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A Romano-British Burial at Cutsdean, Glos., 1955

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A ROMANO-BRITISH BURIAL AT CUTSDEAN
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During building operations at Cutsdean in June, 1955, a skeleton was located in the sides of the pit dug for a septic tank. The site lies in the Manor Farm fields on the north-east side of the village and 50 yards north of the Cutsdean road leading up to Buckle Street.¹

I am indebted to the Gloucestershire County Planning Department for the information that the find had been made. Unfortunately before arriving on the site to investigate the find, local children had stoned the skull which had been the first indication of the presence of the burial.

The skeleton² which had been complete, lay in a crouched position facing west, 4 feet 8 inches from modern ground surface. The grave, roughly oval, 4 feet by 2 feet 6 inches, had been dug through broken rock and yellow clay and the skeleton laid on the solid rock. The upper portions of the skeleton had been removed by the men at work but the lower limb bones were *in situ*, the legs being in a flexed position. One iron nail with wood adhering was recovered from a position by the right foot and two small sherds thickly encrusted with yellow clay from the filling by the leg bones. The two sherds are from the same pot, one being from the rim and belonging to a small grey vessel of Roman make which may be dated *c.* 2nd century A.D. The presence of the iron nail with wood adhering indicates the use of a wooden coffin. The burial is similar to one of the Romano-British period investigated by the writer at Hinchwick (Glos.) in 1937.³

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¹ 6 in. Glos. XXI. N.W.

² An adult male.

³ *Trans. B.G.A.S.* 61, 107