

Account of Purley on Thames

Berkshire

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The County Books - Berkshire By Ian Yarrow

The book was published as 'Berkshire ' by Robert Hale Limited in 1952 as one of a series of 'County Book' covering all the British Isles. Purley has three mentions

Page 26 - Mesolithic times

Axe heads of this period have been found close to the Thames below Oxford, from Purley ; not all these are of flint, but all are polished or at least prepared for polishing. Dolerite, quartzite, shale, greensand and basalt were in use for the making of axeheads but flint was still the material most commonly used.

Page 275 - Norman times

Of the Norman fonts we find about fifteen which are tub shaped and plain. These occur in all parts of Berkshire. More elaborate examples are found, of which Avington is the most notable. Interesting types are seen at Purley and other places.

Page 283 - a guide for the diligent motorist.

The Thames valley up to Streatley and the base of the Downs up to Aldworth and back by the wooded valley of the Pang.

The Oxford road runs away from Reading as fast as it decently can, for this surely is the largest of the various large roads leading from the town. Past the greyhound stadium where on Saturday's half of Reading seems to hang about, on past the roundabout and into the country, with the decrepid walls of Purley Park and the pretty lane leading down to a terrible bungalow town and a riverside disdainful of such eyesores, sweeping with averted eyes to the lovely pools and weir at Mapledurham.

