

ERAS News

EAST RIDING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

No. 60 FEBRUARY 2005



End of dig barbecue and pot firing at Beck End Farm Arram.

Photograph: Rod Mackey

*Arram • MamboJambo • Arras • Thornborough • Creswell Visit
Committee • Website Launch • From the Bookshelf • York Viking Festival • Diary*

CONTENTS

<i>Local News</i>	3
<i>Field Studies: Arram Update</i>	4
<i>Resistivity Survey at Arras</i>	5
<i>Party with Mambo-Jambo</i>	6
<i>Committee Items</i>	6
<i>Thornborough Henges</i>	7
<i>VFIM Launch</i>	8
<i>Lecture Summary: Aerial Photography</i>	9
<i>Volunteers for Hull Museum</i>	9
<i>From the Bookshelf</i>	10
<i>University Courses</i>	13
<i>Creswell Visit</i>	13
<i>Jorvik Viking Festival</i>	14
<i>Diary Dates</i>	15

ERAS Local News

NEW VOLUME IN MARCH

Our publications editor Dave Evans has announced that the next ERAS publication, free to paid-up members, will be ready for distribution at the March lecture meeting. The volume, by Ian Stead and Val Rigby, is devoted to a study of East Yorkshire's Iron Age pottery. Please collect your book from either the March or April lecture, as they are costly to post.

CHANGE OF VENUE FOR MARCH LECTURE

The March lecture will be held in the Lesley Downs Lecture Theatre in the Ferens Building at the University, so that we can bring the reconstructed half scale Ferriby ship into the auditorium (see below).

FERRIBY SHIP RECONSTRUCTION

The half-scale model of Ted Wright's Bronze Age Ferriby 1 boat, made by Joyce and Edwin Gifford and naval architect John Coates, is currently on display in Hull's 'Streetlife' transport museum in High Street. Edwin Gifford prefers to call it a ship, rather than a boat. When you see this super piece of work and think about the fact that a half size model actually results in something which is a quarter of the overall size in area, then you can appreciate that the original was indeed a ship.

The ship was brought to Hull for the national Sea Britain 2005 Festival, (the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar). Local events for the festival are being organised and publicised by John Davis, former chairman of Humberside STA Schooners and Andrew Marr of Marr International. ERAS had already booked Edwin and Joyce Gifford for the March lecture spot and so having the reconstruction in the city is a real bonus. Courtesy of John Davis, Andrew Marr and the Giffords we will be bringing the ship, on its trailer, right into the auditorium.

ENVELOPE STUFFING

If anyone else can add their name to the list of people willing to envelope and post a single issue of the newsletter, I would be very grateful. It takes about five or six days to get the newsletter written and to the photocopier, depending on how much material comes in and how much editing is needed. If there is a form to be returned by a set date, or if people need to be informed of an imminent event, things can get a bit frantic. So if you would like to volunteer to envelope 270 newsletters, apply the pre-printed, self adhesive labels, buy and stick on the stamps, (reclaiming the money from the treasurer, of course) please let me know (445232). Although you would always know in advance that it would be your turn to post an issue, the exact day on which it would be available for urgent posting might be a little uncertain.

MAMBO JAMBO

We have gambled on booking a professional duo to play Latino music at the annual get-together at the Frairy, this year. They are a fantastic, lively group and should make for a really good atmosphere. See page 6 for details and enclosed booking form.

TRIP TO CRESSWELL

Val Fairhurst is organising a trip to Creswell Crags, where the Palaeolithic cave art will be visible from a temporary scaffolding platform. See page 11 for details.

HALLGARTH SURVEY

ERAS's resistivity survey of the Hallgarth field, close to Beverley Minster has been written up by Rod Mackey and Paul Brayford. Copies are about to go out to English Heritage, University of Hull, the Minster authorities and the SMR where it will be available for anyone to consult. Many thanks to all who helped with this, our first major resistivity project.

EXPENSES CLAIM

Will the person who gave the treasurer a receipt, for expenses at the last lecture please phone Lesley, as she cannot find your address/phone number and so cannot pay you until you make contact again!

GOODBYE CRAIG AND HELLO BRYAN

Best wishes to Craig Barclay, former keeper of Archaeology at Hull Museum, in his new job at Durham. We will miss Craig as he was always keen to use ERAS members' expertise at the museum, both in dealing with the public and in the archives. The new keeper of archaeology will be Bryan Sitch, of Leeds museum, whom members will remember as assistant keeper in Hull several years ago. Welcome back, and all good wishes Bryan.

DO YOU HAVE ANY OLD ERAS STUFF?

If you are a long-standing member, perhaps someone who was on the committee many years ago, we would like you to check your shelves (indeed your attic, if necessary) for any files of ERAS minutes etc. We are trying to put in order the archive of old newsletters, membership cards, dinner details, AGM and committee minutes, with a view to housing it all together somewhere, but some runs of minutes are missing. Ray Ketch kindly gave us a lot of old membership cards, listing the lectures, over the years but we are still short of a few of these. Most important to complete, would be the minutes and correspondence from the 1960s/1970s. So please get up into that loft and search them out!

Kate Dennett

Field Studies: Arram Update

The Corieltavi boar/horse type coin from Linear Ditch 1, mentioned in the last newsletter has been examined by staff at the British Museum. It is not not bronze, as it initially appeared to be, but is silver and dates to between 50BC and 10BC. The obverse side indicated it had been struck from a worn die and although some features of it are slightly unusual, it is similar to some found in the Market Harborough hoard.

Marking up pottery sherds will probably keep people occupied at Field Studies meetings for some time to come as there is about 98kg of pottery from the 2004 excavation and we are looking forward to another season of excavation in 2005. Wil's amazing Iron Age pot, pictured below, has been wowing locals and excavators alike and he will be keeping an eye open for those few, elusive sherds needed to complete it. The pot was found in the latest Iron Age phase of the site in the upper levels of Enclosure Ditch 1.



Reconstructed Iron Age jar from Enclosure Ditch 1, Arram.

Photograph: Ian Wilson

Following on from the excavation work, Fiona, Graham, Clare and Debbie (and Carenza too) experimented with making 'Iron Age' pots using clay dug from the Chapel Garth field, tempered with crushed quartz. Carenza declined to fire her pot, but appropriately enough, on bon-

fire night a grand firing of the other pots took place - with variable results. The pots were simply placed in the bonfire, prior to it being lit. Not much effort was made to build up heat gradually (mainly because the barbecuing of a leg of pork seemed, at the time, to be more important!). The pots were in the centre of the small bonfire for about 40 minutes. The base of one pot broke off during firing and the thin walls of the more globular ones did not survive. The bucket shaped pot cracked rather badly. However, to his delight, the small jar made by Graham, was fired successfully.

Much work remains to be done on last year's finds and samples, but plans are going ahead to open a wider area this year, when the crop comes off, probably in late July. Volunteers will be needed to dig, but as we pointed out last year, it is most helpful if you can guarantee to come for a set number of consecutive days. It means you can become more conversant with the site, learn more and thus be more useful. Better continuity makes things simpler for the supervisors and it is less likely that all those small, but important 'finishing-off' jobs will be forgotten.

If you are new to ERAS, watch out for further details and dates in the late Spring/early Summer newsletter.

Fiona will be giving a short talk about the work at the CBA Annual Symposium on February 12th at Tempest Anderson Hall, Museum Gardens, York

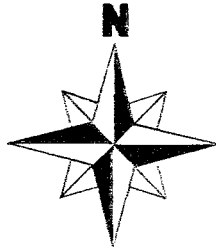
Kate Dennett



Experimental pot made and fired by Graham Myers, from clay dug at Chapel Garth, Arram.

Photograph: Rod Mackey

Resistivity Survey of Arras DMV



ERAS member and MA student Matthew Phillpott used the society's resistivity meter to survey the deserted medieval village site at Arras. Working mostly on his own, and using public transport with all the gear, this was quite a feat of dedication. He submitted this article for publication.

The fields of Arras near Market Weighton are best known locally for the large Iron Age cemetery, which gives its name to the Arras Culture. However, the history of Arras does not end with the Iron Age. Throughout the Medieval period, there lay a Medieval village that was eventually deserted in the 16th century when Sir Robert Constable replaced the tenants with sheep farming. This settlement site has received far less attention than the barrows and was therefore in need of examination. The crop marks denoting the DMV of Arras are located on the field leading west from the present day farmhouse. The resistivity survey of 50 squares, 20 x 20m each, was undertaken between May and June 2004 and covered a large proportion of the cropmarks shown on aerial photographs. There are two reasons for the odd shape of the grid. Firstly, two separate plantings of wheat crops posed a problem. When the crops on the northern part of the field became too tall, the survey could only continue on the southern side. Secondly once a basic rectangular grid had been completed, the direction of the survey was further dictated by examination of the previous day's results. This further affected the shape of the final grid.

The intention of the survey was to locate, if possible, the site of the chapel and any tofts and crofts suggested by aerial photographs. The hope was to provide some idea of the lost village layout. Furthermore, an examination of the field south of the cropmarks was undertaken to see if any information concerning land usage beyond the settlement could be determined.

Although much of the survey was inconclusive, one distinctive building outline was detected (approx. in the centre of the grid). This outline formed a 10m x 5m block on an east-west orientation. The feature is likely to be the chapel which was recorded as having been pulled down by the 1570s and leased out by the Rev. Henry Jewson, vicar of (Market) Weighton. It lies only a few metres west of the location recorded by the National Monuments Record and close to a large accumulation of limestone. The location would also place the chapel near to the highest point of the hill, where Arras lies, and therefore the highest point of the lost village.

The main trackway of Arras which almost certainly connects to the present day A1079 is clearly shown on the resistivity results. It is closely aligned with aerial photographic evidence, which shows a clear track leading from the farmhouse towards the main road. Other results are less clear, although several ditches and pits can be seen within areas of otherwise high resistance.

Of important chronological evidence is possible ridge and furrow, which can be seen to the south of the DMV site. This ridge and furrow must date to an early phase of activity as it crosses underneath the 'chapel' feature, which dates to at least the 14th century. Another possible signature (approximately 40m x 10m) just below the chapel, appears to be underneath the ridge and furrow, possibly suggesting that an even earlier structure or enclosure existed here before the arable farming of the southern field occurred.

The survey was considered a success and provided some useful evidence for the Medieval phase of human occupation at Arras.

Matthew Phillpott

..... **Mambo Jambo**

ERAS's annual event at the Friary in Beverley hots up this year with vibrant professional duo *Mambo Jambo*. They combine Latino rhythms, with voices in Spanish, English and French. This top class guitar and sax duo create a joyously rootsy sound, keeping it spontaneous by adding clarinet, flute, banjo and percussion. We were lucky to be able to book them, as they have a hectic schedule of concerts and tours at the moment.

As it was so good last year, the catering, will once again be by James Patrick of The Weir, Hessle. The generous buffet will include, amongst lots more items-

- ♦ Crostini with roast smoked salmon and mustard hollandaise sauce.
- ♦ Rolls of beef with artichoke.
- ♦ Grilled marinated vegetables with parmesan cheese in a tomato wrap.

Tea or coffee and cake, will be served afterwards.

There will be hot punch on arrival but you can also bring your own wine or beer if you wish. Quizmaster Richard Campbell will run one short round of a fun, general knowledge quiz, which can be done in groups. Come with a group of friends or if you are on your own, simply join in with the nearest group.

The atmospheric building with its huge open fireplace and log fire is a super venue for a get-together but unfortunately the main rooms are upstairs and at present there is no lift or disabled access.

The Friary is close to Beverley Minster. It is off Eastgate, just past the Sun Inn (formerly, briefly, the Tap and Spile) and down Friary Lane. You cannot park down Friary Lane, but can park at the railway station or check out the nearby lorry park down the road which runs from Flemingate alongside the railway, towards the station. If arriving by train, cross the footbridge on this road and you are at the Friary.

Date: Thursday 3rd March
(Sorry, but it was the only date we could get, this year)

Cost: £13

Start time: 7.30pm Bring your own wine/beer

No tickets will be issued -

Simply return the enclosed form and cheque to Val Fairhurst, by 23rd February.

Committee Items

Listed below are some of the items discussed at the last committee meeting.

Easington barrow and Neolithic site-

As a result of reaching the finalist stage in the British Archaeological Awards, ERAS can apply for further funding from the Robert Kiln Trust for post excavation/publication of the project. The current state of the post-ex. work and the funding already used needs to be assessed and an application put together.

Arram-

Fiona Wilson asked whether ERAS would continue to fund the excavation at Arram. An affirmative vote resulted, but Fiona was also to draft an HLF application, for further funding and other avenues are being explored, particularly for organic sampling.

Mortimer Celebrations

Peter Halkon said plans were going ahead for a one day event, hopefully in conjunction with a display at HERM, but the departure of Craig Barclay was causing delay.

Publication-

Dave Evans had reported that proofs for Volume 11 were expected shortly. English Heritage's £1000 grant towards publication costs is still in doubt. Small commercial excavations, many not published elsewhere, appear in the 'round-up' section of ERAS publications and are a valuable source of reference for students and researchers. Concern was expressed that, as there was to be no round-up in the 2005 publication, there would be a build-up of this unpublished information. It was suggested that an ERAS volume dealing solely with it could be produced, but the material attracts no publication grants. The matter was to be further discussed at the next meeting.

Resistivity meter-

At a cost of £121, the meter has now been upgraded to automatic logging and has up-to-date software.

VFIM launch-

Peter Halkon outlined plans for a press launch at HERM and an evening launch at the university.

Thornborough Henges-

Richard Campbell suggested ERAS make a donation to the appeal for funding to employ a lawyer, specialising in European environmental law, to fight further destruction of the site. £100 was agreed, but it was felt that individual members might also wish to donate.

Annual social event-

Rod Mackey was to book the Friary and Val Fairhurst and Fiona Wilson volunteered to organise the catering.

Programme-

Kate was thanked for arranging the lecture programme and Rose for getting the cards done

Visits-

Two members had requested a trip to Fishbourne.

Quarrying Application at Thornborough Henges

ERAS members will recall Dr. Jan Harding of Newcastle University lecturing to us four years ago on his fieldwork at Thornborough Henges (see ERAS News 51) and many members went on a visit to the henges, guided by Ed Dennison, who had carried out survey work on parts of the site.

The low-lying Vale of Mowbray, which lies between the central Pennines and the Hambleton Hills, is the location for a remarkable concentration of Neolithic monuments. This includes no less than six large henges, which are all almost identical in their size and design, located within 10km of each other. They are the largest such monuments outside the Wessex chalk-land.

The most impressive of the sites in the Vale of Mowbray is Thornborough with its three henges. This monument complex has been the focus for a recent fieldwork project and is subject to ongoing investigation.

The ancient landscape at Thornborough also includes an earlier Neolithic cursus, a later Early Bronze Age double pit alignment and a number of round barrows. So use of the complex definitely extended into the Bronze Age.

By the Iron Age, the monument complex was no longer in use, but was still a noticeable landmark, and was certainly visited during the Roman period. Later peoples might well have re-used the monuments. The presence of 14th-15th century AD pottery, and an associated stone structure were discovered at the southern henge, suggesting its use as a fairground. The deserted Medieval village of East Tanfield is located just to the south. The monument complex has therefore formed an important, if periodic, focus to its surrounding landscape since its initial creation some 5000 years ago.

Tarmac Northern have recently submitted a planning application to extend the existing Nosterfield Quarry eastwards into the area known as Ladybridge Farm. Those proposals for additional large-scale mineral extraction, if given the go-ahead, would result in the quarrying out of much of the surviving landscape which surrounds the henge monuments and set a precedent for further planning applications.

English Heritage has recently announced that it opposes all future quarrying near the monument. It believes the land should be bought, in order to conserve what

remains. Yet English Heritage lacks the statutory power to insist on this and so the landscape setting of the monuments still faces an uncertain and perilous future.

Members will be aware that the entire landscape setting of a monument is as important to our understanding of the monument as research within the confines of the monument itself. The extent to which this is being addressed at Stonehenge for a similarly important landscape confirms this. It is vital that what little is left at Thornborough should be saved.

For this reason, the ERAS committee has declared its opposition to further quarrying in the vicinity of the Thornborough henges and its support for efforts to have Tarmac's current application rejected.

English Heritage is not confident that archaeological arguments alone will preserve the setting of these sacred monuments. So the nearby villagers have banded together under the banner of 'The Friends of Thornborough' to argue for rejection on the additional grounds of adverse impact upon the local ecology and environment and are raising funds to commission a lawyer experienced in European environmental law to help them. ERAS has donated £100 to the Friends of Thornborough for this purpose.

We ask that members consider whether they can contribute further in any of the following ways.

- ◆ Sending a donation in the form of a cheque made out to 'The Friends of Thornborough' to Mr M. Sanders, The Manor House, Danby Wiske, Northallerton, DL7 0LZ
- ◆ Objecting in writing to Tarmac's current application to quarry Ladybridge Farm, using the advice posted on the website, www.friendsofthornborough.org.uk
- ◆ Voluntary work, please contact Mike Sanders by phone on 01609 777480 or by email m.sanders@freenet.co.uk

Paul Brayford

The Big Launch *Valley of the First Iron Masters Website*

After a lot of hard work and much planning, the Valley of the First Iron Masters Website has been launched, on time and on budget. Congratulations to all concerned, especially Peter Halkon, Mark Faulkner, Richard Green and the two ERAS representatives Dave Clark and Paul Brayford. There was a press launch, at the Hull and East Riding Museum, on the morning of 13th December when many ERAS members were present. A second launch took place at the University of Hull, in the evening. Fiona Spiers, regional manager for Yorkshire and the Humber Region of the Heritage Lottery Fund gave a short speech expressing her delight at the success of the project. Pictured below are some of the people who attended the morning event, when Julian Richards cut the tinsel on the monitor and declared the site open.

ERAS representatives are currently being trained on how to update the information on the site. If you haven't visited the site yet, do have a look and feel free to give your comments.

www.ironmasters.hull.ac.uk



Top right: Julian Richards cutting the tinsel on the monitor, to declare the site open.

Above: The official photograph! left to right, Julian Richards, Craig Barclay, Mark Faulkner, Prof. Martin Millett, Peter Halkon, Paul Brayford and Richard Green.

Lecture summary:

Aerial Photography (Anthony Crawshaw, November 2005)

Some years ago, when an aerial photography specialist gave an ERAS lecture on aerial photography, he put the case that future funding would be better spent on interpreting the existing stock of aerial photographs than on taking more new ones. This has, to some extent, been addressed with the publication of the excellent work on the Yorkshire Wolds by Stoertz, but there is a vast store of cropmark information still unexplored. Anthony Crawshaw, in a very well prepared and complex presentation, using multiple screen images and ohp material, showed how varied the crop-mark information can be, according to season, crop, lighting conditions and angle of approach. Anthony used to work as an aerial photographer with English Heritage, but is now semi-retired.

He uses a combination of GPS waypoint numbers and his own notes for recording the places photographed and pointed out that, even if no features show up, it is useful to record what has been taken. Vertical shots are usually taken for mapping purposes and have the advantage that whole runs are carried out in sequence. However, there are several disadvantages- it is not always the best method for revealing the archaeological features, the cameras used are more expensive and once done, the runs are not repeated. Using oblique shots taken with a standard SLR 35mm camera, the photographer can be more selective, working according to the type of information being sought. The photographer can choose the best season, the best time of day, (often when the sun is raking across at a low angle) and best direction of approach. Anthony estimated that the cost per photograph is approx. £25-£30.

Problems with other methods of photography were also discussed. Satellite images have the same problems as those of vertical shots from a fixed camera and using a video can be problematical when constantly circling around. He had found that the resolution of images from digital cameras was not always high enough for the requirements of this work.

Being wetter, April and May are the worst months for aerial photography, as crops are usually growing well. Crops under stress from drought, will show the archaeological features better. Application of fertilisers, resulting in extra growth of the crop can prevent features from showing and different crops may show different results. Sugar beet, wheat, barley and peas all show quite well, depending on conditions. Variations in rates of winter germination can also reveal features occasionally, but some crop marks may be visible once and then never appear again.

Soil marks, ie. subtle variations in the colour or texture of a bare soil can be ephemeral and different angles of approach can change the features from showing as light on dark, to dark on light, particularly on ploughed fields. A light dusting of snow can reveal features very well, but slightly heavier snow can drift up against hedges and thus mask some parts. Old field boundaries which have been removed can sometimes remain visible in the landscape, but simple hedge lines may not show at all. Stones which have been removed from land under cultivation, over many years, and dumped at the edges of the field, may sometimes appear as a bank. This can be difficult to interpret once the original boundary hedgeline has disappeared. Sometimes features turn out to be of geological origin. Archaeologically, this is obviously negative, but non-the-less, it is useful information.

Aerial photography is being used to record not only ancient and medieval sites, but more recent changes to the landscape. Images of the re-development of the old Broadgates hospital site, near Beverley were shown. The speaker said he was particularly interested in military sites. He showed an image of the cropmark of a Roman fort which appeared to have no major roads leading to it and had been something of a puzzle. On one aerial shot, a loop of a relict river channel was discernible close by and so it was assumed that the fort had been positioned to guard the river approach to the area..

Anthony Crawshaw's presentation made particularly good use of the technology, using two slide projectors and an overhead projector, to combine maps, aerial shots, and survey information. The same cropmark was sometimes shown from several different angles and shown under different crop and lighting conditions.

Kate Dennett

Request for help at Hull Museum

A large collection of metal detected objects has been acquired by Hull and East Riding Museum. Staff are looking for an ERAS volunteer, familiar with metal-work finds, to work at the museum, for perhaps one day or a half day per week, identifying and cataloguing the finds.

Similarly, the help of any member who has enough knowledge to identify and catalogue a much smaller collection of pottery from the same source would be very much appreciated. If you think you can help, ring Kate on 01482 445232.

From the bookshelf

As you are aware, ERAS members can obtain a reader's ticket for the Brynmor Jones Library at the University of Hull. This ticket allows access to the book and journal collections, although you cannot take books out. To get your reader's ticket, go to the Library reception desk and say you are a member of the East Riding Archaeology Society and would like to have a reader's ticket. You might have to show your ERAS membership card.

JOURNAL REVIEW

Medieval Archaeology

(Library catalogue DA 20 S6 M48)

Medieval Archaeology is published by the Society for Medieval Archaeology. The society exists to further the study of the period from the 5th to the 16th century A.D. by publishing a journal of international standing, dealing primarily with archaeological evidence, and by other means, such as regular meetings and conferences. While maintaining a special concern for the medieval archaeology of Britain and Ireland, the society is increasingly seeking articles on this period concerning archaeology from across the globe. It also aims to serve as a medium for co-ordinating the work of archaeologists with that of historians and scholars in any other disciplines relevant to this field.

The journal was first produced in 1957 and the library has a full run of the journal. Not only does the journal print a range of full papers but also includes notes, reviews, and the invaluable 'Medieval Britain and Ireland' roundup section. This lists, county by county, work that has been carried out in the previous year. The journal usually arrives in late November/early December, and the 2004 edition includes a variety of very interesting papers, including a report on the award winning excavations at Tarbat, Scotland, and the important discovery of the burial of a Viking woman near Doncaster. The following contents from the 2004 issue of the journal (volume 48) give a flavour of the types of articles usually published in Medieval Archaeology.

An Iona of the East: the Early-medieval Monastery at Portmahomack, Tarbat Ness.

(Martin Carver)

English and Pictish Terms for Brooch in an 8th-century Irish Law-Text.

(Colman Etchingham and Catherine Swift)

A Burial of a Viking Woman at Adwick-le-Street, South Yorkshire.

(Greg Speed and Penelope Walton Rogers)

Making the Most of a Bad Situation? Glastonbury Abbey,

Meare and the Medieval Exploitation of Wetland resources in the Somerset Levels.

(Stephen Rippon)

A Medieval Lead Canister from Colchester High Street: Hoard Container, or Floor Safe?

(Howard Brooks, Nina Crummy & Marion M. Archibald)

The Evolution of a Medieval Scottish Manor at Perceton, near Irvine, North Ayrshire.

(Simon Stronach)

Excavations at Duninenny Castle, C. Antrim.

(T.E. McNeill)

Notes and News

The evidence for royal sites in Middle Anglo-Saxon London (Robert Cowie)

Norwich Castle Fee (Elizabeth Shepherd Popescu)

Sweetness and light: chemical evidence of beeswax and tallow candles at Fountains Abbey, North Yorkshire.

(Jacquelyn Frith, Ruth Appleby, Rebecca Stacey and Carl Heron)

Medieval Britain and Ireland in 2003

NEW TO THE LIBRARY COLLECTION

Stone-Miller, R. 2002. Art of the Andes: from Chavin to Inca

(Library Catalogue N 7300 S8)

The new book considered in this issue takes us further afield in archaeology and within the library. The small, highly illustrated book is one in a series published by Thames and Hudson in their World of Art series. This invaluable series, not only covers the art of different areas of the globe and different time periods, but alongside this usually provides a good summary of the archaeology. Other titles in this series include Art and Myth in Ancient Greece, Art of the Celts, The Art of Mesoamerica, Egyptian Art, Minoan and Mycenaean Art, and Roman Art and Architecture. For anyone who received book tokens at Christmas, retailing at £8.95 each, these are good little reference guides to own.

Well, back to the title in question. There has been an increase in books dealing with the archaeology of the Americas appearing in the library, primarily as I am now teaching a module during the daytime on the archaeology of North and South America before the arrival of the Europeans. Being classified as an art book means you need to travel to the sixth floor of the library and the art collections to locate the title in question. This book deals with the developments in South America, from the early developments of the Chavin culture, to the flourishing of the Inca, whilst considering lesser known groups along

the way such as Nasca, Moche, Tiwanaku and Wari. Although focussing on art such as the rich textiles and elaborate pottery of these groups, the book also considers the settlement evidence for each group and of course the burials (from where the majority of the art work is recovered). Heavily illustrated and accompanied by a select bibliography at the end, this book provides an excellent starting point for detailed research into these groups, or a good read for anyone who enjoys learning about different peoples and their past development but might be looking for something outside East Yorkshire.

ELECTRONIC REVIEW

Council for British Archaeology Research Reports

Instead of reviewing an old book from the library shelves this time, I have decided to look at an invaluable online resource that can be accessed from any computer. It is always annoying when books go out of print. You either have to beg, borrow, or steal to be able to acquire that book you so desperately need. Well the Council for British Archaeology, with funding from the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC), understands how we feel, so have digitised all their research reports. Once a report becomes out of print, it can be downloaded, free, from the internet. The Reports are hosted on the ADS (Archaeological Data Service) website. Each book has several different files (making it a long laborious job to download an entire book) but it does mean that you can download specific chapters quite easily. Some of these books are now slightly out of data e.g. Research Report No 1 is entitled 'Romano-British villas: some current problems' and was written in 1955, so we have hopefully moved on since then. On the other hand, there are some valuable excavation reports such as 'Excavations at St Mary's Church, Deerhurst' and 'Archaeology at Barton Court Farm, Abingdon'. Below is the list of reports which are currently available on the website - they can be accessed at

<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/cba/rrs.cfm>

Numbers refer to the individual Research report number.

1. Romano-British villas: some current problems (1955)
2. The recording of architecture and its publication (1955) CBA Medieval Research Committee
3. The investigation of smaller domestic buildings (1955) CBA Post-Medieval Research Committee
4. Anglo-Saxon pottery: a symposium (1959) G C Dunning, J G Hurst, J N L Myres and F Tischler
5. Structure of Romano-British pottery kilns (1964)
6. Romano-British coarse pottery: a student's guide (1964) Graham Webster (editor)
7. Rural settlement in Roman Britain (1966) Charles Thomas (editor)
8. A gazetteer of British Lower & Middle Palaeolithic sites (1968) Derek A Roe (compiler)
9. The Iron Age in the Irish Sea province (1972) Charles Thomas (editor)
10. Current research in Romano-British coarse pottery (1973) Alec Detsicas (editor)
11. The effect of man on the landscape: the Highland Zone (1975) J G Evans, Susan Limbrey & Henry Cleere (editors)
12. Aerial reconnaissance for archaeology (1975) D R Wilson (editor)
13. The archaeological study of churches (1976) Peter Addyman and Richard Morris (editors)
14. The plans and topography of medieval towns in England and Wales (1975) M W Barley (editor)
15. Excavations at St Mary's Church Deerhurst 1971-73 (1976) Philip Rahtz
16. Iron Age sites in central southern England (1976) B W Cunliffe
17. Medieval moated sites (1978) F A Aberg (editor)
18. The Saxon shore (1977) D E Johnston
19. Historic churches - a wasting asset (1977) Warwick Rodwell with Kirsty Rodwell
20. Gazetteer of Mesolithic sites in England and Wales (1977) J J Wymer (editor) with a gazetteer of Upper Palaeolithic sites in England and Wales C J Bonsall (editor)
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30. The Alice Holt/Farnham Roman Pottery Industry (1979) M A B Lyne and R S Jefferies
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129. Cataractonium: Roman Catterick and its hinterland. Excavations and research, 1958-1997. Vol.2 (currently cd-fiche only) (2002) P.J. Wilson

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CRESWELL VISIT

Val Fairhurst is organising a guided visit to Creswell Crags near Sheffield on **Saturday 23rd April** to see the Palaeolithic rock art featured in the recent lecture by Paul Bahn. A scaffolding platform is being erected this season, so the images can be viewed at close quarters.

We will be given refreshments on arrival, but will probably have to take packed lunches. As well as Church Hole Cave and Robin Hood Cave, there is a museum and a shop and some people might want to walk around the limestone gorge (about 45 minutes).

Only 12 people at a time can enter the cave, so the trip will probably be limited to 24 people. Please fill in the enclosed form and return it with your cheque for £17.50 per person to Rose Nicholson. Pick-up points, timings and details will be notified a little nearer the day. The coach will go from Hull, but could pick up at the Humber Bridge car park and possibly one other place en route.

Paul Bahn and colleagues will be continuing their survey in the area and he might even be able to join us on the day (unless, of course he's on TV, explaining yet another startling new find in a previously unexplored cave!)



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20th ANNUAL JORVIK VIKING FESTIVAL

Below is a selection of the many events on offer at York during the next fortnight.

Mon 7th, Wed 9th, Tues 15th and Thur 17th Feb.

Late night private viewing of Jorvik, (adults only)

Including meeting the archaeologists and 'Vikings.' Scandinavian food, wine, mead. £10. 7pm - 9pm.

Pre-bookings only - 01904 543403

Tue 8th - Fri 18th Feb. Be a Viking-

Handle artefacts, take part in activities at the ARC, St Saviourgate. 11am, 1pm and 3pm. £1.50/£1

Mondays - Weaving and shield making.

Tuesdays- Sagas of battles, giants, frost and fire with performance poet Adrian Spendlow.

Wednesdays - same as Monday

Thursdays - same as Tuesday

Fridays - same as Monday

Weds 9th and 16th, Sundays 6th, 13th and 20th Feb

Viking Snickleways Walk.

2.15pm Museum Gardens Gates, Museum St. £5/£2.

Enquiries 01904 622303

Weds 9th Feb. Viking Star Constellations.

Illustrated lecture by the curator of astronomy .

12.30pm and 7.30pm. The observatory, Museum Gardens. £4/£3 (pay at door).

Thurs. 10th and 17th Feb. Festival Walk and Feast

Walk exploring the history, archaeology and diet of Viking York, culminating in a three course meal at Tricksters Lane, Fossgate. 6.30pm. Exhibition Sq., £25. Pre-booking only 01904 543403

Fri. 11th Feb. Festival Lecture by Martin Biddle and Birthe Kjolbye-Biddle. The Great Pagan Army at Repton.

7.30pm Tempest Anderson Hall, Yorkshire Museum. £4/3 Pre-booking 01904 543403

Sat. 12th Feb.

Viking Trading Fair.

Meet Viking traders from around the world. £1.50/£1. Family of 4- £4 Guildhall, St Helen's Sq. 10am - 5.30pm

Viking Market

Traders demonstrate and sell crafts in Barley Hall, York's medieval townhouse. 10am-4pm £1

Training for Battle

Watch warriors training and preparing for battle. Free. 10am-2pm Museum Gardens.

March to Battle

Viking warriors march from Museum Gardens along Parliament St. and Coppergate to the Eye of York.

Free. 2pm

Battle of Stamford Bridge

Battle re-enactment at the Eye of York, of the famous 1066 event. Free admission, but limited capacity.

The Rout to Riccall

The final brave moments when the Vikings face defeat by

the English. Spectacular finale. Eye of York (open area near clifford's Tower) 7pm £5/£3.50

Pre-booking recommended, 01904 543403

Viking Ships on the Ouse

Vikings sail their longships sail on the river and traders throng the quayside at King's Staithe

Free. 11am-2pm

Vikings vs Samurai - The Swords of Warriors

Free. 11.30am Coppergate Sq.

Viking Crime and Punishment

A look at life, justice and punishment.. E. Heritage event.

Clifford's Tower, 12noon & 4pm £2.50/£1.90, family £6.30

Sun 13th Feb

Dragon's Forge- meet the armourer

Exhibition/event at the ARC. St Saviourgate. including some of the armour worn in Lord of the Rings, Pirates of the Caribbean, King Arthur and Troy.

Viking Trading Fair

(see left)

Festival Walk- the Ouse in the Viking Age

£3/£2, 10.30am Meet outside Jorvik, Coppergate.

Prebooking, 01904 543403

Viking Crime and Punishment

See above

Thurs 17th Feb.

Continental Market

Parliament st. 9am-5.30pm

Scandinavian Special

An evening with members of York Anglo-Scandinavian Society. Wine, poetry, story-telling, Icelandic spells, music. The ARC, St Saviourgate. 7pm, £2. Pre-booking.

Fri. 18th Feb.

Continental Street Market (See above)

Festival Walk (See above)

Robin Williamson and Glima

Haunting traditional music from one of Britain's foremost bardic harpists, together with the Norwegian Hardanger fiddle group, Glima. 7.30pm National Centre for Early Music. £12/£10. Pre-booking 01904 658338 or boxoffice@ncem.co.uk

Sat 19th Feb.

Continental Street Market (see above, also Sun. 20th)

Vikings Past and Present

See homecrafts and learn to read runes ARC 10am-4pm

Viking Market in Barley Hall (see left)

Viking Encampment

Demonstrations etc. St. Sampson's Sq. 11am-3pm Free.

For full programme - www.vikingjorvik.com

Dates for your Diary

- Fri 4 Feb** Start of the York Viking Festival, on until Feb 20th. Enquiries/bookings 01904 543403 or jorvik@yorkarchaeology.co.uk or www.vikingjorvik.com
- Thur 10 Feb** The value of York's heritage. Lecture, Jane Grenville of the Archaeology Dept. York University, 7pm.
- Sat 12 Feb** CBA Yorkshire, Annual Symposium, Tempest Anderson Hall, Museum Gardens, York.
- Wed 16 Feb** **ERAS Lecture, J.D.Richards: Ingleby Viking Cemetery**
- Thur 17 Feb** Ancient excrement: an avenue to York's heritage. Andrew Jones, YAT. York University, 7pm
- Thur 24 Feb** Filth of Ages: 2000 years of waste disposal in York. Harry Kenwood and Alan Hall, of the Archaeology Dept. York University 7pm
- Wed 2 Mar** **ERAS Field Studies Meeting**
- Thur 3 Mar** Molecular secrets in the earth: future directions in the investigation of York's past. Matthew Collins of the Archaeology Dept. York University .7pm
- Thur 3 Mar** **ERAS party, at The Friary, Beverley with Latino music, buffet supper and quiz.**
- Wed 16 Mar** **ERAS Lecture, Edwin & Joyce Gifford: The Building and Trials of a Bronze Age Ferriby Ship**
NB. This lecture is in the Lesley Downs Lecture Theatre, Ferens Building, Hull University.
- Tues 22 Mar** Sutton Hoo and the origins of Europe. Prof. Martin Carver. 7pm Merchant Adventurer Hall, Fossgate, York. Free tickets from 01904 432029 or pressoffice@york.ac.uk
- Wed 6 April** **ERAS Field Studies Meeting**
- Sat 16 April** A Celebration of the work of Canon Greenwell, YAS Weekend at Durham. details from YAS
- Wed 20 April** **ERAS AGM 7pm, followed by lecture, Angela Boyle: The Ferrybridge Chariot Burial**
- Sat 30 April** Iron Age 'Chariots'; New Sites- New Insights.YAS dayschool at Bradford University.
Rodney Mackey, Angela Boyle, Fraser Hunter, Tony Spence, Sonia O'Connor, Tim Taylor, Melanie Giles, Prof. John Collis, Terry Manby.
10.15am - 5pm, Dept of Archaeological Science, Phoenix Building, Room AO.08
YAS members £15, NonYAS £18, Students £10 (SU ID reqd.) Price includes lunch and coffee.
Booking forms from ERAS meetings or from YAS, Claremont, 23 Clarendon Rd, Leeds (SAE please)

All the Thursday public lectures at York University will be in the Physics Dept, room P/L001.
For further information phone 01904 432029.

ERAS lectures, unless otherwise stated, are held in Room S1, Wilberforce Building, Hull University, at 7.30pm. Members free, visitors £1. Field study meetings are at 7.30pm upstairs at the Friends Meeting House, Percy St, off Albion St, Hull. No commitment is necessary, just come and help to plan and carry out projects etc.

Please note, you will only get your new, free Volume 11 if you have paid up for 2005

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