

**THE
LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL
AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1975-6**

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LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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**THE LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL
AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
121st ANNUAL REPORT 1975-6**

Eight General Meetings of the Society were held at which the following papers were read:

1975

- 9 October Annual General Meeting in the Guildhall, followed by a film show presented by Professor J. V. S. Megaw, M.A., F.S.A.
- 31 October Fortified Manor Houses. D. T. Williams, Esq., B.A., Ph.D., Lecturer in the History Department of the University of Leicester; Honorary Editor of the Society.
- 14 November Continuity and Fission—the making of Claybrooke Parish. C. V. Pythian-Adams, Esq., M.A., Lecturer in the Department of English Local History, University of Leicester.
- 12 December At The Friend's Meeting House, Queens Road. Recent Work on the East Midlands Iron Age. Jeffrey May, Esq., M.A., Department of Classical and Archæological Studies, University of Nottingham.

1976

- 23 January Winchester Cathedral. Miss Corinne Wilson, B.A. (Arch.), A.R.I.B.A., Architect to the Dean and Chapter, Winchester.
- 27 February Gypsies and Other Travellers in Leicestershire, 1600-1850. David H. Smith, Esq.
- 19 March Limners in a liberated landscape: the development of painting in the American revolution. M. Ruth Megaw, M.A., Ph.D., Lecturer in History, The Nene College, Northampton.
- 30 April Roman Frontiers: Symbols of Success or Failure? Professor J. J. Wilkes, B.A., Ph.D., F.S.A., University of London Institute of Archæology.

Meetings were held in the Museum unless otherwise stated.

Meetings

The well-attended Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in the Guildhall. The President, Professor Jack Simmons, pointed out from the Chair the difficulties facing the Committee in the present inflationary period and noted how an increasing burden of work was being spread amongst the members. He paid particular thanks to Mr. Dowse for his Treasurership, and said how sorry the Committee was to lose Alderman Brownlow. He referred to the increasing work of the Historic Buildings Panel, and said that with care and economy, the Society was maintaining its standard of work and activities. The Chairman of the Committee, Mr. R. J. B. Keene, commented on the activities which had taken place during the year, noted changes in the Committee, with the probability of others to follow in the next twelve months, and on behalf of the Committee thanked members of the Society for their support.

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Committee and Officers

The year was overshadowed for the Society by the death of our former Secretary, Editor, and Vice-President of the Society, Mr. James Crompton. The energetic service he gave for so many years and in so many unseen ways can only be known to those of us who succeeded him as officers of the Society. To the whole membership, however, he will be remembered as a brilliantly entertaining speaker and an immense mine of information on the historical and architectural topics which were his special interest. The year will be remembered too as the last in which the Society has enjoyed the active and devoted services of Miss W. A. G. Herrington. Not only has Miss Herrington shouldered the burden of organizing our excursions programme single-handed but she has conducted most of the everyday business concerned with correspondence and with the running of the Library and has been an example to us all in her enthusiasm and dedication. We wish her every happiness in her retirement in Somerset.

Mr. Dowse, our Honorary Treasurer, felt it necessary to hand over his office after three years of careful husbanding of our financial resources. We are thankful that in his successor, Mr. John Denney, we have already come to recognize the same vigilant regard for economy and sound judgement.

Transactions

Two Volumes of the Transactions, Volumes 48 and 49 appeared during the course of the year. These formed the twin volumes relating to the City of Leicester as a tribute to its years of independent existence. Dr. Williams has succeeded in maintaining the printing cost at a very low level despite the ravages of inflation. It was hoped that the fiftieth volume would appear before the Annual General Meeting.

Membership

Paid Members—Personal Membership ..	400
Libraries and Institutions ..	39
Paid Associates and Students.	64
Members who paid less than full subscription in 1974/75	42
Honorary Members	1

The drop in membership, while not large, is indicative of the need to attract new members, and this will become increasingly important for the future well-being of the Society.

Deaths

We record with regret the deaths of the following Members during the past year: Miss F. E. Pole; Dr. G. M. Sarson, an active member for over 20 years; Mr. J. Crompton, whose activity on behalf of the Society is noted earlier in this Report; Mr. C. Gimson; Mr. K. Liddiard.

Historic Buildings

Under the able control of the Reverend John Hughes the work of the Historic Buildings Panel has continued to expand. During the year to 31 March the panel dealt with 142 applications for comment, 116 reports were sent and 110 visits made. These reports were made at the request of the County Council, District Councils, the C.B.A. and the national societies concerned with historic buildings.

The Archaeological Fieldwork Group

The group has enjoyed a renewed growth under the guidance of Mr. R. G. Mitchell. Particularly encouraging has been the interest and enthusiasm of some schools, and a proposal has been made for the setting up of a Youth Group as a separate function of the Society.

The Library

It is to be hoped that the departure of Miss Herrington will not result in too great a reduction in the excellent services offered during the past two years for members and enquirers.

LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Excursions

- 1975
- 15 May Evening excursion to Sapcote, led by Shirley Smith, Esq.
- 28 May Evening excursion to Launde Abbey, led by Rev. B. Haddelsey.
- 7 June Half-day excursion to Noseley Chapel and Lowesby Hall, led by Prof. A. Everitt.
- 14 June Whole-day excursion to the Cambridge Colleges, led by Rev. John Armson.
- 5 July Whole-day excursion to Deenhurst, Much Marcle, Ross-on-Wye and Tewkesbury, led by Derek Tomkins, Esq.
- 23 July Whole-day excursion to Kinver, led by Miss W. Herrington.
- 7 August Half-day excursion to Twycross, Ratcliffe Culey, and Orton on the Hill, led by Rev. Shirley Bennett.
- 21 August Whole-day excursion to Ironbridge and Coalbrooke Dale, led by Mr. and Mrs. Palmer.
- 27 August Three-quarter day excursion to Catholme and Lichfield, led by Derek Tomkins, Esq.
- 6 September Whole-day excursion to Grimes Graves, Cockley Cley and Oxburgh Hall, led by John Willett, Esq., and followed by the end of season dinner.

Thanks are due to all leaders of excursions who gave generously of their time. Donations from the Excursions Fund were given, where appropriate, to churches and buildings visited.

Melton Mowbray and District Branch

The following meetings of the Branch were held during the year in the Grove School:

- 1975
- 10 October Derek Tomkins, Esq. More Churches of Central Germany.
- 14 November Eric Swift, Esq., M.A. The Folk Lore of Leicestershire.
- 12 December Christmas Meeting.
- 1976
- 9 January Members' Evening.
- 13 February Barron Wright, Esq., B.A., F.R.G.S. National Trust for Places of Historic Interest.
- 12 March The Very Rev. John C. Hughes, M.A. Early History of the Diocese.
- 9 April Mrs. E. A. Bryan. Traditional Building Materials.
- 7 May Annual General Meeting.

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Excursions

- 1975
- 14 May Evening excursion to Nether Broughton and Old Dalby, led by Mr. G. King.
- 31 May Full-day excursion to Lyme Park and Little Moreton Hall, led by Mr. H. L. Copson.
- 28 June Half-day excursion to Kedleston Hall, led by Mr. J. Willett.
- 17 July Full-day excursion to Malmesbury, led by Mr. D. Tomkins.
- 30 July Evening excursion to Lyddington, led by Mr. and Mrs. C. Bowes.
- 16 August Full-day excursion to Abbeydale and Chatsworth, led by Mr. N. S. Angust.
- 4 September Half-day excursion to Lamport Hall and Cottesbrooke, led by Mr. H. L. Copson.
- 17 September Annual Dinner at Melton Mowbray.

The Branch has once again had a most successful year with both excursions and lecture meetings being well supported. Average attendance on excursions has been 40 and at the lecture meetings over 60 members.

LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ON GENERAL ACCOUNT Year ended 30th April 1976

<i>Previous Year</i>	INCOME						£
£							£
1,166	Subscriptions .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1,489
31	Advertisements .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	36
119	Profit on Excursions .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	—
65	Leicestershire County Council Grant .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	—
6	Investment Income .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	6
194	Interest on Bank Deposit Account .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	144
10	Reprint rights .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	—
5	Profit on teas and social events .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	75
£1,596							£1,750
£	EXPENDITURE						£
1,413	Cost of Transactions Volume 49 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1,421
57	Subscriptions to other societies .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	59
49	Library Purchases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	15
50	Lecture Expenses .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	54
44	Insurance .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	52
314	Printing and Postage .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	452
10	Rent .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	10
16	Bank Charges .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	16
13	Sundry Expenses .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	—
11	Archæological Fieldwork Group .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	23
—	Loss on Excursions .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3
381							2,105
—	Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	355
—	Previous year item—Grant by Leicester City Council towards costs of Volume 48 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	300
£381	Excess of Expenditure over Income transferred to General Account .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	£55

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET as at 30th April 1976

<i>Previous Year</i>	ASSETS						£	£
£							£	£
2,024	Cash at Bank .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2,266
24	Sundry Debtors .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	83
37	Investments (Market Value £40) :— £150 3½% Conversion Stock .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	37
£2,085							£2,386	
£	LIABILITIES						£	£
51	Sundry Creditors .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	227
472	Subscriptions received in advance .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	356
1,582							583	
<i>Net Funds in hand</i> at 30th April 1976								
The Net Funds are represented by :—								
1,292	S. H. Skillington Fund .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1,588
270	General Account .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	215
£1,562							£1,803	

REPORT OF THE HONORARY AUDITOR

In my opinion the accounts set out on pages xii to xiv give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Leicestershire Archæological and Historical Society at 30th April 1976, and of its results for the year ended on that date.

Leicester,
13th July 1976.

G. L. ASPELL,
Chartered Accountant.

GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT
Year ended 30th April 1976

<i>Previous</i> <i>Year</i> £		£
651	Balance in hand at 1st May 1975	270
381	Less Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year ended 30th April 1976.. .. .	55
£270	<i>Balance in hand</i> at 30th April 1976	£215

S. H. SKILLINGTON FUND
Year ended 30th April 1976

£		£
912	Balance in hand at 1st May 1975	1,292
380	Add Sales of Literature	318
£1,292		£1,610
—	Less Costs of printing off-prints	22
£1,292	<i>Balance in hand</i> at 30th April 1976	£1,588

**TRUSTEES OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL
AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Alderman J. E. Brownlow
R. G. Dowse, Esq., F.C.A., F.B.C.S.
J. N. Pickard, Esq., J.P.
Derek Tomkins, Esq.
J. R. Webster, Esq.
C. L. Wykes, Esq., F.C.A.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF RESEARCH FUND
Year ended 30th April 1976

<i>Previous Year</i>		INCOME	£
£			
73	Investment Income		73
123	Bank Deposit Interest		102
			£175
£196			
		EXPENDITURE	
—	Thornton Church Excavation		170
—	Archæological Fieldwork Group Equipment		20
3	Bank Charges		2
			192
(193)	Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year		£17

RESEARCH FUND BALANCE SHEET
at 30th April 1976

£	ASSETS	£
	Investments on Capital Account :—	
237	£1,029 3½% War Loan	237
75	£285 4% Consolidated Stock	75
	Market Value £346 (£312)	
	Investments on Income Account:—	
166	£721 3½% War Loan	166
	Market Value £184 (£166)	
1,546	Cash at Bank	1,533
4	Sundry Debtor	—
£2,028	Net Research Funds in hand at 30th April 1976	£2,011

<i>Previous Year</i>		£	£
£	The Research Net Funds are represented by :—		
312	Capital Account at 1st May 1975		312
	Income Account at 1st May 1975	1,716	
	Less Deficit for the year	17	
1,716		1,699	
£2,028	Net Research Funds at 30th April 1976	£2,011	

REPORT OF THE HONORARY AUDITOR

In my opinion the above accounts give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of The Leicestershire Archæological Research Fund at 30th April 1976, and of its results for the year ended on that date.

G. L. ASPELL,
Chartered Accountant.

Leicester,
13th July 1976.

**TRUSTEES OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL
RESEARCH FUND**

The Reverend O. S. Bennett, B.A.
R. G. Dowse, Esq., F.C.A., F.B.C.S.
R. J. B. Keene, Dip. Arch. R.I.B.A.
Professor J. V. S. Megaw, M.A., F.S.A.
Professor J. Simmons, M.A., F.R.Hist.S., F.R.S.L.
Derek Tomkins, Esq.
C. L. Wykes, Esq., F.C.A.

Note:—

The Research Fund was established by a Trust Deed dated 1st November 1923 with the object of applying the income for such work of archæological or antiquarian research as the Trustees in their discretion think fit. The Trustees welcome suggestions for research projects.