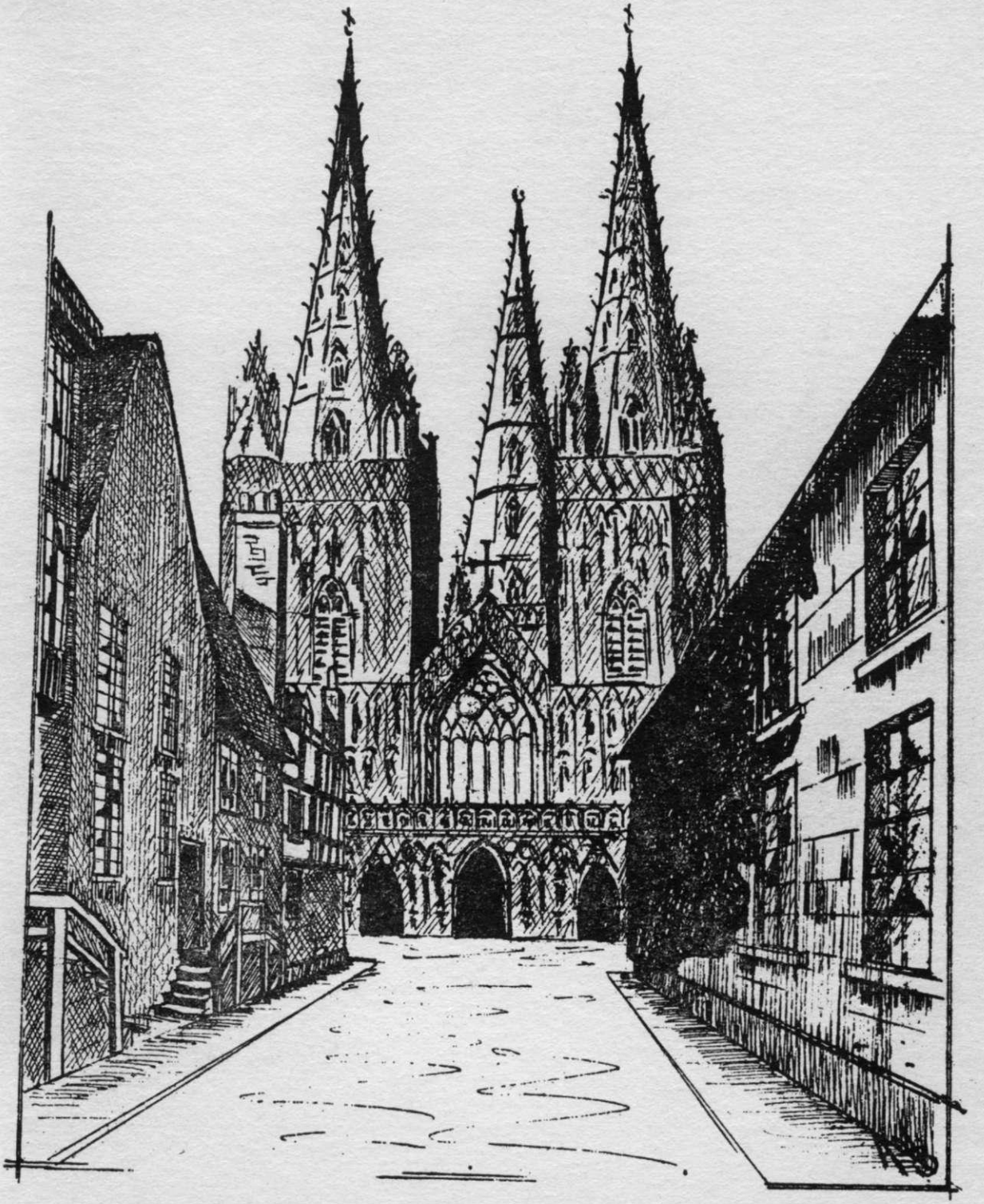

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EXCAVATIONS AT WALL (STAFFORDSHIRE), 1964-6, ON THE SITE OF THE ROMAN FORTS

J. GOULD, **F.S.A.**

INTRODUCTION

THESE EXCAVATIONS WERE conducted on the western slope of the hill on which the modern village of Wall stands (Nat. Grid SK 098067). At the foot of the slope lie the remains of the bath-house; a series of Roman forts is known to have occupied the hill-top, whilst along the southern slopes runs the Roman Watling Street, passing through the late civilian defences[1]. It was hoped that these excavations would reveal the western defences of the known forts, especially as the outline of the upper part of three defensive ditches had been revealed when house A (fig. 1) had been rebuilt and a new drive cut. A further reason for excavation was that the western extension of the churchyard (fig. 1, site Z) was likely to come into use in the near future and excavation there was desirable before dedication.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are due to the Ministry of Public Building and Works who made a grant towards the cost of the mechanical movement of soil in the churchyard extension (fig. 1, site Z), to the Vicar of Wall and his Parochial Church Council who permitted work there and to Mrs. C. M. Bather who willingly allowed excavation on her land (fig. 1, sites W, X and Y). Mr. and Mrs. K. Cutler kindly continued to permit the storage of tools etc. on their property. The work was undertaken by members of the Lichfield and South Staffordshire Archaeological and Historical Society, who worked each Saturday and for longer periods at holiday times. It is impossible to list all who assisted but the brunt of the work was borne by Misses J. Lawrence, G. K. Mills, H. Moore, E. Reed, G. Taylor, J. Weatherhead, Mrs. M. Allcock, Mrs. G. Drury, Mrs. D. Gould, Dr. J. G. L. Cole, Rev. S. B. Coley, Messrs. J. Brangan, I. Davidson, F. Devey, B. Haywood, F. H. Lyon, G. Perry, A. A. Round and J. W. Whiston.

The digging was often under very unpleasant conditions due to the waterlogged ground and to the constantly recurring, unbelievably powerful stench that arose from the decaying bodies of recently drowned worms. Despite all difficulties the team remained keen and cheerful throughout and it was a privilege to work with them. Dr. Graham Webster occasionally visited the site, distributing his usual advice, encouragement and specialist information. Specialist advice and comment were also given by Dr. D. B. Harden, Mr. B. R. Hartley, Mrs. K. F. Hartley, Dr. J. Kent, Mr. K. J. Barton, Mr. M. M. Hallett, Mr. D. F. Mackreth, Mr. N. Thomas, Mr. R. P. Wright, and Mr. A. Oswald. Mr. A. L. F. Rivet, kindly read the paper and made helpful suggestions. Thanks are also due to 'Christopher' who drove the mechanical excavator which was used on site Z; how he repeatedly prevented it from overturning and extricated it from the morass there, bordered on the miraculous. Mr. F. H. Linney, curator of the bath site was also helpful and drew attention to surface finds by villagers.

[1] ***Trans.*, v, 1964, p. 14, fig. 12.**

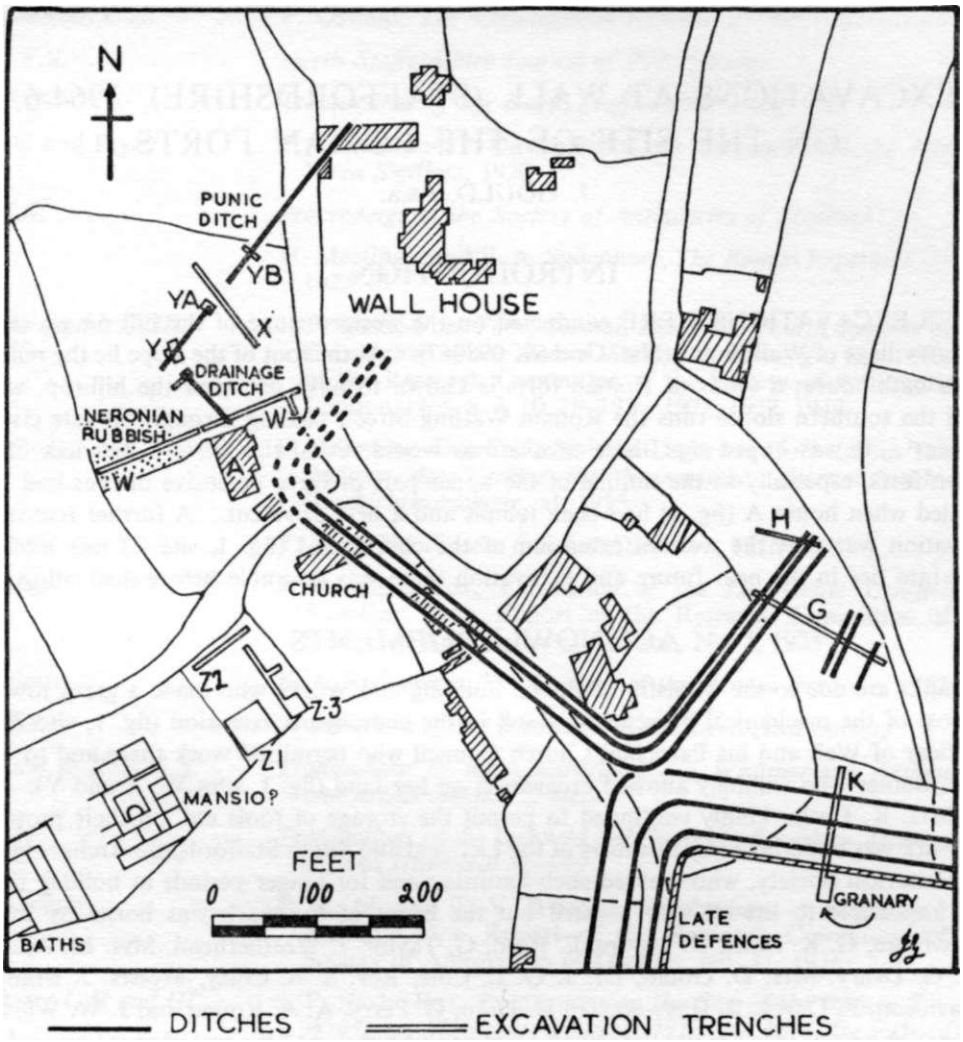

Fig. 1 Plan of the defences of the second-century fort

GEOLOGY

Professor H. Thorpe, has pointed out elsewhere[2] that above the 350 ft. contour, the hill at Wall consists of a cap of Lower Keuper Sandstone, below which is Upper Mottled Sandstone of the Bunter series. As elsewhere, the Lower Keuper Sandstone at Wall contains bands of marl[3] through which water does not percolate, though water can and does drain freely through the coarse sand subsoil and through the Bunter Sandstone. On the crest of the hill, the subsoil is thin and the Lower Keuper Sandstone comes close to the surface. Below the crest, the bands of marl give rise to artesian conditions, and there is a constant flow of water through the sandy subsoil into the Bunter Sandstone. The extent of these conditions

- ***T.B.A.S.*, lxxiv, 1958, p. 26.**
- **F. H. Edmunds and K. P. Oakley, *British Regional Geology - The Central District of England,* 1953, p. 56.**

was not appreciated until excavation was well advanced. Sites X, Y and the eastern end of W were dry, lying above the underground springs, but the western half of W together with site Z were waterlogged throughout.

THE FLAT-BOTTOMED DITCH (figs. 1, 2, 3 and 5)

The military ditches, referred to above as having been seen when a new drive was cut on the south-east side of house A (fig. 1) during rebuilding operations, seemed to be running

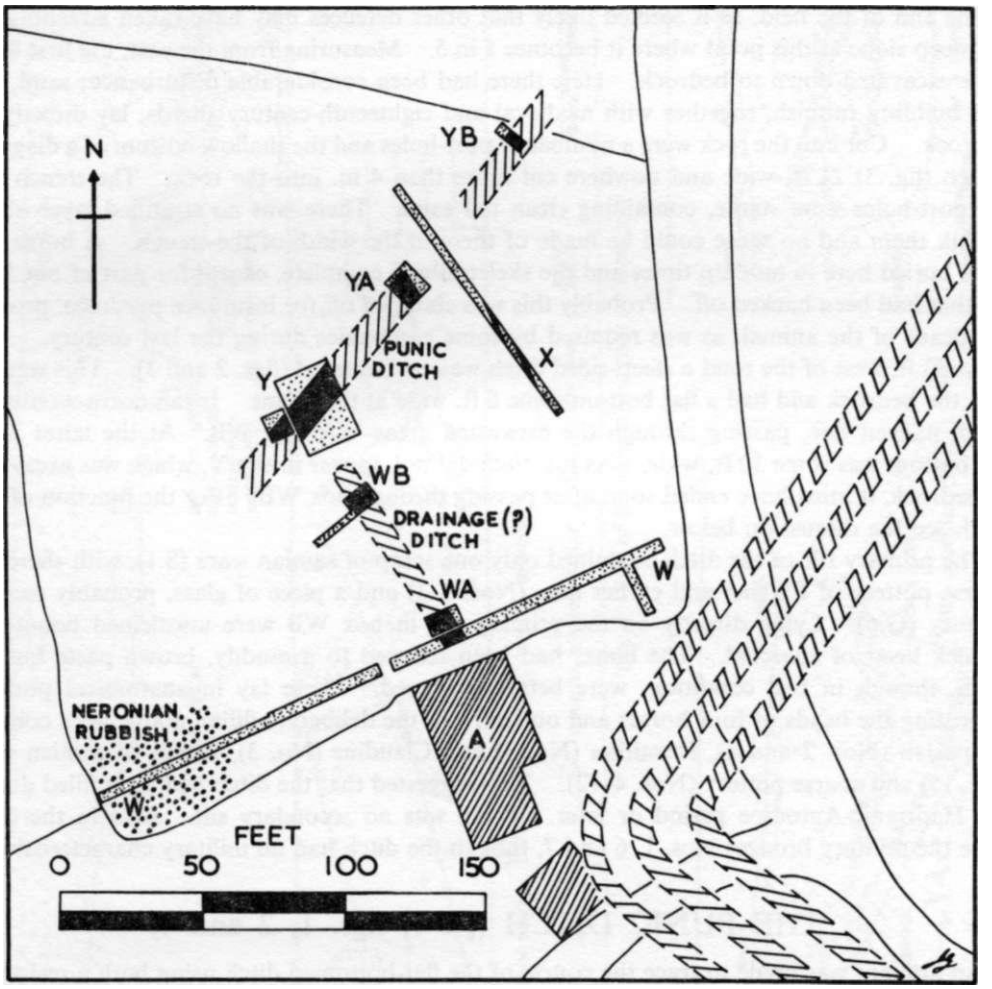

Fig. 2 Plan of the flat-bottomed (drainage) ditch and of the punic ditch

north-westwards after passing under the church. At that time, it was not possible to determine their exact alignment since the drive was in constant use for the builders' lorries. Trench W (fig. 2) was cut as close as possible to the point where the ditches had been seen, less than thirty yards away. Despite this it did not pick up the ditches which can only be presumed to have been turning at the point where they were observed and are therefore shown by a broken line on the plan. The shape and size of the three ditches suggested that they belonged to the last fort that had occupied the hill-top and whose defences had been sectioned on the south side in 1959[4].

Although initially trench W was very disappointing, it was continued westwards for 225 ft. to the end of the field, as it seemed likely that other defences may have taken advantage of the steep slope at this point where it becomes 1 in 5. Measuring from the east, the first 80 ft. were excavated down to bedrock. Here there had been considerable disturbance; sand, soil and building rubbish, together with medieval and eighteenth-century sherds, lay directly on the rock. Cut into the rock were a number of post-holes and the shallow bottom of a diagonal trench (fig. 3) 2\ ft. wide and nowhere cut more than 4 in. into the rock. The trench and the post-holes were sterile, containing clean red sand. There was no stratified layer above to link them and no sense could be made of them in the width of the trench. A horse had been buried here in modern times and the skeleton was complete, except for part of one hind leg that had been hacked off. Probably this was chopped off for insurance purposes, proving the death of the animal, as was required by some companies during the last century.

At 83 ft. west of the road a steep-sided ditch was encountered (figs. 2 and 3). This was cut into the bedrock and had a flat bottom some 6 ft. wide at this point. It ran north-westwards in an uneven line, passing through the excavated areas WA and WB. At the latter point the bottom was some 10 ft. wide. As the ditch did not appear in site Y, which was excavated to bedrock, it must have ended soon after passing through box WB. For the function of this ditch see the discussion below.

The primary silt of the ditch contained only one scrap of samian ware (S.l), with sherds of coarse pottery of Flavian and earlier date (Nos. 1-3) and a piece of glass, probably second-century (G.6). Lying directly on the primary silt in box WB were uncalcined bones and a thick layer of charcoal. The bones had been reduced to a muddy, brown paste but the teeth, though in bad condition, were better preserved. These lay in anatomical position indicating the heads of four horses and one ox. In the deliberate filling above were coins of Vespasian (Nos. 2 and 4), Domitian (No. 1) and Claudius (No. 3), sherds of samian ware (S.2-15) and coarse pottery (Nos. 4-12). This suggested that the ditch had been filled during the Hadrianic-Antonine period or later. There was no secondary silt. Also in the ditch were the military bronzes Nos. 1, 6 and 7, though the ditch had no military characteristics.

THE PUNIC DITCH (pi. 1, figs. 1, 2 and 4)

An attempt was made to trace the course of the flat-bottomed ditch using both a resistance meter and a gradiometer. The former gave only slight indications but the latter suggested (erroneously) that the flat-bottomed ditch turned at right angles with a hiatus at the corner. Trench X was then opened across the line of the magnetic anomalies but well away from the corner, where complications were expected. The trench was 100 ft. long so that if any rampart were encountered full details would have been obtained. At the point where the

[4] *T.B.A.S.,* lxxix, 1964, p. 13, period III.

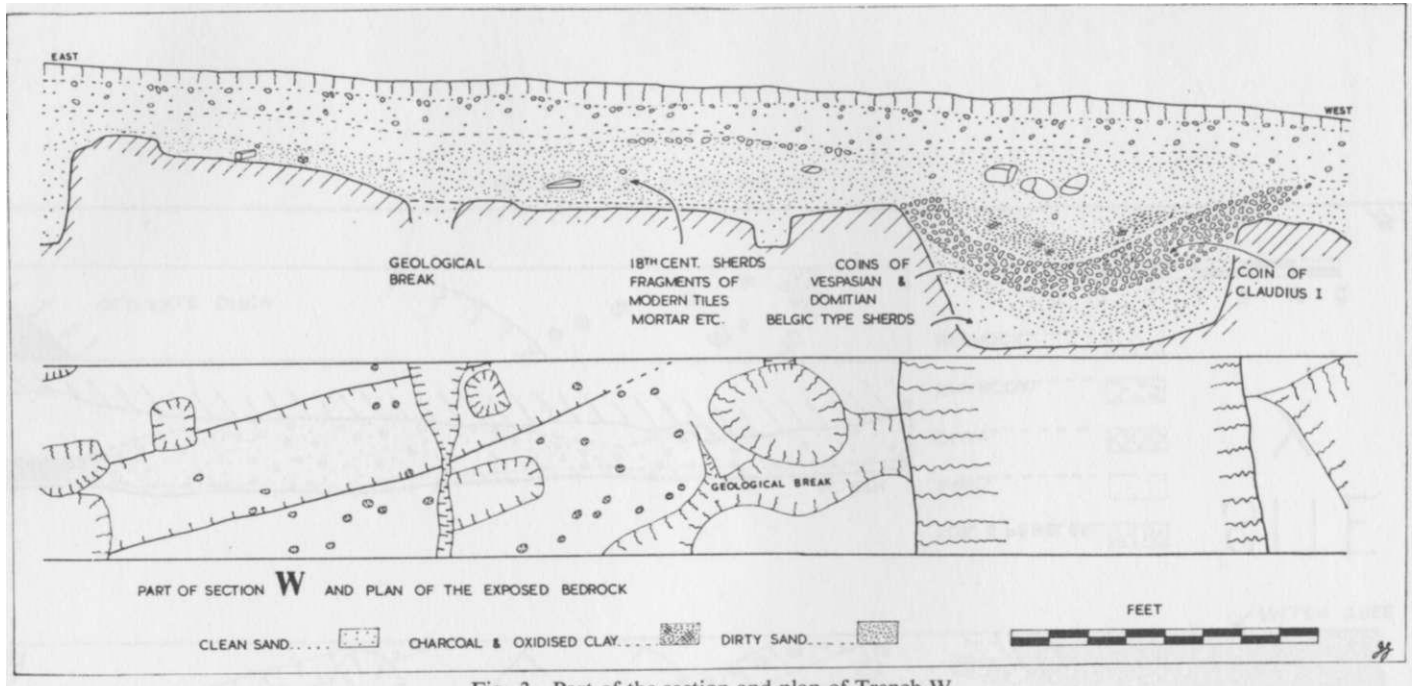

Fig. 3 Part of the section and plan of Trench W

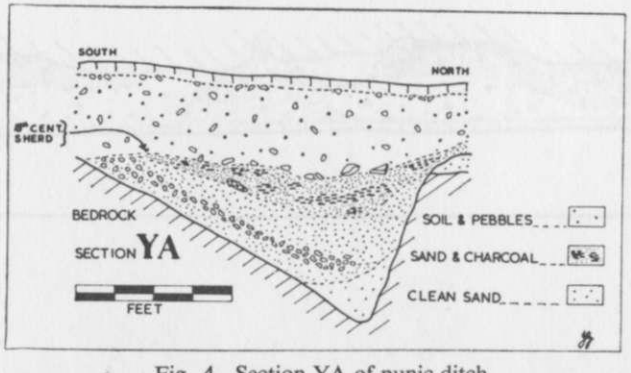

Fig. 4 Section YA of punic ditch

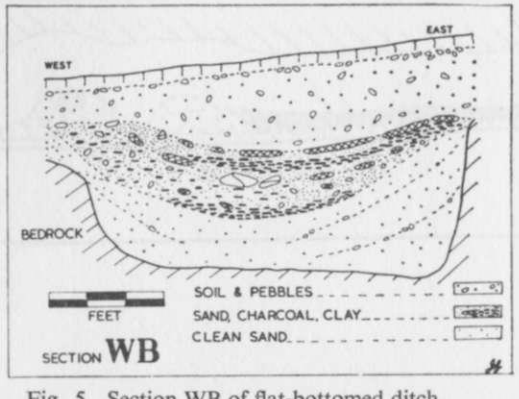

Fig. 5 Section WB of flat-bottomed ditch

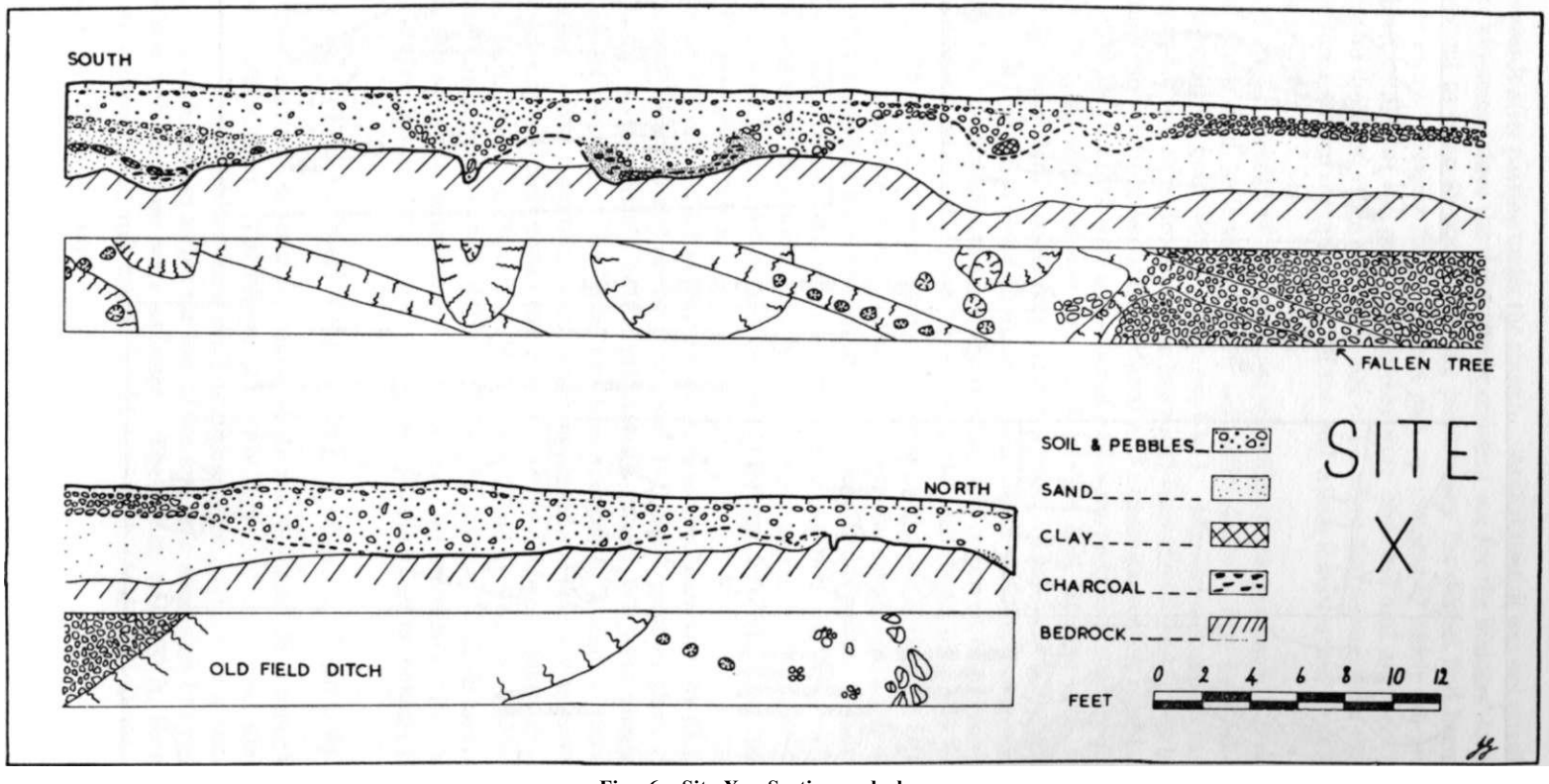

Fig. 6 Site X. Section and plan

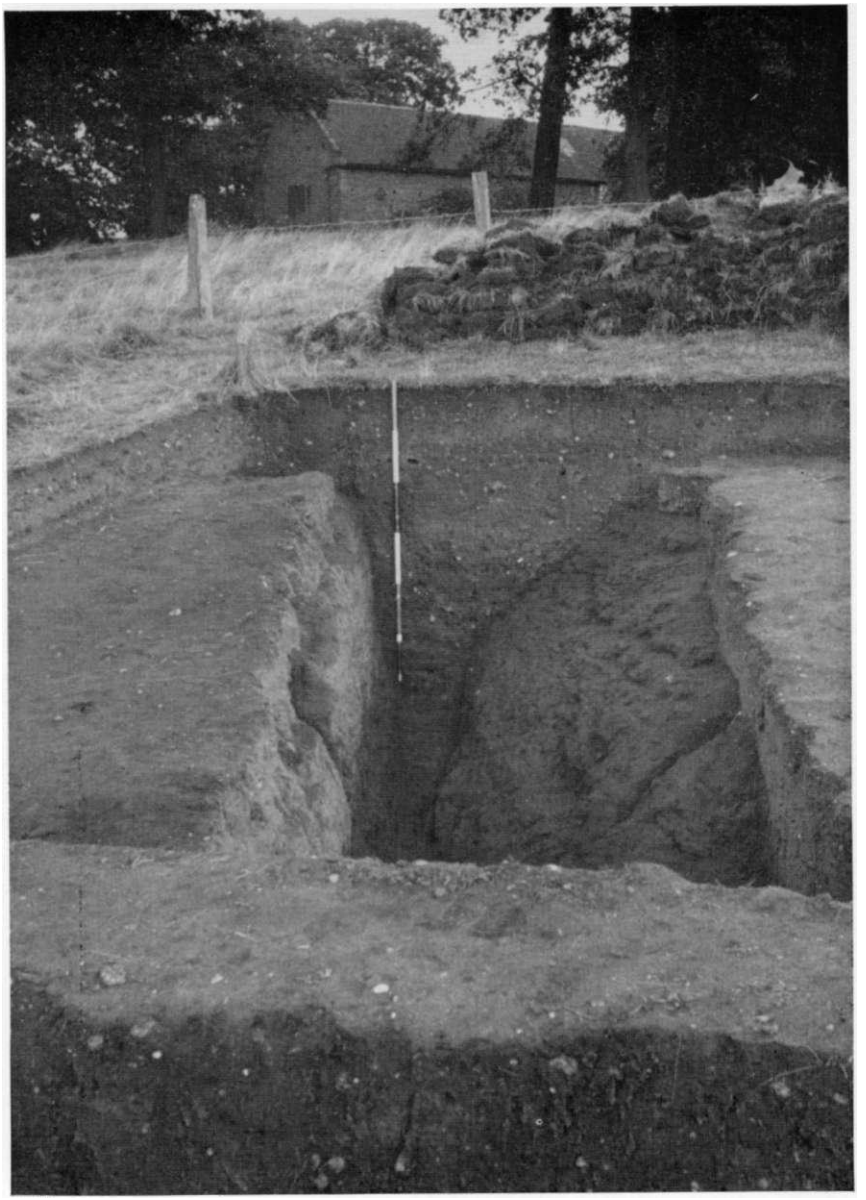

Plate 1 Wall (Staffordshire). The punic ditch, Site Y, looking east

ditch was expected, 3 in. below the turf, was a layer of pebbles with much hard-panning, which would account for the magnetic anomalies which were rather vague at this point. Immediately to the south the pebbles were cut by a wide eighteenth-century field ditch beyond which was a third- or fourth-century Roman building. The evidence for this consisted of two parallel construction trenches, diagonal to the excavation trench, 1 ft. wide, 3 ft. deep and 4 ft. apart (fig. 6). The more northerly of these construction trenches had held upright stakes 4 in. diameter 1 ft. apart and contained Antonine or later coarse pottery (Nos. 15-18).

As the magnetic anomalies had been very definite west of trench X, an area Y, was opened 20 ft. by 30 ft. This revealed a fine, rock-cut punic ditch[5] (pi. I, figs. 2 and 4), with a vertical face to the north-west. Above bedrock was plough-soil with medieval and later sherds, but no subsoil. There was a primary silt of red sand, showing that when the ditch was cut, the top-soil did not rest directly on the rock as at present. The punic ditch must have been at least 6 ft. deep when cut and 12 ft. wide at the top. The bottom was a little uneven, being very narrow in places (fig. 4) but up to 6 in. wide elsewhere.

The course of the punic ditch was traced eastwards with a probe, and box YA opened where the ditch ended. The end was well finished, suggesting an entrance, and the pebbles and hard-panning found in trench X could well have been the bottom of a road. Box YB was opened beyond the possible entrance and proved the punic ditch ran on beyond it. The presence of a clump of trees prevented attempts to find the exact point where the ditch resumed its course, and so the exact width of the entrance is unknown.

West of site Y, down the slope of the hill, the soil and subsoil rapidly become too deep to allow the ditch to be traced with a probe. The gradiometer suggested that it ended soon after passing through site Y and this is what would be expected with the increasing depth of loose soil and sand, together with the onset of the wet conditions that pertained lower down the slope.

There was little dating evidence in the primary silt of the punic ditch. The sherds of two coarse jars (Nos. 19 and 20) with some samian sherds (Nos. S.24 and S.25) suggest a Trajanic or later date for cutting the ditch, and in view of the battered nature of sherd S.25 a much later date is possible. Here again there was no secondary silt. The deliberate filling included slag, nails, charcoal, daub, coins of Domitian and Trajan (Nos. 6 and 7), battered Trajanic and earlier samian (S.26-30) and coarse sherds (Nos. 21-31). The coarse sherds suggest a Hadrianic or early Antonine date for filling the ditch.

THE NERONIAN RUBBISH LAYER

On all sites there were fragments of early pottery but in the western half of trench W these increased in number. Unfortunately, water was also encountered there (see above), and because of this, work was transferred to the western downhill end of the trench. Here was a large, modern intrusion which was rapidly dug out. The water then drained downhill into this, and no matter how much water ran in, the level did not rise more than thirty inches below modern ground level. This allowed trowelling to continue in an easterly direction

[5] **A punic ditch is, in effect, a military trap well outside the normal defences. Attackers could jump down the vertical outer face and scramble up the sloping inner face to the broad berm separating the punic ditch from the true defences. If the defenders then counter-attacked, the attackers had to climb the vertical outer face to escape, so turning their backs on the defenders and presenting an easy target.**

The presence of a punic ditch at this point is, no doubt, due to bedrock being so close to the surface. Elsewhere at Wall, where there is a deep sandy subsoil, it would be almost impossible to maintain a vertical face.

where the ground rises rapidly. Water which drained downhill into the excavation trench was taken away through a small channel which was cut to one side and which was always kept open, despite the falling in of trench sides. These conditions were far from ideal for excavating but the excavators are convinced that no major feature was missed. The flow of water was along the line of the trench and very little entered from the sides which were not undermined nearly as quickly as might have been expected, though they collapsed almost immediately undisturbed subsoil was reached.

Much soil had been washed or had crept downhill so that it varied from 2 ft. to 4 ft. in thickness. It contained much pre-Flavian, medieval and eighteenth-century pottery but very few Flavian or later Roman sherds. Below the soil was a layer of rubbish - charcoal, bones, pottery, clay, sand, daub, etc. - 2 ft. thick, and this extended for 60 ft. along the excavation trench. Much of the clay was oxidized, but it was in broken lumps and had not been burnt where it was found; some bore wattle marks. Here were found a broken bronze 'steelyard' (fig. 16, No. 8), a small slab of silver, heavily rusted spear-heads, and other iron-work (fig. 16, Nos. 1, 2, 4-7) and a great number of Neronian and earlier sherds (samian ware S.33-43; coarse sherds Nos. 42-69). Below the rubbish lay leached, waterlogged sand, but no turf-line. This waterlogged sand resembled quicksand and could not have been trowelled, even if the collapsing trench sides had permitted it. Trampled into the top of this wet sand was a crumpled lead lampholder (fig. 16, No. 9 - drawn uncrumpled), the two fragments of glass beads (G.1 and 2) and samian sherds (S.31 and 32). Mr. B. R. Hartley suggests a date A.D. 50-65 for the samian ware from the top of the subsoil and A.D. 55-70 for the samian in the overlying rubbish.

THE CHURCHYARD EXTENSION (Site Z1-3, fig. 1)

This site, lying between the bath-house and the hill-top forts, occupies a very important position in the Roman settlement. The ground was covered with nettles, 5 ft. high, and in the centre was reputedly a disused cesspit. Complicating matters were three trees planted by the oldest inhabitant to mark the celebrations of 1935, 1937 and 1946.

An area (Z1) 30 ft. square was first stripped mechanically to a depth of one foot. The soil was a mere 6 in. thick, full of matted nettle roots resting directly on the sandy subsoil. When the soil was moved, water poured over the site from springs at the eastern uphill end. The resulting mire could not be walked over without sinking to above the ankles, so that trowelling was out of the question. No sherds and no surfaces, Roman or later, were seen when the soil was moved, but in the subsoil were patches of muddy pebbles, as if at some period attempts had been made to dig soakaways.

A trench (Z2) 3 ft. wide was next cut mechanically along the north-western edge of the site. At the eastern end the trench was dry and found bedrock close to the churchyard wall, a mere 18 in. below present ground level. The rock fell rapidly towards the west. At the eastern end the trench cut through a possible latrine pit of uncertain date but containing one piece of Roman amphora. West of this, water was again encountered and the trench cut through several pebble-filled ditches (field drains?), approximately 4 ft. wide with rounded bottoms. These could not be drawn or even photographed as the trench sides collapsed immediately whilst the mechanical excavator was still working.

Trench Z3 (fig. 1) was then cut from north-west to south-east, above what was hoped to be

the contour of the springs. This was devoid of features, though at the south-east end were a few crude sandstone blocks and a few Roman sherds. In desperation, an area 24 ft. by 18 ft. was opened at that point only to find a huge, disused soakaway running under the hedge and the churchyard wall. This was filled with fine gravel, sealed with sandstone blocks over which was a cobbled surface, 18 in. thick. There was also a modern trench which cut across the corner of the soakaway. A smear of charcoal lay on the surrounding subsoil, and on this, not securely stratified, were sherds Nos. 74-9.

For a site in such a promising position this was all very disappointing. Once the nettles had been cleared, it was obvious that the ground level had been lowered. The surface of the churchyard was 5 ft. higher than that of the proposed extension, whilst the field to the south and the garden to the north were 2 ft. higher. Apparently soil had been taken to build up the level of the churchyard, probably because bedrock is so close to the surface on the crest of the hill that, without the build-up, the digging of graves 6 ft. deep would have been impossible. Since gravestones dated to the 1840s were on the built-up portion, the soil must have been moved when the church was built in 1841 and, if any Roman surfaces ever existed at this point, they would have been destroyed then.

METAL-WORKING

(see also 'Other Metal Objects p. 34 and 'Metallurgical Notes' p. 36)

In the Neronian rubbish layer was a small slab of silver, and a broken bronze 'steelyard' (fig. 16, No. 8), both pointing to silver working in the early military phase. Silver and lead working are complementary since the latter is the main source of the former. The purity of lead used for some purposes has already been referred to in an earlier report[6]. Below the Neronian rubbish layer was the twisted lead lampholder already referred to (fig. 16, No. 9), whilst in the punic ditch, with residual early potsherds, was a small piece of lead with a blurred stamp reading XX and one piece of galena (identified by Prof. F. W. Shotton). One piece of galena is not itself proof of lead smelting, but as galena does not occur naturally anywhere within the vicinity of Wall, it must have been deliberately brought here for some purpose. Previous excavations at Wall have encountered plenty of lead dross and lead clippings' but such are common to most Roman sites. That the lampholder should be of lead and not bronze draws attention to two other unusual finds - a lead tore (now in the Bantock Museum, Wolverhampton) and the lead figure of a crouching slave (in the Wall Museum). The tore appears to have come from the roadside cemetery where there were burials of a very early date. The provenance of the lead slave is not known but it is said to have been found at Wall by an 'expert' who is also said to have unearthed a number of burial urns[8]. No parallel is known for the lead figure or the lead tore, but lead lampholders are known at Chester and Caerleon[9].

[6] ***Trans.,*** **v, 1964, p. 48.**

[7] **Ibid., p. 15.**

[8] ***N.S.F.C.,*** **lxiii, 1929, pp. 147, 148.**

[9] ***J:C. & N.W.A.S.,*** **xxvii, 1928, pp. 77, 136, pi. XVII, No. 3; 'Jenkins Field 1926' in *Arch. Camb.,* 1929, fig. 17, Nos. 10, 11; 'Prysg Field 1927-9' in *Arch. Camb.,* 1932, fig. 39, Nos. 4-6.**

PRE-ROMAN OCCUPATION

Many flint flakes have now been found at Wall, especially on the western slope of the hill. Most of these are waste flakes but the more interesting examples recovered in this excavation are illustrated in fig. 17. The bifacially worked blade (No. 10) would appear to be Neolithic, but the others could belong to the Mesolithic or the Bronze Age. South of Wall an area of peat extends to Shenstone and on through Little Aston to Bourne Pool, Aldridge. Mr. C. H. Foden of Shenstone Hall has found a great number of flints on his land, also a Neolithic axe[10]: Flints have also been found at Little Aston and Bourne Pool[11] but are of various periods and were not stratified when found.

DISCUSSION

The thick Neronian rubbish layer was most interesting. The material had been spread over the waterlogged subsoil for there was no turf-line, since the site had been stripped as was normal military practice. Probably the subsoil, then as now, became like quicksand on exposure, and the rubbish which contained many potsherds, lumps of clay, etc. was spread there to give a firmer surface. This activity suggests that the area might have been within the fort or an annexe from which the rubbish originated, and points to military activity within the period A.D. 50-70. These dates are based on Mr. B. R. Hartley's assessment of the not inconsiderable quantity of samian ware found in and below the rubbish. A large fort has already been postulated for Wall[12], but the dates suggested for it, A.D. 50-60, may need reconsideration. It had been thought that occupation of the Wall fort ended about the time that the first fortress at Wroxeter began, but the new evidence suggests military activity continuing after A.D. 60. It is very unfortunate that the early defences have not yet been found at Wall we only know that the first fort cannot have been less than thirty acres in size and it could well be considerably more. The tracing of all the defences is made difficult by the buildings and gardens of the modern village, by the vagaries of the high water-table which limit the use of resistance meters, and by the presence of metal fences and overhead electricity wires at key points, limiting the use of the magnetometer. In addition, no military ditch has yet been recognized from the air.

The iron weapons found in the rubbish layer are illustrated in fig. 16. They were all very heavily corroded, only rust and scale remaining of the original iron. No. 2 appears similar to the socketed catapult arrow-head from Camulodunum[13] and Nos. 3, 4 and 5 resemble *pilum* heads. No. 1, however, is more like the head of a cavalry lance. In the Wall museum is a bronze spur which probably belongs to the period now being considered[14]. Hence it is possible that the fort housed a legionary vexillation and auxiliary troops. On the other hand the Boudiccan Revolt came in the middle of the period suggested above by the samian pottery. The site, near the Ryknield Street-Watling Street cross-roads must have been of considerable strategic importance at that time and whilst the revolt cannot account for the

[10] ***Trans.,*** **vii, 1967, p. 40.**
[11] ***T.B.A.S.,*** **lxxiv, 1958, p. 53.**
[12] ***Trans.,*** **v, 1964, p. 15.**
[13] ***Camulodunum,*** **pi. CIV, No. 10.**
[14] ***Ant. J.,*** **xxxix, 1959, p. 63.**

permanent buildings found, such as the granary[15], the rallying of various units at that time could be masking and complicating the present archaeological problems.

The punic ditch with its second-century filling also sets problems. It appears to be parallel to the defences of the last fort to occupy the hill-top, whose defences were sectioned in 1959[16]. That section together with trench H (fig. 1) (cut by the Geophysics Dept. of Birmingham University in 1960) established the line of those ditches on the southern side of the fort and the evidence for the north-west corner is given at the beginning of this report. This would give a fort of no more than 3 acres, with the punic ditch lying on the northern weaker side, some 40 yds. from the outermost of the three defensive ditches. When the ditches were sectioned in 1959 (fig. 1, trench G) there was secondary silt in the inner ditch into which the turf rampart had been pushed[16] and in the filling was a third-century jar and Antonine sherds[17]. Because of the secondary silt (and also the opinions prevailing at that time) it was thought that this fort must have been late Flavian and the ditches at that point must have been left open long after the military had left. The absence of secondary silt in the punic ditch and the presence in it of mid-second century sherds (Nos. 21-9) call for a redating of this fort to the mid-second century or later. There has also been a change of opinion concerning the dating of the Welsh and Pennine forts, in which an Antonine military period is now accepted. Between the Pennines and Wales lies the Cheshire gap separating the two unruly peoples. The north-west end of this gap was securely held by the legionary fortress at Chester and in this context second-century military activity at Wall, which is at the other end of the gap, is not out of place, though the fort is small. It could well be part of a system to prevent the circumventing of Chester through the forested Midland region.

The filling of the flat-bottomed ditch appears to be of the same date as that of the punic ditch. The former obviously served no defensive purpose, and it can only be suggested that it represents an attempt to dry the western slope of the hill by intercepting the water that runs down the slope below ground level. If this was the intention, it failed in its purpose, for it is cut near the crest of the hill, and the underground springs are a little lower down the slope.

The presence of a second-century fort also calls for a reconsideration of the Roman bath-house at Wall. Dr. Webster, in his re-examination if it, drew attention to the apparent, though not certain, lack of a cold plunge in the first and second phases[18], and commented on this similarity with military bath-houses. The earliest, unfinished phase, was dated by a worn coin of Vespasian in a construction trench, to the end of the first century. There was no good dating evidence for the second phase, though the beginning of the second century was tentatively suggested. We now have evidence that the military period may not then have been over at Wall, and since the baths are aligned on the hill-top forts rather than on the Watling Street, their military origin now seems possible.

This opens also the question of the undated building once called the 'villa'[19] but now more usually referred to as the *'mansio'*. Here the situation is confused by mistakes in publishing the plan in 1913[20]. The printed plan shows both bath-house and 'villa' on one plan. The

[15] ***Trans.,*** **v, 1964, p. 7.**
[16] ***T.B.A.S.,*** **lxxix, 1964, p. 13, period V.**
[17] **Ibid., p. 19, fig. 6, Nos. 34 and 33.**
[18] ***T.B.A.S.,*** **lxxiv, 1958, p. 16.**
[19] ***N.S.F.C.,*** **xlvii, 1913, p. 140.**
[20] **Ibid., p. 139.**

text, however, when referring to the 'villa', speaks of 'plan 2' and makes it clear that the compass point on the plan, whilst it is correct for the baths, is 90 degrees out for the other building. A photograph has recently been found of the plan[21] showing two different compass points for the two buildings and confirming the text which refers to the colonnade as being to the south-east. It is also clear that the scale as printed is wrong and the two buildings are said to be 40 ft. apart. No dating evidence was recovered by the original excavators, and since a hypocaust system suggested by the excavators as part of a bath suite, is shown for the 'villa', one is prompted to wonder why a building adjoining the public baths needed one. Apart from the bath-house, the 'villa' or *'mansio'* is the only stone building so far found at Wall. It occupies an important site but a serious consideration of its function will only be possible, if it is re-excavated. It is situated on land held in trust by the Ministry of Public Building and Works.

THE COINS

DR. J. KENT, **F.S.A.**

Dr. Kent examined all coins and identified them as follows:

Filling of the flat-bottomed ditch

1. *As,* Domitian, Cos xiii, A.D. 87, *R.I.C.* 351.
2. *Dupondius,* Vespasian, A.D. 69-79
   Reverse; Victory and shield.
3. *As,* Claudius I, A.D. 41-54
   Reverse; Minerva. Probably a copy.
4. *As,* Vespasian, A.D. 69-79
   Reverse; Eagle on globe. Probably *R.I.C.* 497.

Lip of the flat-bottomed ditch

5. *As,* Claudius I, A.D. 41-54
   Reverse; Minerva, perhaps a copy. *R.I.C.* 66.

Filling of the punic ditch

6. *As,* (clipped), Domitian, A.D. 81-96
   Reverse; VIRTUTI AUGUSTI.
7. *As,* Trajan, A.D. 98-117
   Reverse; S.P.Q.R. OPTIMO PRINCIPI Captive and trophy.
8. *As,* illegible.

Below the Neronian Rubbish

9. *As,* illegible.
10. *As,* illegible.

Unstratified

11. *Denarius,* Julius Caesar, c. 54-51 B.C. Sydenham 1006.
12. *As,* Claudius I, A.D. 41-54
    Reverse. Minerva. Copy.
13. *As,* Claudius I, A.D. 41-54.
14. *As,* Claudius I, A.D. 41-54
    Reverse; Minerva, *R.I.C.* 66.

[21] **Found in the possessions of the late Mr. H. R. Hodgkinson who excavated at Wall in the 1920s. The photograph is now in the possession of the author.**

15. *Dupondius,* Nero, A.D. 64-68
16. *Sestertius,* Vespasian, A.D. 69-79.
17. *As,* Vespasian, A.D. 69-79.
18. Illegible but the module suggests it is a barbarous Claudian *as.*
19 "l
20 f^wo otrier coins, illegible.

Surface finds by Mr. F. Linney:

21. *Denarius,* Geta as Caesar, A.D. 198-209 *{from the village allotments).*
22. *As,* Antoninus Pius, A.D. 155/6
Reverse; Britannia *{from near the Roman cemetery).*
23. *Denarius,* Hadrian, Cos hi, A.D. 134-8, Cohen 1328.
24. *As,* Trajan, A.D. 98-117.

Ignoring illegibles the up-to-date coin list for Wall is now as follows:

	Copper	*Silver*		*Copper*	*Silver*
Republican		7			
			Victorinus	5	
Imperial			Tetricus	10	
Augustus (?)		1	Claudius II	5	
Augustus or			Diocletian	1	
Tiberius (?)		1	Maximian	1	
Tiberius	2		Carausius	3	
Claudius I	13		3rd cent, radiates	3	
Nero	5	1	Constantine I	1	
Galba		1	Constantius II	1	
Vespasian	12		Helena	1	
Domitian	7	1	House of Constantine	1	
Trajan	9		Constantinus II	1	
Hadrian	7	2	Valentinian	1	
Antoninus Pius	4		Valens	1	
Marcus Aurelius	2		House of Valentinian	1	
Faustina	1		Gratian	1	
Geta	1				
Severus Alexander		3			
Gallienus	1				
Postumus	2			103	17

THE ROMAN GLASS (fig. 17)

All glass fragments found in these excavations have been seen by DR. D. B. HARDEN, **O.B.E., F.S.A**. who picks out the following for comment:

From the trampled top of the subsoil, immediately below the thick Neronian rubbish layer {Site W)

1. Fragmentary bead, sky-blue with dark streaks in the metal. See fig. 17, G1.
2. Fragmentary bead, green with opaque white and wine-coloured marvered trails, the latter overlying the former. See fig. 17, G2.
No exact parallels have been found for either of these beads, though their general form is such that they might be expected in first-century levels.
3. Dark emerald-green fragment of a bowl. The colour should be compared with that of fragments 75 a-d in *Camulodunum,* p. 303.
4. Part of the shoulder of a bluish-green jug or bottle.

From the thick Neronian rubbish layer (Site W)

5. Fragment from the wall of a bowl with one wheel-incised horizontal line. See *Camulodunum,* p. 303, No. 68.

From the primary silt of the flat-bottomed ditch (Sites W, WA & WB)

6. Fragment of a colourless beaker with vertical indents. Probably of the second century but see Isings, pp. 46, 49, forms 32 and 35.

From the filling of the flat-bottomed ditch (Sites W, WA & WB)

7. Small fragment of a yellow jug with vertical ribs.
8. Numerous fragments of ordinary green glass representing cylindrical and prismatic jugs, and tall-necked unguent bottles of late first-century or early second-century types.

From the upper-filling of the flat-bottomed ditch

9. Two pieces of matt-glossy window glass.
10. Part of the handle of a bottle much more blue than is usual.

From the deliberate filling of the punic ditch (Sites Y, YA)

11. A large, angular, blue-green fragment from a hexagonal bottle. Late first or second century.
12. Fragment of a prismatic blue-green bottle showing part of a stamp, design uncertain but probably concentric circles. The inmost circle is not exactly concentric with the other two. Late first or early second century.
13. Fragment from the bottom of a blue-green, pillar-moulded bowl, showing part of the tails of the ribs. Second half of first century.
14. Fragment of the neck of a yellow jug with part of handle attached, probably from a tall-necked jug with piriform body. Second half of first century.
15. Fragment of blue-green and fragment (with rounded edge) of buff, matt-glossy window glass. Late first or early second century.
16. Numerous fragments of blue-green bottles.

From the upper filling of the punic ditch (Sites Y, YA)

17. Base fragment of a mould-blown, blue-green, prismatic bottle, part of the outer circle only of a concentric circle stamp on base. Late first or early second century.
18. Four fragments (three joining) of buff, matt-glossy window glass. Late first or early second century.
19. Various fragments of blue-green bottles. Late first or early second century.

Unstratified

20. Fragment of the base of a bowl, 'natural colour' bluish-green showing part of a vertical base-ring of 'true-ring' type. See D. B. Harden, 'Roman Glass from Karanis,' University of Michigan Studies, Humanistic Series, vol. xli, Ann Arbor, 1936, p. 16, No. 5. Probably second century or later.
21. Fragment of a brown pillar-moulded bowl, showing part of rib. Middle or third quarter of first century.
22. Part of the wall of a dark-blue, pillar-moulded bowl. First century.
23. Part of the handle of a tall amber-coloured jug. First century.

There were many fragments of melon beads of pale-blue faience and royal-blue glass from all sites excavated.

THE BROOCHES (fig. 7)

D. F. MACKRETH

1. Broken and in very poor condition; the bronze is so obscured by corrosion that it is only with difficulty that it can be seen to belong to the Hod Hill type; the drawing emphasizes the diagnostic features. The bow carries vertical ribs stopped at the top by two flutes and there may be fluting at the bottom of the ribs. The Hod Hill type seems to have died out by A.D. 70. A close parallel can be seen in *Arch. J.,* cxiii, 1956, p. 71, fig. 33, No. 7. *(From the Neronian rubbish layer, Site W.)*

2. Broken and heavily corroded; the catchplate is missing. This is a hinged headstud brooch, where the headstud itself is not the usual enamelled boss but a fat longitudinal ridge with grooves along each side. The bow below this ridge is decorated with lozenges and triangles of enamel, the original colour of which has been destroyed by the corroding bronze. The profile of the bow and the ridge in place of the headstud can be paralleled later in the first century. *(From the top of the Neronian rubbish layer, Site W.)*

3. Heavily corroded, in two pieces and the pin missing. The spring of nine coils is held in position by an axis bar which passes through pierced plates at the ends of the head, the chord being held by a hook immediately behind the head of the bow and being itself a continuation of the bow. The wings are grooved, the ridges between the grooves and at the ends of the wings are notched to give a knurled effect. The bow, which is humped over the head, has a central fluting with a ridge down each side again notched. The foot ends in a knob.

   This belongs to a large group of brooches that do not have direct parallels. The use of grooves and knurled ridges on the wings of brooches begins perhaps soon after A.D. 50 being present at Camulodunum where they form Hull's type IV, and employ, on occasion, the same method of pin attachment as the Wall brooch. Parallels for the bow are not easily found but two from Lincolnshire (one in Lincoln museum referenced M 99.52; and one from Hibaldstow, *J.R.S.,* xxxviii, 1948, p. 88, fig. 17) have central flutings with grooved and knurled wings, but with hinged pins. The date should be in the third quarter of the first century. *(From the top of the Neronian rubbish layer, Site W.)*

4. Broken, corroded and in three pieces, with a four coil, internal chord, this is a one piece brooch sometimes known as a Nauheim derivative. There is no decoration and the catchplate is damaged. It belongs to the mid-first century. *(From the deliberate filling of the flat-bottomed ditch, Site WB.)*

5. Heavily corroded, in two pieces, the pin missing and the catchplate damaged. The six-coiled spring is held in place by an axis bar passing through pierced end-plates on the head and a hook to hold the chord. The chord is missing. On either side of the junction of the bow with the head are bosses which are raised upon shallow bases. The bow has a marked bend at the top and is vertical for the top half of its length. At the point where it starts to curve back to the catchplate, there is another boss which may have had a base like the other two. Running down the bow from the top to the boss is a recess filled with brading, the sides of the bow along this length having an incised line border.

   The spring arrangements and the bead strip on the bow together with the general appearance of the brooch suggest a date somewhere about A.D. 75. The parallels however lie in the second century (Traprain Law, *P.S.A.S.,* lv, 1920-1, p. 176, fig. 15, No. 2; Brough-under-Stainmore, *T.C. & W.A. & A.S.,* lv, new series, 1955, p. 54, fig. 1; Silchester, *Archaeologia,* xcii, 1947, p. 145, fig. 8, No. 3). These have enamel on the head in place of the beaded row and a boss on the bow at the point where the bow changes direction downwards towards the foot. The Silchester example was found in a layer dated to A.D. 100-120 and is the only one of the three quoted to have a spring. It would seem that the Wall brooch represents a group which gave rise to the enamelled series which are not themselves common. *(From the upper filling of the flat-bottomed ditch, Site WB.)*

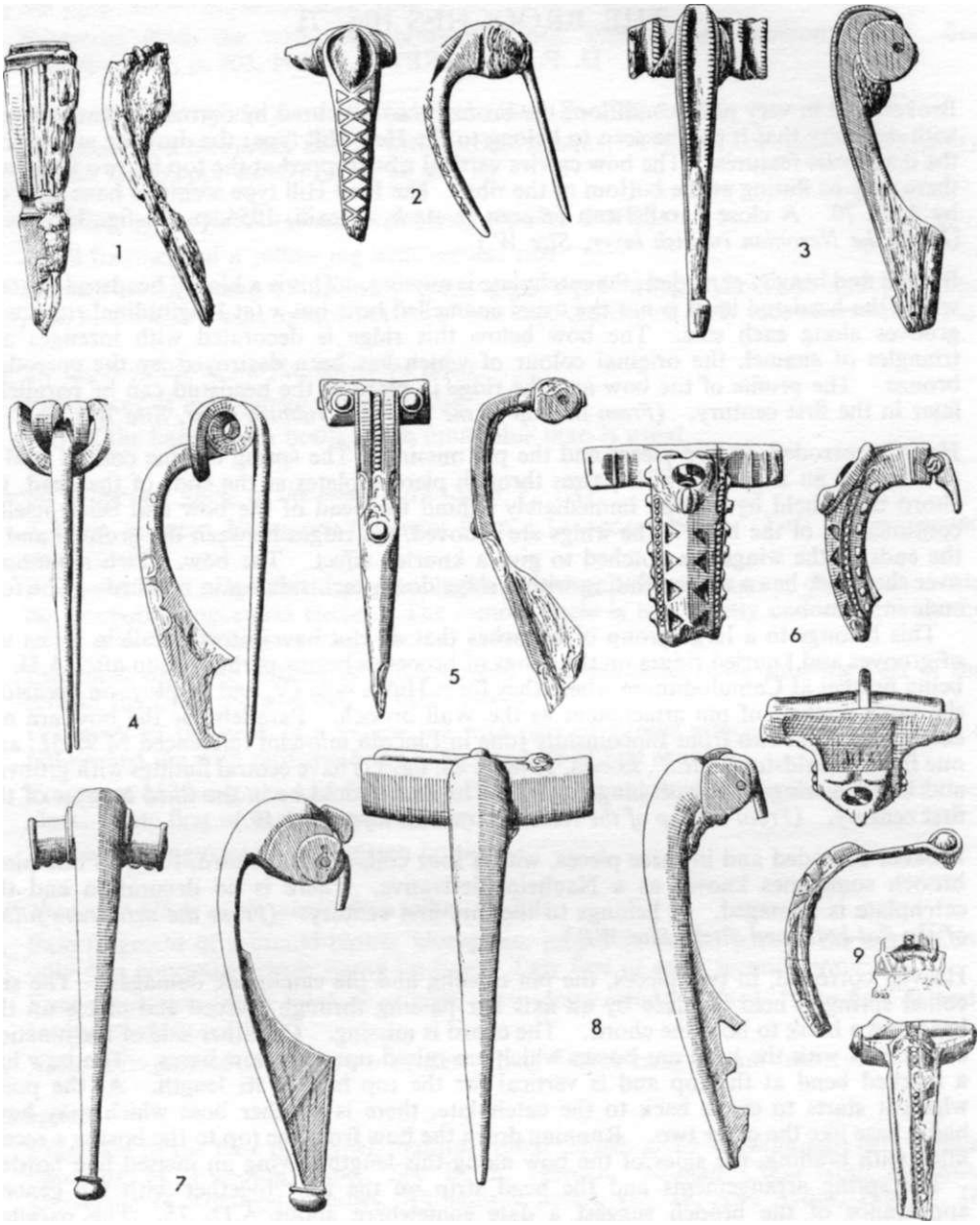

Fig. 7 The brooches (1/1)

6. A bronze headstud brooch with hinge pin, badly corroded and in poor condition. The foot is missing and many details are obscured by either corrosion or wear. The wings show traces of fluting and in plan they curve into the bow. The form of the headstud is not clear, but it has a projection at the lower end and two 'ears' at the upper. The latter may be the stumps of a cast loop. The setting is a ring of blue and white material,

which may be glass. The well-arched bow has a series of projections down each side and bead rows down each edge. In the centre strip there are two rows of triangular depressions which probably once held enamel though any traces that remain of this are now covered with bronze corrosion. The pivot pin and hinge pin may be of iron, though they also are covered with corrosion. The axis pin for the hinge appears to have been contained in a tube, partially cast into the body of the brooch; the tube idea is relatively common, but is usually totally enclosed in the casting.

The distinctive feature of this brooch, apart from the headstud, is the rows of side projections. Parallels for this may be given as follows: *Wroxeter, 1923-7,* fig. 36, HI6; Hambleden, *Archaeologia,* lxxi, 1921, p. 142, fig. 23. *Richborough IV,* pi. XXVIII, No. 38; Broxtowe, *Thoroton Soc. Excavation Section, third annual report,* pi. Ha, No. 23. The Wroxeter example has dogs modelled on the bow instead of a headstud but the Broxtowe example has the more normal headstud. The Wroxeter brooch also has a stud facing forward at the bottom of the bow. This and the Broxtowe example have hinge-pins, but the Richborough specimen has a hole pierced in the ridge on top of the bow suitable for the chord of a spring, although the size of the head makes a hinge pin and pivot pin more likely. The Richborough brooch is decorated on the bow with the more common triangles and lozenges, the Wroxeter brooch has the triangles of the Wall brooch, but the Broxtowe brooch has a single line of lozenges. *(From the disturbed top of the otherwise undisturbed subsoil west of the flat-bottomed ditch.)*

7. Bronze and in good condition. The spring of eight coils is held in place by an axial bar passing through pierced plates at the end of the wings, the chord being held by a rearward facing hook in the centre. The bow is humped over the head and the wings are plain except for a single ridge at the ends. The bow is plain and tapers elegantly to a foot knob. A distinctive feature of the brooch is the side plates which mask the juncture of the bow with the head. The swelling of the head of the bow, accentuated by the side plates, makes the whole brooch top heavy. Other brooches of this type have a basic distribution in the West Midlands although there are a few outliers. The basic form is sometimes decorated, generally on the head end of the bow but sometimes having a repetitive design down the whole length (e.g. *Richborough IV,* pi. XXVII, No. 25.).

   The date of these brooches rests, as usual, upon a very few specimens. One from Wroxeter *(Wroxeter III,* pi. XV, No. 5, and p. 23) is dated late first or early second century, whilst the Wall brooch itself was found with pottery of the Trajanic-Hadrianic period. The *floruit* therefore appears to be the end of the first century and the beginning of the second century. Closer dating is impossible at present. *(From the deliberate filling of the punic ditch.)*

8. Broken into three pieces and in very poor condition. The spring fixing arrangement is the same as for No. 7 above, the corrosion makes it hard to determine if there is a single pierced lug or a hook holding the chord in the centre. The wings and bow appear to be plain and the stump of the catchplate indicates that it was pierced by two holes as shown in the drawing. In the absence of other surviving features a date *c.* A.D. 75 is suggested. *(From deliberate filling of punic ditch.)*

9. Broken into two pieces and heavily corroded; inscribed AVCISSA. This type occurs up to the middle of Nero's reign. *(From the deliberate filling of the punic ditch.)*

THE SAMIAN WARE (figs. 8 and 9)

B. R. HARTLEY, **F.S.A. AND** MISS B. M. DICKINSON

The decorated samian ware and the potters' stamps are illustrated except for those pieces which are too worn and battered for satisfactory drawing.

SAMIAN WARE ASSOCIATED WITH THE FLAT-BOTTOMED DITCH

From the primary silt

S.1 Drag. 27, South Gaulish. There are no diagnostic features for dating this form, but the fabric and glaze suggest a pre-Flavian or early Flavian date.

From the deliberate filling

Here were many small pieces of forms Drag. 18(5), 18R(2), 18/31(4), 27(3), 29(1), 30(2), 33(1), 35(2), 36(1), 42(1), 67(2), Curie 11(2), and Drag. 46 or Curie 15 with strap handle.

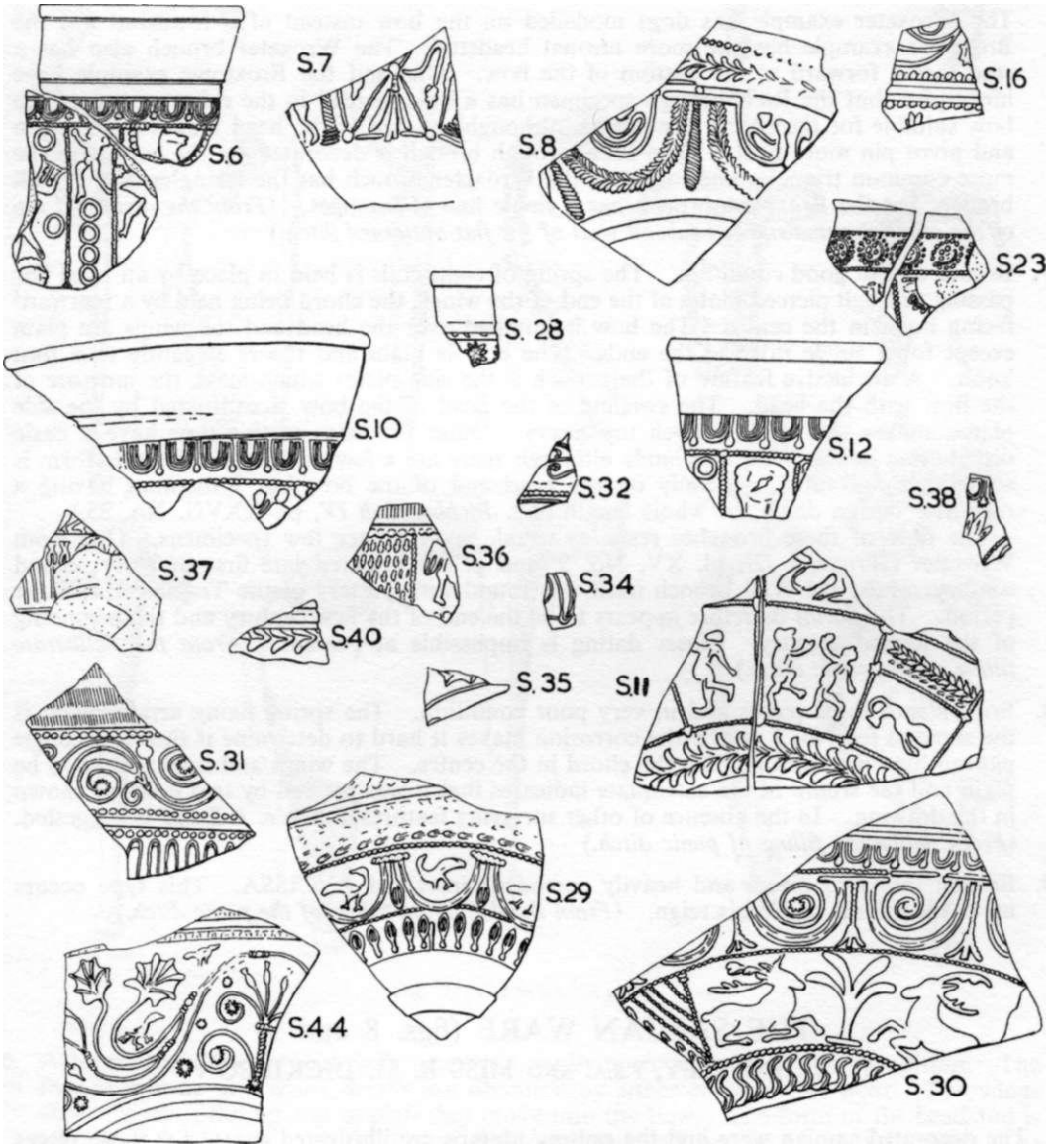

Fig. 8 Decorated samian pottery (J)

These were South Gaulish and Central Gaulish and range from the pre-Flavian period to the Trajanic-early Hadrianic period. In addition there were the following:

5.2 Curie 15, South Gaulish. Although rare, this form was made by a few South Gaulish potters, probably mainly at Montans; Flavian or Trajanic.

5.3 Drag. 37, Central Gaulish, probably from Les Martres de Veyres. The ovolo was used by Stanfield's X-2 and X-3 Potter in the Trajanic period and that is likely to be the date of this piece.

5.4 Drag. 18, South Gaulish, with the stamp SI(LVI)NIF from a die of SILVINUS of La Graufesenque. The site record for this die on the whole suggests a Neronian or early-Flavian date, and this would agree well enough with the form of the Wall dish.

5.5 A shallow form Drag. 18/31, Central Gaulish, Trajanic or early Hadrianic.

5.6 Drag. 30, two joining fragments in the style of DRVSVS II of Lezoux. This belongs to a small group of form 30 by DRVSVS, all in much the same style and with the same ovolo. Published examples include *C.G.P.,* pi. 88, Nos. 7, 8 (Southampton); Atkinson, *Wroxeter,* 1923-7, pi. 36, No. H61 (first destruction of the forum where it was presumably residual). There are also similar bowls from Corbridge and Long Melford. Between them, these bowls include all the details of the Wall example, except for the small festoon with dog's head. They may be dated *c.* A.D. 125-145.

5.7 Drag. 37, South Gaulish, probably by MERCATO (cf. Knorr 1919, *Taf.* 57) for the saltire and the Diana with hind (only the legs of the latter survive). The striated column occurs on a stamped bowl of MERCATO from Brough-Petuaria (unpublished).

5.8 Two joining pieces of Drag. 29, in the characteristic style of GERMANVS of La Graufesenque; Knorr 1952, *Taf. 21* offers parallels for the large chevron festoons with striated pendants; *c.* A.D. 70-80.

5.9 Drag. 37, South Gaulish. The thick cable borders and blurred animal suggests this belongs to the period A.D. 85-110.

S. 10 Drag. 37, South Gaulish. The ovolo is reminiscent of Karnitsch, *Ovilava, Taf.* 19, Nos. 1 and 5 attributed to MASCVVS *c.* A.D. 85-110.

S. 11 Drag. 37, South Gaulish. This bowl closely matches some of the Bregenz Cellar Find. *Jahrbuch fur Altertumskunde* vi, 1912, p. 172 ff., *Taf.* Ill, No. 21 has the same straight wreath at the bottom of the decoration and also the dancing satyrs (D.423 and D.253); *Taf.* II, Nos. 13 and 14 have the same straight wreath as used in one of the panels of the Wall bowl, and No. 14 also has the satyrs and the small lion (Hermet, pi. 25, No. 25). The Bregenz bowls are so closely linked with stamped bowls of MASCVVS (Knorr, 1952, *Taf.* 37) that they and the Wall pieces are almost certainly his work. The only type not noted on his bowls, present on the Wall one, is the scene of an animal devouring a human (Hermet, pi. 25, No. 33). There are a few residual or survival pieces in the Bregenz group and also a little later intrusive material, but there is no doubt that the main series of bowls belongs to the turn of the first and second centuries, *c.* A.D. 90-110. This gives the likely date for the Wall bowl.

S. 12 Drag. 37, Central Gaulish, with the rosette-tongued ovolo common to SACER, ATTIANVS, DOCILIS and other Hadrianic-Antonine potters.

S. 13 Six fragments, two joining, of Drag. 37, Central Gaulish, with an ovolo used by both SACER and C1NNAMVS. The details of this bowl suggest that it is by SACER and parallels will be found for the tripod and the lioness on bowls from the ditches of the Erd-Kastell at Saalburg *(Saalburg Jahrbuch,* ix, *Taf. 21,* No. 3a), *c.* A.D. 130-150.

S. 14 Drag. 27, South Gaulish, with the stamp FVSC1 of FVSCVS of La Graufesenque. FVSCVS used a great many dies in the genitive and there is no precise parallel for this particular one. The dating evidences suggests that he was probably still working in the opening years of the second century. This piece, however, has a pronounced groove around the foot-ring and is perhaps more likely to be Flavian than Trajanic.

S. 15 Drag. 18, South Gaulish, with the stamp OFCRESTIO of CRESTIO of La Graufesenque. The stamps with this form of the name are probably among CRESTIO's latest products and the site record suggests a late Neronian or an early Flavian date, though this particular die has not been recorded elsewhere.

From the undisturbed subsoil on the west lip of the ditch

Here was a homogeneous group of pre-Flavian, South Gaulish fragments including forms Drag. 15/17, 18, 27, 29 and Ritterling 12. Also:

S. 16 Drag. 29, South Gaulish, with a fragment of upper zone showing part of a continuous scroll without bindings where the tendrils meet the main scroll. There is not sufficient decoration to suggest a maker, but, despite the poor workmanship, the piece seems likely to be pre-Flavian.

Unstratified

These pieces range from the pre-Flavian to the Antonine period and include:

S.17A small fragment of a Drag. 42 rim, South Gaulish. Although most typical of Central Gaul in the second century this form was occasionally made in South Gaul in the late first century (cf. Oswald and Pryce, pi. LIV, No. 10) probably Flavian.

S.18Drag. 18R stamped]RAN. This is a stamp of MVRRANVS of La Graufesenque, although the only other example of this die known (on a form Drag. 29 at Colchester) is also incomplete and only gives the reading]VRAN. Most of MVRRANVS' work seems to be Neronian and a general date *c.* A.D. 50-70 covers the possibilities.

S. 19 Drag. 29 without decoration, South Gaulish and pre-Flavian.

POTTERY FROM EXCAVATION TRENCH X

From the trampled top of otherwise undisturbed subsoil

S.20Fragment of an enclosed vessel, probably Drag. 67 jar, South Gaulish; probably Neronian or Vespasianic.

S.21 Drag 15/17 or 18 with a very thin base and a potter's stamp reading]NE from a die reading PONE. This presumably stands for PONTE and is therefore likely to be PONTEIVS of South Gaul. The die is only attested so far on dishes from London and Southwark, though there are some other possible examples from the Continent. This potter's career may be assessed on present evidence as *c.* A.D. 55-80.

From the diagonal construction trench

Here were only first century scraps, South Gaulish and pre-Flavian from forms Drag. 15/17, 27 and 24/25.

Unstratified

South Gaulish fragments ranging from the pre-Flavian to the Trajanic period including forms Drag. 15/17, 18, 18R, 27, 29, 33, 37, 67, 78, Ritterling 12(?) and the following:

S.22Drag. 18/31 with the stamp PA[TERCLVSF] from a die used at Les Martres de Veyres *(Germania,* 1954, p. 172, No. 65) in the early second century, *c.* A.D. 110-130.

S.23 Drag. 37, two joining fragments in fabric typical of the Trajanic potters of Les Martres de Veyres, and with one of the aberrant ovolos commonly used by them. This comes from a mould of the sort used by DONNAVCVS and IOENALIS *(C.G.P.,* pi. 35-49) but the name of the mould-maker is not known, *c.* A.D. 100-125.

POTTERY ASSOCIATED WITH THE PUNIC DITCH

From the primary silt

S.24Drag. 35, South Gaulish, first century.

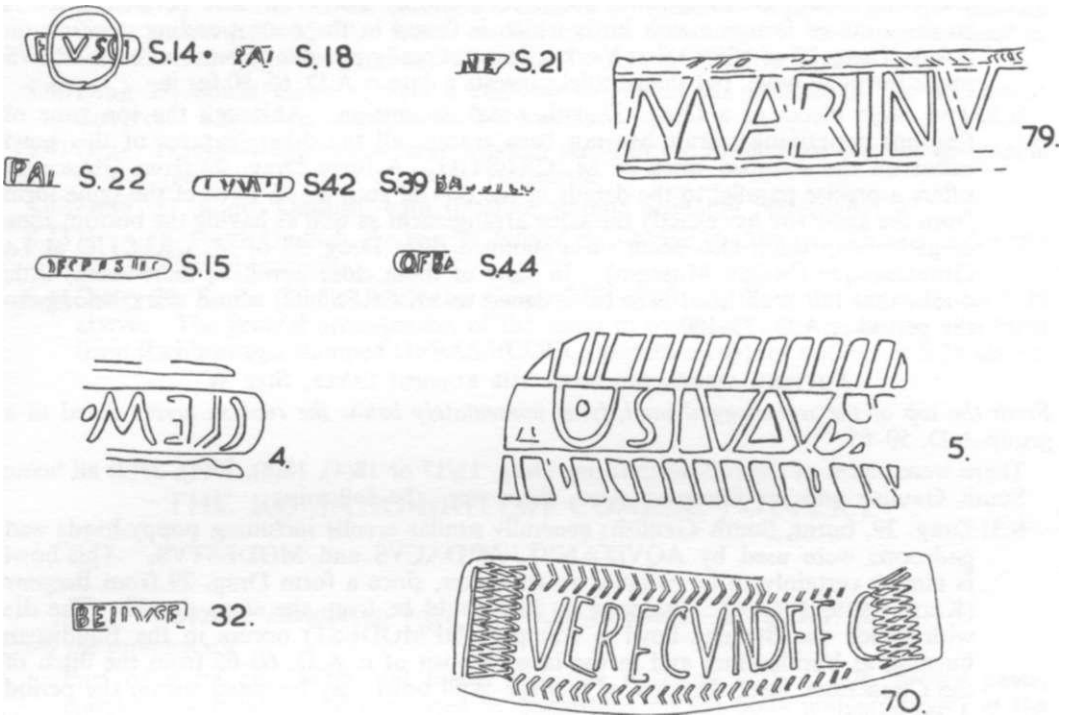

Fig. 9 Potters' stamps on samian ware, Gallo-Belgic ware and on mortaria (1/1)

S.25 Drag. 37, South Gaulish; unfortunately the piece is very battered and weathered, but, on the whole, it seems most likely to belong to a panelled bowl with blurred cable borders, especially as the striated column occurs on stamped bowls of MERCATO. Almost certainly *c.* A.D. 85-110.

From the deliberate filling of the ditch

A group of well-weathered, South Gaulish fragments, including forms Drag. 18, 18/31, 27, 35, 46 with strap handle and possibly an inkwell. Apart from one or two small fragments which are earlier, the group is a typical Flavian-Trajanic one. Also:

S.26 Six fragments of Drag. 37, probably all from the same bowl. This has panelled decoration of the kind that was becoming fashionable by A.D. 79 and is represented by several bowls in the Pompeii Hoard of that year. *(J.R.S.* iv, 1914, pi. 13, 15, 16); *c.* A.D. 75-95.

From the upper deliberate filling of the ditch

Here were weathered scraps of forms Drag. 18, 18R, 18/31, 27, 29, 30, 33(?), 37, and 67; all South Gaulish and first century. Also:

S.27 Drag. 37, three joining fragments, South Gaulish; the ovolo has a trident tongue with a blurred wavy line below; *c.* A.D. 80-100.

S.28 Drag. 30, Central Gaulish, in the fabric of Les Martres de Veyres. This has an ovolo replacement like S.23 above, but with a rosette instead of beaded circles; cf. *C.G.P.,* pi. 40, 41 for this rosette which is conventionally assigned to IOENALIS c. A.D. 100-125.

S.29 Drag. 29, South Gaulish, lower zonal decoration. The only close parallel noted is to the zone of festoons with birds which is found in the corresponding position on a form Drag. 29 of VIRTVS at York. It is not really possible to be sure that VIRTVS made the Wall bowl, but the parallel suggests a date *c.* A.D. 65-80 for it.

S.30 Two large pieces of a Drag. 37 with zonal decoration. Although the top zone of festoons containing spirals has not been traced, all the other features of this bowl occur on the stamped work of M. CRESTIO. A form Drag. 29 from Gloucester offers a precise parallel to the details of the central zone and a bowl of the same form from the same site has exactly the same arrangement as well as having the bottom zone of gadroons, which also occur on a stamped form Drag. 37 of M. CRESTIO at La Graufesenque (Millau Museum). In view of these close parallels, there seems little doubt that the Wall bowl is to be assigned to M. CRESTIO, whose work belongs to the period *c.* A.D. 75-100.

POTTERY ASSOCIATED WITH THE RUBBISH LAYER, SITE W

From the top of the waterlogged sand, lying immediately below the rubbish layer; dated as a group A.D. 50-65.

There were pieces of the following forms Drag. 15/17 or 18(4), 18(8), 27(4), 29(2) all being South Gaulish and pre-Flavian. Also, there were the following:

S.31 Drag. 29, burnt, South Gaulish; generally similar scrolls including poppy-heads and gadroons were used by AQVITANVS, ARDACVS and MODESTVS. This bowl is almost certainly to be assigned to the latter, since a form Drag. 29 from Bregenz (Knorr 1919, *Taf.* 58C.) stamped by him could be from the same mould. The die with which the Bregenz bowl is stamped (OFMODEST) occurs in the Boudiccan burning at Verulamium and in the large deposit of *c.* A.D. 60-65 from the ditch of the Cirencester fort. In view of this the Wall bowl may be dated within the period A.D. 50-65.

S.32 Drag. 29, South Gaulish; a fragment of the upper zone with a symmetrical curved decoration used vertically by AQVITANVS and horizontally, as here, by MONTANVS (Knorr 1952, *Taf.* 41B) whose work is predominantly pre-Flavian, but also occurs at early Flavian sites. This piece is probably Neronian or very early Flavian.

From the rubbish layer

Here were many pieces of South Gaulish ware, pre-Flavian but Neronian rather than Claudian; dated as a group A.D. 55-70. Included were pieces of the following forms Drag. 15/17(8), 15/17R or 18R(1), 18(10), 18R(3), 25(2), 27(15), 29(4), Ritterling 8, 9, and 12(4). Also:

S.33 Drag. 29, fragment with the large leaf-tips typical of the Claudian-Neronian period.

S.34 Small flake of form Drag. 29, South Gaulish; a small fragment of a delicate festoon and the high gloss suggest the period A.D. 50-60.

S.35 Drag. 30, South Gaulish, with large winding scroll; pre-Flavian.

S.36 Drag. 29 scrap, South Gaulish; the leaf tips and cupid (0.406) are both common types, for what it is worth, they are found together on a form Drag. 29 stamped BASSICO from La Graufesenque (Millau Museum); probably Neronian.

S.37 Drag. 29, South Gaulish; the poppy-stalks in series were used regularly by AQVITANVS (Knorr, 1952, *Taf.* 4E) and BASSVS-COELVS (ibid., *Taf.* 9A) but in combination with the large rosette in a medallion (ibid., *Taf.* 10F), this is more likely to be the work of the latter; *c.* A.D. 50-70.

S.38 Drag. 30, South Gaulish, not assignable to any particular potter; late Neronian or early Flavian.

S.39 Drag. 29, South Gaulish, with the stamp OF]BASSICO (the tops of the last five letters are missing). This particular die has never been recorded from a dated site, but in

general the records for the BASSVS-COELVS firm seem to suggest a peak of activity in the period A.D. 55-70. Knorr considered that the stamps in this form belonged to the later activity of the firm, and dated them A.D. 55-75 (Knorr, 1919, p. 6).

S.40 Drag 29, South Gaulish; only a chevron wreath at the bottom of the decoration survives. The fabric suggests pre-Flavian date.

S.41 Drag. 29, South Gaulish, a large winding scroll in the lower zone but not assignable to any particular potter; probably Neronian.

S.42 Drag. 27, South Gaulish, with illiterate stamp; probably Neronian.

S.43 Drag. 18, South Gaulish, the bead is defined by a broad shallow groove as occasionally on pre-Flavian examples.

S.44 Drag. 29, South Gaulish with the stamp OFBA[SSlCO] from the same die as S.39 above. The general arrangement of the scroll in the lower zone is similar to a bowl from Richborough stamped OFBASSICOEL (unpublished); for dating see S.39 above.

THE ROMANO-BRITISH COARSE POTTERY

J. GOULD, F.S.A.

POTTERY ASSOCIATED WITH THE FLAT-BOTTOMED DITCH (FIG. 10)

From the primary silt

1. Part of a smooth, black pot made in native tradition with a soft, brown paste, countersunk handles and decorated by burnishing on the body and pin-pricks at the base of the handles.
2. Body sherds from a grey vessel with the barbotine circle and dot decoration usually associated with the Flavian period. See *Wroxeter II,* pi. XV, No. 9.
3. Dish in light-grey fabric with black surface, possibly imitating Drag. 18.

From the deliberate filling of the ditch

4. Part of a mortarium with the potter's stamp.

   Mrs. K. F. Hartley writes; Pale-brown fabric with thick, black core; small to medium multi-coloured grit. The incomplete retrograde stamp reads CLEM[and is from an unrecorded stamp of Clemens. Stamps from his usual die omit the 'n' - a common enough practice with this name. The fabric differs markedly from his usual one but the thick, black core is unusual in mortaria and suggests accidental reducing conditions during firing.

   Other stamps of Clemens have been noted from; Aldborough; Chester; Holditch, Staffs. (2); Leicester (2) and Wilderspool. Both distribution and fabric point to production in the Midlands, most probably in Warwickshire, where rim forms such as Clemens favoured were used in the period A.D. 100-140.

5. Mrs. Hartley again comments:

   A mortarium rim in very slightly pinkish fabric, liberally laced with small grit; white and pale-brown, large to medium sized trituration grit, unevenly distributed. No sense can be wrung from the stamp despite its coherent appearance, and it is almost certainly by an illiterate potter. The only other stamps from the same die come from Leicester and York. The rim-forms are, so far, uniform and clearly indicate a date of A.D. 100-135. The fabric points to production in the Midlands, possibly in the Hartshill (Warwicks.) pottery where G. Attius Marinus and Vitalis IV commonly used identical forms.

6. A well-made jar in light-grey fabric with a black, matt, outer surface and deeply cut horizontal body grooves. Such grooves were found on pottery at Great Casterton in pits 1 and 2 and considered by Dr. Corder to have Belgic associations as with Verulamium form 61. See *Great Casterton I,* p. 8, fig. 5, Nos. 7, 11, 24; *Great Casterton III,* p. 42, fig. 14, Nos. 13, 14, 16; p. 43, fig. 15, No. 41.
7. Pillar-rusticated jar in sandy, grey fabric, and two others slightly smaller; probably A.D. 80-120. See *Ant. J.,* xxxviii, 1958, p. 24.
8. Large, coarse, grey jar. See *Great Casterton II,* p. 9, fig. 2, No. 13; where a similar jar was found in deposits below the rampart.
9. Small jar in true, biscuit-like, black-burnished fabric, having the characteristic rough interior and horizontally burnished lip and shoulder.
10. Black-burnished cooking-pot and one other, slightly smaller. See *Jewry Wall,* p. 14, fig. 26, No. 13; Gillam, p. 54, No. 121 where a date A.D. 125-160 is suggested for this form in North Britain.
11. Black-burnished cooking-pot with different rim; first half of second century.

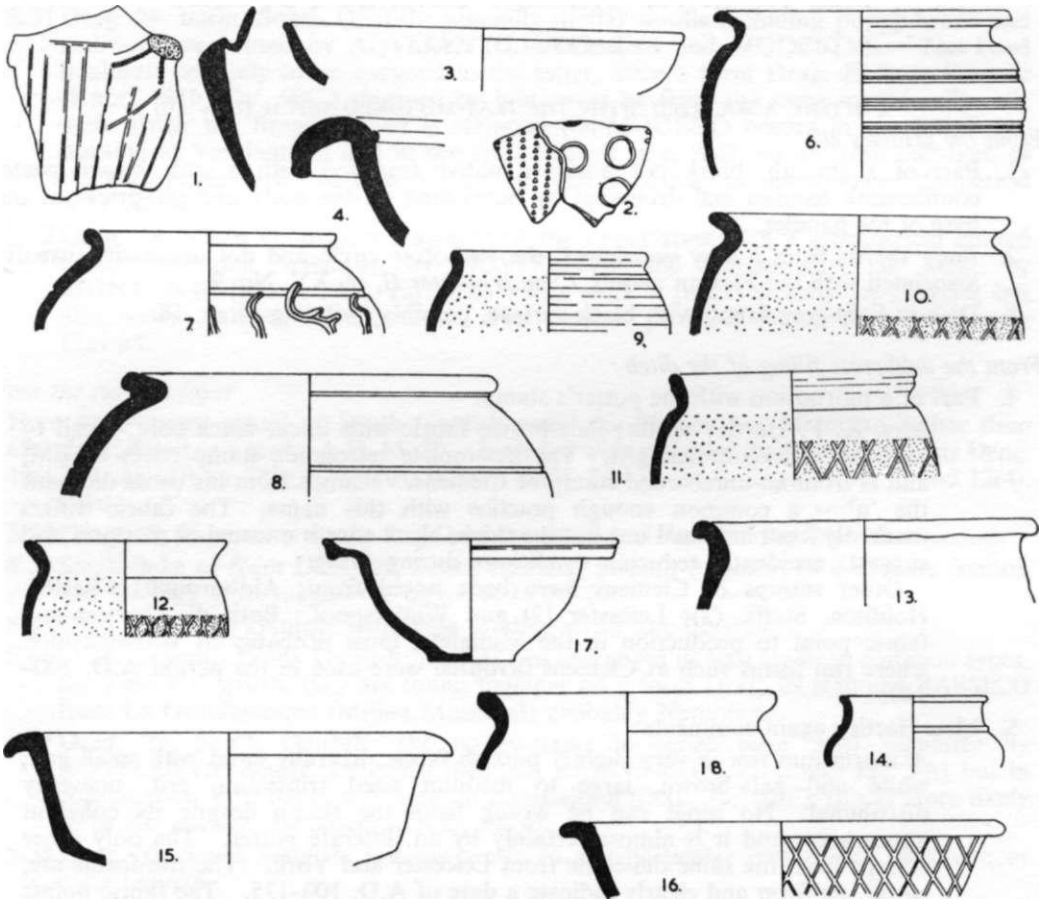

Fig. 10 Coarse pottery associated with flat-bottomed ditch (Nos. 1-14) and with construction trench. Site X (Nos. 15-18) (i)

12. Black-burnished cooking-pot and two others, slightly larger and thicker, first half of second century.

From the trampled top of otherwise undisturbed sub-soil, east of the flat-bottomed ditch

13. Heavily gritted jar, badly fired and crumbly, found crushed into very small fragments, dull-brown inner surface, black outer surface; thoroughly native in character.

Unstratified

14. Small jar, burnished, black and heavily gritted but smooth and well made, Belgic in character. See *Dorchester,* p. 132, fig. 12, No. 14. See also No. 47 below.

POTTERY ASSOCIATED WITH THE FUNIC DITCH (FIG. 11)

From the diagonal construction trench revealed in excavation trench X

15. Carinated bowl in black-burnished fabric but without lattice decoration. This form is not closely datable and is found in second and third century contexts.
16. Black-burnished bowl See *Jewry Wall,* p. 82, fig. 19, No. 5; second or third century.
17. Cup in light-grey fabric imitating a late samian form (Ludovici Tf?), hence probably third century. See *Richborough II,* pi. XXXII, Nos. 172, 173 for similar imitations though in different fabric.
18. Jar in light-grey fabric but with darker surface. See *Jewry Wall,* p. 96, fig. 25, No. 14, where third or fourth century.

From the primary silt of the punic ditch

19. Necked jar in a hard, grey, Roman fabric, but related to the well known Belgic form, of which there is a good example in native fabric in the museum at Wall. See *Swarling,* pi. IX, Nos. 22, 25; *T.B.A.S.* lxxix, 1964, p. 17, fig. 5, Nos. 3, 5-9.
20. Light-grey jar with darker surface and pillar rustication; two other similar jars. The development of this type of pottery has been discussed by F. H. Thompson *(Ant. J.,* xxxviii, 1958, p. 24). These particular examples are probably Flavian-Trajanic.

From the deliberate filling of the punic ditch

In addition to the following were large sherds from the body of a vesicular storage jar, decorated with vertical brush marks, fragments of a mica-dusted bowl in native fabric and small pieces of hard white rouletted butt or girth beakers.

21. Black-burnished cooking-pot with acute lattice decoration, and zigzag burnishing on the neck; three other similar pots and two more but without the neck decoration. See Gillam, p. 53, fig. 13, No. 119; A.D. 125-160 in North Britain.
22. Carinated dish in black-burnished fabric. See Gillam, p. 71, fig. 31, Nos. 316-318.
23. Deeper dish in similar fabric. See Gillam, p. 63, fig. 23, No. 220; A.D. 125-160 in North Britain.
24. Small, globular jar with shoulder grooves and triangular rouletting or stabbing. See *Wroxeter I,* p. 71, fig. 17, No. 26, for similar though larger vessel; A.D. 80-110.
25. See No. 6 above for almost identical jar.
26. Jar in light-grey fabric with darker surface. See *Jewry Wall,* p. 156, fig. 42, No. 48; there A.D. 125-130.
27. Dish in dull-pink fabric with traces of mica dusting. See *Wroxeter I,* p. 71, fig. 17, No. 22, for a similar though smaller dish, there A.D. 80-110.
28. Bowl or lid in light-grey fabric with slightly darker surface.
29. Carinated bowl in brownish-pink fabric. See *Jewry Wall,* p. 156, fig. 42, No. 7, for a similar bowl in grey fabric, A.D. 125-130.

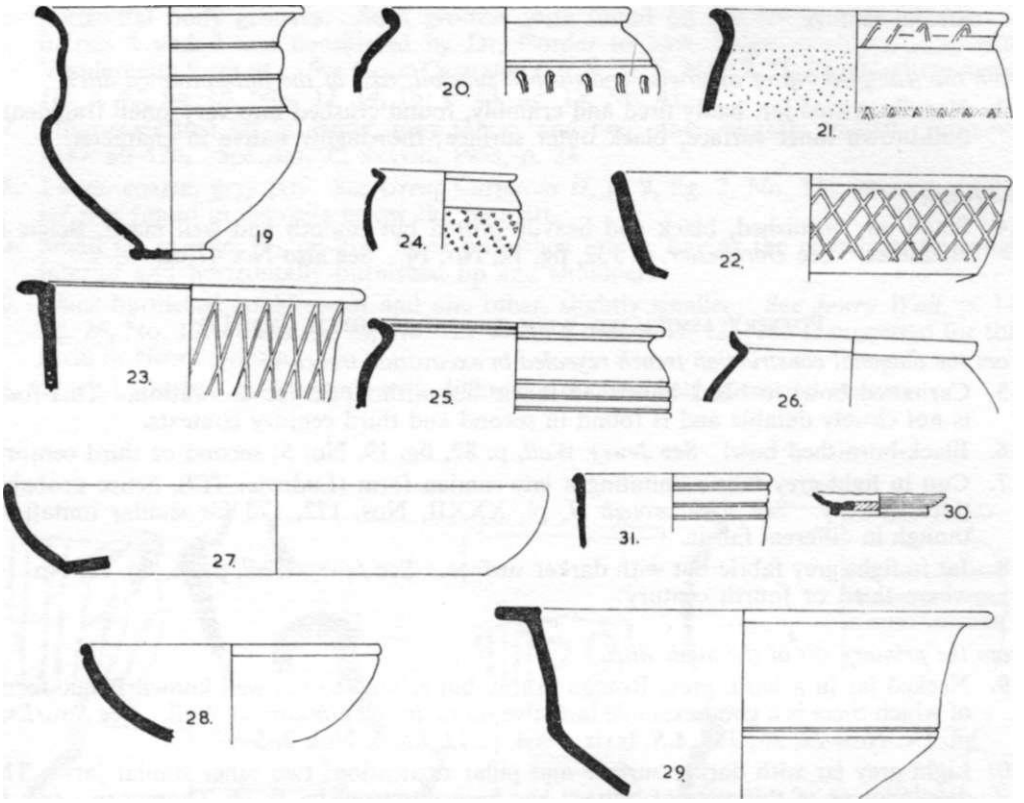

Fig. 11 Coarse pottery associated with punic ditch (J)

From the top filling of the punic ditch and not securely stratified

30. Base of a small vessel in St. Remy ware, hard white fabric, with greenish-yellow, transparent glaze, more yellow on inner than on outer surface. See *Silchester,* pp. 100, 101, and *T.B.A.S.,* lxxix, 1964, p. 17, No. 10 for another example of this ware from Wall.
31. Jar in soft, red, Roman fabric with brown glaze inside and out. For other examples of Roman glazed pottery see *Trans.,* vi, 1966, pp. 11-13, Nos. 7, 8, 27, 28. See also *N.S.J.F.S.,* ii, p. 44, fig. 3, No. 5.

POTTERY ASSOCIATED WITH THE NERONIAN RUBBISH LAYER, SITE W (FIGS. 9, 12 AND 13)

From the lower Neronian layer

32. Base of a polished Gallo-Belgic vessel in brittle, black egg-shell ware, walls 0.03 in. thick, stamp of Belius on the underside of the base, towards the edge. See *Richborough IV,* p. 241 for this potter; see also *Camulodunum,* p. 241, form 120A.
33. Handled bowl in hard, white fabric, the exact shape of the handle is uncertain. No exact parallel has been found, but the profile is reminiscent of some Gallo-Belgic beakers, see *Camulodunum,* pi. LIV, Nos. 73, 74. Comparison should also be made with the Iron Age bowl from the Romano-Celtic temple at Woodeaton *(Oxoniensia,* xix, 1955, p. 32, fig. 11, K) and with *Bagendon,* p. 255, fig. 60, No. 14.
34. Hofheim type flagon in sandy, pink fabric, and one other in brownish-buff fabric with smooth surface. See *Richborough IV,* pi. LXXXV, No. 369.

35. Dish in very coarse pink fabric containing small pebbles, and with black surfaces. See *Camulodunum,* p. 218, fig. 47, No. 19; *Verulamium,* p. 157, fig. 12, No. 13.
36. Dish in pink fabric, see *Camulodunum,* pi. L, No. 21 c and d.
37. Dish or lid in fine, brown fabric with smooth black surfaces and traces of rouletting within. The form is related to *Verulamium,* p. 157, fig. 12, No. 12.
38. Cooking-pot in a coarse fabric with light grooving on the shoulder, black surface and recessed rim. The pot is probably hand-made but finished on a wheel. See *Camulodunum,* pi. LXXXII, No. 260A; see also the jar from Weston Favell, *Ant. J.,* xxxiv, 1954, p. 222, fig. 2, No. 7.
39. Similar, but with different rim; see *Ant. J.,* xxxiv, 1954, p. 222, fig. 2, No. 9; *Great Casterton III,* p. 42, fig. 14, No. 16; also the jar from the Park Street Villa - *Arch. J.,* cii, 1947, p. 78, fig. 15, No. 21. Remarks under No. 6 above apply.
40. Bowl in hard, white fabric with mortarium type spout. Comparison should be made with *Camulodunum,* p. 224, fig. 48, No. 25, form 43A.
41. Body sherd from a rusticated jar. Several sherds were found with very vigorous rustication on thin globular walls. Here the wall is 0.16 in. thick but in places the barbotine is twice as thick.

From the Neronian rubbish layer

42. Jar in medium-grey fabric with vigorous rustication; one other similar jar.
43. A most unusual example of rustication, it is in a light-grey fabric with black surface; the rustic effect is by applying a thin clay paste containing hard lumps, some of which, apparently, are small pebbles. It has been claimed that rustication was primarily decorative and not for ease in handling a hot jar: it is difficult to see this rustication as anything other than utilitarian, as the result is far from pleasing.
44. Jar in pink fabric with barbotine, hairpin decoration over which a thin, transparent, brown glaze has been applied. Dr. Webster states that this form is present at Claudian sites on the Continent and quotes J. H. Holwerda, *De Belgische Waar in Nijemegen,* 1941, No. 461.
45. Grey body sherd with white lattice. Painted decoration on Claudian pots is well known but no parallel has been found for this particular example.
46. Small jar in pinkish-cream paste, heavily made and not part of a triple vase. It is identical in form to the jar found at Stanton Harcourt *(Oxoniensia,* xx, 1957, fig. 6, pit M, No. 1). It should also be compared to the unguent pots such as *Silchester,* pi. XLVII, Nos. 52, 53.
47. Belgic type jar in grey fabric with polished black surface similar to the jars found at Dorchester, Park Street Villa and Bagendon *(Arch. J.,* cxix, 1964, p. 132, fig. 12, No. 14; *Arch. J.,* cii, 1947, p. 81, fig. 16, No. 4; *Bagendon,* p. 266, No. 4).
48. Buff, sandy spout, just possibly part of an asymmetrical pottery funnel, but more likely from a spouted jar such as are usually called 'feeding bottles'. See *Silchester,* pi. L, No. 73 and discussion on p. 119. Such jars could be used whenever accurate pouring of small quantities was needed.
49. Part of a rouletted, cream, girth-beaker. See *Camulodunum,* pi. LV, forms 83, 84.
50. Rouletted jar in grey fabric, black surface and small recessed rim. See *Camulodunum,* pi. LII, form 249B.
51. Jar in smooth dark-grey fabric. See *Camulodunum,* pi. LII, form 249E; *Bagendon,* p. 241, fig. 54, No. 20.
52. Tiny bowl or lid in orange-red fabric and foot-ring.
53. Dish in hard, gritty, buff paste and internal fillet as is often found in early dishes. See *Margidunum C.H.,* p. 23, pi. VIII, Nos. 7, 8.
54. Dish in medium-grey fabric. See *Camulodunum,* p. 218, fig. 47, No. 14; *Arch. J.,* cii, 1947, p. 81, fig. 16, No. 8.

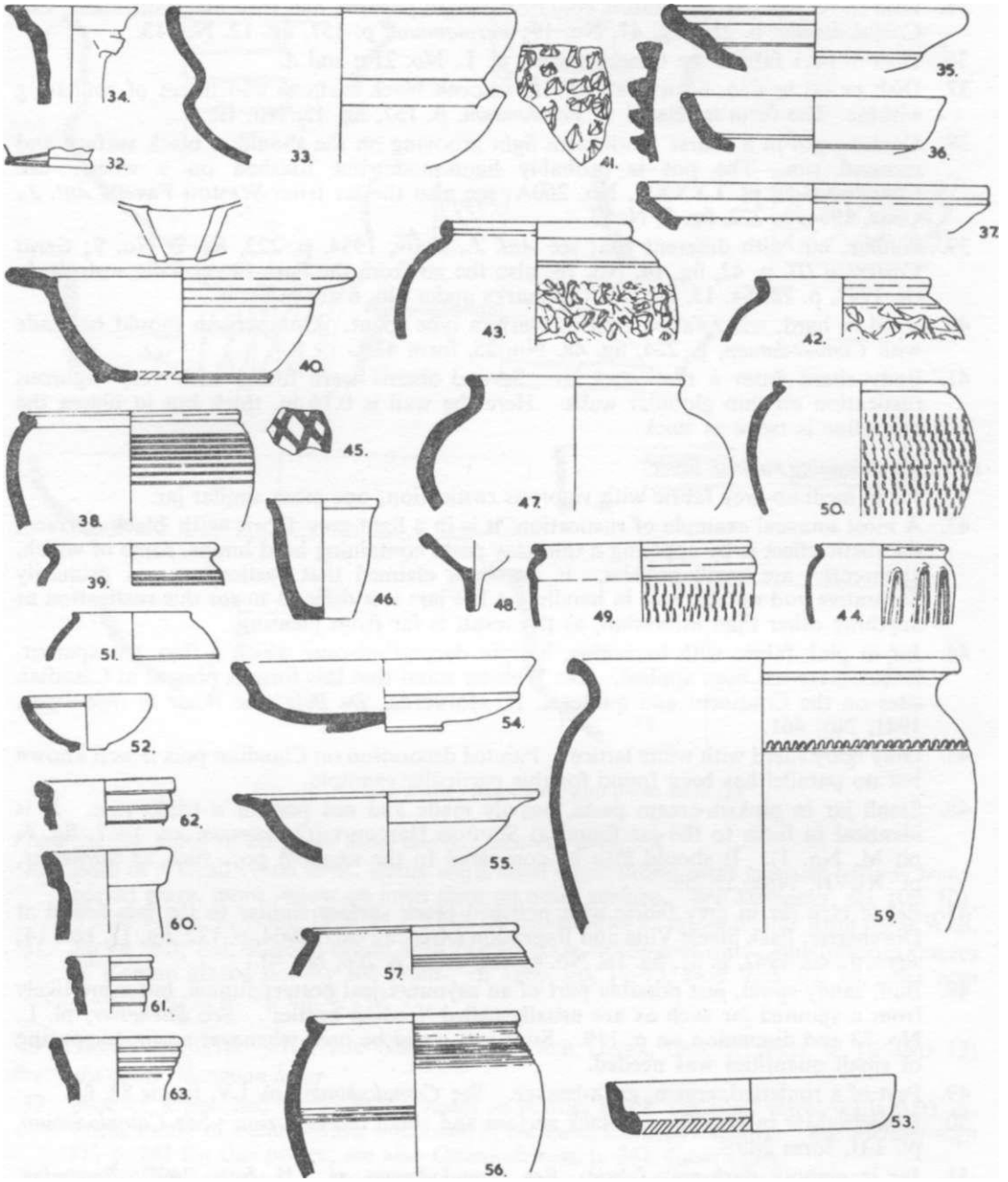

Fig. 12 Coarse pottery from the Neronian rubbish layer (J)

55. Dish in medium-grey fabric and one other.
56. Well-made jar in black paste with dull, greyish-cream surface both inside and out. See No. 38 above.
57. Similar to No. 56 but in a gritty grey fabric.

58. Piece of varnished ware with the well known raspberry roundel. Not illustrated. See *T.B.A.S.,* lxxix, 1964, p. 17, fig. 5, Nos. 11, 16. Small scraps of this ware, roughcast inside and out were found on all sites but especially in this layer.

59. Storage jar in a brown, porridge-like fabric with smoother surface and stabbed decoration on the shoulder; thoroughly native in character; this should be compared with the pot from Weston Favell *(Ant. J.,* xxxiv, 1954, p. 222, fig. 2, No. 14).

60. Flagon neck of Hofheim type in smooth cream paste. See *Silchester,* pi. LXII, No. 116.

61. 62. 63. Ring-necked flagons in hard, white, buff and pink fabrics respectively. See *Camulodunum,* pi. LXII, forms 154, 155A-B; p. 243, fig. 51, Nos. 9, 10.

64. Jar in hard cream fabric, light-orange surface. See *Richborough I,* pi. XX, No. 7.

65. Similar but with cream surface and traces of burning.

66. Jar in gritty, cream fabric and traces of burning on exterior. See jar from Park Street Villa *(Arch. J.,* cii, 1947, p. 81, fig. 16, No. 4) and *Richborough I,* pi. XX, No. 7.

67. Jar with undercut rim in white fabric and traces of orange paint. See *Richborough IV,* pi. LXXXIX, No. 406.

68. Similar jar in pinkish, light-brown fabric, slightly gritty but well made with fine walls 0.1 in. thick. One other slightly bigger and coarser, in cream fabric and black surface.

69. Jar in orange-red fabric, one of similar form on medium-grey fabric. See *Richborough III,* pi. XXVII, No. 265.

70. Mrs. K. F. Hartley comments:

> About a quarter of the mortarium survives, in fine textured cream fabric with slightly darker slip. The abundant small, white, red-brown and translucent whitish trituration grit overlays fine concentric grooving of the kind common on Flavian or earlier mortaria, there are a few stray grits on the flange, but it was not deliberately gritted. The vessel has been so well used that both grit and scoring are worn away in the lower half; diameter 14J in.
>
> The stamp reads VERCVNDFEC in fine letters surrounded by delicately drawn chevron borders. No other stamps from this die are known from Britain, and there is no similarity whatsoever to the work of the only known Romano-British Verecundus.
>
> The Wall mortarium can, however, be matched by mortaria found in Gallia Belgica near Bavai, and near Compiegne *(Soc. Hist, de Compiegne,* ii, 1874, 75, pi. II, Nos. 1, 2). Three stamps from Bavai and the one from Compiegne are either from the same die as the Wall example or one so closely similar that the identity of the potter cannot be in doubt. The forms of the vessels are also similar. Stamps from other dies reading Verecundus have been noted at Bavai (3); Douai Museum; Velzke-Ruddershove; and Vienne - these, perhaps with the exception of the Vienne stamp, are likely to be by the same potter.
>
> There is adequate evidence of mortarium-making on a large scale near Bavai and some of the Bavai mortaria by Verecundus are in the local brown fabric, but one, at least, is in the cream fabric which was also made there. The Wall mortarium certainly comes from near Bavai.
>
> The dating evidence, though circumstantial, is likely to be reliable. Potters like Privatus of Bavai and Q. Valerius Se——who sometimes used forms comparable with the Wall mortarium are without exception first-century (a stamp of Privatus has been found in Britain in a Vespasianic deposit, and ten stamps of Q. Valerius Se——has recently been found in a Boudiccan fire deposit at Colchester - report forthcoming). Also, mortarium stamps of Gaulish potters, though never common in Britain, are extremely rare after the Flavian period. On the other hand, there is as yet, no evidence of stamped mortaria before *c.* A.D. 55/60. A date in the range A.D. 55-85 would be likely to cover the possibilities for Verecundus.

Unstratified pottery

71. Neck of a Hofheim type flagon in white paste. See *Silchester,* pi. LXII, No. 116.
72. Neck of a two-handled jug in pink fabric with a slight cordon at the base of the neck. See *Camulodunum,* pi. LXII, form 161B.
73. Well-made jar in light-grey fabric, slightly gritty paste, decorated with grooves and comb-stabbing.

POTTERY FROM SITE Z

Not securely stratified

74. Carinated jar in gritty, grey fabric. *See Jewry Wall,* p. 134, fig. 36, No. 14.
75. Buff bowl with a hole deliberately made in the side before firing. See *Camulodunum,* p. 218, fig. 47, No. 15.
76. Large jar in medium-grey fabric. See *Richborough IV,* pi. XC, No. 425.
77. Amphora or large flagon neck in creamy paste. See *Richborough IV,* pi. LXXXVI, No. 378.
78. Soft, creamy flagon neck. For a similar form from the legionary deposits at Lincoln see *J.R.S.,* xxxix, 1949, p. 71, fig. 12, No. 43.
79. Mrs. Hartley comments:

> About half of a mortarium in sandy, friable, cream fabric with a very thick pink core, and a cream slip. A few trituration grits survive on the top of the vessel but for the most part they have been worn away in use; diameter 11f in.

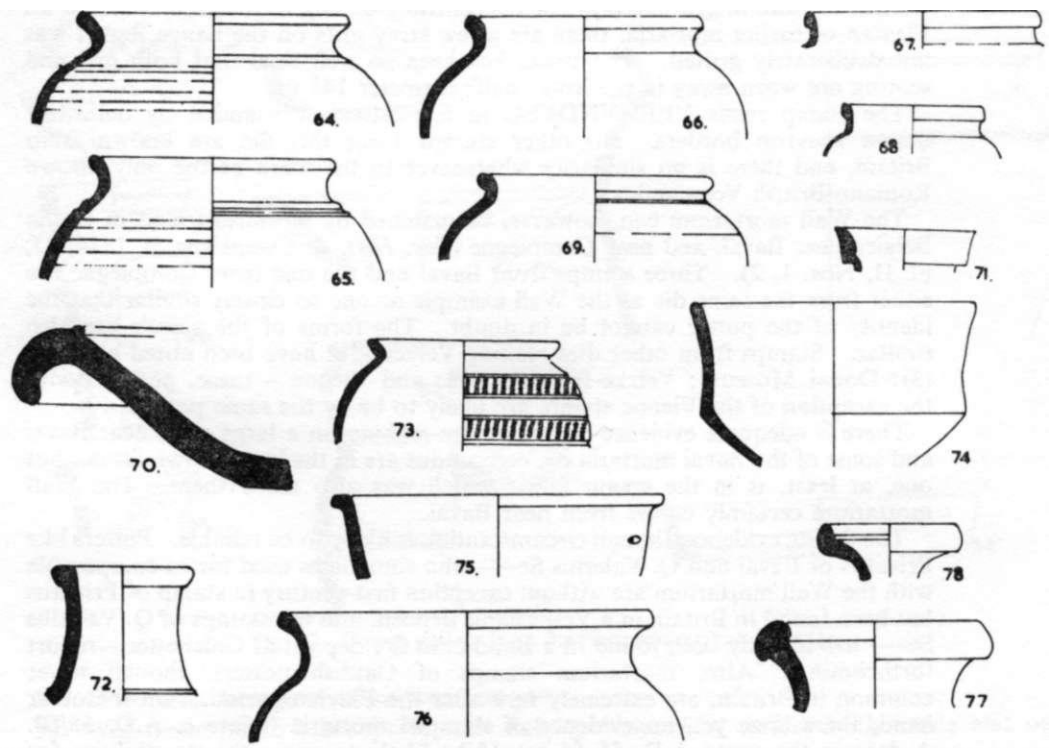

Fig. 13 Coarse pottery from the Neronian rubbish layer (Nos. 64-9); unstratified. Site W (Nos. 70-3) and Site Z (Nos. 74-8) (¼)

The name-stamp is from a die of MARINVS and the end of the border of the counter-stamp, FECIT, survives. Stamps of Marinus have been noted in Scotland from Newstead (4); and in England and Wales from Brockley Hill (8); Caerhun; Canterbury; Castleshaw; Cheshunt, Herts.; Chester; Corbridge; Hassocks; Leicester; London (14); ?Northwich; Richborough (5); ?Rocester; Segontium; Silchester; South Downs, Sussex; Southwark; Templeborough; Verulamium (4); Wall; Wroxeter (2) and York.

Three stamps from the Flavian deposits at Richborough and Verulamium and their occurrence in the Agricolan fort at Newstead point to a first-century activity. The forms fit well with a date *c.* A.D. 70-100. Fabric and forms point to manufacture in the Watling Street area between Verulamium and London. The eight stamps from one pottery at Brockley Hill could mean that he worked there for part or all of his career.

On the flange is a rather indistinct graffito. Mr. R. P. Wright, **F.S.A**. comments: 'I read this graffito to be ARAB, probably ARAB(I), the genitive of Arabus. There are some instances of this cognomen.'

MEDIEVAL POTTERY (fig. 14)

J. GOULD, **F.S.A.**

Unfortunately all medieval sherds were unstratified and their presence in the disturbed plough-soil may be due to the use of night-soil for the manuring of fields in the medieval period as no trace was found of any building that could have belonged to that era. The sherds were found on all sites though in general the scatter was denser close to the modern road. As there is no published corpus of medieval pottery for the Lichfield-Tamworth area, the details are given in full, despite the lack of stratification. Except for items 1 and 2, all would seem to fall between A.D. 1370 and A.D. 1500. The sherds have been seen by Mr. K. J. Barton, **F.S.A**. and Mr. A. Oswald, **M.A., F.S.A**. and I am grateful for their comments. Mr. P. Barker, **F.S.A**., having seen the drawings, states that the sherds are very different from those found by him a little further west in Shropshire and Worcestershire.

1. Cooking-pot rim in buff paste and with a dull red surface; thirteenth century.
2. Rim of a red bowl or pipkin; thirteenth or fourteenth century.
3. Handle in hard, reduced paste with patch of brown glaze.
4. Similar handle.
5. Slashed strap-handle with dull, red paint on a hard, pimply, off-white paste. See *T.B.A.S.,* lxxviii, 1962, p. 76, No. 35; A.D. 1320-A.D. 1385.
6. Strap-handle in very hard reduced paste, splash glazed; probably late fifteenth century.
7. Strap-handle in hard, gritty, cream paste with traces of chocolate-coloured paint.
8. Handle in soft, red paste, glazed greenish-brown.
9. Handle and rim in buff, gritty paste with patches of clear glaze. Also fragments from three other similar handles, two of which have patches of dull, greenish-brown paint instead of clear glaze; fourteenth or fifteenth century.
10. Pipkin rim and handle in hard, white, gritty fabric with grey exterior. Also two similar but larger handles and a piece of a pipkin foot in similar fabric; probably fifteenth century.
11. Pot in similar fabric to that described for No. 12, but with a streak of transparent glaze on the inside of the everted rim.
12. Small vessel in very hard, heavily-gritted, reduced paste with brown pimpled surface similar to Romano-British Derbyshire ware; patches of red-brown glaze, also some body sherds in a similar fabric though more purple in colour.

13-29. Angular rims of well-fired pipkins, cooking-pots and platters, all in a hard white pimply paste, except No. 26 which has dull-brown paint within, Nos. 27 and 28, which have black exteriors on a gritty, grey paste and No. 29 which has a grey exterior on a hard, gritty, buff paste. These are probably fourteenth or fifteenth century. Mr. Oswald states that a local consensus occurs at Mancetter dated to the latter part of the fifteenth century.

Not illustrated

30. Three small body sherds from a jug in soft, red paste with brown glaze and ridges of white barbotine decoration.
31. Small piece of a white jug with dull-orange paint.
32. Battered piece of a handle in coarse, buff, sandy paste with thumb applied, pink paste pieces and dark-green glaze.

So little is known of the medieval pottery of this area that it is interesting to note that when in A.D. 1299, Edward I granted the Bishop letters patent to raise tolls on goods brought into Lichfield for sale, the list did not include pottery. This is despite the list seeming to have been intended to be exhaustive with seventy-four different items and such general terms as 'bales of any kind of merchandise . . . exceeding *2s.* in value'. The listed goods range from corn to lampreys, from turves to taffeta, and from garlic to squirrel skins *(Magnum Registrum,* Document 292).

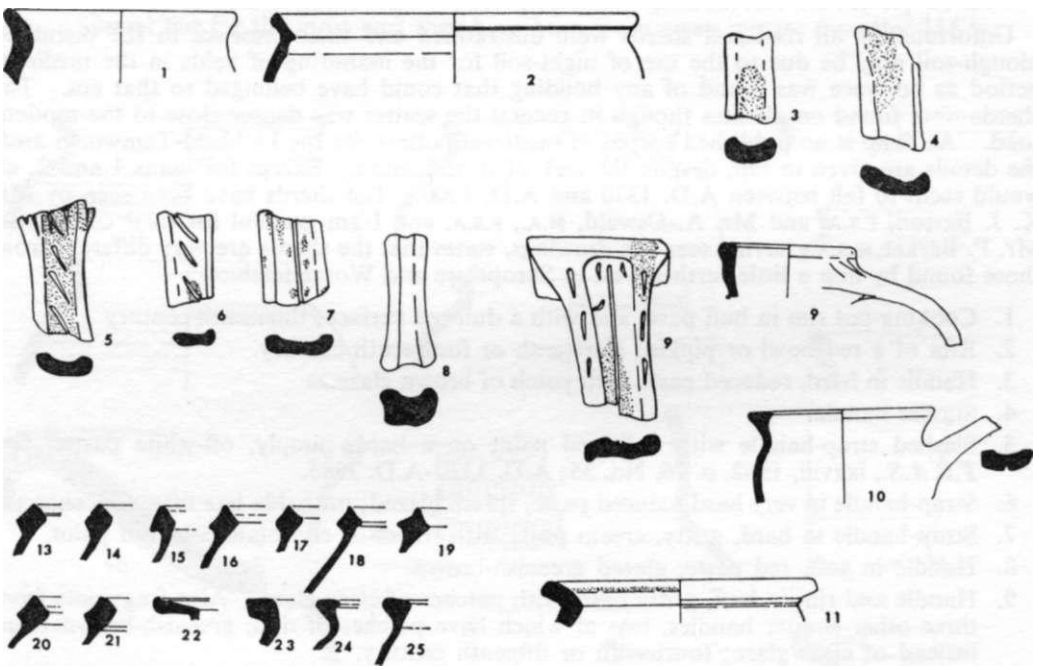

Fig. 14 Medieval pottery (i)

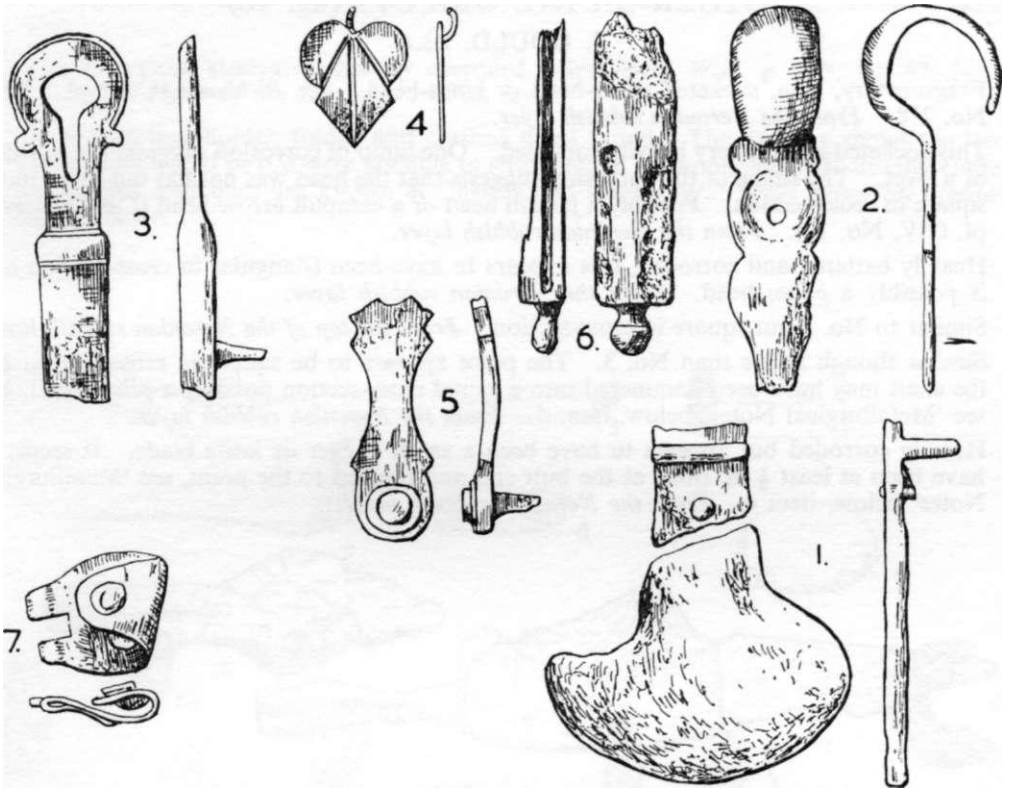

Fig. 15 Military bronzes (1/1)

THE MILITARY BRONZES (fig. 15)

DR. G. WEBSTER, **F.S.A.**

1. Part of the lid of a small bronze jug with a vertical lug to facilitate opening. It could be the front part of a larger lid as at Hofheim (Hofheim, *Taf.* xiv, No. 40). *From the filling of the flat-bottomed ditch.*

2. A hook or clip usually associated with harness. A close parallel with three such clips meeting at a ring is illustrated from Hofheim (ibid., *Taf.* xiii, No. 8). *Unstratified.*

3. A key-hole type of buckle for receiving a hook or clip from harness or baldric (ibid., *Taf.* xi, No. 45). *From the filling of the punic ditch.*

4. A small leaf-shaped pendant. *From the filling of the punic ditch.*

5. Part of a mount for attachment to leather and which could have had a variety of hook or buckle at the other end. *From the filling of the punic ditch.*

6. Part of an apron mount with knobbed terminal and slotted for attachment to a leather strip; normally the leather is attached by means of studs or rivets *(Arch. J.,* cxv, 1960, fig. 5, Nos. 115 and 116); the deep slot is unusual. *From the lip of the flat-bottomed ditch.*

7. Piece of a thin strip with hinge and rivets for attachment to a leather strip, too irregular for certain identification. *From the contents of the flat-bottomed ditch.*

OTHER METAL OBJECTS (fig. 16)

J. GOULD, **F.S.A.**

1. Fragmentary, iron, socketed spear-head or lance-head. See *Richborough IV,* pi. LVIII, No. 278. *From the Neronian rubbish layer.*
2. This socketed head is very heavily corroded. One lump of corrosion suggests the position of a rivet. The shape of the corrosion suggests that the head was not flat but more likely square in cross-section. Possibly a javelin head or a catapult arrow-head *(Camulodunum,* pi. CIV, No. 10). *From the Neronian rubbish layer.*
3. Heavily battered and corroded, this appears to have been triangular in cross-section and is possibly a *pilum* head. *From the Neronian rubbish layer.*
4. Similar to No. 3 but square in cross-section. *From the top of the Neronian rubbish layer.*
5. Similar though larger than No. 3. The point appears to be square in cross-section but the shaft may have been hammered into a round cross-section possibly a *pilum* head, but see 'Metallurgical Notes' below, item d. *From the Neronian rubbish layer.*
6. Heavily corroded but appears to have been a small dagger or knife blade. It seems to have been at least f in. thick at the butt end and tapered to the point, see 'Metallurgical Notes' below, item e. *From the Neronian rubbish layer.*

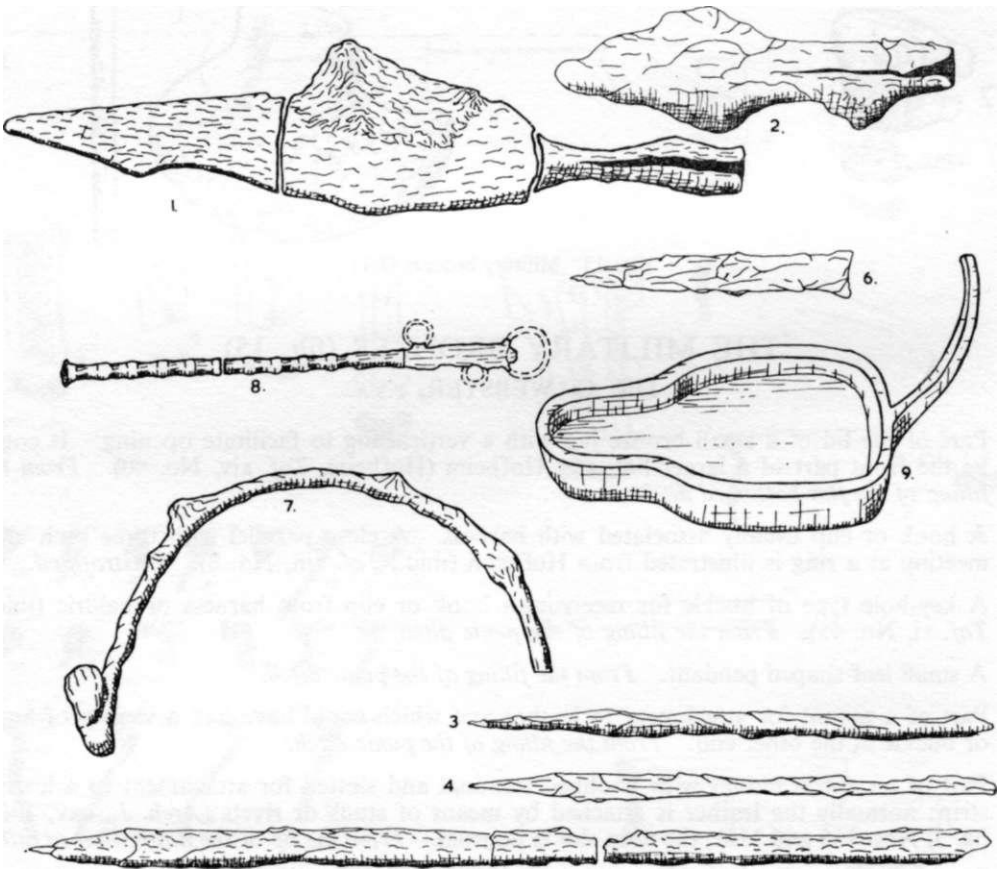

Fig. 16 Iron and other metal objects (i)

7. Iron bucket handle, see 'Metallurgical Notes' below, item c. *From the Neronian rubbish layer.*

8. Broken bronze 'steelyard', heavily corroded. See *Jewry Wall,* p. 259, fig. 87, No. 4. *From the bottom of the Neronian rubbish layer.*

9. Small lead lampholder, folded and crushed when found. The drawing shows the lamp-holder as it would be if it were possible to straighten it. Lampholders are usually made of bronze but lead ones are known at Chester and Caerleon[22]. *From below the Neronian rubbish layer.*

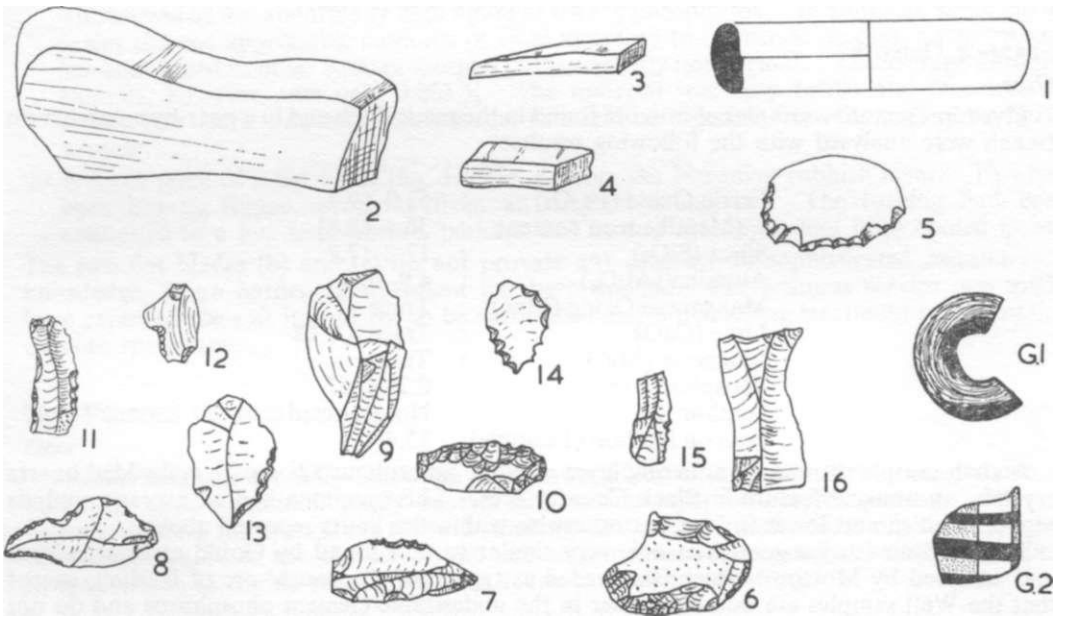

Fig. 17 Objects in stone (Nos. 2-4), shale (No. 1), flint (Nos. 5-16) and glass (Nos. G1-2). Glass objects (1/1), remainder (£).

STONE AND SHALE OBJECTS (fig. 17)

J. GOULD, **F.S.A.**

1. Part of a shale armlet. See *Proceedings of the Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society,* lxxv, 1955, pp. 45-71. *From the filling of the punic ditch.*
2. Part of a whetstone made from grey, close-grained stone. *From the top of the Neronian rubbish layer.*
3. Part of a whetstone in a grey, micaceous sandstone. *Unstratified.*
4. Part of a very small whetstone in a red fine-grained stone. *Unstratified.*
6. Black flint-flake, trimmed for use as a scraper.
7. Similar but in brown flint.

[22] ***J.C. & N.W.A.S.,*** **xxvii, 1928, pp. 77, 136, pi. XVII, No. 3; 'Jenkins Field 1926' in *Arch. Camb.,* 1929, fig. 17, Nos. 10, 11; 'Prysg Field 1927-9' in *Arch. Camb.,* 1932, fig. 39, Nos. 4-6.**

8. Grey flint borer with white patina.
9. Brown flint core.
10. Thin broken blade worked bifacially.
11-16. Worked flint-flakes.

Many unworked waste flakes of flint were found during the excavations together with pieces of shattered flint.

METALLURGICAL NOTES ON SOME FINDS

M. M. HALLETT, **M.SC, F.I.M., F.I.B.F.**

FERROUS OBJECTS

Ores

Five representative samples of iron ore found in the punic ditch and in a near-by construction trench were analysed with the following results:

		%
Ferric Oxide (Fe_2O_3)	:	52.0-69.7
(Metallic iron content	:	36.4-48.8)
Silica (SiOi)	:	12.2-17.7
Alumina ($A1_2O_3$)	:	4.9-10.9
Manganese Oxide (MnO)	:	Trace
Lime(CaO)	:	Trace-0.18
Magnesia (MgO)	:	Trace
Phosphorus (P)	:	0.24-0.67
Sulphur (S)	:	Not detected
Loss on ignition (1 sample):		15.4

A sixth sample showed an adhering layer of white amorphous silica with embedded quartz crystals, an unusual feature in Black Country ores. This specimen had an average analysis higher in silica and lower in iron but otherwise within the limits reported above.

This analysis is of a good iron ore, very similar to that found by Gould at Bourne Pool and analysed by Morton[23] which is regarded as typical of the 'mush' ore of Rushall, except that the Wall samples are notably higher in the undesirable element phosphorus and do not contain the magnesia reported in the Bourne Pool ore.

Slags

The pieces of slag included some typical of bloomery operation, being dark coloured, heavy, often with gas holes, and obviously having been liquid. There were also some lighter examples, reported in earlier work on this site as being high in silica. None were analysed. Taken in conjunction with the iron ore they form clear evidence of iron smelting at Wall.

Metallic iron

Many heavily-rusted nails and hobnails from the filling of the flat-bottomed ditch and the lower filling of the punic ditch, together with javelin heads and other indeterminate lumps from the Neronian rubbish layer were examined. Most proved to be completely rusted but determination of the microstructure was possible in some instances.

(a) Nail from ditch. This would have been six inches long and J in. to ^- in. square in section. It was typical of Roman bloomery iron, showing variations in carbon content from about 0.1 to about 0.45% (estimated visually). Only about the top inch of the

[2a] ***Trans.*, vi, 1966, p. 22.**

original blank had been heated for forging the head. It appeared probable that the tapered shank had been forged prior to heading, as in the case of the great Inchtuthill hoard of nails.

(b) What, after the removal of the incrustation, appeared to be a cutting blade, also from the ditch. This consisted of a very soft low-carbon iron - surprising for what was apparently a cutting tool.

(c) A round sectioned handle (fig. 16. No, 7) from the Neronian rubbish layer. This was another typical example of Roman bloomery iron with considerable variations in carbon content. It had been forged hot and finished above 700°C.

(d) A straight round sectioned piece (fig. 16, No. 5) from the rubbish layer, perhaps a javelin head. The structure was metallurgically interesting. Apart from the normal heterogeneous distribution of carbon there were some areas in which continuous films appeared at the grain boundaries. These were revealed as phosphide films by subsequent analysis which showed the abnormally high figure of 0.43 % phosphorus. In addition, some ferrite grains showed appreciable amounts of what appeared to be nitride needles, a feature that has been noted in other Roman samples but is certainly not normal. The average nitrogen analysis, however, was only 0.005%. The material was very brittle and fractured in a bend test without definite deformation, as might be expected from the high phosphorus content.

(e) A small piece of a flat blade (fig. 16, No. 6) from the Neronian rubbish layer. This had been heavily forged, probably from an original round bar. The forging had been continued to a low temperature, perhaps 600°C, and the object had been cooled in air.

The two flat blades (b) and (e) do not provide any evidence of sophisticated metallurgical knowledge, as no hardening treatment has been applied. For arduous service one might have expected the soft iron of (b) to be carburized and a quenching treatment to be applied on both specimens.

NON-FERROUS OBJECTS

Ores

A lump weighing about 2 J oz., found in the lower filling of the punic ditch, consisted mainly of galena (lead sulphide), partly coated with a thin layer of barytes (barium sulphate). Galena, which is the normal ore for lead smelting (and an important source of silver) does not occur near Wall. In the absence of any lead slags or furnace remains, it would be jumping to conclusions to decide that it had been taken to Wall for smelting.

Metallic finds (all from the Neronian rubbish layer)

(a) A small fragment of lead sheet was analysed spectographically. It proved to be of high purity with only about 0.025% copper and about 0.15% tin and traces of calcium and silver. Iron, aluminium, manganese, nickel, zinc, silicon, antimony, arsenic and bismuth were not detected.

(b) A flat piece of silver from the Neronian rubbish layer weighing \\ oz., which gave the impression of having been cast in a hole on the floor, was subjected to spectographic analysis. It also was of high purity, containing only a small amount of copper (perhaps 0.1%) with traces of tin, silicon, calcium and bismuth. Iron, aluminium, manganese, nickel, zinc, antimony and arsenic could not be detected.

(c) Studs.

These studs were encased in clay which appeared to have been lightly baked. A radiograph showed that they were arranged in two parallel rows of four studs each. On breaking away part of the clay, a blue colouration was observed around each stud and this was attributed to the normal silver chloride corrosion product. However, spectrographic analysis on the single specimen which retained sufficient metal for detailed examination, indicated that the base material was iron. The microstructure showed

very fine equi-axed grains with no signs of a second phase. The Vickers diamond hardness (HV5) of the metal was 142. It was therefore presumed that the studs had originally been silvered.

Subsequently, Miss J. Evans of the Worthing Museum pointed out that the museum had similar samples in its possession and kindly submitted samples to the Oxford Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art. X-Ray fluorescence and diffraction tests showed that the blue material contained iron but no silver and that it was, in fact, vivianite, an iron phosphate. There is, therefore, no evidence at all of any silver coating.

The wrapping of the studs in clay was presumably done to protect the iron against oxidation during an annealing operation but it is by no means clear why the studs should have required annealing at that stage of production. It is also not clear why an iron phosphate should have formed adjacent to studs found in completely different locations.

FRAGMENTS OF REFRACTORY MATERIAL

These fragments were of curved shape with an outer convex shape and a parallel inner concave surface. The thickness was about J in. and it appeared that they might be portions of a small clay crucible. Microscopical examination showed that on the convex surface there was a very thin, discontinuous, black shiny layer consisting of minute crystals of iron oxide. Below this was a white porous layer about 1 mm. thick, consisting of glass, rich in silica, but often stained by iron oxide. There were occasional quartz crystals in the glass, cracked by the influence of heat. The remainder of the material consisted of about 40% quartz grains, relatively free from inversion cracks, cemented together by a silica-rich, vitreous material containing iron oxide, part of which was hydrated to form limonite. There were also a few particles of carbonaceous material.

It is extremely difficult to provide any reasonable explanation for this complex assembly of material but the fragments are probably pottery rather than from a crucible, as it was not unusual for pots to be made of a clay mixed with sand. This must have been fired at a high temperature, in which case the limonite would have formed gradually by percolation of water during the long period the fragments were buried.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Warm thanks are due to Mr. **G.** T. Brown, Mr. **G.** R. Morton, Professor **F.** W. Shotton, **F.R.S**., Dr. N. Swindells and Dr. R. **F.** Tylecote, who examined and commented on the various specimens.

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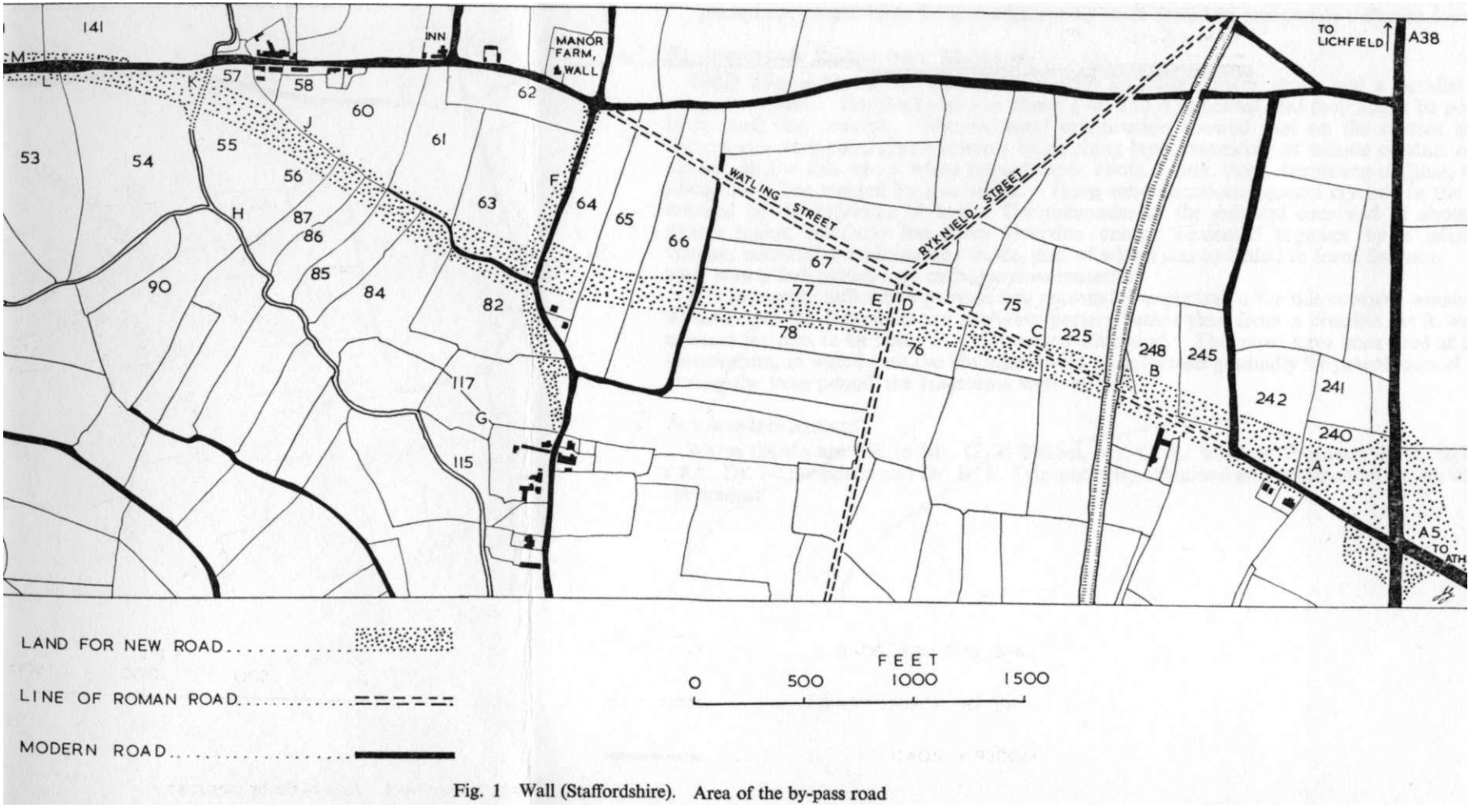

Fig. 1 Wall (Staffordshire). Area of the by-pass road

OBSERVATION ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD TO BY-PASS WALL, STAFFS.

ADRIAN OSWALD, **F.S.A.**

DURING 1965 A NEW ROAD was built to the south of Wall (National Grid Reference SK 101065) to by-pass the village and relieve the narrow main road, A5, which carried heavy motor traffic through the centre of the village. The old road is on the line of the Roman Watling Street (fig. 1). Work on the construction of the new road was observed, for the Ministry of Public Building and Works, over a period of six months and during this time full facilities were willingly given by the contractors, Messrs. Tarmac. Mr. J. Gould and some of his regular team of volunteers, who were excavating a Roman site in another part of Wall, north of the Watling Street, helped in the work on the cemetery site.

Excavations in advance of the construction of the new road were carried out in fields 75 & 248 by the Society in 1963-4, under the direction of Mr. J. Gould.[1]

The following are notes on the observations, working from east to west. The approximate positions of the features are indicated by letters on the map (fig. 1), the field numbers are those used by the Ordnance Survey, and the field boundaries are based on the 6 in. Ordnance Survey map, 1903 edn.

Field 240 (A) Slight ditches, timber slots, were noticed in the north-eastern corner. Air photographs, taken by Mr. James Pickering, showed traces of a rectangular enclosure in this field.

Field 248 (B) A ditch, 3 ft. 6 in. wide and 2 ft. 6 in. deep, was seen running north-east/south-west in the centre of the southern half of this field. Second-century mortaria were found in the ditch.

Field 75 (C) Overlying the peat, immediately north of the new road, were first-century pottery, bones of oxen, and fragments of millstones. Cp. *Trans.,* v, 1965, p. 15.

Field 76 (D) The mechanical grader revealed, in the north-eastern corner, a section of what appeared to be the Ryknield Street. This was cut at an angle and the measurements are, therefore, approximate. The width of the road was 24 ft., covered with gravel above the natural soil and cambered, being 15 in. above the natural soil at the highest point. There was a ditch 2 ft. wide immediately on the west and two ditches, 4 ft. 6 in. wide, on the eastern and western sides at 26 ft. and 18 ft. respectively from the road. The depths of the ditches could not be ascertained. This is similar to the section published in *T.B.A.S.,* lx, 1940, p. 54.

Field 77 (E) A portion of a timber structure was excavated 56 ft. west of the intersection of the north boundary of the new road and the eastern field hedge. Two timber slots were found and, at the south-western corner, a post-hole. The structure had a sand and gravel

[1] ***Trans,* vi, 1966, pp. 1-18.**

floor, and from a burnt deposit on the floor were recovered a handled beaker (fig. 2.2), almost complete, and some rubbed samian ware (a fragment of form 18 and some second-century fragments).

Field 63 (Chesterfield Croft) (F) Half-way along the eastern side of the field and on the west of the feeder road, a ditch 6 ft. wide and 4 ft. deep was exposed. It had been filled with stones and subsequently levelled up. There was second-century pottery between the fillings of the ditch and traces of timber slots.

Field 117 (G) At the south-eastern corner was a pit, 4 ft. 6 in. deep and 4 ft. wide, with a peaty and rapid-silt deposit, containing fragments of undatable Roman pottery. A post-hole and a stone-lined well with no dating evidence were exposed; also, a pebble floor, 20 ft. long in section, with a grey silt deposit and eighteenth-century pottery above.

Field 55 (H) In the south-western corner of the field adjoining the stream there was considerable evidence of Roman occupation of the second/third century, and a road (?) extending into field 90. This appears to be a prolongation of a feature shown in Mr. Pickering's air photographs in field 60, which show as two parallel banks or walls, running south-west from the Baths.

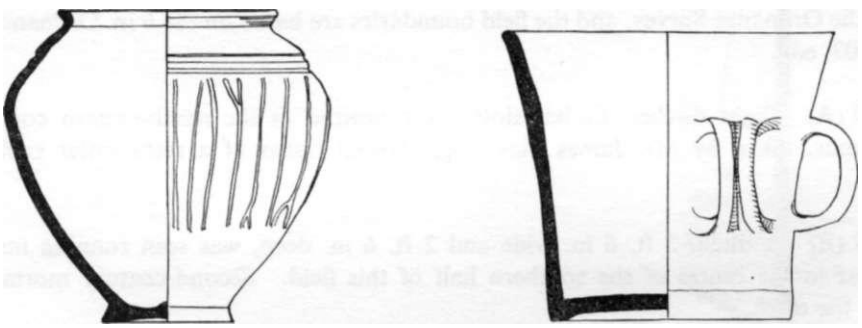

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Fig. 2 Pottery from area of by-pass road

(J) East of the stream, immediately south of the Watling Street and 75 ft. south-east of the new culvert, were two rough stone walls running east and west. They were laid directly on the peat and were perhaps for a timber superstructure. There were two related clay floors, the lower floor containing some second-century pottery and samian ware.

Field 53 (L) Immediately south of the Watling Street and opposite the eastern boundary of field 201, the section of a road was exposed, running north and south, 14 ft. wide and 2 ft. above the natural soil at the highest point; no ditches were seen.

Field 201 (M, M) Nine cremation burials at a depth of 15 in.-24 in. below the surface were excavated; all, except one, had been truncated by deep ploughing. One complete vessel (fig. 2.1) contained bone fragments of a very young child. Of the other identifiable objects three were flagons and one a jug. There was also the top of a square Roman glass bottle. From the nail plan, two burials appear to have been made in wooden boxes, and stake-holes on one side of two others suggest perhaps some form of wooden memorial.

Two burials were made above the fill of sterile pits, which may have been made for extraction of sand.

Nine cremation burials were discovered and excavated by Hodgkinson in the same area in 19272 jjjg date r a a g e 0f the whole cemetery would seem to be in the latter half of the first century, extending just into the second.

I am most grateful to Mr. J. Gould who kindly drew the map to illustrate this paper.

POTTERY

No. 1 Handled beaker of hard grey ware with knife trimming at base. From field 77 (see *T.B.A.S.,* lxxvii, 1961, p. 37 with distribution and comparisons). Similar tankards in buff ware were made in kilns at Perry Barr, Birmingham. There is another example in pink ware from Wall (see *Trans.,* v, 1964, p. 38, No. 185). However, all these examples have girth-grooves.
Date: Mid-second century.

No. 2 Rusticated vessel of hard grey ware with linear decoration. From field 201.
Cp. F. H. Thompson, A Romano-British Pottery Kiln at North Hykeham, Lines., *Ant. J.,* xxxviii, 1958, fig. 5, Nos. 7 and 9.
Date: A.D. 70-100.

[2] ***T.B.A.S.,* lii, 1929, pp. 308-11.**

WITHY LANE OF BENTLEY, STAFFS.—A GENEALOGICAL REVISION

GERALD MANDER, F.S.A.

SOME YEARS AGO an American lady misread and amplified the heading of one of Emily Bronte's manuscript poems, *Love's Farewell,* into a romantic episode concerned with a ghostly Louis Parosell. This comes high in the scale of misapprehensions, and must often be cited when literary blunders are remembered. But Louis Parosell was short-lived, and the account of him suppressed. It is possible to point to another simulacrum which has persisted 150 years, and can now, subject however to any life interest, perhaps be laid.

This is Withy Lane, a pleasant name reminiscent of a lover's walk, but purporting to be a daughter of the Lanes of Bentley Hall, near Walsall, Staffordshire, and sister of the ever memorable Jane Lane, who saved King Charles II, and of Colonel John Lane her valiant brother. There she is set in the large pedigree of Lane in Stebbing Shaw's *History and Antiquities of Staffordshire,* ii, 1801, p. 97 - 'Withy Lane=Peters' - and she duly appears in Burke's *History of Commoners,* 1838, and in every subsequent volume which goes to that source for information. The family genealogist, Henry Murray Lane, Chester Herald, who should have been an authority, gives *{Lane of Bentley Hall,* 1898, p. 7) 'Withy [the fourth daughter] married John Petre, Esq., of Horton, Bucks.' and says that she with her sisters Jane and Mary (Nicholas) 'shared ... in the concealment and escape of King Charles II, after the battle of Worcester'. General Wrottesley in his unfinished but valuable account of the ancient history of this family (Staffordshire Historical Collections [S.H.C.], 1910) is content to repeat the accepted version. So we find Allan Fea, usually very sound, in his *Flight of the King,* revised edn. 1908, p. 73, telling of Mrs. Peters or Petre, the colonel's married sister 'Withy', and her husband. The story thus becomes crystallized.

Boscobel and the Royal Oak have long been an attraction for visitors. Both the earnest pilgrim and the stray sightseer continue to gaze upon them. In 1942 King George VI honoured the place with a visit. But at the time that 'Withy' came into being, Boscobel and the Oak had performed their business, and Colonel Lane and Lord Wilmot (themselves marked for arrest) were seeking some means of conveying King Charles to the coast and safety abroad. The colonel's sister, Jane Lane, had obtained from the Governor of Stafford a pass on the 'very fair pretence of going hard by Bristol, to a cousin of hers [an expectant mother] that was married to one Mr. Norton'. And so it was arranged for the King to accompany her as 'Will Jackson' her servant.

And here we get a pictorial representation of 'Withy'. The episode of the King riding as groom to a lady riding on a pillion appealed to artists and the public. The subject was chosen, it is said by the Prince Consort, for one of the series of frescoes in the corridor of the House of Commons by E. M. Ward, **R.A**. (1853), and the trophy for the Goodwood Cup (1844) represented another scene in this romantic escape. Clarendon's *History* was the first to illustrate it. But most splendid of all was the painting by Sir Edwin Landseer, a reproduction of which is given in H. M. Lane's reprinted work (1910). Here the King, 'Will Jackson' is seen helping the fair daughter of the house to mount the steed which was to carry them on their perilous journey. Old Mrs. Lane is standing on the steps of the Hall. Others include Mrs. Petre (Withy) already mounted and her husband, also Mr. Henry Lassels, a first cousin of Jane's, who alone was in the secret and remained with her throughout. It is possible there may have been some understanding between the two sisters; we are not told.

The cavalcade that set out at 'twilight', i.e., daybreak, on the morning of 10 Sept. 1651, is well authenticated by several accounts. The King's version, dictated in 1680 to Pepys (though Blount's is fuller), supplies several details. Mr. & Mrs. Peters were accidentally at Bentley, and being homeward bound, formed part of the company as far as Stratford-upon-Avon, where they branched off. Here they met a troop of Cromwellian horse, and Mr. Peters showed some panic. That seems to have been his only contribution to the escape. So he and 'Withy' leave the adventure.

The King gives a vivid account of his being recognized by Pope the butler at the Nortons'; but the danger did not lie in that direction, but by the miscarriage of the hostess, 'a misfortune that might have done us much prejudice', there being too many people about[1]. This caused the King to 'counterfeit' a letter of recall from Mr. Lane senior, and with that excuse they got away early next morning. And so they proceeded to Trent (in Dorset) and there Jane Lane and Lassels left the King in good hands and returned home.

In a matter of romance one would have expected Harrison Ainsworth in his *Boscobel* (1872) to have made full play with 'Withy'. But his story keeps closely to the published accounts in the *Boscobel Tracts,* collected by Hughes in 1830. They do not mention Withy and Harrison Ainsworth did not think of inventing her.

Evidence of the correct membership of this generation of the Lane family was withheld until 1912, when the Harleian Society published Gregory King, Rouge Dragon's, *Staffordshire Pedigrees,* prepared about 1680 for a possible Heraldic Visitation of the County. He was himself a Staffordshire man and likely to know the facts, and makes it clear that the wife of Mr. Peters was Mary Lane, the eldest daughter of five (Jane being the third), and that she afterwards married Edward Nicholas. Mary's second marriage is supported by a burial of 'Mr. John Peters' at Iver, Bucks, (in which parish Horton lay) in 1658; while a tablet in Manningford Bruce Church, near Marlborough, Wilts., records her death as the wife of Edward Nicholas, 24 Dec. 1686, aged 67 years. It states that she played 'a very considerable part' in the wonderful preservation of the King after the defeat at Worcester - evidently the ride with the King incognito to Stratford, seen in perspective, came to be appreciated in fuller dimensions. The *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1832, p. 520-1, records a few personal facts visible then on the church memorial slabs, now worn away (the tablet to Mary remains) which are worth noting: (1) Her husband, Edward Nicholas, who was ten years her junior, died of gout in April 1706, aged 77: (2) They had an only son, Edward, who had predeceased his mother aged 22 (buried 6 Sept. *c.* 1682-4; the parish register is defective as to the year).

The error concerning 'Withy' arose in a peculiar way. Stebbing Shaw, the historian, used for the South Staffordshire part of his work the manuscript of John Huntbach, much of which is still preserved in the William Salt Library, Stafford. The MS. of the Lane of Bentley pedigree is missing, but other examples of his methods remain, among which is his abbreviated form of 'William', Willm, (the // crossed as a sign of abbreviation, and the ***m*** with a long tail). This is easily read 'Withy' and we may assume that the compiler of the pedigree (probably Shaw), finding he already had a William Lane (the third son), puts 'Withy' among the daughters.

He fired this shot: 'Withy Lane=Peters', about the year 1790. That its repercussion still subsists may be shown in the latest edition of Burke's *Landed Gentry,* under 'Lane of King's Bromley'. Few people can have christened their daughters after a misprint; but it remained for the late Mr. J. H. V. Lane unconsciously to do so (in Katharyn Withy Lane, born 1906) apparently under the impression that an old family name was in danger of dying out.

[1] **Allan Fea, *After Worcester Flight,* 1904, p. 28.**

WILLIAM LANE

It is perhaps rather an anti-climax to turn to the case of William Lane; but he also has his votaries and complications.

As stated above this William Lane was a brother of 'Withy'. He is said to have been 'of Shelton, Staffs.' and founder of the Irish branch of Lane. This statement is given in all the 'authorities' and has hitherto been unquestioned. Little or no trouble has been taken to test the identity of two people with such common names. Gregory King's pedigree again upsets this attribution. The Irish William Lane made his will in Nov. 1672, and died soon after; the Staffordshire William Lane was living in 1683, aged 60, says Gregory King, and Dr. Wilkes adds that he died in 1704[2].

The two were manifestly not the same[3].

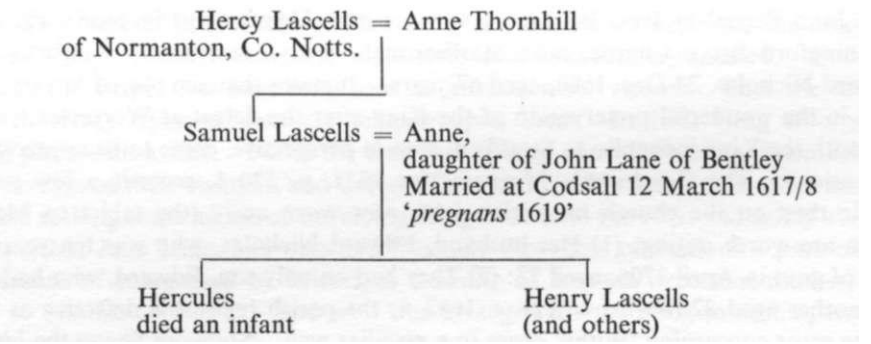
The Irish William Lane left sons; the English, three daughters only, of whom the youngest, Jane, married John Birch of Stretton, at Penkridge, 20 May 1678.

Shelton too is a misprint for Stretton, a village immediately north of Brewood, in which parish (a large one) lay 'the Hyde', headquarters of Lane before the family went to Bentley. It is easy to see how the misreading came about; but it is clearly written 'Stretton' in the Dr. Wilkes manuscript.

MR. LASS ELS

Something also should be said about 'Mr. Lassels'. An entry in the Codsall Parish Register is the foundation of this relationship, for on 12 March 1617-18 at Codsall, Mr. Samuell Lassells married 'Mrs. Anne Lane'.

It is necessarv to **20** to another countv for the seauel. which mav be eiven in Dedisree form[4]:



Only one infant, Hercules, had appeared at the time when the Visitation pedigree was taken, but more were to come, of which Henry was one, born about 1629.

Henry Lassells of Beckingham, Co. Notts, petitioned on 6 May 1649 to compound, 'being seduced by evil company to join the forces against Parliament in the late wars and being sequestered. Is still under age'. In due course, on 26 November 1650, he was fined at 1/6th, £300[5].

[2] **Wilkes MS., William Salt Library, Stafford. Gregory King, Staffordshire Pedigrees, 1664-1700. *Harleian Soc.* 1912, p. 152.**

[3] **As the late Major J. G. Cavenagh-Mainwaring showed, writing in 1936, *S.H.C.,* 1938, p. 295-7, correcting his account in *S.H.C.,* 1933, p. 175.**

[1] **The Visitations of the County of Nottingham in the years 1569 and 1614, *Harleian Society,* 1871, p. 59. The Visitation of the County of Leicester in the year 1619, *Harleian Society,* 1870, p. 155.**

[5] ***Calendar of State Papers, Committee for Compounding,* part iii, p. 2038.**

It appears from a petition of Anne, widow of Capt. Anthony Wilkinson, to the King in 1662, that after the battle of Worcester Wilkinson had entertained Mr. Lassells and conveyed him beyond the sea, and after his return, had secured him and Colonel Lane at his own house for nine months[6]. Further, Margaret Lassells petitions for the place of Laundress of the Board to the Queen. 'She and her brothers and sisters suffered much in the late times, the more so since the death of their brother Henry, who, with Mrs. Jane Lane, attended His Majesty's escape after the business at Worcester'[7].

Among missing Wolverhampton wills indexed is one of Jane Lassells, 1677, who may have been a sister[8].

APPENDIX

GERALD MANDER AND THE *WOLVERHAMPTON ANTIQUARY*

GERALD POYNTON MANDER, **F.S.A**., who died in 1951, was a Trustee of the William Salt Library and editor of the volumes of the Staffordshire Record Society from 1923 to 1945. He had a wide and detailed knowledge of Staffordshire history and was a scholar with high standards. Sir Frank Stenton has said of him '. . . His published work may be small but it is a model of its kind'[9].

The paper on Withy Lane was written by him for the *Wolverhampton Antiquary,* vol. 2, part 4, which reached the page proof stage but was not published. The uncorrected proofs are now in the William Salt Library, Stafford[10].

The *Wolverhampton Antiquary* was written entirely by Gerald Mander, the first issue was in September 1915 and it was issued irregularly in fifteen parts (vol. 1, parts 1-12, 400 pp: vol. 2, parts 1-3, 119 pp.) until September 1945. It was an interesting publication in which Mr. Mander recorded the results of his research into the history and topography of Wolverhampton. Much of the information was later included in the *History of Wolverhampton* by G. P. Mander and N. W. Tildesley, 1960.

Two supplements were issued in 1922:

The Wolverhampton Directory of 1770, quarto, 20 pp.

[This is a reprint of the Wolverhampton portion of *Sketchley and Adam's Tradesman's True Guide* . . . 4th edn.] and,

Early Wolverhampton Books and Printers with a note on some Playbills, quarto, 42 pp.

Mr. Philip Mander has kindly agreed to his father's paper being published and the William Salt Library has given permission for the original page proofs to be used. The paper has been printed with a few minor alterations.

J. W. **WHISTON**

[6] ***Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, 1661-1662,* p. 397.**

[7] **Ibid., p. 393.**

[8] **There are no Wolverhampton wills or admons. before 1700 in the Record Office at Lichfield but there are copies of about ten from this Peculiar recorded in a book of wills for the period 1645 to 1700. This book is also in the Record Office.**

The old calendars still exist covering the period from the early part of the seventeenth century onwards and these contain particulars of about 171 wills and admons. which have now disappeared. (Information from Mr. N. W. Tildesley) - *Editor.*

[9] ***The Wulfmnian,* July 1952.**

[10] **Reference: D 1806/19.**

CROXALL, STAFFS.
AN AIR PHOTOGRAPH OF A DESERTED MEDIEVAL VILLAGE

J. W. WHISTON

PLATE 1 SERVES TO illustrate two items in the Society's 1964 programme, the excursion on 27 June to Croxall[1] and aerial photography about which Mr. James Pickering spoke to the Society at the Civic Evening on 16 October.

Aerial photography was the first scientific aid used by archaeologists. It was developed by the late O. G. S. Crawford, the first Archaeological Officer of the Ordnance Survey, and today it remains one of the most useful of the scientific aids. Plate 1 is a good example of an air photograph and was taken by the R.A.F. in the late afternoon of 8 December 1948. The features which members will recognize are the hall, church, dovecot, Dryden's Walk and deserted medieval village; the tumulus is hidden by the shadows of trees.

The modern hall is on the site of an earlier and larger hall. Henrietta Maria, queen of Charles I, stayed here on 7/8 July 1643 on her journey from the north to join the King at Edgehill[2]. On 8 July she went from Croxall to stay at Walsall and then, via King's Norton, to Stratford-upon-Avon, where she stayed at New Place as guest of Susanna Hall, widow of Dr. John Hall and the eldest daughter of Shakespeare[3].

The church contains monuments to the Curzons of Croxall and the Hortons of Catton. Among these is one to Lady Wilmot-Horton, who was the subject of Byron's *She Walks in Beauty like the Night,* and to her husband Sir William Wilmot-Horton who was involved in Byron's affairs and took an active part in the suppression of the poet's memoirs.

The tumulus, which is so marked on the Ordnance Survey map, is now considered by the O.S. to be a motte, although no trace of a bailey can be found in the many irregularities in the adjacent field.

Dryden's Walk is named after the poet and dramatist, who was a friend of the sixth Duke of Dorset, who held Croxall in the seventeenth century. The Duke was one of Dryden's patrons but in 1688/9 on the accession of William and Mary, because Dryden was a Roman Catholic, the Duke as Lord Chamberlain and member of the Council had to remove him from his official appointment as Poet Laureate and Historiographer Royal. This deprived Dryden of his main source of income but the Duke generously relieved his financial difficulty by a personal gift of an allowance equal to the salary[4]. Dryden was in Staffordshire[5] in the 1680s, at Trentham the seat of another patron Sir William Leveson Gower, at Sir Charles Wolseley's, and at the Sneyd's at Keele[6]. It is probable that he also visited Little Wyrley, the home of Dr. Phineas Fowke, who contributed a translation of the life of Phocion to Dryden's *Plutarch's Lives* (1683). Later, however, Fowke was a strong critic of Dryden because of his change to the Roman Catholic faith[7]. Although there is no documentary

[1] **National Grid Reference SK. 198136. The photograph in pi. 1 is printed with the south at the top of the page, so that the banks and depressions show correctly and not in reverse.**

[2] ***W. Dugdale, Life, Diary and Correspondence,* ed. W. Hamper, 1827.**

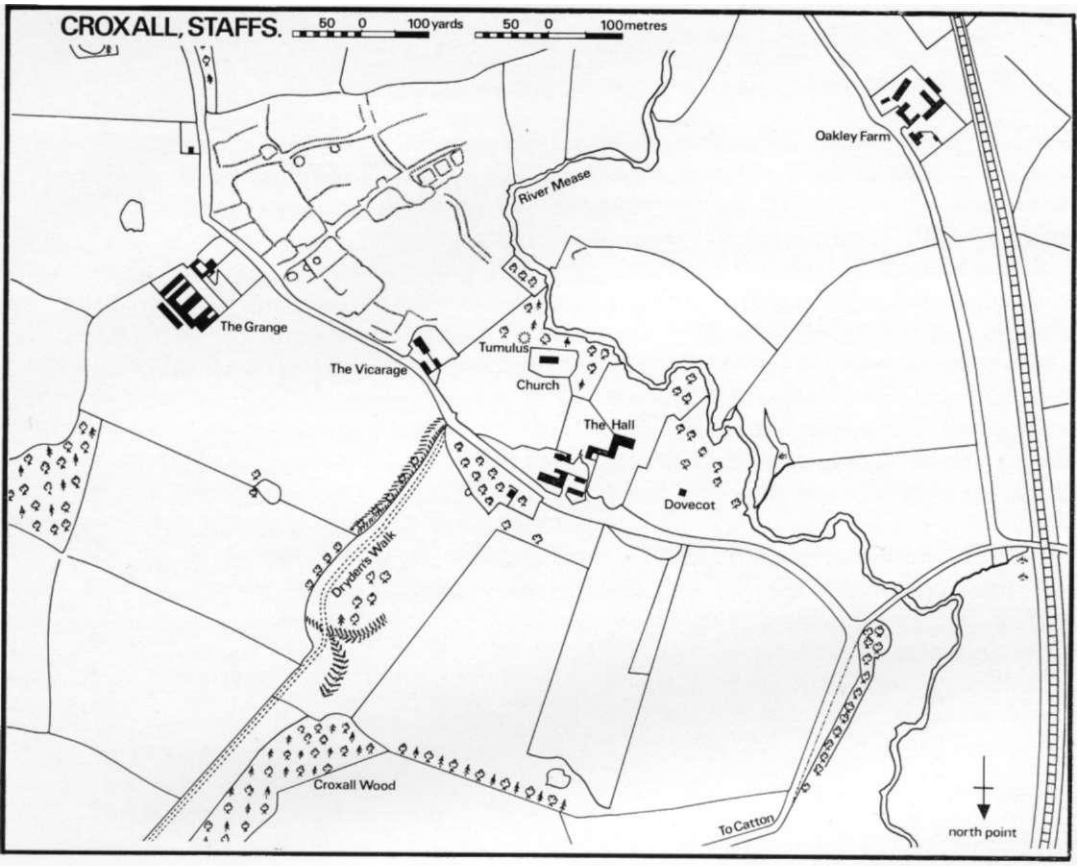
[3] **Eliot Warburton, *Memoirs of Prince Rupert and the Cavaliers,* 1849, ii, p. 227.**

[4] **Sam. Johnson, *Lives of the Poets . . . Dryden,* 1779-1781, World's Classics edn., 1961, p. 270: C. E. Ward, *The Life of John Dryden,* 1961, p. 241.**

[5] **Until 1894, Croxall was partially in Derbyshire; the counties of Derby and Stafford being separated by the River Mease.**

[6] **J. M. Osborn, *John Dryden, Some Biographical Facts and Problems,* 1940, pp. 200, 204, 249.**

[7] **British Museum Add. MS. 36707, f. 11, letter to James Harrington of the Inner Temple, London.**



Royal Air Force photograph. Crown copyright reserved.

Plate 1 Croxall (Staffordshire). Air photograph, 8 Dec. 1948

facing p. **46**

evidence, it is most likely that when visiting friends in the area, Dryden would have visited one of his oldest and most influential friends and his patron, the Duke of Dorset, at Croxall.

The most interesting feature of the air photograph is the area of the deserted medieval village. The long shadows show clearly the details of the medieval village in a far better way than could be seen by a field inspection. At present, Croxall with its large hall, adjacent church and three houses still has the air of a deserted village. The deep gullies in the field opposite The Grange are the lines of the streets of the medieval village and the rectangular features show the position of buildings. These features are not now so prominent as when the photograph was taken, because of ploughing. The area between the hall and the old vicarage has many irregularities but these are hidden in the photograph by the shadows of trees; this area, which I am told has been found impossible to plough, contains a well which has now been filled in. In 1873, some 'old British urns containing burnt bones' were, in fact, ploughed up in a field near the hall[x].

The line of Dryden's Walk, which is based on the Ordnance Survey map, is along the high ground overlooking the meadows through which flow the rivers Mease and Trent. A narrow gully which runs alongside the Walk at its start near Croxall Hall, appears to be artificial and may be the route of a road leading from the medieval village. At a point about 300 yards along the Walk, two deep gullies slope at diverging angles to the low ground on the west. If they are artificial, they may have been made to give easy access from the high ground. The northernmost is on a line which, if extended a short distance, leads to a path through Croxall Wood (marked on OS. map but not now in use) to Catton, providing a route alternative to Dryden's Walk.

The medieval village seems to extend on the north-east side of the river from the field opposite The Grange to the Catton road; the irregularities on the other side of the river are probably of more recent origin.

A detailed survey of the deserted medieval village has not been made nor has any documentary evidence yet been found. Mr. S. J. Roberts of Polesworth informs me that papers relating to Croxall are in the Sackville collection, County Record Office, Maidstone, Kent; these may contain the documentary evidence.

There is an increasing amount of work now being done on deserted medieval villages; many have been identified in Staffordshire and adjacent areas and are awaiting attention. One of these at Statfold was pointed out to members by Mrs. Wolferstan when the Society visited the hall and chapel on the same day as Croxall. A hitherto unknown site was identified by Mr. Pickering from an air photograph he took in 1965 over Amington which is one mile from Statfold (see p. 48). A list of deserted medieval villages in Staffordshire and adjacent areas is given at p. 49.

I am indebted for information in compiling these notes to Mrs. Rose and Mrs. Orme of Croxall Hall, Dr. Levi Fox, Mr. S. J. Roberts and, for the drawing in pi. 1, to Mr. Hugh Smallwood.

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Kelly's Directory of Staffordshire, various dates.

[x] **Minute of Tamworth Natural History, Geological and Archaeological Society 27 May 1873. Minute book No. 2 in Tamworth Public Library. I thank Mr. A. J. H. Gunstone for drawing my attention to this.**

DESERTED MEDIEVAL VILLAGE SITE AT AMTNGTON, WARWICKSHIRE

JAMES PICKERING

IN THE EARLY SUMMER of 1965 crop marks in a field adjacent to Amington Old Hall and its fish stews (National Grid Reference SK 232056) were clearly visible from the air and the photographs taken show that it is most likely to be a deserted medieval village (pi. la). Amington is recorded in the Domesday Book as Ermendone and is, therefore, a site with a long history of habitation.

The farmer (Mr. J. R. Gilman) had recently filled in some of the depressions in the field with top-soil, previous to ploughing, and this may have accentuated some of the crop marks.

Although many deserted medieval villages have been recorded in the south of Warwickshire, there are few in the northern part. The area around Amington is not very productive of crop marks and those recorded must be due to freak conditions. It is probable that there are other unidentified sites in the area, as a number have been recorded not far away across the border in Staffordshire at Croxall, Fisherwick, Haselour, Statfold, Syerscote and Thorpe Constantine. See pp. 46 and 49.

TOLL HOUSE, JAMES BRIDGE, DARLASTON, STAFFS.

J. W. WHISTON

ONE OF THE LAST Walsall toll houses, at James Bridge, was demolished in 1963. It was situated near Darlaston (James Bridge) railway station at the north-east angle of the junction of the Walsall-Darlaston road and the road to Bentley Mill. It was an unpretentious square brick building with two storeys and had not been occupied for a number of years. National Grid Reference SO 98929748.

The building has received no notice in any guide books and the only description is by Blay in his pamphlet published in 1932. He wrote:

> This tollhouse is the only one still standing on its original site at the end of Darlaston road near the railway bridge and about ten yards beyond the Borough boundary. It is a square building with one upper room, now reached by means of a ladder. In front there was originally a semi-circular arched access leading to the door, and forming a shelter, but this has been removed to increase the size of the lower room. At the rear of the building there was a pantry, a brewhouse, a baking oven, and a closet.
>
> The house is now used as a workshop for basket-making by a blind home-worker named Joseph K. Taylor, of Wisemore[1].

The first Ordnance Survey map (1834) shows the toll house on the west side of the road junction. It seems that, when the railway was constructed in 1837, the line of the Walsall-Darlaston road was altered to make the approach to the bridge which crosses the railway and it is probable that the toll house was moved to its final position at that time.

Two photographs of the building in 1932 are shown in Blay's pamphlet. Plate lb is a view of the building about 1960; a part of James Bridge can be seen on the right-hand side of the photograph.

[1] **W. F. Blay, *The Story of Walsall Turnpike Roads and Tollgates,* Walsall Historical Society, 1932, p. 12.**

Plate la Amington (Warwickshire). Air photograph, 1965

Plate lb Toll House, James Bridge, Darlaston (Staffordshire), 1960

DESERTED MEDIEVAL VILLAGES OF STAFFORDSHIRE AND ADJACENT AREAS

THE FOLLOWING LIST is based on the records of the Deserted Medieval Village Research Group: Secretary, Mr. John Hurst, F.S.A., 67 Gloucester Road, London N.W.I.

	1 in. O.S. Map No.	Nat. Grid Ref.
STAFFORDSHIRE		
BLITHFIELD	120	SK 040240
BLORE	111	SK 137495
CHARTLEY	120	SK 006285
CHILLINGTON	119	SJ 865068
CROXALL[1]	120	SK 198136
DEANSLOW	—	*
FISHERWICK	120	SK 180100
FREEFORD	120	SK 135075
HASELOUR	120	SK 205108
OKEOVER	111	SK 158482
PACKINGTON	120	SK 164063
PATSHULL	119	SJ 809010
PILLATON	119	SJ 942130
SANDON	119	SJ 953295
SHUGBOROUGH	119	SJ 990217
STATFOLD	120	SK 238073
SYERSCOTE	120	SK 223076
THORPE CONSTANTINE	120	SK 260089
TAMHORN	120	SK 180070
WYCHNOR	120	SK 175160
SOUTH DERBYSHIRE		
ARLESTON	120	SK 335297
CATTON	120	SK 207155
DRAKELOW	120	SK 240200*
FOREMARK	120	SK 330265
HOON (Tutbury)	120	SK 224300*
SINFIN	120	SK 342312
WEST LEICESTERSHIRE		
ALTON	121	SK 390148
AMBION	121	SK 400003
ANDRESKIRK	121	SK 392222

[1] See p. 46.

	1/ in. O.S. Map No.	Nat. Grid Ref.
GOPSALL	121	SK 353064
LINDLEY	132	SP 365958
STAUNTON HAROLD	121	SK 379209
WELLSBOROUGH	121	SK 365024
WESTON (Moor Barn)	121	SK 303027
WILLESLEY	121	SK 340146
WOODCOTE	121	SK 354187

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE

AMINGTON[2]	120	SK 232056
BOS WORTH (Water Orton)	131	S P 167904*
DRAKENEGE (Kingsbury)	131	SP 222952
DUDDESTON (Birmingham)	131	*
PACK1NGTON, GREAT	131	SP 225835
LITTLE	131	SP 212843
STRATFORD (Tamworth)	120	SK 214016*
WISHAW (Sutton Coldfield)	131	S P 177945

*** Location uncertain.**

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The Deserted Villages of Warwickshire, *T.B.A.S.,* cxvi, 1950, pp. 49-106.
Ordnance Survey, *Field Archaeology,* 1963, pp. 121, 126-7.

• See p. 48.

DI . i , , *Photo: J. W. Whiston*

Plate la Church House, Abbots Bromley (Staffordshire). After restoration, 1967

By permission of Trustees of William Salt Library, Stafford

Plate lb Buckler's View, 1839

CHURCH HOUSE, ABBOTS BROMLEY, STAFFS.

F. W. B. CHARLES

CHURCH HOUSE[1], on the corner of Abbots Bromley's main street, Bagot Street, and Church Lane, has been restored over the past two years. Before this, it was structurally sound but seriously in need of repair as well as a new use to prevent dilapidation and decay. This problem was solved by the Reverend C. J. A. Payton, Vicar of Abbots Bromley, who not only conceived of its conversion for church meeting rooms combined with a caretaker's house, but raised the funds to make his ideas practicable. Having written a report on the probable history and condition of the building for the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings in April 1962, I carried out the restoration and conversion for Mr. Payton. The house was formally opened on 18 May 1967. The cost of the work was £5,750.

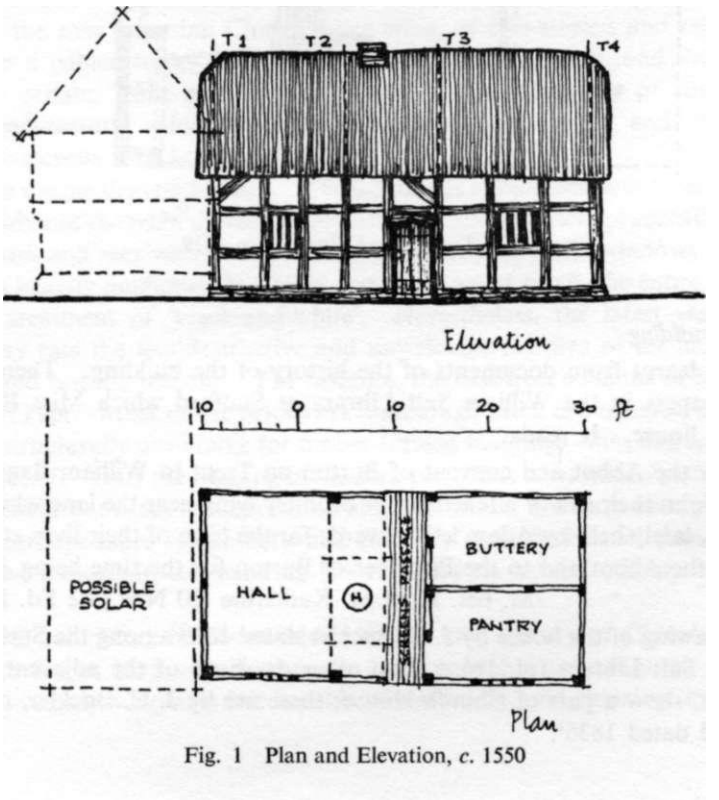

Fig. 1 Plan and Elevation, *c.* 1550

[1] **National Grid Reference SK 079246.**

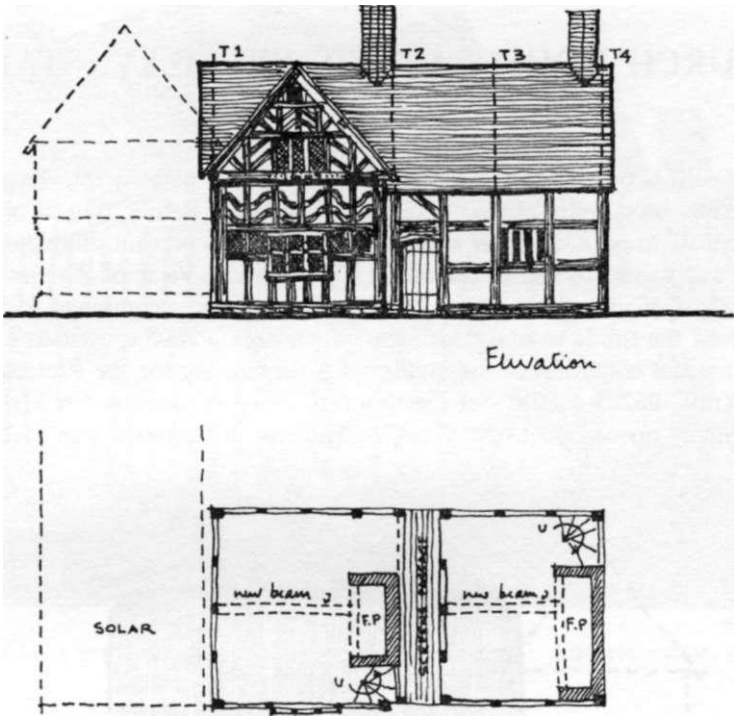

Fig. 2 Plan and Elevation, *c.* 1619

History of the building

Little can be learnt from documents of the history of the building. There is a record in the Anglesey papers in the William Salt Library at Stafford which Miss Rice[2] considered referred to the house. It reads:

> Lease by the Abbot and convent of Burton on Trent to William Bagot, Avisia his Wife and John their son of a tenement in Bromley lying near the lane which extends to the church, lately held by Adam le Mulward: for the term of their lives at a yearly rent of *I2d.* to the Abbot and to the Pittancer of Burton for the time being 4 *sh.*
> [Dated] M. bef. F. of St. Katherine [20 Nov.] 42 Ed. Ill [1368][3].

There is a drawing of the house by J. C. Buckler dated 1839 among the Staffordshire Views in the William Salt Library (pi. lb). Two other drawings of the adjacent almshouses, in the same Views, show a part of Church House; these are by J. C. Buckler, dated 1839, and by T. P. Wood dated 1836[4].

[2] **Miss M. A. Rice, *Abbots Bromley,* 1939, p. 24.**
[3] ***Staffordshire Historical Collections (S.H.C.),* 1937, p. 139.**
[4] ***S.H.C.,* 1942-3, p. 3.**

The Development of the House

There are at least three dates of building, though nothing remains of the medieval house except a few timbers and its probable ground plan to which the present building conforms (fig. 1). The plan is that of a hall of two bays and service bay lying parallel to Bagot Street, and solar cross-wing parallel with Church Lane, approximately at right angles to the hall range. The position of the medieval screens passage between the hall and the service bay had been and is still preserved. This is marked externally by the doorway, previously bricked up but now reopened, which has the date '1619' cut in the lintel. The numerals appear to be authentic and could commemorate the reconstruction of the medieval open-roofed hall as a two-storeyed building with enclosed fire-place backing onto the screens passage (fig. 2). The reconstruction was thorough, involving new, probably higher, side-walls and rearrangement of the roof-trusses re-used from the earlier building, to free the headroom at first floor level. The medieval solar wing, if it existed, was probably retained until the next phase of building operations.

The third phase, according to the architectural style of decorative braces, the most prominent feature of the Bagot Street front, as well as the general design and construction of the present 'solar', took place in the mid-seventeenth century. Probably the oak panelling, now in a ground-floor room, with its initials, **TMB**, and date, 1659, marks the year of its completion. In addition to the new imposing Church Lane wing, of two-storeys and cellar, a charming staircase within a gabled turret at the back of the house was built, and the hall-part given a new, highly ornate, front and imposing gable. The character of the house and its considerable architectural value date from this period. Its design and structural quality speak of a prosperous and house-proud owner.

Decline set in during the last century. The house was subdivided into three mean dwellings, much of the timber of the front ground storey was replaced by brick, practically all the framing of the stair turret and rear wall of the hall range destroyed, crude windows were substituted for most of the heavily mullioned Jacobean ones, and, worst of all, the entire house was given the Victorian treatment of 'black-and-white'. Nevertheless, the latest reconstruction has respected at any rate the less destructive and unwelcome features of the last century - both for economic and historic reasons. For instance, the cast-iron columns in both the hall and wing have been kept. Most of the brickwork—although brick is a material completely out of character and structurally unsuitable for timber-framed buildings—has had to be retained but made weatherproof. Only the framing of the stair turret has been wholly restored. Windows have been renewed, but exact replicas of the originals would not have been practicable. The new ones are perhaps more sympathetic and certainly more functional than those they have replaced. Most important, the building has regained its natural colours of oak and lime-plaster.

Thus a fourth rebuilding has been added to the long history of Church House, and its future is secure for as long as a few people have enough imagination to see that ancient structures are not only adaptable but capable of outlasting, and shaming, many buildings of today.

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OBITUARY

We regret to record the death on 19 September 1967 of Mr. F. H. Lyon, the first Chairman of our Society and the first Director of the excavations at Wall.

PROGRAMME 1966-7

1966

June 4 Worcester Cathedral. Instructional visit on medieval church architecture
Leader: M. M. Hallett

June 18 Day excursion to Ironbridge, Coalbrookdale Ironworks; Baxter's Cottage, Eaton Constantine; Pitchford Church; Acton Burnell Castle and Church; Langley Chapel and gatehouse
Leaders: M. M. Hallett and J. Gould

July 2 Day excursion to Haselour Hall (Mr. and Mrs. R. S. A. Hardy); Grendon Church; Polesworth Church and site of Nunnery (Mr. S. J. Roberts); Merevale Church, and Abbey ruins; Kingsbury Church and Hall ruins; Curdworth Church (Rev. J. W. Duffy, Rector) and site of Civil War engagement
Leaders: J. P. M. Yardley and J. Gould

Oct. 7 Annual General Meeting
Sharpley Pool Furnace, Shrawley, Worcs. - M. M. Hallett
Scheduled Buildings in Lichfield area - J. P. M. Yardley

Oct. 13 Civic Evening at King's Hill School, Lichfield
Is Archaeology a waste of time? - Dr. F. Celoria, **F.S.A.**
Staffordshire Monasteries - M. Greenslade, **F.S.A.**

Oct. 21 Results of Aerial Photography in the Midlands - James Pickering
(At Town Hall, Tamworth)

Nov. 4 Industrial Archaeology in Shropshire - D. Walters

Nov. 17 Archaeology of Towns - P. A. Barker, **F.S.A.**
(At Town Hall, Tamworth)

Dec. 2 History of Firearms - G. Wilding, **A.M.I.MECH.E.**

Dec. 9 Early ironworking in the Tamworth area - Geo. R. Morton
(At Town Hall, Tamworth)

1967

Jan. 6 Excavations of a Romano-British pottery kiln at Trent Vale - A. R. Mountford

Jan. 20 Travel Evening at St. Chad's Hall, Lichfield
Chateaux of the Loire - J. P. M. Yardley
Norway - Mrs. D. Alcock and W. Ray

Jan. 27 Roman Bath-houses - Charles Daniels, **F.S.A.**
(At Town Hall, Tamworth)

Feb. 3 Postal History and Walsall Franks - F. G. Holloway

Feb. 10 Parliamentary History of the Borough of Tamworth 1660-1832 - D. G. Stuart
(At Town Hall, Tamworth)

Feb. 17 Travel Evening at St. Chad's Hall, Lichfield
Masada - S. Avery

Mar. 3 Heraldry - J. H. P. Oxspring, **M.B.E.**

Mar. 17 An Archaeologist with a Camera in the Eastern Mediterranean - A. A. Round
(At Town Hall, Tamworth)

EXCAVATIONS

Excavations in the area to be used for an extension of the churchyard at Wall were carried out by the Society, under the direction of Mr. J. Gould, **F.S.A**. on behalf of the Ministry of Public Building and Works, 1-26 August 1966.

Excavations continued on other sites in Wall each week-end, and from September 1966 these were under the direction of Mr. A. A. Round.