

## Notes and News

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES

*Asterleigh, Oxon.* Footings of the porch of the church of the deserted medieval village were found in clearing at the edge of a quarry. They were left unharmed and reburied. (National Grid: 42/400222.)

*Asthall, Oxon.* Sherds of 11th-century pottery were found by Mr. R. Godfrey in a ploughed field south of Asthall Leigh, and in trenches for a telephone exchange near the line of Akeman Street. (National Grid: 42/309124 and 42/307125.)

*Binsey, Oxon and Wytham, Berks.* Three rows of oak piles with stones between were found by Mr. C. W. Walker, in digging foundations in the Seacourt stream north of Seacourt for the north-west wing of a bridge to carry the western by-pass road. Sherds of 14th-century pottery were found in the stream-bed nearby. (National Grid: 42/483079.)

*Bloxham, Oxon.* Sherds of indeterminate Romano-British coarse pottery, a fragment of a 2nd-century bronze brooch of derived thistle-type<sup>1</sup> and a small fragmentary bronze spatula were found in excavations by the Bloxham School Archaeological Society about one-quarter mile south of Firs Hill and immediately north of the Tadmarton road. (National Grid: 42/422361.)

*Cassington, Oxon.* (1) Indeterminate sherds of Early Iron Age A pottery were found in the remains probably of a storage pit during gravel-digging about 700 ft. east-south-east of Purwell farm. (National Grid: 42/445119.)

(2) Sherds of indeterminate Romano-British coarse pottery were found during the building of the bridge carrying the link with the western by-pass over the A40 road. (National Grid: 42/491104.)

*Charlbury, Oxon.* A rectangular crop-mark near Lees Rest was excavated by Mr. R. E. Linington and members of the Oxford University Archaeological Society. A Romano-British farmyard dating from the first century was discovered. At the end of the 3rd century the area became a hard-standing, possibly with substantial buildings. (National Grid: 42/378193.)

*Chesterton, Oxon.* Ditches and a pit of 12th-13th-century date, south-east of the church, were excavated by Mr. R. E. Linington and members of the Oxford University Archaeological Society. (National Grid: 42/562213.)

*Chinnor, Oxon.* An iron spearhead, 1 ft. 2 in. long, probably 17th century, was found by Dominic Poulter in a garden in Lower Icknield Way. (National Grid: 42/755014.)

*Dorchester, Oxon.* (1) Storage pits, probably Early Iron Age, and ditches of a Romano-British field-system with 4th-century coarse pottery were excavated in a gravel-pit at Wally corner, three-quarters of a mile north of the village, by Mr. J. Sutton and members of the Oxford University Archaeological Society. (National Grid: 41/580955.)

<sup>1</sup> Cp. a brooch found at Hook Norton, Oxon. *V.C.H. Oxon, I* (1939), 338-9; fig. 42. An occupation-site and cemetery south of the road were reported by Mr. W. F. J. Knight. *Oxoniensia*, III (1938), 41-56.

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(2) Sherds of Romano-British coarse pottery, probably late, were found in foundations for a new bungalow north-east of the village. (National Grid: 41/580944.)

(3) Sherds of 2nd-century Romano-British coarse ware were discovered by Mrs. W. R. Gowers in a pit in the garden of the Priory, near the assumed line of the Roman defences. (National Grid: 41/578943.)

*East Hanney, Berks.* Sherds of 2nd-3rd-century Roman-British coarse pottery, a fragmentary ridge-tile and a fragmentary pottery grid-iron were found by Mr. White in ploughed ground a mile and a quarter east of the village. (National Grid: 41/438935.)

*Enstone and Little Tew, Oxon.* Struck flints, including scrapers, and animal teeth were found by Mr. J. Pearson on Leys Farm, north of the green lane, and in the south-west angle of the lane and the Enstone-Great Tew road (B.4022). A Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead of flint was found by Christopher Dixon south of the green lane. (National Grid: 42/383270, 42/384266, and 42/380266.)

*Eynsham, Oxon.* (1) Sherds of 12th-century pottery, and re-used 12th century and later worked stones were found by Miss M. B. Foot and Mr. G. C. Kimber in altering cottages called Lord's Row. (National Grid: 42/435093.)

(2) Re-used 12th century and later worked stones were found by Mr. Bennett in demolishing an 18th-century barn at Twelve Acre Farm west of the village. (National Grid: 42/413093.)

(3) Sherds of 11th-century pottery and fragments of a bone comb were found in pit by Mr. R. P. F. Godfrey during excavations for Post Office telephones in Abbey St. (National Grid: 42/43220922.)

*Faringdon, Berks.* Sherds of Romano-British coarse pottery, including 4th century examples, were reported by Mr. W. K. Harding found in 1945 in pits possibly 3-4 ft. deep in the face of a gravel-pit west of the Swindon road, 100 yds. south of the junction with the road to Little Coxwell. (National Grid: 41/282946.)

*Fawler, Oxon.* (1) Struck flints, including a lunate microlith, a small end-scraper and barbed and tanged arrow heads were found by Mr. B. Barrett immediately north of Stonesfield. (National Grid: 42/390177.)

(2) Other struck flints were found nearby to the west and south-west in fields, immediately north-west of Stonesfield. (National Grid: 42/387175.)

(3) Struck flints including a core of tea-cosy type and barbed-and tanged arrow-heads, complete and in course of manufacture, were found by Mr. B. Barrett in a field south of Stockey plantation and north of the line of Akeman St. (National Grid: 42/389167.)

*Garsington, Oxford.* Two adjacent metalled road-surfaces on the line of the Roman road from Dorchester to Alchester, the westerly 15 ft. wide and at a higher level than the easterly which was 35 ft. wide, were seen in connection-trenches for the new Gas works. The surfaces were 5 ft. apart and of limestone gravel and rubble. The former footpath straddled them. (National Grid: 42/560037.)

*Godstow, Berks.* Footings and floors of outbuildings of Godstow Nunnery were discovered in excavations in advance of road-building by Mr. R. E. Linington and members of the Oxford University Archaeological Society. Ditches were also found. The features were dated to the 12th and 13th centuries. Romano-British sherds, probably late, were found nearby on the south bank of the modern channel of the Thames. (National Grid: 42/483091.)

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*Horspath, Oxon.* Sherds of indeterminate Romano-British coarse pottery, probably late, were found by Katheryn Easter, aged 9, in a ploughed field on Horspath Common, a little east of the site of discovery of the Romano-British face-mould by Mr. M. Hassall.<sup>2</sup> (National Grid: 42/574058.)

*Islip, Oxon.* Microliths and microlithic flakes were found by Patrick Gray in ploughed fields between the site of the Romano-British temple and the Islip-Wheatley road (B.4027). (National Grid: 42/537126.)

*Kidlington, Oxon.* Sherds of 13th-century pottery were found by Richard Hughes in the scattered remains of a masonry structure seen in extensions to the A.43 road about 25 yds. south of the King's Arms, Gosford. (National Grid: 42/503135.)

*Kingston Bagpuize, Berks.* A Neolithic polished flint axe was found by Mr. G. A. Maclean while ploughing an orchard immediately north-east of the village. (National Grid: 41/412986.)

*Langford, Oxon.* Sherds of early Romano-British coarse pottery were found by Mr. E. K. Florey in ploughed land east of the Langford-Kelmscott road. (National Grid: 42/25007.)

*Lechlade, Glos.* Sherds of 13th-century pottery were found by Mr. A. J. Baxter in footing-trenches for a bungalow, immediately south-west of the modern cemetery. (National Grid: 41/209997.)

*Little Milton, Oxon.* Masonry footings at the corner of a building and a ditch with late 1st-2nd century Romano-British coarse pottery at its bottom were found, in small cuttings, by Miss M. Stokes at the rectilinear crop-marks previously observed in aerial photographs by Dr. J. K. St. Joseph.<sup>3</sup> (National Grid: 42/624003.)

*Little Rollright, Oxon.* A 15th century pewter spoon with acorn-shaped knob and a fig-shaped bowl was found by Mr. Ashby in digging a post-hole north-west of the farm-house. (National Grid: 42/294301.)

*Little Tew, Oxon.* (1) Struck flints including a barbed and tanged arrowhead were found by Christopher Dixon near the south bank of a stream, 400 yds. north-west of the church. (National Grid: 42/382288.)

(2) Mesolithic flints, including a left-hand obliquely blunted microlith, a thumb-nail scraper, a piercer on a blade, cores and a platform-changing flake were found by Mr. H. F. Fitt in a field south of the village. Three concentrations of flint were found, also sherds of indeterminate Romano-British coarse pottery, slag and stone pot-boilers. Crucibles of 12th and 13th wares were found in alterations to the nearby Ann Becks cottage. (National Grid: 42/384283.)

(3) See *Enstone* and *Little Tew*.

*Long Hanborough, Oxon.* The sites of two kilns, with stoke-holes and firing chambers, about 8 ft. and 6 ft. long respectively, yielding sherds of Early Iron Age C ware of the mid-1st century A.D., were found while digging gravel in Tuckwell's pit, 400 yds. east of Cook's Corner. (National Grid: 42/418135.)

*Marston, Oxon.* Sherds of 3rd-4th-century Romano-British coarse pottery were found in making an extension of Headley Way, immediately south of Old Marston. (National Grid: 42/529082.)

*North Hinksey, Berks.* A barbed-and-tanged flint arrowhead was found by Mr. S. O. Smith in a ploughed field south of Willow Walk. (National Grid: 42/498055.)

<sup>2</sup> *Oxoniensia*, xvii/xviii (1952/3), 231-4.

<sup>3</sup> *J.R.S.*, xl (1950), 102; pl. vi, no. 2; xliii (1953), 94.

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*Oakley, Bucks.* Sherds of late Romano-British coarse pottery were found by Mr. H. Sassoon in a ploughed field between York's Wood and Hell Coppice. (National Grid: 42/611106.)

*Oxford, Beef Lane.* Two extended inhumation burials were noted by Mr. R. E. Linington in a trench near the gateway of Pembroke College. This evidence suggests that the churchyard of St. Aldate's extended formerly further to the south. (National Grid: 42/51330598.)

*Oxford, 43 Blenheim Drive.* A 13th-century seal-matrix inscribed ROGERI DE DRIFFELD<sup>4</sup> was found by Mr. D. Parker when gardening. (National Grid: 42/500096.)

*Oxford, Brasenose College.* Cellar pits resembling those found at the Clarendon Hotel<sup>5</sup> were discovered in footing-trenches for new buildings immediately north of 19-23 High Street. 11th-century and later pottery was found in the trenches. (National Grid: 42/51520626.)

*Oxford, Cornmarket Street.* A few 11th-century pits and many of the 12th century, and footings of 13th-century and later structures were found by Mr. David Sturdy in advance of building by Messrs. Marks and Spencer at the north-west corner of Market Street. (National Grid: 42/51330628.)

*Oxford, Cowley.* (1) Sherds of 3rd-4th century Romano-British coarse pottery were found by Miss T. Webber on the site of the eastern by-pass road about 200 yards north of its junction with Horspath road. Two extended inhumation-burials, heads to the west, were found nearby by Mr. Gee in a drainage-trench for a car-park for the Pressed Steel Co. (National Grid: 42/556048 and 42/557046.)

(2) A beaker of 2nd-century Romano-British pottery probably made at the nearby Sandford kilns, was found by Mr. A. James at the north-east corner of the modern cemetery. (National Grid: 42/536038.)

*Oxford, 6-7 High Street.* Medieval pits were observed in footing-trenches during rebuilding of the International Stores. (National Grid: 42/51370622.)

*Oxford, Jowett Walk.* A section through the ditch of the Civil War defences of 1643/4 was seen when digging a cellar for houses for Balliol College.<sup>6</sup> The ditch was about 15 ft. wide and 7 ft. deep. The inner slope was about 60° and the outer about 45°. It had been filled in soon after digging. Sherds of 12th-century pottery were found nearby. (National Grid: 42/51940656.)

*Oxford, Littlemore.* Sherds of 13th-14th-century pottery and an iron spearhead were found by Mr. P. J. Bromley, when gardening at 41 Sandy Lane. (National Grid: 42/551032.)

*Oxford, Logic Lane.* A medieval street closed in 1448, pits with 11th-century pottery, and prehistoric ditches, one of which yielded a sherd of a Bronze Age collared urn were discovered by the Rev. F. Radcliffe, O.P., in excavations for the Oxford Excavations Committee. (National Grid: 42/518062.)

*Oxford, Magdalen Street, East.* A previous road-surface of clean gravel and rubble was seen at 3 ft. 3 in., below the present street-level in excavations by the City Council. Natural gravel occurred at 4 ft. 9 in. and was seen to be intersected by graves. The churchyard of St. Mary Magdalen, thus, once stretched further to the east. (National Grid: 42/51260650.)

<sup>4</sup> An owner of property in Cornmarket Street and St. Aldate's. H. E. Salter, 'Survey of Oxford' I OHS NSXIV (1960), 30, 239.

<sup>5</sup> *Oxoniensia*, XXIII (1958), 5.

<sup>6</sup> *Oxoniensia*, I (1936), 166; fig. 26, pl. XXII.

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*Oxford, 38 Queen Street.* Pits with 11th and 12th-century pottery were planned during rebuilding by Messrs. Milward's. (National Grid: 42/51260616.)

*Oxford, St. Ebbe's.* (1) Pits, wells, post- and stake-holes and sleeper-trenches associated with 11th and 12th-century pottery were found in excavations by Mr. B. K. Davison for the Oxford Excavations Committee at the south-east corner of Queen's Street and St. Ebbe's Street. (National Grid: 42/51210612.)

(2) The footings of the so-called city wall running east to west, south of Castle Street, were seen in a cutting in the garden of 9 Kings Terrace to include re-used late medieval worked stones. (National Grid: 42/51140599.)

(3) A cutting 8 ft. below the present-day surface on the site of 30-33 Penson's Gardens yielded 19th-century pottery throughout. (National Grid: 42/51080597.)

*Oxford, 10a-16 St. Michael's Street.* During rebuilding, Mr. N. Patterson observed a footing-trench containing two mortared courses of masonry, possibly of the city wall.<sup>7</sup> (National Grid: 42/51230636.)

*Oxford, St. John's Street.* A 14th-century ridge-tile with cut serrations was found in a trench in the pavement outside 35 Beaumont Street.<sup>8</sup> 14th-century pottery was found nearby in Beaumont Street in 1940.<sup>9</sup> (National Grid: 42/51080653.)

*Oxford, Summertown.* A fragmentary flaked flint adze-blade, Neolithic, was found by Miss A. D. Crawford when gardening at 16, Hayward Road, north of the North Way. (National Grid: 42/505107.)

*Pishill-with-Stonor, Oxon.* Indeterminate sherds of Early Iron Age A pottery were found by Michael Stonor from the edge of Balham's Wood, and indeterminate sherds of Romano-British coarse pottery nearby. (National Grid: 41/744893 and 41/740895.)

*Pusey, Berks.* A Neolithic stone axe and sherds of Romano-British pottery, including sherds of 1st-century Samian ware, were reported by Miss M. S. Davies, found while ploughing a field three-quarters of a mile west-south-west of Cherbury Camp. (National Grid: 41/361957.)

*Pyrton, Oxon.* Indeterminate sherds of Early Iron Age A pottery were found by the Hon. S. Stonor from the edge of a wood on Pyrton Hill. (National Grid: 41710943.)

*Ramsden, Oxon.* Sherds of Romano-British coarse pottery, probably early, were found by Mr. W. E. Richards in ploughed ground on Ramsden Heath. (National Grid: 42/346157.)

*Seacourt, Berks.* (1) Traces of a wooden building dated to the early 13th century, and of a stone road and a stone building of the later 13th century were discovered by Mr. M. Biddle in excavations in advance of road building at the deserted medieval village.<sup>10</sup> (National Grid: 42/485075.)

(2) A Neolithic stone axe-head was found by Mr. E. Howse on the Berkshire bank of the Seacourt stream, probably from dredgings. (National Grid: near 42/490070.)

*Stanton Harcourt.* (1) Four ring-ditches were excavated by Miss A. Hamlin, in advance of gravel-digging by Amey's Aggregates Ltd., east of the Windrush about midway between Beard Mill and Linch Hill, and three ring-ditches by Mr.

<sup>7</sup> *Oxoniensia*, xxiii (1958), 137.

<sup>8</sup> *Oxoniensia*, xvi (1951), 86-8.

<sup>9</sup> *Oxoniensia*, v (1940), 167-8.

<sup>10</sup> Preliminary report in *Medieval Archaeology*, III (1959), 320-1; fig. 106.

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R. E. Linington nearer Linch Hill. Both excavators were assisted by other members of the Oxford University Archaeological Society. A secondary cremation-burial was discovered at both excavations, and sherds of Early Iron Age pottery in the upper layers of the ditches. (National Grid: 42/406048 and 42/411046.)

(2) Teeth and a tusk of mammoth were found at the base of Summertown-Radley terrace-gravel in S. Smith & Son's pit nearer the village. (National Grid: 42/410050.)

*Sutton Courtenay, Berks.* A mammoth's tusk was found at the base of Summertown-Radley terrace-gravel in Amey's pit, 700 yds. east-south-east of the church. (National Grid: 41/510940.)

*Swalcliffe, Oxon.* The site of a settlement immediately south-east of Madmarston Hill was excavated by Mr. J. J. May and members of the Oxford University Archaeological Society. A ditch with Early Iron Age C pottery and footings of Romano-British buildings were discovered. (National Grid: 42/390386.)

*Swyncombe, Oxon.* Neolithic or Bronze Age flint flakes, including utilised examples, and a hammerstone, were found by Mrs. H. O. D. Cake on clay-with-flints in the valley north-east of Westwood Manor farm. (National Grid: 41/708887.)

*Taynton, Oxon.* Indeterminate sherds of Romano-British coarse pottery were found by Mr. Campbell during building at a cottage near the church. (National Grid: 42/234137.)

*Tetsworth, Oxon.* Indeterminate Early Iron Age sherds, indeterminate sherds of Romano-British coarse pottery and an annular glass bead of pagan Anglo-Saxon type were found by Mr. B. Allen in ploughed ground on Lobbersdown Hill. (National Grid: 41/678038 and 41/678035.)

*Uffington, Berks.* A sherd of Early Iron Age A pottery was found by Patrick Gray in a mole-hill between Uffington Castle and the White Horse. (National Grid: 41/301866.)

*Upton, Berks.* An extended inhumation-burial, head to the west, was found about 20 ft. north-east of the Anglo-Saxon burials previously reported.<sup>11</sup> (National Grid: 41/514866.)

*Wallingford, Berks.* A crop-mark with double ring-ditches and central inhumation-burial and an Early Iron Age rectangular enclosure, both between St. John's road and Bradford's brook, were excavated in advance of building by Mr. R. Moorey and members of the Oxford University Archaeological Society. Romano-British sherds, probably late, were found immediately to the west. (National Grid: 41/603888.)

*Witney, Oxon.* During repairs to the Grammar School, built in 1660, a glass pen, lead and bronze buttons, a fragmentary bronze buckle, 25 lead tokens, 5 lead and 2 slate pencils, and 3 lead marbles were found under the wooden floor.

*Wroxton, Oxon.* Sherds of Early Iron Age A pottery were discovered by Mr. J. Saunders in the remains of storage pits revealed by quarrying ironstone about 200 yds. north of the vicarage. (National Grid: 42/415422.)

*Wytham, Berks.* See *Binsey, Oxon.*

HUMPHREY CASE.

DAVID STURDY.

<sup>11</sup> *Oxoniensia*, xxiii (1958), 138.