

Clue #1

1 May 2018

The object is dome-shaped and encases several metallic plant-like structures that surround a glowing green object that looks a little bit like kryptonite. The dome is transparent and embedded in a blue and white distressed surface that is surprisingly hard. Inside the dome, the metal plant-like structure seems to obtain its nutrients from a cobalt blue substance. We are trying to determine if it is safe to remove the transparent dome.

The metal plant-like structure seems to suggest a place far far away. From another planet quite similar in some ways to ours. Based on our past field notes, there are strong suggestions that this comes from Par-Bexia, a place much like Bexley, on another planet.

The dome-shaped object was recovered from outside of the library in this yellow skip.



At the time, there were renovations ongoing and a pile of cardboard and coloured boards juts out of a yellow Toulouse skip. A renewal of the archive both literally and metaphorically as the library now houses not only the archives of Bexley but also provides services that facilitate digital inclusivity. It is in the process of becoming a place of knowledge where one might learn of the past, and learn of ways to access information (online) in the present. The process of renewal implies also a clearing out of the past - how do we decide what to archive and what to throw away? Chiming with this thinking, the yellow skip holds the discarded fragments of a not so distant past as we make our way, past the construction, to pore over the remains of the old Roman Road (or what is presently known as Bexleyheath Broadway).



Together with impressively ordered material, we are greeted by brown paper boxes filled with documents to be sorted, next to a grey metal filing cabinet. On top of this cabinet, a small brown box that says 'Scrap paper. Please help yourself'. There is much about 'scrapping' in our minds. We have been working closely with Oliver and Graham who work at the [Bexley Archives](#) to determine the first appearance of these strange objects from Par-Bex. Are these objects some sort of way of documenting the past and preserving a sense of place? Sally Mackey, our Principle Investigator asks, 'What is it about the past that is so seductive? How might it invite people to think differently about the present in ways that keep us focused on the future?'