ERAS News

EAST RIDING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NO 51 JULY 2002

Thornborough henges

Kingswood

Caerwent Roman town

Hadrian's Wall

The Wetwang Chariot Burial

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Cover photo
Kate Dennett and Rod Mackey excavating the Wetwang Chariot 2001

Wetwang from the north
© the British Museum

Archaeology was one of a number of activities affected by Foot and Mouth in 2001. The epidemic certainly curtailed any thoughts of fieldwork by ERAS in the summer. Fortunately it still managed to be an exciting year for archaeology in the region because of the Wetwang chariot excavation, which was completed before the disease or its related restrictions struck the area. Many members will remember the excavation by John Dent of three Iron Age chariot burials in the dry valley of Wetwang Slack in 1984. Those burials were spotted initially by an observant digger driver when one of the skeletons was cut through during work at the quarry where they were located. This time it was the uncovering of a corner of the square ditch on the edge of the access road towards the end of PPG 16 work for a small building development. Not all square ditches contain a chariot burial but Rod Mackey's experienced eye didn't miss this one. Located in Wetwang village, this chariot burial was further south than those excavated in 1984. Though the project was in the hands of the Guildhouse Consultancy, ERAS members were involved in the earlier pre-chariot stage of the project and also helped with the excavation of the square ditch. Moreover, the principal excavators, Kate Dennett and Rod Mackey, are closely involved in the running of ERAS.

ERAS fieldwork might soon include **resistivity survey**. The ERAS meter has arrived and is undergoing trials.

Volunteers needed

If you are available during the week, you might just be in time to help out at an excavation at Sutton Common (Iron Age settlement) which is to the north of Doncaster. The team is working Monday to Friday from 9:00 to 5:00 until 2nd August. ERAS members are welcome and there is plenty of work to be done.

To get to the site, leave the M62 at Junction 34 and take the A19 to Doncaster. After 5 miles you come to Askern. Go through the traffic lights and continue on the A19. After the 60 mph sign, the site entrance is the second track on the left. There are no signs for the site, just follow the track down. If you go past the Owston Park pub on the right you have gone too far. If you are interested in helping you can just turn up on site.

ERAS has also been contacted by Jeremy Webster. As part of a research project, there are opportunities to take part in **a resistivity survey of three possible Class 1 henges** near the village of Rudston. The survey starts on Monday 19th August and will last for 10 days (but it is not expected that any one person will work for the whole period). Places are limited so book now! Booking details are available from Kate Dennett (01482 445232). For further details of this forthcoming survey contact Jeremy Webster on jemwebcom@netscapeonline.co.uk

Perhaps you can't take up any of these opportunities but think that you might be interested on another occasion. If you have an email address and would like to be notified when any opportunities for archaeological fieldwork arise (often at short notice) please send your email address to Kate Dennett.
(kate@katedennett.karoo.co.uk)

THE GREAT MYSTERY- What **does** your committee discuss at its meetings?

Our secretary thought it would be a good idea for members to be enlightened as to what *'being on the committee'* involves. Just to give you an idea, the following issues were mulled over at recent meetings-

- How much should the new Volume 10 be sold for? How will it be publicised, sold and distributed to institutions, (Universities, Libraries etc)? Should Volume 9 be reduced in price yet? What plans has the editor for Volume 11 and has he set a deadline for submission for articles? Do any of the articles carry an English Heritage grant or will ERAS have to pay the full cost of publication?

- What should ERAS's response be to a request for views on the current state of archaeology from the Parliamentary all Party Group for Archaeology?

Five main points were agreed and letters were to be sent outlining these.

- Would it be feasible for us to apply to the 'Awards for All' scheme for a grant to buy a laptop computer for use with the resistivity meter which is expected to be ready for delivery shortly?
- How can we best distribute free tickets to members for the Julian Richards lecture, whilst still allowing the public to buy tickets? The only available university hall holds 200 and larger venues in the town centre are too expensive.
- Who will help at the annual social do? Have we sold enough tickets to make it worth doing?
- Orkney trip. Is the committee happy with arrangements so far? Have we forgotten any vital points?
- Who would like to represent ERAS on the new E. Riding Heritage Fund Trust?
- Do we agree to help promote a new book about St. Mary's Church, Beverley?
- Should we still have the usual social event after the AGM, even though it is not the last lecture of the season? Can we afford it? Will the room be available? Who will help?
- Should ERAS pay to have Derek Brooks' original cine film of the Walkington excavation professionally put onto digital format as part of the archive? How much will it cost?
- Are all committee members willing to stand for re-election at the AGM? Is anybody not eligible as they have done 4 consecutive years? Does anyone want to propose any new committee members?
- Thanks to Peter Halkon for doing such a good job as Programme organiser. Helen is to take over.
- Should we give any money to the CBA appeal for Young Archaeologists Groups? A committee member is proposing to start a local group and we would prefer to help fund that.
- The Valletta Convention was recently ratified by the government. ERAS has written to MPs pointing out inconsistencies with regard to the problem of metal detecting. Replies to our concerns were read out but showed they had not fully understood the problem. Further and more detailed letters were to be sent.
- Thanks to Gill for setting up the ERAS website.
- Will someone volunteer to be responsible for collecting visitors' entry fees at lectures?
- Thanks to those who helped to sell books at the Beverley Local history bookfair

ERAS's recent submission to the All Party Parliamentary Group for Archaeology

Our Main Areas of Concern are over the **Physical Protection of the Archaeological Heritage**

1.0 Metal Detecting

1.1 In a recent article on the Valetta Convention (Conservation Bulletin 41, Sept. 2001), Christopher Young, Head of World Heritage & International Policy for English Heritage, stated that licensing of metal detecting is already in force on scheduled monuments and 'beyond that the Government does not believe that further legislation is needed, since Article 3(iii) (of the Convention) applies only to archaeological investigation and not to general use of metal detectors'. We wholly disagree! His selected reference is taken out of context from the explanatory notes to Article 3(iii), which go on to say that 'Indiscriminate use of metal detectors leads to substantial loss of the archaeological heritage, particularly through the destruction of context' and that 'The provision applies to searching for archaeological objects on both public and private land'.

1.2 In our region, thousands of artefacts are removed annually from known archaeological sites, including Roman rural settlements, villas, deserted medieval villages and Anglo-Saxon cemeteries, by detectorists using the Royal Commission's aerial photographic survey and other information from the Sites and Monuments Records. Clearly they are 'searching for archaeological objects' as defined by the Valetta Convention and not exempt as suggested by English Heritage.

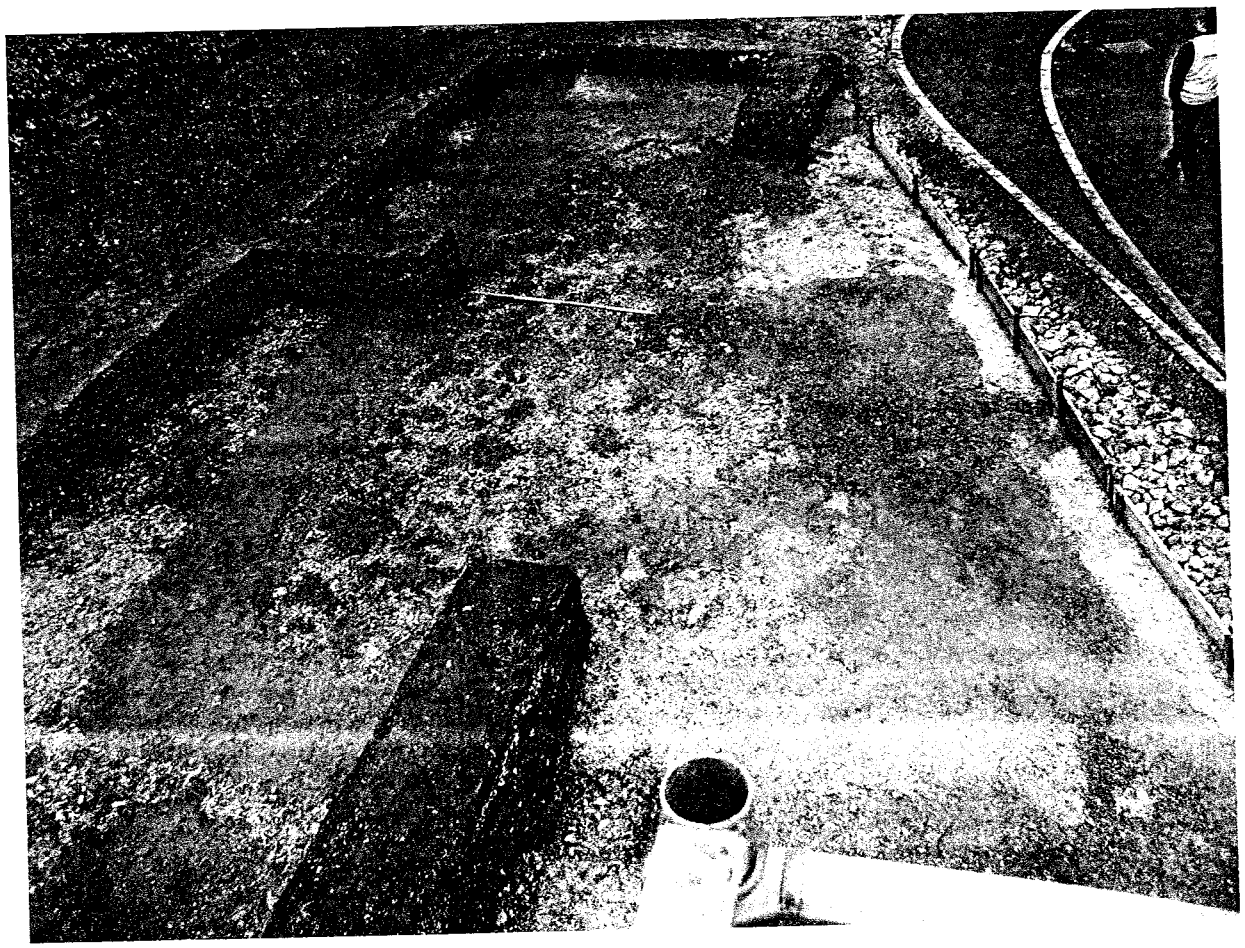
1.3 The Portable Antiquities Scheme is said to be 'very successful', but we have no idea what percentage of finds are being reported and the finds spots given are very approximate and in some cases wholly unreliable. The Scheme really does little more than 'make the best of a bad job'. However, until better site protection is in place, it should be strengthened and made compulsory.

1.4 Known non-scheduled sites need better protection, perhaps by placing them within 'archaeological reserves' (Article 2(ii), Valetta), where metal detecting is only allowed as part of a wider scientific field survey. Such reserves should be based on the county Site and Monuments Records and regularly updated. The co-operation of landowners and tenants must be sought, as they are the best means of policing such a scheme.

2.0 Agricultural Groundworks

2.1 There is a need for greater control over certain destructive agricultural groundworks, such as sub-soiling, de-stoning, landscaping and road constriction. Such activities need to be included under PPG16.

The Wetwang Chariot Burial



barrow ditch and platform viewed from the north before excavation of burial

In mid March 2001 a final phase of PPG 16 works led to the stripping of a short access road leading to a small housing development at the eastern end of Wetwang village. This revealed the western and parts of the northern and southern ditches of a square barrow with a platform c. 10 m across. The barrow was partially overlain by a substantial medieval timber-framed building. Further discussions with the site owner and developer, Hogg the Builder (York), confirmed that the barrow would ultimately be in open ground and that freehold rights to it would necessarily be included in a future house sale. Only a limited amount of overburden (c. 0.6 m) protected the site and it was clear that the eastern edge of the road strip had stopped short of the platform centre where a grave, if it survived, could be anticipated. In the circumstances it was advised that the eastern edge of the road cut, which ran obliquely across the platform, should be dressed back and straightened as this would afford a true section across the feature and determine whether a central grave was present. These works revealed a central trapezoidal shaped grave pit c. 3.3 m in length N-S; 2.5 m E-W at its S end and 1.7 m E-W at its N end; its N-S axis lay slightly west of north. When the pit was checked with a gradiometer by Tony Pacitto the presence of strong magnetic readings was confirmed.

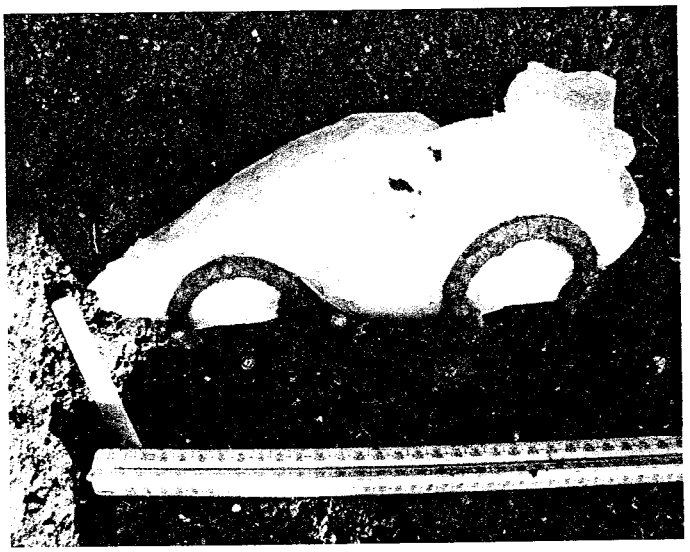
Rapid discussions took place with Dave Evans (for the LPA) and Keith Miller (English Heritage), when preservation in situ was considered and ruled out. In view of the developer's previous excellent response to PPG 16 requirements on the site (i.e. geophysical and earthwork surveys, trial trenching, area clearance and agreed final mitigation works) coupled with the small nature of the development, it was agreed that English Heritage would fund the works. At the same time the Guildhouse Consultancy negotiated with the British Museum (Dr J D Hill) for conservation works in return

for the donation by the builder of any finds. Ian Stead was commissioned as the Specialist Advisor, with Ian Panter (English Heritage) giving environmental advice, Durham University Laboratory advising on faunal remains, Sheelagh Stead on human remains and with Tony Pacitto providing geophysical and metal detecting expertise.

Photo Rod Mackey © The Guildhouse Consultancy

Excavation of the grave began on the 21st March and was completed on 2nd May. It was found to have been cut into the bedrock chalk and to contain the flexed skeleton of a female and a dismantled chariot. The body lay on its left side with the head to the south; the hands lay in front of the lower face with the forearms folded up against the chest. Several joints of pig (skull and forelimb including at least one adult male with traces of charring) lay on the torso, pelvis and in front of the forearms whilst an iron mirror had been placed with its blade to the NW and its handle lying across the lower legs. Close to the handle terminal a mass of tiny blue glass beads and spacers were found; mirror blade, handle and beads were lifted in a single block for laboratory examination. Preliminary study of the skeleton indicates a height of 171.9 cm (5'7$^{1}/_{2}$") – a height taller than that of the average male in the Burton Fleming and Rudston cemeteries. Dental attrition on the left side suggests an age of 25-35 whilst attrition on the right side, where a badly carious upper 2nd molar is present, suggests an incompatible 35-45. The internal frontal bone of the cranium displays 'hyperostosis', a condition normally associated with post-menopausal women. The frontal bone of the cranium is also exceptionally thick. The right shoulder shows advanced osteo-arthritis and evidence possibly relating to the long-term result of a fall or vigorous over-use. Three of the 1st molars each have substantial flakes missing from the inside of the arcade. It is possible that the shoulder and temporo-mandibular trauma may be related and connected to the same cause – perhaps a fall from a horse or chariot. Unfortunately the bone condition is generally poor, the right humerus for example being in some 18 pieces. Differences in the chalk surface clearly indicated that the body had been laid on an approximately rectangular 'mat', the composition of which (vegetable, fabric or animal skin) was not determined. The presence of organic material was noted in association with a single bronze terret-like object that had been placed adjacent to the knees; post-fieldwork site conservation works have identified textile (?clothing) in the mirror area.

The chariot had been dismantled into three composite components: the axle and pole, the body (superstructure) and the yoke (with harness fittings). The other discrete components consist of the two wheels and two iron J-shaped lynch pins (with bronzed ring-heads) each associated with a small iron ring. Both wheels (?12-spoked and c. 0.9 m in diameter) lay centrally in the northern half of the grave with the 3 m+ long pole still attached lying north to south at a right-angle. Conservation works have revealed that the pole lay beneath the west wheel. The yoke (c. 1.1 m in length) had been detached from the pole and is thought to have been placed on its side in front of the pole terminal at the north end of the grave. A pair of matching symmetrically located small bronze terrets lay to either side of a centrally located single and larger rein ring.



bronze terret © the British Museum

A single large bronze 'strap-union' lay beneath the outer terret of each pair. Two horse bits were found lying one to either side of the pole and adjacent to the yoke; each is asymmetrically decorated with an external stud or boss, indicating that a pair of horses was used to pull the vehicle. Staining indicates the presence of harness associated with the yoke fittings. Horses of c. 11-12 hands have been suggested.

Differential grave fills indicated that the superstructure (or box) of the vehicle was c. 1.35 m in length by 0.9m in width and at least 0.55 m in height; it is felt very likely that it had solid sides and a front. It had been detached from the pole/axle assembly, inverted and laid in the southern end of the grave over that part of the pole beneath which lay the body. Measurements indicate that the pole cannot have been fixed beneath the axle, as there would have been insufficient clearance to accommodate the body, which lay directly beneath it on the floor of the grave.

Excavation of both the yoke and axle revealed substantial voids from which plaster backcasts were made. In the case of the latter these have shown that the axle was c. 2 m in length and that it had circular stops or flanges against which the inside of each wheel hub would have presumably rested. Uniquely, a fine iron pin was associated with each of these stops/flanges, their positions indicating that they fulfilled the same unknown function on either side of the vehicle.

All the terrets, bits and strap unions are decorated with coral and/or glass or enamel and, not unexpectedly, appear to be a matching 'set' of fittings. To date, one terret appears to have had a coral bead replaced by red glass, suggesting that it was not made specifically for funerary purposes. Both bits are also additionally

Excavation of the barrow ditch and platform was undertaken with the assistance of volunteers from the East Riding Archaeological Society. Exceptionally, faunal remains were recovered from all four sides of the barrow ditch. A clear concentration, consisting of the remains of several young pigs (hindlimbs, forelimbs and skulls) all at the same development stage, was excavated in the north-east corner. Stratigraphically, these belong to the primary phase of the barrow and may relate to the contemporary ritual feasting. Two fragments of human long bone were also recovered from the ditch fills together with a pottery rim of the ?4th century BC.

From the outset the BBC2 Archaeological Services Series *'Meet the Ancestors'* carried out extensive filming on site. In addition to providing a programme for the 2002 series, it will also afford excellent additional footage of the site works.

A date in the 3rd or 4th century BC is felt probable, but detailed consideration with regard to a more definitive date awaits detailed assessment. However, the consensus view is that it is likely to be 'early', possibly the earliest so far excavated in Britain. Hogg the Builders (York) have marked the site of the burial with a commemorative stone.

This small but fascinating site also revealed evidence of a probable manorial complex, Roman ditches and a massive weathering cone c. 8.5 m in diameter relating to a well of ?medieval date and estimated to be at least 55 m in depth.

The excavation of the grave was funded by English Heritage and undertaken by the Guildhouse Consultancy in conjunction with the British Museum. All on-site works were supervised by Rodney Mackey who, together with Kate Dennett, located the barrow. The grave itself was excavated by the finders (for the Guildhouse Consultancy) together with Dr J D Hill, Tony Spence and Peter Makey (for the British Museum). Assistance was also given by Dr Mel Giles (Sheffield University), Tim Chamberlain and Wendy Adamson (British Museum). All of the works were project managed by the writer who would like to place on record his sincerest thanks to all involved, particularly English Heritage for their immediate response for funding, the British Museum team for their extensive input, the directors of Hogg the Builder (York) for donating the finds to the nation, and the interest and co-operation throughout of John R Tongue, Peter Hill and Golly Thorne of the same company; finally, Dave Evans and Ruth Atkinson (Humber Archaeology Partnership) for the continuous support of the Local Authority and volunteers from ERAS without whom the complete and detailed examination of the platform and ditch would have been very difficult to achieve. The writer is also pleased to acknowledge the contribution of information for this brief summary by the various parties involved.

The Guildhouse Consultancy
Beverley
January 2002

ERAS volunteers Peter Bartle, Gill Ainsworth and AngelaGowland at work on the site, despite the weather conditions, prior to excavation of the chariot burial
photo: Rod Mackey © The Guildhouse Consultancy

ERAS lecture summary: Thornborough Henges and the Neolithic landscape of the Vale of Mowbray

Jan Harding 17 Jan 2001

A characteristic feature of the later Neolithic is the henge monument, which is more or less exclusive to this period. These distinctive monuments are seen as centres for ritual, places where people congregated for celebrations. There is a uniformity to the design of henges – inner ditch, outer bank, circularity of form - and they are found from Cornwall to Orkney. In the past it has been common to identify territories with these monuments, seeing a patchwork of territorial units associated with their distribution. The speaker, however, thought that this assumption is perhaps inappropriate and proposed, with the aid of research on the Thornborough henges, to suggest a linear social structure instead of distinct territories.

The Thornborough complex consists of three almost identical henges located on a gravel plateau in the Vale of Mowbray, near the entrance to Wensleydale. Jan Harding suggested that this was an important complex whose significance was not restricted to the local community but extended over a wider area. Each of the three henges is around 240 m in diameter and shares a common north-west/south-east alignment, with the entrances in line. They are 550 m apart, resulting in an alignment of some 1.7 km. Other monuments are close by: a 350 m long double pit alignment terminates in the shared axis of the three henges, while a 44 m wide cursus passes under the central henge and runs for 2.3 km. A number of round barrows are sited in the surrounding landscape.

Each henge has a wide inner ditch and a bank interrupted by two causeways or entrances. There is also a fainter and more fragmentary outer ditch and bank, an unusual design matched only by three monuments a few kilometres away and at a site at Dorchester-on-Thames. The great similarity between the three Thornborough henges might suggest that they were constructed in one phase, but the evidence supports a more complex sequence. The outer bank and ditch are different from the inner versions, their interrupted design resembling the causewayed enclosures of the earlier Neolithic. Thus, rather than one great explosion of construction, it would appear that there were two phases. The location at which the earlier cursus apparently passed under the central henge was excavated, revealing that the cursus ditch in fact terminated just short of the outer ditch of the henge. Therefore, it seems that the two monuments respect each other, suggesting that the cursus and the outer henge ditch are, very approximately, contemporary. Unfortunately, it has not been possible to obtain a reliable radiocarbon date to support the stratigraphic evidence, and there is no artefactual evidence.

During Nicholas Thomas's 1950s excavation of the cursus and part of the inner bank of the central henge a very definite turf line was found, indicating a long period of non-use between the construction of the two features. This evidence also favours two phases of construction. The proposed sequence is that the outer bank and ditch was constructed between 3,500 and 3000 BC, which is generally recognised as the period of cursus construction, while the inner ditch and bank were built in the later Neolithic.

It also became apparent that the outer ditches and banks were constructed episodically, not as one event. Evidence for this was provided by excavation in 1996 of the southern henge, where four phases were identified. The bank and ditch were begun during the early Neolithic but the ditch was then allowed to silt up before being recut several centuries later and the spoil added to extend the outer bank. The bank was then allowed to erode before a palisade was built on the bank and perimeters recreated during a further period of construction. At some point in the later Neolithic the outer boundaries were deliberately levelled and a new ditch and bank were created within. There were fewer causeways cutting the inner ditch and the whole structure was much more imposing than the one it replaced. The inner ditch was 18 m across and up to two and a half metres deep. The bank was also 18 m across. This later monument could be described as more completely enclosing and separating the sacred centre from the outer world. Also excavated was a terminal of the inner ditch and part of a causeway of the southern henge. Remains of some sort of structure with timber uprights were found in the entrance.

The building of later henges within those from an earlier period, respecting the axis of the complex, shows a continuity that extended even into the early Bronze Age. Continuity is also shown in the way that the double pit alignment follows alongside the southern henge. At 350m, the pit alignment is the longest in the country. When the 85 pits were excavated, it was found that they originally contained timber uprights that stood perhaps as much as 2 m above ground, forming a timber avenue. The whole Thornborough complex illustrates a period of planning, construction and intentionality that spanned some 1000 years.

In addition to the excavations within the complex, the wider landscape was evaluated by fieldwalking an area of 170 hectares in the immediate hinterland. The results are fairly complex but the pattern again suggests planning and continuity. The oldest flints were dated to the late Mesolithic and early Neolithic and were found as a low-density random scatter across the study area.

Later Neolithic worked lithics were more numerous but were never found in close proximity to the henges; instead, they were found in clusters at distances more than 600 m from the henges. The similarity of some of this flint and chert to that found elsewhere in association with Grooved Ware pottery suggests that this change in distribution is contemporary with henge construction. This apparent 'exclusion zone' around the henges continues with the early Bronze Age material and there is no evidence for settlement in this area. The situation could be described as a sacred zone close to the henges and a domestic zone further away where people lived, but the speaker preferred a slightly different approach. A modern analogy might be that of a church or cathedral where, although patterns of faith change over the centuries, the behaviour of people tends to become more respectful as they approach the structure: it might have been the same with these Neolithic monuments. How the landscape is experienced is more significant than lines and boundaries drawn on maps.

Valid and reliable environmental evidence is difficult to obtain from gravel but cores obtained elsewhere suggest that the landscape was more wooded than at present. The largest concentration of flints was found some 900 m east of the central henge on the slopes of the low ridge of Chapel Hill. It could be significant that Chapel Hill is the only location near the monument complex where a view of the henges on the plateau is completely blocked by a low ridge. Jan Harding asked us to imagine the spectacle greeting visitors moving out of the domestic zone and onto the plateau. As they moved closer to the complex the henge banks would have loomed up. The banks were much higher then, before erosion took its toll, and may have been coated with white gypsum so that they were more prominent still. Perhaps behaviour changed as the monument was approached: perhaps, for example, people were beating drums and forming into processional lines. When they entered the inner area of the henge – the sacred area - the world outside would be obscured. Thus the procession into the sanctum of the henge could be thought of as a spiritual journey.

That the site had a role within a regional as well as a local context can be seen from its strategic setting close to the River Ure and the entrance to Wensleydale, at the junction between the lowland and the upland. Rivers are route-ways through the landscape and Wensleydale could have been utilised in the movement of Group VI stone axes from the Pike O'Stickle axe factory in the Lake District. Three henges a few kilometres downstream from Thornborough at Nunwick, Hutton Moor and Canna Barn closely resemble the Thornborough monuments and could have been included in the communication pathways. The largest concentration in the country of Group VI axes is in East Yorkshire and the Thornborough complex may have been part of a connection between the west and east sides of the Pennines. However, although the route could have passed through the Thornborough complex, no axes have been found there, although some of the flint at Thornborough came from East Yorkshire.

Because Thornborough was on an important route-way it may have attracted people to the area. The complex may have drawn people for gatherings; certainly its existence and purpose would have been known over a wide region. When the flint evidence is considered, the absence of cores, the high proportion of knapping debris compared with identifiable tools, and the low levels of wear on those tools suggests that people occupied the area only temporarily, when they visited the monuments. The flint used was not solely of local origin; it included Pennine chert, Yorkshire coastal flint and Yorkshire Wold flint. Out of the possible interpretations Jan Harding prefers the concept of a pilgrimage, analogous to those taken during medieval Christendom when long journeys were taken to places of particularly sacred importance. This fits with the planning of the structures and their modifications and extension over long periods of time and with the isolation of the monument from the areas of occupation - the spiritual journey could be echoed by a physical journey. The interpretation also explains why the form and structure of the henges are replicated elsewhere as a result of pilgrims visiting other key sites. The speaker concluded by saying that the Thornborough henges were not so much a spiritual capital or a priesthood centre but a special place shared by groups from a wider area.

The lecture set off a lively question and answer session, resulting in the following comments.

- There do appear to be some interesting astronomical alignments at Thornborough, but they are very complicated.

- Jan Harding believes that the Devils Arrows near Boroughbridge are related to the Thornborough complex because they lie on the same route-way. They mark the southern limit of the region and are situated strategically at the confluence of two rivers.

- The distance from the southern henge to the nearest henge is approximately a 40 minute walk and to the northern henge a 60 to 90 minute walk.

- In reply to a question about the purpose of the henge banks the speaker replied that the image of spectators sitting on a bank and watching the events unfold like at a modem Olympics is not a very likely scenario. He believes the banks acted to exclude any sight of the landscape from inside the henges – they were just high enough to block out any sight of the Hambledon Hills, leaving the participants to focus on the sky and events on the ground within the monument.

In conclusion, Jan Harding reminded us of the length of the period of time under consideration, during which complex social structures could have existed. From afar, in the 21st century, we can only hope for the coarsest of pictures of the Neolithic social landscape.

Peter Walker and Valerie Fairhurst

ERAS lecture summary: Kingswood – an archaeological landscape on the River Hull

Ken Steedman 21 March 2001

Ken Steedman is a Project Manager for Humber Field Archaeology (HFA). In 1995, they carried out a desk-based assessment prior to development of a large area of land close to the River Hull. Most of the 376 hectares of land lies at only some 2 m OD, though the north-east corner reaches 5 m OD.

A number of archaeological features were found: most of these were located in the south-west corner though a 12m length of ditch with Roman pottery had previously been located in the north-east corner by Peter Armstrong. In the south-west corner a variety of earthworks, visible on aerial photographs of the 1940s, seemed to indicate medieval settlement. Documentary evidence from the Meaux Abbey Chronicles also pointed to medieval occupation. Aerial photographs showed a site adjacent to the thirteenth century Foredyke (as well as showing the recently constructed and abandoned tunnel under the river!). Some of the land covered by aerial photographs and close to Gibraltar Farm is now under the riverbank. It was suspected, from Peter Didsbury's work on the lower Hull valley, that Roman activity would be discovered.

Geophysical survey carried out before the first stage of excavation confirmed the features near Gibraltar Farm and further along the river. Trial trenching identified both late medieval/post medieval features and a Roman ditch. In early 1997 the development company produced a plan for building leisure facilities near these sites, as a result of which two excavations were carried out in 1997.

The Gibralter Farm site

This was a riverside Roman site established in the mid to late second century. There is evidence that prior to this date the river channel was considerably wider than it is now, with reed beds growing in shallow water. In the middle of the second century, an area of 60x25 m was enclosed beside the river by shallow slots and gullies (probably hedges and fences). Inside this perimeter traces of what were probably two buildings were found, but unfortunately below-ground evidence was sparse although it is assumed that their use was related to agriculture.

During the early third century the settlement was re-established with wider and deeper boundaries. The water channel of the river was re-cut. At this time, the margin of the river channel was some 20 or 30 m from today's position. A ditch lay close to the waterfront. The excavators were able to retrieve well-preserved organic remains from deposits lying below the water table. A large quantity of pottery and animal bones had been thrown into a pit at the base of the bank. Eight fragments of Roman glass bangles were found dispersed across the settlement; this is a large number to be found on a site that is neither a villa nor a military site. It has been suggested that these objects reflect trade with the military but there is no concrete evidence for this, though it does suggest that trade was taking place along the river. Fragments of tile were found and these may have been used as ballast in the boats.

Occupation continued into the fourth century, but a reduction in pottery levels suggests that the site was occupied only seasonally or used solely for stock, while the people lived elsewhere. The riverside was still in use during this period, with banks and ditches being re-cut. Even late into the fourth century boundaries were being re-established and small amounts of pottery were in use.

No evidence was found for Saxon or early medieval settlement. In 1253 there was a catastrophic flood that damaged fish stocks and rendered the land unusable for several years. The flood is documented in the records of Meaux Abbey, which by this time owned the area, including fisheries and mills. Restoration involved the construction of a number of parallel banks that may have formed a combination of fish weir and ponds, perhaps to control flooding.

A cross-section of the riverbank showed a series of laminates formed by deposition, at approximately 2 mm per year, from slow-moving water over a very long period of time. Archaeomagnetic dating of the series indicates a time span from the late Iron Age to the sixteenth century. Gibraltar Farm itself was probably established when drainage improved in the eighteenth century. It is likely that the Gibraltar title resulted from the successful defence of Gibraltar in 1781.

The Foredyke site

Two hundred metres to the south of Gibraltar Farm a slightly raised area near the riverbank was excavated, plus a small offshoot to determine the line of the Foredyke. The first phase of activity was Romano-British. There was more evidence from the third and fourth centuries than at Gibraltar Farm.

The earliest medieval evidence dated to the twelfth or thirteenth century and was contemporary with the Foredyke. No structural remains were found (if there were any they might have been lost in the catastrophic flood). There was evidence of hemp retting associated with a timber-lined channel that was probably developed from an earlier stream. Domestic rubbish was

also found. The Foredyke was constructed as a boundary to settle disputes between the landowners of Meaux Abbey and the Lords of Sutton, whose lands lay to the south. In (probably) the early fourteenth century a large deposit of clay was deliberately dumped to make a mound, two to three foot in height. The extraction of the material for the mound probably created surrounding ditches, though it was not a moated site in the traditional sense. At least three buildings were erected on the mound. The principal building had stone foundations and eight stone piers that could have supported a substantial structure, perhaps with an upper storey. Pottery of the late thirteenth to fourteenth century was found. The function of this high-status building, sited in the south-east corner of the Meaux estate, is not clear. A connection with the fishing economy is possible, though few fish bones were found.

An adjacent building was used as a workshop and may have been open on one side. The eastern end opened directly into another building. A series of hearths were found inside the building. Outside, there was evidence for small-scale metalworking. Finds included thimbles, a spindle whorl, a lead cloth seal, a pseudo-heraldic horse-fitting bearing a fleur-de-lis and the lion of England, a jet bead (perhaps from a rosary) and a bishop chess piece. These finds clearly indicate a connection with the Abbey, but the function of the main building is not known – perhaps a rest house, a guest house or a cattle lodge. Certainly, it was a high-status building; it had a garderobe, at least some of it was roofed with tile and it may have had some glass windows. In 1539 Meaux Abbey was dissolved and the estate passed to the Crown; it was eventually leased to tenant farmer(s). The building underwent modifications, involving the construction of internal walls. A gully ran through the building, eventually emptying into the Foredyke.

The range of finds from the sixteenth and seventeenth century was extensive. The list includes a box-iron (unusual, in that such a large object would more usually have been recycled), fragments of window glass, buckles for shoes or knee breeches, part of a purse frame, dress fittings, knife handles, furniture fittings, fishing equipment, spindle whorls of chalk and lead, scissors and shears, keys, a sixteenth century Rennish stoneware drinking vessel, trading tokens from the late sixteenth and seventeenth century and a 1603 silver coin of James I. In total, the small finds amounted to some 1600 items. A small but significant proportion of the assemblage is of Civil War date and includes eleven spurs; these and such military finds as a cap or cover from a powder flask, identical to a 17th century one from the Citadel, hint that the site was used was used in some way during the Civil War. Fragments of stained glass may be the remnants of windows stripped from the Abbey so that the lead could be used to make lead shot, but it is not known whether this was produced for a Civil War garrison or for wildfowling. It was not only stained glass that was looted: a stone capital from the Abbey was inserted into a brick fireplace.

The site continued in use after the Civil War into the 1670s when either it became less attractive or the tenancy was ended.

Peter Walker and Valerie Fairhurst

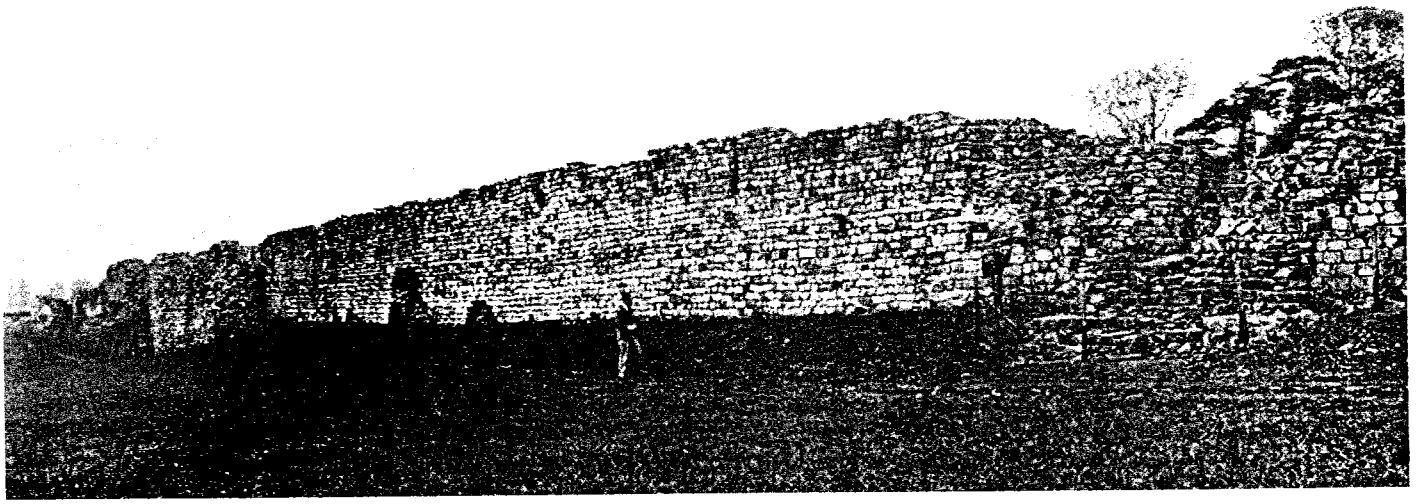
ERAS lecture summary Venta Silurum: Caerwent - Investigating a Roman Town

***Richard Brewer** 18 April 2001*

The speaker first of all described the background to the early investigation of the site and the links of the area with the city of Hull.

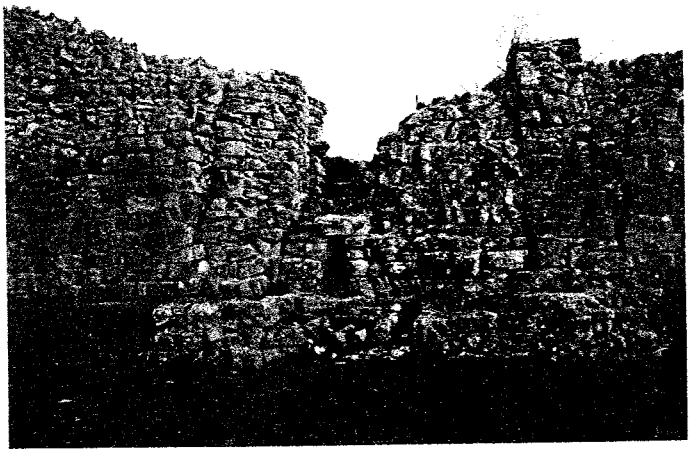
John Edward Lee was born in Hull in 1801 into a family with shipping interests. He travelled widely, developing interests in both history and the sciences and joining the Hull Literary and Philosophical Society in 1827. Unfortunately, he suffered from poor health and moved to south Wales where he was a partner in a Newport nail factory. He settled in Caerleon, the site of the Roman legionary fortress of *Isca,* and was dismayed by the total neglect of the Roman remains, the lack of recording, the persistent plundering of the buildings for worked stone and the loss or sale to the public of various Roman finds. He prepared a report on the site and proposed the construction of a museum. The proposition was successful and the building was designed by a Hull architect who charged no fee for his work. The museum was opened in 1850. Lee was also involved in the founding of the Caerleon (later the Monmouthshire) Antiquarian Association.

The task of the Second Augustan Legion at *Isca* was to conquer the powerful Silures tribe. After this was accomplished the Silures were eventually granted a form of local government with a capital at Caerwent, on the Roman road running from Gloucester *(Glevum)* to *Isca* and beyond. Caerwent is now a small village but during the Roman period it was the largest centre of civilian population in Wales and of considerable economic and strategic importance. With the name *Venta Silurum,* 'market of the Silures', it was sited on a small hill in a broad, fertile valley overlooking the River Severn, its 44



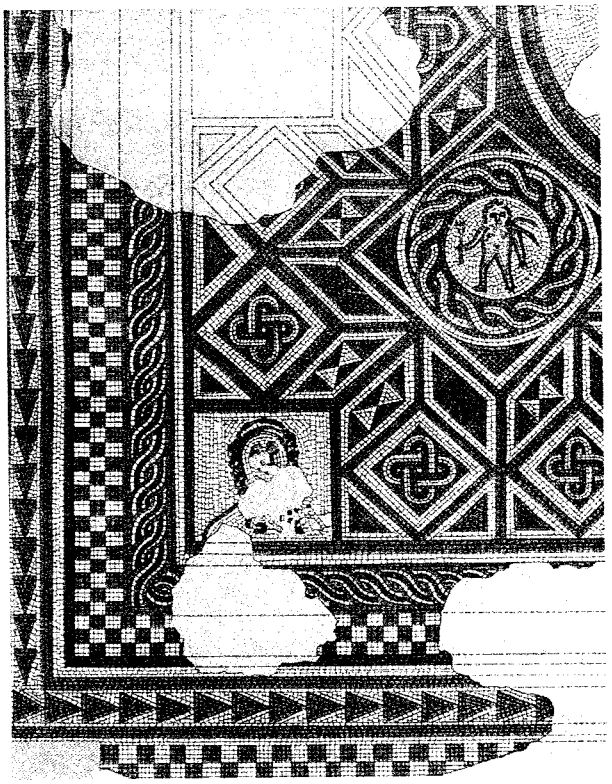
Caerwent south wall, view looking west from the South Gate (right) in *c.*1930 *Archaeologia vol 80*

acres (18 ha) enclosed by limestone walls. The settlement was one of the 15 or 16 tribal capitals of Roman Britain, each one of which was responsible for raising taxes, for law enforcement and public works. It was, admittedly, one of the smallest tribal capitals, but it may have been the only one in Wales (the Demetae, further to the west, may also have been granted self-government).



Caerwent Gate 1993 photo: Susan Gibson

Like Caerleon, Caerwent attracted early tourists in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century to its Roman remains. The first archaeological excavations took place in 1855 in the south-east corner of the town. More extensive, however, were the excavations initiated by the Clifton Antiquarian Club of Bristol and taking place between 1899 and 1913. Financial support was provided by Lord Tredegar, a man with an adventurous past who had survived the charge of the Light Brigade. Archaeological techniques were still in their infancy and there was little appreciation of the need for stratified evidence and the place of artefacts in the chronology of the site. For this reason, detailed understanding of the chronology of the site from these early excavations is largely lacking. The antiquarians normally dug parallel trenches and investigated the upper structures only, leaving the lower levels untouched and unrecognised. By the close of 1913 almost two-thirds of the town had been trenched and the main public buildings, a temple, a small amphitheatre, shops, workshops, and dwellings uncovered. There was a wide variety of dwellings: some were simple and others extremely luxurious, some with fine mosaic floors. A plan was drawn of the late third and the fourth century town but mention of earlier periods is almost non-existent.



Part of the mosaic pavement in house VII, 1902
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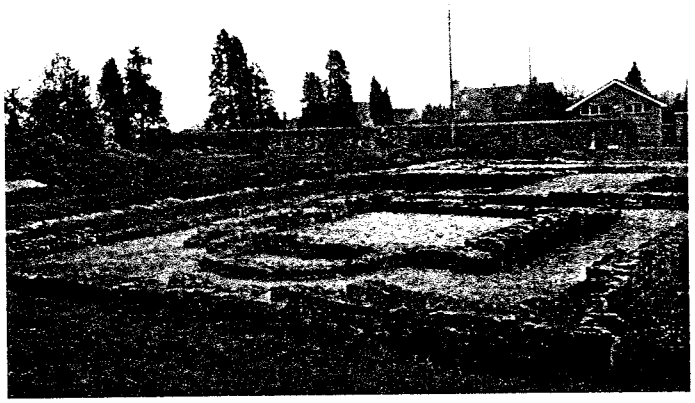
In 1923, part of the public baths was uncovered in excavations supervised by Mortimer Wheeler, director of the National Museum of Wales. The defensive walls, the best preserved of any Roman town in Britain, were investigated on a number of occasions, most thoroughly in 1925 on the southern side of the town. A large courtyard building and some shops were investigated at the Pond Lane site in 1946-67.

The modern research excavations began in 1981 to determine when the settlement was founded, how it developed and whether it was prosperous or not. Three sites were dug over fifteen seasons (the courtyard house, the temple and the forum-basilica) under the direction of Richard Brewer, who had first studied Caerwent as an undergraduate in the 1970s.

The sequence unravelled at the courtyard house site in the north-west corner of the town showed that the earliest building was constructed in the late second or early third century AD, before which the plot was vacant. This early building was timber-framed and only a single room was found, though there may be have been more outside the excavated area. The building was demolished in the late third century and replaced by a much larger house. Although the plan of this house is incomplete, it seems to have had a long central corridor, from which rooms opened on either side. Several rooms had elaborately decorated walls and ceilings and the corridor had a fine mosaic. The building cannot have been in use for a long period before being replaced in the early fourth century by a very substantial courtyard house that had a number of rooms arranged around two courtyards. On the southern side the rooms were fairly plain, although one had been heated by a hypocaust and two had plain tessellated pavements. On the northern side the rooms were more elaborate. There was much brightly painted plaster and two rooms had hypocausts. Both of these rooms had patterned mosaic floors. The corridor around the smaller northern courtyard also had a mosaic floor, with a different design on each side. Unfortunately, some of the walls had been robbed to provide building materials for a medieval lime kiln. The east range could not be excavated because of its position underneath a neighbouring garden. Small buildings and yards may have been barns, byres and paddocks, suggesting that the complex was a working farm.

The second of the three sites was a Romano-Celtic temple dated to about 330 BC, first excavated in 1908 and the only building remaining exposed into modern times. It lies near the centre of the town, to the east of the *forum-basilica*. At the heart of the site is a square inner shrine (*cella*) with a sanctuary-alcove at the back that projected into the surrounding ambulatory. The ambulatory was enclosed within a solid outer wall. The temple stood on a raised platform within a sacred courtyard (*temenos*), which was further enclosed by walls on three sides and a long hall on the fourth. The general population would not have been allowed into the *cella* but would have gathered in the sacred grounds for ceremonies. The temple remained in good repair until late in the fourth century and extra rooms and niches were added.



Romano-Celtic temple, photo: Susan Gibson

The temple was not the earliest building on the site, though nothing of the earlier phases is now visible. In the late first or early second century there had been a large timber building with both living-quarters and a workshop.

The third area of the modern excavations was the *forum-basilica* (market-place and civic hall), occupying the whole central building block north of the main street. Although the complex measured 80 m (260 feet) north to south and 56 m (182 feet) east to west, it was smaller than most. In the early excavations between 1907 and 1909 the plan of the building was almost completed but no date was obtained for the start of construction. The date is important because the construction of a *forum-basilica* is the major indication that a community had been granted self-governance by the Romans. The earliest coin found was of emperor Nerva (AD 96-8) but the techniques of the early excavations did not place it in any archaeological context. The aims of the modern excavation were to recover a structural sequence and to consolidate the remains for public display.

The *forum* was a rectangular open market-place surrounded on three sides by shops, taverns and offices, and entered from the main street through an archway. The *forum* - and indeed, the rest of the town - would have been dominated by the 20 m high *basilica* on the north side of the *forum*. The *basilica* had an open, colonnaded façade alongside the *forum* and could be accessed by wide steps from the *forum* or from the side streets via entrances at either end of the south aisle. The *basilica* consisted of a great hall and a rear range of rooms. The nave of the great hall was separated from the *forum* to the south and the rooms to the north by south and north aisles, the aisles divided by colonnades supporting a clerestory. At the east and west ends of the nave were chambers which were probably tribunals used by local magistrates to hear civil cases. When the eastern

tribune was excavated, it was found to have undergone changes during its period of use: an early stone screen was replaced by a wooden screen and double doors, and a hypocaust was added to heat the room.

The rear rooms of the *basilica* included offices, a shrine *(aedes)* and the council chamber *(curia)*. Cut into the floor of the *curia* were channels to take a wooden framework of benches for the councillors. Painted plaster from the south wall has survived, as have fragments of a mosaic set into the centre of the concrete floor. At the eastern end of the room were four stone slabs, thought to be the foundations for a dais, upon which would have sat the presiding magistrates. This was the seat of power in the *civitas* of the Silures. There was no direct access into the *curia* from the great hall; it was entered via a smaller room in the north-west corner. This antechamber was subdivided in a late stage of its history and protected by a stone-vaulted roof and a stone screen. It is suggested that this could have been the civic treasury.

Running underneath the *basilica* was a substantial box-drain that carried water from stone gutters surrounding the *forum* to a yard to the north, where it emptied into a soakaway. The drain could be cleaned out from an inspection hole cut into one of the capstones.

Details relating to the construction of the *forum-basilica* complex have been identified. The *forum* itself was used to store materials during a ten-year period when surrounding buildings were constructed. A ramp leading to the *basilica* was constructed and there was evidence for the use of cranes and other lifting equipment. A tilery and brickery were found in which some tiles and bricks bore writing that probably represented loads or quotas. Rectangular pits were dug against the main walls before the first floors were constructed. These are thought to be inspection pits enabling the foundations to be checked.

A coin of Trajan, dating to 112-114 AD, was found in the *forum*. Together with pottery from the construction levels, this indicates that the *basilica* was constructed during the reign of Hadrian in about 120 AD. Thus, by this date at the latest the *Civitas Silurum* had been created – government had been passed from military control to the *Silures*, some decades later than in southern Britain and at a time when garrisons were being redirected from south-east Wales to Hadrian's Wall. The next 150 years were a period of stability in *Venta* as far as the major buildings were concerned but at the end of the third century the *basilica* underwent major reconstruction. Rows of small pits were dug to take scaffolding so that the some of the walls could be strengthened and the roof and columns could be removed and rebuilt. This building was, however, still in use during a period when similar structures elsewhere in Roman Britain had fallen into disuse.

Despite the rebuilding, by the 330s the use of the *basilica* had changed. The paved floors of the nave and south aisle had been removed; numerous shallow pits containing iron-smithing waste indicate that the great hall was used for small-scale metal-working, as in a similar *basilica* in Silchester. It is possible that the centre of administration moved to more modest premises, for example the hall which was part of the temple complex built around this time, although it is also possible that the *basilica* itself remained the seat of local government. By the late fourth century parts of the basilica had been demolished and much of the site levelled. Even then, the rear range of rooms, including the tribunal, still remained in use. This phase was dated by Theodosian coins of the 390s. This is the last phase of Roman archaeology and the only archaeological evidence above these layers relates to farming in the medieval and later periods.

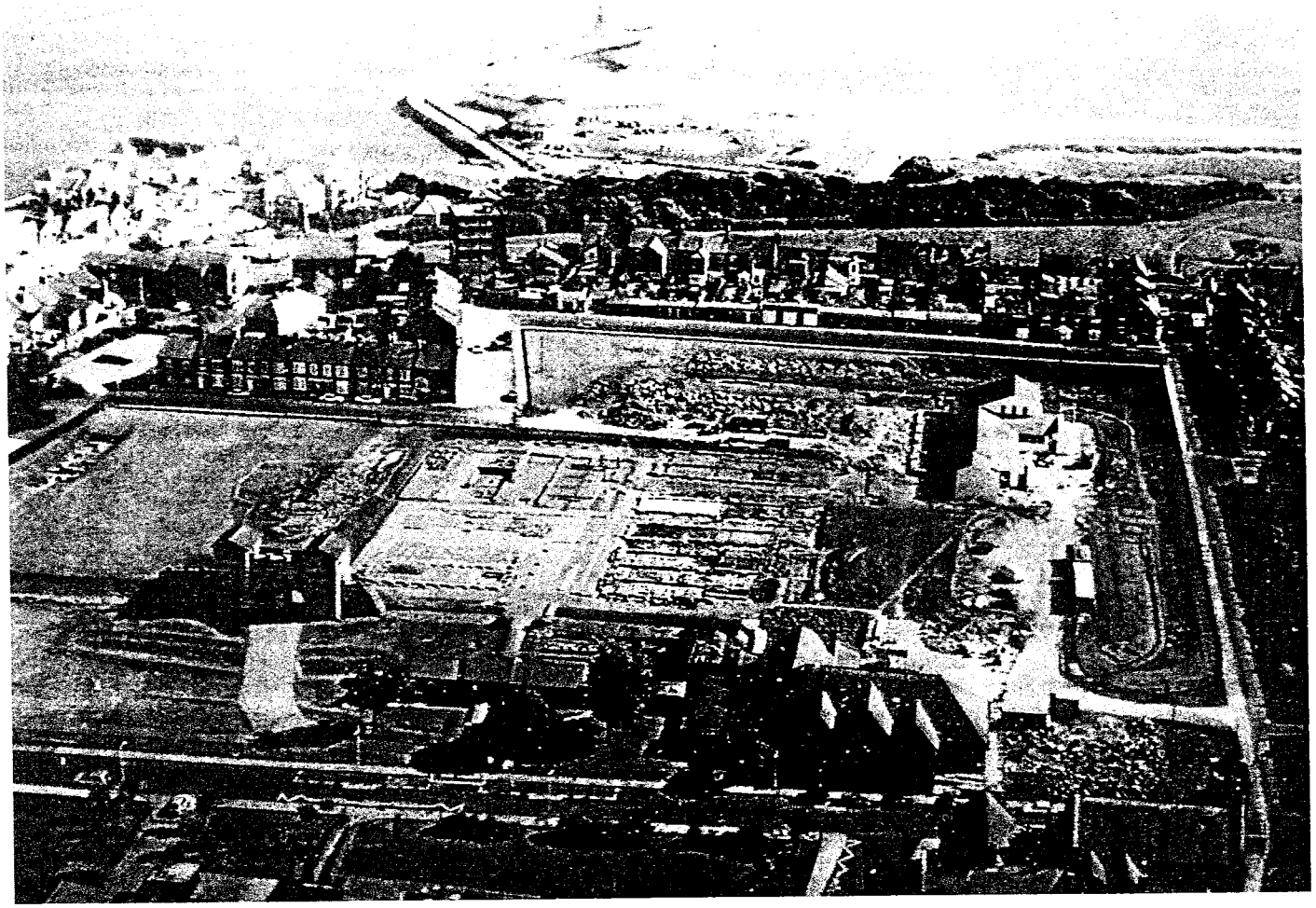
Peter Walker and Valerie Fairhurst

ERAS lecture summary: Recent work on Hadrian's Wall

Dr Nick Hodgson 17 Oct 2002

The lecture described findings from two Roman fort sites near the mouth of the River Tyne, at South Shields and Wallsend. The South Shields site lies on a headland projecting into the river, its purpose being to safeguard a port that is known to have existed in the area but is still undiscovered. The South Shields fort (which the Romans called *Arbeia*) is not a recent discovery; it has been studied since the Restoration although excavations did not begin until the nineteenth century. The first major excavation began in 1875 and was a rescue excavation of its day, because the area was about to be built over. The work was carried out with a rigour unusual for the period; when the plan was published it was only the second example from the Roman world to show the interior of a fort and deservedly attracted international attention. This did not prevent most of the site being covered with late Victorian housing.

Almost a century later, it was the start of clearance of the Victorian houses in the 1960s that again revealed most of the classic playing-card-shaped outline of a Roman fort. One of the gates was spectacularly (and controversially) reconstructed. Some earlier excavation work had been carried out shortly after the Second World War by Ian Richmond and there has been some sort of excavation in most years since 1977. One corner of the fort has been excavated in detail over a fifteen-year period. The fort is part of the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site. Since



Arbeia fort, aerial view © Tyne and Wear Museums

1983, excavation has been on an open-area principle and total – i.e., all periods of evidence excavated down to the natural surface or bedrock. The archaeological evidence does not begin with the Roman fort; it extends back into the Neolithic.

It is thought that the Roman occupation began with a smaller fort that was enlarged and then its interior replaced with warehouse-like buildings. The site became the only known example of a purpose-built Roman military supply base. Twenty-four granaries were constructed, plus buildings for administration and accommodation: the latter were crowded into the southern quarter. The *principia* or headquarters, which is usually positioned centrally, was demolished, replaced by granaries and moved to the southern end of the fort. It was confirmed as the *principia* by the discovery of an underground chamber or strongroom.

The date of conversion is thought to be associated with the campaigns of Septimius Severus who came to Britain accompanied by his 'delinquent' sons with the intention of advancing north of Hadrian's Wall. Evidence for the connection between the South Shields site and the campaign comes from the discovery in the nineteenth century of lead sealings bearing portraits of Severus and his sons, Caracalla and Geta, datable to 198-209 AD. On their own these Imperial sealings are not sufficient evidence for the connection because they were not found in a secure archaeological context. However, Richmond's proposition in the 1930s that the South Shield's site was a supply base has now been vindicated by the discovery of more of the sealings in the construction levels of the granaries.

It is known that the peoples of Scotland on the fringes of the Highlands were attacked during 208-211 AD by Septimius Severus. South Shields was a transhipment base for materials needed for the theatre of war. The campaign, however, was a failure; Severus was dead by 211 and his sons, uninterested in continuing the campaign, returned to the pleasures of Rome. Though the campaign had ended, the supply base continued in use throughout the third century. Its function during this period is unclear but it is suggested that it was used for the import of sea-borne supplies for the eastern sector of Hadrian's Wall. In the past it has been assumed that

the troops would have obtained supplies from the local population, but it now seems much more likely that provision from outside the region was significant. One sample of grain has been found to contain a proportion of bread wheat. This is not usual for a local native site and suggests that the grain may have originated from southern Britain or even continental Europe.

The end of the use of the site as a supply base is marked in the late third or early fourth century with a great fire that destroyed the barracks, leaving a great deal of orange burnt daub as evidence. The various possible causes of the fire of accident, an act of deliberate demolition or enemy action all seemed equally plausible until recently. The discovery of a number of high value items, including some small gold objects, a large blob of molten gold and a very valuable complete suit of chain mail is considered most significant. Such valuable objects would not have been abandoned during an act of orderly demolition. The recent excavations show that the burning is greatest at the eastern ends of each barrack. It seems that each was set on fire individually; therefore the conclusion is that the fire was started by enemy forces.

Following this destruction, extensive rebuilding was undertaken for a larger military unit with a different garrison, including boatmen from the River Tigris. In its new form the site had a new Principia in the centre, ten barracks converted from the granaries, and a substantial Mediterranean-style house. This courtyard building is now the best understood *praetorium* in any fort of the Roman Empire. It has been possible to identify every room and their function in this house. The closest parallels of this building are to be found not in Britain but from places as far afield as Syria, Morocco and the Roman port of Ostia. The design suggests that the commanding officer was of Mediterranean origin and was of high social standing, although some textbooks argue that military sites of the period were not controlled by such high-ranking officers. Occupation of the site ceased in the late fourth century.

The speaker reported that the full-size reconstruction of the part of the courtyard house was to be completed by the middle of 2002.

The second Roman fort site to be described by the speaker was that of Wallsend, at the eastern terminus of Hadrian's Wall, positioned to oversee two stretches of the River Tyne. The site was obscured by houses but revealed when they were eventually demolished. Excavation was started in 1975 by Charles Daniels and continued for nine years, producing the first complete plan of a Hadrianic fort (as it was originally constructed). The early period of the work was poorly funded, so much of the site was backfilled until in 1997 a large grant provided for excavation and for display in a new museum. Much of the previous excavation was re-excavated and lower stratigraphy revealed. It was found that the original barracks of the Hadrianic fort were made of timber.

A dramatic discovery was made when barracks nine and twelve were re-excavated: a row of rooms were found which in both the timber and stone phases were divided into back rooms with hearths and front rooms with long sausage-shaped pits. These pits had been found before on some continental sites, but complete buildings had not been found there. With environmental samples showing materials associated with horses and stabling, the continental buildings had been interpreted as stables, but it was thought that the cavalrymen were accommodated separately from their horses. The evidence from Wallsend, however, is that the cavalrymen lived in the back rooms and the horses and stableboys/slaves occupied the front rooms where the pits were covered by timbers and used as an underfloor soakaway or drain. This arrangement had been predicted by a German archaeologist but had not previously gained acceptance. Confirming this interpretation at Wallsend was the presence of a larger room at the end of the barrack block for the senior officer. It also explains why previous searches for stables had been unsuccessful. Both the front and rear rooms were 3.6 m (12 Roman feet) square with sufficient space for three horses in the front stall and three troopers in the adjoining back room, resulting in one of the barracks having space for thirty cavalrymen and their mounts - one cavalry troop. The usual combination would consist of four cavalry barracks housing four troops and six infantry barracks housing six centuries (the latter each of 80 infantry). This would add up to one part-mounted cohort (cohors equitata).

Now that the barracks with pits have been reinterpreted they have also been recognised elsewhere, for example at South Shields where the fort is very similar in plan. In the excavations there, two extra pits were found outside the building, presumably for drainage in the street when the horses were tethered outside.

Hadrian's Wall itself has delivered remarkable new discoveries in recent years. At Wallsend, to the west of the fort, the Wall had subsided and collapsed at one point, preserving many courses of its structure. It is apparent that the Wall was rebuilt on many occasions. One very curious find relates to function: between the Wall and ditch is a series of great post pits that probably held sharpened branches. These features have been described in literature as defensive features to break up sudden attacks. This does not fit the received idea of Hadrian's Wall as more of a customs barrier than a defensive structure. It serves to illustrate that previous extensive excavation does not exclude the possibility of new discoveries.

Questions at the end of the lecture provoked a lively debate about the practicalities of cleaning out the stone-lined pits in the barracks occupied by both men and horses. One can only pity the poor stableboys!

Peter Walker

Dates for your Diary

12 June – 1 September	Training Excavations at St Leonards Hospital, York (courses 1-2 days & 1-2 weeks) run by York Archaeological Trust for Excavation and Research Ltd. For further details see the YAT website: www.yorkarchaeology.co.uk/yordig or telephone 01904 663000
Until 2 August	Excavations at Sutton Common (Iron Age settlement) which is to the north of Doncaster. ERAS members will be welcomed as volunteers for fieldwork opportunities. Working hours: Monday – Friday 9.00 am to 5.00 pm.
3 August	Day Visit to York: 11.00 am Yorvik Viking Centre – tour of the improved and refurbished centre. 2.00 pm St Leonard's Hospital Dig – viewing of the latest phase of the excavations. Spaces are limited at these times. Cost £9 for the day (£8 concessions). Cheques made payable to CBA Yorkshire with an SAE to Jon Crabtree, 204 Mount Vale, York, Y024 1DL
7 August	ERAS Field Studies Meeting, 7.30 pm Friends Meeting House, Hull
19-28 August	Resistivity survey of 3 possible Class I henges at Rudston with postgraduate student Jeremy Webster. Limited places available, so prior booking essential. To book your place contact Kate Dennett (01482 445232) as soon as possible. For further details contact Jeremy Webster on jemwebcom@netscapeonline.co.uk
4 September	ERAS Field Studies Meeting, 7.30 pm, Friends Meeting House, Percy Street, Hull
15 September	Landscapes of Mid-Wensleydale walk with Steve Moorhouse. Full day walk looking at multi-period landscape. £8 if afternoon tea required in Bolton at 4 pm or £2 if no tea required. Meet at Castle Bolton car park at 10 am. Bring waterproofs, strong shoes or boots and a packed lunch. No dogs, no under 16s. Limited places. Bookings to Janet Senior, YAS, 23 Clarendon Road, Leeds, LS2 NZ (giving your name, address, phone number). Cheques payable to YAS.
18 September	ERAS Reports Meeting, 7.30 pm, Room S1, Wilberforce Building, University of Hull, Cottingham Road, Hull Please see the Membership Card which will be distributed with the next short newsletter for details of the rest of the 2002/03 lectures.
2 October	ERAS Field Studies Meeting, 7.30 pm, Friends Meeting House, Percy Street, Hull
6 November	ERAS Field Studies Meeting, 7.30 pm, Friends Meeting House, Percy Street, Hull
30 November	Mills & Milling in North East Yorkshire, Concert Room, Central Library, Scarborough (starts 2 pm) - Joint Meeting of Yorkshire Archaeological Society, Scarborough Archaeological & Historical Society & ERAS

Acknowledgements

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