

GLOUCESTERSHIRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

LOCAL HISTORY COMMITTEE

SPRING 1966

LOCAL HISTORY

BULLETIN

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LOCAL HISTORY NEWSLETTER.

SPRING 1966.

I must apologise for the extreme lateness of this issue of the Bulletin. We have so far been unable to find a new Editor to take the place of Dr. Griffiths and I am, therefore, temporarily occupying the chair myself. This fact will explain - though not excuse - the many shortcomings of this issue.

P.A. Powley.

OLIVE M. GRIFFITHS.

By the death on the 21st November, 1965, of Dr. Olive Merival Griffiths of Bristol, both Bristol and Gloucestershire have lost a friend. A great student of local history, she was a member of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society on whose Council she served from 1948-1964; a member of the Bristol Record Society and as a member of the Local History committee of the Gloucestershire Community Council represented them on the Standing Conference of Local History where she made a valuable contribution to the work of that body.

At an early age, Dr. Griffiths came to live in Bristol where she was educated at the High School. She then went to St. Hugh's College, Oxford and later took a diploma in Education at St. Mary's College, Paddington. She became engaged in research work and was awarded the Arnold Essay prize by the University of Oxford for her paper on 'Presbyterianism as a social and religious force.' For further research on this subject she was awarded a Ph.D. by the University of Bristol. Two years later her book, 'Religion and Learning' was published by the Cambridge University Press.

In 1947 Dr. Griffiths became secretary to the Gloucestershire Community Council Local History committee and it was here that she was able to express her greatest interests, - history, folk-lore and archaeology, on which subjects she wrote lively and stimulating articles for the Local History bulletin of which she was editor. Only two days before her death she finished the winter issue of the bulletin.

Gloucestershire people will be especially grateful to her for inspiring the writing by villagers of memories of their youthful days which has been edited and published in a book 'I Remember'. In the various competitions which she organised among the Women's Institutes, Old Age Pensioners and school children, she always encouraged people to write not only of the past history of a village but to give vivid and authentic pictures of the employments and amusements of village life. In all her work could be seen her scrupulous pursuit of the truth, her open-mindedness and her just though charitable judgements. Dr. Griffiths was a perfectionist, and in consequence, left unfinished work which we had awaited with interest.

Her great love of the Gloucestershire countryside and her enthusiastic endeavour to record its history have been powerful forces in the growth of the Local History committee. In her modesty, Dr. Griffiths would have been surprised at any such serious claim made for her personal part.

Elizabeth Ralph.

LOCAL HISTORY COMMITTEE.

Membership of the Committee has now been altered to include representatives of the Cirencester Archaeological and Historical Society, the Society of Thornbury Folk, the Wotton-under-Edge Historical Society and the newly formed Kingswood Local History Society, with the result that the Committee is now connected with all the local societies in the County. Dr. John Cannon has now replaced Dr. Sharp as the Committee's link with the History Department of the University of Bristol, and the Committee has also been joined by Mr. I. Popham, South-West Regional Officer of the National Council of Social Service and a member of the Standing Conference for Local History.

The Committee's latest publication, 'I Remember - Social Life in Gloucestershire Villages 1850-1950' has recently been issued and has been very well received. The booklet was prepared by the voluntary efforts of the County Federation of Women's Institutes, who selected the material from the entries in the competition organised for Women's Institutes in 1958 on the subject 'Our Village in Living Memory'.

Two of the Committee's long-standing projects have recently been under discussion. The documents obtained in the Canal Survey, conducted in 1961, have recently been handed over to the County Records Officer for the County archives. Although the survey does not give by any means a complete history of the canals in the County it contains some interesting details about canal traffic and a number of old photographs.

It is hoped to proceed further with the Tombstone Survey, which was started more than ten years ago and which is now housed in the Gloucestershire Collection in Gloucester City Library. The survey, containing documentary and photographic records of tombstones of historical and artistic interest, at present covers predominantly churchyards in the eastern part of the County but we now have some volunteers who, weather permitting, will tackle the Gloucester area.

Following a request from one of the schools, the Committee has been investigating the possibility of making photostat copies of sets of historical documents for loan to schools. As a result, the County Education Authority has agreed to finance the production of three sets of documents in the first instance as an experiment and these are being produced under the aegis of the County Records Office.

The Committee will again be holding its One-Day Local History School for Sixth-formers in July and details will be circulated in the near future.

SCHOOLS' ESSAY COMPETITION, 1965.

JUDGE'S REPORT.

The standard seems rather lower than that of last year's entries. This is perhaps due to the absence of entries from senior pupils of grammar schools.

Quite a few essays have been compiled by copying information from standard works and guide books, without much attempt to co-ordinate information or to give it a fresh appeal.

As last year, the most interesting work comes from Severn Vale Secondary School, where pupils are obviously encouraged to select a topic that can be made the subject of field work. The results of these inquiries are then combined with material from books. It is a pity that more schools do not encourage their pupils to do this. Work of this kind can bring a lasting interest in the history of the neighbourhood.

CLASS A - 12 ENTRIES.

1. Tewkesbury - by Pauline Gilbert, Cheltenham Technical High School.
2. Smith's Factory, Bishop's Cleeve - L. Heming, Cleeve School.
3. Beverstone Castle - D. Critchley, Marling School.

CLASS B - 4 ENTRIES.

1. Framilode - Heather Blakemore, Janet Williams and Robin Screen, Severn Vale School.
2. Fromebridge Mills - M. Camm, L. Herbert, S. Perry, C. Price and D. Tomlins, Severn Vale School.
3. Charlton Kings - E. Ward, L. Kettlety, M. Daft, I. Richards, C. Jeffery and J. Hill, Charlton Kings County Secondary School.

'THE COUNTRYSIDE IN 1970'

ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND HISTORIC BUILDINGS

A Second Conference on 'The Countryside in 1970' was held in November, 1965, under the joint auspices of the Royal Society of Arts and the Nature Conservancy. In preparation for the Conference twelve Study Groups, drawn from varied and often conflicting interests, reported on such key issues as: planning; professional training; technology; legislation; recreation; traffic; countryside treasures; reclamation of derelict land; information; life and work in the countryside, and the special issues involved in Scotland. Study Group 8 considered the Preservation of Natural, Historic and other National Treasures.

The Group proposed that a comprehensive register should be prepared on a county basis. This would list the Countryside Treasures, defined as "those natural or man-made features of the countryside which are of public interest by reason of their aesthetic, archaeological, architectural, historic, scenic, scientific, sociological or traditional interest, and whose deterioration or destruction would represent a serious loss to our heritage". The Group rejected any kind of grading in order of merit or of national and local importance. Man-made Treasures were specified as including ancient monuments and field systems, Roman remains, monuments and memorials, engineering work, metalwork, wood-work, stone-work, clocks and sundials, instruments of punishment, parish pounds, period gardens, etc. Buildings were classified as collective and individual. In assessing whether a group of buildings qualified as a Countryside Treasure it was not required that each building should be individually worthy but that it should make a modest contribution to the general effect. In addition to grouped buildings, attention was drawn to show towns or villages, model towns and scenic towns or villages. Individual buildings included those on the Statutory Lists, a wide range of domestic buildings from country houses to cottages, lodges, inns and follies, agricultural, civic, industrial, military and commercial buildings, schools, colleges and charities, maritime works and ecclesiastical buildings of all denominations.

Having defined the Countryside Treasures, the Group considered the administrative machinery required to gather information and select items for conservation, to collate and publish information on chosen items and to control, maintain and use them appropriately. It was suggested that a policy circular be sent to County Councils and other local authorities inviting them to set up County Countryside Committees.

The initial task confronting the County Countryside Committees would be to compile a master list of all "Treasures" in the county, whether adequately cared for or not, which might subsequently be given legal status, possibly under the Local Land Charges Register.

Owners, occupiers, users and the public should be adequately informed, and it should be ensured that a statutory or voluntary body or person would bear responsibility for the maintenance, management and finance of each Treasure, the condition of which should be reviewed triennially.

It is particularly interesting to note that in the case of Hampshire and Lindsey County Countryside Committees have already been established. In Lindsey the Lincolnshire Local History Society is represented on the Countryside Committee and it is likely that other County Local History Committees will ensure that they hear of any plans to form a County Countryside Committee in their own area and perhaps seek a place on it.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON HISTORICAL MONUMENTS (ENGLAND).

National Monuments Record.

We have received the following note from the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments:-

The spread of active regional and local archaeological groups and museum societies in recent years has resulted in the appearance of many bulletins, progress reports, pamphlets and catalogues, mostly in duplicated form, which often contain information of permanent value but are frequently little known to archaeologists outside the areas concerned. Such publications are not usually acquired by libraries, at any rate other than those serving the locality, and it seems desirable that the National Monuments Record should make as comprehensive a collection of them as is possible for England. The National Monuments Record's collections are available for consultation by the public free of charge, and for administrative reasons it is hoped that, as far as it is reasonable in view of the cost of production, bodies will be prepared to donate such issues to the Record.

Copies should be sent to:-

R.A.H. Farrar, M.A., F.S.A.,
Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England)
10, Great College Street,
London, S.W.1.

NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

From the Cheltenham Society:

'Naturally, the most important event in the Society's year has been the publication of the Town Plan; and a great debt of gratitude is owed to those many members who formed themselves into groups and gave freely and willingly of their time in studying the various pros and cons of the Scheme, in the hope of being constructively helpful towards arriving at the best solution reasonably practicable.

The conclusion reached is that there are many features about which one cannot be otherwise than far from happy; and it is felt strongly that the Borough Council would be more than wise to engage an independent consultant town-planner to give a second opinion.'

Cirencester Archaeological & Historical Society.

News from Cirencester is also civic in nature and concerns the exhibitions entitled, CIRENCESTER HERITAGE, on the 15th, 16th, 17th July 1966. A festival of flowers and historic treasures of Church and town is to be held, in aid of the Parish Church Restoration Fund. The Society is responsible for the historical exhibition in the Bingham Library, which will show Cirencester from Roman to Victorian times.

Dr. Annis reports from the Gloucestershire Society for Industrial Archaeology:

'This moment is one of transition between the Spring lecture programme, which is just ending, and the summer excursions.. The lectures have been a success. Held weekly over the weeks, they have drawn audiences in Stroud of around forty people and have resulted in lively discussion. In parallel with these there have been the lectures in Gloucester and Cheltenham, arranged in conjunction with the G.S.I.A., by Mr. W.R. Taylor. These too have been a considerable success. This represents an expansion of interest in Industrial Archaeology in the county and membership of the Society is strong at well over 100.'

'Members are engaged in fieldwork and other research and our final evening of the Spring programme in Stroud will be devoted to members' accounts of their own work. It is the Society's intention to arrange weekly lectures again in the Autumn.'

From the recently formed and very flourishing Kingswood Local History Society comes news of three projects which the Society intends to carry out. It is planned to investigate the beginnings and development of the boot trade in Kingswood and the Avon and Gloucestershire Railway and to make a photographic survey of the area in Kingswood which is scheduled for re-development.

There is news that another new Society may be formed in Longwell Green. An inaugural meeting will be held later in the year at the Community Centre and anyone interested should contact the Warden.

ADULT EDUCATION.

Week-end School at Bourton-on-the-Water
for the Adult School Union.

This is being held on May 13, 14th and 15th with Dr. R. Perry as tutor. There will be two sessions on Saturday morning dealing with the Social Development of the Cotswolds area since 1700, with emphasis on the more recent past. This will be followed in the afternoon with a visit to Stow-on-the-Wold, Morcote-in-Marsh, Broadway and Winchcombe.

GLOUCESTER EPISCOPAL AND CAPITULAR ARCHIVES.

The Marc Fitch Fund was founded in 1956 by Mr. M.F.B. Fitch, F.S.A., primarily to assist research into a variety of archaeological, antiquarian and historical subjects, and among its undertakings is the employment of an archivist to catalogue the episcopal, capitular and other ecclesiastical (except parish) records of dioceses in England and Wales. It was this project which brought me to Gloucester in 1964 to prepare a catalogue of the archives of this diocese, which will in due course be published in a series under the General Editorship of Mr. Francis W. Steer, F.S.A., County Archivist of West Sussex and Honorary Secretary of the Fund.

Gloucester's ecclesiastical archives are much dispersed; many have been damaged, destroyed and probably stolen since the creation of the see (out of Worcester) in 1541, and changes in county and diocesan boundaries and jurisdictions have led to the records of some border parishes being found now in other repositories, just as Gloucester's episcopal archives include parishes no longer in the diocese. There are an estimated 86,000 documents and 650 volumes of episcopal archives housed in Gloucester City Library, and most of the records of the Dean and Chapter of Gloucester, smaller in bulk but no less important, are deposited in the County Records Office, Shire Hall. The records of the former Abbey of St. Peter in Gloucester, whose church became the Cathedral, are kept in the Cathedral Library, with the remaining Chapter records. Archives of the future, the current papers of diocesan and Cathedral business, are in the two solicitors' offices in Gloucester which serve as Diocesan Registry and Chapter Clerk's Office respectively.

The aim of the Marc Fitch Fund is to have these archives catalogued where necessary, but where, as in the case of the County Records Office, the work has already been done by the permanent staff, existing catalogues are co-ordinated and brought together in one volume, and thus made, through publication, accessible to students outside the diocese and county. Since 1960 students at the County Records Office have been able to consult a detailed catalogue of the capitular records kept there - mainly relating to the Cathedral and Chapter estates - but nothing comparable has been available for potential users of the episcopal records. The 453 volumes of abstracts of the latter made by the late Mr. F.S. Hockaday serve as a useful guide to some of the volumes, but they are not comprehensive.

The genealogist has long been aware of the value of the "bishops' transcripts" (so called because these copies of parish register entries were required to be returned to the Bishop each year), of the bonds entered into, and affidavits sworn, at the granting of a marriage licence by the Bishop's surrogate, and of wills and letters of administration proved and granted in ecclesiastical courts until 1858. All these, together with the diocesan copies of the mid-nineteenth century tithe maps, are readily accessible at the City Library and frequently used. From the present sorting of the rest of the episcopal records, uncatalogued and virtually unused, are emerging groups of records clearly illustrating the Bishop's functions as pastor, administrator, landowner and judge. Out of the Bishop's care of his diocese arise a variety of papers connected with the ordination, appointment and behaviour of clergy, and the upkeep of churches, chapels, parsonage houses and burial grounds. All these will prove extremely valuable, particularly to the parish historian.

Until the middle of the last century the Bishop was a large land-owner, and his estate archives include hundreds of leases, account books and surveys of his properties, although unhappily few maps are available. The largest untapped source is undoubtedly the records of the Bishop's consistory court. Before the decay of the church courts in the mid-nineteenth century, breaches of church discipline by clergy and laity were dealt with by the Bishop or his deputy as prosecutor, and matrimonial, defamation and tithe cases were also brought in the same courts by one party against another. Depositions and responses of witnesses in such cases give interesting sidelights on contemporary social history, but hitherto the sheer bulk of the records, and the complications of handwriting and court procedure have deterred all but the most enthusiastic.

The catalogue which is now being compiled cannot, in the limited time available, provide a detailed calendar of every page and paper, but it will be offered to the historian as a full list of all surviving material relating to the diocese and its Cathedral.

Isabel Kirby.

A SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY DIARY.

Among the MS., in the Forbes Theological Library is a booklet 14½ x 9cm., containing a summary of the Psalms, a 'Historie of the Bible', some Latin poems and an unfinished diary by John Forbes of Tilligonie. John was the erring brother of the collector of the Library, James Forbes, who came to Gloucester as Cromwell's 'Select Weekly Preacher' and stayed to become the City's first Dissenting Minister.

The years covered by the Diary (October 1653 to August 1660) were times of great political upheaval - and it was no doubt elementary prudence that kept the writer from commenting on the state of the nation. His religious allegiance is clearer: patronage from the Protestant leader Argyll saves him at a critical stage, and he hurls the terms 'prelaticall and Popish' at a cleric who displeases him. The text is liberally dotted with passages from Scripture. In 1659, (just as the Restoration is catching up on the Reformers) John Forbes gets busy with his *Historie of the Bible*, possibly to take his mind off the impending reversals of fortune, but also, as he disarmingly confesses, because his memory lets him down, "for I have read the Bible severall tymes over and over, and yet I can not remember as I would".

The private jottings of a tragi-comic young man, beset with debts and periodically turning on the religious edification do not sound very attractive, yet the diary is delightfully untouched by morbidity or self pity. The writer has a robust faith in the workings of Divine Providence, - and a simple and effective style. His opening passage evokes vividly the tumult and fortuitiveness of life in Edinburgh in 1653.

"It pleased the Lord wonderfullie to delyver me out of the hand of a bloody man, who did shoot a muskott purposely to kill me, being at a distance not halff a pair of butts. Afterward I was brought to the Court of Ward at Edinburgh because I was goeing to my lodgeing a little after ten hours at night some of the soldiers would have been beating me but the Captain of the Guard would not suffer them but sent me saiff to my lodging accompanied with six musketeers. The sparing mercies of the Lord shold not be forgotten".

In the Spring of the following year he is imprisoned for a day at Aberdeen, as a result of having stood surety for his Uncle Robert. This Robert is not mentioned again but is presumably Robert Forbes the second son of William Forbes of Craigievar, who, according to the *Registrum Magni Sigelli Regum Scotorum* 1620-33 (No.780) would have inherited the estate from his brother William, and, failing an heir, would leave it to his younger brothers John and James. The diarist is again in trouble of some kind in the summer, but records being "wonderfully supplied by the Lord".

Against the date of the next entry 12 February 1655, is an impetuous and enigmatic mixture of texts and comment that suggest a spiritual experience of some importance.

"I have exceeding great matter to bliss and to magnify the great and ever gloriouse name of the Lord for the freeness of His love and the largeness of his dispensationes towards me the cheiff of sinners especially for yt I have found this day. A day never to be forgotten by me. Oh that my soul could indeed bliss and magnify the Lord, - Oh that hencforth I could resign and upgive and fully debit myself into the Holy One who is All in All".

His expressions of gratitude are followed by an array of Scripture texts but by September he is overcome by his "sinking condition", and in November, "in the Tolbooth at Aberden, alone but for the rats". Not surprisingly this situation sharpens his sense of compunction.

"then I remembered my former iniquities and went the back-trade of my wages that had been leading me to destruction, I did see my selff without Christ but one undone creature".

It is not all black misery for 'a Glimpse of Christ him selff now and then.....made the walls of my Prison sweet unto me". This particular crisis is ended by the intervention of Mr. Robert Keith, the Minister at Deer, who also puts him up for the first three months of his liberty.

The gratitude felt by John Forbes was not able to keep him out of all trouble. He records some crisis lasting five days - apparently 'profane company' in Kinloch had led him astray and a sermon by John Bruice at Longsyd makes a wholesome and painful impression. His next step is to enter into a marriage with Margaret Irving, daughter of the Minister at Longsyd, Alex. Irving, who not only pays off most of his son-in-law's debts but also gives house room for a year to the young couple and their servants.

The Spring of 1657 sees yet another setback. Two Englishmen, Mr. Harper and Mr. Turner, are now on his trail, for some trouble unspecified, in which the town of Aberdeen also seems to be involved. James Forbes, as well as Mr. Robert Keith, admonish him to get the matter settled. Another of his creditors, David Mure, Armourour in Edinburgh, threatens to declare him an outlaw, but he finds money to discharge this debt. In view of the summons to appear at Leith before the Commissioners of Excise in the matter of Messrs. Turner and Harper, John solemnly renews a covenant with the Lord. The matter drags on and eventually John disposes of his estate to his father-in-law and the Commissioners of Excise take this in bad part and press their claim against it. There are family bereavements - his daughter Jean and a newly born son Alexander.

The diary ends with the somewhat surprising account of John opposing a 'call' to a Minister at Tarves and feeling hurt and annoyed when the other Elders showed him small respect. A glimpse of the exemplary James is given in the period about June 1660:

"About that time also a report was (but false) of my Brother's death, killed in the City of Gloucester when he was about solemn duties of preaching and praying. The Lord in end with some few months refreshed me with word that he was alive, afterwards I received a graciouse letter from himself, hearing that he was alive but put from his place and all taken from him, yet he rejoiced and was constant".

Miss Thelma Smith

CAMPDEN LANE

"You won't get to the end of HER today" the old man said. I was walking Campden Lane so shown on the O.S. Map though I dare say not known as such by many, and I had stopped to ask him if he knew where the road led. He told me he had formerly travelled the whole county and into Oxfordshire and Wiltshire with stallions so he should have known something about this road - mostly grass - and in fact he was much more intelligent about such a question than most countrymen. I had walked from Snowhill in

a Southerly direction by the track alongside Stanway Ash Plantation, past Hunts Cross where the lane is a typical ridgeway looking North West and South East and not unlike THE Ridgeway of Berkshire (only instead of the Vale of White Horse one looks over the Vale of Severn) and had reached Farmcote Wood Farm. I wanted to know what happened to the road after Hazleton. The man told me "It goes NORTH of NARTHLEACH" which seemed fair enough. As I guessed it joined the green road running from Pusedon Inn to the road to Farmington but after that I was puzzled and my informant did not help me much when he said it went along to Eibury but not, he said, by Lodge Park, the only route I can find on the map. What is Campden Lane and why is it so called? My guess is that it is part of the original Ridgeway along the Cotswold crest. According to Hipposley-Cox this follows the watershed line from Oxfordshire via Chastleton Camp, Moreton Camp and Five Mile Drive to Farncombe Camp and then past the series of camps on the ridge. This may be the watershed but does not form a reasonably direct track from Moreton to Farncombe which more likely follows the line of Batsford Road (past Moreton Camp) and footpath to Blockley while Farncombe Camp seems to be a line to Meon Hill Camp. However, he seems to be clearly right for the next length of the road along the ridge South and I suggest the lane is the remnant of it. Unfortunately it fails near Roel Hill Farm where there is a blank on the map and on the ground (though fences for a short length and a hollow way clearly indicate the line) which should be preserved as part of the bridle way; and I conclude from the direction in which the existing series of roads points between Hawley and Hazleton through Salperton that it reached the Thames and probably the Berkshire and Wiltshire ridgeways and that another branch followed the ridge South West into Somerset.

But why Campden Lane? Probably during the Middle Ages traffic developed from the Avon at Stratford over the Ilmington Hills to Campden joining the true ridgeway at the site marked on the O.S. Map as "Hostel". A curious thing is that for a considerable distance near Roel Gate the lane runs parallel to that other old road called the Saltway which came from Worcestershire and also reached the Thames Valley. Very likely the two at this point are part of the same ridgeway like the Upper and Lower Ickneild Ways.

It will be noted that after the crossing of the Five Mile Drive at "Hostel" there are the following camps or tumuli along the lane: Snowhill tumuli, Stumps Cross Tumuli, Deckbury Camp, Roel Gate Camp, Pen Hill (which of course is "Hill hill") tumulus, Hazleton long barrow, Farmington long barrow, and Norbury Camps, Lodge Park long barrow and the tumulus South of Sherborne and Camp S.W. of Windrush. There may be monoliths which the O.S. does not mark and it would be an interesting exercise to trace them.

Henry Potts.

EXCAVATIONS.

UPTON

Interim Report on Excavation (7th season) 1965.

The dig took place during three weeks of July this year, in the wettest season we have yet experienced at Upton. We were also a larger party than ever before, with a constant digging strength of over 20. This was partly because of an increased interest in the dig by undergraduates and staff - this was the first year in which medieval archaeology had been part of the history syllabus. But this was also the first time that Upton had been opened to extra-mural students as a summer school in medieval village excavation; in the third week, seven of the diggers were from adult classes. The experiment was successful, and we hope to encourage further extra-mural participation.

Work continued on site A. This is a peasant house-complex with a range of occupation from twelfth to the fourteenth centuries A.D. The latest phase of its development was represented by three conjoined rectangular buildings (AA-AC) in line at right angles to the slope of the valley side. We completed this group in 1964, and a report on the first six seasons is now ready for publication.

In 1964 we also stripped the topsoil from a large area immediately below this group of buildings. This year we have excavated this further, and confirmed that it contains another group of buildings, representing an earlier phase of the occupation of site A, probably in the first half of the thirteenth century A.D. The main component of this new complex is a very fine and well-preserved long-house (AE), a rectangular building joined to its northern (upslope) and (AD) and an as yet undefined extension (AF) to its lower end, close to the valley bottom.

During 1965 we managed to remove the loose stones and soil from these buildings, reaching in most areas the highest floor levels, and the latest exterior ground level.

The long-house AE is 34 x 12 feet internally; its plan confirms to the classic one for this type of building: there are opposite doorways in the middle of the long walls, upslope of these is a living area, and below them a byre with drains. Like most upland long-houses, and conspicuously unlike AA-AC, the building is terraced; the upper living being set deeply into the hillside; the resultant spoil has been piled at the lower end. Because of this method of construction, the walls of the upper end of the house survive to a height of some four feet in well-coursed clay - packed oolite.

Little can be said yet about the byre end. It is separated from the living area by a partition wall just above the cross-passage, with a doorway in the middle. Inside the living area is a central hearth, and a very fine bread oven, its walls surviving to a height of several courses, set into the corner between the west wall and the partition wall. The only external feature so far uncovered is just outside the east wall - it looks like the setting for something large like a water-butt.

The wall at the upper end of the living-area has straight joints in its east half defining what appears to be a blocked doorway three feet inside. This originally gave access to a further building set into the hillside, AD. This originally had a sunken floor communicating with that of AE, but this was later filled in and the floor level raised. It is too early to say much about AD, the only guess that can be made is that it was originally a sleeping annexe communicating with the living-area of AE.

Attached to the lower end of AE are some curious walls, their outer edges straight, but the inner faces curving inwards. They appear to enclose a small yard or outhouse AF, whose purpose may be to store feeding stuffs for the animals.

The contrast between this group of buildings and those already excavated is most striking. It illustrates in direct sequence the change from self-contained animal/people houses to semi-connected buildings of different function.

The finds are less numerous than those of earlier seasons. The pottery is rather sparser and of less developed types. Small finds include two rather odd things, surprising in their relative sophistication. The first is a piece of carved free stone, apparently a window or door-head. It may have been ordered especially for this building, or perhaps it was taken from the ruins of some more pretentious building. The second is a key-hole, that is to say, a key-shaped space surrounded by thin iron, evidently set into a door. In 1966 we shall uncover the earlier levels of these buildings.

The other area of excavation this year was near Lamb Cottage, at the head of the valley. A square cutting was made around a depression shown on the 25" O.S. map as a well. The excavation showed that it was hardly more than a dipping basin by a good spring. There were indications of early medieval occupation around this, with some rough stonework. But the whole area was so extensively disturbed by post-medieval water collecting drainpipes and old iron-work that it proved impossible to define the spring and its surround as it had been in medieval times.

The excavation and Summer school were again directed by Professor R.H. Hilton and P.A. Rahtz.

We record with regret the death of the owner of Upton, Captain Spencer Churchill, during the past year. We are indebted to his tenant, Mr. A. Holder, for his continued interest and help, and to Mr. and Mrs. Russell of Lamb Cottage, who have again given us generous hospitality.

R.H. Hilton.
P.A. Rahtz.

CHELTENHAM ART GALLERY & MUSEUM.

Since the last issue of the Bulletin a number of acquisitions of local interest have been received. They include the following watercolours:- "The Old Westgate Street Bridge" at Gloucester by an unknown artist signed "Edwd", portrait of Lord Falmouth and Fred Archer, "Newnham-on-Severn" by Charles M. Gore, Alfred Thornton "The Spinney", and a number of local prints including "The Grand Danquet given to Charles Schreiber Esq., in Pitville Gardens, May 26th 1859.

Following the acquisition of the inscribed silver plated bugle presented to Drummer C.E. O'Hagan, we have now been presented with six Medals awarded to him during the Boer War and the Great War.

Other Medals received are those of Captain P.A. Lloyd-Jones, R.A.M.C., which include the South African Medal with three bars; Order of the Crown of Italy and two other Medals awarded to him for his services during the Messina earthquake 1908 and the D.S.O. together with citation awarded to this officer in 1915.

We have purchased a Cheltenham decorated Police truncheon No. 6.

We were most fortunate in receiving a very generous grant from the Cadbury Trust, per Mrs. E.H. Cadbury, which, together with a grant from the Department of Education and Science, enabled us to purchase ten items of furniture produced by the works of Ernest Gimson and Peter Waals between the beginning of the century and 1939. The purchase includes:- a light oak stick-stand signed by Peter Waals, an umbrella and stick stand, a wall mirror, a large breakfront, light oak bookcase; a light oak Cigar Cabinet and walnut and ebony coffer, circular table in walnut; a Whittington and Westminster chiming Grandfather clock with movement by W.E. Evans of Birmingham, the case made by Peter Waals in light oak in 1919. An English walnut side-board by Peter Waals and a side-board screen in walnut and macassar ebony.

Another addition to the Wilson Personalia is a very fine still life drawing of a Ptarmigan in pencil signed "Ted Wilson" probably executed in his early twenties.

A gift has been received of a map of Cheltenham showing turnpike and other roads.

A piano stool used by Gustav Holst has been acquired and has now joined his piano on view in the small Gallery.

Further Exhibitions have been arranged as follows:-

7th - 21st May. Cheltenham Schools Art Association.
4th - 18th June. Royal Aeronautical Society Centenary
Exhibition together with a small Exhibition of
Costume of the Regency Period.

CORINIUM MUSEUM.

The headache now facing the museum is storage space for the material from recent excavations, until such time as experts have examined and classified each item, a long and laborious task.

The main effort however will be the "Cirencester Heritage Festival" to be held in July in aid of the Parish Church Restoration fund.

The loss of the Hon. Curator, Sir Ian Richmond, reported in the Autumn Bulletin No. 12, has left a vacuum in the museum activities which will be difficult to fill.

John Read.
Custodian.

GLOUCESTER CITY MUSEUMS AND ART GALLERY.

The main event in the last six months has been the opening of the new Art Gallery, as an extension to the existing first floor of the City Museum. The complete gallery consists of two rooms, but at the present only one is open to the public, a second room of similar size has, for the time being, to be used for staff accommodation and reserve collections. The opening ceremony on 25th November was performed by Sir John Rothenstein, until recently the Director of the Tate Gallery, the first exhibition being a one-man show of the work of his father, the late Sir William Rothenstein of Far Oakridge. A comprehensive programme of art and other exhibitions has been planned for future showing.

The Golden Anchor Clothing Company Limited, through the good offices of their manager, Mr. R. Johnston, has presented the complete cash transmission system which was in use in their premises in Southgate Street, Gloucester, up to the end of last year. The system is the one in which the cash and invoice were placed in a wooden cup which was then clipped into an overhead holder. Then, by means of the tension of rubber thongs, the holder and cup were shot along overhead wires to the cashier hidden away in a remote corner. Another system for transmitting cash between floors was also included in the gift. Here the cash was placed inside a wooden ball which was dropped down a chute and thence rolled gently towards the cashier. An ingenious system of manual hoists returned the ball to the upper floor again. Both systems were photographed in situ before they were dismantled, and it is hoped to install them in the Folk Museum in Westgate Street.

Mr. and Mrs. R.J. Silvey and their son Nigel of Redstones, Haywickes Lane, Hardwicke, have presented one of the old Gloucester horse trams which were withdrawn from service in 1904. For many years the tram, which lacks its under-carriage, has done duty as a garden shed and as a result has suffered much from the weather. The tram still retains signs of its original livery of crimson lake and cream and several advertisements and notices remain intact. Restoration work will be extensive but it is hoped eventually to put the tram on view to the public.

ARCHAEOLOGY.

A large portion of Roman Gloucester will be explored this summer, if enough people volunteer to help. A development company, Land Improvements Limited, is about to clear the site for a new market hall in Bell Lane and has given permission for an archaeological excavation of its basement-area, which measures 115 by 65 feet. A Grant from the Ministry of Public Building and Works will make it possible to investigate the Roman levels throughout this area. The excavation, directed by Mark Hassall, will last from August 8th to October 1st., any enquiries will be answered by J.F. Rhodes, City Museum, Gloucester.

Already this year Roman deposits exposed by the City Museum on central building-sites have yielded new evidence for the beginning and end of Glevum. At 33 Southgate Street the earliest features were two large holes for verandah-posts, possibly the first observed traces of the interior of the legionary fortress built about A.D. 49. The posts had been removed, probably when the site was evacuated about A.D. 75. At a higher level, a mosaic pavement more than 28 feet long is the latest datable Roman structure in Gloucester, for it superseded an earlier floor which sealed a coin of A.D. 364-378. Heavy wear on the mosaic shows that it was used well into the Dark Ages.

A carved stone observed in the paving of St. Mary's Street has been removed to the Museum and has proved to be a fragment of Saxon cross-shaft carved on four sides. On one side a vine-scroll containing a bird is carved with unusual naturalism, and seems to reflect the Carolingian renaissance of around A.D. 800. The designs are much less crowded than those on the fragment found nearby in 1888; but both fragments are roughly contemporary, and they confirm the record that the nearby St. Oswald's Priory was founded as early as A.D. 660.

STROUD MUSEUM.

Once again, some of the most interesting accessions have been directly related to the industries of the Stroud area. Two pieces of green billiard cloth made at Bonds Mill, Eastington c.1925-30 have been given, and a red child's carrying-cape, for some time the property of the Museum, has been confirmed as a hand-woven product of one of Mr. Hoopers Mills at Eastington and Stonehouse. Bearing in mind the number of examples of locally made cloth still in private hands, it is surprising how little has found its way into the safe custody of the Museum. In the interests of local history, an appeal is made that examples, large or small, made in the local mills be gathered here where they may be accessible to future historians and students of cloth technology.

Other objects given have included a candle from one of the stone mines near Nailsworth. This had evidently been attached to the wall of the gallery in the simplest way using a ball of soft clay as was frequently done in the Forest of Dean. A collection of fossil insects gathered at Aust has been donated, also a fine 19th century tobacco box in the form of a negro's head, probably used in one of the Stroud public houses.

At the time of going to press two more of Stroud's interesting buildings are being wrecked in the name of progress. The stone built Victoria Rooms (later Woolworths) with its fine ballroom was erected in 1831, fronting upon King St. Parade. It was from here that the results of the first Stroud Borough Elections were declared in 1832. Further along King St., stood the shop front of Tuck's Restaurant and Bakery. This building was erected by Mr. S.S. Dickinson in 1866 and the shop frontage, with heavy carved brackets, dentil cornice and very attractive spandrels, was contemporary. Dated shop fronts are very rare - yet neither age, beauty nor rarity seem to matter when money is involved!

LIST OF PRINCIPAL ACCESSIONS, 1965

*GLOUCESTERSHIRE RECORDS OFFICE

Gloucestershire Records Office, Shire Hall, Gloucester.

Family and estate: Cambridge (Whitminster): survey, 1804; accounts, 1843-47.

Clifford (Frampton-on-Severn) (addnl.): court books, 1709-1854, and papers, 1599-1864, of Whitstone Hundred; deeds of Frampton-on-Severn and Eastington, 1654-1868; household and estate accounts, 1781-93; estate and family papers, 18-19c.; painting of Old Frampton Court, 1696.

Coxwell-Rogers and Beale-Browne (Bibury and Dowdeswell) (addnl.): court rolls of Bibury, 1574-1709, and Dowdeswell, 1579-1778; deeds of Bibury, c.1520-1779, Dowdeswell and Stoke Orchard, 1504-1889, Saiperton, 1597-1853, and other parishes; estate papers, chiefly Bibury, and family papers, chiefly Coxwell, 17-19c.; Dowdeswell churchwardens' accounts, 1632-1775, and Bibury parish records, 1704-1828.

Hale (Alderley) (addnl.): deeds of Alderley, Hawkesbury and Kingswood (Wotton), 1453, 1600-1876; maps of Alderley, 1761, and Kingswood, c.1823; Tresham inclosure award, 1818; estate papers, 1702-1873; marriage settlements and trust deeds, 1807-82.

Price (Tibberton): deeds (400) of Tibberton Court estate, 17c.-1850.

Stephens (Sodbury): manor court papers of Old Sodbury, 1703-20; estate papers, 1694-1768, and accounts, 1855-78, of Little Sodbury.

Tracy and Hanbury (Toddington): deeds of Toddington estate, c.1300-1860(36), Montgomerys., 1486-1841 (350), Shropshire c.1300-1856 (320) and Worcs., 1598-1707 (26); map of Shirlett (Shropshire), 1779; estate surveys, rentals, correspondence and legal papers, chiefly Montgomerys. and Shropshire, 17-19c., survey of Toddington estate, 1802; grants of arms, 1790-1839, pedigrees, 19c., and family papers, incl. correspondence about Tracy peerage claim, 1832-53; memoranda of Montgomerys. Canal Co., 1815-33.

Solicitors' deposits: Rickerby and Mellersh: deeds of Cheltenham District, 1650-1874 (176), Westbury-on-Severn and district, 13c.-1697 (28), and other parishes (120).

Williams and James: deeds and leases of Redesdale family estates in Blockley, etc., 1663-1893.

Deeds: c.900 for many parishes, from 1387.

Maps: Colchester family estate in Westbury-on-Severn, Mitcheldean, etc., 1785 (22); Dean and Chapter estates in Maisenore, 1740, Cranhan, 1750, Ullingswick (Herefs.), 1783, 1833, and other Glos. estates, 1823-84 (23); Stroud, 1819-20; Tewkesbury and district, 1826-28; Ebrington inclosure, 1816, and tithe, 1844.

*Photocopying facilities available for students.

Business: Minutes of Committee of Thames and Severn Canal Co., 1783-1833; letters of Thos. Telford and others about Gloucester and Berkeley Canal, 1802-20; draft history of Gloster Aircraft Co., 1915-65; deeds, 1739-1833, papers, plans and drawings, 20c., of Redbrook Tinplate Co., accounts of Wotton-under-Edge ironmonger, 1871-88; deeds, 1746-1925, and day-book, 1835-51, of Longhope saw-mills; Nailsworth miller's accounts, 1841-57; farm accounts of Hailes and Winchcomb, 1792-1867.

Parish: Alderton, 1596-1899; Ashchurch, 1868-1947; Disley, 1650-1942; Dymock, 1786-1937; Fretherne, 1631-1848, Saul, 1573-1809; Tewkesbury, 1737-88; Toddington, 1861-64 Gt. Washbourne, 1757-1812.

Charity: Cheltenham trust deed, 1727; Longhope accounts, 1837-65.

Nonconformists: Minutes of Nailsworth Bible Soc., 1814-23; Stonehouse Congregational church minutes and accounts, 1827-1960.

Official: Gaol calendar, 1728; Land Tax records of Brightwells Barrow Hundred, 1851-1949; Badgeworth Highway Board Surveyors' books, 1863-95.

Parish Council: Deerhurst.

Schools: Cheltenham College, legal and misc. papers, 1841-1903; plans, chiefly of National Schools, 1837-78 (655).

Miscellaneous: Minutes and scrap-book of Painswick Players, 1922-62; correspondence about County War Memorial, 1941-52; report on Stroud District turnpike sites, 1965.

B O O K L I S T

Catalogue of important pictures by Old Masters c 1600-c1800 from the Northwick Park collection, to be auctioned at Christie's Oct 29th, 1966.

Christie's 1965.

A history of Malvern. By Brian S. Smith. 1964

Administration of diocese of Worcester in the first half of the fourteenth century. By R.M. Haines, 1965.

The Slashers: a new short history of the Gloucestershire Regiment, 1694-1965. 1965.

The Great Western Railway in Dean: a history of the railways of the Forest of Dean: part two. By H.W. Parr. 1965.

Cotswold Gold. By Josephine Miles. 1965.

Forest Anthology. By C.R. Johnson. Forest of Dean Newspapers Ltd. 1965.

A visitors brief guide to the Cotswold country. Sixth edition. By Eric R. Delderfield. 1965.

Bobby Boutflour; the life and reminiscences of Professor Robert Boutflour, C.E.E., M.Sc. By Mary Boutflour. 1965.

BOOK REVIEW

THE THEATRE ROYAL, BRISTOL: DECLINE AND REBIRTH, 1834 - 1943

Bristol Historical Association
Local History Pamphlets No. 14. Price 2s. 6d.

Theatres, drama and dance, have an ineradicable part in the life of civilized man; perhaps that is why so few lift their eyes to consider the shell which houses them; that shell, which is dead for all but a few hours in the twenty four, but which has as good a claim upon the regard of the generation which it serves as have other 'objects of historic importance' in the guide book. Miss Barker stakes her claim in this pamphlet on the later history of the Theatre Royal upon the dogged struggles of generations of managers to maintain their business of entertainment against apathy, bankruptcy and outworn buildings, and global war; a weighting not less calculated to disaster than a Grand Opera plot, and yet the task fascinates in its unsteady progress towards a kind of smoother water in the present day.

I am one whose eyes Miss Barker has opened to the value of one more source of local history. Is it a measure of the strength of the puritan tradition that the struggles of the theatre are barely recorded by the large scale historians? Trevelyan has no reference in the Social History over this period, and A. J. F. Taylor writes the twenties and thirties off, dramatically speaking, as dead of the cinema. Or is more local work of the scope of Miss Barker's needed? It contributes to the picture of an age; we can contrast the taste in decor of succeeding generations; it need not only have been puritanism which kept the woll-to-do away when the gas piping at the Theatre Royal was dangerous, and the theatre had no water main, and when it was not till 1881 that 'Phipp's patent chairs' replaced the divided benches in the dress-circle; details about insurance evoke respect for a tool of social progress; above all one is made aware of the unending personal struggle of the management to maintain decent entertainment for jaded citizens against apathy among city fathers and antagonism by entrepreneurs. Miss Barker has no avowed didactic purpose, by she does show how local a treasure is the provincial theatre, the part it plays as a nursery for national actors, and how much even today, it depends upon patrons, old style; local patrons barely rescued the Theatre Royal in 1943, at the instigation of C.E.M.A.; in 1834, it was the Mayor, the City M.P. and the Duke of Beaufort who kept Mrs. McCready going.

Elizabeth Vowles

PROGRAMMES OF LOCAL SOCIETIES, 1966

BRISTOL AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

14th May	Dymock and Kempley
20th - 23rd July	Matlock
17th September	To be arranged

THE CHELTENHAM SOCIETY

25th June	Visit to the city of Oxford	
10th July	Festival Coach Tour of Cheltenham	Conducted by R. W. Paterson, Esq., A.R.I.B.A., and G.F. Ryland, Esq., A.R.I.B.A.
15th July	Regency Rout	
6th October	Town Planning and Shops	Lecture by R. A. Young, Esq., A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I.

CIRENCESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

7th May	Boxwell Court and Wotton-under-Edge	Coach Tour
21st May	Forest of Dean	Coach Tour
6th June	Annual General Meeting and illustrated lecture on 'Cluny - France in the 12th Century'	
18th June	Bath and Bradford-on-Avon	Coach Tour
27th June	Brimpsfield Church and Castle and Winstone Church	
15th July - 17th July	Festival of Flowers and Historic Treasures. The Society is responsible for the Historical Exhibition in the Bingham Library, in aid of the Parish Church Restoration Fund.	

THE COTTESWOLD NATURALISTS FIELD CLUB - Archaeological Section

20th May	Tour of some Herefordshire Churches for Hereford School of Sculpture
20th June	Grosmont and Abbey Dore
26th July	Frocester Roman Villa and Dyrham Park
26th August	Excavation Midsummer Hill and Malvern Friory
24th September	Site of Roman Villa at Farmington and Northleach Church

GLOUCESTERSHIRE SOCIETY FOR INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY

17th April	Tour of turnpikes in Stroud area
14th May	Visit to Staffordshire

A total of five or six such excursions will be provided, together with a number of evening visits to local sites of interest.

CHELTENHAM HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

- 5th May Annual General Meeting
- 21st May Half-day excursion to Wotton-under-Edge and Hadley Court.
- 11th June Industrial Archaeological tour of the neighbourhood of Stroud and Nailsworth
- 25th June Whole-day excursion to Harrington Hall and Harlebury Castle, Worcestershire.

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

- 27th April Evening visit to Owlpen Manor
- 25th May Evening visit to Fairford Church, return journey through the Cotswold villages of the Coln Valley.
- 27th June An afternoon and evening tour of the Forest of Dean conducted by Canon Mansfield of Newnham
- 17th July An afternoon visit to Cirencester Parish Church, to a festival of Flowers and Historic Treasures of the Town.
- 27th July An afternoon visit to Oxford conducted by the Chairman, Mr. A. C. Logan, D.S.
- 24th August An evening tour of the Chew Valley, conducted by Mr. and Mrs. D. Milner.
- 14th September A Bristol evening, visiting Mickleburgh's Piano Museum and the Georgian House or St. James' Church

LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETIES

- Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society
Secretary,
Miss E. Ralph,
M.A., F.S.A.,
Council House,
Bristol.
- Cheltenham Historical Association
Secretary
Mr. R. M. S. Pick,
Brook Lodge,
The Park,
Cheltenham,
Glos.
- Cheltenham Society
Secretary,
Mr. P. G. Newcombe,
49 Painswick Road,
Cheltenham,
Glos.
- Cirencester Archaeological and Historical Society
Secretary,
Miss H. S. Holland,
49 Victoria Road,
Cirencester,
Glos.

LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETIES (Cont.)

Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club (Archaeology)	Secretary, Mr. G. Clark, Withyhold Cottage, Moorend Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, Glos.
Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club	Secretary, Mrs. Sprague, 7 Matherley Road, Cheltenham, Glos.
Forest of Dean Local History Society	Secretary Canon R. J. Mansfield, The Vicarage, Newnham on Severn, Glos.
Gloucestershire Society for Industrial Archaeology	Secretary, Dr. G. S. Annis, c/o I.C.I. Fibres, Brockworth, Glos.
Kingswood and District Local History Society	Secretary, Mrs. B. Middleton, Kingswood Branch Library, High Street, Kingswood, Bristol.
Society of Thornbury Folk	Secretary, Mr. B. Stafford-Morse, Corderies, Alveston, Bristol.
Wotton-under-Edge Historical Society	Secretary, Miss D. F. Grimes, 3 Orchard Street, Wotton-under-Edge, Glos.

CHANGE OF OFFICERS

BRISTOL AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

PRESIDENT	L. E. W. D. Fullbrook-Leggatt, Esq., M.C.
CHAIRMAN	Captain H. S. Gracie, C.B., M.A., F.S.A., R.N.
