

## 1. WALES

By Evan M. Chapman

### CARDIFF

(1) **Ely**, *Cardiff Western High School*, (ST 1454 7588): a programme of archaeological evaluation, 14 trenches, revealed the remains of a number of small, parallel ditches on north-east/south-west and north-west/south-east alignments, across both the school and the park site. The ditches appeared to represent the remains of a former agricultural field divisions and systems, which may have evolved in association Ely Roman Villa,<sup>1</sup> just to the north-east of the site. A number of sherds of pottery dating to the Roman period were recovered from the features together with unstratified *tegula* and ceramic building material of Roman date.<sup>2</sup>

### DENBIGHSHIRE

(1) **Llanynys Community** (SJ 11 59): a group of 15 Roman copper-alloy coins of mid-fourth-century date, deposited c. A.D. 350 or later, fused (by corrosion?) in a single rouleau. The group including a Lyon mint chi-rho type of Magnentius/Decentius.<sup>3</sup>

### GWYNEDD

(1) **Caernarfon**, *Cae Mawr* (SH 479 623): further geophysical survey in the adjoining fields of Cae Isaf and Stack Yard Field suggested that a linear anomaly crossing Cae Mawr continued through Cae Isaf and into Stack Yard Field,<sup>4</sup> but there was no conclusive evidence of any further archaeology in either field. A 6 m by 2 m trench was opened at the junction of three possible linear anomalies. A slight line of stones was revealed, apparently running approximately east–west across the trench, which coincide with the linear anomaly but there was no feature obvious in the sides of the trench. It appeared that the stones were sitting on or in the natural with no visible cut or trench for them. There was no suggestion of this feature being structural: the remains of a building or road. It is possible that they are the remains of a very damaged and ploughed out earlier field boundary. A few small pieces of poor quality Roman pottery were found in the trench suggesting activity in this area during the period but no conclusive evidence for any structures of Roman date.<sup>5</sup>

### MERTHYR TYDFIL

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<sup>1</sup> *An Inventory of the Ancient Monuments in Glamorgan. Volume I: Pre-Norman, Part II: The Iron Age and the Roman Occupation* (RCAHMW, 1976), 115-18, no. 762.

<sup>2</sup> Work by K. Bain and R. Blackburn of Headland Archaeology (Midlands and West) for Wilmot Dixon Construction, in advance of the development of the site. Headland Archaeology Report HAS 1241. S. Thomson sent information.

<sup>3</sup> Found with a metal detector Treasure case Wales 17.16. To be acquired by Denbighshire Museums Service. E. Besly sent information.

<sup>4</sup> For previous work see *Britannia* 48 (2017), 320.

<sup>5</sup> Geophysical survey by D. Hopewell of Gwynedd Archaeological Trust and other fieldwork by GAT Volunteers: C. Hughes, J. Marples and R. Mwyn. Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Report: G2516. R. Mwyn sent information.

(1) **Vaynor Community** (SO 04 11): five denarii: Republic, 2; Galba, 1; Vespasian, 1; Nerva, 1. Deposited A.D. 96 or later.<sup>6</sup>

#### SWANSEA

(1) **Mumbles, Mumbles Hill** (SS 6248 8751): a community excavation investigated a horizon of shell and heat-fractured stones (cobbles and fragments of hammerstone) associated with Roman pottery. The site, set on a plateau below the main summit with commanding views over the peninsula and surrounding coast, measured 11 m north–south by 12 m east–west, defined by depressions/scoops to the north-west, north-east and south-west, and a scarp with a lower platform extending a c. 8.5 m to the east and south-east. Originally identified as a midden it is considered more likely to represent a processing surface or floor relating to the production of seafood, given its form and location. An interpretation supported by the sparse archaeobotanical evidence recovered. A number of infilled linear cut features were revealed beneath the Roman shell horizon, indicative of an earlier phase potentially related to mineral or stone extraction. The Roman pottery from the site comprised 42 sherds, mostly black burnished ware, and probably from no more than seven vessels, ranging in date from the second to the fourth century. The only fine ware was samian, represented by only three small fragments, which showed signs of having been burnt.<sup>7</sup>

#### VALE OF GLAMORGAN

(1) **Llancarfan Community** (ST 03 69): 2 radiates and 114 nummi, deposited c. A.D. 348 or later. Radiates: Tetricus, 1; Carausius, 1. Nummi: pre-330, 7; 330–5, 79; 335–40, 19; 340 and later, 6; uncertain, 3. The coins were found on the site of a previous discovery of a hoard of over 800 nummi and must be strays from this.<sup>8</sup> The presence of two FEL TEMP REPARATIO ‘Phoenix’ issues in the new portion suggests a slightly later date for the deposit than previously thought.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Found with a metal detector. Treasure case Wales 17.28. E. Besly sent information.

<sup>7</sup> Work by R. Roberts and S. Clements of Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust for Mumbles Development Trust and City and County of Swansea funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. GGAT Report 2017/ 029. R. Roberts sent information.

<sup>8</sup> G.C. Boon, ‘A Constantinian hoard from Llanbethery, near Barry, Co. Glamorgan’, *Numismatic Chronicle* 1960, 253-265.

<sup>9</sup> Found with a metal detector. Treasure case Wales 17.05. To be acquired by Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales. E. Besly sent information.