CNHSS Bulletin

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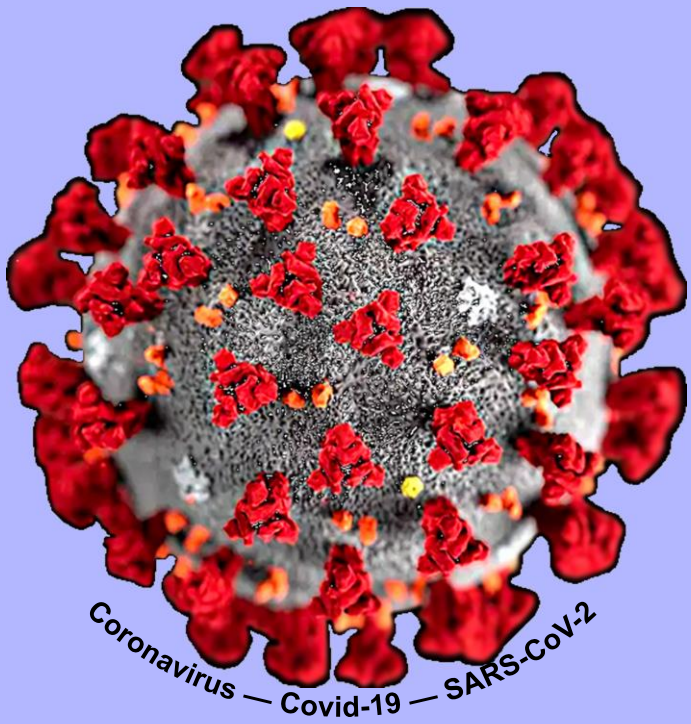
Croydon Natural History & Scientific Society



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150th Anniversary
by Carole Roberts, Chair 150th Anniversary Committee

It was such a shame that we had to postpone our 150th anniversary events. We were so looking forward to the schedule which was many months in the making, and included key opening and closing events at the Old Palace between which was a programme of talks, walks and visits balanced across all of our subjects.

A new specially extended edition of the printed Programme briefly appeared but within days had to be withdrawn as it became apparent that the events could not take place on the dates advertised.

It is our plan to reschedule the events for when they may safely be held and we are currently considering suitable venues so that we are ready to arrange revised dates when it is known when the programme can resume.

Seating for the opening event at the Old Palace is likely to be limited to facilitate social distancing and will be on a first-come-first-served basis with members being offered the spaces before the general public. Can any member wishing to provisionally reserve a place for whenever it may be please email cnhss.info@gmail.com or write to CNHSS, 96a Brighton Road, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 6AD, including your name, contact details and any special requirements such as wheelchair access. We will then contact you when the date of the event is known to offer you a place.

Meanwhile in response to the crisis we did on our 150th anniversary date of 6th April introduce a Members' Page on the website specifically for members to share short articles and images. If you have not visited this, please do – it can be accessed at www.cnhss.co.uk/Members-Page, using the password CNHSSmembers38546 (note: case sensitive). Articles to date include a message from our President on our 150th anniversary, images from the John Gent Postcard Collection and items from the Entomology Section and Ornithology group. Members' contributions are welcome.

Carole Roberts

CNHSS President
2020 – 2021

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Copy date for submission of articles for our Spring Bulletin is 1st February 2021: bulletin@cnhss.co.uk

Editorial and Covid-19
by Ian Payne

Covid-19 has caused massive disruption around the world and like so many clubs and societies, CNHSS has had to cancel its programme of walks, talks and events. At the time of writing (early August) it's not clear when we will be able to resume – maybe not until 2021.

2020 was our 150th Anniversary Year and a special programme of events had been arranged. We're still hoping to pick up on some of these next year. In particular our AGM was to have been a fancy dress affair at a new venue with special anniversary contributions. See 150th Anniversary article on page 2 by Carole Roberts and please see her self-introduction as our new President on page 6.

The AGM having been cancelled, we introduced a special procedure to enable voting online and by post. Thank you to everyone who has voted. If you didn't vote, but would like to register your email address with us, please email: information@cnhss.co.uk. Our website now has a Members' Page which will keep members up to date. Please email the same address for password access.

Members of Council for 2020 / 2021 are:
President: Carole Roberts
Vice Presidents: Celia Bailey, John Hickman, Jane McLauchlin, Ian Payne
Hon. Curator: Christopher Taylor | Hon. Librarian: Paul Sowan
Hon. Editor: Brian Lancaster | Hon. Treasurer: Brenda Hawkins
Hon. General Sec: Tony Skrzypczyk | Ordinary Members of Council:
Jim Bush, Pamela Buttrey, John Greig, Mark Tyson, Kenneth Woodhams

A huge thank you to our outgoing President, John Hickman, and the many projects he has steered us through over the last five years.

Finally, we must not forget the tremendous effort put in by the CNHSS and Bourne Society Team who masterminded our exceptional exhibition 'Croydon through the lens of Charles Harrison Price' at Croydon Clocktower. It was to have run for three months, but had to be closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. It was proving very popular with members and the public and received high praise. Let's hope it can be resurrected at some time in the near future. Please see special article by John Hickman on page 7.

Coronavirus, Covid-19, SARS-CoV-2
Why three names? Coronavirus refers to a family of viruses that have proteins protruding from the surface in a crown-like structure. Flu is caused by an influenza virus which is not a coronavirus. The common cold can be

caused by a coronavirus but is mostly caused by a rhinovirus. The particular disease causing the current pandemic is called Covid-19 which stands for Corona Virus Disease 2019 as the first outbreaks were recorded in 2019 (December). The virus that causes Covid-19 is called SARS-CoV-2. Recall that HIV, a virus, causes the disease AIDS.

SARS-CoV-2 stands for Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome 2. The SARS outbreak of 2002 to 2004 affected mostly China, South-east Asia and Canada and was caused by the virus SARS-CoV-1. The '1' has been retrospectively added. MERS, Middle East Respiratory Syndrome, was another disease circulating in 2012 caused by another coronavirus MERS-CoV.

Covid-19 has proved to be highly infectious and to have a high death rate. However, comparing figures is difficult as every country has its own way of compiling statistics. It depends on whether testing for the virus has been limited to those showing symptoms or has been much wider and whether deaths are recorded as coronavirus deaths either on the assumption of symptoms or only after testing positive. Countries also retrospectively adjust their statistics which resulted in the UK having minus 29726 cumulative cases on 3rd July and minus 5377 deaths on 12th August. Another statistic is the 'R' number, the number of further people each infected person infects. It was estimated at between 0.8 and 0.9 at 6th August but rising to 1.0 at 22 August. 'R' is a crucial determinant of what action authorities take. Anything over '1' and the infection rate is increasing.

Leaving aside the pandemic preparedness of each country, there have been many factors affecting the virus's severity in different counties: how statistics are collected and reported: the testing regime: availability of PPE, widespread or limited mask wearing: high or low observance – from start of outbreak or only later. Early advice was that masks only protect others, not the person wearing it. But the latest advice is that perhaps they do.

Other factors affecting severity include: the stage at which social distancing was implemented and how well it was observed: the stage at which lockdown was implemented and how well it was observed: the stage at which isolation of arrivals was imposed and the strictness of observance.

Are prevention of spread measures being relaxed too early? Are shops observing appropriate measures – masks, social distancing, availability of hand sanitisers?

Unfortunately, we will only get answers to these questions following retrospective analysis sometime in the future. In the meantime, schools have been closed with little evidence that the virus can be spread by children and we've yet to evaluate the extreme costs of compensation schemes and the harm that has been done to the economy.

Our new President, Carole Roberts introduces herself

I am delighted and honoured to be voted President of CNHSS and would like to thank my predecessor, John Hickman, for all his work over the last five years.

My particular subject is the local history of the Croydon area, specialising in the High Street of Croydon on which I am undertaking an ongoing detailed study, and the theatres of Croydon. I have also curated and given talks on the John Gent Postcard Collection jointly with John Hickman and have recently contributed to the 2020 Proceedings publication: *Evacustes Phipson: his life and utopian views and an introduction to the Croydon paintings.*

In 2017 I was honoured to be able to represent CNHSS on the BBC television programme 'Who Do You Think You Are', presenting Croydon-related local and family history details to the actor and television presenter Warwick Davis.

I value CNHSS for its diversity of subjects and as Chair of the 150th Anniversary Committee have been keen that all are represented in our programme of events.

I look forward to serving as your President. (*see photo, page 2)*

Happy Valley & Farthing Downs Nature Trail: Now it Speaks by Ian Payne

The Nature Trail booklet and QR system are now the responsibility of Friends of Farthing Downs & Happy Valley. During lockdown, Chairman, Graham Lomas, Committee members, Ian & Pauline Payne and Happy Valley warden, Dominic North have been busy updating the Trail.

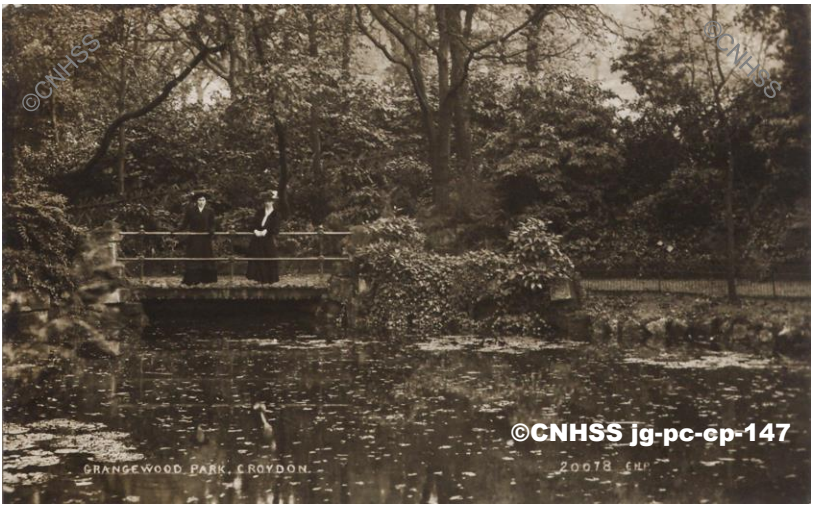
For the Trail itself, posts and markers have been renewed. The Trail Booklet has been refreshed to be all-colour (previously black and white) edited by yours truly. Graham has written additional pages to set the Trail in the context of the new South London Downs National Nature Reserve, to give a brief history of Farthing Downs & Happy Valley, to consider how open spaces can continue to be protected and to provide information on other walks and reference material.

The QR system has been updated to include audio at each of the 29 marker posts spoken by well-known personalities. Dominic has written the script, found the personalities and arranged the recordings and I have updated the website software. The new system is due to launch this September. Later in the autumn, a foreign language version will be available, initially in French, Hindi and Polish.

News of *Croydon through the lens of Charles Harrison Price* Exhibition in Croydon Clocktower by John I Hickman

Unfortunately, the exhibition *Croydon through the lens of Charles Harrison Price* mounted by CNHSS and Bourne Society as part of the Museum of Croydon's *'What's My Croydon'* project had to be closed in early March as a result of restrictions imposed because of the coronavirus disease pandemic. The fifty Images were due to be displayed until 2nd May.

The huge success of the exhibition during the 42 days it was open is evident by the in excess of 300 very complimentary entries made in the Visitors Book – an encouraging number given most visitors to exhibitions do not usually sign such books. These ranged from personal reminiscences, enjoyment of the pictures and included the quality of the display. Indeed, some people thought the exhibition had been mounted by Museum of Croydon. There were a significant number of visitors wanting to see more of the same and to buy copies – one visitor offered to purchase the entire exhibition. There were also requests for a book, for larger stand-alone pictures and a permanent display. Larger images had been considered, but were not used for two reasons: firstly, there was a concern about a loss of resolution, although we were later reassured by Mike Radcliffe of Snappy Snaps that this was unlikely at the scale we were interested in; secondly was the limited number of images we could place on the available wall space that caused our sacrificing larger pictures for more of a smaller size. It would be good to see some of the images such as the



magnificent posing of twenty-nine nurses beneath wisteria at the rear of an, as yet, unidentified building (jg-pc-ss-128 found in the John Gent Postcards Collection by Carole Roberts) enlarged to at least A1. Another would be the pair of women, possibly Price's models, posing on a bridge over Hood's Pond behind Grange House in *Grangewood Park, Croydon* (jg-pc-cp-147). This picture aroused interest because of its similarity to *The Waterlily Pond: Green Harmony* (1899) Claude Monet's Giverny masterpiece, with which it bears remarkable similarity.

The curators gave two talks to accompany the exhibition, and over 140 visitors joined the 43 'walk and talk' tours. It was during the guided tours that the topographical pictures of locations across the borough were found to be very popular among visitors, not least because to so many they stimulated memories of childhood – this being especially true of those showing shops. The picture titled *North End, Croydon* (jg-pc-cp-041) looking south towards Croydon Clocktower – seemingly showing a fly-pass by the Red Arrows – but which are in fact electric tramline cable supports, was popular because parts of it are so eminently recognisable.

CNHSS John Gent Postcards Collection assistant curator Elaine Cooper selected three pictures for display. Being a lay reader at Croydon Minster, Elaine found Price's pleasing photograph of the interior looking towards the chancel of the *Parish Church, Croydon* (jg-pc-cp-289) moving, as was the view she chose of the south-east corner of the Whitgift Almshouses quadrangle showing the entrance to the chapel (jg-pc-al-007).

©CNHSS jg-pc-cp-289

©CNHSS jg-pc-al-007

Tony Skrzypczyk for his part as assistant curator of the John Gent Postcards Collection also recommended three pictures for the exhibition. His choice of *Old Mill, Shirley* (jg-pc-cp-203) was for him an obvious choice given the sterling work he does with The Friends of Shirley Windmill; and liking tall structures, he also selected *The Water Tower, Croydon* (jg-pc-cp-088).

For my part *The Crescent War Hospital, B Block Jan 29th 1918* (jg-pc-wr-017_1)

is one of the most moving images in the exhibition. Six Croydon schools were converted for military use during WWI. In this picture we see a collection of twenty-four men some convalescing, others still recovering, and six nurses in the renovated school hall. We know the date, and precise location, but nothing of those making up the composition. One wonders what Price said just before he opened the shutter to capture this remarkable image on the glass plate at the back of his camera. It is, after all, almost impossible to detect a smile on all but two, perhaps three, of the thirty-four faces. This photograph was likely taken by Price to be purchased by those posing in it to send to their loved ones at home. At the time it was taken, they had survived, and the war would be over in ten months, but most if not all of those encountered here would bear the scars of their experience, if not physically, then in their minds for the rest of their lives. Although Price may have unwittingly produced an historical photograph, it is one with which we cannot help but engage. And that was Price's gift to us – he produced remarkable photographs that arrest our attention and momentarily transport us to an earlier Croydon.

We very much look forward to Museum of Croydon, who generously provided a grant and space for the show, giving an extension to the exhibition, thereby allowing more visitors to enjoy Charles Price's photographs. A richly illustrated booklet has been prepared by Pauline Payne. Although not available pre-closure, we intend having it printed, and expect it to be available on the exhibition re-opening once coronavirus restrictions are lifted.

From the Society's Museum collection – www.cnhss.co.uk/museum
by Christopher J.W. Taylor, Museum Curator

Prehistoric flint artefacts from Alton Road, Waddon

In this Bulletin we are going to look at a collection of prehistoric flint artefacts excavated from subterranean, cave-like chambers discovered in Waddon in 1902 and 1953. The artefacts excavated were deposited with the Society and are now housed in our museum.

Reports by Clinch (1903), Reid (1953) and Savage (1982) on the chambers were published in our Proceedings and to provide background, these are briefly summarised in the first sections below. However, the reports provided almost no details of the prehistoric flint artefacts that had been excavated and these are the main subject of this article.

The discoveries of four chambers – a summary from 1902 and 1953 reports

In 1902 a group of three chambers was discovered under the lawns of Waddon House, now demolished, (Figure 1, NGR TQ 3117 6504), when excavations for a sewer trench cut into their ceiling crowns. In 1953 the front garden of 41, Alton Road, Waddon, subsided after a heavy storm and revealed a fourth chamber (Figure 2) only a few feet away from the 1902 group.

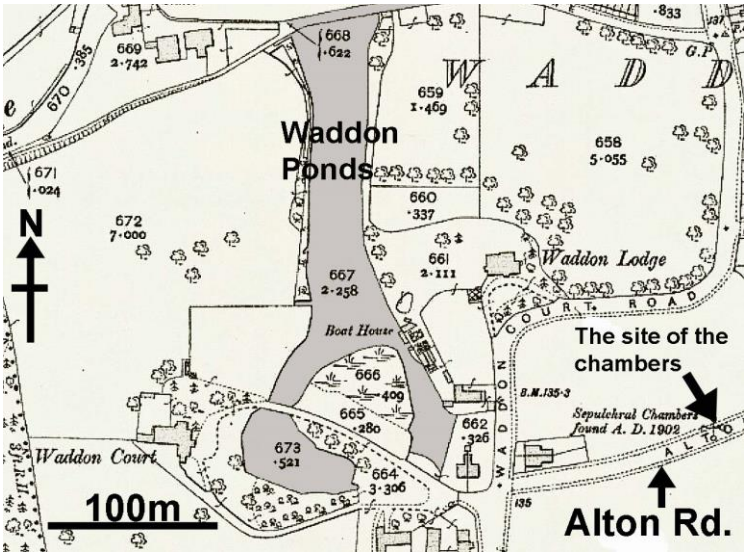


Figure 1. Location of the chambers. Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey, Sheet XIV.9, revised 1911, published 1913. Site arrowed. Waddon House was ca. 75m to the west of the find spot.

The four chambers were very similar in shape and had been formed within the local Thanet Sand. The chambers were back filled after excavation and are now built over. The 1902 chambers were largely devoid of roof fall due to the mode of their discovery, whereas that revealed in 1953 was found almost filled with Thanet Sand from the contemporary roof collapse. Only 40% of the floor area of the 1953 chamber was cleared and that required the movement of in excess of ten tons of sand.

In his 1953 report, Reid provided a cross section of the fourth cave that had been discovered and indicated the general locations of flints within the layers of infill. This is reproduced at Figure 2; to it have been added the locations of finds (lithic and other) within the chamber from the descriptions by Reid in his report.

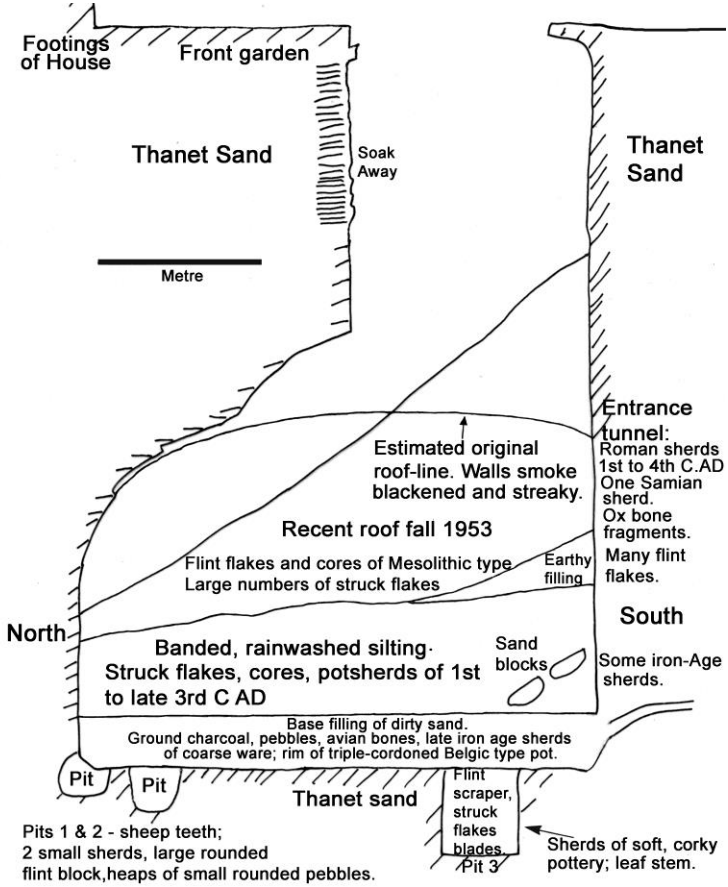


Figure 2. 41, Alton Road, Waddon, chamber “D”, 1953 excavation. After Reid, 1953 with details of finds mentioned in his report inserted to show their location.

As shown, (Figure 2) the chamber found in 1953 was partly filled with three levels of Thanet Sand deposit: roof fall, beneath this a sloping, rain-washed, banded layer, and a base filling of dirty sand. In comparison, the 1902 report only mentions basal filling. According to Clinch, the basal sand that part occupied the three 1902 chambers had probably been washed in, and was described as “derived”.

Flooding, wall and roof collapses, the action of tree roots and surface levelling in the grounds of Waddon House must also have disturbed sand which contained lithic material left on the surface of the Thanet Sand millennia before the chambers were dug. Research done in the 1960’s by Caiger on similar structures in Kent showed them to have most probably constructed in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries for storage facilities (Savage, 1982).

A useful description of the “caves” and the infill was provided by John Morris in his article on Anglo-Saxon Surrey (1959, 137). The entry for Croydon, Waddon Caves, refers to 41, Alton Road. Morris describes a V-shaped, flat bottomed trench, 8-10 feet deep, cut into the sandy soil, acting as a street off which some underground houses would have been entered by doorways with lintels. He describes the archaeological sequence as “The rubble lying over the Iron Age, Roman and Saxon material was full of Mesolithic flints and during earlier excavations caused the site to be listed as Neolithic.”

The non-lithic material found consisted of animal bones and pottery sherds. Clinch (1903) describes Romano-British pottery in the sand covering the floors and bones of ox, teeth of Ovis aries, (sheep) and Sus scrofa (hog/pig) and dog or wolf, in the sand deposits in the lateral avenue. Much rolled sherds of Romano-British ware, one possibly of Patch Grove or similar, and charcoal, are reported by Reid in the rain washed, banded layer. The base layer of the 1953 cave also contained “crude ware”.

Morris (1959) was more specific when he described the pottery as Iron Age and Belgic with Roman, including Samian ware and a single Anglo-Saxon sherd of dark grey ware.

Clinch reported that several green-coated flint cores and chips of "bullhead" flint were found in the uneven, loose sand layer covering the floors of the 1902 chambers. These are commented on below. A smaller proportion of cores were of ordinary Chalk-flint.

In summary, the basal infill was washed into the chambers from the surrounding area of Thanet Sand. The roof fall brought down further Thanet

Sand, also containing prehistoric flints. The flints are a very mixed collection resulting from prehistoric human endeavour over millennia at or near the site. Phil Jones's report (2013) on the North Park Farm Mesolithic site at Bletchingley, Surrey, emphasises that that site was repeatedly visited over thousands of years by Mesolithic peoples, so much so that he called it a "persistent place". This is very much what happened in places like Waddon and others along the spring line. Land use was concentrated near the springs from the earliest times to date.

Tentative dating of the lithics is given in the commentaries below, according to typological features of industries, in so far as they are evident.

The location in prehistory: its topography and geology

This is one of many local sites along the local spring line which have produced lithic material indicating occupation of the area from the Palaeolithic onwards.

Figure 3 shows the chambers on the Thanet Sand at the spring-line near the junction with the Upper Chalk; river terrace gravels are just a few hundred metres to the north. Local, prehistoric lithic-producing sites, near the spring-line, are numerous: Orchard Hill, Carshalton (perhaps the most prolific, having produced over 10,000 pieces of worked flint), Wallington High School, Queen's Well and Westcroft Road Carshalton, Waddon Fields, Station Avenue Ewell, the Vinamul site, Butter Hill Wallington and Aldwick Road Beddington. (For reports on Bullhead flint and these sites see References below).

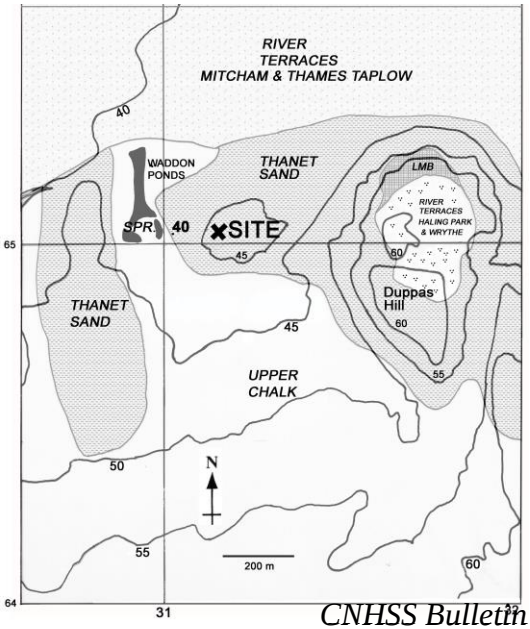


Figure 3. The topology and geology of the site area. Contours at 5m intervals.

The nearest spring rises in the south eastern arm of Waddon Ponds, just 200 metres to the west of the site. Water from this spring fed the moat of Waddon Manor house which stood between the two southern curved extensions of the ponds (Figures 1 & 3). The pond evident today almost certainly only dates from Norman times. A mill pond extended north of Mill Lane but was filled in 1964 (Maggs, 1994). Other water sources in prehistoric times would have been from bourne flows in the present dry valley to the east of Duppas Hill.

The flints found in the chambers are a mixed collection, but, on a positive note, they are from a specific, well defined location. Thus, although not an assemblage, they do partly represent the lithic cultural traditions that were present in this particular, close, area**.**

The chambers were near the top of a minor, raised promontory (Figure 3) perhaps explaining the position of the site with views over surrounding landscape. This topography means it is unlikely that infill brought into the caves by natural agencies like flooding, was from a great distance. The lithic material associated with the roof falls in the 1953 cave was from the immediate site, i.e. from a lens of sand that was *in situ*, prior to collapsing into the cave. Not all the infill was excavated so further prehistoric struck flints will probably have remained.

Lithic material and local geology

In the collection only about a quarter of all the flints retain some external cortex and of these only a small proportion were of “Bullhead” flint, the rest being from the Chalk.

Bullhead flint, which has a distinctive greenish, glauconite-covered external surface, and orange layer beneath, is present in a geologically well recognised band of pebbles, 10 – 20 cm. thick, at the base of the Thanet Sand (Sumbler, 1996, Davies 1915, Whitaker, 1918, Peake, 1982, 94, Figure 2).

In many articles on prehistorically worked flint found along the Thanet-Chalk spring line, from Waddon to Ewell, the incidence of Bullhead flint is commented upon.

Aldwick Road, Beddington, Queen’s Well and Orchard Hill, Carshalton are examples where the prehistoric use Bullhead Bed has been reported as evident (Turner, 1970).

Certainly Bullhead is common in the locality. Prescott Row reported that flints from a foray in a field opposite Waddon Station were mainly the “green-coated flints”. Other flint forays “over the fields higher up the slope from Russell Hill to Waddon” and forays around the fields to the south west

of Waddon Station also found numerous Bullhead flakes and pieces of waste material (Row, 1914). Row also separately reported Bullhead flint being used for prehistoric flintwork at the Aldwick Road, Beddington site (see under “Burins” below and under References, Row, 1927).

Fagg commented (1922) that surface Bullhead flint is found in the Woodmansterne area, ca. five miles to the south west. That area is mapped by the Geological Survey as exclusively Chalk but the writer can attest to surface Bullhead flint ca. 400 metres north of the church. Fagg comments that this seems to indicate the presence of the “Thanets” prior to denudation. The Geological Survey does not map the presence of deposits of very small thickness so outlying remnants of a deposit, near the still remaining main body will have been left unmapped.

In his 1970 report of the excavation at Croham Hurst, Drewett noted that the majority of prehistoric flint find spots were on the Thanet Sand of the Hurst, as against adjacent Chalk or Blackheath Pebble Beds. This is exactly the general finding for Mesolithic sites in Surrey in that sandy soils were preferred as against the Chalk. Mesolithic axes, for example, have been found very sparsely on the Chalk compared to the distribution of finds on the Lower Greensand.

At the Wallington High School for Boys site, just over a mile to the west, many pieces of Mesolithic and Neolithic struck flint showed the characteristic greenish black external coating (Laws and Wooldridge, 1980). Other site reports mention the use of Bullhead flint: Laleham, near Staines, (Taylor-Wilson, 2002), Westcroft Road, Carshalton (Proctor, 2002) and Priest Hill, Ewell (Cotton, 2001).

Clinch (1902) reported the basal bed of the Thanet Sand to be evident near Waddon railway station, with a well pronounced stratum of Bullhead flint present. He proposed that the Bullhead flint in the chambers would have been obtained by digging into this layer. This seems very likely, but, given the availability of such flint, even in areas away from the Thanet beds, nearer surface spreads would have also been utilised. The large proportion of green-coated flints found within the Waddon caves, as reported by Clinch, is not reflected in the retained collection.

Drewett (1970) contrasted the Bullhead flint on Croham Hurst with the “local” pebbles from the Blackheath Pebble beds. He considered the working qualities of Bullhead to be superior to that of the pebbles which are subject to shattering and develop poor conchoidal fractures. Shepherd (1972) noted the excellent knapping qualities of Bullhead flint supporting this finding.

The CNHSS Collection

Table 1 below gives a typological analysis of the lithic material in the Museum collection.

Table 1 Analysis of flints recovered from the 1902 and 1953 chambers.

	Of the Total: utilised	**Total**	**1902**	**1953**	**Length/ breadth ratio.**
Flakes – complete	5	47	21	26	1.26
Flakes – damaged/broken	1	34	16	18	
Blades – complete	3	12	5	7	2.60
Blades/bladelets – damaged/snapped		12	7	5	
Burins		3	2	1	
Cores – Single platform		7	1	6	
Bipolar		5	3	2	
Multipolar		6	2	4	
Scrapers	2	2	1	1	
Chips		66		66	
Rejuvenation flakes/tablet		3	1	2	
Fire-cracked flint		47	5	42	
Chopper tool	1	1	1		
Pebbles		27		27	
Bashed lumps		13	1	12	
Loom weight (?)	1	1	1		
Shaping tool	2	2	1	1	
Borer	1	1	1		
Hammerstone	1	1		1	
TOTAL	**17**	**290**	**69**	**221**	

"Chips" in Table 1 are small, unworked, shapeless debitage, shatter pieces, miscellaneous fracture pieces, often with no bulb of percussion evident; no particular size cut off was adopted for classification but generally these are smaller than 20mm. Blades are defined as blanks of regular character with more or less parallel sides, with a length at least twice that of the width.

As with many similar collections, it is not possible to definitively comment on the lithic cultural tradition of many of the pieces.

Clinch pointed out in his report on the 1902 discovery, that the more minute pieces of flint were probably overlooked and it is possible that microliths were missed. The loose sand layer covering the floor of the chambers discovered in 1902 contained a flint "saw" which is now missing. The overlooking of microliths (which are conspicuously absent in the collection) is very unfortunate given their diagnostic importance for a Mesolithic industry.

The number of flints is small, in contrast, for example, to the many thousands reported from Orchard Hill, Carshalton. Unfortunately, as well as microliths, other diagnostic artefacts like tranche axes, and their sharpening flakes are also absent from the Waddon collection.

The flint is usually black. Patination is from grey to white but not prominent; only a few pieces have an overall white patination and this is noted in the commentaries below. All pieces are in very fresh condition with no indication of rolling or alluvial abrasion

The flintwork – Figures 4 to 9 (Illustrations by the author).

References are given below to examples reported elsewhere that display features and forms that are very similar to those of the Waddon artefacts. However, this should not be interpreted as necessarily implying a similar cultural tradition or age for the Waddon artefact.

Blades and bladelets (Figures 4, 7 and 8).

Nos. 1-10 and 12 are blades and snapped blades, i.e., blade segments. These blades, which would have been suitable as blanks for the production of microliths, were produced from cores like 21, 22 and 23 (see Figure 5 below). The only secondary working is on 12 which has been worked on an edge, as shown, possibly the start of a notch to form a microlith, but which was abandoned.

Interesting parallels of snapped blades found very nearby are those from Westcroft Road Carshalton, (Cotton and Hayes, 1980, Fig. 4, nos 9-16). Examples from farther afield have been reported from Thursey Common

(Graham and Nicolaysen, 1999, Figure 3, nos. 29-31) and Thatcham (Wymer, 1962, Figure 7, no. 82). Rankine (1956, 11, Figure 2, no. 8) gives an example as a typical product of Mesolithic industry.

Nos. 9 and 10 have been notched but the flaking appears on the dorsal surface so they are not typical pre-form microliths. No. 10 has the distal end removed and 9 has some Chalk cortex remaining (c.f. Robertson-Mackay, 1987, Figure 69, 114, no. 213 and Drewett, 1970, Figure 9, no. 60).

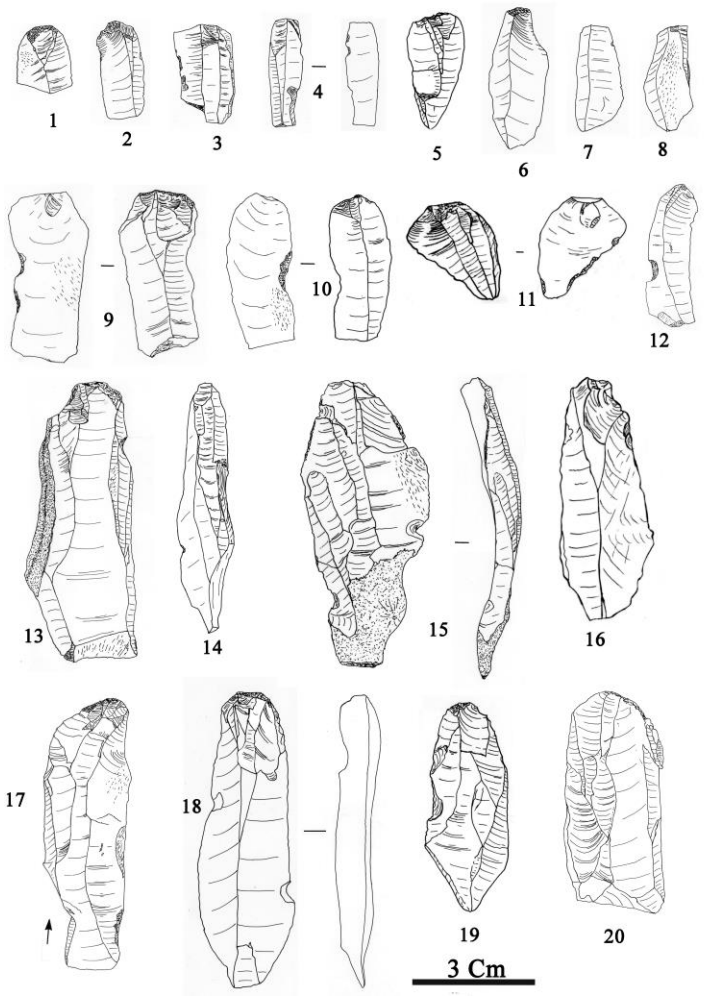


Figure 4. Flakes and blades.

Nos. 1, 2, 11, 12, 15 and 18 are from the 1902 excavation. In this and subsequent figures the bulb of percussion is at the top of the illustration. Stippling represents cortex.

No. 14 has the highest length:breadth ratio of the Waddon blades at 4.5:1. The significance of this ratio in blades is that narrow, well struck, thin blades tend to feature prominently in assemblages from Mesolithic contexts. Blades were certainly produced in the Neolithic but they are less significant. There are no indications of secondary working or use. No. 15 is part utilised along one edge and from a Bullhead nodule. The bulb is very diffuse probably from soft hammer (i.e., use of bone or wood, not stone) knapping technique. No. 16 is a very thin (maximum thickness 5 mm) blade and one of the few artefacts with cream-white patination. The general style of these suggests Mesolithic work.

No. 18 is the second longest blade. It is of a grey-black, unpatinated flint with no cortex and has a feathered termination. This is a very neatly produced blade. The axis of the blade is at ninety degrees to a very distinct, flat remnant of the core's striking platform whose dorsal edge is much abraded, indicating careful core maintenance. The main arête running the length of this blade produces a prominent dorsal "keel" such that the piece is almost an equilateral triangle in cross section. There is no secondary working. This is very probably Mesolithic.

Scrapers (Figures 5 and 8).

No. 25 is a typical round scraper which has been retouched to produce a semi-circular working edge. It has a maximum thickness of 4mm. A comparable local example is from the Mesolithic site at the former Vinamul factory, Wallington (Leary, Branch and Bishop, 2005, 19, Figure 10, no. 23) although this scraper type is more typical of the Neolithic and Bronze Age.

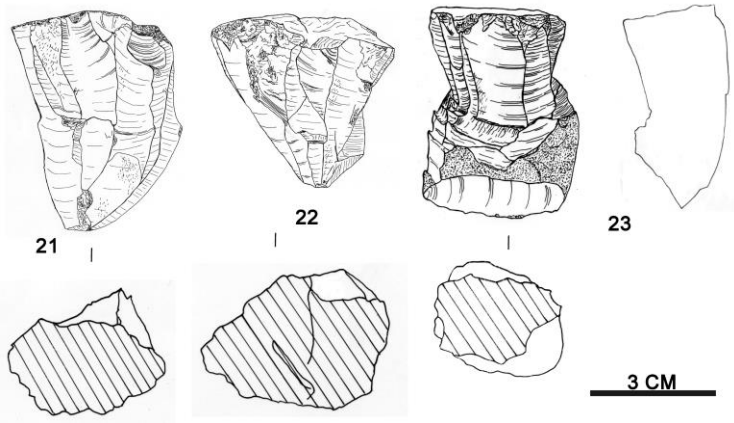


Figure 5 (continued next page)

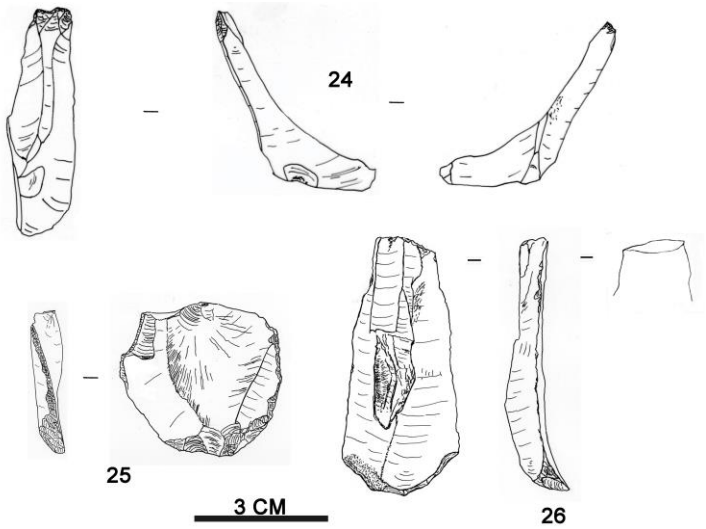


Figure 5. Nos. 22, 24, and 26 are from the 1902 excavation.

No. 26 is an end scraper on a blade. This is a very interesting implement. Unusually, for Waddon, it has an even, white patination, with some slight light grey mottling. The bulb is very shallow, an example of soft hammer knapping. The scraping edge has been formed by very steep retouch of the distal end. Exactly similar examples are from the early Mesolithic sites of Thatcham, (Wymer, 1962, Figure 11, 349, nos. 121-123) and Star Carr (Clark 1954, 108, fig 40, nos. F107, F110). But they are even more prominent on much earlier Upper Palaeolithic sites, for example at Gough's Cave Somerset, (Campbell, 1977, Figure 123/7, 126/5), and Hengistbury Head, Hampshire (Campbell, 1977, 18, Figures 162/6, 165/4.). Under Campbell's Upper Palaeolithic typology this scraper would be CB1 (1977, 151). At the Hengisbury Head site steep-ended scrapers (like this example) outnumber all other forms (Barton 1992, 212/3). End scrapers proliferated in the Upper Palaeolithic along with other blade tools. Long scrapers on blades, with the working edge at the end, would have allowed for hafting into bone or wooden mounts facilitating greater pressure and ease of holding. Scrapers are notoriously difficult to date but a late Upper Palaeolithic or very early Mesolithic date is suggested on the grounds of morphology. Upper Palaeolithic finds are extremely rare generally in the UK and especially in this locality. The nearest is a curve backed blade from Whitgift Street, Croydon.

Nos. 39 and 43 are squat, thick flakes, both with marks of use as notched or horned scrapers (examples: Clarke, 1927, 274). No. 42 is a cortical flake and has been utilised as a scraper. No. 46 is an end scraper on a small squat flake; all of these are probably late Neolithic or Bronze Age.

Cores (Figures 5, 6, 7 and 9)

There is a considerable variation in core size on this site. This will be partly due to the raw material available locally as well as cultural traditions and intended product use.

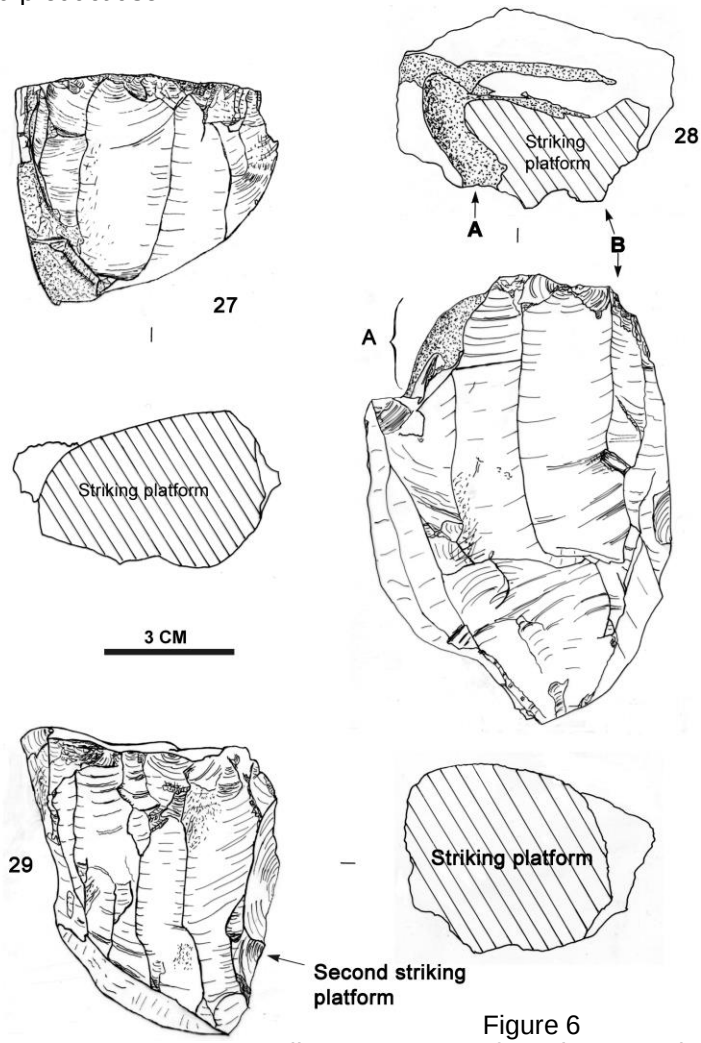


Figure 6
All, except 27, are from the 1902 chambers.

Nos. 21 – 23 (Figure 5) exhibit very similar features: they are small, single platform, pyramidal/conical, blade cores that have been exhausted by a skilful knapper. Platforms are flat and have been edge trimmed. These cores are very typical of a Mesolithic industry; as mentioned above, the small flint blades struck from such cores were used to produce microliths, diagnostic of the Mesolithic. A similar example of this core type is from the earlier Mesolithic site at Broxbourne (Hazzledine, 1934, nos. 70 – 72, Figure 5, Wymer 1991, 20, Figure 8). Rankine also gives an example, as the typical product of Mesolithic industry (1956, Figure 2, no 2).

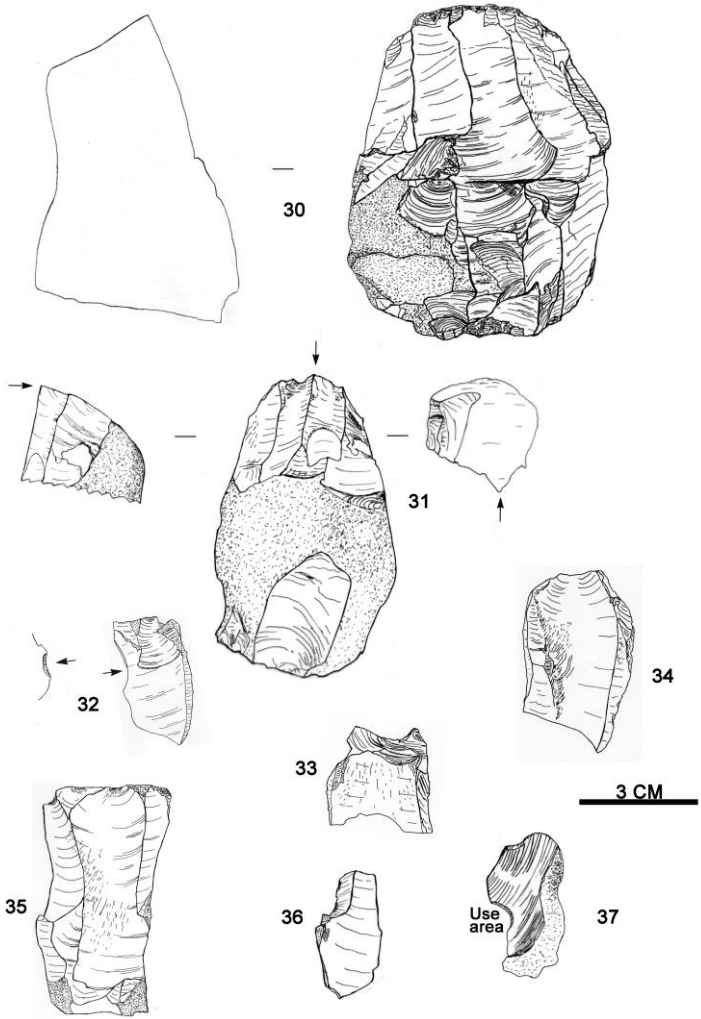


Figure 7. Nos. 31, 33, 34 and 37 are from the 1902 chambers.

The green coated surface and orange layer beneath it of no. 23 shows that a Bullhead pebble was chosen for this core. There is no patination. Several hinge fractures are evident, possibly the result of miss-hits which resulted in flake beds terminating two thirds down the core from its platform. A flake has been struck from the opposing end, possibly to turn the core into a scrapper or produce another platform. A comparable example has been reported from the Mesolithic site at London Road, Beddington (Bagwell, 2001, Figure 3, 92, no. 1).

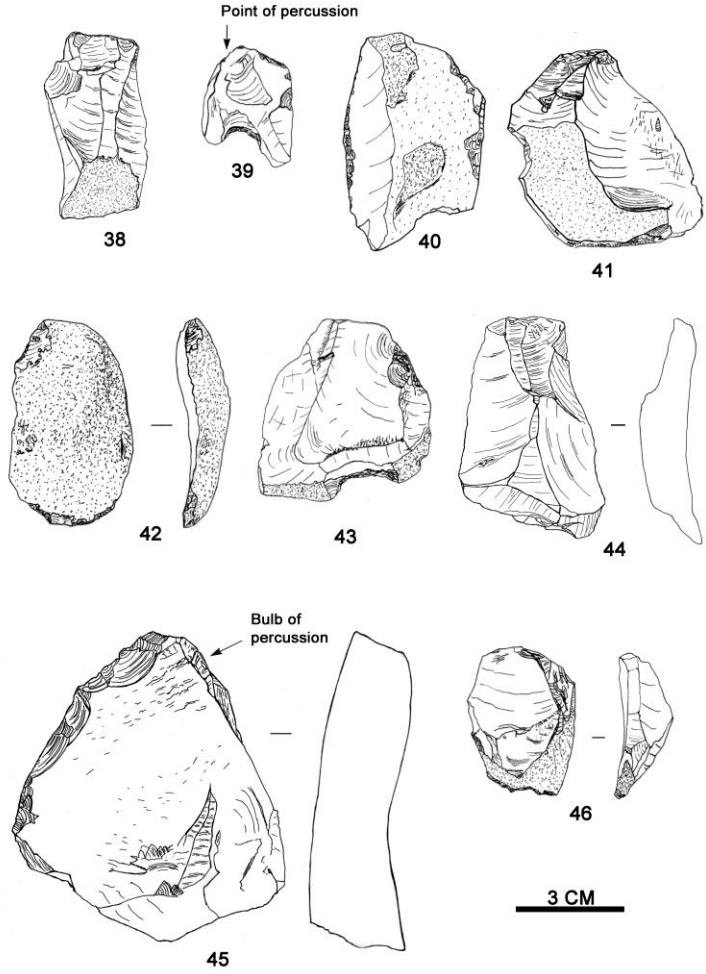


Figure 8. Nos. 39, 40, 42 – 46 are from the 1902 chambers.

Nos. 27 – 30 are the largest cores from the site. They are unpatinated black flint with cortex remaining on 27, 28 and 30. No. 27 is a single platform core, 28 – 30 are bipolar.

No. 31 is a Bullhead pebble. It is listed here with cores. However it could also be referred to as a nucleus per Rankine's example at Figure 2, no. 1 (1956) which here has become a tested nodule (c.f. Evans, 1983, Figure 17, no. 1, 73).

Core rejuvenation. (Figures 5 and 9).

No. 24 is a core rejuvenation flake with a plunging/overshot termination (a "plunging piece") that removed the core's base. A small, (probably soft hammer) bulb remains. Platform edge abrasion scars are evident on the dorsal side of the proximal end. This piece has no cortex. Very similar examples are common, for example: Clark, 1954, no. 13, fig 34, 100; Robertson-Mackay, 1987, no. F238, Figure 70, 115; Rankine, (Undated) no. 1, Figure 2, 13, Butler, 2005, Figure 11, no. 3, 31; and Reynier, 2005, no. 3.4, no. 2, 38. Robertson-Mackay (1987, 97) quotes Tixier (Tixier, 1974, Tixier et al, 1980), that plunging rejuvenation flakes have been shown to be an accident of debitage rather than a deliberate technique. However, despite Tixier's interpretation, they occur in numbers, with exactly the same morphology, in many Mesolithic assemblages and do therefore seem to be the result of a standard method of dealing with core rejuvenation rather than haphazard knapping. A Mesolithic/early Neolithic date is probable.

No. 47 is interpreted as a core rejuvenation tablet. The side view illustrated shows the remnants of flake beds running at 90 degrees to the axis of the strike that removed the tablet from its parent core.

Burins (Figures 4 and 9).

No. 17 is an unabraded blade of black flint and with signs of use. It has a burin spall removed at the distal end and so is classified as a burin/graver.

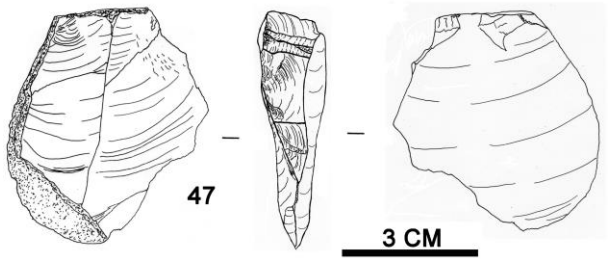


Figure 9 (continued next page)

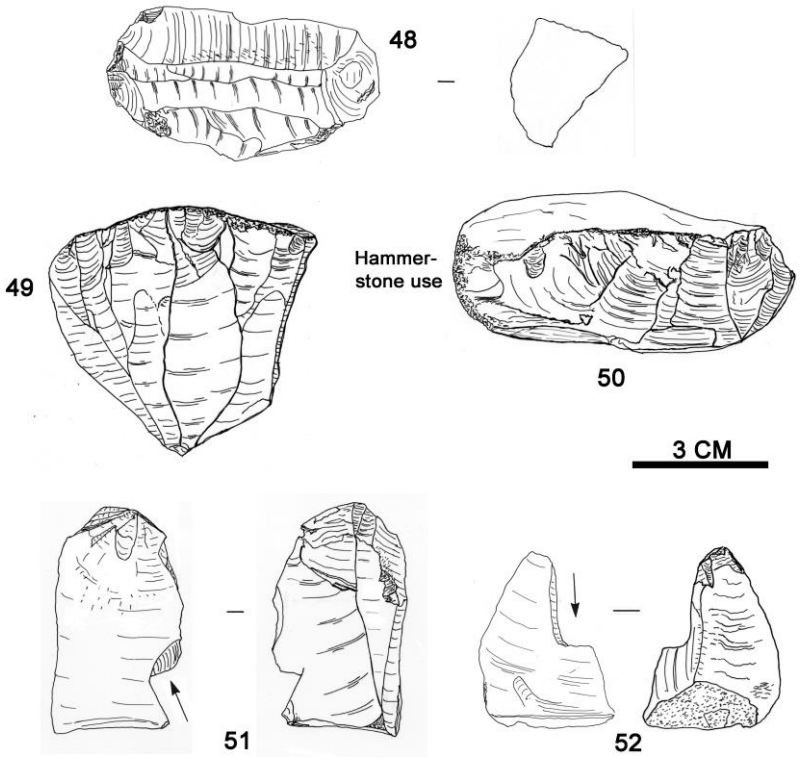


Figure 9, nos. 47, 48, 50 and 51 are from the 1902 chambers. Nos. 51 and 52 have spalls removed (arrowed). This tool type is seen commonly in the Upper Palaeolithic and early Mesolithic but is rare in the Neolithic.

In the context of burins it is worth just mentioning here two notable finds from a multi-period site just 500m to the west, at the north end of Aldwick Road (TQ 307,652); this was reported by Prescott Row in 1927 and Fowler in 1979 (see references). Two burins (Figure 10) found are of distinctively Late Glacial or early Mesolithic work. Burins were used in the Neolithic (Clark, 1960, 223-4) but are relatively rare compared to their numbers in the Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic. The closest published example of the double ended graver illustrated is from Les Eyzies, France (Read, 1911, 49 & Smith 1912, 144) dated to the Upper Palaeolithic. The site is another of those on the spring line with almost identical geology to that at Alton Road. Both are in almost fresh condition and are of unpatinated grey flint. The double ended burin is exceptionally rare. These are also part of the CNHSS museum collection, accession number range 17/3&4, AR 1 – 22.

Figure 10. The two burins from the Aldwick Road site, Beddington. A single ended dihedral burin (left) and double ended (right). 83mm and 82mm long respectively. CNHSS Museum Collection, Accn. Nos. 17/3/AR 3 & 4. Illustrations by the author.

Hammer stone/core (Figure 9).

No. 50 which was first used as a core, has the unmistakable pecking and micro-shattering on the surface at the working end evidencing it also having been used as a hammerstone.

Summary and discussion

This is a multi-period collection from a narrowly defined site near to many others along the local spring line. The blades and blade cores are indicative of Mesolithic work. A long-time knapping area in the vicinity is likely. The types of artefact represented are fairly typical of other collections and assemblages found locally. The incidence of Bullhead flint use is particularly interesting because it confirms, as far as possible, the use of local material. In contrast, at sites where there is no local Thanet Sand, for example, at North Park Farm, Bletchingley, Surrey, very few Bullhead flints have been excavated. The end scraper, no. 26, is the most interesting piece because of its probable Upper Palaeolithic date; together with the curve backed blade from Whitgift Street and burins from Aldwick Road the very early presence of man in the area, going back to the early Mesolithic and Late Glacial Palaeolithic, is confirmed.

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The 1870 Elementary Education Act
by Brian Lancaster

Though an eminent Croydon resident, Thomas Edridge, J.P., said in 1870 that the Elementary Education Act[1] was considered to be 'the most important on the statute book', Croydon was dilatory in responding to it.[2] The law provided state-funded education to working class children wherever there were insufficient schools to accommodate all children between five and thirteen. The Bill was introduced in February and passed in July. Both the *Croydon Chronicle* and the *Croydon Advertiser* printed letters and reported meetings during the Bill's passage through Parliament but not until December were there calls for action to be taken to set up a school board which would implement the Act. As one correspondent wrote on the 21st 'Croydon has shown no urgency' and urgency was necessary if the required deadlines were to be met.[3] Returns to the Government indicating the deficiency of school accommodation had to be completed by end of January and school boards elected by the end of March or else the deadline to receive parliament grants would pass.

One reason for the dilatoriness is the local press and its readership. Both the *Croydon Chronicle* and the newly-established *Croydon Advertiser* had a largely middle-class readership more interested in grammar schools such as the forthcoming opening of the Whitgift Middle School than in the Act. The papers' leading articles and the correspondence reflect this relative lack of interest in the Act. Moreover, both newspapers covered both national and international news. During 1870 the principal item of international news, over several months, was the Franco-Prussian war. More briefly, regarding national events was news about the death of Charles Dickens. Both newspapers reported more about the reception of the Act nationally than its reception in Croydon.

As for local news, both papers devoted several columns to reporting the meetings of two committees: the Board of Guardians for the Poor Law, the other the Board of Health. In 1870 the papers' leading articles and correspondence concerning the Board of Health were about sewage irrigation. In the absence of a town council, the two Boards were the principal organs of local government. Because the vestry was nominally open to all ratepayers, the parish vestry could also be included as a local authority but in practice, only a few ratepayers did attend.

The Act was the first piece of legislation devoted entirely to education. It was not just Croydon that acted belatedly. Britain lagged behind the United States and the major European countries in providing state education. Why

successive governments were reluctant to provide it, for whom was the Act intended and what it delivered or could not deliver are questions needing to be addressed.

Almost every word in the name of the Act calls for explanation. ‘Elementary’ does not refer to basic education but to the age range of the children. ‘Education’ was often qualified by the adjectives ‘efficient’ and ‘effective’ to imply a standard of education taught by qualified teachers, distinguishing them from the untrained who taught children in their, the teachers or ‘dames’, own homes. ‘Act’ presupposes a preceding Bill which may be amended in its passage through Parliament. The Elementary Schools Act was no exception. Moreover, the Act did not apply to Ireland or Scotland but only to England and Wales. A separate and later Act dealt with Scotland. Ireland, still one country within the Kingdom, was mainly Roman Catholic and that Church would not accept state aid and inspection. The religious question was difficult enough in England and Wales. This article, however, concerns Croydon.

State-funded public elementary schools were intended for children from 5 to 13 years, although children could leave school beforehand if they had reached a certain standard of education, defined as level 5 or, if they had reached level 4, they needed to attend only 15 hours a week instead of 25, the school day being 5 hours. The term ‘primary school’ has now replaced the earlier term. Whereas primary schools are a stepping-stone to secondary schools, very few children in elementary schools had any chance of progressing beyond them.

State-funding meant that, in addition to the weekly fees paid by parents or guardians, school boards could borrow money from the Public Works Loan Committee; set a local rate, of not more than 3d in the pound, specifically for the education they provided, and receive parliamentary money from the part of the civil service fund set aside for education.

The Act was about providing public elementary schools for children of working class parents, those who earnt their living by manual labour. They could not afford to send their children to grammar and private schools, including, of course, the nine public schools. Other elementary schools did exist but they were called voluntary schools or denominational schools, the vast majority of which were Church of England schools provided by the National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church, founded in 1811. By 1870 it had spent 6 million pounds in building schools. The rest were denominational schools provided by Roman Catholics and the several nonconformist denominations: Congregationalists, Baptists, Methodists, Unitarians and

Quakers. Together, the public and voluntary system of education is called the dual system. Though the Act did not apply to voluntary schools except indirectly, they were assisted by government grants to help pay for building and maintenance.

The Act's other purposes were, firstly, to make up deficiencies where there were not enough schools to provide accommodation for working class children; secondly, to oblige local authorities to set up elected school boards whose responsibility was to assess any deficiency, and, where there were insufficient schools, provide board schools; thirdly, to have board schools inspected regularly.

The Act did not address the issue of the supply of teachers, had no provision for increasing the number of training colleges and failed to create a department of education. It made no reference to any qualifications needed for members of the school board. The Church of England's Committee on Primary National Education stated that there were other omissions: nothing on schools for the children of soldiers and sailors and others serving their country, nothing on technical education and nothing on schools for children with special needs.[4]

For Croydon the local authority, as defined by the Act, was the parish of Croydon which was then the only parish as the other Anglican churches were district churches within the parish of Croydon. As Croydon was not a borough but a non-incorporated town, the parish was the only alternative and the body representing the parish was the vestry. Therefore, there would be one school board for the whole parish of ten thousand acres.

The Act could not have been passed but for several reasons. We may select four. In 1865 the Second Reform Act doubled the size of the urban electorate. While not enfranchising the majority of working class men, some who owned property were. In December 1868 a Liberal government was elected. Gladstone became Prime Minister. Two previous education bills, in 1867 and 1868, promoted by Liberals, under a Conservative government, failed to pass. Attitudes toward the working classes and their education were changing. As the vicar of Croydon, John George Hodgson, recalled, in January 1871, thirty years previously when he was young, the question then was not what the working classes should be taught but whether they should be taught at all.[5] In that time a fair number of working men had ceased to be just labourers but had become skilled artisans and 'respectable', deserving of the vote. Fear of the working classes had diminished. They were no longer the 'mob'.

The Act will for ever be associated with William Edward Forster, known

therefore as Forster's Education Act.[6] He was a government minister when he introduced the Bill in the House of Commons. His chief was Lord de Grey but he sat in the House of Lords, leaving Forster, who had largely written the Bill, 'one of the most intelligible pieces of legislation that has proceeded from Parliament in recent years' to pilot it through the Commons.[7] He was not appointed to the Cabinet until July. He had been a businessman in Bradford before becoming a Member of Parliament in 1865 and a minister in 1868. He had been brought up as a Quaker but became an Anglican, married to a daughter of arguably the most famous public school headmaster of the century, the Anglican Thomas Arnold of Rugby.

Some of the contents of the Bill were known or anticipated in 1869 when two societies with different objectives were founded: the National Education League and the National Education Union. The local press in Croydon published reports of their public meetings, including any delegations meeting with Gladstone. The League's inaugural meeting was in October in Birmingham and drew its main support from nonconformists but its founder was George Dixon, an Anglican. As an MP he had not sufficient time to devote himself to the League so some of the leadership fell to the vice-chairman Joseph Chamberlain, then a screw manufacturer but later a senior Cabinet minister in a Liberal government. The Union, founded in February, was Anglican. Their objectives will soon become clear. In July, Joseph Radley, writing to the *Croydon Chronicle* in July 1869, bewailed the fact that, though the Union had 950 members, only two were from Croydon.[8]

Though the Bill was widely welcomed because it proposed making up deficiencies in the provision of elementary schools to benefit the children of working class parents, there were, along the hundred clauses, a few which were contentious. Some issues were resolved by the time the Act was passed. One which was more or less resolved was the issue of compulsory attendance, belatedly accepted as necessary, but leaving it to local boards to decide whether to make attendance compulsory or not. Some form of compulsion was envisaged in the Bill but the Act's was that of legally enforceable compulsion whereby local board inspectors could take parents to court where they would be fined up to £5. Others were not resolved such as the question of working class parents paying fees. The Act did not abolish them. Fees were not completely abolished until 1918.

School boards could have bye-laws enforcing compulsory attendance as Croydon's did, but compulsory attendance was a problematic issue as elsewhere. In January 1870 the *Croydon Chronicle* quoted the *Pall Mall Gazette* in which a farmer expressed his opinion that 'compulsory attendance will withdraw thousands of boys from the labour market, and

thereby raise the wages of available labourers'.[9] Croydon was not rural but within the parish there were several farms.

The *Chronicl*e also reported *The Times*. It opposed compulsory education, one reason being that boys 'do not and cannot learn their future work thoroughly unless they are familiarised with it from as early an age as possible…in the fields a boy is learning with every sound and sight around him. In the school he is often listless and learning like a mere parrot…The most hopeless of all legislative tasks is to force a farmer or a peasant against his will…If a compulsory law be not in harmony with the wishes of the people it will inevitably become a dead letter.'[10] Croydon's local papers supported compulsory education but their readership did not include the very poor in those districts where what was called 'the criminal classes' saw no necessity for their children to attend school regularly.

One correspondent, John Drage, headmaster of the British Schools in Tamworth Road since 1850, estimated the number of children in Croydon to be about seven thousand but of these only 4,200 were receiving education. Existing schools could accommodate 5,500 so the deficiency was about 1,500.[11] Another correspondent estimated the deficiency to be 6,187.[12] Drage gave the attendance figures for most of the elementary schools in Croydon to demonstrate the differences between the number of pupils on the schools' registers and the average and/or ordinary attendances. Beulah Road School in Thornton Heath had 90 children on its register but the average attendance was only 65. The more rural National School in Shirley had 48 boys, 40 girls and 30 infants on its register and the ordinary attendance for boys was 44, for girls 34 and for infants 28.

Many, if not most, nonconformists, objected to the continuing support of Anglican voluntary schools, more especially to the parliamentary grant not only being continued but doubled. Any hope that the number of Anglican schools, that is, the majority of voluntary schools, would diminish therefore faded. Even the nonconformist's voluntary schools, principally belonging to the Congregationalists, had come to realise that they needed to accept rate-aided funding as they could not afford to match the amount of money the Church of England raised to increase the number of their voluntary schools, the consequence of which is that their schools received most of the parliamentary grants.

The most contentious issue was religion and the only religion in question was Christianity and more specifically Protestantism. Should it be taught in schools? The issue did not concern voluntary, denominational, schools as they were free to decide for themselves. The issue concerned how the Christian faith should be taught, if taught at all, in the proposed board

schools. More exactly put, the issue was how the Bible should be taught and whether it was to be just read or read and explained. Only those passages thought suitable for children would be read, passages such as the Sermon on the Mount and 'parables, metaphors and loving narratives'.[13] Such passages would be acceptable to all denominations. Hymns were also acceptable.

If passages of the Bible were to be explained by a teacher, he or she might not be a Christian or might hold heretical opinions. It says something about the readership of Croydon's newspapers that a correspondent writing to the *Croydon Advertiser* could expect readers to understand his reference to disciples of 'Messrs Bennett, Voysey or Brother Ignatius'.[14] Ritualists, among them the Revd William Bennett and Brother Ignatius, in the Church of England, held 'Romish' opinions derived from 'the new-fangled schism in Oxford'[15]; and Charles Voysey was an Anglican clergyman whose 'repugnant' teaching was condemned by the highest court in the United Kingdom the same year. Village schools were mostly Anglican and it was, therefore, often the parish priests who taught religion and might teach 'Fear God and honour the priest'.[16] Such concerns were shared by nonconformists and most members of the Church of England.

In villages the Anglican dominated parish vestries could determine the character of the board schools. In the words of Frederick James Sargood, a prominent Croydon Congregationalist, said at a meeting of nonconformists in March to discuss the Bill, the vestries were 'engines of ecclesiastical oppression'.[17] If the vestry was to be the local authority in charge of the school board, then the religious teaching was likely to be sectarian, that is, teaching distinctive of the Church of England. It had the Catechism, designed particularly for children and converts, and included doctrinal content, not always agreeable to nonconformists.

In short, the three alternatives were, firstly, sectarian, allowing doctrinal content that might be specific to a particular denomination; secondly, non-sectarian by which is meant non-denominational teaching of religion in which nothing specific to any denomination would be taught; and, thirdly, secular, which would exclude religion from schools, leaving religious teaching to Sunday schools and families. Here the model was, and is, the United States. The National Education Union campaigned for the Bible with explanation. The National Education League wavered between non-sectarian or secular teaching.

Forster believed that it was improper for governments to impose any one of the three alternatives school boards should have. The Bill proposed local options, permitting each local authority to choose one of the three. In

parishes it would mean that the parish vestries would have the choice. That would almost inevitably mean that the religious teaching would be sectarian, geared to the doctrines of the Church of England whereas in cities such as Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham and London the choice was more likely to be non-sectarian, non-denominational and theoretically even secular. The local option was opposed by nonconformists because it would entrench Anglicanism in rural parish board schools.

The Bill included safeguards. The conscience clause meant that parents could withdraw their children from attending religious instruction. If the teacher were an Anglican but the parents Congregationalists, Roman Catholics, Jewish or non-believers, then there was no obligation for their children to attend. The other safeguard was that religious teaching had to be held at the beginning or the end of the school day to separate it from the main curriculum and thus making it easier for parents to withdraw their children. School Board inspectors were not allowed to inspect such teaching.

The Act had two additional safeguards. Firstly, the Bill envisaged that the school boards would be elected by ratepayers acting through the vestry, that being the local authority. This caused opposition in Parliament because, as we have seen, nonconformists regarded vestries with suspicion. During the passage of the Bill, this was changed so that ratepayers elected the candidates for the school board directly. There was less chance that the elected members would be predominantly members, whether clergy or laity, of the Church of England.

Secondly, agreement was reached about how the government defined the nature of the religious teaching whether sectarian, non-sectarian or secular. The secular option was unlikely. The assumption was that public opinion, including that of working class people, wanted religion to be taught in schools. Curiously, Gladstone was amenable to the secular option because he regarded non-denominational teaching of the Christian faith as being a worthless, watered-down version of Christianity, particularly if taught by teachers who were unenthusiastic and ill-informed. However, his confidence in Forster, in his general approval of the Bill and the different views of his Cabinet made him realise that his preference had little support so he gave way. Forster's own preference leaned towards the sectarian alternative; but he and most, if not all of the Cabinet and the Liberal MPs, among whom were, perhaps up to thirty, nonconformists, accepted that the sectarian option would be unacceptable. The compromise was therefore the non-denominational option, defined in an amendment put forward by William Francis Cowper-Temple, a staunchly Anglican member of the Cabinet and incorporated in the Act: 'no religious catechism or religious

formulary which is distinctive of any particular denomination shall be taught'.

Non-denominational religious teaching would therefore be largely undogmatic but rather moral in character. That probably complied with the views of the majority of those who called themselves Christian whether or not they attended church or chapel regularly, if at all. Being moral in character, the religious teaching was appropriate for teaching children up to the age of thirteen. It coincided, too, with what was perceived as being vital in keeping children from becoming immoral and, in the words of the Vicar of Croydon, 'indiscriminately associated with those who were brought up in vice, indolence and idleness'.[18]

A social historian, W B Stephens, noted that from the 1850s 'crime, endemic poverty and social unrest appeared to be spiralling, especially in urban areas, spawning fears of social disintegration'.[19] Moreover, Croydon's population appeared to be 'spiralling', fed by immigration from London as well as from the countryside, leading to some districts becoming associated with poverty, crime, violence and vice. Thus, the working class was not homogenous: there was a sharp division between the respectable working class and the 'criminal' working class. Once again, the Vicar of Croydon, among others, saw an educational problem: the parents of the respectable working class would not want their children to attend the schools in districts frequented by the criminal classes whose children, John Drage maintained, were 'embryonic criminals', 'Street Arabs…who wander and prowl around the streets'.[20]

The late Stephen Humphries, a frequent speaker to the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society, wrote – perhaps in his younger, more radical days or when his doctorate had to accord with the ethos of Sussex University – that the 'liberal educational ideology . . . was shaped by three central concerns', among which were 'to ameliorate important social problems – principally the democratisation and destitution of some sections of the working class, juvenile crime, street-gang violence, disease and drunkenness. The second . . . was the transmission of middle class culture through the school curriculum in order to encourage the moral development and elevation of the working-class child's personality'.[21] Such ideological language is not to be found in Croydon's newspapers nor in any of the school board candidates' addresses but the sociological language is implicit in what they wrote.

The Croydon school board did take advantage of one clause in the Act by having one free board school where parents were excused from paying school fees.

Emphasis on class can be misleading if gender is overlooked. In every county a smaller proportion of girls than boys attended schools. This was true in the 1850s, as W. B. Stephens points out, but from Drage's statistics of attendances the same was true of Croydon in the next decade. For example, at St James's, Gloucester Road, the ordinary attendance for boys was 110 but for girls only 75, and at St Peter's, South End the numbers are 85 boys and 77 girls. In Drage's own British Schools, built to accommodate 255 boys and 216 girls, the ordinary attendance for boys was 296 and for girls 120.[22] These figures reflect the sexist attitudes about the kind of employment girls could expect: domestic service and caring for younger siblings or widowed fathers required no other training than what the home offered. The pay for domestic servants was too low to allow them to contribute significantly, if at all, to parental incomes. At home girls were more of a financial liability. As my grandfather told my mother 'It's time you put your feet under somebody else's table'.

Nearly all Croydon schools were Anglican but it was the nonconformists, because of the religious clauses in the Elementary Education Act, who took more interest in seeing its implementation in Croydon. The problem here was about which local committee – three of which have already been referred to, the two Boards and the vestry – was most appropriate for the Act's implementation. In September 1870, however, it was an Anglican, Michael Saward, who stated the problem in a letter to the *Chronicle* about the Act: 'Sir, I do not know who will take the preliminary steps to bring the above Act into operation – no time should be lost in the formation of an Education Board in the parish'.[23] The paper's leader writer concurred.

In the following month and at the beginning of November the paper published three letters from John R. Bourne, a local solicitor, explaining in some detail about the content of the Act and about the timing needed to implement it. 'By the end of the year the overseers of the poor, or persons appointed by the vestry, will have to make a return [about school accommodation] to the Education Department', failing which the Department will itself take action to implement the Act in Croydon.[24] These letters prompted one from John Grantham who expressed his pleasure in seeing the subject of popular education was at long last being taken seriously but lamented that it was too late 'for us to have any choice in the matter'. It was no longer possible to be dilatory else the Education Department would take action.

November, then, was the month when matters gathered apace. Even so, it was a slow beginning. One correspondent complained of the 'masterful inactivity' of the Church of England in Croydon: 'Thank God the nonconformist men can be found to do what conforming ministers think

beneath their notice and out of their pale of duty'.[25] A week after his letter, Alfred Carpenter, wrote a letter to the *Advertiser*, regretting he could not attend a meeting about the Act to listen to the vicar who was ready to take action on behalf of the Church of England.[26]

The unresolved problem of finding candidates to stand for election to the School Board was voiced by the leader writer of the *Chronicle* in mid-December. Would the responsibility fall to the Board of Guardians or the Board of Health, the only two practical bodies available? Would the candidates be members of the Boards and, if not, where would they be found? There were many strong-minded men, if not women, to choose from. Local influence and commercial status counted for more than educational capacities.[27]

The necessary returns enumerating the deficiency in school places were submitted to the Department of Education by 1 January by Alfred G. Blake, the returning officer.

Events now moved quickly. They happened more quickly than the local weekly newspapers could keep apace. A number of meetings followed hard upon one another: a letter written by J. R. Hutchins and Samuel Parkinson listed them.[28] For the most part they were not reported in the press and so remained in effect closed meetings. They were apparently harmonious, not least because the vicar was conciliatory. The letter-writers do not date the first but it consisted of fifteen nonconformists from a number of chapels: Congregationalists, Baptists and various Wesleyan churches. The next was in the Public Hall on Wednesday evening on 11 January which the vicar chaired. Further meetings followed on 26 and 31 January. The one on 7 February was attended again by the vicar, its purpose being to secure joint action between Anglicans and nonconformists. Then on 13 February two separate committees were formed, one being Anglican, the other nonconformist, each one drawing up a list of twenty-five nominations for election to the School Board. Five votes were taken, either on the same day or over the next few days, to reduce the number so that, at the Public Hall on Monday 18 February, the required number of eleven candidates was agreed upon. They were Thomas Edridge, William Grantham, the Revd John George Hodgson, Frederick James Sargood, Alfred Carpenter, George N. Price, John Price, J. Russell Frewer, Francis M. Coldwells, the Revd W. H. S. Aubrey and William Taylor Malleson. Two, therefore, were clergymen, the rest laity so that the list was not dominated by the clergy. Of the eleven only Coldwells was working class. He was known as a gardener.

None were women. Press reports make no mention of women taking part in the numerous meetings. Their role was limited to canvassing. At a public

meeting in Croydon shortly before the election, Jacob Bright, M.P for Manchester and brother of the more famous politician, James Bright, lamented the fact that no women were candidates. He did not believe a board composed entirely of men could organise the education of girls. He also pointed out the 'great neglect of the education of girls'.[29] The other speaker, Adolphus Sonnenschein, an educationalist, pointed out that the London School Board had only one woman as a member and she was the only teacher on the Board. Both men gave their support to Malleson. John Stuart Mill wrote a letter supporting his candidature.[30]

It might be thought that this was the final choice but it was not. The way in which the names were arrived at was criticised. It smacked of 'secret committees'. Another criticism was about the lack of publicity. Many, if not most, working class people would have remained ignorant not only of the candidates but even of the forthcoming election of the school board. The attendance at meetings was also limited. Not one person in two hundred, so it was said, attended them.

What happened next is unclear such was the speed of events, faster perhaps than Croydon's weekly newspapers could keep pace with. For no Roman Catholic had been in the eleven, but one, the Revd Alphonsus David stood as a candidate. Another clergyman not among the eleven did, the idiosyncratic vicar of St Mary Magdalene, Addiscombe, Maxwell Ben-Oliel, the bane of the Archbishop of Canterbury, but obviously popular with the well-to-do parishioners of Addiscombe. He would poll one third more votes than the vicar of Croydon.

Each candidate stated his manifesto at a 'crowded meeting' and then published in the newspapers. One, the Revd W. H. S. Aubrey, a nonconformist, defended himself against the accusation that he was an atheist. Another, the eminent physician, Alfred Carpenter, who had long been prominent in Croydon's public affairs and was angling for a parliamentary seat, was heckled when he said that he was a humble member of his profession: 'very "umble"', the heckler called out amid laughter.[31] Two candidates could claim to have been involved in teaching: W. T. Malleson in the Mechanics' Institute and Working Women's College in London – whom Bright had known for twenty years and stood with his backing – and especially the Revd Dr William Harris Rule, headmaster of Boswell House School in Croydon.

The election was held on 1 March and the polling was open from midday till 7pm. Each voter had as many votes as candidates and could plump all his or her votes on just one. There were eleven polling districts. The early closing of the polling booths was inconvenient for those working in the City.

Their location was not well publicised. Some had insufficient pens and ink. In some, particularly at Morland Road, the room was crowded, the polling clerks bewildered and the scrutiny of voting papers took an undue length of time. Identifying the ratepayers was confusing and some voters were obliged to show their rent books or the receipts.[32]

The first eleven with the most votes were elected. The result of the poll was as follows:

Number of votes (number of voters in brackets)[33]

Dr William Harris Rule	3555 (761)
Frank Moses Coldwells	3293 (816)
Rev. George R. Roberts	3122 (533)
Frederick James Sargood	2575 (827)
Rev. Edward H. Blyth	2517 (632)
Rev. John George Hodgson	2463 (465)
William Grantham	2002 (461)
William Taylor Malleson	1935 (652)
Rev. Maxwell Ben-Oriel	1882 (550)
Rev. Alphonsus David	1880 (406)
John Russell Frewer	1563 (400)
Dr Alfred Carpenter	679 (231)
Thomas Edridge	590 (262)
Revd W. H. S. Aubrey	517 (198)
John Price	415 (108)
George N. Price	172 (87)

The total number of votes was 41,251, of which 38,191 was cast for those elected to be members of the School Board.[34]

Six of those elected were Anglicans, one was a Wesleyan and three were other nonconformists.

The failure of Thomas Edridge was a surprise. The explanation given was that as a Justice of the Peace he had alienated the publicans who had great influence with the working classes because he was not a lenient judge.

Sargood was already ill and did not sit on the Board. He resigned almost immediately. He might have been elected chairman. Instead the vicar was unanimously elected as chairman.

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[1]An Act to provide for public Elementary Education in England and Wales came into force on 9 August 1870. There was a separate Act for Scotland.

The first reading of the Bill was on 17 February, the second on 14 March and the third on 25 June.
[2] *Croydon Chronicle* 14 January 1871 (hence forward CC)
[3] *Croydon Advertiser* 17 December 1870 (henceforward CA)
[4] *The Chronicle of Convocation*, Vol.1, 1870, pp25 and 31
[5] *CC*, 14 January 1871
[6] See Patrick Jackson*, Education Act Forster, a political biography of W. E. Forster (1818-1886*), 1997
[7] William S. Holdsworth, *The Education Act popularly explained together with various orders in Council*
[8] *CA,* 29 July 1869
[9] *CC,* 8 January1870
[10] *CA,* 4 June 1870
[11] *CC*, 17 December 1870
[12] *CC*, 24 December 1870. The correspondent is F. J. Denne.
[13] *CC,* 14 January 1871, The correspondent is A. B. Cowdell.
[14] *CA*, 19 November 1870
[15] C*A*, 23 July 1870
[16] *CC*, 2 July 1870
[17] *CA*, 19 March 1870
[18] *CC*, 14 January 1871
[19] W. B. Stephens, *Education in Britain 1750-19* , p77
[20] *CC*, 3 December 1870
[21] Stephen Humphries, *Hooligans or rebels? An Oral History of Working-Class Children, 1889-1936* (Oxford, 1981)p31
[22] *CC,* 17 December 1870
[23] *CC*, 17 September 1870
[24] *CC*, 8 October 1870. See also *CC* 15 October and the 5 November
[25] *CA*, 5 November 1870
[26] *CA*, 12 November 1870
[27] *CC*, 10 December 1870
[28] *CC*, 18 February 1870; *CA* 25 February 1870
[29] *CC*, 4 March 1870
[30] Ibid.
[31] Ibid.
[32] Ibid.
[33] Ibid. *CA*,11 March 1870 for number of votes cast
[34] *CC*, 11 March 1871

Some examples of Wireless Technology Infrastructure in the south of the Borough
by Jovita Kaunang & Graham A Collins

Croydon continues to see an expansion of its commercial wireless technology infrastructure. As the technology around wireless communications rapidly develops, facilitating the use of the Internet and smart technology through digital radio frequency transmissions, so has the type and location of its supporting infrastructure. The use of mobile devices, such as mobile phones, is now so commonplace, and noticeably amongst people of all ages, that it is tantamount to a social revolution. Users of this technology have come to expect 'wireless Internet access', and 'faster downloads', wherever they go, and at any time, thus driving the roll-out of additional and upgraded equipment throughout our neighbourhoods.

The following is a short photographic study of a small selection of wireless telecommunications equipment in the south of the borough. It will highlight how some locations can be occupied by structures that are overt, while in other places attempts have been made to disguise them. This overt type is

01: Hamsey Green 1920s © CNHSS From a photograph published by E. A. Sweetman & Son. (pre-1929)

02: Hamsey Green 2020s © G A Collins

exemplified by the new 20 metre high 'multiple-operator monopole' (mast), which was installed during the Spring of this year adjacent to the shops in Hamsey Green (see photographs 01, 02). It is a bright green colour, and was granted planning permission in 2019 along with nine associated 'ground-based cabinets'. (Although the permission stated that the nearby smaller 11.7 metre monopole would be removed, as it is being replaced by this larger mast, it was still in situ on 15th August 2020, pushing the number of ground-based cabinets up to eleven along this stretch of the

03: © G A Collins
'Tree' mast in Coombe Lodge Nursery off Conduit Lane (July 2020)

07: © G A Collins
Addington Hills Water Tower (July 2020)

08: © G A Collins
Addington Hills Water Tower (July 2020) – close-up of antennas

04: © Roger W Haworth
BT Telephone Exchange, Sanderstead (July 2002)

05: © G A Collins
BT Telephone Exchange, Sanderstead (August 2020)

06: © G A Collins
BT Telephone Exchange, Sanderstead (June 2020) – distant view from Croham Hurst SSSI

09: © G A Collins
Foxearth Water Tower (July 2020)

Limpsfield Road). Far less obvious is the mast by Conduit Lane, standing in the grounds of Coombe Lodge Nurseries which, along with its cabinets, occupies a secured compound, unlike those at Hamsey Green. This more rurally-located mast is so well concealed by surrounding trees that one can be standing beneath it yet not notice it is there. However, it does betray itself by the loud hum coming from the cooling system in the ground-based cabinets. In an attempt to disguise its presence, it has been designed to look like a pine tree, but this has not been entirely effective as its white antennas are quite visible in the gap between the real trees when seen from further away (see photograph 03).

The BT Telephone Exchange in Church Way, Sanderstead, (see photographs 04, 05) looks similar to the locally-listed BT Telephone Exchange in Church Road, Upper Norwood, but does not share this designation (Anon., 2006). Inclusion in Croydon's Local List indicates that a building is of architectural or historic interest. The Upper Norwood Telephone Exchange, having retained its original character, is consequently also included in the Church Road Conservation Area (Anon., 2014). In the 'Borough Character Appraisal' (Anon., 2015), Croydon is defined according to sixteen 'Places', which include Sanderstead and Crystal Palace & Upper Norwood (*sic*). Here, Sanderstead's area includes the parade of shops at Hamsey Green as mentioned earlier. The Telephone Exchanges are described for both Places, and have the 'land use category' of 'Service Infrastructure'. As well as being obvious from the street, the antennas can also be seen from some distance (see photograph 06).

The elevation required for antennas has involved their installation on top of such diverse buildings as the water towers at Addington Hills and Foxearth Wood by Littleheath Woods (see photographs 07, 08, 09, 10). Both sites are listed on the website of the Greater London Industrial Archaeology Society (GLIAS), and are described as 'Service Infrastructure' in the Places of Shirley and Selsdon respectively in Croydon's Borough Character Appraisal, as described above. The Addington Water Tower stands on land between the tram line and Sunken Road, and is less than 250 metres from Coombe Lane tram stop. The Foxearth Water Tower is best viewed from the entrance on Edgecombe. After taking this photograph it was apparent that it produced a particularly audible hum, still heard despite having walked some distance away along Edgecombe.

To conclude this study is possibly the most successfully disguised mast, in the style of a telegraph pole, outside Sanderstead Library (see photograph 11).

10: © G A Collins
Foxearth Water Tower (July 2020) – close-up of antennas

11: © G A Collins
Mast disguised as Telegraph Pole outside Sanderstead Library (August 2020)

The design, complete with steps, makes a good attempt to blend in, but the antenna coming out of the top, together with the lack of insulators and wires, obvious on the real pole behind, gives the game away.

Acknowledgements
We thank Roger W Haworth for use of his photograph of Sanderstead Telephone Exchange (photograph 04).

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Corrections
Bulletin 165 p.55 para 2: ‘throughout Britain’ should read ‘in lowland Britain’.
Bulletin 168 p.59 para 1: a few black artists *had* performed in the prior 20 years.

Eric Gill in Croydon
by Chris Groom, Bourne Society

While researching through copies of the Croydon Times from 1940, I noticed an obituary for the artist and sculptor Eric Gill that mentioned his connections with Croydon, notably a large carving created for a local church hall. I was already familiar with his impressive sculptures that grace the BBC's Broadcasting House in London and as a former graphic designer, I was particularly fond of the typeface that bears his name. However I wasn't aware of any works by Gill in Croydon, or the building in question, so I decided to dig a little deeper.

In late 1933, Eric Gill was commissioned by the British architect Oliver Hill to produce a relief carving for the Boys and Men's Club, St Andrew's Church Hall, Pump Pail, Croydon. Hill had previously designed a stone memorial and birdbath for St Andrew's Church in 1932 and was then asked to design the new Church Hall, which was officially opened on 17th March 1934. Gill made his original drawings for the relief between December 1933 and February 1934, but he did not pick up the job again until 3rd December, when he came to Croydon to start carving the relief *in situ*. The Croydon clergy had become impatient to have their new artwork completed, as during the delay Gill recalls receiving *"…an indignant letter from the vicar of St Andrew's only yesterday, asking when the deuce, dickens or bloody hell – or words to that effect – I was coming to finish the carving…"* The relief measured 46 x 51 inches and was carved from an 8-inch thick slab of Portland stone. It was finally finished on 22nd December 1934.

Sketch for St. Andrew's Church

Early sketches show that the work was originally to be called 'Christ and the Miraculous Draught of Fishes' but the final panel was titled 'St Andrew Casting His Net' and Eric Gill supplied his own description of the work, to be published in St Andrew's Parish magazine at the vicar's own request. Gill wrote: "The carving shows St Andrew pulling at the net. He was a fisherman. Our Lord said to him 'I will make you a fisher of men,' so in the net are the men he is catching with his preaching. One man and two women: partly because there are in fact more women than men in England and partly because all creation is female to God. Our Lord himself sits at the tiller of the ship, because he is guide, counsellor and friend. He is holding the end of the sail, because he does not only steer the ship but controls it in every way.

St Andrew is pulling very hard because it is a very difficult 'catch'. Our Lord is quite calm all the time. The ship is the Church, it is very strong but not very fast. St Andrew is wearing a vest and kilt. Our Lord is wearing a sort of *alb* like a priest, the human fishes are naked because they are quite humble when they are caught. The 'P' on the bow of the ship is for Peter – because it is Peter's barque. The carving is made of Portland stone. It is not meant to be very much like nature, because it is a symbolic carving and in carving of this kind the important things are first, what it means and second, that like a poem or piece of music, the different parts of it should rhyme together nicely."

Arthur Eric Rowton Gill was born in Brighton in 1882, one of 13 children. He studied at Chichester Technical and Art School before becoming a trainee architect in London, but in 1903 he gave up his apprenticeship to pursue letter cutting, calligraphy and monumental masonry. Married with three daughters, in 1910 Gill moved with his family to Ditchling, Sussex and began carving stone figures, producing his first major work 'Mother and Child', two years later. A deeply religious man, Gill regarded his Church of England upbringing as too easy-going and subsequently converted to Catholicism, leaving Ditchling in 1924 to settle in the ruined Benedictine monastery at Capel-y-ffin in Wales. By 1928 Gill had set up a printing press and lettering workshop near Speen, Buckinghamshire where he designed his two classic typefaces, Perpetua and Gill Sans. One of the most recognisable sans-serif fonts, the latter will be familiar to anyone who owns a Penguin Classic paperback book or travelled (navigating via the clear-cut Gill Sans signage) on British Railways. Eric Gill died of lung cancer in Harefield Hospital, Middlesex in early 1940.

Undoubtedly a brilliant sculptor and draughtsman, Eric Gill now divides opinion largely due to the unpalatable behaviour of his private life. Ever since Fiona MacCarthy published her major biography of the artist in 1989, using evidence from Gill's own diaries that uncovered previously unheard revelations, his personal failings have tended to overshadow his artistic merits. Like other controversial artists, from Caravaggio to Paul Gauguin, the argument as to whether artistic brilliance and private misdemeanour can ever be separated continues to provoke debate. Not a discussion for the CNHSS Bulletin, perhaps.

After the demolition of the Boys and Men's Club in the late 1950s, partly due to the coming construction work on the Croydon flyover, Eric Gill's sculpture was displayed in a corridor at St Andrew's High School, Warrington Road on

Duppas Hill, where it remained for over fifty years until the work was auctioned at Christies in June 2007. According to the sale catalogue 'St Andrew Casting His Net' was "sold by the Parish of St Andrew's to aid in the construction of facilities at St Andrews' to provide for the needs of the vulnerable members of the community." The eventual sale price sailed well over its catalogue estimate of £40,000 – 60,000, realising £84,000 on the day.

One of the original drawings also came up for sale through Christies in December 2015. Dated 16th December 1933, the sketch depicts St Andrew pulling up the net containing three fish, as opposed to three human figures. Having previously been purchased at an exhibition of Gill's work in 1979, the sketch sold for £1,625, slightly under the catalogue estimate.

Eric Gill already knew the Croydon area well, having supplied sculptures for the Royal Russell School in Addington. The school had originated in Russell Hill, Purley, opening in 1863 as the Warehousemen, Clerks and Drapers' School, but in 1920 the surge in demand from children orphaned in the First World War resulted in the need for increased accommodation. Rather than expand the Purley premises, a second branch of the school was established on the Ballards estate at Addington and it was decided that the girls should remain in Purley, while the boys were removed to Ballards. The new Russell School was designed by Sir Aston Webb (architect of the Victoria & Albert Museum) and built during 1923 – 24. In 1924, the Prince of Wales laid the foundation stone for a chapel, the stone being designed by Eric Gill and carved by his assistant Joseph Cribb.

In 1925 Gill was commissioned to provide two white plaster figures of angels blowing golden trumpets, to sit either side of the chancel arch in the chapel. Working between 10th and 14th August 1925, Gill's diaries show that he made daily visits to the school, sometimes with the architect Aston Webb, and charged £5 per day. Whilst working at the school, Gill often stayed overnight at The George in George Street, Croydon. The finished angels arrived on site on 7th November 1925, by which time Gill had also completed the 10-inch serif lettering facing the Lime Tree quad, two panels for the walls of the dining hall and a keystone angel, as well as the original chapel foundation stone. The school was renamed the Royal Russell School in 1953 to mark its centenary year.

Additional information and images from the Christies Auction House archive (www.christies.com) and from an internet article on the Royal Russell School Chapel by Brian Angel.

Surrey Street in 1946
by Carole Roberts

It happens that myself and a correspondent both recently discovered the below picture of Surrey Street at night. My correspondent has shared the below memories with us, expanding on a contribution to a social media site.

©: The Times, from The Times Weekly Edition, 1946

Surrey Street at Christmas, through the eyes of a nine-year-old

Late afternoon and the early-gathering dark of winter, just before Christmas, 1946, in Surrey Street. A very atmospheric shot, which brings back memories for me. As a nine-year-old I would often go with Mum to the market on a Saturday afternoon. The bright lights ran on naphtha gas and produced a brilliant, incandescent flame – today's 'Elf and Safety' would have a fit! And the sounds, sights and smells: steaming beetroots being cooked in a copper; always a strong smell of celery; the shellfish stall, where you could buy a small plate of cockles, mussels, or jellied eels; the fruit stalls, where as a Christmas treat, tangerines were on sale – and there were always a few wrapped in silver foil; boxes of dates, packed with a wooden fork in the centre; mountains of nuts – almonds, hazel nuts, walnuts, and the exotic brazil nuts; the Sarsaparilla van. And at the end of the market, in Church

Street and Frith Road, a couple of fishmongers' shops, with the marble slab covered with fresh fish and other seafood in ice, and the shop fronts covered with all sorts of poultry and game hanging there – chicken, turkey, duck, goose, pheasant, wood pigeons (although I think that for the first few Christmases after the war we couldn't afford any of these, and had roast beef for our Christmas dinner!). Sometimes the market stalls overflowed into Frith Road, and further down Church Street, in a side road to the left, opposite the Gun Tavern.

From *Ward's Croydon Directory 1939* (the last before 1946):

Surrey Street west side from Overton's Yard:

20 Hemmings A.B. Ltd, Bakers
21 Faulkner L.J., Dining Rooms
22 Elliott J., Leather Seller
23 Morgan A., Tailor
Pass Dog and Bull Yard
24 Dog and Bull – West G.E., Lic. Victllr
25 Pearce A.E., Cheesemonger
25a Farmer F.T.P.
26 Croydon Livestock Providers
27 Barrell, Ltd., British Wines
28 Cox A., Butcher
Croydon Covered Market – Stall Nos.
1 to 5 Skilton W.F., Butcher
6 Posnier, Hosiery
7 to 10 Unoccupied
12 to 20 Unoccupied
22 to 26 Cheeseman's Furn Warehouse
26a Jackson's Café
27 & 28 Mint Madame, Palmistry
29 to 32 Taylor H., Fishmonger
33 to 41 Absolom W.J., Amusements
47 & 51 Gosden C.H., Refreshments
53 Surrey Supply Co.
65 Unoccupied
66 to 69 Taylor H., Fishmonger
30 Skilton W.F., Butcher
31 Super Radio Co., Wireless
32 Tullett G.W., Newsagt.

Church Street between Surrey Street and Palace Road:

19 Carter (G.) & Sons Ld, Outfitters
Heath G.E. (res.)
21 Lamport R.F., Expert Typewriter Repairer
23 Langley J., Hairdresser
25 Leach Bros., Fishmgrs
27 Kennedy A., Prov. Dlr.
29a Maison Marigold, Hairdresser
29 Arenow A.L., Wtchmkr.
31 to 33 Liptons Ltd.
Entrance to Market
35 Ward (Titus) & Co Ld, Grocers
37 True Form Boot Co.
39 Grey (S.) & Co. Ltd, Radio
41 Baldwin J., Butcher
43 Bata Shoe Co Ltd.
43a Curry W.
45 to 49 Hewitt (C.) & Son, Clothiers
51 Hart A.T., Butcher
53 to 57 Crook M., Draper
61 Butlers, Provisions
61a Hickson H.
63 Hemmings A.B., Baker
65 Foster Bros, Clothing Co., Ltd.
67 Modern Decorations (London), Ltd.
69 Unoccupied
71 & 73 Lewis G., Tailor
75 & 77 The Fifty Shilling Tailors
79 Sidney J. & Co., Radio
79a Hampton, Coats and Gns.
81 Bartons, Confectioners

Croydon Ragged School 1846 to 1870 and the Stareys
by Brian Lancaster

The 7th Earl of Shaftesbury is someone whose name will always be associated with ragged schools. His involvement with them began only two years after the best known, if not quite the first, the Field Lane Ragged School opened in 1841, till his death in 1885. He was President of the Ragged School Union from its foundation in 1844. The Union co-ordinated the work of the Ragged Schools. The Croydon Ragged School may well have derived its existence because of the Union.

Not surprisingly, the biographies of the Earl detail the history of ragged schools. The first and best of the biographies was written by someone who knew him and who was authorised by the Earl to write his biography. Edwin Hodder's *The Life and Work of the Seventh Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G.* was published in 1890 five years after his death. Another source for this article is *Sixty Years in Waifdom or, The Ragged School Movement in English History* by C. J. Montague in 1904 and therefore was being written when the last of the founders of the Ragged School Union was still alive, Samuel Robert Starey, living in London. He died the same year as the book was published. He was born in Croydon.

Starey was the first person Shaftesbury met when he went to the Field Lane Sabbath School in West Street, its eventual location, and he and Starey remained 'associates'. By 1859 Samuel had seen, the Earl wrote, the number of Ragged Schools increase from four to 140.[1]

The Field Lane Ragged School opened in a small back room belonging to the Roman Catholics in Caroline Court, Field Lane, Saffron Hill before eventually moving to 65, West Street, Saffron Hill at the foot of Holborn Hill, under the superintendence of the District Missionary of the London City Mission, Andrew Provan, but Starey was the school's secretary. The school met on Sundays and Thursday evenings. The average attendance was between eighty and ninety.[2] This is not to deny the existence of schools already serving the same purpose of affording some education for, and instilling some religious and moral principles into, children who may never have attended a school and who were commonly regarded as 'street Arabs', belonging to the criminal classes. London City missionaries had founded at least five schools exclusively 'for children raggedly clothed' by 1840, the first in Hoxton in 1835, the same year as the London City Mission was founded.[3] Elsewhere other such schools were founded even earlier.

Charles Dickens described his visit to the Field Lane School: 'I found my first Ragged School in an obscure place called West Street…It had no means: it had no suitable rooms…it was held in in a low-roofed den, in a sickening atmosphere, in the midst of taint, and dirt, and pestilence'. It held an evening school, industrial classes, a night refuge, Bible classes, prayer meetings, a clothing society, baths for the filthy and ragged. Some of these activities were replicated in Croydon.

Charles Dickens was curious to find out more about the school and wrote to Starey, its secretary, to ask for information about attendance, regular or otherwise, and if parents 'be one of your rocks ahead – and such like' as he could use the information to good purpose and bring to the public the plight of 'these unfortunate creatures'.[4] He kept his word. The *Daily News* printed his article on 'Crime and Education' on 4 February 1846:

The Field Lane School 'consisted at that time of either two or three – I forget which – miserable rooms upstairs in a miserable house. In the best of these, the pupils in the female school were being taught to read and write; and there were among the number, many wretched creatures steeped in degradation to their lips, they were tolerably quiet….The close, low chamber at the back, in which the boys were crowded, was so foul and stifling as to be, at first, almost insupportable…[H]uddled together on a bench about the room, and shown out by some flaring candles stuck against the walls, were a crowd of boys, varying from mere infants to young men; sellers of fruit, herbs, lucifer-matches, flints; sleepers under the dry arches of bridges, young thieves and beggars….'

Starey, then a solicitor's clerk, had, on 11 April 1844, invited a few Ragged School teachers to meet him at his rooms at No.17, Ampton Street, Gray's Inn Road. Only three turned up, William Locke, a woollen-draper, a Mr Moulton, a dealer in second-hand tools and a Mr Morrison, a London City missionary.[5] A further meeting, attended by forty interested people, met at St Giles's Ragged School on 26 April, and the outcome of that meeting was the formation of the Ragged School Union in July. Four men became the Union's first officials and decided on its rules and regulations. One of them was William Locke who became joint secretary with Starey, another was Joseph George Gent who, in 1846, replaced Starey as secretary after he had moved away.

On 26 July 1868 the *Croydon Chronicle* reported that the Ragged School had received a letter from the Union's secretary, Mr Gent.[6] Of course, he may have written before.

To demonstrate the plight of the kind of children who attended ragged schools and Starey's assiduity, I quote a lengthy passage about a ragged school in London from his report at the second annual meeting of the Union:-

'….he had answers from a Sunday evening ragged school which would serve as an example for the rest…At this school the average attendance was 260, and the ages of the children ranged from 5 and 17 years. Of these it appeared that 42 had no parents, 21 had stepmothers, and 7 were the children of convicts. In answer to the question what were their means of livelihood, it was stated that they lived by picking up coals on the river's banks, by selling things in the streets, and by habitually stealing; of the number 27 had been in prison. In reply to the question what drove them to crime, the answer was that some were guilty because their parents had sent them out and get their living as best they could, and some who had not parents had stolen when they could not beg, and 36 of them had run away from their homes, 19 slept in lodging-houses, 41 lived by begging, 21 had never by any chance slept in a bed, 17 had no shoes on their feet, 13 had neither hat, cap, nor bonnet, and 12 no body linen whatever'. Yet, Starey said, the school 'was a favourable specimen'.[7]

Such dire poverty on that scale would not be found in Croydon but some of the children may have lived under similar circumstances. Unfortunately, there was no Charles Dickens and no Starey nor anyone like them to describe the Croydon Ragged School or their occupants so what follows is mainly gleaned from notes taken from the *Sussex Agricultural Express* and more especially the *Croydon Chronicle* many years ago. The British Library and the Museum of Croydon being closed because of the coronavirus pandemic, detailed research is impossible. I would like to thank Jorn Cooper, a member, for his help in finding information several times from the British Newspaper Archive.

An appeal for donations to establish a Ragged School or Schools in Croydon was published in the *Sussex Agricultural Express* on 11 August 1849. It was an inauspicious time to ask for donations as there were cases of cholera occurring in Croydon. Another appeal was printed on 24 August 1850. Donations were apparently enough for the Ragged School to open in October 1850 in a 'new schoolroom' in Hill Street, Old Town; but, as its second annual report is from July 1850, it presupposes that the 'old' schoolroom was already in existence in 1849. No information is given for its location. An obituary of Edward Westall, a surgeon, in Croydon, who died in 1878, is named as the founder and principal supporter.[8]

However, the *London Evening Standard* for 10 June 1846 printed an account of the second annual meeting of the Ragged School Union, chaired by Lord Ashley, not yet having inherited the title of Earl of Shaftesbury. Starey, described as an honorary director, stated in the report he gave that a Ragged School was in existence in Croydon. This may be the Sunday school that had been using unappropriated archways of the South Eastern Railway at Croydon Common. The four archways had been prepared with windows, doors, school gallery, long writing desks and a school clock.[9]

In 1851 the Ragged School in Hill Street had admitted 93 boys and 41 girls. Of these eleven boys and five girls had never been to school before and twelve of these were over the age of fifteen. Nearly half of the total number of boys and half of the total number of girls could not read. The figure of those admitted and that of the average attendance were not the same as the 'present attendance' which averaged 120 but this was not unusual, especially in summer.[10] In the following year there was only a hundred children. The fall in numbers may be attributed to there being a 'paucity' of teachers.[11] The school was open every evening from 6.30 to 8.30, excepting Saturdays, and on Sunday evenings for worship.

In every year the children were given a treat including tea and, if not in every year, a magic lantern show as in 1855, the same year that the Westalls, father and daughter attended.[12]

Why is not said but near the end of 1856 the Ragged School reopened 'under a new system' introduced by G. H. Parry. Mr and Mrs Parry were the master and mistress. The emphasis was on providing the 'rudiments of a sound religious and moral education: and habits of order and obedience, with cleanliness, are inculcated'.[13]

In August 1857 the numbers of children on the books was, as before, a hundred. Besides the usual evening school from Monday to Friday, the Ragged School was open twice on Sundays, in the morning for worship and after the evening service. One activity not mentioned before in the press was a clothing club in which children learnt to make and mend their own clothes. Clothing was also made and provided by the girls in the School of Industry located in the Old Palace.[14] This had been in existence for many years.

By August 1863 the Parrys were no longer master and mistress but a Mr [either John or Jenkin] and Mrs Jones whose devotion may be the cause of the school being 'prosperous'; as the average daily attendance was 132. The relatively high figure was not because of attendance at the night school

which was poor but possibly because the attendance at Sunday school was good and because work in the 'industrial school' had been extended. This was not the same as the School of Industry but an integral part of the Ragged School. There the boys in the course of the year ending on 30 June had made 600,000 paper bags which were apparently bought by shopkeepers. Such was the boys' enthusiasm that they competed with each other to make the most.[15] Even this figure was exceeded the following year when 665,000 bags were made. The attendance, too, had risen as there were 200 who attended regularly. Selling bags made a small profit. Beside the clothing club, there was a shoe club.[16]

In June 1868, according to an editorial in the *Croydon Chronicle*, the school was languishing.[17] However, in 1870 the evidence seems to contradict this but may apply only to the night school. *The Croydon Chronicle* for 1 January describes the Ragged School children at the treat on Thursday evening 30 December attended by children from two to ten or twelve years in the spacious schoolroom in Old Town. Once tea was over, about 200 children, chosen as most in need were given articles of clothing flannel petticoats, woollen shawls and hats for the girls and flannel shirts, coats and shoes for the boys, much wanted not only because of the season but also because many people were out of work and unable to buy clothes.[18]

Unfortunately there is no direct evidence in the press reports that Samuel Starey had any contact with the Ragged School in Croydon. He was the Union's secretary only until 1846 as he moved to Nottingham where his older brother, Thomas Rawstorn, was a carriage builder, the company being called 'Starey'. Samuel became its cashier. C. J. Montague's book has an elusive two sentence paragraph that could imply that Starey continued to maintain contact with the Croydon Ragged School:

'At Nottingham Mr S. Starey had commenced another [Ragged School] after he left London and had ceased to be Hon. Sec. of the R.S.U. A report sent to Croydon caused another school to be formed there.'[19]

Having been born in Croydon at the Old Palace and having lived there for some time may have induced Starey to pay particular interest in its Ragged School. He had been baptised on 5 April 1820. The date of his birth is not recorded. His parents were Thomas and Mary. Thomas Starey was the brother of Samuel Starey, calico printer and bleacher at Old Palace as was his father, also called Samuel, who died aged 53 in October 1809. His son, Samuel died in 1856. He and Thomas carried on the business. Samuel, Thomas and Mary lived at Old Palace, in its Orangery. Here their children were born: Thomas Rawstorn in 1818; Samuel Robert, presumably in 1820; Mary Ann in 1822; James Richard in 1823 and George Coleman in

1825.[20] When Samuel Robert married Mary Walker in 1854[21] in Nottingham, where he lived at Welbeck Terrace, St Mary, the ceremony was conducted by his brother, the Rev. James Richard, who may still have been the curate of the district church, St Peter's, Regent Square, St Pancras, destroyed in the Second World War.

Samuel Robert died on 15 November 1904. His last residence was 58 Hilldrop Road, Islington. He left £10,617, the equivalent today being £1,120,000. As his brother had died in the previous decade, Samuel may have become the owner of the company or have sold it. Shortly before he died, he wrote to the children helping the Ragged School Union, 'My work on earth is almost done, yours is just beginning…I would commend to you the loving care of other children less favoured than yourselves – the poor, the crippled, the blind, the ragged. Whatever you do for them in the true spirit of Christ, you do for him.…'[22]

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[1] Montague, pp163-4
[2] *The Sunday School Teachers' Magazine and Journal of Education*, January 1844, pp78-80, accessed online
[3] Montague, p34
[4] An autograph copy can be seen on www.bonhams.com. It is also published in Jenny Hartley's *Selected Letters* which I have not been able to consult.
[5] Hodder, p348
[6] *Croydon Chronicle*, 26 July 1866
[7] *London Evening Standard*, 10 June 1846
[8] *Croydon Guardian,* 15 June 1878
[9] *Sussex Agricultural Express*, 15 June 1850
[10] Ibid, 26 July 1851
[11] Ibid, 30 December 1855
[12] *Croydon Chronicle*, 15 December 1855
[13] Ibid, 6 December 1856
[14] Ibid, 15 August 1857
[15] Ibid, 22 August 1863
[16] Ibid, 6 August 1864
[17] Ibid, 27 June 1868
[18] Ibid, 1 January 1870
[19] Montague, p212
[20] Lilian Thornhill, *From Palace to Washhouse*, Proceedings of the Croydon Natural History Society, Vol.17 Part 6, June 1987, reprinted May 203, p243. I wish to thank Ian Payne for additional information,
[21] Mary Starey died in 1865. Samuel remarried several years later.
[22] *London Daily News,* 11 January 1904

The Cherry Orchard Road area – talk notes from Ron Cox transcribed by Tony Skrzypczyk

CNHSS received the transcripts of most of Ron Cox's talks, some of which were given at our meetings, from his family after he had passed, as well as the slides which accompanied them.

These are Ron's notes for a 60-minute talk which he said were compiled in the 1950s or 1960s (and were clearly updated after 1971 as some prices are quoted in new pence). The photographs are Ron's own, from slides labelled 1983. Ron did not leave a separate list of his sources but does make some clear within his text.

I hope to transcribe further talks if members are interested.

I picked this talk to transcribe first as I moved to Croydon in 1959 aged 2½ at 83 Oval Road, attending Oval Road School (Infants and Juniors) where I was in a certain Mrs L. Thornhill's class and was there when she retired. She was responsible for my interest in the history of Croydon. I moved to Addiscombe Court Road in 1963, then to Tunstall Road in 1980 and finally to Addiscombe Road in 2000. I therefore thoroughly enjoyed transcribing this talk.

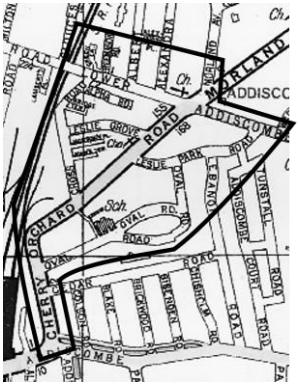
I would like to thank Carole Roberts for her considerable assistance in adding the images and for checking my transcription of Ron's handwritten notes. Tony Skrzypczyk.

The Cherry Orchard, from the talk notes of Ron Cox

Area for consideration

> Cherry Orchard Road, which leads from Addiscombe Road alongside the main Post Office by East Croydon Station [now closed – TS], northwards to Woodside. As far as the Leslie Arms traffic lights [no longer there – TS], at junction with Lower Addiscombe Road, and Morland Road.
>
> Also, the roads leading off both sides of Cherry Orchard Road – i.e. the roads on the left, or west or railway side – Cross Road which runs between Cherry Orchard Road and the Railway and its little offshoots; and Leslie Grove, which links Cross Road and Cherry Orchard Road, and on the right, or east, Oval Road – with its very interesting Oval-shaped centre, and Leslie Park Road, linking Oval Road with Lower Addiscombe Road to the east of the Leslie Arms lights.

Also, both sides of Lower Addiscombe Road from the Leslie Arms to Windmill Bridge, including Freemasons Road and the south side (only) of Lower Addiscombe Road from the Leslie Arms to Leslie Park Road.



The area for consideration

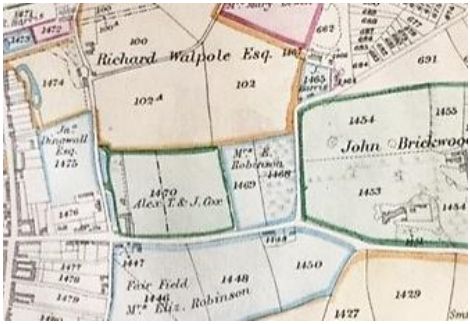
This was virtually all part of Croydon Common until the Croydon Enclosure Act of 1797, as is evidenced by the straightness of the roads in existence before housing development began – e.g. Cherry Orchard Road and Lower Addiscombe Road (then called St James Road). But at once we have a puzzle – the right-angled bend in Cherry Orchard Road – which just ain't natural. A superficial reaction is that its northern part is on its original alignment, for it goes straight across (more or less) Lower Addiscombe Road towards Woodside, and that its southern part has been diverted because of the construction of the railway. But the 1800 Enclosure Map shows it then following the same line as today – that was 37 years before the railway came and 25 before the first steam line anywhere had been projected, so perhaps this is still on the original line. Yet there are arguments against this being the line of the original road in from Woodside and Norwood.

The two arms had different names until about 1840 – suggesting that they are not both parts of the same road – Cherry Orchard Lane – southern arm and Lee's Road the northern arm – probably a corruption of Leaze (a meadow on common land); and coming southwards from Woodside the road terminated at nowhere in particular.

We must, therefore, look again for possible diversion – not this time by the railway coming, but, earlier, by the gentleman owner: To the east lay the Brickwood House estate. But any road coming away from the Leslie Arms junction across that estate and later diverted would have led before diversion only to Park Farm and if that had been [given] access to the Common from Park Farm, and if that were diverted, it would have been more direct to divert it to the east of the estate than to the west of it.

A much more likely culprit lay to the west of Cherry Orchard Lane – this was the Dingwalls estate (just west of East Croydon Station). The Lee's Road arm, if continued in a straight line, leads almost exactly to the Park Lane/Wellesley Road/George Street junction and to the Fairfield; and the heart of the town. This is the line one would expect any road from Woodside and Norwood to follow and, in the absence of any other

evidence, we must assume that an owner of Dingwalls, near what is now Dingwall Road – just the other side of East Croydon Station – must have diverted the road or more precisely, had that portion of it south of the junction with Cherry Orchard Road closed off – forcing all traffic from that direction – to the present day – to enter the town centre via Addiscombe Road.



The Croydon Enclosure Map of 1800, showing that the change of direction in the future Cherry Orchard Road (to the left of John Brickwood's estate) was in existence before the arrival of the railway.

So, by the time of the 1797 Enclosure Act, we had Cherry Orchard Lane leading on to Lee's Road and across what had been Croydon Common to Woodside and Norwood with the grounds of Brickwood House to the east and those of Dingwalls to the west.

With the coming of enclosure, the Common land was parcelled out and enclosed. Lower Addiscombe Road (at first called St James's Road) was created or straightened and fenced from an existing track meandering over the Common, and Leslie Lodge and Heath Lodge were created as further gentlemen's estates.

Off Lee's Road there ran an accommodation road, now Cross Road, leading to gravel pits; and off Cherry Orchard Lane where it bent to become Lee's Road a track led northwards to the Pest House.

On Lee's Road itself there were, or there quickly grew up, a few scattered cottages – perhaps relics of earlier squatting; and from Cherry Orchard Lane towards Dingwall Road (i.e. where the GPO Sorting Office and East Croydon Station stand) there was a cherry orchard – substantial enough to justify a Cherry Fair on the site when the fruit ripened.

In the late 1830s, this rural scene was shattered when the newly-formed London & Brighton Railway Company got Parliamentary approval for a line branching off the then under-construction London Bridge to West Croydon line at what is now Gloucester Road, such a line necessarily avoided the town centre and the pleasure grounds of Brickwood House, and Dingwalls and too the Fairfield and the Archbishop's Park Hill lands – and so it came

through the Cherry Orchard.

The town at that time extended only as far as the Wellesley Road/Park Lane/George Street site – and, indeed, George Street beyond there was known as Addiscombe Road and Park Lane as Back Lane.

Attempts in July 1829 to sell land on the accommodation road to the gravel pits – what came to be known as Cross Road, after James Cross the landlord of the Windmill Public House – met with little response (a Miss Cross head of Oval Seniors Girls School 1873-1879 may have been a later relative) – the land fronting Cross Road going for as little as 31 new pence per foot frontage; and that on Cherry Orchard Road only 40 new pence.

The first substantial land sale took place in the area in 1851 and in considering what happened over the next 50 years it is best if we look, in order, at Cherry Orchard Road towards, but not as far as, the Leslie Arms traffic lights – together with Cross Road; then the break-up of the Leslie Lodge Estate in this order. First the portion south of Lower Addiscombe Road and east of Cherry Orchard Road: then that south of Lower Addiscombe Road and between Cherry Orchard Road and Cross Road (the portion where the house itself stood); and then that part north of Lower Addiscombe Road between Freemasons Road and Morland Road; and then Oval Road; and, lastly, with the break-up of the Brickwood Estate, the Cherry Orchard Road frontage of that estate near East Croydon Station.

CHERRY ORCHARD ROAD & CROSS ROAD

1847 map showing Cross Road on the left and the northern end of Cherry Orchard Road to its right. The 1847 Roberts Map of Croydon, courtesy of Tony Skrzypczyk

Housing in 1880. Ordnance Survey 25-inch map Surrey sheet XIV.6 published 1868 reprinted in 1880

Beginning as a narrow accommodation road to gravel pits and with dirty steam locomotives running within a few yards of much of its length Cross Road never had a chance.

It already had many cottages by 1851, almost all occupied by working-class people.

We need only note the North Pole beer house (now a printers), several people employed by the HEIC [Honourable East India Company] College at Addiscombe (e.g. the Head Gardener, and the Bandmaster) and at no 26 a rope maker named William Trumble, whose wife took in laundry, and who was almost certainly grandfather of James Trumble who was Mayor from 1910 to 1912.

Bridge Row, off Cross Road, showing the proximity of the road to the railway. A train stands at the rear of the road.

The former North Pole beer house in Cross Road

In Cherry Orchard Road there were only about 14 households – a mixed batch they were too on the west side and on the east side some 40 households and working-class and again with some HEIC staff including a baker, a musician, a house carpenter and a hairdresser.

Park Cottages in Cherry Orchard Road

Also, James Hall, the Corn and Coal Merchants, whose father George Valentine Hall (1786-1845) had founded the firm, had a private house towards the south end of Lee's Road more or less facing across to his depot alongside the railway. [Depot now gone – TS]

Shortly after the 1851 census, the Railway Company put onto the market, land surplus to its needs which it had bought in 1841. This comprised land

at the south end of Cherry Orchard Road – on both sides of the still-existing slip road to the station – a road that at that time led straight to a booking office: and extending round the corner of the road that leads down between the station and the present Post Office.

We are reminded at how up-market Addiscombe Road was by the fact that the land was intended for semi-detached villas, there was a minimum stipulated size (or at least cost) of house and "F.D. Banister, the surveyor … to the Railway Company, has prepared plans and specifications of houses suitable to the situation… which will be exhibited at the sale. Purchasers are not compelled to adopt these but can purchase copies".

Further purchasers were offered "the privilege of making back communications from their gardens to the entrance road to the station".

These well-to-do would-be commuters were advised "The situation of the land overlooking Brickwood Park renders it very improbable that the present picturesque view will ever be interfered with".

Houses were erected soon after the sale, but not before the four plots immediately south of the slip road had been more than halved in-depth to make way at the bottom of their gardens for the Railway Hotel – now the Sorter & Porter P.H. behind.

By the 1890s some of the houses had become commercial premises or schools or clubs; and in the 1920s they were mainly taken over by Creed's, the engineers, who had occupied the site opposite, thus interfering with the promise of an eternal picturesque view.

THE LESLIE LODGE ESTATE – SOUTH OF LOWER ADDISCOMBE ROAD & EAST OF CHERRY ORCHARD ROAD

The Leslie Lodge estate east of Cherry Orchard Road in 1847.
The 1847 Roberts Map of Croydon, courtesy of Tony Skrzypczyk

Housing on the former Leslie Lodge Estate in 1880. Ordnance Survey 25-inch map Surrey sheet XIV.6 published 1868 reprinted in 1880

The northern end of Cherry Orchard Road and the south side of Lower Addiscombe Road on both sides of the junction, and to the north side of Lower Addiscombe Road west of the junction was a private estate, the Leslie Lodge Estate.

In March 1851, its owner Mary Vandervell, a widow put part of it onto the market – i.e. the part east of Cherry Orchard Road and south of Lower Addiscombe Road. The sale particulars referred to the accelerated train service and decreased annual fares to London and to the fact that a new road, Leslie Park Road had been made through the land giving a total frontage of 3000 feet (900 metres) "of a most interesting and picturesque character" and constituting a "first-class site for the erection of suburban residences".

This was the first break up of a gentleman's estate in the area and, indeed one of the earliest in Croydon, so it is important to see what happened:

> All the lots were sold which, as we have seen elsewhere was by no means always the case – and the gross receipts were £2780.
>
> Sixteen or possibly 19 of the 27 lots went to Croydon purchasers, including Samuel Freeman of Croydon Common, who bought 3 for £470;
>
> John Morley, a wood broker and charcoal manufacturer of Broad Green who later was advertising as "Contractor to the Royal Palaces" – he bought 2 lots for £313;
>
> G.H. Holledge, a George Street timber merchant, who made several unsuccessful attempts to get on the Local Board of Health – 3 lots for £304;
>
> And John Hempstead, a Norwood farmer who also stood for the Local Board of Health in 1862, but got a derisory number of votes;
>
> 8 lots were bought by Londoners, including 2 by William Vaughan, a builder.
>
> Within a decade the entire Lower Addiscombe Road frontage had been developed, with going west to east, the Leslie Arms beer house (P.H.), 5 cottages which were converted to shops about 1895 and some inferior houses erected by William Vaughan including one called Kirby Bedon which was occupied for a dozen or more years around the 1880s by Edward Berney FRSC and a member of CNHSS, who was probably the father or uncle of Sir Henry Berney an OW [Old Whitgiftian – TS] who later

Top left: shops next to the Leslie Arms

Top right: The Leslie Arms Public House;

Buildings on the Lower Addiscombe Road, from west to east.

Bottom left: cottages converted to shops;

Bottom right: house by William Vaughan, later replaced by Kirby House

became architect and surveyor to the Foundation. That house, on a 50ft frontage, had a carriage approach, was heated by hot water pipes, had drawing and dining rooms each 19ft by 14ft with statuary marble chimney pieces, a library, three bedrooms on the first and second floors, various servant apartments and a pigeon house and a tricycle shed when offered for sale in 1890; it was withdrawn at £1000. A block of flats Kirby House is now on the site.

Development on the Cherry Orchard frontage came much more slowly. The north side of Leslie Park Road, i.e. that side backing onto Cherry Orchard Road and Lower Addiscombe Road was almost entirely built over within a decade of the sale, but the other side – especially between the future Lebanon Road and Oval Road – remained as meadows until about 1890. But certainly, from Mrs Vandervell's point of view, the sale had been a success and this may well have prompted her to continue the process.

THE LESLIE LODGE ESTATE – SOUTH OF LOWER ADDISCOMBE ROAD AND WEST OF CHERRY ORCHARD ROAD

The land west of Cherry Orchard Road in 1847. The 1847 Roberts Map of Croydon, courtesy of Tony Skrzypczyk

Housing west of Cherry Orchard Road in 1880. Ordnance Survey 25-inch map Surrey sheet XIV.6 published 1868 reprinted in 1880

So, only 5 months later in August 1851 she put much of the remainder of the estate on the market, including the house itself. This comprised 619 feet of frontage (190m) on St James Road later Lower Addiscombe Road, 686 feet (210m) on Cherry Orchard Road and 388 feet (119m), though not continuous, on Cross Road.

Lot 2, on the Lower Addiscombe Road/Cherry Orchard Road corner comprised a new detached house and a paddock: and within a decade a further ten or eleven houses fronting Lower Addiscombe Road, shortly to be converted to shops.

Lot 3, another detached house called Thornborough, dating perhaps from 1821 was sold, with its stabling and coach house to John Morland an Anglican who later turned Quaker, who lived nearly opposite on the Heath Lodge estate, who was at about this time a member of the Local Board of Health. It continued to be privately occupied by distinguished-sounding tenants until the end of the century when a builder and then a timber merchant found a use for the premises and the attached land. The house has now gone.

Lot 4 on the corner of Cross Road and Lower Addiscombe Road then St James Road was bought but remained undeveloped.

Leslie Lodge

The other lot was Lot 1, the house itself close to the road with its ornamental grounds and paddocks and with a meadow “occupying an important site for building purposes”. The house itself was described as a Villa Residence – “a delightful retreat for a moderate-sized family”. It had, on the 1st floor, 5 bedrooms, 4 servant apartments and 2 water closets. On the ground floor a double drawing

room 34 feet (10m) long with marble chimney pieces and French casements opening onto the gardens. There were, too, the usual stables, coach house etc, and an ornamental fountain, parterres, choice shrubs, forcing pits, 2 greenhouses heated by hot water pipes and a lodge fronting Cherry Orchard Road.

There were no takers for the Villa Residence. But then, 9 years later, in 1860 it was bought by Mr Michael Saward a retired or about to retire actuary, a promoter of the revived Whitgift Schools and President of the Croydon Liberal Association; and when he died, in 1874, the estate came back on the market.

The house was substantially unchanged during his occupation, except one of the servant bedrooms had become a boudoir. The house now had "conveniences for poultry". The land at the rear was offered, in the 1874 sale, as a separate lot "available for building purposes". It was pointed out that a considerable increase of frontage could be obtained by the construction of a new road connecting Cherry Orchard Road and Cross Road "by which means a Profitable Building Scheme could be carried out without interfering with the privacy of the principal house and grounds". Whoever bought this land put in the road – Leslie Grove – and then six months later attempted to re-sell some of the land but divided up into separate building plots. In the new Leslie Grove there were 19 lots, mainly on a 20 feet (6m) frontage – all but one of them on the south side of the road. They were all sold except the 4 nearest Cross Road and an odd-shaped piece of land on the other side of the new road.

A further 6 lots, all fronting Cross Road, failed to find a buyer although they were soon afterwards built over, and 8 of 17 lots on Cherry Orchard Road were also unsold. It would seem then, that Cross Road was not seen as a good investment. Cherry Orchard Road was not favoured – perhaps because it was not one thing or the other – neither good for houses nor shops but there was a demand for land for houses on undeveloped ground.

There were restrictive covenants – every house in Leslie Grove and this part of Leslie Grove to cost not less than £120 and in this part of Cherry Orchard Road £200, with no manufacturing; and no innkeeper, victualler or beer retailer without the written consent of the vendor. Shops were permissible in Cherry Orchard Road and Cross Road but not in Leslie Grove where also nothing but fences could be erected within five feet of the road.

The Vendor – presumably the Executor for Saward's estate – did not lack persistence. 10 weeks after the April 1875 sale he offered the unsold 20

lots again. Not one was sold. 16 weeks later he did so again. Only 4 – all in Cherry Orchard Road – were sold. Seven months later the remaining 16 were again on offer. I don't know the result. The plots in Leslie Grove were not all developed for almost 25 years.

The corner of the Leslie Lodge Estate that was most difficult to shift was that at the junction of Cross Road and Lower Addiscombe Road, right by Windmill Bridge. Mrs Vandervell had leased it from the Elys Davy's Almshouses and the 21-year lease had only 6 years to run when she first put it on the market. Later it was occupied by Hemley's Nurseries. Eventually, in 1896, it was put up for sale separately by a desperate agent who described it vaguely as being suitable for "shops, small villas or trade premises" and then, for the want of something better, continued: "Many improvements have within the last few years taken place in this locality, including the widening of Windmill Bridge to 40 feet which has had the effect of greatly enhancing the value of the land in question, giving it a good approach and aspect".

The outcome was the enigmatically-named Alpha Road – a straight cul-de-sac with ten houses on the north side and two pairs of four tucked in behind an already-existing Mission Hall on the south side, together with a further two facing Cross Road. The valuable Lower Addiscombe Road frontage was lost and if it were not for the hoardings one would look straight into the back gardens of some of the Alpha Road houses.

THE LESLIE LODGE ESTATE – NORTH OF LOWER ADDISCOMBE ROAD

The area north of Lower Addiscombe Road in 1847. Roberts Map of Croydon 1847, courtesy of Tony Skrzypczyk

Housing north of Lower Addiscombe Road in 1897. Ordnance Survey 25-inch map London sheet CLV published in 1897

During Michael Saward's time at Leslie Lodge – in the 1860s – that part of his estate lying on the north side of Lower Addiscombe Road began to be developed. Two new roads – Alexandra Road and Albert Road (shortly renamed Davidson Road) – had been laid down and four shops had been built on the Lower Addiscombe Road frontage, immediately west of

Shops in Lower Addiscombe Road

Davidson Road. Also, very soon, a further six shops were erected on the same frontage between Alexandra Road and the Heath Lodge School from which – together with a Lodge to Heath Lodge – marked the start of the Heath Lodge frontage just before Morland Road was reached. Several of these shops – especially a wine merchant's, a draper's, a butcher's and a fishmonger's – were to have uninterrupted continuity of use for very many years; a sure sign of a successful shopping parade.

In 1871 more of this frontage was offered for sale and "in order to preserve the respectability of the neighbourhood the purchasers will be restricted ….. as to the value of shops and houses" that may be erected. There was to be no dealer in wines, spirits or malt liqueurs – perhaps in deference to the wine merchant already there.

But, in spite of the apparent success of the shops already trading, of the six lots offered for sale in 1871, only one was bid for – and withdrawn at £60; and no others earned a bid at all.

There was a little more success, however, seven years later when – between Davidson and Alexandra Roads – a further sale quickly resulted in the erection of a further thirteen shops.

OVAL ROAD

The Oval as laid out in 1847. Roberts Map of Croydon 1847, courtesy of Tony Skrzypczyk

Oval Road in 1898. Ordnance Survey 25-inch map Surrey sheet XIV.10 published in 1898

Quite early on, in September 1852, an outlying part of the Brickwood House Estate came on the market. The sale has a number of interesting features:

A 40 feet (12m) road had earlier been projected though not necessarily, even at this stage, constructed, leaving Cherry Orchard Road and then opening out to form an Oval. The significance of this Oval we shall discover later.

With the creation of Leslie Park Road, it was now possible to link the Oval with Leslie Park Road, and this was done.

We see from this how a decision to sell one estate – probably because of a death – could affect future houses' layout not only there but also on adjoining lands.

The Oval Road land was offered – in this 1852 sale – in 34 lots on frontages ranging from 40 feet (12m) to 50 feet (15m) – i.e. wide enough for a pair or a group of three cottages.

However, of the 34 lots, only 13 were sold, scattered about – but the average cost per foot of frontage was £1.42 compared with 31 new pence and 40 new pence in Cross Road and Cherry Orchard Road respectively, before the railway had arrived.

The other 21 lots were all bid for but the reserve price was not reached.

Among the purchasers were:

Samuel Freeman of Croydon Common, who had bought 3 lots in Leslie Park Road and Cherry Orchard Road a year earlier, and now bought a further three;

James Hall, the Corn and Coal Merchant, who bought 5 lots in strategic positions and bid strongly for them his average, on standard-shaped plots being nearly £2 per foot frontage against an average of £1.42; and

John Morley, the Broad Green Wood Broker by Royal Appointment, who added two lots to two he had purchased the previous year in Leslie Park Road – a useful stub of land in the best traditions of monopoly.

No Londoners or even other non-Croydonians made any further purchases except that one of James Hall's plots seems to have gone initially, for less money, to a man from Bermondsey who immediately re-sold it.

No land was offered for sale within the Oval for reasons that will become apparent shortly.

In the 1852 sale just described one particular portion of land that was

conspicuous as not being on offer was a 309 feet (90m) frontage on the north side, facing the western end of the Oval itself.

This was because it was not owned by the Brickwood House Estate but by the Trustees of the Waste Lands on behalf of the Parish. But September 1855, this was offered as six lots on frontages of between 50 feet (15m) and 55 Feet (17m). One lot was not bought at the time but within two or three years 4 cottages (Claremont Terrace nos 87-93) were being built – with basements because, almost certainly, on old gravel workings – and as 93 was first occupied by George Louch Harding, a builder, who at the time of the 1851 Census – 4 years earlier – had been a Carpenter of 28 living in Cross Road – and as the garden of 93 extended across the back end of the other three cottages we may assume he had built them and stole part of the then would-be gardens as his.

Two other lots were bought on behalf of Henry Rixon, a clerk to a Corn Merchant, who already had the land immediately behind – fronting onto Cherry Orchard Road – on which there was a house with stabling and a cottage; and the other three lots were purchased by our old mate John Morley, the Royal Wood Broker; who already had the adjoining Jasmine Terrace 1-8 (107-121) [who] almost immediately built on the newly-acquired lots but the terrace was not completed (9 to 12: 123-129) for another 15 years or so – perhaps he was under capitalised.

The five lots that were sold fetched only 69 new pence per foot frontage – much nearer the pre-railway Cherry Orchard/Cross Road prices of 40 pence and 31 pence than the price of the adjoining land only 3 years earlier which had gone for £1.42. Why the difference? Had there been euphoria about the large 1852 sale of a virgin estate? Did the Auctioneer make much less effort on behalf of the Parish than he had for a private Vendor? Was there even a 'fiddle'? Or was it known that the Parish would sell at any old price – not withdraw if a certain price was not realised?

The other interesting thing is a note in the Sale Particulars about the Oval itself: The conveyance gives perpetual right of way over Oval Road "and also like right to use 'The Oval' as a pleasure ground (on which no building is to be erected, except for horticultural purposes, and not higher than twenty feet) subject to the payment of a proportion of the expenses of …. enclosing, maintaining and cultivating 'The Oval' as a garden or pleasure ground for the general recreation of the parties entitled to the use thereof".

An unusual idea. What, then, went wrong? We see, if we examine particulars of a sale only 16 years later, in 1871, what happened:

"By the 26th December 1851 indenture the Oval piece of land was …subject to several grants said to have been made by Solomon Jacob Waley [perhaps the lessee of Brickwood House] for use as a pleasure ground. [But] By Indenture of 28 June 1869 John Hempstead .... Charles Hall, Henry Rixon …. and others recorded that none others but they had the rights; they had all joined in releasing and extinguishing their rights over the Oval thereby extinguishing those rights."

Whether they did this for payment or personal gain or because such an idealistic scheme had proved unworkable we shall never know.

Anyway, at this 1871 sale Charles Hall, of Brickwood Villa, bought a sizeable chunk of the Oval for £305. He also bought, in the same sale, the land on which Oval School now stands, at the very high price of £1.90 per foot frontage.

Ironically that land was close to the lots which the Waste Land Trustees had sold only 16 years earlier – though they could not have been expected to foresee the creation of the School Board.

The release of the Oval for building did not mean that it was immediately developed – indeed it was probably a decade before any of it was built on. A typical development eventually resulted from a sale of eight lots in November 1881. They constituted roughly the middle portion of the Oval. They were bought on building leases by R J Godson (or 7 of the 8 were, anyway), he undertaking to erect by 29 September 1882 (i.e. within 10½ months) houses costing at least £200 each, with or without stables and to the satisfaction of the lessor. Godson was a builder's merchant in George Street and lived at Lynton Lodge, Dingwall Road. He was a member of the Council for about 10 years from 1886. He went bankrupt in 1911.

MARRIAGE'S HOUSES

Marriage houses on the Oval: 164-6 Oval Road

The building on the site of William Marriage's timber yard in Oval Road, itself now demolished

The builder was William Marriage who had moved, earlier, from 164 Oval Road (No 4 Clifden Terrace) to 166 Clifden Villa where he remained until at least 1907.

For 20 years or more, he had a timber yard between 170 and 172 Oval Road – all these Marriage premises are at the Leslie Park Road end of Oval Road. And he must have been a substantial builder in the vicinity.

For a time there was a Miss Marriage on the staff of one of the Oval Schools.

The land adjoining the Godson/Marriage land in the Oval – and indeed the whole eastern portion of the Oval – was built by a man with even stronger local connections. In February 1884 Henry Streeter rented the land at £42 p.a. and contracted to build 10 houses. These were Northcote Villas 1 and 2; Salisbury Villas 1 and 2; Kenilworth Villas 1 and 2; Brambridge Villas 1 and 2; and Twyford Villas 1 and 2 (nos 22 to 31).

62 Leslie Park Road

He also contracted, in 1887, to build houses at 101-111 Cherry Orchard Road on grazing land occupied by a Cross Road butcher. Earlier, Henry, or his father, also Henry Streeter, had lived at 114 Cherry Orchard Road, a cottage immediately north of the Cherry Orchard beer house. In the 1860s he had taken over that establishment combining beer selling with being a carman. He then seems to have moved to 62 Leslie Park Road where he continued his cartage business and Ward's Directory records on 3rd December 1872 a "fatal accident to a carter named Streeter at Leslie Park Road". At the start of the 20th century Streeter Brothers had a yard at 59 Leslie Park Road – which is almost next door as the properties are numbered consecutively; and E Streeter, Contractor and Asphalte Manufacturer, remained in residence at no 62 at least until WWI.

My current phone book shows an entry H Streeter (Contractors) Ltd Building Contractors, back at 114 Cherry Orchard Road where they had lived before taking over the Cherry Orchard beer house.

Reverting to the November 1881 Building Leases to Godson and Marriage, I note that a part of the north-facing half of the Oval that had been bought by Charles Hall is shown on the 1881 plan as being in the possession of a Mr Horrocks. He was the first occupant of Wilton House (no 1), the house facing you as you approach the Oval from Cherry Orchard Road. He had

earlier lived in Cherry Orchard Road and then at 128 Oval Road when he had a timber yard next door. I think he probably built nos 2 to 13 (north-facing) and 40 to 50 (south-facing) i.e. the houses both sides of Wilton House, in which case the entire Oval is attributable to three builders: John Horrocks – decorative; William Marriage – grim; Henry Streeter – flowing. (Incidentally a Miss Horrocks a dressmaker lived at no 50 – next door to Wilton House.)

Top left: No 1 Wilton House, built and first occupied by John Horrocks.
Top right: its neighbour in the inner oval no 50, probably built by Horrocks.

Oval Road

Bottom left: A row of Horrocks houses.

Bottom right: No 128 where Horrocks had lived.

THE CHERRY ORCHARD ROAD (EAST) FRONTAGE NEAR EAST CROYDON STATION

The eastern end of Cherry Orchard Road in 1847. Roberts Map of Croydon 1847, courtesy of Tony Skrzypczyk

The area in 1898. Ordnance Survey 25-inch map Surrey sheet XIV.10 published in 1898

In August 1907 the entire Brickwood House Estate, of 16 acres, was offered for building purposes. The Sales Particulars referred not only to the excellent train service, naming Liverpool Street and Willesden Junction, as well as more obvious stations but also to the estate being only two minutes from the main shops, abutting onto an electric tram route, and being close to Whitgift Grammar and the Girls' High Schools.

The land was sold free of any restrictions, permitting "shops, businesses or factory premises or superior residences or small villas".

None of the Cherry Orchard Road land was bought up, and it was again offered in October 1908. There was space left on the frontage for a proposed new road – Cedar Road. Again it all went unsold and then, about 1910, an American Rolling Skating Rink was built on the land between Addiscombe Road and Cedar Road – just where the Agents – some 56 years earlier – had said it "very improbable that the picturesque view would ever be interfered with". About 1915 this became Creed's, the telegraph engineers.

REPRISE

Finally since World War II new commercial buildings have been erected on the site of Creed's; and across the road where some of the up-market houses had been built backing onto the station. The Cherry Orchard Road/ Addiscombe Road corner, where part of the Cherry Orchard was, has become a huge GPO Sorting Office.

Otherwise, Cherry Orchard Road displays most of the symptoms of 1980s dereliction; few people live in it, it has unprofitable, down-at-heel shop premises – few of which are in the retail business; it has unoccupied, empty

131 Cherry Orchard Road. This was formerly Addiscombe Picture Palace with the white-fronted recessed building, also shown on the right, being the built-on projector room

and derelict sites, and from time to time massage parlours; and is battered by heavy traffic.

Cross Road remains in a slumber – it is too narrow and tortuous to be a rat run for goods vehicles and part of it is now one way.

Leslie Grove remains almost unchanged from the day it was built; and Leslie Park Road and Oval Road provide a combination of seediness and property improvement – somewhat at risk but much less so than if the properties had been larger, like the long-disappeared ones at the south end of Cherry Orchard Road.

The Oval itself – that attempt to provide a private pleasure ground for the inhabitants of Oval Road – remains only as a shape and as a name.

FIN.

Could this be a source for our present name?
by Brian Lancaster

'The Natural History and Scientific Society'

The following is a quotation from the *History of the Whitgift Grammar School with a Register of all Whitgiftians from 1871 to 1892*, published in Croydon in 1892 anonymously, but seemingly by more than one author.

The Society was proposed in January 1891 by A. R. Hinks. It was started to encourage boys to take an interest in Natural History, and especially to endeavour to make collecting regular and scientific, and by means of meetings in the winter months to teach boys the elements of some of the branches of Natural Science, and to obtain a practical introduction to them in the summer-time by means of field excursions.

Mr Lovett, the President of the Croydon Microscopical and Natural History Club kindly consented to give the Society some practical advice on how to begin, and on February 7, 1891, a meeting was held in the library for the purpose of electing a committee and hearing Mr Lovett's address. About sixty boys and several masters were present. Mr Lovett, in the course of a highly interesting address, gave much useful advice with reference to the following sciences:- Geology, Botany, Zoology, Entomology and Conchology – the branches of Natural History which may be most advantageously pursued in the neighbourhood of Croydon. It was elected to hold monthly meetings in the Chemical Laboratory on Wednesdays at 7.30 P.M., with additional evenings for lectures and papers by visitors.'

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Talking of Croydon Surrey St Market £2
Talking of Croydon South Norwood £2
CNHSS Proceeding 17 2004 £2
CNHSS Croydon Church Townscape £2

A postcard of South London 1838
by Jane McLauchlin

Image: "The London & Croydon Railway at New Cross – 1838" (see next page)

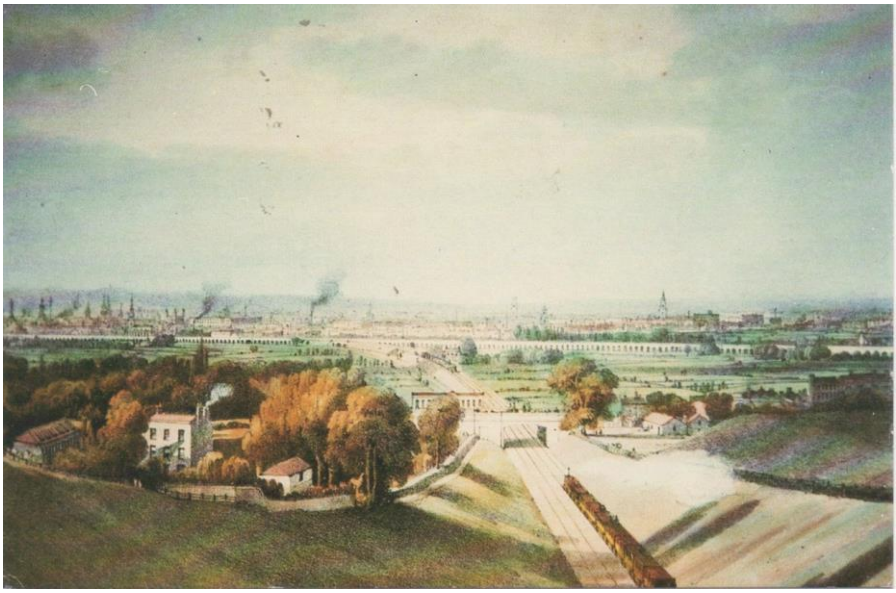
The caption on the back of the postcard reads "The London & Croydon Railway at New Cross – 1838. The line opened in 1839 and the open countryside was soon engulfed by suburban development. In the distance is the viaduct of the Greenwich railway, with London beyond".

This is now New Cross Gate Station, opened 1839, on the London and Croydon Railway which was built mostly along the route of the former Croydon Canal (1). Beyond the Greenwich railway, Bermondsey is on the left with London behind it. Then to the right, the three prominent churches are likely to be St-George-in-the-East Wapping, St Mary's Rotherhithe and St Paul's Shadwell (2). The large dock buildings of Deptford are on the extreme right.

After the coming of the railway, by the 1890s the open countryside had completely disappeared under a mosaic of railways, industrial buildings and houses (3). The area remains urban, but two parks, Fordham Park and Folkestone Gardens were created in the 1960s and 1970s after WW2 bomb damage, followed by Bridge House Meadows after the closure of the Greyhound and Speedway stadium in 1993 (4).

Almost one hundred years before this scene, John Rocque's map of 1746 (5) shows the whole area covered with fields and market gardens. The site of New Cross Gate station is just east of "New Cross Turnpike", and New Cross Station is approximately north of "Mills".

The Rocque map gives us two links to a much more distant past. To the left, between the station and the Greenwich railway is the Hatcham Park or Hatcham House estate. Hacheham was a settlement in the Domesday Book of 1086 (6), and the name is preserved in Hatcham Park Road and Haberdashers' Aske's Hatcham College.



"The London & Croydon Railway at New Cross – 1838" (see previous page)

The small wood at the south-west corner of the map is a remnant of Hatcham Wood, the northern end of the Great North Wood, which stretched from Croydon to Deptford (map in (7)). It was rich in oak trees, and was a vital source of timber, underwood, oak bark for tanning leather, and most infamously in the Croydon area, charcoal (8). Even by Rocque's time, it was reduced to fragments, some of which survive now as public parks.

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CROYDON NATURAL HISTORY and SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY LIMITED
Founded in 1870 as the Croydon Microscopical Club

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SOCIETY OBJECTIVES

For the public benefit, to encourage the study of the sciences, especially the natural and local history and archaeology of the Croydon area, by organising lectures, members' talks, discussions, exhibitions, field meetings and surveys, by issuing publications, and by maintaining a library and a museum. The Society is concerned with original investigation, conservation, recording, curation, education, and incidental recreation.

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise stated, indoor meetings are held in the Small Hall of the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, almost opposite East Croydon Station, at 19:45.

MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

The Society's own museum and library may be visited by arrangement with the curator and librarian respectively. Volunteers willing to help with cataloguing the geological and archaeological collection are welcome.

PROGRAMME

For further information and our full programme which includes a list of publications and directory, please go to our website www.cnhss.co.uk

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The Society's emblem is based on a bronze openwork disc found in 1893 in a Saxon cemetery in Edridge Road, between Croydon High Street and Park Lane. It is a rare example of a 5th- or 6th-century girdle ornament or amulet and can be seen at the Riesco Gallery of the Museum of Croydon.

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