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Wells' Bridge, Barnwood

by B. Rawes
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A Roman Site at Wells' Bridge, Barnwood

By BERNARD RAWES

THE SITE (SO 865190) lies 3.25 km (2 miles) east of the centre of Gloucester on the southern bank of the Horsbere Brook and just within the parish of Barnwood. Wells' Bridge¹ is the railway bridge 300 m to the north which carries the Birmingham to Bristol line over the lane connecting the Elmbridge Court medieval moated site with Barnwood. Four rights of way meet at this point and until 1971 the brook was crossed by a brick-built bridge, probably a crossing place of some antiquity.

A watch was kept on the construction of the A40 to Barnwood Bypass link road² and Roman material was found. A large culvert had been dug to divert the Horsbere Brook and the spoil heaps contained stones, broken tiles, potsherds, pieces of coloured plaster and a few tesserae, indicative of a Roman building nearby. During the summer of 1971 a close watch on the road construction failed to reveal the position of wall footings. However the lines of two curving ditches were noted; and by observing culverts dug by the road constructors and by means of a small trial excavation, a record was obtained of some Roman features and material.

The site is on the blue clay of the lower lias of the Jurassic which is covered by a thin and intermittent layer of gravel ($\frac{1}{2}$ m maximum), also by a recent deposit of yellow alluvium from the Horsbere Brook. To the south-east the gravel lies 2 to 6 m deep over the clay in a large part of Barnwood parish. This deposit is derived from the Cotswold limestone and was laid down during the Pleistocene period by flood waters, probably from melting snow and ice.

1. The Wells family owned an extensive estate here in the last century.
2. The co-operation and interest of Mr Goulding of the South-West Road Construction Unit was greatly appreciated.

LEVELS

Natural levels

- (A) Post-Roman alluvium.
- (B) Pre-Roman alluvium.
- (C) Cotswold gravel.
- (D) Blue clay of the Lower Lias.

Archaeological levels

1. Plough soil.
2. Compacted clayey brown soil containing stones, shattered red sandstone tiles, tegulae, R-B potsherds and building debris.
3. Top-fill of ditch D1. Brown soil with stones, broken tiles, etc.
4. Charcoal layer. Soft ashy grey soil.
5. Dark deposit with stones, tiles, pottery and bones.
6. Primary fill of ditch D1. Silty sand mixed with loam.
7. Compressed yellow-brown clayey soil. Some stones.
8. Clean yellow clay with only occasional sherds and stones.
9. Layer of medium-sized oolitic stones.
10. Clean yellow clay with only a very few sherds. Streaks and lumps of blue clay also present. This deposit may be from the original digging of the ditch.

Prehistoric material and Roman burials have been found in gravel workings alongside Ermine Street (Clifford, 1930). To the north-east of Wells' Bridge the land rises to the middle lias slopes of Churchdown Hill, on whose summit there are vestiges of the rampart of an iron age hillfort (Hurst, 1977). From here one can see the whole course of the Horsbere Brook, from its source near

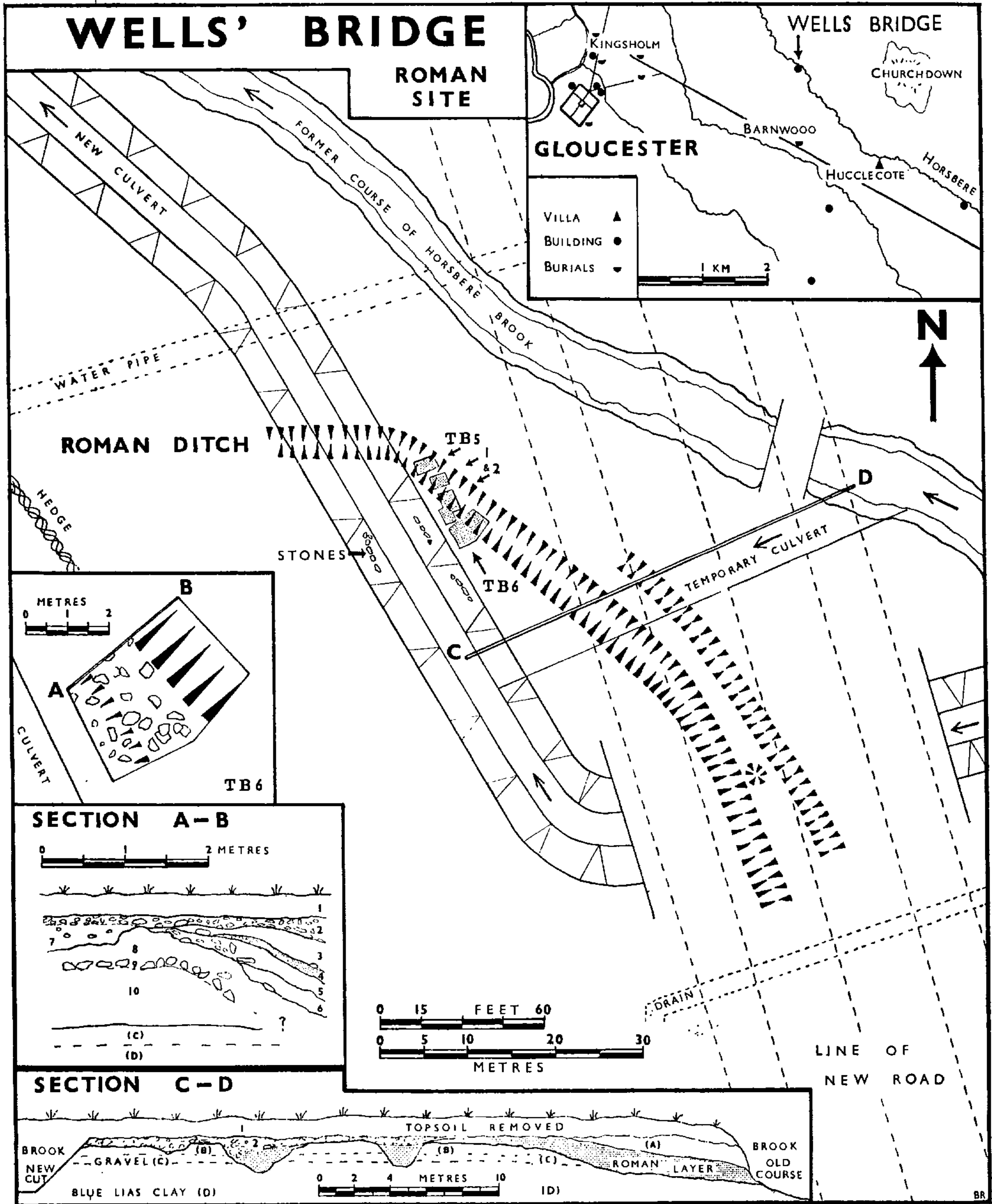


FIG 1

Witcombe Roman villa to where it joins the Severn near Upper Parting, north of Gloucester. Before reaching Wells' Bridge it flows past the Romano-British site near Brockworth church and then near Hucclecote Roman villa (Clifford, 1933). Over thousands of years alluvium has been deposited by this brook and its meanders have changed course, leaving a wide bed of yellow clay. The new culvert for the brook at Wells' Bridge showed a dark layer with Roman sherds in it; with the yellow alluvium both above and below it. Furthermore this layer sloped down the bank to the brook, thereby indicating not only that alluvium had been deposited since the Roman period, but also that the brook was on or near its present course at that time.

The information for the plans and sections was obtained from the deep excavations made for culverting the brook, from surface indications after the top-soil and some lower layers had been removed by machine, and from the excavation of trial boxes. The temporary cut (C-D) for the brook was most revealing, the vertical sides giving an excellent section, but many questions remain unanswered. The ends of the ditches were not found. They are on a curve similar to that of the brook, whose waters they may have utilized at some time, or they may have delineated a boundary to the estate.

The buildings, some foundations of which may still be intact, probably had stone walls up to the roof eaves, though parapet walls are just possible. There was evidence for the use of the following: oolitic and liassic limestone tiles and large coarse tesserae for floors, coloured wall plaster, and clay and red sandstone roof tiles. Slabs of old red sandstone, most of them broken and crushed, were very evident in a stony layer under the modern plough-soil. The small test excavation at TB 2 revealed several unbroken sandstone roof tiles which had slipped at an angle of 45 degrees into the ditch D 1. In TB 6, on the edge of the ditch in level 5, was a shaped building stone of a shelly oolitic limestone, measuring approximately 360 mm square by 130 mm thick, which was flat on one side and notched and grooved on the other, as if for attaching a door or window. Other dressed building stones and a quern stone lay nearby.

Features

The two Roman ditches are shown on the plan cut by modern culverting. Ditch D 2, the smaller one, nearer the brook, could not be investigated. However Ditch D 1 was examined by trial excavation. The section A-B shows a tumble of stones dipping down into the ditch (layer 9). If layer 10 is the upcast from the original digging of the ditch, then these stones may indicate some sort of destruction, possibly of a building. This could have been followed by a recutting of the ditch (layer 8) and subsequently it is possible that there was a stone parapet or wall on the edge of the ditch. There was a considerable accumulation of building material, including dressed stone, both on the top of and down the slope into the ditch (layer 5). It can be noted that the pottery from layer 10 is second-century in character, whilst fourth-century material is found in the ditch fill. It appears that occupation of the site began at least as far back as the first half of the second century A.D. and possibly earlier. The last phase probably began after the middle of the fourth century. This indicates the possibility of a considerable lapse of time between some of the phases postulated above.

THE POTTERY

SAMIAN WARE

From the Ditch (D1)

Probably the latest piece is a sherd of form 37 showing the typical rouletted scroll and rosette of East Gaulish ware. Rheinzabern. Late 2nd to early 3rd century. A rim of form 37 is also in East Gaulish fabric.

The following are late 2nd century: sherd of mortarium form Drag. 45 and the rim and part of the base of a Walters form 79 dish.

The remaining sherds are from 2nd-century plain vessels and include one form 36 rim and three sherds of form 33, one of which is early 2nd century. There is also a form 27 sherd which could be the earliest from this assemblage.

Surface finds (36 sherds)

B. Hartley reports on the two stamped pieces: Donnaucus (IVa) form 18/31. Les-Martres-de-Veyre. *c.* A.D. 100–120.

Primulus? (VI f) form 33. Lezoux. This well-known stamp may be illiterate, but its date is beyond question, since it occurred in the wreck at Pudding Pan Rock and frequently in late Antonine contexts elsewhere. *c.* A.D. 165–200.

The only decorated sherd is a small fragment of a form 37 bowl, and being Flavian, is probably the earliest piece found. The remainder of the samian will not be detailed here, but its dating falls into line with the above evidence in that the majority is mid to late 2nd century.

THE COARSE POTTERY

Notes on fabrics

Severn Valley ware [S.V.W.]

The paste is fired red or grey, with a buff to orange to red surface colour. The ware has typical forms and has been described locally by Walker (1958), Peacock (1967), Webster (1977), Waters (forthcoming), Rawes (1971) and others. These vessels are not closely dateable, but are common in the 2nd and 3rd centuries. The vessels described here can be added to those from Tredington Rise (Rawes, 1971) as illustrative of forms present in this part of the Severn Valley. (See nos. 1, 2, 3, 9 and 14.)

Late R–B calcite-gritted ware

This ware has a grey fabric and is wheel-made. The surface is sometimes cream or pinkish, is soapy to the touch and often shows fine rilling or combing. Whitish grits, sometimes shelly, and the finer finish are features which distinguish this ware from the coarser gritted types. Of the two illustrated here the rim-form and thin body of no. 16 are common features, no. 17 being unusual. Seven other sherds were found, indicating occupation of the site to the end of the Roman period; this ware being dated from A.D. 370 at Shakenoak (Oxon.), (Brodribb, Hands and Walker, 1972). It appears on Gloucestershire sites, such as Frocester Court villa (Gracie, 1970), Wycomb–Andoversford, (Rawes, unpublished) and Gloucester.

Black-burnished ware

The vessels are hand-made in B–B 1 fabric. It is probably a local version of this fabric, but this has yet to be studied. The vessels in this ware which can be related to Gillam form numbers have not been drawn.

LOCATION OF FINDS

None of the finds reported here came from the outer ditch D 2. Objects recovered from the other large ditch are identified by D 1. Where they were found in a layer shown on the sections, the relevant number follows, e.g. D 1–5.

From the ditch D 1

- 1 Large bowl with flanged rim. A 2nd-century form. S.V.W.
- 2 Bowl with everted rim. S.V.W.
- 3 Small handled mug. Second half of 2nd century. S.V.W. Three other rims similar to nos. 21, 22 and 23 from Tredington Rise (Rawes, 1971).
- 4 Bowl with drooping flange. Pale pink paste and white slip. Probably 2nd century.
- 5 Lid or funnel with vestiges of red-brown paint or stain on interior. Creamy white paste. An unusual shape. Nine other body sherds in similar fabric from at least two other vessels.
- 6 'Tubby cooking pot.' Hand-made. Black gritty paste with white limestone inclusions. A pre-Roman type made up to the Antonine period. (Peacock, 1967).
- 7 Small jar in fine sandy fabric with white stone inclusions. Pale grey.

8 Mortarium. This, and another slightly different vessel with a squared rim and shorter flange are of a hard cream fabric with translucent multi-coloured quartz grits. Made in Oxfordshire and usually dated later than mid-3rd century.

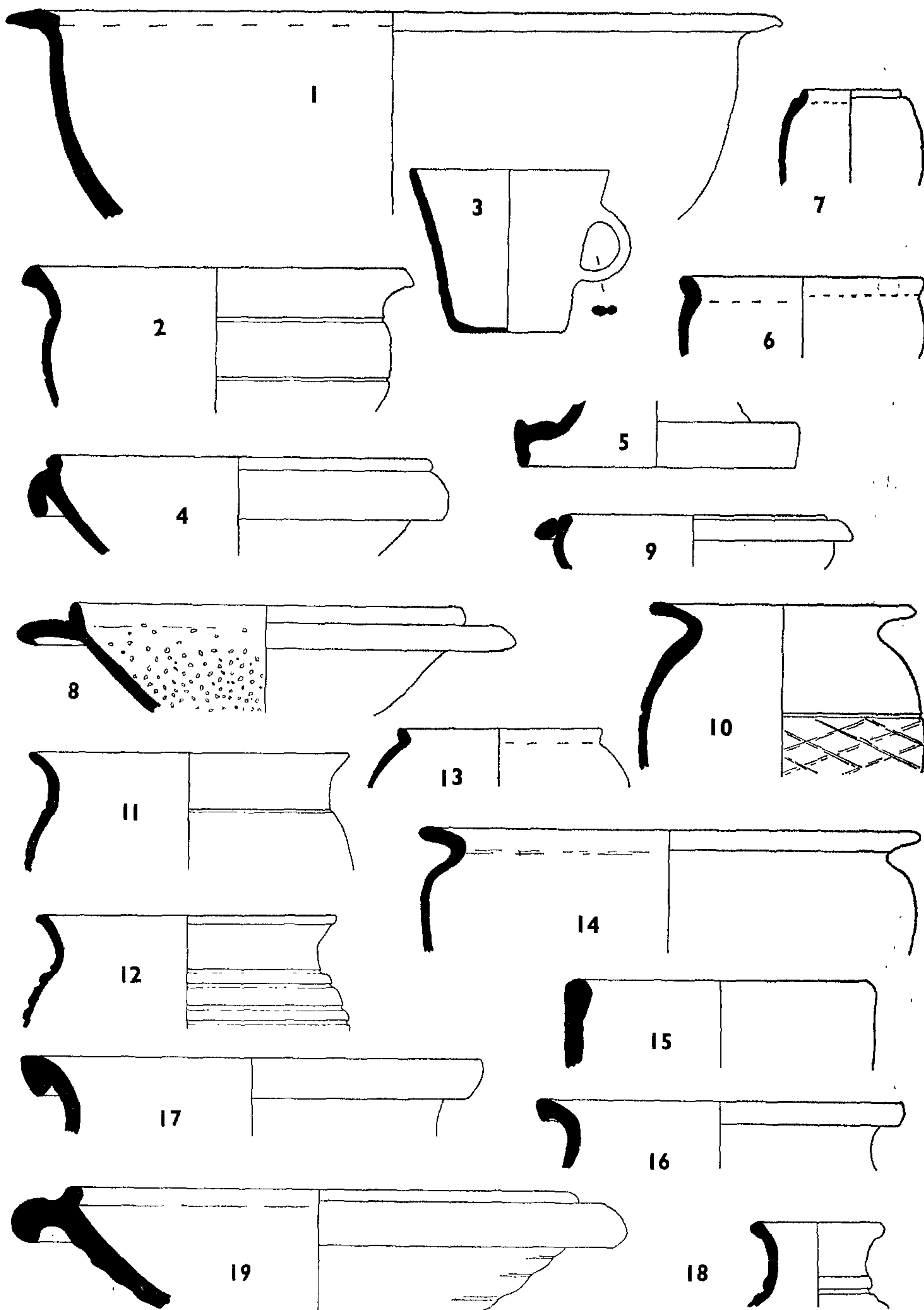


FIG. 2. Pottery

From 17 sherds of black-burnished ware found in ditch D 1 with sufficient profile for correlation with Gillam types, the following forms are represented: 120, 125, 138, 143 and 145 in cooking pots, giving a date range from A.D. 120 to 300; 220 and 221 in bowls, which are 2nd century; and 314 and 329 in dishes, dating from A.D. 220 to 340. There is also one of the straight-sided flanged bowls of the fourth century.

9 Bowl with thick down-turned flange. S.V.W. Another similar. D 1-5.

10 Barrel-shaped vessel with cavetto rim. Black-burnished ware. D 1-5.

11 Jar in local fabric. Red-brown surface with burnt patches. Probably 2nd century. This and the following item resemble in general shape and fabric nos. 30 and 31 from Tredington Rise (Rawes, 1971). D 1-5.

12 A vessel with grooves and bulges in thin red ware. Late 1st or early 2nd century. D 1-5.

Not illustrated: from D 1-5.

A double-rimmed narrow-necked jar in S.V.W. Antonine or later.

Two rims in grey: one of a small flagon, the other of a mug or bowl, both 2nd century.

A body sherd of Nene Valley ware.

From layer 8

13 Ovoid beaker in pale grey fabric. Early 2nd-century type.

Not illustrated:

A small jar with rim similar to no. 13.

Rim of S.V.W. mug. 2nd century.

Flanged-rim bowl in pale grey, similar in form to no. 2.

A black-burnished cooking pot, near to Gillam form 125. A.D. 120 to 180.

A dish resembling Gillam forms 306 to 308. A.D. 120 to 180.

Three other sherds that fit into a 2nd-century context.

From layer 10

A black-burnished cooking pot. Gillam form 22. A.D. 120 to 160.

SURFACE FINDS

From among 200 rim sherds the following have been selected for illustration:

14 Large bowl with flanged rim. Well-burnished red-brown surface. Grey in the break. 2nd-century Gloucester type.

15 Cooking pot in 'early' gritted ware. Black. Hand-made. (See no. 6.)

16 Jar in calcite-gritted ware. Grey with cream surface. Later than A.D. 350.

17 Jar with heavy rim in calcite-gritted rilled ware. (See note above). Late Roman.

18 Jar or flagon with cordon at base of a straight collar. Buff surface with grey core.

A sherd of a ring-necked flagon also found. Both first half of 2nd century.

19 Mortarium. Cream fabric. Only three or four flint grits left. Probably made in the south-east in the first half of the 2nd century.

Other mortaria were present, all of them with the typical grits used in the Oxfordshire kilns, as in no. 8. A few sherds of amphorae were found, among them a very eroded handle with a stamp, now illegible.

THE SMALL FINDS

Bronze objects. All surface finds.

1 Brooch of 'Dolphin' type, which can be described as a Colchester derivative. It is in good condition, apart from the loss of the foot-knob at the end of a plain catchplate. It has a spring of eight coils, the chord being held by a rearward facing 'lug'-hook. The humped bow has two slightly beaded central grooves ending in an oblique moulding, similar to that on a brooch

found at Shakenoak, Oxon (Mackreth, 1971). Apart from slight differences such as the shape of the hook, the decorated grooving and a hole in the catch-plate, the two brooches are very alike. Another similar brooch, found at Barnwood, is illustrated (Clifford, 1934). The distribution of this type is chiefly west Midlands, but there are examples from Richborough (Hull, 1968). The dating is from A.D. 75 to 120.

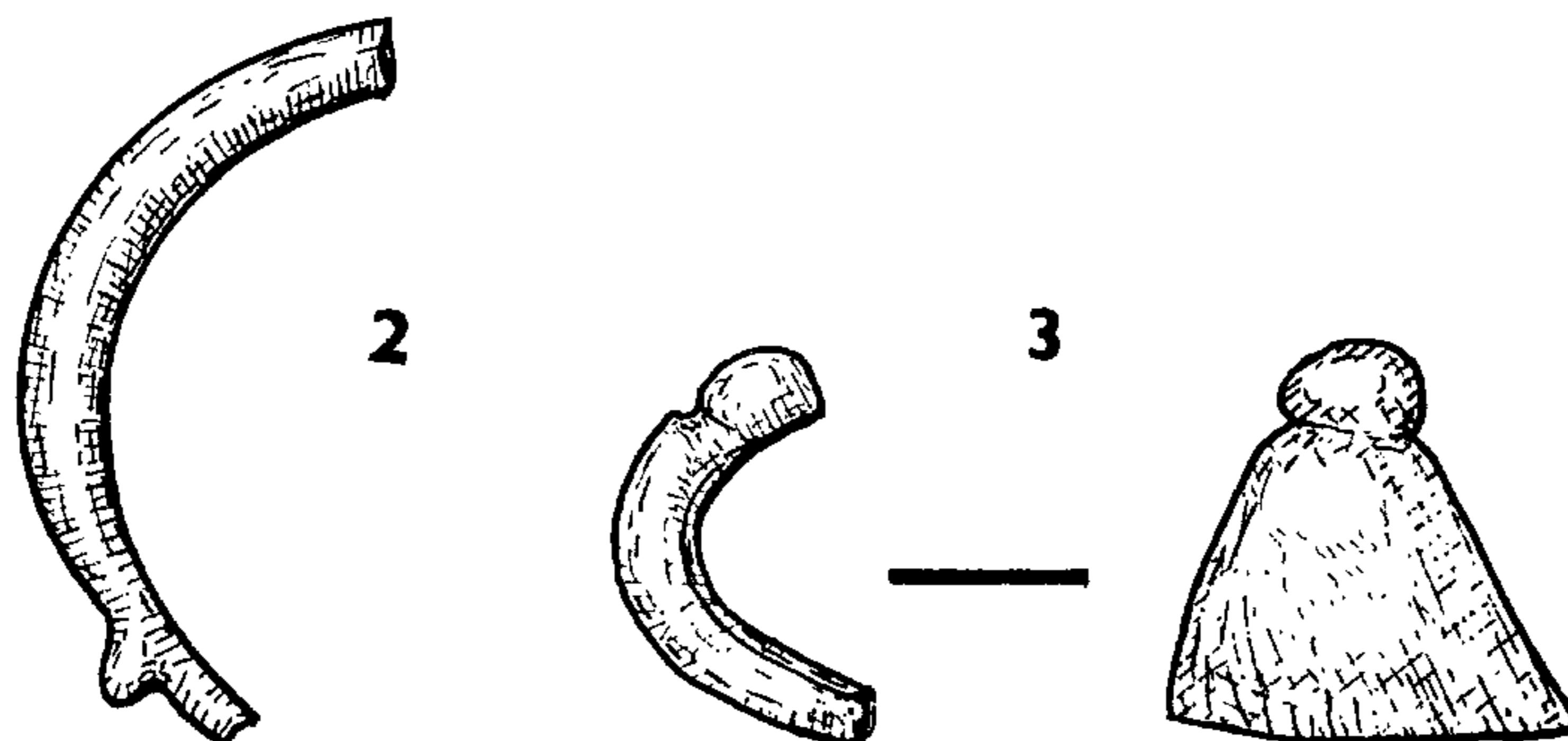


FIG. 3. Bronze objects (1/1)

- 2 Part of a small curved handle, oval in section, 45 mm long, decreasing in width from 4 mm to 2 mm near the lower junction with the vessel, where the break occurred. This lower end is decorated with a small curved swelling or knob. Probably from a small ewer.
- 3 A curved piece 20 mm in width, tapering to 7 mm, where the upper surface is constricted and then swells into a terminal knob. The lower surface is plain and the section elliptical. It is hooked, possibly for suspension and may be part of a harness or other attachment.
- 4 Part of a bracelet of three flat twisted strands. These are often found and are thought to be of 3rd- or 4th-century date.

Coins. All surface finds.

Four bronze coins were found, only one being identifiable. This is a coin of Constantine II, A.D. 317–340. R.I.C. 328.

Iron objects. All surface finds.

Iron collar, probably for a wooden water-pipe. It can be estimated to have been about 140 mm in diameter (Cunliffe, 1971). Four pieces of unidentifiable iron work, one of which may have been a strap band for a wooden vessel.

Nails

About 80 corroded nails were picked up. All appear to be Roman and are square in section. The heads were either made flat or have been beaten flat; and they are often off-centre. The size of the head does not appear to be dependent on the length; one nail 35 mm long has a head of 30 mm diameter. They are not standard in length, the longest being about 100 mm long.

Glass

Seven fragments of glass were found in the ditch D 1.

Bone objects. All from the ditch D 1.

- 1 Pin with small decorated head. 85 mm long. Near parallels for this and the other two pins can be found at Shakenoak (Brodrigg, Hands and Walker, 1968) where some dating is attempted.

- 2 Pin with prominent conical knob above flat disc for its head. Both this and no. 1 were probably worked by turning. 74 mm long.
- 3 Pin with round head. 63 mm long.
- 4 Needle with slit eye and flat head. 98 mm long.

BUILDING MATERIALS

Tesserae

There were some blue lias limestone cubes, roughly cut to form large tesserae, with sides from 20 to 30 mm. Also found were six white limestone cubes of 7 to 8 mm size and finely cut. None of the tesserae show any sign of having been set in a floor.

Plaster

Fifteen pieces of coloured wall plaster were retained. Three colours are shown: red, yellow and white. No design is detectable; the largest surface measuring 60 by 80 mm. The body of the plaster consists either of opus signinum or of a hard white limy sand, the grains large and quartzitic. Two pieces are interesting, as they are parts of convex curves presumably from near an entrance or opening. The presence of this plaster is an indication of a building of quality.

Tiles

There were numerous clay tiles on the site. The sample collected can be separated into roof tiles, wall or floor and flue box tiles. Ten small pieces with impressed combing fit into the last category. Another tile was complete, 180 mm square by 30 mm thick, with opus signinum adhering to both sides.

The red sandstone tiles were even more widespread on the site and were presumably used for the floor as well as the roof. A complete example of the latter measured 440 mm long by 360 mm wide. It tapers to a point at the upper and lower ends, making it six-sided. The nail-hole is 100 mm from the top and about 40 mm off-centre to the left. This is the largest found, similar to those found at Hucclecote villa (Clifford, 1933) and Kingsweston villa (Boon, 1950).

MISCELLANEOUS FINDS

Quernstone

Four pieces of a quern of a hard sandstone showing converging sets of grooves and the central pivot hole. From layer 5.

Lava stone

An unshaped lump of Niedermendig lava(?) about 240 mm by 130 mm. Surface find.

Spindle whorl

Made from a potsherd of grey fabric with orange surface, this spindle whorl is 6 mm thick and of 40 mm diameter with a 7 mm diameter hole. From the ditch D 1.

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APPENDIX

Roman sites near Gloucester, east of the Severn

Wells' Bridge is one of many sites where proximity to Glevum must have had a direct influence on the life of the occupiers. In order to show the variety and intensity of these sites a map has been drawn from the records being compiled by the Gloucester and District Archaeological Research Group. This is not a final statement; every year new sites are found, often as a result of modern development.

No attempt has been made to interpret the grouping of sites in relation to topography and communications. Before this is done more information is needed as to chronology and the relation of this area to those adjacent to it. A map of the area to the east, where density is at least as great, is projected.

The limitations of the classification are self-evident. Further investigation might show the 'spread of sherds' to belong to one of the other groups. The difference between 'Villa' and 'Building' is indefinite without a thorough excavation and the term settlement might merely hint that the buildings were mainly of timber.

A broken line indicates some uncertainty as to the exact course of a Roman road. Unless the agger and ditches have been proved by a transverse section, or unless a parish boundary was on the line of the road before the date of the Inclosure Acts, one has only the historical evidence that a modern road follows the line of the ancient. The study of such classical sources as the Antonine Itinerary, and of early maps of more recent centuries, combined with an observation of hedgeline and topography, result in a probable route, which further research might prove certain.

The map does not show intrusive Roman burials in barrows or coin finds. These are doubtful evidence for the identification of habitation sites.

The area west of the Severn has not been covered. At present the known finds there are few; the reason for this may be lack of fieldwork, the proportion of woodland and pasture to arable, a slower rate of modern development or, of course, that Romano-British occupation was indeed less dense. It may be a combination of all these factors.

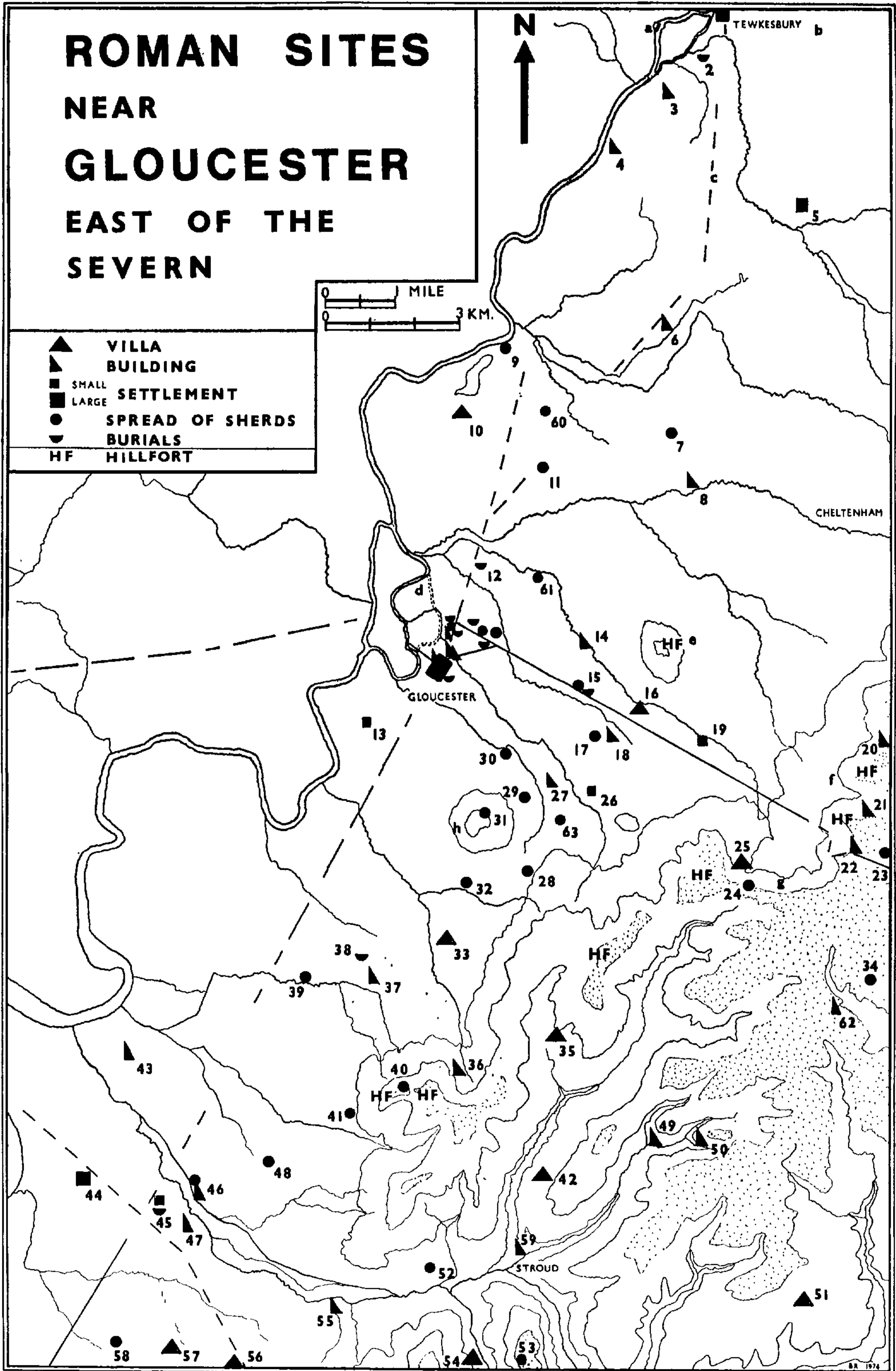


FIG. 4

Main references only have been given in the following site list.

No.	Parish	Name of Location	Type of Site	Description	References
1	Tewkesbury SO 896330	Oldbury and High Street	Large settlement	'Urns' and coins found many years ago. Recent excavations revealed Roman features: ditch, gravel floors, etc. Considerable quantity of pottery, dated mostly 2nd century, but a few earlier and later types.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 25 (1902), 27-8. <i>Arch. Rev.</i> 5 (1970), 22. <i>Glevensis</i> , 6 (1972), 9. <i>Arch. Implications of Development</i> , Fowler and Miles (1972).
2	Tewkesbury SO 891321	The Vineyards, Holme Hill	Burials	Six inhumations, three of which were in stone coffins. Sherds.	<i>Arch. Rev.</i> , 2 (1967), 15.
3	Tewkesbury SO 88213116	Tewkesbury Park	Building	Pottery and tiles in Tewkesbury Museum indicate 2nd to 3rd century occupation.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 73 (1954), 36, footnote 5. <i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 92 (1973), 210-12.
4	Deerhurst SO 87042996	Near the church	Building	There have been suggestions of a Roman site here since the last century and confirmation in 1971.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 90 (1971), 129-35. Roman tiles in fabric of Odda's Chapel.
5	Stoke Orchard SO 913289	Tredington Rise	Large settlement	Native type occupation. Probably in timber huts. The pottery dates from 1st to 4th centuries. Many loom-weights.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 90 (1971), 26-34. M5 Report.
6	Leigh SO 882263	Staplins	Building	Possibly a large building, one wall being 70 feet long. Pottery included late 2nd to 4th century types.	<i>Glevensis</i> , 6 (1972), 7.
7	Staverton SO 88312364	Brock Farm	Sherds	The 'spread' is limited but several vessels are represented.	Field observation. 1972 (Rawes).
8	Staverton SO 888226	Near Staverton Bridge	Building	Pottery 2nd century and later.	<i>Glevensis</i> , 6 (1972), 6. <i>Arch. Rev.</i> , 6 (1971), 28.
9	Norton SO 84552565	Wainlode Cliff	Sherds	2nd century and later.	<i>Arch. Rev.</i> , 5 (1970), 22.
10	Sandhurst SO 837241	Willington Court	Villa	'A sample cutting' revealed a mosaic floor above a hypocaust.	<i>Glevensis</i> , 1 (1968), 3. <i>Arch. Rev.</i> , 3 (1968), 17.
11	Down Hatherley SO 855229	Near the A38 road	Sherds		<i>ex inf.</i> Glos. City Museum.

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12	Longford SO 841207	Longford Lane	Burial	The proximity to Roman road going north might suggest possibility of other burials.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 88 (1969), 207.
13	Hempsted SO 816173	Newark Camp	Small settlement	Roman pottery found in earthworks which are probably of later construction.	<i>J.R.S.</i> , 39 (1949), 107. <i>P.C.N.F.C.</i> , 3 (1865), 17.
14	Barnwood SO 86511905	Wells' Bridge	Building	Tiles, plaster, shaped stones and other evidence including ditches. Early 2nd to late 4th centuries.	This report.
15	Barnwood SO 865178 and SO 863180	Ermin Street	Burials	Urns and other pottery suggesting cremation burials. Reported as 1st and early 2nd centuries.	<i>J.R.S.</i> , 11 (1921), 210. <i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 52 (1930), 201-54.
16	Hucclecote SO 876176	Hucclecote Secondary School	Villa	Fully reported. See references.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 55 (1933), 323-76. <i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 79 (1961), 159-73. <i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 80 (1962), 42-9.
17	Hucclecote SO 867169	Lobley's Farm	Sherds	Only a few sherds. This may be part of site 18.	
18	Hucclecote SO 869168	Trevor Road	Building	Bath-house and coffin—burial nearby.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 79 (1960), Pt. II, 159-73.
19	Brockworth SO 891168	Allotments	Settlement	Building debris, two circular huts and a complex of ditches.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 87 (1968), 203 and forthcoming, <i>Britannia</i> .
20	Badgeworth SO 932169	Dryhill 'Villa'	Building	A 'plain building. No samian or mosaic. Probably a late R-B. farm.	<i>Notes on Cheltenham Ancient and Medieval</i> , W. H. Gomonde (1849). <i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 4 (1880), 208.
21	Badgeworth SO 92801525 and SO 92761506	At the bottom of the slope below Barrow Wake	Sherds	Possibly two or three buildings extending for at least 380 m towards Birdlip Camp.	<i>Arch. Rev.</i> , 5 (1969), 21. Trial excavation by Cheltenham College (1972).
22	Cowley SO 925144	Royal George, Birdlip	Building	Described as a 'posting house' on Ermin Street.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 45 (1923), 294. <i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 54 (1932), 388.
23	Cowley SO 933144	East of Birdlip	Sherds		<i>Arch. Rev.</i> , 6 (1971), 27.
24	Great Witcombe SO 901137	In Witcombe Woods	Sherds	Probably 'trenched', but no report.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 81 (1962), 214

No.	Parish	Name of Location	Type of Site	Description	References
25	Great Witcombe SO 899143	Witcombe Villa	Villa	Now excavated by D.O.E. Building phases established in 3rd and 4th centuries.	<i>Archaeologia</i> , 19 (1821), 17-883. <i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 73 (1954), 5-69. <i>Britannia</i> , 1, (1970), 294.
26	Upton St Leonards SO 866157	Corn dryer and 'pits'	Small settlement	Much pottery and a corn dryer were found, but no walls, though there were re-used stones.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 90 (1971), 44-9.
27	Upton St Leonards SO 857159	Wheatridge	Building	Red sandstone tiles and R-B. Sherds.	<i>Arch. Rev.</i> , 7 (1972), 35.
28	Upton St Leonards SO 85201405	Edmond's Hill	Sherds	A few abraded sherds of 2nd to 3rd century date.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 90 (1971), 49-50.
29	Gloucester SO 85011565	Matson SE of Rectory	Sherds	The old report talks of a trench with bones and Roman pots with an 'early look'.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 2 (1878), 242.
30	Gloucester SO 845166	Old Painswick Road	Sherds		Verbal information.
31	Gloucester SO 841151	Matson—near top of Robinswood Hill	Sherds		Verbal information.
32	Brookthorpe with Whaddon SO 838136	Court Farm	Sherds	Scatter of 2nd to 3rd century pottery.	<i>Arch. Rev.</i> , 6 (1971), 26.
33	Brookthorpe with Whaddon SO 833125	West of Church	Villa	Probably a villa. Loose tesserae, sandstone tiles and wall footings. 2nd to 3rd century pottery.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 90 (1971), 50-3.
34	Brimpsfield SO 928115	Haywick D.M.V.	Sherds	Sometimes called 'Manless Town'. Probably a settlement. 2nd century pottery.	Small emergency excavation in progress.
35	Painswick SO 85751020	Ifold	Villa	Mosaics (damaged) and other indications of a moderate-sized 'quality' dwelling.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 27 (1904), 156-71.
36	Harescombe O.S. 25-inch Sheet XLI/7	Stockend	Building	Perhaps a villa. Tesserae, flue-tiles and plaster as well as pottery found.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 83 (1964), 147. Witts, <i>Arch. Handbook Glos.</i> (1883), 62.
37	Haresfield SO 819115	Pool Farm	Building	R-B. sherds and other debris noted in a ploughed field beside the railway embankment.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 90 (1971), 53.

38	Haresfield	Location doubtful	Burials	Attempts to locate the position failed during the M5 construction.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 90 (1971), 53. <i>J.B.A.A.</i> , II (1847), 96.
39	Hardwicke SO 802115	Summerhouse Farm	Sherds	Site destroyed by M5.	<i>Arch. Rev.</i> , 4 (1969), 16.
40	Haresfield SO 822089	The Beacon	Sherds	R-B. sherds discovered recently on the edge of the 'camp' in which a coin hoard was found in the last century.	<i>Arch. Rev.</i> , 5 (1970), 22. <i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 1 (1876), 28.
41	Standish SO 812085	At base of Hares- field Beacon	Sherds	A few scattered abraded sherds in the upcast of a water pipe trench.	Observed 1972 (Rawes).
42	Painswick SO 855072	Brown's Hill	Villa	Probably the site of a villa. Skeletons were uncovered which might have been R-B.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 77 (1958), 155-6.
43	Whitminster SO 763098		Building		<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 87 (1968), 204.
44	Frampton SO 751070	Gravel pits	Settlement	Reports of varying reliability of occupation material, some of which may not be R-B., found in gravel workings.	<i>Glevensis</i> , 2 (1968), 5-6. <i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 50 (1928), 122-33.
45	Eastington SO 771066	Gravel pits	Small settlements	Among the pots in Stroud Museum from this site some are of early R-B. forms.	<i>P.C.N.F.C.</i> , 24 (1930-2), 168-79.
46	Eastington SO 778067	'Whitminster Villa' and pits	Building and sherds	Coins and tesserae have been found.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 90 (1971), 57-60. <i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 45 (1923), 285 ff.
47	Eastington SO 777060	South of river Frome	Building	Among the R-B. sherds found here there was some 'grass-tempered' ware.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 90 (1971), 61.
48	Eastington SO 793074	Pidgemore Farm	Sherds		<i>Arch. Rev.</i> , 4 (1969), 39.
49	Miserden SO 882081	Down Hill	Building		<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 87 (1968), 204. Finds in Stroud Museum.
50	Bisley with Lypiatt SO 849080	Customs Scrubs	Building	Possible site of Roman temple. Altars found. Enclosures visible on aerial photograph.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 29 (1906), 173-80. <i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 45 (1923), 87-8.
51	Bisley with Lypiatt SO 913044	Lillyhorn	Villa	Objects in Stroud Museum and old reports give the impression that this was a building of quality.	<i>Arch. Journal</i> , II (1846), 42-5. <i>J.B.A.A.</i> , II (1947), 324-7.

No.	Parish	Name of Location	Type of Site	Description	References
52	Stroud SO 830050	Cashes Green	Sherds	Several reports of R-B. pottery in the general area west of Stroud.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 87 (1968), 204.
53	Rodborough SO 850032	Rodborough Common earthwork	Sherds	An excavation revealed 'Belgic' pottery and a few slithers of samian.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 78 (1959), 24-45.
54	Woodchester SO 839032	Woodchester Villa	Villa	One of the largest villas in Britain. The principal mosaic pavement has been illustrated in several reports.	<i>Roman remains at Woodchester</i> , Lysons, 1797.
55	King's Stanley SO 80950414	Near the church	Building	Roman tiles in the wall of the church. Excavation of the adjoining medieval manor house has produced Roman pottery.	Stroud Museum.
56	Frocester SO 785029	Frocester Court	Villa	Several phases extending to the 5th century.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 89 (1970), 15-89.
57	Frocester SO 77100327	St Peter's Church	Villa	Substantial stonework under the church.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 82 (1963), 148-67.
58	Coaley SO 759035, SO 757032 and SO 760029	Elmcote Farm	Sherds	Three areas of scatter of sherds noted during construction of M5 motorway.	<i>Arch. Rev.</i> , 4 (1969), 16.
59	Stroud SO 851055	Beeches Green	Building		Stroud Museum. <i>P.C.N.F.C.</i> , 25 (1934), 205.
60	Norton SO 855241	Bishop's Norton	Sherds	New site. Pottery and a few fragments of tile in pipeline disturbance.	Field observation, 1973. B. Rawes.
61	Longlevens SO 851202	Little Normans	Sherds	New site.	Field observation. P. Garrod.
62	Cranham SO 921111	The Hacket	Building	New site. Large area of pottery spread.	Field observation by E. Gander and B. Rawes, 1974.
63	Upton St Leonards SO 859151	Portway	Sherds	New site.	Field observation, 1974. B. Rawes.

DOUBTFUL SITES

No.	Parish	Name of Location	Type of site	Description	References
a	Tewkesbury SO 882328	Upper Lode	Sherds	R-B. pottery observed during construction of lock and weir.	<i>Arch. Implications of Development</i> , Fowler and Miles (1972), fig. 4.

b	Ashchurch SO 91523283		R-B. finds?	Stone structure seen when the M5 was built. May not be R-B.	<i>Arch. Rev.</i> , 4 (1968), 15.
c	Deerhurst SO 893295	Hoo Garage	Sherds	About half a dozen R-B. sherds discovered 1972.	Tewkesbury Museum.
d	Gloucester SO 827198	Walham	'Roman finds'	Old reports of Roman pottery from the alluvium.	<i>P.C.N.F.C.</i> , 34, pt. 4 (1965), 213.
e	Churchdown SO 885198	Chapel Hay	'R-B. red tiles tiles and cinerary urns'	The report is vague. This site is near a church or chapel and may be medieval.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 45 (1923), 277.
f	Badgeworth SO 918167	Bentham	Sherds	There is a Roman site somewhere below Crickley Hill; pottery from this locality shown at Gt Witcombe fête, 1972.	
g	Great Witcombe SO 908137	Below Witcombe Woods	Lime kiln?	As far as can be ascertained no pottery was found to verify that this site was of Roman date.	<i>T.B.G.A.S.</i> , 81 (1962), 214.
h	Gloucester SO 83621498	The Quarry, Robinswood Hill	Plaster and tiles	In a low bank. Also opus signinum; but no pottery to make this site definite.	Observed Jan. 1973 (Rawes).

Note (January 1977)

The following additional R-B. sites have been found in the last two years. These three sites, which are not on the map, greatly increase proved settlement to the south of Gloucester, making an arc of two to four miles radius on the east side of the Severn, where occupation was fairly dense.

No.	Parish	Name of Location	Type of Site	Description	References
64	Gloucester SO 853167	Coney Hill	Settlement	Building debris, post-holes, burials.	<i>Britannia</i> , VII (1975), 354. <i>Glevensis</i> , 9, 22. <i>Glevensis</i> , 10, 13.
65	Gloucester SO 842162	Robinswood Hill Barracks	Sherds	1st to 4th century. Ditches.	Gloucester Excavation Unit.
66	Quedgeley SO 812148	Quedgeley Farm, M5 link road	Villa(?)	Cobbled areas, building stone, much pottery.	Field observation, Rawes.

I wish to thank my wife for her assistance at all times during the observations at Wells' Bridge and in the compilation of this report.

ABBREVIATIONS

<i>Arch. Rev.</i>	<i>Archaeological Review.</i>
J.R.S.	<i>Journal of Roman Studies.</i>
P.C.N.F.C.	<i>Proceedings of the Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club.</i>
T.B.G.A.S.	<i>Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society.</i>
J.B.A.A.	<i>Journal of the British Archaeological Association.</i>

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