

6. EAST ANGLIA

By ALICE LYONS

ESSEX

(1) **Colchester**, Alderman Blaxill School, Paxman Avenue (TL 9763 2324): the Gosbecks to Colchester Roman road should pass through this site. Evaluation (five trial-trenches) in advance of the demolition of the existing school and erection of a new secondary school proved that the road remains elusive. Two parallel ditches may be those defining a footway along one side of the road, but there were no ditches within 7 m of either side (the width of the main carriageway).¹

(2) **Colchester**, *Duncan's Gate, Castle Park* (TL 9992 2555): Duncan's Gate is the single-carriageway north-eastern gate through the Roman town walls. Monitoring focussed on the conservation of collapsed masonry south of the gate, which has been interpreted as the remains of the collapsed gate tower and may incorporate the edges of two window openings. Cleaning of the collapse prior to conservation (the reattachment of several tile courses) allowed a section to be recorded, providing an accurate depth of the collapsed masonry.²

(3) **Colchester**, *Essex County Hospital*, (TL 98923 24878): archaeological monitoring and recording of windowless sampler boreholes and three trial pits at the site of the Essex County Hospital produced further evidence of Roman Colchester in the form of several features and a high volume of archaeological material, including pottery, ceramic building material, animal bone and iron nails, primarily dating to the later Roman period.³

(4) **Great Chesterford**, *Chesterfords Community Centre, Newmarket Road* (TL 50677 43309): the site overlaps the eastern defences of the first-century fort (though the trench position were wholly outside the fort). The later fourth-century walled Roman town is 300 m to the east. Evaluation (three trial-trenches) in advance of the construction of a school revealed five undated features, and a ditch which may be the boundary of the eastern cemetery of the Roman town.⁴

(5) **Harlow**, *Land off Gilden Way* (TL 4815 1225): two phases of evaluation followed on from previous trench evaluations, and field-walking and geophysical surveys. During Phase 2 Iron Age and Roman activity was uncovered consisting of ditches and pits. These remains were largely adjacent to similar areas of activity identified by previous evaluation.⁵

(6) **Lindsell**: hoard containing 17 clipped silver siliquae: 355–78, 1 (Uncertain mint); 360–3, 1 (Arles); 364–88, 1 (Uncertain mint); 375–88, 1 (Uncertain mint); 388–95, 3 (Milan, 1; Trier or Milan, 1;

¹ Work by N. Rayner and E. Hicks for Colchester Archaeological Trust on behalf of Barnes Construction. H. Brooks sent information.

² Work by M. Baister and G. Morgan for Colchester Archaeological Trust on behalf of Colchester Borough Council. Howard Brooks sent information.

³ Work by P. Lambert of OA East for Essex Housing (Essex County Council); OA East Report 2140. K. Hamilton sent information.

⁴ Ben Holloway for Colchester Archaeological Trust on behalf of Montessori Group. Howard Brooks sent information.

⁵ Work by N. Gilmour of OA East for CgMs; OA East Report 2172. K. Hamilton sent information.

Uncertain mint, 1); 388–402, 3 (Trier or Milan) 395–402, 7 (Milan). Deposited c. A.D. 395–402 or later.⁶

(7) **Lindsell II**: hoard containing 3 clipped silver siliquae: 375–88, 1 (Uncertain mint); 375–95, 1 (Trier); 395–402, 1 (Milan). Deposited c. A.D. 395–402 or later.⁷

(8) **Weeley, St Andrew's Road** (TM 14930 22120): excavation in advance of house building uncovered a late Iron Age/early Roman semi-circular enclosure surrounded by irregular field boundaries and pits. These were replaced in the second to third century by a rectilinear field system.⁸

NORFOLK

(1) **Bawburgh, Bawburgh road**, (TG 1514 0843): dense prehistoric flint scatters had previously been recorded from the area around the site, whilst Roman and Saxon artefacts had also been found immediately to the north, around the area of the church. Archaeological evaluation revealed a ditch likely to date to between the later first century B.C. and the mid-first century A.D. in the southwest part of the site, and a Saxo-Norman pit and ditch in the northeast area closer to the church.⁹

(2) **East Carleton I**: hoard containing 8 denarii: Mark Antony, 1; Vespasian, 1; Domitian, 1; Trajan, 2; Hadrian, 3. Deposited c. A.D. 134–8 or later (original find).¹⁰

(3) **East Carleton II**: hoard containing 3 siliquae: A.D. 355–6, 1 (uncertain mint); A.D. 388–95, 1 (uncertain mint); A.D. 395–402, 1 (Milan). Deposited c. A.D. 395–402 or later.¹¹

(4) **Hevingham**: hoard containing 6 siliquae: A.D. 379–383, 1 (Trier); A.D. 392–4, 1 (Trier); A.D. 380–388, 1 (?Trier); A.D. 388–402, 1 (uncertain mint); A.D. 395–402, 1 (Milan); Uncertain date, 1. All heavily clipped. Deposited c. A.D. 395–402 or later.¹²

⁶ BM ref. 2017 T213, addenda to 1998-9 find; PAS ID: ESS-6A2235. E. Ghey sent information.

⁷ BM ref. 2017 T259; PAS ID: ESS-816C81. This group and the group above were found sufficiently far apart to be treated as separate deposits. S. Flynn sent information.

⁸ N. Rayner and S. Carter for Colchester Archaeological Trust on behalf of NEEB Holdings Ltd. H. Brooks sent information.

⁹ Supervised by M. Peachey for Archaeological Project Services on behalf of Calvert, Brain and Fraulo Architectural Limited. A. Beeby sent information.

¹⁰ BM ref. 2017 T565, addenda to 2015 T858; PAS ID: NMS-B433DE. A. Marsden and J. Shoemark sent information.

¹¹ BM ref. 2017 T563, addenda to 2015 T859; PAS ID: NMS-074379. A. Marsden and J. Shoemark sent information.

¹² BM ref. 2017 T800, addenda to 2012 T343; PAS ID: NMS-A57D66. A. Marsden and J. Shoemark sent information.

(5) **Wymondham**, *Wymondham Water Recycling Centre* (TG 09603 02913): monitoring of groundworks identified one Roman ditch, one undated ditch and two modern service trenches. An isolated assemblage of early Roman domestic pottery was found, along with residual struck flint.¹³

SUFFOLK

(1) **Cookley**: hoard containing 12 *denarii*: Republic, 9; Mark Antony, 2; Augustus, 1. Deposited c. 2 B.C.–A.D. 4 or later.¹⁴

(2) **Felixstowe**, *Land North of Candlet Road* (TM 30190 36230): an evaluation identified a late Iron Age to early Roman farmstead sited on a spur of high ground at the confluence of two small streams, with ditches and pits of a similar date to the south.¹⁵

(3) **Felixstowe**, *Land West of Ferry Road* (TM 315 363): evaluation comprising 34 trenches produced a small assemblage of residual Roman pottery and brick, which could only be broadly dated to the Roman period.¹⁶

(4) **Melton**, *Woods Lane* (TM 2750): following a desk-based assessment, geophysical survey and an initial phase of targeted trial trenching in 2014 by Headland Archaeology, this second phase of evaluation investigated two areas north of Woods Lane (A1152) totalling 8.09 ha. Archaeological features principally comprising pits and ditches were mostly concentrated in the south-west, near the junction of the A12 and Woods Lane. These remains defined probable field boundaries and associated settlement activity dating to the Middle Iron Age and late Iron Age/early Roman periods.

Subsequent excavation of a 1.34 ha area in the south-west of the site targeted a concentration of remains identified by the evaluation. A moderately complex, multi-phase system of field boundary ditches and gullies, accompanied by contemporary pits, spanning the Middle to late Iron Age and late Iron Age to early Roman periods, was recorded. These features likely constituted settlement and agricultural land use. Middle to late Roman land use activity was represented by several large midden spreads, which were rich in pottery and metal artefacts.¹⁷

(5) **Yaxley**, *Eye Airfield* (TM 1274): evaluation revealed two areas of Roman activity. The first included a possible kiln or oven flue and was potentially part of an area of industrial activity. The second comprised a scatter of ditches and pits and is likely to represent the remains of a small rural farmstead. Pottery from these two areas spans the entire Roman period, but with two apparent peaks in activity between A.D. 40-100 and A.D. 150-300.¹⁸

¹³ L. Bush of OA East for Anglian Water; OA East Report 2114. K. Hamilton sent information.

¹⁴ BM ref. 2017 T720; PAS ID: SF-1FC3B8. A. Booth sent information.

¹⁵ Work by J. Streatfield-James of Cotswold Archaeology. J. Cook sent information.

¹⁶ Work by C. Jackson of Pre-Construct Archaeology for CgMs Consulting. K. Anderson sent information.

¹⁷ Work by K. Heard and S. King of Archaeology South-East for CgMs Consulting. F. Minter of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service sent information.

¹⁸ Work by N. Gilmour of Oxford Archaeology East for Drax Power Limited. F. Minter of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service sent information.