

## Notes and News

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES

During the past year the following discoveries have been made in the Oxford district, either by excavation under the auspices of the Ashmolean Museum and of the Oxford University Archaeological Society, or as chance finds :—

1. *Eynsham (Foxley Farm), Oxon.* Gravel-digging revealed a beaker-cemetery of the Early Bronze Age with eleven graves, four of which contained beakers ; further finds may be expected. For a previous beaker-interment from here see *Antiq. J.*, XI (1931), 280 f.

2. *Long Wittenham (Pearith's Farm), Berks.* A beaker-burial, Early Bronze Age (see above, p. 1), and two unaccompanied skeletons, (?) Romano-British, were found during gravel-digging.

3. *Radley (Wick Farm), Berks.* In Barrow Hills field (*Oxoniensia*, I, 8 ff., fig. 1) systematic excavation of the easternmost ring-ditch in the southern line has been continued, and has yielded to date : one 'central' cremation-burial accompanied by bronze implements and beads ; eight eccentric cremation-burials, unaccompanied ; two food-vessels buried independently and eccentrically ; and one cooking-hole. A full publication will appear in a future volume of *Oxoniensia*, when the excavation has been completed.

4. *Cassington, Oxon.* Gravel-digging W. of Cassington village along the line of the Oxford Northern By-pass Road has brought to light several Early Iron Age smelting-pits, other Early Iron Age and Romano-British occupation-pits and ditches, and some more Romano-British inhumation-burials, bringing the total number of this cemetery up to 95. Crop-marks in the field on the opposite side of the road, near the river Evenlode, seem to mark the site of another and even more extensive prehistoric and Romano-British settlement. Gravel-pits E. of Cassington have produced Roman potsherds.

5. *Dorchester (Allen's pit), Oxon.* Finds made by gravel-diggers during the year near the site of the potters' kilns (*Oxoniensia*, I, fig. 13) include :—

- (a) Inhumation-burial of a man, crouched, unaccompanied, probably Early Iron Age.
- (b) Numerous fragments and several restorable pots of Early Iron Age A1 and 2 varieties.
- (c) Further dumps of late Romano-British potters' wasters and kiln-material.
- (d) A potters' puddling-table, 20-25 yards S. of kiln 1 (*l.c.*). This consisted of a layer of stones each about 9 inches in diameter, laid flat on the natural gravel (here about 2 feet below the surface) in a rectangle of 3 feet 6 inches by 1 foot 9 inches. The whole of this platform was covered with a uniform layer, 6 inches thick, of stiff buff clay suitable for pottery-making. A few stray Romano-British sherds were mixed with the clay and stones.

## NOTES AND NEWS

6. *Stanton Harcourt (Linch Hill), Oxon.* Gravel-digging revealed Early Iron Age (late A 2) and Romano-British occupation-pits.

7. *Rose Hill, Cowley, Oxford.* Road-widening operations on the main Oxford-Henley road laid bare in the E. bank, on a line with Ellesmere Road (*Oxoniensia*, 1, fig. 17) and just below the crest of the hill, a pit full of potsherds and kiln-material which must be the stoke-hole of a third potters' kiln (for kilns I and II see *op. cit.*, p. 94 and note 3). Two skeletons, a middle-aged man and a young woman, were found near the kiln. On the same side of the road 50 yards S. of this point and at the crest of the hill were further potsherds, a late Roman coin, and another skeleton, that of a young girl aged 11. A fourth skeleton, which proved to be an adult female dwarf only 3 feet high, came to

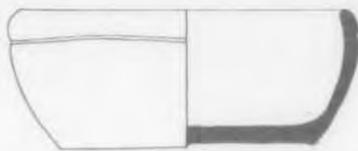


FIG. 34

Bowl, brownish-red colour-coated ware ;  
Romano-British 4-5 cent. A.D.

Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

From a drawing by Mr. R. L. S. Bruce-Mitford.

light in the grounds of 'Rosemount' on the W. side of the road during the digging of foundation-trenches for a garage. Pottery found near this fourth skeleton, but not buried with it, included three fragmentary bowls (FIG. 34) of brownish-red colour-coated ware of shape and finish unrepresented previously at Rose Hill or Dorchester; also a lip of a jug of the same brownish-red ware.

8. *Blackthorn (Heath Bridge), Oxon.* During the straightening of the Bicester-Aylesbury road and the digging of a new cut for the river Ray Romano-British potsherds were discovered 3-4 feet from the surface in the banks of the new cut. It was hoped that traces of the paving of Akeman Street, which would pass here in its direct line, might also be discovered, but careful watch by the Oxfordshire County Council staff has revealed none.

9. *Frilford, Berks.* Six inhumation-burials, all of late Romano-British date, accompanied by coins and other small finds have been excavated on the site of the Romano-British and Saxon cemetery (for previous finds see *Antiq. J.*, 1, 87 ff.).

10. *Aves Ditch, Kirtlington, Oxon.* Trial-trenching at the S. end of the Ditch as marked on O.S. 6-inch Oxon. xxii SW. resulted in the discovery of a butt-end of the ditch almost exactly where it is marked on the map on the high ground E. of the river Cherwell. Pottery found in the filling of the ditch and under the bank (which lay E. of the ditch) gave evidence that the earthwork is of Romano-British date. After further work on other portions of the Ditch a full report will appear in *Oxoniensia*.

11. *Bicester (King's End), Oxon.* Excavations undertaken in advance of road-making operations in the field forming the NW. angle between the road from Oxford to Bicester and the branch road to Chesterton (which here follows roughly the line of

## NOTES AND NEWS

Akeman Street), revealed an occupation-site inhabited continuously during the later Early Iron Age and early Romano-British times by a native British settlement. Paving, which perhaps belonged to Akeman Street itself, was found in the field in Chesterton parish on the opposite (south) side of the branch road. A full report will appear in a forthcoming volume of *Oxoniensia*.

12. *Wallingford, Berks.* Gravel-digging in the grounds of The Pavilion, Wallingford, by Mr. F. Snow, the owner, has revealed important burials, both cremation and inhumation, of Anglo-Saxon date. That there was an extensive Anglo-Saxon cemetery here has long been known, and more finds are to be expected. One notable grave-group, found many years ago, is in Reading Museum: the more recent discoveries are housed in a Museum on the site, after examination and treatment in the Ashmolean Museum.

13. *Seacourt, Berks.* Trial-trenches on the site of the long-abandoned mediæval village of Seacourt on the W. bank of a branch of the River Thames between Wytham and Botley uncovered stone foundations belonging to a mediæval building, and, underneath, a Romano-British occupation-site. Much pottery of both periods was encountered.

14. *Islip, Oxon.* Sewerage-trenching in the bed of the river Ray, S. of Islip village, has disclosed a skull and other objects of Saxon or later date. (*Oxford Times*, November 6, 1936).

### THE KIDDINGTON COIN-HOARD

The late Roman coin-hoard from Kiddington, published by Mr. C. H. V. Sutherland in *Oxoniensia*, 1, 70 ff., has been presented to the Ashmolean Museum by Mr. H. M. Gaskell of Kiddington Hall.

### CORRIGENDA

In *Oxoniensia*, 1, 4, I stated that the discovery in St. Michael's church made in 1900 is 'probably now lost.' The vicar informs me that he possesses a plan of what was discovered, made by Mr. James Parker. Also on p. 5 I said that in the case of the subterranean arches on the north side of the churchyard of St. Michael's which were uncovered in February, 1911, when the premises of the Drug Stores were built, 'no measurements or photographs were taken.' It is a pleasure to record that though the arches were visible for less than 48 hours, yet in that time Mr. Minn took a photograph and Mr. Manning took measurements. They are now in the Bodleian, MS. Top. Oxon. a. 24, 1a. and 1b.

A note may be added to Mr. Pantin's words, *ibid.*, p. 140—'down to the last century, Fellows received payments for attendance at Obits, which of course had ceased to be performed since the Reformation.' Obits are still observed in Magdalen College chapel on the regular days, not with mass but with the old suffrages, 'The souls of the righteous, etc.' to be said by the Founder's Chaplain, who is appointed for that duty; one or two of the obits which fell in the Long Vacation have been transferred to a time when the choir can be present. It may be added that at the obit of John Claymond, John Higden and Robert Morwent, the members of the College (*i.e.* the Fellows, Demies and Choir) receive, as in the middle ages, two groats, one groat or half a groat, according to their standing. The Royal Mint supplies the coins from time to time when the supply runs out.

H. E. SALTER.

## NOTES AND NEWS

### A MANUSCRIPT OF DORCHESTER ABBEY

In the library of Trinity College, Dublin, manuscript A 13 is a Latin Concordantia, which from the handwriting is assigned to about the year 1340. The entries are, of course, alphabetical, and where a new letter begins the initial contains a conventional drawing of a man of religion in black garb with his name below. Before the first name is this hexameter 'Tunc hos vitales tenuit Dorchestre sodales.' As it has hitherto been assumed that the figures were Black Friars, the manuscript has been assigned to the Black Friars of Dorchester in Dorset; but a study of the names proves that the manuscript is from Dorchester Abbey, and the figures are Black Canons. The names are: John de Sutton, the second missing, John Lidinthone, R. Hartwelle, Hen. Moyn, T. de villa, Ioh. Hannye, Ioh. Watfinton, W. Draytone, Ioh. Appelforde, Nich. Bartone, Ric. Eynsham, Matheus Wycombe, Ioh. Stodham, Will. Lutone, Rob. Wynchindon, Will. Codesdone, Hen. Messendene, Will. de Wycombe, frater Ioh. Celebourne, frater Ioh. de Wymberville. It will be observed that many of the canons came from places in the neighbourhood, e.g., Cuddesdon, Stadhampton (Stodham), Drayton, Watlington, Sutton, Appleford, Hanney, Eynsham; others are from Buckinghamshire, e.g., Hartwell, Wycombe, Winchendon, Missenden; the families of Moyn and Wimberville held land near Dorchester; T. de villa probably means T. de Dorchester. We know that John de Sutton was abbot of Dorchester from 1333 to 1349, when he died; he was followed by Robert de Wynchindon. There are Irish words on the fly-leaves which show that the manuscript was in Ireland by the middle of the fifteenth century. The word *frater* used of the last two probably means that they were novices. After the last name is the line 'Tunc tot professi; layci sunt hiis sociati.' In the next century the canons of Dorchester were only twelve or thirteen in number, but in all monasteries the numbers decreased, probably because the Black Death brought higher wages and therefore a diminished income; moreover during the Hundred Years War the taxes were high.

H. E. SALTER.

### MURAL PAINTINGS IN EYNESHAM CHURCH<sup>1</sup>

In the latter part of 1936 a notable series of mural paintings was discovered in Eynsham Church. For many years slight remains of coloured decoration had been visible on the walls of the sanctuary, but the existence of the bulk of what has been recently brought to light was quite unexpected. Although, as often, the paintings are much mutilated and some portions are altogether indecipherable, they are sufficiently complete to enable the original scheme to be determined. As far as the chancel is concerned, the decoration was apparently confined to the sanctuary, and, if paintings formerly existed on other parts of the walls, they have completely disappeared, though much of the old plaster remains. The chancel was rebuilt at the end of the thirteenth century and the paintings must have been executed soon after the completion of the fabric.

There is a wide dado round the lower part of the walls, consisting of a trellis-pattern in buff with a red fleurs-de-lys in each diamond-shaped section. Above this on the north and south walls are three tiers of subjects divided by a band of pink. The space above the subjects and over the windows was decorated with simple masonry-pattern, but only a portion of that on the north wall has survived. The subjects on the south are

<sup>1</sup> See *The Times*, Dec. 23, 1936.

## NOTES AND NEWS

fragmentary and almost indecipherable, but those on the north are in a better state of preservation though they are, unfortunately, mutilated by a mural tablet and by replastering. They depict the story of St. Catharine, a very popular subject in English mediaeval art. The last two scenes in the lowest tier, the miraculous destruction of the wheel and the beheading of the Saint, are easily discernible. There is some reason to believe that the southern series portrayed the story of St. Margaret, who shared to a great extent the popularity of St. Catharine in mediaeval England. A scene in the middle tier may depict the Saint overcoming the dragon. On either side of the modern east window are slight traces of subjects too fragmentary to decipher. The colours are mainly red, pink, and buff with some yellow and dark blue. Sadly mutilated as these subjects are, enough has survived to show the accomplished nature of the figure-drawing and the delicacy of the colour-scheme, which betray a master hand. A canopied niche was inserted to the north of the east window in the fifteenth century, the back of which is decorated with green foliage and white flowers on a red ground, and a barber's pole design on the angle shafts.

The splays and arches of the lateral windows have an unusually elaborate scheme of decoration, that on the north being the best preserved. On the east splay is a masonry-pattern in buff on a cream ground with a red cinquefoiled rosette in each division; the west splay is similarly treated except that the buff lines are edged with red. Round the outer edge of the arch is a thin band of buff, then a series of red chevrons, and finally red rosettes with two red lines on the inner side. The flat of the jambs has a series of blocks of red and buff alternately. The mullion has large red flowers and chevrons, but there are no indications of colour on the tracery. The treatment of the south window is similar but some of the details differ. There is no trace of colour on the mullion, but the flats of the tracery are decorated with red rosettes.

There is no documentary or other evidence to determine the provenance of these paintings, and they are quite unlike any other surviving examples in the district. It is, however, fairly safe to attribute them to some craftsman connected with the adjacent monastery.

E. T. LONG.

## THE RUINS OF BEAUMONT PALACE

In the grounds of The Avenue, No. 302, Woodstock Road, near the southern end of the house and visible from the street, is a piece of ancient walling in which is set an archway with a circular opening above it like the framework of a rose window (PLATE XXIV). The jambs of the arch have nook shafts with dissimilar caps, much weathered but apparently of late 12th century date, which fit awkwardly into their present position having been originally the angle-shafts of a vaulted undercroft. A number of encaustic tiles of the early 14th century together with several ammonites from local quarries have been set in the face of the wall on either side of the arch. One of the ashlar blocks shows traces of Norman tooling.

A tradition handed on to successive owners of the property asserts this medley of relics to be the last vestige of the royal palace of Beaumont, in which Richard Cœur-de-Lion was born at a date contemporary with the earliest of them. The present owner, Mrs. Marshall Montgomery, who purchased the property from the Radbone family in

## NOTES AND NEWS

1917, preserves a board which was formerly affixed to the monument and bears the inscription:—

'This structure, erected here *circa* 1830, was the last vestige of The Royal Palace of Beaumont in Oxford. Built by Henry the First and occupied by him and successive Kings until the Reign of Edward the Second in the fourteenth century.

H. P. Bull  
1880.'

No contemporary evidence of the truth of this tradition was available until the recent donation to the Bodleian Library, by the executors of the late T. W. Hodges, of a MS. (Top. Oxon. c 240),<sup>1</sup> entitled:—

'Summer-Town  
1820-1832  
Origin, History and Description of Summer-Town,  
written in the Autumn of 1832.  
Inscribed to 'The Rev. William Birkett Allen, D.C.L.  
(the first appointed Minister)  
by J. Badcock.

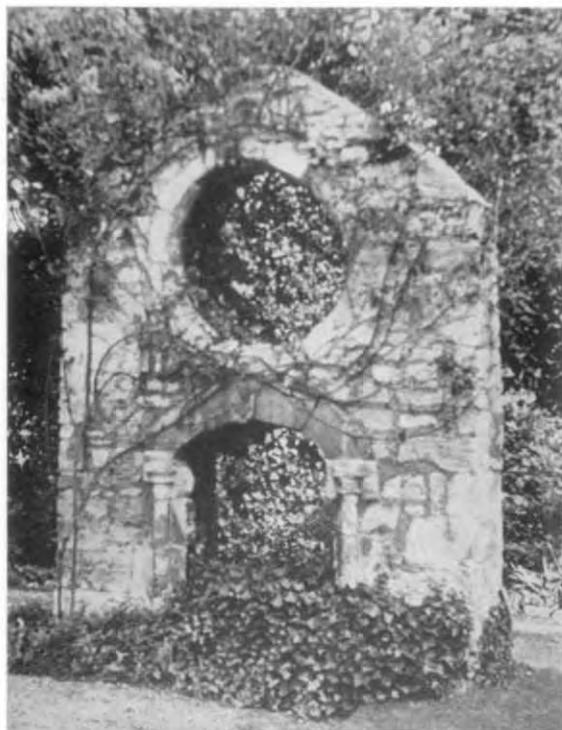
The writer explains that, having come to Oxford on May 7th, 1830, in order to be 'near a dutiful and promising son pursuing his studies at the University' (as a scholar of Worcester College), he took up his residence in a newly-built house on or near the present site of the Dewdrop Inn on the Banbury Road, and for the next two and a half years, occupied his leisure in making a survey of the neighbourhood and recording the results, 'as a legacy to be deposited amongst the archives of the church chest.'

He states that there were no houses on the site of Summertown until 1820, when a travelling hawker named James Lambourn, a native of Cumnor, having married a wife with the attractive and unusual name of Sinetta, bought 'from a Mr. Edward Bayliss, a Baker,' a plot of ground on which to park his caravan, and proceeded to build a more permanent residence with stone brought by himself and his wife from a quarry near Kidlington. Other immigrants soon followed his example, but there were very few houses until a Mr. Kimber and a Mr. Dudley bought from a solicitor of Woodstock 62½ acres of land, lying between the Woodstock and Banbury roads, north of what is now South Parade and was then called Double Ditch and afterwards Union Street. This they laid out in 72 building lots which they sold by auction in Oxford in December, 1821, and June, 1822, reserving eight acres apiece for their own use. On his eight acres Kimber built himself the house now known as The Avenue, 'of the first magnitude in Summer-Town, the foundation stone of which was laid by his son Alfred on the — day of — 1823.'

Badcock makes clear its position by means of a sketch-map, and, in describing it, explains incidentally how the ruins of Beaumont Palace came to their present site. 'Good gardens and pasture land render it a compact home. A carriage drive (from which it takes its name) runs from the house to the Woodstock road, flower borders and dwarf shrubs adorning the sides all the way along, at the commencement of which from the end of the house and facing this straight drive and the gate, has been erected an Ancient Doorway, once an entrance to a Royal Palace on Gloucester Green in Oxford, and removed

<sup>1</sup> I have to thank Mr. Harry Minn for my knowledge of the existence of this MS.

PLATE XXIV



MASONRY REMAINS OF BEAUMONT PALACE  
as erected in the grounds of The Avenue, No. 302, Woodstock Road, Oxford.  
*Phh. P. S. Spokes.*

## NOTES AND NEWS

from thence to its present situation in the year 1830 or 1831 in order to be preserved from entire ruin ere demolished by unsparing modern builders, in completing the elegant street called Beaumont Street (commenced in 1828). It stood, in going down that street towards Worcester College, about three-fourths of the way on the right hand side : and situated as it was there, a step or two back from the present pavement, might very well have remained untouched, in a recess, without inconvenience, by arching the new building over it, to the full satisfaction of the Antiquary and without appearing unsightly to the multitude. My pleading, at the time, for this, was not heard : nevertheless the curious will be pleased that it found a preserver and protector. But to return from this Digression to the premises which this venerable relic now adorns. . . .'

This description of the original site of the ruins agrees with the contemporary drawing by G. Hollis, printed in Ryman's *Illustrations of Oxford*, 1839, and reproduced in T. W. Squire's *West Oxford*, 1928 ; with Skelton's engraving, 1819, of a sketch taken by Hugh O'Neil in 1808, a copy of which hangs on the staircase at Barnett House ; and with Ingram's account of 'some fragments standing not long since on the North side of Beaumont Street about 100 yards from Worcester College.' The existing structure is clearly a reconstruction of these 'Remains, as they appeared in 1800,' illustrated by Jewitt in Ingram's *Memorials of Oxford*, 1837, which were probably those mentioned by Wood, *City*, II, 445, 'a small part of their church (as I think) which is converted into a stable or cowhouse.'

The brickwork of the garden walls of No. 28, Beaumont Street is capped by a bratfishing of late Perpendicular tracery. The mullions show flat backs to the next garden, and have no glazing groove, as if they had formed blind panels or had been sawn through longitudinally to increase the amount of material. There is nothing in any of the prints to suggest that this tracery came from the Beaumont ruins ; and there are fragments of similar type on the Castle Mound. A stone wall in the garden of the first house in Beaumont Buildings, however, may well have been made from rubble found on the site.

E. A. GREENING LAMBORN.

### FURTHER NOTES ON DE GOMME'S PLAN OF OXFORD, 1644.<sup>1</sup>

The representation of the fortifications is of the conventional type, and not drawn to the scale laid down on the Plan, which was only intended to be used for the topographical features. This is usual with plans of fortified places, and may be seen on the 'Rallingson' plan. Consequently to project the whole plan on to the modern Ordnance map tends to throw the fortifications too far out, and contemporary evidence, and the evidence of Loggan's map shows that the fortifications were much nearer to the second line of defence, which was close against the colleges, *i.e.*, Wadham, St. John's, and Gloucester Hall.

The Plan agrees with other contemporary evidence in showing Magdalen College Grove as a walled enclosure, and a castellated wall on the east side clearly formed part of the fortifications on that side, the entrance to the Water-walks (Addison's Walk) being through 'Magdalen Gate' over the now existing stone bridge, before which a detached bastion was erected. From the north flank of this bastion a way, following the direction of the Water-walks, is indicated in colour, leading to a point where the ditch which joins the two branches of the Cherwell intersects with another ditch represented as nearly

<sup>1</sup> *Oxoniensia*, I, 161-72.

## NOTES AND NEWS

bisecting the meadow. At this point, roughly 100 paces short of the east branch of the Cherwell, a long square outwork is represented. Against this work De Gomme has written 'Dovers Speare.' If this is not De Gomme's little joke, it must be identical with a guard which figured both in 1644 and 1645 as 'Dover Peare' or 'Peer.'<sup>1</sup> It has erroneously been supposed that this is Dover Pier, but it is not on the river. The 'Rallingson' plan, which misplaces it on the river, calls it 'Doroburnensis Specula,' which gives the key to its meaning. It was evidently an outwork intended also as an observation-post, in a sector which required very careful watching. Though the way to it was probably protected and palisadoed, it was peculiarly ill-situated for defence and it is not surprising that on April 9th, 1646, the guard was withdrawn and the work slighted. It may have had some timber erection in the nature of an outlook, which probably survived for some years, for it is interesting to note that Charles II paid a special visit to it, when he inspected the remains of the fortifications in 1663. On Michaelmas Day he rode out with his escort to view the outworks at St. Clement's, and passing Magdalen College, the party left their horses at the lodge, and walked on foot over the bridge to the Water-walks, and along to the site of Dover Peer. The object of this special visit must have been to get a general view of what remained of the fortifications from a point of vantage. The visit was so informal and unexpected that the President and Fellows only heard of it in time to assemble to do homage on his return.

A possible reference to De Gomme's Plan is contained in Hearne's Diaries under the date of August 26th, 1710 :—

'Remember that Dr. Hudson procure of Mr. Vincent of Magd. Coll. a Map of Oxon. as fortified in the late Rebellion.'

F. J. VARLEY.

### THE SUB-COMMITTEE FOR OLD HOUSES

On October 29, 1936, the President and one of the Honorary Secretaries of the Society, accompanied by two members of the Sub-Committee, had an interview with a sub-committee of the Town Planning Committee of the City Council at the Town Hall. Information regarding the Council's policy on the question of the preservation of the more interesting and older parts of the City was forthcoming, and assurances were given that it was the policy of the Town Planning Committee to try to preserve the character of the City. It was stated that the Council has the power to make Orders under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1932, to protect buildings. The Town Planning Sub-Committee accepted the offer of the Old Houses Sub-Committee to make a survey of the outer part of the planning area, which includes the Hinkseys, Binsey, Wytham, etc., and to prepare a schedule of buildings and prehistoric sites worthy of preservation. During the year substantial progress has been made in this survey.

The Committee are at present engaged in preparing a supplementary list of houses which should be preserved in the centre of the City. Certain houses have been measured and plans made.

The following buildings have recently been destroyed :—133, High Street ; a group of houses on the west side of St. Aldate's and immediately to the south of Marygold House ; houses in Park Place on the north side of Holywell ; and the Anchor Inn at the junction of Hayfield Road and Polstead Road. Photographs and plans were made of some of these before demolition and they will, it is hoped, form the substance of a later report.

<sup>1</sup> M. G. Hobson and H. E. Salter, *Oxford Council Acts, 1626-66* (O.H.S. xcvi), pp. 390, 394 ff.

## NOTES AND NEWS

### OXFORDSHIRE 'OLD TIMES' EXHIBITION

An exhibition of Oxfordshire antiquities and bygones organized by the Oxfordshire Federation of Women's Institutes was held in the Town Hall, Oxford, from April 27-30, 1937. It comprised, for the most part, objects lent by members of the Institutes and their friends. Many of the objects were displayed in four period 'rooms,' a 17th century bedroom, an 18th century parlour, a 19th century nursery, and a farmhouse kitchen, c. 1800. The remainder were collected into groups: Prehistoric and Mediæval; Farming and Industries; Dresses and Embroideries; and Historical Relics.

At the opening ceremony several speakers referred to the serious gap in the educational system of the city and county caused by the lack of a permanent collection of Oxfordshire Bygones in a local Museum. The hope was expressed that the sight of the large and varied collection that had been gathered together would inspire the proper authorities to found and endow such a Museum.

### 'BODLEIAN EXTENSION' EXHIBITION

An exhibition of objects, photographs, plans, and water-colour drawings, illustrative of the past history of the site of the Bodleian Extension was on view in the Ashmolean Museum from June 21 to August 27, 1937. The objects ranged from a prehistoric mammoth tooth to pottery and glass of comparatively recent date. The architectural history of the houses that have been demolished was represented by plans and photographs (many of which have been reproduced as illustrations in Mr. Pantin's article, pp. 171-200 above), and by a comprehensive series of water-colour drawings by Mr. Bernard Gotch, kindly lent for the occasion by the artist.

Mr. Gotch's drawings form an unexampled pictorial record of the appearance of the site both before and during demolition. The Committee of the O.A. & H.S., feeling that it would be lamentable if all the drawings were to be dispersed, has issued an appeal to members of the Society and others interested in the preservation of records of vanished Oxford to subscribe to a fund for the purchase of at least some of them. The fund is still open, and donations, however small, will be gratefully acknowledged by the honorary treasurer of the appeal, Mr. P. S. Spokes, 26, Charlbury Road, Oxford.

### AVEBURY

An appeal has recently been issued under the auspices of the National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty for a fund of £11,000 to be expended on the preservation of the great Stone Circle at Avebury and other archaeological sites in the vicinity. We have been asked to make this appeal known to readers of *Oxoniensia*, and to add that donations should be sent to the Treasurer, Avebury Preservation Fund, Barclay's Bank, 23, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W. 1. Further particulars of the appeal may be obtained from the Secretary of the National Trust, 7, Buckingham Palace Gardens, London, S.W. 1.