

Hidden Heritage

Exploring Farnham's buried past



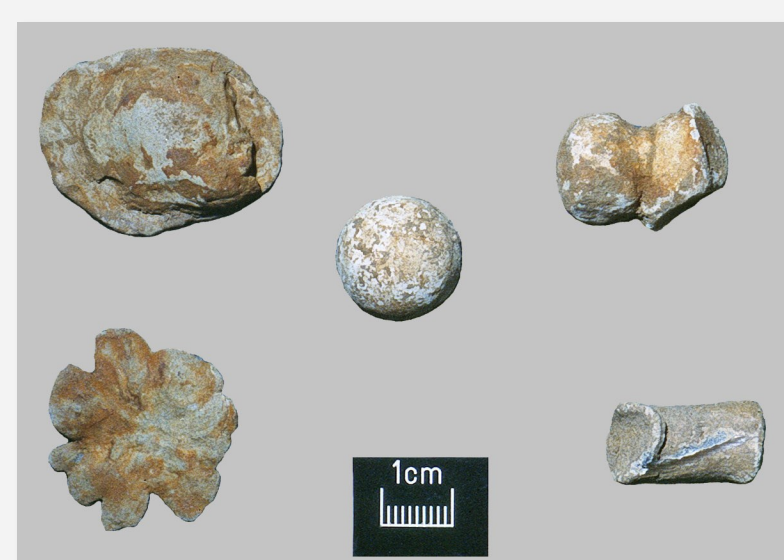
V Ambrus



Model of former Market House – begun in 1566 – at the bottom of Castle Street
© Museum of Farnham



V Ambrus



Civil War munitions from Farnham Park
(Photo D Graham)

Tudor AD 1485-1603

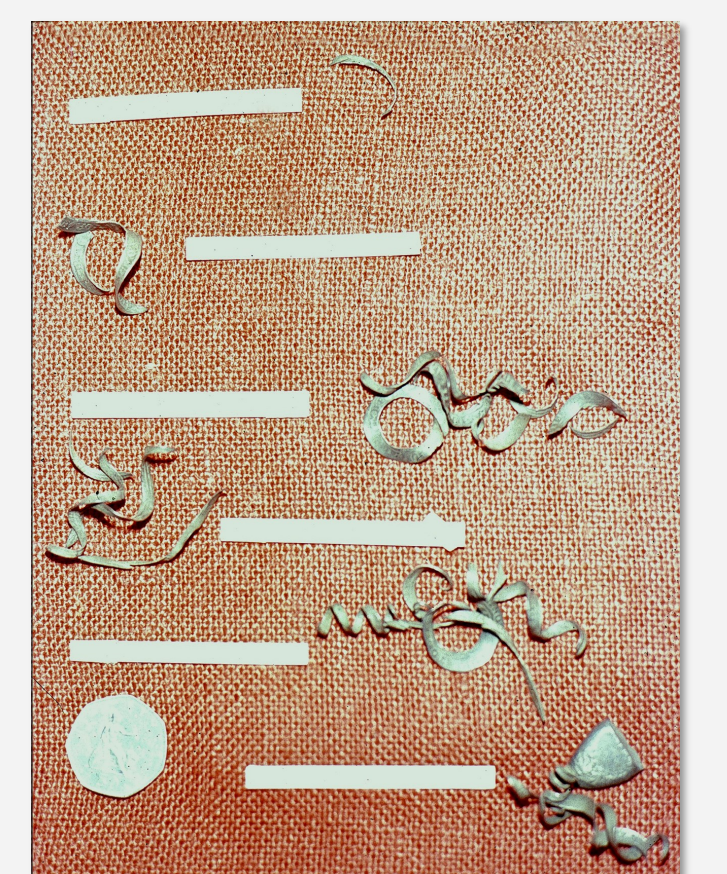
The medieval period officially came to an end with the Battle of Bosworth in 1485, and Henry VII soon laid the grounds of the powerful Tudor State. His son Prince Hal – Henry VIII – had a significant impact on the countryside through his break with Rome, which led to the monasteries' dissolution. Great abbeys – such as Waverley – had their stones removed to be used for the building of the county's grand houses, and towns at this time also flourished from their thriving markets and rural industries.



Tudor rose hat pin found in north Farnham by a detectorist
(Photo by D Graham)



Trader token c.1658 found at Castle
(Photo D Graham)



Local coin clippings ranging from Edward VI to James I
(Photo D Graham)



Vernon House (now Library) where Charles I stayed the night in 1648 on his way to trial in London

Stuart AD 1603-1714

The Stuart period began with James I's accession and covered such events as the gunpowder plot, religious feuding, the Whig Supremacy, and the Civil Wars (1642-49) with local battles which included Alton, Cheriton and of course Farnham. In addition to rising populations and agricultural production, the period saw a change in the castle landscape, with fortresses such as Farnham playing key roles in battles against Royalist forces.

Georgian AD 1714-1837

The transition to new manufacturing processes – known as the Industrial Revolution – characterized the Georgian period, and the era was known for its canal building, steam power and move to machine manufacturing processes. The rural landscape was particularly affected, with the enclosure of common land and 'drowning' of low-lying ground seeing a great expansion of hedgerows and water meadows. The hop industry, which had roots in the 1600s, also thrived and led to a rebuilding in brick of many of the town's prosperous houses.

Hand water pump c.1779 from what was originally an open yard behind 112 West Street
(Photo D Graham)



V Ambrus



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19th century town water cistern at bottom of Castle Street
(Photo D Graham)



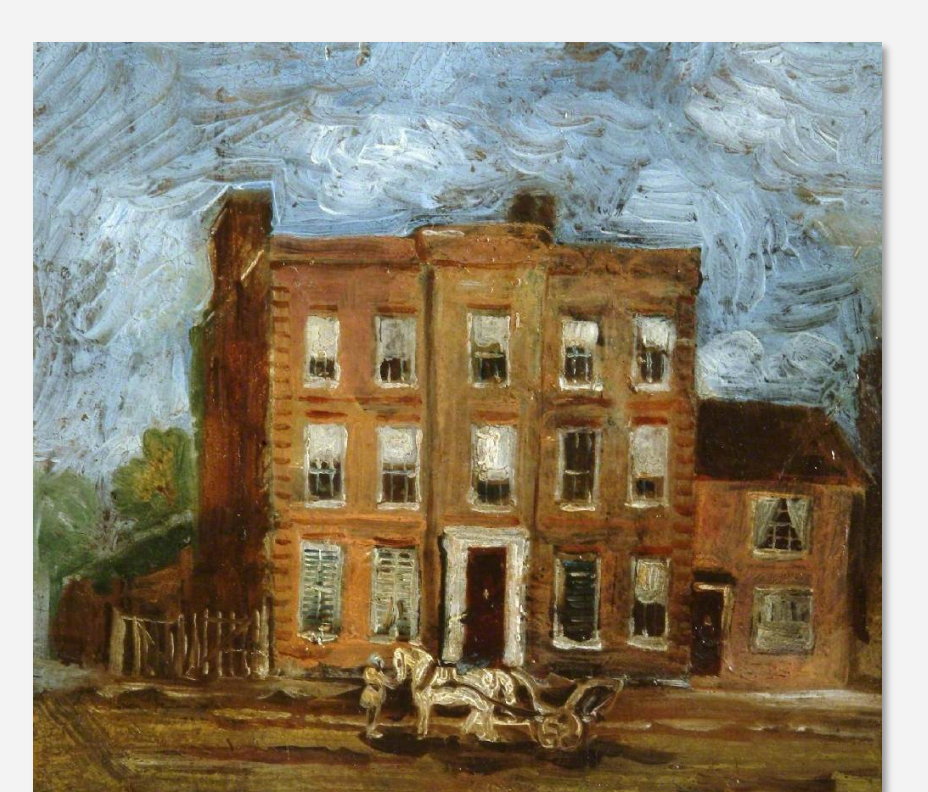
WW2 Spigot mortar from Farnham Park
(Photo D Graham)



V Ambrus

Victorian AD 1837-1901

The Victorian era saw innovations in transport, and with the coming of the railway in 1848, towns like Farnham saw increased supplies of goods and services, as well as an influx of people – including troops from military camps such as Aldershot – which led to the construction of new roads and crossings. In addition to cars, new inventions in communication also characterize the period, such as telephones, photographs and light bulbs.



Brick-built Georgian Willmer House by Thomas Hunter Jr, which lies over earlier foundations
© Museum of Farnham



Excavations of 19th century corset factory behind Boots
(Photo D Graham)

20th century

When war broke out in July 1914, England was plunged into a modern global war, the effects of which left devastating losses for the populace and changes on the Home Front, including threats from air raids and the mobilisation of businesses to produce much-needed munitions and food. In both this and the Second World War (1939-45), women played a key role, whether as nurses or by taking the men's place in the factories.



First 'two-minute silence' taking place in May 1916 at the bottom of Castle Street
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