RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES IN KENT

BENJAMIN HARRISON AND HENRY STOPES

F.J. Johns (Arch. Cant., xcvi (1979), 279–82) draws attention to some personal glimpses of Benjamin Harrison, the flint implement collector and student of 'eoliths', in previously unpublished correspondence between Harrison and J.R. Hart of Padstow. Among the mass of papers bequeathed by Dr. Marie Stopes to the British Library is correspondence between members of the Stopes family that affords further glimpses of Harrison, and also of Henry Stopes, another great archaeological amateur and flint collector who operated in Kent at that time. Additionally, there are two unpublished Harrison letters among the Stopes MSS in the National Museum of Wales which became the final resting place of Stopes' collection.

Henry Stopes met Harrison in 1892, the same year in which, according to A.S. Kennard (Proc. Geologists' Assoc., 1949, 157–9), the Stopes family took the Manor House, Swanscombe. It was here that weekends and holidays were spent, and in September of the same year Henry was writing to his daughter Marie, then aged twelve: 'I have spent 2 Sundays with Mr. Harrison at Ightham. Last Sunday after the heavy rain we found 70 beautiful worked flints and a dear little baby elephant tooth that had been used as a polisher or rubber . . . I am going again tomorrow'.¹ The following February Mrs. Stopes described her husband's enthusiasm, inspired by an expedition with Harrison, in a letter to Marie: 'I was very glad to agree . . . to stay over Sunday in the country with Mr. Harrison in Kent . . . Papa found one or two beautiful flints and wants to go there and stay altogether. But I only laugh. I know he can't manage it just yet.'²,³

¹ B.L. Add. MS 58448.
² Add. MS 58449. Stopes was an architect and the owner of a brewery, so business commitments prevented him from permanent residence at the Manor House.
³ Harrison himself records this or another visit by Stopes in February 1893 (see Sir Edward Harrison's Benjamin Harrison, 186). They had lunch together at the Swan Inn, Ightham, and Stopes 'regretted the loss of [flint-collecting] time while lunch was being prepared.'
Stopes died at Swanscombe in December 1902, leaving behind him a collection of several tons of flint implements, most of which were from Kent.\(^4\) Charlotte Stopes had not been over enthusiastic about her husband's flint-collecting activities, and had never spent much time at Swanscombe; but after his death she became more interested, perhaps because she hoped that the sale of the collection would resolve the family's financial difficulties. She visited Harrison at Ightham, and was with him in October 1904, commenting in a letter to Marie 'Harrison has done a wonderful thing, his trump card as he calls it... on the very top of the chalk escarpment, that is the very highest point of the plateau 760 O.D. ... he has *found eoliths!* (Charlotte's italics) and what is more, so did I. I took him out a few duplicates [i.e. from the Stopes Collection] and he was very amiable though deafer than ever... [He] told me some lovely tales of Sir John.'\(^5\)\(^6\) Marie Stopes, by this time working as a junior lecturer in the Botany Department of Manchester University, was not entirely polite about her mother's friendship with Harrison. In one letter she calls him 'pseudo-scientific'\(^7\) and Charlotte was stung into retaliation: 'He has not been to a University but he has set to right many who have been there. He made the Report of the Wealden Survey old the year it came out and Professor Prestwich and Mr. Topley have both had to eat humble pie'.\(^8\)

Marie eventually negotiated the sale of her father's collection to the nascent National Museum of Wales in 1912. Among the MSS associated with the collection are two letters from Harrison to Edmund J. Jones of Myrtle Grove, Blackwood, (Gwent).\(^9\) The first of these, enclosing a printed circular quoting opinions of the 'eoliths', is as follows:

Sir

My speciality is the Greater Antiquity of Man. Hence I am able to supply sets of the Plateau tools – those representing Man (preglacial) in during say Eolitic or Prepalaecolithic [times] and I enclose 2 sheets of figures – price 2 guineas also a

\(^4\) 'Literally tons of flakes and common ones' were discarded before the collection was moved (by steam trolley) from the Stopes' Hampstead home to the nearby Free Library.

\(^5\) Add. MS 58449.

\(^6\) Sir John Evans, author of *Ancient Stone Implements*. Henry Stopes was critical of him.

\(^7\) Add. MS 58449.

\(^8\) Add. MS 58449.

\(^9\) Presumably donated with the 'water-colour sketches of flint implements' given to the Museum by Mrs. R.E. Edmund Jones in 1930, but filed with the Stopes MSS.

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Circular and a no. of Longmans\textsuperscript{10} which may interest. This I should like returned in a day or so — If you would like a set [I] can at once forward the implements. By figuring on sheets and placing the imp[lemen]ts on the sketches it makes the case self-explanatory.

I remain
Yours truly
B. Harrison

Ightham

Jones evidently decided to purchase a representative selection of implements, although not the full 2 guineas' worth, and the second letter includes an invoice:

\textbf{D[ea]r Sir}

I have packed up and forwarded for parcel post a representative series, comprising Neoliths (Hammerstones, Celts and Scrapers) Palaeoliths — flakes and 2 Imp[lemen]ts and a few Plateau tools (Eoliths). As you say you are a young beginner these flakes etc. with bulbs of percussion will be more useful than higher priced implements — for by a careful study of these your eye will become educated and enable you to distinguish the definite work of man. Buy 'Primitive Man'\textsuperscript{11} by E. Clodd published by Newnes & Co. price 1/-.

Mr. E.J. Jones to B. Harrison

\begin{tabular}{lcc}
A representative set of Eos. Pals. & Neos. & 10-6 \\
Postage on plates, books and parcels & 1-6 \\
\hline
12-0
\end{tabular}

Ightham

Yours truly
B. Harrison

P.S. Owing to illness in staff I am just now too busy to say more. When I acknowledge the P. Order will write more fully on certain useful points.

These letters are not dated but probably were written at about the turn of the century. They afford further evidence of Harrison's efforts, mentioned by F.D. Johns, to educate and inspire young people — and in this case to make a little money for himself, too.

YOLANDA C. STANTON

THE CASTELAYN BRASS IN BEXLEY CHURCH

The hunting horn brass in the north aisle of St. Mary's church was illustrated in \textit{Arch. Cant.} xviii (1889) by means of an excellent nineteenth-century drawing by J.G. Waller, F.S.A. Unfortunately, it

\textsuperscript{10} i.e. \textit{Longman's Magazine} which ran from Jan. 1883 until Oct. 1905. It is possible that Harrison had contributed to this, but it is not indexed in the Wellesley \textit{Index of Victorian Periodicals}, and so far I have been unable to check the point.

\textsuperscript{11} Actually \textit{The Story of 'Primitive Man'} by Edward Clodd, published in 1895.
Fig. 1. Brass to Henry Castelayn, 1407, in Bexley Church.
The dimensions of the gravestone shown in outline are 55 1/2 by 24 1/2 inches.
does not show the whole composition as it omits the surviving indents for a missing inscription plate and two shields. In order to rectify this I have composed the accompanying illustration in which Waller's drawing is shown to scale in relation to the outline of the Purbeck gravestone and the indents of the lost features (Fig. 1).

Canon Scott Robertson was able to demonstrate that despite the loss of the inscription this can be identified as the memorial to Henry Castelayn who died in 1407 (Arch. Cant. xviii (1889), 373–4). Not only was this suggested by heraldic evidence, but further illumination is now supplied by Professor F.R.H. Du Boulay's The Lordship of Canterbury (1966) where Henry Castelayn is identified from contemporary records as the keeper of parks, warrens, chaces and woods within the whole archbishopric of Canterbury, and the appropriateness of the hunting horn on his memorial is therefore obvious. It appears that he was an official of some importance who was responsible for supervising hunting on the archbishop's estates. Three years before his death he was granted leases of several parcels of land in Archbishop Arundel's manor of Bexley,¹ and in his will, now preserved in Lambeth Palace Library, he directed that he should be buried in Bexley church. Other interesting details of the will are summarised in Scott Robertson's article mentioned above, including the well known bequest of his bees to the churchwardens, the profit from which was to provide lights before certain images in the church.

At Baldock in Hertfordshire there is an early fifteenth-century brass of a man in civilian costume with a horn on his right hip slung from a baldric passing over his left shoulder and diagonally across his chest. It is figured in H. Haines' Manual of Monumental Bras es (1861) and it is there suggested that the man commemorated was a hunter or park-keeper. Details of the horn and its means of suspension are similar to those on the Castelayn brass.

Some area of the woods in Bexley is known to have been imparked in the Middle Ages² and the name of Park Wood has survived to the present day. This implies the existence of an enclosed hunting park for the use and entertainment of the medieval ecclesiastical landlords. Similarly, part of the steep gravelly hillside within the manor south of the old Dover Road (A207) has been known until recent times as The Warren, and is named as such, together with Bexley Park Wood, on Hasted's map of the Hundred of Ruxley in the late eighteenth century. If these are indeed indications of a medieval deer

¹ F.R.H. Du Boulay, Medieval Bexley (1961), 44, n. 52.
park and coney warren in the archiepiscopal manor of Bexley, it could suggest a reason why, considering his office, Henry Castelayn was apparently resident there at the time of his death.

P.J. TESTER

A POST-MEDIEVAL POTTERY GROUP FROM A WELL IN ROCHESTER

In 1962 a group of pottery vessels, recovered from a chalk-lined well during excavation on the site of no. 50 Rochester High Street, was handed to me for drawing and description. A brief summary of the results of the excavation appeared in Arch. Cant., lxxvii (1962), l–li, where a forthcoming detailed report was indicated. This has unfortunately failed to appear and after such a long interval I feel justified in presenting a separate account of the well pottery in order that the effort once made to illustrate and record it may not have been wholly in vain.

A complication has been that some of the material presented to a local museum cannot now be traced, and this has prevented re-examination of certain vessels which were only cursorily noted at the time when the drawings were made. This accounts for the admitted shortcoming in the descriptive notes on some of the vessels illustrated.

The well was 2 ft. 6 in. in diameter and was excavated to a depth of 14 ft. below the floor of the cellar which itself was 7 ft. below present ground level. Water seepage prevented complete excavation. It was faced internally with well-shaped and slightly cambered blocks of chalk set in clay and backed with unshaped blocks of chalk. The upper 6 ft. of the filling consisted of building debris, including chalk blocks and peg-tiles, the lower 8 ft. being household rubbish, including bones and oyster shells as well as the pottery. It appeared, therefore, that the well was deliberately truncated and infilled when the cellar of no. 50 High Street was excavated.¹

There was no stratigraphical evidence to justify separating the vessels into a chronological sequence and the general character of the whole assemblage is typical of the sixteenth century,² with possible

¹ I am indebted to the recollections of Mr. A.C. Harrison, B.A., F.S.A., who took part in the excavations, for information concerning the circumstances of the discovery. The director of the investigation was a former K.A.S. Member, Mr. R.E. Chaplin, B.Sc.

² There is a general similarity to a group of vessels from a pit at Westminster Abbey published in Antiq. Journ. xl (1960), 188–94.
extension in some instances into the early years of the century following.

The pipkins numbered 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7, and the dish, no. 5, are of reddish-brown sandy ware with partial internal glazing, particularly towards the bottom, with some external splashing. Nos. 2 and 5 have tripod bases formed by thumbing down three ridges of clay at the junction of base and side. No. 7 has decoration on both sides in the form of groups of crescents of cream slip covered by a patch of glaze. Pipkins of the types represented here were common during the Tudor period and persisted into the seventeenth century.\(^3\) It has been observed that the earlier forms have maximum body-width nearer the rim, while later ones are widest towards the base. Most of these Rochester pots seem to be intermediate between the two extremes, and this might be taken to imply that they belong to the second half of the sixteenth century. The oblique-sided bowls, nos. 9 and 10, are also common sixteenth-century types, although the hollow flanges of these two examples were prevalent also in the seventeenth century. No. 10 is of pink fabric with a patch of yellowish glaze inside the base. A roughly made pot-lid is represented by a single fragment, no. 4.

The incomplete bucket-handled vessel, no. 8, was probably a ewer, in which case it would have originally possessed a short tubular spout projecting from the shoulder at right-angles to the line of the handle. There is uneven glazing on the handle and the upper part of the grey body.

Two grey-brown Raeren mugs, nos. 12 and 13, represent a common Continental import of the sixteenth century, although such stoneware vessels had a long individual life and they can occur in slightly later contexts. Nos. 11 and 14 display the characteristic cordon at the base of the neck seen on imported Frechen mugs such as often occur in this country c. 1560–1600, but continue later.

It is significant that there were no Delft sherds in the well, nor any clay tobacco pipes, this negative evidence being useful in assessing the *terminus post quem* for the filling. Pipes are very common in Rochester and might be expected to occur amongst the rubbish in the well if it had been filled after the early years of the seventeenth century.

P.J. TESTER

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\(^3\) An illustration of the longevity of tripod pipkins is their occurrence in association with a stoneware-producing kiln at Woolwich dated c. 1660. See, *the London Archaeologist*, vol. 3, no. 6 (1978), 155.
Fig. 1. Post-medieval Pottery from Rochester (4).
A NOTE ON A FRAGMENTARY BONE END-BLOWN PIPE FROM A MEDIEVAL HOUSE SITE AT STONAR, NEAR SANDWICH

Introduction (N. Macpherson-Grant)

In view of the delays incurred during preparation of the excavation report on the medieval town site of Stonar, Sandwich (N.G.R. TR 335587), it is felt that one or two of the more unusual finds deserve prior publication. The bone pipe discussed here, is such an item, and many thanks are due to Vincent Megaw, both for providing the accompanying note and for his patience in waiting for its publication.

The pipe (Small Find no. 170) was recovered in 1970 from the floor of House 1 (Area 6A) and sealed by a destruction level of roofing-tiles and burnt daub. The documentary evidence (reviewed by Sarah Campbell in the forthcoming excavation report) shows that Stonar was almost completely razed by a French raid in 1385, and occupation of the town virtually terminated. At least seven houses were excavated during 1970–71, and of these, House 1 and five others had been destroyed by fire. Since, in each case, the excavation record clearly showed that collapse was followed by abandonment, it is reasonable to equate these destruction levels with the French raid – the latter providing a useful terminal date for a wide range of imported and local pottery, small finds, and in this instance, the pipe described below.

The Pipe (Fig. 1).

The bone pipe, made from a sheep’s tibia and discovered in a house
burnt down in A.D. 1385, measures 9 cm. long in its present surviving state; above the crudely cut voicing lip there are considerable signs of knife cuts and above the lip the surviving end of the bone shows signs of modification. At the lower end there is evidence of both modern and ancient fractures; there are two lateral cuts on the upper surface of the bone, one of which runs across the remains of a single small tapering hole with a diameter of 0.2 cm. Both of these modifications suggest an intention to cut down the total length of the pipe while the hole, though too small to be associated with any form of fingering, recalls similar small holes, perhaps to facilitate suspension, found usually on the rear surface of undated bone pipes from several Dutch terpen as well as other definite English medieval examples (Megaw, 1961; 178; Brade, 1975: NL 6, 33; Rimmer, 1981; 236 ff.).

There is little which warrants comment on this latest addition to the most common class of archaeological evidence for ancient music-making. End-blown pipes or fipple-flutes, humble precursors of the equally humble modern penny-whistle of metal, wood or plastic, are known from at least a dozen British sites of medieval date; these sites, both secular and religious, include several with pipes also found in a fourteenth-century context (e.g. Megaw, 1961; 1975; Wade-Martins, 1973; Clarke and Carter 1977, fig. 143, 20). The nearest example is of bird-bone from Castle Hill, Folkestone (Pitt-Rivers, 1883; 439 and Pl. XX: 35). Most of these pipes (frequently also of sheep’s bone), however, even when not surviving complete, exhibit a number of obvious finger holes, the most usual number – as with Continental examples – being three (Brade, 1975; esp. 36 ff.). Indeed, one should observe both the fracturing of the lower part of the Stonar pipe and the very unsatisfactory nature of the cut for the voicing lip, which lacks the oblique lower ‘knife edge’ on which the air stream from the player’s mouth impinges. It seems more than
likely that at Stonar we have a comparatively rare example of a medieval bone pipe in an early stage of manufacture (compare Brade, 1975, 57; Mann, 1982; 16; and Megaw, in press), although it must also be added that the identification of musical instruments of bone has long been a matter for controversy (Brade with Megaw 1982).

REFERENCES


J.V.S. MEGAW
TWO FLINT AXES FROM LOWER HALLING AND CHART SUTTON

The first axe (Fig. 1.1) was found in January 1983 by Dr B.J. Shroff, whilst digging in his garden at Holly Bank, Vicarage Road, Lower Halling, (N.G.R. TQ 702644). After knapping the grey flint into shape, it had been ground smooth at the cutting edge and this process had included some of the cortex. The slightly convex sides taper towards the butt, which is triangular in section. The maximum dimensions of the axe are: length 13.5 cm., width 5.2 cm., thickness 3.1 cm. and the weight is 210 gm.

The second grey flint axe (Fig. 1.2) was discovered by Mr R. Beazley of Back Lane, Chart Sutton, whilst walking through a nearby
field in February 1983 (N.G.R. TQ 792495). Unlike the previous axe, this one is unfinished and lacks any polished edge. In addition, it possesses a cortex flaw which extends 1.8 cm. into the narrow butt end. This was examined by Gill Varndell of the Department of Prehistoric and Romano-British Antiquities at the British Museum, who confirmed it was a rough-out for a Neolithic flint axe. She also commented that it was odd that the knapper had proceeded so far with the flint, as it was so badly flawed and rendered difficult to thin down by hinge fractures. These had resulted in an unusually thick profile to the edge. The maximum dimensions are: length 13.3 cm., width 6.2 cm., thickness 4.2 cm. and a weight of 355 gm.

In the typological scheme proposed by Adkins and Jackson the Halling axe can be assigned into Type N and the Chart Sutton rough out, if finished, may have parallels with Type M. Although similar flint axes are most commonly found in Neolithic contexts, the occasional Early Bronze Age find has led Pierpoint to suggest a rather wider date range of 4,000–1,800 B.C. It is interesting to note that the Halling axe has a slight depression in the profile about a third of the way from the butt and the sides are blunted in the same area. This could be associated with the need to haft the axe onto a handle.

Both axes have subsequently been returned to their finders. The writer would like to thank Mr A.C. Harrison for bringing the Halling axe to his attention.

R.J. CRUSE

SEVENOAKS DISTRICT ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY GROUP

The year to September 1983 was an extremely busy one, during which we were concerned with over 50 buildings in twelve parishes, though in most cases only superficially. Demands on the group are such that we must be ruthlessly selective as to the buildings we record in detail, and our current policy is to do so only if structural alterations or repairs are being carried out. Emergency recording in these circumstances was undertaken at the Summerhouse of Montreal Park, Salters Heath (Chevening parish); at Bridge Cottage, High Street, Otford; at Holly Place, High Street, Shoreham; and at Shepherd’s Barn, Stone House Farm, Shoreham. Shepherd’s Barn stands on the route of a

2 S. Pierpoint, Prehistoric Flintwork in Britain, Vorda Research Series 3, 1981.
forthcoming M25 motorway extension and is being dismantled in the hope of re-erection, if a site and use for it can be found. In addition, further work was done at several of the buildings mentioned in our last report (Arch. Cant., xcvi (1982), 246–7).

In December, Sevenoaks District Council produced a consultation draft of a document intended to offer general planning and technical guidance on repairs and alterations to historic buildings. Before the deadline at the end of February the Group prepared and submitted detailed comments, not only on our own account but also on behalf of the Kent Historic Buildings Committee.

At the request of Sevenoaks District Council, the Group acted in a consultative capacity over plans for the restoration of no. 101 High Street, Sevenoaks, and Holly Place, High Street, Shoreham, both buildings of outstanding interest. We were also instrumental in saving from demolition nos. 1–5 Rectory Lane, Brasted (an attractive early-nineteenth-century row of five terraced cottages), and the Summerhouse of Montreal Park, Salters Heath.

These manifold preoccupations unfortunately left little time for the vital task of putting into presentable form our findings on a considerable number of buildings already recorded. We were, however, able to complete and distribute the following studies, copies of which are now in the K.A.S. Library:

**Chevening Study No. 1** (also issued as *Riverhead Study No. 2*):
A small stone building, now partly ruined, erected c. 1770 for Sir Jeffrey Amherst as a picturesque landmark on his estate and used for tea-parties and picnics until the present century. This study also records the obelisk and ice-house which constitute the only other Montreal structures to remain.

**Halstead Study No. 2:**
David Asprey, ‘Hope Cottages, Nos. 44, 46 and 48 Station Road, Halstead’ (18 pp. text, 8 figs., 2 pls.).
This late-seventeenth-century timber-framed building, a row of three cottages since c. 1780, is shown to have originated as a single house with an off-centre chimney block behind a front entrance lobby. Curiously, only alternate tie-beams of the queen-strut roof were supported by wall-posts, the others simply resting on the wall-plates. Externally the walls are weather-boarded and there is evidence that they may have been originally so, in which case this was an unusually early instance of such cladding.

Many K.A.S. members saw the Group’s new display stand on view
at the Society’s 1983 A.G.M. The items exhibited are changed from
time to time so that recent material is always included with whatever
is most interesting and instructive from our past investigations. It is
thus suitable for repeated showings at any appropriate functions and
we hope that adequate use will be made of it.

ANTHONY D. STOYEL

THE ISLE OF THANET ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

Rescue was the main theme for Unit activities during 1982–83, with
two sites taking precedence:

*The Monkton Gas Pipeline, Phases I and II*

The whole course of the pipeline runs just south of, and parallel to,
the A253. Phase I was completed in 1982, and ran for two miles
eastward from the junction with Gore Street. Romano-British re-
 mains and a pit with medieval sherds were discovered near the
Monkton roundabout. Some 500 m. east of this, the pipeline cut the
Anglo-Saxon cemetery discovered in 1971, (*Arch. Cant.*, lxxxix
(1974), 49–89). On this occasion, thirteen graves were detected and
evacated in advance of the pipe trench; grave goods included a
sword and jewellery. A report is in preparation.

Phase II commenced in August 1983. At the time of writing, large
pits containing iron slag and Romano-British building remains have
been sectioned by the trench at N.G.R. TR 323656. Pottery and coins
from this site indicate a first-century date.

*Nethercourt Estate, Ramsgate*

Thanks to the cooperation of the developers and farmer, the Unit
was able to sample portions of a site over three acres in extent that
has occasionally exhibited a complex crop-mark. Excavations were
and are being carried out at intervals between building or farming
work. Thus far, investigations suggest a Romano-British domestic
site within ditched boundaries. Structures are represented by outlines
of flint packed post-holes, or courses of flints apparently buttressed
with posts. A floor of rammed chalk, and shallow ‘cellars’ were
observed. The main body of pottery from this site seems to be of
mid-first century type. Investigation will continue until development
is complete.

D.R.J. PERKINS

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Aerial photographs indicate an intensive network of ditches in The Wicks, a silted 'low' which runs for 3 km. south-west from Lydd between the two groups of shingle ridges known as The Forelands and Holmstone. The area concerned is now rough pasture within the Lydd M.o.D. Ranges, which restricts the possibility of access.

At first sight the network appeared to consist of numerous closely-spaced ditches on generally rectangular patterns, occupying virtually the whole of the vegetated 'low', except where it is very closely underlain by shingle. However, a preliminary inspection on the ground has shown definite evidence of slightly curved ridges and furrows, and also of more closely-spaced rectangular ditches. The latter may be superimposed on the former.

The ditches appear to be related to a former main water-course, which bends from side to side of the 'low'. Both the ditches and the old water-course are transected by the present Wicks Petty Sewer, which runs more or less straight down the centre of the 'low'. The system of ditches is crossed by two west–east embankments – the Upper Wick Wall and the Lower Wick Wall, both of which are continuations of medieval walls on Walland Marsh. The 'low' is also crossed diagonally, just north of the Lower Wick Wall, by an embankment built to support a light railway in the early days of military occupation, sometime before 1899.

Aerial photographs and ground inspection show small fans of shingle which has apparently flowed out from the Forelands and interrupted the ditches along the western edge of the Wicks. The formation of these fans may have been comparable to the shingle fans which form at the present-day behind the storm beach at Abnor and Wickmaryholm Pits, south of Lydd. At high spring tides, and particularly when an on-shore wind is blowing, sea-water flows through the storm beach and emerges 2 or 3 m. lower on the inland side of the storm beach, carrying shingle forward to form flat-topped fans. The Forelands is at its narrowest some 200 m. wide, comparable in width to Chesil Beach, through which seepage is known to occur.

The evidence of these fans, taken together with the Wick Walls and the disturbed state of other shingle to the west of the Forelands, indicates that at some time the sea was threatening the Wicks from the west. Circumstantial evidence suggests strongly that this occurred during the thirteenth century, when fifty years of phenomenal storms (1236–1287) coincided with a slight rise in sea level and caused untold upheaval in the estuary between the Wicks and Rye. The name 'The Forelands itself indicates land 'without the walls'. There is also the remains of an embankment running along the eastern edge of the
Fig. 1. Ditches in The Wicks, Lydd. Inset, location map.
Key: Present Wicks Petty Sewer; U.W.W.: Lower Wick Wall; K.W.: Kent Wall; S.W.: Simmonds Wall; G.W.: Gore Wall. (Sources, aerial photographs).
Some of the Ditches in the Wicks, Lydd, from the air.
Forelands, which may or may not be contemporaneous with the fans.

The following order of events is suggested:
1. The shingle ridges of the Forelands and Holmstone were emplaced some 3,000 years ago, building up from west to east. Each ridge in turn was a storm beach.¹
2. Initial silting of The Wicks occurred sometime after Holmstone was in place.
3. Early occupation and agricultural activity is witnessed by the ridges and furrows.
4. A different, later, activity (possibly salt-working) is suggested by the more closely-spaced rectangular ditches. If indeed these were connected with salt-works the admission of tidal water was probably the result of the sea breaking through a shingle barrier which had previously been secure.
5. The superposition of shingle fans and the Wick Walls upon the ditching system suggest that by mid-thirteenth century the sea was threatening the Wicks from the west.
6. Finally, the Wicks Sewer was re-dug in a straightened course. Poker's map suggests this had taken place before 1617.

It is hoped to provide a fuller report on the Wicks area after the Wicks Petty Sewer is cleared out in the summer of 1983.

JILL EDDISON

CHALK

In *Arch. Cant.*, xcvi (1980), 372–77, Messrs. Thom and Goodall published a reconstruction of a late twelfth- or early thirteenth-century cross from fragments found at the Maison Dieu, Ospringe, and from other relevant sources. At Ospringe there was found only one enamelled plaque which showed the winged ox of St. Luke and this formed the end of one arm.

Recently, through the kindness of Michael Moad of Rochester Museum, I have been allowed to study and make a record of another copper alloy cross arm's terminal plate of similar form and date. It depicts the eagle of St. John and very much resembles the example shown on the Ospringe reconstruction. Its dimensions are also similar – 5.6 by 5 cm. with a thickness of 0.2 cm. There are traces of enamel in the chiselled grooves.

The plaque belongs to Mr J. Vickers of 12 Langdon Road,

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Rochester, and was found in January or February 1983 in a spoil heap on a building site on the edge of a field near Chalk Church.

ALLEN GROVE

Fig. 1. Aldington medieval Seal.
At the end of January 1983, when a mechanical excavator was digging into the low hillside at Clap Hill, Aldington (N.G.R. TR 058369), twelve-year-old Andrew Wagar found in the topsoil of the exposed section a bronze object which he took to Mrs. Maureen Lovering who identified it as a seal and passed it on to the writer for more detailed information. She herself drew the attached illustration (Fig. 1) for which he is most grateful.

The seal is six-sided with an inscription badly cut in Lombardic lettering. There are no stops except a colon after the initial cross potent. A centering mark lies on the upper surface above the inscription face and is situated between the cross and S (for sigillum). The seal is to be dated to the period 1250 to 1350.

Inscription:

\[ \text{TREHCATS VA(\text{? L}) DEI} \]

Extension:

\[ \text{SIGILLUM) TRECHAT(ORI)S VALDEI} \]

Interpretation of this inscription is problematical as the bad lettering is hard to read and is probably the work of an illiterate, witness the reversal of the H and C. I would suggest that the seal might be that of a wood-carver or wood-cutter of the Weald (waldia).

The central shield seemingly bears a stag’s head couped with its neck pierced by a sword and with an annulet in the dexter chief and a (?) trefoil in the sinister chief.

ALLEN GROVE

PLATE I

Aldington medieval Seal (\{\}).

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RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES IN KENT

DECOY FARM, HIGH HALSTOW

Over two weekends in 1974 a Romano-British occupation site on Hack Marsh was investigated by M.A. Ocock and the Lower Medway Archaeological Research Group. The site extended over some 50 m. sq. centred on N.G.R. TQ 78237760. This is under \( \frac{1}{2} \) km. south of a similar site reported by Ocock in *Arch. Cant.*, lxxxiv (1969), 255–7. A 1.4 m. wide strip of topsoil was removed from the site and seven trial trenches were dug at selected points along it.

It was hoped that more extensive investigations would have been possible eventually, but this did not prove to be the case. The limited quantity of pottery and *briquetage* recovered has recently been re-examined. The evidence suggests that the area was seasonally occupied for salt-winning and related purposes. The small industrial areas on the marshes were probably connected with more permanent establishments which are still to be discovered on the high ground to the south. Four phases were identifiable in the stratigraphy.

Phase I, c. A.D. 70–120. Occupation indicated by a layer of broken *briquetage* which contained distinctive late first century coarse ware and samian sherds.

Phase II, c. A.D. 120–180. Abandonment, or a marked fall-off in use is indicated by a total absence of mid-second century pottery. A layer of silty clay, 14 cm. thick, probably represents local flooding and the build-up of salt marsh.

Phase III, c. A.D. 180–300. Major phase of occupation marked by a second series of *briquetage* layers and dated by late samian, colour-coated and coarse ware forms.

Phase IV. Abandonment before the appearance of fourth-century pottery forms. No medieval pottery found. Marshland conditions prevail until ploughing and field drainage in late 1960s.

Three finds of significance were made:

(i) An Anglo-Saxon *sceatta* of the seventh century found in the topsoil.

(ii) A sandy grey coarse ware jar with a graffito scored on the inside of its rim after firing. It possibly represents an owner’s mark or the number LXI.

(iii) A flint-tempered smooth surfaced grey ware sherd of either a bowl or flagon. Mr W. Rodwell confirmed that it belonged to the group of stamped ‘West Stow’ pots found in southern Suffolk. He identified the ring-stamp used as number R2.6 as illustrated in BAR 57, 248–54. This is the first known example found south of the Thames. It was found in phase I.

All the finds and the site archive are being deposited in Rochester Museum apart from the coin which is held by the D.o.E.
Visitors to Stowting Church may be pardoned for being puzzled by its east window as well as overawed. Depicted therein are some arms which have become so indistinct as to be almost unrecognizable. Recent research, however, has shown that the window, given in 1843 in memory of Jacob George Wrench (patron of the living) by his children, contains (on the north) the arms of Wrench and (on the south) the arms of Wrench impaling Buxton and Money as follows:

Gules three crosses crosslet in bend or with a crescent for difference, for Wrench; argent a lion rampant tail elevated and turned over the head sable, for Buxton; chequy gules and argent, for Money.

Jacob George Wrench Esq., of St. Magnus the Martyr, London, and Grove Hill, Camberwell, Surrey, was a seedsman of Thames Street, a citizen and draper of London, and Master of the Company in 1831. He was born in 1765, the second son of Jacob Wrench and grandson of Thomas Wrench, both of Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey. In 1789, he married Mary, eldest daughter of John Buxton of Ewell Hall, Coggeshall, Essex, Christ Church, Southwark, Surrey, and Highbury Place, Middlesex, by his wife Mary Money, He died in 1841 (and was buried at St. Magnus the Martyr, London), leaving seven sons and two daughters, of whom the eldest son, Rev. Jacob George Wrench, D.C.L., was Rector of Stowting from 1814 to 1827, and the sixth son, Rev. Frederick Wrench, J.P., was Rector of Stowting from 1840 to 1847.

According to Burke’s General Armory the Wrench family which lived in London and Camberwell and Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey, was descended from Wrench of Oxfordshire and bore the arms granted in 1588 to Wrench of Haddenham in the Isle of Ely, Cambridgeshire. Those arms are to be seen on memorials in St. Michael, Cornhill, London, where Jacob Wrench’s eldest son and grandson were rector’s from 1793 to 1836 and from 1836 to 1875, respectively. As already described they also appear differed with a crescent in the window at Stowting.

John Buxton’s father was the third son of Isaac Buxton, Clothier, of Great Coggeshall. In 1634 Isaac’s grandfather, Thomas Buxton of Great Coggeshall, claimed descent from a younger branch of the Buxtons of Tibenham, afterwards of Shadwell, Baronets, who are now extinct. Members of the Coggeshall family used the stag’s head and lion of the Shadwell Buxtons in their book-plates from about 1750, and it is this lion which appears in the window at Stowting. In 1840, arms were granted to Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, 1st Baronet (descended from Isaac Buxton’s fourth son), who chose the arms of
the Shadwell family differenced by two mullets, which he took from the Fowell arms.

In Burke's *General Armory*, the Money arms are blazoned chequy argent and gules (not gules and argent, as in the window). The name Money reappeared in the Wrench family when a grandson of Jacob George Wrench was called John Money Wrench. The latter's sister, Ann Wrench, married William Beckwith Towse, Clerk to the Fishmongers' Company, and when she died the widower married again. This time the clergyman who officiated at the ceremony was the Rev. Charles Forbes Septimus Money, almost certainly a friend of the family. As one of the Moneys of Walthamstow, he was entitled to bear the arms of that family – or, on a pile azure, ten bezants, four, three, two, and one, on a chief ermine, a lion passant of the second; but his mother was a Money of Much Marcle, whose arms were – chequy argent and gules, on a chief sable three eagles displayed or.

Thus, the armorial window at Stowting describes how the families of Wrench, Buxton and Money were related, whether they were actually entitled to arms or not. It has also helped the writer, a great-grandson of William Beckwith Towse and Ann Wrench, to establish his descent from the Buxtons of Coggeshall.

ANTHONY N.B. TOWSE

PRE-ROMAN HORIZONS AND SITES AT CLIFFE

Five unstratified flint axes were found by a field study group of St. George's School, Gravesend, and by the writer during searches on the foreshore in the 1960–70s. The finds were among flints and chalk pebbles, from Cliffe Creek to Lower Hope Point. It appears that the artefacts may have been moved to the shore by chance when material was transported from the chalk quarry (N.G.R. TQ 725763) by the former Cliffe Canal to sea-walling works, between 1793 and 1830. Recently the Curator of Rochester Museum has identified the axes (including a *ficron*) as Middle Acheulian; probably originating at Baker's Hole.

At about 100 m. from the canal quarry, when Mr E. Slater was excavating clay, he found a considerable deposit of animal bones and small antlers, 30 ft. below the marsh surface.

Elsewhere in the northern clay workings (which are now mainly lakes), peat was rarely discovered, but tree stumps were excavated by Mr G. Randall from clay at O.D. – 18 ft. in the most northerly of the workings; at almost the same level as the peat reported by J.H. Evans in his reference to Chatham.
Neolithic finds in Cliffe marshes have not been reported; but near the marsh fringe and Reed Street a perforated stone fragment has been found by Mr H. Martin. It was described by the British Museum staff this year as a part of a late Neolithic mace-head.

In the marshes north of the village, shepherds have discovered ‘upper peat’ levels accidentally during small excavations. Their information was followed up by the St. George’s group in the late 1960s, in a re-excavation of sites in Mr C. Duncanson’s marshes (N.G.R. TQ 73267798) and in Mr R.D. Maclean’s land (N.G.R. TQ 75127789). Below the water-table in both sites, the group found fibrous, greenish, foul-smelling layers at about O.D. – 5 ft. A calf’s tooth was found on Mr Maclean’s site. The levels approximate to levels of the Early Bronze Age debris at Peacock’s Farm, near Ely (ref. J.G.D. Clark et al., Antiquaries Journal, xv (1935)).

A palstave was found at West Court in the 1920s, and a few years later a former area of sarsen stones at the farm appears to be indicated by a statement of Mr L. Hoare. During industrial excavation in the West Court Quarry, he discovered very large stones (alien to the district) at the bases of flat-bottomed pits, deeper than the first layer of flints. ‘The stones were so heavy that two strong men were needed to shift them’. Mr D.B. Kelly has suggested that the pits were deneholes and that perhaps farm people had pushed the sarsens into them.

A Bronze Age hoard (briefly mentioned in R.F Jessup’s Archaeology of Kent) has been listed at the British Museum as a Late Bronze Age hoard of one whole and four fragments of socketed axes; a piece of sword blade, a bronze gouge and a socketed spearhead. The objects were found in the 1890s by relations of the late Mr. C. Cattermole. He has said the finds were accidental, during commercial excavation of clay in the ‘Kingfisher Lake’, N.G.R. TQ 723765. The site was close to a spring-line on the edge of the marshes.

Near the spring-line on the north-eastern edge of the uplands in 1982, the upper part of a late Bronze Age sword (partly melted) was unearthed from loamy topsoil by Mr. Derek Rixon at N.G.R. TQ 742765.

In another area close to the upland fringe, in the 1960s, Mr G. Randall discovered a very large tip of mussell shells, 45 cm. in thickness and 28 cm. beneath a Romano-British site (N.G.R. TQ 72087611). He retrieved three pre-Roman coins below the water table. One was a coin of Cunobelin; the others were identified by Mr E.W. Tilley as Greek brass coins, one of which had the design of a boy on a dolphin.

R. Hutchings
NEW LIGHT ON THE CANTERBURY LATE-ROMAN TREASURE

In 1962, construction work on the Canterbury ring-road brought to light a remarkable collection of late-Roman objects. They consisted of 11 silver spoons, nine of the long-handled type and two with ‘duck-head’ handles; a silver implement with a prong, a gold hook-and-eye fastening, a silver pin, a gold ring; and two unstamped silver ingots. There were eight coins of the period A.D. 354–393/410 in the vicinity of the find, but it was impossible to prove direct association.
with the other objects.¹ At a Coroner's Inquest, held on 20th September, 1962, the hoard was declared Treasure Trove, and four people nominated as finders.

As was subsequently established in court, not all of the objects were declared. Instead, one of the finders took some home, where they remained in the possession of his family. These objects, five in all, were eventually declared to the authorities in 1983, and were found to be Treasure Trove at an inquest held on 19th May, 1983. The objects are as follows:

1. A stamped silver ingot of long, slender form, measuring 14 × 6.4 cm. Its weight is 321.5 g., and the metal has the following composition: silver 98.6 per cent, copper 0.4 per cent, gold 0.7 per cent, lead 0.4 per cent. The very neatly executed stamp is OF LEO/TR. PS/P.I. *, which locates the silver workshop in question at the Trier mint. Other Trier stamps are known on ingots, though the officina of Leo has not been recorded in a Trier stamp.

2. A stamped silver which is smaller and broader than no. 1. It measures 10.6 × 6.8 cm. and weighs 310.8 g. Analysis shows the silver to be less pure than no. 1, at 91.7 per cent, there is 7.4 per cent copper, 0.3 per cent gold and 0.7 per cent lead. The stamp reads EX OFFI/VLPIAN. The officina of Ulpianus has not previously been recorded.

3. A silver spoon, measuring 18.9 cm. in length and weighing 23.6 g. Its metal content is as follows: silver 94.9 per cent, copper 4.1 per cent, gold 0.6 per cent, lead 0.4 per cent. The bowl is narrow and pear-shaped, and the handle slender with a pointed tip; it joins the bowl with a simple scroll-shaped offset. Within the bowl is an engraved or chased design, originally containing niello inlay (black silver sulphide). The design represents a sea-stag confronting a conventional plant motif. The spoon belongs to a clearly defined fourth-century type, present in numerous hoards of that period. Though the motif cannot be precisely paralleled, decoration of a spoon in this manner, with an animal engraved in the bowl, is known in several spoons of the type.


5. A silver siliqua of Honorius, from the Milan mint and datable to between A.D. 395 and 402. Clipped. The clipped condition of

¹ Published by K.S. Painter in JBAA, xxviii (1965), 1–15.
the *siliquae* implies a date of after A.D. 410 for the hoard.\(^2\)

A detailed appraisal of these finds, and of the hoard as a whole, is in preparation. Meanwhile, whatever the circumstances that have brought about the unification of the 1962 and '1983' groups of objects, it is particularly pleasing that this should have occurred. There is now firm numismatic dating for the hoard as a whole, of after A.D. 410, and the addition of three highly important objects, the two ingots and the engraved spoon, to the group. However, one is bound

\(^2\) We thank the British Museum Laboratory for the metal analyses and Mr A.M. Burnett (Department of Coins and Medals, British Museum) for identifying the coins.
to wonder whether all of the Treasure has yet been identified. There are a number of anomalous features in its present composition, and we should note the presence in a recently published collection of seven unprovenanced silver spoons (found in Britain) of an example that is in every respect identical to one of the 1962 spoons. As so often with the discovery of hoards of precious metals, there are matters which still elude full explanation.

T.W. POTTER and C.M. JOHNS

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