

MOLAS LIBRARY

**news**  
***letter***

September 1990



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**Warning**

When I am an old woman I shall wear purple  
With a red hat that doesn't go, and doesn't suit me.  
And I shall spend my pension on brandy and summer gloves  
And satin sandals, and say we've no money for butter  
I shall sit down on the pavement when I'm tired  
And gobble up samples in shops and press alarm bells  
And run my stick along the public railings  
And make up for the sobriety of my youth.  
I shall go out in my slippers in the rain  
And pick the flowers in other people's gardens  
And learn to spit.

You can wear terrible shirts and grow more fat  
And eat three pounds of sausages at a go  
Or only bread and pickle for a week  
And hoard pens and pencils and beer mats and things in boxes.

But now we must have clothes that keep us dry  
And pay our rent and not swear in the street  
And set a good example for the children.  
We must have friends to dinner and read the papers.

But maybe I ought to practise a little now?  
So people who know me are not too shocked and surprised  
When suddenly I am old, and start to wear purple.

Jenny Joseph was born in Birmingham in 1932

**STAFF NEWS****Appointments:**

Jim Manning-Press: Archaeologist Press & PR  
Kate Pentol: Finds Assistant

**Resignations:**

Rob Ellis  
Jonathan Henderson  
Jerry Youle  
Ros Kay  
Martin Watts  
Russel Trimble

**Transferred from DGLA:**

A Ward  
J Bates  
M Bell  
P Fenton  
J Hamilton  
K Heard

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S Hinder  
J Minkin  
J Tant  
P Travell

**Non Renewal of Contract:**

D Bone	J Hamilton
R Stancer	M Bell
M Turner	J Tant
P Garwood	P Travell
A Powell	S Bavastro
M Bates	A Telfer
P Fenton	S Jeffrey
J McIlwaine	T Carpenter
A Ward	T Neighbour
S Hinder	CO'Brien
G Connal	T Madanayake
N Green	A Byers
J Minkin	S Allen
M Dymond	S Farid
S Pennington	J Cotton

This list may be incomplete. Please check with personnel.

**JOBS**

Five Senior Archaeologist Posts, Fleet Valley project, to complete Level II and Level III Field Section Archive.

Senior Archaeologist, Excavations Office, to assist in the work of the Excavations Office, at the direction of and under the supervision of the Senior Excavations Officer.

Two Archaeologist posts in the Finds Section, to wet sieve deposits from the site at 52-62 London Wall.

Two Senior Archaeologist Posts, to assist existing site supervisors in checking their Level II records.

Closing date for the above jobs is Friday 14th September.

No Grade 4 staff with start dates later than 26th September 1988 are eligible to apply.

Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust, Roman Pottery Researcher. A 9 month contract is being offered for the preparation of a publication report on the pottery from Boxfield Farm. The main assemblages date from the second and fourth centuries AD.

Closing Date: 28th September.

Please apply in writing including CV and two referees to Julia Green

HAT

Church Farm House

Aldenham

WATFORD WD2 8AP

tel. (0923) 858298

Somerset County Council Planning Dept, Applications are invited for the post of Archaeological Assistant, based in the Conservation Team of the Department's Environment Group. For an information pack and application form contact Rhoda or Andrea, Planning Dept., Somerset County Council, County Hall, Taunton, TA1 4DY Tel (0823) 255409

**NEWS DIGEST**

**Layoffs**

Many of the issues surrounding the current substantial number of layoffs are ones which I can't, shouldn't, or even prefer not to discuss here. Let me restrict myself to some simple statement. Insofar as this is the occasion for some hard decisions to bring policies into something like consistency (where you agree with the result or not), we are tackling the anomalies. I have stopped Grade 4 fixed-end contracts and, as I write, we are about to debate the specialist at Grade 4 question. Secondly, we have to stay resilient while being pragmatic and realistic about the future, otherwise we delude ourselves. In the short term, this lack of work may hopefully be only a serious case of the bad alignment of projects which is a fact of life. These projects are like planets or large ships, over which we have minimal control. In the longer term, the recession is hitting construction work in both the GL area and the City, and it may be that we are more vulnerable to sudden peaks and troughs of numbers when the DUA is around 100 staff than when it is around 200, since our capacity to respond to the usual 15-20 person project will be much less.

Meanwhile, nobody has a monopoly on grief in the current situation. I hope that when work picks up again, we have as many of the laid off staff as possible back doing their good work.

**English Heritage**

Some desultory talks with English Heritage have taken place in the last month, but without profitable results. EH's policy was stated as 'offering an extra service on top of the Museum's function'. Two days later, and without informing the Museum, EH placed an advertisement for their first Archaeological Officer for London in the newspapers. We understand there has been a poor response to it. A revised outline of the agreed London Assessment or Strategy Document has been drafted by the Museum, and we await further response from EH. Gill Andrews is progressing with the Post-Excavation Review, and we are discussing ways of bringing together first proposals for continued EH support in publications, possibly in advance of the general review.

Our relations with EH over current sites in the City continue to be tetchy. Despite good co-operation at grassroots level, notably on management of existing scheduled monuments, there has been a difference of opinion over strategy at Brooks Wharf in Thames Street, which resulted in EH writing to the City asking for a planning decision to be deferred. The City is consistently telling EH 'hands off'.

On 29th June a one-day conference was held at the University of Birmingham, organised by RESCUE and SCAUM, on the subject of competitive tendering in archaeology. Through sympathetic colleagues we are considering how to pursue a national campaign in the profession to defeat this harmful practice.

### Archive and publications

After some commercial enquiries of the DUA archive, we have considered that it will be necessary to charge for access to this information. The information in our archive, subject to certain small restrictions (for instance, findspots of hoards), is public information, but like other archives and the SMR we will charge certain inquirers for the time taken to service their enquiry. Pending wider Museum approval, charges will be levied shortly.

The Archaeological Site Manual (edited by Craig Spence) has been published, and well over a hundred copies have been sold to the DGLA and others. The text of the DUA's Annual Review for 1989 (edited by Craig Spence and Francis Grew) has been completed; a draft layout by Event, the designers, has been approved, and publication is scheduled for early October. A first draft of a short book on work at 60 London Wall, commissioned by Scottish Widows, has been completed. Damian Goodburn has published a note on an important group of reused Roman building timbers in the summer edition of Rescue News, and an article on the 1st century sequence at Leadenhall Court by Gustav Milne and Paul Wooton appeared in London Archaeologist.

### Premises

We are withdrawing from our intention to take up a lease in Great Eastern Street as a further satellite office, partly because there is a possibility that we might occupy some of the 9-storey office block Waiden House in Paternoster Square, ahead of and during excavation there in 1990-1. We had hoped to move all site post-excavation there -- you have never all been in one place, and this would be an undoubted improvement -- but there is currently a hitch as the developer wishes to tie up the excavation deal first. Hopefully by the time you read this, it will have been resolved.

John Schofield

### It's FUN FUN FUN in Orpington

The Orpington and District Archaeological Society are holding an Open Weekend at the Scadbury Manor Archaeological Site on the 22nd and 23rd September 1990. The site will be open for viewing and for guided tours on both days from 2.00pm to 4.30pm. There will also be a slide show, refreshments and a bookstall. The site is set in the Scadbury Nature Reserve where there are picnic facilities, and is close to the A.20 (turn off for A224 Orpington). We look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

# ipms

AN OPEN LETTER TO ROGER AYLWARD, GARRY NELSON, JOHN SCHOFIELD, HARVEY SHELDON FROM I.P.M.S. BRANCH COMMITTEE.

5.9.90.

(Copies to all I.P.M.S. Branch Members.)

At the Branch general meeting in May 1990, the following motion was passed unanimously in response to recent notices given to staff of non-renewal of contracts: "This branch condemns the lack of co-ordination and forward planning of the DUA and DGLA management and deplores the high handed and insensitive way the staff were informed of the non-renewal of contracts. If contracts are not to be renewed then at least one month's written notice should be given individually to those concerned. If contracts are to be renewed written notification should be received before the start of that extension of contract."

There is widespread anger among branch members that notification of the non-renewal of the contracts of over 80 staff in September has been even more badly carried out; at the time of writing there are still people who do not know whether they are going to be laid off on 21st of September. Some staff have been under the threat of non-renewal of contracts since February, yet a fixed policy on layoffs has still not been reached in that time; the need for layoffs is not a sudden phenomenon as the downturn in the property market and building industry have been widely predicted for some time; once again we are obliged to condemn the lack of forward planning of the management in not formulating a layoff policy before the imminent need to implement one.

Probably the most widely resented aspect of the current situation is the way in which information has reached staff. Whilst written notice was given to those staff scheduled to be laid off on 14th September, for virtually all of them this had been done several times before and cancelled at the last minute; why should management assume that the most recent recruits to the department should be able to tell that this time layoffs would actually take place? Far from a clear statement of the situation reaching affected staff many, if not most, have worked out their fate from partial and often self-contradictory information reaching them in a roundabout manner; we do not say that the letter of the law has been broken, merely that rotten management practice has been followed.

In May the branch decided that "this branch will, if redundancies are unavoidable within the archaeological areas of work in the Museum, aim to ensure that any required redundancies would be distributed as widely as possible among those staff undertaking archaeological work for the Museum on the basis of last-in-first-out. This is taken to John Schofield's memo of 2.5.90 shows that at present the Museum is implementing a policy of laying off staff at Grade 4, then staff offered fixed term contracts at grade 4 for new posts, then staff at grade 5; no layoffs of staff at grade 5 have been considered to our knowledge. The motivation behind this seems to be minimizing the possible legal repercussions for the Museum. This practice is contrary to the recommendation of the branch.

The General Meeting also voted that "the last-in-first-out principle is only to be breached if the skills and qualifications necessary to fill a post made vacant would not be available in house to cover the post by reallocation of staff and external recruitment would be required to refill the post." This was intended to help provide an objective criterion for specialist skills. The Branch Committee would like to state that it has no bias in favour of or against any Department or Section of the Museum but believes that inter-departmental squabbling may have resulted in delays which have meant that staff under threat have been made to suffer for far too long.

The Museum of London Redundancy Policy affects staff who have been working for the Museum for over two years; it has been approved by the staff committee of the board of governors in September 1986; we are not aware of its having received union approval or agreement in spite of paragraph 3.4 which states: "The fullest possible notice will be given to trade unions, employees involved and the Department of Employment, of all potential/actual redundancy programmes."

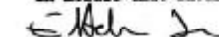
Even that the necessary number of redundancies would be met from the field, office, conservation, environmental and finds staff across grades 2, 4, 5, and 6, on the basis of last-in-first-out." (The word redundancy is being used here in its non-technical sense: being deprived of one's job because it is considered surplus to requirements). This policy recommendation was passed because it was considered relatively simple and fair and not susceptible to whims or personal favouritism; it was communicated to management during May and June, yet since then the Museum has created serious difficulties for itself by creating new posts with fixed terms at grade 4 which might take individuals beyond layoff dates. The branch obviously does not object to the creation of the posts but does not believe that the individuals in them should be exempt from the general rule, however well-suited they may be to them. Either the departments implement a "last-in-first-out" policy or a "merit and performance" policy. A combination of the two, where merit and performance is considered relevant to some jobs and not others, amounts to a "merit and performance" policy with all the dangers it entails. We regard it as ridiculous that the Museum has still not stated a clear policy decision at this late stage.

We also note paragraph 3.5: "...the Board undertakes to effect staff changes or reductions through consultation with the appropriate trade union." The Branch Chair states in his memo of 31 August that he "wrote on the 23rd July to John Schofield and Harvey Sheldon requesting a meeting to discuss our views with them, (and) they have made no attempt to comply with that request." A further request for an urgent meeting between union reps and the four representatives of management to whom this letter is addressed will be made.

The introduction to the Redundancy Policy contains some general principles including (1.3): "The Board confirms that it is committed to creating a stable and secure working environment by effective planning and utilization of resources. This is in order to continue to achieve the highest professional and academic standards with the resources available while balancing long-term objectives and short-term priorities."; and (2.4): "The Board will endeavour to continue to support the career development of individuals, and make suitable provisions where possible." Can the Museum's management claim to have extended these admirable principles to staff with less than two years' service?

Paragraph 3.3 states that: "If insufficient volunteers (for redundancy) are forthcoming, staff may then be declared redundant. Selection will be made with regard to length of service, performance (including attendance and disciplinary records) and the possession of qualifications and experience required by the Museum. Other criteria may also be considered, if appropriate at the time." This paragraph is clearly totally unacceptable to the union and must be redrafted.

It has often been said that the Museum of London is a centre of archaeological excellence and its practices should be exported to the outside world; we assume that the management aspires to the same degree of excellence in striving for the best possible terms and conditions of employment for its staff, rather than the minimum legal requirements it can get away with. You will note that details of the current employment crisis have not been communicated to the outside world, in the same way as at the Natural History Museum has done when confronted with a similar number of redundancies because of restructuring, largely out of deference to the Museum's difficulties with English Heritage; if the Museum is to command the loyalty of its staff we suggest that it should be seen to follow better employment practices than its competitors. As it stands staff have been kept in the dark and rumours have been allowed to flourish with effects on morale that should have been obvious to anyone.



H. Helen Jones, Acting Branch Secretary.

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## FINDS DEPARTMENT

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Yet again Fleet Valley has produced a large number of well preserved and interesting finds. Five lathe-turned medieval bowls have been found in Area E, three from a cess pit and two from a barrel well. Area 7 has produced a pair of 13th century iron shears and an arrowhead of the same date. An almost complete pair of spectacles joined at the top with a copper hinge were found in Area 6. The skeleton of a small child was found in a pre-Roman context in a moat, in the same area. Gracechurch Street has produced some noteworthy ceramic finds; several whole Roman pots came from one pit, another pit produced some flint tempered ware of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age date. A mid tenth to mid twelfth century Red Painted ware spouted pitcher, the most complete yet found in London, has also come from the site. On the inside rim of the pot there are four small finger prints of the right hand coloured from the red paint. Piling on the Vintry site continues to produce a large amount of well preserved metal small finds. Unfortunately these can only be provenanced on the site rather than being related to the archaeology recorded on site. The Finds Section is comparatively empty at the moment, because many people are working abroad. Jane Stone is working out in Italy with the University of Southampton, on an excavation of prehistoric flint mines. Fiona Pitt is in Malta excavating a Stone Age temple, soon to be joined by Ruth Waller and Douglas Moir. Nigel Harriss is off illustrating finds in Bulgaria and Lucy Bown is analysing ceramics in Turkey.

Alex Moore

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## CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

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In the last issue, Dave hoped for a trouble-free August after a hectic and crowded July. I'm happy to report that we have had a respite from equipment failure (everything is working again) and from the crowds (no students, several people on holiday, courses or conferences).

Fleet Valley has produced the best find of the month - a pattern-welded knife found in its leather scabbard. The scabbard is in poor condition but has copper alloy fittings which are decorated and unusual, according to the Medieval Department. They have dated it to the 12th century.

Rose and Jill are continuing with Projects 40 and 25, the latter including a large medieval iron pot stand. It was badly mangled since it was found by machining at Billingsgate Watching Brief, but is now much improved after Jill removed the thick concretions and corrosion.

There has been more activity outside of the lab - Kate attended a conference held by the ICOM working group on wet organic materials in Bremerhaven (where the Bremen cog was conserved). Kate went to present our views on wood selection and conservation policy and to get ideas for our planned wet wood holding store in the Museum car-park. Damian Goodburn was also there to present papers on the DUA timber recording system. Kate and Suzanne then went to Dresden for the ICOM Committee on Conservation conference which covers all aspects of conservation. There should be more on both conferences in the next newsletter.

Dana also was in Bremerhaven and spent the week prior to the conference visiting museums in the Schleswig-Holstein area and in Jutland, Denmark, looking in particular at metals excavated from wet deposits as part of her research projects.

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Unfortunately, Dave's month was not trouble-free. On the last day of August, he block-lifted the remains of a wicker-work basket using polyurethane foam and bandage. The next day, a delivery lorry at the Fleet Valley, ran into the soil block and the Conservations Department's site-work suitcase. Fortunately, the basket was well-packed and protected in its soil block so suffered minimal damage. The suitcase was demolished. So much for suitcase adverts!

Helen Ganlaris.

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## COMPUTER GRAPHIC NEEDS OF THE DUA

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The DUA Computer Graphics Working Party (CGWP) was convened last week to deal with the growing requests for the use of computer graphics in the DUA. The problem is not that there is too much use, but that there is too little equipment, and that too little of the use is sufficiently planned. In that there is potentially a very large amount of work, most of which is neither well researched or well planned, some procedure must be in place to vet potential projects.

It has been proposed that more equipment is provided solely for inputting of Level II context outlines and the production of Level III phase plans by Field Section staff. Also, the Drawing Office already has a CAD Station primarily for Level III work. This work should become basic archive procedure and, therefore, is outside the brief of the CGWP. However, there remains a large amount of publication and archive development research. It is hoped that in the very near future the SUN will be solely dedicated to this work.

To manage the large number of requests for this type of research, proposals will have to be submitted to CGWP before the 1st of the month. Proposals will be considered not only for their research potential, but also on their application to long term DUA research goals and how well the project has been planned. Proposals can be sent back, or rejected, if basic logistic considerations, time-tabling, and funding have not been considered. It will also be expected that all relevant Sections have been consulted before the proposal is submitted. The closer the proposal fits a viable research design the better.

The CGWP would like to start its life with a basic understanding of what staff feel are the basic facilities they would find useful from the Computer Graphics System. If you have any ideas, or wishes, please submit an annotated list to your Section's representative, or any member of the CGWP. Could we please have your list no later than the 1st of October, 1990.

### Members:

Robin Boast	Computing (Chair)
Dave Bentley	Drawing Office
Cath Maloney	Archive Officer
Taryn Nixon	Excavations Officer
Roberta Tomber	Finds
Ian Tyers	Environmental
Andrew Westman	Field Section
Tim Williams	LAR

Robin Boast, DUA Computing Officer

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# Pour fizz in your sump, says Jack

By MIRROR REPORTER

**CARS can fizz along on Coca-Cola instead of engine oil, a scientist revealed yesterday.**

Dr Jack Schofield says he has developed a magic ingredient that you add to the soft drink to make it work better than oil in the sump.

And if Coke isn't to your taste, you could use bitter lemon, tea or even water.

Dr Schofield, whose wonder chemical is called KeeKote, explained: "What most people don't realise is that it isn't oil which lubricates - it's the additives. Oil is just the carrier. With my invention, KeeKote is the additive but you DON'T need oil as the carrier."

The chemical - a "chelate metal organic complex" - reacts with the Coke to form a viscous coating on metal parts.

Dr Schofield, Liverpool Polytechnic lecturer in the study of friction, claims KeeKote can cut petrol used by 6 per cent to 30 per cent.

## Mixed

He adds that it can boost power by 20 per cent and make an engine last four times longer.

In Hungary, KeeKote mixed with low-grade oil is being used in 3,000 Ladas and Skodas and another 3,000 buses.

And Dr Schofield has driven 70 miles in a Mitsubishi car with 5 litres of Coke in the sump.

Eighteen firms are hoping to produce KeeKote.

WHERE  
ARE  
THEY  
NOW?



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## 'We're Taking ARCHAEOLOGY'



SALLY took A levels in History, Chemistry and Social Biology. "Archaeology appeals to me because of a deep interest in the past and the way it is reflected in our present environment. I joined my local young archaeology society to find out more before applying through UCCA. I particularly enjoy the university course because of the multidisciplinary approaches and the combination of practical and academic skills. It has enlarged my view of mankind and made me much more conscious of the landscape I live in."

SIMON has A level passes in English, Economics and History. "I decided to take a course in Archaeology because, unlike many degree courses, it seemed to open up whole new areas of interest to me. I was surprised at the variety of courses I had to choose from - it was difficult to reduce my choices down to five, there were so many interesting ones available. One thing that I am particularly pleased about is that I have developed a much greater interest in the sciences than I ever had at school, and I think that may be important when I start looking for a job."



ALISON has three A levels, in Geography, Ancient History and Geology. "Even at school I liked to mix arts and science subjects, so Archaeology was a natural choice for me as a University course. After a term of intensive academic work, I find the opportunity to get out into the fresh air and do some excavation or other fieldwork is a real tonic. I don't know whether or not I'll follow a career in Archaeology when I eventually graduate but I think my course will have given me qualifications I can use in plenty of other careers."



## CONFERENCE REPORTS

### METALWORKING: PRODUCTS & WASTE PRODUCTS (25th June 1990, Museum of London)

The conference on metalworking and its associated waste products was split into two parts: non-ferrous and ferrous metals. This consisted of six short talks with slides and a display of metals, crucibles, residues, slags and conservation techniques:-

#### 1. METALS, ALLOYS & ANALYSIS

The points talked about included: what constitutes a pure metal, the use of different metals for differing purposes (e.g. coinage, decoration, weapons) and the composition of various alloys and their properties with regards to melting points, hardness and soldering. For instance, if tin

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is added to copper (to make bronze), the resulting alloy is harder than the purer metal even though it has a lower melting point, for this reason, alloys are often used to solder other metals. The technique of alternatively coldworking and annealing a metal was described. In this process, the metal is heated up after being hammered out to regain its ductility and to relieve stress, in order to render it soft enough for further work in a cold state.

#### 2. RESIDUES, CRUCIBLES & MOULDS

Crucibles and casting moulds are important archaeological evidence for metal working and jewellery making, giving an insight into methods of manufacture, whilst the residue deposits can be analysed to see what the individual vessels were used for. One crucible on display, used for purifying silver, had a residue of oxides; another lidded crucible used for separating silver from gold had a pinky red deposit. (The gold was mixed with salt and brickdust and then heated to burn out the silver). Moulds for casting metals have been made from various materials; one on display was carved from cuttlefish bone and stone moulds have been found of the late medieval period for casting pewter etc. Other metalworking evidence which sometimes occurs on site includes, bars of hammered metal, ingots, tools, smashed clay moulds, unfinished jewellery and metal patterns (used for pressing into a two-part clay mould, the impression then being filled with molten metal and the details of the jewellery, e.g. the pin, being added afterwards).

#### 3. ORE TO ARTEFACT

The extraction of iron from its ore, through to hammering it into an object was described. Iron ore occurs in many parts of the country (good iron ore contains haematite) and the 'direct' process was the method used first for producing iron in Britain up until later medieval times. In this process, the iron ore is smelted and reduced to a malleable metal 'bloom' and the molten slag removed the raw bloom is then worked at a forge or hearth (refining it at the same time) and cold hammered into its final shape. (Three types of iron were produced (1) Ferritic (2) Phosphoric iron and (3) Steel, which can be hardened by quenching).

In smelting, iron ore and fuel (charcoal usually) were put in a furnace and air was blown in. Archaeological remains of iron working structures, however rarely survive apart from perhaps a burnt brick base. Usually only a charred area remains and so most evidence for interpretation comes from slag, which is generated from both the smelting and smithing processes.

(By-products from smithing are:- cinders, slag and hammerscale - all of which may be found in environmental sampling).

#### 4. SLAGS

The production of iron and its resultant by-products was looked at further in the light of archaeological evidence. First, the ore (usually hydrated water deposited ore) was prepared by cracking it up and roasting it in a wood fire to burn off the water; turning the ore from a brown colour to a haematite red and making it more friable. This would produce areas of red staining on the ground. Next the ore was smelted in a furnace with air driven by bellows, (clay plates used to protect the bellows from the intense heat sometimes turn up on sites) and reduced to a slag encrusted metal bloom which was broken off. Finally the bloom was forged at a smithing hearth (often flat rocks were used as anvils). The make-up of the floor of a forge site can be helped to be identified by the distinctive waste products which would have built up. Characteristically the layer would consist of (i) charcoal (ii) small spheres of slag (iii) hammerscale. (One method to avoid overlooking a hearth site is to run a magnet over it to

check for hammerscale).

## 5. CONSERVATION

The various techniques of storing, packaging leg in acid free tissue paper and silica gel, mechanically cleaning and item stabilizing metal objects were discussed. X-raying iron which is unrecognisable due to bad corrosion or concretion is a useful, non-destructive means of clearly identifying an object before conservation is attempted. This is of particular value in gaining information and a record of an artefact which would otherwise be lost if nothing could be done to preserve it. (If an object is very badly corroded, it may just show up as 'ghosting' on an x-ray). An example was given of a lump of soil lifted from a Roman cemetery context. X-raying revealed that the lump contained in perfect detail a pair of leather sandals, depicted clearly because of their studded metal decoration.

## 6. METAL ANALYSIS

A brief account was given of metal analysis methods and what can be learnt from them. In order to examine an object metallographically, a transverse slice is taken through it to determine its composition with regards to variations and quality of alloys used, its hardness and how it was formed. Scanning Electron Microscopes which produce high magnification images are used as well as X-Radiography which shows the internal structure of an object and detects the presence of inlays, joins and welding. From this a knowledge of smithing techniques can be built-up, e.g. in the late Saxon period, iron technology was quite sophisticated, good grade high carbon steel being used for the edges of weapons and tools, in comparison to the poor quality scrap iron which was often used in Roman shoe nails.

A general discussion follows, in which the point was raised that in some cases, corrosion products may be more important than the metal artefact because it could contain preserved organic remains (e.g. the fabric of a garment to which a brooch was attached); and that each iron alloy will react differently to its own particular burial environment.

As a member of the environmental bulk sieving team, I found the lectures both informative and useful, in helping to recognise and identify certain materials which may occur in a sample.

**JANET STACEY**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL**  
**DUA**

## THE SOUTH MIDLANDS ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

**Debate motion: "Archaeological fieldwork should be left to independent contractors"**

**(Points raised by John Maloney)**

Though from London, rather than the South Midlands, I have attended because discussion/debate about matters inferred by the proposal is long overdue, nationally, and where the few real opportunities have been arranged recently the principal adversaries have at the last moment 'not been available'.

To begin with, how is the "independent" in the motion to be defined? Perhaps, independent of regulation; independent of the commitments/responsibilities of

regionally-based, integrated archaeological services; independent of local expertise, local societies and the involvement of the community.

David Miles finds the wording of the motion unsatisfactory and to my mind it is rather coy - for the purposes of a worthwhile debate the wording needs to be clear and direct. I propose, therefore, that the motion be debated with this additional clause in mind for clarification "... based on competitive tendering and the curator/contractor 'model', undermining the proven benefits of integrated regional services which are, in fact, the typical form or organisation". The curator/contractor 'model' advocated as 'best practice' and 'the norm' is deliberately misleading, as reference to ACAO (Association of County Archaeologists) will confirm: not surprisingly, therefore, those who promulgate these myths make no attempt to assess the benefits of integrated archaeological services.

As with legal investigations, it is often revealing to pose the question "Who benefits?" There can be no doubt that, first and foremost, it is the developers who have the most to gain from competitive tendering: also, those organisations which are prepared to tout for work. "Who loses?" The inevitable corollary is that levels of funding which would otherwise have been possible will not be attained. The general tendency is likely to be to depress developer funding, limiting the amount and quality of work that can be undertaken - in short, it will be at the expense of the archaeological heritage. David Miles in speaking 'to the motion' (as against 'for it', the wording being 'unsatisfactory') about competitive tendering, remarked that "The key thing is that excavation is at the developers expense": the emphasis should not be on the expense to the developers but rather on their responsibility to the nation to ensure that sufficient funding is available to pay for the best possible record of that part of the archaeological heritage that is to be destroyed for all time.

David Miles infers that to provide advice to planners and to undertake investigations is unethical by repeatedly saying that "While I am not suggesting that it is unethical there is a conflict of interest ... and we must be sure to occupy the moral high ground". And yet he apparently has no difficulty with David Bakers assertion that "we are all curators". This so-called conflict of interest ignores the procedures for assessing advice and the responsibilities recently 'devolved' on planning departments by the PPG. For example, in the City of London, the Museum of London provides the Archaeology Liaison Officer of the Corporation's Planning Department with site assessments for consideration. The planning officers then form a view which is reported to the Planning Committee - the Museum is not party to these stages. These procedures result in 'Chinese walls' to satisfy the most scrupulous mandarin. The PPG makes it quite clear that in the

DoE's view planning departments ought to avail themselves of expert advice concerning archaeology as a material planning consideration and it is the judgment of the Corporation of London that that advice is best provided by the Museum, in the first instance to its own Archaeology Liaison Officer who is a planner of considerable experience. Furthermore, the PPG confirms that local authorities can nominate archaeologists (Circular 1/85) to undertake investigations and this is a right that the Corporation has exercised by specifically naming the Museum's Department of Urban Archaeology in its adopted Local Plan (approved by the Secretary of State DoE) and by nominating the Museum in some planning conditions where it considers that the archaeological interests will be best served.

Miles implies that archaeological contractors have no "conflict of interest" and, therefore, "occupy the moral high ground". Such debating points are easily made but is this borne out in case histories? Consider the City of London site, 78-9

Leadenhall Street: having provided an assessment of the archaeological potential based on the detailed archive reports from a number of adjacent sites, for many months the DUA met with the developers to discuss the impact of their 'outline' redevelopment scheme. When after much probing and careful consideration of working methods it became quite clear

that ALL the remaining archaeological stratification was at risk, the DUA formulated a set of proposals to ensure sufficient resources for preservation by record. The developers principal objections to the proposals were the amount of the budget and the additional cost of the proposed timescale. So much for Miles' contention that "developers primary concern is not with the cost". So, unbeknown to the DUA, the developers contacted the TWA and the Oxford Unit and sought counter-bids. What was the form of this example of 'competitive tendering'? There was:

NO specification

NO contact with the local unit as required by IFA guidelines

NO consultation with the detailed archive reports for adjacent sites, essential if an adequate assessment were attempted.

In short, there was NO attempt at a competitive tender. What price the "moral high-ground?" The developer had merely sought counter-bids in order to pressurise the Museum into reducing its budget and timescale. When this ploy using TWA and OU failed, the developers still entered into a contract with the Museum even though the OU bid was apparently some 40% cheaper.

Based on the above example, what is likely to be the result of such unregulated 'competitive tenders' and that kind of contract archaeology? Those units with high standards of assessment, excavation, recording and archive curation will inevitably be at risk. Standards are bound to suffer from 'cut price' bids - this is already apparent with health and safety matters. As is the effect on working conditions, lifestyle, terms of employment and the (already limited) career structure of archaeologists. As a result of such contract archaeology, archaeologists have moved to a unit on the strength of promises of work only to find that the promises could not be honoured and other opportunities had meanwhile been lost. This 'organisation' or archaeology is regressive, harkening back to the "fee-and-subsistence-in-your-hand but no contract" days of the 1960's and 1970's.

Miles' contends that "We live in changing times and, therefore, we have to chance and see the advantages" and Waites' has commented that we should "learn from experience elsewhere": let us learn from the anarchy that resulted from unregulated competitive tendering in the USA and carefully consider the grave disadvantages of such 'changes'.

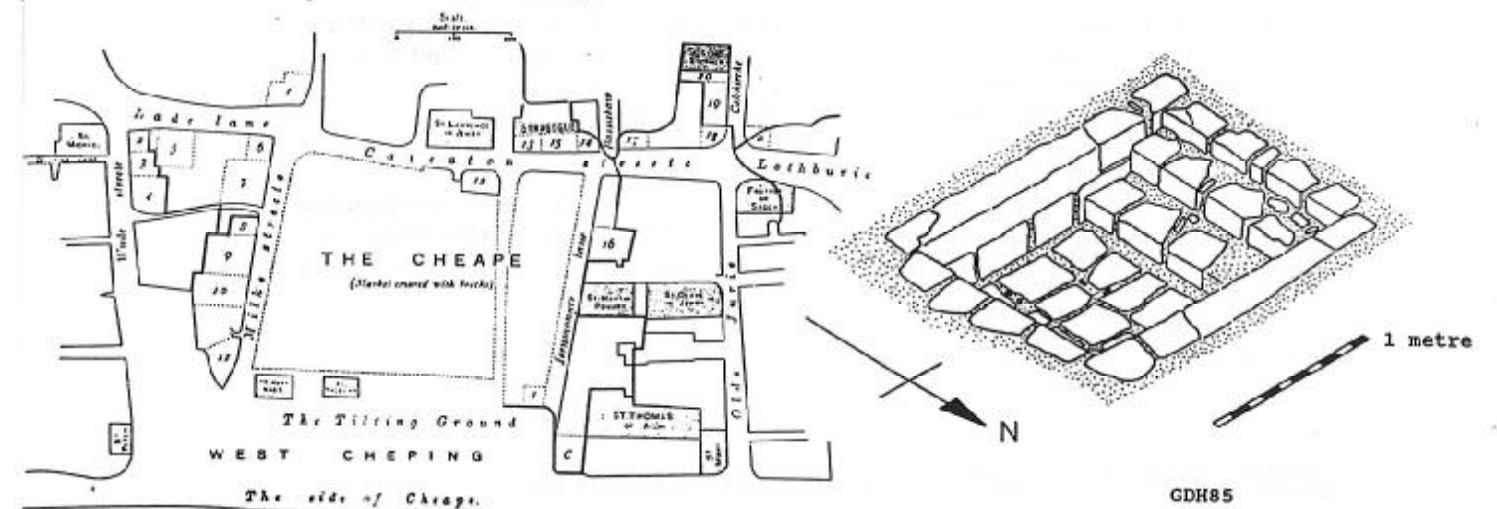
#### THE GUILDHALL HOUSE-"STRONG ROOM" or RITUAL BATH ?

Work was undertaken at 81-87 Gresham Street (GDH85) between December 1985 and March 1986 under the supervision of Ken Steadman. Excavation work was carried out over an area of around 250 square metres and revealed occupation from the 1st century AD to the medieval period.

Medieval activity on the site was represented by 12th century chalk built foundations which must have been a considerable depth relative to the original ground surface. Building 9 ran to

the south and must have fronted onto Gresham Street (Catteaton Street) with the size of its foundations suggesting the building had several stories. Building 8 enclosed an area to the north-west which was interpreted as a backyard area and contained a unique stone built sunken feature measuring 1.65m by 1.15m internally with a depth of 0.40m. This feature, composed of greensand blocks with two steps on the western side which was interpreted as the surviving courses of a strong room.

THE LONDON JEWRY: 1290.



Dark lines indicate Parish boundaries.  
Plots with Numbers belonged to Jews at the Expulsion.  
Shaded buildings represent Churches.  
Plots marked by Letters were owned by Jews previous to the Expulsion.

1. Sam Dail.	6. Rees' Anteman.	11. Rosia Trugis.	16. Les t. Cresce.
2. Mosse St. Elie.	7. Mossem Crispin.	12. Thippe vid. Isaac.	17. Elie Froustoye.
3. Communty.	8. Benedict t. Jacob.	13. Benedict t. Hagin.	18. Aaron t. Sleams.
4. Gamaliel de Gyon.	9. Jacob t. Rosami.	14. Manser t. Aaron.	19. Jovis Sackerrl.
5. Bateman t. Cresce.	10. Muriel t. Caese.	15. Arresa vid. Vives.	20. Elie t. Manse.

GDH85

Group 32

Isometric Projection

From around 1070 until their expulsion by Edward I in 1290 this area of the city was inhabited by London's medieval Jewish community. This is borne out by the name of the church adjacent to the site - St. Lawrence Jewry and Old Jewry to the south-east. The buildings found on the site appear to have had relatively short lives, with the layout of one being similar to other houses in Lincoln and York known to have been occupied by Jewish families.

The Jews first arrived in England from Rouen in Normandy under William I and were used by him to help finance the conquest. In medieval Europe there was a need for credit within the economy, however Christian law forbade Usury (the lending of money with interest) but this law did not apply to the Jews. Therefore with the Jews being restricted from other trades and not allowed to join the Guilds, they became the Bankers of medieval Europe. In England the first towns to have a Jewry were London and Oxford, however by the mid 12th century they had settled in many of the provincial towns and cities. It was on the basis of this information that the stone built structure found at GDH85 was interpreted as a strong room to protect financial reserves.

From documentary research carried out by Joseph Jacobs in 1893 it is known that by the time of expulsion of the Jews from England in 1290 the site comprised of four properties. Three of the properties fronted onto Gresham Street and were owned by Jews, and one at the rear running east-west is recorded as a Synagogue. It is on this evidence that I would suggest the stone built sunken feature in the north-west area of the site to have been a Jewish ritual bath (Mikveh).

Literally translated the word Mikveh means gathering of waters, and is a pool with steps into it



filled with water that reaches the chest of a person of average height. The pool itself is just over a metre square and constructed according to special requirements as defined in the Halacha (Jewish Law). It should contain 40 measures of "natural" water such as from a spring or rain water. Immersion in the Mikveh is carried out as an act of ritual purification normally by married women after their menstrual cycle but may at times be used by men. The importance of the Mikveh is shown by the fact that it takes precedence over the construction of a Synagogue.

In 1987 a Mikveh dating to the 12 century was also discovered at a site in Jacobs Wells Road, Bristol. This structure also consisted of steps leading down to a stone built pool fed by a natural spring. The Mikveh also bore a Hebrew inscription "Zachlim" meaning flowing and probably referring to the fact that the water was pure.

The structure and dimensions of the stone built feature found at Guildhall House are therefore consistent with it being a Mikveh. The fact that there is known to have been a Synagogue on the site and that a similar structure has been identified as a Mikveh in Bristol only adds weight to this argument.

**Richard Sermon.**

## **GREAT ZIMBABWE AND RELATED MONUMENTS**

### **MoL Seminar held on 20th August 1990**

In a very well illustrated talk Ewilym Hughes introduced us to the young state of Zimbabwe and

some of the stone walled monuments for which the country took its name. Gwilym also talked of some of his experiences when he was Inspector of Monuments for the Western Region.

There are over 400 sites in Zimbabwe where the naturally occurring granite blocks have been used to build imposing dry stone structures. These range in size from proto urban sites such as Great Zimbabwe (which may have had a population of twenty thousand), to small homesteads. There are no written records which can help us to interpret the remains, so oral tradition and archaeological evidence are important.

The history of Europeans' attitude to the ruins is almost as fascinating as the ruins themselves. The Portuguese, in the sixteenth century, were the first to enter the region. They do not seem to have noticed these impressive structures for they certainly made no record of them. Later European settlers speculated on the origin of the remains. Their traditional perception of History led them to ascribe the construction of the walls to the Arabs, Jews, Chinese, or the Phoenicians, before they would accept that they were the work of the native people, whom they saw as primitive savages. Even the early archaeologists fell into the same pitfalls. They cleared the tell-like accumulations of the clay huts of "native squatters" in their zeal to uncover the identity of the founding "colonists". No trace of these "colonists" were ever found and now it is accepted that the "squatter" huts were actually the dwellings of ingenious wall-builders.

The archaeological deposits which escaped the early inquisitions are being eroded quickly by the elements and by flora and fauna (which includes visiting South African rugger players!)

Recent excavations have produced stratified finds from clay huts. This has enabled the dating sequence to be established. The finds have included exotic pottery which indicates trading contacts as opposed to conquest and colonisation. This trade began in the eleventh century, when Arabic trading centres on the east coast began to extend their influence inland. The rich land of central Zimbabwe supported a strong pastoral economy and in the twelfth century the tribes who controlled this land began to build high-status settlements on the trade routes with the east.

At first they simply enhanced natural features, by terracing hill tops. Later, as prosperity increased, they spread into the valleys and built upstanding structures. Encircling walls up to 11m high and 6m wide were constructed, along with high, solid stone towers. These structures were very poorly built, using stone which could be easily collected in the locality. This means that the walls are a constant headache for those charged with the conservation of the ruins. They are also so flimsy that the obvious interpretation that they served as defensive walls can be disproven.

The sites had their heyday in the fifteenth century. Many sites were still occupied in the sixteenth century, when the first Portuguese arrived, and a few were still used in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

### **MILTON KEYNES POST-EX AWAY DAY - 23rd August 1990**

The mystery tour left the Museum car park after only a slight delay, due to our foolishly waiting for a wayward archaeologist who had been on the razzle the previous evening. The east the journey Corporal Steiner regaled us with tales of his activities on the Russian front.

On arrival at Milton Keynes we drove to the Headquarters of the unit (with the drivers usual uncanny sense of direction) and met up with the DUA advance guard (Liz and Drew). Following the usual pleasantries we were fortified with coffee and a biscuit, very welcome after such an arduous trip. A brief talk and slide show on the units' operations was given by Bob Williams, illustrating how the unit had been set up and operated. Differing types of archaeology being considered by the Milton Keynes unit and the DUA were evident. In fact they consider the 8 miles square covered by the landscape project to be barely sufficient to allow a full analysis of the history of the area.

Having been introduced to the unit we then went to Bradwell Abbey, once the home of the unit. A display showing the history of the area still lives in a barn at the Abbey which included historical and archaeological information, and had been thoughtfully put together with models and finds. I felt that it was a pity that a display which would be so obviously appreciated by the public was not in fact open to them (although two tourists leapt in for a quick look while Nick Shepherd was waiting for us to come out). Bradwell Abbey itself has long since disappeared from the landscape, with only a small 14th century chapel left intact, built to encourage pilgrims to part with their hard earned groats. The chapel displayed an admirably utilitarian design, allowing pilgrims to enter through one door, gasp in amazement at the decor, part with the loot, and no doubt be hustled out of the other door to allow another patron to enter. It is rumoured that the chapel was in fact a long distance touring version of Montfichets' Tower, but this cannot be verified. Inside the chapel traces of the original wall paintings could be made out (with some difficulty), and these were explained by Nick, despite his having been thrown off schedule by our late arrival.

By now Nick was not the only person watching the time and the party adjourned to discuss theology, art, and Cross of Iron in a convenient local hostelry. When we were suitably

refreshed after the rigours of the mornings activities we returned to the unit HQ for a further slide show and waff. This time Pete "Buzz" Busby was driving the projector, and the talk focused on sites and areas which we later went to peruse. A selection of finds was also on display for our benefit, including some rather attractive gold jewellery, which unfortunately they wanted to keep.

A small convoy set off for the landscape project at Westbury the first of the sites we viewed, which has cultural activity from prehistory through to medieval times (despite a good attempt, we didn't lose Liz and Fred en route). When we arrived at the site proper Buzz gave us a further explanation of the layout, with some relish, and we tramped across to the excavation, no joke when this takes 15 minutes end-to-end and not a red bus in sight. Our arrival was watched quizzically by the archaeologists on site, although this may have been due to the arrival at the same time of a tourist wearing a stunningly designed pair of trousers (he must have been American). While Buzz was explaining the intricacies of the site, I noticed a gleam in the eyes of several of the assembled company which coincided with the sight of a miniature JCB. The site itself was fairly large and perhaps a guide as to how a true "Open Area" ought to be considered. The stratigraphy was such that I think none of us envied the task of those working on the site. A short spring (naturally, in the vehicles) brought us to the DMV at Tattenhoe, which differed from Westbury by being single phase (I think!), and was being supervised by Nick Shepherd. Access to the portion of the site currently under excavation was slightly hampered by an electric fence, an item that could well be incorporated into DUA sites. Thus we opted to view from a higher, and safer, vantage point.

By this stage the combined strains of fresh air and a good 1/4 mile walk was beginning to take their toll so it was decided that a brief snort to allow the traffic to die down would be in order. Surprisingly enough, we arrived at the hostelry just as it was opening, and the company quaffed some ancient herbal remedies in the balmy air. At 7.00 p.m. the main group embarked into the troop carrier for the trip home. As we passed through the environs in the gathering twilight we were fortunate enough to catch sight of the elusive concrete cows, peculiar to this particular part of the country. A brief halt for petrol and essential supplies for the troops (mints and jelly-babies) was the sole interruption in a trouble-free return journey.

It only remains to state thanks to Liz, and those involved at Milton Keynes for an interesting and informative day away from "The Smoke".

A. Parker

## DUA EXCAVATIONS NEWS

### 1. BILLINGSGATE BATH HOUSE

#### The Bath House

There is evidence that the original tessellated floor of the Vestibule was replaced with a mortar floor which probably corresponded to the mortar floor laid in the Frigidarium. No trace of the mortar survives (except possibly to the north of the threshold (see (1) on plan) but its height is inferred from features observed on the walls of the Vestibule.

#### The North Wing

The area to the south west of the wall (see (2)) has been cleaned and is being recorded. The third butress, previously observed by P. Marsden, has been re-exposed by the removal of modern debris.

#### East Wing

The original Roman structure in Room 2 has been recorded prior to consolidation by Nimbus. 19th century piling and poor reconstruction in the 1960's has caused a fair degree of damage to this area. The eastern wall of Room 2 is less well constructed than the walls of Room 4 and is probably a later build.

Fragments of a polished pink mortar floor survive and there is evidence for the location of a threshold (3) in the south wall.

The wall to the west of the threshold has been cleaned and recorded. No contemporary surfaces have been identified to the south of the wall but this area is most likely to have been external. About 0.5m of stratigraphy is visible in section beneath the existing basement wall (4). The section shows Roman building material debris which was probably derived from the destruction of the East Wing.

The north western corner of Room 4 has been cleaned and recorded. The continuation of the western wall of the room (5) has been exposed beneath a modern accumulation. The flue of the later furnace has been investigated and the partition wall between Rooms (4) and (6) has been observed to survive to floor height (6). It is almost certain that the furnace arch is intact. None of the other flues in the East Wing are so well preserved, so it is important to reveal the arch for display. Proposals for excavating adjacent deposits to expose the flue are under discussion.

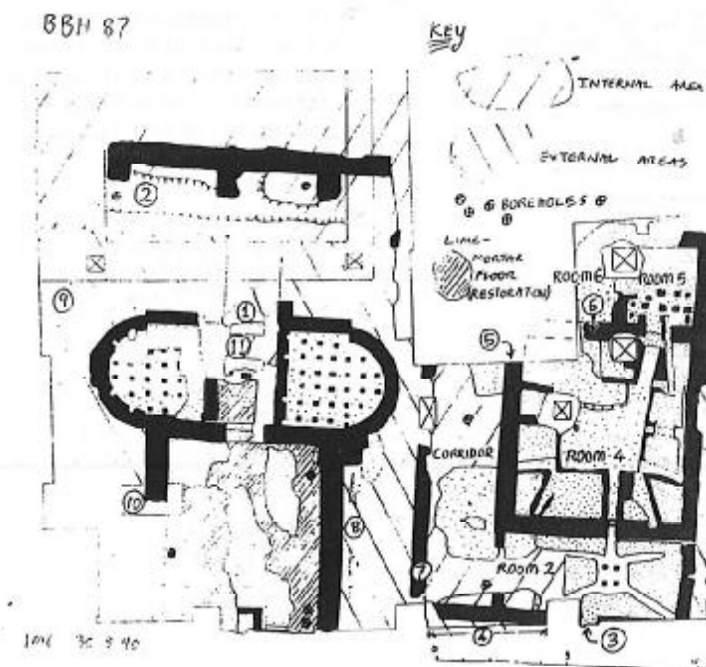
The displaced fragment of concrete consolidated wall discovered in the corridor has been placed temporarily in a gap in the western wall of the corridor (at 7).

#### Finds Report

Removal of modern consolidation in the East Wing has produced more Roman tile. Two substantial Purbeck Marble blocks (largest 0.9 x 0.3 x 0.2m), found in a 19th century foundation trench (see 11), may have been lintels robbed from the Bath House and reused in the Victorian foundations.

Spot dates of pottery from the Lump in the Frigidarium (now excavated) have just been received. These confirm a late Roman date.

The temporary walkway is now in place right across the site. This means I can do a decent site tour without people trampling over the monument. Anybody wishing to go on a site tour could they contact Olivia or Jim in the Excavations office. At the end of last month we were visited by Julie Carr with a couple of friends including Marie Nally. We are now aiming for an end date of 28th September.



2. Suffolk Lane

Recording of the structure continues, the archaeological trial work in the basement has been completed for the time being. The house is of late 17th - early 18th century in date and the recording of the building is undertaken after light demolition ie when floorboard lifting is completed.

The roof in the southern wing was found to be of modern construction, along with elements of the third floor attic space. Evidence of a fire (?blitz) have been observed in these areas. Various doors and windows have been blocked or moved to allow for the substantial changes in the main staircase. All main beams and joists seem to be made of pine, possibly scandinavian. Unfortunately the condition of the wood makes any dendrochronological work extremely unlikely.

In the coming month work will be limited to a watching brief.



IPMS MUSEUM OF LONDON BRANCH  
 REDUNDANCIES IN THE ARCHAEOLOGY DEPARTMENTS  
 10 September 1990

This morning IPMS received formal notice that redundancies of staff with more than two years' service are necessary in the Archaeology Departments because of the dramatic fall in building developments and, consequently, excavations. The numbers are not certain but are likely to be in the region of 60 staff throughout the Departments at Grades 4, 5 and 6. No list of staff under threat is available at present. The first notices of redundancy will be going out on or around Thursday 13 September.

IPMS is now in formal consultation on how these redundancies will be implemented. Our role is to try to ensure that they are carried out in as fair a way as possible in accordance with Branch policy that the last-in-first-out principle is followed as strictly as possible. We are also concerned to see that all affected members get all they are entitled to in the way of rights and payments. Some notes on these are given below. These are the result of communication with the Personnel Officer and are correct as far as the Acting Branch Secretary is aware.

1. The Museum undertakes to give all staff at Grade 5 or above one month's notice of redundancy. Though it is claimed that Grade 4 staff are only entitled to one week's notice per year of service, the Branch believes that it can insist on one month's notice for them too.

2. The Museum undertakes to pay all redundancy money to which affected staff are entitled. This is based on all reckonable service, including continuous service with other Local Authorities - check your start date and that all service has been taken into account.

- only complete years of service count
- London Supplements/Weighting and Housing Allowance are included
- redundancy pay is not taxed
- remaining annual leave must be taken during the notice period or forfeited; no payment in lieu will be made.

If another job with an other Local Authority is found during the period of notice, redundancy will not be paid, but the person and their accrued benefits will simply transfer to the new job. If redundancy payment has been made accrued service will stop and will start afresh in any new job, even back at the Museum of London.

Redundancy payments are calculated as follows:  
 A) For each year of reckonable service from age 41 - 60/65 - 1 1/2 weeks' pay  
 B) For each year of reckonable service from age 22 - 40 - 1 weeks' pay  
 C) For each year of reckonable service from age 18 - 21 - 1/2 weeks' pay

Severance payments would only apply to staff with 5 years' superannuable service and it is not anticipated that any staff in this category will be under threat.

J. Superannuation. Options on this depend on whether it has been paid for less than or more than two years. If less, superannuation payments can be claimed back (unless you start a job with another Local Authority within 1 month) or can be left and you get the benefit (probably tiny) when you retire. If superannuation has been paid for more than two years it must be transferred to another pension scheme or left as deferred benefit. This decision need not be made for several months after leaving the Corporation.

IPMS Branch will endeavour to put out correct information to members. Inevitably rumours are rife at a time like this. Please ask your line manager, Section Head, Union rep. or Personnel Dept. if you need further information.

How do I get legal help?

You can get legal help by going to a solicitor who takes Legal Aid cases. Here are a few ways of finding one:

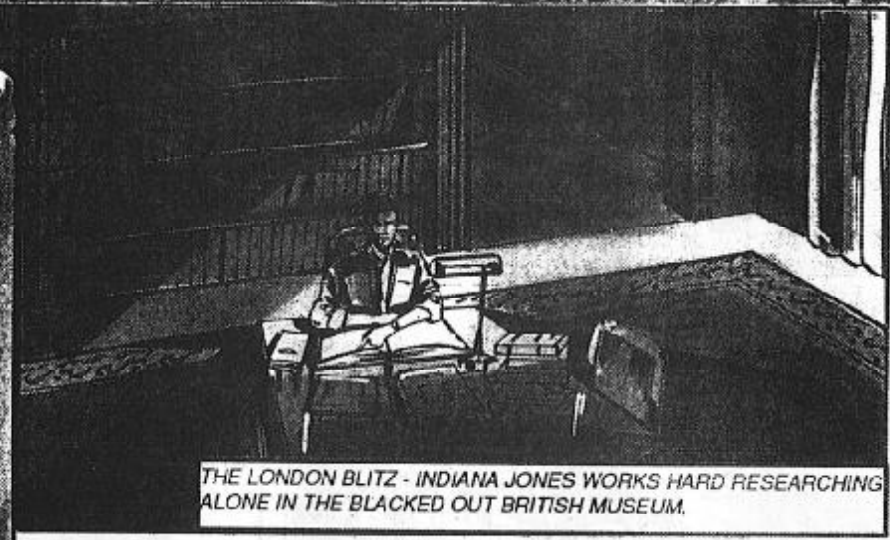
- Go to a citizens advice bureau, advice centre or law centre. (Look in the phone book for the address of one near you). If they can't deal with your problem themselves, they will help you to choose a solicitor and arrange an appointment for you.
- Go back to a solicitor you have seen before.
- Look at the Solicitors' Regional Directory. It's kept in public libraries, town hall information offices, magistrates' courts, county courts and Legal Aid Offices.

# INDIANA JONES

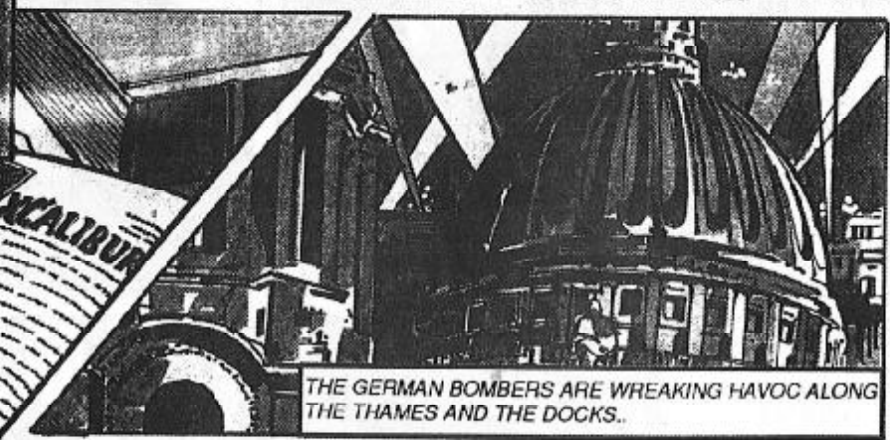
and the

## SWORD OF EXCALIBUR

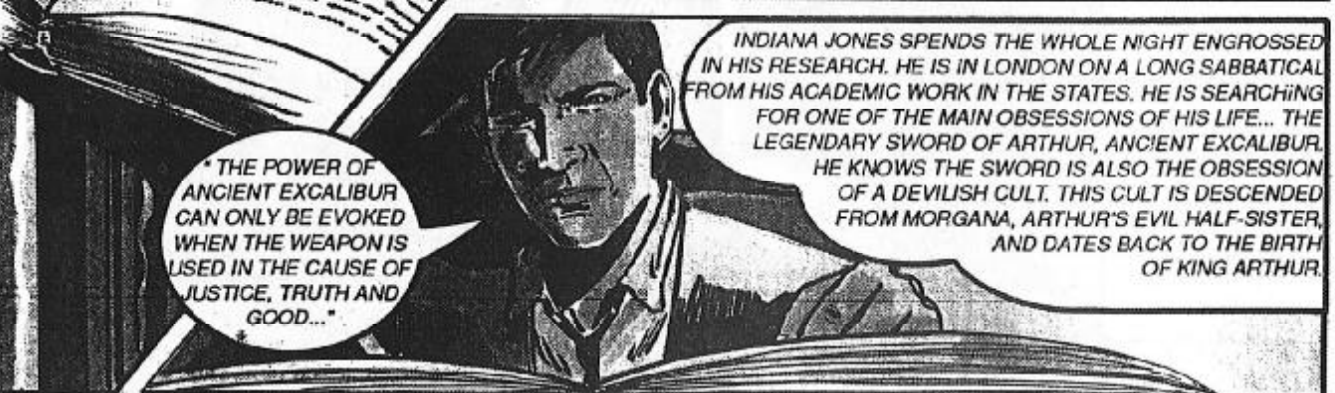
FROM THE DEPTHS OF A LAKE IT CAME FORTH... EXCALIBUR, PASSED FROM KING ARTHUR'S FATHER, UTER, TO THE STONE; AND FROM THE STONE TO ARTHUR, THE GREAT SWORD OF ANCIENT LEGEND HAS BEEN LOST IN THE MISTS OF TIME... UNTIL NOW. FOR CENTURIES THE LEGENDS SPOKE OF A TOMB UNDER OLD LONDON: A TOMB NOW SUBMERGED UNDER THE BLACK WATERS OF A LOST AND FORGOTTEN UNDERGROUND RIVER. INDIANA JONES IS ON THE EDGE OF A GREAT DISCOVERY.



THE LONDON BLITZ - INDIANA JONES WORKS HARD RESEARCHING ALONE IN THE BLACKED OUT BRITISH MUSEUM.



THE GERMAN BOMBERS ARE WREAKING HAVOC ALONG THE THAMES AND THE DOCKS.

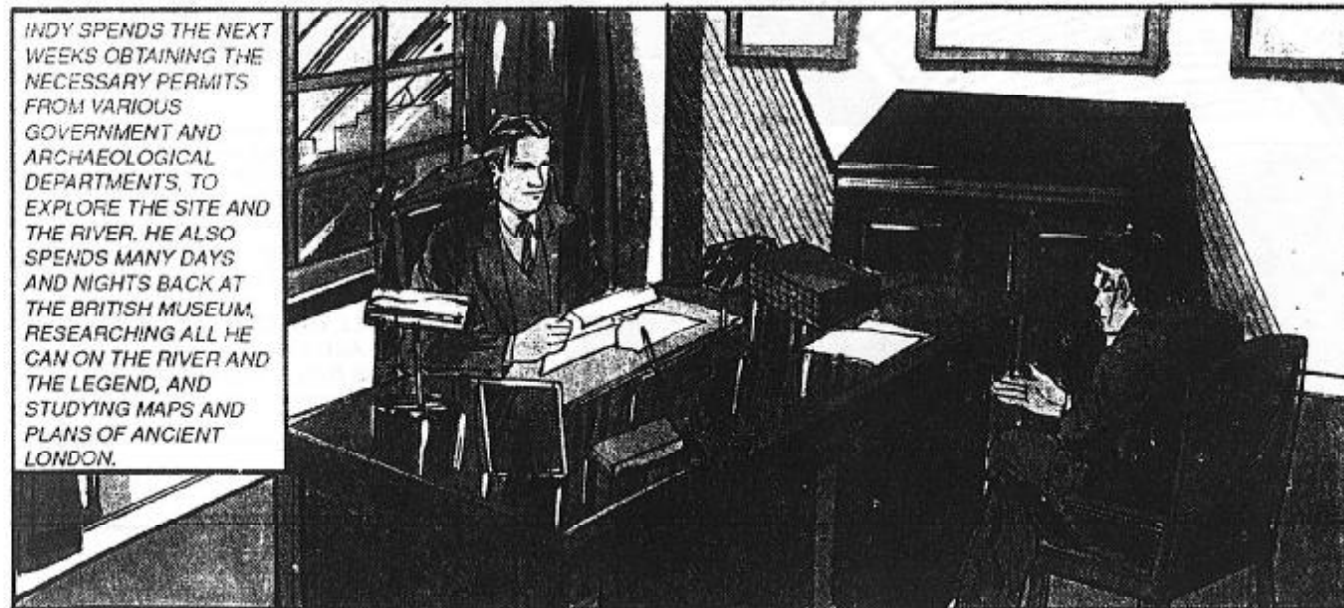
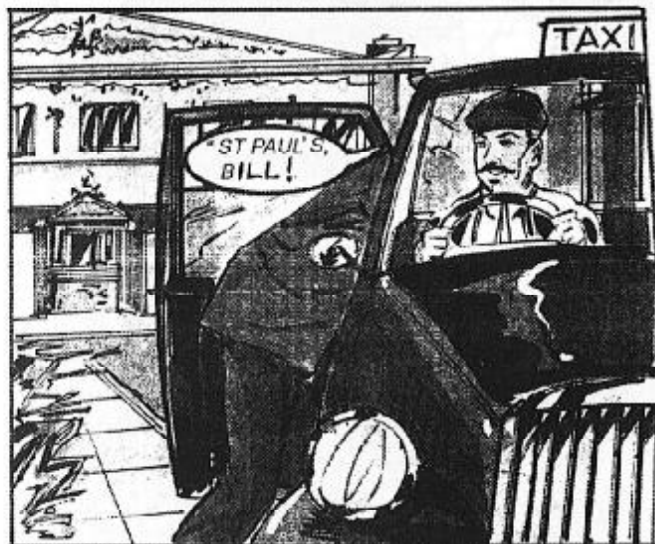


"THE POWER OF ANCIENT EXCALIBUR CAN ONLY BE EVOKED WHEN THE WEAPON IS USED IN THE CAUSE OF JUSTICE, TRUTH AND GOOD..."

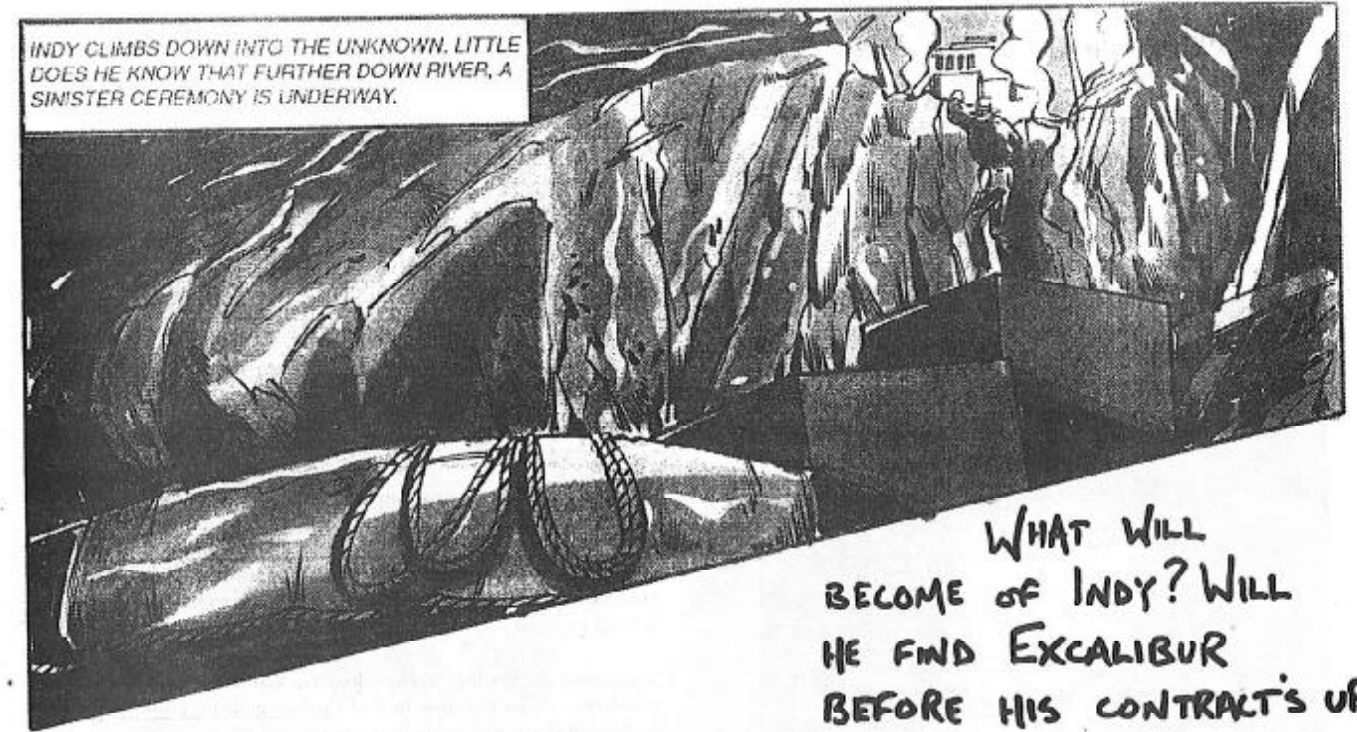
INDIANA JONES SPENDS THE WHOLE NIGHT ENGROSSSED IN HIS RESEARCH. HE IS IN LONDON ON A LONG SABBATICAL FROM HIS ACADEMIC WORK IN THE STATES. HE IS SEARCHING FOR ONE OF THE MAIN OBSESSIONS OF HIS LIFE... THE LEGENDARY SWORD OF ARTHUR, ANCIENT EXCALIBUR. HE KNOWS THE SWORD IS ALSO THE OBSESSION OF A DEVILISH CULT. THIS CULT IS DESCENDED FROM MORGANA, ARTHUR'S EVIL HALF-SISTER, AND DATES BACK TO THE BIRTH OF KING ARTHUR.



INDY BLINKS AS HE STEPS INTO THE EARLY MORNING SUNSHINE.



INDY SPENDS THE NEXT WEEKS OBTAINING THE NECESSARY PERMITS FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENTS, TO EXPLORE THE SITE AND THE RIVER. HE ALSO SPENDS MANY DAYS AND NIGHTS BACK AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM, RESEARCHING ALL HE CAN ON THE RIVER AND THE LEGEND, AND STUDYING MAPS AND PLANS OF ANCIENT LONDON.



INDY CLIMBS DOWN INTO THE UNKNOWN. LITTLE DOES HE KNOW THAT FURTHER DOWN RIVER, A SINISTER CEREMONY IS UNDERWAY.

WHAT WILL BECOME OF INDY? WILL HE FIND EXCALIBUR BEFORE HIS CONTRACT'S UP?

FIND OUT NEXT ISSUE.



ROGER MELLIE THE UNEMPLOYED MAN FROM MUSEUM TELLY



NEXT WEEK. ROGER'S UNIT IN IRAQ

# CRUISE WITH EXPERTS

**I**n her programme of cruises in the Eastern Mediterranean, Cunard Princess visits the sites of early civilisations, of battles, conquests and empires. To help passengers fully appreciate the majesty and antiquity of the Mediterranean and Black Sea treasury, Cunard has enlisted the help of experts.

A team of 24 leading archaeologists, historians and classical scholars – under the direction of Professor Brian Holey – will be joining the Eastern Mediterranean and Black Sea cruises, to enthral passengers with absorbing talks on the history of this unique region.



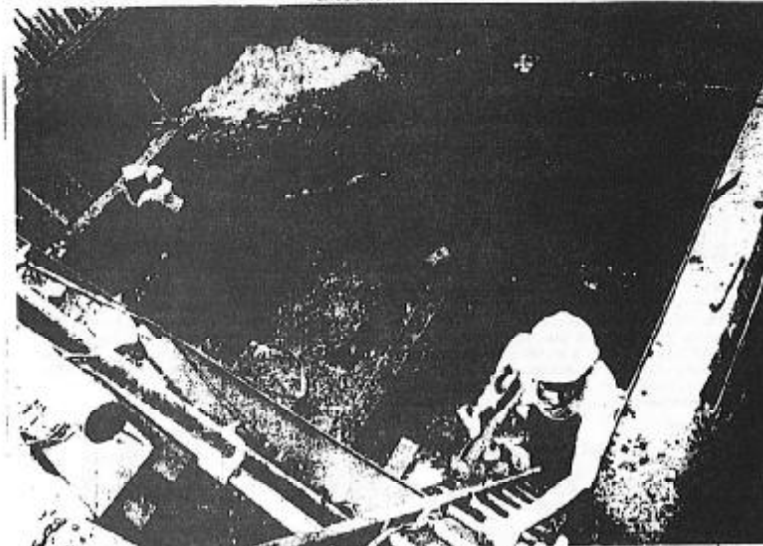
Ancient treasures



## Press Cuttings

### ARCHAEOLOGY FEUD IN LONDON

*'We have built up enormous expertise over the years and English Heritage is ignoring that. One of the saddest things about this plan is that it is setting rival groups of archaeologists against one another.'*



Being an archaeologist is one of the mudiest, dirtiest, wettest jobs around. Most archaeologists are digging and excavating in London than anywhere else in the world, thanks to the property boom which came after the Big Bang in the City. There are now 100,000 archaeological sites in London, many of them Roman pits. Being an archaeologist means slithering about in the sludge, sometimes in cesspits, heaving about great piles of mud, searching for fragments of pots, timber and bone among the remains of 2,000 years of human activity. And it's all done working against the clock before the builders arrive.

The risk of disease is always present. Cutting a hand on a single shard of metal, hidden in the mud, can mean tetanus. But in a future of any urban dig, and archaeologists are wary of catching the fatal Weil's disease. Delving into cesspits searching for preserved seeds or worms – anything which can give a greater insight into the diet of past Londoners – can also mean contamination. Some bacteria, including the ones causing anthrax, can remain active in the ground for centuries.

But for the archaeologists, these risks are incidental compared to the danger facing the very future of their profession in the capital. It is often thought that archaeology's worst enemy is the property developer, some however, like Rosebrough Sturges, responsible for the Helion Viaduct development, work hand in hand with archaeologists, and developers last year donated £3 million for digs in the City. The organisation which is most to blame for putting their work at risk is the government body which should be promoting it, English Heritage. But London's archaeologists say English Heritage's plans are pinching them into battle against each other.

The Museum of London's archaeological unit has two divisions: one, the Department of Urban Archaeology, operates in the City, and the other is responsible for the rest of London. This unit took over the work of the former GLC London Archaeological Service.

Next year, English Heritage plans to cut the work of the Greater London unit in half by taking over its planning advice role, leaving the unit to carry out only field work. English Heritage will base its planning advice on the Greater London Sites and Monuments Record, a Museum of London research document, but West London officer Jon Cotton says that the Record is out of date. English Heritage has already started to recruit staff for the work.

Competition is the guiding principle behind English Heritage's other Greater London proposal. From 1994 it wants to

### 'MORTAL BLOWS'

The two plans are mortal blows for our work, said Cotton. We have built up enormous expertise over the years and English Heritage is ignoring that. Other archaeologists just don't have the same standard of London knowledge as we do. One of the saddest things about this plan is that it is setting rival groups of archaeologists against one another. Archaeologists from Oxford have already started to take work in Greater London. The whole profession will be affected by claims to expertise.

In the City, archaeologists are striving to preserve as much of London's history as possible. Already three-quarters of the subterranean ruins comprising the capital's past has been destroyed, and most of this has happened in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Height restrictions on buildings near St Paul's Cathedral have forced office blocks to build more floors below ground – which means even more of the archaeological remains buried beneath the buildings are destroyed.

According to John Schofield of the Museum of London, and Peter Wayne Rees, planning officer for the City Corporation, English Heritage has failed to ensure the preservation of London's most vital remains, even though it has the power to do so through scheduling.

'We have excellent records for the City so we already know which sites are worth preserving. It is rare for us to uncover something which is a complete surprise,' said Schofield. 'Because English Heritage won't schedule we have to rely on a voluntary code with developers, and then try to reduce the threat to the remains. We can then find ways of preserving them, but there is no proper protection at all. There have been times when this has put Roman remains at considerable risk from gipsies being driven straight through them.'

English Heritage admitted this week that more sites need to be scheduled in the City. But so far it has no plans to extend the area or act on the statute books which could give archaeologists a statutory right to investigation. Eleven years after it was enacted, the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act remains limited to just five towns, all outside the city with the biggest Roman archaeology has ever known.

Time Out  
24 August 90

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STANDARD  
**Shake-up 'threat to London past'**

LONDON MPs were meeting English Heritage today to hear its reasons for introducing radical new arrangements for archaeology in London.

Three MPs were due to demand an explanation from Jenny Page, Chief Executive of English Heritage. The organisation is the Government's adviser on archaeology and the statutory protector of ancient monuments.

by Geraint Smith

English Heritage plans to phase out annual grants totalling £480,000 to the Museum of London and the Passmore Edwards Museum over the next three years, and to transfer the money to a budget for individual projects.

It wants to set up its own planning section to vet the 80,000 applications made in London each year for sites of possible archaeological importance, and plans to introduce "competitive tendering" for archaeological work in London.

The proposals come after two public debates last year. The Government intervened after a public outcry to save the Shakespearean Rose Theatre, and one of northern Europe's finest private Roman bath houses was lost to public display and partly destroyed at Huggin Hill Baths.

Both English Heritage and the Museum of London claim the incidents were the fault of the other. English Heritage claims

its changes would prevent such incidents from happening again.

The Museum of London says the plans are being suggested out of spite, and would end 30 years of pioneering work and an unparalleled archaeological service.

'They would cripple our operation,' said Harvey Sheldon, head of the Department of Greater London Archaeology, which investigates sites in 23 boroughs outside the City.

'They are talking about taking away the money on which all else depends—the money that houses our service, and drives it. Without that, there is no service.' A spokesman for English Heritage described the reaction as "hysterical."

'There is no question of this being the end of archaeology in London,' he said. 'The service needs to be changed to prevent mistakes like those of last year from occurring again.'

# City: Protect our historic monuments

THE Government and its advisers are putting important archaeological sites at risk by failing to schedule them as ancient monuments, one of London's top planners warned today.

As many as half of the City's most important monuments are unprotected by legislation because the Department of the Environment and its advisers, English Heritage, have not added them to the list, according to Mr Peter Wynne Rees, head of planning at the City of London.

"Given the importance of the archaeology and the speed of development here, the City should be treated as an emergency area," he

by Geraint Smith

said. The latest example is the failure to schedule a section of London Wall possibly buried under a listed Victorian building in Jewry Street, he said.

The building is about to be redeveloped by the Sir John Cass College, which wants to drive supporting piles down through what may be the site of the wall.

"No-one can deny that the Roman wall is of national importance," he says.

"A stretch on either side of the house is already scheduled, but

the piece in the middle is not. English Heritage says that there is a difficulty because they say they are not sure it is still there.

"That has not been the case in the past. The whole of the Governor's Palace was scheduled on just the suspicion that it was there."

"It does not do any harm to schedule. If it is there, the monument is given proper protection. If it is not, you can always give consent to redevelop."

"Not scheduling puts everyone in a very difficult position. You cannot ask a developer to excavate a site in order to find out whether a monument is there, then turn

round and penalise him for it by scheduling it." Mr Wynne Rees also revealed that the City's response to English Heritage's plans to take over the role of advising the Corporation on archaeology from the Museum of London had been a brusque "over our dead body".

"What we are saying to English Heritage is this: If you think things are important enough to be scheduled then you should get on with it. Otherwise you should let us get on with what we are doing."

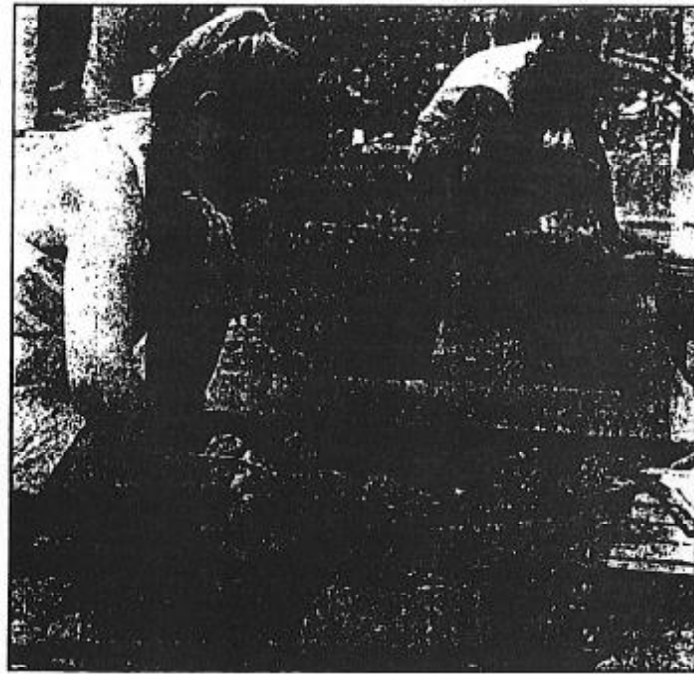
A spokesman for English Heritage agreed that more scheduling was needed in the City of London. "Scheduling normally means

that a site should be preserved in the ground. It can only be done when we have a very clear idea of the quality of buried remains.

"Until an evaluation is done it is often impossible to make the right decision, as cases like the Rose Theatre graphically illustrate."

"The proper way forward is for the boroughs to do the evaluation and make this decision before planning permission is given. In this way developers will know where they stand."

"Scheduling is important but it cannot be a substitute for vigorous and flexible use of planning powers."



● Museum of London archaeologists Aileen Connor and Stuart Hoed at work in the garden of The Flask pub in Hampstead earlier this month, where they identified late 19th century walls of what was probably a stable or outhouse connected with the predecessor of the present pub or a building in neighbouring Bird in Hand Yard. If English Heritage plans to alter fundamentally the

present archaeological service in London are realised, Ms Connor and her colleagues believe the possibility of prompt professional reaction to such discoveries and the investigation of planned developments which may threaten the capital's buried heritage will be substantially destroyed.

## Target site: EH

CAMDEN Council is being urged to join the growing campaign against English Heritage's plan to reorganise the archaeological service in Greater London.

A document issued by the Museum of London and the Passmore Edwards Museum, which cover archaeological matters from checks on planning applications through to excavation, publication and education for Camden and 22 other boroughs, warns that EH's intended action "would cripple" the current service.

"We believe that a secure, integrated and locally-based service, with adequate establishment funding, is the only sure way to provide London with the systematic, long-term archaeological coverage it requires," say Harry Sheldon and Pat Wilkinson, authors of the document.

EH plans itself to take on the planning advice role — removing, over the next four years, its £470,000 grant to the museums for the London Archaeological Service's establishment costs — while providing instead funding for individual projects of investigation and publication.

It argues that it will offer an equal level of free pre-development level of advice and information to the boroughs, backed by a yet-to-be-drawn-up strategic assessment plan of the capital's archaeological potential. Overall, said a spokesman, this could mean EH spent more on archaeology in London than the current £1.7 million. "We are prepared for that."

But those fighting to save the LAS believe that EH will not be able to match the level of experience and detailed knowledge built up by its staff. The present service was established by the GLC in 1983 and its core funding, now provided by EH, was guaranteed by the Government after the strategic authority's demise.

The archaeologists have already gathered formidable support. On the day before Parliament rose for the summer, an early day motion — signed by 29 MPs representing all parties — was tabled in the Commons, calling on

the Government to ensure that EH makes no changes before a fundamental review involving all interested parties.

Liberal MP Simon Hughes, one of the leaders of the Save the Rose Theatre campaign last year and an investigator of the motion, has written to Lord Montagu, chairman of EH, asking for an urgent meeting and saying there is "widespread and fundamental anxiety" among London MPs at the proposals.

A copy of the letter has gone to the Department of the Environment and Mr Hughes intends to seek Ministerial intervention if he makes no progress with Lord Montagu.

The Association of London Authorities has responded to the museums' document — which has also been sent to all London boroughs and MPs — by warning that the EH proposals are "actually threatening London's heritage" and praising the "good archaeological advice" currently provided.

Mr Sheldon, who heads the LAS, is particularly concerned that individual boroughs have not been consulted on the intended changes.

Camden has received the museums' document, but nothing from EH.

Currently, all planning applications from the 23 boroughs covered by the LAS are monitored by its staff. Where they involve earth-moving in areas of archaeological interest contact is made with developers and a process starts which normally results in formal agreements being made for investigation and excavation if necessary — archaeologists agree that this is a last resort, needed only where buried remains will be destroyed in development.

The boroughs are also involved in the negotiations, with archaeological conditions put on planning approvals where appropriate.

While the EH grant funds the establishment costs of the service, the bulk of its budget — currently close to £2.5 million — comes from the payments negotiated from developers to pay for on-site work, assessment of finds and

Mummified corpse confirms:

# INCREDIBLE PROOF OF LIFE AFTER DEATH

Experts say THIS boy is reincarnation of soldier killed over 133 years ago!



Special Report by BEATRICE DEXTER

CHARAN Varma, 6, had been identified as a Hindu god in a village near his home in India in 1957.

Archaeologists have discovered what may be the most conclusive proof of life after death ever — the corpse of an Indian soldier who died 133 years ago and is living again today. Reincarnated as a 6-year-old boy, the child was found in a village near his home in India in 1957.

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**Caption Competition:**

**Entries on a post card.**

**Participation restricted to those with a start date after  
26th September 1988.**



**Will the last one out please turn off the lights.**

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