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**Archaeology and the M5 Motorway**

by P. J. Fowler and C. V. Walthew (eds.)
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Archaeology and the M5 Motorway

First Report

edited by

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NORTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE 1969

by

P. Aston, J. Lees, E. M. Linnell, P. A. Moss, J. Punshon, B. Rawes, N. Spry, M. Travell and various contributors

ABSTRACT

Field survey and selective excavation in advance of, and observation and salvage excavation during, motorway construction was conducted by the M5 Research Committee in North Gloucestershire. Among 21 sites revealed were RB settlements at Stoke Orchard, Tredington Rise; Upton St. Leonards; Brookthorpe-with-Whaddon; Haresfield, Pool Farm and Eastington, ‘Whitminster’; Roman site and Med settlements at Stoke Orchard, Manor Farm; Haresfield Pool Farm, and Standish, Green Farm. Unassociated finds included an AS spearhead at Boddington.

INTRODUCTION

As construction work on the M5 Motorway passed early in 1969 from Worcestershire into north Gloucestershire, it provided an opportunity for archaeological investigation which had not been taken elsewhere on any appreciable scale. The sheer size of the task nevertheless presented a problem of co-ordination: none of the county archaeological societies or local museums, however valuable its individual contribution might be, was alone equal to the task. On 6th March, 1969, the M5 Research Committee was constituted by most of the archaeological bodies of Gloucestershire, Bristol and Somerset at a meeting attended by representatives of some 30 different organisations. The Committee was subsequently formally adopted by the Regional Group XIII of the Council for British Archaeology and was fortunate in the wide support it received.
ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE M5 MOTORWAY

Within a few weeks of its formation, field-checking of the route of M5 in north Gloucestershire had been completed. Simultaneous study of aerial photographs, collation of material from published sources and abstraction of the relevant field names from the Tithe Maps produced check-lists of known and suspected sites on the line of the motorway. Field survey and advance excavation could thus take place on selected sites.

In anticipation of the need to watch every metre of construction work in order to record unknown sites and chance finds too, the motorway route was divided into stretches of a few kilometres and responsibility for observation and salvage excavation given to small groups of volunteers. The difficulties of this task are not to be underestimated and it is largely through the efforts of the members of the Gloucester and District Archaeological Research Group that the sites described in this report were investigated as thoroughly as possible. We have nevertheless been tremendously aided by grants from M.O.P.B.W. and the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society which enabled the Committee to appoint a full-time M5 field archaeologist; and by the co-operation of the contractors. Full acknowledgments are made below (p. 61).

Results may not have been spectacular, but fieldwork has been carried out on a scale almost unprecedented in north Gloucestershire. As one consequence, the map (FIG. 1) reveals a fairly even distribution of smallish RB sites on the archaeologically arbitrary line of the motorway, contrasting with the somewhat villa-dominated picture hitherto presented (cf. Richmond, 1965, 178, FIG. 2). In this first report, however, we draw no general conclusions but simply record in brief the evidence recovered from the first 41.6 km (26 miles) of motorway observed. A second, and probably a third, report for Gloucestershire is envisaged, and at least two reports will be necessary for Somerset. Two interim reports and some general impressions are available elsewhere (Fowler 1970b, 1971a, 1971b, 1972a, 1972b).

SUMMARY

The site numbers refer to those on FIG. 1. All grid references are prefixed so.

1 BREDON, Bredons Hardwick 918351 RB occupation
2 STOKE ORCHARD, Tredington Rise 913289 RB settlement
3 STOKE ORCHARD, Manor Farm 915283 Med settlement
4 ELMSTONE HARDWICKE, Fisher’s Farm 91252705 Post-Med ?moat
5 ELMSTONE HARDWICKE, Stanborough 902259 RB settlement?
Fig. 1. M5 North Gloucestershire: location of sites shown in relation to high ground, main rivers and the main Romano-British sites of the area. Site numbers correspond to the Summary (p. 23) and to the order of entries in the text.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Type of Find</th>
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<tr>
<td>BODDINGTON</td>
<td>8981424215</td>
<td>AS spearhead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAVERTON</td>
<td>89652620</td>
<td>RB spearhead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUCCLECOTE, Horsebere Brook Bridge</td>
<td>88151785</td>
<td>Clapper bridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUCCLECOTE, Hucclecote Road</td>
<td>87701740</td>
<td>Undated ditch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UPTON ST LEONARDS</td>
<td>86631588</td>
<td>RB settlement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sneedham's Green</td>
<td>85071420</td>
<td>Moated enclosure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UPTON ST LEONARDS, Edmond's Hill</td>
<td>85201405</td>
<td>RB occupation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROOKTHORPE-WITH-WHADDON, Brookthorpe Court</td>
<td>833124</td>
<td>RB settlement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HALESFIELD, Pool Farm</td>
<td>815120</td>
<td>RB cemetery</td>
</tr>
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<td>HALESFIELD, Pool Farm</td>
<td>819635</td>
<td>RB settlement</td>
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<tr>
<td>HALESFIELD, Pool Farm</td>
<td>81251152</td>
<td>Shrunken Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STANDISH, Green Farm</td>
<td>78720862</td>
<td>Med and Post-Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EASTINGTON, 'Whitminster Roman site'</td>
<td>777068</td>
<td>RB occupation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EASTINGTON, 'Whitminster villa'</td>
<td>779066</td>
<td>RB villa</td>
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<td>EASTINGTON</td>
<td>777060</td>
<td>RB settlement</td>
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<tr>
<td>EASTINGTON</td>
<td>773057</td>
<td>Post-Med occupation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EDITORIAL NOTES**

(a) Abbreviations used are those adopted by the CBA Archaeological Bibliography (American Standards Association List, 239.5—1963, revised and enlarged 1966).

(b) A standard format has been adopted for each site:-

- **Parish Name**: site name, NGR, FIGS., PLs.
- Type of site
- Nature of investigation (see (c) below).
- Organisation responsible
- Nature of finds. Depository of finds.

**REPORT**

Acknowledgements

Name(s) of reporter(s)

(c) To distinguish the essential differences in the nature of the excavations carried out, and therefore the difference in the quality and nature of the evidence produced, we have adopted a consistent threefold division which will be followed in subsequent reports too:

- **Advance excavation**: carried out before ground disturbance and with adequate time to do justice to the site;
- **Rescue excavation**: carried out after some disturbance (which may have led to the initial discovery) but with adequate time to investigate at least part of the site, albeit under pressure;
- **Salvage excavation**: carried out literally during the destruction of the site, often in a few hours, by grabbing records and material from and between the machines.
1 BREDON, Bredons Hardwick. SO 918351
RB occupation
Observation; salvage excavation. Tewkesbury Museum
Unstratified RB pottery including a rim and base of mortarium
in hard white clay; a 4th century coin; fragments of limestone and
of limestone roofing tiles. Tewkesbury Museum
Building(s) possibly existed in field OS 75, but there was no
definite association with the pottery.

E. M. LINNELL

2 STOKE ORCHARD, Tredington Rise. SO 913289.
PLATES I AND II. FIGS 2 AND 3.
RB settlement
Surface finds, rescue excavation and later observation
Samian and coarse wares; 4th century bronze coin; two bronze
brooches, many fragments of triangular clay loomweights; two
sandsals. Tewkesbury Museum.

REPORT
The Site Tredington Rise, half way between the villages of Tredington
and Stoke Orchard, is an E-W Lower Lias ridge capped by c 4.5m of
glacial drift consisting of clay with large pockets of clean gravel and
smaller pockets of sand. The site straddled the top of this low ridge
between 22.7m and 30m above OD. To the N are c 2km of flat plain
and to the S the small valley of the Swilgate Brook.
Surface finds of pottery indicated a RB settlement. Rescue
excavation revealed a site of c 8 ha extending to either side of the
motorway. The evidence recovered suggested lengthy occupation
during the Roman period.
The Excavation The features noted were:—
1. Many rubbish pits with sherds and bones. Some pits contained a
black silty deposit, suggesting burnt timber; some had lumps of
reddened clay, usually in a friable condition, though finger-pressed
smaller pieces had perhaps been used as daub.
2. Two ditches ran across the site. The first, ill-defined and like a
succession of elongated pits, lay E-W. The second, near the S limit of
the area, was regular, 1.2m wide and 1.2m deep, and straight for
c 60m before turning at a right-angle. The few sherds in it were
probably of early Roman date.
3. Building stone was scattered over the site, occasionally in a rough
alignment; but no positive evidence of wall-footings was found.
PLATE I  Oblique air photograph of Site 2 (Tredington Rise) from the South.
4 One well-laid pebble-gravel floor was recorded; other gravel spreads were probably floors. No tesserae were found.

5 The burnt stones of three hearths were too disturbed for their plans to be established. Several other areas of burnt clay and pebbles were noted.

6 The only intact construction was a well roughly in the centre of the site. Lined with oolitic limestone, it was 0.76m in diameter and almost 9m deep (PL IIa). Two sandals (PL IIc) and some pottery were found at the bottom.

The small finds included two incomplete small bronze brooches (cf Collingwood and Richmond 1969, 295 and FIG 102: Group H). Iron nails were plentiful, as were bones of sheep and cattle (not further reported on here). Portions of loomweights of the three-holed PRIA triangular type occurred in large quantity (PL IIb).

Discussion

Apart from the well, the only definite feature on the site was the straight-sided right-angled ditch. Pottery in its vicinity appeared to be of Flavian date, but whether this represented the earliest occupation of the site is unknown. Some of the coarse ware forms may belong to the latter part of the 1st century; the two bronze brooches are probably of late 1st/early 2nd century date. The bulk of the coarse pottery, however, clearly dates from the 2nd–4th centuries. The closest parallels occur at Astley and Malvern. Possibly much of the Tredington pottery was made in the Malvern area. The Astley site seems to have resembled Tredington in character, and other apparently similar settlements are known around Bredon Hill and in the Vale of Evesham.

Conclusion

A settlement on Tredington Rise probably began in the second half of the 1st century AD and was occupied during the 2nd–4th centuries. Buildings were probably mainly of timber though some may have had stone footings. Farming was probably the main economic activity with perhaps sheep-grazing and weaving of particular significance.

The Material

Pottery

Samian

Most of the 60 sherds of samian were either abraded or shattered; only three small pieces were decorated (unillustrated).
Fig. 2. Pottery from Stoke Orchard, Tredington Rise (Site 2). (4.)
ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE M5 MOTORWAY

S1 D37. Good gloss and thin body. A chevron wreath between wavy lines, surmounted by the ovolo. Flavian.

S2 D37. The poor execution of the design and the coarseness of the ware make this at least as late as the second half of the 2nd century. It shows the legs of two figures, separated from the next scene by a twisted cord.


S4 Base of D33 with a heavy repair rivet.


S6 Plain wall of D45, the samian mortarium. Small white grit. Late 2nd century. The rest of the samian is 2nd century; the commonest forms are D18/31, 31 and 33.

**Coarse Ware** (Rim diameters are given thus: 60cm; numbered as on **FIGS. 2 and 3**). The site produced a high proportion of ‘native’ ware, which was hand-made and sometimes smoothed on a hand turntable, being of a coarse local fabric with inclusions of grit. There were also many soft friable pots which disintegrated on the site.

Nos 1-3 have large angular grits up to 4mm across and are exceedingly tough.

1 Heavy storage vessel, at least 60cm. Coarse dirty-grey fabric. Pink, white and grey grits. This type of vessel has been found at Gloucester in a 1st century context.

2 Storage jar, 17.5cm. Rough-made vessel with surface left uneven. Quartzitic and shelly inclusions.

3 Wide-mouthed jar, 29cm. Smooth dull-red surface. White and grey grits with some shell. Rim form seems to be of 4th century type.


5 Bowl with inturned beaded rim, 17cm. Coarse gritty grey fabric with dirty-brown coating **Cf** Peacock 1967, FIG. 1, 11. Up to early 2nd century.


7 Pre-Roman form, 15cm. Black with white grits. Possibly hand-made.

8 Wide-mouthed bowl or jar, 17cm. Black with shell grit.

9 14cm. Dark-grey with shelly grit. 4th century form.


11 Lid handle in coarse grey ware with grits. **Cf** Peacock 1967, FIG 1, 18.

Nos 12–36. The term ‘Severn Valley Ware’ has been used for the buff-to-orange-to-red pottery found in the area of the Severn and Avon valleys. Apart from the colour, which is due to kiln firing conditions, certain forms such as mugs and wide-mouthed jars are common from the second half of the 2nd century to the first half of the 4th. There is evidence of manufacture in the Malvern district (**Peacock 1967, 18ff.**); otherwise we have very little knowledge of its
production. Until we have more kiln sites and diagnostic features to distinguish it, it is difficult to define 'Severn Valley Ware'. Meanwhile it remains a loose term to describe the 2nd century and later development of the buff-to-red pottery found in the Severn Valley and surrounding areas.

Nos 15–19, 22, 23 and 27–29 can be matched in form and fabric with vessels recovered from a potters' site near Malvern by P. L. Waters (report forthcoming). The similarity in appearance is striking. The sherds from Tredington Rise have an orange-red surface and a grey core. The common forms, accounting for about half the sherds from the site, are mugs and wide-mouthed jars. Most of this ware was unburnished, as at Malvern, and in the following description this can be assumed unless otherwise stated.

12 Dish. Dull orange, slightly micaceous. Probably first half of 2nd century.
13 Dish with incurring wall and vestigial foot-ring, which occurs in Gloucester and Malvern types. Late 1st/early 2nd century.
14-23 Wide-mouthed Jars. Probably late 2nd to early 4th century. Many variants of these forms.
14 30cm. Three bands of grooves on full body. Could be late 2nd or early 3rd century.
15 Over 30cm. Heavy rim and solid neck.
16 35cm. Spayed out neck. Cf Walker 1958, Fig 7, 25. Late 2nd/early 3rd century.
17 Just under 25cm.
18 22.5cm.
19 Tall jar.
20 Thin vertical wall, 20cm.
22 Undercut rim, 20cm. Cf Walker 1958, Fig 7, 27. Mid 2nd century or later.
23 Similar rim form to 16 and 22. The rim has been burnished and the buff-orange surface has affinities with Gloucester ware. Mid 2nd—3rd century. From the well.
24 Large narrow-necked jar. Probably 2nd century derivative from Green 1943, Fig 3, 41 (late 1st century) and Wedlake 1958, Fig 33 (1st century storage jars).
25 This profile usually assigned to 4th century.
26 Uneven surface. Cf Jones and Webster 1968, no 114 for a finer version. 3rd or early 4th century.
27 Flanged-rim bowl. Cf Green 1943, Fig 4, 68. 2nd century.
28 Bowl with flanged-rim, having inturned projection. A type found at Malvern and Gloucester. Cf Green 1943, Fig 4, 69-73. 2nd century and later.
29 Bowl with reeded flanged-rim. Flavian—3rd century.
30 'Corrugated' bowl, perhaps early 2nd century and derivative of 1st century form. Cf Wedlake 1958, nos 89-96; also Clifford 1961, 122A.
Fig. 3. Pottery from Stoke Orchard, Tredington Rise (Site 2) (\(\frac{1}{4}\); stamps \(\frac{1}{4}\)).
Variant of 30. Both could be 1st century.

Ring-necked flagon. 2nd century.

Jar with grooved or double rim. Cf Walker 1958, fig. 11, 66. Late 2nd century. This type appears to begin in the Antonine period and continue in the 3rd century.

Similar to 33 but with prominent lower lip.

Mug with sloping wall. Burnished. Cf Gillam 1957, no 184 (AD 140-190) and Walker 1958, fig 7, 32. Mid 2nd-early 3rd century. From below the well.

Mug with faint lines below the grooves. Cf Gillam 1957, no 180 (diagonal lines, AD 120-150).

Other Wares


Handled beaker or 'honeyjar' with two handles. Dull-orange fabric with darker surface; has resemblance to Gloucester wares. Possibly late 1st/mid 2nd century.

Narrow-necked jar or flask. Orange-buff ware similar to 1st century Gloucester fabric. This form continues in use for a long time, but this example with a double cordon is nearer Belgic prototypes. Cf Walker 1958, fig 7, 29. Early 2nd/early 3rd century.

Small beaker with everted rim. Grey-black with shiny surface. 2nd century.

Small ovoid beaker with bead rim. Grey with white inclusions. An early form, but may be a 'native continuation'. Cf Clifford 1961, form 154 and Jones and Webster 1968, no 161. Late 1st/early 2nd century.


Campanulate bowl. Light-grey fabric, speckled with small inclusions. Cf Gillam 1957, nos 212 and 213 (AD 160-200); also similar examples from Astley and Whitchurch dated late 1st/early 2nd century.


Large bowl with vertical rim. Fabric similar to 1st century Gloucester wares. Derived from pre-Roman forms. Probably Flavian.

Bowl decorated with combed wave pattern. Grey. Cf Hunter 1963, fig 10, 12. Late 1st century.


Bowl or Mortarium. Red with grey core and cream slip. Two grits visible in the fabric. A type of small mortarium or bowl was made at Gloucester towards the end of the 1st century. Here the flange is straight but the ware is similar.

Mortarium. Cream with pink core. Cf Bushe-Fox 1913, 77, fig 19, 22 and 26. AD 80/120.
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51 Mortarium in hard, sandy orange-brown fabric with orange-brown slip. The fabric contains tiny white grits but the inside surface has been badly eroded. The stamp is from the single die used by Melus 2. His work has been recorded from Chester (4), Kenchester, Wall, Worcester and Wroxeter (at least 9 examples). The distribution, fabric and forms suggest that his workshop was in the vicinity of Wroxeter where a group of semi-literate and illiterate potters undoubtedly worked c AD 110-150.

52 Flange fragment in hard, off-white fabric made granular by the addition of tiny red-brown, grey and transparent gritty particles. There is a fingerprint under the rim where it was supported when the die was applied. The retrograde, two-line stamp gives SEPETACVS, the potter's name, in the upper line, and FECIT SVL[ ]JO in the lower. No other stamp from this die is known, and the name Sepetacus is not recorded elsewhere. The reading and interpretation of the letters in the last word are uncertain though SVLIO might be possible, but it must represent either a workman's name or a place-name in the locative; the latter is much more probable in a mortarium made in Britain, but this name also is unknown. The stamp is also of interest in that the semi-cursive letters have not been cut in the die in the normal way but by a stylus or similar instrument in rather wetish clay. The fabric cannot be identified with certainty though it could perhaps be a product of kilns in the vicinity of Oxford, like those at Cowley and Littlemore (Oxoniensia VI, 9-21). The rim-form is likely to date to the first half of the second century, c AD 110-150.

53 Grey with cream slip. Probably late 2nd century.
54 Light pink with thin cream slip. Small pink and brown grits.
55 Cream. No grits visible.
56 Cream with faint pink core. Small grey grits. Cf ibid 80, Fig 20, 154.

COIN


BROOCHES

1 Bronze. Humped bow with plain keel. Hook extension cast with bow. Arms have incised decoration at the ends, which are pierced to hold the bar on which the spring moves. The spring has eight coils, including the ends of the axial bar which is passed through the hook. Tewkesbury Mus 66/1969.


THE SANDALS (PLATE IIIA)

In the lower part of the well was a number of leather pieces. Their good state of preservation allowed the reconstruction of a sandal, consisting of three main parts, an inner sole, a bottom sole and the heel-piece.
The inner sole The inner sole is of firm leather 3 mm thick with some surface cracks. Small holes are evenly spaced around its outer edge. A line of holes runs along its centre from the heel to the middle of the sole. To its underside is attached a thin facing set back from the holes at the outer edge. A triangular piece of thin leather runs from the heel across the waist to the edge of the sole proper. This, too, has holes in it and the original thonging is still in position.

The bottom sole Towards the front end of the upper surface a piece of padding, held in place by nails, corresponds to a gap in the strip on the underside of the inner sole. A triangular piece of leather at the heel resembles that already described. It is clear therefore that these fragments are what remains of a single strip joining the two soles together. A facing 1.5 cm wide at the edge of the bottom sole is similar to the one on the underside of the inner sole.

The heel piece Matching nail holes would suggest that the heel-piece was fastened to the upper surface of the bottom sole. On the underside of the latter a number of hobnails with conical heads is still in position. The centre of the sole is well-worn.

Conclusion

It is likely that the ends of thongs or of upper uppers were fastened between the two soles. The long strip joining the soles together may have continued between the toes as a strap. The groove at the front of the inner sole may have been worn by such a strap. The shape and arrangement of the hobnails would suggest, quite apart from its closed context, that the sandal is of Roman date. Cf Brailsford 1958, ii, fig 4; Merrifield 1965, pls 130–131. Tewkesbury Mus 68/1969.

Acknowledgements

Mrs B. Rawes and N. Spry for assistance on the site and with the report; J. Rhodes (the coin); Mrs E. M. Linnell (brooches and sandals): Mrs. K. Hartley (stamped mortaria, nos 51-2).

B. RAWES

(Since these first two reports were written, the finds have been removed from Tewkesbury Museum and are currently with Mrs Linnell. Their final resting-place is uncertain.—Eds.)

3 STOKE ORCHARD, Manor Farm. So 915283. Figs 4, 5 and 6 A.D. 12th–14th century occupation with probable buildings, boundary ditches and adjacent fields
Field survey; rescue excavation. Gloucester and District Archaeol Res Gp
Med pottery; iron objects including a domestic knife; a late Neo or early BA flint arrowhead. Cheltenham Museum

REPORT

The Site Stoke Orchard, a village on the Lower Lias clay of the Severn vale, lies 6.4 km NW of Cheltenham. Air photographs and fieldwork

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PLATE II  a Site 2: reconstructed sandal. Above: the complete sandal. Below: the upper side of the bottom sole and the underside of the inner sole.

b Triangular clay loom weight from Site 2.

c Site 2: top of well.  

facing page 34.
before construction of M5 revealed earthworks including early field boundaries immediately W of Manor Farm (FIG 4a, site I). The site rises from 18m above OD at the stream to the W to 22.7m near the farm itself. Just to the SE the re-alignment of the Elmstone Hardwicke road enabled a second site to be investigated (FIG 4a, site II).

The Excavation Site I (FIG 4a). Apart from the rectilinear boundary ditches, the most obvious earthworks within the line of the motorway were two probable house platforms, B2 and B3. Mechanical stripping of them revealed burnt daub and slight traces of stonework. Neither produced dating evidence, but two Med sherds were recovered slightly to the W of B2. One of these sherds was an unglazed fragment of a thumbed base in a hard buff sandy ware, probably of a 13th century date.

Fig. 4a. Stoke Orchard, Manor Farm (Site 3): location of sites I and II.

At B1 to the E, higher up the slope, substantial stone debris included stone roofing-tiles of basically rectangular shape 30cm long × 20cm wide, but narrowing to 10cm in the top third of their lengths. The holes were 5cm from the top edges. A ridge tile fragment in a sandy-grey fabric 1.2cm thick, highly oxidised, with traces of a yellowish-green glaze, was also recovered.
25.4m S of the northern intersection of the enclosure ditch of Br and the motorway fence a wall of limestone and Lias stone 40cm wide was cut by the motorway side drainage ditch. This wall, apparently without associated floor levels, passed into the area removed during motorway construction.

The angled enclosure ditch of Br, which contained water, was 5m wide at the top and 3.5m wide at a depth of 1m. The original depth had been more than the 1.5m exposed.

The pottery from Br included a number of dark green glazed sherds suggesting occupation continuing into the 14th century.

To the E of Br two further platforms (a) and (b) suggested buildings. That at (a) was the more convincing and may be a continuation of Br and the wall described above. To the S of (b) two small fields, apparently without subdivisions, were identified. Of these the more northerly measured c 130m by 45m and that to the S 135m by 60/70m.

SITE II (FIG 4b) Site II produced much pottery but little in the way of features. Of these the earliest were the two ditches D1 and D2. Pottery was recovered from their filling, and rim sherds from the higher levels of D2 are illustrated (FIG. 6, nos 1, 8, 12). An un-illustrated 25cm diameter rim sherd with a form similar to no 6 (FIG 6), in an oxidised blue-grey siliceous fabric, completes this group.
With the exception of this latter sherd the group seems to be of 12th century date. Ditches appeared to run at right-angles to D1, but this was uncertain.

At a time when D2 was partially or completely filled (depending on the amount of its later consolidation), a wall of Lias stone, limestone and harder stone, probably of Malvernian origin, appears to have been constructed along it, feature W1. That these stones were not merely ditch-filling was clear from the wall's regular, if rudimentary, construction of large outer stones with slighter stones and rubble between them (FIG 5, section A–B). W2 and W3 were similar to W1, but more disturbed. A part of W3 appeared to be running out of the mechanically-stripped area at right-angles to the main alignment.

![Section AB diagram]

**Fig. 5.** Stoke Orchard, Manor Farm: section of feature W1 (fig. 4b).

Between W1 and W2 badly ploughed gravel surfaces were encountered. There was least disturbance near W2 and three clearly defined levels were obtained. Small fragments of characteristically Med sherds were sealed between the top and second surfaces. The lower surface underlay in parts the stones of W2, which overlay disturbed Med occupation. The gravel surfaces and burnt daub would suggest the presence of buildings, but no convincing post-holes or packing stones were observed.
DISCUSSION

Stoke, apparently first mentioned in the 10th century (Finberg 1961, 57) belonged in 1086 to the Manor of Cleeve (Domesday Book, Rec. Com. 1, 165). It is clear, however, that part of the settlement also lay within the Manor of Tewkesbury and was subsequently known as the Manor of Downing. The two manors in Stoke, each with its own manor house, continued their separate existence until 1612 when they passed into single ownership. In 1631 two buildings were still described as manor houses, but later only Downing Farm, the present Manor Farm, was so designated. In spite of extensive rebuilding the earliest feature of this house appears to be of 16th century date (VCH Gloucestershire 8, 12).

It is an attractive suggestion that the probable buildings and boundary ditches found immediately W of the present farm (Site 1), as well as the adjacent fields, belonged to the original Manor of Tewkesbury and also that B1 is the site of the manor house. The ditches and stone walls discovered to the SE (Site II) seem best interpreted as property boundaries which are aligned with the field ditches to the W. It is possible that the area within the moat N of the Church (Fig 4a) is the site of the second manor house in the manor of Cleeve.

THE MATERIAL

POTTERY (Fig 6)

There were too few sherds for a full pottery analysis, but the 139 rim sherds from Site II, together with 11 unglazed rims from the area of B1 on Site I, suggest that the fabrics fell into three main groupings. 45% of the rims contained wholly siliceous grits, 30% were basically calcite-gritted and the remainder contained combinations of these materials together with shell inclusions. Whereas the first group of sherds possibly have their origins to the N or NW, the calcite-gritted sherds are likely to be from vessels produced in the Cotswold area.

Amongst those rims with siliceous grits the most common form (17 sherds) was similar to 1 (Fig 6) in dark grey oxidised fabrics. Other common rim forms were as 2 in an orange fabric, and as 3 and 4 in an unoxidised range of dark grey fabrics. Amongst the calcite-gritted rims the most common form (11 sherds) was similar to 6, although undecorated, in dark-grey oxidised fabrics. Also represented were forms similar to 3 in brown-grey oxidised fabrics and as form 5 in buff-grey oxidised fabric. Sherds with calcite grits often appear to have a corky surface texture, but when chemically unaffected the grits were very obvious on the surface. In the third grouping the
fabrics were mostly oxidised grey and buff ones and in common forms similar to 1, 7, 8 and 13.

The proportion of green glazed sherds from Site II is small, but includes a tripod foot sealed below the upper gravel surface. An absence, with one possible exception, of sherds from the more ornate later vessels with dark glazes suggests that near this point occupation did not last beyond the mid 13th century. The exception noted is a sherd conforming to Hurst's thumbed base Group One: bases firmly thumbed underneath, but thumbed only lightly on the side (Hurst 1962-63, 205ff). This sherd in a hard sandy-black fabric with orange oxidised surface shows traces of green glaze on the side and underneath it.

The illustrated sherds, all from Site II, represent both fabrics and forms of the pottery from Sites I and II. Diameters given thus: 30cm; numbered as on FIG 6.

1 Rim sherd of cooking pot, 29cm. Coarse black fabric probably hand-made and finished on a wheel. Quartz and other large siliceous pink and white grits very apparent on the surface. A developed form of a type found in a group dated pre-1147 at Bristol Castle. The internal moulding is more definite than on the early rather poor hand-made versions at Bristol. Probably late 12th/early 13th century. From the highest level of D2 immediately below W1 (FIGS 2b, 3).

2 Rim sherd of cooking pot, 25cm. Light grey fabric of very rough texture with light buff-grey surfaces. Siliceous white and brown grits. Similar infolding at Bristol is post-1147, which suggests a late 12th century date. Similar in form to Upton No 2 (Hilton and Rahitz 1966, 130, FIG 16). From the ploughed occupation level.

3 Small rim sherd. Black fabric with buff-black surfaces. Large siliceous grits. At Upton a 13th century date is suggested for a similar form (Rahitz 1969, 122, FIG 15, 106). From the ploughed occupation level.

4 Rim and neck sherd, 20cm. Hard dark grey fabric oxidised red-brown externally and buff-grey internally. Calcite grits (very obvious on the surface) together with a few brown siliceous grits and with possible shell inclusions. For a similar sherd (Rahitz 1960, 120, FIG 14, 84) a late 13th or early 14th century date is suggested, although the fabric and lack of infolding make a late 12th century date likely. From the ploughed occupation level.

5 Rim sherd of cooking pot, 20cm. Hard light grey fabric with oxidised red-brown surfaces. Large calcite grits, very obvious on the surface. Late 12th century. For this rim shape Cf O'Neil 1952, 62, FIG 6, 16. From the ploughed occupation level.

6 Rim sherds of cooking pot, 20cm. Hard buff-grey fabric with oxidised red-brown surfaces. Calcite grits and a few small brown siliceous grits. Sandy slightly micaceous surface texture. Radial finger-nail indentations 1 cm apart are on top of the rim. The oxidised fabric suggests a late date, probably 13th or 14th century. From the ploughed occupation level.

7 Rim and shoulder sherd, 22.5cm Coarse grey fabric with brown oxidised surfaces. Calcite and, possibly, shell inclusions. This sherd is identical in fabric to a type found at Bristol dated c 1100, although the form is more developed. The Bristol
types have simple rims but similar eversions. The internal moulding and ‘squared’ effect suggest a mid or late 12th century date. From the loosened stones of W3 (FIG 4b) above the ploughed occupation level.

8 Rim and shoulder sherd of cooking pot, 20cm. Coarse black, uneven, probably hand-made and wheel-finished sherd, oxidised grey-brown internally, slightly micaceous surfaces. Quartz and pink and black siliceous grits, the rim top is thumbed at 1 cm intervals. The thumbed-rim type is common in Bristol, where it can be loosely dated to the 13th century. The internal moulding may, however, make it late 12th or early 13th century, a date also suggested for an undecorated parallel at Upton (Rahtz 1969, 111, FIG 13, 67). Found with 1 at the highest level of D2 (FIG 4b).
ARCHEAEOLOGY AND THE M5 MOTORWAY

9 Rim sherd of pitcher, 17.5cm. Hard grey fabric with buff-red oxidised sandy surfaces. Limestone, a few small siliceous grits and soft red-brown particles. Brownish olive-green glaze applied externally over part of the rim and neck. Together with this sherd was a small part of a knife-trimmed spout and also a body sherd, both in the same fabric. The hard oxidised fabric suggests a 13th century date. From the ploughed occupation level.

10 Rim sherd of cooking pot, 25cm. Pink-brown sandy fabric with brown micaceous surfaces. Siliceous grits. To this sherd a strip has been applied to produce a lengthened club rim. It is likely to be of 13th century date. Sealed below the surface of gravel N of W2 (Fig 4b).

11 Rim sherd of wide-based cooking pot, 17.5cm. Light grey slightly oxidised fabric. Small calcite grits obvious on the surface. A typical 12th or early 13th century form, discussed by Jope in O'Neil 1952, 13ff. From the ploughed occupation level.

12 Rim sherd of cooking pot, 30cm. Dark grey fabric, buff-brown oxidised surfaces, quartz and pink siliceous grits. Probably late 12th or early 13th century. From D2 below W1 (Fig 4b).

13 Rim sherd of cooking pot, 25cm. Buff oxidised sandy fabric. Large calcite grits and soft red-brown particles. The oxidised fabric suggests a 13th or 14th century date. From the ploughed occupation level.

IRON OBJECTS

All the iron objects illustrated (Fig 6) come from the plough-disturbed Med occupation level of Site II and are in a poor state of preservation.

A Short domestic knife 9cm long with a maximum width of 1.75cm and a basically triangular section. A 12th or 13th century date not improbable (Cf London Museum 1967, Pl II, nos 8-10).

B Fiddle key animal shoe nail, representative of a small number of worn and unworn shoe nails from the site.

C Distorted fragment of a thin lobate animal shoe with small turned-over calcin and characteristic countersunk nail hole. Unlikely to be later than the 13th century. Cf London Museum 1967, II4, FIG 37, 1.

D Distorted fragment of animal shoe. The lobate form is less defined than in C, but it has a countersunk nail hole. For an apparently similar shoe a date before 1270 has been suggested. London Museum 1967, FIG 36, 6; Cf also Hilton and Rahtz 1966, II8, FIG 13, 13).

FLINT

The major part of a late Neo or EBA tanged and barbed flint arrowhead with a triangular form 2.4cm long and 2.5cm across the base of the barbs, the inner and outer edges of which are parallel. Site II.
Acknowledgements

H. K. Groves for permission to survey at Manor Farm; J. Punshon for help with the surveying; M. W. Ponsford for a major part of the report on the illustrated pottery.

N. SPRY

4 ELMSTONE HARDWICKE, Fisher's Farm. SO91252705, FIG 7
Post-Med? moat
Med and Post-Med pottery

![Diagram of Fisher's Farm](image)

Fig. 7. Elmstone Hardwicke, Fisher's Farm: plan of site (Site 4).

REPORT

The remains of a moat, perhaps as late as the 16th century, lie immediately S and E of the farm buildings. Adjacent to the moat and on its S side is a rectilinear enclosure with shallow ditches. There is a possible approach leading from the E into the enclosure and the farmstead beyond. In the site debris Post-Med pottery predominated, only one definite Med sherd being found.

5 ELMSTONE HARDWICKE, Stanborough. SO902259
RB settlement?
Field survey

42
ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE M5 MOTORWAY

REPORT
Fourteen 'Stanborough' fieldnames suggested RB occupation. Extensive field walking over the area of the motorway intersection produced no further evidence of a settlement or of a Roman road possibly running from Cheltenham NW towards the R. Severn (FIG 1).


REPORT
An AS spearhead 18.5 cm long was found at a depth of 0.9 m in clay on the centre line of the motorway. It is of iron with well-defined angles at the base of the blade. The split socket, an earlier AS feature, has grain markings of the wooden shaft inside. There were no associated finds.

7 STAVERTON, N of intersection of M5 and the old A40. SO89652260. RB occupation? Abraded sherds of RB coarse pottery were collected as surface finds from disturbed contexts.

K. BROWN AND N. SPRY

8 HUCCLECOTE, Horsebere Brook Bridge. SO88151785 Clapper Bridge Field observation The remains of a clapper bridge over Horsebere Brook were destroyed. Its abutments had been constructed with limestone blocks and the span was formed by two large limestone slabs.

J. PUNSHON

9 HUCCLECOTE, Hucclecote Road. SO87701740 Undated ditch Field observation

REPORT
A large V-shaped ditch was observed in the foundation-trench of the S bridge abutment parallel to Hucclecote Road (Ermin Street) and 30 m from it. The ditch was 5.5 m wide and 2.1 m deep; its top lay 0.7 m below the present ground-level. No evidence of its purpose or date was obtained.

J. PUNSHON
**UPTON ST LEONARDS.** so86631588. Figs 8, 9 and 14, A RB settlement with corn-drying oven.

**REPORT**

*The Site* (fig 8). The site was on a slight clay rise, 4.5 km SE of Gloucester and 1.7 km from Ermin Street, partly on the line of M5 and partly on the re-aligned section of the Hucclecote-Upton St Leonards Road.

*The Excavation* Mechanical stripping of 15-30 cm of top soil produced a spread of Roman occupation material across the whole of the shaded area on the site plan (fig 8). The sherds recovered were of 2nd-4th century date.

![Diagram of Upton St. Leonards: plan of site (Site 10).](image)

**Fig. 8.** Upton St. Leonards: plan of site (Site 10).

*SITES A, C AND G*
Small pits containing RB coarse pottery sherds and animal bones.
SITE B
A possible 'one day hearth' consisting of a depression 15 cm deep and c 45 cm in diameter, containing burnt material covered with a level layer of flat, burnt limestone slabs c 2.5 cm thick.

SITE D T-SHAPED CORN-DRYING OVEN (FIG 9)
Around area D stonework and tiles suggested the presence of a structure which proved to be a T-shaped corn-drying oven with an overall length of 4m and a flue 0.35m wide. The walls of the main and cross-flues were built with re-used worked limestone, including part of a cornice and a window mullion (or possibly an engaged column).

A trench had been dug along the main flue sloping towards the stokehole. In the bottom of this a gully had been cut from the stokehole narrowing to a point about half way up the flue (FIG 9 sections A-B, C-D). The gully was filled with sand, perhaps to assist in drainage, and then the trench was back-filled to form the floor of the main flue.

Fig. 9. Upton St. Leonards: plan and sections of T-shaped corn-drying oven; re-used cornice (a) and window mullion? (b).
Of the likely capping of the flue only one broken slab of blue lias stone remained in position. But this and other fragments found in the flue indicated that the capping had been c 5cm thick. No evidence was recovered for the means of controlling the heat from the stokehole to the the main flue.
Investigation in the area of the corn-drying oven revealed no trace of stonework. Any building associated with the oven is likely to have been of timber.
The amount of burning around the stokehole would suggest that the oven was in use only for a short period, although the stokehole itself had been partly cut through by a roadside culvert. After abandonment the main flue partly silted up and the capping was removed, allowing the accumulation above it to fall into the flue.

SITE E
A ditch or depression 1.2m wide and 0.2m deep at the centre was exposed for c 50m running diagonally across the line of the road. Its upper level, containing pottery, had been removed by mechanical stripping, but the rest was hand-excavated, producing large deposits of sherds and a few animal bones. A penannular brooch (FIG 14, A) was found on top of the ditch after mechanical stripping, but could not be definitely associated with it.

SITE F
A level of hard-packed laid cobblestones 0.15m thick was exposed for a length of 1m along the line of the road and extended c 0.5m from the verge into the road. It was possibly part of a floor or courtyard.

SITE H
During the excavation of a water-main trench Roman pottery and tiles were noticed in the spoil heap. No levels were observed in the trench.

DISCUSSION
The T-shaped corn-drying oven is a standard type which does not seem to occur in Roman Britain before the 3rd century (Goodchild 1943, 148ff). An example in the villa at Atworth, Wilts, appears to have been equipped with a second floor 15cm above the capping of the main flue (Shaw Mellor and Goodchild 1942, 93ff and pl 4) and probably ovens at Thundersbarrow Hill, Sussex and Rockbourne Down, Hants were similar (Curwen 1933, 123 and pl 20; Sumner 1914, 24). In these, heat was drawn along the main flue
into the cross-flue, then flowed back between the two floors. The grain, lying on the upper floor, was thus not subjected to direct heat from the stokehole.

Whether the Upton oven possessed a second floor is uncertain, though the two 'steps' in the side of the flue could suggest it (FIG 9 section C-D). If this were so, the two floors would lie c 15 cm apart, as at Atworth. The re-use of the cornice and the window mullion might imply that the Upton corn drier belonged to a villa establishment. But corn-drying ovens are found in other types of rural settlement, e.g. Woodcuts, Dorset, Casterley, Wilts and Rockbourne Down (Goodchild 1943, 153).

**THE MATERIAL**

*Prefix letter refers to site (FIG 8) and numeral to level*

**POTTERY**

A Mortarium in red ware with quartz grits, probably abraded colour-coated ware. 4th century.

B Samian F31, 2nd century.
Cooking pot of Gillam form 143 in grey ware, probably burnt black-burnished ware. 2nd-3rd century.

D4 Flagon with cordon at base of concave neck, in grey ware, possibly burnt colour-coated ware. 3rd-4th century. Cooking pot, Gillam form 148, in grey ware, possibly burnt black-burnished ware. 3rd-4th century. 2 dishes, Gillam form 319, in black-burnished ware. 3rd-4th century. Mortarium (Bushe-Fox 1913, 80 FIG 20, type 154) in cream ware with translucent red and white grits. 3rd-4th century.

D5 Dish, Gillam form 319, in black-burnished ware. 3rd-4th century.

E Samian F37 in Central Gaulish ware. 2nd century.
Nearly cylindrical tankard in buff-burnished ware.
2 recurved-rim bottle-necked jars, each bearing a cordon and two girth grooves, in buff-burnished ware.
2 recurved-rim wide-mouthed jars, each bearing two girth grooves, in buff-burnished ware. One has a tubular spout on the shoulder, *Cf Proc Cotswold Natur Fld Club* 25, 1934, 202 no 15.
4 recurved-rim storage jars in buff-burnished ware.
Bead-rimmed jar in shell-filled 'native' ware.
5 cooking pots, Gillam forms 118, 120, 122, 125, 130 in black-burnished ware. 2nd century.

F 2 recurved-rim storage jars in buff ware.

**METAL OBJECTS**

F1 Penannular brooch (FIG 14, A). Diameter c 2.5cm. Pin projects beyond ring. Bronze type D6, date range 1st-3rd century AD. Ring slightly flanged (probably each edge beaten up after casting) on upper face and decorated with punched open oval dots and closed ovals in pairs. Terminals cast in one with ring, humped and decorated in the punched dot technique. Pin quite a different patina (bright green), wrapped round ring, very possibly secondary. Closest parallel for the
ring (decoration and terminals) is one from Wroxeter, Site 6, probably AD 80-120 (Bushe-Fox 1916, Pl. 16, 14).

E3 Flat-headed iron nails.

**COIN**

E1 ? AE3 of the House of Constantine, rev GLORIA EXERCITVS, 1 or 2 standards (AD 330-341).

**STONE**

D Fragment of a cornice (FIG 9). Limestone, rough-cut on sides, not illustrated.
D7 Fragment of a window mullion? (FIG. 9). Limestone, burnt on end from corn drier fire.
D8 Fragment of worked limestone, purpose unknown. 49cm × 41cm (broken) × 15cm. Face: one half worked, signs of wear, various shaped depressions. Other sides: rough cut. Cramping-slots on back and face.

**CLAY**

D Fragments of Roman brick.
D and H Fragments of Roman roof tiles.

**ANALYSIS OF VEGETABLE MATTER FROM CORNDRIER**

D4 The Material consisted of c 0.028cbm of black, wet matrix in which was embedded a quantity of carbonized vegetable matter. A simple analysis showed that this matrix consisted of clay, sand and finely divided carbon.

The vegetable matter comprised:—

- a whole cereal grains (caryopses)
- b damaged and broken cereal grains
- c spikelet parts and rachis segments
- d fruits of the weed grasses
- e weed seeds and fruits
- f small pieces of charcoal largely derived from the culms of grasses and the stems of other plants.

Although clearly damaged by severe heat, enough cereal grains survived to give an accurate idea of the original composition of the grain store. They were accompanied by a very large number of weed seeds and it was possible to recognise the seeds and fruits of at least 35 distinct species, 20 of which were identified with a high degree of certainty. The find lists which follow give, therefore, a comprehensive idea of the flora of the Roman field and its immediate surroundings.
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CEREALS

_Triticum spelta_ (spelt Wheat)
_T. aestivum_ (Bread Wheat)
_T. compactum_ (Club Wheat)

WEED SPECIES

_Erysimum cheiranthoides_ (Treacle Mustard)
_Capsella bursa-pastoris_ (Shepherd's Purse)
_Sellaria media_ (Common Chickweed)
_Cerasium holosteoides_ (Mouse-eared Chickweed)
_Spergula arvensis_ (Corn Spurrey)
_Chenopodium album_ (Fat Hen)
_Atriplex patula_ (Common Orache)
_Geranium dissectum_ (Cut-leaved Cranesbill)
_Polygonum Convulvulus_ (Black Bindweed)
_Rumex crispus_ (Curled-leaved Dock)
_R. acetosa_ (Common Sorrel)
_Mentha arvensis_ (Field Mint)
_Prunella vulgaris_ (Self Heal)
_Anthemis Cotula_ (Stinking Mayweed)

Of these _Rumex crispus_, _R. acetosa_ and _Anthemis_ were present in large quantity.

Acknowledgements

Mrs H. H. Clark for reporting on the organic contents of the corndrier, Mrs E. Fowler for reporting on the brooch and J. Rhodes for reporting on the pottery.

J. Punshon

II UPTON ST LEONARDS, Sneedham's Green. SO85071420

Moated enclosure

Field survey

REPORT

150m W of the motorway a moat enclosed three sides of a rectangular area. The short sides of this, each 50m long, were linked by a longer central portion running E-W for 80m. The enclosed area produced no dateable material, but stonework was apparent in the ploughed soil and indistinct crop-marks were seen just to the E, outside the eastern arm of the moat. The area within the arms of the moat has been disturbed by motorway machines and the slight ditches shown on large-scale OS maps (SO 81 SE) S of the area are no longer visible.

III UPTON ST LEONARDS, Edmonds' Hill. SO85201405

RB occupation?

Disturbed finds
A small quantity of abraded 2nd and 3rd century sherds was collected. Examination of the hill-slope above the motorway failed to locate a source above the site.

J. Lees and N. Spry

13 Brookthorpe-with-Whaddon, Brookthorpe Court. SO833124. Fig 10
RB settlement with stone buildings
Rescue excavation; observation during destruction. Gloucester and District Archaeol Res Gp; Bristol Archaeol Res Gp; Axbridge Archaeol Soc.
Samian and coarse wares; stamped tegulae fragments; cylindrical clay weight (?); box tiles; fragments of painted wall-plaster; tesseræa. Gloucester City Museum.

Report

The Site (Fig 10) The site is situated 6.4km S of Gloucester on the
Lias clays. It lies 42m above sea-level and is well drained, the land gently sloping away to NE and SW. 

**The Excavation** (fig 10) Pottery, tile and *tesserae* suggested the presence of a RB settlement. A two-day excavation revealed a metallised surface of Oolitic Limestone, possibly a courtyard area, and building debris. A curved U-shaped ditch 0.9m wide, 0.76m deep and 6.6m long was cut into the natural clay. It contained a few stones and *tegulae* fragments and showed no signs of primary silting.

Wall footings of Oolitic Limestone 0.76m wide and 2.4m long, packed in clay, provided the first positive indication of a building. Subsequent observation of wall foundations revealed a substantial structure, at least partly of masonry, extending beneath an adjacent orchard to the E.

Inside the building was a layer of Forest of Dean sandstone roofing tiles 15cm-22.5cm thick. This overlay a channel cut into the natural clay 0.6m wide with a maximum depth of 37.5cm and a visible length of 2.6m. The channel was lined with limestone blocks and capped with sandstone slabs (fig 10, detail A). To the E and overlying the natural Lias clay, was a 22.5cm thick spread of loose *tesserae* and sandstone roofing tile fragments. The *tesserae* of blue lias limestone 1.25cm square bore no sign of surface wear or adhering mortar.

36.3m SW of the main structure a deposit of *pilae* tiles associated with mortar fragments lay between two parallel walls. A series of pits to N and W of the building contained pottery and animal bones.

It appears that the site suffered badly from Med stone-robbing and later ridge and furrow ploughing. Roman brick and tile were incorporated in the construction of the chancel exterior of the parish Church which dates from the 13th century.

**Discussion**

Although the structures on the site could not be dated, the pottery indicated a period of occupation in the 2nd and 3rd centuries. The stone-lined channel in the building is a curious feature; in view of the evidence from Upton (p 45, Site 10) it is tempting to suggest that it was part of a corn-drying oven. The masonry footings of the buildings, the stamped *tegulae* the box tiles, painted wall-plaster and *tesserae* point to a fairly high degree of Romanisation and possibly a villa. If so, it is likely that the out-buildings rather than the main house have been located so far. The latter may have
lain beyond the E side of the motorway. Should the site prove to be that of a villa, its closeness to Gloucester (6.4km) could be of interest. For it is likely to have stood on the territorium of the colonia, that is, on land distributed to the citizens of the new town on its foundation. Brookthorpe would certainly seem to lie within the area in which Rei Publicae Glevensium tiles have been found (Clifford 1955, 68).

THE MATERIAL

POTTERY (none illustrated)

From the pits to the N:
- Pie-dish bowl in black-burnished ware, 2nd-3rd century.
- Bead and flanged bowl in black-burnished ware, 3rd-4th century.
- Buff ware—wide-mouthed jar, bead rim and flanged-rim bowls and hooked rim mortarium.
- Grey ware—wide-mouthed jar and low flanged bowl.

From the pits to the W:
- Cavetto rim cooking pots, 3rd century.
- Bead and flanged bowl in black-burnished ware, 3rd-4th century.
- Buff ware—wide-mouthed jars, tankards, low flanged bowl.
- Grey ware—wide-mouthed jar.
- Straight-sided dish in black-burnished ware.

From disturbed ground within and beside the building:-
- Samian forms 18/31, 33, 36, 37, 38 (2nd century).
- Cavetto rim cooking pots, 3rd century.
- Pie-dish bowl in black-burnished ware, 2nd-3rd century.
- Bead and flanged bowl in black-burnished ware, 3rd-4th century.
- Buff ware—wide-mouthed jars, tankards, low flanged bowl, lid.
- Reeded rim bowls, 1st-2nd century.
- Grey ware—wide-mouthed jar and flanged rim bowl.
- Hooked rim mortarium in cream ware.
- Hammer-head rim mortarium in buff-ware with white slip.
- Low flanged mortaria in white and pink wares.

FIRED CLAY

1. Two tegulae fragments bearing the stamp ARVERI between two vertical leaf stops within a rectangular frame 5.5cm x 2cm. Cf Clifford 1955, 71 (Listercombe Bottom and Cirencester); J Rom Stud 54, 1964, 183 (Frocester). From disturbed ground (fig 10).

2. Keyed box-tiles. From the vicinity of the main structure.

3. Tesseræe of red brick. Found as 2.

4. Weight (?) of clay, cylindrical perforated, along the axis and through the side. Height 9cm; diameter 10.9cm (fig 10).

STONE

Tesseræe of white oolitic limestone. From the vicinity of the main structure.
ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE M5 MOTORWAY

WALL PLASTER
Fragments in red, and green and white stripe. From the vicinity of the main structure.

Acknowledgements
J. F. Rhodes and A. P. Garrod for assistance in preparing the report.

P. A. MOSS

14 HARESFIELD, Pool Farm. s0815120
RB Cemetery
Fieldwork

REPORT
Topography and the evidence of Tithe Maps’ field names demonstrate that the RB inhumation cemetery recorded by Niblett (1847, 96) on Longhill, supposedly a furlong N of Pool Farm and thus thought to be on the line of M5, lies in fact 230m away from the motorway and c 450m due N of the farm.

P. A. MOSS

15 HARESFIELD, Pool Farm. s0819115
RB settlement
Surface finds
RB pottery, building debris. Gloucester Museum

REPORT
In ‘The Lessons’ SE of the railway a concentration of building material and 2nd-3rd century RB pottery in an area of banks and shallow depressions indicated a RB settlement, now ploughed.

P. J. FOWLER

16 HARESFIELD, Pool Farm. s081251152
Shrunken Med settlement
Surface finds
Med pottery. Gloucester Museum

REPORT
13th-14th century sherds were found over an area of low earthworks, probably including building platforms, besides a hollow way running W-E on the line of an old road subsequently crossed by ridge-and-furrow and now buried.
Acknowledgements
Mr and Mrs Heywood for helping in surveying this land before construction began; M. W. Ponsford for commenting on the pottery.

P. J. FOWLER AND H. S. GREEN

17 STANDISH, Green Farm. SO78720862. FIGS. 11 and 12
Med and Post-Med occupation
Disturbed finds
Med and Post-Med pottery; limestone spindle whorl
Stroud Museum

REPORT

Near Green Farm the motorway cut through an area of Med occupation, the relationship of which to the twin farms Manor Farm and Green Farm seems to be significant (FIG 11). The settlement at 22.7m OD lies on the Lower Lias clay. The thin gravel

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Fig. 11. Standish, Green Farm: plan of site (Site 17).
subsoil was very near the surface at this point and the areas of occupation were badly disturbed but clearly defined. A sizeable spread of 16th century debris extended into the motorway area from a slight earthwork to the E. North of the modern road at A (FIG 11) was an area which, like all the others, had suffered plough disturbance, but which produced stonework and sherds of Med pottery. The latter ranged in date from the 12th (or possibly 11th) to the 14th century. One base sherd calls for particular comment (FIG 12, no 12). In an extremely hard grey fabric, it is tempered with a small number of hard black grits and has an unglazed orange-buff oxidised external surface. Although this vessel has been apparently wiped whilst on a wheel, the surface is not smooth. The base is thumbed, but it is a decorative feature rather than a means of stability: the lower edge of the thumbing has been flattened while the clay was in a plastic stage. It is difficult to date the sherd, but the fabric suggests that it is late or even post-Med. Areas B, C, D, F and G produced 12th-14th century occupation material. From B was recovered a possible curfew handle with dark green good quality glaze, together with a spindle whorl (FIG 12, no 13). The latter was roughly worked from a hard, non-local, obviously sedimentary limestone. At E (which is shown slightly oversize on the plan) was an area of pink clay floor. A sherd from here, found with later Ham Green ware, is possibly of 11th century date (FIG 12, no 1). Behind the present Manor Farm is a ditch which is considerably more substantial than the ridge and furrow beyond it and which does not appear to be a removed hedge-line. Despite the name of the farm, there is insufficient evidence for comment on the nature of this feature.

Pottery
Although glazed sherds of both Ham Green and earlier 13th century type were recovered at Green Farm, the majority of the pottery was of coarse unglazed ware (264 sherds), a representative selection of which is illustrated (FIG 12, numbered as in text below). 62% of these (165 sherds) were calcite gritted, against only 30% (80 sherds) with quartz and other siliceous grits. Diameters given thus: 25 cm.

1 Rim sherd of cooking pot, 25 cm. Soft corky dark grey fabric. Few calcite grits. Basically similar to sherds 12 and 16 from Whittington Court (O'Neil 1952, 62, FIG 6) and to a sherd from Upton (Hilton and Rahtz 1966, 130
Fig. 12. Standish, Green Farm: medieval pottery, 1–12 (1); limestone spindle whorl, 13 (1).

FIG 16, 1), for which an 11th century date is possible: it is not likely to be later than the mid 12th century. Associated with 'floor' at E.

2 Rim sherd of cooking pot, 21cm. Light grey fabric with uneven brown-grey surfaces. Calcite grits very obvious on the surface. Form similar to Upton nos 65 and 76 (Rahtz 1969, 111, FIG 13). 12th or early 13th century. From Area A.

3 Rim sherd of thick cooking pot, 30cm. Hard grey fabric with red-brown external oxidised surface, numerous large calcite grits. Similar in form to Whittington Court No 8 (O'Neil 1952, 52, FIG 6): late 11th or 12th century. From Area A.

4 Rim sherd of cooking pot, 26cm. Black fabric with slightly micaceous surfaces. Calcite gritted. The fabric and internal moulding suggest a late 12th or early 13th century date. From Area C.

5 Rim sherd of cooking pot, 20cm. Light grey fabric with light buff and red-grey surfaces. Calcite gritted. Similar forms have been given an 11th century date: Prestbury no 1 (O'Neil 1956, 28f and FIG 3) and Upton no 60 (Rahtz 1969, 111, FIG 13). From Area A.

6 Rim sherd of cooking pot, 26cm. Grey fabric with red-brown oxidised surface. Calcite grits. Common on the site. The thickened rim and internal moulding suggest a 12th or early 13th century date. From Area B.


8 Rim sherd of cooking pot, 30cm. Grey-black fabric with grey-buff surfaces. Large calcite grits. The internal moulding suggests a late 12th or 13th century date. From Area A.
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10 Rim sherd of cooking pot, 25cm. Light buff-grey fabric with sandy surface. Siliceous grits. Common on the site, all examples being of the same basic fabric. Comparison with material from Bristol and elsewhere (Barker 1961, 191, no 5 and FIG 49) suggests a late 12th or 13th century date. Similar to Upton nos 62 and 70 (Rahtz ibid). From Area G.

11 Rim sherd of cylindrical cooking pot, 22cm. Hard sandy red-buff fabric with small siliceous grits and soft red particles. The fabric, texture and colour suggest a 14th century date. From Area D.

Acknowledgements

J. Rhodes and M. Ponsford for their observations on the illustrated pottery.

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18 and 19 EASTINGTON, 'Whitminster Roman site'.

SO777068. FIGS 13 and 14, B & C

RB occupation

Salvage excavation. Gloucester and District Archaeol Res Gp

Coarse pottery; brooches; coins; sandstone mortar; 4th century coin hoard from presumed villa site at 779066 (FIG 1, no 19). Stroud Museum.

REPORT

The Site (FIG 13). At Eastington 7.25km W of Stroud the line of the motorway passed 250m NW of a site in a field called 'Stanborough' where building material including tesserae had previously been ploughed up (J Rom Stud 12 1922, 263; St. Clair Baddeley 1923, 285f; Gardiner 1930-32, 179). The geology on the area is one of Superficial gravel overlying Lower Lias clay; the site lies at 15m OD.

The Excavation 26 pits containing domestic and organic material were located on the line of the motorway in an area bounded to SW by the Stroud-water Canal and extending 100m NE from it. Of the 13 pits excavated, one produced sherds of 1st or 2nd century native fabrics, another 2nd century material; the remaining 11 contained predominantly 2nd and 3rd century pottery, and from one of these came a silver coin.

A cobbled oolite platform of uncertain nature overlay charcoal and other occupation materials, together with 4th century
Fig. 13. Eastington, 'Whitminster Roman Site': plan of site with presumed villa (Sites 18, 19).

pottery. It also incorporated Forest of Dean sandstone tiles, fragments of quartz, conglomerate quernstones and a section of a sandstone mortar. Associated with the platform was pottery of 3rd-4th century date and a 4th century minim.

**DISCUSSION**

The building material and *tesserae* previously ploughed up could suggest a villa establishment, but this remains far from certain. The precise location of the site was not known until just before motorway construction began. Augering has shown that building remains and spreads appear to be confined to an area defined by a circle of 50m radius centred on

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a point 25m N of the N corner of a barn at SO779066 (Fig 13). The landowner, Mrs. Martin, has in her possession a group of 9 4th century coins previously found on the site in association with a pottery vessel. This group is reported on below. The other coins and the brooches were all surface finds from within the line of the motorway.

Fig. 14. A–C, bronze brooches: A from Upton St. Leonards (Site 10); B and C from Eastington, ‘Whitminster Roman Site’ (18), all ½; D, Saxon spearhead from Boddington (6) (4).
BROOCHES

Brooch 1 (Fig 14, C)
Bronze (?) type F, date range late 3rd to 6th (?) century. A most unusual example as the terminals look ‘slipped’, or as if they have been battered, possibly due to faulty casting in a two-piece mould which moved. Alternatively it may have been filed down, which would have occasioned the scratches and odd bumps on the underside and the two adjacent edges. The mouldings are only clear on the inner side of each terminal; the outer portion is worn very smooth. There is no pin. Very small for a type F, but mouldings resemble a few West British examples; possibly an odd type G.

Brooch 2 (Fig 14, B)
This brooch is similar in size, form and plastic decoration to one reported on by Hull in Clifford 1964, 46 and Fig 3. It is similar though larger and less finely worked, to one from Ariconium (Bolitree) in Gloucester City Museum (A 167) and resembles another in Cheltenham Museum. Hull considered that this Gloucester type belonged to the second half of the 2nd century and was of Dobunnic origin.

COINS

1 Denarius of Septimius Severus, AD 196-7 (Mattingly and Sydenham 1936, 101, nos 85 or 88). From a 3rd century pit.
2 Barbarous minim, illegible. From the platform.
3 Barbarous radiate imitating Antoninianus of Tetricus I. Rev Pax with transverse sceptre. From the surface.

MORTAR

Fragment of a sandstone mortar decorated externally with one or more horizontal ridges. Diameter c 3m. From paving of platform.

HOARD OF AE3 FROM PRESUMED VILLA (S0779066) (Fig I, no I9)

Rev GLORIA EXERCITVS (2 Standards); victory on prow (AD 330-5), unless stated.
2 Constantine I (Carson, Hill, Kent 1960, 68, 379)
1 Constantinopolis (ibid 86)
Rev GLORIA EXERCITVS (1 Standard) PIETAS ROMANA (AD 335-41)
1 Constantine I mint mark illegible
1 Constans (ibid 127)
1 Theodora (ibid 129)
Rev VICTORIAE DD AVG G Q NN (AD 341-6)
2 Constans (ibid 140a, 142)
1 Constantius II (ibid 444)

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Mrs E. Fowler for the report on brooch 1.

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20 EASTINGTON, Site 1. S0777060
RB settlement
RB pottery and grass-tempered ware. Gloucester City Museum.

REPORT
A scatter of building and occupation debris and two post-holes suggested a RB settlement near the top of the ridge S of the River Frome. Some 90m W, RB pottery and grass-tempered ware were found beneath a bank left from c 1920 gravel workings. The 11 sherds of grass-tempered pottery are macroscopically identical with other recently discovered examples e.g. at Barnsley Park and Frocester villas, Glos. (Fowler, 1970a). Their precise context and association here is uncertain but, as elsewhere, they were found on a site also producing RB pottery. Their particular interest is in their general position in the Vale of Berkeley, hinting at 5th-6th century AD occupation in an area where it has not previously been recognised. The sherds are, therefore, of some significance as a portent cf also Brooch I, p 60 above.
No trace of the Roman road, Margary 543 (Margary 1967, 144f) was found, though a gravel terrace just N of Site 1 might indicate its line.

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21 EASTINGTON, Site 2. S0773057
Post-Med occupation
Post-Med pottery

REPORT
About 90m N of the Claypits Road two stone-lined drains associated with 18th century pottery were traced for c 36.3m and 18.2m respectively. They formed a T-junction. The stone foundations of a curved structure 2.4m in diameter lay W of the longer drain.

M. TRAVELL

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P. J. Fowler
Chairman, M5 Research Committee

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