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Roman Britain in 2008

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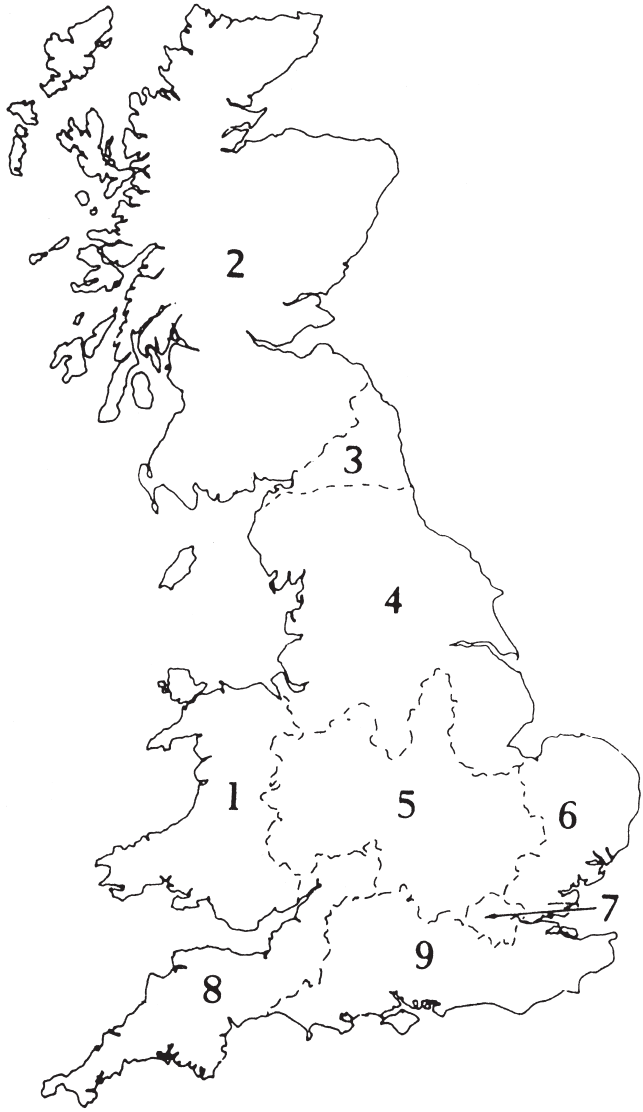


FIG. 1. Key to numbered sections of Part I (Sites Explored).

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I. Sites Explored

Sites included in this summary are listed according to the new unitary authority boundaries introduced in 1996.

1. WALES

By EVAN M. CHAPMAN

CARDIFF

(1) **Cardiff Castle** (ST 1807 7659): (a) a deposit dated to the first half of the second century was revealed during hand excavation for a sign *c.* 10 m to the south of the north gate of the rebuilt third-century fort. (b) Elements of the Roman west wall were recorded during repairs to the Ladies' Walk.[1]

CARMARTHENSHIRE

(1) **Llandeilo**, *Dinefwr Park* (SN 607 224): sherds of Roman pottery and *tegulae* found close to the spring-source of a stream, on the western boundary of the Deer Park, suggested the presence of a substantial Roman building nearby. Geophysical survey of the area identified a variety of potentially significant features, several of which were investigated. Although the site of a possible Roman building was identified, its excavation was hampered by a substantial depth of colluvium and a continuous stream of groundwater. A small investigation below the maximum practical depth of excavation did, however, expose the top of a probable *in-situ* deposit of Roman-period demolition debris, including charcoal and *tegulae* fragments. The location of the building, in what would then have been a relatively steep-sided stream valley, is unusual, and may suggest that the building was located at the stream source specifically for ritual purposes. The Roman pottery assemblage demonstrates that this building was not used at the same time as the nearby Roman fort, but was established soon after the fort's closure in the second century and continued in use into the third/fourth centuries. The building is clearly, therefore, not a bath-house associated with the fort.[2]

GWYNEDD

(1) **Gwanas-fawr** (SH 7711 1645): aerial photography discovered a rectangular earthwork (NPRN 406840) 4.5 km south-east of Dolgellau. Initially thought to be an early fort, the earthwork has now been tested by ground survey, magnetometry and trial excavation, both in the interior and across the inner bank on the east side, and found to be a Roman camp (FIG. 2). The enclosure is rectangular in shape, with rounded corners, enclosing an internal area of 1.74 ha (141 m east–west by 124 m north–south). It is defined by a double bank with a median ditch and has four entrances — those on the east and west centrally-placed and those on the north and south slightly to the west of centre, indicating that the camp faced west. The inner bank was *c.* 3.5 m wide with an inner and outer turf revetment and a mixed infill of soil, stone and dumped turfs. Although not examined, the outer bank is of slighter character and appears to be a counterscarp. Along the western side, the rampart only partly survives along the line of a recently

[1] Excavation by Mr R. Dunning, recording of wall by Ms A. Young, both of the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust, on behalf of Cardiff City Council. Dr E.M. Evans sent information.

[2] Work undertaken by local volunteers working with the Dyfed Archaeological Trust. The excavation was supported by the National Trust, the David and Christopher Lewis Foundation and the Cambrian Archaeological Association. Mr D. Schlee sent information.

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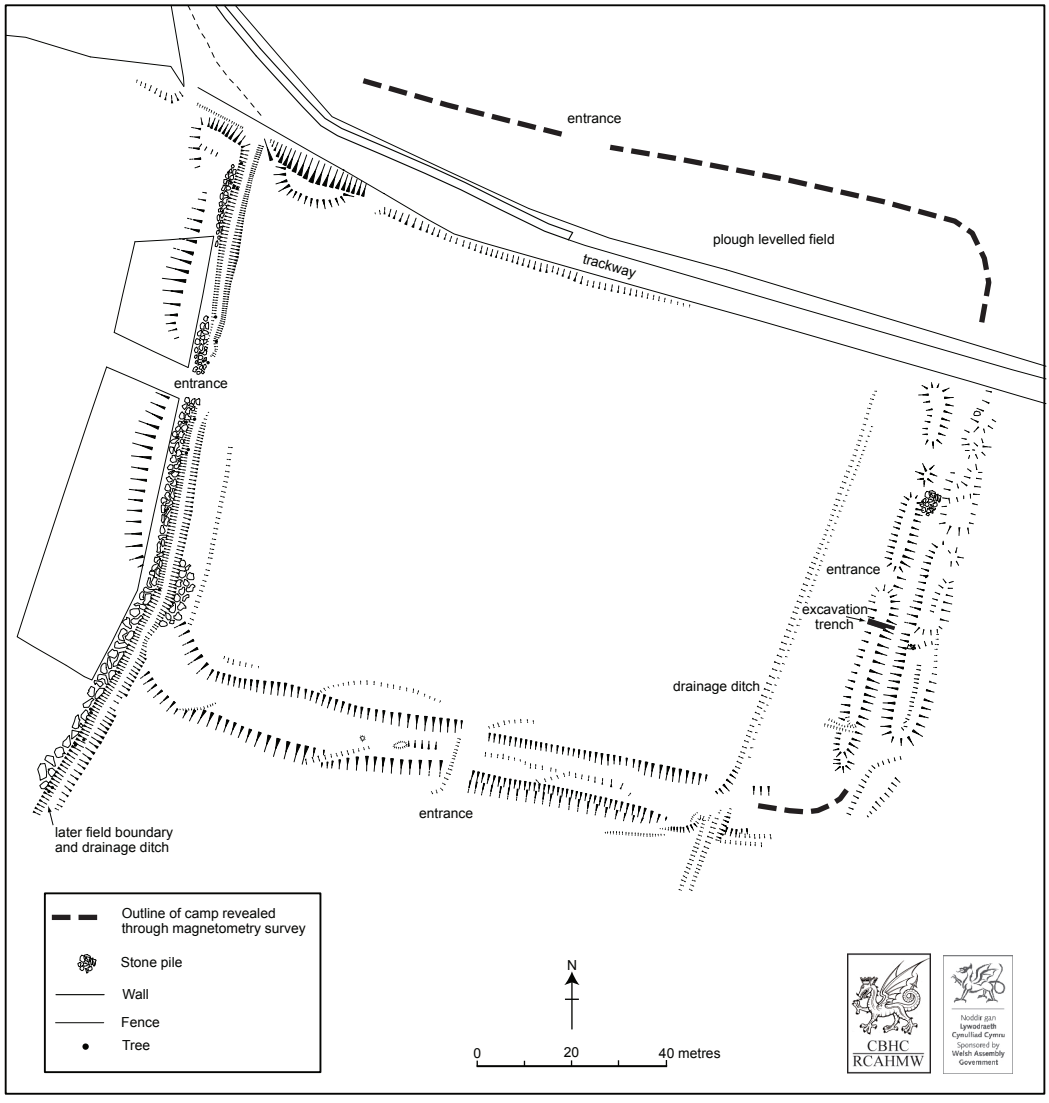


FIG. 2. Gwanas-fawr Roman camp, topographic survey. (*Crown Copyright RCAHMW*)

dug drainage ditch, bounded by a former hedge bank and a recent plantation of deciduous trees. The northern rampart and north-east angle of the site have been lost to cultivation and were only confirmed by magnetometry; a steep scarp edge about 20 m into this field suggests the former position of the destroyed rampart. The fact that the magnetometry survey failed to provide any proof of permanent internal structures, and that the enclosure is defined by a much slighter rampart than that of an auxiliary fort, suggests the site is most likely to have been a small temporary camp, probably dating to the period of the Flavian conquest in the A.D. 70s; however,

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the surviving entrance gaps show no sign of the characteristic devices for protecting the gates, namely a *clavicula* or a *titulum*.[3]

MONMOUTHSHIRE

(1) **Caerwent** (*Venta Silurum*) (ST 469 905): geophysical surveys within and outside the walls of Caerwent. (a) Magnetometry and resistivity across the north-eastern part of the walled area extended over almost 2 ha, covering most of Insulae II, IV and V. The results revealed all of the buildings known from the excavations at the beginning of the twentieth century, including the elliptical 'amphitheatre', and confirmed that the areas in between these structures appear to be free of masonry buildings. The survey showed, however, that the orientation of the town grid differs slightly from the published plan, presumably a consequence of an original surveying or drafting error. (b) A second survey was conducted beyond the West Gate. Here, an area of *c.* 3 ha, from the main road southwards to beyond the Nedern Brook, was surveyed using magnetometry alone. The results revealed extensive activity extending *c.* 140 m away from the line of the road, including a regular arrangement of ditched enclosures, possible masonry buildings and areas of burning.[4]

NEWPORT

(1) **Caerleon** (*Isca*): (a) *Priory Field* (ST 33930 90410): excavations were conducted on the site of a large courtyard building, provisionally identified as a *horreum*, or warehouse, on the dextral side of the *praetentura* at the front of the fortress.[5] The 25 m by 20 m trench was positioned over the southern half of the building's western front range, including its main entrance from the open yard area between it and the three large military granaries close to the *porta principalis dextra*. The excavations revealed the remains of the building's external walls, all of which had been robbed down to their foundations. The lower courses of three internal walls, that divided this side of the building into equal-sized rooms, were also located, as were the latest flagstone floors of two of these rooms. The final surface of the main entrance also consisted of flagstones, possibly reused from the internal courtyard; these were laid after some major structural alterations to this part of the building. At least two buildings were constructed over the remains of the demolished or collapsed military building and the yard immediately in front of it. Drystone or earth-bonded walls without foundations had been built directly on top of the undulating pre-existing surfaces to form narrow rectangular buildings, apparently built up against the front wall of the earlier warehouse. The remnants of a poorly-constructed *opus signinum* surface in one of these buildings supports a late Roman date for their construction. These Roman or post-Roman phases were sealed by buildings and other features that indicate the agricultural nature of occupation in this part of Caerleon in the medieval period. Roman ceramic material was predominantly late, with the majority belonging to the period between the late third and mid-fourth centuries. The coin assemblage includes numerous Constantinian types and closes with issues of the House of Valentinian.[6]

[3] First recognised from the air by B. Jones, a pilot from Welshpool Airport, and photographed by T. Driver of RCAHMW. Earthwork survey of the above-ground remains by RCAHMW; geophysical survey by D. Hopewell (Gwynedd Archaeological Trust) and J. Burman; excavation by J.G. Roberts (Snowdonia National Park Authority) and J.L. Davies (Aberystwyth University). L. Barker sent information.

[4] Surveys carried out by Cardiff University undergraduates directed by Dr T. Young and Dr A. Lane. Dr P. Guest sent information.

[5] The building was located during geophysical surveys conducted in 2006 and 2007; see *Britannia* 38 (2007), 250–2; 39 (2008), 266–8.

[6] Excavations, supported by Cadw, Cardiff University, UCL, National Roman Legion Museum and the Caerleon Research Committee, were directed by Dr A. Gardner and Dr P. Guest, who sent information.

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(b) *Mission Chapel, Bulmore Road* (centred at ST 3446 9003): archaeological evaluation on a large plot to the rear of the chapel. The site is across the River Usk from Caerleon, in an area rich in Roman remains, especially burials and cremations. Three trial-trenches were excavated in the footprint of the proposed new development and one small trench against the street frontage. The Roman archaeology in these trenches consisted of the remains of a stone building which was partly robbed during the medieval period, some roughly constructed drains and associated coarse paving. The Roman pottery covered a wide date range from the second to the fourth century but no close dating for any of the contexts was obtained. The drains are important for the materials used in their construction: the fragments of at least two ceramic altar bases and two or more ceramic sacrificial altar tables (*mensae*).[7] A group of bones was found in the shallow fill below a large curved capstone of the drain. All the bones were of sheep, or goat, and comprised a partly scorched and fragmented skull, three juvenile lower mandibles, two older upper mandibles, and a fragment of a goat horn-core. This group was probably in position when the large capstone was put in place. Another trench revealed the only building remains found on the site: two walls, associated with a Roman occupation context, but which had been robbed during the fourteenth century or later.[8]

(c) *Bulmore Road* (ST 5650 9136): excavations and a watching-brief conducted during drainage improvements. To the east of Great Bulmore, excavation identified substantial boundary walls of the early second century; on the south side of this enclosure was a small stone shrine overlying a grave containing a stone burial cist. A stone surface, a wall and a furnace were recorded during a watching-brief beneath the modern road. The structures had fallen into disrepair by the mid-second century and stone was taken to be reused elsewhere. The watching-brief also recorded a sequence of Roman and later road construction layers within Great Bulmore. Adjacent excavations demonstrated that a sequence of Roman buildings fronted the road on the north side from the early to mid-second century. Initially there was a timber building with evidence for frequent floor repairs. It was severely affected by fire and the foundation was subsequently replaced in stone. The building had been demolished by the mid-third century and no later Roman evidence was present.[9]

POWYS

(1) **Llwyn y Brain**, *Caersws 1* (SO 041 926): geophysical survey within the fort (FIG. 3).[10] The post-holes of the East Gate show it to be twin-portalled with flanking six-post towers. Within the fort, drains and foundation trenches for timber buildings are defined by some very weak anomalies. Strong thermoremnant responses represent ovens, hearths and probably pits, particularly in the *praetentura*. To the west of the South Gate and to the rear of the rampart on the south and north, the strong responses plausibly represent burning upon the decommissioning of the fort. The *via praetoria*, *via principalis* and *via decumana* are defined by drains — *the via praetoria* deviating somewhat from the axis of the fort. Little can be resolved within the *latera praetorii* other than the faint outlines of the *principia*, measuring *c.* 35 m by 30 m. To its south, linear features, probably of more than one phase, define elements of a building, or buildings, which appears not to be a granary.

7 Reported on in *Britannia* 39 (2008), 266–72.

8 Work by S. Clarke and J. Bray, Monmouth Archaeology. Mr S. Clarke sent information.

9 Work by J. Brown, Northamptonshire Archaeology, commissioned by Hyder Consulting Ltd on behalf of Newport City Council. The results will appear in a publication on Roman Bulmore being prepared jointly by Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust and the National Museum of Wales (Macdonald forthcoming). P. Chapman sent information.

10 Part of the eastern end of the fort had been previously surveyed by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust as part of the Cadw-funded Roman Fort Environs Project, the data being integrated into the present survey.

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FIG. 3. Caersws 1 (Llwyn y Brain): gradiometer survey – grey-scale plot.
(*Survey by D. Hopewell, R. Hankinson and J. Burman*)

In the northern division of the *praetentura*, close to the *via praetoria*, are traces of a probable barrack, 8–10 m wide, and possibly 60 m long, arranged *per strigas*. However, there are also traces of a building with at least four room divisions fronting the *via principalis* which would necessarily reduce its length to *c.* 54 m. The southern portion of the *praetentura* shows faint traces of three buildings, at least one of which may be interpreted as a barrack.

In the northern division of the *retentura* there are faint traces of rectangular buildings. To the west of the *via quintana* are two buildings, 10 m wide and at least 20 m long, seemingly aligned *per scamna*. In the north-west corner are traces of at least three other buildings and what appear to be two rows of ovens (or kilns) running parallel to the defences. The large number of thermoremnant responses in this area seems to be typical of industrial areas, possibly indicative of a later re-use of this part of the fort. In the southern portion of the *retentura* there are hints of a building aligned *per scamna*, with a row of hearths or pits defining its frontage, or that of another building flanking the *via quintana*.[11]

SWANSEA

(1) **Penmaen**, *Church Hill* (SS 536 898): trial excavation and topographic survey was undertaken

[11] Survey, commissioned by Dr J.L. Davies, Aberystwyth University, and funded by the Cambrian Archaeological Association, was undertaken by D. Hopewell, R. Hankinson and J. Burman. Dr J.L. Davies sent information.

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on this sub-circular enclosure associated with Roman pottery and tile. The section through the bank showed that it incorporated Roman pottery and tile in its make-up, but its form suggests that it is more likely to have been early medieval. In the area to the south of the enclosure a wall of coursed rubble was revealed, with a cobbled surface on its west side. The wall appears to have been inserted into a layer of rubble, and there were traces of a possible wall underlying the cobbled surface. Traces of a cobbled surface were also found within the enclosure. The pottery suggests that the main period of occupation was in the second century, with slight indications of third/fourth-century activity. The general utilitarian nature of the pottery assemblage and the paucity of metal finds are at variance with the building materials recovered from the site, which include box-tiles, *opus signinum*, painted plaster and tesserae.[12]

VALE OF GLAMORGAN

(1) **Sully**: two coin hoards, buried in pottery vessels *c.* 3 m apart, were found by metal detection in pasture — buried in pits cut into the subsoil, with no other obvious archaeological context. Hoard 1, in a local greyware jar: 490 radiates and 1,876 nummi, *terminus post quem* A.D. 318. Hoard 2, in a Black Burnished ware jar: 14 radiates and 3,534 nummi, *terminus post quem* A.D. 319–320.[13]

2. SCOTLAND

By FRASER HUNTER

NORTH OF THE ANTONINE WALL

MORAY

(1) **Clarkly Hill** (NJ 13 67): two scattered coin hoards, one of denarii (ending in the late second century) and one of sestertii and dupondii (the latest coin so far being of Antoninus Pius), were recovered by metal-detecting.[14] Limited excavation points to an Iron Age settlement site; other finds include Roman brooches[15] and a range of indigenous material culture.[16]

ANGUS

(1) **Stracathro** (NO 617 657): magnetometer survey[17] revealed details of the fort and annexe (FIG. 4).[18] At least two ditches are present on the fort's east side; internal detail is indistinct, but includes much of the street system, lines of anomalies from buildings in the *retentura*, and hints of central-range buildings. The south-west corner is notably magnetically rich, while the annexe shows relatively little sign of activity, although there are some magnetic hotspots.

[12] The work, funded by Cadw, was directed by Dr E.M. Evans, Ms R. Hart and Dr E.J. Owens for the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust, Swansea University, the Royal Institution of South Wales and the Forestry Commission. Dr E.M. Evans sent information.

[13] Declared Treasure under 1996 Act, 30 October 2008, and acquired by the National Museum of Wales. Mr E. Besly sent information.

[14] By A. McPherson and R. Krawczyk; excavations by F. Hunter. Coin identifications are uncertain as conservation is ongoing.

[15] For previous finds from the site see *Britannia* 38 (2004), 255.

[16] Other Roman finds from indigenous sites in 2008 comprised a further brooch from Birnie, Moray (*Britannia* 36 (2005), 393 with further references) and a knee brooch from Harperdean, East Lothian (see C. Haselgrove, *The Traprain Law Environs Project* (forthcoming)), while a stray enamelled trumpet brooch came from Torbreck, Highland (*Discovery & Excavation in Scotland 2008*, 108).

[17] By P. Morris, who sent a report.

[18] For the site, see D.J. Woolliscroft and B. Hoffmann, *Rome's First Frontier* (2006), 168–9.

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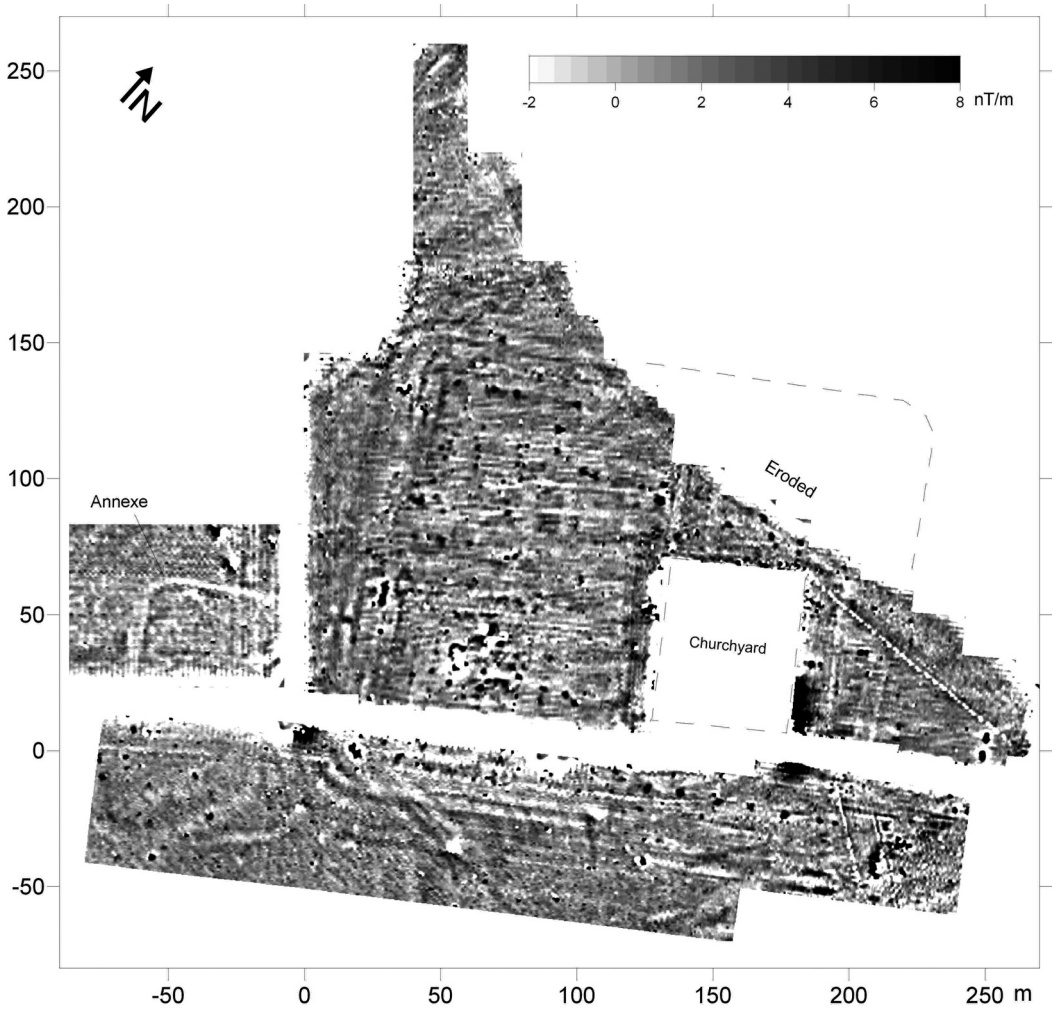


FIG. 4. Magnetic survey of Stracathro fort, Angus.
(*Courtesy of Dr P. Morris*)

PERTH AND KINROSS

(1) **Bertha** (NO 097 268): geophysical survey[19] over the fort site revealed considerable detail of its layout (FIG. 5).[20] The ditch system was traced on the east, west and north sides; evidence of further ditches within this area and the lack of a gate on the west side suggest the western defences are those of a later annexe. Magnetometry revealed a row building (perhaps a workshop

[19] By the Roman Gask Project; Dr D.J. Woolliscroft sent details.
[20] For the site, see D.J. Woolliscroft and B. Hoffmann, *Rome's First Frontier* (2006), 144–7.

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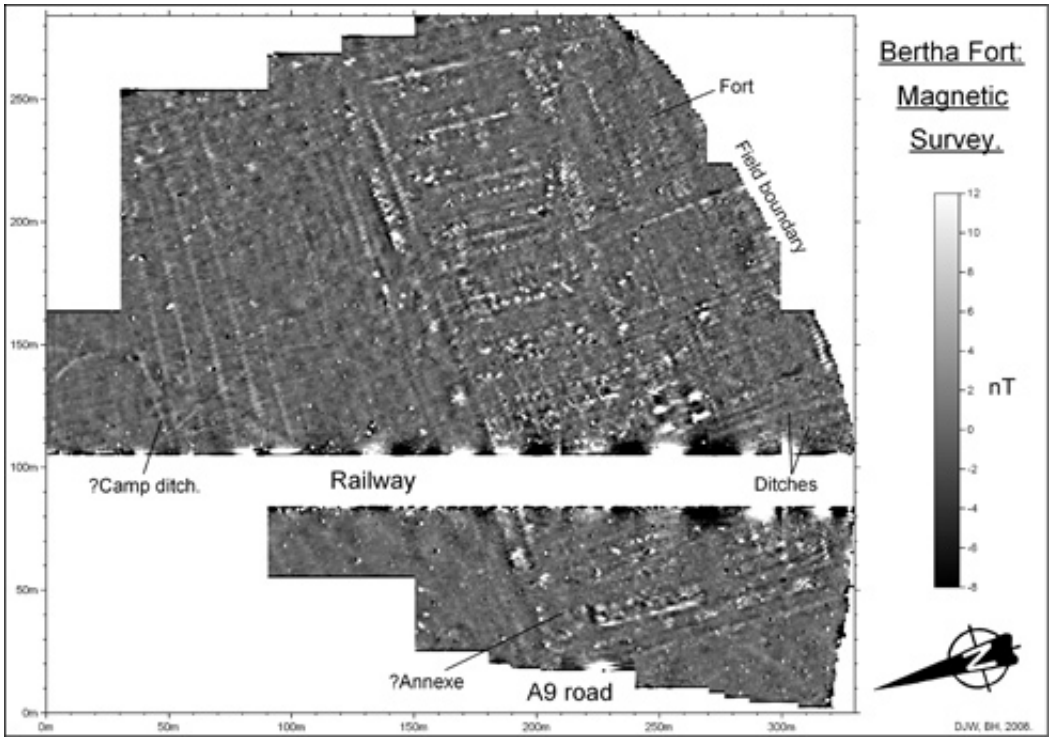


FIG. 5. Magnetic survey of Bertha fort, Perth and Kinross.
(*Courtesy of Dr D.J. Woolliscroft*)

with ovens or hearths) within the ?annexe, six pairs of barracks in the *praetentura*, and courtyard buildings for the *principia* and *praetorium* in the central range. The lack of any *retentura* may imply a non-standard layout, but it has more plausibly been lost to erosion, with the supposed southern rampart being a much later earthwork.

(2) **Strageath** (NN 898 180): geophysical survey[21] was extended to the west and south of the fort. Subsequent targeted excavation located the approach road from the west, in good condition; two square flagstones beside it could represent sculpture bases. Other magnetic anomalies proved to be natural in origin.

STIRLING

(1) **Doune** (NN 7277 0134): further excavation[22] within the fort located the timber foundations of a barrack-block and an adjacent, shorter building on a slightly different alignment.[23]

21 By the Roman Gask Project; Dr D.J. Woolliscroft sent details. See *Britannia* 39 (2008), 274–5 for earlier work.
22 For Stirling Council by P. Masser of Headland Archaeology; J. Franklin sent a report.
23 Earlier work is reported in *Britannia* 31 (2000), 381.

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ANTONINE WALL

FALKIRK

(1) **Falkirk**: (a) *'Mostrim'*, *Pleasance Gardens* (NS 8866 7979): a ditch edge noted[24] in a foundation trench was probably the northern ditch of the Falkirk fort, giving its dimensions within the ditches as *c*. 112 m west–east by 97 m north–south.[25] (b) *59 Blinkbonny Road* (NS 8716 7997): a feature noted in a limited evaluation trench[26] was probably a terrace to support the Wall base on a slope. This puts the Wall a few metres north of the Ordnance Survey line, matching earlier work in the vicinity.[27]

NORTH LANARKSHIRE

(1) **Dullatur**, *The Lane* (NS 7452 7668): evaluations[28] in two small areas of the temporary camp[29] found no evidence of internal structures.

EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE

(1) **Cadder** (NS 618 726): small-scale evaluation[30] *c*. 80 m east of the fort, to test whether the bath-house noted in the 1930s[31] had survived subsequent poorly-recorded quarrying was inconclusive. No clearly pre-modern levels were located, and oral testament records extensive disturbance in the area.

(2) **New Kilpatrick** (NS 556 723): the two sections of Wall base long exposed in the cemetery were cleaned and recorded in detail.[32]

(3) **Castlehill** (NS 525 727): geophysical and topographic survey[33] revealed the fort's slightly trapezoidal form, tapering to the south. The east and west gates were located, along with a second ditch north of the Wall to provide additional protection. Some traces of internal features were recovered, but no clear sign of the putative fortlet in the north-west corner.[34] Further survey is planned.

SOUTH OF THE ANTONINE WALL

FALKIRK

(1) **Carriden**: (a) *bath-house* (NT 0232 8077): further excavation,[35] constrained by standing buildings, confirmed the bath-house was a variant row-type (FIG. 6).[36] Light foundations at

[24] By G. Bailey of Falkirk Museum, who sent a report.
[25] For the fort, see A.S. Robertson and L. Keppie, *The Antonine Wall: a Handbook to the Surviving Remains* (2001), 64–5.
[26] By G. Bailey of Falkirk Museum, who sent a report.
[27] L.J.F. Keppie, *PSAS* 107 (1975–6), 68–73.
[28] For K. Kennedy and A. Mitchell by L. Dunbar and R. Engl of AOC Archaeology, who sent details.
[29] For previous work, see C.E. Lowe and R. Moloney, *Britannia* 31 (2000), 239–53; *Britannia* 38 (2007), 258.
[30] Directed by Professor L.J.F. Keppie, who sent details.
[31] J. Clarke, *The Roman Fort at Cadder (near Glasgow)* (1933), 53.
[32] By Professor L.J.F. Keppie, who sent a report. See G. MacDonald, *The Roman Wall in Scotland* (1934), 165, pl. XXVI; A.S. Robertson and L. Keppie, *The Antonine Wall: a Handbook to the Surviving Remains* (2001), 106.
[33] By a team from Glasgow University Archaeology Department; R. Jones sent details. Around half the site was examined.
[34] For the site and suggested fortlet see A.S. Robertson and L. Keppie, *The Antonine Wall: a Handbook to the Surviving Remains* (2001), 111–13.
[35] By G. Bailey of Falkirk Museum, who sent a detailed report.
[36] See *Britannia* 38 (2007), 259.

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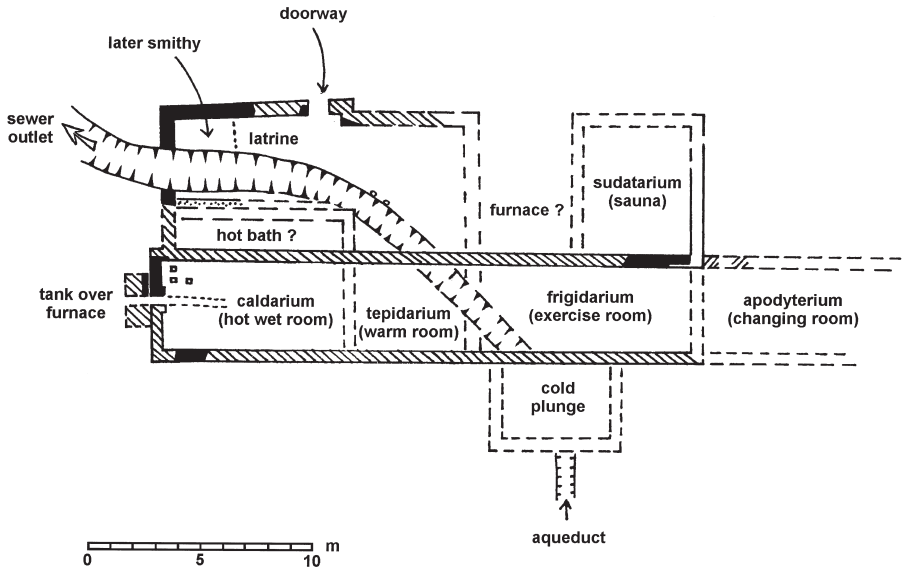


FIG. 6. Hypothetical reconstruction of Carriden bath-house: blacked-in walls mark excavated portions. (*Courtesy of G. Bailey*)

the east end probably represent the changing-room, adjoining solid stone foundations for the *frigidarium*. The middle was inaccessible, but the *caldarium* at the west end preserved some stumps of stone *pilae*. A room to the north is the latrine, with a robbed-out drain (not a later ditch, as previously suspected) running through it. Structural materials include wall plaster, *opus signinum*, lightweight concrete, and roof tiles (stone and ceramic), while a reused voussoir among the stonework hints at an earlier bath on the site. The latrine had been partly dismantled and reused for iron-working in the Roman period, and the whole structure was heavily robbed in the medieval period. (b) (NT 026 807): field-walking[37] over the area of the fort and annexe recovered a range of pottery.

CITY OF EDINBURGH

(1) **Newbridge**, *2A Kirkliston Road* (NT 1231 7285): excavation[38] revealed stretches of cobbled road and associated quarry pits immediately east of the river Almond. The best-preserved stretch, some 6.9 m wide between kerbs, ran east–west; an underlying earlier phase was aligned south-west–north-east. An Iron Age pot sherd incorporated in the make-up supports a Roman date. The line is consistent with other evidence for a Roman road in this area, the continuation of Dere Street heading for the Forth-Clyde isthmus.[39]

(2) **Cramond**: (a) *Cramond Kirk* (NT 1900 7688): excavations[40] in advance of consolidation

37 Organised by G. Bailey of Falkirk Museum.
38 By R. Engl and A. Hunter-Blair of AOC Archaeology for Rooster II LLP; R. Engl sent details.
39 G.S. Maxwell, *PSAS* 113 (1983), 382–3.
40 For City of Edinburgh Archaeology Service by M. Cook of AOC Archaeology, who sent a report.

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exposed much of two barrack-blocks in the *praetentura*.[41] Details of Barrack B's phasing were clarified, while Barrack A, only sampled previously, produced *in-situ* deposits with a range of artefacts and structural features, including a row of slab-lined pits; elements of a phase pre-dating the stone barrack were noted. More limited work in the granary and eastern gateway largely confirmed earlier results. (b) (NT 192 769): magnetometry[42] clarified earlier geophysical results,[43] supporting the likely annexe ditch line along the raised beach; magnetic anomalies within this area may represent industrial activity.

(3) **Danderhall**, *Edmonstone House* (NT 3015 6955): evaluation[44] located remains of a road running approximately south-east–north-west on a plateau above the current A68 Old Dalkeith Road. It comprised several phases of kerbed cobbled surface, *c*. 5.0 m wide within shallow flanking ditches. No dating evidence was recovered; it may be a version of or spur from Dere Street, but could be post-Roman.[45]

MIDLOTHIAN

(1) **Glencorse** (NT 2332 6271): evaluation[46] of a possible large fortlet known from cropmarks[47] located the truncated remains of a single V-shaped ditch (1–1.8 m wide, up to 0.6 m deep) on three sides, enclosing an area 65 m wide; the fourth side lay outside the development area. Limited trenching in the interior found no structural remains, perhaps due to the evident truncation. There were no finds, but the identification remains feasible.

EAST LOTHIAN

(1) **Inveresk**, *3 Smeaton Grove* (NT 3495 7150): ditches located in an evaluation[48] south-east of the fort are probably further components of the Roman-period field-system known in the area.[49]

SCOTTISH BORDERS

(1) **Dun Law**, *Dere Street* (NT 46454 56616): a well-preserved section of Dere Street was excavated[50] in advance of road-building. The Roman road was supported on a raft of brushwood to cross a peat-filled palaeochannel; over the deepest area, a regular lattice of thicker branches was used instead. An intermittent gully lay on its east side. Only the foundations (heavy cobbling in sand) of the agger survived, up to 0.5 m thick and 7.5 m wide; the former gravel and sand surface was noted as extensive erosion washes in the surrounding peat. Repairs post-dating erosion of its surface indicate long use; the absence of other road lines suggests this remained the preferred route for centuries.[51]

41 For previous work on these structures, see A. and V. Rae, *Britannia* 5 (1974), 163–224.
42 By Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society; see *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 2008*, 71.
43 See *Britannia* 36 (2005), 399; 37 (2006), 387.
44 For Boskabelle Ltd by C. Francoz of GUARD; Dr A. Leslie sent a report and discussed the results.
45 The likely Flavian line lies to the south-west (G.S. Maxwell, *Britannia* 14 (1983), 175), but the road system in this area saw substantial changes in the Antonine period.
46 By M. Kirby of CFA Archaeology for ERM and Scottish Water; S. Anderson sent details.
47 See G.S. Maxwell and D.R. Wilson, *Britannia* 18 (1987), 41; I am grateful to Dr R. Jones (RCAHMS) for confirming it is more likely to be a fortlet than a camp.
48 By I. Hill of CFA Archaeology for Timber Bush Associates; S. Anderson sent details.
49 M.C. Bishop, *Roman Inveresk: Past, Present and Future* (2002), 52–69; M. Cook, *PSAS* 134 (2004), 131–60; *Britannia* 37 (2006), 387.
50 By R. White and M. Cressey of CFA Archaeology for Renewable Energy Systems Group; S. Anderson sent a report. For previous work see *Britannia* 38 (2007), 259.
51 See *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 1964*, 24 for a nearby section on firmer ground.

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SOUTH LANARKSHIRE

(1) **Cleghorn**, *Hagholm Road* (NS 91139 45035): limited excavation adjacent to the known road line located a bipartite field oven, the deeper end stone-lined; radiocarbon dates on charred fuel remains (predominantly heather, with some roundwood birch and alder) indicate a late first- to second-century date.[52] It lies immediately west of (and perhaps within) a stretch of 'Old Intrinchment' of uncertain character noted by Roy.[53]

DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY

(1) **Burnswark**, *South Camp* (NY 188 786): geophysical survey[54] over parts of the south camp and the indigenous settlement to the south-west provided hints of activity within and beyond the camp; its nature and date as yet unclear.

ENGLAND

3. HADRIAN'S WALL

By PETE WILSON

SOUTH TYNESIDE

(1) **South Shields fort** (*Arbeia*, NZ 365 679): excavation was completed in the area immediately south of Granaries C15–16. The construction levels of the mid-Antonine (Period 4) fort wall, rampart and *intervallum* were removed to reveal the pre-fort ground surface.[55] This consisted of a grey turf horizon up to 250 mm deep in which occurred a number of circular mounds, up to 1 m in diameter and 0.20 m high. It is not known how these mounds were formed. There was no sign of cultivation in this surface. Presumably it had existed contemporaneously with the pre-stone fort, Hadrianic or early Antonine (Period 3), metalled surface (a possible parade-ground?) excavated immediately to the south-east.[56] A number of pits and post-holes had been cut through the turf horizon before the construction of the stone fort, but these formed no overall pattern. These were the earliest Roman features on this part of the site. Beneath the turf horizon was a 150 mm-thick layer of orange windblown sand. Below this was encountered cord-rig cultivation, part of the same system encountered 40 m to the south-east and contemporary with, or earlier than, a mid-Iron Age roundhouse excavated there.[57] Following the completion of excavation in this area, it is intended to consolidate and display the remains of a third-century barrack (belonging to the larger, third-century fort) which was the best-preserved structure in this area.[58]

[52] Work by A. Matthews of Rathmell Archaeology for Riach Partnership; L. Turner sent a report. Radiocarbon dates: SUERC-22528, 1860±30 on birch fragment from basal fill; SUERC-22527, 1875±30 on birch fragment from waste debris associated with pit.

[53] W. Roy, *The Military Antiquities of the Romans in Britain* (1794), pl. IX.

[54] By R. Jones, J. Malcolm and O. O'Grady of Glasgow University, who provided a draft report.

[55] For previous work see *Britannia* 39 (2008), 278–9.

[56] For the 'parade ground' see P. Bidwell and S.C. Speak, *Excavations at South Shields Roman Fort Volume 1* (1994), 14–16.

[57] For earlier work on the Iron Age levels see N. Hodgson *et al*., 'An Iron Age settlement and remains of earlier prehistoric date beneath South Shields Roman Fort, Tyne and Wear', *Archaeol. Journ.*158 (2001), 62–160.

[58] Excavations directed for Tyne & Wear Museums by N. Hodgson, P. Bidwell, and G.C. Stobbs with the support of Earthwatch Institute. Dr N. Hodgson sent information.

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NEWCASTLE

(1) **Throckley**: (a) *Throckley Filling Station* (NZ 1545 6685): in December 2007 a length of the Military Way was shown to be bounded by rows of rough, sandstone kerbstones, averaging about 0.40 m in length and 0.23 m in width; the road surface was comprised of compacted stony rubble topped in places by finings of small pebbles, decayed mudstone, and fragments of coal and cinders.[59] (b) *Prospect House* (NZ 1565 6685): in March 2006 a length of road of similar appearance was revealed.[60]

(2) **Walbottle**, *St Cuthbert's School* (NZ 1700 6665): in March 2005 a similar road surface, though without surviving kerbstones, was revealed.[61]

NORTHUMBERLAND

(1) **Walwick Hall** (NY 9030 7050): four evaluation trenches were excavated in July 2008 to test for the presence of components of the Hadrian's Wall frontier complex adjacent to Walwick Hall. A trench east of the Hall uncovered the well-preserved remains of the Roman Military Way. The road was seen to lie slightly north of the line projected on the modern Ordnance Survey map but on a similar alignment, and was formed of smooth but irregularly shaped and sized stone slabs, blocks and cobbles. Although the south flank of the roadway within the trench had been disturbed, the northern edge survived and was formed of substantial kerbstones. To the north a possible roadside gully or ditch was seen, but not excavated as it lay outside the development area.

The variability recorded in the four road exposures described above may perhaps be accounted for by factors of erosion and partial resurfacing, the latest occurrences of which may date to the post-Roman period, perhaps as recently as the eighteenth century. The more substantial cobble surfacing recorded at Walwick may have been a response to the sloping topography which would have rendered a less substantial surface vulnerable to slippage, or may be a factor of the greater availability of local raw materials — in this case perhaps sourced from the nearby river Tyne, or local outcrops.[62]

(2) ***Vindolanda*** (NY 768 663): (a) excavation in Area B concentrated on the south-west part of the *vicus*.[63] Two separate phases of Roman activity were examined. In the later second century the area appeared to have had an industrial use. Extensive amounts of burnt material and waste were recovered from at least one timber-framed building, which had also contained several large hearths. The main focus of the excavation was on stone-built features that overlay these workshops, associated with the main *vicus* of the early third-century stone fort. A network of cobbled roads was identified, one of which led away from the south-west of the site towards 'Kingcairn' hill. A small industrial workshop had flanked the south side of this road, with a potential cemetery situated on its northern side. It is anticipated that work will continue in this area in 2009 to further establish the scale, date range, and number of potential burials.

59 Excavations by The Archaeological Practice Ltd and Alan Williams Archaeology. Mr R. Carlton sent information.

60 Excavations by The Archaeological Practice Ltd and Alan Williams Archaeology. Mr R. Carlton sent information.

61 Excavations by The Archaeological Practice Ltd and Alan Williams Archaeology. Mr R. Carlton sent information.

62 Excavations by The Archaeological Practice Ltd and Alan Williams Archaeology for Mr Wylie. Mr R. Carlton sent information.

63 Under the direction of J. Blake. For previous work see *Britannia* 39 (2008), 279–80.

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(b) Work in Area A[64] concentrated on the two massive store-buildings on the west side of the *principia* (FIG. 7). Both buildings had been reconstructed in the early fourth century, and

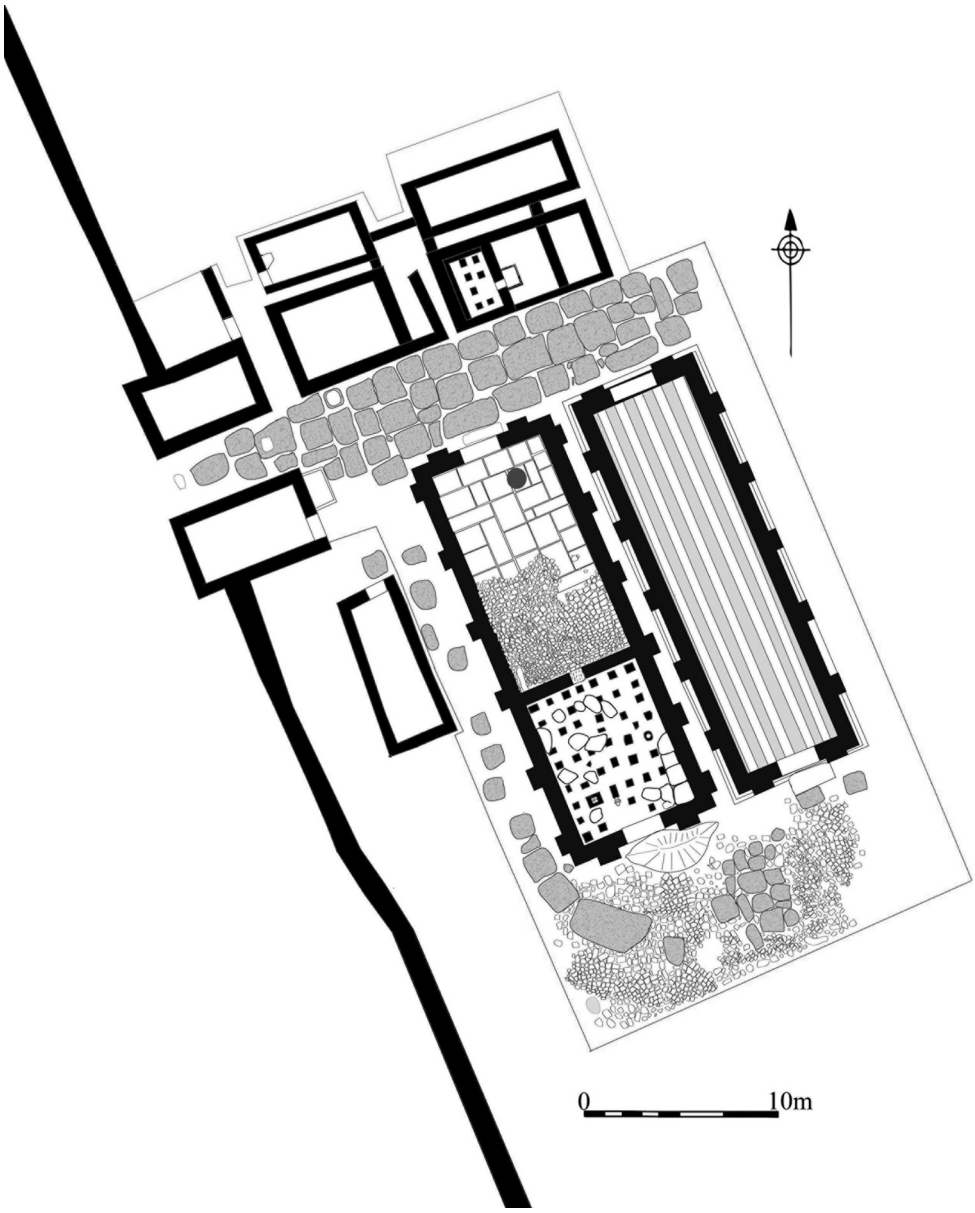


FIG. 7. *Vindolanda* store-buildings.
(*Courtesy of A. Birley, The Vindolanda Trust*)

64 Under the direction of A. Birley.

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both had eventually been converted into living accommodation, perhaps in the fifth century. A notable feature was the heavy accumulation of coins (over 300) on the *via principalis* on the north side and on stretches of the *intervallum* roads nearby — the majority being of mid-fourth-century date and later. A comprehensive environmental sampling programme will provide valuable information about the goods once kept in the buildings. Notable finds included two fragments of *RIB* 1705, the dedication to Caracalla found in the adjacent *principia* in 1933, and a small fragment of bronze from either a calendar or a water-clock, featuring the month of September.[65]

CUMBRIA

(1) **Carlisle**, *land off Burgh Road* (NY 37423 56202): archaeological excavation identified part of a large ditch believed to form the western and southern sides of a rectilinear enclosure, together with a complex of smaller ditches.[66] Based on the dimensions of the western and southern sides, it is estimated that the enclosure measured *c*. 35 m north–south by *c*. 30 m east–west (externally). The ditch forming the enclosure measured *c*. 3.6 m in width by up to *c*. 1.4 m in depth, and had the classic V-shaped profile generally associated with Roman military installations. Most of the interior lay outside the area of investigation. The ditch was of a size and design to have served a defensive function and the enclosed area was similar in size to those associated with watch-towers and smaller fortlets elsewhere in Roman Britain. The location of this site, on a low ridge overlooking the low-lying ground to the north of Hadrian's Wall, would also have been appropriate to such a function. The complex of smaller ditches probably represents evidence of land management dating to the Roman period. The random layout of the ditches suggests that they may not be contemporary.[67]

(2) **Walltown**, *King Arthur's Well* (NY 6806 6664): excavation in advance of footpath work associated with the Hadrian's Wall Path National Trail revealed the remains of a rectangular, stone-built structure immediately adjacent to the south face of the Wall at King Arthur's Well, in the nick close to Walltown Farm (Wall Mile 44). The structure was aligned perpendicular to the Wall, and was approximately 5 m wide and over 5 m long, with a central hearth and walls of unmortared whinstone. Preliminary analysis of the associated pottery indicates a mid- to late second-century date for the entire assemblage; an intaglio was also recovered. Radiocarbon determinations for two samples of burnt animal bone and charcoal from the central hearth are currently awaited.[68]

(3) **Knockupworth Farm** (NY 3720 5680): excavations on the line of the Wall were carried out in advance of the construction of a new road bridge over the River Eden (Wall Mile 67). Probable evidence for the Turf Wall, together with remains of the Stone Wall and the Vallum, were recorded. The Turf Wall had been slighted prior to construction of the Stone Wall, which had been built directly on top of its predecessor. The Stone Wall proved to be poorly preserved, for the most part only the rubble core remaining, together with some of the southern facing-stones, to a maximum height of two courses. The north face had been completely eroded, and it seems likely that much of the masonry had fallen down the steep river bank in antiquity. The Vallum ditch was largely obscured by the remains of the Carlisle and Silloth Railway. Sections were excavated through the ditch and the north mound, and organic deposits were found towards

65 Mr R. Birley sent information.
66 Work by M. Kiry for CFA Archaeology Ltd.
67 Miss S. Anderson sent information.
68 Excavation for Hadrian's Wall Heritage Limited and the Northumberland National Park was supervised for Oxford Archaeology North by J. Bradley. Mr J. Zant sent information.

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the base of the ditch. The mound comprised deposits of gravel and clay, presumably upcast from the ditch, above a layer of cobbles laid directly on the underlying turf.[69]

4. NORTHERN COUNTIES

By PETE WILSON

NORTHUMBERLAND

(1) **Knaresdale with Kirkhaugh**, *Whitley Castle* (?*Epiacum*, NY 6949 4868): detailed landscape survey and geophysical survey of the fort.[70] The earthwork analysis and geophysical survey have considerably advanced our understanding of the fort and its surroundings. The location was almost certainly chosen to control production and shipment of lead from the Alston ore-fields, evidence for which has been assembled from a number of sources. Although an earlier, timber-built phase could not be identified, there are indications that the first stone-built fort of the early second century supplanted a pre-existing boundary or enclosure. The fort's curious lozenge shape is the adaptation of a standard military plan to match the shape and topographical advantages of the knoll. Thus, in a slanted fashion, it was able to accommodate a maximum of six barracks (or similar ranges) to the rear of the *principia* and four to the front, within a space of *c*. 1.2 ha. Extramural settlement has been recorded to the north of the fort, and an absence of features over a swathe of level ground to the south has been tentatively interpreted as a parade ground. Suggestions have also been made concerning the location of a *mithraeum* and other temples evident from historic collections of altars and statuary.[71]

DURHAM

(1) **Bowes** (*Lavatris*), *Holme Lea* (NY 9905 1305): an excavation was carried out on the south side of Bowes main street in March 2008 in advance of proposed residential development.[72] The area is known from previous work to have been occupied by civilian settlement east of the fort[73] and the site lies about 50 m out from the ditch belonging to the defences and about the same distance north of the road emanating from the east gate. Elements of a masonry building equipped with a flagged floor were found on the east part of the site; this was provisionally dated to the third century. Poorly-surviving remains of gullies and/or building footings and a possible pit in the south-east corner indicate probable remains of earlier Roman occupation. Traces of one or more timber buildings were found on the west part of the site associated with large quantities of late first- and second-century pottery. An amphora fragment bore a crude inscription. This investigation is the first to reveal substantial and well-preserved remains of buildings outside the fort apart from the extramural bath-house. It is also significant in suggesting continuous activity on the site of the *vicus* from the late first century to fourth century A.D.[74]

[69] Excavation for Birse Civils Limited was supervised for Oxford Archaeology North by P. Clark. Mr F. Brown sent information.

[70] Landscape survey by D. Went and S. Ainsworth of English Heritage's Archaeological Survey and Investigation team and geophysical survey by Archaeological Services University of Durham.

[71] The full report will be published in 2009 in the English Heritage Research Department Report Series. Mr M. Jecock sent information.

[72] Excavation by The Archaeological Practice Ltd on behalf of the owner Mr Close.

[73] See S.S. Frere and B.R. Hartley, 'Excavations at the Roman Fort at Bowes in 1966–67 and 1970', in *Excavations at Bowes and Lease Rigg*, Yorkshire Archaeological Society Occasional Paper (2009).

[74] Mr R. Carlton and Dr D. Mason sent information.

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(2) **Lanchester** (*Longovicium*) (NZ 1596 4706): a geophysical survey of parts of the extramural area north and east of the fort.[75] The line of Dere Street was found directly east of the fort and was traced for *c*. 300 m in a north-westerly direction. There were plentiful indications of masonry strip-buildings to both sides of the road within the area surveyed.

(3) **Sedgefield**, *East Park* (NZ 3505 2894): further geophysical survey and excavation[76] on this 'ladder-style' settlement — currently unique in the North East.[77] The geophysical survey was continued into the Show Field, between East Park and the village. This not only showed that the Roman settlement extended onto this area, but also clarified understanding of the settlement as a whole. Ditched and fenced enclosures lie on both sides of the main north–south Roman road, known in modern times as Cade's Road. Previous work suggested that these probably contained small household units, with some industrial activity taking place, such as pottery manufacture. To the east side of the road, the settlement widens out. In the centre of this area is a large, relatively open space surrounded by rectilinear enclosures. This area is accessed by smaller roads leading in from various directions and was presumably public space. In the north-west corner of this area is a small isolated enclosure, investigated in 2006, which contained a single building believed to have had a public function. Excavation in the rest of this area revealed a series of palisades which would have demarcated or defended the crest of a small hill on the western edge of the Show Field. The palisades belong to a previous layout of the settlement, before the dominant layout of enclosures visible in the geophysical survey.

NORTH YORKSHIRE

(1) **Brough with St Giles**: in excess of 136 base-metal radiates ranging in date from Valerian (A.D. 253–60) to Tetricus II (A.D. 273–4), found while metal detecting.[78]

(2) **Filey**: 75 silver siliquae (Constantius II and Julian Caesar (A.D. 355–60) to Honorius and Arcadius (A.D. 395–402)), 10 nummi (Valentinian I (to A.D. 375) to Eugenius and Arcadius (to A.D. 395)) and a pot sherd, found while metal-detecting.[79]

(3) **Levisham**: 20 nummi of the House of Valentinian and 6 stray Roman coins ranging from A.D. 138 to A.D. 222, found while metal-detecting.[80]

(4) **Marton cum Grafton** (SE 42 63):[81] excavation of a moderate to high status Romano-British burial, originally reported by a metal-detector, near Aldborough (*Isurium Brigantum*). A stone cist encased a lead coffin, which contained an articulated skeleton. An adjacent linear feature, with parallel rows of oxidised iron nails, may have represented a secondary burial. No associated grave goods were found. A geophysical survey of the surrounding area indicated the absence of other burials or structures.[82]

(5) **Towton**: a gold stater of Cunobelin ('wild type') and a gold stater inscribed VEP CORF, found while metal-detecting.[83]

[75] Commissioned by *The Friends of Longovicium* and carried out by Archaeological Services Durham University.
[76] Project undertaken jointly by Archaeological Services Durham University and Durham County Council Archaeology Section, involving both students and local volunteers.
[77] For previous accounts see *Britannia* 38 (2007), 264–5 (with plan); 39 (2008), 285.
[78] Information from Mr R. Abdy, British Museum.
[79] Information from Mr R. Abdy, British Museum.
[80] Information from Mr R. Abdy, British Museum.
[81] Four figure NGR given to deter illicit metal detecting.
[82] Excavation directed by B. Antoni on behalf of York Archaeological Trust with funding from English Heritage. C. Kyriacou sent information.
[83] Information from Mr R. Abdy, British Museum.

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YORK

(1) **York** (*Eboracum*): (a) *Hungate* (SE 6075 5185): in the central Block H excavation area a back-filled, north–south-aligned ditch had two graves cut into it, each containing a single inhumation.[84] Both burials were oriented north–south, with the head situated to the north. The fact that the grave cuts had been neatly and squarely cut into the back-filled ditch suggests that the earlier ditch earthwork still had some form of relative visibility in the local landscape prior to the internment of the bodies. Due to the nature of the post-deposition burial environment, consisting of sands and sandy silts, very little of the two skeletons survived but the recovery of coffin nails indicated that both bodies were buried in coffins. Both graves had a single pottery vessel placed at the foot end of the grave cut. Elsewhere within Block H a Roman period land surface was partially excavated containing a mixed assemblage of Romano-British pottery.

(b) *Bedford Hotel, 108–110 Bootham* (SE 5975 5254): a watching-brief, recording boreholes and trenches, revealed the full width of the north-western Roman approach road to York (Margary 801). Two roadside ditches were identified.[85] (c) *Robin Hood Tower, City Walls* (SE 60320 52445): a small excavation was undertaken during restoration work.[86] Silty clay deposits were identified as possible Roman rampart deposits, and stubs of masonry exposed may have formed part of the corner of the Roman fortress. Residual sherds of second-century pottery were found.[87] (d) *Waggon and Horses Public House, 19 Lawrence Street* (SE 6118 5139): excavation of two trenches revealed a sequence of deposits from Roman to modern date. Roman material uncovered may have belonged to a yard surface adjacent to a major Roman road on the south-east side of York (Margary 2e).[88]

(e) *Heslington East* (SE 641 509): excavation of a Roman masonry building, measuring *c*. 5 m by 8 m and containing a small hypocaust system and *opus signinum* floor at one end, along with associated pebble surfaces and post-holes. A few metres from this building lay a human burial of an adult male who was suffering from spinal tuberculosis when he died. To the north was a series of ditches and pits, and to the west a substantial rectangular cobbled foundation, measuring *c*. 5 m by 6.8 m, for a structure of unknown function. The coin and pottery evidence, together with radiocarbon dating of the skeleton, all suggest that the site was occupied in the third and fourth centuries A.D. Further excavation and post-excavation analyses will continue here in 2009 and 2010.[89]

EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

(1) **Beverley**: three uninscribed North Eastern/Corieltavian staters, found while metal-detecting. Part of a hoard recovered between 2001 and 2007.[90]

(2) **Hatfield**: 2 silver denarii of Trajan (A.D. 98–117), found while metal-detecting.[91]

(3) **North Dalton**: 1 silver denarius of Titus Caesar (A.D. 77–78), found while metal-detecting.[92]

84 Excavation on behalf of Hungate (York) Regeneration Ltd by P. Connelly for York Archaeological Trust. C. Kyriacou sent information.
85 Excavation by G. Dean for York Archaeological Trust. C. Kyriacou sent information.
86 Excavation by G. Dean for York Archaeological Trust. C. Kyriacou sent information.
87 Excavation by G. Dean for York Archaeological Trust. C. Kyriacou sent information.
88 Excavation by J. McComish for York Archaeological Trust. C. Kyriacou sent information.
89 Excavations directed by S. Roskams, Department of Archaeology, University of York. Ms C. Neal sent information.
90 See *Numismatic Chronicle* 2008, 384, no. 4. Information from Mr R. Abdy, British Museum.
91 Information from Mr R. Abdy, British Museum.
92 Information from Mr R. Abdy, British Museum.

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(4) **Thwing** (TA 699 058): work continued on the southern part of the building excavated in 2006–7[93] and a section was excavated across the Iron Age ditch sequence to the south of the structure. The completion of the work demonstrated two pre-building phases: the first part of a 'ladder' settlement of Iron Age date, the second a series of enclosure ditches containing second-century midden material. The Roman stone building had four phases; initially rectangular, subsidence led to the eastern wall being moved back to produce a winged corridor plan and in the third phase the main range was further narrowed — at this time the main southern room was decorated with painted plaster and had a fireplace with a chimney stack. In the final phase, dating to the early fourth century, the pavilions were demolished and an iron-smelting furnace was established in the main room.[94]

LANCASHIRE

(1) **Lancaster**, *St Mary's Priory Vicarage* (SD 4733 6196): a watching-brief during works to a nineteenth-century boundary wall within the interior of the superimposed first/second-century and fourth-century Roman forts;[95] this was located *c.* 4 m east of 1928–9 'Area 8',[96] and *c.* 15 m south-west of a trench excavated in 1969,[97] in both of which the Roman structures were poorly understood. Nineteenth-century levelling deposits behind the wall overlay the north-west corner of a substantial medieval — or perhaps partly Roman — earthwork visible in the vicarage garden. At the bottom of the excavations two parallel, short fragments of wall-robber trench, 1.1 m apart, were revealed. These were orientated due north–south and probably therefore belonged to the Benedictine Priory of St Mary rather than the Roman forts, but the identity of the building to which they belonged could not be determined. Disarticulated human remains and residual Roman and medieval sherds were recovered from both the nineteenth-century fills and the robber trenches.

(2) **Poulton-le-Fylde**, *Garstang Road East* (SD 35973 39286): several ditches and structural remains containing fragments of Romano-British pottery were identified during a watching-brief that monitored topsoil-stripping in a field to the east of Poulton-le-Fylde. Detailed excavation carried out subsequently revealed the remains of an enclosed settlement that was defined by at least two rectilinear ditched enclosures, with further ditches extending beyond the limits of excavation. Ring-gullies and post-holes within each of the enclosures represented the remains of two roundhouses with outer diameters measuring approximately 12 m and 7.9 m. Both roundhouses featured opposing double entrances that were aligned ENE–WSW, although the specific construction styles differed. Roman pottery, including sherds of mortaria, was recovered from features associated with the larger roundhouse, and also from the enclosure ditches. Domestic activity was further suggested by fragments of quernstones that were recovered from the site, whilst a group of stone-lined pits containing fragments of metal-working residues might indicate craft-working activity. A probable entrance to the settlement was revealed on the western side of the site. This consisted of a metalled trackway that was flanked by ditches and led to a gap within one of the enclosure ditches. The presence of four post-holes within the entranceway, and further post-holes within one of the backfilled ditches, suggested that the modification of these ditches might have been associated with the construction of a timber gateway.[98]

93 For previous work and plan see *Britannia* 29 (2008), 287–9.

94 Excavations by R. Terraby and P. Johnson. Professor M.J. Millett sent an interim report.

95 Work by Neil Archaeological Services, on behalf of Blackburn Diocesan Board of Finance. N. Neil sent information.

96 See J.P. Droop and R. Newstead, 'Excavations at Lancaster, 1928, 1929, and 1930', *Liverpool Annals of Archaeology and Anthropology* (1928–30), 15–17.

97 See G.M. Leather, *Roman Lancaster 1972: Some Excavation Reports and Some Observations* (1973).

98 Excavation for United Utilities was supervised for Oxford Archaeology North by Mr A. Beben. Information supplied by Mr A. Vannan.

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MANCHESTER

(1) **Manchester**, *Chester Road/ Great Jackson Street* (SJ 8327 9736): excavations within the *vicus* recorded a network of ditches and numerous pits.[99] Some of the ditches were up to 2 m wide and over 1 m deep and it is possible that they represent land boundaries defining the southern extent of the Roman civil settlement. Possible Roman-period timber structures were exposed, as well as many pits containing Roman pottery and domestic debris, some of substantial dimensions that may represent gravel extraction or refuse disposal. One pit produced an altar (see pp. 314–15) which sealed a decorated samian bowl of the second half of the second century A.D. The bulk of the pottery was of second to early third-century date, with small quantities of earlier and later material.

STOCKPORT

(1) **Mellor**, *Old Vicarage* (NGR SJ 9818 8890): community excavations of a hilltop settlement have been carried out since 1998.[100] This is a multi-period site with continuous occupation from Late Bronze Age until probable closure in the late fourth century A.D. Romano-British activity centres in and around a Middle Iron Age ditched enclosure which was substantially re-modelled during the first to second centuries A.D. There is evidence for roundhouses, internal enclosures, and some craft specialisation. The artefacts suggest that the occupants exploited cross-Pennine trade links.[101]

WIGAN

(1) **Wigan** (*Coccium*), *Millgate* (SD 58356 05569): excavation in advance of development in the centre of Wigan, some 70 m to the north-west of the Roman bath-house excavated in 2005,[102] and incorporating the site of excavations carried out during the 1980s.[103] The fragmentary remains of a probable timber structure and a few associated features were succeeded by a metalled surface, with a probable timber barrack-block on its northern side belonging to the second half of the first century. Its excavated ground plan suggests that it may have been a barrack-block of conventional early Roman type. A brief abandonment was succeeded by numerous post-holes and/or small pits, probably indicating structures in the area which were associated with pottery of the late first or early second century. Whilst the post-holes presumably indicated the presence of one or more structures on the site at this time, no coherent pattern could be discerned. Of this date were several hearths, with associated pebble and stone surfaces and concentrations of metal-working debris, as well as pottery wasters suggesting ceramic production locally. No later features were found.[104]

CHESHIRE

(1) **Middlewich**, *land off Jersey Way* (SJ 7060 6660): evaluation of a *c*. 2 ha area of open ground at the south-eastern limits of Middlewich's area of Roman settlement revealed evidence

[99] Excavations directed by A. Goode for Pre-Construct Archaeology. Ms J. Proctor sent information.

[100] For previous work see *Britannia* 37 (2006), 400.

[101] Excavations by the University of Manchester Archaeological Unit in partnership with the Mellor Archaeological Trust and Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council. The excavations are supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Mr P. Noble sent information.

[102] For previous work see *Britannia* 37 (2006), 399.

[103] G.C. Jones and J. Price, 'Excavations at the Wiend, Wigan 1982–4', *The Greater Manchester Archaeological Journal* 1 (1985), 25–33.

[104] Excavation for Wigan Council was supervised for Oxford Archaeology North by C. Gardner. Mr I. Miller sent information.

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of ditches, gullies, pits, and burnt areas of clay. Provisional dating evidence suggests that, in common with sites elsewhere in Middlewich, occupation occurred primarily in the later first and second centuries.[105]

LINCOLNSHIRE

(1) **Stixwould and Woodhall**: 14 gold staters and 2 silver units of uninscribed North-Eastern/Corieltavian types found during a metal-detecting rally.[106]

(2) **Welby** (SK 9720 3768): fieldwalking revealed a scatter of Roman pottery, including several second-century samian sherds, Nene Valley colour-coat sherds, mortarium fragments, and local greywares, as well as pieces of three box-flue tiles indicating the probable presence of a hitherto-unrecorded building.[107] The site lies approximately 1.1 km NNW of the building identified during the Harrowby to Aswarby pipeline work in 2005.[108]

5. THE MIDLANDS

By PAUL BOOTH

DERBYSHIRE

(1) **Near Stanton by Bridge**: a hoard of 62 base metal nummi of the first Tetrarchy, deposited *c*. A.D. 305.[109]

SHROPSHIRE

(1) **Baschurch**: a hoard of 36 base-metal radiates, deposited *c*. A.D. 274.[110]

(2) **Chetwynd Aston and Woodcote II**: a small mixed silver and bronze Antonine hoard (15 denarii and 1 sestertius).[111] The latest closely datable coin is of Lucius Verus (TR P V and IMP III = second half of A.D. 165). However, a lifetime issue coin of Faustina II could potentially have been struck up to A.D. 176. This is the second hoard from Chetwynd Aston and Woodcote.[112]

(3) **Downton**, *Hillpike and Stubbs Coppice* (SO 4333 7623–SO 4434 7641 and SO 4584 7754–SO 4633 7793): air photography by Chris Musson detected remains of a Roman road running north-east from Leintwardine towards Corvedale. It crosses the Onny 2 km west of Bromfield at Cookeridge where it has been recorded as a linear parchmark, but has not been recognised beyond here. At this point it is aligned on the northern slopes of Brown Clee hill. Surface remains can be traced between Mocktree Farm and Wetmore Lane. The Roman origin of the road is demonstrated beyond Hillpike, where the Roman structure with quarry pits can be

105 Work for Russell Homes was undertaken by Oxford Archaeology North and Wardell Armstrong. Mr M. Leah sent information.
106 Information from Mr R. Abdy, British Museum.
107 Fieldwork by Dr G. de la Bédoyére who sent information.
108 *Britannia* 37 (2006), 403.
109 Found by Ms L. Grace and Mr A. Staples while searching with metal detector(s). BM Ref.: 2007 T570. R. Abdy sent information.
110 Found by Messrs I. Collins and P. Oakley while searching with metal detector(s). BM Ref.: 2007 T665. R. Abdy sent information.
111 Found by Ms A. Hall and Messrs P. Dunne, T. Jones, M. Kent, P. Leigh, I. Manfield, G. Maston, D. Dale and P. Webster. BM Ref.: 2008 T6. R. Abdy sent information.
112 Chetwynd Aston and Woodcote I (43 AR/BI radiates to A.D. 274) = 2005 T70 + 2006 T559 (addenda).

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seen alongside the parchmark of the road terrace. It has not been used by any post-medieval road since 1808 or by any turnpike and therefore can only be of Roman origin.[113]

(4) **Near Ellesmere**: a hoard of 13 AE sestertii in generally poor condition with almost half the coins unidentifiable. The latest identifiable coin is for the deified Marcus Aurelius, probably produced very close to the time of his death in A.D. 180.[114]

(5) **Oswestry** area: a ?single hoard of 97 (+23) AR denarii, to A.D. 176.[115] The second group may be considered a separate hoard because of the distance (*c*. 50–80 m) between the two deposits, but the date range of the second group is within that of the first one.

(6) **Whitchurch** area: 3 AR denarii to Trajan.[116]

HEREFORDSHIRE

(1) **Aston Ingham**: 48 late Tetrarchic/Constantinian base metal nummi deposited *c*. A.D. 335, probably addenda to a known hoard.[117]

(2) **Bishopstone**, *'Rosemullion'* (SO 4207 4308; HSM 48664): a watching-brief on land to the east of Rosemullion bungalow uncovered the remains of one of the early military roads from Kenchester to the Roman fort at Clyro. Although no finds were recovered, the deposits exhibited all the hallmarks of Roman road construction in Herefordshire: a foundation of cobbles beneath a compact layer of red gravel.[118]

WARWICKSHIRE

(1) **Alcester**: (a) 6 *Newport Drive* (SP 0858 5705): observation on the south-western edge of the Roman extramural settlement revealed a pit/ditch and layers of probable Romano-British date.[119] (b) *53 High Street* (SP 0889 5735): evaluation by boreholes within the extramural part of the Roman town revealed a sequence of possible clay make-up layers and alluvial deposits that may be Roman in origin. Peat deposits were located at the north-western end of the site and probably correspond to more extensive ones previously identified to the west of the Roman town.[120]

(2) **Chesterton and Kingston**, *Tyler Packaging, Fosse Way* (SP 342 600): observation of foundation pits on the north-eastern edge of the Roman town revealed two pits overlaid by a layer containing only Roman material.[121]

[113] Shropshire SMR air photograph references; 06-CN-20 frames 19-28, 06-CN-23 frames 06-09, 05-CP-01 frames 01-07. Earlier photographs at Hillpike in NMR oblique library refs SO 4376/1-2. H. Toller, *A Roman Road Eastwards from Leintwardine* (2008), typescript report deposited with Shropshire SMR. H. Toller sent information.

[114] Found by Messrs G. Bennett, R. Griffiths, T. Ransome, M. Punnett and G. Griffiths while searching with metal detectors. BM Ref.: 2007 T667. R. Abdy sent information.

[115] Found by Mr J. Formstone while searching with a metal detector. BM Ref.: 2008 T356 and T526. R. Abdy sent information.

[116] Found by Messrs B. Clewes, D. Colclough and J. Blackwell at a metal-detecting rally. BM Ref.: 2007 T315. R. Abdy sent information.

[117] Found by Messrs D.R. Sherratt and D. Hutton while searching with metal detectors. BM Ref.: 2007 T563. The known (1855) hoard, *RBCH* 1108, comprises *c*. 2,000 coins ending in the reign of Constantine I. R. Abdy sent information.

[118] D. Lewis, *Excavations by Archaeological Investigations Ltd (Hereford)* (Hereford Archaeology Series 795). C. Luke sent information.

[119] Work by C. Rann and C. Jones, Warwickshire Museum, for Mr D. Buchanan-Brougham. N. Palmer sent information.

[120] Work by D. Ingham, J. Rackham and M. Luke, Albion Archaeology. M. Luke sent information.

[121] Work by C. Rann, Warwickshire Museum, for Tyler Packaging Ltd. N. Palmer sent information.

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(3) **Coleshill**, *17/19 Ennersdale Road* (SP 1975 9020): further excavation at the south-eastern end of the Grimstock Hill settlement, to the north-west of areas excavated in 2005–7,[122] revealed a ditch and pit and a series of at least seven bowl-shaped hearth features with associated stokeholes and possible flues, filled with charcoal and covering an area 11 m long by 9 m wide.[123]

(4) **Exhall**, *Belmont* (SP 1029 5521): further observation on the site of a probable villa identified in 1998 recorded stone wall foundations and the probable remains of a channelled hypocaust, along with painted wall-plaster, window-glass and roof- and flue-tile.[124]

(5) **Ryton-on-Dunsmore**, *former Citroen Peugeot Car Plant* (SP 3779 7449): excavation revealed the corners of two successive enclosures, the later of whose upper ditch fill contained two Romano-British sherds. To the east of the enclosures were a pit/hearth and a post-hole, both undated.[125]

(6) **Stratford-upon-Avon**, *Rayford Caravan Site, Tiddington Road* (SP 2155 5555): excavation of a cable trench across the Scheduled area in the northern part of the Tiddington settlement revealed an area of mid-first-century A.D. gullies, pits and a hearth, extending up to 45 m north-west of the Tiddington Road, while a further 50 m north-west, on the edge of the first gravel terrace, there was a sequence of probable enclosure gullies of early Anglo-Saxon date.[126]

(7) **Warmington**: a hoard of 1,121 Roman silver denarii, mostly Republican and Augustan.[127] The earliest identifiable coin is a ROSTRUM TRIDENS (206–195 B.C.) and the latest is a PONTIF MAX TR P X COS IIII of Nero (A.D. 63/4). Early Roman hoards of this nature are not uncommon and one or two other, much smaller, examples have been discovered within Warwickshire (e.g. the Great Packington Hoard, *Treasure Annual Reports* for 1998–99 and 2002).

(8) **Wolston**, *Vicarage Farm, Coventry Road* (SP 4305 7650): trial trenching 150 m east of the Fosse Way revealed the remains of a Romano-British settlement, probably a small farmstead, indicated by pits, gullies and ditches which contained a small assemblage of pottery.[128]

LEICESTERSHIRE

(1) **East Leicestershire**: two silver units deposited mid-first century A.D., probably part of the wider East Leicestershire hoard complex.[129]

(2) **Leicester** (*Ratae Corieltauvorum*), *Oxford Street, De Montfort University* (SK 584 039): excavation outside the south gate of the Roman town revealed a length of the road to Caves Inn (*Tripontium*) and associated early Roman occupation around an east–west crossroads, which may indicate extension of the street grid beyond the area subsequently enclosed by the town defences.[130]

(3) **Near Lutterworth**: a hoard of 12 silver denarii to A.D. 162.[131]

122 *Britannia* 39 (2008), 295.
123 Work by P. Thompson, Warwickshire Museum, for Waterloo Housing Association. N. Palmer sent information.
124 Work by C. Rann, Warwickshire Museum, for Stonehall Construction. N. Palmer sent information.
125 Work by I. Greig, Warwickshire Museum, for Trenport Investments Ltd. N. Palmer sent information.
126 Work by S. Palmer, Warwickshire Museum, for Central Networks Ltd. N. Palmer sent information.
127 Found by Mr K. Bennett while searching with a metal detector. BM Ref.: 2008 T410. R. Abdy sent information.
128 Work by S. Palmer, Warwickshire Museum, for Mr and Mrs D. Reay. N. Palmer sent information.
129 Found by Mr B. Caddy while searching with a metal detector. BM Ref.: 2007 T274. For the previous finds see I. Leins, *British Numismatic Journal* 77 (2007), 22–48. R. Abdy sent information.
130 Work by S. Jones and J. Tate of University of Leicester Archaeological Services. N. Cooper sent information.
131 Found by Mr A. Jones and Mr C. Boden while searching with metal detectors. BM Ref.: 2008 T197 and T625. R. Abdy sent information.

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NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

(1) **Northampton**, *Milton Ham* (SP 730 573): a Romano-British 'ladder' enclosure (FIG. 8) was excavated following an evaluation in 2002.[132] The earliest evidence for activity on the site dates to the late second/early third century A.D. and comprises a number of small gullies and a small oven. Two cremation burials, probably of the same period, were recovered from the southern part of the site. The 'ladder' enclosure system, which is dated to the third and fourth centuries A.D., was 150 m long by 35 m wide and was divided into several sub-enclosures. There was a triangular annexe on the eastern side. Access to the annexe and the 'ladder' enclosure system appears to have been from the east. There was no clear evidence for habitation within the enclosure or annexe, although the pottery, glass and building material suggest that there was a building nearby.[133]

(2) **'South Northamptonshire'**: a base silver radiate and three plated denarii, deposited *c*. A.D. 260. The only regular coin is a radiate of Salonina (from the joint reign); the three plated coins are all in imitation of denarii of Julia Domna.[134]

PETERBOROUGH

(1) **Haddon** (TL 165 922 and 159 927): evaluation, using a combination of geophysical survey and trial trenching, revealed two areas of contemporary Roman settlement.[135] Both sites had Iron Age antecedents, although it is presently unclear whether there was continuous occupation or a brief hiatus between the periods. The eastern area contained a series of subdivided, square or sub-rectangular, enclosures covering a total area of *c*. 3 ha. Numerous pits and several ponds were revealed, although no buildings have yet been identified; however, some of the smaller gullies may have had a structural function. A large pottery assemblage consisted mostly of shell-tempered pottery, in a coarse, oxidised fabric, broadly datable to the second to fourth centuries. The site is almost certain to have been involved with pottery production; fragments of kiln furniture were recovered, although no kilns were identified. The western settlement did include a small pottery kiln. The enclosures here covered an area of *c*. 2 ha, and had a less regular layout. Fewer pits were present, but a number of post-holes were revealed, along with several gullies that may have had a structural function. A smaller but still substantial amount of pottery was recovered, along with other types of domestic refuse.

BEDFORDSHIRE

(1) **Biddenham**: (a) *land west of Bedford development, Site 1* (TL 0272 4921): open area excavation of a single farmstead was undertaken (FIG. 9).[136] It comprised a system of rectangular ditched enclosures extending over 4 ha adjacent to the River Great Ouse, comparable to the three others known from previous investigations within the Biddenham Loop.[137] The major difference from the previously investigated farmsteads was the absence of evidence for an origin in the late pre-Roman Iron Age. An early to middle Saxon settlement comprising 16 sunken-featured buildings was subsequently established in the western part of the farmstead.

132 *South Midlands Archaeology* 33 (2003), 52.

133 Work by A. Foard-Colby, Northamptonshire Archaeology, commissioned by Waterman CPM Ltd (WCPM), acting on behalf of Parkridge (Milton Ham) Ltd. P. Chapman sent information.

134 Found by Mr T. Binns while searching with a metal detector. BM Ref.: 2008 T651. R. Abdy sent information.

135 Work by D. Ingham, J. Abrams, J. Newboult and L. Anderson, Albion Archaeology. M. Luke sent information.

136 Work by M. Luke, B. Barker, J. Archer and R. Gregson, Albion Archaeology. M. Luke sent information.

137 M. Luke, *Life in The Loop: Investigations of a Prehistoric and Romano-British Landscape*, East Anglian Archaeology Monograph 125 (2008), 58.

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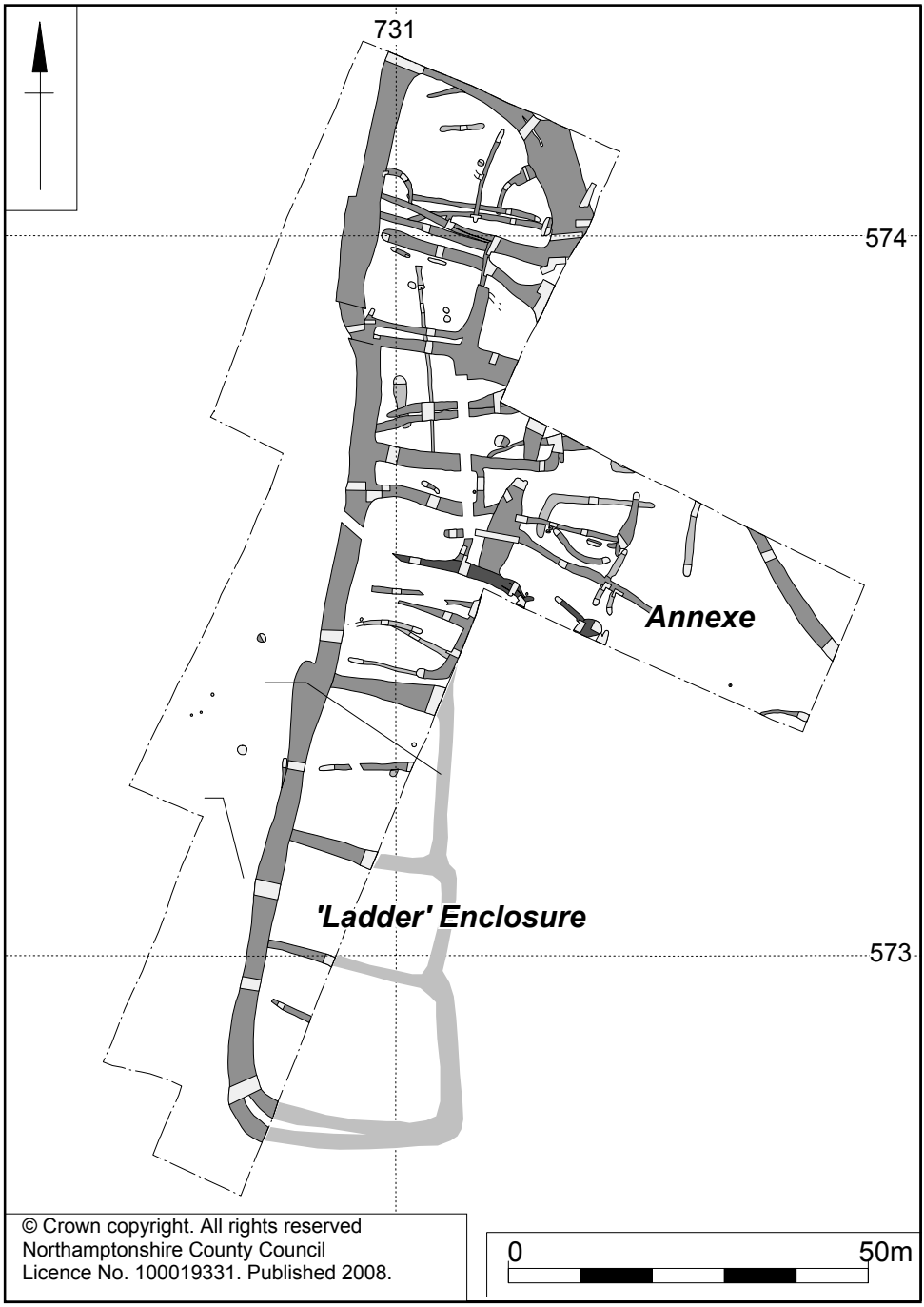


FIG. 8. Milton Ham, Northampton, plan of enclosures.

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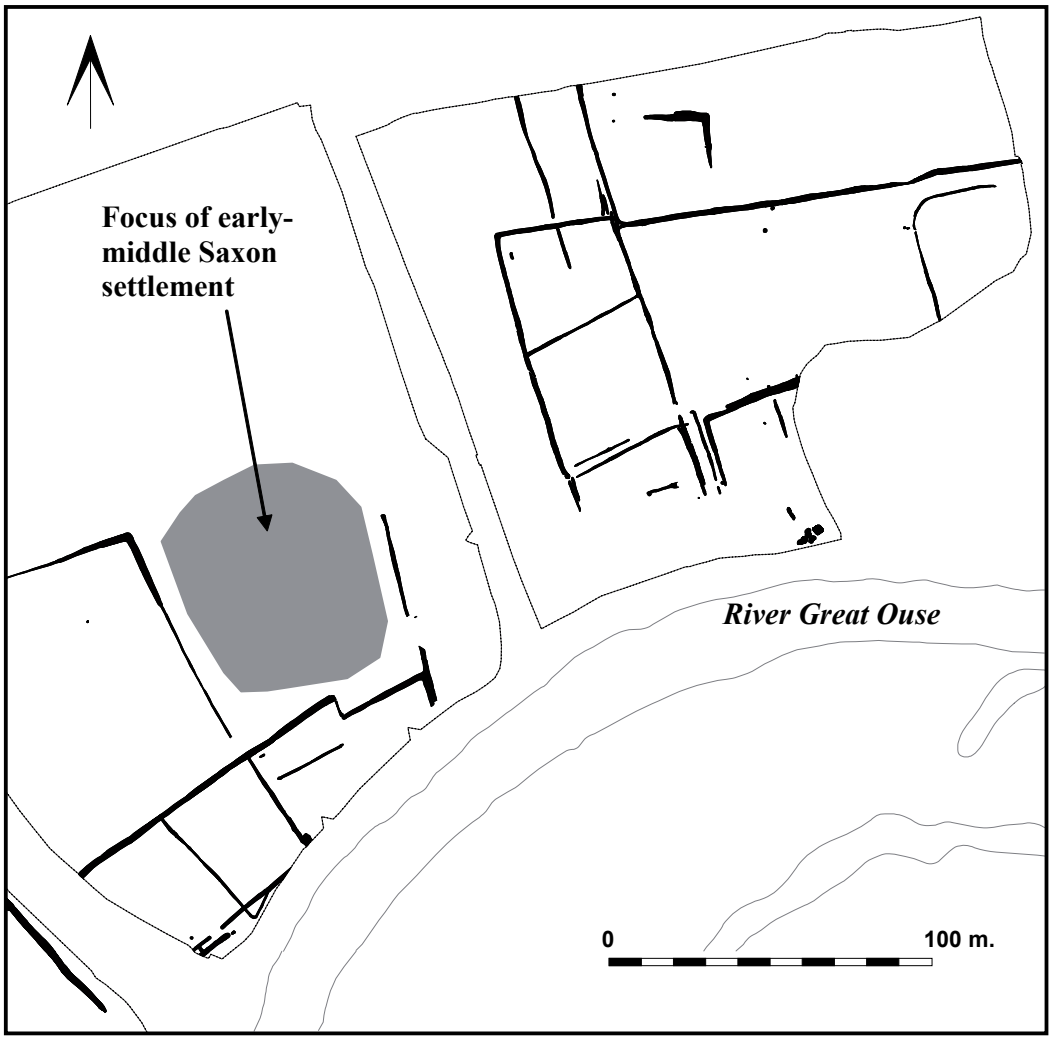


FIG. 9. Biddenham Site 1: Romano-British farmstead, showing location of early to middle Saxon settlement and proximity to River Great Ouse.

(b) *Land west of Bedford development, Site 7* (TL 0180 4901): open area excavation[138] identified a small, possibly ritual complex located towards the centre of the Biddenham Loop and isolated from contemporary activity (FIG. 10). It comprised two small, square enclosures situated within a single larger ditched enclosure. The smaller enclosures are comparable to another one found within adjacent investigations and interpreted as a shrine.[139] Small pits were located centrally

[138] Work by M. Luke, B. Barker and J. Archer, Albion Archaeology. M. Luke sent information.
[139] M. Luke, *Life in The Loop: Investigations of a Prehistoric and Romano-British Landscape*, East Anglian Archaeology Monograph 125 (2008), 53–5.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0068113X0000012X Published online by Cambridge University Press

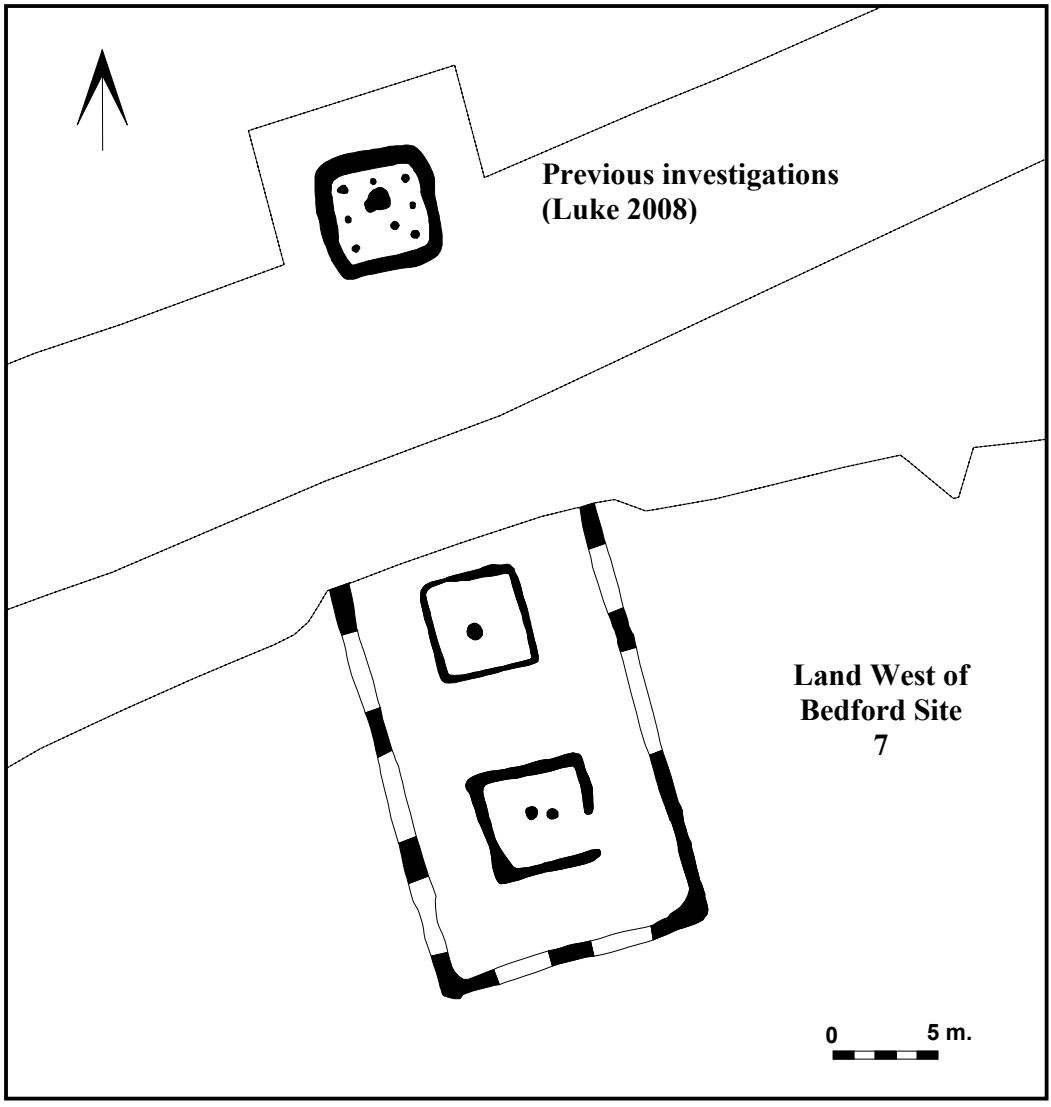


FIG. 10. Biddenham Site 7: Late Iron Age/early Romano-British ritual complex, showing proximity to previously excavated 'shrine'.

within each small enclosure but no human bone or unusual/'special' artefacts were found in this area. However, similar small square enclosures elsewhere have been associated with cremation burials isolated from contemporary settlements, e.g. Roughground Farm, Glos.,[140] and within

[140] T.G. Allen, T.C. Darvill, L.S. Green and M.U. Jones, *Excavations at Roughground Farm, Lechlade, Gloucestershire: a Prehistoric and Roman Landscape*, Oxford Archaeological Unit Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph 1 (1993), 53, fig. 30.

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religious sites, e.g. Westhampnett, West Sussex.[141] Comparable small square enclosures have also been interpreted as shrines and occur within settlements, e.g. Stansted and Heybridge, both in Essex.[142]

(c) *Land west of Bedford development, strip & map area* (TL 0195 4837):[143] two trackways extended for 500 m but stopped where they reached a contemporary major east–west boundary ditch which appeared to 'cut off' the Biddenham Loop. They comprised parallel ditches, but no metalling survived. The trackways and the major boundary respected elements of the prehistoric landscape, e.g. late Neolithic/early Bronze Age monuments, middle Bronze Age fields, and a late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pit alignment. Prior to the recent investigations it had been thought that the extensive field-system, revealed by non-intrusive survey, originated in the Romano-British period.[144] It is now clear that it actually originated in the middle Bronze Age and remained in use throughout the Iron Age and Romano-British period. In addition to a handful of burials of this period, an isolated *bustum* burial was also identified on the western side of the Loop (TL 0182 4836). It comprised a rectangular pit with burnt sides; its lower fill contained abundant cremated human bone, charcoal and nearly one hundred nails. Two complete pottery vessels were recovered from the burial: a large, locally manufactured jar and a smaller Nene Valley beaker dated to the fourth century. Similar burials have been found at The Lea, Denham, Bucks.[145]

(2) **Kempston**, *land west of Bedford development, Sites 15 and 20* (TL 1700 4730): the system of bedding trenches reported previously[146] was found to extend over an area of 70 m by 50 m. Four arrays of trenches were identified, all on the same south-west–north-east alignment and all containing trenches *c*. 31 m long and consistently 4.5 m apart. The nearest known contemporary settlement is over 300 m away, centred on Kempston Church End.[147] The trenches were similar to ones found nearby on Bedford Western Bypass Sites 10[148] and 13,[149] although they do not appear to be part of the same extensive system. They are thought to be associated with the growing of vines or fruit hedges.[150]

HERTFORDSHIRE

(1) **Bishop's Stortford**, *Whittington Way* (TL 4850 1900): an evaluation was targeted on the results of a previous geophysical survey. The results of the trenching revealed a Bronze Age ring-ditch, which had been reused in the Romano-British period. Extensive remains of a Romano-British farmstead and associated agricultural activity, possibly a vineyard, were also recovered on the western side of the site. A Roman enclosure, which may have had its origins in the Bronze Age, was sampled on the northern side of the site. To the west of this enclosure were further remains of Roman enclosures, and possible structures. A number of cremation burials

141 A.P. Fitzpatrick, *Archaeological Excavations on the Route of the A27 Westhampnett Bypass, West Sussex, 1992. Volume 2: The Late Iron Age, Romano-British, and Anglo-Saxon Cemeteries* (2003), 15–18, fig. 33.

142 H. Brooks, 'The Stansted temple', *Current Archaeol.* 117 (1989), 323–4; M. Atkinson and S.J. Preston, 'The Late Iron Age and Roman settlement at Elms Farm, Heybridge, Essex, excavations 1993–5: an interim report', *Britannia* 29 (1998), 92–3.

143 Work by M. Luke, B. Barker, A. Bell and J. Archer, Albion Archaeology. M. Luke sent information.

144 M. Luke, *Life in The Loop: Investigations of a Prehistoric and Romano-British Landscape*, East Anglian Archaeology Monograph 125 (2008), 62.

145 *Britannia* 36 (2005), 428.

146 *Britannia* 39 (2008), 305–6.

147 M. Dawson, *Archaeology of the Bedford Region*, BAR British Ser. 373 (2004).

148 *Britannia* 37 (2006), 411.

149 *Britannia* 39 (2008), 305.

150 Work by M. Luke, B. Barker and V. Osborn, Albion Archaeology. M. Luke sent information.

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were also observed across the site, some of which were certainly of the Roman period, while others were undated.[151]

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

(1) **Aylesbury**, *Aylesbury Vale Parkway Phase II* (SP 790 160): a series of inter-cutting field boundary or drainage ditches extended across the site. Some the ditches revealed join Roman-period ditches uncovered in a previous phase of fieldwork. A large silty spread was recorded, into which further ditches and probable clay quarry pits were cut. Over a hundred Roman coins were recovered by metal detector from the silt spread. Roman pottery was recovered from the ditches and pits. The pits were cut by later ditches, possibly drainage ditches associated with the Roman road, Akeman Street, that runs adjacent to the site. Two badly degraded skeletons of possible Roman date were uncovered.[152]

(2) **Cold Brayfield**, *Brayfield Estate* (SP 93369 52140): the earliest phase of activity was represented by Roman-period ditches. Fired-clay kiln furniture and debris were recovered from one of the ditches. Pottery suggested a third-century date. A group of pits and a second complex of ditches, which were higher in the stratigraphic sequence, dated to the third or fourth century.[153]

(3) **High Wycombe**, *RAF High Wycombe* (SU 834 787): two sherds of black-burnished ware and a sandy grey ware found in a tree-throw hole suggest Roman-period activity in the vicinity.[154]

(4) **Shabbington**, *The Willows, Mill Road* (SP 66552 06843): a watching-brief revealed late Iron Age to early Roman and second- to fourth-century activity in the form of drainage and boundary ditches with some pits. Environmental remains show evidence of a very similar agricultural economy to that of the farming settlements of the gravel terraces of the Upper Thames Valley.[155]

(5) **Winslow** (south of): a hoard of 17 gold staters and 9 silver units, issues of Cunobelin, deposited early first century A.D.[156]

MILTON KEYNES

(1) **Brooklands** (SP 907 397): further excavation[157] in advance of housing development revealed ditches assigned to the early Roman period on stratigraphic grounds. The landscape was remodelled, probably in the early second century, with the addition of three new enclosures and a track or droveway. A triangular corn-drier, made of roughly shaped limestone blocks with up to four courses surviving, was recorded in one of the enclosures. Three large quarries or waterholes produced assemblages of Roman pottery and ceramic building material.[158]

(2) **Broughton**, *Broughton North* (SP 8391 4024): following an evaluation comprising topographical survey and trial trenching, excavation of the site was undertaken in advance of housing

[151] Work by G. Williams, John Moore Heritage Services, for CgMs Consulting. D. Gilbert sent information.
[152] Work by T. Haines, Oxford Archaeology, for John Laing Projects and Developments. Information sent by E. Biddulph.
[153] Evaluation by D. Dodds, Oxford Archaeology, for Natural England. Information sent by E. Biddulph.
[154] Evaluation by M. Sims, Oxford Archaeology, on behalf of Debut Services Ltd. Information sent by E. Biddulph.
[155] Work by D. Sausins, John Moore Heritage Services, for ODL Consulting. D. Gilbert sent information.
[156] Found by Mr P. Russell while searching with a metal detector. BM Ref.: 2008 T570. R. Abdy sent information.
[157] cf. *Britannia* 39 (2008), 306.
[158] Work by W. Bedford, Oxford Archaeology, on behalf of CgMs Consulting. Information sent by E. Biddulph.

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development.[159] In the Roman period the site formed part of a field-system comprising at least five enclosures and a droveway. This remained in use for some time, and was remodelled on several occasions. Pottery and finds assemblages suggest that, between the second and fourth centuries, the site was in agricultural use, managed from a nearby settlement. Environmental evidence suggests that pastoral farming of cattle and sheep was taking place in the Roman period. An isolated, undated female inhumation burial may be of late Roman date. Evidence of early Saxon activity on the site consists of two pits containing several sherds of Saxon pottery.

(3) **Milton Keynes**: a hoard of 1,456 Constantinian/Magnentian nummi ending with 'fallen horseman' imitations, *c*. A.D. 355. The hoard appears to have been in a jar of pink grogged ware.[160]

(4) **Newport Pagnell**, *Willen Road* (SP 8750 4230): following an evaluation in 2005, excavations were undertaken in 2006 and 2008 on an extensive prehistoric and Roman site between Willen Road, the M1 and the A422, in advance of gravel extraction.[161] The southern part of the site contained a Bronze Age ring-ditch. North-west of the ring-ditch was part of an extensive Iron Age and Roman settlement, comprising a number of ditched enclosures, a large pond and a cremation cemetery. The settlement, which extended beneath the motorway embankment, originated in the early to middle Iron Age and continued into the late fourth century A.D. At least three circular huts were identified, although no occupation horizons or floor surfaces survived. A number of smaller, roughly rectangular stone features were also recorded. Their function has not yet been established, but similar features excavated at Bancroft, Milton Keynes, were associated with smithing or metalworking. Occasional quernstone fragments and animal bones suggest a mixed agrarian economy, and the range of finds is typical of a native Romano-British settlement.

OXFORDSHIRE

(1) **Abingdon**, *Old Goal* (SU 4984 9694): two phases of work were carried out, involving hand excavation within mechanically-excavated trenches, to identify the level at which Roman features and deposits survived compared to those found in earlier investigations and to assess the impact of recent activity on any surviving remains. Further work is planned for the following year.[162]

(2) **Bicester**, *Leycroft Manor Farm, Souldern* (SP 5238 3094): an evaluation revealed a ditch that produced first-century Roman pottery and abraded fragments of lava quern.[163]

(3) **Dorchester on Thames**: (a) *Watling Lane* (centred at SU 577 941): excavation commenced on an area *c.* 30 m by 20 m within the walled Roman 'small town' as part of the Dorchester Research Project.[164] The area incorporated trenches in which Professor Frere had located features of the very early Roman period and of the late Roman/early to middle Saxon period in 1963.[165] The earliest deposits examined, at the eastern margin of the site, were traces of the

[159] Work by L. Gill, Archaeological Services & Consultancy, for McCann Homes. R.J. Zeepvat sent information.
[160] Found by Messrs D. Philips and B. Plason while searching with metal detectors. BM Ref.: 2006 T631. R. Abdy sent information.
[161] Work by A. Hancock, Archaeological Services & Consultancy, for SGS Construction Ltd. R.J. Zeepvat sent information.
[162] Work by S. Hammond, John Moore Heritage Services, for Cranbourne Homes. D. Gilbert sent information.
[163] Work by Paul Murray, Oxford Archaeology, for Richard Deeley. E. Biddulph sent information.
[164] Work for the Dorchester Project, a joint project by Oxford Archaeology, Oxford University Institute of Archaeology and Dorchester Museum, was directed by P. Booth, who sent information.
[165] *Archaeological Journal* 141 (1984), 96, 98, 103–5.

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north–south Roman road that probably formed the central axis of the Roman town. At least two gravel surfaces and traces of a later, but poorly preserved, limestone surface were seen. A sub-rectangular pit cut into the western edge of the road produced large quantities of late Roman finds and a couple of possible Anglo-Saxon sherds. Both the fill of the pit and the road surfaces were in part overlain by deposits including redeposited Roman building material — flint, limestone, and brick and tile. These spreads were probably of middle Saxon date, although the great majority of the associated finds were late Roman. Notable amongst these was a belt buckle of Hawkes type 1B; earlier finds included part of the head of a small bronze figurine, an intaglio, a spout from a rare ring-formed multiple lamp, and four fragments of roller-stamped box-flue tile. (b) *Land adjacent to 86 High Street* (SU 5772 9461): an evaluation recorded a mid-third-century ditch and two pits of possible late Roman date. These were cut into alluvium which contained a flint flake.[166]

(4) **Kirtlington**, *Gossway Fields* (SP 4985 1970): excavation on land north of Gossway Fields revealed residual first-century Roman pottery, indicating some activity of that date in the vicinity. A cremation burial was possibly of early Roman date. The earliest recognisable phase of activity was represented by a Roman ditch system defining fields of roughly similar size. The ditches were in use from the second century A.D. and were re-cut thereafter up to the fourth century. Several shallow gullies within the fields appeared to form a pattern of north–south and east–west alignments, alternating from field to field, and probably relate to agricultural practices. Towards the end of the third century or early in the fourth century one of the fields was made narrower. Pits, possibly for refuse disposal, were dug in the separated-off area to the east. The area of pits was then expanded to the west and a well was dug, while a building was erected to the east over the original area of pits. Only part of the building, which had stone foundations and a flagged floor, was revealed, so it is not clear if this was an isolated structure or part of a larger complex such as a villa. Imported pottery formed only a small percentage of the site assemblage. The latter contained a high proportion of oxidised coarse wares, including probable wasters, suggesting very local production perhaps intended specifically to supply a small nucleated-settlement close to the junction of Akeman Street and the north–south Roman road from Oxford to Kings Sutton.[167]

(5) **Letcombe Regis**, *Letcombe Laboratories* (SU 3797 8634): a complex system of Roman ditches dating from the second to fourth centuries was investigated during excavation on part of the site of the former agricultural laboratories at Letcombe Regis. A second-century, rectilinear field-system was perhaps remodelled in the later part of the century and again at times in the third to early fourth centuries. The area appears to have gone out of agricultural use in the fourth century, possibly because of soil degradation over years of cultivation.[168]

(6) **Mapledurham**: a hoard of 6 AE sestertii and 2 AE dupondii/asses to *c*. A.D. 212.[169] This appears to be a small early third-century sestertius (+sestertius fractions) hoard, found along with a large number of later stray base-metal radiates and nummi.

(7) **Oxford**: (a) *Littlemore Park, Littlemore* (SP 5370 0230): evaluation of a proposed development site located a ditch dating to the Roman period along with a second, undated ditch

[166] Work by D. Gilbert and A. Ainsworth, John Moore Heritage Services, on behalf of the Anderson Orr Partnership. D. Gilbert sent information.

[167] Work by D. Gilbert, John Moore Heritage Services, for J.S. Bloor Ltd. D. Gilbert sent information.

[168] Work by D. Gilbert and H. Noakes, John Moore Heritage Services, for CgMs Consulting. D. Gilbert sent information.

[169] Found by Mr W. Wadas while searching with a metal detector. BM Ref.: 2008 T699. R. Abdy sent information.

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on a similar alignment and an undated post-hole.[170] (b) *King of Prussia, Rose Hill* (SP 5358 0365): three evaluation trenches totalling approximately 70 m in length revealed limited evidence for second- to fourth-century activity, probably associated with the local pottery production centre.[171]

(8) **South Leigh**, *Gill Mill* (SP 382 069) (FIG. 11): investigation in advance of extraction in the Tar Farm area of the Gill Mill gravel pit continued.[172] A further 4 hectares were stripped, incorporating parts of the south-eastern end of the Roman settlement (Tar Farm 4, centred SP 3825 0690) and its environs (Tar Farm 5, centred SP 3860 0670).[173] In Tar Farm 4, ditches were examined belonging to the system of enclosures laid out along the northern side of the WNW–ESE-aligned road running down the Windrush valley from the focal area of the settlement in the vicinity of Gill Mill House. Within the enclosures were numerous pits, comparable to those already recorded in immediately adjacent areas, and occasional cremation and inhumation burials were placed adjacent to some of the ditches. Structural evidence remained elusive. Important finds from this area included a small stone figure of a female deity (head missing) of a recognisable Cotswold type, a small uninscribed stone altar, and the feet of a fired clay Venus figurine — further additions to the body of religious objects already recovered from this site. One of the fourth-century pits produced, amongst much other material, the top of an elaborately decorated pottery face flagon and part of a well-preserved small basket, apparently woven from grasses.

Much of the area of Tar Farm 5 was completely devoid of archaeological features, lying beyond the limit of Roman settlement. At its south-eastern margin, however, the line of the WNW–ESE Roman road was again encountered, some 300 m south-east of the most easterly part of Tar Farm 4. The road was defined by ditches *c.* 20 m apart but had no metalling, in contrast to the situation further west. A single row of regular rectilinear enclosures, also defined by ditches, was laid out on the northern side of the road. Parts of four such enclosures, each roughly 40 m wide and 50 m deep, were examined. Very few internal features were present (pits were notably absent) and these enclosures probably represented paddocks. There were no corresponding features south of the line of the Roman road, closer to the river.

(9) **Standlake**, *Malthouse Farmhouse* (SP 3833 0334): six evaluation trenches totalling 79.6 m in length revealed ditches, pits and post-holes of Roman date.[174]

(10) **Wendlebury**, *Alchester Roman town* (SP 57652035): further geophysical survey was carried out for Planned Approach Ltd and a LIDAR survey commissioned by English Heritage.[175] The gradiometer survey identified a main feature composed of a series of ditches enclosing a rectangular area. These ditches are characteristic of a Roman fort, especially as they suggest a double-ditched enclosure. The LIDAR survey shows the internal area of the enclosure to be slightly higher terrain. The enclosure is bisected by two parallel ditches running north–south across it. These are likely to represent the main north–south road through the fort heading towards Akeman Street and southwards to the parade ground.[176]

170 Work by D. Gilbert and S. Hammond, John Moore Heritage Services, for CgMs. D. Gilbert sent information

171 Work by D. Gilbert, John Moore Heritage Services, for Gould Singleton Architects. D. Gilbert sent information.

172 See *Britannia* 39 (2008), 308–9.

173 Work for Smith and Sons (Bletchington) Ltd was carried out by Oxford Archaeology, directed by P. Booth, who sent information.

174 Work by A. Ainsworth, John Moore Heritage Services, for Gregory Associates. D. Gilbert sent information.

175 Work by J. Moore and D. Gilbert, John Moore Heritage Services, for Planned Approach Ltd. D. Gilbert sent information.

176 E. Sauer, 'The military origins of the Roman town of Alchester, Oxfordshire', *Britannia* 30 (1999), 289–97.

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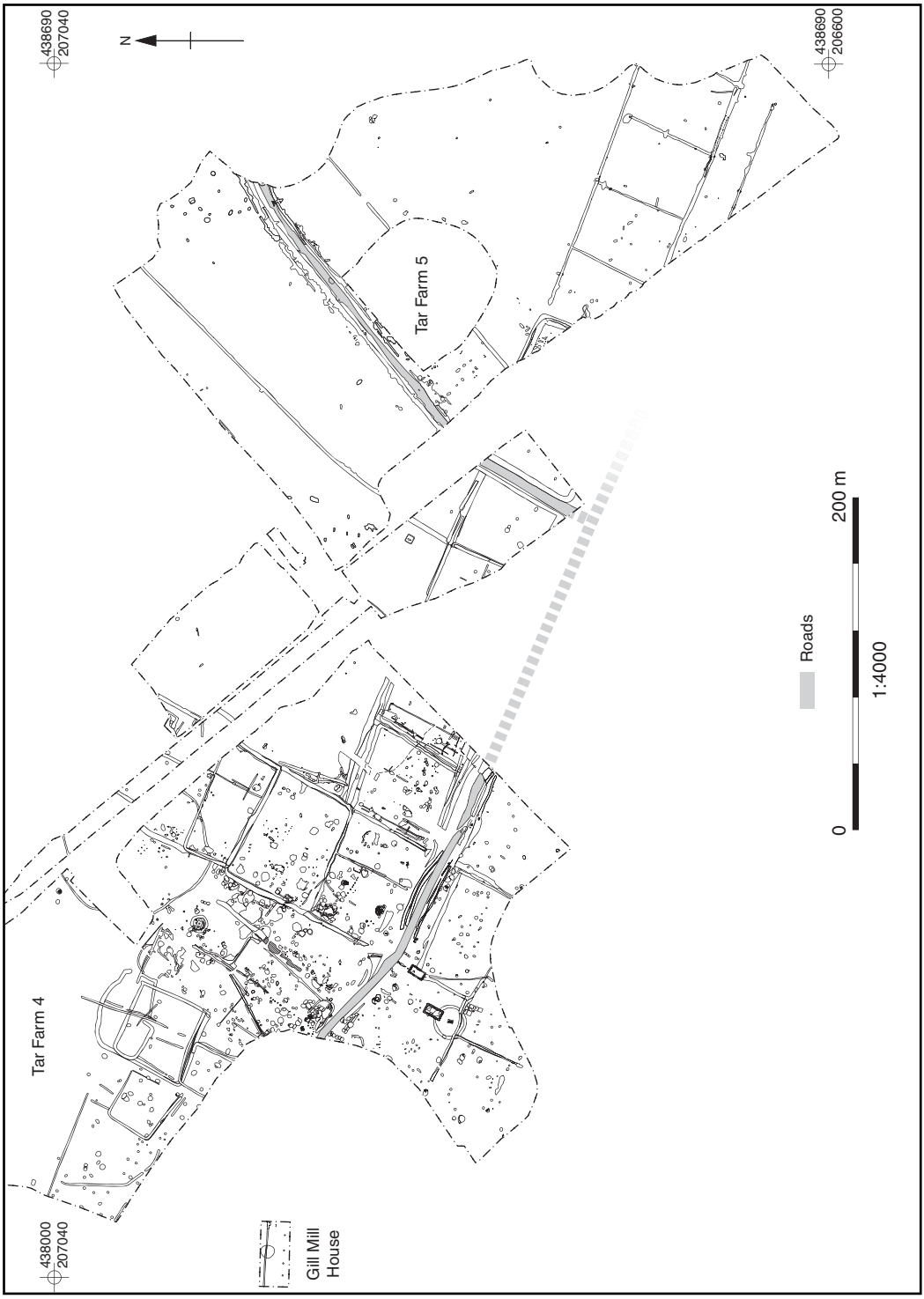


FIG. 11. Gill Mill plan.

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Given the location of the enclosure, its form with the rounded corners, apparent double ditches, and the fact that it was bisected by two roads, this must be considered to be a further fort at Alchester, as previously speculated. Whether it is earlier, contemporary with, or later than the vexillation fort is unknown. The positioning of this fort is far more defensively-minded than the western fort. The river forms a natural protective barrier on two sides. It guards the ford on Akeman Street and a possible one on a projected line of the known road to the north, roughly where the railway now crosses the river.

6. EAST ANGLIA

By PAUL BOOTH

NORFOLK

(1) **Fransham**: a single blank for a gold stater.[177] The metal, precise shape, size and weight (6.05 g) are consistent with those of a Late Iron Age gold stater. It is likely to have been prepared as part of the production of British J or Norfolk Wolf type stater.

SUFFOLK

(1) **Braiseworth**, *Priory Farm* (TM 13 71; BRA 005): a magnetometer survey was carried out over an area of Roman finds including building material. This identified a rectangular enclosure *c.* 120 m by 95 m with internal subdivisions.[178]

(2) **Coddenham** (TM 11 52; CDD 068): Roman ditches, one flanking a road and with a juvenile burial cut into its base, and an early Anglo-Saxon sunken-featured building were found on a pipeline excavation to the north-west of the settlement of *Combretovium*.[179]

(3) **Eriswell**, *Liberty Village, RAF Lakenheath* (TL 72 79; ERL 203): the upper 0.5 m of deposits in a prehistoric ring-ditch contained a mix of scattered prehistoric struck flint, occasional prehistoric pottery sherds, and greater quantities of Roman pottery. Two carefully-deposited pig skulls and feet, in close proximity to a scatter of Roman coins, were also found at the top of the eastern part of the ditch.[180]

(4) **Eye** area: a hoard of 1 gold quarter stater, 22 silver units and 1 bronze unit, all East Anglian types, dated early to mid-first century A.D.[181]

(5) **Hoxne**: 2 AR clipped siliquae of A.D. 378/9–388 and A.D. 395–402, addenda to the main hoard of A.D. 408.[182]

(6) **Ixworth**, *Dover Farm* (TL 94 69): a magnetometer and topographic survey were carried out as training for students on the Scheduled site of a Roman villa, first identified in 1849 and

[177] Found by Mr V. Butler while searching with a metal detector. BM Ref.: 2008 T272. R. Abdy sent information.

[178] Work by H. Woodhouse, L-P: Archaeology for S.C.C.A.S., report LP0663E-GSR-v1.2. J. Plouviez sent information.

[179] Work by K. Heard, S.C.C.A.S., for Anglian Water Services Ltd. J. Plouviez sent information.

[180] Work by J. Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Defence Estates (USF). J. Plouviez sent information.

[181] Found by Mr J. Scopes and Mr T. Leeder while searching with metal detectors. BM Ref.: 2008 T325. R. Abdy sent information.

[182] Found by Mr A. Smith while searching with metal detector. BM Ref.: 2008 T582. R. Abdy sent information. For main hoard see P.S.W. Guest, *The Late Roman Gold and Silver Coins from the Hoxne Treasure* (2005).

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also investigated in 1948 by Basil Brown. Several linear features form part of an early system on a very different alignment to the modern road and field boundaries. Adjacent to and aligned with these are indications of rubble spreads, but no coherent building plans.[183]

(7) **Mildenhall**, *land adjacent the Smoke House Inn, Beck Row* (TL 69 77; MNL 598): a 1.4 ha excavation in advance of housing development identified widespread evidence of Late Iron Age and Roman rural settlement and agriculture.[184] The area lies immediately to the south of the site of a second/third-century timber aisled building interpreted as a malt-house[185] and forms part of a wider landscape of known multi-period activity on the edge of the fens. Networks of ditches forming a variety of enclosure systems and field boundaries have been identified, together with a dense scatter of large pits which were possibly used for grain storage. One possible timber building was indicated by a line of post-holes. The finds assemblage includes pottery up to the third century, coins and brooches.

(8) **Near Saxmundham**: 1 solidus and 59 siliquae (many fragmentary), addenda to an earlier find.[186] The total now stands at 4 gold solidi and 117 silver clipped siliquae to A.D. 402. All the siliquae were heavily clipped (clipping factor 3-4) and few could be closely identified.[187]

(9) **Near Wickham Market** (DLL 013): a hoard comprising 788 Iron Age gold coins was found associated with the base of a wheel-thrown pot.[188] Subsequently a small area was stripped of topsoil to examine the archaeological context. Further coins were retrieved from the ploughsoil, bringing the total number to 840, of which the vast majority were Icenian types plus five South Ferriby staters from the tribal area of the Corieltauvi. The excavation showed that the hoard had been buried in a small pit adjacent to a ditch of similar early first-century A.D. date. A later ditch contained Roman as well as residual Iron Age pottery sherds. The hoard is highly significant as it is the largest hoard of Iron Age gold coins discovered since the Whaddon Chase (Bucks.) hoard in 1849.[189]

(10) **Near Woodbridge**: a hoard of 8 solidi deposited *c*. A.D. 406.[190]

ESSEX

(1) **Abberton**, *Abberton reservoir* (TL 5998 2191): a modern track approaching the north-east corner of Abberton reservoir is on the postulated route of a Roman road from Colchester to Mersea Island. A trench across the 4 m-wide, cobbled track recovered crushed brick and salt-glazed pipe fragments, demonstrating a post-medieval origin.[191]

(2) **Birch**, *Birch Pit, Maldon Road* (centred TL 925 192): excavations in 2007 and 2008 revealed a rectilinear Late Iron Age and Roman enclosure (internally *c*. 0.65 ha) with a droveway on its

183 Work by H. Woodhouse for the Faculty of Classics, University of Cambridge. J. Plouviez sent information.
184 Work by J. Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Persimmon Homes Anglia. J. Plouviez sent information.
185 E. Bales, *A Roman Malting at Beck Row, Mildenhall, Suffolk*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 20 (2004).
186 *Britannia* 39 (2008), 310, BM Ref.: 2007 T514. R. Abdy sent information.
187 Found by Mr D. Cummings and Ms D. Cook while searching with metal detector(s). BM Ref.: 2008 T696. R. Abdy sent information.
188 Found by Mr M. Darke and Mr K. Lewis while searching with metal detectors. BM Ref.: 2008 T226. R. Abdy sent information.
189 Work by J. Plouviez, S.C.C.A.S., with financial support from the British Museum. J. Plouviez and R. Abdy sent information.
190 Found by Mr P. Berry while searching with a metal detector. BM Ref.: 2008 T145. R. Abdy sent information.
191 Work by B. Holloway, for Colchester Archaeological Trust, on behalf of Northumberland Water and Essex and Suffolk Water. H. Brooks sent information.

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west side. Although there were internal features, such as an oven, pits and post-holes, building plans were not evident. A series of ditches defines a contemporary farmed landscape.[192]

(3) **Chelmsford** district: a hoard of 13+ base metal nummi.[193] Two groups were stored stacked into rolls and are now fused through corrosion, making all but the reverse of the top coin of group 1 illegible. This latter was a Valentinianic SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE type.

(4) **Colchester** (*Camulodunum*): (a) *East Hill House, High Street* (TM 001 252): the site lies in Insula 31/32 of the Roman town. Test pitting and trenching in 2007–8[194] revealed the robbed walls and floors of at least two Roman buildings (presumably town-houses). A large (but residual) group of unused Roman stone tesserae may indicate the proximity of a workshop involved in the construction or repair of mosaic floors. The metalled street on the south edge of Insula 31/32 was exposed in three places, necessitating a slight alteration of its projected alignment. Its northern edge now aligns precisely with medieval Bastion 1 on the external face of the Roman town wall. (b) *10 William's Walk* (TL 9971 2535): this site is in Insula 13 of the Roman town, to the south of the site of the Roman theatre. Evaluation trenching identified a small area of compacted gravel which is in the correct position to be the north–south Roman street between Insulae 12 and 13.[195] (c) *21 St Peter's Street* (TL 99595 25531): evaluation and excavation (2005–8)[196] on this waterlogged site has exposed three wooden Roman drains, all north–south-aligned and at a right angle to the north wall of the Roman town. The best-preserved drain was 11.5 m long, and consisted of two adjoining sections, each consisting of a base plank and two opposing upright planks either side held apart by wooden struts. A plank partially covered the drain, supported by evenly-spaced wooden struts connected to the upright planks by dovetail joints. Dendrochronological dating suggests an earliest construction date of A.D. 62. The drain was covered by a layer of septaria blocks and a mortary construction layer, both of which may be contemporary with the (later) construction of the Roman town wall. Two other wooden drains of the same construction and alignment were found 10.5 m to the east of the above (on the other side of a gravel 'road' surface). The direction of the 'road' surface, the location of the drains and the absence of the town wall in the vicinity of the drain suggest that there may have been a previously unknown gateway through the Roman town wall. Excavation to confirm this was not viable because of safety considerations. Two features cut into the western side of the gravel surface held large, well-preserved wooden posts angled upwards at roughly 45 degrees (pointing north away from the town) and held in place by packing stones. These features may have been defensive spikes (*lilia*). (d) *37 Oaks Drive* (TL 9882 2517): the site is a short distance south of the Late Iron Age and early Roman site of Sheepen in the oppidum of *Camulodunum*. A watching-brief revealed a Roman sand quarry.[197] (e) *Central Clinic, High Street* (TM 0002 2532): the site lies in Insulae 15/23 and 24 of the Roman town, and partially within a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Essex SAM no. 1). An evaluation in 2006 identified patches of the tessellated and

[192] Work by S. Benfield, E. Spurgeon and H. Brooks, for Colchester Archaeological Trust, on behalf of Tarmac Quarries. H. Brooks sent information.

[193] Found by Mr M. Cuddeford while searching with a metal detector. BM Ref.: 2008 T655. R. Abdy sent information.

[194] Work by K. Orr, W. Clarke and H. Brooks, for Colchester Archaeological Trust, on behalf of Colchester Borough Council. H. Brooks sent information.

[195] Work by B. Holloway, for Colchester Archaeological Trust, on behalf of Barber & Son. H. Brooks sent information.

[196] Work by A. Wightman, for Colchester Archaeological Trust, on behalf of Enterprise Heritage. H. Brooks sent information.

[197] Work by S. Benfield, Colchester Archaeological Trust, on behalf of Mr D. Larond. H. Brooks sent information.

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mortar floors of Roman buildings lying on either side of the Roman gravel street which divided Insulae 15/23 and 24. A watching-brief in 2007–8 located the gravel surface of the Roman street at three points.[198]

(f) *Goojerat Barracks, Colchester Garrison* (TL 99512 24510): the ground at this site, part of the continuing Colchester Garrison redevelopment project, had been much disturbed by the construction (1900–1902) or rebuilding of the barracks (1971–75). However, fragments of ditches indicate that there was a co-axial Roman farmed landscape here, aligned south-west to north-east, and possibly including an enclosure. The recovery of over 11 kg of Roman brick and tile indicates the likely presence of a Roman building in the enclosure.[199] (g) *Colchester Institute, Sheepen Road* (centred TL 9880 2552): this site lies on the fringes of the Late Iron Age and early Roman Sheepen site in the oppidum of *Camulodunum*. Work in 2008 identified further areas of Late Iron Age and early Roman industrial activity and occupation, principally in the form of ditches and pits.[200] Plentiful finds include pottery, a glass jar with a face of Bacchus, a set of gaming counters, pillar-moulded glass bowl fragments, and, perhaps of the greatest interest, a complete wooden paddle found in a pre-Flavian ditch.

(5) **Stansted Airport**: (a) *M11 widening scheme and airport access* (TL 470 000–TL 520 230): an assemblage of Roman ceramic building material and pottery, recovered during fieldwalking,[201] was largely undiagnostic. Concentrations were recorded at Little Hallingbury, Harlow Tye and Fiddlers Hamlet, corresponding with areas where Roman features and finds have been found previously. (b) *Ryanair hangar* (TL 540 222): excavation[202] uncovered an enclosure dated to the middle to late Iron Age. This was abandoned by the time a roundhouse was built, probably during the first century A.D. A feature that had been cut into the backfilled enclosure ditch contained a large amount of charcoal and may have been industrial in use, possibly a kiln or oven. Gullies and ditches also uncovered represent field boundaries or livestock enclosures. The pottery suggests that activity at the site ceased during the second century, probably by *c*. A.D. 130.

(6) **Steeple Bumstead**: 3 AR siliquae, the latest of A.D. 388–395.[203]

7. GREATER LONDON

By PAUL BOOTH

GREATER LONDON

(1) '**Upper Thames**': a hoard of 16 Iron Age 'Flat linear' potins, mid-first century B.C.[204]

CITY OF LONDON

(1) *Project Centurion, St Alphage House, EC2* (TQ 34250 81609): following work in 2007, three test pits were excavated in St Alphage Gardens, near the medieval St Alphage Tower and

198 Work by and information from H. Brooks, Colchester Archaeological Trust, on behalf of Knight Developments.
199 Work by B. Holloway and H. Brooks, Colchester Archaeological Trust, and R. Masefield, for R.P.S. (consultants), on behalf of Taylor Wimpey. H. Brooks sent information.
200 Work by B. Holloway and H. Brooks, Colchester Archaeological Trust, and S. Dicks, for CgMs (consultants), on behalf of Colchester Institute. H. Brooks sent information.
201 Fieldwalking by K. Welsh (Framework Archaeology) for BAA Ltd. E. Biddulph sent information.
202 Work by K. Welsh (Framework Archaeology) for BAA Ltd. E. Biddulph sent information.
203 Found by Mr A. Allen while searching with a metal detector. BM Ref.: 2008 T447. R. Abdy sent information.
204 Found by Mr J. Davey while searching with a metal detector. BM Ref.: 2008 T412. R. Abdy sent information.

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within the area of the Roman Cripplegate fort.[205] Two late Roman dumped layers were recorded, and residual fragments of samian pottery, Roman brick and *imbrex* tile were found in several later features.

(2) *Princes and Bartlett Houses, 6–12 Basinghall Street, 93–95 Gresham Street EC2* (TQ 32570 81310): excavation and a watching-brief[206] revealed a natural channel running across the site from west to east, which had been canalised during the early Roman period (mid-first century A.D.). This was then backfilled and an alternative channel cut further to the north. This appears to be related to drainage of the Roman amphitheatre to the west. There was a timber drain in the base of the cut and a later drain in another later re-cut (late first century A.D.). Other Roman activity was represented by a small area of early to mid-second-century clay-and-timber building stratigraphy and pits, two of which contained high quality decorated samian vessels. The later Roman period was also represented on the site, with third- and fourth-century ditches running north–south along the eastern side of the site, interpreted as later drainage of the amphitheatre area, and more pitting.

(3) *Cannon Place, EC4* (TQ 32620 80850): excavation and watching-brief work were carried out on part of the Scheduled Ancient Monument known as the 'Roman Governor's Palace'. The scheduling of the area was the result of the interpretation of archaeological observations made up to 1972 synthesised by Marsden.[207] The central argument of the article is that: 'During the Flavian period, perhaps under the governorship of Agricola, the hillside was terraced for the construction of an enormous official palatial residence containing a large ornamental garden and several reception rooms of monumental proportions. It is concluded that this was probably the residence of the Roman Governor of Britain, built at a time when *Londinium* was, as a deliberate act of policy, enlarged and modified to become the capital city of the province of Britain.'

Following previous work in 2004, this phase of the Cannon Street Station redevelopment included excavation and/or monitoring of eleven new pile caps within the station's viaduct arches.[208] Six of these areas were extensions of trial pits excavated in the 2004 evaluation. In addition, four trenches were excavated for new drain sump pits. The watching-brief monitored and recorded a series of 'starter pits' and other investigative trenches excavated on the east side of Dowgate Hill for the insertion of a series of king posts along the west side of the viaduct.

Truncated, *in-situ*, natural London Clay, ranging in height from 3.5 to 4.15 m OD was observed in deep trenches towards the north end of Dowgate Hill and in a car park area beneath the station. Elsewhere, *in-situ* natural alluvial clay was recorded within the viaduct towards the west site limit at 5.19 m OD. In the central and east areas, *in-situ* natural sands ranged in height from 4.63 to 5.58 m OD.

All Roman masonry has provisionally been dated to the first or second century. Extended excavation of areas previously visited in 2004 increased exposure of first-century internal brickearth partition walls as well as substantial first- and second-century masonry walls/foundations. Whether the masonry all relates to the 'Governor's Palace' is unclear, but it seems likely that structural remains located towards the east site limit are associated with buildings interpreted by Marsden as lying within the 'Garden Court'. North of the Garden Court, newly

[205] Work by H. Lewis, Museum of London Archaeology, for Hammerson plc (AHC07). V. Gardiner sent information.

[206] Work by S. Watson, Museum of London Archaeology, for Standard Life Investments (GHB06). V. Gardiner sent information.

[207] P. Marsden, 'The excavation of a Roman palace site in London, 1961–1972', *Trans. London and Middlesex Archaeol. Soc*. 26 (1975), 1–102.

[208] Work by J. Taylor, Museum of London Archaeology, for Hines UK (CNV08). V. Gardiner sent information.

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exposed masonry included two ragstone walls associated with a massive building central to the Palace complex, Marsden's 'Great Hall' (or Room 42). Both walls had a width of *c*. 2 m. One section formed the south-west corner of the Hall, the other section extended from and to the west of the Hall and corresponds with a separate fragment of masonry previously recorded by Marsden (Wall 42A). Further west, fragments of two adjacent wall foundations, also *c*. 2 m wide, may represent an apsidal 'chamber', mirroring foundations of a structure Marsden recorded east of the Hall (Room 44). All surviving Roman and medieval masonry has been preserved *in situ*, sealed within a geotextile skin below a layer of sand. Work is due to continue in 2009.

(4) *Crosby Square (The Pinnacle), EC2* (TQ 33150 81270, 33133 81214, 33135 81239, 33150 81270): following work in 2007, three further phases of excavation and a watching-brief were carried out.[209] In the first, excavation for the foundations of a service diversion gantry revealed a Roman *opus signinum* floor cut by medieval graves relating to the cemetery of St Helen Bishopsgate. The second phase of excavation, at 4 Crosby Square, revealed natural brickearth sealed by Roman dumped deposits. Over these was a series of Roman clay-and-timber buildings, the earliest of which were provisionally dated to the first century A.D. Along the eastern limit of the area, a mud brick wall was found with white wall plaster and a plain white, fine tessellated border. In the north-west corner of this area, cutting the clay-and-timber building, was a sunken Roman plunge pool, constructed from brick with a thick *opus signinum* floor and rendering on the internal faces. These features were cut by pits of late Roman or medieval date beneath a later, undated, dumping.

A watching-brief undertaken on a trench for a secant wall on the east side of Crosby Square, was followed by an excavation. This revealed natural brickearth beneath the fragmented remains of Roman clay-and-timber buildings. These had been cut by a series of late Roman or medieval pits, which in turn were sealed by yard surfaces and walls of late medieval date. A small excavation on a sewer drop shaft at the junction of Great St Helens and Crosby Square revealed natural brickearth sealed by a thick Roman dumped deposit. Over this was a north–south-aligned Roman internal wall with *opus signinum* floors on either side which appeared to have been destroyed in a fire and the foundation robbed, leaving only part of the eastern plaster face remaining. Demolition material sealed the remains of the building and over this was a later Roman *opus signinum* floor, probably the same floor found in the gantry trench immediately to the east, and similarly cut by medieval burials.

(5) *20 Fenchurch Street, SE1* (TQ 3308 8088): the first of three planned phases of excavation was undertaken on the south and central parts of the site.[210] The second phase in the south-east corner is ongoing. Although truncation by modern and Victorian basements was severe, substantial deposits remained across the site. Natural sandy gravel was capped in places by brickearth. Early Roman occupation on site consisted of surfaces, post-pits, beam slots and other structural evidence from the first and second centuries, although these were somewhat fragmentary due to later truncation. A line of large structural post-holes on the north side of the site, early in the sequence, indicated the presence of a first-century building. Some of these features may belong to the first-century fort found to the east at Plantation Place.

In the centre of the site three sides of a late Roman cellar were found. It measured 5 m by 7 m and was over 2.5 m deep, the eastern extent being beyond the edge of the excavation. Most of the masonry had been robbed out after its disuse but the substantial ragstone foundations

[209] Work by K. Pitt, Museum of London Archaeology, for The Pinnacle No. 1 Ltd (CYQ05). V. Gardiner sent information.

[210] Work by R. Wroe-Brown and G. Stevenson, Museum of London Archaeology, for Land Securities FEU08. V. Gardiner sent information.

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remained to show that it was part of an impressive building. To the north the wall was dug deeply into the natural slope, forming a terrace behind it. The ceiling had been supported by a large square column base built of Roman bricks. It was floored with mortar directly onto the natural sands. Later, part of the cellar was divided off by a thin partition wall between the column and the south edge. A second mortar floor may have been associated with this phase. In addition to an abundance of pottery, finds from the site included items of jewellery, a quantity of Roman painted wall-plaster, and a glass sherd with the letter 'A' inscribed on it.

(6) *78–87 Fenchurch Street, EC3* (TQ 33480 81070): evaluation comprising the excavation of six trenches and two auger hole transects was undertaken within the existing basements on the site.[211] In one trench, natural sand and gravel was cut by a probable Roman quarry pit containing a series of backfilled deposits. The secondary fills were redeposited terrace gravels which may have been used to fill and consolidate the ground, but could also represent a continually-renewed metalled surface. These were truncated by modern concrete. A trench in the south of the site, revealed natural gravels overlain by redeposited brickearth possibly representing fill or slumping from Roman quarrying. A third trench, on the east side of the site, contained natural brickearth over gravels, cut by a possible Roman pit.

(7) *Drop shaft outside 6–10 Foster Lane, EC2* (TQ 32180 81300): the excavation of a single drop shaft was monitored.[212] A large north–south-aligned brick drain of possible nineteenth-century date was observed beneath a gravel surface which was sealed by a deposit containing fragments of *opus signinum*, Roman pottery, oyster shell and animal bone. The layers above this were obscured by shoring.

(8) *36–41 Gracechurch Street, EC3* (TQ 3292 8089): following work in 2007, a limited area excavation revealed a sequence of Roman clay-and-timber buildings cut through by medieval cess pits.[213] The Roman sequence was horizontally truncated at 12.4 m OD or below and later Roman finds were recovered from secondary (medieval) contexts. The Roman remains are consequently limited to the first and possibly the early second century. Archaeological monitoring of construction activity also revealed an eighteenth-century well and a collection of material including ancient timber, Roman roof tile, and a brass object with classical decoration, possibly of Roman or eighteenth- to nineteenth-century date. This material was recovered from piling operations 6 m below basement depth and considered to be from a secondary twentieth-century context.

(9) *8–13 Lime Street, EC3* (TQ 33130 81020): following work in 2007, a watching-brief was carried out on groundworks during a piling programme within the basement.[214] Natural brickearth was cut by backfilled Roman pits at the very northern end of the site, but no other features were observed.

(10) *Forum House, 15–18 Lime Street, EC3* (TQ 33095 81005): following work in 2007, an excavation took place prior to the construction of new foundations.[215] Natural sands and

[211] Work by S. Anthony, Museum of London Archaeology, for Shieldpoint78 (FNR08). V. Gardiner sent information.

[212] Work by A. Bystron, Museum of London Archaeology, for the Corporation of London (FSL08). V. Gardiner sent information.

[213] Work by D. Sankey, Museum of London Archaeology, for City of London (GSY07). V. Gardiner sent information.

[214] Work by A. Telfer, Museum of London Archaeology, for PPG Metro Lime Street (LMZ06). V. Gardiner sent information.

[215] Work by S. Pennington and D. Sankey, Museum of London Archaeology, for F&C Investments (LSC07). V. Gardiner sent information.

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gravels had been cut by several large Roman quarry pits which were sealed by later Roman deposits. Above these were a Roman masonry-lined well, which had been partly robbed out, a deep Roman pit containing substantial amphorae, and the remains of a number of clay-and-timber buildings (including a carbonised beam or sole-plate with a lead base). These structures would have fronted a substantial Roman road running along the east side of the later Forum.

(11) *Mariner House, Crutched Friars, EC1* (TQ 33443 80865): excavation[216] followed work carried out in 2006. The earliest features recorded were of late Roman date, mainly consisting of pits and ditches which have been heavily truncated by later activity, leaving only the bases visible in the natural brickearth and gravel. An east–west-aligned, V-shaped ditch recorded in a number of trenches in the north-west corner of the site, and a similar east–west-aligned ditch located further to the south, may represent property or field boundaries. Several pits containing Roman pottery were observed in the northern area of the site. These respect the line of the nearby ditch, suggesting that they were contemporary with it. On the east side of the site was a square feature, probably a well, which contained a number of complete Roman vessels, including black burnished ware pots, part of an amphora, a 'face jar', and a bowl with a maker's stamp. Traces of more substantial structures were tentatively identified in the western part of the site, including a robbed-out north–south-aligned masonry wall. However, the overall impression is that the site lay in open ground during the Roman period.

(12) *Piercy House, 7–9 Copthall Avenue, EC2* (TQ 3276 8141): following work in 2007, a watching-brief was carried out on the excavation of new drains in the basement car park.[217] A dark silty layer containing pottery of Roman date was sealed by modern made-ground and concrete.

(13) *Riverbank House, Upper Thames Street, EC4* (TQ 32730 80670): excavation[218] revealed the remains of the riverside wall which was built in the mid- to late third century A.D. to link up with the earlier city wall of Roman London. It consisted of a mortared flint core faced with ragstone and occasional tile levelling courses. The foundations comprised large timber piles with a chalk raft overlain by a single course of large blocks. The highest survival was at 2.70 m OD and the wall survived to a height of 1.40 m. Its full width was not seen. A single timber pile was recovered and may provide an accurate date for the construction of the wall, which at present is thought to have been built *c*. A.D. 270. Following recording, the face of the wall was protected by a permanent steel plate and backfilled with sand where appropriate. Several new piles were also relocated to avoid any damage to the river wall.

(14) *Walbrook Square (Bucklersbury House) EC4* (TQ 32540 81000): the proposed Walbrook Square development will see the demolition of Bucklersbury House, where Professor W.F. Grimes, working on behalf of the Roman and Medieval London Excavation Council in 1952–54, discovered the third-century Roman Temple of Mithras.[219] Evaluation entailed the excavation of thirteen trial pits within the shallower basements across the site, and followed on from an earlier phase of works in 2005, in which three trial pits had been excavated. The most important discovery during the original evaluation was that part of the foundation of the north aisle 'sleeper'

216 Work by A. Birchenough, Museum of London Archaeology, for City Inn Limited (MCF06). V. Gardiner sent information.

217 Work by S. Pickering, Museum of London Archaeology, for Ian Springford Architects on behalf of Apex Hotels PEY07. V. Gardiner sent information.

218 Work by A. Mackinder, Museum of London Archaeology, for Pace City Investments Ltd (RKH06). V. Gardiner sent information.

219 J. Shepherd, *The Temple of Mithras London, Excavations by W F Grimes and A Williams at the Walbrook*, English Heritage Archaeological Report 12 (1998).

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wall of the Temple of Mithras still survived on the east side of the site. That any remains of the temple survived was remarkable, as it had been thought that the building had been completely dismantled and the stone and tile reused in the reconstruction of the Temple of Mithras — built later on a podium facing Queen Victoria Street on the north side of Bucklersbury House.

The largest of the most recent evaluation trial pits[220] was located to determine whether the south walls of the Temple of Mithras survived to a similar level as the north aisle wall in the adjoining trial pit. Despite the high level of truncation across the western half of the trench, the deposits to the east were well preserved and the remains of both the south aisle and the external wall of the temple were uncovered. Interestingly, the external wall had a timber shuttering to its south face, and was much more shallowly-founded than the aisle wall to the north. The base of the deeper aisle wall was defined 1 m lower, and it is assumed that the foundation was strengthened as it constituted one of the main load-bearing walls of the building; this supported an internal colonnade along the side of the sunken nave.

It was known from the original work in the 1950s that the temple had been constructed on unstable reclaimed ground on the east bank of the Walbrook — with the result that the building had been affected by subsidence and required repair and modification. The reasons for this were evident in the exposed face of the trial pit, which provided a sectional view of a large number of highly organic and originally waterlogged reclamation dumps on which the temple had been constructed.

As well as revealing the foundations for the east end of the Temple of Mithras, part of a Roman clay-and-timber building was defined further south, occupying a similar position on reclaimed ground on the east bank of the Walbrook. The structure was composed of a substantial brickearth clay wall based on a timber baseplate supported on driven timber piles, with a number of internal floor and occupation deposits defined on either side of the wall. The Roman sequences recorded in the other trial pits included waterlogged fills and dumps in, or on the margins of, the Walbrook channel, two inter-cutting plank- and tile-lined drains cut into the reclamation dumps on the west bank of the Walbrook, and a decayed box-lined well.

ENFIELD

(1) *57 Leighton Road, Bush Hill Park* (TQ 3400 9550): sample excavation failed to find any Roman material here just north of the southern boundary of the Roman settlement.[221]

(2) *61 Leighton Road, Bush Hill Park* (TQ 3399 9551): sample excavation,[222] following the discovery of Roman finds in minor building work near the southern boundary of the Roman settlement, identified a later plough-disturbed soil incorporating much Roman pottery and a single pit. The area appeared to have been used as a rubbish dump in the second and (to a lesser extent) third and fourth centuries. Together with work on backlog sites at 53 and 51 Leighton Road (where there was evidence for a western ditched boundary to the settlement flanked by a gravel path and areas of rubbish dumping, including furnace material and slag, and where a complete millefiori brooch was a notable find), it appears that some areas along a minor stream forming the southern boundary of the settlement were used from the second century as rubbish dumps, but activity may have decreased in the third and fourth centuries, perhaps due to settlement shrinkage.

220 Work by I. Blair, Museum of London Archaeology, for Stanhope plc (BBU05). V. Gardiner sent information.

221 Evaluation excavation for DPA Architects by the Enfield Archaeological Society directed by Dr M.J. Dearne who sent details.

222 Work by the Enfield Archaeological Society directed by Dr M.J. Dearne who sent details.

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HOUNSLOW

(1) *Hotel Development, Syon Park, Brentford* (TQ1712 7696): extensive excavations in the north-west corner of Syon Park, between London Road and Syon House car park, followed earlier phases of evaluation and excavation and provided an almost continuous transect across a Roman landscape.[223] Two phases of the London–Silchester Roman road were revealed immediately next to the modern London Road. The earlier road was flanked by a ditch and later by a fence. Evidence for occupation on the south-east side of the road clearly represented part of a linear settlement that, as previous excavations have shown, extended alongside the road into what is now the centre of Brentford. The evidence included the remains of two substantial timber buildings. These had burnt down and their earthen floors were covered with charcoal and burnt wall daub. Outside the buildings were bread ovens, hearths, pits, gravel surfaces and a possible cremation burial.

Further investigation was undertaken of a large palaeochannel, probably a former branch of the River Thames, recorded on the south-east side of the site during evaluation in 2004. A trench revealed part of the profile of the channel, which was filled with a sequence of fine-grained sediments. No artefacts were recovered from these deposits during the excavation, but during the evaluation Roman pottery and a coin of Valentinian I or Valens dated to A.D. 364–78 was found in an upper fill. The lower channel fills are as yet undated, but included thin layers of peat/organic matter that might be datable by radiocarbon assay.

Successive Roman field-systems, clearly delineated by ditches and gullies, lay between the settlement and the channel. The ditches defined individual fields and a track, possibly a droveway, running down from the settlement to the channel. A skeleton lay in one ditch and a crouched burial lay in a small grave next to another ditch.

Most artefacts, especially metal objects, were found within the settlement, although some were recovered from field ditches. The finds included a large quantity of pottery, fragments of tile and burnt daub, 120 coins, two bronze finger-rings, brooches, tweezers and other toilet instruments, a stylus, lead discs, iron rings, blades and hooks, pieces of shale bracelets, quernstones and whetstones.

ISLINGTON

(1) *Land to rear of 23 Goswell Road, EC1* (TQ 32043 82077): evaluation revealed no *in-situ* Roman remains. Three redeposited fragments of Roman pottery and tile were recovered.[224]

LEWISHAM

(1) *Honor Oak Park Sports Ground, Brockley Rise, SE4* (TQ 36505 74248): geotechnical pits and boreholes were monitored prior to redevelopment of the site. Around the Pavilion, deposits had been disturbed during its construction and made-ground was recorded in several pits, though one pit in this area contained gravel deposits approximately on a predicted alignment of the Roman road from London to Lewes (Margary 14). Geophysical survey then concentrated on the west side of the site and on the Roman road alignment.[225] Two anomalies, potentially associated with the road, were identified. During a third phase of work, 17 evaluation trenches were excavated, including four to establish whether remains of the Roman road were present and

[223] Work by R. Cowie, Museum of London Archaeology, for Ability Hotels (SYV04). V. Gardiner sent information.

[224] Work by H. Knight for Thornsett Properties (GWO05). V. Gardiner sent information.

[225] Geophysical survey by Stratascan, other work by G. Rapson and D. Churchill, Museum of London Archaeology, for Loates-Taylor Shannon on behalf of King's College London (HKP08). V. Gardiner sent information.

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might be affected by the proposed development. Three revealed areas of stiff, dark grey clay on which gravel layers were deposited almost exactly on the predicted road alignment. The fourth, furthest to the south, demonstrated that the road metalling had been truncated by the levelling of sports pitches where the road rose up a natural slope. A section placed where the survival of the road was greatest suggested the presence of a camber on either side. No other archaeological features associated with the road were identified.

MERTON

(1) *Morden Park Baths, London Road, SM4* (TQ 24949 67476): two evaluation trenches on the western and eastern side of the baths revealed only natural London Clay and modern material.[226] No evidence was seen for Stane Street, the Roman road believed to run close to the site.

NEWHAM

(1) *Warton House, 150 High Street, Stratford, E15* (TQ 38350 83720): excavation at the north end of the site subsequent to evaluation revealed natural gravels cut by Roman quarry pits.[227]

(2) *Work Package 6, Planning Delivery Zone 6, Olympic, Paralympic and Legacy Transformations Planning Applications, E15* (TQ 3771 8496): natural floodplain gravels were recorded at the base of evaluation trenches, overlain in one trench by a possible later Roman consolidation deposit, and later alluvial sediments.[228]

(3) *PDZ1 Olympic, Paralympic and Legacy Transformations Planning Applications: Trench PDZ1.12 Carpenters Road, Newham, E15* (TQ 3812 8417): excavations on the site designated PDZ 1.12 revealed several phases of archaeological activity that spans the periods from the later middle to late Bronze Age through to the Roman period and beyond.[229] The site was located on a low gravel terrace that was probably dry land during much its history, perhaps a gravel island, associated with the braided river channels of the Lea Valley. A ditch system of middle Iron Age date was partly truncated by a substantial ditch containing small amounts of Roman material. This ditch had at least two phases of re-cutting, and two flexed inhumation burials nearby are believed to be associated with it, although neither contained grave goods. One was adjacent to the Roman ditch system and was oriented east–west, while the second was adjacent to the middle Iron Age ditch system and was aligned north–south. The location of the second burial suggests that the middle Iron Age ditch was still recognised as a boundary during the Roman period

SOUTHWARK

(1) *218–224 Borough High Street, SE1* (TQ 32378 79717): a single evaluation trench revealed natural gravels overlain by alluvial silt containing residual Roman material.[230]

(2) *Globe Academy, Deverell Street, SE1* (TQ 32665 79070): excavation of a former nineteenth-

226 Work by H. Lewis, Museum of London Archaeology, for Merton Borough Council (MDK08). V. Gardiner sent information.

227 Work by A. Westman and B. Ferguson, Museum of London Archaeology, for Redloft on behalf of Genesis Housing Association (WHU08). V. Gardiner sent information.

228 MoLAS-PCA evaluation by Sarah Barrowman, Museum of London Archaeology, for Capita Symonds/Olympic Delivery Authority (OL-08908). V. Gardiner sent information.

229 Work by J. Payne, Museum of London Archaeology, for Capita Symonds and the Olympic Delivery Authority (OL-01507). V. Gardiner sent information.

230 Work by A. Lerz, Museum of London Archaeology, for The Winston Group (BHV08). V. Gardiner sent information.

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century burial ground produced a single, heavily damaged Roman cremation urn within a baulk between two of the graves.[231]

(3) *St Michael's Catholic School, John Felton Road, SE16* (TQ 3422 7967): augering indicated the existence of one or more buried palaeo-channels in the north and centre of the site, where natural sand and gravel were overlain by alluvial silts.[232] In the south-east corner, a rise of higher sandy ground had not been silted over, and was probably an eyot. The sand was cut by a pit containing Roman pottery, including a mortarium stamped SOLLUSF, a product of the potter Sollus, active in the Verulamium region *c*. A.D. 70–100.

(4) *London Bridge Tower (The Shard), 32 London Bridge Street, SE1* (TQ 32895 80110): an evaluation was carried out under the service ramp of the former London Bridge Hotel.[233] Natural brickearth was recorded beneath a peaty layer, probably indicating that the area was originally a floodplain or marsh. The peaty layer was sealed by a sequence of dumped layers, the earliest of which contained a substantial quantity of Roman building material of first- to third-century date. This included fragments of box-flue tiles, suggesting that a demolished Roman building (possibly a bath-house or a building of some status) may have been located near the area of development.

(5) *183–203 Union Street, Southwark, SE1* (TQ 31930 80000): evaluation in the basement at the centre of the site revealed a re-deposited brickearth of possible Roman date.[234]

(6) *Rose Court, Winchester Square, Clink Street, Southwark, SE1* (TQ 32575 80390): following work in 2007, foundation demolition and excavation of ground-beam trenches were monitored in support of Scheduled Monument Consent for development on the medieval Palace of the Bishops of Winchester.[235] Natural ground was not observed. Alluvial deposits were seen beneath Roman reclamation and dumping layers, and a small amount of Roman building material was recorded in the south-east of the site.

(7) *16 Winchester Walk, SE1* (TQ 32560 80390): following work in 2002, a further evaluation was carried out.[236] A single slot was excavated through eighteenth- and nineteenth-century deposits to reveal several potential Roman features such as ditches or pits, with a burnt deposit indicating a possible hearth area. Other Roman features recorded included lime surfaces and structural debris.

TOWER HAMLETS

(1) *Goodman's Fields, Alie Street, E1* (TQ 53593 19925): five evaluation trenches were excavated prior to redevelopment.[237] Although the site lies within a known Roman cemetery, no

[231] Work by A. Miles, Museum of London Archaeology, for Capita Symonds Ltd (DVL05). V. Gardiner sent information.

[232] Work by M. Tetreau, Museum of London Archaeology, for Atkins Ltd (JFN08). V. Gardiner sent information.

[233] Work by Bruce Ferguson, Museum of London Archaeology, for Mace on behalf of Teighmore Ltd (LWE07). V. Gardiner sent information.

[234] Work by N. Rahmatova, Museum of London Archaeology, for Blair Associates Architects (UNL08). V. Gardiner sent information.

[235] Work by S. Anthony, Museum of London Archaeology, for Winchester Walk Properties Ltd (SIK07). V. Gardiner sent information.

[236] Work by S. Anthony, Museum of London Archaeology, for Winchester Walk Ltd (WSQ02). V. Gardiner sent information.

[237] Work by P. Thrale, Museum of London Archaeology, for Mourant Property Trustees Ltd and Mourant and Co Trustees Ltd (ALW08). V. Gardiner sent information.

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burials were found. Evidence for extensive brickearth quarrying in the medieval and early post-medieval periods was observed and it is likely that this activity removed any Roman remains.

(2) *Aldgate Union, 35–47 Whitechapel High Street, E1* (TQ 33950 81360): six evaluation trenches were placed at the north-east corner of the site, while a seventh was excavated to provide information on existing foundations. Although the site lies close to a known Roman cemetery, no burials were observed.[238]

(3) *Tower House, 38–40 Trinity Square, EC3* (TQ 33580 80780): following work in 2007 under the site code TYQ03, an evaluation was carried out but did not uncover any Roman features. Part of the Roman city wall was then exposed when the modern building on the site was demolished.[239] The exposed section of north–south-aligned Roman wall was 8.3 m long, a maximum of 2.5 m high, and in good condition, although it had sustained some ancient damage at the northern end where there were signs of possible rebuilding. A standing structure survey was carried out, including elevation drawing and photographic record.

WESTMINSTER

(1) *1–5 Dryden Street, WC2* (TQ 30360 81160): ten geotechnical test pits located at basement level were monitored, revealing cut features of probable Saxon date, containing animal bone and residual fragments of Roman tile.[240]

(2) *St Martin-in-the-Fields Church, Trafalgar Square, WC2* (TQ 30084 80524): following work in 2006, an excavation was carried out in Area 7, north of the National Schools building in the north-east corner of the site, while a simultaneous watching-brief was undertaken in Area 8, within the eastern basement of the building.[241] The earliest activity recorded dated to the time of the Roman Conquest. This took the form of a structure at the eastern end of Area 7, laid out on a north-east–south-west alignment and consisting of two slots which were truncated by the construction cut for the National Schools building. The western edge of one slot was on the same line as a north–south cut, and may have been a later re-build of the same property, even though it was on a different alignment. The slots probably held timber beams, since no masonry was found. Due to its prominent position, this structure may have had a military function, although it could also represent a late Iron Age/early Roman farm.

These features were sealed by an homogeneous layer dating to the second half of the fourth century which also sealed the backfill of a quarry pit at the eastern end of Area 7. There may have been further Roman remains in the central part of Area 7, but these would have been destroyed by extensive Saxon pitting. Cutting the fourth-century layer was a large circular feature, probably a Saxon well, servicing buildings on either side of it. The remains of a ragstone and tile wall or post pad were recorded to the west of the well, while the remains of a second possible wall, made from ragstone and chalk, and possibly aligned north–south, survived to the west of the central 'open area' in the middle. This had been laid over the backfill of a Saxon ditch, suggesting that the Saxons had reused Roman building material to construct their wall, as masonry is not normally associated with Saxon construction in *Lundenwic*.

238 Work by A. Daykin, Museum of London Archaeology, for Tishman Speyer (ALU08). V. Gardiner sent information.

239 Work by R. Wroe-Brown and A. Bystron, Museum of London Archaeology, for City Offices LLP (TRH08). V. Gardiner sent information.

240 Work by L. Wood, Museum of London Archaeology, for Robson Warren Architects on behalf of London Film School (DDN08). V. Gardiner sent information.

241 This site was excavated in 2007, but the dating had not been confirmed at that point. The present summary contains the revised dating and interpretation of the site.

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Three phases of possible Roman activity were recorded at the western end of Area 7. The earliest was represented by a supine, east–west-aligned burial cut into the natural brickearth. Only the lower arms and upper legs had survived, in poor condition. The backfill of the burial was sealed by a brickearth surface which showed signs of weathering and evidence for roots, suggesting that the area had been abandoned or left open to the elements. This was truncated by a group of stake-holes and post-holes thought to be associated with a later mud-brick oven which represented the latest phase of possible Roman activity at the western end of Area 7. Several deposits of debris from this feature were recorded and are still being assessed.

To the west, a separate room or property contemporary with the oven was represented by mortar scars, a beamslot and post-holes. The remains of another room/building were present further to the west and included a probable beamslot and a fragment of floor. The oven had been truncated by the remains of an east–west beamslot, from which pottery of sixth-century date was recovered. To the west, and apparently contemporary, was another early two-room Saxon building, represented by a north–south-aligned beamslot and a possible east–west brickearth sill (which would have supported a wall) between two fragments of brickearth floor. Sealing the rooms were two further phases of Saxon building.

The central section of Area 7 produced a series of large pits containing Roman, Saxon and medieval pottery. These appeared to be rubbish pits and related to an external/open area of land between the eastern and western areas of construction. Saxon pits were also recorded during the watching-brief in Area 8.

Refined dating from the burials excavated in Area 4 (in 2006) suggests a group of Late Roman inhumations in the vicinity of the sarcophagus. As well as the discovery of the early Roman structure in Area 7, therefore, evidence now points to the possibility of a Late Roman sacred site or small settlement on the site, which the Saxons appeared to respect and maintain as a religious place. In addition, there is evidence for continuity from the Roman period into the Saxon, in a settlement area (Area 7) to the north-east of the burials.[242]

8. SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES

By PAUL BOOTH

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(1) **Bourton on the Water**, *Sycamore House, Lansdown* (SP 1644 2092): a watching-brief recorded a post-hole of Roman or earlier date, thirteen features dating to the Roman period, two undated walls, and a limestone well likely to be post-medieval in date.[243] The Roman features represent at least two phases of settlement activity. Several ditches and a possible industrial feature were dated to the second century A.D., whilst evidence for a building, surviving as three walls and a surface, was of third/fourth-century date.

(2) **Cirencester** (*Corinium Dobunnorum*): (a) *Corn Hall, Market Place* (SP 0238 0198): excavation occurred inside the Corn Hall which lies immediately to the north-east of the projected line of Ermin Street within Insula XXIII of the Roman town.[244] Construction works required the archaeological excavation of an area 12 m by 11 m to a level which lay within

[242] Work by A. Telfer, Museum of London Archaeology, for St Martin-in-the-Fields Church (SMD01). V. Gardiner sent information.

[243] Work by N. Witchell, Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service. J. Hoyle sent information.

[244] Work by D. Cudlip and L. Coleman, Cotswold Archaeology. N. Holbrook sent information.

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the build-up of Roman deposits. A depth of *c*. 1.5 m of archaeological deposits above natural accordingly remained largely unexcavated; the exception to this being four pits, each 2 m square, which were dug to natural to take the foundations for a mezzanine floor. One of these pits was within the main excavation area, while the other three lay to the south-east of it. Natural gravels were covered by a clay relict ground surface, which was cut through by several quarry pits. The ground surface was overlain by consolidation deposits which produced pottery consistent with a date in the first or early second century A.D. Above these a stone building was constructed, one wall of which survived to a height of 24 courses. Little of the plan of this structure can be determined as it remained largely unexcavated, nor is it clear whether there was a preceding timber phase. The most likely interpretation is that the walls formed part of a range of shops which lay behind a portico flanking the north-east side of Ermin Street. Only the rear wall of the portico lay within the excavation area, and this had been extensively robbed. Successive surfaces built up within the portico during the second and third centuries, presumably in response to the rising level of Ermin Street caused by resurfacing. Within the shops successive floor levels were found, one associated with an oven, although only small upstands of stratigraphy had survived medieval stone robbing and pit digging. At some point in the third or fourth century the building was demolished and replaced by a structure on a new layout. This extended for a distance of 11.25 m behind the portico, the walls being founded on rough rubble footings. The portico wall was also rebuilt in cruder work. The front wall of the portico may also have been reconstructed at this time, as the foundations for a masonry pier, 0.7 m by 1 m, were dug through earlier surfaces within the portico. It is conceivable that this relates to a slight narrowing in the width of the portico, an original stylobate wall (which must have lain just outside the excavation area) perhaps being replaced by a series of individual piers which supported an arcade. Only one pier fell within the excavation area.

(b) *Tar Barrows* (SP 031 025): geophysical surveys around the monuments known as Tar Barrows, located some 500 m north-east of Cirencester, have revealed the remains of an extensive settlement outside the walls of *Corinium*. During 2007 and 2008 extensive magnetometer surveys examined an area of approximately 16 ha around the eastern barrow, while a ground resistivity survey was conducted over slightly less than 5 ha of the same area. Tar Barrows are thought to date to the later Iron Age or early Roman periods, although Reece noted recently in this journal that their presence on the hillside overlooking the River Churn might explain the deviations of the Fosse Way and Ermin Street from their intended alignments.[245] The magnetometer survey results (FIG. 12) indicate a complex pattern of ditched tracks and enclosures, many of which appear to contain square and rectangular masonry structures. The barrow itself is located within a square enclosure and it is thought that the monument is one of the settlement's earliest features. At least four other ditched enclosures, each containing a rectangular stone building, extend to the south-west and north-east of Tar Barrow (the most southerly of these is open on its south-western side). A trackway along the western side of this row of enclosures is on the same alignment as the Fosse Way as it approaches *Corinium* from the high ground to the north-east. Another trackway at right angles to the first would appear to connect the Tar Barrows complex with the Fosse Way. The area to the south-east and east of the main barrow is more open and contains numerous small stone-built structures that seem to be arranged in rows. A series of ditched enclosures runs along the side of the Fosse Way, at least two of which are packed with pits. A very large ditched enclosure, some 75 m by 54 m, lies to the north-east of the occupied area. This is sub-divided into smaller internal enclosures, again containing stone structures, some of which are apparently

[245] *Britannia* 34 (2003), 276–80.

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FIG. 12. Tar Barrows, Cirencester, plot of geophysical survey.

superseded by a later phase of occupation that included a large rectangular building set within another ditched enclosure.

The newly discovered settlement at Tar Barrows covers an area of approximately 350 m by at least 200 m. The north-east to south-west alignment suggests that it post-dates the Fosse Way and the original settlement at Cirencester, though it is possible that the barrow itself, which appears to have become the main focus of later activity, predates the arrival of the Roman army and its surveyors. The small square and rectangular stone structures arranged around the barrow would seem to be too small for domestic buildings and it is suggested that these are mausolea set within funerary enclosures. The pits that produced high magnetic readings are tentatively

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interpreted as cremation burials set within more communal funerary enclosures that lined the western side of the Fosse Way as it neared the Verulamium Gate of *Corinium*.[246]

(c) *Kingshill North* (SP 0365 0250): excavation revealed a grave containing an inhumation aligned east–west, with the head to the east. The skeleton was of a mature adult male aged 35–45 and was supine and extended. The hindquarters of a sheep or goat had been placed beside the skull. No finds were recovered to give any indication of date but it is suggested from the burial rite that it is Iron Age or Roman. A series of pits also belongs to the late Iron Age or early Roman period. One pit contained a seemingly deliberately-positioned quernstone.[247]

(3) **Dymock**, *Kyrleside, High Street* (SO 6998 3112): excavation to the rear of the property revealed Roman features consisting of pits and post-holes, with pottery dating predominantly to the first century A.D. Evidence for smelting was found, with some pits containing large amounts of slag and also some crucible fragments.[248]

(4) **Frocester**, *Frocester Court villa* (SO 785 029): excavation between 1995 and 2008, combined with some geophysical survey work, has added much to the history of the development of the site.[249] The origin of a major land boundary and a trackway are now dated to the late Neolithic period. These survived as landscape features that probably determined the location of the middle Iron Age farmstead and the extent of its field-system. In the Roman period the farm continued to develop and the field-system was replaced by larger paddocks, mostly within the area enclosed by a major extension of the south-east perimeter. In the second century A.D. a threshing-floor of mortared stones was constructed in the bottom of a large gravel pit dug in this part of the site. The pit was eventually fenced off and was backfilled with debris and domestic rubbish, much of it from site clearance associated with the erection of the third-century villa. This dump was partly covered by a roundhouse and an adjoining approach road that predated a small courtyard with wing walls, part of a semi-monumental arched estate entrance. A post-built industrial structure situated close to the south-east perimeter ditches housed a group of T-shaped kilns and circular and elongated furnaces or ovens. It was destroyed by fire and was replaced by a similar but less well-preserved complex alongside the north-east boundary. These are interpreted as early and late fourth-century maltings. A post-Roman, part sill-beam based structure was associated with the collapse of the entrance-courtyard wall, and traces of features of two similar periods of occupation were identified near the north-east boundary. All predated the medieval ridge and furrow, as did a small outlying group of inhumation burials, one of which returned a radiocarbon date of eighth- to ninth-century. The excavation has now ended.

(5) **Hambrook**: 16 base metal radiates to *c*. A.D. 274,[250] addenda to an earlier find of 28 radiates.[251]

(6) **Sevenhampton**, *Dower House, Brockhampton* (SP 0365 2252): Gloucestershire Police reported a skull and other fragments of human bone, discovered during building works. The remains were from a previously disturbed burial, of a female over 45 years old. One of the bones produced a radiocarbon date of A.D. 223±44.[252]

[246] Geophysical surveys undertaken by Dr T. Young of GeoArch and funded by The Roman Research Trust, Cardiff University and ARW Trust (Cirencester). The project was co-ordinated by Dr P. Guest who sent information.
[247] Excavation by K. Welsh of Oxford Archaeology for CgMs Consulting. E. Biddulph sent information.
[248] Work by B. Williams, Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service. J. Hoyle sent information.
[249] Excavation directed by E.G. Price, who sent information.
[250] Found by Mr D. Upton while searching with a metal detector. BM Ref.: 2008 T647. R. Abdy sent information.
[251] G. Boyle and R. Abdy, *CHRB* XII.
[252] Work by R. Macpherson Barrett, Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service. J. Hoyle sent information.

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(7) **Shurdington**, *Brizen Farm* (SO 932 198 centred): an evaluation uncovered pits and ditches.[253] No definite structural remains were discovered, but features contained a relatively large amount of pottery, along with ceramic building material, fired clay and stone. The pottery dates spanned the Roman period, but there was a particular emphasis on the Late Roman period.

(8) **Winchcombe**, *Greet Road* (SP 0246 2920): excavation in advance of housing construction recorded evidence of Iron Age, Roman and post-medieval activity.[254] Iron Age settlement was concentrated in the northern portion of the site. Roman settlement was also focused in the northern portion of the site and was represented by possible enclosures and linear features, dating to the first century A.D. Some of these reflected the alignments of Iron Age features, suggesting a continuation of use from the Iron Age into the early Roman period. A second phase of Roman activity was represented by the build-up of a ploughsoil or terrace deposit which overlay the earlier Roman ditches in this area, indicating a period of abandonment or withdrawal. The area was resettled later in the Roman period when a stone building, associated with high-status finds, perhaps suggesting a military connection, was constructed on the terrace. Only the south-east corner of this building was exposed during excavation, although at least two phases of construction were identified, indicating that it had been extended at least once before being abandoned by the early second century A.D.

SOMERSET

(1) **Bath** (*Aquae Sulis*): (a) *Gainsborough Building, Beau Street* (ST 7496 6460): excavation occurred on the site of Roman hot baths which were partially recorded by J.T. Irving in 1864–6. To judge from his plan, there were at least two successive buildings, the earlier of unknown function, the later clearly a baths utilising water from the nearby Hot Bath spring.[255] A series of large, flat, stone blocks was exposed immediately to the east of an apsidal bath recorded by Irving. They appeared to form three steps leading down, but from their finish and size seem fairly clearly to be the result of the robbing of very large blocks from a massive masonry structure not unlike the large, solid ashlar buttresses in the Temple Precinct of Sulis Minerva. Overlying the 'steps' was clay levelling into which was cut a stone culvert and two walls. The culvert ran north-west to south-east and utilised the lowest course of the 'steps' as its base. The walls of the culvert did not display any signs of the staining which would be expected if it had transported hot spa water. It may have supplied or drained cold water from the apsidal bath. The culvert was cut through by an east–west wall which can probably be correlated with one recorded by Irving. A fragment of floor surface survived to the south of this wall. A wall parallel to, but immediately south of the former cut though this floor level and so is presumably a replacement. Two north–south walls, 3 m apart, defined a probable corridor. Immediately to the east of this room was a large room, with a smaller room added to the west. A succession of floors was found within the large room. Through the top of the latest of these floors was cut a stone-lined, rectangular pit which contained a coin hoard. The hoard was lifted as a block and probably contains in the order of 1,500 coins. It will be excavated and conserved in Bath Museum. Preliminary examination of about 260 coins which became detached from the block suggests that the hoard was closed in the A.D. 260s. The large room was sub-divided at some date by the insertion of at least two partition walls, while a north–south wall associated with a stone flagged floor is even later still. A thick deposit of demolition debris overlay the clay levelling in a second area. Cut into this was a north-east to south-west-aligned stone culvert, which, in turn, was truncated by a later wall.

[253] Work by H. Meara, Oxford Archaeology, for Newbridge Construction Ltd. E. Biddulph sent information.
[254] Work by E. Stratford, Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service. J. Hoyle sent information.
[255] B. Cunliffe, *Roman Bath*, Rep. Res. Comm. Soc. Antiq. London 24 (1969), 151–4.

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Another culvert ran alongside this wall, the red mineral staining indicating that it transported hot spa water.[256]

(b) *Southgate Redevelopment* (ST 75120 64470): evaluation, watching-brief and excavation were undertaken on this multi-period site extending over *c*. 35,500m^2 of the Avon floodplain, immediately south of the City Wall and north of the river, between Southgate Street in the west and Manvers Street in the east.[257] No significant Romano-British activity on the site has been established, although confirmation of the date of the earliest of a series of large gravel quarries, which produced only abraded Roman brick and pottery, awaits radiocarbon dating. Those quarries with good ceramic dating are clearly late Saxon/early medieval in date. The overwhelmingly negative evidence tends to support the suggestions of earlier researchers that there was no road running directly south out of the core of the civic and religious centre of *Aquae Sulis* and no southern gate in the Roman wall.

(2) **Kingsdon**, *Glenda Spooner Farm, Brincil Hill Lane* (ST 51051 25791): a geophysical survey and evaluation were conducted along the line and either side of a Roman road.[258] The Roman road was bisected by three trenches, where it was seen to survive in varying degrees of preservation. The road itself was heavily truncated, with only the lowest courses of its rubble sub-base left. In some places, even this had been heavily disturbed and dispersed with fragments of ceramic field drain mixed amongst the stones. Some fields displayed stone on the surface on the line of the road. No trace of an agger was seen under this stone layer. The southern roadside ditch survived in places and there appeared to be traces of a northern ditch as well.

DEVON

(1) **Exeter**: a hoard of 22 AE dupondii/asses to *c*. A.D. 54, recovered during controlled excavation.[259]

(2) **Whiddon Down**: a hoard of 4 denarii and 305 base-metal sestertii and fractions to *c*. A.D. 198, with 5 later stray losses.[260]

9. SOUTHERN COUNTIES

By PAUL BOOTH

WILTSHIRE

(1) **Calne Without**: an uninscribed Western silver unit, late first century B.C. to early first century A.D., possibly buried at the same time as a similar single coin found earlier.[261]

DORSET

(1) **Bradpole**, *Boarsbarrow Farm* (SY 4874 9417–SY 4840 9422): the course of the Roman

256 Work by N. Wright and M. Collard, Cotswold Archaeology. N. Holbrook sent information.

257 Work by B. Barber, R. Bluer, B. Eaton, C. Halsey, M. Lewcun, N. Lyons, D. Waterfall and B. Watson, Museum of London Archaeology, for Multi Development UK/Aviva plc (SO-SGT06). V. Gardiner sent information.

258 Work by D. Gilbert, John Moore Heritage Services, for DLA Ltd. D. Gilbert sent information.

259 Work by Exeter Archaeology. BM Ref.: 2008 T102. R. Abdy sent information.

260 Found by Messrs A. Osbourne, S. Bassett, G. Stevens, J. Hill and J. Evans while searching with metal detectors. BM Ref.: 2008 T160. R. Abdy sent information.

261 Found by Ms A. Last during a metal-detector survey. BM Ref.: 2008 T740. R. Abdy sent information.

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road from Dorchester to Axminster is lost south of Eggardon hill approaching Spyway Green and Yondover. It has been assumed to turn towards the south-west at Up Loders and to run past Bridport towards Chideock. Evidence has been found to indicate that the Roman road ran on a more northerly course which would avoid a block of high ground north of Chideock and follow an easier and more direct course towards Axminster. A 5 m-wide stony strip observed running north of west across an arable field at Boarsbarrow Farm between the above grid references is probably the remains of the road. There are also possible but inconclusive indications farther west at Blackmore Farm between SY 40759627 and SY 39079613.[262]

(2) **Edmondsham**: a hoard of 6 uninscribed South-Western/Durotrigan silver staters of the mid- to late first century B.C.[263]

(3) **Melbury Osmond**, *North End Farm and Princes Place* (ST 5783 0818–ST 5712 0980): indications on Google Earth coverage led to the discovery of remains of a Roman road terrace and agger, averaging 6 m wide over a distance of 1.6 km. This is a continuation of the direct alignment of the Roman road from Ilchester to Dorchester (Margary 47) to the south of Yeovil. It had been assumed to follow the line of the modern A37 but can now be seen to have run to the south-west of the modern road. The two roads diverge at ST 568 105 and rejoin at ST 582 073.[264]

(4) **Melcombe Horsey**: 28 AR siliquae to *c*. A.D. 402[265] are addenda to earlier finds. The hoard total now stands at 1 Iron Age silver stater, 2 miliarenses, 110 siliquae (many fragmentary), and 1 bronze coin to A.D. 402.[266]

(5) **Tarrant Valley**: 2 early uninscribed British B gold staters[267] are addenda to an earlier hoard from the same findspot discovered in several batches between 2001 and 2002.

(6) **Turnworth**: a hoard of 9 Durotrigian silver staters, late first century B.C.[268]

(7) **Weymouth**, *Ridgeway Hill, Weymouth relief road project* (SY 672 857): excavation revealed Roman-period inhumation graves dug into a Bronze Age round barrow. The inhumations were east–west aligned and accompanied by hobnails. Roman pottery fragments were collected from the backfill. Five large pits, three being over 12 m in diameter, were interpreted as chalk quarries. Little dating evidence was retrieved, but a Roman date is possible.[269]

BERKSHIRE

(1) **Burghfield**, *Atomic Weapons Establishment* (SU 686 684): an evaluation uncovered an adult cremation burial accompanied by late Iron Age pottery. A Roman-period feature of uncertain function — possibly a natural hollow or a pond — contained third- to fourth-century pottery.[270]

262 Information from H. Toller.

263 Found by Messrs J. Adams, D. Eagles, J. Earley and J. Hinchcliffe while searching with metal detectors. BM Ref.: 2008 T552. R. Abdy sent information.

264 Information from H. Toller.

265 Found by Mr J. Adams while searching with a metal detector. BM Ref.: 2008 T528. R. Abdy sent information.

266 The original find was made in October 1999 (by Messrs A. Mitchell, J. Adams, J. Hutchins and Ms F. Hutchins). Addenda I was found in October 2000 and Addenda II in March 2002 (BM ref.: 2002 T13). For the original find + Addenda I & II see J. Williams and R. Abdy in *CHRB* XII. R. Abdy sent information.

267 Found by Mr J. Adams and Mr R. Bruce while searching with metal detectors. BM Ref.: 2008 T199. R. Abdy sent information.

268 Found by Messrs R. Green, R. Macleod and J. Brannan while searching with metal detectors. BM Ref.: 2008 T323. R. Abdy sent information.

269 Work by D. Score of Oxford Archaeology for Dorset County Council. E. Biddulph sent information.

270 Work by D. Dodds of Oxford Archaeology for Atkins Heritage. E. Biddulph sent information.

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(2) **Windsor**, *Imperial House, 67 Alma Road* (SU 96051 76412): ten evaluation trenches were excavated. Although the SMR record for the area includes several finds of Roman coins — including one of Claudius, found on the site itself in 1952 — no evidence of Roman activity was observed.[271]

HAMPSHIRE

(1) **Hursley**: a hoard of 8 silver denarii, 6 Republican and 2 of Augustus.[272]

(2) **Leckford**: a hoard of 136 base-silver denarii and radiates to A.D. 274.[273]

(3) **Lockerley–Marchwood**, *gas pipeline* (SU 302 255–394 111): a watching-brief uncovered two Roman-period ditches, one containing second-century pottery including a samian ware dish.[274]

(4) **Milbrook**: a hoard of 4,386 base-metal radiates and one base-metal denarius to *c*. A.D. 293.[275]

(5) **Winchester** (*Venta Belgarum*), *The Winchester Hotel, Worthy Lane* (SU 47955 30288): excavation in advance of hotel extensions revealed further elements of the northern Roman cemetery of Winchester, immediately adjacent to the Lankhills School excavations of Giles Clarke and Oxford Archaeology.[276] Fifty-six graves, and a number of other features, including a mortuary enclosure and several linear boundary features, many associated with the development and use of the cemetery, were found. A new section was excavated through the north–south ditch (Clarke's F12) which formed the original eastern boundary of the cemetery. Dating from the graves excavated through the ditch fills suggests that the cemetery expanded across the boundary in the A.D. 350s. Furthermore, burials were identified in an area previously thought to lie outside the bounds of the cemetery to the east. The burials in this area may well be amongst the latest in the cemetery, possibly even dating to the fifth century. Numerous grave goods were recovered during the excavations, including pottery and glass vessels, personal ornaments (crossbow brooches, buckles, bracelets, finger-rings, beads etc.), antler combs, coins, and hobnails from shoes. Some of these are unusual objects, with some most closely paralleled on the Continent. Two graves in particular contained grave goods unlikely to have originated in Britain.[277]

ISLE OF WIGHT

(1) **Carisbrooke**: a hoard of 28 AE dupondii/asses to A.D. 167.[278]

271 Work by H. Knight, Museum of London Archaeology, for Watts Group plc (BR-IHW08). V. Gardiner sent information.

272 Found by Mr C. Allaker while searching with a metal detector. BM Ref.: 2008 T767. R. Abdy sent information.

273 Found by Mr M. Pond while searching with a metal detector. BM Ref.: 2006 T194 and 2008 T630 (addendum). R. Abdy sent information.

274 Work by A. Norton of Oxford Archaeology for NACAP Land and Marine. Information sent by E. Biddulph.

275 Found by Mr M. Burton during machine excavation of a sewer pipe trench. BM Ref.: 2008 T167. R. Abdy sent information.

276 G. Clarke, *The Roman Cemetery at Lankhills*, Winchester Stud 3: Pre Roman and Roman Winchester Part II (1979); Oxford Archaeology, *Lankhills Special School, Winchester, Hampshire, Post-excavation assessment*, unpub. client report (2006).

277 Work by Wessex Archaeology for CPB Management Services Ltd on behalf of The Winchester Hotel Ltd. P. McCulloch sent information.

278 Found by several members of the Isle of Wight Metal Detecting Club while searching with metal detectors. BM Ref.: 2008 T558. R. Abdy sent information.

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WEST SUSSEX

(1) **Chichester** (*Noviomagus Regnensium*): (a) *Chichester I*: a hoard of about 50 barbarous radiates *c*. A.D. 270–290 and an indeterminate number (probably several hundred) present as a corroded mass recovered from the fill of a pit.[279] (b) *Chichester II*: a hoard of over 470 base-metal radiates/barbarous radiates, mostly illegible, recovered from fourteen contexts covering a small area.[280] Different context dates suggest that the hoard was disturbed in antiquity. The majority of the coins are extremely poorly preserved, but some 74 coins can be identified as irregular radiates of the period A.D. 270–290.

(2) **Near Chichester**: 3 silver siliqua fragments,[281] addenda to earlier finds up to *c*. A.D. 402.[282]

EAST SUSSEX

(1) **Ashburnham**: a hoard of 8 AR denarii of 32–31 B.C. or later.[283] The coins appear to have been burnt. Four were too worn to be fully identified; one coin appears to have a bust and may have been of Imperial date.

(2) **Barcombe**, *Church Field* (TQ 4190 1425): in 2008 a new research and training project was started in Church Field, which is adjacent to Dunstalls Field, the site of the Barcombe Roman villa which was excavated between 2001 and 2007.[284] Previously, field walking, geophysics and test-pitting had indicated the presence of a Roman-period building with a hypocaust. In 2008 excavations revealed a large Roman bath-house, measuring some 20 m long by 6 m wide and aligned approximately north-east to south-west. At the northern end of the complex is a *praefurnium* with walls of mortared flints. The south-western side of this room had a tile base some 1.2 m wide set into flint masonry. This tile base would have been used for either a hot bath or a steam tank/boiler. To the west of the tile base was the *caldarium* which had a projecting apsidal hot bath on its south-eastern side. At the apex of this semi-circular structure was a tile-lined drain running south-eastwards towards a large drainage ditch which is orientated parallel to the longitudinal axis of the baths. The ditch was in-filled with large quantities of rubble, both tiles and flints. The ditch may have discharged into the stream which forms the south-western side of Church Field. To the south-west of the *caldarium* was the *tepidarium* and on its western side this still contains part of the mortar base of the room, with some of the hypocaust *pilae* columns represented by the bottommost tiles *in situ.* In addition there are also traces of an *in-situ* covered channel (perhaps a drain) formed of *imbrex* tiles. Other parts of the floor in this room had been cut through by a large feature, possibly a ditch which served a postulated and smaller second-phase bath-house to the south-west. At the north-west corner of the bath complex is an area of curved mortar which may represent steps into another (?cold) bath. Further west still, and on the same alignment as the flint-walled rooms described above, were a number of walls with

279 Excavation by Pre-Construct Archaeology in 2006 (see *Britannia* 39 (2008), 329 for the site). BM Ref.: 2006 T302. R. Abdy sent information.

280 Recovered with the aid of a metal detector during excavation in 2006 by Pre-Construct Archaeology. BM Ref.: 2006 T303. R. Abdy sent information.

281 Found by Mr Mordle while searching with metal detector. BM Ref.: 2008 T743.

282 Earlier finds, published as Eartham, West Sussex (*Britannia* 39 (2008), 329), consisted of part of a silver miliarensis (in two fragments) and half of a silver siliqua. R. Abdy sent information.

283 Found by Mr A. Charman while searching with a metal detector. BM Ref.: 2008 T460. R. Abdy sent information.

284 For previous work see *Britannia* 33 (2002), 351; *Britannia* 34 (2003), 353–5; *Britannia* 35 (2004), 311; *Britannia* 36 (2005), 443; *Britannia* 37 (2006), 425; *Britannia* 38 (2007), 298; *Britannia* 39 (2008), 329–31.

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chalk foundations. These walls may belong to the postulated second-phase baths. The source of the water needed for both phases of baths is likely to have been a spring/s to the north/north-east of the excavations. Provisional dating for the baths spans the second to fourth centuries, but in contrast to the broadly contemporary villa site in Dunstalls Field, the baths appear to have been demolished/robbed in Roman rather than medieval and/or post-medieval times. It is not known how the baths related to the nearby villa. Perhaps they were part of the villa complex, or possibly the wider villa-estate? Alternatively they may have belonged to an unrelated neighbouring settlement, perhaps one located on or near the site of St Mary's church. Nearby, on Culver Farm, Rob Wallace continued a programme of survey and excavations in order to establish the routes of two Roman roads.[285]

SURREY

(1) **Ashtead**, *Ashtead Common villa and tileworks* (centred at TQ 1775 6017): excavation was completed in the area near the centre of the 'front' of the villa.[286] Evidence was found for a number of robbed-out walls and other features that make it possible to suggest some phasing for the building, and better understand the previously published evidence. An area with a rammed chalk floor may be part of a structure earlier than the villa, as already suggested by A.W.G. Lowther.[287] The foundations for the original front wall were also located, with associated stub walls of flint and (mostly) tile, in the area of Lowther's postulated 'porch'. There was no evidence for the latter in the form previously suggested. A small apsed feature was later added in this area, but still as part of an early phase. The corridor floor as recorded in the 1920s can be seen to be part of a later phase, probably associated with construction of the tile gutters around the building, which themselves must be later. Probably at the same time the level of the villa was substantially raised, using building demolition material, presumably in an attempt to deal with the unpleasantness of the site when wet.

The two main early and late periods may relate to phases revealed in a new section of the ditch running close to the rear of the building near the junction of Rooms 10 and 8; a small area of the latter's tessellated pavement was also uncovered, surrounded by robbed-out walls. In its second main phase the ditch was probably recut and rapidly backfilled with rubble to act as a linear soakaway for the bath-block attached to the villa.

The wall junction found by John Hampton and others in the 1960s to the north-east of the villa[288] was relocated and studied in more detail. The walls had clearly been built in sections and there were two related tile-built features of (currently) unknown purpose. No dating material was found except for the tiles in these features and built into the walls, and there was little sign of occupation material of any kind. It remains unclear if this was simply the corner of an enclosure wall or part of a building, possibly related to the tileworks known to exist close by to the east. Further magnetometer and topographical surveys by Archaeology South-East have located possible kiln sites in this area which it is intended to test in 2009 and later. The results of environmental sampling carried out some years ago in one of the quarry pits have now been analysed by Professor Martyn Waller of Kingston University, who has also obtained a

285 Work by D. Rudling and R. Wallace of the University of Sussex and C. Butler of the Mid-Sussex Field Archaeological Team. D. Rudling sent information.

286 Work for the Roman Studies Group of the Surrey Archaeological Society was directed by D. Bird, who sent information. For previous work see *Britannia* 38 (2007), 299 and 39 (2008), 331–2.

287 For the 'porch' and the early chalk deposit, also the ditch and the location of Rooms 8 and 11, see A.W.G. Lowther, 'Excavations at Ashtead, Surrey. Third report (1929)', *Surrey Archaeological Collections* 38.2 (1930), plan opposite p. 148.

288 See D.G. Bird, *Roman Surrey* (2004), 121–3, figs 54, 55.

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radiocarbon date associated with the basal silts in the main quarry which suggests dating within the period A.D. 60 to 240. This matches well with other dating evidence for the overall site that indicates occupation and activity mostly across the second century.

Work on gathering and recording all known finds from the site is continuing and good progress has been made with study of the ceramic building material. Significant finds from the excavation included a bronze cockerel, probably part of a set on a stand with a figure of Mercury and other relevant animals, and stratified pottery, including substantial parts of three vessels that had apparently been smashed *in situ*. These were in an area with other rubbish and it is therefore unlikely that they were ritual deposits, but they seem to predate the villa building whose construction can therefore be tentatively dated to around the end of the first century A.D. or early in the second.

KENT

(1) **Bigbury** and **South Blean** (centred at TR 1170 5750 and TR 0660 5640 to 0975 5635): a walkover survey of the known hillfort of Bigbury Camp, 3 km west of Canterbury, prior to proposed tree clearance within the known earthworks, clarified some details of the recorded earthworks and re-assessed the extent of the earthworks within and beyond the Scheduled Ancient Monument.[289] Since recognition as a hillfort in the late nineteenth century, this site has been damaged by small-scale quarrying but has been the subject of three major archaeological investigations.[290] In the present study, contour survey of the putative eastern entrance suggested that one of the more prominent earthworks here related to a presumed post-Roman hollow-way but that the outermost earthworks returned to link with the north-eastern corner of the previously identified hillfort annexe, rather than with what is a recent drain at the base of the northern hillside. To the south and south-west, the line of Parish Road, now the Centenary Walk, Canterbury, may represent an extensive outer work, visible as denuded multiple earthworks below Bigbury Wood (TR 1175 5705). Slighter earthworks within the hillfort annexe and to the west probably represent recent wood banks.

In the South Blean, 2 to 6 km to the south-west of the camp and west of Chartham Hatch village, an extensive series of earthworks was identified within woodland. Substantial but much denuded earthworks, sometimes forming multiple parallel banks and ditches, were traced following the contours of a ridge overlooking the Stour to the south. Although undated, these features appeared to predate a system of wood banks and the line of a medieval or post-medieval trackway heading towards Chartham Hatch. Traces of a small hilltop enclosure, pit complexes and possible field terraces along the southern hillside were also identified in an area where traces of early iron-working are known. If indeed of early date and associated with Bigbury Camp, these earthworks may form part of an extensive territorial oppidum extending along the high ground to link with the hillfort on the spur overlooking the early Stour crossing.

(2) **Birchington**, *Monkton Road Farm, Seamark Road* (TR 28551 66910): continued excavations ahead of a 90 hectare greenhouse development uncovered a further seventeen cremation burials, some positioned alongside a partially metalled trackway. A sunken-floored structure, about 8 m long and 4 m wide, was closely comparable to those excavated in 1994.[291] Various

[289] Survey by C. Sparey-Green, Canterbury Archaeological Trust, for Kent Wildlife Trust. Information sent by C. Sparey-Green.

[290] Most recently, K. Blockley and P. Blockley, 'Excavations at Bigberry, near Canterbury, 1981', *Archaeologia Cantiana* 107 (1989), 239–51.

[291] A. Hicks, 'The Roman settlement', in *At the Great Crossroads. Prehistoric, Roman and Medieval Discoveries on the Isle of Thanet 1994–95*, Canterbury Archaeological Trust Occasional Paper no. 4 (2008).

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internal features and areas of burning suggested the presence of possible corn-driers and a domestic hearth. Several small pits, drainage gullies and a large rectangular pit appeared to be associated with the building. Ditches representing possible field-systems and the various cremation burials, either isolated or strung along trackways, suggest the presence of a substantial settlement, perhaps in the area of a widespread cropmark complex to the north-east of the site.[292]

(3) **Canterbury** (*Durovernum Cantiacorum*): (a) *Best Lane* (TR 1486 5793): evaluation prior to the extension of the Beaney Institute revealed evidence for a Roman building situated immediately north of the line of a major street.[293] Road or yard surfaces were capped by floors for a building. Building materials included roof- and flue-tile, *opus signinum* and tesserae.[294] (b) *St Mildred's Tannery*: the ongoing watching-brief on a major residential development concentrated on the central part of the site (TR 1450 5770). Further evidence was found for a large building south-west of Roman Watling Street and for a smaller one facing it across a back street flanked by a wide leat. A substantial flint and tile wall apparently closing off the riverward end of this street was partially dismantled. What was probably a Roman clay floor was exposed in a test pit south-east of the river (TR 1458 5761).[295] (c) *19 Wincheap* (TR 14439 57250): excavation prior to redevelopment revealed a number of early pits containing domestic refuse. A timber structure was represented by five post-holes and a beamslot, over which a series of clay floors showed signs of successive repairs indicative of a long period of use. East of the structure a sequence of metalled surfaces, which extended beyond the limit of the excavation, may have been the remains of an open yard associated with the timber building.[296] (d) *Ryde Street, St Dunstans* (TR 14207 58246): a single evaluation trench cut prior to house construction revealed early Roman activity in the form of gravel metallings for a yard or street, and perhaps evidence for quarrying of the same date. Redeposited brickearth, perhaps indicating quarrying, was cut by a Late Roman cremation burial, comprising a cinerary urn with two accompanying pottery vessels and fragmentary iron nails possibly representing pyre goods. The cremation is the latest Roman burial thus far recorded in Canterbury and is located further east than the previously recorded extent of the London Road cemetery.[297] (e) *Old Dover Road* (TR 15725 56590): evaluation prior to development at St Lawrence Cricket Ground revealed an unurned cremation burial, some 40 m south-west of the road frontage. The Old Dover Road follows the projected alignment of the Roman road from the town's Ridingate towards Dover.[298]

(4) **Deal**, *Deal Waterworks, off St Richards Road* (TR 3645 5090, centred): excavations ahead of a new housing development revealed a number of ditches relating to a rectilinear field-system.[299] Further traces of this system had been previously recorded on the adjacent Dossett Court site.[300] The pottery indicates that the ditches date to the first and second centuries. Extensive traces of a preceding early Iron Age settlement were also recorded.

292 Work by J. Rady, Canterbury Archaeological Trust, for Fresca Group Ltd. J. Elder sent information.

293 'Nos 15 and 16 Best Lane', in S. Frere, P. Bennett, J. Rady and S. Stow, *Canterbury Excavations Intra- and Extra-mural Sites 1949–55 and 1980–84*, The Archaeology of Canterbury VIII (1987), 105.

294 Work by T. Wilson, Canterbury Archaeological Trust, for Campbell Reith engineers. J. Elder sent information.

295 Work by S. Pratt, Canterbury Archaeological Trust, for Biddle and Biddle on behalf of Bellway Homes. Information sent by S. Pratt.

296 Work by D. Robertson, Canterbury Archaeological Trust, for Bignold Elevations Limited. J. Elder sent information.

297 Work by M. Diack, Canterbury Archaeological Trust for Mr Murray. J. Elder sent information.

298 Work by J. Holman, Canterbury Archaeological Trust, for Kent County Cricket Club. J. Elder sent information

299 Work by K. Parfitt and B. Corke, Canterbury Archaeological Trust. Information sent by K. Parfitt.

300 *Britannia* 14 (1983), 335.

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(5) **Dover**, *Cowgate Hill* (TR 3182 4134, centred): limited evaluation trenching across the western side of the second-century fort of the *Classis Britannica* revealed chalk block walls and stratified Roman deposits buried at a shallow depth. Insufficient was exposed to add significantly to the known plan of the fort but it appeared that the Roman walls represented several separate phases of work.[301]

(6) **East Farleigh**, *Oaklands, Lower Road* (TQ 7280 5350): further excavations on the previously reported villa site[302] have confirmed the size of Building 3 as 8 m by 28 m. The building is believed to be a store-building or granary. Some walls remain to a height of 1.2 m. An internal division wall and possible ovens were located on the last day of excavation in 2008. A fifth building, 13 m wide with a 2.4 m entrance with semi-circular reveals, has been located. Work continues.[303]

(7) **Eastry**, *Farthingate* (TR 3130 5470): casual fieldwalking to the south-east of Eastry parish church revealed a scatter of Roman pottery and roof-tile fragments on a hill-slope overlooking a small stream.[304] The pottery ranges in date from the first to the fourth centuries A.D. and the finds suggest the presence of a previously unknown settlement, conceivably a villa. The site lies downhill from the medieval manor house of Eastry Court, believed to overlie an Anglo-Saxon royal palace. Excavations at the manor house in 2007 failed to locate any certainly Roman features or Anglo-Saxon remains.

(8) **Gillingham**, *Grange Farm*: a Roman radiate or nummus purse hoard of <10 coins, amongst a total of 434 Roman coins retrieved during excavations.[305] X-ray shows small stacks of coins that still retain their integrity as individual units and are not melted or fused together.

(9) **Northfleet:** (a) *Water Treatment Works* (TQ 6189 7356): during investigations connected with improvements to the Northfleet Water Treatment Works (2007) a large, square feature was recorded, approximately 12 m long east–west and more than 8 m long north–south, extending beyond the limit of excavation to the north. Approximately 0.6 m deep, the feature contained several extensive fills, most of which consisted of a well-rotted, peat-like material, almost certainly formed from generations of reeds growing in a wet environment. The relatively high proportion of Roman finds retrieved and preliminary post-excavation assessment have resulted in tentative interpretation of the feature as a water tank.[306] (b) *Land at Wingfield Bank* (TQ 6222 7257): an excavation followed an evaluation carried out in 2007.[307] A natural hollow was revealed in the northern part of the site. The hollow was enclosed by a ditch containing Iron Age and early Roman pottery. These features were overlain by alluvial silts from which a Late Iron Age gold coin was recovered. A building identified by two beamslots was observed to the west of the hollow. Two Roman ditches lay either side of the structure; the one to the west contained a large quantity of first- to second-century pottery. Similarly-aligned ditches were also observed to the east of the site. A possible Roman cellar was recorded. A beamslot, two post-holes and several stake-holes were revealed at the base of the feature.[308]

301 Work by K. Parfitt and B. Corke, Canterbury Archaeological Trust. Information sent by K. Parfitt.
302 *Britannia* 39 (2008), 335.
303 Work for the Maidstone Area Archaeological Group directed by A.J. Daniels, who sent information.
304 Work conducted by the Dover Archaeological Group, directed by K. Parfitt, who sent information.
305 Found during excavation by Pre-Construct Archaeology in 2006. BM Ref.: 2006 T605. R. Abdy sent information.
306 Work by M. Diack, Canterbury Archaeological Trust, for 4Delivery Ltd. J. Elder sent information.
307 For previous work see *Britannia* 39 (2008), 336.
308 Work by A. Norton of Oxford Archaeology for Chinacorp plc. E. Biddulph sent information.

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(10) **Snodland**: a hoard of 4,653 Constantinian nummi to *c*. A.D. 350.[309]

(11) **Wickhambreaux** (TR 2170 5850): field-walking and metal-detecting in a field to the south-west of the village, over-looking the Little Stour river, revealed a scatter of Roman pottery, roof-tile, coins and brooches.[310] The coins and pottery range in date from the first to the fourth centuries A.D. and indicate the presence of a previously unrecorded settlement. Aerial photographs show that this settlement lies along a branch Roman road leading off the main Canterbury to Richborough road.

[309] Found in 2006 by Mr M. Bulmer while searching with a metal detector. The total includes 10 coins found in subsequent archaeological investigation by Archaeology South East. BM Ref.: 2006 T467 and 2008 T286. R. Abdy sent information.

[310] Work conducted by Messrs A. Clarke and B. Fisher who provided details.

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