



SUSSEX INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY

ISSN 0263 516 X

NEWSLETTER No. 38

APRIL 1983

CHIEF CONTENTS

Accounts for Brighton to Newhaven Turnpike 1825

J.S.F. Blackwell

GENERAL NOTES AND NEWS

Sussex Industrial History. With this issue is the 1983 Sussex Industrial History (No.13). It is hoped that Members will do all they can to encourage sales and find fresh outlets for its distribution.

Bricks in East Grinstead Town Museum. The suggestion in Newsletter 37 that members might like to deposit sample bricks or tiles in local museums prompts me to write that the East Grinstead Town Museum would certainly be very glad to receive specimens from works or buildings in its area.

The Museum has a very small collection of local bricks already, which it may be helpful to record here:

Webber's, Crawley Down 6 (unmarked)

Hackenden, East Grinstead 3 (marked 'H.Y.', for Harwood and Young, the proprietors, c.1900-c.1950)

Rowfant 2 (so marked)

Sussex Brick & Estate Co. 1 (so marked; nothing has yet been ascertained about this company)

Unidentified 1 (a paving brick)

In addition the Museum has some moulds from Webber's and from the East Grinstead Pottery which seems to have included bricks and tiles in its output though the Museum's considerable collection of artifacts from the Pottery no bricks or tiles.

Mr. M.J. Leppard, the Hon. Curator, who is a Member of our Society, may be contacted at 20, St. George's Court, East Grinstead (22511). The Museum, at East Court, East Grinstead, is open to the public every Wednesday 2 to 4 p.m. and every Saturday 2 to 5 p.m., admission free.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 1983 SUBSCRIPTION DUE ON APRIL 1st

If not, please let the Treasurer have it NOW and save him the trouble and EXPENSE of having to send out reminders. A separate slip for sending with your subscription is enclosed.

Full Member	£3.00	Junior Member (under 18)	75p
Family Member	£1.50	Full-time Student	75p

It would be a great help to the Treasurer, as well as a convenience to yourself, if you would use a Bankers Order (obtainable from the Treasurer, Mr. J.M.H. Bevan, 12 Charmandean Road, Worthing).
(Tel: Worthing 35421)

Chalk Pits Museum, Amberley The Museum was opened for the 1983 season on 1st April and visitors will note the many improvements and additions that have been made during the winter months. In particular, work is being carried out on the re-erection of the Horsham Tanyard Building; a comprehensive article on this appears in the current issue (No.20) of the Chalk Pits Chronicle.

Mr. Ian Dean, the Curator, would very much welcome volunteers who would be willing to help with the practical work in further developing the Museum or in the various tasks associated with the handling of visitors.

The Kiln on Display The display of John Upton's photographs and Ted O'Shea's drawings of Piddinghoe Kiln has had quite a wide showing. During 1982 it has been exhibited at Lewes Archaeological Group's A.G.M., the Association of Industrial Archaeologist's Conference at the Imperial Institute, London, The Sussex Archaeological Society's Conference, Lewes, and the Medieval Pottery Research Group's Conference at Oxford. It has also been on display at the Sussex County Building Society's office in Lewes and the display window of the Lewes District Council's office in the High Street, where it was accompanied by a selection of bricks, tiles and other products of the kiln, and our tools of the trade.

Unfortunately the London Kiln Study Group's Conference, where it would probably have created the greatest interest, was cancelled, but it has also appeared in a modified version at about half a dozen of Ted O'Shea's lectures on the kiln.

E.W. O'S.

Surveying for Archaeology Ten members of the Society have joined the course (Newsletter No.36) and attended the full-day meeting on the theory of surveying when we discussed the various methods available to us and studied the use and manipulation of the different instruments. Despite the bitterly cold weather very good progress has been made on both the Tidemills, Newhaven and Ladies Mile, Brighton. We have sufficient equipment and volunteers to split into two groups, and after setting out our base lines, each group is plotting by plane table and levelling the different features. We will next be going on to plotting on the grid system, and each member in turn becomes involved in the different processes.

Apart from being very good sites for training, both have a practical application. The Tidemills is one of the very few mills of this type with standing remains and I hope that with help of old photographs to be able to piece them together to illustrate the function of the remaining parts. Should the Brighton By-pass ever materialise, the area that we are surveying will disappear under a slip-road and although features are not obvious, it is an area rich in prehistoric monuments, and we should be well prepared for the possibility of them coming to light.

E.W. O'S.

Recording the Candle Factory, Lewes Whatever the outcome over the controversy of this building, one thing is certain; it is vital that the construction of this building is properly recorded.

When some of us put up the successful fight to save this building six years ago, much emphasis was placed on what we considered to be the important elements of this Victorian building, namely the large, unbroken span of the pantiled roof, the only complete roof of its kind in Lewes, the post and beam timber internal frame of pitch pine (*pinus resinosa*) and not fine old English oak as it was referred to at the enquiry, and the timber trusses with their unusual ironwork, specially designed to take the huge storage tanks. Even if the building is "converted" as suggested in an article in a recent edition of "Lewes News in Focus" none of these features can be satisfactorily retained. The many dormer windows breaking through the roof will entirely spoil it, and the trusses can only remain if heavily encased for fire prevention, as will also apply to the remainder of the timber framing.

One cannot but wonder in this sort of situation when conservation becomes a nonsense. With the chimney being the only visible feature left, the building will have little to show of its industrial features. Even the curved trusses of the needle factory will disappear.

This illustrates the importance of accurately recording all of the industrial elements and industrial features before they disappear. I hope to get a team together to measure and record the building in the late spring. The work of Lewes Archaeological Group at Denton has illustrated how well we are equipped to carry out this work and I look forward to offers of help. Recording will be done either at week-ends or on weekdays, according to what is most convenient to the majority.

E.W. O'S.

East Grinstead Station It may be worth recording that East Grinstead's original station house, so used from 1855 to 1866, then as a private house until a few years ago, has now been enlarged to twice its size and converted to offices, very carefully in matching style and materials; sympathetic conservation even though all signs of its original function have now vanished.

M.J.L.

Correction to Newsletter 37 (p.8) In the note about the Lewes visit on Easter Monday it should have been stated that Mr. O'Shea was advisor to Mr. Alec Clifton-Taylor for the Lewes instalment of his TV series and not to Professor Hodgkin (regretably mis-spelt as Hoskins). We apologise for the error.

E.O.T.

Editorship Due to the inevitable effluxion of time Professor Eric Taylor is, with the current issues of the 'History' and the Newsletter, retiring from the post of Honorary Editor for the Society. In so doing he wishes to thank all Members of the Society, and particularly the many contributors, for their help and support in what has, over the past eight years, been a most enjoyable task; his thanks are especially due to Mr and Mrs John Upton for their invaluable help with the 'History' and Mrs. L Stevens who has unfailingly typed and duplicated the Newsletter over the whole of this period.

The post of Honorary Editor is being undertaken by Mr John Upton of Rowan Cottage, North Trade Road, Battle who will be pleased to receive future communications and contributions.

E.O.T.

FORTHCOMING VISITS AND EVENTS

Saturday 16th April

South East Regional Industrial Archaeology Conference

The Uses of Water

The University of Surrey, Guildford.

See Newsletter (No. 36) for booking form and details. This is the first attempt at a regional I.A. get together and it deserves our full support.

Saturday 14th May, 4.00 p.m.

Talk, Tea and Tour of Amberley Chalk Pits Museum. Meet in car park.

Ian Dean has promised to talk about the progress made during the winter months at the museum. Then refreshed by tea and buns we will be shown around the museum. If you are interested in I.A. then you should know the latest news of the happenings at Amberley.

Saturday 21st May

Federation of Sussex Local History Societies The Annual General Meeting of the Federation (of which S.I.A.S. is a Member) will take place at 10.30 a.m. (coffee) for 11.00 a.m. in Danehill Memorial Hall. Following the meeting the Danehill Parish Historical Society has organised a series of talks on, and a tour around, the village of Danehill followed by tea at 4.30 p.m.

The fee for the talks and tour is £1.00 to include morning coffee and afternoon tea. Please contact Mrs Peerless, Christopher Fields, Danehill, Nr Haywards Heath (Tel. Danehill 790756) if you would like to attend.

Saturday 18th June 2.00 p.m.

Mystery Tour of Mills Meet at Warnham Watermill (TQ 168323)

Warnham Road, Horsham. Park in road adjacent to the mill.

Once again Frank Gregory has been persuaded to unravel some more mysteries of "our" mills. Shortened to a half-day visit but still promising to be one not to be missed.

Saturday 9th July 7.00 p.m.

Members Evening Talk, Refreshments and Tour of Anne of Cleves House, Southover High Street, Lewes. This is your chance to come and meet and talk to other people interested in I.A. Please bring your wife/husband/friend. Anne of Cleves House is well worth a visit on its own and there will be guides to show you around. A change from the previously announced programme has had to be made. Our Chairman will now give his talk at the A.G.M. so we shall have 3 or 4 short talks given by members on their own particular interest in Industrial Archaeology. Please come and make this evening a pleasant social occasion where we can get to know each other a bit better.

Association for Industrial Archaeology The Education Group is holding its Fourth Annual Conference on 23rd and 24th April at Jackson Tor House, Matlock, Derbyshire, the theme being 'The Use of I.A. by Teachers'. Details from Dr. E. Course, Dept. of Adult Education, The University, Southampton SO9 5NH.

Chalk Pits Museum, Amberley. 1983 Programme.

Sunday 17th April. 'Cobweb Run' and Vintage Car Gathering.

Sunday 15th May. Vintage Motorcycle Day.

Sunday 22nd May. Grand Southdown Bus Show.

Sunday 29th May. Inland Waterways Day.

Sunday 5th June. Vintage Wireless Day.

Sunday 19th June. Stationary Engine Day.

Sunday 4th Sept. Model Engineering and Steam Day.

Saturday and Sunday 10th-11th September
Country Crafts Weekend.

Sunday 2nd October. Industrial Railway Day.

Sunday 9th October. 6th Open Day Anniversary Gathering.

Sunday 30th October. Museum Closes.

For further details of any of these events please contact the Museum office.

RECENT VISITS

Sussex Bridges. Saturday 5th March. What a glorious sunny day and what a turnout of members. About 35 people came for the first of visits for this year. First we had a look at the finest medieval bridge in Sussex. This bridge at Stopham carries the A283 road over the River Arun. It was built by the Bartellot family in 1423 with the aid of a bequest from the Rev. Thomas Hayling, Rector of Pulborough. The centre arch was raised in 1822 to allow access for high loaded barges to the Wey and Arun Canal and both ends of the bridge were extended in the 1860's. From there we walked to the start of the Midhurst Navigation. The point where the canal leaves the River Arun is clearly visible. This was to connect Midhurst and Petworth with the sea.

Then a walk across the fields to look at Hardham Tunnel - the only canal tunnel in Sussex and built in 1790 as part of a cut to eliminate a 3-mile meander in the Arun. A short car journey to Bury village and a walk upstream along the river bank brought us to a bridge cum viaduct taking the railway over the river. Built in 1862 the bridge has been strengthened but still looks from a distance the same as when it was built.

Thank you Alan Allnutt for a very enjoyable visit.

Four people told me they were coming and 35 people turned up. I like to see a visit well supported but it would need extra planning if all of our 230 or so members turned up. Please let me know if you are coming on a visit. D.H.C.

CURRENT PROJECTS

Coultershaw A Duke and Ockenden 1921 borehole pump driven by a 960 rev/min induction motor has been added to the exhibition and will be operating on the Open Days (1st and 3rd Sundays of each month up to September 18th, from 11.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Admission 30p).

Volunteers to assist on the Open Days will be very welcome: please make contact with Mr. A.G. Allnutt (tel: Chichester 786044).

PUBLICATIONS

Ice and Icehouses through the Ages, Monica Ellis (Southampton University Industrial Archaeology Group, 1982).

The book is available from Mrs. Monica Ellis, Bridge Cottage, Kiln Lane, Brambridge, Eastleigh, Hants. (£2.25 + 50p postage).

This little book is of far more than local interest. A fascinating collection of references to icehouses and the storage of ice ranging from The Book of Proverbs to Osbert Sitwell has been gathered together to illustrate the development of both the storage and transporting of ice. The book shows that this was not simply a country house phenomenon for the fuelling of wine coolers, but big commercial business, which involved the building of huge ice-houses at ports such as Southampton and the transporting of ice across half the globe from Boston, U.S.A. to Calcutta. Such enterprises only ended with the perfection of ice making machinery in this century.

The whole book is attractively illustrated with eighteenth and nineteenth century line drawings of such varied designs for icehouses in 'the grounds of a nobleman', and the making and storing of ice near Allahabad in the 1820's. Photographs show late nineteenth century ships unloading ice and a modern one shows immense icehouses remaining in Iran. In the second half of the book there are many photographs of icehouses surviving in Hampshire.

The book is divided into two. The first part deals with the history of the use and storage of ice throughout the world and is of great interest to the general reader. It shows firstly how widespread is the use of ice, probably beginning in the Middle East and spreading west to the Mediterranean countries by the Middle Ages and the rest of Europe soon after. Ice houses are not common in the environs of English country houses until the eighteenth century, although one is mentioned at Greenwich in the seventeenth century and what appears to be a seventeenth century, if much restored, icehouse is still standing in the grounds of Holkham Hall, Norfolk. (Not mentioned in this book).

The book then shows the great lengths to which the civilised world would go to procure ice and trade from America to England flourished during the nineteenth century, although by the end of the period Norwegian ice, much of it unloaded into the great icehouses of Yarmouth, Norfolk became more important.

Although in many ways ice was a luxury, its very practical uses were being utilised by the 1870's when fish and meat were being stored, both in domestic ice-boxes and commercial cold stores.

The problems of building a satisfactory icehouse seem to have been easily solved. Most icehouses were underground, although some were above. William Cobbett's rather impractical design is shown in this book. Even he appears to have had little faith in it. 'If the thing fails as an icehouse, it will serve all generations to come as a model pig shed.'

The practical problems of storing ice through six to nine months are not very great. As a child I spent a holiday with a Finnish family in their summer house by a lake. They collected ice in the winter and stored it in a half-buried building, insulated with straw and it was then used throughout the hot, if short, Finnish summer.

A final chapter in the first section deals with the development of ice making machines which finally brought an end to the spring of winter ice.

The second section deals very fully with Hampshire icehouses. Most of the surviving ones are illustrated and they are fully described. An index makes it very easy to find individual ones and also ones that existed in the 1870's, but have since disappeared. Some of the photographs and the list of lost icehouses show that along with many minor buildings of interest to the industrial archaeologist they are often ruinous and disappearing fast.

Inevitably this section was of less interest to the non-local than the first. However, I did spend a few days this summer staying at Beaulieu and was able to surprise some of the Museum education department staff there with information about an icehouse that they did not know existed. There followed several pleasant evening walks to locate it.

Altogether this is a fascinating, well researched and well produced booklet which should be of great interest to many, both within, and outside Hampshire.

Susanna Wade Martins, Oct.1982.

History of East Grinstead The Spring Bulletin of the East Grinstead Society (No.34) is devoted entirely to this book by W.H.Miles (published in 1906).

This special number of the Bulletin provides indices of place-names and personal names and also a critique of the book and an account of the author, reprinted from Bulletin 15, 1974. The Bulletin is obtainable price 35p, post free, from the East Grinstead Society, c/o Barclays Bank, East Grinstead, Sussex.

LECTURES, COURSES, ETC.

Losehill Hall This Study Centre offers a wide range of one-week study holidays during the summer, the many titles including Rocks and Fossils, Canals and Railways and Landscape Painting. A typical cost for the week is £112. Details may be obtained from The Principal, Losehill Hall, Castleton, Derbyshire S30 2WB.

Other Courses Similarly interesting and wide ranges of courses are organised by the Institute of Industrial Archaeology, Ironbridge Gorge Museum, Ironbridge, Telford, Shropshire, TF8 7AW, and also by Southern Archaeological Services Ltd., 30 Albion Hill, Brighton, East Sussex BN2 2NW.

ACCOUNTS OF THE BRIGHTON TO NEWHAVEN TURNPIKE

(Abstracted from the Brighton Gazette for 1825 by J.S.F. Blackwell)

Tenders will be received at Ship Inn on the 2nd of April 1825 for 1036 good five foot posts and 1036 good nine feet oak rails to be delivered between Roedean Bottom and Newhaven.

from the Brighton Gazette Junly 7th 1825.

Accounts: May 1824 to 29th September 1825.

<u>Income</u>	£	s	d
To amount of subscriptions for plans, survey etc.	47	3	0
Sale of old materials	18	2	0
Subscriptions received	9350	0	0
To tolls opening 19th Sept inst to 29th Sept inst			
At Roedean Gate	17	5	6
At Hoddon Gate	7	16	0
	9590	6	6
<u>Expenditure</u>	£	s	d
Expenses passing Act	591	14	5
Law expenses	504	10	11
Purchase of lands	2707	19	0
By contract works			
Paid North	1549	14	1
Paid Sharp	1539	15	3
Paid Skinner	928	12	6
Sundries	178	4	5
By day labour	320	19	7
Surveyors salary	111	6	0
Stamps	109	9	6
Plans surveys	76	5	0
Posts and rails	155	9	9
Printing	53	7	4
Tollhouses and Gates	375	0	0
Incidentals	120	6	9
By surveyor on account	80	0	0
By balance	171	17	9
	9590	6	6

From Brighton Gazette Oct. 13th 1825