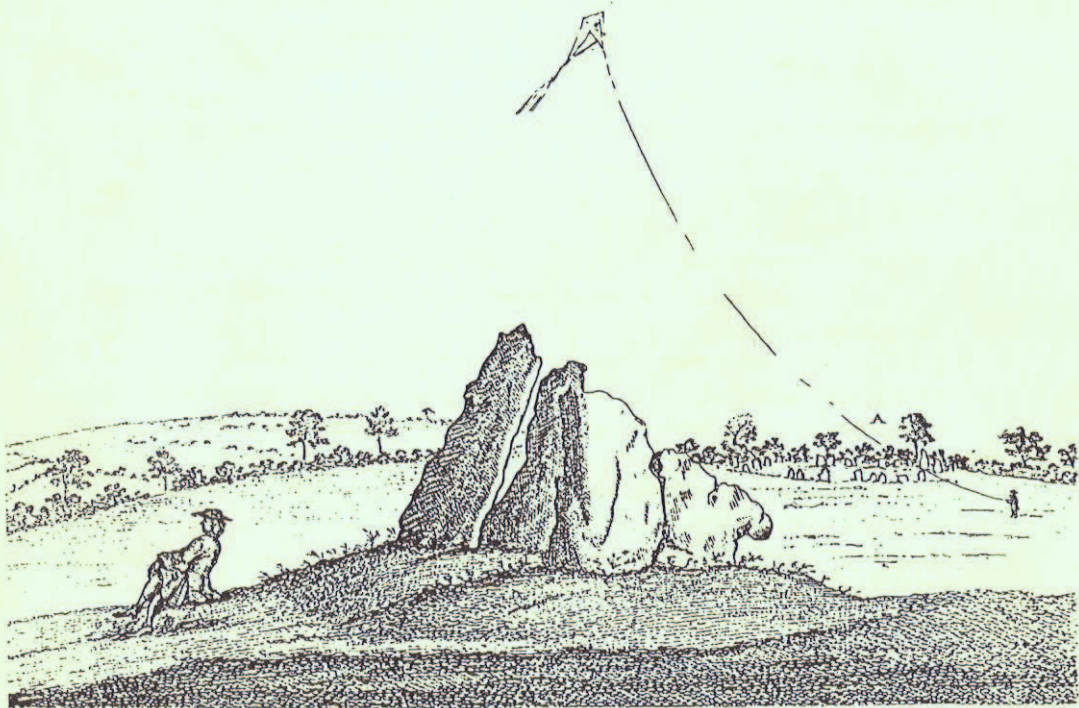




# ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWS



the quarterly newsletter of the Oxford Archaeological Unit  
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*A. the Druid temple, at a distance.  
Rollright*

## Berkshire

### Reading Business Park

by *John Moore*

Excavation restarted on this site after Easter. It has been found that the late Bronze Age settlement adjacent to an old water channel overlies an older field system. The western limit of the settlement corresponds with the western limit of the fields. All or parts of five fields have been uncovered in this year's excavation. The field system is undated at present.

The late Bronze Age settlement at last produced finds in quantity from a string of storage pits later reused as rubbish pits. The upper fills of several contained rubbish burnt *in situ*. The tops of these pits were then levelled with gravel from digging further pits. Waterlogging of the bottom of the pits has produced several pieces of worked wood including part of a wooden bowl.

The high density of post-holes has made it difficult to identify many buildings during the excavation. Excavation of the rest of this late Bronze Age settlement will now not take place for 3-4 years when the option on development may then be taken up.

### Eye and Dunsden

Dean's Farm, SU 728 741 by *John Moore*

Redland's Aggregate notified Reading Museum of a group of objects recovered during gravel extraction. The OAU was asked to investigate. It was found that the drag-line had completely removed the bottom of a late Roman well which had been lined with some substantial timbers c. 1.5m long. These timbers are now at Portsmouth being conserved with a view to forming a partial reconstruction in Reading Museum.

Objects from the well included a stave-built bucket, a spear with part of the wooden shaft still attached, an iron dagger and a scythe that was still very sharp. The most interesting find was a circular lead tank, minus the bottom. Relief decoration on the tank was in the form of vertical, horizontal and diagonal lines in a herringbone design. The importance of the find was established when we eventually found a Chi-Rho monogram on the tank. This is the first such tank to be found in the Thames Valley and only the sixth in Britain. Its most likely use was as a baptismal font.

## Gloucestershire

### Fairford

Thornhill Farm by *Simon Palmer*

Work on this late Iron Age/Romano-British native settlement adjacent to Claydon Pike restarted in March. A new trench, west of the previously reported area of stock enclosures, was investigated.

Activity in this area was markedly different and clearly earlier than the use of the neighbouring enclosures (which spanned the 1st century AD). Pottery fabrics were similar to those of the mid Iron Age settlement at Claydon Pike (this site consisted of a series of circular houses and enclosures with associated paddocks). However at Thornhill no clear cut structural evidence has been forthcoming although occupation is indicated by feature type and material recovered. A similar problem occurred in the late Iron Age phase of Claydon Pike where structures appeared to show as negative areas surrounded by other features.

A single large enclosure was excavated within the new area. It had a southerly entrance marked with a fence and gate arrangement. There were no internal features but the ditch terminals contained large quantities of burnt limestone. The rest of the area was covered by a network of gullies - some linear, some curved and pits and postholes.

A small Neolithic stone axe was also recovered supplementing the few other earlier prehistoric stone finds from this band of first terrace. Despite the vast acreages observed it seems clear that there was no sustained early prehistoric occupation. These occasional finds indicate exploitation rather than settlement.

Further stripping by ARC has uncovered areas north of our present trenches. Salvage recording here has revealed further circular ditched enclosures, arcs of gullies and scattered pits and postholes (none were readily apparent from aerial photographs). Sparse dating evidence suggests a mid Iron Age/late Iron Age date.

A pattern is therefore slowly emerging of gradual utilisation of the first terrace through the mid Iron Age and late Iron Age culminating in the apparent over-use of the land for pasture in the 1st century AD.

### Lechlade

Hambridge Lane by *R A Chambers and Simon Palmer*

Since the discovery of a west-east prone inhumation burial at the back of No. 18 Hambridge Lane in July 1986 (OAU Newsletter XVI, No. 3). Two further burials and fragments of a third have been discovered in builders foundation trenches some 20m to the north. This cemetery lies south of the Rough Ground

Farm Roman villa and is only 300m north-east of the Saxon cemetery of Butlers Field. Both later burials were supine west-east inhumations of which one was buried with two small iron knives. This style of burial may suggest a mid-to late Anglo-Saxon date similar to the small cemetery at Lewknor or the isolated burial at Radley.

### **Somerford Keynes**

#### *Neigh Bridge by Simon Palmer*

Further salvage work was undertaken on this late Iron Age/Romano-British site as ARC stripped the remainder of the field. The site lies adjacent to the Thames midway between Cirencester and the Minety Roman tile kilns. Two main phases of activity have been defined correlating with those at Claydon Pike and Thornhill Farm.

In the late Iron Age an area of ditched enclosures and irregular boundaries spread across an area c. 200 x 100m. Frustratingly, as in other sites in the Cotswold Water Park, no evidence of late Iron Age structures was obvious, although ten Celtic coins have been recovered.

A radical reorganisation occurred in the mid 1st century AD with a rectangular pattern of enclosures laid out which were attached to a large oval enclosure lying adjacent to the river. The main Roman nucleus overlay the western part of this late Iron Age activity (away from the river) where a large aisled building (reported previously) was situated.

The vast quantities of Roman tile scattered across the area has led to the hypothesis that the site functioned as a centralised distribution point for the Minety tile kilns. Further evidence of non-agricultural activity on the site is indicated by the relative large numbers of Early Roman coins and large quantities of brooches (easily exceeding the quantities from Claydon Pike - a much larger and more intensively excavated site).

Two fine Roman sculptures - an eagle and shield (identified by Martin Henig as probably belonging to a Capitoline triad group) were recovered from the large oval enclosure. Further religious finds have also been recorded in the past from this general area - a bronze statuette of Mercury and a bronze cockerel came from a gravel pit 1 km to the east.

### *Oxfordshire*

#### **Abingdon**

*Vineyard Redevelopment, former cattle market by R A Chambers*

Although the archaeological assessment of much of the Vineyard redevelopment area was completed last year, the continued use of the cattle market and its subsequent demolition delayed the final part of the archaeological assessment until the first week of June this year.

The cattle market lies within the area occupied by the abbey. The western edge of the market follows the boundary of the abbey grounds and to the east of the market lies the extensive lay cemetery. Because the main parochial church of the town had no burial rights throughout most of the medieval period, the majority of the population of medieval Abingdon was buried in this cemetery.

In 1987 immediately to the south of the cattle market an archaeological trench revealed 2.5m of accumulated occupational material above natural gravel. Post-medieval deposits had accumulated to a depth of 1.2m above some 0.6m of medieval soils and urban refuse. At a depth of 1.8m the medieval deposits gave way to well-preserved Roman period ditches and pits. The depth of the post-medieval deposits revealed in this trial trench demonstrated that although the cattle market is 0.7m lower than the present ground surface to the south, the building of the cattle market had probably not unduly affected a substantial area of archaeological material from both the abbey and the medieval settlement.

In the first week of June six small trenches were cut through the reinforced concrete of the market site. Three trenches were close to and parallel with the eastern boundary wall and three trenches close to the western boundary. The trenches showed that the lay cemetery does not extend beneath the cattle market but appears to be limited by a substantial ditch which was not entirely filled in and levelled until the 19th century. The unusual alignment of the eastern boundary between the cattle market and the council nursery reflects the alignment of the ditch. Immediately to the west of this ditch the ground surface had been dug away for a series of post-medieval cess pits.

The third trench close to the entrance to the market revealed a former water-course for the Stert over 2.6m deep and filled entirely with 18th and 19th century rubbish, silt and soil. A fourth trench in the north-west corner of the market did not find the water channel demonstrating that the channel bends away northwards. At this point the south bank was sealed below an intensive 1m deep deposit of Romano-British settlement debris.

Proceeding southwards from the fourth trench along the western side of the market two further trenches revealed a continuation of the Roman period deposits sealing Iron Age occupation features including a storage pit. More importantly, an orderly cemetery of north-south inhumation burials inserted into the Roman ground surface suggested desertion of this area of the Roman settlement, perhaps by the 3rd century AD in favour of its use as a burial ground.

## Abingdon

### Winsmore Lane by *Jeff Wallis*

Kibswell Builders, prior to development, kindly provided store facilities and cut a 6.5m x 2m trench for an eight weekend investigation. The plot, formerly Abingdon Joinery, is in an area to the rear of the Regal Cinema and West St. Helen Street and is designated as a redevelopment action area.

Winsmore Lane is thought to lie in the core of the Medieval town and this was backed up by a trench full of medieval features. The excavation was designed to locate any indications of the existence of a Chapel of St. Edmund and the extent of Roman occupation seen in West St. Helen Street. Numerous sewer pipe trenches serving privies to the rear of five cottages indicated on an 1874 Ordnance Survey map had truncated the top of an intercutting sequence of five rectangular rubbish pits and a stone-lined well all dating to the 13th century. All produced typical sparse groups of sandy, unglazed and glazed jugs and cooking pots. One pit, probably exceedingly smelly, had tips of ash, charcoal and an area of humic material that had been sealed by dumps of coarse gravel obtained probably from the construction of the well being dug at this time. The pits were all cut into a silty sand on top of the gravel terrace. No *in situ* supernatural survived suggesting that this area had already seen intensive disturbance.

Conspicuously absent were Roman sherds apart from one abraded example and a cut down pot base. We are no wiser about St. Edmunds Chapel, but are informed by the local population that it is just down the road. We await further development, and tentatively place a dotted line on the map for the edge of Roman occupation.

## Ambrosden

### Wretchwick by *R A Chambers*

A watch is being kept on the construction of the perimeter road around the south-eastern Bicester development area. As previously reported this road cut across the back of the deserted village of Wretchwick. Although previous fieldwork had revealed a scatter of medieval pottery, suggesting that the village may once have extended into the field immediately to the west of the present farm, road construction confirmed that this was not the case. However a watch will continue to be kept over all the remaining service groundworks.

A brief excavation of an earthwork platform and surrounding ditch which lay at the edge of the village earthworks and on the line of the new road provided only post-medieval material. It may have been an enclosure for standing ricks in an area of poor drainage.

## Aston, Bampton and Shifford

### Old Shifford Farm, SP 382 023 by *Tim Allen*

During May an assessment was carried out on a cropmark site just north of the Thames and c. 2km west of the river Windrush. The assessment was funded by the landowner Mrs Carter, who is negotiating to sell the land to Standlake Sands and Gravels for gravel extraction. We are very grateful to the tenant farmer Mr Luckett for allowing us to proceed in a field with a standing crop.

The cropmarks form part of a series of sites north of the Thames linked by trackways as far east as Standlake and west to Cote. The area under threat contains a very clear group of enclosures and fields in the northern part, and more scattered and much less distinct ditches to the south. In order to date the visible features and investigate the blank areas ten trenches were cleared by JCB and partially excavated.

Apart from a few flints and handmade sherds, all of which appeared to be residual, all the finds and features were Roman. There proved to be two discrete periods of occupation, the southern cropmarks belonging to 1st and early 2nd century settlement, the northern group being late Roman. Features in the southern group, which were mostly ditches, were often as deep as the present water-table, but were not waterlogged. Only on the very east edge were waterlogged features and alluvial deposits found. These suggest an open landscape without scrub or hedges. Finds from the ditches indicate domestic activity close to the trenches.

The late Roman features were characterised by darker fills and a wider range both of features and finds. Features included postholes, small pits, gullies and an oven, and in one part of Trench D an area of flat stone slabs had protected the Roman ground surface, which had elsewhere been ploughed down to gravel. Quernstones indicate milling, slag ironsmithing and partially articulated carcasses butchery.

If agreement is reached with the developer it is hoped to mount an excavation in the autumn.

## Bicester South Farm Development by *R A Chambers*

The outlines of six buildings and a raised metal track in association with Romano-British pottery was observed after topsoil stripping in advance of house building in an area between 100m - 200m south of South Farm to the north of Bicester. Surface finds included fragments of amphorae and several pieces of high-class jewellery in bronze, inlaid with coloured enamels and an intaglio ring. These manifestations of high-class wealth linked with descriptions of the remains uncovered last Christmas time suggest the site of a Roman villa.

short report for publication in *Oxoniensis*. Several of the metalwork items merit publication in their own right.

This site was discovered by Mr Michael Holloway who helped with the recording in conjunction with the Bicester fieldwork group.

## Crowmarsh

### Queen's Head by R A Chambers

During the spring the Queen's Head public house underwent a major restoration and reconstruction programme. The present building retains two bays of an important aisled hall now dated to c. 1341 by dendrochronology. The surviving bays will be incorporated into the public house in their original form open to the roof and again visible to the public after several hundred years of concealment behind ceilings and wall plaster.

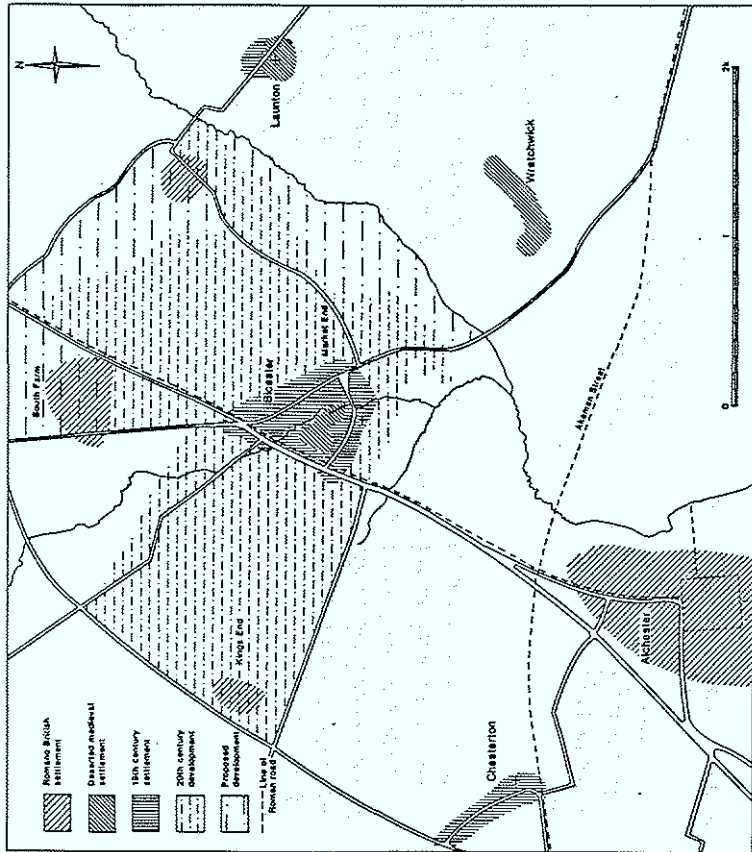
Excavation of 30cm of soil from internal floor foundations within the 14th century structure only revealed post-medieval made-up ground. No medieval floor levels survived. External drainage trenches to the rear of the building revealed no further archaeology.

## Faringdon

### Field-walking by Faringdon District History and Archaeological Society

Early in 1982 we completed a field map of Faringdon Parish, collecting field names from the Tithe Map and from local farmers. This stimulated us to start fieldwalking later that year. Some farmers were quite interested in the historical and archaeological aspects of their farms. Work was concentrated mainly on Sunday afternoons from March-May and September-December. It seemed like a drop in the ocean and that it would take at least 20 years! In six years we have not covered anything like a quarter of the parish, but have found a number of early occupation sites with many hundreds of pottery sherds and flints. From the beginning we kept a record of the fields walked, what was found etc. and found it useful to make a note of weather conditions. We have currently stopped fieldwalking whilst the many bags of pottery sherds are identified and catalogued.

Two Roman sites were found, very different in character from each other. The first site was on Highden Farm, near Faringdon, revealed by pottery in the car park of a cross country event. After an initial rapid field walk the majority of the site was gridded in 10m squares and fieldwalking finds systematically logged. Unfortunately we were unable to finish 'gridding' the whole area before it was ploughed. When this happened all the pottery disappeared, so when it comes up again we hope to have another go.



*The site of the probable villa now lies below the South Wold Housing Estate. This new estate is being built over the site of South Farm.*

The area has now been built over with a considerable loss of archaeological information.

Pottery suggests that occupation of this site may have begun in the late Iron Age or early Roman period and the brooches, rings and coins span the 1st-2nd to 4th centuries AD. Of particular interest is a collection of spear heads of varying styles found as part of what is presumed to have been a blacksmith's store of scrap iron. A probable late 4th century Germanic belt buckle also comes from the site.

This site lies on the Combrash, a deposit of naturally layered, finely fragmented limestone. The appearance of this geological formation has often led people to believe that they were looking at man-made building remains. However at South Farm there is little doubt that topsoil removal revealed the rubble foundations of several rectangular buildings. Recent examination of aerial photographs held by the Oxfordshire County Museum has revealed a series of enclosures outlined as cropmarks.

With no money for recording or publication the Bicester fieldwork group are now drawing the metalwork. With assistance from Sonia Hawkes, Bob Wilkins and Martin Henig from the Institute of Archaeology, Cathy King from the Ashmolean Museum and Paul Hughes of the OAU it is hoped to produce a

The second Roman site was discovered on Camden Farm just on the south edge of the floodplain of the river Thames, quite close to Radcot Bridge. We had walked the field a couple of years before as a grass field and noted platforms of possible buildings, but it was the recovery of Roman pottery by the farmer during the insertion of land drains that confirmed the Roman occupation. However one platform was excavated and shown to be post-medieval (OAU Newsletter Vol. XIV, no. 3). Medieval occupation has been discovered closer to the river.

Future work in Faringdon Parish is hoped to include a survey of the ridge and furrow which is still quite noticeable in many fields. This will hopefully show the extent of Faringdon's North and West fields.

Several isolated features have already been recorded including a pillow mound (artificial rabbit warren) and a medieval or early post-medieval fish pond system both of which were surveyed before their destruction.

## Goring

Gatehampton Farm, SU 606 797 by Tim Allen

Following the unexpected discoveries of the trench dug in advance of pipe laying just west of the railway line in 1987, Thames Water generously funded another season of excavation along the east side of the railway in advance of destruction. Over the 200m closest to the river a trench up to 10m wide was cleared by machine; north of this the line was followed with a 1.5m assessment trench, again dug by machine.

Within the main trench occupation was concentrated in two areas, a long broad hollow running obliquely across the trench towards the river, Area 2, and in a hollow at the junction of the flint gravel terrace and the sand south of it, Area 1. Although the area north of this is known from cropmarks to contain round barrows, hardly any man-made features were encountered within the trench.

*Area 1:* The hollow, some 40m across, was bounded north and south by ditches 130 and 126 respectively, both on a NE-SW alignment. The ground surface between them had been cobbled over, but this cobbling stopped c. 2m north of ditch 126, as if respecting an upcast bank alongside it. The cobbling also stopped just short of the west section here, perhaps suggesting that the return of 126 lay only just outside the trench; there was certainly no sign of it in the trench west of the railway line. There were no traces of structures upon the cobbling, which can be dated to the 3rd century by an early 3rd century brooch and a coin of Tetricus in good condition found upon it. After a few centimetres of soil had accumulated a band of larger cobbles just over 2m wide was laid on the same NE-SW alignment down the middle of the enclosure. This had

patches of chalk within it, and was edged with squared flint blocks on the north side; it was probably a road. Finds from the cobbling and from the enclosing ditches included an iron sickle and adze, as well as domestic debris e.g. pottery, vessel glass and animal bones.

Beneath the cobbling was a layer of fairly clean silt. This overlay patches of silt interspersed with outcrops of the underlying flint gravel, which appeared to have been heavily disturbed. The extensive disturbance may have been due to tree-holes. Flints and prehistoric pottery, probably of late Bronze Age or early Iron Age date, came from the silt, patches of which were reddened or blackened by burning. One or two features in the flint gravel just north of this also produced pottery and flints; these too may have been tree-holes.

On the south edge of the hollow, south of ditch 126, the earliest silts produced a collection of flint flakes and tools distinctive for their large size. These probably derive from earlier prehistoric activity similar to that shown by the flints found in the hollow west of the railway line in 1987.

*Area 2:* South of Area 1 the sand was virtually sterile. Running south-west across the southern 60m of the trench however was a large silt-filled hollow, feature 146, whose top contained worked flints, bones and pottery. Two trenches A and B were laid out across this. B contained dark occupation-rich silts in channels along the bottom, both of which were covered by a layer of silt containing a horizon of smuck flints and a couple of postholes. This was overlaid by a sterile silt, but following this the top fill of the hollow contained more flint debris.

Trench A contained a long sequence of silts, most of which had abundant flints in them. Below the top fills was a reddened sub-circular hearth, surrounded by dark occupation soil, and the flints were concentrated in the area of the hearth. Below the hearth was a thick deposit of silt within which soil distinctions were very slight; distinct horizons of flints however indicate a number of successive working surfaces. One or two postholes were also associated with these horizons. In some areas distinct clusters of flint chips occurred, suggesting that these were primary debris from knapping. In general the flints continued to cluster in the area of the hearth above, perhaps indicating a long-lived focus of activity. Towards the bottom of the hollow the dark occupation rich bands of silt appeared along either side, and at this level a deep east-west slot was found.

Cores, flakes and other debitage were very common; the flintwork also included parts of two leaf-shaped arrowheads and a roughout for an axe, probably indicating a Neolithic date. Pottery was scarce and very fragmentary, and cannot be closely dated, but sample have been taken from the hearth for magnetic dating. The top fill included sherds of probable late Bronze Age pottery, and the associated flints are probably residual.

South of this hollow were one or two shallow pits similar to the ones found on the terrace edge in 1987, and like them containing flintwork. Both these and the hollow were cut by a Roman ditch, one of a pair on a NW-SE alignment. These contained domestic rubbish.

A small trench dug into the edge of the river channel revealed features beneath alluvium, but the water-table was too high to excavate these. It is hoped to do this when the site is dewatered for pipe-laying.

### **Little Compton**

#### **Church by R A Chambers**

Replacement of the floor boards in the south-west corner of the nave did not affect archaeological levels and no further information was recovered.

#### **A423 Peartree Hill to Wendlebury Improvement by R A Chambers**

This road scheme has now been under construction for several months. Archaeological surveillance is being undertaken by a Bicester-based fieldwork group, comprising members from the Bicester Local History Society and a recent evening class. So far fieldwork has revealed a Romano-British settlement which will be subject to further work.

#### **M40 Extension by R A Chambers**

That part of the motorway which passes through Oxfordshire will be constructed in four sections, with the construction of each section tendered separately.

Contract 3 extends from Banbury to Aynho, Contract 2 passes south from Aynho to Ardley and Contract 1 continues from Ardley south to Wendlebury. Contract 4 continues northwards from Banbury into Warwickshire.

Earthmoving is well underway on Contract 3. Low-lying ground is being buried beneath a layer of gravel without topsoil removal and in consequence with less chance of exposing archaeological remains. Contract 2 has also begun and fencing is well advanced. Contract 1 will commence shortly.

Two self-coordinating groups, formed partly through evening classes, are maintaining an archaeological surveillance of each section as work commences. Little has yet been found on Contract 3 some of which lies beyond the county boundary.

Although the Department of Transport offered to provide access to specific sites for archaeological investigation prior to construction, neither DOT or

HBMC have yet agreed to finance any work. Further approaches will be made to HBMC in the coming weeks.

### **Oxford**

#### **7 Dunstan Road, 'Ethelreds Palace' by Brian Durham**

Mrs Ellen de Roe is the proud owner of the house which the Ordnance Survey shows as the site of the Saxon Palace in Headington. She wants to build a new house in her back garden, and has steadily worked away at getting the Unit to look at it first.

The house adjoins Manor Farm, Headington, which is the obvious early focus. However, it is by no means at the top of the high ground here, which is occupied by the John Radcliffe Hospital to the rear. Incidentally this is the highest ground anywhere in the area, and an obvious site for a seigneurial centre.

Nevertheless we dug a small trench and found a stone scatter. Roger Ainslie and John Cooper did a resistivity plot, and then enlarged the trenches. The stones turned out to be localised and with no clear focus, but could be a ploughed-out foundation. The date is 13th-14th century. It could be a building at the rear of a Dunstan Road plot, but there was no evidence of internal floors. Nearby there was a mortar layer with some cobbling.

Ethelred's Palace is clearly not where it is supposed to be therefore. The alternative is that it is near the Manor House itself, on Osler Road. This is part of the hospital, and would probably repay some fieldwork now that we have started to eliminate the Dunstan Road candidate.

### **Stanford-in-the-Vale**

#### **Bowling Green Farm by R A Chambers**

To mark the public consultation phase of the revised County Minerals policy, the sand quarry at Bowling Green Farm was opened to the public on Saturday 21st May, from 10-12 am. A major part of the display was the excavation recently undertaken by the Unit. Although sand extraction has now begun much of the Romano-British settlement remains intact with some 1 ha of remains exposed in a partly excavated condition. Several members of the Faringdon History and Archaeology Society were on hand to guide people round and to continue the excavation of one of the many kilns. Over 100 people attended during the two hours that the quarry was open.

## Tubney

### New Plantation by R A Chambers

In May an archaeological assessment was undertaken of some 10.9 ha of woodland on the north side of the A420 at Tubney. The land was open heath until enclosure for forestry in the late 19th century. Although the site was potentially interesting because of the proximity of the deserted medieval village and because of Romano-British finds now in the British Museum, very little activity from either period was uncovered within the trial trenches.

The west end of the wood contains the possible site of a prehistoric burial mound marked on the OS map and a second tumulus recorded in the 19th century was levelled in the 1870s. This wood has been put forward for the site of a new sand quarry. The topsoil is only a few centimetres thick over 10m of clean sand. Many of the trial trenches yielded worked flint, a stone not natural to the area. In particular there was a concentration of implements and waste flakes to the south of the site of the barrow, and flints were recovered from depths of up to 30cm into the apparently clean, undisturbed natural sand indicating the difficulty of recognising disturbed subsoil on this site. Although subjected to extensive trenching, the barrow failed to reveal itself. Placed by the OS map at the end of a tongue of land it is possible that this barrow may have been a misidentification of a natural topographical feature. However given the difficulty of recognising man-made features in this subsoil a barrow ditch may have rendered itself unrecognisable within the confines of the trial trenches. Some medieval pottery was recovered from the presumed site of the barrow.

## Personal

David Miles has been appointed as the Unit's new Director following the departure of Dr Ian Burrow.

David is a graduate of Birmingham University and came to the Oxford area in 1972 as the archaeologist for the Abingdon Excavation Committee.

Subsequently he worked for the Upper Thames Archaeological Committee, and transferred to the Unit when it was established in 1974. In 1975 he was appointed Deputy Director. In recent years David has worked mainly in the Cotswold Water Park on Iron Age, Roman and Saxon sites and on furthering Unit links with developers.

David is married. His wife is Deputy Keeper of Conservation at the Victoria and Albert Museum; their two children are at school in Oxford.

## New Light on Old Stones

One of Britain's most famous prehistoric monuments, the Rollright Stones, is the subject of George Lambrick's comprehensive new study just published by English Heritage.

This profusely illustrated book is the fullest account of this monument ever produced. It traces the history of antiquarian and archaeological studies at Rollright, describes the results of the recent excavation and survey project, and discusses the architectural, social and environmental context of the Rollright complex through the ages. Many of the antiquarian drawings are published for the first time.

**The Rollright Stones: Megaliths, Monuments and Settlement in the Prehistoric Landscape** by George Lambrick. A4, 145 pages, 72 illustrations. Price £16.

**Excavations in Oxfordshire 1964-1966** by D. W. Harding.

This report describes investigations at two of Oxfordshire's best known sites, the Roman temples with Iron Age origins at Woodeaton and Frilford. Published as Occasional Paper 15 by the Department of Archaeology at Edinburgh, it is available from Oxbow Books, 10 St Cross Road, Oxford. A4, 59 pages with figures, £5.00 post free.



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