

Sites Chosen for New Exhibits

SITES FOR a number of buildings in store at the Museum were recently agreed by the Sites and Buildings Advisory Committee and work is expected to start on all of them within the next two years.

Numbers on the aerial photograph of the site show the positions for the buildings.

(1) and (2) show the sites for the Milton Street Dovecote and the Knatts Lane Horse Whim. These two buildings come from downland areas and will be re-erected in this general area leaving space for a suitable house from a downland location. Both structures need to be associated with a substantial home. Eventually this area will become an edge of village farmstead.

(3) Close by is the site for the West Wittering School. Its original site was remote from the village, but as we cannot re-create this location it has been decided to place it on the road leading out of the village. It is possible that work could begin on this building towards the end of the year.

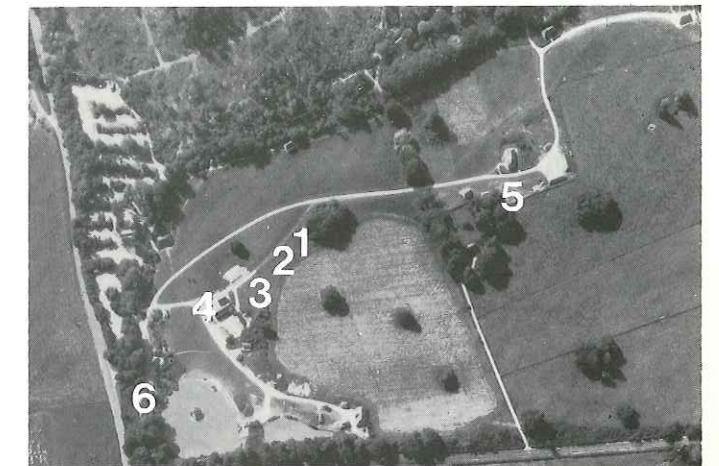
(4) The site for the North Cray Hall House was in fact chosen some time ago, next to the Crawley Hall in the market square. Work starts on this important structure this year.

(5) This is a revised site for the Cowfold Barn in the light of the loss of the Kirdford Cattle Shed. It will be associated with the Lurgashall Shed and form a yard for Bayleaf Farm. The remaining cattle shed from Kirdford will now be screened by a hedge and fence and form a concealed area that separates the lavatories from the main complex.

(6) This is the site chosen for a new Museum office when funds will allow, to enable staff a little more room to operate perhaps slightly more efficiently! The building has not been selected, although some

are under consideration and the final choice will probably be a low level structure.

All these sites are subject to planning permission.



Reproduced by permission of West Sussex County Council. (Copies of this and other aerial photographs of West Sussex, are available from the Planning Department.)

Following in the footsteps of the auction . . .

The Museum Plans a Grand Draw for 1982

AFTER the success of the Friends' Auction the Museum is to hold a Grand Draw this year to raise funds to enable the early re-erection of the West Wittering School.

The school was dismantled by Museum staff last year, and the Museum's plans to re-erect it have already caused considerable local interest in the project. In its final furnished state it will doubtless be a valuable addition to the exhibits and particularly attractive for visitors.

The Museum hopes that Friends will respond to the Draw with the same enthusiasm which they showed for the auction, and it intends to spread the fund-raising effort to visitors, who will be offered tickets in the Museum shop.

The first prize, by kind donation of Sir Richard and Lady Holderness, is a fortnight's rent-free stay in a villa in the Algarve of Portugal, to be taken between November and March, 1983. The villa is located in the fishing village of Carvoeiro and enjoys beautiful views of the coastline and the distant mountains. The villa has a private swimming pool and sleeps a maximum of eight persons. Return air flights for two people will be included with the prize. The prize will be non-transferable.

Other prizes include a Stratton bicycle, sponsored by Dugdales of Chichester, a black and white portable television, a picnic table with attached bench seats, £25 cash, £20 of Marks and Spencer tokens

(donated by Marks and Spencer), a Sodastream "fizzy drinks machine", a health and beauty token donated by the Herb Garden of Chichester, a book token donated by Hammicks of Chichester, a complimentary dinner for two at the Chichester Lodge Hotel, a turkey donated by Church Farm Shop, Bosham, a bottle of whisky donated by the Fox and Hounds Inn, Singleton, a painting by Peter Iden, and an alarm clock donated by Allens of Chichester. More prizes will be added.

A booklet of ten tickets is enclosed with each newsletter together with an "s.a.e." for returned counterfoils and money. If members are able to sell more, further books of tickets are available at the Museum office, telephone Singleton 348. It would be appreciated if members not wishing to participate would return the tickets.

The Grand Draw will take place on Monday, August 30 at 2.30 p.m. when it is hoped a well-known personality will pick the prize-winning tickets.

Further Support from the Minets

TWO OF the Museum's greatest supporters have joined the Friends in the funding of the next major project, the North Cray Hall House.

The Peter Minet Trust has awarded the Museum a grant of £2,500 per annum over two years and the Idlewild Trust has awarded a further grant of £3,000 per annum over two years, amounting to a total of £11,000. This very generous help and the continued interest in the Museum by Mr and Mrs Minet are

deeply appreciated.

The Friends' magnificent effort at last year's auction resulted in £9,000 towards the re-erection of the house, which will be sited next to the Crawley Hall in the market square. Work on the repair of the timbers will start in summer.

Exhibitions

TWO EXHIBITIONS are planned for this summer at the Museum. From June 14 to June 23 there will be an exhibition of drawings by Peter Iden, who has used buildings at the Museum as subjects for his work.

From July 11-19 the Arts Council Exhibition on Timber Framed Buildings written by the Museum's Research Director, Richard Harris, will reach the Museum on its way round museums and arts centres around the country.

Norman West

THE FRIENDS of the Museum will be very sorry to learn of the death of Mr. Norman West. From the time of its foundation he gave unstintingly of his time and skills and although illness has prevented him taking an active part in Museum affairs for several years, all those who worked as volunteers in the early formative period, as well as members of the Council of Management, will remember him with appreciation and gratitude.

We owe Norman's involvement in the Museum to Kim Leslie, and I well remember the first occasion when he came in 1968 to help in the dismantling of Pendean farmhouse. For eight weekends during that hot and memorable summer, he and his wife Pam and their daughter worked consistently with a small band of volunteers on a particularly rough and occasionally risky task. This was soon followed by the dismantling of the Littlehampton granary and the roundhouses from Binsted and North Bersted.

In addition to all this manual help, he contributed his professional expertise as a Chartered Accountant to the formation and setting up of the Museum as a registered charity and Limited Liability Company; for six years he acted as Secretary and as a valued founder member of the Council of Management. In these years the Museum was developing virtually without money, and most of the founder members were without any commercial expertise. In these circumstances Norman guided the Committee through many problems — legal and financial.

His illness placed a tremendous strain on his wife, Pam, who had for years acted as co-ordinator of our volunteer workers, and I am sure that the Friends as a whole would wish to offer their condolences on her bereavement.

J.R. Armstrong

Horse Ploughing Demonstration

VISITORS to the Museum at the end of the season were treated to a demonstration of horse ploughing by Bob Lomas from Dragons Green and his two horses, Queenie and Harvey.

The weather was, on the whole, far from kind, but Bob Lomas ploughed steadily on, with the aid, on two days, of another horse team owned by Robert Dash of Dunsfold. They ploughed a large proportion of the central field (it was never intended to plough it all by horse).

Bob Lomas will be back with his horses during this year, and will take part in the Ploughing Through the Ages demonstration on October 16-17.

WEALD & DOWNLAND OPEN AIR MUSEUM
SINGLETON: 0243-63-348

Museum Action Day

THE MUSEUM is planning a special weekend — July 24-25 — when its workable exhibits will come alive. The aim is to demonstrate some of the crafts and processes which, owing to lack of staff and funds, have to be static during most of the year.

The Action Day will include pit sawing, bread making, water raising, blacksmithing, carpentry, wheelwrighting, working with lead, and demonstrations of horse-driven machinery.

Arthur Plewis

ARTHUR PLEWIS, who donated to the Museum his collection of wheelwrighting equipment, died last autumn after a bronchial illness.

Many long-standing Friends will remember the interesting talks about his life as a wheelwright which he gave to Museum members shortly after his retirement.

Arthur started work as a wheelwright's apprentice in 1921 when he was 14½ years old at High Halstow, Rochester. Although his main work was that of a wheelwright and undertaker he carried out many other jobs including building, thatching and the repair of farm implements. His starting wage of 18/- a week steadily rose and by 1930 he was receiving £2.8s.0d for a 50-hour week.

Arthur retired in 1971 after 50 years in the business. During this time he had had only 18 weeks holiday. He had seen the decline of the use of horse-drawn vehicles and the advancement of mechanisation and he had adjusted his work accordingly.

On his retirement he donated the complete contents of his wheelwright's shop to the Museum, allowing visitors some insight into a craft which was once an everyday occurrence in village life.

Heather Champion



Bob Lomas — ploughing in the sunshine at last!

DESIGNED BY CITYSET LIMITED, CHICHESTER
PRINTED IN ENGLAND BY ACORN PRESS (HASLEMERE)