

From the *Transactions* of the
Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society

Archaeological Review No. 22

by J. A. Rawes and J. Wills (eds.)
1998, Vol. 116, 191-212

© The Society and the Author(s)

Archaeological Review No. 22 1997

Edited by JULIAN RAWES and JAN WILLS

The Archaeological Review presents brief summaries of archaeological research and fieldwork undertaken during the year. Information is arranged under parishes as shown on the O.S. 1:10,000 series maps, except for the cities of Bristol and Gloucester. The parish name is followed, where appropriate, by the site name or description and grid reference. Contributions for the next review should be sent to 11 Trowscoed Avenue, Cheltenham, Glos. GL53 7BP.

Abbreviations

AAU	Avon Archaeological Unit
AR	Archaeological Review
ASMR	Avon Sites and Monuments Record
BaRAS	Bristol and Region Archaeological Services
CAT	Cotswold Archaeological Trust
CRAAGS	Committee for Rescue Archaeology in Avon, Gloucestershire and Somerset
DAG	Dean Archaeological Group
GAU	Gloucester Archaeology Unit
GCCAS	Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service
GSMR	Gloucestershire Sites and Monuments Record
NT	National Trust
OAU	Oxford Archaeological Unit
UWC	University of Wales, Cardiff

GLoucestershire Historic Towns Survey. The Gloucestershire Historic Towns Survey was commissioned in November 1995 as part of the English Heritage Extensive Urban Survey project. It undertook an archaeological assessment of 36 historic small towns in the county, to provide an overview of their origins, history and development, and to produce a strategy for the management of the archaeological resource within each town which could be implemented through the strategic planning and development control process. The survey aimed to build upon the information gathered by Roger Leech in the 1981 CRAAGS publication *Historic Towns in Gloucestershire*. Leech's work provided a brief summary of the archaeology and history of 24 towns in the county but did not cover settlements which flourished only within the last 100/200 years or which pre-dated the Anglo-Saxon period and did not continue into later periods.

The 36 towns included within the survey cover a far wider range of settlement types and dates of origin, from Romano-British settlements which are green-field sites today to Anglo-Saxon burhs and medieval market towns, many of which have continued to thrive into the 20th century, but some of which might be considered to have 'failed' during the post-Reformation period. Post-medieval settlements such as Cinderford, Chalford and Nailsworth, which grew up to serve specific industries, have also been included within the remit of the project. Cirencester and Gloucester were excluded, due to the complexity of their

histories and development and they will instead be covered by the English Heritage Urban Archaeological Database and Assessment projects.

The nature of the archaeological resource and potential of small towns is poorly understood, as most research has been aimed at larger settlements with deeper stratigraphy and a well-documented history. Small settlements also provide a nationally important resource for the study of past societies and the developments and changes undergone by communities over time. The Gloucestershire study has shown that many small towns have been inhabited for anything up to two millennia, often continuously, yet until the advent of Planning Policy Guidance 16 there was little ability to investigate, or protect, the archaeology of these small urban areas. The project has produced a considerable amount of information relating to the origins and development of the towns in the survey, as well as to the institutions and features which had an effect upon the form of the settlement—churches, religious houses, markets, boroughs and burgages, routeways and river crossings—and has raised even more questions about continuity of occupation, the influence of Iron-Age and Romano-British settlement on the pattern of early medieval and medieval urban developments, and the role of minster churches in the development of towns.

Following the production of an assessment report and management proposal for each of the towns, a review of the extent of areas protected as scheduled monuments has now been undertaken. Recommendations have been made to English Heritage for extensions to many such areas. Publication of the survey is planned in the near future.

Antonia Douthwaite, GCCAS

ARLINGHAM, *Wick Court*, SO 7361410468. A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks in connection with the installation of an electricity pole and associated stay-wires. Wick Court is a medieval and later house on a moated site. The machine excavation was made into an almost continuous bank running along the outer side of the moat; natural lias clay was reached. The bank was composed of moat upcast and finds suggested dredging in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Derek Goult, GCCAS

AVONMOUTH, *Effluent Pipeline between Avonmouth Sewage Works and Seabank Power Station, Severnside*, ST 533797 to ST 536822. An archaeological watching brief was conducted during the excavation of the trench for the new pipes. Organic deposits of palaeoenvironmental interest were observed along much of the pipeline and provided a series of radiocarbon dates (cal 2 sigma BC) with a range from 2200–3780 cal BC. When compared with other contemporary deposits recorded on the Henbury levels they represent a range of environments from freshwater swamp to alder carr and from saltmarsh communities to reed swamp. Although the environmental conditions and sedimentary sequence during this period are not fully understood, the project provided further data on the past environments of the Henbury levels.

Tim Longman, BaRAS

Washingpool Farm, ST 5337081590. An archaeological field evaluation was carried out before the construction of an effluent pipeline. A single trench revealed several post-medieval features related to the farm such as cobbled surfaces and walls. A large pond containing 19th-century material was also revealed. The earliest dated artefacts recovered were residual 18th-century pottery sherds, suggesting that the farmstead west of the A403 road has post-medieval origins. The moated site to the south-east may be that of its medieval predecessor.

Peter Insole, BaRAS

BISHOP'S CLEEVE, *Cleeve Hall*, SO 95552700. Further evaluation (cf. AR 20) found ditches, pits, and post-holes containing 2nd- to 4th-century pottery, indicating that the Romano-British settlement continued southwards from Home Farm (AR 19) and eastwards from Stoke Road.

Laurent Coleman, CAT

Evesham Road, SO 95752799. A small evaluation identified post-medieval and modern features. Four sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from the subsoil.

Alan Thomas, CAT

Stoke Road, SO 9552765. An evaluation followed by excavation on the site of the former football ground identified a series of Romano-British enclosures dating to the 3rd to 4th centuries. As they contained very few internal features it is likely that they were part of the later Roman agricultural field system previously recorded at the nearby Home Farm site (AR 19). Four coins, dating to the period A.D. 330–40, were recovered from the final filling of the enclosure ditch, and may be a small hoard. Immediately west of the enclosures was a small cluster of pits and gullies, from which evidence was retrieved to indicate iron-smithing in the vicinity. Two graves were found, orientated N–S, with one head located at the southern end and the other at the northern end of the grave cut. One grave was partially lined with limestone blocks; the skeleton it contained appeared to have been deliberately mutilated as both legs were cut above the knee and the lower legs and feet were absent. This practice is usually dated to the late 4th century. A single post-built structure c. 4 m in diameter, possibly a temporary shelter or windbreak, produced grass-tempered pottery dated to the 5th–8th century. A 9th-century zoomorphic strap end was also recovered from the excavation.

In the medieval period ditches defined three distinct land plots, doubtless the backs of properties extending beneath the existing buildings fronting Stoke Road. The westernmost of the three was 22 m wide and contained a number of pits and post-holes concentrated on the western side of the plot. The majority of the pits appeared to have been utilised for disposal of domestic rubbish. One pit contained a discrete dump of butchery or skinning waste.

In the central plot there was a stone-lined drain and associated cobbled surface. The drain, of 'L'-shaped plan, was lined with broken limestone pegged roof slates, further slates forming a cover. The drain terminated at a lined circular setting. The layout of the drain suggests that it collected rain water from the roof of a structure such as a barn or shed of which little trace has survived. Towards the edge of the plot was a series of intercutting pits, two of which were waterlogged, one with the remnants of a wooden lining.

In the eastern plot an irregular channel, revetted by crude walls and probably for drainage, was cut into a natural slope. It was covered by a layer of limestone rubble, possibly laid to create a ramp to a pond or small stream adjacent to Stoke Road. To the rear of the plots was a series of possible stock enclosures and evidence for agriculture. The occupation dates to the 12th–14th century, with a limited assemblage of 15th-century pottery in the latest horizons.

Dawn Enright and Brona Langton, CAT

BLAKENEY, *Mill End Lane, SO 67100690.* Following earlier evaluation, excavation revealed enclosure ditches, hard-standings, hearths, waste-pits and iron-slag deposits datable to the 3rd–4th century A.D. The absence of furnace remains suggests that the excavation lay on the periphery of a late Roman iron-smelting site. The relationship of the site to the high-status 1st- to 2nd-century building at Legg House, 140 m to the north-east and on the opposite bank of the Bideford Brook, is uncertain. Scientific analysis of the slag deposits is currently being undertaken.

Alistair Barber and Neil Holbrook, CAT

BODDINGTON. A number of Romano-British copper-alloy items, two coins of Diocletian and Valens, and an Anglo-Saxon copper-alloy mount of late 6th- or early 7th-century date have been found near the church.

Guy Kilminster, Cheltenham Art Gallery & Museum

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, *Gable Cottage, Station Road, SP 17042085.* A watching brief was undertaken during hand excavation of a foundation trench in connection with a proposed garden building; natural gravel was reached. The cottage and its garden lie within Salmonsbury Camp. A post-hole observed in section was probably of Romano-British date. This was adjacent to a larger cut feature, interpreted as a gravel pit of similar date; the area was extensively quarried for gravel in the Roman period. However, no finds were recovered from the larger feature and it is possible that it comprised part of the north-west entrance of the camp.

Derek Goult, GCCAS

BRISTOL, *Broad Quay*, ST 5861072715, ST 5862972720, and ST 5865072701. Archaeological monitoring of trenches associated with the construction of a new flood-relief sewer was undertaken. Two archaeological features were recorded: a brick-built culvert forming a branch of the 19th-century Milne's Culvert used to redirect surplus water from the River Frome, and a deposit of rubble stone—Brandon Hill Grit—some 4 m below modern ground level. The stone was at least 2 m deep and similar in content and construction to the material supporting the footings of the town (Marsh) wall to the east. The feature was too poorly constructed to be the town wall itself. It is possible that it represented the line of the Marsh wall after its turn to the north beyond the Marsh Street gate; however, no evidence for its return to meet that gate was found in the trench to the south.

Rod Burchill, BaRAS

Canon's Marsh, New World Square, ST 5836872437. An excavation carried out on the site of a proposed underground car park followed two evaluations earlier in the year. These had identified the remains of industrial buildings, and the excavation aimed to clarify the nature of these as well as to provide an insight into the early environment of the marsh. A putative medieval drainage rhine revealed at great depth at the north-east corner of the area is clearly identifiable on Rocque's 1742 map, and possibly on Millerd's 1673 plan. It was sealed by 18th-century layers and it may have been re-cut at a later date prior to the construction of a factory in the late 18th century. The factory, identified as a rope manufactory from plans in the Bristol Record Office, was largely rebuilt in the late 19th century. The excavation suggested that some of the walls were of a much earlier rope factory shown on Rocque's map, and the key to the plans in the record office confirmed the re-use of old walls in the later factory. A long narrow structure, running along the northern edge of the area with grooves for a rail bed, was shown as a tramway to the tarring house on the plans. An area excavated to the south revealed a substantial buried soil horizon which may have accumulated in a more stable environment following the construction of the floating harbour in 1809; that had effectively removed the threat of periodic inundation. A large ditch, possibly for a culvert, was excavated from just above this horizon in the mid 19th century. The remains of a sawmill, built between 1851 and 1855, were overlying a brief landfill sequence sealing the ditch. A large base for a steam engine, boiler, or steam sawing machine was situated at the west end of the building.

Simon Cox, BaRAS

Canon's Marsh, The Harbourside Centre, ST 5847672398. An archaeological evaluation of land south of V-Shed was carried out prior to the development of a new centre for the performing arts. Part of the outer wall of the Albert dry dock was located at the north end of one of the two trenches, cutting into 18th-century landfill deposits. This was sealed by late 19th-century landfill contemporary with the infilling of the dock, which is shown on the 1883 O.S. map. One sherd of 13th-century pottery was recovered from the base of the southern trench. Further to the east, a deep machine sondage revealed vast quantities of 19th-century landfill, dumped in order to extend the waterfront eastwards. It seemed likely that any medieval waterfront activity would lie along the western edge of the site and beneath Canon's Road.

Simon Cox, BaRAS

Canon's Marsh, Canon's Road, ST 5950072550. An archaeological watching brief was carried out during service diversions along the length of Canon's Road. The earliest feature was a medieval river-front wall running E-W beneath Anchor Lane. The return of this had been previously identified during an excavation beneath U-Shed, but had remained undated. A length of 5.5 m of the wall was exposed, the stonework and mortar being typical of medieval walls in Bristol, although it had been repaired on many occasions. As it was not possible to preserve the entire length of the wall *in situ* a limited hand excavation was undertaken to reduce the wall in areas where services were to pass through. This enabled dating evidence, in the form of pottery and roof tile, to be recovered from the core of the wall; that evidence placed it in the first half of the 14th century. Both the north and south walls of Tomb's 19th-century dry dock were located further to the north, as were related buildings. The dock had been previously located beneath U-Shed, and the alignment of the south wall also suggested that the wall of the basement beneath the leadworks, identified

in a previous evaluation, was founded upon the dock wall. This confirmed the suggestion that the basement of the leadworks was in fact part of the former dry dock.

Simon Cox, BaRAS

Hanham, Hanham Hall Farm, Hanham Hall Hospital, Whittuck's Road, ST 64457160. A survey was made of Hanham Hall Farm and its adjoining stables and animal shelter prior to their demolition. The farm was built on the site of, and incorporated part of, an earlier building, perhaps a garden workshop which may have been associated with the walled garden immediately to the west. The earlier building was shown on the 1843 tithe map but its date of construction is not known. If the walled garden was contemporary with the construction of Hanham Hall, then the building could possibly be as early as 17th-century in date. The main farmhouse, stables and animal shelter were built as an integral complex sometime after 1843, probably later in the 19th century. The use of the term 'farmhouse' for this relatively small building is probably a misnomer since it is more likely that the house was occupied by someone looking after the horses in the adjoining stables. The farmhouse was in a poor condition and contained no architectural features of note. The stables and animal shelter were in a reasonably sound condition.

An archaeological field evaluation was also carried out on land at the farm. Eight trenches and a test pit were excavated but produced only limited evidence of archaeological deposits. In Trench 1 a well-preserved stone drain probably dated from the 18th or 19th century. Pennant sandstone rubble in Trench 4 probably represented a boundary wall.

Rod Burchill and Reg Jackson, BaRAS

17-18 King Street, The Naval Volunteer public house, ST 58787269. A desktop study and survey of the Grade II listed building, constructed c. 1670, were required as part of the planning and listed building consent applications for alterations to the external elevation and to the interior, including the demolition of some walls. The present rear (south) wall of the bar area in 17 King Street and the bar area in 18 King Street were originally the back wall of the outbuildings/warehouses fronting Little King Street. The rear walls of the late 17th-century buildings fronting King Street had been removed during previous alterations to the two premises and are now only represented by columns and pillars at the end of the present bar/servery areas in 17 and 18 King Street. The areas between these columns and pillars and the present rear walls of the bars were originally mainly open courtyards. With one exception the walls likely to be demolished in the proposed alterations were shown to be either late 19th- or 20th-century in date. The present rear dividing wall between 17 and 18 King Street was the 17th/18th-century party wall between the courtyards of the two properties.

Reg Jackson, BaRAS

St Michael's Hill, St Michael's Church of England Primary School, ST 585732. A watching brief carried out during construction of a new classroom fronting Upper Church Lane found evidence of the 18th-century and later gardens and buildings which corresponded to the early historic surveys of the area. A cesspit contained chamber pots of the 18th and 19th centuries and a collection of moulded soft drink and milk bottles of the late 1940s.

Temple Quay, ST 5960072600. A watching brief was carried out during the excavation of 42 geotechnical trial pits for the Temple Quay development. Six of the pits revealed post-medieval archaeological features. In Trial Pit 1 the timber remains of the possible 18th-19th-century harbourside revetment was exposed. In Trial Pit 8 a possible 19th-century kiln structure was identified. Trial Pit 21 revealed a possible 18th-19th-century culvert. In Trial Pit 23, located directly west of the Portwall, the remains of a possible cellar of 18th-19th-century date was uncovered. In Trial Pit 28 was the top of a 19th-century wall, possibly related to the demolished railway buildings. Finally, in Trial Pit 42 deposits containing one sherd of residual Romano-British pottery from the ditch associated with the Portwall were identified. The majority of the pits exposed layers of dumped demolition, industrial and kiln debris, demonstrating the massive landfill operation that has taken place at Temple Quay over many years.

Jayne Pilkington, BaRAS

Temple Way, ST 5945072680. An evaluation on the site of a proposed hotel off Temple Way comprised the excavation of three trenches, one of which had been extensively disturbed by 19th-century industrial building. A 13th-century pit and an associated stone surface may have related to the construction of tenter racks for the drying of cloth, as previously identified during excavations at Cart Lane in 1974. Tenter racks in this area are indicated on Millerd's 1673 plan of the city. An E-W ditch which produced 13th–15th-century pottery appeared to delineate the boundary between the racks and the garden areas of tenements to the south, as shown on Millerd's and Rocque's plans. This was supported by the evidence for a medieval soil horizon, dating from the early to mid 14th century and cut by cultivation features, in the evaluation trench to the south. A later soil horizon, open through to the late 17th century, was also revealed in this trench. The eastern wall of the 18th/19th-century Temple Church mission room was located at the western edge of the trench.

Simon Cox, BaRAS

Upper Maudlin Street, ST 58657359. Archaeological monitoring of groundworks associated with the development of the new children's hospital revealed 18th–19th-century cellars cut into the natural rock brash. Adjacent to the public highway (ST 5863673380) was an undated well which had been cut some 25 m into the underlying bedrock.

Rod Burchill, BaRAS

1 Wine Street, ST 58897306. A watching brief was undertaken during lifting of the Pennant floor slabs of the cellar and the excavation of approximately 0.10 m of make-up beneath. Covering the western half of the cellar and in its south-east corner was a very clean sandy red clay containing no finds which may have been natural or redeposited natural. This clay was disturbed over the central area of the cellar by two drains and a stone-lined tank with a brick vault. The earlier drain was brick-lined with a stone slab covering and appeared to be 19th-century. The north wall of the cellar, like the external face of the south wall of Christ Church, was built of rubble with some dressed freestone, bonded with a very hard white/grey mortar. The east wall of the cellar was constructed of roughly coursed Pennant sandstone bonded with a creamy grey mortar containing flecks of coal and accommodated a brick-built fireplace. The curving cellar wall on the Wine Street frontage was stone-built, of a similar construction to the east wall, and contained two brick pillars forming three adjoining entrances to further areas of cellars under the pavement of Wine Street.

Reg Jackson and Jayne Pilkington, BaRAS

BROCKWORTH, *The Flying Machine*, SO 89101635. Evaluation identified buildings marked on the 1891 O.S. map and a possible post-medieval quarry.

Alan Thomas, CAT

CHEDWORTH, *Chedworth Roman Villa*, SP 05301345. During 1997 three separate archaeological interventions were undertaken at Chedworth Roman villa (Fig. 1). The first involved the completion of an excavation begun the previous year into Room 8; the second was the excavation of part of the south wing; the third was the excavation of a previously unrecorded mosaic situated at the northern end of the west range portico.

Room 8. The earliest feature encountered was a stokehole located towards the north-west corner of the room and mirroring the one at the northern end of the bathing complex; this suggests that originally the suite of baths was fired from both ends and was separate from other contemporary structures in the west range. The next phase comprised a floor of reddened fire-damaged masonry blocks set in red puddled clay, sealed by a compacted deposit of pure ash containing a coin of A.D. 196, possibly reflecting that this surface may have at one time served as a basement of a hypocaust system. This phase, dated to the late 2nd to early 3rd century, was contemporary with the reorganisation of the villa after a fire which gutted the south wing. The possible hypocaust system was subsequently dismantled and the room converted to an unheated apartment. The masonry floor had been covered over by an aggregate, principally of small

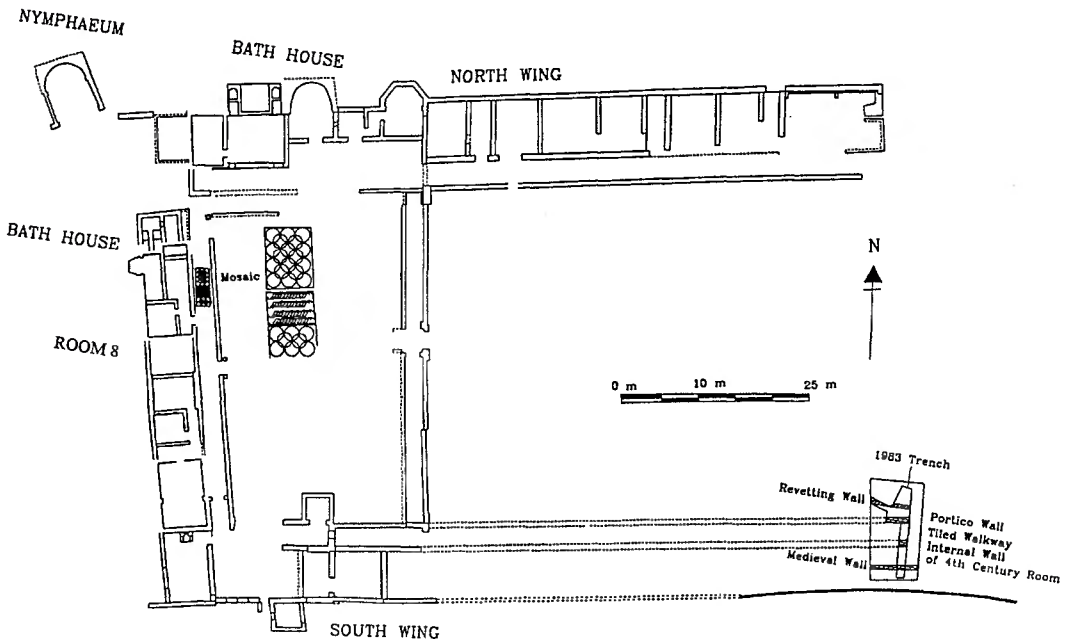


Fig. 1. Chedworth: plan of the villa showing three areas of excavation—Room 8, the eastern end of the south wing, and the west range portico mosaic.

fragments of local stone mixed with crushed tile and tufa set into a bed of lime mortar, and sealed by a thin smear of lime mortar which provided an even surface for an *opus signinum* floor. Contemporary with the laying of this floor, the walls were decorated in alternate panels of Pompeian red and blue wall plaster, traces of which still adhere to the walls to a height of 0.5 m. Directly on top of the *opus signinum* floor, and located just beneath a projecting course of masonry of the dividing wall between Rooms 7 and 8, a coin of Tetricus dated to A.D. 270 was recovered. The coin is contemporary with the major structural reorganisation of the villa during the late 3rd to early 4th century A.D.

South wing. The (uncompleted) excavation of an 11 × 5 m trench located in the lower garden of the villa revealed three parallel 4th-century walls running E–W, and an extremely well-preserved stone channelled hypocaust belonging to a high-status room. The most northerly wall consisted of two surviving courses of masonry with a rubble infill core (0.20 m high × 0.62 m wide), and may represent either a retaining wall to prevent soil seepage or possibly the remains of an earlier phase of building. Directly behind this wall, on a slightly different alignment, was a far more substantial wall, being exceptionally well-constructed of square dressed blocks with a rubble infill core, standing four courses in height (0.66 m high × 0.74 m wide), bonded together with a durable lime mortar. The third wall lay 2.6 m to the south and exhibited two distinct phases of bonded masonry.

Comparison with the style, layout and dimensions of the north wing would strongly suggest that the last two walls represent the outer portico wall and the front wall of the main house, and that the south wing is therefore symmetrical (and contemporary) with the north wing. The portico/corridor was paved with limestone slabs, and there appears to be evidence for late and post-Roman industrial activity in this part of the villa. It is not yet certain whether the limestone slabs formed the original floor or if the corridor was once paved with a mosaic as in the south and west ranges.

The southernmost wall had two phases of building, and at 1.20 m it was wider than any other wall visible in the villa. The northern section of this wall was 0.50 m thick, and it may be conjectured that this was

built later. There may have been an upper storey, perhaps to improve the building's symmetry, since the south wing stood on lower ground than the north wing. Directly south of this wall was an exceptionally well-preserved stone channelled hypocaust, and the recovery of hundreds of tesserae of differing colours suggests that the room was paved with a fine and intricate mosaic floor.

North of the surviving walls, sloping layers of rubble from the collapse of the building were observed. Many fragments of Cotswold stone hexagonal roof tiles were found, as well as some fragments of *tegulae*. The portico roof may have been of clay tile construction, but it is not clear whether stone tiles and clay were in use at the same time; the *tegulae* could represent a later roofing of the portico alone and be contemporary with the apparent late/post-Roman activity.

The main result of the excavation is to prove that the south wing of the villa extends at least as far as the north wing; that it is of high quality and therefore part of the main house; and therefore that there must be additional contemporary structures containing the peripheral and service elements of the house to the east. This would follow the pattern of other similar sites such as Woodchester and Bignor, where multiple courtyards were built out from an 'inner sanctum' containing the most opulent rooms.

Western portico. The area exposed was roughly trapezoidal in shape, measuring 5.3 m along the western limit, 3.3 m along the eastern side, and 2.6 m wide. The excavation revealed part of a geometric mosaic (Fig. 2) with a wide border and three central decorative panels, consisting of a complete square of guilloche mat and two incomplete panels of alternate red and blue interlacing circles. The circles were infilled with white tesserae with a central diamond shaped panel corresponding to the colour of the circle. The width (two tesserae) and diameters (0.61 m) of the circles are relatively uniform but the dimensions and number

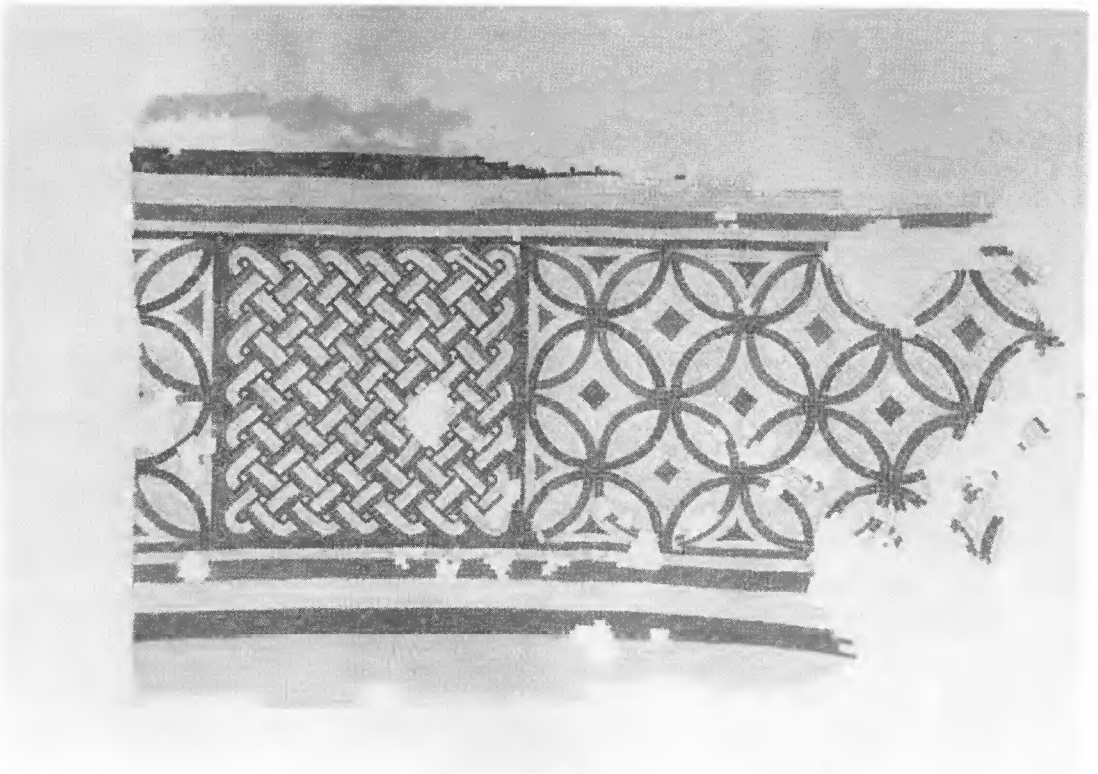


Fig. 2. Chedworth: the west range portico mosaic.

of tesserae within the diamonds vary, ranging from four to six tesserae per side. The band of white tesserae between the circle and the square is always four deep. The borders, c. 0.64 m wide, consist of six bands of varying width and colour. The outermost band is c. 0.22 m wide, blue/grey in colour and composed of coarse tesserae. The next band is composed of blue tesserae of five courses, followed by a white band six tesserae deep, then a red band four tesserae deep. The penultimate course is again a band of white tesserae two courses deep, with a final blue band also composed of a double line of tesserae. This narrow blue band divides the panels so that each has a blue border. A small excavated section through an area where the pavement was badly eroded demonstrated that this 4th-century mosaic was indeed the undisturbed original floor of the portico.

Robert Cleary, Jennifer Goode and Philip Bethell, NT

CHELTENHAM, *Dunalley School, West Drive*, SO 95172331. Following an evaluation carried out by CAT an excavation was undertaken on land at West Drive, Cheltenham, before the construction of a new school building on a site formerly used as a playing field. Ditches forming a Roman field system based on a grid pattern were identified. Also present were a number of enclosure ditches on a different alignment and two ditches defining a possible trackway. A substantial amount of Roman pottery was recovered but has yet to be analysed.

S.K. Cox, GCCAS

Land at Wellesley Road, SO 95132366. An archaeological evaluation was carried out adjacent to the West Drive site mentioned above in advance of housing development. Four trenches were located in the south-west quadrant of a playing field. Ditches containing small quantities of Roman pottery were found in the two easterly trenches. These were interpreted as part of the Roman field system identified in the adjacent area.

S.K. Cox, GCCAS

Serck Marston premises, Knapp Road, SO 94552264. A watching brief was undertaken during machine excavation of foundation trenches for a proposed replacement building. Although the site lay on the edge of medieval Cheltenham, no evidence of medieval date was found. However, the long and narrow shape of the premises indicated their origins as a medieval tenement. The surviving archaeology, comprising deposits and refuse pits, appeared to date from the first decades of the 19th century.

Derek Goult, GCCAS

CHIPPING CAMPDEN, *Library, High Street*, SP 15073909. An archaeological evaluation carried out within the yard behind the library produced a possible medieval gully and deposits relating to the buildings and structures that occupied the site in the 17th to 19th centuries.

Jo Vallender, GCCAS

CIRENCESTER, *The Beeches playing field, London Road*, SP 038022. Following a desktop study and geo-physical survey a field evaluation prior to residential development identified three enclosure ditches. No diagnostic pottery was recovered but the ditches contained flint fragments and animal bone and are assumed to be prehistoric in date. No Romano-British material was recovered despite the site's close proximity to Cirencester. Areas of post-medieval ridge and furrow had been levelled by subsequent landscaping.

Jonathan Erskine, AAU

City Bank, SP 03070128. A watching brief and small excavation identified a possible robber trench for the Roman town wall and a small Roman ditch, possibly part of a drain leading to the River Churn. This was covered by a gravel spread, perhaps laid in an attempt to consolidate a marshy area outside the town wall prone to flooding.

Alan Thomas, CAT

51/53 Cricklade Street, SP 02370190. Limited further excavation (cf. AR 21) of the street defining *Insulae* XIX and XXII revealed a porticoed facade along the frontage of *Insula* XXII. Medieval robbing had removed all but the stylobate which comprised blocks up to 1 m square and 0.3 m thick resting upon foundations 1.2 m deep.

Alistair Barber and Graeme Walker, CAT

51 Coxwell Street, SP 02080216. Evaluation revealed a floor surface dating to at least the 16th century. An overlying wall and occupation layers relate to a subsequent building on the site.

Richard Morton, CAT

The Forum Centre, Lewis Lane, SP 02560184. An evaluation and watching brief were carried out in advance of the construction of new buildings. The stratigraphy exposed within the single trench was similar to that encountered during the 1996 evaluation and comprised modern building materials and successive soil layers over rubble deposits of Roman date. Evidence was also found to suggest that Roman walls are present and that they are significantly less truncated than surrounding deposits. A large wall was encountered 0.7 m below modern ground level; other significant deposits have been encountered c. 1.2 m below the modern ground surface.

Toby Catchpole, GCCAS

Infants School, Victoria Road, SP 02930153. An excavation was carried out in advance of an extension to the drainage system at the school. Three soakaways with connecting drains were excavated in the playground and in the playing field west of the school. Several phases of Roman occupation were identified including a possible 1st- or 2nd-century trackway, a 2nd-century field system, and a late 4th-century post-built structure, probably a barn.

S.K. Cox, GCCAS

Paternoster School, Watermoor Road, SP 02540146. An archaeological excavation was carried out at the school in preparation for the construction of a new atrium and related works. Structural remains (walls and *opus signinum* floor surfaces) were found associated with one or possibly two Roman buildings previously identified on the site. A substantial amount of Roman pottery was recovered.

S.K. Cox, GCCAS

Querns Lane, SP 0239001640. A watching brief recorded post-Roman dark earth containing abraded late Roman and medieval pottery, animal bone, and a bronze coin of Claudius II (A.D. 268–70).

Richard Morton, CAT

Trinity Road, SP 0243901463. An evaluation on the site of the former workhouse revealed internal and external Roman surfaces, possibly associated with house IV.3 excavated in 1959 to the north-east. Roman levels were sealed by a thick accumulation of dark earth.

David Kenyon, CAT

COWLEY/DAGLINGWORTH, *Birdlip Quarry to Daglingworth Quarry*, SO 946136 to SP 002054. Eleven sections were excavated through the A417 road prior to and during the construction of the dual carriageway between Gloucester and Cirencester. In these areas Roman Ermin Street survived to a maximum depth of c. 0.80 m, with up to five phases of localised resurfacing. Although the road was almost certainly in regular use in the Roman period, no material evidence was found for it, nor for resurfacing prior to the first turnpike road of 1747. At least six surfaces constructed by turnpike trusts were identified, to a maximum combined depth of c. 2 m. The sections provided valuable evidence for the construction of rural roads.

OAU

CROMHALL, *Trappels Farm*, ST 690896. A desktop study and a geophysical survey of an area of the proposed extension to the quartzite quarry provided evidence of a possible ring-ditch, hearth and other

curving ditches. The area is also the site of an early 19th-century hamlet abandoned during inclosure of Cromhall Heath c. 1820.

Jonathan Erskine, AAU

DYMOCK, *Cricket Ground*, SO 70503110. Salvage recording was carried out on a machine-excavated trench for new nets. The trench was 10 m north of the Roman road which runs east from Dymock, adjacent to which timber buildings and other archaeological deposits of Roman date were recorded in the 1960s. The majority of the trench had not been machined deep enough to reach Roman deposits but burnt material was recorded in the south-eastern corner and numerous fragments of Roman pottery were retrieved from this and from the post-Roman soil above.

Toby Catchpole, GCCAS

EBRINGTON, *St. Eadburgha's Church*, SP 18324002. An evaluation in advance of an extension to the graveyard revealed a mixed layer containing large amounts of Roman material and rare fragments of post-medieval and modern pottery. The mixed layer overlay natural subsoil. The only features cutting into the subsoil were recent, the result of shrub or fruit tree planting. The mixed layer appeared to be the result of repeated agricultural disturbance suggesting that Roman deposits had been present on the site but that these had been entirely removed by recent agricultural activity.

Toby Catchpole, GCCAS

FAIRFORD, *Farmor's School, Fairford Park*, SP 15350180. An evaluation was carried out in advance of new classroom development. The trenches were c. 15 m east of the site of the 17th-century mansion known as Fairford Park (demolished 1955). The evaluation was carried out because of reported finds of Roman coins and pottery under the mansion. No deposits or residual finds of Roman date were encountered in either evaluation trench. The 18th-century ha-ha and a rubbish pit of similar date were recorded.

Toby Catchpole, GCCAS

FARMINGTON, *Farmington Quarry*, SP 12851668. An evaluation was carried out within the area of a proposed extension to Farmington stone quarry. The evaluation found evidence of early Iron-Age settlement and extensive Romano-British activity. The latter comprised a substantial building complex, with an associated cemetery, a roadside ditch along the adjacent Fosse Way, and part of a field system.

Jo Vallender, GCCAS

FROCESTER, *Procester Court*, SO 785029. Excavation over an infilled 1st-century gravel pit revealed a 2nd-century threshing floor enclosed by fences which were later replaced by stone walls. Ash deposits were sealed by a surface of stone and building debris, suggesting 4th-century farm structures. Occupation deposits produced many domestic and industrial artefacts. Following collapse and demolition of walls in the mid 4th century, later occupation was associated with a stone causeway and an alignment of large vertical stone slabs.

E.G. Price

Adjacent to St. Peter's Church, SO 770032. Evaluation in the vicinity of the Roman villa revealed a large ditch dating from the late 3rd–4th century. Spreads of rubble and other shallow features of late Roman date were also encountered.

David Kenyon, CAT

GLOUCESTER, *Brunswick Road*, SO 83301830. A watching brief recorded two inhumations within the Barton Roman cemetery immediately outside the town defences. Only a small part of one of the inhumations could be recovered, the rest remaining *in situ*. The other was aligned NW–SE and had several bone fractures which indicated that this individual had been subject to a violent attack. Two undated ditches were also identified.

Alan Thomas, CAT

Brunswick Road, Gloscat, SO 83121832 and SO 83271826. Observations were made during developments on two separate sites at the college: extensions to the library building and the construction of a new arts and media centre. Initial borehole investigations at the library site revealed the presence of an oolitic limestone wall. The borehole was later enlarged, by hand, and the wall, running NE–SW 0.20 m below existing ground level, was found to be well-faced re-used oolitic limestone. Cartographic evidence suggests the wall was part of a building shown on the Board of Health plan of 1851. Observations of the piling and drainage operations at the arts and media centre site, known to lie within the Barton Roman cemetery, showed the area to be covered by a fairly uniform layer of undated made ground c. 1 m thick and overlying blue lias clay. No burials or bone fragments were observed.

Phil Greateorex, GAU

Hare Lane/Worcester Street, SO 83351889. An excavation was carried out between Hare Lane and Worcester Street on the route of a new section of the inner relief road. The site produced extensive evidence of Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval activity. Both the Romano-British and medieval deposits were heavily truncated by post-medieval allotments and a 19th-century house called Worcester Lawn.

The Romano-British activity was concentrated at the eastern, Worcester Street, end of the site. A metal-rod road was recorded running NW–SE, roughly at 90° to the road of similar date between Kingsholm and Gloucester. Associated with the road, and of the same date, were a number of features, including a post-hole and beam-slot structure with a clay floor and associated hearth or kiln. Numerous slag-filled pits occupied the area between the road and the building suggesting a metal-working function for the structure.

The site of the excavation was within a medieval tannery yard. The hall of the tanners' company partially survives to the south. All tannery surfaces and therefore potential structural remains had been removed during the post-medieval truncation. Despite this a significant number of pits survived, some of which showed evidence of having been clay lined.

Post-medieval activity on the site was represented by the levelling and removal of tannery deposits, and their replacement with between 1.0–1.4 m of fine loamy soil, heavily contaminated with Romano-British finds, for use as allotments. The site was further truncated when Worcester Lawn was erected in 1807. The house was demolished in the early 20th century to make way for the garages which survived until demolition for road construction in 1997.

Jo Vallender, GCCAS

19 Kingsholm Road, SO 83481946. Observations were made of an entrance porch foundation trench 1.54 m deep. A buff-orange sandy loam layer was recorded at a depth of 1.48 m above natural. The Kingsholm Claudio-Neronian fortress level A, a buff-brown loam containing charcoal flecks and heat cracked large Bunter pebbles, was recorded from a depth of 1.3 m. A possible E–W burial, cut from within the subsequent accumulation of loam, was recorded at a depth of 1.4 m; it may have been part of the Kingsholm central late Roman burial ground.

Anthony Patrick Garrod, GAU

110 London Road, SO 84271895. Observations were made in a 1-m deep service trench. Orange alluvial sandy loam overlay lias clay at a depth of 0.9 m. Above this was a possible inhumation burial, located within the Wotton Roman burial ground. Medieval and post-medieval dark grey loam beneath a subsequent plough or horticultural level, containing a 13th- to 15th-century potsherd, was recorded from 0.40 m deep.

Anthony Patrick Garrod, GAU

Oxstalls School, SO 83951998. An archaeological evaluation was carried out within the area of a proposed development on part of the playing field of Oxstalls Community School. The site is located east of the Roman cemetery. The evaluation found evidence of well-preserved medieval ridge and furrow cultivation. Three sherds of abraded Romano-British pottery were retrieved from the plough soil.

Jo Vallender, GCCAS

Priory Road, SO 83071903. Observations were made in a 0.75-m deep pipe trench in Priory Road. Evidence of the burial ground of St. Oswald's Priory was identified and consisted of fragmented human bones

associated with repetitive grave digging activities. The burial ground was cut by a foundation of hand-made bricks on lias stone, 1 m wide, a possible base for an 18th–19th-century grave slab. The burial ground originally extended beneath the modern widened Priory Road, where it would have bounded a narrower medieval street called Water Street. Foundations of the former 19th-century National school, built within the St. Catherine's churchyard area, were also recorded.

Anthony Patrick Garrod, GAU

Mason's Yard, 55 St. Catherine Street, SO 83201908. An evaluation consisting of two trenches was carried out at the site which is north of the city centre and south of the Kingsholm Roman fort. Trench 1 was located 3 m from the road frontage and Trench 2 directly to the rear of existing buildings. The investigation indicated that stratified archaeological remains survive at a depth of about 0.5 m. A large pit in Trench 2 indicated some form of early (possibly Roman) activity. However, the nature of the deposits and cartographic evidence (especially the 1711 map of Gloucester) suggest that although there was intensive occupation of the neighbouring plots, the present site has remained as open ground for some considerable time.

Lisa Donel, GAU

Sandhurst Lane, Agriculture House, SO 83441977. Observations were made during road widening. Natural sand–silt deposits were recorded at a depth of 0.8 m. Numerous scattered Bunter quartzite pebbles noted in the base of a medieval plough soil may be evidence of destroyed metallised surfaces adjacent to the northern outer defensive ditch of the Kingsholm Roman fort. A large undefined area of intercutting pits was recorded 65 m beyond the outer defensive ditch. Some of the pit fills were capped with clean sandy gravel, others contained lenses of redeposited charcoal-saturated occupation silts, clay hearth or oven fragments, and wall plaster. The pottery, loosely dated to the mid to late 1st century, includes a Claudio-Neronian amphora handle stamp M.I.M. Similar pitting was recorded throughout the nearby Gambier Parry Gardens housing development (Site 9/83).

Anthony Patrick Garrod, GAU

Sandhurst Lane, Kingsholm, SO 83461983. Archaeological recording was carried out during the construction of nine houses and three garages. Previous evaluation had indicated multi-period activity. Iron-Age settlement was followed by the construction of the Roman fort at Kingsholm. Later, the native population appears to have returned and used the site together with the Romans possibly as a market. A number of features, mostly ditches, were identified and dating material was recovered.

Lisa Donel, GAU

Seabroke Road, SO 83981938. An evaluation was carried out within the area of a proposed tennis centre. The evaluation produced evidence of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation.

Jo Vallender, GCCAS

GUITING POWER AREA, SP 0924. A programme of environmental sampling of sediments has produced evidence of the landscape history of this sector of the upper Windrush valley from the Mesolithic to the post-Roman period. Some 261 samples weighing 0.782 tonnes have been analysed producing, for example, 12,731 snail shells.

Widespread early prehistoric forest was subject to minor clearance during the Mesolithic/Neolithic periods. A mosaic of light land clearance, agriculture, and settlement was established over upland areas by the earlier Bronze Age with barrows such as Guiting Power 1 established in relatively isolated woodland clearings, thereby reproducing a similar pattern to that suggested elsewhere in the region during the Neolithic. Certain areas of settlement within the main valley, as around Guiting Power 3 round barrow, were however well cleared by the time of barrow construction, with abundant evidence for cereal cultivation in the area. During the Iron Age other areas in the valley such as those at The Park and The Bowsings were gradually opened to form a landscape of medium clearance, this only becoming extensive during the Roman period.

Once open country had been established, whether cleared during the Bronze Age or the Roman period, no reversion to woodland was apparent.

Dr. Alistair Marshall and Mike Allen

GUITING POWER, *Guiting Manor Farm*, SP 08952499. An excavation was carried out on the site of a new grain store previously evaluated in 1996 (AR 21). The 1997 excavation covered roughly half the projected area of a middle Iron-Age enclosure, delineated by a large ditch. Forty pits were recorded, eleven of which contained grain residues. The pits were distributed in three discrete clusters, positioned in front of a wide entrance into the enclosure. The entrance showed evidence of a large wooden structure between the ditch terminals. Structural evidence within the enclosure was limited to a small number of indistinct post-holes, possibly forming a small building.

Jo Vallender, GCCAS

HARESFIELD, *St. Peter's Church*, SO 80961042. An evaluation carried out on the site of a proposed extension to the churchyard produced evidence of medieval activity adjacent to the moated site (The Mount) and the existing churchyard boundary. A shallow feature could have been the result of flood overflow from the moat. The pottery recovered was exclusively of Gloucester Type Series fabric 47B, thought to have been produced in the Haresfield area.

Jo Vallender, GCCAS
Tim Longman, BaRAS

HEMPSTED, *Land east of Hempsted Village*, SO 81891685. Geophysical survey and evaluation trenches revealed evidence of ridge and furrow cultivation and a post-medieval driveway leading to Hempsted Court (demolished 1962).

Clifford Bateman, CAT

HILLESLEY AND TRESHAM, *Hillesley Farm*, ST 768897. An archaeological excavation was conducted on land behind the farmhouse prior to housing development. An early medieval plough soil contained pottery from the 11th century to the late 12th/early 13th century. Evidence for a track and part of an open-field system on the edge of the medieval village was provided by several ditches. Soil samples from the ditches confirmed the presence of crops of wheat, barley, oats and rye as well as legumes—indicative of a crop rotation common in arable farming. This field system was subsequently abandoned in favour of less intensive agricultural uses by the mid-late 12th century, the arable fields being converted to crofts, paddocks for grazing sheep, and orchards. Archaeological and cartographic evidence indicated that this land use continued for over 600 years until the extension of the farmyard and farm outbuildings in the 1960s.

HORSLEY, *Village Hall*, SO 83809795. A watching brief was undertaken in connection with an extension to the village hall on land adjacent to the site of Horsley Priory. Two chamfered oolite blocks were recovered from the spoil and an oolite wall foundation and construction trench were recorded in section. The latter contained animal bone, but no pottery or other dating evidence. Inside a former cattle shed, 20 m from the hall, the remains of a four-centred arch of late medieval form was identified.

Derek Goult, GCCAS

HUCCLECOTE, *5A Brookfield Road*, SO 86781764. Observations were made in 1-m deep foundation trenches for an extension to the above property which is adjacent to Ermin Street. Natural sand and gravel deposits were recorded at a depth of 0.45 m. An undefined gravel working area extended along the north side of the site. The clean brown gravelly loam backfill contained part of a broken Roman copper-alloy mount with suspended leaf below opposing vine scroll motives.

Anthony Patrick Garrod, GAU

IRON ACTON, *Parsonage Ground*, ST 681832. Geophysical surveys and test pits were undertaken to

determine the nature and extent of a spread of iron slag. The primary slag dump appears to have been situated close to the crest of the hill (ST 68138323) and may have been c. 30 m in diameter, although only its western limit was determined. Slag also occurs lower down the hill, both to the east (where the spread extends up to 100 m north and east) and to the west (where it is largely confined to hillwash above a lynchet 30 m below the crest). The site of iron making was not determined, and the furnace(s) may have lain east of the crest of the ridge, in an area now occupied by a housing estate. Based on the concentrations recorded from the trial pits, the amount of slag remaining in Parsonage Ground (not including the part east of the ridge) is estimated at more than 100 tonnes. The site was therefore one of a significant smelting operation. Documentary evidence of quarrying for metallurgy on the edge of Iron Acton village in the 18th century may refer to this field, although it is possible that a second focus of smelting may lie closer to the church. Many paths and tracks in the village, most notably in the churchyard, are still surfaced with slag. Deposits interpreted as close to, or within, the primary slag dump yield a variety of slag types, representing both smelting and smithing processes; the hillwash deposits mainly yield tapped slags. The trace-element chemistry of the slags indicates that they derive from local ores. The types of slag present and the large volume of material suggest that the smelting operations are medieval in date, probably between the 11th and 13th centuries.

Tim Young and Philip Macdonald, UWC

KEMPSFORD, SU 16709690. An evaluation immediately south-west of Kempsford gravel quarry revealed building remains, a trackway dated by pottery to the 2nd century A.D. and linear field boundary ditches. The evidence from this and previous excavations in the area suggest interpretation as an Iron-Age and Romano-British farmstead with an associated field system.

OAU

LECHLADE, *Proposed Bypass for the A417 Road*, SP 20670025 to SP 21290085. An archaeological investigation was carried out within the scheduled ancient monument on the proposed route of the A417 Lechlade Bypass. The objective was to assess the depths of the topsoil along the route corridor while ensuring that no archaeology was damaged by engineering tests. Archaeological deposits were found in two out of ten trenches. One contained a ditch in association with Iron-Age pottery, the other a ditch of unknown date, although Iron-Age and Roman pottery was present in the topsoil.

S.K. Cox, GCCAS

Cuthwine Place, SP 212022. Excavations identified five ditches, two segmented ditches and a number of post-holes. Two late Bronze-Age/early Iron-Age ditches and two segmented ditches were aligned NW-SE. Two Romano-British field boundary ditches were excavated in the southern part of the site and another truncated the prehistoric ditches. No structures were identified.

OAU

Land behind Sberborne House, SU 21269974. Major excavation following earlier evaluation (AR 21) examined a previously unknown focus of late prehistoric and Anglo-Saxon occupation. The earliest occupation consisted of three stake-walled roundhouses provisionally dated to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age. During the mid-late Iron Age linear boundary ditches and 68 large sub-circular pits were dug. The pits, presumably utilised for storage, varied in diameter from 0.9 to 2.7 m, and from 0.45 to 1.5 m in depth. Very few artefacts were recovered from the pits, although a semi-articulated horse leg was recovered from the base of one, a pelvis from another, and a late Iron-Age silver Dobunnic coin from the upper fill of a third. A lack of domestic structures within the excavated area during this period suggests that the focus of settlement may have migrated slightly. No direct evidence of Romano-British activity was identified, suggesting that the site probably lay within peripheral fields and enclosures associated with the villa complex at Rough-ground Farm, 1 km to the north.

Early Anglo-Saxon occupation was indicated by six sunken-featured buildings, a possible post-built hall, pits, and linear ditches. It would appear that only part of a much more extensive, dispersed settlement has been examined. The limited stratigraphic evidence, coupled with the lack of well-dated comparable early

Saxon pottery assemblages, hinders preliminary attempts to elucidate the chronology and length of occupation. It therefore remains unclear whether the Saxon structures belong to a small settlement which shifted over time across the gravel terrace, or to a single, large settlement occupied over a relatively short period. A broad correlation, however, may be expected between the life span of the settlement and the nearby cemetery at Butler's Field, which would suggest occupation spanning at least the 6th–7th centuries.

Clifford Bateman and Dawn Enright, CAT

LEIGHTERTON, *Land off Tetbury Lane*, ST 82409115. Evaluation revealed roadside stone quarrying dating to the 12th century. Three sherds of Roman pottery suggest nearby activity from the 2nd century onwards.

Nick Turner, CAT

LITTLE RISSINGTON, *R.A.F. Rissington*, SP 20601960. Evaluation within the former air base revealed one post-hole containing pottery broadly dated as prehistoric.

Clifford Bateman, CAT

MANGOTSFIELD, *Emersons Green Village*, ST 670770. Evaluation and excavation was undertaken in various areas of Emersons Green Village, a new town development covering c. 150 ha.

Hamlet X, ST 668768. Evaluation trenches produced evidence of late post-medieval agricultural activity.

Hamlet XI, Church Farm, ST 667764. A complex of farm buildings, possibly originating in the 11th century and rebuilt in the 14th, 16th and 17th centuries, was recorded. Church Farm was also the site of a colliery, which dated from the early 19th century and culminated in a large complex of structures in the late 19th century. The colliery was last worked in 1891. A previously unrecorded tramway leading southwards was confirmed, as was the survival of structural remains of Land Pit. The engine house is to be retained.

Jonathan Erskine and Lynn Hume, AAU

Hamlet XII, adjacent to Hamlet XIII, ST 670761. At least two Romano-British timber post-built structures with associated ditches, hearth and possibly disturbed flooring were identified. A boundary ditch on the same alignment and of similar construction as that in *Hamlet XIII* was also located.

Donna Yorkston and Lynn Hume, AAU

Hamlet XIII, Mangotsfield School Playing Fields, off Cossham Street, ST 667762. Evidence of a complex of Romano-British field boundaries associated with a trapezoidal stone coffin, aligned NE–SW and containing two interments, was recorded. The female, primary, interment had been displaced during the secondary, male, interment, and the monolith lid had been broken, presumably in the same operation, but had been carefully replaced. There were no grave goods present. An assemblage of iron hobnails was recorded in the foot area.

There was evidence of a small, very disturbed masonry structure, partially overlying one of the boundary ditches, with an associated metal surface; its function was uncertain. Evidence of metal working included residues of iron, copper and lead slags, hearth lining and crucible fragments. The lead residues are possibly derived from a cupellation process. Finds included pottery, personal effects, jewellery, coins, stone and ceramic building material. Two areas of possible prehistoric activity, post-holes and possible hearths, were also located.

Adrian Parry, AAU

MINCHINHAMPTON, *Minchinhampton School, School Road*, SO 872008. A small evaluation identified post-medieval quarrying and remains of the National school built in 1867 and demolished in 1969.

Nick Turner, CAT

MORETON-IN-MARSH, *Blenheim Farm*, SP 208328. Evaluation identified several prehistoric pits, one of which contained a prehistoric potsherd and several pot-boilers, and another a worked flint, possibly of Neolithic date. A few residual sherds of Romano-British pottery were also recovered.

Alan Thomas, CAT

NEWENT, *4 High Street*, SO 72162596. Archaeological observations were carried out during excavations of footings for an extension. The only medieval deposit encountered was probably alluvial in origin and contained a single pottery sherd identified as dating to between the late 13th and early 15th century. Later deposits comprised a 17th-century silty sand, and various layers, pits and a well dating from the 18th century or later.

Toby Catchpole, GCCAS

Land off Market Square, SO 723257. Evaluation identified a pit probably of medieval date, to the south of a row of medieval burgage plots.

Alan Thomas, CAT

SHIPTON, *Shipton Sollars Manor*, SP 03211847. An archaeological evaluation and watching brief on the site of a new orangery adjoining the south-east side of the house identified two large ashlar limestone walls. One wall was positioned at 90° to the main building, although their relationship had been destroyed by Victorian drainage. The return wall ran parallel to the south-east of the main building. Neither the full extent nor the date of the buildings could be determined within the limited development area.

Jo Vallender, GCCAS

SOMERFORD KEYNES, *The Manor House*, SU 01619551. A resistivity survey of 1 ha within the grounds of the late 15th-century manor house indicated the presence of possible buildings north, south and west of the house. Evaluation trenching revealed a medieval soil horizon and a large boundary ditch associated with a clay and stone bank. Pottery from the ditch suggests that it was infilled between the late 12th and the 14th century.

Alistair Barber & Graeme Walker. CAT

Shorncote Quarry, SU 033967. Further excavation in advance of gravel quarrying identified a number of Iron-Age ditches, pits, post-holes and a ring-ditch in the north-west of the site, enclosed by boundary ditches, and Romano-British field boundary ditches to the south-east.

OUA

SOUTH CERNEY, *The Manor House*, SU 049973. A small trench was dug at the rear of the house. The upper strata contained sherds of 16th–18th century Ashton Keynes ware and fragments of Staffordshire (or Bristol) Cream ware, datable to c. 1730. Underlying this was a rough surface of gravel which had been spread to level an area of building debris and which covered the walls of a substantial building. The walls formed one corner of a rectangular structure which auguring showed to have been at least 14 by 4 m. The building stood directly on the natural gravel at a depth of c. 1.5 m. One side stood to a height of 1 m and was 0.8 m in breadth. The other wall had been robbed in places and was c. 0.5 m high and 0.4 m thick. The walls were faced with courses of roughly finished limestone blocks and the undamaged wall had a rubble filling. Sealed below the demolition level and in close proximity to the wall a quantity of Cirencester and Minety ware was found together with two fine glazed ceramic Minety roof tiles and two small fragments of medieval window glass.

Documentary evidence and the nature and quality of the walls and tiles suggest that this was part of the Cerney manorial curia of Llanthony Secunda. It was probably destroyed and robbed after the Dissolution when the manor changed owners frequently and new buildings were erected.

Michael Oakeshott.

Silver Street House, SU 048973. Excavations for building work revealed a large area of intensive burning with iron slag and hammer-scale. The edge of this area overlay and mingled with some 40 sherds of Minety

and Cirencester ware, dating to the period 1250–1400, together with half a horse bridle bit and ring. At a lower level a piece of Nieder Mendig lava quernstone including the elbow for a handle was found. It would have been an upper stone roughly 0.40–0.45 m in diameter and 2.5 cm thick. The shape and size suggest it was of Anglo-Saxon date. Immediately above the natural gravel two flints were found, one of which was a small serrated blade, probably Neolithic in date.

Michael Oakeshott.

STINCHCOMBE, *Church field*, ST 72899882. A watching brief was undertaken during machine trenching to lay land drains. Three Romano-British pottery sherds were recovered and may be of significance given the absence of any other known activity of that date in the area.

Derek Goult, GCCAS

STONEHOUSE, SO 792055. An evaluation uncovered evidence of ridge and furrow from the medieval period, cut features of 18th- and 19th-century date, and evidence of gravel extraction confirming the 1839 name of the field as 'Gravel Ground'. Other features included a boundary or drainage ditch in the north-west of the site and a possible hollow way or plough furrow, which were clearly of post-medieval or Victorian date, as they cut into the medieval ploughsoil.

OAU

TAYNTON, SO 748229. Further evidence of the destruction of the church during the Civil Wars (1643) has been exposed following flooding. From a bank at Swan Tump was recovered a considerable quantity of lead, the majority appearing to be from the church, in the form of a crumbled mass of a decorative lead screen, sheet lead from the roof, and comes from stained-glass windows (Fig. 3).

Alf Webb, DAG

TEMPLE GUITING, *Lower Barn area*, SP 0928. A survey at high resolution examined the layout of this site and its working area with particular emphasis on assessing the impact of ploughing (Fig. 4). A ditched enclosure (0.46 ha) with a simple entrance, containing slight evidence for occupation and few storage pits, suggests a defended ranch-type farming unit of relatively high status dateable by sporadic finds to the mid/ later Iron Age, with no Roman activity evident. A circular silo pit, some 4 m in diameter, lies within the southern angle of the interior marking a singular, very large storage facility of a type excavated at Middle Ground, Temple Guiting (AR 18). An extensive working area (10.8 ha) apparently highly pastoral in function, and perhaps containing an area housing a dependent labour force, lies adjacent. The limited evidence for arable activities such as storage pits suggests an economically specialised site obtaining arable produce by trade or subordinate, more mixed farming operations at some distance from the site.

Dr. Alistair Marshall

Middle Ground, SP 09142750. Following geophysical survey (AR 21) of this Iron-Age enclosure and Roman site, a major magnetic anomaly lying isolated near a minor entrance gap in the south-west corner of the enclosure was confirmed by total excavation as a storage silo. The pit was approximately cylindrical, 3 m in diameter and 1.6 m in depth, and was cut into limestone bedrock. Minor plough scoring over the surface suggested that erosion at the site was relatively light and that the original depth of the pit had suffered little reduction. The lower half of the pit contained near-natural clays overlain by domestic debris, with the remainder filled by silty inwash. Finds included mid-later Iron-Age pottery, animal bone, and some slag. The pottery showed close affinities with that from The Park and The Bowsings, Guiting Power (AR 19–20). Material of Roman and later date was absent.

Dr. Alistair Marshall

TETBURY, *London Road*, ST 897941. Evaluation recovered a small assemblage of flints and Roman and medieval pottery from the subsoil.

Barry Turner-Flynn, CAT

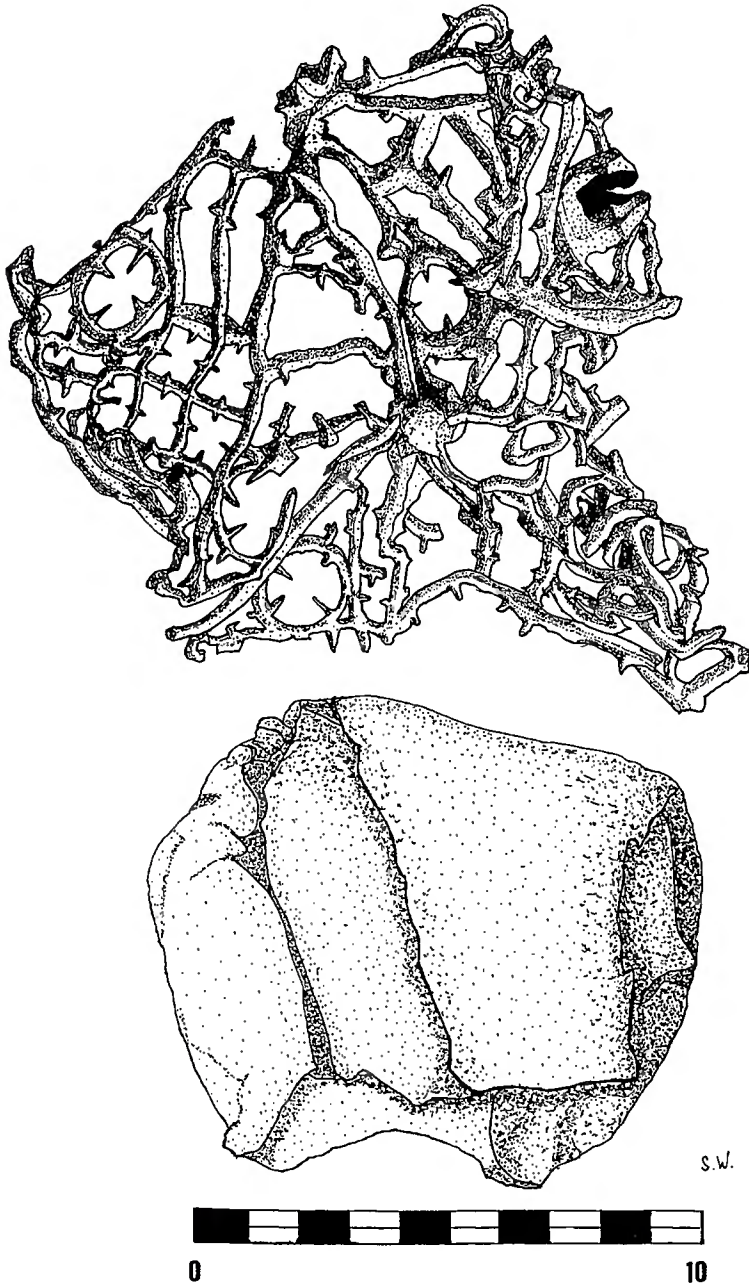


Fig. 3. Taynton: lead from the church.

TEWKESBURY, 77 *Church Street*, SO 89113261. A watching brief undertaken during groundworks for an extension to a doctors' surgery identified at least four medieval refuse pits, observed in section. Pottery fragments dating from the 11th century to the late medieval period were recovered.

Derek Goult, GCCAS

100–101 *Church Street*, SO 89233267. An archaeological evaluation to the rear of the property produced evidence of well-preserved pits of the 12th or 13th century and possibly contemporary walls. A single residual sherd of Severn Valley ware was retrieved.

Jo Vallender, GCCAS

The Gastons, SO 89163162. Geophysical survey and evaluation trenching identified several ditches and two pits indicative of field boundaries or an enclosure, possibly of middle Bronze-Age date.

Alan Thomas, CAT

Oldbury Road, SO 89553310. A small evaluation to the rear of the former family centre located two pits, one of which was clay lined and contained sherds of Romano-British pottery.

Laurent Coleman, CAT

Queen Margaret's Camp, SO 89563147. A watching brief was undertaken during the insertion of electrical cabling, part of which lay within the scheduled area of this medieval moated site. Six worked oolite blocks were observed in the spoil of one trench, although no structure was visible in section. Two of the stones had diagonal tooling on two faces, and one showed effects of heat.

Derek Goult, GCCAS

THORNBURY, *The Old Forge, Stafford Crescent*, ST 63749828. A desktop assessment and building survey was conducted following a proposal for housing development. The site is located in the north-east of Thornbury, within the planned medieval town, behind the properties of The Plain and Castle Street. The forge is one of two such structures surviving reasonably intact. The land on which it stands is the remains of a burgage plot, now scrubland and previously a garden, orchard, and then pasture. The earliest and most significant phase of the forge is the lower section of the northern gable end which was possibly the remains of a medieval boundary wall, incorporated in the first phase of the forge building c. 1900. Enough of the original structure of the double-flued forge survives for it to become operational and perhaps form a working museum.

Jayne Pilkington, BaRAS

The Vicarage, Castle Street, ST 66369051. A watching brief during the excavation of foundation and service trenches for the new vicarage followed an evaluation of the site in May 1995. The earliest phase of occupation comprised the fragmentary remains of occupation layers, possible post-holes and a number of shallow pits, dated by pottery to the 11th–12th centuries. The second phase consisted of an occupation layer and several shallow pits of the mid–late 13th century to the mid 14th century. The pottery evidence suggested that occupation ceased after the mid 14th century. This apparent abandonment of the site corresponds with the known shift of focus away from the castle and church to the present centre of town, caused by the establishment of the new borough in the mid 13th century. It must be assumed that after the 14th century the site was used for agriculture as the next evidence for activity does not occur until the 17th century when a deep quarry pit was cut into the bedrock. The site later became a garden.

Reg Jackson, BaRAS

TURKDEAN, SP 0919. The crop marks of a major rural complex were recognised by Mr. R. Box during aerial reconnaissance in 1995, although it was subsequently learnt that the landowner had made a measured plan of parch-marks during the summer of 1976. Geophysical survey and limited excavation examined the site over three days for the 'Time Team' television programme. The buildings lie on a small promontory overlooking a dry valley and face south. They are of double courtyard plan (overall dimensions of

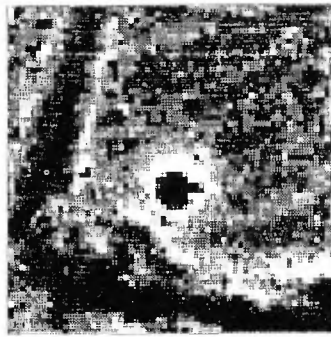
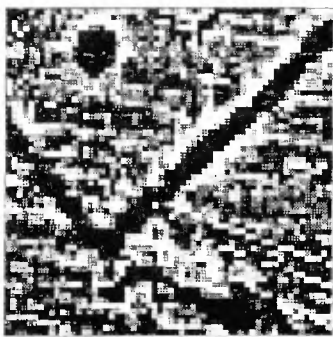


Fig. 4. Temple Guiting: Lower Barn. Plan of the Iron-Age enclosure. Magnetometer surveys show (left) the southern corner of the main enclosure with the large silo and (right), for comparison, the silo at Middle Ground, Temple Guiting. A 10-m. square has been placed next to the surveys.

c. 120 × 75 m), with a third range of rooms continuing up the hillside to the east for a distance of c. 120 m. The rear (northern) range of the upper courtyard has front and back corridors, with major rooms at either end. The front corridor had been reconstructed on two occasions. In the eastern range a large pit was surrounded by a curving mortared foundation; this was possibly a stokehole for a hypocaust which lay to the north. The final ash filling of the pit occurred after the walls had been robbed to their foundations. The stony surface of the upper courtyard had been cut by two ditches which had been deliberately infilled and capped with heavy slabs. Their function is unclear.

In the centre of the range dividing the upper and lower courtyards was a plaster-lined plunge pool, 3 m square, with a flagged floor. The pool had been backfilled with demolition material containing painted plaster, a coin of Gratian, an iron hammer head and a cobblers' last.

Two trenches examined the western range of the lower courtyard and another trench investigated the eastern range which was 9 m wide internally. The earliest feature examined was a lead workers' hearth, which was covered with rubble make-up for a new wall. This was decorated with fragmentary painted wall plaster and formed a corridor, 2.5 m wide, along the inner side of the range. The whole range was infilled with demolition rubble. Coins and pottery concentrated on the 3rd–4th centuries, with a coin of Honorius and shell-tempered pottery indicative of activity to the end of the 4th century. Notable finds included an enamelled knee brooch inscribed *VTER FELIX* and a Bath stone roof finial. The complex may be interpreted as either a major villa or a religious sanctuary.

Neil Holbrook, CAT

WILLERSEY, *Church of England Primary School*, SP 10623968. A watching brief was undertaken in connection with a proposed building extension. The trust deed donating land for the school in 1844 recorded in elevation a single small structure present at that time. The flat top of a wall foundation, located just at the base of excavation at approximately the same position, may have been the remains of that feature.

Derek Goult, GCCAS

WINCHCOMBE, *Market Lane, Greet*, SP 026300. A small evaluation revealed post-medieval deposits associated with farm buildings and the Old Market House which dates from the 17th century.

Nick Turner, CAT

Pigeon Close, Cowl Lane, SP 02422841. An archaeological evaluation was carried out within the former precinct of St. Mary's Abbey in advance of a proposed house extension. Two trenches located behind the house revealed the presence of one or more large cut features of uncertain date, backfilled at least partially in the post-medieval period; they may be fishponds associated with the abbey.

S.K. Cox, GCCAS

WOOLASTON, *Woolaston Grange Farm*, SP 58879847. A watching brief revealed an undated metal surface north of the main farm buildings.

Mark Brett, CAT