



ARCHIVE UPDATE No 38

BRUCE CASTLE MUSEUM

The object (right) was discovered in 1960 during the culverting of the Stonebridge Brook, Tottenham, and donated to Bruce Castle Museum. The curator sought the assistance of Samuel South(3) with identification.

Samuel(3) estimated that it was over 200 years old and was used for puddling [or pugging] clay for brick and pot making. He explained that the object was set upright, the smaller diameter at the top, within a cylinder and resting on a pivot. The upper end was attached to a horse harness.

Clay and water was fed into the upper part of the cylinder and the roller turned by a horse walking a circular path round it [see below]. The spiral setting of the spikes would mix and soften the clay driving it down to an outlet at the base of the cylinder.



Courtesy of Bruce Castle Museum

NEWS

Eleanor Mitchell

Eleanor is the great grand –daughter of Joseph South and Mary Ann South (nee Dutton); descended from their son, Ernest.

In May, Eleanor travelled from her New Zealand home for a tour of the UK and visited some of her distant relations. A pleasant day was spent visiting the villages of Barkway, Barley and Reed.

Lunch was taken at the “Woodman” pub with Tom Doig, the local historian. Tom presented Eleanor with a brick he had recently unearthed and was probably made at the Morrice Green brickfield where Joseph is likely to have worked.

The brick has been taken to New Zealand but it is not known whether a Customs declaration for importation was required!



Eleanor studies some of the South archives

Bert Brown

Contact has been made with Bert Brown, b 1919, who worked at the South pottery as a general worker in the yard during the 1930s and returned after his war service in 1947 when he became foreman in the claypit. Bert and his family had moved to Devonshire Hill Lane in 1927 and were the first tenants of one of the houses on the new estate developed by Tottenham UDC. He went to Devonshire Hill School where one of his school friends was Ted South. Bert has provided valuable archive material about the working practices and conditions at the pottery.

Devonshire Hill Lane

In addition to the proposals to develop an Isolation Hospital and a railway station at Devonshire Hill (neither of which were built – Update 37) further research has established that other developments were contemplated. In March 1852, the minutes of the Local Board of Health record that a letter had been received notifying “the proposed construction by the New River Company of a Reservoir at Clay Hill [former name of Devonshire Hill]”. As with later development proposals, however, the project was abandoned.

SAMUEL SOUTH(1)

Update 27 included a description and transcribed extract from the sales ledger (1882-1885) of Samuel South(1) and which is preserved at Bruce Castle Museum. The ledger cannot be photocopied or scanned because of possible damage but images of each page have been taken with a digital camera. A sample page is reproduced over-leaf. The entries were made by Samuel(1) and record the orders delivered to customers.

SALES LEDGER

<u>1883 Payment of White</u>			<u>1883 Mr H. B. May</u>		
June 7	Enfield New Characters	3 6 8	July	Dison for Nursery	
28	50 cart 48 pts	2 13 4	2	7 cart 24 st 2/4	16 4
July			16	2 2 50 Pine	8
16	43 cart 48	2 11 4		2 2 52 Pine	10
18	50 2 48	3 6 8	30	20 2 48 Pine	1 6 8
30	50 2 48	3 6 8		4 2 52 2	7 4
	House hire 5 weeks	2 10 0	Sept 26	10 2 2-60	10
	4 days with fuel	1 0 0	Nov 6	10 2 2-60	10
	<u>1912 8</u>				<u>8 11 11</u>
Days paid 7-10 J. Smith					
Letter Sept 24/25	X				
<u>1884</u>			<u>Settle Aug 7/83</u>		
Aug 7	50 cart 48 pts	3 6 8	Jan 4	10 do 40 st 1/2	16 2
20	50 2-48 =	3 6 8	9	10 2 4	16 2
Sept 24	10 2-40 1/3	16 8	1774		
	10 2-32 1/4	14 6	Sturkey 10 2 5-60	10	
	11 2-48	1 2 8		10 2 5-60	10
Oct 10	40 2-48	2 13 4	25	40 2 5-60	2 8
	5 2 40	8 4	Nov 5	24 2 5-60	2 11
Nov 5	50 2-48	3 6 8		15 2 5-60	0 14
12	2 2 52	0 3 6		14 2 5-60	5 4
Dec 24	30 2-48	2 0 0			
1884					
Jan 4	52 2 48	2 2 8			
22	50 2-48	3 6 8			
Feb 12	120 2 60	7 0 0			
	22 160 2-48	7 6 8			
<u>1885 Payment of White</u>			<u>1885</u>		
March 17	100 cart 2 60	6 5 0	April 21	50 2-48	3 6 8
24	50 2-48	3 6 8	May 5	30 2-48	2 0 0
April 21	50 2-48	3 6 8		20 2-48	1 6 8
May 5	30 2-48	2 0 0		10 30 2-48	2 9 0
	20 2-48	1 6 8		13 45 2-48	2 10 2
				16 50 2-48	2 15 4
				24 50 2-48	3 6 8

Samuel South(1) sales ledger – courtesy of Bruce Castle Museum