

# Excavations at Campsfield, Kidlington, Oxon., 1949

By A. G. HUNTER and JOAN R. KIRK

## GENERAL

IN the autumn of 1949, in the course of road-widening operations just north of the farm named Campsfield on the Oxford-Woodstock road (National Grid 42/466615, PL. II, A, FIG. 17), a drainage ditch was dug on the west side of the road, parallel to it and 40 feet from it; for a distance of almost 850 feet this modern ditch cut through pits, ditches and other structures yielding Romano-British pottery. Mr. G. H. Blackwell of Upper Kidlington reported these pottery finds to the Ashmolean Museum, and from October to December, 1949, the Oxford University Archaeological Society conducted an excavation on the site, mainly at week-ends.<sup>1</sup> The excavation was under the general supervision of the Ashmolean Museum and was directed by A. G. Hunter. It was confined to the narrow strip between the drainage ditch and the cycle path which borders the road; west of the drainage ditch runs a stone boundary wall.

The site lies on the Cornbrash, in the upland Cornbrash region, at about 265 feet above sea-level, between the rivers Evenlode and Cherwell. Its connexion may turn out to be, therefore, with the villas and Akeman Street to the north, rather than with the village-sites to the south. To-day the country is open and, generally, sparsely wooded, flat or slightly rolling; but this area, disafforested after 1862, was probably covered in Roman times by Wychwood Forest. It is a continuation of the Cotswolds,<sup>2</sup> and in a clearing in the forest the Romano-British village (as it probably was) was sited. The field on the west of the road here, into which the village must have extended, is named

<sup>1</sup> For help and advice both on the site and in the Ashmolean Museum, and especially for examining the pottery, we are deeply indebted to Mr. D. B. Harden; our thanks are also due to Miss M. V. Taylor, Professor C. F. C. Hawkes and Mr. E. S. Applebaum for help and advice on the site; to Mrs. M. E. Cox for drawings of objects accompanying this article; to Dr. J. W. Jackson, Mr. C. M. Kraay, Dr. Felix Oswald and Dr. C. H. Desch for examining respectively the animal bones, coins, Samian pottery and iron slag; to Dr. K. S. Sandford for advice on the depressions in Cutting A; to Mr. N. Thomas for photography on the site; and to many others who have helped in the preparation of this Report. The Society is very grateful to Mr. W. Geary, supervising engineer of the road works, and to the late Mr. G. J. Gammage, foreman, for their kindness and cooperation throughout the excavation. Of members of the Society, Mr. P. A. Titchmarsh supervised the excavation of cutting D, and Miss D. Charlesworth that of Cutting C. Miss D. M. Hunter, Mr. H. W. Catling and Mr. J. D. Jones gave constant and stalwart assistance.

<sup>2</sup> *Victoria County History of Oxfordshire*, I (1939), p. 1.

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Hardwick,<sup>3</sup> the name derived from Old English *heord(e)-wic* 'wic for the flock', i.e. sheep-farm,<sup>4</sup> and was evidently part of a pre-Conquest sheep farm.

It will be convenient first to describe the sections revealed along the two faces of the drainage ditch.

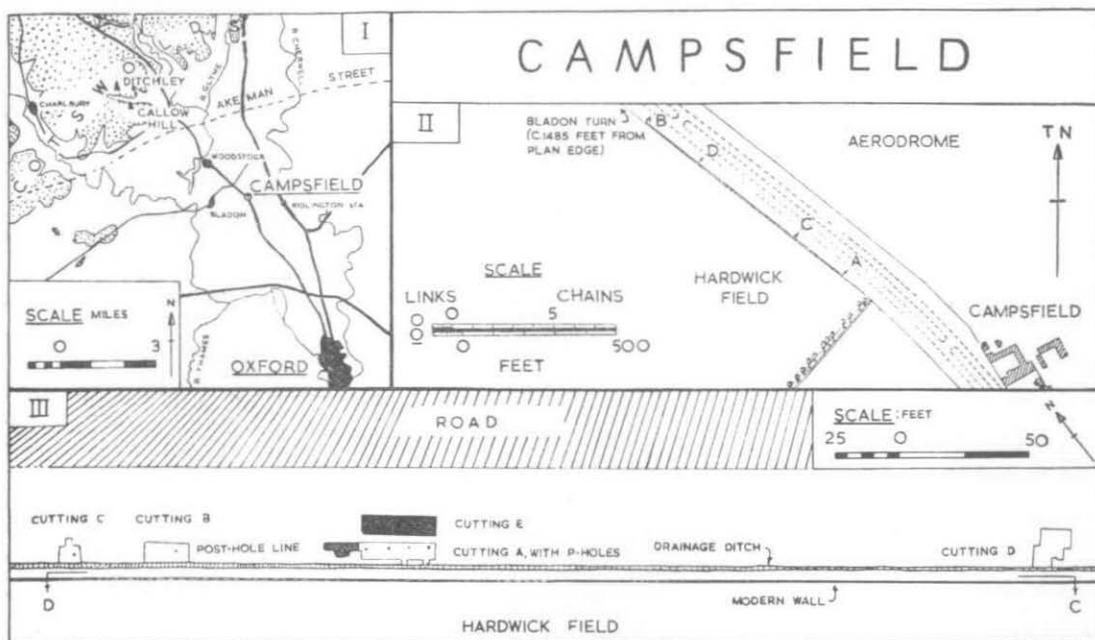


FIG. 17  
CAMPSFIELD, KIDLINGTON, OXON.

I, General map, showing position of site ; II, III, detailed plans showing position of cuttings

*Based on the O.S. maps with the sanction of the controller of H.M. Stationery Office*

## SECTIONS ALONG EAST AND WEST FACES OF MODERN DRAINAGE DITCH (FIG. 18)

The east and west faces of the drainage ditch are respectively about 3 feet 3 inches and 1 foot 6 inches east of the chain line A B shown on the general plan.

While the interpretation of the sections is in no case certain, it appears that the drainage ditch has cut through 21 ditches (perhaps some ditches more than

<sup>3</sup> Information from Mr. J. B. Crawford of Bladon, owner of the land.

<sup>4</sup> E. Ekwall, *Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names* (1936), p. 209.

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once), 27 pits, 3 post-holes, a corn-drying oven and three separate areas where the subsoil seems to have been disturbed in order to quarry stone for building.

The sections give a definite north and south boundary to the site.<sup>5</sup>

The number of cases where later structures—both pits and ditches—cut earlier ones (e.g. at 250 feet, 515 feet, and 740 feet) suggests that the site was

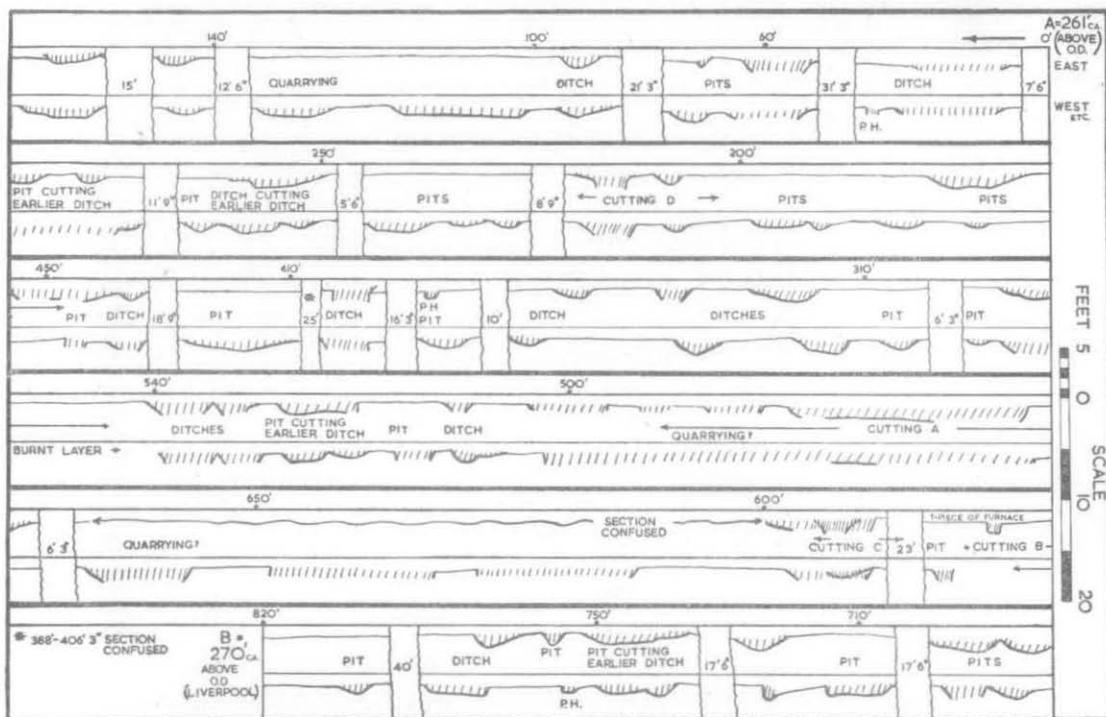


FIG. 18  
CAMPSFIELD, KIDLINGTON, OXON.

Sections along east and west faces of modern road drainage-ditch, pp. 37-8.

occupied for a long time under the same conditions. Occupation lasted into the 4th or 5th century. These facts, together with the large number of pits and ditches revealed in section, suggest that Campsfield is a village-site and not that of a villa or native farm.

<sup>5</sup> The east and west boundaries of the site are uncertain; neither before 1949 nor since has any Romano-British pottery been recognized in the field opposite Hardwick (now part of Kidlington aerodrome), and, before 1949, no such pottery was recognized in Hardwick field itself. Both fields were under plough.

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### CUTTING A (SEE PLANS AND SECTIONS, FIGS. 19, 20 AND PL. II, B, D), CUTTING E (SEE PLAN, FIG. 17)

Cuttings A and E were dug in order to examine the long, shallow depressions visible in section in the drainage ditch at this point. It was found however, that excavation of a much larger area than was possible would be necessary to determine their nature, and any statement of their purpose must remain conjectural until this is carried out.

#### *The Depressions*

The surface level of the rock was very sharply irregular here (see plan and section), roughly forming three hollowed-out areas (Depressions X, Y and Z). The composition of the rock was also irregular, varying from amorphous lumps of cornbrash to platey cornbrash, suitable for building, which broke along clean, straight edges; the high rock level was of this latter kind. The depressions were 30 inches deep from the present ground-level. Their filling consisted generally of a stony red clay and loam, containing a fair amount of pottery of 1st and mainly 2nd century types and animal bones. Dr. K. S. Sandford, to whom details of the filling of the depressions, together with photographs of Cutting A were submitted, but who did not see the site while it was being dug, considers these depressions to be almost certainly artificial. The size of the depressions could not be determined, for none of the three was completely excavated; certainly none had a continuous or definite edge, and this, together with the absence of any post-hole which could be associated with them, rules out the possibility that they were hut-dwellings.

There remain two possible explanations; first, that the depressions were made in order to quarry rock, and secondly, that they form part of a complex of working hollows such as those recognized by Dr. Gerhard Bersu at Little Woodbury;<sup>6</sup> the first is the more likely, but needs further evidence to confirm it.

Two brooch-pins, both with coiled springs, were found at about 30 inches depth in Cutting E (C 154, 155).<sup>7</sup>

The unweathered rock surface indicates that the depressions were filled in almost immediately, probably some time in the 2nd century A.D.

<sup>6</sup> G. Bersu, 'Excavations at Little Woodbury, Wilts.,' *Proc. Prehist. Soc.*, new ser., vi, pt. 1 (1940), pp. 64-78.

<sup>7</sup> The numbers preceded by the letter C indicate the find numbers on the objects deposited in the Ashmolean Museum; those already catalogued have been given their Ashmolean catalogue number, e.g. 1950.79. All rims and bases and decorated sherds of stratified pottery are stored in the Ashmolean. No animal bones have been preserved.

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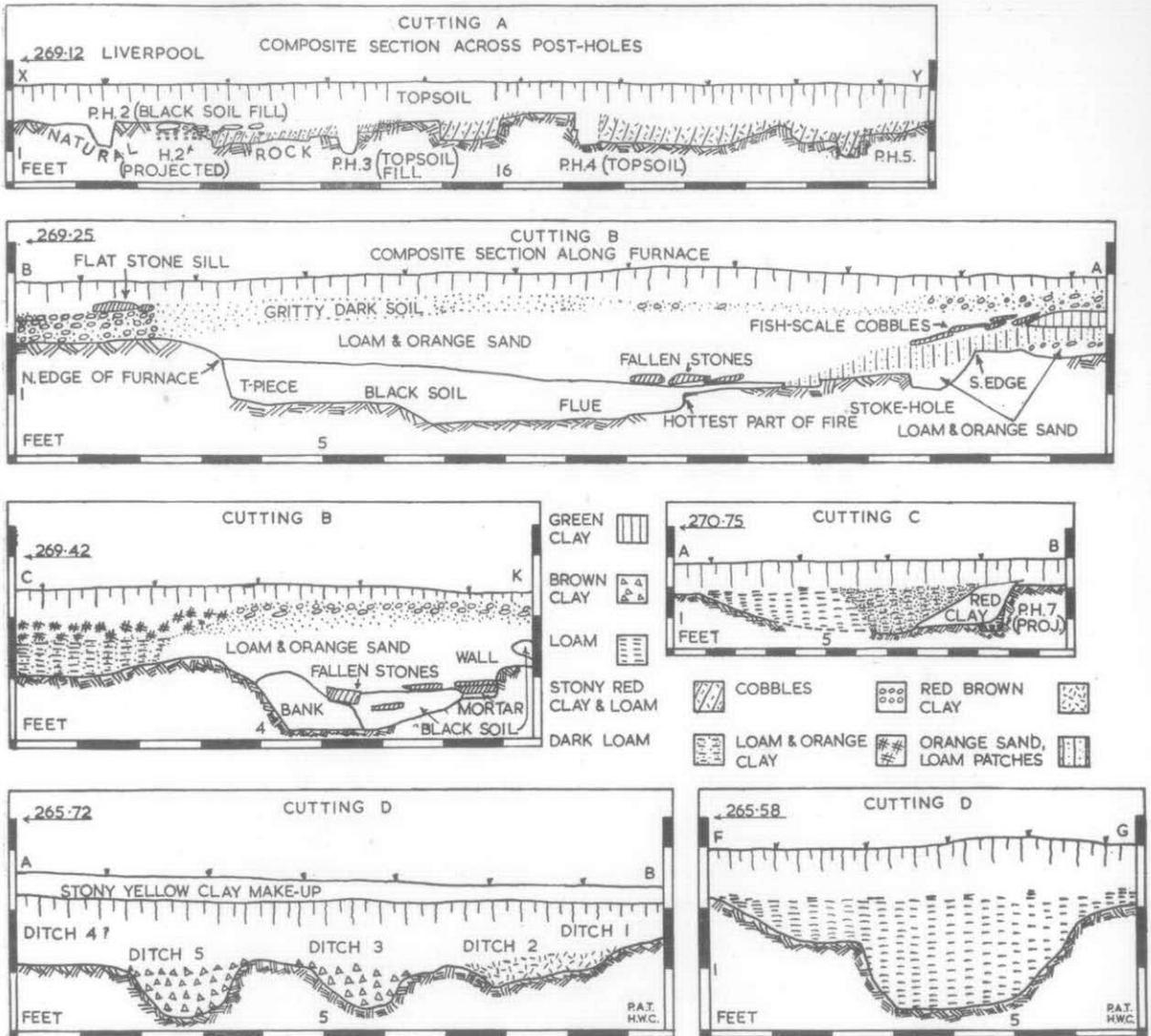


FIG. 19  
CAMPSFIELD, KIDLINGTON, OXON.  
Sections of Cuttings A-D, pp. 39-49.

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### *The Pit*

In the centre of the west baulk of Cutting A, the east edge of a pit or butt-end of a ditch was excavated (marked 'Pit?'). The side of this pit shelved almost vertically to a depth of at least 5 feet (cut into the natural rock at least 2 feet 4 inches). No idea of the pit's size was obtained. The filling was of sharply distinguished layers of dark brown loam and yellow clayey sand and contained some pottery fragments which were not closely datable. The purpose of the pit is unknown; the striated layers of largely clean filling show that it had been deliberately filled in for the layers were too high in the pit's filling to be silting, in view of the steepness of its sides. The layer of stony red clay and loam which filled the depressions, continued unbroken over, and sagged down into, the pit-filling; the depressions had been filled in, therefore, after the filling-in of the pit. It is possible that the pit was a trial one to determine the nature of the subsoil at this point with quarrying in view.

### *The Post-holes (PL. II, B, D)*

The average separation of Post-holes 2, 3, 4 and 5 is 8 feet 3 inches, varying from 8 feet 9 inches between 4 and 5 to just over 7 feet 9 inches between 3 and 4 (see plan, FIG. 20). A small cutting to the north of 5 was made in order to see if there were a fifth post-hole in line at the same interval, but none was found.

Details of the post-holes may be summarized as follows :

| <i>Post-hole no.</i> | <i>Depth cut into rock</i> | <i>Filling</i>          |
|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1                    | 5 inches                   | Stony red clay and loam |
| 2                    | 10 "                       | Soft black soil         |
| 3                    | 13 "                       | Topsoil                 |
| 4                    | 13 "                       | "                       |
| 5                    | 9 "                        | Stony red clay and loam |

Thus the post-holes were filled in when the top of the stony red clay and loam layer was still in places the ground level (otherwise it is unlikely that 1 and 5 would have been filled with this material). The hearths and cobbling (see below, p. 42) rest on the surface of this layer and the post-holes are, therefore, probably to be associated with them. In this case, the depth to which the post-holes are cut was their actual depth when dug. This depth is, for a hut, very shallow, and moreover the distance between the holes is large.<sup>8</sup> It is

<sup>8</sup> Cf. the wooden house at Ditchley, Oxon., *Oxoniensia*, 1 (1936), p. 38 and p. 30, fig. 9: depth of holes *c.* 1 foot 6 inches, diameter *c.* 9 inches, average separation of five holes on the north side *c.* 4 feet 6 inches. The uprights at each end of the house are more widely separated, but if the post-holes in Cutting A are the end uprights of a building, it must have been a large one and the inadequacy of their depth is the more emphasized.

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assumed, therefore, that the post-holes in Cutting A formed the line of a fence ;<sup>9</sup> and, on drawing out the plan, a post-hole in Cutting C and a disturbed post-hole in Cutting B (both of which were near pits) were seen to fall into line with the holes in Cutting A. The post-hole north of the post-hole in Cutting B has been destroyed by the east end of the T-piece of the corn-drying oven (see below, p. 46). The post-hole north of 5 was dug for some reason at an irregular interval from 5.

### *The Cobbling*

There was a gate of entrance to this fenced enclosure between Post-holes 1 and 2, revealed by the traces of the cobbling of the trackway which led into it. This cobbling was discovered under the west baulk (it appeared to respect Post-hole 1), under Hearth 1 and under the south and west parts especially of Hearth 2.<sup>10</sup> The cobbling was 3 inches thick—from 19 to 22 inches deep—of small stones, and under the baulk had been trodden into the top surface of the layer of stony red clay and loam ; under the hearths, however, the stones were also intermixed with the topsoil. The pottery in and under the cobbling is of 1st and mainly 2nd century types, but, since the soil above it was disturbed, no upper limit for its use can be given.

### *The Hearths*

Immediately on top of this cobbling two hearths had been laid (PL. II, B), one in the corner of the enclosure (Hearth 2) at a depth of 18 inches, the other on the south edge of the track outside it (Hearth 1) at a depth of 17 inches. Both consisted of a flat layer of limestone slabs, some reddened throughout by burning. Hearth 1 contained little pottery, Hearth 2 a good deal, but fragmentary, as well as small bones, probably of mice, which did not survive for expert examination. The pottery sealed by the stones of Hearth 2 is late 1st century A.D. ; but since both hearths were clearly associated with the cobbling, they must be contemporary with it, that is, probably 2nd century (see above, para. 2).

(Note : in the plan of Cutting A, Hearth 2 is diagrammatically represented, except for the burnt stones which are *in situ*.)

### *Cutting E*

In Cutting E, to the east of Cutting A, there were also signs of quarrying for rock. Nothing else of note was uncovered.

<sup>9</sup> Cf. Mount Farm, Dorchester, *Oxon.*, II (1937), p. 18.

<sup>10</sup> Cf. Cowley, Oxford, for cobbled hut-floor, *Oxon.*, I, p. 99.

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From Cuttings A and E came a number of small bronze finds : from Cutting A, a fragment of a bracelet (Ash. Mus. 1950.93), a wick-lifter (Ash. Mus. 1950.95), and a coin ( $\text{Æ}$  3) of Valentinian I (A.D. 364-375) (C 130) ; and from Cutting E a pin (Ash. Mus. 1950.94), an ear-scoop (Ash. Mus. 1950.98), and two brooch-pins (C 154, 155). All these finds were unstratified ; They are described below (pp. 52-3).

### CUTTING D (SEE SECTIONS AND PLAN, FIGS. 19 AND 20)

In Cutting D a complex of ditches was excavated, whose relation to the lay-out of the rest of the village-site remains obscure. Pottery was fragmentary throughout and dating uncertain. None of the pottery is illustrated ; it included carinated bowls of the type exemplified by C 12.17 (no. 7 below).

*Ditch 2.* Ditch 2 was dug first. Probably when it was already filled up—since its characteristic red filling occurred both east and west of Ditch 1—it was cut through by Ditch 1. The section shows Ditch 2 where it has been mutilated by the later cutting of Ditches 1 and 3 ; its normal section, as it showed in the drainage ditch, was a semi-circle, 2 feet 9 inches in diameter and cut 1 foot 3 inches into the rock. The filling contained mid-1st century pottery and animal bones. There was no silt. The uniform, clean filling indicates that the ditch was deliberately filled up quite quickly.

*Ditch 1.* Ditch 1, from its appearance a field boundary ditch, was dug next. The filling contained 1st century pottery throughout and animal bones. The uniform fill and the pottery suggest that the ditch was open in the latter half of the 1st century, and was then deliberately filled up.

*Ditch 5.* This was dug while Ditch 1 was still open, for the line made by the north side of Ditch 5 is a continuation of the line made by the north side of Ditch 1. The filling was uniform and contained 1st century pottery, including a fragment of Samian, perhaps Form 18/31 of Trajanic date (C 49.7) ; the ditch was probably filled in at the same time as Ditch 1.

*Ditch 4.* If Ditch 4 was a ditch (only one edge of it was excavated), it was dug next, for it comes to an end in Ditch 5. It was cut 15 inches into the rock and the fill was uniform.

*Ditch 3.* Finally, after Ditch 1 had been filled up, Ditch 3 was dug. Its line, cutting into the fill of Ditch 1, appeared clearly in section in the south face of the cutting. The filling was brown clay throughout, containing some very fragmentary pottery, including a piece of imitation Samian ware ; the ditch was filled in after the late 3rd century. Where Ditch 3 coincided with Ditch 1 it had been cut 1 foot 9 inches into the rock, 6 inches deeper than Ditch 1.

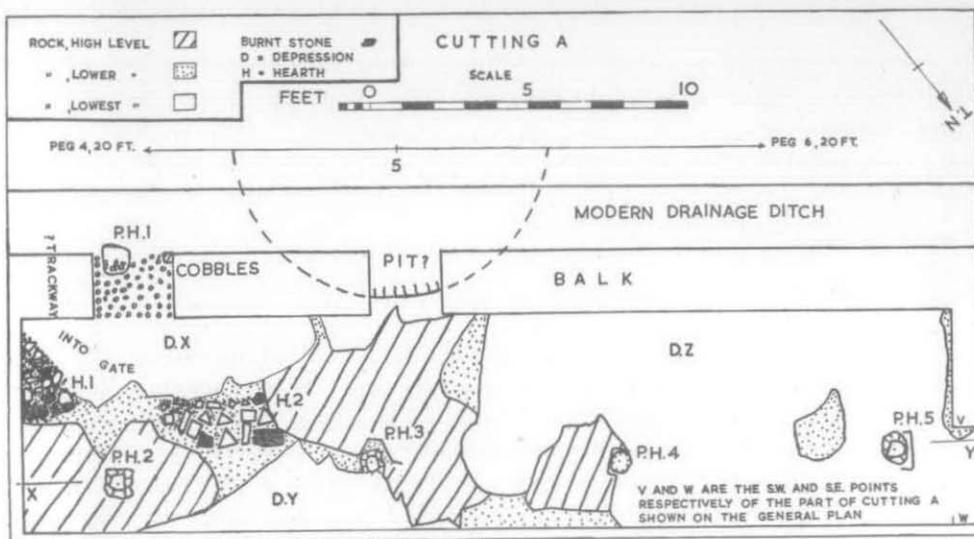


FIG. 20.  
CAMPSFIELD, KIDLINGTON, OXON.  
Plan of Cutting A, pp. 39 ff.

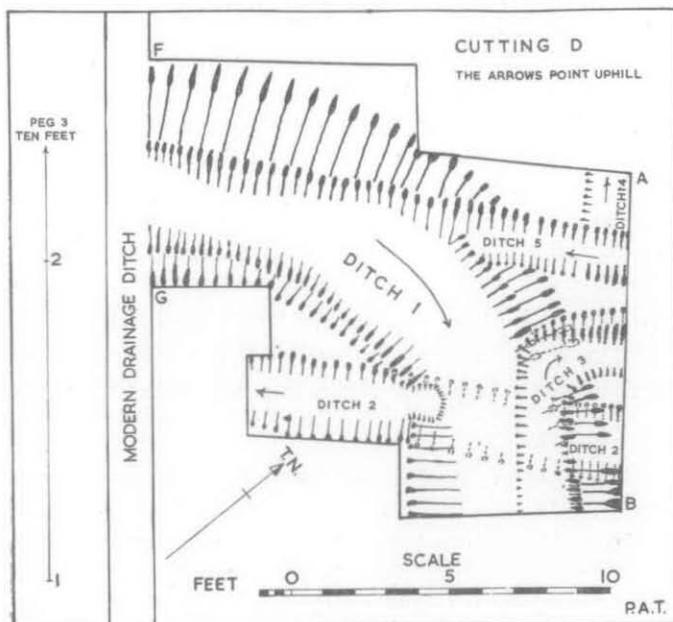


FIG. 21  
CAMPSFIELD, KIDLINGTON, OXON.  
Plans of Cutting D, p. 43.

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CUTTING C (SEE SECTION AND PLAN, FIGS. 19, 22)

This cutting contained a wide ditch, not fully excavated, whose dimensions showed only partially and misleadingly in section, for it was here turning sharply to the south-east. The fill was uniform and the ditch would appear

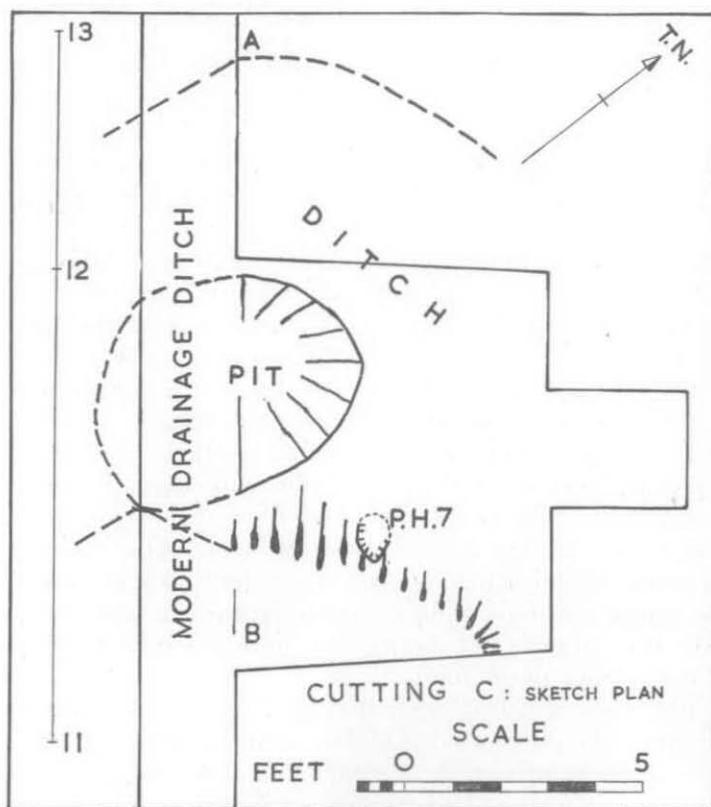


FIG. 22  
CAMPSFIELD, KIDLINGTON, OXON.  
Plan of Cutting C, pp. 45-6.

to have been filled in at some time in the 2nd century A.D., but dating evidence was poor. Later, a pit was cut into this ditch. Its fill was a dirty dark-brown loam throughout, containing pottery of the late 1st and early 2nd centuries A.D., two fragments of imitation Samian and animal bones.

To the east of the pit, a post-hole (PH 7) was cut, partly into the ditch

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filling, partly into the natural rock of the south bank of the ditch. It formed part of the fence excavated in Cutting A.

(Note : four probable ditches cut the drainage ditch between Cuttings A and C, and must be of periods different from that of the fence.)

CUTTING B (SEE SECTIONS AND PLANS) FIGS. 19, 23 AND PL. II, C, E, F)

A *T-shaped corn-drying oven* was excavated in Cutting B. It had been built by digging a trench to a depth of 1 foot 6 inches at its deepest, and at its greatest width for the flue, about 4 feet 9 inches wide. The walls of the trench were generally faced with stone taken from the local cornbrash and forest marble beds. In parts, however (e.g. the north bank of the furnace) the rock itself provided a wall good enough to make facing unnecessary ; here the surface of the rock must have been built upon to increase its height ;<sup>11</sup> the east end of the T-piece, which was rock-cut, had built stones bonded with red clay mortar laid round its upper edge on the rock surface (PL. II, F). The width of the foundation trench was deliberately made too great in order to allow for adjustment in the course of building, and on the east side a bank, formed of the rock excavated from the trench, was constructed to narrow the width.

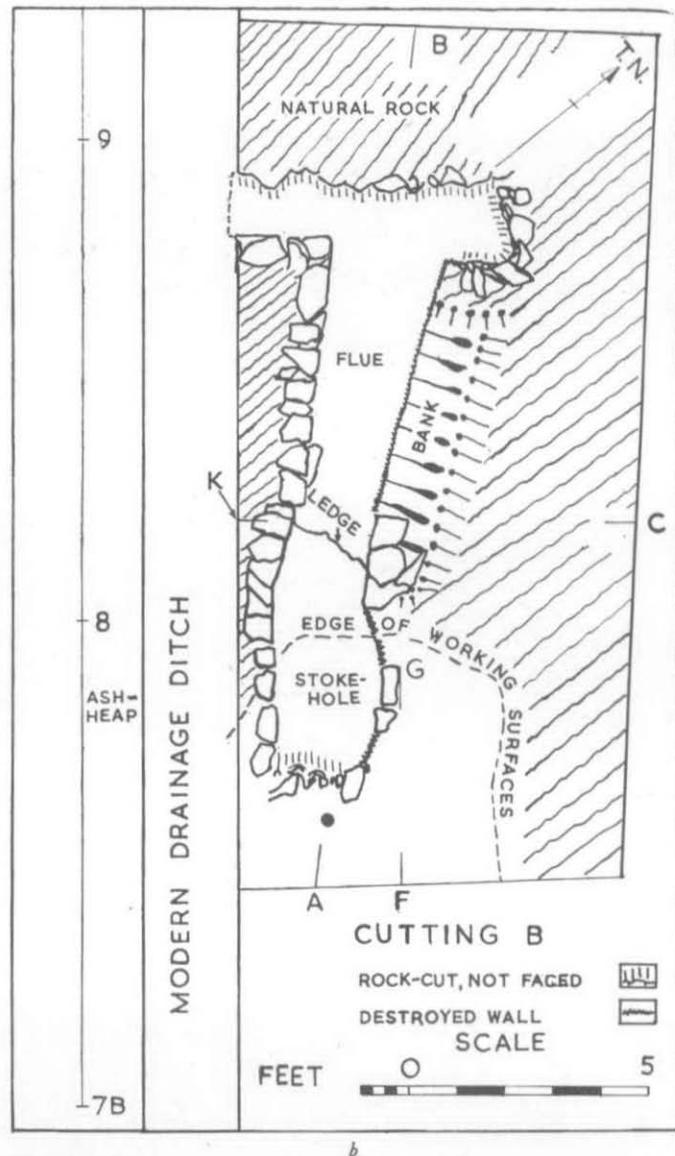
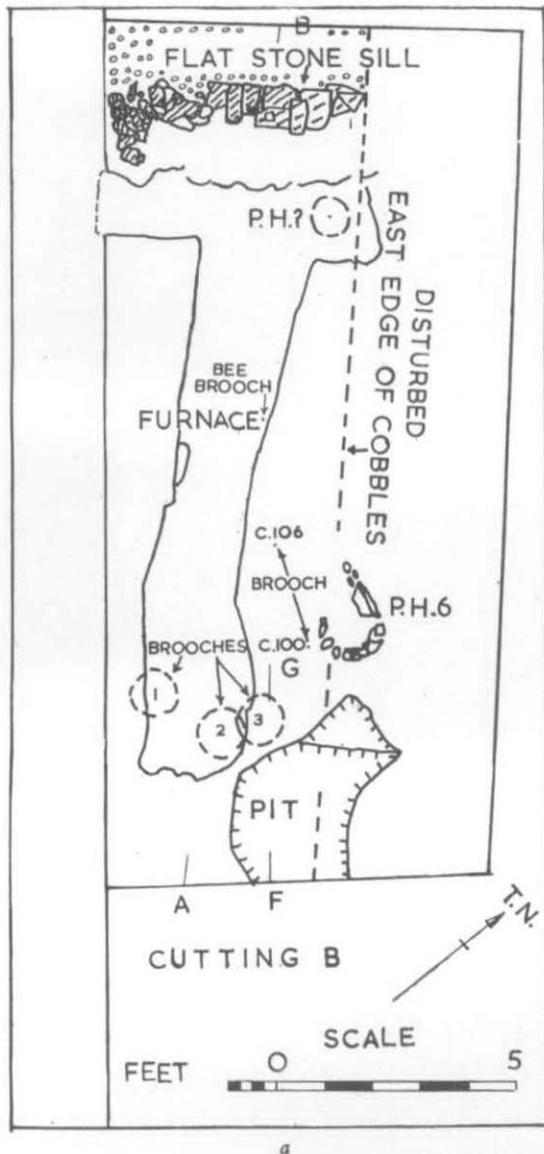
A marked corbelling of the surviving courses of the wall suggests that the roof may have been corbelled.<sup>12</sup> Most of the walls were dismantled when the furnace's usefulness came to an end. However, the west wall survived to a height of 10 inches, in four courses, bonded with a little orange clay mortar (PL. II, E). The second course was the lower half of a herring-bone course. The lowest course had only a little mortar between it and the natural rock. Many of the wall stones (and the rock of the furnace floor) were burnt red, especially at the ledge in the flue.

In section C-K it can be seen that the layer of loam and orange sand which surrounds the imbricated cobbling, and which was used to fill in the furnace, lies on the natural rock on either side of the furnace. There can be little doubt that the furnace had the normal double roof of its kind, and that the robbing of the substructure of this roof cleared the soil here to the rock before the furnace was filled in.

The ash-heap of the furnace was on the west side of it, near the stoke-hole, and was evidently spread in order to fill in the disused furnace. The flue proper ended, and the stoke-hole began, where the stones of the west wall become smaller. At this end of the furnace a series of working surfaces was

<sup>11</sup> R. G. Goodchild, 'T-shaped Corn-drying Ovens in Roman Britain', *Antiquaries Journal*, xxiii (1943), p. 150, fig. 1 : the flue height in the villa at Atworth, Wilts. was two feet.

<sup>12</sup> Cf. *Sussex Archaeological Collections*, LXXXIX (1950), p. 34, fig. 15, section A-B.



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FIG. 23  
CAMPSFIELD, KIDLINGTON, OXON.  
Cutting B, plans of furnace, pp. 46-8.

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discovered ; first, a cobbling of small stones and pebbles, laid on the rock in a layer of loam and orange sand. From this cobbling, at a depth of 19 inches came an oyster shell, a fragment of colour-coated ware (C 96.11), a piece of the rim of a small Samian Form 36 (C 143) perhaps early 2nd century A.D., and a small jar with cavetto rim (C 93.1), no. 12 below. Above this cobbling and also laid partly on rock, was a layer of orange sand with patches of brown loam, which contained one piece of imitation Samian. Above this was a barren layer of green clay, and above this again lay the imbricated cobbling, made of good-sized slabs of overlapping limestone, and set in a layer of loam and orange sand. This last layer had also been used to fill in the furnace when it was destroyed. It produced 1st century pottery, a 2nd century butt-beaker fragment (C 30.3), colour-coated ware, imitation Samian, a rim fragment of Samian Form 18-31 (C 92.34) perhaps Trajanic, a coin of Carausius, well-worn, deposited after *c.* A.D. 315 (C 142), and a piece of iron slag. In the black earth of the flue itself was found colour-coated ware. The life of the furnace began, therefore, after *c.* 290-300,<sup>13</sup> and ended after *c.* A.D. 315. From its latest layer, the loam and orange sand surrounding the imbricated cobbling, came also the surprising find of 14 brooches (see below, pp. 53-61), 11 of which were found in three groups close together at the stoke-hole end of the furnace, from 11 inches to 13 inches deep, some above the cobbling and others to the north of it. With them were other bronze objects which had found their way into the earth used to fill in the furnace.

### *The Pit*

To the south-east of the furnace a small, shallow, flat-bottomed pit appeared. Its filling was of clean, red clay, loam and fragments of limestone ; The pit had been deliberately filled in before the furnace was constructed, and probably not long before. It was cut 11 inches into the rock, its depth from the surface being 28 inches. There was a small flattish ledge on the north-east side, 7 inches above the bottom of the pit.

Near the pit was a post-hole (PH 6) continuing the line of fence-holes found in Cuttings A and C. It was a semi-circle cut 6 inches deep in the rock, with burnt stones at the bottom, and it had been partly destroyed when the ground was cleared to the rock in the building of the furnace.<sup>14</sup>

### *The stone sill (FIG. 23a)*

At the north end of the cutting a row of flat, laid limestone flags was found. They were faced on the north and south sides, the south face having been

<sup>13</sup> C. F. C. Hawkes in *Antiqs. Journ.*, xviii (1938), pp. 113-136.

<sup>14</sup> Cf. *Sussex Arch. Collns*, LXXXIX, fig. 9.

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mostly destroyed. In general, they were one course thick (the overlapping shown on the plan is due to later disturbance) ; where they were two courses, making up the same level as a single course, the flags were bonded with clay mortar. The flags rested on a four-inch thick cobbling of small stones, which itself lay on the rock. This cobbling was also discovered in section C-K, in the south face of the cutting, and in section F-G ; it was set in dirty, gritty soil which contained colour-coated and imitation Samian wares.

The flat stones may be the door sill of a courtyard with a cobbled floor, which was built soon after the destruction of the furnace and thus preserved its line. Both east and west edges of the cobbling were disturbed and in no direction were its limits defined.

### THE FINDS<sup>15</sup>

#### *Samian Pottery*

This was all very fragmentary, scarce in quantity and mostly unstratified. Among the unstratified pieces was part of the rim of a bowl (Drag. 35) (C 29.42).

Dr. Felix Oswald very kindly examined four of the stratified pieces : the following is a summary of his report. None of the sherds is illustrated.

(1) C 49.7. May be Form 18/31. (?)Trajanic (A.D. 97-117). Cutting D, Ditch 5.

(2) C 112. Perhaps Form 18/31. Undatable. Cutting B, layer of loam with orange sand round imbricated cobbling. Depth 13 inches.

(3) C 92.34. Rim of Form 18/31. Perhaps Trajanic. Cutting and layer as (2).

(4) C 143. Rim of small Form 36. No leaf decoration, date indeterminate. Cutting B, layer of loam and orange sand round earliest cobbling. Depth 16 inches.

#### *Coarse Pottery*

(FIG. 24. All comparisons are for shape only, unless otherwise stated.)

(1) C 126. Flanged bowl, hard drab clay with light brownish-red slip, badly fired ; white barbotine semi-circles on flange ; polished bands on the exterior. For shape and decoration *cf.* Alchester, 1927, *Antiq. Journ.* ix, no. 2, fig. 8, nos. 77, 79 (dated A.D. 80-120 and (?) Hadrianic respectively). Cutting A, D.X., stony red clay and loam. D (without flange) *c.* 7.8 inches.

(2) C 29.14. Flanged bowl with low foot-ring ; sandy textured orange clay with slip of same colour on exterior ; rim broken and burnt. *Cf.* Leicester, fig. 22. Type A (Trajanic—A.D. 220 with stray examples thereafter). Cutting B, unstratified. D (without flange) 5 inches.

<sup>15</sup> The following abbreviations are used throughout the catalogue : Leicester : K. M. Kenyon, *Excavations at the Jewry Wall Site, Leicester (Soc. Ant. Res. Rept. xv, 1948)*. Collingwood : R. G. Collingwood, *Archaeology of Roman Britain* (1930).

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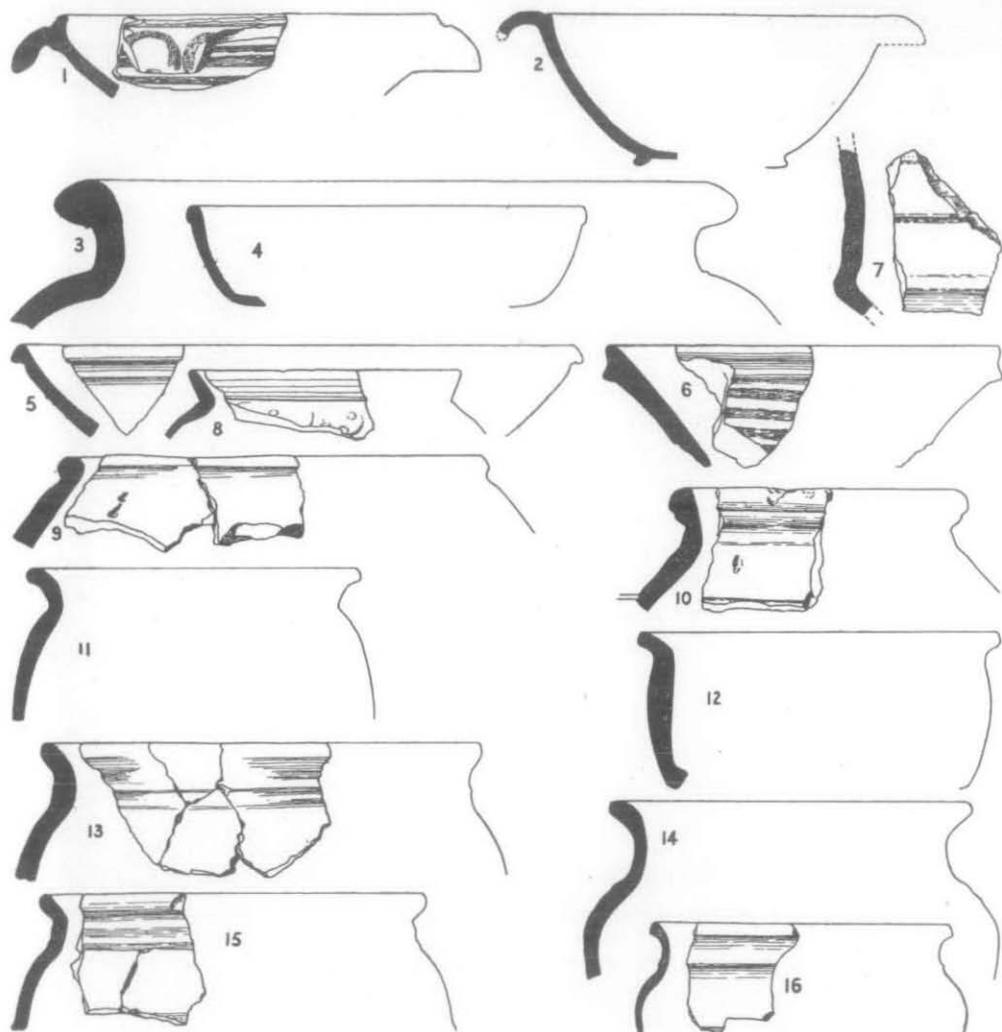


FIG. 24  
CAMPSFIELD, KIDLINGTON, OXON.

Coarse pottery, pp. 50-52.  
Scale : No. 1,  $\frac{1}{4}$ . Nos. 2-16,  $\frac{1}{3}$

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(3) C 61.13. Fragment of large storage jar ; coarse, hard, gritty, pinkish clay (grey core), badly fired ; soapy texture ; dark to black slip ; slight countersunk line on base of neck. *Cf. Leicester*, fig. 45, no. 13, Type G (A.D. 150-160/c. A.D. 300-325). Cutting E, unstratified. D c. 10½ inches.

(4) C 12.12. Dish with shallow bead-rim, undecorated ; fine, hard grey ware, grey slip ; *cf. Leicester*, fig. 20, no. 7 (similar examples A.D. 125-130/200-250) ; at other sites mainly a 2nd century form. Also, *cf. Frilford, Oxoniensia*, IV (1939), p. 33, fig. 11, no. 11. Cutting A, D.X., stony red clay and loam. D c. 6.1 inches.

(5) C 29.121. Bead-rim dish with groove beneath bead ; fine hard grey ware, grey slip ; *cf. Leicester*, fig. 20, no. 10 (similar examples A.D. 200-250). Cutting B, unstratified. D c. 8.8 inches.

(6) C 92.40. Flanged dish ; hard pinkish clay (grey core), badly fired ; polished black slip ; slightly raised polished bands on exterior ; *cf. Leicester*, fig. 55, no. 6 and p. 84, Type B, c. A.D. 300-325/A.D. 360-370, and common unstratified. At Campsfield the stratification dates it perhaps not later than c. A.D. 325. Cutting B loam and orange sand round imbricated cobbling. D (rim without flange) c. 6.1 inches.

(7) C 12.17. Carinated bowl derived from Iron Age C prototype ; coarse, thick, gritty, grey clay, badly fired ; soapy texture ; black slip, polished on outside ; *cf. Alchester*, 1928, *Antiq. Journ.*, XII, no. 1, pl. xiv, 23, 1st century. Cutting A, D.X., stony red clay and loam. Diameter uncertain.

(8) C 10.20. Small jar with everted rim ; hard pinkish clay, badly fired (grey core) ; orange slip outside ; decoration of bosses pressed out with the fingertip from inside and small incised circles ; *cf. Collingwood*, type 63, late 1st to mid-2nd century A.D. Cutting A, unstratified. D c. 4.2 inches.

(9) C 61.10. Bead-rim jar ; fabric as no. 3 ; *cf. Oxoniensia*, II, fig. 10, A. VII. 9 from Mount Farm, Dorchester, which is of fabric recorded as common immediately before the appearance of Romano-British wheel-made grey wares. Cutting E, unstratified. D c. 6.6 inches.

(10) C 77.24. Necked jar, fabric as last, but smaller grit particles ; beginnings of groove at fracture ; *cf. Leicester*, fig. 25, no. 15. Late 1st to mid-2nd century A.D. (?). Cutting A, unstratified. D c. 4.6 inches.

(11) C 5.31. Small cavetto-rim jar ; coarse sandy grey ware ; black slip on upper half of exterior and interior of rim, polished on rim ; *cf. Leicester*, fig. 26, no. 13. Cutting C, unstratified. D c. 5.1 inches.

(12) C 93.1. Everted rim bowl ; coarse, grey-brown ware with shell particles ; badly fired ; exterior smoke-blackened with very rough surface ; *cf. R. E. M. Wheeler, The Roman Fort near Brecon*, fig. 97, C26 (early 2nd century). Cutting B, loam and orange sand round earliest cobbling. D c. 5.6 inches.

(13) C 51.18. Necked jar ; slight cordon round neck ; fabric as no. 3, but soapy burnish on rim only ; *cf. Leicester*, fig. 25, no. 1. Mid-1st to early 2nd century A.D. (?). Cutting E, unstratified. D 6.9 inches.

(14) C 8.1-2. Necked jar ; fabric as no. 15 below, but thinner ; side slightly carinated ; cordon at base of neck ; *cf. Leicester*, fig. 24, no. 2: similar examples A.D. 125-130/200. Cutting C, ditch filling. D c. 5.6 inches.

(15) C 51.16. Necked jar ; two cordons round neck, groove at fracture ; coarse, gritty, reddish-orange clay with grey core, badly fired ; *cf. Leicester*, fig. 25, no. 12. Date as (10). Cutting E, unstratified. D c. 6 inches.

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(16) C 9.18. Necked jar ; cordon at base of neck and groove at fracture ; thin, hard, grey ware, grey slip ; cf. *Leicester*, fig. 24, no. 10. Cutting A, unstratified. D c. 4.7 inches.

### Coins

Two coins only were found. We are greatly indebted to Mr. C. M. Kraay for the following report on them :

(1) Carausius (A.D. 287-293). Æ 3, cf. Mattingly and Sydenham, *The Roman Imperial Coinage*, v, pt. 2 (Carausius), no. 353. Mint mark  $\frac{1}{6}$  (Camulodunum). Well worn. Cutting B, loam with orange sand round imbricated cobbling. Depth 19 inches (C 142).

(2) Valentinian I (A.D. 364-375). Æ 3, cf. Cohen, *Description historique des monnaies frappées sous l'empire romain*, 2nd ed., no. 12. Mint uncertain. Cutting A, unstratified (C 130).

### Animal bones

The identifiable animal bones were too few to be representative of the various periods of the site. The following is a summary of the report on the bones, which were kindly examined by Dr. J. W. Jackson :

Cutting A, stratified : pig, small sheep, small ox.

Cutting B, stratified : pig, small horse, small sheep, small ox.

Cutting C, stratified : small sheep.

Cutting D, stratified : small horse (ditch 5), small sheep, small ox.

These bones and teeth compare with others from similar sites. The small horse is the Celtic pony normally used by the Britons. The sheep and ox are the Celtic types, the ox being the small Celtic shorthorn. The pig remains are too few to identify the breed.

### Small finds

The brooches and the associated objects in Cutting B are described separately (see p. 53). The remaining noteworthy small finds are listed below. All are unstratified.

(1) Fragment of bronze bracelet (FIG. 25, 12), with random pattern of incised lines and dots ; semi-circular in section, but with flattened sides. Cutting A. (1950.93).

(2) Bronze pin (FIG. 25, 11), the head decorated with incised lattice pattern. Cutting E. (1950.94).

(3) (FIG. 25, 3). ' Poor man's ' brooch of Collingwood's Group A.<sup>16</sup> The spring has four coils and passes under the bow ; the catch-plate is solid ; the bow is

<sup>16</sup> Collingwood, 244.

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rectangular in section and has six horizontal lines near the head ; the pin is missing. Mid-1st century A.D. L. 0.059 m. From filling of ditch at 535 feet 3 inches on main section (1950.74). A brooch with incised decoration at the top of the bow was found at Maiden Castle, Dorset, where it was dated to A.D. 45 or earlier.<sup>17</sup> The type really belongs to the early 1st century, but it did last right through the century and even into the beginning of the next, especially on sites where the native tradition lingered on after the invasion.

(4) Bronze wick-lifter (FIG. 25, 4), with loop (broken) for suspension. Cutting A. (1950.95).

(5) Small fragment of thin sheet bronze, trace of embossed decoration. Cutting B.

(6) Worked flint, double-edged scraper (C 165). Cutting B.

(7) Two bronze brooch-pins with coiled springs ; depth 27 and 30 inches. Cutting E (C 155.154).

(8) Bronze ear-scoop, looped for suspension, both ends broken ; two incised lines round circumference ; depth 28 inches. Cutting E (1950.98).

### *The brooches and associated small bronzes from Cutting B (PL. III, AND FIGS. 25, 26)*

From the present evidence there is nothing to suggest that any of the small hoard of brooches and bronzes found in the filling of the furnace are later than the 3rd century A.D., and it is possible that, in fact, none of them is later than the 2nd, for the date of some of the enamelled examples cannot be exactly fixed. The objects, which are catalogued on pp. 56 ff., cannot be contemporary with the furnace itself, which did not come into use before the last years of the 3rd century (see p. 48 above).

For two of the brooches no parallels have been found. Of these, the bee-brooch (no. 2) has all the appearance of an early piece, and the knee-brooch (no. 6), though the decoration is unusual, must be dated by its shape to the 2nd century. The triangular-headed brooch (no. 14) is also unusual, but three very like it exist in the Archaeological Museum at Namur, and its closest parallels are among brooches dating to the 2nd century A.D. Nine of the brooches must belong to the 2nd century (nos. 1, 3, 4, 6-11), and two probably do (nos. 5, 12). One (no. 13) has parallels which suggest a later date, but one fairly early in the 3rd century (see p. 60 below). The bronze fastening (no. 15) and the fitting (no. 16) also belong to the 2nd century. Thus the dates of the majority of the objects lie within the same century, but they may be quite far apart in that century, and it is unlikely that they are closely contemporary.

The amount and good technique of enamelling on many of the brooches suggests that some, if not all, were made abroad. There is no doubt that most of this kind of work was done at the Villa d'Anthée, Namur, Belgium.<sup>18</sup> The Villa d'Anthée factory operated during the 2nd century and was destroyed by

<sup>17</sup> R. E. M. and T. V. Wheeler, *Maiden Castle* (Soc. Ant. Res. Rept. XII, 1943), fig. 84, no. 16.

<sup>18</sup> *Annales de la Société Archéologique de Namur*, XXIV (1900), p. 243 ff.

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invaders c. A.D. 254. Dissensions and strife before that make it unlikely that much was exported during the first half of the 3rd century. Not all of the types of brooch found at Campsfield, however, seem to be represented among the

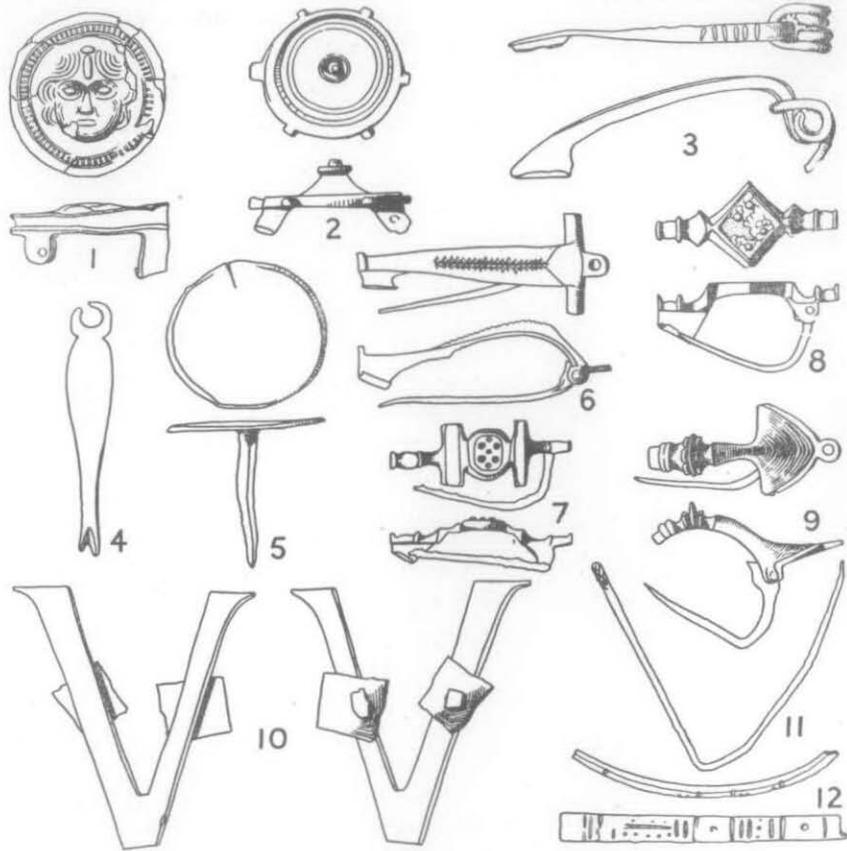


FIG. 25  
CAMPSFIELD, KIDLINGTON, OXON.  
Bronze brooches and other objects, pp. 52-61  
Scale :  $\frac{1}{2}$   
(By courtesy of the "Journal of Roman Studies")

Villa d'Anthée brooches exhibited in the museum at Namur. The most like were nos. 10 and 14 ; the technique of nos. 8 and 9 was also obviously employed at Anthée,<sup>19</sup> though the shapes are not the same.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*, pl. II, 17.

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It is very likely that workshops for enamelled bronzes also existed in the Rhineland, particularly in the neighbourhoods of Cologne, Mainz and Trier.<sup>20</sup> Several of the Campsfield examples can be paralleled from K. Exner's illustra-

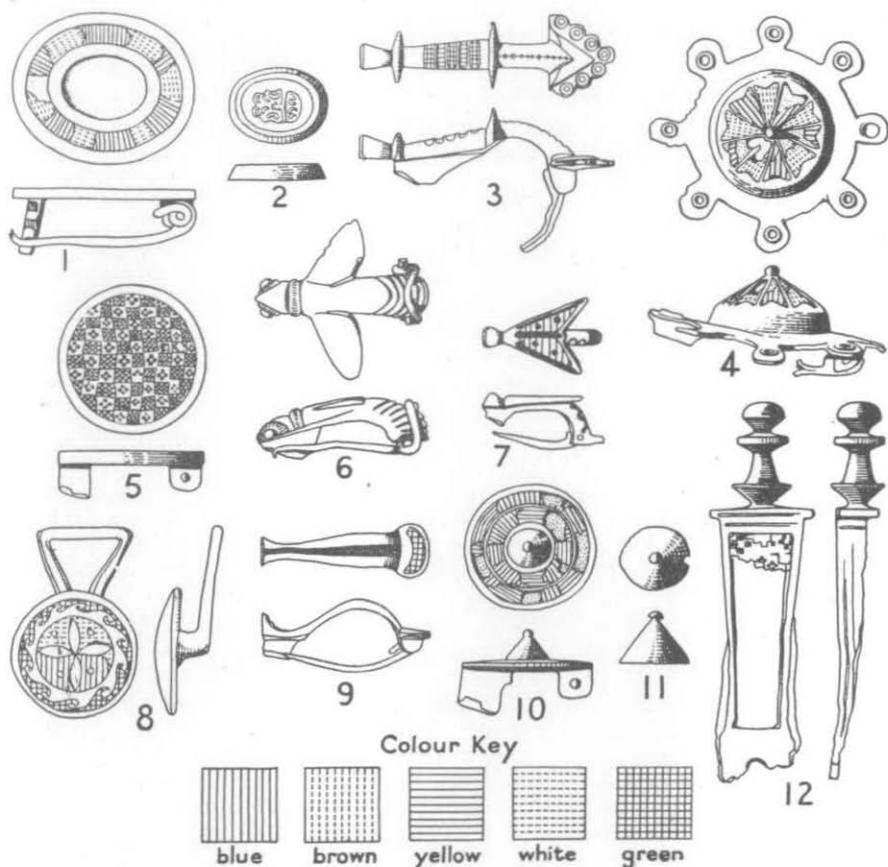


FIG. 26  
 CAMPSFIELD, KIDLINGTON, OXON.  
 Bronze brooches and other objects, pp. 52-61  
 Scale :  $\frac{1}{2}$   
 (By courtesy of the "Journal of Roman Studies")

tions<sup>21</sup> and if they were not made in Belgium, they may have been manufactured in the Rhineland and exported thence.

<sup>20</sup> K. Exner, in *Bericht der Romische-germanisch Kommission*, xxix (1939), pp. 41 ff.; I. Sellye, *Les bronzes émaillés de la Pannonie romaine* (1939), pp. 32 ff.

<sup>21</sup> Exner, *op. cit.*, pl. ix, 2; xi, 8, 9; xiv, 6.

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Though it is unlikely that the enamelled brooches were made in this country, some of the plain ones might well have been. The buckler-brooch (no. 4) is a native type; so is no. 1, and both it and no. 3 were almost certainly made in Britain because they have cast head-loops. It is possible that nos. 6 and 12 might also have been manufactured in this country.

The brooches, therefore, do not seem to be a homogeneous group, and certainly did not come from the same workshop. Perhaps they were the stock-in-trade of some travelling salesman, either buried for safety and then forgotten, or lost and later unknowingly shovelled into the furnace when it was filled up. Or they might have been part of a lady's jewel-case buried or lost in the same way. The good condition in which most of them were found makes the former possibility the more likely.

(1) (PL. III, FIG. 25, 6). T-shaped brooch, the bow arched back and front; the foot is slightly upturned and has a small moulding on the end; at the back of the head is a small cast loop, the perforation being unfinished; the upper part of the bow has incised decoration of one long vertical line crossed by small horizontal ones; the pin is hinged. Mid-late 2nd century A.D. L. 0.045m. 1950.75.

This brooch seems to be allied to Collingwood's Group N by the decoration on the upper part of the bow and the cast head-loop. The head-loop indicates that the brooch was of British manufacture.

(2) (PL. III, FIG. 26, 6). Tinned bronze brooch in the form of a bee or fly, with wings outspread; round the eyes are raised ribbed semi-circles, and round the neck a ribbed collar; the tail is marked by incisions; the pin is on a spring, the chord of which passes outside the tail and is caught by a hook. L. 0.029m. 1950.76.

The tinning and the spring with chord held by a hook suggests a date early in the 2nd century for this brooch, but no parallels for so naturalistic an example have so far been found. The more usual type of insect-brooch in the Roman period is highly conventionalized (*cf.* no. 7 below and references). A brooch from Hungary in the Mainz Museum shows a similar treatment of the eyes but otherwise is not very like the Campsfield example, and, in any case, it is dated to the early Middle Ages.<sup>22</sup>

Insects, used both as brooches and as pendant ornaments and amulets have been found in earlier periods. In Egypt the fly amulet was used to signify valour. There are examples in faience and gold in the Ashmolean Museum. A cicada pendant and a brooch were found in the temple of Artemis at Ephesus.<sup>23</sup> Also from the same temple came a pin-head in the shape of a bee.<sup>24</sup> An ivory cicada brooch was discovered in a child's grave at Locri.<sup>25</sup> D. G. Hogarth also refers to insects found at Mycenae used as pendants, but says that his Ephesus cicada is the earliest insect so far known in brooch form. A bee-pendant of M.M.I.a date, was found at Mallia, Crete.

(3) (PL. III, FIG. 25, 9). Fragment of a trumpet-brooch with cast head-loop and acanthus moulding on the front and sides of the bow only. The cast loop, together

<sup>22</sup> *Mainzer Zeitschrift*, xxvii (1932), p. 84, fig. 3, no. 8.

<sup>23</sup> D. G. Hogarth, *Excavations at Ephesus*. *The Archaic Artemisia* (1908), pl. III, nos. 1 and 3.

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*, pl. III, 5 and IV, 32, and p. 102, with references to other decorative motifs in insect form.

<sup>25</sup> *Notizie degli Scavi*, 1913, Suppl., p. 7, fig. 6.

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with the type of moulding and the hinged pin, place it in Collingwood's Group R (iv), and it is, therefore, probably a mid-2nd century southern imitation of the true trumpet-brooch. L. 0.024m. 1950.77.

(4) (PL. III, FIG. 25, 2). Circular brooch, plain with central boss and six small knobs round the edge; remains of hinged iron pin. D. 0.024m. 1950.83.

This type of brooch, generally known as the 'buckler' brooch, seems to belong to the 2nd century.<sup>26</sup>

(5) (PL. III, FIG. 25, 1). Plate-brooch, circular, with thin applied decorative disc, embossed with a head of Cupid facing, within a milled border. The hair is parted in the centre and falls in waves on either side of the face. In the centre of the forehead is a pendant (?); the pin, which was hinged, is now missing. D. 0.029m. 1950.89.

A number of applied brooches of this type have been found on sites in Great Britain. They are listed here:

- 1a, b, c. Cold Kitchen Hill, Wilts. Three brooches with identical design based on Hadrianic coin-types of A.D. 134-137 (*Antiqs. Journ.*, xi (1931), 160-1; xxi (1941), 1 ff.). A fourth brooch is in the Devizes Museum, but the appliqué has nearly all disappeared (catalogue of the Devizes Museum (1896), 760).
2. Wiggonholt, Sussex. Design as no. 1. Both nos. 1 and 2 have milled borders (*Antiqs. Journ.* xxi, 1 ff.).
3. St. Albans. Male figure leading a horse; milled border (*cf.* colonial issues of Hadrian). (*Antiqs. Journ.*, xvii (1937), p. 46, fig. 7, 1, *ibid.* xxi, 3 ff., pl. iii a).
4. Kirkby Thore, Westmorland. Design and border similar to 3 (*Antiqs. Journ.*, xxi, 3 ff., and pl. iii b).
5. Chedworth, Glos. Celtic gods of the week and milled border (*Antiqs. Journ.*, v (1925).282).
6. Richborough, Kent. Triskele and milled border (*Richborough* iv, pl. XLV, 170).
7. Silchester, Hants. Design and border as no. 6 (E. T. Leeds, *Celtic Ornament* (1933), fig. 36a). A disc-brooch found in the 1938-9 excavations is probably another example, though no trace of the appliqué is left (*Archaeologia*, xcii (1947), p. 147, fig. 9, 11).
8. Corbridge, Northumberland. Design as no. 6, border plain (*Archaeologia Aeliana*, 3rd ser., v (1909), p. 406, fig. 22).
9. Brough, Westmorland. Design and border as no. 6 (*Proc. Soc. Ant.* 2nd ser., xix (1901-3), 130; Leeds, *op. cit.*, fig. 36).
10. Wookey Hole, Somerset. Animal with long horns; milled border (H. E. Balch, *Wookey Hole, its Caves and Cave-dwellers* (1914), fig. 13, p. 98).
11. Lancing Down, Sussex. Hippocamp; plain border. (Leeds, *op. cit.*, fig. 30a; Ash. Mus. 1927.873).
12. Woodyates, Dorset. Back-plate, probably of applied brooch (Lt. General Pitt-Rivers, *Excavations*, III (1892), p. 134, fig. 17).
13. Westhall, Suffolk. Animal looking backwards; plain border. The applied disc only remains (*Archaeol.* xxxvi (1855), pl. xxxviii, 5; Leeds, *op. cit.*, p. 96).

<sup>26</sup> J. P. Bushe-Fox, *Fourth Report on the Excavations of the Roman Fort at Richborough, Kent* (Soc. Ant. Res. Rept. xvi, 1949), pl. xxix, 42 and p. 116, where other dated parallels are given.

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14. Santon Downham, Suffolk. Winged and beaked quadruped; plain border; back-plate missing (*Cambridge Antiquarian Society Reports and Communications*, XIII (1908-9), p. 154, fig. 7).<sup>27</sup>

All of these brooches have designs which, even if they are copied from Roman originals, show signs of native workmanship. The style of the hair and eyes on the Campsfield brooch suggests the profile-portrait on some Gaulish coins of north Normandy.<sup>28</sup> Other heads, very similar in treatment, appear on phalerae of chalcedony and other materials in the British and Ashmolean Museums.<sup>29</sup> On these the hair is treated in much the same way as that on the brooch, and down the centre of the forehead is a plait, which is perhaps the origin of the pendant on the Campsfield head. The plait itself may be a stylized version of the central roll of hair affected by late Republican and early Augustan ladies.

The head would, in every case, appear to be that of Cupid. Cupid, in the famous Cupid and Psyche group in the Capitoline Museum, has a central roll of hair, and small busts of Cupid in the British Museum have the plait.<sup>30</sup> E. Babelon<sup>31</sup> dates heads such as those on the phalerae to the 3rd century A.D., on stylistic grounds. But the crude native-looking style, and the fact that so many other brooches made in the same technique have Celtic designs, suggests that the brooch might well be earlier than the 3rd century. Nos 1 to 4 listed above have been firmly dated to the 2nd century, and the similarity in technique of the remainder, many of which have the same border, is a strong argument in favour of the same date.

(6) (PL. III, FIG. 26, 9). Knee-brooch with small semi-circular head decorated with a band of yellow enamel; down the front of the bow is a vertical band of niello; spring-pin with chord passing under pin. L. 0.029. 1950.78.

The small head-plate and spring-pin suggest that this is an early example of a type which came into this country about the middle of the 2nd century, but no other example of a knee-brooch with enamel decoration has so far been found. Knee-brooches, often of white metal, with large semi-circular heads decorated with a band of incised ornament have been found in the *limes* forts and dated to the 2nd-3rd centuries,<sup>32</sup> but the Campsfield example, with its smaller head, is probably not later than the 2nd century.

(7) (PL. III, FIG. 26, 7). Brooch in the form of a fly; the wings are enamelled blue with small spots of niello, the spots and the lines surrounding the wings being tinned or nielloed; hinged pin. L. 0.02 m. 1950.79.

This is the more usual conventionalized type of fly-brooch, and is presumably

<sup>27</sup> An embossed disc, 7 in. in diameter, with broken-backed scroll ornament and milled border from Lambay Island, Co. Dublin, shows the same technique, but is probably too large to have been part of a brooch; Leeds, *Celtic Ornament*, fig. 24, p. 59; J. Raftery, *Prehistoric Ireland* (1951), fig. 246, p. 197.

<sup>28</sup> H. de la Tour, *Atlas de monnaies Gauloises* (1892), no. 6774, 6782 and pl. xxv, J. 12, J. 13; cf. also the milled border on some (?) French coins, J. Evans, *Ancient British Coins* (1864), pl. XXI, 13-14; xxii, 14.

<sup>29</sup> H. B. Walters, *Catalogue of the engraved gems and cameos in the British Museum* (1926), nos. 3662-3 and 5; *Archaeol.* XLIX (1886), pl. opp. p. 440, figs. 2, 3; *V.C.H. Oxon.* I, pl. xvii, E, F.

<sup>30</sup> Walters, *op. cit.*, nos. 3658-9. We are indebted to Prof. J. M. C. Toynbee for much help in identifying the head on this brooch.

<sup>31</sup> E. Babelon, *Catalogue des camées antiques et modernes de la Bibliothèque Nationale* (1897), pl. LI, 170-3.

<sup>32</sup> *Obergermanische Rätische Limes* II (1895), pl. vi, 8; xiv (1901), pl. XII, 74; xxxviii (1907), pl. VIII, 14; xxxiii (1910), pl. VII, 19; cf. also I. Kovrig, *Die Haupttypen der Kaiserzeitlichen Fibeln in Pannonien* (*Diss. Pannonicae* II, 4, 1937), pl. IX.

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later than no. 3. Sometimes it occurs with a trumpet-head, and this suggests that it should be dated to the middle and end of the 2nd century.<sup>33</sup>

(8) (PL. III, FIG. 25, 7). Brooch with circular central disc filled with white enamel set with seven tiny studs of black glass (of which two are now missing); above and below the disc is a horizontal bar, slightly concave on the upper surface; head and foot each have a small moulding; hinged pin much bent and corroded. L. 0.033m. 1950.80.

A similar brooch was found in the *limes* fort of Stockstadt.<sup>34</sup> The technique was employed at the Villa d'Anthée at Namur (see above, p. 54).<sup>35</sup>

(9) (PL. III, FIG. 25, 8). Brooch very similar to no. 9, but with diamond-shaped plate and without horizontal bars; four black studs remain, and the plate is so damaged that it is not possible to see how many there were originally. L. 0.032m. 1950.81.

This shape also occurs on the German *limes*, in the fort of Zugmantel.<sup>36</sup>

(10) (PL. III, FIG. 26, 5). Flat disc-brooch, the surface divided into tiny squares and decorated in blue, yellow and white enamel in millefiori technique; hinged pin, now missing. 2nd century A.D. D. 0.025m. 1950.88.

This is a well-known type of brooch, which occurs fairly frequently in Britain, North-east France, Belgium and the Rhineland.<sup>37</sup> The centre of production was very probably at the Villa d'Anthée,<sup>38</sup> and the technique presumably came to an end with the destruction of these workshops in A.D. 254, the export of brooches having probably come to an end sometime before this (see above p. 54).

(11) (PL. III, FIG. 26, 10). Disc-brooch, circular, decorated with two concentric circles of red and blue enamel; spring-pin, now missing. In the centre is a circular depression, evidently for some sort of setting. A conical stud found nearby fitted this circle so exactly that it has been restored as the centre-piece. A second stud (PL. III, FIG. 26, 11) was also found with the brooches, but no brooch to which it might have belonged was discovered. D 0.022m. 1950.86.

The spring-pin on this brooch suggests that it is not any later than the 2nd century A.D.<sup>39</sup> A brooch from Silchester, now in the Reading Museum, has a centre-piece exactly the same as that restored on this example.

(12) (PL. III, FIG. 26, 4). Disc-brooch, circular, the central part being a hollow cone, the sides of which are decorated with triangles of blue and brown enamel alternately; round the edge are eight circular knobs, each decorated with a stamped circlet; the catch is broken; there are remains of a hinged pin. D 0.04m. 1950.87.

A brooch very much alike, but with the triangles in yellow, green and blue enamel, was found in Leadenhall Street, London, unassociated with any other finds.<sup>40</sup>

(13) (PL. III, FIG. 26, 1). Disc-brooch, oval, with one band of decoration consisting of alternate sections of blue and white enamel round a central setting; spring-pin with chord passing under pin and high catch. The setting was missing

<sup>33</sup> Collingwood, sub-group S (ii); London Museum, *London in Roman Times* (1930), fig. 29, no. 32.

<sup>34</sup> *O.R.L.* xxxiii, pl. vii, 14.

<sup>35</sup> *Ann. de la Soc. Arch. de Namur*, xxiv, pl. II, 17.

<sup>36</sup> *O.R.L.* xxxii (1909), pl. x, 1.

<sup>37</sup> Bushe-Fox, *op. cit.*, pl. xxix, 47, p. 117; *O.R.L.* xxxii, pl. x, 4, 6; xxxiii, pl. vii, 26; L. Jacobi, *Das Römerkastell Saalburg* (1897), pl. lxxviii, 3, 4, 12, etc.; Sellye, *op. cit.*, pl. xix.

<sup>38</sup> *Ann. de la Soc. Arch. de Namur*, xxiv, p. 248, pl. I, 4.

<sup>39</sup> These brooches were most common in the 2nd century, Collingwood, p. 259.

<sup>40</sup> *London in Roman Times*, fig. 29, no. 37 (side view under no. 38).

when the brooch was excavated, but a flat stud found with the hoard fitted the depression exactly and certainly belongs. The stud (PL. III, FIG. 26, 2) is bronze with a centre of green vitreous material with an impressed design, possibly based on a palmette. On the back of it are the remains of the cement or paste by which it was fixed to the brooch. L. of brooch 0.031m., W 0.021m. 1950-84. L. of stud 0.017m., W 0.014m. 1950.85.

These brooches are rarely found with their central inlays intact, but two other examples known to us have settings very similar to the stud restored to this brooch. One, from Wickham Bushes, Berks., is in the University Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at Cambridge; the enamel of this brooch is blue and white and the centre red, with a rude head in profile. The other brooch was found at Silchester and is now in the Museum and Art Gallery, Reading; the border is of red and black enamel, and the centre is red with an indecipherable design.

Brooches of this shape and design, even including the blue and white colouring, seem to be common. There are three others in the Ashmolean Museum (all with spring-pins) from Cavenham, Suffolk (1927.272); Appleton, Berks. (1927.273); and from Brettenham, Norfolk (1927.274). A brooch of the same pattern, but with the enamel missing, was found at Richborough, Kent, and dated to the early 3rd century A.D.<sup>41</sup> Apparently similar brooches were found in the German *limes* fort at Pfanz;<sup>42</sup> one of them came from the stone fort which was probably destroyed in A.D. 233.

(14) (PL. III, FIG. 26, 3). Bow-brooch with two semi-circular discs on the foot; between them the foot is ornamented with bands of alternate red and yellow enamel. The bow is triangular in section and notched along the ridge. The head is a flat triangular plate, decorated round the edge with stamped circlets. Hinged pin, mostly missing. L 0.044m. 1950.82.

The nearest parallels to this brooch which we have so far found are three in the Archaeological Museum at Namur. They come from the 2nd-3rd century A.D. cemetery at Villées (Berzée). All have semi-circular heads, with a triangle marked inside the semi-circle. Two at least (apparently a pair) have cast head-loops; the third is broken at this point. All have bows of triangular section and one disc at the top and three at the bottom of the foot; between top and bottom discs are bands of yellow and blue enamel alternately. Although these three brooches, which were presumably made at the Villa d'Anthée in common with most of the brooches from cemeteries in the district, have no stamped circlets, this technique was certainly employed in the factory. It appears especially as an edging on diamond-shaped brooches.<sup>43</sup>

Separate features of this Campsfield piece are found on other brooches of the 2nd century A.D. One from the *limes* fort of Osterburken has a triangular head (but with a knob at each corner), a bow of triangular section and the remains of a disc at the junction of bow and foot, but it has no enamel decoration or stamped circlets. It is probably a forerunner of the cross-bow brooch, and is dated to the late 2nd century.<sup>44</sup> A triangular-headed knee-brooch from Pannonia is figured by I. Kovrig.<sup>45</sup> The edges have incised decoration, but there are no discs, enamel, nor any other of the features of the Campsfield example. Two discs and a knob on the

<sup>41</sup> Bushe-Fox, *op. cit.*, pl. xxix, 48, p. 117.

<sup>43</sup> *Ann. de la Soc. Arch. de Namur*, xxiv, pl. II, 17.

<sup>44</sup> *O.R.L.* II, pl. vi, 23.

<sup>42</sup> *O.R.L.* xiv, pl. XII, 37, 38, 40-41.

<sup>45</sup> Kovrig, *op. cit.*, pl. x, 95.

## EXCAVATIONS AT CAMPSFIELD, KIDLINGTON, OXON., 1949

end of the foot appear in Almgren's Group IV,<sup>46</sup> but otherwise the profile and general appearance are very different.

(15) (PL. III, FIG. 26, 8). Bronze fastening, consisting of a circular button with large triangular loop. The button has a convex outer surface, decorated with a four-petalled flower, the spaces between the petals being filled with blue and white enamel. Outside this is a scroll border on a background of green enamel. L 0.032m. 1950.92.

Fastenings of this kind are well known from the Roman period. Several were found at Traprain Law, Scotland,<sup>47</sup> others at Newstead<sup>48</sup> they also occur in other parts of the Roman Empire outside Britain.<sup>49</sup>

(16) (PL. III, FIG. 26, 12). Object of unknown use, consisting of a rectangular piece of bronze, the sides of which have been bent back to a right angle, the whole terminating at one end in a knob, the other end being broken. On the front is a recessed panel in which are the remains of blue and white enamel in a millefiori pattern like that on the brooch no. 10. L 0.064m. 1950.96.

The technique of the decoration on this object suggests beyond any doubt that it can be dated to the 2nd century A.D. (see under no. 10, p. 59 above). Similar objects occur in other parts of the Roman Empire, notably in Pannonia, but no use for them has yet been suggested.<sup>50</sup>

(17) (PL. III, FIG. 25, 10). Bronze letter V, rectangular in section with a rivet at the back of each arm, each rivet having a counterplate to retain it on leather.<sup>51</sup> L 0.051m., W 0.043m. 1950.91.

(18) Bronze nail (PL. III, FIG. 25, 5), with large flat, circular head. L 0.027, D. of head 0.028m.

### SUMMARY

The first inhabitants of this site, probably that of a village, used both pottery derived from Iron Age C prototypes and Romano-British grey wares; the earliest pottery is 1st century A.D. For the 1st century there is no evidence for the economy of this village; the material remains are ditches. In the 2nd century there are indications of possible quarrying for the local oolite rock. From the fact that pits and ditches continued to be dug, it may be that the products of this quarrying were for export, perhaps for the building of villas in the neighbourhood. Soon afterwards, these surface quarries were filled in and a fence(?), traced in Cuttings A, B and C, was erected, partly over the quarries; this fence was not in use when the corn-drying oven in Cutting B was built. Beside the fence in Cutting A two hearths were found (perhaps field-workers cooking at mid-day), and what appeared to be a trackway

<sup>46</sup> O. Almgren, *Studien über Nordeuropäische Fibelformen* (1897), pl. iv, 79-80.

<sup>47</sup> *Proc. Soc. Antiqs. of Scotland*, vi, 5 ser. (1919-20), fig. 7, nos. 16-19; 11, nos. 6-8; 22, nos. 8-10.

<sup>48</sup> J. Curle, *A Roman Frontier Post and its People, The Fort of Newstead* (1911), pl. LXXXIX, 22.

<sup>49</sup> Sellye, *op. cit.*, pl. vii, 3-5.

<sup>50</sup> *Ibid.*, pl. xvi, 1-5, among which is one complete example.

<sup>51</sup> *Journal of Roman Studies*, xli (1951), p. 140, no. 2.

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leading from the west into this fenced enclosure. A refuse-pit (Cutting C) was filled up after the late 3rd century ; it is cut into a ditch which was filled in perhaps some time in the 2nd century.

Not before the last years of the 3rd century, a corn-drying oven for communal use was built in stone. When this oven went out of use after *c.* A.D. 315, a group of brooches, and other objects, dating from the 2nd and 3rd centuries, was accidentally shovelled in with the earth which was used to fill in the oven, and a cobbled courtyard was laid over the place where the oven had been. Possibly the inhabitants of the village were attracted (or forced) to move into the sphere of influence of one of the large villa estates, farmed by tenants engaged to a great extent in growing corn.<sup>52</sup>

<sup>52</sup> e.g. Ditchley, *Oxon.*, 1, 68 ; see also Collingwood and Myres, *Roman Britain and the English Settlements*, 2nd. ed., 223ff. On the plan (FIG. 18), the villas at Ditchley and Callow Hill are marked by blocked-in triangles.

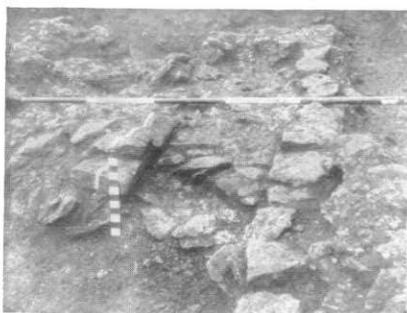
PLATE II



A



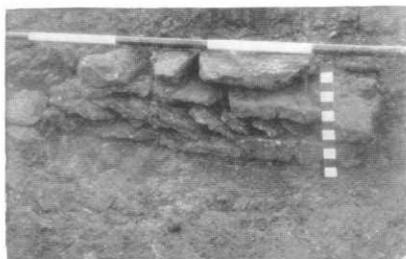
B



C



D



E



F

EXCAVATIONS AT CAMPSFIELD, KIDLINGTON, OXON.

- A. General view of the site, from S. (p. 36).  
 B. Cutting A, from S. (post-hole 2 in foreground). Chalk-line marks area of hearth 2 (pp. 39 ff.).  
 C. Cutting B, from N. Details of ledge in flue of furnace; pit in left background showing partly in plan, partly in section; the chalk-line marks the built stones of the east wall of the furnace (p. 46 f.).  
 D. Cutting A, post-holes 1 and 2 from W. (p. 41).  
 E. Cutting B, from E. Detail of north end of west wall of furnace, showing the return to form the T-piece, and the built stones round the east end of the T-piece (p. 46).  
 F. Cutting B. From N. (p. 46).

*Phh.: A. G. Hunter*

