

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

## **The Roman-British Stationes on Irmin Street**

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1923, Vol. 45, 294-295

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riots who understood their language. The suggestion is that ' *The Paen* ' was a Welsh Ale-House: in English simply ' *The Peacock* ,' and that with the decay of the cattle-drovers' traffic in the eighteenth century, the place lost its custom and became a deserted slum. From such a condition, I am assured by those who, from boyhood, recalled the site and the dark passage there, it was restored and improved in our own time. It may still be possible by the documentary evidence of some old lease or other lying in somebody's strong box, to produce exact evidence which will convert all the above hypotheses into incontrovertible reality. Let us hope this may occur.

ST. CLAIR BADDELEY.

#### THE ROMAN-BRITISH ' STATIONES ' ON IRMIN STREET.

A conviction long entertained that the head of the escarpment at Birdlip must have owned a *mansio* has for twenty years lacked any solid evidence to support it. After the close of the war, however, matters became decidedly more hopeful, when the land lord of ' *The George* ' (Mr. D'Arcy Bearup) upon my asking to be shown some flint arrow heads and flakes reported to have been found by him, (considerably to the rear of his garden), produced along with these parts of a Roman flue-tile, which had been found by him much nearer to the Inn, while he had been improving the bank next to his lawn. Interested as I found him to be in prehistoric Archæology, (through early associations with Bateman's classic explorations in the Peak of Derbyshire), he readily assented to my request to keep for me a special look-out for further material evidences of things Roman-British on the spot. For it was obvious that the suggestion might be made (by a critic) that the flue-tile could have been brought there by some visitor from Witcombe Villa, down below.

It is, therefore, with peculiar satisfaction that I am now able to record that Mr. Bearup, having had occasion to open the aforesaid bank from the top, (really the natural level) has come down upon undoubted Romano-British wall remains with excellent plaster displaying five good colours, (examples of which are now before me), a 2ft. square chamfered gate-post cap, two Roman-British horse-shoes, besides a good piece of Samian ware, portions of a shallow dish of first-class brittle black-ware, also parts of a grey criss-cross'd pot having a well profiled lip, and other commoner sherds: altogether forming a compact nucleus of evidence to show that a warmed and decorated Post-house actually did

guard the highway near where the escarpment head of Irmin Street turned (not as now it does) and dropped with a finely-engineered zig-zag to the valley. On the Ordnance Survey this zig-zag, and many lower-down abandoned (1731) portions of the Irmin Street, are mistakenly marked *British road* and *Entrenchment*

This seems, therefore, a fitting opportunity to point auspiciously to another site lately noticed to be strewn with Roman-British debris, situated in a field above Duntisbourne Abbots, one likewise commanding the Irmin Street at but 200 yards distance; and both from its propinquity as well as its distance of five Roman miles from *Corinium* suggesting the site of the other required *mansio*. Mr. H. Adamthwaite (I am given to understand), in latter April dug down right on to a 2ft. wall: finding both tiles and pottery and some coins. As Mr. Gibbins, who farms this high-sloping field, tells me, while examining it in his company, that he will be quite willing to permit excavations, and the plan of such a building is much to be desired in the interests of Archæology, it is hoped the Excavation Fund of the Society may be the means of worthily forwarding these.

ST. CLAIR BADDELEY.

#### ANCIENT MONUMENTS, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

The following lists of Ancient Monuments already scheduled under the Act of 1913, and of those submitted for the consideration of H.M. Office of Works, are printed for the information of members. Suggestions as to others which should receive consideration may be forwarded to Mr. E. A. B. Barnard, F.S.A., (chief correspondent for Gloucestershire) 26 Warkworth Street, Cambridge. The Act is a very comprehensive one and the term 'Monument' has a wide meaning. It has been suggested, for instance, that Village Crosses situated *outside* Churchyards might be protected, and information as to those so placed will be welcomed.

I. Ancient Monuments in Gloucestershire already scheduled under the Ancient Monuments Consolidation and Amendment Act, 1913.

1. The Tumulus at Uley.
2. Roman Villa, Witcombe.
3. Buckholt Tumulus, Nymphsfield.
4. Camp Barrows, Miserden.
5. The Long Stone, Minchinhampton.

#### LONG BARROWS

6. Belas Knap, Charlton Abbots.
7. Bown Hill, Woodchester.