

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

New Members

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Area Secretaries

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

B. Austen, Brig. A.E. Baxter, Mrs. P.M. Bracher, C. Bryan, D.H. Cox, Mrs. D. Durden, F.W. Gregory, E.W. Henbery, P.J. Holtham, G.E.F. Mead, R.M. Palmer, G.G. Thomerson, M.F. Tighe.  
Copy for the Newsletter should be sent to:  
G.G. Thomerson, 42 Gander Hill, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 1RD (0444) 4507

Copy for Mills Group section should be sent to D.H. Cox whose address is above.

LATEST DATE FOR COPY FOR APRIL NEWSLETTER IS 5th MARCH 1991.



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IMPORTANT NOTICE

Will members please note that the Gen. Hon. Secretary Mr. R.G. Martin, will no longer be available on Brighton 28479. All telephone calls should be made to his home number Brighton 303805.

PROGRAMME OF VISITS FOR 1991

Sunday 17 March 11 am Working Party at Coultershaw Pump, Petworth at SU 972194. Bring picnic lunch and some tools. Contact R.M. Palmer (0903-505626)  
Saturday 23 March 10 am South East Industrial Archaeology Conference at Science Museum, London. "Current Themes and Problems in I.A." Application forms being circulated. Contact R.G. Martin (0273-303805)  
Sunday 21 April 10.30 am Walk round Brighton led by G.E.F. Mead. Meet in front of W.H. Smith's kiosk in Brighton Station concourse. Contact R.G. Martin (0273-303805)  
Sunday 12 May National Mills Day. Contact D.H. Cox (0403-711137)  
Sunday 16 June 10 am Visit to London using own transport. Meet at Rotherhithe Tube Station in Brunel Road. Probable sites to be visited Brunel Engine House Rotherhithe, South Docks, Tide Mills at Bromley-by-Bow, Abbey Mills Pumping Station and Huguenot Silk Weaving area at Spitalfields. Contact R.G. Martin (0273-303805) who will organise sharing of transport.  
Saturday 20 July 6.30 pm Members Meeting at Steyning. Meet at Steyning Museum, Vicarage Lane, Steyning (TQ 179112). Visit to the museum's new building followed by video of Glaber's Foundry, Brighton. Contact Diana Durden (0903-813603)

Other dates of interest to our members are:-

Friday 15 February 7.30 pm at Unitarian Church, New Road, Brighton. "The history of paddle steamers in Britain". Mr. R.F. Jones of the Paddle Steamers Preservation Society (Brighton & Hove Archaeology Society).

Saturday 26 January 2.30 pm at 68 Grand Parade, Brighton. "Historic routes from Brighton". Ken Goodchild.

Saturday 23 February 2.30 pm at 68 Grand Parade, Brighton. "Stanmer House: its building materials". Geoff Mead.

Sunday 12 May 2.30 pm The Brunswick area. A walk led by Dr. Sue Berry. Meet at Hampton Place Post Office, 142 Western Road, Brighton.

Sunday 20 June 2.30 pm The Copperas Gap. A walk led by Geoff Mead. Meet at traffic lights at south end of Church Road, Portslade, (last four items - local history group).

Saturday 1 June 10.00 am - 5.00 pm CDE/SAS Day School, University of Sussex. "Bricks and tiles in Sussex from Roman times to present day" Tutor: Molly Beswick. Details from Centre for Continuing Education 0273-678025.

#### GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR YEAR 1989 - 1990

I am glad to report that the Society continues to prosper. We are financially sound, we have the highest number of members ever at 314 and our activities continue to occupy our endeavours.

We are represented on various bodies such as Sussex Archaeology Society Archaeology Forum, Subterranea Britannica, South Eastern Regional Archaeology Conference, the Association for Industrial Archaeology, W.S.C.C. Coast and Countryside Committee and a new one, the Industrial Archaeology Panel of the Council for British Archaeology.

Projects where the Society is directly involved:-

At Ifield Mill work has been proceeding in constructing a new spur wheel as the one acquired from Hammond's Mill is not big enough. Repairs have been carried out to the launder and also work to provide remote operation of the sluice is being put in hand.

At Coultershaw Beam Pump there has been a gratifying number of visitors this summer. The National River Authorities have now raised the weir by 6" resulting in sufficient water to provide a good fountain. Various items of maintenance work have been carried out but more volunteers are always welcome.

At Poyntz Bridge the fibreglass retaining ring to the ball races has been fitted and a major repainting job has been undertaken prior to the bridge being lowered on to the supports.

The General Secretary reported on various projects where the Society is not directly involved.

The Mills Group has had a good first year. Various meetings were organised by the sub-committee including a tour of four mills in August and a visit to Polegate in October with an excellent talk by Tim Martin about the restoration of the mill. The efforts of Simon Potter to publicise the National Mills Day on Radio Sussex resulted in the day being a great success to most Sussex mills. It is still intended to produce a leaflet on Sussex mills open to the public and it is hoped to supply printed tea towels for sale at mills. The Mills Group is looking for members to serve on the sub-committee who have an interest in mills in general rather than being tied to one mill.

The Brick Study Group's work is now being wound up and Molly Beswick's task of writing the book is proceeding, ten of the projected twelve chapters being in draft form. Some investigation into architectural terracotta and roof furniture is now being undertaken.

There has been a full programme of visits and meetings. Apart from the Mills Group meetings mentioned previously there has been the usual working party at Coultershaw, a visit to the Brede Pumping Station and one to North Park Furnace Ironworks and Pitsham Brickworks. The Members' evening was held this year at Horsham with a visit to the Horsham Museum and talks by Geoff Mead on the development of Brighton and by the writer on the Beddingham Lime Kiln.

SERIAC this year was held at Gillingham on the subject of "War and Peace", the impact of The Royal Engineers on Industrial Archaeology.

The Society's publications continue to maintain their quality. Sussex Industrial History No. 20 was circulated in July with articles on William Cooper Millwright, Foredown Hospital and Ford Aerodrome.

The Newsletter has also maintained its usual quality and you may have noticed that the Mills Group now has its own section. Contributions from members to both publications are always welcome.

In the subject of education, I would like to mention that several of our members undertake to give lectures and courses on Industrial Archaeology and similar related subjects and this is an excellent way of promoting and encouraging the general public into knowledge of Industrial Archaeology. Geoff Mead in particular has guided several walks around Brighton one of which raised £87 for the Society's funds.

On the subject of research and recording there has been much work done. A survey of the lime kiln at Beddingham has been carried out in association with members from Subterranea Britannica and investigations about how it functioned are still proceeding. A survey of terracotta roof furniture is also being undertaken and if members come across any examples, please let me know. Wilfrid Beswick has completed the restoration of the segment of a 14th century waterwheel found at Batsford Mill. This will be exhibited in the mill at Michelham next year. A measured survey of a model farm in Forest Row is also being carried out and an investigation into the records of Quicks' Garage at Handcross (now no longer used), Sevedean Hospital (now demolished) and Brighton breweries. Frank Gregory's drawings of watermills in Sussex done in the 1930s have now been copied and a record sheet prepared for each one. Several of these projects will eventually be the subject of articles in Sussex Industrial History.

The detailed recording of I.A. sites has been proceeding slowly. However I am very pleased to announce that the Society has been awarded a grant by the Leverhulme Trust to employ a recorder to complete the work of recording I.A. sites in Sussex over the next two years.

Finally I would like to thank all the members and committee for their tireless work which has contributed to a very successful year but please keep on recording, photographing, writing and publishing - that is what this Society is all about.

R.G. MARTIN

#### TREASURER'S REPORT, 1989/1990

I am happy to report another year of growth for your Society. We had 21 new members during the year and one new Life Member, a small net increase after setting off resignations and deaths. There are still a dozen unpaid subscriptions outstanding from last April and a final reminder has recently been sent for these.

In the financial statement, under Income, you will see that interest from our investments has substantially increased to over £1,000. It is unlikely that we can continue this rate of increase which was partly due to special factors operating this year.

We have benefitted handsomely from Geoff Mead's conducted Brighton tours and his contributions have been most welcome. At Coultershaw Mill there was a record income from visitors, in spite of the summer drought. The Poyntz Bridge fund received a further £100 from English Heritage, this being the balance of their grant.

As to expenditure, our administrative costs (items one to three) have gone down from £1,050 to £844, almost 20 per cent, which reflects great credit on the officers concerned in their efforts to contain our expenditure. Our Editor has also managed to reduce the cost of Sussex Industrial History No. 20 as against No. 19. We donated £50 towards the cost of making a video about the last Brighton foundry and have received a copy of this which members will have an opportunity of seeing.

After transferring half of our available investment income to the General Fund, this now stands at £1,542. When adjustment is made for payments to Gatwick Airport Ltd. for the sale on their behalf of Sussex Industrial History No. 16, this represents an 80 per cent increase on the previous year's balance. Your Committee have therefore decided that no increase in subscription rates, unchanged since 1984, shall be made this year.

Reverting to our income from covenanted subscriptions, the Inland Revenue have now decided that they will no longer accept self-terminable covenants, i.e. where the wording permits the covenantor to stop payment if he ceases to be a member of the Society in whose favour the covenant has been made. This applies in our case and it will therefore be necessary to alter slightly the wording of our covenant form which in future will commit a member to payment for four years or during his lifetime, whichever is the shorter. Current covenants are not affected and continue in force until expiry.

I have some of the new forms and if any member would like to covenant future subscriptions, I shall be happy to provide one. A covenanted subscription from a standard rate taxpayer materially increases the income of the Society at no extra cost to the member.

I would like to thank our Honorary Auditor again for the way he has carried out his duties, no easy task. I am glad to say that he is willing to serve again next year.

J.M.H. BEVAN

#### I.A. RESEARCH RECORDER

The Society has been awarded a grant by the Leverhulme Trust to finance an I.A. Research Recorder who will be engaged full time over a period of two years in completing the survey of Industrial Archaeology sites in all the parishes of East and West Sussex. Applicants should ideally hold a degree in Industrial Archaeology or a similar qualification. The remuneration will be £8,000 per annum plus expenses. Consideration will be given also to recently retired persons who can demonstrate an appropriate range of relevant experience. It is hoped to fill this post by Spring 1991. For application details please apply to the General Secretary, R.G. Martin.

R.G. MARTIN

#### AREA REPORT WESTERN AREA Coultershaw Pump

Two commemorative benches have been given by Alan Allnutt's family and friends, one to the Amberley Chalk Pits Museum and one to S.I.A.S. The latter has now been placed at Coultershaw. It is a splendid teak and cast iron affair - a happy reminder of Alan's sterling activity in restoring the beam pump.

Winter maintenance work proceeds slowly - we could do with more volunteers. Besides the traditional pre-opening working party on 17 March, we shall be there on 3 and 17 February, and 3 March; please come and help if you can.

MICHAEL PALMER

#### REPORT ON MEETING OF C.B.A. I.A. PANEL HELD ON 25TH SEPTEMBER 1990

This meeting was held in County Hall, Kingston and was the second meeting of the C.B.A. I.A. Panel for the South East Region to which I had been invited to attend to represent the Society. I had been unable to attend the previous meeting so no report has been previously made.

These panels are in the process of being set up in all areas of England as a result of the success of similar panels which have been operating in Wales and Scotland for several years.

Membership of the panels is intended to cover all parties interested in I.A. including amateur societies such as our own together with professionals such as county archaeologists, R.C.H.M., English Heritage, and museums. A complete coverage of each area is hoped for although doubt was expressed about getting any involvement from the I.O.W.

The area covered by the Panel is Surrey, Sussex, Kent, Hampshire, I.O.W., London, Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Hertfordshire and Essex. Some fears were expressed that this region is too large, particularly by the inclusion of London. However these areas have already been established and there is little that can be done to alter them.

Terms of reference were discussed and it was confirmed that the function of the panels was primarily that of communication and to foster mutual understanding between the various parties with interests in I.A. A draft is to be prepared by Pam Moore for submission to all members of the Panel for their approval.

The question of a database for specific groups of significant I.A. sites was discussed. It was agreed that some integration with the sites and monuments records administered by the county authorities would be desirable although it was recognised that the level of recording would vary depending on the defined parameters. It was suggested that local I.A. societies should check industrial S.M.R.s within their areas to vet their accuracy and completeness.

Contact lists of experts in various fields should be assembled to enable advice to be given when needed and it was felt that the county I.A. Societies would be the best suited to collect these names.

Liaison with academic institutions was discussed and it was agreed that contact should be made with them to ensure that I.A. subjects were included wherever possible, maybe as subjects for research or students' theses and to collect the result of such research for societies' archives.

The next meeting is to be held in Southampton at the Royal Commission for Historic Monuments (England) in March 1991.

R.G. MARTIN

The Local Societies Weekend is to be held this year over the weekend of 12 - 14 April 1991 at Ironbridge. There is to be a very full programme of talks including case studies on various sites by local societies, safety on sites, the uses of videos in recording sites, an introduction to recording machinery and the relation of local societies records with Sites and Monuments Records. All members are welcome to come. The cost is £25 per head which covers attendance at all sessions, lunch and dinner on the Saturday and lunch on the Sunday as well as free entry to all the museum sites. If any member would like further information and booking form please get in touch with R.G. Martin.

#### ETHEL GARRATT PRIZE COMPETITION

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society is holding a competition designed to promote the study of the development of communications in Sussex up to 1837. The study should be on the growth of land or water communication, trackways, roads, rivers, canals or their associated features. Entries are to be submitted by 31st October 1991 and are open to any student in Brighton and Hove (including Adult Education students) and to all members of the Brighton and Hove Archaeology Society. If any members are interested please get in touch with R.G. Martin for further details and entry form.

#### A.I.A. DATABASE OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

The A.I.A. have asked any members of affiliated societies to complete a form indicating member's interests sub-divided by subject, area and skills for the purposes of setting up a computer database so that when the need arises people with relevant skills may be contacted. If any members are willing to comply with this request, would they please get in touch with the General Secretary for copies of the form.

#### A.I.A. BRISTOL FIELD TRIPS

The A.I.A. are arranging a series of field trips in the Bristol area over the period 29 May to 2 June 1991, which are open to A.I.A. members and members of affiliated societies, together with their families. There are trips to colliery sites and canals in the Radstock area, Corsham Underground Quarry Centre, textile mills in Bradford-on-Avon and Trowbridge, Bristol Docks, Redcliffe Caves, mining sites in Gold'n Valley, Kingswood and Warmley. Accommodation is to be arranged by individuals. If any members are interested would they please get in touch with the General Secretary.

#### A DRAGON'S STORY

Mr Martin's list of terra-cotta dragons and wyverns (S.I.A.S. Newsletter 58 (Oct. ), pp.10f.) includes the wyvern at 102 London Road, East Grinstead.

Its story was told as follows in a letter from Mr Ron Bridgland published in the East Grinstead Courier for 8 January 1981:

'The late E.P. Whitley Hughes had the new offices in connection with his practice as a solicitor erected at 102 London Road in 1894-5. Before coming to East Grinstead he had resided all his life at Penmaenmaur, Caernarvonshire, and played soccer for Bangor town in the years 1887/89. He had played for Wales at right back in six internationals, the last being against England, when he was captain. In order to associate Wales with East Grinstead he had a red dragon of Wales constructed by Fosters at the old pottery in Garland Road and had it placed on the gable of his new office premises.'

I know of no evidence to support this account, nor any reason to doubt it. Certainly the Fosters undertook ad hoc commissions, so it would not have been beyond them. The griffins on the roof of the Edwardian parade of shops in Newchapel Road, Lingfield, just over the border in Surrey, might well have come from the same pottery.

M.J. LEPPARD

The article "No Escape" in the July issue of the Newsletter inspired me to give a brief account of what I.A. and I.A.-related interest can be sampled in what Ivor the Engine calls "the top left hand corner of Wales". Hopefully members will excuse the non-technical flavour but the writer is a "mere female"...(!) (... but a very good one at that, and of the type we should like to see more of in this Newsletter - Ed.).

From our base in Portmadoc we visited Penrhyn Castle (National Trust) which houses an industrial railway museum, claiming to be the only one of its kind dedicated purely to industrial railways. It houses full-size engines and rolling stock from Penrhyn Slate Quarry - also one of the earliest and most historic locomotives, the "Fire Queen". From there it was a short drive to Llanfair P.G. (our 15 year old can say it perfectly!). This was a little disappointing because the station itself is closed (despite being on the main line from Bangor to Holyhead), although we were able to walk onto the deserted platform and arrange ourselves in front of the lengthy station sign for the inevitable photo. It now falls to the lot of the James Pringle Woollen Mill next door to sell platform tickets and other souvenirs.

Crossing to Anglesey we drove over the Menai Bridge (built by Telford in 1826 - central span between masonry towers 579') and re-crossing to the mainland we used the Britannia Bridge (built by Stephenson in 1850) - 460' between the two main towers. This is both a road and rail bridge.

Another day of I.A. interest began by taking the Ffestiniog Railway from its terminus in Portmadoc along the 13.5 mile route to Blaenau Ffestiniog. Here we visited the Llechwedd Slate Cavern. One and a half centuries of mining to produce slate roofs for the world has created underground chambers on 16 successive floors. We took the Miners' Tramway along the original miners' route of 1846.

Yet a third day was devoted to I.A. Having failed to get on the Snowdon Mountain Railway (too booked up on a hot day in August!) we visited instead the Dinorwig hydro-electric pumped storage scheme and had a trip on a bus right into the mountain where we viewed the vast chamber housing the main plant. Up to 6.72 cubic metres of water flows from a mountain reservoir 633m above sea level. The water is collected in a lower reservoir and pumped back up to the high level reservoir ready for re-use. We next visited various exhibits centred on Llanberis and Llyn Padarn. These included the Quarry Hospital - a restored Victorian hospital which originally accommodated sick quarrymen - complete with ward, operating theatre and bygone surgical instruments (!). There is also an almost perfectly preserved inclined plane (the writer's favourite I.A. aspect!) and the Welsh Slate Museum which is established in the former workshops of the Dinorwig slate quarry, closed 1969. This houses most of the original machinery, smithy, foundry and the largest water-wheel in Wales, some 50' in diameter - I think!

On visits to the Sygun Copper Mine near Betws-Y-Coed and TWD motor museums containing heritage transport, our week was fairly packed with I.A. activity. We did sit on the beach once! - and we also found time to visit four castles and the mock-Italianate village of Portmeirion...who said it was a HOLIDAY???

DIANA DURDEN

#### BLABER'S FOUNDRY - BRIGHTON

A video of Blaber's foundry in Portland Street has been produced by the Hanover Video Club. This is reported to be of excellent standard and is available to members on loan from the Gen. Hon. Sec. R.G. Martin.

Some members of the Society spent a most interesting afternoon on 12 July 1990 visiting Fernhurst Iron Works (see Newsletter No. 68 page 3). It has come to our notice that this site may have to be covered over and hidden forever. Chichester District Council would very much like to develop the area as a tourist attraction and the owners of the land are keen that it should be, but regrettably neither the Council nor the owners have the financial resources to achieve this end.

The Council point out that although there are a number of Roman villas in the area the only other iron furnace is in the middle of an Army firing range.

The Fernhurst Iron Works operated from the 1570s to the 1770s producing cannon and some other iron goods. The site of the gun casting pit can still be identified. Power was supplied from a lake with a dam at one end through which two sluices passed. The brick lining of the furnace has been excavated, and it is believed that further excavation would reveal additional interesting features of the site.

It would be a great pity to lose this asset to the story of the industrial past of the area and therefore efforts are being made to examine whether the necessary funds could be obtained.

Our thanks to Chris Bryan for drawing this matter to our attention.

NEWS FROM AMBERLEY CHALK PITS MUSEUM

The most important news from the Amberley Chalk Pits Museum is that on 22 October Robert Taylor joined the Museum as Director. He comes to us from the Passmore Edwards Museum in East London, where he was Deputy Curator, and had previously worked at the Science Museum and the Tyne & Wear Museums Service. He is currently Chairman of the Science & Industry Curators' Group, and is an examiner for the Museum Association Diploma. We welcome him to Amberley and wish him every success.

In August we said goodbye to Mike Wall, our Curator, who left us to join the staff of the Mid-Hants Railway, where his recent tasks have included the construction of Father Christmas' grottos for the Railway's Santa specials programme!

The restoration of the Number One Kiln Block, described in earlier issues, was completed in July, and was celebrated with a small opening ceremony for all involved. Progress elsewhere has included the initial work on the boiler of our Bagnall steam loco, "Polar Bear", the return to steam of Derek Milburn's Marshall steam tractor "Jubilee" after a total rebuild, and the extension of our engineering machine shop, with accompanying exhibition material.

Our Autumn programme of special events was very successful, with the highlight being the Southdown 75th Anniversary Bus Rally. This attracted a comprehensive display of former Southdown vehicles, and our best ever public attendance.

Work on site this winter will concentrate on repairs, maintenance, and improvements, but we will also be creating some new exhibitions, including one on local engineering companies, which will be housed in the ex-Penfolds gin house. As ever, any Society members with time on their hands will be welcome to join our work parties. Please ring the Museum Office, 0798 831370, for details.

HOWARD STENNING  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

In the autumn of 1988 Ben Foreman, who was then aged 82 and living in East Preston, visited the Chalk Pits Museum. The bricks and brickmaking tools on display revived his memories of working in the brickfields in the 1920s and 30s and he was keen to put what he remembered on record. As a result, in January 1989 Michael Bevan arranged for us to take our recording equipment to his house in Worthing, where we all spent about two hours talking to Mr. Foreman. At least, Mr. Foreman talked, with very little prompting, and we listened to a remarkably vivid account of what life had been like in the brickfields at that period.

Ben Foreman was born in Portsmouth in 1906 and after he left school in 1919 he started work with his father, a brick-moulder, in brickfields in the Portsmouth area. In 1921 they got work with the firm of Sparks, brickmakers at Barnham. During the week they lived in an old railway carriage on the site, returning by train to Portsmouth after work on Saturdays. Not only were living conditions spartan but methods of brickmaking were Dickensian as well and Mr. Foreman's account will be made full use of in our forthcoming publication Brickmaking in Sussex.

From Barnham, the Foremans: Ben, his father and half-brother, moved on to work for a brickmaker called Zachariah Peskett of Angmering, first in a brickfield on Worthing Road, Rustington and then on the site of Ford aerodrome. Here they were able to work under cover in one of the hangars and their team of six men and boys would make 20,000 bricks a week during the season.

When he had gained enough experience, Ben had his own berth (moulding table) and team and both he and his father worked in the late 1920s for the firm of W. Charman & Sons at Toddington, near Littlehampton, the whole family living in one of the houses the firm had built for their employees near the brickfield. For this reason they stayed with Charman longer than with any other employer. In the brickfields, where bricks were burnt in open clamps, work was still seasonal and ended with the firing of the last clamp in the autumn. The men then had to find whatever work they could during the winter and seek re-engagement with a brickmaker the following spring.

It was not surprising, therefore, that Mr. Foreman had difficulty in remembering which brickmaker he had worked with at a particular time and for how long. Altogether he worked on five different sites in Sussex, the fifth being another brickfield on Worthing Road, Rustington, owned by a Major Baker. In 1940 he was called up for the army and went to Brighton for his 'medical'. The officer in charge said the name Foreman 'rang a bell' and asked if Ben had ever worked in a brickyard. He turned out to be Major Baker.

After the war Mr. Foreman never returned to brickmaking but he seemed to have retained a kind of affection for it, in spite of the very hard work it had entailed and the poor conditions he had often had to endure. We all felt we had been privileged to meet him and listen to his reminiscences and were sad to learn that he had died this autumn (1990). However, we have the tape of the conversation and a copy of a photograph he lent us of a group of brickworkers including his father and himself and together these will form a permanent record of brickmaking in Sussex between the wars.

W.R. and M. BESWICK

CHALK PITS

Dr. R.B.S. Williams of University of Sussex Geography Dept is undertaking continuing research into the various chalk workings in the county particularly in the Lewes area; if members have any information on operating dates, operators, newspaper or documentary references, he would be very interested in hearing from you. Wearing another hat, Dr. Williams is actively involved in restoring the Sussex Wildlife Trust site on Malling Down, Lewes for which records are very sparse; the nature reserve incorporates pits on Malling Down and the Bridgewick Pits, nearer Ringmer. He can be contacted at the University Geography Dept.

GEOFFREY MEAD

## CANDLE MAKING IN EAST GRINSTEAD

Further to my article on this subject in Newsletter 62 (Apr. 1989), pp.2f., a little more evidence has come to light.

Edward Jenner, tallow chandler, is recorded in 1803 in the Sussex militia list in the age group 17-30 unmarried and with no children under 10 years. (1)

The East Grinstead Observer's obituary of George Head, draper and banker, who died in December 1890 aged 78, reveals that he and his father John before him at one time had an extensive tallow chandler's business at their premises, the modern 30-32 High Street. It also claims that they turned to banking when gas came in (1855 in East Grinstead) because of the threat to tallow chandling. In fact, however, they had been involved in banking from c.1816 and their candle factory was still operating in the late 1850s; it is the one worked by a man named Weller mentioned in my previous article. I assume he was their employee but possibly he had bought the business from them.

- (1) Sussex Militia List, Pevensey Rape, 1803, Northern Division  
(P.B.N. Publications, 1988), p.21

M.J. LEPPARD

## BRICK SLIPS

In Hove there are many examples of buildings using a creamy white smooth facing brick. These were almost certainly made in the Wish Brickworks, in the area between Portland Road and New Church Road. A friend of the writer, Charles Randell, now deceased, remembered the brickworks in his youth in the early years of this century and told me that the terrace houses in Grange Road which are faced with these bricks were built to house workers from the adjoining brickworks.

On examining some of the buildings faced with these "whites", it has become apparent to the writer that in some cases they are faced with slip bricks 35 mm thick backed up with solid brickwork. Locations of some of these are: Church Road, Denmark Villas, Goldstone Villas, Wilbury Road.

In most cases the "brick" height is 75 mm and they are laid in stretcher bond, although examples in Flemish bond have been found. As these buildings date from about the 1880s the use of stretcher bond is itself unusual as this did not become normal practice until the use of cavity walls became general from about the beginning of the 20th century. Normal bonds with solid brickwork were English or Flemish. The fact that the bricks are slips is not immediately obvious as the ends and returns of walls are normally masked with rendered quoins or rendered architraves around windows. However one case has been found where slips on one course alternate with solid bricks at external angles. Another case is of a 450 mm square pier with slips on the front face with a straight joint.

I know that slip bricks have been used and are still used in cases as for example, where it was necessary to carry brickwork across the face of a concrete beam, as noted by R.W. Brunskill, Brick Building in Britain, p.93, but this is the first time that I have found the whole of the face of a building so treated. Do any members know of any similar examples or is this purely a local phenomenon?

RDN MARTIN

## BUTTONS AND PIPES

Two further requests for information - the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society have been approached by a London resident on the subject of clay-pipe manufacture in Brighton. I know of no documented production (which does not mean there wasn't one!). If members can help please contact G.E.F. Mead at the address on the rear cover. At the Members Evening a query was raised (over the coffee) about button production in the county: locations were suggested at Barcombe and St. Francis Hospital, Haywards Heath. Any more info please?

GEOFFREY MEAD

## BRIGHTON MUSEUM LUNCHTIME LECTURE PROGRAMME - 7th OCTOBER 1990 G. MEAD - "TRADE AND INDUSTRY IN 19th CENTURY BRIGHTON - A SYNOPSIS"

This paper was presented in three parts, a) as a critique of some current historical volumes, b) the different approaches that could be adopted on the lecture's subject, c) the subject treated through an industrial theory approach.

Until the 1980s, trade and industry were treated as very much peripheral aspects of Brighton - if treated at all. Older material tended to concentrate on personalities and grand buildings and reflected historical study trends of their period, not intended as a criticism. Antony Dale's About Brighton (1951) was used as an example. This is an excellent town guide but uses little material of an industrial nature. Serious criticism was made of parts of two recent volumes Robert Elleray's A Pictorial History of Brighton (1987) and Judy Middleton's Brighton & Hove in Old Photographs (1988). Both show a few reproductions of old photographs of industrial interest, however one picture which appears in both purports to show a scene in the Regent Foundry circa 1900. This shows a clean, bright, wooden floored room with workmen at tables in clean white shirts, handling large glass domes. This is clearly not an iron foundry! It is, however, Reason's Electric Works, Lewes Road, Brighton, a picture which appeared in a local 1912 trades newspaper. A picture wrongly captioned in Brighton Reference Library used with no study of the picture's actual content. Other examples were also shown, to point to the danger of using only secondary source material.

The variety of approaches to the subject could be taken from geographical spatial viewpoints comparing the industries of the Old Town (beach coal storage) with other areas, eg timber sawing in North Laine. An historical temporal approach would contrast locations of 1800 (the fishing fleet near Fishmarket Hard) with those of 1900 (Brighton Station railway complex). Individual firms could be investigated as case studies - Hanningtons department store, or specific industries - Fryco mineral waters and the tourist consumption of same.

Industrial theory was chosen as the progression from primary, through secondary to tertiary sectors crosses all aspects of the town's economy. Primary industry is basic provision of raw materials, the fishing fleet, town market gardens, parish agriculture, lime burning near Western Road, brickearth extraction at Bedford Square.

Secondary industry turns raw goods into manufactured items or processed goods, saw mills, brick-kilns, slaughter-yards, windmills, basketworks, breweries.

Tertiary sector trades moves, stores and sells the goods, provides finance and services to firms. Carriers, warehouses, banks, cafes, hotels, railway, buses all feature here, with retailing the largest growth feature.

As the numbers of employed increase in stages 2 and 3, so the more advanced is an economy in a given area. In Brighton, fishing declined, as manufacturing grew, which in turn was succeeded by tourism and commerce, retailing and financial services. The area has a richer historical heritage than either contemporary or recent accounts suggest; work by the Sussex Industrial Archaeology Society supports and strengthens this view.

GEOFFREY MEAD

## CHOLERA IN BRIGHTON - AN INDUSTRIAL TALE!

Roy Grant, a graduate in geography from University of Sussex, gave a marvellous talk to the Local History Group of Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society on 24 November. Roy had found out there was a serious outbreak of cholera in Brighton in 1849, as there was all over the U.K. during the summer period.

Roy is available for talks so I will not steal his thunder, but one strand of his study was the influence major Brighton industries had on distribution of deaths. The hot

water created in such establishments as the railway workshops, Regent Foundry etc, raised ground-water temperatures sufficiently to spread the cholera organisms.

habitations downslope from the different works draw their water from the infected wells and these were the areas recording concentrations of deaths. Many references to industry were made during his lecture and members may like to consider this, seemingly grim subject for investigation in other Sussex towns and villages.

Roy Grant can be contacted at 41 Osborne Road, Brighton, telephone 0273-508796.

GEOFFREY MEAD

#### A PORTSLADE WHARF

During an idle moment in Brighton Reference library I was browsing through their Pamphlet Volumes (SPV), these are collections of mostly pre-war leaflets and small articles on a range of subjects. The contents page is just a list of titles, so browsing reveals many treasures.

One in particular caught my eye - "The construction of a Concrete Wharf at Portslade Sussex", by Joseph Cash, M.Inst.C.E. It was a section of volume 118 of the Proceedings of the Institute of Civil Engineers.

Paraphrasing Cash, it appears that when the Gas Works were constructed in 1870 a single timber wharf was sufficient, but increased business required a second wharf in 1889. Owing to the borings of marine insects a more durable material was selected. The problems of building on the shingle bank that lay on the south side of the canal were noted by Cash:-

"Owing to the natural level of the land-water being about 6 feet below the ground line, and the subsoil being beach and sand of a treacherous character, running freely wherever its section became exposed it was decided to form a timber frame of piles to receive the concrete".

A line of sheet piles 12" square and 26 feet long were driven, secured by iron ties to back piles. The front of the canal bank was removed by dredging and 28 feet long piles were driven. Shoreham Harbour Trustees kept the lock gates open for eight days enabling the work to go ahead two hours each tide. Each tide's work was covered by weighted boards, any un-set concrete revealed next tide was removed, and a cement grout used to seal the work before recommencing. Tidal conditions meant only 18" of work could take place below tide levels, but 42" as the wall rose above tidal influence.

The piles were of pitch-pine, creosoted and shod with cast-iron shoes. The cast iron piles for supporting the viaduct and cranes are in two rows, the front row being two pieces, the upper half being socketed in the lower after the latter had been driven.

In 1890 the original timber wharf was replaced by a concrete wall constructed on the same principle giving the Company wharfage accommodation 450 ft in length. Over the wharves are iron viaducts with steam cranes capable of discharging 35 tons of coal per hour in loads of 10 cwt.

[In Sussex Pamphlet Volume 13. Reference SO 40 SU 8]

GEOFFREY MEAD



Batemans Watermill

#### SUSSEX MILLS GROUP



High Salvington Windmill

The aims of the group are:-

- (a) to promote the preservation and restoration of mills and related objects of historical or technical importance,
- (b) to record the physical remains of mills and their related activities in the counties of East Sussex and West Sussex,
- (c) to study and preserve documentary and other types of records relating to the milling history of East and West Sussex,
- (d) to publish the results of such recording and study,
- (e) to provide a forum for related societies,
- (f) to promote educational involvement with related projects before, during and after restoration.

The officers of the group are:-

Chairman

F.W. Gregory, "Maldon", Maldon Road, Brighton,  
East Sussex BN1 5BE

0273 505754

Secretary

D.H. Cox, 3 Middle Road, Partridge Green, Horsham,  
West Sussex RH13 8JA

0403 711137

Committee

P.J. Hill, 97 Holmes Avenue, Hove,  
East Sussex BN3 7LE

0273 776017

J. Muddle, Upper Mill, Plumpton Lane, Plumpton, Lewes,  
East Sussex BN7 3AH

0273 890418

P. Pearce, 24 Angus Road, Goring by Sea, Worthing,  
West Sussex BN12 4BL

0903 41169

B. Pike, Stream Cottage, Coggins Mill, Mayfield,  
East Sussex TN20 6UP

0435 873367

S. Potter, Clayton Holt Lodge, Clayton, Hassocks,  
West Sussex BN6 9PL

0791 83297

T. Martin, 21 Baldwin Avenue, Eastbourne,  
East Sussex BN21 1UJ

0323 31514

I make no apology for repeating the above as I consider that it is a good way to remind all readers that our annual meeting will take place on Friday 1st February 1991 at the Friends Meeting House, Friars Walk, Lewes starting at 8.00 pm. So if you have anything to say about the Mills Group, please come along as we shall be pleased to hear your views. Better still, we could even find room on the committee if you consider that you can contribute to our activities. The Friends Meeting House has plenty of free parking just behind. We shall finish up with some slides which various people have promised to bring.

As to the past -

For the Mystery Tour we started at Bartley Watermill where we were able to look over the mill, buy some of their products, have a cup of coffee and enjoy the grounds and fishing while we ate our sandwiches (well some of us did). Then on to Bolebrook Watermill where we were allowed to look into the owner's accommodation that contained the machinery for the mill. At least all the parts remain and could be returned to work once again. Next we went on to Haxted Watermill that is open to the public. However it was well worth a visit with plenty to see about the mill and milling history. Finally we moved to Nutley Mill to see its present condition. A good day, although I must say that as I organised it, but I believe that it was enjoyed by all.

We had an excellent meeting at Polegate Windmill thanks to Tim Martin. He gave an interesting talk with slides on the work on Polegate Windmill as well as on the remedial work and investigations at Patcham Windmill and Bolebrook Watermill. There were also two videos on mills as well as a chance to look over the mill. Thank you Tim and to the ladies who provided the refreshments.

Ratham Watermill, near Chichester. MR SU B12063

Plans to remove a development described as an eyesore obscuring an historic mill, have been put forward to Chichester District Council. A planning application has been submitted for changes around the mill. The plan is to remove the ugly modern industrial buildings that surround the historic mill and replace them with small scale workshops and offices enhancing the setting of the mill and the former miller's house. It appears that the waterwheel, turbine and most of the milling machinery are still there. It all sounds ideal but we shall wait and see the result. Could even be a place for a future visit.

My thanks are to Chris Bryan for sending me a newspaper cutting about this. Any other such information will be welcomed by yours truly.

DON COX

28/10/90

10 Albion Rd, Tunbridge Wells, Kent

Dear Mr. Cox,

I have been told to write to you for Mills Group material to be inserted in the newsletter. Frank Gregory has agreed with me that some amendments to my previous amendments to the pumping mill list should be made. They are as follows:

Arundel O18077 built 1844 to succeed a corn mill. The turbine is later, so it must originally have had a water wheel.

Cocking. Delete. Bury. Gone. West Grinstead. Unchanged.

Nuthurst, Birchen Bridge Mill. Delete comments, except that it has gone.

Horsham, Town Mill 169303. Used for pumping c.1735. Replaced by present mill.

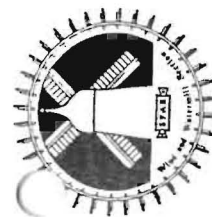
Ardingly 324297. Gone. Hellingly. Gone.

Yours sincerely,  
R. HAWKSLEY

Another letter received from Mr. R. Hawksley and dated 9 December 1990 states:-

In a most excellent lecture, following the AGM, on east houses, it was stated that there are two 18th century windmill roundhouses at Cook's Farm, Northiam. This is wrong. There were two post mills there, but the eastern is shown by the first 1 in 2,500 map of 1872 to have been open-trestle, and the 6 in. map calls it derelict, so the western must have been the replacement for the one blown down in 1836, which was itself 19th century, and nothing remains now. M. Brunnarius, in The Windmills of Sussex, lists all remains, except that he refused to recognise the base at Croft Rd, Hastings, by reason of confusing it with its predecessor, blown down 1800.

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SP-AB

WIND AND WATERMILL SECTION

SUSSEX INDUSTRIAL  
ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY  
Registered Charity No. 281139



SUSSEX MILLS GROUP  
Hon Sec D.H. Cox  
3, Middle Road  
Partridge Green  
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RH13 8JA

Partridge Green 711137



SUSSEX MILLS GROUP

NATIONAL MILLS DAY - SUNDAY 12TH MAY 1990

Sussex mills that we understand will be open to the public.

Watermills

Coultershaw Water Pump, South of Petworth	11 am to 4 pm	R.M. Palmer 0903 505526
Bartley Mill, Bells Yew Green, Frant.	10 am to 6 pm	P.A. Garnham 0892 890372
Woods Mill, Small Dole Henfield.	11 am to 6 pm	Administrator 0273 492630
Lurgashall, Weald & Downland Museum, Singleton	11 am to 5 pm	N. Wilkins 0243 63348
Michelham Priory Upper Dicker	11 am to 5.50 pm	A.C. Gottlieb 0323 844224
Pack Hill, Bateman's, Burwash	11 am to 6 pm	Administrator 0435 882302
Ifield Watermill Crawley	2.30 to 5.00	E. Henbury 0293 23481

Windmills

Jill Windmill, Clayton	12 noon to 4 pm	Simon Potter 0791 8 3297
Polegate Windmill Nr Eastbourne	10 am to 5 pm	Lawrence Stevens 0323 27765
Kings Hill, Shipley	2.30 to 5 pm	R.L. Spencer 0403 783188
West Blatchington Hove	2.30 to 5 pm	Peter Hill 0273 776017
Halnaker Windmill North of Chichester	All day	
Lowfield Heath Windmill Charlwood	2.30 to 5.30	Jean Shelley 0293 862646
Nutley Windmill, Nutley North of Uckfield	2.30 to 5 pm	B. Pike 0435 873367
High Salvington	2.30 to 5.00 pm	Betty Potts 0903 60218 James Down 0825 72 3007
Chailey Heritage Windmill	2.30 to 5.00 pm	