



Society News

The Bulletin of the Enfield Archaeological Society



Forty Hall manager Gavin Williams, dressed as Sir Nicholas Rainton, stands on a brick pavement excavated in September 2007, which possibly last saw the light of day in Sir Nicholas's day. (see p. 7)

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

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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, David Wills (Tel: 020 8364 5698) and we will do our best to put you in touch with another member who can give you a lift.

Meetings:

11th April

The Excavations & Fieldwork of Enfield Archaeology Society 2007 & AGM

Dr Martin Dearne & Mike Dewbrey

Martin and Mike will give an illustrated talk on the work of the Society over the last year. Preceded by the AGM.

16th May

Presidential Address

Harvey Sheldon, Birkbeck College, University of London

We are pleased to welcome our President, Professor Harvey Sheldon, leading authority on Roman London and Southwark, and director of many excavations, including the recent Birkbeck College training digs on the site of the Bridgettine Monastery at Syon Park (see *Society News* 174, Sept 2004).

Other Events:

Saturday 31st May

WEA/EAS Coach Trip: Woodbridge, Sutton Hoo, Christchurch Mansion

This year's joint WEA/EAS coach trip, organised by Margaret Christie, is to Suffolk (and the far end of Essex on the way back). The extremely interesting programme includes the town of Woodbridge, Sutton Hoo (with its highly rated new museum), and 16th century Christchurch Mansion near Ipswich. Price is £20.00 including entry fees (or £15 for National Trust members with membership card). For more details see enclosed booking form.

2pm Saturday 28th June

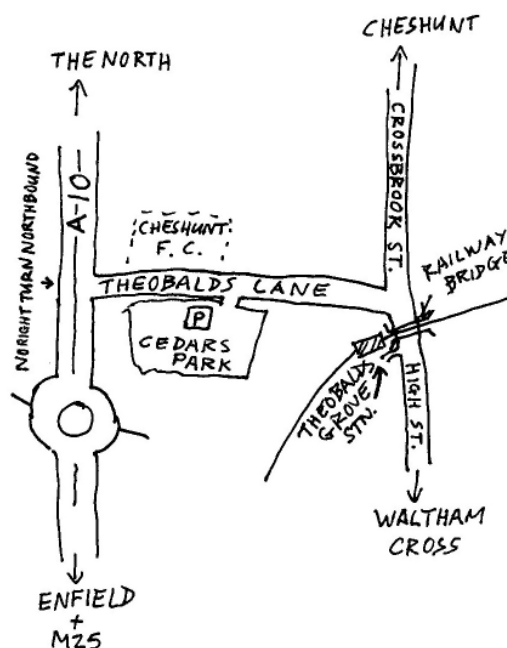
The Dennis Hill Memorial Event

At Theobalds at Cedars Park: A tour of the park and its archaeology.

Cedars Park in Cheshunt was the site of Theobalds Palace, built by William Cecil in the late 16th century, one of the greatest houses of Elizabeth's reign, and later a favourite of James I. The EAS is involved in a Lottery-funded project to restore the park and make its history more accessible to the public, as part of which we are due to carry out excavations there during National Archaeology Week later this year (see below).

EAS Chairman Mike Dewbrey will lead a tour drawing on his longstanding interest in the park to explain its history, and describe our plans for the forthcoming excavations.

Meet in the car park, Cedars Park, off Theobalds Lane, at 2pm. Tour will take approximately 2 hours. N.B. please do not confuse the venue for Theobalds College on the other side of the A10!



More diary dates....

13th – 14th July – EAS dig at Theobalds Palace, Cedars Park, Broxbourne

A National Archaeology Week event

19th – 20th July – Forty Hall, Enfield

A(nother!) National Archaeology Week event.

EAS dig (19-20th), and public event (20th only) including childrens' activities organised by Enfield Museum Service & EAS.

6-7th September - Enfield Town Show

Joint EAS/Museum Service stall

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.

Meetings of other Societies

EDMONTON HUNDRED HISTORICAL SOCIETY

7.45 for 8pm, Jubilee Hall, Enfield, unless otherwise stated

17 April

The Salt and Pepper Man
Peter Bayman

21 May

The National Census, A House in Clerkenwell
Marlene MacAndrew

18 June

The History of Silver Street, Enfield
Harold Noble

HENDON & DISTRICT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

7.45 for 8.00pm Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley

8 April

Clifton Rocks Railway
Peter Davey - Bristol Tram Photograph Collection

13 May

Finds from Roman London
Angela Wardle - MOLAS Finds Specialist

10 June

Annual General Meeting

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION NORTH LONDON BRANCH

7.45 for 8pm, Jubilee Hall, Parsonage Lane, Enfield

8 April

The Personal Rule of Charles I
Dr David Smith

LONDON & MIDDLESEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

6 for 6.30pm, Terrace Room, Museum of London

10 April

The Rise and Fall of England's Medieval Jews
Dr Richard Huscroft

8 May

The History and Architecture of Clerkenwell
Colin Thom, Survey of London, EH

WEST ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

7.45 for 8pm, VI Form Unit, Woodford County High School, High Road, Woodford Green

14 April

Turners Hall Farm – A Roman Burial Site
Simon West – St Albans Museum Service

12 May

(in the School Hall)
Archaeology of the Olympic Site
Gary Brown – Museum of London

WALTHAM ABBEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

8pm, Victoria Hall, Greenyard, Waltham Abbey

27 March

Puddephatt Mem'l Lecture - A Decade of Archaeological Discovery
Peter Huggins

25 April

AGM & President's Address
Stan Newens

23 May

The Life and Legacy of George Peabody
Christine Wagg

SOCIETY MATTERS

Subscription reminder

Membership subscriptions were due on 1 January 2008, for all members joining the society before 30 September 2007.

If you have not yet renewed, you should find a reminder slip enclosed. Please send this together with the appropriate sum, to the Secretary, David Wills, 43 Millers Green Close, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 7BD.

The rates are unchanged from last year:

Ordinary Members:	£ 9.00
Joint Memberships:	£13.00
Junior Members:	£ 4.50

New members who joined the Society after 30 September 2007 need take no action, as their subscriptions are valid until 31 December 2008.

Volunteers wanted to man stalls at EAS events

We would love to hear from any members who may be willing to help man publicity stalls and activity tables at EAS events. Please contact the Secretary (details in left hand column).

Thanks and goodbye (again)

In the last edition we appealed for a volunteer to take over the 'welcome table' at our lecture evenings from Caroline McKenna.

We are most grateful to Rosemary Perkins for answering this appeal, and indeed she has already taken over the job.

Caroline has now stood down from the committee as well, though we hope to continue to see her at future events. We would therefore like to thank her for all her work in support of the committee over the years.



Our cover this time features an exceptional "recent" find from Roman Enfield – a late 2nd – early 3rd century millifiori brooch.

The intricate design was achieved by combining thousands of coloured glass rods (red, white and blue, for those of you reading the printed version of the newsletter) in a pattern and firing them sufficiently for them to fuse together. A thin cross section was then cut, fused to the metal base, and polished. The whole is about 3cm in diameter!

The piece was excavated by a sharp-eyed Society digger in the 1970s, when it appeared to be little more than a lump of iron-cemented clay. It then went into store for some 30 years, until it was recently painstakingly cleaned and identified by Martin Dearne. There are perhaps only 6 or 7 similar brooches this well preserved in the country.

Enfield Museum Service have kindly volunteered to fund its permanent conservation, and in due course it will go on display in the Museum.



Meeting Reports

The Christmas Story in Art

17 December: Stephen Gilbert

Stephen Gilbert returned in December to Jubilee Hall for a seasonal talk showing the Christmas story and its depiction in art. This story has endured and inspired many artists across the centuries and in this talk Stephen showed many interpretations of the story and the different media used to retell the traditional tales. Rich in symbolism and influenced by contemporary and archaic styles, the artwork has been used to bring the story to successive generations.

From early paintings like Fra Angelico and on to the Pre Raphaelites the images use motives and media as diverse as the 13th century stained glass windows at Canterbury cathedral, the Nuremberg Psalter and the 10th c St Marks Altarpiece.

The 12th c window showing the nativity scene in Chartres has perhaps the finest stain glass in the world.

Stephen showed us the techniques and materials used in some of the artwork like Egg Tempura paint and how the effect of time has given some of the characters depicted green faces as a result of chemical reaction.

Fresco wall paintings were painted on plaster which allows the paint to bind with wet walls. An example of this is a 14th c fresco by Giotto in the lower church of St Francis of Assisi where the paint was applied before the plaster dried. Another Giotto painting using the blue pigment Lapis Lazuli in this technique shows an image of the flight from Egypt and shows the Lapis Lazuli flaking. This pigment was imported from Afghanistan and is expensive and a great deal is lost over time from painting on to dry plaster. It was traditional for the Virgin to be painted in Lapis Lazuli.

The depiction of the nativity was not restricted to just pictures and frescos. The decoration of objects like the inside of a ceramic bowl or drinking goblet also gives a rich interpretation. A wood carving in Bologna shows the three kings presenting gifts. Casper – Gold, Melchior –

Frankincense and Balthazar – Myrrh. All valuable, expensive and symbolic gifts. This familiar scene of the magi bringing gifts from Matthews gospel is also shown in Byzantine mosaics.

Symbolism is abundant in all of these images. Figures such as the frequent use of the peacock as the symbol of eternity and the use of the cat as a symbol of evil. A 16th c Titian image shows an Angel holding flowers to show the virgins purity with the peacock also present here.

Millais' picture shows Mary kissing Jesus as a child who, as a carpenter's son, has received an injury from a splinter in his hand, pre-empting the wounds received by Christ on the cross.

A Nativity scene depicted in 1500 in a roof vault image shows Mary praying in front of Jesus while Joseph is eating. Joseph is often shown appearing disinterested in events including the nativity, as if he is not part of it or otherwise occupied. His disinterest and detachment being symbolic of his detachment from the virgin birth of the son of God. Whereas an image in the Hamburg Gallery shows Yerin and Anna, the traditional parents of Jesus, not mentioned in the Bible.

Imagery reflects the period in which it was painted and therefore often an image depicts a scene that a contemporary audience can relate to. For instance, Breugel's journey to Bethlehem in heavy snow, looking like a Flemish winter scene.

The talk gave an overview of how this story has been depicted, in different media and styles, and remained a popular and enduring story across the ages. It showed how it has been able to endure and influence by the use of techniques and images familiar to the audience and how this in turn has given the story such longevity.

TIM HARPER

Late Victorian Enfield

18 January: Graham Dalling

In January we welcomed back Graham Dalling of the Local History Unit to share more of his encyclopaedic knowledge of the history of Enfield.

Graham began by discussing some matters of public health – or perhaps the lack of it. In 1850 a Local Board of Health was established, taking over some functions previously carried out by the Vestry, as well as additional functions. In 1870 the Enfield Burial Board was formed to deal with the problem of inadequate cemetery facilities in Enfield. Indeed the cemetery of St Andrew's

church was in such a state that local residents had complained about the smell! In 1872 Lavender Hill Cemetery was opened, followed a few years later by the Enfield Highway cemetery. The Board survived until 1920, when its responsibilities were transferred to the District Council.

Between 1841 and 1851 the net increase in Enfield's population was only 53, but thereafter it increased rapidly, from nine thousand in 1851 to 43 thousand in 1861. Rapid though this was, it was slower than the growth in Edmonton and particularly Tottenham. Both were a similar size to Enfield in 1841, with around 9,000 residents apiece, but by 1861 Edmonton had 61,000 and Tottenham a remarkable 136,000. Population growth undoubtedly contributed to public health problems (*some of which were mentioned in the write-up of Graham's previous talk in Society News 184, March 2007*).

Enfield had new housing to suit a range of wallets. In Bush Hill Park Wellington Road and Private Road offered higher class detached houses in arts and crafts style – at a hefty £2,000 each in the 1870s. More of the same followed in the Bicullagh estate, Old Park Road and Waverley Park. Bush Hill Park station was built to serve this new market, and also the working classes living on the 'other side of the tracks' in the St Marks Road area.

The council surveyor's books tell us of some of the problems encountered in housing at the lower end of the market. In 1881 the Cedar's estate on Brigadier Hill had bad chimneys, bad foundations, low floor heights, and badly bonded walls which were seriously out of perpendicular. In 1886 in Standard Road mortar was found to be mixed with stable sweepings (the workmen had apparently obtained their sand by scraping it off the road).

Gradually efforts to improve the housing and health situation, by pioneers such as Dr John Ridge, made progress. By 1880 most houses were connected to mains drainage. A surviving pumping station near the Jolly Farmers was built to pump sewage from the area over Windmill Hill, since it could not drain down to Ponder's End. The mains water supply initially struggled to meet rapidly growing demand. Residents were lucky if the supply was on 2 hours a day, and if a pipe burst it could be off for a week. The answer was improved wells and engines, and a water tower at Holtwhites Hill. The Holtwhites Reservoir and Hadley Road Pumping Station survive. In 1891 an isolation hospital was opened in a temporary building in Worlds End Lane, later merging with Highlands Hospital.

Until the 1880s another civic amenity that was lacking in Enfield was street name signs. In 1881 there were complaints from the Census enumerators that they were having trouble finding their way around – not only were there no street signs, but no house numbers either. To add to their woes, there were several streets with the same name (such as the wonderfully bland Avenue Road), and others with several different names (Lincoln Road rejoicing in about six different names). The Surveyor authorised the erection of cast iron street signs – many of which are still in use today.

JEREMY GROVE

The Great Walls of China

15 February: Ian Jones

Ian began his talk with an image of the wall at Badalang, which is the section most familiar to us, which dates from the end of the Ming dynasty in the 16th century and which was heavily restored in the 1960s and 70s. However this was just the last of a succession of many different walls built over almost 2000 years. They stretch for thousands of kilometres, none has been completely surveyed, and there has been relatively little excavation.

There are no written records for the earliest walls, which survive as eroded banks. They are thought to represent the frontiers of early Chinese states from the period 500-300BC, and to have defended against other Chinese tribes forced out to live on the steppes.

The first Emperor and the following Han dynasty (221BC-AD220) built the first continuous wall, perhaps partly to keep the army occupied after China had been unified. Tens of thousands of labourers were also employed in bad conditions, and a posting to the wall may have been a punishment for officials.

Sections of the Han wall, complete with towers, survive in good condition, constructed of rammed earth with layers of reed. Some stacks of cut reed stand ready for use by the wall, where they were left almost 2000 years ago.

The Jade Gate was the most westerly exit through the wall. Excavations have produced tools, a basket, a kiln, possibly for metalworking, and what was possibly an adjustable arrow loop for use in the wall. There is also what is thought to be a huge granary.

Continued on page 13 >

Excavations at Elsyng Palace 2007– An Update

(Site Code ENF07)

By Dr Martin Dearne
with a contribution by Neil Pinchbeck

Introduction

In Bulletin 186 (September 2007) the author outlined the work the EAS has been doing since 2005 on the scheduled ancient monument of Elsyng Palace in the grounds of Forty Hall, in the Lime tree avenue that runs across the site.

However, as noted at the time, there were further excavations after that article was written and now that they are complete, as is the programme of sapling planting permitted by English Heritage, it is appropriate to provide a final update on the work (please see Bulletin 186 for the background to the work, location details, pit and trench code system used, and earlier results).

Late 15th Century Courtier's Palace and Later Midden and Developments in the Area of Pit 33

The significant extension of P33 within the outer courtyard of the (Tudor) palace by Trenches 3 and 4 reported in Bulletin 186 continued with the cutting of Trench 5 which allowed the full, three phase, story of this area to be reconstructed as follows.

Phase 1

Over the natural, with a west to south west sloping surface, a rammed pebble spread with integral brick features had been laid (? part of a surface leading from the gatehouse into the (in Tudor times outer) courtyard). The mortar used indicated a late fifteenth century date. The pebble spread was known by the time of the last article but we had only glimpsed the brick features in Trench 4.

Trench 5 showed them to include (Fig. 1) a north west to south east orientated c. 1.10 m square surface of handmade, hard fired, unfrosted orange bricks and part bricks, set on a bed of mortar, surrounded by a slightly upstanding border of similar bricks/part bricks on edge, and the localised use of chalk fragments for the pebble spread's surface. Clearly an integral construction

with this was a brick built, rectangular sectioned, open topped drain, which ran for over 1.75 m south east from near the surface's south eastern edge in Trench 5. The drain was overall 43 cm wide, had an internal width of 23.5 cm, an internal depth of 14 cm and fell extremely steeply at 1 in 4.7 to the south east with suggestions at the southern baulk that the fall increased. Its base was constructed of coursed (mainly part) bricks (identical to those in the surface) bonded again with relatively soft, sandy yellow mortar. It would have been proud of the pebbled surface by c. 16 cm at the north end, but its rapid fall meant that it was at or below the surface of the natural before the southern end of Trench 5, and some form of later removed loose covering (such as roof tiles or wooden slats) must have been necessary to prevent its very rapid blockage.

It is tempting to see the surface as the base for a water cistern or tank with the drain to take away waste water, and one implication of the existence and nature of the drain is that it almost certainly fed into a larger drain at a deeper level. It must be strongly suspected that that was a continuation of the late fifteenth century arched brick drain excavated in 2005, which now gives us a better idea of the latter's course. The chalk edging round the ?tank base might be entirely decorative but may also have facilitated the identification of the feature at night (the author is grateful to L. Pinchbeck for this suggestion).



Fig. 1: The Late Fifteenth Century ?Tank Base and Drain in Trench 5 with the Charcoal Layer at the Top of the Midden in Section Above the Base

Phase 2

Subsequently, as previously reported and now more fully defined, a midden (rubbish dump) around 3.6 – 3.8 m in diameter, came to occupy the roughly bowl shaped depression that had come to be worn into the pebbled surface, and to

cover much of the brick tank base as well as a little of the already disused and clay silt filled drain. There is no reason not to assume the re-use of the pebbled surface in the Tudor palace arrangements and the consequent heavy wear given its period of use may well have created the depression in which the midden subsequently formed; whether the tank base and drain were still in use in Tudor times is unknown.

The midden was bulk sampled for later environmental analysis (still ongoing) and had had building demolition material added to it, at least in one case certainly prior to the deposition of a charcoal capping (Fig. 2), which one suspects resulted from a bonfire on the site during palace demolition.

The absence of wine bottle glass, clay pipe and Delft Ware tentatively suggested a later sixteenth century date for the midden but the pottery recovered suggests that the deposit at least continued to accumulate into the first half of the seventeenth century. As the demolition material in it was from structures using late fifteenth century mortar an implication is that the structures being demolished (in the mid seventeenth century) in the area were as much late fifteenth century in origin as Tudor. This reinforces the impression that Henry VIII reused Lovell's courtier's palace wholesale as the basis for the outer courtyard of his own palace.

At some point during the process of midden development though a new dump of rammed pebbles had been deposited over much of Trench 5 at least, probably to create a new surface/path skirting and perhaps c. 0.30 m above the level of the midden, though it had also sunken into the earlier drain and eventually the midden had encroached upon it as it continued to grow. At this time, probably by now out of royal hands, the palace is likely to have been in significant decline but the laying of this new surface suggests that its maintenance had not been abandoned entirely.

Phase 3

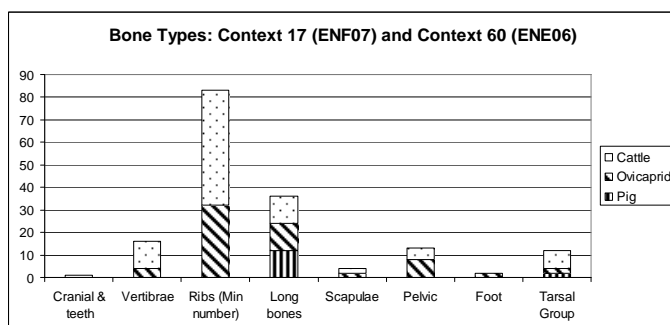
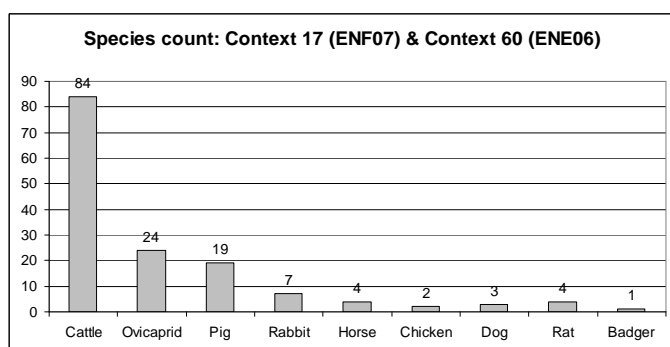
Overlaying the midden and the pebbled spreads was a demolition deposit, in some areas with concentrated crushed pinkish white mortar and window glass, some of it painted (*Bulletin 186, p 12 Nos. 5.1 – 5.11*), belonging to the demolition of the palace c. 1657. Above it in some areas was a relatively sterile make up layer, then another layer of demolition material and it appeared likely that this final demolition dump represented, with the make up layer, the process of landscaping the

area with a variety of demolition derived materials. Topsoil then overlay this.

Animal Bone

(summarised from a specialist archive report by Neil Pinchbeck)

Although some summary of the general conclusions Neil Pinchbeck has been able to draw from the animal bone recovered during the project was given in the last article, attention has particularly been focused on the above midden's collection and it is worth illustrating some of the information that it has provided. The two graphs below summarise the sort of analysis of the material undertaken (uniting the finds from the test pit and trenches):



Tables 1 and 2: The Faunal Assemblage from the Midden by Species (Fragment Count) and Skeletal Element (Fragment Count Except Ribs by Min. Number)

As can be seen, though this is the number of fragments of bone recovered and not the number of individual animals they represent, the midden included pig, chicken, rabbit and ovicaprid (sheep and goat) as well as much commoner cattle. There was evidence for marrow extraction from the latter two, and a distinct preponderance of cattle rib bones, even with allowance made for their greater fragmentation; but horse, rat, dog and a badger (*Meles meles*) were also present. The animal bone thus suggests that meat consumption, or at least processing, in the area of the site investigated was primarily of beef with lesser amounts of lamb/mutton/goat and pig, and

some rabbit and chicken (possibly under represented because of the susceptibility of the small bones of these species to fragmentation and decay/complete consumption by dogs). The butchery evidence (the material including little indicative of 'table scraps') indicates the regular extraction of marrow from all larger species (especially cattle) and analysis of the ungulate bones indicates a preponderance amongst long bones of metacarpals and metatarsals which may relate to the removal of low meat yield elements of carcasses and their retention in a kitchen context (?for stock production). The presence of proximal and intermediate phalanges but no distal phalanges was also noted and may indicate the arrival on site of carcasses which had been skinned, leaving the hoofs on, for tanning.

The presence of non food domesticates (dog and horse) and of rat is unsurprising in a palace context, especially in the former cases as it was adjacent to a chase, though the presence of badger in a stratified and not apparently animal disturbed midden context is interesting, and might relate to the utilisation of its bristles.

Also interesting is that the features of some finds made specific deductions about the size and type of animals represented possible. In the case of three equine (horse) scapulae from the midden which were sufficiently complete to reconstruct, giving an overall length of 43.2 cm (17"), it was possible to say that the animals had originally stood 13.8 hands (1.4 m). This would have made them slightly too large to be considered as members of most breeds of modern pony (max. approx. 13.5 hands), but too small to be considered as a lady's hunter (min. 15 hands). Rather, they would fall within the size range considered as cobs (average 13.7 hands), typified by the modern Welsh cob.

P36/Trench 6 – Further Late Fifteenth Century Evidence

The expansion (as Trench 6) of a pit (P36) in which another rammed pebble courtyard surface had been seen, some way north of that discussed above, also emphasised how far late fifteenth century features had been left intact and reused in the Tudor palace. The pebbled surface was badly damaged by tree roots and a modern planting pit but was up to 70 cm thick. The significant finding though was that it abutted the tree root and demolition disturbed remains of the same mortared brick surface seen nearby in pits P38 and P38A (*Bulletin 186, p 8 and Fig. 3*). However, it was apparent that the traces of white Tudor mortar seen then should be reinterpreted as repair work

because this new larger exposure clearly showed that the original mortar used between and under the bricks was typical of the late fifteenth century. The surface had presumably just been retained and where necessary repaired in the Tudor period. Moreover, that the brick surface was so extensive and abutted a probably contemporary, certainly external pebbled surface means that it too was external and not the floor of the front room of a ?tower's basement as previously suggested from geophysical evidence. Indeed, geophysical evidence on the site is increasingly being shown to be more difficult to interpret than it initially appears and whilst the ?tower interpretation could still be correct the presumed size of this structure must now be reduced and a large (?9 m wide) brick surface be envisaged in front of it at the north side of the (in Tudor times outer) courtyard.

Overlying the brick surface (and filling slumped and missing areas of it) and the damaged areas of the pebbled surface where not removed by the modern intrusion was a layer of demolition rubble including bricks notably retaining late fifteenth century soft, sandy yellow mortar adhering to one face and a hard white (Tudor) mortar to the other; further evidence for Tudor repair or additions to existing structures rather than their replacement.



Fig. 2: The Damaged Brick Surface with Remnants of the Abutting Pebbled Surface Beyond

North of the Palace

The shortcomings of geophysics were shown again just north of the palace where Trench 7 expanded P44, in which we had seen a chalk lined bowl shaped feature previously, and then crossed what was showing up on resistivity surveys like a structure in advance of the palace perimeter. In fact it was a rammed pebble surface, probably a minor roadway leading away from the palace, perhaps towards its water gardens, running along the crest of a significant natural break of slope. We

already knew from P45 and P46 (Bulletin 186 p 9) that the modern topography north of the palace had been modified terrifically by dumping when the palace was demolished and this was further evidence of that. In fact the bowl shaped feature resolved itself into a locally damaged white mortared pebble and chalk fragment facing to the slightly concave down slope, suggesting that the palace once sat near the edge of a steep slope down towards Maidens Brook which had been given a white surfacing to contrast with its red brickwork. A single sherd of pottery from the road plus the type of mortar used in the surfacing of the slope tentatively date them to the Tudor development of the site. The existence of such a steep slope would have made the late fifteenth century courtier's and later Tudor palaces, and their views to the north, more impressive than modern topography would suggest and may help to explain the siting of predecessor Medieval structures here as it would have provided a defensive advantage.



Fig. 3: The Roadway (Left) and Mortared Chalk Slope (Square Hole is the Previously Excavated P44) with Demolition Rubble Seen in Section

The former slope had been entirely disguised during palace demolition by a series of dumps of clay and demolition material and these produced some interesting finds including a fragment of brick with part of a chequers board crudely scratched on it, the other half of the early sixteenth to late seventeenth century bronze belt buckle found in P44 (Bulletin 186 p 12 No. 2.1), a bronze belt strengthener still backed by leather (Fig. 4) (probably from the same belt) and a concentration of sherds from a number of vessels, mainly jugs. Yet again demolition material shows that the structures being demolished in c. 1657 (here one suspects the curtain wall or buildings on its line immediately south of Trench 7) were probably of

late fifteenth century date with Tudor repairs/modifications.



Fig. 4: Copper Alloy Belt Strengthener Retaining Leather

Further Geophysical Problems

Trench 8 sought to establish the cause of a linear high resistivity anomaly known to run north from the vicinity of P42, and to establish why P42 had not encountered it when it had been excavated. The anomaly, on analogy with the nearby P43 (Bulletin 186 p 8 and Fig. 2), had been presumed to be caused by a wall of the palace. In fact the test pit had not encountered it because it was not there! All that was there was a limited area of ?lime mortar slurry, a ground makeup dump perhaps relating to landscaping after the demolition of the palace, and yet another rammed pebble surface above it, this time on balance probably a ?cambered promenading surface of the seventeenth century, examples of which elsewhere on the site do not show up on resistivity surveys as this one seems to have done.

The Future

This emphasises the increasingly obvious problems in trying to map the palace through geophysical survey data. Now that our work in connection with replanting the Lime tree avenue is complete we will be seeking permission to continue research excavations with a view to establishing where the survey data can be presumed to actually be reflecting palace remains and where not.

Meanwhile the most recent work, except for the midden environmental analysis, has again been fully written up in an archive report (*available at cost – see a committee member*) distributed to the relevant authorities and archives. Thanks are again offered to all the members of the EAS who participated in the work.

MARTIN DEARNE



Enfield Archaeological Society

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2007

The Executive Committee of the Enfield Archaeological Society has pleasure in presenting its 52nd Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2007.

2007 represents another active year for the Society, with lectures, memorial guided tours, national archaeology day celebrations and excavation, fieldwork and post-excavation analysis all crammed in to a busy schedule.

MEMBERSHIP

	Adult	Juniors	Total
Membership at 31.12.06	161	8	169
Joined during the year	14	0	14
Resignations & removals	19	2	21
Membership at 31.12.07	156	6	162

LECTURES

An interesting mix of lectures was presented in 2007, several of which were late replacements to cover for speakers who were unable to attend.

Local topics included: pre-1914 Edmonton, Recent Excavation work at Waltham Abbey, The Vickers Ship Model Experimentation Tank at St Albans, Roman Enfield and The Portable Antiquities Scheme/Local Metal Detector finds; special thanks to Martin Dearne and Michael Dewbrey for stepping at short notice as cover for talks that had originally been planned, but cancelled by the speakers.

2007 saw the first Dennis Hill Memorial lecture in June, with a guided tour of Elysng Palace in the grounds of Forty Hall, followed by a talk inside Forty Hall house itself. The event was very well attended and thanks again are due to Martin and Michael for presenting the tour and to Jan Metcalfe and Val Munday from the Enfield Museum Service for allowing the museum to be used as a venue.

Other interesting talks were given on Maritime Archaeology in Western Australia, The Shoreditch Project and the LAARC, and The Christmas Story in Art.

The Society is grateful to our Honorary Meetings Secretary, Tim Harper, for arranging the

programme of lectures and seeking out new speakers, as well as serving refreshments and looking after Jubilee Hall. Thanks are due to Roger Eddington for running the slide projector and transporting equipment used at each meeting.

Special thanks are due to Caroline McKenna, who after many years of meeting and greeting visitors at our talks and running the sales and information stall, selling books and raffle tickets and being an active member of the committee has decided to step down and take a well earned rest. We are grateful to Rosemary Perkins for taking over running the sales and information stall.

PUBLICITY

The local press continues to take an active interest in our activities, and we are grateful for their support. Meetings are publicised by notices on library notice boards and at Forty Hall: we are grateful to Enfield Libraries and Forty Hall Museum for this service. At present we lack a Publicity Officer, whose main task is to send details of forthcoming lectures and subsequent meeting reports to the local papers. If any member would like to help in this way, the Committee would be grateful.

We continue to exchange newsletters, bulletins and programme cards with neighbouring societies. Other society's newsletters are available for inspection on the Sales and Information table at lecture meetings.

The Society maintains a website, www.enfarchsoc.org, so that online users can be kept up-to-date with the lecture programme, National Archaeology Day events, excavations and past Society News editions.

The publicity surrounding the Societies work and especially the archaeology week dig at Elysng Palace was very successful and greatly assisted again by Suzanne Lindsey of the Borough's publicity department.

We again joined the borough Museums Service on a stand at the Enfield show, where our display attracted considerable interest.

Special thanks are due to Jan Metcalfe and Val Munday of the Enfield Museum Service for their

help in organising National Archaeology Day held at Forty Hall in July 2007.

PUBLICATIONS

The Society News quarterly bulletin has maintained its high standard of production and editorial, providing information on the Society's programme of lectures, events, as well as illustrated articles on matters of archaeological interest and reports on the archaeological fieldwork that the Society has been increasingly taking on.

The EAS is particularly grateful to Jeremy Grove the Honorary Editor for his editorial skills and Ernest Jones for his quality graphic design; and also to Martin Dearne and Mike Dewbrey for their regular contribution to archaeological reports and articles.

Sales of the Society's last publication, "*Forty Hall: 1629 - 1997*" by Geoffrey Gillam continue and can be purchased from the book stall at lecture meetings or via the Society web site - www.enfarchsoc.org.

Dr Martin Dearne continued to produce limited circulation archive reports on sites examined in 2007; reports have been written on: the National Archaeology Day and subsequent Elysng Palace excavations, completing our work on the 'Tree Pits' on the site, some recording work near the WCs at Forty Hall, and the Roman site of 108 Leighton Road. Martin and Roger Dormer have also completed a several year long post-excavation programme and produced a major report on the Roman site at 102 Leighton Road which is more widely available. Two more reports on backlog sites going back as far as 1966 are nearly ready.

Neil Pinchbeck has also produced his first field reports for the Society, having investigated the water channels of Upper and Lower Mill Rounds, Forty Hall and a brick viaduct in the same area, plus an identification of a falcon's skull from the 1960s excavations at Elysng.

AFFILIATIONS

We are affiliated to the Council for British Archaeology and the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society.

EXCAVATIONS, FIELDWORK AND RESEARCH and LIBRARY, ARCHIVES AND COLLECTIONS

A somewhat less hectic schedule of excavations than in the preceeding year or two has allowed the post-excavation work and report writing backlog to be thinned out a little with the completion of the major task of bringing the 102

Leighton Rd. Roman site to publication and work on other Roman sites at 51 and 53 Leighton Rd. (where post excavation work on the finds disclosed a spectacular Roman brooch 'hiding' in what had seemed to be a lump of slag) dating back to the late '70s. Eleven more minor Roman sites in Bush Hill Park have also been dealt with as part of the long term archiving and reporting initiative begun a few years ago.

However, we did excavate some sites, including completing the project to examine tree planting positions on the Elysng Palace site for the borough/English Heritage. This resulted in major advances in our knowledge like the first glimpse of the gatehouse, exposure of an unexpected tank base and drain, and full excavation of a midden (rubbish dump). As this required eight major trenches we did not work on many other sites, but we did do some recording work during new path laying beside Forty Hall.

At the time of writing another new Roman excavation and watching brief is underway with the prospect of a second being started before the AGM, and negotiations underway for further work at Elysng and now Theobalds Palaces

During the year the Pastfinders group continued its investigations of the Mill Rounds and other features along Maiden's Brook near Forty Hall, in particular recording a sluice connected with the New River (*Society News 187*). The group has also visited the sites of Theobalds Palace and nearby Cullings Manor, a suspected V1 crash site on the Ridgeway, and inspected a brick-lined well at Capel Manor Farm.

The Society is particularly indebted to our Director of Research & Excavations, Dr Martin Dearne, for his hard work in maintaining the Society's archaeological archives, promptly writing-up its archaeological reports, and directing its excavation and fieldwork to a professional standard. Special thanks are also due to Mike Dewbrey for organising the Pastfinders team and to all the diggers for undertaking fieldwork in all weather conditions.

Any members wishing to take part in fieldwork or other activities should telephone Mike Dewbrey on 01707 870888 (daytime).

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Financial Report will be made available at the Annual General Meeting.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The posts of Honorary Social Secretary, Publicity Officer and Auditor remain vacant. If any member

wishes to stand for any of these positions please could they contact the Hon. Secretary, David Wills (tel: 020 8364 5698/07966 203 233 or email: david_wills1972@hotmail.com). Nominations are required at least 7 days before the AGM.

The Executive Committee will stand for re-election:

President:	Harvey Sheldon BSc FSA FRSA
Vice Presidents:	Dr Ild Anthony Ivy Drayton Geoffrey Gillam
Chairman:	Mike Dewbrey
Vice Chairman:	Ian Jones
Director of Research & Excavations	Dr Martin Dearne
Hon. Treasurer:	Geoffrey Lamport
Hon. Secretary:	David Wills
Hon. Meetings Secretary:	Tim Harper
Hon. Membership Secretary:	David Wills
Hon. Social Secretary	Vacant (see above)
Hon. Editor:	Jeremy Grove
Auditor:	Vacant
Committee:	Roger Eddington Les Whitmore

Enfield Archaeological Society

FOUNDED 1955

Affiliated to the Council for British Archaeology and the
London & Middlesex Archaeological Society

President: Harvey Sheldon B.Sc. F.S.A. F.R.S.A.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that the 52nd Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held at Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield at 8.00 pm on Friday 11th April 2008

AGENDA

- 1) Minutes of the 51st Annual General Meeting
- 2) Report of the Executive Committee (herewith)
- 3) Financial Statement. (This will be available at the meeting)
- 4) Election of Honorary Officers and Committee Members
The Executive Committee will stand for re-election. Nominations for the vacant position of Hon. Social Secretary should be sent to the Secretary a minimum of seven days before the Annual General meeting.

5) Any Other Business
Items for discussion must be advised to the Hon. Secretary not less than seven days before the date of the Annual General Meeting

6) Reports of Fieldwork, Research and other Activities carried out during 2007.

David Wills, Hon. Secretary
43 Millers Green Close
Enfield Middlesex EN2 7BD
Home: 020 8364 5698
Email: david_wills1972@hotmail.com

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During a period of disunity from AD 386 – 618 most building was concentrated east of the Gobi desert. In the 7th century the Tang dynasty established a single regime again and expanded to the west until the Islamic world was reached. Here the mud-brick Suoyangcheng Fort was built as a frontier post, from which merchant caravans departed. These traded with the Islamic world in exchange for luxuries such as glass bowls – only indirectly did Chinese goods reach Europe.

Buddhism spread across northern China from the 1st century AD, and by the 4th century, and for the next 600 years, magnificent temples were being carved in caves at Mogao. In many cases the rock was unsuitable for carving and clay on wooden armatures was used for sculptures. Some caves have now been restored.

In the north west tombs of local leaders from the Song Dynasty (late 11th – early 13th century) survive unlooted - and largely unexcavated. There are many grave goods, such as iron bowls, pottery, including early porcelain, and an almost perfectly preserved pair of late 10th century embroidered felt slippers.

On the Ordos Plateau is the alleged tomb of Jengiz (Ghenghis) Khan, while at Xanadu his grandson Kublai Khan had a summer palace. The Ming dynasty (1386-1644) ejected the Mongols, and most accounts of the walls cover this period. Over 7,000km of walls are known from this period, often of rammed earth, but some used brick. Only in the 19th century did the walls finally fall out of use.

JEREMY GROVE
(with thanks to Ian Jones for spellings!)

PASTFINDERS NEWS

News of the Excavation and Fieldwork Group



Usually the 'Digging Season' as I like to call it doesn't get under way until Easter, but this year has proved to be an exception.

In February we carried out a small scale rescue excavation within the Romano-British settlement in Leighton Road, Bush Hill Park. The excavation, which was directed by Dr Martin Dearne was carried out along the lines of a commercial rescue dig and employed a small (unpaid) crew of our most experienced diggers, and it highlighted the value of negative evidence! The trench was opened in the morning and closed in the afternoon. Having removed the overburden of topsoil we rapidly uncovered a compact gravel surface with no evidence that the Romans had ever set foot upon it. Except for one residual sherd of medieval pottery no other finds were made.

However, earlier in the day the owner of a house a couple of doors down the road appeared carrying a bucket half full of Roman pottery that he had uncovered while digging a hole in his rear garden. He invited us to investigate the feature by excavation over the Easter weekend. Despite the inclement weather we got two good days digging in, which revealed a largely undisturbed Roman occupation layer under medieval ploughsoil, which has produced quite an interesting pottery assemblage.

A more detailed report on both excavations will be made at the AGM. There are a few surprises in store at the AGM in April which as usual will round up all the excavation work we have carried out over the past year. Do try to come along as there will be some extra special raffle prizes to win. The raffle has proved to be quite a success with our members and we hope the attraction of bigger and better prizes will ensure a full house at future lecture meetings! (*Eh?!? I can't imagine what could be better than a bottle of wine – Ed.*)

Those members who would like to experience digging with us will have plenty of opportunity to do so over the coming months. Two excavations are planned in July to coincide with National Archaeology Week, on 12th – 13th and 19th – 20th July. We hope to be opening trenches on the site

of not one but two royal palaces, at Theobalds on the first weekend and Elsyng on the second.

Anyone wishing to volunteer to help should let me know as soon as possible so we can get an idea of numbers.

Anyone who would like to come along and help Caroline out on the book sales stand at these events would be most welcome. Junior members under 16 who are not insured to dig can help with pot washing and sieving spoil, where quite often all the best finds are! If the weather gods are smiling on us this year we should be able to promise you a most enjoyable couple of weekends.

Anyone who would like a greater insight into the history of Theobalds is welcome to come along to a guided tour of the site by yours truly on Saturday 28 June, which is our Denis Hill Memorial Event for this year, following on from the success of the Elsyng site tour last year. We will meet up in the main car park by Pets Corner in Cedars Park at 1.45pm for a 2pm start (*see map on p. 2*). The walk will take about 2 hours and it is advisable to wear stout footwear. (If you are unable to make it on 28th June, you may wish to note I will be doing a similar tour at the request of the local council on Sunday 11th May, also at 2 pm, and you would be most welcome to come along then instead.)

A rather nice story filtered through to me a few weeks ago about a 17th century barn being renovated in Goffs Oak. The builders, on removing a wattle and daub stud partition wall, were surprised to discover within the wall cavity two well preserved Civil War buff coats! I am currently on the trail of these artefacts and hope to have more news on them in a future bulletin.

Other projects are also in the pipeline as mentioned in the last bulletin if time and opportunity arise over the coming months. I will apologise in advance that sometimes surveying and field walking have to be carried out at short notice due to adverse weather conditions and access to sites.

If you would like to be involved with the activities of the Pastfinders, come along to the AGM and see and hear exactly what we get up to.

MIKE DEWBREY