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BRISTOL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH GROUP

C/o City Museum, Queens Road, Bristol, 8.

BULLETIN Contents

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BRISTOL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH GROUP

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MEMBERSHIP

The Annual Subscription (due 1st March and payable to the Hon. Assistant Secretary), is one pound for those aged 18 and over, and five shillings for those under 18. There is no entrance fee. Application forms may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary or Hon. Assistant Secretary.

EDITORIAL

Field archaeologists, accustomed never to stir outdoors without at least a 1" Ordnance Survey map in their pocket, now have a new map which may prove almost as essential a piece of equipment: the facsimile First Edition 1" O.S. maps issued by David & Charles, of which the last of the sheets covering the B. A. R. G. area has just been published. (1)

The difference between our area as shown on these maps, originally produced between 1809 and 1830, and on our present 1" sheets, basically c. 1950's, is astonishing - an object lesson in the archaeology of the recent landscape. They effectively lift fieldwork back to a stage before the present; and the answers to the questions which, like any good map, they prompt, are unobscured by 20th century development. Particularly striking is the sheer change in the extent of Bristol since the 1830's, especially to the north and east. Tracts of Mendip appear still unenclosed, crossed by rambling paths; and elsewhere there have been many subsequent changes in road-lines which can now clearly be traced, 'before' and 'after'. Turnpikes and some turnpike gates are indicated. Detail ranges from symbols pinpointing the coalpits of eastern Mendip, to pictorial depictions of the great avenues which radiate out from stately homes such as Badminton, often for several miles and well outside the present parks: which explain some otherwise apparently meaningless alignments of paths and boundaries where there are no trees today. Most of all, there is a profusion of names, not always equalled even on our larger scale maps: farms, hamlets, lanes; hills, valleys and streams.

It is, however, illuminating to see just how far archaeological information on 1" O.S. maps has developed since the 1800's, when many archaeological features now thought proper for a general map were omitted - not always because they were still unknown. Chepstow Castle and any mention of Aquae Sulis, are conspicuous by their absence. Old Sodbury, well drawn, appears as "Ancient Encampment"; Maesbury and Dolebury, equally carefully drawn, are named but not described; Cadbury, Congresbury does not appear at all. However, the Fosse Way is meticulously tracked across country, and "Roman Remains" feature around Camerton; the Wick burial chamber at ST 70607189 appears as "Druidical Stones" and there are brave if not altogether successful attempts to indicate Mendip round barrows and Priddy circles. The difference in our One Inch maps then and now is perhaps a reflection, not only of our good fortune in the work of O. G. S. Crawford and the O. S. Archaeology Division, but also of the difference between the inevitably patchy information of a few early 19th century enthusiasts, and the widespread interest, organisation and coverage of 20th century archaeological societies.

(1) for details, see Notices of Recent Publications, page 158.

ANIMAL ARCHAEOLOGY

by Barbara A. Noddle

It seems that after the Neolithic Revolution the agricultural pioneer loses his glamour. The cultivator becomes degraded, at worst to a serf and at best to a country bumpkin. The reasons for this attitude are outside the scope of the animal archaeologist, but its consequences are felt.

It was not ever thus; General Pitt-Rivers' animal reports in Excavations in Cranborne Chase can rarely have been equalled. Towards the end of the last century the Proc.Soc. Ant. Scot. carries a long and discursive paper on wild white cattle, while a brief report on a barrow excavation mentions merely that "quantities of rude pot were found". Then Lord Abercromby discovered his beaker types, and now the ceramic tail wags the archaeological dog with a vengeance, so that to read some reports the excavation seems to have been carried out largely for the purpose of finding potsherds. Pottery will of course give a lot of dating evidence and, perhaps, information on folk movements, but it reveals far less about the economy of the people who made it. When all is said and done, you cannot eat the stuff, nor will it pull your plough.

In this country the neglect of excavated animal bones comes basically from economic causes. In the universities, archaeology is classed as a humanity, so that there is little money for scientific apparatus, and scientific work is considered to be best left to the expert - who is usually a devoted amateur. The Ministry of Works does not receive funds for this sort of investigation. There are of course exceptions; the University of Cambridge runs a laboratory under Mr. Higgs, there are animal workers in the Institute of Archaeology, and work is done in the British Museum of Natural History and other museums. But museum curators have very many other duties, and have not received much training for this sort of work unless they have trained themselves. In this connection, Mr. Chaplin did much to develop economic aspects of the subject at the Passmore Edwards Museum, but has now had to give up much of this work.

There is a lack of vision in this subject. It is true that the information forthcoming is not very instructive in isolation. Typical bone reports in the county journals state that bones of ox, sheep/goat and pig were found, and it would be surprising if they were not. Better reports give the percentage of bone fragments found, and even numbers of individuals with attempts to age them. Sometimes lists of measure-

ments are given; but often when the report reaches this sort of complexity and begins to be of use for comparative purposes, only a summary is published and the full report slumbers in some museum, for tables and histograms cost money to publish.

Animal archaeology is therefore still in its somewhat retarded infancy. The plentiful raw material needs to be processed in a reasonably standard manner so that full-time experts can work upon it. Valuable contributions have already been made, several from the continental osteological institutes so sadly lacking in this country. For example, there is Dr. Boessneck's paper on the osteological differences between the sheep and the goat⁽¹⁾, and several papers in Polish and Russian which would merit translation if finance was available. Professor Higham has made a start on the collection of data from modern animals which will enable much information to be derived from excavated ones.⁽²⁾ Mr. Chaplin has shown how much economic information can be derived from animal bone (to the best of my knowledge his results have only been published on B. B. C. 2). Mr. Hudson has put together a vast amount of information on excavated cattle bones⁽³⁾. Dr. Ryder has charted the evolution of British sheep breeds using skin and wool samples⁽⁴⁾. Ryder has also written a most useful introductory book on animal archaeology⁽⁵⁾. I hope during my tenure of a Research Fellowship at the University of Birmingham to evolve methods for determining carcase weight and nutritional status from bone, and possibly to find osteological data in sheep to fit in with Dr. Ryder's scheme. However, the potential harvest is vast and the labourers few.

There are other items of information which may come to light which cannot be predicted, and I can only give examples from the material I have worked upon myself. At Overton Down two of the Romano-British sites produced widely different bone collections. One is a fairly conventional agricultural collection comprising mainly sheep and cattle, with some horse. The other contains the same species in different ratio, but several complete limbs and minor bones of horse and some cattle indicate the animals or joints were buried whole, and suggests ritual function. At the Colombian monastery in Iona there was a midden with no obvious stratification. At its base, however, there were many bones from the choice joints of the hind limbs of deer and cattle, whereas at the top the whole carcasses were represented, and the deer was much diminished to be replaced by pigs and sheep. From this one gains the impression that the deer were killed off and replaced in the woodland by pig, but that some of the woodland was cleared, giving way to heath on which sheep were kept. I am, however, at a loss to explain the predilection of some sixteenth century monks for the right shank of sheep.

Until some rich and enterprising university produces grants for soil scientists to work out just how much information is lost in the excavation soil heap, animal bones are the least utilised source of information that there is. In such circumstances it is the amateur archaeologist who usually comes to the rescue. In this case he is well suited to the task; since the work demands little apparatus and the skills involved must be self-taught apart from the initial instruction, which is being provided by the Extra-Mural Departments of some enlightened universities, of which Bristol is one. It is, however, time-consuming and requires a certain amount of space, if only for the storage of the reference collection and the material itself. As a rough estimate, it takes an experienced person some thirty hours to report on a teacheast full of bone. Some excavation committees are prepared to recompense the worker for this time.

Though one may be bold and collect one's reference material from the whole bones in excavated material, using a text book such as Sisson's Veterinary Anatomy as an initial guide, it is probably easier to start with modern material. The species needed are ox, sheep, pig, horse, dog, cat and rabbit. A set of bird and fish bones are useful so that they can be sorted out and sent to an expert; the detailed identification of these orders requires a vast reference collection, as is also the case with small rodent bones.

Bone from mature animals is best; that from the butcher has unfused epiphyses and is soft and fragile: my entire collection of pig bone from this source was once eaten by two white mice. Therefore, the knacker, or the slaughter-house catering for the meat pie manufacturer is a better bet, and here one will also obtain the head and feet which the butcher does not take. The knacker may occasionally have a horse, or even a donkey; the history of the donkey in this country is a complete blank. Dog and cat may be obtained from a dog's home or one's veterinary surgeon. Deer are a problem, but a game merchant or the Forestry Commission may be able to help. Goat is even more difficult, and may have to be identified by a process of elimination between sheep and roe deer. Modern pig is not entirely suited for the work; prior to the 18th century, European pigs were more like wild boar, but wild boar carcasses are not exactly common.

Cleaning the bones is also a problem. If one has a tolerant family, one can use a copper on the stove. Burying in the garden is a possibility, but it takes about six months. Some bones might be found ready for use if

one explores moorland or beachcombs, particularly in the far north. I acquired sheep, cattle and deer bones from the beach at Bettyhill, Sutherland when I was starting this work, and more recently I picked up a horse skeleton from the old animal cemetery in N. Ronaldsay, Orkney, where I was studying the native sheep, which are probably very similar to the Iron Age sheep of the south.

One's method of reporting depends on the sort of material with which one is presented. Small bags from a lot of layers are less daunting to a beginner than large boxes; but more information can be gained from the latter, and one must beware of the excavator who says he will send you correlations between layers later, and does not do so. The initial task is to separate the species present. Next, identify the individual bones and list them at the same time measuring lengths of whole bones, width of undamaged bone ends, etc. If there are numbers of one particular bone fragment you may wish to record a special measurement which must then be defined. It should be noted whether the bones are mature, or have the epiphyses unfused.

The state of dentition in skulls and mandibles should be recorded. Loose teeth can be sorted into incisors, canines (in those species that have them), premolars, upper and lower molars, and third upper and lower molars; these last are easily distinguished and give useful information on aging. It should also be recorded whether the teeth are erupted, partially worn or very worn.

From the assembled lists the number of individuals present can be worked out. Their age range is determined from the unfused bones and the teeth. The most compact data for reference is that supplied by Silver⁽⁶⁾. It is based largely on modern animals and so is probably not accurate for those of the past, but it is widely used and hence an acceptable standard.

The details of the different bones found if very numerous, are probably best given on a histogram. Otherwise they may be split into bones from the good meat joints of axial skeleton and limbs (the fore and hind limbs might be presented separately if they are unequally represented), the poor quality 'joints' of head and feet, and loose teeth. This last indicates whether the deposit was long exposed to the action of the elements and scavengers, as teeth are more durable than the rest of the skeleton. Also, vertebrae are less durable than the long bones and extremities, so that good joints are under-represented. It should be borne in mind, however, that although most domestic animals end up by being eaten, they were probably kept primarily for another purpose, such as traction or the provision of wool.

From the accumulation of such bone reports, it should be possible to deduce much information not currently available, such as whether a migrating people introduced a new breed of animal, or a particular disease, and the average level of nutrition; in connection with the last two points, all abnormalities should be recorded.

This essay has concentrated mainly on work with bones. However, animal archaeology is not confined to any particular period, and indeed might only be said to come to an end in the 19th century, when the practice of breaking up bone and using it as a fertiliser became widespread. For those more interested in archives than bones, there must be a lot of passing references which hitherto have passed unnoticed. In this connection it is sad that agricultural historians are more interested in field types and land inheritance, than in the details of what was actually formed. In a list of workers and their subjects in a recent number of the Agricultural History Review, less than 1% expressed an interest in animals. It is true that during the medieval period at least, livestock was mainly in the hands of the small proprietor who was likely to be illiterate, but there must nonetheless be quite a lot of documentary information and I would be most grateful to hear from anyone coming across such references.

References:

- (1) Boessneck, Muller and Teichert, Kuhn Arciv. vol. 78 (1964)
 - (2) Higham, C. F. W., Acta Archeologica vol. 38 (1967)
 - (3) Hudson, G. Archaeologia Aeliena vol. 46 (1968)
 - (4) Ryder, M. L., Agricultural History Review vol. 12 (1964)
 - (5) Ryder, M. L., Animal Bones in Archaeology (1969)
 - (6) Silver, I. A., in Science and Archaeology ed. Brothwell and Higgs (1963)
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..... AND STILL ON BONES

It seems appropriate to follow this article with a reminder that the sequel to last year's successful Bones and Archaeology weekend course, with a panel of lecturer/instructors including Miss Noddle, is being organised by the University of Bristol Extra-Mural Department for February, 1970. A few places are still available, so enquiries should be made without delay to the Department at 20A, Berkeley Square, Bristol BS8 1HR.

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Turning to human bones in particular, B. A. R. G. member Mrs. J. M. Popplewell has drawn attention to the publication of The Romano-British Cemetery at Trentholme Drive, York, by L. P. Wenham (M. P. B. W. Archaeological Report, H. M. S. O. £6. 10s. 0d.) commenting that "a wealth of information is derived from the skeletal remains of at least 350 individuals. This is numerically an acceptable basis for the conclusions drawn, which include age assessment, physical features and pathological conditions. Use of coal in the associated crematorium is of interest, remembering the local use of Somerset coal on the altar of Sul Minerva at Bath." The analytical and statistical methods, applied on this scale, will obviously make this a reference book of considerable interest and value to osteologists.

BRISTOL CITY MUSEUM: THE NEW ARCHAEOLOGICAL GALLERIES

A most complimentary article on Bristol City Museum's new Archaeology Gallery (Prehistoric Section), with excellent illustrations, appeared in the magazine Display, for August 1969. The "Grand Opening" of the Roman Section is planned for January 1970 (see Calendar) and will be performed by Norman Cook, B. A., F. S. A., F. M. A., Director of the Guildhall Museum, London. The Guildhall Museum's close association with all the recent archaeological activity investigating Roman London, makes Mr. Cook an especially appropriate guest for what should be a memorable occasion.

ROMAN GATCOMBE

We are pleased to note that the attractive exhibition on "Roman Gatcombe" in the front hall of the City Museum, Bristol which regrettably escaped the editorial eye for the last issue, will now be extended from December 1969, to March 1970.

THE PREHISTORIC/ROMANO-BRITISH SETTLEMENT AT

ROW OF ASHES FARM, BUTCOMBE: EXCAVATION AND FIELDWORK, 1969

by P. J. Fowler

During our fourth season in May/June, carried out by Bristol University Extra-Mural Department in conjunction with B. A. R. G., three distinct but linked activities were involved: every day people from Butcombe went over to help on the M5 Research Committee's excavation of a round cairn on Court Hill, Tickenham, while others continued surveying in the immediate vicinity and further afield. A satisfactory achievement of this latter group under Nick Pratchett and John Silby, was to survey the large area of excellently preserved settlement and field remains on South Hill, Bleadon (ST 345567), over which hung a threat of possible quarrying. Surveys of the Lye Hole villa (ST 500622) and Brean Down (ST 285590) field systems have also been completed, the latter in a force eight gale which fully justified our tacheometric survey methods. Meanwhile, also on the fieldwork side, Frances Neale has relocated the site of the Havyatt villa (ST 48016145), which fits very nicely into what looks almost like a planned villa settlement pattern along the Vale of Wrington; and other fieldwork in Nempnett Thrubwell has almost completed an exhaustive, field-by-field check of the whole parish.

The third scene of activity was at the excavation itself (ST 50846296). Here the training aspect was strengthened by the addition of Jennifer Gill to the staff so that the drawing of objects on site could be added to the course. As a result, we left the site this year not only with all the finds cleaned, sorted and catalogued as impeccably as ever, but with the illustrations ready too. Little new ground was opened, excavation being concentrated on examination of the earlier levels of areas already open. The wisdom of doing this rather than extending the exploration of the late-Roman levels may be questioned, but it certainly produced results in terms of sequence and structure. The following summary is based on that in Procs. U. B. S. S. 11, 3 (1967-8), 214, and descriptions refer to fig. 52 in the same report (the same figure is also reproduced in Current Archaeology 10 (Sept. 1968), 255).

In the Early Phase (? Mesolithic - early Romano-British), the possibility of Mesolithic activity is raised by the occurrence of a flake of Portland Chert, and of a pre-Iron Age structure by two sealed post-holes associated only with flint flakes. More Neolithic/Bronze Age flint-work and axe fragments were recovered, and a highly decorated pottery lug has its closest affinities in Beaker ceramics. The Early and Middle pre-Roman Iron Age is represented by pottery which includes a small amount of haematite-coated ware and a range of coarser wares with calcite, oolite, limestone,

shell and quartz fillers singly or in combination. A small quantity is decorated; the commonest forms are large 'cooking' jars and smaller 'bead-rim' jars. Undoubtedly the site was occupied by a settlement, of which one circular timber structure, represented by a rock-cut palisade trench 10m. in diameter, 1m. wide and 0.5 m. deep at most, has been completely excavated. What could well be an adjacent building was located 20m. to the north. 'Belgic'/Early Romano-British occupation, stratigraphically later than the structures just mentioned, was clearly associated with rock-cut pits and metal-working, the slags from which have now been analysed; and contemporary rectangular stone footings and other features are beginning to appear outside the west end of Building A1. Several more bow brooches, and Samian and 'Belgicised' wares mark this phase; but whether it continued directly from the prehistoric Iron Age settlement is still not clear.

It is, however, beginning to look as if the postulated later 2nd century/3rd century hiatus before the building of the stone structure of the Main Phase c. 270 A. D. is imaginary, the result in part of the destruction of all earlier levels on its site during the construction of Building A1 on which we have previously concentrated. The sharp drop in the amount of late 3rd/mid 4th century material, particularly coins, as we have moved away from that Building, now suggests it was used for domestic as well as agricultural purposes.

The Late Phase (after c. 350 A. D.) is proving tantalisingly difficult to demonstrate structurally, perhaps because timber buildings on and in the stone ruins replaced the stone structures, but coarse hand-made pottery again occurred in the right layer in Enclosure B. Clearly our excavation technique has so far been inadequate for the complexities of a complex but surely typical site which warrants further slow and thoughtful dissection. Dissection will continue 23 May - 7 June, 1970, and for the fortnight beginning with the Spring Bank Holiday weekend for the next five years, D. V., and, we hope, with the continuing kindness and goodwill of the Bendall family who impart such a unique and enjoyable character to our stays on their land.

PUBLICATIONS OF OTHER SOCIETIES

While B. A. R. G. does not maintain a formal Library of its own, any members who wish to consult local County Societies' Proceedings, C. B. A. Regional Group publications, or any of the journals etc. produced by societies with whom B. A. R. G. exchanges the Bulletin (see Members List, Bulletin 3: 4, Spring 1969), which are kept at the City Museum, Bristol, should contact the Hon. Secretary.

B. A. R. G. EXCURSION: MINCHINHAMPTON & AVENING

On 20th September 1969, one of the few fine days in that month, some twenty B. A. R. G. members made a sortie into Gloucestershire to visit the Minchinhampton and Avening areas, so rich in archaeology that only a fraction of the potential sites could be seen in the time available.

An early stop was made at Sodbury hill-fort, where we were fortunate to be guided by Dr. Isabel Smith. The site, described in B. A. R. G. Field Guide 1 by Mr. Grinsell, encloses some 13 acres; it is univallate on the west and bi-vallate on the other sides, the two banks being noticeably different in construction. Traces of other slight banks adjacent to the fort were also noticed. The City Museum is now the richer by several pieces of reddened limestone collected by Mr. Grinsell for examination; it was suggested that these may indicate firing of timber defences at the entrance.

After a visit to Stroud Museum, where Mr. L. F. Walrond showed us a cross-section of items of all periods from the neighbourhood, the party moved on to Minchinhampton Common where we were met by Mr. Colin Bowen, of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments. He had provided most comprehensive notes and a sketch plan for our guidance, which together with his expert explanations enabled us to form a clearer picture of the network of complicated earthworks on the Common, and to obtain an idea of their relative chronology. Apart from the succession of linear earthworks which range in date from Iron Age to the Park Enclosure, we also saw a number of pillow mounds and unexplained pits with associated mounds.

A visit was then made to the Minchinhampton Long Stone, which with its much smaller neighbouring stone, now incorporated in a field wall, is the last remnant of a chambered long barrow. Finally, the party scrambled after Mr. Grinsell to the three re-sited burial chambers, notably that with a port-hole entrance, at Avening, where Mr. A. Roos told us something of a similar type of tomb in France.

Elizabeth Adams

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

At the time of writing, the under-18 membership of B. A. R. G. is well over the fifty mark, and rising: an expansion in numbers linked with the programme of activities arranged this year, and especially with the training excavation of July and August. Instead of remaining a comparatively inactive section, Associates are being encouraged to take part in local archaeology within, and outside, the framework of B. A. R. G.

One reason for the bracketing-off of Associate Members from adult members, apart from the reduction in subscription, is the desire of many Associate Members to learn about archaeology "from scratch". Young people could do this by plunging into the middle and learning as they go along; but surely it is preferable to have activities designed specially for beginners. I have already mentioned the Associate Members' training excavation which was directed by Mr. Ponsford and earned the Associates a number of new members and a mention in the local press. This has been followed up by twice weekly study sessions on the finds under the supervision of Janet Escritt.

By the time this Bulletin is issued the Associate Members will have had three of their series of five introductory lectures. These meetings were planned to deal with a number of general topics - none of them based on any specific local site or problem, although of course the speakers will probably illustrate their talks with local examples. They are, deliberately, in a different category to most other B. A. R. G. meetings. Unfortunately, the idea that full members are not welcome at Associate Members' meetings (and vice versa) may have been unintentionally suggested. I hope it is not too late now to correct this impression - of course anyone is welcome at these "introductory" lectures.

During the first two weekends of July some fifteen Associate Members were busy with practical research on Dundry Hill, a handy and archaeologically fairly rich area. Surveying with plane tables was practised at Maes Knoll Camp, and then a field system behind, and apparently connected with, Upton Farm was plotted, although this proved slow and the results were not very accurate. A soil resistivity meter was used on the site of a church at Norton Hawkfield, but no conclusive results were obtained. Altogether the Fieldwork weekends turned out to be rather less successful than was hoped, but at least we have learnt from our mistakes.

Finally, an Essay Competition for Associates has been organised, thanks to the gift of an anonymous well-wisher; titles should be with the Hon. Secretary already, and I hope that plenty of Associates are busy writing!

M. R. I. Durham

B. A. R. G. SYMPOSIUM, 1969.

The fifth B. A. R. G. Symposium, which will have taken place shortly before this Bulletin appears, will be reported in condensed form in the next issue, 3.7 (Spring, 1970), together with notes of former contributions which have since been published.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is given that the Annual General Meeting of the Bristol Archaeological Research Group will be held at 2.30 p. m. on Saturday, 21st February 1970 in the Museum Lecture Theatre (entrance in University Road), Bristol BS8 1RL. Members are reminded that in accordance with rule 10, nominations for officers and members of committee should be received by the Hon. Secretary not less than 14 days before the date of the meeting, accompanied by the names of the proposer and seconder and the written consent of the nominee.

The Chairman is retiring and is not available for re-election. The following officers retiring are eligible for re-election: Hon. Secretary, Hon. Assistant Secretary, Hon. Secretary for Associate Members, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Editor (Bulletin), Hon. Excavations Adviser. The retiring members of committee (who are not available for re-election) are Mr. E. J. Mason and Rev. A. Norton.

After the meeting, the Group will be addressed by Mr. Philip Barker on "Priorities: Rescue or Research".

December, 1969.

M. G. Hebditch,
Hon. Secretary

MINING ON MENDIP

The almost simultaneous appearance of two items has prompted some thoughts on this subject: details of the newly formed M. R. B. A., and a memorandum on the Industrial Archaeology of the Mendip Lead Industry, entitled "A Plan for Research Projects" drawn up last October by Dr. R. A. Buchanan.

The Society for Mines Research in the Bristol Area (M. R. B. A.) is a new group being formed to study mining in Mendip and South Gloucestershire. Their principal concern is with lead and other metalliferous mines; and their aim is fieldwork, surveying and preservation work where necessary, together with the study of the background history of these industrial remains. A particular contribution the group is already making in this field, is its enterprising contact with the Peak District Mines Historical Society, with whom there has already been a useful interchange of visits, views and practical experience in the field. The formal inauguration of the group is planned for Spring 1970; meanwhile interested enquiries should be sent to J. Sheen Esq., 95 Brentry Lane, Brentry, Bristol BS10 6RH.

The appearance of another group concerned with mining on and around Mendip does underline the urgent need for a co-ordinated review of future policy in a subject that is so obviously of interest. To date, to this writer's limited knowledge, the Mendip Nature Research Committee and Charterhouse Field Centre are directly concerned with the area; numerous Caving Clubs, from our august U. B. S. S. downwards, have a longstanding interest in and experience of Mendip mineshafts as well as natural caves - and the one often involve the other. B. I. A. S. has its Mines section headed by Mr. John Cornwell, with whom we understand the new M. R. B. A. is in touch; and its Chairman, Dr. Buchanan, promoted the Symposium on the Lead Industry at the Bath Conference on Industrial Archaeology last October. B. A. R. G., one of the first in the field with its Survey & Policy, and Field Guides, has been associated with the Extra-Mural Department of Bristol University (and Dr. Buchanan) in the "Lead Mining on Mendip" course of 1967 which was so successful and oversubscribed that it is being repeated in April 1970; and has long been expressing hopeful intentions towards the earlier mining remains on Mendip. In addition, the declaration of Mendip as an area of outstanding natural beauty, and nature conservancy work at Ebbor and Longwood, give bodies such as the Mendip Preservation Society, Nature Conservancy and the Mendip Trust a practical interest in the matter. It forms an intimidating list, and could doubtless be extended.

Such energy and interest is encouraging - all the more so for being channelled into groups; and one hopes that these multiplying groups are themselves a recognition of how much needs doing on Mendip. The danger lies in the failure of these groups to achieve a co-ordinated policy of research into their various subjects and periods: a danger not merely of wasted or duplicated effort, but of one group knowingly or unknowingly destroying another's material in pursuit of its own. This last can cut both ways on as intensively mined an area as Mendip: Romanists are as likely to interfere with 19th century industrial archaeologists' remains, as vice versa.

Dr. Buchanan expresses a keen awareness of this situation in his "Plan for Research Projects", and comments on the present position of research, that "the history of Mendip lead has recently begun to interest scholars and students, and there is as yet little collaboration between them . . . It would be a valuable exercise, therefore, to establish effective liaison between these interested parties . . . Interest in the subject is one thing: systematic work is another, and most of the work done so far has been spasmodic and incomplete". He outlines a "Systematic Policy" for the study of Mendip, concluding with the need for a "combined effort . . . (which) . . . would make possible the 'reconstitution' of the physical history of the Mendip lead industry".

Is this not therefore an occasion for a "Confederation of Groups", to evolve a programme and policy that would enable each to achieve much more? The M. 5 Motorway research organisation has proved that it can be done. Will these Mendip mining groups, old and new, make the first move to do the same for Mendip - now, before it is too late?

F. Neale

THE MUSEUM, WESTON-SUPER-MARE

Members who have not had recent occasion to visit this, one of the most important local museums outside Bristol in the B. A. R. G. area, will find a fresh visit rewarding. Modernisation of about half the archaeological display emphasises the startling difference that such well-lit, well-arranged "window" cases can make to the items they contain - for the expert and the casual visitor alike. The present contrast between these new wall displays, and the remaining old-style wall and floor cases, shows just what can be achieved. The check-list of the Museum, the first part of which appears in this issue, reveals a wealth of local material that leaves one hoping for continued modernisation which will give it the setting it so obviously merits.

RECENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL ACCESSIONS IN THE CITY MUSEUM, BRISTOL

by L. V. Grinsell

The principal accessions during 1969 cover almost every period. In February Mr. T. R. Fry presented his collection of Lower Palaeolithic flint implements from the lower Bristol Avon. During the summer a cast was obtained of a recently discovered engraved antler fragment of Upper Palaeolithic period from Gough's Cave, Cheddar. A Neolithic stone axe from Wotton-under-Edge, a product of the axe factory at Tievebulliagh, Co. Antrim, was acquired by exchange from Keele University. A barbed-and-tanged flint arrowhead of Bronze Age, from Felton, was given by the finder, Master Mark Carpenter, aged 8. Electrotypes of an Iron Age gold coin of CORIO, the original found at Cheddar, were acquired from the British Museum. Roman finds have included material from a settlement in the grounds of Hortham Hospital, Almondsbury. A Dark Age penannular bronze brooch from CADCONG, presented by the finder Mrs. Beryl Smith, fits in well with the known history of the site. The Anglo-Saxon period is represented by a coin called a sceatta, found at Portishead and acquired from the finder. A notable Medieval accession is a well-preserved tile of John Newland, Abbot of St. Augustine's (Bristol) from 1481 to 1515. The Post-Medieval phase is represented by a fine example of the rare Bristol half-groat of Charles I.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MATERIAL IN LOCAL MUSEUMS: A CHECK-LIST

(PART VII)

edited by P. J. Fowler

WESTON-super-MARE

The Public Library & Museum,
The Boulevard.

The inclusion of this collection again exceeds our original limitations, and would have been impossible without the assistance of the professional museum staff. The sheer bulk of material has made this the most difficult of the lists to compile so far. It is divided into two parts: part (i) covering prehistoric material only, and part (ii) in the next Bulletin including RB, later and other material. Both parts are abbreviated versions of a full list to be deposited in the Museum, which also contains an archaeological index of the locality including sites not represented by finds. Abbreviations here are as listed in Bulletin 2. 9 (1967).

Part (i): Prehistoric

General: large quantity of flint, chert, stone and bone implements etc., flint flakes, cores and nodules, much of which forms part of the Rawlins and Porch colls.: ranging Pal. -IA, much unlocated, some foreign, and non-local from:

Berkshire (Maidenhead, Thames valley area), Devon (Axminster; R. Broome), Hants. (Hengistbury), Ireland (County Armagh and unloc.), Middlesex (Staines), Oxon. (Shiplake, Stonesfield), Somerset (Wellington), Surrey (Conkwell, nr. Wisley), Sussex (Eastdean; Friston, Jevington, St. Leonards on Sea; Seaford. Sevington, Westdean and unloc.), Wilts. (Windmill Hill and unloc.)

Fauna: considerable local coll. inc. Pleistocene and later material, but much undatable, from:

Banwell, Bleadon, Brean, Brean Down, Burrington?, Cheddar (Caves and unloc.), Uphill (sewer; Wilsons Cave; and area, unloc.), Wedmore; Weston-super-Mare (Milton Hill Cave; Southside; Worle - Huysh Quarry; Worlebury Hill - Peak Winnard), Wookey (Hyena Den and unloc.), and unloc. local.
non-local material from Devon (Torquay, Kent's Cavern) and Suffolk (unloc.)

WESTON-super-MARE, cont'd.

- Pal:** Cheddar, Gough's Caves: flint implements: 2 blades, point, knife; scraper; pointed bone object
Clevedon, Beach: 2 small palaeoliths (Sykes Coll.)
- , Blackstone Rocks: ? flint implements (Sykes Coll.)
- , area: 1 Middle Acheulian handaxe (Sykes Coll.)
unloc. , Clevedon area?: 2 worked flints (Sykes Coll.)
Kenn: chert axe
Uphill Cave: potboilers; hammerstones
- Meso:** Cheddar: microlith (Sykes Coll.)
Clevedon, Blackstone Rocks: microliths, flakes and blades; scraper; core (Sykes Coll. Proc. U. B. S. S., 5. 1 (1938))
Locking area: 2 flakes (Sykes Coll.)
Weston-super-Mare, Worle Cave: 2 microliths (Sykes Coll.)
- Neo:** Flints (Sykes Coll.) inc. polished axe (Clevedon area), chipped axe (Clevedon area), arrowheads, scrapers, flakes and cores from Charlcombe area, Charlcombe Bay, Clevedon area and Blackstone Rocks, Clevedon Warren, Failand Ridge, Priddy, Tickenham, Walton Bay and Common (Proc. U. B. S. S., 5. 1 (1938))
Bleadon Hill: leaf-shaped arrowhead (M. Hillier Coll.)
Walton Bay: hollow-based arrowhead
Walton Common: chert tranchet arrowhead
Weston-super-Mare, Worlebury: 6 leaf-shaped arrowheads
- , Worlebury?, pounder
- , Worlebury Hill: leaf-shaped arrowhead
- Neo/BA:** Various flints inc. blades, scrapers, flakes, and other implements as noted, from:
Axbridge, Backwell Hill, Banwell (Camp, Hill, Riverside/Ten acres, and Banwell area), Brean Down (inc. convex scraper), Burrington, Cheddar (Great Oone's Hole, Cheddar Head, Tynings Gate, and area: inc. long blades, endscrapers, boring tools), Chewton Mendip (Nedge Hill: arrowhead; Red Quar), Hutton (Benthills Wood; Tinkers Batch, Upper Canada, and area); Kewstoke (Middle Hope; Woodspring), Locking R A F. Camp, Loxton Hill and area (inc. arrowhead); Mendip; Tickenham, Uphill (and Uphill Cave; Uphill Grange: inc. thumb-scraper; and area), Walton Bay (transverse arrowhead), Weston-super-Mare (Milton Hill: Roslyn Ave.; Trewartha Park; Weston Woods; Worle Hill nr. windmill; Worle: Thyer's Market Garden), Wraxall (Moat House Farm: leaf point), Wrington, and unloc. , probably local
Bleadon Hill and area: M. Hillier Coll. flint scrapers, retouched points, barbed and tanged arrowheads, flakes, cores and waste; whetstone with hourglass perforation; worked bone

WESTON-super-MARE, cont'd.

Clevedon/Failand Ridge etc. area: Sykes Coll.: 92 scrapers, knives, cores etc. from:

Barrow Common, Charlcombe Bay, Clevedon (Beach, Blackstone Rocks, Castle, Wain's Hill, Warren), Failand, Failand Ridge area, Kenn River, Tickenham (Cadbury Camp, Hill, Lime Breach, unloc.), Walton (Backhills, Bay, Castle, Common), Walton-in-Gordano coastal area, Wraxall (Moat House Farm, and West Hill), Wrington Warren; worked antler (Clevedon area)

Weston-super-Mare, Worlebury: stone axe, scrapers, flakes (all heavily patinated); flint nodule ("Weston Camp", i. e. Worlebury?)

BA: Bleadon Hill: human remains from unassociated crouched burial
Brean Down: Beaker with overall stab decoration, from burial; potsherds cf. Proc. U. B. S. S. 9 (1962)

Loxton Hill: MBA bronze spearhead

Tickenham, Cadbury Camp: plano-convex flint knife

Walton Bay: barbed and tanged arrowheads

Weston-super-Mare:, Ashcombe Cemetery/Montpelier area: large collared urn (restored); potsherds

- , Boulevard: flint blade

- , Worle: barbed and tanged arrowhead

- , Worle Hill: LBA socketed axe

- , Worlebury: barbed and tanged flint arrowheads;

MBA bronze palstave; ? snaffle ring and 2 lumps haematite, all allegedly found with palstave

Wraxall, Moat House Farm: barbed and tanged arrowheads

IA: Banwell Camp: sherds; iron ring, nail frag?; furnace-lining?, crucible frag.?, slag, slingstones?, animal bones, rock samples

Banwell, Winthill: sherd

Brean Down: sherds, slag, bone

Brent Knoll: sherds, sheep bone, burnt stone

Cheddar Caves: 4 perforated bone needles, 2 unperforated bone needles, 7 bone needles and pins (Porch Coll.)

Cheddar, unloc ? : ? part of flat; shaped bone plaque (from comb?) decorated with two incised motifs, each of 8 concentric circles pierced at centre

Cheddar: basal sherd with Glastonbury-type decoration

Dolebury: sherds inc. "Belgic" bead rim

Glastonbury ('Lake' Village?): wood samples

Kewstoke, Middle Hope: sherd

Locking Head Farm: bone of bos longifrons, cut and pierced (shuttle?)

Locking R. A F. Camp: sherds, inc. "Belgic" black burnished ware; slingstone?

WESTON-super-MARE, cont'd.

Meare, 'Lake' Village: samples of grain, etc.; slingstone? bone
Uphill Grange: sherds

Weston-super-Mare, Ashcombe Cemetery/Montpelier area, and
Montpelier Steps: ? human remains; potsherds, some assoc.
with skeleton

- , Coronation Road: human remains, sherds; bronze
object (handle?); pierced bone; slag; ochre; frags. stone paving
and covering associated with graves; sketch of graves as found
(C19)

- , Worle Cave: sherds, animal bones

- , Worle Secondary School: sherds, bone

- , Worle: Thyer's Market Garden: sherds

- , Worlebury: human remains (2 skulls with head-
wounds); sherds; blue glass bead; bone; decorated toggle, pin,
cheek-piece of bridle-bit made from antler, small comb; spindle
whorls; burnt thatch, charred plaited fibre, frags. worked wood,
charred wood, grain; slingstones, inc. 4 of Carboniferous
limestone; lumps of haematite, pieces of ochre; model of rampart
inc. cross-section; plans, photographs and reconstructed drawing
of site.

R. Yeo: large perforated bone needle

unloc., probably local: rim sherd

unloc., probably foreign (Italian?): bronze serpent-form brooch,
La Tene I

_____ to be continued _____

REVIEWS

Impoverished bookbuyers have probably already "Discovered"
for themselves Shire Publications, who have for some time been producing
a wide variety of booklets which represent remarkably good value at 4s. 6d.
a time. Past titles have included "Discovering" Hill Figures, Coins,
Battlefields, Wall Paintings (by the inimitable E. Clive Rouse) and This
Old House, by D. Iredale which despite its "twee" title is one of the best
outlines to the subject I have yet read. Now they have discovered archaeology,
and an Associate Member comments on the result:

J. Dyer, Discovering Archaeology in England and Wales (Shire Publications, 1969), 80 pp., 31 plates and 11 figs., 4s. 6d.

As a handy guide for the archaeological beginner, this booklet seems to be good value for money. It contains a great deal of the basic facts upon which an amateur interest can be built, in only 80 pages. Covering all periods from Palaeolithic to 1066 it has a particularly good, up-to-date section on scientific field techniques. The Romans and Saxons, however, are given relatively little space - there is a distinct prehistoric bias. The photographic content is well chosen and presented. To me it seems that there is only one really weak point; the lack of a full bibliography for further reading, which all general surveys should contain. I would rate this booklet as equally good a general introduction as Collins' Field Guide.

A. D. Morton

We understand that this general introduction is to be followed by regional guides, to the archaeology of different areas, of which that for the South-west is to be written by our Chairman.

T. G. E. Powell, J. X. W. P. Corcoran, Frances Lynch and J. G. Scott, Megalithic Enquiries in the West of Britain (Liverpool University Press, 1969), Pp. xxi, 357. 8 plates, 95 figs. 7 guineas.

The traditional view that false-entrance long barrows (such as Belas Knap) developed from true-entrance long barrows (such as Stoney Littleton), possibly as the funerary architect's answer to the activities of the tomb-robber, has held the field for nearly fifty years. It is right that it should now be reconsidered, and the author of the Cotswold-Severn Group section of this book (J. X. W. P. Corcoran) has made out a case for the independent origin of each type, which deserves most careful study. This reappraisal of the megalithic tombs of our area has involved a good deal of fresh thinking and revision of terminology. To avoid the implication that the Severn-Cotswold long barrows owe their origin to influences from France and/or the Iberian peninsula, the authors recommend calling them the Cotswold-Severn Group. They use the term 'blind entrance' in place of 'false entrance', presumably to avoid the contrast with the 'true entrance' of the chambered barrow. More than a hundred pages are devoted to the Cotswold-Severn barrows, the longest section of the book.

This is not the place for detailed criticism of such a massive work. The bibliography is up to early 1967, but inevitably not quite complete even to that date. In the opinion of the reviewer, SOM 13 (Dundry) can be rejected (p. 292).

L. V. Grinsell

L. V. Grinsell, Prehistoric Bristol (Bristol Branch of the Historical Association, 1969), 21 pp. 4 figs. 4s. Obtainable from P. Harris, 74 Bell Barn Road, Stoke Bishop, Bristol BS9 2DG and the City Museum.

In this volume the author has collated the archaeological information which is available for the pre-Roman Bristol region. The difficulty of delimiting Prehistoric Bristol is overcome by taking as the area under examination the valley of the Lower Bristol Avon from Avonmouth to Keynsham, together with its associated hinterland to a maximum depth of four miles.

From the accumulated evidence a changing settlement pattern emerges. The riverside Lower Palaeolithic occupation subsequently evolves through the Mesolithic into an upland settlement and land-usage during the Neolithic and later ages. In addition, the function of the river as a means of communication and trade is shown. A scatter of stone axe finds, the probable Bluestone route and the occurrence of metalwork representative of all the Bronze Age periods, serve to emphasise the Avon's importance. This culminates in the construction during the Iron Age of a cluster of hillforts: Clifton, Burwalls and Stokeleigh: to cover the inland approaches.

Apart from lacunae in the Middle and Upper Palaeolithic, the river valley and its surrounding hills are shown to have produced artefacts and monuments indicative of trade and settlement for all periods. These activities are well illustrated in the excellent distribution maps. However, as Leslie Grinsell has himself emphasised, archaeological distribution maps are often indicative only of flint-hunter activity. This is perhaps demonstrated by the abundance of flints recorded from the Failand Ridge, an intensively flint-hunted area in contrast to the relative paucity of finds from the poorly studied region of suburban N. E. Bristol.

The text is subdivided into the various prehistoric periods under which the relevant finds are described. As the area under study is limited, the quantity of material remains from each epoch is sometimes correspondingly small; but the temptation to overburden the narrative with extraneous examples and parallels has been resisted, correlation with other sites and

objects being achieved by the use of selected footnote references. The excavation records of local field monuments are discussed, and an account of the regional Late Iron Age coinage is included.

This booklet, a companion volume to the previous issue in the same series, Keith Branigan's The Romans in the Bristol Area, should act as a stimulus to local field-workers to fill in some of the remaining gaps in our local prehistory.

J. H. Drinkwater

R. A. Buchanan and N. Cossons, The Industrial Archaeology of the Bristol Region (David & Charles, 1969), 335 pp., 20 plans, 32 plates; 50 s.

Dr. Buchanan and Mr. Cossons, formerly of Bristol City Museum, have joined forces to produce the ultimate successor to their individual pamphlets for the Historical Association (Bristol Branch) and B. A. R. G. (Field Guide 4) in 1967. While the basic material, coverage and approach is much as before, it is the vast amount of additional detail, and the copious plans and photographs (past and present) which a full-length hardback publication makes possible, that will make this book of value to field archaeologists in general as well as to industrial archaeologists in particular. Diagrams of a budding pit and St. Cuthbert's smelting furnace will be an asset for the repeat of B. A. R. G.'s Mendip Mining weekend in April 1970; a chronological list of railway developments in the area is included; the B. A. R. G.-style list of sites at the end of the book is now extended to include such things as coalmining slag-heaps, and notable milestones. These are just three examples of the wide range of information, previously elusive if not wholly inaccessible to the general public, now brought together and treated with the detail which we in this area, who have benefited so much from the expertise and enthusiasm of these two leading authorities on a great variety of courses and projects over the past few years, have always hoped they would, together, set down in permanent form.

F. Neale

NOTICES OF RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Portrait of Somerset, by Bryan Little, member of B. A. R. G. (Hale, 1969, 30s.) does for the entire county what Coysh, Mason and Waite did for the Mendips in 1954; a guide-cum-history which touches, albeit sometimes briefly on all aspects of the county - geology, landscape, architecture, industry, archaeology, farming and much besides - to make the most balanced survey and introduction to the county yet written.

Gloucestershire Community Council: Local History Bulletin no. 20 (Autumn 1969) includes short reports on the rescue of Quenington Mill wheel and machinery by L. F. J. Walrond, the excavation of Gloucester's Roman and medieval defences by H. R. Hurst, and a note on the work in Gloucestershire carried out by local societies under the aegis of the M. 5 Research Committee.

Search No. 9 (1969, 3s. 6d.), Journal of the Banwell Society of Archaeology, includes reports with detailed plans, on a study of field systems at Christon and Oldmixon, and of an old green lane at Wolverhill, by R. L. Clarke, also a member of B. A. R. G. These show the effective combination of field-survey, archaeological and documentary evidence, together with an experiment in the Hoskins/Hooper method of dating hedgebanks. 'Belgic' pottery from Charterhouse and the 1967 excavations at Winthill are also reported.

Axbridge Caving Group & Archaeological Society's Journal for 1967-8 (published 1969) includes notes on a flint-chipping site and deserted medieval settlement at Ebbor, by Anne Everton, with a report by L. V. Grinsell on two stone axes from the same site; and an article by Dr. R. F. Everton on the value and treatment of animal remains, particularly teeth, from the Row of Acres Farm, Butcombe site which will be of particular interest to B. A. R. G. members in view of two articles in this Bulletin. Both Dr. and Mrs. Everton are members of B. A. R. G., and Mrs. Everton's account of the Ebbor site at the third B. A. R. G. Symposium in 1967 will be remembered.

Recent A. C. G. A. S. Newsletters have included a note on R. B. finds; probably an extension of the 'Ten Acres' villa site, in Banwell (September) and on a possible R. B. occupation site near Rose Wood, Shute Shelve (October 1969).

Facsimile reprints of the First Edition One Inch Ordnance Survey of England & Wales are published by David & Charles, Newton Abbot, Devon at 15s. a sheet. Sheets are flat (from David and Charles only, and including notes on the successive states of the maps and their dating) or folded (much as modern 1" maps, and on general sale). Sheets 68 (Bristol, including all south Gloucestershire and part of Monmouth), 75 and 76 (west and north Somerset) cover the B. A. R. G. area. See page 137.

B. A. R. G. members have certainly left their mark on the latest issue of Current Archaeology (No. 16, September 1969), with an article on Lundy shared between Keith Garner and Peter Fowler (with Professor Charles Thomas contributing a third important section on the cemetery site there), and Mr. Fowler featuring a second time, with a testament of total archaeology at Fyfield, 1959-1968 which will give much pleasure to all those who have been talked to/excavated on/walked over individual parts of this whole area which he has made so much his own.

B. A. R. G. SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS

It is hoped that the next B. A. R. G. Special Publication, The Mendips in Prehistoric and Roman Times, now in preparation, will be published by the time of the A. G. M. in February. This new publication, quite distinct from our series of Field Guides, will meet the need in this particular area, which involves so many groups, and activities and interests, for a more localised survey in depth than the wider regional 'gazeteer' coverage provided by the Field Guides. The text, by four noted local experts, will be accompanied by illustrations.

CALENDAR OF
FORTHCOMING COURSES, MEETINGS AND LECTURES

January - March 1970

Abbreviations:

Bath & Camerton A. S. :	Bath and Camerton Archaeological Society
G. D. A. R. G. :	Gloucester and District Archaeological Research Group
U. B. S. S. :	University of Bristol Spelaeological Society
University:	University of Bristol Extra-Mural Department, 20A Berkeley Square, Bristol BS8 1HR; apply for further details of courses etc.
Wells N. H. A. S. :	Wells Natural History and Archaeological Society

January - March	ROMANO-BRITISH SITE AT GATCOMBE: Exhibition continues at City Museum, BRISTOL.
5	<u>ARCHAEOLOGY & DOCUMENTS</u> , by F. Neale. <u>B. A. R. G.</u> <u>ASSOCIATE MEMBERS Meeting</u> , City Museum, BRISTOL. 7. 30 p. m.
8	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: CLEVEDON & DISTRICT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, Community Centre, Sunhill Park, CLEVEDON, 7. 30 p. m.
8	MEDIEVAL CHURCHES, by J. Bettey. Course of 6 meetings, fortnightly, Community Centre, Sunhill Park, CLEVEDON, 7. 30 p. m. University.

January

- 9 FIELDWORK, by R. L. Clarke. Banwell Society of Archaeology, Methodist Church Room, BANWELL, 7. 30 p. m.
- 12 HISTORY & BUILDINGS OF CENTRAL SOMERSET, by Dr. R. D. Reid. Course of 10 meetings at Whitstone School, SHEPTON MALLET, 7. 00 p. m. University.
- 12 ROMAN BRITAIN, by D. Elkington. Course of 10 meetings at Arts Centre, BRIDGWATER, 7. 30 p. m. University.
- 13 SCENERY OF MENDIP, by A. E. Frey. Course of 10 meetings at Town Hall, AXBRIDGE, 7. 30 p. m. University.
- 13 DAWN OF MINOAN CIVILISATION, by Dr. K. Branigan. Bath & Camerton A. S., Assembly Hall, BATH Technical College (Old Building), 7. 15 p. m. Visitors 2s. 6d.
- 14 GATCOMBE & BRISTOL REGION IN 4th C. A. D., by Dr. K. Branigan. B. A. R. G. LECTURE, City Museum, BRISTOL, 7. 30 p. m.
- 14 ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE MENDIP REGION, by E. K. Tratman, J. E. Hancock, P. J. Fowler. Course of 10 meetings, at The School, BLAGDON, 7. 30 p. m. University.
- 14 HISTORY OF WELLS, by Dr. R. D. Reid. Course of 8 meetings at The Museum, WELLS, 7. 30 p. m. University.
- 15 ANNUAL NUMISMATIC QUIZ: Bath & Bristol Numismatic Society. Room 31, Beau St. Building, Technical College, BATH, 7. 15 p. m.
- 15 LOCAL HISTORY OF NORTH SOMERSET, by Rev. J. S. Barker. Course of 10 meetings at Methodist Schoolroom, BISHOP SUTTON, 7. 30 p. m. University.
- 19 79 A. D., by J. Punshon. G. D. A. R. G. Queen Street Hall, GLOUCESTER, 7. 30 p. m. Non-members 2s. 6d.
- 20 DISCOVERING ARCHAEOLOGY IN SOUTH-WESTERN BRITAIN, by L. V. Grinsell. Course of 10 meetings, in City Museum, BRISTOL, 7. 00 p. m. University.
- 21 THE PAST IN THE FUTURE: CONSERVATION & FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY, by P. J. Fowler. Museum Lecture Theatre, BRISTOL, 7. 30 p. m. Admission free.
- 22 BATH ROADS TURNPIKE TRUST, by D. Browning. Keynsham & Saltford Local History Society, Church Hall, SALTFORD, 7. 30 p. m.

January

- 26 ROMANO-BRITISH SECTION of the New ARCHAEOLOGY GALLERY at The City Museum, BRISTOL: Opening by N. Cook, Director of Guildhall Museum, London. 6 p. m.
- 29 ROMAN COIN HOARDS FOUND IN THE BRISTOL AREA, by M. G. Hebditch. Bath & Bristol Numismatic Society, City Museum, BRISTOL, 7.15 p. m.
- 30 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: WELLS NATURAL HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at The Museum, WELLS, 5.30 p. m.
- 30 KING ARTHUR & CAMELOT. A. Gibson, P. J. Fowler.
Feb. 1 Weekend: course at Urchfont Manor, nr. DEVIZES. Places limited. Applications to the Warden.

February

- 2 DARK AGE PROBLEMS OF THE SEVERN BASIN, by P. J. Fowler. U. B. S. S. Geography Lecture Theatre, University of BRISTOL, 7.30 p. m.
- 2 AIR PHOTOGRAPHY, by J. E. Hancock. B. A. R. G. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS Meeting, City Museum, BRISTOL. 7.30 p. m.
- 3 IRON AGE & ROMAN GLASS BEADS, by Mrs. M. Guido. Bath & Camerton A. S. Assembly Hall, BATH Technical College (Old Building). 7.15 p. m. Visitors 2s. 6d.
- 14 THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF AXBRIDGE & ITS BUILDINGS, by F. Jarman. Wells N. H. A. S., The Museum, WELLS, 5.30 p. m. Non-members 1s. 6d.
- 16 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FILM EVENING. G. D. A. R. G. Queen Street Hall, GLOUCESTER, 7.30 p. m. Non-members 2s. 6d.
- 19 STUDY GROUPS' REPORTS: Keynsham & Saltford Local History Society, Ellsbridge House, KEYNSHAM, 7.30 p. m.
- 21 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF B. A. R. G., with Address by Philip Barker: Priorities in Rescue and Research. Museum Lecture Theatre, BRISTOL, 2.30 p. m.
- 21-22 ADVANCED POLLEN ANALYSIS, by Dr. K. Crabtree. Geography Dept., University of BRISTOL. Places limited, apply by 9.2.70. University.
- 26 CONSTRUCTION OF A MOTORWAY, by an M. 5 Engineer. Clevedon & District Archaeological Society, Community Centre, Sunhill Park, CLEVEDON, 7.30 p. m.

February

26

CASTING AND RECKONING COUNTERS, by J. M. Pullan. Bath & Bristol Numismatic Society, City Museum, BRISTOL. 7. 15 p. m.

27

- Mar. 1

ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE LANDSCAPE (II). P. J. Fowler and panel. Weekend course, sequel to (not repeat of) that held in 1969, at Urchfont Manor, nr. DEVIZES. Places limited. Applications to the Warden.

date to be finalised

BONES AND ARCHAEOLOGY (II). Miss B. Noddle and panel. Weekend course, sequel to that held in 1969, at the University of BRISTOL. University.

March

2

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SPEALAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, with address by Dr. E. K. Tratman. Geography Lecture Theatre, University of BRISTOL. 7. 30 p. m.

3

18th CENTURY PLEASURE GARDENS OF BATH, by P. J. Greening. Bath & Camerton A. S. Assembly Hall, BATH Technical College (Old Building), 7. 15 p. m. Visitors 2s. 6d.

6

END OF THE WESTERN PART OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE, by Dr. K. Branigan and P. J. Fowler. Classical Association (BRISTOL Branch); details from Hon. Secretary, 3 South Terrace, Bristol BS6 6TG

11

OFFA'S DYKE, by F. Noble. B. A. R. G. LECTURE, City Museum, BRISTOL, 7. 30 p. m.

14

CEMETERIES & SPECIAL GRAVES IN EARLY CHRISTIAN BRITAIN, by Prof. C. Thomas. Dorset County Museum, DORCHESTER, 2. 30 p. m.

16

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: GLOUCESTER & DISTRICT ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH GROUP, Queen Street Hall, GLOUCESTER, 7. 30 p. m.

18

RECENT PALESTINIAN ARCHAEOLOGY, by Dr. K. M. Kenyon. Museum Lecture Theatre, BRISTOL, 7. 30 p. m. Admission free; by ticket from City Museum.

19

ANJUAL GENERAL MEETING: KEYNSHAM & SALT FORD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY, at Ellsbridge House, KEYNSHAM, 7. 30 p. m.

21

TRAFFIC ACROSS THE BRISTOL CHANNEL IN ANTIQUITY: Symposium of C. B. A. Groups II and XIII, in conjunction with University of Bristol Extra-Mural Department. City Museum, BRISTOL, 2. 00 p. m. Places limited, apply by 13. 3. 70. University.