



Society News

The Bulletin of the Enfield Archaeological Society



Top: Roger Eddington has passed away. See obituary p. 3

Above: A tiny fraction of the mass of Roman pottery excavated at 61 Leighton Road (see excavation report p. 5).

2 Forthcoming EAS Events:

Lectures:

- 14 Sept: Update on Copped Hall Excavations
- 12 Oct: Post-Medieval Archaeology in London
- 16 Nov: Vice-Presidential Address (Jon Cotton)

3 Other Societies

3 Obituary: Roger Eddington

Fieldwork Reports:

- 5 Excavations at 61 Leighton Road, 2011 (LGH11)
- 8 Note on Cullings Manor, 2009 (CUL09)

10 Pastfinders News

Society News is published quarterly in March, June, September and December

The Editor is Jeremy Grove

Evening meetings are held at Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield (*near Chase Side*) at 8pm. Tea and coffee are served and the sales and information table is open from 7.30pm. Visitors, who are asked to pay a small entrance fee of £1.00, are very welcome.

Forthcoming events



If you would like to attend the EAS lectures, but find travelling difficult, please contact the Secretary, and we will do our best to put you in touch with another member who can give you a lift.

EAS Evening Meetings:

14th September

Update on the Excavations at Copped Hall

John Shepherd, Copped Hall Trust Archaeology Project

John is co-director of the excavations at the site of Old Copped Hall, a major country house near Upshire in Epping Forest, demolished in the mid-18th century. The 11th consecutive season of excavations is just drawing to a close, and a lot has been happening, in the trenches and behind the scenes in this project, which has important links and parallels with Theobalds and other local sites.

12th October

Post-Medieval Archaeology in London

Jacqui Pearce, Editor, Post-Medieval Archaeology

Jacqui is one of the Museum of London Specialist Services' leading pottery experts, and leader of an award-winning post-excavation study group, as well as being editor of the highly respected journal of the Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology. Who better to act as a guide to the region's post-medieval archaeology?

16th November

Vice Presidential Address

Jon Cotton

Formerly Senior Curator of Prehistory at the Museum of London, a leading light of LAMAS, a regular speaker at previous EAS lectures, and our newest Vice-President, hopefully Jon needs no further introduction than this.

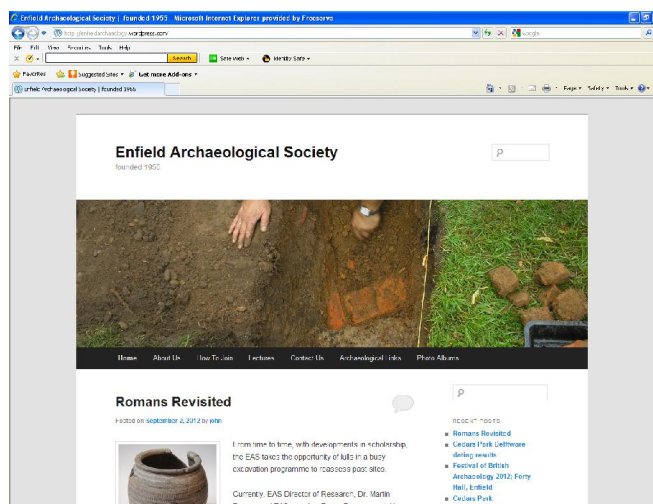
EAS Fieldwork



The Society carries out a busy programme of excavation and other practical activities in the Borough. Please contact Mike Dewbrey on 01707 870888 (office number) for more details if you are interested.

We are pleased to announce the EAS now has an excellent new *blog* full of the very latest news and pictures from our excavations and other work at:

<http://enfieldarchaeology.wordpress.com/>



Updated much more often, and much quicker, than is possible through *Society News*, this is a really excellent way of keeping in touch with what we are working on virtually as it happens (*and as you can imagine, the Society News Editor does not say this lightly*).

We're very grateful to John Pinchbeck for setting this up and maintaining it so well.

Meetings of other Societies

EDMONTON HUNDRED HISTORICAL SOCIETY 7.45 for 8pm, Jubilee Hall, Enfield, unless otherwise stated

19 Sept	John Constable – nation's favourite landscape artist	<i>Jeffrey Page</i>
17 Oct	Tales from an heir hunter tracing beneficiaries	<i>Alan Lamprell</i>
27 Oct	Day Conference (10am-4.30pm)	<i>Alan Lamprell</i>
20 Nov	From Crouch Hall to Gin Lane. The Story of Gin (2.15 for 2.30 pm)	<i>Ruth Hazeldine</i>
19 Dec	Seasonal Meeting	

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION NORTH LONDON BRANCH 7.45 for 8.00pm Jubilee Hall, Enfield

11 Sep	A Lair of Wild Beasts: Foundation of Fountain Abbey	<i>Robin Blades</i>
9 Oct	The Origins of the Transatlantic Slave Trade and its impact on Western African Societies	<i>Toby Green</i>
13 Nov	Unfairly Maligned? The Career of Anthony Eden	<i>David Blair</i>

LONDON AND MIDDLESEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY 6.30pm Museum of London, EC1

9 Oct	Shaky Foundations: The Legendary Origins of Some London Churches	<i>John Clark</i>
13 Nov	The Day Parliament Burned Down	<i>Caroline Shenton</i>
4 Dec	There is Nothing Like Dissecting to Give You an Appetite: Doctors and Nurses in Dickens	<i>Kevin Brown</i>

HENDON & DISTRICT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY 7.45 for 8.00pm Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley

9 Oct	The Life and Legacy of George Peabody	<i>Christine Wagg</i>
13 Nov	Archaeological Discoveries in Southwark	<i>Peter Moore</i>

WEST ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP 7.45pm, Woodford County High School, High Rd, Woodford Grn

10 Sept	Mithras in Britain	<i>John Shepherd</i>
8 Oct	Finding Neanderthal Tools in Norfolk	<i>Ken Ashton</i>
12 Nov	Coins and Conquest in Late Iron Age Britain	<i>Julia Farley</i>
10 Dec	Domestic Finance in Roman Britain	<i>Amelia Dowler</i>

WALTHAM ABBEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 8pm, Parish Centre, Abbey Gardens, Waltham Abbey

20 Sept	19 th Century Experiences of Essex Farmworkers	<i>Ted Woodgate</i>
18 Oct	The Crown Jewels & the Tower of London	<i>Gerry Wykes</i>
15 Nov	The Huguenots	<i>Kathy Chater</i>
20 Dec	Members Evening & Mince Pies	

**SOCIETY
MATTERS**

Obituary:

Roger Eddington, 1928-2012

Roger, who died on July 16th this year after a long battle with cancer, was well known to all EAS

members who attended our lectures where he took care of and operated the projector for over 30 years. Everything was always properly set up and well managed, while those occasions when the increasingly elderly machine ate the odd slide were resolved in the quiet manner to which we were all used. As one of many speakers who benefitted from Roger's expertise, it was wonderful not to have to cope with organisations who had little understanding of the equipment they presented you with, which they also sometimes expected you to set up and even take down.

I first came to know Roger when I joined the Committee in the early 1970's and soon realised that he was one of that rare breed who never felt

the urge to say what had already been said or re-visit areas already covered. With his quiet manner also went a somewhat impish sense of humour.

He became a close friend of Geoffrey Gillam and often acted as his chauffeur visiting, with his camera, a wide range of local sites from prehistoric to World War Two which were drawn to the Society's attention over the years.

Roger was born in Hackney in 1928 then spent his early life in Tottenham, moving to Enfield after he married Enid in 1955. Before his marriage he served in the RAF, qualifying as one of the first generation of jet fighter pilots after training in what is now Zimbabwe. This photograph of him receiving his wings was taken by chance; he just happened to be the one when the event was recorded.



He was always interested in London in general and in archaeology and when he heard about the EAS he joined it sometime in the early or mid 1960s, which makes him one of our longest serving members.

He was especially interested in the then very new subject of Industrial Archaeology and was a mainstay of the Industrial Archaeology Group of the Society, playing a major role in researching and compiling "Industrial Archaeology in Enfield" published in 1971 as our second Research Report. Roger worked with Mike Kensey on the excavations of the cast iron aqueduct at Whitewebbs (Bulletin No. 32, March 1969) and the timber re-inforced New River bed and brick culvert at Bull Beggar Hole off Clay Hill, and together they instigated the Society's first 'Archaeological Roundabout' on 4 May 1969, a series which ran on for many years. Mike remembers Roger as "a very affable and likeable character.... always there giving a helping hand".

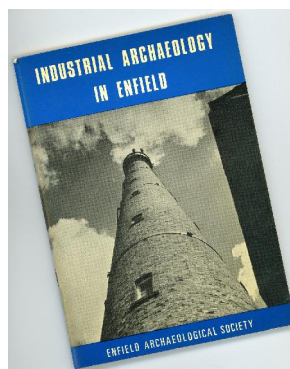
EAS Bulletin No. 149, June 1988, records how Roger deciphered 646 signatures inscribed on a cupboard door in the Rainton Room, Forty Hall, still on display there after re-opening.

Even in his later years he remained very active with other interests including his allotment and walking club. Unlike many people today he would always walk to the Town and other places rather than use the car.

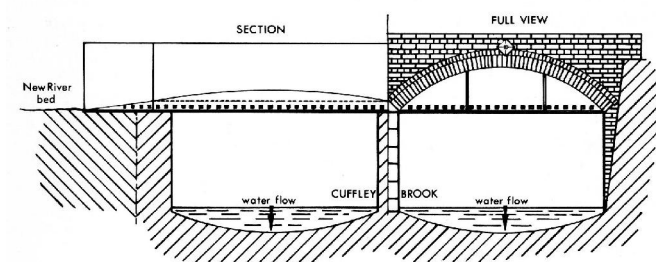
The onset of the digital projector, which took over with a speed that surprised everyone, only partly reduced his workload for us as he continued for a time to look after the screen and other gear. But now at least he had more time to attend fully to the lectures.

He will be greatly missed both as a colleague and a friend and the Society offers its sincere condolences to his wife and family.

IAN JONES



Below are illustrations of the cast iron aqueduct at Whitewebbs (constructed in 1820-1) from the Society's 1971 *Industrial Archaeology in Enfield* publication.



Excavations at 61 Leighton Rd, Bush Hill Park, 2011

(Site Code LGH11)

By Martin J. Dearne

The Bush Hill Park Roman settlement is completely covered by housing and a school and since the 1960s the EAS have been investigating it as and when possible by excavating mainly in people's back gardens, increasingly in recent years taking on the sort of work required by planning conditions for house extensions and infill housing for the owners/developers. The latest of these was at 61 Leighton Rd, where we had previously dug a test trench (Fig. 1 'LGU08') at the invitation of the householder when he made some Roman pottery finds.

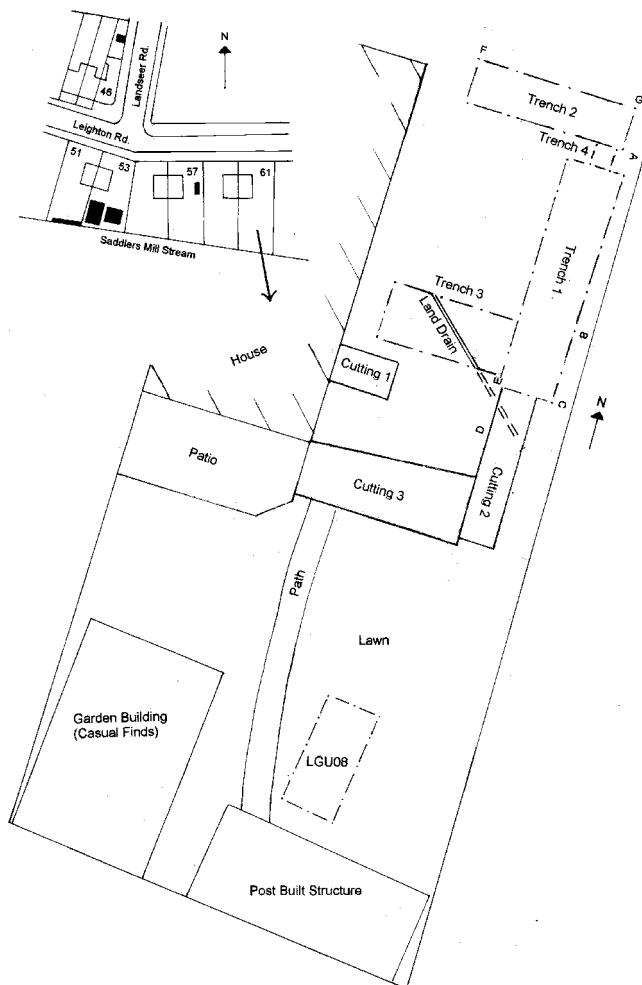


Fig 1: The location of the site (letters denote drawn sections, not all reproduced here)

This site is right at the southern limit of the settlement by the now culverted Saddlers Mill stream which we believe was its southern boundary and previous work nearby (solid areas on Fig. 1) suggested that it was an area of intermittent rubbish disposal, abandoned by the third century as the settlement contracted.

Sample trenches on the site of the proposed new house (beside a standing one) in spring 2011 though revealed something unexpected and led to their extension and a return in autumn 2011 to monitor the machine cutting of the foundations (Fig. 1 Cuttings 1 – 3) to produce a full record of the site.

As ever this is only a summary of the full archive report which has been written on this site, but the belief in an abandonment by the third century after use for rubbish disposal was amply confirmed. About 2,600 sherds of pottery, 22 kg of amphora sherds, 12 kg of brick and tile and a number of quern stone fragments were recovered, but after the second century there was just a build up of hillwash over the site, with barely more than a handful of sherds to represent the last two centuries of the Roman period.

Soil conditions were very acidic so artefacts (a couple of coins and one glass melon bead) and bone survived very badly, but animal teeth indicated the original presence of other rubbish and some of the amphora sherds represented significant sections of vessels.

As we were only a few metres north of Saddlers Mill stream, we were surprised to find three phases of formal boundary features. Not physical defences because they would have been too slight, but ditches and banks that suggest the inhabitants wanted to mark the edge of the settlement in a visible way, perhaps suggesting a degree of civic pride, perhaps to stop livestock straying and perhaps to form a barrier against unseen supernatural threats.

Initially, in the early second (or just possibly the very late first) century there were two ditches, 0.65 m apart, the larger and more southerly 1.60 m wide and up to 0.42 m deep, the smaller parallel to it, 0.60 – 0.80 m wide, 0.24 m deep and U-shaped (Fig. 2). Some meters further south a third parallel feature was probably a natural gully which had been modified into a drainage ditch, so in effect there may have been three ditches.

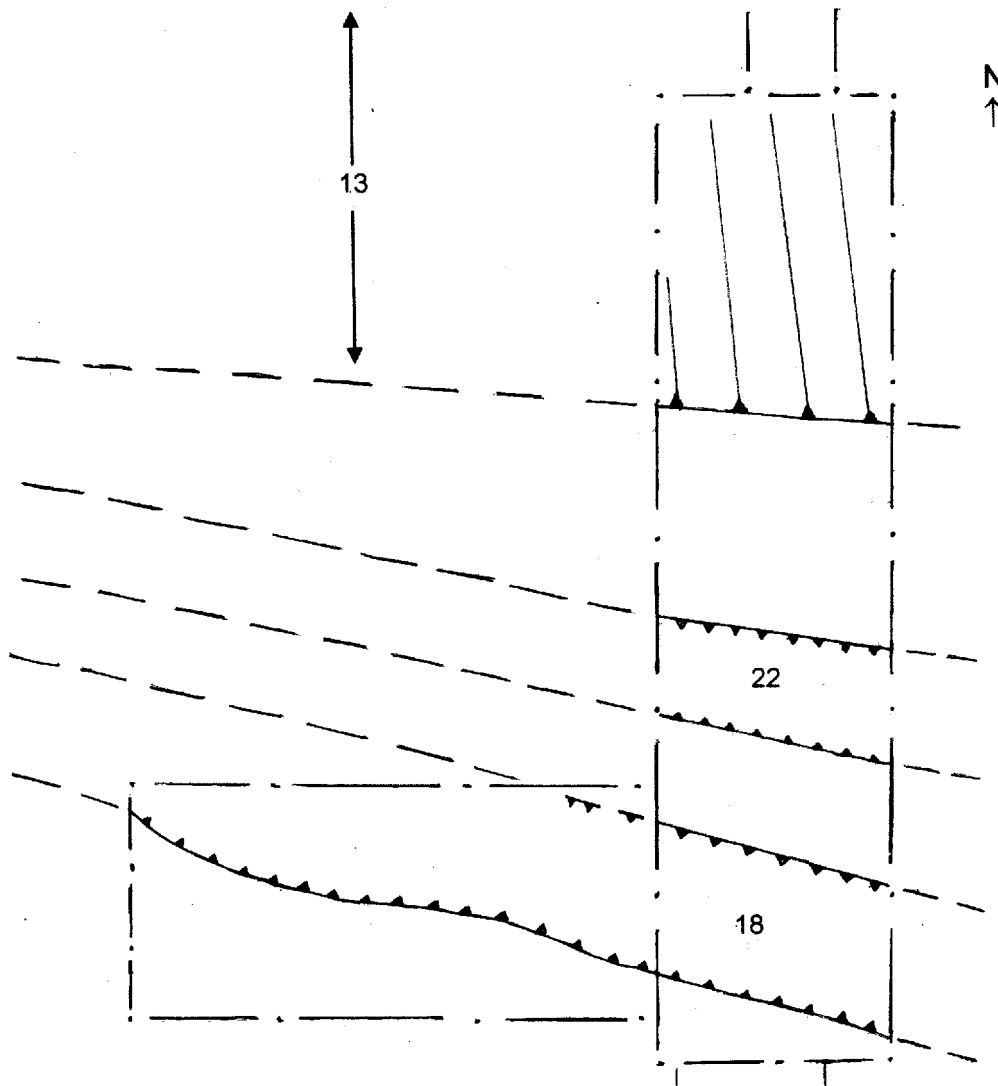


Fig 2: Trenches 1 and 3 showing the early ditches (outer 18 and inner 22) and the gully (13)



The early inner (foreground) and outer ditches (with half of the natural gravel between them cut away). Much of the standing section is late Roman and post Roman hillwash.

Some time during the first half of the second century the inner of the pair of ditches had been deliberately filled and now or a little later the outer was also partly filled. But prior to this the inner appears likely to have been the focus of some sort of ritual, perhaps to sanctify it as a communal spiritual boundary just before it was replaced.

Thus, of 120 pottery sherds from its fill, 80 joined or could be assigned to just seven vessels. In several cases complete or fully reconstructable bases were present as well as large parts of individual vessels' bodies. This sample, from only 0.28 m³ of the ditch fill, suggests not general rubbish disposal but the deposition of selected vessels.

Indeed, towards the base of the deposit joining sherds were in close association and it is very likely that specific part or whole vessels (and whatever they held) had been deposited either while the ditch was open or just prior to its filling. They included jars, flagons, a poppy head beaker, a very large lid which, if inverted, would have

served as a shallow vessel and, most notably, the rim of a late Iron Age cup or bowl in Southern British Grog-tempered Belgic Ware which must by this time have been an heirloom (Fig. 3).



The large lid from the inner ditch (21.2 on Fig. 3)

Directly replacing the now filled inner ditch (with the now shallower outer running along its outer edge) a bank up to 3.0 m wide was then raised along the boundary line. It may not have been terribly high and all that survived of it was its dumped gravel base (Fig. 4), but the brickearth probably forming most of the bank was probably gradually washed away to the south, forming a thick deposit that eventually more than filled the outer ditch. The drainage gully/ditch further south may also still have been open at this time, perhaps having been recut/cleared of silt.

In a third phase, sometime broadly in the middle to later second century, the eroded bank might well have been refurbished as a new spread of gravels overlay its earlier base (Fig. 4), but this spread also continued some distance to the south, sealing

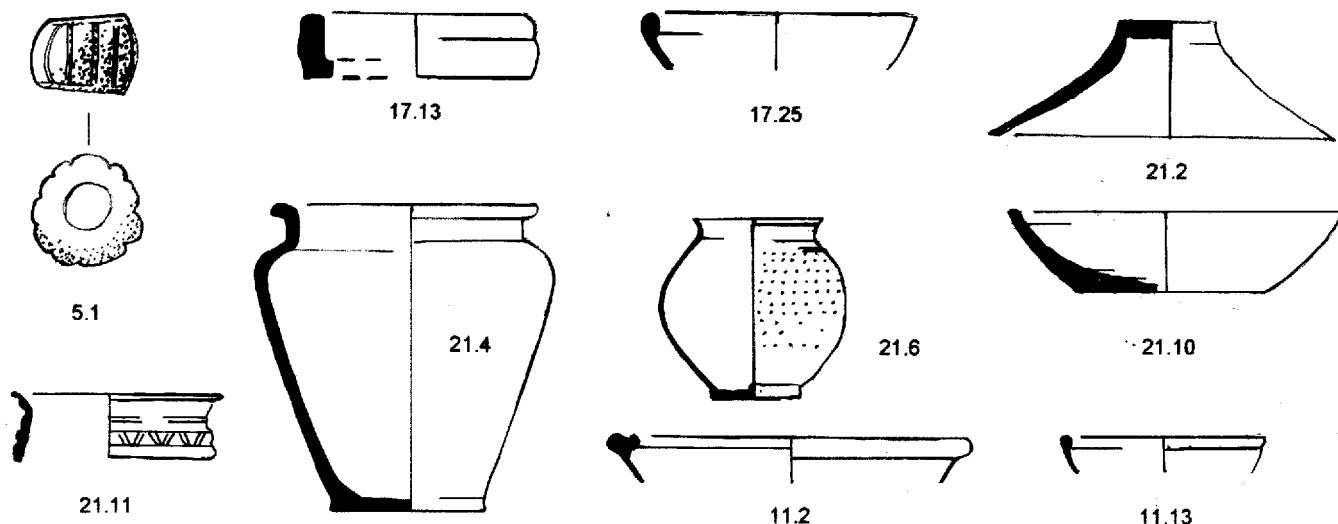


Fig 3: Selected site finds including melon bead (5.1) and some of the inner ditch vessels (prefixed 21; the late Iron Age cup/bowl is 21.11)

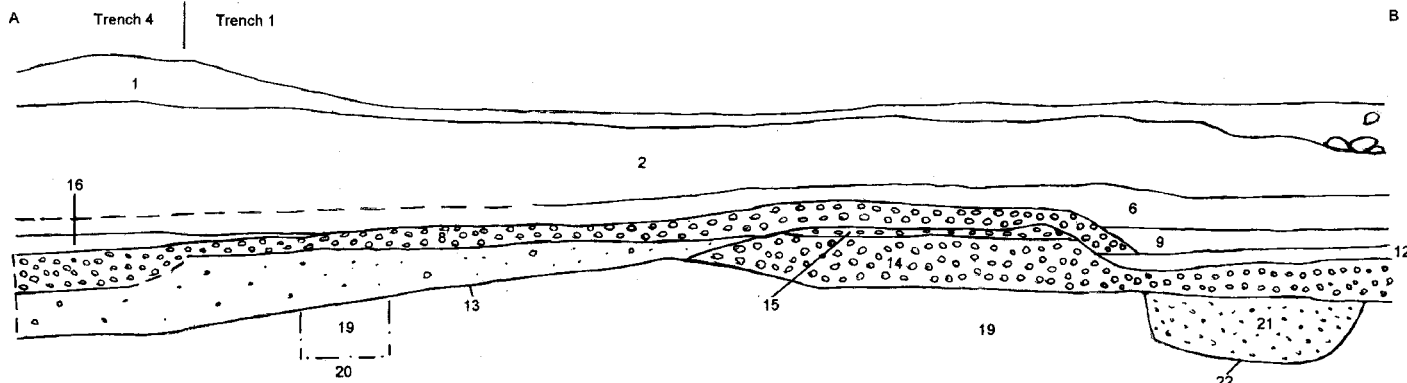


Fig. 4 Section A B (see Fig. 1 for location) showing early inner ditch (22) and gully (13) with later bank base (14 and 15), hillwash probably from bank erosion (12), final ?bank base and ?track (8), possible hillwash from erosion of the second bank (9) and the latest deposit (16) before general hillwash build up (6 and 2)

the now choked drainage gully/ditch. What may be represented is a c. 1.50 m wide boundary bank, but now with a c. 2.60 m wide east west informal road/track along its north side. Clearly though any bank again eroded away and by the end of the second century hillwash would have obscured any signs of the boundary features belonging to the earlier life of the now contracted settlement.

We now have evidence for boundary features around three sides of the settlement (we will never know about the fourth as it probably lies under Lincoln Rd.) so it was probably defined in some way on all sides and this is the fourth time that what look like possible 'ritual' pottery finds have occurred, three times in the likely boundary ditches (though this is by far the clearest example to date).

This is not surprising as the tradition of placing objects imbued with personal or communal significance at boundaries to settlements or more overtly ritual sites goes back to the Neolithic at least. But it does bring the mindset of the inhabitants of the settlement into some focus and suggest that this was not just a collection of houses strung out along the Roman road (Ermine St.) south, probably, of some sort of official horse changing station or hotel (mutatio or mansio) but a community sufficiently aware of its separate identity to want to define its own space in a visible way and quite probably link that space to supernatural beliefs by placing offerings in its boundary ditches.

The EAS are most grateful to Mr. Peter Dennis who not only commissioned the work but enthusiastically participated in it and as ever thanks are due to all the EAS members who

undertook the excavation as well as post excavation work, especially Roger Dormer who, with the author, undertook the substantial task of identifying all the pottery. Thanks are also due to Isobel Thompson of Hertfordshire County Council for identifying the Belgic sherd from the inner ditch.

MARTIN DEARNE

(Roman finds weren't the only finds from this dig. Amongst the more recent archaeology buried in the garden was this Fiat engine block – Ed.)



A Note on Cullings Manor, Cheshunt

(Site Code CUL09)

By Martin J. Dearne

The site of Cullings 'Manor', to the west of the A10 immediately to the north of Junction 25 of the M25 has long been presumed to be a moated Medieval/early modern manorial or homestead site.

Half of the suspected moat is obscured by modern dumping and half ploughed but traceable on earlier maps and aerial photographs.

The area was fieldwalked in 2008 following earlier casual and formal fieldwalking finds between 1978 and 2008. The 2008 fieldwalking suggested that much of the finds distribution present on that part of the site which is now plough land relates to the post Medieval dumping having been much more extensive until very recently. However, finds from all fieldwalking exercises appeared to support a Medieval origin for the site.

Subsequent excavation by the EAS in 2009 comprised a series of very deep test trenches, stepped for safety, coupled with map and aerial photographic evidence examined by Neil and Lesley Pinchbeck.

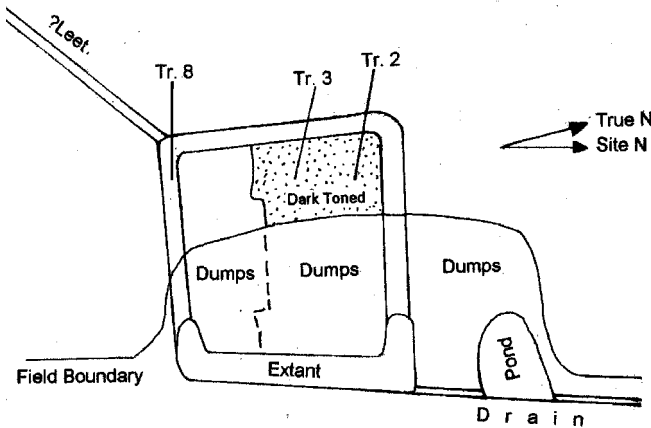
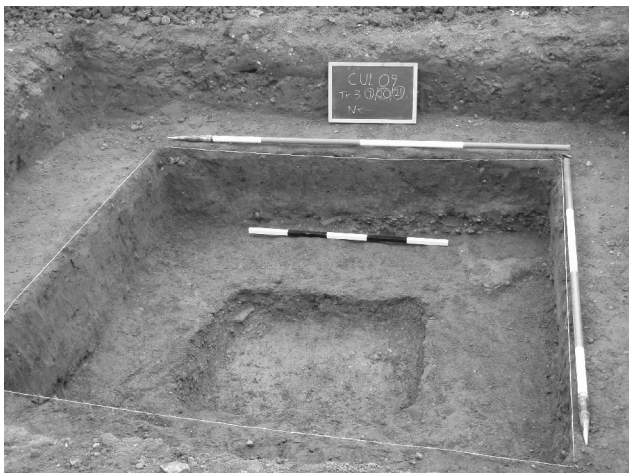


Fig 1: Map and aerial photographic evidence for the 'moat', current extent of modern dumps, edge of a higher terrace in the southern part of the enclosure and the position of the more important trenches in 2009

This suggested that the site was in fact a terraced and moated garden bisected by gravel paths. It is likely to have been connected with Theobalds Palace, created in the first decade of the seventeenth century. Its sunken elements were infilled by dumping, perhaps primarily in the nineteenth, but into the later twentieth, centuries.



Stepped Trench 3 showing the depth of modern dumping even where the site is plough land and including, in the lower section, the edge of one of the gravel paths that bisected the ornamental garden

Though documentary research, far too detailed and extensive to present here, established the existence of a Medieval manor of Cullings at this location, and Medieval material was again recovered during excavation, the existence of any manorial centre here, at least beyond the mid fourteenth century, now appears unlikely. The Medieval finds may anyway derive from field manuring and material imported at the time of the landscaping of the site as a garden.

Fieldwalking is still ongoing at the site and will hopefully be the subject of a subsequent article, but this delayed note is just to put on record the conclusions above drawn particularly from the 2009 excavation work. A full archive report contains the detailed evidence and arguments leading to the conclusions summarised here.

The Enfield Archaeological Society are grateful to the owners of the site, the Trustees of Theobalds Park Farm, their agents (Strutt and Parker) and their tenants, Mr. and Mrs. P. Cable, for permission to carry out the 2008/9 and ongoing work. We are also grateful to Neil Robbins, then Curator of the Lowewood Museum, Hoddesdon for his enthusiastic support and to the Lowewood Museum for its financial support which made the excavations possible.

That the finds and records of work in 1978 survived to be incorporated in the research is a testament to the foresight and diligence of Brian Warren while much of the 21st century work that focused attention on the site was done by Mike Dewbrey.

The author is grateful to all the members of the EAS who took part in the 2008 and 2009 work (much of it in 2009 physically arduous), to Jeremy Grove who prepared an initial report on the fieldwalking pottery, to Jacqueline Pearce of the Museum of London Specialist Services for her expert comments on which it was based, and to Luke Barber of Archaeology South East for a report on a sample of the overall pottery corpus from the site.

MARTIN DEARNE

PASTFINDERS NEWS

News of the Excavation and Fieldwork Group



<http://enfieldarchaeology.wordpress.com/>

A team from the Museum of London have been busy carrying out evaluation work on the site of Theobalds Palace with the assistance of members of the E.A.S. during the summer months.

A large open area investigation close to the Old Pond where a new access road is to be built relocating the car park to the West of the Monument revealed 17th century brick lined culverts channelling water from the Old Pond into the Great Garden of the palace. I had always suspected that the pond fed water into William Cecil's gardens at this location and now we have the evidence to prove it!

Another noteworthy discovery was the almost complete skeleton of a large canine such as a wolf hound or bull mastiff. It is tempting to speculate that perhaps this could be the remains of King James' favourite hunting dog 'Jewel', shot accidentally by his wife Anne of Denmark while on a hunting trip. The carbon 14 dating of the bones will hopefully give some clue as to the age of the animal, which may after all turn out to be a guard dog from the estate buried in recent years.

The Orangery and Palm House floor was also excavated by a MoLA team in advance of relocating the cafe, uncovering a substantial wall roughly on the alignment of a wing of Theobalds Palace. Much restored in the 18th century, the Palm house floor also concealed a rare example of a Georgian hypocaust heating system. A more detailed report on these intriguing discoveries will follow in a future bulletin.

In July the Pastfinders mobilised once more, beginning with a further trench in Cedars Park relocating the demolished wall last seen in 2010. Although we did not uncover the drain which we believe crosses with this wall due to depth and time restrictions, nevertheless some surprising finds were made.

Noteworthy was a fine piece of dressed limestone from a window of the palace, a copper rose farthing of Charles 1st and fragments of a

splendid early 18th century delftware platter decorated in gold and peacock blue:



The second big dig took place the following week at Elsyng Palace site north of Forty Hall. The rain all week, although unwelcome, did soften the ground enabling us to uncover a substantial section of the footprint of a large L-shaped agricultural building first seen during last years dig. Although ascertaining the use of such structures is never easy the current opinion is that the building was a 18th century threshing? Barn built after Elsyng was demolished in the late 17th to early 18th century by the grandson of Nicholas Rainton. Finds were sparse, noteworthy was a fine late 16th century pipe bowl, and the neck of a late 16th - 17th century stoneware pitcher.

Full reports on both digs will follow as usual in future bulletins. Thanks as always to all our diggers who helped with this years excavations and to Ailsa and Carol for assisting with the sales table.

Sadly we all mourn the loss of our friend and colleague Roger Eddington who passed away recently. Roger never missed any of our excavations at Forty Hall and would always walk from his home close by to see what we had found. We shall all miss Roger's enthusiasm and witty sense of humour. Roger's love of local history and Enfield's Industrial archaeology were well known. As one of the longest serving members of the EAS, lectures will never be quite the same again without Roger's mastery of the slide projector.

MIKE DEWBREY