

**Bristol
Archaeological
Research Group**

**60 City Museum,
Queens Road,
Bristol, 8.**

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BULLETIN

Autumn
1976

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OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 1976/7

Shortened version: see Bulletin Vol. 5, No. 7 for complete list

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(1976)

MEMBERSHIP

The annual subscription for 1976 was due on 1st January. Current rates are:

- £2.00 for members aged 18 and over
- £3.00 for husband and wife
- £1.40 for Senior Citizens and special cases on application
- £0.40 for Associate Members (under 18 years)

Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to Bristol Archaeological Research Group and sent to the Hon. Membership Secretary. Will members please ensure that they are paying at the current rates as listed above.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS WINTER PROGRAMME

18th November Peter Street Excavations 1975-6, by Eric Boore.
City Museum, BRISTOL. 7.30 p. m.

9th December London: a pre-trip lecture by David Dawson. Venue as
above.

11th December London Excursion. Coach leaves University Road at
8.15 a. m. All details available from Peter Maggs.
See p. 212.

EDITORIAL

With the death of Sir Mortimer Wheeler in July, archaeology lost its archetypal father figure. Always controversial, often downright provocative, he probably did more to raise professional standards and to stimulate interest in the subject than any other individual so far this century. Those of us who were present at the Iron Age Conference in 1971 arranged by the Department of Archaeology at Southampton University to honour his 80th birthday will remember him, as surely he would have wished, an exuberant Aran-sweatered, larger-than-life figure, moustaches bristling with vitality, whose egocentricity was far outweighed by his great contribution to archaeology.

In October this year students of the Extra-Mural Department, University of Bristol, will embark on a two-year, part-time course of study for the Certificate in Arts (Field Archaeology and Landscape History). This will be an exciting and a demanding course. The syllabus is an extensive one. Subjects related to archaeology will be studied at an introductory level during the first year; and in the second, as well as more advanced studies, a dissertation of about 10,000 words and a period spent in supervised fieldwork will be required. Places have been offered to the 15 successful applicants, and we extend every good wish to these trailblazers in their undertaking.

Buildings are a common factor in our everyday lives. Our homes, whether cottage or castle, our schools and places of work, all consist of walls and windows, roofs and doors. Yet how little impression, in general, these make on our consciousness, until some stimulus bestows 'the seeing eye'. Setting up house for the first time often provides the spur to examine a building's basic structure, only to find just how many fatal flaws it may contain. A visit to one of those stately homes in which we take an oddly personal pride, or a meeting with an enthusiast, could kindle the spark. Marion Meek's article in this Bulletin will accomplish it for anyone still unconverted. Miss Meek is Conservation Officer in the Mendip District Planning Office, and she writes expressly for Parish Survey workers who need to acquire skill in looking at buildings for recording purposes. Earlier P.S. workers who struggled despairingly with this very problem will appreciate the expert knowledge which makes possible such a clear, helpful article.

Whilst sweltering through another extraordinary summer Rescue's abrasive criticism 'Archaeology up in the Air' (Rescue News No. 10 Winter 1975) will have been in many minds. Can there still be sites in such numbers as were revealed last year, awaiting discovery? It seems there can; and in Yorkshire quick action is being taken in a combined operation between archaeologists and the local authority, who have met the initial cost of an aerial survey over an area expected to produce many new sites. Cost effectiveness is remarkable; sites discovered so far work out at £2.00 each! Surely an archaeological bargain if ever there was one.

ALFRED SELLEY: A MENDIP FLINT-HUNTER

by C. M. Sykes

One of the side effects of the 1914-18 war was that it literally opened up new fields for the archaeologist. This was because Canadian autumn-sown wheat was successfully introduced into this country to help out food supplies. It could be grown on exposed hilltops which previously had been used only for pasture. In this respect the Mendips were ideal because they provided a reasonably level plateau, rising to a thousand feet above sea level.

A Bristolian called Selley was quick to realise the possibilities for archaeology. Flint-hunting for him was mainly a weekend hobby, and he tackled it in what the pampered generations of today would consider to be the hard way. He was already elderly; for when I met him some twenty years later he was 85 years old and physically frail though certainly mentally alert.

On Sunday mornings he would leave Bristol, mounted on a heavy fixed-gear push-bike and cycle out to the hillside village of Compton Martin. After attending morning service in the village church he would push his bicycle uphill for two or three miles until he found a sheltered spot where he could rest and eat his sandwiches. Shelter was necessary on this wind-swept plateau because his activities had to be confined to the winter months before the young wheat had sprung up.

Selley was not, by modern standards, a well-informed archaeologist. In the Victorian tradition he was an 'antiquarian' who collected flint arrowheads, knives and scrapers, which are easily recognisable. In addition he sometimes found a few tiny implements, known then as pigmy flints, but neither he nor any other collector of those days realised their significance. Search over a single field could take a whole Sunday afternoon, perhaps more than one if results justified it. These hours were spent walking to and fro, eyes to the ground, with occasional glances to one side to make sure that he was not too far from the footprints made on his previous crossing. The fact that flint does not occur naturally on Mendip means that every piece must have been brought there; each scrap, therefore, has to be picked up and examined.

Selley's examination, however, tended to be selective. He used, so he told me, to pick up everything he saw. At the end of his search he would look over each piece and put the best of his haul into a wooden box fixed to the handlebars of the cycle. The rest he would dump just inside the field. What he should have done, of course, was to take all his finds home, wash them and examine even the doubtful pieces through a magnifying glass.

To his great credit he kept diaries in which he recorded each day's search and its results. These diaries, which also recorded similar work in areas nearer to Bristol are now in the City Museum. In pre-Hitler days some of the best of his finds were on display there but were lost when

the Museum was damaged in an air raid. Some of his choicest finds were Neolithic-Bronze Age flints labelled as coming from Shirehampton. He told me that these were found on the banks of the Avon, on occasions when a combination of spring tides and strong winds had scoured off the mud and exposed the old land surface.

In one respect the hobby of flint-hunting is itself destructive: it removes valuable evidence. Since Selley's day collectors have swarmed over Mendip; and most of their collections have remained in private hands. Apart from a scatter of Bronze Age burial mounds little evidence is left to show that prehistoric man ever lived on these lonely hilltops.

Selley was ahead of his time because he kept records of his work and sent his finds to a museum. His example is not always followed by present day enthusiasts.

BUILDINGS FOR BEGINNERS IN PARISH SURVEY WORK

by Marion Meek

Our first impression of any parish and the most effective way of appreciating its history is through its buildings. A grand church speaks of medieval prosperity, a uniform style tells of the manorial or factory estate. The most prosperous periods tend to dominate, and one of the pleasures of rural surveys is that they are less likely to be dominated by 19th and 20th century industrial growth. The B. A. R. G. area is extremely varied and it is hard to generalise for its whole extent. Spheres of influence from Bath, Bristol, the Cotswolds, the Mendips and the coalfields are supplemented by materials and styles brought from outside and by a wide range of local industries.

Two interconnected problems arise when including buildings in parish surveys. Compared with archaeological remains there are so many buildings that it is almost impossible to visit them all; and if we do not record them all, we are obliged to be selective, thus involving a judgement that can give rise to much heart-searching. One method is to record only the most distinguished buildings: churches, manor houses, public buildings. This is the easiest process, since these are the buildings with written histories, statutory protection and national status. However there is little satisfaction for the worker in merely repeating the work of others. Another method is to choose a 'cut-off' date, but this too is treacherous, since some of our most sensitive architecture was produced in the 19th century by William Morris' followers, and some of the boldest ornament is the art nouveau work of the early 20th century, quite rare in England. Historically, and as archaeologists, we are interested in all the buildings of our parishes, including farms, industrial works, viaducts, bridges and every kind of housing. Wherever possible a complete record should be made. Some areas may inspire no more than 'council housing 1950's' or 'private housing estate 1960's', but that is already

more than the map, official and academic literature tell us. The majority of buildings to be recorded are not architect-designed, but were built by local men using local materials to supply local needs. Such styles can be advanced, as with Somerset's early Perpendicular Gothic towers, or prolonged, as with Gloucestershire's persistent use of Jacobean style mullioned windows and tall diamond-sectioned chimneys even into the 18th century. Or a local architect can inspire a following that produces a regional style as with 'Bristol Byzantine' warehousing, probably started by Ginsell. Or a building material may be a by-product of a local industry, as with the black slag blocks of the Avon valley brass mills. If one has always lived with such features it is possible that their place in the national picture might pass unrecognised, but provided that the account is clear, rarity value can be determined at a later date. Whatever selective system is chosen for use it is always best to err on the side of too much rather than too little information.

Before starting the field survey, check the literature. A good starting point is the Department of Environment's Lists of Buildings of Special Architectural and Historic Interest available for consultation at County and District Planning departments. These were started in 1947, the whole country has been looked at once at least, and most towns have been re-surveyed more recently. A brief external description is given of the most significant buildings in every parish. The 1975 lists for Bath or Keynsham could well serve as models for this work. However, the Lists give no illustrations, no idea of plan form, little indication of the state of preservation and misses out many worthy examples. With only 22 men to cover the whole of England it is remarkable that so much has been done, but rural areas (Gloucestershire especially) first visited before a proper appreciation of vernacular buildings was developed, were poorly recorded and may not be re-surveyed for a long time to come. Industrial archaeology can also slip through the D. o. E.'s net, since ruined mills may not be considered old enough to be listed historic buildings. The Penguin Buildings of England series is another valuable tool, also written on a parish basis, although very selective. Three volumes cover the B. A. R. G. area: N. Pevsner, North Somerset and Bristol; D. Verey, Gloucestershire: The Cotswolds and Gloucestershire: The Vale and the Forest of Dean. They help with historical background, provide comparative material - and remember to read the general introduction for regional characteristics, local literature and other pointers.

Walk or drive around the whole parish before starting on individual building surveys. Pick out the common characteristics, the materials used, field walls or fences, houses on roadside, or set back, or gable to road, and so on. Distinguishing such features early on provides a framework on which to build. One may include in such an assessment environmental factors which may not be recorded elsewhere; special paving, flights of steps, garden and field walls, gates and gateways, and townscape layout. If the building materials are varied and confusing (as they can be on Mendip with such a wealth to choose from) ask a geologist to help at the outset. Once the typical features of the parish have been determined, comment also on the non-conformers. These are usually easy enough to explain. The imported

marble of an 18th century mansion, the decorative slatework on the roof of a 19th century public building, brick introduced into a stone area with the coming of the railway, or pattern book styles imperfectly adapted to local conditions.

An 8-figure map reference is usually sufficient to identify an archaeological site, and with isolated farms, bridges and so on this is still acceptable. But in a built-up area this is not enough. Do not rely on house names or street numbers alone as these may change. Each worker should link his description to a numbered map, as with archaeological recording. This also helps to remind him of how much territory has been covered.

The only clear published attempt to guide workers in recognition and recording methods is R. W. Brunskill, Illustrated Handbook of Vernacular Architecture, 1971. Each survey should include a written description, photographs and where possible plans and details sketched or even measured. Photos should be pasted onto the record card; loose ones can be lost. If more than one card is needed caption each one with a full identification (parish, name and address of building, map reference) against the day when someone drops them, or borrows them, and forgets which is which.

The written description is interpretative. It should include category of building (church, farmhouse, outbuilding etc.), number of stories including cellars and attics, building materials and how used e. g. forest marble rubble laid to course, rubble with Bath stone ashlar details, red brick with yellow, and roofing materials. Then all distinctive features. On a house, are the facades symmetrical? What kind of windows? Any additions and changes? What are the chimneys like and where are they placed? A central chimney may well be an indicator of age. Include any decorative features, pediments, plasterwork, datestones, inscriptions or rain-waterheads. If the building is ecclesiastical, industrial or for public usage such as a town hall its fittings should be noted. Also, its condition may be recorded. Is it in danger of collapse? Is it protected by listing? Ought it to be listed?

Photographs are worth hundreds of words. A head-on photograph is not necessarily the best. Try to show the depth of the building (Fig. 1), and such features as door-hoods.

Plans and drawings are not within everyone's scope, but roof layouts may be sketched without too much difficulty and this gives some indication of the relationship of rooms. Another useful aid for farms and industrial sites is a block plan showing the relative position of different buildings, with their functions named if possible. When examining the interior of a house the position of the staircase should be noted - beside the chimney, in the centre of the house, in a separate extension. This can indicate date and status. Fireplaces, beams, plasterwork, and panelling, though this may be re-used, should all be noted and recorded. The roof members may have been changed, but in some famous cases as at the Old Deanery in Salisbury, and the Hannah More School in Nailsea for example, good roofs survived while the rest of the building was changed beyond recognition. A last word of caution:

lucky workers are often invited to see the inside of interesting and important houses. On the other hand, some property owners become nervous at the sight of people staring at their house, taking notes and photographs. If reassured they may provide additional helpful information, but if they remain unconvinced their feelings must be respected.

Sketches on next page

- 1. a. Photograph head-on shows no depth and implies an added symmetrical simple plan.
- b. Angle shot reveals depth and asymmetry. Such a structure might be a one-storey dairy or work shop.
- c. Angle view shows double pile house.
- 2. Rear projection often used today as toilets. Disposition of windows show that its original use was as a mid 17th century staircase.
- 3. a. New window with detail of the old one over.
- b. Ashlar window with rubble relieving arch over, not to be mistaken for a former window. The relieving arch prevents the long thin lintel from cracking.

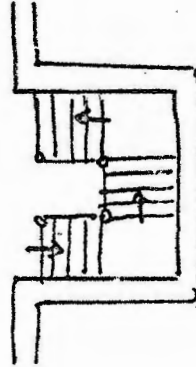
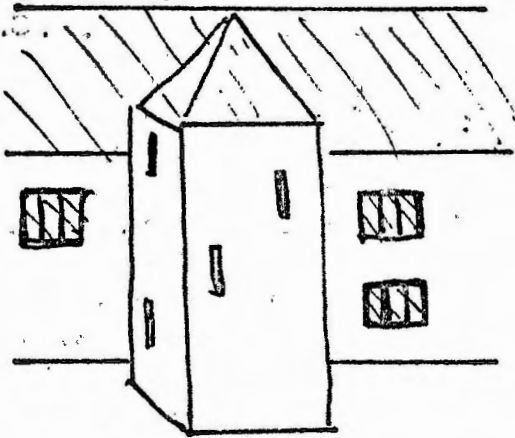
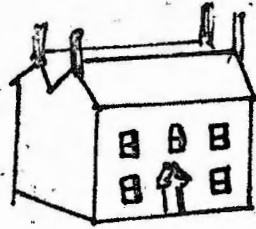
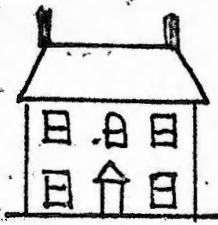
Marion Meek has generously offered to 'fieldwalk' parishes with workers who are finding special difficulty with buildings. Write to Miss Meek c/o B. A. R. G., City Museum, Bristol or at Flat 7, 9 Clifton Park, Bristol, giving a telephone number if possible.

C. R. A. A. G. S. and P. S. U.

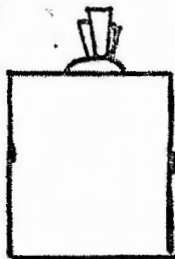
A grant of £50 has been made by C. R. A. A. G. S. to help with the running expenses of the Parish Survey Unit. B. A. R. G. is grateful for this assistance.

NEW ADMINISTRATOR FOR C. R. A. A. G. S.

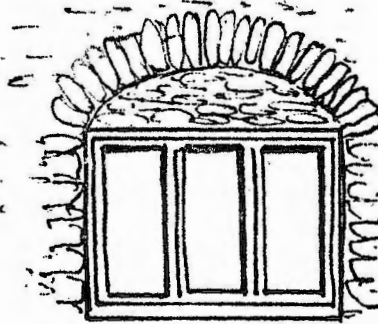
Miss Sally Smallridge succeeded Mrs. Deirdre Parker in this post in August. Miss Smallridge graduated at Exeter University in 1974 with a combined Honours degree in Geography and Archaeology. Address: 9 Park Place, Clifton, Bristol 8. Tel: Bristol 34530.



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a



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b

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF CHURCHES

Industrial Archaeology, once the Cinderella of the family, has grown up and a younger sister is now receiving attention; namely Church Archaeology. Perhaps the formal recognition of this was marked by the establishment of a Churches Committee by the Council for British Archaeology. The subject was extensively considered during a University of Bristol Extra-Mural Department weekend course in February 1976 organised by Peter Fowler.

The Care of Churches The first speaker was Mr. Richard Morris of the Department of Archaeology at Leeds University, who is also Secretary of the C. B. A. Churches Committee. His task was to explain the system under which England's 17,500 parish churches are cared for. A quinquennial survey is carried out on each building by an architect appointed by the diocese. When details are given of work to be done, especially when alterations are involved, the parish applies to the diocese for a 'faculty' to carry out the work which has first to be approved by a Diocesan Advisory Committee. Lesser work may sometimes be done on an Archdeacon's Certificate. Most D. A. C.'s now include an Archaeological Consultant.

For the country as a whole there is the Council for Places of Worship which, apart from the fabric, concerns itself with bells, stained glass, wall paintings and so on and includes also places of worship other than those of the Church of England. There are also a number of trusts and amenity societies which involve themselves with ecclesiastical buildings, such as the Georgian Group, the Victorian Society, the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, the Historic Churches Trust, the Ancient Monuments Society, the Friends of the Friendless Churches, the Pilgrim Trust. Whereas church buildings were legally exempt from certain planning controls, recent negotiations have now brought them within the scope of Historic Buildings grants by the Department of the Environment.

A separate problem arises in the case of buildings which have become redundant. Many of these such as ruined abbeys have been taken into care by the D. o. E. A more complex problem is presented by those which have recently become redundant due to shifts in population, rising costs insupportable by a small parish and so on. Possible courses of action are: -

- (a) Demolition
- (b) Alternative use
- (c) Transfer to Redundant Churches Fund
- (d) Transfer to D. o. E. Guardianship

All this takes time to work out, especially (b). Meanwhile there is an unsolved problem of deterioration while a decision is reached.

Mr. Morris also discussed churchyards; their treatment, and the importance of recording completely inscriptions on tombstones. Natural Historians too have an interest in such locations; disused churchyards may become effective nature reserves, or even be scheduled as 'Sites of Special Scientific Interest'.

The Investigation of Churches: After lunch Mr. Warwick Rodwell discussed Investigation under the following heads:-

- (a) Documentary
- (b) Examination of the fabric
- (c) Archaeological
 - (i) Existing building
 - (ii) Below ground
- (d) Topographical:
 - Church within Churchyard
 - Churchyard within Village
 - Village within Parish

He showed the importance of documentary investigations, including early pictures as dating evidence, and quoted various examples. He discussed in some detail the scope of recording a survey of the fabric. Under (c) he showed instances where, during clearance of wall footings to treat rising damp or installation of a new heating system internally, material has been ruthlessly shovelled out instead of being carefully excavated under proper supervision.

Later, Mr. Joe Bettey talked about the nature and availability of documentary sources: parochial, diocesan and miscellaneous such as old newspapers, material in the Public Records Office and so on. He also explained how liturgical changes have affected a building and its furnishings.

On the second day Mr. David Dawson and Mr. Michael Ponsford discussed first the spread of churches in the Archdeaconry of Bristol - 39 Medieval out of a total of 122; and the Archdeaconry of Swindon - 69 Medieval out of 96; and in more detail the work done on Westbury College, the Temple Church and Greyfriars, Bristol.

Mr. Warwick Rodwell followed this with a description of work carried out at two churches. Hadstock, in Essex, which was made available for complete excavation in 1973/4 including some stripping of wall plaster, as a result of remarkable co-operation and understanding. Documentary evidence here included a reference in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle. Rivenhall, 10 miles from Colchester appeared to be a rather dull 19th century example of 'Churchwarden's Gothic' but proved to have a Saxo-Norman core with 14th and 15th century - and later - alterations. The site moreover showed an even earlier usage extending into Roman and pre-Roman times.

These were two examples where a remarkable opportunity for excavation occurred and maximum use was made of it, with generous encouragement by all concerned.

All those who attended this weekend course felt that they too had had a remarkable opportunity of which they availed themselves to the full.

D. G. Corble

Mr. Corble is Chairman of the Historic Buildings Committee of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society, and a member of the National Trust. (Ed.)

MESOLITHIC SITE FROM YARD PARK FIELD, LOWER PITTS FARM,
PRIDDY, SOMERSET

The first test excavations of 1973 gave evidence of what is now verified to be a Mesolithic burnt, probably thatched, structure extending over 10 x 4.5 metres. A short two-week excavation in 1974 yielded further evidence of occupation, with the location of a later hearth and several stake holes.

The five-week excavation of 1975 revealed several interesting points about the continuity of the site from the major occupation of the burnt Mesolithic structure to modern times. Cross-ploughing was observed both aligned with the modern dry-stone walled enclosure of the field and the natural limestone outcrop at about 60° to the walling, against which the Mesolithic occupation was located. The later Mesolithic hearth of 1974 has a small number of stake holes associated with it, but the majority of stakes including two with stone settings in the limestone outcrop, are associated with the collapsed Mesolithic structure. The extensive burnt material must once have roofed the slight hollow to which it now conforms. There is evidence that an extensive habitation floor of at least 10 cms. thickness is sealed intact beneath the burnt layer. A sterile layer seems to have been intentionally thrown over the burning. Carbon samples from the 1975 excavation of the structure and new hearths have been sent to Groningen for identification and dating. The results of the Oxford Laboratory on their 1974 archaeomagnetism samples are awaited.

The burnt structure is the only one preserved so extensively. The completion of its excavation will provide the opportunity to reconstruct the building with greater accuracy than one can from diverse scatters of stake holes found on some other Mesolithic sites. Objects found beneath the undisturbed area will aid the interpretation of the living patterns of hunter/gatherers from this period.

Director: J. J. Taylor, Ph. D., F. S. A.

Dr. Taylor writes: The continued support of the City Museum, Bristol, and in particular all the members of the Department of Archaeology and History, is greatly appreciated. They have contributed more time and money than all other bodies. Equally, the farmer not only gave permission for the work to be done but called attention to the archaeological potential of the area and saw to the well-being of all the excavators. Assistance from D. o. E. through C. R. A. A. G. S. of £100, tents from the University of Bristol through Dr. Parker, and students as well as money from the University of Nottingham were all greatly appreciated in 1975.

This 1976 season which hopefully sees the excavation to completion, received support from the Maltwood Fund, the Society of Antiquaries of London and the D. o. E. through C. R. A. A. G. S., and equipment from the City Museum, Bristol. C. R. A. A. G. S. have lent their professional digging team, and there were students from Nottingham, France, the U. S. A. and local volunteers.

I should like to thank all volunteers and students who have shown tremendous loyalty to the site by working long hours and returning for several seasons, both for excavation and field survey work. Drs. J. J. Butler and M. Barbetti who visited the site from Groningen and the Oxford Research Laboratory respectively, not only gave scientific advice but also assisted as volunteer excavators and back fillers. Dr. C. A. Shell from Cambridge not only assisted in excavation but conducted watching briefs on ploughed fields when the director was unavailable. All the assistance both specifically mentioned and alluded to is gratefully appreciated.

ROMAN FARMSTEAD IN UPPER MAUDLIN STREET

This year's training excavation of the Department of Classics of Bristol University took place during June on the site of the 18th century Moravian church in Upper Maudlin Street, next to the Dental Hospital. The church was demolished in 1971, and the site is to be used for an extension of the Dental Hospital. In 1973, excavations on the site of the medieval Greyfriars (now destroyed by office blocks in Lewins Mead) revealed that a small Roman farm settlement lay beneath the later deposits. This year's dig was a joint operation between the University and the City Museum, and it is hoped to repeat the arrangement in future years. Some twenty five students took part for two weeks, directed by Mr. L. Good (City Museum) and Dr. A. J. Parker (Dept. of Classics, University of Bristol). The upper layers on the site were mostly 18th century, and were of interest chiefly for the quantity of clay pipes stamped by makers whose workshops are known to have been situated nearby. A large 18th century cess-pit contained much fine pottery, as well as seeds and fruit-stones and the remains of four scrubbing brushes! The lower layers consisted of a stone wall, probably the footing of a daub superstructure, which was the only surviving side of a Roman barn or workshop with an earth floor. This building was occupied in the third quarter of the 4th century AD; datable pottery and coins included a fine 'second bronze' coin of Constantius 11 (AD346-350), struck at Trier. It overlay a gully of apparently early Roman date which presumably belongs to an early phase of the settlement whose buildings have not been found.

Bristol was not settled as a town in the Roman period, but there is other evidence that a series of native farms and Romanized villas stood along the Avon and Frome valleys between the towns of Sea Mills and Bath.

A. J. Parker

CURRENT WORK IN ARCHAEOLOGY

Last Winter's successful series of fortnightly lectures will be continued in the Spring term only, starting on 17th January 1977. Peter Fowler will be Chairman and there will be 5 visiting lecturers. This course is arranged by the Extra-Mural Department in conjunction with B. A. R. G. and a reduced fee is charged to members, but it will not be possible to have this concession for individual lectures in the new series. Lectures will again be held in the Physics Dept., Tyndalls Avenue, Bristol, starting at 6.30 p. m.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

The first of this winter's lectures will be Peter Street 1975-6: the excavations in Central Bristol between St. Peter's Church and Fairfax House, on Thursday 18th November at 7. 30 p. m. in the City Museum. The lecturer will be Mr. Eric Boore who has been involved with supervision of the site. A sequence of occupation and industrial usage dating from Norman times to the Second World War has been revealed. Present and former Associate Members of B. A. R. G. have assisted on this excavation.

London has many attractions for those interested in Archaeology, but is usually too expensive to reach. However on Saturday 1st December a coach trip costing only £1 return fare has been arranged for Associate Members. Others, whether B. A. R. G. members or not who would like to take advantage of this exceptional opportunity may join the party at a cost of £1.40 return, which will include Associate Membership of B. A. R. G. for 1977 for anyone born after 31.12.58. Coach reservations should be booked as far in advance as possible by sending the fare for the number of seats required to P. Maggs, 5 Lansdown Terrace, Kellaway Avenue, Bristol BS6 7YW. The coach will leave University Road, near the top of Park Street, at 8.15 a. m. Those who so wish may spend the day with a group lead by David Dawson looking at various museums and historic sites in London, and he will give a pre-trip talk on Thursday 9th December at 7.30 p. m. in the City Museum. For most people the main attraction will be the exhibition at the Royal Academy, Burlington House, 'Pompeii AD 79'. This is to be a major event; most of the exhibits will be on view in Britain for the first time, collected together from museums in Naples and elsewhere in Europe to form the most comprehensive display ever seen outside Italy of relics from the Roman township buried by ash when Vesuvius erupted in AD 79. Admission charges, which must be brought on the day, are 60p. for students with N. U. S. or I. S. U. cards and for children and Old Age Pensioners, and £1.00 for adults. Food should be brought as well as meals are expensive in central London. The trip will also include a visit to the British Museum (free admission) or other museum, and to an excavation if an interesting stage has been reached, or else to historic buildings, including churches, in London. We shall return to Bristol in the late evening.

B. A. R. G. Associate Members' Section operates for you. If there are activities you consider might be popular or if you have ideas on how to recruit new Associates, I would appreciate your suggestions.

Congratulations to two former Associates, Maureen Smyth and Paul Golding who are to be married this autumn. They first met at the Thursday evening Finds Processing sessions at the City Museum. Maureen's sister Philomena and her husband Reg Jackson also met through B. A. R. G. where both have served as Officers.

Peter Maggs.

PARISH CHECKLISTS

ABBREVIATIONS & SOURCES

In addition to those listed in previous Bulletins:

Sources

- CH:NG Chance, Sir Hugh, "Nailsea Glassworks", Pottery Gazette Jan. 1958
CR:WCH Cooke, Robert, West Country Houses, 1957
ESH Evans, S. Hope, The Book of Nailsea Court 1923
GBJ:NC Greenhill, B. J., Nailsea Coalfield, 19--
GBJ:ON Greenhill, B. J., Old Nailsea, 1959
LC Leach, C., History of Elementary Education in Nailsea (Thesis for M. Ed. degree, Bristol University)
NFA Nailsea Footpaths Association
SP(N) Sale Plans of Nailsea properties, C19 and C early 20, copies in Nailsea Library
SP(N/C) Sale Plans of Nailsea properties, C19 and C early 20, in possession of Mr. L. A. Cox of Nailsea
VK Vincent, K., Nailsea Glass, 1975
WI(FN:N) Women's Institute: Field-name survey of Nailsea, 1972
WI(N) Women's Institute: Nailsea, ed. Mrs. D. E. Bunce, 1954

Nailsea Parish Checklist

N Nailsea

Vbl all individuals named in the checklist live in Nailsea

All National Grid References (NGR) within Nailsea are prefixed ST, and these letters have been omitted to save space.

NAILSEA : INTRODUCTION

The parish of Nailsea, approximately seven miles west of Bristol and five miles from the Severn estuary at Clevedon, covers an area of several square miles of higher land, rising from the moor that stretches to the sea, to form an 'island', as the name implies, overlooked by the Failand Ridge on the northern side and Broadfield on the south. The island situation is clearly shown on the geological map as an isolated coalfield surround by peat and alluvial deposits.

Until recently most of the area was devoted to pasture for dairy farming. There is no great depth of soil and in some places sand and sandstone lie near the surface, with occasional outcrops of rock, including flat 'pennant' that has been used for roofing tiles as far back as Roman times and is still used locally for walls. There are only a few short streams in the parish, but the parish boundary now extends well out into the moorland with its regular pattern of drainage ditches. Water for domestic use was obtained in the past from wells, some of which are still in use.

In former times the whole of Nailsea was an area of rough heath, scrub and forest, part of the former Wraxall estate; it may have been a "knight's

holding" referred to in Domesday Book. The old 13th century church was a chapel served by the rector of Wraxall until Nailsea became an independent parish in 1811. Nailsea Court also dates from the 13th century, but there appears to have been no other settlement of any kind, apart from one or two 16th century houses, until the appearance in the 17th century of a ring of farms on the outskirts of the 'island'. There is no clear nucleus of an older village before the establishment of a tannery at King's Hill and the opening of a series of coal mines, followed by the Nailsea Glassworks. These industries all ceased operations towards the end of last century.

A large part of Nailsea is now undergoing rapid transformation into a new town with a population of 20,000 and all the amenities (and disadvantages) of a thriving modern community.

J. M. Pullan

NAILSEA PARISH CHECKLIST

Site	NGR	Extant	Sources
<u>BOUNDARY & OTHER MARKERS</u>			
<u>CROSSES</u>			
Churchyard cross	46556990	yes	Obs
<u>DITCHES</u>			
Boundary rhyne	43407050- 46607150	yes	OS 6"; SP(N/C)
<u>STONES</u>			
Boundary stone	45827058	yes	OS 6", 25"
Stone	46457067	yes	Obs
Stone	47507070	no	OS 6"(1909)
<u>BUILDINGS</u>			
<u>BARNS</u>			
Barn	46657040	no	TA(N)1844
Tithe barn, Holy Trinity church	46556985	yes	LC; OS 6"; TA(N)1844; Vbl (Mrs.Nickalls)
Tithe barn, Nailsea Court	45756820	yes	ESH; OS 6"; Vbl(Mr.Whitefield)
<u>COUNTRY HOUSES</u>			
Nailsea Court	45706820	yes	BE(NSB)231-2; CR:WCH 38; ESH; OS 6"; SP(N/C)
<u>DWELLINGS</u>			
(see also Country Houses, Farms, Parsonages)			
Barwick	46277028	yes	OS 6"
Dr.Hink's House	40706910	no	GBJ:ON; TA(N)1844
French Rank	47687115	no	OS 6"(1909); VK
Glebe Cottage	46536992	yes	LC; Vbl (Mrs.Nickalls)
house behind Cliffe House	46587075	yes	GBJ(P); TA(N)1844; Vbl (Mr.A.Rome)
house of John Whiting, Quaker	46177055	yes	GBJ(P)
Ivy Cottage	46657040	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Little Egypt	47637058	yes	WI(N)
Little Nailsea	47457005	yes	OS 6"
Littlefield House	47306980	yes	GBJ(P); OS 6"; Vbl(Mrs.Briggs)

Site	NGR	Extant	Sources
<u>BUILDINGS cont'd</u>			
Mizzymead Cottage	47377047	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Nailsea Court Farm Cottages	46126837	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844; Vbl (Mr.Whitefield)
New Rank	47827110	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844; VK
Noah's Ark	47607056	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Nowhere	48197042	no	OS 6"; TA(N)1844; Vbl (Mr.E.Brock, Mr.Dommett)
Nurse Cottage	45106952	yes	OS 6"
Rock House	46257060	yes	GBJ:ON; OS 25" (1931); TA(N)1844
Tall Cottage	46287035	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Witcombe's Rank	47807095- 47907095	yes	OS 6"; SP(N); VK
Yew Tree Cottage	46257040	yes	GBJ(P); OS 25"(1931); TA(N)1844
<u>ECCLESIASTICAL</u>			
ch parish: Christchurch	47207080	yes	BE(NSB)230; OS 6"; TA(N)1844
ch parish: Holy Trinity	46556990	yes	BE(NSB)230; GBJ:ON; OS 6"; TA(N)1844; WI(N)
ch, Baptist or Mission, fo	44906910	yes	OS 6"(1909,1932); TA(N)1844
ch, Congregational	47437092	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
ch, Ebenezer Old Chapel	46237043	yes	OS 6"(1909,1932); TA(N)1844
ch, Medodist	46907080	yes	OS 6"
ch, fo.Wesleyan 'New Chapel'	46377050	yes	OS 6"(1909,1932); TA(N)1844
<u>FARMS & FARMBUILDINGS</u>			
Bartlett's Farm, fo, now Cherry Orchard	46286880	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844; Vbl (Mr.Whitefield)
Batten's Farm.	45556927	no	SP(N/C); TA(N)1844
Bizley Farm	46406892	yes	OS 6"; SP(N); TA(N)1844
Coombe Farm	45306995	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Coombe Grange Farm	47356940	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
East End Farm	48256990	yes	OS 6"; SP(N); TA(N)1844
East End House, fo farm	48307010	yes	OS 6"; SP(N); TA(N)1844; Vbl (Miss Thomas)
Elm Tree Farm	44606895	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Fir Tree Farm	45957025	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844; Vbl (Mr.Whitefield)
Fosters Farm, fo, now Four Gables	46056889	yes	OS 6"(1909)
Heath Farm, fo	46757135	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Jacklands Farm	47027152	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Milton Farm	46777135	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Mizzymead Farm	47057045	yes	GBJ(P); OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Myrtle Farm	44756898	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Nursebatch Farm	45256930	yes	OS 6"; SP(N); TA(N)1844
Old King's Hill Farm	46157065	yes	GBJ(P); OS 6"; TA(N)1844
ox-house	45886937	yes	TA(N)1844
ox-house	44606950	yes	TA(N)1944
ox-house	47707025	yes	TA(N)1844
ox-house	45556930	yes	TA(N)1844
ox-house	46246891	yes	TA(N)1844
ox-house	45106813	yes	TA(N)1844
Poplar Farm	45607010	yes	OS 6", 25"; TA(N)1844

Site	NGR	Extant	Sources
Rock Farm	46437060	no	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Rose Farm	44936895	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
South Common Farm	45706865	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844; Vbl (Mr.Lucas)
Tower House Farm	45206983	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
wagon-house	46006905	yes	TA(N)1844
West End Dairy Farm (now known as 'Little Manor')	44406900	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844; Vbl (Mr.Whitefield)
West End Farm	44556920	yes	OS 6"; SP(N); TA(N)1844; Vbl (Mr.Stevenson)
White Oak Farm	47106960	yes	OS 6"
Youngwood, now Deerhurst	46886902	yes	OS 6"; SP(N); TA(N)1844; Vbl (Mr.L.Cox)
Young Wood Farm	46656928	yes	OS 6"; SP(N); TA(N)1844; Vbl (Mrs.James)
Young Wood House Farm	47066905	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844; Vbl (Mr.Broke)
<u>INNS</u>			
Bird in Hand	46207053	no	GBJ:ON; OS 6"; Vbl (Mr.Bougourde snr., Mrs.Summerell)
Britannia Arms, fo	47607080	yes	TA(N)1844; Vbl (Mr.I.Brock)
Butchers Arms	46207057	yes	GBJ:ON; OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Field House, fo inn	47206990	yes	GBJ:ON; OS 6"
Friendship Inn, fo Glasshouse Inn or Glassmakers Arms	47607097	yes	GBJ:ON; WI(N)
New Inn	44836903	yes	OS 6"
Queen's Head	47407075	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Ring o' Bells	46556983	yes	GBJ:ON; OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Royal Oak	47657085	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
White Lion	46507070	yes	GBJ:ON; TA(N)1844
<u>JAILS</u>			
Lock-up	46207045	no	GBJ:ON; TA(N)1844
<u>PARSONAGES</u>			
Christchurch Rectory	47237080	yes	OS 6"
Holy Trinity Rectory	46576996	yes	OS 6"
<u>POORHOUSES & WORKHOUSES</u>			
The Poor's House	46267061	yes	GBJ:ON; TA(N)1844
<u>see also Dwellings: Yew Tree Cottage</u>			
<u>SCHOOLS</u>			
Four Oaks School, fo Christchurch C.E.School	47007082	yes	LC; OS 6"
Hannah More School	46556985	yes	LC; OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Nile Cottage and adjoining cottage	46417008	yes	GBJ(P); TA(N)1844
Parish Room, fo Hannah More school	46556990	no	GBJ:ON; OS 6"(1932) and 25"(1931); TA(N)1844
Parish School	46536991	no	LC; OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Trendlewood, fo Rosemount	47857020	yes	OS 6"(1909); Vbl (Mr.E.Brock)
<u>see also Dwellings: Glebe Cottage</u>			

Site	NGR	Extant	Sources
<u>VILLAGE HALLS ETC.</u>			
Masonic Hall	47907095	yes	OS 6"
<u>see also Schools: Parish Room</u>			
<u>COMMUNICATIONS</u>			
<u>BRIDGES</u>			
King's Hill Bow, fo bridge	46307060	no	GBJ(P)
<u>FORDS ETC.</u>			
Ford	46156835	no	OS 6"(1932); TA(N)1844
<u>GREEN LANES, HOLLOW WAYS & PATHS</u>			
bridle path	45156940	yes	OS 6"
	47906965		
timber trackway	44106930	no	GLV(P)
<u>ROADS</u>			
Breach Lane	c.446693	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
	449697		
Causeway or Cassy, The	45857085	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
	45727140		
Chapel Barton	c.46257050	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Engine Lane	45807005	yes	OS 6"
	46106940		
Fosse Lane	46557070	northwards	yes OS 6"(1909, 1932); TA(N)1844
Nailsea Wall (causeway)	44456910	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Pound Lane	c.46307065	yes	GBJ(ON); OS 6"; TA(N)1844
St. Mary's Grove	c.48306960	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Silver Street	46357065	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
	47357077		
Water Lane	c.46007055	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
<u>STILES</u>			
Stone stile	45206923	yes	NFA
Stone stile	45346905	yes	NFA
Stone stile	45616928	yes	NFA
Stone stile	45136940	yes	NFA
Stone stile	45826984	yes	NFA
Stone stile	45707038	yes	NFA
Stone stile	46706978	yes	NFA
Stone stile	47627140	yes	NFA
Stone stile	47806995	no	NFA
Stone stile	47657077	yes	NFA
Stone stile	47336945	yes	Obs
Stone stile	46756923	yes	Obs
<u>TRAMSWAYS</u>			
Tramway, fo	48706880	to north	no GBJ:NC; OS 6"
Tramway, fo	c.47306920	no	GBJ:NC; OS 6"
<u>EARTHWORKS</u>			
<u>BARROWS</u>			
Round barrow?	46836960	yes	Obs; Vbl' (Mr. Webber)
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>			
Rubble heap	45506955	yes	Obs

Site	NGR	Extant	Sources
<u>NAMES</u>			
Batch, The	45206940	yes	WI(FN:N)
Coneygre and Three Acres	46056835	no	SP(N/C)
Fryth, The	46407090	yes	TA(N)1844
Gaul Acre	46006950	yes	TA(N)1844; WI(FN:N)
Henil Heaps	47007085	no	TA(N)1844
Mizzy Mead	47107000	no	TA(N)1844
Perrins	c.49706970	yes	TA(N)1844
Scotch Horn	47807080	yes	TA(N)1844
Tynning, The	47006970	yes	TA(N)1844
<u>MISCELLANEOUS FIELD SYSTEMS</u>			
Ridge, fo field boundary?	47807007	yes	TA(N)1844
<u>INDUSTRIAL</u>			
<u>BAKERIES</u>			
Bakery	c.47507080	no	Vbl(Mrs.B.Brock)
Bakery	46187050	yes	Obs
Yendate's Steam Bakery: bakery and cornmill	47927116	yes	GBJ(P); OS 6"; TA(N)1844
<u>BREWING</u>			
Coate's Cider Factory	48127133	no	OS 6"(1932)
Thatcher's Brewery	47557100	no	GBJ:ON; TA(N)1844
<u>BRICKFIELDS, CLAYPITS & SANDPITS</u>			
Claypits, fo	47807110	no	VK
Claypit	47156880	yes	OS 6"
Sandpit?	47506950	yes	Obs
<u>GLASSWORKS</u>			
Nailsea Glassworks	47807090	no	CH:NG; OS 25"(1902); SP(N); TA(N)1844; VK
<u>MINES & WORKINGS (COAL)</u>			
Bucklands Batch Pit	47956985	no	GBJ:NC; OS 6"
Double Screen Pit	47657055	no	GBJ:NC
East End Pit	48257015	no	GBJ:NC; Vbl (Mr.Thomas)
Farler's Pit	47736990	yes	GBJ:NC
Forty Fathoms or Old Engine House Pit	c.46807050	no	GBJ:NC
Heath or Black Road Pit	47637112	no	GBJ:NC
King's Hill Pit	46257055	no	GBJ:NC; GBJ:ON
New Pit	47167110	no	GBJ:NC
Old Engine Yard Pit	46807080	no	GBJ:NC
Old Glasshouse Pit	47837085	yes	GBJ:NC; OS 6"; SP(N); Vbl (Mr.I.Brock)
Old Nailsea Pit	48207057	yes	GBJ:NC; Vbl (Mr.I.Brock)
Sallow Grove Pit	46627018	no	GBJ:NC; OS 6"(1909)
West End or Grace's Pit	45857008	no	GBJ:NC; OS 6"
White Oak Pit	47157052	no	GBJ:NC; OS 6"
Young Wood Pit	47306917	no	GBJ:NC; OS 6"

Site	NGR	Extant	Sources
<u>QUARRIES (STONE)</u>			
Quarries	45006830/	yes	Obs
	45306850		
Quarry	45336965	yes	Obs
Quarry, fo	44826947	no	OS 6"
Quarry	45836872	yes	Obs
Quarry, 'Henil Heaps'	47007085	yes	OS 6"; TA(N)1844
Quarries	48007025	yes	OS 6"
Quarry	47737095	no	OS 25"(1902); SP(N)
Quarry	47586965	yes	Obs
Quarry, fo	46006930	yes	Obs
Quarry, fo	46156942	yes	Obs

SAWMILLS

Sawmills	48107132	no	OS 6"(1909)
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SMITHIES & WHEELWRIGHTS

Smithy	45967032	yes	OS 6"(1909); TA(N)1844
Smithy, rems	45827013	yes	OS 6"(1909); TA(N)1844
Smithy	c.47607090	no	GBJ(P)
Smithy	c.48107125	no	GBJ(P)
Smithy	46207053	yes	Vbl (Mr.Bougourde snr.)
Wheelwright's workshop	45827013	yes	Vbl (Mr.Munt)

TANNERIES

Tannery, rems	46157055	yes	GBJ:ON; OS 6"; TA(N)1844
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PARKS, ETC.WARRENS

See Fields: Names - Consygre

SETTLEMENT & ASSOCIATED FEATURESPLAN COMPONENTS

Village Green	43757075	yes	Obs
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WATER SUPPLIESPONDS

Pond, stonclined	45227010	yes	OS 6"
Pond	46606940	yes	OS 6"

PUMPS

Hand-pump	-	no	GBJ:ON
Hand-pump	46417008	yes	Obs
Village hand-pump	47577097	no	Vbl (Mr.I.Brock)
Windpump	47157052	no	OS 6"(1932)
Windpump	46757075	no	OS 6"(1909); Vbl (Mr.E.Brock)
Windpump, rems	45626850	yes	OS 6"; Vbl (Mr.Whitefield)

WEIRS, SLUICES & LEATS ETC.

Water Gauge on R.Kenn sluice	45036800	yes	OS 6"; Vbl (Mr.Whitefield)
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WELLS & SPRINGS

Moorend Spout (spring?)	46607150	yes	OS 6"
Spring	47956962	yes	OS 6"; Vbl(Mr.Bougourde snr.)
Well with hand-pump	47066905	yes	Obs
Wells, 2	48257039	yes	Obs
Well	46876900	no	OS 6"(1909)
Well	46676994	yes	Obs

Site	NGR	Extant	Sources
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>			
<u>FOLLIES, GROTTOS ETC.</u>			
'Smugglers Hole' artificial cave	45406898	yes	Obs
<u>ICEHOUSES</u>			
Mound, ?icehouse	45776816	yes	OS 6"; Vbl (Mr. Whitefield)
<u>POUNDS</u>			
Pound	46307064	no	GBJ:ON; TA(N)1844
<u>SURFACE & ISOLATED FINDS</u>			
Coins, Roman, 3 urns of	?	?	GBJ:ON; WI(N)
Coin, Roman	45706820	yes	ESH
Coin, ?Geo. III halfpenny	47487110	yes	Vbl (Mr. Robinson)
Flint arrowhead	47487110	yes	Vbl (Mr. Robinson)
Pottery, RB	43506960	yes	NSARG
Pottery, RB? and C18-19	45306860	yes	Vbl (Mrs. Brookes)
Quern	44106920	yes	NSARG
Ring, brass (fake 'gold')	47487110	yes	Vbl (Mr. Robinson)
Vase, Roman, glass	45706820	yes	ESH

RECORDING GRAVESTONES AT ST. GEORGES CHURCH, EASTON

In February 1976 another change in Bristol's skyline was brought about by the demolition of the parish church of St. George. Although only built in 1880 it was the third on a site dating back to 1752 when the parish of St. George was created to meet the needs of the growing populations of St. Philip and St. Jacob. The first church opened in 1756, and was rebuilt in 1845 by the Rev. George Salt who thought the old church to be "not very ecclesiastical" for the times. This second church was destroyed by fire in 1878 when the stoves warming the organ overheated.

Before the present church was pulled down members of A. G. B. A. and B. A. R. G. spent many wintry weekends recording the gravestones in the churchyard. It was completely overgrown, and the first few weeks were spent in clearing the undergrowth around the church. Many of the earliest gravestones had been laid flat when the first church was rebuilt and were now buried beneath several inches of soil. They were located by digging rows of test holes across the yard. Their positions were then marked on a large scale plan of the churchyard and numbered for reference. Each stone was then sketched and its dimensions recorded. Unusual decorations were copied and inscriptions transcribed.

The Georgian stones were the most interesting artistically, with their symbols of life and death carved above the inscriptions. Unfortunately many had been badly worn during their use as paving stones around the church. People of interest included a surgeon who had served at Waterloo, and a local horse dealer. We still hope to find a certain Samuel Bassett who was hanged for horse stealing after a chase of over a hundred miles and who is known to be buried in this churchyard.

Bruce MacFarlane
Action Group for Bristol Archaeology

REVIEWS

L. V. Grinsell, Legendary History and Folklore of Stonehenge (West Country Folklore, No. 9), Toucan Press, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, 1975. pp. 23, 3 figs., price 30p.

Mr. Grinsell has here done an invaluable service to students of Stonehenge, by bringing together all the material relating to its legendary history and popular mythology, from a voluminous literature which is often hard to come by,

Given the paramount place of Stonehenge amongst our prehistoric sites, it is surprising how few are the recurrent themes in its legends and folklore. The foremost of these is the story of the transport of the stones from Ireland (or Africa) by Merlin (sometimes aided by the Devil) and the ancillary legend of the Friar's Heel - one of the best pieces of putative evidence for the persistence of an oral tradition from prehistoric into historic times. As the author rightly notes, however, we can be less certain than formerly that the bluestones were brought from Pembrokeshire directly to Stonehenge, rather than to some intermediate site.

The longstanding belief in the healing, and toad-scaring, power of the stones, when soaked in water, may account in part for the once-common practice of knocking off fragments with a hammer hired out for the purpose by the smithy in Amesbury, which has contributed significantly to the dilapidation of the bluestones. The alleged uncountability of the stones, shared with other sites, has been treated with greater scepticism.

I do not wholly share Mr. Grinsell's belief that the Druidical connotations of Stonehenge have by now been "swamped and . . . drowned by the proliferation of authoritative archaeological literature, broadcasting and television". Druids at Stonehenge may be moribund, but they take a long time to lie down. Every time I visit the site (and always as a keen cavesdropper) I hear their name on the lips of visitors who will never have heard of Aubrey or Stukeley. Even in a mass-educated society the popular oral tradition shows a remarkable vitality.

R. J. C. Atkinson

Keith Branigan, Prehistoric Britain: an illustrated survey. Spurbooks Ltd., 1976. pp. 144, 53 photographs, 30 plans, 10 figs. and 3 maps. £5.00.

It is stated in the preface to this book that it 'is not intended as a textbook for the student but rather as a framework into which he or she can fit their more detailed studies'. It seems to be intended to meet some of the requirements of first year undergraduates and members of extra-mural classes. The references and illustrations are noticeably slanted towards Wessex and the South West, and more than a dozen illustrations are of objects in Bristol City Museum. It is therefore clear that the book will appeal particularly to those in these areas, and in this review some comments will be made with the object of increasing its utility for local needs.

The author has tried to eliminate the use of the terms palaeolithic, mesolithic, neolithic, etc., while retaining their approximate dates and divisions. In the reviewer's opinion he might as well have added the periods, as is done in British Prehistory: a New Outline (1974), edited by Colin Renfrew, and in British Archaeological Abstracts, published half-yearly by the Council for British Archaeology.

An author writing such a work just after the implementation of the Local Government Act of 1972, and during the period of transition from English to metric measurement, has to decide whether to follow the traditional or the new county and regional boundaries, and whether to give measurements in English or metric. Dr. Branigan has been inconsistent on the first point, and the reader who wishes to have his local topography up to date should note that the County of Avon includes the Stoney Littleton long barrow (p. 44), the round barrows at Wall Mead, Camerton (p. 85) although these are actually in the parish of Timsbury in the same county; the site of the Tormarton Bronze Age skeletons (pp. 106-108); and the find-spot of the bronze collar from Wraxall (p. 134). The new Oxfordshire includes the Ridgeway west of Uffington (p. 40), Wayland's Smithy long barrow (p. 45), the White Horse of Uffington (p. 140), and the Bronze Age enclosure on Ram's Hill (pp. 81, 103). The author has given measurements throughout in English in his text, but almost all the line drawings carry a scale in metric; at the moment of writing this is perhaps a reasonable compromise.

The following corrections in the spelling of the names of major archaeological sites should be noted: Danby Rigg for Danby Ring (p. 88); Grime's Graves for Grime Graves (p. 85); Hembury in Devon for Henbury (pp. 33, 35, 36); Pool Farm for Poole Farm (pp. 92, 94, 95); Traprain Law for Traprain Law (p. 106); Unstan for Unston (p. 59); Worlebury for Worleybury (p. 136). Also, on p. 140 Tasciouvanus should read Tasciovanus.

On the location of archaeological sites, the long barrow at South Street should be stated as at South Street, Avebury, as South Street does not occur on any normal maps (p. 31). On p. 72, 'the burial in the centre of Overton' should read 'the burial in the centre of round barrow West Overton G. 6b' as there are several other barrows in that parish and on Overton Hill.

Factual errors noted by the reviewer are few. On p. 36, 'stone tools made of material available no nearer than Bath or Frome' should surely read, 'pottery binding inclusions from the oolite no nearer than Bath or Frome'. There are several stone-axe working sites in the Graig Lwyd area (p. 52), all described in detail in the Caernarvonshire volumes of the R. C. A. M. for Wales. On p. 86, for 'over four thousand' read 'at least six thousand' round barrows in Wessex. On p. 94, the carved slab from the Badbury barrow may have been from a stone cist rather than from a retaining kerb.

It is good to find the possibility of Eastern Mediterranean influence in Wessex and South-West England still being entertained by the author who is an expert on the Bronze Age in the Eastern Mediterranean as well as on British prehistory (p. 90).

This book is based largely on the results of excavations done since the 1939/45 War, and it is therefore essential that the author's advice to consult 'the more detailed studies', including the earlier literature, be followed.

Leslie Grinsell

Vivien G. Swan, Pottery in Roman Britain. Shire Publications, 1975. £1.00

This fourth book in the Shire Archaeology series contains 17 pages of close packed text, 34 plates, 14 figures of some 84 items of pottery as well as a glossary, bibliography and a list of museums to visit; also an index, an item that is frequently omitted from books of this length.

The text is misleadingly compact, covering far more in the space than one would imagine possible. It comprises a neat summary of the present state of Roman pottery studies, useful to any student of this ubiquitous material and a good successor to Graham Webster's Romano British Coarse Pottery: a Student's Guide. Successor is not quite the right word - companion would be better, as the two books are in many ways complimentary. One would be glad to have Dr. Webster's book at hand to explain some of the many technical terms used by Mrs. Swan.

This raises the question of the intended market for this book. It would, without doubt, be of use to first year University students, a valuable reference book in the finds hut of a Roman excavation, and to Extra-Mural students handling pottery, though in all these cases its utility would be enhanced by the presence of the weightier works of reference upon which it is based. It is not a book for the complete beginner, but for someone prepared to put in a little time on the study of Roman pottery it provides a good, broad-based summary. It ranges through Gallo-Belgic wares, ordinary coarse pottery, Samian and amphorae, the latter getting a rather brief mention and Samian ware a cursory treatment with no illustration of forms, though these are frequently referred to in the text. Possibly a little introductory explanation on how pottery is dated and its use in archaeology might have been useful.

The layout is efficient though occasionally confusing. Not all mortaria are discussed in the chapter with that heading. The use of Roman numerals both for figure numbers and centuries, not to mention Black Burnished ware categories, is muddling; it is hard to assimilate a date span given as 'from c. 180 to mid III' (p. 17). The use of italics for technical terms is uneven; 'table-wares' and 'table-wares' on pp. 18 and 19, and only some of the English proper names are given in italics, with no explanation. Many more technical terms appear in the text, italicised or not, than in the glossary which is a pity.

Another section in need of expansion is the bibliography. Anyone prepared to read the book or to use it for reference is bound to require more of the subject's 'nuts and bolts' than are given though admittedly the books cited have good bibliographies themselves.

Shire Publications are to be congratulated on providing such a high proportion of photograph plates (rather lacking definition) and figure drawings. These decidedly add to its usefulness as an introductory reference book. It is mildly annoying that the illustrations do not generally follow the order in which they are referred to in the text. Also, a map would have been helpful. However, for £1.00 these are perhaps counsels of perfection and anyone buying this book can rest assured that they have received excellent value for their money.

Georgina Plowright

NOTICES OF RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society Centenary 1876-1976

Instead of the Society's Transactions this year a celebratory volume of essays has been published. Frances Neale contributes the following notice.

Essays in Bristol and Gloucestershire History ed. P. McGrath and J. Cannon, it aims to reflect the diverse past and present interests of the Society, and as such it is a mixed bag in the best sense: short on "archaeologists' archaeology" but full of variety and unexpected plums. The President's history of the Society, 1876-1976, leaves the impression between the lines that a lively disputation is not a prerogative only of present-day archaeological societies. Glyn Daniel brings the historiography of the 'megalithic idea' up to date, and Jocelyn Toynbee has contributed a handy catalogue of local Roman sculpture, with special emphasis on recent finds. David Douglas surveys the sweep of historical evidence for 'Bristol under the Normans' (a useful setting for recent archaeological work on the same period) which contrasts with J. C. Dickenson's closely argued and sometimes controversial theories on 'The Origins of St. Augustine's' and perhaps of Bristol to boot. The Gloucestershire balance is redressed by David Verey and Joan Thirsk, reflecting the Society's unrepentant interest in churches and country gentry, with a delightful exploration of 'Perpendicular Style' - encouraging ecclesiastical fieldwork on masons' marks - and of tobacco-growing, emigration and other 17th century ventures. Bryan Little's readable account of the two contrasting spas of Hotwells and Cheltenham leaves a memory of George III enjoying his own B & G style excursions and inventing the 'royal walkabout' - in contrast to Peter Marshall's 'American Loyalists in Bristol', a sad little group of 1776 exiles. Finally, two 19th century studies by Drs. Buchanan and Alford show a neat facility to turn accepted generalisations upside-down, with a view of Brunel as something less than everybody's darling; and a hardline left-wing antidote to complacent views about the 'Economic Development of Bristol in the 19th century'. At £3.50, for hardback, 300 pages, 33 illustrations and index, this is a commemorative book-bargain in which anybody concerned with the past of this area will find something to touch upon their interests. Available at local bookshops or direct (£3.50 post free) from the Hon. Secretary, Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society, 9A Pembroke Road, Bristol BS8 3AU.

Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society, vol. 119 (1975) contains 'The Burghal Hidage - Axbridge' by B. A. R. G. member Michael Batt (p. 22-25). Earlier work on Axbridge had helped to gain for the writer the first scholarship to be awarded by Rescue. 'Soil and land use change on Exmoor' (p. 38-43) by K. Crabtree and E-Maltby will be of interest to those who attended Dr. Crabtree's weekend courses on Pollen Analysis in recent years.

Proceedings of University of Bristol Spelaeological Society, vol. 14 No. 1 (1975) includes 'Problems of the "Cheddar Man", Gough's Cave, Somerset' by E. K. Tratman (p. 7-23). Dr. Tratman examines controversial aspects of this skeletal material, first discovered in 1903; he is convinced that it was the deliberate burial of a post-Creswellian individual without grave goods, and he further asserts that Cheddar Man was right-handed and was in the habit of cleaning his teeth with a twig. Other articles are 'Excavations at Stokeleigh Camp, Avon', by J. W. Haldane (p. 29-63), with an appendix 'The Animal Bones' by Dr. R. F. Everton (p. 63-74); and 'A Bos Primogenius from Charterhouse Warren Farm, Blagdon', also by Dr. R. F. Everton (p. 75-82).

C. R. A. A. G. S. 2nd Annual Report 1975-76 is available without charge from 9 Park Place, Bristol and provides an effective synopsis of archaeological activity in the three counties.

Villages Survey: an interim report by Ann Ellison. C. R. A. A. G. S. Occasional Papers No. 1 (1976) pp. 11, 4 figs., 40p. Yeovil District is the area chosen to describe the procedures used in a 'villages survey', with Isle Abbots as a particular example of a village case-history.

Somerset Levels Papers No. 2, (1976) pp. 80, 60 ills., £1.80, contains definitive reports on the Abbot's Way and the Sweet Track, the latter including an account of the earlier Post Track which is probably the oldest wooden track in Europe. Obtainable from Somerset Levels Project at either Dept. of Archaeology, Downing Street, Cambridge or Dept. of History, The University, Exeter.

Prehistoric Sites in the Quantock Country by L. V. Grinsell. S. A. N. H. S. (1976) pp. 25, 3 figs., map. 60 p. A useful handbook in the Field Guide tradition which will encourage exploration of this less familiar tract of country.

Folklore of Prehistoric Sites in Britain by L. V. Grinsell. David & Charles 1976, pp. 320, 31 ills., 8 maps, 6 line-drawings. £7.50.

Folklore, vol. 87, part 1, June 1976 includes the Legendary History and Folklore of Stonehenge by Leslie Grinsell (pp. 5-20), a version of the booklet reviewed on p. 221 and in which the author has incorporated some revisions and improvements.

Avon Archaeological Council The new Hon. Secretary is Miss Jane Evans.
Address: Woodspring Museum, Burlington Street, Weston-super-Mare.

CALENDAR
OF FORTHCOMING COURSES, MEETINGS AND LECTURES
September-December 1976

Abbreviation

W-u-E.H.S. Wotton-under-Edge Historical Society

Other abbreviations are as listed in previous issues of Bulletin

September

- 9 Church building stones, by Andrew Mathieson. Lunchtime talk. St. Nicholas Church Museum, BRISTOL. 1.00 p. m.
- 10 The beauty of old churches, by L. Jones. B. S. A, Village Hall, BANWELL. 7.30 p. m.
- 14 Westbury on Trym Church. Evening meeting. B. & G.A.S. 6.0p. m.
- 16 17th and 18th century church furnishings, Karin Walton. Lunchtime talk. St. Nicholas Church Museum, BRISTOL. 1.00 p. m.
- 18 Newton St. Loe Castle (?) Field Meeting led by Graham Davis. K. & S. L. H. S. Non-members 15p. Meet at the car park, NEWTON PARK COLLEGE. 3.00 p. m.
- 19 Exeter Maritime Museum and Dartmoor. B. & C. A. S. excursion. Details from Meetings Secretary J. Macdonald. Tel: Limpley Stoke 3559.
- 24 Folklore and legend of the Wotton area, by R. Chidlaw. W-u-E.H.S. Wotton Library, WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE. 7.30 p. m.
- 25 Tudor military fortifications, by R. Ashley. One-day school at Weymouth College of Education, WEYMOUTH. 10.30 a. m. University.
- 29 Introduction to archaeology, by J. H. Drinkwater. 20 meetings weekly at Adult Education Centre, Monks Park School, BRISTOL. 7.30 p. m. University.
- 30 The Clevedon Torc - its place in history, by Georgina Plowright. C. & D. A. S. Community Centre, CLEVEDON. 7.30 p. m.

October

- 1 Introduction to archaeology, by Georgina Plowright. 10 meetings weekly at Twyford House, SHIREHAMPTON. 7.30 p. m. University
- 1 British excavation sites and their contribution to Prehistory, by E. J. Mason. 20 weekly meetings at the Folk House, 40 Park Street, BRISTOL. 7.45 p. m.
- 4 The History and Civilisation of Ancient Greece and Rome, by Bryan Little. The Folk House, 40 Park Street, BRISTOL. 7.45 p. m. University.
- 4 Archaeology and local history, by C. Browne. 20 meetings weekly at Sacred Heart Convent, CHEW MAGNA. 7.30 p. m. University.
- 5 The archaeology of south western England, by L. V. Grinsell. 10 meetings weekly at the Technical College, BATH. 7.30 p. m. University.
- 5 Roman daily life, by Dr. A. J. Parker. 12 meetings weekly at Shaftesbury Hall, St. Georges Place, CHELTENHAM. 7.30 p. m. University.

October

- 6 Roman Civilisation and Architecture, by B. Warmington. 10 meetings weekly at The Chantry, THORNBURY. 7.30 p.m. University.
- 7 Approaches to Archaeology, by Mrs. E. Fowler. 10 meetings weekly at Committee Room, St. Augustine's Church Centre, Whitchurch Lane, WHITCHURCH, Bristol. 10.00 a.m. University
- 8 The Medieval West, by R. G. Wilcox. 10 meetings weekly at Community Centre, CLEVEDON. 7.30 p.m. University.
- 8 History of Bristol, by Miss E. Ralph. B. S. A. Village Hall, BANWELL. 7.30 p.m.
- 9 Archaeological Field Surveying (1) by D. J. Bonney. Two linked one-day schools (see 16/10/76) WINCANTON area. University(P).
- 11 Certificate in Arts (Field Archaeology and Landscape History). Tutors: P. J. Fowler, J. H. Bettey, Dr. A. B. Hawkins, Bernard Lane. 46 sessional meetings arranged in 6 University teams. Mons. and Thurs. 7.30 p.m. University. PRIOR APPLICATION ESSENTIAL
- 12 Practical Archaeology, by Mrs. K. Rodwell. 10 meetings weekly at Teaching Room 1, Extra-Mural Dept., 32 Tyndalls Park Road, BRISTOL. 10.00 a.m. Creche available. University.
- 14 Parish Survey evening, and lecture by D. Sheppard. S. A. N. H. S. Wyndham Hall, Taunton Castle, TAUNTON. Details from Hon. Sec. P. G. Davey, Taunton Castle, TAUNTON.
- 15 Archaeology in Bristol, by C. Brownie. 10 meetings weekly at Extra-Mural Dept., 32 Tyndalls Park Road, BRISTOL. 2.15p.m. University.
- 16 Archaeological Field Surveying (2), by D. J. Bonney. See 9/10/76 above
- 16-17 Archaeological Field Surveying, by P. J. Fowler. Res. w/e at Burwalls, Leigh Woods, BRISTOL. University
- 18 Archaeology in 1984, by P. J. Fowler. B. & G. A. S. St. Nicholas Church Museum, BRISTOL. 7.30 p.m.
- 21 Some Local Iron Age Torcs, by Georgina Plowright. Lunchtime lecture. City Museum, BRISTOL. 1.00 p.m.
- 21 B. A. R. G. LECTURE: (in conjunction with the City Museum)
THE CITY BENEATH YOUR FEET, by Tom Hassall. City Museum, BRISTOL. 7.30 p.m.
- 22 Development of Local Corn Mills, by Joan Day. K. & S. L. H. S. Ellsbridge House, KEYNSHAM. 7.30 p.m.
- 28 Roman Shipwrecks, by Dr. A. J. Parker. C. & D. A. S. Community Centre, CLEVEDON. 7.30 p.m.
- 29 Ancient Greece as it is today, by Rev. John Bowers. W-u-E. H. S. Wotton Library, WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE. 7.30 p.m.
- 30 C. B. A. Group 13. Autumn Meeting at EXETER. Details from C. R. A. A. G. S., 9 Park Place, Bristol.

November

- 1 An Hour of Bristol and Gloucestershire Music, arranged by Mr. F. Byard. B. & G. A. S. St. Nicholas Church Museum, BRISTOL 7.30p.m. Information from Mr. R. Knapp, 9 Beaconsfield Road, Bristol 8.

November

- 4-7 Archaeology on an Ancient Farm, by P. J. Fowler and P. J. Reynolds. Res. week at Rogate Field Centre, HAMPSHIRE and at Butser Hill. University (P).
- 10 B. A. R. G. LECTURE: BRITISH IRON AGE MIRRORS, by Richard Savage. Schools Room, City Museum, BRISTOL. 7.30 p. m.
- 12 Gas, Gaiters and Gallopers, by Dr. R. W. Dunning. B. S. A. Village Hall, BANWELL. 7.30 p. m.
- 13 Current Work in Nautical Archaeology. Chairman: Dr. A. J. Parker. Panel. Lecture Theatre 4, School of Chemistry, Cantocks Close, BRISTOL. 10.30 a. m. University.
- 19 Keynsham 1840-1940: a period of change, by Connie Smith. K. & S. L. H. S. Ellsbridge House, KEYNSHAM. 7.30 p. m.
- 20- Pompeii 79. Exhibition at Royal Academy, Burlington House, 17 Feb. LONDON. Admission £1.00.
- 22-26 Archaeological Field Surveying, by P. J. Fowler and D. J. Bonney. Res. week at Urchfont Manor, DEVIZES, Wiltshire. University(P)
- 25 The new Archaeological Gallery at Woodspring Museum, by Jane Evans. C. & D. A. S. Community Centre, CLEVEDON. 7.30p. m.
- 26 Heraldry in Stained Glass, by Dr. A. B. Cottle. W-u-E. H. S. Wotton Library, WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE. 7.30 p. m.
- 26-28 Soils for the Archaeologist, by Dr. L. F. Curtis and E. Maltby. NR w/e at Geography Dept., University Road, BRISTOL. 6.30p. m. University.

December

- 1 B. A. R. G. LECTURE: THE MEDIEVAL LANDSCAPE, by Trevor Rowley. Schools Room, City Museum, BRISTOL. 7.30 p. m.
- 3 Costume and Archaeology, by Mrs. Williams-Mitchell. B. S. A. Village Hall, BANWELL. 7.30 p. m.
- 11 Archaeological Social Evening. S. A. N. H. S. Details from Hon. Sec. P. G. Davey, Taunton Castle, TAUNTON.
- 17 Members Evening. K. & S. L. H. S. Ellsbridge House, KEYNSHAM 7.30 p. m.

DODINGTON PARISH SURVEY

Bristol University Archaeology Society decided to undertake the Parish Survey of Dodington in February. The parish lies south of Chipping Sodbury on the edge of the Cotswold escarpment. There is a proposal by Heron Homesteads Ltd. to extend the town of Yate southwards, and if planning permission is granted almost half the parish will be threatened by development.

So far, work has concentrated on the documentary side, while landowners and farmers are approached. The parish is fortunate in having a number of early estate maps, which pre-date the Tithe map, and also the records of the Codrington family who own Dodington House and the surrounding estate.

The Society has managed to do some fieldwork and hopes to begin an intensive programme of fieldwalking next October.

Cynthia Poole