

TACS Gazetteer News

July 1999

Issue 3

Scouloudi Foundation comes up trumps

Gazetteer news is coming thick and fast now, as the project is well under way. I am delighted to be able to announce that the Scouloudi Foundation, based at London's Institute of Historical Research, has been able to support the expenses associated with gazetteer archive visits to the tune of £400. This award, made in May 1999, ensures that all the important early archive visits - to Ironbridge, Shrewsbury, Stoke-on-Trent, the National Art Library at the V & A, and to the Carter's Archive in Poole - are properly funded. The TACS Editorial Board is very grateful to the Foundation; for details of the Poole visit, see overleaf.

Has anyone out there been to Brownsea Island? I found what appeared to be a Minton tiled fireplace in the private pew of the island's church, following a chance tip-off - very unusual (very cosy!)

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More pubs, more photographs

Time, photographers, please!



Queen's Head, Ramsgate

Now is the time to get out the camera and take some snaps of those ceramic shops, pubs, pavements or whatever - the Gazetteer can now store photographs, and would welcome any of your local sites. Please just send snaps, nothing precious; labelling them individually would be helpful (try putting a sticky label on the back, with your name, the site and the date in soft pencil).

The pic of the above pub was kindly sent to me by the joint CAMRA and English Heritage caseworker for historic pubs, Geoff Brandwood, and shows the tremendous exterior of the Queen's Head, Harbour Parade in Ramsgate - this one was entirely new to me (it has a good ceramic interior too). Better known to TACS is the green glazed brick facade of the Painters Arms, High Town Road, Luton - one of our few Bedfordshire sites. This splendid pub (photos below, also by Geoff Brandwood) is listed II and also listed by CAMRA as part of their national inventory of pub interiors. The Gazetteer project and CAMRA are now exchanging useful information - I was able to suggest a list of 230 potentially interesting pubs to CAMRA, using our



database, and I'm sure we shall soon be

Painters Arms, Luton

working this way with many



Gazetteer Site Count

Date	Number of Sites in Gazetteer
July 1999	2571
April 1999	2287
November 1998	1850
March 1997	1443

Sun, sea and the Carter's Archive

In June the Gaz. Ed. went west, to visit the Carter's Archive held at the Waterfront Museum, Poole. The sheer amount of 'stuff' was daunting for a short visit - two entire filing cabinets and six large boxes filled with photographs, drawings, Carter publications and other material - but with the assistance of Sue Beckett, the Museum's Collections Officer, I managed a good trawl through the archive. Most helpful was a catalogue to the photographs, which also gave much information on artists and designers. This, though quite recent, was written in neat pencil longhand - a real throwback in these days of rucksack-portable computers! Some photographs had escaped the catalogue, one of which - a wall plaque? - is illustrated below (apologies for the darkness of the copy). But this must surely be from Traquair House, near Innerleithen in the Scottish Borders?



Fortunately there was also time to get out and about, and I was even able to identify a few new local sites with the aid of information from the Carter's catalogue. Exploring Poole, I naturally began at Poole Pottery itself, sited on The Quay, beside the huge and dramatic expanse of the harbour. The entrance to the Pottery displays one of the delightful 'Welcome to Poole' tubelined panels (above), showing yachts in



Poole harbour, which once graced local approach roads and the promenade. Later I found one extant in its original position, by the ferry to Purbeck at Sandbanks. These panels were from a series of town panels made by Carter's in the 1950s, and were designed by Arthur Nickols. On the Pottery's Quay frontage was another new item for the gazetteer, a ceramic panel made to commemorate the 50th anniversary of D-Day, designed by Irene Reeve and made at Poole Pottery by Alan White. The colourful concoction shows Neptune, stylised waves, parachutists, and flags with assorted quotations, largely in pale blues and greens on a terracotta background. There was another surprise at the rear entrance to the Pottery, where a long tile panel - showing the muse of learning? - commands the yard; classical figures in buff and brown strike incongruous poses

above visitors leaving the Pottery.

Heading west for Poole Bridge, I explored the quayside, passing the buff, brown and black glazed brick facade of the Jolly Sailor, which also has a good door canopy, in dark brown - almost lustrous - faience. Then there is the amazing Poole Arms whose facade, a massive emerald green faience gable end, shimmers in reflected light from the water opposite. Dark green dressings, a classical doorcase, a central panel with the pub's name in gold lettering, and the town's coat of arms on yellow ground in a circular panel at the top of the gable make this a most memorable pub front. It is almost certainly the work of Carter's, who showed the pub's mosaic doorway panel in a catalogue dating from about 1908.

A slight deviation away from the quayside brings you to the Tourist Information Centre and Waterfront Museum, 4 High Street, where a Carter's plaque of the town arms is topped by a voluptuous mermaid, supposedly based on the shapely local lass Ann Sidney, a one-time winner of the 'Miss World' contest. At the Quay's end is Poole Bridge, with large, high relief faience panels proudly showing the town's coat of arms on the outside of each of its four piers; all are signed 'Carter, Stabler & Adams Ltd 1926'. Back in town, on the corner of Old Orchard and High Street is Peri's Ice Cream shop which - with the help of the Carter catalogue - I identified as Yeatman's the florists. It has two pretty tubelined Carter's panels of flowers in natural colours on black ground on its facade; these date from 1949 and were designed by Reginald Till. Very satisfying to find such an attractive new site! In addition, just around the corner was a well-preserved Dewhurst's at 135 High Street, with at least eleven of the usual Carter's pictorial four-tile panels of farmyard scenes. No space here for new sites in Bournemouth, Weymouth (a huge tiled name-plaque on the brewery, amongst other things) and Dorchester.....