

TRANSACTIONS
of the
ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A JOURNAL OF ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

Volume III (Third Series)

PART 1

COLCHESTER

Published by the Society at the Museum in the Castle, 1971

Price to Non-Members £2.50

CONTENTS

EXCAVATIONS IN COLCHESTER, 1964-68

By B. R. K. Dunnett, B.A.

with contributions by Philip Crummy, M.A. and Max Hebditch

INTRODUCTION	1
THE TELEPHONE EXCHANGE SITE	7
EAST STOCKWELL STREET	38
44 NORTH HILL	43
BALKERNE GARDENS	50
ST. PETER'S CLOSE	61
ST. MARY'S RECTORY	62
FIRS CAR PARK, DENMARK STREET	78
5 QUEEN STREET	85
THE VICTORIA INN, NORTH STATION ROAD	92
GOSBECKS THEATRE SITE - PRELIMINARY REPORT	95
SAINSBURY'S SITE, CULVER STREET	98
LOCKE'S SITE, QUEEN STREET/LONG WYRE STREET	103
APPENDIX A - Pre-Flavian Samian Stamps	105
APPENDIX B - Flavian/Trajanic Samian Stamps	105
- Trajanic Coins	106
- Late 1st century Coarse Pottery	106
INSULA 30. By Philip Crummy, M.A.	107
THE TEMPLE PRECINCT. By Max Hebditch	115

Contributors: Please note that the correct abbreviation for reference to these Transactions, as suggested by the Council for British Archaeology is, "Trans. Essex Arch. Socy."

Von III (THIRD SERIES) PART I UNDATED



Frontispiece KENNETH R. MABBITT, F.S.A., President 1968-70

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Frontispiece KENNETH R. MABBITT, F.S.A., President 1968-70

EXCAVATIONS IN COLCHESTER, 1964-68

Fig. 1	Pre-Flavian Colchester	1
Fig. 2	Trajanic Colchester	2
Fig. 3	Roman Colchester	2
Fig. 4	North Hill, c. A.D. 150	4
Fig. 5	Telephone Exchange Site, Phase 1	8
Fig. 6	Telephone Exchange Site, Phase 2	11
Fig. 7	Telephone Exchange Site, Phases 3-5	13
Fig. 8	Telephone Exchange Site, Coarse pottery	16
Fig. 9	Telephone Exchange Site, Coarse pottery	21
Fig. 10	Telephone Exchange Site, Small finds	26
Fig. 11	Telephone Exchange Site, Small finds	27
Fig. 12	Telephone Exchange Site, Dagger	29
Fig. 13	Telephone Exchange Site, Small finds	31
Fig. 14	Telephone Exchange Site, Small finds	34
Fig. 15	Telephone Exchange Site, Small finds	35
Fig. 16	East Stockwell Street, Site Plan	38
Fig. 17	East Stockwell Street, Coarse pottery	40
Fig. 18	44 North Hill, Site plan	43
Fig. 19	44 North Hill, Coarse pottery, with that from Queen Street	46
Fig. 20	Balkerne Gardens, Phases 1-3	51
Fig. 21	Balkerne Gardens, Phases 3-4	53
Fig. 22	Balkerne Gardens, Coarse pottery	56
Fig. 23	St. Mary's Rectory, Plan of <i>Insula</i> 25	62
Fig. 24	St. Mary's Rectory, Site plan	64
Fig. 25	St. Mary's Rectory, Small finds	70
Fig. 26	St. Mary's Rectory, Coarse pottery	72
Fig. 27	Denmark Street, St. Mary's Rectory, East Stockwell Street, Balkerne Gardens and North Hill, Small finds	79
Fig. 28	Firs Car Park, 44 North Hill, Queen Street and Balkerne Gardens, Small finds	80
Fig. 29	Firs Car park Site Plan	81
Fig. 30	Firs Car park, Coarse pottery	82
Fig. 31	Queen Street, Plan, Phases 1-2	85
Fig. 32	Queen Street, Plan, Phase 3	86
Fig. 33	Victoria Inn, Site Plan	92
Fig. 34	Key to Sections	93
Fig. 35	Telephone Exchange, Section A-B	97
Fig. 36	East Stockwell Street	99
Fig. 37	44 North Hill	99
Fig. 38	Balkerne Gardens	101
Fig. 39	St. Mary's Rectory	102
Fig. 40	St. Mary's Rectory, Defences	102
Fig. 41	Queen Street	103
Fig. 42	<i>Insula</i> 30	109
Plate I	Telephone Exchange site. General view of Phase 1 features	12
Plate II	Telephone Exchange site, Phase 3. Internal partition walls built of unfired clay	13
Plate III	Section of late first century ditch at 44 North Hill	84
Plate IV	Queen Street site. Walls D and B	85

**EXCAVATIONS ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE
TEMPLE PRECINCT AT COLCHESTER, 1964**

Fig. 1	Plan of South-West area of the Temple Precinct	..	..	..	..	115
Fig. 2	Plan, Periods 1 and 2	..	..	..	..	116
Fig. 3	Plan, Later Periods	..	..	..	..	119
Fig. 4	Section, showing structural sequences	..	..	..	..	123
Fig. 5	The Pottery finds	..	..	..	..	127
Plate I	Arcade Piers on Foundation Platform	..	..	..	.. <i>facing</i>	115
Plate IIa	Arcade Piers, showing Limestone Facing	..	..	..	.. <i>facing</i>	120
Plate IIb	The Silted-up Drain	..	..	..	.. <i>facing</i>	120
Plate IIIa	Foundation Platform of South Arcade	..	..	..	.. <i>facing</i>	121
Plate IIIb	Period 4, Stone-lined Drain	..	..	..	.. <i>facing</i>	121

EXCAVATIONS IN COLCHESTER, 1964-8

by B. R. K. Dunnell, B.A.

INTRODUCTION

The large amount of re-development that has taken place in Colchester over the last five years has provided a greater opportunity for archaeological excavation in the town than ever before. The excavations recorded in this volume comprise the greater part of a programme of rescue excavation carried out in Colchester between November 1964 and December 1968.

Before the results of this work can be properly appreciated, however, it is essential that the conditions under which they were carried out be understood. All the sites were governed by the exigencies common to rescue excavations in modern towns. The excavations had to be completed within a time limit imposed by the developers, and it was often necessary to excavate a large or complex building in only a few weeks, not infrequently during the winter months when suitable volunteer labour was not available. The bulk of the work was therefore undertaken by paid labour, with help from local volunteers only at weekends. Finally the excavated areas have always been subject to restrictions, in many cases drastic, imposed by the contractors and architects on the location and depth of the trenches. This is not to say that the Colchester developers have been un-cooperative; on the contrary, the Colchester Excavation Committee is much indebted to the developers of all the sites excavated for their patience and help.

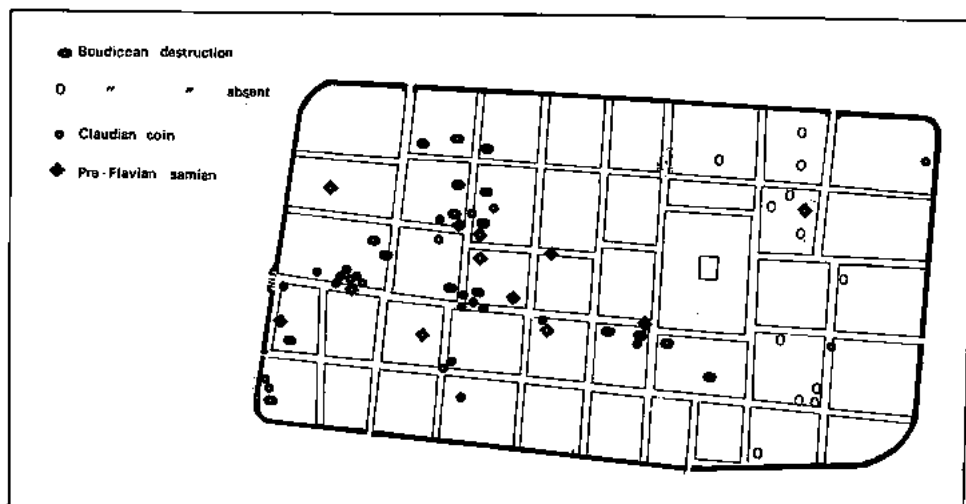


Fig. 1 Pre-Flavian Colchester.

The publication of these reports should not be taken to mark the end of the Committee's present programme, or as a sign that the rate of re-development in the town, and with it the rate of archaeological excavation, is slowing down.

Over the next ten years large areas within and around the Roman and Medieval town are scheduled for re-development in accordance with the new Town Plan. Approximately a quarter of the area within the town walls, together with extensive sites in their vicinity will be subject to large scale re-building and much rescue excavation will be imperative before the archaeological levels are totally destroyed. This excavation will possibly drastically revise many conclusions arrived at as a result of the work of the last five years, but it is nevertheless worthwhile to set out here such tentative conclusions as the recent excavations described in this volume seem to indicate.

(1)

The earliest Roman occupation

The probable existence of an early Roman fort at Colchester, possibly the fortress of *LEGIO XX*, has been recognised for many years,¹ though its precise location has remained unknown. The recent discovery of Claudian

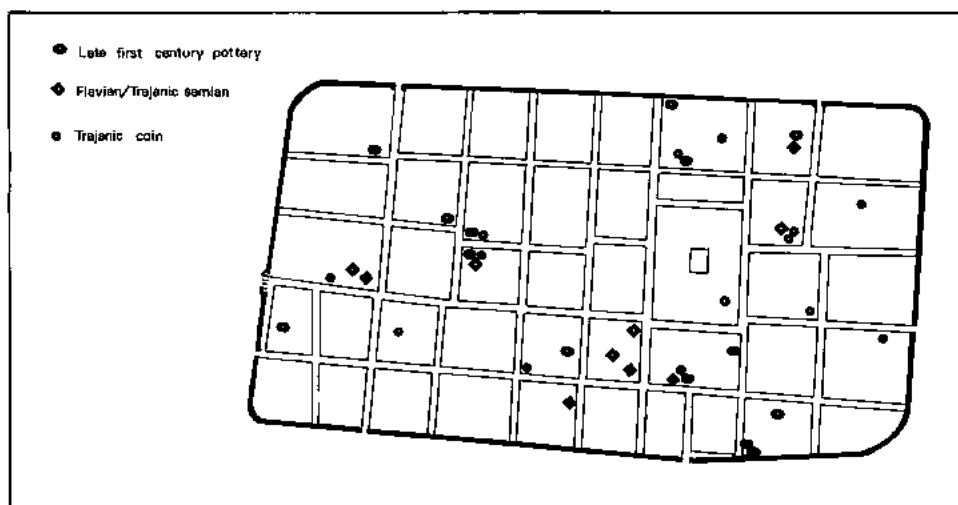


Fig. 2 Trajanic Colchester.

occupation on the North Hill area, (*Insulae* 10, 11 and 25 see pp. 7, 8, 24) pre-dating the buildings of the earliest *colonia* and associated with items of military equipment, strongly suggests the existence of some sort of military establishment on the North Hill area prior to A.D. 49. Until further remains are forthcoming, particularly evidence of defences, this cannot be held to be proved, but recent discoveries seem to point to military occupation on North Hill, and it may be borne in mind that both the other first century *coloniae* in Britain occupy the site of the preceding fortress. It would not, therefore, be surprising if the same sequence were found to have existed at Colchester.² Furthermore, North Hill provides an obvious position for an early fort. Not only is it the most prominent hill in the area, but it both overlooks the native site at Sheepen and commands the fords in the Colne at Middle Mill and Sheepen (see Fig. 3).

(2)

The pre-Boudiccan colonia

The distribution of Claudian coins, pre-Flavian samian and burnt buildings that can be confidently ascribed to A.D. 61 shows a marked concentration in the western part of the later town (Fig. 12, Appendix A). It appears, therefore, that the pre-Flavian town was roughly only half the size of the later *Colonia* as delimited by the town walls, and that the temple of Claudius with its associated buildings was situated on the outskirts of the built-up areas.³ The excavations at St. Mary's Rectory, however, show that at this point anyway the pre-Boudiccan buildings underlay the later town wall. It is not known how far west of the wall the pre-Flavian town extended here; no structures of this date have yet been recognised west of the town ditch.

Recent excavations have emphasised the relatively high standard of living in Roman Colchester, particularly in pre-Flavian times. No complete building plan of pre-Boudiccan date has yet been recovered but the partial plans available from *Insulae* 10, 11 and 25 (see figs. 6 and 23) indicate fairly extensive and complex structures. In addition the frequent occurrence of masonry dwarf walls, roofing tiles, painted wall plaster and in one case a piped water supply⁴ reflect conditions that compare favourably with contemporary London and Verulamium.⁵

(3)

Late first century Colchester

After the Boudiccan revolt recovery seems to have been slow. Flavian remains are still concentrated on the North Hill area, with the exception of Flavian coins, which show a more general distribution. Since Flavian coins continued in use for an unusually long time, however, their distribution loses much of its significance. Apart from these, late Flavian/Trajanic finds are the first remains whose distribution shows a marked shift from North Hill to cover most of the area later enclosed by the town walls. It is interesting to note that this expansion of the occupied area of the town succeeds the apparent abandoning of the native occupation at Sheepen, where pottery and coins are abundant up to c. A.D. 75 but thereafter show a dramatic decline marking the end of occupation on the site (see Appendix B).

The significance of the 44 North Hill ditch in this pattern is as yet uncertain, and will remain so until much more of its course, particularly on the south and east, has been established (Fig. 3). Its late first century date, however, suggests that it could have enclosed an area not much less than that prescribed by the later town wall.

The Town Wall

The St. Mary's Rectory excavation (*Insula* 25) has confirmed the date already suggested⁶ of c. A.D. 180-200 for the town rampart behind the wall. However, it now appears from the section cut on this site that the wall itself was appreciably earlier than the rampart and originally was a free standing wall of second century date.

The Later History of Roman Colchester

It is becoming increasingly clear that the Boudiccan fire was not the only large scale fire to have afflicted Roman Colchester. Widespread areas of burnt daub have been encountered on the top of North Hill (*Insula* 17)⁷ and the area

covered by the premises of Messrs. T. M. Locke & Co., Ltd. and Sainsbury's (*Insulae* 30 and 39). Whether these two areas of burning are connected or are the remains of two separate fires is as yet unknown, but the presence of these later destruction layers serves as a warning that not all burnt levels observed, particularly on commercial sites, are necessarily pre-Flavian, as has tended to be assumed in the past. In spite of the almost invariable use of masonry for foundations for houses from the early second century onwards, the superstructures were probably often of wattle and daub and fire must have always constituted a serious risk in the Roman town.

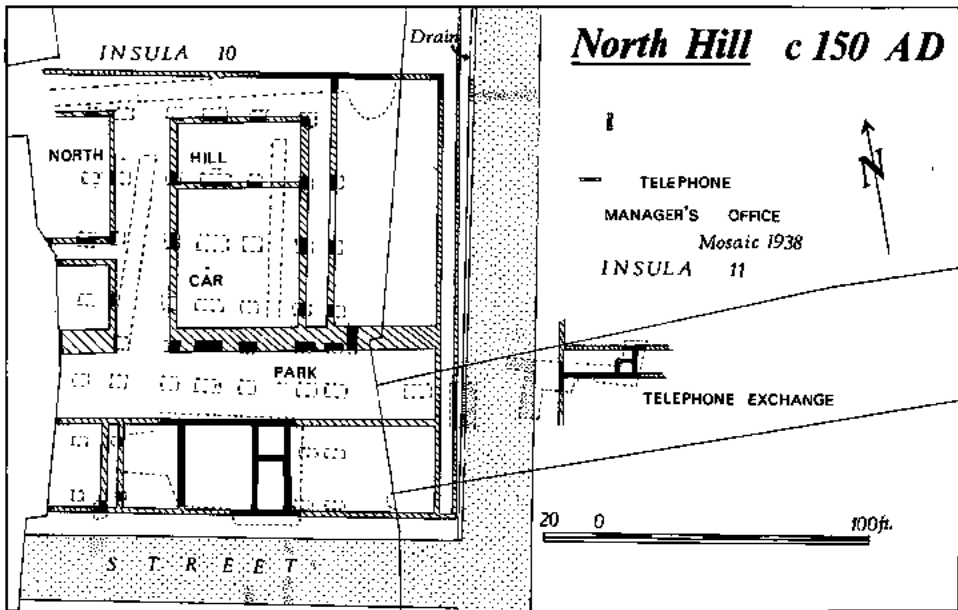


Fig. 4 North Hill, c. A.D. 150.

A disappointing result of the recent excavations has been the absence of levels belonging to the late Roman, Saxon and Medieval periods. Indeed layers post-dating the third century and pre-dating the nineteenth are rare, though fourth century re-building is evident in *Insula* 1 (44 North Hill) and *Insula* 11 (Telephone Exchange). In areas that have been gardens since detailed records began in the mid-seventeenth century, that is the sites on St. Mary's Rectory, the Telephone Exchange, 5 Queen Street, 44 North Hill and St. Peter's Close, the clean black top soil, cultivated continuously for at least two hundred years, directly overlay the last surviving Roman level. Finds in these topsoil deposits are rare and are all unstratified. The absence of post-Roman rubbish pits in these areas is particularly surprising. Though the Roman levels may be disturbed by later intrusions, so far few of these have produced Saxon or Medieval material.

The remaining sites, that is, East Stockwell Street, Balcerne Gardens, Victoria Inn and the Sainsbury's site all lay near modern streets and the latest

Roman levels are within inches of the modern surface. Recent disturbances had removed all trace of post-Roman occupation. Had any been preserved their presence would have been welcomed in this historically important Medieval town, but despite the limitations of time, money and the contractors' clauses, the writer is certain that no Medieval levels have been missed.

The finds from all the excavations described below have been placed in the Colchester and Essex Museum.

Introduction. Notes

- 1 *Roman Colchester*, Introduction. p. xxvii.
- 2 *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucester Archaeological Society*, Vol. 81, (1962), p. 15, for Gloucester. For Lincoln see *Arch. Journ.*, Lxvii, (1960), 40.
- 3 *Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society*, Vol. II, part 2 (1968), pp. 137-142. For find spots of the Claudian coins, and reference to Boudiccan destruction see this article. For reference for pre-Flavian Samian see Appendix A below.
- 4 *Arch. Journ.*, Vol. cxxiii, 1967, p. 31.
- 5 Verulamium. *Ant. Journ.*, xxxviii. 2. xxxix, p. 3. xl, p. 19. London. Merrifield, R. *The Roman City of London*, p. 203. 50 p. 212. 78, 80, p. 279, 293.
- 6 *R. Col.*, p. 147.
- 7 See below p. 52. Also *R. Col.*, p. 213-4.

Acknowledgments

Thanks are first and foremost due to Mr. David T-D. Clarke, curator of the Colchester and Essex Museum, on whose initiative the Colchester Excavation Committee was reformed and enlarged in the face of imminent large scale re-development in Colchester early in 1964. Since then, as secretary of the Executive sub-committee, he has provided an unfailing source of help, both in the sphere of general administration and in the day-to-day problems encountered in the course of excavation. The writer would also like to express her sincere thanks to the staff of the Museum for their constant help, and in particular to the then assistant curator, Mr. D. G. Davies.

The Committee owes an important debt of thanks to the various bodies whose generous financial grants made the work possible. Grants of £1,000 per annum were received from the Pilgrim Trust and the Ministry of Public Building and Works and of £500 per annum from the Essex County Council and the Colchester Borough Council. Many private individuals have also generously contributed to the Committee's funds and to all of these the Committee extends its grateful thanks. The financial administration has been undertaken by a succession of Treasurers, Mr. W. H. Barter, Mr. M. P. Vinter, the late Mr. R. Bennett and Mr. C. S. Buck, and sincere thanks are due to all four for shouldering the arduous work involved.

Invaluable assistance has been provided by the Borough Planning Office under the Planning Officer, Mr. T. W. Souter, whose constant co-operation has greatly eased negotiations with developers and contractors. Though most of the work of digging was done by paid labourers, the help of local volunteers,

particularly at weekends, has been especially appreciated. It would be invidious to single out individuals but to all the many people involved, the writer extends her thanks.

Finally thanks are due to the many architects, engineers, developers, contractors and their foremen whose co-operation on building sites, both before and after building commenced, has greatly assisted both the work of archaeological excavation and that of watching commercial excavation.

Abbreviations and Bibliography

<i>Ant. Journ.</i>	<i>Antiquaries Journal.</i>
<i>Arch. Journ.</i>	<i>The Archaeological Journal.</i>
<i>Cam.</i>	Hull, M. R. Hawkes, C. F. C. <i>Camulodunum</i> , Oxford, 1948.
<i>C.M.R.</i>	<i>Colchester Museum Report.</i>
<i>Callender</i>	Callender, M. M. <i>Roman Amphorae</i> , Oxford, 1965.
<i>C. K.</i>	Carson, A. G., Kent, J. P. C. <i>Late Roman Coinage</i> , Part II.
<i>Hofheim</i>	Ritterling, E. <i>Das Fruhromische Lage bei Hofheim</i> , Wiesbaden, 1913.
<i>H.K.</i>	Hill, P. V. and Kent P. J. C. <i>Late Roman Bronze Coinage</i> , Part 1, 1960.
<i>Haltern</i>	Koepp, F. <i>Ausgrabungen bei Haltern</i> , Munster, 1909.
<i>Kilns</i>	Hull, M. R. <i>The Roman Potters' Kilns at Colchester</i> , Oxford, 1964.
<i>May</i>	May, T. <i>Catalogue of Roman Pottery in the Colchester and Essex Museum</i> , Cambridge, 1930.
<i>Morant</i>	Morant, P. <i>History and Antiquities of Colchester</i> , 1748.
<i>Novaesium</i>	Marcus A. Weper, E. <i>Novaesium</i> , Bonn, 1904.
<i>R. Col.</i>	Hull, M. R. <i>Roman Colchester</i> , Oxford, 1958.
<i>Roman Canterbury</i>	Frere, S. S. <i>Roman Canterbury</i> , No. 1, Medici Society. Williams, A. <i>Roman Canterbury</i> , No. 3, Medici Society.
<i>Richborough</i>	Bushe-Fox, J. P. <i>First, second, third and fourth reports on the Excavation of the Roman Fort at Richborough</i> , Oxford, 1926, 1928, 1932 and 1949. Cunliffe, B. W. (ed.) <i>Fifth report on the excavation of the Roman Fort at Richborough</i> , Oxford, 1968.
<i>R.I.C.</i>	Mattingley, H. and Sydenham E. A., <i>Roman Imperial Coinage</i> , 1923 and later.
<i>Trans. Essex Arch. Socy.</i>	<i>Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society.</i>

The Telephone Exchange Site

The western end of the garden behind 13 West Stockwell Street, now occupied by the Telephone Exchange Tower, became available for excavation in April 1966, immediately before building operations on it started. The work lasted from late April until mid-July, during which time as much of the area as the building plans allowed was excavated to the natural subsoil.¹

The site overlay a small area on the eastern margin of *Insula* 10 of the Roman town, the second north-south street² and a part of *Insula* 11. The area excavated and the alignment of the trenches were determined by the building plans and the Colchester Excavation Committee owes an important debt of thanks to the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works (Eastern Region) and especially to their chief architect, Mr. R. N. Hamilton, for their constant help and co-operation.

The Excavations (Fig. 4)

The site lies in an area rich in archaeological finds. Interesting discoveries were made when the Telephone Manager's office immediately to the north of the site was built,³ while to the south, Mr. M. R. Hull, excavating in 1950, found traces of Boudiccan destruction.⁴

As already mentioned, the western margin of the site overlay a narrow strip of *Insula* 10, offering an opportunity of locating the eastern wall of the building excavated in 1965 under the North Hill multi-storey car park.⁵ The area available in this *Insula* was too restricted for more than this to be achieved, so the two small trenches dug in this end of the site will be described first, while the major report follows below.

INSULA 10

The main information which the two trenches dug in this *Insula* were designed to discover was, firstly, the position of the eastern wall of the *Insula* 10 storehouse and, secondly, the date of the tiled drain running down the west side of the street, which was first found by Mr. J. Blyth in 1964 on the site of the Telephone Manager's Office.⁶

The north-south robber trench found in trench 6 must have been that of the east wall of the *Insula* 10 masonry house,⁷ but it is worth noting that the distinctive stepped section, characteristic of the robber trenches of this house, was absent. This wall may, therefore, have belonged to a later phase, earlier walls lying further west.

West of this wall, inside the house, was a worn white concrete floor, cut by a small neat pit in the south-west corner of the trench. Below this were layers of cobbles and sand, supporting the idea that the robber trench originated from a late wall, and that these layers belonged to an earlier open footpath along the roadside. Unfortunately they produced no dateable material.

Beneath the cobbles was a massive layer of burnt daub, which contained a small quantity of pre-Flavian pottery, and was certainly a continuation of the Boudiccan destruction layer exposed in the 1966 excavations. This lay on a burnt clay surface, cut by a wide gully, 2 feet deep with a flat base and near vertical sides, which ran north-south and turned west at its northern end. Its purpose is uncertain; the curve to the west rules out interpretation as a drain which would have run straight down hill, and it is too wide to be an eaves drip.

No trace of the east wall, nor indeed of any remains of the Claudian store-house was found, but a small amount of carbonised grain lying on the burnt clay floor was reminiscent of it. Another item of interest was the much charred remains of a disarticulated human skeleton, found lying on the clay surface, presumably the remains of someone who perished in the fire.

THE TILED DRAIN

The robber trench for the drain, which itself had been entirely robbed out, was found in its expected position immediately west of the road. Unfortunately it was not possible to date it, but as no trace of it was found by Mr. M. R. Hull west of the road under St. Martin's House⁸ it is possible that it ran diagonally across *Insula* 18 as a continuation of the masonry drain found in the late Roman house in the centre of the *Insula*.⁹

INSULA 11

The road between *Insulae* 10 and 11 was not completely sectioned. This has already been done twice in the near vicinity, and as both time and money were limited a third section was not cut.¹⁰ Instead attention was concentrated on *Insula* 11 itself.

The history of the site proved to be fairly complicated and was unusual in that the levels were preserved dating from the fourth century; too often in the town these later levels have been destroyed. It was, however, the earliest levels that were of the greatest interest, and these will be discussed first.

PHASE 1

The earliest phase of the site was represented by a complex of post holes, stake holes, pits, slots and gullies, cut into the natural subsoil. These features

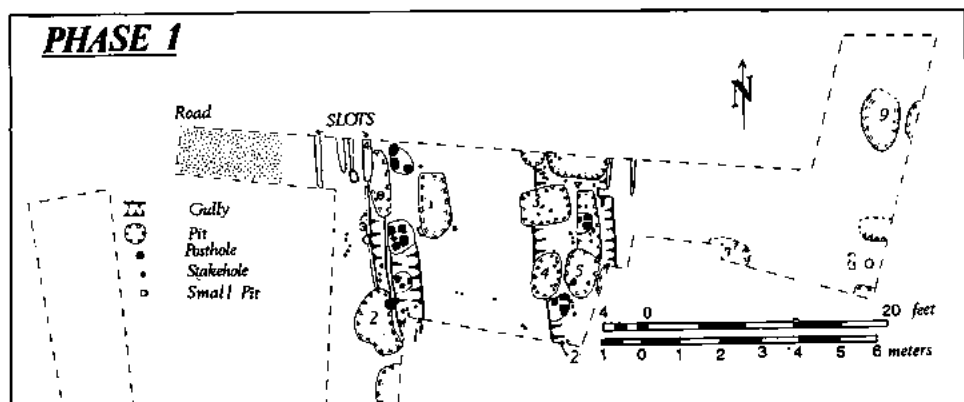


Fig. 5 Telephone Exchange Site, Phase 1.

were on the whole confined to two bands, 10 feet apart, running north-south across the western end of the excavated area, with the edge of a possible third band on the extreme east of the site (Plate 1 and Fig. 5).

Since this earliest phase is of great interest the individual features of the complex will be described in detail before any attempt is made at interpretation.

GULLIES. There were two of these, running north-south across the site and the other features were, on the whole, confined to them. The slots were approximately 9 inches deep, with vertical sides, and fairly level bases. It is possible that they had been re-cut, as the western gully (gully 1) had the characteristic stepped cross section (there was a narrow shelf, 6 inches deep, running along its western edge) and the extra width of gully 2 may have resulted from the same cause; there was, in fact, a faint suggestion of a shelf at its south end. Be this as it may, both gullies were filled with identical material, and almost certainly both were levelled at the same time. The material that filled the gullies, in future referred to as the *levelling material*, consisted of clean, rammed, sandy clay, containing irregular tips of gravel and silt. The angles of these tips, and the homogenous character of the sand, make it clear that this filling was artificial and not the result of natural silting.

THE LARGE POSTHOLES. There were 19 of these, usually in groups of three but in one case of five. Each group was set in a post pit filled with compacted clay and sand. The post had been standing while the burnt material in the pits (see below) was accumulating, as funnels of the postholes' grey loam filling extended up through it, whereas the filling of the post pits was sealed by the burnt layers. The posts had presumably been sawn off at ground level before the levelling material had been thrown down, as this continued uninterrupted across the mouths of the post holes. The posts themselves had been substantial, 5-6 inches in diameter, roughly squared and sunk up to 2 feet into the ground. In some cases the impression of the wood was preserved in the sides of the holes. (It should be remembered that, as will be shown below, the contemporary floor level was later removed. Consequently the original depth of the holes must have been greater than quoted here).

This method of construction, uprights set in an irregular gully, is well known elsewhere.¹¹ It may be that the gap in the north of gully 1 represents an opening, through presumably one pre-dating the construction of pit 1 which was still not completely silted up when the site was levelled.

THE PITS. When the filling of the gullies had been removed, in their bases the outline of a number of small pits became visible. The pits were filled with varying numbers of burnt layers, consisting of masses of charcoal (small branches and twigs), lumps of burnt daub, and occasional fire split pebbles, all interspersed with layers of clean, sandy clay. This material had been burnt *in situ* as the sides of the pits themselves had in many cases been scorched.

The fill of all the pits was closely similar, with the exception of pits 1, 7 and 8. Pit 1 contained no trace of any burnt material; it produced more pottery than most and its base and sides had originally been lined with clay. Pit 7 had sloping sides instead of the vertical sides characteristic of the other pits, and in its base was a mass of rounded river pebbles. Both these pits must have been open at the time of the final levelling of the site since they were filled with the levelling material. Pit 8 also had no burnt material in its filling, which consisted of tough clay and gravel; it had been filled in before the levelling of the site and was cut by one of the slots, slot 4, which was itself filled by the levelling material. (see below). The position of two of these pits was also unusual. Pit 1 lay a short distance away from gully 1 and pit 7 from gully 2, whereas all the other pits lay in, or at any rate impinged upon, one or other of the gullies.

SMALL PITS. Four small pits, 6 inches deep and filled with the levelling material were found lying peripherally to gully 1. Their purpose is not known but they are probably late in the sequence as one was dug into the filling of slot 3 (see below). Two further examples in the east may have been associated with another gully under the eastern baulk.

SLOTS. Seven slots were found, five west of gully 1 and two east of gully 2. They ran north-south and with the exception of the slot nearest gully 1 were all in very short lengths. They were about 3 inches deep and 4-6 inches wide with a U-shaped cross section and were filled either with tough gravel or with the levelling material. They may not all have been dug, or at any rate filled in, at the same time; as already noted one of them cut the filling of pit 8, and slot 3 was cut by one of the small pits.

STAKEHOLES. These constituted the most numerous single feature on the site. They totalled 51, all except six being confined to one or other of the gullies. They were 3-5 inches in diameter and between 5-10 inches deep. In plan they varied; most were round or square, but some were rectangular, triangular or D-shaped. They were obviously not all contemporary; some were dug through the bases of the gullies and sealed by all the burnt layers, others were dug through some of these layers and sealed by others, and some post-dated them all, and were sealed by the 'levelling material' only. None were dug through the 'levelling material'. The filling of the stake holes naturally varied also, but in no case does the base of the stake appear to have been left in the hole, since, except in the few cases where a stake hole was artificially plugged with clay, the sealing layer always extended right down into the hole. No significant pattern could be extracted from the stakeholes.

SUMMARY OF THE PROBABLE SEQUENCE

1. Gullies and large post holes. Very possibly associated with each other since they always occur together in plan. They are stratigraphically earlier than the burnt layers in the pits. The gullies were probably re-cut.
2. Pit 8 filled in and slot 4 dug. The other slots may be either earlier or later. They are not all necessarily contemporary.
3. Slot 3 filled in, pit 1 and small pits dug. The burnt layers in the pits are meanwhile accumulating.
4. Stakes in existing stakeholes withdrawn, posts sawn off at ground level, 'levelling material' deposited.

Interpretation

The large post holes set in gullies clearly indicate the existence of a timber building; the re-cuts suggesting one that stood long enough to require a major reconstruction. The function of the other features is more difficult to understand; the most likely explanation for the pits with their associated burnt layers is that they were demolition pits¹² and the stake holes therefore would also have been associated with demolition. If this is the case pits 1, 7 and 8 would presumably be exceptions and evidence has already been brought forward to suggest that their character was different.

The function of the slots is uncertain. It may be that they were eaves drips in which case their presence east of gully 2 would indicate that the building was

only 10 feet wide. Their short length, however, argues against this interpretation, and some other explanation (e.g. that they were floor joists), could be more easily accepted.

The absence of floor levels appeared at first to militate against the suggestion that a building stood here, but an examination of the 'levelling material' provided the explanation. The wedges of silt and gravel in this material are best interpreted as the remains of floors which were scraped up to provide extra material with which to fill the gullies and pits. Furthermore, west of gully 1 a north-south road sealed the original surface of the natural subsoil which was preserved intact beneath it, together with the old turf line. This line was absent from the rest of the site, where the top of the underlying natural subsoil was at least 6 inches lower than that preserved under the gravel. This lowering of the surface may well have taken place when the floor levels were removed, together with the top of the underlying natural. This also provides a source for the stiff sandy clay in the levelling material which is obviously redeposited natural.

This all points to a deliberate and systematic demolition of the building prior to the construction of the first structures of the *Colonia*. It might be reasonable to suppose that a timber building demolished at this time was a pre-Roman building destroyed soon after the invasion. There were, however, no finds definitely pre-dating 43 A.D.; while plenty of purely Roman material was encountered especially in gully 2, some of it charred, suggesting contemporaneity with the burnt levels in the pits. In addition, several of these finds were items of military equipment, notably a dagger (Fig. 12), a couple of pendants, and several studs of military design. (For all these see the small finds section, page 25 below.)

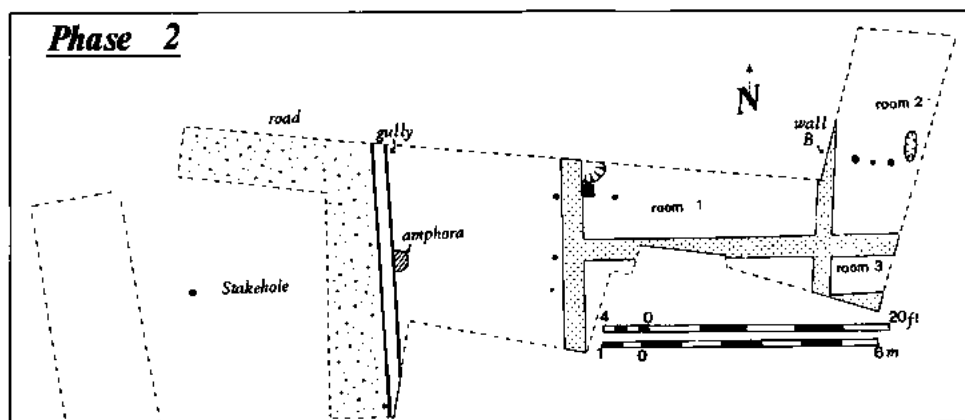


Fig. 6 Telephone Exchange Site, Phase 2.

In summary, therefore, it appears that the site was occupied by a Roman building associated with Claudian material. The early date and the military character of some of the small finds, combine to suggest that this structure had some sort of military connotation, and as such could be of great importance to the history of early Roman Colchester.

PHASE 2. (Fig. 6)

The area levelled at the close of phase 1 was occupied in the next phase by a building of the first *Colonia*. The house now built was probably constructed soon after the foundation of the *Colonia* and it was ultimately destroyed in the fire of A.D. 61.

Only a small part of the plan could be uncovered and it was not possible to determine from what was found whether the building had been a private house or a shop.

The walls were built of wattle and daub resting on timber sleeper beams, the charcoal remains of which were preserved *in situ*. The levelling material of the previous phase had been capped with clay inside the building and outside, over the strip between house and street, with a gravel surface.

The interior of the house was largely featureless. In room 1 was a shallow pit, which had been re-cut at least once, and beside it a large square post hole, perhaps a support for a bench or shelf along the walls. In room 3, three small post holes and a small pit were associated with the primary floor, and in the sleeper beam west of room 3 was a heavy iron band, 6 inches in diameter, probably the base of a door post.

It has already been hinted that there was more than one phase of building activity in the phase 2 house. The primary floors were replaced by later ones of similar character and it is possible that part of wall B represents a later addition. The northern end of this wall was *firmly* associated only with the later floors and in several places the primary floor had been cut through to accommodate the sleeper beam. Furthermore, this end of wall B was the only wall with any of its superstructure preserved. The base of this stood 1ft. 3in. high and the keying on the east face was especially well preserved. This keying was too even to have been applied freehand, implying that some sort of roller stamp must have been used. There was, however, no trace of any plaster, either adhering to the wall itself or in the tumbled, burnt, daub rubble that masked it. This suggests very strongly that the wall had not been plastered when it was destroyed in the fire, and was in fact unfinished.

Outside the house was a broad strip of gravel bounded on the west by a small timber lined gully. Impinging on the gully near the centre of the excavated area was the lower half of a Spanish *amphora*, set into the gravel surface and presumably acting as a water butt.

The house had met its end in an intense fire which had baked the daub of wall B hard, had carbonised the timber sleeper beams, scorched the surface of the road, and completely burnt out the timber lined gully. On the floors, sealed by the resulting layer of burnt daub, were large quantities of pre-Flavian pottery, fused glass and a few small finds. These are fully reported below (page 15) where it will be seen that they all date from the mid-first century and render reasonably certain the attribution of the burning to Boudicca in A.D. 61.

PHASE 3 (Fig. 7)

After the Boudiccan burning the site was carefully levelled. Much of the burnt daub was scraped up and dumped on the road as extra make-up for the new surface. The mound thus formed was still standing to a height of nearly 3 feet. The remaining burnt daub was levelled and a new building erected over it. The plan of this, as far as it was possible to tell in the small area available for



Plate 1 Telephone Exchange site. General view of Phase 1 features



Plate II Telephone Exchange site, Phase 3. Internal partition walls
built of unfired clay

excavation, did not vary greatly from that of the Claudian house; the building line in the west was identical in both cases.

The new building was constructed in a distinctive manner. Foundation trenches were dug into the burnt daub, reaching, but not penetrating into, the Claudian clay floors. These trenches were filled with compacted clay and gravel, but there was no sign that they had ever contained masonry foundations. The walls must have been of wattle and daub since gravel and clay footings could hardly have supported the weight of a masonry wall. Only the west wall, wall D, was represented by a robber trench, filled with large chunks of yellow mortar which clearly indicated that this wall at any rate had at some time been masonry. Though this may indicate that the external walls of the phase 3 building were stone built, the masonry structure could have dated from a later phase when a masonry wall might have run on the same line as an earlier wattle and daub one.

In the centre of the small box-like room north of wall E was an open tiled hearth, the tiles fractured through the heat of the fire. (H on Fig. 7).

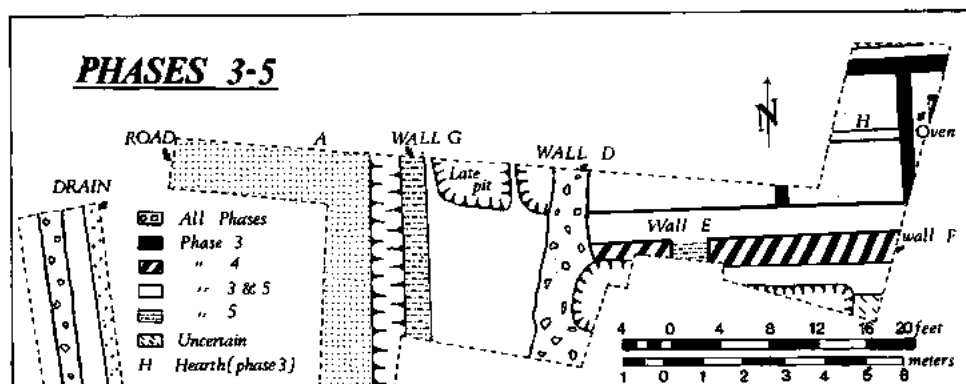


Fig. 7 Telephone Exchange Site, Phases 3-5.

Outside the house the open strip between building and road was left unsurfaced and a layer of fine silt accumulated on it; the burnt daub doubtless provided a fairly hard, well drained surface. Further west the road was re-made, a firm cobbled surface capping the mound of burnt daub already referred to, while on the western edge a large drainage gully was dug.

The initial date for the phase is relatively easy to assess. In the foundation of one of the interior walls was a worn coin of Vespasian, minted not before A.D. 77 and providing a *terminus post quem* for phase 3. The interest in this date lies in the length of time that must have elapsed between the destruction of A.D. 61 and the re-building, though it must be remembered that this particular site was situated well back from the east-west street whereas a corner site might have been rebuilt on earlier.¹³ The plain clay floors inside the building had all been renewed at least once.

PHASE 4

This phase saw the replacement of the earlier clay floors with rather rough *opus signinum* surfaces north of wall E, and gravel to the south.

Protruding from the eastern section in room 3 was the corner of a tiled oven which replaced the earlier open hearth. Originally this was probably domed, but only the base and lower parts of the walls remained intact.

The make-up for the new floors sealed the phase 3 gravel footings indicating that these walls were no longer standing, and that phase 4 constituted a major re-building. New foundation trenches were now dug, this time filled with stiff, clean clay. On these narrow bases walls were built of unbaked clay blocks, a building technique common in the Claudian town but seldom recorded *in situ* from later levels¹⁴ (Plate II).

Phase 4 also saw the construction of a new wall, wall F, bounding the *opus signinum* floor on the south. This new wall was the only one to escape complete robbing and the foundations remained intact. These had been constructed of alternate layers of septaria chips and yellow mortar thrown into a trench cut through the gravel foundations of the earlier wall E immediately to the north.

A *terminus post quem* for this re-building was provided by a body sherd of colour coated ware not earlier than the Antonine period. No good reason for this re-building can be given, such as fire or collapse, but it is nevertheless evident that here we are dealing with a total reconstruction.

PHASE 5

The final alterations to the building can have taken place only after a considerable interval of time. In many cases the *opus signinum* floor had been completely worn away and the underlying make-up of cobbles had become rounded through wear. Phase 4 finally came to an end when the internal clay walls were removed and wall F demolished. The old wall E was then rebuilt and a new wall running south from its western end constructed. Both these walls were masonry but had been completely robbed out. Spreads of yellow mortar, however, doubtless connected with this re-building, overlay the phase 4 floors and were sealed by the mortar and cobble floors of phase 5 (see section 2).

The date of this re-building is uncertain, but it is possible that the construction of the small wall, wall G, running alongside the road took place at the same date. This means that the strip between the road and house, hitherto open to the sky, was now incorporated into the house. The small size of the robber trench for wall G indicates a very slight construction and it may be that it was the wall of a verandah rather than a completely walled-in room.

The gravel of the new floor contained coins of the early fourth century, an acceptable date for phase 5, but since it was not possible to associate the re-building of the house stratigraphically with the construction of wall G, this date unfortunately cannot be used for the start of phase 5.

The final years of the site's history can only be outlined vaguely. The gravel surfaces of the newly roofed area were renewed three times, but these thin surfaces probably would not have had a very long life. The large pit dug through these layers contained food refuse, a small quantity of fourth century pottery and a number of small finds, but how old these were when they found their way into the pit is a question impossible to answer.

The Coarse Pottery

PHASE I - POTTERY FROM THE BURNT LAYERS IN THE PITS

FINE WARE (Fig. 8)

1. Colour coated rough cast beaker, *Cam.* form 94B, pale biscuit coloured fabric with a red wash on the interior and a weathered black wash on the exterior. The throwing grooves on the interior are well marked. Pit 1.
2. Dish in imitation *terra nigra*. *Cam.* form 24 (*Cam.* fig. 48, 6). This is a waster. Pit 1.
3. Wall fragment of a very similar dish. Pit 1.

Also, not illustrated, base fragment of a third similar dish from pit 7.

4. Part of a dish, *Cam.* form 17, in light grey fabric with darker polished surfaces. Pit 7.
5. Part of a similar though rather smaller dish. Pit 1.
6. Dish fragment in dark grey fabric with smoothed surfaces. Rather heavy everted rim, slightly rounded on the top. Pit 7. This form is not illustrated in *Camulodunum* but it is certainly of pre-Flavian date in the *Colonia*. An example occurred in the destruction layer of A.D. 60 in *Insula 10* (p. 7)¹⁵ but the type does not seem to have been particularly long lived as it is rare in graves of the *Colonia*, where it is replaced as early as Flavian times by the much more common form with the heavier rounded rim often combined with cross hatched decoration on the exterior.
7. Flagon rim, in pink buff fabric with smooth surfaces. *Cam.* 148, Claudian/Neronian. Pit 1.
8. Rim of bowl or dish. Good buff fabric, smooth surfaces, small neat everted rim. *Cam.* fig. 48, 29, post conquest, pre-Flavian. Perhaps also related to bowl *Rich. IV*, 391 pl. LXXXVIII 50-80.
9. Rim of open bowl in good buff fabric with smoothed surfaces and small neat rim, rather everted. Pit 7.
10. Fragment of beaker, *Cam.* form 108. Smooth polished black surfaces in fine grey fabric. Gully 2.

Also, not illustrated, one closely similar beaker fragment from Pit 3.

11. Coarse grey gritty fabric, black knobbly surface polished on the rim. *Cam.* form 241.
12. Lid of *amphora*. Pale buff fabric. Flanged lip and pinched up non-functional handle. Hand made. Much blackened by pitch.
13. Two legs from a tripod bowl, *Cam.* form 63B. Fabric fine brick red with a smooth surface. One only illustrated.

Also, not illustrated,

- (a) sharply carinated shoulder of a vessel in *terra nigra*.
- (b) Two body sherds in colour coated rough cast fabric. *Cam.* form 94.
- (c) Fragment of a similar vessel in red ware.

From the artificial levelling material in the pits.

A number of bowls or dishes were found whose bodies could not be restored. The rims are illustrated, but cannot be ascribed to any definite form.

14. Brick red fabric, dense and sandy. Smooth surfaces, everted very slightly thickened rim.

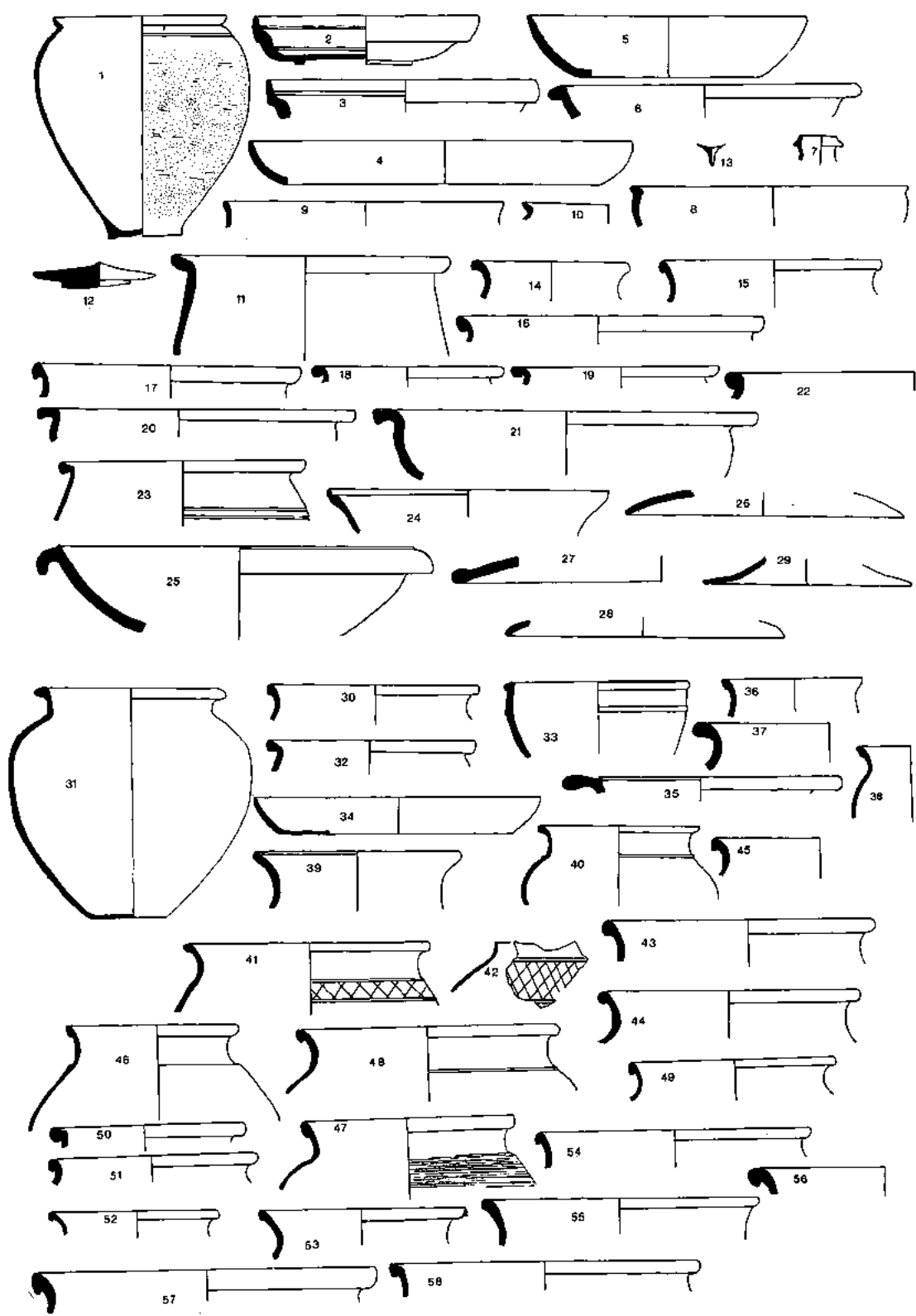


Fig. 8 Telephone Exchange Site, Coarse pottery.

15. Gritty grey buff fabric, grey at core. Rough black surfaces. Rim slightly undercut and the outer surfaces not so carefully finished as most. Pit 1.
16. Gritty grey fabric, rough black surfaces. Polished beaded rim. Gully 2.
17. Fabric as 15. Rim heavier and very undercut. Gully 1.
18. Coarse grey fabric. Rough black surfaces. Rim very rounded. Gully 1.
19. Hard grey fabric. Surfaces much smoother than the previous examples. Everted bead rim, flattened on the upper surfaces.

OTHER TYPES

20. Dish or bowl in rather coarse laminated sandy fabric, very rough red surfaces. Flat everted rim, with slight beading on the lip.
21. Gritty grey buff fabric. Brick red, smooth surfaces, fumed on the exterior. Flat everted rim.

In general form these two vessels (20 and 21) resemble an early dish from Richborough, (*Rich. III*, p. 169, pl. xxxiv 213. A.D. 50-75). They are related to the local pre-Roman dishes at Sheepen, *Cam.* form 42. These present examples, however, are in Roman fabric and the walls bulge more markedly than do those of earlier examples. *C.M.R.* 6 387.27; 165.28.

22. Dense grey fabric with minute white grit. Coarse knobbly surface. *Cam.* form 242.
23. Brick red fabric, rather sandy with rough black fumed exterior. Faint grooves on shoulder. The top of the rim is flattened and the lower edge rather squared. *Cam.* form 242.

This variant of Hull's form 242 (with the angular rim as opposed to the more rounded variety) first appeared at Sheepen after the conquest and persisted in the *Colonia* until the end of the century. It is represented in Pit 1, in *Insula* 7, c. 100 A.D. and in grave 55. *May* pl. lxxxii, where it was associated with a late first century flagon. It is a common chance find type in the *Colonia*.

24. Dish fragment in good black fabric with polished surfaces. *Cam.* form 24. A.D. 43-65 at Sheepen.
25. Mortarium rim. Rather soft fabric. Very sparse brown grit. *Cam.* form 195b. *Cam.* fig. 53. 32. Claudian/Neronian at Sheepen, but it doubtless continued later. It is very common and widespread within the *Colonia* itself. Variants occur in pit 1 in *Insula* 7, (*Roman Colchester* fig. 55, 23) dated c. 100. It does not occur in the later second century kilns.

LIDS

26. Dense grey fabric with very sparse minute white grit inclusions. Rough black surfaces with simple rounded rim.
27. Fabric similar to 26 but with expanded rounded rim.
28. Grey lid with simple rounded lip, finer than 26 and 27 but otherwise very similar.
29. Gritty red fabric with rough surfaces. Lid rather arched. Simple rounded lip.

Also, not illustrated.

Three rims from lids similar to 27.

PHASE 2 - THE FIRST COLONIA BUILDING. 2A FROM THE MAKE-UP FOR THE PRIMARY FLOORS

30. Rim of a cooking pot in hard grey/buff fabric, grey at core.
31. Foundation pot, from under the earliest gravel surface west of the house. The fabric is coarse, rather soft grey with roughly smoothed surface and polished rim.

PHASE 2B - FROM THE MAKE-UP FOR THE SECONDARY FLOORS

32. Rim of cooking pot in gritty grey fabric with rough, black surfaces and polished rim. The rim is rolled and rather out-turned. The internal surface is bevelled.

Also, not illustrated

Seven examples similar to 32, but of varying sizes.

33. Rim in hard grey fabric with black surfaces burnished on the exterior. Everted rim, flattened on top with a small internal beading on the rim. This is probably a variant of *Cam.* form 51a. Pre-conquest.
34. Part of a platter. *Cam.* form 17b in imitation *terra rubra*. At Sheepen this form was post-conquest in date and Hull considered it was pre-Flavian.
35. Mortarium rim in orange/buff micaceous fabric, with smooth surfaces and simple unexpanded rim. *Cam.* form 192a. Claudian/Neronian.

The pottery so far described can be firmly dated to the Claudian/Neronian period. Though some pieces lasted into the Flavian phase and even later, their life began in pre-Flavian times, and the dating of the group as a whole is not affected.

PHASE 2c - THE BOUDICCAN DESTRUCTION LAYER, A.D. 61.

NECKED COOKING POTS. FORM 266

36. Fairly fine, red/brown fabric, with occasional minute grits. The rim rounded, everted and very slightly thickened. Surfaces smoothed.

Not illustrated. Five similar examples, two in similar fabric and three in coarser grey ware.

37. Good grey Roman fabric, very micaceous. Smooth black surfaces. Rim heavier and more swollen than 36, but basic form very similar.
38. Gritty grey Roman fabric, with rough black surfaces. Similar to 36 but with a more everted rim. From the mounded daub under the post-Boudiccan road.
39. Fine, grey fabric with sparse, black grit inclusions. Black surfaces, burnished on the exterior and the interior of the rim.

Also, not illustrated a similar unburnished example.

These simple, almost unthickened, rims do not appear to have any chronological significance. They continue to occur in the late Roman kilns of the *Colonia*.

40. Fine, sandy fabric, rough surface but polished rim. Cordon on shoulder. *Cam.* form 221a. Claudian.

Also, not illustrated, a small rim of similar form in gritty, grey fabric.

41. Part of a jar in fine, red, micaceous fabric, grey at the core. Two false cordons on shoulder between which is a zone of burnished lattice decoration. Surfaces elsewhere polished. Rim similar to 5. *Cam.* form 222, both

pre- and post-conquest at Sheepen. The Roman fabric of this example indicates a post-conquest date.

42. Shoulder fragment decorated in similar fashion. Gritty, grey fabric, polished on the exterior.

Also, not illustrated, a small shoulder fragment of similar vessel in sandy, brown fabric similar to that of 5.

43. Compact, dark grey fabric, with occasional white grit, and frequent pores where the grit has been weathered away. Rough, black surfaces. Bead rim, well-marked and rounded on top.

44. Gritty, grey fabric with rough surfaces. Top of the rim smooth and carefully rounded.

45. Rather laminated, brown fabric, grey at core. Fairly numerous pores. Rough, black surfaces. Top of rim polished. Rim rather undercut. From the surface of the pre-Boudiccan road.

46. Fine, brick red fabric, now very porous owing to the weathering of the numerous inclusions. Surface originally grooved. Rudimentary groove on the shoulder. Bead rim, flattened on the outside.

47. Dense, pale grey fabric. Sparse grit inclusions. Dark, smoothed surfaces with rilling on the shoulder. Simple bead rim. Small cordon on shoulder.

48. Sandy, grey fabric, red/brown at core. Rough, dark grey surfaces, with polished rim top. The rim is slightly undercut.

49. Dense, sandy fabric, grey at core, red/brown near surface. Surfaces rough and black. Rim almost triangular with rounded corners, top polished. From gravelled surface outside the house.

Also, not illustrated. Five similar rims, all small and neat, as 14, and in dense fabric with rough, black surfaces.

50. Rather soft, coarse, grey fabric, dark smoothed surfaces, polished rim, well-rounded, and rather heavy.

51. Dense, grey fabric, smoothed dark surfaces. Well-rounded bead rim.

Also, not illustrated. Three similar examples, two with heavy, slightly flattened bead rims.

52. Dense fabric, similar to 16. Well-rounded rather undercut rim, polished on top.

53. Rather paler grey fabric but otherwise as 16 and 17. Smaller, neater rim, rather undercut.

54. Sandy fabric, red/brown at core. Smooth, black surfaces, burnished rim. The rim is unusually small.

55. Soft, brown/red fabric, rather granular. Smooth, grey surface with burnished rim. Rim undercut.

56. Dense, grey fabric with numerous large grey inclusions. Surfaces black burnished. Rim very undercut so as to be almost hooked.

The cooking pots just described illustrate the variety of rim forms current in A.D. 61. As yet it is not possible to detect much chronological variation, and closely similar rims occur in the late Roman kilns. The only marked change is that the later examples tend on the whole to have rather longer necks.

57. Coarse, buff/grey fabric with smoothed, black surfaces and polished bead rim, everted and flattened on the interior.

Also, not illustrated, another similar rim with everted bead rim, but with the internal flattening less marked.

58. Sandy, grey fabric, black-fumed surfaces and polished rim. Everted bead rim flattened on the interior, resulting in a flat-rimmed bowl. Variant of *Cam. form 242, Richborough 111, xxxiv, 220. Claudian. (Fig. 9).*

59. Brick red, sandy fabric, with sparse, brown grits. Rough surfaces and everted rather squared rim.

Also, not illustrated, one other similar rim sherd.

60. Grey, dense fabric, rather micaceous, with occasional white-grit inclusions. Smooth surface, originally buff coloured on the exterior and burnished, but this surface has almost completely weathered away. The simple, unexpanded rim has been bent over to produce a bead rim effect. Perhaps related to the neckless cooking pots from Sheepen. Here rendered in Roman fabric.

61. Coarse, grey fabric, pink near surface. Surface knobbly and blackened by soot. Faint groove on shoulder. *Cam. form 242. Claudian/Trajanic.*

62. Similar fabric to 61 but slightly thinner. *Cam. form 242.*

63. Fabric similar to that of 61 and 62. Rim simple and everted. *Cam. form 241.*

64. Coarse, grey fabric, smoothed, dark surfaces. *Cam. form 242.*

Also, not illustrated. A closely similar rim to 29.

65. Coarse, grey fabric with smoothed, dark surfaces. Heavy, rounded rim with short neck. Storage jar. *Cam. form 273.*

Also, not illustrated. Two similar though slightly smaller rims in the same coarse, grey fabric, one red with a grey core, and the other grey.

FINE WARE

Most of the fine ware was found together in a small area immediately east of the main eastern, north-south wall of the building.

66. Fine, grey ware, surfaces black and burnished, darker in some patches than in others. Zone of stabbed decoration on the shoulder, rim missing. *Cam. form 108.*

67. Similar fabric to 66, but the surfaces are darker. Wide zone of decoration rather carelessly executed. Simple everted rim.

Not illustrated, four similar examples, one with exceptionally fine stabbing on the shoulder. There was not enough of the bodies preserved to determine their profile.

68. Similar in form and fabric to 67, but with a more upright rim.

69. Dense, pale fabric. Remains of a chocolate colour coat on the exterior. Small, neat, everted rim with a rounded lip. Shoulder decorated with a zone of imitation rouletting. From the gravel surface outside the house.

70. Fine, white fabric with chocolate colour coat and rough cast on the exterior. Rim simple and everted. *Cam. form 94, Claudian/Neronian.* This form is not found in the *Colonia* in post-Boudiccan contexts, other than as rubbish survival. Closely similar examples to this and 69 occurred in the pottery shop in *Insula 19. (Roman Colchester, p. 153)* and in the Claudian storehouse in *Insula 10. (Arch. Journ., cxxiii, p. 51.23).*

Also, not illustrated, three other fragments, two body sherds and one rim, of similar beakers, one of them in pink fabric with a red colour coat.

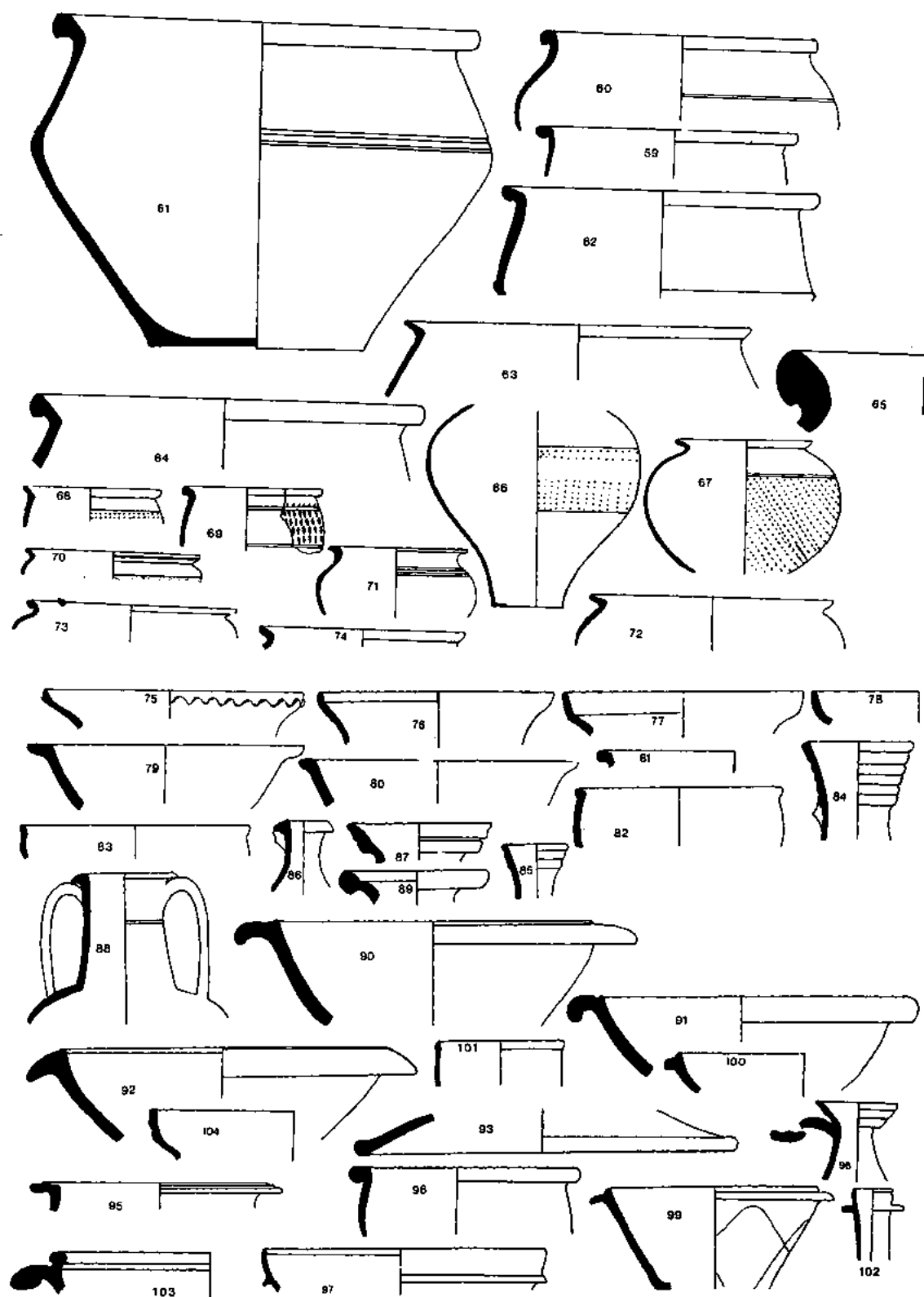


Fig. 9 Telephone Exchange Site, Coarse pottery.

71. Fine, dark red, rather granular fabric. Pointed, everted rim and smoothed surfaces. Grooves on shoulder. Obviously related to *Cam.* form 218. In Roman fabric this form persists in the *Colonia* into the early 2nd century. *Also, not illustrated*, in similar fabric several body sherds, one from the shoulder of an angular bowl, *Cam.* form 212-16. Pre-conquest date at Sheepen.
72. Dense, gritty, grey fabric with dark burnished surfaces and everted, slightly cupped rim.
73. Fine, grey fabric with smoothed surface and polished rim, Everted, rounded rim.
74. Fine, sandy red fabric. Small, neat rather triangular rim.
- 72-4 are all probably variant of form 108 which became the commonest fine beaker type in Flavian Colchester.
75. Tazza rim. Cream coloured fabric with smooth surface.
- Also, not illustrated*, a smaller example in white fabric from the surface of the pre-Boudiccan road.
- Also, not illustrated*
- (a) one body sherd in San Remy fabric,
 - (b) two body sherds of small bowls in fine, red, micaceous fabric with black surfaces.

DISHES AND PLATTERS

76. Grey, Roman fabric. Rim of dish with concave sides and an internal groove. Interior surface polished and exterior smoothed. *Cam.* form 28. Post-conquest at Sheepen. *Cam.* p. 224, fig 48.12.
- Vessels such as this, imitating native, pre-Roman dishes based on *terra nigra* forms occur in the *Colonia* rarely on pre-Boudiccan sites, e.g. in the pottery shop in *Insula* 20, *C.M.R.* 1927, 675. They do not, however, occur in graves of Flavian date.
77. Similar fabric to 76, *Cam.* form 24, *Cam.* pl. L 24Cb. Post-conquest at Sheepen.
- Also, not illustrated*, fragment of a base of a dish in similar, grey fabric with a small, flattened, rectangular foot ring.
78. Grey, Roman fabric, imitation *terra nigra*. *Cam.* form 31. Claudian/Neronian.
- Not illustrated*, fragment of at least one other dish and a second one in pink, sandy fabric with a dull, red colour coat on the interior.
79. Dense, pale grey fabric, with flat rather everted rim with a rounded lip. Surfaces rough. Fabric typically Roman. This must be related to the large bowls in native fabric made in the first century kiln 26. (*Kilns* fig. 92, no. 33 and 34. p. 160. *Also* from Sheepen; *Cam.* fig. 48 no. 22).
80. Dark, gritty, grey fabric. Platter of the same general form as 44, but with a smaller, neater rim.
81. Coarse, grey fabric with black surfaces polished on rim which is rounded and everted. This is the dish that became commonest in the Flavian and Trajanic graves of the *Colonia*, e.g. grave 48. *May, plate LXXXI* early Flavian.

82. Brown/buff, dense, Roman fabric with smoothed surface and round, everted rim. *Cam.* form 47a. This must be a survival, since this form did not continue to be made at Sheepen after the conquest.
83. Pink fabric with smoothed surfaces. Rather granular. Rounded, slightly everted rim.

FLAGONS

84. Dense, pale buff fabric. Conical neck and flaring rim. Rings well defined and rounded but not undercut or stepped. Single, well arched handle *Cam.* form 154. Claudian/Neronian.
 85. Similar in fabric and form to 84.
- Also, not illustrated, seven other examples, all similar except for the lips which are either rounded or flat.*
86. Pale, almost white fabric. *Cam.* form 150. Claudian/Neronian.
- Also, not illustrated, a similar example in pin/buff fabric.*
87. Dense, white rather soft, fine fabric. From the mounded daub under the post-Boudiccan road. *Cam.* form 144. Claudian/Neronian.
 88. Fabric pale buff, almost white, carefully smoothed on the exterior. Two faint grooves round the neck. From the gravel outside the house. *Cam.* form 167. *Cam.* fig. 52, no. 14. Claudian/Neronian.
 89. Very hard, pink/buff fabric, with smooth surfaces. *R. Col.* form 156. The dating of this piece is not altogether satisfactory. This example is closely similar to those illustrated in the Kilns report (*Kilns*, fig. 56, nos. 33 and 34). Form 156, however, is predominantly Antonine in date, lasting into the third century, and no examples have yet been found as early as this.

MORTARIA

90. White fabric with black and white grits on the interior. *Cam.* form 195a. Neronian/early 2nd century.
 91. Pink fabric with numerous grit inclusions. Medium size grits on the surface of the interior reaching up to the beading. Especially dense near the base. *Cam.* form 195b. Neronian/early 2nd century.
- Also, not illustrated, a second example in grey fabric with sparse, white grits.*
92. Brown/buff fabric with black, white and brown grits on the interior, some of them large. *Cam.* form 193. Claudian/Neronian.

FROM THE MAKE-UP OVER THE BOUDICCAN ROAD

93. Rim of an arched lid in fabric similar to that of 29.
 94. Rim of amphora, Callendar form 8. Not illustrated.
- Both these sherds could well be pre-Flavian, and it must be remembered that the make-up material in which they were found consisted merely of re-deposited daub originating from the destruction of the phase 2 building.

FROM THE SECOND ROAD SURFACE AFTER THE BOUDICCAN DESTRUCTION

95. Rim in granular, grey fabric. The rim is reeded, a feature characteristic of form 246. At Colchester this form first appears in the late first century. It is scarce in graves, but occurs rarely, e.g. Grave 13 with a late, first

century example of flagon form 155, and in grave 5, (Jarmin collection). *May*, plates *LXXVII* and *LXXXIX*. The form continues into the second century. A large example from Balkerne Gardens in *Insula* 17 of the *Colonia* cannot date much before 150 A.D. and may be rather later (see fig. 22 no. 28). A further example from *Insula* 10 must also be assigned to the second century. *Arch. Journ.*, *op. cit.* fig. 11.32.

FROM THE THIRD POST-BOUDICCAN ROAD SURFACE

96. Flagon neck in hard, cream-coloured fabric. Rim cupped and decorated with incised grooves on the exterior. Hadrianic/Antonine.

FROM THE MAKE-UP FOR THE PHASE 5 FLOORS

97. Rim of bowl or dish, *R. Col.* form 37, Flavian to late second century. Fabric hard, sandy and dark grey. Black burnished surfaces, with burnished vertical lines on the exterior.

LYING ON THE PHASE 4 SURFACE

Not illustrated, body sherd of colour coated, rouletted beaker. *R. Col.* 391 or 392. Mid-second to third century.

FROM THE LATE PIT CUT THROUGH THE PHASE 5 FLOOR

98. Bowl fragment in hard, very gritty, grey fabric. Rim and external surface smoothed. Faint groove on shoulder. The rim is very rounded and is cupped for the lid. 3rd or 4th century.
 99. Part of bowl or dish in grey, gritty fabric, slightly micaceous. Black burnished on exterior, decorated with intersecting arcs. Upright rim with rather down-turned flange. *R. Col.* form 305. Antonine to 4th century.
 100. Dark grey fabric, rather laminated. Upright bead rim and rounded flange. This is rather shorter and heavier than that of 99. Surfaces burnished and covered with cream-coloured slip on the interior.
 101. Very fine, colour coated beaker fragment. Red fabric with black burnished colour coat. Rim slightly thickened and rounded.

Also, not illustrated, a similar one with a simple rim.

102. Flagon in dense, buff fabric with burnished, red colour coat. *R. Col.* form 360. c. 200–350 A.D.

103. Mortarium in gritty, grey/buff fabric. Darker, fumed exterior. Upright beading, heavy flange with re-curved lip. No grit survives.

Also, not illustrated, mortarium rim in pale biscuit coloured fabric. *R. Col.* form 501b. Late 2nd century.

FROM THE LATE SILTING IN THE LAST ROAD-SIDE DITCH

104. Rim of dish in gritty, grey fabric. Upright rim with external grooves. *R. Col.* form 332. Mid 4th century.

FIG. 15 No. 45. FROM THE FILLING OF THE ROBBER TRENCH OF WALL A

105. Fragment of a hand-made, necked jar in hard, well tempered, dark grey fabric with an orange/buff exterior. The rim is upright and simply rounded. The exterior is carefully burnished particularly on the shoulder, though

the whole of the exterior is uneven and markedly faceted. The sherd is closely similar to the group of hand made vessels discovered in a post Roman pit in *Insula 10* (*Arch. Journ.*, *op. cit* fig. 12, nos 23-29) and dated by Dr. Myres to the 6th-8th centuries.

Small Finds

Bronze (Fig. 10)

1. Studs. Two small rosette-shaped studs (one illustrated). Large expanded flat heads with short tangs, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch long. The rosette shape is emphasised by radial grooves. The stud was originally tin plated and the centres of the lobes between the radial grooves inlaid with niello. From gully 2.

Exact parallels for these are provided by the studs from Trentham, Staffs.¹⁶ In the same tradition, though not precisely similar, are the studs from Camulodunum and Hofheim.¹⁷

Also, not illustrated, fourteen identical examples, many of them fragmentary.

2. Domed stud. A circular domed stud, very thin and fragile with a central rivet hole. From pit in gully 2.
3. Decorated stud. A slightly domed stud with a flattened everted lip and an embossed ridge around the base of the dome. From a burnt layer in small pit west of gully 1.
4. Stud, similar to 3 but with a convex rim. From gully 2 burnt levels.

Very large quantities of small studs and even more minute bronze rivets were found but are not illustrated. They occurred mainly in the burnt levels in the gullies.

5. Decorated disc. A flat disc with a sunken centre and two fine concentric grooves on the upper surface. From burnt levels in pit 2, west of gully 1.
6. Large boss from pit 1. Flat everted lip, and small central dome.
7. Decorated boss. A large domed boss with a flat everted rim. Sunken centre, with small centre dome. From burnt levels in pit 8 east of gully 1.
8. Bronze link, rectangular, with rounded knobs at either end of the thicker side. Gully 2, burnt levels.
9. Short ferrule. A hollow round sectioned tube or ferrule made of thick coiled bronze wire. Its function is uncertain though presumably it was some sort of decorative ferrule or binding. Very close parallels occur at Hofheim.¹⁸ From post pit in centre of gully 2.
10. Clasp. Two bronze plates hinged together with a projecting hook at the back. The front plate is convex and the back one flat. The front plate is decorated with rough incised circles and the hinge bar on the top is decorated with a series of oblique gashes. Burnt levels in gully 2.
11. Ornamental mount. A heavy moulded knob with a thick pointed tang. Probably an ornamental fitting from a vehicle or piece of furniture. From the levelling material in gully 2.
12. A heavy bronze fitting with a large loop at one end and a smaller square shaped opening at the other. The large rounded loop is carefully finished and the corners and surfaces smooth. The other end is in contrast rough; the surfaces have never been filed and the edges and corners are jagged and

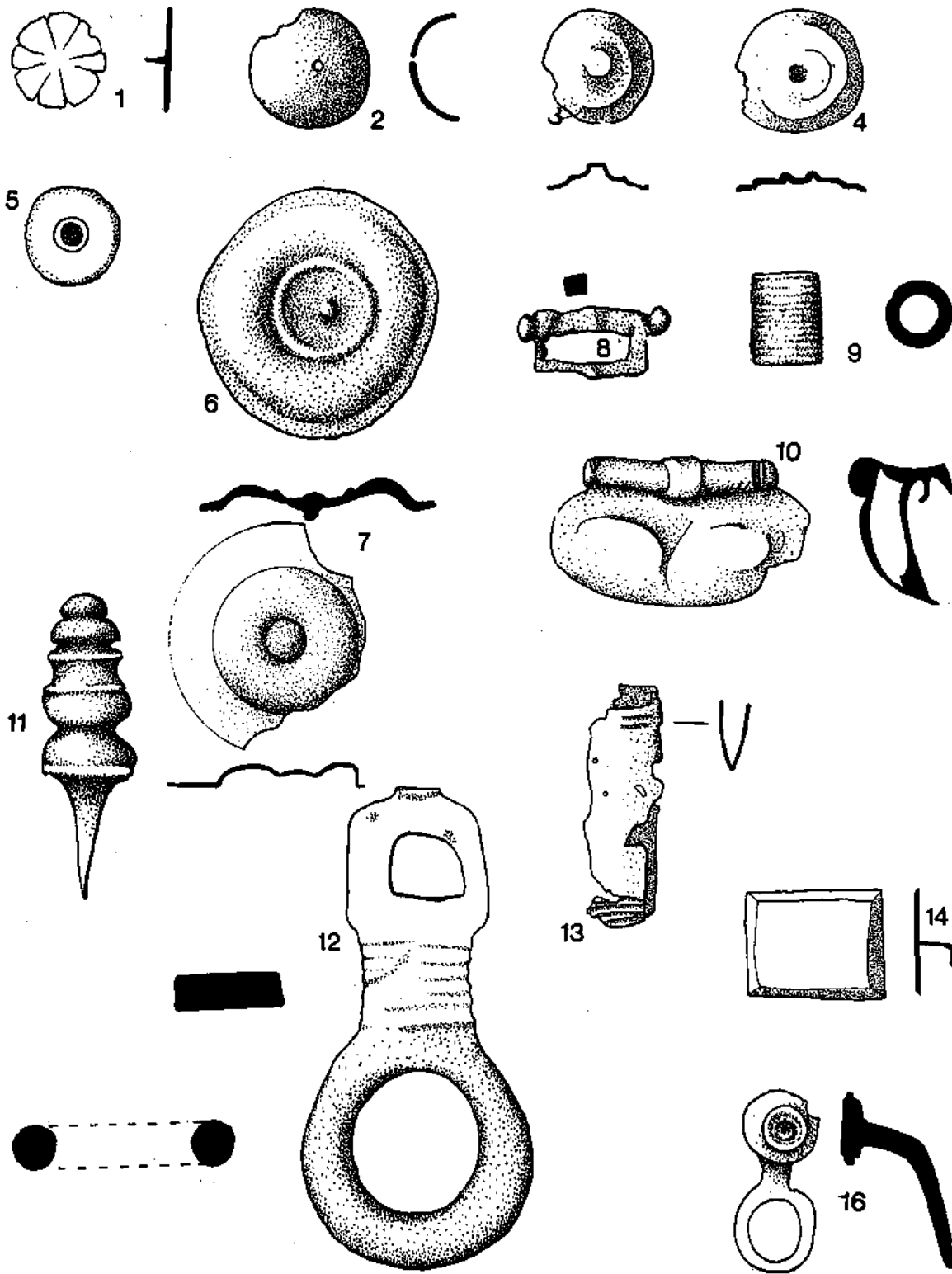


Fig. 10 Telephone Exchange Site, Small finds.

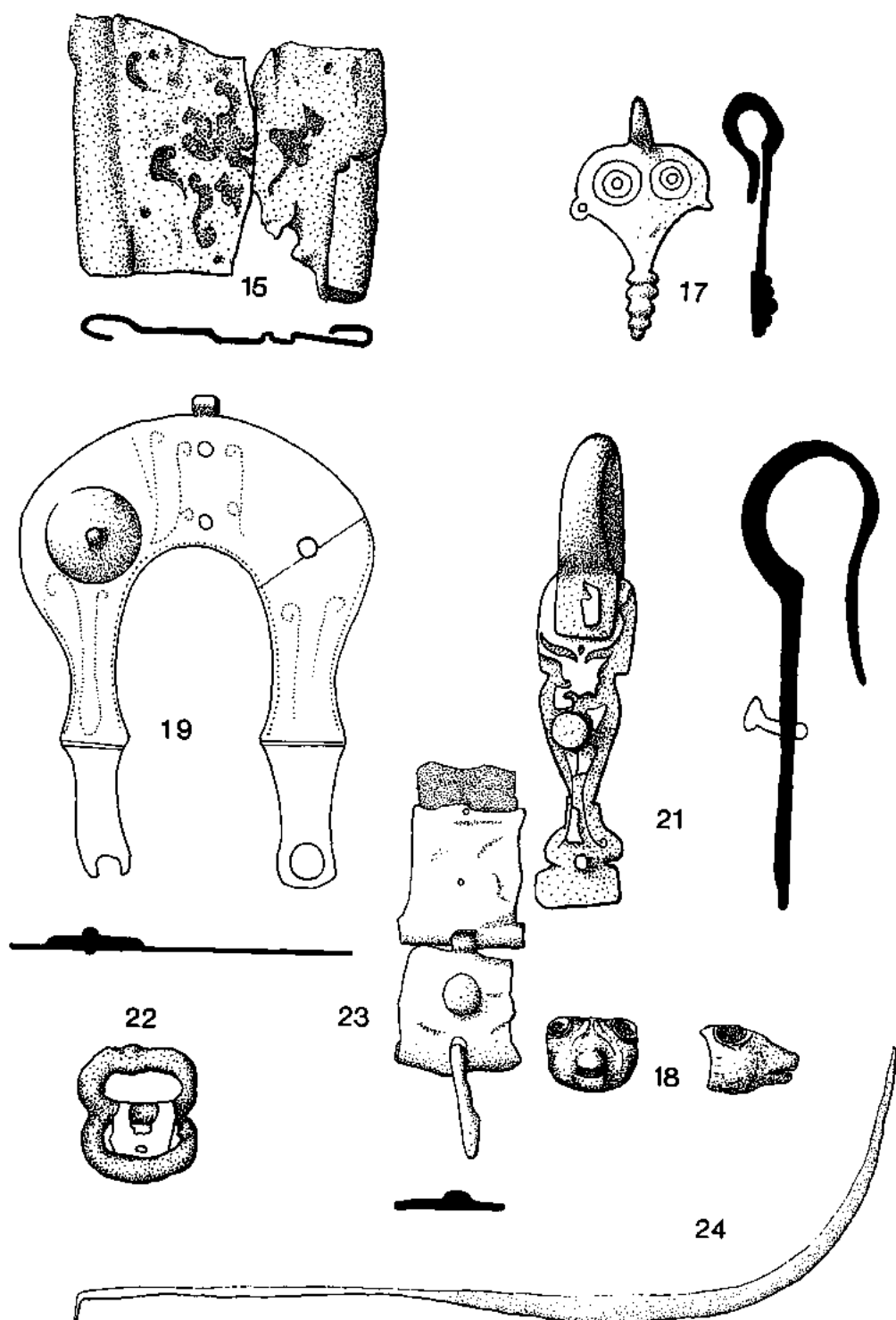


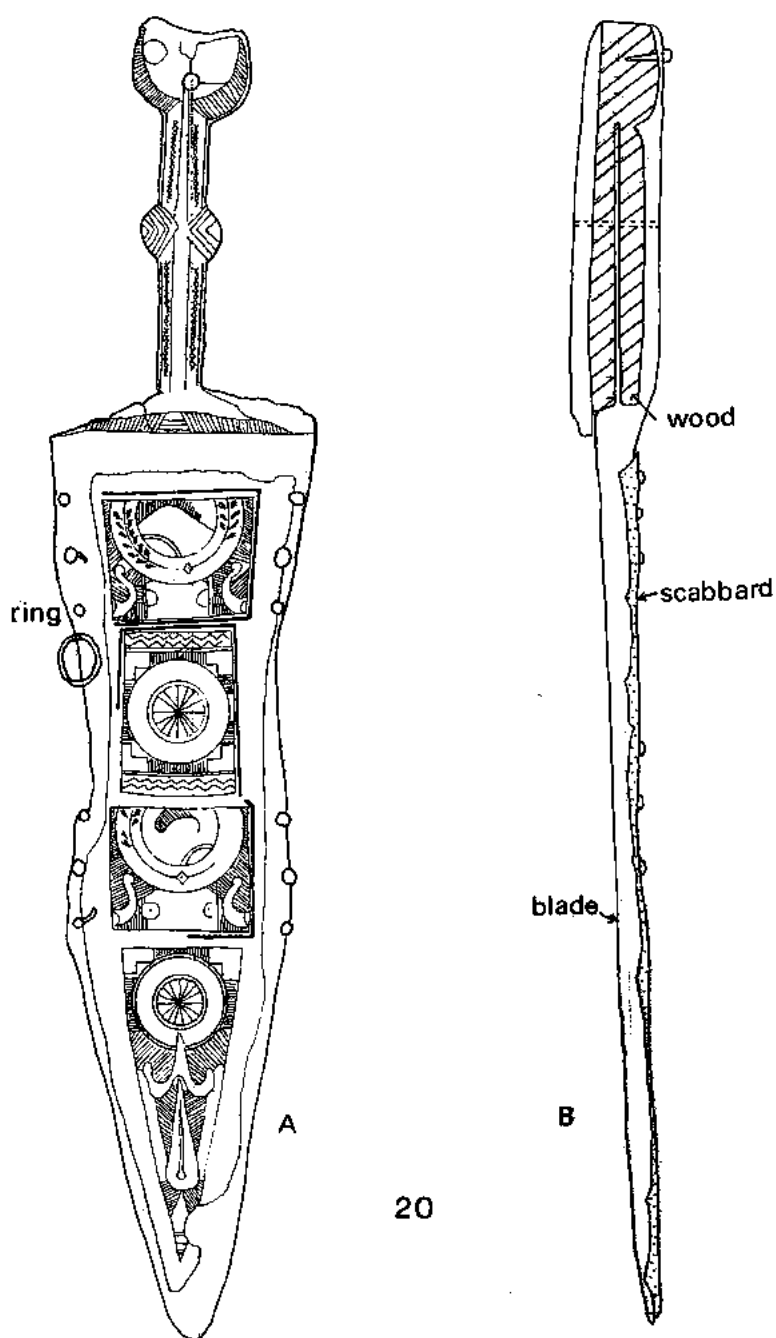
Fig. 11 Telephone Exchange Site, Small finds.

coarse. The remains of a casting jet are still attached to the lower end of the object at the base of the smaller opening. This suggested that the lower end was not intended to be seen and was driven into a wooden shaft or bar and a bolt passed through the small opening. This would leave the larger loop projecting, through which a strap could be passed. From the base of gully 2.

13. Fragment of bronze sheeting now bent double. This was originally tinned and there are traces of linear decoration along the edges, and three small jagged rivet holes. From burnt levels in the pit 3 west of gully 2.
14. Rectangular plate with flat surface and faint grooves round the edges. Two small hooks project from the rear. The upper surface was originally tinned. Probably a belt or strap mount, similar examples are known from Hofheim. From the levelling material in pit 3.¹⁹
15. (Fig. 11). Belt plate. This object is now in very poor condition. It apparently originally consisted of a rectangular plate with two lateral edges turned over to the back to form two hollow tubes. The plate itself was decorated with a relief design but it is now impossible to distinguish the details. Traces of tinplating survive at the edges and doubtless originally the entire surface was tinned. From the levelling material. Feature 4.
16. Dress fastener (Fig. 10). Small dress fastener of the type known at a rather later date from northern Britain. Close parallels of similar date are known from Chichester, Hofheim²⁰ and Novaesium.²¹ The present example has two broad concentric grooves on the round flat head and a small deep central depression possibly intended for a glass or enamel inset. From the levelling material in pit 5 on the east side of gully 2.
17. Small pendant. (Fig. 11). A flat pendant with a pear-shaped outline and elongated tip. The upper end narrows and is curved backwards to form a slender hook. The face of the pendant is decorated on its widest part with a pair of two incised concentric circles round small perforations. The tip is decorated with five small moulded bands.

In shape this example is similar to a small pendant from Kastell Rheingheim.²²

18. Terminal in the shape of a ram's or lion's head. The hair is portrayed by neatly incised lines and the eye sockets deeply bored, perhaps to hold glass or enamel insets. The back surface is concave and it is difficult to see how it could have been fixed to anything other than with glue. From the levelling material in pit 9.
19. Pendant. A horseshoe shaped pendant originally tinned. Decorated with four large ornamental bosses of which only one now remains.^{23, 24}
20. Iron dagger in bronze bound scabbard overall length 13½ inches. The handle was wooden and traces of the wood remain in the corrosion on the iron tang, that joined the handle to the dagger hilt. The tang consisted of two flat iron strips riveted on to the wooden handle inserted between them (see Fig. 12. 20). The base of the handle was further strengthened by a third iron strip lying between the two main strips and either hammered into the wooden handle upwards from its base, or lying between a composite wooden handle comprising two lathes. In two places the tang was expanded into decorative bosses, one near the centre of the handle, and the second larger one, at the end to form a finial. The iron tang was intended to be seen. X-ray photographs taken in the British Museum Research Laboratory revealed fine silver inlay beneath the corrosion on the tang. (Fig. 12. 20a).



20

Fig. 12 Telephone Exchange Site, Dagger.

The scabbard was much corroded, and it has not been possible to remove the corrosion satisfactorily. The front face of the scabbard was of iron; no trace of the back remained, it may have been either leather or wood. The edges were bound with narrow strips of bronze, riveted on to the scabbard with 12 bronze rivets. The front face was decorated with silver inlay forming an elaborate geometric design. (Fig. 12 20a).

Unfortunately this design beneath the corrosion was visible only to X-ray examination and the drawing (Fig. 12) is taken from a British Museum Laboratory X-ray print.

The scabbard is similar in style to other first century scabbards from Richborough, Hod Hill and Nymegen (*Richborough IV*, plate L1; *Hod Hill op. cit.* plate 4 and Nymegen). "Ein neuer romischer Dolch mit silbertauschierten und emailverzierten Scheide aus dem Legionslager. Nymegen" in *Berichten van der rijkdienst voor het oudheidkundig bodemonderzoek*. 1962-3, Bogaers J. E. and Ypeg J. I am grateful to Dr. Webster for this reference.

Also, not illustrated, from the levelling material, five flat studs with short tangs. Flat heads, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter with traces of tin plating on the upper surfaces. Fragments of one or more sheet bronze objects with tin plated upper surfaces. From the base of the central gully.
Bronze pin head. From central gully.

PHASE 2. FROM THE MAKE-UP FOR THE FLOORS. A.D. 49-60 (Fig. 11).

21. Harness or cuirass clip, tin plated on the upper surface and decorated with cut-out decoration. The clip is pierced by two rivets. Close parallels occur on military sites in Britain and the Continent.²⁵
22. Bronze buckle, small with rounded loops and the remains of a sheet bronze strap. From the make-up of room 1.
23. Part of a bronze buckle and strap end of common military form. Parallels can be quoted from Hofheim.²⁶
24. Bronze strigil, point missing. From room 3.
25. Bronze needle, point missing. From the floor of room 3 (*not illustrated*).
26. Bronze brooch. (Fig. 13). Tin plated and decorated with longitudinal notched ridges. Pin missing. Hull's type 10B or 11b, Neuheim derivative. From the make-up of room 1. First half of first century A.D.

Also, not illustrated,

A coiled ferrule identical to no. 9. From the base of pre-Boudiccan gully.

INSULA 10

Fragments of sheet bronze. From make-up for phase 2 house, *Insula 11*.
Piece of plain bronze pin or needle shaft, from make-up for phase 2 house.
Fragment of bronze chain, about two inches long and very corroded, lying on pre-Boudiccan road surface.
Fragment of bronze brooch. From destruction material in room 2. Neuheim derivative. Hull type 10b/11b. First half of first century A.D.

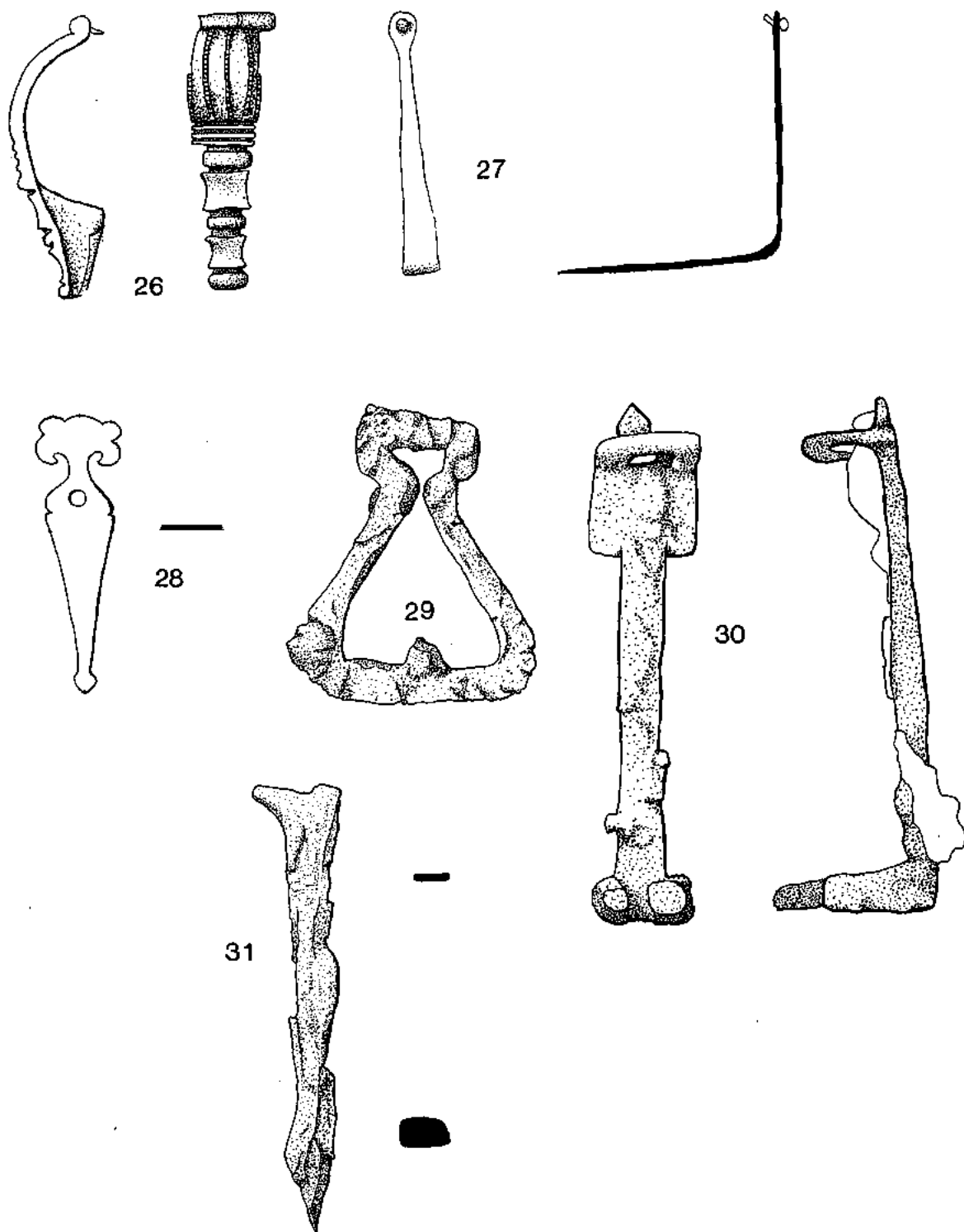


Fig. 13 Telephone Exchange Site, Small finds.

PHASE 5. FROM FILLING OF LATE ROMAN PIT. (Fig. 13).

27. Piece of flat bronze binding with rivet in one end.
28. Bronze peltaic mount with rivet hole in one end. From burnt daub beneath the road.

Iron (Fig. 13)

29. Flat object, triangular in shape with an expanded top and a small upturned knob at the centre of the base. From the bottom of gully 2, phase 1.
 30. Iron Clamp. From Boudiccan wall A.
 31. Bolt. Lying on pre-Boudiccan floor. Room 2.
 32. Iron chisel. From late Roman pit. (fig. 14).
- Also, not illustrated, two round sectioned bolts. From the Boudiccan burnt daub under the street.

Bone (Fig. 14)

33. Bone pendant. Burnt and consequently very fragile. One end phallic, the other carved as a clenched fist. The centre is pierced.
This is a fairly common type of military pendant, close parallels in bronze are known from Verulamium, Newstead, Novaesium and Hofheim.²⁷ From burnt material in pit 4.
 34. Carved bone knife handle. Unstratified.
- Also, not illustrated. Bone pin from late Roman pit.
Bone counter, from late Roman pit.

Intaglio (Fig. 14)

Report by M. Henig

35. Indian Parrot (*Psittacus Torquatus*) standing on branch. Note upturned tail and collar around the neck. From Phase III gravel wall footings.

MATERIAL CITRINE.

Gem is convex on both sides. Its shape is rectangular with rounded corners, rather than the more usual oval. Measurements, 14mm x 11 mm x 5mm thick. The intaglio is boldly cut and the modelling is well above the standard of average provincial work, although it falls short of the very highest standards. (For a magnificent Hellenistic rendering of a parrot on plasma cf.:

"Nuovi Acquisti della mia collezione di Pietre Incise" in *Mitteilungen des Deutschen Archaeologischen Instituts* XLVIII (1933) p. 288 ff and plate 48.1).

Parrots are common on gems and this is the second example from Colchester. The other one is poorly executed although the silver ring on which it is set survives. (H. B. Walters *Catalogue of the Engraved Gems and Cameos, Greek, Etruscan and Roman in the British Museum*. London 1926. 2482).

Other examples; Standing on a branch. Walters. 2481-2.

P. Fossung. *The Thorvaldsen Museum, Catalogue of Antique Engraved Gems and Cameos*. Copenhagen. 1929. 1476-8.

G. Sena Chiesa. *Gemme del Museo Nazionale di Aquileia*. Aquileia 1966. p. 1301-3.

J. E. Price. *Roman Antiquities recently discovered on the site of the National Safe Deposit Company's Premises Mansion House*. London 1873, pl. VIII, 12 (Guildhall Museum Catalogue 1908, p. 109 R xv 35).

Also Note: Walters. 2478-2480.

Fossung. 1475, 1479-81.

Chiesa. 1297-1300; 1304-8.

A. Furtwangler. *Beschreibung der Geschnittenen Steine im Antiquarium*. Berlin. 1896. 7913-7920.

G. Richter. *Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Catalogue of Engraved Gems, Greek, Etruscan and Roman*. Rome 1956. 523.

The same bird is also found on mosaics where the colours (bright green body with a red collar) are clear.

cf O. Kellar. *Die Antike Tierwelt*. Leipzig, 1909, II p. 46 and fig. 19. (Mosaic in Naples).

F. Fremersdorf. *Das römische Haus mit dem Dionysso-Mosaik vor dem supportal des Kölner Domes*. Berlin, 1956, p. 51 abb 17. Two parrots pull a cart in celebration of the wine god.

A possible connection with Dionysos-Bacchus is suggested by Athenaeus v 201 (quoting Callixenus of Rhodes on the Dionysos procession of Ptolemy Philadelphus in which parrots were carried.)

The elder Pliny (*Natural History* X 58) says that "(the parrot) greets its masters and repeats words given to it, being particularly sportive over the wine". (*in vino praecipue lasciva*.)

The bird was undoubtedly a favourite pet, especially in sophisticated society, as fine elegies over the deaths of two over-indulged individuals testify. (Ovid. *Amores* 2, 6 and Statius, *Silvae* 2.4). Other writers refer to the parrot as a fine mimic (*Martial* XIV, 73 and *Persius Prologue* line 8.)

On parrots in antiquity, cf George Jennerson. *Animals for show and pleasure in Ancient Rome*. Manchester 1937 p. 120-1.

The use of a clear stone, its convex shape and the style of the cutting suggests a date no later than Flavian times, and this agrees with the bulk of the literary references.

Glass (Fig. 14)

36. Moulded glass handle. Boudiccan burnt daub. Room 1.

37. Rim of glass beaker. Boudiccan burnt daub, Room 1.

38. Half of a glass finger ring. Opaque brown glass. Late Roman rubbish pit.

Lamps and lamp moulds (Fig. 14)

The following were discovered lying in the centre of room 1 of the phase 2 house and were covered by the burnt daub of the Boudiccan destruction. All were smashed into very small fragments.

39. Part of a medium sized lamp in fine buff fabric, with a lion moulded in relief on the upper surface. The lion is boldly and realistically moulded. This design is clearly a local type. Two identical examples were found in the town by the local collector, Joslin, in the last century, and are now in the Colchester and Essex museum. *May*, plate LXXI.

40. Part of a similar lamp with an elaborate nozzle.

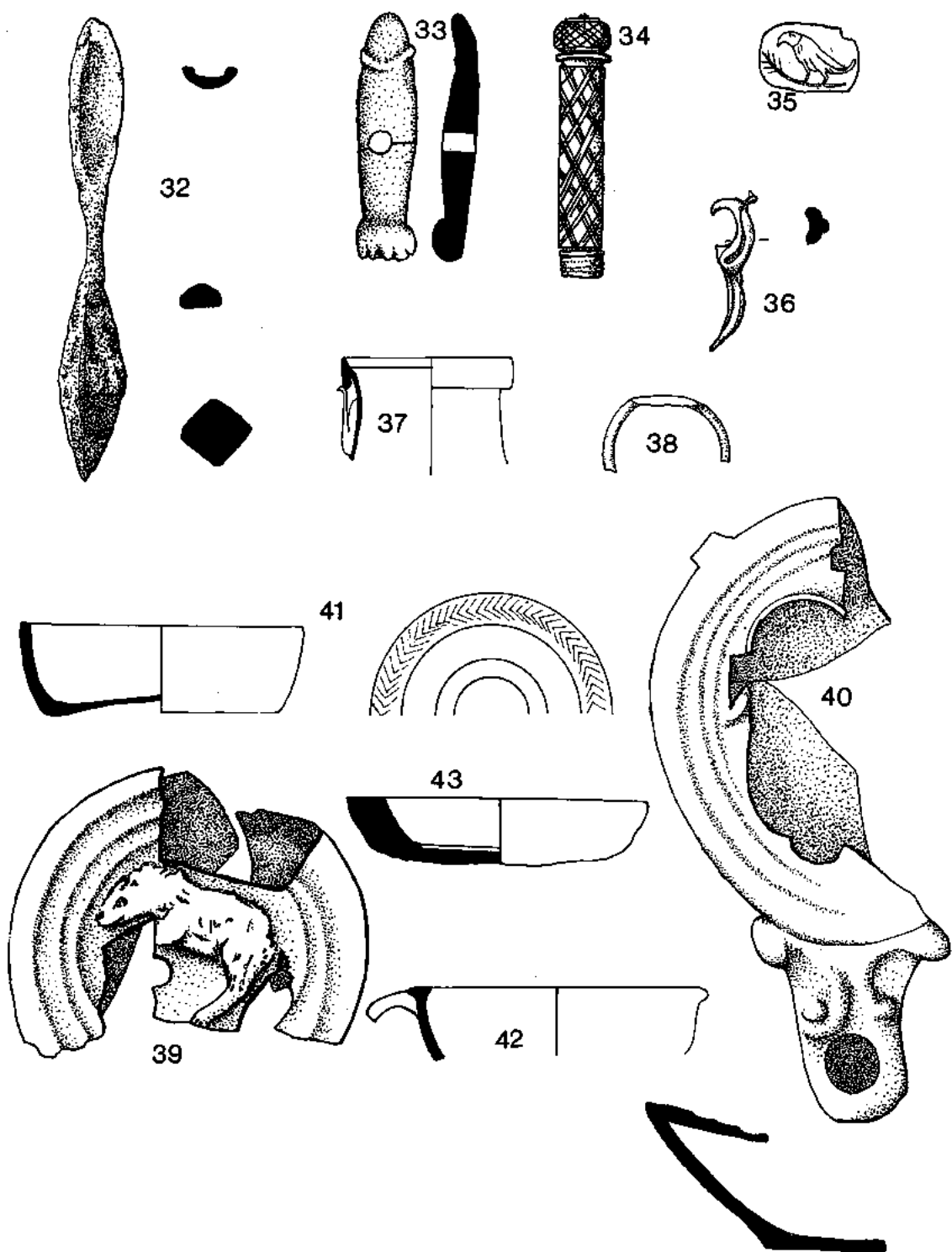


Fig. 14 Telephone Exchange Site, Small finds.

Also, not illustrated, remains of at least four further examples of the same type as nos. 38-9, but so fragmentary that it was not possible to restore them. All came from within a few inches of each other in room 1.

41. Part of a lamp holder in pale buff fabric with a rouletted wreath on the under surface. This is an example of the commonest type of lamp holder in Colchester. Nearly all of the examples in the museum are of this type. A complete example is published in *May*, p. 191.

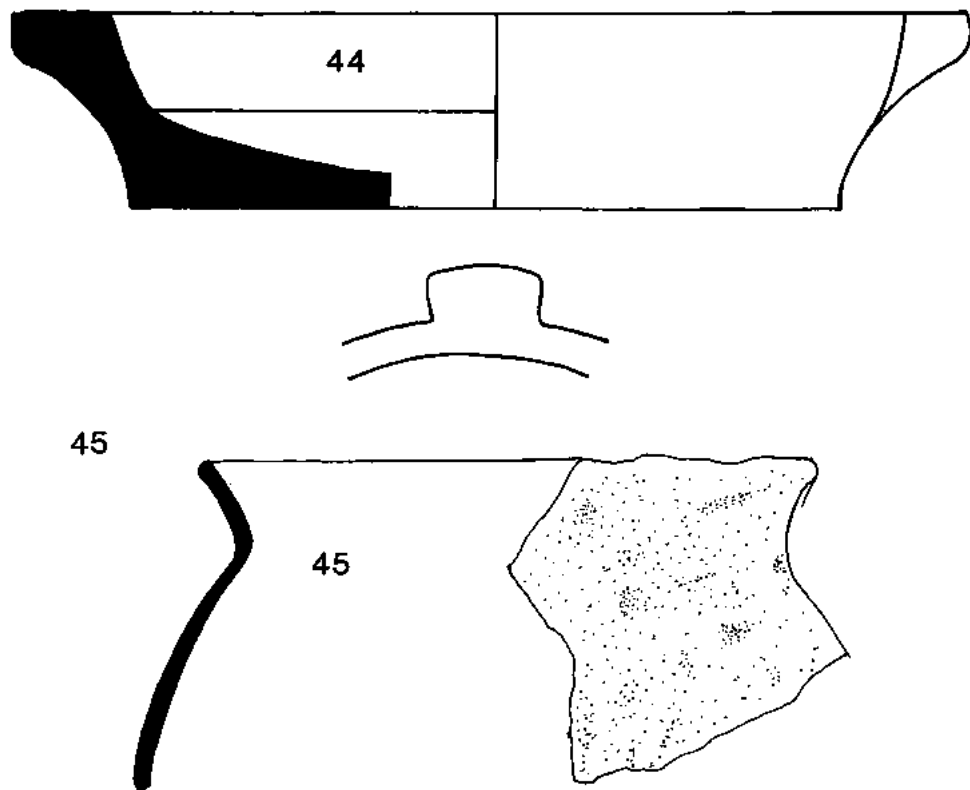


Fig. 15 Telephone Exchange Site, Small finds.

Also, not illustrated, at least four similar examples.

42. Fragment of a lamp holder. This is the only example found on the site of the rarer plain type.
43. Part of a lamp mould. Grey/buff fabric. Very irregular and carelessly finished on the exterior, interior carefully and smoothly finished. No moulds for the upper surfaces of lamps were found. From the floor of room 1, phase 2. Sealed by the Boudiccan burnt daub.

Also, not illustrated, two further examples, one from the levelling material in pit 4, (end of phase 1) and the other on the floor of the phase 2 room 1 sealed by the Boudiccan daub.

It is interesting to note that complete moulds for the Claudian lamps were found in 1964, 50 feet to the north beneath the Telephone Manager's office (3).

Miscellaneous (Fig. 15)

44. Part of a sandstone mortarium. Polished on the interior with two small lugs on rim. Unstratified.
45. Part of a Saxon hand made pot. See coarse pottery report. No. 105.
- Also, not illustrated*, two counters, one in chalk and one in brown enamel, from the levelling material in gully 2. Phase 1. Identical to the counter from St. Mary's Rectory. Fig. 25 no. 12.

The Coins

Report by Richard Reece

- PHASE 1. From the levelling material in the pit.
- 3 Claudius I 41-64 R.I.C.66 2 imitation issues.
- 2 Claudius I 41-64 R.I.C.69 1 imitation issue.
- PHASE 2. From the Boudiccan destruction.
- 1 Claudius I. 41-64.
- PHASE 3. From the foundation of Wall E.
- 1 Vespasian. 77-78 R.I.C. 594.
- PHASE 4. From the gravel floors immediately east of the street.
- 1 Volusian. 251-3 R.I.C. (Vol) 166 (Ph.1) 94.
- 1 Tetricus I. 270-73 R.I.C. 100.
- 2 Barbarous Radiates 270-90.
- 1 Constantinopolis 330-35. As M.K. 52.
- 1 Constans 348-50 C.K.178.

From the late Roman Pit

- 1 Trajan 103-11. R.I.C. 499.

Unstratified from the filling of the latest street side ditch.

- 3 Claudius I. 61-64.
- 2 Barbarous Radiates. 270-90.
- 1 Constantine I. 310-13 R.I.C. 6. Tr.884.
- 1 Constantine II. 323-4 R.I.C. 7. Tr.443.
- 1 Gratian 364-75 C.K.529.
- 2 Arcadius 388-402 C.K.801.

Bones

Report by J. J. Heath

- PHASE 1 Gully 2 filling.

Remains of at least 1 *Bos* and one 'Sheep'. No hind limbs present.²⁸

- PHASE 2. From Boudiccan destruction.

Remains of at least 1 pig, 1 *Bos* and 1 'sheep'. No hind limb remains.

- PHASE 3. From Boudiccan destruction.

Remains of at least 1 adult *Bos*, one juvenile *Bos* and 1 juvenile 'sheep'.
No hind limb remains.

PHASE 4.

Remains of at least 1 pig, 1 *Bos* and 1 medium sized bird. Again no mammalian hind limbs present.

The absence of any bones from the choice cuts from the hind quarters of the animals is surprising, but compares closely with the animal remains from St. Mary's Rectory (see below).

Notes

The Telephone Exchange Site

- 1 The excavation was largely confined to the proposed basement area of the new building. For the location of the sites described in this volume see Fig. 3.
- 2 The system of numbering the streets of the Roman town in this, and all articles in this volume is that initiated by M. R. Hull, see *R. Col.*, pp. 64-75.
- 3 The north/south street together with a vaulted masonry drain which ran along its western side were sectioned by Mr. J. Blyth and the Archaeological Research Group in 1963/64. Museum staff kept a watch on the contractors' excavations on the site in 1964, and burnt debris of Boudiccan date yielded a number of lamps and moulds. In 1938 part of a geometric mosaic was uncovered by C. A. Winckle in the garden behind No. 10 North Hill (*R. Col.*, p. 101-14.) This floor was about 50 feet north of the present site.
- 4 *R. Col.*, p. 98-103.
- 5 B. R. K. Dunnnett *Excavations on North Hill Colchester*, 1965. *Arch. Journ.*, vol. cxxiii. 1967, pp. 27-61.
- 6 *Arch. Journ.*, *op. cit.*, p. 36 and plate V.
- 7 *Arch. Journ.*, *op. cit.*, pp. 31-33. Fig. 2.
- 8 *R. Col.*, p. 70-72. Fig. 30.
- 9 *Arch. Journ.*, *op. cit.*, p. 39-40. See also Fig. 3, *Insulae* 11 and 18.
- 10 By Mr. Hull. *R. Col.*, pp. 70-72. Fig. 30. And by Mr. J. Blyth on the site of the Telephone Manager's Office in 1964. Information from Mr. J. Blyth.
- 11 For instance at the Neronian fortlet at Martinhoe, Devon. *Proceedings of the Devon Archaeological Exploration Society*, No. 24. 1966. Plates VIII and IX.
- 12 I am grateful to Mr. J. S. Wachter for this suggestion.
- 13 As for instance was the case in the south-east corner of *Insula* 10 where only about five years elapsed before re-building. *Arch. Journ.*, *op. cit.*, pp. 33-5.
- 14 Mr. Hull has suggested that the thick layers of yellow clay frequently encountered in excavations in the *Colonia* are the remains of weathered clay walls.
- 15 Dunnnett. *Excavations on North Hill Colchester*. *Arch. Journ.*, cxxiii, fig. 10.20.
- 16 Trentham. I am grateful to Dr. Webster for this parallel.
- 17 *Camulodunum. Cam.*, plate CII no. 31. Hofheim *Das Fruhromische Lager bei Hofheim*. E. Ritterling. 1931. *Tafel XII* 35-6, 41-2.
- 18 Hofheim, *op. cit.*, *Tafel XVI* nos. 28, 29, 32, 33.
- 19 Hofheim, *op. cit.*, *Tafel XVI* nos. 11, 12.
- 20 Chichester. Information, Dr. Webster. Hofheim, *op. cit.*, *Tafel XV* 13, 14.
- 21 *Novaesium*. A. Marcus and E. Weber. Bonn 1904. *Tafel XXX* no. 12.
- 22 Kastell Rheingheim. I am grateful to Dr. G. Webster for information on the military equipment.
- 23 *Novaesium. op. cit.*, *Tafel XXXIV*; Richborough V, plate XXXIX, 146. Hod Hill. Brailsford, J. *Antiquities from Hod Hill in the Durben Collection*. 1965.
- 24 Hod Hill, fig. 3 A.42 and 43.
- 25 From Hod Hill. *op. cit.*, fig. 2 A.30-3; Hofheim, *op. cit.* *Tafel XIII* nos. 8, 34-6.
- 26 Buckles and strap from Hofheim, *op. cit.*, *Tafel XI* 12-13.
- 27 *Novaesium, op. cit.*, Newstead. Curle, *A Roman Frontier post and its people* 1911. pl. LXXVII nos. 2 and 3. Verulamium. Wheeler, *Excavations at Verulamium*. 1936. pl. LXIII.
- 28 "Sheep" in this report cannot be separated from goat, the reference collections do not contain enough comparative material for determinations to be made.

East Stockwell Street

In October 1964 two cottages on the corner of Williams Walk and East Stockwell Street were demolished to make way for a car park. Thanks to the co-operation of the developers, Messrs. Hills, it was possible to excavate on the site for four weeks in November 1964.¹

THE EAST-WEST STREET

The east-west street between *Insulae* 20 and 12 was encountered running across the centre of the site 16 feet south of its hypothetical position as shown in *Roman Colchester*.² It now can be seen to continue the line of the street found under St. Martin's House in 1930³ between *Insulae* 19 and 11.

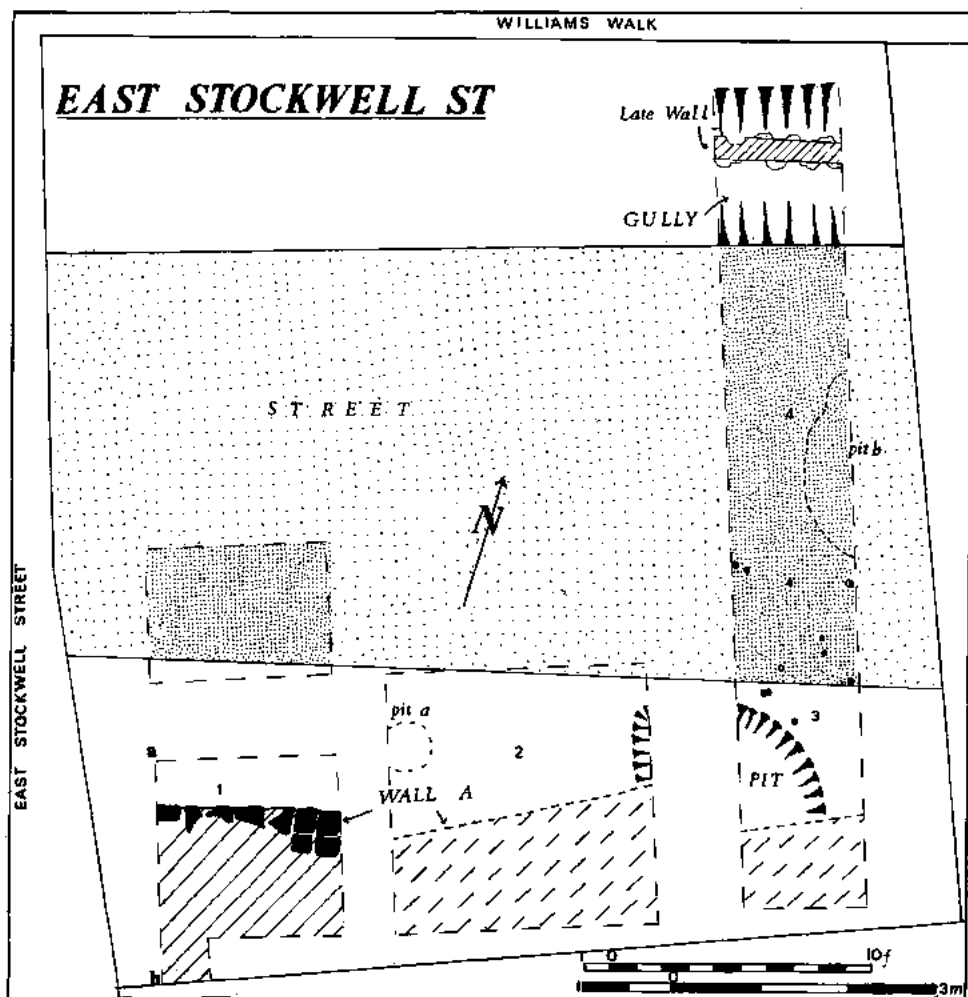


Fig. 16 East Stockwell Street, Site plan.

The section cut across this road in trenches 3 and 4 revealed a total build-up of four feet involving at least nine re-surfacings of the street.

The earliest road, with a well-cobbled and cambered surface, was found to overlies a small rubbish pit containing early second century pottery, which provided a surprisingly late *terminus post quem* for the initial street.

Throughout most of its life an earth-cut drainage gully ran along the northern edge of the street. This was filled with dark grey silt which had necessitated at least three re-cuttings of the gully. This silt contained a small amount of pottery of late first to third century date, which provided a *terminus post quem* of A.D. 250-300 for the construction of a small, masonry wall that overlay the silt in the earlier gully. The wall was flimsily built with foundations only 9 inches deep and 18 inches wide and it is impossible to envisage it supporting any substantial weight. It was probably the base for a verandah or possibly a street-side arcade.

Beneath the road itself was an earlier deposit consisting of a much compressed layer of laid turf. This consisted of a substantial layer of grey/yellow, cheese-like material with clearly defined courses of dark grey turves, measuring approximately 18 inches by 12 inches, and 3 inches thick. In places, up to three courses of these remained *in situ*. They covered the entire length of trench 4, but it was unfortunately not possible to establish the limit of the deposit on the west. It was absent in trench 1. A small quantity of Claudian material was found sealed in the turf.

The function of the turf work is of great interest. Its interpretation as an *agger* for the road is unlikely in view of the total lack elsewhere in Colchester of any sign of one, and the absence of any especial need for it here.

A more likely explanation would seem to be as remains of a defence, running north-south and enclosing the higher ground to the south and west, and pre-dating the construction of the early second century road. It is tempting to associate this turf with the late first century ditch found in *Insulae* 1 and 2, or possibly with the pre-*Colonia* occupation on North Hill,⁴ but until further traces of it are found elsewhere its course and precise date must remain matters for speculation.⁵

INSULA 20

The road was bounded on the south by a massive building represented by an enormous robber trench in trenches 2 and 3, and in trench 1 by a short stretch of foundations and the lowest course of the superstructure.

The wall was masonry built of septaria set in hard yellow mortar. A small fragment of Purbeck marble sheathing found unstratified over the latest road surface in trench 3 may originally have come from the wall face. The width of the wall above foundation level was in excess of seven feet; unfortunately the southern edge of the structure underlay the adjoining property to the south and could not be excavated.

This massive wall may have served to some extent as a retaining wall for a terrace, since the hill slopes steeply down to the north at this spot. Nevertheless, the width of the wall still seems excessive for that of a normal house and the presence of some monumental public building seems indicated, in this, the central *Insula* of the walled town.

Dating evidence was unfortunately meagre; the southern edge of the earliest road surface had been cut through by the wall trench and the first street surface was overlain by a thin spread of mortar and small chips of septaria, probably all derived from the rubbish associated with the construction of the wall. As already pointed out, the road itself cannot be earlier than c. A.D. 120, so this building must in turn be Hadrianic or later.

Of the later history of the site little is known. Two pits (pits A and B) yielded a small quantity of Medieval pottery (see below) but no other finds or structures were found associated with them. The map published in Philip Morant's *History of Colchester* (1768) shows land at the rear of premises on the west side of George Street to be open ground, traversed by a diagonal path leading to East Stockwell Street near the High Street, from the junction of George Street with Maidenburgh Street to the north-east.

In trench 4 large quantities of kiln material and fragments of clay pipes, particularly from wasters, were found. All the pipes were identical and stamped S.C. These initials probably refer to Stephen Chamberlain, who, according to the Universal Directory of 1801 was a pipe-maker in George Street, Colchester.⁶ The cottages demolished in 1964 were erected in the 1820's.

Small Finds

From the turf deposit beneath the earliest street level, an incomplete bronze brooch. Pre-Flavian. Fig. 28. 4.

Samian

Report by G. Dannell

From the turf beneath the earliest road surface.

1. 24/5 stamped OF LICN. Recorded parallels from Colchester and Auxerre. Claudian.

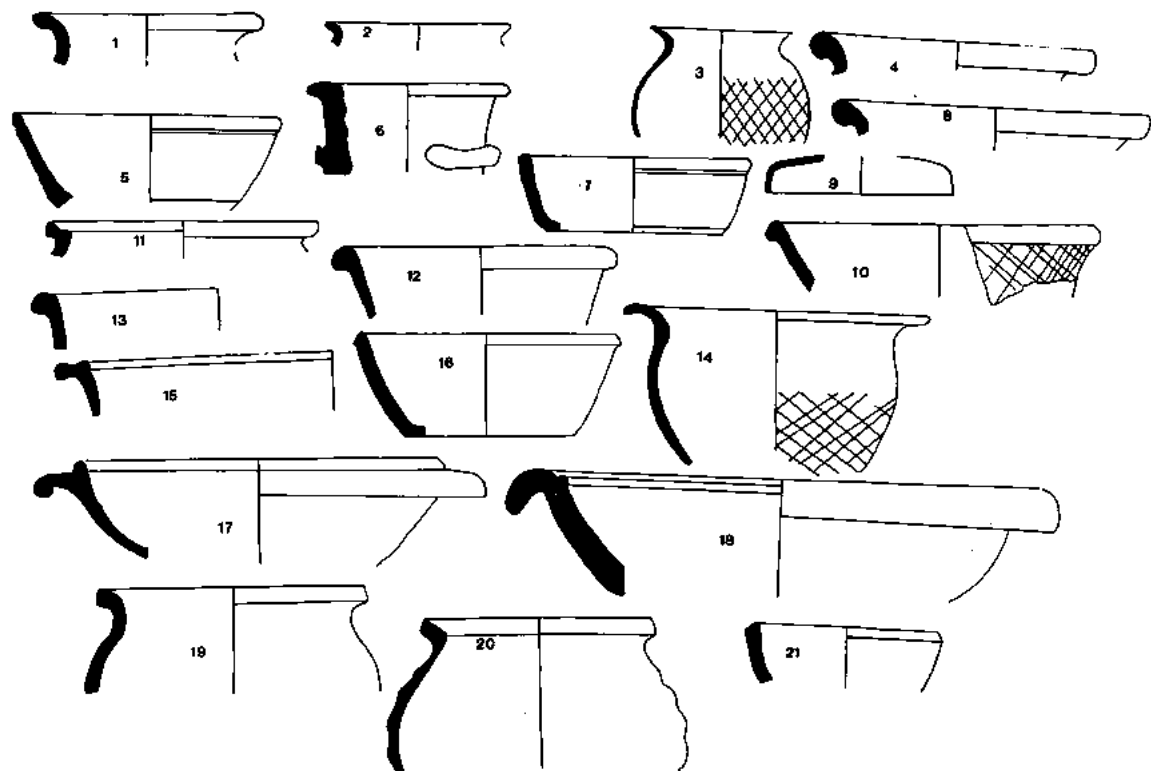


Fig. 17 East Stockwell Street, Coarse pottery.

The Coarse Pottery (Fig. 17)

From pit cut in earliest road surface.

1. Rim of necked cooking pot in rather poor quality, buff coloured fabric, grey at core with white grit inclusions. Fumed dark exterior. This is a common type starting in the first century. See Telephone Exchange site, Fig. 8. 37. St. Mary's Rectory, Fig. 25. 1.
2. Small fragment of beaker. *Cam.* form 108. In fine, grey fabric with polished black exterior. First to early second century.

From pit sealed by the first road surface.

3. Part of cooking pot in fine, buff-coloured, hard, sand fabric. Very thin walls. Exterior black, burnished and decorated with cross hatching. *R. Col.* form 122. Hadrianic. This is not a particularly common form in Colchester.
4. Rim of cooking pot. Grey with distinctive gritty surface. This type with everted bead rim and short, upright neck invariably has one or more sharply incised grooves on the shoulder. See Fig. 25. St. Mary's Rectory site No. 18. Not earlier than c. A.D. 100.
5. Open dish *R. Col.* 40b in hard, grey fabric with smooth, black surface. Late first century onwards.

LYING ON THE SURFACE OF THE FIFTH ROAD

6. Rim of flagon in fine, orange fabric. Smooth surfaces, very pronounced throwing rings on the interior.
7. Open dish in very dense, fine, orange fabric. Grey at core. Smooth surfaces mica coated. Upright, rounded rim with broad, shallow groove beneath.

FROM PIT CUT IN LATEST ROAD SURFACE

8. Bead rim of a necked cooking pot in coarse, gritty, grey fabric.
9. Lid in chalk white soft fabric, colour coated in red/brown on interior, black on exterior. Exterior polished and decorated with rouletting. *R. Col.* form 308a. Fourth century.
10. Hard, dense, grey fabric with darker smoothed surfaces. Exterior decorated with cross hatching. This type starts in the pre-Boudiccan period (See Fig. 9 nos. 79-80) and in decorated form as here, becomes common in the last quarter of the first century, but also occurs rarely in pre-Boudiccan context. *Arch. Journ.*, cxxiii. fig. 10, 20.
11. Dense, grey fabric; roughly smoothed surfaces. Square, everted rim, cupped for lid. Second century.

FROM SILT IN LATEST GULLY. POST-DATING LATE ROMAN WALL

12. Rim of bowl *R. Col.* form 38 in gritty, grey fabric with carefully smoothed surfaces.
13. As 12 but with polished surfaces.
14. Rim of cooking pot in dense, dark grey fabric. Black burnished exterior decorated with cross hatching. The widely splayed mouth and the acute angle of the lattice pattern suggest an Antonine date.

15. Dense, gritty, grey fabric, orange/brown surfaces which are rough and gritty. Squared, everted rim with marked, internal beading.
16. Rim of dish in hard, grey, dense fabric with occasional inclusions. Polished grey surfaces. Simple rounded rim with broad, shallow groove beneath.
17. Mortarium in very good and dense, buff fabric. Internal grits are brown, white and grey. Densely scattered. *R. Col.* form 505. Fourth century.

FROM THE SILT AT THE EDGE OF THE LATEST ROAD SURFACE

18. Mortarium in very pale, almost white fabric. Rather soft. No internal grits survive. *R. Col.* form 496. Trajan/Hadrian.

FROM POST-ROMAN PIT (a) (trench 2)

19. Part of Medieval cooking pot in fine, sandy, and rather laminated, orange/buff fabric. Darker on the surfaces, particularly on the exterior which is almost black. Surfaces slightly micaceous. Rim squared and everted. Upright neck and slightly pronounced shoulder. 13th-14th century.

FROM POST-ROMAN PIT (b) (trench 4)

20. Part of Medieval cooking pot in very fine, hard, grey fabric. The walls are very thin and the throwing grooves on the exterior very pronounced, producing a decorative effect. Rim carefully squared and everted with marked flat internal bevel. 13th century.
21. Part of open dish in rather coarse, grey fabric incorporating quite large grit inclusions. Walls much thicker than 20. Surfaces black and smoothed. Rim unexpanded but neatly flattened. 13th-14th century.

East Stockwell Street. Notes

- 1 Permission to excavate was granted by the owners, Messrs. W. A. Hills & Sons Ltd., to whom grateful thanks are due.
- 2 *R. Col.*, plate CIV.
- 3 *R. Col.*, p. 67 fig. 27.
- 4 See above page 2.
- 5 No sign of any rampart or ditch was found in 1967 when an 8-9ft. deep telephone cable trench was dug from the north side of the High Street 320 feet south of the site. The area, however, had been extensively disturbed in recent times so the evidence was not conclusive.
- 6 I am grateful to Mr. L. H. Gant for information on the pipes and Stephen Chamberlain.

44 North Hill

In April 1967 the destruction of the sixteenth century building formerly occupied by Messrs. Spurlings, 44 North Hill, rendered the site available for excavation, prior to its redevelopment for offices.¹ The former building occupied a 30 feet wide strip on the eastern end of the site fronting on to North Hill (Fig. 3). The cellars beneath the house had removed all traces of earlier occupation, while west of the building the garden soil had been disturbed down to Roman levels, which probably accounts for the total absence of Medieval and later remains. The four large pits (Fig. 18) which penetrated to the Roman levels contained only black soil with a high humus content, and no finds.

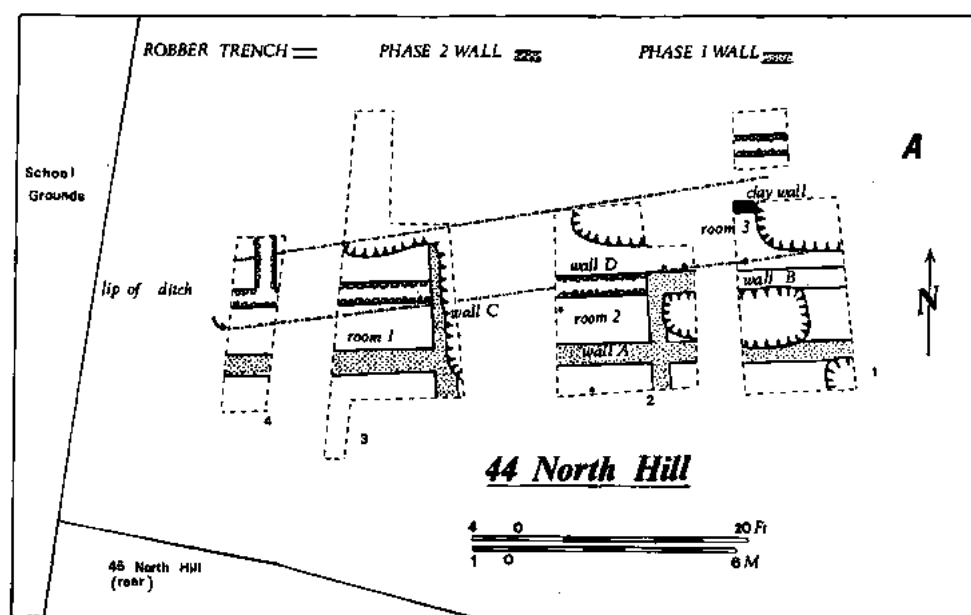


Fig. 18 44 North Hill, Site plan.

The area available for excavation was severely limited by contractors' stipulations, and particularly on the south and north of the site, by safety considerations for existing buildings. Initially three trenches were opened covering an area 43 feet west of North Hill and 10 feet north of the boundary with 45 North Hill. These were excavated down to natural subsoil. Later, further extensions were dug to the west and south in an attempt to locate the limits of the Roman masonry building which the first three trenches revealed.

THE EXCAVATIONS

PHASE 1

The earliest feature on the site was an east-west ditch which ran across the site parallel to, but 100 feet south of, the line of the town wall.

As can be seen from the section (Fig. 37 and photograph (Plate III)) this ditch consisted of a V-profiled cut penetrating $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet into the natural subsoil. At the

base of the ditch was a thin layer of black primary silt, two inches thick and sealed by a deposit of stiff, grey clay incorporating thin spits of yellow sand, but at its thickest point, only six inches deep.

Both these layers were doubtless due to the process of natural silting, while their shallow depth suggests that the ditch was not open very long. The silt was sealed by clean, sterile tips of sand and yellow clay which dipped steeply and very pronounceably from the higher, northern side of the ditch. This, combined with the absence of any silt or humus, strongly suggests that the tips were the result of an artificial and deliberate levelling operation. Indeed, they may represent the mound of the ditch, thrown back into the cutting when it was no longer needed, an explanation which would account for the absence of a rampart or any other associated features.

The further course of the ditch is as yet unknown; no definite sign of an earlier defence has so far been recognised beneath the later town rampart in any of the places at which it has been sectioned. What now appears likely to be a continuation of it, however, was sectioned 100 yards further east of the present site, in December 1964. Excavations by the writer in the garden of Lorgarth, Nunn's Road, now the approach to the North Hill multi-storey car park, revealed the southern edge of a steep cut into natural subsoil, beneath a second century masonry house. The presence of a modern boundary wall prevented the total excavation of this feature, but it lay on the projected line of the North Hill ditch and the excavated filling was very similar in both cases.

The date of the ditch is extremely difficult to assess accurately. No finds were made in the primary ditch silt, while the artificial filling produced only a small bronze stud (see below Fig. 28 no. 5). This filling however, was sealed by a 12 inch thick layer of soft, brown/grey loam containing oyster shells, a few broken tiles and a fair quantity of pottery, dating from c. A.D. 65-120. This loamy layer was probably deposited soon after the levelling operation was complete, since the upper surface of the ditch fill showed no sign of exposure or silting and was probably quickly sealed. It is possible that the loamy layer with its pottery was lying about elsewhere prior to its deposition here as extra levelling material, but the clean, sharp and unweathered breaks in the pottery suggest otherwise.

It seems likely, therefore, that the ditch was filled in by the early second century, after which domestic refuse started to accumulate on it fairly promptly. The ditch itself cannot have been dug very long before, in view of the small quantity of silt in its base and the absence of any sign of a re-cut. Thus the theory of a hurried pre-Boudiccan defence, though attractive at first as explaining its rather rough and shallow profile, is not tenable, and a late Flavian or Trajanic date must be preferred.

PHASE 2 (Fig. 18)

In trenches 2 and 3 a temporary hearth or bonfire on the latest tip of the artificial ditch filling was indicated by a small patch of burnt daub associated with a few scraps of late first century pottery. In the west, the deposition of layer 6 (the loamy layer) and the construction of the first permanent masonry building on the site appeared to have been contemporary. The foundations of the house were sealed in many places by the upper part of layer 6, though the walls cut the lower parts of the layer.

In spite of the trench extensions already mentioned, in no place was the limit of this building established, and later contractors' excavations revealed Roman masonry at point A (Fig. 18) which is almost certainly part of the same

building. Assuming that the building fronted on to the north-south Roman street beneath the modern North Hill, the house would have been at least 145 feet wide. The east-west Roman street was not found in its expected position continuing the line of the street between *Insulae* 2 and 10,² seven feet north of the south boundary of the site. It was presumably displaced some yards either north or south, a not uncommon feature of streets in the *Colonia*. Fifteen feet further north in the cellar of 45 North Hill, a plain red tessellated pavement was uncovered in 1963³ and this is likely to have been part of the same house, which would, in that case, have been fairly extensive.

In the present excavations only three rooms were found. The walls were solidly built of septaria and yellow mortar resting on foundations of gravel and mortar. The floors were all of trampled yellow clay on which had accumulated thin layers of dark silty occupation material. The clay floors were renewed at least three times and in the north part of room 2, five times, each re-flooring being separated by a thin layer of black occupation material. Penetrating all these re-surfacings were a number of small stakeholes, forming no recognizable pattern, but presumably supports for some kind of furniture, since their measurements three inches by three inches are too small for those of roof supports or partitions. Five and a half feet further north of the north wall of room 3 was a small partition wall, 12 inches thick, made of unbaked clay blocks.

In the fourth century the building was extensively refurbished. The north wall C was demolished and a new wall, wall D, extended the existing wall B at least 36 feet westwards with a north-south wall branching off it 34 feet to the west.

This new wall was distinctively built of pale mortar and septaria, resting on foundations of small loose chips of septaria and joining wall B at a butt joint.

The rooms, now rather enlarged, were floored with rough *opus signinum*, which, when it had become extremely worn, was replaced in all the rooms with a neatly laid plain red tessellated floor.

These tessellated floors were sealed in most cases by the garden soil only, but in some places they were immediately overlain by a thin layer of plain yellow clay mixed with roofing tiles and fragments of wall plaster, painted plain red or white. This material presumably represents the collapsed superstructure, while the occurrence of the plain clay suggests that the walls were carried up in wattle and daub. Certainly very little rubble was found on the site, a fact that even very competent robbing would hardly explain if the structure had been entirely masonry built.

THE DATE

It has already been suggested that layer 6 was deposited in the second century, and it has been shown that the building itself was erected contemporaneously with this layer's deposition. In the make-up of one of the *opus signinum* floors was a plated denarius and a fragment of late Roman painted pottery. A date in the early fourth century is therefore the earliest that can be postulated for the laying of the *opus signinum* floors. The date of and reason for the building's final abandonment is not known.

COARSE POTTERY (Fig. 19)

From the rubbish tip above the ditch fill (layer 6).

1. Bowl in hard, granular, grey fabric with burnished surfaces, decorated with cross hatching on the exterior. Neat, rather triangular rim, straight walls and bevelled base.

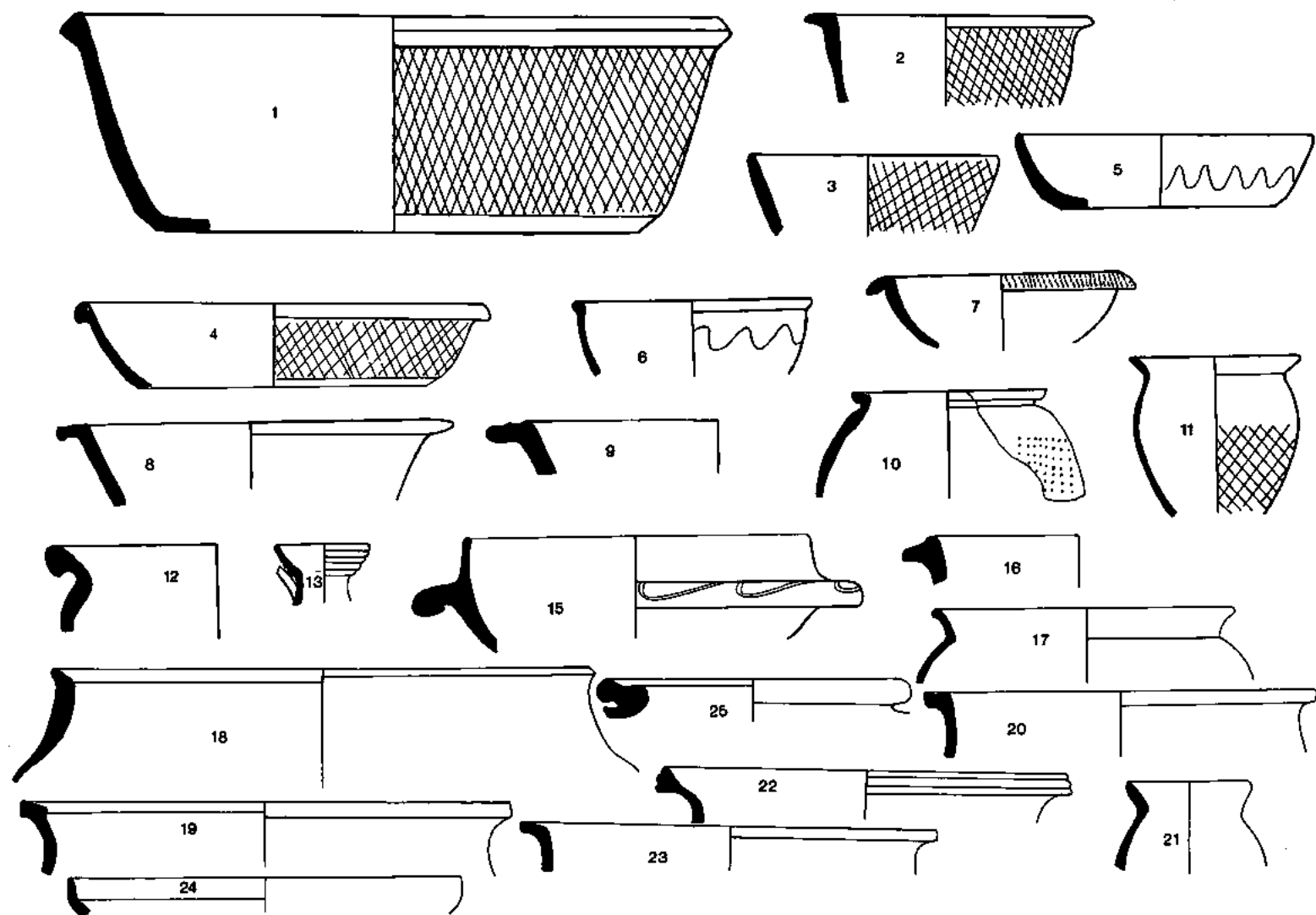


Fig. 19 44 North Hill, Coarse pottery, with Pottery from Queen Street.

Also, not illustrated, another closely similar, though finer example.

2. Very dark grey, gritty fabric. Black burnished surfaces with cross-hatched decoration on the exterior. Simple everted rim.
3. Hard, dense, grey fabric with pink/grey burnished surfaces and cross hatched decoration on the exterior.

Also, not illustrated, another very similar example with a pinker surface.

4. Dish in dense, pale grey fabric, burnished surfaces and with cross-hatched decoration on the exterior. Rounded rim and chamfered base.

Also, not illustrated, (a) a closely similar but larger example.

- (b) similar to the above, but in laminated, grey fabric with a rather turned-down rim.

Dishes and bowls similar to nos. 1 and 4 are common in the *Colonia* until the later third century. They are absent from late Roman deposits. The dish form appears to have started rather earlier than the bowls. A straight sided dish with cross-hatched decoration on the exterior and a bead rim occurred in the Boudiccan destruction layer in *Insula* 10. (*Arch. Journ.*, cxxiii, fig. 10.20, 29). Related dishes but without the decoration occurred in the A.D. 61 destruction layer in *Insula* 11 (see Fig. 9 above nos. 80–82). They occur in graves of Flavian date, e.g. Grave 111 (Jarmin 66–73), Grave 48 (Jos 88) and Grave 125. Bowls do not appear much before the very end of the first century. One of the earliest stratified examples from the *Colonia* is from *Insula* 25 (Mercury theatre site) see Fig. 25, 3 above. c. A.D. 50. They are common in second century graves.

5. Gritty, light grey fabric with burnished surfaces, almost black on the exterior which is decorated with a lightly incised wavy line.

Also, not illustrated, three very similar examples.

Dishes and bowls with this type of decoration are not found in Flavian contexts and are probably initially Trajanic/Hadrianic. One of the earliest associations is in Grave 20 (Joslin 66) where an example occurs with *R. Col.* forms 156 and 150 and *Cam.* form 218. Date c. A.D. 100.

6. Dense, hard grey, rather sandy fabric. Rough surfaces with a burnished wavy line on the exterior. Small, neat, rounded rim.
7. Pale grey fabric, dense and rather granular. Carefully smoothed black surfaces. The rim is everted and down-turned with a band of neat rouletting on the upper surface of the rim.

Also, not illustrated (a) similar example in black, sandy fabric with plain surfaces and a triangular rim.

- (b) Open bowl in very dense, pale grey fabric. Identical in form to *Insula* 11 no. 33 above.

8. Gritty, grey fabric with rough surfaces. Slight beading on the edge of the heavy everted rim.

Also, not illustrated, a similar but smaller example with a burnished wavy line on the exterior upper surfaces of the rim.

This bowl (8) is related to the early carinated bowls similar to those of pre-Boudiccan date in *Insula* 11 nos. 20–21 (Fig. 8). They are very frequent in the Flavian/Trajanic periods but are surprisingly rare in the contemporary graves. They last into Antonine times, when they tend to be very much larger, (see *Insula* 17 Balcerne Gardens, Fig. 22 no. 29 below), but are absent from third and fourth century deposits other than as rubbish survival.

9. Dense, sandy, grey fabric with rough, brick-red surfaces.

10. Rim of fine jar in dense, grey fabric with very highly burnished black surface *R. Col.* form 122. Flavian.
11. Sandy, red fabric with smoothed, grey surface. Rather micaceous. Simple everted rim. Exterior burnished and decorated with cross-hatching. Early second century.

NECKED COOKING POTS

12. Rim of pot in very gritty, grey fabric with rough surfaces. Narrow, deep grooves on the shoulder beneath the short upright neck. This is one of a very distinctive type in the *Colonia*, characterised by the exceptionally gritty and rough surfaces, the deep, shoulder grooves and the short, upright neck. It does not seem to have been isolated before. So far no example has been found in pre-Flavian deposits but several examples were found in layers dating from c. A.D. 80-150. in *Insula* 25. (St. Mary's Rectory, see Fig. 25, no. 18 above). They are common in second century graves here. They are generally absent from late Roman deposits, e.g. "The Mithraeum", but one example occurs from the Firs car park site, Fig. 30, no. 1.

Also, not illustrated (a) necked cooking pot in sandy, grey fabric with smoothed surface identical in form to *Insula* 11, Fig. 8, no. 37.

(b) One example similar to the above but with a squarer rim rather cupped on the interior.

13. Flagon in fine, brick-red fabric with smoothed surfaces. Cupped rim with the rings on the exterior simply defined by deep, incised grooves. This type does not occur much before A.D. 100, but lasts throughout the Roman period. *R. Col.*, Fig. 60 nos. 6-11. Fourth century.

Also, not illustrated. Mortarium in pale, cream-coloured fabric with medium sized fawn and grey grits on the interior. *R. Col.* form 196. A.D. 100-150.

Also, not illustrated. Storage jar rim in very coarse, grey fabric with large cavities where inclusions have weathered out.

14. Part of lid in hard, dense fabric, biscuit coloured with traces of mica gilding on the surfaces. Rim carefully squared.

FROM THE MAKE-UP FOR THE LATEST (TESSELLATED) FLOORS

15. Fragment of a fine, flanged bowl with hard, brick-red fabric, grey at core and with a finely burnished exterior. Flange decorated with painted, cream coloured, scroll decoration. *R. Col.* form 317. Fourth century.
16. Part of a flanged bowl in rather laminated, gritty, grey fabric with micaceous, black burnished surfaces. Third or fourth century. *R. Col.* form 305.

Also, not illustrated, two other similar examples.

17. Cooking pot in gritty, grey fabric with smoothed surfaces. Simple, unexpanded rim, flaring neck and rounded shoulders. Not closely dateable.

Also, not illustrated, (a) At least 11 examples similar to no. 17. Some decorated with cross-hatching.

(b) Body sherds of locally made colour coated ware.

(c) Rim of storage jar in very coarse, grey fabric.

Small Finds

1. Bronze stud with short tang whose tip is now broken off. Inlaid with niello. Rather clumsily made. From the levelling material in the ditch. Fig. 28, no. 5.
2. Iron object. From layer 6. Late first/early second century. Fig. 28, no. 2.

The Coins

Report by Richard Reece

Lying on the fourth century tessellated floors.

4 barbarous radiates A.D. 270-90.

3 illegible.

Notes

44 North Hill

- 1 Permission to excavate was kindly granted by the developers, Messrs. Conrad Ritblatt, to whom the Excavation Committee is much indebted.
- 2 As shown in *Roman Colchester*, plate CIV.
- 3 Now re-buried. Information from the owner.

Balkerne Gardens

INTRODUCTION

The area, formerly Provident Place and now Balkerne Gardens, has in the past been prolific in Roman finds. The first recorded discovery was in the last century, of two tessellated pavements, which Wire recorded on his map of Colchester, though without providing any further information.¹ One pavement was situated more or less in the centre of the gardens while the other apparently lay right up against the Town Wall, immediately north of the Balkerne Gate. Since Wire's time numerous chance finds have been made in the area around St. Mary's Hospital, including a mosaic pavement behind No. 60 North Hill², and finally in 1957 when very large quantities of Roman pottery were found during the construction of the Old People's Home immediately north of the present site.

In the summer of 1965, No. 5 Balkerne Gardens was demolished and the site thus became available for excavation.³

THE EXCAVATION

The area that could be excavated was restricted both by the necessity of conforming to the building plans, and by the presence of water and electricity mains running east-west across the centre of the site. Consequently, it was possible to excavate only a six foot wide east-west trench, trench A, across the south side of the site and two shorter north-south ones, trenches B and C, across the west end (see Fig. 21).

The top soil was removed mechanically and the subsequent work, lasting for six weeks in August and September 1965, was undertaken by volunteers and three paid labourers.

PHASE 1 (Fig. 20)

The excavated area lay 28 feet north of the east-west Roman street which led from the Balkerne Gate and was partially uncovered under the Grosvenor Garage, Balkerne Passage.⁴ The earliest buildings of the *Colonia* were not represented on the site, where mid-first century activity was confined to a number of rubbish pits cut into a gravel surface, probably a yard behind the contemporary building nearer the street.

The rubbish pits were small, three to four feet in diameter, round, D-shaped, or sub-rectangular in plan and up to two and a half feet deep. The filling varied, but in all cases it contained a high proportion of burnt material, including ash and charcoal interspersed with layers of sand and sometimes tips of damp, grey clay. In addition, all of the pits contained quantities of oyster shells, animal bones and pottery; they should obviously be interpreted as kitchen refuse pits.

In pit 1 a thick layer of grey-green silt sealed the last rubbish tip suggesting that the pit had lain open for a while after the last rubbish had been thrown in.

The pottery in the pits was entirely pre-Flavian in date, and a mid-first century date for phase 1 can be confidently put forward.

PHASE 2

The pits were ultimately levelled with sterile tips of sand and clay. A thin clay surface was then laid which later subsided into the pits as the filling gradually compacted.

The site now became the scene of considerable activity. In trench A three tiled ovens were found consisting of small, rectangular, tiled hearths, surrounded by small stake holes, doubtless the remains of the domed wattle and daub super-

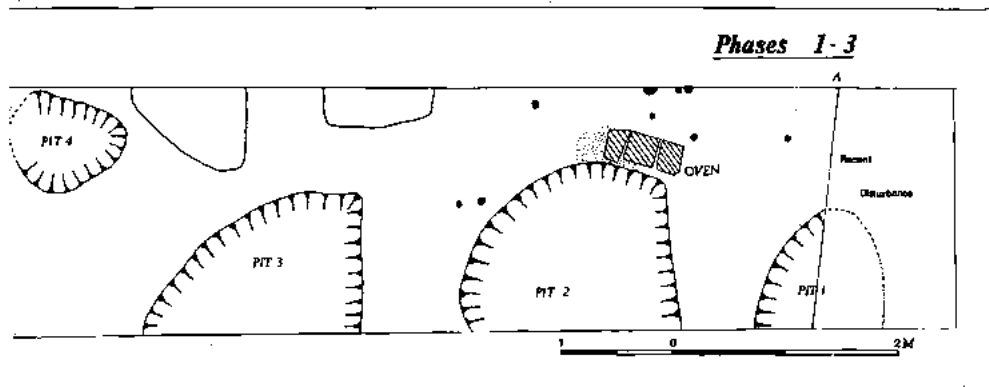
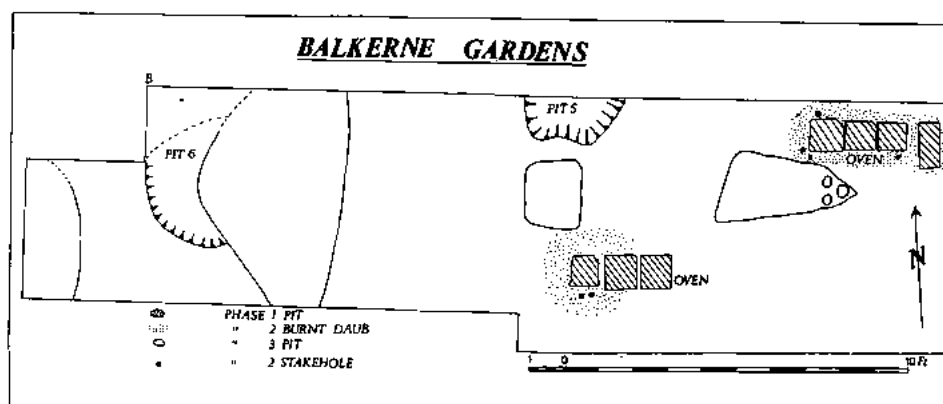


Fig. 20 Balkerne Gardens, Phases 1-3.

[The above are to be read as a continuous plan]

structure. All three ovens faced east, and opposite the entrances quantities of ash and charcoal had accumulated. The clay floor of the surrounding area had become baked hard.⁵

In trench B numerous pieces of iron slag were found lying on the clay surface, suggesting that the ovens may have in fact been small smiths' furnaces.

The phase 2 clay floors had been frequently renewed and a thick multiple layer had accumulated, consisting of alternate thin clay surfaces and dark occupation layers. These were associated with a number of stakeholes unconnected with the ovens but forming no intelligible pattern of their own. The numerous occupation layers produced a fair quantity of pottery, all pre-Flavian.

The Balkerne Gardens site therefore has two phases of occupation dating from the mid-first century, yet it produced no clear evidence for the Boudiccan destruction. This, however, is not so surprising in view of the site's position well to the north of the east-west street, since it was thus probably situated behind the contemporary buildings. The large quantities of pre-Flavian pottery, both in the phase 1 pits and the phase 2 occupation layers, indicate occupation in the vicinity, and a hoard of four Claudian coins, two of them burnt, found in the latest occupation layer of phase 2, may well be associated with the events of A.D. 61.

PHASE 3 (Figs. 20-21)

The next phase was heralded by a careful levelling of the site. The stakes in trench A were withdrawn, the holes plugged with clean clay and the superstructure of the ovens dismantled, though the tiled bases were left *in situ*. A thick layer of orange clay was then laid over the entire site serving as a make-up for the floor of a timber building, which was now erected over the south of the site. It is unfortunate that so little of this building could be excavated since most of it lay under the Balkerne Passage, but enough was uncovered to indicate the type of structure that had stood here.

Trench A revealed a line of massive postpits, 25 feet apart and two feet in diameter. In trench B a similar posthole was found, doubtless the end of a second line, parallel to and 22 feet north of the first. Eighteen inches north of this was a timber-lined gully, also running parallel to the line of postholes, and almost certainly an eaves drip. This gully in turn indicates that the trench B posthole was part of an external timber wall, and this suggestion is supported by the presence of layers of silt north of the building on the clay surface, and their absence south of trench B. The southern line of postholes, in trench A, was obviously the remains of an internal wall, though it was not possible to decide whether it was a central row of roof supports or merely one side of an aisle, or internal partition.

The clay floor had been renewed once, but the interior of the building was featureless. A thick occupation layer had accumulated on the first floor, but contained surprisingly little in the way of finds.

Since it produced little evidence for domestic occupation the building is best interpreted as a barn or warehouse.

The building was ultimately destroyed by fire. This baked the latest floor, burnt the posts, (the charred base of that in trench B was preserved *in situ*), carbonised the timber planks lining the eaves drip, and smothered the entire site in a thick layer of burnt daub.

A small quantity of pottery sealed by the destruction layer was of Antonine date, and indicated that the fire could not have pre-dated A.D. 160, and may well have been considerably later. It seems very likely that the same fire was responsible for the burnt layers noted at a high level in excavations under the Wagon and Horses public house, and beneath the pavement opposite the Prudential Insurance building in Head Street.⁶ Although it is tempting to connect these

burnt levels with the extensive post-Boudiccan burnt layers noted at high levels in *Insulae* 30 and 39, there is as yet no reason for supposing both were not due to accidental and unconnected fires.⁷

PHASE 4

After the fire thorough clearing operations were undertaken. In trench A the bases of the posts of the previous phase were dug out, presumably to prevent subsidence later, as the fragile, probably carbonised stumps decayed, and the burnt daub was rammed back into the holes. The removal of the timbers presumably accounts for the large size of the holes in trench A since the withdrawal of the posts would obliterate the original dimensions of the postholes.

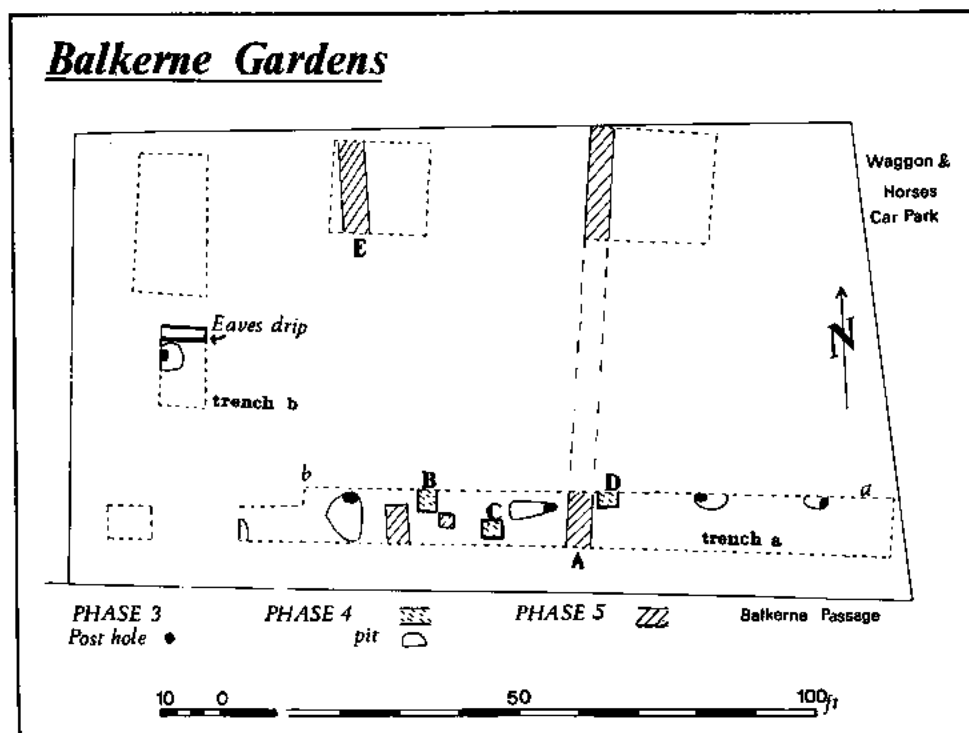


Fig. 21 Balkerne Gardens, Phases 3-4.

Except for unsatisfactory spreads of clay and silt, the levels above the burnt stratum had disappeared completely due to their very shallow depth, less than two feet, below the modern surface. It is certain, however, that later layers once existed, since the foundations of a later Roman masonry building of at least two phases, had been cut into the destruction layer.

Section 1 clearly shows that the foundations of feature D could only have been built as the rammed daub in the post holes was accumulating; that is while the site was being levelled after the fire. The base of this feature obviously pre-dates the deposition of the levelled daub in this particular spot. On the

other hand the higher portions of these same foundations, built in identical materials and in the same manner, are definitely later than the burnt daub layer. The construction of the wall and the levelling of the daub therefore must have been virtually contemporaneous.

Although two similar piers were found, features B and C (plan 21), both built in the same pale, yellow mortar and septaria, and doubtless part of the same structure, it is impossible to deduce from the incomplete evidence available what sort of building stood here.

Feature A on the other hand, built of hard, white mortar, was definitely later than the daub layer since it was trench built through it, and also cut through a later layer of clay and pebbles. Similar to it in build was wall E, and the two piers at the west end of trench A are doubtless contemporary. The date of the small robber trench east of wall A (section) is uncertain, but may also belong to this later phase. Unfortunately the date and duration of these phases cannot be assessed, due to the absence of associated levels.

COARSE POTTERY

PHASE 1. FROM THE EARLIEST GRAVEL SURFACES

1. Part of a globular flask. Quite fine fabric, grey at core and with darker surfaces, burnished on the exterior. *Cam.* form 231, here rendered in Roman fabric. At Sheepen this form occurred at all phases but became especially popular after the conquest. It occurred in mid-first century contexts at St. Mary's Rectory (fig. 25, no. 17 below) but was absent from pit 1 in *Insula* 7, where it was replaced by the coarser Roman form, 285 (*R. Col.* fig. 58, 8) which lasts in graves well into the second century.

Also, not illustrated, body sherds in identical fabric from a globular vessel with false cordons round the neck and shoulder.

COOKING POTS

2. Part of necked cooking pot with simple, thickened rim. Fabric gritty and grey with darker, rough surfaces. A very common, early Roman form. (See above *Insula* 11 (Telephone Exchange) no. 36, fig. 8) *Insula* 25 (St. Mary's Rectory).
3. Rim in reddish/brown fabric with sparse, white, grit tempering. Rough, black surfaces.
4. Sandy, brown fabric with coarse, black surface.
5. Rim of open bowl in buff-grey fabric with fairly large though sparse sand tempering. Rough, grey surfaces with flat, everted rim, with a broad, shallow groove along its upper surface, perhaps to provide seating for a lid. Probably related to the rare, pre-conquest *Cam.* form 250.

Also, not illustrated (a) Flagon neck form *Cam.* 154. Claudius/Nero.

(b) Lid, in reddish/grey fabric with simple, swollen lips.

FROM THE PITS (PHASE 1)

6. Lid, in buff/grey fabric with black, smoothed upper surface (Pit 1).
7. Neck of two-handled jug in pink/orange fabric. Surfaces rougher than is usual in flagons. *Cam.* form 162 with slightly modified rim. Immediately post-conquest at Sheepen. (Pit 1).

8. Neck of cooking pot in dense, dark grey fabric. Rough surfaces fumed on the exterior. Rather a pointed rim.

Also, not illustrated

- Cooking pots
- (a) Fine, grey, micaceous fabric with fumed grey surfaces. Rough, slightly rilled exteriors. Identical to *Insula* 11 Fig. 8 above, no. 17. Pre-Flavian.
 - (b) Pink/grey, sandy fabric. Pitted surfaces. Fumed exterior. Form as *Insula* 11 Fig. 8 above no. 32. Pre-Flavian.
 - (c) Grey fabric with black, polished surfaces. Form as *Insula* 11 Fig. 8, above no. 16.
 - (d) Fine, blue/grey fabric. Rough, grey surfaces polished rim. As *Insula* 11 no. 64, Fig. 9.
 - (e) Grey fabric with sparse, but fairly large grits. Surfaces rough and pitted. Top of the rim polished.

Most of the above are probably best described as variants of *Cam.* form 266 but in all cases the pieces are too small to be certain. The various rim forms, however, serve to indicate the tremendous variety of rim shapes current at this period.

9. *Olla* rim in coarse, pink fabric incorporating large grit tempering. Smoothed surfaces. *Cam.* form 275. (*Cam.* fig. 57, 1-4). Claudian.
10. Rim of beaker with small, unexpanded, everted rim in gritty, pink/grey fabric.

Also, not illustrated, (a) Base in coarse, grey fabric with sand and burnt out organic temper. Exterior coarse and pitted.

- (b) Fragment of jar with zones of burnishing.

FINE WARE

11. Fragment of a simple, splayed rim in *terra nigra*.
12. Part of small beaker in soft, cream fabric with an orange slip and groove on rim.

Also, not illustrated

Part of a fine beaker in pale buff fabric with rough cast, chocolate coloured slip. *Cam.* form 94a. Fairly common in the pre-Flavian period in the *Colonia*; e.g. *Insula* 10. *Arch. Journ.*, vol. cxxiii, fig. 10, No. 23, *Insula* 11, fig. 9, no. 70 above, and the pottery shop *Insula* 19. *R. Col.* fig. 78, p. 156.

13. Rim of straight-sided bowl or dish in brick red fabric, very hard and sandy. Smooth surfaces, red on the interior and black on exterior. Similar in form to that from *Insula* 11, no. 24 above.

Also, not illustrated,

Mortarium fragment in hard, white fabric. *Cam.* form 192. Mainly Neronian at Sheepen.

FLAGONS

14. Part of a very fine flagon in thin, white, pipe clay. Very occasional small, white grits. An unusual form. Augustan at Hofheim (*Hofheim*, p. 281. Abb. 63, 2).

Also, not illustrated (a) *Cam.* form 140b in soft, pink/buff fabric. Claudius/Nero.

(b) *Cam.* form 140c in hard, yellow fabric. Mainly Neronian.

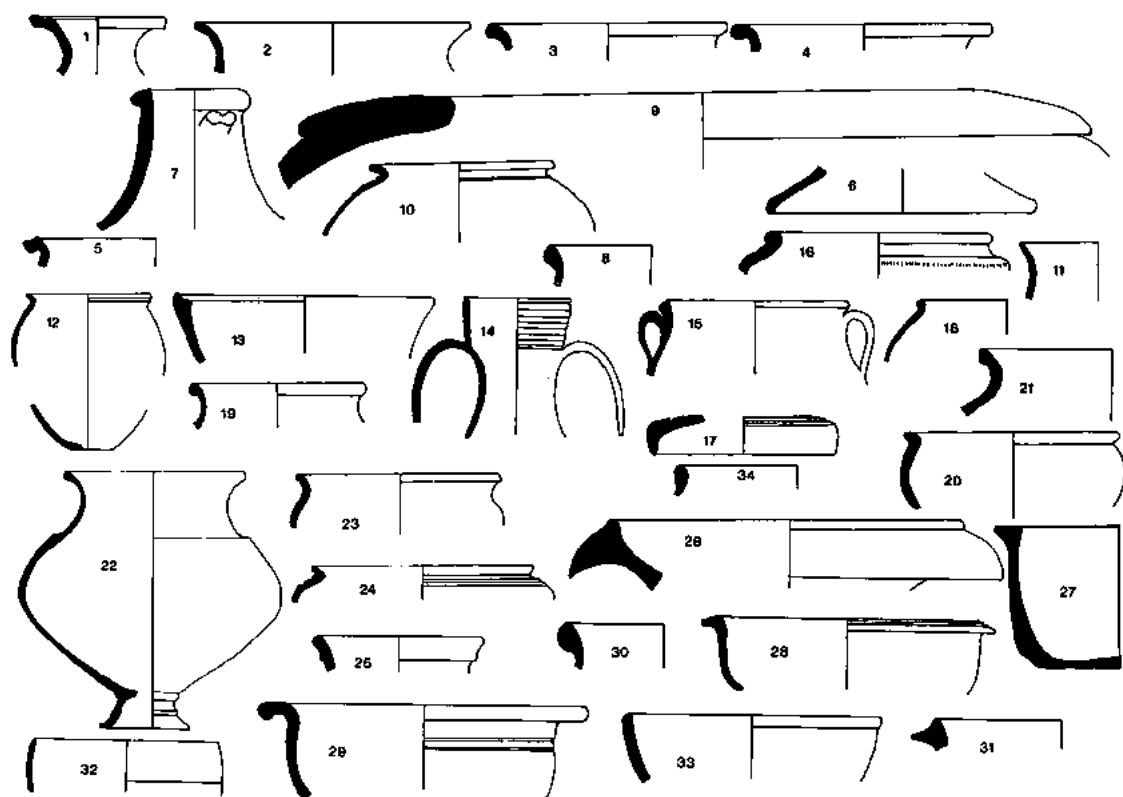


Fig. 22 Balcerne Gardens, Coarse pottery.

(c) *Cam.* form 140 in buff fabric. Surfaces almost white. Claudius/Nero.

(d) *Cam.* form 154 in pinkish buff fabric. Claudius/Nero.

(e) Rim of Spanish *amphora* Callendar form 19 in grey/buff fabric.

(f) Lip of a lid in coarse, grey fabric with rough, black surfaces and simple, rounded, unexpanded lip.

It will be seen from the above that there is nothing among the coarse pottery that need be dated later than A.D. 61, and although all sign of the Boudiccan

destruction is absent here, the deposits of the earliest phases of the site's history can confidently be assigned to the first (pre-Boudiccan) *Colonia*.

PHASE 2. FROM THE LEVELLING MATERIAL IN PIT 7

15. Part of a "honey pot" in white pipe clay with a pinkish tinge. Surfaces smoothed. Small, neat, triangular rim. *R. Col.* form 175b. Pre-Flavian at Sheepen.
16. Part of small bowl in very coarse red fabric with sparse grit temper. Surfaces, originally smoothed but now weathered and pitted. Bulged shoulder decorated with scored, vertical lines. Parallel from Canterbury, (*Roman Canterbury* 1, fig. no. 15, 1 where it is described as Belgic, and *Roman Canterbury* 3, fig. 5, 2 where it is Claudian). Also at Richborough (*Richborough* 1, pl. xxvii 1).

Also, not illustrated (a) cooking pot rim in red, sandy fabric. Surfaces black and rough. Top of rim polished. Identical in form to fig. 8, no. 36 above, and fig. 25, 2. Pre-Flavian.

(b) Rim of cooking pot in red/brown fabric. Black surfaces with the top of the rim polished. Identical in form to fig. 8, no. 43 above. Pre-Flavian.

(c) Rim of cooking pot in gritty, grey fabric with rough surfaces and faint cordon on the shoulder. Form as fig. 8, no. 37 above. Pre-Flavian.

(d) Part of a bowl in very fine, hard, grey fabric with dark grey surfaces smoothed on the exterior. Faint groove. Form as above, no. 72. Boudiccan.

FROM THE OCCUPATION LAYERS ON THE PHASE 2 FLOORS. FIRST FLOOR

17. Lid in fine, white/yellow fabric. Good quality but rather thick. The exterior is decorated with shallow grooves and a rouletted wreath. This type of lid is generally pre-Flavian. *Cam.* Pl. lxxxv, 18.

18. Beaker in pale, sandy fabric with black surfaces. Everted rim and faint grooves on the shoulder, below which is a zone of stabbed decoration. The area between the rim and groove is burnished. *Cam.* 108.

Also, not illustrated (a) Rim of a necked cooking pot. Fabric sandy red with black surfaces. As fig. 8, 36.

(b) Rim of beaker in dense, blue-grey fabric with polished exterior. As fig. 9, 73 above.

(c) Flagon neck in hard, yellow fabric. *Cam.* form 154 but with the rings simply defined by grooves.

(d) Cooking pot rim and neck in brown/grey fabric with rough, dark surfaces. Similar to fig. 8, 46 with slightly off-set shoulder.

(e) Part of beaker. *Cam.* form 108 in sandy, buff fabric with burnished exterior.

(f) Neck of cooking pot *Cam.* form 241 in pinkish/grey fabric.

(g) Part of a platter in sandy, grey fabric with sparse, black grits. Imitation *terra nigra*. *Cam.* form 24, A.D. 45-65 at Sheepen, but predominantly 61-5.

FROM THE SECONDARY FLOORS

19. Rim of cooking pot in gritty, grey fabric.
20. Rim of bowl in grey/buff fabric with a few small, grey, grit inclusions. Black surfaces. Everted rim.

Also, not illustrated, Body sherd in identical fabric.

21. Rim in fine, gritty, grey fabric with rough surfaces. Rather squashed triangular rim.

Also, not illustrated, fine bowl in grey fabric with rough surfaces. Cam. form 242 in shape, but smaller and finer than is usual for this form.

THIRD FLOOR

22. Part of a pedestal bowl in fine, dark grey fabric with black, burnished exterior. This type of pedestal vase at Colchester does not outlast the other Belgic types, that is c. A.D. 70-85. The only purely Roman pedestal vases from Colchester are those from the Antonine kilns, but these are invariably in buff fabric and are taller and more slender than the Belgic derived examples.

Also, not illustrated (a) Rim of a beaker with simple, everted rim in grey fabric with a rough, knobbly surface.

(b) Rim and neck of cooking pot, Cam. form 266 in pinkish/buff fabric. Top of rim polished.

(c) Base of colour coated rough cast beaker. Cam. form 94. Pre-Flavian.

PHASE 3. FROM THE MAKE-UP FOR THE CLAY FLOORS

23. Rim and neck of cooking pot in sandy, brown fabric with a simple, everted rather triangular rim. Burnished on the exterior.
24. Beaker in pale, sandy fabric with smoothed surfaces and grooves on shoulder. Cam. form 108. Claudian/Trajanic.
25. Flagon neck in orange/buff fabric. Smoothed surfaces. Cam. form 140. Claudian/Neronian.
26. Mortarium. Pink/orange fabric with sparse, dark, interior grits. Cam. form 193. Neronian at Sheepen. The flange is markedly pointed.

FROM THE BURNT DAUB OVERLYING THE PHASE 3 FLOORS

27. Bowl *R. Col.* form 37, but with unusual flat-topped rim. Fabric gritty, grey with burnished surfaces and cross-hatched decoration on exterior. Late first century to late second.
28. Part of open bowl in gritty, grey fabric with rough surfaces and everted, reeded rim. Late first to early second century.
29. Bowl in gritty, grey fabric with rough surfaces, as no. 28. Two shallow grooves beneath the everted rim. *R. Col.* form 246. This form is very common in the *Colonia* though it occurs only rarely in graves. It occurred on North Hill (*Insula* 10) with Flavian samian and a slightly worn coin of Julia, A.D. 79-81. It occurred in the pit in *Insula* 7, c. A.D. 100. (*R. Col.*, p. 125, fig. 54, no. 9). Examples occurred in the Ardleigh kilns (unpublished, Colchester museum) c. A.D. 100-120, and with Hadrianic samian in graves 13 and Jarmin 5 (*May*, plate LXXVII and LXXXIX). They are absent from late second and third century deposits.

30. Rim of bowl or jar in dense, grey fabric with smoothed surfaces and bead rim.
31. Rim of flanged bowl in dense, gritty, grey fabric with carefully smoothed surfaces. *R. Col.* form 305. Antonine onwards.
32. Rim of beaker in fine, red fabric with highly burnished, black, colour coat. Third to fourth century.
33. Rim of open bowl with rough grey surfaces Gritty, grey fabric.

The Animal Bones

Report by J. J. Heath

In most cases sex determinations were not possible owing to the fragmentary nature of the material. It appears that only one animal was represented in each case.

FROM PITS 1 AND 4 .

Fig. 1 individual.

Sheep. 2.

Bos. 1.

Medium sized bird. 1.

PHASE 2. FROM THE OCCUPATION LAYERS

Sheep. 1 individual.

Bos. 4.

Figs. 3.

Medium sized bird. 1.

PHASE 3. FROM OCCUPATION MATERIALS ON PRIMARY FLOOR

Bos. 2 individuals (1 adult, 1 juvenile).

Fig. 1.

Sheep. 1.

Roe Deer: 1 (Male).

THE SAMIAN POTTERY

Report by G. Dannell

FROM THE PHASE 2 OCCUPATION LAYERS

Form 18 (3 examples) one stamped LABUCA. The only parallel comes from La Graufensenne. All Neronian.

Form 18R Neronian.

Form 27 (2 examples). Neronian.

Form 29 Neronian.

Form 29 Small sherd showing Eagle standing under open winding tendrils. The bird is close to either O.2174 or O.2174, but varies from both. The detail is extremely clear. Claudius/Nero.

PHASE 3. FROM THE OCCUPATION LAYER ON THE SECONDARY SURFACE

Form 29 Claudius/Nero.

Form 24/5 (2 examples). One Claudius, one Claudius/Nero.

Form 18 Nero.

Form 33 Pre-Flavian.

Form 18 Probably late first to early second century.

PHASE 4 FROM SILT OVERLYING PHASE 3 BURNT DAUB

Form 24/5 (3 examples). One Claudian and two Neronian.

Form 31 Hadrianic/Antonine.

Form 37 (2 examples). The first shows club tongued *ovolo* similar to that of Laxtvcissa. C.G.P.P. 184, no. 1 with bold wavy line below. Antonine. The second shows a crude figure of Hercules in a massive segmented medallion. This type of decoration is known in the work of IOVENTIUNUS of Rheinzabern, and a number of examples are in Karnitsch, (*Die Verzierte Sigillata von Lauriacum*, pp. 101-5). Antonine.

UNSTRATIFIED

Form 37 (2 examples). The first is in the style of the small CINNAMUS bowls. It has the *ovolo* with corded tongue bent to the left. (C.G.P. Pl. 286 No. 2) hare O, 2116, Venus pilaster C.G.P. pl. 161.47 and a large bird which cannot be paralleled in Oswald's types.

The second is in the style of BUTRIO. In one panel, divided from the next by characteristic wavy lines broken by cups is a "Tree ornament", in the other a seated figure as C.G.P. p. 58, No. 658. A basal wreath as No. 660 completes the design.

Form 31 Stamped LITVGEVVSF Colchester Kilns, fig. 48, no. 21a. Antonine.

Small Finds (Fig. 28)

PHASE 3. FROM THE BASE OF PIT 3

Iron chopper with socket for wooden handle. A common Roman type. Fig. 28, no. 1.

Also, not illustrated

FROM SILT OVERLYING PHASE 4 BURNT DAUB

Portions of shanks of two bone pins. Fragment of melon-shaped bead in blue glass.

The Coins

Report by Richard Reece

PHASE 1. From the filling of pit 4.

1 Claudius I. R.I.C.67. 41-54.

PHASE 2. From the surface of the final phase 2 occupation level.

3 Claudius I. R.I.C.67. 41-54.

1 Claudius I. R.I.C.67 (copy). 41-64.

These four coins were found together and constitute a small hoard. Two were badly burnt.

1 Claudius I. R.I.C.66 (copy). 61-64.

1 Claudius I. R.I.C.68 (copy). 61-64.

PHASE 3. From the occupation debris on the primary floor.

1 republican denarius. First century B.C.

From the burnt daub over the secondary floor

1 Trajan. R.I.C.538. 103-111.

UNSTRATIFIED

1 Claudius I. R.I.C.66 (copy). 41-64.

1 Antoninus Pius. R.I.C.886. 151-2.

1 base denarius. 190-220.

Balkerne Gardens. Notes

1 *R. Col.*, p. 146.

2 *R. Col.*, p. 148, fig. 72.

3 I am grateful to the Trustees of the site for permission to excavate, and particularly to B. Mason, Esq.

4 *R. Col.*, p. 64.

5 See the bakers' ovens at Verulamium. *Ant. Journ.*, XXXIX (1959), pp. 3-4.

6 *R. Col.*, p. 146.

7 *Insula* 39, see *R. Col.*, p. 214. *Insula* 30. Extensive deposits of burnt daub were noted at high level by the writer during the construction of Sainsbury's new store in Culver Street in 1968/69. Whether they should be assigned to the Boudiccan destruction or to a later fire is uncertain. See below p. 98.

St. Peter's Close

In September 1965 a small trial trench was cut in the garden north of Tudor Cottage, St. Peter's Close. The natural subsoil was found to be only 18 inches below the modern ground level and consequently the Roman deposits had been almost entirely eroded away. Immediately above the natural subsoil, however, were the fragmentary remains of a clay surface. This had been burnt and was covered in areas free from later disturbance by a thin layer of burnt daub containing three pieces of pre-Flavian pottery. It is probable, therefore, that a house had existed here in the Claudian period, which was burnt down in A.D. 61.

Later a foundation trench was cut through the floor for a narrow masonry wall, since completely robbed out.

Excavations on the site of the former St. Mary's Rectory, 1967

In August 1967 one of the largest remaining private gardens within the Colchester town walls, that of the Victorian rectory of St. Mary-at-the-Walls,¹

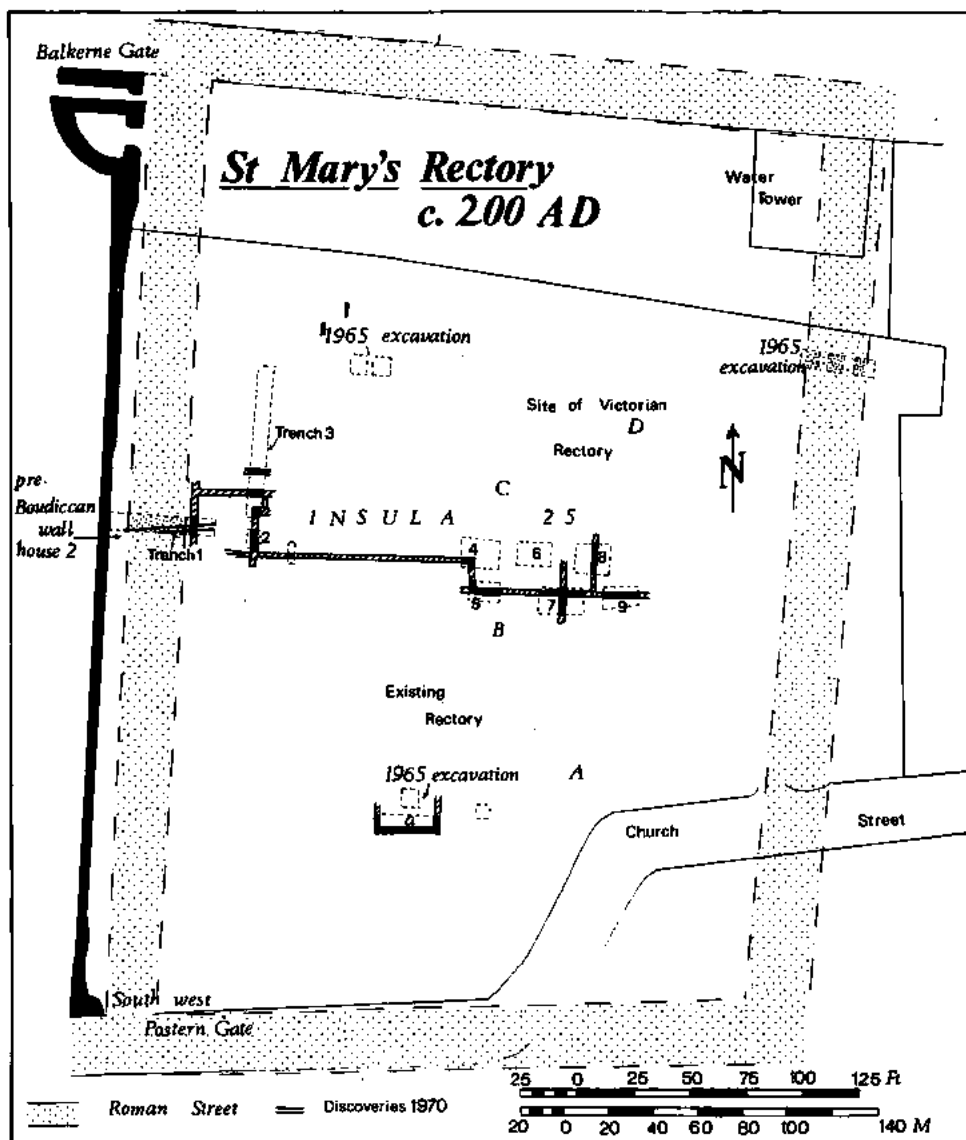


Fig. 23 St. Mary's Rectory, Plan of Insula 25.

was acquired by the Colchester Borough Council, with a view to developing it as a site of the proposed Civic Theatre. Permission was granted by the Borough Planning Office to excavate under the proposed approach area to the theatre,

that is on the lawn south of the Victorian rectory.² The subsequent excavation lasted for seven weeks, from October to December 1967, during which time much of the lawn was excavated down to the natural subsoil and a section cut across the rampart behind the town wall. Later, in March 1970, a further section (trench 10) was cut through the rampart to check the findings of the 1967 trench.

EARLIER DISCOVERIES

In the past at least five different tessellated pavements have been found in the immediate vicinity of the site. In 1965 a local amateur society, The Colchester Archaeological Group, dug several trenches in the garden of the Victorian rectory. At its southern end, opposite the eastern end of St. Mary's church, they found part of a poor quality tessellated pavement, and a robbed, masonry wall running east-west.³ Unfortunately, they were unable to establish the date of the building. Later, in 1968, a tessellated floor was revealed in a drainage trench cut while the present rectory was being built early in that year. (Marked A, see Fig. 23). This floor was only 60 feet west of that excavated in 1965 and both probably belonged to the same building.

The 1878 Ordnance Survey map of the area shows a tessellated floor in the centre of the lawn south of the Victorian Rectory (point B, Fig. 23). This is probably that recorded in 1768 by Philip Morant⁴ "in the garden belonging to the rector of St. Mary's, on the north side of the parsonage". Prior to the erection of the Victorian building, St. Mary's rectory stood immediately north of the church, i.e. roughly where the present rectory stands, so Morant's pavement could have lain in the southern part of the Victorian rectory garden.

A fourth floor is marked on the 1878 O.S. map immediately east of the south-east bay window of the Victorian rectory (point C, Fig. 23). Nothing is known of the circumstance of this discovery, but it was probably made during the building of the rectory in 1873.

The fifth tessellated floor was found when a cable trench was dug in 1959 on the eastern side of the Victorian rectory (point D, Fig. 23). The floor lay "opposite the north side of the house and 16 feet from it".⁵

Running up the eastern edge of the Victorian garden is a north-south Roman Street, cutting *Insula* 25 in half. This continues the line of the north-south street first located in 1964 by Mr. J. Blyth⁶ in the garden of St. Mary's House (see Fig. 23), and which divides *Insula* 33 in two (see Fig. 3). The street on the present site was sectioned by the Colchester Archaeological Group during the course of their 1965 excavations,⁷ but they were unable to establish its initial date.

No post-Roman finds were encountered except for an almost complete sagging-based 12th century cooking pot which was found in 1965 by the Colchester Archaeological Group in an otherwise barren pit dug through the tessellated floor in their trench A (see Fig. 23). The site seems always to have been an open space used as a garden or orchard⁸ until the construction of the Georgian rectory, which must explain the almost total absence of post-Roman remains. The garden topsoil directly overlay the latest Roman layers in all the trenches, and no medieval material was found in it.

THE EXCAVATIONS

PHASE 1

The earliest activity on the site was represented by one round and three oval pits, dug three feet into the subsoil and measuring approximately three feet to

These pits are reminiscent of the other early pits previously found in *Insulae* 10 and 11. On all three sites pits pre-dating the earliest *Colonia* levels have now been found, all of them partially filled with burnt material and silt, and later artificially levelled. Furthermore, the *Insula* 11 examples, like these from *Insula* 25, produced items of military equipment.

There were no other features on the present site which could certainly be associated with these pits. Two small stakeholes in trench 5 pre-dated the floors of the succeeding building, but whether they are to be associated with the pits or with the opening stage of Phase 2, is uncertain.

PHASE 2

The in-filling of the pits was presumably undertaken in order to clear the ground for the erection of the two buildings which were now to occupy the site, and so probably took place only shortly before the building commenced.

Two buildings stood on the site, on slightly different alignments to one another (see Figs. 23 and 24).

HOUSE 1 (Fig. 24)

Parts of four rooms of this building were uncovered, but enough was revealed to indicate that a comparatively large and complex structure had stood here. It measured at least 48 feet by 20 feet, but continued beyond the excavated area both to the north and west. The two east-west walls consisted of mortar dwarf walls, 12 inches wide, rising seven inches above the contemporary floor level and sunk 11 inches into natural subsoil. They were well-built of pale, hard mortar, incorporating large, black pebbles, but no actual masonry. To achieve the vertical faces above the ground level, therefore, a fairly specialised building technique would have to be employed. The mortar was presumably poured into some sort of supporting frame and allowed to set. The small slots, five inches wide and nine inches deep which were observed along the base of the south faces of both walls, filled with the make-up material for the floors, may have been caused by some such frame. There was, however, no sign of its imprint on the smooth faces of the walls.

The upper surfaces of the dwarf walls were carefully rendered to provide a suitable seating for the superstructure. On analogy with the *Insula* 10 storehouse⁹ this superstructure may well have consisted simply of unbaked, clay blocks laid directly on the dwarf walls with no intervening timber sleeper beam.

As was also the case with the *Insula* 10 building, the north-south walls (which follow the slope of the hill), were less substantially built. The eastern one, wall C, was composed of unbaked, clay blocks, of which only the lowest course survived, laid directly on the clay subsoil.¹⁰ Traces of plaster were preserved on the western face, but it was not possible to decide whether this had originally been painted.

The western north-south wall, wall D, was represented by a 15 inch wide timber sleeper beam which must have supported a wattle and daub superstructure.

The floors were of plain, trampled clay, which had been renewed once in all the rooms excavated. South of wall B the surface was gravelled, but a thick deposit of silt in the contemporary pit A suggests that this area lay outside the building.

The house had been destroyed by fire which had baked the floors, carbonised the sleeper beam of wall D, and covered the whole site with a layer of

burnt daub from the collapsed superstructure. This daub contained numerous pieces of red painted wall plaster decorated with narrow bands of white and yellow. Numerous roofing tiles indicated the existence of a tiled rather than a thatched roof. The small amount of pottery lying on the secondary floors and sealed by the daub is all pre-Flavian in date, and indicates a Boudiccan date for the fire.

HOUSE 2 (Fig. 23)

All that was uncovered of this house was a mortar dwarf wall running east-west and with an associated clay floor on its northern side. The different alignment of this wall to those of house 1, however, suggests that it was part of a separate building. The method of construction employed was identical and house 2 had also been burnt down in the mid-first century.

This is the first building so far found in Colchester which definitely underlies the later town defences. It is worth bearing in mind here Henry Laver's record of the existence of burnt Claudian buildings beneath the town wall in the St. Mary's area, an observation which in the past has usually been explained as late Roman buildings sealed by Medieval re-building of this stretch of the wall, on rather a different line than that of the Roman one.¹¹

PHASE 3 (Fig. 24)

Trench 1

The thick layer of burnt daub, overlying house 2, survived here fresh and unweathered, though extremely compressed by the weight of the overlying layers. The absence of any sign of weathering of the daub suggests that the sealing layer was deposited shortly after the fire. This sealing layer comprised the lowest surface of a previously unsuspected north-south street, running beneath the later rampart behind the town wall. This first road surface was 20 feet wide, well built of tough, white mortar and pebbles and with a 12 inch wide drainage gully on the western side, filled with fine, grey silt.

Trenches 4-9

Elsewhere on the site recovery after the destruction seems to have been slower. The burnt debris from the area was represented by a fairly thin layer over the pre-Boudiccan floors, with a thicker accumulation only in pit A, or where the pre-Flavian surfaces had sunk over the filling of the phase 1 pits. The daub itself was fine grained and much mixed with silt, and appeared to have been disturbed and weathered to some considerable extent before it was sealed and protected by the floors of the succeeding phase.

This in turn implies that the area was not re-built on for some time, and after A.D. 61 the site seems to have been used for several years as a rubbish tip. Quantities of silty, grey loam accumulated over the entire area, sealing the daub and containing numerous animal bones, oyster shells, charcoal and pieces of broken pottery. The pottery, (see Coarse Pottery report), dates from c. A.D. 60-80 and thus implies a lapse of 15-20 years before the site was again built over.

When rebuilding took place it was confined to the eastern end of the site. Here was located part of a masonry building, presumably the back premises of a house fronting on to the east-west street under Church Walk and possibly also on to the north-south one under the eastern edge of the garden.¹²

This building was on a different alignment to those of both the phase 2 houses. The walls had been almost entirely robbed out; in no case did any of the superstructure survive, and only a few stretches of foundations were preserved. Enough remained, however, to show that the foundations had been built of gravel and soft, yellow mortar. They were only sunk two and a half feet below the contemporary surfaces and it may well be that above floor level they were carried up in wattle and daub.

Not enough of the building survived for its plan to be restored or its use to be speculated upon; it does not appear, however, to have been at all a pretentious structure and the floors were simply of trampled yellow clay.

Trenches 4 and 5 lay outside the building where the silty, loam layer with rubbish continued to accumulate. In trench 6 a rubbish pit was dug through it which produced pottery dating up to c. A.D. 120. Outside the south-west wall of the building, which must have run under the baulk between trenches 7 and 9, was a small eaves drip with a thick layer of black silt in its base. Two feet west of this was a four-foot wide gravel path running north-south.

PHASE 4

The fourth phase of activity on the site saw a total rebuilding of the earlier house on a much larger scale. This operation cannot be dated earlier than the latter part of the second century or the early third.

The new structure followed a different alignment to that of the phase 3 house, so the site must have been cleared by the time rebuilding took place. Exactly how or why the phase 3 building met its end is unknown. There was no sign of fire on the site and it seems likely that the building was simply deserted. The dating evidence suggests that occupation of the phase 3 house did not last long and since it was built early in the second century, it was therefore probably derelict by the time phase 4 opened around A.D. 200.

The date of the phase 4 building is late second century or later. Sealed in the make-up for the floors were several pieces of local colour coated ware which must date from the end of the second century or later. In trench 2, beneath the primary floor of the phase 4 building, was a complete thumb beaker of similar date, which presumably originally contained a votive foundation offering.

Though the excavations did not recover the boundaries of the building except on the west, the phase 4 house was certainly more extensive and pretentious than any of its predecessors, and it is tempting to connect it with, at any rate, some of the tessellated pavements found elsewhere in the garden. If these floors were indeed part of the same building, which would therefore stretch at least 200 feet east towards the north-south road which bisected *Insula* 25, then this house would provide a further example of the number of relatively large and wealthy houses which were built in Colchester in the late second and early third century.¹³ It seems likely that the building occupied the entire southern end of *Insula* 25.1 and faced onto the road that led to the south-west postern gate (see Fig. 23). In this case it would include the tessellated floors found in 1965. The northern end of trench 3 and the two small trenches dug in 1965 by the Colchester Archaeological Group, however, revealed two successive clay surfaces on which rubbish and grey silt had accumulated. They clearly lay outside the built-up area.

The foundation of the phase 4 walls were solidly built of pale mortar and septaria chips. Above floor level nearly all trace of the wall had been robbed out, but in trench 7 a short stretch remained, built of identical materials to the foundations but faced with dressed ashlar blocks. In the filling of the robber trench

were numerous pieces of red and cream painted wall plaster. The floors of this phase were all either cobbled or tessellated (see Fig. 24).

The later history of the house is obscure. Lying on the tessellated floors were quantities of yellow clay, possibly from the upper courses of the walls, which might have been carried up in wattle and daub,¹⁴ and broken roofing tiles. On top of this deposit large quantities of domestic rubbish, including fourth century pottery, had accumulated. Also, dug through the cobbled floor in trench 6, was a large rubbish pit, containing similar fourth century material.

When and why the house fell into disuse is unknown. The fourth century rubbish on the site, however, implies continued domestic occupation somewhere in the vicinity at any rate for part of the century.

At some stage after the construction of the phase 4 house the room in trenches 4, 6 and 8 was subdivided by the insertion of two flimsily built partition walls of septaria and crumbly white mortar.

THE DEFENCES (Fig. 40)

Trench 1 was dug through the rampart behind the town wall, which is here well preserved and stands to a height of 11 feet above foundation level. Though the facing stones of the west face have been robbed out, there is no evidence of other destruction and no sign of any breach or later re-build. When the rampart was removed, the eastern face of the wall was found to be well preserved and to have been carefully faced with alternating courses of four tiles and four dressed septaria blocks. The pale pinkish mortar had been carefully pointed. This dressed face continued 11 inches below the contemporary ground level and ended with a single course, stepped two inches out. Immediately below this offset were the trench built foundations, themselves offset 10 inches from the superstructure.

The building trench for the lowest three dressed courses had cut through the first two road surfaces of the north-south street already described. This trench had been partially filled with masons' septaria chips and crumbs of mortar of the type used for the wall. The upper part of the building trench had been carefully levelled with yellow clay (layer 7) and this deposit clearly sealed the west edge of the third re-surfacing of the street. The fifth surface, however, (see fig. 40) overlay the clay trench filling and stopped only four feet short of the town wall itself. When this surface was laid, therefore, the intention must have been for a free-standing town wall. The carefully dressed inner face of the wall, which was probably intended to be seen, certainly supports this interpretation.

It is not certain how long the wall remained free-standing before the rampart was thrown up. In trench 1 the small quantity of greenish silt on the west edge of the fifth street (layer 6a) marks a street-side gully that has become completely silted up before the rampart was constructed, and suggested that some time elapsed between the building of the wall and the construction of the rampart.

The lowest layer of the rampart consisted of a number of tips of dark loam and silt (layer 4) with a high humus content and numerous flecks of charcoal, oyster shells and fragments of first century pottery. This deposit was itself sealed by the main body of the rampart, made up of a homogeneous deposit of stiffish sandy clay (layer 3) with fragments of tile and small pebbles.

The three latest surfaces of the street lay further east than their predecessors and sealed the tail of the rampart. The first of these, i.e. the sixth road surface,

overlay the foundation offset of the phase 4 house already described, and dated to c. A.D. 200.

THE DATE OF THE DEFENCE

Dateable material occurred only rarely in the body of the rampart. The silty loam deposit (layer 4) overlying the street beneath the rampart, produced first century pottery only and was of no use for dating the wall or rampart. Layer 3, the main body of the rampart, contained a small quantity of pottery, including a body sherd of a colour coated vessel, which provides a *terminus post quem* of c. A.D. 170 for the bank. The sixth street surface and the tail of the bank, however, sealed and post-dated the construction of the phase 4 house, itself dated to c. 170-200. Thus the dating evidence seems to converge on a date around the opening of the third century for the rampart behind the wall.

The problem of the date of the wall itself, however, still remains. It appears from the silt in the gully of the fifth street, post-dating the construction of the wall, that some years separated the construction of the wall from that of the bank behind it. It is, therefore, suggested that the town wall is significantly earlier than the rampart, and should be placed in the second century. It must be emphasised, however, that this is a tentative hypothesis at present and more sections must still be dug before it can be held to be proved.

The evidence of the St. Mary's site sections is not irreconcilable with that produced by other sections cut through the rampart in the past. The date of the rampart itself, c. A.D. 200, remains unchanged. In the past, five sections have been cut, sections I, 1A, V, VI and VII. Of these, in the case of section I it was uncertain if a bank behind the turret had ever existed, in that of sections 1A and V the bank was certainly later than the wall, and in that of VI and VII the relationship between wall and bank had been destroyed by Medieval repairs.

Note:

Since the above was written a further section has been cut. In the spring of 1970 the author cut a second section (trench 10) 15 feet north of trench 1. This fully confirmed the sequence found in trench 1. In addition, however, a succession of three clay surfaces, each with occupation layers on it, was found sealing the foundation offset of the wall and pre-dating the rampart. (These correspond to layer 7A in section 40 and lay between the wall and the Rampart road). This gives added weight to the suggestion already made that some time, perhaps several years, elapsed between the building of the wall and the construction of the rampart. The pottery in these occupation layers over the foundation offset was all early second century in date, and compares very closely with that from the deposit sealing the 44 North Hill ditch (see page 45). It must, however, be treated with caution, since it may well be a case of rubbish survival and cannot be taken to provide a construction date for the wall.¹⁷

Small Finds (Fig. 25)

1. Bronze buckle and buckle plate. From Claudian pit 1. Originally tin plated and ornamented with incised decoration, inlaid with niello. Central boss, once mounted with enamel stud. Buckle and plate hinged together with iron pin.

This example is a well known military type. For a close parallel see *Richborough IV*, plate 71.

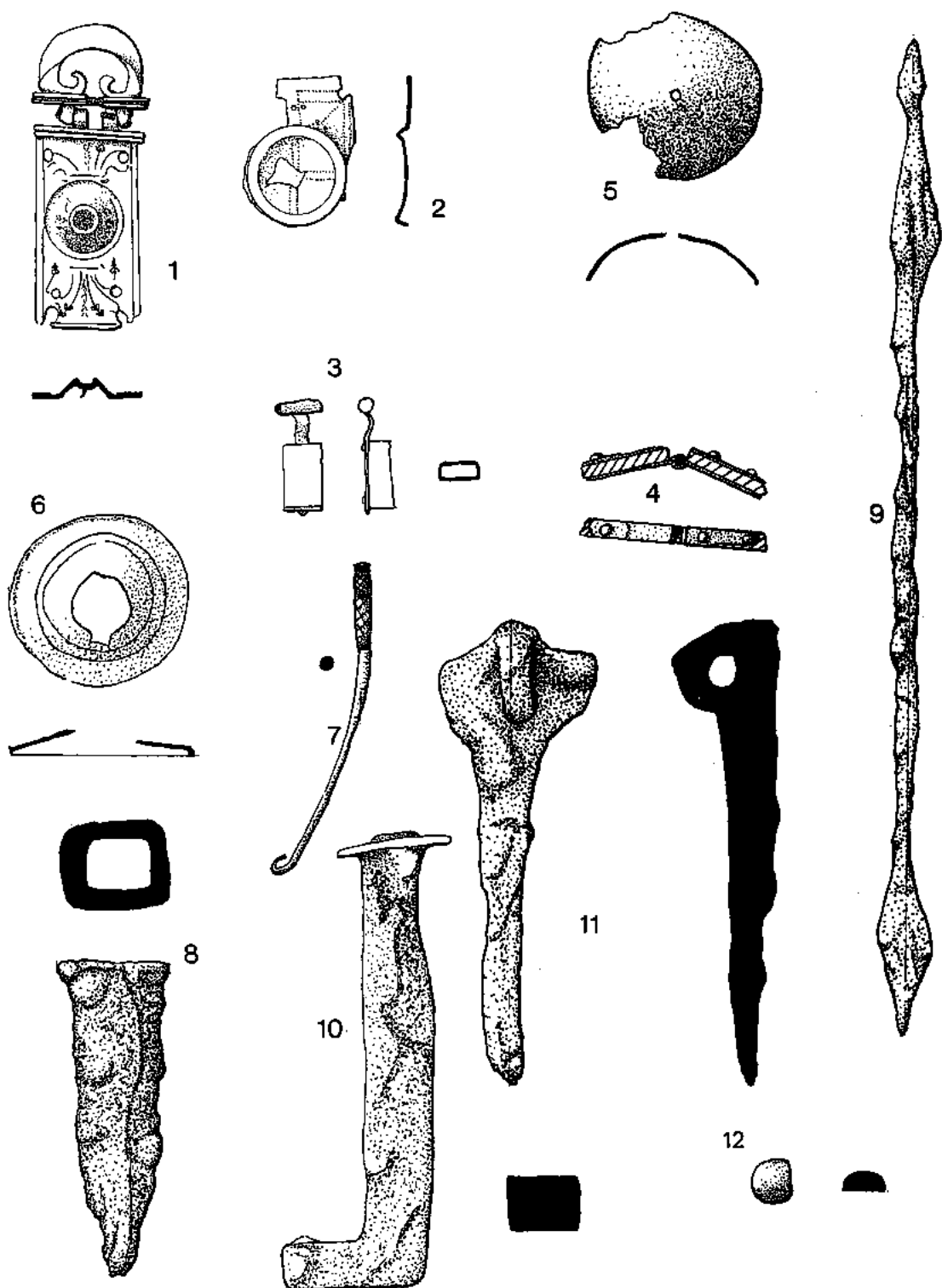


Fig. 25 St. Mary's Rectory, Small finds.

2. Bronze strap-end from Claudian pit 3. Originally tin plated and decorated with lines of fine punctulations.
3. Bronze object, originally tin plated. The object consists of a small rectangular tube rivetted to a narrow bronze strap. This projects, and the end of the strap is slightly humped and ends in a cylindrical finial. The purpose of this object is not certain, but it was possibly a variety of dress fastener. From the Boudiccan destruction layer beneath the rampart. Trench 3.
4. Two small, rectangular-sectioned, bone rods, mounted between two fragile bronze plates rivetted together. The two mounted rods are hinged together. This is part of a compound object now incomplete. From the burnt daub beneath the rampart. Trench 3.
5. Large domed boss with central rivet hole. Rampart layer 3.
6. Bronze plate, circular and slightly convex. Central, now damaged, opening. Possibly an ornamental lock plate. From rampart layer 3.
7. Bronze pin. Elaborately decorated pin with diamond facet decoration on part of the shank, imitating lattice decoration. From sixth road surface.
8. Iron ferrule. Claudian pit 1.
9. Large iron Carpenter's bit. Claudian pit 1.
10. Iron bolt from late Roman rubbish pit. Trench 8.
11. Lynch pin. Trench 8, rubbish pit.
12. (Fig. 27) Part of iron drawknife with one tang missing and broken end of the blade bent back on to the blade. Blade unsharpened.
13. Iron object, with hollow socket for wooden handle, and curved blade, both edges of which are blunt.
14. Set of seven pottery counters or gaming pieces, found together lying on the tessellated floor. Trench 8. They are made of ground-down pieces of coarse pottery and five had *graffiti* scratched on one face. They read as: DRA, DR, MILITIA (military service), POLLI or POLII, æPC1, with a secondary VI. Only one legend seems to admit of interpretation.¹⁵
15. Gaming counter in dark blue enamel. A common find in early levels in the *Colonia*. From the burnt daub layer, trench 6. (Fig. 25. 12)

Coarse Pottery, St. Mary's Rectory

PHASE 1. From the earliest pits. (Trench 4.9. Pit 1)

1. Neck of a cooking pot in dark grey, granular fabric with burnished surfaces and cross-hatched decoration on the exterior. Rim triangular with a rounded top. Similar pre-Flavian examples are known from *Insula* 10 (*Arch. Journ.*, cxxiii, fig. 10, 35 and *Insula* 11, Fig. 9, 41-2 above).
2. A similar neck in rather coarse, grey fabric with black burnished surfaces. *Also, not illustrated*, five very similar examples.
3. Rim of a straight-sided dish in coarse, gritty, grey fabric with smoothed surfaces and rounded rim. Though similar to second century types there are related examples from early Claudian levels in the *Colonia*, e.g. *Insula* 11, Fig. 9 above. Nos. 80-81.
4. Fragment of a flanged dish in sandy, dark grey fabric with dark, smoothed surfaces. *Richborough IV*, pl. xci, No. 452. Later first century there.

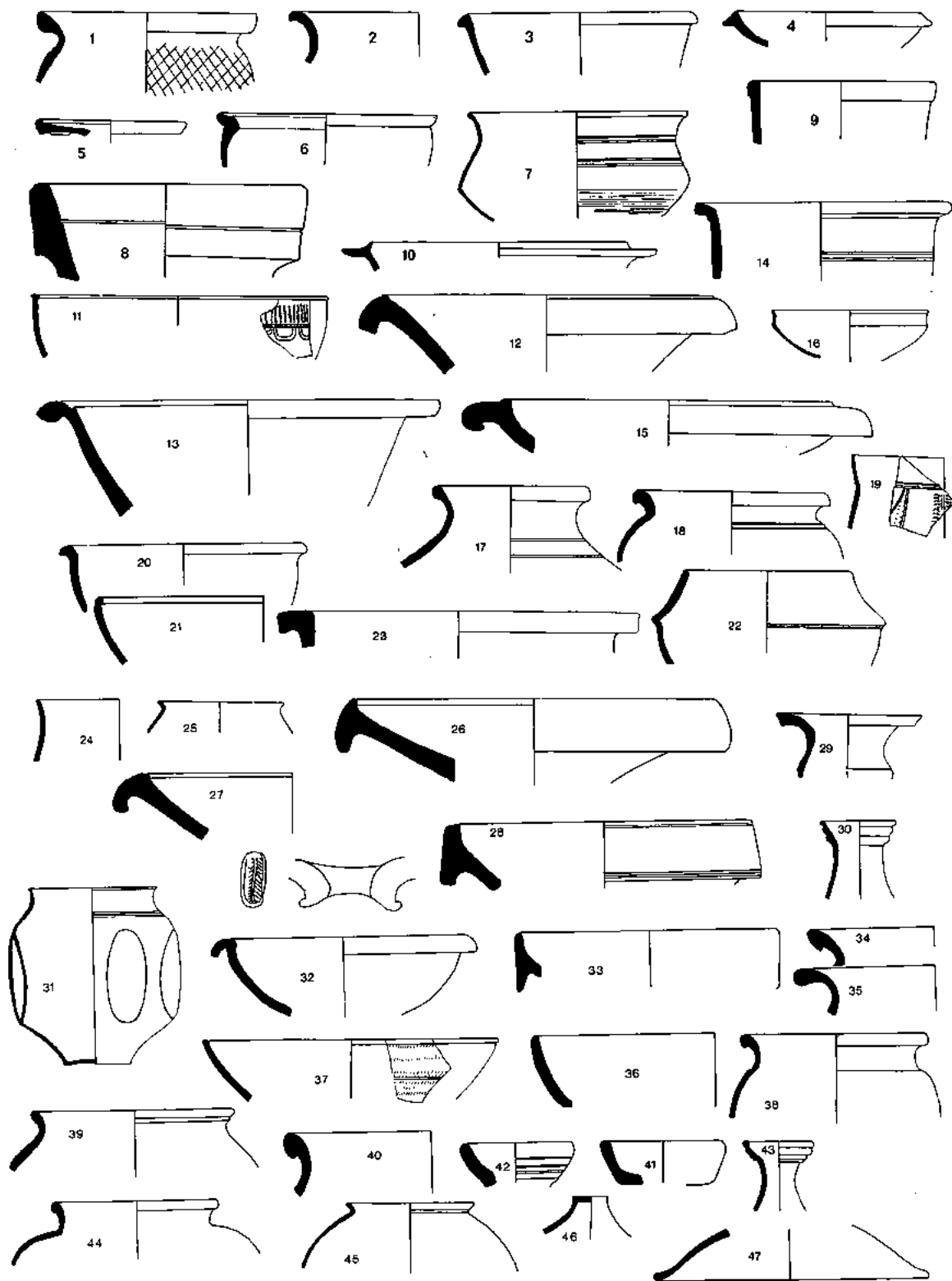


Fig. 26 St. Mary's Rectory, Coarse Pottery.

5. Rim in fine, pale biscuit coloured fabric, with smooth surfaces. Possibly the lip of an extremely splayed flagon with the end of the handle on the underside of the rim.

Also, not illustrated, Rim of flanged bowl similar to fig. 8, no. 35 and *Cam.*, fig. 55, 5. Claudian.

6. Rim of cooking pot in gritty, grey fabric. Neckless, with thick everted rim, cupped on the interior to provide seating for lid.

PHASE 2. FROM THE BOUDICCAN BURNT DAUB

7. Rim of a sharply carinated bowl in fine, rather soft, sandy fabric with black, slightly burnished exterior, decorated with grooves and false cordons. Burnished bands on the lower parts. *Cam.* form 215. Pre-Roman-Claudian at Sheepen.

8. Rim of amphora, Callendar form 1 in dense, orange fabric with occasional grey, gritty inclusions.

Also, not illustrated

9. Rim of amphora, Callendar form 2 in rather hard, gritty, pale buff fabric with rough pale surfaces. Similar to *Arch. Journ.*, cxxiii, fig. 10, 15.

10. Rim of open-flanged bowl with slightly in-bent rim. Dense, red fabric with small, white, sand inclusions. Surfaces smooth. Similar in form to Fig. 8, no. 35 above. Pre-Flavian.

Also, not illustrated (a) Rim of small beaker with everted, rounded rim in grey fabric with black surfaces, polished on the exterior. Similar to Fig. 8, 36 above. Pre-Flavian.

- (b) Part of a lid in gritty, grey fabric with simple, rounded rim.

PHASE 3. FROM THE POST-BOUDICCAN LEVELLING

Also, not illustrated (a) Similar example to 10, in coarse, grey fabric.

- (b) Five cooking pot rims in very thin, grey fabric. Similar in form to Fig. 8, 48 above.

- (c) Rim of a beaker with faint cordon at neck. Simple rather rounded, everted rim. Fine, dense grey fabric with carefully smoothed surfaces. Similar to fig. 9, 73, *Arch. Journ.*, *op. cit.*, fig. 10, 21.

- (d) Part of an open bowl or dish in gritty, grey fabric with darker smoothed exterior and burnished cross-hatched decoration. As Fig. 19, No. 4, *Insula* 1.

11. Fragment of open bowl in rather soft, red/brown, micaceous fabric. Simple rim with flat squashed top. Body decorated with two bands of very neat rouletting, separated by a cordon. Below this is a row of deeply incised arcs. This is probably from a bowl modelled on Dragendorf form 29. Fragments of similar vessels occur frequently from the *Colonia*, but never from graves. They appear to be not earlier in date than the later first century, since their distribution covers the walled area.

12. Mortarium in grey/yellow fabric with grey and white interior grits, scattered very densely. Some have been ripped out during use. *Kilns*, fig. 18, 77. A.D. 80-120.

13. Very pale, dense fabric, slightly yellower towards the surfaces. A variant of *Cam.* form 192, but with unusually high flange.

- Also, not illustrated* (a) Rim of mortarium with high flange and pointed rim *Cam.* form 192. Claudian.
- (b) Mortarium rim in grey/yellow fabric. As Fig. 9 above, no. 97. *Insula* 11.
- (c) Rim of amphora in sandy/yellow, clay fabric with a roughly smoothed surface. Callendar form 11. Pre-Flavian.
- (d) Bead rim of an amphora in very dense pink fabric with a smooth, cream coloured surface. As No. 9 above, and *Arch. Journ.*, cxxiii, fig. 10,15. Pre-Flavian.

PHASE 3. FROM THE PRIMARY SILT IN THE EAVES DRIP. TRENCH 7

14. Part of a bowl in rather coarse, almost laminated, dark grey fabric with sand inclusions. Very angular rim. Derived from *Cam.* form 241. This one c. A.D. 50-100. Similar examples occur in pit 1 *Insula* 7. *R. Col.* fig. 54, p. 125. c. A.D. 100.

Also, not illustrated, part of an open dish in granular, grey fabric with polished surfaces, decorated with burnished cross-hatched decoration. *R. Col.* form 37. A.D. 60-160.

15. Mortarium. Cream/buff fabric with occasional grey and black internal grits, right up to the squarish beading. Horizontal flange with recurved tip. An unusual form but probably an early variant of *Cam.* form 195. Later first century.
16. Fine, open bowl in thin, sandy, red/brown fabric with smoothed, black surface. Kiln 26. *Kilns*, fig. 91, no. 23. Claudian.

Also, not illustrated, two cooking pot rims. Bead rims and short necks in gritty, grey fabric.

PHASE 4. IN THE LOAM MAKE-UP FOR THE TESSELLATED FLOORS

17. Cooking pot or flask in sandy, brown, micaceous fabric with polished, grey exterior. Shallow grooves at the base of the neck and on the shoulder.
18. Short necked, bead rim cooking pot with two well defined incised grooves on the shoulder. Very gritty, grey fabric with a rough and distinctively gritty surface. This is one of a common and very well defined type in the *Colonia* but one not previously isolated. No examples occur in definitely first century deposits and a second century initial date is indicated. They are not found in later fourth century contexts except as rubbish survival.

Also, not illustrated (a) Two almost identical to no. 18.

- (b) Rim of a cooking pot in grey fabric with a slightly flattened bead rim.
- (c) Part of open bowl, *R. Col.* form 246 in dense, sandy, grey fabric with rough, grey surfaces. c. A.D. 70-120, as *Insula* 10 and *Insula* 11, Fig. 9, 64 and *Arch. Journ.*, *op. cit.*, fig. 10, 33.
- (d) Bowl, similar to (c) but with upslanting rim with two grooves on its upper surfaces.
- (e) Part of open bowl with cross-hatched decoration *R. Col.* form 37. A.D. 60-160.
- (f) Open dish in very dark, almost black, granular fabric with minute, white, sand inclusions. *R. Col.* form 37.

19. Part of a fine bowl in fine, dense fabric with dark, burnished surface. Decorated with swags and punctulations. Imitating Dragendorf 37.
 20. Rim of open bowl in sandy, grey fabric with smoothed surfaces. Simple everted rim slightly hollowed-out beneath.
 21. Dish in dense grey ware, dark surfaces with a pinkish tang. Simple rim slightly in-bent. The exterior is burnished and decorated with a polished wavy line. This type of decoration is second century. See *Insula* 1, Fig. 19, no. 6 above.
 22. Part of a fine bowl in fine, sandy, grey, rather micaceous fabric. Grey at core but homogeneously black at the surfaces. Polished exterior. Faint grooves just below the shoulder. Probably related to *Cam.* form 226 of which only one example was found at Sheepen. A somewhat similar example was found at Hatfield Peverel, *C.M.R.* 1932. Date probably mid-first century.
 23. Rim of an open bowl in hard, sandy red fabric. *R. Col.* form 246; large examples like this are later than the smaller types. See *Insula* 17, Fig. 22, no. 29 above. Antonine.
 24. Rim of colour coated beaker in red, sandy fabric with highly polished blue/black coat. Antonine or later.
 25. Rim of a colour coated beaker in dense white fabric with blue/black polished colour coat. Antonine or later.
 26. Mortarium in hard, pale buff fabric, with occasional small, grit inclusions. Interior heavily gritted in black, buff and grey grits of which several have been ripped out during use. *R. Col.* form 498, late second to third century. *Kilns*, fig. 87.3.
 27. Mortarium with good herring bone stamp; fabric as above but with sparse interior grits of black, white and grey. Carefully moulded spout is all that remains of this vessel. *R. Col.* form 497. *Kilns*, 63, 6. Date second to third century.
- Also, not illustrated*, mortarium rim of buff/grey fabric. *R. Col.* form 295/6. Flavian.
28. Rim of mortarium in good buff fabric with sparse brown grit. *R. Col.* form 501A. Antonine.
 29. Rim of flagon or flask in good biscuit coloured fabric with a carefully smoothed surface.
 30. Rim of flagon in buff fabric with splayed mouth and faintly moulded rings. Late first-fourth century.
 31. Foundation pot. Beneath west wall of house (phase 4). Squat thumb beaker in hard, very fine, brick red fabric. Small, neat, slightly everted rim with hollow grooves beneath the base of the neck. Surfaces smoothed and slightly fumed on the exterior. Antonine.

PHASE 5. LATE ROMAN PIT

32. Dish with rounded shoulder and rather down-turned rim. Very dark fabric with a few, small, white, sand inclusions.

Also, not illustrated, (a) Six dishes *R. Col.* form 304. Antonine to late fourth century. As *Insula* 11, Fig. 9, 99, and 1, Fig. 19, 16 and *Insula* 17, Figs. 2, 31.

(b) Rim of cupped flagon as *Insula* 1 above, Fig. 19, 13.

(c) Fragment of mortarium *R. Col.* form 496. Trajan/Hadrian.

LYING ON THE TESSELLATED FLOOR (PHASE 4) AND SEALED BY THE COLLAPSED SUPERSTRUCTURE

33. Mortarium in very pale yellow, hard fabric with interior, white, grey and black grits. Well defined head, slightly *cavetto* on the interior. Flange rather pointed. Third century. *R. Col.* form 499.
34. Necked cooking pot in very dense, dark grey fabric with smooth brick red surfaces polished on the exterior.
35. Rim of cooking pot in brick red, granular fabric with occasional black and white grits. Rough surfaces.
36. Dish in white, rather laminated fabric with burnished blue/black colour coat. The walls are rather thick for this type of vessel, which is not a common type in the local kilns. Third or fourth century.
37. Rim of an open bowl, hard, brown/grey fabric with black surfaces, burnished on the exterior. Simple, rounded rim with seven bands of rouletted decoration beneath it separated by a shallow groove.

Also, not illustrated (a) Two cooking pots similar to No. 34, in granular, grey fabric.

POTTERY FROM THE RAMPART

38. *From layer 4.* Necked cooking pot in granular, red fabric with smoothed surfaces, black on the exterior.
39. Very dense, sandy, black, micaceous fabric, short neck and everted, slightly thickened rim with faint cordon immediately below it.

Also, not illustrated, two very similar examples, one in a similar fabric, and one in gritty, grey ware with a rougher surface.

40. Large cooking pot or storage jar in hard, grey fabric with smooth surfaces. Bead rim rather flattened.
41. Part of a lamp holder in pale cream fabric, pink at core. Surfaces roughly smoothed.
42. Splayed flagon neck in pale pink fabric with ill-defined rings.
43. Rim of cupped flagon with grooves on the exterior. Rings very carelessly executed.

Also, not illustrated (a) Fragment of a lid in colour coated red/grey fabric.

(b) Small fragment of a first century beaker. *Cam.* form 108.

FROM LAYER 3 (the main body of the rampart)

44. Rim of necked cooking pot in rather rough, gritty, red fabric, dense grey at core. Surfaces fumed and rough with only the top of the rim polished.
45. Fragment of beaker in very fine, dense grey fabric. Small, everted rim. Surface pale grey and burnished on the exterior.
46. Top of lid in sandy, red fabric with a highly burnished blue/grey colour coat.
47. Part of a coarse lid in gritty, grey fabric with rough, dark surfaces.

Much of the above pottery is obviously rubbish survival and of no use for dating the rampart. Nos. 38, 43, 45 and 47 would not be out of place in first century deposits, and much of the other pieces could be of first or second

century date. The diagnostic pieces are two small bits of colour coated ware in layer 4 which must be late second century or later, and thus provide a *terminus post quem* of c. A.D. 150 for the construction of the rampart.

Bones

Report by J. J. Heath

FROM THE POST-BOUDICCAN DEBRIS AND SILT. Trench 7, c. A.D. 70.

At least one "sheep", one *Bos* and two medium sized birds are represented. No mammalian hind limb bones present.¹⁶

PHASE 3

From the rubbish accumulating west of the house, c. A.D. 100.

At least three *Bos*, one pig and one "sheep" were represented, but only by fragments of skull, fore limb and vertebrae.

The complete absence of any remains of the bones of the choice cuts of meat from both deposits is particularly surprising.

The Coins

Report by D. T-D. Clarke

1 Claudius I. R.I.C. 66. Imitation issue, from Boudiccan burnt daub, trench 3.

St. Mary's Rectory Site. Notes

- 1 Thanks are especially due to the Colchester Borough Council for permission to excavate.
- 2 The Victorian rectory (demolished in 1968) occupied the site of the new theatre. The modern rectory, built in 1967, lies in the southern part of the garden of the Victorian building.
- 3 The excavation was reported in the *Bulletin of the Colchester Archaeological Group*, Vol. 9, No. 2, June 1966.
- 4 Morant. *History of Colchester*, 1768, p. 183.
- 5 Colchester Museum Records.
- 6 I am grateful to Mr. J. Blyth for this information.
- 7 *Op. cit.*
- 8 *Speed*. Map of Colchester, published 1610.
- 9 *Arch. Journ.*, cxxiii, p. 31.
- 10 *Arch. Journ.*, *op. cit.*, plate IV.
- 11 *R. Col.*, p. 57.
- 12 For street numbering see *R. Col.*, pp. 64-75.
- 13 *Insula* 40. *R. Col.*, p. 218.
Insula 6. *R. Col.*, pp. 83-4.
Insula 10. *Arch. Journ.*, cxxiii, pp. 36-8.
- 14 There was a comparatively small quantity of building rubble lying around on the site, and scarcely enough to suggest that the entire building was masonry.
- 15 I am grateful to R. P. Wright for reading the *graffiti* and commenting upon them.
- 16 Sheep in this report does not exclude goat; the reference collections do not contain enough comparative material for determination to be made.

Fig. 23 shows further discoveries made during building operations in 1970. Most notable is the existence of a further tessellated floor on the north-west side of the site. This presumably indicates either another building fronting onto the street leading to Baikerne Gate, or a northern wing to the house on the north side of the courtyard, referred to on page 66.

Excavations in the Firs Car Park, Denmark Street

In 1935 Mr. M. R. Hull uncovered remains of a masonry building in the garden behind no. 22 Crouch Street.¹ At that time it was not possible to do more than expose the apse at the eastern end of the building, to establish its Roman date and to excavate a small, timber-lined pit immediately south-west of the apse. When the site again became available for excavation in April 1965 prior to its development as a car park, the opportunity for a further excavation was therefore readily taken.²

The site lay on the steep, southern bank of the former Cheswell Brook.³ The contours of this slope, however, had changed considerably since Roman times, due to the scraping away of its lower part and the deposition of large quantities of topsoil on the higher. Immediately to the south of the site is the northern margin of an extensive late Roman cemetery, found during the course of quarrying in the last century.

THE EXCAVATIONS

The object of the excavation was both to recover the plan of the building, and to establish its use and if possible its precise date, since the scope of the 1935 excavations had not been wide enough to do more than to make a cursory examination of the apsidal eastern end.

The building was found to have been almost entirely robbed out, and in places even the robber trenches were difficult to plot accurately, on account of the extremely soft nature of the sand subsoil into which they had been dug. The edges of the robber trenches were therefore extremely irregular, and though the line of the wall could be confidently established, it was impossible to estimate accurately its original width.

The apse was quickly uncovered in trenches 1 and 4, while what was obviously the west wall of the building was located 80 feet to the west in trench 9. Trench 9 also revealed the north-west and south-west corners of the building, giving it a total width of 20 feet (fig. 29).

The only masonry to have survived robbing was the foundations of the apse itself, and a 20 foot long stretch of the western wall. Near the south-west corner the superstructure survived for over a foot above foundation level. Both foundations and wall had been carefully built of Kentish ragstone, with dressed ashlar faces above foundation level, set in yellow mortar. The south-west corner itself had at some time been repaired with ragstone and hard, white mortar and the corner turned in tile.

Trenches 2, 11 and 12 were opened to check the line of the east-west walls, and trenches 6-8 to examine the interior of the building. The traces of the robber trench were found in their expected positions, but trenches 6-8 revealed no trace of any internal features at all. The thick garden soil directly overlay the natural sand subsoil and there was a complete absence of any floor level or stratified deposit of any description. In trench 4 the southern wall of the apse projected five inches west of the main east wall before ending abruptly in a straight face. At first it was thought that this curious projection might have been the easternmost pier of a line forming an internal arcade. No trace of any further piers, necessary for such an interpretation, were found, however, and had such existed it is difficult to see how they could have been missed in trenches 7 and 8. There was no corresponding projection of the end of the northern wall of the apse in trench 1.

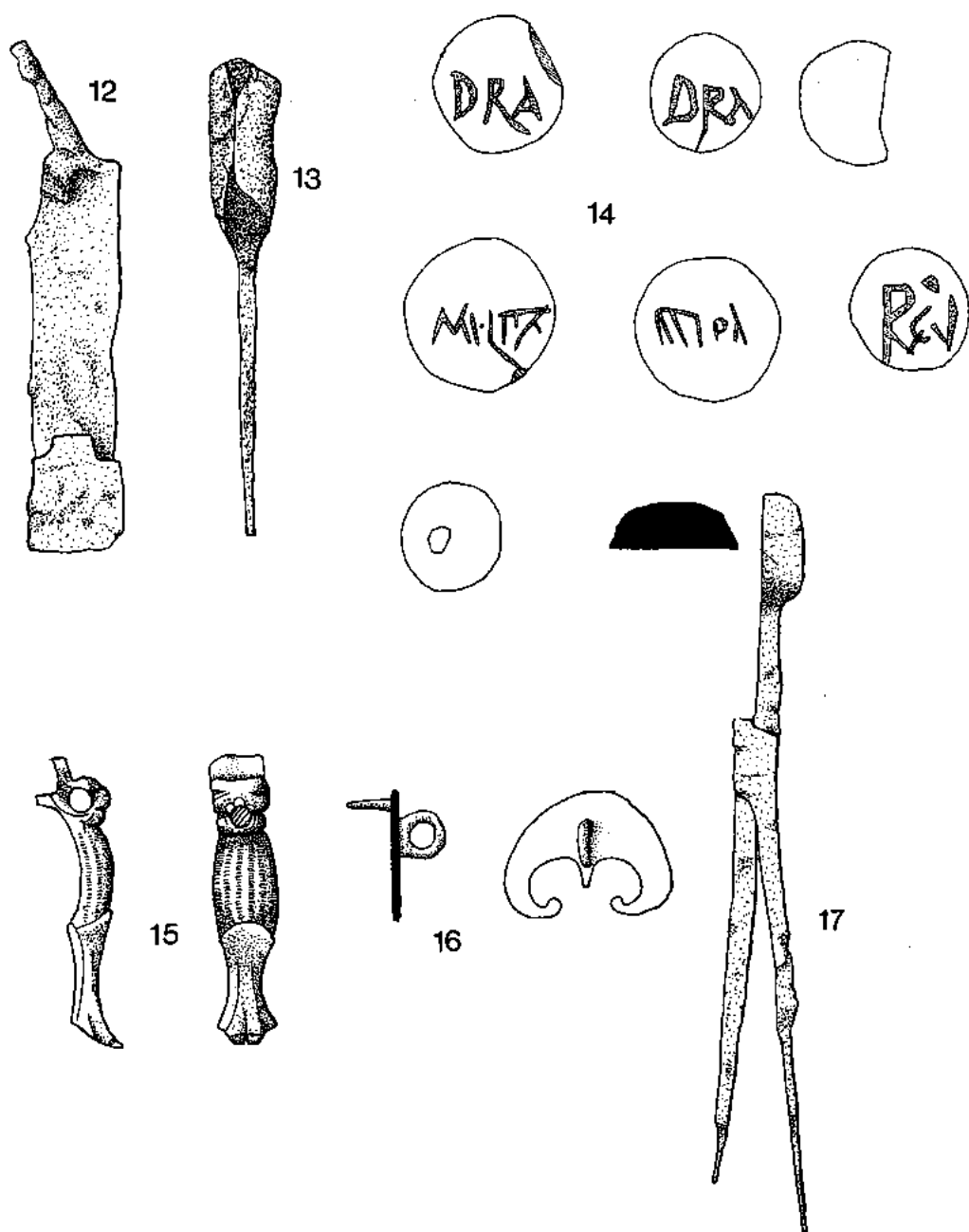


Fig. 27 Denmark Street, St. Mary's Rectory, East Stockwell Street, Balcerne Gardens, North Hill, Small finds.

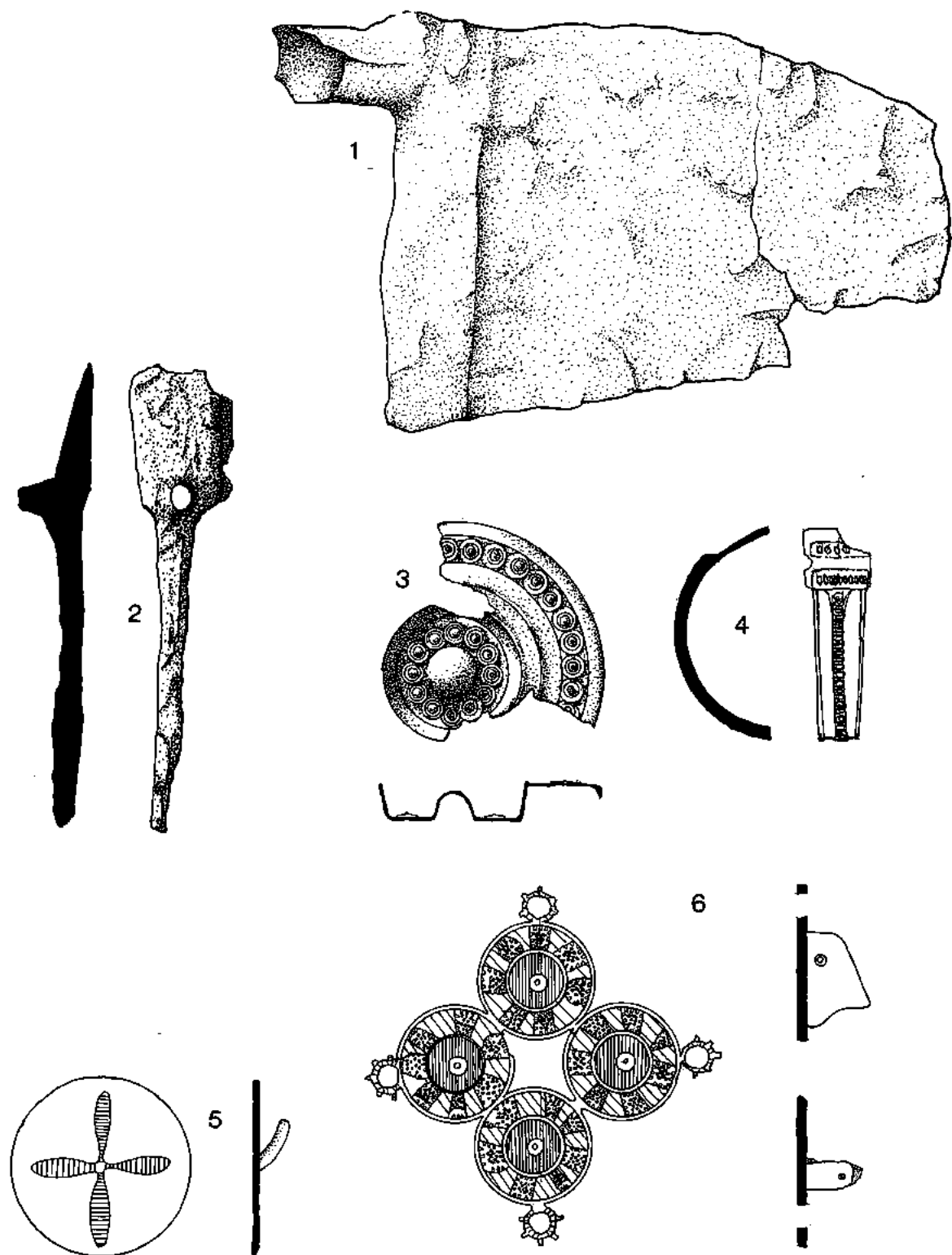


Fig. 28 Firs Car Park, 44 North Hill and Queen Street and Balcerne Gardens. Small finds.

Two and a half and five feet south of the south-west corner of the apse were two pits, pits *A* and *B* respectively. Pit *A* was found in the course of the 1935 excavations and has been fully reported on by Mr. Hull.⁴ Pit *B* was revealed in the 1965 excavation. It was slightly smaller than pit *A*, measuring three feet by two feet and with a depth of three feet. It was filled with stoneless, brown loam and there was no sign of the timber lining found in pit *A*. Also in contrast to pit *A*, pit *B* produced no rich finds; apart from four late fourth century coins found in the brown loam, it was barren.

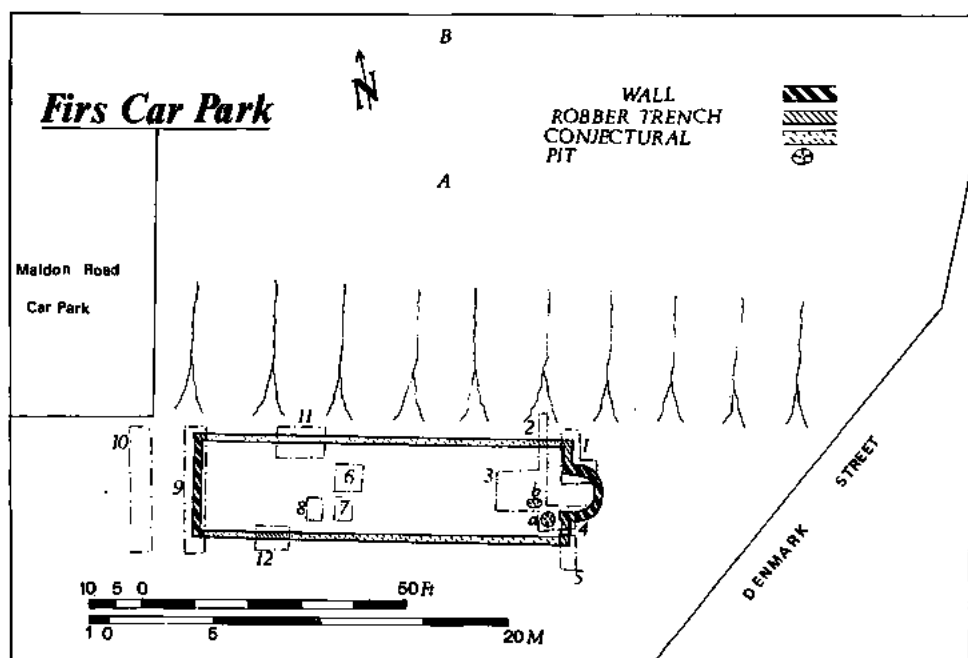


Fig. 29 Firs Car park Site plan.

Owing to the absence of stratified deposits there was no definite evidence, either one way or the other, as to whether the pits were associated with the masonry building but, since apart from this building there was no other sign of occupation on the site, it is reasonable to assume that both pits and building were associated.

Trench 10 revealed no trace of a yard or path outside the building, but strewn on the surface of the natural sand was a small quantity of animal bones, late Roman pottery, nails and scraps of iron, possibly representing rubbish thrown out from the building. Inside the building a quantity of fourth century coins, a small bronze fitting and a fine, second century, enamelled brooch were found lying on the surface of the subsoil immediately west of pit *B*, (Fig. 28).

CONCLUSIONS

The large size of the building, and the absence of internal partitions, implies that the building was not a private house, while the rich finds, particularly in

pit A, would be out of place in a barn or similar building. A religious use for it seems a likely explanation and in the absence of evidence to the contrary, it is suggested that a temple or sizeable shrine stood here.

The scarping of the slope, the attentions of stone robbers and the centuries of cultivation on the site had not only combined to remove much of the masonry walls, but had also destroyed all the floor levels. Consequently it was impossible

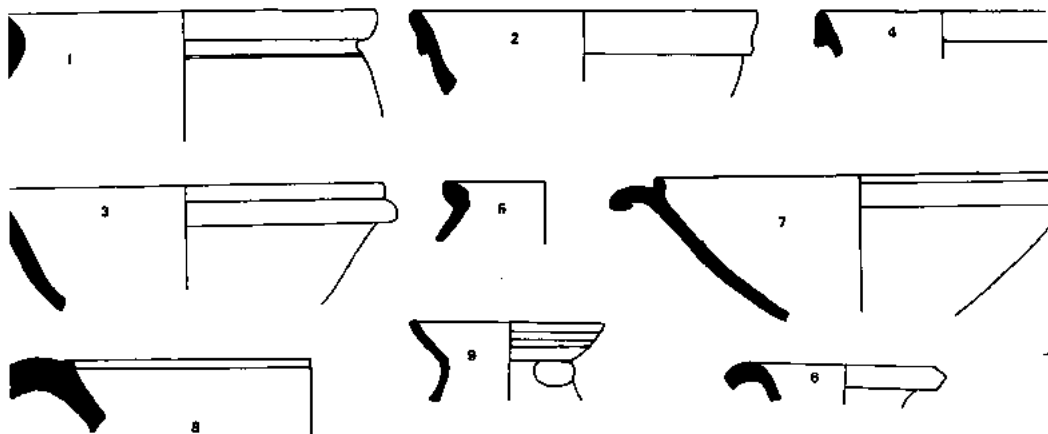


Fig. 30 Firs Car Park, Coarse pottery.

to reconstruct the history of the building in detail. The earliest finds from the site date from the second century (see below) though the bulk belongs to the third or fourth centuries. An Antonine date, therefore, seems the earliest likely for the building's construction, though it could be later, which would give it a life of over two hundred years, since from the coin list it is evident that the building continued in use down till the very end of the fourth century or even into the early fifth.

Small Finds

FROM THE SURFACE OF NATURAL SAND, WEST OF PIT B.

Bronze brooch with enamelled decoration, fig. 28, 6. Mr. Hull dates this to the late second century and certainly no later than the early third. The decoration consisted of blue enamel (diagonal hatching, Fig. 28, 6), brown enamel (vertical hatching) and blue/white and brown millefiori glass (stippled).

Bronze tripod foot from casket. In the form of a lion's head and a horse's foot. Fig. 27, 15.

Bronze peltaic mount. Fig. 27, 16.

FROM THE SURFACE OF NATURAL SAND, WEST OF THE WESTERN WALL

Pair of carpenter's or mason's iron dividers. Point from one arm missing. A common Roman type. Fig. 27, 17.

Denmark Street Coin Catalogue

Report by Richard Reece

Coins lying on the surface of natural at the east end of the building.

- 1 Urbs Roma. H.K.85 330-5.
- 3 Constanopolis. H.K. 66 330-5.
 " H.K. 191 330-5.
 " copy of as 52 330-40.
- 2 Constantine II. H.K. 93 335-7.
 " H.K. 222a. 335-7.
- 2 Constans. H.K. 158 341-6.
- 3 Constantius II. H.K. 99(2) 337-41.
 " H.K. 253 350-55.
- 2 Fel. Temp. Reparatio.

COARSE POTTERY

1. Necked cooking pot in gritty, grey fabric with rough, grey surface and deeply incised lines around shoulder. This is the same type of cooking pot as the examples from St. Mary's Rectory (Fig. 25, 18), 44 North Hill (Fig. 19, 12). Date c. A.D. 100-300.
2. Grey cooking pot in dense, fine grey fabric with roughly smoothed surfaces. Upright rim folded back on itself. A common late Roman type from Colchester.

Also, not illustrated, one similar example in reddish fabric.

3. Flanged bowl in dense grey fabric with pointed rim. Surfaces rather rough.

Also, not illustrated, a similar example with black burnished surfaces.

4. Fine red flanged bowl.

Also, not illustrated, three straight-sided bowls with smooth dark exteriors and rolled rims.

5. "Honey pot" rim in pinkish/cream fabric with smoothed surfaces.
6. Rim of flask or cooking pot in rather softer, grey fabric. Out-turned, very square rim. Rough, fumed exterior.
7. Mortarium in white pipe clay with black grits on the interior. Third or fourth century.
8. Mortarium in dense pink/buff fabric. No surviving grit. *R. Col.* form. Third to fourth century.
9. Flagon in pink/cream fabric. Large splayed rim with the rings simply defined by grooves.

Also, not illustrated, four small fragments of Rhenish ware.

Samian

Report by G. Dannell

Roman pit A.

1. Form 37. This looks very much like local fabric. The *ovolo* is that of potter B⁵ where the large bifid leaf appears to be similar to that used by potter C⁶ as a basal leaf. Late Antonine.

Denmark Street. Notes

- 1 *R. Col.*, pp. 245-8.
- 2 The Excavation Committee is grateful to the Highways Department of the Colchester Borough Council for permission to excavate.
- 3 Excavations by the Colchester Archaeological Group, 30 feet north of the excavated area at the foot of the bank, encountered river silt in excess of 16 feet deep. (point A-B).
- 4 *R. Col.*, p. 247, fig. 111.
- 5 *Kilns*, p. 74, no. 115.
- 6 *Op. cit.*, fig. 42, nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 9.

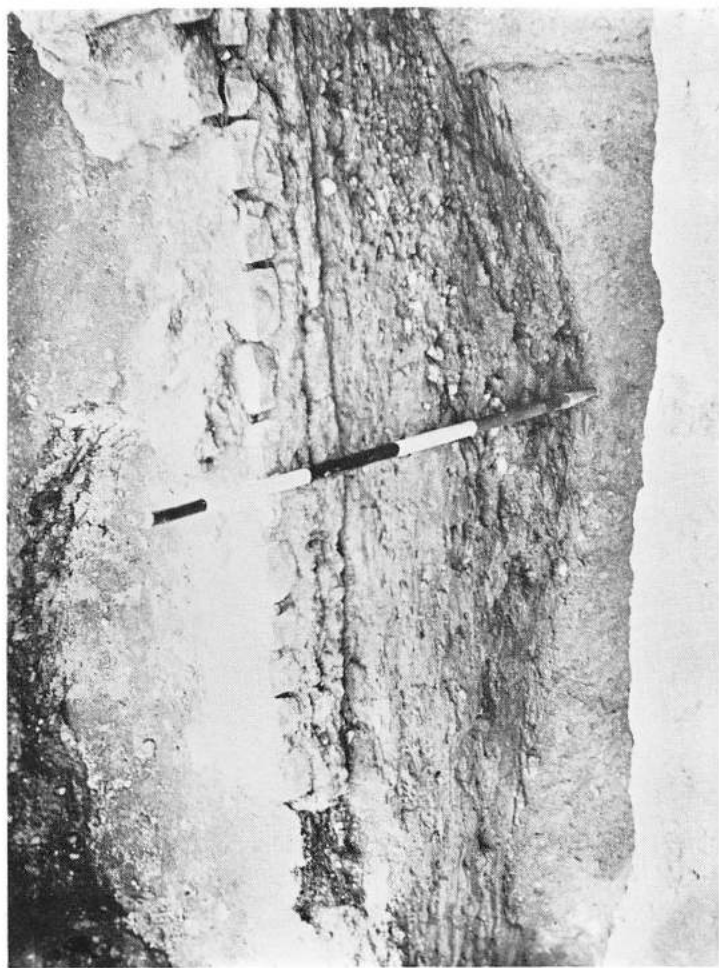


Plate III Section of late first century ditch at 44 North Hill



Plate IV Queen Street site. Walls D and B

Excavations behind No. 5 Queen Street

In the summer of 1966 an 18th century warehouse belonging to the stonemasons, Messrs. Watts, behind their premises in Queen Street, was demolished. Thanks to the good offices of the owner, Mrs. Watts, and her agent, Mr. L. E. Dansie, it was possible to excavate on the site for four weeks in August and September 1966.

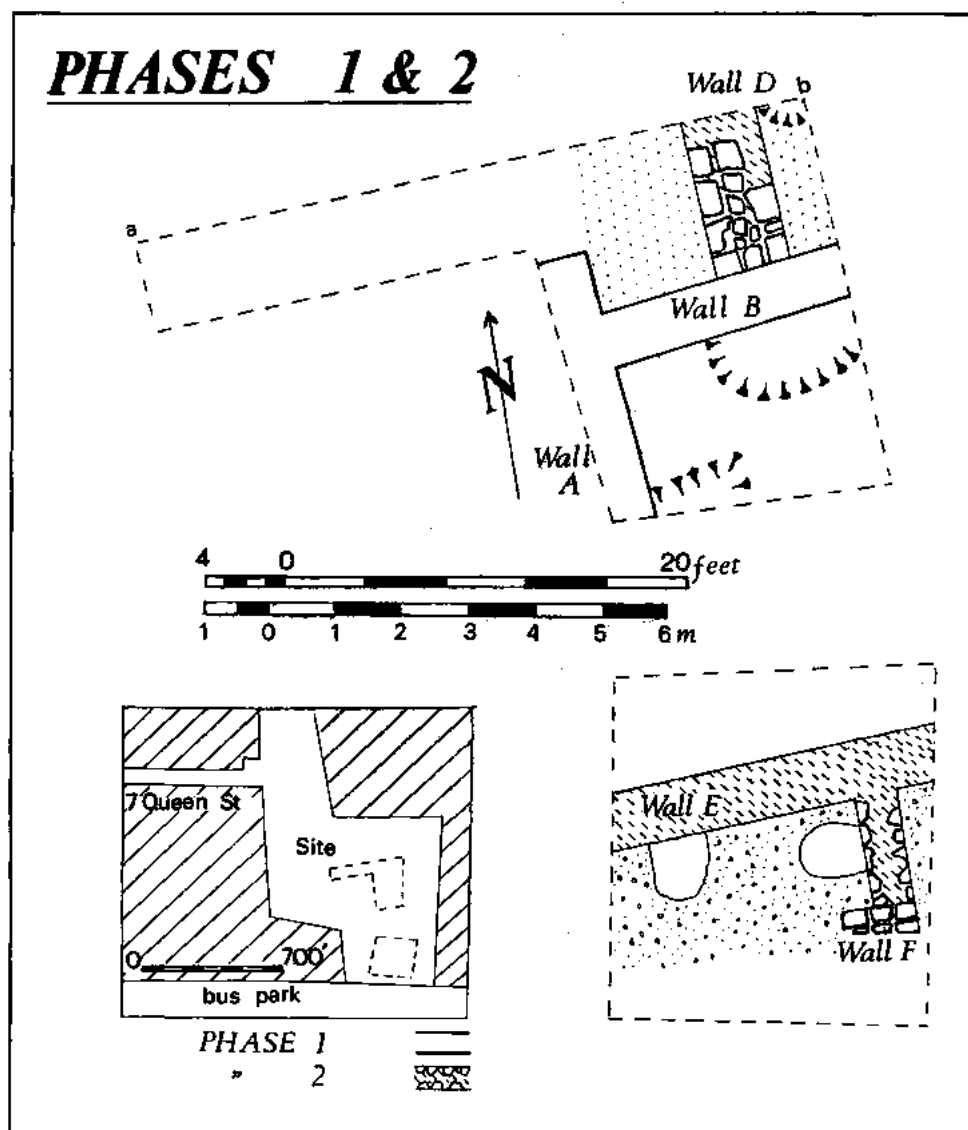


Fig. 31 Queen Street, Plan, Phases 1-2.

The site overlay a small portion of *Insula* 31, one of the least known *Insulae* of the town. The only previous find of any importance was made earlier in the same year when part of a plain red tessellated pavement was found in the cellar

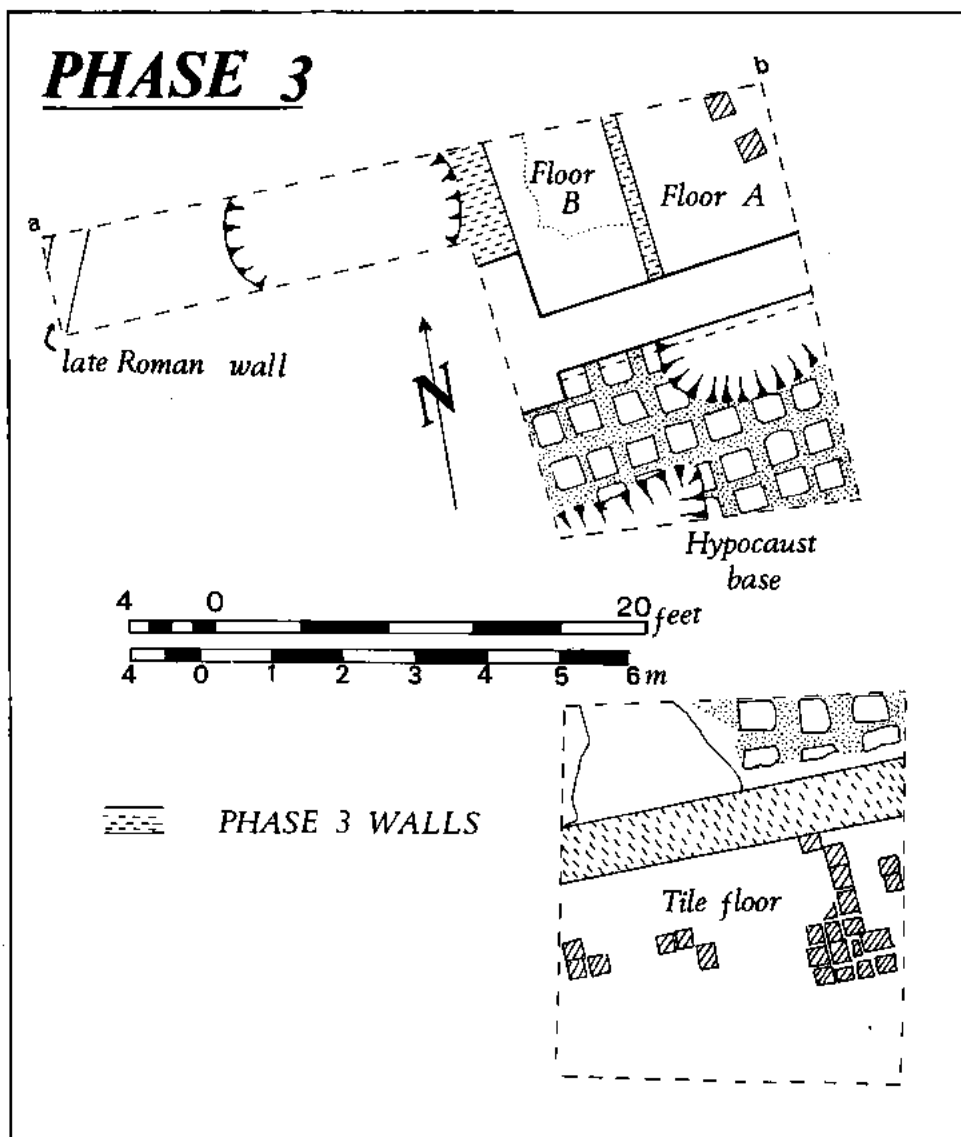


Fig. 32 Queen Street Plan, Phase 3.

of No. 7 Queen Street.¹ Nevertheless, the position of the site, between the main east-west street and the houses excavated in *Insula* 39 by Miss K. Richardson in 1958,² suggested that excavations here would be rewarding.

THE EXCAVATIONS

Work on the site was much hampered by the great depth of the topsoil, between 11 and 13 feet in most places. The large amount of timber required to shore the trenches³ slowed down the actual work, while the area taken up by the extensive spoil tips greatly reduced the space available for excavation. In consequence, the trenches were considerably smaller than had been originally intended.

The site lay within the area of the medieval town, and it was hoped that some trace of this would be revealed in the excavation. Unfortunately, this was not the case; the only post-Roman finds were fragments of pottery dating from 12th-14th century, from the rubble filling the robber trenches.

The great depth at which the Roman levels lay had not protected them from the attention of stone robbers, and indeed the overburden does not appear to have accumulated until after the 12th century, since it sealed the medieval pottery already referred to. Why it then built up to such a depth remains a mystery, though it is possible that some was deliberately brought here to terrace the site.⁴

The Roman level was covered by a four foot thick layer of building rubble containing little in the way of building stone, but large quantities of lumps of mortar, broken flue tiles and fragments of painted wall plaster. Only trenches 2 and 3 were excavated down to this level (trench 1 was too narrow to be excavated to such a depth), and both revealed traces of substantial masonry building.

In trench 3 and over most of trench 2 the earliest masonry building overlay the natural sand subsoil, but at the extreme northern end of trench 2 a layer of dirty, sandy clay containing flecks of charcoal, small stones and occasional small lumps of burnt daub underlay the phase 1 surface. As the depth limit agreed upon had now been reached, the clay layer was not excavated, but it was possible to demonstrate through auguring that it was not more than 6 inches deep and lay on natural sand. There was no trace of the Boudiccan destruction here.

PHASE 1 (Fig. 31)

The first building on the site was represented simply by two walls, a north-south wall, wall A, bonded at right angles with an east-west wall, wall B. Both walls were substantially built of septaria set in hard, white mortar. The foundations and lowest course of the superstructure were all that remained. The building, however, had evidently been an imposing one; the foundations were sunk two and a half feet into the subsoil, and above foundation level the wall had been three feet wide.

The course of wall A, south of trench 2, is uncertain. No trace of it was found in trench 3, so presumably it turned under the baulk to run east-west. Three and a half feet north of its junction with wall B, wall A terminated abruptly at what was evidently an original opening or doorway into the room on the east, since the northern face of the wall was carefully finished with squared septaria blocks, and there was no sign of a foundation trench continuing across the northern part of trench 2.

The room on the east, into which the doorway led, was floored by a thin clay surface on which had accumulated a layer of black occupation debris. This floor overlapped the foundation offsets of the phase 1 walls, and so should

clearly be assigned to this phase, although such a surface is in marked contrast to the imposing character of the walls themselves.

South of wall B no contemporary floors were found, but it is probable that any pre-existing floors here would have been removed when the base of the phase 3 hypocaust was laid.

PHASE 2 (Fig. 31)

This phase saw an extension of the earlier building. In trench 3 a new substantial east-west wall, wall E, was built of yellow mortar and septaria. Since, in trench 2, walls A and B, built in very different mortar, were clearly the earliest structure on the site, wall E must be assigned to a later phase. On the other hand, both it and the north-south wall F, which was bonded into it on the south, clearly pre-date phase 3 and so both must be part of an intermediate phase, phase 2.

A feature of walls E and F was a series of what must have been small buttresses or pilaster bases at intervals along the south face of the former, and the west face of the latter. Only one of these was preserved intact; the other two were marked by small robber trenches.

In trench 2 a third north-south wall, wall D, was now erected on the same line and in identical building material to wall E, but of a more substantial build. This also met the phase 1 wall at a butt joint (plate IV). Both walls E and D had a levelling course of tiles laid immediately above foundation level, but the superstructure above this course had been robbed out. The doorway in the north end of wall A was now blocked with a flimsy foundation of drystone, septaria chips, supporting a blocking wall of septaria set in yellow mortar like that used in walls D, E and F.

The floors laid in the phase 2 structure were an improvement on that of the preceding phase. The surface north of wall B was a tough, white, mortar floor, while the one south of wall E consisted of fine cobbles set in pink mortar; again no trace of any floor survived in the area between walls B and E.

PHASE 3 (Fig. 32)

The last distinguishable phase of the site's history was represented by the enlargement of the rooms of the previous phase. The south end of wall A, south of wall B, was demolished and over its footing was laid the edge of the base of a hypocaust which occupied the room between walls E and B. Almost all trace of this hypocaust had been removed by tile robbers, who had broken up the overlying floor and removed all the *pilae* tiles leaving only the pink mortar hypocaust base. On this base, however, the soot which had accumulated in the flues had formed a distinctive dark grid pattern. Were it not for this pattern no trace would have survived to indicate the presence of a hypocaust at all.

The hypocaust seems to have underlain a mosaic floor, which had been completely broken-up by the tile robbers. Several bucket loads of white, yellow, black and red tesserae were removed from this area, but it was not possible to restore even a portion of the floor's design.

North of this hypocaust, wall D was demolished to just above foundation level and two pink *opus signinum* floors laid over it, separated by a flimsy partition wall of unbaked clay. The eastern floor, floor A, lay 18 inches lower than the western one, floor B (see section 41), but was level with the base of the hypocaust just described. It seems likely, therefore, that floor A also formed the base of a now robbed hypocaust with an overlying floor originally level with the mosaic

south of wall B. Three square tiles set into floor A may well be all that remains of the robbed *pilae*. There was, however, no trace of soot on this floor.

In trench 3 wall E was now demolished to foundation level and a tiled floor laid over it. This also had been extensively robbed, but the impressions of the tiles in the pink mortar base were clearly visible.

DATING EVIDENCE

The dating of all the phases of the site's history is very difficult to assess. Except for two body sherds of fourth century, colour coated ware, described below, stratified material was non-existent. The two stratified pieces were found in the make-up for the phase 3 *opus signinum* floor, and thus provide fourth century *terminus post quem* for the opening of phase 3.

In the case of the two previous phases, though dating on such a basis can only be extremely tentative, it is worth noting that none of the floors of either phase showed any sign of wear, suggesting their lives were not very long. A date within the second century is therefore suggested, as the earliest likely for both these phases.

A small quantity of fourth century material was found unstratified in the rubble that overlay the site.

THE LATER HISTORY OF THE SITE

The evidence of this is extremely meagre. It is not possible to estimate how long phase 3 lasted, or to show how the building finally collapsed, whether through fire, neglect or deliberate demolition.

At the western end of trench 1 was a flimsy wall of soft, yellow mortar resting on shallow foundations, sunk only six inches into the contemporary floor level. The wall ran diagonally across the trench in a NNE/SSW direction, and this, combined with the comparatively shallow depth below modern ground level, suggests that it was part of a different and probably later building than that uncovered in trenches 2 and 3. Associated with this wall was a clay surface on which had accumulated a layer of charcoal. Both wall and clay floor post-dated two earlier clay surfaces, but unfortunately, it was impossible to associate these layers stratigraphically with the deposits already described because of the presence of a large pit in the eastern end of trench 1. This pit produced no dateable remains but presumably pre-dated the 18th century warehouse which occupied the site.

In conclusion, it may be said that the building which occupied the site over most of the Roman period was one of considerable importance. The dimensions of the walls of all the buildings phases are very much more substantial than would be required in a private house, and clearly belong to a very imposing structure. The position of the site, fronting on to the *via principalis* of the *Colonia*, is probably significant in this context. Unfortunately, however, the very restricted nature of the excavation made it impossible to speculate on the use of the building.

THE COARSE POTTERY

Both pieces described here are very small and have not been illustrated. Both come from the make-up for floor A (phase 3).

1. Fragment of a rim of a lid with expanded corniced rim. Granular, grey fabric with a gritty surface. The type is not found in the *Colonia* prior to the early third century. *Kilns*, fig. 72, 16.

2. Fine body sherd of a beaker in red fabric with burnished, chocolate colour coat. Rouletted decoration on the exterior. *R. Col.* form 395. Fourth century.

SMALL FINDS

Bronze boss, fig. 28, 3. Unstratified. Very fragile, thin bronze plate, decorated with stamped concentric circles. No apparent means of attachment. Mr. Hull is of the opinion that this is an ornamental stud rather than a brooch.

Medieval Pottery from Queen Street

All the pottery described here was found in rubble filling of the robbed Roman walls. The sherds cannot be considered as part of a single group and all are unstratified.

1. Part of a large, open bowl in very hard, gritty, grey fabric, incorporating a little fairly large gravel tempering. Surface rather rough. Rim roughly squared and everted. Body decorated with curvilinear incisions made by a four-toothed comb. The pattern was obviously repetitive and covered the entire body, but it was not possible to restore a complete pattern from the fragments recovered, nor to reconstruct the pattern. From a few pieces of base in identical fabric it can be inferred that the base of the pot was slightly sagging. Very fragmentary and profile not restorable. Not illustrated.
2. Fabric similar to 1 but with a pinkish tinge to it at the surfaces. Part of an undecorated bowl with flaring neck. The upper surface of the rim is flattened forming an internal bevel. (Fig. 19, 18). Rather similar in form to a rim from Saffron Walden. *Trans. Essex Arch. Socy.*, Vol. I, Third Series, Part 2, 1962 Fig. 5, 8. Twelfth-thirteenth centuries, also *Trans. Essex Arch. Socy.*, Vol. I, Third Series, Part 2, 1961, Fig. 2.
3. Part of a bowl or dish in very well tempered, hard, grey fabric, pale grey at core, darker at surface. Surface white smooth. Rim everted and very carefully squared. (Fig. 19, 19).
4. Rim very similar to 3, but in rather paler and more gritty fabric. (Fig. 19, 20). Similar to a rim from Witham. *Trans. Essex Arch. Socy.*, Vol. I, Third Series, Part 2, 1961, Fig. 2. In "Ware 3". Twelfth century.
5. Rather sandy fabric with white, sand grain temper. Fabric itself is brown/grey. Simple, round rim, short, flaring neck. Broad, shallow groove on shoulder. (Fig. 19, 21).
6. Very hard, fine, dense grey fabric. Smooth, dark grey exterior, interior surface, coated with fine, cream coloured slip. A sophisticated form comprising an outward flaring rim with carefully moulded lip (Fig. 19, 22).
7. Very hard, well-made, brick red fabric, grey at core. Interior surface coated with cream coloured slip as No. 6 above. The form here is that of a straight-sided vessel with out-turned, simple rim forming a flat rim. (Fig. 19, 23).
8. Part of a rim of a dish in hard, gritty grey fabric. Interior surface coated with cream coloured slip as Nos. 6 and 7. In this example the coated surface has been carefully smoothed, almost polished. (Fig. 19, 24).
9. Part of a very heavy vessel in hard but rather coarse, gritty, grey fabric. Slightly micaceous surface, rather rough and gritty. (Fig. 19, 25).

Also, not illustrated, one very similar but slightly larger example.

Also, not illustrated, one body sherd in hard, sandy, brick red fabric. Surface rather gritty. Traces of cream painted geometric design on exterior. The corner of one piece has a splash of brown and green-speckled glaze.

Very small body fragment in fine, hard, grey fabric with remains of moulded decoration on exterior covered with dull green glaze.

Part of a handle in gritty, grey fabric, very hard with a few black sand grain inclusions. On upper surface splashes of grey/brown glaze.

Queen Street. Notes

- 1 Information from the owner. The pavement was re-buried.
- 2 *Trans. Essex Arch. Socy.*, Third Series, Vol. I, Part 1, 1961, pp. 7-31.
- 3 I am grateful to Mr. B. Mason for his advice on problems connected with the shoring.
- 4 In Roman times the south-west corner of the town seems to have sloped steeply towards the Cheswell Brook which then bounded the town on the south. Today the gradient is far less marked.

The Victoria Inn Site

In 1883¹ a mosaic floor was discovered in the yard that now forms part of the premises of British Road Services Ltd., west of the main Roman road leading north from the north gate of the town (see Fig. 3). Masonry foundations of Roman date have been found from time to time beneath the modern pavement and it is clear that a suburban masonry house of some pretension stood here in Roman times. Consequently when the three sixteenth century cottages adjacent to the Victoria Inn and between the site of the 1883 mosaic and the road were demolished in 1965, the chance to excavate on the newly cleared site was eagerly seized by the Committee.²

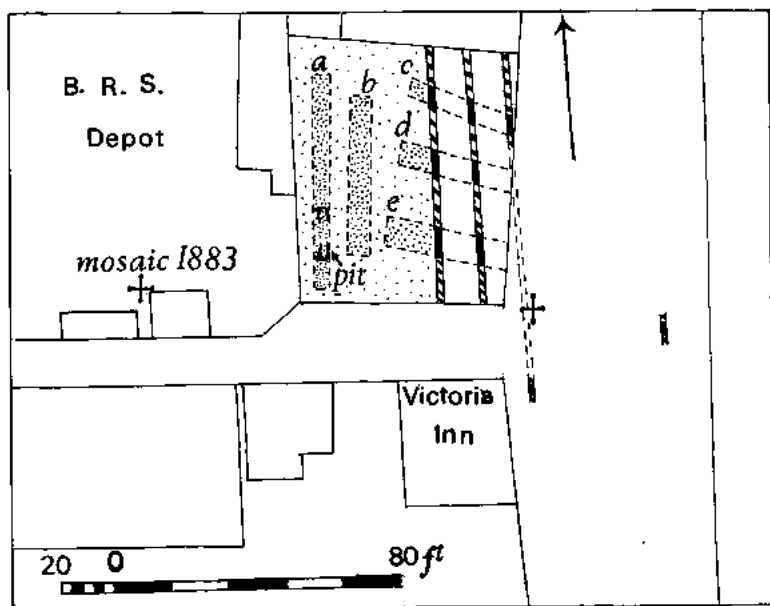


Fig. 33 Victoria Inn Site Plan.

The time available for excavation on the site was limited to three weeks in January-February. The bulk of the work was undertaken by two paid labourers. The first two trenches, (trenches a-b) produced nothing apart from a thin gravel surface capping a thick layer of clay containing fragments of roofing tile, painted wall plaster and the very fragmentary remains of a colour coated thumb beaker of late second to early third century date. The purpose of this clay layer was clearly that of raising the level of the ground to accommodate the gravel surface; the base of the layer was beneath the modern water table and could not be properly excavated, but it was possible to prove by boring that it lay directly on natural subsoil and that no earlier structures had existed on the site. No signs of masonry were found in any of the three trenches and it is reasonable to assume that the gravel surface belonged to a courtyard between the part of the house containing the mosaic on the west, and the rooms found in trenches c-e on the east.

Trenches c-e revealed a carefully laid plain red tessellated pavement and remains of two east-west walls, 10 feet apart. These were one foot 11 inches thick and solidly built of septaria and mortar. The tessellated floor appears to

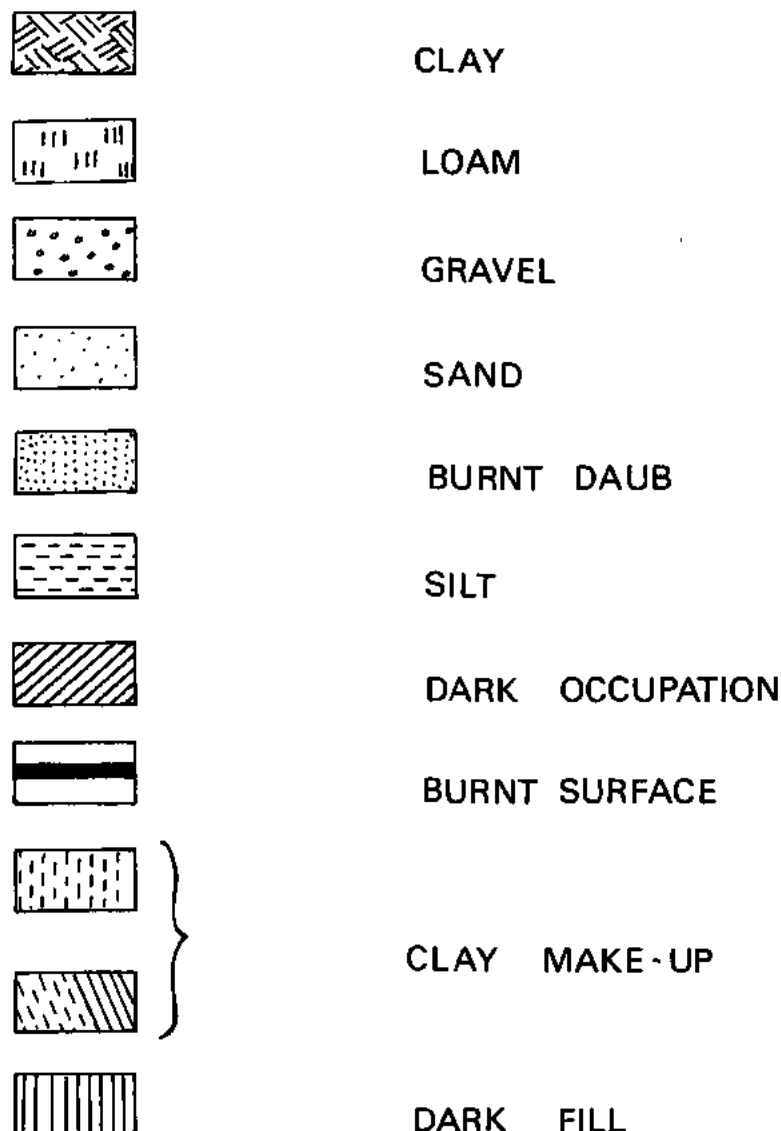


Fig. 34 Key to Section.

have lain in a corridor presumably serving rooms to the east, now beneath the modern pavement. The tessellated floor lay on a clay make-up layer continuous with that under the courtyard, but containing no further dating material.

THE DATE

The only reliable dating evidence found consisted of the colour coated thumb beaker fragments from the clay levelling beneath the gravel courtyard. This provides a *terminus post quem* in the later second century for the levelling of the site prior to the construction of the building. How long the house remained in use is not known, but it may have been for a fairly limited period since there was no sign of the floor of courtyard being renewed nor of any alteration to the masonry structure. Since only a very small portion of the building was excavated, however, this last point especially is inconclusive.

LATER HISTORY OF THE SITE

The demolished cottages that had previously occupied the site were early sixteenth century in date, but there was no sign of occupation on the site in the intervening periods between the late Roman phase and c. 1700. A rubbish pit produced a few fragments of Metropolitan ware of early eighteenth century date, but apart from this no post-medieval remains were encountered.

Notes

- 1 *R. Col.*, pp. 240-241, 82-6.
- 2 Thanks are due to the owners, British Road Services Ltd., for their co-operation.

Gosbecks Theatre. Preliminary Report

In August–September 1967 the western half of the Roman theatre three miles west of the town at Gosbecks was excavated. The report of this excavation appears in *Britannia*, Vol. II, but a short preliminary report of the excavation is appended below.

Excavation was concentrated in three main areas, the northern entrance, the western half of the stage and orchestra and part of the west arm of the auditorium, in an attempt to discover subsidiary entrances, and to settle the question as to whether or not an earlier timber building had existed on the site.

The auditorium was turf built but ploughing had removed all trace of the seating arrangements. The outer edge of this turf bank had been revetted by a three foot wide wall now almost entirely robbed out. Enough remained, however, to show that the foundations had been built of local septaria and the upper courses of dressed blocks of imported Kentish ragstone. Along the wall's outer face at intervals of twenty feet were small decorative pilasters, and also the foundations of two massive staircases that led up the outside face of the wall to provide access to the back seats of the auditorium.

The entrance to the theatre consisted of a narrow passage cut through the auditorium along the north–south axis. It was floored by cobbles set in pink mortar and the mound on either side was held back by masonry walls twenty feet apart.

The entrance passage led to the orchestra, a flat space in the centre of the auditorium in front of the stage. Roman theatres normally had a wall separating this area from the auditorium, but at Gosbecks no such wall was found. Its place had been taken by a line of irregularly spaced postholes which delimited the orchestra and behind which the auditorium bank was built up.

The stage, built entirely of timber, was a simple structure, merely comprising a rectangular platform, twenty feet wide and eighty feet long. It was supported by rows of posts set upright in the ground along the front and sides but morticed into a sleeper beam along the back. At the corners, and at the front of the stage, opposite the entrance, were especially massive posts, one foot in diameter and sunk up to five feet into the ground.

At an early stage in the excavation, however, it became clear that there was more than one phase of construction represented. The timbers of the stage had been replaced at least once, and it was later found that the walls of the entrance, and that revetting the mound, all replaced earlier timber ones on closely similar lines. Though most of these timber walls had been destroyed by the later building, enough remained to strongly suggest the presence of an earlier and entirely timber built theatre.

The turf mound, however, was clearly associated with the masonry walls, so the first phase auditorium must have consisted of tiers of timber seats on a timber framework of some sort. Little evidence for this was found since the area where the auditorium was removed down to the old ground surface had been very extensively disturbed by roots and burrowing animals. Traces of what may have been timber beam slots, however, were found under the western arm of the auditorium.

No trace of dressing rooms or other stage buildings was found for either theatre in spite of a careful search.

THE DATE OF THE GOSBECKS THEATRE

The auditorium mound sealed a small amount of first century pottery but the exact date for the construction of the timber phase is uncertain. It is certain

however, that there was no significant lapse of time between the abandonment of the timber phase and the construction of the part-masonry structure. The postholes of the first phase were still open when the later theatre was built, and in all probability the posts had only just been withdrawn.

On the floor of the entrance of the second phase theatre were a number of coins, dating from the first three-quarters of the second century. Coins found in the orchestra area were of the same date, and pottery from the stage also agreed with the coin evidence. No late Roman material was found and it is difficult to postulate a continuing life for the structure after the mid-third century at the latest.

It is interesting to note that after its abandonment the theatre seems to have been fairly quickly demolished. Before any dirt could accumulate on the last surface of the entrance, the flanking walls were robbed out and the mound material collapsed on to the cobbled surface of the passage. Little more than a year or two can therefore have elapsed before careful demolition took place.

The reason for the disuse of the theatre in the early third century is obscure, but it is possible that excavation of the large temple north of the site would throw some light on this question.

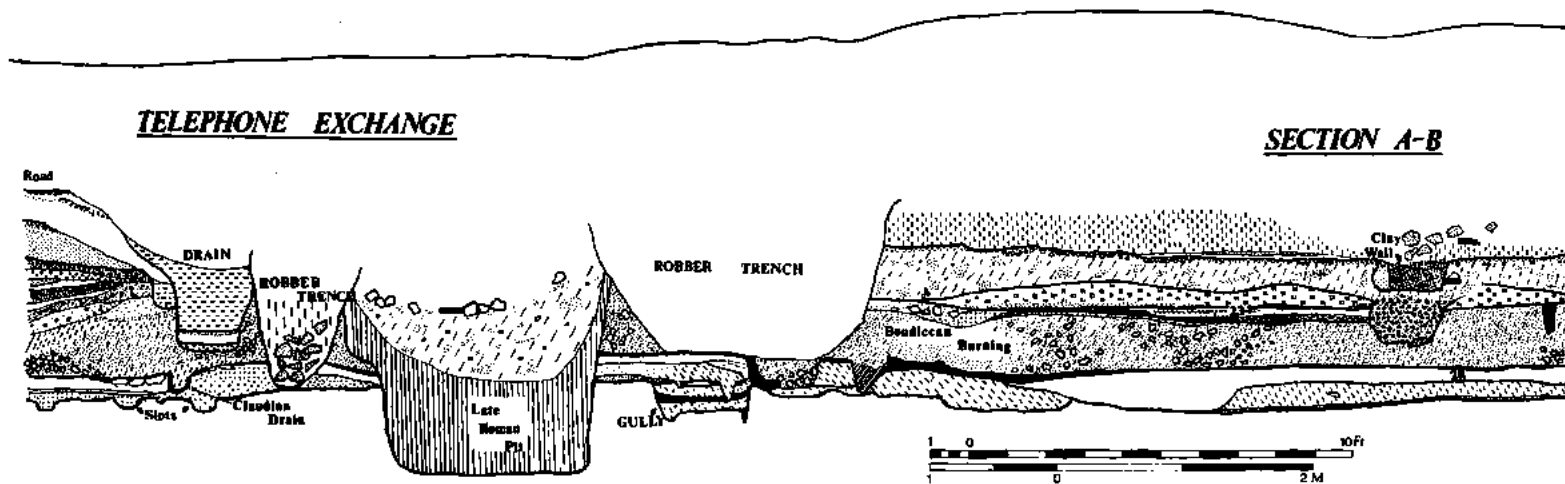


Fig. 35 Telephone Exchange, Section A-B.

Sainsbury's Site, Culver Street

In the winter of 1968-69 the site of Sainsbury's supermarket in Culver Street was developed. It was not possible to conduct excavations on the site, but the work, which consisted of the excavation of 31 stanchion holes was carefully watched by the writer. The Committee is indebted to the contractors, Messrs. Hutton, for their co-operation. The sequence of events on the site was as follows:

1. **THE EARLIEST OCCUPATION.** This consisted of a spread of loose and rather powdery white mortar. This surface had the appearance of being unfinished, no permanent surface existed, nor was there any sign of silt, wear, or of any occupation material. No structure was recorded through it is possible that the stanchion holes missed some remains which may yet remain to be found.

The mortar layer was immediately overlain by a thick layer of very bright red, clean, burnt daub. This was two and a half to three feet thick at the northern end of the site, tapering out to only a few inches at the south. It was very homogenous and contained no tiles or wall plaster common in daub layers elsewhere. This reinforces the suggestion already made that the building that stood on the site had never been completed. On the other hand the thick layer of burnt daub contained remains of clay blocks of the type found elsewhere in the town, for instance, on St. Mary's Rectory, indicated that at least the walls had been built. Considerable quantities of timbers, possibly rafters, are also implied to render the building inflammable.

The total absence of associated finds meant that the date of the daub was difficult to assess. It was, however, the earliest of two burnt levels on the site, and this, combined with the fact that it lay almost immediately over the natural subsoil, suggests an early, probably pre-Flavian date. It should therefore be connected with the pre-Flavian burnt levels observed by Mr. Hull under St. Nicholas House in the north-west corner of *Insula* 30 and by the writer during road works on the corner of Queen Street and East Hill in the north-east corner of the *Insula* (see fig. 42).¹ The remains on all three sites are probably those of a public building associated with the Temple of Claudius and situated, as is now clear, on the outskirts of the Claudian town. It is noteworthy that the remains under the corner of Queen Street and under St. Nicholas House contained remains of moulded white plaster as well as burnt clay blocks. This moulded plaster is very similar to plaster found by Mr. M. Hebditch, in a very early Roman burnt level, under the east-west street south of the arcade in front of the Temple Court.²

It is, therefore, tentatively suggested that the burnt levels noted by the writer in Queen Street,³ the burnt remains under St. Nicholas House, the small burnt deposit found by Mr. Hebditch and the large area of burning under Sainsbury's are all part of a public building associated with the Temple of Claudius to the north, and partially completed in 61. It will be seen how this pre-Boudiccan arrangement was echoed in the rebuilding on the area after the fire of A.D. 61.

2. **THE MASONRY STRUCTURE.** The second phase of activity saw the construction of a very massive masonry structure.⁴

This consisted of at least four very solid east-west walls built of remarkably hard white mortar and septaria, sunk up to 10 feet into the ground below foundation level and between five and seven feet in width above the foundation

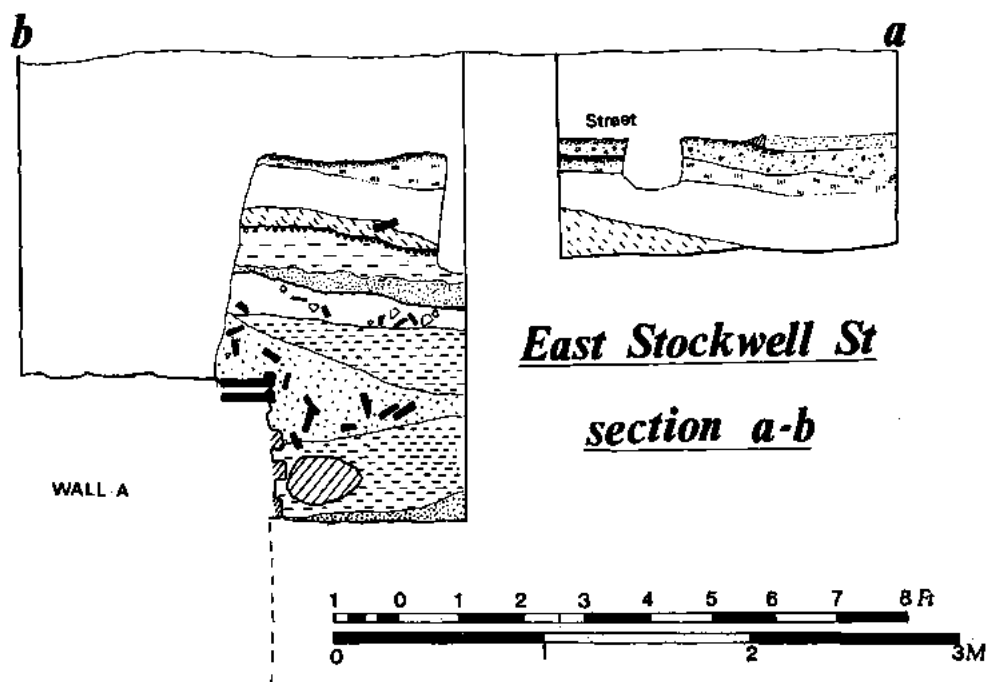


Fig. 36 East Stockwell Street.

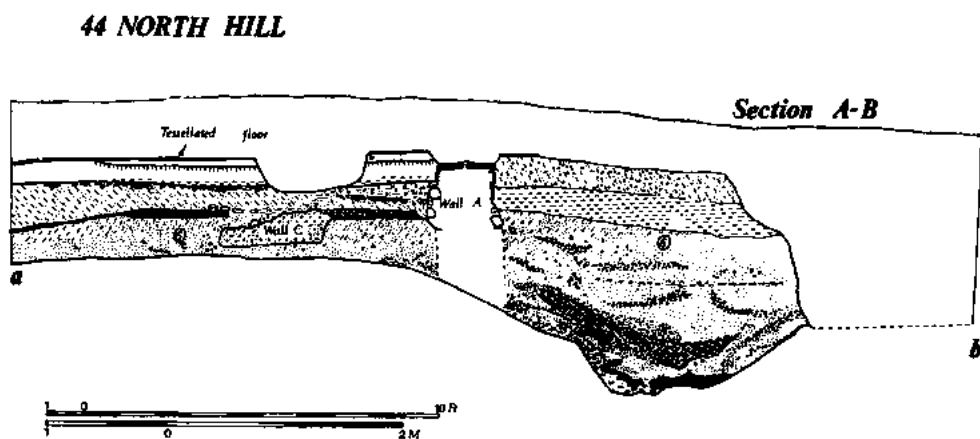


Fig. 37 44 North Hill.

offset. They have all been robbed out down to their foundation offset, and in some cases have been completely removed and were represented only by enormous robber trenches. Owing to the depth and size of the robber trenches and walls exposed in the restricted stanchion holes, and the condition imposed through working on a commercial site, it was extremely difficult to assess the precise direction of the walls. Unfortunately, in addition to this, floor levels had all been removed by recent excavations, but nevertheless, it is clear from the very massive nature of the walls and the total absence of domestic refuse from the site, that a substantial public building stood here.

The building was sealed by a second layer of burnt daub, more weathered and dirtier than the earlier. This second burnt level should probably be associated with the late second century burnt levels, observed in *Insula* 39 on Locke's site (see below)⁵ and in the Kingsway arcade. The numerous slighter walls and tessellated pavements recorded in the past from the Culver Street and Long Wyre street area, (Fig. 3) must belong to private houses that occupied the site after the second century fire. Certainly the public building on Sainsbury's site was not rebuilt after the fire; the burnt daub effectively seals the walls of the massive building, and except in the case of robbed walls, had never been disturbed by re-building.

It is interesting to note at this point the evidence produced by Mr. Hebditch's excavation, indicating that the blocking wall inserted in the arcade in the facade in front of the Temple of Claudius is early third century in date. Thus it appears that after the public building in *Insula* 30 had been destroyed the arcade was blocked. This blocking may well have taken place soon after the fire, and be contemporary with the change of use of *Insula* 30, from being preserved for public building, to being used for private houses or shops. Furthermore, the re-use of marble facing stone, some of it showing signs of burning, in the third century re-furbishing of the temple facade, suggests that the temple precinct also may have been damaged in the late second century fire.⁶

In summary therefore it appears that from Claudian times *Insula* 30 was reserved for a public building associated with the Temple of Claudius and that this building was only abandoned in the early third century when, after the late second century fire, the area was given over to private buildings and the blocking walls inserted in the Temple facade. It is not yet possible to reconstruct a plan of the *Insula* 30 building since the stretches of walls so far found have all been too short (see fig. 42) but on the whole it seems unlikely that it should have formed a *basilica* comprising the south side of a *forum*. It is difficult to explain why a *forum* should not have been rebuilt after the late second century fire and a more reasonable explanation would seem to be that it was an entirely auxiliary building associated with the Temple of Claudius, and was no longer considered necessary in the third century.

(See page 107.)

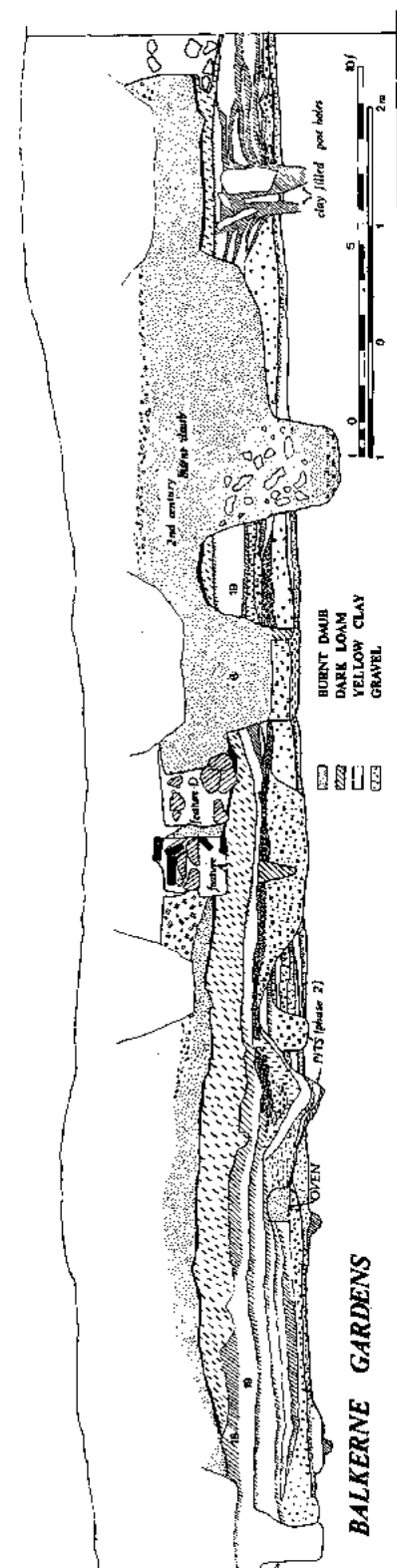


Fig. 38 Balkerne Gardens.

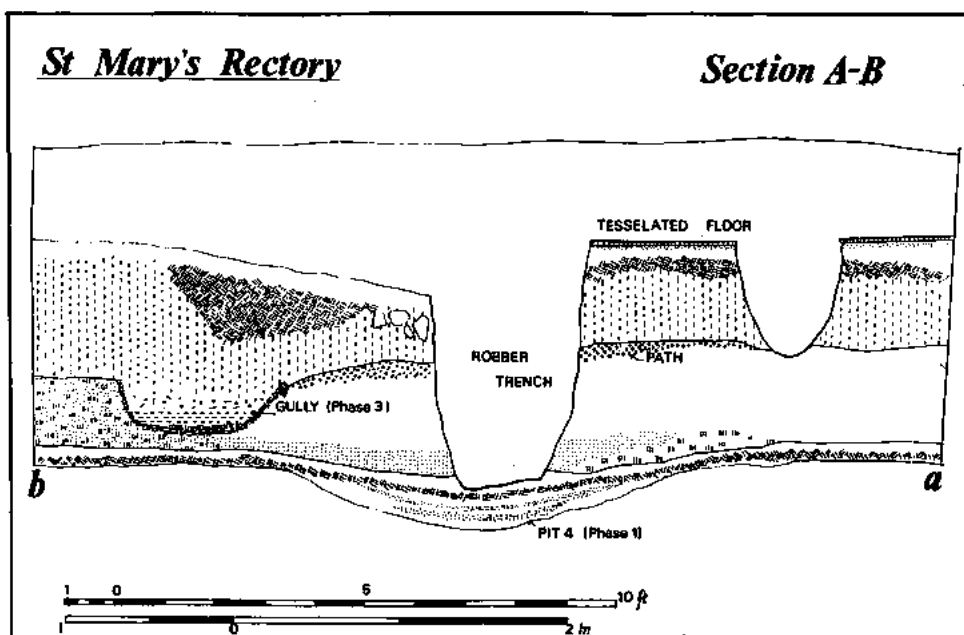


Fig. 39 St. Mary's Rectory.

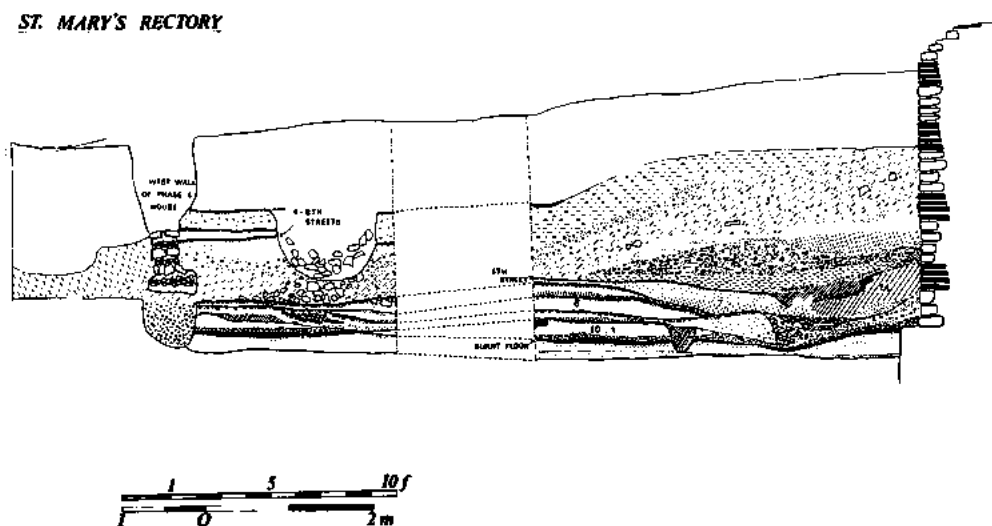


Fig. 40 St. Mary's Rectory, Defences.

Locke's Site. Insula 39. (Fig. 3)

Commercial excavations in August 1967 revealed a north-south street on the site now occupied by Keddie's department store, leading from the presumed site of the Roman south gate towards the main gate of the Temple of Claudius precinct. It was not seen on the site of Sainsbury's though this may have been due to the fact that the stanchion holes missed it. It might have run through a gate in the public building on the site since to the north of the site a masonry vaulted drain similar to the street side drains in *Insulae* 7, 11, 14 and 32 was found during road works in the High Street in 1966, and this suggests that the road may have run right up to the Temple Precinct gate (see Fig. 3).

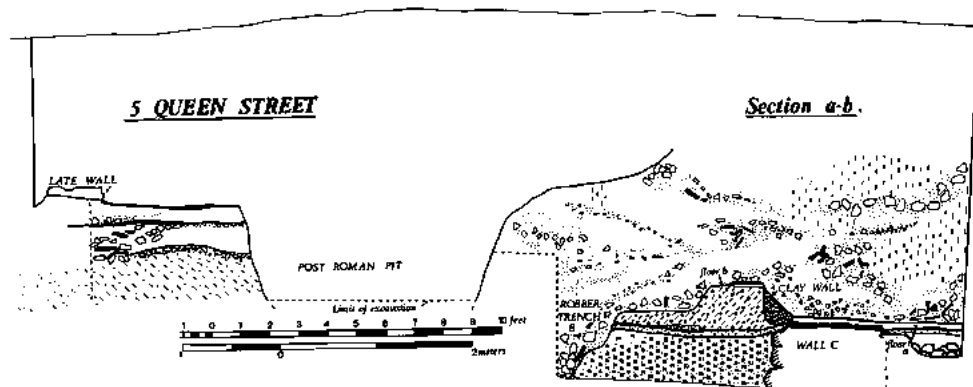


Fig 41 Queen Street.

The street on Locke's site was 25 feet wide and was flanked on the west by a drainage gully. It provides the first confirmation of the line of the road recorded by Rudsdale⁷ leading from the south to the presumed site of the Roman south gate into the town (see Fig. 3). On Locke's site this street showed five re-surfacings and was flanked on the west by the remains of the foundations of a Roman masonry building, but apart from the robber trenches of this building, no other deposits remained.

The street was overlain by a thick deposit of burnt daub, but as this layer overlay two re-surfacings of the street it cannot be ascribed to the Boudiccan revolt. Eleven years would not be sufficient for the street to be twice renewed. This burnt level must therefore be connected with a later fire, doubtless that observed by Rudsdale in the Kingsway arcade 45 yards to the north-west, which was directly overlain by a building associated with a coin of Caracalla.⁸ Since a fairly central site like this is unlikely to have lain derelict for many years after a fire, the burning is probably of late second century date, or possibly later.

Notes

- 1 *Trans. Essex Arch. Socy.*, Vol. 25, New Series, pp. 305-324.
- 2 Information from Mr. M. Hebditch. See his article below, p. 115.
- 3 Observed by the writer during building operations in 1967.
- 4 Observed by the writer during building operations in 1969.
- 5 Observed by the writer during building operations in 1967.
- 6 Information from Mr. Hebditch. See his article below, p. 115.
- 7 *R. Col.*, p. 10.
- 8 *R. Col.*, p. 214.

Appendix A

PRE-FLAVIAN SAMIAN STAMPS

(The figures are the Colchester Museum accession numbers)

Ardanus	Technical College.
Carus	High Street 886.3.05.
Licinianus	London and County Bank.
Of Macca	5 North Hill 69.41.
Maccarius	North Hill 696.41.
Modestus	West Stockwell Street 1478. London and County Bank.
Albi	Drain, top Holly Trees Meadow.
Modestus	Wyre Street 5510.27.
Paestor	Culver Street 1171.36.
Sucessus	North Hill 44.41.
Verecundus	Frost's Garden, 12 North Hill.
Labio	Telephone Exchange 4.38.
Licinus	St. Nicholas Church.

Appendix B

FLAVIAN/TRAJANIC SAMIAN STAMPS

Mercator	Holly Trees Meadow 943.20. Telephone Exchange, West Stockwell Street.
Sulpicius	Wyre Street 256.28.
Cosius Rufinus	Holly Trees Meadow 49.29.
Lentiscus	Culver Street 4753.23.
Cotta	Trinity Street 7292.27.
Passenus	Holly Trees Meadow. Balkerne Gardens 2282.55.
Pontus	Simkin's Warehouse, North Hill 178.39. St. Nicholas Church, High Street 13.58.
Sabinus I	Sir Isaac's Walk 982.37.
Sabinus I	Simkin's Warehouse, North Hill 177.39. Holly Trees Meadow 955.29.
Sarratus	Co-operative Store, Culver Street 5609.27.
Severus and Pudens	Balkerne Gardens 2306.55.
Sulpicius	Wyre Street 256.28.

TRAJANIC COINS

M.S.582	Castle Park 3603.17.
M.S.385	Wyre Street 230.28.
M.S.337	East Hill 417.30.
M.S.411	Wyre Street 648.41.
M.S.476	St. Martin's House 787.30. (Telephone Exchange)
M.S.500	Castle Park 457.39.
M.S.560	East Hill House 403.33.
M.S.564	Castle Park 351.38.
M.S.610	Castle Park 135.37.
M.S.652	East Hill House 402.33.
M.S.538	Balkerne Gardens, 1965 See p. 61.
Illegible Trajanic	Holly Trees Meadow 156.50. Castle Park 352.38. Library 500.38. Holly Trees Entrance 13.36.

LATE FIRST CENTURY COARSE POTTERY

Section VII *R. Col.*, pp. 55-6.

No. 5 Culver Street.

Eastern National Bus Company premises. Queen Street.

18 North Hill 175.43.

St. Martin's House, West Stockwell Street 174.53.

Telephone Exchange Site See page 15.

Multi-storey Car Park. *Arch. Journ.*, vol CXXIII, 1967, p. 55.

44 North Hill See page 45.

St. Mary's Rectory See page 71.

East Stockwell Street See page 41.

Insula 6 house (In Castle Park). *R. Col.*, pp. 81-4.

Ryegate Street At Park entrance.

Wyre Street Arcade 131.43.

Culver Street (Wright's Restaurant) 5871.27.

Sir Isaac's Walk 986.37.

Lewis's Garden. (East of bus park) *Trans. Essex Arch. Socy.*, Vol. I, (Third Series), Part 1, 1961, p. 21. Fig. 6, nos. 2, 5-8.

Rubbish pit. *Insula* 7 *R. Col.*, pp. 124-6.

Park Greenhouses 2268.55.

Insula 30

by Philip Crummy, M.A.

The purpose of this paper is two-fold. It is, firstly, to publish the results of the observations made during the redevelopment of the Caters and Sainsbury sites and, secondly, to offer a careful reappraisal of all the archaeological evidence relevant to *Insula 30* of Roman Colchester. All the information put forward here has been examined at source as far as possible by the writer, and, hence, he now believes that with the exception of numbers 4, 7, 14, 20, 21, 38 and 42, the information presented in Fig. 42 should, perhaps, be treated with caution.

Briefly, traces have been found in the insula of the destruction of clay and timber buildings dated tentatively by Miss Dunnett to 61 A.D. (See page 98). At some stage, the north-south road, as included on no. 14, degenerated into a passageway ten feet wide and apparently stopped at its junction with no. 37. *Insula 30* contained a large masonry structure, laid out regularly in plan, with walls up to seven feet thick. The evidence in the main suggests that this was the last Roman building on the site *and was still in use in the late third or early fourth century* when it underwent considerable modifications on its southern side at the expense of the private buildings to the south. The position of road no. 12 and the finds from underneath it are crucial to this interpretation.

That there was a road in such a position we can be fairly certain. The metalling was seen and accepted not only by Mr. Rudsdale, but also by Mr. Hull, although, as can be seen from his main town plan in *Roman Colchester*, he was not convinced of its direction. Miss Dunnett observed no roads running through the Sainsbury site (no. 1). Furthermore, the massive masonry recorded by her south of the line between 37 and 19, indicates that there must have been a road between this and the private buildings to the south in an anomalous position. Mr. Rudsdale records finding a coin of Carausius under the metalling along with the remains of private buildings. If this is correct, then this gives a date before which the addition on the south side could not have been carried out, and, hence, a date when the masonry structure in *Insula 30* must have been in existence. Of course, this is assuming that the construction of road no. 12 is indicative of a modification and not the building, of the large masonry structure in *Insula 30*.

From Fig. 42, it can be seen that there is no good evidence of private buildings with small walls and tessellated floors in *Insula 30*. This, the section recorded under no. 21 and the road no. 12 all suggest strongly that the massive masonry structure was the last one on the site and conflict with the upper burnt daub levels seen by Miss Dunnett on the Sainsbury site.

It is worth noting at this point the spread of burnt clay known to exist from several sources apparently occurring as far as thirty feet west of Queen Street under Culver Street, and thought by Mr. Hull to be possibly Norman. Certainly Mr. Laver records seeing it only two feet below ground level. A date of this kind would not be inconsistent with the stratigraphy observed on the Sainsbury site; the daub sealing walls demolished down to ground level, and the daub later cut by medieval robber trenches. If this upper burnt daub layer of Miss Dunnett's is late Roman, then the daub under Culver Street may also be Roman. If the latter is Norman, then Culver Street is probably not late Saxon in origin.

The south-east corner of *Insula* 30 is obscure. The road no. 2 lines up with no. 12, but the road no. 18 fits in with the original conjectured street plan. Thus, if these road surfaces were all correctly recorded, then the building no. 2 would necessitate a minimum of three distinct periods in the area. On balance, the most reasonable solution would seem to be that the metalling no. 18 was assumed wrongly to be in line with the conjectured north-south road and, in fact, lies some 30 feet to the east, fitting in with the metalling no. 2. The east-west road no. 12 would then meet at the junction with no. 7 and to form a low 'V' shape by linking up with no. 19. If this was the case, it would give the necessary division between the eastern half of the public building and the private houses to the south.

In Fig. 42, foundations of uncertain width or location are shown as dots. The trenches with no foundations marked were dug in areas where, even allowing for disturbances, the natural sand appeared so high up that there could never have been any massive foundations or robber trenches.

The notes on the recent development of the Caters site are included below under no. 21. The numbers shown in square brackets are the ones used in Mr. M. R. Hull's *Roman Colchester* (R. Col.).

- 1 Taken from Miss B. R. K. Dunnett's site plan, now in the Colchester and Essex Museum. See above "Sainsbury's Site" p. 98. Mr. E. J. Rudsdale records that in 1929, the land was lowered on the southern part of this site by up to thirteen and a half feet (see no. 12). This explains why the natural sand was found not far below the surface in the southern set of eight trenches.
- 2-8 Recorded by Miss B. R. K. Dunnett and marked on the Colchester and Essex Museum copy of the O.S. 1: 1250 map. No. 5 is a drain running north-south. No. 3 consists of one large piece of masonry and two small walls.
- 9 Based on the measured sketches of Mr. H. Calver, with a few modifications from Mr. Poulter's sketch plan, both drawn after the demolition of the Vine Inn and Martin's the fruiterer in 1956. The drawings are in the Colchester and Essex Museum. The letter 'f' marks the places where Mr. Calver found some *pilae*. A Roman lead pipe and tank were also discovered here.
- 10 This is based on the records made by the Architects, Stanley Bragg and Assocs., on the substantial walls which had to be removed during the digging of the stanchion holes, further modified by Mr. Calver's observations.
- 11 A tessellated pavement seen by Mr. Calver in November 1970 under the pavement.
- 12 Hull, *Colchester and Essex Museum Annual Report*, 1929, p. 21 ff.; *R. Col.* pp. 70, 213 ff., recorded by Mr. E. J. Rudsdale. The trenches shown on the plan published in the above are the wall trenches for a row of shops built in 1929 and demolished in 1968. By use of the 1876 O.S. 1: 500 map, and a 1962 aerial survey of the town, it was found that the shop walls were planned in accurately by Rudsdale to tie in well with the property boundaries also shown in his plan.
- 13 A *pila*, walls and floor were recorded by Mr. Rudsdale, *R. Col.*, p. 214.
- 14 Hull, *Trans. Essex Arch. Socy.*, (N.S.), Vol. 25 (1955), p. 301 ff.
- 15 [145], no further details.
- 16 [57].
- 17 [176]. Mr. Hull records that a shaft nearly nine feet deep was cut through horizontal layers, three of fallen wall plaster and two thin ones of burnt material.
- 18 [129].
- 19 This is the line of the east-west road, east of *Insula* 30, located by Mr. B. Blake in 1959. *Trans. Essex Arch. Socy.*, (Third Series), Vol. I, part I (1961), p. 17.
- 20 Hull, *Trans. Essex Arch. Socy.*, (N.S.), Vol. 25 (1955), p. 24 ff.; [114].
- 21 The Caters site. The contractors' excavations of the seven final trenches of the redevelopment scheme were watched by the writer during the October and November of 1970. Detailed notes, a site plan and some section drawings are now in the Colchester and Essex

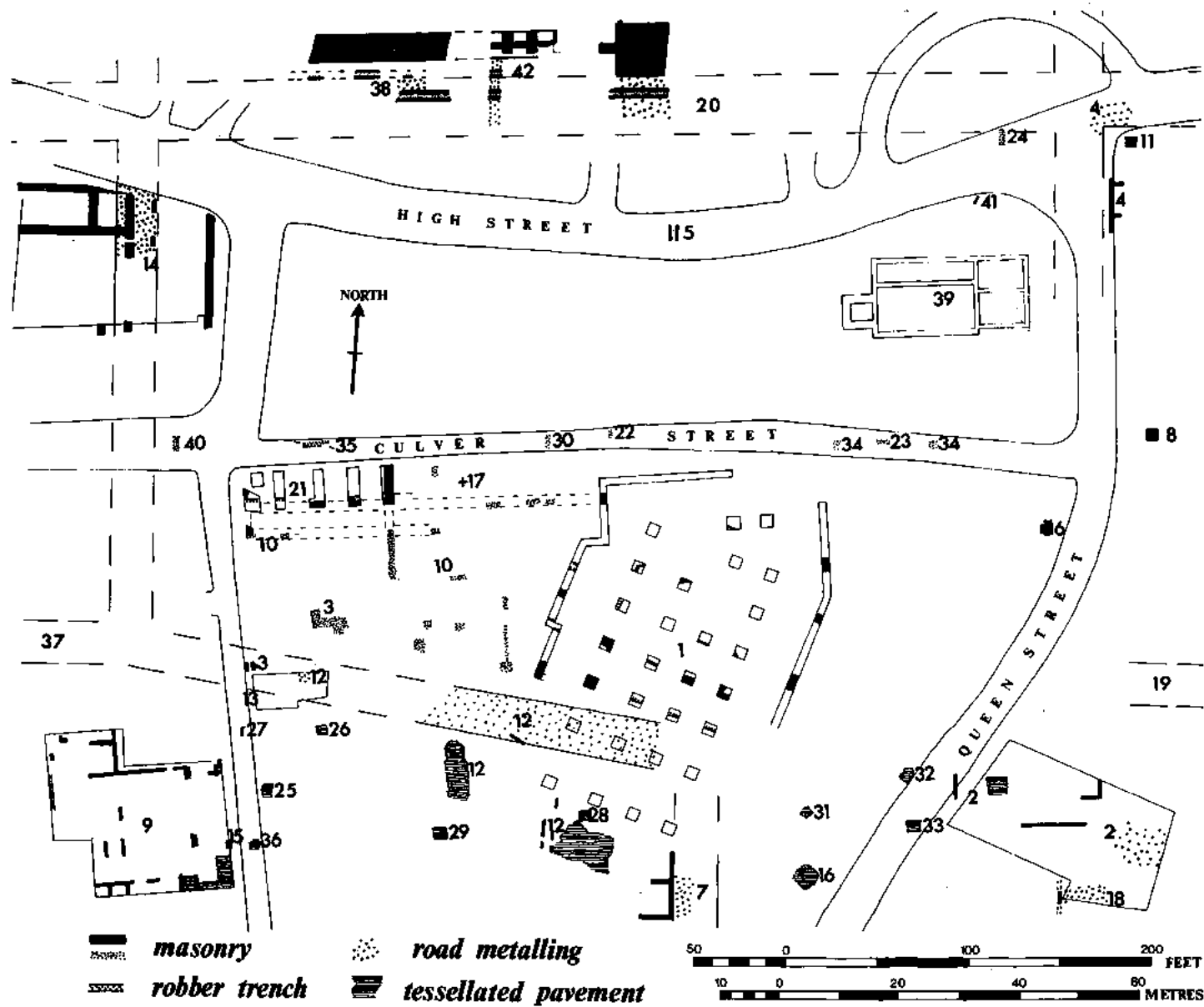


Fig. 42 Plan showing Insula 30.

Museum. On behalf of the Colchester Excavation Committee I would like to record my thanks to Mr. H. Calver, Messrs. Hills, the contractors, and Stanley Bragg and Assocs., the architects.

A substantial east-west Roman wall and two returns were discovered, which were robbed either completely or down to the lowest courses of bonding tiles. The wall foundations were seven feet deep and were made of lumps of septaria set in hard, white mortar, except for the west north-south wall which was of flint. The bonding tiles were set in pink mortar, the lowest course being eight feet below the modern street level.

Three periods of Roman building levels were discernible. However, due to recent pits, their relationships with the masonry could not be established. The earliest phase was represented by a red layer of soft burnt clay associated with a layer of charred wood and small slots, the largest one being a foot wide and two feet deep, filled with similar burnt material. Over this lay the remains of two identical floors. In the north section of the most westerly of the long trenches, the burnt clay and charred wood was seven feet below the modern street level. On this was the bedding, three inches thick, for the floor, consisting of hard-packed, grey, sandy material under a layer, five inches thick, of fawn mortar fragments with the occasional piece of pink wall plaster. Above this, the sequence was repeated, the bedding being four inches thick and the crumbled mortar five inches.

Finally, this was all sealed with five inches of brown humic material below a two and a half inch solid sheet of fallen pink wall plaster. The crumbled fawn mortar suggests a robbed tessellated or tile floor rather than a simple mortar one. Furthermore, the abundance of broken tiles above the early burnt clay layer and the dearth of tesserae makes, of the two, a tiled floor the more likely. The most reasonable explanation of the stratigraphy is as follows. The earliest structure is of wood, which was destroyed by fire. The latest building is represented by the masonry and the two floors, the upper one being a replacement. Immediately before the second floor was laid, the first floor, either tiled or flagged, was taken up. Only if the building finally was abandoned, undamaged by fire, with the floor robbed out and the walls still standing, could we account reasonably for the brown humic material sealed by the fallen wall plaster. Two coins, one of Domitian and the other a badly corroded bronze of the fourth century, were found in post-medieval pits. Sealing the Roman levels was a layer, never less than two feet thick, of dark soil and broken tiles.

Above this was found a series of three yellow clay floors alternating with layers of black clay occupation material. No structural features could be associated with these. The floors lay under several layers of clay and peg-tile fragments, which, in turn, were cut by a large trench four feet wide and two and a half feet deep, associated with a possible posthole.

A few sherds of Saxo-Norman and later pottery were found, but all came from large recent pits.

- 22 Laver, Diary 2.11.1922; [183].
- 23 *Ibid.*, 24.10.1922.
- 24 *Ibid.*, 19.9.1930. Also recorded by Rudsdale, [113].
- 25 *Ibid.*, 19.12.1929; [194].
- 26 Wire, Album, no. 10 in his sketch plan; [52].
- 27 Wire, Album no. 9 in his sketch plan. Wire records three hypocaust fireplaces and flues. Wire, Journal 23.11.1848; [51]. Bearing in mind that the sewer trench was dug up the street, northwards, then the "extensive remains of a Roman Villa" recorded by Wire fit in well with no. 9 on fig. 43. Wire's fireplaces and flues then, are to be associated with the *plae* of no. 13 on fig. 42 and have therefore been placed before the two numbers on the plan. This fixes the position of no. 26.
- 28 Wire, Album, no. 11 on his sketch plan; [54A].
- 29 Wire, Journal 3.9.1848; [54].
- 30 Wire, Album, no. 1 on his plan. *Journ. Brit. Arch. Ass.*, (O.S.), Vol. 86; [49].
- 31 1: 500 O.S. map, 1876; [47A].
- 32 Marked by Mr. Hull on museum copy of the 1876 1: 500 O.S. map.
- 33 "A Paved Way", Wire's Journal 19.9.1848; [47]. Wire also records a tile floor [48] being "higher up . . . which was broken up". If this means further up Queen Street in an earlier part of the trench, no further details are given and therefore it cannot be plotted. However, it is just as likely that the tile floor overlay the "paved way".
- 34 1: 500 O.S. map, 1876; [160].
- 35 Laver, Diary 15 and 16.11.1922; [142]. "Opposite the back way to the Cross Keys Inn", Wire records having seen a "floor of Roman bricks", [50] with a "foundation" of septaria and mortar containing pounded brick. Mr. Rudsdale recorded walls and ? pavements here

- in 1936, [R. Col., p. 204]. Walls in no. 21, fig. 42, robbed down to the bottom tile course, could also fit this description when seen down a narrow trench. Hence, it seems more likely that the floor is not a floor but the wall, no. 35. Laver is also of this opinion – see Laver's notes under "Culver Street" in *Roman Colchester and Essex*. [Ms. in Museum].
- 36 1: 500 O.S. map, 1876.
 - 37 The line of the east-west road determined as a result of the initial trial excavations carried out by the writer in February 1971 in advance of the major redevelopment scheme. The tessellated pavement [62], apparently lying in the line of this road, has been incorrectly recorded and is probably meant to be the one also located in February 1971, lying some twenty feet further to the south.
 - 38 Hull, *Trans. Essex Arch. Socy.*, (N.S.), Vol. 25 (1955) and *loc. cit.* at no. 20.
 - 39 Plan of what was formerly All Saints Church and is now the Natural History Museum. St. Helen's Church and the Castle, both Norman in origin, and St. Nicholas' Church are known to have used in places Roman masonry as foundations. A similar situation may exist here, especially as Morant records herring-bone work in the southern wall of the Nave. *The History and Antiquities of Colchester*, 1748, Book 2, p. 119.
 - 40 Wire, *Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc.*, Vol. 86 and Laver, Diary 28.11.1922 very likely refer to the same stretch of wall. [60]. There are two other vague references to north-south walls running from no. 14 to the south-west corner of *Insula* 30. [15], [61].
 - 41 Laver, Diary 20.11.1922.
 - 42 Excavated by Mr. M. Hebditch in 1964. Fig. 42 shows the piers and blocking walls which overlay the fifteen feet wide foundation.

THE SAMIAN WARE

Report by G. Dannell

Colchester 1967

ST. MARY'S RECTORY

7 (10) 15 27. stamped OF V= Neronian. S. Gaulish.

7 (3) 17 29. Burnt.

Upper zone Immediately below the rouletting a single-line of arrow-heads, separated by a wavy-line from a rabbit, O.2072. On either side are inverted poppy-heads hanging as swags to a plain triple-looped festoon.

Lower zone Below the central moulding, a straight wreath of four-lobed leaf motifs. Then comes a frieze of animals separated by "grass-tufts", only a dog O.1920 survives. The design is closed by a basal wreath of short, slightly twisted, upright gadroons.

The dog, poppy-head, grass-tuft and gadroon all occur in the bowls of FRONTINVS (cf. Knorr 1952 Taf. 25 A, D and G). However, many transitional potters used moulds with similar motifs (e.g. PASSIENVS and VITALIS) and the details often appear on form 37. Date c. A.D. 70-85.

7 (4) 14 37. Red-brown slip, thick and smudged. Fabric, coarse with a lot of fine white/yellow inclusions.

Double-bordered ovolo with straight tongue to the right (smudged). Below, a wreathed arcade containing a bird. Beneath this a small dog O.1916A. Date c. A.D. 70-85.

1 (8) 9 29. Red-brown slip, smooth, paste red-pink coarse.

Upper zone Running animal to right with two upright "tree" motifs.

Lower zone Large striated rods standing small inverted V-shaped leaves above a basal wreath of small four-lobed buds. For the rods cf. Knorr, Aislingen. Taf. IV. 10.

Date c. A.D. 60-75?

1 (3) 3 37. Slip orange-brown, thick and flakey; paste orange, coarse.

From the same mould as a bowl by CAMBO of Eschweilerhof (Folzer. *Die Bilderschüsseln der Ostgallischen Sigillata-Manufakturen*, 1913. Taf. VI. II). Date. Hadrianic-Antonine.

1 (30) 4 24/5. Stamped OF MO [M of La Graufesenque Neronian.

7 (3) 16 37. Burnt. Panel decoration. To the left, small arrow-heads divided by a wavy-line from lion (O.1400?), and a "grass-tuft". A basal wreath of S motifs closes the design.

The lion with the corner-tendril and lanceolate-leaf, as well as the "grass-tuft", are on a 29 stamped by SEVERVS from Rottweil (Knorr 1952. Taf 83A). Date c. A.D. 70-85.

7 (10) 11 44? Stamped PRIDIAVII = PRIDIANVS of East Gaul.

Hadrian-Antonine.

- 7 (4) 13 37. Slip Red-brown, dull; paste, pink, fine.
The decoration is divided into horizontal zones of which five survive. The topmost is a winding scroll, then a band of short gadroons, a line of oblique lozenge-shaped dots, a row of S motifs with sharp central spines, and finally a basal wreath of three-lobed leaves. "Pompeii-style" (cf. Atkinson, *J.R.S.* IV, 1914. Pl. VII. 39) and fairly typical of the use of motifs developed for the form 29 used as simple "fillers" on form 37. Date c. A.D. 70-85.
- 1 (8) 10 29. Slip Red-orange, over-fired; paste red-pink, bricky with chalky inclusions.
Lower zone A row of gadroons above a series of festoons containing small tendril shoots ending in a spiral with a rosette and a five-lobed leaf. Common S. Gaulish motifs. (cf. Knorr. 1952. Taf. 51 by QVINTVS). Date c. A.D. 70-85.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE SITE

COLCHESTER 66.

- 1 (30) 5 24/5. Stamped QVAKTE = QVARTVS of La Graufesenque.
Date. Neronian.
- 1 (8) 8 29 (2) both small.
(A) Slip, Red-brown, bright. Paste, pink, fine. The rim is unrouletted.
Upper zone Tight, narrow scroll, with terminals ending in five-pointed rosettes. The tendril-binding is composed of four small beads.
Lower zone Winding, symmetrical scroll with narrow palmate leaves flanking a lanceolate-leaf as tendril terminals.
The palmate leaf is shown by Knorr, in approximately the right size, for PRIMVS and VIRILIS (Knorr, 1919. Taf. 65 detail 11 and Taf. 81). Primus also uses the lanceolate leaf (*ibid*, detail 24). These vessels may be connected with the bowl from Kreuznach by the later INGENVVS (*op. cit.* Textbild 37) where all the features occur.
Date c. A.D. 70-85.
- (B) *Lower zone* Burnt. Immediately below the central moulding a straight wreath of five-lobed leaves. Below this, a winding scroll ending in fine twelve-pointed rosettes with a central dot, and a small fern leaf. The tendril binding is a bifid leaf, backed by two small beads.
The small fern leaf appears in the upper zone of a form 29 from Kempton (Knorr 1952. Taf. 46) ascribed to MODESTVS on the basis of the cardium wreath and basal wreath. Date c. A.D. 55-70.
- 5 (8) 2 30. Slip, Red-orange, very glossy, highly fired. Paste, pink, coarse, with chalky inclusions.
Double-bordered ovolo with straight tongue to the right ending in a hollow ring. The decoration shows a frieze with the gladiator O.1013B beneath an arcade of small leaves. A long leaf ornament hangs from a free tendril. To the right a figure with a lyre O.49. Confident assignment of these Neronian bowls is rarely possible. The large figure-types which fill the tall sides of form 37 cannot be fitted onto form 29 and the bowl makers remain for the most part anonymous.
Date c. A.D. 50-65.

- 3 (24) 6 18 stamped]ONVS. Burnt. Neronian. S. Gaulish.
- 4 (10) 7 29. Slip. Red-orange, bright; paste, pink, fine.
Lower zone Part only. Double-bordered medallion enclosing two dolphins O.2388/90, but not exactly as any shown.
 Date c. A.D. 55-70.
- 1 (30) 3 29. Slip, Red-brown, bright; paste, pink, fine.
Lower zone Symmetrical scroll with four tendrils ending in seven-lobed leaves and a six-berried fruit. Very similar design to that on a bowl by MELVS (*Knorr* 1919. Taf. 56A).
 Date c. A.D. 50-65.
- Surface. 27 stamped BIRACILLI stamped twice. Die IVa Biragillus of Les Martres-de-Veyre, who worked there in the Trajanic or early-Hadrianic periods. There are no dated contexts (except for the London second fire, by association) Date c. A.D. 100-125.
- 3 (24) 6 18 stamped [DAAΦNVS Die Xd.
 Damonius of La Graufesenque, who made forms 27, Ritt. 8, 15/17 and 18. He is represented at Camulodunum and Wiesbaden.
 Date c. Claudian or early Neronian.
- 1 (30) 4 24/25 stamped OF MO[DE] Die Vc
 Modestus of Graufesenque; the only other occurrences are on form 27 (Richborough, Verulamium and Amiens museum) Date c. A.D. 45-65?
- 7 (10) 11 44? stamped PRIDIANV Die Va
 Pridianus of La Madelaine. Other examples are all on form 27 (15). No dated contexts exist for this die, but other stamps are in the Saalburg Erdkastell, and a Hadrianic-Antoine date seems clear.
 Date c. A.D. 130-160.
- 1 (30) 5 24/25 stamped QVARTO Die IVb
 Quartus of La Graufesenque has a very few stamps from Flavian foundations, but his work is clearly pre-Flavian in the main. This stamp is usually found on form 24/25, and may be dated c. A.D. 50-70.

The above notes are based on work provided by Mr. B. R. Hartley, F.S.A., to whom grateful acknowledgement is given.

NOTE—Samian report. The first figures are trench numbers, the bracketed figures layer numbers and the last figures catalogue numbers.

St. Mary's Rectory	Nos. 7.(3) 7.(4) 1.(3) 7.(10)	=Period 4
	No 1.(8)	=Period 3
	No 1.(30)	=Period 1
	otherwise	=Boudiccan Destruction
Telephone Exchange	No. 1.(8)	=Period 3
	No 7.(10)	=Roadside silt
	otherwise	=Boudiccan Destruction

B.R.K.D.



Plate I Arcade Piers on Foundation Platform

Excavations on the South Side of the Temple Precinct at Colchester, 1964

by Max Hebditch

with contributions by David T-D. Clarke, John Cross and G. B. Dannell

Excavation took place under the auspices of the Colchester Excavation Committee on a site at 98-99 High Street, Colchester (N. G. R. TL 99842523) prior to its re-development by Messrs. Atlas Insurance Ltd. Their co-operation and that of their contractors, Messrs. W. A. Hills & Son, was most valuable. The area available for excavation was known to be astride the line of the south wall of the precinct surrounding the Temple of Claudius,¹ between the discoveries made in 1933 and 1953 (*Hull, 1958*, 169 & 171; 1955, 24-61 (see plan, fig. 1).

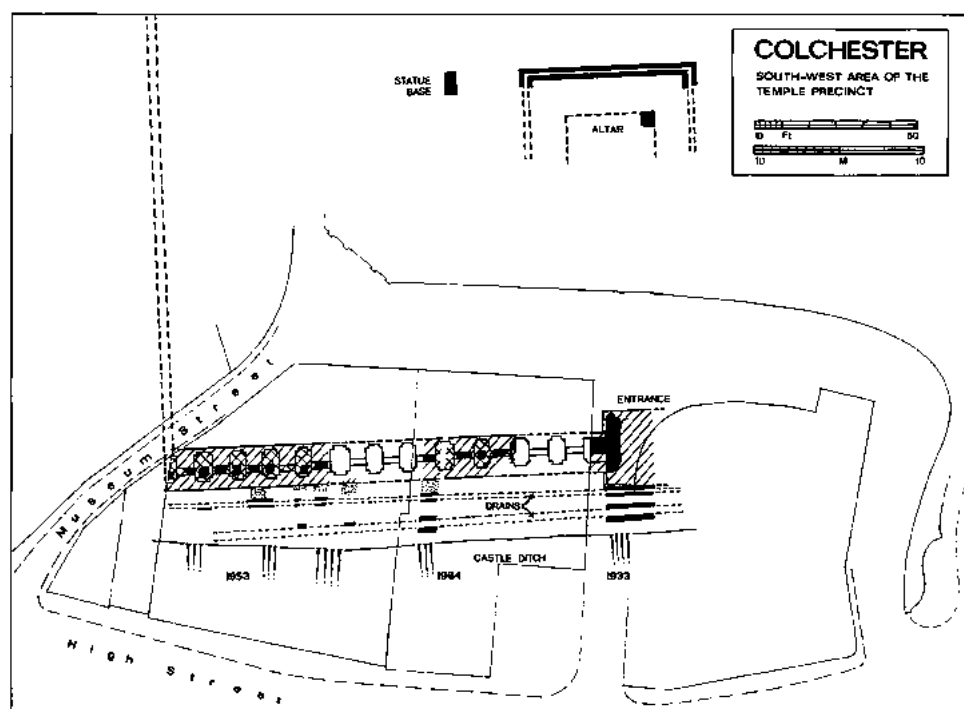


Fig. 1. Plan of South-West Area of the Temple Precinct.

The earlier observations, which had taken place during construction work, had revealed a massive stone foundation 4.57 metres (15 feet) wide forming the platform for an arcade pierced by a gateway at a point almost opposite the temple facade. The arcade had been blocked to make an unbroken wall. South

of this screen wall were observed two drains. The present excavation provided the first opportunity of examining the stratigraphical relationship of these features.

PROGRESS OF THE EXCAVATION

Excavation took place between 14th April and 13th May, 1964. Trench I (see plan, fig. 2) consisted of a cutting six feet wide across the stone foundation platform and extending to 9.75 metres (32 feet) further South, enabling a section through all deposits to be observed. On completion this trench was refilled and Trench II excavated down to the level of the top of the foundation platform. Altogether almost 12.20 metres (40 feet) of the top of the foundation platform was exposed. In the interests of speed (construction work had already started

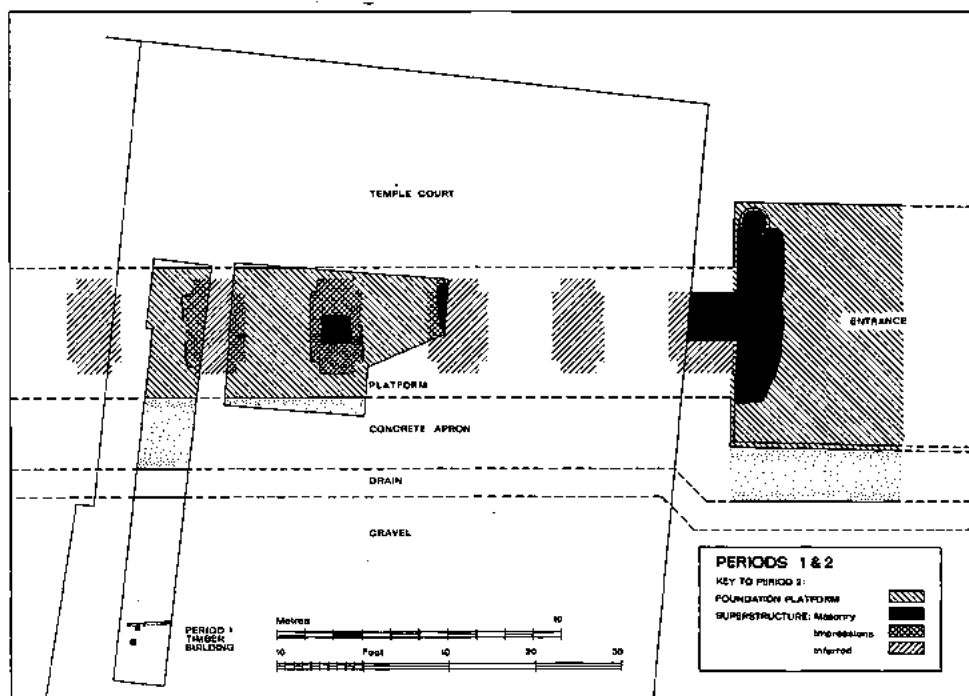


Fig. 2. Plan — Periods 1 and 2.

on the site) mechanical aid was used to remove the upper layers in both trenches. In Trench II the excavator was used down to a point just above the surface of the foundation platform. In Trench I the 19th century building debris and the upper fill of the Norman ditch were similarly removed. The remainder of the work was done by volunteers. The author is glad to acknowledge the assistance of all who took part, particularly Mr. M. Gribble.

In the conduct of the excavation and preparation of the Report, the author has benefitted from the advice and criticism of Mr. Bryan Blake, Mr. D. T-D. Clarke, Miss R. Dunnett, Mr. M. R. Hull and Prof. S. S. Frere.

Structural Sequence

(figures in brackets refer to the section, Fig. 4)

PERIOD 1

The earliest building on the site was a timber structure found at the southern end of Trench I (see plan, Fig. 2). The remains (F13) consisted of a beam impression, 7 cms wide, on an alignment approximately the same as that of the later arcade of the temple court (Period 2). Adjoining the beam impression on the south side was a posthole (approximately 15 cms. square) filled with gravel. It seems reasonable to assume that this was the north wall of a building the greater part of which will have been destroyed by the Norman ditch (Period 7). The gravel fill of the posthole suggests dismantling of the building at the time of the deposition of the metalling above (17). A further posthole of the same size was found slightly further South filled with mortar rubble, beneath a mortar spread (23). The mortar was not an original floor as at its thicker (southern) end it included part of a moulding, probably from the junction of a floor and wall. On the evidence available it is not clear whether the southern posthole and the mortar spread belonged to a still earlier building or formed an internal partition, later removed. Slight traces of burning were found immediately beneath the mortar spread.

PERIOD 2

The foundation platform supporting an arcade which formed the southern boundary of the temple court (see plans, Figs. 1 and 2), was constructed in this period.

(a) *The foundation trench.* This was dug approximately 1 metre (3 feet) into natural sand. In the limited area examined it appeared that the upcast material was spread inside the temple court (13) raising the level by about 40 cms (16 inches). Incorporated with the upcast were patches of mortar derived from construction work on the foundation. The upcast was also used to fill a hollow (27) South of the foundation platform.

(b) *The foundation platform* was 4.57 metres (15 feet) wide, and 1.6 metres (5 feet 3 inches) deep. The lower 60 cms (2 feet), below the original ground surface, consisted of loose rubble and concrete, poorly mixed, poured straight into the trench. The upper part was faced with random rubble, roughly coursed in squared-off septaria (Plate IIIa). Broken pieces of septaria formed a layer of rubble (22) resting on natural sand and filling the top of the foundation trench (F17). The timber building of Period I was still standing at this time as layers 22 and 18 both stop at the beam-impression (F13). No traces survived of any plastering on the exposed portion of the south face of the foundation platform and, as none was found sealed behind the second concrete apron (25), it may be assumed that none was applied. The surface of the foundation platform had mostly been destroyed by later Roman activity, but where it was preserved beneath the blocking walls inserted between the arches in Period 3, it was found to have been originally finished with white mortar over a mortary sand. A fragment of a limestone slab found *in situ* sealed by the first plastering of the west blocking wall may indicate that the platform was originally paved. If so, then it had lost these pavers before the blocking walls were inserted.

(c) *The arcade.* Standing on and contemporary with the foundation platform was an arcade of which the impressions of three pier-bases were found (Plate I).

Although the mortar mix for the core of the centre pier differed from that used for the foundation (see below page 128), it was quite clear that there was no break in construction. The core of each pier was built of septaria rubble with a few brick fragments. Each was originally faced with limestone, of which only two small fragments survived the Norman robbing (one fragment can be seen in Plate II (a) above the pointed end of the ranging pole). The overall dimensions of each pier excavated were:

East Pier: not completely excavated

Centre Pier: 3.35 metres (11 feet) north-south by 1.82 metres (6 feet)

West Pier:² 3.35 metres (11 feet) north-south by 2.13 metres (7 feet)

The differing alternate widths seem to be confirmed by the published plan of the Kent, Blaxill site observed in 1953 (*Hull 1955*, fig. 2). As may be seen from Plate II (a) there was a projection in front and behind each pier forming a plinth for a plastered brick half-engaged column (diameter 51 cms; 20 inches) fragments of which were found in the rubble at the north end of Trench I. The span of each arch was approximately 2.43 metres (8 feet).

(d) *Contemporary features.* Very soon after the construction of the foundation platform, and probably as part of the same job, a concrete apron (26), 2.43 metres (8 feet) wide was laid alongside it. The surface was pink and broken septaria formed a hard-core base. The apron sloped into a drain (F16), which judging from the rectangular section was originally lined with timber. Layer 18, which overlies the construction layer associated with the foundation platform, may be derived from the digging of this feature. The fill of F16 was grey silt and a certain amount of gravel from the adjoining layer of metalling (17) which overlay the remains of the Period I house. The concrete apron was disturbed by the digging of the shallow depression (F15) which became filled with gravel. Later a new concrete apron (25) was laid, perhaps to raise the level to that of a new layer of metalling to the South (16). Drain F16 may have collapsed as the outer edge of 25 had broken away and the water course became clogged with gravel (21) containing, at a low level, a fragment of Claudian/Neronian Samian (see below; page 126). Street metalling eventually buried the concrete apron. Finally a new drain (F12) was constructed, also probably timber lined. Of the surfacing of the temple precinct no evidence was found but it presumably rested on the upcast from the foundation trench (13) which included patches of mortar.

PERIOD 3

At some time after drain F12 had largely filled with gravel, a quantity of building debris was deposited on the outer edge (19). The debris, which included roofing tiles and antefixes (fig. 5, nos. 9, 10), showed signs of fire and one roofing tile was so hot that sand had fused to it.

The blocking walls (see plan, fig. 3 and Plate I) are described under this period as they clearly antedate the gravel layers (10 and 11), mortar surface (8) and drain (F9) ascribed to period 4. Their exact relationship to the stratigraphical sequence cannot be established with any certainty. The walls were laid on the original mortar finish of the foundation platform; the east blocking wall sealed an area of original mortar surface which had become burnt red; it was uncertain whether this had resulted from heat penetrating through the supposed paving or had occurred after the paving had been removed. The construction of the blocking walls (from the base up) was as follows:

- West wall: 2 courses of septaria
4 courses of tiles, including re-used roofing and building material
2 courses of septaria
- Centre wall: 2 courses of septaria
5 courses of tile, including re-used roofing material
2 courses of septaria
1 course of tile interrupted by a possible post socket
- East wall: 2 courses of septaria
6 courses of tiles, including re-used material
2 courses of septaria
1 course of tile
1 course of septaria } interrupted by a post socket

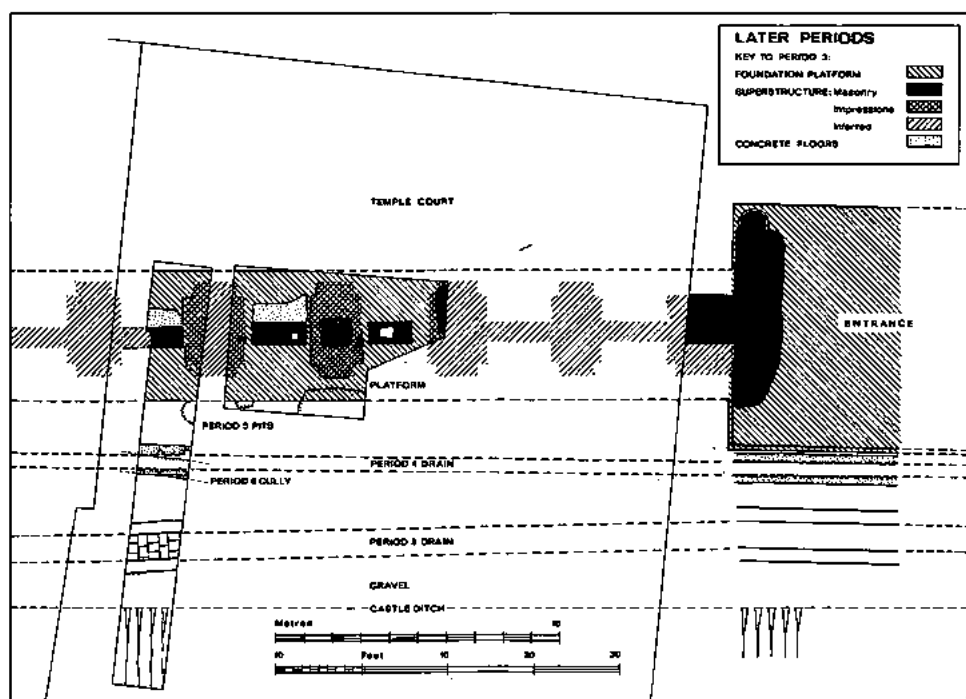


Fig. 3. Plan — Later Periods.

Between each type of building material was a small offset. The mortar (see below page 128) is quite different from the arcade piers; it resembles most closely that used for the concrete apron (26). The post sockets suggest that the upper part of each wall was timber framed. Both faces of the wall were plastered and this was clearly contemporary with a new mortar surface on the south side of the foundation platform and a concrete floor on the north side founded on rubble and broken tiles.

PERIOD 4

During this period the distinction between the foundation platform and the metalling to the South disappeared. Layers of gravel (10 and 11) sealed by a mortar surface (8) finally buried the platform. The blocking walls were re-plastered twice while this surface was in use.

A new stone lined drain (F9; see plan, fig. 3 and plate IIIb) was constructed in the final sandy fill of F12 to carry surface water away eastwards. It was 45 cms. (18 inches) wide internally and floored in pink concrete; the sides were of re-used ashlar with a single course of thin purbeck marble facing above. In the upper surfaces of the sides were sockets 4 cms (1½ inches) wide and there was a post socket or entry for water from a smaller drain at the north-east end. The sockets may have supported cross beams for a timber lid of planks laid lengthways. Drain F9 silted up and in its last phase (by which time the wooden lid must have been removed) further marble slabs (visible in Plate IIIb) were laid on either side in order to guide the water along its channel.

PERIOD 5

Drain F6 was constructed to replace the silted and ineffective F9. It probably relates to a higher level than the mortar surface (8) associated with period 4 as tiles have been displaced from the upper parts of the side walls of the new drain. The surface to which it relates has been worn away but it may connect with the thin mortar spread (8a) adjoining the blocking wall. This was associated with the third re-plastering of this blocking wall. Drain F6 was magnificently constructed of tiles and 90 cms (3 feet) wide internally. A comparison of level with the portion of this drain found on the Kent, Blaxill site (Hull 1955, fig. 3) shows that, like F9, it drained to the East. This drain silted up (Plate IIb) and broken tiles from its walls became embedded in the surface of the silt, on which was a coin of Constans (337-40) (32.1964/1; see below; page 125). From this time dirt (6) began to accumulate over the metalling producing 4 coins and a small group of pottery (see below; page 126). Also belonging to this period were a number of pits and depressions cut into the area adjoining the arcade. Of these only F10 and F11 were excavated. The former contained pink loose mortar in the upper part of a gravel fill; it was probably filled quickly and the pink mortar may have come from layer 26 into which the pit penetrated. F11, which was cut through to the surface of the foundation platforms had a certain amount of rubble thrown in, after which it was left open to accumulate occupation dirt similar to layer 6. The purpose of these pits is unknown – unless they are late Roman trial pits dug to locate the foundation platform. F23 and F24 were not excavated but the fill of F23 looked water laid and it may have been a drain. None can be considered postholes. The final re-plastering of the blocking walls was associated with the surface of the occupation layer (6). A *terminus post quem* for this re-plastering is provided by a coin of Valens (364-7) from (6).

PERIOD 6

Above layer 6, dark soil accumulated interspersed with layers of rubble as the adjoining masonry of the arcade fell into decay. During this time two gullies, both filled with rubble, were made parallel with the arcade. One (F19) on the north side of the arcade is later than the occupation material (3) of Period 5. That to the South of the arcade was dug later than a fall of rubble (4). Both clearly belong to the end of the Roman period or Saxon times. Coins found in these layers go down to Valentinian II (383-92)

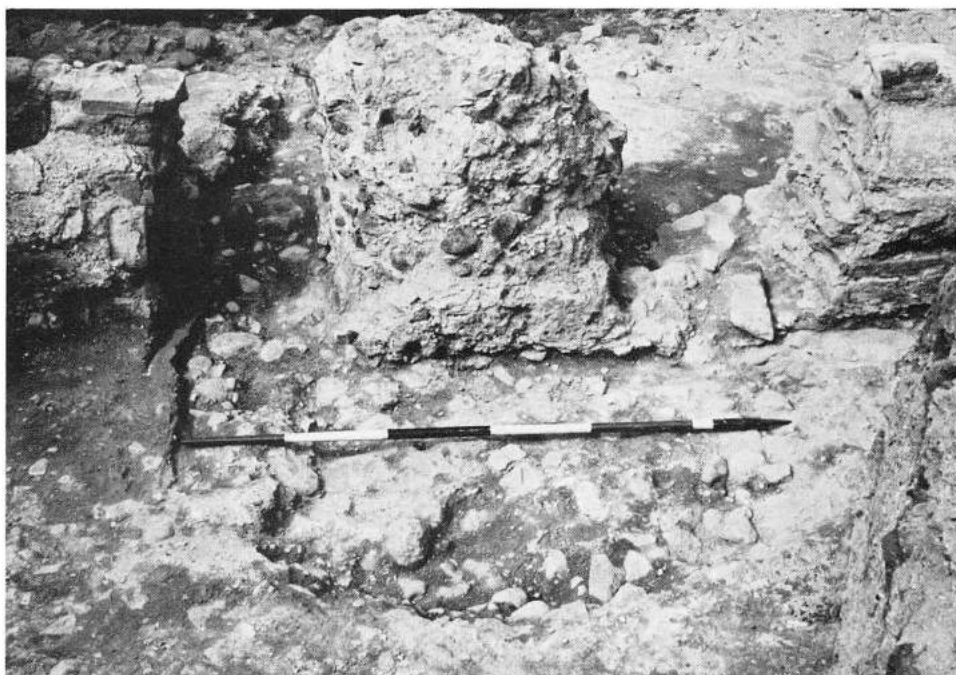


Plate IIa Arcade Piers, showing Limestone Facing



Plate IIb The Silted-up Drain



Plate IIIa Foundation Platform of South Arcade

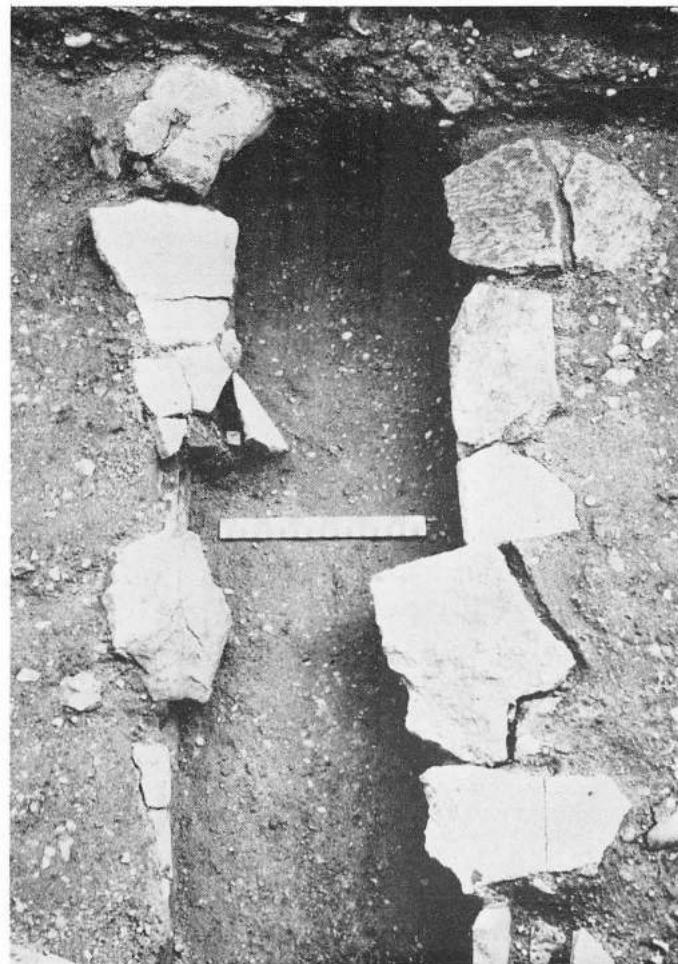


Plate IIIb Period 4, Stone-lined Drain

PERIOD 7

It has already been noted that the early levels in the southern part of the site were destroyed by the construction of the ditch (F3) of the Norman defences enclosing the castle erected on the podium of the temple. At this time the piers of the arcade were robbed for their limestone facings, although the rubble cores and blocking walls were ignored. The arcade foundation served as a base for the rampart. Levelling of the site for the shops which preceded the present construction work on the site had destroyed most of the rampart levels except for a small patch of re-deposited gravel metalling at the east end of the site (not shown on the section). No traces were found of any defensive walls on the edge of the ditch which was filled about 1683 (Hull 1955, 39). Cut into the edge were two post-medieval rubbish pits.

Discussion

PERIOD 1

These excavations recognised, for the first time, the existence of buildings antedating the construction of the arcade and the associated levelling of the temple court and deposition of a gravelled street or courtyard south of the arcade. No direct evidence was found on this site to date the timber buildings, but evidence from nearby sites must be considered. Not surprisingly, in a desperate rescue situation, no structural traces of a timber building of this period was found in the 1953 excavations on the adjoining Kent, Blaxill site. A layer of grey clay stained with charcoal, which could be a floor of a building of this period was noticed at the southern edge of the site immediately below the metalling shown on the section³ (Hull 1955, fig. 3) between R and V. On this site no trace was found of layers TU regarded as a layer deposited to raise the ground level; if this layer is not natural, then, if our interpretation of the grey clay is correct, it would appear to be a levelling layer deposited before the timber buildings of this period and not connected with the construction of the foundation platform. It is recorded that two sherds (base of Colchester Form 140 and rim of Form 266) were found in or on this layer (Hull 1955, 56-7). The former is dated c. 50 and the latter Claudius/Nero, but the area is described as disturbed and is thus shown on the section at S. Comparison of the Kent, Blaxill section with our own (fig. 4) shows this disturbance to be the sequence of early timber-lined drains found on the present site. The Kent, Blaxill finds cannot be regarded, therefore, as dating the deposition of layers R and V.

Recent work by Miss R. Dunnett on the Sainsbury site (published elsewhere in these *Transactions*) has shown the existence of timber buildings with plastered walls and plaster mouldings pre-dating the construction of a large public building in the *Insula* south of the temple court. These timber buildings were destroyed in the Boudiccan fire of A.D. 61. It seems highly probable that these remains are equivalent to our own timber building, which showed similar signs of destruction.

It remains to assess the purpose of the timber remains which are characterised by three main features; (i) the building is undoubtedly of Roman type; (ii) although the short length exposed makes certainty impossible, it appears that the axis of the timber building is the same as that of the foundation platform; (iii) no street bounds the North side of the building. They may relate in some way to the military phase of the site before AD 50; evidence of the occupation of the area by an army unit has been found in North Hill (Dunnett 1966, 29-30), but the size of the fort or fortress is still unknown. More likely perhaps is the possibility (propounded by Miss Dunnett elsewhere in these *Transactions*) that the timber remains represent the first buildings to be erected surrounding the

temple. On the Sainsbury site, it was thought that these buildings were incomplete at the time of their destruction by Boudicca. From the present site there was supporting evidence of incompleteness in the lack of any street or courtyard surface associated with the timber building. The relationship of the temple and its associated buildings with the probable *Colonia* is discussed in *Dunnnett 1968*.

PERIOD 2

If our interpretation of Period 1 is correct, the construction of the open arcade dividing the temple court from the buildings to the south must have formed part of the programme of reconstruction following the Boudiccan sack of the city. (*Hull 1955*, 60) used evidence of the re-used material in the blocking walls to support this interpretation, but the present excavation has demonstrated that they are secondary to the open arcade. The character of the arcade is described in *Hull 1955*. Suffice it to say that it was originally on a raised platform, open, with half engaged columns on the front and back of each pier, and free standing. The lower courses (to a height of about 1 metre; see *Hull*, 1958, fig. 86), were of limestone; the plinths for the half-engaged columns were probably this height also. The columns and arches were of brick (*Hull 1955*, 41) presumably rendered. There is no certain evidence that the arcade was coated with marble, of which fragments were found re-used in the Period 4 drain and in the debris. Larger quantities were found on the Kent, Blaxill site (extensively reported upon with the other building stones; *Hull 1955*, 45-50).

Only a very small part of the area within the temple precinct was examined but it seems probable that the upcast layer (13) spread within the court formed the bedding for a more durable surface in the same manner as the temple at Bath (*Cunliffe*, 1969, Plate XLVb). Bricks (and later roof tiles) were found on Joslin's site on the west side of the temple court (information from Miss R. Dunnnett).

The destruction caused by the Norman ditch prevented any assessment of the character of the buildings to the South of the arcade. However, a street or courtyard surface was laid down as part of the same programme of construction as the arcade, from which it was separated by a concrete apron (also noticed in front of the entrance arch; *Hull 1958*, fig. 86). The laying of this metalling involved the dismantling of such of the Period 1 timber buildings as remained.

Miss Dunnnett's observations on the Sainsbury site (reported elsewhere in this volume) have revealed the existence of the massive foundations for public buildings in this *Insula*, cut through the debris from the Boudiccan destruction of the timber buildings. It seems highly probable that these formed part of buildings surrounding a courtyard south of the arcade of which the surface was the gravel metalling found in the present excavation.

PERIOD 3

The blocking walls are an addition to the original design (disposing of the theories concerning their purpose in *Hull 1955*, 60). They can only be relatively dated within very broad limits in that they were inserted after the original construction and before the laying of a new mortar floor (8) and drain (F9) in Period 4 which covered the bottom of the blocking walls. However, the re-used building materials incorporated in the blocking walls and the area of burning found beneath the eastern one may tentatively be linked with the fire debris found on the outer slope of ditch F12,* which replaced drain F16 (containing

*Against this must be set the similarity of the mortar used in the blocking walls to that from the lower concrete apron (26) (below p. 128) but the samples are not comparing like with like and the resemblance is probably fortuitous.

first century pottery, (below page 126) probably not earlier than c. A.D. 100. Since the arcade itself can have contained little combustible material, it is likely that the fire debris on the edge of F12 and the re-used building material in the blocking walls came from buildings surrounding the courtyard south of the arcade. Evidence of the destruction of one such building was recorded by Miss Dunnett on the Sainsbury site; here fire gutted a large public building at a date probably late in the second century. Thus it seems probable that after the late second century fire a permanent division was created between the temple precinct and the courtyard by inserting blocking walls in the arcade. Such a move implies a change in use of the southern part of the complex; the temple precinct must have continued under the control of the provincial council, but the courtyard to the south may have assumed more local functions. Certainly the public buildings surrounding the courtyard were not rebuilt and new small scale developments filled the area (Dunnett, this *Transactions*).

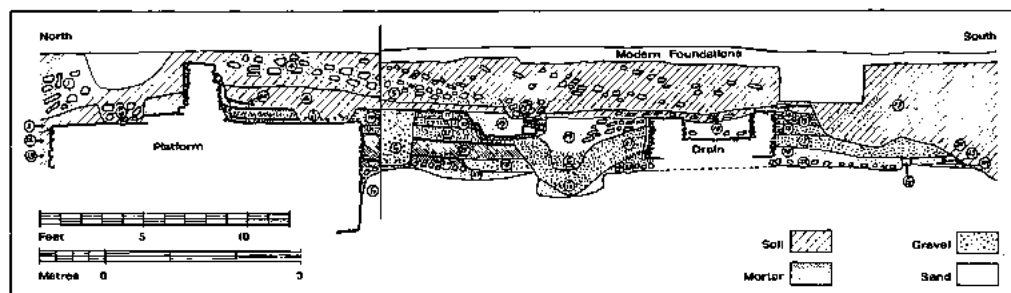


Fig. 4. Section, showing Structural Sequences.

PERIOD 4

The principle feature of this period, drain F9, incorporated re-used material some of which (on the Kent, Blaxill site), had been damaged by fire (Hull 1955, 37). Re-used Purbeck marble facings were also incorporated. The stratigraphical position of this drain clearly dissociates the re-used material from the Boudiccan fire suggested by (Hull 1955, 37) though it may still be making use of re-usable materials from the late 2nd century fire. If so the new mortar surface north of the drain (which seals the first plastering of the Period 3 blocking walls) may have been laid within a few years of their construction. It is not certain that the arcade was faced in marble and the occurrence of this material in the construction of the drain may result from clearance of buildings to the south following the fire already postulated. The results of the mortar analysis (page 128) although to be regarded cautiously, suggest a possible link between the mortar of the blocking walls and drain F9. Periods 3 and 4, therefore, may well be two phases of one programme of rebuilding and re-organisation in the second half of the 2nd century.

PERIOD 5

The construction of the brick-lined drain represented a major improvement to this area, though the date of this work can only be guessed at. If it is reckoned

to have gone out of use after A.D. 340 when the coin was lost on the surface of the silt, then a construction date in the first half of the 3rd century would seem possible. It is only now, in the second half of the 4th century, that dirt is allowed to accumulate in the area inside and outside the temple court. However, the continued importance of the temple precinct, though presumably not as a centre of the imperial cult, is shown by the replastering of the blocking walls for the fifth time; the fillet at the base of the wall is level with the top of layer 6 from which the latest coin dates 364-7. The re-plastering might form part of reconstruction work following the barbarian raids of 367. However, the general shortage of coins in the late fourth century could mean that the work was undertaken much later.

PERIODS 6 & 7

The absence of major quantities of rubble suggests that the arcade continued to stand, becoming steadily more ruinous until in the 11th century it was demolished to provide material for the Norman castle and the foundation of the outer bank. The remains of the rampart bank were not here excavated but were recorded on the Kent, Blaxill site (*Hull 1955*, 39-40).

The Finds

The Coins

by D. T-D. Clarke

Unstratified

- 32.1964/9 Obv. DN GR(ATIANVS . . . Bust r.
Rev. GLORIA NO)VI SAECVLI Emperor facing, head r., holding labarum in r. hand and resting l. on shield. Possibly Arelate. Gratian (367-75). Probably LRBC 525. From robbing pit F20.
- 32.1964/17 Obv. D)N GR . . . Bust r.
Rev. GLORIA NOVI) SAECVLI as 32.1964/9. mm illegible. Gratian (367-75).

From the debris accumulation over the structure. Period 6

- 32.1964/3 Obv. DN VALENTI-ANVS PF AVG Bust draped r.
Rev. VICTORIA AVGG Victory l. holding wreath and palm
|
ASIS
Siscia. Valentinian II (382-92). LRBC 1575.
From layer 2.
- 32.1964/15 Obv. head
Rev. star.
Minim. fourth century.

32.1964/16 Obv. DN VALEN-S PF AVG Bust draped r.
Rev. SECV)RITAS REIPVBLICAE Victory standing l. holding
wreath.
Valens (c. 365-78).

32.1964/18 Obv. bust l.
Rev. VO TIS XX Globe on altar
Constantine I (c. 313-37)
All three from layer 34.

From the latest occupation level over the street and platform. Period 5.

32.1964/2 Obv. CONSTANTINVS IVN NOB C Bust cuirassed r.
Rev. GLOR-IA EXERC-ITVS 2 legionaries, 2 standards
|
PLG
Lugdunum. Constantine II (330-35). LRBC 181.
From layer 6.

32.1964/10 Obv. DN CONSTAN-TINVS . . . AVG Bust draped r.
Rev. Quadriga ascending to r.
(Probably 337-41)
From layer 36.

32.1964/11 Obv. CONSTANTINVS IVN NOB C Bust r.
Rev. PROVIDEN-TIAE CAESS Gateway
|
PLON
London. Constantine II (324-325/6). LRBC 5.
From layer 37.

32.1964/13 Obv. . . . VA)LEN-S PF AVG Bust draped r.
Rev. SECV)RITAS REI(PUBLICAE Pax, standing l., holding
wreath and palm
OFI
CON
Arelate Valens (364-7). LRBC 492.

From the surface of the silted drain F6 below the latest occupation level. Period 5

32.1964/1 Obv. CONSTAN)S PF AVG Bust r.
Rev. Illegible
Constans (337-40)

The Glass (FIG. 5)

From the latest occupation level over the street and platform. Period 5.

11. Fragment of a cone beaker in pale green glass; undecorated but with wheel-cut spiral striations in the glass; the rim is left unfinished. This is a common form of the second half of the fourth century (*Isings 1957*, form 106b).
From layer 3.

The Samian

by G. B. Dannell

From the metalling filling drain F.16. Period 2.

- 32.1964/8 Form 30. Tapered double-bordered ovolo with tongue against left side, ending in a 7-pointed rosette. Panel decoration, with pairs of fine wreathed arcades separated by upright trifid-leaf wreaths from "St. Andrew's Cross" motifs. These are composed of opposed bunches of three pomegranate stalks, with the tendrils ending in stipule buds, and serrated leaves. The tendrils and wavy line junctions are bound together by large and small rosettes. In the right hand surviving arcade is the figure of Penelope, O.925. Claudius-Nero.

From layer 21. The fragment was in fresh, unrolled condition. For the interpretation of this deposit see the coarse pottery report (see below).

The Coarse Pottery (FIG. 5)

From the latest occupation level over the street and platform. Period 5

2. Calcite gritted fabric with buff exterior and grey core.
3. Mortarium in buff fabric. A late type; cf. *Jewry Wall* fig. 18 nos. 24-5 (type J).
4. Hard red self coloured fabric with a burnished surface.
5. Colour coated beaker; grey fabric with very dark olive green "metallic" slip.
6. Burnished dark grey fabric.
7. Grey fabric bowl with a slight bead rim.

All the above from layers 3, 6, 36, 37.

As may be expected, these vessels compare closely with those from similar layers on the Kent, Blaxill site (*Hull 1955*, 57-8); e.g. No. 4 with fig. 4, no. 3 (New Forest ware); no. 3 with fig. 4, no. 21; no. 2 with the gritted wares fig. 5, 34. This group of pottery from here and the adjoining Kent, Blaxill site is given a *terminus post quem* by the coin of Constans dated 337-40 (32.1964/1) found on the surface on which this level accumulated. All on this site were deposited before structural decay began in Period 6.

From the metalling filling drain F16 Period 2.

1. Pale buff fabric. Miss R. Dunnett writes: "The sherd has not got many close parallels in the *Colonia*. The nearest dateable example I have found came from a layer dating c. AD 60-70 in *Insula 9*, in a fine grey fabric. The fabric of this piece is not common either, but there are several pots in similar ware from Kelvedon dating to the second and third centuries (excavated 1968; unpublished)".

The loose gravel road metalling which formed the filling of this timber lined drain also contained a sherd of Samian (32. 1964/8) of Claudian-Neronian date. Although this is nicely consonant with the earlier date suggested by Miss Dunnett the fabric may indicate at least a second century date for the silting of this drain after the collapse of the timber sides. The Claudian-Neronian Samian piece may well have been incorporated early in the silting of this drain, which possibly continued into the second century.

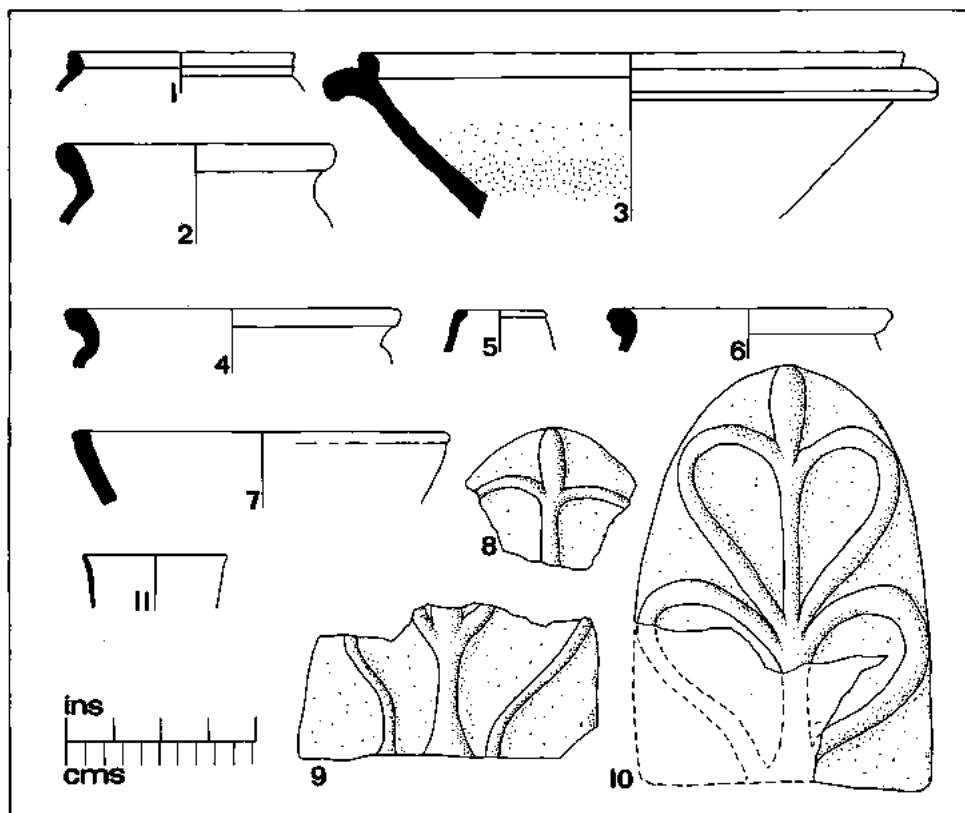


Fig. 5. The Pottery Finds.

The Tile Antefixes (FIG. 5)

From the building debris on the edge of drain F12. Period 3.

9, 10. Fragments of two antefixes of similar design in a sandy red fabric. There were also fragments of roofing tile in this deposit which showed traces of burning. From layer 19.

Another example of the same design (no. 8) was found in layer 6 (period 5) but probably derived from this deposit. This design of antefix seems only to have been found in the temple area.

The Mortar Samples

by John Cross

<i>Location</i>	<i>Average percentage weight of soluble material¹</i>	<i>Inclusions</i>
Centre pier core	20.5	Large pieces of chalk (excluded from sample) and coarse sand. No brick.
Platform	28.4	Much sand and large pieces of quartz. No brick. Poorly mixed.
West blocking wall	31.3	Small lumps of chalk with iron staining around them, ground down brick.
Fragment of mortar from layer 18	32.6	Brick material and (?) flint.
Fragment of mortar from layer 19 (building debris on edge of drain F12; Period 3)	34.4	Fine brick material.
Mortar spread of timber building. Layer 23. Period 1	35.3	Fine brick material.
Lower concrete pavement. Layer 26. Period 2	31.8	Chalk, flint and brick.
Upper concrete pavement. Layer 25. Period 2	36.8 (inconsistent results)	Coarse sand.
Brick drain F6. Period 5	34.7	Fine brick and ferrous material.
Small drain F9. Period 4	31.8 (inconsistent results)	Fine brick material and chalk.

Excavator's note. The difficulty in dating the blocking walls is described in the main body of this report. The main object of this sampling was to discover whether any mortar comparable to that in the blocking walls was found in a stratified context. The nearest comparison would appear to be with the concrete pavement (layer 26). The only other comparable feature would appear to be the drain (F9), regarded as of a later date than the blocking wall. The small number of samples analysed could have produced misleading results.

Conclusions

Although the excavation did not provide exact dating evidence, it did disentangle for the first time the various structural features of the South side of the temple court which had been observed in the earlier excavations. The sequence of events and tentative interpretations may be summarised as follows:

<i>Period</i>	<i>Structural evidence</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>
1.	Post sockets, plaster and plaster mouldings.	Wooden buildings probably belonging to the original structure bounding the temple precinct. Destroyed when still incomplete in the Boudiccan sack of A.D. 61.
2.	Open arcade, concrete apron, timber drain and metalling to South.	Arcade dividing the temple precinct from the courtyard with its large public buildings. Probably constructed after A.D. 61. Later the drain was re-cut.
3.	Insertion of blocking walls with re-used building materials. Deposition of fire debris.	Possibly representing fire damage from the conflagration of the second half of the second century. The use of the courtyard South of the arcade changes and the temple precinct is permanently separated.
4.	Small stone drain with re-used building materials including purbeck marble.	Possibly a later phase of clearing damaged buildings releasing quantities of marble facing.
5.	Large brick drain.	Perhaps first half of the third century. Cleaning of the metalling stops in the mid-fourth century and dirt is allowed to accumulate.
	Replastering of arcade	Late fourth century.
6.	Progressive ruin of the arcade.	Saxon Period.
7.	Rampart and ditch.	Norman Period.

Notes

- For the most recent plan of Roman Colchester showing the relationship of the temple to other remains in the town, the reader is referred to that compiled by Miss R. Dunnett in these *Transactions*, facing page 2, fig. 3.
- The two halves of the west pier were excavated separately; it was never seen as a unity.
- All further references to layers on the Kent, Blaxill site refer to this section.
The samples were taken and weighed dry. To the samples were added dilute acids to dissolve all soluble material. After the resulting chemical reactions had been completed, the undigested material was taken and dried. The samples were then re-weighed and the resultant calculations made to find the percentage weight of soluble material. Six samples were taken from each type of mortar in the main structure and three from the remaining samples.
- Further samples were taken and ground to leave the fillers intact. These were examined microscopically and chemically to give the results.

References

- Cunliffe 1969* Cunliffe, B. *Roman Bath* (Society of Antiquaries Research Report No. 24, 1969).
- Dunnett 1966* Dunnett, R. "Excavations on North Hill, Colchester" in *Arch. Journ.*, 123 (1966) 27-61.
- Dunnett 1968* Dunnett, R. "First century Colchester in the light of recent research" in *Trans. Essex Arch. Socy.* Third Series Vol. 2 (1968) 137-142.
- Hull 1955* Hull, M. R. "The south wing of the Roman 'forum' at Colchester; recent discoveries" in *Trans. Essex Arch. Socy.* Vol. 25 (N.S.), (1955) 24-61.
- Hull 1958* Hull, M. R. *Roman Colchester* (Society of Antiquaries Research Report No. 20, 1958).
- Isings 1957* Isings, C. *Roman Glass from dated deposits* (1957).
- Jewry Wall* Kenyon, K. *The Jewry Wall Site, Leicester* (Society of Antiquaries Research Report No. 15, 1948).
- L.R.B.C.* Carson, R. A. G., Hill, P. V., Kent, J. P. C. *Late Roman Bronze Coinage* (1960).

The Society gratefully acknowledges a generous Grant towards cost of publication of this Part from the Department of the Environment.

