



Colchester Archaeological Group

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ANNUAL BULLETIN VOL. 20 1977

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Please apply in writing to the Honorary Secretary at the following address:

*Honorary Secretary
Colchester Archaeological Group
c/o 27 Alexandra Road
Colchester
Essex C03 3DF*

Programme - Summer 1977

Saturday 23 rd April	Annual General Meeting of Essex Archaeological and Historical Congress at Billericay. (Details from Secretary)
Monday 2 nd May	Evening outing to Bulmer Brickworks, Bulmer Tye. Meet outside Works 7p.m. From Sudbury take A131 (2 Miles) fork right to Gestingthorpe. Brickworks on right about 1 mile.
Sunday 19 th June	Day excursion to Sandringham, house and garden. Meet at Sheepen Road Car Park 8.45am for departure at 9.am sharp. Please book well in advance on enclosed leaflet.
Monday 4 th July	Evening outing to Harwich Redoubt and Town. Meet at Maypole Green 6.15pm for departure at 6.30pm sharp.
Monday 25 th July	Cheese and Wine Party at Curlews, 18 Yorick Road, West Mersea. (see leaflet)
Saturday 6 th August	Coach trip to see the excavation at Castle Acre Castle. Please book well in advance on enclosed leaflet.
Monday 10 th October	Annual General Meeting and beginning of Winter Session of weekly meetings.
Saturday 19 th November	Archaeological Symposium at the University of Essex.

Excavations

The excavation of a Red Hill on Tollesbury Marsh will begin on Easter Monday, 11th April. Details from the secretary.

A late Medieval Tile Kiln will be investigated at Garlands Farm, West Bergholt, by kind invitation of Dr. Crockett. Details from Mr. P. R. Holbert, St. Anthony's, Fordham Heath, Colchester.

Annual Subscriptions: Fall due on 31st July 1977. Prompt payment to the Hon. Treasurer (see below) will be appreciated.

Enquiries to:

Hon. Secretary Mrs K. de Brisay
Corner Cottage,
Layer de la Haye
Colchester C02 OLE
TN274

Hon. Treasurer Mrs A. Hampton
Oxley House
Tolleshunt Darcy
TN815339

OBITUARY

MR. M.R. HULL, MA, FSA, FMA. 14th November 1976

An acknowledged scholar, antiquary and man of letters in the archaeological world, Rex Hull held a special place in the affections, particularly of the older members, of the Colchester Archaeological Group. It is well known that the Group arose from the remains of a three year course in-archaeology, but many may not realise that he took charge and gave a new direction to the last year of this course. We first grazed our knuckles with unaccustomed trowelling under his keen eye — and sometimes blistering tongue — in Lewis's Gardens now under the multi-storey car park which succeeded the "new" bus park. When St. Nicholas Church was demolished and the "frying pan" clock was no longer there to tell the passing of time, all the pottery from the pit which was to receive the foundations of the present St. Nicholas House was dumped in All Saints church. Here, muffled in overcoats, we were instructed in the sorting, matching and joining of pottery sherds. This was followed by checking shapes and Form numbers and learning how to draw sherds and incorporate them into the presumed outline of the original vessel; so we cut our archaeological teeth on Camulodunum in the hands of a Master. Rex Hull maintained his interest in the Group and was its President until his death. He was always ready to give help and advice and visited many of our earlier digs. After his retirement I visited him frequently with bags of pottery and many queries for his valued opinion. While he will be much missed by those of us who were privileged to work with him, it is to be hoped that the disciplines he taught us will live on as a fitting memorial.

K. de B.

**Committee for Archaeological Aerial Photography
(Anglian Region)**

This Committee has now been set up and both Mrs McMaster and Mr Farrands are members of it. It has already met once and will continue to meet, probably three times a year. Its object is to further effective use of aerial photography in archaeological exploration within the region.

Combretovium

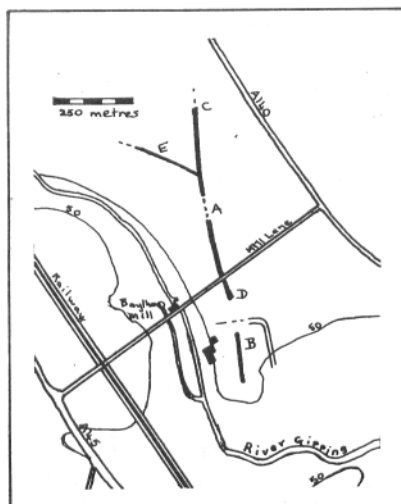
R.H. Farrands

It has long been established that the Roman road from London to Caister St. Edmond (next Norwich) passes close to the east of Baylham Mill (TM 11255270) and subsequently underlies the A 140 just to the north. Where the road passes through narrow coverts between the fields, it had been noticed that trees failed to take root over the hard surface of the underlying road. In one such area. Site A on the accompanying map, the boys of Ipswich School, under the direction of Stanley West and James Young, excavated a section through the road in the 1950's. The excavation revealed unexpectedly a large area of Romano-British settlement on each side of the road with the dating of the finds covering a period from mid 1st century to the 4th century A.D. with the preponderance during the last half of the 1st century. The site confirmed the view that this area was the staging post, Combretonium, as listed in the Antonine Iter. IX.

A flight was made over the area on 23 July, 1961 and cropmarks of the road extending between C and D were photographed. North of C, the road passes through a narrow covert and the crops in the next field were unresponsive. At D the crop mark terminated and some 200 feet to the south, cropmarks indicated twin ditches forming a rounded north east corner of a probable enclosure. Site B. Within this enclosure a straight length was devoid of crops indicating a solid surface underneath. The evidence pointed to the possibility of a Roman fort at the crossing of the River Gipping. Eventually the aerial photographs and cropmark map were sent to Dr. Graham Webster for his interpretation. His reply was that there was no doubt in his mind that this could well be a fort which ought to be there at the river crossing and that this was a discovery of first-rate importance and should be published. There was already evidence that a piece of cavalry equipment had been found at Baylham Mill. (*Antiq. J.*, (1956) Vol. 36. 73-75; *Britannia* (1970) Vol. 1.193).

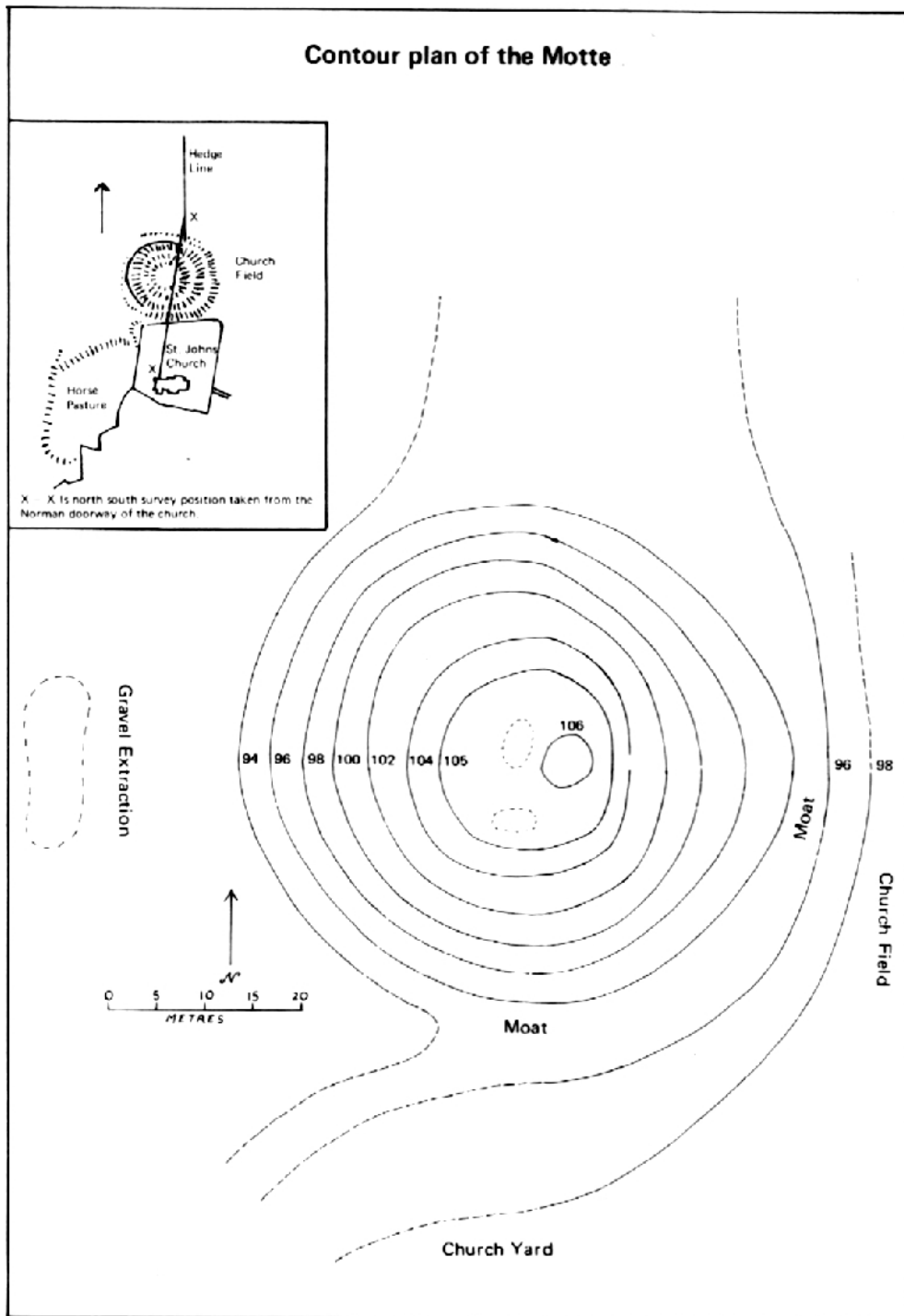
A flight made on the 12 July, 1976, produced a cropmark of the Roman road between C and D and also its junction with another road from the north west, shown on the map at E.

The 50 foot contour lines are shown on the map to indicate the physiography relating to the site.



A Survey of the Motte at Mount Bures, Essex.

Ida McMaster and A.J. Fawn B.Sc.



The motte stands on a ridge between the river Stour and the Cambridge brook, with Mount Bures churchyard adjacent on the south, map reference TL 90453255. In the summer of 1974 members of the group surveyed it using a dumpy level and staff kindly loaned by the Colchester Excavation Committee. The accompanying plans show the levels measured and the contours drawn from them. All measurements were centred on Peg C.

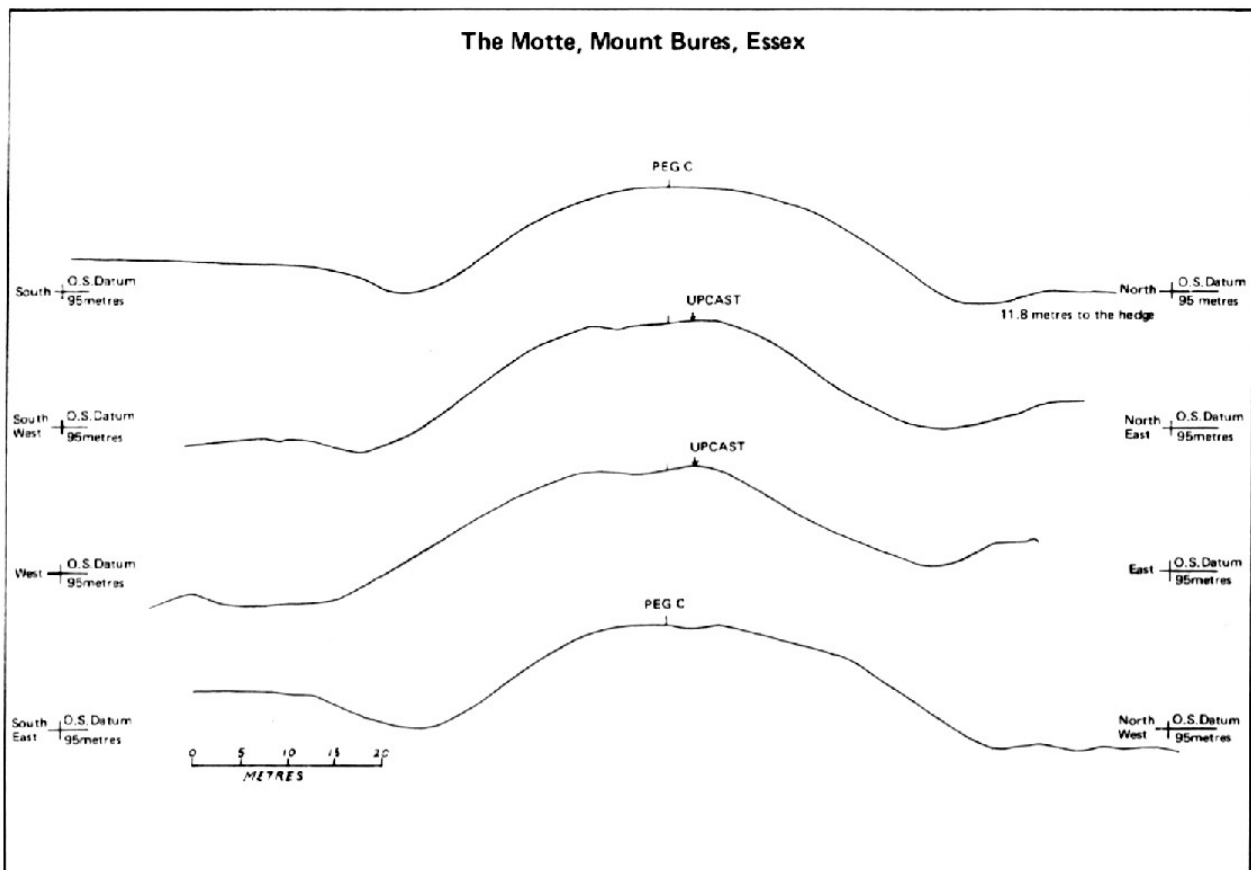
In its present state the motte has a diameter of about 50 metres and a height of about 10 metres above the present surrounding ground level. It stands not on the highest part of the ridge but just below the crest on a slight slope downwards towards the west before the land starts to fall away more steeply to the brook. Church field adjoining the mound to the east appears now to be almost level but excavation has shown, both to the north-east and east, that it has a substantial depth of top soil in areas nearest to the motte. More than would be accounted for by a levelled rampart and therefore ploughing must have transferred the soil down the slope.

To the south-west of the motte the ground rises sharply on to what was thought to be the bailey area. However, a previous Group excavation showed that the terrace was formed by ploughing in an old enclosed horse pasture. (C.A.G. Bulletin 1969 Vol. 12, No. 3 p. 31).

The encircling moat is most evident on the east and south sides but it is practically non-existent on the west and north, being much disturbed by gravel extraction in the 19th century in addition to any natural silting. In-view of the nature of the terrain it seems likely that the moat was always dry, the subsoil being sandy gravel.

Two large holes, indicated by dotted lines on the contour plan, on the motte summit are the remains of two excavations, evidently carried out with more enthusiasm than skill, one made in the 19th century and the other about thirty years ago. If anything of interest was found there is no record of it. Robber upcast is shown on the plan also.

It is difficult to imagine a practical reason for placing the motte slightly below the crest of the ridge, unless in some way it cut down the labour required. Sheer experience of such fortifications might be the answer and Robert of Poitou (Montgomery-Belleme) holder of Mount Bures manor at Domesday would certainly have had this knowledge. (C.A.G. Bulletin 1972 Vol. 15 p. 16). Roger, his two brothers Hugh and Robert together with their father Roger I were all ruthless fighting men who between the years 1070 and 1074 built the motte at Hen Dolmen, Montgomery. (Chateau Gaillard 111 1969. P. Barker.) A fine bailey still remains there, unlike Mount Bures, but the two mottes are certainly similar. That at Hen Dolmen is not so high but as it has been partially destroyed it may have been higher. Its plan shows the area of the summit to be fractionally larger than Mount Bures but if Hen Dolmen was originally taller the two summits would be comparable in area as they are in base dimensions.



A practical exercise in dating by thermo-remnant magnetism

Kath Evans

Dating by thermo-remnant magnetism is based on the fact that the magnetic field of the earth (of which magnetic north is the most familiar) is constantly changing in direction and intensity and that these changes can be related to specific periods of time.

These changes are said to be observable in certain rocks; magnetic north is recorded for some historic times (London 1586, Rome 1540 amongst a few others) and new records are currently being established by dating from archaeological

situations and objects. In this way the changes of magnetic north, plotted in the form of a curve, are being recorded, though the record is far from complete.

Magnetic oxides are contained in certain substances, including clay. When such substances are heated above a certain temperature, or "blocking point" they take on the direction and intensity of the surrounding magnetic field so that magnetic north at the time of firing becomes fixed within the clay.

Theoretically then, it is possible to measure magnetic north in clay fired to "blocking point" and compare this measurement with the historic plot or curve of magnetic north and so date the time of firing of the clay. Three essentials are that the clay is still in situ when measurements are taken, that its direction at the time of firing is known and that it can be related to an external reference point.

With this theory in mind and the knowledge that the three essentials listed above were met, it seemed a good plan to try to see if the floor and lower walls of the Iron Age hearth in the Peldon Red Hill could be dated.

Mr Tony Clarke, Magnetic Survey Officer of the Department of Environment was interested and one hot day last July came to Peldon to take the necessary samples. He explained that he would take away small samples of fired clay, which must be dry. For a site covered twice a day by the tide this might have been a problem, but we had chosen a neap tide and luckily a hot sun shone.

Mr Clarke explained that the position of the magnetic field was known only for certain periods. Therefore if the Peldon clay, fairly confidently thought to have been fired in the Iron Age or early Roman times, gave a result on remnant magnetism, not only would the dating of the firing be of interest, but it might well provide another reference point on the plot of historic magnetic north.

A few weeks later provisional result was available, the remnant magnetism retained in the hearth wall and floor indicated that firing took place somewhere around the year 200 BC. Though this finding still awaits confirmation, the date fits in well with other observations on relative dating for the two Red Hills excavated so far. At Peldon no Roman pottery was found, only that of the Iron Age. The techniques of salt production there appeared somewhat earlier than at the Osea Road Red Hill where both Roman and Iron Age pottery was found and where carbon 14 analysis, using carbonised wood, gave a date of 180 BC \pm 90.

Further corroboration may yet come from a sample of carbonised wood, found immediately under the level at which Mr Clarke took the clay samples from the hearth, which has now gone for carbon 14 dating.

Excavation of a ring-ditch on Bromley Thicks

P.R. Holbert

The site was visible from the ground during the drought of 1976 and while it was visible it was marked by pieces of slate placed in the centre before the corn was cut.

The site had already been observed from the air by Mrs McMaster (C.A.G. Bulletin 1975 Vol. 18 pp 15-16 Map 3, Site B). The land is now farmed by Mr G.F. Kempster, of New House Farm, Great Bromley, but all the fields around are apportioned to different farmers so that we prefer to refer to the site as "Bromley Thicks", the name it had until it was taken into cultivation in the 19th century.

Mrs McMaster described Site B as "three rings of diameters 10, 13, and 25 metres with a stretch of possible track or driveway intersecting two of them...." Our site was the most northerly of the three with a diameter of approximately 10 metres (see map of district)

Excavation

See main plan and section

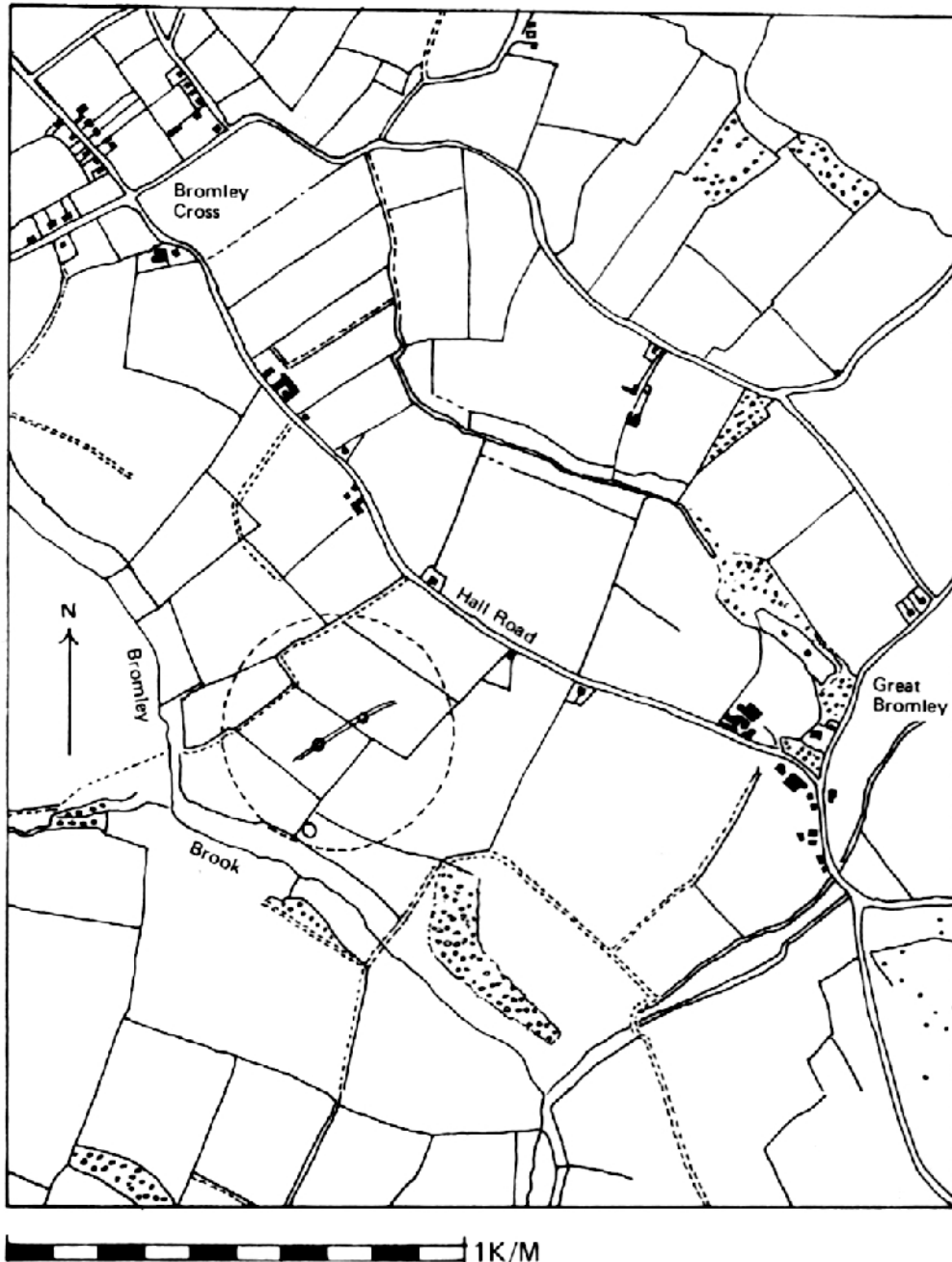
The circular ditch was dug out completely over the greater part of its length. The fill consisted of the usual smooth pale grey silty material with some indication of turf lines with larger stones in the primary silting.

The feature marked A—A is an early Victorian field drain, surprising in the fact that it runs parallel to the Northern trackway alignment B--B at this point. C---C is the Southern trackway alignment. These alignments, supposed at first to

be ditches, were found to be more like the root system of hedge lines, being quite shallow and irregular in form. They also appear to fit in with an ancient field system which shows up on aerial photographs of the area.

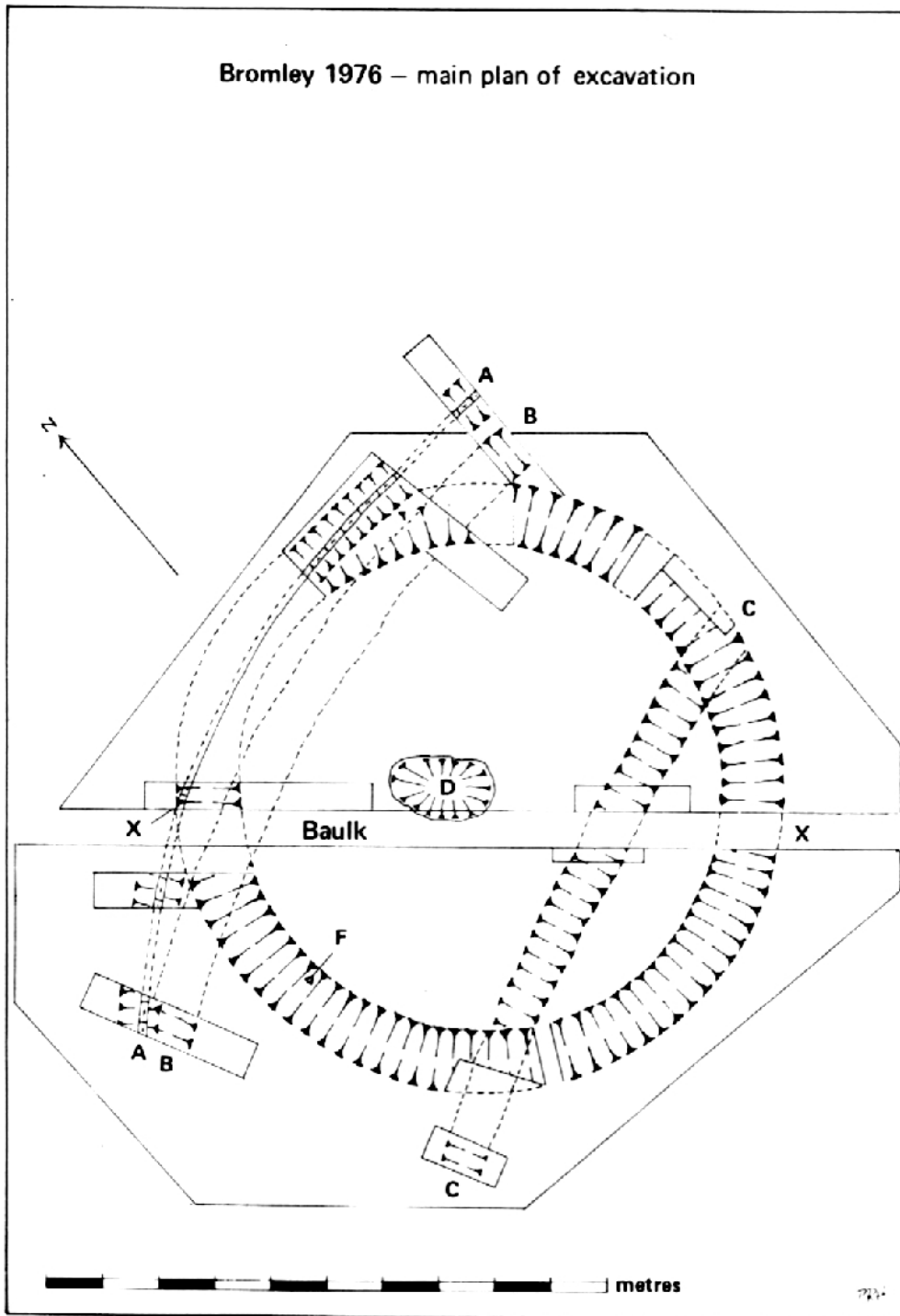
The off-centre pit D contained no burial and there was no indication that it ever had. The remaining area within the circular ditch was searched for secondary burials without result.

Bromley 1976 – showing 3 rings and alignments

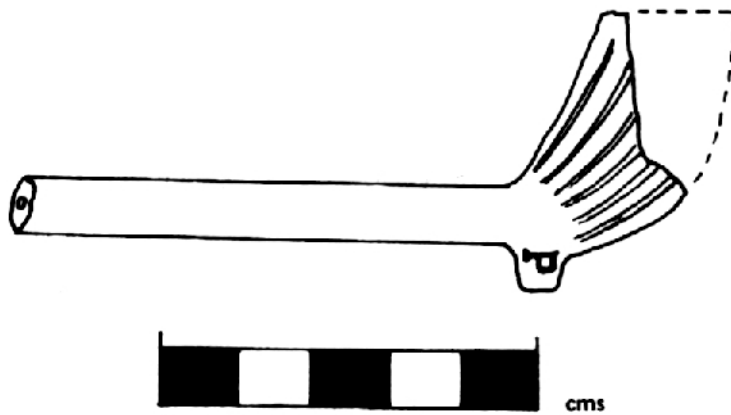
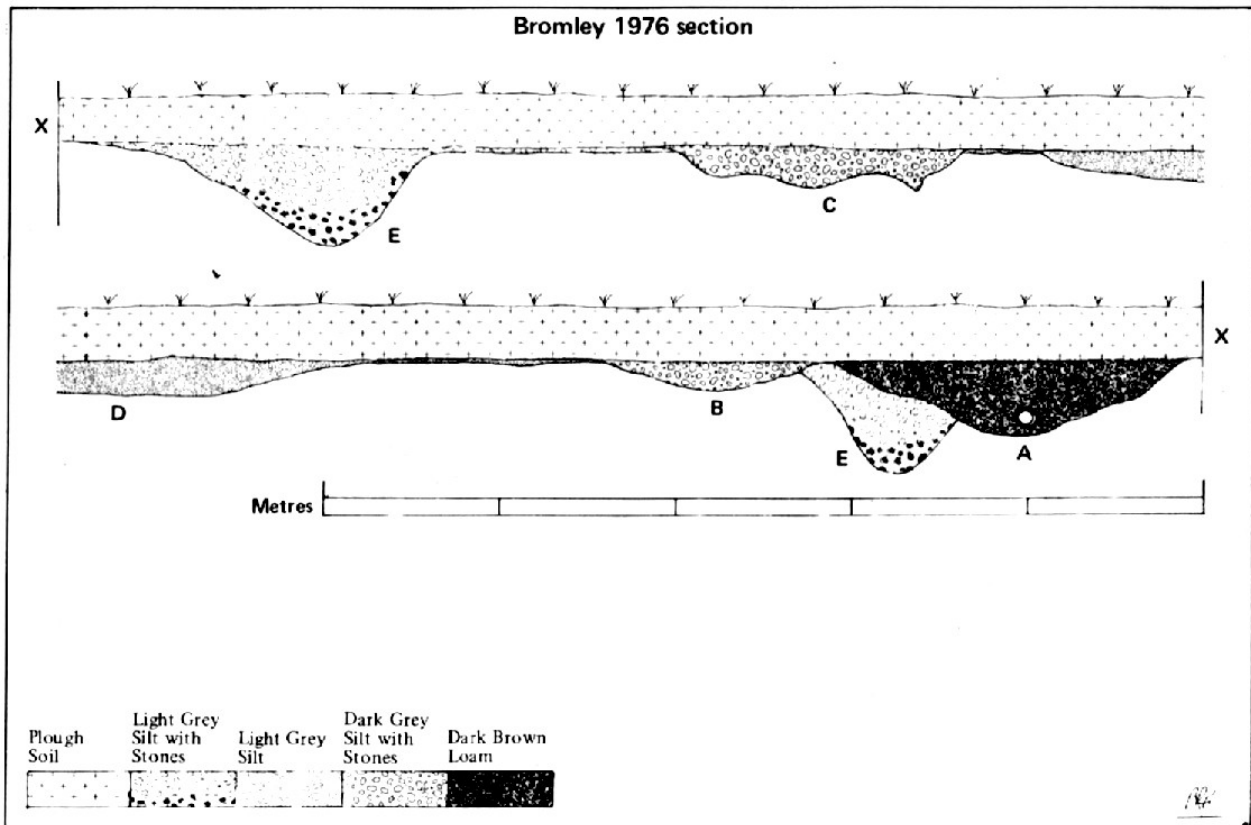


Finds

Prehistoric pottery: a few sherds of a plain hand made pot of either late Bronze Age or very early Iron Age were found in the circular ditch due west of the centre at a depth of 60cms. They included part of a plain flat uncurved rim. The fabric was very coarse with a considerable tempering of crushed flint which showed through substantially on the inside and somewhat less so on the outside. The thickness varied between 0.8 and 1.0 cms and the diameter of the pot was estimated to be 15cms. The fabric itself was black but the exterior a pale brown in colour.



Clay Tobacco pipe: a stem and part of the bowl of a clay tobacco pipe were found about 5cms below one of the land drains, a helpful clue to the date of the modern ditch. The spur below the bowl of the pipe was marked with the letter J on one side and P on the other, indicating that it was made by James Pettitt of East Street, Colchester who is listed as operating 1838. (C.A.G. Bulletin 1959, Vol 2, No.1. Clay Tobacco Pipe Makers — a Colchester Chronology, L.H. Gant).



Conclusions

The alignments are certainly later in date than the burial, clearly cutting through the filling of the circular ditch.

A few sherds of Bronze Age pottery were found in the circular ditch at the position marked F on the plan. These sherds may indicate that a central burial was disturbed in antiquity.

This disturbance may have occurred at the time that the track-way was constructed, the burial mound being levelled in the process.

Acknowledgments

To Mr G.F. Kempster who so patiently allowed us to excavate and to his son William Kempster for taking off the plough soil and filling in, we offer our grateful thanks.

Local Amenity Society Award Scheme 1975

Members will be interested to read that "Salt", the publication of the Proceedings of the Salt Weekend organised by the Group in September 1974, has been judged the winning entry for written and illustrated material (Category A) under this Scheme. The judges congratulate the Group on its effort and inform us that a Certificate and a prize of £25 are to be awarded shortly.

The Red Hill at Peldon

Kay de Brisay.

After four years the excavation of the Peldon Red Hill came to an end in the autumn of 1976. To those who worked on this site, the enduring memory will be that of the sea stealing up the creeks and Hooding the site just as things were getting interesting. Archaeologically, however, this excavation was of great importance in furthering the knowledge of Iron Age salt-making in Essex; the discovery of hearth walls, the tops of which were indented with the impressions of fire-bars; the increase of knowledge of the sequence of fire-bars themselves; the varieties of brine containers, troughs and shallow pans, the latter with rims showing a number of different decorations; and the evidence of the re-use of briquetage in the make-up of hearth walls and floors. But the most significant discovery was that of a hearth presumably for the crystallisation of brine in situ. A part of the latest wall remained and also a series of floors, one below the other. There were seven levels of these remaining, each with signs of several firings making a total of upwards of thirty in all. Magnetic and carbon 14 dating samples were taken, final results of which have not yet been received. Very little pottery was found; some early Iron Age sherds in the lower levels and some good quality Belgic which included just over half of a pedestal beaker of Cunobelin type. There was no Roman pottery. A full report of this excavation is in course of preparation.

The next Red Hill excavation will be at Tollesbury beginning on Easter Monday. Anyone interested please get in touch with me. (Layer de la Haye 274).

Unlocated – 1974

P. M. Barford

In June 1974, after the construction of the A604 Wix bypass a collection of Roman finds was found, redeposited in spreads of black loam dumped on the verge of the road. Extensive fieldwork since then has failed to detect any similar material along the line of the new road from Ramsey to Horseley Cross.

Large quantities of roofing tile, mostly red, but a few tiles in a yellow/buff fabric, mortared septaria, flue tiles and two mosaic cubes attest a fairly substantial structure.

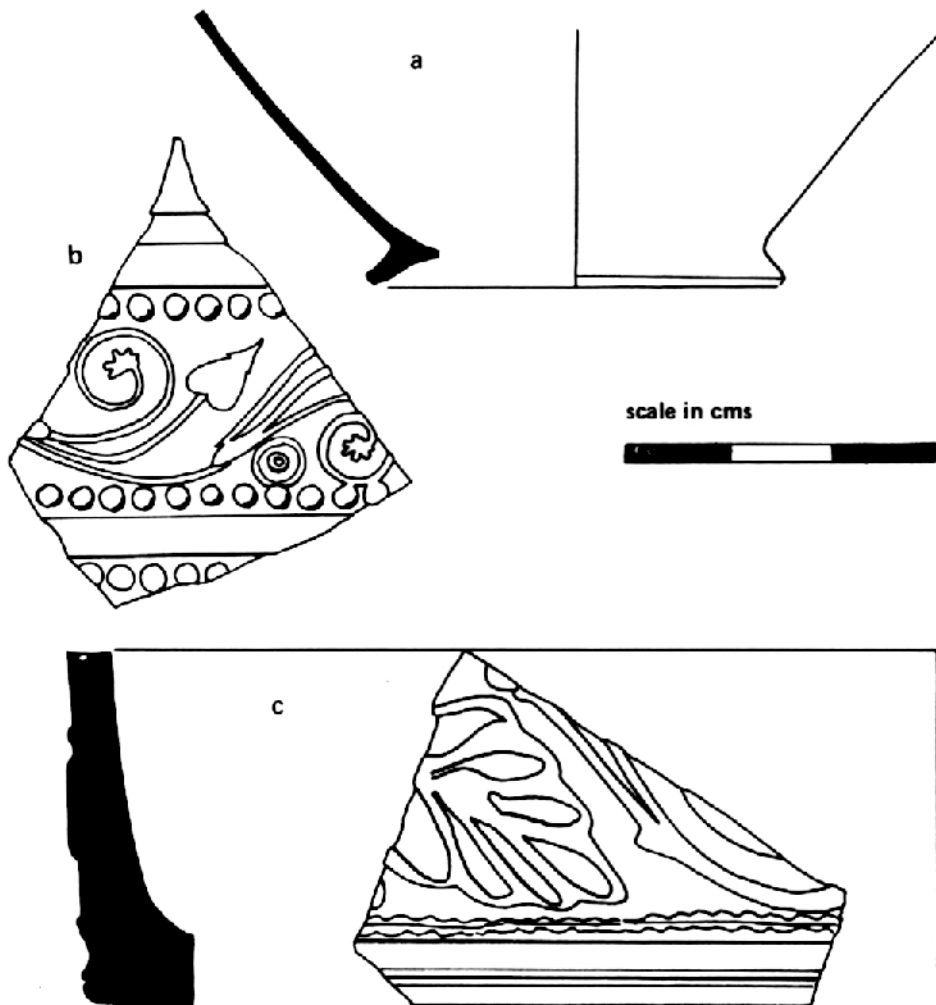
Many animal bones and oyster shells occurred in the spreads; mostly cow, but sheep, pig and occasional deer and fowl were represented.

Much of the pottery dates from the early conquest period with a sharp drop in quantity after about 260 AD. There is a small fragment of carination of a grass-tempered pot and a few fragments of late medieval glazed wares. The Sigillata is mostly early and two pots were stamped OFC...ST1C and SECVNDVS on Drag. 17 and Drag. 15/17 respectively. The decorated sherd illustrated (b) is of a Drag. 29; the sherd illustrated (c) has been fired in a reducing atmosphere, both are fairly early. The eggshell ware, illustrated (a) is an unpublished form, it is of a very fine grey fabric with a well burnished exterior. Reeded bowls (Cam. 245 and 243) and a Terra Rubra bowl (Cam. 17) also occurred. Mica dusted wares, poppy beakers with barbotine dots or rouletting were also present. Many sherds of cylindrical amphorae were found, some re-used in sherd form.

Metal-working is evidenced by bronze and iron pieces, and a small fragment of crucible with slag adhering.

During the construction of the Wix flyover, NGR TM 163283, a small sherd of Cam. 268, oyster shell and an iron nail were found on a spoil heap. At TM 178289 a single abraded Roman sherd was found. Nearby a waster, which may be Roman, was removed during the construction of the road. It is clear, however, that the material of the spreads comes from somewhere other than the line of the new road, perhaps Colchester. The contractors were asked about the origin of the dumped earth but they were not able to help.

The finds are to be deposited in Colchester museum and a full account complete with full references is to be deposited with the County Archaeologist.



CROPMARKS in the year of the drought.

Ida McMaster and R.H. Farrands

The following sites are those discovered by Ida McMaster and R.H. Farrands during 1976 and which have not been previously published by the Colchester Archaeological Group in their Annual Bulletins.

Berechurch, Colchester Ex.* Birch Ex.*	TL 98202145 TM 95852090	Large ring ditch; other vague cropmarks. See CAG. 1975 Vol. 18 page 24. under Colchester. Ring ditch now seen to have an entrance on the eastside. Lies close to the Dykes and Roman road through Gosbecks. Large square enclosure close by.
Boxted, Ex.* Bradfield, Ex.** Brightlingsea, Ex.*	TL 99003297 TM 142291 TM 07871921	Faint enclosure; D shaped one side with a small rectangular annexe attached to the other side. Additional faint small ring ditches visible to ring ditch listed in C.A.G. 1975 Vol. 18 p.23. Entry in C.A.G. 1975 Vol. 18, wrongly recorded. Should have indicated that only an ovate enclosure at TM078192. This cropmark is considered to be a long barrow/pillow mound outline similar to those already recorded at Rivenhall, Lawford and Stratford St. Mary, all with ring ditches close by. Other faint enclosures.
	TM 08951795	Large rectangular enclosure with an entrance at the north east corner. Other vague linear cropmarks and enclosures adjoining.
Bucklesham, Sfk.**	TM 26264078 TM 248411	One large ring ditch. Ditched trackway.
Bures St Mary/ Nayland-with-Wissington, Stk. ***	TL 92953320	Associated with Smallbridge Hall (of Tudor construction and earlier Feet of Fines records) is a most interesting complex of possible crofts or buildings with a roadway. The Roman road from Chilton near Sudbury should pass close to this point but slightly to the east. It may have veered in order to cross the Stour here. A very large 'gyrus' type outline lies close to the croft complex.
Bures St. Mary, Sfk.**	TL 90873358 TL 90153487	One large ring ditch. One large ring ditch.

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Coddenham, Sfk.**	TM 11255310	Roman road, London to Norwich, showing junction with another road from the north west. See C.A.G. 1975 Vo1.18,p.24.
Colchester Ex.**	TL 963228 TM 027258	Roman fort with twin ditches. Roman road Colchester to Mistley. Cropmarks in grass photographed from the ground in playing fields at Greenstead
Creting St. Mary, Stk.	TM 087856113 TM 08575596 TM 08545590	One ring ditch. One ring ditch. Double concentric ring ditches.
East Mersea, Ex.*	TM 06351440	One large and one small ring ditch adjoin one another. Field outlines and linear features traversing.
Elmstead, Ex.**	TM 07152375	Two straight parallel road ditches. 1000 yards in length and on alignment of 308/128 degrees. Roman road?
Elmstead, Ex.**	TM 06672385	One ring ditch.
Erwarton/Shotley, Sfk.**	TM 23153455	Rectangular enclosure adjacent to triple ditches.
Erwarton, Sfk.*	TM 21253492 TM 21203478 ** TM 23053485 TM 22913485	Three ring ditches conjoined. Small enclosure or building. Field outlines with `service corridor' formation. Double concentric ring ditches One ring ditch.
Falkenham, Sfk.**	TM 29022867 TM 29053864 TM 28923860 TM 28883862	Group of four ring ditches.
Felixstowe, Sfk.**	TM 30053660 TM 29683660 TM 29953672	One large ring ditch. One ring ditch. Small ditched square. Other linear features.
Freston, Sfk.*	TM 17453860	An overlaid field system.
Great Bentley, Ex.***	TM 09852228 * TM 09802248	One large ring ditch. Sub-rectangular small enclosure to the north of above.
Great Bromley, Ex.**	TM 07612690	One large ring ditch.
Great Clacton, Ex.**	TM 16061465 TM 16201450	One ring ditch One ring ditch.
Great Clacton, Jaywick, Ex.*	TM 14801520	Possible ring/hut circle lying within a field system with parallel `service corridor' systems.
Great Clacton, Jaywick, Ex.*	TM 14451430	Old creek outlines adjoin a compact overlaid field system. Many linear ditches and vague cropmarks lie between this site and the preceding one.
Great Tey, Ex.*	TL 88852510 TL 88802515	One ring ditch. One ring ditch.
Harkstead, SYk.*	TM 197360	See C.A.G.1975,VoL 18,p.24. In addition to the ring ditches, there is an extensive area of parallel `service corridor' field formations.
Ipswich, Foxhall, Sfk.*	TM 22624162 TM 22834190	Close to the Airport circuit is a bottle necked pit outline having a very dark infill, and surround of contrasting light soil which gives a banked appearance. Another similar dark outline is L shaped with projections giving a building plan effect. See CA.G.1975,Vo1.18,p.13.
Higham, Sfk.**	TM 04203504 TM 03853520	One ring ditch. 500 yard stretch of twin parallel straight ditches on a bearing of 320/140 degrees.
Holbrook, SYk.**	TM 18293548	One large ring ditch.
Lamarsh, Sfk.**	TL 892359	One large and two small ring ditches. Additional to the group of four rings in C.A.G.1971,Vol.14,Map I.
Langham, Ex.***	TM 03403450 *TM 03303450 TM 03453305 *** TM 02263409 TM 02333410 TM 02553420 TM 02503405	An impressive cluster of small ring ditches numbering at least twenty. See C.A.G.1975, Vo1.18, Map 11 for the area of these sites which may have continuity with the Iron Age/Roman farmstead recorded there and closely adjoining. Possibly associated is a large rectangular enclosure which lies beside what was probably once a marshy stream adjoining the Stour. Single well defined ring ditch partly cut by a modern drive-way. Ring ditch cut by reservoir. Ring ditch cut by reservoir. One ring ditch cut by hedge line. Crossroads formed by two ditched straight roads meeting nearly at right angles. Approximate alignment of each road 290/110 degrees and 200/020 degrees. Cropmarks extend over several fields until obscured by crop differentials etc.
Langham, Ex.***	TM 02853425	To the north east of the crossroads lies a small rectangular enclosure having an entrance in one corner. See C.A.G.1971,Vo1.14, Map 11 and C.A.G.1975,Vo1.18, p.24. for adjoining ring ditch site to the north. Also the Stoke by Nayland site which lies on the opposite bank of the Stour.
Lawford, Ex.***	TM 08603255	See C.A.G.1976,Vo1.19,p.22. This large pear shaped enclosure is now seen to be protected on the south west side by four successive ditches (drainage?). The interior is criss-crossed by divisions which appear somewhat small for field enclosures.

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	TM 086327	The impressive ring ditch cluster adjoining the above See D.R. Wilson, C.B.A. Research Report No. 12,p.14.
Little Bromley, Ex.***	TM 09002905 -TM 10952910	Here at each end of the existing Little Bromley road, the possible Roman junction route could be seen to continue at these points. 'Road mending' pits occur at the former. See C.A.G.1976,VoL 19,p. 16.
	*TM 08552940	Overlaid field outlines to the north of the former are situated within the angle formed by the above route and the established Colchester to Mistley Roman road.
	*** TM 09122700	See C.A.G.1971,Vo1.14, Map 22. One large well defined ring ditch lies a few feet north of those already recorded at site B. There are also several small rings in addition together with a 'service corridor' field system overlaid by much larger fields mostly having entrances along one side. These continue north west and overlie the henge at site D where several more small ring ditches may now be seen on its south east side at TM 09002733, 09032738, 09042735, and 08992730.
	TM 08752700	Northwest of the henge is a particularly well defined square enclosure with sides 35metres in length. An entrance midway along its south west side. The north and east corners are rounded and slightly splayed.
Mistley, Ex.**	TM 109311	Cropmarks in grass photographed on the ground in park land adjacent to Mistley Hall showing side ditches to the Colchester-Mistley Roman road.
	*TM 121031	25 Overlaid rectangular cropmarks, linear ditches, pits etc. which could also be seen on the ground in rough pasture. No ploughing has taken place here in living memory. 1960 and 1963 photography showed the same cropmarks.
	TM 122272	One ring ditch confirmed. See C.A.G.1975,VoL I 8,p.25.
Mount Bures, Ex.*	TL 909324	An oval outline of higher corn was photographed from the top of a combine harvester close to the site of two neolithic flint finds already recorded.
Nayland with Wissington.***	TL 93153320	Overlaid field outlines continue to the north east and south east of the Smallbridge Hall site at TL 92953320.
	TL 93223323	Also a clear rectangular enclosure adjoins the road and has possible internal parallel post holes.
	**TL93163309	One ring ditch in the same area.
	TL 93153325	One ring ditch in the same area.
	TL 95923325	See C.A.G.1971,VoL 14, Map 7 for the Bronze Age ring ditch complex adjoining.
	TL 96033329	One large ring ditch.
St. Osyth, Jaywick, Ex.***	TM 13751433	One wide-ditched ring containing an off centre inner ring, hut circle?. Linear ditches nearby probably associated.
	*TM 13501435	East of Whyers Hall Farm is a large system of overlaid fields which adjoin the above site.
St Osyth, Ex.*	TM 13501530	Overlaid field system with several 'service corridor' formations and possible hut circle.
	TM 11301500	Adjoining St Osyth Creek is a large double ditched ring with a possible entrance.
	**TM 12041888	One ring ditch. Other linear cropmarks in the vicinity
	TM 14181639	One small ring ditch. Many field ditch cropmarks in the vicinity.
Shelley, Suffolk.*	TM 03353920	One large ring ditch at each site both lying only a matter TM 03303915 of yards from the river Brett. The larger has inner features.
Shotley, Suffolk."	TM 23283524	Double concentric ring ditches.
	TM 23133516	Length of two straight parallel ditches pointing to rectangular enclosure referred to under Erwarton/Shotley.
	TM 24293429	One ring ditch.
	TM 22673509	One ring ditch. Other cropmark features in the vicinity. TM22773512 One ring ditch in the vicinity of the one above
	TM22463628	One ring ditch.
	TM 22483646	One ring ditch cut by hedgeline
	TM23013645	One ring ditch.
St oke-by-Nay land, Suffolk.*	TM 02303630	Two ring ditches close together.
Stoke-by-Nayland.***	TM 02253465	In the angle made by the confluence of the rivers Stour and Box is a large sub circular enclosure with a ring/hut circle within it. Adjoining to the north are the great Nether Hall ring ditches. See C.A.G.1971,Vo1.14,Map 12.
	*TM 01253485	Wide intersecting and overlaid linear ditches cover a small area.
		The following are new cropmarks in addition to those shown in C.A.G.1971,Vo1.14,Map 9.
Stoke-by-Nayland.**	TL 98653500	One medium ring ditch.
	TL 98373493	One medium ring ditch.
	TL 98423510	One large ring ditch. Shown as a half ring in Map 9 referred to above.
	TL 98403520	70 metre length of two straight parallel ditches running north and south.
Stratford St Mary, Sfk.*	TM 05453405	Vague sub-rectangular enclosure and part of an oval one with linear ditches near.
	TM 05153412	One small ring ditch enclosed within a small rectangular field which has an entrance at one end. The opposing end is open or ploughed away. See C.A.G. 1971,Vol.14, Map 18 for remainder of this large complex.
Stutton, Sfk.*	TM 12323375	Overlaid fields. trackways.
TM 13903495		Cropmarks of linear features and possible field formations.
Sudbury, Sfk.*	TL 875405	Two ring ditches. No photograph.

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Sutton, Sfk.**	TM 28854872	Sutton Hoo Ship barrows
Tattingstone, Sfk.**	TM 15723728 TM 15673724 TM 15693725 TM15643722 TM 15813732 * TM 15103647	Group of four small ring ditches. Possibly others but not sufficiently defined. Trackway and other linear features in the vicinity Small ring ditch adjacent to group above. Exceedingly well defined rectangular enclosure or building having a possible passage at one end. Many overlaid fields and several service corridors. Small ring ditch/hut circle within a service corridor type field system. A long trackway passes close by. See C.A.G.197S, VolL 18, p.2S. for adjoining site. Two adjacent ring ditches south of Great Marsh Farm. Possibly a third ring. 550 metre length of two parallel straight ditches running 145/325 degrees. Possible Roman road.
Thorrington, Ex.*	TM 096S193S TM 10701 860 **TM 097210	
Trimley St Martin, Sfk.**	TM 27053900 TM 27103895 TM 28453780 TM 262392	One large ring ditch. Close to above ring ditch, a complex rectangular enclosure half of which is subdivided. Crude formation of its ditches suggests prehistoric origin. Irregular rectangular enclosure. Probably prehistoric. Two ditched trackways.
Wix, Ex.**	TM 27021333	One ring ditch.
Wolverstone, Stk.*	TM 18333718 TM 18303775 TM 18423736	Large ring ditch with inner subcircular feature. Single ring north of Whitehouse Farm. L shaped parallel ditch lines with palisade type gaps, probably the effects of plough damage.
Wormingford, Ex.*	TL 945328 TL 92353285	One large ring ditch. See C.A.G.1971, Vol.14, Map 6. One very large and several small additional ring ditches lie between sites A and B.

The 1976 season produced an exceptional number of cropmarks as a result of a very dry summer and preceding winter. Due to the high cost of private flying and time involved, it was only possible to photograph a small proportion of cropmarks visible and within short range of airfields used.

* Site photographed by Mrs. McMaster

** Site photographed by Mr. Farrands

*** Site photographed by both Mrs. McMaster and Mr. Farrands

Recent discoveries on Pete Tye Common

A.A. Doorne.

The main site is a bank, developing into a series of banks. It extends from a point on the west side of the Mersea Road approximately 450 metres south of the junction of Mersea Road and Fingringhoe back Road (TM 006182).

The bank appears to form the boundary of Pete Tye Common. At first it runs north westerly for about 265 metres where a small entrance has been cut through it to a field to the south. About 9 metres further along and extending out from the bank is a pond. The bank then continues north-westerly for about 118 metres, then veers westerly for a further 90 metres, turning abruptly south-west for about 27 metres to join a double hedge system. The hedge system continues east-south-east for about 90 metres and then south-east for a further 173 metres.

Old maps show a building approximately 54 metres east of the break in the bank, but the remains of the buildings which can now be seen by the pond are not shown, neither is the pond shown.

There is a scatter of material over a wide area near the existing pond – brick lime, cobbles, pottery and oyster shell. From the way the material is lying it seems that the second building also fell into ruins and collapsed. The pond, which was dry owing to the drought, is surrounded by English hedgerow elm (*ulmus procera*) the roots of which are exposed revealing brick tile and pottery. This species of elm was used by landlords about 300 years ago for enclosure and was probably set to mark the boundary of the common, as mentioned above. The material found in the banks of the pond would seem to indicate a date between 15th and 17th centuries for the second building though, it could well have been built on an earlier site. The pond appears to have been dug through the bank and is, therefore, of a later date, while the building, some of its foundation still visible in the dry banks of the pond, appears to be later than the bank, but would predate the pond. The double hedge has not yet been fully examined but is approximately 8 feet at its widest and appears to lead to the enclosure behind the pond.

As is usual in the country, when there are no organised refuse collections, the pond has been used to dump rubbish. Among the rubbish were several pieces of willow pattern, cream ware and Staffordshire pottery of the mid 19th century together with a clay pipe bowl which has been identified as having been made between 1620 and 1650. Some of the earlier pottery sherds probably belong to the Cromwellian period and there is evidence that some of the participants in the war fled in this direction.

Also found was the tibia of a horse (not in association with any dateable material) and other small crushed bones. The oyster shell present is probably remains of the cottagers food. The presence of cobbles suggests some form of roadway, perhaps between the house and outbuildings or for access to the main road to Mersea, though this would have been undefined and impassable at times.

Amongst the bricks was one which had a mark resembling the broad arrow on it and this, together with a fragment of lava, was passed to Mr F.S. Harley for his expert opinion which follows.

Bricks and lava found in pond on Pete Tye Common TM006182 approx

L.S. Harley, B Sc, FSA

Three brick fragments were examined and showed the following characteristics:

- a) Colour Orange-red (15) many pebble inclusions
- b) Colour Pinky-yellow or light Venice red (19 or 14) sooted on one BL face
- c) Colour Salmon (18) bears a graffito K or IK cut through a plastered or mortared BL face

The period of manufacture of the bricks appears varied:

- a) might well be later 15th or early 16th century
- b) might well be early 17th century
- c) might well be early 17th century

I understand that c) formed part of a wall in situ— if so the graffito K must have been scratched in its BL surface after removal from the wall, since the graffito cuts through a thin plaster or mortar layer remaining on the surface, which cannot have been exposed during the use of this brick in the wall.

The fragment of Lava appears to be part of the outside edge of the lower stone of a quern of the type used by the Romano-British villa-dwellers of 2nd - 4th century. The lava is apparently from the Andernach or Niedermendig district of the Lower Rhine and this Rhenish lava can be distinguished by inclusions of the crystalline mineral Hauyne, which presumably enhanced the grinding qualities of the material. The presence of Hauyne is a diagnostic criterion which can be seen in a freshly fractured surface by the use of a hand lens. It should be remembered that similar material was used to make hand querns in medieval times and even into the 18th century for English cottagers.

The picture I have guessed is of a ruined cottage (perhaps of later 16th century) having fallen into decay in perhaps the mid 19th century and the bricks of the original chimney and its later repairs then being used for fun by children. The quern could have belonged to the cottager, but the curvature of its edge suggests to me a larger quern than is likely to have been in such a cottage; it is just possibly from a nearby Roman site.

Note by Mr A.A. Doorne.

The first impression that the mark on the brick was a broad arrow similar to that used on the bench mark led to some discussion and finally a letter to the Controller Ordnance Survey about the origin of the bench mark. He replied that there was nothing on record as to the origin of the term bench mark, the form of the mark or when it was first used.

It is perhaps of interest to see that the Oxford Dictionary definition of Broad- arrow is "mark used by the Board of Ordnance". Newnes Encyclopedia says of the Board of Ordnance "This was set up by Henry VIII in 1518 to provide the Master of Ordnance, a title first recorded in 1414, with an efficient organization for the provision of military armament and equipment. After the restoration of Charles II the Ordnance was divided into two distinct branches, the military, which finally developed into the Royal Regiment of Artillery and the Corps of Royal Engineers, and the Civil, concerned with supply. The Master-General acted as military adviser to the Government and in the 18th and early 19th century had a seat in the cabinet. The Board was abolished in 1855.

The Trinovantian Civitas Capital

G.M.R. Davies M.A., A.M.A.

Local Government was introduced gradually into Britain by the Romans in the wake of military occupation and comprised as its major elements the civitates peregrinae, which were regional districts with an unenfranchised population formed as far as possible from existing British tribes. Administration of each civitas was centred on a capital and included the whole district except for any town important enough to have achieved self-government as a colonia or municipium.

Highest in status was a *colonia* with its population mainly of Roman citizens, whose administrative powers extended over a defined area of surrounding land (*territorium*). In Britain the early colonies were founded as settlements of veterans from the Roman army who were all granted their own plots of land. *Colonia Claudia Victricensis* became the first of these in A.D.49 when it took over the site of the legionary fortress at Colchester,(1), which was already the seat of provincial government.

A *municipium*, which also usually administered a *territorium*, ranked lower than a colonies since it held only Latin or half franchise. This status was normally reserved for award to existing native towns and could provide a possible stepping-stone to full franchise. Indeed, Roman citizenship was bestowed on its magistrates and their families so that there would be a steadily increasing number of full citizens among the population.(2).

The *civitates peregrinae*, therefore, whose old tribal centres often became the new capital towns, were lower in status than the *coloniae* and *municipia*. But, unlike these chartered towns with their *territoria*, the *civitas* as a whole and not the town at its centre, was the legal element to which its inhabitants belonged and in which they were registered (*origo*). There is evidence (3) for some sixteen *civitates peregrinae* in Britain and eleven of their capitals are known with certainty, though four others can be deduced with reasonable probability. Somewhat surprisingly, however, the one capital completely lacking direct evidence is that of the *civitas Trinovantium*, whose existence as an administrative element entirely separate from the colony rather than as subject to it (*attributi*) is indicated by Ptolemy (4). He refers to *Camulodunum* as the only town of the *Trinovantes*, though not necessarily implying that the *civitas* was administered from there.

The only two possible candidates, which are variously favoured by archaeologists as the *Trinovantian civitas* capital, are Chelmsford and Colchester. The former's Roman name, *Caesaromagus*, (5) is unique in Britain in possessing an imperial prefix, which in Gaul was given to new imperial foundations and these nearly always tribal capitals (6). Exactly why and when this highly distinctive name, meaning "the plain of Caesar," (7) was given is not known, but an early date is generally preferred, perhaps in commemoration of Caesar's links with the *Trinovantes* or more likely to mark activities of Claudius (8) immediately before his triumphant capture of *Camulodunum* in A.D. 43.

Recent archaeological evidence (10) suggests that *Caesaromagus* originated from the civil settlement (*vicus*) of a Claudian fort (11) with major expansion into a small town in the later first century. However, other than receiving earthen banks round the central area a century later, it changed little throughout the rest of the Roman period and never developed to comparable size or to the level of prosperity known in most *civitas* capitals. How much its existence depended on crucial siting at a major road-junction is illustrated by the largest. Roman building so far discovered in Chelmsford. Set back from the main street and dominating the south-eastern corner of the town stood an official staging-post or inn (*mansio*) where authorized civil and military officers could stay over night at public expense.

It has been suggested (12) that *Caesaromagus* was designated *civitas* capital as a magnanimous gesture to compensate the *Trinovantes* for losing their tribal capital to the colony, and that, after demonstrating their opposition by joining Boudicca's revolt, the tribe were at least given back their chief religious centre at Gosbecks, while administration was centred on the colony. Although this explanation, if true, would nicely match the rather special place-name, there is no real evidence to support such a magnanimous gesture. Indeed, its very impracticability and known Roman treatment of the *Trinovantes* suggest that it is highly unlikely to have received much serious consideration.

From *Camulodunum* the most powerful kingdom in south-eastern Britain had been ruled by Cunobelin, (13) whom Suetonius called *Britannorum rex*. (14) In view of its great importance Claudius determined to capture the oppidum as his primary and personal objective in A.D.43, then he established the seat of provincial government there. The legionary fortress, being sited near the heart of the native capital, must have served as a drastically poignant reminder of the new regime of the *Trinovantes*, who would have been governed by military rule until A.D.49.

The colony in its turn must undoubtedly have exerted enormous commercial influence on the *Trinovantes*, who would also have continued to feel strong religious attraction to their traditional places of worship, even if access to them was at first denied. Besides contributing to internal provincial security, the colony was intended to serve as a model of the Roman way of life. These aims would best have been achieved if there was a close connection between Roman and native rather than the latter having an economically and traditionally undesirable *civitas* capital elsewhere.

Indeed some local inhabitants (*incolae*) may well have been included in the colony, (15), where ample space was available for them, and, because no regular traces of centuriation have been found outside in the *territorium*, the veterans' plots may quite possibly have been placed in more random order on account of native properties which had been allowed to continue after the conquest. The aerial discovery during summer 1976 of a Roman fort at Gosbecks (16) seems to support native activity there in the early years, since its siting inside the Heath Farm dyke suggests an outpost, not only to protect the fortress or colony, (17), but more significantly to maintain close surveillance on the indigenous population. It appears that, as well as being a religious site of some importance (18), Gosbecks was also

probably a sizeable settlement. According to Tacitus a contributory cause of the Boudiccan rebellion was that the colonists "kept on driving men from their homes and routing them from their lands, calling them captives and slaves". (20). The recipients of such unjust treatment may have been Trinovantian incolae living inside the territorium, but more likely the reference is to land-grabbing beyond the colony's legal limits. Tacitus' use of words suggests that the land in question was no longer or never had been, officially defined as 'taken in war' (*agri captivi*), in which case the colonists were poaching on the administrative area of the civitas. It is not possible to say whether the military authorities (21) who we are told turned a blind eye in sympathy with the colonists, have anything to do with a *praefectus civitatis* (22) and his staff whose duty was to establish local government.

Worthy of note is the fact that colonia Claudia Victricensis always remained the largest colony in Britain and was not balanced by a civitas town of comparable size, unlike the colonies at Lincoln (23) and Gloucester (24). These latter were deliberately founded on sites where no contention might exist between Roman and native interests, while administration of local civitates was centred well away at Leicester (*Ratae Coritanorum*) and Cirencester (*Corinium Dobunnorum*) respectively.

Most probably Roman central government had originally expected that, as a new Romano-British identity emerged, the colony at Camulodunum would become regarded less as an alien settlement and more as the accepted centre of local administration and tribal institutions with the distinction of holding the highest possible self-governing status, which the legally inferior civitas could not obtain in its own right. A similar and almost contemporary situation is known to have existed at Cologne where the tribesmen of the Ubii survived as the *civitas Ubiorum* in close relationship with the colony. (25). Whereas at Avenches the tribal capital of Aventicum continued as administrative centre of the *civitas Helvetiorum* and gained promotion to colonial status in the Flavian period (26).

A legal distinction between Roman citizens in the colony and closely associated but unenfranchised natives is implied by a second century inscription from Momentum near Rome (27). In it Gnaeus Munatius Aurelius Bassus is recorded as having been a census official —

.....censitor civium Romanorum coloniae Victricensis quae est in Britannia Camaloduni.....

Mention of Camulodunum not only provides corroborative information about the colony's location but also indicates that the native British name for the area continued in general use. In fact the Roman and native names, though quite distinct in precise application, became interchangeable so that *iter V* of the Antonine itinerary uses colonia, on which the main roads were aligned, while *Iter IX* has *Camoloduno*.(28). *Caesaromago*, in marked contrast with Caister-by-Norwich (*Icinos* in *iter V* and *venta Icenorum* in *iter IX*), is recorded in both *itineraria* without the usual tribal reference which a *civitas* capital would have been expected to have.

There can be no doubt that Camulodunum continued after the Roman conquest to be the main centre to which the Trinovantes were attracted for economic and social reasons, and politically there is good reason to believe that a *civitas Trinovantium* was formed as a self-governing entity. The Trinovantes who apparently lived inside the colony's *territorium* and those immediately outside it can be expected to have formed a significant proportion of the men who held administrative office in the civitas and who in individual cases represented it on the provincial council (*concilium provinciae*), one of whose duties was to maintain the imperial cult with its altar and temple at the eastern end of the colony. Despite the lack of positive proof from inscriptions or historical records, currently available archaeological evidence seems to suggest that the Trinovantian *civitas* capital was Camulodunum.

Notes

1. At the western end of the later walled town, as shown by Dunnett, B.R.K., Trans. Essex Arch. Soc. (1971).Vol.III, Pt. 1, 2 and Crummy, P., Colchester - recent excavations and research, (1974), 11-14.
2. A fuller description is given in Frere, S.S., *Britannia*, (1974), 231-240.
3. For details see Wachter, J.S., *The Towns of Roman Britain* (1975), 22-35.
4. *Geography*, ii, 3, 22.
5. Known from the Antonine Itinerary. For the British section see Rivet, A.L.F. in *Britannia* (1970), i 34-82
6. Stevens, C.E., *English Historical Review* (1937) lit, 198, where he suggests a late date for Caesaromagus as civitas capital.
7. Jackson, K. in *Britannia* (1970), i 69.
8. Perhaps as suggested by Chapman and Tatton-Brown in *Current Archaeology*42, (1974), 223; or rather this may be where Claudius gained his victory after crossing the Thames and then captured Camulodunum.
9. A realistic re-enactment was performed on the Campus Martius at Rome according to Suetonius (Claudius, 21).
10. See, in Rodwell, W. and Rowley, T. eds., *Small Towns of Roman Britain* (B.A.R. 15, 1975), Frere, S.S., *The Origin of Small Towns*, 2-5 and fig. 1, and Drury, P.J., *Roman Chelmsford- Caesaromagus*, 159-173.
11. There was also a post-Boudiccan fort.
12. Wachter, J.S., *op. cit.*, 198, followed by Drury, P.J., *op. cit.*, 162-3.

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13. For a recent discussion on Camulodunum, Cunobelin and the Trinovantes see Rodwell, W.J. in Cunliffe, B. and Rowley, T. eds., *Oppida in Barbarian Europe* (B.A.R. Suppl. Series ii, 1976), especially 265-277 and 339-359.
14. *Caligula*, 44, 2.
15. Though not as many as implied by Richmond in *Arch. J.* ciii, (1946), 60, in view of the colony's original size.
16. TL 963228 Vid. sup.
17. Depending on whether it is Claudian or post-Boudiccan in date.
18. See Frere, S.S., op. cit. (B.A.R. 15), 6-7 for this and similar civitas sites.
19. Crummy, P., *Not Only a Matter of Time.....*(1975), 12-14.
20. *Annales* xiv, 31: *pellebant domibus, exturbant agris, captivos, servos appellando.*
21. The small handful of troops in the colony, mentioned by Tacitus (*Annales* xiv, 32) may have been seconded for duties on the governor's staff.
22. Such officers are known especially in Pannonia, e.g. L. Volcacius Primus, *praefectus cohortis I Noricum*, who was also *praefectus civitatum duarum Boiorum et Azaliorum* (I.L.S. 2737). I am grateful to Dr. D. Baatz for this reference.
23. *Colonia Domitiana Lindensium*, founded c. A.D. 90.
24. *Colonia Nervia Glevensium*, founded A.D. 96-98.
25. *Colonia Claudia Agrippinensis*.
26. See Reynolds, J.M. in Wachter, J.S. ed., *The Civitas Capitals of Roman Britain* (1966), 71.
27. I.L.S. 2740
28. *Camuloduno* is used in the *Peutinger Table* and the *Ravenna Cosmography* has *Manulodulo colonia*.

Winter Meetings 1976-77

1976

October	11 th	Annual General Meeting
	18 th	Group Excavations and research
	25 th	K. Wade BA, Assistant Keeper of Urban Archaeology, Ipswich. "The Archaeology of Ipswich".
November	1 st	Mrs T. Cotton of Hong Kong. "Archaeological Sites in the Far East".
	8 th	Miss E.B. Green B Sc, AMA, FSA, Norwich Museum. "Recent work on the Anglo-Saxons in East Anglia".
	15 th	F.H. Thompson MC, MA, Assistant Secretary Society of Antiquaries. "Three Hill Forts".
	22 nd	Miss M.D. Craster MA, FSA, University of Cambridge. "Farming in the Iron Age".
	29 th	Professor G.D.B. Jones FSA, University of Manchester. "Frontier, Forts and Farms in Cumbria".
December	6 th	J.G.Coad MA, Inspector of Ancient Monuments. "Recent Excavations at Castle Acre, Norfolk".

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January	10 th	Coach trip to see the Pompeii AD 79 Exhibition at the Royal Academy.
	17 th	P.J. Came BA. "The History of the Chelmer and Black-water Navigation 1792 - 1914".
	24 th	R.J.P. Bayley ARCS, FRPS, BA. "The Restless Earth".
	31 st	C.B. Oulton-Clark, MCP, RIBA, MPTPI. "Preserving your Heritage".
February	7 th	Dr. S.A. Adam BA, PH D(Cantab). "The Sculpture of Ancient Greece".
	14 th	K.E. Qualmann, Urban Archaeologist. "Recent Excavations in Winchester".
	21 st	D. T-D Clarke, M.A., F.S.A., A.M.A. "The Work of the Museum" and Mrs. J.S. Whiffing, "Practical Conservation".
	28 th	S. McGrail, Master Mariner, Greenwich Maritime Museum. "Viking Boats and Ships".
March	7 th	M.W.C. Hassall, FSA, Institute of Archaeology. "Red Tape in Roman Britain".
	14 th	P.V. Webster BA, M. Phil. , "Roman Wales in the light of Recent Excavations".