

THE LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL
AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
120th ANNUAL REPORT 1974-5

Seven General Meetings of the Society were held, and the following papers were read:

1974

- 10 October *Annual General Meeting* in the Guildhall, followed by a display of slides of *English Funeral Monuments* from the collection of Derek Tomkins.
- 1 November Professor S. S. Frere, M.A., F.B.A. *The Roman Fort at Strageath and the Roman Occupation of Scotland*. In the Attenborough Building, Leicester University.
- 22 November Professor A. M. Everitt, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.Hist.S. *The Melton Mowbrays of England*.

1975

- 24 January Professor J. V. S. Megaw, M.A., F.S.A. *Pre-Roman Celtic Art*.
- 28 February Open Evening devoted to the work and organisation of the *Historic Buildings Panel*.
- 21 March D. Parsons, Esq., F.S.A., B.A., *Repton Church*.
- 23 April Mrs. A. K. B. Evans, B.A., Ph.D., F.R.Hist.S., F.S.A. *Commemoration Lecture. St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle 1348-1975*.

Meetings were held in the Museum unless otherwise stated.

Meetings

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in the Guildhall, the attendance being rather lower than last year. The President, Professor Jack Simmons took the Chair, and paid tribute to the work done by the Committee and Officers for the Society, despite the many recent changes of office. The Chairman of the Society, Mr. R. J. B. Keene, presented the *Annual Report and Accounts*, mentioning forthcoming plans for an Historic Buildings Panel, and thanking Mr. R. G. Dowse in his absence for the excellent work he had put in as Treasurer, particularly by providing an accurate picture of the Society's membership and income. He referred to the report on Publicity and Membership, announcing Mr. Russell's appointment as Membership Secretary.

The Lecture Programme relied heavily upon the expertise of our own members, five lectures being given by members of the Committee. In conjunction with the University of Leicester we heard Professor S. S. Frere on some recent excavations of the Roman Fort at Strageath in Scotland, and a memorable lecture on St. George's Chapel at Windsor by Mrs. A. K. B. Evans, Head of the History Dept. at the University of Leicester.

Committee and Officers

The Committee met seven times under the Chairmanship of Mr. R. J. B. Keene. Miss W. A. G. Herrington and Mr. Derek Tomkins discharged most of

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the routine work of the Society. This year saw the resignation of Mr. James Crompton after his long association with the Society, the event being marked by a dinner and presentation to Mr. Crompton who was created an Honorary Vice-President of the Society. His work as Minutes Secretary was taken over by Mr. Malcolm Elliott.

Mr. P. J. Boylan, the Director of Leicestershire Museums and Art Galleries joined the Committee, as did the Provost, the Very Rev. J. C. Hughes, as Co-ordinator of the Historic Buildings Panel.

Transactions

Volume 48 of Transactions appeared in Autumn 1974. The companion Volume 49 is due to appear before the end of 1975, containing among other things, the text of Professor Simmons' talk on Thomas Cook.

Dr. Williams will thereafter be entirely responsible for editing the Transactions, a task which has hitherto been shared with Mr. Crompton.

Membership

Paid Members—Personal Membership ..	407
Libraries and Institutions ..	52
Paid Associates and Students	72
Members who paid less than full subscription	
in 1974/75	52
Honorary Members	I

Despite the increased subscription which came into operation towards the end of the year, and the large number of presumed resignations, the Society has nevertheless attracted over one hundred new Members during the past year, thanks to the efforts of our Officers, Committee and Members. This reflects well upon the standard of lectures, excursions and other activities, and it is to be hoped that the Society will continue to attract active support in the future.

Deaths

We record with regret the deaths of the following Members during the past year: Mrs. Cawrey; Mr. D. D. Jones; Miss J. M. Orton; Mrs. C. L. Wykes (Associate).

Historic Buildings

After bearing a growing burden of work connected with reports and examinations in recent years, Mr. D. A. Blakesley has now handed over responsibility for co-ordination of such work to the Provost, the Very Rev. J. C. Hughes, who now leads a panel of experts who may be called upon for advice when needed. The wider membership of this panel makes it possible to lighten the load for each individual. The Chairman organised a special meeting of those interested in this work at Leicester Museum on Friday 28th February in place of his advertised lecture. A large attendance reflected the growing interest in conservation matters, and formation of the panel, with a membership of twelve helpers, was accomplished.

The Society has been concerned with steps for preservation of the Sun Alliance building in Horsefair Street, which has finally been secured, and our voice was added to the controversy surrounding steps for removal of the Blackfriars Roman Mosaic Pavement, on which agreement has now been reached. Currently the future of Ernest Gimson's House "Inglewood" Elms Road, Leicester, the Narborough Hotel, and the County's two major monastic sites at Ulverscroft and Gracedieu, is receiving close attention.

Archæological Fieldwork

The Group investigating Moated Sites under the direction of Miss Dornier continues its work, but is in need of further volunteers. An impressive amount of data has already been recorded.

A Churchyard Survey Group has been formed, with Mr. Parsons as leader, following recent despoliation of inscribed slate gravestones at Kegworth. It is planned to introduce a standard recording form, and to enlist the help of Society members in a long term survey of all church and graveyards in the County.

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The Society has sponsored an investigation currently being undertaken by Mr. Parsons at Thornton Church, where a welcome opportunity has arisen to explore the nave before this is re-laid.

Library

There have been considerable additions during the year, and apart from purchases we acknowledge welcome and valuable presentations. Considerable use is made of the library by a regular nucleus of borrowers, and there is a welcome flow of requests for off-prints of Transactions from all quarters.

1974	<i>Excursions</i>
10 May	Evening excursion to Desford. Led by Miss M. Rippin. Attendance: 30.
16 May	Half-day excursion to Roman Lincoln. Led by N. Lincoln, Esq. Attendance: 40.
6 June	Evening excursion to Castle Donington. Led by D. Smith, Esq. Attendance: 23.
15 June	Whole-day excursion to Wall and Wroxeter. Led by A. McWhirr, Esq. Attendance: 41.
27 June	Half-day excursion to Northamptonshire Romanesque Churches. Led by J. Crompton, Esq. Attendance: 34.
17 July	Whole-day excursion to Silbury and Avebury. Arranged by Prof. J. V. S. Megaw. Attendance: 29.
27 July	Whole-day excursion to Berkeley Church and Castle. Led by J. Crompton, Esq. Attendance: 48.
9 August	Whole-day excursion to Rollright Stones, Northleach, Cirencester and Chastleton. Led by J. Willett, Esq., and A. McWhirr, Esq. Attendance: 44.
24 August	Half-day excursion to Fawsley and Stowe-Nine-Churches. Led by D. F. Tomkins, Esq. Attendance: 28.
12 September	Half-day excursion to Arbor Low and Ashbourne, followed by End of Year Dinner. Led by D. F. Tomkins, Esq. Attendance: 34.
1975	
4/6 April	Week-end excursion to Hereford: Rowstone, Abbey Dore, Raglan, Goodrich, Monmouth, Kilpeck and Madley. Led by D. F. Tomkins, Esq. Attendance: 45.

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.

1974	
11 October	Derek Tomkins, Esq. Some Churches of Central Germany.
8 November	David Smith, Esq. The 17th to 19th Century Leicestershire Brick Farmhouse.
13 December	Christmas Meeting. Miscellaneous contributions by members.

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- 1975
- 10 January Members' Evening. Miss G. M. White—Some Aspects of the History of Nottingham. G. Holmes, Esq.—My Hobby, Numismatics.
- 14 February Miss D. M. E. Armitage. Heraldry, the Pursuit of a Hobby.
- 14 March Dr. L. A. Parker. Melton Mowbray Records in the County Record Office.
- 11 April S. Gorin, Esq. Excavations at Empingham.
- 9 May Annual General Meeting.
- 1974
- Excursions*
- 15 May Evening excursion to Shoby and Ragdale. Led by Mr. G. M. P. King. Attendance: 55.
- 18 May Whole-day excursion to Caister and Gt. Yarmouth. Led by Mr. K. C. Wright. Attendance: 30.
- 29 June Half-day excursion to Norbury Manor. Led by Mr. J. E. Brownlow. Attendance: 41.
- 11 July Whole-day excursion to Ham House and Petersham Church. Led by Mr. K. C. Wright and Rev. R. Pearse. Attendance: 35.
- 31 July Evening excursion to Marston Hall. Led by Mr. and Mrs. C. Bowes. Attendance: 36.
- 17 August Whole-day excursion to Gainsborough area. Led by Mr. J. E. Brownlow and Mr. J. Willett. Attendance: 41.
- 5 September Half-day excursion to Bosworth Field and Stoke Golding. Led by Mr. J. E. Brownlow. Attendance: 51.
- 18 September Annual Dinner at South Croxton. Attendance: 41.

The Melton Branch has enjoyed a most excellent and successful year.

Membership of the Branch has increased by 6 after allowing for losses due to removals and illness.

The Summer Excursion Programme was well supported, with visits being made to the places detailed, ending with the Annual Dinner at South Croxton.

The Winter 1974/75 lecture series has received outstanding support, and attendance at meetings has seldom fallen below 60 persons.

The Officers and Committee would like to express their thanks and appreciation to all members for their support during the past year.

LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ON GENERAL ACCOUNT Year ended 30th April 1975

Previous Year	INCOME						£
£							
1,140	Subscriptions						1,166
34	Advertisements						31
5	Profit on Excursions						119
63	Grant for Publication of Buckminster Grange						—
25	Leicestershire County Council Grant						65
8	Investment Income						6
73	Interest on Bank Deposit Account						194
—	Reprint rights						10
—	Profit on teas						5
£1,348							£1,596
£	EXPENDITURE						£
1,184	Cost of Transactions Volume 48						1,413
40	Subscriptions to other societies						57
39	Library Purchases						49
62	Lecture Expenses						50
48	Insurance						44
260	Printing and Postage						314
10	Rent						10
13	Bank Charges						16
36	Sundry Expenses						13
—	Conference on Moated Sites						11
							1,977
£344	Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year						£381

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET as at 30th April 1975

Previous Year	ASSETS						£	£
£								
2,007	Cash at Bank						2,024	
112	Sundry Debtors						24	
	Investments at market value :—							
101	£101 Leicester Corporation 3% Mortgage Loan						—	
37	£150 3½% Conversion Stock						37	
£2,257							£2,085	
£	LIABILITIES						£	
416	Sundry Creditors						51	
278	Subscriptions received in advance						472	
							523	
£1,563	<i>Net Funds in hand</i> at 30th April 1975						£1,562	
	The Net Funds are represented by :—							
912	S. H. Skillington Fund						1,292	
651	General Account						270	
£1,563							£1,562	

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 1975, and of its results for the year ended on that date.

Leicester,
20th June 1975.

G. L. ASPELL,
Chartered Accountant.

GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT
Year ended 30th April 1975

<i>Previous Year</i>		<i>£</i>
£ (385)	Balance overdrawn at 1st May 1974	£ 951
84	Add Provision required to write down investments to market value	—
<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black; margin-bottom: 2px;"/> (469)		<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black; margin-bottom: 2px;"/> 651
1,464	Less Provision for future Transactions no longer required ..	—
<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black; margin-bottom: 2px;"/> 995		<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black; margin-bottom: 2px;"/> 651
344	Less Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year ended 30th April 1975.. .. .	381
<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black; margin-bottom: 2px;"/> £651	<i>Balance in hand at 30th April 1975</i>	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black; margin-bottom: 2px;"/> £270

S. H. SKILLINGTON FUND
Year ended 30th April 1975

£ 1,009	Balance in hand at 1st May 1974	£ 912
178	Add Sales of Literature	380
<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black; margin-bottom: 2px;"/> £1,187		<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black; margin-bottom: 2px;"/> £1,292
275	Less Costs of printing off-prints	—
<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black; margin-bottom: 2px;"/> £912	<i>Balance in hand at 30th April 1975</i>	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black; margin-bottom: 2px;"/> £1,292

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

Alderman J. E. Brownlow
James Crompton, Esq., M.A., B.Litt., F.R.Hist.S., F.S.A.
R. G. Dowse, Esq., F.C.A., F.B.C.S.
J. N. Pickard, Esq., J.P.
C. L. Wykes, Esq., F.C.A.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF RESEARCH FUND
Year ended 30th April 1975

Previous Year £	INCOME	£
72	Investment Income	73
82	Bank Deposit Interest	123
£154		£196
—	EXPENDITURE—Bank Charges	3
£154	Surplus of Income for the year	£193

RESEARCH FUND BALANCE SHEET
at 30th April 1975

£	ASSETS	£
	Investments on Capital Account at market value :—	
265	£1,029 3½% War Loan	237
80	£285 4% Consolidated Stock	75
	Investments on Income Account at market value :—	
180	£721 3½% War Loan	166
1,357	Cash at Bank	1,546
—	Sundry Debtor	4
£1,882	Net Research Funds in hand at 30th April 1975	£2,028

Previous Year £	The Research Net Funds are represented by :—	£	£
	Capital Account at 1st May 1974	345	
	Less Provision required to write down Investments to market value	33	312
345	Income Account at 1st May 1974	1,537	
	Add Income for the year	193	
		1,730	
	Less Provision required to write down Investments to market value	14	1,716
1,537			
£1,882	Net Research Funds at 30th April 1975	£2,028	

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 1975, and of its results for the year ended on that date.

Leicester,
20th June 1975.

G. L. ASPELL,
Chartered Accountant.

**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.
James Crompton, Esq., M.A., B.Litt., F.R.Hist.S., F.S.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.