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## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES IN KENT

### INTERIM REPORT ON EXCAVATIONS IN 1979 BY THE CANTERBURY ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

During 1979 four major excavations were undertaken by the Trust. All these sites were within the city and brief reports on them appear below. As well as this the Trust has been keeping an eye on the topsoil stripping for the Canterbury Bypass (see also below) and observing and recording many other sites and upstanding buildings, which were developed or restored during the year. Three other important areas of small excavations during the year were in the 'Poor Priests' Hospital, in the cellar of 35 St. Margaret's Street and on three small sites in or beside the Cathedral. Brief reports on these sites also appear below. Finally a full report has been completed by Paul Blockley (to be published in the next volume) on his observations and records of part of the cemetery of St. Gregory's Priory, which was exposed during the year.

As well as this the Trust has continued its work on recording buildings and a complete survey has been made of 'Meister Omers' in conjunction with the Linacre Garden excavations. This magnificent early fifteenth-century building had never been studied in detail before and many very important features have been found. Records have also been made of all surviving fragments of the early thirteenth-century great hall and porch of the Archbishop's Palace. This building, one of the largest thirteenth-century halls in England, has also never been drawn<sup>1</sup> and during 1979 restoration work by the King's School necessitated a full survey in advance of this work.

The Trust also made detailed drawings of two neighbouring late medieval timber-framed buildings (26 and 27 St. Peter's Street) which were completely gutted and restored during the year, and measured drawing work has started at the unique aisled hall building at Cogan House (53 St. Peter's Street).<sup>2</sup> This building, which changed ownership

<sup>1</sup>But see a brief note in *Arch. Cant.* 43 (1931) 300.

<sup>2</sup>See *Arch. Cant.*, lxxxv (1970), 123-38.

in 1979, is also being gutted and restored and already several new features, unrecorded by Mr. Parkin in 1970 have been found.

Finally extensive renovations (initially started on August bank holiday 1979 without planning permission) have been taking place in the basement and ground floor of 'The Chequers' building, Mercery Lane. Here we recorded all we could in emergency work where damage had been done to the unique stone arcading of the ground floor of the remaining part of this double-jettied courtyard inn.<sup>3</sup>

TIM TATTON-BROWN

### 1. *Linacre Garden, King's School*

Following the excavations at the Norman Staircase, a second rescue excavation has been funded by the King's School in advance of their building programme within the Precincts. From November 1978 to May 1979 excavations have been carried out in the Linacre Garden, just north of the Meister Omers and the Quenin Gate, within the city wall. Over 3 m. of archaeological deposits were investigated over an area of about 180 sq. m., and the following sequence established.

The earliest levels of the site were only sampled due to time constraints. Roman occupation was sparse, but timber structures and possibly iron-working areas were noted. During most of the Saxon period the area seems to have been unused, except perhaps for agricultural purposes. Very little Saxon pottery was found.

In the late Saxon period a street of flint cobbles was constructed, running south-east to north-west, roughly parallel with the city wall. A partial timber building and a well-built stone furnace were associated with it.

During early Norman times the cobbled surface was rebuilt, but its alignment changed slightly, so that it ran more in an east-west direction. No structures were found in association with this surface, although domestic refuse pits occurred. This probably represents a yard surface, possibly lying between a number of tenement properties, whose buildings fronted on the intermural lane.

In the mid-twelfth century the massive Norman Priory boundary wall was constructed, running north-south across the site. This wall, which still survives to modern ground level, divides the site into an east and a west excavation area. Domestic occupation continued in the east area, outside the Priory wall, during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Yard surfaces in association with the numerous domestic refuse and cess pits were found. This occupation effectively ceased when land to the east of the boundary wall was acquired by the Priory.

<sup>3</sup>The western part of the inn was destroyed in a fire in 1865.

During the initial stages of this acquisition, the boundary wall was routed to encompass a new property to the south (i.e. Meister Omers), but with subsequent acquisitions the new boundary wall was the city wall. Probably during the later fifteenth century monastic buildings were constructed in the area, the construction levels covering the latest domestic yard surfaces. A single structure to the east of the boundary wall was excavated, proving to be a small flint-walled rectangular building with a mortar floor (a few buff bricks are also used in the walls), which was probably built in the 1490s. To the west of the Priory wall, and built up against it, was a series of large two-storeyed buildings, one of which covered a cellar, which was fully excavated. This fine structure, which probably dates from the early fifteenth century, measured 8m. x 4m. with a depth of over 2m., and was notable for a pair of well preserved windows, protected on the outside of the cellar by two small retaining walls, forming light-wells.

During the occupation of the monastic buildings in the early sixteenth century, the area east of the boundary wall was probably converted from domestic back yards to ornamental gardens, the pattern of which has been partially excavated.

In the post-Reformation period, the monastic buildings were renovated, the two brick garderobes with tiled floors were constructed in the small rectangular building. These were drained by a stone sewer, which ran into the nearby garden.

Finally, in the 1650s the buildings in the centre of the area were pulled down, the cellar and the sewer filled in, and the area was turned into a garden. The rest of the buildings were pulled down in the mid-nineteenth century leaving only the ruins that still exist.

Important finds from the site include a fine collection of mid-seventeenth century ceramics and other artefacts associated with the destruction of the medieval buildings, sixteenth-century stone-wares from cess pits associated with the sewer, and a useful assemblage of early medieval and Saxo-Norman pottery.

JOHN DRIVER

## *2. Marlowe Car Park Excavations*

Since June 1978 excavations have been carried out by the Trust below the Marlowe Car Park, in advance of a shopping centre redevelopment. The work has been financed largely by the developers, Canterbury City Council.

The excavations have concentrated on, and enlarged, the area excavated by Professor Frere in cellars along the St. Margaret's Street frontage. The earliest levels investigated produced traces of Belgic occupation east of the ditch located last summer on the 16 Watling

Street excavation. These levels comprised the scant remains of a hut circle, with porched entrance and associated well, besides two clay quarry pits and numerous stake holes. Eight *potin* coins were associated with these features.

The Belgic occupation was sealed, as elsewhere in the city, by a thick deposit of dark grey clayey loam. This loam was cut by the remains of a large timber-framed building of an early Flavian date. The building contained an oven and two furnaces as well as contemporary clay floors. Associated with this building in the backfill of a Belgic pit, was a fine group of bronze horse trappings (probably military) contained within a leather bag (Fig. 1). With their associated timber-framed building, they may perhaps be tentatively suggested as evidence of the elusive military presence in Canterbury.

Overlying this building was a 23m.-length of street separating the

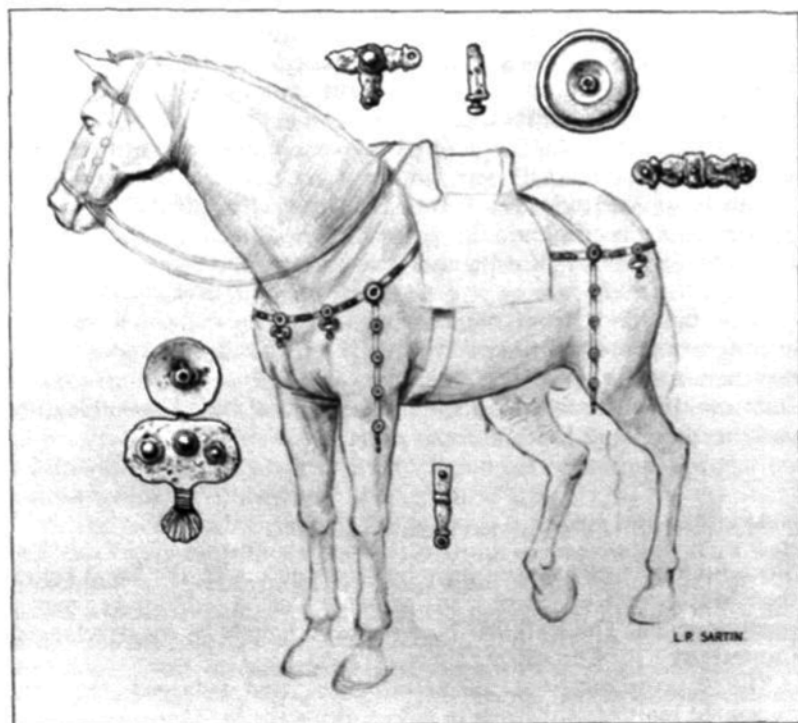


Fig. 1. Some of the early Roman Horse Fittings found on the Marlow Site in 1979, with a Reconstruction of their Position on a Horse.

*insula* containing the Public Baths to the north from that containing the Theatre to the south.

The first phase of the Baths appears to have included a swimming pool set in an open courtyard and surrounded by a part-timber/part-masonry portico. Draining from the south-western corner of the pool was a substantial brick and *opus signinum*-lined drain, which later incorporated a large lead pipe. To the west of the *piscina* and flushed by the drain, was a possible latrine. (Fig. 2).

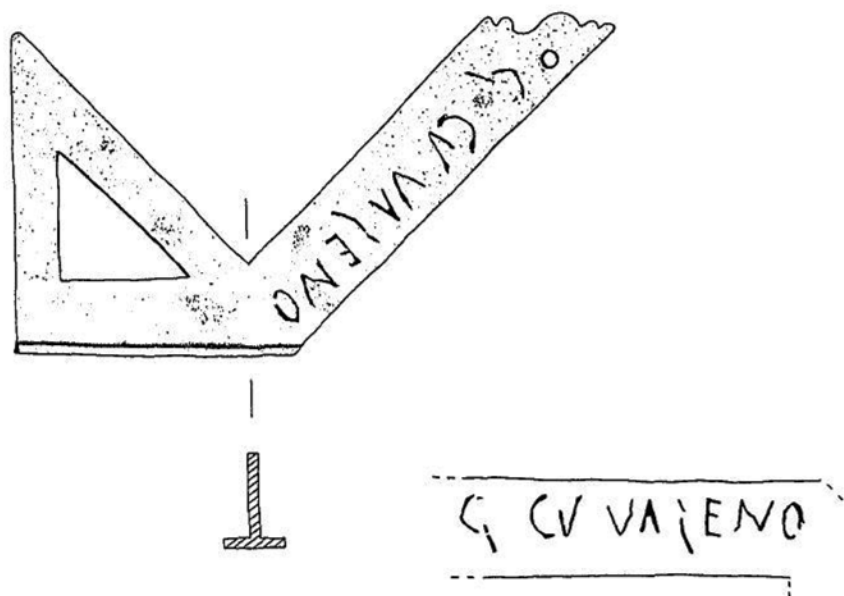


Fig. 2. Roman bronze Carpenter's Square found on the 16 Watling Street Site in 1978. (Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$ ) (Drawn by Gill Hulse)

The *piscina* was backfilled with rubble sometime before the mid-third century when a large *tepidarium* replaced it. The portico was widened just after the construction of the *tepidarium*, when the inner timber wall was replaced by a more substantial flint and tile-coursed wall. At the same time a large yellow brick-lined sewer was inserted down the south side of the street. The *tepidarium* ceased to function sometime during the first half of the fourth century A.D. when the *pilae* and upper floor were removed.

The portico survived with minor alterations into the fourth century A.D. when it was extended (in timber) over the street up to the sewer. Throughout its life, the sewer had periodically choked and spewed silt

into the portico. The final silt deposit sealed the street and was overlain by the timber extension – preserving the faint traces of the planked floor. Detailed structural elements of the building were preserved, and it appears to have been a timber verandah with planked floor, narrow corridor and internal partitions perhaps for shops or stalls. This building was in turn modified and finally cut through by a Saxon sunken-floored hut. Two other possible sunken-floored huts were recovered; one inside the crumbling remains of the masonry portico, the other overlying a series of fourth century A.D. timber buildings inside the shell of the Baths complex.

During the twelfth century the walls of the portico and bath-house were robbed of much of their stone. The trenches left by the portico robbers were used as rubbish dumps to the rear of the properties fronting St. Margaret's Street. A complex sequence of rubbish pits followed the back-filled robber trenches during the twelfth-thirteenth centuries implying that the alignment of the Roman walls was perpetuated in less substantial property boundaries of the medieval period.

The rubbish pits were sealed by a group of late-medieval tenements down either side of a narrow cobbled lane, which followed a similar east-west alignment to the Roman street. The medieval lane was in turn fossilized in the entry to the stable block of the Royal Fountain Hotel – one of Canterbury's premier coaching inns.

At the time of writing, November 1979, the third area of the Marlowe Car Park is being stripped by machine. The continuation of the east-west Roman street has been located in the base of a Victorian cellar, and Professor Frere's trenches through the Rose yard town house are currently being uncovered.

KEVIN BLOCKLEY and MARION DAY

### 3. No. 3 Beer Cart Lane

The excavation at 3 Beer Cart Lane was undertaken in advance of the construction of a new office block, and was financed by the developer, Messrs. Wiltshier's of Canterbury. The excavation produced a remarkable sequence of levels up against Beer Cart Lane, including not only more evidence of the large colonnaded enclosure found during excavations at 76-79 Castle Street next door, but also evidence for continuous building on the road frontage from the twelfth century to the present day.

The archaeological deposits investigated on this site were similar to those found in the 1976 and 1978 excavations at 76-79 Castle Street.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup>See *Arch. Cant.*, xci (1976), 238-40 and *Arch. Cant.*, xciv (1978), 275-77.

The present site is to the north-east of this and separated from it only by a wall. The earliest levels, dating from the first to the fourth century A.D., consisted of a sequence of courtyard metallings. The courtyards are known to be within the large colonnaded enclosure found during the excavation on 76-79 Castle Street. Associated with the primary courtyard level and found only at the road frontage of the site was a Roman wall. This wall, aligned roughly east-west, was too narrow to be part of a large structure, but may well be an annexe or outbuilding associated with a larger building. The wall had been demolished during the Roman period and was sealed by at least two courtyards. Contemporary with the final courtyard and overlying the earlier wall, was a large D-shaped water tank, possibly a fountain. Two narrow trenches sealed by the final metalling probably contained wooden water-pipes supplying the tank or fountain; a number of circular iron rings found in these trenches were almost certainly used for linking sections of wooden pipe. The late Roman deposits were sealed by a 10-15 cm. layer of black loam, which may have accumulated during a protracted period of abandonment.

Sealing the black loam was a thick deposit of 'turned over' soil containing a mixture of eighth to eleventh century pottery. The nature of the deposit suggests some sort of agricultural activity during the Saxo-Norman period.

Overlying these deposits at the frontage of Beer Cart Lane was the edge of a street metalling aligned roughly east-west. The street, probably established in the late Saxon period, was a major road leading to London, which continued in use until the fourteenth century. A number of eleventh century rubbish pits cut through the road and its associated horizon.

In the late eleventh or twelfth century two flimsy timber buildings were constructed on the site. The boundaries of these buildings remained fixed for the next 800 years. By the end of the twelfth or early thirteenth century these structures had been rebuilt as small hall-houses, each with a central hearth and with their walls resting on ground beams. In the thirteenth or fourteenth century the halls were again rebuilt, with small mortared flint and chalk dwarf walls supporting the plates for the timber frame of the houses. In the fifteenth century one house was demolished and rebuilt, probably as two road frontage shops with an adjoining chalk-block cellar and garderobe. The surviving hall-house and the shops were eventually demolished in about the early seventeenth century and three small timber-framed cottages were built on the site. In the eighteenth century the cottages were converted into workshops. The final phase of development occurred in the nineteenth century when a new set of workshops was constructed, arranged on either side of a central



driveway. These structures survived until about ten years before the present, at which time they were 'L.T. Dadds - Builders Merchants'.

PAUL BENNETT

#### 4. *The Canterbury Bypass* (N.G.R. TR 143561)

The construction of the Canterbury bypass began in April 1977. During the stripping of topsoil prior to the processes of deep-cutting, levelling and consolidation, a small volunteer team led by the writer and Mr. W. McLaughlin, kept a 'watching brief' on the work. The dry summer greatly facilitated the work of the contractors but has, because of the speed of development and the dry soil conditions, made the locating of archaeological sites very difficult. No financial support was given to the Trust by the Department of the Environment or Kent County Council to enable full-time observation to be undertaken, which is essential if new sites are to be located and examined before they are destroyed.<sup>5</sup>

To date, only one major site has been found. This was situated between Hollow Lane and Stuppington Lane just above the 50 m. contour, overlooking and one mile to the south of central Canterbury. The area was known to be potentially important as the Roman road from Lympne to Canterbury (Stone Street) should cross the line of the bypass at this point. No trace of this road was found during the thorough investigation of the site; centuries of ploughing and the natural weathering of the hilltop may have destroyed all trace of it. However, it is possible that future cuttings for the bypass farther to the east may reveal its location.

A large number of Iron Age, Belgic, Roman and post-medieval pits and ditches, together with traces of possible timber buildings, two possible iron-working furnaces and a Roman pottery kiln were excavated. All features were directly sealed by a thick deposit of topsoil. No horizontal stratigraphy survived on the site. All the excavated features, with the exception of the kiln, were extremely shallow, though in many instances quite large. Only traces of two possible furnace floors were found during the excavation. The overall impression was one of a heavily reduced horizon, with only the sumps of the more deeply cut features surviving. This observation reinforces the assumption that the top of the hill may have been eroded by natural weathering and the long history of agricultural activity in the area.

A large collection of Iron Age and Roman pottery was recovered from the pits and ditches. The Roman kiln, the best-preserved feature

<sup>5</sup> Kent County Council have recently made a grant towards the cost of publishing the material found during the bypass construction.

on the site, contained a mass of semi-fired pots. The kiln may well have been mis-fired and abandoned by the potter, complete with its contents.

PAUL BENNETT

### *5. The Almonry Chapel Site, Christ Church Priory*

The excavation in the Mint Yard of Christ Church Priory was undertaken in advance of the construction of a new 'day boys' house for the King's School. The work, which is still in progress, is being paid for by the King's School.

A very interesting sequence of Saxon deposits, together with the remains of the twelfth-century Almonry, the rebuilt fourteenth century Almonry Chapel and the use of the Chapel from the later sixteenth century by the King's School, has been investigated.

The earliest deposits excavated so far are later Saxon, and consist of a sequence of rough courtyards; at least two timber structures have been found in association with the metallings. Sealing these deposits is a thick layer of black soil containing Saxo-Norman material. Cutting through this deposit was a number of eleventh and twelfth century rubbish- and cess-pits. These were probably associated with the period when the area was open ground behind a row of tenement properties on the east side of The Borough and the outer boundary of the Priory. (Fig. 3).

Levels associated with the construction of the mid-twelfth century Almonry sealed this horizon. These deposits mainly consisted of redeposited soil from the cutting of deep foundations for the south and east walls of the building. Very few traces of the original structure survive, as the building was demolished and the ground surface reduced during redevelopment in the fourteenth century. The mortared flint sub-foundations of the south and east walls did survive, as they were re-used when the Almonry was rebuilt as an Almonry Chapel from 1324-8. No trace of a masonry north wall for the structure was found. It is possible that this was made entirely of timber, supported on a ground beam. If this interpretation of the surviving stratigraphy is correct, the Almonry Hall would have been a very long, narrow building with an overall length of perhaps 40 m. (132 ft.) and a width of only 3.35m. (11 ft.). Fragments of a stone drain were found to the north of the estimated position of the possible timber north wall. The drain may have been an eaves-drip taking rainwater from the roof of the building. Fragments of original clay floor were found in the interior of the building, together with a number of stake- and post-holes for internal partitions. Thousands of fish and small animal bones were recovered from the floors; these were perhaps residue from meals

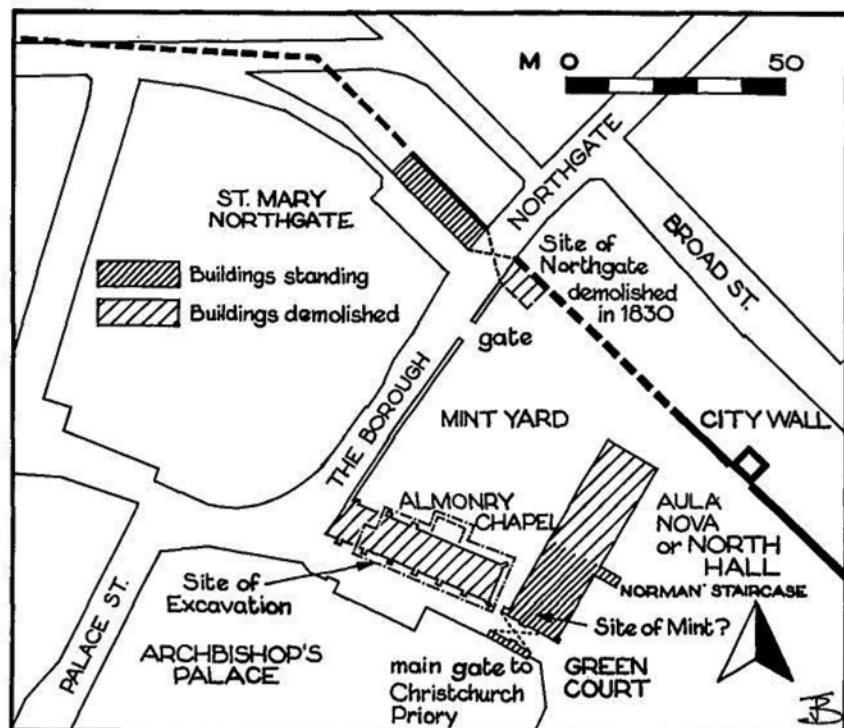


Fig. 3. Plan of the Mint Yard Area inside the Northgate, Canterbury, showing the Site of the Almonry Chapel Excavation.

served to the poor and sick by the monks of the Priory. To the north of the drain was a sequence of rough pebble metallings, for an open yard outside the Almonry.

Sealing and to a large degree cutting away the Almonry levels were the remains of the Almonry Chapel built by Prior Henry of Eastry between 1324-8 and dedicated on its completion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Thomas of Canterbury. A staff of six priests (under a Dean) were installed to administer to the poor and needy, and to celebrate masses daily for the souls of Kings Edward I and II and Archbishops Lanfranc and Winchelsey. The chapel was demolished to its foundations in 1859 and no original floor levels survived. The remaining foundations were badly disturbed by a large number of modern service trenches. The south and east sub-foundations of the earlier Almonry were re-used for the construction of the Almonry Chapel foundations, but the overall width of the new building was made twice that of its predecessor. Six exterior buttresses were evenly spaced along the length of both the north and south walls, with

diagonal buttresses added to each corner. The body of the chapel was divided into two aisles and these were separated by piers, possibly carrying an arcade. The original entrance to the building was probably by way of a door at the east end of the north aisle. A second door, with an external pentice, was later added to the north wall at the east end. Access to the chapel was from an open yard to the north (the Mint Yard). Entrance into the yard was gained by means of a gateway from The Borough; this gate was rebuilt in 1546 (dated bricks still survive), and was finally blocked in the nineteenth century.

Documentary evidence indicates that a hall existed at the west end of the chapel, where the six priests 'dined at a common table'. No trace of this partitioning of the chapel was found during the excavation. The wall and floors of the hall were probably removed when the chapel was converted into a school in the sixteenth century.

Upon the dissolution of the Cathedral Priory in 1540 the chapel became Royal property. In 1557, it was given by Queen Mary to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Cardinal Pole, and he started to have it fitted out as an archiepiscopal chapel. On his death in 1558 the chapel was leased to the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral to be held for 50 years at a peppercorn rent 'for the sole purpose and intention that they should find and maintain therein a school, in which boys should receive instruction and good learning'. In 1573 the Almonry chapel became a school room and dormitory for the King's School.

On the ground level, the original medieval floors were removed and the body of the chapel was subdivided into small rooms, probably for storage. A second floor was installed and this became a long open schoolroom. The dormitory was contained above the schoolroom in the apex of the roof. The area which was formerly the Priests' hall at the west end of the building, was converted into the headmaster's house. Two timber-and-brick extensions were built onto the exterior of the north wall and contained a kitchen with cellars on the ground floor and a staircase giving access to the schoolroom. The second timber-and-brick structure was situated at the west end of the north wall, and was only partially within the excavated area; this was a master's house.

By 1859 the King's School had expanded over much of the north-west of the Priory grounds and the dilapidated chapel was finally demolished.

PAUL BENNETT

#### 6. 35 St. Margaret's Street

Brief excavations were carried out by the Trust in the cellar of 35 St. Margaret's Street, during March 1979. Messrs. Marco and Dereck

Cabaldi, of Bressingham Consortium Ltd., kindly gave permission to excavate in advance of the lowering of the cellar floor to create a basement bistro.

The excavations were carried out to recover evidence of occupation of the south side of the street located below the Marlowe Car Park. The projected line of the street would run through the cellar of 'Hop Kweng', the restaurant occupying the adjacent building. The brick floor to the cellar, 7 ft. below the present street surface, immediately overlay a fine sequence of Roman timber-framed shops, which in turn sealed an early furnace set in an open courtyard.

Of particular significance was a presumed enameller's workshop dating from the first quarter of the second century A.D. Two phases of bowl hearths and key-hole shaped ovens were located in one room, the timber partitions of which were set on clay sills. Perhaps, the bowl hearths were used to smelt bronze to cast brooches, whereas the ovens may have been used to fuse the ground enamel frit to the blanks. Two small crucibles containing red and dark green enamel, plus a large lump of mineral, traces of fragmentary bronze, glass and fine ash deposits from the workshop floor are at present being analysed by Dr Justine Bayley, of the Ancient Monuments Laboratory, following a visit by Miss Sarnia Butcher, of the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments. Thanks are due to both for their help.

MARION DAY

### 7. *Canterbury Cathedral*

In March 1979, the concrete floor at the western end of the great western crypt of Canterbury Cathedral was removed prior to the building of new brick piers for the show-cases of a new exhibition. The opportunity was taken at this time to clean up and examine the foundation walls of this part of the crypt, which were probably built soon after 1096<sup>6</sup> by Prior Ernulf. We also drew and studied in detail the western wall of the crypt (see Fig. 4), which has long been known to contain some odd features, and tried to establish the relationship of this wall to Ernulf's crypt. Our work was extremely fruitful, as the excavation showed that the western wall was quite clearly earlier than Ernulf's crypt. The foundations of this wall and the pier-base foundations in the corner angles were built from a lower level than (and were cut by) the foundations of Ernulf's crypt. This wall must belong therefore to Lanfranc's crypt,<sup>7</sup> which had three equal-width bays from north to south unlike the later crypt with its wider central

<sup>6</sup>See R. Willis, *The Architectural History of Canterbury Cathedral* (1845).

<sup>7</sup>It is certainly not earlier, as Gilbert states in *Arch Cant.*, lxxviii (1973), 46.

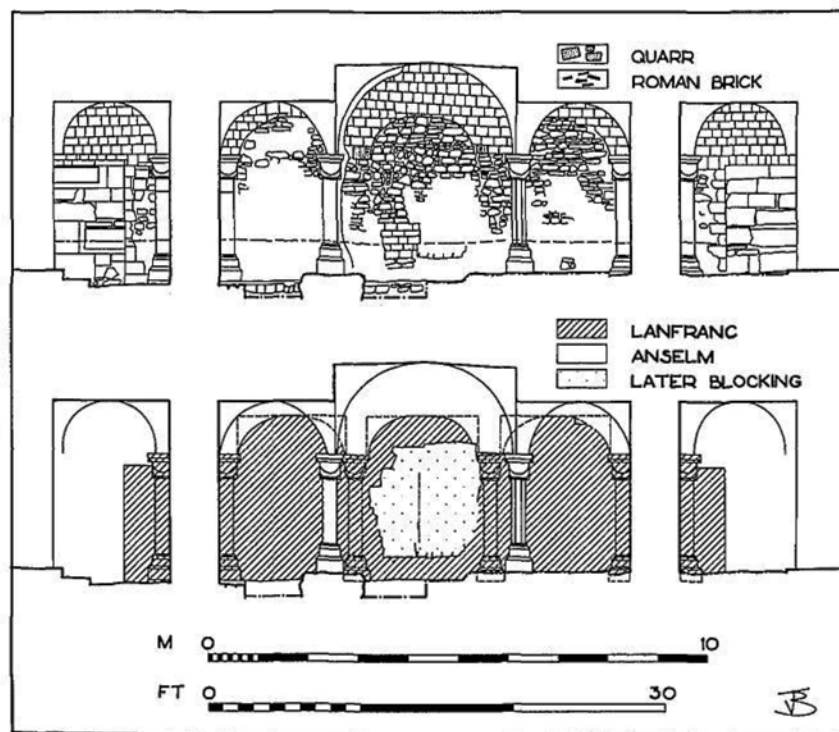


Fig. 4. Elevation of the western Wall of the great western Crypt of Canterbury Cathedral with, below, the Interpretation. (Note: The portions on either side are the north and south return walls.)

bay. It is thus possible to prove for the first time the existence of Lanfranc's crypt, which would have been built soon after 1070 and is therefore the earliest Norman crypt in England. Fig. 4 shows, above, the western wall as it appears today, while below is our interpretation of it. The upper part of the wall consists of ashlar work of Caen (with two pieces of Quarr stone)<sup>8</sup> and this is clearly a heightening of the wall once the Lanfranc vaults had been demolished. It is also clear that the two columns and capitals in the corners are Lanfranc capitals in their original position, hence their odd relationship to the later Ernulf vaults. In the centre of the walls is the remains of a blocked-up doorway. This was probably a central entrance to both Lanfranc's and Ernulf's crypts and was perhaps blocked in the early fifteenth century when the great pulpitum screen above was built.

<sup>8</sup>See T. Tatton-Brown 'The Use of Quarr Stone in London & East Kent' *Medieval Archaeology* (forthcoming).

In November 1979, a second small excavation was undertaken for the Dean and Chapter outside the south-west corner of St. Gabriel's chapel.<sup>9</sup> A remarkable sequence was discovered. In the lowest level excavated, a Roman mosaic covered nearly the whole of the bottom of the trench. Cutting diagonally across it was a roughly east-west wall foundation which predated the 1096 crypt foundation and is therefore either late Saxon or very early Norman. Cut into the top of this wall were two large post-holes, which are clearly for scaffold poles to build the Ernulfian choir. A third post-hole (clearly a part of the same series) even contained a large lump of Quarr stone in the bottom as a base for the post.<sup>10</sup> Overlying the above wall foundation and running roughly north-south was the foundation of the wall (built in the mid-twelfth century and demolished c. 1850), which divided the lay and the monastic cemeteries. Overlying all these were the remains of various inhumation burials from the Cathedral cemetery and, finally, cutting right across the trench was the great sixteenth-seventeenth century brick, barrel-vaulted drain which is still in use today.

TIM TATTON-BROWN

#### 8. *Other sites*

Among various other brief excavations carried out during the year, two other sites should be mentioned. In the spring of 1979, Paul Bennett managed to record two Roman cremation burials (a collection of five pots was rescued) on the site of the Invicta Service Station in Wincheap. A full report will appear in *Archaeologia Cantiana* next year.

Finally work is still in progress in the Poor Priests Hospital, Canterbury, where rebuilding for a new museum is taking place. A grant for £500 for this work has been made by the Kent Archaeological Society and a full report will also be made next year. In this very important fourteenth-century building, the Trust will be making a complete record of all upstanding remains as well as excavating various areas below ground which will be damaged by service trenches, new foundations, etc.

TIM TATTON-BROWN

#### A SKETCH-PLAN OF BOXLEY ABBEY

In the last volume of *Arch. Cant.* (xciv, 1978) I published a note regarding a rough sketch-plan of the Abbey made about 1898. Unfortunately, the caption under Fig. 1 on page 258 was not printed in

<sup>9</sup>For a note on the earlier trench, see *Arch. Cant.*, xciv (1978), 278.

<sup>10</sup>See note 8, above

full and the numerals occurring on the plan were therefore unexplained. They indicate the positions of handwritten notes on the original plan, reading as follows: (1) Modern Garden Wall. (2) Tiled floor. (3) Remains of Sedilia. (4) Tiled floor. (5) Modern tunnel. (6) Aisle filled with rubble. (7) Best & Payne's proposed wall. (8) Norman doorway. (9) Doorway filled with canopy of tomb. (10) Window. (11) Tracery of west window here. (12) Slab of coffin. (13) Garden wall on church wall. (14) Sleeper wall. (15) Dotted lines restoration.

P. J. TESTER

(My apologies for this oversight. (Ed.))

#### BENJAMIN HARRISON - THREE UNPUBLISHED LETTERS

Benjamin Harrison (1837-1921), the village grocer of Ightham, achieved fame as an amateur archaeologist and collector of stone implements. He met or corresponded with some of the most eminent archaeologists and geologists of his time, such as Professor Sir Joseph Prestwich, A. M. Bell and W. J. Lewis Abbott, all three of whom encouraged him in his claim to have discovered in the drifts of the chalk plateau of the North Downs implements which he named 'eoliths' and were thought by some authorities to be the earliest artifacts then known. Although eoliths are now considered to have been formed by natural agencies and have become something of an archaeological curiosity,<sup>1</sup> the controversy surrounding them at one time split the scientific world.

Benjamin Harrison's biography<sup>2</sup> was written by his son, Sir Edward Harrison, who for many years was the President of the Kent Archaeological Society. Filial piety shines through the work which is based largely on Harrison's note-books and correspondence. As the author remarks, the note-books 'consist almost wholly of dry facts and express little of his thoughts and feelings'<sup>3</sup> while the published letters whether they are written by Harrison or by his distinguished correspondents are also concerned mainly with matters of factual interest. The book therefore contains a full record of Harrison's scientific achievements, but is less successful in portraying his personal character. Three unpublished letters written by Harrison late in life, in 1918 and 1919, may do something to remedy this. They were sent to Dr. J. R. Hart, of Constantine Bay, Padstow, Cornwall, when he was in his teens. The writer is grateful to Dr. Hart for permission to publish

<sup>1</sup> E. S. Wood, *Collins Field Guide to Archaeology*, 1963, 43 & 254.

<sup>2</sup> E. R. Harrison, *Harrison of Ightham*, Cambridge, 1928.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 60.



these letters and for providing information about the circumstances in which they came to be written.

As a youth Dr. Hart became interested in archaeology and noticed in the summer of 1918, when he was sixteen, an advertisement by Harrison in 'My Magazine'<sup>4</sup> offering flints for sale in aid of the Kentish Prisoners of War Fund.<sup>5</sup> He sent a postal order for half-a-crown and received from Harrison a number of flakes. The following letter dated 28th September, 1918, accompanied the parcel.

'D. Sir,

Neolithic arrow-heads are very scarce, but I forward one, not quite perfect, but good enough to be hafted in a cleft stick and used.

The implements referred to in My Magazine are what are named eoliths or the dawn of the Stone Age.

I select one wolsely<sup>6</sup> No. 8 which for side work closely tallies with the neolithic example.

Wolsely No.10 it will be seen has a brown edge trimmed at "a", and used as a scraper for wood or bone.

You will hear more about these rude early ones in the second paper by Mr. Mee to appear shortly in My Magazine.

I remain,  
Yours truly,  
B. Harrison

The two specimen "Wolsely" ones come from my highest levels at 770 O.D.<sup>7</sup> and are then of great importance in working out my plateau world, of which you will hear more in the next paper.

Ightham, Sep. 28, 1918'

The day after receiving this letter Dr. Hart found in his parents' garden what he thought might be an arrowhead and he sent it to Harrison for identification. The following undated letter was sent by Harrison in reply.

<sup>4</sup> *My Magazine* was edited by Arthur Mee; it later changed its name to *The Children's Newspaper*, J. R. Hart, personal communication.

<sup>5</sup> Harrison is stated, Harrison, *op. cit.* in note 2, 355, to have sold some of his own verses in aid of 'a fund for sending cigarettes to our Tommies at the front'. 'Kentish Prisoners' of War Fund' is doubtless the correct description.

<sup>6</sup> Harrison's collection was enormous so he adopted the practice of labelling boxes of implements with personal names of no scientific interest to enable him to identify particular specimens quickly, Harrison, *op. cit.*, 39. The 'Wolsely' box would have been named after Field Marshall Sir Garnet Wolseley Bt. (1833-1913), the victor of Tel el Kebir (1882), the leader of the Gordon relief expedition, Commander-in-Chief from 1895 to 1905, and the prototype of W. S. Gilbert's Major-General Stanley in the 'Pirates of Penzance'.

<sup>7</sup> At Terry's Lodge, Exedown, Fawkham, Harrison, *op. cit.*, 113 etc.

'This is an interesting specimen and has been turned on both faces, on the bulbed and unbulbed.

Some would class it as Neolithic, but from the gloss as well as the work along both sides others would class it as Aurignacian.

Keep an open eye for others, for the world is full of such small ones, – but most folk only are impressed by giants, – but tiny ones are equally important.

Some folk see beauty in a mountain, and nothing in the costume of a lady, or to vary the simile, fail to find the beauty of a dimple and only in a Roman nose. So look out for the dimple.

It will be noted it bears a bulb of concussion on the struck face.

I send you some to study this hall-mark of man.

Yours truly,  
B. Harrison'

Ightham

The third letter which is also undated appears to have been written early in 1919 after his young correspondent had sent more of his finds for identification.

'I have been laid by and "my museum" placed out of bounds so it was impossible for me to look through my stones.

I was caught by the frost (22 degrees) and had to call in my doctor, am now better, but the wet conditions prevent any walks being taken, for the land is soddened.

Else I fully intended purposely going out to search for you. Some of these found (& secured) since your parcel came. I forward a tip of a Palaeolith from Milton St. Thames gravels – now very hard to get as the pit is closed.<sup>8</sup> Some Neoliths – one good scraper and an unfinished arrow-head.

My wife has been invalided for 14½ years, but can play a game of Crib – Cards are not to be obtained here, so as our pack is "vile" through long use if you gave me a pack I shall be satisfied.

Your flints have been struck off, but do not show the bulb of percussion, so I forward flakes for you to study as the bulb is the hall-mark of man.

I remain,  
Yours truly,  
B. Harrison

Ightham, Kent

<sup>8</sup> Harrison collected implements here in 1889, Harrison, *op. cit.*, 150. He turned down a request by Sir Joseph Prestwich to return in 1891 as the distance to Greenhithe was too far, *ibid.*, 162–163.

P.S. To fill up space I add some more –

My tobacco pouch is a mass of shreds and lets the weed out in my pocket, so if you can send me one I will send more relics – Found specially for you so soon as I can pace the fields. We hope to get Spring ere long, but at present field pacing is out of the question.'

These letters show that Harrison continued to believe in eoliths as heralding 'the dawn of the Stone Age' until the end of his life. His illustration of an eolith which accompanied the first letter (not reproduced) fails, however, to support the claim that the stone is a scraper. It appears to the writer to possess no recognizable function and the chipping is at right angles to the face which is uncharacteristic of an artifact; in both respects it is typical of the eoliths in the Harrison Collection at the Maidstone Museum. The bulb of percussion test referred to in the last two letters as 'the hall-mark of man' works well for flint, but Harrison was unfortunately unable to apply it to his eoliths which were almost invariably derived from chert gravel.

The letters illustrate the man's home-spun quality which the biography misses. They also furnish evidence that in his old age Harrison was anxious to pass on his knowledge to others, particularly the young, and did so through the medium of a children's magazine; the biography is silent on this beneficent activity.

F. D. JOHNS

#### SEVENOAKS DISTRICT ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

Since preparation of the introductory note concerning this new scheme published in the last volume of *Archaeologia Cantiana*, the year to August 1979 has been an extremely busy one for a variety of reasons. Not the least of these has been the administrative task of establishing arrangements geared to future needs and capabilities in the light of financial and other support given or promised. Other principal activities have been as follows:

##### *Otford Palace*

As a result of representations to the Department of the Environment, a very much larger area comprising the site of the palace buildings and adjacent appurtenances has been accorded Ancient Monument scheduling.

That part of the surviving range of buildings which is occupied as three-terraced cottages has been giving rise to considerable concern. In 1977 Sevenoaks District Council, as owners, were refused consent to

insert a series of french-windows for these cottages in the splendid early-sixteenth-century arcaded brickwork of their south elevation. Without local knowledge, the Council thereupon arranged a site meeting with representatives of the Department of the Environment at which a compromise plan for the opening-up of doorways in the same wall was agreed and this plan received statutory consent. When details were subsequently divulged to Otford Parish Council, enquiries elicited that the proposed doorways were unnecessary from the point of view of tenants' amenities and a campaign was launched to have them deleted from the Sevenoaks District Council's otherwise-commendable scheme of improvements for the dwellings. This campaign, now in its third year, continues to be time-consuming. It has the active support of the Kent Archaeological Society, the Otford & District Historical Society, the Parish Council and the local amenity society; the case has recently been taken up by the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. Objections are based not only on intrinsic damage to Tudor work (which would not necessarily be very great) but on the effect the existence of such doorways can be expected to have on the present attractive appearance of the range as a whole. The doors would open directly on to a prominently-visible strip of uncultivated land alongside the palace buildings which could readily deteriorate into a 'backyard' condition, spoiling and possibly impeding the view of the cloister-arcading that represents the finest and most unusual architectural feature on the whole site. As yet, Sevenoaks District Council remain adamant and the only encouraging sign is that at the time of writing no further move has been made to carry out this threat.

### *Emergency Recording*

Much time has been devoted during the year to the detailed recording of several houses undergoing restoration and alterations, where contractors' operations were resulting in early timber framing being fully exposed, usually only temporarily and sometimes in too decayed a condition for preservation. The most rewarding case led to the discovery of a hitherto-unsuspected medieval hall-house encased in Chapel Alley Cottages, Shoreham. Naturally, such unique opportunities must always take priority and the information yielded is far more complete than that obtainable in the ordinary way. Each of these houses will form the subject of a forthcoming study.

In the circumstances it is hardly surprising that it proved impracticable to produce any completed studies during the year, though work on the first is now well in hand. Further buildings have

been inspected to assess their merits, and advice has been given to owners, architects and builders in cases of alteration or restoration; clearly, these will be regular functions of the scheme throughout its operation.

It has been agreed with the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England) that suitably-annotated copies of all measured drawings will be deposited in the National Buildings Record.

ANTHONY D. STOYEL

### THREE BURIALS FROM ST. MARGARET'S STREET, ROCHESTER

Following a newspaper report, in June 1979, of the discovery of a human skeleton at 61 St. Margaret's Street, Rochester, the writers investigated the site. It was realized that any burials found in this site might belong to the Anglo-Saxon cemetery discovered in 1895 at the south-western corner of Watts Avenue, 75 yards to the north of the present site.<sup>1</sup>

On arrival at the site, we were informed that two skeletons had been found and that both had been taken away by the police. One of the graves (Grave 1) had not been completely emptied, and part of the femurs and both lower legs were *in situ*. About 18 in. to the west of this grave, the writers found a third burial intact (Fig. 1). The bones taken away by the police were recovered for examination.

The surface of the ground which contained the burials is about 9 ft. above the pavement level. A retaining wall, dating from the last century, flanks the western side of this ground and has been 'trench-built' into it. All the graves were about 4 ft. from the present surface and were dug into what was originally a shallow gully or terrace in the chalk bed-rock. The soil above the graves represents the post-burial accumulation in the gully. Graves 1 and 3 were resting on the surface of the chalk and had been cut through 8 in. of topsoil and 14 in. of chalky subsoil; slight mounds were visible over both graves. Grave 2 had been dug into the chalk to a depth of about 2 ft. and was topped by a prominent mound of subsoil.

Unfortunately, a proper excavation of Grave 3 was not possible because the grave was half-way up a steep cutting and because of possible damage to the neighbouring garden; however, the grave was uncovered as far as the pelvis.

Grave measurements are given in the order: length, width, depth. The depth measurements are taken from the top of the original topsoil.

Grave 1. Dug out by police. 6 ft. x 2 ft. x 1 ft. 10 in. Complete skeleton, extended on back. Lying north to south, head to the south,

<sup>1</sup> *Arch. Cant.*, xxi (1895), lv; xxii (1897), liv; xxiv (1900), liv; *Coll. Cant.*, 121; *VCH (Kent)*, i (1932), 376; *PSAL*, xviii (1899-1901), 78.

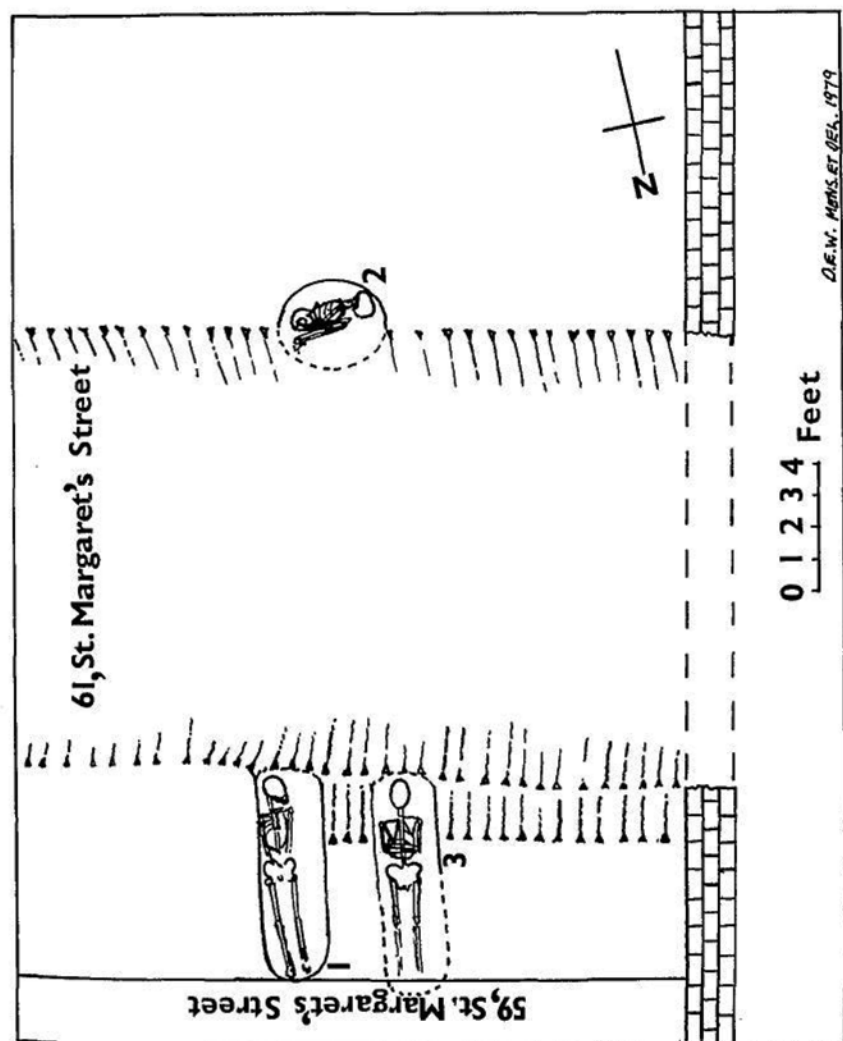


Fig. 1. Burials at St. Margaret's Street, Rochester

face turned towards the west. Young adult male, age about 20–30 years. Height about 5 ft. 10 in. Iron slag fragment by legs.<sup>2</sup>

Grave 2. Dug out by police. 3 ft. 3 in. x 3 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in. Complete skeleton. Lying on left side, knees drawn up to chest. Lying east to west, head to west. Young female, age about 16–20 years. Height about 5 ft. 4 in. No finds.

Grave 3. About 6 ft. x 2 ft. x 1 ft. 10 in. Complete skeleton, extended, face down, fore-arms across back. Lying north to south, head to south. Young adult male, age about 20–25 years. Fragment of Roman tile by head.

The latter is the most interesting of the group. The fore-arms crossed the back at right-angles to the upper arms and were parallel with each other. The arms appeared to have been bound together.<sup>3</sup> Overlying parts of the body, especially in the pelvic region, were several large flints. These did not seem to have been placed on the body but may have formed part of the mound over the grave.<sup>4</sup> It is possible that the positioning of the body, together with the possibility that the arms were bound, could have been thought of as an effective way of preventing the dead man's 'spirit' disturbing the living. This idea has been fully discussed elsewhere.<sup>5</sup>

We are grateful for the assistance of Messrs. J. A. Poulton Ltd., and their foreman, Mr. A. Pleasance.

D. E. WILLIAMS and P. R. PAYNE

#### TWO PALAEOLITHIC FLINT TOOLS FOUND IN THE LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY

During 1978 two flint tools (Fig. 2) of the Palaeolithic period were brought to the K.A.S. local secretary, London Borough of Bromley, with requests for further information about them.

The first (Flint A) was found by Mr. B. H. Taylor on the surface of an allotment site at The Avenue, Bickley, approx. N.G.R. TQ 433693. The drift map for this area shows a pocket of London Clay 300 feet surrounded by protrusions of disturbed Blackheath Beds.

The second (Flint B) was found by Mr. N. H. Hayward in the garden of his home at 144 Worlds End Lane, Chelsfield, approx. N.G.R. TQ

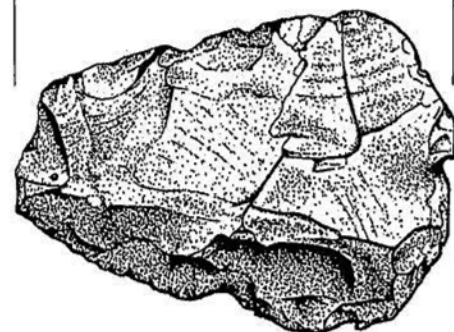
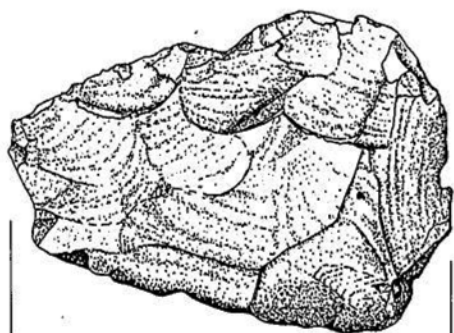
<sup>2</sup> Although the estimated height and fairly prominent supraorbital ridges suggest a male, the mastoid processes of the temporal bone are small and the sciatic notches seem rather wide; these are characteristics of a female.

<sup>3</sup> *Arch. Cant.*, lxxix (1955), 16.

<sup>4</sup> *Arch. Cant.*, lxxxiii (1968), 138.

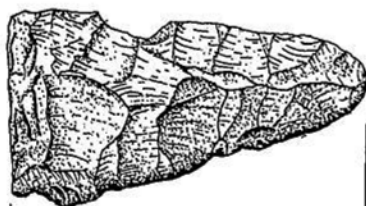
<sup>5</sup> A. L. Meaney and S. C. Hawkes, *Two Anglo-Saxon Cemeteries at Winnal, Soc. Med. Arch.*, Monograph 4 (1970), 30.

FLINT A



0 1 2 3 CMS

FLINT B



0 1 2 3 CMS

Fig. 2.



468633. The drift map for this area shows Upper Chalk 320 feet – white chalk with bands of flint and outcrops of disturbed Blackheath Beds.

Both flints were taken to Miss Jean MacDonald, of the Museum of London, who in turn passed them on to Mr. D. M. Collins, M.A.

Mr. Collins has very kindly prepared the following report:

#### Flint A.

This is a handaxe; it is flaked on both surfaces, but one is flatter than the other. The tip is squared, possibly due to breakage. Sides and base are somewhat irregular for a tool of this kind, again damage since manufacture seems likely. The handaxe is of roughly cordiform shape and its most distinctive feature is the squareness of the butt and the evident corners at either end of the butt. This shape is distinctive and the type in question has been called a Paxton type handaxe (Collins and Collins, 1970) or "bout coupé".

Such handaxes are believed to be characteristic of the British early Mousterian, or Paxton stage. This is the early part of the Mousterian of Acheulian Tradition (Bordes, 1968). A further point of interest is the whitish patina, with a tendency to mottling of blue and white. This is extremely rare in Acheulian handaxes, but almost the rule in Paxton handaxes from all over southern Britain. The patina of flint A is indistinguishable from that of Oldbury "rock shelter" (Collins and Collins, 1970), and such a white patinated series is found stratified above the Acheulian at Yiewsley. (Collins, 1978.)

#### Flint B.

This is a leaf or foliate point, broken in half. Now measuring  $7\frac{1}{2}$  cm., it was probably originally about 13 cm. long. The retouch over both surfaces is of finely achieved flat flakes, but shows no definite sign of pressure flaking.

Such foliate pieces are found in the Neolithic, but would not normally be smoothed and patinated in the manner of Flint B. The piece is also rather large to be Solutrian. The most likely explanation is that it belongs to the foliate assemblage type of the beginning of the north European Upper Palaeolithic – Szeletian and related cultures. These are known in several parts of Britain (Campbell, 1977), and are dated to the 25,000 to 35,000 B.C. time range.

Both Flint A and Flint B exhibit orange stripes where the plough-share has scraped across them, and they almost certainly come from the plough soil.'

The writer would like to thank Mr. Collins for the report and also Mr. J. J. Thatcher, B.A., who prepared the drawings. Both flints are currently in the possession of the finders.

I. W. C. BOUSKILL

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A RE-ASSESSMENT OF SOME FEATURES OF THE MEDIEVAL HOUSE IN  
 THE JOYDEN'S WOOD SQUARE EARTHWORK

In *Arch. Cant.*, lxxii (1958) the present writer published, in collaboration with the late John Caiger, a report on the excavations carried out in the square earthwork enclosure in Joyden's Wood, between Wilmington and Bexley, shortly before its destruction. A plan was shown and suggestions were made as to the probable form of the buildings once standing on the rubble footings uncovered by our investigation, and for the main part those conclusions are still considered valid. There are, however, a number of minor points now calling for reconsideration in the light of comparable evidence from elsewhere. In the last twenty years a greatly increased interest in medieval domestic architecture has provided a wealth of published material for comparative study not available in 1958.

With regard to the main building, the comparison with Baguley Hall, Cheshire, is misleading, as it is now recognized that it belongs to a tradition quite separate from that obtaining in south-east England in the period c. 1300. Most probably the Joyden's Wood house had quite low side walls judging from remaining halls of that age in southern England. Almost certainly the main open truss across the hall was of base-cruck construction, the rubble projections inside the footings having supported the feet of massive inset posts. Mr. S. E. Rigold has defined base-crucks as 'incurved members supporting a collar', as distinct from straight posts supporting a tie-beam, and he cites instances of their use in Sussex at Dunster's Mill, Ticehurst, and Chennels Brook, near Horsham (*Arch. Cant.*, lxxvii (1962), 34-5). He has also described a fourteenth-century base-cruck hall at Smarden (Hamden) where the eaves were apparently not more than 9 ft. above the ground (*Arch. Cant.*, lxxxii (1967), 251).

At Tiptofts, Essex (c. 1348-67), the principal truss is now recognized to have been an early hammer-beam construction, and a more relevant example of a late-surviving aisled hall would be Nurstead Court, near Gravesend, built in the mid-fourteenth century (M. E. Wood, *The English Medieval House* (1965), 315, 41 and 46).

The short projection inside the entrance of the Joyden's Wood hall, adjoining the porch, indicates the existence of a spere-truss and must

have been matched originally by a corresponding feature on the opposite side. Rising from the end of each projection there would have been a tall post as in a fully aisled hall, the space between these and the side walls being closed to wall-plate level to form screens or speres (M. E. Wood, *op. cit.*, 139-43).

A row of chalk post-settings, or post-hole packings, across the hall, together with similar features shown elsewhere in the plan, may have no relation to the building under consideration, but could be either evidence of an earlier structure on the site or simply traces of a fence erected at an uncertain period. It is my present opinion that it is unlikely that they are evidence of posts supporting the solar as previously suggested. In fact, the fragmentary remains of an internal footing shown at the 'high' end of the hall are taken as evidence of there having been a closed partition separating a chamber at that end of the building - a position usually occupied at a slightly later date by a parlour beneath the solar, as seen in innumerable medieval timber houses. My own observations do not confirm the view that the area beneath the solar was often open to the hall. In a house as early as c. 1300, it is probable that the lower chamber was used as a store with ladder access to the floor above.

In view of this revised description of the solar arrangement, it is no longer necessary to postulate a hood over the hearth, which, in any case, would be an unlikely feature at that period in the south-east of the country.

P. J. TESTER

#### THE DATE OF PHILIP CHUTE'S DEATH

Philip Chute of Hornes Place, Appledore, Kent, Standard Bearer to the Men-at-Arms of the King's Band at the siege of Boulogne 1544-5 and Captain of Camber Castle, Sussex, died on 5th April, 1567, and was buried at Appledore two days later. The object of this note is to show that the date of his death is known and that the year of his death and burial has been incorrectly given as 1566 in earlier volumes of *Archaeologia Cantiana*.

In the last article he contributed in 1937 Dr. William Cock, F.S.A., says (*Arch. Cant.*, xlix (1937), 157) that the burial of Philip Chute is entered as having taken place on April 7th, 1566, in the transcript of the Appledore Register for the year 1566-7, which he had copied twice between 1910 and 1925. Later in the same article he refers to his having arranged for the reinterment of a few fragments of Philip Chute's skeleton. These were all that Dr. Cock discovered in his restoration of Appledore Church in 1925 when he found that the Munk family had broken into his burial place to construct a burial vault for themselves.

In his will, Philip Chute had asked to be buried 'in my chapel in the parish church of Appledore, Kent, and to have a tombstone over me declaring the certayne day and tyme when God called me unto his mercy'. As a pious act, Dr. Cock had a stone placed over the remains and, as he had been unable to find the exact date of his death, he inscribed this 'Philip Chute, Bur<sup>d</sup> 7 April 1566'.

Dr. Cock, in putting 1566 as the year of death, was, almost certainly, much influenced by an earlier article of 1889 – a paper by the Revd. A. J. Pearmain (*Arch. Cant.*, xviii (1889), 58). This included a note found by him in a copy of Harris' History of Kent, belonging to his late friend Mr. Walter of Rainham. 'These notes I copied from the Register of Appledore, 19th October 1723. J. W.—. . . April 7th 1566. Mr. Philip Chute the Captain of Camber Castle was interred'. Mr. Pearmain, not knowing of the existence of the transcripts at Canterbury, thought that he had discovered a note recording one entry, at any rate, from the earliest Appledore Register, lost, alas, sometime after 1787. He added that 'the entry is verified as I have found by a pedigree in the College of Arms'.

Mr. Walter, must, I suggest, have misread the entry and Mr. Pearmain cannot have checked the entry in the pedigree. The Chute pedigree recorded in the College of Arms (NORFOLK 11.80) in 1862 has the following entry 'Philip Chowte of Hornes Place in Appledore co Kent Standard Bearer to the Men at Arms of the Kings Band at the Siege of Boulogne. . . Died 5 and buried at Appledore 7 April 1567'.

Dr. Cock's statement about the date in the transcript is the harder to explain. He did indeed in 1913 copy the relevant year twice in his MS book. This is in my keeping. On both pages Master Phelyppe Chute (Phelype Chuete in one version) is entered under the year originally written 1566–7, but later overwritten 1565–6. When writing his article in 1937, Dr. Cock referred to his failing eyesight and to his inability to find the sheet of the transcript at Canterbury which he had once copied (some 26 years before). In fact the transcript, still at Canterbury, has the paper containing the entry. At the top of this paper is the attestation by John Kytchyng, the Vicar of Appledore, which reads 'Thes be the names and surnames of all thos that hathe bene mareyd chrystened and bureyd Wythe In the paryshe of apuldore from the V day of maye Wyche was In the yere of owre lord god MCCCCCLXVI unto the XIII day of apreel Wych ys nowe In the year of owre lord god MCCCCCLXVII as hereafter foleyeth'. The burial of Philip Chute is the last but one of the entries on this paper. '– the VIIth day of Apreele was bereyed master phelype chuete'. Without any doubt the burial took place on 7th April, 1567, not 1566.

It is sad that Philip Chute either had no tombstone, or, if he did, that this has disappeared. It is also unfortunate that the stone inscribed in

1925 does not carry out his wish by recording the 'certayne day' when God called him to His mercy and that it makes the year of his departure one year too early. It is not too late to put matters right.

JOHN WINNIFRITH

A MEDIEVAL POTTERY LAMP FROM ALL SAINTS CHURCH,  
MAIDSTONE

The double-shelled lamp is among the more unusual items in the repertoire of the medieval potter, and finds from Oxford point to indigenous typological development from earlier forms.<sup>1</sup> Other examples are recorded from the Midlands,<sup>2</sup> and manufacture in southern England is attested at Laverstock, Wilts.<sup>3</sup> The Maidstone example (Fig. 3, no. 1), in a local fabric, demonstrates that this type of lamp was also made in the south-east.

A manuscript note attached to the object in Maidstone Museum records its discovery during alterations to All Saints Church in 1845, and, although the exact provenance is unknown, Russell, writing in 1881, states that it was found 'under the pavement of the nave'.<sup>4</sup> No previous illustration has been traced, and the form is now shown in Fig. 3. Only part of the bowl survives, but the proportions of the lamp are similar to thirteenth-/fourteenth-century examples from Oxford, and another, with slightly taller pedestal, from an unstratified context at Dover Castle has been assigned to the mid- or late-thirteenth century.<sup>5</sup>

The fabric of the Dover lamp is similar to local coarse wares in that part of the county, and the Maidstone example belongs to the west Kent group of sand-/shell-tempered wares recognized at Eynsford Castle.<sup>6</sup> The vessel is reduced throughout with a grey core and surfaces; the texture is fairly hard and harsh with a rough fracture. Moderate medium-sized grains of quartz and sparse fragments of shell are visible to the naked eye.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> E. M. Jope and S. E. Rigold, 'Pottery from a late 12th century Well-filling and other medieval Finds', *Oxoniensia*, xv (1950), 44-62; T. G. Hassal, 'Excavations at Oxford Castle, 1965-73', *ibid.*, xli (1976), 261.

<sup>2</sup> J. H. Williams, 'Excavations at Greyfriars, Northampton, 1972', *Northants. Archaeol.*, 13 (1978), 142.

<sup>3</sup> J. Musty *et al.*, 'The medieval Pottery Kilns at Laverstock', *Archaeologia* 102 (1969), 136-7.

<sup>4</sup> J. M. Russell, *The History of Maidstone*, London, 1881, 132.

<sup>5</sup> A. M. Cook *et al.*, 'Excavations at Dover Castle. . .', *J.B.A.A.*, Ser. 3, xxxii (1969), 91.

<sup>6</sup> S. E. Rigold, 'Eynsford Castle and its Excavation', *Arch. Cant.*, lxxxvi (1971), 149-71.

<sup>7</sup> The fabric description follows conventions suggested by D. P. S. Peacock, 'Ceramics in Roman and medieval Archaeology' in D. P. S. Peacock (ed.), *Pottery and Early Commerce*, London, 1977, 21-33.

Pottery cresset lamps, probably of slightly earlier date than the double-shelled or pedestal type, have been found in an urban context at Canterbury<sup>8</sup> and also in Sussex,<sup>9</sup> but this is the only lamp so far recorded in the area from an ecclesiastical site. The provenance is not sufficiently precise to indicate whether or not the lamp came originally from the church itself, but the use of pottery for church cruets has been inferred in the Midlands and South Wales.<sup>10</sup> Floor tiles and the foundations of what may have been the building preceding Archbishop Courteney's Collegiate Church have also been found beneath the floor of All Saints Church on different occasions,<sup>11</sup> and, although several different interpretations of the structural history have been offered,<sup>12</sup> the likelihood remains that the lamp was associated with an earlier church on the site.

Lamps of this type are not common in Kent, but it is now clear that the form was manufactured at two different centres in the county, at least one of which seems to have had ecclesiastical customers.

ANTHONY D. F. STREETEN

Included in a small group of antiquities presented to Maidstone Museum in 1906 by Sir G. Donaldson is a medieval cresset lamp (Fig. 3, no. 2) (museum acc. no. 7-1906 d). It is labelled as found in Bapchild, but its provenance within that parish is not known. It is of a coarse, sandy ware, dark grey or black in colour, with sparse shell grits. The external colour is a mottled grey to reddish brown.

There is another cresset lamp in the museum's collections, from

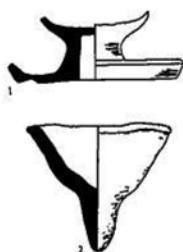


Fig. 3. 1. Medieval Pottery Lamp from All Saints Church, Maidstone ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ); 2. Bapchild: Medieval Cresset Lamp. ( $\frac{1}{4}$ )

<sup>8</sup> S. Frere, 'Canterbury Excavations. . .', *Arch. Cant.*, lxxviii (1954), 132.

<sup>9</sup> K. J. Barton, *Medieval Sussex Pottery*, Chichester, 1979, 70-1.

<sup>10</sup> G. C. Dunning, 'Medieval Church Cruets in Pottery', *Med. Arch.*, xiii (1969), 226-7.

<sup>11</sup> J. Cave-Browne, *The History of All Saints, Maidstone*, Maidstone, n.d., 6-9.

<sup>12</sup> B. Poste, *The History of the College of All Saints, Maidstone*, London, 1847; W. Ruck, 'The Hospital of the New Work and the College of All Saints, Maidstone', *Arch. Cant.*, li (1939), 213.

I am most grateful to Mr. D. B. Kelly for permission to publish this object.

Leadenhall Street, London. It is, again, hand-made, with a wider and shallower bowl than the Bapchild example, and to the eye the fabric appears similar.

D. B. KELLY

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES FROM MAIDSTONE MUSEUM

### ADDINGTON

A Gallo-Belgic 'C' gold stater was found in the drying plant at Addington Sandpit by Mr. B. J. Honey in July 1979. It could have rested there for many weeks before the discovery, but would have come from the quarry (approx. N.G.R. TQ 652594). Weight 99.65 grains; impressions and photographs in the museum.

### AYLESFORD

1. A bronze spearhead (Fig. 4, 2) was found by Mr. C. W. Bullock in May, 1979, by the south bank of the River Medway opposite the Friary (N.G.R. TQ 725588). It is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in. long, with lozenge shaped side-loops. Side-looped spearheads are a Middle Bronze Age type, first appearing in hoards in the Taunton phase,<sup>1</sup> though it has been suggested that they may have been current in the previous phase.<sup>2</sup>

2. A medieval lead seal matrix (Fig. 4, 4) was found by Mr. L. Wheat in September 1979, near Lower Kit's Coty (N.G.R. TQ 747603): + S' IVLANI' hENEY (Seal of Julian Heney). The lettering, between two incised circles, surrounds a crudely cut ten-leaf design. The reverse bears a raised design, perhaps a much devolved fleur-de-lis, and has a triangular tag, now bent back. Diameter 1 in.; thirteenth century.

### BEXLEY

Twenty years ago Mr. P. J. Tester published a group of four stone axes from west Kent.<sup>3</sup> One, from Bexley, the central axe of the three illustrated, was at that time on loan to Bexley Public Library and could not be sectioned then or a few years later, when most of the stone axes in Kent were examined. Recently, through the good offices of Mr. T. H. McK. Clough, Hon. Secretary of the C.B.A. Implement Petrology Committee, the owner kindly agreed to allow the axe to be

<sup>1</sup> *P.P.S.*, xxv (1959), 180.

<sup>2</sup> C. B. Burgess in C. Renfrew (ed.): *British Prehistory* (London 1974), 201.

<sup>3</sup> *Arch. Cant.*, lxxiii (1959), 209-10.

sectioned and this was done by Dr. A. Woolley, of the British Museum (Natural History).

He reported that the axe was made of 'a fine grained volcanic tuff, which matches the finer grained examples of type VI from Langdale'. The Bexley axe (County number Kent 49) was the first example of this, the largest group, originating in the Lake District,<sup>4</sup> to be recognized from Kent. Subsequently Dr. Woolley identified two more Group VI axes from the county, one from near Ashford (Kent 46), in the collections of the Cambridge University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (CUM. 23. 1084), the other (Kent 44) from Rolvenden (N.G.R. TQ 832313; Maidstone Museum acc. no. 15.1972).

#### BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA

A *sestertius* of Marcus Aurelius (R.I.C. 1272), commemorating Antoninus Pius, was found in October, 1979, by Mrs. B. Bush in the garden of her home in the Old Quarries (N.G.R. TQ 769517).

#### CHARING

Mrs. R. Murray, of Worthing, sent details of four Roman coins, identified at Worthing Museum, which were found in the Sanctuary Nursery some years ago at various times. Three were of Marcus Aurelius and the other of Faustina Senior, which suggests that they might come from a hoard. Mrs. P. Winzar kindly identified the site, which adjoins the Pilgrims' Way on its South side at N.G.R. TQ 956500.

#### GILLINGHAM

In November 1978, Mr. L. Clayton found a Late Bronze Age socketed axe (Fig. 4, 1) in his garden (N.G.R. TQ 803670). It is a small (length 2½ in., weight 55 gr.) example of the plain South-Eastern type found in hoards of the Carp's Tongue complex, dated to the eighth and seventh centuries B.C.<sup>5</sup>

#### HARRIETSHAM

A Late Bronze Age socketed axe (Fig. 4, 3) was found in May 1979, by Mr. M. J. Yeandle at Greenway Forstal while ploughing (N.G.R. TQ 852534). It is 5 in. long, with 'hour-glass' decoration on both faces, a

<sup>4</sup> *P.P.S.*, vii (1941), 58-60; C.B.A. Research Report No. 23: *Stone Axe Studies* (Eds. Clough and Cummins) (1979), 5-13; 87-90.

<sup>5</sup> *Arch. Jnl.*, cxxv (1968), 17-26.



variation of the wing decoration on axes of the Carp's Tongue complex. Axes with similar decoration have been found in several Carp's Tongue hoards, including Kent hoards from Stourmouth<sup>6</sup> and Hoo-St.-Werburgh.<sup>7</sup>

## LANGLEY

An *antoninianus* of Claudius II (R.I.C. 36) was found at Langley Heath by Martin Stanley in July 1979 (N.G.R. TQ 811517).

## LEEDS

Two medieval floor-tiles (Fig. 4, 5 and 6) were found in the Spring of 1979 by Mr. J. Crookston at about two feet below the present floor level during repair work in the Barbican of Leeds Castle (N.G.R. TQ 836532). Both tiles are printed, the white slip on the red clay body producing yellow on brown after glazing. The tile with the lion mask and leaf scroll is part of a nine-tile design.

The zig-zag design is recorded from Teynham Church.

## OTHAM

During work outside the north wall of the church in the early part of 1979 Mrs. E. Bond recovered the fragment of medieval floor-tile illustrated here (Fig. 4, 7) (N.G.R. TQ 789541). The pattern, a repeating one, is yellow on brown, the fabric red with a grey core, fairly heavily gritted with flint. The pattern is Penn 51,<sup>8</sup> though the tile was perhaps made in Kent. A tile of the same fabric in the museum collection, from Cobham Church, was decorated with the same stamp as the Otham fragment and the pattern occurs on tiles found in London and elsewhere in the south-east.<sup>9</sup>

## WALDESLADE

A polished Neolithic axe of grey, mottled flint was found in 1960 by Mrs. A. S. Moore in her garden in Robin Hood Lane (N.G.R. TQ 753626). Length (butt missing) 4½ in., max. width 2½ in. The finder kindly gave the axe to the museum (acc. no. 35.1979).

<sup>6</sup> *Bronze Age Hoards*, B.A.R. 67 (Oxford 1979), 185 and fig. 10.2, 16.

<sup>7</sup> *Kent Arch. Rev.*, 37 (1974), 200-1 and fig. 2.

<sup>8</sup> C. Hohler, 'Medieval Paving-tiles in Buckinghamshire', *Records of Bucks.* xiv (1942).

<sup>9</sup> *London Museum Med. Cat.* (1940), 239 and fig. 77 (no. 16).



Fig. 4.

1. Gillingham: Late Bronze Age socketed Axe ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ); 2. Aylesford: Middle Bronze Age Spearhead ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ); 3. Harrietsham: Late Bronze Age socketed Axe ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ); 4. Aylesford: Medieval Seal Matrix ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ); 5, 6. Leeds Castle: Medieval Tiles ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ); 7. Otham: Medieval Tile ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ).

RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

FIVE FIRST CENTURY B.C. COINS FROM GAUL FOUND RECENTLY IN  
EAST KENT

1. Potin n.w. Long-haired or helmeted head to left/crudely executed butting bull to right. Found 2 miles from Canterbury, 1976-7.
2. Potin n.w. As last, found with no.1.
3. Potin 2.04. Head to left/butting bull to left with pronounced ground line and raised tail. Found at Middle Pett Farm, Bridge, Canterbury, January 1978.
4. Potin 2.38. Head to left with three of four large locks of hair and a diadem/boar to left with two or three-lobed motif below. Found at Middle Pett Farm, Bridge, Canterbury, January 1978.
5. Bronze 2.23. Head to right with rough hair in four strands/wolf barking to left, ring-and-dot ornament above (?), irregular line below, type BN 6188. Found in the parish of Westwell, 1977

1 and 2 are an early variety of potin coin, issued in the middle Loire valley, perhaps in Berry, during the first century B.C. Their exact date of issue is uncertain, although they were probably made during the first half of the century (Nash 1978, fig. 588-91; Allen 1971, fig. 1-2 var.). No. 3 is of a different type, also probably from Central Gaul in the first half of the first century B.C. (cf. Allen 1971, fig. 15, 19), but this type has not yet been ascribed a precise area of origin. No. 4 is a potin of the Leuci of eastern France, first issued before the middle of the first century B.C. (Scheers 1977, fig. 662-3). No. 5 is a struck bronze of the Carnutes, issued somewhere around Orléans during the second half of the first century B.C, probably in the 40s.

All the coins are now in the Royal Museum, Canterbury while casts of them are kept in the Heberden Coin Room, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.

These coins represent a sample of the bronze coinage in use in Central and Belgic Gaul from the origin of bronze coinage in Central Gaul, arguably around 100 B.C., and the proliferation of bronze coinage in the years immediately after the Caesarian conquest. In the later first century B.C., Central Gaulish bronze coins circulated widely in Belgic Gaul alongside Belgic bronze coinages, which were first issued during the 50s B.C., and were not in widespread use until the 40s and 30s. Central Gaulish potin and struck bronze coins in Kent are therefore one aspect of a much more general pattern of exchange of goods and persons between Gaul (and especially Belgic Gaul) and south-eastern Britain during the first century B.C., and their exact date

of deposition can only be determined if they are associated with other dateable archaeological material.

The native precious metal coin types of south-eastern Britain during the first half of the first century B.C. used contemporary Belgic coins as a basis for their types, reflecting the political connections between the leading communities in both areas. By contrast, British potin coins, issued in the Lower Thames valley and Kent during the early and middle first century B.C., followed Central Gaulish models (Allen 1971). The obverse was apparently inspired by a common Senonian potin of the first half of the first century B.C. (Allen 1971, fig. 29), while the reverse could have followed any one of several butting bull types, including nos. 1-3 above. These choices probably reflect the models available for a bronze or tin coinage at the time when the British coins were first issued: since the Belgic communities with whom the southern Britons were in closest contact had at that time no bronze coinages of their own, the creators of a British potin coinage had only the most widely distributed Central Gaulish types to follow, which they probably received from their contacts in Belgic Gaul together with other goods of non-Belgic origin. The separate origin of the two types chosen reflects the miscellaneous composition of the bronze coinage in occasional use in Belgic Gaul in the first half of the first century B.C., and its ultimate arrival in Britain is demonstrated by the mixed origin of the five Central Gaulish bronze coins found in the Canterbury area in 1976-8.

DAPHNE NASH

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