable ends, which also may be in darkness, and there the wood-worm has his first food on those traces of sap-wood which only too often were not adzed away.

In the use of the book the critic is inclined to note various gaps in the Index where such a word as barn is missing, and, in the references, no mention of Clapham and Godfrey's *Some Famous Buildings and their Story* or attention drawn to their account of the development of the timber hall, and the existence at Hertford and Pleshey in Essex of such halls into the seventeenth century.

In the compilation of the book the author has included much of interest in the use of timber in sea and marsh defences, and of those moveable structures made in earlier ages to overtop a defender's walls. The chapter on Bridges contains much of general information, and the same may be said of the account of Water and Windmills although there are a number of illustrations of the latter.

Details of the sources of supply and the carriage of mill-stones from Sandwich is noteworthy (p. 106) but there is only the slightest reference to Andernach from whence came the black querns (Niedermendig lava) so common on Roman sites. However, there are numberless details of value in the book—as on p. 112 of a carpenter who wrongly used willow instead of oak for building a house—but we fail to find mention of the setting out on the ground of timber framing for the walls of a house and then marking them with Roman numerals for ease in erection. Other trades are necessary even in our oldest wooden buildings, for example the work of the blacksmith with his hinges, locks, closing rings and knockers. The wooden latch was universal, but here in England the lock and key, both of wood, of the Eastern Mediterranean does not seem to occur.

W. P. D. STEBBING.

Beginnings in Archæology. By Kathleen M. Kenyon. $7\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{3}{4}$. Pp. 203, with 12 photographs and 14 text figures. London, Phoenix House, Ltd., 1952. 12s. 6d.

Directors of Excavations are usually too busy to explain all the *pros* and *cons* of excavation technique to their amateur helpers. This book should, therefore, be a godsend to them for they can safely lend it to beginners who, provided they read it conscientiously from cover to cover, can be reasonably expected thenceforward to work on a site in an intelligent and able manner. As its title might lead one to assume it is written in a straightforward way especially for the beginner and to the present reviewer is an easier book to read than R. J. C. Atkinson's *Field Archæology* which was previously the most useful work of this kind.

The first three chapters deal with the historical background of Archæology. There follows a chapter on how to become an archæologist, whether professional or amateur, and then comes the real "meat", 94 pages on fieldwork and excavation technique. Five appendices include a bibliography and details relevant to careers in archæology. Throughout Miss Kenyon makes it clear that her methods of excavation are not the only ones in vogue and it is to be hoped that some of her critics will be stimulated to produce better introductory textbooks to excavation—if they can.

Miss Kenyon has a maxim that "beginners are welcome on sites". However, she stresses the fact that a reading of her book will be futile unless two main points at least are kept in mind :

1. *All excavation is destruction, therefore no inexperienced person should undertake it on his own.*
2. *Excavation, however well executed, without adequate publication is WANTON DESTRUCTION.*

It is sad to think how many people have dug into Kent's early remains without due thought to these principles.

L. R. A. GROVE.

Fawkham : The Story of a Kentish Village. By Frank W. Proudfoot. $7\frac{1}{2} \times 5$. Pp. 142, illustrated. Arthur Barker.

It is a pleasure to notice this little book, written by a Member, for it sets an excellent standard for those who aspire to write parish histories. It is written in an easy and serene style which avoids alike the Guide Book manner and that of our more pedantic historians. In this "modest essay in local history" the outlines of the stories of the parish and church, farms and lands, families and houses are sketched into the general picture of a rural community in its slow development through the centuries. The book is well produced, with sufficient illustrations, and the admirable addition of a large scale folding

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reproduction of the Tithe Map of 1838. We commend it to our Members, and suggest that all lecturers in local history slip it into their pockets and produce it as Exhibit No. 1 when facing village audiences. We are grateful to Mr. Proudfoot for this gift from his "scanty store".

J.H.E.

Medieval Ecclesiastical Courts in the Diocese of Canterbury. By Brian L. Woodcock. $8\frac{3}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. xii + 160. Oxford: at the University Press, 1952. 18s.

In the years 1928-9 there were removed from the Diocesan Registry store over the Christchurch Gate to the Library of the Dean and Chapter, Act Books and records of the Consistorial and Archidiaconal Courts of the diocese of Canterbury, where they remained without further arrangement or adequate catalogue till, in 1947, a young scholar, Brian Woodcock, began to study them. Ultimately in 1952 the result of his investigations appeared in the Oxford Historical Series under the title of *Medieval Ecclesiastical Courts in the Diocese of Canterbury*. It is a work of outstanding merit and the author's untimely and sudden death, while the book was still in the press, has dealt an irreparable blow to the world of scholarship. All interested in the subject matter owe a vast debt to his widow, our Member, Mrs. A. M. Woodcock, who has so competently concluded the task of seeing the book through the press and we cannot be too grateful to her.

Mr. Woodcock tells us that about 300 Act Books survive from the Diocesan Registry of which about forty cover the period before 1535; the earliest surviving Consistory Court Act Book dates from 1364 and that of the Archdeaconry Court from 1476. In addition to this source, much information was collected about the working of the Courts from the archives of the Prior and Chapter of Christchurch for the thirteenth century, during the vacancies occurring in the archiepiscopal see, when the officers of the Prior and Chapter were in control. Further, the wills coming under the jurisdiction of the courts and now preserved in the County Record Office at Maidstone, were consulted to add their quota of knowledge to the general picture, while behind all these, available for study, were the archiepiscopal registers of the diocese and province, preserved in the Library at Lambeth Palace.

All these sources have been most effectively used to produce a very succinct and illuminating account of the jurisdictions in question. Dividing the book into two parts, Brian Woodcock treated first of the jurisdictions involved and secondly of those jurisdictions in action as revealed in the surviving Act Books and records. To these chapters he added some important and most useful appendices giving the texts of some of the commissions issued, of some of the suits recorded, including a tuitorial appeal, and finally, and not the least valuable of all, lists of officers to be found acting in the two courts.

As all students of the evolution of jurisdictions are aware, and as Brian Woodcock pointed out, the movement is from "the less formal and ill-defined to the more formal and well-defined". A commission in a short form, conferring wide and undefined powers, may give more scope to the officer appointed than the much more elaborate and detailed commissions issued to his successors a century or so later. It is, therefore, of great importance that at the outset of this study there is noted the sense in which certain titles are used and the distinctions to be drawn therefrom. Thus "Curia Cantuariensis" is reserved to cover the jurisdiction of the Archbishop over all his province as Metropolitan, before the full delimitation of the various courts. The Court of Canterbury implies the actual court and its apparatus as it evolved to deal with provincial and metropolitical appeals. "Consistory Court" denotes the Court at Canterbury, irrespective of the jurisdiction exercised; and finally the title Consistory Court is restricted to the work of the actual diocesan court as it developed, with its judge the Commissary General of the city and diocese of Canterbury.

It is perhaps in tracing the rise of this last officer that the author makes his most solid contribution to the advancement of knowledge on this matter of the nomenclature of the presiding judge in the Consistory Court. If, following the parallel of the history of the Curia Regis and the splitting off from it of the various royal courts, we consider the "Curia Cantuariensis" and the development of provincial and diocesan courts from it, the story takes on a clearer form. It seems a reasonable supposition, and one borne out by surviving records, that, while the "Curia Cantuariensis" was for the most part holding its sessions at Canterbury, there was no clear distinction made between diocesan and metropolitical or provincial jurisdiction. When, possibly for reasons of convenience, the sessions of the Court of Canterbury, developing as the metropolitical Court of the Province, came to be held in London, in the Church of St. Mary le Bow in the Archbishop's Deanery of the Arches in his immediate jurisdiction, it was presided over by the Archbishop's Official, or in his absence by his deputy or commissary, almost invariably the Dean of the Arches. Similarly, no doubt, the purely diocesan work at Canterbury was entrusted to a commissary appointed by the Archbishop, and from the late thirteenth century certainly there survive commissions appointing a Commissary General to act in the city and diocese of Canterbury. Such a process would account satisfactorily for the title and when we turn to investigate the relations between this court, presided over by the Commissary General, and that of the Archdeacon, for whom his official most usually acted, it will be found that the jurisdictions of the two courts were for the most part concurrent. That is to say that there was no appeal from the Archdeacon's Court to the Consistory, but appeals from both courts lay

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either to the Court of Canterbury or to the Archbishop's Court of Audience. This in itself suggests the likelihood of the Commissary General being a later arrival on the scene than the Archdeacon.

The second and longer part of the book deals with the procedure and practice of these two courts in chapters devoted to the types of business and sessions, to the personnel and their duties, and to the practice of the courts in First Instance and *ex officio*. An analysis of the number and types of cases affords most interesting reading, as do the chapters on the enforcement of discipline and illustrations of the kind of information this class of records can be made to yield about the social manners and conditions of the time.

It is greatly to be hoped that scholars will follow up this pioneer work by investigating the records of other dioceses, now that information about them is more readily available through the work of the Committee on Ecclesiastical Records recently reporting to the Pilgrim Trust. In particular it is much to be desired that a volume, or volumes, giving the text of some of the earliest of the surviving Act Books at Canterbury may appear as soon as possible in the series "Kent Records".

IRENE J. CHURCHILL.

OBITUARY

THE REV. CANON G. M. LIVETT, B.A., F.S.A.

AN old and valued Member and Officer of the Society has passed from us in the person of Canon Grevile Mairis Livett, who died at his home in Canterbury on 9th August, 1951, at the great age of 92 years.

Grevile Livett took his degree of B.A. at Cambridge in 1880, where he was Munsteven Exhibitioner at St. John's College. His career in the Ministry may be thus summarized: ordained deacon 1884, priest 1885, Curate of Holy Trinity, Twickenham 1884-87, Minor Canon of Rochester 1887-95, Precentor of the Cathedral 1889-95, Vicar of Wateringbury 1895-1922, Clerical Secretary to the Rochester Diocesan Conference 1905-11, Honorary Canon of Rochester 1914-44, Canon Emeritus from 1944.

Canon Livett was elected to the Council of the Society in 1896, and served as Honorary Editor of *Arch. Cant.* from 1907 to 1914, and on his retirement from that office he was appointed a Vice-President. He was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1903.

His chief studies in archæology were concerned with the architecture of churches, and the qualities and uses of their building materials, and between the years 1904 and 1933 he contributed no less than twenty-two Papers to our Record which dealt with Kent Churches, and related subjects. His work in this connection in his Cathedral City was noteworthy, his Papers on the "Foundations of the Saxon Cathedral at Rochester" (Vol. XVIII, 1889) and "Medieval Rochester" (Vol. XXI, 1895) coming readily to mind, while his two Papers on "Early Norman Churches in and near the Medway Valley" (Vols. XX, XXI) will always hold a place in the affections of the Kentish ecclesiologist.

His early monograph, *Southwell Minster, an Account of the Collegiate and Cathedral Church of Southwell, with Illustrations*, 1883, is still regarded with respect by Southwellians, and another study, published in the *Sussex Archæological Collections*, XLVI, on "Three East Sussex Churches: Battle, Icklesham, Peasmarsch. A Study of their Architectural History", demonstrates his knowledge and skill in this particular branch of archæology.

The name of Grevile Mairis Livett will long remain an honoured one in the records of our Society.

J.H.E.

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