

# NOTES ON THE RE-EXCAVATION OF THE LONGINUS SITE, BEVERLEY ROAD COLCHESTER 1996-1999

*John Mallinson, Stephen Benfield, Denise Hardy & Michael J Matthews*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The tombstone of Longinus Sdapeze, Thracian cavalry officer, was first discovered at a site off Beverley Road in 1928. Unfortunately, the face of Longinus was missing, as well as several other important decorative elements of the monument. In 1996 the site where the tombstone had been found became available for redevelopment, and Philip Crummy, of Colchester Archaeological Trust, invited Colchester Archaeological Group, in the person of James Fawn, to reinvestigate the area, principally to see whether any of the missing elements of the tombstone could be found.

Assisted by a few other members of the group, James Fawn carried out this work between 1996 & 1998, and, as is well known, succeeded in recovering some of the missing elements of the tombstone. He also investigated the surrounding area, which included a section of the main Colchester to London Roman road, and uncovered several other interesting features.

Unfortunately James died before he was able fully to report this work. With the help of his executors and family, CAG were able to recover from his house a substantial archive of finds, drawings, notebooks and computer files relevant to the excavation. On examination this archive proved to be incomplete. Crucially, the notebook containing all the day to day records of the excavation was missing. This has meant that it has proved impossible to prepare a full excavation report.

These notes have been prepared by those CAG members who from time to time assisted with the excavations, with a two-fold objective:

1. To record and interpret as far as possible the archive recovered.
2. To record personal recollections and observations which may help to fill in some of the gaps in the record.

## 2. THE ARCHIVE

The main problem associated with the archive recovered from James Fawn's house was the absence of a relevant notebook. A meticulous record had been kept throughout the excavation and this was known to have been in a quarto size ruled notebook. In particular the notebook recorded the exact position of each find (height, width and depth) as well as its context. Day to day observations on the progress of the site were also recorded. Although several similar notebooks covering other sites were recovered, the failure to find this one means that the ability to record the excavation accurately is severely restricted.

The archive that was recovered can be summarised as follows:

1. Nearly 30 archive boxes of finds comprising pottery fragments, bone, coins and other small finds. Most of these had been sequentially numbered by AJF, or were in numbered bags. Unfortunately, without the notebook, these sequential numbers give no indication of the original location of the find. Effectively, therefore, most of the material can only be treated as unstratified, and of very limited value. In a few cases, members of the digging team have been able to identify individual finds and confirm their original context.
2. Three draft or incomplete reports recovered from James Fawn's computer. These are of limited value, but assist in understanding certain aspects of the excavation. These are reproduced, without amendment, in Appendices A-C below
3. 44 drawings, plans and sections. These are listed below, Appendix D. Most do not have titles which would enable accurate identification, but where the drawings have been of use, this is noted in the discussion that follows.
4. 500+ slide photos. These have all been digitally scanned. None were labelled, so in many cases are unidentifiable, except by date. Again, some that are of use are reproduced below, or are included in Appendix F.

## 3. ORIGINAL DISCOVERY OF THE LONGINUS TOMBSTONE IN 1928

The details of the original discovery of the tombstone are only poorly recorded. Based on newspaper reports, Colchester Castle Museum Committee minutes and the notebooks of Rex Hull, then newly appointed Museum Curator, James Fawn had largely completed an interpretation of the events surrounding the discovery. This is attached (*in the CD version?*) Appendix A below. The salient points of his investigation were:

1. The tombstone was discovered by workmen below 3 feet of topsoil, removed as part of the site levelling operation, on 14.4.1928. It was lying face down in several ("at least ten") pieces. It is not recorded whether the stump was still vertical in the ground, or horizontal, along with the rest of the stone.

2. The tombstone was never seen in situ by any members of the Museum staff. Rex Hull only visited the site 5 days after the discovery, by which time the stone had been removed to a pallet. He drew a sketch in his notebook showing the approximate position of the stone towards the south west corner of the site, but recorded no archaeological investigation of the spot or the surrounding area.

3. A section of the Roman road running east west across the site to the north of the tombstone had been conveniently created by the workmen during their levelling operations. Hull was able to photograph and record this.

## 4. EXCAVATION 1996-1998

### 4.1 Removal of Concrete

When the site was made available, it was completely covered in a layer of concrete. (Fig 1)



As can be seen from the position of the house in Silvanus Close (right of photo), and as reported in 1928, the ground level of the area had been considerably lowered, particularly to the south and west, in order to make a flat surface on which the concrete was laid. As discussed below, it was this lowering that exposed the Longinus tombstone, which would previously have been covered by about 1m of topsoil.

Initially an area about 10m NS x 6m EW was cleared from the SW corner of the site, where Hull's 1928 sketch indicated that the tombstone had been found. The concrete in this area proved particularly hard, and required the attentions of Steve Benfield of CAT using a very large pneumatic drill, an experience which Steve is a) never likely to forget, and b) is

**Fig 1. Longinus Site 1996 Looking south**

never going to want to repeat. Subsequently the concrete was removed from the site piecemeal as the excavation progressed. Fortunately the rest of the concrete was much softer and could be removed by hand with a sledgehammer, though eventually a bulldozer became available to remove the last of the material from the north and east.

Below the concrete was a layer of brick rubble on which the concrete had been laid. Below this was a discontinuous layer of topsoil, never more than a few cm thick, containing modern material. Finally, below this was natural orange-yellow sand, cut by darker intrusions, most of which, where datable, proved to be Roman.

### 4.2 Site Plan

Amongst the drawings listed below, Appendix D, Drawing 39 is an ink sketch of the whole site. It shows the major features discovered, each with an identifying number. The sketch was probably meant to be reproduced in the final site report, and with very minor additions, is reproduced as **Fig. 2** below.

A list of feature numbers, with detailed feature descriptions, was also presented in the draft AJF report, Appendix B below. Unfortunately these feature numbers do not correspond with those on the plan. A second, hand written list was also discovered, accompanying a copy of the plan, and, from the feature descriptions given, some of the numbers in the two lists can be correlated as follows:

# Rear of 1A, 2 & 2A Beverley Road, Colchester

Original drawing by James Fawn 1996 - 2005  
 Copied with minor amendments John Mallinson July 2011

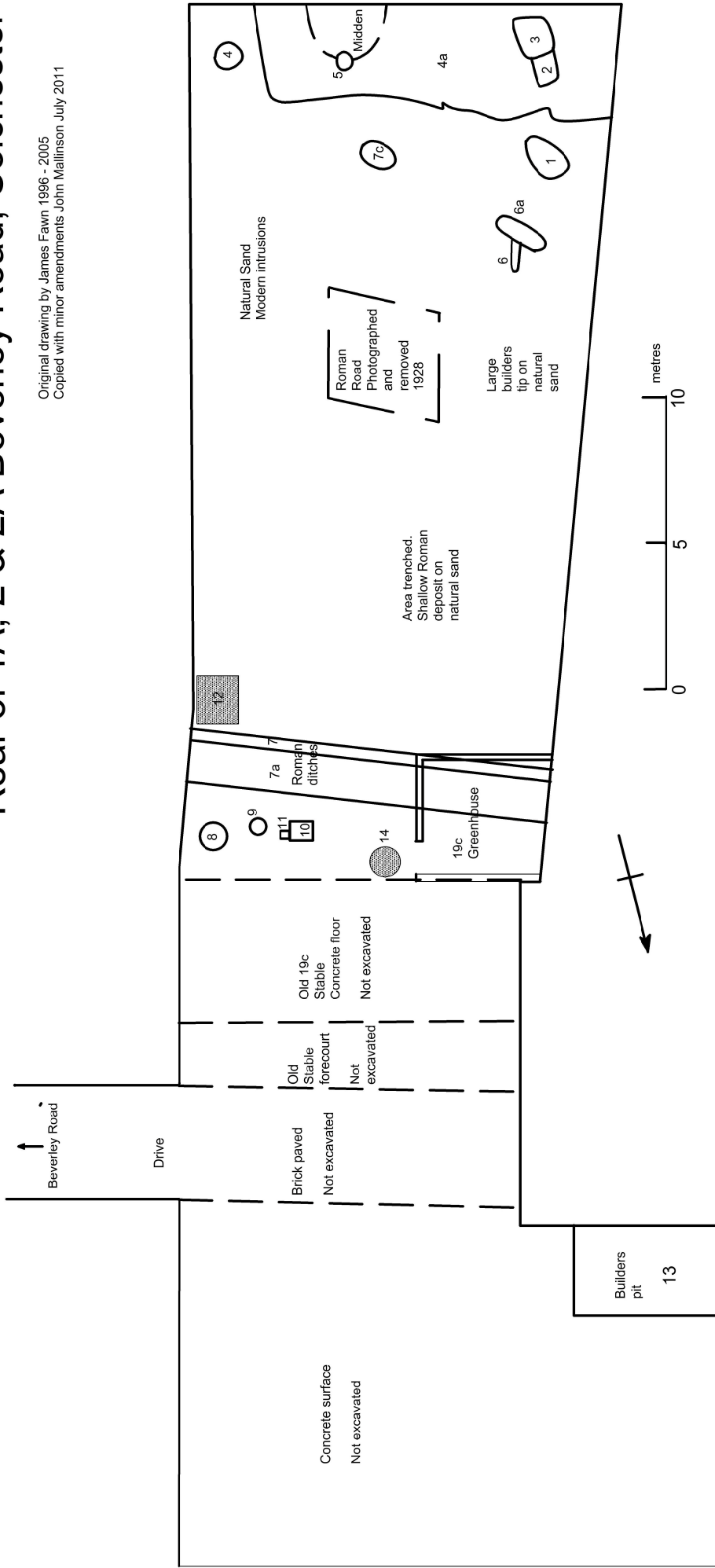


Fig 2 Sketch Plan of Longinus Site, Beverley Road, Colchester

Report Feature Number	Site Plan (SP) Feature Number	Description & Comments
F1	-	"Mostly Sand". Not marked in plan, but from the report text, clearly refers to the natural, fine orange sand which underlay the road bed. See the section on the road, below
F2	4a	A large area of disturbed natural sand to the south of the road, in the form of several contiguous pits, containing only Roman material. Thought to be dug for sand and gravel used as Roman road material.
F3	1	"An sub-elliptical area of dark loam. Excavation showed it to be a pit containing fragments of pottery, bone and iron. As the pottery was entirely Roman the feature was assumed to be a rubbish pit of that period. The walls gave an indication of the nature of F1, being of coarse yellow sand with flints."
F4	3	"A sub-circular area of mixed light loam, sand, gravel, modern and Roman pottery, modern and Roman brick fragments, stone, and similar debris. Removal showed that it was the fill of a pit about 1.5m deep, modern but obviously not later than the laying of the concrete in 1928"
F5	2	"A rectangular area of dark loam, somewhat lighter than F3. Its southern end was cut through by pit F4 which was therefore later than F5. The cut provided a section of F5, which showed that it was a shallow pit about 0.3m deep with a truncated length of about 1.3m and a width of about 0.8m. This feature corresponded well with the recorded position of the tombstone as found in 1928 and subsequent excavation supplied supporting evidence."
F6	6	"Sandy silt in the sand and gravel of F1 at the north of the area initially stripped of concrete suggested some disturbance. Excavation revealed the legs of a skeleton, the torso being missing."
F7	6a	"A second area of sandy silt to the south of F6 contained a complete skeleton lying prone. Its deposition had evidently removed the torso of the first skeleton."
F8	?	"An area of disturbed sand and silt lying between F1 and F7. Excavation revealed that it comprised a pit and a ditch which contained flecks of charcoal but no artefacts of any kind." This feature cannot be identified with any certainty on the plan
F9/F10/F11	4/7c	Each one of these described as "An area of dark soil containing numerous artefacts, lying in F1" Two of them are 4 & 7c. We have no exact recollection of the position of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> .
F12	Midden	"An area of greenish soil lying immediately beneath the concrete and rubble foundation". This was a midden, south of the road and close to the south wall bounding the excavation. Drawing 10 shows it immediately to the south of SP5, but it does not appear on the AJF version of the final site plan Fig. 2. Maybe AJF had not got round to adding it.
	7/7a	These and subsequent plan features are not referred in the report fragment, but are described in the hand written list as "Roman ditches, with 7a being suggested as a recut of 7".
	8	"Modern brick-lined soakaway for 19C stable" (Hand written list)
	5	Described as a redeposited burial, and possibly related to Drawing 3, labelled "Redeposited Cremation Burial 9B South
	9	Described in the hand written list as "a pit, thought to be Roman". May relate to " Drawing 40, labelled "Redeposited Cremation burial 9A North".
	10/11	The strange plinth-like structure made of reused building materials. In the hand written list, AJF refers separately to 11 as "a small stone lined vault"
	12	An area of light flint metalling, suggested by AJF in his hand written list to be "part of the N track of the road?"
	13	"Builders Pit in 1999". Drawing 5 apparently refers. "Section indicates top layer containing Roman and modern material, and layer beneath 20-30 cm Roman material only. Natural silt and gravel beneath
	14	"Patch of cobbles sunk into pit"

## 4.3 Discussion of individual features

### 4.3.1 Road

Once the concrete had been cleared from the whole of the site, the position of the road became clear. To the north it was bounded by two relatively straight ditches SP Features 7 & 7a. To the south the delineation was less obvious. There were no clear ditches, but rather a more or less continuous line of irregular quarry pits, indicated on the plan as SP Feature 4a. These were filled with disturbed natural sand, identical to that below the road surface to the north, and distinguishable from it only by lacking distinct stratification, and by it containing Roman artefacts as inclusions. Both natural and disturbed surfaces were cut by much darker intrusions, marked as features on the site plan.

AJF speculates, somewhat inconclusively, on the nature of the road in his incomplete articles in Appendix A & Appendix B. Little can be added. The total width of the road between the ditches to the north, and the quarry pits to the south, can be estimated from Fig 2 at about 21m, and the section uncovered is in general alignment with sections found at Colchester Grammar School to the east, and at West Lodge Road to the west. The ditches to the north (Fig. 2 SP Features 7 & 7a) were drawn in section by AJF Appendix D Drawing 25, labelled "T29: Section across north road ditches". Difficult to interpret, this section appears to show the horizontally truncated remains of two ditches totalling about 2.0m total width. They intercut each other, though which was first cannot be inferred from the drawing. The inner, southernmost is about 60cm wide, the outer about 1.4m. They are of a similar depth, but it is difficult to estimate what that would have been relative to the road surface.

### 4.3.2 Longinus SP F2 & F3

After removal of the concrete and underlying modern material in the north west corner of the site as described above, the northern half was immediately identified as natural sand, whilst the southern half was described as "disturbed ground" (AJF Appendix B). Both areas were cut by darker features. In particular it was noted that the southern half was cut by SP Features 2 & 3, and that these features corresponded very closely to the position of the tombstone noted by Hull in his 1928 notebook. A detailed plan of the area, Drawing 43, is available.

SP F3 was excavated first, and proved to be a pit approximately 1.2m NS x 0.8m EW x 1.4m deep (AJF Drawing 5). It contained modern backfill, and cut into SP F2 on its south and east sides. SP F2 was, at its greatest extent, approx 1.8m NS x 1.0m EW. At no point was it more than about 30cm deep, and again contained modern backfill in its upper part.

It was on excavation of the disturbed ground of SP F4a around SP F2, and the lower fill of F2 (which shaded imperceptibly into F4a), that things began to get interesting. Adjacent to and to the north and west of F2, large quantities of limestone fragments began to appear, embedded in the sandy matrix of F4a. They varied in size up to a maximum of 10cm diameter x c. 2cm thick. Their distribution is shown in Drawing 38, which confirms the author's (WJM) recollection that few of them were within the footprint of F2, but lay along its western and northern edges.

Meanwhile, AJF himself continued to excavate the bottom of F2, and it was he who uncovered yet another limestone fragment, which, though slightly larger, seemed indistinguishable from those already recovered. It was lying 10-15cm from the north edge of F2 approximately midway between the EW extremities of F2, and only a little north of the edge of the pit F3. Only on turning it over did it become clear that it was the missing face of Longinus. (The actual details of the discovery, and the subsequent confirmation that it was Longinus, is a story in itself, which the author cannot resist telling in full. Appendix H) **Fig. 3** shows the discovery, but it should be noted that this photograph is a reconstruction, taken about 2 days after the actual event, and whilst reasonably accurate, does not show the exact original location of the face. Subsequent excavation revealed 2 further identifiable missing parts of the tombstone; the hand of the Medusa immediately above the face, and the serpent's head at the top left of the monument. Photograph **Fig. 4** shows the exact position of the Medusa hand at the time of its discovery. Bearing in mind the caveat above, comparison with Fig 3 shows that the two fragments are in roughly the "right" positions relative to each other.

A further photograph **Fig. 5** shows the recovery of the Snake's Head, further to the north in F2. It would appear that AJF placed two round objects (find boxes?) in F2 for the photograph, and these may be intended to mark the positions of the Face and Hand.

However, the most compelling evidence for the relative positions of the 3 identifiable fragments is found in Drawing 31 (**Fig 6. SW Corner of James Fawn Drawing 31, showing position of missing fragments**). This is a detailed drawing of the SW corner of the site, and in addition to showing SP F2 & F3 in detail, records in plan the exact positions of approaching 100 individual finds. The majority of these are pottery sherds, but crucially the plan records and names the face, the hand and the snake. A redrawn and simplified version of Plan 31 is reproduced below, showing only the relevant and identifiable tombstone fragments (**Fig. 6a Simplified Plan of part of Drawing 31, Showing relative positions of Missing Fragments BV Plan 31 SW Corner**). From this it can be clearly seen that the relevant positions of the 3 important fragments are, to a very close approximation, in exactly the same relationship to each other as they are on the restored tombstone. To illustrate this even more clearly, an outline of the tombstone and the missing features, obtained by drawing round a photograph of the tombstone taken in 1928 (**Fig 7. Outline of Longinus tombstone**) has been superimposed on Fig 6a, and shows a very close (though not exact) correlation between the positions of the missing pieces on the tombstone, and where they were found on the ground (**Fig 8. Conjectured Position of Tombstone at Time of Discovery**). Further, they were all found face downwards, and to the best of our recollection,



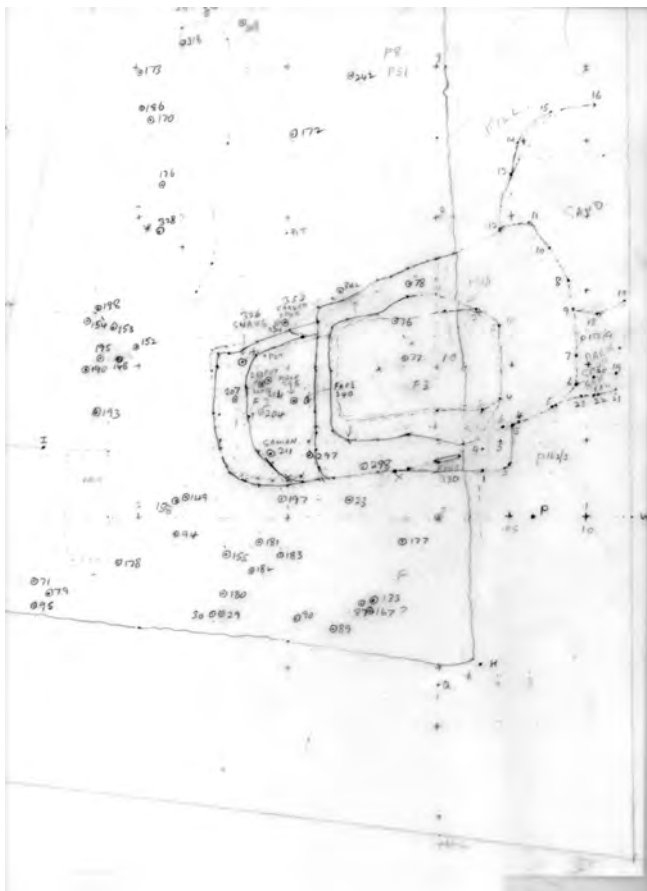
**Fig 3. Reconstruction of Recovery of Longinus Face from F2**



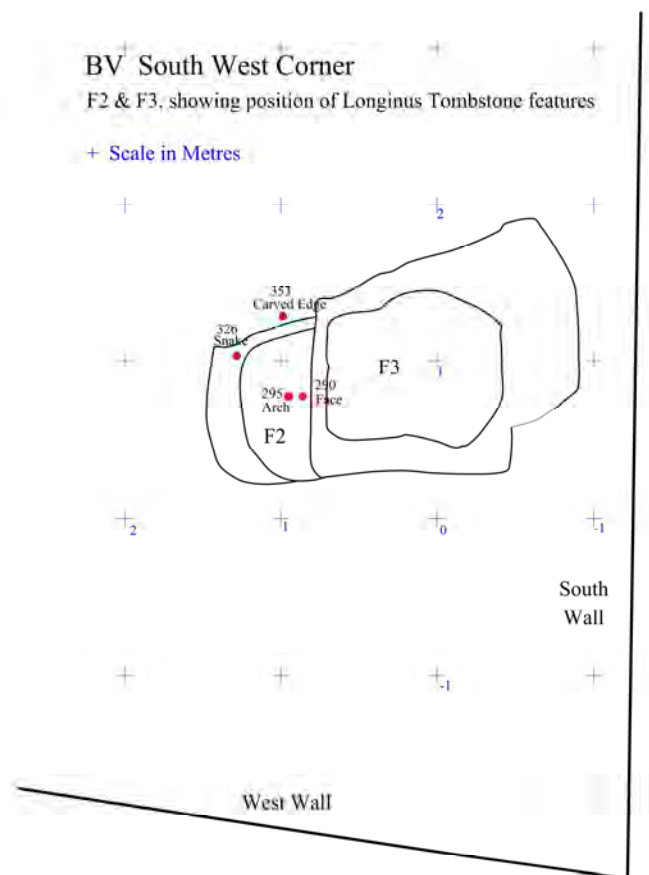
**Fig. 4. Position of Medusa Hand**



**Fig. 5 Position of Snake's Head in F2**



**Fig 6. SW Corner of James Fawn Drawing 31, showing position of missing fragments**



**Fig. 6a Simplified Plan of part of Drawing 31, Showing relative positions of Missing Fragments**

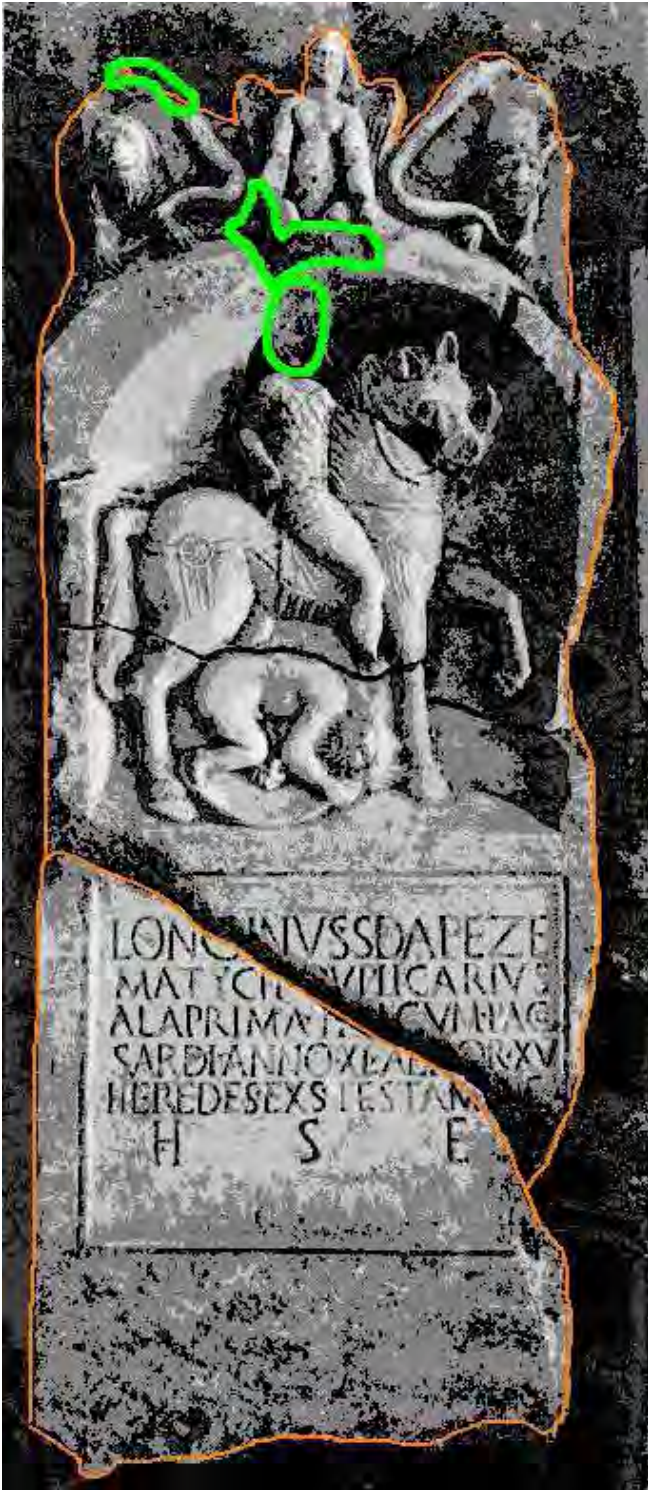
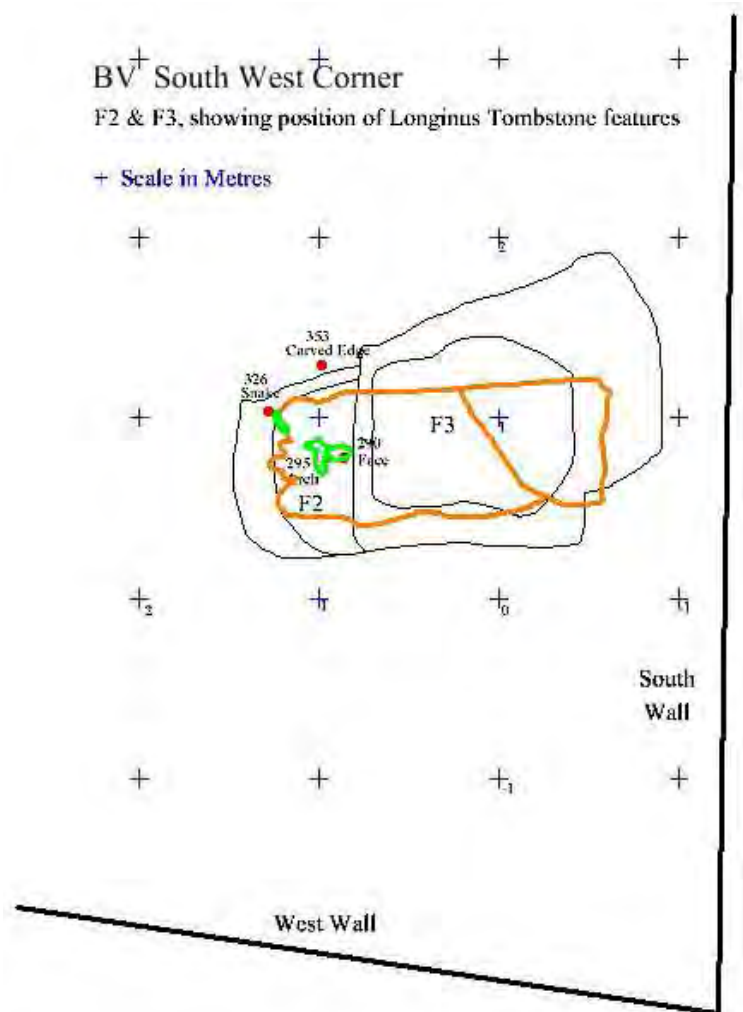


Fig. 7 Longinus Tombstone, with Outline & Missing Parts

Fig 8. Conjectured Position of Tombstone at Time of Discovery





in the “correct” orientation. Drawing 33 (not reproduced here) is a section through F2 & F3, and shows the relative depths at which the tombstone fragments were found. Fig. 7 also confirms that the stump of the tombstone, had it been horizontal, would have extended south beyond the deep part of F3, suggesting that when it was found, it was still vertical. Drawing 33 (not reproduced here) is a section through F2 & F3, and shows the relative depths at which the tombstone fragments were found.

A fourth piece, called “carved edge” by AJF in Drawing 31, and shown in Fig. 6 has not been identified. Unless from the back of the tombstone, there does not seem to be anything missing around this point.

These discoveries suggest very strongly to the authors that:

1. The face of Longinus, and the other missing elements, became detached from the body of the tombstone when it was already horizontal on the ground and in the position in which it was found in 1928.
2. The distribution of fragments of limestone lying around, but not beneath the tombstone, suggest that at some point an attempt was made to break up the tombstone when it was already horizontal. There is no evidence to suggest when this might have happened. It is not impossible that the fragments resulted from an unrecorded attempt by the 1928 workmen, who would not initially have recognised the significance of what they had found, to break up an unmanageably large lump of stone hindering their building work.
3. The observations do not preclude the possibility that the stone was felled at that time of the Boudiccan Rebellion, but they are not consistent with the theory that the stone was “defaced”, i.e. deliberately attacked from the front, at that time.
4. At 1.8m, the maximum length of SP F2 would not have been enough to accommodate the full length of the monument (c. 2.5m). This suggests that only the part of the monument above the major fracture across its centre was horizontal. It is possible that the lower part of the stone remained vertical in the ground, and that SP F3 was dug by the 1928 workmen to remove it. At 1.4m the depth of F3 is more than would have been necessary to remove the stump, and may suggest that the workmen carried out an impromptu and unrecorded search for the cremation burial (and any associated treasure!).

Later, in early 2007, permission was obtained from the owner to remove a section of the wall immediately south of SP F3 and to dig a trench in the garden of No. 5 Beverley Road, to further investigate the possibility that the Longinus cremation burial remains might still be in situ there. A pit was found (shown on Drawing 43), similar to the other quarry pits found in SP F4a, but it contained nothing other than a large piece of Roman tegula.

Subsequent to the excavation, fragments of the limestone from the tombstone were examined by Kevin Hayward, then of Reading University, as part of his PhD thesis into Roman Military building materials (British Archaeological Report 500). He was able to establish that the material was an oolitic limestone known as Stamford Marble, from the Stamford area of Lincolnshire, and not as previously suggested by Hull and others, from Bath. This discovery does not affect the dating of the tombstone as pre-Boudiccan.

#### 4.3.3 Burials SP F6 & F6a

Two inhumation burials were recovered from the site, from SP F6 & SP6a. The first of these, lying approximately NS in F6 had been truncated at the pelvis by F6a, so that only the legs remained. These were approximately 20-30cm below the 1928 surface.



F6a was approximately 2m long x 60cm wide, and proved to contain a complete skeleton, lying approximately NW-SE at a depth of approx 60cm below the 1928 surface (Fig. 9). It appeared to have been thrown face down into the grave, with its arms folded up under its chest, and its left foot resting part way up the west face of the grave. Certainly there did not seem to have been any great degree of ceremony involved in its deposition. Both skeletons were in very poor condition. The holes visible in the skull in Fig. 9 were regrettably caused during excavation, and cannot be taken as evidence of trauma.

No grave goods or other dating evidence was found associated with either burial. No nails were found which might have indicated that they had been in coffins. The position of the arms in the complete skeleton from F6a

**Fig. 9 Inhumation Burial in F6a**

is a possible indication that the body had been wrapped in a shroud. Both graves had been cut through the Roman road surface, so presumably the road had gone out of use when the depositions occurred. It has been conjectured that the orientation of the burials suggest that the first took place in pagan times, while the second may indicate Christian practice, but the casual nature of the second burial does not support this. It is understood that attempts were made at the time by a researcher from Essex University to obtain DNA samples from both skeletons. No record of this attempt has been traced, and certainly there is no evidence of any positive outcome from the investigations.

#### 4.3.4 Quarry Pits SP F4a

Once a few cm of modern topsoil had been removed, the whole area marked F4a on the site plan was found to consist of disturbed natural sand. This varied in depth considerably, reaching a recorded maximum of c. 1.5m below 1928 level towards the East end (Drawing 32). A general impression of the area is shown in Picture BV96-10-005 (Appendix F). It contained significant quantities of Roman material only. Of particular interest was a rare amphora brooch. This is now in the possession of Colchester Castle Museum, where it has been on display. (Fig. 10). There is no record of the exact find position, but Picture BV97-04-H015 (Appendix F) enables reasonably accurate placement; it was found in the SE corner of F4a, just east of the midden, about 1m North of the South wall of the site, and only a few cm below the 1928 surface.



(Fig. 10 Amphora Brooch from SP F4a (Colchester Castle Museum))

on the site plan Fig 2., but the authors recall the drawing as being substantially correct. The pits were filled with dark organic material having no discernable stratification, and containing typical assemblages of Roman pot sherds and bone, not different to the general assemblage of finds from across the site as a whole. Most of the pottery was undistinguished domestic ware. Most of the Samian ware recovered from the site came from these pits. Whilst no individual item can be specifically attributed to any given feature, examination of the Samian items from the site (Appendix G) shows that overwhelming majority are Central Gaulish dating to around the mid 2<sup>nd</sup> century. It is tempting to suggest that the refuse pits were dug at or shortly after this time.

#### 4.3.5 Midden

This was not marked by AJF on his site plan, but is roughly indicated in Fig. 2 above. It was similar to, but somewhat larger than any of the rubbish pits, and was somewhat more markedly stratified, with layers of yellowish green (and smelly) organic matter in a sandy matrix, alternating with layers of darker organic material.

The only item of note found within the midden was a Trajan coin, either BV712 or BV773. See Appendix E below. It was very near the 1928 surface. Other finds from near the top of the midden (Appendix G) have been dated to anywhere between late 1<sup>st</sup> century and 3<sup>rd</sup> century, so a specific date for the midden cannot be confidently ascribed.

#### 4.3.6 Plinth SP F10 & 11

These features were located on the north side of the road (see Fig. 2). Drawings 12, 14, and 17 to 22 would all appear to refer. They were a haphazard assemblage of reused building materials – brick, tegula and dressed stone – used to create a flattish raised structure, which it is conjectured formed the base or plinth for some sort of monument, now lost. AJF himself suggested that it may have enclosed a small vault, but if so, there was no evidence of any inclusion, whether cremation burial or other. F10 was approximately 60cm EW x 70cm NS and 40 cm maximum height. F11 was contiguous to it on the E side, and smaller. Nearly

An assemblage of finds, recovered by Mike Matthews from a trench in the SE corner of F4a, was kept separate by him, and this has been differentiated from the main body of the archive. Unfortunately exact find positions of individual finds were not recorded. Some of these have been examined, Appendix G, and dated by Steve Benfield (CAT). This analysis suggests that F4a was at least partially backfilled with redeposited material not later than the early part of 2C. It is a reasonable assumption that the associated road went out of use at or before this time.

#### 4.3.4 Refuse Pits SP F1, F4 & F7c

Site Plan Features 1, 4 & 7c are recalled as refuse pits. Drawing 36 appears to show two of them, both approx 1-1.25m diameter by 40 – 70cm deep. These dimensions do not correlate well with the apparent sizes shown

100 photographs were taken of the two structures during their excavation by AJF, but because the features were partially removed as they were excavated, none of them show the structure in its entirety. **Fig. 11** gives the best idea of the construction. When this photograph was taken some of the upper parts of F10 had been removed, particularly around and over the large vertical stone at



**Fig. 11 (F10 (centre) & F11 (left) during excavation**

centre. Of particular interest was the reuse of five almost complete *tegula mammata* within the structure. Their presence moved AJF to write a short article on them, which is reproduced below, Appendix C. The large vertical stone seen in F10 (centre) was a piece of worked Portland stone. It was clearly reused, but there was no indication of its original function.

#### **4.3.7 Redeposited cremation burials SP F5 & F9**

Two pottery assemblages were found during the course of the excavation which were interpreted as redeposited cremation burials. F5 intercut the north edge of the midden on the south side of the road described above and consisted of a single grey ware pot (Drawing 3), broken into many fragments, associated with burnt bone and organic matter. **Fig. 12.**

F9 was on the north side of the road. It was excavated and drawn (Drawing 40) by WJM, though he has no recollection of this whatsoever (scary). It appears from the drawing to have comprised a broken grey pot, a grey platter (as lid), bone and (*inter alia*) egg shell. **Fig. 13.** The pottery was identified by Stephen Benfield, Appendix G, BV707, as comprising a Cam 21 Gallo Belgic Platter with red grog, and a Cam 270B LSJ possibly with organic temper, and some grog, dated to E-M1/M1 C.

#### **4.3.8 Other Features**

The Site plan Fig. 2 shows two areas of cobbling SP F12 & 14. We have no recollection of these. SP F13 is marked as a builders pit, but again, we have no recollection. SP F8 was a Victorian soak-away.



**Fig 10. SP F5 Redeposited Cremation burial South**



**Fig. 11 SP F9? Redeposited Cremation Burial North**

## 5. The Finds Assemblage

Finds recovered from the house of James Fawn totalled, after sorting, 26 archive boxes. The overwhelming majority of the finds were pottery fragments, but there were also human and bone fragments, building materials, and a few small finds, mainly coins. Other finds, notably the remains of two burials, and a quantity of stone and brick building materials, were lodged at Colchester Archaeological Trust, and are not discussed here. Where relevant they have been mentioned above.

The finds were numbered sequentially by James Fawn in the order in which they were discovered. Usually they were numbered individually, though in many cases a whole batch of finds were given the same number. In these cases it is assumed that the assemblage had been discovered together and in the same context. The position of each find was recorded in James Fawn's notebook relative to datum points, also recorded in the notebook. As stated above, this notebook is lost. None of the drawings appear to show any datum points.

During sorting, nearly 200 finds which the processing team thought should be identifiable and dateable were set aside for further examination. These were subsequently evaluated by Steve Benfield of Colchester Archaeological Trust. His findings are recorded below, Para 5.1 & Appendix G.

In a very few cases, either because of additional labelling, or because the numbers are actually recorded on plans (notably Drawing 31 and, less helpfully, Drawing 33), some idea of the position of the finds is possible. Comments on these finds have been included in the notes above, under the relevant feature numbers.

In the absence of the missing notebook, the remaining finds can only be treated as unstratified, and are therefore of very limited value in interpreting the site. General conclusions are given by Stephen Benfield Para 5a below.

A few further comments, based on vague recollection of the context of some finds, may be permissible:

1. The overwhelming majority of the finds are Roman. A very few are post medieval or modern. Without proper stratigraphic evidence it is nevertheless our recollection that the latter were found in the few pockets of modern overburden remaining after stripping in 1928, or are contamination arising from that stripping whilst the surface was still exposed and not concreted over.
2. The Roman finds date overwhelmingly to the period from Late 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>/Early 3<sup>rd</sup> C (SB See below). Without contextual information it is impossible to draw any further conclusions regarding the dating of various features, or a coherent history of the site as a whole. However:
3. Consideration of assemblages where individual items were all found in the same context (i.e. they were all given the same number by AJF) show that in some cases (BV477, BV640, BV759, BV760) the date range within the assemblage is fairly narrow, whereas in others (BV114, BV409, BV791, BV1189) it is wide. The implication is that the latter assemblages were redeposited. The former are more likely to be primary deposits.
4. Beyond that, any further conclusions must be regarded as speculative or conjectural, based on recollections which are at best doubtful and possibly totally incorrect, and are therefore best not put in print.

### 5.1 Selected Roman and later pottery

Stephen Benfield

#### Introduction

A selection of pottery from the site was rapidly spot dated. The selection was made by the Colchester Archaeological group (CAG), following consultation with the author and was based on the following criteria: pottery finds bags with a known context or approximate context location, identifiable pieces (rims, decoration) and interesting or unusual pieces, including near complete pots and potters stamps. In all pottery from 108 site finds bags (each with a unique number) was spot dated. The different fabric types present in each bag were recorded together with identifiable vessel form numbers or a note of vessel types. The Roman pottery fabrics refer to the Colchester fabric series listed and described in *CAR 10*. Post-Roman pottery fabrics refer to *CAR 7*. The fabric types recorded are listed below. The Roman vessel form types were recorded using the Camulodunum (Cam) Roman pottery form type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947, Hull 1958). Samian forms were recorded following Webster (1996). All of the pottery is listed by context in a catalogue. Below Appendix G.

## Pottery fabrics:

Fabric code    Fabric name

### Roman:

AA	amphorae, all excluding Dressel 20 and Brockley Hill/Verulamium region amphora
AJ	amphorae (Dressel 20)
BA(SG)	South Gaulish plain samian
BA(LX),	Early Lezoux plain samian
BA(MDV)	Les Martres-de-Veyre plain samian
BA(CG)	Central Gaulish plain samian
BA(EG)	East Gaulish plain samian
BA(CO)	Colchester plain samian
BX(SG)	South Gaulish decorated samian
BX(MDV)	Les Martres-de-Veyre decorated samian
BX(CG)	Central Gaulish decorated samian
CB	Colchester red colour-coated roughcast ware
CZ	Colchester and other red colour-coated wares
DJ	coarse oxidised and related wares
DZ	fine oxidised wares
EA	Nene Valley colour-coated ware
EC	early Colchester colour-coated ware
FJ	Brockley Hill/Verulamium region oxidised ware
GA	BB1: black-burnished ware, category 1
GB	BB2: black-burnished ware, category 2
GP	fine grey wares (Colchester, London-type and north Kent)
GX	other coarse wares, principally locally-produced grey wares
KX	black-burnished wares (BB2) types in pale grey ware
HD	shell-tempered and calcite-gritted wares
HZ	large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered grey wares
MP	Oxfordshire-type red colour-coated wares
TZ	mortaria, Colchester and mortaria imported from the continent
UR	<i>terra nigra</i> -type wares
WA	silvery micaceous grey wares

### Post-Roman:

40	Post-medieval red earthen wares (general)
45	German stoneware (general)
48D	Staffordshire-type white earthen wares

## Discussion

While to some extent the pottery represents a random selection there is a selection bias toward the inclusion of more interesting or visually distinctive vessels such as samian and identifiable pieces such as rims. However, with reservations, there is no reason to suppose that this pottery is not broadly representative of the whole of the Roman assemblage recovered during the excavation. It can be noted that all of the potters stamps among the assemblage are thought to have been examined.

Overall, the closely dated pottery spans the whole of the Roman period, although there is very little pottery that can be dated to the Late Roman period and most is of late 1st-2nd/early 3rd century date.

The earliest pottery is Claudio-Neronian or early-Flavian. This includes a platter of form Cam 21 (Fabric UR) and probably a near complete storage jar of form Cam 270B (Fabric HZ) which was recovered with it (707). As near complete vessels broken into large sherds they appear likely to have been displaced from a burial(s). While the platter has some grog-temper and could be Late Iron Age, the storage jar suggests a post-conquest date. Otherwise there is no pottery that is, or might be of Iron Age date. There is also a sherd that is probably pre-Flavian Early Colchester colour-coated ware (Fabric EC) (298).

A larger quantity of pottery can be more broadly dated to the Early Roman period of the mid-late 1st century or early 2nd century. There is a small quantity of South Gaulish samian. Sherds from both plain and decorated vessels are present. These include a form Dr. 29 decorated bowl, dated *c* 50-80, (F4a MJM) and Dr.18/31 bowl, dated *c* 100-110, (F4a MJM). A Dr. 27 cup base (105a) has a fragment from a potter's stamp, but too little of the stamp remained for identification. There are also two sherds from the Brockley Hill/Verulamium potteries (Fabric FJ) (069a & 1121) that can be dated to the mid 1st-early/mid 2nd century. A partial beaker of form Cam 108 (dated mid-late 1st/early 2nd century) may have been displaced from a burial (176).

Much of the pottery can be dated to the Mid Roman period of the early/mid 2nd-mid 3rd century. Most of the samian recovered is Central Gaulish and of 2nd century date. This includes both plain and decorated vessels from sources and Lezoux (*c* 120-200) and probably from Les Martres-de-Veyre (*c* 100-110). As well as three identified potter's name stamps (S1-3) the Central Gaulish samian includes a sherd from a decorated beaker of form Dechelette 64, dated early-mid 2nd century (211) as well as sherds from at least two decorated bowls of form Dr. 37 (409, 510 & 789). Plain forms include a single large piece of a Walters 79 dish, dated mid-late 2nd century, which has a potter's name stamp (S2) (762). Also, a broken, but near complete cup of form Dr. 33, dated early/mid-late 2nd century, which appears likely to have been displaced from a burial (477 & 759). This cup has a fragment of a potter's name stamp but too little remains to allow identification (477). A few sherds of samian are probably from East Gaul. East Gaulish samian was imported from the mid 2nd-mid 3rd century, although never in the same quantities as from South and Central Gaul. One small hemispherical bowl of form Dr. 40 is probably East Gaulish (1188a) and one samian base, from a Dr. 31 bowl stamped by the potter Miccio (S4), is probably East Gaulish (Sinzig), although it could possibly be a Colchester product (793). This can be dated to the mid-late Antonine period (*c* 150-180). Pottery which can be closely dated to the late 2nd-mid 3rd century consists of a few rim sherds from the bowl form Cam 37B (409, 1133A, U/S ii). A number of sherds from other Black-burnished ware-type vessels could also date from this period, including dishes of form Cam 40, dated early/mid 2nd-mid 3rd century (114, 477 & 791). However, most of the more closely dated Black-burnished ware-type vessels possibly date slightly earlier, to the early/mid 2nd-early 3rd century. These are dishes of form Cam 37A (477, 791, 1189 & 1228) and jars of form Cam 278 (409, 428, 447, 473a, 692a, 747, 760, 791 & 1189) as only acute lattice decorated versions appear to be present; although this jar from could date slightly later, up to the mid 3rd century.

There is very little among the pottery which can be dated to the Late Roman period of the mid/late 3rd-4th century. There is a sherd from a BB1 (Fabric GA) jar of form Cam 279C (119) and a sherd of Nene Valley colour-coated ware (Fabric EA) (026). Sherds that can be dated more closely to the late 3rd-4th century or 4th century are limited to one sherd of Oxford-type red colour coated ware (Fabric MP) (960a) and a sherd which is probably Late Shell-tempered ware (Fabric HD) (791). The small amount of closely dated Late Roman pottery appears to reflect a pattern of dramatic decline in activity on extramural sites around the town in the Late Roman period, other than for burials made in the inhumation cemetery areas (Crummy 1997, 115).

Several pots have probably been displaced from burials, or possibly were votive pots and this area is known to have been extensively used for cremation burials from the Early Roman period (CAR 9, 258-60 & 265).

The presence of sherds from mould-decorated samian bowls (Dr. 29 & Dr. 37) and a mould-decorated beaker (Dech. 64) are of interest. This is because while some of the pottery from the site might be associated with burials, mould-decorated samian is very rare as grave vessels in Britain; a Dr 29 from the 'Doctor's' burial at Stanway (Crummy et al 2007, 213 & fig 108) and a Dr. 30 bowl associated with a burial at St Clare Road, Colchester (grave 188 (3938.20), Hull, list of grave pots from Colchester, unpublished) are a rare exceptions to this general rule. Mould-decorated vessels are primarily associated with areas of settlement and buildings. One possibility for their presence might be that they were used in funeral rites and feasts for burials in the area, but not committed to the grave itself. Such a use might also apply to some of the plain samian vessels from the site.

It was noted that two sherds of greyware (Fabric GX) have traces of coloured pigment (paint?) internally and appear to come from a vessel(s) used as a paint pot (110 & 639). There is evidence that Roman tombstones and grave markers were painted and it may be possible that the paint was there for this purpose; although this is very speculative.

#### **Samian potters name stamps:**

All of the stamps which are sufficiently complete to be read accurately are included. There were two other fragments from name stamps on plain vessels but which were too small to allow identification (105a & 477). Dating and die numbers refer to the relevant entries in Names on terra sigillata (Hartley & Dickinson)

##### Central Gaul

##### **S1. CATIA(N)**

Catianus ii, Lezoux (AD 155-190). Partial potter's stamp on dish/bowl. Fabric BA(CG) (Context 1156a)

##### **S2 CRICIRO.OF**

Criciro V (die 2a), Lezoux. (AD 135-170). Complete potters stamp on Walters 79 dish (dated mid-late 2nd century after c 160 AD). Fabric BA(CG) (Context 762)

### S3 IVSTLM

Iustus ii, Lezoux (AD 160-200) Complete potters stamp on cup base. Fabric BA(CG) (Context 548)

### East Gaul

### S4 MICCIO.F

Miccio Vii (die 1a) Sinzig and Colchester (AD 150-180). Complete stamp on Dr. 31 bowl (see CAR 10 stamps S826, S827). Stamp used to mark pottery produce at Sinzig and Colchester. (Dated Antonine). Fabric BA(EG)(?) or BA(CO) (Context 793)

### Post-Roman pottery

A very small quantity of medieval/post-medieval and modern pottery is present (409 & 791). There is a sherd of Post-medieval red earthen ware (Fabric 40) dated 17th-18th century (409) and single sherds of German stone ware (general) (Fabric 45) broadly dated as 15/16th-17th/18th century and Staffordshire-type white earthen ware (Fabric 48D) dated 18th-19th century (791).

### Pottery Bibliography

CAR 7, 2000, Cotter, J., *Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester 1971-85*, Colchester Archaeological Report 7

CAR 9, 1993, Crummy N., Crummy, P & Crossan, C., *Excavations of Roman and later cemeteries, churches and monastic sites in Colchester 1971-88*, Colchester Archaeological Report 9

CAR 10 1999 Symonds, R., & Wade, S., *Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-86*, Colchester Archaeological Report 10

Crummy P., 1997, *City of victory*

Crummy P., Benfield, S., Crummy, N., Rigby, V., & Shimmin, D., 2007, *Stanway, and elite burial site at Camulodunum*, Britannia Monograph No. 24

Hawkes, C., & Hull, M., 1947, *Camulodunum, first report on the excavations at Colchester 1930-39*, RRCSAL, 14

Hartley, B., & Dickinson, B., *Names on terra sigillata*, Institute of Classical Studies, London

Hull, M. R., 1958, *Roman Colchester*, RRCSAL, 20

Oswal, F., & Price, T., 1920, *An introduction to the study of terra sigillata*

Tomber, R., & Dore, J., 1998, *The national Roman fabric reference collection, a handbook*, MoLAS Monograph 2

Webster, P., 1996, Roman samian pottery in Britain, Practical handbook in archaeology 13

### 6. Acknowledgements

All photographs are courtesy of the Estate of James Fawn

Thanks are due:

To all who wielded trowels at Beverley Road between 1996 & 1998. They are too numerous to mention, (and we would be bound to offend by forgetting someone).

For finds sorting and boxing: Nichola Gardner, Don Goodman, Denise Hardy, Louise Harrison, Mike Matthews and Anna Moore.

To Steve Benfield of Colchester Archaeological Trust, for starting the project in 1996 by wielding the Kango to remove the concrete, and by finishing the project in 2012 by identifying the finds.

To Philip Crummy of Colchester Archaeological Trust for help and advice throughout.

And not least, to James Fawn, for providing us with the riddle to unravel in the first place.



## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX A. THE DISCOVERY OF THE TOMBSTONE - Draft of Article by AJF

Since no archaeological techniques were used to uncover and lift the stone in 1928 the records of the event rely heavily on hearsay and are short of essential detail. Nevertheless, the available published and unpublished accounts are important and useful because they help to explain what was found during the current excavation.

The Essex County Standard, then published on Saturdays, gave an account of the discovery in the edition of 21.4.1928. It revealed that the tombstone had been found on the previous Saturday, 14.4.28, on a plot of land off Beverley Road owned by a well-known local builder, Mr Walter Chamberlain. His workmen had exposed it after removing over three feet of topsoil during the levelling of the area for the building of a number of lock-up garages.

The minutes of a meeting on Tuesday 17.4.28 of the Museum Committee, a sub-committee of the Borough Council, make no mention of the important discovery and obviously the committee were unaware of it. One of the members, Alderman Philip Laver, kept a journal of his archaeological activities, now in Colchester museum and referred to as 'Laver's diary' (LD). For Thursday, 19.4.28, he recorded that he was at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries in London where he "Had a wire from Hull as to find of Roman tombstone ". M.R.

[Rex] Hull was then in the second year of his long curatorship of the museum, early in a career which was to earn him considerable esteem as a recorder of Colchester's history and archaeology.

It is clear, therefore, that the Museum did not know of the discovery until the Thursday, five days after the event. Matters must then have moved quickly for the Standard to publish its account on the following Saturday. Its owner and editor, Alderman Gurney Benham, who was also chairman of the Museum Committee, lived nearby in Lexden Road. He himself may have written the account which included a photograph by J C Stutter of the fragmented stone taken on site after removal from the ground and a provisional discussion by Hull of the dedicatory inscription.

According to his journal, (LD 20.4.28), Laver visited the site on the Friday and saw the stone there. The Saturday Standard account stated that Mr Chambers had transferred it to his business premises for greater security and so the move had apparently taken place on the Friday after Laver's visit.

On the following Wednesday [LD 24.4.28] Laver and Hull visited Wimpole House in Wimpole Road, then in the possession of Chambers, to see the stone again and found T C Gall preparing to take more photographs. These show the stone fragments resting on a tiled surface after some cleaning with no sign of further damage.

The Essex County Telegraph published another newspaper account of the discovery on 28.4.28. It too included a discussion of the inscription by Hull. Of particular interest are details of the discovery, evidently from a most reliable source. "The workmen were busy on the excavations for foundations when one of them struck what he thought was an old sewer. Mr Leonard Chambers (The son of Mr Walter Chambers) was fortunately near at the time, and he advised careful procedure. Soon the thing took shape, it was dug round, and the monument came up easily without further damage than had probably been done centuries ago." The photograph accompanying the article was by Gall.

After another visit to the Beverley Road site Laver recorded (LD 7.5.28) that "I saw a very good section of the road first noticed by myself on the east side of the central block of earth still remaining." This was the first mention of the Roman road, a discovery which Hull was to declare as "one of the highest importance", wondering "whether at long last we have not some evidence of the first occupation" of the town by the Romans (Hull 1928).

At a meeting of the Borough Council on .5.28 [The Essex County Telegraph, 5.5.28] Gurney Benham announced that Mr Walter Chambers had presented the monument to the town, a generous gesture for which he had been given a hearty vote of thanks. Laver [LD] recorded that the stone was brought to the museum on 8.5.28. The County Telegraph [12.5.28] reported the move and stated that it was being set up in concrete for public display. The County Standard [23.6.28] announced that it was about to be placed in position in the museum.

Hull was in time to publish a brief note on the discovery in the museum report for 1928 which was amplified in the following year.

The County Standard for 18.8.28 stated that Hull had just published his first academic report on the find [Hull 1928]. In October Gurney Benham followed with an account which included Stutter's initial photograph [Benham 1928]. Laver contributed a note with a Gall photograph [Laver 1928/29?]. Another brief note appeared in the Journal of Roman Studies [Hull]. In the following October Hull published another report in German [Hull 1929].

These reports make it clear that the stone was found lying on its face and that the cinerary urn and whatever may have accompanied it was not recovered in spite of a search in the vicinity [Hull 1928, 117]. This failure was in itself sufficient reason for a further excavation in 1996, but another incentive had appeared many years previously. In 1934 Mr A F Hall found a Roman road in the grounds of Colchester Royal Grammar School which was aligned with that observed by Laver on the Longinus site.

Subsequent excavations by the Colchester Archaeological Group in 1965 [CAGA B Holbert 1965] and in 1992 [forthcoming] showed that it continued to the west of the site. Hall's excavation indicated that the road possessed ditches and therefore, even though the road bed at Beverley Road had been removed in 1928, the ditches might remain and might provide evidence of width and date.

## **APPENDIX B. BEVERLEY ROAD. THE EXCAVATION. – unfinished article by AJF**

Demolition of the lock-up garages had left the site covered with an area of concrete. Two sources, a pencil sketch kept in Hull's notebook [Coleman] and his map 3 in "Roman Colchester", indicated that the tombstone had been found in the southwest corner. Accordingly, in April 1996 an 8 by 4 metre area of the hard concrete was removed in the corner, representing one day's work with a pneumatic drill. (CHECK) Excavation near the high brick boundary walls to the south and west of the area would have been imprudent and so for safety a margin of concrete approximately 1 metre wide was left close to the walls. Under the 15 cm thick concrete lay a 10 cm thick foundation partly in laid bricks or brick-bats and partly in rubble.

The removal of the concrete and its foundation revealed a marked difference in appearance between the northern part of the exposed area F1 and the southern part F2. The subsoil of sand, flint gravel and pockets of sandy silt was the same throughout and both parts displayed intrusive features, apparently man made. Whereas the former was mostly sand with one pocket of dark loam, the latter was nearly all disturbed ground, the northern edge of which formed a noticeable if somewhat uneven boundary with the northern part. The southern part included a significant rectangular intrusion of dark loam, which fitted well with the plan of the site of the tombstone. So the soil of the north F1 was sand with some patches of light sandy silt and one of dark loam whereas the soil of the south was a silty loam with some overlying patches of darker loam. Justification of the initial presumption that the northern part represented the south track of the road and that the southern part was ground bordering the road came in the following December when removal of most of the remainder of the concrete from the whole site revealed that the boundary between the two soils did indeed run across the south end of the site from east to west. The location and alignment of the boundary fitted well with the three previous sightings of the road.

In 1928 Hull was unaware that the road had three tracks and he therefore assumed that the edge of the centre track was the boundary of the road.

Investigation of the features adjacent to the road's southern boundary formed the first stage of the excavation. The second stage was the digging of a trench across the width of the road from south to north to determine how much of it had survived the clearance in 1928. The third stage was the investigation of the features found along the north edge of the road. Discussion of the complete excavation therefore conveniently falls into these three stages.

### **The Centre Track**

This track was the subject of the only photograph available of the road as observed in 1928 and therefore its examination merits attention even though the direct results were negative. A narrow trench, 1 m wide trowelled across almost the full width of the three tracks for a length of 10 m provided a section for drawing. A dump of soil, one of two imported from off the site and intended for a future garden, prevented the run of the trench from being continued to the south edge of the road, but the equivalent of the inaccessible length of the south track was excavated further to the west of the site and so adequate information to complete the section was obtained.

Some of the patches of dark loam beneath the concrete and its brick foundation contained both Roman and modern pottery as well as impressed modern brick fragments from the foundation layer. They were evidently the remnant of the one metre thick layer of topsoil taken from the site in 1928. Stripping of a nominal depth of 5 cm was sufficient to remove this topsoil and reveal underlying features in F1 and F2 which were clearly intrusive and of interest. In particular, a rectangular area of dark loam suggested the shape of the excavation of the tombstone at the spot indicated on Hull's pencil sketch. An unexpected feature was an additional intrusion with a lighter fill, cutting through the south end of the dark loam and therefore made after the latter had been deposited.

F3 An sub-elliptical area of dark loam. Excavation showed it to be a pit containing fragments of pottery, bone and iron [fig 1]. As the pottery was entirely Roman the feature was assumed to be a rubbish pit of that period. The walls gave an indication of the nature of F1, being of coarse yellow sand with flints.

F4 A sub-circular area of mixed light loam, sand, gravel, modern and Roman pottery, modern and Roman brick fragments, stone, and similar debris. Removal showed that it was the fill of a pit about 1.5m deep, modern but obviously not later than the laying of the concrete in 1928.

F5 A rectangular area of dark loam, somewhat lighter than F3. Its southern end was cut through by pit F4 which was therefore later than F5. The cut provided a section of F5, which showed that it was a shallow pit about 0.3m deep with a truncated length of about 1.3m and a width of about 0.8m.

This feature corresponded well with the recorded position of the tombstone as found in 1928 and subsequent excavation supplied supporting evidence.

F6 Sandy silt in the sand and gravel of F1 at the north of the area initially stripped of concrete suggested some disturbance. Excavation revealed the legs of a skeleton, the torso being missing.

F7 A second area of sandy silt to the south of F6 contained a complete skeleton lying prone. Its deposition had evidently removed the torso of the first skeleton.

F8 An area of disturbed sand and silt lying between F1 and F7. Excavation revealed that it comprised a pit and a ditch which contained flecks of charcoal but no artefacts of any kind

F9 An area of dark soil containing numerous artefacts, lying in F1. This was clearly an intrusion.

F10 A second area of dark soil containing numerous artefacts, in F1.

F11 A third area of dark soil containing numerous artefacts, in F1.

F12 An area of greenish soil lying immediately beneath the concrete and rubble foundation.

F13

### Interpretation

The key to the site is the road. Unfortunately the removal in 1928 of the centre track, the south sandy track and most of the lightly metalled north track had stripped much of the dating and other evidence which would have allowed the sequence of its construction to be assessed. Logically it would appear to date from the period after the building of the legionary fort since it avoided passing straight through the area of the military compound and was connected to the latter by a link road to the predecessor of the Balkern Gate. The line of the main road is thought to pass to the south of the fort and the subsequent town, heading for the Colne and a possible landing place on the Colne at the bottom of Hythe Hill. A pre-Roman track may have existed on the line, being the eastern end of a route originating from the Cassivellaunian stronghold at Wheathampstead. However, this is speculation since no convincing archaeological evidence has been found for an extension of the road beyond the Grammar School site where it was found in 1934.

The road may be an early, but to assume that all three tracks were constructed at the same time would be unsafe. The centre track would obviously be the first one, but the other two may not have been added until many years later. This is an important consideration as it is the construction of the outer tracks which governs the features which were found on the site. As Hull indicates in his reports, the centre track was completely removed in 1928 and the 1996/7 excavation revealed only the subsoil of sand, silt and gravel. The south track, said to be of fine sand at the Grammar School site, had also been removed leaving a subsoil of coarse sand with patches of sandy silt. However, the features at the south edge in the form of pits remained and yielded valuable information. Traces of the thin metalling of the north track were found and also the ditches at the north edge of it.

The trench T\*\* ran parallel to the north-south co-ordinate of the site. It was not at right-angles to the alignment of the road and therefore a correction must be applied to provide a true cross-section. From the south it started in sand and gravel under area of the south track and then ran into sandy silt, extending for \*\*.m before changing back into sand and gravel again. Careful examination of the silt showed that it extended over a limited area of about \*\* by\*\* m, had a maximum depth of \* m and contained no artefacts. It appeared to be a natural pocket, similar to others found on the site and typical of such deposits found in the gravel of the Colchester area.

Further to the north the trench ran into two intrusive pits at \*\*.m and \*\*.m containing both Roman and modern pottery and material. The most northerly of these had the characteristics of a post-hole from which the post had been levered out, by 1928 at the latest. The purpose of the other pit could not be deduced; perhaps for rubbish, another post or the removal of a cinerary urn.

At \*\*.m traces of the thin layer of flint metalling of the northern track started to appear followed by the northern ditches. These will be discussed in their appropriate place.

From this meagre evidence some conclusions may be reached. The trench revealed no sign of ditches on either side of the centre track. Either they were not necessary because of the well-draining nature of the subsoil or they were fairly shallow and disappeared if and when the side-tracks were added later. The Grammar School excavations in 1934 indicated that the centre track was revetted with wooden boards to raise the surface above the two side-tracks. This form of construction would have given good drainage, but must have been inconvenient in use. Evidence of revetting was looked for in 1996/7, but none was found. If it was there originally, any evidence still existing in 1928 does not show in the uncleaned section shown in the photograph. It would certainly have been removed together with the track at that time.

Hull's notebook contains three drawings of the road section. One on a loose piece of paper tucked inside the file appears to be the original, sketched by Rudsdale on site, with a simple plan and an additional note on pottery from the excavations for the "new

theatre" (which became the Playhouse cinema), presumably visited on the same day. Obviously, it was an improvised quick record and the feature was probably not available for a more detailed version subsequently. The other two, both bound in the file, are later careful copies of the original, one incorporated in the typescript of the note book post 1944 and one with other sections post 1950.

Hull states that the section was made "without digging, so that the appreciation of the quality of the layers may be defective..." He describes the latter as follows, from the top:-

Top soil.	Appears to be about 60 cm
Road surface	7.6 cm
Yellow gravel	15 cm
Red gravel	5 to 15 cm
Clay	15 cm
Loam	
Sand/gravel ?	

## Notes on the Tombstone

### 1 Source of Stone

Following the opinion of a local stonemason which he did not question, Hull assumed that the stone for the monument came "from the neighbourhood of Bath" (Essex Standard ). The availability of so many fragments from the recent excavation has allowed the material to be given a petrological examination in a laboratory ( ). The conclusion was that the source was in Lincolnshire, probably from the area near Stamford, with a lesser possibility that it came from near Ancaster.

Hull used the westward transfer of the 20<sup>th</sup> to the Bath area in AD 49 as part of his argument for the dating of the monument, on the assumption that the stone would not be available before that date. It now appears that the availability and the dating are dependent on the development of the Lincolnshire quarries.

A careful inspection of the tombstone suggests that it was never finished. Nearly all of the surround of the arched niche holding the figures and of the inscription has been left roughly tooled. It could be argued that the finish was a deliberate rustic effect. However, part of the arch above the horse's head, made whole by the restoration of one of the fragments found in 1996, has been worked to a smooth finish, but with an awkward step where the smoothing has been apparently abandoned. Furthermore, scribe marks, perhaps a guide which would have disappeared when a ornamental border was added, are still visible on the surround of the niche.

Hull noticed the lack of finish. In the last of his reports written after the discovery of the monument (Hull 1929), he wrote "Was die Datierung des Denkmals angeht, so stehen wir vor einem interessanten Problem. Der Stil ist unverkennbar früh und die Technik sehr viel besser als die der Denkmäler von Cirencester und Gloucester, die beide wohl ins erste Jahrhundert gehören. Die Tatsache, dass der Stein kaum verwittert und der Nischenbogen nur an einer einzigen Stelle (über dem Kopf des Pferdes) fertig geglättet ist, während die vorgezeichneten Umrisslinien an den Seiten nicht abpoliert sind, scheint für eine eilige Errichtung noch vor der letzten Vollendung und für eine beinahe sofortige Zerstörung nach der Aufstellung zu sprechen. Ist unsere Annahme einer absichtlichen Zerstörung richtig, so weist alles auf den Aufstand von 61 n. Chr. hin." [In tackling the date of the memorial, we are presented with an interesting problem. The style is unmistakably early and the technique very much better than that of the memorials from Cirencester and Gloucester, which both belong to first century. The fact that the stone is hardly weathered and the arch of the niche is finished only in one single place (over the head of the horse), while the pre-determining outlines on the front are not polished out, suggests a hasty setting-up before the final completion and an almost immediate destruction after it.) If our assumption of a deliberate destruction is correct, all points to an erection in AD 61.]

Hull may not have included the evidence of incompleteness in his earlier reports in English simply because he had not then noticed it. He did not mention it in his "Roman Colchester" of 1958 either, not even in the unedited typescript preserved in Colchester Museum. The pressure of publication and the uncertainty of the evidence because part of the smoothed arch was then still missing may have decided him against further discussion.

The logic behind his last statements is not self-evident. What is clear is that the final stage of smoothing and additional decoration had started and had not been completed. Further discussion will follow later.

The usual assumption is that the stone was thrown down in the Boudiccan revolt of AD 60 by the Iceni and Trinovantian rebels. Hull suggested this in his first newspaper report [ECS 4.1928] and he continued to advance the idea with the publication of "Roman Colchester" in 1958. Other authors have followed his proposal and it is perhaps appropriate to re-examine his evidence in view of the 1996/7 excavations. He based his argument on three points.

1 Stylistically the depiction of the horseman with the barbarian beneath belongs to the first century. NOT SO MUCH EARLIER.

2 The use of H.S.E. in the inscription was first century practice.

3 The stone showed little sign of weathering and therefore had not stood for long. Since it was thought to have originated from the Bath area it would not have been available before the army arrived there in AD 49. Erection in the AD 50s and toppling in AD 60 would account for good condition.

4 The face and other missing fragments were not found underneath the stone and therefore must have been knocked off before it fell to the ground, indicating wilful damage.

## APPENDIX C *Tegula Mammata* from the Longinus Tombstone Site

James Fawn

These tile fragments were found in 1998 during the excavation of the site. They were part of a plinth-like structure, on the north side of the three-track Roman road which ran across the site from east to west, almost certainly the road to Londinium. The location of the tombstone was on the south side and there was no evidence or reason to connect the ?plinth with it, apart from being in the same cemetery area alongside the road.

Brodribb (1987) distinguishes two types of *tegula mammata*, which have one or more bosses or *mammae* attached to one of the tile surfaces. Type A have small *mammae* which assist bonding when the brick is laid with thick mortaring in courses or for flooring. Type B have larger *mammae* which separate bricks used vertically to create a cavity for insulation or to act as a flue. The ?plinth tiles, all of which are incomplete, appear to be type A. They were plainly not made specially for the structure. This had been partially demolished in antiquity, leaving only the core materials which included not only the *tegula mammata* but also a greater quantity of incomplete plain tiles and lumps of limestone. The exterior would have originally been properly finished with good materials, of course.

The tiles had been trimmed to a roughly rectangular shape, but as they all had part of their made edges remaining it was possible to deduce that their original dimensions were similar to those of the common tegula illustrated by Brodribb, p 3. No special care appeared to have been taken as to the position of the *mammae* during trimming and so again it would seem that the *mammata* were regarded in use as no more significant than the other broken tiles used in the core of the structure.

In his Appendix 111, Formulations of *Tegula Mammata*, Brodribb lists more than fifty sites in Britain which have shown evidence of *mammatae*. He includes Colchester in the list, but does not give details of sites and finds.

The earliest Colchester record appears to be in Hawkes and Hull, 1947, p 347, which mentions a moulded boss on a 'tile-like piece' from their excavations during the construction of Colchester's first by-pass in 1930. Whether the find is available in the Museum has not been explored.

Colchester Archaeological Trust has made more recent finds (Crummy P et al, 1992, p256 ) although in general they are not that common. Nine were found at the Gilberd School , but the large Culver Street site yielded only one, all Brodribb Type A

Manufacture of *mammatae* would seem a fairly simple matter of sticking a blob of clay on the surface of a tile and hoping that it would not fall off during firing. That the BV tiles and others were made locally is certainly a possibility. One reason for the scarcity of finds may be *mammae* become detached unrecognised during the excavation of a floor or wall. Another may be the lack of extant tile walls and floors requiring excavation. There may be *mammatae* in the town wall, the circus walls and even rebuilt into the Castle walls, but, of course, the existence of *mammae* cannot be verified without some unacceptable demolition of the buildings.

The tiles are being deposited with the Museum without cleaning at any time since excavation so that the surface deposits may be examined if wished. Mortar present may be either from a building originally or from the ?plinth. They are relatively free from soil because they have come from the core of the ?plinth. They have been stored on the CAT premises since excavation. Photographs of the ?plinth are available and the tiles have also been recently photographed as a group prior to removal to the Museum.

The individual tiles were not numbered at the time of discovery, but they have now been marked with a sub-divided BV (Beverley Road) site number as follows –

- BV 1266 A Mortar on reverse (non-*mammae*) side
- B Thin mortar on reverse side
- C Mortar on both sides
- D Mortar on reverse side
- E Mortar on reverse side

The presence of mortar on the reverse side only suggests that the tiles concerned have not been used as might be expected with *mammae* facing down. They were perhaps manufacturers rejects only suitable for internal use such as the core of a structure.

Brodribb A.G.C. Roman Brick and Tile, pp 61-65 Alan Sutton Publishing Ltd 1987

Crummy P. et al. Colchester Archaeological Report 6: Excavations at Culver street, the Gilberd School, and other sites in Colchester 1971-85. C.A.T and English Heritage 1992

**APPENDIX D BEVERLEY ROAD – LONGINUS PLAN & DRAWING LIST**

- 1 Sketch of tombstone as discovered in 1928, showing ? position of missing bits
- 2 "Section across road". Labelled T19
- 3 Titled "BV redeposited cremation burial South. Labelled drawing "9B" by AJF. Relates to SP F5.
- 4 Labelled "6" by AJF. Possible sketch of pits on S side of road, but cannot be correlated with other plans, specifically Plan 6 below
- 5 Sections of T30 "Builders Pit", which relates to SP F3, & T31 "Midden", which appears to be an E-W section, and is related to T24 on Plan 6.
- 6 Labelled T24 "Plan of SE corner of site". Very vague, but show SP F4 & F4a, East end
- 7 No title but apparently sketch of proposed bungalow on site (never built)
- 8 Titled "Proposed 4 No. one bedroom flats off Beverley Road, Colchester
- 9 Plan layout of above flats
- 10 "BV9" Paper copy of sketch of site layout. Similar to 42, below
- 11 "T15: Pit for Stone Cavity". Seems to show some finds in F3, but difficult to interpret
- 12 "Pedestal Layer 2". Part of enigmatic "plinth" feature on N side of road
- 13 Untitled plan, but part of plinth F10 & F11
- 14 "Plinth, 4<sup>th</sup> tier, or 5<sup>th</sup>". Another part as 12 above
- 15 "BVS floor, low level", whatever that means. No identifiable features
- 16 Plan showing layout of garages on site pre-excavation.
- 17 "BVS Top layer". Part of 12 & 14, but pretty indecipherable
- 18 "N side, S face" Probably part of plinth. See 12, 14, 17
- 19 "N face of S plinth", See 12, 14, 17, 18
- 20 "E face, N & S side". See 12, 14, 17, 18, 19
- 21 "3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> layer plinth plan"
- 22 Plinth, probably plans of different layers
- 23 2 Sections T11 & T12. "East of Tombstone" & "along N-S Baulk in skeleton pit"
- 24 "BV8" Site section showing levels relative to No 5 Beverley Road
- 25 2 Section "T14" & "T29 Section across N road ditches"
- 26 No title, other than "T34?", but shows plan of S end of site, including Tombstone pit & graves pit, and possible position of section T13 on Plan 32
- 27 2 sections "T17" & T18", but not identifiable by me, even though it calls one of them "John's Trench N of road".  
May be one so labelled on Plan 42 below.
- 28 2 N-S sections "T22 Trench nearest West wall" & "T24 East of Greenhouse". Neither section position known accurately.
- 29 "Baulk S of Greenhouse"
- 30 No title. Section of T32. Relates in some way to SP F4a
- 31 Plan of SW corner of site, showing detail of Longinus pit and skeleton pit. Shows exact position of many finds, and, significantly, the relative positions of Longinus face, arch and snake. Part reproduced above, in simplified form, Fig. ?
- 32 "N-S section across Mike's quarry pit" On SE side of site. Shown as Section X-Y on Plan 26
- 33 Labelled "T3", ie F3, but not entirely comprehensible. Shows, apparently, relative vertical positions of Longinus face, arch and snake.
- 34 Sketch (by Tom Smith) of upper part of skeleton 2. See 37
- 35 "T 21 Section of vault N side" (SP F11) & "T33 Mike's Trench E section" (SP4a)
- 36 2 sections "T27 – section across F1" & "T28 – section across rubbish pit 2" (probably SP F7c)
- 37 Sketch (by Tom Smith) of lower part of skeleton 2. See 34
- 38 Distribution of limestone fragments around tombstone
- 39 Site plan, showing relative positions of some of the important features
- 40 "9A – redeposited cremation burial north" Drawn by WJM (I have no recollection)
- 41 "T25 – section across long axis of cavity" Relates to SP F10 & F11
- 42 "BV9" Preliminary sketch of site plan, which may show, unnumbered, some of the trenches & sections.
- 43 "BV7" plan of SW corner of site 1/20. showing Longinus pit and skeleton pit
- 44 Section plan titled "T11?" Section H – A parallel to West wall.

## APPENDIX E – SMALL FINDS

A number of small finds were separated out from the bulk of the finds archive. Without the AJF notebook, none can be reliably stratified. They are listed below with the site reference number allocated by AJF, together with any recollection the authors have of their original location.

- BV50 Apparently worked edge piece of ?Longinus limestone
- BV98 Scraps of bronze
- BV324 Misc worked copper/bronze
- BV366 Braided copper wire
- BV471 Copper stud
- BV 486 Copper/Bronze Pin
- BV712 Coin. Trajan. AD103-111. Possibly from midden (WJM)
- BV757 End of bone pin
- BV771 Coin. Faustina I After AD141 (identified by Martin Winter). “Original ground surface” (AJF)
- BV773 Coin. Trajan Dupondius AD 100 (identified by Martin Winter). Possibly from midden (WJM)
- BV824 Small coin. House of Constantine AD330-335 (identified by Martin Winter) “Top soil” (AJF)
- BV854 Large iron square nail
- BV857 Coin. Unidentified
- BV864 Several pieces bronze braided wire.
- BV 897 God knows. Copper waste?
- BV1174 Bronze Clasp pin
  - Bag containing unidentified coin, lead ball
  - Bag containing 5 unidentified coins, lead ball, lead disc
  - Modern dessert spoon
  - Slide box containing 2 ?Roman coins. Unconserved
  - Decorative metal piece. From F4a (MJM Trench)
  - Tin solder? Modern? (MJM)
  - Bronze/copper waste?

## APPENDIX F - PHOTOGRAPHS

Over 500 photographs were taken by AJF over the course of the excavation. None are labelled, other than by the slide date and sequential number. Many are duplicates or near duplicates. Some are unidentifiable by the authors. All have been scanned and archived. Below are a selection that can be identified, and which may be of help in clarifying the layout and character of the site, the scope of the excavation, and the nature of some of the features. The dates given are when the film was processed, and may not



Section through Road 1928. Looking West  
relate exactly to the date when the photographs were taken.



BV96-05-037. SW corner of site immediately after removing concrete. Looking South



**BV96-06-11. Section through Rubbish Pit F1**



**BV96-06-27. Section through F3, looking South**



**BV96-07-I036 Area to W of T2/T3, showing scatter of some of the limestone**



**BV96-07-M025. Fragment of skull found in F4a immediately E of F2/F3**



**BV96-07-M036. General view of F2 & F3, looking SE**



**BV96-10-005. General view of pits in F4a, looking W**





**BV96-11-RA028. Legs of skeleton in F6**



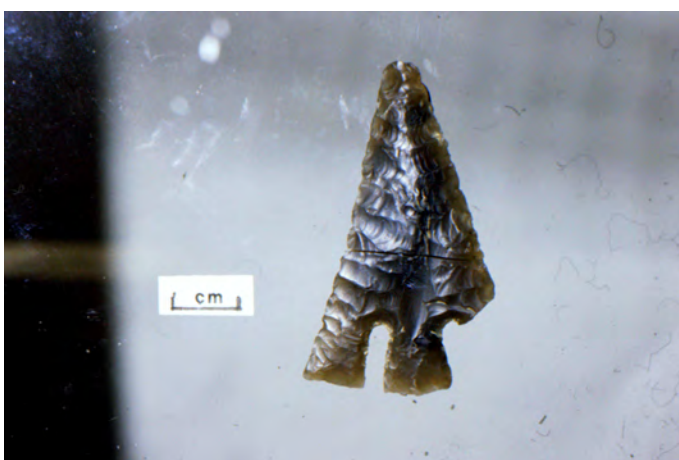
**BV97-04-H015 Location of the Amphora Brooch in F4a. Behind is the South wall of the site.**



**BV97-06-028. SE corner of site showing midden, centre. Partially visible lower right is F7c. F4 is behind spoil heap left**



**BV98-11-C031. General view of north end of site. Ditches 7 & 7a can be seen running across centre. F 10 & F11 are above these, slightly right**



**BV99-02-003. Tang and barb arrowhead found on site. Location unknown**



**The cause of all the trouble – the lad himself**

**APPENDIX G Catalogue of pottery from selected contexts**  
**Stephen Benfield, Colchester Archaeological Trust**

Finds selected during sorting as being identifiable or of particular interest

bag ctxt no	Description	Spot date
008	Fabric BA(CG) Dr 31 (M-L2C)	M-L2C
026	Fabric EA (beaker base)	M/L3-4C
067	Fabric BA(CG) Dr 31 (repair hole) (M-L2C); Fabric TZ flange (L1-2C?)	M-L2C
069a	Fabric FJ (flagon base) (M1-E/M2C)	M1-E/M2
091	Fabric BA(MDV) (base) (E2C)	E2C
097	Fabric TZ, Cam 498 (M2-E3C)	M2-E3C
105a	Fabric BA(SG) Dr 27g Base with partial stamp (M-L1C)	M-L1C
110	Fabric GX, traces of red paint inside – used as a paint pot(?) (see context 639) (Roman)	Roman
114	Fabric DJ (handle) (Roman); Fabric EA, Cam 308 (M3-4C); Fabric GB Cam 40B (M2-M3C); Fabric GX Cam 268 (M2-E4C), Cam 281/2 (L2-4C); Fabric HZ (M1-2/3C); Fabric TZ(?) (small sherd)	M3-4C
119	Fabric GA Cam 279C (M/L3-4C); Fabric CZ (M2-M3)	M/L3-4C
140	Fabric DZ (beaker base) (M1-2C)	M1-2C
176	Fabric GX, Cam 108 (M1-E2C) - much of pot represented as sherds, possibly displaced from a burial(?)	M1-E2C
195	Fabric DJ (flagon) (M1-E2C?)	M1-E2C(?)
204	Fabric GX (rim) (Early Roman)	Early Roman
207	Fabric GX, narrow necked jar (Roman)	Roman
211	Fabric BX(CG) Dech. 64 (E-M2C)	E-M2C
253	Fabric DJ (Roman)	Roman
298	Fabric EC (pre Flavian)	pre-Flavian
394	Fabric GX, jar/bowl base (Roman)	Roman
403a	Fabric DJ, Cam 155 flagon rim with expanded top ring (L1-E/M2C)	L1-E/M2C
405	Fabric HZ, large storage jar (M1-2C)	M1-2C
409	<i>Roman:</i> Fabric CG(BX) Dr 37 (2C); Fabric DJ (lid); Fabric GA, Cam 279 (M2-4C), Cam 279B (L2-3C); Fabric GB Cam 37B (L2-M3C), Cam 278 (M2-M3C); TZ Cam 195 (L1-E2C) <i>Post-Roman:</i> Fabric 40 (17-18C)	17-18C, (residual Roman L2-3/4C)
426c	Fabric DJ, flagon handle (M1-2/3C)	M1-2/3C
428	GB Cam 278 (M2-E/M3C) <i>Glass:</i> bottle/jar sherd in blue-green glass (Roman L1-E3C)	M2-E/M3C
434	Fabric GX, narrow necked flask (Roman)	Roman
443	Fabric AA/AJ(?), possibly lid, Roman (M1-2C?); Fabric DJ (M1-2/3C)	M1-2C(?)
446	Fabric CZ, beaker base (E2/M2-M3C); Fabric GX, Cam 268 (M2-E4C)	M2-3/E4C
447	Fabric BA(CG) Dr 33, potters stamp & graffiti under base (M-L2C); Fabric DJ Cam 156 (E2-E3C); Fabric GA, Cam 303 (E2-E3C), Fabric GB Cam 278 (M2-E/M3C); Fabric GX (Roman)	M2-E3C
464	Fabric GP, Cam 330 (L1-E/M2C)	L1-E/M2C
473a	Cam 278 (M2-E/M3C)	M2-E/M3C
473b	BA(CG) Dr. 33 (E/M-L2C)	E/M-L2C
474	BX(MDV)(?) Dr. 37, flat top to rim (E2C c AD 100-120) (Same vessel as contexts 510, 789), BX(CG) (sherds from 2 pots) (E/M-L2C)	E/M-L2C
477	Fabric GB Cam 37A (E/M2-E3C), Cam 40A (E2/M2-M3C); Fabric GX Cam 243-244/246 ) (M1-E2C)	E/M2-M3C
508	Fabric GX, Cam 243-244/246 (M1-E2C), Cam 268 (M2-E4C)	M2-3/E4C

bag ctxt no	Description	Spot date
510	BX(MDV)(?), Dr 37, flat top to rim (E2C c AD 100-120) (Same vessel as contexts 474, 789)	E2C (c AD 100-120)
516	Fabric EA(?) (M/L3-4C)	M/L3-4C
519	Fabric CZ, Cam 391 (E/M2-E3C)	E/M2-E3C
525k	Fabric CZ, beaker (3-4C)	3-4C
548	Fabric BA(CG), cup base, complete potters stamp (S3) <b>IVSTLM</b> , also part of graffiti mark under base (M-L2C); Fabric GX (Roman); Fabric TZ Cam 497 (M2-E3C)	M2-E3C
623c	BA(CG), burnt, Ludowici TG (L2C); Fabric GX (Roman)	L2C
638a	Fabric GB, bowl (E/M2-M3C)	E/M2-M3C
639	Fabric GX, from pot used as paint pot, (see context 110) (Roman)	Roman
640	Fabric BA(CG), Dr. 33 (E/M2-L2C) Fabric GX Cam 268 (M2-E4C); Fabric KX, dish/bowl base (M2-4C)	M2-3C
641	Fabric DJ, flagon handle (M1-2/3C); Flagon Handle Fabric GX Cam 218? (M1-E2C)	M1-E2/2C
651	Fabric GX Cam 108 (M1-E2C); Fabric WA (Roman)	M1-E2C(?)
685	BA(SG), Dr. 18 (M-L1C); BA(MDV)(?) or late BA(SG) Dr. 18/31 (L1-E2C)	L1-E2C
692a	Fabric KX small jar base, Cam 278 (M2-M/E3)	M2-M/E3
707	Fabric UR, Cam 21 platter with some red grog-temper, most of platter is present as joining sherds (E/M1C - pre-Flavian); Fabric HZ, Cam 270B large storage jar, organic with some grog-temper, much of pot present (E/M-L1C). These two vessels appear probably to be displaced from a burial	E/M1-M1C (Claudio-Neronian)
714	Fabric GX, rim (2-3C)	2-3C
717a	Fabric DJ, large flagon (M1-E2)	M1-E2C
728a/728e	Fabric CB, folded roughcast beaker Cam 391 (E/M2-E3)	E/M2-E3
744a	Fabric BA(SG) Dr. 18/31 (L1-E2C, c AD 90-110), (same pot as F4a MJM below)	L1-E2C (c AD 90-110)
747	Fabric BA(LX)(?), (M-L1C); (BA(CG) Dr. 33 (E/M2-L2C); Cam 278 (M2-E/M3C) <i>Glass:</i> (Roman)	M2-E/M3C
759	Fabric BA(CG) Dr. 33 (E/M2-L2C); Fabric CZ Cam 391/392 (E/M2-M3C)	E/M2-E/M3C
760	Fabric BA(CG); Fabric DJ, flagon base (M1-2C); Fabric GB Cam 278 (M2-E/M3C); Fabric GX, Cam 108 (M1-E2C)	M2-E/M3C
762	Fabric BA(CG), Walters 79 dish with complete potters stamp <b>CRICIRO.OF</b>	M-L2C
769	Fabric BX(CG), Dr. 37 (E/M-L2C)	E/M-L2C
789	BX(MDV)(?), Dr 37, (E2C, c 100-120 AD) (Same vessel as contexts 474, 510); Fabric HZ, Cam 270B (M1-2C)	E2C (c 100-120 AD)
791	<i>Roman:</i> Fabric GB Cam 37A (M2-E3C), Cam 40A (M2-M3C); Fabric KX, Cam 39 (M2-4C), Cam 278; Fabric HD (L3-4C) Fabric HZ (M1-2C) <i>Post-Roman:</i> Fabric 45 (16-17/18C); Fabric 48D (18-19C)	18-19C (residual Roman L3-4C)
793	BA(EG)(?) or BA(CO), Dr. 31 base, complete potters stamp (S4) <b>MICCIO.F</b> (dated Antonine)	M2-L2C (Antonine)
801	BA(SG) Dr. 18(?) L1C); Fabric DJ; deep bowl form (M1-2C); Fabric HZ (M1-2C)	L1-2C
815	Fabric EA, painted narrow-necked flask (M/L3-4C)	M/L3-4C
817b	BA(CG), Dr. 31 base (M-L2C)	M-L2C
822	Fabric DJ, double handled flagon (M1-E2/2C)	M1-E2/2C
860	Fabric BX(CG), Dr. 37 (E/M2-L2C)	E/M2-L2C
865	Fabric BX(CG), Dr. 37 (E/M2-L2C)	E/M2-L2C
875	Fabric DJ, Cam 154 flagon top (Claudio-Neronian)	M-L1C (Claudio-Neronian)
898	Fabric TZ Cam 498 (M/L2-E3C)	M/L2-E3C
937	Fabric BX(CG) Dr. (E/M2-L2C)	E/M2-L2C
959i	Fabric CZ Cam 308(?) (L2-3C)	L2-3C
960a	Fabric MP, (L3-4/L4C)	L3-4/L4C

bag ctxt no	Description	Spot date
976	Fabric CZ, (E/M2-M3C)	E/M2-M3C
977	BX(SG) rim Dr. 29 c. AD 60-80	L1C (c. AD 60-80)
978a	BA(CG) base, Curle 21(?)	M-L2C
1011	BA(CG) Dr 33(E/M2-L2C)	E/M2-L2C
1046	<i>Glass</i> : Blue-green glass (Roman, 2-3C)	Roman (2-3C)
1073a	Fabric DJ collard Hofheim-type flagon Cam 140 (pre-Flavian)	M1C (Claudio-Neronian)
1109	Fabric DJ (M1-2C?)	M1-2C(?)
1129a	Fabric DJ 'Tazza' Cam 198 (M1-2C)	M1-2C
1117	<i>Stone</i> : Stone mortar, part of rim with handle/lug. Purbeck marble Stone mortars were used in the Roman and medieval periods; probably Roman(?)	Roman(?)
1121	Fabric FJ, flagon handle (M1-E/M2)	M1-E/M2
1128	Fabric BX(CG), Dr. 37 (E/M2-L2C)	E/M2-L2C
1130a/b	Fabric TZ, Cam 195C (?) L1-E2C	L1-E2C
1133a	Fabric GB, Cam 37B (L2-M/L3C)	L2-M/L3C
1133h	Fabric GX, Cam 268 (M2-E4C)	M2-E4C
1156a	Fabric BA(CG), partial potters stamp on dish/bowl form <b>CATIA(N)</b> (c AD 155-185)	M-L 2C (c AD 155-185)
1159	Fabric TZ, spout with edge of stamp (M-L2C, Antonine)	M-L2C (Antonine)
1175	Fabric DH, lid (1-2/3C)	1-2/3C
1184a	Fabric DJ, Cam 156 (E2-E3C)	E2-E3C
1188a	Fabric BA(EG)(?), unusual form, small hemispherical bowl Dr. 40 with internal groove (Oswald & Price pl XLVIII nos. 10 & 15), base worn internally removing slip (L2C-M3C(?))	L2C-M3C(?)
1189	Fabric DJ, flagon base (M1-2C); Fabric GB Cam 37A (E/M2-E3C), Cam 278 (M2-E/M3C); Fabric GP, beaker(?) base (L1-2C); Fabric GX, lid (Roman); Fabric KX Cam 278 (M2-M3C)	M2-E/M3C
1198	Fabric GX, lid (Roman)	Roman
1203a	Fabric DJ, Cam 218 (M1-E2C); Fabric GX, Cam 108 (M1-E2C)	M1-E2C
1225	Fabric GP, beaker (L1-2C)	L1-2C
1226a	Fabric DJ, base (M1-2/3C)	M1-2/3
1228	Fabric CB Cam 391 (E/M2-E3C); GB Cam 37A (E/M2-E3C); Fabric GX Cam 268 (M2-E4C)	M2-E3/3C
1247	Fabric EC, beaker Cam 94 (pre-Flavian)	Claudio-Neronian (pre-Flavian)
1253	Fabric GX, beaker Cam 108(?) (M1-E2C)	M1-E2/2C
F4 MJM	Fabric BA(MDV), Dr 18/31R (E2C)	E2C (c 100-120)
F4a MJM Section	BX(SG), Dr 29 (M-L1C) (not later than c AD 80)	M-L1C (Claudio-Neronian-Flavian)
F4a MJM Section	BA(SG), Dr 18/31R (L1-E2C) (c AD 90-110)	L1-E2C (c AD 90-110)
F4a MJM Section	BX(CG), Dr. 37 (E/M2-L2C)	E/M2-L2C
F4a MJM Section	Fabric MQ, flagon handle (Roman)	Roman
Midden Surface	Fabric DJ, (1-2/3C); Fabric GA, (M2-4C); Fabric GX, lid (Roman, M1-2/3C?)	M2-3/4C
Midden Section at SE corner	Fabric GX, Cam 218(?) (M1-E2C(?))	M1-E2C(?)
U/S i	Fabric TZ, Cam 498 (M2-E3C)	M2-E3C
U/S ii	Fabric BA(CG) (E/M2-L2C); Fabric CZ, Cam 391 (E/M2-E3C); Fabric GB Cam 37B (L2-M/L3C) Fabric GX, Cam 268 (M2-E4C); Fabric HZ (M1-2/3C)	M2-3C
U/S iii	BX(CG), Dr. 37 (E/M2-L2C)	E/M2-L2C

## APPENDIX H. The Discovery of the Face of Longinus

It is unfortunate that many archaeological discoveries owe more to the tradition of the Keystone Cops than to Indiana Jones. Such was the case on this occasion.

There were only two of us there that day (we'll say it was a Tuesday, because that is traditional – but I honestly don't remember). James was trowelling in F2. As director it was only right and proper he should give himself the best bits. I was trowelling alongside him to the west, in the area of F4a where we had been pulling out large quantities of rather scruffy, friable limestone flakes. These didn't seem to be of any particular significance – remember that we were far from sure at this point that we were even in the vicinity of the tombstone – but they were each being dutifully recorded by width, length and depth, in James's notebook. That notebook which is now lost.

James meanwhile was finding only a very few flakes, along with a few sherds of Roman pottery, from within F2. It was, I think, approaching coffee time when he uncovered a slightly larger, apparently undistinguished, oval flake. He lifted it, turned it over, and in a manner at this stage owing more to Buster Keaton than Keystone Cops, passed it to me, deadpan, and mildly enquired "What do you think of that, then?" I was looking at a somewhat battered, and dirt encrusted face. It is obvious in retrospect what it was, but at that moment neither of us seemed willing to take it on board. And neither of us were prepared to voice the question "Do you think it could be....?" But we were obviously thinking it.

"Looks a bit small to me" said James, and I concurred. He pulled out the photo of the tombstone that he always carried, which had been scaled by someone at the museum. Unfortunately the scale had been marked in inches, when it should actually have been in centimetres. In consequence we were expecting the face to be 2.5 times the size it actually was, so maybe we can be forgiven for being obtuse. We laid the flake in the finds tray along with everything else, and continued trowelling.

But obviously the discovery was niggling James, and after about 15 minutes he said, "You know, I think I'll just give the museum a ring. Take it (the face) round to the Trust and give it wash, will you?" I still cringe about it to this day, but while James returned to his house to ring the museum (this was in the days before mobile phones, remember, and his house was only five minutes walk away), I trotted round to the Trust and gave the face a good sluice under the tap in the kitchen sink. Fortunately the dirt came off very easily, so it was not necessary to resort to scrubbing, and the cavalier treatment didn't seem to cause any damage.

When I returned to the site, with the face now wrapped in kitchen towel, there was still no-one else there, but it was only a minute or two before Keystone Cops hell broke loose. Paul Seeley and Peter Berridge (from the Castle Museum) sprinted onto the site, followed, almost immediately, but at a much more leisurely pace, by James. "Where is it? Where is it?" They were almost jumping up and down with excitement. James proffered them the face. "That's it!! Come on!!", and Peter and Paul more or less dragged James, now clutching the face, off site at high speed. Paul first, Peter second, James third (he was handicapped by the stone), and me, bewildered, bringing up the rear, we piled into Peter's car. It is a good job the one way system is in the right direction to get to the Castle, because I think we broke every other traffic law, but we arrived at the Castle intact. Paul leapt out and sprinted into the Castle, with Peter behind, James (still handicapped) third, and me (still bewildered) bringing up the rear, and gasping, as we galloped past the bemused desk attendant "I'm with them". Up the stairs, along the top gallery (appropriately setting off the Boudiccan revolt again as we went past) to the tombstone of Longinus. Peter motioned James forward to present the face to the monument.

"Stop!!" ordered Paul – and disappeared. We stood, frozen, bemused. Minutes later, Paul reappeared – with about ten museum staff. "Now!!" he ordered. And James did his stuff. And the face fitted. There was clapping. And cheering. And Paul tried to hug James. Which was not well received. But the face was back where it belonged.

It only needs to be added that the picture which appeared in all the papers of James presenting the face to the monument was not taken until a few days later. You can tell, because James has combed his hair, trimmed his beard and put on a jacket and tie.

