

Roman Britain in 2019

SITES EXPLORED *Edited by* PETE WILSON

1. WALES *By* Evan M. Chapman

CEREDIGION

(1) **Trefeurig Community** (SN 66 84): a hoard of 69 radiates dating from A.D. 260-74. The presence of two contemporary copies of official coins of the deified Claudius II could indicate a deposition date of *c.* A.D. 275-85, when contemporary copies were produced in very large numbers, however the apparent lack of other contemporary copies or official coins from post- A.D. 275 does not rule out an earlier deposition date. Gallienus (sole reign), 3; Claudius II, 3; Victorinus, 8; Tetricus I, 13; Tetricus II, 2; Uncertain Gallic Emperor (A.D. 260-274), 3; Uncertain (probably A.D. 260-274), 35; Irregular Divus Claudius (*c.* A.D. 270), 2. The coins are the second group of Roman coins to have been discovered in the field. In 1998, a scattered group of 48 radiates, known as the Salem Hoard, was discovered at the same location.¹ The very close proximity of this hoard, the similar condition of the coins (including coins fused together), the very similar composition and the scattered nature of the two finds suggests that they were originally buried together as one hoard.²

FLINTSHIRE

(1) **Flint**, 241 *Chester Road* (SJ 25299 72437): A watching brief 120 m to the north-west of the Roman building complex at Pentre Farm,³ produced no evidence related to Roman occupation.⁴

GWYNEDD

(1) **Pennal**, *Cefn-Caer* (SH 7040 0012):⁵ a small area excavated by hand, adjacent to one electricity pole, located along the line of the north-western rampart of the fort, identified material likely to be part of the earthen rampart, although disturbed by the erection of the pole in the 1950s. A watching brief, maintained during the removal by machine of this pole, and another located outside the fort, recovered no artefacts.⁶

MONMOUTHSHIRE

(1) **Caerwent**, *Eastgate Cottage* (ST 47092 90496): a watching brief revealed the remains of an occupation layer and some cut features dated to the second century. The Roman remains

¹ *Britannia* 30 (1999), 320.

² Treasure case Wales 18.14. To be acquired by Ceredigion Museum. Alastair Willis provided information.

³ NPRN 92976. R.J. Silvester, 'Pentre', in B.D. Burnham and J.L. Davies, *Roman Frontiers in Wales and the Marches* (2010), 308.

⁴ Work by Richard Hankinson of Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust during excavation of the foundations for a new extension.

⁵ NPRN 300159. D. Hopewell, 'Pennal (Cefn Caer)', in B.D. Burnham and J.L. Davies, *Roman Frontiers in Wales and the Marches* (2010), 272-5.

⁶ Work by Richard Hankinson of Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust. during the replacement of two electricity poles.

uncovered in the eastern and northern trenches were protected and preserved *in situ*. Remains uncovered in the western trench could not be preserved because of the need for the footing to reach a depth of 1.30 m.⁷

POWYS

(1) **Brecon Gaer** (SO 00350 29674):⁸ a photogrammetric survey of the upstanding masonry associated with the west, south and east gates, as well as the north-east turret and the adjacent section of the north wall was carried out to provide a detailed record of the masonry prior to any further reconsolidation. Study of the monthly progress reports produced by the Ministry of Works foreman during the consolidation of the structural remains undertaken from 1959 to 1969 revealed that much of the exposed masonry on the site had been taken down and rebuilt, especially on the three surviving gates. A comparison between the 1920s excavation photos and the upstanding masonry on the site, however, suggested that this work had been done to a very high standard, with abnormalities within the build, such as slumping and bowing in the wall courses recreated during the renovation.⁹

(2) **Penpont** (SN 9728 2736): investigation of a track that it had been suggested might follow the line of the Roman road between the forts at Brecon Gaer and Coelbren produced no evidence for a Roman road. The existing earthwork consisted of a terraced track which had been cut into the slope, with the spoil used to create a bank on the downslope side. The form of the track and the lack of any compacted road surface suggest that it was likely to be post-medieval in origin.¹⁰

VALE OF GLAMORGAN

(1) **Cowbridge**, (a) *Broadgate House* (SS 99171 74824): a watching brief revealed discrete evidence of Roman and medieval occupation.¹¹

(b) *27 High Street* (SS 99514 74621): a watching brief showed that archaeological layers were preserved below the modern concrete floor slab. Residual Roman pottery and ceramic building material (brick and tile) showed that the site had been occupied during the second century, but no Roman structural features were recorded.¹²

WREXHAM

(1) **Sesswick Community** (SJ 39 48): scattered associated group of six denarii, deposited c. A.D. 141–61. Hadrian, 2; Antoninus Pius, 2 (Antoninus Pius, 1, Diva Faustina I, 1); Uncertain (Trajan or Hadrian), 1; Uncertain, 1.¹³

⁷ Work by Jean-Yves Robic of Cardiff Archaeological Consultants, in 2017, during the groundworks for an extension. Report 2017/15.

⁸ P.J. Casey and J.L. Davies, 'Brecon Gaer', in B.D. Burnham and J.L. Davies, *Roman Frontiers in Wales and the Marches* (2010), 200-04.

⁹ Work by Will Logan and Richard Hankinson of Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, on behalf of Cadw.

¹⁰ Work by Will Logan of Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, in advance of improvements to the trackway.

¹¹ Work by Jean-Yves Robic of Cardiff Archaeological Consultants during preparatory work for a new extension. Report 2017/04.

¹² Work by Jean-Yves Robic of Cardiff Archaeological Consultants during refurbishment of the property. Report 2017/18.

¹³ Treasure case Wales 18.03. To be acquired by Wrexham Museum. Edward Besly provided information.

2. SCOTLAND

By Fraser Hunter

NORTH OF THE ANTONINE WALL

HIGHLAND

(1) **Old Stirkoke** (ND 33 49): the discovery of two further denarii (of Titus and Antoninus Pius)¹⁴ from the vicinity of this broch hints at a scattered hoard.

PERTH AND KINROSS

(1) **Bertha** (NO 097 268): magnetometry survey was undertaken over the fort site, accompanied by limited test-pitting to assess the monument's condition.¹⁵ Results are consistent with those from previous work.¹⁶

(2) **Innerdunning** (NO 03 17): an enamelled copper-alloy headstud brooch fragment¹⁷ is probably connected to activity at the nearby temporary camp at Forteviot.¹⁸

STIRLING

(1) **Stirling, King's Park** (NS 78145 93082): evaluation¹⁹ of a small Iron Age enclosed site produced a sherd of first-century *mortarium*.²⁰

FIFE

(1) **Strathmiglo** (NO 21 12): two denarii (Hadrian and Marcus Aurelius) found together might hint at the presence of a scattered hoard.²¹

THE ANTONINE WALL

FALKIRK

(1) **Falkirk**: (a) *6 Booth Place* (NS 8899 7977): trial excavation²² confirmed that the Ditch runs slightly to the north of this point, with the trench lying on the berm.

¹⁴ Claimed as Treasure Trove; now in Dunbeath Heritage Centre. A *denarius* of Antoninus Pius for Diva Faustina I was found in 2004; see J.D. Bateson and N.M. McQ. Holmes, *PSAS* 136, 2006, 164.

¹⁵ During assessment of the proposed Cross Tay Link Road scheme by Red River Archaeology for Perth and Kinross Council; James Hession sent a report.

¹⁶ *Britannia* 40, 2009, 226–7, fig. 5.

¹⁷ Found by metal-detecting; claimed as Treasure Trove, and now in Perth Museum.

¹⁸ R.H. Jones, *Roman Camps in Scotland* (2011), 205.

¹⁹ As a research project by Murray Cook and Michelle MacIver of Rampart Scotland, who provided details.

²⁰ Other Roman finds from Iron Age sites in 2019 comprised two sherds of first-second century bottle glass from excavation of a settlement at Knowe of Swandro, Rousay, Orkney, and trumpet brooches found by metal-detecting on or near Iron Age sites at Hallydown Hill and Duns Law (both Scottish Borders). An Alcester brooch from Maxton (Scottish Borders) adds to a growing cluster of Roman finds from this findspot of uncertain character. For more details of all discoveries, see *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 2019*.

²¹ Claimed as Treasure Trove; now in National Museums Scotland.

²² By Geoff Bailey of Falkirk Cultural Trust, who sent a report.

(b) *Pleasance Gardens, former United Free Church* (NS 8923 8013): an evaluation trench²³ confirmed the location of the southern lip of the Antonine Wall Ditch, close to the north gate of the Roman fort.

(2) **Laurieston**: (a) *72 Grahamsdyke St.* (NS 9134 7952): trial trenches²⁴ south of the Wall encountered the collapsed remains of the rampart overlying the Roman ground surface; a patch of metalling and remains of a shoe were found. It indicates Roman activity of uncertain character in the area, probably connected with Mumrills fort.

(b) *98 Grahamsdyke St* (NS 9146 7952): a small trench²⁵ located collapsed material from the Wall.

SOUTH OF THE ANTONINE WALL

SCOTTISH BORDERS

(1) **Pennymuir** (NT 753 136): drone survey²⁶ of the temporary camps and the adjacent line of Dere St, running over Woden Law hillfort, provided 3D models of the area.

(2) **Town Yetholm** (NT 81 28): small hoard of nine badly-worn fourth-century copper-alloy nummi, minimi and contemporary copies.²⁷

3. HADRIAN'S WALL

By ROB COLLINS

[No material received for online publication]

4. NORTHERN ENGLAND

By ROB COLLINS

[No material received for online publication]

5. MIDLANDS

By Alice Lyons

BEDFORDSHIRE

(1) **Biggleswade**, *Land off Furzenhall Road* (TL 1945 3462): superseding an Iron Age enclosure, Roman features included variously aligned ditches and pits which probably related to activity on the periphery of a settlement. A ditched road was also uncovered which may have had its origins in the Roman period²⁸.

²³ For the developer by Geoff Bailey of Falkirk Cultural Trust, who sent a report.

²⁴ For the owner by Geoff Bailey of Falkirk Cultural Trust, who sent a report.

²⁵ Dug by Geoff Bailey for Falkirk Cultural Trust.

²⁶ By T. Hunt and J. Dent.

²⁷ Claimed as Treasure Trove; now in National Museums Scotland.

²⁸ Robin Webb, OA East; for Orion Heritage; OA East report 2378. Compiled by Katherine Hamilton and Tom Phillips.

(2) **Houghton Regis North 1**, (a) *Site HRN3455* (TL 0160 2543): excavation of a 3.5 m-wide, c. 350 m-long corridor through a Roman settlement, which evaluation indicated extended over 5 ha on either side of the Ouzel Brook.²⁹ A number of ditches were found, confirming the presence of a series of large enclosures. A c. 6 m x 3.5 m cobbled surface may be the remains of a yard or building and the stone-free deposits above the surface contained 13 fragments of human skull. Elsewhere in the corridor a pit contained a flagon sherd that bears a Latin inscription written in black ink translated as: ‘For a flagon of the gods Jupiter and Vulcan’.³⁰

(b) *Site HRN3456* (TL 0236 2560): excavations uncovered a small block of bedding trenches which continued beyond the limit of the excavation.³¹ It comprised seven northeast to southwest aligned trenches, c. 1 m wide, 0.25 m deep and c. 6 m apart, all of which terminated by a north-west to south-east aligned ditch. Similar small blocks of bedding trenches are known elsewhere in Bedfordshire.³²

(c) *Site HRN3457* (TL 0254 2569): excavation over 2.5 ha uncovered two large enclosures established during the late Iron Age/early Roman period.³³ A scatter of small-medium sized pits, at least three four-post structures and the finds assemblage suggests this represents a farmstead. The layout of the enclosures was revised, probably in the second century, but the limited finds assemblage suggests that these enclosures were being used purely for non-settlement activities at this time.

(3) **Millbrook**, *Millbrook Power Project* (TL 0183 4013): evaluation revealed the continuation of a known Romano-British settlement in the north-west of the development area and scattered archaeological features of indeterminate date along the route of a proposed pipeline.³⁴

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

(1) **Aylesbury**, (a) *Berryfields* (SP 7890 1520): an archaeological watching brief was carried out during a test pitting exercise at Roman Park in advance of tree planting.³⁵ The excavations identified the archaeological horizon above two Roman ditches at 0.62 m below the current ground level in the west of the site. The natural clay geology was identified in the north-west of the site at between 0.4 m and 0.5 m below the current ground level and in the south-east and north-east at 0.65 m below the current ground level. Made ground was encountered across the site which was deposited above a probable buried ploughsoil horizon.

(b) *Kingsbrook* (SP 8488 1482): an evaluation in July 2019 comprised 69 trenches; archaeological features were identified within four of these. A Roman boundary ditch was

²⁹ Work by Albion Archaeology. Text by Mike Luke and Kathy Pilkinton. Fieldwork led by Wes Keir, Tori Guy and Kathy Pilkinton. M. Luke sent information.

³⁰ *Britannia* 50 (2019), 496-7.

³¹ Work by Albion Archaeology. Text by Mike Luke and Kathy Pilkinton. Fieldwork led by Wes Keir and Kathy Pilkinton. M. Luke sent information.

³² M. Luke, *Close to the Loop: landscape and settlement evolution beside the Biddenham Loop, west of Bedford*, East Anglian Archaeology 156 (2016).

³³ Work by Albion Archaeology. Text by Mike Luke and Kathy Pilkinton. Fieldwork led by Wes Keir and Kathy Pilkinton. M. Luke sent information.

³⁴ Tim Lewis, OA East; for Drax Power Ltd; OA East report 2383. Compiled by Katherine Hamilton and Tom Phillips.

³⁵ Work by Gavin Davis for John Moore Heritage Services: OASIS ID: johnmoor1-334003. Compiled by Sarah Doherty and Tom Rose-Jones.

revealed at the western end of the site which may have formed part of a series of rectilinear enclosures which were identified in a previous evaluation to the west.³⁶

(2) **Milton Keynes, Broughton, Glebelands** (SP 9176 3918): an excavation between September and November 2018 revealed a small open-ended rectangular Roman enclosure. Pottery from its ditches suggests that it was in use between *c.* A.D. 170–250. Finds were sparse, and there were very few internal features. The enclosure may have been associated with a settlement previously investigated at Magna Park to the south.³⁷

(3) **Olney, west of Warrington Road** SP 8895 5260: an evaluation in April 2018 comprised nine trenches. A geophysical survey of the site had identified the presence of a rectangular enclosure and associated features. It was believed this activity was associated with the known Roman settlement located directly to the east, which is a Scheduled Monument (NHL: 1006918). The archaeological features identified in the trenching were confined to the eastern half of the site. The presence of the rectangular enclosure was confirmed, along with the remains of a Roman building with a tiled roof. The recovered artefacts, including pottery, tile, animal bone, glass and metal objects, suggest the features date to the late Roman period, although an origin for the settlement earlier in the Roman period cannot be ruled out. Historic mapping and LiDAR survey both indicated the presence of a trackway within the northern half of the development area. Linear features recorded within the north-eastern part of the site may represent a trackway, but these were only found within one trench.³⁸

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

(1) **Ely, Field G, Land north-west of Ely** (TL 5375 8154): excavation uncovered a rectilinear Roman field system.³⁹

(2) **Hauxton, M11 Junction 11 Park and Ride** (TL 4357 5345): evaluation exposed a north-west to south-east and north-east to south-west aligned Roman field system along with several extraction pits of a similar date.⁴⁰

(3) **Impington, Land at Impington Lane** (TL 4445 6347): a nine trench evaluation followed by an open area excavation covering an area of 0.3 ha was undertaken in advance of residential development. With Later Iron Age origins, the site revealed evidence for Roman rectilinear enclosures and associated pits and postholes. Of interest were a series of late Iron Age and early Roman charcoal rich features within a series of enclosures, possibly representing agri-industrial activities, such as bread ovens, small-scale metalworking and/or crop processing. The associated finds assemblages suggest that activity was limited to the

³⁶ Excavation by Jim Mumford and Mark Dodd of Oxford Archaeology for Orion Heritage on behalf of Barratt David Wilson Homes. K. Smith sent information.

³⁷ Excavation by Gary Evans and Lee Sparks, report by Steven Teague of Oxford Archaeology for CgMs Heritage (part of the RPS Group). K. Smith sent information.

³⁸ Excavation by Rachael Daniel, report by John Boothroyd of Oxford Archaeology for CgMs Heritage (now RPS Group). K. Smith sent information

³⁹ Neal Mason, OA East; for Ely North Consortium LLP; OA East Report 2318. Compiled by Katherine Hamilton and Tom Phillips.

⁴⁰ Nicholas Cox, OA East; for Mott MacDonald on behalf of GCP; OA East Report 2372. Compiled by Katherine Hamilton and Tom Phillips

early Roman period (mid-late first century A.D.), with the site seemingly going out of use in the late first-early second century A.D.⁴¹

(4) **Litlington**, *Sheen Farm* (TL 5136 4238): Roman remains, including pottery, animal bone and a coin were recovered from a series of linear ditches and discrete features in two trenches towards the south-eastern boundary of the site. The pottery was of significance as local and imported coarse and fine wares were represented, with a similar range of forms and fabrics to those from the Roman villa estate, 250 m to the west of Sheen Farm. The potential for this assemblage to be associated with the villa is further enhanced by the presence of ceramic building material which included tegula, imbrex and box flue tile.⁴²

(5) **Mepal**, *Land east of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road* (TL 4415 8139): excavation exposed a series of enclosure ditches and a relatively large number of small pits associated with early Roman pottery and representing activity dating almost exclusively to the mid-first century A.D.⁴³

(6) **Over**, *Fen End* (TL 3797 7069): excavation revealed part of a system of probable early Roman cultivation beds overlain by more extensive medieval remains.⁴⁴

(7) **The Stukeleys**, *Grange Farm, Alconbury Weald* (TL 2314 7505): following on from several Iron Age enclosures, a probable early Roman field system consisting of parallel cultivation rows was found in the northern and southern parts of the investigation area. Over 100 of these features were exposed, alternating between north-west to south-east and north-east to south-west alignments, with an average spacing of around 5-6 m between them.⁴⁵

(8) **Waterbeach**, *Land to the rear of 10a Rosemary Road* (TL 4979 6523): excavation revealed a single Roman boundary ditch that represented the earliest activity on the site. There were also three ditches forming part of a possible trackway, which although undated, were clearly pre-medieval in origin and on a different alignment to the later boundaries and features. This 'track' may represent a route to a series of Roman settlement enclosures 1.2 km south-west of Waterbeach village centre.⁴⁶

(9) **Wilburton**, *Land to rear of 9 West End* (TL 4775 7495): evaluation revealed a dense concentration of early Roman ditches in the central and north-eastern part of the site that indicated the presence of Roman (and possibly earlier) activity ending by *c.* A.D. 70. Further undated ditches and pits spread across the evaluated area are likely to be part of a Roman or post-medieval field system.⁴⁷

⁴¹ Work by M. Jones, Pre-Construct Archaeology, for RPS on behalf of Hill Partnerships Ltd. K. Anderson sent information.

⁴² Rona Booth, OA East; for This Land Ltd; OA East Report 2283. Compiled by Katherine Hamilton and Tom Phillips.

⁴³ Dan Firth, OA East; for Mr Mark Littlefield; OA East Report 2356. Compiled by Katherine Hamilton and Tom Phillips.

⁴⁴ Kelly Sinclair, OA East; for Archaeology Collective on behalf of the landowners; OA East Report 2379. Compiled by Katherine Hamilton and Tom Phillips.

⁴⁵ Nicholas Cox, OA East; for RPS on behalf of Urban and Civic; OA East Report 2398. Compiled by Katherine Hamilton and Tom Phillips.

⁴⁶ Steven Graham, OA East; for Twenty-Nine Architecture; OA East Report 2375. Compiled by Katherine Hamilton and Tom Phillips

⁴⁷ Robin Webb, OA East; for The Trustees of B.S. Pell; OA East Report 2333. Compiled by Katherine Hamilton and Tom Phillips.

(10) **Witchford**, *Land South of Main Street* (TL 4938 7879): excavations from August to October 2019 in advance of a housing development revealed a site of multiple phases of occupation from the middle Iron Age through to the first and second centuries A.D. Middle Iron Age curvilinear enclosures were replaced by a larger, more regular enclosure in the late Iron Age and then a Roman field system, with a well.⁴⁸

(11) **Wyton**, *Land at RAF Wyton, Sawtry Way* (TL 28205 75009): a trial trench evaluation identified an area of Roman settlement activity, with late Iron Age origins comprising pits and ditches concentrated near the centre of the proposed development site. The site appears to have peaked in the late Iron Age and earlier Roman period, with occupation spanning to the later Roman period, although it is uncertain as to whether or not this reflects continuous occupation. Some degree of metal working was inferred from the small quantities of slag found in some features, while evidence for milling was provided by fragmentary quernstones and environmental data points to cereal production and consumption.⁴⁹

DERBYSHIRE

(1) **Parwich**: coins were found in woodland, scattered in an area in the side of a Bronze Age barrow. The majority of coins date between A.D. 330–48 and it would seem that they are either a single deposit (a hoard) or a series of deposits made in the same place over a period of several decades. Roman coins were found in the same place in the 19th century. Contents: 1 denarius, 4 radiates, 241 nummi, 14 radiates or nummi and 1 lead coin or token. Denarius: Septimius Severus (plated). Radiates: Gallienus (sole reign), 2; Uncertain Gallic, 1; Irregular, 1. Nummi: A.D. 330–41, 107 (Trier, 23; Lyon, 5; Arles, 3; Rome, 2; Aquileia, 1, Uncertain, 73); A.D. 341–8, 94 (Trier, 46; Lyon, 3; Arles, 1; Uncertain, 44); A.D. 348–64, 13 (Amiens, 1; Trier, 8; Uncertain, 4); A.D. 364–78, 3 (Trier, 1; Lyon, 1; Uncertain, 1); Irregular, 16, Uncertain, 8. Uncertain radiates or nummi, 14.⁵⁰

HERTFORDSHIRE

(1) **Near Ware**: a hoard of coins has been recorded. Contents: 1 gold stater, 2 gold quarter staters, 43 denarii and 4 artefacts. Denarii: Republic, 30; Mark Antony 5; Augustus, 5; Tiberius, 2 (including 1 plated forgery); Claudius I, 1. Iron Age: Gallo Belgic D quarter stater (ABC 40, 1.44 g); uninscribed British quarter stater (ABC 207, 1.21 g); stater of Cunobelin (ABC 2783, 5.25 g). Other finds⁵¹ are a Colchester brooch; a brooch fragment, a finger ring and a cruciform stud.⁵²

(2) **Welwyn Garden City**, *Land at Bessemer Road* (TL 24799 13968): trial trench evaluation in advance of redevelopment found a small area of archaeological preservation on this otherwise heavily disturbed brownfield site. One trench contained a late Iron Age to early Roman pit or ditch terminus containing 39 sherds (248 g) of early to mid-first-century A.D.

⁴⁸ Compiled by Joshua Hargreaves of Thames Valley Archaeological Services East Midlands. Submitted by Steve Ford.

⁴⁹ Work by A. Pullen, Pre-Construct Archaeology, for RPS on ENGIE Services Ltd. K. Anderson sent information.

⁵⁰ Submitted by Eleanor Ghey. BM ref. 2018 T385. PAS ID: DENO-3184D1. Buxton Museum hopes to acquire.

⁵¹ Identified by Philippa Walton.

⁵² BM ref. 2017 T1233, PAS ID: BH-48C2DD. Hertford Museum hopes to acquire. Eleanor Ghey sent information.

grog-tempered and wheel-finished pottery, including several cross-joining sherds. The finds suggest settlement nearby.⁵³

LEICESTERSHIRE

(1) **Bitteswell**, *West End Farm* (SP 53500 86000): evaluation 200 m north-west of the church of St. Mary's Bitteswell, revealed a gully containing fragments of fourth-century Roman pottery and an abundance of charcoal with many fragments of burned clay. The sharp, squared profile of the gully suggested that it might have a possible structural function, possibly a kiln flue or a wall-slot, but the material appeared to be dumped into the gully as there was no *in-situ* burning.⁵⁴

(2) **Lockington**, *Lockington Quarry* (SK 4828 1193): further work was carried out in the quarry, immediately to the south of a Scheduled Iron Age and Romano-British site, and to the north of areas of multi-period occupation and field systems recorded in recent years. A multiple pit alignment that was re-cut as a ditched boundary is known to run south from the Scheduled sites through the fields, with magnetometry and aerial photo evidence suggesting it continues for several hundred metres before turning just before meeting a river channel. The boundary is part of an extensive system of later prehistoric and Romano-British land divisions. Current work exposed new areas of boundary and enclosure, and some discrete pit features: one pit was filled with quantities of fire cracked stone reminiscent of hot stone/burnt mounds⁵⁵.

(3) **Lutterworth**, *De Verdon Road* (SP 53338 842360): an archaeological evaluation located a concentration of gullies and pits along the eastern and southern sides of the area, many were undated, three features did produce Roman pottery from the first-second centuries A.D. These may relate to an Iron Age/Romano-British farmstead at Leaders Farm 100 m to the west.⁵⁶

(4) **Market Harborough**, *Burnmill Road* (SP 73019 88637): an archaeological excavation over a large area identified phases of late Iron Age/early Roman activity. The eastern field was characterised by a series of small adjoining enclosures linked to a substantial ditch running north-east to south-west. The enclosures were occupied by dense, complex multiphase occupation dating to the first to third centuries and indicative of a Roman ladder settlement. A further concentration of occupation in the north-west corner hinted at a further settlement focus beyond the limit of excavation on the brow of the ridge. The eastern area will be the subject of excavation in 2020⁵⁷.

(5) **Shawell**, (SP 540 798): the site which lay *c.* 1km north east of *Tripontium* overlooking Watling Street, was subject to magnetometer survey in 2014⁵⁸ which revealed a Bronze Age ring-ditch also Roman boundary ditches and pits. Excavations were undertaken over several

⁵³ Work by T. Revell and T. Woolhouse, Pre-Construct Archaeology, for Crest Nicholson Chiltern, c/o RPS Consulting. K. Anderson sent information.

⁵⁴ Led by Nathan Flavell of University of Leicester Archaeological Services, X.A79.2019. Compiled and submitted by Dr Gavin Speed on behalf of University of Leicester Archaeological Services.

⁵⁵ Led by James Patrick of University of Leicester Archaeological Services, XA117.2017. Compiled and submitted by Dr Gavin Speed on behalf of University of Leicester Archaeological Services.

⁵⁶ Led by Nathan Flavell of University of Leicester Archaeological Services, XA84.2019. Compiled and submitted by Dr Gavin Speed on behalf of University of Leicester Archaeological Services.

⁵⁷ Led by Roger Kipling of University of Leicester Archaeological Services, X.A129.2017. Compiled and submitted by Dr Gavin Speed on behalf of University of Leicester Archaeological Services.

⁵⁸ Leicestershire HER MLE 16712.

seasons during which Roman pottery, also bone pins, were recovered from ditches, a pit, and a disturbed first-century pottery kiln.⁵⁹ Particularly worthy of note was the discovery of a small cemetery found inside the western side of the ring ditch which comprised four neonates and one infant. One neonate inhumation has been carbon dated to (95.4% prob, 91.5%) 253A.D.⁶⁰ and the other inhumations may, in all probability, date to a similar period.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

(1) **Malabar Farm, Daventry South West** (SP 5592 6155): an 119 trench evaluation was undertaken between April to May and October 2019 across a 48 ha site which comprised nine arable fields situated between the A425 and the A45.⁶¹ The evaluation revealed multi-period anomalies detected by geophysical survey. The Roman archaeology comprised a complex series of enclosures and associated features in the southern part of the site which are dated to between the first and second centuries A.D., although the presence of some Iron Age pottery hints at an earlier origin. The pottery generally appears to be from local coarse wares suggesting that the complex is probably a lower status occupation site. A small part of this complex also includes some waterlogged remains. The remains of another field system, which probably dated to the Roman period, was also identified in the north-western part of the site.

(2) **Northampton, North-West Relief Road** (SP 7333 6530 to SP 7383 6336): an evaluation was completed between May and July 2019 and comprised 123 trenches. Evidence for part of a late Roman settlement was recorded in the form of an enclosure ditch at the western edge of the site. This ditch may have formed the easterly extent of a series of enclosures that were recorded by a geophysical survey. Further late Roman features and possible structures were recorded c. 250 m south-east of this enclosure ditch. The southern area of late Roman activity included evidence for crop processing of wheat, barley and oats. Isolated features were encountered elsewhere within the evaluation, including post-medieval stone drains and undated ditches. Trenching across the floodplain also revealed significant depths of alluvial deposits and sediments relating to former watercourses. Well-preserved waterlogged remains were recovered from the paleochannel deposits indicating a slow-moving watercourse or possibly areas of standing water. Radiocarbon dates were obtained from material in the base of the channels at two locations providing ranges from 3365–3104 cal B.C. to cal A.D. 386–538.⁶²

OXFORDSHIRE

(1) **Abingdon, Dunmore Road** SU 49170 98768: an excavation between January and March 2019. The excavation uncovered multi period evidence. Late Iron Age evidence comprised a long linear ditch which led to a square enclosure encompassing c. 3900 m². The enclosure was recut three times in the early Roman period, with a latest-phase annex being added to enclose a rectangular building. An early Roman trackway comprising two parallel ditches, again influenced by the positions of the middle Iron Age enclosures and the late Iron Age ditch, extended across the entirety of the site. Areas of metallurgy were discovered between the

⁵⁹ Work carried out by the Lutterworth Fieldworking and Archaeological Group. Submission by Mike Southall.

⁶⁰ SUERC-76320 (GU45901).

⁶¹ A. Walsh, J. Evans, R. Hedge, E. Pearson (Worcestershire Archaeology) and K Hunter Dowse (Hemulen Archaeology). Submitted by Jane Brewer.

⁶² Excavation by Steve Lawrence and Adam Fellingham of Oxford Archaeology for WSP. K. Smith sent information.

trackway ditches, the best-preserved comprising small pebbles overlaid by silt and larger limestone blocks. This feature may represent a road leading into Abingdon from the north-west. The site was abandoned in the early–mid-second century A.D.⁶³

(2) **Adderbury**, *Land west of Horn Hill Road*, (SP 464 353): an excavation revealed a curving gully and gully terminus, tentatively dated to between the second to fourth century on the basis of a single stratified pottery sherd.⁶⁴

(3) **Chalgrove**, (a) (SU 6429 9663): an excavation at the east end of the village took place between December 2018 and January 2019. The excavation focused on three areas of activity that were identified during a previous evaluation in 2017. Roman remains were found in Areas B and C. Area B was situated in the south-west of the site, adjacent to the Chalgrove Brook and contained two curvilinear enclosures and a late Roman rectilinear enclosure. The Roman enclosure was contemporary with the copper alloy ‘Irchester Bowl’ found at the south-west corner of the field by a metal detectorist in 2011. Within Area C, in the centre of the site, a pair of converging trackways were recorded adjoined by rectilinear enclosures, which were constructed during the second half of the first century A.D. and passed out of use early in the second century.⁶⁵

(b): a coin hoard was found with a stray nummus of A.D. 364–78. The coins were found over a small dispersed area in the vicinity of contemporary additional hoards. Contents: 15 radiates and 2 radiates or nummi. Radiates: Gallienus (sole reign), 1; Claudius II, 1; Tetricus I, 2; Tetricus II, 2; Uncertain Gallic emperor, 1; Uncertain, 3; Irregular, 5. Deposited c. A.D. 275–285.⁶⁶

(4) **Eynsham**, *The Coach House, Willowbank, 4 Oxford Road*, (SP 4350 0920): an archaeological watching brief on the excavation of two separate foundation areas for two residential dwellings. These excavations were conducted during two separate stages; stage one in 2017, and stage two in 2019. Two ditch terminus features, both dating to the Roman period, were the earliest features recorded during the investigations. These features were located in the western and eastern areas of the area excavated during stage two. A ditch terminus contained a piece of grey ware pottery, alongside eight other sherds, which were dated between the second to fourth century. This is a relatively significant assemblage, as evidence for Roman activity is fairly limited within the immediate area.⁶⁷

(5) **Great Tew**, *north and west of Beaconsfield Farm* (SP 40592 27679); two evaluations c. 90 m north and c. 150 m north-west of the scheduled site of Beaconsfield Farm Roman villa (NHL: 1006352). In May 2019, the first evaluation took place north of the farm and comprised the excavation of single trench measuring 230 m by 1.6 m. The trench was targeted on the results of a geophysical survey which identified linear features forming several rectilinear enclosures. Archaeological features correlated well with the results of the geophysical survey. A focus of activity was recorded in the in the south-western end of

⁶³ Excavation by Mark Dodd, report by Alex Davies and Martyn Allen of Oxford Archaeology for RPS Group/David Wilson Homes. K. Smith sent information.

⁶⁴ Work by Natasha Djukic for John Moore Heritage Services. OASIS ID: johnmoor1-362403. Compiled by Sarah Doherty and Tom Rose-Jones.

⁶⁵ Excavation by Jim Mumford, report by Andrew Simmonds, Kirsty Smith and Carl Champness of Oxford Archaeology for CgMs Heritage (now RPS Group) on behalf of Miller Homes. K. Smith sent information.

⁶⁶ Submission by Matthew Fittock and Eleanor Ghey. BM ref. 2018 T797, addenda to 2014 T874, PAS ID: BH-9D4896. Oxfordshire Museum Service hopes to acquire.

⁶⁷ Work by Simona Denis and Christopher Whitehead for John Moore Heritage Services. OASIS ID johnmoor1-374759. Compiled by Sarah Doherty and Tom Rose-Jones.

trench, some 90 m north of the Roman villa complex. The remains represent numerous rectangular enclosures and associated features. Although not all dated, artefactual evidence suggests the enclosures are contemporary with the villa. Although it is not possible to ascertain their full form or function within the confines of the evaluation, the features are likely to form part of an agricultural estate associated with the villa. The second evaluation was undertaken in November 2019 and comprised two trenches that were devoid of archaeological features.⁶⁸

(6) **Grove, Grove Airfield** (SU 3922 8948): a 1.9 ha excavation in 2018 in advance of housing development, following an earlier evaluation.⁶⁹ In the late Iron Age or early Roman period, the area became used for agricultural purposes with new land boundaries being dug and signs of habitation including a possible roundhouse. The settlement was reorganised around the beginning of the second century and was enlarged in the third century, having a more formal rectilinear layout and several enclosed areas. By the fourth century, the settlement appears to have become more open and there was a shift towards intensive arable production and processing, signified by the construction of a large corn-drier. The settlement was abandoned by the end of the fourth century. Three inhumations, at least two of which are probably Roman, were buried in different parts of the site.⁷⁰

(7) **Harwell, (a) Land north of Didcot Road**, (SU 4970 8950): in July 2016 an archaeological evaluation was carried out in advance of residential development.⁷¹ The evaluation followed a geophysical survey that had identified a complex of enclosure ditches. The evaluation recorded nineteen ditches and one possible ditch terminus. Of the ditches found between six and eight of these aligned with the enclosures identified by the geophysical survey. The evaluation also identified a grave and two possible grave cuts within the southern part of the enclosure. A further possible grave cut was identified approximately 86 m to the north-east of this grave cluster. Three possible pits were identified during the evaluation, although one of these may be a grave and a further one may be a ditch terminus. Two post-holes were identified in the south-west of the enclosure in an area identified by geophysics as an area of settlement activity. A buried soil horizon containing Roman material and overlying three ditches was also identified in the south-west area of the enclosure.

(b) **Land off Orchard Way** (SU 4881 8915): archaeological excavation, in advance of a residential development, in July and August 2019 revealed features spanning late Iron Age/early Roman to the later Roman period. They included a refuse pit, a possible well or water hole, parts of enclosures, several parallel gullies that could be traces of land exploitation and two other perpendicular gullies that might have defined a pathway. A cremation burial, unurned but contained within a container of perishable material, such as a casket, had been highly decorated with nails.⁷²

(8) **Islip, Woodeaton Quarry Haul Road B4027**, (SP 5371 1290): during the construction of a new haul road in February and October 2016 investigations were undertaken to see if it

⁶⁸ Excavation by Tom Black and Rachael Daniel of Oxford Archaeology for Finchatton/Great Tew and Bantham Estates. K. Smith sent information.

⁶⁹ See *South Midlands Archaeology* 49.

⁷⁰ Excavation by Jim Mumford, report by Martyn Allen of Oxford Archaeology for Persimmon Homes (Wessex) Ltd. K. Smith sent information.

⁷¹ Work by Gavin Davis, Simona Denis and John Moore for John Moore Heritage Services. OASIS ID: Johnmoor1-274028. Compiled by Sarah Doherty and Tom Rose-Jones.

⁷² Compiled by Pierre-Damien Manisse of Thames Valley Archaeological Services. Submitted by Steve Ford.

overlay a Roman Road.⁷³ The B4027 runs from Wheatley to Samson's Platt, the latter being the location of a Roman town or nucleated settlement. It is thought the road crossed the river at Islip, moreover Roman archaeology is known from the vicinity of Woodeaton Roman Temple and Islip Roman villa. Groundworks adjacent to the modern road uncovered the remains of a number of road surfaces, showing four phases of activity. The lowest layers of the road were recognised as a series of bands, through which a possible Roman *agger* was cut (though this was not seen in profile). A dark soil horizon lay above this; presumably a period of decay on the road surface.

(9) **Littlemore, Oxford**, *Land adjacent to Littlemore Hospital*, (SP 5320 0261): an archaeological recording action and watching brief during April and May 2019 over an area of c. 3.71 ha of residential development revealed two large boundary ditches and two shallow gullies of Late Iron Age/Early Roman date, and four Roman human cremation deposits⁷⁴.

(10) **Milton**, *Land at Milton Heights*, (SU 4845 9050): an 85 trench evaluation was undertaken in January and February 2017 in advance of a housing development⁷⁵ which revealed Roman archaeology more extensive than suggested by geophysical survey. Early Roman activity (mid-first to mid-second century) was focused in a small part of the site in the north-east corner which expanded in the mid-second to mid-third century. Most Roman activity, however, is dated to the fourth century and include the remnants of a building and associated cobbled surface found on the west side of the settlement area. An articulated limb of a mammal was present on the cobbled surface. Six coins and a large number of animal bones, many showing signs of butchery, were also collected from the area of the building.

(11) **Moulsford**, *Moulsford Preparatory School, Reading Road* (SU 5899 8449): fourteen evaluation trenches were excavated in 16th – 18th October 2019 site in advance of a development of extra school classrooms. Several archaeological features were encountered, that included a cluster of linear features and small pits. Pottery from some of the features was of Late Bronze Age and Roman dates. Excavation is expected to follow.⁷⁶

(12) **Oxford 12 Norham Gardens** (SP 5131 0744): a watching brief was maintained from May to September 2018 during alteration, demolition and extension to the standing building.⁷⁷ During the excavation of the basements, a truncated ditch terminus was investigated and recorded. Five sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from the feature which was roughly two metres in total length.

(13) **Sonning Common**, *Caversham Quarry* (SU 7550 7685): excavation throughout most of 2019 in advance of quarrying revealed the footings of a substantial Roman timber building, a well with preserved wooden lining, a double corn drier, and a small inhumation cemetery.⁷⁸

(14) **Tackley**, *Street Farm, Nethercote Road* (SP 4809 2068): excavation of a 1.3 ha site prior to the construction of a new residential development in 2017 and 2018 revealed a site occupied throughout the Roman period. Early Roman post-built structures were replaced in

⁷³ Work by Stephen Yeates for John Moore Heritage Services. OASIS ID: johnmoor1-288208. Compiled by Sarah Doherty and Tom Rose-Jones.

⁷⁴ Compiled by David Sánchez of Thames Valley Archaeological Services. Submitted by Steve Ford.

⁷⁵ Compiled by Gavin Davis for John Moore Heritage Services. OASIS ID: johnmoor1-224904.

⁷⁶ Compiled and submitted by Steve Ford of Thames Valley Archaeological Services. Submitted by Steve Ford.

⁷⁷ Compiled by Stephanie N. Duensing for John Moore Heritage Services. OASIS ID: johnmoor1-334408.

⁷⁸ Compiled by Jamie Williams of Thames Valley Archaeological Services. Submitted by Steve Ford.

the middle to late second century by a masonry villa, of two linked buildings, with limestone walls and mortared floors. This was extended in the third century. Three rooms had mosaic floors and painted wall plaster. The end of the third century or start of the fourth, saw the abandonment and collapse of the villa buildings, yet a large volume of archaeological features can be assigned to this phase, with the construction of structures with different functions to the residential use of the original buildings.⁷⁹

STAFFORDSHIRE

(1) **Bilbrook**, *Pendeford Mill Lane*, (SJ 8832 0314): an archaeological evaluation was undertaken in June and July 2019 in advance of a proposed residential development.⁸⁰ Thirty-two evaluation trenches were excavated across the site which targeted geophysical anomalies identified during survey. The evaluation revealed a Roman settlement on the eastern side of the site, defined by an enclosure ditch with an associated driveway. A number of small ditches on the interior of the enclosure probably represent internal sub-divisions. The pottery recovered from the site was in good condition and indicates the main period of activity between the second to mid-third century. Environmental evidence was poor, with no preservation of bone and only a small amount of charred cereal crop, though hammerscale was present suggesting some level of metal working in the vicinity.

(2) **Chillington Hall**: a small coin hoard was found during an organised metal detecting rally. Contents: 10 denarii: Nero, 1; Titus, 1 (Domitian Caesar); Trajan, 3; Antoninus Pius, 3 (Antoninus Pius, 1, Diva Faustina I, 2); Uncertain, 1 + 1 fragment. Deposited c. A.D. 141–61.⁸¹

WARWICKSHIRE

(1) **Mancetter**, *Mancetter Road*, (SP 320 967): an evaluation located a first-century Roman ditch, 2.2 m wide and at least 0.2 m deep (the full depth could not be completed due to constant flooding of groundwater). Four pottery sherds recovered from the backfill, all date to the late first to early second century. The ditch lies within the area of the first-century fort and likely relates to activity within it.⁸²

(2) **Middle Tysoe**, *Land adjacent to Church Farm Court* (SP 3416 4451): an excavation was carried out in advance of residential development.⁸³ Four Roman ditches, dated by a small number of associated finds, were identified. Two, possibly sequential, ditches on the east of the site converged into one single ditch orientated south-east to north-west. A further ditch or gully, a possible ditch terminus or pit, and a pit were all identified as being cut by the Roman ditches so are stratigraphically earlier, although possibly still of Roman date. The Roman finds recovered from the excavation site included 8 pieces of Roman pottery, 4 of which came from ditches and 4 from subsoil deposits. The other finds are a second-century brooch and fragments of a spindle whorl, both recovered from ditches.

⁷⁹ Publication is expected to follow in 2020. Compiled by David Sánchez of Thames Valley Archaeological Services. Submitted by Steve Ford.

⁸⁰ P. Lovett, R. Hedge and E. Pearson (Worcestershire Archaeology). Submitted by Jane Brewer.

⁸¹ BM ref. 2018 T592. PAS ID: WMID-FEFF71. Submitted by Eleanor Ghey

⁸² Led by Nathan Flavell of University of Leicester Archaeological Services, T/7182. Compiled and submitted by Dr Gavin Speed.

⁸³ Compiled by Gavin Davis for John Moore Heritage Services. OASIS ID: johnmoor1-330337.

(3) **South Warwickshire II:** 440 silver denarii were found in a small Roman white ware flagon: Republic/Imperial, 255; Augustus (27 BC–A.D. 14), 24; Tiberius (A.D. 14–37), 25; Gaius (A.D. 37–41), 2; Claudius (A.D. 41–54), 6; Nero (A.D. 54–68), 6; Civil Wars (A.D. 68–9), 78; Galba (A.D. 68–9), 11; Otho (A.D. 69), 4; Vitellius (A.D. 69), 14; Vespasian (A.D. 69–79), 14 (to A.D. 70); Irregular, 1. Deposited A.D. 70.⁸⁴

WORCESTERSHIRE

(1) **Honeybourne**, *National Grid AGI Site, Gloster Ades Road*, (SP 1064 4356): a strip, map and sample of the compound and access area, followed by archaeological monitoring of works was undertaken. The strip, map and sample areas were a maximum of 0.25 m deep, into ploughsoil.⁸⁵ The site was adjacent to a Roman enclosed settlement, and the current road is conjectured to have Roman origins. No *in situ* archaeological features or deposits were revealed, however, a small assemblage of first- and third-century Roman pottery was recovered, consistent with the presence of a rural Roman settlement nearby.

(2) **Offenham**, *Evesham Road* (SP 0584 4531): an eleven trench evaluation was undertaken following a geophysical survey.⁸⁶ A series of ditches and pits were revealed on the western side of the site, predominantly of late Roman date. These correlate well with the results of a previous excavation to the immediate south-west, showing a continuation of activity likely to be related to the surroundings of a villa complex. Finds included both local and regional pottery wares, and box-flue tile. Animal bone preservation was good, with the assemblage including deer antler.

(3) **Kempsey:** a small coin hoard was found, three of the coins are fragmentary. Contents: 4 siliquae: A.D. 360–3, Uncertain mint, 1; A.D. 375–92, Uncertain mint, 1; A.D. 379–83, Trier, 1; A.D. 378–402, Uncertain mint, 1. Deposited *c.* A.D. 395–402 or later.⁸⁷

(4) **Stourport**, *New Barns Farm, Pearl Lane* (SO 7965 6986): a total of 27 evaluation trenches, opened in August–September 2019, in advance of a residential development, revealed six ditches, two of which contained pottery dating from the second to fourth century A.D. All of the features correlate well with geophysical anomalies and suggest the presence of a later Roman field system.⁸⁸

(5) **Worcester**, *99 St. Georges Lane North* (SO 8491 5630): an evaluation was undertaken in advance of residential development.⁸⁹ A single trench 14.5 m long was excavated across the development area which exposed a Roman buried soil containing many pottery sherds of first- to third-century A.D. date, also occasional slag.

⁸⁴ BM ref. 2015 T452, PAS ID: WMID-7AECFC. Acquired by Warwickshire Museum. Submitted by Eleanor Ghey.

⁸⁵ Work undertaken by G. Arnold and R. Hedge (Worcestershire Archaeology). Submitted by Jane Brewer.

⁸⁶ Work undertaken by P. Lovett, R. Hedge and E. Pearson (Worcestershire Archaeology). Submitted by Jane Brewer.

⁸⁷ BM ref. 2017 T627: Submitted by Angie Bolton, Andrew Brown and Eleanor Ghey. PAS ID: WAW-752B47.

⁸⁸ Compiled by Helen Daniel of TVAS North Midlands. Submitted by Steve Ford.

⁸⁹ Work undertaken by A. Mann and R. Hedge (Worcestershire Archaeology). Submitted by Jane Brewer.

6. EAST ANGLIA

By Alice Lyons

ESSEX

(1) **Coggeshall**, *6 Church Green* (TL 85428 22946): the site is 100m NW of the medieval church of St. Peter-ad-Vincula. Evaluation (three trenches) prior to the construction of a dwelling revealed three post-medieval pits and residual Roman material. The latter included a first-century Roman brooch and possible nummus, as well as pieces of brick, *tegula* and *imbrex*. Excavations to the immediate south and south-east during the mid-1980s recovered substantial quantities of Roman building material. Taken together, these discoveries show that there must have been Roman buildings nearby.⁹⁰

(2) **Colchester**, (a) *Berechurch Hall Road* (TL 98015 22085): the site is north of a cropmark complex. Evaluation (fourteen trenches) in advance of residential development revealed eight ditches, a pit, a charcoal-rich pit and several pits or tree-throws. The charcoal-rich pit gave a radiocarbon determination, at 95.4% confidence, of 348 to 534 cal A.D. (late Roman or early Anglo-Saxon).⁹¹

(b) *36 Cambridge Road* (TL 98476 24399): the site is south-west of the Roman town and within one of the Roman cemetery areas laid out along Roman roads radiating out of Colchester. One of these roads, (linking the town to the small Roman town at Gosbecks, 3 miles to the south-west, is projected to run through the site. Monitoring during groundworks for extensions revealed two ditches and a fragmentary metalled surface. These appear to be the remains of the Roman road.⁹²

(c) *60 Creffield Road* (TL 98702 24712): the site is west of the Roman town and on the line of the Roman road running out of the Balkerne Gate (the town's west gate) and south-west to the small Roman town at Gosbecks. Although Roman roads can be elusive, on this occasion evaluation revealed the surface of the Roman road. There were large volumes of Roman pottery (9.6 kg) and other finds. More work is planned on this site.⁹³

(d) *4 Ireton Road* (TL 9864 2450): the site is south-west of the Roman town and just outside the Roman 'western cemetery'. Monitoring during the erection of extensions revealed two ditches, which produced a small assemblage of Roman pottery and building materials. These are probably the ditches of a Roman trackway.⁹⁴

(e) *Co-operative Stores, 1-21 Long Wyre Street* (TL 9978 2515): the site is in insula 30 of the Roman town. Five test pits revealed many modern pits cutting a burnt layer which may be Boudiccan, a series of Roman postholes and a Roman hearth.⁹⁵

⁹⁰ Work by E. Hicks, L. Pooley and A. Wightman, for Colchester Archaeological Trust on behalf of F. Nicholls. H. Brooks sent information.

⁹¹ Elliott Hicks, Matthew Loughton, Ben Holloway for Colchester Archaeological Trust on behalf of Harding Homes. H. Brooks sent information.

⁹² Philip Crummy, Ben Holloway, Alec Wade for Colchester Archaeological Trust on behalf of Martin Ellis. H. Brooks sent information.

⁹³ Laura Pooley for Colchester Archaeological Trust on behalf of Amphora Homes. H. Brooks sent information.

⁹⁴ Elliott Hicks, Chris Lister, Nigel Rayner for Colchester Archaeological Trust on behalf of Mr and Mrs Unwin. H. Brooks sent information.

⁹⁵ Elliott Hicks, Ben Holloway, Adam Wightman for Colchester Archaeological Trust, on behalf of East of England Co-operative Society. H. Brooks sent information.

(3) **Dovercourt, Low Road** (TM 23250 30180): in an area of mostly prehistoric cropmarks, evaluation (102 trenches) in advance of residential development also revealed ten Roman ditches, pits and a hollow containing CBM.⁹⁶

(4) **Hullbridge, Malyons Farm** (TQ 6070 4960): during excavation, several Romano-British enclosure ditches and numerous extraction pits were identified. Finds from these features included Romano-British pottery, also animal bone and oyster shell. Two small unurned Romano-British cremations, each containing less than 500 g of calcined bone, were also uncovered.⁹⁷

(5) **Stebbing**: A small coin hoard has been recorded. Contents: 13 denarii: Nero, 1; Vespasian, 3 (Vespasian, 2; Domitian Caesar, 1); Nerva, 1; Trajan, 1; Antoninus Pius, 2; Marcus Aurelius, 2; Commodus, 1; Septimius Severus (Wars of the Succession), 1; Caracalla (Joint reign with Severus), 1. Deposited A.D. 208.⁹⁸

NORFOLK

(1) **Costessey, Lodge Farm** (TG 1602 1018): excavation was undertaken across three areas (Areas B, C and E), targeting features identified through a combination of cropmarks, geophysical survey and trial trenching. Early Roman (first to second century A.D.) remains were encountered in all three excavation areas, with a series of rectilinear fields/enclosures in Area B, a rectilinear enclosure in Area C and a series of boundary/trackway ditches in Area E. These ditched systems were laid out on broadly north to south/east to west alignments and clearly belong to an extensive system of boundaries and enclosures known from cropmarks and previous excavations. Few of the early Roman features produced substantial finds assemblages but there were no structures and few discrete features. On this basis, many of the enclosures could relate to agricultural use, although the finds from some of the ditches suggest that there may have been some domestic-type activity in the immediate vicinity of Areas B and C.⁹⁹

(2) **Earsham, Bath Hills Road and Old Railway Road** (TM 3164 8952 and TM 3136 8857): evaluation was undertaken across two areas (Areas 2 and 3). In Area 2 a single Roman pit containing pottery wasters was uncovered. This is indicative of possible pottery production in the vicinity of the site. Area 3 also revealed features dating to the Roman period in the form of several ditches and pits. Early medieval and extensive prehistoric remains were also uncovered.¹⁰⁰

(3) **Great Hockham, Wretham Road** (TL 9508 9238): evaluation revealed an area of rural activity, but not formal settlement, that can be tentatively dated by sparse pottery finds to the Roman or medieval periods, although a lack of reliable dating precludes any certainty.

⁹⁶ Laura Pooley, Robin Mathieson, Mark Baister for Colchester Archaeological Trust on behalf of NEEB Holdings Ltd. H. Brooks sent information.

⁹⁷ Nicholas Cox, OA East; for RPS Consulting for Barratt David Wilson Homes; OA East Report 2361. Compiled by Katherine Hamilton and Tom Phillips.

⁹⁸ BM ref. 2018 T861, PAS ID: LON-185376. Submitted by Stuart Wyatt and Richard Abdy.

⁹⁹ Daniel Firth, OA East; for RPS Consulting on behalf of Taylor Wimpey; OA East Report 2292. Compiled by Katherine Hamilton and Tom Phillips.

¹⁰⁰ Paddy Lambert, OA East; for Andrew Josephs Associates, for Earsham Gravels; OA East Report 2295. Compiled by Katherine Hamilton and Tom Phillips.

However, the trial trenching does confirm that agriculture (both arable and pasture) was undoubtedly happening in the locality from perhaps as early as the Roman period.¹⁰¹

(4) **Grimston**: coins were found in the same area as a previous scattered find (NMS-102704 and NMS-1A6962) bringing the total number of reported coins to 13 solidi and 196 siliquae. As with the earlier find, this group consists largely of siliquae struck during the reigns of Constantius II and Julian, with the solidus of Valentinian I representing the latest coin in the group. The coins have little wear. Contents: 1 solidus and 19 siliquae: Solidus: Valentinian I, Antioch A.D. 364–7. Siliquae: A.D. 355–63, 17 (Trier, 2; Lyon, 3; Arles, 8; Irregular, 2). Deposited A.D. 364–7.¹⁰²

(5) **Honingham**, *Land off Blind Lane* (TG 1137 1051): archaeological excavation from February to April 2019, on the site of a planned infiltration lagoon and associated infrastructure, revealed a multi-period site, with most of the interest being prehistoric. In the late Iron age/early Roman period it appears fields were laid out, with one boundary which was redefined and still in use in the middle Roman period.¹⁰³

(6) **North-west Norfolk**: a small coin hoard was recorded. Contents: 19 denarii: Republic, 5; Mark Antony, 4; Augustus, 1; Galba, 1; Otho, 1; Vitellius, 1; Vespasian, 1; Titus Caesar, 1; Domitian, 1; Trajan, 1; Sabina, 1; Faustina I (lifetime), 1. Deposited : c. A.D. 138–41 or later.¹⁰⁴

(7) **Norwich**, *Land at Harford Interchange* (TG 2188 0485): a trial trench evaluation carried out in advance of development of the site revealed evidence for early Roman activity, comprising a series of ditches, pits and postholes, which produced a pottery assemblage dating exclusively to the earlier Roman period. The features and associated finds assemblages suggest that archaeology revealed in the evaluation represents peripheral activity on the edge of settlement.¹⁰⁵

(8) **Old Catton**, *Land off St. Faiths Road* (TG 2293 1329): excavation was undertaken across three areas based upon the results of evaluation. Areas A and B both contained Roman archaeology. In Area B this took the form of a sub-square enclosure measuring 60 m by 56 m, within which a pottery kiln was located towards its northern side, a series of pits were also found. Remains of a possible structure were located to the south, outside of this enclosure. In addition, a Roman cremation was uncovered towards the eastern limit of excavations. In Area A, part of a possible Roman boundary ditch was exposed.¹⁰⁶

¹⁰¹ Rona Booth, OA East; for Broadland Housing Group; OA East Report 2299. Compiled by Katherine Hamilton and Tom Phillips.

¹⁰² BM ref. 2018 T476, second addenda to 2015 T884 and 2017 T442, PAS ID: NMS-488B7B. Submitted by Adrian Marsden, Julie Shoemark and Eleanor Ghey. The British Museum hopes to acquire 1 coin.

¹⁰³ Compiled by Jo Pine of Thames Valley Archaeological Services East Midlands. Submitted by Steve Ford.

¹⁰⁴ BM ref. 2014 T111, PAS ID: NMS-2193C4. Submitted by Adrian Marsden and Eleanor Ghey.

¹⁰⁵ Work by P. Crawley, Pre-Construct Archaeology, for Lanpro Services on behalf of Norwich Apex Limited. K. Anderson sent information.

¹⁰⁶ Małgorzata Kwiatkowska, OA East; for RPS Group Plc; OA East Report 2381. Compiled by Katherine Hamilton and Tom Phillips.

(9) **Roughton**, *Land at Back Lane* (TG 2173 3684): evaluation and subsequent excavation revealed Roman features including the remains of a field system, concentrated towards the southern end of the development area.¹⁰⁷

(10) **Snettisham**, *Land at Poppyfields Drive* (TF 67899 33825): the evaluation was carried out following a programme of geophysical survey that identified buried anomalies such as ditches, pits and other features.¹⁰⁸ Several ditches and pits were found with associated pottery assemblages suggesting activity occurred between the mid-second and early third century A.D. Of note, the evaluation identified a concentration of archaeological remains likely relating to a previously known extensive Roman settlement and industrial site close to the south of the proposed development area, which included evidence for small-scale cereal processing. Furthermore, inclusions in the pottery fabric of metalworking debris and vitrified slag indicates the pottery found on the site has an association with a previously excavated site to the south where evidence of metalworking and other industrial processes were recorded.¹⁰⁹

(11) **Stoke Holy Cross**: a small coin hoard was recorded in a concentrated scatter zone. Contents: 3 denarii, 1 sestertius and 1 as. Denarii: Vespasian, 1; Trajan, 1; Hadrian, 1. Sestertius: Trajan. As: Illegible. Deposited: A.D. 117–38 or later.¹¹⁰

SUFFOLK

(1) **Lavenham**, (a) *land adjacent to Bears Lane* (TL 91 48; LVM 121): an evaluation revealed a cluster of Roman features including pits, ditches, a kiln, grave and surface layer focussed on the central-southern area of the site.¹¹¹ The Roman pottery includes a samian ware dish with a maker's stamp. The animal bone includes butchered cattle, horse and deer bone. Other finds include copper alloy coins, a pin, strap end, and a bronze or brass disc bearing the bust of an emperor, possibly part of a brooch or similar adornment. Therefore the evidence from Bears Lane appears to add credence to the presence of a significant Roman building in the vicinity.

(b) a single coin was recorded. denarius of Vespasian, A.D. 72–3. Deposited: A.D. 93–4 or later.¹¹²

(2) **Mickfield**: a coin hoard has been recorded, the coins are considered addenda to a hoard of 13 siliquae to A.D. 395–402 found in 2000. Contents: 1 solidus and 2 siliquae. Solidus of Honorius, mint of Rome, A.D. 404–8. Siliquae: A.D. 395–402, Milan, 2. Deposited c. A.D. 404–8 or later.¹¹³

¹⁰⁷ Malgorzata Kwiatkowska, OA East; for Broadland Housing Group; OA East Reports 2297 and 2399. Compiled by Katherine Hamilton and Tom Phillips.

¹⁰⁸ Work by A. Pavez and B. Hobbs, Pre-Construct Archaeology, for Dr Richard Hoggett on behalf of Pigeon Investment Management Ltd. K. Anderson sent information.

¹⁰⁹ A. Lyons, *Romano-British Industrial Activity at Snettisham*. East, Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 18 (2004).

¹¹⁰ BM ref. 2018 T511, PAS ID: NMS-B22728. Submitted by Julie Shoemark.

¹¹¹ Work undertaken by Samuel Thomelius, Archaeological Solutions for Marden Homes Ltd. Submitted by Faye Minter, Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service.

¹¹² BM ref. 2018 T879, addenda to 2015 T34 and 2016 T416, PAS ID: SF-78099A. Submitted by Riccardo Caravello.

¹¹³ BM ref. 2018 T969, addenda to 2000 find (IARCH-6CD20A), PAS ID: SF-FD22CE. Submitted by Riccardo Caravello.

(3) **Mildenhall**, *Beeches Road, West Row* (TL 67 76; MNL 804): a trial trench evaluation revealed features dated to the Roman period which comprised pits in two trenches, and ditches elsewhere. A large ditch was recorded in three trenches. The features dated primarily to the late third – fourth century and represent a continuation of the adjacent archaeology.¹¹⁴

(4) **Near Cookley**: a coin hoard has been recorded. Contents: 60 denarii: Republic, 40; Augustus, 8; Tiberius, 9; Caligula, 2; Nero, 1. Deposited: A.D. 60–1 or later.¹¹⁵

(5) **South Elmham St. Mary**, *Flixton Park Quarry, Site 16 Extension* (TM 29 85; SEY 038): two substantial Roman features were found during excavation. Firstly a square enclosure; 10 m across and formed by a continuous 1 m wide ditch, aligned with the cardinal compass points and with a 1.5 m wide entrance centrally on its western side. The function of the enclosure is unclear; the only feature, a pit excavated in the centre did not contain a burial or any finds. Also discovered was a Roman pottery kiln: which was *c.* 1 m deep and 1 m in diameter with two large kidney shaped pedestals and a well-fired archway intact. There was surprisingly little pottery and kiln furniture recovered evidently the kiln which was cleared-out after its last firing and before a deliberate demolition.¹¹⁶

8. SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES

By JOHN P. SALVATORE

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(1) **Gloucester**, *Matson, Winneycroft* (SO 85271 14517): a second phase of archaeological evaluation was undertaken in June 2019. Five 30 m x 1.8 m trenches were excavated in the vicinity of one of the trenches from the 2014 evaluation where several Roman pottery sherds had been recovered from the subsoil. The evaluation uncovered a Roman field boundary ditch running north-south across two of the trenches.¹¹⁷

(2) **Leckhampton**, *Farm Lane* (SO 93746 19806): an archaeological evaluation targeted on specific features identified by a geophysical survey of the site, LiDAR analysis and historic maps. Two distinct and spatially separate archaeological sites have been identified by the evaluation. A late Iron Age/early Roman rural settlement was recorded in the north-western part of the site. This settlement is probably a continuation of the late Iron Age and Roman settlement previously excavated on the west side of Farm Lane. A series of hollow ways and possible stone structural remains were identified in the southern field. These features were previously recorded by LiDAR and aerial photographic analysis along with the geophysical survey and historic map evidence.¹¹⁸

(3) **Twigworth**, (SO 84627 22076): an excavation was undertaken immediately east of the possible course of the Gloucester to Tewkesbury Roman road (100 m north-west of a late Iron

¹¹⁴ Work undertaken by Keeley-Jade Diggins, Archaeological Solutions for Victoria Stanley Developments. Submitted by Faye Minter, Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service.

¹¹⁵ BM ref. 2018 T677, PAS ID: SF-FF2FDE. Submitted by Alex Bliss. Halesworth Museum hopes to acquire.

¹¹⁶ Work undertaken by Simon Picard, Cotswold Archaeology, Suffolk Office for The Guildhouse Consultancy on behalf of Cemex UK Materials Ltd. Submitted by Faye Minter, Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service.

¹¹⁷ Evaluation by M. I. Górnaiak of Oxford Archaeology for RPS Heritage. K. Smith sent information.

¹¹⁸ Evaluation by V. Green of Oxford Archaeology for Gloucestershire County Council. K. Smith sent information.

Age/early Roman settlement found in an earlier evaluation). The excavation uncovered a double-ditched Roman trackway aligned north-west to south-east, at right angles to the putative Roman road. An inhumation burial was recorded alongside the northern ditch of the trackway. This produced no dating evidence but is likely to also belong to the Roman period.¹¹⁹

SOMERSET

(1) **Withycombe**: 6 nummi of A.D. 294–305. Date of deposition *c.* A.D. 302–5.¹²⁰

(2) **South Petherton**: 5 denarii: 1 of Marcus Aurelius (A.D. 161-80), 3 of Septimius Severus (A.D. 193-211), 1 of Caracalla as Caesar (A.D. 196-98), 1 of Elagabalus (A.D. 218-22) and 1 of Severus Alexander (A.D. 222-235). Date of deposition *c.* A.D. 222–8 or later.¹²¹

9.1. SOUTHERN COUNTIES (WEST)

By JOHN P. SALVATORE

WILTSHIRE

(1) **Ashton Keynes**, *Wheatleys Farm*, (SU 0490 9330): an archaeological trench evaluation tested a series of north-west/south-east aligned linear anomalies in the south-western area of the site. Those which were confirmed as ditches most probably represent part of an extensive coaxial field system dating to the Iron Age and Roman periods, which has also been recorded during excavation to the south-west of the site.¹²²

HAMPSHIRE

(1) **Fleet**, *Land at Netherhouse Copse, Hitches Lane* (SU 7950 5320): excavation covering *c.* 1.4 ha between March and June 2019 in advance of the creation of a new park and residential development. Roman features included an enclosure complex with pits, post-built granaries and evidence for iron smelting. Pottery spanned the first to early fourth centuries.¹²³

(2) **Silchester and Mortimer West End**, *Silchester Environs Project* (SU 640 624): Final reports on caesium magnetometer and Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) surveys conducted between June 2009 and July 2016 from a series of sites in and around the environs of the Roman town were completed in advance of full publication. In some cases, the original motivation for the surveys was to test newly developed prototype equipment, although recent excavation by the University of Reading has renewed interest in the geophysical coverage over Insula III. The reports cover a total of 38.7 ha of magnetic and 27.6 ha of GPR coverage and, in general, produced successful results over all the sites. Within the town, both techniques produced a good response to the street pattern and detail of the buildings to complement existing data sets.

¹¹⁹ Excavation by A. Strutt, G. Evans and K. Smith of Oxford Archaeology for Robert Hitchens Ltd. K. Smith sent information.

¹²⁰ Found in 2017 with a metal detector. BM ref. 2017 T1176 (addenda to 2016 T726); PAS ID: SOM-8B34CA. L. Burnett sent information.

¹²¹ Found in 2018 with a metal detector. BM ref. 2018 T13: PAS ID: SOM-B4FD77. S. Ruffino Giummara sent information.

¹²² Work by John Moore Heritage Services. S. Doherty and T. Rose-Jones sent information.

¹²³ Work by A. Taylor of Thames Valley Archaeological Services. S. Ford sent information.

Immediately beyond the town, the surveys covered part of the west-gate cemetery, together with earthworks to the north and south possibly associated with the Iron Age oppidum.¹²⁴

(3) **Stubbington Bypass**, (SU 5559 0472): four areas were excavated on the line of the new bypass (June – July 2019). Three of the areas revealed rubbish pits, ditches and gullies forming boundaries, postholes and water holes dating from the late Iron Age into the Roman period. They testified to a rural occupation site and field system, that lasted for a few centuries before abandonment in the late second century A.D.¹²⁵

9.2 SOUTHERN COUNTIES (EAST)

By SADIE WATSON

BERKSHIRE

1) **Caversham**, *177 Upper Woodcote Road* (SU 6968 7623): two features produced Roman pottery.¹²⁶

2) **Cookham**, *Heron's Court SL6 9RR* (SU 88888 86620): evidence for late Iron Age/early Roman occupation was recorded, including a rubbish pit with an adjacent posthole in the north-east of the site and a boundary ditch in the south-west.¹²⁷

5) **Reading**, *Land north of Croft Road, Spencers Wood* (SU 7219 6715): some limited evidence was recovered, in the form of a water hole.¹²⁸

EAST SUSSEX

Heathfield, *Marle Green Farm, Marle Green* (TQ 5906 1631): Roman deposits and the presence of some tap slag could be indicative of Roman iron production somewhere in the vicinity.¹²⁹

KENT

(1) **Alkham**: hoard comprising 1 solidus and 13 siliquae: Solidus: Honorius, Milan (RIC 1206, A.D. 395–402); Siliquae: A.D. 364–7, 2 (Rome); A.D. 367–75, 1 (Trier); A.D. 375–8,

¹²⁴ The surveys were conducted by Historic England's Geophysics Team. See N. Linford, P. Linford, and A. Payne, *Silchester Environs Project, Silchester Farm, Silchester, Hampshire, Report on geophysical survey, July 2015*, Historic England Research Report Series, 19-2019 (2019); N. Linford, P. Linford, A. Payne and C. Pearce, *Silchester Environs Project, Rampier Copse, Silchester, Hampshire, Report on geophysical survey, May 2016*, Historic England Research Report Series, 22-2019 (2019); and N. Linford, P. Linford and A. Payne, *Silchester Roman Town, Hampshire, Report on geophysical surveys, June 2009, March 2014 and July 2015*, Historic England Research Report Series, 85-2019 (2019). M. Jecock sent information.

¹²⁵ The results will shortly be published in Thames Valley Archaeological Services (TVAS) Occasional Paper 40. Work by P-D Manisse of TVAS. S. Ford sent information.

¹²⁶ Evaluation by Will Attard of Thames Valley Archaeological Services. Excavation continues. Steve Preston sent information.

¹²⁷ Evaluation by Robin Weaver of Pre-Construct Archaeology, for Chassay and Last Architects on behalf of Adam Breedon. T. Vitali sent information.

¹²⁸ Excavation and watching brief during April to June 2019 by Will Attard of Thames Valley Archaeological Services South. Steve Preston sent information.

¹²⁹ Watching brief by Sean Wallis of Thames Valley Archaeological Services South. Steve Preston sent information.

1 (Trier); A.D. 378–88, 5 (Trier, 4; Milan, 1); A.D. 379–95, 3 (Trier, 1; Trier or Aquileia, 1, Milan, 1); A.D. 393–402, 1 (Milan). Date of deposition *c.* A.D. 395–402 or later.¹³⁰

(2) **Kemsing**, *Replacement Church Hall* (TQ 5556 5878): a few late Roman ditches and pits were recorded.¹³¹

(3) **Elham**: hoard comprising 2 denarii of Domitian (A.D. 81–96). Date of deposition A.D. 93–4 or later.¹³²

(4) **Hoath**, *Deer Down* (TR 2103 6322): excavation recorded six ditches possibly representing two phases of field system. Several pits and a single cremation indicated nearby settlement. Pottery recovered from these features ranged from the first to fourth centuries.¹³³

(5) **Tenterden**: hoard comprising 2 Republican denarii 1 (RRC 463/3, fragmentary) and Augustus, 1 (RIC 207). Date of deposition 2 BC–A.D. 4 or later.¹³⁴

(6) **Sittingbourne**, *Swale Way* (centred TQ 9165 6595): evaluation revealed an extensive complex of ditches dating predominantly to the late Iron Age/early Roman period.¹³⁵

¹³⁰ Found between May 2017–Feb 2018 (BM ref. 2017 T404) in association with a hammered oval silver ingot weighing 49.90 g. The majority of the silver coins in the hoard are clipped. PAS ID: KENT-E5B4BB. Dover Museum hopes to acquire. Walter (Jo) Ahmet and Eleanor Ghey sent information.

¹³¹ Excavation by Sean Wallis of TVAS South. S. Preston sent information.

¹³² Found in Dec 2017 (2018 T242). PAS ID: KENT-9C0DD5 and KENT-5B2018. Disclaimed by finder. Walter (Jo) Ahmet and Eleanor Ghey sent information.

¹³³ Work by A Gollop, A Macintosh and J Martin, Canterbury Archaeological Trust for National Grid. The work was in connection with a new power line between Richborough and Canterbury. Jane Elder sent information.

¹³⁴ Found Nov 2017 (2018 T534). PAS ID: PUBLIC-C8ECEA and PUBLIC-C9A890. Disclaimed by finder. Edwin Wood sent information.

¹³⁵ Work by A Gollop, Canterbury Archaeological Trust for Kingsley Smith Chartered Surveyors. Jane Elder sent information.