
SOCIETY NEWS

BULLETIN OF THE ENFIELD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

JUNE 1964

No. 13

AIMS AND OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY

1. PROMOTE THE PRACTICE AND STUDY OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE DISTRICT.
2. FOSTER AND KEEP IN CONTACT WITH EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS IN ARCHAEOLOGY.
3. CO-OPERATE WITH NEIGHBOURING SOCIETIES WITH SIMILAR AIMS.
4. ARRANGE GENERAL FIELD-WORK AND VISITS TO SITES.
5. RECORD AND PRESERVE ALL FINDS IN THE DISTRICT AND ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO ALLOW THEIR FINDS TO BE RECORDED BY THE SOCIETY.
6. ENDEAVOUR TO MAINTAIN IN THE LOCALITY A RIGHT REGARD FOR ENFIELD'S PAST AND THE MATERIAL RELICS THEREOF.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SUNDAYS, JUNE ONWARDS	EXCAVATIONS AT ELSYNGE (FORTY HALL)
WEDNESDAY, 24TH JUNE	MEMBERS NIGHT
WEDNESDAY, 1ST JULY	MEMBERS NIGHT

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

THERE ARE STILL SEVERAL MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT YET PAID THEIR SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR, AND THEY ARE REQUESTED TO SEND THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO THE HON. TREASURER, MRS. J. ADAMS, 14 UVEDALE ROAD, ENFIELD.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

PRESIDENT: F. CELORIA, PH.D., F.R.G.S.

VICE-PRESIDENTS: DR. P. W. AGNEW
DR. W. W. WOOD

CHAIRMAN: MR. F. GREGORY,
78 FAVERSHAM AVENUE, ENFIELD.

SECRETARY: MISS I. DRAYTON,
35 BEECH AVENUE, CREWS HILL,
ENFIELD.

TREASURER: MRS. J. ADAMS,
14 UVEDALE ROAD, ENFIELD.

SOCIAL SECRETARY: MR. E. L. FEREDAY,
779 GREAT CAMBRIDGE ROAD, ENFIELD.

COMMITTEE

MR. J. ADAMS
MR. W. GATES
MR. G. R. GILLAM
MRS. F. GREGORY
MISS G. PROFIT (CO-OPTED)
MR. J. SYKES
MR. P. BISHOP (JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE)

PHOTOGRAPHER: MR. A. ALSFORD

SURVEYOR: MR. R. L. PEIRCE, A.I.Q.S., M.R.S.H.

AUDITOR: MR. C. J. KNIGHT, A.A.C.C.A.

TRUSTEES: DR. P. W. A. AGNEW
MR. J. ADAMS

EDITORIAL

WE HOPE THE NEW LOOK GIVEN TO SOCIETY NEWS MEETS WITH YOUR APPROVAL. THE CHANGE ENABLES A CLEARER LAYOUT OF THE CONTENTS TO BE MADE AND GIVES A MORE SUBSTANTIAL FORM TO OUR MODEST PUBLICATION. AS WELL AS DETAILS OF MEETINGS AND EXCAVATIONS WE HOPE TO PUBLISH IN EACH ISSUE AT LEAST ONE ARTICLE ON SOME ASPECT OF ARCHAEOLOGY OR LOCAL HISTORY, AND TO INCLUDE REPORTS FROM OBSERVERS ON DISCOVERIES FROM TRENCHES ON BUILDING SITES.

THE SUCCESS OF THE BULLETIN, AS WITH ALL SOCIETY ACTIVITIES, DEPENDS ON THE CONTRIBUTION MADE BY MEMBERS. SEVERAL NOTES AND ARTICLES WRITTEN BY MEMBERS HAVE APPEARED IN PAST EDITIONS, AND WE HOPE THAT MANY MORE WILL BE FORTHCOMING.

ITEMS FOR INCLUSION SHOULD BE SENT TO MR. G. R. GILLAM, 23 MERTON ROAD, ENFIELD.

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THE REVISION OF THE BOROUGH BOUNDARIES AND THE FORMATION OF BOROUGH 32, FROM EDMONTON, ENFIELD AND SOUTHGATE, HAS RAISED THAT PERENNIAL QUESTION, "HOW 'LOCAL' IS A LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY?"

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORY SOCIETIES ARE OFTEN ACCUSED OF BEING PAROCHIAL IN OUTLOOK, A CHARGE WHICH IN MOST CASES IS QUITE UNJUSTIFIED; OUR OWN POSITION WILL SERVE AS AN ILLUSTRATION.

WHEN THIS SOCIETY WAS FIRST FORMED IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT, AS WE WERE INTERESTED IN ARCHAEOLOGY AND WOULD HOLD OUR MEETINGS IN ENFIELD, WE SHOULD CALL OURSELVES THE ENFIELD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY; ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NEVER INSISTED THAT MEMBERS MUST BE RESIDENTS OF ENFIELD!!!

RESEARCH AT LOCAL LEVEL HAS TO BE REVIEWED AGAINST A WIDER BACKGROUND WHICH NECESSARILY TRANSCENDS ALL ARTIFICIAL BOUNDARIES, BUT, FOR OBVIOUS REASONS, A LIMIT MUST BE SET, AND WE THEREFORE USED THE PARISH BOUNDARY TO DEFINE A CONVENIENT WORKING AND RECRUITING AREA: IT WOULD BE NEITHER DESIRABLE NOR PRACTICABLE TO ATTEMPT TO COVER TOO LARGE AN AREA - THE SERVICES OF THE FEW WOULD BE SPREAD FAR TOO THIN.

IT IS OBVIOUS THAT OUR "BOUNDARIES" WILL NOW BE EQUATED WITH THOSE OF THE NEW BOROUGH, AND THERE ARE THREE REASONS WHY THIS SHOULD BE SO. MANY OF OUR MEMBERS LIVE IN EDMONTON AND SOUTHGATE ANYWAY. THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM MAKES IT RELATIVELY EASY TO COMMUTE BETWEEN THE THREE DISTRICTS. THE DISTRIBUTION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND FINDS, ESPECIALLY OF THE ROMAN PERIOD, AS WELL AS FACTORS IN THE LATER DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA, CAUSES IT TO BE A GOOD UNIT FOR STUDY.

ELSYNGE HALL EXCAVATION

EXCAVATIONS IN THE GROUNDS OF FORTY HALL WILL BE RESUMED ON SUNDAY JUNE 7TH, AND CONTINUE ON SUNDAYS UNTIL ABOUT THE END OF SEPTEMBER UNDER THE DIRECTION OF MISS DRAYTON.

MEMBERS WISHING TO TAKE PART SHOULD GO DIRECT TO THE SITE AT OR AFTER 10.30 A.M., BRINGING WITH THEM THEIR OWN TROWELS, IF POSSIBLE.

THE SITE LIES ROUGHLY EAST OF FORTY HALL MUSEUM IN THE DIRECTION OF MAIDEN'S BRIDGE.

THE SOCIETY HAS TAKEN OUT A PUBLIC LIABILITY POLICY WHICH WILL COVER US FOR ANY ACCIDENTS TO VISITORS, BUT DIGGERS ARE WARNED THAT THEY ARE NOT COVERED BY THE POLICY. ANY MEMBER WISHING TO TAKE THE PRECAUTION SHOULD EFFECT HIS OR HER OWN PERSONAL INSURANCE.

LAST YEAR ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS IT WAS FOUND THAT THE PRESENCE OF YOUNG CHILDREN ON THE SITE CONSTITUTED A DANGER TO THEMSELVES, A WORRY TO THE DIRECTOR AND A GENERAL NUISANCE TO DIGGERS. MEMBERS ARE THEREFORE ASKED NOT TO BRING YOUNG CHILDREN TO THE SITE, OR, IF THIS IS UNAVOIDABLE, TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THE CHILDREN'S SAFETY AND KEEP THEM WELL AWAY FROM THE DIG. AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION IS A SERIOUS SCIENTIFIC OPERATION, AND IS NOT A SUITABLE OCCUPATION FOR CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF ABOUT 13. JUNIOR MEMBERS OF 13 AND OVER ARE, OF COURSE, VERY WELCOME TO JOIN IN, AND NEWCOMERS WILL BE GIVEN TRAINING IN TECHNIQUES.

THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE RESPONSE TO THE SUGGESTION OF A WEEK'S OR FORTNIGHT'S INTENSIVE DIGGING DURING THE SUMMER; HOWEVER, THE POSSIBILITY IS STILL OPEN AND ANY MEMBER INTERESTED SHOULD TELL MISS DRAYTON.

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THERE ARE SEVERAL DOCUMENTS WHICH CONTAIN REFERENCES TO ELSYNGE, AND IF THEY COULD BE READ WOULD HELP IN SORTING OUT THE RATHER CONFUSED HISTORY OF THE SITE. MEMBERS WHO CAN READ MEDIEVAL LATIN AND/OR EARLY ENGLISH ARE ASKED TO CONTACT MRS. V. GREGORY, 78 FAVERSHAM AVENUE, ENFIELD.

MEMBERS NIGHTS

THE DATES OF THE TWO REMAINING MEMBERS NIGHTS ARE GIVEN ON THE FRONT COVER. AT THESE MEETINGS MISS DRAYTON WILL EXPLAIN SOME OF THE METHODS OF RECORDING USED ON AN EXCAVATION.

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED, AND THERE WILL BE A CHANCE FOR DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN MEMBERS AND NEWS OF OTHER ACTIVITIES. MEMBERS ARE AGAIN INVITED TO BRING THEIR FRIENDS TO THESE MEETINGS, WHICH WILL BE HELD, AS BEFORE, IN THE ST. ANDREWS CHURCH ROOM IN THE SOUTH-EAST CORNER OF THE CHURCHYARD, ENFIELD MARKET PLACE.

FIELD EXCURSION

THERE WILL BE A FIELD EXCURSION TO RYE HOUSE AND NETHER HALL ON SATURDAY, 27TH JUNE. THIS WILL BE AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO EXAMINE AN EARLY TUDOR HOUSE BUILT ABOUT THE SAME TIME AS ELSYNGE HALL. MEMBERS, AND FRIENDS, SHOULD MEET OUTSIDE RYE HOUSE STATION AT 2.30 P.M.

"NETHER HALL IS AN EARLY TUDOR MANOR HOUSE NEAR ROYDON BUILT BY THE COLT FAMILY. IT FIGURES IN HISTORY AS THE HOME OF JANE COLT, WHO BECAME THE WIFE OF THOMAS MORE, THE GREAT PROTAGONIST OF THE CATHOLIC CAUSE IN THE REFORMATION.

THE HOUSE IS NOW AN IMPRESSIVE RUIN, COVERED IN IVY AND HALF-HIDDEN BY TREES AND SHRUBS. THE GAUNT MASS OF THE GATEHOUSE STILL REMAINS, WITH THE MOAT COMPLETE AND PART OF THE CURTAIN WALL. IT IS STILL POSSIBLE TO CLIMB THE SPIRAL STAIRCASE IN ONE OF THE TOWERS FLANKING THE GATEWAY, AND TO SEE THE TUDOR ROSE CARVED ON A SHATTERED BEAM. ONLY AN ACCIDENT OF HISTORY HAS MADE RYE HOUSE MORE FAMOUS; BUT IN APPEARANCE NETHER HALL REALLY SURPASSES ALL THE OTHER MONUMENTS OF THIS PERIOD IN THE LEA VALLEY."

J. SYKES

INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY

THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM THE THAMES BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVERS GROUP SERVES AS A REMINDER OF THE IMPORTANCE OF RECORDING SURVIVING INDUSTRIAL MONUMENTS. MEMBERS WHO KNOW OF ANY BUILDINGS, EQUIPMENT, ETC. OF THE PERIOD SHOULD NOTIFY THE SECRETARY AT ONCE. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL YOUR ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO A SITE, BUT GO OUT AND SEEK THEM FOR YOURSELF.

"I SHOULD LIKE TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO THE SURVEY OF INDUSTRIAL MONUMENTS PROCEEDING IN THE LONDON REGION AT THE REQUEST OF THE COUNCIL FOR BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGY. THE COUNCIL HAS PRODUCED THIS DEFINITION OF AN INDUSTRIAL MONUMENT: 'ANY BUILDING OR OTHER FIXED STRUCTURE (ESPECIALLY OF THE PERIOD OF THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION) WHICH ALONE OR IN ASSOCIATION WITH PLANT AND EQUIPMENT ILLUSTRATES, OR IS SIGNIFICANTLY CONNECTED WITH, THE BEGINNINGS AND EVOLUTION OF INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING MEANS OF COMMUNICATION.'

THE LONDON SURVEY IN THE FIRST INSTANCE CONSISTS OF COMPILING A CARD INDEX OF ALL EXISTING MONUMENTS, AND IT IS IN THIS FIELD THAT OBSERVERS ARE REQUESTED TO GIVE SPECIAL EFFORT TO RECORDING THE INDUSTRIAL AND ASSOCIATED MONUMENTS IN THEIR OWN AREAS. AT THE PRESENT TIME NO ONE HAS ANY REAL IDEA OF THE WEALTH OR POVERTY OF OUR REGION, AND ONE OF THE RESULTS OF THE FORMATION OF THE INDEX WILL BE A GUIDE TO THE RELATIVE VALUE OF INDIVIDUAL SITES AND OBJECTS. THE LONDON SURVEY IN ITS TURN DOVETAILS INTO THE NATION-WIDE SURVEY OF SUCH MONUMENTS BEING CARRIED OUT CONCURRENTLY.

DR. CELORIA HAS NOTED A PREVIOUSLY UNRECORDED EARLY 19TH CENTURY TILE OR POTTERY KILN IN NORTH KENSINGTON STILL IN GOOD CONDITION, WHILE OTHERS HAVE REPORTED A LIME KILN IN CAMBERWELL. THESE ARE BOTH CONSPICUOUS OBJECTS, BUT MANY SMALLER OBJECTS REMAIN TO BE NOTED; LIKE THE CRANE HOIST IN GREEK STREET, SOHO; WORKSHOP SIGNS; AND THE MANY BUILDINGS ASSOCIATED WITH NOW FORGOTTEN INDUSTRIES. STEAM ENGINES MAY EXIST IN LOCAL FACTORIES, AND SEVERAL RECENTLY DEFUNCT POTTERIES ARE KNOWN. THERE MUST BE OTHERS.

FOR A CLEAR INTRODUCTION TO "INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY" WITH EXAMPLES OF MONUMENTS, KENNETH HUDSON'S BOOK OF THAT NAME, PUBLISHED BY JOHN BARKER EARLY THIS YEAR, IS RECOMMENDED. MOST LIBRARIES WILL NOW HAVE A COPY."

LINCOLN HOUSE

SHORTLY TO BE DEMOLISHED IS LINCOLN HOUSE, PONDERS END, FORMERLY THE HOME OF WILLIAM WICKHAM, DEAN AND BISHOP OF LINCOLN 1577-1594, AND LATER OF HENRY AND THOMAS, SECOND AND THIRD EARLS OF LINCOLN 1600-1612, AFTER WHOM THE HOUSE AND LINCOLN ROAD WERE NAMED.

THE ORIGINAL HOUSE IS ILLUSTRATED AND DESCRIBED BY WILLIAM ROBINSON IN HIS "HISTORY OF ENFIELD" AS AN IRREGULAR BRICK BUILDING WITH DOUBLE FRONT AND PROJECTING BUTTRESSES. BENEATH ONE OF THE WINDOWS WAS A STONE INSCRIBED "R L 1520". THERE WERE 17 ACRES OF LAND ATTACHED TO THE HOUSE.

THE HOUSE WAS DESTROYED BY FIRE DURING THE 19TH CENTURY, AND REPLACED BY THE SQUARE RATHER SEVERE STUCCO BUILDING ROOFED IN GREY SLATE, NOW HEMMED IN BY THE SHOPS FRONTING THE HERTFORD ROAD.

THE SITE IS BEING WATCHED, AND IT IS HOPED TO EXAMINE TRENCHES FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL MATERIAL WHEN THE AREA IS DEVELOPED.

WELCHES FARM EXCAVATIONS

A SECTION HAS BEEN CUT THROUGH THE MOAT SURROUNDING THE SITE. THE RESULTS WERE DISAPPOINTING, AS IT SEEMS THAT THE MOAT WAS THOROUGHLY CLEANED WHEN THE PRESENT HOUSE WAS BUILT. IN THE NORTH-EAST CORNER OF THE SITE THE REMOVAL OF TREE STUMPS REVEALED LAYERS OF GRAVEL AND THE COBBLE FOOTINGS OF A SMALL OUTBUILDING. THE FOUNDATIONS OF WHAT APPEARS TO BE A SMALL GATEHOUSE WERE FOUND CLOSE TO THE SOUTH ARM OF THE MOAT. IT HAD BEEN DEMOLISHED TO BELOW GROUND LEVEL, THUS DESTROYING ANY FLOORS AND STRATIFICATION.

ALTHOUGH NO MORE PLANNED EXCAVATION IS CONTEMPLATED AT PRESENT, A WATCH WILL BE KEPT ON THE SITE WHILE BUILDING WORK IS IN PROGRESS. FURTHER DISCOVERIES AND A SUMMARY OF RESULTS TO DATE WILL BE PUBLISHED IN A FUTURE BULLETIN.

TYPISTS REQUIRED

MISS PROFIT, WHO DOES ALL THE TYPING AND DUPLICATING FOR THE SOCIETY, WILL SHORTLY BE LEAVING THE DISTRICT. ARE THERE ANY MEMBERS WHO ARE WILLING TO GIVE UP A LITTLE OF THEIR SPARE TIME TO HELP PRODUCE THE BULLETIN AND OTHER SOCIETY NOTICES?

PLEASE WRITE TO MR. G. R. GILLAM, 23 MERTON ROAD, ENFIELD.

PROGRAMME CARDS

OWING TO A DELAY BY THE PRINTERS IT HAS NOT BEEN POSSIBLE TO SEND OUT THE PRINTED PROGRAMME CARDS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR. THESE WILL BE DESPATCHED TO MEMBERS AS SOON AS THEY ARE AVAILABLE.