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*1. Christ Church College, Canterbury (N.G.R. TR 1550 5795)*

Excavations by M. Hicks in advance of redevelopment revealed more of the layout of the buildings of St. Augustine's Abbey in the late thirteenth century. Walls of flint and chalk set on massive gravel foundations represented the continuation of the eastern wing of the Cellarer's Range, first located in 1983. An internal partition wall and a single clay floor were also found, together with another section of the barrel-vaulted drain leading from the abbey kitchen from the south into the city ditch.

A substantial structure was found to form the eastern end of the brew-house range, with walls set on 3 m. deep rammed gravel foundations. Twelve column bases within this structure formed a northern, central and southern arcade line, which may have supported a groin vault. Several contemporary clay floors survived within this structure.

Attached to the brew-house range to the north via a stone bridging buttress was a square building. The structure was constructed in a similar style, and therefore probably of the same date, as the brew-house. The function of this building remains unknown. Set within the internal face was evidence of a timber framing.

Pre-dating these late thirteenth-century buildings were several waste pits, dating from the eighth century through to the early medieval period. The Anglo-Saxon pits contained significant quantities of domestic refuse, in contrast to earlier findings on the site, where pits contained largely industrial waste. In addition to these pits was a large furnace pit cut into natural clay, 2 m. deep and 5 m. square. The clay sides of this pit had been scorched bright orange, and the floor was covered in charcoal. A sloping access way led to a stokehole on its southern side, and a second flue was visible in the northern side of the furnace pit. The function of this pit is not yet known; samples of the infill are currently being analysed.

*2. St. Mary Northgate, Canterbury (N.G.R. TR 1510 5820)*

Excavations within the gymnasium of King's School were undertaken by A. Ward in advance of the insertion of a new floor. A 10 m. length of the third-century Roman city wall was revealed directly below the north wall of the gymnasium. Part of its reinforcing earthen rampart was also found, though unfortunately not abutting the wall. Overlying these features was a 'Dark Earth' deposit 0.70 m. thick, which produced material of late-Roman and Anglo-Saxon date.

About 8 m. south of the Roman city wall was a flint wall 0.80 m. wide, probably part of the new precinct wall constructed by Prior Wilbert in c. 1160. A small area of gravel to the north of this wall might be part of Queningate Lane, which ran from the Borough to Burgate until 1231.

The chalk walls of the eastward extension of St. Mary-over-Northgate were revealed adjacent to the city wall. These walls may be of a similar date to the rebuilding of this part of the city wall in 1390–95. A further set of foundation walls at the south end of the site may also be of this date, possibly the earlier gate to the Almonry Yard.

Evidence for the construction of the 1546 gate was revealed, together with the chalk and flint dwarf walls of a row of cottages constructed in the late sixteenth or early seventeenth century.

### *3. Pound Lane Car Park, Canterbury (N.G.R. TR 1510 5820)*

Evaluation trenching by K. Parfitt showed that the area had been waterlogged and undeveloped for much of the city's history. Overlying natural river gravels were water-lain sediments of Roman date, which contained the substantially complete remains of a Roman iron-shod wooden spade. These were sealed by brown organic peat up to 0.36 m. thick, which preserved the timbers of a fence and a wooden hurdle some 0.50 m. wide, laid flat on the upper surface of the peat, probably intended as a walkway. Pottery lying on this hurdle has been dated to around 1075–1200.

The peat was sealed by thick dumps of gritty clay loam of medieval date, probably intended to consolidate this waterlogged area. Above these dumps were well developed post-medieval clay loam 'garden soils'.

### *4. North Lane Car Park, Canterbury (N.G.R. TR 146 583)*

Evaluation trenches by G. Shand in advance of redevelopment revealed a short section of ditch containing Belgic pottery of the early first century A.D., the first evidence of pre-Roman activity in this part of Canterbury. In addition, a previously unknown Roman road of rammed gravel, aligned north-west to south-east and at least 4.50 m. wide was located. A parallel drainage ditch was partially sealed by the uppermost metalling, presumably relating to an earlier road surface. To the south-east of this road were clay quarry pits, whilst to the north-west later terracing had removed any traces of Roman activity. Several medieval latrine and rubbish pits were found, associated with occupation along North Lane. One pit produced a large quantity of horn cores.

5. *Wincheap Car Park, Canterbury (N.G.R. TR 136 569)*

A watching brief undertaken by I. Anderson during construction of the new 'Park and Ride' car park in Wincheap revealed traces of Roman field ditches lying on the lower slopes above the River Stour. The majority of the pottery recovered from these ditches dates to the second and third centuries A.D. An isolated horse burial could also be of Roman date.

6. *Duck Lane Car Park, Canterbury (N.G.R. TR 1508 5825)*

Excavations by A. Ward in advance of redevelopment revealed a gravel dump deposit of Roman date overlying natural brickearth and river gravels. This was cut through by eleven shallow domestic rubbish pits, probably of second-century date. These pits were sealed by layers of sandy loams which did not produce any finds later than the second century, suggesting abandonment of the area until the medieval period. Re-occupation of the site appears not to have started until the thirteenth century.

A substantial ditch or man-made watercourse was located running north-south with an apparent fall to the north. Although no dateable finds were recovered, this feature may have been dug as early as the later twelfth century, possibly connected with the water supply for Christ Church Priory.

The earliest buildings on the site appeared to be of thirteenth-century date. Evidence for medieval timber-framed structures against the street frontage was found in the evaluation trenches. These were mostly fairly modest structures, no more than 7-8 m. deep, with two rooms on the ground floor. One exception to this pattern was a Wealden-type open hall with a central hearth and perhaps a rear wing. This structure had a thick laminated sequence of floors and may have stood until the late nineteenth century. Elsewhere earlier buildings were replaced by cottages in the late seventeenth century.

7. *St. Dunstan's Bridge, Canterbury (N.G.R. TR 1460 5807)*

A watching brief by M. Hicks during repair work observed the foundations of the sixteenth-century double arched bridge buried some 0.30 m. below the bottom of the current river bed. These took the form of two rectangular foundations, 3 × 2 m. in size, constructed of large ragstone blocks bonded with mortar. The footings were set 1 m. apart.

8. *66 London Road, Canterbury (N.G.R. TR 1400 5810)*

A watching brief by M. Hicks during redevelopment recovered a single complete colour-coated beaker dating to the second-third century A.D.

from the surface of natural brickearth. No other features or finds were observed; the natural brickearth was sealed by a layer of dark loam, above which was modern rubble and concrete.

*9. St. Stephen's Parish Hall, Canterbury (N.G.R. TR 1470 5910)*

A watching brief by M. Hicks during construction work observed two pits and brick walling associated with the construction of a manor house by Sir Roger Manwood in 1562.

*10. Royal Victoria Hospital, Dover (N.G.R. TR 3154 4182)*

Excavation by K. Parfitt in advance of redevelopment revealed a series of clay and chalk colluvial deposits containing fragments of prehistoric pottery overlying natural tufa and organic clays. Cutting into this hillwash was a small group of medieval pits, sealed by a sequence of medieval and later deposits. During development, a significant quantity of Roman and Anglo-Saxon pottery was recovered from the developer's spoil heaps. Of particular interest is the Anglo-Saxon pottery, ranging in date from the fifth to seventh century, possible evidence of a settlement associated with the cemetery recorded 200 m. to the south-west at Priory Hill.

*11. Maison Dieu, Dover (N.G.R. TR 316 418)*

A watching brief by K. Parfitt during renovation work observed the eastern window of the medieval hospital's Great Hall, which was exposed after workmen stripped the wall of plaster. About 2.73 m. of the window was revealed, with a minimum width of 1.66 m., its original height may have been around 6 m.

*12. Grand Shaft, Dover (N.G.R. TR 316 409)*

Excavations by B. Corke in advance of restoration work revealed the foundations of the now demolished cells and guard chambers at the entrance to the shaft. Three phases of development could be inferred: Period 1 (1804–60); Period 2 (c. 1860–1900) and Period 3 (1900–69).

*13. The Mount Roman Villa, Maidstone (N.G.R. TQ 75825617)*

Excavations by M. Houliston in advance of road construction revealed the complete plan of the main villa, while to the south and east of this building at least three phases of earlier timber structures were

uncovered, the second of which included the southernmost four bays of a substantial aisled building.

Evidence for prehistoric activity in the area was provided by thirty-two flint implements recovered during the excavation, and perhaps two crude intercutting ditches, both north-south aligned, located on the eastern edge of the site. They produced no dateable finds.

The earliest Roman activity was represented by two large ditches. These were set 6 m. apart and perpendicular to the Medway. A number of features was contemporary with these, including a line of post-holes set along the northern edge of the northern ditch, interpreted as a fence. The boundary represented by the ditch and fence was respected by the principal building of the subsequent phase.

Post-dating these features were the southernmost four bays of an aisled building, as well as numerous less substantial structures, perhaps animal pens. The main structural element of the building consisted of two rows of substantial timber posts, approximately 0.30 to 0.40 m. in diameter. These were set in large pits filled with compacted clay and ragstone fragments. Set out from, and parallel to, the rows of posts were two beam slots, the probable bases for the external walls of the building. Initial palaeo-environmental sampling has produced charred grain from deposits possibly associated with this structure. The building is likely to have been part of a complex clustered around the principal residence of the estate. However, as the excavation produced no evidence of such a contemporary residence, it may be that the aisled building itself was the first such 'villa' on the site.

Some time after the aisled building had gone out of use the main masonry structure was erected. This consisted of two wings, one room wide, linked by a double range of rooms, all of integral build. This building also probably had a portico on its eastern side joining the two wings, and a corridor or portico, or additional range of rooms, running along its western side, although the walls associated with this structural element were not exposed. Within one of the rooms the remains of a poured mortar floor were uncovered, whereas elsewhere the floors were removed.

It was seen that previous reconstructions of the villa falsely identified the main structure as consisting of four ranges built around a central courtyard. This was principally due to a planning error made during the 1843 excavation. The identification of the 'winged corridor plan' was one of the principal discoveries of the excavation.

Numerous alterations were made to the villa during its lifetime, although there were no major rebuilds or significant additions. An eastern portico was added to the building, probably replacing an earlier feature of similar construction, and a rectangular structure was attached to the southern wall. Two of the walls of the easternmost room in the

southern wing were partially rebuilt. Later on large buttresses were added at the corners and in the middle of the southern and northern wings.

A sunken heptagonal feature was uncovered east of the main building, with a smaller rectangular feature attached to it on its eastern side. Both were constructed out of large tiles set in pale mortar, and waterproofed, internally and externally, with *opus signinum* mortar, connected by a small duct. They may have formed part of a small fountain. Two masonry walls were also found in the area, to the north and south of the feature. They were of different thicknesses, however, and on different alignments. The southern wall may have been associated with the earlier aisled building rather than with the villa itself.

*14. Rochester City Wall (N.G.R. TQ 735 684)*

A comprehensive drawn and photographic survey has been undertaken by R. Austin, C. Jarman and A. Ward of the standing Roman and medieval defences of Rochester for Rochester-upon-Medway City Council in advance of conservation.

*15. Upnor Castle, near Rochester (N.G.R. TQ 7584 7050)*

A watching brief by M. Hicks at Upnor Castle observed nothing of archaeological interest in a small trench cut into the south bank of the castle's earthworks.

*16. Brompton Barracks (N.G.R. TQ 767 691)*

Evaluation trenching by A. Murphy in advance of redevelopment revealed nothing of archaeological significance.

*17. Fort Amherst (N.G.R. TQ 7614 6839)*

Minor excavations and a comprehensive photographic survey by A. Murphy and A. Ward of Fort Amherst and the Lines has been undertaken prior to conservation work.

*18. Medway Tunnel (N.G.R. TQ 7641 6985)*

Excavation by T. Allen and C. Pine in advance of development revealed evidence of prehistoric and Roman occupation, separated by alluvial deposits. The site lay on an ancient cliff-top, buried beneath alluvial soils. The earliest occupation on the site was represented by a

substantial quantity of struck flints and pottery of early to middle Neolithic date. The majority of this material was derived from an 'occupation deposit' of sandy silt some 0.05 m. thick. The fresh fractures and large number of cross-joins between the pottery sherds suggested that they were largely *in situ*. Associated with this deposit were a number of shallow depressions of uncertain significance; a single cut, possibly a post-hole; and a large pit, not bottomed for safety reasons.

Overlying this material was a deposit of alluvial clay, 0.28 m. thick, probably representing a protracted period of regular, if not permanent, inundation of the site until the late Iron Age.

Cutting this alluvium were four post-holes and section of curving gully, probably part of a circular hut, whose original diameter may have been some 20 m. There was some evidence of repair and post replacement. Pottery retrieved from these cuts and associated occupation deposits was dated to the late first century B.C./early first century A.D. About 4 m. to the north-east of this structure was a hearth constructed of flint and scorched clay. Overlying deposits of ash, charcoal and burnt daub suggest that the hut was destroyed by fire.

Cutting through these destruction deposits was a north-south aligned drainage ditch, backfilled in the late first century. Post-dating this ditch, part of an enclosure ditch and gravelled surface probably represented part of a small Romano-British riverside settlement. This appeared to have been abandoned in the late second or early third century A.D. Further extensive alluvial deposits overlay this settlement, demonstrating that once again the area was regularly or permanently submerged until its reclamation in the nineteenth century.

### 19. Medway Towns Northern By-pass

Watching briefs by A. Ward in advance of construction revealed little of archaeological interest, apart from an undated linear feature over 2 m. deep at N.G.R. TQ 7085 6992, and a deposit of ash and scorched brickearth sealed by 0.55 m. of possibly colluvial brickearth at N.G.R. TQ 7150 7060.

### 20. Minster-in-Sheppey

Evaluation trenching by S. Pratt with Sheppey Archaeological Society and the Isle of Sheppey Metal-detection Society was carried out at two adjacent properties at Minster-in-Sheppey (N.G.R. TQ 9555 7305 – TQ 9563 7305).

The first group of trenches, in the north-west corner of Abbey Farm, showed that much of the area had been truncated during the early



nineteenth century. At the western end of the site, however, deposits, post-holes and a ditch of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date were found sealed by hill-wash containing pottery of Belgic, Roman and Saxon date. There was some evidence of Roman and Saxon gravel surfacing; colluviation continued into the medieval period.

The second group of trenches was positioned just to the north of the abbey church, where there was evidence for some truncation during the post-Dissolution period. The remains of a razed masonry wall were identified as well as a shallow robber-trench for another. Associated or earlier timber structures were represented by post-holes, a beam slot and, perhaps, a beam pad. Floors, floor patches, trampled (possibly natural) clay, and pebble metallings were located in all save one of the trenches, one of which may have held a hearth. Pits and ditches were also identified, one of the latter passing beneath the eastern perimeter wall. These features were not extensively excavated, but it was clear that the conventual complex of the abbey extended across the site. Although few datable finds were recovered, it seems likely that substantial remains of the Saxon abbey survive in this area.

#### *21. Tyler Hill Rising Main (N.G.R. TR 14 64)*

A watching brief and trial excavations by J. Cotter were undertaken during trenching for a new sewer pipeline from the pumping station at Tyler Hill to the municipal boundary at St. Stephen's Hill, a distance of about 600 m. Many features relating to the medieval pottery and tile industry were revealed, including substantial spreads of late twelfth- and early thirteenth-century pottery and tile, ash, charcoal, fired daub and wasters presumably derived from nearby kilns; a peg-tile lined gully of thirteenth- or fourteenth-century date and several clay extraction pits backfilled with kiln waste. Of particular importance was the recovery of many decorated floor-tiles, dating to *c.* 1280–1350 A.D.

#### *22. Sturry Gas Main (N.G.R. TR 206 621)*

A watching brief by J. Rady observed a number of features of Roman and possibly prehistoric date, including a concentration of Roman cremation burials. A total of eleven cremation burials was located, comprising 21 vessels and their contents. Most of the vessels were immediately under the topsoil and many of them had been truncated by ploughing and to a small extent the topsoil strip in some cases. Most of the vessels had been badly fractured and compressed, probably both in antiquity and during the topsoil strip, though a number were recovered complete and unfragmented – these were usually the ancillary vessels, both smaller and more deeply buried.

23. *Loop Street, Sandwich (N.G.R. TR 328 582)*

Evaluation trenching by A. Hutcheson in advance of development revealed traces of fifteenth–seventeenth century structures on the frontage of Loop Street.

24. *New Deal Reservoir (N.G.R. TR 3595 4882)*

A watching brief by K. Parfitt during pipe-laying operations across a 3 km. route observed two ditches of Middle Iron Age date, possibly part of a rectangular enclosure. A ubiquitous scatter of late Neolithic and Bronze Age lithic material was recovered from topsoil along the route, together with a small hand-axe and other flint material of Lower Palaeolithic date.

25. *Longmete House, Wingham (N.G.R. TR 2498 6044)*

A watching brief by M. Hicks during the cutting of 1 m. deep foundation trenches revealed nothing of archaeological significance.

26. *St. Laurence Church, Hawkhurst (N.G.R. TQ 7545 2940)*

A watching brief by M. Hicks during the laying of a new sewer and water supply to the church revealed nothing of archaeological significance.

30. *Richborough (N.G.R. TR 3135 6030)*

A watching brief by P. Clark during the cutting of 1 m. deep foundation trenches to the rear of property on the north side of Castle Road revealed nothing of archaeological significance.

31. *Rutherford College, Canterbury (N.G.R. TR 142 598)*

Evaluation trenching in advance of construction work revealed the truncated bases of medieval tile kilns, represented by extensive areas of burnt roofing-tile set in fire-reddened clay. These were frequently defined (sometimes overlain) by linear cut features with a north-east – south-west orientation. These features were not drainage ditches, but may represent construction trenches for the kiln superstructure or else are associated with clay settling tanks. Ceramic material recovered from the kiln bases and linear cuts included sherds of sandy Tyler Hill Ware (c. 1250–1350) and medieval peg-tile dating to around 1275–1325. Other ditches and large pits observed during excavation

were probably for clay extraction, backfilled with rubble and general spoil.

## THE BOROUGH OF SEDNOR IN EGERTON

Lambarde's *Perambulation of Kent*, in his account of the Tenth and Fifteenth of Calehill Hundred, lists 18 places of which Edisley and Sednor cover most of the parish of Egerton. Sednor, rated at 44/2*d.* is the fourth highest in the Hundred, and Edisley (Egerton) rated at 35*s.*, is the ninth in value; but while Edisley, modernised as Egerton, is the district east and south-east of the village, the very name of Sednor, which was the western part of the village, has been completely lost, and no-one in the parish has ever heard of it. It included the old houses and sites of Link House, Egerton House (formerly Goodale), Pemples Cross, Hollis, Bedewell and Bakers Farm, the four last of these being also names of local families.

In Hasted's account of Egerton (1st edition, ii, p. 221) he says, 'there are 3 boroughs in it [Egerton] viz. Greenhill part of which is in Pluckley, Sidney [Sednor] which has within it the further side of the street; and Edgley [Egerton] which has in it that side of the street next to the church.' This is not very clear; if by 'the further side of the street' he meant further from Greenhill, this must mean the side on which the church stands, which would be correct, but this would mean the same side as Edgley, which he states is 'the side of the street next to the church'.

Sednor, Sydnor, Siday, Sidney or Setenore (there are many spellings of it as usual in old documents) appears in the parish overseer's accounts for Egerton (now in County Archives). Joseph Woolley pays for it on the assessment of £32 for many years until 1738. From then on the name is not stated, but Woolley pays on the same amount in the same place until 1746; from 1748 onwards, John Baker pays on the same amount in the same place until 1771. It seems probable that Bakers Farm may be the original Sednor.

Sednor was also the name of a family which originated in Egerton. In the Kent Lay Subsidy of 1334/5 Peter de Sednor paid 4/3*d.* and Richard de Sednor paid 1/2*d.* of a total of 281 payers in Calehill Hundred. The will of William Sednor of Egerton was made in 1483 and proved in 1485; he mentions a daughter and three sons, William (Sydnor), Thomas, a canon of Leeds Abbey (he took the monastic name Egerton) and Richard, M.A. of Magdalen, canon of Exeter and Windsor, and registrar of the Order of the Garter, who died in 1534 (Wood's *Athenae*).

Councer in *Lost Glass of Kent Churches* quotes a note by Sir Edward Dering in Society of Antiquaries' MS. 497a – 'on a window of the aisle

of Egerton church a broken subscription “orate pro anima Mri – Sydnor quondam capellani – – Totton nec non canonici residentiari in Collegii Regalis 1522”’. A few words of this remain in the jumble of glass in the south window of the chancel.

The will of his eldest son William Sydnor (PCC 4 Holder) 29 October, 1514, includes substantial legacies; property in Exeter to his wife, to son Richard and daughter Elizabeth £40 each, daughter Katharine £20, son Thomas land in Egerton and Boughton Malherbe, other land to son Richard, brother Sir Thomas Egerton of Leeds £10, brother Sir Richard a silver cup, to Egerton church a suit of white vestments.

Nicolas’ *Testamenta Vetusta*, p. 615, has the will of Richard Syday of Egerton, dated 26 April, 1524 – ‘I will that my feoffees deliver to the churchwardens of Egerton a sufficient estate in a piece of land called Yokefield, to find every Sunday in the year a pennyworth of white bread, holy bread to be made of; and 26 Sundays in the year to be delivered in the said church to poor people an obit, and to pay the parish priest – to pray for my wife’s soul and all Christians in the bede roll 8d – to Margaret my wife my message and lands called Bullgamysythe in Westwell’ . . .

I quote Hasted again (ii, 366) (manor of Brenchly) ‘Henry VIII granted it to Paul Sydnor whose son William passed it away to William Lambard of Greenwidh anno 20 Elizabeth.’

Do. (manor of Barnes in Brenchley) ‘Henry VIII granted it to Paul Sydnor and Alicia his wife in knight’s service – his son William had livery of them anno 5 Elizabeth and not long after alienated them to William Waller.’

Wm. Sydnor sold them because he had acquired the estate of Carrow Abbey near Norwich. His monument is (or was) in Blundeston church, Norfolk. He married twice, but his descendants pass out of Kent into East Anglia, where they can be traced for many generations.

B. GIPPS

