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by B. Rawes (ed.)
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as above sd quietly & peaceably without intupcon or denyall pmitt & Suffer you ye sd C.H. & A.M. their Servts & workemen to pull downe Build upp & Compleat ye sd intended worke & building as aforesaid. In Witness etc.

November 1979

STUART DAVIES

ARCHAEOLOGICAL REVIEW No. 4
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Edited by Bernard Rawes for the Committee for Archaeology in Gloucestershire

This year reports are included for that part of Avon which was formerly Gloucestershire. This not only gives a better historical perspective to the review and covers an area traditionally served by the Society, but is in line with the southern part of Avon, where reports are included in the review of sites published in the *Proceedings of the Somersetshire Archaeological and Natural History Society*.

Mrs J. Popplewell and Mr R. Iles are thanked for collecting the information from Avon, which relates to both 1978 and 1979. A fuller version of the contribution from Mr Iles is published in *Avon Past*.

The information contained in the review has been arranged under parishes as shown on the O.S. 1:10,000 series maps. The parish name is followed, where appropriate, by the site name and a grid reference. (The latter has been omitted in certain cases at the request of the contributor). The Avon parishes are indicated thus: (Avon).

ACTON TURVILLE (Avon), ST 809799. At least four ring ditches have been located from 1946 air photographs.

R. Iles

ALMONDSBURY AND PILNING (Avon). About a dozen enclosures surrounded by ridge-and-furrow have been discovered in the low lying levels of these two parishes from air photographs taken 1945-50.

R. Iles

ALMONDSBURY (Avon). ST 63458428. Rectangular earthworks near the 'green' settlement of Gaunts Earthcott have been surveyed.

R. Iles

ALVESTON (Avon). *Little Abbey*, ST 64878883. Romano-British pottery was found under a building extension to Little Abbey Cottage.

T.W.J. Solley

AMPNEY CRUCIS, *Sheep House Farm*, SP 062046. A concentration of Roman pottery, tile, bone, slag, flint, etc. occurs over the corners of three fields, approximately 1.2 km north of Akeman Street. The pottery includes samian, BB 1 and Savernake ware.

G.L. & E. Bishop and J.E. Richardson

BADGEWORTH/COBERLEY, *Crickley Hill*, SO 927161. Work in the 11th season concentrated in two areas. (a) The Neolithic occupation in the centre of the site where a house, fence and roadway were traced below the Long Mound which postdates the final enclosure. The house, fence and roadway probably belong to the final enclosure. (b) A 10-m broad cut through the I.A. rampart produced further evidence of the complex construction of the defences, and some E.I.A. pottery (of T-rim, thumbled-body type, *eg* Chastleton, or Mount Farm, Dorchester, Oxon) was found in association.

P. Dixon

BAGENDON, SP 017063. An area to the north of Mrs Clifford's excavations was opened up to obtain more evidence on the dating of the site, and its environment. Three large pits, apparently rubbish pits back-filled in one operation, were excavated, and a substantial quantity of pottery found.

R. Reece

BARNSLEY, *Barnsley Park*, SP 083067. In the final season of excavation a ditch with post-holes was found at the southern edge of the area. This, with two other ditches, gave further evidence for timber fences and gates in front of the house. A rectangular platform may be for the emplacement of a timber-framed structure. This added to knowledge of the earlier timber buildings which occupied an area as large as the later stone buildings. More evidence was found to explain the long life of the bath house.

In the east yard a clear and distinctive group of buildings was revealed and also the signs of a considerable sinkage with a circular platform to one side. A large hole had been excavated for a 'box-well' (3' x 3' x 5') lined with large stone slabs, round which was a circular platform of pitched stones also packed in clay. A large amount of 2nd-century pottery was recovered from the back-fill of the large construction pit, but this was entirely residual. The pitched floor of a later structure built over the 'box' produced a coin of Gratian.

G. Webster

BAUNTON to NORTH CERNEY, *Sewer Pipeline watching brief*. A narrow strip of land between Baunton and North Cerney was examined when a new sewer pipe was laid. At SU 024072 a trackway, of indeterminate date, was noted, running up the sloping valley side, SW to NE. A light scatter of abraded potsherds, mostly medieval and later date, was found; also a small number of flints. No concentrations of finds were noted.

T.C. Darvill and W.L. Cox

BIBURY, *Oldwalls*, SP 117105. Roman Pottery was picked up on at least 40 acres near Oldwalls Barrow. A tongue extends into Coln St Dennis and possibly into Eastington parish. Good quality building stone, samian and fine wares were noted.

G.L. & E. Bishop

BIBURY/COLN ST ALDWYNS, *Folly Ground*, SP 132072. A scatter of abraded sherds of 3rd-4th century A.D. straddles the parish boundary just north of the Saltway.

G.L. & E. Bishop

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, *Bourton Bridge* area, SP 159208. Some distance to the east of the previous excavation a road 5m wide with a ditch on both sides, each 2.5m from the edges of the road, has been uncovered; with, to the north-east, a very substantial stone foundation of almost circular shape ($\frac{1}{3}$ uncovered). An enamelled circular brooch was found.

C. Renfrew

BRISTOL (Avon), *Tower Lane*, Excavations for Bristol Museum started late in 1979 and will continue in 1980. Two medieval stone structures have been located.

E. Boore

ST 546775. A 2nd-century trumpet brooch was found.

G. Plowright

Several buildings in the central area were surveyed for Bristol Museum, including 10 Lower Park Row, an early 17th-century town house with many surviving internal features, and houses in St Augustines Parade (Bristol Omnibus Offices).

J. Bryant

BROCKWORTH, *Abbotswood Estate*, SO 89571572. A scatter of Romano-British pottery having been found on this housing development, two parallel Roman ditches, 5m apart and aligned NNW-SSR, were traced in the builders' foundation trenches. The site extends up to and probably under the A46 road where it levels off after descending the escarpment,

B. & B.G. Rawes

CHEDWORTH, *Chedworth Roman Villa*, SP 053134. Excavation in connection with building works carried out for the National Trust on the southern part of the entrance and portico on the east side of the villa. A certain amount of damage to Roman features was found to have been caused by activities since 1864, but a tolerably complete picture of events and structures was obtained. It appears that the original structure on this side of the house was a single wall-revetting a terraced courtyard; it was constructed in the earlier 2nd century. Further terracing was executed when the portico and entrance were laid out in their latest form.

R. Goodburn

COLN ST DENNIS, *Hollow Fosse Farm*, SP 057073. A small round barrow, height approx. 1m was noted. It is said to be the last remaining one of three.

Colnpen, SP 067083. Remains of a round barrow in a hedgeline in a field south of the Colnpen long barrow were noted.

G.L. & E. Bishop

DOYNTON (Avon), *Court Close*, ST 72047418. As the result of a survey the earthworks of a complex series of sub-rectangular fishponds have been found to lie in the field north west of the church. The field, known as Court Close on the Tithe Award, was probably close to the medieval manor.

R. Iles

Fishpools, ST 72607400. This is a simple series of three ponds in a field known as Fishpools, which were constructed by damming a small stream.

R. Iles

DYRHAM AND HINTON (Avon), ST 718772. A probable Roman settlement has been located in the fields called Chestles, north west of Lower Field Farm. Finds from the area include samian and B.B. ware, a bronze brooch and a spatula, also some medieval sherds.

L. Manley

EASTINGTON, HARESFIELD and STANDISH, *Haresfield to River Cam Water Pipeline*. Observations by the Gloucester and District Archaeological Research Group.

SO 80541057 Roman sherds and sandstone fragments

SO 80541016 Roman sherds.

SO 79610920 A few Roman sherds and sandstone tile fragments.

SO 77330635 A few Roman sherds including samian.

SO 76810560 Spread of medieval and early post medieval sherds, sandstone, limestone and early brick structural debris.

N.P. Spry

ENGLISH BICKNOR, *The Castle*, SO 581156. A watching brief was undertaken for DOE on road improvements to the south and east of English Bicknor Castle in November 1978 which cut 3m into the Castle mound. A section was recorded.

P. Ellis, CRAAGS

FROCESTER, *Frocester Court Roman Villa*, SO 785029. Excavation continued in 1979 to the west of the courtyard wall towards the north boundary ditches. Further complex evidence of prehistoric and Roman homestead occupation, bounded on the west by multi-period ditches, was uncovered. Medieval plough and an area of 4th-century garden cultivation had removed most of the stratification, but a 4-post structure of two phases and a timber shed of the Roman period were tentatively identified. Seven infant burials and a 1st-century adult male crouched burial were recorded.

E.G. Price

GLOUCESTER, *St Mary de Lode Church*, SO 829189. A second season of excavations established the plan of the Norman nave, with 13th-century and later alterations and floors. Below was a church dating to c. A.D. 950 or before, and there was an earlier structure, c. A.D. 800, which was built when the ruins of a Roman building were still standing. The churches preserved the alignment of this Roman building, which was a rich man's house with mosaic floors, and painted wall plaster of exceptional quality. There were burials associated with all phases of the church, and these will enable radio-carbon dates to be taken. The first church structure is the earliest so far excavated in Gloucester and it may provide the only evidence in the town for a connection between Roman and medieval institutions.

R. Bryant

The following observations have been made by the Gloucester City Excavation Unit's Field Officer of developments in and around Gloucester.

Barbican Way and junction with the Quay, SO 82741869. Observations in a gas main trench, 1.8m deep showed successive 16th/17th century metallised surfaces of the

Gloucester Quay beneath the east carriageway of the modern Quay. A polyangular wall foundation, within Barbican Way, is identified with the original Clerk of Works office for the 19th-century County Gaol.

10 Lower Quay Street, SO 82791878. A trial trench was machined across the site to bisect an alignment projected for the Roman *colonia* Quay Wall (1). The robbed-out line of the quay retaining wall was found, being bounded to the east by made-up ground of the 2nd to 3rd century Roman waterfront. It was not possible to examine the deeper stone block platform, (2). Post-Roman deposits of estuarine silts within the lower harbour area, west of the wall alignment, were overlain by land levels of 11th-century date. The wall was robbed out in the first quarter of the 12th century. Medieval and post-medieval houses fronting Lower Quay Street, alias Walkers Lane, were recorded.

(1) H. Hurst, *Antiq. J.* LIV (1974), pp.42 and 46.

(2) Recorded by A.P. Garrod in 1973 in the Corporation Westgate Street Flats development.

Berkeley Street, SO 82991866. Observations made in two service repair trenches showed Roman levels sealed beneath successive medieval and post-medieval street metallings. The lowest street levels are associated with late-10th to mid-11th century pottery, also a late Saxon decorated leather scramasax sheath.

British Rail bridge land, adjacent to the St Catherine Street-Deans Way junction. SO83161905. In a service trench at least 2m below the east side pavement and carriageway of St Catherine Street, alias Watryngstret, successive stone wall footings, 13th-century to post-medieval, were recorded fronting on to a sunken street alignment.

St Catherine Street, near junction of Skinner Street. SO 83191901. The silted up course of the River Twyver was recorded beneath the north side of the carriageway at a depth of 1.6m.

Mecanoids Ltd., St Catherine Street, SO 83251907. Three trial holes revealed four successive fine metalled surfaces overlying natural at a depth of 1.1m. Further north one side of a large silted up ditch feature, containing late 1st and 2nd century pottery, exceeded a recorded depth of 3m.

Gloucester College of Art, Brunswick Road, SO 83261830. Remains of two, possibly three, inhumation burials and a scatter of 2nd/4th century potsherds, were noted on the spoil heap, from a length of a back-filled service trench near the north west corner of the building.

British Rail Bridge, Hare Lane, SO 83341898. During consolidation of the bridge piers a robbed stone wall footing was recorded at a depth of 1m. A destruction level above the puddled clay floor was sealed by a rough stony surface containing reused Roman debris.

34 Kingsholm Road, SO 83451920. A small trench in the rear garden was dug to natural at 1m. Finds included a small group of mid-1st century pottery and a Colchester IV M-L type brooch. Other pottery and 4 coins are attributed to either the 2nd or 4th century. Medieval sherds include late-11th and 13th-century fabrics.

The Prince Albert Site Development, Station Road, SO 83501842. Situated 160m beyond the east *colonia* defences, part of an oolitic stone block foundation c. 64 cm wide, was traced 14m across the site in an easterly direction. Bounded either side by an open metalled area of crushed oolite rubble, successive metallings above contained 3rd/4th century potsherds. The 17th/18th century open course of the River Twyver was recorded beneath its 19th-century brick culvert, parallel with Station Road, alias Mill Lane.

Builders' Yard, 46-48 Denmark Road, SO 83551935. A shallow inhumation burial laid in a prone position with the head to the west was uncovered in a builders' excavation 1.2m deep.

Whaddon, SO 83361407. Mechanical levelling of a field next to Whaddon Green revealed a pit feature containing 14th-century pottery and food bones.

A.P. Garrod, Gloucester City Excavation Unit

HAWKESBURY (Avon), ST 803902. The field with a crop mark of a single corridor Roman villa (?) was walked after ploughing. Large quantities of tile and a little pottery were found.

R. Iles

Hillesley ringwork, ST 767896. Salvage excavation of this ringwork showed that the original defensive enclosure was associated with Saxo-Norman pottery. In the 12/14th century the rampart was rebuilt with a revetting wall and a very deep external ditch was dug. In the later medieval period the site was used for farm and domestic buildings.

B. Williams and R. Iles

Lovetts Wood Farm, ST 766886. Settlement remains, moat and pillow mounds have been recorded.

R. Iles

HAZLETON, *Long Cairn, SP 073189.* The first season of excavation on behalf of the DOE at the plough-threatened Hazleton North long cairn concentrated on establishing the nature and extent of the monument. This can now be shown to be a blind entrance type of Cotswold-Severn tomb with a pair of opposed lateral chambers. The blind entrance, which is apparently non-orthostatic, is marked by a shallow concavity in the terminal dry-stone walling. The cairn, of trapezoidal shape, survives to a length of 51m, with an approximate maximum width of 18m. Unusually for this tomb type, the broad end of the cairn, which is oriented approximately W-E, is situated at the west end.

A. Saville, CRAAGS

HORTON (Avon), *Horton Court, ST 765850.* A survey of the area around the Court recorded house platforms, numerous hollowways, deer-park pale, garden remains, four fishponds, six pillowmounds and strip lynchets.

R. Iles and D. Thackray

LONGFORD, *Queens Dyke, SO 83002050.* Observations of the construction of the Gloucester Northern Bypass by GADARG revealed extensive Romano-British occupation. A cutting on the east of Sandhurst Lane showed building remains at a depth of .7m below flood deposited clay. At this point natural sand occurs at 1.2m. Into this sand a nearly complete B.B. vessel intruded. Pottery finds suggest a 2nd to 4th century date range.

N.P. Spry

NEWLAND, *High Meadow Farm, SO 562102.* Earthwork remains of a probable medieval deserted settlement were noted during a watching brief on an adjacent water pipeline.

P. Ellis, CRAAGS

OLDBURY, (Avon), *Oldbury Camp, ST 612928.* A small rescue excavation produced the first finds from the site. The pottery found is probably prehistoric and sections of the inner

bank and ditch were drawn. In 1979 the ditch between the ramparts produced a large quantity of medieval pottery and more grey-black sherds of uncertain date, but possibly Iron Age.

R.J. Howell and R. Iles

ST 601934. An extensive scatter of large and unabraded Romano-British pottery has been found along the high water mark of the Severn bank.

M. Green and T.W. Solley

OLDLAND (Avon), *Ventura Farm*, ST 65517145. A late Neolithic/Bronze Age arrowhead and scraper/knife were found on a building site. The remains of an early-18th-century clay pipe kiln were found during road construction.

P. Ellis

Barr's Court, ST 658720. Excavation has continued on the 18th-century farmhouse and the surrounding area to the north east of the moat. A survey of surviving buildings and parchmarks inside the moat was also carried out.

J. Russell and M. Ashley

OLVESTON (Avon), *Stroud Common*, ST 624877. An oval enclosure measures c. 100m x 60m with a steep slope on the south side; the bank is generally 0.5 - 1m high.

T.W. Solley

Stroud Common, ST 62608830. A probable round barrow was located and a flint scatter nearby.

V. Hallett

ST 62338726. A scatter of medieval pottery and limestone rubble in a ploughed field probably indicates a small medieval settlement.

V. Hallett

OXENHALL, SO 712266. A polished stone axe was found in a ploughed field south of the parish church.

D. Bick

ST BRIAVELS, *Offa's Dyke*, SO 543039. During a watching brief undertaken for the DOE at Birchfield Cottage a section was drawn part-way across the bank of Offa's Dyke which was a maximum 0.8m high.

P. Ellis, CRAAGS

STOKE GIFFORD (Avon), *Stoke Gifford Roman site*, ST 616800. Excavation of the Romano-British settlement discovered in 1977 continued in 1978 and 1979. The principal discovery was a circular stone structure, subsequently cut by a ditch and two burials. Occupation appears to have been mainly confined to the period c. A.D. 250-350, subject to reassessment. Work continues in recording features during final destruction of the site for a housing estate.

A.J. Parker, University of Bristol

ST 62187910. The shrunken settlement remains at the north end of Harry Stoke were recorded.

J. Hunt

TEWKESBURY, *Paget's Lane, Mythe*. A number of Romano-British and post-medieval sherds were found in a bank on the north side of the lane.

E. Linnell

TIDENHAM, *Boughspring*, ST 559974. The site, which lies within one mile of the Romano-British settlement at Stroat, has extensive views over the Severn. Clearance of undergrowth revealed long narrow mounds which after limited trial digging produced the foundation walls of a winged *villa* with front corridor. Hypocaust pillars of local stone carried the remains of bridging flags on which lay parts of a 70mm thick opus signinum floor. Quarter-round moulding joined floor to wall in a 5.5m square room. The walls showed evidence of warm air flues and coloured plaster in green, white, brown and yellow was recovered. Stone roofing tiles, nails and pottery were scattered about.

T.E. Wilcox

Bishton Farm, ST 545953. A water pipeline was laid across the earthworks of a deserted medieval village at Bishton farm in November 1978. Medieval and post-medieval pottery dating from the 12th to 17th century was recovered. A plan of the D.M.V. was made.

P. Ellis, CRAAGS

THORNBURY (Avon), ST 631905. Two adjacent flint scatters.

C. Burgess

Yew Tree Farm, ST 61989092. The earthworks of a previously unknown mill site have been recorded. They have now been infilled.

R. Iles

TORMARTON (Avon), ST 790789. There are several ring ditches visible on 1946 air photographs in a field now covered by the M4 motorway.

R. Iles

TYTHERINGTON (Avon), *Stidcot Farm*, ST 68338863. A neolithic macehead was found close to the farm and retained by the farmer.

R.J. Howell

Stidcot, ST 681885. Roman pottery and a number of quern stones have been found.

R.J. Howell

ST 68508912. Several flints, including a bronze age arrowhead found.

R.J. Howell

ULEY, *West Hill*. Completion of a 3rd season's excavation revealed sequences of structures belonging to all the major phases of this religious complex, functioning between the 1st and at least the 5th centuries A.D. Further portions of the final pre-Roman Iron Age enclosure ditch were also associated with ritual structures and deposits continuing until the 2nd century. A 4th-century stone building ancillary to the temple was succeeded by a well-preserved structure of the 5th century or later. Prolific deposits of a religious or votive character were found in their vicinity. Beneath another stone building, which directly replaced the 4th century Romano-Celtic temple, had been deposited the finely sculpted, limestone head of Mercury, the temple's principal deity.

P.J. Leach, CRAAGS

UPTON ST LEONARDS, *Portway R.B. site*, SO 859151. Building operations have extended into Great Awe field and revealed the remains of ditches at right angles to each other and in alignment to the existing plan. Excavation has shown that these extend the area of the known site by about one fifth. A small enclosure 3m by 5m and a heavily burnt stone scatter were found.

B. Rawes

WICKWAR (Avon), ST 701878. A scatter of Romano-British pottery found south of Endland's Farm.

R.J. Howell

WINTERBOURNE (Avon), ST 657812. A silver denarius of Caracalla (AD 205) was found in 1956.

A. Parker

WHITTINGTON, *Waltham Field*, SP 00802093. A well-built mortared wall running southeast for some 5m, the last 2.5m having been robbed to the first course, was found in a trial trench. This wall continued south east for at least another 8 to 10 m. The building had a concrete floor 8-10cm thick. Red, green and white plaster with some tesserae suggest an establishment of some comfort. There were many roof tiles and hexagonal stone slates. The pottery ranges from late 1st century AD to late 4th century. (See *Glevensis* 13(1979), 47-50).

W.L. Cox

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE, *Thatched Cottage, Wortley*, ST 767915. A hole dug in a field adjoining the cottage for a fence post revealed numerous pieces of Roman mosaic tesserae. The hole has been much enlarged and deepened and large pieces of mosaic floor, painted wall plaster, flue tiles, pottery and metal work have been found. There are also reports of surface finds of the same period in nearby fields. Traces of a floor and walls have also been uncovered.

A. Kellock

YATE (Avon), ST 71208640. Roman pottery and other finds were picked up on a slight platform to the north of Yate Court.

S. Williams

NORTHAVON DISTRICT, *Frampton Cotterell and Littleton-upon-Severn*. Two houses in Littleton, Central Farm and Rock Farm, have probable 15th-century origins. Notes in Bristol Museum.

L. Hall