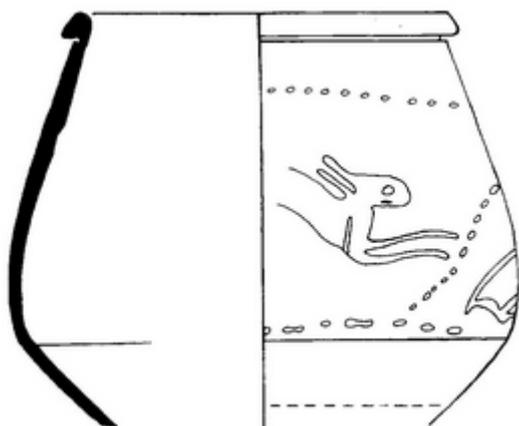


# Society News

The Bulletin of the Enfield Archaeological Society



A Roman 'hunt cup' colour coated beaker, depicting a hare, probably being chased by hounds. Possibly Nene Valley ware of the 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> century. This was one of the finds from our epic 2001/2002 excavation at 102 Leighton Road. See p. 6 for a final summary report – or if you are so inclined buy the full archive report at a Society meeting or event, or direct from the Committee.

## 2 Forthcoming Events: EAS

28 June: Dennis Hill Memorial Event: Theobalds Palace

19 September: Here Be Dragons

17 October: 19<sup>th</sup> Century London Cemeteries

14 November: St Andrews Church, Enfield

## 3 Other Societies

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Society News is published quarterly in March, June, September and December

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email: [jeremy@grovej.freemove.co.uk](mailto:jeremy@grovej.freemove.co.uk)

Meetings are held at Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield (near Chase Side) at 8pm. Tea and coffee are served and the sales and information table is open from 7.30pm. Visitors, who are asked to pay a small entrance fee of £1.00, are very welcome.

# Forthcoming events



If you would like to attend the EAS lectures, but find travelling difficult, please contact the Secretary, David Wills (Tel: 020 8364 5698) and we will do our best to put you in touch with another member who can give you a lift.

## Meetings:

### 19<sup>th</sup> September

Here Be Dragons. A history of fear in the landscape

Tim Harper

By popular request our Meetings Secretary Tim Harper has followed up on the success of his 2006 talk about the archaeology of King Arthur by booking himself again. This time his theme will be the 'Christianisation' of pagan sites.

### 17<sup>th</sup> October

19th Century London Cemeteries

Dr Ken Worpole

London's cemeteries are perhaps one of the less well-appreciated, and often sadly neglected, achievements of the Victorians. Ken is a writer on architecture and landscape, and a senior professor Cities Institute at London Metropolitan University, whose books have included work on great cemeteries of the past and their management in Britain today.

### 14<sup>th</sup> November

St Andrews Church – The Early Church and its Context

Daniel Secker

A subject even closer to home. How much do you really know about the parish church in the Market Place in the heart of Enfield? Depending on your answer to that question, here is your chance to test your knowledge, or to fill the gap, as Daniel has recently written a book on the subject.

## Other Events:

### 2pm Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June

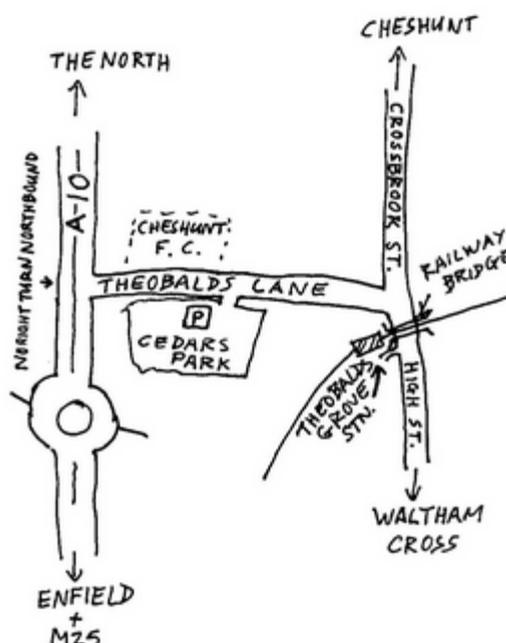
The Dennis Hill Memorial Event

At Theobalds at Cedars Park: A tour of the park and its archaeology.

Cedars Park in Cheshunt was the site of Theobalds Palace, built by William Cecil in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century, one of the greatest houses of Elizabeth's reign, and later a favourite of James I. The EAS is involved in a Lottery-funded project to restore the park and make its history more accessible to the public, as part of which we are due to carry out excavations there during National Archaeology Week later this year (see below).

Mike Dewbrey will lead a tour, explaining the park's history, and describe our plans for the forthcoming excavations.

Meet in the car park, Cedars Park, off Theobalds Lane, at 2pm. Tour will take approximately 2 hours. N.B. please do not confuse the venue for Theobalds College on the other side of the A10!



## More diary dates....

**13–14 July: EAS dig, Cedars Park, Broxbourne**  
National Archaeology Week – see enclosed flyer

**19–20 July: EAS dig, Forty Hall, Enfield**  
National Archaeology Week - see enclosed flyer

**6-7<sup>th</sup> September - Enfield Town Show**  
Joint EAS/Museum Service stall

# EAS Fieldwork



We have a busy programme of excavation and other practical activities. Contact Mike Dewbrey on 01707 870888 (office number) for more details.

## Meetings of other Societies

EDMONTON HUNDRED HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
7.45 for 8pm, Jubilee Hall, Enfield, unless otherwise stated

16 July  
The Cuffley Story  
*Pat Kline and Michael Clark*

17 September  
John Walker of Arnos Grove 1766-1824.  
An enlightened gentleman  
*Ruby Galili*

HENDON & DISTRICT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
7.45 for 8.00pm Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley

14 October  
Community archaeology in Greater London:  
Outreach work and excavations at Prescott Street  
*Lorna Richardson - L-P archaeology*

11 November  
Bletchley Park: Engima –  
how cracking the enemy codes led to the world's first computer  
*Hugh Davies*

*Please note – many local societies are in their summer break and have not yet published post-September programmes*

*Both of the following courses come strongly recommended by EAS members who have been spending their own money on them for years, and will be doing so again this year because they are just so good. (If you have a favourite course you would like to tell us about in the Bulletin, please let me know – Ed.)*

### Birkbeck/HADAS Course: After the Excavation – Archaeology from Processing to Publication

Provides tuition in post-excavation recording & analysis by re-examining unpublished excavations. The whole range of post-excavation procedures from finds processing to publication and archive deposition will be covered, including lectures by specialists as well as course members working on sorting, identification, recording and analysis of each category of finds.

Course taught by: Jacqui Pearce BA FSA MIFA  
Wed 1 Oct 2008, 6.30pm-8.30pm 22 meetings £300 (£150) Course code: FFAR015S5ACB  
Venue Avenue House 15-17 East End Road London N3 3QE

To enrol by telephone (full fee only) or to ask about concessions ring 020 7631 6651. To enrol online go

to:  
<http://www.bbk.ac.uk/study/ce2008/archaeology/index.html>

### Copped Hall Trust Archaeological Field School: 11-15 & 18-22 August

Continued excavation of a sequence of Tudor and medieval grand houses at Copped Hall on the edge of Epping Forest, Essex. For the last 5 years CHTAP has held training digs for beginners but this year the dig will be confined to people who have already learned the basic techniques of archaeological excavation and recording. The cost will be £100 per week, excluding accommodation. For further information see [www.coppedhalltrust.org.uk](http://www.coppedhalltrust.org.uk) or phone Mrs Dalton on 01992 813725 or e-mail [pmd2@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:pmd2@ukonline.co.uk).

# SOCIETY MATTERS

## Geoffrey Gillam

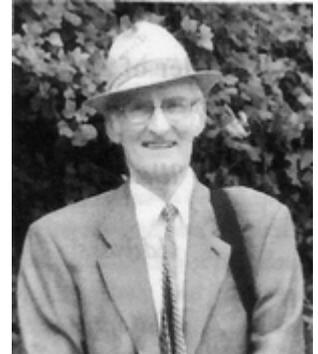
It is with great sadness that we have to report, as many members will know by now, that our esteemed Vice President and former Chairman Geoff Gillam passed away in April.

Geoff's contribution to our Society from its earliest days can scarcely be over-estimated, and rather than rush out a hasty tribute the Committee decided that we would take some time to reflect in the hope of doing more justice to Geoff and his large body of work in the September bulletin.

In the meantime the members of the Committee, on behalf of the whole Society would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Geoffrey's family.

Following Geoff's funeral we received a kind letter from Geoff's wife Ena, who asked us to publish the following message:

*"Ena Gillam and her sons wish to thank everyone for their kind messages of sympathy on the death of her husband Geoff. It was comforting to have his friends and colleagues present at his funeral at the Enfield Crematorium."*



### Auditor Needed

We would very much like to hear from any member who would be willing to audit the Society's accounts, or who can suggest someone who might. It is not a large task, and does not involve any legal liability!



### *Good things come to those who wait....*

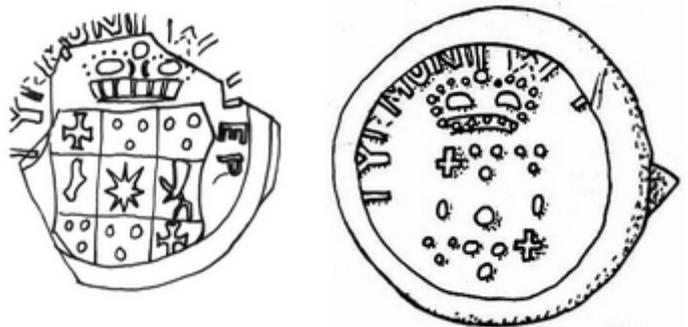
Back in Society News 180 (March 2006) we reported finding three similar bottle seals in quick succession, one excavated on the site of Bowling Green House at Myddelton House, and two spotted in fieldwash by our Chairman at East Lodge Lane. We perhaps unwisely promised further research, so lest anyone thought we had forgotten....

Our seals (two of Martin Dearne's illustrations are repeated below) are very similar to one illustrated in an early edition of Post Medieval Archaeology, one of nine such seals excavated at Gawber Glasshouse near Barnsley, which was in business from about 1700 to 1821. The Barnsley examples seem to have been in a heap of 'cullett' or waste glass, ready to be melted down and re-used.

The article confirms that these bottles would have contained mineral water from the spa of Bad Pyrmont in the principedom of Waldeck (in Saxony), a popular import during the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The author of the Gawber article was informed by the

Stadarchiv of Bad Pyrmont that "there is no documentary evidence of German exports of the spa water before 1700, to England; it is also unlikely before 1717 when the spring was discovered which provided the best table water".

Unfortunately the article does not suggest a particular end date for these imports. However our Bowling Green House example was in company with wine bottles ranging in date across most of the 18<sup>th</sup> century (mostly after 1720), and the house itself was demolished in the 1820s – so a very similar date span to the Gawber glasshouse.



#### Reference

Ashurst, D. 'Gawber Glasshouse, Barnsley', *Post-Medieval Archaeology*, 5 (1971), 92-140, Fig. 39, no. 1

# Meeting Reports

## English Heritage work on recent sites in North London

7 March: Kim Stabler

Kim is well known to active members of the society as one of the four advisors of the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS), a unit of English Heritage, who are in effect the 'county archaeologists' for London, except for the City and Southwark. They deal with around 30,000 planning applications a year (4,000 in Enfield), of which about 2% they flag as requiring archaeological conditions – such as excavation or 'watching briefs'.

Kim rounded up for us some of the major sites north of the Thames that have crossed her desk in the two or three years since she last visited us.

Of these, the largest by far was Heathrow Terminal 5 (T5), which was finished last year after about 11 years, including 2-3 years of full scale excavation employing about 150 people. The huge scale of this project required new methods to be developed to cope, such as basing as many specialists as possible on site so that things like dating and mapping could be dealt with promptly.

It is laudable that much has already been published on T5 (see [www.framearch.co.uk/t5](http://www.framearch.co.uk/t5)), but even so resources are not entirely up to the scale of the task. Between them T5 and other major excavations in the area over the last 20-30 years give a unique opportunity to look at prehistoric sites in a wider context – there is a crying need for Government money to support a synthetic report pulling all this together..

Brockley Hill is believed to be the site of a Roman town, though it has never been found, despite the excavation of many pottery kilns from 1937-77.

The main road hasn't been found either, but Oxford Archaeology have reported "roadside activity" including metallised surfaces, huge wood lined wells – essentially industrial activity. Little was found on a recent project on a scheduled site at the hospital, but more recently evaluation trenches on land purchased for development have

turned up pottery from what is probably part of the same complex. Kim is watching with interest.

At Headstone Manor, Pinner, there are quite a few scheduled and newly listed structures including 16<sup>th</sup> century barns and a moated house dating from 1310. Harrow Council found nearly £1m for much needed preservation work on the latter, including dredging the moat. The resulting sludge has been placed in a holding pen for a year to dry – after which the idea is to sieve it.

Ruislip Manor Farm, a former motte & bailey, features a 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century house and 13-14<sup>th</sup> century barns (one now a library). There is also an ice house, as at Pinner. A big HLF grant to deal with subsidence resulted in the discovery of early medieval archaeology, and also possibly the earliest in-situ wallpaper, dated to 1960.

The Harris Lebus furniture factory in Tottenham Hale – the high-end IKEA of its day – turned to producing wooden aircraft parts and dummy tanks during WW2. The owners built shelters for its 6,000 workers – a staggering 2.5km of them! These consisted of ten parallel tunnels, joined at places, and capable of accommodating an entire shift of 3,500 people. Closed at the end of the war, they became the stuff of legend until discovered 100% intact recently, complete with signage, graffiti, lights and lightbulbs, bunks, latrines and hessian curtains. Unfortunately they were flooded and unsafe, so could not be preserved, but finds have been preserved in tandem with an oral history project by Bruce Castle museum. Mr Lebus is apparently still alive, at over 90.

Chiswick House in Hounslow, a villa in the form of a Jacobean house in miniature, is the subject of a £12m HLF bid to regenerate the house and grounds. The replacement of the café involves the excavation of the site of the stables.

At Kew Bridge House Wessex Archaeology have been excavating a mostly 19<sup>th</sup> century malt house, brewery and pub complex.

At the Teardrop site in Greenwich 13<sup>th</sup> century kilns have been discovered which have London pottery specialists excited.

For the future? Heathrow third runway and Terminal 6 of course!

Kim also pointed out GLAAS's new web site, where their quarterly excavation roundups will be published electronically in future:

[www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.8900](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.8900)

*Jeremy Grove*

# Excavations at 102 Leighton Road 2001–2: Final Report

(Site Code LR102)

Summary by Dr Martin Dearne

## Introduction

The largest excavation undertaken to date by the EAS alone in the Bush Hill Park Roman settlement (Fig. 1) occurred in 2001-2 when we excavated virtually all of the back garden of 102 Leighton Rd.

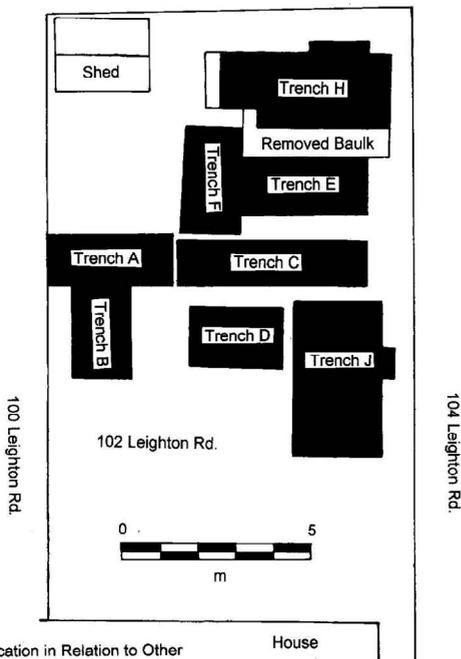
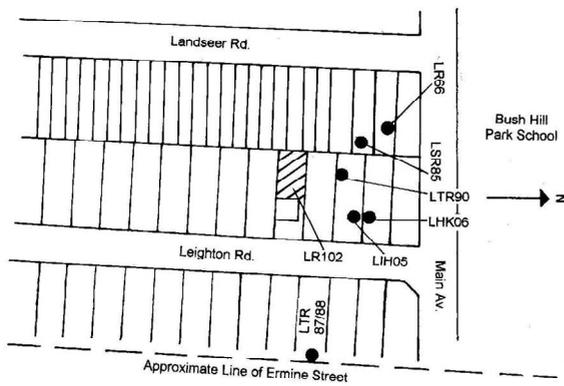


Fig. 1: Site Location in Relation to Other Excavations and Trench Locations

Jim Costello, who has subsequently become a regular member of our excavation team, and his wife Cath first contacted us when they found amphora handles in their garden, which they were digging over to remove much modern rubbish that seems to have been buried by earlier residents.

After some initial trenching directed by Mike Dewbrey which found modern features such as an Anderson shelter and greenhouse footings on the south side of the garden, surviving Roman deposits began to be found further north and over many months a small team led by Les Whitmore and Roger Dormer cut a series of trenches to record them.

Les summarised the provisional interpretation of the results in Society News shortly before the completion of the last trench to be cut (Trench J), but, with other commitments at Elyng Palace, Forty Hall, Myddelton House and elsewhere in Leighton Rd., the necessary post excavation work on the stratigraphy and finds from the site (which often leads to revised interpretations and gives the vital evidence on matters such as dating) has taken five years.

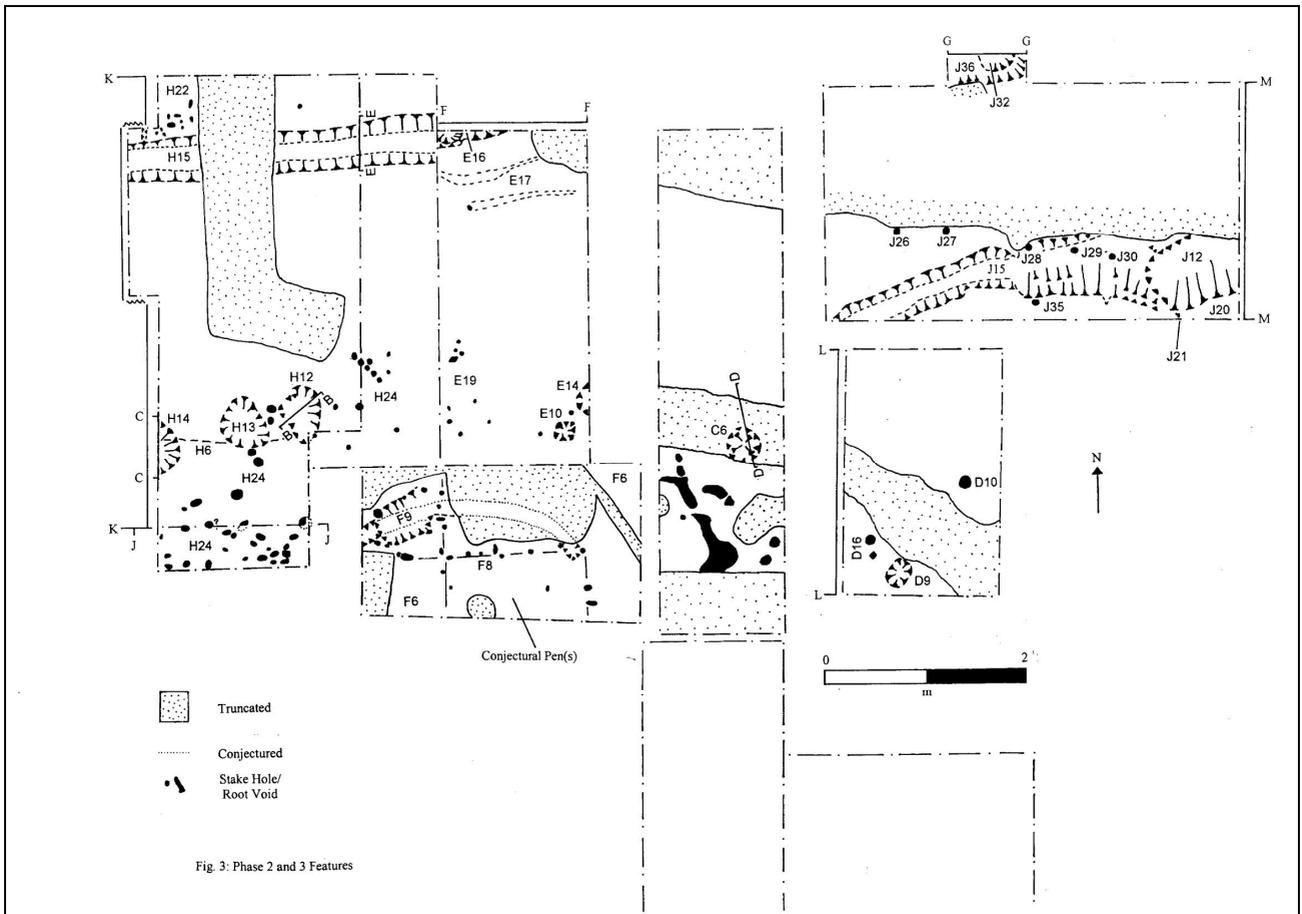
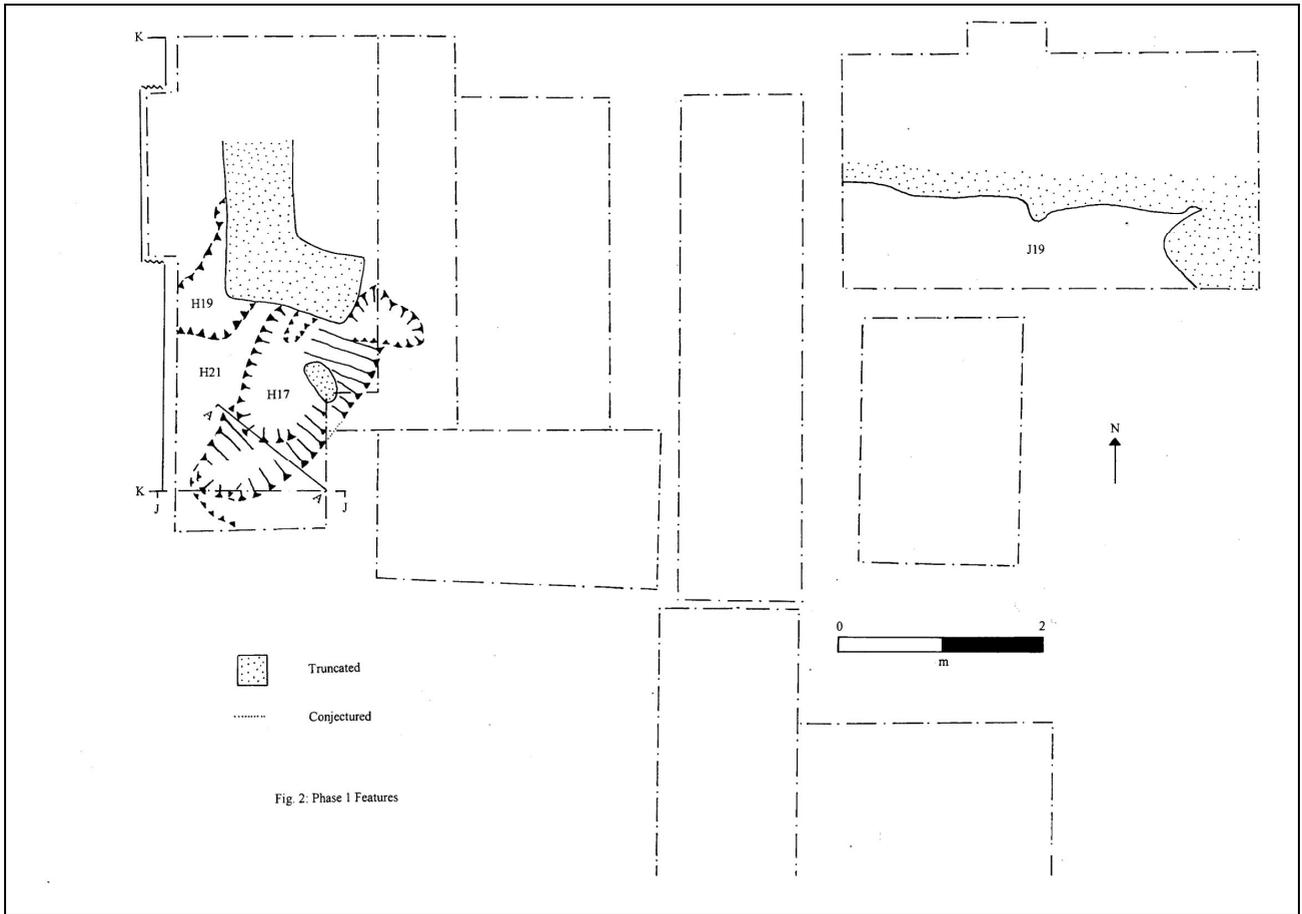
However, this process has now been completed (with assistance from many society members and specialists at the Museum of London, London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre and other institutions) allowing Roger Dormer and the author to prepare a substantial archive report, which is on sale at EAS lectures and events (*price* £2.99). This summary, based on that much more detailed report, describes some of the main results of the work and just a few of the more important of the many finds.

## Prehistoric Evidence (Fig. 2)

There was some casual prehistoric use of the site – shallow cut features in Trench H and traces of cultivation in Trenches H and J belong to this activity, there were a few very small prehistoric pottery sherds and a limited number of ?late Bronze Age flint flakes with one Mesolithic or early Neolithic finished blade from one of the cut features. However, a small piece of Iron Age to early Roman pudding stone ?quern may more likely date the cut and there were one or two sherds of jars still being made in an Iron Age tradition but in the mid to later first century AD amongst the masses of pottery recovered, so most prehistoric activity may have been late Iron Age.

## First and early Second Century AD (Fig. 3)

The beginning of the main activity on the site is poorly dated as it seems to have been agricultural and was mainly represented by stake holes (some perhaps from animal pens), a few gullies and a cultivated soil. However, the one substantial feature, a channel leading to a two phase sump (soak away) in Trench J, was early second century in date and there are hints that the agricultural activity had begun in the later first





century, probably at a time when the site was well south of the edge of the newly founded settlement, centred on the Lincoln Rd. area to the north.

### **Mid-late Second Century (Fig. 3)**

Probably dated to the early Antonine period (c. AD 140 – 160) by sherds of a worn samian bowl in the packing for its (removed) foundation beam, a timber building evidently existed on the site subsequently. Unfortunately its beam trench, though traced across the ends of Trenches H and F, was at the north edge of the modern garden, so the building, over 3.3 m long, will mainly have lain to the north of our site. Another ?beam trench fragment in a small extension to Trench J may have been contemporary, but whether it and a post hole at its end belonged to the same or a different building it was impossible to be sure. What we can probably assume though is that by now the settlement had expanded to the south so that our site was no longer agricultural land but part of the settled area.

### **Late Second to ?early-mid Fourth Centuries (Fig. 4)**

Dating again being a little less than certain, the use of the site seems to have changed, most likely in the late Second century. The building(s) were presumably demolished and a cobbled surface (incorporating a fair number of amphora sherds) was laid over at least most of the area we excavated and appears to have remained in use for probably at least 150 years, in the process becoming considerably worn and its edges ragged. It was probably a yard of some sort and if it was associated with buildings these must now have lain further north, or upslope to the west. The only change during its lifetime was evidently the cutting of a slightly reveted drainage channel, traced in trenches C and E, along part of its worn southern edge sometime in the mid third to ?mid fourth centuries.

### **?Early-mid to later Fourth Century (Fig. 5)**

Sometime in the mid fourth century or earlier (there is some disagreement between the pottery evidence and that of coins which could derive from the disturbance of an earlier small hoard) most of the cobbled surface probably went out of use. At the west end of the site in Trench H it was replaced by a stony layer, probably best described as a hard standing, but it was not a consistent rammed surface as before. East of this in Trenches C and E and J much of the former cobbled surface was removed by a series of slots and ditches running east west.

In detail these were difficult to unravel, but on the north side of Trench J two narrow, deep slots separated by a small gap may have been the earliest. It is possible that they represented some form of interrupted property boundary, but, beyond the fact that they seem to have remained open after initial silting, they are difficult to interpret. Further south in Trench J was a fragment of one edge of a truncated ditch, roughly parallel to them. After it had silted up it was evidently recut to give a new ditch over 1.5 m wide, around 0.5 m deep and over 7.2 m long that partly removed the earlier slots. It is likely that these ditches flowed into a north south one previously found at 106 and 108 Leighton Rd. (LIH05 and LHK06 on Fig. 1) (and elsewhere), which probably ran only a few meters east of the present site and may have served to separate the settlement from Ermine St. This final east west ditch also seems subsequently to have filled with silt, then been cleaned out in some areas in Trench J where its base had been deepened in the process, and in Trenches C and E parts of its silt fill near its butt end may also have been removed (?in the late fourth century), perhaps to form sumps (soak aways). The final fills of the ditch included much (badly decayed) animal bone and pottery and a fair amount of tile and brick, perhaps from the demolition of a relatively high status structure ?nearby.

### **Late Fourth century**

At some point in the late fourth century, and continuing to accrue to the end of the Roman period, a significant thickness of dark coloured occupation material/rubbish then built up over the whole site. It included a great deal of pottery, much interesting ironwork and again tile and brick perhaps deriving from a quite Romanised building, though some of the material was much earlier in date and may have come from the reworking of first century and later deposits. It probably represents the site becoming a rubbish tip for nearby buildings.

### **Post Roman**

After the Roman period a Medieval to twentieth century ploughsoil and two land drains show that the area was agricultural land until suburban housing was built here. However, several features illuminated the too often ignored archaeology of twentieth century life in such a suburb. As well as rubbish pits and domestic greenhouses (reflecting developments in leisure in the later twentieth century), the Anderson shelter reflects official responses to the threat of WWII bombing; but of more importance was the evidence for unofficial, and so unrecorded, WWII civil defence. This was

in the form of a deep north south slit trench with a set of lino/carpet surfaced steps at right angles to its southern end and orientated on the original back door of the standing house in Trench H. Though not bottomed, its fill included most of a shop delivery bike and a dated plant label that indicated it stayed open until the 1950s. It is likely that it was cut in the 'phoney' war period when German bombing was expected but before Anderson shelters were available and one suspects by someone who had had experience in the Great War.

### The Finds

It is impossible to do more than pick out a few highlights of a finds assemblage – mainly from the fill of the large ditch and the occupation layer – that encompassed 9,750 sherds of pottery, 54 kg of tile and brick and around 180 other finds.

The 25, mostly late Roman, coins were often poorly preserved but many were identifiable and, as noted above, were dominated by issues probably lost in the 340s that might have originated in a small hoard. Copper alloy objects were not common but included parts of a bow and a plate brooch, a ?finger ring and a late Roman military belt fitting. Lead items included a weight and large solidified 'runnels' from lead working and there was a lead or pewter chest binding strip. However, metal finds were dominated by the ironwork. Simple first century iron brooches, for instance, came from the late fourth century deposit; there was a complete stylus for writing on wax tablets, a ?mason's axe-hammer head, keys, door hinges, a ladle, two hipposandals (large tie on oxen/horse shoes), possible punches, a chest or door strengthening bar, parts of several knives and cleavers, box bindings, chain links and so on. Probably the most important iron finds were though a number of part shoe soles whose hobnails had corroded together preserving the nailing patterns, and especially a complete late Roman iron tripod candlestick (currently being conserved – see *illustration on the back page*). Other objects included two pieces of shale bracelets, a few sherds of vessel glass, a possible stone vessel fragment, a number of quern fragments and a scoop made from a pottery sherd.

Amongst the, on the face of it uninspiring, tile and brick, detailed work identified not just the usual roof tile (tegulae and a few imbrices), but several tegulae with double curved lines (believed to be illiterate signatures), numbers of tubuli (hollow hypocaust tiles) with hatching to key wall plaster, a range of bricks and flooring tiles, some

indicative of hypocaust pillae (floor supporting stacks) and even part of a half or quarter circular tile usually used in plastered 'fake stone' columns. The implication is that somewhere in the vicinity there may have been a building of some pretensions, perhaps knocked down in the late Roman period.

Most of the pottery represented everyday coarseware bowls, jars, beakers etc sourced from no further afield than Much Hadham and Verulamium (St Albans) to the north and Alice Holt to the south; often in fact from no further away than Highgate and some perhaps made closer still. However, inevitably specialist vessels like Mortaria (the ubiquitous Roman kitchen bowls) came from areas a little further away and the amphorae (holding wine/olive oil/fish sauce) were continental. Samian ware (the 'best table china' of the first to mid third centuries from Gaul) was not present in huge quantities, but there was more of the late East Gaulish Samian, more individual vessels and a greater variety of forms than might be expected and some individual pieces could be attributed to specific potters such as Cinnamus of Lezoux and Mercator of La Graufresenque. Other pottery from Britain included parts of Much Hadham 'face pots' and surprisingly well preserved parts of an earlier Roman 'hunt cup' beaker (see *Bulletin cover illustration*) and stamped London Ware flask (found in much later contexts and conceivably from a disturbed cremation burial).

### Conclusion

Thus, 102 Leighton Rd., though for much of its Roman occupation it was agricultural land, backyard or rubbish dump, provided a wealth of material reflecting life in the settlement as well as adding to our gradually accruing information on its extent at different dates and its nature. A patchwork of buildings and yards divided up by ditched boundaries would in fact be normal for a Roman roadside settlement like Bush Hill Park and here that may be just what we are seeing.

Thanks must go to Jim and Cath for putting up with (and feeding!) us on and off for a year while we trenched their whole garden, and to the small team of excavators (notably Tim Harper, Dave Wills, Ernie James, Christopher Dewbrey and Helen Lamport) who supported the directors of various stages of the project (Mike Dewbrey, Les Whitmore and Roger Dormer and the author) and to others who assisted in post excavation work.

MARTIN DEARNE



# Enfield Archaeological Society

FOUNDED 1955

Affiliated to the Council for British Archaeology and the London & Middlesex Archaeological Society

President: Harvey Sheldon B.Sc. F.S.A. F.R.S.A.

## MINUTES OF THE 52<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 52nd Annual General Meeting of the Enfield Archaeological Society held on Friday 11th April 2008 began by our Chairman Mike Dewbrey announcing the sad news of the passing away of our Vice-President, longest serving member and founding member (since 1955), Geoffrey Gillam. He praised the huge contribution that Geoffrey had made to the Society, describing him as a "perfect English gentleman", who was always happy to answer questions and who will be greatly missed.

Mike proceeded to ask if there were any views or comments regarding last year's AGM minutes and the 2007 Annual Report before a motion was proposed and seconded that they were accurate and correct records. All agreed that they were indeed correct.

Thereafter, Geoff Lamport (Honorary Treasurer) provided a Financial Statement (item three of the agenda), reporting that the Society had made a £233 loss for 2007 (mainly due to £500 being contributed to the conservation of the Roman Barbotine beaker found in Bush Hill Park).

The meeting continued with the Election of Honorary Officers and Committee Members. The positions of Society Auditor and Social Secretary remained vacant. Mike asked if the members were in favour of the committee retaining their posts, the floor giving their approval.

The Committee members are as follows:

President:	Harvey Sheldon, BSc FSA FRSA
Vice Presidents:	Dr Ild Anthony Ivy Drayton
Chairman:	Mike Dewbrey
Vice Chairman:	Ian Jones
Hon. Treasurer:	Geoff Lamport
Hon. Secretary:	David Wills
Hon. Meetings Secretary:	Tim Harper
Hon. Membership Secretary:	David Wills
Hon. Social Secretary:	Vacant
Hon. Editor:	Jeremy Grove
Director of Fieldwork & Research:	Dr. Martin Dearne
Auditor:	Vacant
Committee:	Roger Eddington Les Whitmore

There were no items of Any Other Business, however, Mike completed the initial part of the evening by thanking Martin and all the committee members for all their hard work, the digging and surveying teams and Jan Metcalfe and Val Munday of Enfield Museum Service.

He reserved special thanks to Caroline McKenna (who resigned from the committee after many years of looking after the lecture stall), to Rosemary Perkins for stepping into to take over the running of the stall, before presenting a special "Golden Trowel" Award (to be awarded annually to the most deserving Pastfinders participant) to Neil Pinchbeck for his excellent site recording, illustrations and bone identification.

### Report of Fieldwork, Research & Other Activities

The illustrated Report of the Fieldwork, Research and Other activities of the Society during 2007 was introduced by Dr Martin Dearne. He reported that although 2007 was a much less busy year for digging than 2006, great inroads had been made into writing-up the backlog of Society Fieldwork Archive reports, such as 53 Leighton Road and 102 Leighton Road etc.

Sites dug by the Society in 2007 included those at Forty Hall, Elsyng Palace and Bush Hill Park (please see the Annual Report for 2007). An unexpected 'discovery' was also made by Martin amongst the archives in the form of a very rare, 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Century Roman Millifiori brooch.

Mike Dewbrey gave a report of the Enfield Pastfinders who investigated several sites during the year such as Cullins Manor and Bulls Cross Lane (again, please see the Annual Report for 2007) as well as mentioning forthcoming Society events for 2008 such as the National Archaeology Day digs at Cedars Park (12-13<sup>th</sup> July) and Forty Hall (19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> July), the Dennis Hill memorial lecture (28<sup>th</sup> June), Autumn Show (6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> June)

Thereafter the floor was opened to questions, before Mike proceeded to thank everyone for attending the AGM.

DAVID WILLS

# PASTFINDERS NEWS

News of the Excavation and Fieldwork Group



There are only a few weeks to go before National Archaeology week this year and we must be one of the only Archaeological Societies in the country privileged to be carrying out excavations at two scheduled

ancient monuments, let alone two royal palaces.

With the Royal Places of Elsyng and Theobalds under our wing there will be plenty of opportunity for members to volunteer to help out this summer. The excavations will be taking place at Cedars Park Waltham Cross over the weekend of the 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> July and at Forty Hall on 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> July. Obviously we will need diggers and beginners will be welcome and fully supervised. The excavation at Theobalds is apparently going to be filmed by Broxbourne Council for the Lowewood Museum archive so this could be your big chance for stardom! I shall endeavour to contact diggers individually with the finer details in July.

Another date for your diary is the Dennis Hill Memorial lecture on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June. Members should meet up outside the tea rooms in Cedars Park at 2pm for a two hour walk which, assuming the weather is fine will encompass a historical tour of the site of Theobalds Palace, outlining the important part it played in shaping English history. A heritage walk around the site on a hot afternoon in May was well attended and those who came along were amazed at just how much of the palace still remains if you know where to look.

Subject to scheduled consent we hope to be continuing our work at Elsyng Palace this year opening up a large trench over the site during National Archaeology Week. Following a meeting with English Heritage we have put forward a five year plan which should answer many questions about the palace through further investigative archaeological research.

The EAS publicity road show went into action at two events in June with a promotion display and children's activities at Cuffley School and a Fun Day on Goffs Oak village green. I think that it is vital that the work of the Society is always in the public domain and making the younger generation in particular aware of our local history, involving them in society activities. I would like to personally thank all those who gave up their time volunteering to help out at these events. If you would like to help out on our publicity stand during National

Archaeology Week please contact a member of your committee, volunteers are always needed to help sell publications and so on.

One final reminder is the date for this years Autumn Show which will be held in Enfield Town Park on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of September. As usual we will be co-ordinating our displays with the Enfield Museum Service, promoting the work of the Society within the Borough of Enfield .

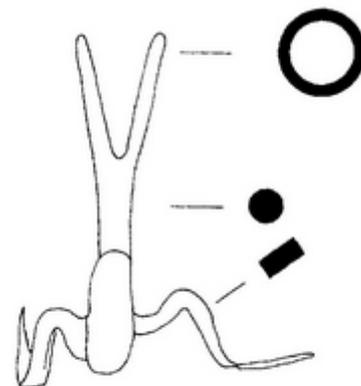
On a sad note I am sure the loss of one of our founder members and Vice President Geoffrey Gillam after a long illness has affected many of us. I have known Geoffrey for many years and I will always remember him as a perfect English gentleman whose knowledge and love of local history knew no bounds. Geoffrey donated his quite considerable archive to the Society a few weeks before he died and this will remain as a legacy of his work over the years. The invaluable research that Geoffrey carried out will no doubt be a source of study and inspiration for students of history well into the future.

*MIKE DEWBREY*

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## Iron Candlestick from 102 Leighton Road

(Scale 1:3 - see p. 10)



X-Radiograph