



HISTORY

Tony Roberts continues his look into East Finchley's past.

East Finchley in Time Immemorial

An attractive feature of East Finchley today is its closeness to woodland, remnants of a much earlier extensive covering.

Following the retreat of the ice-cap, the Finchley triangle was re-colonised by plants, animals and finally man. Early man would have found the area forested and difficult and there is nothing to suggest any clearing might have taken place before 5000 BCE.

The Romans usually avoided the hilly northern heights, constructing straight roads in the valley either side. Watling Street and Ermine Street, known today as the Edgware Road and Tottenham High Road.

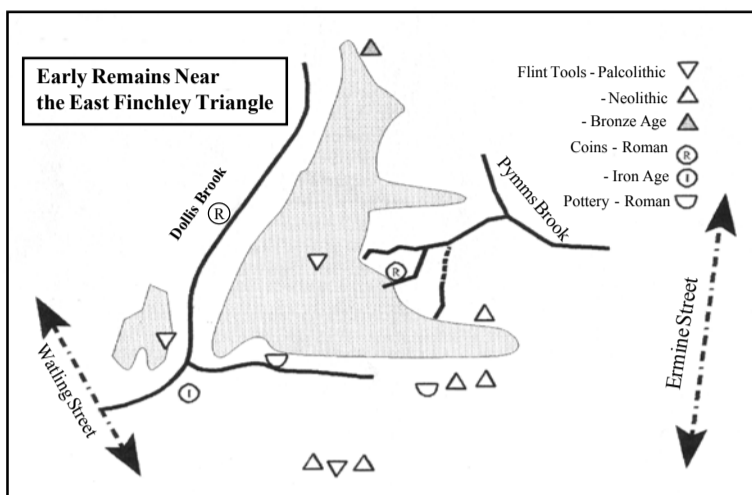
Saxon evidence.

Then came the Saxons up the River Thames to settle in it's valleys. These middle Saxons were a loose group of tribes, dominated in turn by the Kingdom of Essex, Mercia and Wessex.

King Alfred's son Edward introduced the counties of Middlesex and Hertfordshire about 900 CE as a defence against the Danes and the middle Saxons were divided between them, the area now known as Finchley forming the northern border of Middlesex.

divided into 7 or 8 administrative units known as "Hundreds" and Finchley was in the Hundred of Ossulstone, centred on London and with its court near Speakers Corner.

Acknowledgements: The Westminster Corridor, David Sullivan, 1994. For a complete list of publications on which this series is based, write to the Archer, History List, enclosing SAE.



Archer/GLH Quiz

Greater London Hire, East Finchley's car hire, mini-cab and courier company, is offering £25 to the reader who can get the following questions right. This will be added to the £25 from the last Archer/GLH quiz because no reader got the answers right making a £50 prize!

Please fill in the answers on the coupon below and send it to The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 8JA to reach us no later than the end of this month.

Editor's word of warning: Watch out! The questions are deceptively easy; and your spelling must be right.

- 1. Name the school in East Finchley which is named after a Bishop?
2. Which station on the Northern line is furthest away from East Finchley?
3. Which road in East Finchley is named after a Field Marshall?
4. Most of East Finchley is in the Borough of Barnet. In which borough is the remainder?
5. Which of the following is the odd one out, and why? Lincoln, Durham, Hertford, Taunton, Leicester

Answers to May GLH/Archer Quiz
1.....
2.....
3.....
4.....
5.....
Name:.....
Address:.....

KALASHNIKOV KULTUR

Bypass Operation

by Ricky Savage, the Voice of social irresponsibility
Welcome to the end of the road show. Why end of the road? Simple, because it is the end of the road and the road is the North Circular and it is very nearly finished.

According to one top secret "think tank" working on the project, what East Finchley needs is a proper by-pass to link the new North Circular up with the Archway Road.

Obviously the parking problems need to be done to be solved and obviously getting all the through traffic off the High Road will solve them.

Now, let's talk about the bypass... Starting with a slip road off the North Circular, it will provide access to a new shopping centre on the site of Strawberry Vale, before running straight across what is now the cemetery and Coldfall Wood.

It will then approximately follow the line of Durham Road and Summerlee Avenue, before crossing Cherry Tree Wood to join the widened Archway Road just after Woodside Avenue.

The maniacs running the think tank expect to get government approval sometime in early June on the grounds that no one has come up with anything so stupid since the Poll Tax.

But all is not lost... An urgent SOS is going out to Swampy, Muppet Dave, Animal and all the other veterans of the Newbury Bypass campaign.

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