BRISTOL Archaeological Research Group

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BRISTOL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH GROUP

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 1969/70

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The Annual Subscription for the current year is:

£1 for members aged 18 or over £1.10.0. for husband and wife 5 shillings for Associate Members (aged under 18)

The subscription is payable on 1st January except for members paying by Bankers Standing Order who pay on 1st March. Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to Bristol Archaeological Research Group, c/o The City Museum, Bristol BS8 1RL.

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EDITORIAL

To archaeologists in general and prehistorians in particular, dealing in centuries if not in millennia, the new-decade ballyhoo surrounding January 1970 must have seemed small fry. One "new 1970" project, however, has important claims on archaeological attention. If 1970 as European Conservation Year marks a breakthrough in public attitudes to our surroundings - not just our natural landscape but those meritorious man-made remains forming part of it - then it could also mark an important turning-point in public attitudes to archaeology, and in archaeologists! responsibility to the public. The first of the Bristol City Museum's winter lectures in 1970 part of a whole series on precisely this subject of conservation - was that by our Fieldwork Adviser, Peter Fowler, on conservation and field archaeology. Listing and scheduling, motorways, antiquities legislation, and the relentless sequences of destruction and development, in town and country, that will not wait upon our preoccupations with M. 5: all are of archaeological concern. In a future Bulletin we may perhaps see what practical results and changing attitudes Conservation Year has achieved in archaeology.

For B. A. R. G. 1970 marks the biennial election of our new Chairman. During the last two years, Mr. Grinsell has as Chairman reinforced the close liaison between B. A. R. G. and the City Museum: two years that have seen many important new developments in the Museum itself; now, though losing a Chairman, we keep an Editor of Special Publications who has contributed and, we all hope, will continue to contribute so much to the achievements of the Group. 1970 is also going to see the departure of Mr. Warhurst, to whom as Director of the City Museum and as first Chairman of B. A. R. G. we most owe a debt of gratitude for the development of this close liaison from the start. The Committee have already expressed, on behalf of the Group, our regret at losing him from Bristol, coupled with our best wishes for his future as Director of the Ulster Museum; but this editorial note may serve to set it on record for our general membership.

Our new Chairman, Dr. K. Branigan, drew our attention in <u>Bulletin</u> 3. 5 to the fact that there is more, archaeologically, to the University than the Extra-Mural Department; his own archaeological field ranges from the Mediterranean to Gatcombe, from bronze implements to the possible sub-Roman origins of cruck buildings in Britain. During the next two years we look forward very much to adding, perhaps, a new balance to B. A. R. G. relations with Bristol institutions, and a fresh viewpoint on setting our Group's efforts into their wider archaeological context.

THE SCOUT ARCHAEOLOGIST BADGE

by Douglas B. Connah

Archaeology is an ideal pursuit for Scouts, involving fieldwork which will entail hiking on foot or bicycle, surveying, map-making, scale drawing, sketching, photography and perhaps occasionally excavation under expert supervision, for example by the archaeology staff of the local museum. Above all, archaeology involves the most careful observation and deduction, two faculties which Baden-Powell . considered essential elements in the Scout scheme of training. It requires the development and use of many skills, some of which feature in the Map Maker, Guide, Geologist and Photographer Proficiency Badges.

Each district appoints examiners for the various Proficiency Badges, and the examiner for the Archaeologist Badge may often be the Curator of the local museum. The scope of the syllabus is purposely wide, and a Scout will be well advised to visit the examiner at the outset and discuss the requirements of the Badge, and the best choice of projects. He should find out whether there are any Extra-Mural courses which he can join, and obtain a copy of the Archaeologist Badge Booklet, to be published very shortly, which contains much helpful advice.

The Badge is a "Pursuit Badge" open to Scouts in the 12-15 years age-group. There is no Archaeological Badge for the older Venture Scouts (age-group 15-20) but they may choose Archaeology for the outdoor pursuit which is required for both the Venture Scout and Queen's Scout Awards. It is hoped that the syllabus and Badge Booklet may also be a help to them. The various sections of the syllabus (available as a Scout aid card) are here used as headings, for a more detailed explanation of the aims and possibilities of working for the Archaeologist Badge. The first three sections are compulsory, and the remaining sections 4-8 offer a wide range of projects from which any two can be chosen.

1. HAVE A KNOWLEDGE OF ONE OF THE PERIODS OF HUMAN PREHISTORY (e.g. PALAEOLITHIC, MESOLITHIC, NEOLITHIC, BRONZE AGE, IRON AGE) OR OF THE ROMANO-BRITISH PERIOD. As well as the period chosen, the Scout should have an outline knowledge of other periods. The Booklet gives a summary of each period, stress being laid particularly on monuments and evidence in the field.

2. SHOW AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PRESER -VATION OF ANCIENT MONUMENTS, THE NECESSITY OF REPORTING FINDS TO THE NEAREST MUSEUM, AND THE DANGER OF DIGGING WITHOUT EXPERT SUPERVISION. The folly of digging without expert supervision is strongly stressed in the Badge Booklet, in which it is also made clear that excavation is not a treasure hunt, and that much valuable work is done without any digging at all. Principles and the essential importance of stratification are explained.

3. HAVE A GENERAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE METHODS USED BY ARCHAEOLOGISTS FOR DISCOVERING AND RECOGNISING SITES (E. G. FIELDWORK, AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS, ETC.) AND A KNOWLEDGE OF THE PROCESS OF SCHEDULING ANCIENT MONUMENTS, THE LISTING OF BUILDINGS... AND THE LAW OF TREASURE TROVE. The value of air photography, and the use of mechanical aids such as resistivity surveying and the use of the proton magnetometer are described. Some of the advanced scientific techniques such as C. 14 and remanent magnetism for dating, pollen analysis, and the fluorine test are touched upon, and some of the older Venture Scouts taking science subjects to Advanced Level may be led to study these further. The processes of scheduling and listing, and the Law of Treasure Trove are defined, but a Scout should make up-to-date enquiries about the first two, as national legislation on these is subject to change at the present time.

... and two of the following:

4. PRODUCE A LOG WITH SKETCHES AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHS OF AT LEAST ONE WEEK'S WORK ON A 'DIG' IN WHICH YOU HAVE ASSISTED. Once more a warning is given against digging except under expert supervision. Information on properly organised excavations will be available from the examiner, or from the local museum or archaeological society, as well as through the C. B. A. <u>Calendar of Excavations (10s. p. a.)</u>. The log may describe seven continuous days of digging, or an aggregate of seven days, although it is most desirable that a longer period be spent if possible. In any event the Scout should visit the excavation from time to time, especially in its last stages, so that the final results may be included in the log.

5. (a) PRODUCE A LOG OF A STUDY MADE OF VARIOUS PERIODS OF CHURCH ARCHITECTURE INCLUDING SKETCHES MADE IN THE FIELD OF EXAMPLES OF SEVEN DIFFERENT STYLES, E. G. SAXON, NORMAN TRANSITIONAL, EARLY ENGLISH, DECORATED, PERPENDICULAR, RENAISSANCE, GOTHIC REVIVAL, AND MODERN.

(b) SHOW THAT PARTS OF A CHURCH CAN BE APPROXIMATELY DATED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL STYLE. This subject may have a strong aesthetic and historical appeal to some Scouts, and such a study is good training in method. The drawings made for the log should encourage and foster the observation of detail so necessary in archaeology. The Scout should first attempt to draw his own conclusions about the evidence for approximate dating and signs of rebuilding, before checking them by reference to books or experts. Some knowledge of the church furniture of each period should be shown, and the older (Venture) Scouts should also show some knowledge of the influence of religious changes and social conditions upon church architecture.

6. MAKE A REPORT OF OBJECTS OF TWO PERIODS (CHOSEN FROM QUESTION 1 AND EXHIBITED IN A MUSEUM); THE REPORT MUST BE ILLUSTRATED WITH SKETCHES MADE IN THE MUSEUM, AND SHOW A KNOWLEDGE OF THE IMPORTANCE AND USE OF THE OBJECTS. Advice should be sought concerning the range and number of objects on which the report is to be made. The choice may vary from one museum to another. It is essential that the sketches should be made from actual objects in the museum, and not from books, and a scale should always be shown. The importance and use of the objects illustrated will involve a consideration of the kind of life led by the people using them - a subject which, besides considerable background reading, can in its local context involve much hard thought and still leave room, sometimes, for speculation.

VISIT ALL THE SITES POSSIBLE IN AN AREA TO BE DECIDED UPON 7. BY THE EXAMINER OR CURATOR OF THE LOCAL MUSEUM; REPORT ON THE TYPE AND CONDITION OF EACH, AND DRAW A SKETCH MAP TO SCALE OF ONE OF THEM. THE REPORT MUST BE ILLUSTRATED WITH A SKETCH MAP OF THE AREA CHOSEN, WITH THE MONUMENTS VISITED. MARKED. THE REPORTING TO A MUSEUM OF ACTUAL OR THREATENED DAMAGE TO AN ANCIENT MONUMENT IS OF GREAT SERVICE AND SHOULD ALWAYS BE DONE WITHOUT DELAY. Advice should be sought on the size of the area to be visited. This will depend in the abundance or scarcity of sites in the region. Although the 1" O.S. map is useful for the general picture of a large area, the best map for this activity is the 5" O.S. On it each site can be marked with ' a numbered circle and brief notes made while in the field giving the 1 number of the site, its Grid Reference, nature, condition and the date visited. Fieldwork techniques can to a certain extent be learned from the books recommended in the Book List; but if the Scout has the opportunity to accompany an experienced fieldworker on several expeditions, he will pick up many invaluable hints. One of the attractions of fieldwork is that it is still possible to discover monuments the existence of which was not previously known.

8. CARRY OUT AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT CHOSEN BY YOURSELF AND APPROVED BY THE EXAMINER OR MUSEUM CURATOR.

The choice of project is very wide; the only proviso is that it must not have been already covered by one of the above sections. Suitable projects could range from the treatment and study of pottery after excavation, or the survey of an ancient field system, to tracing several miles of a Roman road, reporting on the domestic architecture of several periods in one locality, or making a scale model of a certain type of site.

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B. A. R. G. MEMBERS AND THE SCOUT ARCHAEOLOGIST BADGE

Mr. D. B. Connah, Group Scout Leeder of the 1st Inkpen and Kintbury Scout Group, and instrumental in the organisation and development of the Scout Archaeological Badge, its syllabus and booklet, has kindly contributed to our Bulletin an article that should stimulate ideas and interest not only among our Scouting members, but among our Associate - and other members as a whole. His comments on the value of observation and deduction apply to all archaeologists.

We are delighted that two of our Associate Members have already successfully acquired their Scout Archaeology Badge: Christopher Brain for studying an area of Dartmoor around Widecombe, with its cairns, barrows and hut-circles; and Michael Tuttiett for a study of prehistoric stone implements in Bristol Museum. Both also took part in the B. A. R. G. Associate Members' excavation at Rupert Street, Bristol. We should be very pleased to hear of the activities of any other B. A. R. G. members among the Scouts.

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ARTHUR TO ALFRED

A local archaeology series on television in the southwest is becoming almost a regular springtime event - but nonetheless enterprising and pleasing to local enthusiasts for that. This year, sometime between April and June, a series of six programmes written and presented by Peter Fowler will be shown by Harlech Television. This time Mr. Fowler is bringing some leading present-day names to his aid in investigating the era of some famous and controversial historical personalities, in a series which will bring together expert apecialists to discuss subjects such as the countryside, the towns and the records of the period. Academic discussion will be firmly tied in to the archaeological context, with visits to many sites over a wide area of the Midlands, Wales and the Southwest.

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL AND SOCIAL HISTORY.

IN THE CITY MUSEUM, BRISTOL

by Max Hebditch (Curator)

Many readers will be more familiar with the title "Folk Life" borne by this Department before the name was changed in 1969. The new name was adopted to show more clearly its relationship with the other historical Departments, namely Archaeology and History, and Technology. The new title emphasises that the Department is not concerned solely with the Folk Museum at Blaise Castle House, although it is 'here that most of the collections are housed and where the Curator has his office. Blaise Castle House Museum was founded in 1949. Miss Lillico was the first Curator, and remained in charge until her retirement in 1969. Although many items for the new venture were already in the Museum's collections, Miss Lillico built up the collections in many directions; there is now, for instance, a notable costume section. Init ially only the rooms on the first floor were open; later the basement displays were opened, and in 1952 Stratford Mill was brought to the grounds from the Chew Valley Lake. More rooms were opened three years ago.

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The Department's collections now comprise items classified as illustrating domestic, social, corporate and economic history since the seventeenth century. Much of this material is from our own region, but a great deal of the collection is of a general character, e.g. the collections of toys and games, costume, musical instruments, etc. Certain collections coming within the fourfold classification described above are held by the Department of Technology (industrial processes and transport - although not material relating to their social implications) and the Art Gallery (Bristol painting, ceramics and glass). It is thus apparent that the Department does not possess a collection having a strongly marked regional character, such as that at St. Fagan's. It is even less a "folk collection" in the very limited sense sometimes adopted, where a museum is concerned with recording a peasant society uninfluenced by the Industrial Revolution. The collections are mainly housed at Blaise Castle; at the main Museum are the collections of maps, firearms, architectural details, and keyboard instruments. The Department has also poached space off the Technology Department in Upper York Street and 11. elsewhere for items as various as the contents and equipment of a Bristol manufacturing chemist's establishment, or the largest copper clothes boiler the Curator has ever seen. At Blaise, agricultural, domestic. corporate, social and costume collections are displayed on the ground and first floors. The remaining (mostly craft) exhibits are in the basement displays, together with items such as bicycles and shipcarving tools which are now the responsibility of the Technology Department. The reserve collections are situated in what used to be the servants' quarters at Blaise. The stored collections are in good order and well indexed typologically - so far there isn't anything that the Curator has not been able to find.

But where next? Firstly, collecting. At the moment the recording of vernacular architecture is not properly organised in the Museum; with assistance from others this is something that the Department should take upon itself, and none too soon in the present changing state of the Bristol area. The agricultural collections need to be developed and there are a number of important crafts of this region not represented - such as the stone roofing-slate industry. Space for storage and display is a problem here. This aspect of the Department's work is important as many agricultural tools have survived unchanged from the middle ages, providing valuable comparative material for medieval archaeology, in the same way as ethnography can for prehistory. Secondly, communication, In exhibition work the long-term plan is to use Blaise primarily as a Museum of Rural Life in the Bristol Region, and the New Museum at Wine Street for displays on Bristol since the seventeenth century. There is considerable potential in the area available for developing the rural side at Blaise, but some of the larger groups of objects connected with Bristol history will not easily be accommodated in the New Museum. In the short term, the existing displays at Blaise are being given a face-lift; although new and exciting a decade or more ago, the standard of display does not reach present standards. In addition, a new reception area and sales desk, and temporary exhibition/lecture room are being created now. This room, the old library, will be used for exhibitions during the summer and in the school holidays. In ferm, it will be available to the Schools Service Department and other organisations - including, it is hoped, B. A. R. G. and the Extra-Mural Department of the University. The publication programme will include this year a new Guide and a number of information sheets.

: The Department will benefit greatly from the assistance of B. A. R. G. members in drawing our attention to such things as threatened buildings, or the whereabouts of agricultural equipment. Archaeology is concerned with all material evidence of the past, whether or not it has ever been in the earth.

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BRISTOL'S FIRST FIELD ARCHAEOLOGIST

<u>Note:</u> This gem, for which there is insufficient space in a review, seems to deserve prominence in its own right as, perhaps, a cue for our own watchful efforts during the coming season; especially since it may be as new to the majority of B. A. R. G. members as it was to the Editor (who, knowing Latin and tolerably familiar with the text concerned, should have known better).

An observant Bristolian was watching building contractors at work, on a site at Pylle End, between St. Leonard's Gate and St. Stephen's churchyard (i. e. at or near the Clare Street - St. Stephen's Avenue crossroads, not far from the banks of the now-covered R. Frome.) "The foundation was so weak that they dug a pit 47 feet deep for a safe foundation, and found there at the bottom of the trench a boat with a cloak of raycloth, (1) and also a great tree 16 feet long and squared, which they left at the bottom, not rotten but quite sound." A commendably precise little field-report, in the difficult circumstances of a building-site: complete with measurements, nature, shape and state of materials; not much 'conservation', perhaps but, no uprooting of curios. And the date? 1480. The note was made by William Worcester (2) - surely hereby holding the record as Bristol's first field archaeologist. 1970 will bring its share of destruction, construction - and archaeological opportunities. William Worcestre gives us a long tradition to keep up.

(1) striped cloth

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(2) William Worcestre: Itineraries. New edition, J. H. Harvey p. 332/3.

LEAD-MINING ON MENDIP

25-26th April, 1970.

Weekend course with field-meetings, based on The Kings of Wessex School, Cheddar. Fee 35s. Applications to, and details from, The Department of Extra-Mural Studies, University of Bristol, 20a Berkeley Square, Bristol BS8 lHR.

We would remind readers that the 1967 course, of which this is a 'repeat', was heavily oversubscribed, and that applications should be made without delay. As well as the advertised panel of lecturers, headed by Dr. R. A. Buchanan, we are delighted to learn that the course will be attended by J. W. Gough, M. A., D. Litt, author of <u>The Mines of Mendip</u>, recently reprinted classic on the subject.

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL MATERIAL IN LOCAL MUSEUMS: A CHECK-LIST

(PART VIII)

edited by P.J. Fowler

WESTON-super-MARE

The Public Library & Museum, The Boulevard.

Part (ii): Roman and Later Material

IA/RB:

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Weston-super-Mare: Ashcombe Cemetery/Montpelier area: ? human bones; iron (coffin?) bands found with skeleton

: Grove Park Road area inc. Greenfield Road.

Queens Road, Worthy Place and unloc. but probably from same area: ?human bones

: Manor Farm: ? human bones

: Worlebury: iron objects inc. knife-blade, ferrule, pair of coiled iron rings; small lumps of ore?; frags worked stone; sandstone whetstone; animal bone, horn unloc., foreign?; bronze decorated bracelet with fish-head terminals.

Roman Period

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Banwell Camp: quern frags pennant tile Banwell Cross: coarse grey and red wares; slag; bone Banwell, Ten Acres (Riverside); samian, coarse wares inc.

· Congresbury ware; imit. samian, castorware, colourcoat, baked clay; 4.0 -

bronze; brooch pin; buckle, stud-head frags

iron: nails, ?key-head, knife-blade?, and other objects; slag;

lead: ? cylindrical pieces

coins: 2 C4 minims

bone: pin, comb frag

glass: blue bead; frag decorated bowl; frags inc. molten pieces building materials; frags painted wall-plaster; clay "parquet flooring" blocks; clay block with scratched "star"; parts of mosaic pavement, and many loose tesserae; frags box flue tiles; part of hypocaust tile; clay piping; baked clay roof-tile; frags pennant roof-tiles; frag stone ridge-tile; frag stone gutter; limestone slahs; small shaped lime stone block

pottery roundel (gaming counter?); slingstone?; whetstone charcoal; oystershells; animal bones site photographs and plan

WESTON-super-MARE, cont'd.

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Banwell, Winthill: coarse pottery; coins Cl-C4 Bath?: piece of triangular lead pipe

Bedminster Down, villa: samian

Bleadon, Brean Croft: samian, coarse wares; coin: Constantinopolis commemm. issue; iron nails; glass frags; sling stones?;

> frag saddle quern; ? frag shaped slate; baked clay; animal bones: snail shells

Bleadon Hill: coarse wares; silver denarius of Domitian 81-96 AD.

:Channel Heights: coarse pottery inc. grey and colour-: coated wares 1 . . .

:Whitebarns: coarse wares; whetstone

Brean Down, temple: samian, coarse pottery;

bronze: serpent ring, spoon

bone: pin

2 spindle whorls (1 shale, 1 baked clay)

building materials: frags painted wall-plaster; section

stone ridge tile; restored sample roof; length freestone moulding (lintel?)

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red deer antler

plans, photographs and drawing of site Brent Knoll: coarse pottery, including early wares Bristol, Sea Mills: samian Bristol, Sea Mills: samian Brue Valley, "River Bridge" C3 kiln site (ST 381442): coarse black and

red wares . .

Charterhouse: samian inc. decorated; coarse pottery inc. colourcoated, castor ware; baked clay; ?? glass; iron nails;

worked stone;

horn

Cheddar, Caves: iron ring; carb. limestone loom-weight (Porch Coll.) Chew Valley: coarse pottery; iron nail; grooved stone frag Congresbury, Venus Street kiln site?: coarse grey wares

Dolebury: coarse pottery

Huntspill area: briquetage lumps and bars

Hutton, Ludwell: samian, coarse pottery; 1 minim

Kewstoke: coin, C3-4

: Sand Bay: coarse pottery inc. mortaria; animal bones

: Sand Point & Middle Hope: coarse pottery inc. mortarium; iron nail; frag shale bracelet

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Locking R. A. F. Camp, villa: samian; large quantities coarse pottery

inc. grey and red wares, imit. samian, Congresbury wares; decorated; colour-coated and NF; samian counter? coins: C2-C4

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bronze: bracelet; decorated strip; flange with 3 holes; frags spoon; frag ring; pin?; and frags

WESTON-super-MARE, cont'd.

Locking R.A.F. Camp, cont'd.

iron: nails; part of horse-bit; objects inc. 1 blade lead: frag (patch?); small piece sheet

bone: heads of pins

shale: spindle whorl; frags bead

"melon" bead; frag glass; whetstones; slingstone; stone rubber? building materials: painted wall-plaster (plain and patterned);

box flue tiles; section (intact) of hypocaust pillar; hypocaust pilum; clay tiles; brick frags; baked clay; daub; mortar samples; square stone (floor?) tile; length of stone gutter; carved stone (finial?); pennant roofingtile frags

charcoal; slag

3 human skeletons; baby bones

animal bones, antler; snail, oyster and limpet shells plans, photographs and drawings of site

Locking Village: coarse pottery; iron: nails, buckle, calipers and other objects; pierced bone; whetstone; charcoal; animal bones; limpet and snail shells

Locking, "Westmead": coin of Crispus, 317-326 AD.

Uphill Grange: coarse pottery; iron: 3 rings; lead:? waste; glass:

? frags, some buckled by heat; ? small lump cobalt blue vitreous material; ? carved ivory bead; animal bones

Weston-super-Mare: Melrose: samian, coarse pottery, NF; whetstone : Milton: coarse pottery, imit. samian; child bones;

flue tile; animal bones

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:Milton Hill, Roslyn Avenue: samian, coarse pottery;

bronze: circular disc with raised centre; iron object; smooth wedge-shaped block of lias with worn groove (door-wedge?); animal bones

:Technical College site (1966): samian, coarse pottery

inc. grey wares; late C2 black cup; iron nails; C2 enamelled disc brooch; "melon" bead; tesserae; shells, animal bones : Worle: (ST 351626): coin, late C3-4:

: Worle Cave: coarse pottery; ? sawn-off antler pick;

: Worle, churchyard: ? iron key

: Worle Secondary School: coarse pottery

: Worle, Thyer's Market Garden: samian, coarse pottery

inc. grey and black wares; pointed bone object; glass frags; horn; oyster shell

animal bones; stone and soil samples, latter inc. charcoal and animal bones

WESTON-super-MARE, cont'd.

: Worlebury: coarse pottery inc. colour-coated ware; coins: Constantine - Gratian (part of hoard; rest at County Museum, Taunton) : bronze: perforated strap-end, decorated fork; rings; bow brooch; 2 frags decorated bracelet; frags inc. strip :1 .. . iron: nails; 2 spearheads; and other objects glass: necklace Winscombe : The Down: human bones inc. skulls. Proc. S. A. N. H. S. 1929 p. 106. : Max Mills and area: samian, coarse pottery, imit. samian; shell villa: samian, coarse pottery inc. mortarium, imit. samian, Wraxall, castor, colour-coated, rouletted wares bronze: 2 pins; part of fibula; tweezers; frag bracelet; key; ring; belt-buckle lead: drain-pipe coins: C2-C4 glass: frag gaming counter? iron: small ring bone: 2 pins shale: 3 frags bracelet; bead 2 baked clay spindle whorls : * .* building materials; tesserae; pennant roof tiles; box tile; frags painted wall-plaster; limestone finial; square pilum; stone floor slab oyster shell; animal bones . . Yatton: "grain dryer" site (ST 42246795): coarse pottery; large and small limestone pebbles Rock Road: coarse grey wares : Wemberham villa: samian, coarse pottery inc. grey Congresbury ware, mortaria, NF, Shepton Mallet 'tankard' frag iron: hook • :• • coins: Gallienus - Constantine I "melon" bead; spindle-whorls; window glass; whetstone building materials: hypocaust and box flue tiles; parts of mosaic pavement, and loose tesserae; painted wallplaster tusk and antlers plans, photographs and drawings of site;

WESTON-super-MARE, cont'd.

unloc., probably local: quantities coarse pottery non-local sites: pottery from Caerleon (Mon.), Caerwent (Mon.), Cirencester (Glos.), Derbyshire unloc., Kenchester (Heref.) Richborough (Kent; inc. glass frags), Savernake (Wilts. : kiln site), West Newton (Norfolk?), Wroxeter (Shropshire); unloc.: samian; coarse pottery inc. rouletted, castor-ware, terra nigra dish, tazza of late IA pattern, Upchurch ware butt-beaker and poppyhead beaker, small pottery bottle imitating glass; pottery lamps; coll. coins, inc. foreign, C3 B. C: - A. D. C 4. bronze: lamp; bracelet with "cotton-reel' decoration (Rawlins Coll.) iron: spike with trefoil head unloc., probably continental: pottery lamps (1 from Egypt, 1 from Carthage, otherwise unloc.); samian dish with potter's stamp OFPOVI. F. I.; amphorae (probably from Mediterranean); coll. glass vessels (Rawlins Coll.) Sub-Roman/Saxon Brean Down, sandbank and unspecified: human bones.

Uphill Quarry: perforated bone point with carved and decorated handle (hairpin?)

Wedmore, churchyard (1967): coin of Ethelred II

Weston-super-Mare, Worle: C6 spearhead

Coll. Saxon coins: <u>sceat</u> of Wigmund; Eanred; Ethelred II, Edward the Confessor

Medieval

Bleadon Hill: coarse pottery

, Channel Heights: sherds of large, late jars, some glazed Brean Down, sandbank: Cl3 daub and mortar

Brent Knoll, church: stone corbel

Churchill, Medieval pit site: coarse wares, slag, bone

Flat Holme: 3 lead merchants' tallies or tokens; 1 Hen. VI groat, Calais mint; metal object; slag, antler; ? shells

Glastonbury Abbey: decorated tile

Hewish: frags coarse wares, imported fine wares, salt-glazed wares

:(ST 398643): coin of Canterbury Mint?, Cl3-14. Hutton, Ludwell: potsherds inc. 1 sherd with stab decoration Kewstoke, St. Thomas Head (Woodspring Priory): human bones Kingston Seymour, church: Cl2 stone tithe measure

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WESTON-super-MARE, cont'd.

Locking: village: quantities potsherds inc. Cl2 onwards; daub

: nr. church: Cll-12? potsherds

: R. A. F. Camp: glazed sherd; hone, part of grooved millstone : unspecified: coarse pottery.

Uphill : iron key found with $\frac{1}{2}$ groat of Edward III

Weston-super-Mare: Old Church? : frags stone pillars

: St. John's Close: potsherds; lumps baked clay

: Winter Gardens Putting Green: potsherds, bone, glass : Worlebury: ? iron key

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Yatton, "grain dryer" site (ST 42246795): frag millstone

: Wemberham: Cl3-14 potsherds; frag decorated tile

unloc., probably local: potsherds; corbels and carved stone frags from local churches

unloc., coll. Med. weapons etc. inc. 2 crossbow bolts, C15 daggers, Cl5 sword, frag chain mail (Marsh Coll.)

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bugle horn (Marsh Coll.); hronze: buckles, ring, spearhead; keys, C15 onwards (Marsh Coll.)

iron: buckles, spike or ferrule? (Porch Coll.)

coll. English coins, William I - Richard III non-local: Old Sarum: Cl4 potsherds

Post-Medieval

(Modern debris from excavations of earlier sites at Banwell, Bleadon, Hewish, Locking, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare, Wraxall and Yatton is not listed).

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Banwell: 2 firehooks, ?C18

Brean Down, sandbank: C17 and other potsherds

Bridgwater: C17 animal bones

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Churchill, Med. pit site: 2 combed-ware sherds

Dolebury: potsherds

Glastonbury: sherds

Kewstoke, Sand Bay: potsherds

: Tavistock House: potsherds, clay pipe stems

Locking: C17 potsherds; gun flint; ? C17 decorated metal object with iron rivets

: village: Cl7 potsherds inc. slipware, delftware, German

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stoneware; clay pipe stem frags

: Manor: Cl8 spoon

: R. A. F. Camp: potsherds, clay pipe frags

Loxton Cave? : horse vertebra and other animal bones

WESTON-super-MARE, cont'd.

Weston-super-Mare: National Provincial Bank site: 2 very large basins with glazed interiors (complete); other potsherds;

glass frags; clay pipe frags; dog jaw

: Worlebury: iron sickle blade

unloc., probably local: potsherds; thimble, bronze strainer with long decorated handle; oval iron cap, embossed with human figure

unloc., non-local: keys, potsherds (Marsh Coll.)

coll. English coins, Henry VII - Elizabeth II

- coll. of tokens, trade tokens, etc., 1651 1811 and n. d. Cl8 early C20, from Bristol, Somerset (Ashcoate, Axbridge, Bath, Beckington, Brent, Bridgwater, Bruton, Castle Cary, Chard, Creech, Crewkerne, Croscombe, Dorset & Somerset, Dunster, Freshford, Frome, Glastonbury, Henstridge, Ilminster, Keynsham, Kilmersdon, Kilve, Langport, Mells, Minehead, Montacute, Nether Stowey, North & South Petherton, Radstock, Shepton Mallet, Somerton, Spaxton, Staplegrove, Taunton, Uphill, Watchet, Wellington, Wells, Weston-super-Mare, Willton, Wincanton, Wivelscombe, Yeovil), Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and elsewhere in England.
- coll. Somerset banknotes, 1792-1840
- coll. hopgrovers' tokens
- coll. medallion, medallets, jettons, coinweights, counters etc. C17-C19

Post-Medieval Bygones

An extensive collection of bygones, mostly of local origin, including much material relating to:

domestic life Cl6-Cl9; rural life, agriculture and crafts, inc. farm machinery Cl7-Cl9; lighting Cl7-Cl9; weapons Cl6-Cl9; riding and sport Cl5-Cl7; writing materials Cl9; needlework Cl7-Cl9; dolls, toys and children's games Cl8-early C20; furniture Cl6-Cl8; wallpaper Cl7; smoking Cl6-Cl9; glass and ceramics, inc. local products (Nailsea glass, Elton ware) Cl7-C20 and foreign china Cl8-Cl9;

collections of: costumes, footwear and accessories Cl8-early C20; spectacles Cl8-Cl9; fans c. Cl9; Victorian paperwork (scraps, pocket cards, greetings cards etc.); playing cards Cl9-C20; watches Cl8-Cl9; visiting-card cases Cl9; boxes and containers (inc. pillboxes, trinket boxes, confectionery boxes etc.) Cl9early C20 designs; complete frontage of Cl9 chemist's shop, with contents; much other Cl9 shopkeeping equipment: scales, measures, etc.; Cl9 fire insurance plates;

WESTON-super-MARE, cont'd.

miniatures, mostly Cl9; Friendly Society brasses, Cl8-Cl9; material re Rev. W. Leeves: "Auld Robin Gray": Mss., music, prints, etc.; local material re Boer War, World Wars I & II Edison Horn phonograph with rolls and cases; another phonograph with

rolls; Cl9 printing press, local: tricycle, 1875; penny-farthing bicycle, 1880; Cl9 medical instruments and equipment

Weston-super-Mare and Uphill: official regalia inc. Town Crier's bell, hat and epaulettes, with cases: truncheon, constables' staffs, handcuffs: watchman's rattle

coll. local prints, paintings and photographs, C19-20

coll. china, glass and pottery souvenirs of Weston-super-Mare C19-20 Weston-super-Mare: local items inc. C19 Post Office clock, road nameplates, railway boards and notices etc.; coll. material re local societies C19-20

Also extensive Ethnographic, Geological and Fossil colls.; representative colls. of English and foreign birds' eggs, shells and plants, English butterflies and moths, local birds and mammals.

Acknowledgments: Mr. G. P. Rye, F. L. A. (Curator & Borough Librarian) has greatly assisted and encouraged our work. All the basic searching and listing has been carried out by Mrs. H. M. Bennett (Assistant Curator) and Mrs. F. A. Neale, without whose dogged perseverance there would be no list here nor a much-fuller typescript list now in the Museum. The editor gratefully acknowledges his debt to all three in completing a daunting task with the minimum of involvement for him.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Essay Competition: Results

The first prize of £5 was won by John Pritchard, who wrote a splendidly-produced and well-illustrated essay entitled "<u>Geophysical</u> <u>Surveying in Local Archaeology</u>". This was so good that a member of the University is reported to have said that he would have considered it a credit to any undergraduate. Christopher Brain won the second prize of £3 with an essay giving "<u>Suggestions for Archaeological Excursions by Car or Cycle from</u> Bristol", which covered local sites such as Stanton Drew and Stoney Littleton as well as the more distant Avebury area. It is almost certain that you will not have heard the last of these essays, because they are certainly worth publicising either in writing (i. e., the <u>Bulletin</u>) or as an illustrated talk, as best suits their natures.

John Pritchard would like to hear from anybody interested in ascertaining, by geophysical survey, the nature of some 'mounds' on Mendip. Someone with a means of transport would be particularly welcome!

Upton Farm, Dundry, 1969

Upton Farm lies on a minor road to the south of a stream. The field surveyed by Associate Members last July lies behind and just southwest of the farmhouse, map ref. ST 567660. This field contains an arrangement of clearly discernible banks, which appear to be part of a field-system which st retches down the stream-valley end over the hill-top.

After some practice in the use of plane tables at Maes Knoll Tump nearby, we took about a day and a half to survey the large field at Upton Farm. A pattern of banks and hollow-ways emerged which showed a clear connection with the present field hedges and with the farm. Two blocks of fields appear to radiate from the farm, with an odd triangular piece in between; at the 'sharp end' of this triangle, near the farm, there is a wide raised chunk, perhaps where a plough had to turn or where a clump of trees once stood. At least three sunken tracks converge on the farm through the fieldsystem. If the name 'Upton' imples that down the hill, probably to the south, there is a lower linked settlement, perhaps one of these tracks leads to it.

The farmhouse at Upton is itself very old, with good thick walls and evidence of enlargement at each end.

Summer Plans, 1970

This year we intend to save time by plotting directly onto a very large scale map. The dates of our fieldwork meetings will be:

May:	16th,	17th;	23rd,	24th.	
July:	4th.	5th;		12th.	

Meet at 10.00 a.m. each day outside the Carpenter's Arms, Maiden Head. If all goes well, these eight days of surveying should provide enough material for us to give an account at the 1970 Symposium.

In connection with the Dundry fieldwork, -I-would be glad to hear from anybody willing to help look up records or tithemaps for Dundry.

Mike Durham.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of B. A. R. G. was held on Saturday 21st February 1970 at 2.30 p.m. in the Schools Room of the City Museum. For the first time a written Annual Report of the Hon. Secretary and other officers was circulated, with the dual aim of saving time in the meeting, and giving increased opportunity for comment by members. This first experiment seemed a moderate success, leaving ample time for the revision of the Rules of the Group. which formed the main item of business, and for discussion of matters arising under Any Other Business. The revised Rules (as circulated to members with the Agenda of the A.G.M.) were, together with two further minor alterations, adopted by the meeting with effect from 1st January 1971. Thanks were expressed to the Group's solicitor for this tidying-up process which, from time to time, ensures that the Rules continue to be clear guidelines, and not outdated restraints, to the Group and its activities. The officers and committee were elected, as listed on p. 163 of this Bulletin. The winners of the Associate Members' Essay Competition (see p. 179) were presented with their prizes.

After tea, Mr. Philip Barker delivered an address on "Priorities: Rescue or Research", in which he combined some novel and perhaps provocative views and methods, with disarming ability to see both sides of any question; and characteristic humour, with a serious assessment of the nature of the challenge that 20th century development presents to archaeologists. For B. A. R. G. members, with local opportunities for rescue work on the one hand, and research excavation on the other, a more apt subject and thought-provoking speaker could scarcely have been chosen.

THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1969

The Annual Report for the year ending 31st December 1969 was made available in duplicated form to members attending the A. G. M., and is enclosed (together with the annual accounts) with the <u>Bulletin</u> to members who were not at the Meeting. The Hon. Secretary would welcome comments from members, as to whether they prefer such a written report which (available to all in advance of the A. G. M., on a future occasion) gives more opportunity for comment and discussion, making for more interesting meetings; or whether they prefer the more "personal touch" of reports read by the officers at the Annual General Meeting itself.

M. 5 & B. A. R. G.

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by Peter J. Fowler

Winter has not brought the respite in work on the M. 5 which was anticipated, and all this January and February survey and rescue work by B. A. R. G. members, as part of the whole M. 5 fieldwork team, has been going on every weekend. All the contracts from central Gloucestershire down to Edithmead have now been let, and much of the preliminary clearance work and fencing is well under way. At the time of writing, three excavations are being carried out: at Falfield (ST 692936), Clapton (ST 468735) and Christon (ST 383576). The first is an RB settlement site, the second some unexplained earthworks, and the third an apparently unenclosed early pre-Roman Iron Age settlement.

Without in any way detracting from work elsewhere, this last is of particular interest. Not only is it the first prehistoric settlement so far located directly on the M. 5 route, but it is the first open settlement of Iron Age date to be excavated on Mendip, and its lowlying position on a rocky bluff overlooking the Lox Yeo valley is particularly interesting. Its early location is entirely due to the systematic checking of preliminary work, and full credit goes to B. A. R. G. /Banwell member Mr. R. Clarke who spotted some pits sectioned in a very narrow trial trench dug by Farr's, the contractors, to sample bedrock. Farr's have given us the utmost cooperation in the investigation of this site, including mechanical stripping of the topsoil from part of it. This has exposed (to date, 21st February 1970) 45 pits and other features. Only ten days are now available for excavation of the site and it is to be hoped that by the time this appears all of us will have made the effort to ensure that justice has been done to it.

This is going to be a long, hard year as far as M. 5 work is. concerned. B. A. R. G. and other groups have the combined responsibility for watching some forty miles of motorway, presenting probably the biggest challenge B. A. R. G. has ever had. B. A. R. G. members committed to taking up this challenge must expect to be out in the field virtually every weekend, and many summer evenings as well. The return for such effort is, however, already making itself felt. One can confidently predict more RB sites on the claylands north of Bristol, following the pattern exposed by G. D. A. R. G. in 1969 further north. South of Bristol, in addition to known RB evidence, we may perhaps hope for more prehistoric remains. Meanwhile the first stage of field-checking is in progress through south Somerset, based on Taunton Museum; while Devon archaeologists are already organising themselves to meet the motorway challenge when it comes. Our organisation and activities are thus already having repercussions far down the line of motorway, well in advance of the bulldozers. Looking still further afield, within archaeological circles the M. 5 Project has already received considerable favourable publicity. Archaeologists in other parts of the country are watching our activities and achievements, as a blueprint for their own future policies.

B. A. R. G. SYMPOSIUM SUPPLEMENT: No. 5: 22nd November 1969

The fifth Symposium followed an apparent trend towards fewer but more substantial contributions from B. A. R. G. members, with a full-length paper in the second half of the meeting.

1: <u>M. Cheshire</u> – <u>Pollen analysis: Darracott Moor Barrow, near</u> Great Torrington, Devon

The technique and results of analysing pollen samples from the turf-stack of this Bronze Age round barrow (Grid Ref. SS 520214) showed the vegetation-types of the area at the end of the Bronze Age to have been much as now, with a changing percentage of arboreal pollens indicating the gradual decrease of tree cover as time passed. The different types of vegetation were correlated with the local features of physical relief and soils which are most likely to have provided suitable conditions for them. The one non-arboreal pollen of special note, occurring in the humus layer associated with the actual construction of the barrow, was a pondweed (Potamogeton Polygonipolos) which implies a wetter lands ape, with stagnant water in the area. Problems arose, such as the difficulty of pollen dilution, and of obtaining a sufficient section area to give fair results (this section had been mechanically cut in the course of a drainage scheme); but the results of the analysis show how the method contributes background information which could enhance, and itself be enhanced by, full archaeological excavation.

2. J. M. Wood Scan

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Scandinavian Bronze Age Rock-carvings

The wealth of Bronze Age rock-carvings (some well known and others virtually unknown) on Bornholm, the west coast of Sweden, and the Swedish-Norwegian border, include some foot-carvings reminiscent of the foot-carved slab

History .

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1: 1.5.

often occur singly, in association with other elaborate carvings. The feet are shown either with toes or toeless (sandalled?). The six Harptree foot-carvings, all complete with toes, are associated only with cupmarks (apart from a horn-shaped symbol not precisely identified); and the resemblance between them and some of the Swedish examples might suggest a Scandinavian relationship. This is made more probable by the resemblance of the Lansdown "sundisc" to the base of a bronze bowl from a burial at Gyldengard, also on Bornholm, and of late Middle Bronze Age date (c. 1200-1000 B, C,).

3.

M. Ponsford

D. Elkington

An early Roman site near Almondsbury, Glos.

Excavations, still in progress, in advance of new building at Hortham Hospital, have exposed a site of which the chief feature so far is a delapidated and irregular stone wall which had largely subsided or been thrown into an earlier boundary ditch. Postholes and other indications of a timber building were found to the south of the wall. Pottery of the 1st and early 2nd century A. D., found with an early brooch and a coin of c. 80 A. D., included some potsherds of decidedly Durotrigian character, an unexpected find so far north. The pottery is comparable to that from Chew Park, Somerset: and like Chew, this site suggests an early Roman settlement with Iron Age beginnings. It is doubtless one of many such small settlements, hitherto neglected in the archaeology of south Gloucestershire, which might match and develop the evidences of Iron Age-early Roman continuity that have been occurring on sites south of R. Avon.

4.

Lead ingots of possible Mendip origin found in France

The archaeological evidence of pigs of Mendip lead found locally can be supplemented by new evidence from abroad. American research (Bulletin 2. 7 (1967), 97) has identified British - possibly Mendip-lead used to line a cistern at Pompeii: an unexpected discovery since the Spanish lead mines were not only nearer to Italy, but actively campaigning against British lead exports. Now close examination and comparison of the various inscriptions on pigs of lead found in France, not only suggests that they were of Mendip origin, but also that the Roman lead exports from Mendip continued to a later date than has been hitherto substantiated. One pig found at St. Valéry-sur-Somme, forms part of the early exports made when the Mendip mines were under the control of the 2nd Legion; while a fragment of a pig found at Lillebonne near the mouth of the Seine can be dated to c. 211 A. D., postulating lead production on an exportable scale in the early 3rd century.

5. Miss J. Escritt

Excavations at Rupert Street, Bristol

This training excavation for Associate Members, on the site of Lindrea's factory in Rupert Street, showed that the scope of structures and range of date offered by such a site, go a long way to offset the difficulties and discomforts of urban excavating. Trainees had the opportunity to excavate, on one site, stone buildings and drains, and cobbled yards; postholes and slots of timber constructions; clay, mortar, gravel and even possible wooden floors. The complexity of plans, and of successive layers, and the building alterations they represented, provided ample scope for practice in archaeological interpretation; while the site yielded satisfying and varied quantities of pottery - and of less durable finds, such as leather, which survived in the special soil conditions - on which Associate Members are working during the winter months.

6. L. V. Grinsell

Changing Settlement Pattern in the Bristol Region, 100,000 B. C. - A. D. 1540

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The full-length paper which forms the second half of the B. A. R. G. Symposium falls outside the limited scope of this Supplement, which is designed simply to form an interim note of the "work in progress" on which B. A. R. G. members have reported; and its inclusion must therefore be merely a matter of brief but appreciative record. Mr. Grinsell's address, both by its nature and its wide timespan, counterbalanced the diversity of the short reports of work in the region which had been given earlier. His succession of distribution maps - which we understand are intended to form a basis of a future B. A. R. G. Special Publication provide the overall background setting to the past, present and future work of members: work which in its turn may add new dots to those maps.

Symposium Supplement No. 4 (23 Nov. 1968: Bulletin 3. 4, p. 89);

Amended version:

4.4 J.F. Rhodes

Roman Gloucester

A clay-walled building, discovered in 1966 and possibly built by the 2nd or 20th Legion, incorporated in its structure a coin of Nero; while the first sherds of a dark-age amphora found in a Romano-British urban house show that someone was still in residence in Gloucester at the other end of the Roman era. Current excavations have included the discovery of a paved area, possibly the forum, flanked on at least one side with colonnade and shops, and including the plinth for an enormous bronze statue. (Note: later excavations have confirmed the identification of the forum, but have revealed a ditch-system which is earlier than the clay-walled building mentioned above). Recent and forthcoming publications of work which members have reported at B. A. R. G. Symposia, include:

Symp. 1. 10 M. G. Hebditch: Excavations at Port Wall, Bristol. TBGAS 87 (1968).

- 2.1 P. J. Fowler: Excavations at Row of Ashes Farm, Butcombe. UBSS. 11. 3 (1968)
- 3.4 K. Branigan: Gatcombe Excavations 1967. Proc. SANHS 112 (1968)
- 4.4 J. Rhodes & H. Hurst: Roman Gloucester. GADARG: Glevensis 3 (1969)
- 4.7 P. J. Fowler: Cadbury Camp, Congresbury, 1968. Univ. of Bristol Extra-Mural Dept. monograph, forthcoming, 1970.
- 5.4 D. Elkington: Lead ingots of possible Mendip origin. B.A.R.G. Special Publication: Prehistoric & Roman Mendip (1970)

SUBSCRIPTIONS: A REMINDER

Your subscription is now due - and under the revised rules they should be paid on 1st January each year, except for Bankers' Standing Orders which are payable on 1st March. See page 163.

If you do not pay by Bankers' Order, PLEASE REMEMBER

- (1) that payment by cheque or postal order is so much safer and easier than loose cash, both for you and for B. A. R. G. accounting.
- (2) if you do pay in cash or by postal order, put it in an envelope clearly marked with your name.

Beware! Should your subscription not be paid, this could be the last Bulletin you will receive!

B. A. R. G. SPECIAL PUBLICATION

The Mendip Hills in Prehistoric & Roman Times, by John Campbell, David Elkington, Peter Fowler and Leslie Grinsell, is a new venture in B. A. R. G. Special Publications: a collection of special studies, taking account of the latest work on their subjects, centred around this one distinctive region within the B. A. R. G. area. It is also being issued free to all B. A. R. G. members whose subscriptions for 1969 are fully paid. It will also be on sale at Bristol City Museum, the usual bookshops, and other local museums. The Mendip Hills will be reviewed in the next issue of the Bulletin.

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REVIEWS

M. Hebditch, <u>Guide Catalogue to the Roman Collections from South Western</u> Britain. Part 1: The Guide. (City Museum, Bristol) 48 pp, 12 pls, 1 map. 5s.

How does the reviewer approach a Guide-Catalogue - as a guide, a catalogue, a memento of a visit to the Museum, or as a general introduction to a subject or period? Mr. Hebditch partially solves our problem by deferring the catalogue to a separate volume (now in preparation); but the other alternatives remain, and Mr. Hebditch has clearly tried to write a volume which is all three. In the main he has succeeded admirably. The Guide is short enough to read while walking round the gallery, and provides the visitor with a good, general picture of life in the Bristol region during the Roman period. Although the Guide does not set out to steer the visitor along a pre-determined path through the gallery, the arrangement of the collections is such that the visitor can quickly find the relevant chapter in the Guide, and once there, will discover the exhibits before him woven into the overall picture of life in Roman Britain. In addition to the text, the plates provide a visual souvenir of a visit to the gallery, and there is an excellent selection of suggestions for further reading. The Guide is attractively produced, the printing is clear, the design-pleasant to the eye, and the reviewer noted but a single printing error. On the other hand, the reproduction of the half-tones is a little indistinct and the selection of objects illustrated by them is not entirely representative of material in the gallery.

Although he has written for the museum visitor rather than the scholar, student, or archaeologist, the author has nevertheless managed to put forward several new ideas about the Roman period in the southwest. He suggests that Vespasian's advance was opposed not only by the Durotriges and Corio's Dubunni, but also by the smaller tribes of North Wiltshire and Hampshire, At the other end of the Roman period he postulates a civitas of the Western--Belgae administered from Bath, but the reviewer is unconvinced. There--are other controversial issues which Mr. Hebditch (rightly) refuses to sidestep. Did military control of the whole of the southwest cease in the 70's (p. 12) or did it continue into the second or even the third century (cf. control of Mendip mining and the Combe Down inscription)? Was there a room "rather like a Medieval hall" in the Chew Park villa (p. 15), or was this yet another small enclosed yard like those at Kings Weston, Somerdale, and perhaps Brislington? And what of the prosperity of the early fourth century? Was this reached "despite a rise in sea level" as Mr. Hebditch suggests, or partially because of it? None of these questions can yet be given an unequivocal answer, and it is both refreshing and useful to find that Mr. Hebditch offers different answers to those which would be found in several of the publications in his "suggestions for further reading",

There are two strange omissions. The chapter on Communications makes no reference to the importance of the Avon to the villas stretched along it, whilst the chapter on Towns makes no mention of Gatcombe (but is the reviewer biased?). One, important, point of fact should be corrected. The late buckle from Sea Mills appears to be confused with the late buckles from the south east of England (p. 30), but whereas they are of Germanic type and point to the introduction of Germanic auxiliaries as town garrisons in the south east, the Sea Mills buckle is a British derivative type and, as Mr. Hebditch recognises, indicates the presence of locally raised military units.

The map is very well drawn and extremely useful, but the reviewer cannot condone the use of a single symbol to represent both farms and villas. He is aware of the problems involved in distinguishing between the two, particularly on unexcavated sites, but to find Butcombe and Keynsham, for example, represented by the same symbol is surely misleading to say the least.

Nevertheless, the Guide remains a fitting companion to the new Roman gallery (for which Mr. Hebditch must also take much credit), and a worthy memorial to our former Assistant Curator, now called to higher duties in the Elysian Fields of Blaise Castle.

K. Branigan

J. H. Harvey, ed., William Worcestre: Itineraries (Oxford University Press, 1969), pp. xxiv, 456. 1 plate, 1 map, 9 line drawings. £6. 10s. 0d.

Ever since 1834 Bristol has had available, in print, a goldmine of source material for the topographical reconstruction and archaeological background of the late medieval city: the descriptive notes of William Worcester, the Bristolian who after a lifetime as factor to Sir John Falstof retired back to Bristol c. 1478, which were printed by James Dallaway in Antiquities of Bristow. Their main disadvantage, however, for most archaeologists has been that they are still in the original Latin. By and large they have received only limited attention from historians; the archaeological potential of Worcester's jottings has scarcely been touched.

Now a new edition of Worcester's notebooks has appeared. It is a model of editorial scholarship, with a valuable introduction to the old man and his hobby, and with Latin transcript and English translation on facing - 189 -

pages. The complexities of printing such material doubtless explains its reference-book-only price. But appreciation turns to dismay when, having found the sections headed 'Bristol' buried among the vivid rag-bag of William Worcester's most unmedieval magpie curiosity about his surroundings (mileages from place to place, sources of rivers, people, towns, buildings, copies of then "old" documents, business expenses, appointments to meet for lunch) they bear no resemblance to our familiar Dallaway. Then, hidden away on p. 404, a brief note states that all the topographical description of Bristol edited by Dallaway has been excluded.

Harvey does list textual corrections to Dallaway's edition; and he does add many snippets about Bristol which Dallaway omitted. We also now have William's many jottings about other places in the B. A. R. G. area - Wells, a magnificent description of Wookey Hole Cave (p. 291), interrogating the monks of Glastonbury about their Arthurian pretensions, inspecting Iron Age hillforts, as at Marksbury Castle, "built on a high hill by a giant called Mark. It was thrown down, but more than a hundred thousand cartloads of stone are heaped there," (p. 293) and much besides. The extent of his sheer first-hand observation in the field, when such topographical curiosity had no precedents or aids, is staggering. These items are all valuable. Basically, however, we are now stuck not with one volume, but two, to use; of which the principal Bristol work is still an early 19th century version, and still in Latin.

Perhaps a complete edition was financially impossible; but such a missed opportunity must be a matter for regret here in Bristol. It is also regrettable, that so very little is made of the archaeological and topographical potential; the only archaeologists to gain a mention in a footnote, are Messrs. Wacher, Brown and McWhirr at Cirencester, in connection with Worcester's estimates of the measurements of the Abbey. There is nothing about the work of P. Rahtz and M. Ponsford in parts of Bristol described in detail by William Worcester. The one, very general map is inadequate, and the line drawings are all of individual religious houses. The valuable Conspectus of pages, which sorts out the Bristol references and makes clear how much is still left to Dallaway, is hidden away at the end of the book (p. 407-416) when it is needed at the beginning.

The innately topographical bent of William Worcester's curiosity: distances and directions, descriptions of buildings in their context of streets and alleyways, walls, gates, monuments and marketplaces: still therefore remains to be exploited in Bristol. Perhaps it is not too selfish to hope that Mr. Harvey's omission might, in the future, be a Bristol archaeologist's opportunity.

F. Neale

NOTICES OF RECENT AND FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

Transactions of the Bristol & Gloucestershire Archaeological Society, vol. 88 (1969) includes the second part of P. J. Reynolds' "Experiment in Iron Age Agriculture" (p. 29-33); reports on the Farmington Roman villa by P. E. Gascoigne (p. 34-67) and Upton deserted medieval village by P. A. Rahtz (p. 74-126); and a study of the "Construction of the Floating Harbour in Bristol, 1804-9" by Dr. R. A. Buchanan (p. 184-204).

Archaeological Review for 1969: Number 4, ed. P. J. Fowler. C. B. A. Groups XII and XIII (University of Bristol Department of Extra-Mural Studies, 1970), 5s. AR 4 should be available shortly before this <u>Bulletin</u> is issued. Onethird as thick again as AR 3, this number scores a double first: it will have illustrations, and two papers, one on the Bronze Age in the southwest and the other the First Interim Report on the M5 Research Project.

The next Proceedings of the University of Bristol Spelaeological Society will appear about March-April, and will include the second interim report on the Westmead site at Row of Ashes Farm, Butcombe, by P. J. Fowler.

Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society, also due out this spring, will include the first part of L. V. Grinsell's important survey of Somerset Barrows, covering south and east Somerset, including the Quantocks and Exmoor.

Society of Antiquaries of London: Research Committee Report No. XXIV: <u>Roman Bath</u> by Prof. B. Cunliffe. O. U. P. 1969. On top of all his other commitments, Barry Cunliffe has produced this huge and magnificent report which completes the work of Sir Ian Richmond and others. Clear text, copious plans, and drawings, and fine photographs make this a superb production. As if this were not enough, we understand that he is also producing a "popular" version, <u>Bath Discovered</u>, to be published by Routledge & Kegan Paul during the summer, at £3. 10s. 0d.

Axbridge Caving Group & Archaeological Society's Newsletter for December 1969 included a short report by M. Batt of RB finds at Hixham Rhyne, Monk Moor, Cheddar.

BIAS Journal vol. 2 (1969) is a most handsomely produced volume, including articles on Redcliffe Shot Tower, Old Market Sugar Refinery, and notes on the Bibliography of Industrial Bristol.

Recent additions to the series of Information Sheets issued by the City Museum, Bristol include The Egyptian Collections and an introduction to the Technology Collections. For the summer : the Forestry Commission have issued Forestry Trailbooklets for the Avon Gorge (Leigh Woods), Quantock and Castle Neroche Forest Trails - available from their offices on the spot, or the Head Office at Flowers Hill, Brislington, and from some museums. While chiefly concerned with fauna and flora, the Castle Neroche leaflet in particular (with its clear map-cum-cover, historical and archaeological background details) is a fine example of what might be done similarly for "Archaeological Trails" - a future thought for B. A. R. G. ?

The election of our new Chairman, Dr. K. Branigan, was marked in timely fashion by the appearance of his survey of Crete in the Early Bronze Age, The Foundations of Palatial Crete (Routledge & Kegan Paul), £2.10s.0d.

The August excavation at Cadcong should start with publication up-to-date, with the appearance of <u>Cadbury</u>, <u>Congresbury</u>: An Introductory Report, by P. J. Fowler, P. A. Rahtz and K. S. Gardner, as a monograph to be published by the Extra-Mural Dept. of the University of Bristol, about June.

At last, the first two volumes (1906 and 1911) of the Victoria County History of Somerset have been reprinted. These volumes are important to local archaeologists for their surveys of prehistoric to Saxon archaeology (including Haverfield's famous study of Romano-British Somerset), the introduction and full text of the Somerset Domesday (vol. 1); and the gazeteer of earthworks, and all-important index (vol. 2). Out of print, increasingly scarce and often appallingly battered, the difficulty of getting these basic textbooks even through reference libraries has long frustrated students of Somerset. The archaeological chapters are now sadly out-of-date: itseems a pity that, with the Somerset V. C. H. now in progress once again, these initial volumes could not be revised as well; but one must be grateful that we have them at all.

Glevensis No. 4, the G. A. D. A. R. G. Review for December 1969, includes an article on "Native Settlements in the North Cotswolds" by Mrs. H. E. O'Neil, a clever "bone-portrait" of Septimus (alias Grandpop) of Frocester, by Dr. C. R. Oyler; and a personal view of "M5 and Archaeology" by P. J. Fowler, together with reports from sites including Brookthorpe and Gloucester, and a useful list of DMVs in the county.

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(as at 1 January, 1970).

* An asterisk indicates an associate member).

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CADCONG 1970

After the exciting trial excavation of September 1968, comes the long-awaited first season of research excavation at Cadbury Camp, Congresbury (ST 442649). Directed by P. J. Fowler, P. A. Rahtz and K. S. Gardner, the excavation will run from 1st - 21st August, 1970 subject to any archaeological crises arising on the M. 5 motorway, when the Cadbury team will be readily available to carry out rescue work. Experienced volunteers are invited. Prior application should be made to the University of Bristol Départment of Extra-Mural Studies, 20a Berkeley Square, Bristol BS8 1HR.

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CALENDAR OF

FORTHCOMING EXCAVATIONS, COURSES AND MEETINGS

March - September 1970

Abbreviations:

B. G. A. S.	Bristol & Gloucestershire Archaeological Society
G. D. A. R. G.	Gloucester and District Archaeological Research Group
S. A. N. H. S.	Somerset Archaeological & Natural History Society
University	University of Bristol Extra-Mural Department, 20a
	Berkeley Square, Bristol BS8 1HR

Details from and applications to, the persons or institutions indicated in each item. For details of other local excavations taking place during the summer, including the Iron Age settlement at Meare (M. Avery), the prehistoric trackways at Westhay (Dr. J. Coles), the hillfort at South Cadbury (L. Alcock) and Roman and medieval Gloucester (H. R. Hurst) readers are referred to the <u>Calendar of Excavations</u>, issued by the C. B. A., 8 St. Andrew's Place, London, N. W. 1. at 10s. p. a.

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March 17 - April 11	ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF EXPLORATION & ARCHAEOLOGY IN_PALESTINE: exhibition at the City Museum, BRISTOL
21	TRAFFIC ACROSS THE BRISTOL CHANNEL IN ANTIQUITY. A Symposium by a panel of lecturers. C. B. A. Groups II & XIII. City Museum, BRISTOL, 2.00 p.m. University
21 - April 1	CHEDDAR VICARAGE: RB and later site. Excavations directed by P.A. Rahtz, School of History, University of Birmingham.
23 - April 13	LECKHAMPTON HILL I.A. hillfort, Cheltenham, Glos. Excavations directed by Miss S. Herman. Apply to R. Savage, Gloucestershire College of Art, Pittville, Cheltenham.
26	KILNS & SALTPANS IN THE SOMERSET MOORS, by Mrs. M. Langdon. Clevedon & District Archaeological Society, Community Centre, Sunhill Park, Clevedon, 7.30 p.m.
April	
11	B. A. R. G. COLLOQUIUM: MEDIEVAL POTTERY IN THE BRISTOL REGION, at the City Museum, BRISTOL, 11.00 a.m.

Places limited; apply to M. Ponsford, City Museum,

Queens Road, Bristol 8 by 1. 4. 70.

	April 18	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF B. G. A. S. at The Mansion House, BRISTOL, 2.30 p.m., with address by the President, Captain H. S. Gracie.
•	18-19	ARCHAEOLOGICAL AIR PHOTOGRAPHY: weekend course, with flying, by P. J. Fowler and J. E. Hancock, based on WESTON-super-MARE airfield. University.
	.20	THE EXCAVATION OF TIMBER BUILDINGS by P.A. Barker. G.D.A.R.G., Queen Street Hall, GLOUCESTER, 7.30 p.m. Non-members 2s. 6d.
	25-26	LEAD-MINING ON MENDIP. Joint B. A. R. G. /University weekend course with field-meetings, based on Kings of Wessex School, CHEDDAR. University.
	May – June	WESTBURY COLLEGE, WESTBURY-on TRYM: Rescue excavations directed by M. Ponsford, City Museum, BRISTOL. Volunteers required.
	2	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF S. A. N. H. S. at the Somerset Room, TAUNTON Castle, 2.30 p.m.
	6	WESTBURY COLLEGE & WESTBURY-on-TRYM: Museum conducted walk, led by M. Ponsford and E. George. Assemble at WESTBURY COLLEGE, 7.00 p.m.
	8-10	WESTERN BRITAIN IN THE NEOLITHIC PERIOD: weekend course with panel of lecturers at Rodney Lodge, BRISTOL. Prior application necessary. University.
	19	HEREFORDSHIRE: Field meeting of B. G. A. S. Details from Miss D. Bailey, Garth, West Hill, Wraxall, nr. Bristol.
•	9	LACOCK ABBEY: visit by Bath & Bristol Numismatic Society. Details from H. J. Durnell, 3 Glen Park, St. George's, Bristol BS5 7ND
	16 ·.	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Bath and Bristol Numismatic Society at the Reference Library, Queen Square, BATH, 2.15 p.m.
	16-17) 23-24)	B. A. R. G. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: FIELDWORK & SURVEYING AT DUNDRY. Meet at the Carpenters' Arms, Maiden Head, 10.00 a.m.
	24 or 31	ROCKBOURNE Roman Ville, Hants., Braemer Saxon church, and Wilton House: excursion by Clevedon & District Archaeological Society. Non-members welcome. Details from Mrs. Legg, 26 Hallam Road, Clevedon: apply by 1.5.70

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May 25	ROMAN MOSAICS, by D.S. Neal. G.D.A.R.G. Queen Street Hall, GLOUCESTER, 7.30 p.m. Non-members 2s. 6d.
25 - June 7	ROW OF ASHES FARM, BUTCOMBE: fieldwork and excavation, with training, on IA/RB settlement, directed by P.J. Fowler. University.
June	
3	MEGALITHIC MONUMENTS IN MONMOUTHSHIRE; Museum conducted excursion, led by J. M. Lewis. Limited numbers. Coach tickets and details from City Museum, BRISTOL, from 1.5.70
13 - July 12	THE HISTORY OF HENBURY: Exhibition at Blaise Castle House Museum, HENBURY. Open every afternoon, including Sundays.
July - onwards	BRISTOL CASTLE: Excavations d rected by M. Ponsford. Details from the City Museum, BRISTOL.
1	LONGWOOD, MENDIP: Museum conducted excursion, led by W.B. Collins. Limited numbers. Coach tickets and details from City Museum, BRISTOL, from 1.6.70.
4- 5 11-12	B. A. R. G. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: FIELDWORK & SURVEYING AT DUNDRY. Meet at the Carpenters' Arms, Maiden Head, 10.00 a.m.
	BARNSLEY PARK Roman villa and field-system, nr. Cirencester, Glos. Residential training excavation and fieldwork, directed by Dr. G. Webster and P. J. Fowler. University.
August	
1-21	CADBURY CAMP, CONGRESBURY: research excavation of I.A. hill-fort - post-Roman site, directed by P.J. Fowler, P.A. Rahtz, & K.S. Gardner. Experience and prior application necessary. University.
5 year Antony of Sec	TEMPLE MEADS, GLASS CONE & BATHURST BASIN: City Museum conducted walk, led by J. Totterdill. Assemble at Brunel's Engine Shed ent rance (Temple Meads ramp), 6.45 p.m.
September 2	REDCLIFFE CAVES. City Museum conducted walk, led by G. Bennett. Limited numbers: tickets from City Museum, BRISTOL, from 3.8.70; meet at Redcliffe Church, 7.00 p.m.
16 iOct. 14	MAN & NATURE: Exhibition by Kodak & Nature Conservancy at City Museum, BRISTOL.
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