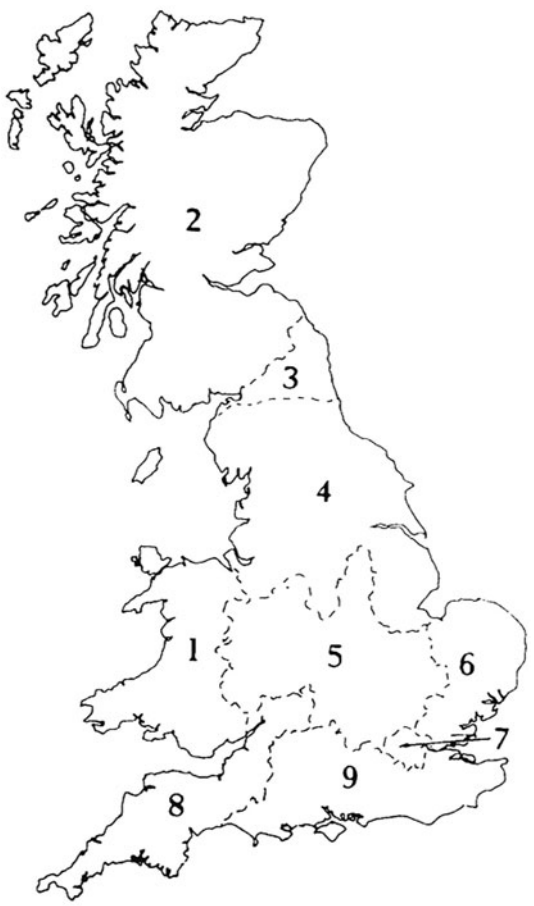
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Roman Britain in 2021

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I. Sites Explored
II. Finds Reported under the Portable Antiquities Scheme
III. Inscriptions
IV. Spotlight on New Research



Key to numbered sections of Part I (Sites Explored).

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I. SITES EXPLORED
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Please note that only the most significant sites and discoveries for each region are included here; for further information, see the supplementary material for each region, available at https://doi.org/10.1017/S0068113X22000381; https://doi.org/10.1017/S0068113X22000393; https://doi.org/10.1017/S0068113X2200040X; https://doi.org/10.1017/S0068113X22000411; https://doi.org/10.1017/S0068113X22000423; https://doi.org/10.1017/S0068113X22000435; https://doi.org/10.1017/S0068113X22000447; https://doi.org/10.1017/S0068113X22000459; https://doi.org/10.1017/S0068113X22000460; https://doi.org/10.1017/S0068113X22000472

1. WALES

By EVAN M. CHAPMAN

CARDIFF

(1) **Cardiff,** *St Edeyrn's* (ST 22267 82444): a programme of evaluation trenching and strip, map and record revealed a large sub-square enclosure, with a ditch 2.4 m wide and 1.06 m deep; gullies; post-holes; and pits. Two main phases of activity were identified, the first being two parallel curving gullies dated to the late Iron Age/early Roman period, one of which contained a large amount of deliberately deposited pottery. The gullies were superseded by the large sub-square enclosure which dated from the second century A.D.; this was re-cut and extended eastward. Small-scale secondary smithing appears to have taken place in association with the sub-square enclosure.[1]

MONMOUTHSHIRE

(1) **Caerwent**, (a) *coin hoard* (ST 47 92): a scatter of 13 silver siliquae minted between A.D. 360 and 395. All the coins have been clipped, some to the extent that the entire legend is missing. All the coins were minted before A.D. 395, but the extent of the clipping of the coins suggests a deposition date after A.D. 407. Julian, 1; Valens, 1; Gratian, 2; Valentinian II, 3; Theodosius I, 3; Magnus Maximus, 2; uncertain (probably Valentinian I or Valens), 1.[2]

(b) *Caerwent House* (ST 46930 90560): trenches for new drainage pipes came down onto the eastern two walls of the *forum* entrance passage and the eastern base-stone block of the entrance arch, as drawn in the published Edwardian excavation plan. The dark shading on the Edwardian plan is solid masonry with pink mortar perfectly hard and well preserved. The unshaded wall is narrower and of a black-speckled white mortar, but not certainly 'modern'. They abut, with the white mortar filling the gap between the narrower wall and the more substantial, pink-mortared wall. The forward projections of the entrance echo those at the temple and a mortared foundation similar to those of the niches at the temple is present between them in the exposed eastern part. This is possibly the 'pitching' referred to on the Edwardian plan. The metalling of the road is preserved along the eastern quarter of the garden

[1] Work by Nick Wells and Rose Calis of Rubicon Heritage Service Ltd.
[2] Treasure case Wales 19.35. To be acquired by Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales. Alastair Willis provided information.

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in front of the house. At the back, the yard slabs at the eastern end of the backyard were laid over the Roman walls of Rooms 7 and 8, including an unrecorded medial subdivision to the south in Room 7, and an undisturbed *opus signinum* floor in Room 6.[3]

(2) **Portskewett**, *land off Crick Lane* (ST 4937 8842): a watching-brief identified two small enclosures on the west side of the site along with numerous other features outside the enclosures. These included multiple pits, linear gullies and four post-holes, which unfortunately do not seem to form any meaningful structural footprint. The enclosures both extended beyond the limit of excavation, but enclosed a visible area of 600 m^2 and 270 m^2 respectively. The features observed were characteristically late Prehistoric or Romano-British in form, but most produced little dating evidence. A substantial amount of pottery was, however, recovered from one of the enclosure ditches, with a more modest sample recovered from the other. Preliminarily spot dates were Roman.[4]

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

For supplementary material for this article please visit https://doi.org/10.1017/S0068113X22000381

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2. SCOTLAND

By FRASER HUNTER[5]

NORTH OF THE ANTONINE WALL

PERTH AND KINROSS

(1) **Haughend** (NO 287 470): excavation[6] revealed 19 keyhole-shaped field ovens in two main clusters (of five and eight respectively), the others being more scattered. The work also revealed long stretches of a shallow V-sectioned ditch (up to 0.8 m wide × 0.46 m deep) which turned through a right angle, reminiscent of a camp ditch, although the rather loose fill, small size and presence of modern intrusive material in the base in one area, along with the absence of any entrance in a stretch of 300 m, suggested to the excavators that it was more recent field boundary.[7] Its rounded corner is unusual for that, however, and it remains possible that more recent ditches reused a visible Roman line. The ovens were mostly contained within the ditch, but some lay beyond it. The site lies immediately over the River Isla from the fort at Cardean, providing a ready context for the activity.

[3] Mark Lewis sent information.
[4] Work by L-P Archaeology on behalf of Candleston Homes/Melin Homes in advance of a large housing development. Sam Birchall sent information.
[5] This account usually includes significant stray finds which have passed through the Treasure Trove system, but no allocation meetings were held in 2021.
[6] Directed by Magnus Kirby of CFA Archaeology for BAM Nuttall Ltd; M. Johnson sent a report.
[7] This length of uninterrupted ditch is not impossible for a large camp.

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