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DAVID VINER and DOUGLAS WHITTET

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Edited by Bernard Rawes

The information contained in this review is 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 grid reference.

ASHLEWORTH, *Ashleworth Quay*, SO 819251. A small quantity of early Roman pottery was recovered by Mrs S. Laville from river dredgings deposited near Ashleworth Quay. The sherds are large and relatively unabraded and are thus probably derived from the river bank rather than from the river bed. The material dates to the second half of the 1st century AD, and has been donated to Gloucester City Museum, accn. no. G.27/1984.
J.R. Timby, Gloucester City Excavation Unit

BATSFORD, *Dorn*, SP 205340. Ninety-five Roman coins collected by Mr S. Righton have been examined by Dr R. Reece and records deposited with Corinium Museum.
E.G. Price

BISLEY WITH LYPIATT, SO 901071. Part of a Hallstatt or La Tène knobbed-type bracelet was found in an arable field. The find has been deposited in Stroud District Museum.
E.G. Price

CHARLTON KINGS, *Vineyards Farm*, SO 973186. Further excavation of the Roman building has revealed three rooms, set on a terrace and dug into the hill-slope, with a rear wall 18.1 m long. All rooms had coloured wall plaster; in the centre room part of a triangular design showing a crude leaf pattern was found. Vestiges of floors made of a hard mortar survive. Two rooms had fireplaces, one in good condition. The walls in the south-east corner where they were set into the hillside survived to a height of 2.9 m. The site has been back-filled to ensure preservation.

Bernard Rawes

CHEDWORTH, *Chedworth Roman Villa*, SP 052134. Excavation continued on the *triclinium* (Room 5) as part of conservation work. Three phases of channelled hypocaust are now known, one fuelled from the south, one from the west, and a system extending to the present Room 5b. West of this room, Victorian destruction was considerable, but traces of earlier building and details of terracing for insertion of the west range were obtained. The line of one west boundary wall linked to that on the south was traced.

R. Goodburn

CHELTENHAM, *Clarence Street*, SO 944225. In July 1984 a collection of medieval earthenware lead-glazed floor tiles was found in building rubble in a basement. All the tiles were damaged and mostly fragmentary. Nearly all the decorated tiles had designs known from Hailes Abbey from the 13th to 15th centuries and most showed signs of having once been used in a pavement. They may have been part of an antiquarian collection. See *Glevensis* 18(1984)45. The tiles have been donated to Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum, accn. nos. 1984: 301–455.

Anne Kellock

CHURCHDOWN, *Chosen Hill*, SO 879190. A strap-junction of La Tène form was discovered by Mr R. Poole in a land-slip of the rampart of the iron age settlement. It is of simple form and has no precise parallels. The earliest dated context for these is at Danebury, Hants. (c. 100 BC) and they are assumed to extend to the Conquest period. Accn. no. 14/1984.

Malcolm J. Watkins, Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery

CIRENCESTER, *Jefferies Nursery Site*, SP 025016. Observation by the Cirencester Excavation Committee of three trenches dug for a structural engineer's report on unscheduled land adjacent to the scheduled area, revealed archaeological deposits to a depth of approximately 4.3 m. The section showed a well-stratified undisturbed sequence, indicative of the internal area of a building with a hypocaust and *opus signinum* flooring.

Stephen Clews, Corinium Museum

COWLEY, *Birdlip Bypass*, SO 91 (NW & SW). The field survey of the proposed Birdlip Bypass route, reported in last year's *Review*, was completed in February 1984. A full report has now been issued by W.A.T., and the survey archive and finds have been deposited in Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum. In October 1984 a geophysical survey of especially sensitive areas of the bypass route was undertaken by staff of the Ancient Monuments Laboratory of English Heritage (HBMC).

T.C. Darvill, (for Western Archaeological Trust)

DRIFFIELD, *Harnbill Estate Villa*, SP 082005. After heavy ploughing the following material has been noted in the topsoil: tile, tesserae, limestone blocks, pottery sherds, and several late 3rd- and 4th-century coins. The tesserae were made from red tile, hard chalk, oolitic limestone, blue lias, and brown sandstone; ranging from 8 to 30 mm square. The site has so far yielded 16 TCM tile-stamps.

A trial excavation in 1982, approximately 4.5 × 2 m, revealed parts of 2 rooms; one with the lower pilae of a hypocaust, the other with a concrete floor. Fragments of painted wall-plaster were recovered. The excavation was in the northern part of an enclosure of approximately 0.4 ha (1 acre) with an entrance to the east, discerned from cropmarks. Report with plans in *Glevensis* 19 (1985) 31–35.

Roger Phillips

EASTCOMBE, *Middle Hill Farm*, SO 896037. During topsoil removal prior to dumping of quarry debris, occupation sites were located on the south-east facing slope of an area at the head of a dry valley. The finds, including 2nd- to 3rd-century coarse pottery, are to be presented to Stroud District Museum.

E.G. Price and L.F.J. Walrond, Stroud District Museum

EBRINGTON, *c.* SP 18334031. An inscribed Dobunnic gold stater (Allen type 25, Mack type 395) of BODVOC was discovered during earth removal for a driveway at 42 Tithe Barn Cottage, Ebrington. See note in *Glevensis* 16(1982)16. Acquired for Corinium Museum (accn. no. 1982/135) with grant-aid from the Victoria & Albert Museum Purchase Grant Fund.

David Viner, Corinium Museum

FROCESTER, *The Buckles*, SO 795024. Excavations continued to the south of the 1983 trench. Hillwash, up to 2 m thick in places, sealed an old land surface, probably of early prehistoric date. The terminal of an oval pit, provisionally interpreted as a cooking pit, an associated spread of charcoal, and a scatter of daub were investigated. Continuing.

T.C. Darvill

Frocester Court, SO 782024. A small area of occupation with black soil and pottery of the 3rd century was located in an arable field approximately 600 m south-west of the villa site.

A.J. Price

Frocester Court Roman Villa, SO 785029. Excavations were restarted in the south-east quarter of the early settlement, uncovering extensions to known ditch boundaries, gullies, and fence lines. A 1st-century wattle-lined well, 3.9 m deep, was sealed by the gravel floor of a 15 × 10 m aisled building of post construction, the excavation of which is not yet complete. Six furnaces were later cut into the floor. Away from the area of medieval plough headland, damaged stone footings of the south-west wall of the 4th-century villa's courtyard survived as far as the south corner. A robbed foundation extended at right angles for 18 m along the south-east front. Built over the line of an earlier palisade trench the wall had either collapsed or been demolished in the late Roman period.

Notable finds included iron age-type loomweights, wickerwork in the well, 2 coins of Claudius, 2 iron oxgoads, and bronze and iron fittings probably from part of a wooden box.

E.G. Price

GLOUCESTER, *Llanthony Priory*, SO 82351815. An excavation, presumably just outside the precinct wall, revealed intensive recent dumping to a depth of at least 2.3 m below modern ground-level. A steep shelving of the natural from east to west was detected which suggests that the dumping was to level up the site. Drawings of the elevations of the bottom 2 m of the west wall of the priory barn and the southern boundary wall of the site were made.

V. Yuill and R. Isserlin, Western Archaeological Trust

28–32 Commercial Road. A second trench, to the east of the one opened in 1983, revealed in the earliest deposits the remains of a substantial building with a roughly-paved open area between its south wall and the city wall. This building continued to be used after AD 375, possibly for metal working. A midden accumulated on the earlier paved surface. Pottery from this midden suggests that occupation in the area continued into the 6th century. At some unknown time the building collapsed or was demolished. Among the debris were over 200 fragments of ceramic tile bearing the stamp RPG. In the mid-11th century the area was levelled for the construction of the Norman castle. Portions of the bailey surface survived in some areas. The main castle ditch running south-west to north-east across the site was sectioned, but could not be fully cleared because of its depth. Occupation of the castle was short-lived, and the area was open ground in the 12th century, and later became a garden and an orchard. About 1800 the motte was demolished, leaving a spread of grey clay over the entire site. In 1850 a group of industrial buildings was erected on the site.

T.C. Darvill, (for Western Archaeological Trust)

Blackfriars. A watching brief was carried out to supervise the stripping-out of 13–17 Ladybellegate Street and the landscaping of the cloister area. Minor excavations were also undertaken to assess the survival of medieval walls and stratigraphy. The east wall of 17 Ladybellegate St. and the north wall of 13 Ladybellegate St. were already known to be medieval. The majority of the west wall of the medieval range survives below the present ground level and the dividing wall between 13 and 15 Ladybellegate St. also appears to be medieval. This is probably the north wall of the refectory, which would thus be 18.6 m (61 ft) in length. There were signs of a porch to the west at the north end of the refectory. The remainder of the external walls and the east-west dividing walls are probably immediately post-Dissolution in date. The west wall of the building was faced with stone in the early 19th century. The internal divisions within the separate houses are also mainly 19th-century in date and reflect a major rebuilding of the properties. No medieval floor surfaces were found in excavations within the cellars of 13 and 15 Ladybellegate St. and they were probably destroyed by the formation of cellars in the 19th century. All the buildings that were cleared from the cloister area appear to have been built in the 19th century although several fragments of a medieval doorway arch were reused in the foundations of one.

C.J. Guy

Gloucester Cathedral Infirmary. Four small trenches (1.5 m sq.) were excavated on the line of the north arcade. An area of rough rubble foundation, probably medieval, was uncovered in one of the holes but there were no traces of further pillars. A wall, probably 18th-century in date, ran approximately east-west at an angle to the infirmary remains. To the south of

this there was a cobbled surface of similar date. A fifth trench was dug to the south of the standing remains. The main feature found was a drain, aligned north-south and post-Dissolution in date. A large amount of stone was also found, the majority of it coursed rubble. The highest part of the stonework may have been the north side of the south wall of the infirmary.

C.J. Guy

Gloucester Cathedral. Outside 7 College Green a medieval wall was recorded which may have been part of the abbey barn. Unstratified Roman, medieval, and post-medieval pottery was recovered (Gloucester City Museum accn. no. 7/84). The 13th-century reservoir in the cloister has been partly re-excavated, showing that its stone flooring is still intact. In the Cathedral the foundation of the step up to the screen built in 1741 has been recorded. In Little Cloister House, one of the 13th-century vaults was partly rebuilt: the rubble fill of the vault yielded Roman and 13th-century pottery and a crucible with two double lugs (accn. no. 25/84). During alterations at 4 Millers' Green a 13th-century double window or hatchway was found, no doubt connected with the monastic kitchen or buttery, and two culverts have been exposed: the known main culvert outside the house and another, smaller culvert under the floor. The medieval half-timbered hall which is still visible in No. 4 had a medieval staircase behind it, and the original door to this staircase has been exposed. Incorporated into the staircase is a much earlier wall, on a curious alignment which may preserve an early Norman or even pre-Norman monastic alignment.

Carolyn Heighway, Consultant Archaeologist to Gloucester Cathedral

The following summaries are of sites in Gloucester recorded by Anthony P. Garrod, Senior Excavations Officer, Gloucester City Museum Excavation Unit:

St Nicholas House, 100 Westgate Street, SO 82921876. A D.O.E. excavation brief was undertaken around a Roman column base, exposed by builders while reducing the existing undercroft brick floor level by 0.3 m when major renovation of the house was in progress. The house is a Grade 1 listed 16th-century timber building with five bays surviving to the rear (building 2), the front part being an early Georgian rebuilding (building 3). Building 2 is documented as a town mansion with a gate house approach in Ratton Row.

A possible Roman stony ground-surface beneath a trodden silt loam layer was recorded at OD 9.8 m. No hard evidence for siting a major public building was obtained. Above this surface was a darkish loam layer with some organic content, including food bones but no pottery. This was cut by a later undated pit feature and truncated by the undercroft levels of building 1. Successive clay floor levels with an internal stone sill/partition, bounded to the north by a robber trench 0.65 m wide, with lower off-set stone footing 1 m wide, are interpreted as part of an undercroft/cellar for a substantial medieval building, pre-dating building 2. Pottery is dated provisionally to the 14th to 15th century.

In the construction of building 3 a Roman limestone column base 1.01 m in dia. and a lias stone slab footing, had been inserted into the undercroft floor of building 2 and had been positioned as a foundation for a support beneath one end of a main ground floor beam, where it butted onto a crossbeam of building 2.

An earlier observation note, siting the possible location of a major Roman public building, is superseded by the above interpretation. Site 20/1983.

31 Parliament Street, SO 83131822. Observations made in a sewer trench, 3.2 m deep, cutting the south carriageway of Parliament Street (alias Green Dragon Lane), revealed a post-medieval backfill on the south side of the medieval city ditch to a depth of 3.3 m. A similar trench cut opposite No. 21 revealed light sand/silt at a depth of 4.3 m assumed to be natural below the medieval/Roman defences ditch (observed by Ian Stewart). Site 3/1984.

136 London Road, SO 843189. In land-drainage trenches 1.3 m deep, extending part of the length of the rear garden, a layer of clayey loam, with occasional residual 2nd-century sherds, overlay natural. No features were found associated with either the Wotton Roman cemetery or the adjacent medieval St Mary Magdalene Hospital. A green sandstone mere-stone inscribed with the letters H.E. on one face and J.P.H. on the other was found reused as a garden ornament. Site 4/1984.

The Clutch Clinic Workshop, 6 Commercial Road, SO 82981840. In a builders' trench extending the length of the east side exit, at 1.7 m deep, part of a metallised surface flanking the Roman southern defences was recorded beneath successive loam deposits, assumed to be the tail of the late Roman rampart. The site originally lay within the bounds of Blackfriars. The remains of a 6 m-long medieval building with a pink estuarine clay floor were bounded either end by robbed wall-footings. A white lias stone mould for casting small thimble-like objects with a crude human face with a short beard in relief was recovered in loam levels above the building. Site 5/1984.

Parks Department Nursery Site, Tewkesbury Road, SO 836203. During part development of the site a flint blade, two coins of Constantine, a small Roman pit, a 15th-century clipped penny, and a late medieval belt buckle were found. Site 6/1984.

Parliament Street, SO 830183. Observations in a Telecom shaft and tunnel dug beneath Southgate Street from the Parliament Street junction revealed a metallised street-surface consisting of small graded oolite stone and bunter pebbles embedded in crushed oolite at 1.2 m below pavement level. It was immediately beyond the *colonia* defences and the Southgate. Site 8/1984.

GLOUCESTER/LONGFORD, Gambier Parry Lodge Development, SO 836198. A second year of salvage observations has been maintained, during the continued construction of this 11-acre housing estate. A Roman burial ground has been traced over an area exceeding 325 m × 35 m. Approximately 200 disturbed burials have been plotted from an estimated 2000 interments. Cremation urns and grave-good vessels were recovered, ranging from 1st-century face-urns to 4th-century cavetto-rimmed black-burnished jars. The latest deposited coins are of Constantius II AD 337–346.

The remains of two wooden coffins have been salvaged. These were made with single oak plank sides, supported top and bottom by cross-spars and nailed into dovetail slots cut into the side planks. There was no evidence of either top or bottom planks; the skeletons in the coffins lay on four staves, laid length-wise. In a number of places repeated interments

were cut into one burial position. These may indicate burials within family plots. With the exception of the tombstone of L VALERIUS AURELIUS VET LEG XX, found in 1983, no evidence of burial markers has been found to date.

Part of a ditch 2 m wide has been located 25 m to the south and roughly parallel to the burial ground alignment at a point closest to Kingsholm. The feature contained a group of early 1st-century Roman native and Severn Valley variant wares.

Individual mid-1st-century pits extend into the site from the Tewkesbury Road frontage. This gravel-working extends across the remaining two-thirds of the development area and is mainly 1st century. The Roman burial ground was subsequently extended across part of this back-filled gravel-working area.

A length of stone and pebble metalled track 2.5 m wide, including ruts of a wheel base approximately 1.2 m wide, was found beneath a recently-demolished 19th-century farmhouse, 'The Chestnut', located 70 m to the south and on the burial ground alignment. The track is dated 2nd to 4th century, though this is not conclusive as it was sealed only by 18th-century ploughsoil.

The coins found are appraised thus: Celtic 6%, Republican 1%, Claudian 7%, Claudian copies 24%, Nero 1%, Flavian 3%, 2nd-century coins 1%, and barbarous radiates to Gratian (AD 367–83) 54%. Site 9/1983.

A.P. Garrod, Gloucester City Excavation Unit.

Coppice Corner, SO 836198. An excavation was undertaken by a Manpower Services Commission team sponsored by the Crickley Hill Archaeological Trust in order to expand the results of salvage operations (Site 9/1983 above), where the presence of a building associated with the Roman cemetery had been indicated. Some 300 sq. m were opened. Of this, about 40% had been destroyed by recent gravel-extraction. The Roman features comprise a shallow ditch in the south, a number of burials in the north and east, and a possible building. Fifty-two burials have so far been uncovered. Grave goods were almost entirely absent, but the finds generally indicate a date range of mid-1st to late-3rd century AD.

Veronica Yuill

QUITTING POWER, *Stone Pipe Co. site at Tally Ho*, SP 09252355. Excavations on a building set up for the manufacture of stone pipes in the last century revealed an ashlar wall 0.61 m (2 ft) wide, extending at least 80 m. Underground drainage tunnels of unknown extent and the site of the engine were found. However, the massive foundations so far revealed do not conform to the original plans.

D.E. Bick

LITTLEDEAN, *Dean Hall Archaeological Site*, SO 674131. Over the years, the area around Dean Hall has provided evidence of a possible Roman site in the form of tiles, tesserae, pottery, and iron-smithing clinker. There was evidence within the structure of the Hall itself to suggest that it might be built over a Roman building. Aerial photography has shown that the whole of the area between the Hall and Littledean Camp earthwork is worthy of investigation, but the decision was made for a trial excavation close to the drive of the Hall.

This excavation revealed a substantial stone building approximately 25 x 35 m. Overall surface clearance of the area was carried out, showing that while solid stone foundations existed on the western side, considerable robbing-out had taken place on the eastern, upper slope side. The building has been tentatively identified as a multi-phase 2nd/3rd-century temple built over a central spring-head. An earlier timber structure may exist in the form of postholes in the base of the robber-trenches surrounding the 'cella' area. Postholes also appear in the central area which are interpreted as belonging to a possible post-Roman phase, though they may relate to a pool that was located in the 'cella', and which was drained by a stone channel.

Maurice Fitchett

NORTH CERNEY, *Ditches Hillfort*, SO 996095. Some 215 sq. m of the interior of the enclosure were explored by excavation. Trench E, immediately south of the 1983 excavation, revealed a large quarry pit apparently backfilled during the mid-1st century AD. Trenches F and G were placed so as to examine a newly-discovered villa-type building located within the northern half of the enclosure. The trenches were intended to ascertain the extent of plough damage to the structure and no archaeological deposits were excavated.

S.D. Trow, Institute of Archaeology, London

POOLE KEYNES, *Somerford Lakes Reserve*, SU 009948. A polished flint axe has been found as a casual find and remains in private hands. Details on file at the Corinium Museum (ID no. 32).

Stephen Clews, Corinium Museum.

QUENINGTON, SP 143045. A bronze core from a contemporary (iron age) forgery of a Dobunnic stater of *Corio* (Mack type 393) was found in a garden, and has been acquired by Corinium Museum, accn. no. 1985/1.

Stephen Clews, Corinium Museum

RUARDEAN, *Top Park field, Park Farm*, SO 62041792. Two flint arrow-heads, one late neolithic, the other early bronze age, and a spread of medieval pottery were found in a field to the north of the earthworks and ruins of the Manor.

Bryan Walters

RUSPIDGE, Soudley, *Camp Mill*, SO 665105. Excavations at the Dean Heritage Museum have revealed underneath the 19th-century dam the walls of a massive building, 9.14 m (30 ft) wide by at least 12.9 m (40 ft) long. This building was on the south side of the stream, nearer the medieval road than the present mill building, and documentary evidence suggests that it may be associated with the 'King's Forge', built by James I in 1612.

There seems to have been no activity on the site between the middle of the 17th century and the early 19th-century when Samuel Hewlett established a large foundry at Camp Mill, on the north side of the valley next to the new tramroad. The walls of the forge were

apparently still visible as they influenced the location of the stone-lined leat built along and across the valley from a dam upstream, bringing a head of water into the foundry in order to power machinery. The foundry complex seems to have included workers' cottages and a blacksmith's shop, the remains of which are still visible.

In 1876 the Camp Mill building was constructed, partly reusing Hewlett's foundry and partly obliterating it, and a dam was constructed at this point across the valley. Water was directed over two large waterwheels which were in deep wheel-pits. The buttress walls, at right angles to the dam, are anchored to the east walls of the 'King's Forge'.

Jude Callister, Dean Heritage Museum Trust

SWINDON, *Teleboist*, SO 931244. A bronze head of a male with discoidal head-dress was found by P. Hartley on the former playing fields of the Telehoist factory, Tewkesbury Road, prior to redevelopment. The head is a terminal with traces of an iron tang protruding from the stump of the neck. No exact parallel has been found, but British Museum staff suggested it was one of a series of Scandinavian and south-east English pins of the 6th/7th centuries. Other possible parallels are to be found in the Celtic iron age. Nothing else of antiquity was found on the site. The terminal at present is in Gloucester City Museum (L.422).

Malcolm J. Watkins, Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery

TEWKESBURY, *37/38 Barton Street*, SO 894327. A Roman coin was found on the site by a builder.

Bredon Road Gardens, SO 895333. A Roman brooch was found by a metal-detector user.

Baptist Chapel, Barton Street, SO 89353262. A record has been made of this chapel (built 1805) prior to demolition.

Edna Linnell

TIRLEY, *Cumberwood*, SO 84202975. A deserted settlement on a plateau west of Cumberwood Farm is visible as mounds in a field. A hollow-way runs through from east to west. There is much ridge-and-furrow in the surrounding area.

D.E. Bick

THORNBURY, Avon, *The Castle*, ST 633906. Correction to entry for 1983. The second line should read '. . . 100 mm below the present floor'.

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE, *Wortley Villa*, ST 765918. The University of Keele Adult Education Department completed the planning of an earlier excavation by others, and carried out a sub-surface survey and a limited excavation in preparation for long-term work beginning in 1985, when the site will be used for the University's annual training

excavation. The evidence is of robbing of the rubble foundations of the bath-house to provide stone for local medieval buildings, and the consequent destruction of the floor of the bath-house.

David Wilson, Adult Education Department, University of Keele

COTSWOLDS AREA. Field survey and surface collection by the Cotswold Archaeological Research Group has to date centred on the Windrush, Coln, Churn, and Isbourne Stream systems and their associated topographical areas (SP 01, 02, 03, 11, 12; SO 91, 92). Data and models of settlement derived from this sector of the northern Cotswolds are continuing to be amplified but the main emphasis of field-work will now shift to analogous areas further south around the Frome and its tributaries (SO 80, 90).

Alistair Marshall