



BRISTOL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH GROUP

c/o City Museum, Queens Road, Bristol, G.

Vol.5 No. 2

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 30 | Officers and Committee : Membership |
| 31 | Editorial |
| 32 | <u>Forests and Forestry</u> by J. E. Massey |
| 34 | Associate Members |
| 35 | <u>Hedged about with Doubt</u> by P. J. Fowler |
| 40 | Action Group for Bristol Archaeology by D. P. Dawson,
R. Price, R. G. Jackson. |
| 41 | A Roman site near Whitchurch, by A. Barker |
| 42 | The Associates' Medieval Exploration, by S. Cogbill |
| 43 | <u>Parish Survey Unit</u>
Additional abbreviations and sources
Oldland Parish by C. Brain and A. Miles
Checklist for Oldland |
| 47 | Post-Medieval Pottery Weekend, by Philomena Smyth
and R. G. Jackson |
| 48 | Excavations at Victoria Street, by M. W. Ponsford |
| 49 | Current and Outstanding Problems in Local Numismatics,
by L. V. Grinsell |
| 30, 31, 39 | Notes and News |
| 51 | Reviews and Notices |
| 53 | Calendar |

Journal is issued in Spring, Autumn and December

OFFICERS 1974-75

Chairman: M. W. Ponsford, City Museum, Bristol BS8 1RL.
Tel: Bristol 299771

Hon. Secretary: R. G. Jackson, 52 Cote Park, Bristol BS9 2AD.
Tel: Bristol 682165

Hon. Membership Secretary: Philomena Smyth, 65 Cotham Hill, Bristol BS6 6JR

Hon. Secretary for Associate Members: S. Cogbill, 4 Ellbridge Close,
Bristol BS9 1BU.

Hon. Treasurer: A. C. Selway, Flat 1, 25 Combe Park, Bath BA1 3NR

Hon. Editor (Bulletin): Joyce Popplewell, Waterley Bottom Cottage,
North Nibley, Dursley, Glos. GL11 6EF. Tel: Dursley (0453)2514

Hon. Editor (Special Publications): N. Thomas, City Museum, Bristol BS8 1RL
Tel: Bristol 299771

Hon. Fieldwork Adviser: M. W. Ponsford, City Museum, Bristol BS8 1RL.
Tel: Bristol 299771

Hon. Auditor: R. R. J. A. Nesbitt, 66 Kenilworth Road, Solihull, Warwickshire.

RESCUE Liaison Officer: T. W. J. Solley, 7 Downfield Close, Alveston,
Bristol BS12 2NJ

COMMITTEE

The Committee remains as listed in Bulletin 5, 1 with one exception:

Ex Officio: D. P. Dawson, City Museum, Bristol BS8 1RL.
Tel: Bristol 299771

MEMBERSHIP

Subscription rates have remained unchanged in spite of massive increases in costs of publication, paper and postage during recent years. The Committee has reluctantly decided that an increase in subscriptions is now essential. The new rates, which take effect from 1st January 1975 (except for those members paying by Bankers Order on 1st March: form enclosed with this *next* issue) are as follows:

- £2.00 for members over 18 years
- £0.40 for Associate Members (under 18 years)
- £1.40 for Senior Citizens, and special cases on application to the Membership Secretary.

TAUNTON LOCAL HISTORY LIBRARY

A set of reproductions of the 6" maps and cards maintained by the O. S. Archaeology Division for the new county of Somerset has been acquired by the County Library, and is available for consultation (Tuesday to Saturday, 9.30 - 12.30, 2-5.30) in the Local History Library, The Castle, Castle Green, Taunton. TA1 4AD (Taunton 88871).

EDITORIAL

Times have changed since archaeologists worked in splendid isolation, seeking little advice outside their own fraternity. Nowadays there are many specialists to be consulted at every stage of an archaeological undertaking; and their expertise adds materially to the total information obtained. 'Hedgerows weekend' provided a classic example of this co-operation in action, and Peter Fowler analyses the results in a challenging article in this Bulletin. How do professional workers in other fields regard archaeologists when their paths cross? Mr. Massey, writing for us in his capacity as Conservation and Recreation Officer for this area, provides us with an insight into the point of view held by the Forestry Commission on many common problems. It is salutary to read of the scope and objectives of the Commission: the amenities and incentives they provide: all in addition to their obvious tasks, and accomplished by a really small work force.

Other groups at work locally have much to report of their own co-operative successes. We are pleased to include A. G. B. A. 's first account of its recent activities in Bristol; a fine record of their first six months' work. C. R. A. A. G. S. is settling into its stride as an energetic organisation with a full programme to pursue. Its latest project is a major survey of former Gloucestershire's small medieval towns, designed to assess the threat to their archaeological sites and to prepare adequate records in case of need.

We have to bid a partial goodbye to Dr. Joan Taylor who leaves the City Museum to take up a two-year Lectureship in Neolithic and Bronze Age Archaeology at Nottingham University. Her many friends here are glad to know that she plans to spend much of her spare time in Bristol still.

The Carnegie United Kingdom Trust has approved in principle B. A. R. G.'s application for a fieldwork grant. With this money equipment will be bought for use initially during the special B. A. R. G. weekend course on surveying to be held at Knole Park, Almondsbury on 16th and 17th November 1974. This is the first field meeting to be arranged for some time and it affords an exceptional opportunity to learn an essential archaeological skill in the most practical way: on the ground. Applications and enquiries to our Fieldwork Adviser Mike Ponsford at the City Museum should be made as soon as possible, and no later than 31st October 1974.

FORESTS AND FORESTRY

by J. E. Massey

"Wood is a friend of mine. The best friend on earth of man is the tree" So said Frank Lloyd Wright, the eminent American architect. How long is it from architecture to archaeology? The time scale is often an unknown and unrecognised factor in much of today's decision making, but at least in writing about forestry for archaeologists I am in sympathetic company in this respect.

The ages of trees are not dissimilar to the ages of man - both start in a nursery, grow through a leggy adolescent and often unattractive stage to their main period of productivity, which is intentionally girth producing in the case of forests; both then slow down as they advance towards retirement or maturity. The well recognised three score years and ten attributable to man equates with 100-300 years for trees, varying with species and environment; and the point in the tree's life cycle at which the forester harvests his tree crop will depend on the conscious choice of objectives which govern his management.

There is in this country at the moment some 8% of the land area under active woodland management - a very low proportion compared with other European countries (France 23%, Germany 32%), and of this some 2,180,000 acres is in the care of the Forestry Commission, together with a further 420,000 acres of 'other' land, comprising nurseries, agricultural, recreational, hill top, etc. This sounds an impressive area - indeed it is only slightly smaller than Avon, Somerset, Gloucester and Wiltshire combined - particularly when added to the privately owned 2.3 million acres also producing the timber we use; however this area produces less than 10% of the country's annual consumption of timber products; and the annual cost of importing the balance (on average we each use four-fifths of a ton every year) is around £1100,000,000.

In prehistoric times, as research in many fields has shown, this country was well wooded. Species have varied with the changing climatic conditions since the last glaciation, but since about 3000 BC and until recent times, probably oak has been the dominant species with ash, elm, birch and alder well distributed; there was pine on the sandy and gravelly ground and beech on the chalky hills of the south east. Consequently Britain could meet most of her timber needs up to the time of the Industrial Revolution from her own resources - these were mainly fuel, charcoal, building and boat building. From 1750 onwards, with increasing population and rising demand for timber, supplies were maintained by importing cheap lumber in exchange for exports of coal and manufactured goods to such areas as Scandinavia, North America and the Baltic. The 1914-18 submarine blockade rudely shattered this balance and only by dint of strict rationing

and drastic overcutting from our own very limited home supplies was the emergency surmounted; but the lesson had been learned and in 1917 a Forestry sub committee of the Ministry of Reconstruction framed this country's first national forest policy. In 1919 the Forestry Commission was set up with adequate powers but not a tree nor an acre of land to its name.

This background explains why in Britain Forest Policy has involved the creation of new forests rather than the perpetuation of natural ones, which is the forester's main task in other parts of the world. After just over 50 years, the Commission is reverting to the perpetuation role, as the early plantings mature to sufficient size to harvest. As more understanding is gained of the role of forests in the general order of things, a position is being reached where timber production, sport, conservation of wild life and recreation all form part of the foresters' functions.

Implementation of the Commission's avowed policy in respect of recreation has meant proving theories of multiple land use, and this has been done with considerable success. There are now established in Commission forests throughout the country 16 camp/caravan sites, 254 picnic places, and 331 forest trails or walks as well as information centres and other places of interest and attraction for the public to visit. At the same time, in 1972 for instance, the forests produced over 1.5 million cubic metres of timber and planted nearly 25,000 hectares (1 hectare is equivalent to 2.47 acres) with young trees; staff have continued to manage, protect and maintain the 882 thousand hectares of forest land; managed 300 hectares of nurseries to produce 60 million young trees; built 170 miles of forest roads and maintained the balance of over 9000 miles, and so on. This not inconsiderable achievement which is by no means exhaustive, was done by a total staff of 8,500.

There are two particular aspects of the Forestry Commission's relationship to archaeology which will be of interest, omitting the statutory requirements for maintenance of listed buildings and our quite normal relationship with the Inspectors of Ancient Monuments; these are the procedures after discovery of antiquities, and the presence on land managed by the Commission of buildings or sites of archaeological interest.

In the former case, during the normal course of forest activities such as bulldozing new road alignments or ploughing hill land for new planting, odd items of archaeological interest or treasure trove may be unearthed. When this happens there is a departmental ruling that the object is either sent to the appropriate museum with full details of the findspot, or it is safeguarded to await professional inspection and ruling for future action. A small reward for the finder can be paid from official funds. There have been no recent or spectacular finds in this Conservancy; the best

example is a flint arrowhead found in Dorset in 1965 and now reposing in Dorchester museum.

In the latter case however, various places of interest exist, mostly in the sphere of Industrial Archaeology. The Smitham Chimney is well known and well documented; but in the Forest of Dean, less well known is the site of the foundry belonging to David Mushet, perfecter of the Bessemer steel blast furnace, later taken on by his son Robert who invented but did not profit from the process which is the basis of the manufacturers of modern high tensile steel. Also in Dean is an uncovered length of Roman road as well as an early British camp.

In Dean the Commission is planning to build a new Visitor Centre to display and interpret themes relevant to Man's influence on the Forest as a whole. Certainly one of these will be the industrial archaeology of this long-lived industrial area; and from the exhibition visitors, whose numbers amount to some 15 million annually to all Forestry Commission land throughout Britain, may be encouraged to go out into the Forest to see for themselves and to learn more of Man's and Nature's contributions to development there.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Hon. Secretary: Stephen Cogbill

The lecture programme for this winter should be of interest to all members; full B. A. R. G. members are also invited. It is hoped that you will take this opportunity to show that you have a real interest in archaeology. We are always looking for keen newcomers, too, so bring a friend with you and persuade him/her to join. Do make the effort to do this as the lectures are arranged for your benefit.

Wed. 6th November ROMAN SETTLEMENT OF THE BRISTOL/BATH REGION by M. W. Ponsford. This lecture will discuss the nature of the Roman occupation of our area and look at some of the more notable sites.

Wed. 4th December NEOLITHIC AND BRONZE AGE FIELD MONUMENTS IN THE SOUTH-WEST, by L. V. Grinsell. Mr. Grinsell, an authority on sites of this period, will explain the construction and form of these types of monuments with special reference to examples in SW England.

Helpers to watch building developments for archaeological discoveries are wanted in many areas. An area near your home, however small, would spread the work-load more evenly among existing helpers. Anyone interested in the 'Development Observation Group' should contact Mary Campbell, c/o City Museum, Bristol BS3 1RL.

HEDGED ABOUT WITH DOUBT

by P. J. Fowler

".... a hedge will contain one shrub species for every hundred years of life. This theory sounds too simple to be true...." Certainly the second sentence of Hoskins' (1967, 118) statement summarised my reactions when I first came across the 'Hooper hedgerow theory'. Of course, many people had previously recognised that hedges were of different dates, from all sorts of different evidence, notably (in my case anyway) that of field shape and field system pattern. Documents and maps above all not only provide dates for the existence or otherwise of particular hedges at particular points in time but specifically refer to the creation of fields and/or the making of hedges. It was Dr. Max Hooper's proposal that there was a system behind the superficial differences in hedges that was - and is - so attractive, particularly when the number game involved is so simple that even innumerate archaeologists can play it. In all seriousness, it seemed to offer the opportunity to provide a key to landscape history of tremendous potential in its elegant simplicity - if it were true. There are after all still some 600,000 miles of hedges in Britain, even though that mileage is reducing at the rate of c. 4,500 miles year by year.

Although in the Bristol area field boundaries range from stone walls on top of Mendip and the Cotswolds to water-filled dykes on the Somerset Levels and the alluvium of the Severn shore, in between a hedged landscape is normal and indeed to most people, is the countryside'. It needs but a superficial glance to see that many of these hedges are different in their shape, size and flora, yet few people will have stopped to ask why these differences exist and how the evidence of the differences themselves can help to answer this question. Since, however, virtually nothing is known about the history of local hedges, although their botany is familiar enough to naturalists, the information simply did not exist locally to test the hedgerow dating theory.

A pilot survey of 61 hedges ranging on documentary evidence from the 10th - 19th centuries was mounted with the Bristol Naturalists during the 1973 'Butcombe fortnight', covering specifically all the hedges bounding and within Row of Ashes Farm-lands. The number of species present ranged from 2.5 (one example) to 7 (two examples) with c. 80% of the hedges sampled containing between 4 and 6 woody species. Theoretically this should mean that the great majority of the hedges on this particular farm started to grow in the 15th, 16th and 17th centuries (c. 1400-1800); not a very remarkable conclusion yet, in this particular case, one that is broadly acceptable.

This survey was consciously an attempt to collect raw data from a landscape as distinct from a particular field system. An early example of the latter was R. Clarke's examination of some strip lynchets at Oldmixon, Weston-super-Mare (Archeol. Rev. 4, 1969, 56 and fig. 8). In 1973, in parallel with the Row of Ashes Farm survey, Heather Barnie and others were counting hedges and excavating their hedgebanks for the M5 Research Committee, as part of a deliberate policy of trying to use the advent of motorway construction between Bridgewater and Taunton to recover a 'total landscape record'.

In May 1973 some 50 people gathered for an Extra-Mural weekend course under the title 'Archaeology, History and Hedgerows'. Guided by Frances Neale we first went round a series of documentarily 'dated' hedges along the length and across the breadth of the Vale of Wrington. The only way to test the theory, short of starting a 1000-year control experiment now, is to count the species on such hedges. Broadly speaking there appeared to be little correlation between the variations in species count and the variations in 'dates'. e. g. the four sides of a field apparently enclosed in 1784 provided counts of 4, 4, 5 and 7; a distinct group of small fields close by produced counts of 5, 5, 6, 6, 8, 8, 8, 9 and 11.

The major data-collection took place on the Sunday morning when it could fairly be claimed that more hedges were counted by more people in a shorter time than ever before in the history of the Vale of Wrington. The results are still being digested since, with this part of the exercise, the information passed well beyond what the mind of any one person could encompass. By superb organisation Mrs. Neale dispersed yet kept control of several small groups of people simultaneously and systematically working a swathe of countryside from the edge of Broadfield Down (early 19th century fields enclosed from 'waste', and producing counts of 2, 4, 5, 6 and 8 species), around the previously recorded Row of Ashes Farm boundaries, and down into the valley to the Sutton Lane of the 10th century Wrington charter. (counts of 5, 6 and 7). Though not every hedge is yet recorded, most now are in a block of landscape c. 2000 m. NNW-SSE by c. 600 m. WSW-ENE lying roughly across the contours of the south-facing slope of the Vale of Wrington's northern side.

Are we any the wiser? About the landscape, not yet; about the Hooper thesis, yes. Even before our field exercise, a few moments' thought could predict potential limitations on the applicability of the 'one species per century' idea. Foreexample, even if the theory works perfectly, the date obtained would be of the existing hedge only and not

that of any pre-existing hedge or other form of boundary. Then there are practical difficulties ranging, as Dr. Hopper recognises, from the problem created by planted hedges of more than one species through those created by differential hedge-management to those of the sampling procedures used. Theoretical considerations too raise doubts: why should roughly one species be added to each hedge per century? Does this figure, even if correct, indicate a steady succession or mask an irregular process e.g. slow, quick, slow? But if the generality is correct to what extent (if any) is it affected by climate, geology, soil, drainage, aspect and relationship to other landscape features e.g. farms, woods etc. Is it justifiable to restrict the count to woody species? Are we certain that the herbaceous species in a hedge are insignificant? Could some form of boundary structure affect the development of a hedge in both short or long term? So many factors can affect hedge-growth that to a non-mathematician it is perfectly credible that they are all self-cancelling and that a hedge does indeed add one species to its make-up every hundred years or so whatever its local conditions.

A preliminary look at our overall Butcombe results, however, suggests that this is not so in this particular case on Carboniferous Limestone in Somerset (now Avon). It is in fact impossible at the moment, with one exception, to see any pattern at all in our data, though this could well be because we have not yet ordered it appropriately. Certainly it does not seem to relate significantly to the documented history of the area in general nor does it seem to correlate other than inconsistently with documentarily 'dated' individual hedges. A typical example specifically checked was 'Garston', three fields (now one) of a deed of 1314: two sides contained 4 species and the other two 5 and 7. In contrast, on the other side of the lane bordering 'Garston', two sides of another field probably mentioned in the same deed gave encouraging counts of 7 and 6, while a hedge of an adjacent field called 'New Close' on the Tithe Map of 1840 satisfactorily contained only 3 species. The fact that I have picked these last fields out as an example of a modest 'success' rather underlines its rarity; but the question that intrigues me is why, if it works in one case, does it not do so in an adjacent case?

The one consistent factor so far identified in our results is that hedges along roads and lanes give high counts, regardless of the 'documentary age' of the road or of the fields fronting it. For example, one mile of 18th century (?) road past Row of Ashes Farm down as far as Yewtree Batch on the way to the village of Butcombe gave counts of 7, 6, 5, 6, 6, 7, 7, 8, 7; while c. half a mile of an overgrown and seldom-used grass track (medieval?) from Row of Ashes Farm to Bicknell Farm gave 6, 7, 7, 5 with 8 just past the farm. For reference, c. 75% of the hedges counted in the whole survey contained 6 or fewer species.

That there might be some significance in such counts is further suggested by the fact that a documented late Saxon estate boundary producing undistinguished counts in the 4/5/6 range as it dropped down toward the valley bottom gave a steady count of 7 on each side of Sutton Lane as soon as the lane started to follow it. Yet the present tarmacadamed road from A38 past Worships Farm, a road the divide on the edge of Broadfield Down between old enclosed fields and early 19th century enclosure of 'waste', gave counts of 6, 7, 7, 5, 6 on the side of the 'new' fields and 5, 5, 7, 5, 5, 4, 4 on the side of the 'old' fields!

We have now counted the shrub species in nearly 150 hedges in the Vale of Wrington, mostly in Butcombe and Wrington parishes. This represents a very small sample of the number of hedges in the Vale and the data has yet to be examined. Subjectively, however it seems to me that the number of shrub species in a hedge is a function of the age of the hedge i. e. old hedges contain more species than young hedges. It seems in the Butcombe area that recent hedges generally have up to 3 species (typically from hawthorn, prunus, blackthorn, elder); that most of the hedges have 4-6 species (plus maple, ash, sycamore, dog rose, hazel, spindle); and that up to 20% have 7 species (plus elm, holly, oak, crab apple), with very few indeed having more. The highest recorded so far is 11 at The Wrangle above Compton Martin, coincidentally or otherwise beside the Roman road to Charterhouse. In contrast, hedges not only in the area of but actually along the tops of banks defining 'Celtic' fields and parts of the Roman settlement near Scars Farm, Wrington, produced counts in the 5/6 range. Any significance of these figures would seem to be that they roughly indicate a relative and not necessarily an absolute time scale in the Butcombe area.

My own impression is that it is not the averaged total of species present which is the age-indicator so much as two other observable floristic traits in a hedge viz. the combination of certain species, particularly in counts above certain figures, and the ratio between the total numbers present of certain species. Here I am speculating in advance of hard facts and figures but as an example I would guess that any hedge with holly and oak in it, almost regardless of the total number of species but particularly in a count of 6+, is likely to be old, and that a hedge in which elm, ash, maple and hazel constitute 80% and hawthorn 20% of the total number of shrubs present is likely to be older than one in which blackthorn, maple, hazel and elder form 60% of the total with hawthorn making up the remaining 40%. Another idea which we have tried on the Butcombe data without convincing results is that some species represent a 'background noise'; that they are common to all hedges in the

area regardless of date and should therefore be identified and removed from any calculations e.g. if hawthorn and elder were so designated, their presence in a hedge count of 6 would reduce it to 4, thereby, on the Hooper model, 'dating' the hedge to the 17th century rather than to the 15th.

It is clear that we need many more hedge counts in the Bristol area preferably in a series of landscape blocks where the documentary evidence has been studied or is known to be good and accessible. There is little point in counting hedges unsystematically, but there is a great deal of point in giving yourself an extra interest in the countryside by collecting much-needed information about a landscape feature so common as to be, in some sense, barely studied at all. Anne Hollowell at Bristol City Museum, and I would be happy to help any volunteers start. The following are useful and available publications:

Council for the Preservation of Rural England (4 Hobart Place, London SW1 WOHY) Hedges - Historical Surveys (1973, 8p)

Hoskins, W. G. Fieldwork in Local History (Faber, 1967)

Standing Conference for Local History (Research Publications Services Ltd., Victoria Hall, Fingall Street, East Greenwich, London. Hedges and Local History, (1971, 55p post free)

Veget, H. and Large, J. Trees and Bushes in Wood and Hedgerow (Methuen, 1960).

Acknowledgements

Though I alone am responsible for this account I am much indebted to the publications quoted and, in particular, to the stimulating ideas and expert support of Mrs. Frances Neale, Mrs. Anne Hollowell and Philip Masters (Dept. of Botany, U.C., Cardiff).

REGIONAL UNITS

A further stage in the reorganisation of rescue archaeology was announced on 23rd May with a ministerial decision to set up 13 'Area Archaeological Advisory Committees'. We are delighted to hear that Peter Fowler has been invited to become Chairman of the proposed Committee covering Avon, Gloucestershire and Somerset.

ACTION GROUP FOR BRISTOL ARCHAEOLOGY
PROCEEDINGS

Town Wall

During the Easter period this year A. G. B. A. carried out a preliminary investigation of the supposed medieval town wall, at the rear of 65 Baldwin St. Although a standing wall was shown not to be the town wall itself, evidence indicated that the medieval defence must have been very close. An excavation was therefore undertaken which revealed the foundations of a 13th century building butted immediately onto the south face of the town wall.

A foundation trench was associated with the town wall, which ran from east to west below the standing wall first investigated, but no dating evidence for its construction was obtained. However, as the wall of the added building overlay this trench, it must have been dug earlier. A 12th century date is suggested; no direct associations with pottery of this date were recovered from the trench, though such was found elsewhere on the site. The results were comparable with those of Rahtz (T. B. G. A. S. 1960) who considered a stretch of wall further to the west of the present site to be not later than 14th century, but was unable to be specific.

Tailors Court

Survey work on the late medieval timber-framed building adjacent to Merchant Tailor's Hall has continued by courtesy of Mr. B. B. Strong and the barristers of Tailors' Court Chambers. The work has provided us with a unique opportunity to examine one of the few surviving buildings of this date in Bristol. A substantial part of the original structure remains despite rebuilding of the Broad Street front in the 19th century. It is intended to extend the survey into the adjoining buildings where a preliminary survey has been carried out.

A study of the documentary evidence in the City Archives Office relating to Tailors' Court has commenced and will continue into the winter. The records of the Merchant Tailors' Company, in particular their lease books, have provided valuable information concerning dates of alterations to their buildings, their size and their tenants from the 16th century onwards. Rebuilding of the existing Tailors' Hall has been dated to 1741.

St. John's Churchyard, Bedminster

A comprehensive survey and record of the tomb slabs, monuments, and exposed foundations of the church is nearing completion. It was undertaken in conjunction with local members of the Society of British Genealogists on behalf of the Bristol Diocesan Advisory Committee and the

Church Commissioners. The churchyard is almost certainly the site of the Saxon minster of Bedminster, though the earliest portions of the exposed foundations probably date only to the late Medieval period. The church was the centre of a very large, and in the Middle Ages a very rich, parish, which included Redcliffe. (St. Mary Redcliffe remained a chapel-at-ease of St. John's until the 1830's). Although the church, which has been demolished, was rebuilt and enlarged in the 1850's, it seemed to us to be a matter of great importance that the site should be thoroughly recorded before it is secularised and redevelopment considered. Removal of the tomb-slabs, for instance, is inevitable.

The value of such an exercise has been recently stressed (C. B. A. Archaeology of Churches). Certainly our work to date has provided a large body of demographic information as well as evidence relating to the history of the church. Should full scale excavation become essential in the future, we shall be well prepared.

Other activities

Several of our members have been assisting in the City Museum's excavations in Victoria Street. Finds processing continues on Thursday evenings at the City Museum.

Forthcoming projects

1. Survey of the late Medieval houses in St. Augustine's Parade.
2. Site visit to Southampton, to provide light relief after a strenuous season.

David Dawson - Chairman
Roger Price - Secretary
Reg Jackson - Treasurer

A ROMAN SITE NEAR WHITCHURCH

In early Spring 1974 work started on a water pipeline connection between Stockwood and Queen Charlton Lane, Whitchurch. After removal of topsoil the scraped surface and topsoil heaps were examined. A piece of Samian ware was found in the latter. About 300 m. N of Queen Charlton Lane a 50 m. long spread of pottery and building materials was found, running N-S; its centre point at OS 62166725. The site was on the brow of a plateau which fell away SE towards a stream.

Finds indicated that this was a Roman site. Trial holes at 5 m. intervals were dug across it in the direction of the pipeline, and when this subsequently cut across the site sections were drawn. These together with the finds are now in the City Museum, Bristol.

Sectioning revealed that there was a possible floor of light brown clay containing fine limestone chips beneath the obvious occupation layer. At the N end was a rock-filled pit (?) containing one piece of coarse pottery, and at the S end was a possible post-hole. The site produced many fragments of wood, stone, wattle and daub and some limestone blocks all showing signs of having been burnt, together with much coarse pottery, some bone, nails, Pennant sandstone, small pieces of metal and metal/glass slag. One coin lay just above the brown clay layer.

A broad date of 2nd-3rd century A. D. is suggested by the coin and pottery evidence; some very coarse pottery may be earlier, possibly late I. A. More accurate dating, and laboratory investigation of the slag remain to be done.

Arthur Barker

THE ASSOCIATES' MEDIEVAL EXPLORATION

On Saturday 27th April a handful of enthusiasts led by Mr. D. P. Dawson braved the cold and showery weather for a stroll around medieval Bristol. Leaving St. Nicholas Church Museum with its interesting displays of medieval finds, church silver and drawings of local churches we walked in the direction of Bristol Castle. The Saxo-Norman harbour was possibly situated above Bristol bridge, on the north bank of the Avon. Today the site looks almost desolate. The shell of St. Peter's church, undergoing restoration, overlooks the newly landscaped area of grass and pathways which covers the former complex of streets. The section of cobbled road at Newgate (opposite Fairfax House) which once ran to the Castle Keep, stands isolated above the present ground surface. The rock-cut tunnel leading to the Castle Ditch has corrugated iron doors. The medieval chapel stands encased in modern brick. It is hard to believe that this deserted area, this short cut for Saturday shoppers, could once have been a hive of activity.

Further on the church of Ss. Philip and Jacob stands alone next to the roaring traffic and concrete subways of Temple Way. To the east, Old Market still displays some interesting house frontages and roofs. If one subtracts the traffic and the modern shop-fronts, the market, running the length of this wide street can be imagined. Still further to the east, the old street pattern can be traced, all that has survived the repeated demand for housing, and latterly, the erection of blocks of flats. Nearly all of Bristol's landmarks are being replaced, resulting in a new skyline. Temple Church with its leaning tower is becoming engulfed by office blocks, as is so much of Bristol's past; this fact was all too evident as we made our way back to Bristol bridge at the end of our 'medieval' stroll.

S. Cogbill

PARISH CHECKLIST

ABBREVIATIONS AND SOURCES

In addition to those listed in previous Bulletins:

Sources

- AJ Archaeological Journal
BARG:FG(3) B.A.R.G. Field Guide No.3, 1969
BARG:FG(4) B.A.R.G. Field Guide No.4, 1967
B&C Buchanan, A., & Cossons, N., Industrial Archaeology of the
Bristol Region, 1969
CHM Colvin, H.M., History of the Kings Works, 1963
EG Eayrs, C., Wesley, Kingswood and its Free Churches, 1911
EHT Ellacombe, H.T., History of Bitton Parish, 1881
KLH(ph) Kingswood Local History Society photograph collection, in
possession of Mr.E. Lovell of Hanham, with number of
photograph where available
MC Maggs, C., The Bristol and Gloucestershire Railway, 1969
OS(G) Ordnance Survey Geological 6" Map
VD Vinter, D., Some Coalpits in the Neighbourhood of Bristol
and Kingswood, 1964

Oldland Parish Checklist

-) Oldland

OLDLAND : INTRODUCTION

The manor of Oldland was held at the time of the Norman Conquest by Osbern, Bishop of Exeter. Subsequently it became attached to the Bitton estates, and was part of Bitton parish until the 19th century. The settlements include Oldland, Longwell Green, Willsbridge, Parkwall, Warmley Tower and Cockroad.

Abraham Braine wrote of Cockroad in 1891 that "no other village in England surpassed Cockroad for its notoriety in robbery a hundred years ago". Blame for this notoriety was laid upon its miners, who dug the Rag, Parrot, Cuckoo and Scrag seams of coal in this part of the Bristol coalfield. Geologically, most of the parish occupies a sandstone plateau with underlying shale and coal measures. Coal outcrops in the north of the parish. Possible "prehistoric earthworks" at Grimsbury may turn out to be geological features. There are three sites of historic interest: Barr's Court, Old Grange and Oldland Manor House. Barr's Court, visited by John Leland in 1540, was the noted home of the Newton family, some of whose tombs are in Bristol Cathedral.

The population of Oldland is increasing with the development of Bristol overspill housing (population.1961:1933; 1971:6411). The Park Estate and other schemes will eliminate all open country. Orchards survive near Lower Barrscourt Farm, but there were no ploughed fields in 1973. Oldland has long been within "the zone of destruction" of Archaeological information. Much of what will be discovered in the future will be the result of chance finds or of watching building sites.

Chris Brain
Andrew Miles

OLDLAND PARISH CHECKLIST

Site	NGR	Extant	Sources
<u>LESSER</u>			
Earlstone Ho, Parkwall	66187197	yes	OS 6"; OS 25" 1904; KLH(ph.3011,3015)
Harefield Hall, Longwell Green	66137078	yes	KLH(ph.3027); OS 6"
Limes, The, Willsbridge	66467068	yes	KLH(ph.5015,5016); OS 6"
Parkwall Road, cottage	66147183	yes	OS 25" 1904
Parkwall Road, cottage	66107180	yes	OS 6"; TA(O)1844
Stonchill, No.27	65027187	yes	obs
Willsbridge Bottom, cottages	66487058	no	KLH(ph.5047); OS 6"
<u>MAJOR</u>			
Old Grange, Grimsbury	66357317	yes	BA 150; KLH(ph.1213); OS 6"; PN(G)3,81; PN(G)4,22,58; TBGAS 90 (1971),220
Oldland Hall <u>see</u> Buildings, Other : Farms & Barns			
<u>MANOR</u>			
Barrs Court Ho	65857205	no	AR 148; BA 157-67; BARG:FG(3),21; BR 1,200; EHT 93; KLH(ph.3042); LJ 7,84-6; PN(G)3,81; TA(O)1844; TBGAS 14 (1889-90),249
Oldland Manor Ho <u>see</u> Industrial : Metallurgical Industries			
<u>BUILDINGS, OTHER</u>			
<u>ECCLESIASTICAL</u>			
All Saints, Longwell Green ch X	65597115	yes	BE(G:V)315
Ascension, Hollyguest Hill ch X	64957252	yes	OS 6"
Ebenezer Chapel, Warmley Tower ch M	66897262	yes	OS 25" 1904
Longwell Green ch M	65847105	yes	EG 194; OS 25" 1904
St.Anne's, Oldland ch X	66867118	yes	BE(G:V)315; BR 1,200; KLH(ph.4001,4002,4036)
Warmley Tower ch M	66877249	yes	OS 25" 1904
<u>FARMS & BARNES</u>			
Barrs Court Farmhouse, Parkwall	65937203	yes	BS 123-6; EHT 93; MHLG Gp3
Grange, The, Cadbury Heath	66387260	no	TA(O)1844
Grimsbury Farm	66357317	yes	BA 150; KLH(ph.1213); PN(G)3,81; PN(G)4,22,58; TA(O),1844; TBGAS 90(1971), 220
Kingsfield Farm	65227239	yes	TA(O)1844
Lower Barrs Court Farm	65987242	yes	TA(O)1844
Oldland Hall	65587139	yes	BE(G:V)315; TA(O)1844
Parkwall Farm	65977159	yes	KLH(ph.3045,3046); OS 6"
Watson's Road, Longwell Green	65717114	yes	obs
<u>INNS</u>			
King William IV	66877253	yes	OS 25" 1904

Site	NGR	Extant	Sources
<u>BUILDINGS, OTHER (cont'd)</u>			
<u>INSTITUTIONS</u>			
Almshouses, Longwell Green	65787108	no	OS 25" 1904
Woodlands, fo school	66557050	yes	KLH(ph.5018)
<u>COMMUNICATIONS</u>			
<u>BRIDGES</u>			
Warmley Brook O/Bitton by	(a) 66917714	yes	KLH(ph.4039)
	(b) 66807158	yes	OS 25" 1904
	(c) 66837132	yes	OS 25" 1904
<u>GREEN LANES, HOLLOW WAYS AND PATHS</u>			
Lower Barrscourt Farm, near: junction of 8 paths	65907240	yes	OS 6"
<u>MILESTONES & SIGNS ETC.</u>			
Milestone, Willsbridge Bottom	66557049	yes	KLH(ph.5005); OS 6"
Signpost, Willsbridge	66627037	yes	OS 6"
<u>ROADS</u>			
Disused lane	c.65507240	no	TA(O)1844
Roman road 'Via Julia'	64907193	yes	BA 169; OS 6";
	to 66977031		TA(O)1844
<u>ROADNAMES, CHANGED OR DISUSED</u>			
California Road fo Dodd Lane	c.66407146	yes	OS 6"
<u>STILES</u>			
Hinton Green Farm, stone step-over	65447187	yes	obs
Kingsfield Lane, near, stone step-over	65147227	yes	obs
Oldland Hall, near, stone step-over	65587131	yes	obs
Parkwall Farm, near, stone step-over	65947163	yes	obs
Wraxall Road, near No.63, wood step-over	66277272	yes	obs
<u>TRAMWAYS</u>			
Avon & Gloucestershire Tramroad	66607040	yes	} BARG:FG(4),25; B&C94,95; 205-7, 242,259; KLH(ph.5022); MC60-65; VD 10
	to 66907095		
Tunnel, Willsbridge	66597068	yes	
Air shafts (a)	66597062	yes	
	(b) 66597067	yes	
California Pit Incline	66757095	yes	
Cutting, Willsbridge	66627078	yes	
Embankment, Oldland	66857091	yes	
<u>EARTHWORKS & MOUNDS</u>			
<u>HILLFORTS & RELATED EARTHWORKS</u>			
Grimsbury Farm	66277312	CHM 2,5,83	
<u>FIELDS</u>			
<u>NAMES</u>			
Conygree, The	66107200	no	TA(O)1844
Poor H ouse Field	66707266	no	TA(O)1844
Quarry Field	66507271	no	TA(O)1844
<u>OPEN FIELD SYSTEMS</u>			
Little Sidgast, Sidgast Mead	66507130	no	TA(O)1844
Sidgast	66257115	no	TA(O)1844

Site	NGR	Extant	Sources
<u>LIMEKILNS</u>			
Cock Road, s of	65457260	no	OS 25" 1904
<u>METALLURGICAL INDUSTRIES</u>			
Iron rolling & slitting mill, Willsbridge (fo site of Oldland Manor ho)	66487075	yes	BA 115, 116, 153; BARG:FG(4), 20; B&C 268; TA(O)1844
ditto, Mill Pond	66507080	no	OS 6"; KLH(ph.5039)
ditto, Dam (destroyed by floods)	66477075	no	obs; KLH(ph.5038 B)
<u>MINES & WORKINGS (COAL, DISUSED)</u>			
Barrs Court Pit	65407255	no	OS(G)
California Pit No.1	66527139	no) BARG:FG(4)17; B&C 94, 242; OS(G); VD 16-18
ditto, Engine House	66507138	yes	
ditto, Incline	66757095	yes	
California Pit No.2	66387177	no	OS 6"; OS(G)
Coronation Pit	66587240	no	TA(O)1844
Cowhorn Hill Colliery (Brook Pit)	66957195	no) BARG:FG(4)17; B&C 242; PN(G)3, 76; TA(O)1844; VD 16
ditto, Engine House	66957203	yes	
Goldney Pit	67007256	no	OS 6"; OS(G)
Grimsbury Pits (a)	66607320	no	BA84, 182 3
(b)	66577323	no	OS(G)
(c)	66717338	no	VD 10
Kingsfield Farm Pit	65227241	no	OS(G)
Smith's Pit, Cock Road	65967288	no	OS(G)
Stonehill Pit	65637180	no	OS(G)
Thompson's Pit, Cock Road	65827281	no	OS(G)
Workings, s of Cock Road	65757265	no	OS 6"
ditto, Engine House	65807277	yes	BARG:FG(4)17; B&C 94, 242
Workings, n of Barrs Court	65787223	no	OS(G)
Wraxall Road Pits (a)	66137295	no	OS(G)
(b)	66237288	no	OS(G)
Workings, Longwell Green	65457168	yes	OS(G)
<u>QUARRIES (PENNANT SANDSTONE)</u>			
Oldland; several e.g. (a)	66807142	yes	OS 6"; TA(O)1844
(b)	66807145	yes	OS 6"; TA(O)1844
Willsbridge, Oldbury Chase	66407095	yes	OS 6"; TA(O)1844
Willsbridge, n of brook	66707092	yes	OS 6"
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>			
Bone Mill, Oldland	66907103	no	B&C 268; KLH(ph.4017)
<u>PARKS ETC.</u>			
<u>WARREN</u>			
Rabbit warren e of Barrs Court	66107200	no	TA(O)1844
<u>SETTLEMENTS & ASSOCIATED FEATURES</u>			
<u>VILLAGE GREEN</u>			
Hinton Green (?DMV)	65457179	yes	PN(G)3, 81, TA(O)1844

Site	NGR	Extant	Sources
	<u>SURFACE FINDS</u>		
Willsbridge Hill, C18 glass wine bottle.	66407070	yes	Obs

The compilers of this list wish to acknowledge the help they received from the Kingswood and District Local History Society, particularly for the opportunity to examine their collection of photographs.

POST-MEDIEVAL POTTERY WEEKEND, 23/24th MARCH 1974

Dig a hole anywhere and you are almost certain to find post-medieval pottery, not only the pretty delft plates, chargers and dishes produced by the major potteries in Staffordshire, Lambeth and Bristol, but the much more plentiful coarse earthenwares turned out by vast numbers of potters working in towns and villages throughout the country.

We were fortunate in having Ken Barton to give a clear and concise background to the subject of both English and imported pottery, and Peter Brears to explain the fascinating techniques used by the potters in throwing, firing and decorating their wares. Brief accounts were given of pottery produced at Wincanton and Falfield, and of wares found in Thornbury, Taunton and Bridgewater.

Bristol was represented by a number of speakers who described some of the immense quantity of pottery now coming from city excavations, its importance as a pottery manufacturing centre and the use which can be made of documentary evidence in locating and dating kilns. Recently excavated kiln 'wasters' from the site of the Temple Back potteries were discussed and it seems that some slipwares and salt-glazed stonewares, previously thought to have been made in Staffordshire, are of Bristol origin. No doubt these arguments will rage for some time yet and the excavation report is awaited with interest.

It is a pity that so many archaeologists remain unaware of the importance of post-medieval pottery, presumably because they feel that the subject is too 'modern' or that it is already adequately researched and documented. They are quite wrong and will in all probability remain in a state of blissful ignorance as, judging by the attendance at the meeting, the speakers were clearly preaching to the converted. Certainly the local archaeologist, seen by one of the writers throwing away post-medieval pottery from closely dated rubbish pits in order to reach the Romano-British site below, was not present!

Philomena Smyth and Reg Jackson

EXCAVATIONS AT VICTORIA STREET, BRISTOL

The City Museum's first excavation this year is centred on the medieval weavers' suburb of Temple Fee. On the south the Portwall and ditch define the area, with the Avon on the other three sides. Despite the marshy conditions the Knights Templars had already drained part of the area in the 12th century, but only the cutting of the new Frome channel across the present Centre made large-scale occupation possible here in the later 13th century.

The excavation site lies between Victoria Street (built 1870's) and Church Lane. The main aim is to define and date the origins of the tenement pattern running back from Temple Street, and to trace its development and its occupants' activities.

Close to Victoria Street four tenement strips are being examined. These are divided from one another by various boundaries, usually in the form of a gully, wall or timber fence. The northernmost is relatively free of disturbance and is covered by the characteristic soil of the marsh area, about one metre thick (c. 1250-1600), and with about two metres of overlying modern ashy garden deposit. The second tenement shows pits and traces of timber structures represented by joist-gullies, dated to the 16th century. The street frontage, of course, lies under Victoria Street. Earlier structures are also coming to light. The neighbouring tenement on the south contained similar structures but also 14th century timber buildings, the slot of one of which probably defines the tenement. A fine drain and rubble and clay floors are the principal indicators so far. The south side of this area is marked by a substantial mortared stone wall of 15th century date with an earlier dry-built wall beneath it. Probably this forms the northern edge of the Austin Friary, known to be sited nearby.

A second area north of Cart Lane has produced two 16th century open sided timber structures with several floor-layers surviving intact; and enormous post-holes, over a metre wide and deep, are cut to below the water table. From the southernmost came the second of two lead baling seals, originally attached to the string around a package of merchandise. On the north the tenement area seems to be defined by a narrow stone wall with small gates, and paths leading out over an area noticeably less dirty than on the south, presumably open land. One path overlay a row of four post-pits in a wide shallow gully. From representations on later maps (e. g. Jacobus Millerd, 1673) the posts might well have been the uprights of a cloth-drying rack in the Rack Close, the gully having been worn by feet trampling ground made wet by dripping cloth.

The finds which are plentiful suggest other activities in addition to the wool trade. Trade links, in terms of pottery, were in existence with northern and south-western France by the 13th century, and were widely established elsewhere by the 16th century. At this latter date there is evidence for a bronze pin manufactory and for horn processing. In an area where trade is of such importance the shapes of storehouses and the nature of their contents, indicated by finds such as the baling seals, afford valuable corroborative evidence.

Work will continue on this particular site until the autumn, by which time it is hoped we shall know more of the medieval activities in this important area.

M. W. Ponsford

CURRENT AND OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS IN LOCAL NUMISMATICS

(A summary of L. V. Gipsell's Presidential Address to the Bath and Bristol Numismatic Society, 16th May 1974)

The functions of a regional numismatic society should be to advance the study of the numismatic material relevant to its own region, and to stage lecture programmes on the wider contexts of the subject.

We still have no clear idea of the boundary between the pre-Roman tribes of the Dobunni (Cotswolds and surroundings) and the Durotriges (mainly south of Mendip), and greater precision can be obtained by means of further finds of their coins. These sometimes occur on early Roman sites, implying the absorption of native elements by the immigrant population. The study of inter-tribal trade at this time can be advanced by the application of modern methods (Collis 1971 a, b).

Late 4th century silver coin-hoards from the Mendip area and near the Fosseway between Camerton and Nettleton comprise coins mostly from the mint of Treves but some from those of Arles and Lyons. They are believed to have been payment for silver from the Mendip mines, the lead from which was being used (with Cornish tin) for making pewter tableware at Camerton, Lansdown, Nettleton and elsewhere (Sutherland 1937; Wedlake 1958). Other local Roman coin-hoards can be expected to repay detailed examination, and much may also be learned from the study of individual coins from Roman inhabited sites. There is room for a survey of the coinage of this region between AD 410 and the establishment of the local mints, especially those of Bath (c. 900) and Bristol (p. 1015). Even after these mints had started the bulk of our local coinage was from other mints.

Recent publicity connected with the millenium of King Edgar's coronation in Bath (973) underlines the need to state the claims of Aethelstan (924-39), Eadmund (939-46), Eadred (946-55) and Eadwig (955-59) to the title of King of all England, despite the fact that each held the whole kingdom for

only part of his reign. A series of victories in the north and west justified King Aethelstan in striking (c. 930) coins with the legend REX TO BRIT (King of all Britain) and its variants. At least three of these kings were crowned at Kingston-on-Thames. The recent discovery of a 'Benediction Hand' type of Aethelred II, c. 991, fills a gap in our Bath series.

Detailed work on the Bath and Bristol coins of the period of Stephen and the Anarchy (1135-54) suggested that after being imprisoned in Bristol Castle (February to November 1141) and regaining the throne in December 1141, Stephen closed the mint in Bristol (which had been an Angevin stronghold) and transferred its coining privilege to Bath. This is supported by the absence of Bristol coins of the later part of Stephen's reign, and the absence of Bath coins of the earlier part of that reign. Indeed only one Bath coin is known of the later part of the reign, but it seems to be enough to prove the point (Grinsell 1973, 35).

On the Sharington coinage of Bristol (1546-49), numismatists are still unable to distinguish between the silver coins struck during the reign of Henry VIII and those struck during the reign of Edward VI but continuing to bear the name and portrait of his father out of filial piety. The collection in Bristol City Museum is still in need of the shilling of Edward VI devalued to $4\frac{1}{2}$ d by being countermarked with a portcullis. Genuine and counterfeit examples are known to exist and both are needed. There are believed to be one or two unpublished varieties of Bristol's Civil War coinage (1643-5) in private hands.

Documentary and printed sources now available in Records Offices and Libraries provide scope for detailed work on the issuers of trade tokens of the 17th, 18th and early 19th centuries, especially the former, as done recently for Salisbury and its surroundings by C. M. Rowe (1966). Within the County of Avon, 17th century tokens were issued at Batheaston, Bradford-on-Avon, Chipping Sodbury, Freshford, Marshfield, Thornbury and Wickwar, as well as in Bath and Bristol, and these could form a useful subject for research. Our local 19th century inn checks are being studied by our member Mr. John Durnell. There is scope for research on the bank-notes issued by banks in Bath and Bristol from 1750 until about 1880, and an article by A. G. E. Jones (1958) points the way for Bath. Work remains to be done on 'numismatic fringe' items including local historical medals and metal passes for crossing the Aust ferry.

Notes and References

Collis, J. R. (1971a). 'Markets and Money', in The Iron Age and its Hill-Fort Papers presented to Sir Mortimer Wheeler. 97-103.

Collis, J. R. (1971b). 'Function and theoretical interpretations of British coinage'. World Archaeology. 3. 71-84

Grinsell, L. V. (1973) The Bath Mint. London

Jones, A. G. E. (1958) 'The Banks of Bath'. Notes and Queries, vol. 203,

- Rowe, C. M. (1966) Salisbury's Local Coinage. Salisbury.
Sutherland, C. H. V. (1937). Coinage and Currency in Roman Britain.
Oxford and London.
Wedlake, W. J. (1958) Excavation at Camerton, Somerset. Bath.

REVIEWS

Barry Cunliffe, The Regni (viii & 153 pp., 46 figs); Malcolm Todd, The Coritani (xi & 164 pp., 36 figs). Duckworth Press, 1973. Hardback £3.25, paperback £1.25.

These two books are the first to appear in the 'Peoples of Roman Britain' series, edited by our member Keith Branigan, a series intended to give 'a comprehensive picture of the archaeology of Roman Britain'. Both are admirably produced, well illustrated and easy to read, and the editor is to be congratulated on his decision to employ one illustrator for the whole series. This is another B. A. R. G. member, Jennifer Gill. Chapter headings are the same in both books:-

1. Tribal territory and the pre-Roman Iron Age.
2. History: A. D. 43-367
3. Communications and urban settlement.
4. Rural settlement.
5. Industry and the economy.
6. The late fourth and fifth centuries.

The Regni, by Barry Cunliffe, in his familiar easy style, is somewhat marred by minor inconsistencies in editing and an occasional spelling error (e. g. p. 4 calcarious for calcareous). Professor Cunliffe fails to distinguish clearly between rocks and soils, and seems to imply that the area was covered by an ice sheet. He offers the attractive theory that the large hill forts indicate seven tribal territories in the Iron Age, but gives no evidence for their contemporaneity. His suggested derivation of the name 'Regni' from a Celtic word 'regni' is somewhat doubtful, for this word does not seem to occur in the Celtic language. Interesting points are raised concerning the possible limits of the Territorium of Noviomagus (Chichester), and a reminder given that ovens cut through tessellated floors in a building could imply a change in function rather than occupation by squatters. The author would like to distinguish a definite group of 1st century villas in the area, but his evidence is somewhat uncertain; only a superficial similarity exists between the Borough Farm villa and the Fishbourne proto-palace, and Angmering's straggling bath house layout does not suggest a common architect for this work and Fishbourne. Evidence for the region's economy is summarised admirably; but use of the medieval term 'tithe' for the R. B. corn-tax is unfortunate.

The final chapter provides a good study of this difficult period. Not only pirates but slaves and mutineers took part in the 367 uprising. However, the 'Germanic' buckle from Chichester is a British type I. A. buckle, and as

similar types have been found in womens' graves e.g. Dorchester, does not necessarily imply the settlement of a number of mercenaries'. Cunliffe's theory that refortified hill forts may have served as strongholds in a late 4th century defensive system is an attractive one.

Two minor criticisms concern the illustrations. In fig. 45 the Chichester buckle is on the left, the Bishopstone one on the right; this is not indicated. In fig. 39 no explanation is given for the open square symbol. Despite these and other criticisms mentioned above, Professor Cunliffe is to be congratulated on his highly readable attempt to cover a complex period and area in this one book.

The Coritani, by Malcolm Todd, unfortunately suffers from pedantry, particularly in the author's use of obscure Latin terms for which no adequate explanation is given. Oppida and Mithraeum could well present difficulties to beginners in archaeology. A brilliant assessment of the evidence for Iron Age coinage and its implications is coupled with a reminder that we draw the tribal boundaries for this period. Continuation into the Roman period both of native styles of architecture and of pottery is stressed; the author requires that any consideration of Roman pottery should be done on a regional basis, but possibly lays too much emphasis on attempted close dating when the relevant point is that the pottery under consideration represents a continuation in a particular style and belongs to a general period.

Mr. Todd makes no reference to Boudicca herself nor to the decimation of the IX Legion in his historical survey. His point that it is difficult to distinguish between an accidental or a deliberate destruction of a structure is of course especially relevant to any interpretation of buildings presumed to have been destroyed in the later uprisings of A.D. 367. A clear analysis is given of soils related to settlement distribution, and the evidence for late occupation is described.

Again, the illustrations invite criticism; captions to figs. 3 and 5 give no indication of scale, and the indiscriminate use of both modern and Roman place names in the same figure is regrettable.

In general, Malcolm Todd has written a very concise account of the Coritani, and has fulfilled his aim to produce 'a framework within which this evidence can be properly interpreted'.

Julian Bennett

- October
- 1 Mediterranean Archaeology, by L. V. Grinsell, O. B. E. Course of 10 meetings at Dept. of Extra-Mural Studies, 32 Tyndall's Park Road, BRISTOL. 7.00 p.m. University.
 - 1 Archaeology in Towns, by R. H. Leech. Course of 10 meetings at The Chantry, Castle Street, THORNBURY. 7.30 p.m. University.
 - 2 Mendip Archaeology, by Dr. E. K. Tratman, O. B. E. Course of 10 meetings at John Locke Hall, WRINGTON. 7.30 p.m. University.
 - 2 Local History Research Group, led by B. J. S. Moore. Course of 24 meetings at Highcroft School, FRAMPTON COTTERELL. 7.30 p.m. University.
 - 2 Bristol Archives Research Group, led by P. V. McGrath and Miss M. Williams. Course of 20 meetings at Bristol Archives Office, Council House, BRISTOL. 7.00 p.m. (P) University.
 - 2 Politics, Society and Culture in the Roman Empire, by A. J. Parker. Course of 20 meetings at the Technical College, Avon Street, BATH. 7.00 p.m. University.
 - 2 Churches of Somerset, by Dr. R. D. Reid. Course of 10 meetings at the Museum, WELLS. 7.30 p.m. University.
 - 3 Sources for the history of Winterbourne, by B. J. S. Moore. Course of 10 meetings at the Rectory, High Street, WINTERBOURNE. 7.45 p.m. University.
 - 3 Industrial Archaeology of the Bristol-Bath area, by Mrs. J. Day. Course of 10 meetings at Wellsway School, Chandag Road, KEYNSHAM. 7.15 p.m. University.
 - 3 Family History, by Mrs. J. Phillips. Course of 10 meetings at the Folk House, 40 Park Street, BRISTOL. 7.50 p.m.
 - 3 Men and Life in Prehistoric Times, by E. J. Mason. Course of 20 meetings at the Folk House, 40 Park Street, BRISTOL. 7.40 p.m.
 - 5 The Archaeology of Avon. Panel of lecturers. One-day school, 10.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. School of Chemistry, Cantocks Close, University of BRISTOL. University, in conjunction with Avon Archaeological Council.
 - 5 The Pattern of Medieval Settlement in Wessex, by C. C. Taylor. One-day school, 2.30 p.m. - 6.30 p.m. Turing Lecture Theatre, Sherborne School, SHERBORNE, University.
 - 7 The Archaeology of Farming, by P. J. Fowler. Course of 20 meetings at Dept. of Extra-Mural Studies, 32 Tyndall's Park Road, BRISTOL. 7.00 p.m. University.
 - 7 Sources for the Local History of Almondsbury, by B. J. S. Moore. Course of 10 meetings, fortnightly, at Church of England School, ALMONDSBURY. 7.30 p.m. University.

- October
- 7 The Temple of Nodens and its place in the story of worship, by Canon Mansfield. B.G.A.S. City Museum, BRISTOL. 5.45 p.m.
- 8 Ancient Civilisations of the Near East (III), by K. Branigan, J.G. MacQueen and D.J. Waite. Course of 20 meetings at Monks Park School, Filton, BRISTOL. 7.30 p.m. University.
- 8 Discoveries in Archaeology, by Mrs. E. Fowler. Course of 20 meetings at Dept. of Extra-Mural Studies, 32 Tyndall's Park Road, BRISTOL. Creche available. 9.45 a.m. (P) University.
- 8 Custom and Costume in Church Monuments, by Mrs. G.W. Grant. Course of 10 meetings, at Folk House, 40 Park Street, BRISTOL. 6.00 p.m.
- 10 Downend Local History Research Group, led by J. Wilson. Course of 10 meetings at the Archives Office, Council House, BRISTOL. 7.00 p.m. (P) University.
- 11 Cadbury Congresbury and 'The Celtic West', by K. S. Gardiner. Course of 10 meetings at Clevedon Centre, CLEVEDON. 7.30p.m. University.
- 11 The Bristol Area in the 1890's, by Reece Winstone. B.S.A. Village Hall, BANWELL. 7.30 p.m.
- 17 B.A.R.G. LECTURE (in conjunction with City Museum) ANCIENT WESSEX LANDSCAPE, by H. C. Bowen. 7.30 p.m. City Museum, BRISTOL.
- 19 Presenting the Conservation Case at Public Enquiries. A one-day seminar, organised by Avon Archaeological Council in conjunction with Bath Preservation Trust. To be held at BATH. Details from R. H. Leech, 16 Portland St. Kingsdown, Bristol BS2 8HL.
- 19 Review of Recent Work in the South West. Group 13 Autumn Meetings. At University of EXETER. Details from Mrs. C. Gaskell Brown, Elstow, Yealm Road, Newton Ferrers, Devon. Please send s. a. e.
- 21 Armour, by H. Russell Robinson. G. D. A. R. G. Old Crypt Schoolroom, Southgate Street, GLOUCESTER. 7.30 p.m.
- 25 Early Christianity in the South West, by Mrs. E. Fowler. K & S. L. H. S. Ellsbridge House, Bath Road, KEYNSHAM. 7.30 p.m.
- 26 Geology for Archaeologists, by P. J. Fowler and H. Prudden. One-day school at the Further Education Centre, King Arthur's School, West Hill, WINCANTON. 2.15 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. University.
- 26 B.A.R.G. MEMBERS SYMPOSIUM City Museum, BRISTOL. 2.30 p.m.
- 26/27 Laboratory Conservation of Archaeological Material, by Mrs. M. Greenacre. Two linked non-res. w/e. (March 15/16 1975) at the City Museum, BRISTOL. (P) University.

November

2/3

Archaeology from the Air; P. J. Fowler, J. E. Hancock and S. Sharp. Non-res. w/e including flying, based on Achilles Flying Club, WESTON-SUPER-MARE. (P) University.

4

South Walian parishes in the gift of the Dean and Chapter of Bristol, 1660-1800, by Rev. John Guy. B. G. A. S. City Museum, BRISTOL. 5.45 p. m.

6

B. A. R. G. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: ROMAN SETTLEMENT OF THE BRISTOL/BATH REGION, by M. W. Ponsford. City Museum, BRISTOL. 7.30 p. m.

8

Somerset Windmills, by A. G. Shove. B. S. A. Village Hall, BANWELL. 7.30 p. m.

8

The Glaciation of Southern England and Archaeology: P. J. Fowler, A. B. Hawkins and G. A. Kellaway. A seminar, in the Geology Lecture Theatre, Queen's Buildings, University Walk, BRISTOL. 7.00 p. m.

13

B. A. R. G. LECTURE: ROMANO-BRITISH SETTLEMENT IN THE VALE OF BERKELEY, by J. Bennett. City Museum, BRISTOL. 7.30 p. m.

15

The Historical Development of our Local Roads, by Mrs. C. Smith. K. & S. L. H. S. Ellebridge House, Bath Road, KEYNSHAM. 7.30pm

18

The Dean Forest Story, by Canon R. J. Mansfield. G. D. A. R. G. Old Crypt Schoolroom, Southgate Street, GLOUCESTER. 7.30 p. m.

23/24

B. A. R. G. SPECIAL WEEKEND COURSE IN SURVEYING. KNOLE PARK ALMONDSBURY. see p.31. Details from M. W. Ponsford, City Museum.

29/

1st Dec.

The Archaeological Society in Modern Archaeology: H. Cleere, P. J. Fowler and N. Thomas. Res. and non-res. w/e at Burwalls, Leigh Woods, BRISTOL. Places strictly limited. (P) University.

December

4

B. A. R. G. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: NEOLITHIC AND BRONZE AGE FIELD MONUMENTS IN THE SOUTH WEST, by L. V. Grinsell, City Museum, BRISTOL. 7.30 p. m.

6

The Calamine mines of Shipham, by C. Richards. B. S. A. Village Hall, BANWELL. 7.30 p. m.

9

Timber Buildings, by F. W. B. Charles. G. D. A. R. G. Old Crypt Schoolroom, Southgate Street, GLOUCESTER. 7.30 p. m.

11

B. A. R. G. LECTURE: RECENT EXCAVATIONS IN BRISTOL, by M. W. Ponsford. City Museum, BRISTOL. 7.30 p. m.

12

Butser Ancient Farm Project: a unique experiment in World Archaeology, by P. J. Reynolds. Winter lecture, City Museum, BRISTOL. 7.30 p. m.

18

B. A. R. G. LECTURE: METALLIC CHECKS USED BY TAVERNS IN THE 19th CENTURY, by J. Durnell. City Museum, BRISTOL. 7.30 p. m.