

Royal Archaeological Institute Newsletter

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EDITORIAL • Katherine Barclay

With the notices at the end of this edition of the newsletter is a note about our redesigned website, which you are all encouraged to visit – for now the principal use will be the sharing of information. Our Institute is in its 167th year, having been founded in 1844. A few years earlier, in 1841, for the first time, a standard form was delivered to every household to be filled in on a given Sunday night, the system which is still in use today in the great information-gathering exercise that is the census. Many questions remain identical to those asked then (the pre-1841 censuses were more of a head count). A finely sharpened pencil was said to be the perfect tool for census tabulation sheets, until 1911 when punched cards and mechanical sorting equipment were introduced, speeding up the whole process and enabling new and more detailed statistical analyses. American technology has played a part ever since. These machines had been developed by Herman Hollerith from those he had used for analysing the 1890 census in the United States, which were said to have accomplished in one year what would have taken nearly ten years of hand tabulation. In 1896, he founded the Tabulating Machine Company, later a part of what became IBM. The MOD/Royal Army Pay Corps' huge IBM 705 mainframe computer was installed at Worthy Down near Winchester in 1960 and for many years was shared with the General Register Office for processing the census data. Now, there is criticism of the role of Lockheed Martin, the American surveillance giant, in the gathering and processing of data for this year's census (see e.g. <http://www.indymedia.org.uk/en/2011/03/475304.html>).

For some 200 years, the information collected has helped the Government and other organisations to identify, predict and plan resources for society's needs in the future, but it has been suggested that in order to save money, 2011 might be the last official UK census. This year the form may for the first time be

completed and submitted online. One of the most intriguing statistics to come out of the resulting count will be what proportion of respondents reply online rather than by returning the paper copy, a sign of the times. Can we increase RAI membership by

making wise use of the internet or will the Institute too decline into history?

The exhibition about its history, *Census and Society: why everyone counts*, is at the British Library until 29 May.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

PRESENTATION OF HERITAGE RESEARCH AWARDS 2011 • John Schofield

The Institute has for some years been a co-sponsor of these Awards with the principal heritage services for the British Isles and Ireland, providing £750, including a £500 prize for the winner in the 'Under-30' category. Eight entries for these Awards (PHerRA) 2011, were selected by the judging panel for presentation at the British Museum, on Friday 25 February, as part of the Archaeology 2011 conference organised by *Current Archaeology*. This was a diverse group of topics from a mix of professional and amateur archaeologists from Britain and Ireland and ranged from historic landscape characterisation of the Black Country, to the cruck buildings of NW England, from Viking burial assemblages to medieval church graffiti. The diversity made for an interesting day, attended by probably 60–70 members of the public and the six members of the judging panel (one from each of the sponsoring organisations).

This year both judges and the audience agreed on a clear 'first' and 'second', and that there was little between the two, but they disagreed on who should be 'first'. It was agreed therefore to award the first prize jointly and to share the prize money equally.

As there were no Under 30 finalists, given the quality of the two winners, the £500 usually awarded to the Under 30 winner was added to their prize fund making £1250 each.

The two winners were Matthew Champion for The Norfolk Medieval Graffiti Survey: New Discoveries, New Interpretations and Rory Sherlock for The Chronology of the Irish Tower House – Using new techniques to date old castles.

For further details and an entry form for 2012, see : <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/training-and-skills/improving-practice/awards-for-presentation-of-heritage-research>

BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL AWARDS

The Institute is represented on the Advisory Panel of the British Archaeological Awards. Aimed at identifying the most impressive, innovative and imaginative archaeological endeavours, the next awards will be made during the 2011 CBA Festival of British Archaeology, 16 to 31 July. Dr John Schofield was the Institute's representative on the panel. For further information see their website <http://www.britarch.ac.uk/awards>

ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE RESEARCH GRANTS

The Institute awards the following grants annually:

Tony Clark Fund Up to £500 for archaeological work and dating

Bunnell Lewis Fund Up to £750 towards archaeology of the Roman period in the UK

RAI Award Up to £5000 towards archaeological work in the UK

For an application form, please see www.royalarchinst.org or write to the Administrator @ RAI c/o Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, London, W1J 0BE

Closing date for applications: 4 January 2012. Awards announced in April 2012.

RAI CHENEY BURSARIES

As a result of a bequest left by Frank Cheney, the Institute has a small fund of money to enable students to attend RAI meetings and conferences. An allocation is available annually from which individuals can apply for a maximum sum of £200. Please check with the Administrator that money remains in the yearly fund before you apply. Students who wish to apply for a bursary should email to admin@royalarchinst.org.uk or write to the Administrator, RAI, c/o Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W1J 0BE, at least six weeks before the event they wish to attend, stating: the institution in which they study, the event they wish to attend, the sum of money requested, a breakdown of how the money would be spent and a summary (up to 250 words) of why they would like to attend the event and in what way this would be useful to them. Successful applicants may be asked to produce a brief report of the event for the Institute.

In 2010, the Institute made its first awards of bursaries – four students received grants covering the conference fee and some of their travel and accommodation expenses to

attend the conference *Wales and the West in the Bronze Age*.

TONY BAGGS UNDERGRADUATE DISSERTATION PRIZE

The Tony Baggs Undergraduate Dissertation Prize, covering the years 2009 and 2010, was awarded jointly to Philippa Howarth of University of Nottingham, for her dissertation on *Pins and perspectives: a catalogue and discussion of the Roman hairpins from Margidunum and Ancaster* and to David Carthy of the University of Leicester, for his dissertation on *Builders or cleaners? Debating the use of architecture by pre-modern hominids in Europe*. Mr Barnabas Baggs presented the award at the December meeting of the Institute, 2010.

MASTER'S DISSERTATION PRIZE

The biennial prize RAI Master's Dissertation Prize of £500 will be awarded in 2011 for the best dissertation of 2010–11 by a graduate student at a British university.

RAI RESEARCH GRANTS, 2010

Research grants for 2011 have been awarded to the following projects:

Nick Card, Excavation at Ness of Brodgar, Orkney

Vicki Cummings, Building the great dolmens

Derek Hurst, New light on Kemerton Camp (Worcs) 1935–7 (Bunell-Lewis Fund)

Mike Parker-Pearson, The stones of Stonehenge – the Preseli connection

Caroline Wickham-Jones, Rising Tide project, Loch of Stenness, Orkney (Tony Clarke Fund)

RAI RESEARCH GRANT REPORTS

BAGENDON SURVEY 2010 • *Tom Moore*

A geophysical survey of the Late Iron Age complex at Bagendon (Gloucestershire) undertaken in 2008–9 aimed at contextualising previous small-scale excavations which have taken place there and revealed a first-century AD ‘industrial’ area. These excavations are currently the focus of a post-excavation project. In 2010 further geophysical survey was conducted using high-resolution geophysics, better to

clarify a number of anomalies noted from aerial photography.

This season’s survey further clarified the nature of the outer earthworks of the site confirming a gap in the outermost ditch which appears to be associated with a ditch feature, possibly forming an earlier entrance way. The large ditched ‘avenue’ associated with a central ‘banjo’ enclosure in the centre of the Bagendon complex, recognised in 2009, was shown to continue beneath the inner dyke and apparently to respect the outer earthwork, confirming the existence of an earlier phase to the complex. Various other anomalies were detected in the eastern area, potentially indicative of additional occupation areas. An area of putative ‘Celtic fields’ noted in the 1950s was also surveyed. This indicated that, whilst some linear features could be detected, the area has suffered severe plough damage in the intervening period.

This year’s survey results are again demonstrating the complexity of activities which existed within the Bagendon complex and confirming suspicions that the ditch system is of multiple phases. Altogether, the fieldwork undertaken in the last three years reveals that the monument had a longer and more complex development than has hitherto been appreciated. The results from the geophysical surveys are being combined with examination of the earlier excavations and other investigations to appreciate better the site’s role in Late Iron Age society and in the changes which took place immediately before and after the Roman conquest.

BOSILIACK SETTLEMENT, POST EXCAVATION PROJECT • *Andy M. Jones and Henrietta Quinnell*

The Bosiliack (Cornwall) post-excavation project aimed to pull together and publish the excavation archive of the Bronze Age



Geophysical survey taking place at Bagendon

settlement at Bosiliack, West Penwith. In 1984 two roundhouses in this settlement, situated within a field system, were partially excavated by Jeannette Ratcliffe and Charles Thomas for the Institute of Cornish Studies. These were the first to be excavated in Penwith since Dorothy Dudley's 1950s excavations and so far the only houses to provide environmental samples with potential for radiocarbon dating.

During the project, charcoal analyses were undertaken and six AMS radiocarbon determinations obtained on charcoal from the roundhouses. House 1 produced four dates, one in the later Middle Bronze Age, 1390–1120 cal. BC, and three in the Iron Age between 750 and 200 cal. BC. House 2 had two dates, both 1210–1000 BC. Both houses produced a little Trevisker style pottery and House 1 some material a little later. There were no ceramics from House 1 contemporary with the Iron Age dates. The dates and ceramic data together demonstrate the longevity and changing character of activity within the roundhouses, and show how biographies of adjacent structures differed. The excavation report also reviews Dudley's roundhouse excavations in the light of data from Bosiliack and considers questions relating to the chronology and character of upland roundhouse occupation in the southwest peninsula.

KIDLANDLEE DEAN LANDSCAPE PROJECT
• Rachel Pope, Lisa Snape-Kennedy and
Jennifer Dungait

The KDL Project examines the nature and chronology of Bronze Age settlement and land use in the Cheviot uplands. During excavation, the project worked as a training excavation for students from the Universities of Durham, Newcastle and Liverpool, with local volunteers from Northumberland and Coquetdale Archaeology Groups. This landscape includes burial cairns, house

platforms, and field systems, with later palisaded enclosures, cord rig, and cross-ridge dykes. For the project, 30,000 sq. m of the landscape has been EDM and GPS surveyed.

In the post-excavation phase, soil samples from the Early – Middle Bronze Age house and associated field system have been analysed using both geochemical and micromorphological techniques.

In total, 26 samples were obtained for lipid extraction using gas chromatography/mass spectrometry. Lisa Snape-Kennedy (Reading University) worked alongside biogeochemist Jennifer Dungait at Rothamsted Research-North Wyke in Devon.

Ten samples tested positive for biomarkers for herbivore dung that can be preserved for millennia in soil. Clear spatial patterning was resolved, with positive samples being obtained from across the field system, whilst biomarkers were absent in the downhill settlement area. This is exciting news, as we may have isolated evidence for a Bronze Age field system being associated with pastoralist activity. Whether this may represent manuring activity is now a key question.

In addition to the geochemical work, samples have been sent for micromorphological analysis by Clare Ellis (Argyll Archaeology). One, from our deepest test-pit – that sitting behind the contour terrace – should help us gain an understanding of soil formation in the area. As well as Middle Bronze Age field system soils this sample contains a buried soil, one potentially associated with earlier contour terracing activity, prior to construction of the field system. A further three samples include deposits which may constitute decayed organic walling of the Early – Middle Bronze Age house, as well as two successive house floors.

MIDLANDS PURPLE AND CISTERCIAN-TYPE
WARES IN THE WEST MIDLANDS IN THE
FIFTEENTH–SIXTEENTH CENTURIES •
*Derek Hurst and Susan M. Wright with
Michael J. Hughes and Robert A. Ixer*

This project was set up to characterise the fabrics of these two ceramic wares and, thereby, their attribution to specific sources. Midlands purple coarse wares (e.g. jars, jugs, cisterns, bowls) and Cistercian-type fine wares (e.g. cups) were produced, sometimes together, at several centres across the west Midlands; they are some of the commonest ceramics on late medieval–post-medieval settlement sites in the region. But study of both the industry’s origins and dating, and of the production and distribution of these wares across the whole region, has been hampered because the pottery made at the early production centres – such as Ticknall (south Derbyshire), Burslem and Wednesbury (Staffordshire), Nuneaton (Warwickshire) – could not be differentiated and identified to source when found at consumer sites.

Pottery from excavations stored around the Midlands was examined in order to sample all the known major early production centres. Because typically only a few sherds from an archaeological site are scientifically analysed, this pilot study tested how far the scientific results – of inductively-coupled plasma spectroscopy (ICPS) and petrography – could be translated into the definition of fabrics that could be visually determined, either in hand specimen or with x20 microscopy.

ICPS was highly successful in identifying separate, chemical, fabric groups for each production centre and in some cases for different production sites within a centre. ICPS also pinpointed the source of particularly the Cistercian-type vessels at two monastic consumer sites used as test cases,



*Cistercian-type necked cup or tyg from Wednesbury
(DH)*

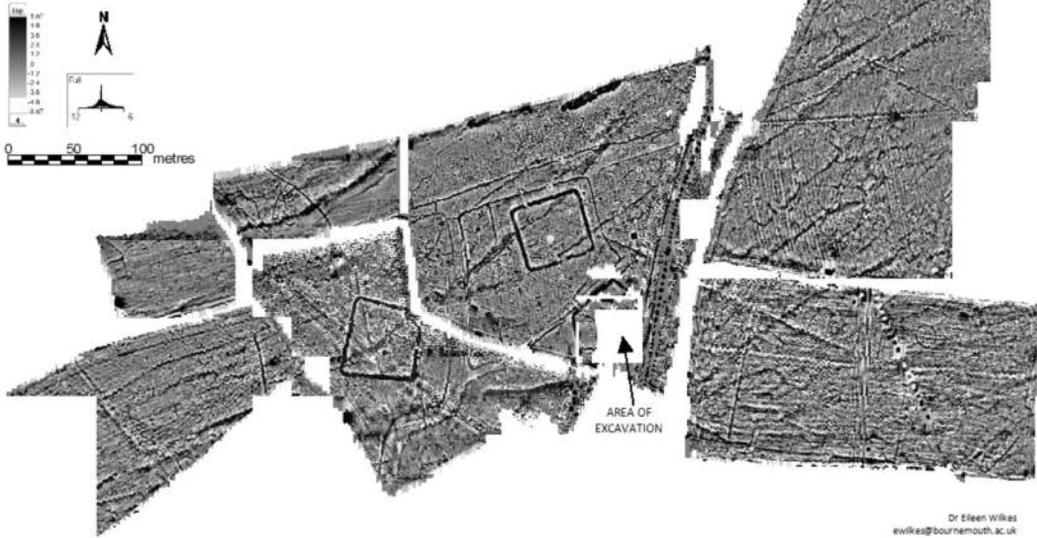
Austin Friars, Leicester and Bordesley Abbey (Worcestershire); and it demonstrated another, unknown, source for Midlands purple ware. Negative evidence for Nuneaton products from the test cases demonstrated that provenance should not be presumed based on proximity.

Comparison of the chemical fabric groups with the thin-section data confirmed the limitations of the latter technique for these highly fired ceramics, and it was mostly impossible to distinguish by eye fabrics from particular production centres at the two consumer sites, though optical microscopy, using the results of the ICPS, enabled progress now to be made in assigning some fabrics to a specific production centre, especially in the case of Wednesbury.

MOUNT FOLLY ENCLOSURES PROJECT •
Eileen Wilkes

The Mount Folly team returned in 2010 to this Iron Age / Romano-British site on the south Devon coast. The investigation relates to later prehistoric sites involved in exchange

Mount Folly Enclosures Project Magnetic gradiometry survey to end of 2010



Mount Folly survey

along and across the English Channel. The site, identified through Devon's aerial reconnaissance programme has, since 2003, been the focus of a community archaeology project led by Dr Wilkes of Bournemouth University.

Six weeks of fieldwork focused on the main occupation area within one of three enclosures whilst high resolution magnetic gradiometry revisited and extended some areas that had previously been surveyed using low resolution techniques. The results of the survey are stunning and provide detail to aid interpretation of the context of the excavated area

Intended to be the final year of major excavation, the fieldwork yielded surprises that require further attention. Bronze Age features (pits) were revealed underlying the Iron Age surfaces and were dated by ceramics within. Clearly this is an important element of the site and the settlement of the hill slope area has been pushed back into the second millennium BC.

The volunteers are active participants in post-excavation tasks, greatly helped by Henrietta Quinnell and Roger Taylor who provide ceramic and petrological advice. A range of ceramics has demonstrated local and wider contacts in southern Britain, France, Germany and Italy.

We hope to continue fieldwork at the site in 2011. All involved are keen that the investigation should complete the examination of the terrace in all its phases. This will be complemented by further geophysical survey and a thorough programme of post-excavation analysis of all the materials from the site.

The team would like to acknowledge the help and support of the landowner, Mr J. Tucker, the County Archaeologist, Frances Griffith and her team, and the Devon Archaeological Society.

WEST HALTON • Dawn Hadley

Excavations undertaken on the village green at West Halton (Lincolnshire) between 2003

and 2009 explored Anglo-Saxon and medieval occupation. This occupation was focused on a surviving Bronze-Age barrow, and another barrow was identified during excavation, which the ceramic profile suggests was levelled in the fourteenth century as a platform for a substantial stone building. To the north of these barrows was a square-ditched feature, enclosing a number of Anglo-Saxon buildings and hundreds of very small post-holes. Ceramic analysis was started following the final season of excavation. The buildings and post-holes have produced early Anglo-Saxon pottery, but the ceramics from the ditch were late Roman in date. While this may have been a late Roman enclosure, it is possible that the ditch represents the earliest Anglo-Saxon

activity on the site; the paucity of finds suggests that the ditch was quickly backfilled and was probably constructional, which might explain the lack of Anglo-Saxon ceramics even if it was constructed at that time. From the absence of the well-recognised middle Anglo-Saxon fabrics of the region, a large curvilinear ditch to the east of the barrows must have been dug in the earlier Anglo-Saxon period, but it appears to have been re-cut with a steeper profile in the late Anglo-Saxon period. The later medieval phase of occupation evidently ceased during the fifteenth century, which may coincide with the period when the manor passed into the hands of Westminster Abbey and no longer had a resident lord.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2011

CONFERENCE 6–8 May, Shropshire and West Mercia: recent discoveries and research, for more details see below

SPRING MEETING 20–22 May, Rood Screens in North-east Norfolk, led by Julian Litten (details with this mailing)

SUMMER MEETING 18–25 June, at Lisbon (Portugal) and environs led by Hedley Swain – Fully Booked

AUTUMN DAY MEETING (details to be confirmed)

CONFERENCE: SHROPSHIRE AND WEST MERCIA, recent discoveries and research, 6–8 May, 2011 at Ironbridge, Wroxeter and environs

There are still places available to attend this non-residential conference, sponsored by the RAI, Shropshire Archaeological and Historical Society and Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust. On Friday at 6 pm there will be a lecture on ‘The Staffordshire Hoard’ by our Vice-President Dr Leslie Webster, FSA, in The Glass Classroom, Coalbrookdale (refreshments from 5.30 pm), followed by an optional Conference Dinner (£25). On Saturday, there will be lectures, from ancient settlement to the Much

Wenlock Olympic Games, and on Sunday a choice of excursions. Conference fee £82; includes abstracts, tea & coffee, Saturday lunch and refreshments. A full speaker listing and conference flier can be viewed at www.royalarchinst.org. For bookings and further information, please contact admin@royalarchinst.org or by post to S. Gerber-Parfitt, RAI, c/o Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BE

MEETINGS NOTES

AUTUMN DAY MEETING IN THE PRECINCTS OF WESTMINSTER ABBEY, 16 October, 2010 • Anthony Quiney

London always looks its best on a clear day in autumn, and so it was when we met outside Henry VII's Chapel for our Autumn Meeting. The sun shone brilliantly on silver-grey ragstone and deep red brickwork, with banks of black cloud at once adding dramatic contrast and threatening rain, which, in the best of RAI traditions, only fell during our lunch break in the Red Lion, close to Cannon Row.

Despite this promising start, the meeting's arrangements had begun unpromisingly when, late in the day, the planned visit to Lambeth Palace fell through; hence the Westminster walk was substituted for it. We need not have worried: we were in Tim

Tatton-Brown's capable hands and he had the intriguing aim of elucidating the building history of Thorney Island. From the very start he conjured up the invisible from the visible by indicating the boundaries of the gravel island lying between the twin courses of the Tyburn, now underground, as they drained into an un-embanked river Thames. Giving greater substance to the island's lost fabric, he inhabited it with a distinguished role-call of famous names, starting with St Dunstan and ending (though not precisely) with Alice Liddell – a nice contrast. In this way we progressed from the public hurly-burly of Westminster Abbey's eastern and northern precinct to the private seclusion of



Describing the Henry VII chapel (AQ)



Explaining the topography (AQ)

Little Dean's Yard, while Tim conjured up a veritable wonderland for us to add in our imagination to what we could see.

Standing in the former monks' cemetery, he explained how little around Westminster Abbey and its precincts had been excavated archaeologically. While Sir William Reid Dick's statue of our former patron King George V looked on un-comprehendingly, Tim told us that only occasional fragments of footings could be matched to what we know from maps. Even the most recent programmes of conservation of the abbey had destroyed ancient fabric without a proper record being made, that is until the belated realisation that no archaeologist was being employed brought Tim himself among a few others hurriedly to the scene, particularly in his case to investigate the west front and revise previous conceptions of

what is visible, and to hunt for royal tombs in Henry VII's Chapel.

As for the island itself, its occupation by a religious community can be traced back to the early eighth century, long before St Dunstan took it in hand and reformed it under Benedictine rule some two centuries later. With only a dozen monks it was not much of a place, until all gave way to Edward the Confessor's rebuilding of c. 1050, with a timely consecration in 1065, just before his death. At the same time he built a royal palace, just to the east, thus setting the pattern that remains to this day, though precious little survives of the original buildings. Moreover, the Confessor's burial in the abbey initiated what was to become a royal mausoleum, indeed more, a pantheon of both royal and national worthies.

(George V is one of the few kings to be commemorated outside.)

Starting from Henry VII's Chapel, once soot-black but now washed brown and white after the clean undertaken by the abbey's recent Surveyor, Donald Buttress, Tim pointed out the essentially domestic form of the windows set between the buttresses, windows apparently designed as much to see out from as to let light in. Within are the royal tombs, Henry VII's of course, continuing up to the Hanoverians, the precise positions of many of them now being a matter of, at least, some dispute. Overhead is the amazing pendant-vault, once black from candle-smoke, now whitewashed by an earlier Surveyor with a dash of gold paint for regal glitter. We were not to go inside any more than we did the adjacent chapter house, with its miraculously surviving tiled floor, so we were content with the exterior, all the work of Sir George Gilbert Scott, an even earlier Surveyor, and much as he left it at his death in 1878, though now cleaned of soot. Since the Reformation, when the abbey became a Royal Peculiar, the chapter house has had a chequered history, for long serving parliament to house public records, while now, restored as a proper ancient monument, it still belongs to the state in the guise of English Heritage rather than to the abbey.

This took us on to Edward III's Jewel Tower, another part of English Heritage's domain, but never part of the abbey's since it lies outside the wall dividing the abbey's infirmary garden from the grounds of the Palace of Westminster. Rescued from among blitzed houses fronting Old Palace Yard, and opened up in 1964 both to the view and to the public, the tower formerly rose above the Great Drain from the monastic precinct. This allowed for a moat, picturesque, but inconvenient; so where there was water



Jewel Tower (AQ)

there is now gravel. Little archaeological investigation took place during these works, particularly when the deep underground car park was dug out beside the tower, but at least the scant remains of a quay were uncovered and are still visible.

We finally reached Great College Street, and the course of the Tyburn as it once flowed towards the abbey mill and the Thames, all the while imagining such insalubrious parts of the medieval palace as its slaughter house set beside Dirty Lane in the place of what we could see (and hear), mainly the traffic of Abingdon Street. It was time to retrace our steps past Henry VII's chapel and on to the Victorian refacing of the abbey's north transept, begun by Scott as an imposing entrance portal and continued by his successor J. L. Pearson to the fury of the nascent SPAB. As we did so we took in, in our imaginations, the numerous houses crowded against the abbey's walls, houses once inhabited by the likes of Geoffrey

Chaucer and William Caxton. We imagined the former campanile, set within the Sanctuary in the way of the lost campanile at Salisbury, demolished when the bells were hung in the abbey's west towers, its foundations now lying more or less under the former Middlesex Guildhall (currently the Supreme Court).

Our next stop was just inside the abbey's former West Gate, which led out to Tothill Street. Here Tim delineated just how much of the Norman towers survives inside the re-casing (a discovery he made when first called to the abbey during the conservation work of the early 1990s), and where the medieval work stops and Hawksmoor's begins. Turning to the abbot's lodgings adjacent to the south-west tower, he showed us the change in masonry between the hall and the later Jerusalem Chamber where Henry IV Pt 2 famously died, not on pilgrimage as he had expected.

Inside Dean's Yard we examined the vaulted range along the east side, noting where the stone in the archways had eroded leaving the lead 'mortar' standing strangely proud, especially in the arch that led to the former great kitchen behind the Cellarer's Building and the Guest House. Following Queen Elizabeth's establishment of the former Benedictine Abbey as her Royal Peculiar, along with the school she re-founded in 1560, the Guest House had been occupied by such famous headmasters as Richard Busby, who taught Wren and Hooke, and Henry Liddell, whose daughter Alice had been born there. Once much smaller, the yard has been extended southward, to terminate from 1936-40 in the bland facade of Church House, again with no archaeological investigation as a balancing benefit.

Within Little Dean's Yard, the home of Queen Elizabeth's peculiar (and latterly

colossally expensive) Westminster School, Tim conjured up more of the former abbey buildings, including the site of the Cotton Library, which had burnt down singeing the books, to be replaced by a house for the abbey organist James Turle, itself to be replaced by classrooms (designed by J. L. Pearson), dull but at least the site of the present writer's blissful introduction to calculus. A greater fire on the night of 10-11 May, 1941, put far more of the school to the torch, but happily Ashburnham House survived, along with its remnant of the abbey's Prior's Lodgings within and its lantern-lit staircase – were Inigo Jones and James Webb lurking behind the scene? We ended the visit in its back garden viewing the unrestored outside of the cloister's south wall, before completing our tour of Thorney Island by walking out of Dean's Yard and along Great College Street just outside the former Infirmary Garden.

As a coda to the Meeting we crossed the Thames to survey Lambeth Palace from outside to see what we had missed, to see it in fact almost from Archbishop Morton's viewpoint as he arrived on the ferry from Westminster, just after he had completed his five-storeyed, brick gatehouse tower at the end of the fifteenth century. Tim pointed out the arrangement of its lodgings (two per storey like French or Scottish apartments) and the prison in its base, before we moved to the north to consider Archbishop Chichele's tower, with a prison at the top, this time, and an immense garderobe suitably placed on the downstream side.

A short walk took us past the forlorn Lambeth parish church, now serving as the Museum of Garden History, to Archbishop's Park and Carlisle Lane, where the bishops of Carlisle once had their London house, now lost to archaeology as it lies beneath the railway lines going into Waterloo station. More intriguingly Tim told us that we were

standing before the buried and un-excavated footings of what Archbishop Baldwin had planned as England's premier cathedral, a replacement for Canterbury, which had become a backwater in faraway Kent since its glory days of King Ethelbert. However, the fate of the Holy Land was also on Baldwin's mind, and, before construction had progressed far, he took off on the Third Crusade only to fall sick and die in 1190 before the walls of Acre – so no cathedral and no Jerusalem Chamber for him then. But there was plenty of archaeology to see in the railway viaduct itself, notably as brick

gave way to steel as the lines multiplied and then to concrete for the short-lived Eurostar. As a final touch we noticed the short spur-line which served the separate terminus for trains that took coffins and grieving parties to the huge cemetery at Brookwood.

Here we finally parted from Tim after an amazing day of vivid insights, deeply in his debt again. He headed down the line back to Salisbury, and we headed in our various separate directions, and happily, so far as I could detect, not one of us for Brookwood.

TEULON'S 'FANTASIA' IN THE VICTORIA TOWER GARDENS • Eric Robinson

Anyone walking from Lambeth Bridge through Victoria Tower Gardens perhaps intent upon finding Rodin's *Burghers of Calais*, or possibly Mrs Pankhurst, could hardly avoid being diverted towards Teulon's Buxton Memorial Fountain close to the river bank walk. Pevsner described it as 'pretty', and 'a little house of stone, with some enamel work' (surely A* by his standard and rating of things Victorian). To passers by, surely it is an eye-catcher if only for the brightly-coloured enamelled iron slates which clad its tall spire and, on closer examination, for the ten different natural stones which combine in the structure.

Well, for these reasons it is high in the listings of this geologist because as usual Teulon did exploit colour and texture as he established himself as a member of the 'High Gothic Revival' (Ware, 1967). Before coming south, I had met his work out on the Durham Moors where his use of polychrome brick and colour-patterned slate roofs were quite a surprise at Hunstanworth, just south of Blanchland, the archetype sandstone village for the Durham Pennines.



The Buxton Memorial Fountain (ER)

When I went down Pond Street to run on Hampstead Heath I also became familiar with his work in St Stephens Hampstead, a brown sandstone church with yellow Bath Stone windows and porch.

In 1865, he was commissioned by Charles Buxton MP to build an ornate fountain in memory of his father, Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, and his work in the abolition of slavery and penal reform in the early nineteenth century. In this he was associated with men with whom we are more familiar in those campaigns, Wilberforce, Brougham, Macaulay and Lushington. At this point I am less sure of my history, because it is recorded that the memorial was sited in Parliament Square, to be removed and re-erected in 1957 in Victoria Tower Gardens, where it now stands, 1957 being the 150th anniversary of the 1807 Act of Abolition.

It has been described as ‘a Gothic fantasia’ by Jo Darke (1991), the fountain having a core of grey Scottish Granite on a base of Red Mansfield Sandstone, with four brass water spouts feeding four basins of silver-grey Cornish Granite, speckled with large white crystals of feldspar. To reach the fountains you have to pass into a chamber going up into the core of the tall spire. The plan is octagonal. The entrances are flanked by clustered columns of pink Peterhead Granite capped by richly carved capitals of white limestone. The column clusters sit on bases of red Mansfield Sandstone which in turn rest up base walling of grey Pennant Sandstone from South Wales. Dogs were not forgotten but provided with ground level bowls set in shapely blocks of Peterhead Granite.

Here surely there are a range of different stones to whet the appetite of budding geologists. But there is more to learn from this Teulon fantasia. When we teach architects simple geology to observe when



Frost-damage to the Pennant Sandstone (ER)

they build, an important and simple rule is to set stones in any building with an awareness of their porosity. Do stones ‘drink’ is the question, and of course they do; sandstones the most and granites virtually never. Stone saturated with water is vulnerable to frost. It is a history clearly demonstrated in the Buxton Memorial Fountain wherever granites and sandstones meet in close contact. What has suffered most has been the basal grey Pennant Sandstone where great lumps have scaled off leaving fragments of the original mason-dressed surfaces and edges.

In 2007, the 200th anniversary of the Act, Royal Parks undertook ‘extensive restoration’ before the Memorial was unveiled in March of that year. Sadly, I think that my favourite Teulon fountain, like me, will always show its age, and there are no known processes which will change this.

Geology is a dynamic science and what is lost will inevitably pass into the soils of Victoria Tower Gardens (or the Thames). As in the best Greek science, nothing is lost; it just goes into the creation of new stone.

Darke, J. 1991 *The Monument Guide to England and Wales*, Macdonald

Ware, D. 1967 *A Short Dictionary Of British Architects*, Allen Unwin

MISCELLANY

Heritage Lottery Fund. The HLF is inviting the views of the public on their strategic framework for 2013–2019. After 2012 there should be more Lottery money for the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to invest in the UK's heritage following the Government's review of Lottery shares, increased income after the 2012 Olympic Games, and strong Lottery ticket sales. This is your opportunity to say how you think HLF should respond to the challenges and opportunities of the future: what they should continue doing or do differently, and what new initiatives could have the greatest impact. On their website www.hlf.org.uk, HLF set out their proposals on a range of issues, based on analysis of the emerging funding environment for heritage in the next few years, research and evaluation of the impact of funding, and discussions with other organisations, partners and funders across the heritage sector.

If you work with heritage or community organisations in a professional or voluntary capacity and would like to contribute to the full consultation, please use the following link <http://survey.euro.confermit.com/wix5/p578585869.aspx>

The consultation is open until 26 April 2011.

Increasing student/young person's membership. This year we have eight new student members, including one RAI Master's Dissertation winner and two Tony Baggs Undergraduate Dissertation Prize

winners, as well as four people sponsored by RAI members. This initiative, started by Maureen Amoury, was announced in the last newsletter, where there is a form to complete if you would like to become a sponsor. Second- or third-year degree students, nominated by their archaeology department, are being offered membership of the Institute.

'Free' Back issues of *The Archaeological Journal*. The Institute is giving away back issues of *The Archaeological Journal*, Indexes, Summer Meeting Reports, and selected off-prints and monographs. Recipients will be expected to pay packaging and postage costs. The items are available in limited numbers and will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. To see the list of volumes and/or to place your order, select the Back Issue Order Form from the website at <http://www.royalarchinst.org/documents/backissue.doc> or contact the Administrator direct for a faxed or posted copy. This offer will continue until June 2011.

Subscriptions

The current rates are: Ordinary member, £40 and Associate or Student, £20, with discounts when paid by direct debit; Life member, £750 or £525 if aged over 60.

Members' standing orders to the Coutts account should be cancelled since it was closed in January 2010. Payment for subscriptions may now only be made by direct debit or cheque.

Gift Aid: Members who pay the standard rate of tax and have filled in the gift aid form have gained for the Institute a substantial sum. Despite previous notices of encouragement, it is still the case that less than a third of members have yet arranged for the Institute to receive gift aid. Under this scheme, if you are a taxpayer, the government will refund to the Institute, 28p in the pound of the value of your subscription. If you would like to help, please ask the Administrator for a form.

The RAI office

The telephone number for the Administrator is [REDACTED], the email is admin@royalarchinst.org and the postal address is RAI, c/o Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, London, W1J 0BE. The RAI no longer has an office in London, but the Administrator will usually be at this address on the second Wednesday of each month from October to May, between 11 am and 3 pm.

OUR NEW WEBSITE

The RAI has launched its new website at www.royalarchinst.org. It has a fresh and clean look, with easier navigation and new content, and it is now much easier for the website manager to update. Over the coming months we'll be adding further new features, such as online payment of membership subscriptions. Please update your favourites and bookmarks, and keep checking for news and information about lectures, events and meetings.

You may notice that there is a log-in at the top of the homepage. In the future, when

we add members-only content, such as back issues of the *The Archaeological Journal* or recorded lectures on-line, we will be issuing interested members with log-in names and passwords for use to access content. In the meantime, this facility will be used to give subscribing member libraries access to the most recent *Archaeological Journals* electronically, an interim measure whilst we investigate the best way to put our back issues online. Please look out for further details in future newsletters.

ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER

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VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT www.royalarchinst.org
